

# CHRISTMAS CAROL

Music and Song Always Associated With the Yuletide.

Original Sacred Character of Carol Was Almost Lost Sight of in Thirteenth Century.

**M**USIC and song have always been associated with Christmas. In Roman Catholic countries, as early as the Third century, it became the custom to usher in the Christmas festivities with musical ditties.

The practice of singing carols or canticles was supposed to recall the "In Excelsis Gloria" of the angels and the song of the shepherds on the first Christmas night.

A very old carol, published in 1521, gives an amusing description of church regulars:

A woman child in cloths on the altar sat,  
And the which both boys and girls do  
Dance and timely yet,  
And carols sing in praise of Christ.  
The priests do roar aloud  
And round about the parents stand  
To see the sport, and with their voices  
Do help them, and with hand.

As first, carols were generally religious in character, and were written with Latin and English words in alternate lines, or with a Latin refrain. The well-known carol

When Christ was born of Mary free  
In Bethlehem, that fair city,  
Angels sang with mirth and glee  
In Excelsis Gloria,  
and another with a chorus,  
Christus natus hodie  
The babe the son,  
The holy one,  
Of Mary,

are good examples of this class.

When the tendency to ribaldry became marked, some of the carols got to be very peculiar in subject and language. Joseph is treated with a great want of respect, for one carol runs:

Joseph was an old man,  
An old man was he,  
When he wedded Mary,  
The Maid of Galilee.

Another relates the story of the shepherds watching their flocks by night:

A shepherd upon a hill he sat,  
He had on his boys tabard and hat,  
The flocks, by the shepherds stand,  
His name was called Joly-Joly Watt.

Having been informed of the birth of Christ, the shepherd sets off for Bethlehem, and on arriving, says:

Thou art of thee my pype,  
My skylark, my tarbox and my scrype,  
Home to my fellows now will I skrype,  
And take unto my shepe.

In the thirteenth century the sacred character of these Christmas songs was almost entirely lost sight of. The Puritan parliament abolished Christmas and carols altogether, but feasting and revelry returned with the Restoration.

Carols, which had fallen into disuse, was revived by a collection of carols published by D. Gilbert, in 1822, but caroling, which was formerly a simple and the chiming of church bells, and the singing forth of choirs which chanted their way round villages until their throats were hoarse and their noses red from cold and friendly Christmas potatoes, is now almost a thing of the past.—Tit Bits.

## CUSTOMS AND THEIR ORIGINS

Numerous Yuletide Ideas Are Relics of Pagan Observance, Especially Those of Druidism.

**M**ANY Christmas customs are relics of pagan observances, especially those of Druidism, the religious system of the ancient Gauls and Britons. Groves of oaks were their chosen retreat, and today the acorn is found as a Christmas symbol on some Christmas greetings, although it is not used as much as formerly.

Druidism considered mistletoe most sacred, and when growing on an oak tree, parasite as it is, it was cut with a golden knife by a priest clad in a white robe and two white bulls were sacrificed on the spot.

The Yule log in England is a relic of Druidism. Its name is considered a corruption of "wheel log," a wheel in Druidical symbolism typifying the march of the sun. The lighting of the Yule log harks back to the sacred fires kindled by the Druids at mid-winter in the round towers which yet remain in many parts of Great Britain, Ireland, France and Spain. The use of the Christmas tree has descended from the German Druids. The dressing of the tree with candles and presents was a feature of their mid-winter festival.

Ivy is not used for Christmas decorations, as it was once sacred to Bacchus and constituted almost the sole leafy adornment at the Roman saturnalia. The early Christian clergy, desiring to wean the people from their pagan practice as far as possible, forbade the use of ivy, and the precedent still obtains.

In medieval Europe a peacock was the favorite dish for Christmas dinner. After being skinned carefully the bird was cooked. Then the skin with the plumage intact was replaced, and the bird served in a manner as nearly as possible resembling real life.

Mince pies are first mentioned in 1596 as in common use at Christmas times. Authorities in the matter then said they might be eaten as early as December 14.

**A. O. U. W. ELECT OFFICERS**  
At the last meeting of the A. O. U. W. officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:  
Master—Workman—J. H. Canfield.  
Foreman—August Kussel.  
Overseer—John G. Clifford.  
Recorder—George M. Johnson.  
Financier—B. F. Griffith.  
Treasurer—S. C. Vassaly.  
Guide—Alfred Hanson.  
Inside Watch—Arthur W. Wright.  
Outside Watch—Albert L. Ruz.  
Medical Examiner—Dr. L. M. Roberts.

