

Signs of Christmas



It's Christmas the year around where these pictures were taken: Christmas, Fla.; Bethlehem, Pa.; Nazareth, Pa., and Santa Claus, Ind. Each year thousands of Christmas cards are forwarded to postoffices at these communities for stamp cancellation.

Will Toy Satisfy His Majesty? She Asks Him—and Finds Out

A PRETTY toy—but does it have educational value? Don't ask the nearest child expert, but hand it to a youngster, who'll probably think up more instructive ways to use it than its inventor ever imagined. And that's the theory on which the Tested Toy Laboratory of New York has helped manufacturers select the toys you buy for the children this Christmas.

The "laboratory" is really Miss Lillian Rifkin, who takes a toy to a school, recreational center or park and records children's reactions to it while they play. Then she fills in an elaborate questionnaire, commenting on the toy's durability, fitness at various age levels and value in stimulating mental, artistic, physical or scientific activity.

She doesn't question parents very often except regarding the toy's desirability for indoor or outdoor play. But the child is the final authority. Little rubber automobiles, says Miss Rifkin, are second in popularity to blocks. She's astounded by the elaborate kinds of dramatic play



DRESSMAKING—This dress designing "game" is being tried out by two youngsters at the elementary demonstration school Miss Rifkin runs under sponsorship of New York university and the Child Study association of America.



PROVING GROUND—Miss Rifkin watches a boy putting a new toy to its practical testing paces. Among her conclusions: (1) Children may be unpredictable in their likes and dislikes, but they're notably consistent in their reactions; (2) play appeal of a toy is paramount; any education value it may have is secondary in the child's mind.

that children build around the cars: "Sometimes a child travels all around the world with them. Often he will recreate a trip he's taken in the family car. Sometimes he'll play detective and chase gangsters and sometimes he's a taxicab driver." Miss Rifkin finds that toy automobiles, like toy soldiers, help a child get the surplus energy out of his system. And both appeal to his instinct for collecting.

One mother, she says, believed militant tendencies would be fostered if her child were allowed to play with toy soldiers. So she forbade them, but instead the child collected bottle tops, lined them up in military formation and shot them down by cocking his finger. Miss Rifkin says it's all "pretend" anyway. "Even a child old enough to know war means cruelty realizes his soldiers are just toys, and it's only a game."

Hilber's Toys Outsold By Chamberlain Dolls

Neville Chamberlain-with-an-umbrella, the "appeasement" prime minister who claims to have kept Europe out of war last year, has become such a popular toy with British youngsters that the German toymakers, whose peace he "preserved," are griping. The Reich's doll manufacturers claim their exports to London have collapsed because Mr. Chamberlain-with-an-umbrella is the No. 1 favorite toy on the British Isles. Many other "men of destiny" have been made into dolls this year.



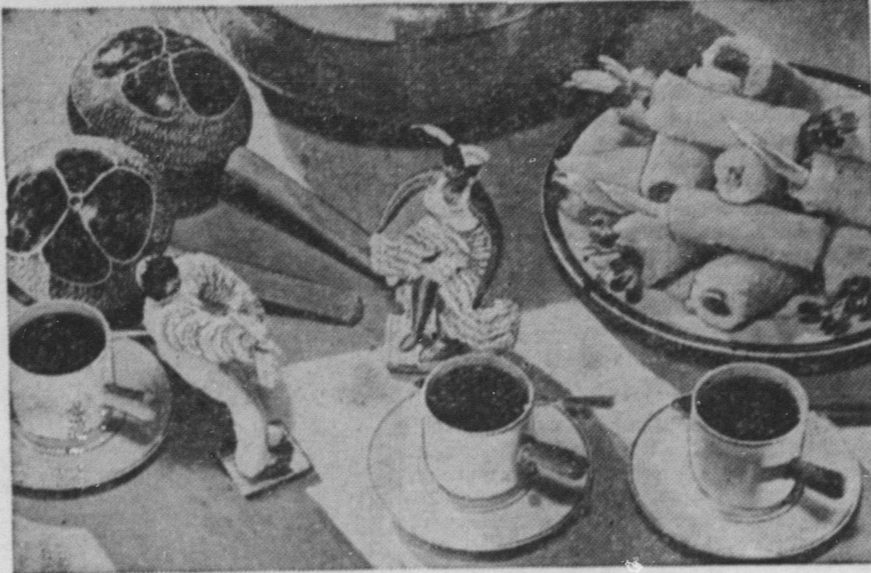
been made into dolls this year.

Joyous Christmas Was Frowned on By Early Settlers

The joy and singing now associated with Christmas was once forbidden by ultra-pious churchmen of Puritan England. Their disciples who founded New England carried the same repressions for many generations.

In the middle ages Christmas became the greatest of festivals, celebrated with fetes, nativity plays and general jollity. Many of our rollicking carols date back to this gay period of yule rejoicing. Such pomp and merriment marked the Christmas of Shakespeare's England, when a 12-day festive period was observed. Work was abandoned and young and old gave themselves over to merry-making.

