

Prices and Meat That Meet Your Favor

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TO TRIM A CHRISTMAS TREE

Pretty Trimmings and Decorations Can Be Made in Almost Any Home at Slight Expense.

As to trimming the Christmas tree, first of all, don't trim your tree with cotton batting and lighted candles, as there is always danger in this combination, and "safety first" should be the slogan in all Christmas festivities.

You can purchase a whole lot of pretty decorations for your tree at the shops, and these come very cheaply, too. But almost any home can furnish the decorations for a really lovely tree without very much expense, and there is no reason why every family where there are children should not have their Christmas tree.

Strings of popcorn and red cranberries looped from the branches make an effective decoration. And strings of yellow field corn gleam beautifully in the Christmas light. Crescents, stars and hearts cut from heavy cardboard and covered with silver and gilt, or even colored paper, and cornucopias of bright colors filled with candy and popcorn are very pretty. Form cotton batting into balls the size of an orange and cover with orangecolored crepe paper, twist tightly and tie to the tree with a bit of narrow ribbon. These are pretty on the tree and look like oranges.

It is best to place all the larger packages under the tree, tying only the smaller gifts which are tied up in bright-colored paper to the branches. In this way the tree will not look frayed and denuded when the gifts are distributed, and it may be kept a long time for the children to enjoy.

USE OF EVERGREENS.

The use of evergreens at Christmas time is older than the Christmas tree. the Christians seeming to have copied from their pagan ancestors. In a ery old book we find this reference to the use of evergreens at Christmas time: 'Against the feast of Christmas every man's house, as also their parish churches, were decked with holme, ivy, bayes, and whatsoever the season of the year afforded to be green The conduits and standards of the streets were likewise garnished; among which I read that in the ear 1414, by tempest of thunder and ightning, toward the morning of Candlemas day, at the Leadenhall, in Cornhill, a standard of tree, being set up in the midst of the pavement, fast in the ground, nailed full of holme and ivy, for disport of Christmas to the people, was torn up and cast down by the malignant spirit (as was thought), and the stones of the pavement all about were cast in the streets and into divers houses, so that the people were sore aghast at the great tempest."

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