#### **Brooks Cross Roads**

Clyde Prevette, Dr. Hackett Harding and Prof. C. R. Wright were among those from here who attended the Duke-Pitt football game at Durham Saturday.

Miss Beulah Hinson spent the week-end recently in Greensboro the guest of Miss Dene Loel, a former classmate at Asheville Teachers College.

Mrs. Fred Money and little daughter, Barbara, visited rela-tives in Statesville, during

Little Miss June Wallace, small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Wallace, underwent a tonsil operation at Davis hospital, Statesville, last week. She is doing nicely.

Mr Silas W. Paris, of Atlanta Ga., was the Thanksgiving guest of relatives and friends here. Miss Audrey Shore, who teaches

at Concord, spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Miles Shore. Mr. and Mrs. Roe Spann and children, of Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Nan Shore were the guests

Thanksgiving Day. James Blevins and J. T. West made a business trip to West Jefferson Saturday.

of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Shore on

The many friends of Mrs. Bob Burgess will regret to learn that she is confined in Davis hospital, Statesville. She had an appendicitis operation last week and is getting along as well as could be expected.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Dobbins and little son, Bobby, attended church services at Grassy Knobs church in Iredell county Sunday afternoon and heard a good sermon by the Rev. Grady White, former pastor of Oak Grove Baptist church.

Miss Frieda Boger, of Winston-Salem, visited Miss Gerry Weaver on Saturday.

Mrs. Dora Shermer, of North Wilkesboro, returned to her home Monday after having spent last week as the house guest of Mrs. H. J. Weaver.

Miss Carolyn Melton, member of the Stoneville school faculty, visited her parents, Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Melton, during Thanksgiv-

#### Surprise Birthday Supper

On Monday night, November 21, Jack Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sol Brown, was honored on his 15th birthday anniversary when a group of friends and relatives gathered at the home.

A bountiful supper was served consisting of sandwiches, pickles and various kinds of cakes and The table was decorated with pink and yellow chrysanthemums. Thirty-four guests enjoyed the occasion, among them being the honoree's grandmother, Mrs. Wid Shore, who is 84 years old, and her sister, Mrs. Kate Nicks, who is 87 years old. Mr. Brown received many useful gifts.

Coins 2000 years old are still carried as pocket-pieces by native Bedouins in legendary country of the Queen of Sheba.



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## **Banker Plays** Role of Santa For Prisoners

Distributed Money to Charity Under Name, "Mickey Finn"

SIOUX CITY, IOWA.-A mysterious Santa Claus whose identity was revealed only at his death early in 1937, will be remembered here each Christmas as one of Sioux City's most beloved characters.

His name was Ed T. Kearney, a with anonymous contributions to inpoorly written letters bearing the signature, "Mickey Finn."

A sample of Kearney's unusual letters has been uncovered in the place, filled his regular appointcounty, Ill., in 1930:

cHicaGo ilL deC 2 0 1930.

CHICAGO IIL deC 2 0 1930.,

pLeSE USE tHE SMAI CHECK INCIOSED
to by SUM nUts er kandy eR fRute fer
eny pore pepul yo'U may hav with
yo'U in yu're jale on crismus day
fRm me,
an tel em t go strate an don't
drink eny buze fer the rotin stuf we
gits now will sur kil any one who
drinks it.

1 bin sick an kant git much work
an am hard up myself but i go strate
Now fer i fond out that crukidn'ss
don pay nun.
an give em al the bes iuv an
wishiss uv ther trew fren an wel
wishir,
yurrs trewly.

yUrrs tRewLy, mIckeY fiNn.

The identity of "Mickey Finn" was not discovered until Kearney was in a Sioux City hospital during his last illness. A daughter, possessed of some circumstantial evidence, confronted her father with the question and he confessed that he was "Mickey Finn." When his private papers were examined clippings were found substantiating his

The character of Mickey Finn was created early in the 1900s when Mr. Kearney was president of a bank at Jackson, Neb. He met many bankers from over the country at conventions and when he started his Santa Claus role in the person of "Mickey Finn," he simply wrote his banker friends in other cities and obtained their co-operation in sending the checks and keeping his identity se-

## **Ancient Holly** Still Spreads **Holiday Cheer**

In homes throughout America this Christmas the holly plant will carry on its age-old duty of spreading Yuletide spirit, a custom that dates back to the pagan tribes of conti-

nental Europe.
Originally the holly grew wild in the United States over a range from Massachusetts to Missouri and south to Florida and Texas. But too much harvesting in northeastern United States has destroyed much of the natural growth. Today most holly is grown from Norfolk, Va., to Florida within 50 or 60 miles of the Atlantic coast, and westward in the Gulf region to Louisiana. Gulf region to Louisiana.

Current popularity of the holly is a continuation of the custom of the Druid feasts which honored the mistletoe and holly in pagan rites. In Europe the tribes under Roman rule sent holly branches to each other as



evidence of good will. Homes and churches were decorated with holly laden with crimson berries when the pagans celebrated the feast of Saturnalia, the "turning on of the sun."

