



A CAR IS DWARFED by the massive snowbanks plowed out along Rim Village at Crater Lake National Park.



IDAHO CARS were among those visiting Crater Lake last spring when the snow was still piled up deep and thick around the rim.

American Children Receive Huge Amount Of Toys During Traditional Christmas

The toys that American children receive, use, lose, break and wear out in a year ring up \$900 million in the cash registers of toy stores and counters all over the country. That national debt-like figure is not a mistake, it's the word of Melvin Freud, president of the Toy Guidance Council, which helps parents buy play equipment just right for their youngsters.

Most of this business comes about because Christmas is a children's time and most people feel Christmas is just a bother unless they can shop for some kid—any kid. But even the Toy Guidance Council has no idea how many of these dollars go for toys that are for youngsters the wrong age, the wrong interests and the wrong environment. It's something they don't like to think about, since they spend their time trying to get a toy and moppet together happily.

But hang around the toy department and you'll see it happen: the man with the three-month-old baby buys a dump truck or a stuffed animal with a shoe-button eye that will appeal to the child as a prospective edible; an auntie will buy a darling doll for a child who is squirming valiantly to get

bringing out more and more toys that give kids a chance to do rather than look.

A toy tool set by Skil-Craft, a kitchen set by American Metals Specialties, a kit of scale model locomotives by Northwestern Products, the Doepke Company's model sports car, Kenner Products' "Play a Story With Dolly," Plastic Block City's blocks with many building possibilities, Model-Craft's sculpture and paint set and Hassenfeld Brother's Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head with samples of toys children will develop their imaginations and hand skills on.

Also in this category are Bachmann Brothers' Plasticville U. S. A. Gaston Manufacturing's Doodle Face, Revell's Navy Gift Set, shipbuilding kit, Milton Bradley's East-O-Mats, Walco Bead's Pearl Jewelry Craft Set and Walter Herne's junior home decorator's set.

While children's imaginations provide them a rich world, with the help of a few adaptable toys, every youngster goes through a stage of finding out how things work. He wants tugboats that go, trucks that dump, ladders that extend, trains that puff and cars that can ride. But owing several of these toys will bring a poverty of the imagination rather than providing additional fun. Give him the one he's crazy for—and it's probably the one everyone in the neighborhood has. If relatives send many more such toys, put them away against the day his favorite breaks or for the next child.

Among the mechanical toys you have to pick from are sound, well-constructed items, such as Project Miniature's scale model International Diesel called Turn-Trac, Vintage Product's Zimcom signal box and U-Drive-It, a toy that

teaches safe driving. Others that may be just what your child craves are Kamkap's Supermarket, Doepke's fire engines, Structo Manufacturing's Road Grader, Aluminum Model Toy's Remote Control Pontiac, Bassons Industries' bicycle-drive sports car and the Castelli Motor Bike.

Games that invite the whole family's participation make good gifts. On the market this winter are two small-sized shuffleboard games: Carthage Mills O'Shuffle and Dimco-Gray's Indoor Shuffleboard. Board games available include Milton Bradley's Pathfinder and Swayze. Miniatures that are new are Northwestern Products Poosh-M-Up ice hockey and Gotham Pressed Steel's table model pool table. A new card-word game, Ball, is good for a solitaire game or for families up to four persons.

Dolls and doll equipment satisfy the little girl's early motherly impulses. On your toy counters will be Horman's "Love Me" doll, Playtime Product's Pink Pram, Holbe's Diane the Dancing Doll, and Belle's Gingham Girl Doll.

With their popularity on television, puppets and marionettes are welcome toys. Among those available are Zany Toy's hand puppets and Hazelle's Teto the Clown.

For the very youngest's Christmas, there is Plastray's suction cup dinner plate, Mem's soap figures, Gaston's Walt Disney wood block story book and Holbe's washable plastic animals.



CLOSED FOR THE WINTER. The checking station at the Annie Springs entrance to Crater Lake National Park.

Delights From The Kitchen Are Greatest Xmas Thrill

Wonders come from the stocking. Wonders are found under the tree. But it is the rich smell of the kitchen, redolent of many Christmases—ever different yet still the same—that is the wonder that holds the marvelous bauble of Christmas together.

Childhood holidays are remembered not for the bicycle or cowboy suit, but for the smell of coffee cake going in the oven, the fast delight of pickles blending with the scent of celery, the taste of tiny cookies and good coffee, the bite of punch.

Wise families may pare the Christmas budget down to nothing, but they will save enough to spend on the delights of the kitchen. If you have never experienced the delight of exquisite Christmas food, try this year, making the holiday a time of good food, lovingly made.

A chicken will do for the main meal if you can't go a turkey, but make it splendid and festive.

Get a book like Virginia Pasley's "Christmas Cookie Book"

and read until you are hungry. Then bake—cookies for gifts, for tea, for a jar in the kitchen, for the kids to decorate.

Plan Christmas breakfast as a calm time of joy.

Food is no foolish frippery. It lies close to the core of the family as a source of shared fun, good morsels.

If the kids are full of the season spirit, lead them to the kitchen where they may bake cranberry pies in small aluminum tins for their friends, put names on gingerbread men for the family.

It is true that the first thing we seek as a gift for those who have little, or those who do not live in America, is food. Without it, the brightest lights, the fanciest lawn decorations are as cold and uncomfortable as that foresighted soul who completes the Christmas shopping in October.

Keep gingerale on hand in quantity, or lots of fruit juice, for the children of Christmas season callers who are always thirsty.



BICYCLE plus is this motor bike. Complete with "instruments" and plastic windshield, it has chain drive.



ZANY Hand Puppet has head of flexible plastic and pre-shrunk body. Comes in both animal and human faces.

to the hammer toys; granny will pick out an expensive movie projector for a child who craves a wagon.

But the right combination is a joy to see: Junior gravitates to the package most likely to be his holster set, opens it and the parents need no thanks. He's off to the imaginary pampas of the kitchen to pick up his horse, stabled in the broom closet.

The manufacturers who stuff the Christmas pack with toys have brought out a top-notch selection this year, with an eye firmly on the do-it-yourself-trend. Children are the original home builders of furniture mountains, houses under the desk, horries out of brooms; so it is natural that toy makers are

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