

SANTA ANNA NEWS

Thirty-Sixth Year

Santa Anna, Coleman County, Texas, Friday, December 15, 1922

Number 50

"He Profits Most Who Serves Best"

COURT TO RECEIVE BIDS DECEMBER 16 ON 61 MILES ROAD

(Democrat-Voice)

The Commissioners' Court of Coleman County will receive bids December 16th for construction of 61 miles hard-surface road in Precincts one and two of Coleman county. The projects are enumerated as follows: Camp Colorado road in Prec. 1, six miles, grading, surfacing, drainage structures.

Poverty Flat road in Prec. 2, nine miles, grading, surfacing, drainage structure.

Santa Anna-North road in Prec. 2, six miles, grading, surfacing, drainage structures.

Trickham road in Prec. 2, 12 miles, grading, surfacing, drainage structures.

Red Bank road in Prec. 2, 11 miles, surfacing and drainage structures.

Whon road in Prec. 2, 9 miles, surfacing.

Much Road Work in Progress

In addition to the above contracts soon to be let, Coleman county now has much road work in progress and by the summer of 1923 hard-surface roads will cross Coleman county in several directions. Projects now building are as follows:

Highway No. 23, State aid project, leading northeast from Coleman to connect at Cross Plains with a direct route into Fort Worth and Dallas.

Highway No. 7, State aid project, extending from Brown county line through Santa Anna and Coleman to west line of Prec. 1, in direction of Abilene.

Highway No. 7A, State aid project, connecting at Coleman with No. 7 and extending west to four miles west of Valera. Talpa road district has been created for the purpose of extending Highway 7A through that district to the Rannels county line.

Coleman-Shield hard surface road leading south from Coleman in direction of Shield.

Santa Anna-Rockwood hard surface road.

Coleman-Baird hard surface road.

Howe road in Prec. No. 1.

In addition to the above, Coleman-Gouldbusk road is a completed hard-surface road extending eight miles south of Coleman and the Santa Anna-Whon road is a nearly completed hard surface road. Another road soon to be built in Precinct 1 is the Coleman-Glen Cove road, to be built from Coleman leading in direction of Glen Cove to west line of Prec. No. 1.

Valera road district has a completed dirt surface road from the town of Valera to Voss, thence in two directions, to the Concho county line at Leaday and to the McCulloch county line near Stacy.

SEE us for Gents' Furnishings—Parker Bros.

TOWN PESTS



The Tightwad is what keeps the Ole Town from being bigger, better. He blocks improvements, trades out of town, and never spends a nickel at home, nor anywhere else, when he can help it. If the Tightwad had a chance to kill two birds with one stone, he'd still want the stone back!

T. C. YANTIS, PIONEER-BANKER AND COMMUNITY LEADER, DEAD

The people of Brownwood and surrounding country were shocked Monday morning of this week to learn of the death of T. C. Yantis, pioneer banker, educational leader, church worker and respected Mason.

Mr. Yantis died at his home in Brownwood shortly after midnight Sunday night from an acute attack of heart failure. He was one of the most active men in his town and community that we have ever known, being a leader and builder in many lines of endeavor. For about 30 years he has been President of the board of trustees for Howard Payne College, and has helped to educate many boys and girls who would never have attained a college education without his help.

His life has been one of usefulness and he was successful in a financial way. Through his untiring and efficient work, he has been the main factor in the building up of the First National Bank of Brownwood, one of the strongest and most reliable financial institutions in the southwest.

He will be missed not only in Brownwood, but throughout the country, as he was always ready to go to the aid of any community who called upon him for help and council, and his services were in constant demand. It might well be said that his life was one of usefulness and service.

Program of 5th Sunday Meeting of the Coleman Baptist Association to be held with the First Baptist Church at Santa Anna, Saturday, December 30th.

10:20 A. M. County B. Y. P. U. reports from the different Unions; led by the President, T. D. Strickland.

11 A. M. Address by Sec. T. C. Gardner of Dallas.

12:00 Noon—Lunch.

1:30 P. M. Board Meeting.

At same time the W. M. U. will have a meeting.

2:30, Secretary Gardner will again speak.

At 3 P. M. Round Table talks conducted by Sec. Gardner.

8:30, President T. D. Strickland will speak on B. Y. P. U. work.

Saturday night, 7 p. m. Sermon by W. Y. Pond; subject, "Our Young People and Soul Winning."

Sunday 9:45, Sunday School will assemble as usual and classes form for regular reports.

10:15 a general Sunday School Mass Meeting will be held. Short talks will be made by I. C. Achley, Miss Lulian Gilmore, and T. C. Gardner.

11 A. M. an address by Dr. J. D. Sanderfer of Abilene; subject "The Laymen's Union."

2:30, Miss Lulian Gilmore of Brownwood, will put on a program of her own for Sunbeam work.

3:30 A general Round Table service will be held with Pres. Achley presiding.

7 P. M. Dr. Sanderfer of Abilene will speak on subject of his own choosing. Free entertainment to all.

Collins-Nolan Marriage

Mrs. Leila Collins, county treasurer of Coleman county, was united in marriage Saturday evening, November 25, to Mr. Charles Nolan of Abilene, Texas. The wedding ceremony was performed at Buffalo Gap, the Christian minister officiating. Mr. Nolan is a grocery merchant in Abilene. Coleman friends extend congratulations. Mrs. Nolan will return to Coleman during the week and will remain here until the affairs of her office are turned over to her successor, when she will make her home at Abilene—Democrat-Voice.

Bring in your suits to be cleaned before the holiday rush.—Parker Bros.

THE PRISON PROBLEM (Brownwood Bulletin)

A recent statement by the State Prison Commission, showing that the deficit for the last fiscal year was more than a million and a quarter dollars, has revived general discussion of what to do with the State's penal institutions. Some of the commentators are disposed to handle the Prison Commission somewhat roughly because of the failure to make the penitentiary enterprise support itself; while others are merely non-plussed by a condition that apparently defies solution. Among which is the Denton Record-Chronicle, which says:

"Land Commissioner Robison is concerned to know the true inwardness of the expense-ness of the State prison system. He visited the prisoners recently as a member of the board named to consider new locations there for, but even his inspection does not seem to furnish him with the answer to his pertinent questions. One of them is:

"The Prison Commission reports a total loss of operations above income last year, 1921, amounting to \$1,293,79. That was an average of \$440.88 per convict for the year. Does that mean each convict cost the prison system \$36.74 every month more than he produced?"

"With land that is tax free, with buildings and equipment furnished by the State, with no rent to pay and with labor costing only board and lodging and guarding, it always has been a puzzle to the average man why the Texas penitentiaries and prison farms could not make themselves at least self-supporting instead of being a perpetual applicant for State aid to make up the annual deficit between income and outgo. The average man will take some satisfaction from the fact that the matter also is a puzzle to a State official, who, having sources of information, presumably might have a plausible solution to offer."

At a cost of \$36.74 per convict per month, the state could probably contract with a chain of good hotels to take care of all the prisoners, and have left a balance sufficient to provide them with clothing and other necessary equipment. With some of the most productive farm land in the state to operate with cost-free labor, it looks as if any kind of honest management could make the prison system at least partially self-supporting. The people of Texas are growing weary of the annual deficits in the prison system, and of the biennial promises of office-seekers that they will remedy the unsatisfactory situation. If dishonesty is responsible for it, somebody ought to be given permanent lodging in the penitentiary; if inefficiency is responsible, somebody ought to be given a change of occupation. Excuses costing a million and a quarter a year are not producing the results they used to.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING TO BE HELD HERE

The Fifth Sunday meeting of the Coleman county Baptist Association will meet here in the Baptist church on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in this month, and continue over Saturday and Sunday.

Some good speakers are expected to be here and a real workers meeting is being looked forward to with much hopes and anticipation.

The public in general is invited to attend these services, and all members of the church are urged to be present.

At last winter time has put in its appearance and heavier clothing has been in demand. Several times mercury has dropped below the freezing point and hog killing has been the order of the day. It was said that more hogs were killed this week than were ever killed before during such a short period. Pork chops and country sausage are being enjoyed in many homes.

ROCKS FROM FARMS GO ONTO ROADS (W. B. In Farm And Ranch)

Camp County is building the cheapest roads in the State of Texas. To unique methods and a sagacious commissioners court are due the credit.

Wisely executed contracts are saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars, and a clever device of the officials in charge of road improvement has resulted in the practice of compensating farmers for clearing their fields and woodlots of the vexations iron ore boulders.

Long Walls of Rock.

At intervals of approximately two and one-half miles along the Jefferson and El Paso-Texas highways, there are ranged sturdy walls of red stone, like the uncovered ruins of some long-lost city of the ancients. They are the work of dozens of farmers, who have been paid for hauling these abnoxious stones from their land to points where they may be conveniently applied in the building of roads.

Hauling of these fifteen or sixteen piles of rocks commenced in July, 1921. From day to day the piles are growing. The periods of hauling are from July to September and from November to January. Payments are made to the farmers by the county semi-annually or semi-monthly, as elected. The compensation ranges from 50 cents to \$1.40 per cubic yard, the intent being to average approximately \$1. Thirty-five cents per cubic yard is paid for hauls of one-fourth mile or less, and 7 cents is added for each additional quarter mile. A man is kept on the job at each rock pile at times. Thus far the county has paid approximately \$60,000 to its farmers for this rock-hauling service. Later, the boulders will be fed to a crusher and a six-inch surface will be slapped on the roads.

Two Direct Benefits

The advantage of using the native rock in this way is quite evidently two-sided: The practice results in improving both roads and farms. All of the officials in charge of the construction of Camp county roads are honest-to-goodness dirt farmers. Perhaps that is one reason why they have been so "chary" of their constituents' money. Aided by "hard times," which lowered the price of labor, they signed advantageous engineering contracts that have already resulted in saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars.

For example, the first contract signed after the \$535,000 roads bonds were voted was for the building of nine miles of highway southwest of Pittsburg toward Gilmer, at the amazingly low rate of 10 1-2 cents per cubic yard.

Other Good Contracts

The next contract—one providing for the expenditure of \$142,000—called for the building of a 16 1-4 mile section of the El Paso-Texas highway, at 11 1-2 cents.

An eight-mile stretch of superior roadway is being built southwest from Pittsburg for 9 1-2 cents per cubic yard.

On the Pittsburg-Ebenezer road ten miles are in building at a rate of 9 1-2 cents.

All roads in Camp county must conform to certain high standards, most of them being 24 feet wide with a crown of 16 feet across. The success of the good roads movement in Camp county may be attributed to J. A. Eford, county judge; and Z. L. Shaddix, Sam Miller, George Barnwell and E. H. Reeves, county commissioners. These men own farms, are interested in the progress of both town and country, and have labored incessantly in the interest of a clean, progressive and efficient administration of their duties.

Mrs. J. Fox Casey of the Longview community is in the local sanitarium for an operation, and her son, Jack Casey of South Texas is here during her illness.

MEN'S BANQUET FRIDAY NIGHT

At the Baptist church Friday night of this week, the men are scheduled to meet at 7 o'clock for a special service. Rev. Hornberg, president of Howard Payne college will be the principal speaker, and it has been whispered around that the good ladies will serve refreshments. The editor is one of the committee on publicity, with the request that we have a large round-up, and this is the way we prefer to do it. Come with the expectation of being benefitted and the meeting will be a profitable one.

Following is the Honor Roll Since our Last Report:

City:

- Mrs. A. L. Bays.
- F. A. Rollins.
- Lee Woodward.
- E. W. Polk.
- Mrs. I. D. Ewing.
- W. C. Evans.
- Ed Bartlett.
- E. P. Ewing.
- W. C. Evans.
- C. A. Crump.
- J. S. Gilmore.
- M. H. Franklin.
- Lloyd Burris.
- W. B. Harper.
- Leman Brown.
- Chas. Oakes.
- Mrs. B. H. Melton.
- Alvie Campbell.
- Dr. L. O. Garrett.
- Dr. T. M. Hays.
- Mace Blanton.
- J. T. Wheeler.
- Jas. T. Smith.
- W. A. Standley.
- J. M. Martin.
- John Rainbolt.
- J. R. Pearce.
- J. D. Holt.
- B. J. Ratcliff.
- Gene Bell.
- P. P. Bond.
- Dr. W. F. Holland.
- G. H. Lightfoot.
- Ernest Overby.
- Ross Kelley.
- O. B. Rude.
- Z. A. Parker.
- Clinton Lowe.

ROUTE ONE:

- J. L. Dodgen.
- J. W. McClure.
- Milford Harris.
- W. E. Ragsdale.
- Herman Von Huevel.

ROUTE 2:

- W. T. Vinson.
- Q. J. Bowen.
- W. J. Coppin.
- Rev. T. W. Davidson.

ROUTE 3:

- V. W. McClure.
- E. F. Land.
- J. D. Williamson.
- D. M. Simmons.
- J. W. Richardson.
- D. P. Wheatley.

WHON ROUTE:

- H. W. Kingsbery.
- C. J. Deer.
- T. J. Lancaster.
- J. T. Newman.

TRICKHAM ROUTE:

- T. H. Phillips.
- F. A. Parsons.

ROCKWOOD:

- E. T. McBride.
- B. F. Ashcraft.

WHON:

- W. H. White.
- BANGS ROUTE 2:
- C. L. Curry.
- Hamp Byler.
- B. A. Munger.
- B. S. Wilson.

COLEMAN-ROUTE 2:

- Oscar Williamson.
- C. B. Rendleman, Little Rock, Ark.
- J. D. Garrett, Winsboro, Tex.
- Temple Holland, New York.
- Mrs. T. Culverwell, Rockport, Texas.
- E. C. Newman, Bovina, Texas.
- Chas. F. Palmour, Chalsea, Okla.
- W. E. Polk, Fort Worth, Tex.
- Miss Polk, Dallas, Texas.
- J. K. Lafton, Robert Lee, Tex.
- Mrs. Ellie Smith, San Angelo, Texas.

FOR SALE—One Bird dog, well trained, 22 months old, a good hunter, holds well, retrieve well. For particular see S. M. Polk Sr. Phone No 3512. 50-3tp.

Miss Lillie Mae Hines of Coleman visited in the city first of the week.

Presbyterian Sunday School LOST!

Somewhere between a late breakfast and the Sunday morning service, an hour of divine worship for quietness in God's house. If these moments should be found please return to Late Comers. Finder will not be rewarded but Late Comer will be greatly rewarded and the service of God made more efficient and effective. Come to Sunday school 10 o'clock Sunday morning.—Roy Land, Supt.

Judge and Mrs. S. J. Pieratt moved to Coleman this week, where the Judge will qualify as County Judge January the first.

Judge and Mrs. Pieratt have lived in Santa Anna and vicinity for more than thirty years and are good citizens. The Judge has served many places of honor and trust during the growth and progress of this town. He was the first Mayor of Santa Anna after it was incorporated, has served on the school board, clerk of the W. O. W. and I. O. O. F., and many other duties, all of which he served well, and Santa Anna will miss them from among us. We commend them to the good citizens of Coleman, and after they have served their purpose there, we will grant them a welcome back to Santa Anna.

Dr. and Mrs. T. M. Hays left Monday for Amity, Arkansas, to spend the holidays with relatives and friends where the doctor was reared. He has been away from there thirty three years and has paid the place an average visit once a year. The News was ordered to them at Amity until after the holidays, as they wish to keep right up with the happenings around their home.

Business men are supposed to know a good business proposition when they see it, and it is always a good business proposition for business men to get behind their home newspaper and give it their enthusiastic support.

To try to cripple the home paper or to "knife" it in any way is poor business to say the least of it, and good business men are not going to do it. This applies to any town that has a good newspaper.

The winter season is at hand and our young people will be planning many social affairs for recreation and pleasure.

Let them go to it. There are too many vital activities ahead in their adult life to risk stunting their intellects by undue repression while in their formative stages. Activity breeds energy. Energy stimulates the intellect.

A well developed and balanced intellect is necessary to success in our modern life. Again we say, let them go.

TOWN PESTS



The Frank Guy, who Always Says What He Thinks, is a Cheese of the First Whet and a Town Pest than Which there is None Whither. Here the Pest who Always Says What He Thinks has Met Up with the Chap who Always does What He Wants To and the Result is Most Ample, as the Feller Says



Mobiloil

Try Crank Case Service

Just Drive up to our door.

Let us drain the old oil from your crank case and fill it with the Correct Grade of Gargoyle Mobiloil, as specified in the Vacuum Oil Company's Chart of Recommendations.

The Service is free—we charge you only for the new oil.

We want you to experience the benefits of Correct Lubrication.

When you drive away with your car—Alive With Power, we are confident that you will be one of our many permanent customers.

Ed Sanderson Garage

AS THE EDITOR SEES IT

We Americans consider ourselves a God fearing people, and the world so considers us—and perhaps we are.

But how much does the average man know of God and His ways?

Test yourself by answering these questions, and then cogitate upon how little you really know:

How did God create the world?

How many years did Adam live, and how did he die?

Why did God make the skins of some people white, and some red, and others brown, or yellow, or black?

Why does God permit some children to be born in deformity, or imbecility, or both?

What were the first and last miracles in the life of Christ?

What is the first word in the old testament?

What is the last word in the new testament?

How many times have you read either from cover to cover?

What period of time is covered in the old testament?

What period is covered in the new testament?

What is an act of God?

When did you last attend church?

How long has it been since you opened the bible in your home?

How thick was the dust?

“It is what the people want.” That is the only excuse that can be offered by the publishers of our great city dailies for the exaggeration and sensationalism that appears in their columns.

If that be true, what's the matter with the people?

There was a time when a sensational sheet would not be tolerated in any respectable home.

Now sensationalism means a big circulation and a corresponding increase in advertising rates.

And it is from advertising that newspapers make their money.

It seems to be up to the dear people.

As usual, there are many people who are more or less disgruntled over some aspect of the recent election.

If each case were investigated it might be found that a majority of the loudest growlers did not even vote.

But that's the way. Some people will inconvenience themselves to any extent in order to vote, and then accept the will of the majority with the best grace possible.

Others are “too busy to vote,” but can always find time for airing a grouch.

If you deserve to have nice things said about you, rest assured that somebody is saying them. Your commendable acts do not go unnoticed.

The trouble with some people, though, is that they expect everybody to commend them, and if we were all engaged in “tooting the horn” of one person we would have no time left in which to “whoop it up” for other deserving ones.

Be satisfied with the lion's share, and give the lambs an opportunity to be recognized.

It isn't always the man with the biggest mouth that makes the loudest noise. It requires lungs to do that. And it isn't always the man with the biggest head that has the most intelligence. Some heads are merely flesh and bone plus nothing.

We do not agree with the president in his assertion that this is a time for constructive effort. Constructive performance is what we need.

We know of a good citizen who makes a practice of casting his eyes over his house and grounds from day to day.

If an axe or a spade or any other articles have been dropped where last used he picks them up and places them where they belong.

It is the same with anything else that may have a tendency to litter up the place.

The result? His place is always neat, and clean, and orderly, and attractive to the eyes of those who pass by.

There are other good citizens who do the same, but there might be many more than there are.

LOCAL ADVERTISING

NEW Disc Roller just arrived.—Gus Nabours, Blacksmith Shop.

Irregularity in the bowel movements makes you feel uncomfortable and leads to a constipated habit which is bad. Herbine is the remedy you need. It restores healthy regularity. Price 60c. Sold by all druggists.

A limited stock of Underwear, hosiery, ties and other items of men's wear at the Model Tailor Shop. Come and see them.

NEW Disc Roller just arrived.—Gus Nabours, Blacksmith Shop.

A remedy that will penetrate is necessary in the treatment of rheumatism. Ballard's Snow Lintiment goes right through the flesh to the bone and relieves promptly. Three sizes, 30c, 60c and \$1.20. Sold by all druggists.

COME in and see our line of Christmas Cards, just the kind you are looking for.—Hunter Drug Store.

WE are still in business at the Model Tailor Shop and want your patronage. Phone 163.

IF HENS DON'T LAY Feed Martin's Egg Producer, and get more eggs or your money back. Cure and prevent disease with “Martin's Roup Remedy.” Guaranteed by S. H. Phillips.

LOTS of fire works at Hunter Drug Store.

FOR SALE—Good gently work horse, would trade for cows. Telephone Mrs. Spencer's residence for information.—Mrs. Jno. Nelson. 49-3tp.

ESTRAYED from my pasture several days back, one Muly Cow and Spring Calf. Reward for information.—Paul Pfluger, Rockwood, Texas. 49-2tp.

Coughs and Colds in Winter Indoor sedentary life in winter has a direct bearing on the prevalence of coughs and colds. Keep the bowels active and overcome constipation with Foley Cathartic Tablets. Colds, coughs, croup, throat, chest and bronchial trouble quickly relieved with Foley Honey and Tar. C.K. Hunter, druggist.

LADIES don't worry about your Christmas baking, we will do it for you. All kind of cakes and pies at the bakery.—W. Ransberger, Prop.

THOROUGH bred Bronze Turkeys, raised by 40 pound Tom; Toms \$10.00, Hens \$6.00. Satisfaction guaranteed.—Bert Turney, Whon, Texas. 48-3tp.

NOTICE OF SHAREHOLDERS MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Santa Anna, Texas, will be held at the office of the bank at 2 p. m. on the Second Tuesday in January, being January 9, 1923, for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and the transaction of any other business that may come before it.

Burgess Weaver, Vice-Pres.

To relieve rheumatism, sprains, lame back, lumbago or pleurisy, Ballard's Snow Lintiment is a remedy of proven merit. It is very powerful and penetrating. Three sizes, 30c, 60c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by all druggists.

