



Indian Children at Christmastide

LITTLE Jimmy Red Eagle and his brothers peeped from under their red blankets long before daybreak on Christmas morning. They cast an eye about the tepce, but not for stockings filled with presents, for Jimmy and his brothers learned many years ago that Santa Claus never came to tepces. In the first place, there is no chimney in the tepce, and, secondly, there is no fireplace. The teacher was responsible for this, of course, this tale which buzzed in their little brown ears and made them sad. But the Red Eagle boys and girls were not discouraged because Santa had not come to their tepce and forthwith made arrangements to go to him.

On the Indian reservations of the southwest Santa comes to the little red schoolhouses dotted here and there along the trail. The teachers have arranged for his visit there every Christmas, and that day is spent under the roof of plenty distributing the presents that have been left there by unseen persons. It is a day of good cheer for those little brown people, who do not know much pleasure anyway. The boys forget their bashfulness and mingle with the girls in their anxiety to show their presents. At noon the teachers set out a dainty lunch, such as is not known in tepce life, and the little fellows and their sisters gorge themselves. The afternoon is spent in entertainment, partly by the little fellows and partly by the teachers and the older girls. A neat program is arranged, and songs, recitations and charades follow. At eventide the little ones are carted home in buggies and there go to sleep and dream of great things that are to come into their lives.

The holidays are a continuous round of pleasure to the reservation Indian children of the southwest. They play their rough games and eat the candy and chew the gum. Their principal play is going on the warpath. That is for the boys, while the girls play at jumping the rope, making mud pies and cooking. Indian girls of late years have been elevated above their former position, of waiting on bucks, to lace making, painting and studying and teaching music, until some of them are quite proficient in this line. The little girls are not allowed to play with the boys on the same playground, although the teachers advocate their association in the classes and schoolroom.

It has not been until within recent years that Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Wichita, Tonkawa, Ponca or Osage children knew the slightest thing of a holiday, the birth of Christ, or even that there was such a person as Christ. But when the reservation schools opened all of these things were taught, much against the desire of the old Indians, who did not care to have their offspring reared in the path of the paleface, whom they so despised. The mothers used to move their tepces close to the reservation schools, and every night they would try to worm out of the child everything the teacher had taught her during the day. Progress with the red children was thus delayed until an order against the women coming near their children during the school season was issued and enforced. The little girls are quick to learn, and the boys are apt and witty.

Why They Sing at Christmas.

In modern times the Christmas waltz are bands of men and boys who on Christmas eve parade the streets of towns and villages in England, singing carols and accompanying themselves on simple wind instruments for presents from the houses in front of which they stop.

Santa's with each Girl and Boy Sharing in their Christmas Joy.



STRIFE MAY CEASE DURING HOLIDAYS

Activity Around Dvinsk, London Said to be Devoting Attention to the Possibility of Conscription.

London, December, 18.—The week-end finds the war situation in the east and west bearing the outward appearance of comparative quietude, and some observers are quick to predict that operations will virtually remain at a standstill until after the holidays.

Nevertheless, there is no lack of food for speculation, particularly on the eastern front, which now virtually stretches across two continents, from North Russia to South Persia. In the extreme north there have been unofficial reports that the promised new German thrust between Riga and Dvinsk has already begun, but neither Berlin nor Petrograd confirms this in the official communications.

Five hundred miles further south the Russians believe they have checked another enemy attempt to resume the offensive in Galicia.

In the Balkan zone the first chapter is closed, but with more than 2,000,000 men of a dozen different nations under arms, it is not likely that quiet will reign long. There is promise of new annoyances for the Bulgarians and Germans in the Italian operations through Albania and the Russian concentration in Bessarabia.

Grand Duke Again.

Meanwhile, in the so-called middle east, Grand Duke Nicholas's advance to Hamadan brings strong Russian forces to within about 200 miles of Bagdad. It is believed in the Entente Capitals that his operations will put new importance into the British operations in South Persia.

The situation on the Greek border is most obscure. Diplomatic complications are believed to be in a fair way of settlement. The Greek elections tomorrow appear not likely to be a serious factor, as the refusal of the followers of Ex-Premier Venizelos to participate will leave small chance for a change in Greek policy. But the threat of a German advance into Greece continues and provides numerous possibilities for upsets.

London is devoting a large share of its attention to domestic affairs, the possibility of conscription for single men who failed to respond to Lord Derby's call sharing the stage with proposals for a lottery scheme to aid the State in floating a large popular loan. The government has found it impossible to prorogue Parliament before Christmas and it is assumed that on the resuming of business on January 4, the sessions will continue for about a fortnight. The members probably will be summoned to return for the new session early in February.

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TO MAKE SOLDIERS IN GEORGIA CAMP

Fort Oglethorpe Selected for Training School. Gen Wood Approves Central Location and Climate and Presence of Army Post.

New York, Dec. 19.—A military training camp for students, business and professional men of the Southern States, patterned after the one conducted at Plattsburg, N. Y., last summer, is to be established next April at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., near Chattanooga, Tenn. It was announced here tonight by Maj. Gen. Wood, commander of the Department of the East, who will have direct supervision over the camp.

Gen. Wood's announcement followed an inspection of many proposed sites by Capt. Johnston, his chief aide. Fort Oglethorpe was selected because of its central location and favorable climate for out-of-door work. It is the only large army post now garrisoned in that region. The necessary camp equipment and supplies are at hand.

Gen. Wood said it is planned to keep the camp in operation four weeks for business and professional men, and that if applications warrant a second camp will be opened early in May to be continued until June. The camp for students will be opened July 5 to last five weeks. Thereafter if conditions warrant the camp will be continued.

Officers of the regular army will impart as much of the functional education of an officer as is possible in so short time. Special privileges will be offered for training in the work of cavalry, artillery, engineers, signal corps and first aid. It is planned to divide students into war strength companies of infantry; cavalry or batteries of artillery.

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FOR HIM

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Citation For Letters of Administration State of South Carolina, County of Laurens.

By O. G. Thompson, Probate Judge: Whereas A. M. Ramage made suit to me, to grant him de bonis non cum testamento annexo Letters of Administration of the estate and effects of Elizabeth J. Taylor.

These are therefore, to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of the said Elizabeth J. Taylor deceased, that they be and appear before me, in the Court of Probate, to be held at Laurens Court House, Laurens, S. C., on the 29th day of December, 1915, next, after publication hereof, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the said administration should not be granted.

Given under my hand this 14th day of December Anno Domini 1915.
O. G. THOMPSON
J. P. L. C.