

The Thoughtful Gift

THE pleasure of giving increases with the thoughtfulness your gift conveys. A useless bauble selected at random says very clearly "Well, another job is done." But what happiness is yours when you are really thoughtful.

On YOUR Christmas list there is at least one, perhaps several, who will thank you many times for your thoughtfulness in choosing shoes as your remembrance.

Never before have we had such a large assortment to choose from.

Felt slippers in very nearly every color for men, women and the kiddies.

Dress Pumps in black satin, patent and black kid leathers.

High shoes in all new shades and heels.

Come to the SHOE MARKET where we can save you money on your Xmas Shoes.

SHOE MARKET
SAVES YOU MONEY ON SHOES.



WHEN CHRISTMAS WAS YOUNG

To Understand Mysteries of the Yuletide, It is Necessary to Search Ancient History.

IN the midst of the rush and excitement of Christmas preparations certain questions will flash across the mind, and we find ourselves wondering why it is that we do the very same things Christmas after Christmas. Why do we hang stockings, light Christmas trees, trim our homes and have plum pudding?

To understand the origin of these customs we must wander far back into the forgotten past—ages before Julius Caesar set foot on British soil, or St. Augustine told the story of the Cross to the men of Kent. Hundreds of years ago—long before the year 1—the ancients, as we call the people of those times, all worshiped the sun, the great giver of light and life. In the month of March they built big fires to it, asking it to shine upon the seeds they had planted and warm them into life. In the autumn they held another festival, thanking the sun for the harvest, and again, in the winter time, they held the greatest festival of all to celebrate the coming of the springtime.

In ancient Egypt, in Assyria, in Greece, on Roman soil and in the northlands these festivals were celebrated year after year and always about the same time, the winter one being held about New Year's time.

Wherever the Roman eagle was found, this feast was called the Saturnalia and it was marked by universal license and good feeling.

All at once Christianity appeared upon the scene. As the policy of the early church was to reconcile heathen converts to the new faith by adopting some of the heathen customs and festivals, the new religion accepted and retained many, and the result, as is easily seen, has been the strange medley of pagan and Christian rites which we use at Christmas time today.

After Britain was Christianized by the Romans, the Saxons and northern tribes came, bringing their old northern rites, and as Christianity at last replaced paganism the Christians kept the old pagan rites, merely changing their meaning.

For many years no two lands celebrated the same day as the birthday of Christ. They did not know the exact day, and we do not know it; but this date has now become the most important one in the world's history.

The Old Age of Santa Claus.

In Anna Farquhar's "Convictions" in The National Magazine, she says: "Santa Claus totters under his pack, wearing a long, old face these days. Probably in his youth he had no idea of growing old or departing this life; therefore when his enthusiasm and joyousness began to wane unaccountably, he must have opted that the world was tottering—not his own generous throne of life. Nowadays he creeps down the chimney stealthily as if somewhat ashamed of his mission, like a polar burglar, and his eight tiny reindeer make small clatter on the lawn, for many of their joy bells have been lost. When Santa lays a finger aside of his nose reflectively in our times, he exclaims, without a bit of jolly shake below the waist: 'Degenerates! Degenerates! Has my world come to such a pass that people wish to pay me for my presents? Can it be that little children are so surfeited with toys that they stop to ask how much they cost before accepting them. There was little Willie, last year, who said to his mamma, when he first saw a beautiful woolly dog, 'What's it got inside? Candy or money? Don't want a dog 'less it's got somethin' inside!'"

Games of Heathen Origin

MANY of our most familiar Christmas games have a heathen origin and some of their requirements once played a most important part in the heathen rites and mysteries. Every one knows how, when playing the popular Christmas game of "snap dragon," all other lights in the room are extinguished while we try to snatch raisins from blazing brandy, but probably few are aware that the ancient British Druids were accustomed to worship, in a temple otherwise dark, a flame of burning spirits into which they cast and out of which they plucked certain sacred objects, and that they thus performed some of the most awful solemnities of their religion.

The Christmas Season.

Though Christmas seems to gain rather than lose in popular favor as the years roll by, yet it is worthy of note that the Christmas season has been much curtailed from what it originally was. For several centuries it began with the eve of All Saints' day or "Hallow eve," October 31, and continued until Candlemas day, February 2. In England it is now computed only from Christmas eve to "Twelfth night," January 6, while in our own country it begins on Christmas eve and practically ends on Christmas night. Yet even now it really begins on December 18, marked in the church calendar, "O Sapientia," from the name of an anthem sung during Advent.

