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DINNER ON CHRISTMAS DAY

BY MISTER MARY.

If you had the key for Thanksgiving, why not give it a turn for Christmas? After deciding your menu carefully, the menu for the entire dinner is worked out and planned around it. Thought and care must be taken not to repeat flavors in dishes so the dinner as a whole is interesting and appetizing.

Oysters are usually at their best at this time of the year and there is no better way to start a dinner than with an oyster cocktail. This requires no extra cooking and is worth considering.

A clear soup, cream or bisque should follow the cocktail. Then the "piece de resistance" with vegetables; then the salad and coffee.

You may serve the mince or plum pudding and an ice or the other or the two.

If an elaborate dinner is desired the following menu can be adapted to suit the requirements:

Oysters Cocktail
Olives
Consommee
Roast Goose
Chestnut Stuffing
Mashed Potatoes
Creamed Cauliflower
Christmas Salad
Cheese Cups
Plum Pudding
Grape Juice Parfait
Christmas Cake
Coffee

So much for the menu. After the table decorations are settled we sit down to the feast with the knives. The Christmas table should show much thought and preparation in itself.

A Jack Horner pie is not a bad idea, it is always fun, and if the favors are carefully chosen by each guest, it is sure to cause much merriment.

The pie can be bought ready made to order, or you can make it and fill it with juice-picked raisins and tangerine slices.

The pie itself can be in the form of a huge snowball, in a brick pattern, a brick pattern chimney with a Santa Claus climbing over it, a Christmas wreath drawn by red reindeer, or a plain pie with a wreath of holly and with sprays of holly and with sprays of holly.

The pieces or gifts in the pie, which are to each person, can be drawn through the hole of the chimney and from the sides of the wreath and pulled out. And now for the recipes.

The oyster cocktail is simple enough for anyone to make by having a good brand of sauce. A few lemon juice, tabasco sauce, and a range that has a pick-me-up in it.

Crisp crackers can be served with oyster cocktails if you prefer.

The consommee will be served with croutons or cubes with cream to serve during the Christmas dinner.

The goose may be a "green" goose, to be sure it is not a goose with its feathers, but perhaps it is.

Singe and scrape the pin feathers. Scrub on the outside with warm suds. Rinse thoroughly in several waters. Rinse the inside in many waters and put in a clean towel until ready to roast.

CHESTNUT STUFFING.

One and one-half cups chestnuts, 18 whole cooked chestnuts, ½ cup stale bread from soft part of loaf, ½ finely chopped canned mushrooms, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 tablespoon minced onion, 1 teaspoon onion juice, few grains salt and pepper.

Melt butter and combine ingredients with boiling water to slightly moist. Stuff goose. Bake.

TO ROAST GOOSE.

Stuff and truss goose, sprinkle with salt and pepper and put on in roaster. Roast 15 minutes and pour off fat. Dredge with flour and put bottom of pan with boiling water. Roast two hours, basting every 15 minutes if a self-basting pan is not used. Remove trussing strings, put on a hot platter. Garnish with string of cranberries around goose's neck.

CHRISTMAS SALAD.

One quart cranberries, 2 tablespoons granulated gelatin, ½ cup water, 1 cup diced banana, 1 cup diced peaches, 1 cup seeded white grapes, 1 cup nut meats.

Scald cranberries and press through juice. Add sugar and bring to a boiling point. Soften gelatin in 1-3 cup cold water and stir into the hot syrup. Remove at once from the fire and let stand until cool. When beginning to set turn into a mold and add fruit and nuts. Chill and serve on a bed of lettuce, garnished with "cups" of head lettuce filled with fruit salad dressing.

The cheese cups are tiny cups of white bread dipped in melted butter and toasted in a quick oven. These cups are filled with grated cheese which melts while the bread is being toasted a delicate brown.

PLUM PUDDING.

One and one-half cups stale breadcrumbs, ½ cup scalded milk, ½ cup brown sugar, 2 eggs, ½ cup raisins seeded and chopped, ½ cup currants, ¼ cup shredded citron, ½ cup suet, 2 tablespoons orange juice, grated rind of orange, ½ cup chopped nut meats, grated nutmeg, ½ teaspoon each cinnamon, cloves and allspice, ¾ teaspoon salt.

