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# Kitchen-Klatter

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

## Magazine

SHENANDOAH, IOWA

15 CENTS

VOL. 19

DECEMBER, 1955

NUMBER 12

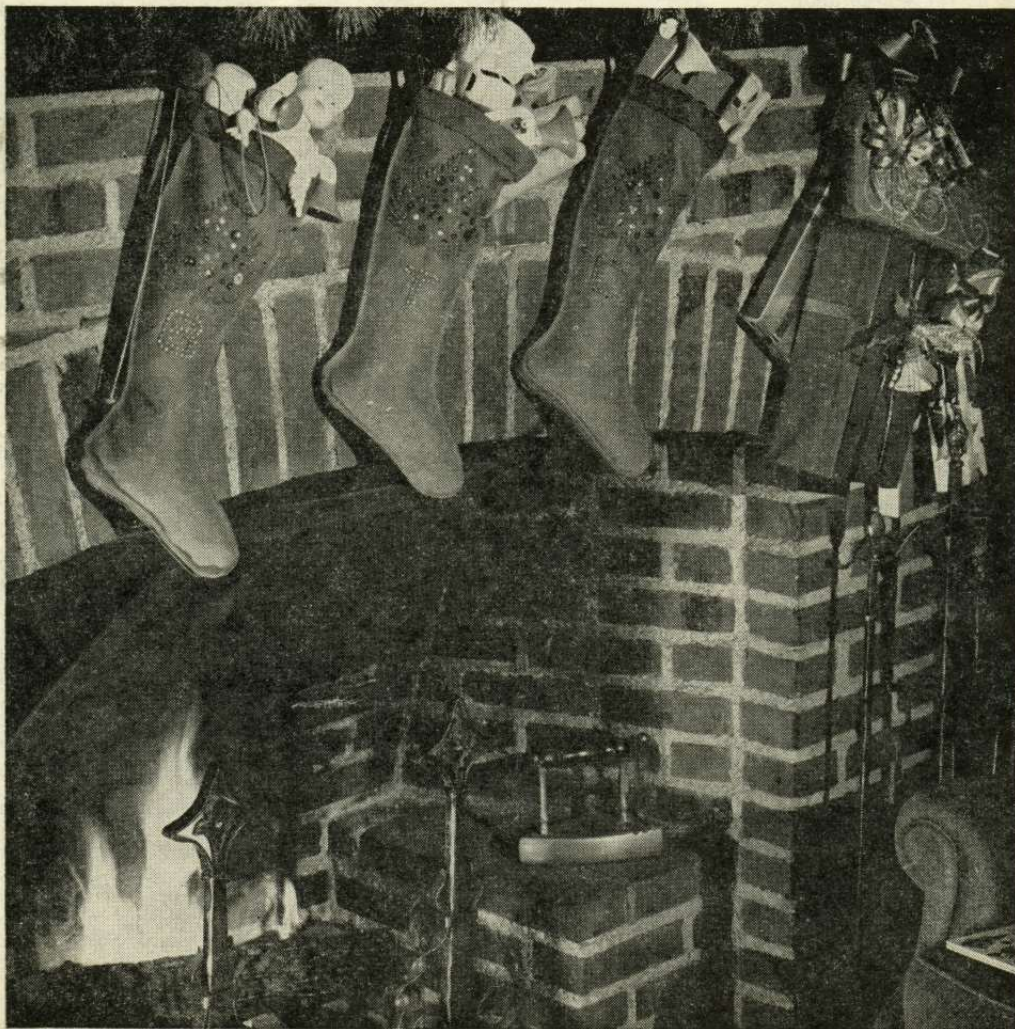


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LETTER FROM LEANNA

# Kitchen-Klatter

(Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.)

## MAGAZINE

"More Than Just Paper And Ink"

LEANNA FIELD DRIFTMIER, Editor.  
LUCILE VERNES, Associate Editor.  
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Subscription Price \$1.50 per year (12 issues) in the U. S. A.

Foreign Countries \$2.00 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  
THE DRIFTMIER COMPANY  
Shenandoah, Iowa  
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### THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

Have you traveled the road to Bethlehem

By the light of God's holy Star,  
And caught the gleam of that powerful beam  
As it falls on the road afar?

Did you take the path that led past the inn

And go in at the stable door  
To kneel humbly with the shepherds there  
To worship and praise and adore?

If you did you traveled the way of love

By the Light of the Star, divine,  
For the way of love is the only way  
To reach that sacred shrine.

—Carrie Marecy Boring

Dear Friends:

This Christmas poem is the one I've chosen to carry our special greetings to each and every one of you. In these days ahead when friends clasp hands across the miles by letters and cards, our thoughts will be with you.

Last month I had to write from Springfield such a short time after we arrived that I felt almost at loose ends! But printer's deadlines simply must be met. Now I can relax right here in my own little office and remember things that I want to share with you.

First I must say that the weather was certainly against us almost the entire time we were gone. It had been our intention to call on all of our nieces who live in the East, but this must be left until the next trip — surely New England won't have such an unheard of season again for a long time. We had only five or six nice days our entire stay, but it doesn't seem right to complain about all of our changed plans when you realize how many, many people suffered dreadfully from the terrible storms.

Frederick's new home does not have a downstairs bedroom, so Mart and I stayed at a comfortable motel in the heart of the city on Federal Avenue adjoining the huge U. S. Armory and Arsenal. Included in the price of the room was Continental breakfast, a serve-yourself affair where we could have coffee and our choice of rolls, doughnuts, etc. This is surely a great convenience for anyone who has physical difficulties in getting around.

As soon as we had eaten breakfast we drove out to Frederick's home and spent the remainder of the day with them.

It has been a big job for Betty to get settled in this new home that the church purchased for them and re-decorated throughout. There is a large front porch (we all know what a job they are to keep swept clean!) and then when you go inside you find an entrance hall, large living room, dining room, kitchen, pantries and downstairs lavatory. Upstairs there are four bedrooms, bathroom and a large sleeping porch. The third floor has a floored attic that makes a fine play room for Mary Leanna and David.

Yes, I made one trip upstairs! You can see why we stayed at a motel when I tell you that it took Frederick, Betty and Mart to get me up there—and Frederick strained his muscles so badly that for a couple of days he thought he had rheumatism, since we'd forgotten about the trip upstairs and didn't put two-and-two together. But I appreciated the effort that was made to let me see the second floor. They use one of those rooms a great deal for it is a bedroom with a fireplace, and they have turned it into a living room where they have many books and their TV.

It was a great pleasure for us to attend church, and my! what a beautiful church it is. Mart and I said that we had never heard more inspiring music for they have a great pipe organ and a highly trained choir. There must have been around 700 people in the audience, and afterwards we had the pleasure of meeting many of them when coffee and doughnuts were served in the church parlors.

We took one drive to North Hampton and Greenfield to visit old friends. It took us only a couple of hours for this trip, and also for a second trip to Shelburne Falls, Mass., but those short hours were filled with beauty. We made another trip the length of the Mohawk Trail, a scenic road winding through the Berkshire Mountains which were aglow with autumn coloring.

This is a countryside full of huge apple orchards, and there were countless roadside stands stacked with pumpkins and other fall vegetables. It made such a dazzling display of color that we stopped to take quite a few kodachrome pictures, and we hope that they turn out well.

On the last fair day we had while we were there we drove to Ashaway, R. I. to have dinner with Betty's parents, the Crandalls. On the way we stopped to see the little house on the lake where Frederick and his family spend a month each summer. Of course, Frederick can't be there the entire time, but Betty and the children really enjoy it. We hadn't seen the Crandalls since we had dinner with them three years ago, so this was a very pleasant meeting for us.

Before we left Shenandoah we had made arrangements with Howard's wife, Mae, to fly to Springfield and drive back with us. She stopped for a few hours in Chicago to visit with her two brothers and then flew on only to arrive in a driving rain. It never stopped again during her entire stay! We had all kinds of plans to take trips and show Mae things we knew would interest her, but all of them had to be cancelled except for one drive (made in a downpour) to visit Old Sturbridge Village, one of the oldest settlements in the Northeast where the original homes and shops, the grist mill with its water wheel, the pillory and the old blacksmith shop have been restored and visited by thousands of tourists every year. We had lunch in an old Inn.

It was still pouring when we started our return trip to Iowa. Frederick and Mae drove ahead of us because water was lapping at the side of our highway and Frederick was afraid we might run into real trouble. But when we were finally out of danger, Mae joined us in our car and Frederick turned back to Springfield.

The first night we stayed at Geneva, N. Y. on the north end of a beautiful lake. We went on to Buffalo the next day, and since Mae had never seen Niagara Falls we took time to go there and view it in a downpour! Then on to Ashtabula, Ohio where we spent the second night. Our third night found us in Peru, Indiana, and the last night we spent in Ft. Madison, Iowa. We didn't hurry at the end of our trip and took time to drive from Fort Madison to Keokuk through Nauvoo, Ill., for we wanted Mae to see that interesting town.

It was a happy trip for the only important thing was to see our children and grandchildren—and we had some lovely hours with them. David loved to wheel my chair, and Mary Leanna enlisted my help with doll clothes. It was relaxing to sit by a crackling fire with the children near me and with Mart reading on the other side of the fireplace.

The other night we celebrated Fred Fischer's 86th birthday with a lovely dinner prepared by Mrs. Clara Bond who has been in the Fischer home for many years. Martha is due back from New Jersey soon, and Jessie is now in Greenwich, Conn. with her daughter Ruth. Bertha Field is well and carrying on her usual busy life.

It is time to say goodnight, so again I will say: "To each and every single friend who reads my letter every month, the happiest of holidays to you and your loved ones."

Leanna



## THE "CHRISTMAS TREE LADY"

By Lucile

Tonight on the table in front of me are some of the most beautiful Christmas decorations imaginable. These were all made by Mrs. Flo Logan, (her husband is superintendent of our Shenandoah schools), and if you could see them you'd agree that one glance is enough to make anyone's fingers itch to get some "makings" together immediately.

Before I describe any of these things I'd like to tell you just a little about Mrs. Logan. It was our beloved late aunt, Helen Fischer, who started calling her the "Christmas Tree Lady" and this dates from the days when Aunt Helen broadcast daily. In December she asked Mrs. Logan to come across the street and describe the things she was making for Christmas, and when people wrote to express their pleasure they said that they much enjoyed the "Christmas Tree Lady". And the name just stuck!

Many people reading this will suddenly recall a profitable hour or so spent listening to Mrs. Logan talk for she has gone freely to demonstrate her work for all kinds of social clubs, PTA, Adult Evening Schools, etc. In fact, last year she accepted so many engagements that she had to call a halt, so her only appearance this year will be for a meeting of the Midwest Implement Dealers wives when the annual Nebraska Implement Dealers convention is held in December in Omaha.

It's always difficult to describe things in such a way that the reader can visualize them, but I have a tape-measure right here and I'm going to do my best to give you an idea of how to go about making comparable decorations. As I write I'll put in the comments Mrs. Logan made as she showed them to me this afternoon.

**BOOT:** This is a stunning decoration for a door or wall. It is a glamorous version of a woman's high-topped, old fashioned shoe. These are priced at \$15.00 in stores, but can be made for a maximum cost of \$1.15 at home. There's a chance that you can buy the Styrofoam boot already cut in a big department store, but if you haven't a chance to investigate the possibility you can buy a block of Styrofoam and cut your own. Or you can use heavy cardboard.

The boot measures 16 inches from the bottom of the high heel to the top. It is 7 inches from the heel to the toe. One side is left white, and the other side is covered with red felt. Red satin ribbon the exact width of the Styrofoam covers all edges and is applied by putting a short pin through the holes in sequins. Narrow gold braid makes an ornamental design on the side of the boot. It is laced up (exactly as a shoe would be laced) with narrow green ribbon, and where eyelets would be on a real shoe, silver bells are tacked. A small pearl is beside each bell. Fluffy white cotton balls are tacked to the ends of the shoe laces that are tied in a big bow. A cuff of white cotton is around the top, and a loop of gold braid is attached so that it can be hung.



Mrs. Flo Logan, who makes the most beautiful Christmas decorations we've ever seen! In her hand is one of the mistletoe angels that I describe in this article.

The second boot is 13 inches in length and it is cut like an elf shoe with a pointed toe—no heel, of course. One side is left white and the other is covered with brilliant green felt and beautifully decorated with gold braid and all kinds of fancy sequins. Red ribbon covers the seams, as in the other, but at the toe is a big red bow with a bell in the center. White cotton makes the cuff and one big sequin flower in green is tacked on right in the middle for decoration. (I can tell you right now that the Verness family is going to make two of these boots — they're extremely effective.)

**CHRISTMAS TREE SKIRT.** Mrs. Logan thinks that these will become as traditional as stockings, and I believe she's right after studying this beauty in front of me.

White felt was used for this one, but she suggests that if you have small children you might prefer using oilcloth. Pinking shears are used to cut this in what I might call a shampoo apron pattern — a hole in the center and one side slit open so that it can be slipped over the container that holds the tree. This one is 39 inches round — you might want yours larger if you always have a big tree.