FEED your face at the Cozy Cafe and note the difference. We feed them all alike and serve the best to be had.

EXTRA Special prices on Buggies and Saddles for the month of December.—C. E. Welch. 2tc.

FOR RENT—2 nice rooms, unfurnished.—Mrs. S. E. Switzer. 49-3tp.

WE have the largest stock of Tires and Tubes to be found in town. Tires and Tubes of all sizes, priced from \$6.25 to \$105.—Gardner's Drive-in Filling Station.

WE bake fruit cake “like grandma use to bake,” so give me your Christmas order for any amount or size.—Ransberger Bakery. 2tc.

HAVE you tried the Pure Filtered Gasoline at Gardner's Drive in Filling Station? “There's a difference” Federal Tires and Tubes.

FOR SALE—Two nice Registered, Big Type, Poland China Male Shoats.—H. J. Parker. 50-3tp.

Distress after eating is due to bad digestion. Herbine helps the digestive process, clears the system of impurities and restores a feeling of vigor and buoyancy of spirits. Price, 60c. Sold by all druggists.

Grandchild had Croupy Cough “My grandchild could get no relief whatever from a very bad croupy cough,” writes Peter Landis, Meyersdale, Pa. “until I gave him Foley's Honey and Tar. Coughs, Colds, croup, throat, chest and bronchial irritations quickly relieved with Foley's Honey and Tar.—C. K. Hunter, druggist.

FOARD ROADSTER, 1921 model in good repair at a bargain.—O. C. Petty at Ford Garage.

NEED GLASSES

Dr. Jones, the eye man will be at Childers & Co. Store, Saturday, December 30th. Eyes examined, glasses fitted, headache and eye strain relieved.

WOOD—Mesquite cord wood, 2 1-2 miles East of Live Oak school house, \$1.60 per cord.—E. S. Haynes. 47-3tp.

THE Model Tailor Shop wants to do your tailoring. Cleaning, pressing and alteration work. Phone 163.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—One resident lot in north west part of town, for sale or trade for good closed eat. Write C. H. Hunter, Abilene, Texas, 1724 N. 2nd St. 49-4tc.

FOR SALE—New Oliver Type- writer in first class condition, at one-half price. Call at News office.

IF you owe the Second Hand Man anything you are requested to call and settle same at once. I am by-myself and cannot get out to collect, and all bills not paid immediately will be placed with a collector. 48tf.

WE have the largest stock of Tires and Tubes to be found in town. Tires and Tubes of all sizes, priced from \$6.25 to \$105.—Gardner's Drive-in Filling Station.

FEED your face at the Cozy Cafe and note the difference. We feed them all alike and serve the best to be had.

FOR PLAIN SEWING, call Mrs. Will Shook. Phone 321. 47-4tp.

EXTRA Special prices on Buggies and Saddles for the month of December.—C. E. Welch. 2tc.

PLENTY of cord wood for sale. See H. Aldridge. 48-3tp.

HOLIDAY Cards, just the thing you are looking for and the price is right at the News office.

HAVE you tried the Pure Filtered Gasoline at Gardner's Drive in Filling Station? “There's a difference” Federal Tires and Tubes.

WANTED—30 or 40 acres of land to plant in cotton on the halves. Give me a chance to make a living.—W. A. Widner, Santa Anna, Texas, route 2.

A limited stock of Underwear, hosiery, ties and other items of men's wear at the Model Tailor Shop. Come and see them.

NEW Disc Roller just arrived.—Gus Nabours, Blacksmith Shop.

FOR SALE—146 acre farm, 12 miles south of Brownwood in Brown county; 5-room house, good tank, over 5 acres fenced with hog wire; almost 70 acres in cultivation, good black land, good grass and timber, close to good school; a bargain.—B. S. Wilson, Bangs route 2; Grady farm, near Liberty. 48-4tp.

FOR SALE—My home, consisting of 5-room house and 4 acres of land, gas and city water connections; 2 wells of water on place; could be used for irrigation; price reasonable. Would consider trade for property closer in.—Mrs. D. F. Rackley at Santa Anna Merc. Co. 47-tfc.

LET us sell you your Christmas cards at the News office.

NOTICE OF BIDS FOR WORK ON CITY LAKE OF SANTA ANNA

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Santa Anna will receive bids at the City Hall in the City of Santa Anna, Coleman County, Texas, on the 16th day of December, 1922, for the construction near the City of Santa Anna, of a dam, together with the rip rap work thereon at the City Lake to be constructed by said City and will also at the same time and place receive bids for the cement work in connection with said dam and lake, the work of said dam and rip rap to be in a separate bid and contract from said cement work; specifications and details of said work are on file with C. G. Erwin, City Secretary of the City of Santa Anna and will be open to the inspection of all parties desiring to see the same. Right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

Witness my hand at Santa Anna, Texas, this 28th day of November, A. D. 1922.

J. O. Martin, Mayor
C. G. Erwin, City Clerk, City of Santa Anna, Texas. 48-3tc.



OUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



WE GREET YOU WITH THE BIGGEST STOCK OF CLEAN GROCERIES IN COLEMAN COUNTY, ALSO A COMPLETE LINE OF FEED OF ALL KINDS.

We have selected just the things you want for that Christmas dinner, and are making special prices on our enormous stock for the remainder of the year. You will be surprised at the amount you can buy here with just a few dollars.

MARSHALL & SONS

The Store That Makes The Prices

And Yet a Fool

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE

Copyright, 1922, by the Macmillan Co.

THE exchanges that come to a country newspaper like ours become familiar friends as the years pass. One who reads these papers regularly comes to know them even in their wrappers, though to an unpracticed eye the wrappers seem much alike. But when he has been poking his thumb through the paper hanks in a certain pile every morning for a score of years, he knows by some sort of prescience when a new paper appears; and, when the pile looks odd to him, he goes hunting for the stranger and is not happy until he has found it.

One morning this spring the stranger stuck its head from the bottom of the exchange pile, and when we glanced at the handwriting of the address and at the one-cent stamp on the cover we knew it had been mailed to us by someone besides the publisher. For the newspaper "hand" is as definite a form of writing as the legal hand or the doctor's. The paper proved to be an Arizona newspaper full of saloon advertising, restaurant cards, church and school meeting notices, local items about the sawmill and the woman's club, land notices and paid items from wool dealers. On the local page in the midst of a circle of red ink was the announcement of the death of Horace P. Sampson. Every month we get notices like this, of the deaths of old settlers who have gone to the ends of the earth, but this notice was peculiar in that it said:

"One year ago our lamented townsman deposited with the firm of Cross & Kurtz, the popular undertakers and dealers in Indian goods and general merchandise, \$100 to cover his funeral expenses, and another hundred to provide that a huge boulder be rolled over his grave on which he desired the following unusual inscription: 'Horace P. Sampson, Born Dec. 8, 1840, and died ———— And is not this a rare fellow, my lord? He's good at anything and yet a fool.'"

We handed the paper to Alphabetical Morrison, who happened to be in the office at the time, pawing through the discarded exchanges in the wastebasket, looking for his New York Sun, and, after Colonel Morrison had read the item, he began drumming with his fingernails on the chair seat between his knees. His eyes were full of dreams and no one disturbed him as he looked off into space. Finally he sighed:

"And yet a fool—a motley fool! Poor old Samp—kept it up to the end! I take it from the guarded way the paper refers to his faults, 'as who of us have not,' that he died of the tremens or something like that." The colonel paused and smiled just perceptibly, and went on: "Yet I see that he was a good fellow to the end. I notice that the Shriners and the Elks and the Eagles and the Hoo-hoos buried him. Nary an insurance order in his! Poor old Samp; he certainly went all the galls!"

We suggested that Colonel Morrison write something about the deceased for the paper, but though the colonel admitted that he knew Sampson "like a book," there was no persuading Morrison to write the obituary.

"After some urging and by way of compromise," he said, "I'm perfectly willing to give you fellows the facts and let you fix up what you please."

Because the reporters were both busy we called the stenographer, and had the colonel's story taken down as he told it—to be rewritten into an obituary later. And it is what he said and not what we printed about Sampson that is worth putting down here. The colonel took the big leather chair, locked his hands behind his head, and began:

"Let me see. Samp was born, as he says, December 8, 1840, in Wisconsin, and came out to Kansas right after the war closed. He was going to college up there, and at the second call for troops he led the whole senior class into forming a company, and enlisted before graduation and fought from that time on till the close of the war. He was a captain, I think, but you never heard him called that. When he came here he'd been admitted to the bar and was a good lawyer—a mighty good lawyer for that time—and had more business 'n a bird pup with a gun-shoe. He was just a boy then, and, like all boys, he enjoyed a good time. He drank more or less in the army—they all did 's far as that goes, but he kept it up in a desanitary way after he came here, as a sort of accessory to his main business of life, which was being a good fellow."

"And he was a good fellow—an awful good fellow. We were all young then; there wasn't an old man on the town site as I remember it. We used to load up the whole bunch and go hunting—closing up the stores and taking the girls along—and did not show up till midnight. Samp would always have a little something to take under his buggy seat, and we would wet up and sing coming home."

"He made a lot of money and blew it in at Jim Thomas' saloon, buying drinks, playing stud poker, betting on quarter horses, and lending it out to fellows who helped him forget they'd borrowed it. And—say in two or three years, after the chicken hunting set had married off, and begun in a way to settle down—Samp took up

with the next set coming on; he married and got the prettiest girl in town. We always thought that he married only because he wanted to be a good fellow and did not wish to be impolite to the girl he'd paired off with in the first crowd. Still he didn't stay home nights, and once or twice a year—say, election or Fourth of July—he and a lot of other young fellows would go out and tip over all the board sidewalks in town, and paint funny signs on the store buildings and stack beer bottles on the preacher's front porch, and raise Ned generally. And the fellows of his age, who owned the stores and were in nights, would say to Samp when they saw him coming down, about noon the next day:

"Go it when you're young, Samp, for when you're old you can't. And he would wink at 'em, give 'em ten dollars apiece for their damages and jolly his way down the street to his office."

"Now, you mustn't get the idea that Samp was the town drunkard, for he never was. He was just a good fellow. When the second set of young fellows outgrew him and settled down, he picked up with the third, and his wife's brown alpaca began to be noticed more or less among the women. But Samp's practice didn't seem to fall off—it only changed. He didn't have so much real estate lawing and got more criminal practice. Gradually he became a criminal lawyer, and his fame for wit and eloquence extended over all the state."

Colonel Morrison chuckled and crossed his fat legs at the ankles as he continued, after lighting the cigar we gave him:

"Well, along in the late seventies we fellows that he started out with got to owning our own homes and getting on in the world. That was the time when Samp should have been grubbing at his law books, but nary a grub for him. He was playing horse for dear life. And right there the fellows all left him behind. Some were buying real estate for speculation; some running for office; some starting a bank; and others lending money at two per cent a month, and leading in the prayer meeting. So Samp kind of hitched up his ambition and took the slack out of his habits for a few months and went to the legislature. They say that

he continued to soak up a little—not much, but a little. He never was drunk in the daytime, but I remember there used to be mornings when his office smelled pretty sour. I had an office next to his for a while and he used to come in and talk to me a good deal. The young fellows around town whom he would like to run with were beginning to find him stupid, and the old fellows—except me—were busy and he had no one to loaf with. He decided, I remember, several times to brace up, and once he kept white shirts, cuffs and collars on for nearly a year. But when Harrison was elected, he filled up from his shoes to his hat and didn't go home for three days. One day after that, when he had gone back to his flannel shirts and dirty collars, he was sitting in my office looking at the fire in the box stove when he broke out with:

"Alphabetical—what's the matter with me anyway? This town sends men to congress; it makes Supreme court judges of others. It sends fellows to Kansas City as rich bankers. It makes big merchants out of grocery clerks. Fortune just naturally flirts with everyone in town, but never a wink do I get. I know and you know I'm smarter than those jays. I can teach your congressional economics, and your Supreme Judge law. I can think up more schemes than the banker, and can beat the merchant in any kind of a game he'll name. I don't lie and I don't steal and I ain't stuck up. What's the matter with me, anyway?"

"And of course," mused Colonel Morrison as he relighted the butt of his cigar, "of course I had to lie to him and say I didn't know. But I did. We all knew. He was too much of a good fellow. His failure to get on bothered him a good deal, and one day he got roaring full and went up and down town telling people how smart he was. Then his pride left him, and he let his whiskers grow 'trowsy and used his vest for a spittoon, and his eyes watered too easily for a man still in his forties."

"He went West a dozen years ago, about the time of Cleveland's second election, expecting to get a job in Arizona and grow up with the country. His wife was mighty happy, and she told our folks and the rest of the wom-



"Alphabetical—What's the Matter With Me, Anyway?"

he certainly did have a good time, though, when he got there. They remember that session got up there, and call it the year of the great flood; for the nights, they were filled with music, as the poet says, and from the best accounts we could get the days were devoid of ease also, and how Mrs. Sampson stood if we never could find out, for, of course, she must have known all about it, though he wouldn't let her come near Topeka. He began to get puffy and red faced, and was clicking it off with his fifth set of young fellows. It took a big slug of whisky to set off his oratory, but when he got it wound up he surely could pull the feathers out of the bird of freedom to make scandalous. But as a stump speaker you weren't always sure he'd hit the engagement. He could make a jury blubber and clench his fist at the prosecuting attorney, yet he didn't claim to know much law, and he did injure over all the work in the Supreme court to his partner, Charley Hedrick. Then, when Charley was practicing before the Supreme court and wasn't liking to hold him down, Samp would get out and whoop it up with the boys, quote Shakespeare and make stump speeches on dry goods boxes at midnight."

"Where was I?" asked Colonel Morrison of the stenographer when she had finished sharpening her pencil. "Oh, yes, along in the eighties came the boom, and Samp tried to get in it and make some money. He seems to have tried to catch up with his fellows of his age, and he began to play up. He got in debt, and when the boom broke, he was still living in a rented house with the rent ten months behind; his partnership was gone and his practice was cut down to joint keepers, gamblers, and the farmers who hadn't heard the stories of his financial irregularities that were floating around town."

"Yet his wife stuck to him, forever explaining to my wife that he would be all right when he settled down. But

en that when Horace got away from his old associates in this town she knew that he would be all right. Poor Myrtle Kenwick, the prettiest girl you ever saw along in the sixties—and she was through here not long ago and stayed with my wife and the girls—a broken old woman, going back to her kinkfolk in Iowa after she left him. Poor Myrtle! I wonder where she is. I see this Arizona paper doesn't say anything about her."

Colonel Morrison read over the item again, and smiled as he proceeded:

"But it does say that he occupied many places of honor and trust in his former home in Kansas, which seems to indicate that whisky made old Samp a liar as well as a loafer at last. My, my!" sighed the colonel as he rose and put the paper on the desk. "My, my! What a treacherous serpent it is! It gave him a good time—literally a hell of a good time. And he was a good fellow—literally a damned good fellow—damned from here to eternity," as your man Kipling says. "God gave him every talent. He might have been a respected, useful citizen; no honor was beyond him; but he put aside fame and worth and happiness to play with whisky. My Lord, just think of it!" exclaimed the colonel as he reached for his hat and put up his glasses. "And this is how whisky wrecked his home, made his name a byword, and bled him on him on to utter ruin by holding before him the phantom of a good time. What a pitiful, heart-breaking mucker it is!" He sighed a long sigh as he stood in the door looking up at the sky with his hands clasped behind him, and said half audibly as he went down the steps: "And whose is received thereby is not wise—not wise. He's good at anything—and yet a fool!"

That was what Colonel Morrison gave the stenographer. What we made for the paper is entirely uninteresting and need not be printed here.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.) Copyright, 1922, Western Newspaper Union.

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 17

JESUS AMONG FRIENDS AND FOES

LESSON TEXT—Luke 10:38-42; 11:14-15. GOLDEN TEXT—Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.—John 14:15. REFERENCE MATERIAL—Luke 2:34, 35.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Jesus in the Home of Friends. JUNIOR TOPIC—Jesus Among Friends and Foes. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Friends and Enemies of Jesus. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Christ's Methods of Dealing With People.

1. Jesus in the Home of Friends (Luke 10:38-42). There is no place where true character is so clearly revealed as at home.

1. His Reception (v. 38). Martha was the head of the home, therefore she received him. It would be a fine thing if all homes were open to receive Jesus.

2. Mary Sitting at Jesus' Feet (v. 39). She, of fine spiritual discernment, knew that sitting at the Lord's feet and hearing His Word was that which would please him most.

3. Martha Cumbered About Much Serving (v. 40). Both sisters loved the Lord. It would be impossible to say which loved the more; but Martha was bent on providing a fine meal for him. She was trying to do so many things that she was on the verge of distraction. This had so completely got on her nerves that she found fault with Jesus for permitting Mary to leave the kitchen to listen to His teaching. Not only did she criticize her sister and Jesus, but she assumed the authority to command him to send Mary back to the kitchen to help.

4. Jesus' Answer (vv. 41, 42). (1) Rebuked Martha (v. 41). He did this tenderly, for he knew that she loved him sincerely. (2) Defends Mary (v. 42). He declared that but one thing was needful, and that Mary had chosen that good part which could not be taken away from her.

11. Jesus Among Foes (11:14-23; 29:32; 37:54).

1. Charged With Being in League With the Devil (vv. 14-23). Being unwilling to receive him as the Son of God, and yet unable to account for His mighty works, they declared He was casting out demons through Beelzebub, the chief of demons. Jesus exposed the fallacy of their reasoning by showing that in that case Satan would be arrayed against himself, and therefore would destroy his own kingdom.

2. Refused to Believe His Miracles (vv. 29-32). They asked for a sign, to which He replied that they would have a sign from heaven in His death and resurrection. He reminded them, however, that their request showed unbelief surpassing that of the heathen queen of the South, and the wicked people of Nineveh.

3. Wickedness Denounced (vv. 37-54). He pronounced six woes upon those who were opposing him and seeking His destruction.

(1) The Pharisees (vv. 37-41). These He denounced for (a) punctiliously observing some minute rites and at the same time breaking the Ten Commandments. They carefully tithed the small herbs of the garden while practicing injustice to their fellow-men and withholding love from God. He pointed out to them the folly of attending to these external acts while the heart was filled with wickedness. (b) Desiring public recognition (v. 43). This is a common sin today. (c) For feigning humility (v. 44). He compares their hypocrisy to graves which are on a level with the ground and may be stepped upon unconsciously by someone, and thus defiled. We can avoid those who make their vanity known by boasting, but some are filled with this same wickedness who do not thus make it known.

(2) The Lawyers (vv. 45-54). Jesus' strictures on the hypocritical Pharisees aroused the lawyers, one of whom indignantly declared: "You are insulting us also." In reply to this Christ pronounced three woes upon them: (a) For placing burdensome requirements upon the people to which they themselves would not submit (v. 46). (b) For the murder of God's prophets (vv. 47-51). He showed that their attitude toward him was the same that was shown to the prophets by their fathers. (c) For keeping back the knowledge of God by false interpretation of the Scriptures (vv. 52-54). There is no wickedness perhaps so great as that of supposed teachers of God's Word who keep His precious truths from the people by perverting His meaning.

Seek Ye. But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.—Matthew 6:33. Reaping Iniquity. Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies.—Hosea 10:13. Final Permanence. Character attains final permanence, and final permanence can come only through God.

Buy Your Christmas Groceries and Meats From Us

Our Groceries are kept Clean and Fresh.
Our Meats are Sanitary.
Our Prices are Equal to Any.
Service and Quality Unexcelled.

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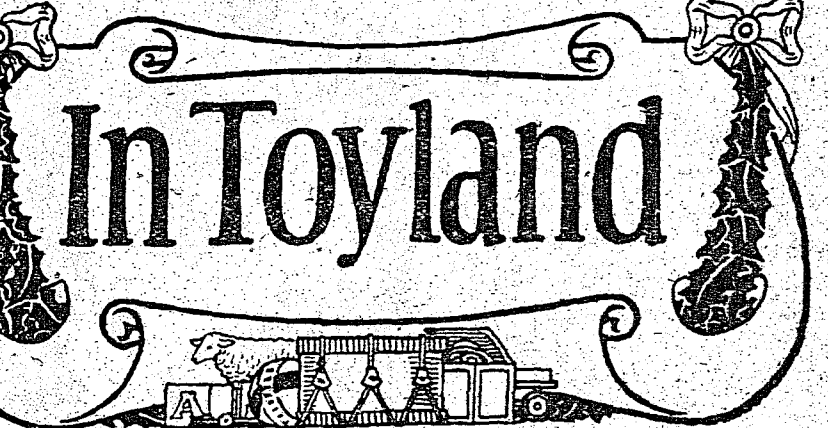
48—"The Home of Good Eats"—48

AN AMERICAN IDEAL-- Women And Children First

Social investigation shows that 5,000,000 women in the United States are compelled to earn their own living. There are over 3,167,000 widows of which 2,465,000 are above the age of 45. 90 per cent of these widows lack the comforts of home and 32 per cent lack the necessities of life and almost all of them are struggling for an existence for themselves and children. More than 2,000,000 children under 16 years of age are earning their own living when they should be at school getting an education and building a life worth more to the community in which they live.

HOW MANY of these millions of women and children are today battling against the world, who might be enjoying the comforts of life with a monthly income provided by life insurance? Insure your life, by doing so you will insure the future happiness and welfare of those dependent upon you, you are starting a savings account and making a good investment.