Soak breadcrumbs in milk and let stand until cool. Add sugar and yolks of eggs well beaten. Chop suet very fine and work until creamy. Combine fruits and sprinkle liberally with flour. Stir until flour is absorbed. Add to first mixture. Add creamed suet and blend thoroughly. Add spices, grated rind and juice of orange and nuts. Mix well and add whites of eggs beaten until stiff and dry. Turn into a buttered mold and steam four hours. Serve with hard sauce or cream cream sauce.

GRAPE FRUIT PARFAIT.

Three cups grape juice, ¾ cup orange juice, ½ cup lemon juice, 2 tablespoons granulated gelatin, 1½ cups whipping cream, 4 tablespoons powdered sugar, few grains salt.

Soften gelatin in 1-3 cup cold water. Combine fruit juices and bring to the boiling point. Add softened gelatin and stir until dissolved. Let stand until cool and beginning to set. Whip cream until stiff and add sugar and salt. Fold cream into gelatin and turn into a mold. Freeze in ice and salt, using three parts of ice to one of salt.

All these recipes were made to serve a table of six persons.

Named After Christmas.

At least three places owe their names to Christmas. Two of them are islands. One is in the East Indies, not a great way from Java. It is the top of a huge submerged mountain 15,000 feet in height, only 1,200 feet of which show above the sea. The island is valuable because of the deposits of phosphate of lime formed there by sea-birds during thousands of years. Before its discovery in 1868 it was uninhabited, and even now the population numbers only about three hundred.

The other Christmas Island lies in the Pacific Ocean, nearly on the Equator. It was discovered in 1777, but was only annexed by England in 1898 with a view to laying the Pacific cable. Its riches lie in guano and mother-of-pearl.

The most important of Christmas's namesakes is Natal, a province of South Africa. The Portuguese discovered it on Christmas Day, and named it Natal, since it was sighted on Christ's natal day.

Yuletide Decorations.

Why are holly and mistletoe used as Christmas decorations?

In olden times holly was regarded as a sacred plant. The red berries were associated with drops of holy blood, and the spines on the leaves with the thorns composing the Crown of Thorns. The beasts of the field would not touch the tree, but treated it with the greatest respect.

Mistletoe dates back to the time of the Druids, who used it at their Yuletide feasts. Their name for it was "All-heal," and they laid it on their altars after sacrificing a white bull.

The idea of bringing branches of trees into houses for the Yuletide celebration was that the good spirits of the woods might be appeased by being kept warm. The Druids did it when celebrating their pagan rites, and so did the Romans, who used laurel as an emblem of peace, joy and victory.

Yew has its place in our Christmas decorations because it was supposed to be a symbol of immortality, the life of a yew tree extending to a thousand years or more.

"The happy Christmas comes once more,
The heavenly Guest is at the door,
The blessed words the shepherds thrill,
The joyous tidings—Peace, good-will!"

Rat experts estimate that it costs England £70,000,000, or about $350,000,000 a year to feed its rats. This is the food charge and does not include the damage done.

Fly—"Come on, boys, pre-war stuff for Christmas!"

S.S. LESSON

Christmas Lesson: The Prince of Peace, Matthew 2: 1-15. Golden Text—For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.—Luke 2: 11.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE COMING OF THE MAGI, 1-6.
II. THE TREACHERY OF HEROD, 7-8.
III. THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI, 9-12.

I. THE COMING OF THE MAGI, 1-6.

The Jewish expectation of a coming Messiah was diffused throughout the Orient when Jesus came, and had captured the imagination of many Babylonian astrologers and seers. The narrative of the Magi coming at the birth of Christ and offering presents, rich and rare, symbolizes the earnest expectation of a divine Deliverer which was cherished by the whole religious spirit of the East. The same vivid expectation is to be discovered in the West at Rome, as we know from the famous Fourth Eclogue of the Roman poet, Virgil.

