

Santa Claus Is Coming

OLD Santa Claus is coming—
The time is very near—
Before we realize it
Old Santa will be here.

He'll bring us sleds and wagons,
And nuts and sugar plums,
And dolls, and furs, and dresses,
And balls, and swords, and drums.

He'll come when we are sleeping,
Tucked in our beds so white,
And all the stars are peeping
At this, our Christmas night.

He'll come with smiles and blessings
Along the milky way,
And stop at every dwelling
Where little children stay.

He'll garnish trees with presents
And, while the world is still,
With gifts the children asked for
Each stocking he will fill.

But, better than all presents,
He'll bring to us again
The heartfelt Christmas wishes
Of "Good will unto men."
—Martha Coleman Sherman in *Chicago Inter Ocean*.

His Gift to Santa Claus

EDWARD was seven years old and believed, of course, in Santa Claus. Just before Christmas he had proudly written a letter (his first), stating the particular gifts he wanted, and after his mother had read it was carefully put into the fire.

"Now," said Edward's mother cheerfully, "that letter will go right up the chimney and direct to Santa Claus."

Edward seemed very much impressed.

Christmas morning the child was perfectly delighted with the shower of gifts and with the glittering tree.

"Wasn't it good of Santa Claus to bring me so many more things than I asked for in my letter?" he said at the breakfast table, clasping his hands in an ecstasy. After this outburst he grew thoughtful, then, suddenly jumping up, disappeared into the kitchen.

His mother and father looked at each other and wondered. Then the mother followed to see what the inspiration might be.

She found Edward standing in front of the kitchen stove pouring out a cup of coffee.

"Why, Edward, dear, what are you doing?" his mother asked, coffee being one of the child's "forbidden things."

Edward looked up appealingly. "It is such a cold morning, mother—"

"But, Edward, you know I never permit you to take coffee!" his mother interrupted.

"No, no, mother; I do not wish to drink it. I want to give it to Santa Claus. He was so kind to send me more engines and things than I asked for. May I give him some coffee and rolls, mother—may I?"

Before his mother had time to think of a suitable reply the child had put cream and sugar into the cup; then, with his little face all aglow with appreciation and gratitude, he earnestly poured the steaming coffee into the fire.

"There now!" he exclaimed, with satisfaction. "That will go right up the chimney and direct to Santa Claus, won't it? And it will warm up his little round belly."

That shook when he laugh'd like
A bowl full of jelly—
won't it mother?"—Lippincott's.

Don't Say These Old Things at Christmas

DEAR me! It's a lucky thing Christmas comes only once a year. I don't know what we'd do if it came oftener.

It isn't so much the value of a present as the spirit in which it is given.

I hang my stockings up just to please the children. I dread telling them there's no Santa Claus. Let some one else do that.

It never seems like Christmas to me unless it snows.

I always try to give sensible gifts—something useful, that will be a reminder all the year.

Money is always such an acceptable present. There isn't one of us who has so much that he can't take a little more.

Don't you pity the poor at this time of the year? I do.

Christmas and New Year's come so close together. It's too bad they could not be separated a little. Two holidays coming right on top of each other that way make it so hard, but then the children enjoy it.

I never know what to give father. It's so hard to think of anything for a man. And my rich friends—they have everything already.—Puck.

Christmas Chimes.
Ring out, ring out, O Christmas bells,
Across the starlit, frosty night,
Proclaim the message of good will,
The story of the Prince of Light.

The centuries roll on and on,
And yet, returning Christmas time
Awakes in each responsive heart
Remembrance of the love sublime.

Then keep the feast with hearty cheer,
The feast of merry Christmas eve,
While faith and hope and love, these
Within the heart of each abide.
—W. G. Park in *Good Housekeeping*.

Good King Wenceslas

A Christmas Carol of Long Ago
GOOD King Wenceslas looked out
On the feast of Stephen,
And the snow lay round about,
Deep and crisp and even.

Brightly shone the moon that night,
Though the frost was cruel;
When a poor man came in sight
Gath'ring winter fuel.

First Singer:
"Hither, page, come stand by me,
If thou know'st at all, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?"

Second Singer:
"Sire, he lives a good league hence,
Down beneath the mountain,
Close against the forest fence
By St. Agnes' fountain."

First Singer:
"Bring me flesh and bring me wine,
Bring me pine logs hither;
Thou and I, we'll see him dine
When we bear them thither."

Second Singer:
"Sire, the night is darker now,
And the storm grows wilder,
Fails my heart, I know not how
I can go on longer."

First Singer:
"Mark my steps, be brave, my page;
Tread thou in them boldly;
Then thou'll find the winter's rage
Erease thy blood less coldly."

