

## SCHOOL HELPS

FROM the early centuries of Christianity, the anniversary of the birth of Christ has been celebrated by a special church festival. In early England this festival was called Christ's mass, meaning "Christ's mass," whence we get our word "Christmas." At first the date of the celebration varied in different places, some churches observing it in December, others in January, April, or May, because of the absence of historical record as to the exact date of Christ's birth. Jan. 6 was the usual date observed in the eastern church, as it still continues to be in the Armenian church. The celebration of Dec. 25 spread to most parts of the Christian world in the fourth and fifth centuries, but differences in the calendar still cause differences in the time of the celebration.

One of the causes that worked to establish the new festival on Dec. 25 was probably the fact that this day marked the beginning of the great winter solstice festival of the pagan Gauls, Germans and Britons. As in other instances where pagan festivals were replaced by Christian, many of the old pre-Christian customs and symbols were taken over. The yule log, holly, mistletoe and wassail bowl are all relics of pagan observances.

### Greatest Fete

During the Middle Ages, Christmas became the greatest of popular fetes. Churches were adorned with rustic decorations and quaint little plays were given portraying events connected with the birth of Christ and his early years. Even today such nativity plays are still performed every Christmas in some of the old cities of Spain. Some of the Christmas carols sung in our churches and at our community Christmas tree celebrations have come down from these early plays.

Nowhere was the Christmas festival celebrated with more pomp and merriment than in England. In Shakespeare's time the festivities lasted until Twelfth Day or Epiphany, twelve days after Christmas day. Work was given over and all, high and low, old and young, gave themselves over to feasting and merrymaking. The Puritans, however, regarded Christmas observance as a relic of Catholicism, and in 1644 Parliament went so far as to prohibit any festivities and ordered the day to be kept as a fast. Puritans of New England also passed laws forbidding the observance of Christmas. After the Restoration, the old observances came back, somewhat subdued. The jovial old Dutch settlers of New York, however, brought with them across the ocean the joyous observances of the fatherland. We of the New World owe our Santa Claus to them, for this jolly old saint is none other than St. Nicholas or San Nicholas—the patron saint of children—as pronounced in Dutch.

### Children's Holiday

Today the observance of Christmas is well-nigh universal through the Christian world. Everywhere it is above all the children's holiday. In England and America the little folks hang up their stockings in a row before the fireplace, and Santa Claus, we are told, rushing down from the north in a sled drawn by reindeer, scrambles down the chimneys and fills them from the great pack on his back.

In some of the Baltic lands the gifts are supposed to be brought by the Christ child (Kris Kringle) himself. In France the children place wooden shoes on the hearth to receive the presents which "Bonhomme Noel" (Father Christmas) brings. Norwegian children have a lot of fun hunting their new toys which have been tucked away in unexpected places. In Italy presents are drawn from the "Urn of Fate," a custom which originated in the Urn of Fate of the ancient Romans.

## We Wish You A Merry Xmas

and want to take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude for the business you have given us during the past. Also we want to assure you that same high quality food and excellent service will prevail in the future.

### C. DE CROES

215 E. Ohio St.  
And  
427 Mass. Ave.

## Economy Meat Market

343 E. Washington

Creamery Butter ..... 46c  
Pure Lard ..... 15c  
Fresh Pork, Shoulder ..... 18c  
Pork Roast ..... 20c  
Pork Loin, Whole or Half ..... 23c  
Pork Chops ..... 25c  
Swiss Roast ..... 18c  
Beef Roast ..... 12c-14c  
Boiling Beef ..... 10c  
Round and Loin Steak ..... 20c  
Bacon, Whole or Half ..... 28c  
Sliced Bacon ..... 35c  
Eggs, No. 1 Storage ..... 41c

## CHRISTMAS — The History of the Day We Are Celebrating.

Some of the parcels are blanks, and so there is great excitement at the drawing, and disappointment at first for the little folks who do not understand that in the end there will be gifts for all.

