



# MERRY XMAS



Fancy Waists  
Baby Clothes  
Linen Handkerchiefs  
Auto Bonnets  
Silk Scarfs

WE EXTEND CHRISTMAS GREETINGS to all our patrons and friends, also thank them sincerely for the liberal patronage given us during the time we have been in business in Alliance.

You are invited to call and inspect our most complete line of Ladies' furnishings before making your Christmas selections.

## STUCKEY COMPANY

Opera House Block - - - Alliance, Nebr.

Art Materials  
Opera Bags  
Hair Buckles  
Hat Pins  
Collars and Belts

### McCLUER'S

**XMAS SHOPPING** has begun, and this store is showing the largest line of Linen Cloths, Linen Table Runners, Stand Covers, Sofa Pillows, Linen Doilies, Library Table Covers. And at prices that will please. It is our intention not to carry over any of these goods, so we have made prices that will move them.



## GROCERY NEWS

We are at all times in touch with the market and are thereby able to quote you the very lowest prices on goods of highest grade as well the standard grades. Let us show you the following line of goods at prices that will save you money:

FLOUR	
Victor Flour.....	\$1.55 a sack
Red R Flour.....	\$1.45 a sack
DRIED FRUIT	
Loose Muscatel Raisins Fancy in 10 lb Box for.....	\$1.10
Apricots Fancy in 10 lb Box.....	1.80
Evaporated ring Apples in 10 lb Box for.....	1.30
SYRUP AND JELLIES	
10 lb Pail Kariomel Syrup.....	45c
10 lb Pail Ranger Sorghum.....	50c
10 lb Pail Dixie Jelly.....	50c
Skinned Hams at.....	20c a lb
Bulk Lard.....	15c a lb
Sliced Peaches in 2 1-2 Cans.....	25c
Apricots.....	20c
Apples in No. 10 Cans.....	40c
Whole Jap Rice.....	6c a lb
Soda Crackers in wood boxes.....	7c a lb
Colorado Honey in frames.....	20c each
Bulk Laundry Starch.....	5c a lb
Celluloid Starch.....	10c a package
Defiance Starch.....	10c a package
Polo Soap, 9 Bars for.....	25c
Wyandotte Cleanser and Cleaner.....	20c a sack
Coal Oil.....	5 Gal. for 60c

Remember that these are not special prices, but are in keeping with the market. We have the highest grade of goods that the markets will supply. Prices always right.

**Alliance Grocery Co.**  
PHONE 56

### A CHRISTMAS FAIRY STORY.

By AILEEN ORR.

THERE was once upon a time a little black boy called Billy. He had lived all his short life in a black camp with his parents and a number of other aborigines of the tribe. Billy had never been very kindly treated, and as he had a soft heart himself he sometimes felt it very much. Now, one Christmas time, being left alone as usual, with no presents of any sort and no treat, he began to think of all the stories he had been told about the white children's Christmas and determined then and there to find out what it was really like. He had heard of the Christmas hills in a country many miles off and planned to go there, believing from their name that these must contain all the mysteries of Santa Claus and other joys from which he had always been isolated. With a loving farewell to his own mia mia—the little shelter of branches which he had built for himself against the thunderstorms—he set off with only a piece of opossum skin hung round his waist for clothing and a boomerang in his hand.

Billy journeyed for many hours over paddocks and wire fences, wading bravely through creeks, water holes and bracken undergrowth, where the snakes were very numerous and poisonous, till he found himself in a beautiful valley between a blue and a purple mountain. Approaching a vineyard, he asked an old gardener where the Christmas hills lay.

"Yonder," said the man, pointing straight in front of them toward the blue mountain. "This is Yarra Glen."

The little black boy was very hot and thirsty, for the sun had been beating fiercely upon him all the way along, so he begged a few of the round juicy grapes which hung in rich profusion on the vines.

