

Nature's Christmas Gifts

By
Frank Herbert Sweet

(© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

IT IS Christmas! Give what you have. To some it may be better than you dare to think. Instead of out-of-town dwellers turning their eyes cityward at Christmas time, why not turn them to the resources which nature offers to those who have eyes to see and invention to use? Mother Nature's storehouse is full of Christmas gifts. Practically every state possesses some unusual features which would bring delight to those who live in other parts of the country, but owing to their familiarity to the people who reside in their midst, are never thought of as possible gifts for those to whom they are unusual.

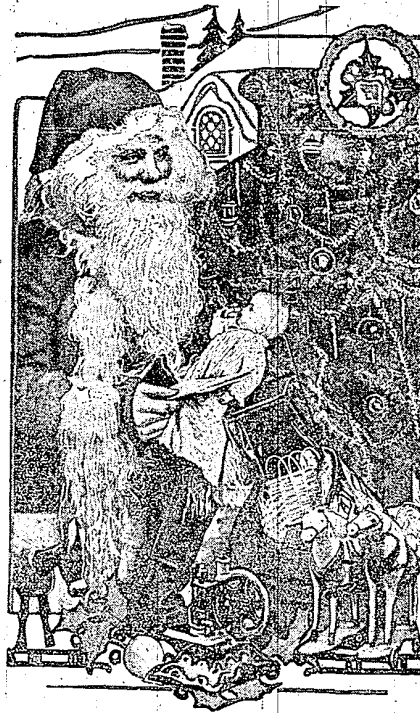
How many mountain folks of the South look upon scarlet galax leaves as anything unusual, yet here is one of the very few places in the world where these much-prized leaves are to be found. A wreath or two of them, or a barrel of holly and mistletoe, or perhaps some of the rare roses these regions contain, would bring joy to the recipient. And chinquapins, which few people living away from the South have ever heard of, would be a novelty, especially if sent in one of the odd-shaped baskets which can be made from the barks of some of the trees. South Carolina is the only state which grows tea; a box of home-grown tea would indeed be a bit out of the ordinary. Even cotton bolls are appreciated by those who have never seen the cotton in this form.

Not one in a thousand has eaten a chayote, but in the far South this vegetable is as common as cauliflower; the dabbler, too, is no more than the potato in many parts of the South, and the udo is found in many places—what a treat they would be for some one. It is a wise plan when you send new foods to let written instructions as to ways of using accompany the gift, for sometimes strange foods are thrown out because the recipient does not know how to use them. Alligator pens are uncommon in many places remote from the large cities, and almost everywhere cost from twenty-five cents up.

Few Floridians look upon kumquats, guavas, tangelos as Christmas gifts, but maybe their friends in the North have never seen them.

Nature has countless Christmas gifts if you only look.

To Make the Kiddies Happy



that were set up for the children of men. For Jack Frost and Old Man Snow had gone to all manner of trouble to decorate this tree and it sparkled and shone with a radiance that far surpassed that of the Christmas trees they had just seen in people's homes. And it was not alone this tree that was beautiful, but every single tree in the forest was beautiful also, only that this particular one seemed to be a little bit lovelier than any of the rest.

Then the little children of the forest knew that they had no just cause for grievance, and discontent vanished from their hearts, for they felt that there was no more beautiful Christmas tree in all the world than the one which was their very own and which grew so near them in their own homeland. And they thanked the good fairy in one breath for what she had shown them and they all wished her a merry Christmas.

Christmas Trees in the Forest

By KATHERINE EDELMAN

(© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

THE children of the little folks of the forest met in council the morning before Christmas.

Baby Jack Squirrel was the spokesman for the crowd and he voiced their wishes in a few short, terse sentences: "All the children in the world of people have beautiful Christmas trees fixed for them. Why should the children of the forest be denied such things? Is it fair? Is it just?"

Every little one of the forest who was present cried loudly that it was not, except Baby Rabbit, who was always a little timid about using her voice, so she just nodded her head.

Just then a beautiful fairy came and stood among the little forest folk: "Children," she said, "I have just been listening to all that you have been saying and I want to tell you that I think you are all wrong. If each one of you will close your eyes for a moment I will take you on a little trip with me and prove to you that you are making yourselves unhappy without cause."

All the little ones present shut their eyes tightly and as they did so felt themselves moving swiftly through the air, but there was no fear in their hearts at all, for the good fairy was right beside them all the time and was smiling at them so pleasantly.

They were then taken to the windows of some homes where Christmas trees were already set up and decorated and they were allowed to gaze their fill. After several hours of this the little people began to grow weary, but the fairy kept them moving from place to place and often they had to travel a long way to find homes where the tree was fixed so far ahead, as most people wait until Christmas Eve to set up the Christmas tree.

When, finally, the fairy brought them back to their own forest, she took them from tree to tree and pointed out to them the beauty of each. Then she led them to the prettiest tree of all and asked them to look hard at it, and when the little folks looked hard they saw that this tree was more beautiful and had on it more beautiful decorations than were on any of the trees.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

On Display in Our New Show Room

Holly and Artificial
For the graves of the departed
loved ones

Pretty potted flowers and
baskets of artificial flowers
for the Christmas table

Farmington Greenhouse

Farmington

Michigan



Nearly all of you have some perplexing gift problems nowadays, haven't you?

Well, here's solving it for you. Make that — a Year's Subscription to

The Farmington Enterprise

Whoever gets it will consider it a real, thoughtful Gift. For, as our many readers know, this paper is always alive with the latest home news, and is just like a letter from the old home folks 52 times in a year.

Phone 25

Holiday Gifts

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!

WITH US is easy this year because we have such a variety to select from

COLORED GLASS WEAR

Bulb Bowls in Black and Jade
Fruit Dishes in Amber and Blue
Compote, Marmalade Dishes, etc.

TIN UTILITY TRAYS

Decorated with gayly colored birds and flowers

LADIES' COLLAR AND CUFF SETS
In lace and linens, individually boxed

HEMSTITCHED LINEN CLOTHS AND
NAPKINS

Boxed for Christmas Gifts

"WAYNE KNIT" HOSIERY

Pure thread silk hose in Log Cabin, Air-dale, Beege Gun Metal and all the wanted shades, also wool, and silk and wool.

IMPORTED CELULOID NOVELTIES

Tape measures, pin trays, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

Under Arm Bags	House Slippers
Aprons	Wool Hose
Beads	Suspenders
Wool Scarfs	Neckties
Handkerchiefs	Sheets

REMEMBER

WE CAN FIT YOU

We Extend the Season's Greetings to All Our Friends and Patrons

The E. C. Grace Store