THE INTERNATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
OVER \$400,000,000 INSURANCE IN FORCE.
J. P. WOODRUFF, Agent
First National Bank Building



In Toyland

The Last Call

There are only eight more days in which to make your selections for the happiness of the Kiddies for Christmas. Our stock is still complete with the exception of a few lines.

Come Before The Weather Gets Bad

All those holding keys for the VICTROLA we are giving away should bring them WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27th. Two weeks will be allowed in which to try the Keys, unless the winning one should come in sooner.

Bater's Variety Store

"THE SAME GOODS FOR LESS MONEY"

Men's Clothing and Wearing Apparel

Men's extra heavy full lined, belted back overcoats, usually around \$13.50 now \$7.05
 Young Men's three piece Suits, winter weight coats, full lined, tailored to fit, formerly \$13.50 \$8.80
 Young Men's Tailored Suits, new shades of Blue and Brown, mixed cassimares, a well fitting suit, formerly \$16.50 \$10.75
 Boy's novelty dress hats, clear quality fur \$1.65

Boy's all Wool School Suits—with extra pair trousers, splendid patterns, pants full lined, a suit for wear and comfort up to \$13.50 values \$7.70
 Men's Hats—Killer Make Men's big 4 Denver and Mountain, all large shapes, \$4.50 and \$5.00 quality \$2.75
 Men's Staple Hats, big 4 and halloo Black and white \$3.50 quality \$2.05
 Men's novelty dress hats, \$3.50 and \$4.00 quality \$2.20

Trousers for the big men, waist up to 50, all wool materials, tailored to fit \$5.50
 Corduroy pants for men, extra quality, belt loops, Cuff Bottoms, all sizes \$2.64
 Men's extra heavy coat sweaters with big collar, this sale for \$1.10
 Boy's extra heavy coat and pull over sweaters, big collar, 85c and 70c
 Men's and Boys' Canvas Gloves 10c
 Men's Canvas Gloves with leather palm 27c

Men's Heavy Semi-Dress Pants, Cuff Bottoms, neat Worsted patterns, \$2.50 values \$1.54
 Young Men's Dress pants, all the leading colors for fall; Tweeds, Kerseys, Cassimers, Worsted and Serges, values up to \$8.00, to go in this sale, at \$4.40, \$3.85 and \$2.75
 Shirts and Drawers, extra heavy fleeced, Boy's sizes 25c
 Men's heavy fleeced underwear Shirts and Drawers, full standard, will be \$1.00 next fall 53c
 Men's Knit 4 in. hand Ties, Silks, most beautiful, 75c sellers 42c

Boy Saxony hats, black and brown 90c
 50 Boy's and Little fellows Suits, odds and ends from sales this fall, cost will range up from \$2.75
 Men's standard Blue, Demin Overalls, all sizes up to 42, per pair \$1.24
 Boy's Blue Denim Overalls, standard make, according to sizes, 73c and 63c
 Men's Blue Work Shirts 62c
 Boy's Standard Khaki Unionalls, sizes to 16 \$1.46
 Boy's Winter Caps, all wool lined and pull down, \$1.25 and \$1.50 value, 79c

Boy's Fine Dress Caps, silk lined \$1.10
 Men's Corduroy Caps, pull down for winter 78c
 Men's silk lined dress cap \$1.10
 Men's winter caps, full lined with pull down 79c
 Men's standard Khaki Unionalls, all sizes \$2.20
 Boy's Corduroy Knee Pants \$1.10
 Boy's extra Knee Pants, full lined, sizes up to 17 \$1.38
 Men's Kakh pants \$1.27

SHOES! SHOES!

The largest stock of Shoes in Coleman County. Well known brands like Walkover, Peters Star Brands, Waltons and Endicott-Johnson, speak for the quality of these shoes. Shoes should be a magnet in every store and are an important item in every household. Thousands of that "Second pair" are now needed. Fill your wants now and for the next few months. The chance to buy shoes at factory prices does not come your way often.

Woman's Brown Calf Oxford, Rubber heel, all sizes, usually sells for \$3.50, sale price \$2.03

Woman's Black Kid, one strap, Rubber heel pump, all leather, all sizes, this sale for only \$1.38

School Shoes for little fellows soft Chrome Elk, Brown patch on ankle, all leather \$1.87
 Men's Brown Scout Shoes, solid leather, all sizes, in this sale for only \$1.76
 Men's Brown Scout Shoes, all leather, rubber heel built to wear \$1.83
 Men's 16 in. solid leather boot 1000 miles sole, Chrome Tan \$5.50
 Men's 17 in. Chrome Elk Boot, viscalized sole, none better \$6.60
 Old Gents Comfort Shoes, on E E E last, soft Black Kid, soft inner sole, sizes up to 11 \$2.75
 100 pairs Men's Army Shoes, Good year welt, lined, oak soles, values up to \$3.50, \$4.50 and \$3.86
 Woman's Comfort Sole, Felt house slippers, \$1.25 values for only 85c

Waltons Shoes—Good /year welt, stitch down, a \$3.50 seller \$2.20
 These shoes in Black Kid and Brown Calf, full lined and will wear.
 Odds and Ends—Stitch down shoes, sizes up to 2, Black Kid and Gun Metal \$1.65
 Boy's Tan Boy Scout Shoes, all leather up to 5 in this sale at \$1.83
 Boy's English Walker, Black Calf, all leather \$2.20
 The New English Walker for Boys, Brown Calf, Rubber heel \$2.38
 Boy's Welt, Brown Calf, Rubber Heel, a dress shoe \$5.00 seller \$2.80
 Boy's 9 in Boot, water proof sole, solid leather, made to wear, \$6.00 values \$3.60

Woman's Black Kid, Semi-Dress, Fat ankles, shoes on E E F last \$2.38
 Infants Soft Sole Shoes, Black and colors, 55c and 42c
 Infants first step shoes, all leather sole, \$1.50 value for 96c
 Child's Box Calf Shoes, all leather, for school wear \$1.49
 Girls Box Calf Shoes, up to 2, solid leather \$1.71
 Woman's Black Satin Strap Pump, french heel, hand trimmed, a correct dress shoes \$4.40

A perfect dress Boot—A Woman's Boot in Black and Brown Kid, hand trimmed, French heel, no better to be had for only \$5.50
 Woman's Black Kid Lace Oxford, all sizes, low rubber heel, for dress and service \$2.04
 School Girls shoes, sizes up to 8, Black, Gun Metal, Bluchet; just the shoe for winter wear \$1.93
 Woman's Black Satin Strap Pump, Baby Louise heel \$2.85

Dry Goods, Wool Dress Goods and Silks

An extra large comfort, good quality Silkaline cover, new cotton filling, \$4.50 value for \$3.30
 A 60x76 in gray Cotton Blanket the pair \$1.65
 A 64x80 in Colored Cotton Blankets worth \$3.00, for only \$1.83
 A 66x80 in extra quality Wool Nap Blanket for only \$4.67
 A Baby Blanket 55c

A Baby Blanket with Scalloped Edges for only 77c
 A 32 in. extra heavy Brown Cotton Flannel 19c
 A 28 in. Brown Cotton Flannel 15c
 Standard Outing in Blue, Pink and White, per yard 15c
 A 22 in. Amoskeg Dress Gingham per yard 25c

Men's Wool over shirts, all wool flannel, the \$6.00 kind for only \$3.68
 Heavy Wool Kakh Shirts, \$4.00 kind \$2.75
 Heavy Wool Kakh Shirts, \$2.50 kind \$1.73
 Men's Dress Shirts, attached Collars and Neck Band, Fine English Madras, \$3.00 kind \$1.55
 Good Shirting Madras, \$2.00 kind \$1.24
 Standard grade Percales, \$1.50 kind 96c
 A full 40 in. Wool French Serge, \$2.00 value for only \$1.25
 A full 40 in. Silk Crepe Dechine, bringing \$2.50 per yard \$1.27 1-2

A 58 in. Turkey Red Table Damask, \$1.25 value, this sale for 80c
 A full 54 in. all Wool Twill Dress flannel \$1.50
 A full 54 in. all wool Velour \$1.83
 These beautiful Satin Stripe Madras Shirtings of the 75c kind, per yard 38 1-2
 A girls full bleached union suit, ages up to 16; values up to \$1.00 55c
 A woman's full bleached union suit, of the \$1.25 kind 77c
 See our line of fancy Bath Towels, always an acceptable present, the 65c kind in colors 42c

Beautiful Serpentine Crepes, always selling for 35c, per yard 25c
 A 36 in. flowered Cretonne, worth 25c per yard only 16 1-2c
 A full 36 in. Bleached domestic, free from starch, extra standard, mill price to-day 16 1-2c, per yard 13 3-4c
 A 36 in. Pillow Tubing 24 1-2c
 A 7-4 wide brown sheeting for single beds, per yard 36 1-2c

A 16 in. Bleached Crash for roller Towels per yard 7 1-2c
 A full 36 in. all Wool Serge, in colors, per yard 68c
 A 40 in. all Wool Serge, in colors, \$1.25 value, for 82 1-2c
 A 38 in. Novelty Suiting, in combination colors 42c
 A 32 in. Standard dress gingham per yard 16 1-2c

We do not have the space to name our prices on FURNITURE, but will state that every item, every piece and every article in our Furniture Stock must be closed out, as we are quitting the Furniture business, and no article will be offered at more than our wholesale cost—some articles at less than wholesale. If you anticipate buying anything in Furniture—we both lose if you fail to take advantage of this GREAT COST and BELOW COST SALE on FURNITURE. In our Hardware department will offer special prices, and on our Guns and Ammunition we offer cost prices—as our stocks on these articles are entirely too large. Remember, we have a big, well assorted stock of GROCERIES, and at prices as low as the lowest and quality the best. Come to this big General Store as we positively handle everything, and we will save you many, many dollars on that Dry Goods bill, that Furniture bill, that Hardware bill, that Grocery bill. There is no catch about this Sale, abosolutely everything will be as advertised in this circular, you will be surprised beyond your fondest dreams at just what prices Merchandise will be sold, frankly this is, so far as we know, the first actual Cost Sale ever held in Santa Anna.

Santa Anna,
Texas

ADAMS MERCANTILE COMPANY

Santa Anna,
Texas

Adams
 Mercantile
 Company
 Santa Anna, Texas

COST SALE

Adams
 Mercantile
 Company
 Santa Anna, Texas

THE SALE OF ALL SALES! THE ONLY SALE THAT COUNTS!
\$40,000.00 WORTH OF STANDARD MERCHANDISE AT MILL PRICES

We are heavily over-stocked and realize a great sacrifice must be made in order to turn this stock into money. In offering to you this entire stock of goods you will easily see that OUR SACRIFICE will be YOUR GAIN. There will be no deviation from prices; each item will be priced to you at Factory and Manufacturers' cost. There will be no leader. Each item in this unusual stock will be a leader of itself.

REMEMBER, this store has in the last four months, shipped more Dry Goods into Santa Anna than any house in Coleman County. We are now offering to the people of Coleman and adjoining Counties, the Greatest of All SALES, the greatest Money Saving event. From the teeming marts of the great Manufacturing and Wholesale centers, these goods were bought before the recent advance still coming on all cotton and woolen goods. These prices offered you now will represent to you the cost and less than cost of the greatest factories in our country. This will be no ordinary Clearance Sale. Read this carefully, compare the prices with what you have been paying, make out your list, and come to this SALE prepared to reap the harvest your mighty dollar entitles you to reap. Buy for your wants now, and buy to meet your wants next year. All goods are going up, you will pay much more, in some cases twice as much, for goods next year as you can buy them in the Sacrifice Sale.

No Refunds, no Exchange,
 No Charge Tickets,
 Every Sale Final.

Sale Opens Saturday, Dec. 16th And Closes Saturday, Dec. 30th

No Refund, no Exchange,
 No Charge Tickets,
 Every Sale Final.

Goods and prices quoted you below will be but a small part of the Great Saving prices given you all through this immense stock of New Merchandise. Trained Salespeople will wait on you and give you the same care and treatment that this store at all times demands for its customers.

Ready-to-Wear For Women and Children

Corduroy Bath Robes, all colors,
 \$6.50 value for \$3.89
 All Wool Serge Dresses, well tailored
 and trimmed \$8.25
 Fine Poiret Twill Dresses, exclusive
 models; cost price \$14.03
 See these garments—Finest of Can-
 ton Crepe and Satin Dresses—Dress-
 es of individual type—Each dress a
 perfect model—values up to \$36.50
 now \$20.63, \$16.25 and \$14.03

All Silk Plush Coats, a full length
 garment with large collar, fully lined,
 sizes up to 44, value \$29.50 for \$16.23
 Long Cloth Coats for Women, nicely
 trimmed, many with fur collars, val-
 ues up to \$13.50 \$6.49
 Velvet Coats for Children, a \$6.00
 seller for \$3.30
 All Wool lined coats for children \$3.85

Good quality Muslin Woman's gowns, colors Blue,
 Pink and Lavender; less than cost of material 62c
 Satine Bloomers for Women and Girls, navy and
 black, standard sizes, \$1.25 values 70c
 Satine Bloomers and Princess Slips for Women
 and Girls, black and colors—hand embroidered 83c
 New things in Crepe gowns, beautiful colors \$1.10
 These fine Bloomers and Princess Slips made from
 the new Silk Like fabric, Lignette, black and col-
 ors; a wonderful Cloth, values up to \$3.00,
 sale prices \$1.72 and \$1.38

Hand made Phillipino Gowns, beautiful Garments,
 never saw a machine, up from \$2.05
 100 pieces fine Silk underthings, all just received
 all the new colors, all silk gowns, all silk bloomers,
 all silk step ins, all silk corset covers, all silk petti-
 coats; beautiful garments, ideal holiday presents.
 Yours for the factory cost.
 Extra size gowns, best grade muslin, high neck,
 long sleeves \$1.10

Tailored Suits for Women; an all
 wool Tricotine Suite, nicely lined, well
 tailored, a \$22.50 garment ... \$14.03
 This all wool Silk lined tailored suit
 coat, heavily braided, a \$32.50 gar-
 ment for only \$18.60
 This beautiful suit, all wool Velour
 fur collar, Silk lined, a \$36.50
 garment for only \$20.63
 25 Misses Short Coats, in red and
 Navy, Heavy Beaver Cloth ... 99c

25 Misses Long School Coats in wide
 range of material, every garment a
 winner, up from \$4.12
 House Dresses for Women, Ginghams
 and Percales, plain and combination
 colors, values up to \$2.00, each \$1.10
 School Dresses for Girls—Fast col-
 ors—wide range of combinations,
 mostly \$2.00 sellers \$1.10
 Children's Outing Gowns

SANTA ANNA NEWS

Friday, December 15, 1922

J. J. GREGG, Editor and Publisher

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a football, a ball and bat, some fire crackers and all kinds of nuts, fruit and candy.—Jim Bob Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Please bring me some oranges and nuts and a toy rubber dog and a football.—Jesse Goen.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Please bring me a tricycle, a pistol and some cartridges, a bugle, candy, fruits and nuts and don't forget my little brother, Othel; he wants a knife, a bugle and a little dog, some candy, fruits and nuts.—Your little friends, Bill and Othel Howard.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a little red wagon, a large ball, some candy, nuts and fruit.—Ralph Burton Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Please bring me a sleepy doll that can cry, a large can doll buggy, also some candy, fruits and nuts.—Your little friend, Buna Williamson.

Dear Santa Claus:—

Please bring us a little doll cradle a piece, some candy, fruits and nuts.—Your little friends, Hettie and Nettie Williamson.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a doll, buggy, table, chairs, bed, cradle and set of dishes, some nuts, candy and fruit.—Myrtle McCulloch.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a ball, a wagon, tricycle, some some candy and nuts and fruit.—G. H. Ripley.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a knife, some fruit, nuts and candy and a foot ball.—Jack Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a doll, a doll buggy. I would also like to have a trunk, a kitchen cabinet, fruit, nuts, candy and fire works.

Now don't forget my little brother, Truett, bring him a little car, a spade, hoe, ball, nuts and candy.—Your little friend, Bernice Polk.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a large doll that will cry, a ball, a doll buggy, a little wash board and wash tub, and clothes line to hang my doll clothes on, a rocking chair and a monkey and some candy, nuts, and fruit.—Frances Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a ball, an airgun, a french harp, a climbing monkey, an airplane, chocolate candy, oranges and nuts. Please bring my two little brothers some nice things.—Your little friend, Tom McClure.

Dear Santa Claus:

I am going to write you and tell you what I want. I want a blue bandanna and a red one to, and some nuts and fire works and candy, an air gun that holds 510 shots at a time, and a rifle that shoots 40 times straight along.—Your friend, Morris Polk.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a large doll, a self-filling fountain pen, a package of needles, sizes three to nine, some cloth to sew, for I like to sew, some thread, candy, nuts, and fruit.—Queenie Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a stopper gun, a train, a ball, a little car, a pocket watch, an airplane, a little horse and wagon, some candy, oranges and nuts.—Your little friend Glynn McClure.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a doll and doll buggy, a rocking chair and set of dishes, a little bed and cradle.—Edren Ripley.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a tricycle, a big ball, a little sheep, a train, some candy, fruit and nuts, and don't forget the little orphan children who have no father and mother.—John Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:

Please bring me a large doll and buggy, an umbrella, a pair of gloves and a little chair, some nuts and fruit, and don't forget the little orphan children who have no father and mother.—Eris Gregg.

Dear Santa Claus:

I want you to bring me a doll and bed, some candy and apples, and bring my little brother, Morris, he is five years old; a horn, foot ball, some candy and apples; and my little brother, Arnold is 2 years old, bring him a little automobile, a whistle, some candy and apples; my little sister Areatia is one year old, bring her a little toy cat and some candy and apples. Please don't forget us Santa Claus for we have been good.—Flora McIntire and 2 Brothers and 1 Sister.

FOR SALE—3 Good Jersey Cows, fresh in milk; will sell or trade.—Rep Harris. 50-2tp.

WEEK PROGRAM

Best Theatre

For The Week

MONDAY & TUESDAY, 18-19

"THE PRODIGAL JUDGE"

Vitagraph special featuring Jean Paige, an all Star Cast

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

WANDA HAWLEY

In

"TOO MUCH WIFE"

Breeze comedy of married life.

FRIDAY—

Nineth Episode of

"GO GET 'EM HUTCH"

Second Episode of

"THE TIMBER QUEEN"

Aand Comedy

SATURDAY—

HOOT GIBSON

In

"THE LOADED DOOR"

And Comedy

Did you ever stop to think about it? The home newspaper is the best friend the merchant, the banker, the schools, the churches and all the social organizations of a community have. It is to the home paper they all go for help in their time of need and the paper is friendly to all. Then why should they not all try to help and to build up the paper by giving it their moral and financial support in order that it may be of the greatest service possible to them? If loyalty to a friend is commendable, then certainly people should show loyalty to their home paper that is trying to do so much for them.

SEE Parker Bros. for Christmas Ties, Hose, Shirts, Etc.

Hard work and advertising made California. These will make any country, town or business. Advertising not backed up by business judgment and common sense will not make an institution. Work hard at your business, and advertise it judiciously.—Randall County News.

We were recently favorably impressed with the philosophy of a lady friend, who said she was glad that her teeth had become defective, as there was no dentist in her town and it afforded an excuse for some place to go.—Motley County News.

THE "BIG" Week Is Here

Only a few more days left to do your Xmas shopping, and we invite you to see our line of Holiday Goods.

In our store you will find a present for every member of the family. Below we drop just a few suggestions that may help you in solving that problem, "What Will I Give for Xmas."

FOR MOTHER

A Box of Handkerchiefs.
Chinaware.
Glassware.
Silk Hose.
Books.
Towel Sets.
Dinner Set.

FOR BIG BROTHER

Eversharp Pencils.
Century Fountain Pens.
Books.
Testament.
Hose.
Necktie.

For Big Sister

Cut Glass Water Set.
Books.
Handkerchiefs.
Hand Painted China.
Century Fountain Pen.
Toilet Water.
Face Powder.

For LITTLE BROTHER

Trains.
Air Gun.
Express Wagon.
Toy Automobile that he Can ride in.
Velocipedes.
Erector Sets.
Tool Chest.
All Kinds of Mechanical Toys.

For LITTLE SISTER

Sleeping Doll.
Doll Buggies.
Toy Tea Sets.
Doll Beds.
Tinker Toys.
Sewing Sets.
Toy Stoves.
Toy Cooking Utensils.

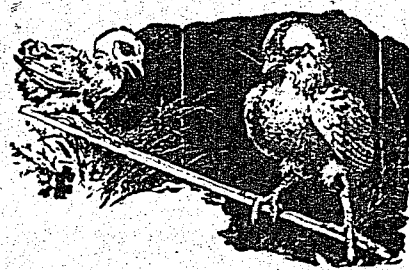
For The LITTLE TOT

Balls.
Musical Toys.
Rattles.
Horns.
Whistles.
Stuffed Animals.

The above are only a few of the many items you can buy in our store.

No matter what you want to pay, we can sell you a present from 5c to \$15.00.

Blue Racket Store



Purina Chows Make the Difference

Both are six weeks of age, but just look at the difference. The one on the left is an average chick fed an average grain ration. The one on the right is the same sort of chick fed Purina Chows. Start your chicks right by ordering Purina Chows today.

Ask us about the money back double development guarantee.



PURINA PRODUCTS

SOLD BY

Sam Collier

Santa Anna, Texas

Store of Yuletide Cheer

**SANTA CLAUS HAS UNLOADED
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GIFTS
AT THE
Corner Drug Company
IN SANTA ANNA
A Gift For Everyone**

You are cordially invited to come and look the many things over here suitable for your Christmas gifts.

