

We extend to you our heartiest wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and hope it will fulfil your highest expectations

#### FRANK BYCK

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THE SAME OLD WISH With New Fervour:-A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

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> Wishes to take this opportunity of extending to all

Hearty Wishes for a

A Real Merry Christmas

and a Happy and

Prosperous New Year

#### **Spending Christmas** in the Old Country

Remarkable Sights in Lon- I never told him so because don, England, at Christmas Time. About the Churches and Services.

(By H. R. Williams) The visitor to London or any big provincial town during December will have ample opportunity for studying

Christmas activities. Shopkeepers vie with each other in . The things I'm telling you. decorating their windows, while stores everywhere feature children's bazaars, well-planned exhibitions of novelties such as children's circuses, lucky dips, bran tubs. Merlin's cave and other mysteries, with, of course, Santa Claus Please have him button up his coat in attendance.

Pavement Toy Markets

One of the most remarkable sights in London is the street hawkers of Holborn who stand by the pavement from Gray's Inn Road to Hatton Gardens, displaying the toy novelties of the season. Amidst all the whirl of Christmas traffic. Londoners watch toy tumblers and acrobats, clockwork animals and other mechanical marvels. The hawkers are usually Cockneys and use their wit to full advantage!

Parcels of all shapes and sizes are another feature of London's Christmas, The goods department of every London rail terminal is a scene of hectic activity. But despite it all, the average shopper likes to carry a certain proportion of his or her gifts, with the added excitement of smuggling them into the home unobserved.

Christmas trees, holly and mistletce, turkeys and geese, all point to the

Christmas Eve Celebrations Activities reach their peak on Christmas Eve, when in many homes it is the custom to have the Christmas tree and distribute gifts on that evening. This is a reminder of old days when he Feast of Christmas, commenced with the Vespers of Christmas Eve.

Few phases of English life are more striking than that associated with the celebration of Christmas Day in the

In cathedrals such as London's St. Paul's and those of Canterbury, Norwich, Lincoln, Ripon, Carlisle, Chester, rest the Deans preach at morning service on Christmas Day and special music is rendered by the choirs.

Full Churches In Catholic churches there is the Midnight Mass, and from the time hut of the country mission to the vast spaces of Westminster Cathedral there is standing room only. Indeed, most churches insist on admission by ticket their Christmas dinner cold, or else des-

only (free of course) at that Mass. will probably attend Westminster Cathedral, where Midnight Mass is either sung or attended by the Cardinal Archbishop. The Church of the Jesuit Fathers in Farm Street, Mayfair, Brompton Oratory, South Kensington; and St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, are other favourite Catholic centres, while Birmingham boasts St. Chad's Cathedral and Manchester the Church

of the Holy Name. Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

Many Church of England churches ice chest is inclined to be crowded. hold midnight Communion Services. Among them in London are St. Mary's tions are crowded. For despite the the wintry storms, and fed by hand. over preparations for Christmas and that in residential areas the morning is spent in the hurry and bustle of distributing gifts, churches of all denominations reveal more than any other day in the years the family aspect of

Westminster Abbey, crowded on Christmas Day itself, is even more crowded during the Octave when there are several old-time elebrations. Among the most popular being that on Holy Innocent's Day, when there is usually a service in the afternoon for children and during the week carol singing at The North is not an area,

On the Festival of the Epiphany The North's a spirit and a life, (January 6th) the customary royal offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh are made on behalf of the King at the Chapel Royal, St. James.

The Christmas Dinner.

For the rest, Christmas is still a home festival. Although within recent years there has been an increase among those who go away or dine out on Christmas Day, the largest functions in the leading hotels are still family parties. For this, the sea coast and inland resorts are extremely popular, hotels and local authorities arranging many a cheery function of galas, balls, Christmas parties and novelties.

In the homes of England, Christmas dinner is usually an evening affair, followed by party games, music and romps with the children always leading. Crackers are pulled, caps and masks worn, while streamers, paper chains, balloons mistletoe and holly form the background.

#### Three Different Christmas Celebrations at Bethlehem

Three Christmases are celebrated every year in the Church of Nativity at Bethlehem. The first occurs in the Roman Catholic section on December 25; 13 days later the Greek Orthodox church hold their celebrations, to be followed by those of the Armenian church in another 13 days.

