

Symbols of The Tree

In many of the ancient faiths the range of human existence is symbolized by a tree, called the "tree of life," the "world tree" or the "tree of existence." The most extended elaboration of this idea is found in the old Norse mythology, Yggdrasil, the world tree, has three roots, one reaching to heaven, one to hell, one to earth. The serpent gnaws at the foot of Yggdrasil, seeking the destruction of the universe, and near by sit the three norns who spin the fates of all mankind. The old English legend is the same tree bursting into beauty in the spring. In the early centuries Adam and Eve were commemorated on Christmas eve, their symbol being the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The next day was the day of Christ, whose symbol was the tree of life, or the cross. So when men's souls were escaping from paganism the use of old mythology became associated with the Nativity and again with the cross.

"Christmas Lights"

Little lights, glowing "to light the Christ Child on his way," shine from the windows of the home of Carter H. Harrison of Chicago on Christmas eve.

The wife of Chicago's former mayor has observed the ancient custom every Christmas eve within the ranches of her memory.

"There would be something missing from Christmas eve if the little lights were forgotten," Mrs. Harrison said. "It would be like a Christmas without a tree."

Joseph Murray, attorney, is another prominent Chicagoan who never has let Christmas eve pass without helping to keep this pretty Christmas custom alive.

Mrs. William A. Amberg of the Christ Child society regards the revival of the custom as "a pretty tribute to the ideals of Christmas."

CEGAR MT. BREEZES

Robert Jones went to Greenville last week on business.

The entertainment given by the school children proved a success. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

Miss Lane and Alexander Cary of Little River are spending a few days at Cedar Mountain.

Robert Means of Greenville spent one night with J. S. Heath last week.

Mrs. Pierce and son were at Cedar Mountain last week making arrangements for their house that is to be built this winter.

Miss Elvira Bishop, who has been sick for two weeks, is showing most of the time. Her long hair, suffering seems to be over.

Miss Eva Jones and Tom Garren were married last Sunday at the home of the bride's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Jones, Rev. E. Allison performed the ceremony. The bride was very attractive in a gown of blue silk. The couple was accompanied to the marriage altar by Miss Rosa Jones, Eunice Robinson, Miss Carrie Jones and Weldon Lee. Miss Nellie Lee played softly

on the piano for the couple on their wedding dinner was served by the bride and groom. The bride and groom were at the home of Mrs. H. H. Harrison.

Mrs. H. H. Harrison, who lives up there in Greenland, could pack his sleigh with toys and the like, start off flying at just about this time and get all the way round the world without the least bit of trouble before the first sleepy youngster opened his eyes on Christmas morning. But things have changed.

There are so many more people for the old gentleman to visit nowadays than there used to be that he just can't get along without a few tried and true assistants, who take his place in big towns and cities.

Time was when Santa Claus, who lives up there in Greenland, could pack his sleigh with toys and the like, start off flying at just about this time and get all the way round the world without the least bit of trouble before the first sleepy youngster opened his eyes on Christmas morning. But things have changed.

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Smith is said to have converted his kitchen into a still house. Another outfit was destroyed some distance from Smith's home but no owner could be found.

Your far away friend, if a former resident of the county, would not enjoy a small gift more than a subscription to the News.

Santa Claus' Assistants

Many different Santa Clauses are caught each year coming right straight down the chimney, and the Santa Clauses who haven't been caught number into the hundreds. Of course they're not the really, truly Santa Claus, who is never caught, but only his assistants.

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Christmas of The Fathers

The institution of a festival on the day on which the nativity of the Saviour is observed is attributed by some ancient writers to Telesphorus, who flourished in the reign of Antoninus Pius, but this is unhistorical. The fact is it is unknown just when it originated, but surely Dec. 25 was not generally observed as the day prior to Chrysostom's time (fourth century) in the eastern church, although earlier in the western.

Some early churches held the festival in the month of May or April, others in January. It is nevertheless almost certain that Dec. 25 cannot be the nativity of the Saviour, for it is then the height of the rainy season in Judea, and shepherds could hardly have been watching their flocks by night on the plains. —New International Encyclopedia.



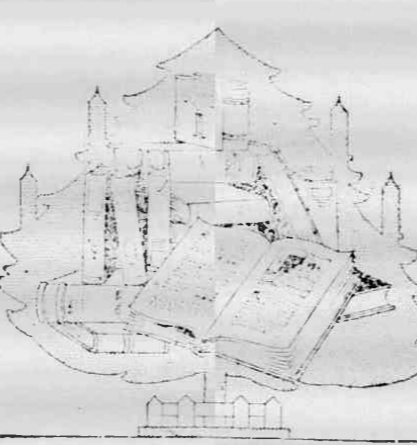
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