

Christmas season spiced with tradition

THE HOLIDAY season is rich in legend, tradition and customs. In some cases, the origins date back hundred of years.

ACCORDING to a pious legend, a small bird tried to relieve the suffering of Jesus Christ by plucking thorns from his crown. In so doing, the bird became stained with the Christ's blood.

The bird now is known as the robin redbreast.

WHY IS MISTLETOE small?

According to early Christmas legends, mistletoe was once a tree, but shrank in shame after Christ's cross was made from its wood.

The current romantic custom of stealing a kiss under a sprig of mistletoe comes from Scandinavian mythology.

But only "one berry, one kiss," wrote Washington Irving in his "Sketch Book." No more kisses once the berries are all gone, he said.

HOLLY WAS sacred to the Druids, priests of ancient Gaul and Britain who appear in Welsh and Irish legends as sorcerers and prophets.

They believed the sun never deserted the holly tree, which was why it never lost its leaves.

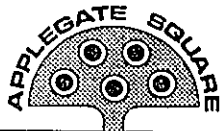
A 15TH-CENTURY forerunner of the modern Christmas card was the European custom of leaving special visiting cards when paying New

Year's calls. These often were small woodcuts or engravings of the baby Jesus, bearing messages of good will.

MISTLETOE is "tree thief."

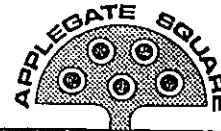
The scientific name of the romantic parasite, mistletoe, comes from Greek words meaning "tree thief." But that's not completely true, for mistletoe doesn't rob its host entirely.

Continued on Next Page



Taste the Big Apple

Northwestern Hwy., Southfield
Sat: 10-5, Sun: 12-5, Daily: 10-8:30 (Beginning Dec. 1st)



December

- Joy
- Remembrance
- Giving
- Fashion

Diane's Place
Dress by Anne Klein Knitwear
357-1340

WATCH



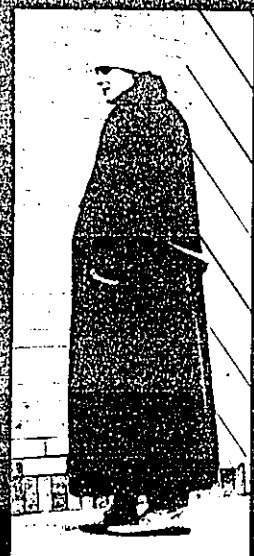
SALE!

The Omega Constellation Manhattan. The finest Swiss quartz chronometer money can buy. Distinctive gold clamps. Water-resistant to 100 feet. A contemporary styled classic backed with the technological innovations and accuracy that made Omega the official watch of NASA and the Olympics. Superlatively crafted in unique combinations of 18K and 14K gold, stainless steel ... many embellished with diamonds.



JEWELRY DESIGN & MFR., LTD.
MORRIS BEDNARSH
ANTHONY FERRARI 356-7007

PERRY FELLOWS



Robert Mann Fur

Applegate Square • Southfield
352-7112



For Elegant Giving...

Sweaters

Hand-Knit One-of-a-Kind or Custom

Yarns • Knitting Accessories

• GIFT CERTIFICATES •

BECCA YARNS, INC.

354-2470

Slades

Gift Shop

A Very Special Sale



50% OFF

Beautiful Crystal

and

Dinnerware

(While Selections Last)

• Executive Gift Service •

354-0066