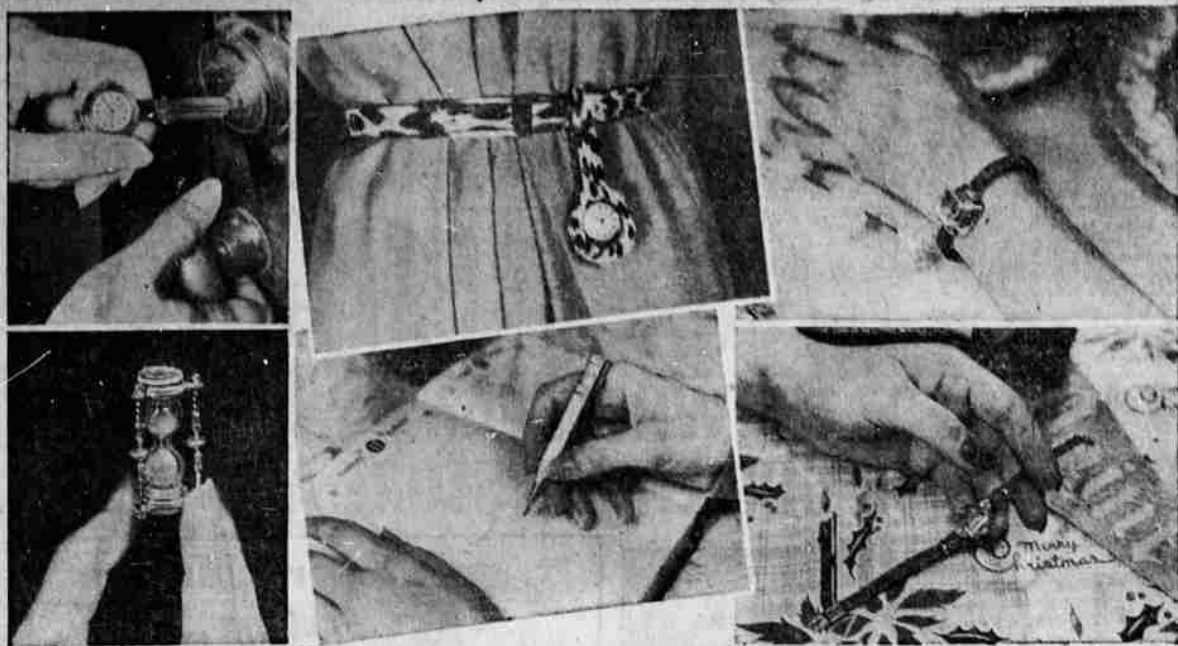
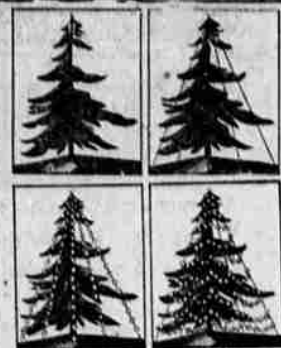




GIFT WATCHES FOR WOMEN include these unusual and handsome designs this year. Precision watch (upper left) is mounted on attached key that's ready to be filed to fit any lock. Leopard belt (upper center) has reticule attached that's fitted with a pocket watch. For wear after 5 is a watch (upper right) with square platform crystal one-half inch high held in place by tiers of yellow gold set with sapphires. Unique hour glass watch (lower left) is both watch and authentic hour glass. The dial is concealed in the top of the frame. Precise watch is fitted (lower center) into a solid gold pencil for purse or desk use. For the teenager, there's an all-purpose watch (lower right) with square dial, high crystal, and case in gold wire work.



Light Trick Squares Up Gawky Trees

Don't let whopper-jawed shrubbery discourage your plans for outdoor Christmas decorating. Those lop-sided evergreens in your front yard can be turned into symmetrical beauties with a few tricks of lighting.

Here are suggestions for ways General Electric holiday lighting experts "straighten up" whopper-jawed trees without interfering with their natural lines in the least.

As shown on the top left above, fasten two narrow pieces of wood with screw eyes to the upper part of the tree trunk. Tie firmly in place with tape. Now, as shown in the drawing at the top left, string wires from the screw eyes to the ground in a cone shape and fasten securely with wooden pegs driven into the ground.

Now, fasten strings of outdoor Christmas lights to the wires rather than to the branches of your tree.

As shown in the drawing left above, lights may be arranged vertically or, as sketched at the lower right above, in graceful loops, merely by draping strings of lights horizontally over the wire frame.

While this idea is particularly good for unsightly trees, it may also be used on perfectly shaped trees.

Christmas also was banned for a time in this country—in the early commonwealth of Massachusetts.



CATCHING SANTA CLAUS by surprise is the dream of every youngster at Christmas, but it's hard to tell whether the youngsters are (top left) more overcome by the presence of St. Nick or by the toys he brings. Here are several items for the very young—zoo blocks, a doll with hair that grows, plastic-coated washable paper dolls and early American transportation toys.



COLOGNE COLLECTION—Variety is more than the spice of a teenager's life... it's her very life. No gift she receives will delight her more than Prince Matchabelli's cologne collection, with six distinctively different fragrances in scepter-shaped bottles, all arranged merry-go-round fashion in a gaily decorated transparent hatbox. The scents are Beloved, Crown Jewel, Stradivari, Duchess of York, Ave Maria and Katherine the Great.

Befana, the Lost Legend

One of the little known legends of the Christmas season is that of Befana, the ancient woman of Palestine who was too busy with her housework to view the Three Kings of the Orient passing on their way to bear their rich offerings to the infant Jesus.

She would, said Befana, see them on their return.

But the Three Kings, unknown to Befana, returned by a different route and she is supposed to still be fruitlessly waiting for them.

Her influence, in Italy, is epitomized by the representation of an old woman, who watches over little children who, on the eve of Epiphany, hang their stockings before the hearth fire before they go to bed.

Epiphany is the church festival commemorating the 12th day after the birth of Jesus, the day of the coming of the Magi to him in Bethlehem. It is observed on Jan. 6.

Day of Peace

It's difficult to believe that Christmas Day, the almost universal day of peace and good will, once was illegal.

That happened in England during the ascendancy of the strait-laced Puritans. A law was passed in 1644 decreeing Dec. 25 a market day, and ordering all shops to stay open.

The Puritans also banned the making of mince pies and plum puddings as a pagan custom.



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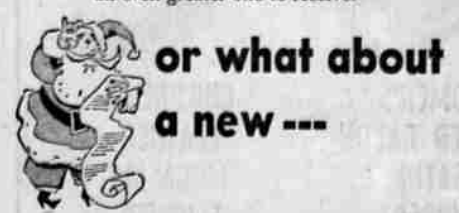
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