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Kitchen-Klatter

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MAGAZINE

SHENANDOAH, IOWA

Price 10 cents



• Vol. 14

DECEMBER, 1949

Number 12 •

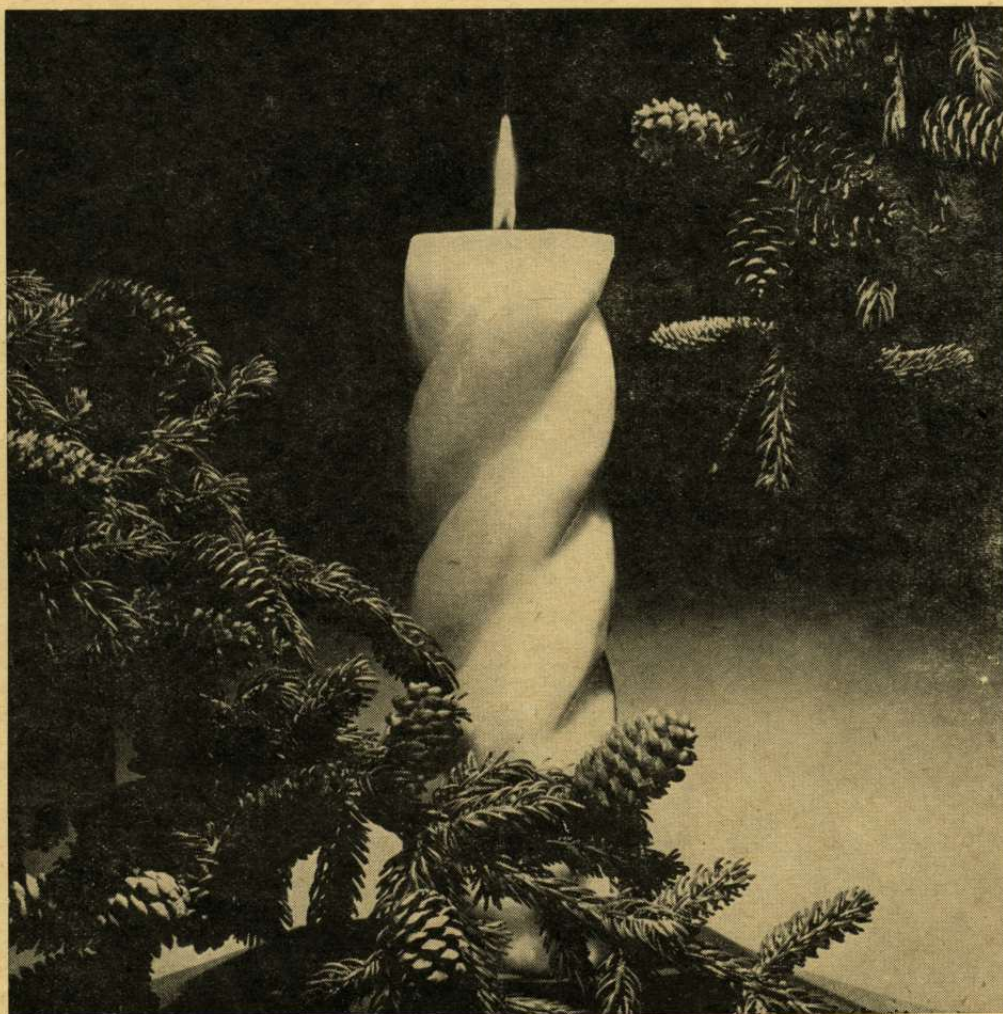


Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts.



LETTER FROM LEANNA

KITCHEN-KLATTER MAGAZINE

"More Than Just Paper And Ink"

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Subscription Price \$1.00 per year (12 issues) in the U. S. A.

Foreign Countries \$1.50 per year.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Entered as second class matter May 21, 1937 at the Post Office at Shenandoah, Ia., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Published Monthly by

DRIFTMIER PUBLISHING COMPANY

Shenandoah, Iowa

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Dear Friends:

When it comes time to write this letter every month I always have so many things I want to say that it is hard to know where to start. Tonight, for instance, I realize that I can never cover everything that's been running through my mind—and I won't get caught up in my January letter for there will be a fresh accumulation.

But the first thing I want to do tonight is to thank all of you who took time to send beautiful cards and letters of sympathy when my brother Henry passed away. I appreciated so much too that many of you sent clippings from your local papers because this gave me an opportunity to save one copy for myself and then pass on the others to members of the family who would have had no chance to see them otherwise. It was thoughtful of you, and I am grateful.

For a number of years we Field sisters and our two brothers felt that we were rarely privileged to have our circle unbroken—I don't believe that many families of seven children are blessed in such a fashion. Yet even though one realizes this, it doesn't make the first parting any easier to bear.

Henry put up a remarkably gallant fight to live. We sisters knew that he wasn't well, but it wasn't until a Sunday morning in August that we found a letter from him in our post-office boxes in which he told us that he had cancer and was leaving soon for the Clinic in Rochester to try a new type of treatment. He'd been there earlier in the summer and when he returned he merely said that he had a "bench parole" and didn't hint what he really felt . . . that the time couldn't be long. Until he visibly failed he never suggested in anyway that he was suffering from an incurable disease; he carried this burden alone.

In July all of his children came to see him with the exception of Philip (who lives in Hawaii), John Henry, (Denver, Colo.) and Ruth (Appleton, Wisc.). Philip was at such a distance that he couldn't make the trip, John Henry was helping his wife through the hard period when her father was reaching the end of the road from the same disease that took Henry, and Ruth could not leave her family of four children. She did get

to see her father during the summer, however, for he went to her home on one of the trips to Rochester. At no time during the family reunion did anyone suggest that it might be the last visit, and yet his children knew, of course, that their father was failing rapidly.

Henry always felt that he had a job to do and that he'd do it to the very end. And this he accomplished. He never really gave up. Only ten days or so before his death he wrote to all of us and said that he would win the fight. In spite of all medical evidence to the contrary we really believed that he might. However, this was not to be, and he slipped away quietly and peacefully at 12:40 on the morning of October 17th.

Philip, John Henry and Ruth all reached the old family home while their father could recognize them and get comfort from their presence.

Services were held in his memory at 2:30 on Thursday afternoon, October 20th. We had all hoped that our radiant Indian summer would continue until that day was over, but only a few minutes before we were to leave for the church a heavy rain began with sharp lightning. It let up just before we entered the church, however, but of course the threatening day kept many people away who had planned to pay their last respects.

As I sat there looking at the thousands of beautiful flowers I kept thinking how much Henry would have enjoyed them. He loved red roses, and I'm sure that no red roses ever bloomed more beautiful than the blanket of six-hundred that covered his casket. It was an unforgettable sight. The service was simple and sincere, the kind that Henry would have understood and appreciated. He never could stand pomp and show of any kind, and there was none at his funeral—it was just a plain, quiet leave-taking.

All of Henry's children, with the exception of Faith, sat in the front rows of the section reserved for the family, and it was more than I could stand without breaking down when Faith entered just as the Methodist church was being emptied after the services. She had driven through from California with her son Lee and did not take time to stop for meals or to sleep. It was a sorrow

to us that she could not have arrived only an hour sooner, but as it was her presence gave comfort to the brothers and sisters who grew up thinking of her almost as their second mother. Faith is next to Frank in age and certainly helped mother the younger members of the family.

Bertha was greatly touched by the countless telegrams, letters and cards. She never left Henry's side through his illness, never failed to give him comfort and courage. He asked only for peace, quiet and rest during his last days, and these she provided for him.

I suppose that the real memorial to Henry's life lies in the minds of countless people who came to depend upon him as a good, honest friend who could provide the answer to almost any question that concerned growing things. He had our father's love of the soil and lived his life by the knowledge that the good earth never lets a man down. My parents would have been gratified had they been able to live into the twenties to see what he accomplished.

Only a few days after Henry's death we were saddened to receive word that Dorothy's husband's mother, Mrs. Frank Johnson of Lucas, Iowa had passed away at the family home. She hadn't been well for more than two years following severe surgery, and was in poor condition to stand the shock of a car accident. Dorothy lost a wonderful friend when her husband's mother died. She was unfailingly patient and kind in showing a girl who had always lived in town, how things were managed and handled on the farm. You will notice that for the first time in several years there isn't a letter from Dorothy in this issue. She felt too saddened and upset to write anything and I assured her that everyone would understand. We will all miss Mother Johnson a great deal for she extended to everyone who entered her home a sincerely warm and loving greeting.

Martin is entirely over his siege of illness and talks a leg off of us from morning until night. He comments on every single thing every waking moment. The other evening when we finished supper he said, "Where's the dessert?" We explained that there wasn't any, and his comment on this was: "Well, that's mighty funny."

Donald has made some friends in Anderson, Indiana and isn't quite so lonely as he first was when he went there. He is still living at the YMCA and enjoys it.

Little Emily had her first birthday dinner at our house and took a great liking to her gift from Grandpa and Grandma—a brown plush horse with red reins and saddle. She can ride him nicely and Martin loves to pull her, but that certainly can't be done without close supervision.

It's time to say goodbye now, so do let me wish you the happiest Christmas ever from all of the Driftmiers. We're proud to be able to claim you as friends.

—Leanna.

Come into the Garden

CULTURE OF AFRICAN VIOLETS

By Olga Rolf Tiemann

African Violets are extremely popular because of their exquisite blossoms and beautiful foliage. They grow compactly and usually remain trim and neat. They should bloom freely and profusely. The people for whom they refuse to bloom become quite disappointed and often vexed when they wait patiently (or impatiently!) for months and still look in vain for the first buds and blossoms.

Perhaps the amount of light and the temperature of the water used in watering have more to do with plants blooming or not blooming than we realize. They cannot endure a great deal of direct sunlight but do want the maximum amount of strong light possible. I have found that even an east window with full sunlight is too much for them, but a little sunshine is good; or if they get filtered sunshine, and then all the direct light possible.

It does not seem to be too important whether one waters from the top or from the bottom just as long as one uses warm water, not only in the winter but also in the summer. Eighty to eighty-five degrees is not too warm. If one waters from the bottom (that is sets the pot or plant container in a pan or saucer of water) the water may be hot during the winter months when containers and soil are apt to be cold. African Violets must not be overwatered nor must they lack for moisture. The amount of water needed depends on surrounding conditions and the kind of container used. If the air is hot and dry, more frequent watering is required than if it is cold and there is more humidity in the air. Less water is required during cold, cloudy weather. Plants in clay pots dry out more quickly than in painted pots or tin cans. Test the soil by touching the surface with a finger—if it feels dry, then the plant should be watered. Extra humidity can be provided by setting the pots in trays on a layer of damp sand.

If one is starting new little plants, they seem to develop buds sooner if one first places them in 2-inch pots or small containers of similar size. It will not be necessary to shift them to larger containers for quite a while.

"Buggy" plants can not do their best nor is it pleasant to have such plants in one's windows. If the unwelcome guests are great in number it may be the better plan to burn the plant and start with a clean new one. The pests will not only keep the African Violet from doing its best but may also spread to other plants nearby. Perhaps a clean leaf or two can be found and rooted to start new plants. A bath now and then is beneficial and helps to keep the plant clean—use water of room temperature and do not place the plant in the sun until the foliage is dry. Remove any stems that become transparent and are jelly-like.

