Mrs. Santa Claus at Christmas Parties

EW YORK, Dec. 14.—"New tions overlooked for Christmas?" repeated the wedding.

Ibeen and Shaw and all the rest of that gard to this. literary gang don't seem to have made any difference in the number of orders that Christmas tree and nothing that appeals Claus? The kids believe in him just as tions are potent, as well as the ever present much as they ever did and there isn't a danger from fire in a crowded room with mail that goes out that doesn't carry with 200 or 200 children present, so we have it some wigs and beards for local Santa many substitutes. One is the Captain Kidd Clauses out on the plains or in some part treasure chest.

each one finds a brick filled with goodies

"We have a snowball heap made the properties of that kind, built it looks just like a pyramid of snowballs and the little ones grow crazy over it when they find out that instead of a cold ting a nice warm box of bonbons.

"The big encuball boxes with spring of holly stuck in them are very popular for holiday luncheons and dinners. The snow berries look all the redder in contrast.

"One of the most popular innovations for the country is the addition of Mrs. Santa snow-represented by cutton sprinkled with Claus. The idea of Mother Santa Claus is coarse salt-the walls festioned with the just to add a little fun to the evening. "All he needs to play her part is a big

fur lined cloak turned fur wide outside, and the poke bonnet and must we send, made of on a large red sled with his pack on his white cotton wool with black worsted talls. back. and when she is first disclosed to the eye peared on a sled drawn by six children of the admiring children she is standing by dressed in white, who stood and sang their the side of an enormous pumpkin, out of Hitle carols before he alighted and began which in due time steps a liftle girl dressed to discribate his goods.

like a fairy with wand and wings, who "The amount of supplies that are sent from the inside of the pumpkin, which she money for charitable purposes is simply of a boarding house keeper, and as much give hey are getting something in return.

man whose business it is to "Many of the societies that we hear from provide new ideas for all sorts tell us that they have decided for various of occasions and entertain- reasons, some because they do not believe ments. "Of course we have- in cutting down the beautiful trees for temporary purposes, to have some substitute "In the first place I want to say that for the tree and ask for suggestions in re-

"While there is nothing so beautiful as a come for Santa Clauses—is that plural for so directly to the children, these considera-

"We have a new fireplace for Santa Claus committee in regard to its building and this year that is taking pretty well. Each furnish the covering and the big brase brick in it is really a candy box, and when headed nails if required. The presents Santa Claus has stopped out of the fire- have to be dug out of the box, where they children are allowed to pull it to pieces and pirate stands guard with the most practical are imbedded, either in sand or bran, and a and his or her name written on the bottom skulls and crossbones thrown in with other

same way of candy boxes. When it is their charm, and for a few dollars we send "The grab bag and bran ple never los the pie and bag all filled with presents, enough for twenty-five children. These handful of wet snow they are really get- a \$13 outfit really furnishes some charmmay be made more expensive if desired, and ing gifts, even including the popular Teddy beam and their accompanying lady

"One of the popular substitutes we made sparkles like the real thing and the holly for a tree was a little western church, where in the yestry was built a bower of Christmas greens powdered with glistening usual garlands of Christmas greens: Approaching the bower was a long chute down which Santa Clause came sliding

"At another place Santa Claus also ap

sings a little ballad and then takes gifts out over the country to help to gather distributes to the children. Poor old Santa tremendous. New York people are not Claus stands by as useless as the husband the only ones who like to feel when they



THE DELICIOUS MOMENT AT THE CANDY BOX CHIMNEY.

send hats, caps and honnets for mas-placing two ordinary carriage wheels totwo dozen Chinese skulls with queues to to the spokes. The blea to be worked out an order from the giver of a cotilion on it stops the child gets the box nearest him. Long Island for three dozen Rough Rider hats and some Salvation army bonnets. "For this same cotfilon we sent some gift flowers, that is, large flowers of our own manufacture whose petals concest

the favors until they are ready for distribution. "We have a number of orders for Japaof them coming from a big establishment which intends to have a Christmas eve follification take this form. The presents

for the guests will be distributed from the jinriksha. "The city children who are deprived of the delight of seeing and playing with the open wood fires have burning outlits which make a very satisfactory understudy. The logs look very natural and the burning ef-

fect is produced by fire gilt tinsel. "Certainly the child of today has great advantages in this respect over the chil- tion to an anxious mamma whose small dren of a generation ago who had to be content with burning their own corks and and who wishes to give a nautical party making raids on the flour barrel when the for him. children for Christmas presents."

plains, after quieting the questioner with oranges and other goodles. promises to let her see it the next day, that

"Our hat trade alone is enormous and we he has originated a Ferris wheel made by ades, carnivals, cetilions and especi- gether, painting and covering them with ally for church fairs. Today we shipped mock snow and fastening Christmas boxes a committee in Maine and we have on the consists of turning the wheel so that when

Hardly is this described before a suburban woman comes in and asks for help in arranging some kind of butterfly party while she keeps the staff busy looking up butterfly favors for it. These favors consist of velvet winged pins for the half, pin cushions and fans with painted butterdy adornments, matchsafes with enamel butnese parties during the holiday week, one terflies and stickpins with the same de-

> The guests are to amuse themselves and one another by painting butterflies on purchment squares and prizes are to be given for the best work. The decorations for the table are butterfly shaped and a tiny little girl dressed as Psyche is to dance as a windup for the evening's en-

So the entertainer decides, and having satisfied the customer he turns his attenboy is expected home from boarding school

histrionic fever reached the point of ex- For this it is planned that she shall pression. You would be surprised, too, at gover her table with a long green cloth and the number of these that are given to over this spread a fish net, the sixteen covers to be laid on it, some imitation sea-Just at this moment the telephone rings weed outlining each. In the center of the and a request comes over the wire for a table a huge pumpkin, hollowed out, will new device for Christmas presents. The centain a deep pan filled with water, on man of ideas replies that he is working out which will float a good-sized ship, its decks an idea that is not quite complete and ex- covered with a cargo of apples, pears

> On the side of the pumpkin little anchors are stuck and from these ropes of evergreen and holly extend to the different places. Little cances are to be fastened to these ropes, and across the bow of each of the tiny craft a paddle will bear the guest's name. Shells are to do duty as salt and bonbon dishes.