### Christmas Carols

Almost every land of Christendom has its own Christmas Carols. In England "waits" sing under windows on Christmas eve, as they have done for countless Christmases. In Russia the ancient Kolyada songs, once sung to pagan gods, now dedicated to Christian saints are sung about the streets. The French Noel songs and the famous German "Krisstleder" are heard wherever there is Christmas music. In our own land, choir boys and school children hold carol parties and go about singing these old-time songs for "shut-ins" and other unfortunate ones.

The Christmas tree with its golden star and lights, and its imitation frost-trimmed boughs, is as much a part of the celebration as is the Christmas song. Some trace its origin back to Roman days, but its first appearance as a regular institution was along the Rhine some time in the sixteenth century. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the fashion spread all over Germany and by fifty years later had conquered Christendom.

In the New World, where people gathered from all the Christian countries of the earth, many of the special observances of various kinds have become a part of our celebration. Thus the practice of preparing a bird's Christmas tree supplied with bits of apple and nut, cookies, nuts and seeds, and placing it outside in a safe place for our feathered friends has grown from the old Scandinavian custom of placing a sheaf of grain on a tall pole in the dooryard for the birds on Christmas morning. The elaborate street festivals of Italy and Spain, with their bonfires and fireworks, are in the United States, often replaced by the community Christmas tree. A great illuminated evergreen is set up in the

heart of the city, and huge crowds gather to sing Christmas songs.

## FARMERS WILL DEVELOP RIVER

Seek to Utilize Resources of Missouri.

By NEA Service  
KANSAS CITY, Dec. 25.—The Midwest Farm Bureau are taking steps to make the Missouri River navigable so that it shall no longer be known as the "greatest inland undeveloped resource."

The farmers who own land in this district want to utilize the power of the Missouri River which is now being wasted through lack of development.

Resolutions have been adopted, urging Congress to take immediate steps to make the Missouri River navigable as far north as practicable to provide water transportation for the States of Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

## Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia

Entertains as It Teaches

L. S. AYRES & COMPANY  
State Agents

## PENNSYLVANIA PEEVED ABOUT NEW U. S. ROADS

Says Indiana and Other Mid-Western States Got More Than Share.

By NEA Service  
HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 25.—The unified federal highway system, as formulated by the point board of interstate highways and approved by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, has aroused the ire of eastern motor officials.

One of the critics is J. Clyde Myton, secretary of the local motor club. He calls the whole system a plan "dictated and dominated by the Middle West," in that such important eastern States as New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland have been virtually ignored.

"While the joint board," says Myton, "gave Pennsylvania only four

United States roads, almost every highway in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, the Dakotas and Nebraska is included in the United States numbering system."

The neglect of Pennsylvania, Myton adds, is repeated in the cases of New York almost all the southern States and all States west of Kansas.

"Many roads selected in the west end of the country," Myton declares, "do not carry 10 per cent of certain highways in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York, not even considered in the plan."

### USED CARS FILL MARKET

The used car market is increasing so rapidly that the trade-in deals of motor dealers are becoming less. The dealer finds that the competition in the field of used car sales is keener than in the new car market.

### NO GASOLINE, NO CARS

The difficulty in getting gasoline and other automobile supplies in many parts of the Near East is the main reason for the small number of automobile sales in that territory.

## Special for Saturday

Women's Oxfords, Pumps and Straps  
Velvet, Patent, Suede and Kid  
\$2.95 \$3.50 \$3.95

Big Assortment of MEN'S GOOD WORK SHOES  
\$1.98 to \$3.95

Children's Shoes and Oxfords \$1.00 to \$2.95  
Men's Oxfords and Shoes \$2.95, \$3.50, \$4.95

HEID'S SHOE STORE  
1546 N. Illinois St.—233 E. Wash. St., Opp. Courthouse

## Tomorrow, Saturday—After Xmas Mark-Downs That Mean Big Savings!

—Take Advantage of This Big Opportunity Tomorrow!



