

Christmas, 1926



THE atmosphere in the kitchen is close and warm and fragrant. Dishes, pans and utensils are scattered all over the place. Flour dust is in the air. And so is the Christmas spirit! The most glorious dinner of the year is on the fire!

That Christmas is a time of gaiety and feasting is traditional. This account by some forgotten writer of long ago brings to mind the Christmas of yesterday and how it was celebrated: "Now capons and hens, besides turkeys, geese and ducks, with beef and mutton—must all die: for in twelve days a multitude of people will not be fed with little. Now plums and spice, sugar and honey, square it among pies and breth. Now or never must music be in tune, for the young must dance and sing to get them a heat, while the aged sit by the fire."

The Christmas cookies, the iced cakes and gingerbread figures which are part of our Christmas goodies are survivals of the confectionery gifts presented to the senators of Rome in the early times. The cakes were in the forms of animals and humans. Later the cakes became more elaborate, and were adopted as Christmas cakes. In early England these cakes were very popular. They were given to the poor women who sang carols in the street, or who went from house to house with images of the Virgin and of Christ.

To put the "merry" in "Merry Christmas" today, the hostess must borrow a bit of old-fashioned revelry, add to it the flavor of steaming plum pudding and popcorn, sprinkle it with a measure of good cheer, and serve with a sprig of mistletoe!

Not so long ago it was customary to have huge wreaths and laurel ropes drooping from every corner. Now a sprig of mistletoe and a bit of holly with its "berries like red-dyed pearls" are used for Christmas decoration. A custom delightfully old-fashioned is to have an untrimmed evergreen flanking the side of the front door outside the house.

Another old-fashioned custom, which is said to have been originated in Colonial days, is to include a tiny bit of mistletoe with the invitation. It is slipped into the envelope with the card "to carry the season's good tidings." It is really meant as a wish or omen for happiness and prosperity throughout the coming year.

Decorations for the Christmas table are not difficult to arrange. One may have a flat bowl of colored glass piled high with fruit. Or one may have a slender silver vase with a cluster of holly in it, or perhaps a lower vase with cut winter flowers. An old custom is to have a miniature tree in the center of the table bearing gifts or favors for the guests. Of course, can-

dles are used for illumination at the Christmas dinner, whether it be formal or informal, because they serve to carry out the Christmas tradition.

Many old superstitions still cling to the popular Christmas foods. To refuse a piece of mince pie at a Christmas dinner, for instance, means ill luck for the year. To eat apples at midnight on Christmas eve, however, is to enjoy great health during the year. If a loaf of bread is allowed to remain on the table after the Christmas-eve celebration, there will be no lack of bread in the house for the next twelve months. According to the old tradition, "by all means you must have a plum pudding—a plum pudding grown rich and black and solid." Otherwise, it seems, you will lose a friend between this Christmas and next.

If you wish, you may have an English Christmas party, observing all the many English customs which have contributed to our own Christmas observances. The invitations are printed in Old English text. The house is decorated with mistletoe, holly, ivy, wax tapers, in brass, iron, or pewter candlesticks and the proper touch in illumination. For the centerpiece a boar's head, made of dough, should be used. If it be made large enough it can be used to cover the little round table with the traditional apple in its mouth which constitutes the main course of the dinner.

At such a party the wassail cup must be passed around. Drinking the wassail is an old English custom. Dickens says: "They sat down by the huge fire of blazing logs to a substantial supper, and a mighty bowl of wassail, something smaller than the ordinary wash-house copper, in which the hot apples were hissing and bubbling with a rich look, and a jolly sound that were perfectly irresistible."

Instead of containing the brew, ale, or steaming punch of the old-time wassail bowl, the cup at our modern

THE GIFT OF GOD
CHristmas would be strange to most of us if there were no gifts. It was the infinite gift of God to us in the person of His only Son that made the first Christmas for our world. If we have not accepted this gift we have not yet learned the meaning of Christmas.—Herald and Presbyter.

Well Worthy Reward
The Cross of the Legion of Honor is being sought for a clerk in the Paris markets, Raymond Briez, twenty-nine years old, who recently underwent his one hundred and first operation for blood transfusion. Medical men in Paris regard the young Frenchman as a unique specimen of manhood and several surgeons call upon him regularly for blood. M. Briez demands no compensation and asks no questions.

