

# CHRONICLE

IS PUBLISHED BY MONDY ON MONDAY FOR THE MONDYS  
THEIR KIN, NEAR KIN, AND A FEW FRIENDS

VOLUME V, ISSUE 21, 19 December 1994

Published By H. C. Mondy,  
P.O. Box 1696  
El Prado, NM 87529  
Phone: (505) 776 5571

It is Christmas time again and Christmas this year is much more cheerful than Christmas of '44, just fifty years ago. This was before many of you were born but there are some of you who remember. Dewel was in England; he probably remembers. Jessie, Jewel, Alma, and Tom were working at a defense plant at LaPorte, Indiana, they will remember. I was inspecting the output of a assembly line at the Motorola plant in Schenectady, NY., I remember. Ham Rhodes (Margaret's nephew-in-law) was with Patton's outfit slogging through the mud not far from Bastogne, if he were still alive, he would remember. Lt. Margaret L. Jinks, (now just plain Margaret Mondy) was part of the 2nd Service Command shuffling men from various posts, camps, and stations, getting those with certain MOS's in the right place and on the right ship, she remembers.

Christmas was a somber season.

On December 16, the Germans stormed the Allied front opening up with 2600 big guns surprising Omar Bradley. For days before there was nothing but rain, clouds, and heavy fog and the air corps had not been able to spot the more than 100,000 Germans amassing along the 80 mile front. It was the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, one of the most famous battles of the war. The battle lasted until 25 January and was the last big battle. Hitler knew he had been beaten when it was over.

Few people were listening to Christmas carols,

every ear was bent to the closest radio. Every hour or so there was news from the front, news about how the Americans were being pushed back, about how the 101st Airborne Division was completely surrounded in Bastogne, how the German commander had demanded the surrender and General McAuliffe sent the famous message, "NUTS" to him. The (German commander did not understand the message and the interpreter told him that in plain English it meant, "Go to Hell".

Ham Rhodes was in that battle and said that his outfit was down to so few shells they decided to fire their guns at certain intervals to make the Germans think there were more of them than there really was.

Two days before Christmas came <sup>the first</sup> ~~some~~ good news. The weather had cleared and the planes were able to bring in supplies, and the battle began to turn. The Germans had run out of fuel for their tanks and their ammunition was beginning to run low. We lost 19000 Americans killed, the 60,000 wounded. The Germans lost many more. They also lost about 800 tanks and more than a thousand planes.

One of the breakthroughs was near the city of Aachen. Immediately the warsong "*I'm gonna dance with the dolly with a hole in her stockin', while my knees keep knockin' and my toes keep rockin'*", <sup>changed</sup> to one that began, "*Gonna dance with the krauts, there's a hole at Aachen ----*", which was popular for a few days.

I finished my work at Motorola on the 23rd and caught a train to LaPorte with a very high fever. I was carrying two heavy suitcases and had to walk almost the length of the train to my coach.

I was so weak, the conductor helped me onto the train. I was wearing a heavy alpaca overcoat and by the time I was seated on the train I was sweating so heavily I nearly passed out. By the time I arrived in LaPorte my fever was gone and except for being weak, I was completely well. On Christmas eve, Alma and I cut out a Christmas tree from some paper and pinned it to the wall. What few gifts we had were placed under it. On the day after Christmas I left for Schenectady, where GE was building radar gun-laying equipment for our planes in the Pacific and I was the field engineer whose job was to see that they were properly inspected and shipped.

It was indeed, a somber Christmas in 1944, and I remember it.

\* \* \* \* \*

I'm not sure what I shall put in this issue -- nor whether it will get published before I leave for Calif.

Each year, Nell, like many of us, writes a general letter which she sends to her many friends. I have just received a copy of it and I will publish it. Then there is a letter from Bessie and by the time I am ready to publish this, maybe there will be others.

I do hope none of you order the Memory Enhancement Device I have advertised on the back page. It was created for my special brother-in-law, Cecil, (sometimes known as "Old Ornery") because he complained to Margaret that he is always forgetting to do something. I sent it to him for Christmas. Now if he doesn't forget where he put it, it ought to solve his problem. Now if you really want one, I could lower the price a bit. The Thumb tacks cost about a penny, the ribbon another penny, and the clothespin about two cents. That's less than 4 cents -- I suppose I could let you have one for \$14.95. That's still cheaper than the pet rocks they were selling a few years ago. If you want to make one for yourself, the plans are clear in the ad, but don't blame me if it doesn't work

\* \* \* \* \*

#### NELL SAYS:

Autumn in New York has been especially beautiful this year and most residents agree that we deserve it following the severe winter we had last year. So far we have had only one snow and that arrived the day before Thanksgiving. It disappeared very quickly. I hope 1994 has been good to all of you.