Sequins outline the scallops, and where the seam is made (it is cut in two half-circles, you see) very thick gold string is tacked, and attached to the string is a gay red bell with two green holly leaves above it. Green felt Christmas trees in various sizes, all decorated with sequins, are tacked at intervals on the skirt.

This is the most effective covering I've ever seen for that annual problem of how to conceal the Christmas tree container. I hope you'll let the children help you make one so that every year they can anticipate getting it out along with the tree decorations.

**LARGE FELT TREES.** These would be gorgeous tacked on the wall. Mrs. Logan also suggests that they would make a stunning band around the bottom of a tablecloth, or used down the middle of the table as a Christmas decoration. Any size can be used, but the one I'm looking at right now is

12 inches high from the base to the tip of the tree.

Green felt is used in double thickness and it is machine stitched together about 1/3 of the way up. White Ball fringe is used at the tip of each branch, and shiny sequins in red and silver are applied to the middle of the ball. Narrow silver tinsel string is glued to the felt in spider web fashion, and tiny bits of the tinsel are glued here and there. The base is covered with white felt and decorated with scrolls of tinsel and silver sequins. All in all, it's a VERY handsome tree. (In case you want to hang it from something, tack a big red bow at the top.)

**LARGE FELT BELLS.** These too can be made in any size — the one here is 9½ inches high and 14½ inches across the base. Here you can let your imagination run riot! This one (in white felt) has three bows tacked near the top — red, chartreuse and deep green. Then comes a band of red felt, with tiny tinsel dots glued between it and the next band of chartreuse ribbon. Red sequins are on this band and on the next band of dark green ribbon. Between the dark green band and the bottom of the bell is a scroll design done in tinsel. A red felt clapper, centered with a sequin, is tacked to the bottom and a big red bow is tacked to the top.

These white felt bells would be wonderfully effective used on a green or red holiday tablecloth.

**STOCKINGS.** Mrs. Logan feels that everyone has his own ideas about stockings, but I wanted to mention two that are here.

One is done in red felt, the other in brilliant green. The cuffs are made of brushed cotton (available at the neckwear department by the yard) and little pieces of black felt are applied to make it look for all the world like ermine! (Cotton can be used almost as successfully.) All boots are double thickness and machine stitched to the top.

The red stocking is decorated with silver tinsel glued on in diamond design. A gold sequin centers each diamond. The green stocking is a masterpiece of pearls and silver sequins. Felt loops at the top are for them to hang by.

**MATCH FOLDERS.** Here is a wonderful idea for Brownies, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. They can make these for their fathers and feel really proud. Common paper match folders are used and can be covered in two ways . . . either with felt or ribbon.

Brilliant green ribbon is used for one and a large red star is pasted on both the front and back. The other is covered with red felt, gold wrapping ribbon applied to that, and then a green star applied. (These stars are the kind we buy in a box to use when wrapping packages.)

These may sound simple, but believe me, they're mighty good looking. It seems to me a wonderful project for a group of children who can't do complicated things but would be justifiably proud to give a really handsome collection of matches to some relative.

(Continued on page 16)





Dear Friends:

The wind is howling so outside that when I shut my eyes I can actually think we are having a blizzard. Oliver has been on a business trip up north and I hear by the morning forecast that they are having snow where he is, so perhaps he will bring some back with him.

This has been an unusually busy fall for our family for we have been redecorating the house and making repairs as we go along. Perhaps I had better start where I left off in last month's letter.

I finished painting the bathroom and the pre-pasted wallpaper that I mentioned worked out very well. As I was looking for bedroom paper, I wished that I could get the same type for that also, but couldn't find the pattern I was looking for in the pre-pasted type. Since we are planning to repaper every room, I am taking my time in deciding for I want all of the colors to tie in well. I believe I am safe in telling you what they are although Oliver says I have changed my mind so many times that you mustn't be surprised when you pick up next month's magazine to find that I have changed it again!

Our bedroom paper is yellow which matches nicely the yellow flowers on my new brown bedspread. There is also a touch of turquoise in the bedspread which I will pick up in a picture and new shades for my lamps. The woodwork is a soft brown which matches the brown in the spread. We decided when we started that the wise thing for us to do was to get down to the plaster on the walls, repair it and to remove all the old paint on the woodwork. You can imagine the mess involved in both these operations! It seemed that I had plaster dust everywhere and it took forever to sift completely out of the air. We are still in the process of removing the paint, so I can't as yet estimate how long it will be before I can start painting and papering. On second thought, maybe I had better describe the dining room paper next month in case I do change my mind!

As I have looked through the many, many wallpaper books, I have wondered how many of you were doing the same thing. Perhaps you have chosen paper just like mine. When we have finished I'll try to share pictures with you.

Speaking of pictures, the one of Martin on this page shows him making a sale at the door of Mrs. Howard



Martin out on his Cub Scout project that Margery describes. His customer is our family neighbor, Mrs. Howard Alexander, who lives next door to the folks.

Alexander, our next door neighbor. His Cub Scout Den had as their money-raising project this fall some collections of fall bulbs. One was a Rainbow Tulip Garden and the other was what they called the Blue and Gold Collection, which consisted of Grape Hyacinths and King Alfred Daffodils. Those are the Cub Scout colors so proved to be a very popular item for the boys to sell.

Perhaps you would be interested in a party I attended since last I wrote to you. A club I belong to had a Continental Dinner which proved a huge success. I hope we can make it a yearly event. Each member of the club was assigned a certain country and an item of food to represent it. I was assigned Holland and was asked to bring a Red Cabbage dish. I prepared the Sweet and Sour Red Cabbage. In case any of you would like to plan a similar dinner, I will tell you some of the foods served.

Before the dinner we were served Hawaiian Punch, French Hors D'Oeuvres and Swiss Cheese. The main course was served buffet style and was as much fun as a smorgasbord. We had English Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding, Italian Pizza, Chinese Chow Mein, Mexican Chili, Japanese Rice, Egyptian Creamed Onions, Austrian Glazed Carrots, Irish Scalloped Potatoes, Cuban Creole Sweet Potatoes, Dutch Hot Red Cabbage, American Cranberry Salad, Bavarian Cream and Spanish Cream, Swedish Rye Bread, Canadian Tea Rolls and Danish Pastry. By this time we were all completely stuffed, as you can well imagine, but after a "breather" we were served dessert which consisted of Hungarian Apple Strudel, Asiatic Indian Ice Cream, Australian Sandies, Russian Delights and Brazilian Coffee. I don't know when I have enjoyed food more! Some of these foods I didn't know originated from those particular countries, so I was not only well-fed, but I was also well-educated.

A paper cut-out was beside each dish with the name of the recipe on it.

For instance, beside my dish of red cabbage was a pair of wooden shoes. It was all so festive and so much fun. Some of you might like to utilize this for a fund-raising dinner for your church and offer booklets with the recipes used for sale. If you do accomplish something like this I would like to hear about it.

The children are coming home from school now and are snuggled down into their coats. The cold weather has brought tremendous appetites. Comparing notes with other mothers I find that Martin is not the only one who's stomach seems to be a bottomless pit. I've been digging out some extra nourishing cookie recipes for these after-school snacks.

Today was Bible School Day. We feel so fortunate that here in Shendoah we have week-day Bible School. Every Thursday Martin goes to our church for an hour and a half of Bible Study. We have had Bible School here for as long as I can remember. I still remember reciting the books of the Bible and my favorite hymn of all was "Let the Lower Lights be Burning." I'm sure I asked to sing it every Thursday.

I had such a sweet note from Gertrude Hayzlett yesterday. Our church circle collected some yarn for some of her shut-ins to make into afghans for Veterans Hospitals. I know many of you sent yarn to her too and if you haven't it might be a fine idea for your next project. You will find Gertrude's address in her Good Neighbor column of last month.

Our circle also rolled bandages from strips of old sheets for the National Leprosy Foundation, collected old glasses for Eyes for the Needy, and made some layettes for mission hospitals. Mother and I would like very much to know what you are doing in your groups for it will give us some more ideas for ours.

I've noticed in the letters that have come to us on schedules that most of you prefer the traditional wash day on Monday and ironing on Tuesday. About half of the letters were from mothers of small children who found it necessary to wash twice a week. They usually washed on Monday and again on Thursday. Many of you said that you had automatic washers so you ran loads of laundry through in the evenings after the children had gone to bed. I have an automatic machine now. It is a year old, as a matter of fact. I usually put a load of clothes in just before I leave for the broadcast so they are ready to hang up when I get home. Of course that doesn't happen every day, but more often than not.

One thing I have found with this redecorating and that is that I am doing a lot of dying. I thought of it just now because I have a couple of bath mats dying in the machine as I write. None of my bath towels or wash cloths matched the new bathroom color scheme either, so I am dying my pale colored ones dark brown. Later I may try to take the color out of the others and dye them yellow. The machine has stopped so I'll take them out now.

Sincerely, Margery  
P.S. The towels turned out fine!



## CHRISTMAS WITH THE FAMILY

*Evelyn Corrie Birkby*

The Christmas season is galloping into our consciousness lickity split! Most of us are making plans for church bazaars, school programs and club grab bags. All the social events, along with the plans of relatives from near and far, vie for time and attention. Before long the thought comes that we don't do much of our own planning for Christmas any more; a great deal of it is done for us. Suddenly it is a shock to realize just how small a percentage of our time is left to spend WITH our families and how little of our work has a real spiritual content of love and sharing which Jesus' birth should foster in our hearts.

If we let Christmas become too commercial it is because we have allowed it to be so. Let's not blame the stores for their over-advertising or the churches for neglect. The churches try to keep the Christ in Christmas but if we don't take our children to church or Sunday School, if we don't open the Bible to the wonderful story of Luke, if we have no religious pictures or scenes in our homes, then our children will know it is not important to us and it will therefore become unimportant to them.

Last year I heard one mother say, "Well, children just expect so much it's a burden to get things for them." But when we provide no opportunity for our children to do things for people who cannot return the favor, or if our own planning is limited to the immediate family, or if we do all the work and preparations ourselves without letting the children take part, we are the ones who make the children "expect too much."

So it is a good time right now to stop and look at the habits set up through the years and weed out the non-essentials. Eliminating traditions which have outlived their service is apt to be painful but it surely will be rewarding. New traditions should develop with our families. A strong pattern of traditions carried on from year to year is a wonderful foundation for the holidays, but new, more valuable ones need room in which to grow also.

One of the most simple part of plans with the family are the house and tree decorations. Even tiny children enjoy making decisions and helping where they can. When the scene for the mantle or window is prepared the children can help with the placing, the cutting out, putting on the snow and the like. The results may not be as artistic as an adult might create, but they are far more soul-satisfying.

A big cardboard tree covered with aluminum foil and backed by a square of green is simply executed for a door decoration. Cutting out pictures for Christmas scenes to paste on the windows or doors with flour paste can be handled by any youngster old enough to cut and paste. Likewise, window cleaning powder mixed to a paste and colored with food coloring may be painted directly on a window or mirror. No need for patterns here;



Evelyn and Bob Birkby with Bobby and Jeffrey.

let individual interest and age dictate the kind of pictures painted.

Surely the Christmas tree can be a family project. Expensive trimmings are not needed for effect. Let the children draw or trace lambs, snowmen, bells, etc. on cardboard. Cut them out, cover with glue and then dip into a saucer full of artificial snow. Tie a ribbon around the neck of each one and hang on the tree. Little red and green baskets (made like last spring's May baskets) can be filled with candy, pop corn and nuts, and hung on the tree. Small boxes of any shape are pretty covered with metallic paper. Last year we covered a quantity of small baby cereal boxes and found them modernistic looking baubles when a string "hook" fastened them to the tree.

Table decorations made with evergreens and ribbon are easy for small hands. Little green sprigs tied together with a red bow make a nice favor for each plate. A hand-drawn picture with the name of each dinner guest will add a feeling of participation for a child (and keep him busy while mama is cooking.) One of the prettiest centerpieces simple enough for a child to prepare was made last year with an ordinary school lunch pail. With evergreen, some shiney balls, a bit of snow sprinkled about and a few candy canes peeking out of the box it was most attractive.

All kinds of activities can be built around last year's Christmas cards. Pasted in a scrap book with an original story by the child (dictated to mama if he is too young to write) it can become a treasured gift to Grandma. Making a picture book for a younger member of the family consumes hours of indoor time. Even a four year old can make outline stitches with bright colored yarn to finish into a picture or a pot holder. A drum from an oatmeal box, a personally designed picture painted with water colors on heavy paper, gumdrop men, anything which gives a child the feeling of making someone else happy creates the true spirit of Christmas for which we are striving.

Even the simple pattern of giving a child some money to spend for someone else may divert them from the "gimmies." When Dulcie Jean was three we went to the city shortly before Christmas. She had twenty-five cents for the express purpose of buying baby Bobby a gift. We expected some desire on her part for the pretty things she saw, but to our surprise she never once stood and begged for something on the counter. Maybe she just

had a one track mind, but it was important to her that she get a gift for her brother.

