

THE JOLLY CHRISTMAS TREE

It is the right of every child to have a Christmas tree, whether large or small, real or artificial. Tree of some sort there must be if there is to be a real Christmas for the children, and, of course, Christmas is primarily for them.

It was the writer's privilege last year to see Christmas trees of every description, from the brilliantly lighted and lavishly decorated tree to the tiny artificial tree which shuts up like a jackknife and may be stored away in a small corner when not in use. Much was learned of the ways and means of Christmas tree decorators and designers that will probably be helpful and suggestive to those expecting to have trees of some sort this year.

To make Christmas stockings get thin inside and cover with crepe paper. The little raw edges around the stockings can be drawn out and made into narrow ruffles. Tie with bright ribbons. Little stockings made of fillet net are very dainty, and they can be joined with bright ribbons, so that the contents will show through the thin mesh. Curtain net makes nice stockings. Cut two pieces the shape of a stocking; buttonhole the edges together with bright colored wool; put cookies, an orange, an apple, candy and nuts in the stocking; add a little toy, then hang on the tree.

Odd pieces of pompadour ribbon make pretty candy bags and stockings. Line net candy bags with paraffin paper. The lining will stitch on the sewing machine with the net, and the candy will be much more palatable for the extra care taken.

To make little dangles for Christmas trees, fasten popcorn into little balls, thread with dark green silken thread, dip into gum arabic and cover with any of the colored dye powders. This makes a pretty ornament. Silver or gold dust may also be added. A small quantity of dye in blue, yellow, red, etc., will make a great quantity of balls. If threads are suspended in a glass jar containing water and 10 cents' worth of alum the alum will adhere to the threads and make little icicles for the tree. Continue to add alum until the strings are the desired thickness. Place in a window or warm place to dry.

White cotton or wool slightly smeared with mulling and sprinkled with common salt or diamond dust makes the best wintry effect. Powdered mica will give a snowy appearance if sprinkled over wool. The effect of new fallen snow can be produced by taking branches and dipping them in gum arabic water and sprinkling with flour.

For planning gifts on the tree dress clothespins in fancy tissue paper as dolls or flowers or like Santa Claus. Little tinsel toys which were broken last year may be used again. Fill them with cotton and paste the broken parts to the cotton, then hang them high on the tree.

So much of the beauty of a tree depends upon its lighting, but when small children are present it is often dangerous to use candles. An ordinary lantern may be used for lighting purposes. Cover with red tissue or crepe paper and tie with a cord in the ridge near the top of the lantern. A wide margin of paper may be left and pulled out to form a huge flower. Tie the lantern securely to the trunk of the tree, as near the center as possible. A smaller lantern may be hung at the top of the tree for more light.

Something Wrong

If you've lost your zest for Christmas,
Lost your love for all its cheer;
If you scoff at gifts and giving
As the Christmas time draws near,
If you frown at all the clutter
When old Santa trims his tree,
Tell me, please, what is the matter?
Something's wrong, it seems to me!

If the stocking by the hearthstone
Wakes no memory in your breast,
If the coming of old Santa
After all have gone to rest
Does not rouse your heart to action,
Make it beat and throb and kick,
Answer for my satisfaction,
Are you sure you are not sick?

If you can't feel joy at Christmas,
Joy of life and joy of song;
If you can't rejoice in giving,
Whether it be right or wrong;
If the Yule log's invitation
To your heart no cheer can give,
Tell me ask how in creation
Is it worth your while to live!
—Lurana Sheldon in New York Times.

The Message Of Christmas

By Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore

TODAY the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration around the crib of Bethlehem and rehearses in accents of love a history which precedes all time and will endure throughout eternity. If asked to explain the rapturous influence which controls us we have no other words than the evangel of joy which the angel gave unto earth, "For this day is born unto you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

The blessings resulting from our Christian civilization are poured out so regularly and abundantly on the intellectual, moral and social world, like the sunlight and the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth, that they have ceased to excite any surprise except to those who visit lands where the religion of Christ is little known.

Before the advent of Christ the whole world, with the exception of the secluded Roman province of Palestine, was buried in idolatry. Men worshiped the sun and moon and stars of heaven. They worshipped everything except God only, to whom alone divine homage is due. Christ, the Light of the World, proclaimed unto all men in its fullness the truth which had hitherto been hidden in Judea. He taught mankind to know the one true God, a God existing from eternity unto eternity, a God who created all things by his wisdom and whose superintending providence watches over the affairs of nations as well as of men—"without whom not even a sparrow falls to the ground."

The message of Christmas day is intended for all men, for all times, for all conditions of existence. Only by stern adhesion to the principles therein contained can individuals and nations hope to share in that peace which has been promised to men of good will. To violate them is to reverse the order established by God.

Christmas and Motherhood

By the Rev. Dr. T. De Witt Calmage

ON that Christmas night God honored motherhood. The angels on their wings might have brought an infant Saviour to Bethlehem without Mary's being there at all. But, no; motherhood for all time was to be consecrated, and one of the tenderest relations was to be the maternal relation and one of the sweetest words "mother." In all ages God has honored good motherhood. In a great audience, most of whom were Christians, I asked that all those who had been blessed with Christian mothers arise, and almost the entire assemblage stood.

Christmas Joy.
Only once in the year the whole world stands still to celebrate the advent of a life. Only Jesus of Nazareth claims this worldwide, undying remembrance.

Christmas Chords

By Sister M. fides Shepperson, M. H.