We do not specialize in Toys or such things as is usually sold Christmas times only, but the Staple line of GIFTS such as is usually sold at any and all times. Values will be found in stock here, and the prices will not worry you.

CORNER DRUG COMPANY

Where a welcome awaits you.
Santa Anna, Texas

SANTA ANNA NEWS

Friday, December 15, 1922

J. J. GREGG, Editor and Publisher

The Tyler Commercial College Closes a Successful Year

The Tyler Commercial College, of Tyler, Texas, is just closing another successful year as the largest commercial school in the United States. The enrollment for this year will exceed five thousand. All indication points to a better year in 1923 and our efforts are bent toward making it so. The wide-awake, progressive young people of the Southwest have been coming to this great institution by the hundreds all through the year. Their friends and relatives come as soon as possible.

There is a reason for the big business enjoyed by this school. Since the beginning its policy has always been to extend a helping hand to its students or graduates. This policy has won and held the friendship, loyalty and good will of the former students and caused them to send rela-

tives and friends to Tyler, knowing that they will receive the most thorough business training to be had, in the shortest time and at the least cost and that they will always have the service and prestige of a school back of them.

An example of their policy of helpfulness to young people is the maintenance of the Students Loan Fund. Any ambitious and worthy young person who wants a business training but hasn't sufficient funds and is unable to raise them at home can secure financial assistance with which to get a business course through this Loan Fund, paying it back after finishing his course, accepting a position which the college will secure for him. This makes it possible for every young man or woman who is really sincerely anxious to get an education and make a start in the world to do so.

The college maintains a Service Department, which is absolutely free to all graduates. Any graduate of the school may at any time call on the Service Department for information or assistance on any question or problem of a business character and the desired information will be

gladly given. The interest of the college in its graduates never ceases. It is always ready to assist a former student in any and every way possible.

For complete information and illustrated free catalogue, fill in and mail coupon.

Name
Address
Intersected in Students Loan Fund
Name of paper

BUSY IDLERS CLUB

Last Friday afternoon, Mrs. W. F. Gipson was hostess to the members of the Busy Idlers Club, at the home of Mrs. S. W. Childers.

The home was artistically decorated with chrysanthemums and a profusion of pot plants. The chandelier and candles shed soft light over the busy workers.

While needles were working rapidly, the usual hum of merry conversation could easily be detected.

Refreshment plates contained hot tea, chicken salad, olives and wafers. Those present were Misses Grace Ewing, Ruby Brannan, Margaret Barnes, Blanche Collier, Bill Vinson, Jimmie Vinson, Ruth Crosby, Mildred Gipson, Ruth Stephenson, Florence Dodgen, Maude and Fay Childers, Lucille May, Lois Verner, Thula Standley and Mesdames Harmon Marshall, Harry T. Caton.

KEEPING STRAIGHT AHEAD

The people of Santa Anna as well as of every well regulated city or county should not allow themselves to become divided on matters of importance that affect the permanent welfare and progress of their community. Each one doubtless has his personal views on all questions and is apt to be influenced in his actions to some degree by his personal friendships and personal interests. But we will find after a while that such consideration should not lead him into the pursuit of a policy that is detrimental to the community as a whole, for unless the community prospers, and the proper team work is kept up that makes for its progress, then his private interests will suffer and he will in the end be a loser.

There are times in the history of every community when the people must decide as to the policies to be pursued if growth and prosperity are to continue. Such time come when questions regarding the school are up for determination; when the opportunity is given to foster the moral and religious institutions that are so essential in the maintenance of the highest type of civilization; in giving a united support to the newspaper which needs the co-operation of the business men and of the citizens generally in promoting the interests of the community in every line; in standing behind every movement put forward by the organized bodies of the town or county to keep the community moving forward along the line of material progress. In short, the citizens of the community are the architects of their own future, and those would aid its upbuilding must have the courage to stand for that which is for the general welfare and that will encourage harmony of action and a spirit of good will among the people.

Let us here at home put Santa Anna first, and stand united for the vital and fundamental things that characterize our little city at this time and that have caused it to become known far and wide as "the biggest little city in Texas."

A JOB FOR SATAN

If I were Satan and felt bored (which he probably does not), I would strike out tomorrow, and I would visit each innocent little boy and girl in all the world and whisper "There is no Santa Claus. He is a myth."

Then I would seek out the fathers and the mothers and by convincing arguments I would persuade them that Christmas giving is utter imbecility.

I would shout to the world that there never will be peace on earth and good will to men; that we need more swords and fewer plow-shares; more guns and fewer books; more soldiers and fewer teachers.

I would put it into the hearts of all the shoppers to wait until the Saturday night before and then have one grand rush; tram-



- Ladies' Toilet Sets.
- Gentlemen's Toilet Sets.
- Manicure Sets
- Cuff Buttons.
- Fountain Pens.
- Eversharp Pencils.
- Clocks and Watches.
- Flash Lights.
- Color Boxes.
- Cut Glass and Vases.

See our Whirler Tinker Toys And Toys of All Kinds

- We are agents for the famous lines of Kings, Hughes and Norris' candies in big fancy gift boxes.
- Bibles and Testaments
- Safety Razors.
- Mugs and Brushes.
- Duplex Sharpners.
- Gift Boxes Cigars and Cigarettes.
- Foot Balls.

HUNTER DRUG STORE

TO THE PUBLIC

I have purchased the blacksmith shop at Rockwood, and will install Modern Machinery to take care of all classes of work in my line.

Will also carry a complete stock of the best material obtainable. The shop will be in charge of my father, J. E. Ashcraft, who is an experienced blacksmith.

All work guaranteed.

B. F. ASHCRAFT,
Rockwood, Texas

Christmas

Holiday

Excursions



between points in Texas and Louisiana
Fare and one half for the round trip

Tickets on sale December 21-22-23-24;

Limited to January 4th, 1923

For details ask your Santa Fe agent

W. DuBOIS, Agent, Phone 181, Santa Anna, Tex.

You Can Mitigate Misfortune INSURE

IT WILL TO TO **PAY** YOU US Your Loss

Raney, May & Garrett Agency

ple and harass the overworked clerks until they would anathematize the Christmas season.

When Christmas comes I would show the thirsty ones where to find some poison hooch, call the jazz hounds forth with all their infernal cacophany, and make the anniversary of the Christ a wild orgy of sensuality.

WIFE GETS DAMAGES AGAINST HUBBY

A new kind of lawsuit is the one reported from Henrietta, and a very dangerous kind it is for the husbands of this country. The wife filed a damage suit against her husband, alleging that when he was courting her he promised to build her a fine home, buy her many pretty dresses and let her travel most of the time. She further claims that hubby has not kept any of the pre-nuptial promises. After hearing the testimony the jury awarded the wife \$15 damages. If the courts of the country are going to hold that a man must keep the promises he makes to the woman he is trying to win for a wife, then brethren, we had better flee from the marriage altar as we would from pestilence or roaring lions.—Honey Grove Signal.

KNOCKERS

An eminent writer recently said "God made the country, man made the city and the devil made the small town."

This statement sums up a description of the altogether too characteristic condition of a great many American towns of from 500 to 3,500 population. It gives the devil credit for the pull-hauling, the political, religious and social cliques, merchants fighting each other tooth and nail interminable gossip reeking with slander and falsehood, public spirit dead, selfishness, jealousy and envy rampant. Each individual or division of the population belittling, discouraging if not actually knifing the enterprise of every one else. Right here, perhaps, we have stumbled upon one of the causes of the decline of the small town. Look up any dead

town and nine times out of ten you will find it is largely a community of "knockers."

Now, knocking signifies to injure or destroy, and doesn't it stand to reason that where two-thirds of the population of a place are engaged in this delectable occupation that they just naturally are not doing a thing to the property of that town?

It is claimed that knocking never starts until after a town begins to go bad, but supposing this is true, when a barrel begins to leak we do not proceed to stave it in or stand around and "holler" because our profit is running away. We get busy and plug the leak.

Just so with the small town, the effect of knocking is destructive. On the other hand, patriotic faith in a place has exactly the opposite effect, its influence is creative and in a thousand ways it helps to build a town up. It sinks all petty diffidences and promotes united action for the common good.

NO. 900 Citation on Application for Letters of Administration

THE STATE OF TEXAS To the Sheriff or any Constable of Coleman County; Greeting: You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for ten days, before the return day hereof, in some newspaper of general circulation, which has been continuously and regularly published for a period of not less than one year in Coleman County, Texas, the following notice:

THE STATE OF TEXAS To all persons interested in the estate of C. A. Bivins, deceased, L. V. Stockard has filed in the County Court of Coleman County, an application for appointment as administrator of the estate of said C. A. Bivins, deceased, and for Letters of Administrator thereon, which application will be heard at the next term of said Court, commencing on the first Monday in January, A. D. 1923, the same being the 1st day of January 1923, at the Court House thereof, in Coleman, Texas, at which time all persons interested in said estate may appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

Herein fail not; but have you before said Court on the said first day of the next term thereof this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Witness L. Emet Walker, Clerk of the County Court of Coleman County. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Coleman, Texas, this 8th day of December, A. D. 1922. L. Emet Walker, Clerk County Court Coleman County, Texas. By V. Rawlins Gilliland, Deputy. 50-31

SEND 'EM ALONG

The visit of the "Tiger of France" to the United States is beginning to bear fruit—of a different kind.

He has been doing some plain speaking in his public addresses, with the result that other countries are speaking up and are accusing France of thwarting every attempt to establish a European peace on a sane and safe basis.

Now let's have a few more foreign dignitaries over, and perhaps in time we will be able to determine what's the matter with Europe.

Belts of all kinds, and supporters, caps, shirts, hose, most anything you need for Men's wear. —Parker Bros.



DON'T WASTE

Don't throw your old shoes away. You don't discard your automobile because a tire wears out. Why throw away a pair of shoes because the soles wear out? We can make them like new at a very nominal cost. "Shoe Repairing Insures Health, Economy, Comfort."—H. E. C. New shoes cost too much these days so that it pays to get the very last step out of every pair of shoes. Don't add to the infamie morality of the shoe by discarding yours before they are worn out.

FRANK EDSALL

Season's Greetings

RUST
CRAFT
NOVELTIES
WILL
PLEASE

Christmas Suggestions

Just a Few More Days Until Christmas

Remember your friends and loved ones with useful gifts. These you will find in our big store. Gifts that will please and will give many days of pleasure to those who receive them. Let our salespeople assist you and we feel that we can show you something suitable for every Xmas stocking.



©
CORTLEY
CLOTHES

Make This A Merry Xmas

FREE SHOES

From now until Xmas we will give absolutely FREE with every Hart Schaffner & Marx suit we sell a pair of EDWARDS FOOT FITTER SHOES. These are our best \$7.00, all leather shoes, and we find them to be the best shoes on the market at the price.

We want more of our Customers to wear Hart Schaffner & Marx suits and Edwards shoes, for once tried you will find that you get better service for your money than from any other kind—and will continue to buy these brands. We consider this the best clothing buy we have ever offered.

GET YOURS TODAY—OTHER CLOTHING AT SPECIAL PRICES.

HANDKERCHIEFS All kinds and prices	NECKWEAR The kind that please	SHIRTS Extra Values	HOSIERY For all the family	SHOES FOR ALL
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OVERCOATS

One of the best Christmas gifts for a man is an Overcoat—it will give him more pleasure than anything you can give him. Let us help you select one; and to make it of special interest, we will from now until Xmas, give on all Overcoats a special discount off our already low price.

Ask to see them.

LADIES' COATS

We have on our racks twenty Ladies' Coats, in good range of colors and sizes. These coats are made in good style of good materials, and are worth up to \$30.00

Take your pick of the lot for only \$11.00
This is a real buy for the cold months that are coming, and even tho you did not intend buying a coat this winter you cannot afford to miss this opportunity.

Extra special price on Children's Coats.

A Box full of Christmas Cards for 50¢



This handsome Rust Craft box with cover design in 10 colors contains 15 beautiful Christmas Cards and Envelopes. Each one is different. Each decorated in many colors. Each distinctive in verse and design. Extraordinary value.

FREE SILVERWARE

On Saturday, December 23rd, we will give to the first 36 Ladies who make as much as A Dollar purchase a Wm. Rogers sugar shell FREE.

Rust Craft

These novelties are just what you will need for Friends both at home and away—each article comes in an individual Rust Craft box with suitable verse and while they make the very best of gifts they are not expensive—costing from

25c and up

Santa Anna Merc. Co.

Quality

Service

Season's Greetings

EARLY DAYS IN

SANTA ANNA

(By L. V. Stockard)

I went to the back porch about eight o'clock on the evening of March 31, 1892 to draw a bucket of water and as I opened the back door a black looking thing that looked like the smoke from the smoke stack of a locomotive confronted me. It was in the shape of a funnel, smaller at the bottom than at the top. I could not tell for a moment whether it was coming towards me or going in some other direction. I had read about cyclones and about what shape they were usually, and I at once pronounced it a cyclone. Balls of fire were playing up and down in the dense smoke or the black thing that seemed to stand up about one hundred feet in the air and I knew it was wreaking vengeance upon every thing in its path, and as soon as I detected that it was travelling north east I went out to see what it had done. The first place I came to was J. D. Simpson's residence. He lived at that time where John Five-ash now lives and Mr. J. E. Spencer lived where Simpson now lives, and when Simpson came to the door I told him that there had been a cyclone just south of him and I thought it took Mrs. Copenhaver's dwelling, which stood where that cistern neck still stands on a vacant lot in the S. E. part of town. Mrs. Copenhaver was at Simpson's house and over heard me and came to the door. I do not remember just what she said but Simpson and I pulled out to see what we could find. The first place we came to was where Sid Heath had lived and fortunately for Sid and his family they were away from home, and about the only thing we saw there was a streak of feathers lodged on the weeds caught from a feather bed, I suppose. The next place we came to was where Mrs. Copenhaver had lived and there was nothing left but the neck of the cistern as above stated. By this time the citizens of the town had been aroused and we could see



SANTA CLAUS TIME

Christmas will soon be here. Your thoughts, naturally, are what shall I get for Father, Mother, Brother or Sister, as well as the friends you wish to remember. We think a visit to our store will help you to solve this problem, especially in gifts that are useful. We have a beautiful line of Bags, Handkerchiefs, Ties, Comb and Brush Sets, Ties in Xmas Boxes, Belts, Supporters, Suspenders, Knit Scarfs, Kid Gloves, Men's Dress Gloves, Baby Sets, also a line of small Dolls and little toys for the smaller children, Air Guns and Pop Guns for the boys, ready-made Bath Robes for Men and Women, Towel Sets and Towels.

Special Prices on all Winter Merchandise. We have a few pairs of good Blankets at reduced prices. A good line of Sweaters for all the family. Some Overcoats for Men. A few Ladies' and Children's Coats left, these at almost your own price.

We appreciate your visit to our store. We try to give you value for every dollar you spend with us.

Let Us Make YOUR SUIT

D. R. HILL & BROTHER

3 Big SAMPLE BOOKS

the light from lanterns down near where the new cemetery is now located and where sixteen or eighteen people were sitting up with a corpse. We proceeded our investigations and went to where this light was and there we found the house had been blown away and the corpse had been blown down under the hill for some distance and one boy had been killed and several had been badly crippled and there was wailing and moaning among the cripple and wounded. We had no telephones here in those days and news did not spread as quickly as it does now, but several doctors were soon upon the scene and the cripples were taken to the Cottage Hotel, that place I have mentioned in several articles recently which seemed to be the logical hospital, as well as a hotel for cripple, sick, dead and wounded people. The next day the citizens met at Stockard and William's hall, which was up stairs over where C. K. Hunter's Drug Store is now located, and a collection was taken up, and committees appointed and medical aid provided for the unfortu-

nate ones, some of them were sent out to private residences. There was a boy seven years old, the son of Mr. Story, who had died the evening of the cyclone, this boy was taken care of by J. R. Ward and Mrs. Ward until he sufficiently recovered to go to his people at Cameron, Texas. This boy was here last spring to look for the resting place of his father, who was buried in the old cemetery, and he and Mr. Ward went out to the cemetery and located his father's grave.

There was several things happened during this cyclone that sounds almost unreasonable and if I did not have the witnesses here to prove up I might not mention. Mrs. Copenhaver had a good five-room dwelling and she sold the lumber left in and around the place for fifteen dollars. She had an organ and other furniture and trunks in the house and some valuable papers. I remember someone picked up a note and returned it to her from Comanche county. There was a Mr. Lamb living in the wake of the cyclone who had built a new house and he

said when he felt the wind against the doors he tried to hold the door shut and had hold of the door knob, the house was blown away and left the floor and the family all standing on the floor and the door knob was stuck tight in the forks of a live oak tree standing near the house. Mr. Lamb had some money in his trunk, bills and silver, the next morning bills were found where the house stood and silver dollars were picked up three hundreds yards away. He had a lot of chickens on the place, some of them were killed and some of them were walking around with the feathers picked off clean.

Out some miles east of town one of the Brook's boys had his dwelling blown away, and Mr. Brooks was crippled and hurt. Dr. Mathews was sent for and found that he had a load of bird shot in his back. It seems he had a loaded shot gun in the house and by some means it exploded and in the confusion they probably did not hear it and the load of shot entered Mr. Brooks. There were no storm

houses here at that time but within another few weeks you could see mounds thrown up all around town and every time a cloud came up the people for several years would hunt their holes in the ground like a hunch of Prairie dogs hunting their holes when they were scared.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OFFERS FREE SERVICE

Austin, Texas, Dec. 12.—Having for its motto, "For the benefit of the State through industry," the Bureau of Industrial Chemistry of the University of Texas offers to make an examination of any sample of water, soil or mineral for any interested person free of cost. In cases where a chemical analysis is found to be necessary, the person submitting the sample is notified of the fact, and a nominal fee is charged to cover the cost of the materials used.

The bureau is called on constantly to make analysis of various formations scattered over the state. Examination of water for commercial purposes, for drinking purposes, and for irrigation is made. This work is done free of charge. Where the water is to be sold as a medicine, however, the bureau charges a fee from \$50 to \$150, according to the number of determinants desired. It is the practice of the bureau to discourage sellers of medicinal waters from using the analysis furnished, and they are advised to have such work done by commercial chemists.

The bureau was founded for the purpose of aiding the legitimate industries in exploiting the natural wealth of the State, and an important part of the work is that of examining deposits of clay for brick and pottery making. Several samples of clay recently received was found to be suitable for making first class pottery. In order to have this work done, it is necessary to send a liberal sample of the material to the bureau together with a survey of the deposit, telling how much there is, on whose land it was found, and the purpose of the examination. There is a slight fee charged to cover the cost of the fuel in firing the test kilns, when a fire test has to be made. Rocks and crystals are frequently sent to the bureau for examination, and the chemists are often able to classify the specimens from a cursory examination. The same thing is true of samples of lignite which come to the bureau in great numbers. If the bureau has on file an analysis of the same bed of lignite from practically the same locality the analysis is sent and no charge is made.

Meeting of Women's Missionary Auxiliary of M. E. Church

Place—Mrs. Clifford Verner. Time—3 o'clock.

Leader—Mrs. T. R. Sealy. Scripture Lesson Mark 16-18. Subject—The Family. Topic—The Family and American Marriage Laws—Mrs. McFarland. Reading—The Madonna of the Curb—Mrs. Franklin. A Christmas Story—Mrs. J. F. Turner. Prayer. Social hour.

Cooper's Underwear and Hosiery, Regal and Columbus Caps.—Parker Bros.

DAUGHTER RECOGNIZES FATHER IN TRAMP ROLE AFTER LONG SEPARATION

(By International News Service)

St. Louis, Dec. 9.—Separated from his daughter for thirty-five years, William H. Cooper learned of her whereabouts and pretending to be a tramp, calling at her front door to ask for a meal.

"Come on in, daddy," said the daughter to the surprised father as she opened the door. She recognized him although she was but fourteen years old when she last saw him. She is now forty-nine and her father is seventy-five.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR Presbyterian Church

Topic.—The Glorious Gains of Fidelity, Rev. 2:1-10. Song Service. Scripture reading. Prayer. Leader—Louise Boyd. Faithful in little things, Luke 16:10-12.—Vera Oakes. Fidelity Rewarded, Luke 19:11-28.—Shield Brown. The faithful prosper, I Chron. 22:6-13.—Elizabeth McClellan. God's approval, Heb. 11:5.—Mrs. Oakes. Bible drill given by leader. Song. Benediction.

When Major General George Bell, Jr., retired from the army recently a great reception, banquet and ball was tendered him and Mrs. Bell by the army officers of the Sixth Corps Area and the citizens of Chicago.

That, however, was but an incident in the notable career of this grim fighter.

The outstanding feature is the fact that his former officers of the 33rd Division from all over Illinois flocked into Chicago to attend the affair and testify to the love and esteem they still feel for their old commander of war days, who led them through the furnace of hell on the fighting front in France.

We are not a hero worshipping people, but there are some things red blooded Americans never forget.

