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Various Customs During Yule-tide

Observed by Aryans 2000 Years Before Christ

Was Birthday of the Sun

Puritans Long Discouraged Ob- servance but Dutch Fostered It; Pope Julius Set Date

With more than 600,000,000 throughout the world observing Yule-tide, the ceremonies, alike in most of their fundamental religious aspects, will differ materially in various countries as to details. Two thousand years before Christ, Yule-tide was celebrated by the Aryans, the great branch of the human family from which most of the Christian races are descended. The Aryans were sun-worshippers. Day by day, as the sun's power decreased, these primitive people feared he would be overwhelmed by darkness and remain forever in the underworld. When he apparently wheeled about and grew stronger, they felt he had been born again. The Hveolor-tid, or turning-time, therefore was a period of rejoicing at the annual re-birth of the sun. The origin of many Yule-tide customs may be found in the myths and legends of our Indo-European ancestors.

Balder, the sun god, was slain when the jealous fire-god, Loki, had him pierced through and through with a sprig of mistletoe, the only missile that could harm him. Gifts from the gods and goddesses were laid on Balder's bier, and he sent back gifts from the realm of darkness. It probably is from the Roman Saturnalia, however, that the custom of exchanging presents and much of the spirit of revelry is derived. Mistletoe, the "heal-all" of the Druids was held in peculiar reverence. It was cut by the chief priest with a golden sickle, used for no other purpose.

Since the fact of Christ's birth was not recorded and there was no certainty as to date, the early Christian Fathers wisely ascribed it to Yule-tide, and the birthday of the sun became that of the Son. The birth of Christ was celebrated on dates varying from the first to the sixth of January; on date of such festivals as the Jewish Passover, or the Feast of the Tabernacles. But December 25 was ever a favorite date. Pope Julius 337-352 A.D., after careful investigation considered it settled beyond doubt that Christ was born on December 25.

The holly, laurel, mistletoe of the Druids still serve as decorations of the season, standing as emblems of resurrection and immortal hope. New Year's day as a feast day is one of the oldest, being mentioned by Tacitus in the first century, but it is first referred to as a Christian festival about 567. The Romans dedicated the day to the god Janus, for whom January was named. Numa ordained it as a day of good fellowship, when grudges were to be forgotten and sacrifices of cake and wine made to the two-faced god who looked forward and backward.

Few countries have entered more heartily into Yule-tide observance than England. To the customs of the Druids were added many of the Romans and Saxons. The Yule-log, carols, the boar's head, mummings and the mystery plays, and the famous beverage of "lamb's-wool," made by bruising roaster apples and mixing the juice with ale or milk, all played a part in the observance.

There is some uncertainty as to the date of the first Christmas cards, but general opinion is that the initiative belongs to J. C. Horsley, R.A., who in 1846 on behalf of Sir Henry Cole, dispatched a card described as "an elaborate affair, showing two allegorical designs of clothing the naked and feeding the hungry, with a family group of three generations, quaffing wine."

Another custom originating in the United States, growing rapidly there and even spreading to other countries, is that of sending telegrams of greeting at Christmas or New Year's. Seeing the possibilities

Woodmen Initiate Class Of 12 Candidates Monday

One of the largest crowds that has ever attended a meeting of the Woodmen of the World was present at the regular meeting of Vernonia Camp 655 held in the K. P. hall Monday evening. Twelve candidates were initiated. More than 70 were present.

C. O. Samain, local organizer for the Woodmen, was present and expressed his surprise at the rapid growth of Vernonia Camp. Arrangements are being made to have the degree team go to Salem the latter part of January to put on a degree, this being the night when they are planning to initiate a class of 500.

H. A. Tays, captain of the drill team, surprised the Camp by marching his men into the lodge room in new snappy uniforms. Ray Charlesworth, leader of the band, presented the Camp with a bass horn, the only instrument lacking to complete the band.

A committee was appointed to see the members and secure funds with which to build the new modern hall. In less than 24 hours about one-third of the necessary money had been subscribed. It is the intention of the Camp to begin the new structure as soon as the weather will permit.

Trophies Recall Old Hill Climbing Days

Reminiscent of the old days, when curious crowds witnessed the hill-climbing contests between pioneer automobiles, is the collection of 18 cups now occupying an honored place in the factory of the Oakland Motor Car company at Pontiac, Mich.

Visitors to the general offices of the company—especially the veteran salesmen who dealt for many years with the automotive industry, frequently stop to read over the trophies recall the contests, which filled the newspapers of 1909, 1910 and 1911, when the public marveled at the audacity of motorists attempting hills which were difficult even for the horse-drawn vehicles of that day. The horse then was still king and many regarded these "horseless carriages" as cranky contraptions of little real value.

