

At Christmas Time

A CHRISTMAS TIME both Bethlehem is the famous capitol of all the earth. Then, the star of Bethlehem outranks all the flaming constellations. Then angels and archangels crowd the sky and fill the night with chants and praise. Then the shepherds come to seek for Mary's child. Wise men come, with gold for a new-born king—with frankincense for the high priest of all the ages and with myrrh for the medicinal lamb. At Christmas time the manger is a sacred shrine and the swaddled babe is king of all the earth of all the year.—William L. Gaston. (© 1927, by Western Newspaper Union.)

"EVERY other teacher in Grant school received some sort of a Christmas remembrance from their kiddies but me," was the mournful message that drifted through the transoms of the Mattocks home to the ears of Dorothy Littleton and Grace Carter. "I've tried so hard to please them and I love everyone of them, but I guess I'm just a dismal failure!" True enough, the girls of the grammar room of the Grant school thought to break Miss Mattocks, their teacher, of being strict with them, they would see that she received no Christmas present. They had gotten it into their fair heads that Miss Mattocks was their enemy, but now—Dorothy and Grace had discovered that Miss Mattocks was only human and that—well, it couldn't be possible—she loved them.

About ten o'clock, the Mattocks sisters were startled by the peal of their doorbell. Most every student of the grammar room of Grant school was there on the little porch. "We thought we would do something different this year," they chimed when she opened the door. They had brought along a gay tree, all decorated and a whole shower of nice presents. Perhaps these were last-minute presents, but Miss Mattocks didn't know that, and since the children were sorry for the way they had misjudged her and she was so happy, what did it matter?—L. B. Lyons. (© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Two Weeks of Christmas

In bygone times in "merrie" England, Christmas used to last two weeks, until Twelfth night. Now one day suffices unless we include the customary 30-day shopping drive.—Capper's Weekly.

HE HAD FOUND THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

OVER Judea's hills the Star shone resplendent. The ancients believed that stars were windows through which God disclosed a glimpse of the shining glory of heaven. They regarded the stars as golden and when the stars could not be seen it was a token of impending danger. On the first of Christmas Eve a star shone. Keeper, the noted astronomer, calculated that conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn took place. The star attracted the attention of three wise men who followed it. Tradition informs us they were three kings and "in one of the cathedrals of Europe can be found their skulls, each adorned with a jeweled crown." Another tradition says they were three saints, representing the three great families of the earth. They came from the East, perhaps from far-away Arabia. They brought costly presents with them. The first held in his hand a casket of gold; the second, frankincense, and the third, myrrh. Some persons have seen in this three-fold gift a beautiful symbolism; the myrrh having been offered to a mortal, the gold to a king, and the frankincense to a God.

Tradition tells us of a Roman prince who, while feasting in his palace on Christmas Eve, heard a rap at the window. Looking toward it he saw a beautiful face of a little child, and then heard a voice which, like music, whispered, "The Christ Child is hungry." Angered at the interruption, the prince commanded his soldiers to drive the child away and immediately the food upon his table turned to sand. Again he heard the voice, "The Christ Child is cold." The soldiers drove the child away once more. At the same time with these less fortunate than ourselves the blessings of life.—Leonard A. Barrett. (© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

The hunger of the race is three-fold for food, truth, and God. These hungers are satisfied not by hanging all our gifts upon our own Christmas tree, but by sharing with those less fortunate than ourselves the blessings of life.—Leonard A. Barrett. (© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

THE GIRL, THE BANK, AND HER CHRISTMAS

"YES, mam, overdrawn. Well, I believe the check was one hundred and twenty. You will make it good? Yes, right away, if you please." The receiver was replaced on the hook by Mr. Reid, vice president of the Valor County Trust and Savings bank. The clerk in the cage alongside of the vice president's office, although apparently busy attending a client's wants, had overheard the conversation. When the account had been entered, he turned to Mr. Reid. "Isn't that girl you just talked with the one who makes weekly visits here to get money? She wears a blue ensemble which matches the blue in her eyes exactly, and—"

"Yes, Frank. My, but you are observing and may I add, that your memory does not fail you. It seems or rather she tells me, she wrote this check a month or so ago and thought it had been cashed, so now has overdrawn her account. She hasn't quite enough to cover the check, and she doesn't want to part with the amount she has, for she tells me that will spoil her plans for Christmas presents. So there you are."

