

Staff DEEDS

By JANICE R. CHRISTENSEN

Many little girls' requests to Santa Claus include a doll, miniature household equipment, or serving dishes. Not so the request for four-year-old Tammie of Franklin county.

Tammie's mother is enrolled in the Expanded Nutrition Education program under the guidance of Mrs. Mildred Williams, extension program aide.

Recently while the adults were having a group meeting, Tammie and her cousin used some food models to plan a snack.

After the meeting Tammie came to Mrs. Williams and said she thought the models were pretty.

"Please tell Santa to bring me some food models," she added.

Food models such as waxed

fruit or plaster of paris meats, are a popular way to teach balanced meal planning, agrees Mrs. Bernice Harris, associate home economics extension agent. Mothers, as well as children, enjoy working with them.

SECOND KITCHEN

A utility room turned into a second kitchen is a joy for a Benson homemaker.

Since the room already had running water and a home freezer, it took only the addition of a range to transform it into a place for canning, freezing and pickling.

"With a second kitchen, I don't have to put my food conservation things up each time mealtime comes around," Mrs. Estelle Bryant told Mrs. Josephine Cawthorne, associate home economics extension agent.

TIES AS GIFTS

The holiday season came early for Gladys Bass, Creedmoor, R. 2, when each of his three daughters gave him a necktie she had made.

The ties were so handsome and well-constructed that Bass did not believe the girls had made them, until he saw the pattern and the fabric scraps.

Bass' co-workers admired the ties and started to order similar ones for themselves and as gifts.

The Bass sisters, who learned tie-making in a workshop conducted by Extension Home Economics Agent Mary Parham, agree that the ties are good gift choices. They are personal, they employ special thought and they are great helping us improve our sewing skills, the girls added.

"Nutcracker" Performance Is Dec. 17

On December 17th at 8:15 p. m. the stage of Owens Auditorium will be transformed into a fairyland of sugar-frosted forests and candy-coated flowers when the Charlotte Symphony presents "The Nutcracker," a ballet in two acts. Robert Lindgren's dance students from the North Carolina School of Arts will join the Charlotte Symphony orchestra, under the direction of Jacques Brouman, to provide a Christmas season feast for both eyes and ears.

In addition to the Friday evening performance, which is part of the regular subscription concert series, there will be two matinee performances on Saturday, December 18th at 1:00 p. m. and 4:30 p. m. under the sponsorship of the Charlotte Symphony Women's association.

"The Nutcracker" was first presented in Russia exactly 79 years ago on December 17, 1892 in St. Petersburg, with choreography by Lev Ivanov. It would not be possible to recreate a duplicate of the original Ivanov work because at that time there existed no system for recording the sequence of ballet movements. Thus, all that is known of the original has been recorded in the memories of the artists and handed down from master to pupil. Both Robert Lindgren and his wife, Sonja Tyven, have danced principal roles in "The Nutcracker" and their choreography for this production is based upon the original.

The musical score for this ballet is both famous and well loved. The beautiful melodies of "Nutcracker" display the creative genius of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, since he undertook the commission from the St. Petersburg Opera to write a ballet based on E. T. A. Hoffman's preposterous tale of "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King" with reluctance and little enthusiasm. In the spring of 1892 he composed found himself faced with the necessity for presenting a promised new work to the Russian Musical Society, and having nothing else at hand, he quickly orchestrated several numbers from the ballet and

presented them "en concert." So well received were they that every selection had to be repeated and thus "The Nutcracker Suite" came into being.

While the "Suite" has consistently been Tchaikovsky's most popular non-symphonic orchestral work, the ballet did not achieve great popularity until the middle of this century. Mr. Lindgren has a tremendous enthusiasm for this long-neglected fantasy and Clara and her Nutcracker Prince and their happy adventures with whirling snowflakes, chocolate dolls, cavoring pennywhistles and waltzing flowers in the Kingdom of Sweets, governed by the benign hand of the Sugarplum Fairy. He brings to its direction—in addition to tons of frosted snowflakes and spun sugar castles—an affection and expertise which an affection that "The Nutcracker" will prove to be one of the brightest lights of the Christmas season.

Tickets for the two matinees will be \$3.00 and \$4.00 for the orchestra, \$4.00 for the mezzanine, and \$2.00 for the balcony seats. Tickets may be obtained at the Charlotte Coliseum box office, or by addressing your request to the Charlotte Coliseum Box Office, 2700 North Independence Boulevard, Charlotte, N. C. 28205. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, a first and second choice seats, the performance desired and a check made payable to the "Charlotte Symphony Women's Assn."

Unless blunted by increased immunization of children 1 to 12, a rubella (German measles) epidemic this year could swell the number of American babies born with defects, the March of Dimes warns.

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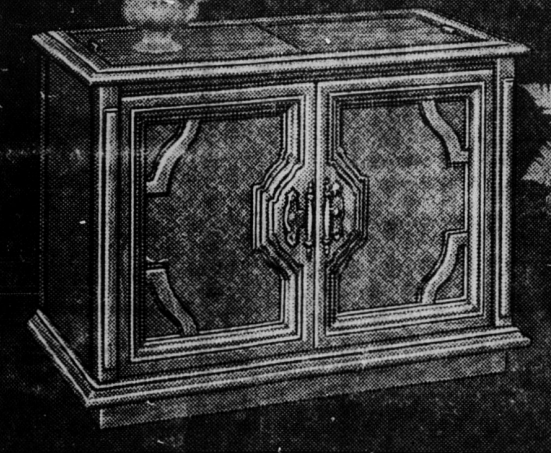
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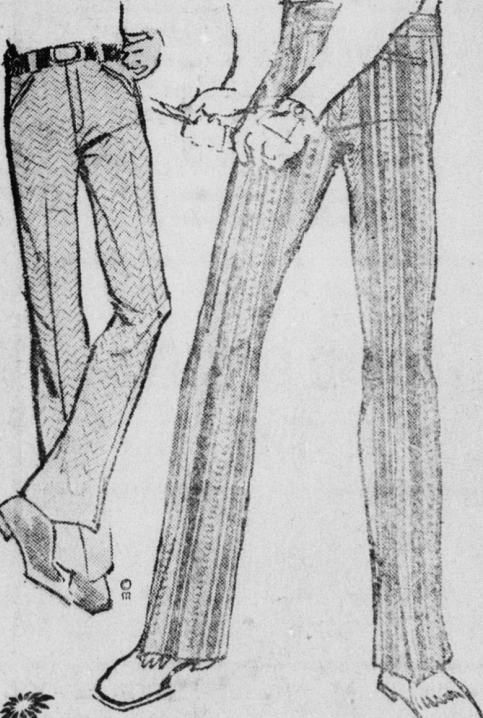
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