

**AN UNUSUAL SANTA CLAUS**

THE children of our country would certainly be surprised if they should see Santa Claus on Christmas Eve in anything but his bright red suit trimmed with fur. Imagine Santa Claus without his long white whiskers, red nose and twinkling eyes! And could any sound but the musical tinkling of the bells on his reindeer's necks accompany his visit?

Yes, it could in Switzerland, in the quaint little town of St. Gallen. And what a strange name they have for him there! "Father Christmas" is his name in England, "Kris Kringle" in Germany, "Noel" in France. But in Switzerland, St. Nicholas, the patron saint of our jolliter and yet holiest of festivals, is called "Samiclaus."

To begin with, Samiclaus does not dress in red. He dresses in white—white trousers and a white shirt. Around his waist is a broad leather belt. Over his shoulders are gay embroidered red suspenders.

He doesn't wear long beard or bushy white hair. Instead, he wears a huge false face, made of cardboard, with a high perforated crownlike hat, which resembles the lace in candy boxes.

Samiclaus doesn't pay his visit alone. With him are eleven men, dressed precisely as he is dressed.

Each of these men has a huge cowbell suspended from his wide leather belt. They ring them loudly as they go around the town distributing presents and candy to the children.

Our Santa Claus stands for open chimneys, openly arrived at.

**KRIS KRINGLE FUDGE**

Four one cupful of milk into a sauce pan, add one-quarter cupful of corn syrup, four tablespoonfuls of creamed butter and two cupfuls of sugar, bring to boiling point and cook until it reaches the soft-ball stage. Take from the fire, add one cupful of preserved cherries cut in halves and one teaspoonful rose extract and beat until creamy. Pour into a buttered pan and, when cool, cut into neat squares or rounds.

**THOSE NECKTIES**

Santa Claus, what neckties are committed in thy name!

**LOVE IS ENOUGH**

SOME people are greedy for praise. They are not the ones who most deserve it. Fathers and mothers do not think it anything wonderful when they save, and plan, and work, and spend for Christmas Day. It is said that, as one learns the difficult Chinese language, at first he is glad to be understood, then he hears that he speaks the language very well, then, when he can express himself perfectly, no one notices it. Christmas language is that perfect expression of love that asks no privilege. It brings the same message to all nations.—C. G. Hazard. (© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

**CHRISTMAS**

CHRISTMAS comes as a blessed day when we refresh ourselves once again with the friendships we have made.

Peace steals into our lives, and good will toward men. Those beautiful words take on a new meaning and translate themselves into little acts of kindness and consideration. Happy laughter is heard and grown men remember how to play.

A beautiful time is Christmas time—in which bitterness and envy melt into understanding and forgiveness. A gracious time—in which we renew our faith!

**His Christmas Skates**



**A CHRISTMAS RESOLVE**

CHRISTMAS is especially a children's day, and one of the things which a proper Christmas attitude should bring about is a firm resolve on the part of each mother to learn what is best for her child, and do it irrespective of the child's whim or desires. This not only is true of gifts which the child receives at Christmas, but of its food and raiment, its sleeping room and its playroom. All of these should be as carefully guarded as the traditions on which the Christmas celebration is founded.

**HOW'S THIS?**

HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE will do what we claim for it—rid your system of Catarrh or Deafness caused by Catarrh. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE consists of an Ointment which Quickly Relieves the catarrhal inflammation, and the Internal Medicine, a Tonic, which acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces, thus assisting to restore normal conditions. Sold by druggists for over 40 Years. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O.

**Ted's Gift to the Christ Child**

AND there were in the sage country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Slowly and reverently the minister read the beautiful old Christmas story to the waiting congregation. Ted settled snugly against the back of the pew and listened. He had listened to the story every Christmas morning as far back as he could remember; but today it seemed different!

"And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host," continued the minister.

Ted's eyes grew wide with wonder. It was more wonderful, more beautiful than any fairy story he had ever read.

"And, lo, the star went before them, and led them to where the young child lay."

"And they brought him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."

Ah, those kings were rich; they could afford to bring him gifts. He pitied the shepherds. They brought no gifts; they must have been poor like him! Then he looked up quickly.

"And we, too, may bring him gifts the poor, as well as the aged," concluded the minister.

Ted's breath came quickly and his eyes shone with excitement. He was a little child, and he was poor, and he wanted to give the Christ Child a gift.

The people were trooping out of the church now, in merry groups. Nobody noticed the shabby little boy, who, with flushed face and questioning eyes, went slowly down the steps and turned into a side street. Suddenly he remembered; the cloud left his face and he dashed joyously down the snowy sidewalk. A wonderful thing had happened last night! Santa Claus had paid a visit to his home for the first time, although he had hung the mantel every Christmas eve. It was so nice to have a Christmas gift of his own; Ted thought lovingly of the new top and quickened his steps.