The Puritans frowned upon the pleasures of the season, however, so in 1644 Parliament prohibited any festivities and ordered the day kept as a fast.



FOR THE NEW YEAR'S PARTY (See Recipes Below)



Foreign Parties Are Fun

For your New Year's eve party, why not plan one that is foreign in flavor? Whether you like to sway to the rhythm of the rumba, or prefer swing, you'll find a rumba party with a menu of Cuban delicacies, full of charm for your guests.

There are all sorts of amusing, inexpensive favors to give an authentic note to your rumba party decorations—little pottery figures and tiny dolls dressed in Cuban costumes; and for noisemakers, a pair of maracas, those gourd-like rattles filled with seeds that rumba orchestras shake to emphasize the beat of the music, and tiny wooden castanets that the dancers manipulate with their hands as an accompaniment to their steps.

Refreshments, too, can be distinctly Cuban. A dish that has gained fame among visitors to Cuba is rice with chicken—"Arroz con pollo." With rolled sandwiches and plenty of coffee, you have a delicious, satisfying supper.

The Cuban idea of coffee is small cups and plenty of them, filled with strong, black coffee. If you like, use decaffeinated coffee, so that your guests can drink many cups in the Cuban manner, without fear of sleepless hours later. Remember that decaffeinated coffee needs a little extra brewing to bring out the rich flavor.

After-Dinner Coffee or Demi-Tasse. (Extra Strength) Use 1½ heaping tablespoons coffee, regular grind, for each cup (½ pint) of water. Make by any method desired. If using decaffeinated coffee, drip grind, measure well-rounded tablespoon instead of heaping tablespoon.

Arroz Con Pollo. (Chicken with rice) Cut a chicken into small pieces and wipe dry. Melt ½ cup butter or other fat in a saucepan and fry the chicken and a cup of diced sliced ham, uncooked, until golden brown. Add a cup of canned tomatoes or tomato paste, half a dozen small olives, a teaspoon of chopped parsley and salt to taste. Then add ½ cup of rice. Brown the rice lightly, stirring constantly. Then add 1 cup of boiling water and cook slowly, in a casserole in the oven, keeping tightly covered, until chicken is tender and rice is done.

Vegetable Salad Bowl. 1 head lettuce (cut in wedges) Raw spinach leaves (coarsely chopped) 1 cucumber (peeled and sliced) 1 green pepper (cut in rings) 1 bunch radishes (sliced) Onion (cut in very thin slices) Prepare vegetables and dry thoroughly in clean towel. Chill. Place all the vegetables in a salad bowl and toss together with well-seasoned french dressing. Serve at once.

Garlic Bread. Slice French, Italian, or white bread in thick slices to, but not through, the bottom crust. Crush one clove of garlic. Add to ½ cup of butter and heat over a low flame for about 5 minutes. Strain out the garlic. Brush slices and top of the bread with the garlic butter. Heat in a moderately hot oven (375 degrees) for about 15 minutes. Serve at once.

Rolled Sandwiches. Cut fresh bread in thin, even slices. Trim off crusts. Spread with soft butter or with any desired filling. Roll and fasten with toothpicks. Place sandwiches in a deep pan, and cover with a cloth wrung out of hot water (this must not touch the sandwiches). Let stand for 15 minutes. Just before serving, tuck a sprig of watercress into one end of each sandwich, for garnish, and remove the toothpicks.

An Italian "Help-Yourself" party is a grand idea for informal entertaining—especially when you plan to have a crowd. Cover tables with brown wrapping paper in place of linen, or use coarse cotton tablecloths in red and white checks. In the center of each table place a basket or a wooden bowl of fruit, to be served, later, as dessert.

Menu
Italian Spaghetti
Vegetable Salad Bowl
Garlic Bread
Fresh Fruit
Coffee

Italian Spaghetti. (Serves 8)
1 can imported Italian tomatoes (large)
1 can tomato paste
¾ cup water
¼ teaspoon soda
Salt and cayenne pepper to taste
½ cup olive oil
1 clove garlic (grated)
1½ large onions (sliced)
½ cup parsley (chopped)
1½ pounds ground meat (beef, pork and veal)
1 package spaghetti (approximately 8 ounces.)
1 cup grated Italian cheese (bulk preferable)

Strain tomatoes, add tomato paste, water, soda, salt and pepper. Place olive oil in frying pan and add garlic, onions and parsley. Fry in the oil until lightly brown. Add meat and continue to fry until it is cooked through. Combine the above two mixtures and simmer about two hours. Stir frequently. Meanwhile, cook spaghetti until tender in large quantity boiling water (salted). Serve tomato sauce over spaghetti and top with grated cheese. Serve very hot.

Coming, Next Week!

