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# Kitchen-Klatter

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

## Magazine

SHENANDOAH, IOWA

15 CENTS

VOL. 29

DECEMBER, 1965

NUMBER 12



—H. Armstrong Roberts

### Christmas Greetings

RES. W. E. PETERSON NOV 66  
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ST JOSEPH MO 64505





# Kitchen-Klatter

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

## MAGAZINE

"More Than Just Paper And Ink"

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### LETTER FROM LEANNA

Dear Friends:

Now that the holidays will soon be here, our house is bustling with activities. There are more cookies to be baked for the boxes that will be going into the mail, the decorations to be brought down from the storeroom, and many more gifts to be made. Although our days might be considered *very* quiet to those of you with youngsters in the home, they are *especially* busy ones for us who are accustomed to the ways of the elderly. But you younger parents must not assume that we long during these autumn years of our lives for the days when all of the children were around. We have accumulated memories of many holiday seasons of the past and the greatest joy we have is to know that our children are happy in their homes and the wheel of life continues to turn as one generation follows another. This is one of the special blessings that comes to us with age.

December is a time for reflection, not only of Christmases past, but of the special joys we have experienced during this past year. Each month has brought unexpected pleasures. This past month, for instance, my brother Sol and his wife Mary spent a few days in Iowa. When Sol telephoned one evening about suppertime, I assumed that he was calling from his home in California. It was a real surprise to learn that he was in our area. They came for lunch the next day and we had a most pleasant afternoon together. When they learned that their visit coincided with Shenandoah's Old Settlers Reunion, they delayed their departure so that they could attend and we had an opportunity to see them several more times.

Although Sol is 82 years old, he remains very active in community affairs. His many friends honored him on his last birthday in appreciation for his contributions. He has received

national recognition for his work with Boy Scouts and proudly wears the Boy Scout insignia in his lapel.

Mart's sister Adelyn and her husband, Albert Rope, have returned from their retirement home in Arkansas and are preparing to leave for California to spend several weeks over the holidays with their two sons and their families. They stopped in on their way to their farm home near Clarinda, Iowa, with a big package of frozen fish that Albert had caught, so we had a big fish fry the following day.

Our neighbors, the Alexanders, are getting packed to leave for their new home in Tucson, Arizona. We are saddened to see them leaving our neighborhood and community for we've been neighbors for over 40 years, but are happy for them that they will be living near their daughters and their families. Although we're losing the Alexanders, we have new neighbors across the street, Mr. and Mrs. Tornquist moved in from the country this fall. We'll be missing our old neighbors, but we'll be enjoying the new ones.

Juliana, Martin and Mary Leanna, three of our grandchildren, are busy with their college activities. Juliana is taking some extra courses while waiting to do her student teaching during the spring term. Very likely she will stay on and take some additional courses during the summer session. Mary Leanna is singing in the choir at Middlebury College in Vermont. The last word we had she was anxiously awaiting skiing weather. This is a winter sport she enjoys very much, and Vermont is famous for its skiing facilities. Martin tried out for chorus and was declared eligible, but decided it would conflict with other work this year. We had an opportunity to meet his roommate, Peter Lake of Marshalltown, Iowa, when the boys were here for a weekend earlier in the fall. Martin is planning to bring

another friend home for Thanksgiving vacation. What a pleasure it is to be able to share our grandchildren's experiences as they mature into young men and women. Although we can't see them as frequently as we would like, they are thoughtful, even to the very youngest, and write nice letters to us.

Howard's and Mae's daughter Donna and her husband Tom are building a new home in Omaha. Tom, you may remember, is principal of a school in Ralston. Donna has been called on for substitute teaching several times this fall. One of her friends takes care of little Lisa when she has to teach, so it works out nicely. It isn't easy to find someone to care for a small active youngster, so Donna and Tom feel very fortunate indeed. Kristin and Art are equally happy with their baby sitter for Andrew. Since Andy takes a long afternoon nap, Kristin is home soon after he awakens.

We're always watching the newspapers for news of what is happening in Zambia for that is where my brother Henry's son Philip and his wife are living now. He is employed as an accountant by the government. His sister Hope visited them this past year when she traveled to see one of her sons who is a missionary teacher near there.

Instead of letting the frost get our geraniums, begonias and foliages this fall, we brought some inside and have them potted in a large jardiniere in the sun room. Oh, yes! we also brought in the huge red African Amaryllis that spent the summer in a shady spot in the garden. It is already showing signs of blossoming again this year. Ruby, Mart's nurse, really has a way with houseplants, and it's thanks to her "green thumb" that ours look so healthy.

On the television set we have a vase of bittersweet that Mart's sister Clara Otte brought to us. Her husband discovered it along one of their pasture fences where it hadn't been affected by weed sprays. It will be moved soon to another location, however, when we bring out the beautiful Christmas arrangement that my sister Sue made for me many years ago. There was a picture of it in the magazine several years ago.

Christmas will soon be here, and may the holidays bring much happiness to you and your dear families. And may this love which we so freely express at this time live in your hearts throughout the coming years.

Sincerely,

*Leanna*



## A LETTER FROM MARGERY

Dear Friends:

Every day for the past several weeks I've caught myself saying, "This is bound to change!" It's the weather I'm referring to. Earlier in the fall we were predicting an early winter, so it's been a pleasant surprise to have mild days following one after another. By the time this letter reaches the printing presses, no doubt cold weather will be upon us.

Because of the prolonged Indian summer Oliver and I were able to enjoy several nice weekend trips. They evolved out of conventions, meetings and the like which my husband had to attend, and because the weather was so nice I went with him. How happy I am that I did, for they provided me with some delightful experiences that I might not have had otherwise.

The first trip was to Springfield, Missouri. It was a happy coincidence that the Festival of Ozark Craftsmen was in progress near Branson, south of Springfield. I invited two ladies from Des Moines, who had also accompanied their husbands to the convention, to go down with me and we spent the day there while the men were in meetings. At least three dozen crafts were being demonstrated, including wood carving, quilting, candle making, weaving, basket making, glass blowing, meat smoking and many others. Since this festival is an annual event held when the Ozarks are in their fall beauty, perhaps you can attend some year.

We had ample time on our return from Springfield to stop by Sunrise Beach on the Lake of the Ozarks and visit one of Oliver's cousins, Arlene Young. She and her husband Walter own cottages there named Crestwood Resort. We stayed overnight, which gave us the evening to catch up on family chat.

We stopped in Warrensburg, Missouri, to visit my cousin Louise Fischer Alexander's daughter Jeanne and her husband. Jeanne is a professional librarian and is working in the library while her husband, Donald Bohlen, teaches in the music department at the college. We're hoping that they'll be able to visit all of their Shenandoah relatives soon.

In Kansas City we stopped to visit with a college friend of mine, Marjorie Powell Bird and her family. It was much too brief a visit since we hadn't seen each other for twenty-three years (It doesn't seem possible!), but we'll try to make up for that in the future.

Incidentally, many of our Kansas City friends had written to us about a



A basket maker at work at the Festival of Ozark Craftsmen.

wonderful restaurant in their city, so enroute to Springfield we followed their recommendations and ate at Stevenson's Apple Farm Restaurant on old Highway 40. Oliver and I both thank them for their advice for we had one of the finest meals we have ever eaten and were delighted with the decor as well as the interesting history of the business itself. Do stop there if you are passing through Kansas City.

The following week Oliver had to attend a meeting in Des Moines and wanted me to join him. It was quite a coincidence that the day I decided I would, the mail brought a letter from his sister Nina in Rockford, Illinois, saying she and Robert were going to be in Des Moines on business and they hoped that we could meet them there. When I walked into the hotel lobby Oliver and his sister were wait-

### CHRISTMAS STREET

The snow-veiled streets are quiet in our town

As once the silence claimed the long ago

In Bethlehem where people slept in home

And hostelry, while shepherds on the hills

Were tending sheep and angel songs burst forth.

Those words of seraphs echo in my heart;

I almost hear sheep tenders coming near

That I may join them going to the stall. Familiar houses look like foreign ones;

Their snow hoods, and white-skirted shrubbery

Give them fantastic shapes . . . I hum the tune

Of "Silent Night" as I recall past scenes.

Men who have heard the story of the Birth

Can never lose its awesome sacredness!

—Thelma Allinder

ing for me and from that point on, as Oliver says, all we did was talk and eat! One of the most interesting meals we had was at the Bavarian Haus, a German-American restaurant out on East 14th Street. We certainly enjoyed the Old World food, and if German dishes are to your liking, and if you find yourself in Des Moines some day, Oliver and I hope you'll eat at Bavarian Haus.

The last weekend trip we made was to visit our son Martin at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, on Parents' Day. We'd been most anxious to see him for shortly before he had been struck by a car at an intersection and had had to spend a day in the hospital. He had assured us that he hadn't been badly hurt, but words over the telephone can't be quite as convincing as seeing in the flesh!

We left early in the morning so as to arrive in time for the nine o'clock registration. This was followed by a convocation for the parents and Freshman students. After lunch in the student cafeteria, we went over to Martin's room at the dormitory to rest. (No need to call out "Lady on the floor" for the buildings were open to the public on that day!) There was a football game in the afternoon and other buildings to go through, exhibits and the like to attend, so by late afternoon we felt we had had a very full day.

Oliver and I stayed overnight in Lincoln. Ever since Lucile told us about the wonderful Homestead National Monument in Beatrice, Nebraska, south of Lincoln, Oliver and I have wanted to see it. There would never be a better chance, we decided, so Sunday morning we drove to Beatrice.

One would not put this in the category of the spectacular, but certainly this is one of our most important national monuments, dedicated to the homesteaders who broke the sod and opened up the prairies. This was the site of the claim of Daniel Freeman, one of the first applicants to file under the Homestead Act. Walking on the little path through the tall Blue Stem prairie grass, Oliver and I tried to envision life as it must have been lived by those hardy pioneers.

Now here I am up to the present, anticipating Thanksgiving when Martin will be home for a few days. He has invited a fellow student from Pennsylvania home for the holiday. That weekend we'll start making our plans for Christmas. Some things change and other things never change, such as sharing Christmas secrets!

Sincerely,  
Margery





## God Gave a Song

A Christmas Worship Service

by

Mabel Nair Brown

**Setting:** Arrange a nativity scene on the worship table. Drape the walls behind the table with plain dark material. In a central position on the drapes, pin a large scroll-type banner on which is printed, in big letters, the Scripture: *GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOODWILL TOWARD MEN.* Make several poster-size replicas of pages from a Christmas carol book — a different carol on each page. Pin these pages of carols around the scroll.

**Costumes:** The two prophets wear simple Biblical costumes (dark, plain robes and headdresses of bright striped material, held in place by heavy cord or rope). The leader and others taking part should wear choir robes.

Music can be your own piano or organ, or it can be records.

**Prelude:** "O Holy Night".

**Call to Worship:**

Every star in the Christmas sky  
Sings to the snowbound earth  
Of another time and another place  
And another night on earth.  
Every dream in a Christmas heart  
Grows heaven-high and strong,  
Until it can answer the singing stars  
With its own sweet Christmas song.

