

Use Of Tree Dates Back 4,000 Years

From the dim ages of long ago have come many of the festive rites and customs of our Christmas season.

The symbolic use of a tree dates back at least 4,000 years, when Egyptians celebrated in honor of their Sun God in the month corresponding to our December. They believed that the sun died every night and was born again in the morning, and that late December and January brought the turning point, when the sun remained with them a little bit longer each day. This was a season of rejoicing and the palm trees became their symbol, as it put out a leaf every month and the twelve leaves symbolized the complete year.

A few thousand years later came the feast of Saturnalia, also held

in December, but the tree the Romans used was a tall conifer, loaded with decorations. Roman legions carried this symbolism over the Alps into Gaul; and about 15 B. C. the tree was used in Yuletide celebrations of the Germans.

Hundreds of years passed, and a tree became the symbol of celebrations connected with the patron saint of Russia and of children—Saint Nicholas, who in his lifetime was Bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor.

An old legend tells us that the kindly St. Nicholas unintentionally originated the custom of hanging stockings by the fire at Christmas. St. Nicholas was rich, and loved to make mysterious journeys bearing secret gifts to the poor. For a long time his identity remained hidden

but he was caught at last with his sack of gifts on his back.

St. Nicholas knew an old nobleman who was very poor and who did not want anyone to know of his poverty. Wishing to give him a gift of money St. Nicholas crept to a window of the house and saw the old gentleman asleep by the fire. The good Bishop climbed to the roof and dropped his gift down the chimney, thinking it would fall on the hearth at the nobleman's feet. However, it so happened that the gentleman's daughter had hung some stockings to dry by the fire and the money fell into one of them; and from the kindly deed of the good Bishop has grown the widespread custom of hanging stockings at Christmas time.

The anniversary of St. Nicholas' death in 1087 became a festival in the Russian church, and in time the name became corrupted to Santa Claus and associated with the festivities of the Christmas

Insist On Safe Toys

Adults should insist that all toys they buy or give to children be safe—incapable of causing fire, shock, or explosion.

Your best assurance of getting a safe electrical toy is to look for the UL label or tag on the toy.

Adults should take care also in purchasing chemical sets for children. Toys requiring alcohol, kerosene, gasoline or carbide lamps may be hazardous in juvenile hands.

Parents should supervise any play with electrical toys or toys involving fuels and chemicals.

season, with its tree, its decorations, the holly and the mistletoe. These are the joyous symbols of Christmas.

We can keep Christmas merry, observes the National Board of Fire Underwriters, by safeguarding these symbols against fire.

Toys Will Suit Age, Interest Of Child If Carefully Chosen

Picture the sight of the proud parent who sees to it that Santa brings bundles of expensive and intricate toys and soon after Christmas finds that little Junior prefers to play with Mother's pots and pans.

It happens, quite often, and poor Dad never realizes that he has made an unwise selection of toys. Quite often, he is slightly disturbed because his child isn't interested in what he considers excellent playthings.

Toymakers are highly conscious of the fact that children at various

ages have different interests and manufacture toys for specific age groups. For the one-year-and-under age group there are hundreds of excellent toys—soft, cuddly bears, elephants and other animals that can be squeezed to make noises and sounds. For this age group, too, there are many floating toys, most of which are made of sponge, celluloids or plastic.

Toys to Please

The child who has just learned to walk, or is less than two years, likes toys that he can pull or push around, including dolls, stuffed animals, rubber and plastic automobiles and vehicles. Toys that can be easily swallowed should be avoided as well as building blocks, which are just something to throw and scattered about.

Blocks, trucks, airplanes, boats, simple puzzles and toys of this na-

ture are suited to the interests of pre-school children and it is usually at this age that children begin to see a distinction between toys for boys and toys for girls. Boys begin to favor cowboy and Indian outfits girls choose dolls, frilly playthings and small replicas of household equipment such as brooms, toy furniture and dishes.

Boys in the four-year age group, particularly if father is a "do-it-yourself" enthusiast, will like small tool chests and workshop equipment that will enable them to imitate their fathers.

Creative Toys

Pre-school children are usually interested in creative things—paints, crayons and modeling clay. A small, simply operated record player also makes an excellent gift.

MAKE YOUR LITTLE GIRL'S DREAM COME TRUE!



