

Fireproof Your Christmas Tree—Be Sure Of Safety

HELEN P. STINE

Christmas, the time for sleigh bells, neighborly visits and good cheer, is also a time of many home fires. During past years a good many homes have been burned to the ground due to fires which started in the Christmas tree, spread to nearby curtains or furniture, then enveloped the home.

Here are a few timely safety suggestions for persons who will have Christmas trees in their homes this year:

1. Make certain your Christmas tree light electrical system is in good working order.
2. Do not use combustible tree decorations.
3. Choose a spot in the room to place the tree where it will not ignite nearby curtains or furniture if it should catch fire.
4. Place the tree where its accidental burning cannot trap occupants of a room. This is especially important in churches or schools where large crowds will be gathering.
5. Do not use lighted wax candles on the tree.
6. Take care that presents placed under the tree which are combustible or are wrapped in inflammable wrappings are free from lighted tree decorations and electrical circuits.

A simple home formula is available for fireproofing materials. Mix seven ounces of borax with three ounces of boric acid in two quarts of water until the solid material is dissolved. Fireproofing can then be done by dipping or sprinkling. The best job is accomplished by thorough saturation. Fabrics, after drying, may be ironed.

Christmas trees, as well as flowers respond well to being kept with the base in water and to having the original cut replaced with one further up the trunk.

By keeping the base of the tree trunk in water, it will stay fresh longer, thereby keeping its beauty and reducing the fire hazard.

The U. S. forest service after test-

ing various chemicals, determined that plain water is the best preservative. When water is used, the needles on the tree will not discolor or fall.

The extension forester makes the following recommendations for those who intend to preserve their Christmas trees in this manner:

1. Buy a tree which has been cut as recently as possible.
2. Cut off the end of the trunk diagonally, at least one inch above the original cut. This will expose a moist surface which will absorb water. Stand the trunk of the tree in water at once and, if it is not to be taken into the house for several days, keep it in a cool place.

When ready to bring the tree into the house, here are two suggestions on how the problem of keeping the tree in water may be accomplished. Stand the tree in a bucket and by the use of sand, heavy stones or bricks the tree can be kept erect. Of course, water in the bucket will also act to firm the foundation of the tree.

It is also possible for an ingenious handy-man-around-the-house carpenter to construct a tree frame which will allow the base of the trunk to set in a small water vessel. Such stands are on the market and once obtained may be used indefinitely.

In the house, place the tree where it will not be close to heating devices such as radiator, stoves or open fireplaces. Renew water in the vessel occasionally, as the tree absorbs it rather rapidly.

Caffrey Quits As Head Of SEC

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—James J. Caffrey resigned Wednesday as chairman of the securities and exchange commission.

In a letter to President Truman, Caffrey said he was resigning because of "family responsibility which I can no longer ignore."

He will enter private practice of law in New York.

Extension Unit News

Chiloquin

Party planning was the theme of the December 11 meeting of the Chiloquin home extension unit which met at the home of Mrs. Gerry Wolff. One game section was led by Mrs. John Lott and the remainder of the demonstration was under the direction of Mrs. William Pribe and Mrs. Wolff.

General instructions for converting games to meet specific occasions were given, and mimeographed details for holiday favors and decorations were distributed.

During the business meeting led by the chairman, Mrs. Walter Collins, Mrs. Earl Hall reported that the December 6 cooked food and apron sale netted approximately \$25.

On January 13 and 14, Helen Stine, county home extension agent, will instruct women from Modoc Point, Fort Klamath and Chiloquin in making footstools. The meetings will be all-day sessions held in the basement of the Methodist church. Committees were appointed to prepare lunches for those days.

Mrs. George Brautacht was appointed vice chairman to fill the vacancy left when Mrs. Alfred Castel Jr. moved to Fort Klamath, and Mrs. Earl Hall and Mrs. Gerry Wolff will act as hobby co-chairmen for the remainder of the year.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 22, at the home of Mrs. Fred Markwardt. A new member rally is planned for that time.