"NOW IS THE TIME"

To Get Your Tickets For The Beautiful WALKING, TALKING, SLEEPING DOLL To Be Given Away Absolutely FREE By S. H. Phillips, Druggist

Listed below are some of the many articles which may be purchased at regular prices and entitle the purchaser to one ticket for every twenty-five cents:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Nyals Face Cream | Nyals Wild Cherry Cough Syrup |
| Nyals Face Powder | Nyals Menthol Cough Syrup |
| Nyals Cold Cream | Nyals Throat Gargle |
| Nyals Beauty Balm | Nyals Laxacold Tablets |
| Nyals Tooth Paste | Nyals Fig Sen |
| Nyals Shaving Cream | Nyals Laxative Syrup |
| Nyals Oriental Rouge | Nyals Vegetable Prescription |
| Nyals Almond Cream | Nyals Liver Stimulator |
| Nyals Shaving Lotion | Nyals Cream of Tarter and Sulphur Tablets |
| Nyals Liquid Shampoo | Nyals Yellow Pills |
| Nyals Quinine Hair Tonic | Nyals Corn Remover |
| Nyals Talcum Powder | Nyals Stone Root Compound |
| Nyals Medicated Skin Soap | |

Check up your needs and get your tickets now.

Wishing You A Very Merry Xmas And A Happy New Year

S. H. PHILLIPS

The Paint that goes FARTHEST

Unequaled covering capacity is what you get when you buy KUHNS' PAINTS.

For every kind of work, KUHNS' have always proven their ability to give maximum coverage and satisfaction at minimum cost.

Kuhns' Paints are made ESPECIALLY for the Southwest. That's why YOU'LL find them so economical and efficient.

Our line of Kuhns' Paints is complete. See us when you want the BEST Paint there is!



C. K. HUNTER DRUG STORE.

Kuhns' Paints

CAUGHT IN THE ROUND-UP

W. E. Bartlett of Ballinger, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bartlett and other relatives here first of the week.

Miss Myrtle Perry of the Nivat community was brought to the local hospital Monday for an emergency operation for gangrened appendicitis.

J. G. Williamson and Frank T. Woodward went to Waco Saturday night for medical examination in the U. S. Veterans Hospital.

The Eastern District Singing convention will meet with the Live Oak class on the Fifth Sunday in this month, and from all account, the Live Oak class is making great preparations for a good convention.

Mrs. J. M. Robinson of Lubbock is here this week visiting her sister Mrs. J. C. McHorse. Her son, Willie McHorse of Big Springs visited her last week.

Mrs. R. C. Gay was carried to the Temple Sanitarium first of the week for an operation. We hope she soon recovers to her wanted health.

Rev. J. J. Kellem, one of the field workers for Bucknor Orphan home at Dallas, preached at the Baptist church here last Sunday night to a large audience and several pledges were made at the close of his service.

L. V. Stockard is in San Antonio this week attending a meeting of the board of directors of the Stroud Motor company. Mr. Stockard is a member of the board.

Rev. T. W. Davidson returned last Saturday from Kansas City, Mo., where he attended the Southwestern Laymen's convention of the Presbyterian church, and reports having a great meeting.

Columbus Hadden and wife and Geo. Eoff of Blanket, Rev. W. H. White of Brownwood, Rev. Dysar of San Saba, Miss Clyde Wright of Waldrip and Rev. T. M. Tarbett, Missionary for this Presbytery, were among those to attend the meeting of the Presbytery here last week.

D. R. Kelley and F. C. Woodward returned last Friday from a several days hunt in the mountains of the southwestern border country, and brought home with them a fine specimen of a Buck. The buck was, of the blacktail species, a very large one and indicated good flesh, due to the exceeding warm weather a portion of the meat was spoiled.

LIBERTY NEWS

This community was visited by a cold norther Saturday morning.

Messrs. Eaf Day, Howard Polk, Carter Duggins, and Jess Howard were in Santa Anna Saturday night.

A few of the Liberty youngsters attended the party at Mukewater community Saturday night.

There was a nice crowd at the Sunday school entertainment at Mr. G. C. Cauklin's Friday night.

The Liberty school boys and girls played basket ball with Plainview again Friday afternoon. The Liberty boys lost their game which was the first one they have lost this season. The Liberty girls won for the first time. Maybe this will have some influence on the girls in their future games.

There were a few of the Mukewater folks at the entertainment Friday night.

The crowd at singing Saturday night was slim due to the weather.

Mr. and Mrs. John Howard of the Cleveland community spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Sam Russell.

Mr. Curtis Woodward called at the McMinn home Sunday afternoon.

Henry Williams and family Eula Mae and Howard Polk, called on the Will Holt family Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. G. C. Conklin and sons, P. H. Williams and family and Henry Williams and family called at the Polk home Thursday night for choir practice and 42.

Mrs. Jane Howard called on Mrs. Will Fletcher Thursday night.

The Cleveland youngsters came up to Liberty Thursday afternoon and played another game with the Liberty teams; which was a victory for the boys and a defeat for the girls. About all I remember about the game, was the shaking Sammie Duggins received by the Cleveland referee. It laid him up for a while but is getting along comparatively well at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Russell made a flying trip to Santa Anna Friday afternoon.

We are glad to note that Miss Gladys Burke, who has been out of school on account of sickness is able to take her position this week.

There was a nice crowd at prayer meeting Sunday night.

DILL PICKLES.

WE have plenty of nice Shirts for Xmas.—Parker Bros.

YULETIDE--

This Bank extends to you our best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

The First State Bank
Santa Anna, Texas

A Slaton preacher once said that "no newspaper man who took the truth for his standard would make a pecuniary success." We might return the compliment by remarking that no minister who told the truth about his congregation, alive or dead, would occupy the pulpit longer than one Sunday afterward. The press and clergy go hand in hand with the whitewash brush producing rosy spectacles, magnifying little virtue and kindly throwing little deformities into oblivion. The pulpit, the press and our grave-stones are partners in saint making.—Slaton Slatonite.

If you pay your small debts, some other fellow will be able to pay his, and the chain of money passing from hand to hand will serve to balance many obligations. We forget that it is people who fail to pay small amounts who acquire a reputation for beating their debts. When a sum is large it is paid or else sued upon, but when it is small it becomes overlooked in the shuffle, and the merchant who loses it is the only one who remembers it. He may not say anything about it but he usually does some thinking.

A road sign reads: "Drive slow; you might meet a fool." A better sign, in some instances, would read: "Drive slower; two fools might meet."—Jacksonville Times-Union.

I have two spans of Horses for sale. Do you want them?—Miles Wofford.

Fire and Tornado Insurance

W. E. BAXTER

Santa Anna, Texas.

Cut This Out—It Is Worth Money. Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup, Foley Kidney Pills and Foley Cathartic Tablets.—C. K. Hunter druggist.

WILL BELL

Bray Line.

We haul Anything

Phone 114.

GREETINGS!

The First National Bank extends Greetings and Best Wishes to all.

Merry Christmas.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
C. W. WOODRUFF, Cashier

VICTROLAS
For Christmas

VICTOR VICTROLAS and records for sale here. This is an ideal Christmas Gift for the HOME. Prices are reasonable, and we will make terms to suit on monthly payment plan. Call early and make your selection.

MUSIC APPRECIATION IS AIDED BY THE VICTROLA

Kodaks For Christmas

Eastman Kodaks, Films, Kodak Albums, Negative Albums all in stock. Make your selections now to be reserved for you. Begin the Kodak story of the children now, and remember that all the Beauties of Nature awaits the KODAK.

Polk Bros.

YOU CAN REDUCE
Your Car Expense

HOW?

By doing the work rapidly and correctly.

By discovering small defects and correcting them before they become so serious as to result in heavy repair bills.

By charging you only for the time actually consumed on your own job. There is no "chinning" on a customer's time in this garage.

EVANS & WEST
GARAGE

Who is
Your Plumber?

Put your plumbing troubles up to me for adjustment.
See display in window.

R. A. CARROLL
Plumber

OUR CHRISTMAS EDITION

SANTA ANNA NEWS

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR.

SANTA ANNA, COLEMAN COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DEC. 15, 1922.

NUMBER 50.

"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST"



A Texas Christmas of the Long Ago By W. N. Beard

Judge S. D. Lary came to Fort Worth from San Antonio in 1867 and has continuously resided in Fort Worth for over fifty years, with the exception of a few years that he lived in Arkansas. He is a native Texan and tells some interesting stories as to how Christmas was celebrated in Texas back in the sixties and seventies.



"Profusely Decorated With Cedar Boughs, Bamboo Berries and Mistletoe."

The Christmas celebration, recalls Judge Lary, began Christmas eve, at 2 p. m., with a dance, and dancing would continue until 7 p. m., at which time a big supper would be served. Following the big supper, dancing was resumed and continued until 3 o'clock Christmas morning. There were no public auditoriums in Fort Worth in the early days; therefore, the dance took place at the commodious home of some citizen.

Promptly at 8:30 Christmas morning the "preacher" would arrive, and immediately announce religious service. The dancers of the previous evening would gather about the minister and listen respectfully to his Christmas sermon. He would read the fifth chapter of St. Matthew, or Christ's Sermon on the Mount, then announce as his text, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him would not perish but have everlasting life." With fervent eloquence the minister would portray the life of Christ, exhorting his congregation to keep in mind the precepts of the Saviour, to love one another, to return good for evil, to be thankful for all the good things in this world, and to let peace on earth and good will dwell among them.

The custom of the times, affirms Judge Lary, did not make it sacrilegious for eggnog to be served at the conclusion of a Christmas sermon, therefore, the eggnog which had been prepared at an earlier hour by the hostess, was served to all persons who were present at the Christmas morning service. Also, such drinks as "sillibub," "floating island," and boiled custard were popular and served throughout Christmas week.

The frontier folk believed in a real merry Christmas over a considerable period of time, so the merry-making and feasting went on uninterruptedly from 2 p. m. Christmas Eve until January 2d. No business of any kind was transacted for an entire week—just a continuous round of pleasure—each host vying with the other to extend to every person the greatest hospitality.

The Christmas menu was characteristic of the frontier—replete with bear meat, wild turkey, venison, antelope, prairie chicken and young pig, but cake and white bread were luxuries, and very scarce, since flour was difficult to obtain. The piece de resistance at a Christmas dinner was not a choice bit of wild roast turkey, or roast venison, but

a hot biscuit, brown at top and bottom, and garnished with well-flavored gravy. There was no butter except the kind too rancid to eat with relish. No invitations to dine were sent out—you were a welcome guest at any home. The spirit of western hospitality was abroad at all times and never more in evidence than during the Christmas holiday season.

The Old-Time Fiddler and Prompter.

An orchestra of fifty years ago was informal and crude, consisting of one fiddler, accompanied by an old negro, who beat time on the clevie, a triangular musical instrument. All players upon the violin were called "fiddlers," and not violinists. The prompter was a gentleman who would call the figures in Virginia reel or cotillon. Dance music was always lively, in perfect rhythm, and the airs commonly played were, "Billy in the Low Ground," "Mighty Good Livin' in De Sandy Land," "Devil's Dream," "Bunnie Musk," "Dixie," and the "Hog-Eyed Man," an old song, then much popular, with a prelude as follows:

"Sallie in the garden sifting sand,
Bettie in the parlor with the hog-eyed man."

The words of another old song, set to music for Schottish dances, was expressive of conditions locally and nationally. It embodied a snappy chorus:

"Queen Victoria is very sick,
Napoleon has the measles;
Texas has not surrendered yet,
Pop goes the weasles!"

The dance program was confined to the "Schottish," "Virginia Reel," "Lancers," and "Cotillon, or Square Dance." The Virginia Reel was the most popular, and the fair women and brave men of these earlier times would go through the mazes of this dance with much grace and stateliness. The Virginia Reel was danced as follows:

The prompter would call out for all dancers to get their partners for a Virginia reel. Two lines would be formed by the dancers, ladies to the left, gentlemen to the right. The two lines would meet, with the gentleman at one end, his lady partner at the other end. The prompter would again call: "Set to your partner," which means for you and your partner to dance a while and then swing corners. Next couple in order would dance and courtesie to each other, then backstep, cut the pigeon wing and sometimes do a regular jig. Again would the dancers swing their partners and go on with the dance to its conclusion.

The old-time prompter was a wonderful "caller," and the intonation of his voice, usually a sonorous bass or baritone, would inspire the dancers to extraordinary terpsichorean efforts. When the prompter would sing out: "Set to your partner," it was then up to you to do your smartest and prettiest dancing. The pace at times was fast and furious, but there was no "hesitation" or "bunnie hugging," just straight out, clean-cut dancing.

No Fireworks.

Back in the sixties and seventies Christmas was celebrated without the usual display of firecrackers, roman candles and skyrockets. These pyrotechnics came later. When the exuberant young Texan wanted to make a loud

noise during the holidays he bored a hole into a green hickory log, filled it with black powder, attached a fuse and touched off the fuse. Fragments of wood from the exploded log would fly far, endangering lives and property, but it was great fun, and violated no city ordinance because Fort Worth had not grown big enough to be incorporated or have a mayor, or police, or city government.

The village blacksmith's anvils would sometimes be brought into play, and with the aid of powder, exploded in a manner which materially added to the Christmas noises.

Huge bonfires would be started on the public square and kept burning throughout the nights of Christmas Eve and Christmas. Crowds would gather around the bonfires, broil steaks of buffalo and antelope, swap stories, discuss politics, and indulge in reminiscences about the old folks "back in the states." Fort Worth was such a small place in the years from 1860 to 1880 that its average population was less than 500, and all business was carried on around the public square. No man at this time was worth more than \$20,000,



Texas Orchestra of the Long Ago.

there were no banks and persons carried their money in saddle bags, or trouser pockets. Currency was worth but 65 cents to the dollar. "Specie money," that is, gold or silver, was worth 100 cents to the dollar and was the main medium of exchange. Moral security was all that was required in making loans—a man's word was good for whatever amount of cash he might borrow.

One of the favorite pastimes of the cowboys for celebrating Christmas was the riding and breaking of wild horses. The cowboy who could successfully ride the wildest pitching horse was the hero of the hour. Another favorite pastime was target shooting. To be a good pistol or rifle shot was an enviable distinction. All men went about habitually armed with six-shooter or rifle, and if an altercation took place it was generally settled with either one or both of these weapons.

No Christmas Trees.

The frontier of 1870 was too primitive for Christmas trees. Wild evergreen trees grew so close up to back door of the frontiersman that he probably

thought it unnecessary to cut one down and bring it into his cabin home. However, Christmas presents were exchanged, home-knitted stockings hung up by the fireside, and Christmas morning the little boy or girl would find oranges, apples, candy and sometimes a crude home-made toy inside the stocking.

About the nearest approach to Christmas decorating was seen early one Christmas morning when an overland stage coach, which arrived in Fort Worth daily from Jefferson, came in on schedule time, profusely decorated with cedar boughs, bamboo berries and mistletoe. The stage coach fare was 15 cents per mile, four horses pulled the coach, and a day and night service of ten miles per hour was maintained. There were no daily newspapers in the mail sacks discharged by the coach, but only weekly newspapers, delivered one day out of each week; therefore the citizens would be without any kind of late news for an entire week. As yet no publisher had the hardiness or temerity to start a newspaper in Fort Worth.

Transportation.

Nearly all transportation was by ox team and horseback. No railroad was nearer than Jefferson or Navasota. A few of the prosperous old settlers had a team or two of horses, broken to harness with much difficulty. If a party of boys or girls wanted to go joy-riding, Christmas week they bridled and saddled their ponies, mounted them and went galloping joyously over the broad prairies. Women could ride horseback equally with the men, and rode the single stirrup sideways; their saddles were termed "side-saddles."

All freight hauling was done with yoked oxen, usually ten head to each four-wheeled wagon, and all merchandise hauled by ox-team from either Jefferson or Navasota to points in Northwest Texas. Barrel goods usually made up the loads of freight—barrels of flour, green coffee (there was no roasted or ground coffee), sugar, salt, soap, molasses, vinegar, pickles, whisky, etc. Flour was sold from \$5.00 to \$6.00 per barrel, green coffee 33 1-3 cents per pound, sugar 15 cents per pound, lard 5 cents per pound, dressed pork 5 cents per pound, corn meal 40 cents per bushel. The pioneers raised their corn, and ground it at the old water-wheel mills, situated on the banks of flowing streams. What was considered good whisky brought \$2.50 per gallon jug—it was never sold in bottles. Judge Lary is authority for the statement that whisky was always plentiful during Christmastime, but seldom would a drunken man be seen upon the streets.

The Weather.

Texas weather has undergone a marked change in the past fifty years, colder winters giving place to milder winters. Hardly would a Christmas pass in the sixties and seventies without snow, and sometimes the snow piled in drifts which completely covered rail fences, low-roof barns and outhouses. "Blue northerners," the kind that chilled to the bone, were common, sweeping suddenly out of the north and freezing to death livestock, poultry and wild game. Whole herds of cattle, depending on the open range for sustenance, drifted before blizzards, became exhausted, and

froze to death in a vain search for grass and water. Eight degrees below zero is cold weather for Texas, yet during the winter of 1899, on Feb. 13, the Fort Worth weather bureau registered a temperature of 8 degrees below zero. Trinity river, in the vicinity of Fort Worth and Dallas, froze over to a depth of six inches during this extreme cold spell. While the river was thus frozen, horses and cattle walked across it without breaking through the solid ice.

Christmas revellers in the late seventies and eighties were often delighted with snowfalls ranging from 4 to 12 inches on the ground level throughout North and West Texas.

Styles in Vogue.

The pioneer women did not devote a great deal of time to styles in wearing apparel, but at yuletide they tried to look their neatest and prettiest. Homespun dresses were the kind worn, which they made from yarn carded and spun by themselves on old-fashioned spinning wheels. The hoop skirt and bustle were the prevailing styles. Heavy suits of hair were worn, and the hair dressed in a style called "water fall," which constituted one long curl hanging down the back and gathered at top by hair-comb and hairpins. Commenting on the physical beauty of the Texas women of today, compared with the beauty of the women fifty years ago, Judge Lary is emphatic in his opinion that they are no prettier now than they were then, notwithstanding the fact that the earlier period women did not paint, powder or patronize beauty parlors.

Men wore home-spun trousers, high-top boots, broad-brimmed slouch hats and woolen shirts. Cowmen wore jackets instead of coats. The dressed-up dandy of these days would be seen in white shirt, buckskin vest but no tie, and a silk handkerchief tied around his neck in place of white collar. His shirt studs and cuff buttons would be manufactured from \$5.00 and \$2.50 gold coins. His spurs would be silver-mounted and his high-heeled boots braided near the top in fancy colored thread designs. He thought nothing of riding a hundred miles horseback to see his sweetheart, swimming his horse through swollen streams, or fighting a band of hostile Indians, if need be. He was a gay Lochinvar, but did not come out of the west



"Fragments of Wood from the Exploded Log Would Fly Far and Endanger Lives and Property."

—he was part of the west—sharing its dangers, hardships, and enjoying its thrills and carefree life to the fullest extent. When the Christmas festivities came to an end he would go back to his work, whether it was herding cattle, hunting buffalo, freighting across the wild waste places, or capturing and hanging horse-thieves.

Scenes In Little Bethlehem The Church of the Nativity



Christmas is one of the minor festivals in the Eastern churches. This is due to the fact that the Orient never celebrated the birthdays of its heroes, and still up to our present time birthdays are not made much of.

Up to the fourth century of the Christian era, Christmas was not celebrated in the East, and instead of it the baptism of Christ was celebrated, and still is considered as one of the major festivals of the Greek Orthodox church. Christmas was imported from the Occident by Western influence.

The Church of the Nativity.

The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem is the oldest church in the Christian world, being built by Helena, the wife of Emperor Constantine, of the Eastern Roman Empire. It is built over the manger in which Jesus was laid when he was born.

The mere appearance of the church indicates its age, being old and gray and "patched up." Here Hieronymus spent a large portion of his life translating the Bible into Latin. Here, again, Baldwin was crowned king of the commonwealth established by the Crusaders after the first crusade.

The entrance to the church is a low gate hardly five feet high. It leads into a small hall, to the left of which used to be the guardrooms of the Turkish soldiers who were stationed in the church, under the pretext that they should keep peace between the different denominations that have a share in the church. This habit of guarding the houses of

worship the Turks have copied from the Romans and have practiced it until present times.

The little hall leads into a magnificent basilica, the pillars of which were taken from the ruins of the temples of Solomon and that of Herod. They were brought over from Jerusalem to Bethlehem by the human machinery which was plentiful and cheap at that time. A turn to the left at the end of the basilica leads to the quarters of the Armenians and Greek Orthodox, from where a staircase leads down into the manger.

The Manger.

Looking around, the visitor sees himself in what might be called a rectangular cave, the walls of which are of roughly hewn natural rock. The walls of the den are covered with ancient holy pictures, some of which are very hard to recognize. If these pictures were able to speak they could tell many a tale about many a person low and high who came to this place either out of curiosity or driven by a higher motive to worship at the sacred birthplace.

The natural question that arises in the mind of the visitors is whether this place is in reality the very historic place where Christ was born. The Orient is very conservative. A hundred or even a thousand years previous to our modern time would have found the Orient in the same stage. In the land of Palestine itself we see that it is nothing unusual to encounter habits and customs that have existed in the times of Abraham and his followers. Figures of speech remind us of the language in which the Bible was written. Names of places and places themselves date thousands of years back. If we take Beersheba, for instance, which was mentioned so often in connection with the Alamey campaign in Eyrta, we see that the name has come down from the times of Abra-

ham, and we still find the seven wells that Abraham dug, and these gave the name to the place, "bir," meaning well and "sheba," meaning seven. Bethlehem itself is just as ancient, if not more so, than Beersheba.

The Hotels of Old.