Yuletide, the feast made to the Celtic sun god, Yaioul, finally became the celebration of Christmas, and the holly tree, known as the holy tree, became the sacred tree for decorations at our Christmas festivals.

Holly does not bear berries until it is five years old. Before that time the male and female trees cannot be told apart. There are more than 300 species of the plant, all of them native to the temperate and tropical regions of both hemi-

Only the American and English holly trees have rich green leaves. These are outlined with sharp spines or teeth, and the fruiting branches have round crimson berries.

fichester Badger Feast ILCHESTER, ENGLAND. -- One of the strangest surviving Christmas customs is the Ilchester badger feast, started by poachers in Norman times. Soon before the feast the village lads catch a badger, kill and dress it. On Christman and dress it. On Christmas eve it is strung on a spit over a huge fire in the inn. When it is ready the party attacks it with fingers—no cut-lery is allowed. Singing and toast-ing accompany the feast, which attracts practically all the villagers

and nearby farmers.

#### CRUTCHFIELD

Hog killing occupies the center of the stage in this community at the present time. Plenty of corn and lots of big hogs ought to mean a happy time for everybody.

Mr. Isaac W. Gentry and Miss Dorothy Mae Corder were married Saturday afternoon at the home of the bridegroom's pastor, Rev. T. S. Draughn, with Rev. Draughn officiating. Mr. Gentry is the son of Mrs. J. M. Gentry of the Friendship community, and is one of the prominent and leading real estate man and banker who young men of that section. Mrs. brought Yuletide joy to hundreds Gentry is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Corder of Little Richmates of prisons and missions. His mond, and is one of the most gifts were always accompanied by popular young women of that community. We wish for them a long, happy, and prosperous life. Rev. T. S. Draughn of this

note written to the sheriff of Cook ment at Friendship Baptist church Saturday night and Sunday, preaching to a large congregation at each service. This church is one of the most progressive rural churches in this part of the county. Its Thanksgiving offering for the Children's Home at Thomasville amounted to \$107.63, consisting of canned goods, clothing, quilts and money. Several of the members visited

## PRAYER

The following prayer was found in the Chester Cathedral, Chester, England, during the 18th

> Give us a good digestion, Lord, And also something to digest, Give us a healthy body, Lord, With sense to keep it at its best Give us a healthy mind, good Lord, To keep the good and pure in sight, Which seeing sin is not applied But finds a way to set it right. Give us a mind that is not bored. That does not whimper, whine or sigh; Don't let us worry overmuch About the fussy thing called I. Give us a sense of humor, Lord; Give us the grace to see a joke, To get some happiness from life. And pass it on to other folk. Amen

ported a very pleasant and enjoyable trip.

Rev. and Mrs. T. S. Draughn

the Home a few days before Mrs. N. C. Stokes Thanksgiving fering to the children. They re- stead of turkey. Much better! Don't you think so?

with his mother, Mrs. J. W. Dob-With best wishes to The Tri-

### BRANON

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Comer, of Glasgow, Ky. Winston-Salem, spent Thanksgiving with their daughter, Miss Hazel Blundy.

Miss Doris Ruth Smith spent Thanksgiving with friends in Yadkinville.

spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Boles. Miss Beulah Hinson had as her

Raleigh.

Miss Ethel Swisher spent man. It is used as a fodder Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Adams at Hamptonville, Mr. and Mrs. Adams also had as their guest Mrs. Annie Adams, of Bowling Green, Ohio.

A Christmas program is being planned at Branon Friends church.

Mrs. Carrie Cumimngs has returned home from a Winston-Thanksgiving and carried the of- day. O'possum was served in- Salem hospital where she has been a patient. She had as her Sunday guests Mr. and Mrs. Taft Cummings, of Boonville, Mrs. Mr. Charles A. Dobbins of Rosa Hurt, Mr. Guy Cockerham, were dinner guests of Mr. and Winston-Salem, spent Sunday Mrs. Paul Hurt, of near Boonville,

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Martin and son, Bobby, and Mr. M. H. Hilton and son, Dewey, of Jonesville. Miss Hazel Helton, of Winston

Salem, spent Thanksgiving with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie

Helton. Mr. Davis Brannon returned home Saturday from a visit to

Miss Esther Braswell returned to her home in Goldsboro Sunday after visiting Rev. Mrs. I. T. Cox. A revival began at Branon Friends church Sunday night. It will continue through the week if Miss Pauline Boles, a student the weather is favorable. Rev. at Woman's College, Greensboro, Melvin Hinshaw is conducting the services.

The desert spineless cactus pro-Thanksgiving guests friends from duces a larger crop per acre than any other plant known to

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Prizes to Be Awarded Saturday, December 24th, 6:00 P. M.



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