The power and mechanical perfection of modern cars prompts the average motorists to take for granted the fact that his automobile can climb practically any grade. But it was not so long ago that entire communities assembled to witness the puffing efforts of automobiles, resplendent in polished brass equipment, to struggle up "test hills" which today seldom necessitate even a change of gears.

The trophy inscriptions record the scenes of many such historic hill-climbing contests in addition to several early economy and reliability events. Among the famous test hills listed are Giant's Despair Climb at Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Jefferson Hill, Long Island; Thurlow Hills, Poland, Me.; Porter Hill, Cleveland, the heavy grades around Paris, Ill.; and Baltimore, Md; besides many others.

Minerals Needed.

"Minerals are required by dairy cows to supply their bodily needs when milking heavily," states Geo. A. Nelson, county agent, "as some of the feeds do not furnish a sufficient amount of minerals. The essential minerals are salt, calcium, iodine and phosphorus. The latter two are not of so much importance, except under certain conditions. Calcium (lime) is often deficient in crops grown on acid soils. The latter is supplied in the form of either wood ashes, ground lime stone or ground steamed bone flour, to be added to the grain ration at the rate of 4 pounds to 100 pounds of grain.

"Calcium can be obtained in any of these forms at a reasonable price and it is not necessary to buy expensive mixtures for this purpose."

Carrick-Blankenship.

G. T. Blankenship Jr. and Miss Virginia Carrick were married at St. Helens December 16 by Justice of the Peace John L. Storla. Mrs. Blankenship is a daughter of I. Carrick of Vernonia. Their many friends in Vernonia wish them much happiness.

St. Helens—New Columbia Theatre, costing \$48,000, is to be built by April 1.

Rainier canneries packed more than 100,000 cases salmon this year.

Fire Chief Smith Asks Santa Claus to Shave His Chin; Santa Agrees

Now Chief Wants Children to be Safe and Happy By Observing A Few Measures Christmas Day.

Santa Claus has asked Fire Chief E. L. Smith, who is also ex officio deputy state fire marshal, to act as his assistant in Vernonia and to see that all of the children help to make this a very Merry Christmas indeed. Chief Smith told Santa Claus that he would be glad to help if Santa would help to make Christmas a safe Christmas for himself and the "kiddies" by cutting off his whiskers.

Santa Claus promised Chief Smith that he would shave clean for this Christmas (or make them fireproof by the process given herewith), because whiskers are out of style anyhow and not sanitary; besides they sometimes catch on fire and burn him terribly. Now Chief Smith and Santa Claus love the little children of Vernonia and their dads and mothers, too, and they do not want them to be burned and crippled for life and their happy homes destroyed, so Chief Smith wants the kiddies of Vernonia to help him prevent fires, save precious lives and happy homes, by asking daddy and mamma to promise to "do" these things on this Christmas:

Avoid the use of candles and open flames for Christmas tree and other decorations. Look out for short circuits in electric wiring and connections.

In case candles are used, be sure that the flame can not possibly come in contact with the dry needles of the tree or any other flammable decorations, curtains or drapes.

Use nonflammable materials to represent snow and frost on and around the Christmas tree or where they may catch fire.

Be careful that the "kiddies" do not get near the candles or open fireplace with their flimsy clothing or "nighties."

Place all celluloid and other flammable and explosive decorations away from danger of catching fire.

If motion pictures are shown in the home, be sure to buy the "acetate" or safety film and avoid the "nitrate" or highly flammable film.

In case of fire: Call the fire department first. Then try to put it out by fire extinguisher, water, or smother with rug, blanket or whatever is handy.

Christmas decorations and clothing used for public festivities, where open flames are used for illumination, can be made fire resistant by dipping in a solution of ammonium phosphate (commercial ammonium phosphate, 1 pound; water, 1 gallon). Wring and dry; will not injure materials and will make colors fast.

An effective way to quench fire in a person's clothing is to wrap a blanket, rug or woolen cloth tightly around the body and roll upon the floor or ground.

The first application to a burn should be sweet oil, olive oil or sweet cream and then dust with flour or baking soda to exclude the air. Call a doctor.

Now, Fire Chief Smith and all of the "fire laddies" have little kiddies of their own and would like to spend Christmas eve at home with them, just like your dear daddy and mamma. If they have to leave their nice, warm homes to put out a fire in your house (caused by somebody's carelessness), and, perhaps, save your lives, their Christmas and your babies' Christmas will be spoiled.

Betty Culver Entertains

Miss Betty Culver entertained several high school girls at an informal dinner party at her home Friday evening. The table was decorated with candles and holly. Red and green streamers added a Christmas touch and the color scheme was carried out through the menu.

After the dinner each guest was presented with a gift from the Christmas tree. Dancing and games furnished the entertainment for the rest of the evening.

Those present were: Misses Phoebe Greenman, Merle Mills, Charlotte Green, Ethel Tousley, Thelma Spencer, La Velle Goss, and the hostess Miss Betty Culver.