Up to our present time the Orient adheres to the old-fashioned hotels. They are nothing like the hotels and rooming houses of the West. The stranger who arrives in a smaller town or village is

taken by the hospitable people of that place to what they call the "madafeh," meaning the guest house. The "madafeh" is kept up by the villagers themselves, who in their turn do the entertaining of the guests. Every one knows when it is his turn to furnish the food and the coffee. In case of poor persons who cannot afford an expensive entertainment two or three people come together and share the expense. Justice is done to all, so that the poor man does not have to carry more than he is able to. Such a house is generally located at the entrance to the village.

The Angels' Field.

Near Beit-Sahoor is supposed to be the place where the angels proclaimed the birth of Jesus. The name Beit-Sahoor, which, literally translated, means the place of watching, indicates that this spot was the place where the old herdsmen kept their sheep instead of taking them up to Bethlehem. Near Beit-Sahoor is the Raawat, the place of the shepherds, on the fields of old Boas. On this place there stood an old church built by the Crusaders, which was destroyed by the Arabs after they had recovered the land from the Crusaders. The lower story of the church, covered with a heap of ruins, is still intact and serves as a place of worship on Christmas eve.

Christmas is celebrated twice a year in the town of Bethlehem. This is due to the difference in the Eastern and Western calendars, the Eastern being the old Julian one, which is 13 days hind the modern one. The celebrator of the Greek Orthodox Christmas is by the most attended.

The night before Christmas is the busiest night for the town of Bethlehem. People from all parts of the country and many foreign visitors flock

(Continued on Page 7.)

A Christmas Message

Once let a considerable portion of the people become animated by a desperate desire for a new spirit of good will and justice and peace on earth, then see how quickly the puny and parasitical politicians and hypocritical reformers will scurry out of the way. Let us at least be honest with ourselves. We are not doing the great things as Christians and patriots, which are our duty, simply because we do not care. One thing that palsies our generation is a lack of eager earnestness. We have slumped into a mood of indifference—seeming to have forgotten how to hate wrong and to be ardent for the right. We do not love one another as sincerely as we should, we preach unselfishness, talk a great deal about political abuses, yet we are too selfish and self-centered to remedy these ills. On election day good men stay away from the polls, and then abuse the government because inefficient and dishonest men are elected to office. The Good Shepherd's kindness and sincerity are sorely needed—the healer as well as the teacher. Jesus taught and healed at the same time, and was beloved by the multitude. One of the most vivid and beautiful passages in the biography of the Master describes this scene:

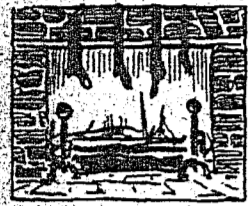
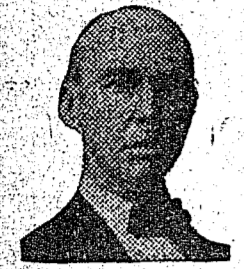
"And when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with diverse diseases brought them unto Him, and He laid His hands upon every one of them and healed them."

—By WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

By J. H. Lowry

THE YEAR THERE WAS NO CHRISTMAS.



You can call to memory, no doubt, many Christmases. As the great day draws near you recall without trouble where on Christmas of last year—what you did, with whom you spent the day, what you received, what you gave, and what particular event thrilled or rejoiced you most. If you are yet young in years your memory does not go far enough back into the past to call many anniversaries of the Savior's birth into review, but entwined about every Christmas within your memory there are joys so permanently fixed in your heart that all the lashings of time cannot efface them. Since then cruel care with all its anxieties has come into your life, since then disappointments have plunged you into seas of bitterness, since then, perhaps, sorrow has come in its night-time visitations and thrown its heavy mantle over you, but even these cannot blot out the joys of a happy Christmas, and you have but to go back in memory to the glad day in order to wear again the features of joy and sing again the songs of gladness. If you are in that middle period of life in which people can not give evidence of youth and will not admit age, you can, by stirring up your memory a little, recall every Christmas, with its joys and its disappointments, clear through the stretch of years to the time when memory began to function and events began to make impressions upon your plastic mind and heart. Even if time has plowed such deep furrows in your cheeks and so dimmed your eyes that you no longer hesitate when asked to tell your age, there are bright dreams of the past clustering around the Christmases you have known, even as the glass in which roses have been distilled retains the odor, and these relics of joy time cannot destroy until memory is disenthroned. It would be difficult, no doubt, for you to say on what Christmas you were happiest, for Christmas joy is superlative, which permits no comparison. It may be that you remember with fondest recollections the Christmas of life's early morning, when you saw the big stick of candy and the big red apple in your stocking when you left your bed before the holy watch stars of night

had put out their holy lights. It may be that you feel that your cup of happiness was fullest on the glad Christmas day when you marched to Hymen's holy altar beside the man or the woman you loved; or it may be that there is a clearer memory of your happiness on the eventful Christmas when you didn't even receive a card, but gave much to relieve the needs of others. But what I wish to ask just now is, do you remember the year when there was no Christmas?

One year there wasn't any Christmas. I shall not attempt to name the year; perhaps you would not agree with me if I should name it; but most people who have reached middle life will tell you, as I do, that one year came and went without a Christmas, and to those who experienced it it was a far more sorrowful phenomenon than the year without a summer or the year without a frost. In most respects this year did not differ materially from other years. The bells rang the year in at the accustomed time, happy New Years were wished, cards bearing pretty sentiments and flowers were sent and received, and the accustomed New Year entertainments were given. The earth made its diurnal journeys around the sun and the seasons were timed as they were before and have been since. Winter raged for a time, but finally the chilling blasts of Boreas were chased away by the gentle zephyrs of spring and the world was warmed into vernal beauty. The earth was carpeted with green, the jonquils and the daisies came, followed by the buttercups and the roses. Finally the brown limbs of the trees answered the call of nature's resurrection and became glorious with bud and bloom; and soon the new velvety leaves cast a lace-work of magic beauty on the earth beneath as the sun sifted through and shadowed them upon the ground. Summer came. The plow boys whistled in the furrows as of yore, the sea harnessed its cloudy chariots and sent refreshing showers to the parching earth, the corn fields waved their golden banners, and the great fields of cotton pointed their white and crimson bugles at the sun. And autumn came, with its perfect days and its matchless nights, with its riot of color in forest and field, and the horn of plenty was emptied into the granaries of the world and the laps of men. And then the world grew cold again, and, oh the pity of it, passed right on from harvest time and tax-paying time to New Year—but there was no Christmas! A wheel slipped, an eccentric broke, or something else happened, and Christmas

was left out of the year. It would be direful indeed should the world's machinery go wrong and skip the glad springtime, with its revitalizing airs and its vernal glories, but such a calamity would not be worthy of comparison with the horrors, with the absence of soul-thrilling joys, the year when there was no Christmas. It was the blackness of night without the light of morning; it was the heat of summer without the cooling sea breezes; it was the desert with no oasis; the wound without stanch, the angry sky of night without a star, anxiety without hope—life without love.

I am sure you remember the year. No; it was not the year that misfortune came, for misfortune cannot close the door against Christmas. It was not the year when crops or investments failed, or when fire or flood swept away the savings of a life-time. Poverty is never a barrier against Christmas, for Christmas was born of poverty and finds its greatest delight in living with poverty. The great day sits beside those who are poor in the goods of the world and tells them of its Author, who had not where to lay His head. It was not the year when the death angel entered your home and bore a loved one away just as you were hoping for a merry Christmas. Christmas is never turned away by sorrow, for Christmas loves the sorrowing. Possibly on Christmas Eve, when you had planned to fill baby's stocking with pretty things and light baby's face with sunnier smiles, the angels came and bore baby away, and the pretty things you hoped would brighten baby's eye are now hidden away among the forget-me-nots that are too sacred for the world's idle gaze. Possibly when you expected Christmas, and to revel in Christmas joys, you stood beside the snow-white casket which contained the marble clay of a dimpled darling and wept your heart away—possibly instead of Christmas greetings and Christmas joys there came the good-bye to husband, wife, brother or sister—but that was not the year Christmas did not come. Christmas did come that year in all of its tenderness, in all of its mercy and love. Yea, Christmas came that year and sat beside you, and held your hand, and spoke unto you words of comfort and of cheer that healed your bleeding heart. Ah, if all the tears of sorrow that Christmas has wiped away were jewels and could be gathered up, beside them how dim, how lustreless, would be the most splendid gems of Kimberley or Golconda.

But put on your thinking cap and I am sure you will remember the year when there was no Christmas. Possibly it was the year when disappointment came and your hopes of gain were blighted. In the face of the disappointment you sullen and cried out angrily against your fate. Because dollars had not rolled into your tills as you had wished and planned, your soul shriveled and the smile that was on your lip curled into a frown. You resolved that you would get even with the world by withholding from it all you could. You tied your purse-strings in a double hard knot and swore that not a penny should escape. And you expunged from your heart all thoughts of liberality and generosity, and sat yourself down to scowl and grieve over your disappointments. This may have been the year without a Christmas; more likely, however, it was the year of your great prosperity that Christmas did not come. The crops yielded abundantly, that year and prices were fine, and you made some lucky investments. Money was poured into your pockets and you built a fine account at the bank. Because of your prosperity men began to seek you and you were admitted into the charmed circle of the Napoleons of finance. You hobnobbed with the "big ones" and discussed houses and lands and stocks and bonds. And you said to yourself, "success and happiness in life are measured by a rule of gold; all else is an empty bottle, a merciless cheat." You found your only joy in stretching your bony fingers over your dollars and exclaimed, "They are mine." And you said, "I will build a wall around what I have, and I will get more."

The holiday season drew on, but to you it was foolishness. You saw the women and the girls busy with needles and thread, making pretty little nothings for loved ones and friends; and you rebuked them for wasting time and material. Such trifles did nobody any good, you said, and you waxed wroth because of the waste. You refused appeals of wife and children for a few dollars for Christmas remembrances, you took no part in the entertainments for the children, you did not even send out cards to friends, and you petulantly threw into the waste basket the little remembrances friends were thoughtful enough to send you. You even complained at the glee of the children, and in your heart wished they wouldn't make so much noise. Finally, while others were happy in giving and receiving and the world about you rang out with good cheer, you retired and lived

with your own poor sordid self. And that was the year without a Christmas.

And wasn't it an awful year? Wasn't it a miserable void? The barnyard cocks split their throats but their clarion call and welcome to Him who brought joy to earth found no echo in your heart. The children danced and shouted, but their glee awakened no gladness in your soul. Upon your own hearthstone the rays of Christmas light did not fall, and loved ones about you were sad because you would not let the Christmas spirit come in and sup with you. And when you sought rest from yourself in blessed sleep, old conscience made you admit your selfishness and meanness and filled you with the bitterness of remorse. But let us draw the curtain here, for the year when there was no Christmas is a dark spot upon which memory must not dwell too long.

Dear reader, Christmas is man's better self; it is God in Man. It is the overcoming of the baser attributes, the flowering of the kindlier feelings, the nobler virtues, the unselfish spirit. It comes into man when man's heart is warmed into a deeper love for his fellows and into a deeper gratitude to Him who came to give all for man. Man can resist the Spirit; man can freeze his nobler passions and murder his better self. Man can declare the eventful eve when the magazines of the skies burst upon Judean hills a myth and close his ear and heart to the glad refrain of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men," sung by the angelic hosts, but if he does he'll meet the awful doom of a year without a Christmas. May this good year of our Lord give its Christmas light; its Christmas joys and its Christmas hope to all.

The great day comes on. We know it is near because there is a deeper amethystean glow in the great celestial concave. We know it is near because the crow of the barnyard cock is shriller. We know it is near because we are thinking a little less of notes and accounts and have a stronger desire to pet the children. We know we are approaching Christmas because we are thinking less of our little ambitions and feel a livelier interest in the happiness of others. As the day comes nearer and nearer may you catch a clearer and truer vision of Him who gave all, who forgave all, endured all and loved all; and may this vision lead you to the happiest Christmas you have ever known.

The Healing of Masterson

A Christmas Story
Of the Rugged and Big-Hearted West

A Christmas moon shone coldly on lone hard roads and faded prairie grass. Yellow streams of light from the windows of the low bunkhouse cut warmly into the pale night.

Within was rough comfort. The stove bore a glowing spot on either bulging side; the lamps flared in their brackets, depositing velvety frescoes on their chimneys. The men smoked vigorously in the relaxation of their after supper hour or lolled drowsily in their bunks.

"Not a blamed thing to show that it's Christmas!" grumbled Lariat Pete, dejectedly.

A momentary hush fell. Then Limber Jack rose, viciously kicking aside his soap box chair.

"Shut up, Pete!" he snarled. "We ain't babies, nor this ain't the first Christmas we've missed hanging up our stockings. You're warm and fed, ain't ye, and got a job at good pay?"

"Great cats, yes!" ejaculated a head hanging over the edge of an upper bunk. "Don't I remember last Christmas, when me and the pony was alone on the prairie, without a cent or a measure of oats between us, and it cold as Greenland? Old Three Spot, out there with his head in the manger, will tell you this ain't a bad Christmas."

"Anyway," Jack capped the discussion, "I don't know but we've got more of a Christmas than poor old Masterson over at the house."

The silence now was of a different sort. The West has an unwritten law that a man must keep his hands from the affairs of another man, but Masterson was loved of them all and every heart ached for him.

Perhaps the owner, who hired him, knew why this man, evidently of the cultured world, should elect to live out his days on this farthest outpost of civilization—tight lipped and stern—but no one else did.

And this was the first time that they had even given voice to the trouble which was so plainly eating at Masterson's heart.

"There'll be a new foreman here before Spring, I'm afraid," continued Jack, getting more holler-eyed and thinner every day. It gets me to see that they look in his eyes when he thinks no one's lookin' at him."

"Tell ye what he makes me think of," spoke Pete, ruminating over his words. "Five or six years ago we had a set of these yer Sang Bernard dogs—big yeller and white fellers, yer know. The boss had promised one of

them to his little girl, so he totes off the littlest one when he goes east. Well, sir, Ol' Max never whimpered once, but he'd just go from one to the other with the sorriest look on his face and then he'd pace back to the road and set down and look to'ards the east.

"And he kept gettin' thinner and sadder, till we boys didn't know whether to shoot ourselves or jest go east and kick the idiot that took off the poor dog's mate.

"And one morning we found Max at the top of the hill, with his nose to'ards the east, stone dead. I tell ye that dog got as near a Christian burial as the gang that was here then could give him!"

There was a sympathetic silence for a little while. Then Pete finished.

"I don't know whether Masterson's lost a mate or not. If his heart's broke that won't kill him. Only dogs and horses is lucky enough to die of that. And as we don't know nothin' and can't do nothin' we'd best keep our tongues off and let him fight it out alone, same as Max did."

The door swung open and Masterson stood upon the threshold. The men started, but self-consciousness was lost in amazement.

He often crossed to the bunk house, ostensibly to talk of the work, but, as the men often surmised, to escape the loneliness of his fireside over at the house, where he was established during the winter absence of the owner.

But tonight he bore on his arm a little child. Not a ragged, shivering prairie waif, but plump and rosy and bright-eyed, as though just waked from sleep, blinking a little as the lights struck her face and glancing, shyly but unafraid of the broad shoulder which supported her.

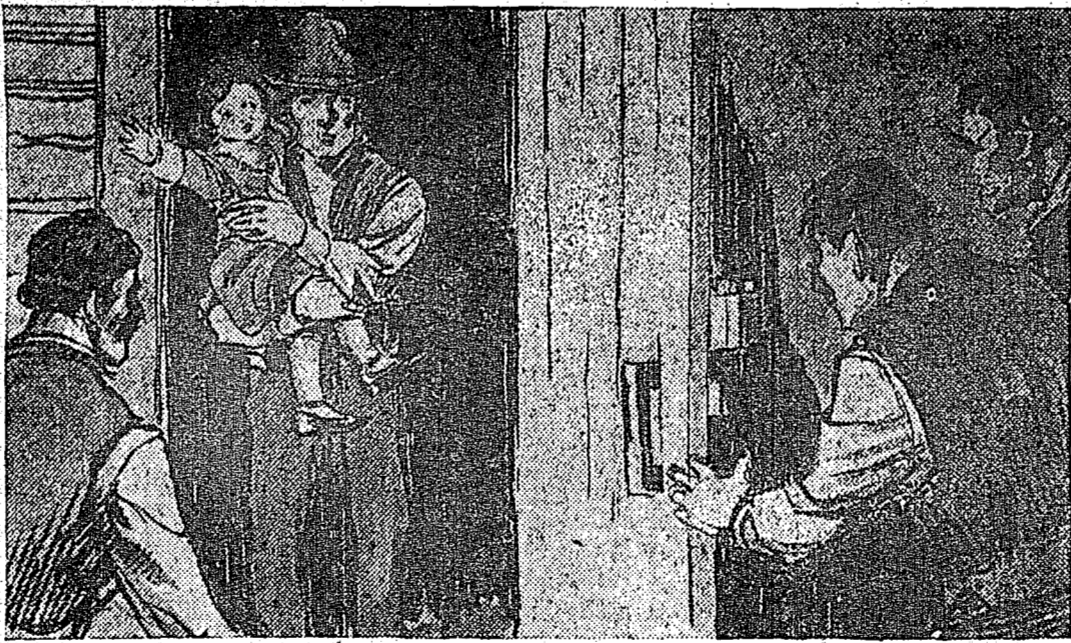
For a moment they were spell-bound, then her shy little glance was illuminated by a friendly smile, and as one they descended upon the pair with so

many questionings and exclamations that had she not been in Masterson's arms her courage might have failed.

As it was, she smiled into the bronze faces circling about her, while the men looked and marveled, some touching her white gown wonderingly, and even one laying a hardened finger upon her dimpled hand as it lay upon Masterson's shoulder.

"She came into the house alone just now," Masterson explained, "and all that I can understand of her baby talk is that her mother sent her and that she is looking for her father. Some one must have dropped her recently, so you boys turn out and hunt the outfit."

Several throats were cleared and the



"But To-night He Bore on His Arm a Little Child."

men stiffened belligerently.

"Look here, Masterson," argued Pete, emboldened by the fact that the child had let him take her hand, "are you going to give that little thing back to a pack of folks so pizen mean that they drop her out on the prairie on a night like this?"

"Why can't we keep her?" asked old Bones, querulously. "Like as not they'd beat her, anyway. Think of Egg Creek ranch with a little tyke like her running around!"

"Yes, we can raise her," put in Limber Jack. "My mother had six, all younger'n me, and I took a hand with the whole batch. We can take her as a Christmas present and say nothing about it."

"She would be heap better than that grapho-thing over at the Clapsaddle ranch."

"Whatever we do with her, the first thing is to find where she came from and why she was left here," interrupted Masterson, decisively. "Hurry up and search the trails. You'll soon overhaul them. I'll take her back to the house and maybe she'll go to sleep."

Masterson sat by the fire, holding the sleeping child, and as he listened to her gentle breathing and watched the moist curls cluster about her flushed face the tense lines about his mouth relaxed and the sternness of his face gave way to a gentle brooding.

The door swung softly open and a woman crossed the threshold. Masterson gazed at her as she stood before him with hunger in his eyes. The rough hood of her traveling cloak slipped back and her breast rose and fell with her agitated breathing, yet he did not think the vision real.

Nightly, in the stillness of the great house, wrapped in blankets by his camp-fire, or in some lonely prairie shack, had she confronted his aching eyeballs.

And yet this was different. Now she brought no anger, bitterness of heart-ache, but only tenderness and a keen longing that this dream woman might become real to him—as real as the child he held.

Silent she stood within the circle of the firelight, regarding him with anxious eyes, until a tender smile crept about his lips. Then she started forward. "John! John!" I could not stay away another day!" she said.

The man gave a great start. For the first time he realized that she was flesh and blood and not the figment of a dream. "Nell!" His voice was a whisper. "Nell, is it really you?"

"Yes, John!" There was a sob in the words, as she knelt by his chair. "I had driven 100 miles to reach you on Christmas eve, and then I remembered how

angry you were and the hard things you said, and I was afraid, so I sent Helen first. Won't you—oh, John, may I come to you now?"

Very gently his free arm curved about the kneeling woman, and her face went down against him in a rush of happy tears.

"I have dreamed it, my wife!" he breathed. "Night after night I have dreamed that you came back to me!"

Presently he lifted his cheek to hers, to ask: "But the child, Nell. Why should you send her in to me?"

There was incomprehension in her look at first, then her eyes burned softly into his. For a moment she hunted for the right word.

"John, did you know before you went away? Have you never thought? Can you not guess? She came on Christmas day—the year you left me!"

"Nell! Mine? Mine?"

The man's breathless cry of joy and the convulsive embrace in which he enveloped them both awoke the sleeping child. She caught the spirit in the two faces bent over her, and the man trembled under her sleepy murmur.

"My faveer! I found my faveer!" The little hand caressed his cheek.

Limber Jack, coming up the path to report the finding of a light wagon and a non-committal driver in the plum thicket below the corral, paused at the door as he caught sight of the group. A little later he entered the bunk house.

"I found who brought the kid, fellers. Masterson's found her, too, and he's settin' over there holdin' both like he never wants to do another thing. Whatever's been the matter with the old man it's all right now, and I've fixed up the driver for the night, so let's turn in. Tomorrow there's goin' to be a Christmas on Egg Creek ranch like you've never saw before."

And at the house Masterson, with exaltation on his thin face, sat brooding over a sleeping mother and child until Christmas day awoke them to happiness.

One legend concerning the origin of the Christmas tree runs that Martin Luther, coming home one crisp starry night before Christmas, wished to convey to his children an idea of the beauty of the night, and as he stood pondering the thought came to him to cut a tree and cover it with candles—that seemed to him the nearest likeness he could give them.

