

CHRISTMAS IN BYGONE DAYS

How the Year's Great Holiday Was Celebrated "Before the War."

OBSERVANCE IN MORE PRIMITIVE TIMES

Many Things Now Necessary Were Luxuries to All but the Few—Memory of Times When Social Equality Was Not a Myth.

This is the story of his first Christmas, as related by a certain well-placed citizen of today whose memory reaches back into the middle of the last century.

It was a different world then. The civil war was yet to be fought. Barring its use on the telegraph wire, electricity was still unknown.

The well-placed citizen was then of the age that the old-fashioned copper-tin boots—unknown to boys of today—were worn.

The day before that first Christmas was a day of the liveliest anticipations, since the minister and his family had been asked to eat the Christmas dinner at Brother Nelson's.

The winter was severe that year, and the outlines of the hills and valleys were softened by a soft mist without a wind.

The air was so crisp that it made the boy's cheeks tingle. Before the three took their seats in the sleigh a flat marble slab had been well heated in the oven for them to rest their feet on so that they shouldn't freeze.

Primitive Travelling. The drive to Brother Nelson's was through narrow valleys where the air was so still that the cold was hardly noticed.

This made the arrival at Brother Nelson's so late that the big camp lamp which glaced the Nelson parlor was already lighted.

Of the evening, the old citizen remembers only that the boy fell asleep soon after the meal of bread and butter, honey, preserves, cold ham and so on, called "tea."

Contents of the Stocking. Of the contents of his stocking the boy recalls only one thing—a globe-shaped foot of a rich reddish yellow, which the Nelson boys said was an "orange"—the first orange in point of fact, that the minister's son had ever seen.

Light and Dark. Day and night, sunshine and shadow are not more different from each other than a beautiful from a sickly woman.

Ill-health in woman is generally traceable to disease of the delicate womanly organism. Many women have been restored to happiness by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

"I feel it my duty to inform you that I had been a sufferer for many years from nervousness with all its symptoms and complications," writes Mrs. O. N. Fisher of 181 1/2 Lexington Ave., New York, N. Y.

"The dealer who offers a substitute for a 'Favorite Prescription' does so to gain the little more profit paid on the sale of less meritorious medicines. His profit is your loss, therefore accept no substitute."

Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the paper-covered book, or 31 stamps for the cloth bound.

Christmas Menus

Seasonable Tips for Busy Housekeepers.

Here are given four menus as suggestions for Christmas dinners. None is inexpensive, but on Christmas it is one's duty to have the very best dinner of the whole year.

Menu No. 1: Cream of Oysters, Olives and Salted Almonds, Crab Flakes Au Gratin, Roasting Turkey, Cranberry Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Baked Onions, Celery Salad, Toasted Wafers, Edam Cheese, Mince Pie, Cream, Fruit, Coffee.

Get all your materials for this dinner the day before Christmas. Make the cranberry jelly the day before and prepare the turkey as already outlined. Make the mince pies three or four days before Christmas; they are better for being kept.

For apple suet pudding, peel and chop in this slices six large, sour apples. Cut fine half a pound of suet, removing all fiber from it.

Menu No. 2 is as follows: Cream of Celery, Olives, Stuffed Tomatoes, Roast Goose, Apple Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Baked Onions, Grape Fruit Salad, Cream Tapioca Pudding, Currant Jelly, Coffee.

If you cook your dinner from menu No. 2, prepare the tomatoes the day before, and at the same time stuff the goose. Also make the apple sauce and the pudding the day before.

Menu No. 3: Cream of Tomatoes, Celery, Oyster Patties, Escarole, Baked Virginia Ham, Baked Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower, Cream Sauce, Escarole Salad, Cream Cheese, Toasted Wafers, Apple Suet Pudding, Coffee.

Boil the Virginia ham the day before Christmas. After it is boiled, remove the rind, score it across the fat, sprinkle with sugar, stand in the oven till brown over the top; then put it where it will get cool, for it is to be served cold.

For the chicken soup, the day before and then all you have to do is to heat it for dinner. Save the chicken for a salad the day after Christmas, or for Christmas night, if you dine in the middle of the day.

Menu No. 4: Chicken Soup, Celery, Escarole, Roast Beef, Pigeon Pie, Potatoes Roasted in the Pan, Spinach Creamed, Lettuce Salad, Roquefort Cheese, Toasted Wafers, Plum Pudding, Coffee.

Make the chicken soup the day before and then all you have to do is to heat it for dinner. Save the chicken for a salad the day after Christmas, or for Christmas night, if you dine in the middle of the day.

Game Not Protected

Charge of Abuses in Yellowstone National Park.