"A little child may bring him gifts," the words rang through his head. Well, he had nothing to give. The time stopped short—he had his top!

The next Sunday morning a little boy in a threadbare suit slipped quietly into a back pew of the great church. He carried with him an oddly-shaped package, which he fingered lovingly all through the service. Then the organ played softly and he could hear the clink of the money as it fell into the collection plate. He held the precious package close to him—the plate was coming nearer—it had passed into the next pew—now it had reached him! He heard the package drop with a dull thud into the plate. Then he leaned back, unmindful of the curious glances in his direction. A little, quivering sigh escaped his lips; but his eyes were bright and there was something glad in his heart. The Christ Child had accepted Ted's gift.—Jennie M. Mills, in Farm and Home.

SHOE REPAIRING, latest Model Machine. Sew half-soles on while you wait. Mail shoes in if you can't come.—CHAMPION SHOE SHOP, Marshall, N. C.

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**

By KATHERINE EDELMAN

I BELIEVE in the beautiful spirit of Christmas. I believe that it has the power to encircle the whole earth and to gladden and enrich the heart and soul of every man, woman and child that dwells thereon.

I believe that it has the power to strengthen and cement friendships already made—to bring strangers together in a new bond of love and service and that it even has the power to blot out and efface the anger, hatreds and animosities that estrange men and make them as brothers again. I believe in it because it brings to the world something more than any human agency, no matter how great or how potent—a something that falls like a benediction over everything at this time.

I believe in the beautiful spirit of Christmas because it raises man to his greatest height—because it brings into his heart a blessed and holy peace—and because it gives him a clearer understanding of the needs of his fellow-men and a desire to help him. I believe in it because it is a good day by all of us who live here, would make earth a very heaven to dwell upon. (© 1924, Western Newspaper Union.)

**TOO BIG A CONTRACT**

Dear little Johnnie's Aunt Emma, a lady of most generous build, had come for a visit and dear little Johnnie had been gazing at her raptly for some minutes. Finally he could stand it no longer.

"Mamma," he cried, "does Santa Claus fill everybody's stockings?"

"Of course, dear," replied his mother in some surprise.

"Grown-up people's, too?"

"Yes, dear."

"Well," returned Johnnie doubtfully, but as one clinging to a shred of hope, "I hope he gets to mine first."—American Legion Weekly.

**BITTER-SWEETS**

An attractive variety of candies may be made by dipping sweet fruits in bitter chocolate. Use for this purpose dates, citron, candied orange peel or crystallized fruit. Melt unsweetened chocolate in a double boiler. Keep the chocolate just warm enough to prevent solidifying. With your wire dipping spoon dip pieces of fruit in chocolate. See that each piece is completely coated, then remove to waxed paper to harden.

**Santa Suggests**

Before placing our orders for Christmas stocks we consulted Santa Claus and made our choice in accordance with his suggestions. The result is a display of Christmas merchandise that will please you in its variety and satisfy you with the quality offered.

**FRUITS, CANDIES, CAKES, AND NUTS OF ALL KINDS**

You will find the prices reasonable on all our Xmas Merchandise

**Z. V. Fisher & Son**  
Sanitary Grocery

**Gifts Selected Here Will Surely Please**

The advantages of shopping here for practical gifts is well demonstrated in the excellence of our present showings. And economy is also a feature as the prices prove.



Neckwear is a gift that will meet with instant approval—especially one of the new styles now on display.

Both for Ladies and Gentlemen

Gloves and Hosiery of the finer qualities for gifts. Attractively boxed, one or more pairs as you wish.

Also Handbags, Toilet Sets, Beads, etc.

Blouses, Sweaters, or any of the other items listed below furnish the solution to many a worried shopper. Stop and look them over when here on a gift-buying trip.

Umbrellas in high grades and desirable colors are especially appropriate gifts. We have them in the new 16 Rib Frame. Prices from \$1.00 to \$10.00 each.

Silk Dresses, Wool Dresses, Long Coats, Bed Room Slippers and many other things you will find in our store.

**George L. McKinney**

**A Merry Christmas**

One of the first steps toward making Christmas in your home a most merry one is to come to this store of Christmas Gifts and choose those you are planning to give. Suitable items are offered on every hand.



Gifts that carry a message of thoughtfulness in their choice are suggested by any of the following articles which you may choose.

Careful consideration of the many requirements of those planning to give something worth while marks this list of items.

CANDIES, FRUITS, CAKES, NUTS.

DOLLS, WAGONS, SKATES, TOYS OF ALL KINDS

Clarence Redmon Grocery Co.