**Solo or Chorus:** "O Holy Night".

**Prayer:** O Christ of Bethlehem, who for our sakes came poor, as a lowly Babe in a rough manger bed that we might be rich in God's blessings, grant us ears to hear the angel voices speak to us once again God's great song of Christmas. Give us faith, O Lord, that the hope of Christmas may shine on our way like the star of old, and through us fill the world's darkness with light. We pray that the song of Christmas come alive in our hearts and lives so that, truly, goodwill to men and peace shall reign on earth. Amen

**Prophets** (in unison): Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him with the sound of

trumpet; praise Him with psaltery and harp. Praise Him with the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord. The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of men shouted for joy.

**Leader:** Christmas is a time of singing hearts as well as voices. May ours be listening hearts that hear the voices of centuries ago telling us of the beginning of God's great song of love.

**Prophet 1:** *Lift ye up a banner upon the high mountains, exalt the voice unto them.*

**Prophet 2:** *With a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth. Say ye the Lord hath redeemed His servant Jacob.*

**Prophet 1:** *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, "Thy God reigneth!"*

**Prophet 2:** *Thy watchmen shall lift up thy voice, with the voice together shall they sing.*

**Prophet 1:** *So Isaiah speaks: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulders and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, and The Prince of Peace.*

**Prophet 2:** *And Micah speaks: But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is ruler of Israel, whose goings forth have been of old, from everlasting.*

**Leader:** Music is nature's high-water mark. It is when the brook is full and runs with strong, pulsing current toward the sea that it sings its sweetest music. When God would give a glorious prelude to the birth of Jesus, angels sang together on the plains of Bethlehem.

**Song:** "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks".

**Leader:** And God's great song did not stop on the plains of Bethlehem but has gone on to echo the world around.

Jean de Brébeuf was a missionary from France who came to work among the Huron Indians in Canada in the Seventeenth Century. He wanted them to know the story of the Babe in the Manger, and to hear the angels' song in their own language which they could understand. Let us listen to the poem he wrote for them of the birth of Jesus, son of *Git-chi-Man-i-tou*, which means Great Father.

**Reader:**

'Twas in the moon of wintertime  
When all the birds had fled,  
That mighty Gitchi-Manitou  
Sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim,  
And wand'ring hunters heard the hymn,  
Jesus your King is born,  
Jesus is born,  
*In excelsis gloria.*

Within a lodge of broken bark  
The tender babe was found,  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin  
Enwrapped His beauty 'round;  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
The angel song rang loud and high.  
Jesus your King is born,  
Jesus is born,  
*In excelsis gloria.*

The earliest moon of wintertime  
Is not so round and fair,  
As was the ring of glory on  
The helpless Infant there.  
The chiefs from far before him knelt  
With gifts of fox and beaver pelt.  
Jesus your King is born,  
Jesus is born,  
*In excelsis gloria.*

O children of the forest free  
O sons of Manitou,  
The Holy Child of earth and heaven  
Is born today in you.  
Come kneel before the radiant Boy  
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.  
Jesus your King is born,  
Jesus is born,  
*In excelsis gloria.*

**Leader:** And so the song of Christmas traveled to the far reaches of the earth — the beginning of Christmas bringing the beginning of Christianity — telling the never-old story of the Christ Child who came to change humanity itself, teaching mercy, kindness, patience, and love; revealing to us that all men are brothers, that our neighbor is whoever is in need.

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## NEWS FROM MARY BETH

Dear Friends:

The children are bundled and out the front door. They have to leave the house about ten minutes past eight o'clock to walk the short distance to their school, which is privately operated. The opening prayer and flag ceremony begin at twenty minutes past eight o'clock on the front lawn of the building, so the children don't have much time to dawdle along the way.

Adrienne has taken to school exactly as we had expected. She used to watch longingly out the window of the car when we drove away from delivering the older children to school the past two years. If invited, I'm sure she would have stayed with them. This year she packed her tissue box, pen, and pencil and walked down the street with Katharine and Paul, looking at least nine feet tall.

Since she was just five years old in June, we decided to enroll her for only half days, and this has proved to be wise. She walks home for lunch at noon time, and after soup and a sandwich she trudges up the stairs for "just a little rest", which turns out to be a two- or three-hour sleep.

When asked if she likes school, she gives a sophisticated shrug and replies that she really doesn't think much of the idea; but when we sit down each evening to do the token assignments of homework she brings she is so obviously proud of her achievement that it is hard to turn her off when the job is completed. She had watched Paul and Katharine do homework, so she expected some, and her attitude having been thus formed, she has been a willing pupil. It's hard to believe, but by learning the sounds of the vowels and all of the consonants except q, v, w, x, y, and z, she was reading simple sentences by the second week in October. She has a phonics book from which she studies in class and at home, and now she has begun to bring home little paper-bound books with a complete story in each one.

Last evening when I listened to her reading exercises, she came to the point in the book where she was learning when to use the sounds of C, K, and CK. I mentally groaned, remembering what a stumbling block this had been for Paul. I couldn't remember the rule (not having been taught to read by the phonics method), so I began to draw her out to see if the teacher had begun to explain the rules governing when to use which letter and, sure enough, she sounded off the rule to me as though I were rather



My! how swiftly the years pass by! It's hard to believe that little Adrienne has joined Katharine and Paul in the school brigade. They are the children of Donald and Mary Beth Driftmier of Milwaukee.

stupid or dull not to know already! Relieved to hear how easily she was picking up the rules, I tested her without the aid of the book to see if she could spell the words in the lesson. By carefully reviewing the rule before spelling each word, she came through with flying colors.

Then we practiced writing them and, bless her heart! she did a shaky but correct job of writing. Not printing, mind you; these little scouts are learning the cursive method of writing from the beginning. Her letters are often too tall, but they are script and readable, and her father and I are about to pop with pride over the ease with which she is soaking up this first exposure to formal learning.

Every day in class they have little ten-word spelling tests over the words from the evening before, and she is

#### A MOTHER'S CHRISTMAS PRAYER

The scent of incense blends with  
kitchen spice,  
Soft lights fall gently from the shim-  
m'ring tree;  
The glowing yule log casts a cozy  
warmth,  
A tiny son lies sleeping at my knee.  
I pray, O Lord, your love will warm  
him ever,  
A summer sun in midst of winter's ice;  
And may your light before him lead  
him on  
To heights beyond the pleasures of the  
spice.

—Inez Ladd

careful to explain in detail when the paper comes home just exactly how well she has done. In the cases when she misses, she is candid about her errors. They are given numerical grades from zero to one hundred on these tests, and her spirit of competition is keen enough to make her really strive toward those 100's.

Katharine and Paul are enjoying living in our new home closer to the school, because it gives them an extra hour to play before supper. They can bring their book cases home, shoot upstairs to change into play clothes, and be outside long before most of the other children are even off the school buses. I am finding that with the extra time I save by not driving to and from school, I've been able to pick up where I left off two years ago and begin to bake more for the family and fix meals that require more kitchen time.

Donald is continuing to travel regularly. He took his two weeks of vacation in September when we moved in, but the weather man, being a most-uncooperative fellow, blessed us with rain the entire time, so he was unable to even get started on his lawn work. He did build up a nice driveway that enabled us to get the cars in and out of the garage. We're hoping now that the erosion from the winter rain and snow will not be such that it will wash away our now unsupported mound of earth that is the basis of the driveway. Our yard had quite a slope, and it required a very large built-up area for the drive. Donald says that before spring he is going to have to begin regular exercises in preparation for the heavy work ahead of him. He figures it will require 15 to 20 tons, *tons* mind you, of limestone to erect a wall capable of supporting the drive. In order to do this kind of lifting he'll have to strengthen his back. He suffered for about two weeks not long ago with a sprained back from lifting just one small rock.

There's an enormous plastic bag of white shirts to iron, and then I must start on the dresses — middle-size and large. Adrienne, having inherited her sister's lovely supply of dresses, considered that such a wardrobe should be used, so every day she pulled out a clean frock. Half a day for a dress isn't my idea of adequate mileage, so she and I have had some differences of opinion as to when to don another clean one. My ironing bag always seems filled to capacity, and this day is no exception. I'll go unfold the ironing board and get at that big task.

Until next month, Mary Beth



## FREDERICK'S LETTER FROM THE PARSONAGE

Dear Friends:

Can you imagine a forty-eight-year-old man being able to confess that in all his life he never had been to a horse show? I could confess that right up until a few days ago! Betty and I were asked to attend the largest horse show held in New England, a part of the Eastern States Fair held each year here in Springfield. We were the guests of the parents of one of our South Church Boy Scouts who was riding in the show and competing in the Hunter Jumping Class. We are so proud of that boy! He won the competition last year, and then when he was practicing the jumps for this show (he began his practice as soon as the weather was good in the spring) the horse tripped, threw Jimmy, and then rolled on him. For weeks and weeks Jimmy was in the hospital with each of his hips broken in two places. Believe it or not, he rode again in this show! He did not win, but in my estimation he should have received a prize for pluck and courage.

Never in all my life had I seen such beautiful horses as we saw in that show. There were all kinds from all parts of the country. I particularly liked the harness classes. I did not care for the horses that did all the fancy dancing steps. For a horse to dance like a horse is one thing, but it is something else again when the horse is made to dance to man-made rhythms. The Dutch philosopher, Baruch Spinoza, once said: "A horse would be as much destroyed if it were changed into a man as if it were changed into an insect." In other words, what Spinoza was saying is that what is right for a horse is to ACT LIKE A HORSE! What is virtue for a horse is being the best and most highly developed kind of horse possible, always being the finest of what is uniquely equine.

You will remember that I did not go with Betty when she took Mary Leanna away to college. I could not arrange my work here at the church to permit me the fun of seeing my daughter enter college, and so when Middlebury College had Parents' Day this past weekend, I just had to be there. What a trip that was! We had a blowout and lost a tire going up one of the fast turnpikes. Fortunately, we did not get hurt. When we got to Middlebury, Vermont, a little town tucked away in the Green Mountains, we did not have a



Betty Driftmier, Frederick's wife, pours tea when entertaining a group of young men and women of their church in Springfield, Mass.

place to stay and had to drive back toward home thirty-five miles for the first motel with a vacancy. On the way home the next day, a piece of metal fell off a truck running down the road ahead of us, and the metal punctured the radiator of our car. We had to leave it in a garage in Bennington, Vermont, and rent another car to get us back to Springfield in time for church on Sunday.

Expensive and exciting though the trip was, it was well worth it. What a joy it was to see our Mary Leanna for a few hours. She is so fortunate to be a freshman at one of the finest colleges in America. If you ever have seen the campus of Middlebury College, you know that it is one of the most beautiful in all the world. And to think that we saw it on the most lovely day of the fall! The fall foliage was beyond all description. The Green Mountains were wearing their best fall clothes — golds, reds, yellows, and browns.

We discovered that the foliage is much prettier this year than we had

### TO ALL PEOPLE AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Now let us all together sing  
The song that angels sang on high,  
Until the earth and heavens ring  
With tidings that will never die;  
For unto us is born this day  
A Savior who is Christ our Lord.  
Come, let us at His altar lay  
Our gifts of love with one accord;  
And sing His praise that all who hear  
May live in peace and blessedness,  
And come to serve Him without fear  
In holiness and righteousness.

