

Cowboy's Party Is Really American

One of the most typical of our American holiday celebrations is the Cowboy's Christmas Ball, which has been held almost every year since 1884 in the small town of Anson, Texas.

his bride. It was such a success that it was repeated year after year. Christmas Eve brought the spirit of the old West to Anson. Cowboys donned their colorful dress, their gay shirts and decorated boots. Cowgirls outfitted themselves in gingham dresses "like mother wore". A cowboy band swung out the and dancers performed the heel and toe polka, the Varsouvienne, and other old folk dances.

U. S. mills have consumed less wool this year than in 1950.

Tree Decoration Has Source in Arabian Legend

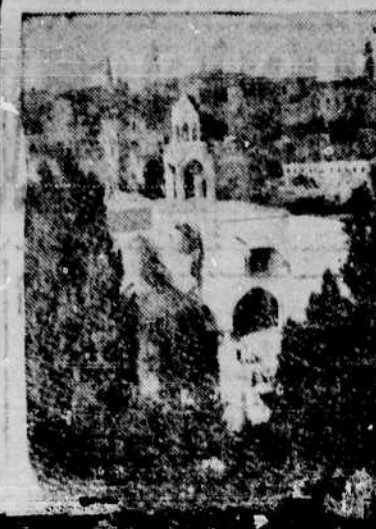
When you fasten the ornaments to your Christmas tree this year you will be commemorating a centuries-old Arabian legend that relates how plants blossomed and flowered and trees miraculously bore ripened fruit on the eve of the first Christmas.

In fact, the Christmas tree it self stems from the story of a...



Every average American home will have a Christmas tree this year. Traditional and symbolic as the trees are, they present a great fire hazard, and should be carefully watched.

Remember that when you bring a tree into the house it is going to dry up. A...



CHRISTMAS CANDLES... the soft, steady glow of a lighted candle is one of the treasures of Christmas which no one would want to lose. Another treasure is the happy child.

be Church of the Nativity

Christmas season to receive their gifts.

HERDS... This striking sculptural work was done by Andrea del Verrocchio (1435-1488) of Florence, Italy, and is in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C.

Minor Auto Accident Here Last Thursday

No one was hurt and property damage, amounting to hardly \$50, resulted when the cars of Mack Bowen and M. L. Peel, were in collision on Washington Street in front of the B and W Tire Company last Thursday afternoon.

The Peel car was parked, the Bowen car damaging a fender as it rounded the curve in the street.

The original intention to name the town Santa Fe fell through when the officials at Washington suggested that the town be named something else, since there was already a Santa Fe in New Mexico.

On Christmas Eve, in 1882, the citizens held a mass meeting to select another name, but every one proposed was discarded for one reason or another. The meeting was about to break up when Santa Claus, making his yearly visits in the neighborhood, strode in to get warm. He was in costume and his arrival put one name in every mind.

And so the town was named Santa Claus.

Custom of 'Pinata', Started in Mexico, Spreading to U. S.

The pinata, Christmas custom so long observed by the happy children of Mexico, is gradually spreading into the United States. Although it performs year-round duty in the land south of the border, the pinata is busiest during the Mexican Christian festival that lasts from December 16 to January 6. In America, it is used in various parts of the country only at Christmas time.

The pinata is made of thin, fragile clay, and is filled with sweetmeats and trinkets before being suspended from the ceiling. Each of the guests, not always only just children—is blindfolded and given a stick. The object is to swing the sticks overhead until someone shatters the pinata, sending the delicious contents pouring out.

The pinata is a great aid in making the long Christmas season tolerable for Mexican children. Tradition decrees that they must wait until the final day of the 21-day...

MERRY CHRISTMAS

To my many friends in Martin County I wish to extend sincere Christmas Greetings. I am indebted to my friends and customers for a pleasant and prosperous year.

P. P. PEEL

Merry Christmas

1951

Let's all do our best to have the happiest holiday of our lives

DARDEN'S
Department Store

VICCAR - Mon., Tues. and Wed.

What a joy to see MCM's Technicolor musical!

An American in Paris

TO THE MUSIC OF GEORGE GERSHWIN

STARRING GENE KELLY

and introducing LESLIE CARON with Oscar, George, LEVANT, GUETARY, NINA FOCH

HAMILTON THEATRE

JUNE HAVER WILLIAM LUNDIGAN FRANK FAY MARILYN MONROE

LOVE NEST

Thursday and Friday, Dec. 27 and 28

Shows at 7 and 9

A GRAND, GRAND PICTURE THAT WILL GIVE YOU A GREAT BIG LIFT!