Mr. J. Fullerton of Red Lodge, Mont., has written a letter to President Roosevelt containing disclosures relative to the management of the Yellowstone National park and calling the attention of the executive and congress to the necessity of remedying the abuses.

Mr. Fullerton, who is a resident of Buffalo, Jones, another western man, reports the Washington Post, is interested in the protection and preservation of the native game animals of North America, especially the small and constantly dwindling remnant in the National park.

While in Washington Mr. Fullerton was seen by a Post reporter, to whom he related the following facts, which form the body of the letter to President Roosevelt, but which he at that time was unwilling to have published.

He first states that the latest report of Captain John Pitcher, the park guardian, is utterly misleading as to the number of animals in the park. Among other things this report states that there are now from 30,000 to 50,000 elk on the reserve.

The truth in regard to the elk, he states, is just this: Owing to the growth and expansion of the secret society known as the Order of Elks, a great demand has arisen of late years for the canine teeth of elk, and this demand has extended into other parts of the country.

It had been hard to get so many specimens of the precious fur as so many specimens of the precious fur as so many specimens of the precious fur as so many specimens of the precious fur.

From this and other circumstances which the citizen remembers of that mid-century Christmas it is clear in his mind that Brother Nelson was the rich man of all that region.

Fires of Other Days. It was quite as cold on that Christmas as it had been the day before, and someone built a great bonfire of pitch pine stumps and logs on the ice, exactly in the middle of the group of happy, red-cheeked young folks.

With all this the boy was pleased hugely, though mostly as an onlooker, for the copper-toed boots had a way of slipping out from under him when he tried to slide, and he had no skates. He rode down hill on the sled a few times with the biggest Nelson boy, and that was lots of fun and highly exciting.

The great event of the day was the dinner. Brother Nelson and his wife were hospitable souls and had invited half the settlement to sit round the board with them.

quarters to such an extent that today elk teeth are almost as valuable as some of the commoner varieties of precious stones. As a result of this they are being slaughtered by the thousand in the forest reserve to the south of the park.

This, however, is only one phase of the question. The states bordering the park have each a law authorizing the payment of a liberal reward for the destruction of wolves, bears or other destructive carnivores.

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he states, is only half patrolled by a handful of guardsmen, when it should be fenced; while the venality of these few in accepting bribes is so open, notorious and well known that westerners have long since ceased to express surprise at it.

Mr. Fullerton cited a number of instances to show the insufficiency of the park guard. One man, he stated, entered the park, built a cabin there, remained a whole year, trapped \$600 worth of beaver and escaped without being detected.

A herd of 700 horses, owned and used by the Park Hotel company for transportation purposes, are allowed to monopolize the best range on the reserve, and to devour the herbage that by right belongs to the game.

Something in the neighborhood of \$50,000, Mr. Fullerton claims, has been wasted and frittered away in building useless roads, or in fooling away time on roads ordered by the government, but prejudicial to the interests of the company, and, therefore, never completed.

PRATTLE OF THE YOUNGSTERS. First Boy—We had the minister for dinner today. Second Boy—We had a turkey.

"Well, Freddie, how did you like your dinner?" asked the hostess of a small guest. "Oh," replied the little fellow, "we don't have any better at home, but there is more of it."

"Mamma," said little Ethel, "I want to ask you a serious question." "Well, what is it, dear?" queried mamma. "If I had been your sister," continued the little one, "would I have been my own aunt?"

Tommy—I've got 10 cents. How much have you got? Johnny—I've got 5 cents. What shall we do with it? Tommy—Let's go and organize a trust.

Uncle—Are you always so quiet, my little man? Small Johnny—I should say not. But mamma promised me a quarter if I wouldn't say anything about your bald head and the wart on your nose.

Visitor—Can your baby brother talk? Little May—Yes, ma'am. He can say some words real plain. Little May—Indeed! What are they? Little May—I don't know. I never heard any of them before.

A Valuable Health Guide. The edition of 1903 of Hostetter's Illustrated Almanac is now ready for free distribution at your drugstore. It contains practical advice in regard to preserving your health, a large amount of interesting and amusing reading matter, both for the young and old, and numerous testimonials as to the efficacy of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters in cases of stomach, liver and kidney disorders. It will prove a valuable addition to any household. Be sure to obtain a copy.

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co.

1414-16-18-20 Douglas Street, Omaha.

A few suggestions most suitable for Holiday gifts. We invite you to come and make a thorough inspection of our show room, where you are sure to find the proper gift to him—to her—to them.—"From the cheapest that's good to the best that's made."

Divans



Pretty divans and odd chairs are always acceptable as a gift. Our new third floor annex is filled with suggestions in this line for Christmas.