2340

Her Xmas Present

MAKE her a gift of TIME—two hours a day saved from kitchen work—two hours daily to read, visit, enjoy life.

The Sechrist Pressure Cooker saves two hours cooking time a day in the average home, cooking in thirty-five or forty minutes roasts or fowls ordinarily requiring hours.

Sechrist Pressure Cooker

Cooks food more thoroughly because pressure forces 259 degrees of heat thru every cell and fibre. Because steam tight, it retains all juices and flavors. Also prevents food cooking away. Pays for itself in six months by food and fuel saving. Pressure cooking and canning is urged by government bulletins.

Is made of heavy, rolled plate aluminum, smooth, bright, easy to clean. Equipped complete with inset pans. A beautiful, sensible gift. Ask for free booklet with recipes.

DERRYBERRY & FORBES

Start Dinner at 5:30—Serve at 6:10

CAMPFIRE COUNCIL MEETS TONIGHT FOR IMPORTANT BUSINESS.

The Local Campfire Council will meet Tuesday evening, Dec 14th, at the home of Mrs. M. E. Crosby. Important business comes before the Council and it is important that every member be on hand at 7:30.

AMERICAN LEGION AT HOUSTON, TEXAS, HONORS REV. MACKINTOSH.

Word has been received here that the local post of the American Legion at Houston, Texas, has elected Rev. Mackintosh formerly of this city, as chaplain of the post. The Houston post numbers over three thousand members. Rev. Mackintosh was quite active in the work of the American Legion while in North Platte and served as Commander during its formation.

Katharine Healey entertained twenty girls at her home Saturday afternoon in honor of her ninth birthday. The color scheme was in the Christmas colors. The guests were entertained with games and contests. Refreshment were served during the afternoon.

Two bids are coming to the town. Ragged and weary they are heading this way. Watch for them at the Crystal. They will be here Thursday.

NOTICE OF CHATTEL MORTGAGE SALE.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a chattel mortgage executed by Sam Hawkins on the 4th day of May 1920, on one gray horse mule, ten years old, one brown mare mule, 10 years old, one Ackerman wide-tire wagon and one set double work harness, I will on Tuesday, Jan. 4th at 11 o'clock on my place 14 miles northwest of North Platte offer for sale said above described property. There is now due on said mortgage together with the expense of up-keep to Jan. 4, \$132.50 and said mortgage is filed in the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, Nebraska, in the city of North Platte.

Dated this 10th day of Dec. 1920.
HENRY O. WAYMAN,
Owner of Mortgage.

Mrs. Ira LaRue entertained Friday evening at her home at a china show or in honor of Miss Esdie Wessburg who is to be married December 15th. The house was beautifully decorated in pink and white. The evening was spent in games and contests of different kinds. Mrs. McCoy, of Salt Lake City, sister to Miss Wessburg, was the only out of town guest. At the close of the evening Mrs. LaRue served dainty refreshments.

When in North Platte stop at the New Hotel Palace and Cafe. You will be treated well.

CHANGE OF ROAD NO. 195.

To whom it may concern:

The special commissioner appointed to locate a road as follows: Commencing on the northline of Section 5 and 6 and thence going south to main road running north and south about 100 rods between 5 and 6 on section line, has reported in favor of the same as follows:

Beginning at a point in the center line of Road No. 195, about 70 feet south of the corner to Secs. 5 and 6, T. 12, N. R. 28, W. of 6th P. M. on the 2nd standard parallel north, running thence south on line between said sections 5 and 6 about 33 chains to connect with Station 3 of Road 195, provided however, that the parties owning the land on both sides of this change grade the road and fill the channels, place the necessary culverts, free of charge to Lincoln County which they agreed to do, and provided further that said parties build extension of 20 feet to the north of present concrete bridge near Station 3 of Road 195 to make travel safe, all parties having objections thereto of claims for damages by the establishment of said road must file same in the office of the County Clerk of Lincoln County, North Platte, Nebraska, on or before 12 o'clock noon of the 15th day of February, 1921.

Dated at North Platte, Nebr., this 6th day of December, 1920.
A. S. ALLEN,
County Clerk