

**Along Azalea Row**

By Faye Sunderland

Everything about Christmas is exciting.

The real oriental splurge of colors we can indulge in, the enticing smell of good things to eat. The sound of tissue paper crackling and the "ohs" and "ahs" as the gift is revealed; and through all the gaiety, the serene feeling, shared by all, that the greatest gifts are the intangible ones, purchased by the spirit and not by coins. And so it was at the

Christmas meeting of Azalea Garden club.

We were truly transported into a beautiful make-believe world, when we stepped into the Grange hall. From the red-draped windows, to the walls hung with clever swags, made by Mrs. Clara Kerns, to the gaily lighted tree, the hall exemplified the spirit of Christmas.

On display was the little candy house made by Pat Kerns and too cunning to ever desecrate with a knife. I am sure the fabled candy house that Hansel and

Gretel found in the wood, was not half as delectable.

The Christmas story, that never grows old, was told in a new and especially revealing way by Mrs. Webster Hibbard. Her gift of drawing word pictures, gave to us the feeling that we were really visiting Bethlehem. We walked with her along the olive tree lined, rough road that leads to Bethelhem, we saw with her, the awe-inspiring Church of the Nativity, that covers the hallowed ground of that first lowly manger, and we listened with reverence while she quoted from St. Luke, the Story of the Nativity.

Her talk was interspersed at appropriate times with numbers beautifully sung by Mrs. Donnelly, who sang "Asleep in a Manger" and Mrs. Curzon MacKenzie, who sang "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem."

The Azalea Singers, conducted by Mrs. MacKenzie, and accompanied by Mrs. Lucian Harvey, were all that we had anticipated and we were reluctant to let them quit.

The committee responsible for the effective decorations were Mrs. Tony Christensen, Mrs. Elmer Hanscam, and Mrs. Glenn Hurst.

Hostesses for the afternoon, at the gaily bedecked tea tables, were Mrs. Ray Guerrettaz, Mrs. Thomas Carson and Mrs. Jessie Judkins.

We were pleased to welcome as guests, Mrs. Langlois, Mrs. C. Holmes, Mrs. Jack Holmes, Mrs. Southworth, Mrs. Violet Wallace, Mrs. Eula Brimm, Mrs. George Funk, Mrs. Clarence Overman, Miss Lavon Wagner.

And so, a Merry Christmas to

you all. Christmas seems to me, the real beginning of the new year and not the end of the old.

for it renews our belief in brotherhood and peace and gives us hope for a happier New Year.



*Jumpin' jiminy — here it is Christmas Day. We all wish you a wonderful Yuletide, a Joyous New Year.*

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