

A Prayer for the President of the United States

From the Writings of Dr. Charles Steitz

Thou Great Sovereign of all nations Thou King of Kings, and Lord of hosts, in these perilous times of war and rumors of war, when all the powers of hate have been loosed to kill and to destroy, we pray that Thy Spirit may steady the minds and may quicken the hearts of those who call themselves by Thy name, acknowledging Thee as Father.

We pray especially for the President of these United States, upon whom has been laid heavy burdens and grave responsibilities, as he speaks for our country and for its people.

Renew his strength as daily his burdens increase. Give him the wisdom and understanding that cometh only from above. Protect him from those whose motives and methods are prompted by the spirit of selfishness or personal ambition.

Show him Thy will. Out of the conflict of counsel may Thy voice come

unto him saying: This is the way—walk ye in it. And as Thy will is revealed, increase his faith, so that he may go forth in the consciousness of having fulfilled the task committed to him.

And we pray that he, with us, shall seek above all things else to honor and glorify Thee, hastening the coming of Thy Kingdom upon earth, and the rule of the spirit of brotherhood in the lives and the hearts of all peoples of the earth so that all nations may dwell together in peace and unity. Amen.

CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE EACH YEAR—???

Merry Christmas is whatever you make it—whenever you make it. From December 5, when St. Nicholas arrives for Dutch children, to the Aleutian islanders' Christmas on January 7, someone is celebrating this festive day most of the time.

Holland chooses December 5 as the festival day which the church has set aside in St. Nicholas' honor. In Hungary Santa Claus pays his first visit several weeks ahead of the Yuletide, leaving boxes of candy in preparation for his second visit.

Most of the unusual celebrations, however, come after New Year's Day. Remote Shtland islanders north of Scotland celebrate January 5, still clinging to the old Julian calendar and refusing to accept that of Pope Gregory which most of the world has used for two centuries.

January 5 is also Christmas Day in at least one part of the United States proper, isolated and windswept Rodanthe island off North Carolina. The custom, apparently a holdover from "old Christmas"—the Twelfth night, or Epiphany—the occasion finds all 300 residents hanging their stockings and awaiting Santa Claus.

In Alaska, where mid-summer delivery of Christmas presents makes them suitable either for last Christmas or the coming one, part of the residents celebrate on December 25, and the rest January 7. The latter date is observed chiefly by the Aleutian islanders, which is populated by natives who were interbred with Russians hundreds of years ago. They use the Russian calendar, which has not been changed to conform with that used by the rest of the world. By this calendar, New Year's is celebrated on January 14.

PURITAN LAW BANNED SANTA CLAUS; XMAS' OBSERVANCE OPPOSED

Christmas is America's most celebrated holiday. But it wasn't always such. Two centuries ago, when America was just getting its start, the Puritans in New England outlawed Santa Claus and threatened to arrest and fine anyone observing the day. The Puritans—the same ones who gave America the Thanksgiving holiday—disliked Christmas because the Church of England, which they had broken away from, encouraged its observance. A law of 1689 provided that anyone observing Christmas would be fined five shillings. But in 1722, the reckless modern generation showed signs of disregarding the law.

THE FIRST SANTA CLAUS

The first Santa Claus was St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, who started mysterious midnight gift-bearing journeys. In the Fourth century he was famous because he was a rich man who enjoyed giving secret gifts to the poor. One of his tricks was to throw purses of gold into cottage windows and run away.

SWING TIME GIFT

A gift in "swing-time" which is bound to please the men is a combination clock and cigarette box, ideal for his office desk.

TRICKY BOX

A tricky box for a man's desk is a lacquered metal box with sections for paper clips, rubber bands and pens. It is equipped with an adjustable roll calendar and a roll top.



A Beautiful DIAMOND From Luxenberg's

A BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND FROM A DEPENDABLE MERCHANT IS THE PERFECT GIFT TO THE ONE YOU LOVE.

Beautiful Rings in White or Yellow Gold, with Sparkling Diamonds

DIAMOND Single Rings, \$9 to \$1000

DIAMOND Ring Sets, \$19 to \$1000

LOUIS LUXENBERG JEWELER

Est. 1903 BARNESBORO

THE BEST XMAS GIFT OF ALL!