All this talk about entertaining this way and that, and not a word so far about planning parties for the younger members of the family! Something must be done about that right away—and next week Eleanor Howe will do it—with an entire column devoted to young people's parties.

You'll find lots of recipes for holiday entertaining in the specially prepared leaflet "Holiday Recipes," by Eleanor Howe. You'll find old favorites, and brand new recipes, too, for Christmas cakes and cookies, plum puddings, and confections. To receive your copy of this leaflet, send 10 cents in coin to "Holiday Recipes," care of Eleanor Howe, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Frequent Cleaning Is Protection for Woodwork

Interior woodwork finish will last longer and look better if subjected to frequent and thorough cleaning. It may be kept clean by periodic removal of surface dust and by preventing the formation of grease film. Woodwork should be washed or cleaned when dusting is inadequate. For cleaning varnished or painted surfaces, solvents that will attack the covering must be avoided as well as abrasive preparations.

A good quality of soap will usually do a satisfactory job. When the paint is flecked, marred, or discolored, it is necessary to resurface the woodwork.

Refrigerator Tips

Perishable food always should be placed in the refrigerator as soon as possible. Raw fruits and vegetables are best washed first under running water and the outside of milk bottles wiped with a damp cloth. Left-overs should be cooled, if necessary, and placed in spotless, tightly-covered containers to keep odors from escaping and unappetizing flavors from mixing. Foods with strong odors, such as cheese, if put into the refrigerator, should be kept on a top shelf.

PATTERN DEPARTMENT SEWING CIRCLE



8587

THIS frock (8587) is so devastatingly becoming to fashionable moppets that you needn't be surprised if your own small daughter develops a slight superiority complex when she puts it on! From a high waistline, the full skirt ripples about her dimpled knees. The sleeves puff out like little balloons. There's adorable quaintness in the cut of the top. Pattern includes panties, and it's quick and easy to make. Gingham, linen, batiste or challis are pretty everyday materials for this frock. A party version will be sweet in organdy or taf-

Declined High Office

Since 1789 the office of the chief justice of the Supreme court of the United States has been accepted 11 times and declined six times. Alexander Hamilton, Patrick Henry and William Cushing refused it from George Washington; John Hay refused it from John Adams; Roscoe Conkling refused it from Ulysses Grant, and John Schofield refused it from Grover Cleveland.—Collier's.

BILIOUS?

Here is Amazing Relief of Conditions Due to Sluggish Bowels
Nature's Remedy
If you think all laxatives act alike, just try this all vegetable laxative. So mild, thorough, refreshing, invigorating. Dependable relief from sick headaches, bilious spells, tired feeling when associated with constipation. Without Risk get a 25c box of NR from your druggist. Make the test—then if not delighted, return the box to us. We will refund the purchase price. That's fair. Get NR Tablets today. **NR TO-NIGHT**

Object of Government

The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government.—Jefferson.



SOUTHERN HOTEL Baltimore's Foremost

EVERY ROOM WITH BATH OR SHOWER

RATES \$3.00 up FAMOUS SOUTHERN BAR (Wines and Spirits at Popular Prices) PRIVATE DINING ROOMS OPEN AIR ROOF GARDEN UNUSUAL SAMPLE ROOMS DINING ROOMS (Table d'Hôte and a la Carte Service) CAFETERIA GARAGE SERVICE

Centrally located... Light and Redwood Streets BALTIMORE, MARYLAND A. J. FINK, Managing Director

Located in the center of the wholesale and retail districts, theatres and other amusements

INDIGESTION

Sensational Relief from Indigestion and One Dose Proves It
If the first dose of this pleasant-tasting little black tablet doesn't bring you the fastest and most complete relief you have experienced, send bottle back to us and get YOURS MONEY BACK. This little black tablet betters the stomach's digest food, makes the excess stomach fluids harmless and lets you eat the nourishing foods you need. For heartburn, sick headache and spots on others caused by excess stomach fluids making you feel sour and sick all over—JUST ONE DOSE of little black proves speedy relief. See everywhere.

Great Unknown
The world knows nothing of its greatest men.—Sir Henry Taylor.

YOUR GRACIOUS HOST FROM COAST TO COAST

in.. NEW YORK
The Gotham

in.. CHICAGO
The Drake
The Blackstone

in.. LOS ANGELES
The Town House

in.. BELLEAIR FLA.
Bellevue Biltmore

A. S. KIRKEY
Managing Director

KIRKEY HOTELS

Wordless Poem
A picture is a poem without words.—Cornificus.

THE Lee HOUSE

4 blocks to the White House
4 blocks from 3rd Church
15th and L Streets, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

200 large, quiet outdoor rooms with tub and shower
SINGLE . . \$3 to \$4
DOUBLE . . \$4.50 to \$7

N. Y. Office: 630 Park Avenue, Club 5-4200
Philadelphia Office: Telephone Kingsley 3210
Pittsburgh Office: Telephone ATlantic 6200