Frank said no more but fell to figuring with pencil and paper. A few moments later, "Mr. Reid, I'll cover that check."

Christmas Eve Frank sat in his room reading his paper when the telephone rang.

"Mr. Sweet? This is Miss Johnson. It has taken me all this time to extract a statement from Mr. Reid as to who so kindly loaned my check. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for making my Christmas."

Frank gasped, gulped—

"Now don't you think it would be possible for you to take dinner with us tomorrow? It will be rather lonely to eat Christmas dinner in a restaurant."

Frank's head reeled. "Yes, thank you, most certainly, Merry Christmas until tomorrow."—Eleanor E. King. (© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.)

Oldest Feast Period

As a time of feasting the Christmas period is one of the oldest in the calendar. The ancient sun worshippers probably started it with their celebrations and rejoicing over the return of the sun, signifying the beginning of the end of winter.—Capper's Weekly.

Puritan Fathers' Christmas

The first Christmas celebrated in our land was when the Puritan fathers habited their first house at Plymouth, having spent more than a month in wandering about in search of a place for settlement.—Farm and Ranch.

Christmas in Italy

The children of Italy are taken to the churches and cathedrals where they receive their gifts from the Bambino, which means the Infant Christ.—Farm and Ranch.

"Wassail"

"Wassail"—"your health"—was the Anglo-Saxon drinking pledge, taken with the wassail bowl, containing a concoction called "hamb's wool" made of ale, apples, sugar and spices.

Several Santas

There are several Santas, including Kris Kringle and St. Nick or Nicholas. The original St. Nick was a bishop who is said to have lived to take part in the historic Council of Nice. This is disputed by historians, but he certainly lived prior to the reign of Justinian, in whose time several churches in Constantinople were dedicated to St. Nicholas.—Capper's Weekly.

To The People of This Community

We wish to express our appreciation of the fine volume of business we have enjoyed and to wish you all

A Merry Christmas

Boston Shoe Repair Shop

Grand River Avenue
Next to A. & P. Store.



Last Minute Shoppers

HURRYING TO

F. L. COOK and CO.

WHERE THEY CAN STILL FIND A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR EVERYONE.

FOR MEN

- TRAVELING BAGS
- GLOVES and MITTENS
- SWEATER COATS
- SHEEP-LINED COATS
- DRESS SHIRTS
- MUFFLERS, TIES
- SUSPENDERS, BELTS
- HANDKERCHIEFS
- FANCY HOSIERY
- OVERCOATS
- HATS and CAPS

FOR WOMEN

- LUNCHEON SETS
- DRESSER SCARFS
- GALOSHES and ZIPPERS
- BATH ROBES
- SILK UNDERWEAR
- DRESS GLOVES
- BEDROOM SLIPPERS
- SILK HOSIERY
- BOX HANDKERCHIEFS
- SILK PAJAMAS
- BOX WRITING PAPER

FOR CHILDREN

- BATH ROBES
- GLOVES and MITTENS
- FANCY SWEATERS
- SHIRTS and BLOUSES
- BRUSH and COMB SETS
- PERFUMES, PURSES
- DOLLS, GAMES, TOYS
- BOOKS, TABLETS
- CRAYONS
- DRAWING BOOKS

MARK and HAROLD DAINES

WISH THEIR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

A Very Merry Christmas



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Ain't It So!



"What are men's fashions coming to next?"
"Lord knows! What do you think of a guy that wears red knickers?"
"Well, who in the world does that?"
"Santa Claus."

Wishing All Our Friends

A

Very Merry Christmas

Earl Vivier

STAROLINE GASOLINE and OILS

"Staroline Gasoline Is Better"



I wish to extend to my friends and patrons in this community my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a most Happy and prosperous New Year.

May I also express my appreciation for the generous patronage which has been accorded me, and assure everyone that our foods and service will be of the same high standard throughout 1928 as in the past.

S. ENGEL, Proprietor

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