Trustee for Three Years—August Christensen.  
Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Gatchell and children of Pillsbury spent Christmas with Mrs. Gatchell's mother, Mrs. John Burkat.

## WE START A NEW YEAR - - - By Fred Yost



**H**IS First Christmas  
By MARY GRAHAM BONNER  
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I WAS very quiet in the house. Outside the snowflakes were chasing each other with vigor and a gayety and a sense of the merriment of the season.

Voices could be heard shouting across streets, wishing others "A Merry Christmas."

Now and again the wind blew loudly, but not shrilly nor harshly nor with a wailing sound. The wind, too, seemed to be quivering with happiness. All of nature had joined together to be as beautiful, as radiant, in honor of the day as possible.

The hills were covered with snow. The branches of the trees were laden with it. Icicles hung from eaves and from corners of houses, and windows were frosted with exquisite designs. The shrubs, too, were covered with snow. It looked more like Fairyland than anything else.

In the house they were waiting, waiting, waiting.

How tense and long seemed the wait. How nervous, how frightful, and yet how marvelous—if all went well. But just suppose everything didn't go well? Suppose anything happened?

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Ray Clarke paced up and down the floor and wondered how he could have been so happy—so free from nervousness for so long a time.

He hated the great beauty of the outside world. When he heard people wishing each other "Merry Christmas" he almost hated their smiles and their cheerful voices.

How deeply he loved Lillian. She was worth all the Christmas presents in the world! Of course. There were no two ways about that.

And the doctor had said with such a genial, merry twinkle in his eyes: "Well, I fancy the young son and heir will be a Christmas present from the missus to you!"

He had laughed at the time, and Lillian had blushed and smiled and laughed, too. The doctor was such a friendly old soul—he had been the doctor when Lillian had been born. And he was fine, too.

But perhaps he counted too much on Lillian's strength. Ray had been sent out of the room and he had been alone here now for so long.

As first he had been so full of high spirits. But the delay had been so strange. They hadn't told him there would be any such delay. They had simply sent him out of the room and had said that everything was all right, and that they'd come and tell him soon to be back to see his child.

He would go upstairs. He couldn't stand this another moment. And it was so quiet. He had fancied it would not be quiet. Then he heard a strange shrill voice.

How curiously it sounded. Was that Lillian. She must be very ill to have a voice sound so curiously. He never heard it like that.

They couldn't keep him from her. She would want him, too. Of course she would!

He hurriedly ran up the stairs. The doctor was at the top of the stairs.

"Wait a moment; not so fast; not so fast," the doctor smiled. "I was coming to tell you."

"Couldn't you have let me come to her? Did you have to wait until it

was all over to come and tell me?" Ray said in a husky voice.

"She wanted it to be that way," the doctor said. Still he was smiling. How could he smile at such a time? How hard and inhuman doctors became.

"I don't believe a word of it," he said. "She wanted me, I know. I heard her cry. That was it. You kept me from her. You wouldn't let me go to her and she—she—wanted me."

"My dear Ray, just a minute," the doctor said, but Ray had rushed past him and was in his wife's room. Tears were in his eyes.

Oh, he'd never forgive himself that he had consented to do what the doctor had told him to when suddenly he noticed that Lillian was looking at him, her eyes wide open, smiling happily.

"Did you hear him shout out a 'Merry Christmas' to you, Ray?" she asked.

"It was the baby who cried?"

"Not a cry, my love, 'Merry Christmas' was what he said!"

"Lillian, my own, my own," he murmured, and bent down over her. And now the tears came freely. He didn't care at all about them. Nothing mattered. For the tears—they were the tears of joy!

The employees at the Hennepin paper mill on Saturday presented their superintendent, W. H. Wendt, with a birthday present. A pair of beautiful cuff links and a cigar case as an expression of good will. Harry Stillwell, assistant superintendent, was given a gold fountain pen and a waldemar chain.

John Swanberg, cousin of Carl H. and Earl A. Swanberg of this city, arrived here this morning from Milaca, where he has been since June. He has here last fall for Cuba where he visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Swanberg, known to many of the older residents of this city, having lived here before going to Cuba. He does not like Cuba.

## MORRILL

Dec. 27—Herbert Foss, came home Thursday to spend the holidays at home. He is going to school in Faribault.

Peter McKibben came home from Rochester, where he has been receiving treatment for hipa tacomae.

Those who spent Christmas at the H. W. Foss home were Frank, Foss and family, John Schale and family from Graham, Ralph Hackett from Mayhew lake and John Begordis and family from Ramsey.

