

**TO USE IN LIEU OF
A CHRISTMAS TREE**

PERHAPS you may want to vary the time-honored custom of having a Christmas tree. If so, here are some substitutes that may appeal to you because of their novelty or practicality:

A Christmas umbrella lends itself well to living room decoration and requires less work in preparation and clearing away than a tree. Get a large, colored umbrella, the kind in use for advertising purposes, or utilize any old umbrella that may be on hand. Put a heavy string through a hole bored in the top just below the ferrule by means of which to suspend the open umbrella from the ceiling. The frame may be decorated in any desirable manner. A good effect is obtained by covering the inner and outer surface with green crepe paper and relieving the severity with tinsel festooning. A green paper-covered umbrella decorated with "icicles," and snow like that used on Christmas trees also makes a strong appeal. Strings of popcorn, festooning of any kind, bright-colored paper chains, ornaments, in fact, anything that is used to decorate the Christmas tree may be pressed into service on the Christmas umbrella.

Fasten pin books, such as are used to hang draperies, to the under side of the umbrella for holding the Christmas gifts. The heavier articles should be hung along the ribs to insure safety, but light gifts can be distributed all over the surface.

A Christmas cornucopia is an interesting and unique solution of the problem of gift distribution. Make a large cornucopia out of cardboard and cover it with green or gilt paper. Hang from the ceiling so that the large end is considerably lower than the small one.

Before hanging the cornucopia, place in it the various gifts well wrapped so as to prevent leakage. Fasten a cover firmly over the open end and decorate it to correspond with the cornucopia. It is well to have the large end so arranged in hanging that when the covering is removed the gifts will land on the table.

A Christmas chariot gives little folks a fine chance to help in the distribution of gifts. By using a few lath, some stiff wire and an old baby cart, the framework of the Christmas chariot may be easily fashioned. This can be decorated with crepe paper, tinsel or the like. The little fairy queen, airily dressed, should be seated in the chariot drawn by several of the other children appropriately gowned. The gift packages which the fairy queen distributes should be tied in white paper with tinsel cord or delicately colored ribbons to harmonize with the occasion.

A Christmas cross is easily constructed and quite effective as a substitute for the time-honored tree. The cross may be made of two rough boards securely fastened to a base and the entire surface covered with laurel, evergreen branches, or green paper festooning. If small electric lights are available a pretty effect can be obtained by outlining the cross with colored bulbs. Gifts may be hung on the cross by means of screw eyes or small hooks.

While not inappropriate for the home, nevertheless, the Christmas cross seems especially well adapted for use in the church where an interesting program may center around it.—Alice Crowell Hoffman.

© 1927, Western Newspaper Union.

Javanese Planting Trees

Java has 15,000 miles of shaded highways as a result of a governmental act of long ago. When the officials of that early age concluded that the natives lacked initiative in tree planting, they proceeded to inspire them with that virtue. An act was adopted demanding up to sixty days a year from each individual to be devoted to planting trees. Later a humanitarian home parliament in Holland abolished the system, but the habit continued, with the result that the islanders still plant and preserve roadside trees.



LEIGH HUNT

"Man's greatest victory is to be at peace with himself."

We are authoritative but self-effacing; well ordered dignity is evident in the ceremony we superintend.

Spencer J. Heeney
Funeral Director
Phone 24 Farmington

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AT THE POOR FARM**

MRS. BRIGGS sat at the window looking out at the snow. Mrs. Fenn sat at the opposite window.

"Mrs. Fenn," said Mrs. Briggs, "did you always have a turkey for Christmas?"

Mrs. Fenn sighed. "Yes, we always had a big one, and it used to say nobody on earth could roast a turkey better or make better stuff than I could. We always had a tree, too."

"So did we," said Mrs. Briggs, "till Jimmy died, then we got clear out of the notion. Christmas ain't no fun without a chick or a child to fix 'em."

"The door opened and in came Mrs. Murphy. "Girls," she said, "there's the sweetest little boy in the hospital, tie's an orphan; he broke his leg and they bring him here last night. An' when I wuz clean' in there jest now he sez to me, 'Will Santa Claus come to the poor farm tonight?' I sez: 'Sure Mike."

"What a pity," sighed Mrs. Fenn. "Shame on yerself," cried Mrs. Murphy. "We got to make Christmas fur him."

"I got a red petticoat—it's too full," said Mrs. Briggs. "I could make him some mittens."