If a good potting soil is used, one does not need to give too much thought to extra fertilizer, but if feeding does seem necessary follow the directions on the fertilizer package carefully. "If a little is good, more is better" does not apply to fertilizer when using it on African Violets.

PINE CONES AT CHRISTMAS

By Mary Duncomb

All summer long we walk under our pines scarcely giving any notice whatever to the numerous cones which lie thickly scattered under our feet. One day something makes us think of Christmas and we gather the cones under a sunny sky for use on some other later day, for Christmas and evergreen wreaths laden with cones will inevitably be linked together as surely as the beloved season rolls around.

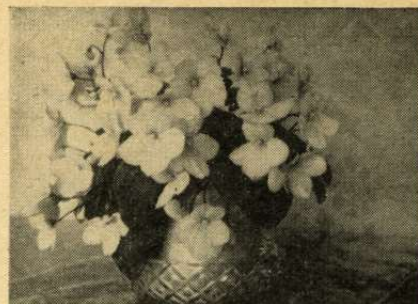
We have some beautiful specimens of evergreens growing on our own little farm due to the foresight of a tree-loving father who planted them when we were children. In December when all other trees and shrubs have lost their green leaves, these pines and spruces mean a great deal to us and we love to decorate our home with a living memento of a father's love and thoughtfulness.

Making the wreaths can be a family job for everyone likes to help. The boys will be glad to gather together some fine wire and tools such as pincers, pruning shears, a hammer, and also string. They can cut such evergreens as are needed, and they can also cut willow branches for they bend easily and may be used as the foundation of the wreath. Pine branches may be wedged tightly into this twig and wire base, and the cones may be wired together in clusters and arranged where they look best. Cones are easily silvered by being dipped in a paint and water solution, and these look extra handsome when the wreath has a bright red bow added to it.

Holly is lovely but unfortunately it is expensive for it must be shipped in. Most of us will need to look elsewhere for bright berries, and fortunately some of our native shrubs fill this need. Gourds also have definite decorative value when combined with evergreens, and one year when we couldn't get out to locate red berries of any kind I colored popcorn red by coating it with a brilliant red sugar syrup and then strung it on fine wire for use in a wreath.

Not only will your family enjoy making wreaths, but by the use of much fine wire and some of the greenery left over from the wreaths, long strands of decorative material may be made to put over windows, doorways and fireplace mantels. Cones can be worked into these strands at intervals.

The family Christmas tree is a must-have, of course, but this year try making tiny individual ones by



One of Olga Rolf Tiemann's beautiful African violets in full bloom.

inserting spruce tips in an empty spool that has been painted bright red. These can have various decorations placed on them, and they give the holiday season an extra thrill when used in front of each place at the table.

Did you ever receive as a gift a fresh bouquet of evergreen material, not hardy here, packed and shipped exactly as cut flowers are and cared for in the same way after being received? One such was ordered for me by a loving friend last year, and it is hard to explain the especial thrill that it brought. I decided, in turn, that a box of evergreens native to our section would make a special gift to someone who has moved far away, and you too might like this idea of a present for a homesick friend.

THOUGHTS OF HEAVEN

Life changes all our thoughts of Heaven;

At first we think of streets of gold,
Of shining wings and robes of white,
And things all strange to mortal sight,
But in the afterwards of years
It is a more familiar place;
A home unhurt by sighs or tears,
Where waiteth many a well known face.

With passing years it comes more near,

It grows more real day by day,
Not strange and cold, but very dear
The glad homeland not far away,
Where none are sick or poor or lone,
The place where we shall find our own.

—Robert Browning.

"HENRY"

He has left his earthly home
To dwell above with Thee,
Please make his life in Paradise
As homey as can be.
Hand him not a golden harp,
Nor lovely raiment fair,
But give to him a little space
To plant a garden there.

He will sow some seeds of kindness,
Watch them grow and bloom above,

Watered by tears for loved ones,
Tended by hands of love.
And when the ones left behind him
Enter that great Garden fair,
He will hand each one a flower . . .
"For my Folks" will be welcome there.

—Mrs. Lawrence Krantz.

CHRISTMAS IN THE POSTSCRIPTS

By Mabel Nair Brown

Characters: Laura, the mother; Don, the father and Beth and Tommy their children.

Scene I

Family living room; Time, evening; Father reading daily paper. Children doing homework around table. Mother walks in with cards, pen, etc., and sits at table ready to write.

Father: Laura, whatever are you going to do with all those cards?

Mother: Why these are our Christmas cards, dear. I want to get part of them ready tonight. It's time to be sending them. I like to write a little message on them and that takes longer.

Father: Yes, I suppose you'll sit up half the night doing it, too.

Mother: Well, I enjoy doing it and I thought perhaps you and the children might help. Some of these on our list would be so glad to get a line from you personally. Take Bill Monroe, for instance, remember how lost you felt for awhile after Bill moved away? And Aunt Jennie always loves to have a note from the children, couldn't we all work at it?

Father: Just count me out. You know how I hate to write letters. Besides this card business is a big lot of foolishness and a waste of time and money. Nobody pays any attention to them—only to count up and see if they get more than the Jones' or Cousin Edna perhaps. It's just a racket, that's all.

Mother: Oh, Don, No! You can't really mean that, I think it's a lovely idea. Why, you know I'm so busy I sometimes never get in touch with some of our old friends and relatives except at Christmas.

Father: No, dear, I'm sorry, but I do feel it's all foolishness and I think I'll just go along to bed. These are busy days so I must be up early.

Tommy: Shucks! I think I'll go to bed too, Mom. I don't know anything to write to Aunt Jennie or anybody.

Beth: I have to finish this English and then hunt a "current events" for tomorrow so I can't help.

Mother: (sadly). Well, goodnight, Don. I wish you could see the true spirit of Christmas in all these cards, though. You're missing so much. Goodnight, Tommy, maybe you'll think of something to write by tomorrow.

CURTAIN

Scene II

Same living room a few days later. Mother sewing at the table, father reading paper. Children (wearing coats, hats, etc.) dash in with hands filled with cards.

Tommy: Gee! folks, look at all the mail, see all these cards. Who are they all from do you 'spose?

Beth: (Puts hers in her Mother's lap) Here's more. Can we help open them, Mother?

Mother: My! What a stack of them. I can hardly wait to see who remembered us. Yes, of course you can see them. Put your coats over there on the chair for now and let's sit here around the table and look



Emily walked all over the house by hanging on to things when she was one year old on November 4th.

at them together. Don, don't you want to see them, too.

(Don looks up, frowns, shakes head and turns back to paper. Laura sighs, then smiles at children and they begin to open envelopes, reading cards, showing them to each other etc.)

Mother: Well, do see here. Here is a card from your Aunt Molly. Bless her heart, she must be 90—no its 91 years old and see how well she writes. (She looks at card) She says here on the back that she is quite well and was able to work outside with her flowers some last summer. Just think of that!

Tommy: Say, here's one from Ernest and Mary Wright. Oh, here's a snapshot in it. (All look at snapshot).

Mother: Isn't it a good picture and haven't the children grown? Just look at that husky little Jerry—doesn't look much like the sickly baby he was when they lived here neighbors to us. Here Don, is a picture of Ernest's family. (Don studies snapshot). Remember, Don, the night of the big storm when the roads were blocked and the lines were down and Jerry almost died with the croup? You froze your ears walking the two miles to get to a 'phone to call the doctor and the snow plow!

Father: (Hands picture back and grins). Jerry surely looks well now. Wonder how he makes out in that family of girls?

Beth: Here is what they've written. "Everyone here is in good health. The big news is that we just bought the old Wright homestead back and will expect you all to spend a week there with us next summer."

Father: Isn't that great, Laura? Won't it be fine to go back there where we grew up? You will love it.

Mother: What are you grinning about, Tommy?

Tommy: Well, gee whiz! This card is to me from Billie Hunt. Tells all about the schoolmates Beth and I

knew at Princeton. Jack Betts has a new scooter. Say you got extra cards there, Mom? I'm going to write Bill about my new bike. Think I'll write Jack, too. I'd like to hear from him.

Mother: That's fine. Here are the cards. Choose what you like.

Beth: (Hands Father several cards). Daddy, you'll want to see these. There's one from Aunt Louise and there is one from a Myron Kline. Who is he?

Father: (Excitedly hunting out Myron's card). Myron Kline! Well, what do you know! Why Beth, he was an old beau of your mothers. (He grins and winks at his wife). Seriously, he worked for your Grandfather for years. We all thought the world of him but I lost track of him after he got out of the army and settled in Texas. Well, I'll see what he says.

Mother: Read it aloud, Don.

Father: (Turning card over and looking disappointed). Why he didn't write—just signed Betsy and Myron. Say, he must be married! Wonder why he didn't write us about that at least?

Mother: (With a bit of emphasis and a little smile). Perhaps he thought he was too busy! Nice of him to remember us though.

Father: (With a rueful grin). Well, hand me that pen and a card. Move over, Tommy, so I can sit up to the table. I'm going to write Myron a letter and include it in this card. I'll sure razz him about just signing his name and tell him I want to hear all about what's happened to him these many years. Say, I guess I'll drop Sis a line, too, and tell her his address. She will sure be glad to get in touch with him again. Our whole family thought lots of Myron.

Beth: (Smiling and amused). Hey Dad, are you really going to write Christmas cards? I thought you said the other night . . .

Mother: (Interrupts). Hush, Beth, never mind. Oh Don, I'm so glad you're WRITING those. These little notes and messages we get on the cards at this time of year mean so much.

Father: (Seriously as he picks up pen). Yes, dear they do. I guess I just didn't realize before how much it meant; nor why folks made such a fuss over Christmas cards. But hearing from all these old friends tonight has certainly recalled some happy days and wonderful friendships. Those little personal messages really put the real Christmas cheer in me.

Tommy: They sure did, Dad, hand me another card—that one with the old-fashioned church scene would suit Aunt Jenny, don't you think? I'm going to write and tell her how much I used that camera she sent me, on our trip this summer. Say, I'll stick in some pictures of us at Aunt Margaret's. She'll like that.

Mother: (Smiling happily). Yes, dear, she surely will. Here, Beth, pull your chair over and let's finish this card list—and let's be sure we don't forget the postscripts on any of them. They are the part that counts most!

LETTER FROM LUCILE

Hello, Good Friends:

This letter is being written before Christmas, of course, so it really made a difference a few minutes ago when Juliana got out her album of carols and put them on her own little phonograph. To my way of thinking there's nothing like those beautiful carols to call up the sum and substance of Christmas—they're sheer magic. As a consequence of listening to them I can almost imagine that this is Christmas Eve, that the house has been transformed with decorations, and that "Peace on Earth" really reigns.

The first thing I want to tell you about this month is something that would make a wonderful gift to any child. It is possible to buy a membership in a club that sends truly delightful records to youngsters once a month. These records are designed for two different age groups; you can subscribe to the group that is aimed for the child from two to six years of age, or an older group that runs from seven to twelve. Once a month the mailman brings a record, and after receiving these for over two years I can assure you that never ONCE has there been a disappointment. If you're sufficiently prosperous you can send a check that covers the entire year, but if you're in my boat you can pay for them on a monthly basis. At any rate, it's truly a delightful gift and if you'll write to me (and please enclose a self-addressed postcard) I'll send the correct address at once.

