

Toy Factory Makes Pint-Size Machinery

Cincinnati, Ohio (AP)—Chances are that toy road grader or fire truck you buy your child for Christmas was made at the Doepke brothers' plant here.

Today they count the toys they produce in the hundreds of thousands and they have a world-wide distribution system. But in 1945 their plant was just an idea. But the idea was so good it has been booming their business ever since.

Children ought to have toys with a purpose—something to give them constructive activity. That was the idea. It started with a Christmas shopping trip. The brothers found lots of toy soldiers, guns and tanks. They found some old toys which they had used as children in the attic. Rehabilitated, these made a hit with modern children.

Charles and Frederick Doepke had been running a small machine shop which had made war goods and they were looking for something they could produce. Why not modern replicas of modern machinery?

Their first product was a model earth mover. They added other items. In recent years, they have



Fire truck with an operating ladder is one of the toys turned out by the Doepkes.

limited themselves to five at any one time. They drop the less popular toys and add others.

Now they have an assembly line a quarter mile long. From it come pint-size machines at the rate of one every half minute.

Britain's Prince Charles and Sister Eagerly Awaiting Santa's Arrival

Wolferton, Norfolk, England (AP)—There will be more than a little noise at a royal mansion called Sandringham house this Christmas. For prince Charles, husky four-year-old and Princess Anne, who is two, are at noisy ages.

The British royal family will as usual, be at nearby Sandringham for Christmas. Queen Elizabeth, the duke of Edinburgh, their children, the queen mother Elizabeth and princess Margaret will be there, and relatives and a few friends will be invited.

From a study overlooking a broad terrace the queen will make her Christmas broadcast to the whole of her empire in the afternoon. It is the room normally used for these Christmas talks by the head of the British nation and commonwealth? The first was made by King George V in 1932 and since then they have been skipped only two years, 1936 and 1938.



Where's Santa? Princess Anne and Prince Charles wait.

Not a Recording This Time

Always, except once, they have been "live" broadcasts. The talk last year by the ailing George VI, weak after a lung operation, was a recording, an effort of considerable difficulty in which listeners around the world could detect the strains under which he labored to keep his annual appointment with "my people." The broadcast by his daughter this year will be "live."

The fact that the king died since last Christmas, and that he was at an unusually big Christmas party last year, will give older members of the family some melancholy reflections. So more than usual, it will be a festival for the children, and they will be expected to make it a merry day.

Prince Charles by now knows all that a child needs to know about Christmas, and Princess Anne is catching up fast. The queen and the children have arranged to come to Sandringham some days before Christmas, and Prince Charles hoped it would be soon enough so he could be of some help to Jim Brown.

It's Jim Brown's business, as head forester on the 7,000-acre Sandringham estate, to pick out, and chop down, and set up just the correct spruce tree. He sets it up in the big ball room of Sandringham house, and it must be just the right height—12 feet—to allow for the star on top. Then around the tree he sets trestle tables, and on these are spread the presents for everyone. Jim Brown also drags in a very large log for the fireplace and, as is proper in an English home, the yule log and the glittering tree become twin hearts of the Christmas festival.

150 Rooms; 75 Servants

Sandringham house is a three-story stone mansion of 150 rooms, many gables, turrets and hundreds of windows. It is out in the country. The adjacent village of Sandringham has a population of only

about 100. The estate lies in a flat countryside just a few miles from the North sea, and it is a region which can become very cold and desolate. Desolate particularly are some of the moors where bracken and thickets, rather than trees and farm lands, are features of a somewhat cheerless landscape. With a little luck of weather there might be some snow for the toy sleds which are sure to be among the presents for royal youngsters. There is certainly room to maneuver them on the spacious lawns.

