



Announcing the Birth of a King and Savior

IN FACT and fancy, with by night the moon-washed streams of the stars Bethlehem. A bright star shone above the house of David—the old inn of Bethlehem. Angels were singing. With silent and awe-struck faces, the people gathered at the flaming herald. To the south and west a cloud of fire has lowered over the fields of Boaz, where once Ruth gleaned barley behind the reapers. The night air is burdened with silent melodies. The strange starlight mingles the village with a stranger happiness. Strange omens crowd the hour.

People are gathering down by the old inn. They stand in silence; men are as voiceless as the night. Only the few have dared to whisper. A man comes out of the inn, now and then he presses his lips against a neighbor's ears and whispers: "Strangers from Nazareth—a child is born."

Now the people fall back to make room for a company of night watchmen from the sheep flocks, their bearded faces bright with excitement and wonder. They are from the Boaz hills. They tell excitedly the story of angels singing praises to God and announcing the birth of a King and Savior. They have come to see. Following them through the old house into the adjoining caves, where even meek-eyed beasts share the wonder of the night. There are the strangers from Nazareth, and there in the manger their new-born Child. The simple shepherds kneel before the Child and tell the story of the sky. They declare the Child is a King.

Scarcely are the shepherds gone before a slight commotion heralds the coming of bearded strangers, travel stained, but richly garbed. They had seen the star months before and they had followed from the east. It was a king they had come to find. They bow down and worship. They pile gold beside the swaddled babe and fill the cave with the odor of incense. An elder from the synagogue brings a scroll and reads, "And His name shall be called Counselor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the prince of Peace." Then understand—you have witnessed the mightiest miracle of earth. Here is the place where Divinity became humanity that humanity might become Divinity.—William L. Guston.

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Soldier Of Fortune Would Go Into Air Service If Young Again; Has Varied Experience

BY CLYDE G. BYERS
 United Press Staff Correspondent

DETROIT—AP—In a Detroit poorhouse sits a soldier of fortune, now minus the fortune, who can authentically lay claim to the following experiences:

He saw the charge of the Light Brigade.

He was nursed by Florence Nightingale.

He was a gun runner for Garibaldi.

He pulled the Empress Carlotta out of a ditch by her ankle.

He was present at the Indian Mutiny.

Captain Roland Walpole, member of the British family of that name, is now 100 years old. He sits a little apart from the other inmates. A Scotch cap is set askew on his head. On his breast are medals with bars that bear historic names—Crimea, Alma, Balaklava, Inkerman, Sebastopol, Lucknow, Delhi, Peking, Egypt.

Educated as a soldier, he lived to fight under five flags. He was a student in military engineering at Freifurt, Saxony, when he started the career of volunteering which lasted him throughout his active life. He joined the Turkish service under Omar Pasha and took part in the principal Crimean battles.

During one of the campaigns he was a patient of Florence Nightingale for 16 days.

He next saw action in Persia and later took part in the Indian Mutiny. He was sent back from the East on sick leave, but within 24 hours of reaching England he was on his way to Italy as a volunteer for Garibaldi, the patriot.

The Italian rumpus over, he went to China to become a general under Li Hung Chang.

The American military observer in the Crimea, General George B. McClelland, wrote him that there was a sizeable war on in the United States and said the Union Army had need of technical officers.

Walpole packed his grips and became a cavalry officer under

Holds a Ball of Cord



It would seem as if most everybody would appreciate as a Christmas gift a Handy Andy who would hold guard over a ball of cord, keeping it ever ready for use, like the little pastboard-faced elf in this picture is doing. No, the spiral neck and spindling legs of the little sprite aren't just for "looks"; they form the axle on which the ball of cord revolves. The flower petal skirt? Oh, just a way of "dolling up" the trinket so that it is "ornamental as well as useful." The figure stands on a box which holds rubber bands, tags, thumb tacks and other needed articles.

