

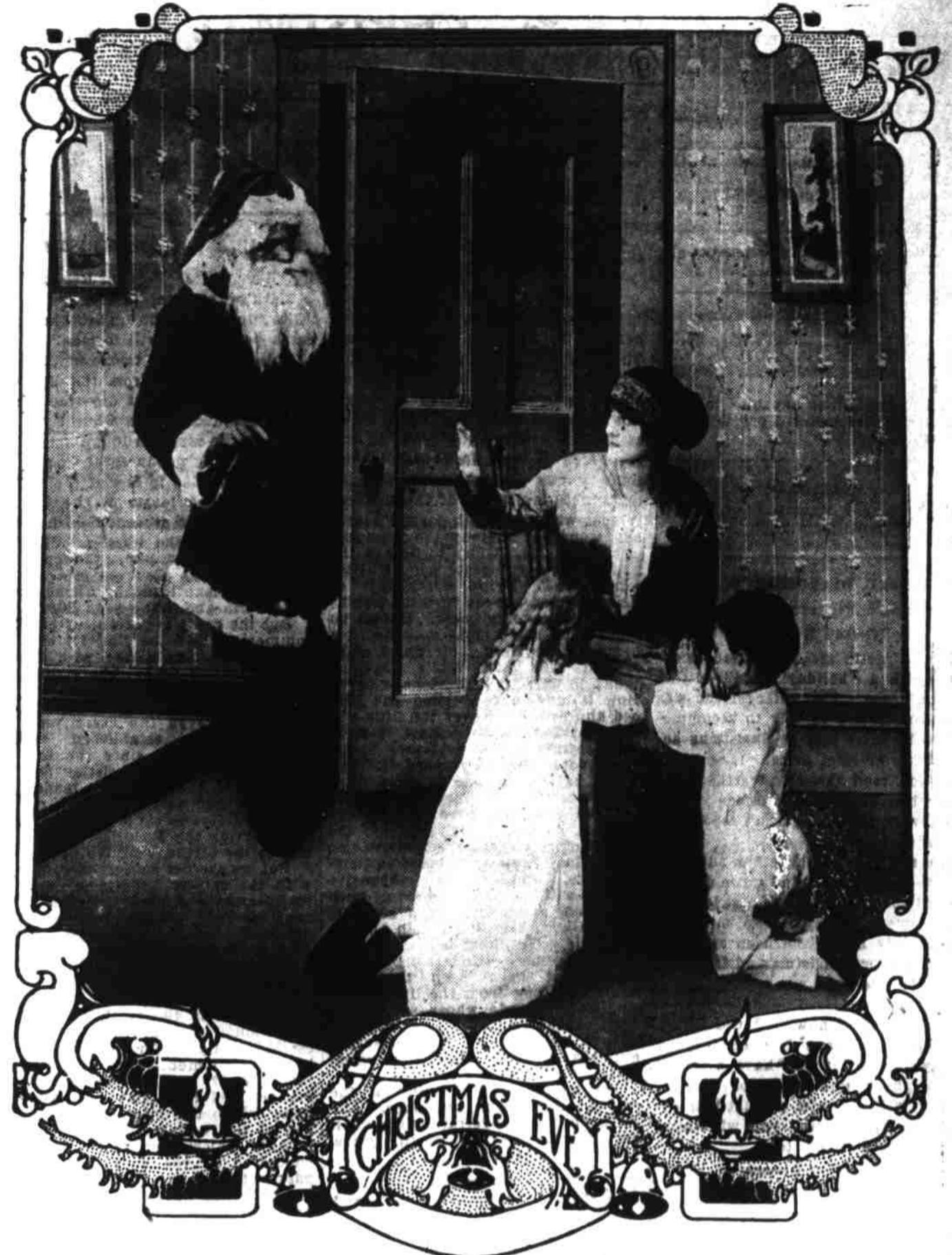
The Best Christmas Present Of All

A Year's Subscription to The

Gastonia Gazette

That absent friend will be reminded of you in this way 104 times during 1914

No other present could be secured for \$1.50 that would be appreciated so much or so often.



Quotations to Go With Christmas Gifts

A PRETTY and original touch may be given a Christmas gift by accompanying it with a dainty card on which are written the recipient's name and some apt quotation of an appropriate nature. A few selected quotations suitable for different gifts may be of interest.

For a postal card album:
Kind messages that pass from land to land.—Longfellow

For a set of books by a well known author:
The chief glory of every people arises from its authors.—Dr. Johnson

For a small afternoon tea caddy:
Tea, thou soft, thou sober, sage and venerable liquid.—Colley Cibber.

For a useful purse:
The best friends are in the purse.—German Proverb

Happy the man who, void of cares and stiff or in leathern purse retains in silken or in-leathern purse retains A splendid shilling. —John Phillips.

With a pack of cards:
The cards beat all the players, be they never so skillful.—Emerson.

With a pair of gloves:
Oh, that I were a glove upon that hand! —Romeo and Juliet.

With a silver handglass:
The heart, like a mirror, should reflect all objects without being sullied by any.—Confucius

With a "tear-off" calendar:
The longest day must have an end.—Italian Proverb

A Christmas gift of a ring for a fiancée or wife:
So let our love As endless prove And pure as gold forever. —Robert Herrick.

For the last baby:
Much is the worth, and even more is made of her.—W. E. Henley.

With an umbrella:
The year, most part deformed with dripping rains.—Cowper.

With a cookbook:
The taste of the kitchen is better than the smell.—Old Proverb.