Planning at least one project for Christmas which is for others less fortunate is an important part of sharing. A box for an orphanage, a package for the Salvation army party, a share in the box prepared at the church, becomes a personal experience. Choosing a toy out of one's own play things, buying something brand new to go as a love gift and having mama and daddy add to the box makes it a family project of real value.

Two traditions which we consider indispensable in our family are the manger scene and Jesus birthday cake. The pattern of the cake varies from year to year. The first year we made a big angel food and decorated it with white frosting. With the rosette tip on the cake decorator I outlined four stars around the outside and one large star on top. The children followed the outline with tiny silver candy balls. On the top we placed candles at each point of the star.

The following year we had a chocolate cake frosted in fudge frosting. I placed a paper doily on top, then we sifted confectioner's sugar over all, and when the paper was removed we had a delicate, beautiful design. Last year our cake was made in layers, each smaller than the one below. With red and green candles, a cookie star on top and many bright candies placed lavishly by little hands it looked as much like a tree as a cake possibly could. But whether Jesus' cake is simple or elaborate it is a true birthday cake and we sing "Happy Birthday to Jesus" when it comes in brightly lighted to the festive table.

The simple manger scene is always the first to be placed in our house. The little wooden stable, the animals Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus are carefully unwrapped from their year's sleep. Bobby, now almost six, carries out the action. He pretends to read the beautiful story of "Jesus the New Little Baby" by Mary Edna Lloyd and shows Jeffrey the pictures. Jeffrey enjoys the animals; they are something he can really understand. The big white candle is lighted every evening and we sing "Silent Night" and "Away in the Manger" and say our prayers by the baby Jesus.

But the most precious time for our family comes at that quiet relaxed moment on Christmas Eve. The rush and hurry is all done. The cooking, the programs, the cards, the boxes, the club meetings, the shopping is all finished. The big white candle is lighted. Daddy sits in the big chair with the black Bible in his hand and his lap full of children, tired from the activities and excitement. He turns to the beautiful story of Christmas which is in Luke and reads the words again of God's most wonderful gift to us all. The Christ child seems very close. Our very own blue-eyed, brown-haired angel child is very close to us also, just as she has been the last two Christmases and we feel that Heaven and Earth are very close together by our manger scene.



## LETTER FROM LUCILE

Dear Friends:

I have just finished typing the letter titled "My Greatest Problem In Living With My Children" that you'll find elsewhere in this issue, and right here I'd like to make a few comments.

In selecting this particular letter I was guided by looking for the one problem that seemed to occur the most frequently. Frankly, it was a toss-up between the issue of getting children to accept their home responsibilities willingly, and the problem of constant bickering and fighting. But more mothers seemed to be worried about the first question, so that's the one I chose. Furthermore, in most cases the squabbling and fighting gradually diminish from the scene as the children grow older, whereas the problem of accepting responsibility doesn't just automatically solve itself with the passage of time.

In short, we need to hear from mothers now who have found the key to get their children to do their home tasks promptly and competently. Won't some of you write and express your ideas on this? With busy holidays ahead it seems wise to allow enough time for you to mull over your ideas and get them on to paper, so I'll push the date ahead and say that January 1st will be the deadline on these letters.

As usual, please address them to Mrs. Russell Verness, Box 67, Shenandoah, Iowa. We won't print your name and address, but we will send our check for \$10.00 to the person who writes the most helpful and realistic letter.

I'd like to say one thing that struck me forcibly in reading some of these letters. When you have a child whose behavior is far, far from the normal pattern, don't lie awake at night worrying yourself sick and don't try to console yourself with the thought that he'll just grow out of it. That child needs competent, specialized care and he needs it badly. I think that most mothers know instinctively what makes up normal behavior. We all recognize difficult stages as the child grows, and we all realize that temper tantrums, thumb sucking, fighting with other children, etc. etc., are situations unpleasant enough at the time, but situations found in practically all homes somewhere along the line. We just endure these things and know, in our bones, that eventually the child will grow out of it.

But when you have good reason to think that your child's behavior is going steadily in paths far beyond the usual paths, then ask your doctor to refer you to specialists who understand these problems. This means a trip of some distance, for most people, and time and expense, but you'll be able to cope with your child's problems in a constructive way if you find out what is "ailing" him. Certainly you'll prevent the situation from going from bad to worse, and in most of these severe behavior cases that is exactly what happens. Time is precious, and never more so than when coping with a growing child who for one reason or another is rapidly



I describe these Fantasias in my letter.

reaching the point where he can't get along socially at all.

I don't pretend to know the answers to problems of child behavior. I have just one child and I just live with her as happily as I can — I worry, I fret, I stew like all the rest of you. But I have never learned to be indifferent to heart-wringing letters from mothers who are up against grave problems and who are hopeful that someone holds the answer to their troubles. Well, there is someone, but it isn't sympathetic friends. They would help you if they could and they are concerned and sorry, but only people trained to understand such problems can truly help you out of the woods. That's why I urge you to seek them out.

These have been busy, busy days since I last wrote to you. During the fall season when you friends are ordering nursery stock and bulbs we feel almost like farmers — a terrific amount of work that MUST be done in a very limited amount of time. And those of you who relax when the corn is picked can know that we feel just about the same way when the last bulb goes out, the spring nursery catalog is on the press, and a deep, deep breath is in order.

Thanksgiving is over now and all of our thoughts are turned towards Christmas. Russell and I said the other day that if his home town had been St. Louis instead of Minneapolis, we would have stood a better chance of celebrating the Yuletide with the Verness side of the house occasionally. We haven't had a Christmas with Russell's family for 17 or 18 years, and the explanation for this is the inescapable fact that Minneapolis lies to the north of us rather than to the south, and the weather is simply totally undependable in December. The last time we tried it (in early December of 1941) we had so much ice and fog that it took us almost fourteen hours to get there!

We said just this morning at the breakfast table that we thought it would be a lot of fun to pack up our

turkey and gifts and drive to Minneapolis on December 23rd. Richard (Russell's brother) and his family are back in their home, the old Verness family home, after a spell in Boston, and Juliana would have a great deal of excitement with her cousin Richard, Jr., Thomas, Boletta and Terrie. Well, who knows? We might simply get BOLD and risk the weather. At least you can see that we haven't totally dismissed the possibility from our minds!

I made up my mind to use a picture of what we called our "Fantasias" on this page even if it doesn't come out too clearly. (It was very difficult to photograph, I might add.) This was a family project that we enjoyed to the utmost last year, and we expect to make more of them this year.

If you'll look closely you'll identify such things as goblets, hyacinth glasses, small glass baking dishes, tiny fruit juice goblets and a rose bowl among the objects. They are put together with moulding clay (the kind you buy at the Five and Ten) and this serves not only to keep them together, but it is soft enough to press decorations into.

We used pearls and sequins, plus tiny Christmas tree baubles, for covering up all of the seams. They stick in the clay very firmly, although you must handle the completed decoration with great care — you can't let it bounce in a car and that's for sure! Inside the goblets, rose bowl, etc., we used tiny objects such as a miniature elf, an angel, a beautiful little bell — anchored them firmly in clay and then concealed the clay with sequins and beads and small Christmas tree bells.

It's really difficult to describe all the different items used in these "Fantasias", so let me simply urge you to buy a package of moulding clay, an assortment of sequins, pearls, etc. (you'll surely have some old beads of various kinds that you can put your hands on), and then get out your clear glass dishes of all sizes and turn your imagination loose. You'll find it fascinating — and I can guarantee that. Children love to help with such projects and the final results are so glittering that I truly think you can spend some happy hours making your own "Fantasias."

We made five of these last year. Three were kept for our own home and the other two were for gifts to friends — friends right here in town, I might add, for I cannot imagine how you'd ever pack one and ship it successfully. Russell experimented with all kinds of things to see if he could find a glue, wax or something that would anchor the objects together firmly enough for shipment, and yet be soft enough to get all of the decorations on before the material hardened (it takes quite a while to press on all those beads, for instance), but he couldn't find a thing. We'd surely love to hear from you if YOU find the answer.

And now, a happy, joyous Christmas filled with love to you and your dear ones from the three members of this family . . .

Lucile, Russell and Juliana.



## CHRISTMAS

So now, God bless you, one and all,  
With hearts and hearthstones warm;  
And may He prosper great and small,  
And keep us out of harm,  
And teach us still  
His sweet good will  
This merry Christmas morn.

### THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

By Mildred Cathcart

Six candles are arranged around the Bible. Golden letters placed at the foot of each candle spell out the word C-H-R-I-S-T. This may be divided among various numbers of participants. There may be one who reads the Scriptures, one person may light all the candles, or there may be six candle lighters. The music may be sung by a choir, by various soloists, or by mixed groups.

In other words, use this little service to fit your own particular groups.

"As we sing our Christmas carols and light our candles to shed a cheery greeting across the wintry way, we feel the spirit of Christmas once again reaching us in its magic embrace. But in all the melody and light, may we hear and see above all that 'CHRIST IS CHRISTMAS.'"

SONG—"Joy to the World."

C—"C is for Christ, the Christ-Child, King of Glory." (Read St. Matthew, Chapter 1, Verses 21, 22 and St. Luke, Chapter 2, Verses 6, 7.) Lights candle "C".

SONG—"Fairest Lord Jesus."

H—"H is for the Heavenly Choir that told of the birth of God's Son." (Read St. Luke 2, Verses 13 and 14.) Lights candle "H".

SONG—"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

R—"R is for Redeemer. God sent His Son that He might redeem us from our sin." (Read Galatians 4, Verses 4 and 5.) Lights candle "R".

SONG—"Silent Night."

I—"I is for an Inn, an inn so crowded that there was no room for the Heavenly visitor. The inn with all its man-made splendor could not compare with the glow found in the lowly manger where the Christ-Child lay. Even so may we make room in our heart to receive the King of Glory." (Read St. Luke 2, Verse 7.) Light candle "I".

SONG—"There's A Song in the Air."

S—"S is for the shepherds. Most humble men, they waited in faith for the promised Messiah. And to these humble shepherds came the Heavenly messengers themselves with the good tidings of the birth of Christ. (Read St. Luke 2, Verses 8, 9, 10, 11.) Light candle "S".

SONG—"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks."

T—"T is for The Wise Men who followed the star to find the Christ child. May we, like the Magi of Old, find our way to the Christ Child and lay our gifts at His feet." (Read St. Matthew, Chapter 2, Verses 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11.) Light candle "T".

SONG—"STAR OF THE EAST."



Every year Aunt Jessie Shambaugh makes this lovely nativity scene in the yard of her home. It has become almost a landmark.

### EVALUATION

Born in a borrowed cattle shed,  
And buried in another's tomb;  
Small wonder our complacency  
Leaves such a One no room!

But castles were as poor as sheds  
Until that Prince was born on earth,  
And tombs were mockeries of hope  
Before He changed death into birth!

—Elinor Lennen

### GROW A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

About two weeks before Christmas, start to grow this Christmas present for someone on your list.

You'll need a small sweet potato and an empty jar. (A round peanut butter jar is fine.) Put the potato in the jar, smallest end up. Add enough water to about half cover the potato.

The potato will grow best in the dark—so a good place for it is on the floor of your closet. In a few days it will start to sprout. Then put it on a window sill so it can get some sun. By Christmas it should be a lovely green plant.

To wrap for Christmas, stand the jar in the center of a paper lace doily, or a circle of kitchen foil. Gather paper around the neck of the jar and tie in place with a piece of ribbon. A gift tag can be tied to the ribbon.

#### For Little Girls

For those small girls on your Christmas gift list, why not give embroidery sets you can outfit yourself? For each set, you will need to buy only a pair of scissors and a hoop. The rest of the materials can come from your own sewing basket.

Choose large, simple hot iron designs. Transfer them to scraps of solid color materials cut with pinking shears into small doilies or mats. Half a dozen patterns would be plenty for one gift.

Provide a good embroidery needle, and several colors of embroidery cotton wound on 1" squares of cardboard.

Packed neatly in a flat box, this inexpensive gift will delight some child on your Christmas list.

—Ida M. Pardue

## CHRISTMAS IS FOR MOTHERS

By Esther Grace Sigsbee

Christmas is a busy time, especially for mothers. Storekeepers, clerks, teachers, photographers, professional Santa Clauses and choir directors are busy, too, but it often seems to me that mothers have the most work to do of all. To make a merry Christmas for others and themselves they have to spread their labor and talents over so many fields and each project demands more time than there is to give. Somehow mothers are always ready when the great day arrives, but it's no wonder that when anyone bothers to picture Mrs. Santa Claus she always turns out looking very much like somebody's mother!

First comes the shopping for gifts. It's a joyful task but labor none the less for each present must be exactly right and still come within the amount Mother has to spend. Then when she gets through with her own shopping she often has to buy the presents that Dad will give.

Christmas cards are usually signed as coming from the whole family, but chances are that it is Mother who buys, writes and mails them. And those enclosed notes to old friends—they bring such a feeling of warmth to Christmas. They are usually written by Mother also.

