

**Christmas Customs From All Lands**

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the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries when "Maggie England's" Christmas celebrations rose to their height of splendor with their Anglo-Saxon rites and customs. It was then that "baronial castle and manor-house rang with the merriment of the season, and every village inn kept a hospitable cheer. The Yule log roared and the wassail bowl was everywhere. The air went round and the sugar-and-cinnamon-sweetened-water to a stashed friend to friend. Old Father Christmas rode his goat through the streets of the city and the lanes of the village, and as he rested at the hearth from house to house, his kind-hearted sons looked in upon the poor.

Everybody kept holiday then but the cooks. The turnspits watched great haunches of Christmas mutton and "sirloins" of beef brown and sizzle above the open fires, capons and geese turned merrily round upon the spits, and the barrels of the day sang the "plumb-porridge" and "plumb-puddings" and "mince-pies." The customary pester pots for wine and beer were spurned as beneath the dignity for the occasion, and there is a singing of the serving of the salmon, the wild boar, venison, hocks-heads, of honey, mustard, bacon, swine, pigkins, teal and mallards, pancakes, apple pies and custards, "elder of our own" and Gascon wine.

Most ceremonial, quaint humors and the spirit of fellowship marked the celebration of these times. From the days of the early Norman conquest to those of the Commonwealth in England down through the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, "Bloody" Queen Mary and Good Queen Bess, into those of James I, Charles I and into the days of the Puritans, there is record that the Christmas revels made their way and the customs persisted through the centuries. The Puritans, however, would have none of the "merriment" and in New England, in 1621, Governor Bradford rebuked a bevy of young men lately arrived from England, when they objected to working on Christmas day and insisted upon giving it at least to games and sports while he looked on and frowned.

**Virginians Observed Day**  
It was by way of the Virginians that Christmas observance came to America, and by England the restoration of the royal family to the throne restored the rites of Christmas there. It was not until 1659, however, that the law against its celebration was repealed in New England. With this halting by the Puritans the Christmas festival began a long struggle from the immense religiousness of its earliest celebrations that has gradually grown, but Christmas, one truly believes, will never become extinct. Amid changing custom the spirit of the season still survives and while the Puritans have passed, the period of the common era continues to exist as a time of celebration all over the civilized world.

**Legends of the Tree**  
Scandinavia has given us many a Christmas custom. Peace prevails for all the season there with old folks forgotten. The shoes of the family are set in a row with their retires, that its members might live in peace throughout the year to come. There is found the Yule log, the dancing and the skating, and it was a custom of long-standing in other years, and may still be followed in parts of the peninsula, to celebrate the season with the yearly bath, the great wash tub dragged out into the center of the house for the series of ablutions. Candles burn all night for "Kristine" who brings the gifts, there are games until the carolers burst in upon the revelers, masked performances and pantomime and most military drills.

Many countries claim the Christmas tree. In Scandinavia there is the legend of the "service" tree, supposed to have sprung from the soil where a pair of lovers were killed by violence, and where the tree mysteriously appears with its myriad of lights at the Christmas time when no winds blow. A thirteenth century romance features the gigantic tree ablaze with burning candles found by a questing hero, with the babe child shining at its top, the tree aflame with candles, the tree significant of mankind, the candles of human good or bad, the child of the Christ Child. Germany, keeping Christmas, often welcomes its guests with green branches ornamented with lighted candles.

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**THE ABOVE IS OBSOLETE**

But I have everything that is up-to-date. Casserole frames, \$1.00 up; Ladies' first quality shears Joe \$1.00; Thermos bottles (quarts) at \$2.25. See them.

Wagons, skates, velocipedes, razors, hair-clippers, dog collars, leashes, hoes, strops, roasters, etc.

All at a price to suit.

**S. S. Worrell**  
The Hardware Man  
1517 Cabrillo Torrance

**The Christmas Trail**

Christmas day—the white horse—and the shining black sleigh,  
I think of them now with a sigh,  
While I step on the gas and I send the old girl  
Just one mile a minute on high!