Don't miss this wonderful, lovable story of the parson who had one foot in heaven—and a heart that was down to earth!

FREDRIC MARCH MARTHA SCOTT

"ONE FOOT IN HEAVEN"

A WARNER BROS. Re-release with BEULAH BONDI - GENE LOCKHART - ELISABETH FRASER HARRY DAVENPORT - LAURA HOPE CREWS - GRANT MITCHELL

Directed by IRVING RAPPER Screen Play by Casey Robinson From the book by Harizell Spence Music by Max Steiner

TRIO THEATRE
Robersonville, N. C.

Thursday and Friday
December 27-28 Matinee Thursday 3 P. M.

Public Auction

Of The

Harriet L. Harrison Estate
December 28 - 11:00 A. M.

Sale of the following items will be conducted at the old John Harris place located two miles east of Bear Grass on the Bear Grass-Smithwick Creek Road.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 WOOD STOVE | TABLES |
| 1 ELECTRIC STOVE | COMPLETE HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS |
| 1 WESTINGHOUSE REFRIGERATOR | CORN AND HAY BAGS CART |
| DISHES | 2 IN 1 CULTIVATOR |
| SILVERWARE | TOBACCO TRUCKS |
| RADIO | COTTON PLOW |
| 4 BEDS | TURNING PLOW |
| CHAIRS | MULE |
| DRESSERS | TOBACCO STICKS |
| BED LINENS | |

T. L. ROBERSON

Administrator of the Harriet L. Harrison Estate

to have brought the first one indoors and decorated it for the Yule season in the early 16th century.

These are only two of more than a score of legends from which today's Christmas symbols and customs stem. According to Jeanette Lee, who has probed their origin for nearly a dozen years, the American Christmas symbols—from candles and bells to kissing under the mistletoe—have no common nationality. They have come from all parts of the world.

Mrs. Lee, who is supervisor of creative art for a greeting card company, constantly utilizes the traditions and emblems of the festival as ornaments for Christmas cards and is just as constantly searching for new ones. This year for example, the bright-colored tree ornaments are in high vogue as decorative devices on Christmas cards.



Interesting Job? Santa's Beats All At This Season

Who has one of the most interesting jobs this time of year? That's easy. It's Santa.

The rotund gentleman hiding behind the red ensemble and the flowing white beard learns a great deal about the nature of humans, especially children, at this time of year.

However, after receiving thousands of letters from all over the



country, and talking to thousands of youngsters on street corners and in department stores, Santa usually comes to the same conclusion each year. Times and customs change, but children seldom do.

Requests that Santa receives follow a general pattern each year—everything from bicycles to roller skates and cowboy suits for boys, with dolls and children's necessities the favorite with the girls.

There are some exceptions. Lots of children make requests for useful items, typewriters and such, in the hope of becoming writers and stenographers. Last year one lad asked for a Bengal tiger.

Santa, understanding human that he must be, promises to fill all the requests that he can and explains tenderly why there are some out of reach.

St. Nicholas Possessed Of Great Virtue, Piety

Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, was said to have been a saint of great virtue and piety.

An ancient legend is told that he became the patron saint of school boys when he restored to life the sons of a rich Asiatic, who had been murdered by a robber-keeper while they were enroute to school in Athens. It is said that he was warned of the crime in a vision, but was unable to reach the inn in time to prevent the murders. He restored the boys to life through prayers and also forced the murderer to confess his crime to authorities.

Santa Claus, Ind., Received Its Name Christmas Eve, '82

Although many towns have names directly or indirectly associated with Christmas, there is but one town named Santa Claus, in Indiana.

Except for a lucky break, the town would have had another name and hence would not have enjoyed the annual fame that it gathers around the Yuletide sea-

There's a bright day a-coming tomorrow

... when you plan for it TODAY!

No shadows of fear or doubt darken the lives of a family when fully

Protected With Insurance

The future to them is not a subject for wishing, worrying or "hoping for the best" when the father of the family adequately provides for their survival and livelihood after his exit.

This is a question to consider now. Your delay in purchasing Insurance may cause embarrassment and in some instances suffering. Call us for a friend to friend, man to man talk regarding your insurance. You will not be obligated and our services will be given gladly and graciously.

W. G. Peele
Manager

THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF VIRGINIA
Williamston, N. C.