Page and monarch on they went,
On they went together,
Through the rude wind's wild lament,
Through the bitter weather.

In his master's steps he trod,
Where the snow lay dented;
That was in the very sod
Which his foot had printed.

Therefore, Christian men, be sure,
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now do bless the poor
Shall yourselves find blessing.

One Historic Christmastide.
The crusades had a wonderful influence upon the literary taste as well as the national manners and festivities of Christmastide.

It was at the Christmas festival of 1214 that the barons demanded from King John the document which was the foundation of English liberties is known by the name of Magna Charta.

John's tyranny had become intolerable, and the hopes of the people hung on the fortunes of the French campaign, in which he was then engaged. After his defeat and return to England the barons met secretly and swore to demand the restoration of their liberties by charter under the king's seal. Having agreed to assemble for this purpose at Christmas, they separated. On the feast of the Epiphany the barons asked of the king his confirmation of the laws of Edward the Confessor and Henry I. John met the barons with an absolute refusal, but, finding them firm, pleaded for time to consider. This was granted, and in 1215, knowing it to be inevitable, he called the barons to Runnymede and there signed the great charter.

Writing in Everybody's, Maude Radford Warren enumerates some amusing incidents showing the effects of limited war prohibition in England. One evening the author witnessed the following race against time that was staged near Victoria station, London, at an hour when traffic is thickest:

"Presently a shouting and cursing arose at the center of the intersecting streets. People turned, peering and gaping. Streaking straight through the traffic, regardless of thundering trucks and sliding cabs and obstructing pedestrians, came a Scotchman. His eyes were glassy and staring; his limbs were flying; his knees were twinkling. On he came, straight for the public house. If he could get a hand on a glass of his national vodka by 9:25½, he was saved. Would he make it? A group of ribald Americans cheered him on, yelling at him in race track fashion. His fellow Scotchmen silently made way for him, and some of them even pushed people out of his path. But they did not cheer; it was a matter too deep for sounds. On came Sandy; panting, glaring, he leaped through the door, and a sympathizer from over the seas who followed him reported that 9:25½ he had a strong Highland paw curled around three fingers of Scotch. The early closing law, thanks to good sprinting, had been respected—but nevertheless, the trench had been taken and the day saved."

I now have funds at 5½ per cent on choice bottom table land. Gene Crook, Room 4, Keith theatre Bldg.

Can Remove Army.
Petrograd—Germany is apparently permitted, under the armistice arrangement, to transfer her troops as she desires, from the Russian to any other fighting fronts. She is at liberty to use them against the allies as far as the agreement made with Russia is concerned, there being nothing in the agreement published that would indicate the contrary. It is known that great numbers of the troops have already been moved to other fighting fronts.

Now is the time when holly sprays
Light all the barren,
brooding ways,
And every bell, it sounds
noel,
A psalm in the Master's
praise.

Now is the time when icicles gleam
Like beryl in the morning
beam,
And every bell, it sounds
noel,
And makes the Master's
praise its theme.

Now is the time when mistletoe
Is glossy in the noonday glow,
And every bell, it sounds
noel,
To praise upon his name be-
stow.

Now is the time ofingle mirth,
The blessed day of Christ-
his birth,
And every bell, it sounds
noel,
To ring his praise throughout
the earth.
—Clinton Scollard in *Ainslee's*.


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(Nebraska) OMAHA

SCOT BEATS LAW BY A NOSE

Thirsty Sandy, in Wild Race Against Time, Arrives on Quarter Minute and Gets His Drink.

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Preferred a Democrat.

A Bartholomew county drafted man who failed to appear for examination when called, was arrested and taken before the draft board, says the Indianapolis News. He said he didn't wish to go to war and wished to be exempted. A member of the board told him he could go before a notary public and have his blank filled out. "I don't want to go before a notary public," he replied. "I'd rather go before a Democrat."

This Tough Old World.
"Now, Willie, see the nice cake I have made for your birthday."
"Can I eat it all myself?"
"Why, of course not. You would be sick."
"That's just the way with you, mamma. Whenever you do give me any pleasure, you always tie a string to it."