Nancy the Nurse Doll



- * SITS BY HERSELF
- * BENDING ARMS AND LEGS
- * THE PERFECT GIFT FOR EVERY CHILD

UNBREAKABLE from HEAD to TOE!

SAVE UP TO \$10.00 ON THIS OFFER!

Yours FOR ONLY \$5.99

OUR GOODWILL OFFER



Approx. 24" Tall

- WEARING COMPLETE NURSE'S UNIFORM CAPE—DRESS—CAP—SHOES
- ENTIRE DOLL MADE OF SOFT MIRACLE VINYL
- WASHABLE SARAN ROOTED HAIR

Are your little girl's eyes bright... is her heart beating fast... her temperature rising? She doesn't need a doctor—she needs Nancy the Nurse! She's got a case of doll fever—the usual reaction whenever a youngster sets her eyes on adorable Nancy. And who wouldn't get excited about a doll as cute as this one in her crisp white nurse uniform with its perky cap and dashing blue cape?

Think of the wonderful days Nancy and your little girl will share together, healing all the imaginary ills in the neighborhood. Imagine all the children watching in awe as instrument after fascinating instrument appears... stethoscope, forceps, thermometer, hypodermic, and many more!

If your child wants to be a nurse when she grows up (and what little girl doesn't?) she'll love and learn with Nancy the Nurse!

FREE with each Doll COMPLETE NURSE'S OUTFIT
Stethoscope—Forceps—Syringe—Hot Water Bottle
Thermometer—Eye Glasses—Diploma—Eye Chart

Be a Successful Santa Shop Here!

We're Playing SANTA CLAUS

FREE!
Nothing To Buy
Just come in and REGISTER

PORTABLE ZENITH TELEVISIONS To Be Given Away FREE DEC. 24

FREE!
No Obligations
You Do Not Have To Be Present to Win

FOR HIM

- ELECTRIC RAZOR
Schiek 29.95
Remington 31.50
- PIPES 1.00 up
- GUNS — .22
Stevens Rifle . . 28.50
- All-Type Fishing Equipment
- Hunting Knives
- Timex Wrist Watches as low as 10.95 plus tax
- Ronson LIGHTERS

FOR HER

- Pop-Up Elec. Toasters by Westinghouse In Color 21.95
- Timex Elec. Clocks as low as 4.95
- Westinghouse Portable Mixers . . 19.95
- Sunbeam Automatic Fry Pans . . 19.95 up
- Sunbeam Electric PERCULATOR 10 cup 29.95

FOR FAMILY

- TELEVISION
Portable — Table Console
- Westinghouse
- Zenith
- RADIOS
Table Models
Portables
- Westinghouse
- Zenith — Webeor
- ZENITH RECORD PLAYERS
- Electric Clock Radios

MAKE YOUR BOY'S DREAM COME TRUE— WITH THIS MAGNIFICENT GENUINE LEATHER 11 PC. COWBOY OUTFIT



- 50-SHOT AUTOMATIC REPEATER RIFLE
- 2-50-SHOT AUTOMATIC BREAK-ACTION PISTOLS
- 2 finest quality leather holsters
- 2 cuffs
- 2 spurs
- bandana
- clip

SAVE UP TO \$10.00 ON THIS OFFER!

Yours FOR ONLY \$5.99

OUR GOODWILL OFFER

WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE OF CHRISTMAS TOYS



TRICYCLES 9.95 up

GUN

and

HOLSTER SETS

1.49 up



WAGONS

1.98 up

For Christmas Give YOUNG PARAKEETS 2.98 Complete Line of Supplies

Each item of this splendid set mastercrafted in true Western style, with meticulous care and faithful observance of detail—for your child's delight!

The glorious romance of the West lives on—in your boy's heart! For his youthful imagination has been fired—and rightly so—by the heroic saga of lonely fearless men whose dogged courage and selfless determination have helped to make our great Golden West what it is today...

Treat your child to an authentic Western set—a real American gift to a real American boy...

See Our Complete Line of GREETING CARDS, CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, and GIFT WRAPPINGS.

"We Cannot Afford To Have A Single Dissatisfied Customer"

FARMERS FEDERATION

Dial VE 7-2416

Murphy, North Carolina

Don Ramsey, Manager