#### MAKE CHILDREN HAPPY

The citizen who makes a child happy For the North is not a country, at Christmas time often learns that he gets a lot of happiness out of the transaction for himself.

#### A Child's Christmas Prayer

(By I. W. Foley) Dear Lord, be good to Santa Claus, He's been so good to me; He is so hard to see. He must love little children so To come through show and storm; Please care for him when cold winds

And keep him nice and warm.

Dear Lord, be good to him and good To Mary Christmas, too. I'd like to tell them, if I could,

They've both been very good to me, And everywhere they go They make us glad;-no wonder we All learn to love them so.

So it will keep him warm; And wear a scarf about his throat If it should start to storm And when the night is dark, please lend Him light if stars are dim, Or maybe sometimes you could send

Flease keep his heart so good and kind That he will always smile: And tell him maybe we will find And thank him after while. Please keep him safe from harm and

An angel down with him.

Quite near and guard him when He's tired and lays him down to sleep. Dear Lord, please do! Amen.

#### Australia Keeps Its Christmas Outdoors

Christmas Feasts in the Land of the Antipodes Different from Those in Canada.

(By C. S. B.) Calandars used to refer to "moveab'e feasts." in Australian calendars December 25 might also have the same term written beneath the date, for the Chrismas dinner is moving, more and more each year, out of the home and into the air.

Custom dies hard, but it only needs a burst of warm weather to make being indoors-with fly-proof blinds-and Worcester, Oxford, Lichfield and the \* consuming a dinner originally planned for the snow and red robin surrounding of the English Christmas seem irksome to the Australian housewife.

Nowadays many Adelaide people throng to holiday resorts at Christmas and eat their Ghristmas fare from hampers containing sandwiches and jellies and ice cream. Of those who remain behind, a big proportion eat pense with the traditional Christmas Many hundreds of overseas visitors viands for lighter ones, especially if the day is a "roaster."

For the past few years, too, the icecream pudding has been steadily supplanting the steaming plum pudding as the mainstay of the Christmas menu. Of course it has the disadvantage of being inappropriate for threepenny bits, but it wears a sprig of holly on top most effectively. Most people order the pudding the day before, and collect it from the safekeeping of the shop freezer on Christmas Day if the family

The custom of having a big feast on Christmas Day comes from medieval Graham Street, Chelsea and All Saint's Europe, where Christmas fell in mid-Margaret Street, Oxford Circus, winter, Wealthy people found them-Christmas morning the majority of selves with big herds of farm animals Protestant churches of all denomina- on their hands to be sheltered during cynic who remarked that Christmas The turkey is a later innovation and Day is spent by the British in getting did not come in till the sixtennth cen-

#### Where the North Begins

The following poem, "Where the North Begins," is re-published at the request of some readers who feel it is an appropriate poem for the Christmas time and the Christmas spirit:-You tell me you're a stranger. From lands that lie afar; You ask me where the North begins And what its boundaries are.

It's not a piece of land. Which you must understand.

Up where the handclasp's stronger, Far from the city dins. Up where the smile lasts longer: That's where the North begins.

Up where the sun shines brighter, Where worriees easily end, Up where the snow lies whiter, You're in the North, my friend. Where every man's a fighter, And no one quits the game, Where the bond of friendship's tighter, And honor's more than fame.

Where you feel the fresh wind blowing, From pine woods clean and pure, Where you find the trout streams flow-

You're in the North for sure.

Where fewer hearts are aching, And fewer men walk broke, Where the world's still in the making. And all hearts carry hope.

Where fellows don't mind giving, And we ask no creed or name, Where the fun of life is living. For life is worth the game.

Have you left the camp at daylight, As dawn was breaking forth, Brought back your deer at twilight? Then you've really known the North.

Have you smelled the bacon frying, By streams where the big trout fins, Made friends without half-trying? That's where the North begins.

Measured by terms of land. The real North is a spirit. Which you must understand!



We wish one and all of our customers and friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New

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A Merry Christmas and a

Bappy Mew Pear to all

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