Santa Claus' Gifts to Texas

By Chas. Norton

In the past fifty years man has made greater progress in scientific knowledge, mechanical attainments and agricultural pursuits than during the previous two or three hundred, perhaps four hundred, years. Within the past year this progress has pointed the way to new and greater achievements in Texas.

God has been exceedingly good to the people of Texas and of this nation during the year 1922, now nearing its close. He has given them blessed gifts in the way of farm crops, of mineral treasures, of large stores of factory products and many pleasures unknown to the last century, brought about mainly by scientific research and mechanical devices; but none will give greater joy to a larger number of people than those achievements of the mind, heart and hand, the books and stories that have been written, the pictures that have been painted, the figures that have been moulded and the music that has been composed. Literature, art and music must be counted as great among our blessings, for they point the way to progress of the mind and all growth and development is through the mind.

In all these Texas also excels. "Consider the lilies of the field; they toil not, neither do they spin," says the Good Book, but elsewhere in the Scriptures man is told to "work, for the night is coming," and man has come to recognize and appreciate the blessing of work. There has been plenty of work in this great State of Texas during 1922 for all who have really sought it and work has brought progress and great accomplishments.

Texas appreciate the glorious climate they enjoy, a diversified climate that extends from its eastern to its western, from its northern to its southern borders. It gives them greater joy in living, it aids in providing crops when joined with fertile soil and properly directed industry. This is the basis of all prosperity and of soil products and livestock growth.

Once upon a time there was a rich young man who so admired the character of Jesus Christ that he delighted to do acts of kindness in the name of Christ. He liked especially to bestow gifts upon the children and to feed the poor. His name was Nicholas, and after his death he was called Saint Nicholas—from then on it was an easy transition to Santa Claus, who visits the children each year on the anniversary of the birth of Christ, bringing them gifts and happiness. All people are children in God's sight, and, as Nicholas gave in the name of Christ, so Santa Claus' gifts of today may be considered tokens from God.

The Christmas tree in the center of this page is loaded with gifts from Santa Claus to the people of Texas. It is symbolical of the generosity of a Kind and All-Wise Providence, acting through His regent saint, Santa Claus. These gifts are manifold and are showered on both the rich and the poor, the just and the unjust, like the beneficent rainfalls. The gifts come at a time that is most opportune and helpful.

So good old "Santa" has not forgotten the Texas grown-ups as well as the Texas children. These gifts to the grown-ups may not have the sentimental value as the gifts to the children, but they have a substantial value—a value inestimable to the welfare and progress of Texas and the human race.

Then let there be general rejoicing and thankfulness throughout our big state at this Christmas-time, for these generous gifts; let the welkin ring with song—carols that proclaim the magnanimity of Nature, the goodness of an All-Wise Providence, the thoughtfulness of a kind-hearted Santa Claus.

Texas' Agricultural Wealth.

Turning our attention to practical things, to a count of the wealth that may be traced directly to soil and climate, statistics must be used, and the statistical data herewith submitted was compiled by the Texas Department of Agriculture at Austin and is approximately correct. While the yield of some crops have been disappointing, yet, as a whole, the total crops for Texas for 1922 are fairly good, in many counties, considering the disastrous effect brought about by a drouth which was prolonged and somewhat general throughout the state.

Texas Cotton: Acreage planted, 11,640,800; number of bales ginned up to November 1st, 1922, 2,855,171.

Texas Corn: Acreage planted, 5,815,615; production, 123,810,000 bushels.

Texas Wheat: Acreage planted, 1,471,510; production, 9,565,000 bushels.

Texas Oats: Acreage planted, 1,622,550; production, 41,856,000 bushels.

Texas Barley: No acreage statistics available; production, 1,842,000 bushels.

Texas Hay: Acreage, 626,220; production, 94,619,000 tons.

Texas Rice: Acreage planted, 167,000; production, 5,596,000 bushels.

Texas Rye: No acreage statistics available; production, 144,000 bushels.

Texas Sweet Potatoes: Acreage planted 100,000; production, 9,177,000 bushels.

Texas Cotton Seed: No acreage statistics available; production, 980,000 tons.

Texas Apples: No acreage statistics available; estimated production 274,000 bushels.

Texas Peaches: No acreage statistics available; production 1,714,000 bushels.

Texas Pears: No acreage statistics available; production, 402,000 bushels.

All Texas Citrus Fruits: No acreage statistics available; production 298 cars.

Texas Peanuts: Acreage, 172,000; production, 112,973,000 pounds.

Texas Cowpeas: Acreage planted, 58,100; production 697,200 bushels.

Texas Broom Corn: Acreage planted 22,750; production, 15,500 tons.

Texas Grain Sorghum: Acreage

there were 991,000 horses in Texas, valued at \$57,478,000.

Texas Mules: January 1st, 1922, there were 863,000 mules, valued at \$7,355,000.

Texas Hogs: January 1st, 1922, there were 2,475,000 hogs; valued at \$21,038,000.

Texas Sheep: January 1st, 1922, there were 3,077,000 sheep, valued at \$10,462,000.

Texas Milk Cows: January 1st, 1922, there were 1,073,000 milk cows, valued at \$46,139,000.

Other Texas Cattle: January 1st, 1922, there were 5,363,000; valued at \$106,724,000.

Texas ranks second in the United States in cattle, hogs, sheep, horses and mules; valued at \$315,000,000. Iowa only exceeds Texas in value of cattle, hogs, sheep, horses and mules to the amount of \$337,000,000.

Texas dairy products, including milk, butter and cheese, are important products.

Texas chickens, turkeys and eggs are produced in this state in enormous quantity.

Texas Honey and Beeswax: This

is the greatest number of really large producers. Some of these wells were so large in their daily output that persons unfamiliar with such things can hardly conceive of their magnitude and commercial value. It is nothing uncommon to have a well yielding oil at the rate of from 3,000 to 12,000 barrels per day. Texas was the second largest producer of gasoline in 1921 when the output was 976,229,091 gallons. Texas oil fields are grouped in four great divisions, Northern Texas, Central Texas, Southern Texas and the Gulf Coast.

Texas is also holding up in crude oil production for 1922. A total of 80,666,587 barrels of crude oil production for the first nine months of 1922 in Texas has been reported to the state comptroller by the producers of the state, and gross production tax, of a value of \$120,897,513 has been paid, an average of \$13,433,057 per month. The wealth, therefore, that crude oil will yield to the state of Texas for the year of 1922 is around \$160,000,000, which is the equivalent of 1,600,000 bales of cotton selling for 20 cents per pound.

Texas fish are a great delicacy,

ever, the water lies close to the surface, but has less force behind it to push it to the top. When a drill has reached this strata the water comes up through the hole close to the surface, and, while it does not flow, yet the quantity is so great that no matter how much may be taken out, the supply keeps the water in the well at the same level. By the introduction of motor pumps this water is being used for irrigation with splendid results.

Texas is developing into one of the greatest states in the Union for its artificial lakes and reservoirs, which are proving both a blessing and pleasure to the people. During the periods of heavy rainfall Texas river channels are filled to overflowing, the flood waters doing great damage along the river valleys and also carry off large quantities of valuable soil.

By the construction of dams and reservoirs flood waters have been stored for future use, flood damage somewhat averted and the alluvial soil undisturbed. When water is needed for irrigation it is drawn from the lakes and reservoirs, and at other seasons the stored waters are pleasure resorts for the people, providing boating, bathing and fishing.

Texas is filled with admirable spots for small lakes and reservoirs, both along the river channels and along dry canyons through which no living stream but only flood waters flow. Many of these may be dammed at small expense and the profit from them will pay big dividends on the expenditure.

Texas climate is conducive to the health for which Texas is famous. When one finds a certain part of the state not suited to his temperament he may profit by removing to another section. Thin anaemics from North and West Texas may become strong and fat in the salubrious climate of East and South Texas, while the pallid-cheeked from East Texas may in the western part of the state regain health and happiness.

Texas' Manufactured Products.

Texas manufactures are coming into their own. Too long Texas has been content to produce raw material, ship it to industrial centers of the east and north and buy back supplies in form of manufactured goods. Consequently her industries have developed slowly. This has been in part due to the lack of home capital for the development of factories. Capitalists of the industrial centers have preferred to invest their money at home and take the raw material there.

But Texas capital now is making itself felt, and Texas capital is looking for home investments. Texas capital has been engaged in commerce and trade, and these have reached the stage where the necessity for industrial development is becoming imperative. However, we are progressing industrially in the construction of better schools and colleges, better churches and homes, and better municipal and business buildings.

During the past few years Texas has been making steady headway as a manufacturing state, and among Santa Claus' gifts to Texas at this time is a fuller appreciation of what larger and more finished products will do for Texas.

Texas cotton and woolen factories have proved profitable, but more of them are needed to attract the better classes of workmen from the industrial centers of the east and north.

Texas hides may be tanned just as well in Texas as in established tanning centers. Texas iron products are the equal of any in the market. Texas packing houses can supply the wants of her people and the people of other states. Texas fruit and vegetable products can be canned as well in Texas as elsewhere. Texas can manufacture the finest oils, Texas can manufacture good shoes, Texas can excel in industry of every kind, and the blessings of this year and period is that Texas is learning to do all these things in greater measure and on a scale in keeping with the size of the state.

Texas railroads and interurban lines are numerous. A few more would be useful, but such as are really needed will be built in time, and they will be built in a measure by local capital. Texas is building improved highways, that will some day traverse the state in all directions. The wealth of Texas is increasing by leaps and bounds. As the United States once looked to Europe for capital to develop railroads and industry, so Texas has been looking to the money centers of the north and east. But from now on, Texas expects to find at home the money with which to build, expand, extend, grow, produce, manufacture and develop Texas industry, and the time is not far distant when Texas will be sending large sums of money for investment in other lands for the purpose of developing her foreign trade.



planted 1,716,000; production, 55,475,000 bushels.

Texas Irish Potatoes: Acreage planted, 38,850; production 2,398,000 bushels.

Texas Cabbage: No acreage statistics available; production 3,593 cars.

Texas Onions: No acreage statistics available; production 4,538 cars.

Texas Tomatoes: No acreage statistics available; production, 1,652 cars.

Texas Lettuce: No acreage statistics available; production 96 cars.

Texas Strawberries: No acreage statistics available; production 7 cars.

Texas Watermelons: No acreage statistics available; production 4,359 cars.

Texas Cantaloupes: No acreage statistics available; production 162 cars.

Texas Sugar Cane: Acreage planted 18,000; production, 3,192,000 gallons syrup.

Texas Sorghum for Syrup: Acreage planted, 35,000; production, 2,793,000 gallons syrup.

Texas Livestock.

Texas Horses: January 1st, 1922,

is an important industry in Texas, large quantities being shipped annually out of the state.

Texas Pecans: This is a product that has assumed large commercial value in Texas. Production is irregular, being very large in some years and small in others, but many groves of improved pecan stock are being planted and within a few years pecan production is destined to be one of the big industries in Texas.

These are the blessings Texans enjoy from agricultural, horticultural and livestock pursuits. To these must be added the mineral wealth of the state, commerce, transportation and manufacturing, the latter three pertaining especially to the development and growth of cities in the state.

Texas Crude Oil and Other Sources of Wealth.

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SOME YULETIDE CUSTOMS AND THEIR ORIGIN.

Many Christmas customs are relics of pagan observances, especially those of Druidism, the religious system of the ancient Gauls and Britons. Groves of oaks were their chosen retreat, and today the acorn is found as a Christmas symbol on some Christmas greetings, although it is not used as much as formerly.

Druidism considered mistletoe most sacred, and when growing on an oak tree, parasite as it is, it was cut with a golden knife by a priest clad in a white robe and two white bulls were sacrificed on the spot.

The Yule log in England is a relic of Druidism. Its name is considered a corruption of "wheel log," a wheel in Druidical symbolism typifying the march of the sun. The lighting of the yule log harks back to the sacred fires kindled by the Druids at midwinter in the round towers which yet remain in many parts of Great Britain, Ireland, France and Spain. The use of the Christmas tree has descended from the German Druids. The dressing of the tree with candles and presents was a feature of their midwinter festival.

Ivy is not used for Christmas decorations, as it was once sacred to Bacchus and constituted almost the sole leafy adornment at the Roman saturnalia. The early Christian clergy, desiring to wean the people from their pagan practice as far as possible, forbade the use of ivy, and the precedent still obtains.

In medieval Europe a peacock was the favorite dish for Christmas dinner. After being skinned carefully the bird was cooked. Then the skin with the plumage intact was replaced, and the bird served in a manner as nearly as possible resembling real life.

Mince pies are first mentioned in 1596 as in common use at Christmas times. Authorities in the matter then said they might be eaten as early as December 14.

THE YULE LOG.

To the ashes of the yule-log were ascribed certain efficacious properties and they were gathered from the fireplace with care. For one thing, they were mixed with cattle feed to preserve the animals from disease. Scattered on the land the ashes of the yule-log protected crops against blight.

There are "authorities" who say that the yule-log was the center of the bonfires which the pagan Scandinavians lighted in honor of their god Thor, at about the time of the winter solstice, and that Christmas coming at about the time of the winter solstice, the yule-log burning was continued by the Scandinavians after their conversion to Christianity. Another story is that the Christian missionaries, after converting the northern pagans, required them to cut down a large tree, hew from its trunk a heavy log and then burn that log as a symbol that they renounced their heathen gods. This formal renunciation of paganism and induction into Christianity was often timed to take place during the Christian celebration of the birth of Christ, and it is said that in this way the yule-log came to be a part of the celebration of Christmas.

It is said that no sadder Christmas festivals have ever been spent than those held in a log-built church which has the distinction of being the most northerly place of worship in the world. Away in the cold, dreary plains of Siberia it stands, offering shelter to the few inhabitants who desire to meet for worship. This little church is situated about 72 miles north of Yakutsk, which is said to be the coldest city in the world.

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Different Festivities In Different Lands



The travelogues of the movies have done much to interest both young and old in other countries than our own. With this growing interest a sketch of how Christmas is celebrated here and there is a timely subject.

In England, Christmas celebrations of three or four hundred years ago charm us with their quaint and simple jollity. The English always remembered everyone from their neighbors down to their servants. "In the country, an English gentleman always invited his neighbors and tenants to his great hall at daybreak on Christmas morning. There they were regaled upon toast, sugar, nutmeg and good old Cheshire cheese." The house was decked with ivy and other greens. Under the title of a "Christmas box," the general English custom, which still prevails to some extent, a small gift of money was given to postmen and other delivery men the day after Christmas, which was called "Boxing Day."

In 1100 Henry I granted a charter to London, making it a city, and the Christmas celebration, it is recorded, consisted of a feast for rich and poor. The people gathered in the streets around blazing bonfires singing and dancing, after feasting upon oxen, deer, ale and mead. The wassail bowl, spoken of so often in many books describing England at the time of the crusades, was another evidence of the ever-ready hospitality that the English offered to all comers.

In Russia on Christmas Eve everyone dresses—or at least they used to, it is hard to say anything definite about Bolshevik Russia—for a gay masquerade. Each one was supposed to represent some animal, the idea being to commemorate the fact that Christ was born in a stable among the humblest of the animals.

Peasants among the Bulgarian, Germans and others have a legend that animals are conscious on Christmas Eve. Some people believe that "at midnight the sheep awake and march in a procession, that the cattle kneel in their stalls

while by a holy miracle all the beasts are able to converse together. But it is a mortal sin for a man to attempt to overhear them; a sin punishable with sudden death."

Holland has many festivities prominent among them, a skating or ice carnival. In Switzerland the ski and toboggan hold sway.

An interesting practice takes place in Servia on Christmas Eve. The younger men and boys of the family early in the morning go to the forest. After crossing themselves three times as is the custom of the Greek church, or saying a prayer, they select a tree; then known as the Badnyi. They greet it "Happy Badnyi to you." Then one throws a handful of wheat which has been brought for the purpose, on it, another chops it down very carefully as the tree must fall toward the east just as the sun god rises. It is then cut into two or three pieces. The first chip that falls is brought home as particularly precious.

Then the logs are taken home, one for each side of the door. The mother breaks on the longer log a small wheat cake of unleavened flour, called "pogacha."

The day passes in preparation for the feast the following day. At sunset one of the men, fitted out with new woolen gloves, brings in the log. As he passes the threshold the mother throws at him a handful of wheat from a bowl in which also the chip has been kept all day.

Then the log is lighted and immediately the young folks run out and "celebrate" noisily by firing off guns and pistols. It is important to keep the log burning all night.

In Brazil, Christmas is celebrated in the home in a fashion that brings to mind the Three Wise Men. An altar—sometimes the staircase—is covered with fine linen. On top is placed the Christ-child in a cradle, and below are placed the choicest gifts of the soil, "to show that the first fruits and best fruits should be His." Spices and myrrh, clusters of all kinds of fruit and rice and other grains deck this altar. The church steps are covered with spice leaves to make the steps fragrant when walked upon, and at night there is a Christmas celebration with fireworks!

Workbag Chat Making Gifts at Home With Needlecraft



By Mollie Thimble.
A novel idea as well as a cute one is a pink satin ribbon baby's feeder, showing the face of a clock on which the next feeding time may be marked with a pin.

Scarfs for evening wear made of crepe de chine or chiffon are very popular. These have sparkles of gold or silver. The ends are hemstitched.

Cushions and poufs have become a part of the living-room furniture. A fat and enticing pouf called the "Pomegranate," is seen in the shops. It is of the futurist order, made of striped rainbow silk with a black line and black vertical panels outlined with antique gold braid.

One of the latest coats from Paris for sports wear is made of ermine. This is trimmed at the waist with black embroidery on it. The tam is of fringe of white goat. It has a deep ermine collar, with just a touch of the black embroidery on it. The tan is of soft white ermine.

Would you like to know how to make wool pompons for your tam o' shanter? If so, I will tell you how it is done. Wind your yarn five hundred times around a five-inch piece of cardboard. Tie both ends, slip off cardboard. Wind contrasting colors of yarn around a three-inch piece of cardboard, tie both ends and slip off. Place the last piece of yarn in the first piece of yarn. Tie securely through center. Cut both ends of each colored yarn.

Filet crochet seems ever increasingly popular. Not only do we have doilies for cake plates and bread trays, but designs for sandwich plates and also for the fish plates. One doily which is very striking has a lobster crocheted in it. Medallions of crochet of various designs are being put on sofa cushions for old furniture. Coat hangers or dress hangers for dainty garments are covered with real filet lace over pale blue or pink satin. And they are really exquisite. You will need one wire coat hanger, 3 yards of narrow 1-8 yard silk, a little cotton batting and sachet, some crochet-cotton (number fifty would be the best), and a steel crochet hook and one spool

colored crochet silk. Crochet bedroom slippers or rather mules. These slippers are pink crocheted with blue ruffles.

A back powder-puff is a delightful gift for the woman who has no maid, mother or sister to dance attendance when she is dressing for dinner. Think for a moment of your own struggles with a small, inadequate puff, and you will realize what a clever invention this is. You will need one small slipper sole (10 inches long), one long white No. 5 knitting needle, one-quarter of a yard of flowered ribbon, three inches wide; one yard of baby ribbon in plain color. Outline the slipper sole on a piece of cardboard; cut the cardboard out on the outline, cover smoothly with flowered ribbon. Cut a piece of baby ribbon long enough to extend all around edge of slipper sole; gather both ends of this ribbon and draw it tight around the edge of slipper sole, drawing both gatherings tight to hold it in place. Overcast pointed end of knitting needle to the back of slipper sole, sewing it on securely. Now overcast ribbon-covered cardboard to slipper sole. Cover joining with a narrow cord or with close overcasting of heavy rope silk. Tie a bow of ribbon on handle.

This is the time when we want to hear about as many hurry-up gifts as possible. There is no doubt about it that if one has the time, it is a great saving to make gifts, and, besides, they have that intimate, thoughtful little touch which so many people appreciate. So often one hears, "Who appreciates hand-work? Who realizes the time it takes?" I'll tell you, the person who can do it but never has time to make something for herself—try giving her something you've made with your own hands.

A rather new and practical idea is to initial washcloths. The housewife will find this a particularly excellent idea when there are several in the family, for the initialing will keep them separate. The cloths are very inexpensive, so that it is a simple matter to get from three to a dozen washcloths for each person and initial them respectively, just as one would buy a half-dozen handkerchiefs for a person. It would take very little time, indeed, to mark some of these cloths very prettily with colored threads, and at least one or two of them would aid wonderfully in filling up the Christmas stocking. Be sure to get the best fadeless thread for the embroidery, because washcloths must receive rather strenuous laundering.

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SCENES IN LITTLE BETH-LEHEM.

(Continued from Page 2.)

gether to worship at the place of real Christmas. The manger, being small, holds only a few people at a time, so that a priest has to stand in the place to see to it that the manger does not get over-crowded. The time limit is five minutes. Great is the variety of people who come to worship at this humble manger with their heads uncovered, standing in silent prayer.

The place to reproduce a real Christmas feeling is the Angels' Field. The place lies at the border of the Judean desert that stretches out to the Jordan and the Dead Sea. The place is quiet, and nothing disturbs the silence of the night except the repeated howls of some jackal or the barking of a dog in the nearby village of Beit-Sahoor. When the Oriental sky is clear the stars shine down brightly on the observer. They seem to be greatly magnified over the Northern stars and seem to be so near that a person thinks he can reach and pick them as he can apples from a tree. Everything tends to add to the silence and solemnity of the place.

