

Yule Tree Lights Traced To Luther

Decorating the Christmas tree with lights is a custom that some historians trace back to Martin Luther, the Reformation leader,

Encyclopedia Americana researchers say.

After a walk one Christmas Eve under a brilliant starlight sky, Luther returned home and tried to reproduce the scene for his family by lighting candles on the Christmas tree.



WISHING YOU ALL THE JOYS OF AN OLD FASHIONED Christmas!
The Arthur Hay Agency
"All Kinds Of Insurance"
Phone 739-3659

Hired Farm Labor To Feature Survey

Special questions on hired farm labor will be asked in the December Current Population Survey, it was announced today by the U. S. Census Bureau.

The special farm labor questions will include inquiries on the number of days worked during 1961, cash wages or salary received during the year, and the type of work done such as with livestock, with machines, or hand labor. The farm labor information is being collected for the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the U. S. Department of Labor.

The questions on hired farm labor are in addition to the regular inquiries on employment and unemployment which are asked each month in the Current Population Survey.

The Current Population Survey will be conducted here and in 332 other sample areas of the country during the week of December 18. Information will be collected locally by Mrs. Frances C. Hedden, 508 Crescent Hill Road, Kings Mountain, N. C.

Census Bureau activities in this area are supervised by Joseph R. Norwood, Regional Field Director, 212 South Tryon Street, Charlotte 2, N. C.

In Norway preparations for Christmas traditionally start six months before December 24. The Christmas celebration itself lasts three weeks. The period, according to Book of Knowledge researchers, is known as the Julafred, or the Peace of Christmas.

O Come, All Ye Faithful
LATIN HYMN BY CANON FREDERICK OAKLEY 1802-1880
O come, all ye faith-ful, Joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
come, ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem,
Come and be-hold Him, Born the King of an-gels, O
come, let us a-dore Him, O come, let us a-dore Him, O
come, let us a-dore Him—Christ—the Lord.

"ADESTE FIDELIS", O Come All Ye Faithful, one of the earliest Christmas hymns, is now one of the most popular — said to be sung, around the world, more often than any other. It is sung to the tune of "Cantus Diversi", published in 1751, and it probably existed much earlier. It has been translated into 120 languages, from the original Latin. One of the 40-some English versions, the best known is this one by Frederick Oakley.

There's Caroling Everywhere, But Start Of Custom Obscure

"Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant."
"Silent night, holy night."
"God rest you merry, gentlemen."
"It came upon the midnight holly."
"O little town of Bethlehem."
"Deck the halls with boughs of clear, that glorious song of old."
"On the first day of Christmas."

Whenever people gather, the glad sounds of hymns and carols ring out at Christmas time, as they have for centuries.

Although the words and music of favorite carols are well known, the meaning of the word "carol" itself is obscure. One explanation holds that it comes from the old French word, "caroler," meaning "to dance." The first carols were often sung by worshippers dancing in a circle.

There is also the belief that "carol" comes from the Greek word for flute player, in compliment to the musicians who played for the Christmas ring-dances. Still another thought is that carols originated with the songs of the Roman Saturnalia.

The name "Father of the Christmas Carol," is often given to Francis of Assisi. At Greccio in 1224, he arranged a Nativity scene and led the singing of songs of praise to the Christ Child. Although carols had been sung earlier, this act by St. Francis gave impetus to the idea of happy singing at the Christmas season.

Early carols in Latin. As carols gained popularity during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, many people preferred to sing in their own languages, and new carols were developed.

The growth of carols was helped along by "wassailing" or "goading" expeditions. Children went from house to house, singing songs and receiving treats.

Wynkyn de Word, apprentice to the famous English printer, Caxton, issued the first printed book of carols in 1521.

Later, English people learned carols from printed "broadsides" which sold for a penny. When the Puritans abolished holiday observances in the seventeenth century, the broadsides were still printed and "bootlegged" to the public. Students of Christmas stories

Ice Increases Driving Hazards

Five percent of fatal motor vehicle accidents and 10.7 per cent of all motor vehicle accidents in 1960 occurred on snowy icy roads according to reports of 25 state traffic authorities.