## 10-Pay Plan

The Modern Way to Dress Up Every Member of the Family and Never Miss the Money!

Traugott's Easy Way, the famous "Ten-Pay" plan together with Traugott's values have set the whole "Town Talking." The only difference in Traugott's 10-pay plan and those used in buying homes, automobiles, etc., is that we do not charge interest, brokerage or service charge, but have absolutely one price for cash, or the 10-Pay plan.

Here's the Way It Works!

Select any garment in our huge stocks at regular cash prices. Pay 25% and the balance in ten small deferred payments in ten weeks.

Here They Are, Men!—Fine All-Wool

## Suits and Overcoats

Specially Priced While They Last at

All Sizes for Men & Young Men

By far the greatest values we have ever offered. The rich, all-wool fabrics and excellent style is to be compared only with garments selling at twice our special low price. Choose here just the suit or overcoat you want tomorrow at a tremendous saving.

Pay Only \$5 When Purchased and Only \$1.50 Weekly

\$19.95

Boys' All-Wool Mackinaws \$5.95

Good quality sturdy, long-wearing Mackinaws in all the latest patterns.  
Pay Only \$1.50 at Time of Purchase and 45c a Week

Little Boys' OVERCOATS \$4.95

Smart looking chinchilla and all-wool cloth coats, sizes 2 to 8.

Boys' All-Wool 4-Piece Suits, O'Coats \$8.95



—Fine all-wool garments; newest patterns and colors. Suits come with one long pants, vest and coat.  
Pay only \$2.50 at time of Purchase and 75c a Week

Women's and Misses' Stunning SILK DRESSES Also Fine Novelty Woolens

Soft, flat crepes, rich satins, velveteens and other materials. Styles in the new mode—featuring smart trimmings, two-piece effects, etc.  
Special at \$6.95  
Pay Only \$1.75 at Time of Purchase and Only 55c a Week.



Little Girls' COATS. Sizes 2 to 6—Special at \$4.95.

"Our Only Store"

Traugott's  
215 WEST WASHINGTON STREET



# QUALITY A&P GROCERS

SOAP P & G, Crystal White or Kirk's Flake White 10 BARS 37c

SUGAR Pure Cane 10 Lbs. 55c

BROOMS LITTLE JEWEL A Real Bargain 39c

ARGO POUND STARCH PACKAGE 8c

CHIPSO Large Package 20c

CREME OIL SOAP 6c

BEETS Fancy No. 3 Large Wisconsin Can 14c

PUMPKIN Scott Large 10c

SALMON ALASKA CHUM 2 Cans 25c

PEACHES New Era Whole Peaches Large Can 19c

Coffee "8 O'CLOCK" A Famous Blend 2 Lbs. 77c

Prunes Sun-sweet 2 Lb. Pkg. 25c

Tomatoes TALL CAN New Pack 8c

TOILET PAPER A & P Tissue 2000 Sheet Rolls 2 ROLLS 29c

PACIFIC CREPE 4 ROLLS 25c

CLIMALENE Water Softener Small Size 9c 23c

LIFEBUOY 2 CAKES 15c

Ivory Soap Flakes Pkg. 9c

OLEO Nutley Nut Margarine Lb. 22c

Baked Beans Oven Baked 3 Cans 25c

APRICOTS Argo Brand Large Can 25c

TEA ALL BLENDS OF Our High-Grade Tea Nectar HALF-POUND PKG. 29c

BREAD Grandmother's Iona 10c 7c 5c

24 oz. loaf 16 oz. loaf 1 lb. loaf

## MEAT DEPARTMENT

Pork Chops Rib or Loin Lb. 27c

Fresh Hams Whole or Halves LB. 23c

Chuck Roast Fancy Cut Lb. 15c

Round Steak Lb. 25c

"Where Economy Rules" The Great ATLANTIC & PACIFIC Tea Co. The world's leading chain store grocers