



Wishing you the kind of Christmas that you wish yourself... and a bit more for good measure.

W. C. ARNOTT

MEN'S AND BOYS' FURNISHINGS

31 First Avenue, Schumacher

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Smiles for your lips.
Twinkles for your eyes.
Music for your ear.
Cheer for your hearts.
These are the Good Things
We Wish You for Christmas

SMITH & ELSTON LIMITED

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Timmins



In Wishing you a Merry Christmas we would like to thank you for a year of pleasant business associations.

STAR TRANSFER

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No end of fun and gobs of laughter and a heap of happy thoughts. That's the Wish for Christmas to you of

A. WILSON LANG
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Gordon Block, Room No. 1

Timmins

Christmas Luck and Superstitions Too

To Bring Luck on Christmas Morning. Save a Crumb of the Christmas Cake. Unlucky to Work on Christmas Day.

Man seems essentially a superstitious animal, and some of these luck signs and omens that he has found belief in cluster even round the Christmas season. Margaret Currie has made a collection of some of these stories and accounts of Christmas luck and superstition, and here is what she writes about them.

Here is a small collection of superstitions and quaint old beliefs concerning Christmas which I think are very interesting, particularly at this time of year—Draw water from a clear well on Christmas morning and you bring good luck to all who drink of it.

When eating your first piece of Christmas cake, save a crumb. If you carry it in your pocket during the coming year good fortune will smile on you. If you lose the crumb, you may expect trouble. Work done on Christmas Eve will always prosper. Linen that is spun will last forever and bring good luck to all that wear it and bread on that day will never go stale or mouldy. On the other hand it is unlucky to work on Christmas day itself; bread will turn out sad and heavy, and if you spin linen, mice will eat away the threads.

Scan your garments carefully to make sure they are free from holes, for if you put on anything with a hole in it, your purse will leak all through the year; and never on any account mend a tear, for sewing on Christmas Day is fairly unlucky. It is luck to give food away on Christmas Day, but it is more lucky to receive money than to give it.

Always keep the burnt end of your Christmas Yule-log to light your Christmas fire next year, and see that no bare-footed person, nor one with a squint enter the room while this log is burning, for this brings poverty and poor sight to the household.

If a cricket chirps on the hearth on Christmas night, keep silence, for all who hear it will be lucky during the Christmas season. All Nature was supposed to unite in heralding the birth of Christ. The cattle in their stalls fell down on their knees at midnight and bowed their heads in adoration, bees sang in their hives, dogs reverently barked their greeting, and the cocks crowed loudly when the Holy Birthday dawned. It was considered most unlucky as well as irreverent to ill-use an animal at Christmas time.

A very old tradition tells us that wherever a church has once stood on Christmas morning, its bells will ring through the air. It matters not whether it has long ago crumbled to ruins or is buried under encroaching seas; on this one day will come the sweet chiming of ghostly bells.

All down the East Coast of England, where the sea has washed away so many ancient towns and villages, the fishermen pause on their oars on Christmas morning and listen to the muffled peals of bells under the water heralding every year the Great Birthday.

One pretty custom existed for centuries after dinner on Christmas Day, the King's health was proposed, and all glasses were held up in the direction of the place where he happened to be staying. Life is so rushed, so hurried nowadays so mechanical, that we forget old customs and superstitions. Yet once a year when we keep the most beautiful of all festivals, it is good to remember them.

WOODEN CHRISTMAS CARD BY KING GEORGE YEARS AGO

(By M. E.)

Few people receive Christmas cards from kings.

But the natives of Antigua, capital of the Leeward Islands and visitors there each Yuletide read the personal greetings of King George V. of England.

King George, when he was a sub-lieutenant in the British Navy visited Antigua. He must have been filled with Christmas fellowship. With a knife he carved in large letters the following on a wooden panel which is carefully protected where all who come may read: "A Merry Xmas & Happy New Year 2 You All."

Time has aged the plaque, though the semi-tropical climate has preserved it. The years have darkened and emphasized the letters carved by King George. A thousand scribbles by lesser personages have mellowed the area that was unscratched by the King. "Our saucy ship is a beauty" wrote one sailor who proudly inscribed his sentiments alongside those of his Sovereign.

The Leeward Islands are British colonies along the route of Canadian National liners uniting the West Indies with Halifax and Boston.

CHRISTMAS ONCE WAS KNOWN AS "THE FEAST OF LIGHTS"

The oldest name for Christmas is "The Feast of Lights"—a reference to the glory in the heavens when angels sang their song announcing Christ's birth to the shepherds. It is of interest to note that the Chinese, in their astronomical records, entered an account of a new and travelling star, which appeared a few months after Christ was born. Thus the Biblical story of the Wise Men being guided by a star has outside corroboration.