"By all means," said the good natured gardener as he picked him the largest bunch he could find, ripe and inviting, with the bloom upon them. Billy thanked him, saying he hoped some time to be able to return his kindness, and, taking the fruit, he continued his way with a light heart.

As he climbed and climbed, rising higher and higher, the green grew smaller and smaller below him till he could not see the old man any more. Soon the hill became so steep and slippery that he was forced to draw himself up from tree to tree by holding first on to one branch and then another. Blue gum and wattles rose high above him in monotonous grandeur till he began to wonder where the Christmas trees and stockings were and how they grew. Feeling thirsty again, he was putting some more grapes into his mouth, when suddenly he perceived a poor old woman lying on the ground, looking very faint and ill.

"Give me some, kind youth!" she gasped. "I have been sunstruck." "But I have traveled many miles on foot and am parched with thirst," said Billy. "I am dying," groaned the other feebly. "Have pity." Whereupon, moved to sympathy, he gave her all he had left. To his astonishment as she was eating them she turned into a lovely fairy queen all dressed in soft, shimmering blue, the color of the sky.

"As you have done me a service," she

said, "I mean to reward you in the way you most want. You shall have a real Australian Christmas."

Billy was overjoyed and at her bidding followed her through the bush till they reached a wonderful garden filled with brilliant flowers and fruit which surpassed his wildest dreams. Straw berries grew in masses all along the borders, and the trees were laden with luscious ripe peaches, nectarines, figs and every other southern fruit he had ever thought or heard of in or out of season.

Here they entered, and the blue fairy summoned ten other little fairies, just Billy's own size and age to wait upon and entertain him. They were all in different colors, so that as they flitted about him in the sunlight with their floating gossamer gowns they looked like a rainbow.

Feast the little dainty boy,  
Give him pudding, fruit and toy;  
Sing and dance and merry make;  
Don't forget the Christmas cake  
For the goodly dainty boy!

Having sung and danced for him they then set the Christmas dinner on a long, narrow table out in the garden. There were strawberries and cream, and grape cake, mince pies (Gunsler made so many that Christmas he never missed those the fairies stole), chocolates, pineapple dumplings, and last, but most important, instead of a hot plum pudding with holly, as the cold countries have, there was a huge ice cream pudding, with precious stones instead of raisins through it, and a piece of yellow wattle blossoms stuck in the top.

Five fairies sat at one side of the table and five at the other, while Billy sat at the foot, and the blue queen at the head. They filled their glasses with magic wine, so that all who drank would be lucky all the new year round. Each fairy's wine matched her dress; the green one had green wine, the pink one pink wine and the purple fairy purple wine and so on till it came to Billy, and his was black with a crimson tinge in it, and he thought it more delicious than anything he had ever tasted. Then they were given each a large slice of the grape cake, and afterward anything they wanted till they had appetite left for only the ice pudding which on such a hot day was most refreshing. Each fairy found in her share a precious stone again to match her dress. The yellow fairy got a topaz, the heliotrope an amethyst, the blue a sapphire, and so on till it came to Billy, who, after eating for some time, suddenly closed his white teeth upon something very hard and, taking it out and looking at it, found it was an opal with every one of the fairy colors combined gleaming in it.

All the fairies gathered round him and exclaimed, "That is a magic opal, and the owner of it will some day become chief of his tribe." Hearing this, he put it in his mouth under his tongue for safety, for, as he had no clothes, of course he had no pocket. The fairies then, seeing he had no stocking to hang up, presented him instead, for a Christmas box, with a new boomerang, telling him it was a charmed one, so that whoever he wanted anything he had only to throw the weapon high into the air and it would return with the object of his choice and lay it at his feet.