The past year has been an interesting and challenging one for me.

I have not completely recovered from my fall and find walking difficult. I have no trouble driving, though, so I continue to go to my office every day. Of course my schedule has been markedly reduced. In April I delivered the Cornell Faculty Fireside Lecture at Willard Straight Hall on the campus, in which I described my fifty years as a woman chemist.

It is good to know that I can still be useful. I answer food questions from food companies, the press, extension services, and the general public. In addition to writing manuscripts, I serve on Cornell graduate committees, review manuscripts for journals such as *Agricultural and Food Chemistry* and the *American Potato Journal*, and serve on national committees of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and Graduate Women in Science. Recently I served on a committee to examine a PhD student from Ghana, Africa. My knowledge of the "African yam" and cassava brings me in contact with many international students. As a member of the Cornell International Club, I am often asked to speak on my international experiences. These international interests also bring invitations to speak to church groups, the Kiwanis Club, and the Women's Club of Ithaca. Attending seminars at Cornell to learn the latest scientific findings is always a pleasure.

My travel schedule was greatly reduced this year because of my difficulty in walking, but in June I attended the national meeting of the Institute of Food Technologists in Atlanta, GA. where my former student, Barbara Klien, was awarded a big honor. I had recommended her for the honor

and was pleased that she was selected. Only a few women have been so recognized.

Best wishes for 1995. Nell

*[In an addendum, Nell says she will miss the annual Christmas edition of the Chronicle.]*

\*\*\*\*\*

**FROM BESSIE AND BERTHA**

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone of you.

Bertha and I have been pretty busy this fall mowing grass and raking leaves. It is hard to believe that this is December. My forsythia is blooming, my jonquils are coming up, my lilac bush is budding out, and my grass is green and growing. We have been trying to get some Christmas shopping done but what a mess! The stores are crowded, there is not near enough help and those they have won't give you the time of day. And most of the stores don't price things and when you get to the check-out stand you find out what high prices they have. (Enough of my grumbling.)

We are both well. We had a great Thanksgiving with lots to eat. Hope all of you did too.

We hope all who are ill or recovering from surgery are doing well, and preparing for a big Christmas. We think all the people here in Springfield are well.

We will be starting our cookie baking and candy making soon. I have my tree up and partially decorated. Still have our cards to get out, so I'm making this letter short.

Merry Christmas to all, Bertha and Bessie

\*\*\*\*\*

Have I told you about my tomato lately? Well the three little plants I planted in a make-shift planter (an old plastic picnic basket) are still alive. I put them in the guest quarters which maintains a temperature of about 60 degrees, in front of a large plate-glass door. Yesterday I har-

vested four ripe ones. The plant died down for a while but now there are new blossoms on it. It is an interesting experiment. I'll keep you updated on their progress.

\*\*\*\*\*

Did you read where a fellow tried computer dating and found himself paired with his mother????

\*\*\*\*\*

When Brecken was in Turkey last summer we wrote her several letters. Today, one came back with the mark that it was improperly addressed. We don't know how many others she did not receive.

\*\*\*\*\*

Got a family letter from Mary Jean from which I will excerpt some bits, paraphrasing and abridging in some instances.

"Harrison, I agree totally with your first paragraph in [issue 5-19] the Chronicle. I have always been so proud of our country. Now it makes me sad to think that both here and abroad we have such a reputation for violence. Helen [CP's wife] tells me that many young people wear beepers these days so that their parents can keep up with them by paging them. There was a case recently when a student 18 had been shot and his body brought into the morgue. He was still wearing his beeper. It went off and it was his mother, calling to check up on him. What a horrible thing to happen!!

"It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas, even out here. Saturday, we are being treated to a Bar-B-Q lunch as a Christmas treat. Following will be a tour of the apartments that wish to participate.

"I enjoy all of the articles in the Chronicle. I don't travel any more but I do enjoy reading about the travels of others.