(I gave it to myself!)

I didn't have to stretch my paychecks these hectic weeks before Christmas, but went on living very normally. My Christmas Savings Club check certainly looked good. Why not get started this year?

ENROLL TODAY!

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BAKERTON, PA.

'Old Christmas' Is Best Despite Modern Trends

Modernistic art and architecture are very fine, but an old-fashioned Christmas is still the best. Using the traditional colors of red and green as a basis, the occasion can be brought up-to-date with pretty modern angels and worldly gnomes of plastic, tin and wood.

Ideas for decorating the house require forethought and planning, even though the job itself must wait for the final hours. Home decorators offer a few suggestions which will help homemakers to plan more attractive Christmas decorations.

GOLD STANDARD—Broad, gold Christmas ribbon will be the motif, this festive day most of the time.

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Christmas Watched History in Making

Almost throughout the world, people are looking forward to a merry Christmas. This day, so significant to us, has seen great events occur in the history of the world.

Following is a list of important events which occurred on Christmas day:

- DECEMBER 25**
- Year Event**
- 800 Charlemagne, French king, crowned at Rome, Emperor of the West.
 - 1066 William the Conqueror crowned at London.
 - 1642 Sir Isaac Newton born. He discovered the law of gravity.
 - 1776 Washington crossed the Delaware to attack Trenton.
 - 1777 Vermont declared its independence from England.
 - 1821 Clara Harlowe Barton born. She founded the American Red Cross in 1881.
 - 1837 Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated the Seminole Indians in Florida.
 - 1840 Peter Tschalkowsky born. Famous Russian composer.
 - 1868 Unconditional pardon and amnesty proclaimed by the President to all inhabitants in Southern states.

'Dear Santa'



These boys want Santa Claus to know about their favorite toys in plenty of time before Christmas, and they're willing to rise to the occasion. With the help of his older brother, this young man solemnly mails his letter to "Dear Santa."

Accidents Offer Grave Threat To Yule Gaiety

Nothing can spoil the festive gaiety of a Christmas celebration more completely than a fire or accident in the home. There are several essential precautions which will help to assure a truly Merry Christmas.

- Don't risk using frayed cords and broken plugs.
- Don't handle electrical appliances with wet hands.
- Don't yank at cords or run them under rugs.
- Don't forget to have insulated staples on hand for stringing cords around.
- Don't overload your house circuit. Usually 1,500 watts is as much as any one circuit will stand.
- Don't neglect providing plenty of extra lamp bulbs of the various sizes and colors you're using for Christmas cheer, so you can replace burned-out ones.
- Don't put pennies in a blown-out fuse. A blown fuse is a warning!
- Don't have high wattage lamp bulbs near fancy inflammable ornaments, synthetic materials, paper or cotton. Watch out about using candles too near draperies, wall paper or woodwork.
- Don't plan to have a row of candles too close to a mirror or the heat may crack it.
- And above all, don't burn real candles on your Christmas tree unless it has first been thoroughly fireproofed.

Antituberculosis Seals Sold in Forty Nations

Besides the United States, more than 40 different countries throughout the world now have, or have had, Christmas seals or stamps that are sold wholly or partially for tuberculosis work. Little did Einar Holboell realize, when he conceived that first Danish Christmas seal, launched in 1904, that his simple idea would in a generation circle the globe.

Claiming the honor of having originated the Christmas seal sale, Denmark has, with its neighboring country, Sweden, held seal sales annually since 1904. In the United States, seal sales began in 1907. Up to 1934, the sale of Christmas seals in the United States alone totaled \$75,000,000, all of which has been devoted to the control of tuberculosis.

ARE YOU A PUZZLED SANTA? No Need to Be!

WHY NOT GIVE a gift from Bakerton Supply Co.? It's the gift that will be appreciated. You can't help but find a suitable gift for everyone here. And for your economy, everything is reasonably priced for holiday shopping.

