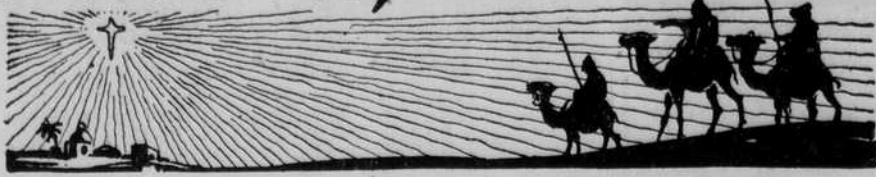


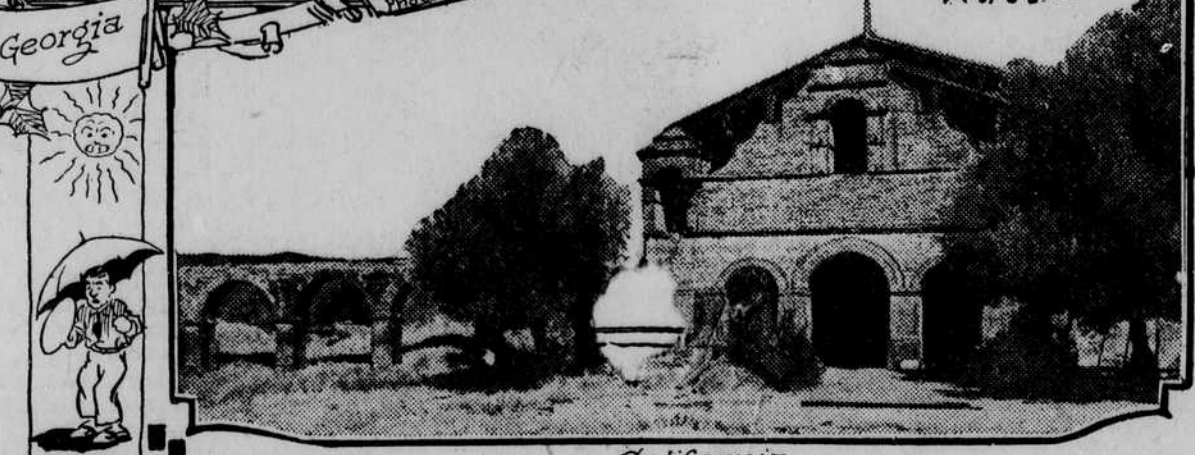
# Christmas Day Weather All Over the World



Colorado



California



California



Siberia

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

**C**HILDREN from Bangor to Denver hope for a "White Christmas." Of course they do. Wouldn't it be hard sledding for St. Nick and his reindeer on bare ground? And what's a Christmas sled without snow? But children in Miami and San Diego celebrate Christmas just as joyously, with never a thought of snow.

And so it is the world over. Children in more than two-fifths of the world celebrate Christ's natal day. Millions of them never see snow all their lives. Other millions see plenty of snow, but celebrate Christmas in the middle of summer. So Christmas day weather all over the world is of many kinds—it all depends upon where the children live.

What was the weather on that first Christmas day, nearly 2,000 years ago, when Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea—that's the first question when one begins to think about Christmas weather. Well, it must have been warm and bright, for the shepherds were feeding their flocks by night and the Wise Men of the East saw the star in the East and followed it. In modern Judea, which is drier than of old, the temperature in December by day is about like that of a cool summer day in Chicago. Sometimes it gets pretty chilly at night, but freezing weather is rare. So that first Christmas set a good example to all the ages.

Bethlehem probably has changed very little since the first Christmas. The ordinary house has but one room, on the floor of which the occupants sleep at night on mats. No one thinks of staying in the house in the daytime, except when it rains or storms. They sit on the ground outside, when not at work, and talk with the neighbors. In the rear of each house is either a shed or a dugout into the hillside. There the family ass and goats and sheep and poultry are sheltered. It was in such a grotto or cave or dug-out in the rear of some house that Joseph and Mary found shelter. It was in such a place that Jesus was born and His mother wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in the manger or trough out of which the cattle were fed.

Why did not God provide a better place in this time of need? Would it have touched the heart of mankind so deeply had Jesus been born in a palace? "For our sake He became poor that we through Him might become rich." The Lord of heaven and earth a Babe in a manger in a stable in the little town of Bethlehem that He might save us and all men from sin!