With an electric torch lamp:
To a great night a great lantern.—Old Proverb

With a needlecase:
Who hath need of a hundred eyes.—Old Proverb

With a photograph:
Generally music feedeth the disposition of spirit which it findeth.—Bacon.

and the infant Jesus, two archangels, Lucifer and three of his minions and a number of shepherds. The costumes are adapted to the Mexican conception of the characters and are novel in the extreme. All of the costumes are got up tastefully, and, while a strict conformance with the requirements of the first century might rob Joseph of his sombrero, still it is doubtful if the lesson which it is desired to instill in the minds of the people would be as effective if all the minor details of the early Jewish fashions were followed.

The scene of the play opens near Bethlehem, where the shepherds are tending their flocks, by a host of angels appearing and telling them of the birth of the Saviour and inviting them to follow to where he lies. They follow the star which leads them to the stable, in the manger of which the infant rests in the arms of Mary and Joseph. While rejoicing, Lucifer, armed with two swords, appears and attempts to destroy the child Jesus, but is repulsed by two angels, who keep watch over him. Not to be outdone, Lucifer summons three archdemons, who fight with the angels for the course of half an hour, resulting in the final overthrow of the evil one and his emissaries and the placing of the feet of the angels upon their necks.

Then the shepherds break out into rejoicing, and, while a portion of them sing the praises of the Redeemer who is born unto them, others chant in a harmonious strain the goodness and mercy of God. This feature, accompanied by music on the harp and violin, is kept up until a late hour each night until the holidays are over.

One must understand the Mexican people and their devoutness and intense religious feeling to fully appreciate how strongly the presentation of the shepherds affects their minds.

TRY THIS EXPERIMENT.

SUPPOSE all grownup people were to say to one another: "This year instead of exchanging presents let us club together and give out presents to poor children who will not otherwise have any Christmas. There are hundreds of them somewhere. If we do not know of such a child let us give our present to a hospital for children or a home for the aged, for the blind, for the feeble minded or incurables. Why could not we try this as an experiment and see what the result would be?"

Radium as a Christmas Gift.
Particles of radium have probably formed the smallest Christmas gifts. In order that the recipients could not complain of having received a cheap present this had developed and was popular in English society circles soon after the discovery of the metal. To give radium in this way costs from \$10 to \$50, the outfit necessary therefor consisting of a spectroscope and a tiny speck of the new metal hardly big enough to be seen with the naked eye.

Santa Claus' Problem

By GRACE M'KINSTRY

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ST. NICHOLAS! St. Nick, alas, You have a hard time, don't you? The gifts you used to make won't pass. You'll have some new ones, won't you?

Cloth dolls are awful! They hold germs!

Bright colored books are tawdry And spoil the taste, our age affirms, Of Reginald and Audrey. Toy animals are poorly made, So may teach nature faking. Of colored candy we're afraid— St. Nick, what are you making?

Turkey Displaces the Peacock.
The Christmas turkey has displaced the famous roasted peacock as the most desirable dish for the Yuletide dinner. Two or three hundred years ago, in Merry England, each family sought to obtain the largest peacock for the Christmas dinner. A boar's head was another popular dish in those days. The table was usually decorated with the brightest plumage of the peacock.

Plum pudding and mince pie are minor but necessary accompaniments of Christmas day, and strangely enough the former was long ago accepted as typical of the riches and spices brought by the three wise men to the child in the manger, while the Christmas pie was held in abhorrence by all members of strict protestant bodies, who be-

lieve the prophetic sons deny. And mince broths are too hot; Treason's in the December pie And death within the pot.

HOW TO SPEND CHRISTMAS.

Forget Yourself For the Day and Try to Make Others Happy.

DAY off, a few remembrances from relatives and friends and a good dinner—is that all that Christmas means to you? Surely you are going to make it an occasion for more than usual rejoicing this year, a real old-fashioned Christmas. Surely you are going to be more liberal in spirit than ever before and scatter merriment on all sides. Have you been a little selfish, have you devoted so much time to enjoying yourself that you have forgotten other folks?

Those you have forgotten are good folks, aren't they, the best folks in the world? And you are just going to show them how appreciative you are. You don't like this modern way of turning dear old Christmas into an occasion for trading and exchanging gifts. You are going to see all the friends you can on that day and shake hands with as many; pat them on the back and tell them how glad you are to be with them. And to those you cannot see, you are going to write letters, send them all the love and tell them you want to hear from them oftener. Isn't that how you feel about the greatest of all birthdays?

CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO A RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL.

CHRISTMAS celebrations in Mexico differ greatly from ours and usually last for several days. Bright lanterns suspended in the air proclaim the glad tidings of the holidays, and every Mexican Jaal, no matter how humble, puts out its beacon to light the steps of the Saviour should be purchased. The story of the birth of the Christ is usually performed in the form of a play, and the most important can readily understand. The performance is given by fifteen players, consisting of Joseph and Mary

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When Christmas Comes in Billville,
Atlanta Constitution.
When Christmas comes in Billville town
There's joy the ringin' country round.
It's hallelujah up an' down
When Christmas comes in Billville.

In sunny weather, blandin' snow,
When blizzards do their best to blow,
The happy land o' life we know
When Christmas comes in Billville.

The old town fiddler—give him place
An' let him make the music race.
He'll laugh the wrinkles off his face
When Christmas comes in Billville.

Not even a growler wears a frown,
For Joy goes gallopin' aroun'.
We run old Trouble out o' town
When Christmas comes in Billville.

The Merry Season in Eden.
Adam sings,
"I've seen the old world state of clothes
In the morning, and so I'll give
me a necktie," he muttered.

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100 HORSES, MARES 100 and MULES

Since our last notice we have received two cars of stock, one car of extra nice good broke Tennessee Mules right out of work and ready for use and a car of fine brood mares, some extra good heavy ones on the draft type or Percheron blood. You can now get suited in almost any kind of animal you may want, so don't wait but come at once and make your choice.

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