These nights Juliana and I have been working together on scrapbooks that are to go to hospitals for use in the childrens' wards. To my surprise, I've found it a real pleasure to join in this activity, and from all indications we'll have several really handsome books done by the 20th of December. To my way of thinking, you can't start too early to put the emphasis on *giving*, not *getting*, and when an only child is involved it seems doubly imperative because of the fact that loving aunts and uncles and grandparents can remember the child a little more generously than if he were one of five or six youngsters in the same family.

In case you decide to embark on any activity of this kind (and there'll still be ample time after you read this letter) I'd like to make a suggestion. Children of Juliana's age (she's six) are tremendously eager to know what the recipient of their efforts really thinks of the product. I'm sure she has asked me at least a thousand times if the hospital will write and tell her that the book arrived, if the children are looking at it, etc. Now I know that hospital staffs are terribly pressed for time, so I've decided to write a letter myself, enclose it, stamped and addressed, in the letter that I send telling them the book is on its way. All they'll need to do is drop the letter into the mailbox, and then the child who worked to make the book will be satisfied and everyone is made happy.

As I wrote the above paragraph I



This happy baby is my little great-nephew Curtis Otte, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Otte.

realized with a sense of shock that it is the last year I can ever write anything that I don't want Juliana to read so far as Christmas gifts and projected plans are concerned. She is just on the verge of being able to read practically everything, and at night when we have our usual "cozy time" she sometimes surprises me by saying, "Wait a minute, Mother", and then goes ahead to read the next sentence or two. People used to tell me that I'd retard her reading ability because I read to her so much that she'd have no incentive to learn for herself, but it hasn't worked out in this fashion at all.

The first of December our creche will come down from the storeroom and be set up on a table in the living room. We're hoping to find an attractive figure or two to add to our collection, but as yet nothing has presented itself. We did see an advertisement for angel candleholders that we thought would look attractive on the wall above the creche (one on each side) but as yet haven't taken action on this.

Last year Abigail and Wayne did something in their house that we expect to copy in our home. Above their chartreuse silk drapes in the living room is a deep valance covered with matching material, and on this valance they pinned angels and Christmas trees cut from aluminum foil. It was most effective and unusual. We expect to do the same thing on our living room valance that is covered with crimson wool, and then on one wall that is covered with dark blue burlap we expect to have a huge Christmas tree with angels above it. The tree can be made by cutting many different sections for it from aluminum foil and then putting the entire thing together. I don't know why any dark surface wouldn't be good as a background for such a decoration, but of course the burlap gives you the advantage of a surface that can have pins put into it.

Last year we enjoyed our many lovely greeting cards to the utmost by displaying them as follows: we bought long lengths of wide satin rib-

bon (bright red) and attached the cards to the ribbon by applying strips of scotch tape. When the ribbon was covered we tacked the top of it to the moulding on two walls, and then did the same thing in what was then the archway between the two rooms. In January most of that arch came out, but there is still the big beam overhead that will give us a place to tack the ribbons.

One of the things we enjoyed the most last year was our sugar plum tree, and we expect to make another one this year. You can do the same thing, if you're interested, because it's mighty simple for the effect that's achieved.

We found a nice branch from our old soft maple tree (an elm would do just as well, of course) and placed it first in a solution of thick starch. Before this was dry we sprinkled Epsom salts over every tiny twig as well as the main branches, and when the entire thing was thoroughly dry it glistened beautifully. Then we purchased a large quantity of the biggest gumdrops made (assorted colors, of course) and stuck one on every branch and twig. The completed tree was placed in a large white pottery jar and throughout the holidays it stood in the middle of our large round table that has a mirror top. Everyone who came into the house was intrigued by it.

My fruit cakes are all done and stored away neatly until the holidays. Christmas cookies are on my schedule for the third week in December, and this year I want to draft a cardboard pattern for a huge Santa Claus that can be hung from the tree. Please don't ask me to send this pattern, however, for I haven't tackled it yet and may not be able to turn out one that's fit to make cookies or anything else. I'm convinced that no one has as little native ability for drawing or cutting as I have—I actually flunked my school classes in the subject! When you take all of this into consideration you can see what a triumph it's going to be if I turn up with a pattern that will make a genuine Santa Claus and not something that looks more like a buffalo or umbrella stand.

One more thing: if we can decide what table top to use I want to make an arrangement of popcorn snowmen in graduated sizes—they'll have red cinnamon candy features and hold striped candy canes. I want to string them along a path made by stretching out evergreens—small popcorn figures at the end, largest ones grouped together in the middle of the curved path. Then I want to dip ordinary string in red dye and attach to it red cardboard letters that spell "Merry Christmas". This will be strung out from one end to the other so that all popcorn men combine to hold up the greeting. I've never seen anything like it and believe that it could be attractive and different.

To you, to yours, to everyone included in the warm circle of your love and friendship, go genuinely sincere wishes for a blessed Christmas from Lucile, Russell and Juliana.

"PERSONALLY YOURS" GREETINGS

By Mabel Nair Brown

Have you often found yourself searching vainly through your greeting cards for one that would express your sentiments exactly? If you want to send sure-to-please cards that will be treasured in the scrap books of your friends, try making your own. It's heaps of fun, and, inexpensive, too, and the children will get a big thrill out of helping you.

You'll need some correspondence cards or note paper, stars, seals, construction paper, old greeting cards, bits of ribbon; red, green, and white ink, some novelties such as buttons, bits of evergreen tips and of course paste and scissors. These, plus a good imagination, should turn out cards that are really "different"—cards that will be colorful, clever, humorous or conventional just as it suits your taste. Here are a few "starters" to give your imagination a boost.

1. Fold a sheet of white construction paper in half and then in fourths to make a folder. Cut a fat Christmas stocking from red paper or red oilcloth. Paste a fluff of cotton across the top to form a band. Paste sock to front of folder, leaving center open so you can slip some tiny candies (wrapped in cellophane) or colored pictures of Christmas candies into the sock. Across the front in green ink write "Seasons Greetings". On the inside write "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, are the sweet thoughts coming from all of us here."

2. Use a red folder. Stick a Santa Claus face seal in center of front fold. Glue on a bit of cotton for "real" whiskers. Cut the center from a small green paper doily thus forming a wreath to frame the Santa face. Add a tiny red ribbon bow at the top. For a more personal touch use a family snapshot instead of Santa seal in the wreath frame. Here is a verse for the Santa card:

Here's good old Santa Claus
A right, jolly, pert old elf
To bring you the Christmas
greetings

That I wish I could bring myself!

3. For the youngsters on your list; wrap a small stick of candy in red paper (with a twist at one end for propeller) for the body of an airplane. A stick of gum in silver foil will be the wings and two green "life saver" candies will be the wheels. Slip a rubber band around gum and stick candy and through the wheels to hold them on. Tie or sew the plane on a card with a bit of yarn or ribbon. Write this verse with green ink:

This plane brings Seasons Greetings

Direct from me to you
When you get tired of looking
Then you can eat and chew!

4. Create a snow scene on the front of a red folder by using bits of cotton to make snow covered hills and snow banks. Let tiny "trees" of evergreen tips peep over the skyline

and cut out a house roof and chimneys sketched on white paper and place it behind a bank on the hill slope. Let the smoke curling out the chimney spell out the words "Merry Christmas" across the top of the card.

5. A snow man cut from white outing flannel and glued to green paper is very effective. Add a black "stove pipe hat". Draw the features with a crayon—cut small snow flakes from white paper doily and glue around the front of the card in a "scattered" design.

6. A simple but very pretty card is made by tying a sprig of evergreen or holly to a correspondence card with a small bow of ribbon—add greetings and signature in green ink.

7. For modernistic design, use a blue folder. Cut red and silver ribbons in various short lengths. Arrange across top in a straight row with top ends to edge folder. Add star stickers on bottom of each ribbon.

8. Cut a rectangle (8"x11") of muslin. Starch and iron it. Fringe the edge, and stitch around edge of fringe with red thread if desired. Make a folder and draw a holiday design on the front with crayons. Set the color by putting it under an old piece of cloth and pressing with a warm iron.

9. Cut Santa's sleigh from red paper and glue to white folder. Cut colored toys, fruits, etc., from catalogues and magazines and fill sleigh. Add this verse:

My heart is choked as full as this
sleigh
With the wishes and greetings
I'm sending your way
Merry Christmas and Happy New
Year!

CHRISTMAS FUN

By Mildred Dooley Cathcart

The Holiday Season is one of the jolliest times of the year and an ideal time to give a party.

Usually there is very little extra work connected with decorating. The family's own Christmas tree, poinsetta plants, wreaths and holly are sufficient to give the house a festive look.

You will plan your games according to the age of your guests but since whole families often pay a call at this time of the year why not select games that will be appropriate for the entire family?

"What is on the tree?" is a game that will be prepared ahead of time. Draw a large Christmas tree on a piece of cardboard. From magazines or catalogues cut out 25 gifts—things for all the family. Hold the tree up so the guests may view it for a few minutes. Give them pencil and paper and see who can write the most accurate list of gifts on the tree.

For "Fill the Christmas Stocking" game secure a large stocking or make one from heavy material. Fill it with numerous small gifts—a knife, pencil, compact, ring, doll, ball, and so on. Pass the stocking to each guest

and let him feel it for a few seconds. The winner is the one who has the most accurate list of the things used to fill the stocking.

"Christmas Alphabet Gifts" must be prepared before the guests arrive. Find pictures of gifts that begin with each letter of the alphabet—an auto for "A", a ball for "B", a coat for "C", a doll for "D", etc. Give each guest a piece of paper and pencil and have him search about the room for these gifts which you have hidden. The first to find and list all gifts alphabetically is winner.

To make Christmas jig-saw puzzles paste pictures from old greeting cards on heavy paper and then cut each one into jig-saw puzzles. Give each guest a puzzle and see who can put it together first.

Helping "Santa Fill His Pack" is played by teams. Place a paper "pack" on the floor and have each team stand behind a given line and toss a wrapped Christmas package at the pack. Each one who succeeds in putting the package in Santa's pack scores five points for his team. The team with the highest score wins.

And every one, regardless of age, enjoys hearing the Christmas Story and singing carols. Have some one read the story from the Bible and then let all join in and sing their favorite carols.

Refreshments need not be elaborate but you can make them very "Christmasy" with out too much difficulty. Pop corn balls are a favorite with any group. When making them, divide the syrup and tint part of it red and part of it green. Imagine a big bowl filled with red and green pop corn balls and surrounded with bits of holly or evergreen. For the children, wrap a tiny gift in waxed paper and put inside each ball. A big tray of decorated cookies—bells, stars, Santas, trees,—will be so pretty that some one is sure to want to save his. Plain white iced cup cakes take on a festive air if decorated with coconut that has been tinted with red or green coloring. Ice cream carries out the traditional color scheme if it has crushed stick peppermint and bits of hard green mint flavored candy stirred through it. If you wish to serve open-faced sandwiches, use cookie cutters to cut the bread in various designs. For an edible favor make a Christmas candle and holder. The holder is made of red or green gum drops with a mint for the handle. Make a small hole in the top of the gum drop and put in a small stick of striped candy for a candle.

As your party draws to a close, present each guest with an inexpensive gift from your tree. Right now the Ten Cent Stores are full of items for the whole family or, better yet, make little remembrances for each guest.

Remember as you plan your party you may keep your plans simple enough so that you will really enjoy the evening and what fun it will be to say "Merry Christmas" to all your guests once again.