Postoffice to be established at Pistol River, Curry county.

O.S.T.A. Will Hold Annual Session In Portland Next Week

December 28, 29, and 30 Dates Set For Annual Convention; Prominent Speakers Scheduled.

Five noted speakers will address the convention of the Oregon State Teachers' Association at its annual session to be held in Portland, December 28, 29 and 30. They are Dr. David Snedden of Teachers' college, Columbia university, New York City; Miss Myra Snow, classroom teacher of Seattle; Joy Elmer Morgan, editor of the Journal of the National Education association; Miss Florence Hale, state supervisor of rural schools of Maine, and C. M. Dennis, dean of the Conservatory of Music of Stockton, California.

On Wednesday, December 28, the business of the association will be transacted at the meeting of the representative council. On Thursday, December 29, the first general meeting of the association will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00. Section meetings only will convene Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. On Friday from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. there will be a closing general assembly.

Twenty-five different departments will hold section programs. Each chairman has prepared an especially interesting program, and the attendance will probably exceed that of any previous year. Among the outstanding lecturers and educators appearing on the departmental programs are: Dr. W. W. Youngson, Dr. Richard Dillehunt, Frank L. Shull, Miss Vida Hammond, Charles H. Carey, Miss Julia Spooner, O. M. Plummer, Miss Grace Bridges, Supt. E. H. Whittemore, William von Hoogstraten, Director of the Portland Symphony, Portland; Dr. Earl R. Douglas, Dr. C. V. Boyer, Dr. H. D. Sheldon, Eugene; Prof. H. D. Scudder Dr. J. R. Jewell, Dean Ava B. Milam, H. C. Seymour Corvallis; Prof. W. E. Kirk, Prof. James F. Matthews, State Supt. C. A. Howard, Salem; Pres. Norman T. Coleman, Reed College; Pres. J. A. Churchill, Ashland; J. S. Landers, Monmouth; Prof. Kenneth Ray, McMinnville.

Farmers Again Bilked With Abortion "Cure"

O. A. C., Corvallis, Dec. 19—The old stunt of "farming the farmer" by means of a fake contagious abortion remedy has again appeared in Oregon, warns P. M. Brandt, chief in dairying, and Dr. B. T. Sims, head veterinarian here. This time the old "Bowman's Abortion Remedy," suppressed by the government, seems to be revived in unlabeled packages shipped from the "Bowman Laboratory and Milling company." As it is being sold through the mail by means of allegedly untruthful circulars, the government is trying to obtain a denial of mail permit from the postoffice department, local officials are informed.

Leading scientists of the world are seeking a real remedy, which, if it is ever found, will be quickly given to the public. About 18 manufacturers of so-called cures have been forced to discontinue sales or revise their labels. Effective methods of control, but not of cure, have been developed by this and other experiment stations.

Injury Causes Loss of Eye

Wm. Hutchins suffered the loss of his right eye Tuesday morning when he was struck by a knot in the planer shed of the Oregon-American Lumber company mill.

Fined for Possession

K. Kawakami was arrested Monday in the Japanese quarters by Constable Kelly, and charged with having liquor in his possession. He plead guilty before Justice of the Peace Hill, who fined him \$80. The fine was paid.

Free Delivery Asked

Lester Sheeley, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, has written to Senator Chas. McNary asking for help in securing free delivery of mail in Vernonia. Stating that the population here has now reached such a point that the request is justifiable.

Travel on Oregon highways has increased 6.81 per cent in five years.

Fertilizer factory at Portland buys 800 wild horses at Maupin and Gateway.

American Legion Auxiliary Elects Officers for 1928

Vernonia unit of the American Legion Auxiliary elected the following officers at the regular meeting Monday night: Mrs. M. E. Moe, president; Mrs. Harry Wilson, 1st vice president; Mrs. J. C. Lindley, 2nd vice president; Mrs. E. H. Washburn, secretary; Mrs. R. F. Nance, treasurer; Mrs. Emmett Crow, chaplain; Mrs. W. S. Eason, historian; Mrs. W. W. Jackson, sergeant-at-arms; Mrs. E. J. Tousley, Mrs. W. H. Hurley and Mrs. V. Powell, executive committee.

After the meeting a special Christmas program was held. Those participating were: Mrs. Harry Wilson, Mrs. R. F. Nance, Mrs. Clarence Nance, Mrs. W. W. Jackson, and Mrs. W. S. Eason. Refreshments were served by Mrs. F. J. Tousley and Mrs. Geo. Ogg.

Display of New Ford Attracts Record Crowd

A steady stream of past and present flivver drivers was augmented by many potential new Ford drivers Saturday morning when Crawford's show room was the scene of the showing of the new car. More than 500 persons passed through the show room Saturday between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., according to Mr. Crawford, local dealer.