—Margaret Aamodt

dared to hope. That is particularly true of the foliage in the mountain valleys. High up on the mountains the leaves fell without coloring, but on the lower parts and down in the valleys they were breath-taking. When we drove south along the Vermont-New York border we saw the nicest coloring that we saw anywhere. I actually got to see all of this twice because I had to go back on the following Monday to get the car. I took a different route on the second trip just so I could see some other parts of Vermont. Until I made this weekend trip to Middlebury, I had seen very, very little of Vermont. I can't wait to return. The next time you come to New England, be sure to drive through Vermont. The mountains and the rivers, the lovely valleys and the quaint little towns and villages are so pictureque.

When we got back from the trip, I began to break the news to Betty about our need for a new car. My old one is six years old with sixty-five thousand miles on it. It needs new tires, etc., etc. You know the story! Of course, like a good wife should, she agreed with her husband, and so in a few days we shall have a new car. I say "new" in quotation marks really, because like the last five cars we have owned, this next one will be second hand. I like to buy a car that is just a little more than one year old with low mileage. The cost is much less; the first owner had all the "break-in complaints"; and I don't have to pay the awful Massachusetts excise tax. Every year we have to pay an excise tax on our cars, and on a new one the tax is very high. Because we never buy a car without knowing its owner, we have been very satisfied with those we've had in the past. I just hope that this next car works out as well.

We had the most wonderful missionary meeting in our church this past month. The Missionary Committee invited the heads of all the other church committees — about twenty of them — to join it for the meeting. In a very graphic way, with the use of slides, charts, and printed literature, we were able to explain our missionary needs to the people in the church whose opinion actually helps to get things done. How often we who are interested in missionary work hold meetings to which come only those who also are interested in missions. We do not reach the people in the church and outside of it who

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## HOW TO EXPLAIN ABOUT SANTA

by  
Agnes Thomas

It was the first week in December when my oldest son, six-year-old Billy, rushed in from school one day and excitedly called, "Mother, Mother. I have something to tell you. Guess what that crazy Mark said? He said there isn't no Santa Claus!"

The day I had been dreading had finally arrived, and, as usual, I was not ready for it. The same thing had happened last year when Billy had asked where babies came from. Now the time for answers was here again and I was not prepared.

"Mother, he's wrong, isn't he?" Billy was persistent.

"Yes, Billy, he is wrong. But I would like to sit down and talk to you about it. Right now I have to finish this ironing before dinner. So, why don't you have some cookies and milk, then run out and play for a while. When you come back I'll be ready to explain about Santa."

I am a fine one for clipping interesting articles and putting them away for future reference. The trouble was that I usually hid them from myself. I knew I had an item about how to explain Santa Claus to children, so I put the ironing away and searched until I found the clipping.

Sure enough Billy was back in less than an hour demanding attention. We sat down together and I gave my son the following satisfying explanation about Santa Claus:

Actually, Santa Claus was a real person. He was born in Partia, directly north of Syria and the Holy Land. This good man, who died in A.D. 326, was the Patron Saint of children, and our words "Santa Claus" are derived from the old Dutch name of San Nichols.

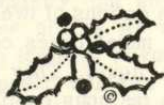
Many wonderful legends have been handed down about this saintly man and nearly every country has a different way of telling about Santa. In America we celebrate the memory of San Nichols by exchanging gifts and hanging stockings by the chimney on Christmas Eve.

Even though the original Santa Claus is no longer with us, his spirit lingers on. The many Santas we see on the street corners and in the big department stores at Christmas time are really playing a part. This is the same thing that children will be doing when they dress up like an angel for their part in the Christmas pageant.



The real Saint Nicholas brought toys and goodies to children and did all he could to bring happiness to all people. And that's the way we should be at all times, kind and generous toward everyone. When we realize that the real reason for Christmas is to celebrate Jesus' birthday, then this joyful spirit of caring and sharing will stay with us all through the year.

So, parents, prepare. If your child is old enough to ask questions then he deserves a truthful answer. When we take time to explain the true meaning of Christmas and the origin of Santa, we need never worry about someone telling our children bluntly, "There is no such person as Santa Claus!"



### CHRISTMAS POEM

If I could do whate'er I want to do  
To make complete your gladsome  
Christmas Day

I would not bring a single thing to you,  
But I would come and take some things  
away.

I'd take away all trouble from your  
heart;

Each pain and sorrow I would have  
relieved;

And every word that caused a single  
smart;

And every hour through which you  
sadly grieved.

I'd have them all be gone — forever  
gone;

Forgotten, like the things that cannot  
be,

And then each hour would be a joyful  
one,

For only good things would be left,  
you see.

Now that is what I'd like to do,  
If I could do the things I wish for you.

—Author Unknown

## A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

by  
Carlita McKean Pedersen

It was snowing in New York City on December 24, 1822, when the Professor left his home to purchase a turkey for his family's Christmas dinner. In fact, it had been snowing steadily for two days and the streets were lined with huge heaps of glistening snow.

Six children crowded the tall windows of Chelsea House to wave goodbye to their father as he left in his sleigh for Washington Market. Like most children of those days they believed in Santa Claus, and like all devoted fathers, the Professor wanted to give his children something special for Christmas — something extra special.

The trip to market proved successful. The Professor not only purchased a plump bird for the Christmas table, but also was instilled with an idea for a gift to his children. He would write them a poem — a special Christmas poem. Already the first line was racing through his brain, "'Twas the night before Christmas".

By the time Professor Clement Clarke Moore returned home he had composed and memorized the poem that was to become the most famous and cherished Christmas poem in the world. When his eager children crowded around him to see what he had brought from the market, Moore sat down and recited the poem he had composed especially for them — 28 couplets in all.

A cousin, visiting the household, wrote the poem down and it eventually reached the hands of the editor of the Troy (New York) Sentinel who published it on December 23, 1823, under the title "An Account of the Visit of St. Nicholas".

At Christmas time in 1824 several other newspapers printed the poem, much to the embarrassment of Clement Moore. He thought the poem too "undignified" for a professor of Greek and Oriental Literature to claim. In fact, he refused to acknowledge it as his for 22 years; in 1844 it was included in a volume of poetry Moore published — included only because his publishers thought the poem too famous to omit.

Today the poem has been reprinted more times than any other poem in the English language, and has been translated into almost all foreign tongues.

Every Christmas season "A Visit from St. Nicholas" is recited, read, reprinted and sung the world around. It is

(Continued on page 20)



## Assembly Line Christmas Trees

by  
Evelyn Witter

This year assembly lines will produce millions of table-sized Christmas trees. Among the famous manufacturers of these modern trees are Roy and Ede Halvorson of Duluth, Minnesota, who market over a million live, chemically treated, dwarf spruce trees every year from the northern forests of Minnesota.

Theirs is a real Christmas tree success story, a story that began with complete failure and blossomed into noteworthy success because of patience, perseverance, and a tantalizing desire to achieve a never-before-accomplished goal.

It began in 1930 when Roy Halvorson, a slim, athletic man who grew up planning to be a teacher, became interested in Christmas trees. That year he tried to make extra Christmas money by cutting a few dozen trees in the forest near his home and selling them. He stored the trees in his basement. But before Roy could sell the trees, they dried out and the needles fell off.

Since Roy was a serious young man, his failure piqued him, and started his investigation of the cause of his failure. He began by reading every available book he could find on spruce trees, how they grow, and what happens to them after they are cut.

His knowledge of evergreens led him to experimentation. He explained to his wife Ede that he wanted to work with spruce trees to see if he could possibly find some way to make them last for weeks and weeks after cutting. Ede, anxious to help, agreed to be his "spruce partner".

Roy and Ede went through more than a thousand experiments (with as many different solutions) in the family bathtub. At long last they evolved a formula which not only helped preserve, but actually beautified the trees and made them fire resistant. The formula was a synthetic sap.

After developing the preserving sap the next problem was how to make it available to the trees. Roy devised a hollow metal base into which the tree was fitted. The base was filled with sap from which the tree received nourishment for weeks.

The Halvorsons found themselves with a booming business which has grown steadily for years. They sell not only in this country, but in Venezuela,



The Halvorsons - Roy (left) and son Tom; Ede (right) and daughter June.

Columbia, Dutch West Indies, Puerto Rico, and surprising as it is, even in the land of evergreens - Canada. The largest export of Halvorson trees is to Panama. Dealers in Guam and Hawaii are also big customers.

The trees are processed, assembly line fashion, in cartons of twelve, complete with the metal bases containing the preserving liquid. They are also covered with a resinous coating which reduces evaporation and helps preserve the trees for a long period.

The trees, sold through chain, variety, and food stores across the United States, average about 36 inches in height, and are colored snowy white, silver, pink, or forest green.

Originally these natural trees were only the tops of dwarf spruce growing thousands to the acre in the glacial lake beds scattered across what is really the top of the hemisphere, for rain falling in this northern Minnesota area is carried off either to the eastern, western, or northern part of the North American continent.

Now, however, the trees are full dwarf trees, not just the tops. Crews of trained woodsmen work under the supervision of the Government Forest Rangers, cutting only a small percentage of mature but miniature spruce trees. Controlled cutting makes for healthier forests, according to leading conservationists.

After cutting, selected trees are transported daily to the processing plant in Duluth. After each tree is

processed it moves along on the assembly line to be packed in sturdy cartons and placed in special low-temperature rooms.

Roy and Ede still actively participate in their Christmas tree business. They now have a small plane for their work, with which they prospect the thousands of acres of forest land that they own or lease. They take extensive aerial photographs, and sketch out rough maps as aids for road building and conservation practices.

This year when you see colored, living, dwarf spruce trees in homes, churches, offices, and public meeting places, which impart the holiday spirit in such a beautiful way, you can appreciate Roy and Ede Halvorson.

And you can thank this pair for another reason, especially if you are planning a career for yourself in a small business. The Halvorsons have proved that persons can succeed in business if they choose one in which they are tremendously interested - a business they are willing to study as Roy Halvorson studied every available book on spruce trees. Persons can succeed even in what appears to be the impossible if they are willing to "try, try, again" as Roy and Ede did in their over a thousand experiments. Their success also proves that one does not need fancy equipment and large expenditures of money. They started with nothing more than a few trees and their family bathtub.

\* \* \*



# DOROTHY WRITES FROM THE FARM

Dear Friends:

I have just come in after taking coffee out to Frank in the field. We have had some beautiful weather this fall, perfect for getting the plowing done, which is what Frank has been doing. He actually didn't have too much ground that he could plow early, since most of our land was in corn. Our corn did well — much better than Frank anticipated.

When I drive along the highway I am always interested in what field activity is going on in other places. On my October trip to Shenandoah I saw men combining beans on one farm. A little farther along men were putting up the last cutting of hay. Corn-picking? Yes, but they were using either picker-shellers or corn combines, so the drying process would be finished in bins with driers. By the time you read this all our corn will be in the cribs (I hope!) and our harvesting finished for this year.