"Be thankful that your talented granddaughter has the opportunity to get such a good education; through her life, many others will benefit.

One of the good things about America is that anyone who wants an education badly enough can get one.

"After I finish reading the Chronicle, I take it to Helen and CP to read -- they like it too."

[Let me take this place to inform you that CP (Margaret's brother) is in a Rehab Unit being treated for a knee operation which was performed some time ago. I don't recall reporting this before.]

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you remember in one of the past issues that I said it looked like Margaret was going to get rich -- she kept getting 6 or 7 notices a week that she was in a first round position to win a million dollars, and others that said she was already on a winning streak and would be getting a check soon. Well SHE DID GET HER CHECK. She received an envelope which stated on the outside that it contained a check for her. We were on the way to town and debated whether to open the envelope before we reached the bank or later. We decided to wait until we got home and had a chance to decide what we should do with the money. Finally we opened the envelope and there was that check -- for thirty-one cents.

Anne Armstrong is pretty put out about it -- she got a check for only thirty cents.

\*\*\*\*\*

Since we won't be here for Christmas we are not putting up a tree so that has given us more time for getting out our Christmas cards. I bought 200 stamps and I see that there aren't many left. Some of you have already received my Christmas card and you have noticed how cheap I really am. Hallmark has some beautiful cards for \$1.75 and I really do think that all of you are worth the price but when I found I could make my own for about three cents I chose that way to go. "Cheap, cheap, cheap", I can't ~~hear~~ <sup>hear</sup> Old Ormery saying. But I think Scrooge is one of my ancestors, maybe, so you will just have to accept my 3-cent cards. At least they had that personal touch!!

\*\*\*\*\*

Harold and Wilma Jinks have a very large pecan tree in their back yard. Wilma, who at 82 still gets around like a spring chicken, picked up over a hundred pounds of these, and for weeks, she and Harold have sat before the fireplace picking out the meats. To each of his sisters, (and to others, also) they have sent large packages of the very delicious pecans -- enough for a lot of pecan pies. Now I submit that that is a Christmas present worth mentioning. (Ours came in a shoe-box and I think Harold said Wilma went out and bought a lot of new shoes so they would have enough boxes for their pecan shipments.)

This is it

When I turned on my computer I found out a switch in my mouse had gone out and I have no substitute. Sorry about that.

← hear

WORLD'S MOST ACCURATE  
**MEMORY ENHANCEMENT  
DEVICE**

Are you one of those unfortunate people who forgets to pay his taxes, or to send a get-well card, or to pick up the cleaning? You are not alone. Many people do it and then regret it or are left to apologize. It doesn't have to be this way!

There is an instant solution  
**THE MEMORY ENHANCEMENT  
DEVICE**

**THE MEMORY ENHANCEMENT DEVICE**  
WAS DESIGNED BY A GRADUATE ENGINEER TO HELP THOSE  
PERSONS WHO NEED A DEVICE TO HELP WITH THEIR MEMORY.  
EACH COMPONENT OF THE DEVICE HAS BEEN CAREFULLY  
SELECTED FOR OPTIMUM SERVICE AND IF USED  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIRECTIONS  
SHOULD LAST A LIFETIME.  
AND THE COST?

**ONLY \$19.95**

A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR THE  
PEACE OF MIND YOU WILL ENJOY

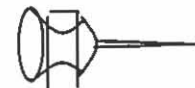
**INSTRUCTIONS**

Carefully insert the specially constructed thumb tack in the doorframe above the door to the kitchen or bathroom taking extreme care not to prick the finger. Adjust the ribbon so that the specially designed clothespin hangs at eyelevel. Letters to be mailed or grocery lists to be taken shopping, should be inserted in the clothespin so that you cannot possibly pass the device without seeing it.

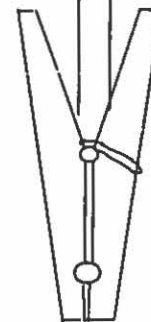
Testimonials on file for your examination.

**ORDER YOURS TODAY**

QUALITY  
THUMB TACK  
USE WITH CARE



HIGH GRADE PLASTIC RIBBON  
MADE TO LAST



CLOTHESPIN,  
ESPECIALLY  
SELECTED FOR  
PROPERTENSION  
FINEST LONG LASTING  
ASH, SPECIALLY  
TREATED

