

Desert Christmas With Decorations

Yuletide Atmosphere Was Enjoyed by Stranded Trio on Sandy Trail.

By ELEANOR E. KING

TORRID sun shone down upon a stranded automobile. The car with seeming unconcern stood in the middle of the road. One hesitates in even applying the term road to this jumbled sandy, corduroy trail extending endless miles with nothing on either side of it to break the monotony of the sandless waste save here and there a spiky cactus. Two feet sticking out from underneath the car showed the location of one of the occupants. Another member of the party was perched on the running board not far from the two feet. Mr. Graham, a man of perhaps forty-five years and father of the young man now on his back solving the mysteries of a balky car, was studying the instruction book.



"It looks to me like a burned-out bearing," came a voice from under the engine. "And if it is, mother, you and I might just as well pitch camp and get settled for the next few days." Mr. Graham's perfect resignation was the product of the previous three week's Western auto trip experiences. "Mother" emerged from the back seat, and the couple set to work unloading the car in the late afternoon desert sunshine. That evening, as they sat down to their meal at the little camp table, Mr. Graham said: "Not getting to that next town rather spoils our little plan for Christmas."

"Utah's Great American desert is certainly one fine place for the car to break down," burst forth Tom. "Imagine tomorrow being Christmas with all this heat. Those stories I grew up on back East about Santa, snow and reindeer would never do out in this section. Here Santa needs a camel." The weary troop sought their beds early. Tom, being assured by the heavy breathing of his mother and father that they were asleep, bounced out of bed. Getting a bunch of paper napkins and towels out of the car, and a pair of scissors, he returned to his cot, proceeding to cut them into long ribbon-like strips. Some of the paper he crushed into balls, tying a piece of string to each one of them. Then suddenly he remembered that long, long ago, when he had been in school, by folding a piece of paper several times and cutting different-sized pieces from the fold, they had created all sorts of designs. He made a dozen or more of these lacey, openwork patterns. Next he cut a large star. To be sure, it was a little lopsided, but it had five points, and anyone could guess what it was supposed to be. Tom now looked around for some heavier paper out of which he might make a cornucopia.



Gathering up the results of his labors, he made his way to a huge cactus some ten or fifteen feet from the machine. The star Tom put on the topmost spiny prickle of the plant. The ribbon-like strips he twisted and draped around the plant, making use of the needles in joining the short pieces together. If not artistic when finished, the cactus certainly looked festive. Tom surveyed his masterpiece with a chuckle. Grabbing a sheet of paper, he began to cut out some letters. These letters, strung together on a piece of twine, were hung across the cactus. "Now there will be no chance for guesswork with that 'Merry Christmas' across the front." He gave a last look and tumbled into bed. "Merry Christmas! Wake up, young man." Tom blinked at his father, who laughingly said, as he pointed to the bedecked cactus, "You see, we did have a white Christmas after all, thanks to a good fairy."

Oh, there always will be troubles. Spite of all that we can do, But, so far as I can figure, There is no use being blue. If I ever take to preaching I will choose this for my text: Count your blessings, 'stead of guessing What darn thing is coming next. Though nobody is shivering yet, It looks as though the sizzlers hold of summer has been broken.

SOMETHING NEW in HOLIDAY MENUS



THOSE big red letter days on the calendar mean particularly sumptuous dinners to the average American housewife. Her family expects something in the nature of roast turkey, duck or chicken. Of course, the home manager doesn't want to serve the same thing each year and as a consequence, she spends hours in hunting recipes and planning new things in the menu line.

The appended menus for the holiday dinner and supper may prove a welcome change to your family.

- Dinner. Grapefruit Baskets Nuts Olives Celery Roast Duck Giblet Gravy Peanut Stuffing, Mashed Sweet Potatoes With Marshmallows Spiced Peaches, Cauliflower au Gratin Bread Stuffed Tomato Salad Cheese Straws Butter Individual Pumpkin Pie With Whipped Cream Sauce Coffee

- Supper. Cream of Tomato Soup Croutons Fruit Salad With Whipped Cream Sauce Cheese Crackers Assorted Cakes Nuts Chocolate Pumpkin Pie. 1 1/2 cupfuls pumpkin strained 2 tbsps orange juice 1/2 cupful brown sugar 1 tsp ginger 2 eggs 1 tsp cinnamon 1 cupful evaporated milk 1/2 cupful water 2 tbsps salt

Add the sugar and seasoning to the pumpkin, then add the slightly beaten eggs, milk and water. Stir till well blended and pour in a deep crust-lined pan. Bake at 450 degrees Fahrenheit for first 10 minutes and 300 degrees Fahrenheit for 50 minutes.

Remove leaves and trim off the stalk from large cauliflower. Soak in a solution of 1 tbsps vinegar, 1 tsp salt and 1 quart of water for 15 minutes to remove dirt and insects. Cook whole, stem up, in boiling salted water for seven minutes. Place cauliflower in an oiled baking dish, pour over a thin evaporated milk white sauce and cover with buttered crumbs and grated cheese. Brown in a moderate oven. This serves six.

Make a white sauce of the diluted evaporated milk, the butter and flour. Cook the tomatoes with the seasoning for five minutes and strain. There should be 3/4 cups of pulp. Add soda to pulp and combine with the hot white sauce. Pour immediately into thermos bottles.

Chill the cream and evaporated milk. Combine and whip until stiff. Fold in the sugar and keep chilled until ready to serve.