He has saved the lives of a President of a South American republic, a prince of a European state and numerous poor workmen.

Nietzsche's Gifted Sister
Ten intellectual discussions, manuscripts, friends and memories, the pleasures of Frau Elizabeth Foerster-Nietzsche, the sister of the Philosopher, who recently celebrated her eightieth birthday. This kindly-faced and gentle-mannered lady, though she admittedly never understood Nietz-

English dinner may contain any mild punch or soft drink that the hostess likes. It is passed around to carry out the old custom and to "wish cheer with the brimming cup."

After dinner the guests repair to the drawing room, which is illuminated solely by candles and is decorated with mistletoe suspended from unexpected places. Here the famous old English games are played, old Christmas carols sung, and old Christmas stories related. If possible there should be a glowing yule log in the fireplace.

Perhaps you would prefer a German dinner with all its pretty customs. Use for a centerpiece a miniature representation of the Nativity, and have a tiny Kris Kringle or a small, decorated Christmas tree at each place. Have gifts packed and marked with the names of the persons for whom each is intended, and then hide them throughout the house. After dinner start your guests off on a search for these treasures, which they exchange among themselves as the packages are found, until each guest has his own. This is an old German custom, and is always good fun, especially if the guests are young people.

Another variety of Christmas dinner carries out all the traditions of the Druids. There should be a crackling fire in the fireplace. Sprigs of mistletoe should be distributed generously. For dinner provide a jolly feast, nuts and apples and all good things to eat. And after this repast there should be dancing, music and entertainment.

The Scandinavian Christmas dinner can be made most delightful. The menu may be the same as for any ordinary Christmas dinner—turkey, roast meats, mince pie, apple fritters, nuts, raisins, apples—whatever one likes. In addition there should be a huge Christmas tree in the drawing room hung with colored balls of glass and made beautiful with tiny lighted candles—or, to be up-to-date—with electric lights. There would be gifts on the tree for each guest, and in each package a card bearing some delightful bit of wisdom or cheer from the old Scandinavian writings. And of course, there would be the yule log, a great roaring fire, and perhaps the host, in the part of Thor, would quote interesting bits of Scandinavian mythology.

Whatever form the Christmas entertainment takes, it must be free of formality. There must be plenty of good cheer and fun; the day is given over to rejoicing. For generations it has been customary to play favorite old games on this day and to make merry with one's family and friends.

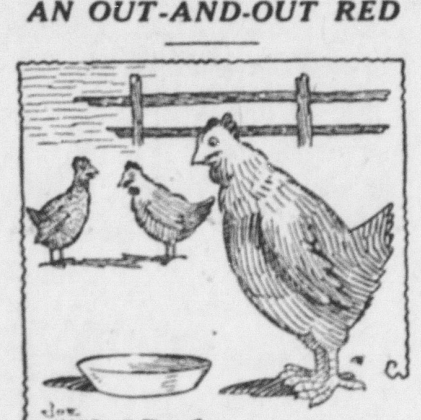
As Dickens has Mr. Wardle say to Mr. Pickwick: "Everybody sits down with us on Christmas eve, as you see them now—servants and all; and here we wait until the clock strikes twelve, to usher Christmas in, and while the time away with forfeits and old stories. Trundle, my boy, rake up the fire!"

she's lofty flights of imagination, nevertheless showed remarkable adaptability in helping to immortalize her great brother's name, even studying philosophy after his death so as to be better qualified to popularize his works.

Always Listeners
Another strange thing is that every fellow who comes along and predicts the end of the world can get a hearing from some persons.—Milwaukee Journal.



Millicent—Oh, what do you think? A famous artist looked at my paintings, and he was very much impressed. He thinks they are original.
Bob—Did he say they are original?
"Well, not in so many words. But, of course, what he said meant that. He said he never saw or heard tell of anything like them."



Mrs. Plymouth-Rock—You advise me to have nothing else to do with her, then—her tendencies are very Bolshevistic?
Mrs. Buff-Orpington—Decidedly so, my dear—she's an out-and-out Rhode Island Red.

Tolled Bell Followed
He heeded not the traffic cop,
He raced ahead, pell mell,
So the doctor told the sexton
And the sexton tolled the bell.