The Christmas tree is missing in the Eastern churches and the Eastern homes as a whole. The only places in Bethlehem where Christmas trees can be found are the churches of the western denominations and the homes of the western people. But the tree is growing in popularity throughout Palestine in the homes of those natives who have adopted the western habits and customs. There are also many real Oriental homes which have opened the door to this symbolic tree of the West, with all its varied decorations that appeal so to the Oriental taste.

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Boys and Girls Christmas Stories

WHEN ELLEN COOKED THE TURKEY.

"I'll tell you what!" said Grandfather Weston, shaking his head emphatically, "girls in this generation are not as smart as they were when I was a boy. All they want to do is run about to dances and parties, and not one in a hundred or so could cook a dinner if her life depended upon it."

"Now, grandfather, you know that isn't so!" exclaimed all his granddaughters in one breath, "we all know how to cook, and we do lots of things besides go to parties and dances."

"Yes, of course, you know how to



"When Ellen Took the Big Turkey From the Oven George Was Right on Hand to Help Her."

cook, as you say; that is, you can fry an egg, or make toast, or get up some refreshments for a party; but what I mean is you don't know how to get up a dinner from beginning to end, and get it on the table on time."

That night in bed Ellen Weston thought over what her grandfather had said about girls not being able to cook a dinner, and she made up her mind that she was going to show her grandfather that he knew one girl at least who knew how to do it.

The next day she started to work. Of course, as her grandfather had said, she knew how to cook certain things, but she could not cook everything; and, as far as getting a whole meal was concerned, she did not know how to go about it at all.

That afternoon she went out in the kitchen an hour before her usual time and started to help her mother. They did their own work in that house, for with three girls and a boy there were plenty of hands to help with everything. But it was on her mother's shoulders that the burden of cooking well always fell. So instead of getting there in time to set the table and cut the bread and butter, she was there in time to help prepare the vegetables.

Her mother was a little surprised, but too pleased to have her help to comment on it. That night Ellen simply helped.

The next afternoon she was there again, and this time she asked if she could make the dessert. And so it went from day to day. At last there came a time when she was the one who got the dinners while her mother stayed in the kitchen to help and direct.

Then came the week of yuletide and she and her mother were planning the big dinner to which both her grandparents were invited, as well as an aunt and uncle and two cousins.

"Let me cook the Christmas dinner this year, mother," Ellen said imploringly. "I am sure I can do it. Only I don't want any one to know I am going to do it, and least of all grandfather. He said one day that girls of this generation don't know how to cook, and I would like to prove to him that one girl at least can do so."

"But a dinner for so many people is very hard to serve, Ellen," replied her mother, doubtfully. "Are you sure you could manage it? As far as I am concerned, I would be delighted to have you try, but I know how badly you would feel if it did not turn out well."

"I'm sure I can," said Ellen, confidently, "and I am crazy to try. But, mother, don't tell grandfather, whatever you do. Do you think we can manage so that he does not know a thing about it? It would spoil everything if he found it out beforehand."

Every one in the family was told about Ellen's plan and promised to help carry it out. When the guests arrived and found Mrs. Weston with plenty of leisure to entertain she explained casually that she had decided to get some one to cook the dinner this year, as she never had time before to enjoy her guests. "And when some one inquired for Ellen she said she was some place about the house," and would turn up in time for dinner, she was sure.

Ellen's brother George was the only one she had asked to help her. The girls were not a bit interested in cooking, and always stayed as far away from the kitchen as they could get. But George was always ready to take a hand wherever it was needed, and he and Ellen were good chums.

When Ellen took the big turkey from the oven George was right on hand to carry in the dishes and help her with all the last-minute things. When the guests were finally summoned to dinner everything was on the table and Ellen was there, with cheeks a little flushed, it is true, but otherwise not showing in any way that she had been the cook.

Grandfather Weston was quite accustomed to seeing the girls help in the clearing away of a meal, so he did not notice that Ellen was the only one who brought in the different courses. But he seemed to enjoy his dinner very much.

"You must have been fortunate in getting hold of a good cook, Elizabeth," he said to Ellen's mother. "It would be nice if you could keep her all the time."

"Yes, I would like to," replied his daughter with a twinkle in her eyes; "but she's pretty hard to get hold of, and I'm afraid she would be rather expensive to have as a regular thing."

"It's too bad," said her father, sympathetically, "but why don't you teach some of these daughters of yours to cook? But girls nowadays don't want to, I suppose. They'd rather spend their energies on dances and parties," and with that the old gentleman shook his head as he always did when he got on his favorite grievance.

"Grandfather, what would you do if I ever learned to cook a big dinner like this?" inquired his granddaughter Ellen with mischief showing in her brown eyes.

"Do?" asked her grandfather. "First I would probably have a little attack of heart failure from surprise, and after that I would probably give you a good, hearty hug and kiss; and after that—well, let's see what would I do after that! I think I would be tempted to give you Grandmother Peck's silver tea set just to show you how pleased and proud I was."

"Well, grandfather," said Ellen, running around the table and perching herself on his knee, "hurry up with that hug and kiss you were talking about, and as for Grandmother Peck's silver tea set, you may bring that to me the next time you come, for I was the one who cooked this dinner. And don't you ever let me hear you say again that girls in this generation don't know how to cook—" but the rest of the sentence was lost as grandfather gave her the hug and kiss he had just been talking about.

HOW THE PUEBLO INDIANS COMMEMORATE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

The Pueblo Indians of New Mexico and Arizona, who archaeologists claim were the original cliff dwellers, commemorate the birth of Christ by camp fires several weeks before Christmas. The Indian boys and girls and their parents choose yellow, pitchy sticks from the firewood and lay them aside for "Coseefa," the tribal name for the Christmas campfire.

On December 17, or eight nights before Christmas eve, some of the chosen sticks are split into neat, square-looking little pieces about a foot long and two inches wide. These are piled, log-cabin fashion, in the dooryard and a tiny torch fire started not far off. From the little torch fire a flaming torch is carried



"For Nine Nights These Tiny Campfires Are Lighted."

to each pile, of which there may be as many as four or five, and placed exactly in the center. As the flame leaps from one stick to another the smoke curls from the center of the pile of wood just as it would from a chimney.

The little Indian boys and girls sit about quietly, the fire-light reflected in their sparkling black eyes, their parents keeping a close watch over the fires.

By and by, when the piles of sticks are but beds of glowing coals, the papooses are taken from the backs of their mothers, sound asleep, and with the older children are hustled off to bed, while father puts out the fires.

For nine nights these tiny campfires are lighted. As Christ in his descent from the celestial to the earthly regions was as an earthly child in His formation, so the nine campfires symbolically represent each month before his birth.

On Christmas eve the aged Governor of the Pueblo stands in the plaza dreamily watching the fires and the flickering shadows they cast. Over his large silver ear-rings hang braids of hair once glossy black, but now nearly white.

It has been nearly sixty years since he came to the Pueblo, a small boy, with his father. They found the Christmas campfire an old custom, even then, among the Indians.

CHRISTMAS AMONG ESQUIMOS.

A missionary who has spent many years in Baffin's Land, in the Arctic zone, tells us that the most peculiar Christmas service he has ever seen was held in an ice church far away among the Esquimos in the frozen wastes of the far North. Wood is scarce and it is only by substituting ice for timber that buildings are at all possible. However, once erected and made snug and cozy inside, an ice church is not at all so cold and forbidding as would appear.

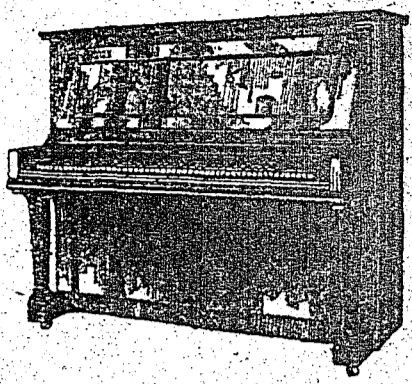
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MYSTERIOUS MISTLETOE

The mistletoe season draws near. Many boughs or pendants of this mysterious and beautiful plant will be torn from oaks and other trees and suspended from chandeliers and doors.

Many myths are associated with the mistletoe. The Druids of Britain looked upon it as a holy thing. To them the oak tree had a strong religious significance and seeing the curious plant growing out of the oak they conceived that it was the spirit or the soul of that tree. In this way it is believed that the Druids came to regard the mistletoe as the symbol of life and they therefore treated it with manifest reverence and gave it a prominent place in their religious rites. It is also believed that the Druids held the mistletoe as sacred to Fraya, the goddess of love, and that this is how it came to be associated with love-making and kissing.

The old herbalists, the forerunners of the physician, regarded the mistletoe as a thing having remarkable therapeutic properties. It was held to be good for epilepsy and for various conclusive "distempers." Many of our British and our Irish ancestors believed that the mistletoe was a charm against disease.

The mistletoe is a plant parasite, and yet not altogether a parasite. Though it would rather live off of the tree, it has the means of self-support. It fastens itself upon its host, the tree, penetrates its tissue and draws nourishment from it, often deforming it and sapping its vitality. Yet the mistletoe is a green leafy plant; that is, it possesses the green pigment, chlorophyll, which gives the green color to normal vegetation. The presence of green leaves indicates that the mistletoe has the power, which independent

green plants everywhere possess, of constructing organic foodstuffs, such as starch, out of inorganic compounds, carbon dioxide and water, utilizing sunlight as the source of energy in the process. It is, therefore, only partly a parasite so far as dependence upon its host for food is concerned, but it is none the less harmful on that account.

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NO CANDLES BRIGHTENED CHRISTMAS TREES OF OLD.

The Christmas tree which is a prevailing custom at this season did not become general until the nineteenth century. It is supposed by most persons to have been derived from Germany, but there is no recorded instance of the use of the Christmas tree there before the seventeenth century. The origin of the Christmas tree is obscure and its symbolism is a matter of conjecture. One authority tells us it probably came a union of two elements: The old Roman custom of decorating with laurel and greens at the Kalends of January, and the popular belief that every Christmas eve apple and other trees blossomed and bore fruit. Others consider it emblematic of Christ, who was often regarded as the "Tree of Paradise."

"The thought of Him," says Clement A. Miles, "as both the Light of the World and the Tree of Life may at least have given a Christmas meaning to the light-bearing tree and helped to establish its popularity among pious people."

Authorities agree that the first record of a Christmas tree comes from Alsace in 1604. An old writer describing Strasburg, says: "At Christmas a fir tree is put into the room, and upon it are hung roses made of colored paper, apples, wafers, tinsel and sweetmeats. Usually a square frame is made around it." From here it was introduced into Germany and in the reign of Queen Victoria the custom spread to England. The Lutherans gave Martin Luther the credit of introducing the Christmas tree in Germany. While he may have helped to make it popular, there is plenty of proof that it was known long before the reformer's time. However, a later authority has now come forward and states that the Christmas tree is from Egypt and that its origin dates from a period much farther back than the Christian era. The palm tree is known to put forth a shoot every month and a spray of this tree with 12 shoots on it was used in Egypt at the time of the winter Solstice as a symbol of the year completed.

The ancient church devoted the day before Christmas to Adam and Eve, and in many parts of the continent it was customary to give dramatic representations of the Creation as well as the Nativity, in which trees or a single tree was decked with ribbons and apples.

The Christmas tree at first was not illuminated. The origin of wax tapers has been traced to the Roman Saturnalia, at which it was the custom to give lighted candles as Christmas presents. The candles were regarded as symbolical of the birth of the sun.

The theme of the Christmas tree has lent itself greatly to both prose and poetry. We all love Henry Van Dyck's beautiful story of "The First Christmas Tree." In Charles Dickens' famous vision of the Christmas tree there is a message that never grows old:

"Now the tree is decorated with bright merriment and song and cheerfulness. And they are welcome. Innocent and welcome be they ever held beneath the branches of the Christmas, which cast no gloomy shadow! I hear a whisper going through the leaves: 'This in commemoration of the law of love and kindness, mercy and compassion. This in remembrance of me.'"

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A Yuletide Feast Preparing the Christmas Dinner



Our modern Christmas dinner, a feast of good cheer and rich viands, is still a worthy descendant of the Merrie Christmas of old England when the lord of the manor opened his hall and feasted his kinsmen, retainers and all the poor of the countryside. Even the memory of the boar's head is stimulating on this particular Christmas when all the world is looking toward peace, goodwill and normalcy. For the boar's head comes down from Druidical times, it was the principal dish at the festival of Frey, the goddess of peace and plenty.

The Yule-log typified that spirit of hospitality which still reigns in every home where Christmas is truly kept. The candle at the window invited and beckoned to the warfarer out in the cold to come within to the festal board. The carols reminded the revelers that the spirit of Christmas came from on high.

The promptings of gleeful spirit of the holiday season make the preparation of a Christmas dinner a joyous task, for every founder of a feast knows that a wonderful Christmas dinner will live in memory full many a year. It is worth while to stir together with spoon and bowl, a dinner, which will be a tradition in the family these many years to come. Neither Santa Claus nor a good cook can be spared at Christmas time. The menu of 1922 dinner provides for roast piglet as well as roast turkey or roast goose.

Lay the table with at least thirty inches between covers. The candles and Christmas greens have a fitting place as table decorations. A Christmas tree or an enchanted basket which yields favors for the guests is a favorite center piece. Holly, mistletoe and great bows of red ribbon add the holiday touch under the hand of a clever hostess.

It goes without saying that the soup should be a light one, but American cookery gives a recipe for a jolly red soup:

A CHRISTMAS SOUP.

Boil 2 to 4 good sized beets, after removing the skin, with 2 onions. Sift when soft, and add to 3 pints of white stock, previously thickened with 2 tablespoons of arrowroot, rubbed smooth into ¼ cup of melted butter. The arrowroot makes a transparent thickening, preserving the red color of the beets. Garnish with slices of hard-cooked egg, or strips of green lettuce, or both.

NUT BREAD.

One cup graham flour, 1 cup white flour, ½ cup sugar, 2 teaspoons baking powder, ½ teaspoon salt. Put an egg, unbeaten, into a cup, and fill cup up with sweet milk. Add ½ cup of pecan meats. Mix lightly, put into a greased pan and let stand twenty minutes. Bake in a moderate oven about forty minutes.

HOLIDAY CRULLERS.

Cream 2 tablespoons melted butter with 1 cup granulated sugar. Add 3 well beaten eggs, 1 cup sweet milk and 3 teaspoons baking powder in enough flour to roll out as soft as possible. Fry in very hot lard and roll in granulated, not powdered, sugar.

FROZEN APRICOT SHERBET.

Put 3 cups of canned apricots through a strainer. To the fruit syrup add 2 tablespoons of lemon juice, a few grains of salt, ½ cup of sugar, ¼ cup of orange juice, the apricot puree and ¼ pint of chilled double cream, whip solid with 2 tablespoons of powdered sugar. Freeze slowly, using 3 parts ice to 1 of rock salt.

GRAPE AND PEAR SALAD.

Cut canned pears in halves. Mix together 6 tablespoons of chopped preserved ginger and 12 tablespoons of seeded, quartered Malaga grapes with a little mayonnaise dressing and fill the core cavities of the pears. Arrange the halved pears in nests of the celery straws, resting on crisp lettuce leaves, sprinkle with 6 tablespoons of chopped pistachio nuts and pour over a dressing made from 8 tablespoons of salad oil, 4 tablespoons of lemon juice, a few grains of salt and 2 tablespoons of powdered sugar. Serve very cold.

POPCORN PUDDING.

Scald 3 cups of rich milk and pour over 2 cups of freshly popped corn which has been finely pounded. Stand 1 hour. Add 3 eggs, slightly beaten, ½ cup maple sugar, 1 tablespoon butter and a scant teaspoon salt. Turn into a buttered baking dish and bake in a slow oven until firm. Serve with thin cream.

CELERY AND APPLE SAUCE.

Mix equal quantities of finely cut or diced apple and celery and moisten with mayonnaise dressing. Scoop out the inside pulp of choice red apples, taking great care not to break the skins. Refill the apple shells with the apple and celery mixture and garnish with crisp celery tips and curls.

SUET PUDDING.

Stir 1 cup of cornmeal into 4 cups of scalded milk. Add 1 cup of finely chopped suet, 1 cup of molasses, 1 teaspoon salt, ½ teaspoon ginger, ½ teaspoon cinnamon and a dash of any other desired spices. Add 1 well-beaten egg and turn into a buttered baking dish. Pour 2 cups of rich milk and 1 cup of cold water over the pudding and bake slowly for 3 hours without stirring. Serve with thin cream and sugar.

FLAKY PIE CRUST.

Mix 1 cup of flour, ¼ teaspoon baking powder and ½ teaspoon salt. Work in 3 level teaspoons lard and then lightly mix with 3 tablespoons ice water. It may be possible to make the dough hold together without the addition of any more water. Use just as little water as possible so that the pastry will be flaky and tender. Chill before trying to roll out.

BAKED OYSTERS DE LUXE.

Scald 1 quart of oysters in the accompanying juice until the edges curl; drain and add to the liquid enough strained soup stock to make 1 ½ cups. Cook 2 tablespoons of butter with 2 tablespoons of minced canned pimento for five minutes. Blend in 4 tablespoons of flour and add gradually, while stirring constantly, the oyster liquid. Bring to the boiling point, season to taste with salt and celery salt and a few grains of mace. Arrange the oysters in individual baking dishes, pour over the sauce and sprinkle with grated cheese. Bake until the cheese is slightly browned in a moderate oven.

Every home has its own Christmas dishes, but everywhere the plum pudding is in favor. Here is a tested recipe:

PLUM PUDDING.

One cup milk, 1 cup bread crumbs, 1 cup sugar (scant measure), 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1 teaspoon nutmeg, yolks of 4 eggs, 1-2 teaspoon each mace and cloves, 2 ounces finely chopped citron, ¼ cup almonds, ½ pound suet, whites of 4 eggs, ¼ cup fruit juices. Pour the scalded milk over the stale crumbs, when cool add the sugar creamed with the yolks of eggs, then the chopped suet, salt, fruit and nuts, and last of all the spices and the beaten whites of the eggs. Steam four hours or one and a half hours in individual molds. Serve with any good hard sauce or whipped cream sprinkled with grated pineapples.

CHRISTMAS CANDIES.

New Orleans is famed for its delightful candy, known as parlines. Many a Mardi Gras visitor has carried away with them a "cotton bale" box of the toothsome dainty. So unusual is the flavor that many have longed to know just how they are made. An old creole woman furnishes a recipe for this coveted and toothsome candy.

CREOLE PRALINES.

Three cups of coffee brown sugar. One cup of cream. One cup of pecans—halved. One large tablespoon of gelatine—non acidulated.

One tablespoon of butter. One tablespoon of vanilla. Mix the sugar, cream and gelatine and allow it to cook until, when dropped in water, it forms a ball that can be picked up in the fingers—not a hard ball. Remove from the fire and add the butter and flavoring. Beat for a few minutes, then pour in the nuts. When the candy begins to beat thick and creamy, drop it into little cakes on a buttered surface with a tablespoon. Waxed paper is preferable.

STRAWBERRY CARAMELS.

One cup of sugar. One cup of corn syrup. One glass of preserved strawberries. One tablespoon of butter. One-half cup of milk. One teaspoon strawberry extract. One-fourth teaspoon cream tartar. Place the sugar, syrup, milk and cream of tartar in a saucepan. After boiling to the soft ball stage, add the preserved strawberries, and boil until the mixture will harden when tested in water. Remove from the fire and add the strawberry extract. Boil up, but do not stir; then pour immediately into buttered pans about a half inch in depth. Mark off into small squares.

FOAM O' THE NIGHT.

Two cups white sugar. Two tablespoons mapleine. One-fourth teaspoon cream tartar. One-half dozen marshmallows. One-half cup water. One-third cup of chopped walnuts. Two egg whites. Boil sugar, mapleine, water and cream of tartar until the mixture will make a firm ball when tested in water. Then add the marshmallows, cut into small pieces. Cover and let stand on the back of the stove for five minutes. Pour over the stiffly beaten whites of the eggs. Beat until light, drop from a spoon onto a buttered or waxed paper and place a half walnut on top of each.

NUT CHIPS.

One cup brown sugar. One-fourth teaspoon cream of tartar. One tablespoon butter. One cup molasses (light colored). One teaspoon vanilla. One cup nut meats. Boil sugar, cream of tartar, butter and molasses until the mixture will harden in water. Add nut meats chopped fine and boil the mixture until it will crack. Remove and flavor with vanilla. Pull into thin strips and cut into small pieces with a pair of sharp, clean scissors. When cold, dip in melted chocolate flavored with a little vanilla.

POPCORN BALLS.

Melt 3 tablespoons butter in a saucepan. Add 2 cups of molasses and 2-3 cup sugar. Stir until all sugar is dissolved. Boil until the mixture becomes brittle when tried in cold water. Pour over 4 quarts of freshly popped corn. Butter the tips of the fingers and shape the mixture into large balls.

FIG SQUARES.

Two cups light brown sugar. One cup chopped figs. One-fourth teaspoon cream of tartar. One-half teaspoon ginger. One tablespoon butter. One teaspoon vanilla. One cup milk. One-half cup chopped nut meats. Boil sugar, figs, cream of tartar, ginger, butter and milk together until mixture reaches the soft ball stage. Stir often enough to keep the mixture from sticking. Remove from the fire, add the vanilla and nuts and beat until creamy. Pour into buttered pans and cut in squares. These recipes all have been tried and successfully used, although not so well known as the old standbys of fudge, divinity and taffy.

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