



JACK HANDEL was as proud of his wife as a man could well be. She was young, pretty, lovable and goodtempered. What more could a man ask? And yet Jack missed just one thing: Elsie could not cook—at least, not in the manner used to. Jack tried very hard to keep Elsie from the kitchen, so that her cooking was not all that it should be. And whenever anything tasted at all like he wanted it to, he gave her very generous praise. Which was the wise and diplomatic thing to do, of course, but Jack did not do it for this reason; he did it solely because he loved Elsie and wanted her to hear pleasing things. And he did not want her to know that as a cook she was a dismal failure. Often he congratulated himself that he was so cleverly hiding his feelings from Elsie. But alas! for the density of the male sex!

Lately Elsie had seemed to be very busy, and several evenings they had to go to the little restaurant near by for their evening meal. She had been going out quite a bit and pleaded fatigue. Jack went with her quite willingly, as even the restaurant food was better than Elsie's, but he was very troubled at heart; it was not the kind of life that he wanted.

Consternation filled him one morning when Elsie announced that she was going to give a big Christmas dinner and invite his mother and other guests. He pleaded with her that the work would be too hard, that she must not do it, that they would go out somewhere; but all his efforts to make her change her mind were in vain. Elsie was obdurate; she was determined to give the dinner.

Jack had many misgivings in the week that followed, and when Christmas mornning dawned he was more than nervous. But he tried to hide his feelings from Elsie as much as he could. She would not allow him in the kitchen at all, but let him help a little with the laying of the table. Jack had to admit to himself that it looked very inviting indeed. If there was some real food to put on it

WHICH OF THE SIX?

THERE were six Santa Clauses in Sterberville, standing before various department stores and banks, and it began to trouble young Jackie Carter that there should be so many. Which one was the real Santa? There were certain things he wanted for Christmas and he didn't care to take a chance on asking the wrong man. He thought of giving the same list to all six, but while that would probably bring him his toys, it would not disclose the identity of the real Santa, and he began to have a genuine overpowering curiosity to know which of the six was the true Santa Claus. After many anxious nights of tossing restlessly on his pillow, he hit upon an idea: He would ask each for a different toy and, of course, the one he received would be from the true Santa Claus.

Early Christmas morning young Jackie stole quietly down the stairs alive with excitement. Cautiously he slipped into the bedroom where the Christmas tree in all its revealed glory stood, and he was amazed to find that all six toys he had asked for were there. But do you think he was satisfied? No, all he could say was "delighted to have them all," and he went to tell his mother all about it.—*(Copyright by Western Newspaper Union.)*

Placing a Christmas Tree

A Christmas tree, placed too near a furnace, caused a \$10,000 blaze, reports the National Safety council, which calls attention to the fact that such illumination is dangerous.

Now, how proud he would be of Elsie. An hour later, when the food was put on, Jack opened his eyes wide as he took his first mouthful of turkey and dressing. It tasted better than anything he had ever eaten before. Surely Elsie had not cooked it? But then he knew that no one but she had entered the kitchen that morning.

After dinner Elsie whispered her secret. She had been taking cooking lessons from old Mrs. Mason for the past month and this dinner was the result. Mrs. Mason and Elsie had kept the secret well, for Elsie wanted Jack to have a real Christmas surprise. That he had it was very evident. And even the guests marveled that a bride of a few months could cook such a wonderful dinner.—*(Copyright by Western Newspaper Union.)*

Our Christmas Shopping and the Joy of Giving

THE joyful season of the year has come. The Christmas tide surges through the Christian world. With a wealth of kindly thought it has brought the time of Christmas trade. The universal custom of giving gifts makes everybody richer and nobody poorer. The Christmas spirit is a sacred thing that sanctifies the humble things of life. It kindles generous love in the callous breasts of men. It brightens the dreary homes of earth and hurls the star of hope above the pallace and the cabin. It leads to light and life the cobble streets of men. It is the finest asset of civilization.

Christmas shopping is but a kindly way of thinking about friends and friendships—a concrete expression of human love and hope. It brings a sweet and subtle joy to those who give and happiness to whom it is given. It builds a fire on the cheerless hearth and re-warms the ties of home and kin. It lifts the burdens of the heavy laden and to every pilgrim reveals the star of Bethlehem. Gifts rightly given enrich the giver.

Out of the over-heating heavens came the spirit of giving. Heaven is always giving. Heralded by angels into the night of Bethlehem came the gift of life and joy—the richest—the rarest gift of earth or heaven. That giving quickened the generosity of rich and poor. It prompted the return of the best that man has to give. The rich gave gold, frankincense and myrrh, but the poor outrank them far and bring the alabaster box of love.