Unrelated
"So that's Senator Bunkum! Quite a man of letters, isn't he?"
"You bet! Honorary degrees from darn near every college in the country."
"But I mean he's very well educated, isn't he?"
"Oh, gosh, no!"

Dangerous Ground
Mr. Book was reading statistics in the newspaper.
"In New York a child is born every two minutes," he announced.
"Good heavens," exclaimed his wife in horror, "and we're planning to stay there two weeks!"—American Legion Weekly.

It Must Be
Nellie—I believe you are hopelessly in love with me.
Fred—But, dear, how did you guess?
Nellie—Well, I know that if you were in love with me at all it was hopelessly.



Friend—Why this flood of tears?
She—Oh, I just made such a bad break.

Tin Can Joys
When time, who steals our days away,
Shall swipe our garden, too,
The vegetables that were canned
Will half its joys renew.

Comment
She (whispering)—That orator has a silver tongue.
He (ditto)—That's probably why he doesn't get down to brass tacks.

Seldom
Hampton—Do you ever get a word in edgewise to your wife?
Patterson—Only when she drives the car and comes to a "Stop, Look and Listen" sign. While she's listening I say what I have to say.

Careful Chap
First Broker—Flip a dime to see who puts up the \$5,000 in this deal.
Second Broker—All right, only I'm going to flip a penny—I might lose the dime.

Depended on Size
Clifford—I love you! Will you marry me?
Mae—Oh, isn't that wonderful! Do you love me enough to fight for me?
Clifford—Er—point him out and I'll be more able to tell you after I see him.

Long and Lean
Searcher—At what are you moulting so?
Barbee—I merely said, "It's a long Jane that has no curves."

"DANDELION BUTTER COLOR"
A harmless vegetable butter color used by millions for 50 years. Drug stores and general stores sell bottles of "Dandelion" for 25 cents.—Adv.

Logical Answer but Almost Too Literal

The teacher was explaining the meaning of the word unit. After what was considered a clear explanation, she began to test the knowledge of the class. Picking up various objects, she asked what they were and each time received the answer, "A unit."
Finally, she took from her desk an orange. "And what is this?" she asked. "A unit," was the answer.
Taking her knife, the teacher peeled the orange and laid the pulp on her desk. Holding the peeling in her hand, she inquired: "What is this?"
The class looked confused, but thoughtful. After the lapse of a little time, a hand went up. "What is it, James?" asked the teacher.
"That is the skin of a unit," asserted James.

Dr. Peery's "Dead Shot" not only expels Worms or Tapeworm but cleans out the mucus in which they breed and tones up the Digestion. One dose does it. Adv.

Sailor Not Desperado That Author Pictured

Capt. Alexander McLean, the notorious sailor whose exploits are pictured in Jack London's "Sea Wolf," had many harrowing experiences on the sea and escaped death miraculously many times, only to come to his death by accidental drowning in three feet of water at Vancouver, B. C. He had anchored his ship and in crossing two small boats to reach the dock, slipped and fell, struck his head on a gunwale and drowned while stunned.
He was by no means the aggressive ruffian pictured by London. He complained bitterly in 1907 about the way London had maligned him. He expressed a hot desire to be in a position some day to shanghai the author, and having him at sea, to put him through his paces in a way that he had never treated any man.—Vancouver Province.

Cuticura for Pimply Faces.

To remove pimples and blackheads smear them with Cuticura Ointment. Wash off in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Once clear keep your skin clear by using them for daily toilet purposes. Don't fail to include Cuticura Talcum. Advertisement.

Ocean Currents Prove Whimsical

The Shetland isles face the Atlantic storms, which beat on them so fiercely that not a tree lifts its head on the islands. But what the ocean takes away with one hand it brings in the other, for with every gale it throws ashore timber and driftwood.

Some of the timber could tell a story, and many a drifting log or bough has a long sea yarn behind it. The first fires that were lit on Shetland when the Stone circle builders lived there were made of logs and driftwood that perhaps had been carried by the current of the Gulf stream all the way from Florida and the Gulf of Mexico.

Last year a passenger on a steamer off Palm Beach, in Florida, dropped a bottle in the sea containing a letter. He thought the bottle would surely be washed ashore somewhere in the United States, but no; the willful sea bore it far away from the New world, and deposited it on the shores of Shetland, where it has lately been picked up.