The moors which on a day of sleet or fog look so dreary are precisely the feature of the region which first attracted notice of British kings. The moors made excellent breeding grounds for grouse, partridges and pheasants. Both George V and George VI were expert shots, and the last king introduced the Duke of Edinburgh to the delights of hunting. The duke has become an enthusiast, and some hunting is sure to be on the program of his Christmas season. The birds being hunted at present are partridges, and the estate staff hopes it has managed to chase out most of the poachers.

Bring Home the Bacon!

So what the royal family eats in the Christmas season may depend in part on the duke's skill with a shot gun. There will be game, more or less, and turkey is a traditional bird.

The family travels to Sandringham some days before Christmas, preceded by about 50 servants of Buckingham palace to augment the royal mansion's permanent staff of a couple of dozen. The real observance of Christmas starts on the eve. In recent years a Salvation army choir from the village of Dersingham has come over to serenade the family with a program of

carols. The singers are invited in for refreshments.

Parcel opening time is after breakfast on Christmas day, and this year, growing children, being about, it is expected to be the noisiest moment of the day. Royal Christmas presents usually are simple objects, useful or of sentimental interest. Such gifts as automobiles, yachts and polo ponies are given on other occasions, although the queen may have a suspicion that she will be getting some jewelry.

Church on the Estate

In the forenoon the family goes to the service in the church of St. Mary Magdalene, on the estate grounds, at which villagers and farmers may worship. It was in this little church that the body of King George VI first lay in state, last February.

At Sandringham, the chief Christmas meal comes at mid day. At 3 p.m., the queen makes her talk on the world-girding radio network. She is not afraid of a microphone. Her voice is high and clear and she is a lady of unusual poise.

After that—relaxation. Sandringham becomes a lonely, inaccessible spot in Norfolk. The royal family becomes a private family. Head scarves, mackintoshes and flat heeled shoes for the women, while hunting clothes or most anything that's comfortable become the favorite attire of the men.

It is the custom to remain in this semi-retirement well into January.

In the Middle Ages when churchmen went into battle they often carried warclubs with heavy, sometimes spiked heads because canonical rules denied them the sword as a weapon of bloodshed.

Letters to Santa Claus

Dear Santa:

I'm just five years old and you know I can't write so I'm getting my mama to write this letter to you for me.

I would like very much to have a two-wheel bike for Christmas. My mama thinks I might be too small for a two-wheeler but she said she would ask you so please, I've been a good boy this year and I'll be careful, so please see what you can do.

Thank you so much,
Dickie Horne,
1111 Ann st.
Beaufort

Dear Santa:

I am a little girl five years old. I want you to bring me a bicycle, cowboy suit and a set of guns. I'll be very good until Christmas and Santa I want you to bring my friends lots of toys too.

Lots of love,
Kenneth Gillikin,
Otway

Dear Santa Claus:

My name is Cheryl Adams and I live in Morehead City. I am three and one-half years old and I believe I have been a good little girl all year.

I would like you to bring me a two-wheel bike, a doll baby and some clothes, and a pair of white boots. Please fill my Christmas stocking.

Cheryl Adams
1604 Arendell st.
Morehead City

Dear Santa:

I am a little girl eight years old. I have tried to be good and help my mother all I can. I want you to bring me this year a two-wheel bike, a doll with saran hair, a pen and pencil set and anything else that you would like me to have.

Love,
Alexis Jones
Newport

Dear Santa:

Just a few lines to let you know that I am a little boy five years old.

Please send me a drum and an airplane and a house and a boat and car and some fruit and nuts.

Love,
Edward Hardesty,
509 Mulberry st.
Beaufort

Dear Santa:

Just a few lines to let you hear from me. I am fine and hope you are the same.

Bring me a pair of shoes and a coat for Christmas and I will thank you very much.

Be a good man, Santa.
Delores Del Frazier
418 Pollock st.
Beaufort

Dear Santa:

Please bring me guns, cowboy hat, Roy Rogers western set, fire truck, candy and nuts.

David Lenayal
404 Arendell
Morehead City

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