In my last letter I told you that Frank's sister Edna had gone to Arizona for her health. I'm happy to report that she is feeling wonderful again and able to lead a normal life. After several years of struggling to breathe, and trying to sleep sitting up, Edna writes that she feels as if she has been released from a prison. She keeps pinching herself to be sure it is true! So now it is definite — Edna and Raymond are leaving the farm and moving to Arizona. Having them move so far away is an emotional jolt to our small Johnson family, but the news that Edna feels well again far outweighs everything else.

Ordinarily, you wouldn't think that because Edna and Raymond are closing their home, this would have any effect on *our* home, but there you are sadly mistaken. During the ten years they have lived in this large farm home our daughter Kristin spent a great deal of time with them. She even had a room of her own there. You have seen pictures of it at various times in the magazine. Kristin seldom made a trip to their house that she didn't take things she wanted to keep but didn't have space for in her room at home. Edna's home is much larger than ours and she was very generous in letting



Dorothy describes in her letter what a difficult time she had taking this picture.

Kristin store things there. For instance, you will remember that at one time Kristin had a great interest in old trunks; she liked to buy them and restore them. She refinished four in all — one for each of Edna's four bedrooms, all fixed up to match the decor of the rooms.

Besides trunks, there is also furniture. All of the pieces that Kristin rehabilitated during her years in 4-H and Home Furnishings are at Aunt Edna's. When we knew the Halls were definitely leaving, I wrote to Kristin asking what she wanted to keep and what I should dispose of. You can guess the answer — "Mother, I want all of my things. Can't you *possibly* find places to put them until I have a chance to look them over?" Living in a small house that is already *bulging* with things no one wants to part with, you can see the dilemma I'm going to be in for the next few weeks!

Our grandson Andy's Shetland colt becomes more adorable every day. We have really fallen in love with her! When Mr. Sullivan brought the colt he also brought the mother to stay with her for awhile. Both ponies are sweet and gentle, and love to be nuzzled and petted. We don't need an alarm clock anymore because the minute it starts to get light the little mare starts nickering for Frank to come out. She also nickers each time she hears the back door open and close.

While the timber was still beautiful I drove to Shenandoah and brought Mother home with me for a couple of relaxing days. We hadn't taken any pictures of the colt and pony to send to Kristin, so when Mother was in the back yard enjoying the sunshine, Frank brought them around so she could see them and I could snap some pictures. It seemed like an ideal situation, but what a time we had! Alison's goat, Sadie, was staked out in the yard and

she and the colt don't get along. Then Tinker, our dog, who resents *both* the colt and Sadie because of the attention they get, stood around whining and crying because Mother was petting them. When he tried to move into the group, Sadie butted him and the colt chased him! The minute Frank took all the other animals away Tinker ran to Mother to get his little bit of attention. When we got the pictures back we really had to laugh because Mother was so surrounded we could hardly see her.

When I'm in Shenandoah and Howard and Mae and I get together, you can just imagine that most of our conversation is "grandparent talk". They are much more fortunate than I since they get to see their little Lisa so frequently. They were amused over Kristin's telephone report that Andy had several new words in his vocabulary now, but when she tried to get him to say "hi" to me on the phone he would not utter a sound! She was so upset that he wouldn't show off for his grandmother. Lisa is beginning to put two and three words together now. Howard and Mae have a little key chain at their house which has a mink paw attached to it. Lisa loves to carry it around and rub it against her face. The first thing she does when she comes to see them is dash for her mink paw. Howard laughed and said, "Do you know what she calls us? Grandpa and Grandma Mink Paw!" Her other grandparents have a kitty which she loves to play with, so she calls them Grandpa and Grandma Kitty. Our little Andy isn't old enough and hasn't seen us enough to realize we are grandparents, but when he does do you suppose he will identify us as Grandpa and Grandma Pony?

Kristin and Art are both terribly busy with their jobs and community activities. You probably read in the newspapers about the early snowstorm in Wyoming the middle of September. They had about three feet of snow and school was closed for a day. Kristin attended her first State Teachers Meeting, which was held in Casper, and enjoyed every minute of it. Art went deer hunting when the season opened and was fortunate, so they have venison in the locker. Kristin is helping with the junior choir at church, and Art is teaching a group of children in a class at the church. It sounds as if they are right at home in their new community, and very happy.

I wish I could tell you our plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas, but so far we have made none. We do know

(Continued on page 23)





## Things to Make for Christmas

Half the fun of Christmas is getting ready for the Holidays. Children are especially happy if they can help make some of the colorful decorations. In fact, these projects will provide many pleasant hours of entertainment, and if Mother will bring out some cookies and hot chocolate, this may be the beginning of a family Christmas tradition.

Christmas trees are a must, and there is no end to the types one can make for wall decorations. Cut a tree from cardboard and cover it with halves of milkweed pods placed vertically in horizontal rows. When the glue has thoroughly dried, spray with gold or silver. In the tip of each pod, glue a colored bead, sequin, or some sort of tiny Christmas ornament. For milkweed pods one might substitute tiny cones and gild the entire tree or the tip of each cone. Halves of English walnut shells or even bottle caps can be used to cover the tree.

Cone-shaped paper drinking cups can be colored green and used as the bases for trees. These can be covered with sequins, beads, or bits of jewelry. Tiny strands of gold-colored thread or rickrack can be looped around the tree to resemble rope. These trees make attractive name cards for Christmas entertaining. Or one can fill the cup with candies, favors, or a small gift. A cardboard bottom can be attached with tape before painting the tree. These trees can be used as favors, prizes, or as gifts to tie to the family Christmas tree.

Indoor wreaths can be made from pine cones or other roadside materials. Cut a wreath from heavy cardboard and cover it with pine cones alone, or add milkweed pods, seeds, nuts, acorns, or buckeyes. The wreath is attractive in

natural colors if a bright red bow is added. It is also beautiful if sprayed with gold.

Detergent bottles make ideal angels. The bottle forms the body with a styrofoam ball for the head. Make features from sequins or beads. Glue on yarn hair and add a sequin halo. Wings can be cut from construction paper and attached with glue. With some glitter, gilt, leftover bits of lace, and discarded jewelry, the children can turn out the most glamorous, sparkling angels imaginable. This same method can be used to make choir boys and girls.

### MORE IDEAS

*Peanut Pixie Merry-Go-Round:* For individual favors use ordinary-sized sugar cookies. For a novelty centerpiece make a huge cookie, perhaps using a mixing bowl as a pattern. With thick confectioner's icing as the "cement", fasten a stick candy center pole on the cookie. Arrange peanut pixies in various poses around the outside rim, with icing to anchor them in place. Tie narrow ribbon streamers to the top of the center pole, running one out to each pixie. Top the poles with a large gumdrop.

*Spinning Tree Mobile:* Begin with a large hoop, winding it with ribbon. Tie lengths of Christmas ribbons or yarn at regular intervals around the hoop, leaving short lengths to hang down. Gather the longer strands at the top and knot them so that, suspended from a light fixture or doorway, the ribbons become the tree branches, with the hoop as the base. Tie miniature packages, baubles, and trinkets to the shorter lengths of ribbon so that they hang down from the hoop to spin prettily as the mobile turns in the slightest breeze.

*Kitchen Centerpiece* needed? For an unusual one, snap clothespins around the edge of a heavy circle of cardboard, and spray red or gold. When dry, place on it a bed of evergreen tips. Arrange fruit or pine cones and Christmas ornaments on it. To make a tray using the same idea, snap the clothespins to the edge of an aluminum foil pie tin or cake pan.

*Holiday Sleigh Favors or Centerpieces:* Decorate boxes of animal crackers with ribbons and bows. Tape two small candy canes to the boxes as the sleigh runners.

*Christmas Tree Favor and Placecard or Program Booklet:* Make a Christmas tree pattern from a piece of newspaper. For each favor cut two trees from heavy green construction paper. Fold each tree lengthwise through the center. Unfold, place one on top of the other, and stitch together on the fold line crease. The tree will now stand after you spread out the branches. Punch holes with a paper punch on outside of the branches — about three on each side of tree. String colored yarn through these to make the loops of trimming. Stick a star seal on top. These might be placed on top of the nut cup or you can make a collar of heavy paper for the base. For a program booklet, write parts of the program on the different sides of the tree. These are colorful on a dinner table or refreshment tray.

*Photo Greeting Cards* of your church make wonderful items by which the Aid can make money. Why not take several winter and Christmas scene shots of your church (interior and exterior) this year and plan to have them made up in boxes of assorted views to sell next year?

Don't throw away your odds-and-ends of cosmetics; they will bring delight to many a patient of a state hospital. Save small fancy jars, boxes, and bottles, and fill with leftovers of lotion, sachet, creams, or perfume.

*Make a Ceppo:* Many of our delightful Christmas customs come from various countries around the world. The ceppo, a pyramid tree, comes from Italy. Each



child in the family has one. It looks a great deal like a triangular whatnot, but stands on the floor or table, depending on the height. Three triangular shelves in graduated size are spaced up the pyramid. In Italy the bottom shelf holds a creche, the center shelf holds gifts, and the top shelf holds candies and cookies. At the very peak of the pyramid a perky little figure or pine cone is added. On each corner of the shelves is a candle or a tassel.



**Make a Cookie Wreath:** Make up your favorite cookies and shape them in round balls. After baking, wrap each cookie in brightly colored cellophane paper. (If you have a variety of different colored cookies you may prefer using transparent wrap.) Cut the cellophane or wrap long enough to make a twisted end when the cookie is covered. Plan the size wreath you want. Cut wire to proper length and fasten ends so as to make a circle. Cover wire with colored ribbon. The cookies can be tied to the wire with individual pieces of string or you can take one long piece of ribbon or cord and wrap the ends of each cookie in place and then go on to the next, pulling firmly. Put the cookies as close together as possible. Top off the wreath with a perky colored bow. This makes a delightful, edible centerpiece.



**Make Your Own Evergreen Roping:** If you have ever purchased a length of evergreen roping to use as a swag across the mantel, to outline a window or tack around a doorway, you know how expensive it can be. It is very simple to make. The most flexible base is made with old nylon stockings. Stitch them together, heel to toe. Make three lengths. Braid the three lengths together. When you have the braid as long as you desire for the roping, gather evergreen sprigs. Scraps of evergreen can usually be purchased where Christmas trees are sold. If you are fortunate enough to live near a timber, you may be able to find a tree available for cutting. Cut the sprigs in 5- or 6-inch lengths.

Keep the braid pulled tightly (the ends should be fastened firmly). Lay three or four pieces of evergreen against the braid and tie with florist's wire or heavy cord. After one bunch is tied on, place another cluster of sprigs so they overlap the stems of the one previously placed. Continue until the entire length of braid is covered.



## OUTDOOR DECORATIONS

With the advent of new developments in outdoor lighting, the opportunities for door, window and yard decorations are almost limitless. More and more homes are using outdoor lighting and gay decorations for a joyous greeting to those who pass by.

Electric lights can be used to outline a drive or a sidewalk. One family obtained large cardboard tubes from the furniture store (the kind on which rugs and linoleum are rolled), and covered them with a washable stick-on paper. A wire and bulb were pushed up through the tube and fastened to the top with insulated wire to form a "flame". Six of these huge "candles" lined the walk up to the front door of their home.