A torpid liver prevents proper food assimilation. Tone up your liver with Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills, 372 Pearl St., N. Y. Adv.

Law Taken Seriously

The English immigration law is rigid and formidable and the men who enforce it make no exceptions. When a cross-channel airplane crashed into a haystack near Lymchurch not long ago, killing three of its passengers and injuring twelve, immigration officials from Folkstone were quickly on the spot and the passports and baggage of all the unfortunate passengers were carefully examined. None of the uninjured was allowed to leave until these formalities had been completed.

Hollywood's Beginning

Hollywood, the goal of the world's movie-struck people, owes its rise to its obscurity. It was selected because of its insignificance not so many years ago. When the first studio was established there in 1911 the population was about 7,000. Today it is estimated at 125,000. With the rise of filmdom to power the fame of Hollywood spread. Although Hollywood became a part of Los Angeles in 1910 it still retains its name.

Crushed in the Rush

"Is your boy on the football team this year?"
"I hope so; he was under it last year."—Detroit Free Press.

THE BEST RECOMMENDATION

Bare-to-Hair
is the number who are trying to imitate it. If Bare-to-Hair was not growing hair on bald heads there would be no imitators. If there is baldness or signs of it you can't afford to neglect to use "Forst's Original Bare-to-Hair."
Correspondence Given Personal Attention
W. H. FORST, Mgr.
SCOTTDALE • PENNA.

When You Catch Cold Rub On Musterole

Musterole is easy to apply and works right away. It may prevent a cold from turning into "flu" or pneumonia. It does all the good work of grandmother's mustard plaster.

Musterole is a clean, white ointment, made of oil of mustard and other home simples. It is recommended by many doctors and nurses. Try Musterole for sore throat, cold on the chest, rheumatism, lumbago, pleurisy, stiff neck, bronchitis, asthma, neuralgia, congestion, pains and aches of the back and joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet—colds of all sorts.

To Mothers: Musterole is also made in milder form for babies and small children. Ask for Children's Musterole.

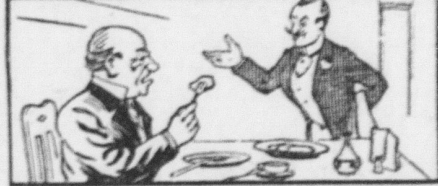


CUTS and SCRATCHES
Stop the smarting and hasten the healing by prompt application of

Resinol

Garfield Tea
Was Your Grandmother's Remedy

For every stomach and intestinal ill. This good old-fashioned herb home remedy for constipation, stomach ills and other derangements of the system so prevalent these days is in even greater favor as a family medicine than in your grandmother's day.



Dinner—"I'm enjoying it well enough, only I'm thinking how I must suffer with indigestion afterwards. Wish I could eat everything I want as other folks do."

Walter—"May I suggest the use of GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER?"

A blessing to those with weak stomachs, constipation, nervous indigestion and similar disorders. When the stomach and bowels are in good working order good health usually prevails. When not in working order, use August Flower. 30c and 50c bottles, of all druggists. If you cannot get it, write to G. G. Green, Inc., Woodbury, N. J.

ASTHMA

DR. J. D. KELLOGG'S ASTHMA REMEDY
for the prompt relief of Asthma and Hay Fever. Ask your druggist for it. 25 cents and one dollar. Write for FREE SAMPLE.

Dr. J. D. KELLOGG'S REMEDY

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A gift that is appreciated and always remembered. Beautiful Hand Embroidered Madeira Handkerchiefs 1/2 Dozen \$2.00 Postpaid. Send Money Order, Check or Cash in Registered Letter, or pay postman on delivery.

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Today's Big Offer to All Who Have Stomach Agony

Read About This Generous Money Back Guarantee

When you have any trouble with your stomach such as gas, heaviness and distention, why fool with things which at best can only give relief. Why not get a medicine that will build up your upset, disordered stomach and make it so strong and vigorous that it will do its work without any help.

Such a medicine is Dare's Mentha Pepsin, a delightful elixir that is sold by your local dealer and druggists everywhere with the distinct understanding that if it doesn't greatly help you your money will be gladly returned. It has helped thousands—it will no doubt help you.



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