WRAPPINGS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By Ruth Ahlgren

Christmas packages always took a leading part among the holiday traditions in our home. Long before the tree was trimmed or greens hung for decoration, we began wrapping the gifts which must travel a long distance, and followed these with the ones which stayed closer to home. How we did struggle to keep the cost reasonable, and to add touches both beautiful and novel! Perhaps you would like to hear about some of the things we did.

First, every single thing was put into a box which fitted. A plain white box was best because nothing showed through the delicate paper cover. But if only a colored or printed box could be had, we used dark wrapping paper. This paper should be cut long enough to allow a good lap on the under side with the overlapping edge coming just to the edge of the box when possible. To make the corners neat, turn the box on its top, mitre the corners by folding and turn the ends toward the bottom. Be sure the paper is smooth and taut. A poorly applied paper ruins the package before it is half started. Catch the edges with tiny dabs of paste or bits of scotch tape if the paper will not stay in place without help.

Ribbon ties, rosettes and bows add a world of beauty. We are all familiar with narrow ribbons placed around a box and ending in a great fluff of dozens of loops. This can be packaged for mailing by making a collar of firm cardboard and crushing tissue paper into the mailing package to hold the protector in place.

Still easier is the use of much wider ribbon tied into a flat bow with two or four loops and perky ends; it need be no more expensive since far less ribbon is needed. Try also lengths of heavy rug yarn, cotton or wool in bright colors. Two or three together are most effective. Little toy sleigh bells knotted to the ends are a real addition. Tie big packages with Christmas tree roping of tinsel or fluffy white. Use scraps of the same to add a tassel to each cut end.

Quite distinctive are decorations tied into the knot. One of the best is a group of three shiny balls on short lengths of ribbon. Another old faithful and beautiful too, is made by wiring pine cones to a sprig of evergreen. For the children choose a big candy sucker, a candy cane or one of those enormous sticks of peppermint wrapped in cellophane.

Tiny toy animals can sometimes be fastened into a bow or glued close beside it. One of my friends had a good laugh after she was startled by a most realistic mouse about to nibble at her name on a box!

Never throw away the wishbone from a fowl you serve. Dry it, wash away any grease, and paint it white, silver or gold. Tied into the knot of a pretty bow it carries a special significance. It is appropriate for birthdays and wedding anniversaries too. And by the way, when you paint the



Kristin looks like a very old-fashioned little girl in this picture. She spent several days with us in November and we enjoyed her very much.

wishbones try running the brush lightly down some of your pine cones. Gold and silver add a lovely glitter, and white creates the illusion of snow.

Perhaps you would like to get out some of those Christmas cards you have been saving just because they are too exquisite to throw away. Carefully cut out figures of angels, animals, Santa Claus or trees. Paste these on packages just as you would handle seals, or cut little slits with a razor blade to run your ribbon through.

I often use seals that are little sprays of holly. After I have tied a bow near a corner of a gift I draw a circle around a cup nearly touching it. The seals are then placed, just touching, to cover the pencil line and a pretty wreath is the result.

Would red satin candles appeal to you? Cut three to five lengths of ribbon to the desired length. An inch from the end of each give the ribbon a twist and cut to the shape of a flame. Apply paste very lightly and press down on your package with the lower ends in line. Then tie around a single ribbon to form a base on which the candles seem to stand. This is most effective on a long narrow box with the candles grouped closely.

Do you sometimes give magazine subscriptions? I often do, and I like to purchase an extra copy of the magazine I'm giving, wrap it attractively and include a note that a year of presents will follow. When I give Kitchen-Klatter as a gift I tie a gaily ribboned note to the handle of some useful article such as a measuring cup or cooking spoon, and then, in turn, tie this to the magazine.

Will you be giving something made of lace such as a tablecloth, scarf, chair set or doily? Use a plain bright

paper on the box in which the gift is packed, and then cut scallops or points from lace paper doilies and paste these in a neat line around the box. The result is charming.

Probably you will make and give a lot of Christmas cookies. When doing your baking, make several round extra large ones, plain or scalloped. Near the edge cut two little holes with a tiny thimble. Write the names of the recipients in the cookies with icing. Back each with a paper doily just large enough to show a pretty edge around the cookie and tie it to the outside of the box. And here's a cooking hint! If you haven't a large cutter, remove both top and bottom from a flat salmon or pineapple can and there you are.

When cigarettes or smoking accessories are labelled for men of the family, trim the package with a jaunty smoking Santa Claus. Buy one of those Santa seals which sports a white cotton beard. Glue a real cigarette at an angle in his mouth, first sealing the ends with a bit of paste. If the face is small substitute a safety match. Then from a very thin wisp of cotton cut a smoke spiral and paste it in place. This is always good for a laugh.

If you carry a glass of your finest jelly to a shut-in, turn it into a pot of flowers. Set the glass in the middle of a circle or square of green paper. On its lid place three or four dime store flowers with their wire stems coiled to hold them in place. Then gather the edges of the paper and hold at the center with a bow.

Sometimes money seems the wise choice for a gift, but we hesitate simply to send a bill or a check in an envelope . . . it seems so impersonal. To get around this, buy a dime store Jack-in-the-box. To each hand fasten a bill with Scotch tape. Then wrap up Jack beautifully and how amazed and pleased your friend will be.

One device which has been a favorite with me is to wrap an inexpensive gift, then tie into the bow a number of extra ends. Spread these out on top of the package and well down on each glue a coin. Use strong glue for this purpose and they will not come loose. Or if you prefer, the outside of the package may be polka-dotted with coins of various denominations.

One last special touch now. Of course you will have placed your name on the card enclosed, but how do you identify your package for the one who receives it? If you have a snapshot of that person, paste it on the outside as you would a Christmas seal. I've done this many times, and I've also enjoyed pasting colored letters on the ribbon to spell out a person's name. Place your iron over the ribbon after you've pasted on the letters and it guarantees the fact that they'll stay put.

Do not begrudge the extra time and trouble that it takes to make a package beautiful. It's a wonderfully cheerful way of saying, "A Very Merry Christmas From One Who Loves You."



"Recipes Tested

in the

Kitchen - Klatter Kitchen"

By LEANNA DRIFTMIER

SPRITZ COOKIES

- 1 pound butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1 tsp. almond flavoring
- 4 cups sifted flour

Cream butter and add sugar gradually. Mix well-beaten eggs in and add almond flavoring and finally the flour. Force through a cookie press onto ungreased sheet. Chill in refrigerator. Decorate with candied cherries and citron. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 minutes.

COLD WATER CHOCOLATE CAKE

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 1/3 cup cold water
- 2 1/2 cups cake flour sifted
- 1 cup cold water
- 3 egg whites
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 1/3 tsp. soda
- 2 Tbls. hot water

Cream the butter, sugar, salt and vanilla. Blend the cocoa and water and add. Add the sifted flour alternately with the cold water. Fold in the egg whites beaten with the sugar. Lastly, add the soda dissolved in the hot water. Beat the soda in well. (50 times). Bake at 350 degrees, 35 minutes for loaf or 25 min. for layer.

SALT WATER TAFFY

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 Tbls. cornstarch
- 2/3 cup corn syrup
- 1 Tbls. butter
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. flavoring

Mix sugar and cornstarch. Add syrup, butter, water and salt. Boil until it makes a firm ball in water or until 256 degrees F. Pour on oiled platter. When cool, pull. Can be divided and colored and flavored differently. When pulled sufficiently, cut in pieces and wrap in waxed paper.

WHITE FRUIT CAKE

- 1 cup butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 5 egg whites
- 1/2 pound of orange and lemon peel
- 1/2 pound brazil nuts
- 1 pound blanched almonds
- 1/2 pound citron
- 1/2 cup white raisins
- 1 pkg. cocoanut
- 1 cup milk
- 3 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. almond flavoring

Cream the butter and sugar. Sift 3 cups of the flour with the 2 tsp. baking powder and add alternately with the milk and flavoring. Mix the other 1/2 cup of flour with the fruits and nuts and when thoroughly dredged add them to the mixture. Lastly, add the 5 egg whites which have been beaten. Bake in loaf pans lined with waxed paper for 1 hour in a 350 degree oven. Cool on cake rack and store in tightly closed container.

MARSHMALLOWS

- 2 envelopes Knox gelatine
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 2 cups sugar
- 3/4 cup boiling water
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Boil sugar and boiling water together until syrup tests thread stage. Remove from fire. Soften gelatine in cold water. Add to hot syrup and stir until dissolved. Let stand until partially cooled. Add salt and flavoring. Beat until mixture becomes very thick and of marshmallow consistency, fluffy and cold. Pour into pans thickly covered with powdered sugar, having mixture one inch in depth. Let stand in cool place (not refrigerator) until thoroughly chilled. With wet, sharp knife, loosen around edges of pan and turn out on a board lightly covered with powdered sugar. Cut in cubes and roll in powdered sugar. Fruit juices in place of part of the water, or nuts, chocolate or candied fruits, chopped, may be added—or plain ones rolled in grated cocoanut before being sugared. Dates stuffed with this confection are delicious.

PRALINE COOKIES

- 2/3 cup shortening
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1/2 cup molasses
 - 2 eggs
 - 1/2 tsp. vanilla
 - 1 3/4 cups flour
 - 1/2 tsp. baking soda
 - 1/4 tsp. mace
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1 1/2 to 2 cups nut meats (Pecan)
- Slowly melt shortening and cool. Add sugar, and molasses and mix well. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat well. Sift together flour, soda, mace and salt. Add to first mixture. Add nutmeats and mix well. Drop by teaspoon on greased and floured baking sheet about 2 inches apart. Bake in moderate oven 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from pan immediately. Makes 8 dozen.

MOLASSES DATE-NUT BARS

- 1/4 cup shortening
 - 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1 egg
 - 1/2 cup molasses
 - 2 cups sifted flour
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1/4 tsp. baking soda
 - 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
 - 1/2 cup milk
 - 1 cup chopped nuts
 - 1 cup chopped dates
- Cream sugar and shortening. Add egg, beat well. Add molasses. Sift dry ingredients and add alternately with milk. Add nuts and dates. Bake in two 8 x 8 pans greased. Pour in batter and bake at 350 degrees for 25-27 minutes. Cool and spread with powdered sugar icing. Cut in bars.

CINNAMON-APPLE CAKE

Mix 1/2 cup butter, 1 cup light brown sugar and 2 Tbls. cream. Spread in 8 inch square pan. Arrange about 2 cups peeled, sliced apples over this. Then mix the cake batter.

Cake Part

Cream 1/4 cup shortening and 3/4 cup sugar. Beat in 1 egg. Sift together 1 1/2 cups flour, 2 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. cinnamon, 1/2 tsp. salt. Add these dry ingredients alternately with 1/2 cup milk and 1/2 tsp. vanilla flavoring. Pour the batter over the apples and bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes.

PFEFFERNUESSE

- 2 cups corn syrup
- 2 cups molasses
- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 10 cups cake flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. cloves
- 1/4 pound citron, cut fine
- 1/4 pound almonds, cut fine
- 1 lemon, rind and juice

Warm syrup. Add the butter and lemon juice. Add other ingredients, mixing dry ingredients last. Make in tiny balls, and bake about 15 minutes in 350 degree oven.

CRANBERRY STARS

- 1 cup ground raw cranberries
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 pkg. lemon gelatin
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 cup pineapple syrup
- 1 cup crushed pineapple, well drained
- 1/2 cup nuts, chopped
- 1 cup finely chopped celery

Combine cranberries and sugar and let stand while the gelatin, water and pineapple syrup become partially set. Then combine all ingredients. The mixture should be poured onto a large sheet so that the gelatin will be thin enough to cut with a star cookie cutter.