At Christmastime mothers have an expanded social calendar for December meetings of clubs and church groups are always extra-festive. Husbands take their wives to their own organization's Christmas parties and there are shop and office parties, Christmas teas and family gatherings.

The children have their own Christmas social whirl and Mamma must see to it that they are there, on time, properly dressed and that they have a package for the gift exchange. There are school and church programs with rehearsals involved and performances to attend. If their child is "in it", Mother wouldn't miss it for the world for there's something about children singing carols and speaking pieces that is an indispensable part of Christmas.

At home, Mother is busy also. The house must be slicked up so that everything will be nice for the holidays. The "halls must be decked", if not with, "Boughs of Holly", at least with something red and green and Christmassy looking. Dozens of cookies must be baked and other traditional goodies whipped up.

It has often been said that Christmas is for children, and it is in the sense that we must all take a child's viewpoint toward the great event the day commemorates to appreciate fully the wonder and joy and great expectations. But Christmas is for everybody, young and old, rich and poor—a kind, forgiving, charitable time. And Christmas is for mothers in a very special way.

When the Son of God was born as man that first Christmas the humble Mary was chosen to be His mother and motherhood was glorified for all time. Mary was poor in worldly goods and she had just made the long jour-

(Continued on page 17)





## NEWS FROM SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Dear Friends:

I have just returned from a four-day trip up into New Hampshire. It was a business trip, but never have I had one that was more of a pleasure. The mountains were still a blaze of color even though we had had very heavy rains. As a matter of fact, there had been some snow in the high altitudes, and the bright reds and yellows of the leaves against the white of the snow was spectacularly beautiful.

Are you one of those persons who likes to drive a car right down to the last ounce of gasoline? I am. I don't know why it is, but I hate to buy gasoline until I am sure that there is hardly a drop left in the tank. Of course it is not logical; indeed, it borders upon sheer stupidity, but that is one of the queer quirks in my nature. (I might add that it is something that irritates my good wife no end!) The one redeeming fact in all of this is that in all of my life I have never run out of gas. But goodness knows I have come close to it on occasions and one of those occasions was on this New Hampshire trip.

I saw the gas gauge drop down to the empty mark, and a quick calculation told me that I could go for thirty-eight more minutes on the reserve tank. The next time I thought to look at my watch, I had driven nearly four minutes beyond every margin of safety, but my luck was with me and a gas station came into sight just over the next hill. I asked the attendant to fill the tank. He put in the hose, turned the switch, but nothing came out. That's right! The gasoline station was out of gas! Now have you ever heard of such a thing? I still say that my record is clear. I have yet to run out of gas.

Life is very busy for us these days with all of the activities in our new church, and all of the work involved in furnishing a new home. The South Congregational Church here in Springfield is like every good church everywhere. It seems that there is something going on at the church nearly every minute of every day. Yesterday our church women had a big rummage sale. Now I have seen many rummage sales in many churches, but in all of my life I have never seen anything to equal this one. Believe it or not, our women made more than \$1,200 in a one-day sale of old clothes, old dishes, pots and pans, and used jewelry. Betty worked hard on the sale, going to the church during three days of the week to help prepare the used articles for display. The church women have two such sales a year — one in the fall and another one in the spring. Year after year they always make at least \$1,000 on every sale.

I am not sure whether I told you about all of the ducks that we have on a pond in the park just a couple of blocks from the house. On the pond



Mary Leanna kisses Grandmother Driftmier while David stands close by. Dad is in back of Mother.

there are more than a thousand wild ducks. That's right! They are wild ducks, not domestic ones, and they are perfectly free to fly away to the southland for the winter, but they evidently do not intend to go. The other day several hundred of them took to the air and flew about our house, finally coming down on the river a short distance from here; but in a few minutes they were back on the pond. The children love to feed them, and at least once a week we let them do so. I think that when the snow falls we shall go down to feed them more often.

In mother's letter this month she will probably tell you all about their trip out to New England. Needless to say, we had a wonderful time showing them Springfield and the countryside around the city.

One thing that I know mother won't mention in her letter is the exciting trip I had the day I escorted them through the rain to the New York border on their way home. Because of high water and flooded lowlands the day they left here, Mae and I drove in my car ahead of them all the way across the western part of the state just to make certain that they did not get lost on some mountain detour.

When they were safely on their way, I turned back for Springfield taking a different route for the return trip. I drove through one town just after the flood waters had drained back into a river leaving many damaged homes and torn up streets in its wake. For some distance I had to drive very slowly behind a police car that escorted a long line of autos along a particularly treacherous stretch of road. At one spot the water was pouring so swiftly across the highway that I actually feared to continue, but I did and finally got through to Springfield.

It doesn't seem right that we should be having so much rain out here in the East while you in the West are having so little. We had nearly twen-

ty inches of rain in one month recently, and a town just a few miles from here has had an average of an inch of rain a day for a month. We could certainly do with a lot less.

Right now, as I sit here writing this letter, I am listening to a weather forecast on the radio, and the prediction is for six inches of rain this evening. Just think of it! Six inches in one night! It is no wonder that we have floods.

One of the great pleasures that comes to clergymen is the joy of calling in the homes of his parish. This joy is multiplied when the parish is a new one like mine, for now every home I visit is one completely unfamiliar to me. One day last week I visited a home where both the husband and the wife collect rare and beautiful books, and what a thrill I had when they took out of a specially constructed vault the oldest printed cookbook in the world. Of course you know that the Bible was the first book in the world to be printed on a press, but this cookbook is nearly as old as the Gutenberg Bible. It was printed in the year 1475, having been compiled by a curious scholar in the Vatican Library. Because the Latin language of that day was considerably different from the ancient Latin that I learned in school, I was unable to read any part of the book, but the owners promised that someday they would show me a partial translation of it.

In that same home I saw what is probably the finest private collection of cookbooks in this country. There were several cookbooks printed in England two or three hundred years ago, and as I read some of the recipes I wondered how anyone could have eaten their food and lived. I asked the owners of the collection if they had ever tried any of the old recipes just out of curiosity, and they told me that they had not for the simple reason that many of the ingredients used in cooking a few hundred years ago are not now available to us. I think that they had cookbooks in their collection from almost every country in the world, both old and new.

I was interested to learn that in the old cookbooks there were always a great many recipes for medical cures of one kind or another. On the same page with a recipe for a Christmas Cake might also be a recipe for removing warts. If I have an opportunity to study a few of the books, I shall write you something more of interest about them.

Each day when I arrive at the office, I go at once to our little Memorial Chapel for a few minutes of prayer and meditation. It is then that I find a strength and a composure to take me through the day with all of its varied activities and demands. Sometimes when I am feeling almost overwhelmed by the enormity of the task ahead of me, I find in the quietness and the beauty of the chapel the reassurance that I am not working alone, and that in all things God is beside me and with me. If for any reason I have to omit that chapel time from my morning schedule, I am most unhappy about it, for that has become the finest part of my day.

Sincerely, Frederick





## CHRISTMAS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

By  
Mabel Nair Brown

**SANTA'S BOOTS** for an entrance decoration: Round up a pair of men's overshoes. Cover with black crepe paper which you have stretched before using. Lacquer or shellac the covered boots if you want them to be waterproof. Glue cotton around the top for the white cuffs (or use white oilcloth). Fill the boots with Christmas greens and add a huge red oilcloth bow.

**POP BOTTLE TREE:** Cover a pop bottle with  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. thickness of modeling clay. For the branches, use the evergreen tips beginning with the longest tips at bottom and working up to point at the top. Stick them into clay. For decoration, tie tiny red ribbon bows on each branch. Or spray the tree with white paint and use blue bows. Cranberries, stuck on with pins, can be used as tree decorations, as can sequins and small beads.

**GLO-TREE:** First make a cone-shaped tree from oiled one-ply Strathmore paper or some other translucent paper. On white paper stick a scattering of star seals, or on pale green paper use gold seals. The size of this cone will determine the size "trunk" you will need, as well as the size of the square wooden base in which you will drill a hole to insert a dowel stick trunk. Also you will need a small tin can. This can is turned upside down, slipped over the dowel stick (make hole in center of can bottom) and rests on wooden base. The base, can and dowel stick can be painted to match or harmonize with the cone tree. Make holes in the bottom of the can (now turned up to make the tree base) large enough so that the tiny Christmas tree light blubs can be pushed through them from the inside of the can. You can also put bulbs through holes in the sides of the can. Thus you have the lights all sticking out from the can base with the light cord wound up inside the can (a hole clipped at bottom edge will allow extension cord to come through.)

The angel hair and some small tree ornaments covering the wooden base will pick up and reflect the pretty light from the colored bulbs and the light will shine softly through the cone tree. A foil covered gold star should be placed at the top of the tree after it is slipped over the dowel stick. One of these trees would make a conversation piece for sure on a dinner table, or an occasional table as a background for a lovely Madonna or angel arrangement.

If used as a table centerpiece, for individual favors cut "snowflakes" from lace paper doilies and in center of each one place a small Christmas corsage or boutonniere made from tiny

tree ornaments, bells and greens. The reflected lights from such a table setting are indescribably lovely!

**CHRISTMAS WREATH COOKIE CANDLE SERVER** will prove an eye-catcher and a "tongue-starter" at a Christmas buffet or dinner party. Simply slip the decorated wreath cookies (all one size, made using a doughnut cutter; or, graduating from large ones at bottom to small ones at top) over a pretty candle. The guests just help themselves from this unique cookie server! And its so pretty, too. It could be used on a table as the centerpiece — perhaps a pair of them used with a miniature sleigh filled with Christmas candies, nuts, etc. placed between the candles.

**POINSETTIA LADY FAVORS:** Use small spools, large buttons or a bit of plastic foam for the base. Make body of lady of pipecleaners. Cut circles of construction paper for the faces and use crayons or watercolors to make features and hair. For the hat, cut poinsettias from red construction paper. Cut these in half and use one of these on each lady as a halo-effect hat. Use gold paint to make dots (flower centers) which also give halo above the hair line. Cut the holly leaves from green paper and use one glued to each pipe cleaner figure as the body. Mark leaf down center with gold paint. A small white birthday candle or some of the tiny bells can be held in the little lady's hand.

**CHRISTMAS GOODIE CHOO-CHOO** will most certainly appeal to the youngsters — perhaps you have a December birthday to celebrate. Use one of the larger candy rolls for the engine and the rectangular candy bars as the railroad cars — locate one with red paper wrapping for the caboose! Glue on round flat peppermint striped candies for the train wheels and use the long narrow gumdrops as the "couplings". The cowcatcher on the engine can be half a chocolate drop and the bell can be a small gumdrop candy stuck on a piece of a match stick or toothpick. Here and there among the train "cars" put small cars made from tiny boxes and have these loaded with greens or small ornaments. For the track use a long narrow cardboard covered with silver foil. A few "stop, look, and listen," signs fastened on toothpicks and stuck in large gumdrops will add to the picture. If you wanted to go "all out" you could make a railroad station using cookies and candies just as a cookie house is made. Favors for a child's birthday party might be one of the edible engines fashioned like the one on the train.

**GREENERY BALLS:** Stick a potato full of evergreen tips. Tie a ribbon around them to hang up as decorations. They can be "glitter" balls by adding a few of the very tiny tree ornaments to the greens. These can be used very effectively in various arrangements, and the moisture in the potato helps to keep greens fresh.

A **BERRY BRANCH** will make a lovely decoration over a doorway, window or over a buffet. Paint a long branch white and then tie small red tree balls in clusters of three, as the "berries" on the branch.

## IT'S FUN TO MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

By Mildred Cathcart

### FOR THE BABIES

Make a soft cuddly toy. Trace a large picture of an animal from a coloring book. Cut the animal from cloth or from a bath towel, embroider eyes, nose and mouth. Use yarn for manes, tails, or whiskers. If stuffed with finely cut nylon scraps it will wash easily.

### FOR THE LITTLE GIRLS:

Make a miniature doll house from a small box. Paper the walls, make bright colored braided rugs, and add ruffled curtains. Small boxes may be converted into furniture and be sure and include a tiny doll.

### FOR THE LITTLE BOYS:

Make a small wagon from a brightly painted cigar box or other wooden box. Cut wooden wheels and attach them with a heavy wire or a round stick run through holes bored in the sides of the wagon. Fill the wagon with brightly painted blocks of wood or spools to be used for building.

### FOR BIG SISTERS:

Enamel several coat hangers in colors to match sister's room. Add small decals or paint gay designs. For each hanger make tiny sachet bags and attach to hanger with ribbon bows.

### FOR BIG BROTHER:

Make an attractive box for brother's desk or dresser. Varnish the outside of the box. Cut a colored picture from a magazine and glue on top. Remember brother's favorite hobby and find an appropriate picture. Shellac over the entire box. Inside the box glue partitions made from various sized cardboard boxes. Brother may use the box on his desk to keep stamps, paper clips, etc., or he may use it on his dresser for tie clasp or cuff links.

