

Christmas: Don't Make It Your "Last"

Millions of Americans are soon to begin their annual purchases of tree-trimming and decorative materials. However, the prevailing holiday atmosphere always overshadows one essential aspect of a completely merry Christmas: electrical safety.

At no other time of the year are as many potentially hazardous electrical fixtures and flammable materials used in the home. Therefore, at no other time of the year do as many people leave themselves so susceptible to open disaster, whether it be loss of life or property.

As a public service, Underwriters' Laboratories, a not-for-profit organization testing for public safety, would like to offer the following safety suggestions in order that you may have a more complete holiday season.

- Don't overload circuits.
- Don't work on light strings while plug is still connected.
- Don't stretch string lights or extension wiring.

- Don't use string lights or extensions outdoors unless the attached label specifies you may do so.
- Don't use flood lights on or near flammable material.
- Don't place electrical fixtures within a child's accessibility.
- Do buy only UL labeled string lights and cords.
- Do inspect all wiring insulation for possible deterioration, especially if it has been stored for an indefinite period.
- Do use rubber light socket gaskets where provided and replace if needed.
- Do make certain lamps are not loose in their sockets.
- Do use UL Listed, artificial trees wherever available.

While not seeking to minimize the importance of any of the above points, perhaps two should be stressed: overloads and physical inspections. Overloads are primarily created by placing more current on a wire than it can handle but not enough to cause a fuse to blow. At Christmas this is usually due to placement of too many bulbs on a single extension cord. Result: overheating; melting insulation; exposed wire; shock, electrocution or fire. Hence, always look for the capability of the



WRITER OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS ATTEND OPENING—Mrs. Julia M. Street, center, author of a number of children's books, attended the opening of a book exhibit last Monday at Winston-Salem State University. The exhibit's is being sponsored by students in the Library Science and Children's Literature classes of Mrs. Nell B. Wright, left, Professor at Winston-Salem State. Also, on hand for the opening were John Fries Blair, owner of Blair Publishing Company and Mrs. Charlotte Blount, a reviewer of Children's Books for the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel. Mrs. Gwendolyn Blakeney, Co-chairman of the Publicity Committee, admires one of Mrs. Street's books.

wiring supplying the lighting. Examination of insulation is a minor task but one of major importance. Wiring that has

been stored in attics or cellars for a long period of time can become vulnerable to the elements. Consequently, varying temperatures can easily affect the insulation to the point of being incapable of serving its protective purpose.

If you will attempt to follow the Do's and Don'ts we have given, you'll certainly make your Christmas merry and, more important, safer.

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food

Heavenly Date-Nut Loaf
Whip 1 pint heavy cream until it begins to thicken, using rotary beater. Gradually add 1/4 cup granulated sugar and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Remove wrappings from Thomas' Date-Nut Loaf and set aside two end slices and one additional slice. Reserve for other use. Arrange two slices touching, side by side, flat on suitably-sized cake plate. Spread with whipped cream; repeat layers until slices are used up. You will end up with six layers of date-nut loaf. Frost top and sides with remaining whipped cream. If desired, garnish with chopped nuts. (NP Features)

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