And we snuggled down cozy and deep,  
As the horse sped along the bells slapped his flanks,  
Over snow that had drifted in heaps.



We sang as we rode, and the frost of our breath  
We sang just the harder to see,  
And we clapped mittened hands to keep warm for the hour  
As we slipped over bridge and by tree.

Christmas day—and the horse—and the shining black sleigh,  
The jingle and tinkle of bells;  
Oh, how I remember them—blissfully sweet—  
In the story past Christmas times tell.



I think of that fun in that trim Christmas sleigh  
As I follow the gasoline trail  
In these days of the pavement, the motor and coupe,  
That rival the train on the rail.

We packed in the sleigh and went slipping away  
Over fields, over fences and roads,  
That led out to Grandfather's farm where we drove  
In jolly big Christmastime loads.



Dolley's—Pioneer Drug Store in Torrance

**GIFTS**  
From A Modern Drug Store

In the old days the Drug Store meant distress... a place that Santa avoided because it was no place of cheer. Today Santa has made a veritable headquarters for smart gifts at this shop... for men, women and kiddies.

PERFUMES  
TOILET GOODS  
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CHRISTMAS CARDS

**Dolley Drug Co.**  
The Rexall Store  
El Prado at Sartori, Torrance Phone 10

**MORE PLANS**

Are being completed daily by the city for its grand neighborhood "Gay Nineties" Christmas Party around the flag pole in the center of the city from 7 until 10 o'clock Saturday Night, December 6. The Torrance Herald and Lomita News will announce the completed program in all its details on December 4.

**These Dandies Were Just As Smart In Their Day As You Can Be Today With Apparel Gifts From**

**ED SCHWARTZ**  
Store for Men

Let Us Suggest for Instance:

- Tie Sets, \$2.00 and up
- Neck Ties, 50c to \$3.50
- Silk Robes, \$7.50 to \$15
- Flannel Robes, \$7.50 to \$12.50
- Beacon Bath Robes, \$5 to \$12.50
- Fancy Socks, 25c to \$1.50
- Fancy Socks, in boxes of 2 pair, \$1.00; Boxes of 3 pair, \$1.00
- Linen Handkerchiefs, (Plain or initialed)
- Fancy Handkerchiefs, (Plain or initialed)
- Silk Scarfs, \$1.50 to \$6.00
- Fancy Suspenders, \$1 to \$1.50
- Sweaters, \$3.50 to \$8.50 (Pullovers or Button Style)
- Sweater and Socks Golf Sets
- Dress Shirts, including silks, \$1.50 to \$6.50
- Belt Sets, \$1.50 to \$2.50
- Suede Coats, \$11.50 to \$19.50
- Bill Folds, \$1 to \$4.50
- Luggage: Bags, Gladstones, Suit Cases

Also A Most Complete Stock of SUITS, TOPCOATS, SLIPPERS, SHOES

Go to a Man's Store for Men's Gifts.

**Men's Silk Underwear**  
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Beautiful Rayons in Newest colors, elegantly boxed. An ideal gift for any man. Shirts and Shorts Complete

**\$1.50 to \$2.50**

**ED SCHWARTZ**  
Store for Men  
1505 Cabrillo Avenue Torrance, Calif.

**The Days of Tin Trunks And "Tin Lizzies" Are Gone Forever---**

No longer do you have to wait impatiently for "Old No. 9" to puff in two hours late in order to travel a few miles. When the modern family wishes to go to Grandmother's house for Christmas dinner or take a pleasure trip, it rides in comfort and luxury in the family car—the luxuriously appointed and easy riding FORD automobile.

Drop in to our show room on the evening of the Gay Nineties Dance in Torrance and see the late model Fords. They are wonderful Christmas gifts, and can be paid for in convenient deferred payments.

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**"Let's Make This A Good Old Fashioned Christmas!"**