In the United States some of the Christmas day weather is very much like that of the first Christmas in the Holy Land. And some of it is just the opposite. For the United States is a big country—something like 3,000 miles from coast to coast and 1,000 miles north and south, to say nothing of Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands and our other outlying possessions. Besides, some of it is not much higher than the sea level and some of it reaches away up nearly three miles into the sky. So naturally there is a great variety of climate and weather—which is one of the things that makes the United States great and rich and good to live in.

In some parts of Alaska, for example, the children sometimes have a Christmas day almost as cold as it is in Siberia—and the artist has drawn a joking picture of a man in Siberia on such a cold Christmas that the mercury is dropping through the bottom of the thermometer. Verkhoyansk, in central Siberia, probably has the coldest Christmas day anywhere—75 degrees below zero. But Alaska is a fine country for St. Nick. There is lots of snow for his sleigh and there are thousands and thousands of reindeer from which he can pick out a fast and strong team every year.

Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer, now, Vixen!  
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Dunder and Blitzen!

In the Hawaiian Islands, by way of contrast, it is always summer and at Christmas things are green and the flowers are in bloom. Yet if anyone finds it too warm down on the seashore he can climb up on one of the high mountains. Some of them even have snow on their tops, they are so high.

There are hundreds of American children who live in the Canal Zone along the Panama canal. They and the children of Panama cannot see much change in the weather at Christmas time. It is always hot there, somewhere around 80 degrees. There are two seasons—the wet and the dry. It rains practically every day from April to December. The rest of the year is not so rainy. So the American children and their parents along the canal wish for a "dry Christmas" instead of a "white Christmas."

The little log cabin in the snow is in Taos valley, 9,000 feet up in the Colorado Rockies in Rocky Mountain National park. The mountains in the background are Meeker on the left, Lady Washington on the right and Longs Peak, "King of the Rockies" in the center (14,225 feet). It looks pretty cold on Christmas day, but it is not as cold as it looks, for the air is very dry so high up and people do not feel the cold so much in dry air as in moist air. Zero weather up there is more comfortable than 20 degrees above zero in Chicago. Snow begins to fall just about Christmas time and pretty soon people are going about on skis and snowshoes. Every winter many visitors go into Rocky Mountain National park for winter sports. The whole park is full of natural ski runs and toboggan slides down the mountain slopes, with many small lakes for skating. And in summer the weather in this great public playground, set apart by congress for the people forever, is as lovely as any in the world, warm by day and cool at night, with a profusion of flowers and birds and wild animal life. The snow on the mountains melts away, except in places of perpetual snow, and any able-bodied person, including boys and girls, can climb them.

Georgia, like the other southern states, seldom sees snow in winter time or feels freezing weather. The photograph is taken at Savannah. The place is called "The Hermitage" and the houses are old plantation homes built of bricks that were brought from England. The majestic old live oak is a feature of the scene. Children at "The Hermitage" do not cry because they do not have a "white Christmas."

The California scene takes us 3,000 miles across the continent, from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. The photograph shows the old mission, San Antonio de Padua, near Monterey. St. Anthony of Padua, who was born in Lisbon, Portugal, in 1195, was a Franciscan, who achieved great fame as a teacher; it was he, so the story goes, who taught a school of fishes with such success that they heard him with attention. The mission is one of a chain built by the Spanish priests in the early days of settlement along the Pacific. Monterey was the capital of California when it was a Mexican province. It has a balmy climate, which

does not vary much, the winter temperature averaging about 50 degrees. Think of the Christmas celebrations in this old mission more than a hundred years ago, with the zealous priests trying to teach Christianity to the wondering Indians!

Constantinople, where Europe and Asia meet, has a delightful climate at Christmas time, the daily range of temperature being from a little above freezing to 65 or 70 degrees. Constantinople was named after the Roman Emperor Constantine. He made it his capital city and was the first to protect the early Christians from persecution. Later he became a Christian himself and made Christianity the state religion. But since the middle of the Fifteenth century Constantinople has been the principal city of those who worship Mohammed instead of Christ. Still, all kinds of people live in Constantinople and Christmas day is celebrated there as in all the rest of the civilized world.

The children of London, the biggest city in the world, may have to celebrate Christmas in a fog so thick that they can hardly venture out of doors. Christmas eve may be freezing weather and Christmas Day about 50 degrees.

Now, by way of contrast, consider the Christmas day weather of children who live south of the Equator, where the seasons are turned upside down. Our winter is the summer of the countries of the Southern Hemisphere. So naturally the children celebrate Christmas in the middle of summer. A "Green Christmas" is their idea of the normal holiday, even if the winter weather may be as severe as that of Montana or New England.



