

## Four Ancient Christmas Carols

THE ancient Christmas carol "Holy Night" is German in its origin and is considered by many persons to be the most beautiful of all Christmas carols. It has sometimes been ascribed to Martin Luther, but the consensus of expert opinion is that it is much older than his time and is one of the oldest of German folk songs.

The carol "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen," is English in its origin and dates back to about the beginning of the seventeenth century, although the author of the words and the composer of the music are unknown. The fine old melody sung to this poem possesses all the best qualifications of a sterling hymn tune and will probably last as long as the verses with which it is always associated.

Originally the old carol was sung in polyphonic harmony with the melody placed in the tenor, as was the invariable custom of the seventeenth century. Modern transcriptions of it, however, have placed the melody in the upper voice part instead of the third voice part, as formerly. This carol, too, is one of the most popular and most beautiful in the entire range of Christmas music.

The carol "Draw Nigh, Immanuel," is one of the oldest pieces of coherent music in existence, and both the words and music far antedate any of the others. The music is an old French melody, dated from the thirteenth century, although, of course, it has been harmonized to conform with more modern standards.

There is a most curious but beautiful musical effect at the close of this carol. The words of "Draw Nigh, Immanuel," are about 100 years older than the music, being taken from the Mozarabic breviary of the twelfth century, and it is generally believed that they were taken from the liturgy of the early Christians at Toledo, Spain, where the Mozarabic breviary was formulated.

Another carol, "The First Noel," has a traditional French melody and probably originated in Breton, although the exact origin of this fine old song is somewhat in doubt.

### CHRISTMAS PLAYS IN THE HOME THEATER.

The dramatic instinct is strong in most children and should be encouraged, says Mrs. Blanche Cole Rosedale in the New York Evening Sun. To the young child its exercise serves to while away many rainy hours; to the older child it can be made a source of inspiration to noble deeds and a means of gratifying the longing for romance and the desire for adventure.

Where there are two or more young children Santa Claus plays of all sorts will occupy the pre-Christmas days. The most popular and simplest one is that in which one child represents the beneficent saint and the rest of the family go to bed after hanging the stockings. The saint fills the stockings and makes what other preparations his imagination can compass, then usually becomes a child again and goes to bed himself, not wishing to be left out of the Christmas morning fun so soon to follow.

All Christmas stories may be dramatized. The story of Gretchen, who set her shoe by the chimney and found a poor sparrow in the toe, will be acted out with as many embellishments as the story teller has been able to add.

There is a story of two children who awoke to find Santa Claus in their room. They accompany him to toyland and back with many adventures on the way. This lends itself well to play also. Relieving the distress of a poor family on Christmas morning is a pretty play. The generous Samaritans go laden with toys to the unhappy ones, and play ends in a joyous dance.

While the dramatizing spirit is on the children will not stop with Christmas tales, but will play Cinderella, Goldilocks, Squire Nutkin and any other simple story which is familiar to them.

## GRANDMA'S CHRISTMAS



WHEN GRANDMA WAS A GIRL

## Wrapping the Gifts

Are you among the fortunate number who have completed their Christmas purchases and have them all neatly and daintily wrapped and labeled and placed in a large box or a drawer to await the proper moment when they are to be started on their way by mail, messenger or, perchance, personal delivery? If you are not, what are you doing with the little gift which you purchase or complete each day and add to the growing pile? Are you carefully wrapping each one after inclosing a pretty Christmas greeting card with soft white or gayly decorated Christmas paper? One cannot help but feel that those little remembrances which are received, all thoughtfully and artistically wrapped with a bit of holly or poinsettia paper and bound with red, green, white or holly ribbon and choicely labeled and sealed with the numerous attractive little stickers which come for this purpose, mean more in their detail of taste and care than all the handsome and wonderful gifts which time and money can produce without these final touches. Then make the offering as simple and inexpensive as you choose, but if you would convey to your friend an atmosphere of thought and remembrance take a little time each day to complete the arrangement for each friend before laying it aside with the other gifts. Not only will the preparation of the gifts take on additional interest to you, but it will make the last days of bustle and excitement less arduous, and then, too, you will not be piling into the postoffice or the express office all your various bundles at one time, but will be prepared to start many of them on their way in advance of the last rush and thus avoid the often inevitable delay which means belated greetings and, worse than all, packages which give the appearance of hasty arrangement and lack of thought.