A simple row of colored Christmas lights on each side of the walk or drive is very attractive. First, install a heavy wire where you want the lights to go. Be sure all lights used outdoors are guaranteed, have molded rubber plugs, and wrap any plug-in connections made by putting two wires together with insulated tape. All connections should be held off the ground with wooden stakes. Fasten the lights firmly to the wire. This is also the best way to run a line of lights along the house or along a fence; the heavy wire keeps the lights in place and protects the bulbs from swaying in the wind.

**Make a Giant Wreath:** A wreath of giant proportions can make a spectacular focal point for outdoor Christmas decorations. One might be hung on a garage door, on the side of the house, nailed to a big gate, tied to a yard light, fastened to the door of the church or wired to the church bulletin board. For the base, use very heavy wire, (or two or three layers of wire), a flexible tree branch bent into a circle and wired, an old hula hoop, the rim of a bicycle wheel or a barrel hoop. Start covering the circle with a small grouping of evergreen clippings and fasten firmly with florist's wire. The second group of clippings should cover the stems of the first. Go on around the circle, leaving one section with fewer greens to accommodate a colorful waterproof bow. Trim with large glass balls. For the best effect, make several massive groups of balls instead of scattering them all around the wreath. Large pine cones can be sprayed and used as trim. Dried weeds

and flowers are lovely in any outdoor wreath. One farm wife sprayed heads of milo with gold and tucked them into the wreath for a delightful effect.



We'll be sharing ideas for Christmas gift making, decorating and baking on the Kitchen-Klatter radio program heard each morning (except Sunday) on the following stations:

- KOUR** Independence, Ia., 1220 on your dial - 9:30 A.M.
- KWOA** Worthington, Minn., 730 on your dial - 9:30 A.M.
- KWPC** Muscatine, Iowa, 860 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- KSMN** Mason City, Iowa, 1010 on your dial - 9:30 A.M.
- KCFI** Cedar Falls, Iowa, 1250 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- KWBG** Boone, Iowa, 1590 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- WJAG** Norfolk, Nebr., 780 on your dial - 10:00 A.M.
- KVSH** Valentine, Nebr., 940 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- KHAS** Hastings, Nebr., 1230 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- KFEQ** St. Joseph, Mo., 680 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.
- KLIK** Jefferson City, Mo., 950 on your dial - 9:30 A.M.
- KOAM** Pittsburg, Kans., 860 on your dial - 9:00 A.M.

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Shenandoah, Iowa 51601



# Special Holiday Recipes

Tested by the Kitchen-Klatter Family

## FROZEN CRANBERRY WALDORF

- 1 lb. raw cranberries
- 3 red apples
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup cream, whipped
- 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter cherry flavoring

Wash cranberries and drain. Quarter apples, remove cores but do not peel them. Grind cranberries and apples together into bowl, stir in sugar, and let stand for 30 minutes. Whip the cream, adding the cherry flavoring, and then fold the fruit mixture, nuts and marshmallows into the whipped cream. Spoon into 9" square pan, wrap in foil and freeze. To serve, unwrap and cut into squares and let stand for about 15 minutes at room temperature. The balance (if any is left) can be returned to the freezer; it will keep indefinitely.

This is a decidedly attractive salad-dessert that tastes as good as it looks. It will serve about 12 people and would be ideal for Christmas entertaining where you want the type of salad that can also serve as dessert — and can be made long in advance. —Lucile

## WHITE CHRISTMAS FUDGE

- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 Tbls. butter or margarine
- 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter flavoring
- 1/2 cup nuts

Combine sugar, salt and sour cream. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until a soft ball is formed in cold water (236 degrees on candy thermometer). Add butter and flavoring and cool without stirring until lukewarm. Beat until thick. Add chopped nuts and pour into buttered pan.

This is a wonderfully creamy, delicious fudge. Stir as little as possible to prevent sugaring. I have used both sour country cream and the commercial sour cream with equal success. This can be made with other flavorings, but the combination given here is very, very good. —Evelyn

## EDNA'S BLACK WALNUT CAKE

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 3/4 cup cold water
- 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 4 egg whites
- 1/2 cup black walnuts
- 1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter black walnut flavoring
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring

Cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Sift the flour and baking powder together and add alternately with the water. Beat in the flavorings. Dredge the nutmeats in a small amount of flour and add. Fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in a 9- by 13-inch pan for approximately 45 minutes in a 350-degree oven.

—Dorothy

## BLACK WALNUT FUDGE FROSTING

- 3 Tbls. cream
- 3 Tbls. brown sugar
- 3 Tbls. butter or margarine
- 1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter flavoring
- 1 square chocolate
- 1 1/2 cups sifted powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring
- 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter black walnut flavoring

Combine cream, brown sugar, butter or margarine and butter flavoring. Add chocolate and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from fire. Add remaining ingredients and beat well. If necessary, a little more powdered sugar may be added.

## JELLIED CRANBERRIES

- 2 cups cold water
- 4 cups cranberries
- 2 cups sugar
- Flavoring as desired

Combine berries and water in saucepan and cook until the berries pop. Put through food mill. Combine pulp and sugar. Boil exactly 5 minutes. 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter orange, pineapple or raspberry flavoring may be added. Pour into jars. Refrigerate for a short time or freeze if you wish to store for longer period.

## PERFECTLY WONDERFUL CARAMELS

- 2 cups brown sugar
- 3/4 cup white corn syrup
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup sweetened condensed milk (Eagle Brand)
- 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter flavoring
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter burnt sugar flavoring

Combine all ingredients in very heavy saucepan. Bring to a boil. Simmer over low flame, stirring frequently to keep from scorching. For a soft caramel, cook for 25 minutes. For a harder candy, continue cooking 5 to 10 minutes longer. Turn onto well-greased cooky sheet. When cool, cut soft caramels with knife, or break firm ones with knife handle.

Chocolate chips may be sprinkled on hot candy after it is spread on cooky sheet. When they have melted, spread smooth and let harden.

This is a *perfectly wonderful* candy. The flavor is marvelous. It is adaptable to both soft and hard caramels, depending on your preference. Since it is a large recipe, I often make part of it soft and continue cooking the remainder for a portion of the firm candy. These may be individually wrapped and frozen for future use. They will store and ship well for gift boxes.

This recipe makes delicious caramel syrup for use on ice cream. Cook the mixture for 10 minutes. Spoon into jar, cover and store in refrigerator. Warm before serving as a topping. —Evelyn

## PEANUT BUTTER-CHOCOLATE CHIP DROP COOKIES

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup School Day peanut butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring
- 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter burnt sugar flavoring
- 1 cup sifted flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 6-oz. pkg. chocolate chips
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Cream shortening, peanut butter, and sugar. Beat in eggs and flavorings. Sift dry ingredients together and add to batter alternately with milk. Lastly, stir in rolled oats, chocolate chips and nuts. Drop by teaspoonfuls on ungreased cooky sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for about 12 minutes.



### LEMON-PECAN REFRIGERATOR DAINTIES

1/2 cup shortening  
1 cup sugar  
1 well-beaten egg  
1 Tbls. lemon juice  
1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter lemon  
flavoring  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter  
flavoring  
2 cups sifted flour  
1/8 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 cup finely chopped pecans  
Thoroughly cream shortening and sugar; add egg, lemon juice, and flavorings; beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients; mix well. Stir in nuts. Shape in rolls; wrap in waxed paper and chill thoroughly. Slice very thin; bake on greased cookie sheet in moderate oven (350 degrees) 12 to 15 minutes. Makes 5 dozen small cookies.

—Margery

### PUMPKIN APPLE PIE

My good friend and next-door neighbor sent over a perfectly delicious pie recently. She never hesitates to share a recipe, so I got it for you. It is a fine combination of two traditional pies, so nice to serve this time of year.

Cider pastry for 1-crust pie

1 cup mashed pumpkin  
4 large tart apples  
2 Tbls. apple cider  
1/4 cup sugar  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 cup light cream  
1 egg, beaten  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
1/2 tsp. ginger  
1/4 tsp. cloves

Peel and slice apples; combine in saucepan with cider, sugar and salt. Cook 10 minutes, or until just tender. Cool.

Line a 9" pie pan with half of cider pastry. Chill.

Pour apples into shell. Combine pumpkin, salt, cream and egg. Add sugar and spices. Stir to blend well. Pour over apples. Bake at 425 degrees about 45 minutes. Serve at room temperature.

### Cider Pastry

2 cups flour  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 cup shortening  
1/4 cup cider  
Mix flour and salt; cut in shortening. Mix lightly with cider to make pastry. Roll out and fit into pie pans. Makes 2.  
—Abigail

### SPICY APPLE BARS

1/2 cup vegetable shortening  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter  
flavoring  
1 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1 cup sifted all-purpose flour  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 Tbls. cocoa  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
1/4 tsp. cloves  
1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter burnt sugar  
flavoring  
1 cup rolled oats  
1 1/2 cups diced, pared apples  
1/2 cup chopped walnuts  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter black walnut  
flavoring

Cream the shortening and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Sift together the dry ingredients and add to the creamed mixture. Stir in the flavorings, rolled oats, apples and nuts. Spread in a greased 9- by 13-inch pan and bake in a 375-degree oven about 25 minutes. When cooled slightly, cut into bars and either sprinkle with powdered sugar or frost with a tangy icing.  
—Dorothy

### PICTURE-TAKING CRANBERRY PIE

1 1/2 cups fresh cranberries  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/4 cup nuts, chopped  
1 egg  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup flour  
6 Tbls. melted butter or margarine  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter orange  
flavoring  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter  
flavoring

Grease a 9-inch pie plate well. (I use a crockery type which will go into the oven.) Spread prepared cranberries over the bottom of the pie plate. If any of the berries are extra large, cut in two. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup sugar and nuts.

Beat egg, add 1/2 cup sugar and beat well. Add flour and melted shortening to egg mixture. Beat until smooth. Stir in flavorings. Pour batter over cranberries. Bake at 325 degrees for 45 minutes, or until golden brown. Cut in wedges and serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

This is absolutely delicious and goes together quickly and easily. It *does* not have a crust. We served this the evening a photographer came to take our Christmas picture, which explains the name.  
—Evelyn

### FROZEN CHRISTMAS SALAD

2 3-oz. pkgs. cream cheese  
1 cup mayonnaise  
1 cup cream, whipped (or powdered whipped topping)  
1 #2 can crushed pineapple, drained  
1/2 cup red maraschino cherries, diced  
1/2 cup green maraschino cherries, diced  
1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter pineapple flavoring  
2 1/2 cups miniature marshmallows  
Softened cream cheese to room temperature. Blend with mayonnaise until smooth. Fold in whipped cream (or whipped topping) and gently stir in pineapple, cherries, pineapple flavoring and marshmallows. Spoon into 1 qt. freezer tray. Freeze until firm. Cut into squares and serve on lettuce leaves. This is a generous amount, serving 10 to 12 nicely.