Marie Antoinette Mirrors



Every boudoir a bower of beauty—such is the sentiment which now prevails in the home. Wherefore 'tis not to wonder, when lady goes a-Christmas shopping, that she is prone to buy boudoir accessories that tempt her eye and beguile her fancy. You may be sure that these exquisite Marie Antoinette hand mirrors will prove a fascination to every woman.

For the Living Room



Well, if it is a splendidly "worth while" Christmas gift you are in search of, take note of this adorable cushion and footstool set. Both stool and cushion are made of black felt, this material being strongly featured for home decoration just now. The decorative flowers are made of felt in all the gay colors, standing out in bold relief against their black background. Nothing handsomer for the living room than these sets!

Canadian Field Peas Are Raised

Growers in Oregon who do not have sufficient hay and are anxious to grow an additional acreage next spring may use oats and Canadian field peas. This combination crop gives a good quality hay and has given a satisfactory yield at the experiment station when sown real early in the spring.

Some fields of Legume clover, the giant form of white clover which has given such excellent yields under irrigation conditions, have been certified by the Oregon Agricultural college. These fields are free from noxious weeds and alkali clover. Sources of this seed may be obtained on application to the college.

Albany may vote on new charter plan for better street lights.

Christmas Kaleidoscope

CHRISTMAS places a kaleidoscope in my hand. Fantastic designs of rare coloring and exquisite form show themselves—pictures of people, and places, and episodes—dreams fulfilled and loved and lost pass before me. They all but speak. I seem to catch a distinctive note and a familiar ring of laughter. . . . places teeming with sweet memories and hallowed associations come, too, and are gone! . . . Ghosts of unaccomplished desires, unfulfilled goals, pass in review. . . . It is Christmas! Joyous in its present gladness, but thrice blessed in memory. A day in which music, if but the laughter of a child, is richer than royal feasts, and when a tried friendship is more heartening than richest wine.

—W. P. Pennybacker.

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Warns of Christmas Celebration Dangers

Unless people are more cautious during the holiday season than they have been in previous years, there will be an unusually large number of home accidents, predicts the National Safety Council, which is endeavoring to make the celebration of Christmas not only a merry, but also a safe festival.

Scores of children were blinded during Christmas week last year by shots from air rifles, used in all sections of the country, and through the explosion of fireworks.

When Animals Kneel

There are many quaint animal superstitions connected with Christmas night. One of them is the legend that the ox kneel in their stalls to worship the infant Christ at midnight on His birthday.

For Christmas Table

Nothing more striking could be chosen as a decoration for the Christmas table than a pair of silver peacocks or a large pheasant, either in silver plate or in pottery.

An Old Christmas Custom

Blessing the apple trees is a Christmas custom still observed in the English counties of Sussex and Devonshire.

Christmas in Italy

In southern Italy a Neve is begun nine days before Christmas and little models representing the activity are built in villages.

ATTRACTIVE GIFTS MADE

Painting on a Par in Popularity With Needlework

The homemade Christmas gift has a deeper significance than most any other gift which might be given and many women of artistic tendencies are busy these days preparing the most attractive gifts for the loved ones at Christmas time.

Painting on a par in popularity with embroidery work for home made gifts. The fortunate woman who was skillful with her needle and could fashion the most attractive type of home made gift has in many instances turned her attention toward hand painting on silks of choicest texture which first became popular last year, and which is proving popular again this year.

Beautiful scarfs, handkerchiefs, sometimes elaborate costumes are painted with beautiful designs. The needlework is still an ever popular gift.

Home made candies are ever popular as home made gifts and already recipes are being exchanged as plans are made for making the usual supply of Christmas sweets.

Then there are the many attractive novelties which are suggested in home magazines.

With the usual holiday shopping rush the housewife will be sure to find some time for fashioning these doubly appreciated gifts which bring a personal touch "store" gifts cannot accomplish.

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