### FOR MOTHER OR AUNT:

A felt needle case for her sewing basket will be used the year around. Cut two butterflies from a piece of felt — an old hat will do. Sew colored sequins or beads on the wings. Cut three more butterflies the same size from flannel, wool or denim. Place these three between the two decorated butterflies and stitch through the center of the butterflies.

### FOR GRANDMOTHER:

Make a knitting box from a small oatmeal box and cover it with bright paper or cover the box with pictures and outline around each odd shaped picture with heavy black lines. Use heavy cord for the handles made by braiding strands of yarn. Tie a bright bead on one end of the cord. Run the cord through holes in the top of the box and put beads on the ends of the cords inside the box to keep the handles from slipping out.

### FOR DADDY OR GRANDFATHER:

A match striker will be a useful gift. Cut a small wooden animal and paint it. When dry, glue a piece of sandpaper on one side of it. Or you may make a tie rack. Use a narrow smoothly sand papered piece of wood for the back. Cut a large spool half in two and glue on each end. Then glue a narrow strip of wood across the spools for the ties to hang over.



# "Recipes Tested

in the

## Kitchen - Klatter Kitchen"

By

LEANNA, LUCILE and MARGERY

### ROAST GOOSE

Are you roasting the old gray goose for Christmas dinner? If so, perhaps you would like to hear my way of preparing it. After stuffing the goose I place strips of bacon or salt pork over the breast. Place it in the hot oven in the roasting pan. Pour 1/2 cupful of water into the pan. During the roasting, baste the goose frequently. Remove the bacon or salt pork in plenty of time to permit the part underneath to brown. When the surface is well browned and the meat may be easily pierced with a fork, place the goose on a platter, remove the strings used to sew it up, garnish it with apple rings, which is traditional with goose, and serve it to your waiting family. My personal preference for stuffing with goose is corn bread stuffing, but sage dressing is, of course, very good.

### CORN BREAD STUFFING

- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tsp. sage
- 1 Tbls. thyme and marjoram (mixed)
- 3 cups corn bread crumbs
- 1/3 cup bacon drippings
- 2 tsp. salt
- 2 cups soft bread crumbs
- 1 cup onion
- 1 cup seedless raisins

Add egg to milk and mix well. Add seasonings to corn bread crumbs with drippings. Add egg and milk mixture and fold in bread crumbs, onion and raisins. This should be like coarse bread crumbs — not wet and soggy.

### CRANBERRY ORANGE MOLDS

- 2 cups uncooked cranberries
- 2 small oranges
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 package lemon gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- Lettuce
- Whipped cream mayonnaise

Wash cranberries; dry, and peel oranges. Put cranberries and 1 orange peel through food chopper; dice orange pulp and add with the sugar. Dissolve gelatin in boiling water and cool. Combine with cranberry orange mixture, pour into oiled molds and chill until firm. Unmold on lettuce and serve with mayonnaise which has been blended with a little whipped cream. This is another delicious salad that will be nice for you to serve with those company holiday dinners.

### ALMOND PRETZELS

- 1 cup shortening
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup cream
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 egg white for icing
- 1 Tbls. milk
- 1/2 cup chopped almonds

Work shortening into the flour as for making pie crust. Combine beaten eggs, cream, vanilla, sugar and salt. Add to flour and butter mixture and chill. Roll into rolls about 8 inches long and as thick as a lead pencil. Shape like a pretzel, brush with egg white which has been slightly beaten and to which has been added 1 Tbls. milk. Sprinkle with finely chopped almonds and bake in a 350 degree oven 12 to 15 minutes. Makes about 5 dozen.

### CRANBERRY PUDDING

- 1 cup sifted flour
- 1 1/2 tps. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 2/3 cup finely chopped suet
- 1 cup chopped cranberries
- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup milk or water

Mix ingredients in the order given and turn into a greased mold, cover with waxed paper and steam for 2 hours. Serve with whipped cream or Hard Sauce. This recipe will serve 6.

### CRANBERRY SHERBET

- 1 pound (4 cups) cranberries
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 Tbls. unflavored gelatin
- 1/2 cup cold water
- 1/3 cup lemon juice

Cook cranberries and water until skins pop. Rub through a sieve, add sugar and heat to boiling. Soften gelatin in cold water, add to hot cranberry mixture and stir until dissolved. Cool and add lemon juice. Freeze in refrigerator tray until firm. If you like you can use 2 cups diced apples and 2 cups cranberries instead of 4 cups of cranberries. Some of you who have plenty of apples may prefer to do this.

### PEANUT BRITTLE

- 1 quart peanuts in shell
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 Tbls. butter or margarine
- 2 cups light molasses
- 2/3 cup sugar

Shell peanuts; remove skins. Separate in halves and sprinkle with salt. Melt butter or margarine; add molasses and sugar. Cook slowly to 290 degrees, or when small quantity dropped into cold water separates into heavy threads. Remove from heat and add peanuts. Pour into large greased pan, spreading as thin as possible and let cool. Then break into small pieces.

### ENGLISH ROLLED WAFERS

To many of our friends Christmas cookie baking just isn't complete until some of these rolled wafers are made. If you have never made any, please do add them to your collection this year. You'll be happy you did when you hear all the comments you will receive.

- 1/2 cup molasses
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup flour
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. ginger
- 1/4 tsp. salt

Heat molasses to boiling point and add butter or margarine. Stir until melted. Sift together twice the flour, sugar, ginger and salt. Add to molasses mixture gradually and mix well. Drop by 1/2 tsp. 2 1/2 inches apart on greased baking sheet. Bake in moderate oven, 350 degrees about 12 minutes. Cool slightly, turn over and roll, glossy side out, over handle of wooden spoon. If cookies become too crisp to roll, heat a few minutes in oven. Now, don't you think you'll try them?

### CEREAL CANDY

- Place in large bowl:
- 3 cups corn flakes
- 3 cups Rice Krispies
- 1 cup jumbo peanuts

Cook to soft ball:

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup thin cream
- 1 cup dark syrup
- Pinch of salt

Remove from heat and add 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla. Pour over first mixture and press into buttered pan. When cool, cut in squares.

### ORANGE SUGARED WALNUTS

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 3 Tbls. orange juice
- 1/2 tsp. grated orange rind
- 2 cups walnut meats

Combine sugar, water and orange juice. Cool slowly, stirring until mixture boils. Boil slowly, without stirring until a semi-firm ball will form when dropped into cold water. Remove from heat; add orange rind and nut meats. Stir until syrup begins to look cloudy. Drop by teaspoons on waxed paper. You can use other nuts for this.

### DATE NUT ROLL

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 2 Tbls. butter or margarine
- 1 1/2 cups chopped pitted dates
- 1 cup chopped nut meats

Combine sugar, milk and butter or margarine. Cook slowly, stirring constantly, until mixture boils; then boil slowly until a semi-firm ball will form when small quantity is dropped into cold water. Remove from heat and add dates and nuts. Stir until mixture thickens — then form into 2 rolls, 1 1/2 inches thick and wrap in damp cloth; chill until firm and slice 1/4 inch thick.



**SUGARPLUM LOAF**

3/4 cup milk  
 1/2 cup shortening  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 2 eggs  
 1 cake fresh yeast  
 2 Tbls. lukewarm water  
 5 cups flour  
 1 tsp. salt  
 1/2 cup seedless raisins  
 1/2 cup chopped walnuts  
 1/2 cup chopped citron  
 1/2 cup chopped candied cherries  
 Powdered Sugar Icing  
 Scald milk; cool to lukewarm.  
 Cream shortening, beat eggs and add.  
 Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water and add with milk to creamed mixture.  
 Add 1 cup of flour and mix well.  
 Cover and let rise in a warm place until double in bulk. Add salt, raisins, nut meats, citron and cherries. Gradually add remaining flour. Knead on lightly floured board until thoroughly mixed. Place in greased round pan, 8 inches in diameter and 3 inches high. Cover and let rise in a warm place until double in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350 degrees, for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Remove from pan, cool on a wire rack and spread with Powdered Sugar Icing.

**TENNESSEE CHESS PIE**

1 1/2 cups sugar  
 3 whole eggs  
 1 tsp. lemon juice  
 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring  
 1/4 lb. butter  
 Cream sugar and butter. Add lemon juice. Beat eggs well. Add to sugar and butter and vanilla. Pour into unbaked shell. Bake same as for custard pie, until knife inserted comes out clean.

**APPLE COCONUT PASTRY**

8 large apples, sliced thin  
 1/2 cup brown sugar  
 1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
 2 Tbls. butter  
 1 cup shredded coconut  
 1/2 cup white sugar  
 1/2 tsp. salt  
 1 egg, well beaten  
 1/4 cup heavy cream  
 Pastry to line a 16 x 10 x 1-inch pan.  
 Place apples in rows on pastry. Mix brown sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle over the apples. Dot with butter. Bake in a 425 degree oven for 25 minutes. Mix coconut, white sugar, salt, egg and cream and spread over apples. Bake an additional 15 minutes at 350 degrees.

**BARBECUED GREEN BEANS AND CORN**

1 medium onion  
 2 Tbls. fat  
 1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce  
 1/4 cup ketchup  
 1 No. 2 can green beans  
 1 1/2 cups whole kernel corn  
 Mince the onion and saute in fat. Add Worcestershire sauce and ketchup. Drain beans and combine with corn and sauce. Serve hot.

**OLD-FASHIONED POUNDCAKE  
(A Favorite through the years.)**

1 pound butter (2 cups)  
 1 pound sifted cake flour (4 1/2 cups)  
 10 eggs, separated  
 1 pound sugar (2 cups)  
 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring

Cream butter with vanilla and sugar until fluffy. Beat egg yolks until thick and add to creamed mixture. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites, mixing thoroughly. Fold in flour and beat vigorously 15 minutes or longer. Pour into 2 greased loaf pans and bake in a slow oven, 325 degrees, for 1 1/4 hours.

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\*Almond

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Dear Friends:

This is a gloomy, chilly day with the temperature dropping every hour, and the early morning forecast sounds as if this is the beginning of our winter. We have had a lovely warm Fall and perfect weather for getting the crops in. Frank is out picking our last load of corn this morning. The next thing on the docket will be getting some wood up for the winter.

Frank was telling me yesterday that years ago before everyone had his corn picked with a corn picker you thought you were doing real well if you got in all in by Thanksgiving. In this neighborhood the families all went to the school house on Thanksgiving day for a big dinner. The main topic of conversation was "Corn"—"Do you have all your corn picked yet?"; "I planted a little more corn this year than I did last and we aren't quite through, but if I keep the boys home from school next week I think we can wind it up.", etc. There was always chicken for meat and the tables groaned with food. In the afternoon there was a ball game unless it had snowed, and many times they even played in the snow. Gone are the days - - -

Edna and Raymond have been spending a lot of time with us this past month. Since they sold their service station — and until they can move to their new farm — they have had a lot more free time. Raymond bought a new tractor and plow and brought it out here until he moves, so whenever he has had a free afternoon he has come out and done some fall plowing for Frank, which, needless to say, has been very much appreciated.

It seems to me that there have been an unusually large number of farm sales this Fall. Perhaps there have been this many every year and I just haven't noticed it. Now that Edna and Raymond are interested in all of them because there are so many things they need to start farming, I don't think there has been a farm sale for miles around that hasn't been discussed at this house. Of course they go to all of them and they always ask us to go along, but so far we have only taken one day off and gone with them.

This particular sale we attended was not far from the farm that Edna and Raymond bought, so after the sale we drove on down to the farm and saw it for the first time. We think they have a lovely place and are awfully glad for them. They are very anxious to get moved but the people they bought the farm from haven't been able to find a house. The last report as of last night was this: the Richardsons have found a house



On the same afternoon Mother and Dad arrived in Anderson they went out to the yard to get this picture. Mary Beth, Mother and little Katherine all winced in a blinding sun, but Donald seems able to face it with a big smile.

but they can't move until the lady who lives there can move into the house she is going to and she can't move until the couple in that house have a place to move. MY! what a vicious circle. We just didn't realize that houses were so scarce.

We have had a nice week-end visit with Frank's sister Ruth this month. The Saturday she came was 4-H meeting day. Kristin went to the meeting but I stayed at home with Ruth. (Incidentally this was the first meeting I have missed since Kristin became a member two years ago.)

On Sunday we had a Johnson family dinner and had a lovely day together. Just a few days before we had the family here for dinner to celebrate Raymond's birthday. If we had known Ruth was coming we would have waited for her! We had a fish dinner with the fish that Frank and Kristin had been catching and putting in the tank until they had enough for a big fish fry. In the afternoon Uncle August came down and helped Frank clean all of them. That was quite a job.

I have found a little time this month for sewing. Kristin was in great need of some heavy skirts to wear to school this winter so I made her a rust colored corduroy skirt. She is very slender and thinks that she doesn't look good in anything that doesn't have a real full skirt, so when I made this one I pleated in just as much material as I could possibly get into her tiny waistband. It suited her fine and she has already worn it several times.