### CHERRY-ALMOND BARS

1 cup flour  
2 Tbls. powdered sugar  
1/2 cup butter or margarine  
Mix these three ingredients like pie crust. Press in 9- by 13-inch pan and bake 10 minutes in 350-degree oven.  
1 cup sugar  
1/4 cup flour  
1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 eggs, beaten  
1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla flavoring  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter cherry flavoring  
1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter almond flavoring  
2/3 cup slivered almonds  
1 small bottle maraschino cherries, cut up  
Combine above ingredients and spread over baked crust. Bake in 350-degree oven for 20-30 minutes.

### OZARK CRANBERRY SALAD

3 pkgs. cherry gelatin  
3 cups boiling water  
2 cans jellied, strained cranberries  
1 #2 can crushed pineapple  
3 Tbls. lemon juice  
1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter cherry flavoring  
1 cup pecan meats, broken  
Dissolve cherry gelatin in boiling water. Add strained cranberries while hot. Mix with a fork and blend well. Cool until syrupy. Fold in remaining ingredients. Spoon into ring mold. Unmold onto lettuce leaves when set.  
This recipe came through the generosity of Millie Martenson of the New Orleans Hotel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.



**BEVERLY'S BROWNIES**

1 cup vegetable shortening  
 2 1/2 squares of chocolate  
 1 cup white sugar  
 1 cup brown sugar  
 4 eggs  
 1 cup pastry flour  
 1 tsp. baking powder  
 Dash of salt  
 1/4 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter  
 flavoring  
 1/2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter black walnut  
 flavoring

1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla  
 1/2 cup black walnuts  
 Melt together the shortening and chocolate (use low fire) and then cool. Beat together well the white and brown sugar and eggs. Then add the melted shortening and chocolate. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt. Stir in. Add all the flavorings and walnuts. Spread out in very large pan. Bake at 325 degrees from 40 to 60 minutes (depends upon thickness of batter). Sprinkle thoroughly with powdered sugar as soon as cool.

**HOLIDAY APPLE CAKE***(Wonderful for Christmas company!)*

1 cup vegetable shortening  
 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter butter  
 flavoring  
 3/4 cup brown sugar, firmly packed  
 3/4 cup white sugar  
 4 eggs  
 1 cup thinly sliced, peeled apples  
 2 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla  
 flavoring  
 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter almond  
 flavoring  
 2 1/2 cups sifted flour  
 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
 1 tsp. salt  
 2 tsp. nutmeg  
 1 cup chopped walnuts  
 1 cup raisins  
 1 Tbls. flour

Cream shortening, butter flavoring and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time. Beat in the apples and flavorings. Gradually blend in the sifted dry ingredients. Fold in the nuts and the raisins, which have been dredged with the 1 Tbls. of flour. Place batter in a well-greased tube cake pan and sprinkle with the following topping:

**Topping**

1/4 cup chopped walnuts  
 2 Tbls. brown sugar  
 Bake in a slow oven, 325 degrees, for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

—Dorothy

**COFFEE FUDGE**

3 cups sugar  
 2 Tbls. instant coffee  
 1/8 tsp. salt  
 1 1/4 cups evaporated milk  
 1 Tbls. light corn syrup  
 Few drops Kitchen-Klatter butter  
 flavoring  
 1 tsp. Kitchen-Klatter vanilla  
 flavoring  
 1 cup chocolate bits  
 1/2 cup chopped nuts

Combine the sugar, instant coffee, salt, milk and corn syrup in a heavy saucepan and bring to a boil over low heat, stirring constantly. Cook, without stirring, over low heat until candy reaches the soft ball stage. (If you are using a candy thermometer, this is 236 degrees.) Remove from heat and add the flavorings, but do not stir. Cool until the outside of the saucepan feels lukewarm. Beat until candy begins to thicken, then pour it into a buttered 8-inch square pan. Melt the chocolate bits in the top of the double boiler and spread evenly over the cooled fudge. Sprinkle nuts over the chocolate while it is still warm.

**DECEMBER 1965**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 <i>Cherry</i>	17 <i>Lemon</i>	18 <i>Banana</i>
19 <i>Rasp- berry</i>	20 <i>Butter</i>	21 <i>Coco- nut</i>	22 <i>Burnt Sugar</i>	23 <i>Almond</i>	24 <i>Orange</i>	25 <i>Pine- apple</i>
26 <i>Straw- berry</i>	27 <i>Mint</i>	28 <i>Black Walnut</i>	29 <i>Vanilla</i>	30 <i>Maple</i>	31 <i>Blue- berry</i>	

**There! It's All Planned!**

Holidays mean entertaining: old friends dropping in, colleagues home from school, little teas and big dinners. And all these mean cooking. What better time to really cook special treats . . . different and exciting dishes, with a real expert's touch? Your old recipes will be fine; just give them the magic touch of **Kitchen-Klatter Flavorings**. Salad dressings, pies, gelatins, frostings, stuffings, vegetables, even drinks will profit from the miracle of **Kitchen-Klatter Flavorings**. Look at your recipe file now. Can't you see several that would profit from a little touch of imagination? Happy holidays!

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## PREPARE THE HEART FOR CHRISTMAS

by

Mabel Nair Brown

During Advent season we prepare our hearts for Christmas. In the words of Isaiah it is the time when we "Prepare the way of the Lord."

The church and church school have their place in this preparation, of course, but many of us are learning that much heart preparation can begin in the home. The heart's preparation comes through quiet meditation of God's Word and through prayer, by centering our thoughts on Christ and the coming of His birthday. More and more families are experiencing the joy in family devotions through the use of the Advent Wreath and the Advent Calendar.

Some churches are starting a lovely new tradition of lighting a large Advent wreath in church on the first Sunday in Advent. Then the families light their own family wreaths when they arrive home following the church service, and each Sunday thereafter.

Many churches go even further by having a family night immediately before Advent, at which time each family works together in the church basement to make its own Advent wreath. One can easily be made by using a wire coat hanger for the wreath frame and wiring evergreen tips to it. Four candles are placed around the wreath and one in the center. Some like to use a circle of foam, since candles can easily be stuck into place, with evergreen tips laid upon it or fastened to it. Still others prefer to cut a large wreath shape from chicken wire, leaving the circle 4 to 5 inches wide. Greens can be firmly attached to this wire frame.

### Lighting the Advent Candles

A parent can explain why each candle is lighted and then a parent, or the children, can read the Scripture appropriate to that day.

**1st Candle:** We light the first Advent candle for the prophecies found in the Old Testament which foretold the coming of the Messiah. (Read Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1-5; 40:9-11.)

**2nd Candle:** We light this second candle (light the first, also, so that two burn on second Sunday, three the next, etc.) for the Annunciation, the good news which the Angel Gabriel brought to Mary. (Read Luke 1:26-33, and possibly verses 46-55 — The Magnificat.)

**3rd Candle:** The third candle is lighted to remind us of the lowly birth of Jesus and of the humble shepherds led to The Babe in the manger. (Read Luke 2:1-20.)

**4th Candle:** We light this fourth candle to remind us of the wise men who brought precious gifts to the Christ Child. (Read Matt. 2:1-11.)

**5th Candle:** (Center candle, lighted on Christmas Eve.) We light our fifth candle for that blessed Babe in the manger, Jesus, whose birthday we honor on Christmas. (Read the Christmas story from Luke.)

An appropriate Christmas carol adds beauty to each lighting ceremony.

### The Advent Calendar

Making an Advent calendar can be a wonderful family project, since children enjoy going through old greeting cards to find pictures and Scripture verses to paste on the calendar. This is the way we made ours, which is put away each year and brought out the next Advent season, until it has be-

come a treasured tradition in the family. It is also something which church school classes enjoy making.

On a large cardboard, about 22" by 30", letter ADVENT CALENDAR across the top, and mark lines lightly to divide it into spaces for the days of the month. We chose folder cards and carefully cut out the inner pages, leaving a single fold with a beautiful Christmas picture (church, holly, pine cones, and poinsettia, but no Santas or toys). These were all the same size. Some can be trimmed down without marring the picture. One was glued to the calendar for each day of Advent through Christmas Day. We opened each folder and glued an appropriate Scripture — one of the prophecies, verses from Luke, Matthew, etc., all found on old cards. We also pasted in small pictures cut from the cards, such as a Bible, a candle, clusters of greens, cones, or poinsettias, as well as a Nativity scene for Christmas Eve.

During daily devotions one of the children opened the folder and read the Scripture for that day.

# BREAK

## THE CALORIE HABIT!

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## KITCHEN-KLATTER NO-CALORIE SWEETENER





## NECESSITIES CAN BECOME TRADITIONS

by  
Evelyn Birkby

In just a few short weeks Christmas will be here! How are the projects and plans progressing at your house? Are you all ready with your gifts purchased, your wrapping finished, every Christmas card in the mail and the cookies and candies tucked in the freezer in adequate amounts?

If you can answer *yes* to the above questions you are probably one of a very small minority of homemakers. Most of us wait until Thanksgiving is over and the calendar flips to December before the Christmas spirit really begins to move us into high gear. Now is the time to begin rushing here and there to find the right gifts, spending late night hours wrapping, signing and addressing cards and getting the greatest share of the baking done.

For years my mother-in-law did practically all of her preparations for the holidays the week before Christmas. The buying of gifts was done on the very last day and wrapping and tying completed after the Christmas Eve program at the church was over. It could not be said of her house that "T" was the night before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring . . ." for of all the nights of the year, more stirring went on December 24th than on any other.

Strangely enough, this pattern grew into a tradition. The family reports that to this day the holiday simply would not *feel* right without this hectic last minute rush.

It took a great deal of detective work, a huge quantity of persistence and even a little brashness to ferret out the reason for this late blooming of the spirit to get Christmas projects under way. Finally, with a rather poignant look on her face, Grandma Dulcy explained that back in the depression days when her three children were growing up, money was scarce. She waited until the day before Christmas to do her shopping simply because many bargains were then available. She did not plan her purchases, she bought from the stock which remained on the counter at that late date. Naturally, when she did her shopping on the 24th, only the night before Christmas remained for the wrapping and preparing of the purchases. It was as simple as that; a tradition grew out of a necessity.

Strangely enough, this discussion brings back memories of my own father



The Birkbys - Robert, Evelyn, Bob, Craig, and Jeffrey wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

dashing down to the local drug store (the only store in most small towns which used to carry gift items) and buying his gifts at the very last moment. Mother usually did her buying and mailing of gifts a little earlier for she had relatives out of town to remember. But Dad had his minister's mind occupied with church programs, candlelight services, youth activities and preparations for the all-important sermon for the Sunday nearest Christmas. Details concerning family gifts simply waited until the last possible moment.

For years Mother, my sister Ruth and I enjoyed receiving from Dad various kinds of stationery. It seemed that almost every year the drug store would be sold out of *all other* gift items by the time Dad arrived to pursue his Santa role. His decision was usually limited to which color of stationery he would buy for which feminine member of his household!