HICKORY NUT DROPS

- 1/3 cup shortening
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups cake flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla flavoring
- 1 cup hickory nuts, chopped

Cream the shortening and sugar. Add the eggs and beat well. Sift the dry ingredients and add alternately with the milk and vanilla flavoring. Add the nut meats. Drop by teaspoon on greased baking sheet and bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. This makes about 60 small drop cookies.

OLIVE RELISH

(Using egg yolks left from Angel Food Cakes)

- 10 egg yolks
- 1 pint vinegar
- 1 pint sugar
- 1 pint water

Salt, paprika, mustard to taste.

If it is more sour than you like salad dressing, dilute with water until right. Melt scant cup of butter in aluminum pan and blend with scant cup of flour as in gravy. Then add the above liquid and stir until thickened. This makes a fine boiled salad dressing. To make the Olive Relish, add the following:

- 25 ripe or green olives, cut from pit
- 12 sweet cucumber pickles
- Small size can pimientos, juice and all

These three items are to be run through the meat grinder, and added to dressing while still boiling. This relish does not need to be sealed if it is to be used within a few weeks. If it seems a little too thick, for some uses, thin with cream.

ELAINE'S MOLDED SALAD

- 2 pkgs. lemon or lime gelatin
- 2 cups canned tomatoes
- 1 cup celery, diced
- 1 cup cucumber, diced
- 1/2 cup green pepper, diced
- 2 Tbls. grated onion
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 Tbls. horseradish

The juice from the tomatoes may be used as part of the liquid for the gelatin. Mix the mayonnaise and sour cream together. Then add the vegetables. When the gelatin is cool, combine the mixtures.

GRANDMOTHER FIELD'S MINCE MEAT

You may use any size bowl for your measurement.

- 3 bowls meat
- 1 bowl molasses
- 1 bowl cider
- 2 bowls raisins
- 5 bowls apples
- 1 bowl vinegar
- 1 bowl suet
- 5 bowls sugar
- 2 Tbls. cinnamon
- 2 Tbls. cloves
- 2 Tbls. nutmeg
- 3 lemons, grate rind and squeeze juice

Mix all but meat and spices and cook down. Then add meat and spice. If desired may be canned while boiling hot.

MINCE MEAT COOKIES

- 1 1/3 cups mince meat
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 3/4 cups flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Cream sugar and shortening. Add eggs and beat well. Add the mince meat and mix well. Add the dry ingredients which have been sifted together. Lastly add the vanilla. Bake at 375 degrees for about 15 minutes.

SWISS CAKES

Beat 6 eggs until very light, then add a pinch of salt, and 2 Tbls. of slightly sour cream. Sift together 1 cup of flour and 1 tsp. baking powder. Add this and then add enough flour to make a rather stiff dough and roll very thin. Cut in squares or fancy shapes, and fry in hot fat. Dust with powdered sugar and serve.

MASHED POTATO DOUGHNUTS
(Do not soak up fat)

- 1 cup mashed potatoes
- 1 Tbls. butter
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup sweet milk
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 3 cups flour

Put butter in warm potato. Add unbeaten eggs, milk and sugar. Beat well. Add sifted flour and baking powder. Fry in hot fat. Dust with powdered sugar when completely cool.

HOW TO DECORATE COOKIES

1. *Gingerbread Boy*: Use white frosting to form hair, tie, belt, hands and shoes. Use raisins for eyes, nose, and buttons. The mouth may be candied orange peel or a wedge of candied cherry.

2. *Christmas Tree*: Cover tree with green frosting and the base and star with white frosting. Add candies as decorations.

3. *Candle*: Frost the flame and candle holder in red.

4. *Santa*: Use white frosting for the hat, beard, pack and the trim on coat and boots. Santa's eyes may be raisins.

5. *Christmas Bell*: Frost the bell red with white clapper.

6. *Clown*: Use white frosting for outlining the frills and large raisins or pieces of dates for the four pom-poms.

7. *Church*: Use red or green frosting for the upstairs and downstairs windows.

8. *Candy Cane*: Use frosting to form alternate red and green lines.

9. *Star*: Use frostings of assorted colors or simply sprinkle with powdered or granulated sugar while still warm.

Other Decorative Suggestions

1. *Cookie Wreath*: Cut out cookie using doughnut cutter and decorate with green and red icing to represent a Christmas wreath.

2. *Cookie Place Cards*: Cut cookies in rectangular shapes. With white or colored frosting write the various names of the guests on the surface and outline edges.

3. *Cookie Chain*: Use doughnut cutter for cutting cookie dough. When baked join cookies with narrow bands of brightly colored paper to form a chain. These chains may be used as a Christmas tree decoration.

READ THIS CAREFULLY! ATTENTION! KITCHEN-KLATTER READERS!

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THE OLD, OLD STORY

By Mildred Dooley Cathcart

For a Christmas program there is just nothing that will take the place of the true Christmas story — the story of the birth of the Christ Child. In the words of the poet—"Tis old, yet ever new."

The easiest prepared, the most Scriptural, and the most effective presentation of the story is from the words of the Bible itself. As your narrator reads the verses, various persons will act the scenes in pantomime and the chorus will supply the musical background. And best of all, this type of program can be done effectively with a grade school group of children or with an adult class at Sunday School.

If this sounds commonplace, you will find a few tricks and ideas that will enhance the beauty and make the pageant something quite out of the ordinary.

Unusual lighting, for example, will turn the scene into a picture that is dramatically beautiful. If you have foot lights you may alternate red, blue, green, or yellow bulbs. You must experiment with these to see which adds the correct touch to costumes and background used in each scene. If you cannot change bulbs you may use various colored cellophane paper over the lights to give colored effects but you must be careful that the paper is not close enough to the bulbs to ignite.

When the angels appear, arrange an overhead bulb or flash light to shed rays of light from above. And when the Babe is in the manger use a flash light and reflector to give a halo-effect at His head.

One of the most striking things we did was to have a lighted Star of the East that moved slowly and brilliantly across the stage as the song was sung and the Wise Men appeared. We strung an almost invisible wire across the back of the stage and fastened a lighted Christmas tree star to the wire. We had a fine thread attached to the star and a person behind the curtains pulled the star slowly across the "sky" at the proper time. A darkened stage, a Christmas star and the beautiful song "Star of the East" all combined makes a scene that will not be soon forgotten.

Costuming can add greatly to the effects if a little ingenuity is used. We found Mary's costume a most beautiful robe fashioned of an old blue velvet curtain. Joseph and the shepherd may have clothing made of clean burlap or plain blankets. In the shepherd scene use large pieces of cardboard to make sheep. Cover these with fluffy cotton. Four or five sheep and a few lambs look most realistic. The Wise Men can add the striking colors that make a sharp contrast to the somber clothing worn by the humble shepherd folk. We searched the neighborhood for discarded draperies of damask or other suitable materials and for satin robes. Turbans can be made of brilliant harmonizing or contrasting colors and may be held in place with

tinsel. Angel robes, of course, will be easily fashioned of sheets. Make wings of heavy wire and cover with gold or silver paper and halos of tinsel. Use blue flood lights and as the light shines from above these halos and wings will portray the "Glory shone around."

The choir is very important and should be attired to look impressive. If choral robes are not available ask all the girls or ladies to wear dark skirts, white blouses and a black tie. Have the boys or men wear dark suits, white shirts and dark ties. The narrator may be similarly attired.

Nothing can add so much to the whole effect as the music, so do see that each number adds something to the scene. Rather than have the choir sing every selection, you will find it more suitable to have a solo, duet, etc. Instead of singing every song mentioned you might have it played softly on a violin or as a piano solo. All this you will choose to fit the particular talents of the group with which you work.

The Gospel of St. Luke, chapter two, verses one to nineteen, will be most suitable for the first part.

Before the curtain opens have the choir sing "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful."

Narrator—St. Luke 2, verses 1 to 6.
Choir—"Joy to the World."

Narrator—Verse 7.

Curtain opens part way showing Mary, Joseph, and the Babe in the manger. Have small children sing "Away in a Manger" or a soloist sing "Fairest Lord Jesus."

Narrator—Verse 8.

Curtain opens revealing the shepherds at the other end of stage.

Choir—"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night."

Narrator—Verse 9. (Angel appears).

Choir—"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

Narrator—Verses 10 to 14.

The HOST of Angels appear.

Choir—"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing."

Narrator—Verses 15 and 16.

Shepherds move to front of stage and kneel at manger.

Choir—"O Little Town of Bethlehem."

As the choir sings the curtain is pulled, the shepherds move to the background and the stage is made ready for entrance of The Magi.

Choir or soloist—"Star of the East."

Curtains open slowly and the star moves across the sky.

Narrator—(As star is moving)—Read St. Matthew Chapter 2 Verses 1 and 2 and 7 to 9. The Wise Men enter slowly as they watch the star. It halts above the manger.

Choir—"We Three Kings of Orient Are."

Narrator—Verses 10, 11 and 12.

Wise Men kneel and present gifts.

Mary and Joseph are kneeling at the manger as are the Wise Men. The shepherds kneel and the curtain closes very slowly as the choir sings "Silent Night."

Listen to Kitchen-Klatter at 11:00 A. M. every weekday morning.

GOOD NEIGHBORS

By Gertrude Hayzlett

If you would be happy this Christmas, make somebody glad. The joy you give will shine in your heart a thousandfold.

I have chosen shutin people for this month's cheer that are extra needy. Please do what you can for them. Little Geraldine Ann Mason is a lonely six year old. She has been in bed most of the time for nearly three years and for a good deal of that time has been in the Sea Shore Home for Children, Atlantic City, New Jersey. She has very few visitors and gets so discouraged. She can't understand why the other children have folks come to see them and she doesn't. She adores getting mail, especially the kind she has to open. Don't send money, but a letter or book or toy would help a lot.

Beckey Hicks is another six year old who is bedfast as result of polio. There are six children in the family, the oldest a boy of 12, so if you choose to send a plaything to Beckey it would be nice to add something the other children would enjoy, too. The mother has a heart ailment and is never well. Address 117 Opdyke Ave., Mount Vernon, Ill.

A card shower has been asked for Kenneth Bowker, Rt. 1, Richland, Mich. He had two very serious and delicate operations this summer, and is still entirely helpless. He is 25, married and has 2 children. I'm sure your cards would help, tho he is not able to answer.

Mrs. Mary M. Black, 603 E. Leverington Ave., Roxborough, Philadelphia 28, Pa., needs cheer. She was 80 last March. Is bedfast and very lonely since the death of her last sister. She is in an old people's Home. Another who is in a Home and needs cheer is Mrs. Elsie Mae Thompson, County Hospital, Tampa, Florida. She, too, is bedfast and loves to get mail. Mrs. Sallie Vickery is in the Mecklenburg County Home, Rt. 10, Box 242, Charlotte 5, North Carolina. She was a nurse for many years but has been in this Home for 14 years following a stroke and then arthritis.

Send a card to Mary Anne Adams, Sta. 50, University Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn. She is 17, and has been in an iron lung since August. Also a card to Sgt. Robert Livingston, Ward 10 AB, Valley Forge General Hospital, Phoenixville, Pa. He was a Paratrooper during the war and saw service overseas, and was badly hurt in his last jump.