I had a very lovely gift in the mail the other day from my cousin, Gretchen Harshbarger. She had written me and said she was sending me a piece of material she had bought for herself last Spring intending to have a suit made. A few days after she bought the material she found a ready-made suit that was exactly what she wanted and had never used this material. She remembered that I like the same colors that she did in

clothes, so she was sending the material to me and maybe I could make something for myself or Kristin out of it. The box came the next day and contained one of the most beautiful pieces of beige wool tweed I have ever seen. I'm almost scared to cut into it. I have debated and debated what to make with it and have finally decided to make both Kristin and me skirts alike. We have matching pink shirts that were a gift from Sue Sayre, and now with skirts alike we will each have a nice outfit.

Last winter Kristin had a grey felt skirt with three red leaves appliqued on the front of it and one big red felt leaf for a pocket. It was too long when she got it, so I had cut a strip about four inches wide off the bottom. This year the skirt was way too short and since I had saved the piece off the bottom I had been trying to figure out how to put it back on. Yesterday she wore it to school. I used bias tape underneath and stitched both pieces to this so that they matched and were also flat. Then I found red fringe to match the red leaves and stitched this around the outside of the skirt over the seam and Kristin feels as if she has a brand new skirt. It really made the skirt more attractive we all think and now she will get another year's wear out of it.

We have to go to town this afternoon and since Frank will soon be in for dinner I had better close and see what the cupboard has to offer in the way of food. There'll be something to choose from today because I laid in more than usual on my last grocery trip so he'd have plenty these next few meals while Kristin and I are in Shenandoah. Probably it will be our last visit until the Christmas holidays. It hardly seems possible that we're making Christmas plans again, but we are! And we want to wish everyone at your place a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sincerely, Dorothy



## CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

By Grace Stoner Clark

I hope you don't write "X-mas" When you mean our Lord's birthday For "X" stands for an unknown thing, But CHRIST is life's proved way.

Let us take time — in reverence — To give Christ's name all glory And proudly say, "it's CHRISTMAS" In word and song or story.

## DECEMBER TWENTY-FOUR

Tomorrow You are born again  
Who died so many times.  
Do You like the candle-light,  
Do You like the chimes?

Do You stop to wonder  
Why men never see  
How very closely Bethlehem  
Approaches Calvary?

—Eleanor Slater



# Something Different In Holiday Gifts

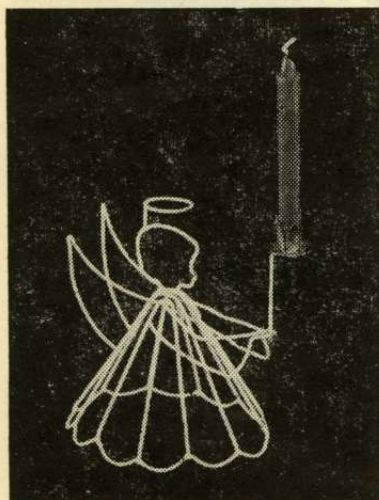


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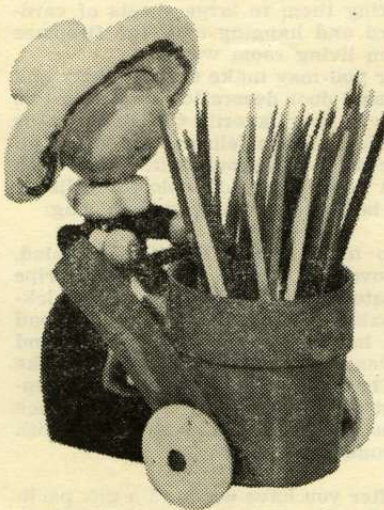
## Jingle Bells only \$1

Three brightly polished brass bells suspended from a birch log six inches long trimmed in greenery, pine cones, berries and a big red ribbon. Clever suction cup on back attaches to door.



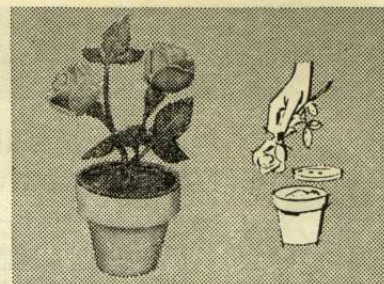
Angel Candle Holder

An adorable centerpiece. The angel is constructed of white wire and stands about 10" high including red candle. \$1



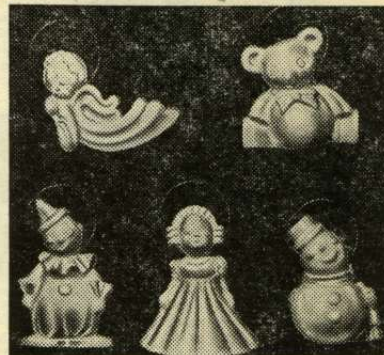
Lady Push Cart

Lightweight wood painted in peasant colors. Fill her with toothpicks or tiny artificial flowers. \$1



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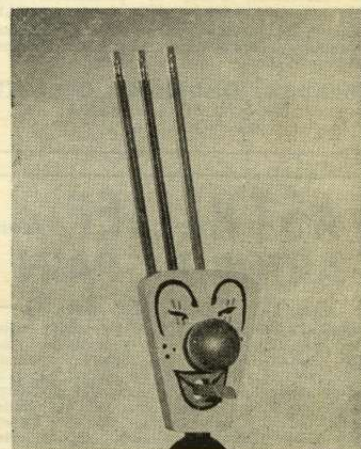
Soapside Figurines

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This year Kent Grenier will have a new little sister, Candace, to join him in a picture near the tree on Christmas morning.

### OVER THE COFFEE CUPS . . .

By Mildred E. Grenier

There's a tiny new sock on our mantle this year and the excitement at our house is grand to see! A bit of bright tinsel has caught in her hair and her laugh like the bells chimes with glee! Her happiness shines like the Christmas tree baubles, sparkling silver and gold airily spun; we've no need for the mistletoe sprig — there are kisses for everyone! A bit of the holly-berry rubbed off on her cheek, she reaches and claps in high glee tiny hands as soft as the wing of the angel Daddy hung high up in the tree; and when she gazes at the top-most tip at the glittering star perched there, we know the love of the long-age Christ Child, caught and mirrored in her wondering blue stare . . .

We like to display our Christmas cards each year by stapling or thumb tacking them to large sheets of cardboard and hanging over the fireplace or on living room walls.

Or you may make a very pretty and unusual door decoration by gluing two rows of your favorite Christmas cards on red or green felt and shellacing all over to weatherproof it. Top with pine cones and add colorful bells at the bottom for the guests to ring.

To make a SANTA CLAUS salad, remove the center from a firm ripe tomato and fill with turkey or chicken salad. This is the body. The head is a hard cooked egg with clove and pimiento eyes, nose and mouth. Make the hat by placing a green olive upright on a slice of stuffed olive. Place on a lettuce leaf and surround with mayonnaise "snow".

After you have wrapped a gift package in red, green or plain blue paper, write a suitable Christmas greeting or the name of the person for whom it is intended, in glue and quickly sprinkle with Christmas "glitter". Shake off the excess after it has been allowed to dry thoroughly.

The never-failing pop corn, popped

and coated with this syrup recipe, can be molded into delightful Christmas figures. Combine in a sauce pan 1 cup of sugar, 1/2 cup water, 1 teaspoon vinegar, 2 tablespoons light syrup and 1/2 teaspoon of salt and boil to the very hard ball stage. Remove from heat, add 2 tablespoons butter and vegetable coloring if desired. Pour over the popped corn (about 5 cups), coating thoroughly and mold into figures.

To make a clever Snowman center piece, mold the corn over an empty 1 lb. coffee tin, turning upside down and covering bottom also. Make a popcorn ball for the snowman's head and make face and buttons using chocolate mints, cherries and a pecan half. Fill the can with candy or cookies, top with a lace paper doiley, then place on the snowman's head. Place a black construction paper hat on his head.

We love the Popcorn Sleigh for a delightful centerpiece at our house. Mold the corn over the outside of a cardboard box 7x4 inches, then build up the back and sides to make a sleigh. Brush two candy canes with syrup and place under sleigh for runners — hold into place until dry. You may "hitch" this sleigh with ribbon to dime-store reindeers and place a plastic Santa Claus inside or you may fill it with bright Christmas balls, favors, cookies or candy.

A Popcorn Christmas Tree is made by tinting the syrup a dark green and molding the corn into balls of graduated sizes, from a large one to a very small one. Make the base of the tree from the very large ball and gradually decrease the size of the balls as you press them firmly on top of each other. A silver foil star may be stuck on the top and you may decorate the tree with red cranberries, cinnamon candies, etc.

For a pretty and simple Christmas salad, make a wreath of well drained fruit cocktail around cottage cheese on lettuce leaf or other salad greens.

Frost a loaf cake smoothly with white icing. With red decorative icing in pastry tube, make ribbons tying the "package" with a large red bow at the top. Write a message with frosting in the pastry tube. Make all over design with pastry tube or decorate with small candies. This is an especially good idea if you are presenting the cake as a gift or using it as a table centerpiece.

Your lace or crocheted table cloth laid over red or green crepe paper makes a pretty holiday table.

To make pretty and tasty Marshmallow Snowballs hold plain or colored marshmallows with a fork over steaming water until softened; roll in cocoanut and let dry on waxed paper.

Boil Brazil nuts 3 minutes, drain, cover with cold water and let stand a minute. Drain and crack and the whole kernel will be easy to remove.





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RICHMOND HILL 18, N. Y.



Emily and Alison raked leaves with a hearty will these past few weeks. Both little girls are eagerly awaiting Santa's next visit.

### MY GREATEST PROBLEM IN LIVING WITH MY CHILDREN

Dear Lucile:

Naturally parents have many problems: squabbles among the children — but when they turn right around and play happily together, that one can be discounted. They dawdle at bed time — time will take care of that. And so on. But we really need help with this problem which concerns grade school children (ages 7 to 12).

Just how do you teach children to be willing, responsible members of the household? They are asked to do a chore and promptly respond, "I did it last Tuesday — it's Joe's turn" or "Oh, Mom, none of the other kids have to do dishes." And so on, until in desperation and in hopes of avoiding further unpleasantness, I say, "Go on, I'll do it myself." Which leads to the second problem.

In most instances I would just as soon do it myself because the children give their jobs one good "licking of promise" and then promptly settle down to their favorite book or television program. Calling them back to do it over soon adds up to nagging and more unpleasantness. Just what degree of perfection should be expected in household tasks? Please understand that every school assignment is done to the very best of their ability.

Now that the problem is written down the solution appears to be a thorough job of re-education and some good "old-fashioned" discipline. Won't some mother who has guided her children through this vital training period with some measure of success, help us?

This training has such an important bearing on their later life. It is essential that children do learn to accept their home responsibilities willingly, and that they follow the maxim: "Anything worth doing is worth doing well."

Sincerely, Mrs. R.M.D. Iowa.

Children are a great comfort to you in your old age—and they help you get there sooner.

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**FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CALENDAR** for 1956. \$1.00.

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See Page 9 of the November issue for many more "Books" for Christmas.

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Here is my \$1.50 for a one year subscription. Please start immediately.

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### FOR FATHERS AND GRANDFATHERS TO MAKE

Remember the tree house and playhouse pictures in our November issue? Frank Spencer of Stewartsville, Mo. has also built for his children some wonderful toys, shown here, and since it's still almost a month until Christmas we're hoping that some fathers and grandfathers who are handy with tools can make use of the required measurements given below.

#### Fort

Over-all size 18 by 24. Pickets are 3/4 by 3/4 and 6 in. tall; pointed on top except for 9 on each corner where the block houses are. Gate is 8 pickets wide hinged on a 3/4 in. double pin. Block houses are laid of 5 tiers of 3/4 by 3/4 in. blocks, 4 in. by 2 and 3/4 in. long. Gable 3 blocks high; roof boards 1/2 by 4 and 5 in. long. 4 pickets inside of block house for support. Pickets nailed on 1/2 by 3 1/2 board with 1 1/2 in. walls half-way up on side of pickets. Material is of white pine. 28 pickets on side and 21 on end. Pickets may be glued together to give strength.

#### Stockyards And Loading Chute

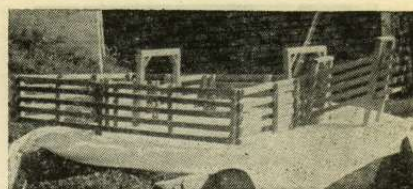
Over-all size is 24 by 30 inches and 5 inches high. There are 5 pieces on each side, each piece being 1/4 by 1/2 in. Posts are 1/2 by 1/2 and 5 in. high. Gate post 1/2 by 1/2 and 8 in. tall, 9 in. wide. Gates are made to slide between board with bats on each side of gate. Panels nailed together with 1 by 18 wire brads. Corners are fastened together with 3/16 by 1 1/2 in. round head stove bolts with wing nuts. (This was done so it could be taken apart). Material to use is soft wood such as white pine lattice. (We used old crates.) The loading chute is 5 in. wide over-all. Posts are 1/2 by 1/2 in. Front posts 9 in. tall; back posts 7 in. tall. There are five 1/4 by 1/2 in. boards on each side. The floor board is 1/2 in. thick by 3 in. wide, 12 in. over-all. Fence partition is the same as front of fence, including the gate.