II. THE TREACHERY OF HEROD, 7, 8.

Herod the Great's nefarious scheme to discover the birthplace of the Messiah in order to kill him illustrates not only Herod's wicked life, but the irreconcilable difference between the spirit of the kingdoms of the world and the spirit of the Prince of Peace. Jesus came in humility to bring in a kingdom of love and holiness. Herod used all his arts to deprive him of the gift of life, but unsuccessfully. Jesus had to die for men in order to save them, but not until his earthly work was accomplished.

III. THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI, 9-12.

The Magi are led to Bethlehem by a star. This symbolizes the heavenly guidance which at that time was being granted even to the heathen nations of the world. It is a mistake to think that the great heathen religions such as Buddhism and Brahmanism contain no divine truth from God. There is always some ray of divine truth, though in human imaginations it becomes confused and blended with darkness and ignorance. But the final purpose of this divine light is to lead the souls of men to him in whom God's perfect glory and radiance are to be seen, namely, Jesus Christ. For there is no salvation like the Christian salvation. And God, who has not left himself without witness in any nation, seeks through his guiding light to draw the souls of men ever onwards to Christ.

The gifts of the Magi symbolize the precious qualities which the nations of the world have to offer at the shrine of Christ. Our Christmas lesson, therefore, calls to a quickened interest in international missions. So may God's kingdom come, and his will be done on earth even as in heaven!

Song of Joy.

The word "carol," means "sing joyfully," for it comes from "cantare"—to sing, and "rola" an interpretation of joy. But in this connection Christmas in England has not always been a joyful one, for in 1525, for instance, we read that there was a musicless Yule, on account of the illness of King Henry VIII. Christmas chimes, a special feature of the festive season, it is interesting to note, were invented in 400 A.D. by Bishop Paulinus of Campagna.

Carol singing, which many children take up for the purpose of begging, became very popular indeed in the time of the Stuarts, because no doubt at that period most people could read a musical score.

In connection with "waits," which came from the Anglo-Saxons, at one time these were nothing to do with the Christmas celebrations. Waits were formerly minstrels, who waited on the Court and nobility, and sounded the night watch. The few who were left of these old-time musicians were accustomed to play at Christmas Eve to herald the festive period, and thus the custom of playing the "waits" has remained.

Old English Pork Pudding.

This is an old-fashioned pudding like our grandmothers used to make. Put into a mixing bowl two and a half cupfuls of sifted flour, one teaspoonful of salt and one cupful of finely-chopped suet. Mix well and add enough water to make a dough you can roll out nicely to about a quarter of an inch thick. Spread with slices of lean salt pork, sprinkle over one tablespoonful of sage, slice a good-sized onion over the meat and add a little garlic if liked. Now roll up fairly tight and tie in a cloth; drop into a kettle of boiling water and boil three hours. Serve hot as a meat dish.

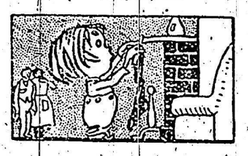
This same excellent suet crust also makes a nice foundation for a fruit pudding. Spread it with jam or marmalade, roll up and boil in the same way.

Hoaxed.

A party who were carol-singing in England last Christmas Eve made the acquaintance of a benevolent-looking old man, and would doubtless like to meet him again. They were making night hideous outside a house in the suburbs, when a window on the second floor opened, and the old man addressed them.

"My friends," he remarked, "I'm afraid you're fasting your talents on an unsympathetic audience. They don't want you here, but if you would proceed to that address"—he threw down a card—"to-morrow night, my friends would be delighted to hear you. I can assure you they wouldn't mind paying handsomely for the privilege!"

The noisy party withdrew, and on the following night tramped two miles through the rain and sang a couple of carols at the address given, before they made the discovery that it was an asylum for the deaf!