### DEVELOPMENT OF U. S. AS WORLD POWER TRACED BY TAFT.

Hon. William Howard Taft traced the development of America as a world power, and pointed out some of the dangers besetting these world power relationships in an address before the state newspaper men gathered at Chapel Hill last week.

"There is a liability in our foreign relationships which we ought to consider," he said, after reviewing America's growth from a small nation nearly isolated in Washington's administration to a great nation with tremendous responsibilities and many points of contact with other nations. He showed how from purchase of Alaska to the present Mexican situation our foreign relations had become more and more involved until now the United States had to have adequate preparation to meet the emergencies that might arise. Mr. Taft spoke of the Philippines, of Cuba, of Mexico, "our international nuisance," showed how each gave us greater responsibilities.

The Monroe doctrine in itself demands force back of it, Mr. Taft said. In pleading for adequate preparedness, he stated his belief that "The nation has been led into a position where we are now reasonably prepared. But not all changes have been made that we need to make." In conclusion, Mr. Taft argued for a league of nations to enforce peace after the war is over. He agreed with President Wilson that the "position of a neutral in a modern great war is almost unbearable."

### HENDERSONVILLE NEGRO SHOOT ANOTHER AT CONOVER

Sunday night a week ago Chris, Pilgrim, a Hendersonville negro, who is a cook in some Southern railway shanty cars, near Conover, was lodged in Newton jail on a charge of shooting another negro. Relatives here wired money and Pilgrim was released Thursday. The Newton Enterprise says Pilgrim shot and hit George Hall, another negro, the ball striking Hull in the back of the head "but doing no serious damage, it is said."

### WILL PLAY AT CHAPEL HILL.

President Graham, of the University of North Carolina, has announced that the annual Virginia-North Carolina Thanksgiving football game will not be played again at Richmond, where it has been staged for many years. The 1917 game will be at Chapel Hill, N. C., and the 1918 contest at Charlottesville, Va.

### LONGWORTH BUYS 'EM HATS.

The fourteen Democrats of the House ways and means committee blossomed out yesterday in brand new hats and broad smiles. Somebody recalled that on last July 6, Representative Longworth, Republican, rose on the floor and promised to buy every Democrat on the committee a new hat if the next House were not Republican by a majority of 100.—Washington Post.

### BIRDS AND GAME AS A STATE ASSET.

Some Suggestions for Their Conservation by the Audubon Society of North Carolina.

This is an age of conservation—of holding fast to and developing what we have. We have come to believe that prevention is better than cure, and that it is better to protect, conserve, and develop what we have than to allow it to go to waste or be destroyed and then have to spend years struggling to replace it—which is impossible with many natural resources. That is the principle of conservation. That it applies to every phase of life.

In no phase of our life today will this principle of conservation apply more aptly than in our wild bird life. Investigations have shown that our wild bird life is one of our great natural resources in the same sense that our forests, water powers, and mineral supplies are natural resources, and as such it is a State asset. Being such an asset, it is subject to the same limitations, the same abuses, and the same possibilities as these. There is the possibility of carelessness, through lack of understanding, that will lead—and is leading—to destruction. There is also the possibility of intelligent, far-seeing conservation and development, which can be accomplished only through education and wise legislation.

