

# Merry Christmas

## College Student's Santa Claus

By MARTHA WILLIAMS

Santa Claus is coming.  
Bless his dear old heart!  
And thank the Lord that on this day,  
Our Christmas holidays starts.  
Now little girls dream of sugar plums,  
And dolls with laughing eyes.  
And little boys dream of Chu-chu-trains,  
And a gun that really fires.  
Me - I dream of days of ease.  
No lessons, no classes to meet;  
And add to that some home-cooked meals  
To make my joys complete.  
Santa Claus is coming,  
Straight from the pole I hear;  
And I tell you now I'm really glad  
He'll make that trip this year!

## The Origin Of The Christmas Tree

By ERNESTINE MOZINGO

How will it dawn, the coming Christmas day? Will it be the kind of Christmas we read and sing about, a white Christmas? Will there be tinkling sleighbells, snow-covered, glistening trees? Or will it dawn as most Southern Christmases, dark and damp, sad and dreary! Never snow, and never sleighs? 'Tis no matter. For come as it may, it will still be Christmas Day.

Christmas Day has a special place in the hearts of almost every person in the entire world. For despite different nationalities, different races, and different customs, Christmas has a universal meaning, the great gift of peace and good will. This spirit can be well-expressed by the old German legend of the origin of the Christmas tree.

### The Legend

It is said that two children were sitting by the fire one cold winter's night when a timid knock was heard at the door. The boy ran to open it and found a child standing outside in the cold and darkness. He was without shoes, and was clad in thin and ragged clothes. Shivering with cold, he asked to come and warm himself. "Yes," cried both the children, "you shall have our place by the fire." They drew the little stranger to their warm seat, shared their supper with him, and gave him their bed while they slept on the hard bench. In the night they were awakened by the strains of sweet music, and looking out, they saw a band of children in shining garments approaching the house. They were playing on golden harps, and the air was full of music.

Suddenly the stranger child was standing beside them, no longer cold and ragged, but clad in silvery light. His soft voice said, "I was cold and you took me in. I was hungry and you fed me. I was tired and you gave me your bed. I am the Christ-child, wandering through the world to bring peace and happiness to the hearts of all good children. As you have given to me, so may this tree every year give rich fruit to you."

So saying, he broke a branch from a fir-tree, planted it in the ground, and disappeared. But the branch grew into a great tree and every year bore golden fruit for the kind children.

This Christmas as we gather around our tree, let us remember this little story. Let's not think of our tree as just having branches and decorations, but think of it as a symbol of the spirit of giving. And even though we do not live in that part of the world "where tree-tops glisten and children listen to hear sleighbells in the snow," it will make no difference. It will still be Christmas Day!



## Gift Suggestions That Intrigue

By ERNESTINE MOZINGO

This is your fashion reporter writing you from Wilson, where I've just seen a fashion show presented by Christian (flat-look) Dior. Also I've been window-shopping, trying to think of gifts for you folks to give your friends.

Dior's blonde model presented a beautiful figure in a red flannel nightie - a perfect gift for you girls to give your roommates. But, boys, I wouldn't suggest it as a gift for your girlfriend - too impersonal!

Dior's brunette model showed a gorgeous ermine cape, which I decided would make a lovely gift for you boys to give. What? Your girl wouldn't appreciate that! But if your money is limited, you could give skunk or chipmunk scarfs.

Dior's redhead model wore pink diamond jewelry - earrings, necklace, bracelet, and pin. Perfect for your mom!

While window shopping I noticed men's wallets and driving gloves to match - all pink horsehide. Now how could you girls better please your boyfriends?

And for Dad's, I found lavender and green pipes with tobacco in matching plaid bars. Lucky man - the Dad who gets a set for Christmas!

For your teachers there are folding grade books which can fold up to a size small enough to put in a pocket. Neckties with pictures representing subjects are popular too. For instance, on the English professor's tie there is a picture of William Shakespeare holding *The Complete Works of Shelley*. And the history professor's has a picture of Andrew Jackson cutting down a chinaberry tree.

For sisters and brothers just pick out the things you like best. It's a cinch you'll use your gift more than they will, anyway.

Does that cover everyone on your list? Happy shopping! If you have any money left, would you buy me one of Dior's pure silk, mink trimmed gowns?

## First Snowfall

The earth itself lies quiet and still;  
Tall pines bend low on every hill.  
O that the world might know the whispered call  
Of peace brought by the first snowfall!

The skies are tinted a leaden gray;  
Even birds to shelter have found their way.  
O that man from war could seek some sheltered wall  
And see God's hand in the first snowfall!

—Shirley Oakes.

Selected from Mars Hill's **THE HILLTOP**

## Christmas Don't's

A word of advice before you leave for the "holidays" to catch up on your studying.

1. Don't forget to take all your books home.
  2. Don't forget Mom and Dad's Christmas gifts.
  3. Don't forget to write your letter to Santa.
  4. Don't get a job for the two weeks; your boyfriend may come home.
  5. Don't buy over one gift for the opposite sex - give that to your date on Christmas Day.
  6. Don't get married.
- And now, Merry Christmas! We're homeward bound!

## Letters To Santa

Dear Santa,

I've been quiet all year - especially when I've had laryngitis. Santa, if you'll bring me a voice, I'll be happy.

Cay Gupton



Dear Santa,

Please bring me some stuffed animals. My roommate and I have thrown my old ones at each other until they're worn out.

Helen Whitty



make me mighty happy if you could bring me a Di-dee doll, so I could stay busy.

Gerald Hill

Dear Santah,

I haven't had a call-down all year. Please bring me a Cadillac and a silver fox scarf. If you can't find a '55 Cad, "Santah baby," you can make it a Buick. And I'll even settle for an ermine. Be seeing you, darling.

Carolyn O'Briant



Dear Santa,

I've been real good all year and made lots of A's. I'd like you to bring me a hat like Roy Rogers wears, and some boots like they wear in Texas.

Vernon (Cowboy) Bryan

Dear Santa,

Both of us want about the same thing - good grades a little studying ability. Throw in a little sleep, too, please.

Betty Britt Perkins and Jesse Thomas

Dear Santa,

Sometimes it gets awful lonesome on a college campus - especially on weekends. It would

Dear Santa,

I don't mean to sound selfish, but I do so want a diamond ring!

Richard Ziglar

The oriental ingredients in mince pies are supposed to commemorate the offerings made by the wise men of the East.

The ancient Druids, who believed that mistletoe could promote fertility, made a solemn ceremony of gathering this parasitic plant. White-robed priests, after offering sacrifice, took golden knives and cut the mistletoe from the oak trees.

Dear Santa,

I need a car desperately. Every month when I go to sell ads I either have to hitch or walk my feet off.

Dot Mozingo

Dear Santa,

I believe I'm expressing the wishes of everybody. Please bring me some sleep!

Warren Goff

Dear Santa,

We're writing for everybody. We're asking you to please look after each of us during our holidays and bring us back safely to our campus. There are so many dangers during the holiday season - driving, hunting, etc. - and with all the parties and things, we may have accidents. Merry Christmas to you Santa. See you December 25.

THE COLLEGIATE

The inclusion of animals in the Nativity scene comes from an old French custom. The superstition was that these animals knelt in honor of the Manger.

"In 1659 the Puritan legislature of Massachusetts enacted that anybody found celebrating Christmas Day by feasting and "abstinence from labor" would be fined five shillings.

The superstition that cattle have the gift of speech on Christmas Eve originated in the German Alps.

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Wishes All Students

and Faculty

a Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year