FOR HER You'll find many appropriate and lovely gifts here—decorative gifts, personal gifts, useful gifts. Our salesmen and salesgirls are always ready to offer assistance and suggestions.

FOR HIM There's no need to go further. Our men's department is chock-full of the kind of gifts he's looking for. Why not let us help you solve your male shopping problem?

FOR KIDDIES There are gifts that will thrill them on Christmas morning. Dolls, sleds, toys of every make and description.

Bakerton Supply Co.

BAKERTON, PA.

THINK OF CHILDREN, NOT ONLY YOURSELF WHEN BUYING TOYS

Don't buy the toy just because it pleases your fancy. Keep the child in mind, too. Miniature dogs with wagging tails are fascinating to parents, but they won't keep the child happy long. Miss Elizabeth Irwin, who is principal of New York's Little Red School House, says large blocks, tool chests or hand-manipulated devices make much better gifts.

- Keeping in mind the child's age and taste, durability of the toy and a few well-chosen scientific principles, she offers these rules to you who are Santa Clauses this Christmas:
- Choose toys which stimulate the child's imagination, rather than mechanical toys. Trains that run by hand are an example.
 - Choose toys which help children exercise their large muscles, like big blocks, trapezes, boards to fit over saw horses. Roller skates, slide, bicycle and other athletic toys are also good.
 - Find toys that don't break easily. If you buy tools be sure the hammer head won't fly off. Inexpensive miniature automobiles may break down after a few trips around the parlor floor.
 - Buy games of skill, not of chance. Select games involving counting or building.

FARM FAMILIES FOUND LARGER THAN CITY'S

The average size of families is larger in the rural areas of the United States than in the cities, according to the 1940 Census.

The average size of families as shown by the 1940 Census, both city and country, was 3.8 persons. The average family in rural areas was 4.4, while in cities it was 3.2. The general average of 3.8 persons per family was approximately one-third of a person less than in 1930.

Every Census shows a constantly decreasing average size per family. Size of families varies in various sections of the country. City families in New England and the South Atlantic states equaled the national average of 3.8. City families in the Pacific states were small—3.1.

In the rural territory in the South Atlantic states the average size of families was as high as 4.4. The average size of rural families in the Pacific states was 3.5.

THE YULE LOG

The Scandinavians gave us the Yule Log in their feast of Yule, when a great fire was kindled in honor of Thor. The Goths and Saxons called the festival, Jul, and thus we get the words "Yule" and "Yuletide."

HOFFMAN'S ICE CREAM AND Dairy Products

FOR CHRISTMAS DON'T FORGET OUR SPECIALS

Egg Nog, Red Raspberry Tarts
Butter Scotch Royal ICE CREAM

WE WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Spirit Interrupts War

Despite the horror and suffering among World War soldiers, the spirit of Christmas was not kept out of the trenches.

In "A German Deserter's War Experience" the author, an anti-government Socialist, tells of a Christmas celebration on the Argonne front.

"Christmas in the trenches! It was bitterly cold. We had procured a pine tree and decorated it with candles and cookies.

"At midnight the whole line of German soldiers began to sing Christmas songs in chorus. "The French left their trenches, and, quite overpowered with emotion, stood with caps in hand. We exchanged gifts with the French—chocolate, cigarettes, etc. They were all laughing, and so were we; why, we did not know.

"All around silence reigned. The charm continued, and one scarcely dared to speak. Suddenly a shot rang through the air. The spell was broken. All rushed to their rifles. Our Christmas was over."

TOO BUSY



"I shall hope to catch you under the mistletoe Christmas eve."
"If you do, I warn you now, I'll be too busy to see you."

First Settlers in Virginia

Had a Joyous Christmas Although thousands of miles from their native homes, the first Virginians did what they could to observe Christmas day. But there were no women, no children and no families in those first few years.

Despite this handicap, Captain John Smith writes "that the first Christmases were very merry. The extreme wind, rayne, frost and snow caused us to keep Christmas among the savages where we were never more merry, nor fed on more plenty of good creatures, fish, fesh, wild fowl and good bread, nor never had better fires in England."