Lena Wincher visited over Christmas at her brother Charley's.

Miss Foss came home to Coaling for a few days.

Mrs. Ed. Miller from Royaltown visited at her sister's one day last week.

Carolyn Foss came home to stay over Christmas Monday night. Her folks gave a party in her honor.

There were about 50 people present. Andrew Emerson is kept busy sawing wood these days.

Mr. and Mrs. Kestella visited their daughter, Mrs. Keifer, last Sunday.

Wm. Miller and family spent Christmas at Herman Wischnesky's.

Franky Mann and sister of St. Cloud are visiting friends in Morrill this week.

Roy Crowe, who is going to business college, is home during the holidays.

Mr. Crowe took cattle to Foley Tuesday.

## SCANDIA VALLEY

Dec. 28—A few from here attended the program given at the Presbyterian church in Lincoln, given by the Lincoln Sunday school.

F. O. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Zearda were Randall visitors Wednesday.

Anna Mathewson, who teaches school in Randall, came home Saturday to spend her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Mathewson.

Clarence Johnson, who has been employed at Columbus, N. D., arrived Sunday for a visit with his uncle, John Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Borgstrom spent Christmas with Mrs. Borgstrom's mother, Mrs. Hersey of Swanville.

Miss Cora Anderson, who is employed in Fort Ripley, spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Christ Anderson.

## American Legion Corner

The time limit up to which yearly renewable term war risk insurance may be reinstated by paying two monthly premiums has been extended to July 4, 1922, according to a recent government decision. The U. S. Veterans Bureau, Keith-Plaza Building, Minneapolis, has asked Minnesota Legion headquarters to notify all Minnesota Legionnaires. Blanks and instructions for reinstating may be obtained from the above address.

The Victory Dutton, the little bronze or silver button issued to honorably discharged service men, if lost by the owner, may be duplicated by sending certified copy of discharge to Bally, Banks & Diddle, Philadelphia, together with 25c. for bronze or 50c. for silver button. This firm has been authorized by the war department to sell these buttons to eligible persons, according to Legion National Headquarters.

Says the Hibbing (Minn.) Tribune: "Organized, not for selfish objects, but for God and country," the American Legion is steadily becoming the greatest single factor in America today—a factor of increasing potency in the termination of every American problem. The mobilization of the American Legion to settle the issues of peace is just as urgent today as was the mobilization of the men in khaki in 1917, to decide the issues of war."

Dr. William Pierce of Rochester is 1st District Legion Commander, George P. Burley of Pipestone heads the second; Rev. David Moran of Farmington leads the third; Alois S. Pearson leads the fourth; the fourth; Z. L. Begin of Minneapolis guides the sixth; Dr. W. W. Larson of Starbuck leads the seventh; W. T. Nolan of Gilbert leads the eighth; Dr. A. C. Gottgenberg of Detroit leads the ninth; and M. B. Hurley of Pine City was recently elected commander of the tenth.

Exempt From Income Tax  
Amounts received by government compensation, allotments, or pensions as a result of service in great war, are now exempt from income tax returns, because of an amendment sponsored and enacted through the efforts of the Legion's national Legislative Committee.

Legion Announces Admission Tax Discontinued  
President Harding has signed an amendment stating that after January 1, 1922, no Legion post or Legion Auxiliary unit need pay tax on admission price collected for entertainments put on by these organizations. Our National Legislative Committee is "on the job" down at Washington!

Miss Helen Newman has resigned her position at the Dunphy Electric Store and has again taken a position at the Quality Shop.

## SCHOOL REPORTS

District No. 108 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 23; number enrolled, 19; average daily attendance, 17. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Harry and Clarence Kohl, Phillip Norman and Maurice Bellefleur, Byron and Howard Schilling and Henry Plante. Irving Plante and Alfred Doucette were not tardy, but absent one day.

District No. 111 for month ending December 23: Number days taught, 20; number enrolled, 31; average daily attendance, 28. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Olive, Bernice, Lois, Leslie, Cyril and Erna Kjeldergaard, Albert, Lila and Ruth Anderson, John Bergstrom, Henry Garrison, Evelyn and Byron Nygaard, Nellie, Nelson and Harry Ward, and Henry Denzil, Ruth Carlson and Evelyn Nygaard were perfect in spelling for the month.

District No. 91 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 20; number enrolled, 30; average daily attendance, 24. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Florence Joseph, Roy Johannes, Edward Joseph, Regina Fletek, Theodore Fletek.

