



GREETINGS

WISHING OUR MANY
FRIENDS AND PATRONS
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Allan Lumber Co.

VICTORIA STREET. PHONE 1042.

Carols in Bethlehem

You enter Bethlehem through streets which are narrow, steep, damp and slippery. In the bright winter sunlight you may see the bleak wilderness of Judaea and beyond, the rugged mountains of Moab many miles away over the Jordan, but in that clear atmosphere seeming within easy distance.

The Church of the Nativity is probably the oldest church in the world dating from the early third century A.D. You enter by a low narrow doorway and come at once into the nave. This is surprisingly bare, but the simplicity of everything impresses. There is little doubt that the second-century tradition in placing the scene of the nativity in a cave in the hill-side is right. Passing through the nave and channel you descend a flight of 13 steps at the foot of which is the grotto of the Nativity. On the opposite side of the cave is a marble slab marking the spot where the ranger stood. Into this grotto comes a never ending procession of pilgrims. In succession there passes a Dutchman, an Arab, a British soldier, an American tourist. Each bows or prostrates himself before the little star, utters a silent prayer and passes on. There is an impressive silence—the hearts of all are too full for words.

How appropriate it sounds to sing "While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night," looking down all the time on the very fields of which we have sung since first we can remember singing anything! And then we go back to the Church of the Nativity and in the courtyard sing familiar carols right over the place where Jesus lay. Looking over the carol paper may be a Greek priest and an Arab boy. The singing gathers a crowd of spectators who seem to have gathered out of every nation.



Dresses this season depend upon their chic for little unexpected touches rather than elaborate ornamentation. On this Nile green crepe frock the two ruffles which form the skirt are attached in the front with a jabot effect that breaks the conventional line and forms a charming decoration. The upper part of the costume could not be more severely plain.

Lucky at Christmas.

If you want to be lucky at Christmas and during the ensuing year the superstitious will tell you that you must pick up every pin you see lying on the ground during Christmas week.

When eating your first piece of Christmas cake save a crumb. If you carry it in your pocket until the following Christmas good fortune will attend you the whole time. As soon as you lose the crumb you may expect trouble.

When putting on your clothes on Christmas morning you will not be lucky unless you remember to get into the right sleeve of all your garments first. You must also put on the right shoe before the left.

Scan your garments carefully to make sure that they are free from holes. Whatever happens do not put on anything with a hole in it, otherwise your purse will leak throughout the year. To preserve your luck wear something new even if it is only a tie or a piece of fresh ribbon or lace.

Should you happen to tear a garment when putting it on do not have it mended until next day for sewing on Christmas Day is said to bring bad luck.

Christmas Turkey.

Tradition has it that the first turkey came from North America, where it was discovered by the early Spanish navigators. One of Sebastian Cabot's chief lieutenants is said to have introduced the bird to Britain. This is supported by the fact that William Strickland, who accompanied Cabot on several of his voyages, adopted a turkey rampant on his crest on being granted arms in 1551.

At any rate the popularity of the turkey as the principal item in the Christmas dinner menu has lasted well over 300 years. How the turkey got its name is a mystery. It certainly has nothing to do with the country of that name and for want of a better reason some authorities have suggested that the bird christened itself by its constant repetition of a sound that resembles "turk-turk-turk." When you are tackling your turkey on Christmas Day you may like to remind the company that the bird's succulent meat was highly esteemed by sixteenth-century churchmen that by Archbishop Chamber's orders only one "dish of turkey-cocks" was permitted at feasts and banquets.

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