### A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE BIRDS

Mildred Dooley Cathcart

Our daughters have always wanted to decorate an outdoor Christmas tree but the idea has not been feasible at our house. However, a Christmas tree for the birds has become a wonderful project each year.

We secure a small inexpensive Christmas tree or some good evergreen branches. This tree is strictly "for the birds" and we have found that our feathered friends seem to like all the tinsel and baubles that our girls hang on it.



Pine cones are enameled in bright colors or gilded and are filled with peanut butter. Sometimes we add bread crumbs or chopped nuts or bird seed to the peanut butter. Again we use melted grease and fill in around the cones and before the grease "sets" we add any type of delicacy.

Chunks of bread, sliced apple or lettuce leaves are tied to the branches with gay colored ribbons.

Kerry Lee, who is learning to crochet, often uses scraps of colored thread to make tiny sacks which are filled with cranberries, bits of fruit, bread crusts, or a piece of suet.

Occasionally when we have some nut cups left, Jean Marie fills them with pop corn or cracked grains of field corn and ties these to the branches with colored thread.

Near the tree we remember to place a pan of water and we do not forget to fill some of our little bird "dishes" with sand and grit.

Our bird's Christmas tree has strands of pop corn and cranberries draped around the branches, too. This tree is just as bright and cheery looking as any outdoor decorated tree and Kerry Lee and Jean Marie feel that they are giving the birds a "Merry Christmas," too.

### "Christmas Tree" Lady—

#### Concluded

Mrs. Logan says that she uses only rubber cement to apply ANY of these materials. If you change your mind or make a mistake you can lift up the object without a stain being left.

The mistletoe angel Mrs. Logan is holding in her hand is absolutely fetching. I'm sure I can't begin to do it justice in describing it.

A white Styrofoam ball is used for this. The features are made of sequins — two green stars for the eyes centered with silver sequins. A handsome gold ribbon is used to make the big bow at the chin and again at the top where the mistletoe is attached. A wide, loosely woven silver tinsel braid is around the head to conceal the points where the white spun angel hair is attached. I cannot imagine a more charming way to hang mistletoe in any room!

I just won't have room to describe anymore of these things, so perhaps I'd better wind it up by saying that Mrs. Logan feels you have much more to select from today than you had only a short time ago. There are Styrofoam balls in all sizes, felt has been reduced in price, sequins, pearls, etc. can be found in any Five and Ten, and good old cotton is available anywhere.

Do spend a little of your Christmas budget for "makings" and see what a wonderful time you can have. And don't forget — ANY of these things would make extremely original and VERY welcome gifts.





Aunt Martha comes over from Clarinda almost every weekend and recently there's been a great deal of cooking done. Here they are checking a loaf of Christmas bread that has just come out of the oven.

### Christmas Is For Mothers—

#### Concluded

ney to Bethlehem on the back of a donkey to pay the taxes. There were taxes even then and the young couple probably were hard put to pay them.

They were unable to get a room at the inn and when Mary's time came, the Baby was born on a bed of straw with only her husband there to help her. But the troubled hours were soon forgotten when she saw her Baby and she knew that no matter what happened it was worth it.

One phrase in St. Luke's story of Christmas stands out in my mind as having special meaning for mothers — "But Mary kept these things, pondering them in her heart." Although it is highly presumptuous of me to compare my experience of motherhood with those of the Mother of the Christ Child, most mothers can understand the things she pondered over as she held her new Baby that night so long ago.

What high hopes she must have had for her Son! And his destiny was to be greater than anything she had been told by the announcing angel. I wonder if she knew His coming would change the world? She must have pondered over the miracle of birth as mothers have done from time immemorial and as we still do, for there is something of God in every child. I wonder if she knew that the little donkey would have to carry them on still another journey into Egypt to escape persecution? I wonder if she knew that one day her Son was to be crucified by the very people He came to save?

Yes, Christmas is a very special and holy time for mothers and we'd all do well to take a little quiet time to "ponder all these things" in our own hearts. If we get to feeling a little sorry for ourselves because mothers have so much to do for Christmas, we should remember that those who put the most into Christmas receive the most blessings from it.

# 20 LARGE NEW TOWELS 5¢ EA

Incredible, but true! 20 large-size, new towels in colors and white—for only 5¢ each! Minimum order 20 for \$1.00. (Please include 15¢ extra for postage and handling, or \$1.15 in all for 20 Towels.) Others charge \$1.00 for only FIVE unwoven cotton and rayon towels like these but we made a terrific purchase and are passing savings on to you. Limit 2 orders per customer. Money-back guarantee. Order TODAY! Make wonderful gifts.

**NICKEL TOWELS** Dept. 584, Box 881, St. Louis, Mo.

**Nickel Towels, Dept. 584  
Box 881, St. Louis, Mo.**

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ pkgs. of  
Towels. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Street \_\_\_\_\_

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If new ALFA-REX TABLETS won't relieve your arthritis or rheumatism pains and allay the suffering, chances are nothing you can buy without a prescription will do you much good. Because new ALFA-REX TABLETS, like a modern doctor's prescription, combine the very latest approved pain relieving pharmaceuticals into an economical easy to take tablet and, at the same time, supply the system, as a nutritional supplement, with the calcium, phosphorus and Vitamin D-2 that's been highly recommended in doctor's columns appearing in newspapers all over the nation.

### Better For Relieving Pain, Better For You, Too

Highly important, ALFA-REX TABLETS get at and relieve pains that seem so deep down in hard to get at muscles and joints you might think nothing could effect them. Yet the new medication in ALFA-Rex Tablets are not habit forming. That's why modern doctors like to prescribe these approved ingredients and that's why Alfa-Rex Tablets don't upset the system. And at the same time calcium, phosphorus with the sunshine Vitamin "D" are supplied nutritionally by Alfa-Rex Tablets. It's no wonder arthritis pain sufferers by the thousands are turning to Alfa-Rex Tablets for the fast and long lasting comfort they have the power to bring.

### —TRY . . . BE DELIGHTED OR MONEY BACK—

80 Tablets are only \$2.00 and 205 Tablets are only \$4.95. What's more, either size is yours to try on the guarantee you must be satisfied or you need only return the empty box for money back. Don't suffer unnecessary pains of arthritis or rheumatism.

#### MAIL COUPON

Dwarfling Corporation  
Council Bluffs, Iowa  
Send me at once:

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If you have something to sell try this "Little Ad" Department. Over 175,000 people read this magazine every month. Rate 10¢ a word, payable in advance. When counting words count each initial in name and address. Rejection rights reserved. Your ad must reach us by the 1st of the month preceding date of issue.

January Ads due December 1.

February Ads due January 1.

March Ads due February 1.

Send Ads Direct To

The Driftmier Company  
Shenandoah, Iowa

**GOOD MONEY in WEAVING.** Weave rugs at home for neighbors on \$69.50 Union Loom. Thousands doing it. Booklet free. Union Looms, 150 Post St., Boonville, N.Y.

**NEW TEXTILE STENCILS.** New low prices, new catalog, 25¢ (refundable). Special bulletin for textile painters, sample copy, 25¢. Wolgrams, 251K, R4, Pueblo, Colorado.

**NEW PLASTIC MENDING TAPE.** Just press on! Repairs clothing immediately. Lightning seller. Samples sent on trial. KRISTEE 115, Akron, Ohio.

**LOOK Before You Leap!** See last ad in this column.

**PRESERVE YOUR BABY'S SHOES** in China-like beauty. The exquisitely beautiful "Porcelynized" process, secret of our Studio, transforms baby's own shoes into shimmering fine art keepsakes. Our customers are all over the world. Write for free illustrated folder. Baby Shoe Studio, Dept. K, Richmondville, N. Y.

**SONG POEMS WANTED** for song test. Free "Melody-Title-Line" if poem qualifies. Song-Kraft, Box 1450-KK, Chicago 90.

**ENJOY HEALTHY STONEGROUND Flour,** Cornmeal, Cereals. Write Brownville Mills, Brownville, Nebraska.

**"MOTHER'S LOVE SONGS"** A book of poems by Martha Field Eaton. An ideal gift for that new mother. Price \$1.00. Send order to Martha Field Eaton, Clarinda, Iowa.

**MISPLACED Confidence** Is Costly; See last ad in this column.

**CASH FOR FEATHER BEDS.** New and old feathers—goose or duck—wanted right now! For TOP PRICES and complete shipping instructions with free tags, mail small sample of your feathers in ordinary envelope to: Northwestern Feather Co., Dept. 6, 212 Scribner NW, Grand Rapids 4, Mich. (We return your ticking if desired).

**NYLON HOSIERY BARGAINS:** Factory rejects (Thirds) 6 pair for \$1.00. Our Better Grade (Seconds) 3 pair \$1.00. Our Select Grade (Irregulars) 3 pair \$2.00. Postpaid when cash with order. Allen Hosiery Company, Box 349, Dept. C, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**"MIDGET BIBLE,"** 50¢! Free Novelties Lists! Hirsch, 1301-11 Hoe, New York City 59.

**"WE WANT** everyone who suffers pain to try A-R-T-H. Prompt and lasting relief or your money back. Don't suffer a day longer. Accept our offer today. For full particulars look for our advertisement in Kitchen-Klatter today. Arthrite Company."

**NO Need To GUESS, when you can KNOW!** See last ad in this column.

**SEW BABY SHOES** at home. No canvassing 40 weekly possible. Tiny-Tot Co., Gallipolis 56, Ohio.

**SANTA CLAUS—9" tall—bright red cloth.** Fill body with candy or nuts. Attractive gift. Made-up sample and pattern \$1.00. Mrs. Harms, 6721 Halsted, Chicago 21.

**SPARE-TIME MONEY** Seekers Write to: DAHLE, Box 7-KK, Sta. A, Omaha 10, Nebr.

**COOK BOOK—"The Best in Cooking"** in Omaha-Woman's Society of Christian Service. \$1.25 postpaid. Hanscom Park Methodist Church, 29th & Woolworth Ave., Omaha 5, Nebraska.

**HANDWRITING ANALYSIS** reveals pre-dominant character traits—even more factually than years of acquaintance. Place your confidence in the right people. Be guided correctly by this amazing science. Any handwriting sample submitted will be analyzed by board of experts. Fee \$2.00. ANALYTICS, Richmondville, New York.

Order your holiday—"FRUITURAMA FRUIT CAKE" today. Comes in attractive colored case. Postpaid \$2.95. TOMAN'S BAKERY, 2758 South Christiana Avenue, Chicago 23, Illinois.

**DOLL TOASTER COVERS** \$1.25, tatting bead earrings 65¢. Zelda Hatch, Baxter, Iowa.

**LOVELY HALF-APRONS:** Print \$1.00. Organdy \$1.25. Magdalen Altman, Livermore, Iowa.

**"CAGE BIRD MONTHLY"** — \$1 per year — samples 10¢. Lawrence, Kansas.

**EMBROIDERED TEA TOWELS** set of 7 — \$3.75. Half aprons, prints \$1.25, fancy aprons \$1.50. Mrs. Joe A. Gengler, Rt. 1, LeMars, Iowa.

**FREE! VALUABLE COUPONS** for ordering buttons. Send stamped, addressed envelope to THE BUTTON BOX, Glen Rock 6, New Jersey.

**PHONOGRAPH RECORDS.** Latest hits. 45 and 78 RPM. 4 for \$1.00. Slightly used. Send 10¢ for big list. Maureen Loots, Carroll, Iowa.

**21 CHRISTMAS CARDS** \$1.00. Ruth Griffith, 623 West 25th, Kearney, Nebraska.

**PRECIOUS FUR COLLARS:** beaver, fox, etc. Miscellaneous furs for trimmings, repairs, or making Davy Crockett hats. \$1.00 to \$5.00. Elsie Kucirek, 1507 So. 58 St., Omaha, Nebraska.

**QUILTS FOR SALE:** fifteen dollars each. Clara Davis, Skidmore, Missouri.

**DISH TOWELS:** 34 by 34 in. \$3.85 set. Childrens dresses \$2.50; apron \$1.25-\$1.50. Toys. Mrs. Alva Barker, Odessa, Missouri.

**THREE PIECE OUTFIT** for doll — give head size and height, \$1.00. Ruth Wessendorf, Storm Lake, Iowa.

**CLOSE OUT Fancy Work.** \$12.00 for \$6.00, \$8.00-\$4.00, postage 55¢. Mary Klopff, Elizabeth, Illinois.

**FRESH BLACK WALNUT MEATS.** \$1.75 quart postpaid. Dorothy Eggers, Avoca, Iowa.

**HICKORY NUT MEATS.** 85¢ pint postpaid. Ona Evans, LaPlata, Missouri.

**CLOTHES** for Size 14 to 20 inch Dolls in Sets. Ad good anytime. Mrs. Olin Boyer, 553 So. Fair Ave., Benton Harbor, Mich.