Many came and looked and gazed in vain for some sign of the well known model T in the new Ford. Satisfaction was written on many a countenance when the name plate was found to be the same—and the more observing smiled complacently when the transverse springs were noted. Heads nodded, ribs were poked with kindly elbows to draw attention to these two lone remaining reminders of the car that made the name Ford a family synonym for transportation in all lands of this terrestrial orb.

That many were satisfied was evidenced by the report that sales have already mounted past the two score mark and are still climbing.

Acquire New License Plates Immediately

Within a few weeks, a majority of the nation's 22,000,000 motor car owners will be faced with the necessity of acquiring new license plates, says Geo. O. Brandenburg, secretary of the Oregon State Motor association, who suggests that the individual can save himself considerable trouble and inconvenience if he resolves now to put this task behind him before the last minute rush.

"Every year," says Mr. Brandenburg, "Motorodom goes through the same trying few days merely because so many car owners defer the purchase of their new tags until the last minute. If the proposition of getting next year's plates was spread out over six weeks or more as the motor vehicle authorities make provision for, car owners would save themselves a tremendous amount of time, irritation and inconvenience.

"New plates are inevitable. One must have them to use a car. Why not acquire them well ahead of time?"

"In connection with the purchase of new license tags, the car owner would do well to check over his registration card or title to determine that the official record of it is straight. It frequently happens that serial or engine numbers are registered incorrectly, through clerical or other error, and then, in case a car is stolen, recovery is made that much more difficult.

"It is a wise precaution to check over this information every year. In doing so, the car owner almost invariably will come across marks and numbers which remarkably facilitate identification of the car in case the need ever arises, as for instance, when the most prominent numbers are removed or defaced by a thief.

"On the whole, the season is one in which the motorist has an opportunity to benefit himself in several ways if only he will take advantage of it."

Dairying Bulletin Out.

A bulletin entitled "Balancing Rations for Dairy Cows" is available at the county agent's office. This bulletin gives information in regard to the various kinds of feeds, including concentrates, succulents and roughage and rations for dairy cows. It also gives information on minerals required by dairy cows.

Santa Claus Will Be Here Friday

Community Christmas Tree Celebration Scheduled

Friday Night in Legion Hall

Santa Will Give Sweets To All Good Children Who Come To See Him Friday Night.

After experiencing some difficulty in making arrangements for Santa Claus to give the Nehalem valley an advance visit, for he is a very busy man at this time of the year, he at last promised to be here for a short time on Friday night. The Study club of Vernonia, which is sponsoring the event, announces that at 7:30 p. m. a short Christmas program will be held in the Legion hall, after which Santa will distribute candy to all the good children who come to see him.

The large Christmas tree has been placed at the corner of Bridge and First streets and will be well lighted for the occasion. The coldness of the weather makes it impracticable for the program to be held in the open.

Santa Claus urges that all children pay him a visit Friday evening. And since he is in a hurry, it is important that everyone be on hand by 7:30 p.m. The Study club promises a short program, appropriate for Christmas, that will be remembered by all who attend, and assure that there is ample room for everyone in the capacious Legion hall to hear what is going on.

A complete report of all money and work donated toward the community Christmas tree will be made by the Study club in next week's Eagle.

Find Weevils in Rugs? Look in Your Bean Bag

At this time of year, housewives usually become alarmed because they find numerous small gray weevils in their pantry or in other parts of the house, says the entomology department of the Oregon experiment station. These pests resemble the Buffalo carpet beetles which are very destructive to rugs, upholstery or other fabrics. Before becoming unduly alarmed, an examination should be made of the pantry supplies of peas and beans as the pest is more likely to be the bean or pea weevil than any other pest.

Presence of the insect is easily recognized as they bore their way from the peas or beans by making a perfect circular hole. Small amounts of infested material are usually burned, though valuable seed may be saved by using the standard carbon bisulfide treatment. Adult insects in the house will leave of their own account if afforded an opportunity by leaving the windows open for awhile.

Dairy Manufacturers Will Study Methods

Oregon State Agricultural College, Corvallis, Dec. 19—Specialized cream grading work will be the feature of the dairy manufacturing short courses here January 9 to February 3, announces V. D. Chappell, professor of dairy manufactures.

Study in eight branches of dairy manufacturing offers an opportunity for study of modern methods and latest developments. Butter making, creamery management, special lecture work, bacteriology, creamery tests, ice cream, sheddar cheese, and cottage cheese making courses enable the buttermaker or creamery operator to strengthen weak points.

H. C. Raven of the Raven Dairy of Portland will be in direct charge of the cream grading work. As cream grading is one of the greatest difficulties to overcome in making top quality butter, some buttermakers are planning to attend this part of the course in preference to any other one. The last feature of the course will be buttermaker's butter judging and cream contests. Detailed information will be sent upon request.