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CHRISTMAS IS CHILDREN'S DAY

The message of Christmas is love. Its emblem is radiant, thankful, contented childhood. Without love and without children there could be no real Christmas. The form might survive but the substance would be lacking.

Unhappy must be the adult who cannot make himself a child again in spirit at the Yuletide. For Christmas is the universal children's day. Men and women are superfluous except as they make themselves partners with those whom the day glorifies.

Let us, then, lay aside the affectation and arrogance of manhood and womanhood and be children again. Let us adopt their point of view and put ourselves in their places—in the places of these sons and daughters of ours and of the sons and daughters of our neighbors. It was only a year or two ago, as it seems, when we hung our well-worn stockings in a row along the mantel shelf, while our fathers and mothers looked on with unfeigned pleasure at the innocent confidence we showed in what the morrow would bring forth.

Even as you and I. It all comes back in a flood of memories. Life was simpler then. Our desires were less pretensions than those our children voice now. Modest remembrances they were that bulged toe and heel of the stockings mother knit.

Life and its circumstances change, but the essence of Christmas never. The same happy childhood, the same restlessness, the same small-like creeping of time as the holiday approaches. The same parenthood, too—the same planning across the reading table after the boys and girls are abed, the same loving consideration of what this or that child most desires and how far the family purse can properly be stretched to permit some further purchase.

Every home is assured a Christmas if it has a great, warm heart pulsating in tune with the hopes and joys of childhood.—Exchange.

A Christmas Wireless.
To you and yours a wireless
Along the Good-will line
It brings a Christmas greeting
With love from me and mine.

His Guess.
"Who was it said to him that hath shall be given?"
"I don't remember, but I presume it was some fellow who had eight or nine necktie holders and had just received four more for Christmas."

St. Winnifred and the Tree

One story of the origin of the green tree as the Christmas tree among the people of northern Europe is given in a legend of St. Winnifred. It is one of the many thousands of those simple and beautiful beliefs that have attached themselves to the midwinter festival and which generally pass now under the name of "Christmas myths." It is related that St. Winnifred, a great Christian missionary, began cutting



May the Christmas season bring joys of Peace to You; and in the coming year may there be no Embargo on your happiness; may your opportunities not be Entrenched; may the Battles of the past be forgotten, and the Bugle call lead you on to loved ones who love you, and watch over you.

down a "sacred" oak which had been the object of worship by the northern pagans whom he was seeking to lead aright. While he was hewing down the huge tree it was blasted by a sudden whirlwind. Close beside it was a young fir tree, which was not harmed either by the whirlwind or by the fall of the giant oak. Then St. Winnifred is reported to have spoken as follows to the pagans:
"This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be your holy tree to-night. It is the wood of peace, for your homes are built of it. It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are always green. See how it points toward heaven! Let this be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather round it; not in the wild woods, but in your homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and acts of kindness."
The fir tree, the common evergreen of the northern regions, became the holy tree of the converted pagans, and in its honor or in memory of the thoughts it stood for they decorated it with lights and gifts at Christmas.

The Christmas Doll

There once was a doll on a Christmas tree,
Who sighed to the angel that hung above,
"Oh, how I do wish they would keep for me
A sweet little, neat little girl to love;
"A dear little mother to curl my locks,
To rock me to sleep, and to wake me up,
To dress me in cute little gowns and frocks,
And feed me with milk from her silver cup;
A kind little mother, who'd never say
A word that was angry, nor let me fall;
Who'd always be ready to let me play
With bright little friends who should come to call!"
And, strange though the wonderful fact may be,
That little wax doll's little wish came true;
They picked her right off the Christmas tree,
And gave her, my dear little girl, to you!
—Arthur Gummert in the Youth's Companion

CHRISTMAS EPIGRAMS

- ¶ It is a wise Santa who keeps his whiskers away from the candles.
- ¶ Better broken toys than broken hearts.
- ¶ Never look a gift in the price tag.
- ¶ Many a man puts on long white whiskers and thinks he looks like Santa Claus when he looks more like a goat—and perhaps he is.
- ¶ One thing they missed during the Spanish Inquisition—Christmas cigars!
- ¶ Shopping done in time is the noblest work of woman!
- ¶ A Christmas gift by any other name doesn't cost half as much.
- ¶ A gift in the hand is worth two in the postoffice.
- ¶ Many a man gets a girl under the mistletoe only to find himself, a little later, under her thumb.
- ¶ A pound of steak to a poor man is worth a ton of holiday greetings.