From that manger cradle the Christmas spirit has wandered far and wide. The spirit of Christmas—the spirit of giving has followed the star down through the ages and the world is vastly richer. Speed, unhampered, the Christmas joy and let the giving of gifts speak the language of human souls. Fare forth to the temples of sale, where dealers are ministering priests at the altars of trade and if you lack the price of jewels remember that nothing is too cheap or poor to bear the warmth of friendship and sincerity.—*William L. Gaston.*

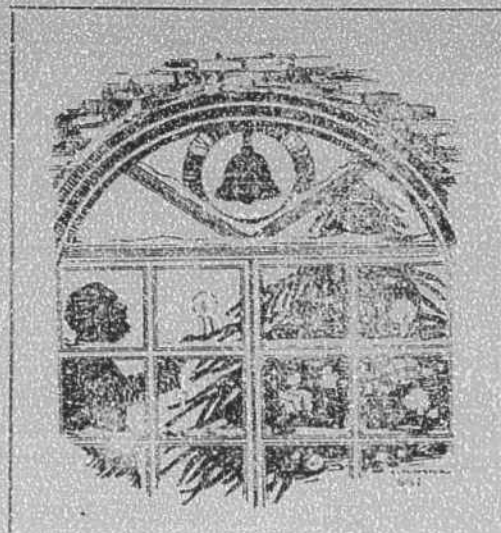
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Edward IV Allowed Gaming

During the reign of Edward IV gambling was permitted in England during the 12 days of Christmas.

Christmas Eve in Spain

The Christmas Eve mass in Spain is known as the "Mass of the Cook," and in churches where there is an organ with an adequate number of stops cocks are imitated and made to crow by the organ at the first stroke of midnight. In some churches even the lowing of cattle is imitated, and other sounds of a stable reminiscent of the humble abode where Christ was born.



Appreciation

It is a little thing to say, but we say it from the heart. We do appreciate your business, and every time you come in here we try to prove this by the way we serve you.

Among our assets we like to count the only one money cannot buy—your good will. And so at this Holiday Season we extend to you, not as a customer alone, but as a friend, our best wishes for the coming year.

We would like to take each one of you by the hand but since this is physically impossible we use this method of greeting you and wish all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

PEOPLES BANK & TRUST COMPANY
BOONE, N. C.

YES!



According to 11,105* written opinions from Doctors

WHAT is the quality that Lawrence Tibbett, David Warfield, Nazimova, William Collier, Florence Easton, Mary Boland, Sophie Tucker and other famous singers, actors, broadcasters and public speakers have found that makes LUCKY STRIKES delightful and of no possible injury to their voices?

For the answer we turned to medical men and asked them this question:

Do you think from your experience with LUCKY STRIKE cigarettes that they are less irritating to sensitive or tender throats than other cigarettes, whatever the reason?

11,105* doctors answered this question "YES."

These figures represent the opinion and experience of doctors, those whose business it is to know.



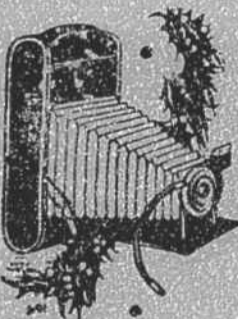
"It's toasted"
No Throat Irritation—No Cough.

*We hereby certify that we have examined 11,105 signed cards confirming the above statement.
LYBRAND, ROSS, TIPS & MONTGOMERY
Accountants at
New York, July 21.

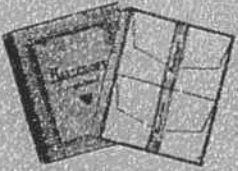
Everybody's Gift List

FOUNTAIN PENS and PENCILS—\$2.50 to \$10.00

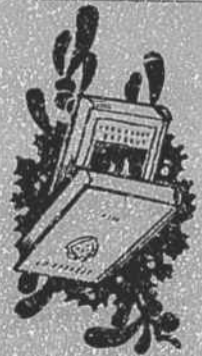
DESK SETS—\$8.00 to \$10.00



KODAKS—\$5.00 up.
BROWNIES—\$2.00 to \$4.50.

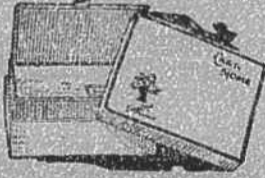


FINE GIFT STATIONERY—\$1.00 and \$1.50



BOOKS—We have just received a large shipment of Grosset & Dunlap Edition of popular 75c novels. Also a number of the 25c Juvenile Edition. We have a limited number of the \$1.00 Edition of the Private Life of Helen of Troy by John Erskine. This has been a big seller everywhere. Get your copy now before our supply is gone.

COMPACTS, PERFUMES and TOILET WATERS—Fine new stock—in all the leading brands in new and attractive designs.



TOILET SETS—Cara Nome and Shari—\$4.50 to \$12.50; Three Flower, Du Barry, Kares, Coty and other leading brands—\$5.00 and up.



CANDY—We sell Hollingsworth's unusual candies made for those who love fine things—a candy made in the South for Southern people. Our Candy business has more than doubled since we took on this famous line. We have it in all the different assortments and attractive packages.

Our salespeople will be glad to show you our stock and help you make your selections.

BOONE DRUG COMPANY

The Penell Store