Christmas Spirit

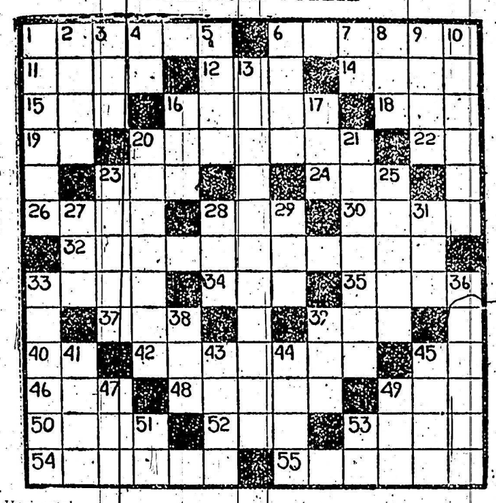
—by Hal Cochran

HAPPY today?
What makes you that way?
The real Christmas spirit, no doubt
That feeling inside
Is made up of real pride
And you find that it has to come out

WHO can believe
It's the things you receive
From the friends who remember you well,
That brings you the cheer,
At this time of the year,
In the place where real sentiments dwell?

IT'S cheerfully giving
That adds to your living,
And brings forth, all over again,
That thought, ne'er to cease,
That real spirit—Peace
On Earth and Good Will to Men

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE



Horizontal.

1. Treats maliciously.
6. To stake money upon a certain event.
11. A game played on horseback.
12. To be ill.
14. Affirmative votes.
15. The whole quantity.
16. Took dinner.
18. And so forth.
19. To perform.
20. Crumbles into small particles.
22. A cry of surprise.
23. To color.
24. An affirmative.
26. To be in motion.
28. A character in "Uncle Tom's Cabin."
30. A demonstrative pronoun.
32. Looked forward to.
33. A combat between two persons.
34. To employ.
35. Thin.
37. A large body of water.
39. Human beings.
40. In such a manner.
42. Put in a stable.
45. You and I.
46. To make a certain kind of lace-edging.
48. Brilliancy of success or effort.
49. To invite.
50. A public school in England.
52. A number.
53. Countenance.
54. An island of the Mediterranean Sea noted for a Colossus.
55. Conveyed or transferred by deed.

Vertical.

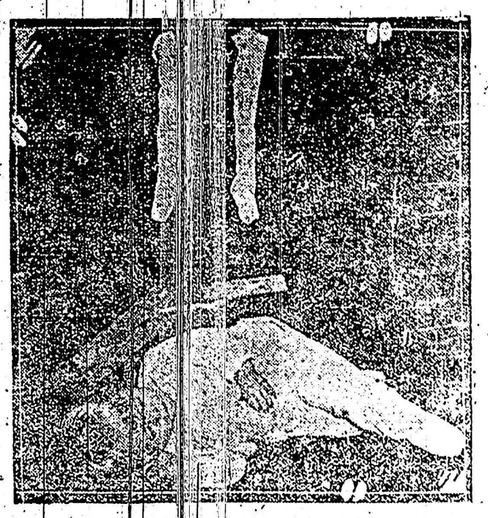
1. Garden implements.
2. A game played on horseback.
3. Sick.
4. A preposition.
5. A piece of canvas used on a ship.
6. Mirth.
7. Belonging to me.
8. A stinging insect.
9. A thin narrow strip of wood used in building.
10. One who accompanies someone.
13. Not capable of being divided.
16. A deer.
17. Free from moisture.
20. Shrubs with evergreen leaves and white or rosy flowers.
21. Established a dwelling.
23. Partakes of a certain meal.
25. Luster.
27. A Greek letter.
29. A small shield carried in the 14th century.
29. To imitate.
31. A girl's name.
33. An implement used for dusting.
36. Required.
38. Consumed.
39. Came together.
41. A solemn appeal to God.
43. Parts of plays.
44. To go ashore.
47. Small rodents.
47. Also.
49. Wicked.
51. Initials of a northwestern state.
53. Perroas (Symbol).

So Hallow'd and So Gracious is the Time

Some say that ever 'gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
This bird of dawning singeth all night long:
And then, they say, no spirit dares stir abroad;
The nights are wholesome—then no planets strike,
No fairy takes, no witch hath power to charm,
So hallow'd and so gracious is the time.

Yes, Here's Santa

Sh-h-h!



You mustn't make a sound! 'Twould spoil the dream
Of one whose thoughts are filled with tender joys.
He ... in peace. Then Santa comes unseen,
And fills his little stockings up with toys.
To steal a look, he planned this little child,
But—let him sleep and let his dreams run wild.