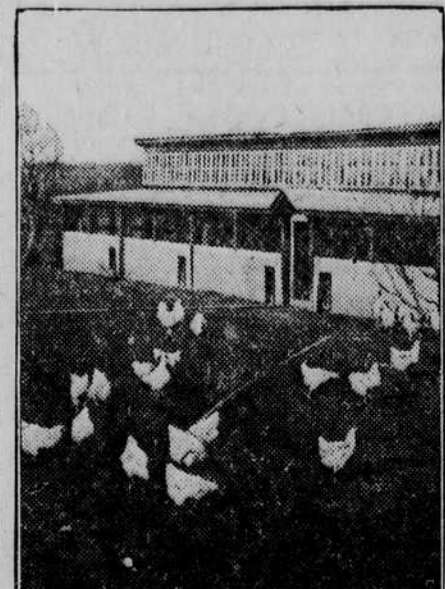
## POULTRY

### Increase Egg Production by Efficient Henhouses

The raising of poultry is one important factor in the solution of the farm meat problem not only to furnish a change from pork and beef in the wintertime but to take the place of the smoked or cured meats which are ordinarily used during the warm weather. Eggs also form an important part of the diet.

Every poultry raiser should endeavor to maintain egg production throughout the year. Under natural conditions hens lay most in the spring as they can get out in the open air and sunlight. Keeping hens in the dark, cold poultry houses practically stops egg production from November to February.

However, through the use of a concrete poultry house, W. H. Gardner, an Illinois poultry raiser was able to maintain spring rating output in his



Concrete Poultry House of W. H. Gardner of Illinois.

poultry flock throughout the winter. The increased egg production has many times repaid him the amount invested. His house shown in the illustration is 16 feet wide and 80 feet long. The front wall is five feet high and the rear wall five feet six inches. The low walls help conserve the heat given off by the fowls. The house has a south exposure with practically all windows and other openings on the south side. Plenty of sunlight deals death to disease germs. Concrete construction permits the most complete sanitation because the house can very easily be cleaned and kept clean. It goes without saying that rats cannot gnaw through nor find nesting place in the concrete house. The smooth floor, concrete floor, walls and foundation provide no cracks nor crevices to harbor lice, mites or other parasites which cause the poultryman so much worry and loss.

Mr. Gardner's experience with his poultry house shows that increased egg production from a flock of 400 fowls amounts to sufficient to pay for the house in four months.

### Scaly Leg of Chickens Is Very Common Ailment

Scaly leg of chickens is a very common condition in the farm flock and one that causes considerable loss in the egg basket. It is caused by the boring of a small mite into the flesh of the feet and legs, causing a secretion which hardens on the legs, forming scales.

The mites are embedded in the flesh of the legs and feet and in order to kill them they must be treated with a penetrating oil.

The best treatment is the constant application of an ointment made of 1 part of oil of caraway to 5 parts of petroleum jelly. Use until the legs are clean. Another method is to take a quart can full of kerosene and dip the legs to within an inch of the knees in the oil. Great care should be exercised in preventing any of the oil from getting on the feathers as it will blister the skin underneath.

The mite that gives the most trouble is found where fowls are confined on dry barren runs, or on soils filled with ashes or cinders.

### Selecting Varieties to Start New Chicken Flock

In selecting varieties to start a new flock, fancy breeds are usually left alone by any one who does not make a business or a pastime of poultry-keeping. It is pleasant for a person who keeps but a dozen or twenty hens to have them of some choice breed, and to take great pains with them; studying into their habits, their "points", and all that. But few persons have either the taste or inclination to be successful breeders; so, as a rule, it is best to keep common or mixed hens, but a full-blooded cock of one of the best breeds.

### Geese in Small Flocks

Geese can be raised in small numbers successfully and at a profit on many farms where there is low, rough pasture land containing a natural supply of water. They need a house only during cold or stormy weather, when an open shed should be provided.

### Most Popular Geese Breeds

The Toulouse and Embden are the most popular breeds of geese in this country. The Toulouse is the largest breed, the adult gander weighing 25 pounds and the goose 20 pounds.

## Grandmother Knew

There Was Nothing So Good for Congestion and Colds as Mustard

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To Mothers: Musterole is now made in milder form for babies and small children. Ask for Children's Musterole. 35c and 65c, jars and tubes; hospital size, \$3.00.



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FOR SALE

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It takes more than nine men to make a fashionable tailor.

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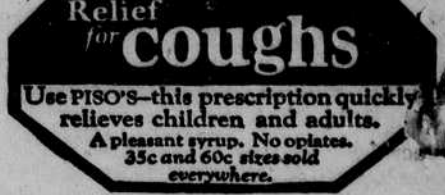
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