



Children and Christmas in Many Lands

THE little folks of all the world do not keep Christmas as the children of this country do. In fact each land has its own peculiar ways, and our people, being drawn originally from almost every clime, have introduced into our celebration of the day a bit of the Christmas features brought from mother countries. We have the Dutch Santa Claus, the German Christmas tree, the English plum pudding and carols and our own peculiarly lavish gift making.

The boys and girls of far distant countries are spending the day in such different ways that it may prove of interest to young and old to hear something of the distinctive Christmas customs.

THE English Christmas is not unlike ours, save that we do not have their pretty custom of "bringing in the yule." In almost every family in England the boys and girls gather about the burning log on Christmas eve to sing carols and tell Christmas legends. Often the children who live in the country assist at the dragging in of the huge log.

An English child would not feel it was Christmas if there was not a bit of mistletoe hanging in the hall, under which the unwary are kissed soundly. Little and big eat the rich and blazing plum pudding, and all join in the singing of Christmas carols and church-going.

CHRISTMAS in Holland is the gala day of the year for the children. They have a pretty custom of ushering it in. Just at midnight on Christmas eve, the men and boys dressed in fancy costume, march through the streets in long procession, holding aloft a brilliantly lighted star, as they chant the "Gloria in Excelsis." The little girls clad in white stand at the windows and bow to the star as it passes.

PERHAPS the finest Christmas of all, if not the most lavish, is spent by the children of Germany. It combines the Christ child—which the Americans are prone to forget—and Santa Claus.

The whole day is full of cheer; families feast and go to church; presents are simple, but in every home is a blazing tree hung with cakes, colored candles and gifts. It is a pretty sight to see the children march in to see their tree, singing as they go, "O, Tannen Baum" (O, Fir Tree), to the air of "Maryland, My Maryland."

In many German towns just as the bells ring to usher in Christmas, every window in every house is quickly lighted. Then the children are up bright and early, even the tiny babies, to go to six o'clock church. Often each child bears a candle to illuminate the church.

The German Kris Kingle has one horrid habit that our jolly old St. Nick would scorn. He generally leaves in the stockings a bunch of switches in case they should be needed before his next call.

THE Serbian children have a strange custom. On Christmas Eve the father of the family goes to the wood and cuts a straight young oak, which he drags into the room where the family awaits him, saying as he does so: "Good evening and a merry Christmas!"

Then the children shout back: "May God grant both to thee and mayst thou have riches and honor." With this they shower their father with corn and the tree is thrown on the fire to burn until Christmas morning, when it is greeted with pistol shots.

THE French children rarely have a tree. Sometimes they hang up slippers to be filled, instead of stockings, and there is great chanting of "Noel, Noel," the Christmas song.

Like the Scandinavian children, little French boys and girls never forget the birds, but instead of placing sheaves of grain on long poles, they are hung along the eaves of the houses.

Only a Few Days More Till Christmas

Our holiday stock is larger than ever before and now is the time for Economical and Satisfactory Christmas buying. Nobody can afford to miss the chance of seeing our

Fine Display of Presents

which in quality, variety, beauty and good taste has never been excelled in Western Nebraska. Our prices on everything are the lowest and adjusted to meet the hard time proposition

THE QUESTION

What Shall I Buy?

can be easily solved when you see our immense line of

Handsome Gifts for Everyone

including, Toys, Dolls, Carts, Wagons, Toy Furniture, Toy Dishes, Books, Games, Toilet Sets, Manicure Sets, Dresser Sets, Brass Goods, Photography Goods, Cameras, Sporting Goods, Fancy Stationery, Booklets, Tags, Seals, Postals, Pictures framed and unframed, Fine Cigars and Confectionery in Xmas boxes and hundreds of other things all NICE AND USEFUL and especially intended for gift purposes. Our very reasonable prices will delight you, and you can be assured of every courtesy and best attention.

C. R. Woodworth

DRUGGIST

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD.

—E. Dare Kenyon, formerly on 6 and 1, is now flagging on Nos. 9 and 10.

—It is feared that another operation will be required on W. M. Gardner's little baby.

—W. H. Holt, now in service at Holdrege, spent part of the day in McCook, Sunday.

—The old ice houses are being placed in readiness to receive the new crop, now in the making.

—Dispatcher Harry D. Stewart is in Chicago for a few days, going in on No. 10, Sunday night.

—The tin roof is now being placed on the big new ice house in the yard east of the depot.

—Arthur Scott and bride arrived in the city, close of last week. Congratulations and best wishes.

—Mrs. T. B. Campbell and Mrs. A. R. McHaffey will leave Thursday morning for Lincoln to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Kates.

—Miss Marella Ryan is spending a few days visiting the brothers in Omaha, and Miss Josephine Stewart is substituting for her.

—The Wymore division superintendent's car was attached to 5, Thursday night, and he went on 14 to Wymore. Sup't Flynn's car was also in the train.

—Bert Collins of the Denver ticket office was in the city, Sunday morning between trains 2 and 13. He was formerly employed in the local office.

CHURCH NOTES AND TOPICS.

Adventist—Services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Saturday, and at 8 p. m. Sunday.

Christian—Sunday school at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m., and 8 p. m. H. M. Mitchell, minister.

German Evan. Lutheran—East 6th St.—Services every Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock, and evening at 7:30. O. R. Richert, pastor.

Divine Science—Unity health meeting on Tuesday and Friday evenings. New Thought Sunday school three o'clock on Sunday afternoon. 123 W. D street.

Baptist—Sermons at 11 a. m., and 8 p. m. Bible school at 10. Christian Endeavor at 7 p. m. A hearty welcome to all who wish to worship with us. D. L. McBride, minister.