The recipients of these love gifts vied with each other in expressing delight and surprise over the presents. We were delighted, too. We knew that Dad's love for us was the deepest, richest love a father could have for his

family. His joyous sprinting down to the local store, his fun in commandeering all that was left in the house in the way of bright paper and ribbon and his *supposedly* secret tiptoeing to the basement with his noisy armload to wrap the gifts in the furnace room and then sneaking back upstairs to tuck the gifts under the tree, were all actions followed carefully by three pairs of blue eyes and three sets of listening ears. Our snickers and whispered comments surely gave us away to him as readily as his rattling papers and noisy tiptoeing let us follow his progress, but he never once let on. It was a wonderful part of Christmas and the love expressed was real.

Now that I have found out Grandma Dulcy's secret reason for buying gifts so late in the holiday season, I wonder if a great deal of Dad's motivation could have been the same as hers. As children, Ruth and I never dreamed that economy had anything to do with Dad's holiday antics. He was having too much fun and so were we. Finally, it all became a part of our Christmas tradition.

How many of the traditions you follow began as a necessity? Back in pioneer days the trimming of the Christmas tree was done with the nuts and feathers and papers which could be pasted and cut and fastened to the tree. Popcorn chains and strings of cranberries joined the decorations. Now our children enjoy stringing popcorn and cranberries, covering small boxes with bright scraps of paper and shaping birds and angels around cardboard cones to hang on the tree. As they work they want someone to read to them again the exciting story of Laura's and Mary's Christmas (from *Little House on the Prairie*, by Laura Ingalls Wilder). As they listen to the familiar list of gifts - a tin cup, a white heart-shaped cake, a peppermint stick and a shining bright new penny - they comment on such an exciting holiday. "I wish I could have a Christmas like that!" Craig sighs.

Have we lost the true spirit of Christmas when we can buy great quantities of elaborate items in the stores? I don't think we have *if* we remember that the secret of the great day is right where it has always been, not in accumulation of *things* but in the loving expression of our hearts. Whether our gifts come from the sewing basket, a mail order catalogue or the corner drug store, whether our traditions come intentionally or from necessity, if they are wrapped about with loving joy, Christmas will be meaningful.





## ABIGAIL IS INVOLVED IN MANY ACTIVITIES

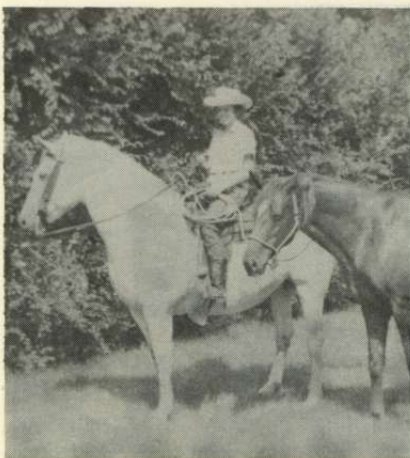
Dear Friends:

After spending two days making the preliminary arrangements for a dinner for high school seniors and their parents, I find my thoughts centered on school and P.T.A. I should be thinking about holiday obligations also, but that must wait awhile. You know, there is nothing more time-consuming than having a good friend who is president of the P.T.A. All three P.T.A. presidents for our children's schools are close personal friends and neighbors so I find myself quite involved this year. When Emily graduates at least one P.T.A. is eliminated and the work that accompanies it. Some of its activities have my full support; others interest me less.

One of the most valuable P.T.A. functions, in my opinion, is the opportunity it provides for teachers and parents of junior and senior high school children to see each other. Apparently, I'm not alone in this attitude because "Back-to-School" functions receive the most enthusiastic response from parents. This year the high school P.T.A. is going one step further and sponsoring a dinner for each class and their parents and teachers. The idea is to provide a more social atmosphere in which to become acquainted. By charging a fee somewhat above the actual food cost, the P.T.A. hopes to raise sufficient money for their annual budget. Incidentally, the teachers are not expected to purchase tickets; they are guests of the P.T.A.

Another valuable service provided by our P.T.A. is the publication of newsletters. You know we don't live in anything like a genuine "community". There are a great many people living close together, but no real boundaries. As a result there is no truly "community" newspaper or radio station to put out routine news of school activities. These P.T.A. newsletters, which go to all parents whether members or not, are frequently the only means parents have of knowing what is happening at school.

Emily has had a fantastically busy and varied fall with one substantial responsibility after another tossed in her direction. So far she seems to be thriving in this situation. As you may remember, she is Head Girl at Jefferson High School this year. The Head Boy has been one of the most important members of the football team so most of his time and energy had to be spent there during the fall months.



Alison kept in practice with her horseback riding on the Johnson farm this past summer when she had several horses to ride.

Last weekend she presided over the district convention of the Future Homemakers of Colorado at her school. In another week she presides over the Winter Conference of the Colorado Episcopal Youth, is home a day and a half and then leaves to attend the state convention of student councils. At our insistence Emily is carrying a relatively light academic load this fall — English Literature, Spanish V, Speech, Anthropology and Music (mixed chorus). She was originally scheduled to take chemistry, but after her election to these offices we urged her to take Speech instead. Wayne and I both feel that Speech was one of the most useful courses we ever took.

While Emily was tearing around this fall, I was tearing out my hair on a sewing project. Alison wanted very badly to enter a horse show at a riding school patronized mostly by the very wealthy residents of east Denver. She felt she just *must* have a proper English-type riding jacket. Such jackets start at \$25.00 and go on up in cost. I could envision such a jacket being worn once or twice and then outgrown, so I promised to make her one.

The first problem encountered was a big one: No pattern could be found in spite of combing every available pattern catalogue. Finally, it seemed the best thing to do was buy the pattern for a man's sport coat and modify it to make a ladies' riding jacket. I have virtually no experience in tailoring and none in making such drastic pattern alterations. Fortunately, the material was black in color and you know that doesn't show mistakes as plainly! I thought that I had started in plenty of time, but it was 10:30 p.m. on the night before the show that the jacket was finished. Considering the circumstances, the outside of the jacket

looks pretty good, but the lining bears vivid testimony to the trials and errors that went into construction. By the time I finished, I figured the cost was \$4.40 and 1000 new gray hairs! Alison didn't win any cups or ribbons in this show but she didn't seem very disappointed. I think she was just too thrilled at entering such a big show that nothing could spoil the occasion.

Alison has a busy ninth-grade academic schedule this year taking English, Spanish, Civics, Algebra, Earth Science, Physical Education and Symphonic Band. This is the first time she has had phys. ed. since elementary school. She was fully prepared to detest the course when it was made a required subject this year, but, in spite of her worst fears, she is thoroughly enjoying the class and has joined an after-school group for work on the trampoline.

The Earth Science class is part of an experimental program to replace General Science. It used to be that students in the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades all studied general science — on an increasingly more mature level each year. Alison is part of a group which will study Life Science one year, Physical Science another year and Earth Science a third year. It was only last year that her experimental group was started so they will miss one year (Life Science) on the program. Last year their class was visited several times by some of the University of Chicago educators working on this new development.

Clark's highly successful midget football team had high aspirations of an undefeated season this year. About halfway through the game schedule an underdog took good advantage of their overconfidence and that took care of that dream. But after this his team settled down and played excellent football the remainder of the season. Football combined with tuba-practicing doesn't leave much time left over, but Clark did put some effort into running for the presidency of his sixth-grade class. In his own words after the election: "I lost by a landslide!"

I'm in an adult education class myself one afternoon each week. If you have read this far you might guess the subject — Tailoring. Our instructor is an Iowa State graduate with many years of teaching and tailoring experience. Frankly, I am "way over my head" in the class for I haven't had anywhere near the formal sewing training to qualify for the class. But there is one happy thought — the teacher can't flunk me and I am learning a great deal! Our

(Continued on page 20)



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—Photo: Dale Hartford  
Gladys Taber, author of *Gladys  
Taber's Stillmeadow Cook Book*,  
is shown in the kitchen of her  
Connecticut farmhouse.

## COME, READ WITH ME

by  
Armada Swanson

The holiday season brings thoughts  
of Christmas programs at church and  
school, homemade gifts filled with love  
for friends and family, and delicious  
concoctions being stirred up in the  
kitchen for Christmas guests.

A pleasant book for Christmas giving  
is *Gladys Taber's Stillmeadow Cook  
Book* (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$6.95).  
Although Gladys Taber's mother had  
the reputation for being the best cook  
in town, the author did not take advan-

tage of the built-in opportunity to learn  
to cook. Instead, she was upstairs  
reading poetry! When she began house-  
keeping, she finally learned that cook-  
ing is a basic art and much fun. Rec-  
ipes were collected, many of which are  
now found in *Stillmeadow Cook Book*.  
It is her belief that a recipe is like a  
poem and should be read to anyone  
who will listen.

Some 350 recipes are in the book,  
along with the author's sociable com-  
ments. She says these recipes have  
met two tests. The ingredients are  
usually available and do not take much  
preparation time.

Ranging from Appetizers to Fish (she  
says the best fish is the one you just  
caught) to Salads (she thinks salad  
can be made of almost anything except  
pie, cake, or ice cream) to Desserts  
(she writes that she ate her way  
through college sustained by frequent  
boxes from home of Date Torte), you  
are sure to take delight in *Gladys  
Taber's Stillmeadow Cook Book*.

Some books enjoyed during the  
year . . .

Dag Hammarskjöld's *Markings* (Alfred  
A. Knopf, \$5.95) has been on the best  
seller list for months. Secretary-Gen-  
eral of the United Nations at the time  
of his death, Mr. Hammarskjöld left be-  
hind this manuscript to be published  
after his death. A record of the spiri-  
tual life of a man whose public image  
was greatly admired, it is an unusual  
historical and devotional book. To  
illustrate: "Prayer, crystallized in  
words, assigns a permanent wave  
length on which the dialogue has to be  
continued, even when our mind is oc-  
cupied with other matters."

The personal story of an American  
missionary family in India is *Richer by  
India* (Harper and Row, \$3.50) by Myra  
Scovel. A sequel to *The Chinese Gin-  
ger Jars*, it deals with the daily frus-  
trations and rewards of a missionary  
family in a far-off land.

Remember *Papa's Wife* by Thyra  
Ferre Bjorn? Christmas in Swedish  
Lapland a half century ago is de-  
scribed by Mrs. Bjorn in *Once Upon a  
Christmas Time* (Holt, Rinehart and  
Winston, \$2.95). Admirers of Agnes  
Sligh Turnbull will appreciate *Little  
Christmas* (Houghton Mifflin, \$4), a  
touching story of what happened when  
"little" Christmas was celebrated.

A blessed Christmas to you from  
Frank, Armada, Jon and Ann Swanson.



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Dakota to Mansfield, Missouri. \$2.95.

**THAT DAY WITH GOD: November 24, 1963 . . .** The religious expression of all  
faiths following the death of President Kennedy, including the inspiring words of  
Dr. Frederick Field Driftmier, Pastor of the South Congregational Church, Spring-  
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## THE JOY OF GARDENING

by

Eva M. Schroeder

Are you looking for an inexpensive gift to use as a "thank you" for some service or just to give to someone you wish to remember during the Christmas season? Then consider the HOME and GARDEN CALENDAR for 1966. It contains 63 photographs (8 of them in color) of prize-winning flower arrangements and garden scenes and has ample room for daily appointments. Each arrangement is captioned for added interest and the exhibits run the whole gamut of design. The observer can glean a wealth of ideas for modern, abstract, and contemporary flower arrangements by just paging through the calendar. It comes boxed attractively ready for mailing or giving as is and the price is \$1.50 for the desk edition, \$1.50 for the hostess calendar and \$1.00 for the purse size calendar. Order direct from Hearthsides Press, Inc., 381 Park Ave. S., New York, N.Y. 10016. (Do not send any money to me or to this magazine.)