But alas, there was a wicked little goblin peeping through from the bough of a peach tree, and, though he had not heard about or seen the boomerang, he had caught all regarding the magic opal and had seen Billy place it under his tongue. So when the little black boy had bidden goodby, thanking the fairies for his Christmas feast,

and started home again he was waylaid in the bush by the evil goblin, who had followed him out of the garden to rob him. Billy refused to give up his stone and cried for help, but the goblin knocked him down and beat him till he lost consciousness. Then the wicked creature forced open his mouth, stole the magic opal and ran away with it as fast as he could. When poor Billy recovered he soon noticed that the opal was gone and guessed who had taken it, but he was in despair of ever finding it again, so, sitting miserably on the ground, he opened his mouth wide and cried long and loud. But this he soon realized was a silly, useless thing to do. Just then he spied his boomerang, which he had quite forgotten, on the ground nearby, and, remembering what the blue fairy had told him, he picked it up, and, jumping to his feet, he threw it skillfully high into the air.

Away it swung without touching the trees, and, sure enough, as the goblin, a couple of miles off, was just admiring his plunder, the boomerang lifted it out of his hand before his very eyes and carried it back to the feet of its rightful owner. Billy shouted for joy, and, putting it once more in his mouth, he took his wonderful toy under his arm and sped down the hill. When he reached the vineyard he saw the gardener still at work, so, asking him what he would most like as a token of gratitude for the grapes, the old man looked him up and down and answered, "There is not much a little fellow like you could do for me."

"I can do my best," said Billy. "There is only one thing I want," said the gardener sadly, "and that is the little daughter I lost in the bush a year ago."

No sooner said than the boomerang went whizzing through the air as before, and in a few moments it came floating swiftly back through the blue haze with a little fair-haired child seated happily and safely upon it. With joy too deep for words, the old man clasped her in his arms, and Billy triumphantly left them together and journeyed on again over pad dock and fence till at last he found himself back in the black camp where his little mia mia and aborigine companions were. When they found how successfully he could throw and the wonderful things the boomerang brought back he grew so very popular and rich that they at length made him chief of the tribe. Then he married a sweet little black girl with the tightest, tiny black curls and the blackest possible eyes. Round her neck he hung the magic opal, and as she wore it always they lived happily ever afterward.—Leslie's Weekly.



CAME FLOATING SWIFTLY BACK.

Why Not These For the Girl?  
A signet ring, bangle bracelet, sash, and hair bow sets, postcard album, die stamped monogram stationery, hand bag, sewing set in fancy case, music folio and rolls, a stunning leather belt or sterling silver buckle, a dainty pendant and thin gold chain, wood burning outfit, a camera, silk petticoat, a pair of white kid party slippers, a silk rubberized raincoat, roller skates, doll house, white spangled fan, leather desk set, metal trimmed pincushion and jewel box combined.

#### \$5.00 Reward

\$5.00 reward for recovery of stove stolen from basement under bowling alley, about Oct. 25 to 28, 1910. Royal Acorn No. 3. Did not get base, nickel trimmings and top urn.

W. W. WILSON.  
Phone 139.

### One Week to Christmas



And WISE ONES Surely Won't Delay Christmas Shopping Another Day

### HOLSTEN'S

#### Important Notice to Meat Consumers

We have good news for the people of Alliance who have been compelled to pay high prices for an inferior quality of meat. With the opening of the Cash Meat Market, in our new building at 517 Sweetwater avenue, we can positively announce that we are selling BETTER QUALITY of MEATS than the people of this city have been buying and at LOWER PRICES.

We don't send away several hundred miles to have the culis from the big packing houses shipped to us at great expense. We buy the best fat cattle and hogs to be found in Box Butte and neighboring counties, we do expert butchering and serve meats to you in the best possible style, and at prices 25 to 40 per cent less than you have been paying.

GIVE US A TRIAL and we will prove our claim. Telephone orders delivered promptly. Phone 50.

**Cash Meat Market**  
DRAKE & BARB, Props.  
517 Sweetwater Avenue.

#### Repair Work

#### Sewing Machines and Organs.

Have secured the services of a practical mechanic and can guarantee all work done by him. Don't trust your work to travelling repair men. This man will be here permanently. Repairs and parts furnished for all machines. Phone 139. Geo. D. Darling.