Catholic—St. Patrick's Church. 8:30 a. m., low mass and sermon. 10:30 a. m., high mass and sermon. 2:30 p. m., Sunday school. 8:00, evening services. Rev. Wm. Patton, O. M. I., pastor.

The Tribune—\$1.00 the year. If you are troubled with chronic constipation the mild and gentle effect of Chamberlain's Tablets makes them especially suited to your case. For sale by all druggists.

Fancy Calendars

These are the finest imported and domestic calendars, the most beautiful specimens of the lithographer's art you have ever seen. Large assortment 10 to 50c. Think of these for some lady.

Games

The Sale of games increases yearly. Instructive and amusing games are part of the equipment of every modern home. It is such agencies that make home attractive for both old and young. Some new things this year that you ought to be interested in. Games from 5c to \$2.50. Anything you want in games.

L. W. McCONNELL
DRUGGIST

RAILROAD NEWS NOTES.

—Engine 2826 is just out of the Havelock shops.

—G. E. Hahn went up to Denver, Saturday to visit for a few days.

—F. E. Whitney and family left Saturday morning, for Iowa on a couple weeks' visit.

—Fireman A. A. Grigsby went down to Lincoln, Friday, on No. 10, for a few days' visit.

—The Tribune hears it stated that "Vet." spells it Vetterson now. And takes his straight.

—Engine 2809 pulled train 70 east on Saturday. She goes to Havelock for general repairs.

—W. J. Bagan went up on No. 13, Saturday, to Benkelman to be near his sister who is very ill.

—Mrs. Will Hegenberger and children were Hastings passengers on No. 10, Friday evening.

—Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Briggs went down to Lincoln on No. 2 Friday, to be gone a couple of days.

—L. Lawritson, agent at Trenton, is improving from his illness and expects soon to resume his station duties again.

—Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Scott will leave on Wednesday morning, for Burr Oak, Kansas, to spend the holidays with his parents.

—Mrs. A. C. Wiehe went up to Denver, Saturday, on a visit of two or three days' duration, her son Will accompanying her.

—Fred J. Bolshaw, formerly yardmaster at Lincoln, has been appointed general yardmaster at Sheridan, Wyoming, beginning December 14th.

H. M. Finity went down to Lincoln, Friday night, in answer to news of the serious illness of Mrs. Finity, who has been in Lincoln to receive treatment.

—Clifford Woolard departs today for New Mexico, where he will again enter the railroad service.

—Miss Gertrude Morrissey arrived home, close of last week, to spend the holiday vacation with the hemefolks and friends. She is attending school in Galesburg, Illinois.

—Mrs. J. B. Wade, who has been here for a few weeks on business connected with the estate of her late husband, left on 10, Friday night, for her home in Galesburg, Illinois.

—Engine 1124 on the Imperial branch has been equipped with an electric headlight and Barney Lewis is as proud of her as he was of his first pair of red top boots.

—Mrs. R. B. Wilson, widow of one of the victims of the Indianola wreck, was in McCook, her former home, latter part of last week, on business connected with the estate of her late husband.

—Gus Budig and his force of electricians are working overtime now putting electric headlights on all passenger and freight engines to be used on the Orleans-St. Francis and Republican City-Oberlin branches. The Kansas law requires all engines must be equipped with either electric or gas headlights by the first of the year.

—The city police have been requested to cooperate with the Burlington police at this place in ridding the depot at this place of loafers, both male and female. Boys and girls, and some older grown, have made the depot and platform a resort and loafing place. It is now determined to break up the habit and arrests and fines will follow if the practice is continued.

DIAMONDS

Rich Gold and Platinum Jewelry

set with diamonds or pearls—beautiful effects—an ever present reminder of your good taste and generosity.

Our selections of cameo rings and brooches are the very latest creations of the artificer's genius—prices consistent and you'll realize that when you see them.

Hurry Hurry Hurry
L. C. Stoll & Co.
Jewelers

L. C. STOLL AND CO

AMERICAN mothers find one day of Christmas merrymaking distracting enough for their children, how would they like to live in Russia, where work is often suspended for a fortnight, while all the people keep holiday.

Even the poorest peasant has a tree, and it is harvest time for beggars, for no one will refuse him anything.

In some of the country districts the boys dress as animals, and led by other boys as keepers, march through the streets headed by a band of boys making dreadful music with harsh sounding instruments. These processions go from door to door, pound until they are admitted, and all given food and drink, and two small pieces of money.

All over Scandinavia a week is given to merrymaking. Every one goes to six o'clock church on the dark Christmas morning, and in the evening everyone in the land is illuminated. They have wonderful trees, around which grown people and children dance and sing. The Scandinavian child is very good to the poor on Christmas and takes gifts and food to poor families.

Bulgarian "Koleda."

In Bulgaria "Koleda," as Christians is called, is marked with many quaint ceremonies. One is called "Koledars," the name given to a band of boys, mostly, who go about proclaiming that the season of fasting is over, and heralding a reign of feasting and merriment. Each Koleda party numbers seven—the Old Man, the Old Woman, the Crumb Picker (who collects the presents and money, while the Old Man and Old Woman play the fool), and Four Singers, who carol out the Christmas songs. The attire of the Koledars is most grotesque, and their procession is joined by a huge crowd of townspeople, who take a great delight in the antics of the jesters.

CHRISTMAS CANDIES.

Huber Has Hundreds of Pounds of Sweet Stuff.

Before making your purchases of Christmas candies, see what Huber has for you to make selections from. Literally hundreds of pounds of it. Good stuff, too. He is making specially low prices for churches and Sunday schools. Better buy early while the assortment is complete and the stock is full.

Get your Semi-Weekly McCook Tribune before January 1st for next year at \$1.00 the year.