



CHRISTMAS OUT OF DOORS

By GERALD PRIME.
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IN these days of vigorous bodily exercise, when athletics have assumed the dignity of a science and the out of door life is lived by so many persons of all ages, a shut-in Christmas would be regarded by most of us as an actual hardship. The charm of the Yule log and the sentiment of the firelit chimney corner are as potent as ever, but the crisp winter atmosphere is a powerful rival. There are so many attractions outside if only the day is as the typical Christmas day should be—cold, it matters little how cold, with an abundance of snow and sunshine.

The lure of the open is especially fascinating on Christmas day. There are so many reasons why the mere going and coming from the church service should not be all of it. That pair of skates fresh from the storehouse of Kris Kringle must be tried out before the day is over, and that bright colored sled must have its initial spin. It would never do to postpone the christening of that stunning muff



THE YORKSHIRE PEASANT LAD

until tomorrow, and that subtle toque must have its first airing ere the Christmas sun goes down.

It is the day of gladsome outdoor winter life. That is true not only in this land of ours, but in all the countries in which the festival is observed. The Yorkshire peasant lad rises be-

piece de resistance of an American winter holiday past, but showed here apparently powerfully to him. The sturdy Scandinavian, impervious to wind and weather, seeks his Christmas idyll in the frozen ford. With ready axe he cuts a hole in the thick ice and through it extracts the speckled beauty

Each winter finds more American men and women willing to follow the example of Mr. Pickwick and his fellow members of the Pickwick club in occasionally devoting a day to the thrilling sports of that season of the year, and Christmas day is likely to be chosen. Nearly every country which



AT ITS MADDEST AND MERRIEST.

which helps to make his perfect Christmas.

But the palate is not the only thing, nor, indeed, chief. Winter sports are at their apogee on Christmas day. Play in the open is at its maddest and merriest. The country hillsides are alive with gleeful coasters of both sexes and of all ages, and the small rivers and wooded streams are fields of joyous activity. Fortified with the Christmas good cheer, which has been dispensed so liberally, the bracing air has no sting for this jubilant humanity, and everybody and his friend appear in the open.

Not alone in the heaven made country, but even in the man made town, is the spell of the open in full development on Christmas day. The artificial ponds and lakes are aglow with brightly arrayed moving figures, and every mound and elevation on which the snow is lodged is peopled with those

has a season of snow and ice and is sufficiently "civilized" has its national winter sport. In one country it is skating, in another tobogganing, in a third curling and in another coasting. Apparently every modern country has discovered some way of getting pleasure out of the slipperiness of snow and ice.

The Christmas snow sports are even greater in variety, for the opportunity is broadened by the unevenness of the earth's surface. In Canada snowshoeing, tobogganing and sleighing are



THE STURDY SCANDINAVIAN.

sports whose memories color the feelings of every son and daughter of the north country who wanders from home toward the south. Norway is the home of the skee. Coasting with runners on one's feet is a sport which taxes nerve and muscle, for it calls for quick decisions and action at times, especially when an abyss unexpectedly looms up in front. To the uninitiated—and, for that matter, a great many of the initiated—the ability of the masters to turn somersaults on skees is one of the accomplishments of the sport to be viewed with admiration and wonder, but it is a feat attempted by the few only. The fascination of the skee has captured the sport loving persons of other countries.



CHRISTMAS IN LAPLAND.

times and visits his traps to discover what good fortune has contributed to his Christmas spread. Hares enough to tax his strength in getting them home await him. He knows nothing of the toothsome bird which is the

who, bravely indeed, are making the most of it. It is but a sorry substitute for the wealth of opportunity which nature has poured out upon the country, but it is accepted cheerfully, especially on Christmas day.



THE LIGHT QUESTION

The bell has sounded the knell of kerosene, gasoline lights and other forms of incompetent illumination. Are you ready to quit them?

Haven't you tolerated them long enough?

There was a time when burning pitch faggots furnished the only means of artificial illumination folks knew about. And it was considered sufficient.

Then came the tallow dip, and everybody discarded his pitch faggot in disgust.

The tallow candle was next to exert its supremacy over the tallow dip, and folks were glad.

The next step of development was kerosine lamps, and they in their turn were welcomed as a pleasing step in the right direction.

Then came the gasoline lights, which Jacksonville tried and cast into the junk pile several years ago.

And now as a logical development of science, we have the greatest of all illuminants—electricity.

Maybe some day something will replace electricity.

But the probability isn't strong enough to justify us in waiting for it.

No other form of artificial illumination equals electricity in brilliancy, safety, neatness, healthfulness, economy and cheerfulness.

Electric light emits no fumes or odors, and is the true hygienic light for living rooms and bed rooms.

The fact that electric light consumes no oxygen, like all open flame lights do, proves it to be the healthiest light known.

It keeps the air as pure and wholesome as if no light were burning at all.

The importance of this one feature is readily apparent when it is known that an open flame light burns more oxygen, from a room, than four persons would breathe.

No matches. No dangerous, dirty matches are needed in the home that is electrically lighted.

No washing and filling of lamps, no danger of explosions; no danger of leaks; no plumber's bills; no flickering flame to be blown out by a sudden gust of wind; no fine wedge of soot continually emanating from your light to be deposited on curtains, draperies, and furnishings.

When you want to flood your home with light, simply turn the button. Think hard now—don't you want it?

Sometime
Somewhere
Somehow

You may be able to obtain better groceries than we are selling but not in Medford.

Rex Grocery Co.

Plain Facts

You will lose money in purchasing your holiday goods, especially

DIAMONDS, CUT GLASS, WATCHES, GOLD AND SILVERWARE, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, ETC.

if you fail to see us.



All we ask is the opportunity to show you our stock, as values are such that you will not leave the store without buying.

Medford Loan Office

Corner of Central Avenue and Main.



THE ROGUE RIVER LAND COMPANY

NO. 11 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE

Offers an especially good foothill orchard for a low price and on good terms. In these days of advancing prices, it will pay to look into this.

It pays to deal with the "Man Who Knows." When the Rogue River Land Company sold the Tronson & Guthrie orchard at Eagle Point to the prize winning owners, four years ago, the salesman, W. M. Holmes, assured the purchasers those Spitzenbergtrees would produce the world's best apples, and subsequent events prove the soundness of his judgment. By the way: Did it ever occur to you that most of the men who have won out in the Rogue River Valley, bought their winning orchards through the Rogue River Land Company?

W. M. Holmes, Manager, is always at your service for a good buy.

Removal Sale

FOR ONE WEEK BEGINNING DEC. 27 WILL SELL AT GREAT REDUCTION ALL STOCK NOW ON HAND TO MAKE ROOM FOR NEW STOCK IN MY NEW STORE.

ALL CUT GLASS, STERLING SILVER, TOILET ARTICLES, GOLD RINGS, CHAINS, LOCKETS, BRACELETS, FOBS IN GOLD AND GOLD FILLED, WILL BE SOLD AT ONE-FOURTH OFF REGULAR PRICES. ALL WATCHES (EXCEPT THOSE OF RESTRICTED PRICES) AT

One-Fifth Off

THIS STOCK IS ALL FRESH, NEW GOODS OF THE LATEST DESIGNS AND AT THESE REDUCTIONS ARE AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES.

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE. THE PLACE IS 135 W. MAIN STREET, THE NEW STORE WILL BE NEXT THE NEW BANK ACROSS THE STREET AFTER JANUARY 1ST.

GEO. A. BUTT
THE JEWELER