#### The Value of Bird Life to Agriculture.

The economic importance of bird life is no longer a matter of speculation. The Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture has carried on a series of careful investigations to determine the actual value of bird life to agriculture. These investigations covered several years and I quote an excerpt from Bulletin 513 bearing upon this subject: "The material prosperity of State and Nation depends largely on agriculture and an agent that tends to increase the size of crops and insure their certainty is of direct interest and importance to the farmer. Birds constitute one of the most valuable of these agents, since they depend largely for their food on insects which are among the farmer's most dreaded foes. Entomologists have estimated that insects yearly cause a loss of upwards of \$700,000,000 to the agricultural interests of the United States. Were it not for our birds, the loss would be very much greater, and indeed it is believed that without the aid of our feathered friends successful agriculture would be impossible \* \* \*. At the present time many kinds of useful birds need direct intervention in their behalf as never before. The encroachments of civilization on timbered tracts and the methods of modern intensive cultivation by destroying or restricting breeding grounds of birds tend to diminish their ranks. The number of insect pests, on the other hand, is all the time increasing by leaps and bounds through importations from abroad and by migration from adjoining territories. Every effort, therefore, should be made to augment the numbers of our useful birds by protecting them." These are the facts based on investigations made by careful scientists.

#### The Value of Game Birds.

The strictly insectivorous birds, however, are not the only ones of value, for the game bird is uppermost in the minds of the sportsmen. And nearly all men are sportsmen to some extent. The game of the State, therefore, becomes an important asset. As thoughtful men of the present day are beginning to realize how limited is our natural game supply, how many species of game have been almost exterminated, and how modest the demands and how unlimited the possibilities of true sportsmanship are, they are turning their attention more and more to preserving the present supply for the future. And this can be done through legislation only, a sound present laws are cumbersome and inadequate.

#### Conditions as They Are and as They Should Be.

On account of its location and climatic conditions, North Carolina is one of the best natural game territories in the East or South. But it can not remain so unless its game resources are conserved and developed. Although this State is the camping ground of many sportsmen during the game season, neither the State nor any county of the State, has ever received financial compensation commensurate with the amount of service rendered to sportsmen. This is an evidence that we have never had proper game legislation. We have only to look around us to see what other States have done and what we have left undone. We have a system of local and conflicting bird and game laws that render effective protection impossible. For example we have thirty-six different open seasons on deer, eleven counties having no closed season at all; twenty-seven different open seasons on squirrels, forty-eight counties having no closed seasons; thirty-three different open seasons on quail, one county having no closed season; twenty-six different open seasons on wild turkey, and two no open seasons. Many of these different seasons prevail in counties adjacent to each other, too; This state of affairs should not exist. We shall by all means have a more uniform and effective system of State-wide bird and game legislation and a State Game Commission to execute such legislation. This is the only State, save one, in the Union that does not have a Bird and Game Commission. With such a department as other States have, our State should be receiving an annual income of over twenty-five thousand dollars, enabling us to give our birds and game better protection than ever before. In addition to this income to the State, there would be an income at least ten times as great to the land owners, hotels, liveries, guides, etc., of the communities frequented by sportsmen, and there would be sport and recreation for all.

From these considerations, it is evident that the birds and game of the State constitute one of its greatest assets, and is well worth legislative attention and protection. That we need better legislation is evident to every one who knows conditions as they now exist. And this need is imperative. Let us urge, therefore, that our next General Assembly give us such legislation as will most reasonably insure the protection and development of the bird and game resources of the State.

#### NO JAIL CELL FOR TANKERSLEY.

Engineer Anderson Tankersley, of Salisbury, will not serve the four months' jail sentence imposed by Judge Garland S. Ferguson at the May term, 1916, of Rowan court, as in the opinion handed down by the Supreme court, the lower court will be directed to dismiss the question against him and the judgment shall have the force and effect of a verdict of not guilty.

Engineer Tankersley was the engineer on the fast train which on the night of November 24, 1915, plunged into the second section of No. 32, known as the Richmond Football Special which was standing still, having been flagged down at a cross over switch, which was used for trains moving north into a diverging track and upon which the first section of No. 32 was still standing. The second section was still occupying the main line when it was plunged into by the Tankersley driven train. In the wreck caused by the collision C. E. Hall and H. C. Severs were killed and Lieutenant Governor-elect O. Max Gardner and others were injured.—News & Observer.