Which are the lightest—Scotsmen, Irishmen or Englishmen?—Englishmen. Although in Ireland there are men of Cork, and in Scotland men of Ayr (air), in England—on the Thames—there are lightermen.

Washington Irving on Christmas Joys

Christmas an Apt Time for Family Reunions. A Time for Happiness, for Hospitality and for Exercise of Genial Charity.

Below will be found an essay on Christmas by that notable essayist, Washington Irving:—

It is a beautiful arrangement, also derived from days of yore, that this festival, which commemorates the announcement of the reign of peace and love, has been made the season for gathering together of family connections, and drawing closer again those bands of kindred hearts, which the cares and pleasures and sorrows of the world are continually operating to cast loose; of calling back the children of the family, who have launched forth in life, and wandered widely asunder, once more to assemble about the paternal hearth, that rallying place of the affections, there to grow young and loving again among the endearing mementoes of childhood.

There is something in the very season of the year that gives a charm to the festivity of Christmas. At other times we derive a great portion of our pleasures from the same beauties of nature. Our feelings sally forth and dissipate themselves over the sunny landscape, and we "live abroad and everywhere." The song of the bird the murmur of the stream, the breathing fragrance of the spring, the soft voluptuousness of the summer, the golden pomp of autumn; earth with its mantle of refreshing green, and heaven with its deep delicious blue and its cloudy magnificence, all fill us with mirth but exquisite delight, and we revel in the luxury of mere sensation. But in the depth of winter when nature lies despoiled of every charm, and wrapped in her shroud of sheeted snow, we turn for our gratifications to moral sources. The dreariness and desolation of the landscape, the short gloomy days and darksome nights while they circumscribe our wanderings, shut in our feelings also from rambling abroad, and make us more keenly disposed for the pleasure of the social circle. Our thoughts are more concentrated; our friendly sympathies more aroused. We feel more sensibly the charm of each other's society, and are brought more closely together by dependence on each other for enjoyment. Heart calleth unto heart; and we draw our pleasures from the deep wells of loving-kindness which lies in the quiet recesses of our bosoms; and which, when resorted to, furnish forth the pure element of domestic felicity.

Christmas is a period of delightful excitement. It is gratifying to see that home feeling completely aroused which holds so powerful a place in every English bosom. The preparation making on every side for the social board that is again to unite friends and kindred; the presents of good cheer passing and repassing those tokens of regard, and quickeners of kind feelings; the evergreens distributed about houses and churches, emblems of peace and gladness; all these have the most pleasing effect in producing fond associations, and kindling benevolent sympathies.

Amidst the general call to happiness, the bustle of the spirits and stir of the affections, which prevail at this period, what bosom can remain insensible? It is, indeed, the season of regenerated feeling—the season for kindling, not merely the fire of hospitality in the hall, but the genial flame of charity in the heart.

THE CANDLE AS SYMBOL FOR THE CHRISTMASTIDE

The candle is the true symbol of Christmas. Its flickering taper shining on the sill of the city house or the country cottage sends out the message of "peace on earth" quite as much as the chime of Christmas bells.

A charming elderly lady gives each child in the neighbourhood every year a "Twelfth Night" candle. This is a very large cathedral candle, which is to be lighted on Christmas eve and placed on the window sill set in a wreath of holly and so placed that its flame burns at the centre of the Christmas wreath hanging in the window.

It is then kept burning every evening until the eve of Twelfth Night, January 5th. The Twelfth Night eve, the unburned portion of the candle and all the Christmas greens are placed in the open fireplace and consumed, thus ending the Christmas season with solemn ritual.

The significance of this pretty rite is as follows: The candle is symbolic of the star which the wise men saw in the East, and it is kept shining through the 12 days during which the wise men were following the star on their journey to the manger where the young Child lay.

A SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS STORY OF THE REGULAR TYPE

It was Christmas in the Trossachs! Young Angus had been out late with his girl. When he came home his father was still sitting up.

"Hae ye been oot wi' yon lassie again?" he asked.

"Aye, dad," replied Angus. "Why do ye look sae worried?"

"I was just wondering how much the evening cost."

"No more than half a croon, dad."

"Aye? That was no sae much."

"It was a' she had."

The Prince of Wales has made the slogan "Buy British" almost as popular as the other good one, "Merry Christmas!"



A Merry Christmas

May the true spirit of Christmas fill your homes and linger through the coming year.

McDOWELL MOTORS

Balsam Street South, near Skating Rink

Timmins



This Christmas Season it is Our Wish that All Our Customers and Friends in the District enjoy the Day and Health and Prosperity be accorded You and Yours in 1932.

OSTROSSER & CO.

MEN'S WEAR

13 1/2 Pine Street North

Timmins



That this Christmas be the Merriest and that Joy abound for Each and All is the Sincere Wish of

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sincerity is embodied in this Wish which we are taking this means of extending to all our customers and friends in the District.

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