Over the door of the drawing room two big ears crossed will bear the words, "Come Aboard," and after the dinner the old game of donkey in a different guise is to be played, a ship at anchor with mast and no sails taking the place of the beast of burden. The little guests will try to pin sails to the masts in the places where they ought to be, the prige for the best placed sail to be a silver rowboat pin.

"There is no doubt about it," says the man of ideas as he arranges for half a dozen other entertainments in the course of half an hour, among which are a legion party, a rummage sale, a corn social, a fullaby concert and a Mother Goose carnival. "that people do like to be amused when they go to a party with something besides tea and talk. Anything that takes us out of ourselves a little bit, no matter how silly, answers the purpose. We are but children of a larger growth, you

"The other day we were asked to get up something in a hurry for a stag dinner at the Aldine club. We sent them a ple with a papier mache crust, all decorated with sprigs of green and hally.

"When the pie was opened instead of the four and twenty blackbirds a number of balloons flew out, on each of which was painted in big white latters the names of one of the party. They had been carefully inflated beforehand, and as the pie appeared when everybody was feeling pretty mellow, why it raised a big laugh Every man got up, chused his particular balloon around, and having captured it tied it to his buttonhole and was as pleased

"We had an order a while ago from a man who lives in a big studio uptown for an autumnal party, sort of a golden sheaf and hanter' moon affair, for he had had a jug of maple syrup sent him from the country and that had started his mind on a sort of a merry-go-round of harvest

"Well, we went into his place and covered it with yellow bunting and put some big pumpkins around and some sheaves of corn and wheat. We had some ears of corn in papier mache and they had a regular corn husking, and perhaps the girl that got the red ear didn't have the time of her

"He had insisted that we have some good trick played on the crowd, and as supper time approached he came to look up the man we had sent to superintend things. The man didn't let on, said it would be all right, and finally when they went into the dinning room he was perfectly satisfied for he was fooled himself.

"The table was covered with white paper and only the food that would be served to a country crowd in such a merrymaking was on the table, except of course the cock talls, which shone seductively each on its plate, with a big whopping cherry in the

center of the glass. "They all raised the cocktail glasses some one proposed the health of the host and then they swallowed them-at least a part of them, for the cocktalls were of the maple syrup, an absolutely perfect imitation of the transparent liquid. The host was as mad as a hatter, for he had swallowed his down with one gulp; then he tried to pretend that he did it en purpose, but it didn't work."



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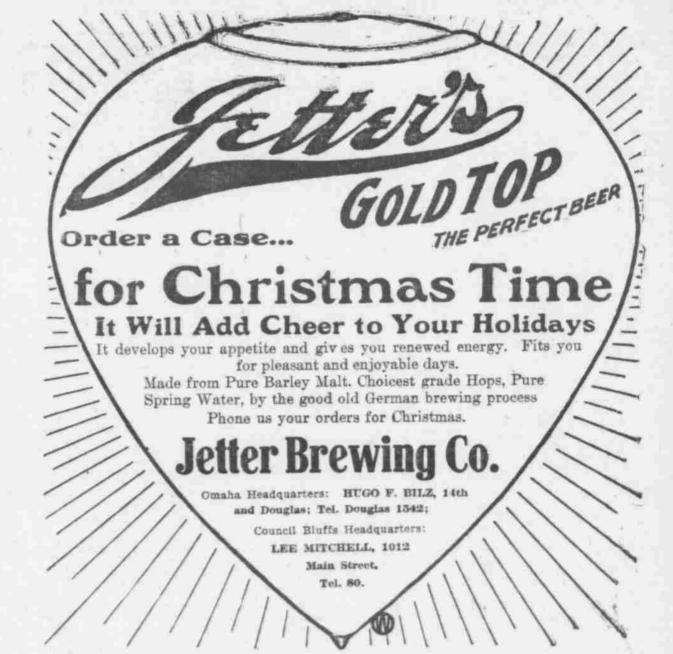
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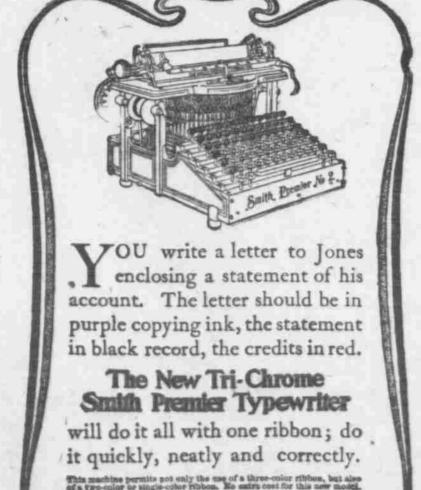
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