Mrs. Sol Zook, Surrey, North Dakota, is just home from a year in the hospital. She is still bedfast. Mail would help. Mrs. Jennie Peters, 703 Auburn St., Whitman, Mass., has been shutin a long time with a heart ailment. She is bedfast now. Her hobby is African violets. She will have a birthday Jan. 7. Mrs. Mary Caselton, 2119 Skinner St., Stamford, Ontario, Canada, wants letters. She has no use of her left side since she had a bad fall some years ago. Her husband is also ill and unable to work—both are elderly.

HOBBY BUILDING CHRISTMAS GIFTS

By Eileen Derr

Christmas is just around the corner and those of us with children are racking our brains to find something that will fit our pocketbooks and at the same time keep up Santa's reputation. Stores are filled with tempting toys just begging to be bought, and many of them are as tempting to the parent as to the child. Certainly a glance at any toy counter bears witness that the old joke about Father monopolizing Junior's toys isn't without foundation. All fathers seem to be trying out the newest gadgets, as well as the old standbys, right along with the little boys. And most any mother gets as much pleasure from selecting her little girl's doll as she did from playing with one of the same caliber several years ago.

Toys on the market now tend to be pretty well cut and dried. They are to be played with on the spot and leave little to the imagination — dolls complete with wardrobe — bassinets, buggies, doll houses — fully equipped small-scale tractors, wagons, tricycles. Certainly they are toys to be enjoyed but they do not make for encouragement of natural skill or talent.

Taking a cue from some friends of ours, we have been trying to include in our children's Christmas gifts that furnish a source of creative amusement. These same gifts may, if the child continues his interest in them, be a basis for the development of a lifelong hobby and, what is more important, a bond of common interest between parent and child. There are many toys of this kind on the market but they are not as freely displayed at Christmas time as the mechanical toys and therefore are easily overlooked or forgotten. Most of them should be introduced to a child after he has reached school age, but one may make a beginning with an under-school-age child by giving him toys that train his fingers and his eyes and help prepare him for future enjoyment in sit-down play. Color books, crayolas, colored chalk and pencils, bead stringing sets, modeling clay, sewing cards . . . these all come under this classification.

For an older child there are many gifts to select from — bead craft, shell craft, textile painting, pipe cleaner craft, weaving, ceramics, stamp collecting, wood burning sets, spatter craft sets, leather craft, metal craft, airplane model sets, whittling sets — all of which can be started with very little expense. If these sets cannot be secured at local stores they can be ordered through city book stores or any teacher can order them for you through school supply houses.

There are other gifts along this hobby inducement line that the enterprising parent can assemble himself. I remember in particular the Christmas I received a bird book



Martin Erik actually "talks a leg off of everyone" these days. He is definitely his Grandpa's boy now and runs to extend a noisy and cheerful greeting everytime Grandpa comes into the house.

from my parents along with permission to use my father's field glasses. This strange combination encouraged an interest in bird lore that remains with me yet today. Using the field glasses for close observance and the bird book for reference, I spent many hours with nature learning about our native birds.

A roll of film given with permission to use the family camera might start a child on an interesting hobby. A doll pattern with material, embroidery floss, needle, small thimble and scissors makes up a kit likely to become an interesting after-Christmas project for mother and daughter. Father can combine smooth new boards, and a simple bird house pattern with that tool kit designed for small hands. These assembled gifts may be as expensive or economical as one might wish. We had lots of fun one year with a kit made up simply of cake coloring, flour, salt, and alum, labeled and packaged separately. When properly combined and mixed with water we had an enormous batch of modeling clay that kept us happily busy the rest of the winter. (See recipe at end of article).

Of course there are sewing and carpentering sets on the market already assembled. Doll wardrobe sets well marked and simply designed, small toys or bird house cutouts ready to glue and nail. When finished they give a child a thrill of accomplishment minus the disappointment of bungled jobs and split boards. Too often a small seamstress or carpenter is discouraged and upset because his first task was too difficult and things didn't turn out well on the first project. But having once gained visible proof that they can make simple things it will be easier for them to make articles of

their own designing.

Several years ago we gave our children a weave-it loom. They became interested and are still having fun with it. They have woven yarn pillow tops for grandmother, yarn dolls for baby sister, cotton chair tidys for mother. The latest development, an entirely original one, is straw table mats woven on this same little loom to give for Christmas gifts. They are also making Christmas cards, using a spatter paint set received as a gift several birthdays ago.

Most families have lots of fun on Christmas. It's still more fun to stretch a lovely Christmas into day after day family fun throughout the years. Everyone needs a hobby and Christmas is an ideal time to start one.

Recipe for Modeling Clay

1 cup flour
½ cup salt
2 tsp. alum

Combine above and slowly add enough water to soften. Color with vegetable coloring and store in tightly covered jar. If it dries, a little water may be kneaded into it.

A GOOD WAY TO FILE THIS MAGAZINE

"My mother was a subscriber to your magazine years ago when it was first published, and I've continued to take it since her death, so we now have a great quantity of issues on hand. I keep all of this year's copies on a shelf in my kitchen. All the past numbers I have filed by months, such as: all January issues together, and so forth through each month. When a new copy arrives I replace the old one—on August 1st, for instance, I put away July, 1949, with the folder that has in it all of the July numbers. Then I brought out the complete August file. The helps and ideas and recipes are very timely then for this season and I do not have to hunt through the whole stack, and after so long a time that is a lot of magazines to handle. At the end of 1949 I will put each month's magazine in its proper place."—Miss F. M., Iowa.

FOR ONE WHO IS TIRED

Dear child, God does not say today,
"Be strong."
He knows your strength is spent,
He knows how long
The road has been, how weary you
have grown,
For He who walked the earthly roads
alone,
Each boggy lowland and each rugged
hill,
Can understand, and so He says, "Be
still,
And know that I am God." The hour
is late
And you must rest awhile, and you
must wait
Until life's empty reservoirs fill up,
As slow rain fills an empty, upturned
cup.
Hold up your cup, dear child, for God
to fill;
He only asks today that you be still.

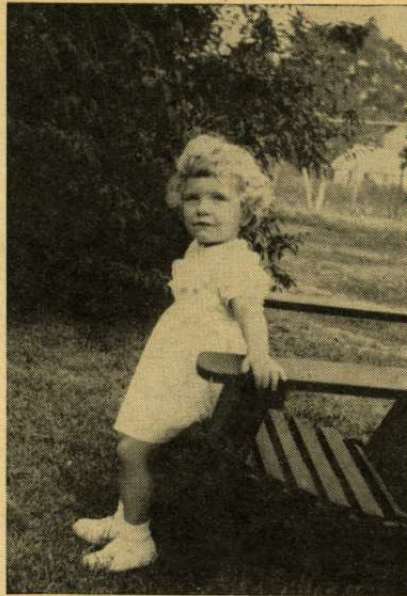
LETTER FROM FREDERICK

Dear Folks:

I am writing this letter to you on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. I have just returned from the school chapel where we had a perfectly wonderful church service. I have come from the chapel mightily inspired and lifted up. I wonder how many of you returned from your various churches, both Catholic and Protestant, with the feeling that no religious service could possibly have been more inspiring? As I sit here at my desk I am thinking of our school service and wondering just why it always is a thrilling one.

First of all, our chapel is always filled to overflowing. It is a small chapel seating just 600 persons, and on Sunday we never have an extra seat. (I don't believe that anything can be quite so drab as an enormous church with just a few persons worshipping in it.) I am quite sure that some of you attended church this Sunday where the congregation was composed largely of old people, and most of them women. Our school congregation is 80% young men. If you were to walk into our chapel for any one of our many services, you would be very impressed by the reverence that our boys show. As a boy enters the chapel he stops all talking and whispering, and he does not speak again, except to take part in the service, until he is completely outside the chapel. When prayers are said, every head is bowed, and when hymns are sung they are wonderful to hear. Just imagine what it is like to hear 515 boys, accompanied by a large pipe organ, singing with all their hearts! If you were to pass by our chapel during a service, you could not help but be lifted up just to hear our boys singing, and you can hear them a block away. I don't know what the music was like in your church today, but if there is anything that you can do to make it better, you ought to do it.

I think that all clergymen will agree that the most critical congregation to address is a congregation of high school age students. For several years now I have been addressing large congregations of students several times a week, and I know very well that it is difficult. I have learned something of what will reach the heart and mind of an adolescent and what will not. I have also learned that if I were to continue working with the adolescent age from now until my death, I would still have much more to learn about it. Some of you reading this letter may have occasion to give a religious talk to a group of young people some day, indeed, some of you may have as many or more occasions to talk to them than I do. I hope that you will not think me presumptuous if I give you a bit of advice. In my limited experience of working with young people I have learned that it doesn't do much good to take the "sweetness and light" approach to religion.



Mary Leanna too is growing up fast these days. Frederick says that she rides all over their section of the campus on her tricycle.

The other day I heard a clergyman telling a group of young people that the Christian religion is purely and simply a matter of love. "Love is wonderful," he said. "You boys and girls just love everything and everybody and you will get along fine. Love, love, love!" Well, personally I think that the students came away thinking that that clergyman didn't know what he was talking about. Students do not like drippy, oozy sermons exuding sugary, honey-sweet sentences about sweetness and light and love.

When you speak to adolescents, I think that you will be more likely to be accepted by them if you take the position that goodness is tough. There is nothing fragile and mollescent about goodness. It is true that at the very heart and center of the Christian religion is love. As Christians we believe that there is no good life apart from a love of God. The Christian religion is a religion of love, but I believe it essential that you get the idea across to young people that it is also a religion of hatred. If the Christian loves God, then he must hate everything that is opposed to God. If the Christian loves goodness, then he must hate everything that is evil. Christianity is not just love of the good; it is also hatred of the bad. It is not just love of the true; it is also hatred of all that even suggests falsehood and deceit. It is not just love of the pure; it is also hatred of all that is low and filthy and obscene. If we want to be good Christians, we must not only seek to be brave; we must also learn to hate all that is cowardly and yellow. To be a Christian means to be a peacemaker; but it also means to be a Soldier of the Cross ready and willing to fight for the right wherever and whenever the occasion arises.

Now that winter weather is finally

upon us and I look back over the weeks that are past, I think that I can truthfully say that I have never seen a more lovely fall in all my life. Of course this was the first fall that I had seen for three years, and that does make a difference, but even so, this fall was far nicer than any I can remember of former years. On several days I loaded my family into the car, gathered up my photographic equipment, and set out to take pictures of the fall foliage. I did get several magnificent shots. One day we discovered an old covered bridge across a mountain stream with bright maples all around. What a wonderful picture that made!

Our little Mary Leanna, who spent the first two years of her life in a tropical climate, is gradually getting used to New England weather. She loves her new winter clothes. The other day Betty bought her a very cute nylon snowsuit and now we are having trouble keeping her out of it. The first thing in the morning and the last thing at night she wants to wear it. Although only twenty-eight months old, she has already learned the woman's way of looking at herself in a mirror before going out of doors. She dearly loves to stand in front of a mirror and look at her new cap and mittens.