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NOTICE OF FINAL REPORT.
Estate No. 1445, of Caroline Schick, Deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska: To all persons interested in the said Estate take notice that the administrator has filed a final account and report of his administration and a petition for final settlement and discharge as such, which have been set for hearing before said court on December 28, 1917, at 9 o'clock a. m., when you may appear and contest the same.
Dated November 28, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
Estate No. 1509, of Mary J. O'Hare, Deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss. Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is April 4, 1918, and for settlement of said estate is November 30, 1918; that I will sit at the county court room in said county on January 4, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m. and on April 4, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Dated November 28, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

NOTICE OF PETITION.
Estate No. 1529 of Anna M. O'Rourke, Deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska: To all persons interested in said Estate, take notice that a petition has been filed for the appointment of Charles O'Rourke as administrator of said Estate, which has been set for hearing herein on December 21, 1917, at 9 o'clock a. m.
Dated November 28, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

NOTICE OF FINAL REPORT.
Estate No. 1470, of George Schick, Deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska: To all persons interested in said estate, take notice that the administrator has filed a final account and report of his administration and a petition for final settlement and discharge as such, which have been set for hearing before said court on December 28, 1917, at 9 o'clock a. m., when you may appear and contest the same.
Dated November 28, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
Estate No. 1511 of Libbie Johnston, deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss. Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is March 14, 1918, and for settlement of said estate is November 9, 1918; that I will sit at the county court room in said county, on December 14, 1917, at 9 o'clock a. m., and on March 14, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Dated December 7, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

NOTICE OF FINAL REPORT.
Estate No. 1468 of Frank Schick, deceased, in the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, to all persons interested in said Estate take notice that the administrator has filed a final account and report of his administration and a petition for final settlement and discharge as such, which have been set for hearing before said court on January 4, 1918, at 9 o'clock a. m., when you may appear and contest the same.
Dated December 7, 1917. GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

EXTENSION OF ROAD NO. 11. (Re-advertisement.)
To whom it may concern:—
The special commissioner appointed to locate a road as follows:—
Commencing at Station No. 11 of Road No. 11 in the Southwest quarter of Section 4, township 14, north range 30 west of the 6th principal meridian in a northerly, northeasterly and northwesterly direction through the west one-half of said section 4 and through the west half of Section 33, township 15 north, range 30 west, of the northwest corner of said section 33, thence north on section line between sections 28 and 29 of said township and range three-fourth of a mile, thence in a northeasterly, northerly and northwesterly direction through the northwest quarter of said section 28 and the southwest quarter of section 21 to the quarter section line between sections 28 and 21 township 15 north, range 30 west, thence north on line between sections 20 and 21, and 16 and 9 of said township and range to a point about 25 chains north of the corner of Sections 16, 17, 20 and 21, thence in a northeasterly direction through the west half of sections 16 and 9 through the southwest quarter and the east half of section 4 of said last township and range to a point on the north line of said section 4 about 20 chains west of the northeast corner of said section 4, thence north and westerly across sections 23 and 28, township 16, range 30 to the section line between sections 28 and 29, thence northerly along said section line between sections 28 and 29, and sections 21 and 20 to a point about one-fourth of a mile south from the northeast corner of section 21 and thence in a northwesterly direction across sections 20 and 17 to the northwest corner of section 17, thence on a west and north line between sections 7 and 6 to a point on the north line of section 6 about one-fourth of a mile east of the northeast corner of Section 4, and thence in favor of the same as follows:—
Beginning at Station No. 11 of Road No. 11 in the southwest quarter of section 4, township 14 north, range 30 west, running thence in a northeasterly and northwesterly direction through the southwest quarter and the northwest quarter of said section 4, and through the southwest quarter and the west half of the northwest quarter of section 33, township 15 north, range 30 west, to the southwest corner of section 28, township 15 north, range 30 west, thence north on section line between sections 28 and 29 said township and range three-fourth of a mile, thence in a northeasterly and northwesterly direction through the northwest quarter of said section 28 and through the west one-half of southwest quarter of section 21, township 15 north, range 30 west, to the quarter section corner between sections 20 and 21 and between sections 16 and 17, said township and range, to a point about 30 rods south of the quarter section corner between said sections 16 and 17, thence in a northeasterly, northerly and northwesterly direction through the northwest quarter of southwest quarter, and the northwest quarter of section 16 and through the southwest quarter of southwest quarter of section 4 to a point on line between sections 8 and 9, township 15 north, range 30 west, about 20 chains north of the northeast corner of said section 9, thence north on line between said sections 8 and 9 to a point about 100 rods south of the northwest corner of said section 9, thence in a northeasterly direction through the northwest quarter of said section 9, and through the southeast quarter of southwest quarter and the west half of southeast quarter and through the west half of northeast quarter of section 4, township 15 north, range 30 west, to the north line of said section 4 about 22 chains west from the northeast corner of said section 4.
All objections thereto or claims for damages must be filed in the office of the county clerk on or before 12 o'clock noon, of the 15th day of February, 1918, or such road will be allowed without reference thereto.
Dated at North Platte, Nebr., this 11th day of December, 1917. (SEAL) A. S. ALLEN, County Clerk.