THE CHRISTMAS HANDICAP; MERE MAN VS. FRIEND WIFE

HERE is no use in my going home tonight," observed the full, sad man as he pushed the dice box from him and accepted the consolation of a far which the tobacco dealer purchased him.
"There will be nothing doing the way of cats. My

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THE RED CROSS ROLL CALL

When "the greatest mother in the world" calls the roll the week of December 18-23 the hope of the American Red Cross is that the answer for the entire American people will be: "All present, or accounted for."
It will be the occasion for 22,000,000 adults and 8,000,000 children to renew their membership and for all others to join. One happy slogan of the roll call announces that "all you need is a heart and a dollar."
Why does the Red Cross at Christmas conduct a membership campaign? Because it unites the people in an intimate way with the organization they have supported so magnificently. In other countries one of the most impressive things about the American Red Cross is the size of its membership, attesting truly popular approval.
This Christmas, when our country is out of the deep waters of the war, every dollar paid for an annual membership in the Red Cross will be a direct Christmas gift to our land, air and sea forces and to those who have felt the sting of war in a way that we in this country have not experienced. The ministrations of the Red Cross will be as good a substitute for Christmas at home as can be furnished under the circumstances.
The women of America, seeing in the Red Cross an extension upon a universal scale of the mothering instinct, will be quick to answer "Here" to the roll call, because service and sacrifice are womanly qualities and they are Red Cross qualities.
President Wilson, as president of the American Red Cross, says: "I summon you to the comradeship!"

All you need to join the Red Cross is a heart and a dollar.

THIS CHRISTMAS IN INDEPENDENCE

Owing to the possible invasion of an epidemic of influenza, Christmas in Independence will only be a day of family gatherings; no public observance, no entertainments, no church services, no school program. But Christmas will be merry just the same. Families will hold their usual feast, individual family trees will be lighted, stockings will be

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CANDLE IN THE WINDOW; TOKEN OF GOOD CHEER

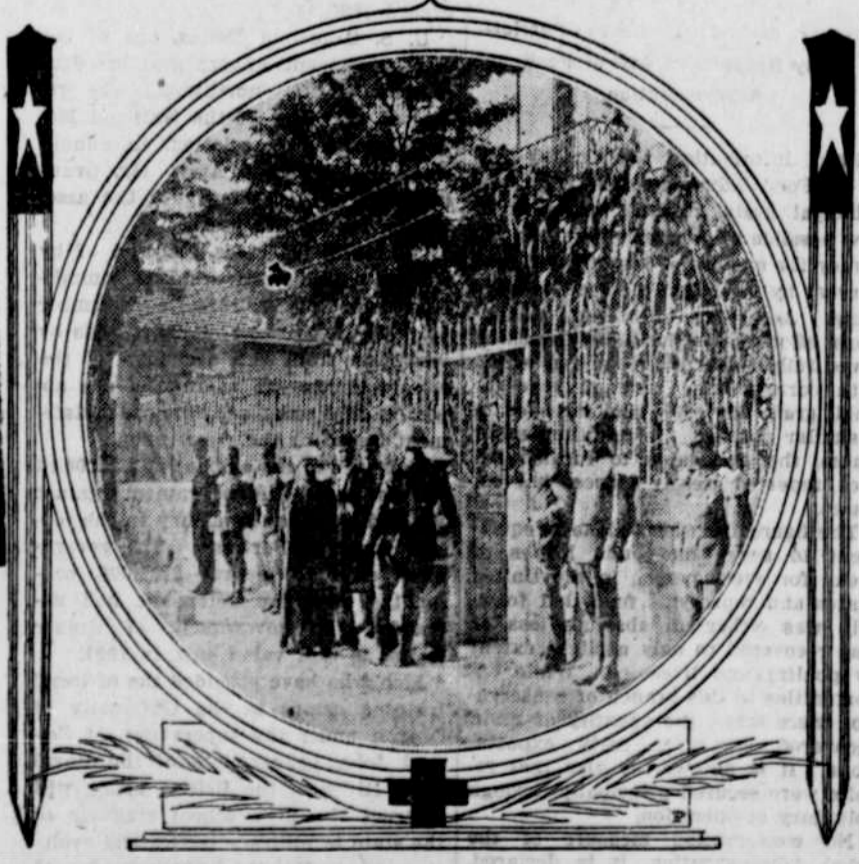
Mrs. C. H. Castner, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, has issued a Christmas message to all club women of the state urging a fitting observance of the holiday season and asking that the women observe the old custom of placing a lighted candle in their windows on Christmas eve as a token of good cheer. The letter received by Mrs. Clyde Ecker, president of the Independence Club, follows:
My Dear Club Workers, Greetings:
The Thanksgiving period has passed and club women, together with every other American, have had great cause for giving thanks. The Christmas time is at hand; may we all make this season one of gladness and good cheer. Let the club women of this state follow the time honored custom of the past and each place in the window of her home on Christmas eve the lighted candle as a token of good cheer to all who pass by. My greetings to each individual club member, and a wish for the best that the Christmas season can bring to each one.
(Mrs. C. H.) Theresa M. Castner, President.

WHY WE HAVE CHRISTMAS

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.
And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
And when they had seen it, they made known a broad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.
And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



THE HOLY LAND



THE GRAND MUFTI, HEAD OF THE MOHAMMEDAN CHURCH (A WHITE TURBAN), ARRIVES AT AMERICAN RED CROSS HEAD-QUARTERS TO TAKE PART IN THE FORMAL INAUGURATION OF THE WORK IN PALESTINE.