Distributing the Gifts.

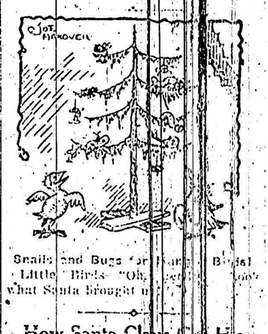
Sometimes it is not convenient to follow the old family custom of giving out gifts at Christmas and people are in a quandary to know how to do it and still make it a happy day.

In some localities everyone is young, either has gone to church and finds the gifts on the tree on which to hang them. But in other districts everyone hangs a gift on the tree and grown-ups even hang presents. Instead, the gifts are put on after breakfast, the tree being used only as a decoration. But what they call "pass" is a member of the family, or together with candy and nuts, there is usually hidden in it of the choice small gifts, so that when the name is found in the game time guessing who the gift is said to be.

Hidden gifts are, at any time, especially when one gift a package with another and must hide it again. If the outside package be gay the inside another, the excitement indeed for when wrapping the lucky one has last takes off a gift to find beneath with his own name.

Perhaps, if there are children, the beloved grandfather be a help, but of course the packages must be addressed. The grabber must pass over his own back into the bag, can be made of it, and getting his own gift in the few of grabs, winning a prize. grown-ups would like this, none of us ever loses our joy in the treasure chest, getting if the big package wouldn't be better than the little one or nice.

Try a new way this year, it a fun-maker and will long be remembered.



Snails and Bugs and Puppy Dogs
Little Birds—Oh, guess what Santa Brought us

How Santa Claus Got His Name

There is a quaint ... about Santa Claus and hanging stockings by the chimney on Christmas Eve which, if not true, is beautiful, and typifies the Christmas spirit as very few ...

Long, long ago—... hundred years, in far ... Myra, a province of ... named Nicholas, who was ... and far for his kindness to children. One ... about a poor nobleman ... destitute that he could ... money for his daughters ... hastening to the ... after dark, and looking ... he saw the poor old man ... fireside. Nicholas then ... roof, dropped a gold piece ... chimney, thinking it would ... the hearth. But it fell ... of the old man's stocking ... daughter had hung ... the fire. And so was ... tom of hanging stockings ... shoes, and the legend ... coming down the chimney ...

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Why is the map of Europe like a frying pan? ... Greece at the bottom ...

The Holiday Invitation.

Don't forget the ... or the "thank you" ... be sent after before ... now the ... George, giving the ... scores of persons ... lighted hospitality ... which requires ... There is an ... keenly felt ... entertain of that ... prompt. It ... their hostess ... es to their ... lighted. It is also ... rea that guests ... ing of the notes ... everything is ... notes are not a ... though they may ... son is not a ... writing material ... began, it also ...

DELAYED NOTE ...

It is the delayed ... difficult ones. The ... to the expressed ... part and the ... for hospitality ... difficult to make ... than to express ... ously as the usual ... delay is nothing but a ... write. The desire to ... out of the letter ... few of appreciation. A ... ally objects to ... that the hospitality ... and cordially ... and sufficient ... courtesy of ... butter better. ... excuses have to be made ... times they are quite ... "made up."

TARDY NOTES THAT ...

But if the note has not been sent, be sure that it ... even though ... late. A tardy note of thanks is a hundredfold better than none at all. Before starting the letter ... moments for thinking over ... recalling all the ... joyed together. ... express something of this. ... profuse excuses, but let the note ... do many ... carry the day ... that there are ... while ... procrastination alone was responsible ... either say so frankly and ... at that, or give the ... reason.

Most people have ... have done the ... of receiving belated notes ... hostess usually can be relied upon to accept your tardy ... in the spirit in which it is sent. While this is nothing to your credit, it helps the situation for those who do send late notes. The prompt letter, however, is the felicitous one.

The secret of making confectioner's sugar icing taste like a cooked icing is to always add something hot to the sugar, as hot butter, hot cream milk or water.

How Styles Change.

As a means of boosting the mortality rate the appendix has long since given place to the accelerator.