Oriental Rugs



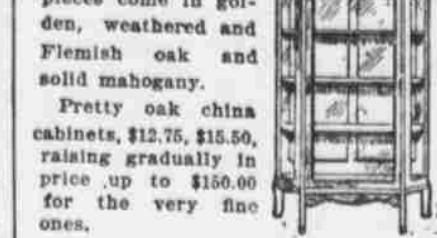
We have put forth special efforts this season to procure the finest collection of antique and modern Oriental Rugs ever brought to a western city.

Ladies' Writing Desks



What lady would not appreciate one of these as a gift. 82 patterns to select from in all woods and all finishes ranging in price from \$6.75 to \$100.

China Closets



Very appropriate as a gift. These pretty pieces come in golden, weathered and Flemish oak and solid mahogany.

Drapery Department

Be wise, buy useful gifts, and what is more useful than a library table cover—a new pair lace curtains—a pair of portieres to match the colorings in your rooms.

Morris Chairs

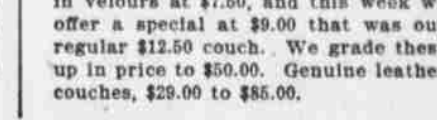


What gentleman would not be pleased with one of these most comfortable chairs? 54 patterns to select from in all finishes of wood, all styles and colors of cushions, we start them at \$6, grading them gradually up to \$55.00.

Rockers

Always acceptable as a gift. No home can have too many of them. Hanging in price from \$1.85 to \$75.00.

Couches



Something that any member of the family would enjoy. Pretty couches in velours at \$7.50, and this week we offer a special at \$9.00 that was our regular \$12.50 couch. We grade them up in price to \$50.00. Genuine leather couches, \$29.00 to \$85.00.

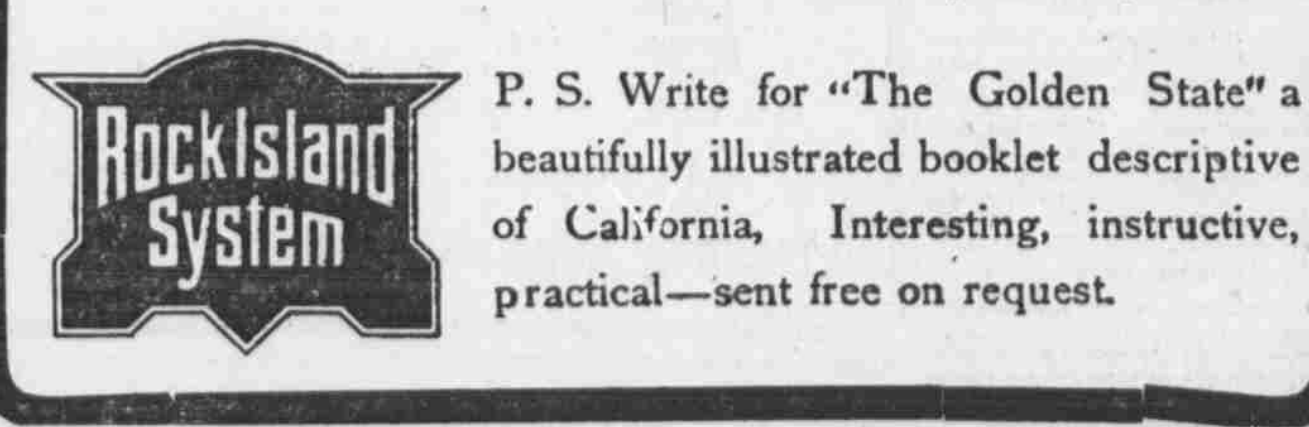
Special Notice

Don't fail to see our mechanical toy window. It's a great treat to all. Bring the little one to see the miniature tunnel railway and the running stream.

CALIFORNIA?

No matter how you want to go, "Southern" or "Scenic" route, in a tourist sleeper or aboard the finest train in America, the Rock Island is the line to take. Don't make any mistake about that. Thro' tourist cars daily from Kansas City and once a week from Omaha to Los Angeles and San Francisco via El Paso.

Golden State limited leaves Kansas City daily and offers unrivalled service to all points in Southern California. Berths, tickets and full information at all Rock Island ticket offices, or addressing, C. A. RUTHERFORD, D. P. A. 1323 Farnam St, Omaha, Neb.



WHAT A DOCTOR OF PHARMACY SAYS OF

SHRADER'S LAXATIVE FIG POWDER

To say that Shrader's Laxative Fig Powder gives satisfaction to users of it, is expressing favor lightly. They say it has virtue superior to all other laxatives. L. E. PEYTON, Ph.G. and Family Chemist, 24th and Leavenworth Sts.

Manufactured by W. J. SHRADER MED. CO., OMAHA and NEW YORK.