



Mounds of dolls surround Mrs. Harold Westrich, St. Louis, where the Christmas spirit flourishes the year round. About 1,000 used playthings have been refurbished by Mrs. Westrich and are being turned over to the Brotherhood of Religious Organizations for distribution to needy children at Christmas. (UPI Telephoto)

### Books Reviewed For Study Club

Mrs. M. M. Morris used the book, "Land Between" by Frances Copeland, for the basis of her talk given at The Wednesday Study club meeting December 2 at Girls Community club.

The author, a young Seattle librarian, inherited her interest in the Middle East; her father and mother taught at American university at Beirut. The author also spent three years teaching in American Community school, Beirut.

"Land Between" is composed of five nations, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Israel, which are known as Arab countries.

The author spent five years in the Middle East and her sympathetic observations are written with great love and affection, the reviewer said. She compares their way of life with that in this country, describes people of the city and country and compares the old and modern.

Mrs. Paul B. Rynning gave a talk on "The President's Music Men," namely United States Marine band, which was organized in 1798. The "musicks" made their debut at a White House reception given by President Adams on New Year's Day, 1801.

President Jefferson's sensitive ear was offended by sour notes and he had trained musicians brought over from Italy to join the group.

Mrs. Rynning told how John Philip Sousa joined the band when he was 13 years old and later was their leader for 12 years. He wrote many marches which proved immortal.

The band now numbers one hundred and varied groups play at all White House functions. The band also tours the country giving performances and is always booked months in advance.

Brown and serve sausage links, cut into 1/2-inch pieces, can be added directly to bread stuffing without precooking. Old-style sausage should be browned and drained before being used in stuffing.

Apricot bread stuffing makes a good accompaniment for duck. Combine 5 tablespoons melted shortening, 5 cups of 1/2-inch bread cubes, 2 cups chopped cooked apricots, 2/3 cup washed, seedless raisins, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and 1/2 teaspoon chopped parsley.

### Russian Religion Said 'Almost Non-Existent'

Religious life in Russia is "almost non-existent" and it is "almost illegal" to profess one's faith publicly, Dr. Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of Medford schools, told Medford Methodist Men and their wives Wednesday evening at a dinner at First Methodist church.

Dr. Mayfield reported on his observations during his trip this fall to the Soviet Union with other American educators. He reported that church people, an estimated 400,000 out of a population of 200,000,000, are second class, if not third class, citizens with no chance of becoming leaders in the Union. There is religious freedom "on paper," Mayfield stated, but actually there is no such freedom.

No law prohibits church meetings, the educator reported, but they are discouraged through various means. There are many old church structures and cathedrals, according to Mayfield. However, they are not used for churches now. Mayfield noted, with one possible exception, no churches in the smaller communities. People, he stated, have to go to the larger cities to attend. Russians cannot become church members until they are 18-years-of-age, Mayfield learned.

The superintendent said that the Orthodox Russian church cannot be compared with the Protestant and Catholic faiths since the orthodox churches seem to be under authority of accepted officials working with Communist leaders. Mayfield told of attending two church services. He said that people in the churches were typical to people in America except for different dress. He reported services somewhat similar to those in this country except that three ministers talked. He stated that members of the congregation became quite emotional. Mayfield said it was inspiring to sit through the services and he described the singing as "wonderful" and "just terrific."

In the Leningrad church, Mayfield said, members of the congregation formed two lines out to the street and the Americans had to shake hands with every one.

do something about it, Mayfield stated. He said that the same thing is happening in connection with burials.

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### Senior Center To Show Pictures Taken in Japan

Dr. Jouett P. Bray will be a guest speaker for a meeting of the Arm Chair Travel group Monday, December 7, at 1 p.m. Dr. Bray will show pictures of Japan to the members of the Senior Activity center at that time.

These pictures were taken during a six months stay in Japan when Dr. Bray visited his son, Dr. William D. Bray, a professor of theology in the Methodist University, Kwansai Gakuin, where he has taught for six years. Dr. Bray was recently elected president of the Methodist Missionary Council of Japan.

The colored slides will show life of the people as well as scenery and architecture.