"Grand," said Mrs. Murphy. "Who wouldn't be plazed with red mittens! Now you be thinkin' an' I'll come back."

In about twenty minutes she returned bearing some cedar boughs.

"I thought we'd tie them together on 'ave a tree. Old Mr. Gates is goin' to town an' he's gonna buy four candles at the tin-oint store."

"Then he can get a bag of marbles and a horn," cried Mrs. Fenn; "I got twenty cents."

"Grand," said Mrs. Murphy. "An' here is four ears of popcorn the gardener jest give me. Mrs. Fenn, you pop 'em an' we'll string 'em for the tree."

The next night Mrs. Briggs and Mrs. Fenn were sitting at their accustomed windows.

"He even liked the mittens," said Mrs. Briggs.

"Jest as well as he did the horn and marbles," replied Mrs. Fenn generously.

"Wasn't it filigant to have ol' Mr. Hogan with his white whiskers for Santa Claus?"

"An' when you rung the dinner bell an' said 'What, you reldersers! I could have died a-laffin!'"

"An' wasn't the tree pretty?"

"An' wasn't he sweet when he said 'Merry Christmas!'"—Jane Roth.

**WIXOM FARM CLUB
ELECTS OFFICERS
FOR COMING YEAR**

Mrs. R. D. Stephens Enters On
Fourth Year As
Secretary

Officers for the coming year were chosen by the Wixom Farmers' Club at a meeting Wednesday at the home of Mrs. D. A. Bentley.

F. E. Pearsall was elected president; Mrs. L. N. Bogart, vice-president; Mrs. J. W. Clapp, sec-

ond vice-president. Mrs. R. D. Stephens was re-elected and enters on her fourteenth year as secretary of the organization. R. D. Stephens was elected treasurer. M. J. Furman was chosen chorister and Mrs. J. W. Clapp, pianist.

The club held a discussion on the question of whether paved roads help the farmer financially. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. R. D. Stephens.

The puzzle today is to decide whether an actress is made to look at or to listen to.

**MOVIES
TUESDAY NIGHT**

Methodist Community Hall

"WILD JUSTICE"
Comedy

Admission, 15c and 25c

CHAS. C. WEDOW

Registered Auctioneer

Your sales solicited

Residence, Walled Lake Village

Walled Lake 24J3

MAY YOURS BE A

Merry Christmas

Filled with all the gladness of this

Festive Season

And may 1928

Be your most Prosperous and

Happy New Year

Lake Drive Garage

HUDSON and ESSEX MOTOR CARS

W. F. Goers, Prop.

Farmington Junction



**Meat Market
SPECIALS**

STRICTLY FRESH DRESSED

TURKEYS, native corn fed, per lb. . . . 50c

GEESE, native corn fed, per lb. 34c

DUCKS, native corn fed, per lb. 40c

CHICKENS, fancy fresh dressed, roast-
ing or stewing, per lb. 38c

PORK LOIN ROAST, young pig pork 16c

HAMS, smoked, fancy sugar cured, lb. 27c

LAMB LEGS, genuine spring 35c

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC CO.

Christmas Values!

New Low Bread Prices!

A&P stores will be open until 8 p. m. Thurs., until 9 p. m. Fri., and until 10 p. m. Saturday!

Grandmother's Twin Loaf
24 Delicious Ounces
8c

Grandmother's Large Loaf NOW 8c

Raisins Bulk 3 lbs 29c

Currants	16 pkg	15c
Bromedary Dates	pkg	21c
Smyrna Layer Figs	Fancy lb	19c
Borde Stuffed Dates	lb	27c
Pure Jelly	7 ounces jar	15c
Pumpkin	Large can	10c
Hard Mixed Candy	lb	15c
French Cream Bon	lb	19c

Nuts Choice Mixture—**lb 25c**

Walnuts	No. 1 Grade lb	29c
Brazil Nuts	lb	30c
Almonds	Soft Shell lb	33c
None Such Mince Meat	pkg	13c
Bunte's 100% Filled Candy	lb	25c
Peanut Brittle	lb pkg	23c
Hershey's Kisses	lb	39c
Assorted Chocolates	lb	39c

Camels—Lucky Strikes—Chesterfields—Piedmonts—Old Golds

Cigarettes carton of 10 pkgs **\$1.19**

Oleo Nutley Brand **lb 15c**

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC CO. Established 1859