We have been married a little more than three years, and in those three years Betty has become quite an accomplished cook. When it comes to preparing a special party dinner, she is really in her element. But woe is me! I no longer have much opportunity to eat my dear wife's cooking. I eat all of my meals in the school dining room and Betty eats all of her dinners there, except on my day off. Each Wednesday is my day off and then we have dinner together in our own breakfast room. It is quite an event for Mary Leanna to have her Daddy at the table. She usually is too excited to eat much herself, but she is quite concerned about my not having enough. "Drink your milk, Daddy." "Eat your meat, Daddy." "Do you want some more, Daddy?" After every other bite she asks me if I am ready for my dessert. She is a funny little girl about not wanting to eat anything that she has not tried before. We really have quite a time getting her even to taste something that we know very well she will like once she has tasted it. She is quite content to continue eating the same food that she has been eating for the past year.

Betty and I are much anticipating a real old New England Christmas this year. We're people who never quite accustomed ourselves to the palm tree type of holiday, so it's nice to look ahead to snow, crackling fires in our fireplaces, and possibly an old-fashioned cutter ride sometime in late December.

To all of you, the three of us send warm greetings for a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely yours,
Frederick.

FROM MY LETTER BASKET

By Leanna Driftmier

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

QUES: "We have three sons, Leanna, all married and in their own homes, but I'm sorry to say that I've always had to combat serious jealousy among them. My husband and I always tried our best to treat them exactly alike, and yet to hear them talk you'd think that we went out of our way to show partiality. They've carried this feeling over to such an extent that I dread Christmas because I know that they, along with their wives, are figuring up the value of each gift. I've thought that it might settle the whole thing once and for all to give them the same amount of money as both Christmas and birthday gifts. Do you think that this is too impersonal, or would it be the wise course of action?"—Iowa.

ANS: Whatever has been wrong in your family is of such long standing that it's unlikely any great improvement can come in the future. Under such circumstances I can only say that money seems to be the one gift that will satisfy everyone.

QUES: "We moved to this neighborhood two years ago and twice now I've gone to the annual Christmas party at the schoolhouse. It seemed to me that people simply went out of a sense of duty and no one had a good time. I'd like to have a real party this year with organized entertainment, attractive refreshments, etc., but hesitate to make any suggestions because we're newcomers in a section where everyone else has lived for years. Under these circumstances do you think I should take any steps towards having a happier Christmas party?"—Mo.

ANS: I certainly do think you should take action on your impulses. There's always a happy spirit behind any successful party and it might just as well be yours if you want an improvement in this situation. Go ahead.

QUES: "The primary teacher in our Sunday School has been faithfully at work there for over twenty-five years and no one has ever really let her know that she's appreciated. Some of the mothers agree with me that it would be nice to chip in and get her a lovely Christmas gift, but others say that if we do this we'll be expected to remember someone else next year, etc. Don't you think that it would be all right for those of us who want to do this to go right ahead in spite of the dissenting group?"—Minn.

ANS: I most certainly do. To me, it shows a mighty poor spirit to take such a begrudging attitude, and anyone as faithful as your primary teacher surely has a lovely gift coming to her.

QUES: "Because of my mother's illness we are planning to have our baby christened in her home at five o'clock on Christmas Eve if you think that this date is all right. A

number of people have expressed the opinion that this is a poor time for such an occasion because of all the hilarity, etc., but I don't feel this way and wonder what you think."—Ill.

ANS: Personally, I can imagine no time more beautifully fitting for the christening of a baby than on Christmas Eve. If your minister is free to perform the ceremony at that time it seems to me a wonderful idea.

QUES: "This past year a number of my husband's brothers and sisters had long and expensive illnesses in their families, and consequently they sent us a letter recently in which they said that they could not send the customary gifts and would much appreciate it if we would also skip over this Christmas so far as they were concerned. They're such generous people that I'd love to send the usual big box and we can well afford to do so, but after their letters I feel doubtful. Please advise me what you would do?"

ANS: If this had happened in our family I believe that I would send a box of Christmas cookies or candy during the holidays, and that in March or April I'd send the gifts that you had planned to send. This way they won't need to feel any embarrassment or chagrin whatsoever, and we all know that gifts at odd times are doubly welcome and exciting.

QUES: "This past summer my sister and her husband lost their only child, an eight year old daughter, by drowning. They've always spent Christmas with us, but last week I had a letter from her saying that this year they preferred being alone. Do you think I should absolutely insist or that I should quietly accept this? It hurts me to think of them alone on Christmas day, but I just don't know what to do."—Mo.

ANS: It is hard to know what to do under such circumstances, but I believe that perhaps this first Christmas I'd quietly accept their decision. It will be hard for them to spend the day alone, but possibly it would be a lot harder for them to see other children happy and excited. Next year you can insist, if you like, but this year I believe I'd accept their decision.

QUES: "This past year our son was divorced after seven years of marriage (no children). We have nothing against his former wife—it was just one of those cases of conflicting personalities. Now our son has moved to New York, and since we always had his former wife in our home for Christmas dinner don't you think it would be all right to invite her? She has an apartment here and is always friendly when we meet."—Kansas.

ANS: Go right ahead and invite her. She can decline, if she chooses.



This past summer when my brother Henry's health began to fail quickly, his daughters came from near and far to visit him. It was the first time this many of them had been together for years. Henry was always a great believer in family pictures (he had thousands of them extending over a period of many years) and one afternoon he lined up the girls against the north wall of the old family home and took their picture; that wall was the background for countless pictures when the girls were so small they had to be bribed to stand still for a minute.

At your left is Faith Field Stone of San Diego, Calif. Next is Hope Field Pawek of Oakland, Calif. Josephine Field Nelson lives in Clinton, Ia. Jessie Field Wasserman has lived in Chicago for many years now. Mary Field Hamilton lives here in Shenandoah. Georgia Field Talbert makes her home in Aurora, Mo. Letty Field Bianco lives in Marseilles, Ill.

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12:45-1:00 P.M. M.W.F.

Queen For A Day

2:00-2:30 P.M. M—F

Pony Express RoundUp

3:00-3:30 P.M. M—F

Memos For Milady

2:30-2:55 P.M. M—F

Bohemian Band

3:45-4:00 P.M. M—F

Kiddie Land Special

4:45-5:00 P.M. M—F



FOR THE CHILDREN

THE CHRISTMAS LAMB

By Myrtle E. Felkner

This is the story of Woolsey, who is a very fat, soft, fluffy lamb. Now Woolsey was an orphan, and on very cold nights when the other lambs snuggled against their mothers to keep warm, Woolsey could only stick his little black nose between his front feet and say "Baaa!"

One night the farmer heard him. "Well, Woolsey," he said, "I will give you to my little daughter for a Christmas present." Then he scooped Woolsey up and carried him to the house.

"Here's a Christmas present for you, Marilyn," he said.

"Oh, Daddy! A lamb, a Christmas lamb!" cried Marilyn happily, and she sounded so nice that Woolsey skipped right into her arms and poked his nose contentedly against her chin.

The next day while Marilyn was in school, Woolsey went to visit the other lambs.

"I'm not an orphan lamb anymore," he told them proudly. "I'm a Christmas lamb."

"A Christmas lamb? Whoever heard of such a thing?" asked another lamb.

"Not I, not I!" said all the wise old ewes, shaking their heads. Then Woolsey began to think, and he realized that he had never, never heard of a Christmas lamb, either. With a shake of his snubby little tail, he went sadly to the house.

For several days Woolsey would not go to see the other lambs, because they laughed and taunted him.

"A Christmas lamb! A Christmas lamb, indeed!" they said.

I know what I shall do, decided Woolsey. I'll ask the old Billy goat if there is such a thing as a Christmas lamb.

But when he asked, the gruff old goat merely shook his head. "I have seen Grade-A lambs and blue ribbon lambs," he said roughly, "but never have I seen a Christmas lamb."

Woolsey then went to see his friend, Elta, the cow, but Elta only blinked her big eyes and said gently,

"I have heard of 4-H lambs and orphan lambs . . . but no, never a Christmas lamb."

There was no one else to ask, so Woolsey sighed and thought sadly.

"I guess I am still just an orphan lamb, after all."

Then one evening Woolsey lay at the farmer's feet and listened as the farmer told a wonderful story to Marilyn. It was a story of a lovely Babe born in a manger, with none

to welcome him save the lowly animals in the stable. Woolsey's ears perked up as he heard Marilyn ask, "Daddy, were there lambs in the stable that night, too?"

"Yes, I think probably there were," answered her father gravely.

"Then, Daddy, when we give our Christmas Pageant about Jesus at school, may I take Woolsey to represent the really and truly Christmas lambs?"

"Of course," said the farmer. "You'd like that, wouldn't you, Woolsey?" He reached down to pat the fat little lamb. Woolsey wriggled joyfully. There was, after all, such a thing as a Christmas lamb . . . and lucky Woolsey, that is just what he was!

SANTA'S HELPER

Oh dear, but I'm busy,
I'm sewing and sewing,
My presents for Christmas
Must faster be growing.

I'm stitching and stitching,
There's no time for rocking,
These things must be finished
To fill Christmas stockings.

There're presents for Mother
And Daddy and Sue,
And Grandpa and Grandma
And dear Baby Lou.

Oh dear, I *must* hurry,
The north winds are calling,
And look!—Oh, how lovely . . .
The snowflakes are falling.

I'll wave them a welcome,
They're seeming to say,
"We're coming, we're coming
To bring Christmas day."

What fun to be planning—
It's really more pleasant
Than just sitting and wondering
Who'll give me my presents.

But oh! I must hurry
And stitch, stitch away
To make others happy
On dear Christmas day.

Child is to sit in a little rocking chair and sew while counting on her fingers. Speak 2 verses, then lay work down at the side of the chair and count on fingers as names are said in 3rd verse. At the beginning of the 4th verse makes a motion as if to pick up work, but then looks towards north window and rises as she pretends to see snow. Waves to north window at beginning of 5th verse and sits down and sews.



On Christmas morning these adorable little youngsters, all first cousins, posed on the front porch steps with their Christmas dolls, a gift from their grandmother. In front are Brenda Boden (Beatrice, Nebr.), Paul Harms (the lone boy cousin) and Merrily Harms of Virginia, Nebr. Behind them are Adele Boden (Beatrice) and Emily Behrens (Sterling). In back are Pamela Boden and Marjorie Behrens.

CHRISTMAS MOUSE

'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through the house
Every creature was stirring
Except a small mouse.
He crept in affright
To a corner remote,
And tucked himself up
In his snug little coat.
Said he, "I like fun
Same as other folks do,
But I really don't like
Such a hullabaloo!"

SANTA'S CAKE

I saved my cake for Santa Claus
On Christmas Eve at tea,
For if riding makes one hungry
How hungry he would be!
I put it on the chimney shelf
Where he'd be sure to go,
I think it does a person good
To be remembered so.

When everyone was fast asleep,
Everyone but me,
I tiptoed into mama's room,
Oh, just as still, to see
If he had been there. Dearie me!!
It made my feelings ache,
There sat a miserable little mouse,
Eating Santa's Cake!!!

CHRISTMAS TIME

When I'm as good as I can be,
My Mummy smiles and says to me,
"I hope that Santa Claus will see
How good you are today."

But when I'm cross or very bad,
My Mummy doesn't get real mad—
Just sighs and says, "It will be sad
If Santa looks today."

Sometimes before I say "Goodnight"
And Mummy dear turns out the light,
I gaze up at the stars so bright
And think of the next day.

Then as my eyes begin to close,
I wonder if old Santa knows
How very slowly the time goes
Until it's Christmas Day.

—Unknown.

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LADIES BLACK WINTER COAT, in good condition, full length size 38, old style \$5. Mrs. Ilo Wilson, Bedford, Ia.