Other classes at the center will continue as usual. The wood carving class did not work last week but instead members were guests of one of the class, Mrs. Bernice Janosky, at her home in Jacksonville. Luncheon was followed by a visit to the museum and a tour of old homes and historic places.

Mrs. Janosky's home is filled with interesting collections of antiques both in glass and wood and her collections of dolls and ceramics is also noteworthy. The class will meet Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock and will welcome new members.

The ruffed grouse is also known as mountain pheasant, thunder bird, partridge and drummer.

### European Christmas Food Said Varied as Scenery

By PAM MIXTER  
United Press International  
London — If you wanted to eat your way around Europe this Christmas, you would have a menu as varied as scenery and customs.

Let's start in Norway. On the eastern coast dinner consists of fried pork - ribs eaten cold with sauerkraut and boiled potatoes. Boiled cod is featured in the northern districts.

A dish peculiar to Bergen is called "pinne-kjoett," which is dried and salted mutton, steam-boiled on a grate of birch sticks. All dishes are washed down with beer and aquavit, as in the other Scandinavian countries.

In Sweden, Christmas ham is eaten. A special dish reserved for Christmas Eve dinner is dried fish, salted and eaten with a fine white sauce and boiled rice.

A pig's head complete with apple in its mouth is another holiday treat. An old tale in Sweden says that whichever child finds the almond in his bowl of Christmas porridge will be the first one married.

In Denmark, the Christmas feast is sure to include roast goose or pork with red cabbage, rice porridge (boiled in milk and served with warm, sugared beer), and a fish appetizer. Roast turkey also is fast gaining ground because of Anglo-American influence.

In England, no Christmas dinner would be complete without roast turkey or other

poultry and all the trimmings. The meal is ended with plum pudding or mince pie or both.

The Germans will tuck their nappkins in for a feast of roast goose stuffed with meat, chestnuts, apples or raisins. Sometimes cooked fish, specially carved, is served.

Due to the influence of the American occupation forces turkey is now the number two dish in Germany.

German bakers go all out during the holiday season in turning out special sweets. There is Christmas stollen, a heavy cake in bread loaf form, heavily spiced with almonds, raisins, candied lemon and orange peel. Another favorite is a colorful cake in the form of a log or tree trunk trimmed with frosting to look like bark. There also are fancy-shaped cookies, biscuits and gingerbread.

The customary dish in Austria is Danube River carp, fried in bread crumbs and served with potato salad and white wine. The meal is topped off with Vienna pastry hidden under mounds of whipped cream.

Heading southward, fish becomes the traditional dish. In Italy, where no meat is eaten on Christmas Eve, capitone (a big eel) is the main dish. Throughout the holiday, a dessert of panettone is offered. This is a light and not too sweet cake, filled with bits of candied fruit shaped like sand molded by a child's pail.

Spain usually features roast duck for dinner. Its next door neighbor, Portugal, sits down to "bacalhau" or codfish, the most popular main dish on the Christmas Eve menu. Portuguese meals usually begin with "sopa de lacassar," a fine noodle soup with shrimp and bamboo shoots where available.

Next comes "empada," or fish pie, in a sweet crust the texture of corn bread. The piece de resistance is codfish strips in tomato and onion sauce with generous individual helpings of olive oil. Sweetmeats are also a Christmas specialty, made from recipes handed down through the ages.

There is "aluar," a small delicacy of molasses, butter and mince nuts eaten in strips. Or you can wrap an eye tooth around "angel's soles," a shortbread cookie coated with sugar frosting or "bride's hair," coconut fingers sugar-dipped in egg.

Theodora is the Greek word for "gift of God."

### Designer Camouflages Overweight

United Press International  
Statisticians say that 60 per cent of American women are short-waisted and from five to 20 pounds overweight.

But fashion know-how can camouflage the awful truths of the mirror and the bathroom scale, says Mrs. Elta Gurtzel, manufacturer of half-size and petite dresses.

The half-size shopper can wear color if it's properly muted. For example, pearl grey, silver and gunmetal in dull finishes and light weight but firm woollens are slimming. Red, green and blue, mixed with the right amount of depth, also are becoming to the larger figure, Mrs. Gurtzel said.

Avoid front zippers, front seams, and waistlines that droop at the front. Don't choose a dress which pulls across the shoulder blades or shows a bulge above your girdle.

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