Rank Health With Three "R's" Is Plea

As an educational subject for children, health should hold equal rank with the three "R's" in the curriculum of public schools. Doctors declare that without a healthy, sturdy body it is impossible for the child to have a healthy, happy mind. Neglect of childhood defects may result in permanent physical impairment later on. Many childhood ills are traceable directly to malnutrition. High school students especially need a variety in foods for at this age their growth is rapid. The protein or "building food" should be abundant for high school boys and girls. When they buy their luncheons, high school pupils are apt to display a preference for chocolate sodas, cream puffs and candy. An appetizing luncheon put up at home is much to be preferred to the sort the boy or girl might obtain at the corner store near the school.

Meat is all right for the school luncheon but it should be put up in tempting form. If sliced thin it is more appetizing in sandwiches than if in thick pieces. Beverages or soup may be carried in thermos bottles but the bottles must be carefully washed and aired daily after using. Milk is recommended for an important place in the boy's or girl's diet because of its proteins, minerals, phosphorus and calcium, necessary for the development of the body and in the case of calcium and phosphorus for the building of bone and teeth. Evaporated milk has come into favor as a health builder for children as well as adults because by removal of 80 per cent of the water it is rendered more than twice as rich in food value as ordinary milk and by a process called homogenizing more digestible than bottled market milk. Crisp lettuce and celery, carefully washed and dried, may be so wrapped in oil paper that they will be fresh and in good condition at lunch time. Lettuce should not be used in sandwiches for wilted lettuce is almost in-

and spent three months visiting the home of his ancestors across the ocean. They had a wonderful time, but Jacobs says he's never going away again until he retires from business. "I haven't any doubt," he explained to me, "that when I stop they'll get someone to look after things quite as well, if not better than I do, but so long as I draw the salary, I suppose I'm expected to take the responsibility. As long as you have a job, it's better to stick to it. It'll take me three years to correct all the things that were bungled or neglected or done wrong while I was gallivanting about Europe. As long as a job's yours, you'd better look after it, I say."

The electrician who hung the lantern over our front door broke one of the strips of glass in doing so. He could easily repair it, he said; there was plenty of glass like it in his shop. He'd look after it next day. It has been hanging there for weeks and the job is not yet done. Jacobs was gone this summer. He had not had a real vacation for ten years, so he took his wife and family

In Chicago's "Sky White House"



When President Coolidge visited Chicago to attend the opening session of the American Farm Bureau federation he occupied the "sky White House" which has been built on the top of the new Hotel Sherman, 300 feet above the street. It is a two-story Georgian dwelling, beautifully furnished and decorated. In the photograph workmen are shown putting on the finishing touches in one of the rooms.

STICKING BY THE JOB

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK, Dean of Men, University of Illinois.

THE house in which I am living was built more than twenty-five years ago, and not badly built either, but as I go around it I can still find things that were not quite finished. There is a strip of molding in the bathroom that is only lightly tacked on; a shelf is missing from one of the closets; a nail is only half driven into the baseboard, or something is left just short of finishing. The whistle had blown for the noon hour, the clock had struck six, or for some reason or other the workman had been called away from the job, and he had forgotten that anything had been left incomplete. It would have been better if he had stuck by his job until it was finished.

"It'll come back in a few days," the painter who was painting the front porch, said two years ago, "and touch up the back steps a little. They need a second coat. Just now I must go over to the Sheldon house. They want to move in." I've never seen him since, and the paint is wearing very thin on the back steps.

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NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN, that assessments have been levied for the construction of street and storm sewer improvements in Improvement District No. Two (2) of the City of Vernonia, Columbia county, Oregon, and that same were entered in the docket of City Liens on the 5th day of December, 1925, the number or

letter of each lot, part of lot, or parcel of land assessed and the number or letter of the block in which the same is situated, the name of the owners thereof and the sums assessed upon such lots, parts of lots or parcels of land being as follows:

Table with columns: Owner of Record, Block, Lot, Addition, Amount of Assessment. Lists various property owners and their assessed amounts.

The foregoing assessments are now due and payable, and if not paid within ten days from the last publication of this notice will become delinquent. Property owners who desire to avail themselves of the privilege of paying their assessments in installments under the provision of Sections 3788 to 3796, Oregon Laws, 1925, commonly referred to as the "Banking Bonding Act," may do so by filing their application therewith within ten (10) days from the date hereof, the same being the date of the first publication of this notice. Applications for such purpose may be procured from the Recorder. Dated this 11th day of December, 1925. D. B. REASONER, City Recorder

town and baseball all afternoon. Today we muled out to the corn field and ge-hawed until sundown. After we had supper, we piped for awhile. After we had piped we stair-cased up to the bedroom and bedstead until the clock fived." Friend: "What does your lodger do?" Landlady—"He's one of the greatest inventors of the age?" "Really? What has he invented?" "Well every month he invents another reason why he can't pay his rent."

NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN, that assessments have been levied for the construction of street and storm sewer improvements in Improvement District No. Three (3) of the City of Vernonia, Columbia county, Oregon and that same were entered in the docket of City Liens on the 5th day of December, 1925, the number or letter of each lot, part of lot, or parcel of land assessed and the number or letter of the Block in which the same is situated, the name of the owners thereof and the sums assessed upon such lots, parts of lots or parcels of land being as follows:

ASSESSMENT ROLL Improvement District Number Three, Vernonia, Ore. Including 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sts.

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