THE world is at its best on Christmas day. The spirit whence issued the Sermon on the Mount, the spirit eminent in the sublime world-absolution of the cross, the spirit of the gentle Christ of Bethlehem, of Nazareth, of Galilee, Jerusalem and Calvary, seems strangely at home in an alien world on Christmas day.

The churches chant "Adeste" and we go. Faithful or unfaithful, self commending or self condemning, loving, doubting, sorrowing, yet we go to the church on Christmas day when the chimes ring out "Adeste."

Something deeper than life calls through the Christmas call. It murmurs of the eternal years; it connotes the one Knower; it tells of the gentle Lover of souls. And then in golden silence there is hope in the world, there is promise, there is One who knows and cares; there are Calvary, compassion, kindness, good will, Christmas.

Gather together all the children of the world under thy sheltering wings, O Spirit of Christmas day! Let them not sorrow any more; let them not hate one another any more; let them not despair; comfort the lonely; console the mothers that mourn, the women and children that wait; assuage the pangs of maddening memories that arise from happier Christmas days; breathe blessings over the nameless graves; speak pardon and pity over the battlefields; tell of peace to a war wounded world.

And tell again the old, old story of the Prince of Peace and bid the churches chime as joyfully as ever their welcoming "Adeste" and let the little children sing the hope songs of the year to be—peace on earth, good will to men, glory to God in the highest.

Christmas Prayer

By Meredith Davis

STAR of the east, beacon of hope, ages nor tumult can dim thee above. Though sons of thy God lose sight for awhile of the life thou didst watch o'er that first Christmas morn, look not in anger nor turn from the scene of war's desolation with lost faith in man. Mortals must wobble, be what though the toll of nature's law strips the brawn from the earth. Yet there are hearts still attuned to the word of his Son, who came down this day to spread love supreme. The Christ word endures, brotherhood lives on, while the hands of God's nations stretch across to the lands where men have forgot and have struggled and died—forgot that their Father sees, forgot he shall judge—but the Christ spirit prevails to the end that all men shall one day be brothers, swords sheathed evermore. That now is our plea to the Peace King divine.

Your Xmas Dinner Needs Snowywhite Linen Done Just Right

Our recent installation of the newest type of flat work ironer enables us to guarantee perfect work of unsurpassed capacity. Why not have our wagon call.

The Royal Laundry

BIG STONE GAP, VA.

P. H. Barron's Restaurant

Meals At All Hours



Our meals and lunches have a wide reputation for their satisfying quantity and quality. No one need leave our tables unsatisfied. Full meal or quick lunch, it is all the same to us. We serve you cheerfully and promptly. Give us a call.

Christmas Candies, Fruits, Cakes and Nuts

FRESH FISH AND OYSTERS

Corner E. 5th St. and Wood Ave. Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

50 BOYS' SUITS

Useful Christmas Gifts

To Be Closed Out At Any Old Price

These suits will positively be closed out at and below cost. In selecting a gift for the family you should not overlook the fact that clothing is far better than anything you could possibly get, especially a nice suit for your boy. We have many other useful articles for each member of the family, so don't fail to visit our store when Christmas shopping.

Dry Goods at Old Prices

Our line of Dry Goods maintain the same old prices despite the fact that they have generally increased within the past year. You will find many Christmas Bargains at our store.

Candies and Fruits

D. C. WOLFE, Big Stone Gap, Va.

Xmas Is Just Around the Corner

What About Your Gift Preparations?

If you are planning to make Xmas Gifts, you want to use care and judgment in selecting, so as not to have your gift look cheap or commonplace, no matter how low the price paid.



JEWELRY IS THE IDEAL XMAS GIFT
Select your gifts from our up-to-the-minute offerings in jewelry. We have planned for weeks for the Xmas Event so that we would merit the patronage of yourself and friends by giving equal and better value for the money than can be had elsewhere. We offer you a complete and wide stock of

UNUSUAL VALUES IN JEWELRY GIFTS
from as low as 50c, \$1.00, \$2.00 and up
in worthy and dependable articles, priced at the lowest figure possible, consistent with quality, including:

- Watches
- Chains; Charms
- Scarif Pins
- Silver Novelties
- Diamonds
- Necklaces
- Toilet Sets
- Fobs; Brooches
- Rings
- Birthmonth Jewelry
- Clocks
- Crosses and Rosaries
- Bar Pins
- Hair Ornaments
- Silverware
- Lavalliers

Come in and look over our gift stock, before buying elsewhere. See the articles you buy and know just what you are paying for.

We advise early buying—this store is ready.

WITT & BOOHER, - - Big Stone Gap, Va.

The Christmas Uplift

By the Rev. George B. Van Hordall of Denver

As the moon lifts the great waters of the deep to floodtide, so Christ's magnetic personality lifts our great human race at the Christmas season, as by the irresistible compulsion of love, out of our sordid selfishness into the practice of peace and good will. Those who have struggled against each other in business, society and politics forget the plottings of selfish preferment in the contagion of wellwishing.

Oh, that this good spirit of Jesus might abide with us through all the days of the new year! It is applicable to every day. It is here if only we will practice it. Let us cultivate the fine art of expressing the best that is in us for and toward each other. Surely every man wants his neighbor to prosper and be happy. Surely no man wants to build himself up at the expense of another. No man wants to see poverty and sin and misery become the portion of his fellows. Such a sight cannot be pleasing to any human being. Shall we not then say every man to his neighbor, "Be of good cheer, brother," and seek each to help the other? Practice fraternity, justice, sympathy and good will with all men.