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FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

CHRISTMAS CAROLING COMMERCIALISM

Many will remember Christmas caroling as a gesture of good will and brotherly love; voices joined in song to bring good cheer to neighbors and shut-ins. But carol singing has now been perpetrated as a fraud for many years during the week before Christmas by a certain "religious" sect (Seventh-Day Adventists). This letter is offered so those not wishing to be fooled may be warned in advance.

After dark, a sound truck is parked in the better neighborhoods, usually in an inconspicuous place in the block. Christmas carols ringing loud and clear are then heard as several well-dressed and personable young men and women hurry from door to door ringing door-bells.

Occupants answer the bell, hear the singing, and are greeted by some such phrase as: "Would you like to contribute for our Christmas caroling?" Being full of the Christmas spirit, and thinking there are real carolers in the neighborhood, housewives may contribute generously.

When one block has been ~~wanted~~ exploited, the eager collectors hurry back to the truck. It is then quickly moved to another block, the tape or record is started, and the money-collecting process is repeated. This act is descriptive of the sect's piously-promoted "contributions from outsiders" campaign carried on throughout the world. Over \$7,000,000 was obtained by them in this way in 1962, according to their official figures.

I believe the public should be informed of this stupendous, religiously-cloaked, money-gathering imposition upon millions of unsuspecting people at Christmas time. Merry Christmas.

W. E. Edwards
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