

THE SQUIRREL CAGE

BY REID RUNDY

JINGLE BELLS Do you really like gifts? Wonder what they like that there are only 16 more shopping days until Christmas? Think of that! The surest sign that the season is on us again is the advertising and displays that act up by the distilleries. They've quit selling their brew and are concentrating on the bottle it comes in.

SMAZE DAZE Those who are so quick to tag Los Angeles as the oil refinery should note the stores coming from the east on the matter of smaze and smog in New York City. And, New York sources have been quoted to the effect that there are no oil refineries within miles of the city.

IVORY TOWER An old saw says a kiss on a hand is the densest with work make years of dishwashing worthwhile. It might also put a bigger package under the Christmas tree three weeks from now.

ADDED INSULT A rabid SC fan we know received a nice Gaucho shirt for his birthday last Sunday, the day after the Notre Dame Irish had stomped SC's 1953 grid team flatter than a Kansas mountain and the shirt was the brightest Notre Dame green you ever saw. He was assured that the choice of colors was strictly a coincidence, but you'll never be able to sell the idea to him.

FINAL FLING—Wayne Linder, local manager of the Edison Co. office, says the words, "In God We Trust," were put on pennies for the guidance of those who use such coins as substitutes for fuses.

POLITICAL NOTE So far as we have been able to find out, no candidates for the April municipal elections have put themselves into the race by denying they'll run.

RAIN CHECK—A Torrance patrol car, sent out to one of the residential areas on a complaint that kids were playing ball in the street and wouldn't let autos through, were unable to find anyone around when they arrived at dusk. They reported back that the game was "probably called on account of darkness."

CHRISTMAS FACT—According to a note from WJB, there are too many adults, and not enough children, who believe in Santa Claus.

OVERHEARD STUFF—Heard of a guy frantically trying to get an appointment with his dentist the other day—said he had to have it before Christmas. Why? The dentist uses Scotch for mouthwash in his syringe around Christmas.

MORE ON YULE—Did you know the custom of having a lighted tree on the White House lawn was started by Calvin Coolidge in 1923? Or that there will be more than one and one-half billion Christmas cards sent out in the United States this year? Or that up until the time of James the Second in England that New Year's Day, not Christmas, was the time for exchange.



Walter Pidgeon, who figures that now the fighting has stopped in Korea, the boys over there need entertainment more than ever, recently discussed with President and Mrs. Eisenhower plans for USO shows to be sent overseas to entertain our GI's. Pidgeon will head a troupe that will tour Greenland and Africa.

The first of the year Yvonne De Carlo will leave for Rome and Egypt to star in "The Loves of the Pharaoh," a Technicolor film, to be made for a French producing company. Interiors for the movie will be shot in Rome and the exteriors in Egypt.

Betty Grable is going back on the road, for the first time in 13 years. She and her husband, Harry James, will open their own show in Chicago.

As you probably know, most actors are superstitious. Ed Wynn has his own pet superstition—a pair of shoes which he wore the first time he went on the stage. The shoes are insured with Lloyd's of London for \$10,000. The only time Ed didn't wear them was in a Broadway show which closed after its first night.

Joan Crawford is one of the few Hollywood stars who have not had their salaries cut. She's getting \$200,000 for "Johnny Guitar."

Antonio Moreno recently celebrated his fiftieth year as a movie actor. Moreno is currently in "Black Lagoon."

Rhee Continues To Make Serious Trouble For U.S.

By EDWARD H. SIMS (WASHINGTON TIMES) President Syngman Rhee of South Korea is continuing to perplex U. S. officials with his narrow-minded and unrealistic attitude on both the political and economic fronts in war-ravaged South Korea.

During truce negotiations Rhee pulled several low blows, aimed at disrupting the efforts of the United States, the country that saved his hide, from including a cease fire with the enemy.

On some occasions he has even said publicly that he will march northward if the political conference doesn't settle problems to his liking. The latest possible position taken by the elderly nationalist is his stand on U.S. economic aid.

A Congressional committee, which may publish its report before you read this, is just back from South Korea. The committee found that Rhee has utterly unrealistic views as to spending the hundreds of millions of dollars the United States is giving South Korea for rehabilitation.

Instead of wanting to spend it for housing and other things that would bring direct and badly needed benefits to the mass of people, Rhee wants a big radio station and super highway and new government buildings. The U.S. Congressmen, who investigated conditions in South Korea, look upon this attitude as childish.

As in the past, dealing with Rhee is still a difficult problem. And that worries some people who know how much influence Rhee could have on U.S. policy in the Far East.

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