Poe Valley-Ole ne

"Party Planning" was the subject taken up at the December 12 meeting of the Poe Valley-Ole ne home extension unit held at the Ole ne community hall.

Mrs. George Reiling and Mrs. Melvin Peigi were project leaders for this meeting which was especially interesting coming at the holiday

season when parties are planned and family gatherings held. Games, songs and appropriate table decorations were aptly explained by the leaders and everyone enjoyed trying out the games and songs.

Table favors were so simple that they could be prepared in any home with little expense or trouble.

At noon there was a Christmas gift exchange followed by dinner at a beautifully decorated table. The business meeting in the afternoon was presided over by the chairman, Mrs. O. L. Brown, assisted by Mrs. Ed Weisz, secretary.

Christmas wishes were expressed in answering roll call by the 18 members present.

Mrs. Francis Freuer read a poetry letter from a relative in England. It was cleverly written, thanking American friends and relatives for food gifts received.

The last hour was spent working with shellcraft, the unit's hobby. At the next meeting textile painting will be taken up for a hobby with Mrs. Wilbur Reiling and Mrs. George Reiling as instructors. The date is January 9 at 10:30 a. m., the place, the Rex High home in Poe Valley. Newcomers are always welcome to attend the meeting and join the unit.

BONANZA

"Party Planning" was the topic discussed by the Bonanza extension unit on December 9, when members met at the home of Mrs. Henry Schmor at 10:30 a. m.

Plans were discussed for the "footstool" school to be conducted in January by Helen Stine, home demonstration agent, at the Bonanza high school.

A pollock luncheon was enjoyed at noon by all the 11 members present. The project was demonstrated in the afternoon by leaders, Mrs. Lloyd Hankins and Mrs. Benson Dixon.

Much fun was had playing some of the games suggested by the extension leader, Irene Roberts.

The next meeting will be on January 13, 1:30 p. m. at the Bonanza library with Mrs. Donald Ralph and Mrs. Fred Fernland as hostess.

Pre-Christmas Specials

- Hand-Print Cloths, 54x54 \$1.99
- Embroidered Pillow Cases \$2.99
- Ladies' Fine Linen Hankies \$1.00
- Linen Dresser Scarfs \$1.49
- Hand-Emb. Dinner Cloths 25% off
- Irish Linen Damask Sets 25% off
- Hand-Emb. Bridge Sets 25% off

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Medford Calls School Bids

Bids on the new construction work to be done on the Medford Junior high school will be opened on January 6, Tuesday, in the Medford school district office in the city hall at 4 p. m. It was announced today.

The new wing to be constructed in addition to the girls' locker and shower rooms being built now and was designed by Howard H. Perrin, Klamath Falls architect, who also drew the plans for the girls' section.

Two stories high to match the rest of the structure, the new wing will include eight classrooms, a combination gymnasium-auditorium, 72 by 98 feet, plus boys' locker and shower rooms. The gym will have a stage 72 feet wide by 24 feet deep.

For a future that assures you security, choose the United States navy.

Coal, Grain Ships Head For France

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Emergency shipments of American coal and grain moved toward France today as the first dividend of the congress-approved plan to rush help to Western Europe.

Government officials disclosed that cargoes of American supplies to be paid for with U. S. funds left East coast ports within the past few days in anticipation of President Truman's signature of the \$597,000,000 bill finally approved Monday by both house and senate.

State department planners jumped the gun on arranging to pay for these initial shipments because of what they called the urgent need to keep a continuous supply of food and fuel moving to France.

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Snow white is breath-taking against the Winter landscape. It's fresh and clean as crisp morning air. You're sure to want a white dress cut along casual lines, or one that's date-able. A white flared wool coat, short or newly long. Budget priced, of course.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

★ Our thanks to all our customers who have purchased our turkeys through Hanson's Market in Piggly Wiggly, the Quality Market, and the Fairway Market in Tulelake, and direct from us. The season's greetings also to all those we were unable to serve because of late orders. We will be happy to help you next year if you will contact us early.

★ Your Christmas turkeys are still being offered at the above markets and at our Merrill plant.

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