Reduce driving speed and increase the distance between vehicles when snow or ice are on roads and streets and be particularly careful on bridges, advises the Insurance Information Institute.

It takes 3 to 12 times as far to stop on snow and ice as on dry pavement, according to the National Safety Council's committee on Winter Driving Hazards. At 20 m. p. h. (miles per hour), stopping distance is 60 feet on loosely packed snow and 195 feet on ice.

The recommended technique for stopping quickly and with full control of your car is a fast up-and-down pumping of your brakes.

Mystery Of Magi Leads To Legend

Familiar to all is the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem — and yet little is known about it. In the books of the New Testament only St. Matthew reports the visit.

St. Matthew called them "wise men from the East". In the legends that have developed, they are sometimes called "Magi", because this word, meaning "august", was the name given the priests of the ancient Medes and Persians.

Tradition says they had heard that a bright new star would announce the coming of a Saviour to the world. After years of watching, they saw the star and set out from Babylon to find Him.

In Bethlehem, they gave the Christ Child gold in a shrine-shaped casket, a sign that they accepted Him as their King; frankincense, a symbol of His deity; and myrrh in a golden horn, a prophecy of His death.

Wright Aboard USS Kitty Hawk

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (FHTNC) —Clayton L. Wright, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher C. Wright of Kings Mountain, N. C., is serving aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, operating with the First Fleet out of San Diego, Calif.

Commissioned last April, the Kitty Hawk is the first carrier in the world to be armed entirely with guided missiles.

RUPTURE-EASER

Double \$3.95
Right or Left \$1.95
Fitting guaranteed
A strong, form-fitting, washable support for reducible inguinal hernia. Back lacing adjustable. Straps up in front. Adjustable leg straps. Soft flat groin pad. No steel or leather bands. For men, women and children. Mail orders give measure around lowest part of abdomen, state right, left side, double.
KINGS MOUNTAIN DRUG CO.

Greeting Cards Express Sentiment

Friendly, merry, reverent, grateful — Christmas sentiments find expression in greeting cards at the holiday season.

Just when the sending of greeting cards first began is a question that may never be settled, especially since it is always possible that early examples of printed Christmas greetings are waiting to be found among private books and papers.

The Cole-Horsley card is considered by many to be the first published Christmas card. It was designed in Britain in 1843 by John Calcott Horsley, a well-known artist of the period, for Sir Henry Cole, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The card bears the now-universal greeting, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You." It shows a joyous family seated at Christmas dinner.

A copy of the card, discovered in England in recent years by a representative of Hallmark, is now part of the Hallmark Historic Collection, housed at the greeting card company's headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

Louis Prang of Boston, an art-loving lithographer, published the best known early Christmas greetings in the U. S. He conducted art and literary competitions for greeting card material, and published cards of outstanding high quality.

Statistics and common sense tell us that driving at night is more dangerous than during daylight hours. During these winter months, the nights are longer than the days. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles says an alert driver and a mechanically safe car are doubly important during the winter.

In the spirit of Christmas
May we extend to you our warmest greetings and good wishes for a Merry Christmas to you and yours.

WESTERN AUTO ASSOCIATE STORE
229 Battleground Ave

WE WANT TO WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR GIVING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE YOU...

CITY PAINT STORE
GASTONIA AND KINGS MOUNTAIN

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season

C. E. WARLICK INSURANCE AGENCY
PHONE 739-3611

GURNZGOLD
5 WAYS BETTER
Carolina Dairy SKIM MILK
Pronounced GURN-ZEE-GOLD
AS SEEN IN JOURNAL Better Homes
Order Now! Parents' Choice
Carolina Dairy

Warm Wishes for Christmas

May your home be filled with boundless happiness.

Plonk Bros. & Co.