

Puritans Outlawed Christmas Celebrations

'Tis the season to be jolly? Now perhaps, but being jolly was against the law 400 years ago. The Puritans in several American colonies' who strictly forbade the celebration of Christmas, levied a fine on anyone caught so much as baking a mincemeat pie.

This and other colorful bits of Christmas history decorate "A Christmas Celebration", Friday at 9 P. M. on Channel 2 over PBS. During the half-hour special, actor Richard Kiley traces the traditions and customs of our most celebrated holiday through music and historical narrative.

Videotaped entirely in the medieval setting of New York City's Cloisters Museum, "A Christmas Celebration" features the Hofstra University Collegium

Musicum and the Renaissance Street Trio, accompanied by authentic instrumentation. The musical selections complement the Cloisters environment, highlighting the holidays of the late medieval and early Renaissance periods.

Kiley also takes the humbug out of several fanciful holiday legends: the story of the Three Wise Men, the choice of December 25 for the celebration, and the derivation of Christmas presents and feasting.



The tulip originated in Central Asia and gets its name from the Turkish word for turban.



CHOOSE A SPECIAL GIFT FOR A SPECIAL PERSON — From left to right: a round plastic "People Feeder" on chrome stand, \$12.95; a \$35 flexible gnome made in Iceland holding a \$9 bottle of famous Metaxa 5-Star brandy-liqueur made in Greece; tulip-shaped, stemmed glass (\$18.50 a piece) for champagne, such as top-ranked Charles Heidsieck imported champagne, about \$12; white china mug with golfer illustration, one of a set of six, each with its own golfer illustration (\$29.95 for six); large, crystal champagne and wine cooler, \$175, adorned with brass-plated elephant heads, guarding bottle of Chateau Olivier white Graves, a fine Bordeaux that sells at around \$5.50 for a '69 vintage; brass bee with amber glass body (\$45), holding honey and brass spoon, faces bottle of Wild Turkey Kentucky Bourbon (around \$10 at 101-proof); copper espresso maker, \$36, produces eight cups of demi-tasse; and a honeycomb pattern ice tong, \$5.95.

Super gift ideas for one who has everything

Even though prices are higher this year than last, quality and ingenuity are always worth a bit extra.

Just to start your imagination going, the accompanying photo shows a representative selection of 1974 gifts for that special person on your list.

From left to right: A round plastic "People Feeder" balanced on a chrome stand keeps cocktail nibbles fresh; just tilt and collect the peanuts (\$12.95). The flexible, saucy gnome, made in Iceland (\$35), holds a bottle of the famous Metaxa 5-Star brandy-liqueur made in Greece (around \$9) which will delight the gourmet in your crowd, either to drink or to use for flaming delicious dishes.

The large, tulip-shaped stemmed glass is for "peach" champagne: put a small, peeled peach in

the bottom and cover with a top-ranked imported champagne like Charles Heidsieck, great for a fancy brunch (\$18.50 each glass; Charles Heidsieck Champagne around \$12).

The amusing white china mug with a colorful duffer swinging his club can be had with five other "golf addict" types depicted on other mugs, helping the sportsman forget the shots he missed (\$29.95 for six). In the background two brass-plated elephant heads adorn a large crystal wine and champagne cooler (\$175) guarding a precious bottle of Chateau Olivier white Graves, the sort of fine Bordeaux one raves about (around \$5.50 for a 1969 vintage).

A shiny brass bee holds honey along with a slender brass spoon, in his amber glass body, a beauty for the table worth lots of

conversation (\$45).

A gift of liquor is always well appreciated, especially one of the status and quality of the Wild Turkey Kentucky Bourbon shown (around \$10 at 101-proof). For a holiday gift just a good bottle of spirits is not good enough. Make it the top of the line so the recipient can serve it with special pride; and in fact Wild Turkey and other spirits come specially gift-packaged for the holidays.

A gleaming copper espresso-maker produces eight cups of the best demi-tasse and dresses up the table (\$36). And at the bottom is a honeycomb pattern ice tong (\$5.95); just push in the plunger and clamp onto an ice cube; no cold, wet fingers.

All gifts except spirits and wine from Hamacher, Schlemmer, New York, or in fine giftware departments everywhere.



**GLORY
GLORY**

May the Blessings of the Christ Child be with you all through this glorious holiday and always.

Our sincere thanks.

Edenton Savings & Loan Assn.

322 S. Broad St. - Edenton, N. C.

Letter To The Chowan Herald Editor

I recently received a letter from Mrs. Elsie Currin, teacher in the ESAA Reading Lab at White Oak School. Her letter explained how she has turned the children's planning and execution of a Christmas Tea into a language experience. As the students reported their thoughts about the tea Mrs. Currin wrote them down and used their combined statements as a reading lesson.

Anyone reading the following statements, quoted from the students, can see how the whole affair provided a lesson in the social graces, as well as being a language experience for these students—not just another party:

"Yesterday we had punch and cookies and fun in the reading lab with 150 of our classmates. They didn't all

come at one time. It was a floating affair. That means you come stay a while and then leave so others can come."

"First you have to do a lot of planning. We had fun planning."

"We started planning our Christmas social early in December but we kept it a secret from the other children."

"All the time we were planning, we were learning new words and reading things about it."

"We decided on a menu. It was punch and cookies. We call a party menu the refreshments."

"We planned the time for everyone to come in. Everyone had a job to do as hosts and hostesses. Michael escorted the people from the door to the punch bowl."

"I put a lovely Christmas

picture on the front of my invitation."

"We had very good manners and did not start to clean up until the last guest had said 'Merry Christmas' and gone back to their room."

"Mrs. Currin was sneaky. We made some more punch to have while we were cleaning up. She had hid some ginger ale for us."

"I had never been to a party like that before. It was so pretty."

"I was happy. I love you, I know you love me, too"

Knowing Mrs. Currin, and the feelings she has for each and every one of her students, I'm sure that the last two students' statements will be the nicest Christmas present she receives this year.

Thank you for sharing,
Mary Rhea Gardner
Edenton-Chowan Schools

Glad Christmas Tidings

For you and your dear ones, we wish a holiday filled with the warmth and wonder of Christmas. It has been a pleasure to serve you.

NORTHSIDE AUTO SALES

PEACE JOY

A wish for all mankind... may the light of His love shine for you all through the Yuletide.

In this reverent spirit, we extend thanks to our warm, wonderful friends.

Albemarle Motor Company
West Hicks Street Edenton, N. C.

Christmas Wishes

Let there be love at Christmas when all the world is warm and bright with dreams. In the hushed landscape of this glorious season, we send tidings of comfort and joy and continuing thanks to all!

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