District No. 55 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 15; number enrolled, 25; average daily attendance, 23. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Catherine Gross, Leonard Gross, Esther Virnie, Louise Dahmond, Florence Virnie, Eugene Gusella, and Lavina Voelker. Those absent two days or less are: Rose Kapsner, Louis and George Suthamer, Clara, Ethelhardt and Delores Gross, Gertrude and Theresia Kapsner.

District No. 74 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 15; number enrolled, 26; average daily attendance, 23. Those neither absent nor tardy during the month: Maynard Anderson, Henry Hendrickson, Edith Mattson and Clarence Shaffer.

District No. 17 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 15; number enrolled, 13; average daily attendance, 11. Those not absent for the month: Helen Boser, Hilda Wieling. Those absent only one day or less: Rose Wieling, Lucille and Albert Boser.

ETTA M. BARGABOS, Teacher.  
(Advanced Room)  
District No. 15 for the month ending December 23: Number days taught, 20; number enrolled, 34; average daily attendance, 19. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Anna Paviak, Walter Larson, Frank Czech, Paul Kopa, Peter Korvill, Clarence Jandro, Regina Jandro, Mammie Olson, Ella Larson, Emily Krusel, Gertrude Krusel, Minnie Schlag, Mike Kowell, Bernice Maslowaki, Agnes Kopka, Lizzie Bielinski.

SARAH L. PETERSON, Teacher.  
(Primary Room)  
District No. 15 for month ending December 23: Number days taught, 20; number enrolled, 22; average daily attendance, 19. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Edward Bielinski, Helen Czech, Evelyn Jacobson, Edwin Kolar, Rose Kalla, Barbara Kopka, Rose Kopka, Albena Korvill, Theodore Krusel, Mike Kowell, Bernice Maslowaki, Lillian Olson, Neils Olson, Willie Olson.

District No. 44 for the month ending December 16: Number days taught, 14; number enrolled, 27; average daily attendance, 22. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Lillian Valley, Raymond Valley, Walter Plante, Wilfred Moran, Hazel Moran, Napoleon Moran, Ernest Moran, Hazel Martineau.

MRS. JOSEPH LAFORCE, Teacher.  
District No. 114 for the month ending December 16: Number days taught, 20; number enrolled, 5; average daily attendance, 5. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Thomas Benson, Maud Smith, Ida Smith, Lloyd Smith, Archie Smith.

ALVA D. SMITH, Teacher.  
District No. 144 for month ending Dec. 16: Number days taught, 19; number enrolled, 25; average daily attendance, 21. Those neither absent nor tardy for the month: Arloine Mond Miers, Elizabeth Retzlaff, Katie Retzlaff, Herbert Retzlaff, Edwin Cronk, Lillian Pettis, Frances Pettis, Evelyn Loop, Lloyd Loop, Sarah Lee, Orpha Olson.

MRS. ROSE L. WINCH, Teacher.  
District No. 106 for month ending December 23: Number of days taught,

20, including institute week; number enrolled, 11; average daily attendance 10.5. Those neither absent nor tardy were Lillian Sundquist, Duane Elmer, Arthur Berg, Virgil Miller, and Theodore Lindahl. Those absent two days or less were Leonard Berg, Ruth Carlson, Oscar Larson and Andy Larson. Duane Miller was perfect in spelling.

JULIA EKWALL, Teacher.  
**YOU Have Our THANKS**

For all that you have done for us the past year we thank you.

We beg you to feel that these thanks, though simple in words, are sincere and come direct from the heart.

May success and happiness come to you.

**DIAMOND SIGN Jewelry Store**  
E. V. WETZEL, Prop.

## Munson's

Mid-Winter Sale is now in full swing.

**DO NOT MISS IT!**

## A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All

We wish to thank you all for the generous patronage you have given this store in the past and as we turn to a new page in the Book of Time, we will promise you that we will endeavor to give you the highest grade of merchandise at the lowest price possible, that we will give you the best service as we have in the past, that we will spend all our time and energy as well as our money in improving our store, our city and community. May the year 1922 be kind and generous to all and as another year shall pass, may we be able to say it was a truly

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## GOODBYE 1921 WELCOME 1922

That is about the way we feel at this time.

We did our best during the past 12 months and we are sure you did too but in spite of it there is no use denying the fact that 1921 wasn't all sunshine.

There was one very bright spot throughout the year for us, however, and that was the splendid way in which our friends stood by us. We appreciate that and thank you sincerely.

And now at the open door of the new year we pledge you our best effort to help you in any way we can to realize happiness and prosperity during the coming 12 months.

**MORRISON COUNTY LUMBER COMPANY**  
Little Falls, Minnesota