**QUILT TOPS** different prices. Ad good all time. Rachel Wilson, Dickens, Iowa.

**PURE LINEN HANKIES,** Tatted edge, \$1.00. Martha's Gifts, Box 58, Boone, Iowa.

**FOR SALE:** Pedigreed Toy Manchester Pup Male \$35.00. Clara Markley, Havelock, Iowa.

**WASHCLOTH SLIPPERS,** Crocheted around top, ribbon bow \$1.00 pair. Christmas Cor-sages 40¢. Clara Jackson, Mendon, Mo.

**INFANTS CROCHETED Cowboy or Loopstitch** Booties \$1.25. State Color. Vesta Whitehead, 113 W. 3rd., Washington, Iowa.

**AMPLE-SIZED,** bright squaw half aprons, yarn and rickrack trim \$2.75; 2- \$5.25. R. Kiehl, 2917-4th N. W., Canton, Ohio.

**PRINT HALF APRONS** \$1.00. Organdy and print aprons \$1.25. M. Feser, 3257 Far-nam St., Omaha, Nebraska.

**SMALL TYPE PUPPIES** 10 weeks, some 4 months, 2 dogs free to good Home only. Write Mrs. Anna Clausen, Route 1, Kimballton, Iowa.

**TABLECLOTH** — Wheel design — Natural Variegated Joining, 80x90 — \$30.00. Mrs. Louis Stenke, Bingham Lake, Minnesota.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** 21 for \$1.00. Blanche Dvorak, Plymouth, Iowa.

**CROCHETED BIBS.** Assorted colors, trim, 55¢, 2 for dollar. Mrs. Elmer Fitzgerald, Dell Rapids, South Dakota.

**BEAUTIFUL APPLIQUED PILLOW TOPS** with backs \$1.00. Two-tone 13 inch crocheted doilies \$1.00 - 9 in. 50¢. Embroidered dish towels 50¢. Pot holders — tree, bell or star 50¢ a pair. Mrs. Fred Jensen, Nashua, Iowa.

**FOR SALE:** Canaries, Warblers, guaranteed Singers in gorgeous colors, deep red - orange to Pinkish Apricot, Variegated and yellows. Mrs. Emil Rumohr, Remsen, Iowa.

**BABY QUILT**—hand embroidered \$8.00, Nellie Gleaves, Stanberry, Missouri.

**CROCHETING WANTED,** Pillow lace, chair sets, Doilies, table runners, etc., write for Prices, some on hand. Eva Cronn, Cedar, Kansas.

**NEW 3-way crocheted potholders** — Pretty, practical — different 40¢. Postage for information. Mrs. Copenhagen, 615 2nd Ave. S., Waverly, Iowa.

**CROCHETED DRESSES** — 1 - 3 years \$4.95. Fancy Aprons \$1.00 - \$1.25. Fancy Hankies 50¢ - \$1.00. Hemstitching, Hosemending, GUARANTEED. BEULAH'S, Box 112C, Cairo, Nebraska.

**HEALTH BOOK** by retired nurse. Arthritis "flare ups" bloat, overweight, food allergy, 50¢. Mrs. Walt Pitzer, Shell Rock, Iowa.

**SPIRITUAL READER.** Six month predictions. Lucky number from birthdate. Send \$1.00. 5 questions answered. Send stamped envelope to Ellen Rose, Box 303, Coshocton, Ohio.

**SWEDISH EMBROIDERED GIFTS.** Guest Towels beautiful designs \$1.50 pair. Hostess Aprons glamorous colors \$2.00 each. Louise, 4027 Lafayette, Omaha, Nebraska.

**NEW "Kitchen Fad" Print Apron** with towel attached \$1.25. Other prize winning aprons \$1.25. Nice Bib and shoulder strap aprons \$1.25. Large Aprons and Clobber Aprons \$2.00. Cosmos petals \$1.00. Kathleen Yates, Queen City, Missouri.

**WANTED:** Sewing and fancy work. Zula Bell, Dakota City, Iowa.

**FOR SALE:** Crocheted bedspread, popcorn stitch, double bed size with 5 inch fringe. Call or write Mrs. Leo Fiori, 2024-4th, Perry, Iowa.

**APRONS** 75¢ up, TV doilies \$3.50 and \$5.00, pillow cases crocheted inset \$4.50. Crocheted hot pads \$1.00 pair, hat pin cushion \$1.00. Ollie Nebergall, Osceola, Iowa.

**PRETTY TATTED EDGE** linen hankies 85¢. Tatted edge for bath towels, pillow cases 1½¢ per inch. Martha Klinehart, Nashua, Iowa.

**HIS AND HERS Crocheted Potholders** \$1.00 pr. Eastern Star or Waterlily potholders \$1.50 pair. Mrs. Kermit Chapman, Gassaway, W. Va.

**ANY COLOR,** Nylon woven potholders, 45¢ a pair, postage paid. Mrs. Sam Russell, 906-1 Ave. W., Newton, Iowa.

**CROCHETED 12" Pineapple popcorn stitch** Doilies \$1.00. Hairpin or Tatting pillow slip edgings 42" \$1.00 pair all any color, postpaid. Mrs. Edna Sutterfield, Craig, Missouri.

**BLACK WALNUT MEATS** \$1.35 a pint. Mrs. Chris Rasmussen, 2019 So. 6th St., Harlan Iowa.

**LOVELY CHRISTMAS APRONS** — Christmas tree or Candy Cane Design \$1.35, also other aprons \$1.25. Mrs. Wilmer Pfannkuch, Lake View, Iowa.

**SEWING WANTED:** Childrens or house-dresses \$1.50 each, two for \$2.75. Barbara Rall, 1523 Dewey, St. Joseph, Missouri.

**PRINT HALF APRONS** 75¢ Postpaid. Also do sewing. Mrs. Evelyn Meyer, Exira, Iowa.

**"CHUCKLES"** — an ideal toy for the youngsters — a soft, cuddly, Sleepy-time Pal or a gay daytime playmate. "Chuckles" is a 15 inch clown in assorted colors, easily laundered. Send for yours today only \$2.95 Postpaid. Gwendolyn Kritner, Geneva, Nebraska.

**KNIT DOILIES** 8½ to 10 inches Lacey Patterns, lovely. Mrs. Gertrude Sellers, R. 2, Lohrville, Iowa.

**EXQUISITE STERLING—"Dogwood"** Brace-let. Xmas Special. Only \$3.00 (Regular \$5.00). Makes a most beautiful Gift. J. Mikut, 17-K Jefferson St., Providence, R. I.

**COLORFUL MAMMY APRONS,** \$1.25. Mercedes Gladbach, Keytesville, Missouri.

**TWO HAND CROCHETED TABLECLOTHS** size 30 thread. Ecru Daisy Pattern 64x84. White Carnation \$60.00 each. Embroidered Tea Towels \$4.50. Chella Parr, Humeston, Iowa.

**HAVE RUGS MADE** from your old clothing, blankets — \$1.85 per yard, prepared materials \$1.25 per yard. Mrs. Harm Dirksen, Bancroft, South Dakota.

**HAND PAINTED** Christmas poinsettia candle holders, \$1.50 pr. Mrs. Ira Waldmeier, 1901 Laurel, Burlington, Iowa.

**PRINT HALF APRONS** 80¢. State size. Mrs. Leon Buckendahl, McLean, Nebraska.

**BIG TOY STUFFED WASHABLE MONKEY.** Fun for children to cuddle and love. \$2.50 postpaid. Woman's Society of Christian Service, Hanscom Park Met. Church, 29th & Woolworth, Omaha 5, Nebraska.

**BEAUTIFUL CROCHETED EDGE HANKIES.** White or colored. Now ready. 50¢ each. Mrs. Paul Kaiser, Preston, Nebraska.

**CHINA TID-BIT TRAYS** 3 Tier \$4.95, 2 Tier \$2.75, Yellow, green or mixed colors. S. L. Dottery, 1510 Searle Street, Des Moines 17, Iowa.



## HISTORY-MAKING DOLLS

Children were not permitted to use dolls as toys until the 18th Century. Until that time they were regarded only as religious objects. Puppets were commonly used in the ancient Greek theatre.

The first rag dolls were manufactured around 1890.

No toy has ever been so universally loved by children as the Teddy bear. A German invalid, Frau Margarete Steiff, made the first one after seeing a picture of "Teddy" Roosevelt with a bear cub.

Ludwig Greiner was the first American citizen to patent a type of doll. His dolls had a special papier mache head that was considered a great improvement.

The first paper dolls to achieve popularity in America were produced around 1850 and depicted "The Swedish Nightingale", Jenny Lind, in various costumes. They were printed in Germany, where superior work was still done. In 1859 the first paper dolls printed in America appeared in Godey's Lady's Book.

The realistic baby doll has developed in this country during the last fifty years.

Back in 1875 one of the most popular toys was the Noah's Ark, filled with little hand-carved animals. Many children could play with no other toy on Sunday, so the Noah's Ark was frequently referred to as "a Sunday toy".

Penny banks became popular around 1793 when the first copper pennies were introduced. It is believed that Benjamin Franklin strongly influenced the development of the bank through his continual praise of thrift in *Poor Richard's Almanac*.

—Margaret Barnett

## THE GLADDEST TIME

The Christmas time is holly time,  
The time of bells and snow;  
The sleighing, singing, jolly time,  
When eyes and faces glow.

The Christmas time is giving time,  
The time of love and joy;  
The best, the gladdest living time,  
For every girl and boy.

**HAVE BEAUTIFUL RUGS WOVEN** for Christmas gifts, from discarded clothing etc. \$2.00 yd. \$1.10 if ready. Sale: Lovely woven rugs large \$2.00 color choice. Rowena Winters, Route 1, Grimes, Iowa.

**INSTRUCTIONS AND 10 LUSCIOUS RECIPES** how to make money at home 60¢. Mrs. Lester McDaniel, Concordia, Kansas.

**SCARF, INDIA, PURE SILK AND ZARI**, 18" x 45", red, gray, black, blue, green, yellow, purple, brown with gold decorations, \$2.50 each. State color. Individual shoe ash trays, 3 1/2", India, brass colored, \$1.00 each, 3 for \$2.75. Alma Sothman, 417 West Koenig, Grand Island, Nebraska.

Pepper, Tea, Cinnamon, Nutmeg, Chilli, Creamtartar, Tapioca, Maplesugar, Shelled Almonds, Brazils, Cashews or Filberts \$1.25 Pound; Walnuts \$1.50, Pecans \$1.75. Postpaid. Peerless, 538 B Centralpark, Chicago, 24.

## GOOD NEIGHBORS

By Gertrude Hayzlett

In planning for Christmas, please take time to do something for some of these folks who are ill or shutin. Your own holidays will be the happier because you thought of someone less fortunate.

Mrs. Iva Harter, Maple Crest San., Whitelaw, Wisc., has been in the hospital off and on for years. She expected to be released permanently this August, but last minute tests were unfavorable and now she doubts if she can go home for a long time. She is not able to answer.

Cheer has been asked for Mrs. Rebecca Jackson, c/o E. L. Roberts, Rt. 2, Kearney, Mo. She is 81 and not well.

Miss Minnie Everett, Rt. 1, Box 93, Crossville, Ala., has arthritis and heart trouble. She is unable to lie down, so sleeps in a rocking chair. She could answer mail if stamps are sent.

Vela Patterson, Golden, Miss., is a long-time shutin. She and her father live together and he has cared for her, but now is down himself. He has had pneumonia six times in the last 2 years. She has arthritis and other troubles.

Ella Ricker, 178a Summit Ave., Phillipsburg, N. J., is an elderly woman who has been sick for two years. Cheery letters would encourage her.

William J. Jones, 64 S. Landon Ave., Kingston, Pa., is known to many Kitchen-Klatter readers. He has had several amputations on his legs and since the last one he is entirely bedfast and is not gaining strength as he should. He misses the letters you used to send to him.

Mrs. Estella Thompson, Upton, Ky., has been shutin for a long time with a heart condition and this summer has been very ill. She loves to get cards.

Mrs. Marvin A. Whitley, Rt. 1, Riviera, Texas, was totally paralyzed by polio some years ago. She is improving and is now able to write by holding a pencil in her mouth. She has 2 small girls. Probably she cannot answer mail, but she loves to hear from folks.

Mrs. Sallie Kellams, Rt. 1, Huntingburg, Ind., was 86 in October. She has been not well for a long time and this summer broke her left arm and right wrist. She lives alone and enjoys mail a lot.

Mrs. Gladys Riha, 2621 Harney St., Omaha, Nebr., is home from a long stay in the hospital but not yet strong. She likes to work big jigsaw puzzles; they need not be new, but should be complete.

Miss Odella Roderigues, 208 Davis St., New Bedford, Mass., is a longtime shutin. She has had several operations recently and is entirely bedfast. She needs sheets badly and probably other bedding, also; and is always so thankful for everything that is done for her.

Larry Hicks, 304 S. 3rd St., Mt. Vernon, Ill., age 10, has been sick quite a while. Last summer he had rheumatic fever and it affected his heart. He has been in the hospital a good deal of the time.

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