

**SYLLABUB, ANYONE?**  
 That popular holiday-party drink known as eggnog is a modern version of an old English drink called syllabub, which was a spiced mixture of wine and milk.



**Merry Christmas**

Some words from Santa simply to say, "Have a wonderful holiday!"  
**Thanks!**


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AMONG THE MOST cherished pictures any family can make are those of their bright-eyed youngsters registering their joy as they approach the tree on Christmas morning. Don't forget to have your camera ready for shots like this on Dec. 25.

**Kissing Under Mistletoe**  
 The word "mistletoe" derives from the Anglo-Saxon word "mistle-tan." It is a parasitic plant which grows on evergreen trees, with small yellowish-green leaves, yellowish flowers and waxy white, poisonous berries.  
 Under a sprig of mistletoe men are by custom privileged to kiss any women standing under it. The man is supposed to first remove one of the berries and present it to the woman. When all the berries are gone, this kissing game is over. It is thought this custom comes from an early pagan marriage rite.  
 Mistletoe was considered sacred by the Druids in ancient Britain and they performed elaborate ceremonies around it at the winter solstice. Because of these pagan associations, it is seldom used in church decorations.

**Candle is old friend**  
 Here is an appealing story that focuses on Man's old friend, the candle. Back in the Middle Ages, any light, no matter how fragile, was much prized, and a candle though perhaps common to us, was a possession of great value.  
 A shoemaker lived in a cottage on the edge of a village, near the dark woods. Although a poor man, he placed his candle in the window each night to guide travellers. Despite wars, hardships and illness; by some miracle, some mysterious grace, his light never wavered.  
 This inspired the villagers and during the Christmas season most of them placed a candle in their windows. The custom grew and became universal.



**GREETINGS**

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EARL & LAVERNE RYDER  
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**RYDER'S TV**



**Merry Christmas**

At Yuletide, we extend to you our wish that merriment may brighten your happy home, all season long.

**Earl Van Norman - Electrician**  
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**Bronte park yields archeological 'finds'**

The Ministry of Natural Resources has completed an archeological and historical investigation of the area of Bronte Creek Provincial Park which has produced some interesting 'finds'.  
 The primary archeological sites have been identified as relating to the archaic tradition and dating within 5,000 to 1,000 B.C.  
 Sites at Bronte are considered to be of high information content as some of them have been left undisturbed by later human activity. Surface collection to date has yielded

many prime examples of the flint work of this culture.  
 In more recent history, the park reflects the rural development typical of southern Ontario. With European settlement, saw, grist and carding mills were established along the Creek in the park area. Later, the mills faded and the economy of the area shifted to general mixed farming. This later stage of development is still reflected in the landscape at Bronte.  
 The orchards, spruce rows, weathered barns, and secluded farm houses, symbolize agrarian life as found in this area until the Second World War. The story of the farms at Bronte had been compiled into an historical report which was augmented with older photos loaned to the Ministry by concerned and interested residents of the area.


From the historical overview, it appears that the farm houses of the park area are symbolic of a variety of architectural styles. The houses at Bronte include a Regency style cottage of the 1820's-1830's; a mid-century patterned brick house; and three examples of the ornately decorated high Victorian homes so common at the turn of the century. While the type and date of the houses are known, an architectural student will prepare an outline of the architectural features of the individual buildings this summer.  
 An in-depth study is also being carried out at the 1899 farm house, which is to become part of an operating farm depicting agriculture of the turn of the century. As the Ministry is concerned with expressions of man's use of the province's natural resources, it was felt that agriculture was a primary expression of the theme 'man and the land'. The farm will display how soil and climatic conditions were utilized and along with developing technology affected the life-style of the individual farmer.  
 Presently, work crews are removing buildings or their parts which are newer than 1914.

We wish you Merry Christmas

**ACTON HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION**

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**WISH EACH AND EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**Christmas Joy**

As this quiet scene reflects Christmas peace, may all share its true tranquility.

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