Gardening books make fine gifts for all the horticulture-minded people on your shopping list. They make comfortable armchair reading and help speed the winter on its way for those who are anxious for the growing season to arrive again. So that you can order through a bookstore or send directly to the publishing house and get the books in time for holiday giving, I will list the titles, prices, authors and publishers here.

For flower arrangement, any of the following books will fill the bill nicely. *The Julia Clements Colour Book of Flower Arrangements*, price \$4.95, available from Van Nostrand, Princeton, New Jersey; *Creative Decorations with Dried Flowers*, by Dorthea S. Thompson, price \$4.95, Hearthsides (address above); *Arranging Church Flowers*, by Mary L. G. Purefoy, price \$5.95, Hearthsides Press.

For flowers and gardening in general, *A Garden Full of Flowers*, by Nancy R. Smith, price \$5.95, Scribner, New York, N.Y. *Annual Flowers in Color*, by Paul F. Frese, Grosset, New York, N.Y. and *How to Grow Almost Everything*, by Stanley Schuler, price \$3.05, Lippencott, New York, N.Y.



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I bought a new box the other day . . .  
All that're left are purple and brown.  
The rest are broken, all worn down —  
I now see traces on the floor,  
And orange squiggles on the door!  
Buy in a box, then scrub up and sweep:  
The crayon mystery's not too deep!

—Mira W. Walilko

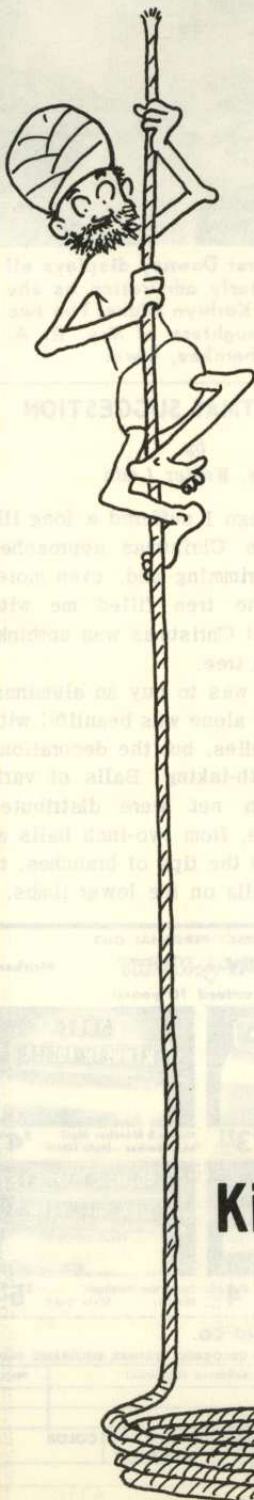
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Mary Margaret Downey displays all that is sisterly admiration as she holds baby Kathryn Diane. The two are granddaughters of Mrs. R. A. Ferris of Cherokee, Iowa.

### A CHRISTMAS SUGGESTION

by  
Mrs. Walter Ladd

Two years ago I suffered a long illness, and as Christmas approached the task of trimming and, even more, untrimming the tree filled me with dread. And yet Christmas was unthinkable without a tree.

My solution was to buy an aluminum tree. The tree alone was beautiful with its shiny needles, but the decorations made it breath-taking. Balls of varicolored nylon net were distributed about the tree, from two-inch balls at the top and at the tips of branches, to seven-inch balls on the lower limbs. I

used a spotlight instead of the usual strings of lights.

These delightful net fluffs can be used to decorate materials other than aluminum trees. I've seen tumbleweed trees although I have never made one. Tumbleweed dried, wired to whatever shape you wish, and sprayed gold, silver, white, or green presents an attractive picture with net balls of a single color.

The dainty balls themselves serve many purposes. They remove lint from coats, hats, bags, and even shoes. They work wonders in the dishpan, and are unsurpassed as pot scrapers. They clean sinks and bathtubs, floors and woodwork, and require only a quick rinse. The more you use them, the more uses you find for them.

The whole family can join in making the balls. Although the net comes in seventy-two-inch width, the smaller balls need only thirty-six to forty-five-inch strips. The larger balls use the entire width. After strips are cut, use a large needle with heavy thread or embroidery floss to make a row of running stitches through the center of each strip lengthwise. Draw up tightly and fasten securely with a couple of backstitches. Spread out fullness to make ball fluffy.

You will be delighted with the excited comments when your friends and family see your "different" tree, just as they will be charmed when you present them with a decoration right from the tree. And you will be happy, because with each gift you are "untrimming" the tree!

### CHRISTMAS GIFT - Concluded

read by the Vicar of Trinity Church in the cemetery on Upper Broadway in New York City at a special ceremony, and the boys and girls from the Chapel of the Intercession sing carols and place a wreath on the Professor's grave in tribute to the man who did a kind and simple thing for the pleasure of children.

He wrote a poem.

### ABIGAIL'S LETTER - Concluded

project is to make either a coat or suit jacket of wool with set-in sleeves, a collar and bound buttonholes. I'm hoping to end up with a short, off-white coat for Emily, but at this point I'm trailing everyone else in the class in progress so I'm not making any rash promises. Probably the thing for me to do right now is stop writing and get to work!

Sincerely,  
Abigail



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**DECEMBER DEVOTIONS - Concluded**

The good news of that song which the angels sang is the most wonderful music the world has ever heard. "On earth peace, goodwill toward men." "It was not a pronouncement upon the state of the world then; nor is it a current reading of the barometer of the present time; but it is a promise — God's promise — of what one day will come to pass," is the way one great theologian expresses it.

Harp and trumpet tell the story,  
Shining stars reveal His glory,  
And the listening spirit hears  
Far-off music of the spheres.  
Come, my heart, awake and sing,  
Praise to Bethlehem's cradled King!

**Song:** "Hark the Herald Angels Sing".

**Leader:** Clearly Jesus pointed out that "goodwill to men and peace on earth" must be in, and work through, us. *God gave us a song.* Have we heard it? Do we hear it this Christmas? Let us be sure our hearts and our ears are wide open. Christmas is a time for sharpening our awareness of our brothers' needs — and ours. Thus we will not *spend* Christmas, nor *observe* Christmas, but will *keep* Christmas, in all its beauty, its beloved traditions, its joy, and its glow in our hearts. We must all try, like Scrooge in Dickens' "Christmas Carol" to honor Christmas in our hearts and keep it all the year. Let us not put Christmas out of our hearts when we store away the decorations! Rather, let us keep the Christmas song in our hearts every day.

**Reader:**

**POST CHRISTMAS**

Shall we put away our Christmas  
Like a worn discarded toy,  
Away with tinsel and wrappings,  
And forget its deep, inner joy?  
Replace the merry greeting  
That gave so much of cheer,  
For a casual word in meeting  
With those we hold so dear?

Shall the mantle of "Merry Christmas"  
Slip from our soul? Ah, no!  
The spirit of love universal,  
With its warm tender glow,  
Will bless with a touch assuring  
Everyday we work, pray, and plan,  
For a **PEACE ON EARTH** that's enduring,  
And the brotherhood of man.

—Sunshine

**Leader:** I'd like to share with you some lines from a "Christmas Prayer" by Robert L. Stevenson. "Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus

that we may *share* in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desire with every greeting." Then let us light up the candles and kneel down to pray that love may yet reign on this new Christmas Day. Let the world pause for a moment, and be still, then hear voices still echo, "On earth, peace, and goodwill!"

**Prophets** (in unison): *Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it: Let the field exalt, and everything in it.*

*Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy before the Lord, for He comes.*

**Song:** "Joy to the World".

**Benediction:** May the echo of the angels' song bring joy and peace within our hearts; may the light of the Star purify our minds and may Thy presence come to us and give us a vision of Thy will for us in this coming year. Glory to God in the highest on earth, peace, goodwill toward men. Amen

(Note: Let music of "Joy to the World" continue softly after the singing until end of benediction then swell triumphantly to a close.)

□ □ □



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1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Lucile Driftmier Verness, Shenandoah, Iowa.

Editor, Lucile Driftmier Verness, Shenandoah, Iowa.

Managing Editor, Margery Driftmier Strom, Shenandoah, Iowa.

Business Manager, Lucile Driftmier Verness, Shenandoah, Iowa.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock.)

The Driftmier Company Shenandoah, Iowa  
Lucile Driftmier Verness Shenandoah, Iowa

3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (if none, so state.)

None

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required by the act of June 11, 1960 to be included in all statements regardless of frequency of issue.)

75,322

Lucile Driftmier Verness, Business Manager  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of September, 1965.

## FREDERICK'S LETTER - Concluded

don't have a missionary interest. Having been a missionary myself, some twenty years ago, I know the desperate needs that all over the world are crying for our concern and support. Many are the times when I have wanted a magic wand to wave all my people off to Africa and India and the South Pacific so that they could see with their own eyes the great harvest to be reaped for the Lord.

In a few hours the ladies of my church will open the doors of the Parish House for our Fall Rummage Sale. If you could see this Parish House tonight! From wall to wall and from ceiling to floor we are loaded with all the rummage that has been cleaned out of attics and basements and pantries — things that we no longer can use at home but which can be sold to help the work of the church. Tomorrow several hundred people will buy more than \$1,000 worth of rummage — old clothes, pots and pans, curtains and drapes, costume jewelry and books, etc. It is a wonderful way to make money. More than 100 of our church women are working on the sale, and what fun they do have.

I hope that you people are as happy in your work as I am in mine! Being a clergyman is the most wonderfully rewarding calling, and every day I thank God for the privilege that is mine in serving Him.

Sincerely,

*Frederick*



Martin Strom and his roommate, Peter Lake, entering the new student center at Doane College.

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**DOROTHY'S LETTER** - Concluded  
that Kristin, Art and Andy, also Edna (and possibly Raymond) will not be with us, so they will be the smallest Holiday gatherings at our house that Frank and I have experienced since we lived far away in California when Kristin was a baby. If everyone is well and happy, this will be enough to be thankful for.

Sincerely, *Dorothy*





*Again it is Christmas ... a time to draw loved ones and friends closer to us ... a time to find new faith and new hope in the true spirit of Christmas.*

*As we pause for a moment to glance backward over the path we have traveled, there is warm pleasure in the memory of old friendships continued, and new friendships begun.*

*So, to the homemakers whose confidence and loyalty we cherish ... and to the grocers, jobbers and wholesalers who provide the link between us and our homemaker friends ... we extend warmest wishes for a happy holiday season and a new year full of everything good.*

*Your friendship has encouraged us to try harder in our efforts to please you. During the new year, and the years to come, we will continue to do our best to deserve your continued good will.*