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MAKE 100% selling your friends, and neighbors sets of 25, money making candy factory, popcorn and greaseless Do-nut formulas. Such as: Caramel coated popcorn and honey dipped cracker-jacks etc. Recommended by Good-Housekeeping Magazine. Write. Mrs. Harry Walters, Mediapolis, Iowa.

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SCISSORS SHARPENING, 25¢ ea., plus 10¢ postage. Ad good any time.—Ideal Novelty Co., 903 Church St., Shenandoah, Iowa.

HEALTH BOOKLET (Revised 1949) Nurse's viewpoint. Overweight, arthritis, allergy-food sensitiveness, many health questions answered. Price 50¢. Mrs. Walt Pitzer, Shell Rock, Ia.

HURRY, beautiful cards advertised in October Klatter, expires Nov. 30th. Mrs. Loyd Shifflett, Clark, So. Dak.

FOR SALE: Crocheted tablecloth. 50x62 ecru, \$25.00. Mrs. Louis Sleck, Grinnell, Iowa.

NON ELECTRIC NEVER USED SINGER SEWING MACHINE, \$35. Shipping charges extra. Used Portable Corona Typewriter \$30. Mary Klopff, Elizabeth, Ill.

HAND LOOMED RAG RUGS, 27x48. \$2.60 Postpaid. Mrs. Lewis Vermillion, Shenandoah, Ia.

BOUQUETS OF WOOD FIBER, roses, velvet like roses with preserved fern \$2.25 up. Chenille corsages; all colors orchids etc., \$1.25. Pampus plumes all colors \$1.50. Rose bushes \$2. Sprays \$2 up. All postpaid. Mrs. Ida Ebeling, Wyaconda, Mo.

DIRECTIONS, for girls play cabinet, 25¢. Mrs. Ruth Springer, Waterville, Kans.

BEAUTIFUL 12" CROCHETED IRISH ROSE DOILY. White center, pink roses, green leaves \$2. 12" ruffled dollies, any color \$2. Dorothy Briney, Albion, Ia.

FOR SALE: Unwashed large feed sacks. Easily bleached. 20¢ ea., plus postage. Mrs. Dan Sasse, Sleepy Eye, Minn.

RENTAL—Specialty, old, rare, any book, childrens, health, biography, history, hobbies, outdoor activity, nature study, religion, science, sports. Catalogue 10¢. Agents wanted. Book Rental Guild, 3322 Harney, Omaha 2, Nebraska.

LOVELY CROCHETED 3 piece babies sets. White, pink or blue wool yarn. \$5. Mrs. Florence Hamm, Rt. 2, Rising Sun, Maryland.

SEWING WANTED: Experienced. Dresses, \$1.50, better \$2. Childs \$1. Aprons 75¢. Rug Weaving \$1.10 yd. Rugs for sale 27x48, \$2.50. Mrs. Alfred Winters, Rt. 1, Des Moines 11, Iowa.

CROCHETED DRESSES, Infant wear, Pin-afores, other gifts. Write, Beulah's Hand Made, Box 112C, Cairo, Nebr.

DOLL CLOTHES, cute, well made. Coat & Beanie, washable rayon, white fur trim \$1.98. Dress lace trim, housecoats, pajamas 89¢ ea. Bunting's \$1.25 fit 18 to 23 in. dolls. Virginia Thomas, Rockport, Mo.

LOVELY 3" CHINA DOLLS, with crocheted dress and hat, in pastel colors, 35¢ ea. Three for a dollar. Mrs. Leonard, P. O. Box 896, Oxboro, Minn.

WEAVED HOT PADS, mixed colors 20¢. Send 10¢ for delicious Miracle Whip cake recipe. Mrs. S. Russell, 906 1st Ave., W. Newton, Ia.

DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE FUDGE, \$1.00 pound. Walnuts optional. Mrs. Merl Shipp, Maple Hill, Kansas.

2 LOVELY GIFTS \$1.40. Chenille Corsage and large handmade Crystalline Brooch. State colors. Freda Poeverlin, Beatrice, Nebr.

BEAUTIFUL PILLOW CASES, crocheted rose medallion and edging, \$5 pr. Embroidered cases, towels. Send stamp. Mrs. L. Stanek, Scribner, Nebr.

PEKINGESE YARN DOGS, Large \$2, Medium \$1.50, Small \$1. Yellow or white. Ruffled Dollies Star Center \$2.50. Peach, green, white. Mrs. W. J. Oostenink, Hull, Iowa.

HAND LOOMED POT-HOLDERS, 25¢ ea. or 2 for 40¢ postpaid. All colors. Sandra Sullivan, (13 Yrs. Old), 1029 E. St., Lincoln 8, Nebr.

PRINT-TOWELS, 20x40, appliqued 3 for \$1.10. Eleanor Born, 202 South 8th, Norfolk, Nebr.

CROCHETED PINEAPPLE APRONS, white, medium, large \$3.00 Butterfly Davenport set, \$6. Butterfly Chair set, \$4. White, ecru. Coffeeable dollies, oval pineapple, 24x15, 26x15, \$3; 30x15, 33x15, \$4. White postpaid. Mrs. Edna Sutterfield, Craig, Mo.

HAND PAINTED LUNCHEON SETS, \$2.50. Pillow cases, \$2. Half aprons, \$1.25. Many others. Ideal for Christmas. Mrs. Bill Purtle, Woodbine, Ia.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Forget-me-not dollies. Eleven inches diameter. White center with double crown of forty-eight forget-me-nots in shaded blue with small yellow eye in each flower. A dainty gift, \$2. Postpaid. A. J. Eltgroth, Rt. 2, Carroll, Iowa.

FOR SALE: Loomed woven rag and filler rugs for Xmas gifts. Send orders early. Mrs. Fannie Hach, Dysart, Ia.

FOR HOME HOBBY-IST: Baby Bootie Kits. Come ready-cut in blue or pink felt or white leatherette. Good Christmas or shower gifts. Easy to make. \$1 per pair. Also Holiday recipes, 3 for \$1. For textile painting, we offer 10 new designs each month for 25¢. House of Crafts, Box 892, Spencer, Ia.

BEAUTIFUL WHITE LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, with tatting corner and edge. Any color. \$1 postpaid. Mrs. Earl Prall, Mt. Sterling, Ia.

CROCHETED VANITY SETS. Any color. \$2. Dollies, 12" \$1, 16" \$2. White, Ecru. Mrs. Violet Rhoades, Craig, Mo.

FOR CHRISTMAS: Give large bath towel with large crocheted basket holding wash cloth. Basket \$1, two towel edges 50¢. State size and color. Mrs. Keith Laessig, 322 S. Oakdale, Salina, Kans.

MEXICAN APPLIQUED APRON, tea-towel (Cannon) \$2.75 set. Towel only 55¢. R. Kiehl, 2917 Fourth, N. W., Canton, Ohio.

FOR SALE: Crocheted pansy dollies, 85¢, loopy baby booties \$1. Loopy dolls and dogs, \$1 ea. 3 piece Nylon baby sets, \$5. Mrs. G. Page, 705½ Story St., Boone, Ia.

AM OPENING A GIFT SHOP, and will sell your fancywork or what have you, on consignment. When writing give description and price. Peggy's Trailer Gift Shop, Box 122, Wymore, Nebr.

LADIES DRESS, 3 sacks or print, thread, measurements, etc., \$1.25. Clothes pin bags pleated overskirts, Xmas gifts, \$1. Mrs. T. R. Anderson, Garden Grove, Ia.

FOR SALE: A beautiful crocheted table cloth, approximate 60x66, ecru. \$65. Mrs. Margaret Hansen, Aspinwall, Ia.

HAND PAINTING, neckties \$3. pillow slips \$3. Other items. Elva Carstens, Glidden, Ia.

BIRTHDAY AND EVERYDAY CARDS, regular \$1 box, 3 boxes for \$2. Sarah S. Hayden, 69 E. State St., Barborton, Ohio.

QUILT-BLOCK APRONS, \$1 ea. Hot-pads, 2 for 25¢. Nettie Fudge, 600 N. D., Indianola, Ia.

A SMILE

Let others cheer the winning man,
There's one I hold worth while;
'Tis he who does the best he can,
Then loses with a smile.
Beaten he is, but not to stay
Down with the rank and file; ;
That man will win some other day,
Who loses with a smile.

—Unknown.

BIBLE REFERENCES

For friends who really make a study of the bible there are two references that would make most welcome gifts. Goodspeed's "How To Read the Bible" and Davis' "Bible Dictionary" are both full of comprehensive information that anyone could study to great advantage.

THE CHRISTMAS OF THE PAST

The Christmas of the past comes
back tonight,
The moment when we paused upon
the stair
To view the tinseled tree, the baubles
bright,
The mysterious gifts wrapped and
waiting there.
There was the little stove, the stock-
ings filled,
The games, the dishes and the color-
ed ball,
The shiny buggy miraculously filled
With the enchanting, wide-eyed baby
doll.

There have been other moments of
delight,
And other treasures time has freely
given,
Yet, still, that Christmas morning
reached a height
Never attained again . . . so near to
heaven,
Till now when we clothe a doll for
another.
Star-eyed little girl who calls us
mother!

—Christie Lund Coles.

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Ladies' Home Journal.

WINTER TREE

By Catherine Scott

My neighbor up the way
And I do not agree;
She says there is no beauty
In a stark and naked tree.

But I like to look ahead
To a leafing, verdant tree;
Today, in unclad limbs, I see
What was and is and is to be.

VERSES TO ACCOMPANY GIFTS

Any gift, be it big or small, takes
on added charm if a little verse ac-
companies it. Here are some that
you may be able to use this Christ-
mas.

Handkerchiefs

I hope this piece of linen sheer
May ne'er be used to wipe a tear.

Fountain Pen

When writing letters to the friends
Of whom you kindly think,
Remember that I'd like to have
A sample of your ink.

Sweater

I could think of nothing better
Than a neat and jaunty sweater,
To keep the gentle wearer nice and
warm.

With cheeks all bright and rosy,
She should feel so snug and cozy,
That she'll never mind the coldest
winter storm.

Book

A book, they say, is a very good
friend.
May this prove true of the one that
I send.

Stockings

We all are apt to make mistakes;
We bungle things with ease;
And yet I hope you'll ne'er do worse
Than put your foot in these.

Pocketbook

Of all the books the world contains—
Just put them to the test—
The friendly pocketbook's the one
We really like the best.

Necktie

I'm sure you'd think old Santa Claus
Had really passed you by,
If among your Christmas gifts
You failed to find a tie.

Magazine Subscription

Christmas comes but once a year,
And we give gifts while it is here,
My Christmas gift this time to you,
Is going to last the whole year
through.

A Gift For Dad

Though your money buys most of the
gifts at this time,
Here's a present for you that I pur-
chased with mine.
"It's not very much," some people
would say,
But it's "chock full" of love on this
fine Christmas Day.

A Gift For Mother

A gift just for my Mother,
To whom all love is due;
May the world be glad this Christ-
mas Day,
And the gladdest in it—YOU!

Christmas Cookies

Christmas love went in the making,
Christmas love was in the baking,
Put them on some pretty dishes,
Let them bring our Christmas wishes.

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Every weekday morning at 11:00
A. M. we visit with you on the
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KFEQ—St. Joseph, Mo. — 680 on
your dial.
KOWH—Omaha, Nebr. — 660 on
your dial.

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