#### MRS. PAINTER DEAD.

Funeral services for Mrs. Painter, aged 82 years, a highly respected woman of the county, were held from Mud Creek Baptist church Thursday, conducted by Rev. Geo. F. Wright, pastor of the East Hendersonville Baptist church. Mrs. Painter is survived by numerous relatives including a number of step-children.

Mrs. T. I. Ingram and son, Thomas, of Atlanta, Ga., are spending some time here with Mrs. Ingram's sister Mrs. N. W. Miller.

## THE GIFT SHOP FOR MEN

If you want to give your Brother, Husband or Friend something that is useful and sure to please, send us your order by mail or call on us when in Asheville,

Cravats	50c to \$ 2.50
Shirts	\$1.00 to 5.00
Hosiery	.25 to 1.00
Gloves	1.50 to 2.50
Handkerchiefs	.25 to 6.00
Bath Robes	5.00 to 6.00
Smoking Jackets	7.00 to 10.00

Leather Collar Boxes, Scarf Pins, Cuff Links, Etc.

## TOM N. CLARK CO.

Oates Building, North Pack Square Asheville, N. C.

## A Practical but Lovely Christmas

—is well expressed by the many things we have for Milady's needs and pleasures as well.

In our veritable fairy-show of beautiful Suits, Gowns, Coats, Furs, Gloves, Hosiery, Leather Goods, Kimonos, Sweaters, Neckwear, Shirts-waists, Corsets and Ivory Goods, there are gifts that carry out the good cheer and good will of Christmas, and serve a useful purpose, too.

Moderate prices and perfect quality of merchandise are your assurance when you deal with us.

## LOWENBEIN-RUTENBERG CO.

45 Patton Ave. Asheville, N. C.

# READ HUSTLER WANT ADS.

## LEVITT'S

## The Christmas Store

## LEVITT'S

5 BILTMORE AVENUE

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Ready for the busiest December in our history—with a big stock of best varieties and best values. Come to Levitt's and see how splendidly prepared we are to supply your Xmas Gift requirements. You will save money on every transaction

Santa Claus and his Toy World are here. There's an endless array of things for little folks to wonder at as they go through our wonderful exhibit of play prettys.

In toys, as in our other lines of goods, it has always been our policy to fix prices that will make friends for the store. Our business grows by the patronage of people who appreciate our efforts to secure good qualities, and to sell at the lowest reasonable prices.

The toys you buy here will not only make the kiddies happy at Christmas time, but—because they are of good, sturdy build—they will give pleasure for many months after Xmas.

Here is the most important Coat, Suit and Dress Sale of the season. The sale continues until Xmas. Beautiful garments, made up in the newest styles, in latest and best materials.

Suits up to \$15 for	8.95
Suits up to \$20, for	13.95
Suits up to \$25, for	16.95
Suits up to \$30, for	19.75
Suits up to \$35, for	22.74
Coats up to \$10, for	6.75
Coats up to \$15, for	8.95
Coats up to \$20, for	12.95
Coats up to \$25, for	16.95
Coats up to \$35, for	22.75

Beautiful Serge and Silk Dresses, \$6.50 to \$30, values, offered during this sale at \$4.98 to \$17.95.

A beautiful line of Bath Robes in all pretty colors, priced special from \$2.50 to \$5—also Silk and Crepe Kimonos from 98c to \$6.50.

Crepe de Chine and Georgette waists in lovely shades and newest modes from \$1.98 to \$5.

Silk Petticoats in changeable and solid colors, \$2.50 to \$6.50.

Handkerchiefs are appropriate for gifts, and always appreciated. It is a pleasure to see our charming line of novelty Crepe de Chine, embroidered and Linen handkerchiefs.

Washable kid gloves in all colors, priced at \$1.50 the pair, make one valuable suggestion from the hundreds of offerings we have.