

I Knew He Would Come



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The First Christmas Tree

By Eleanor E. King

IT WAS the Martins' pleasure every year at Christmas time to go to some orphans' home and bring back two or three little children to spend the holidays with them.

This year their choice had been two girls and a boy. Jean and Robert, brother and sister, and Souzette, a little, bright-eyed, winsome girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin (Daddy and Mother, they had asked the children to call them) and the three kiddies were busy trimming the tree.

"My, what beautiful ornaments," exclaimed Souzette.

"What bully lights, you mean," corrected Robert, who was all eyes for electrical things.

"Well, I like the tree best," put in Jean. "It's wonderful. Did you have a tree when you were little, mother?" queried the child rather shyly.

"Yes, I had one every year, and I still have my tree, you see."

"Pears like they've always had them doesn't it?" said Robert.

"They have had them for long, long years. Haven't you ever heard about the first Christmas tree?"

"No," burst forth Robert. "They don't have time to tell us anything at



"What Beautiful Ornaments."

the home, but get up and go to bed."

"Well, a long time ago, there was a huge forest where the fairies and elves all lived. They had a fairy queen who was always planning surprises for them. One day she called a few of her favorites around her and gave them some orders. "Now be sure and don't tell anyone," she said, and off they went laughing and whispering to each other.

"Days passed, weeks passed, and then months, but still these little fairies were busy as bees, working at some big secret, from morning till night."

"I'll bet you couldn't keep a secret that long, Jean. You'd go and tell Souzette. You always do," put in Robert.

"Finally the fairy queen sent out her heralds and called all her subjects about her. When they were assembled she said: "Tomorrow, come to this place at the same time. Put on your finest clothes and come happy as a lark, for I have a great surprise for you."

"Then the fairy queen sent out her heralds again, and this time had all the forest folk sent to her. When every bird and animal in the forest

was assembled before her, she told them what she had told the fairies and elves. They fairly scampered away, they were so eager to get ready for the morrow."

"Do you suppose they were more excited than we were when we got ready to come here?" piped up little Souzette. "I don't think they could be."

Mrs. Martin smiled at her and gave her a kiss. Brushing a tear from her eyes and steadying her voice she went on:

"The morrow came, even though many of the little folk thought it never would come. They were all there early, waiting, dressed in their grandest clothes. At the time set the queen came. She led them to a



"Well, a Long Time Ago—"

large opening in the forest, and then the fairies and forest folk stopped in amazement. They had never seen anything like this sight before."

"What—what was it?" the children chorused.

"Gee! I almost dropped that great big ornament," said Robert excitedly.

"It was a great, huge pine tree, decorated with little packages. These little parcels were wrapped in paper which looked like a spider's web so fine, silky and delicate was it. Then these were suspended from the tree by a string which shone in the afternoon sunlight like raindrops.

"Little stars had given their services for the surprise and they twinkled from among all the branches. It was too much for the little subjects and they sat down about the tree where they were to admire it.

"Then some of the fairies began taking the packages off and giving one to each member. There was honey for Mister Bear, cheese for Mister Mouse, corn for Mister Rat, berries and seeds for the birds. Just everything that they had wanted. It was a great success.

"You know Santa grew up with these fairies, and—"

"No, I didn't know it," broke in Jean and her eyes grew the size of saucers.

"So," continued Mrs. Martin, "when Santa began making toys for children he thought of this idea of the pine trees, and he took a tree for each child and hung their presents on it.

"By and by, though, his load grew to such a size that he found it was impossible to carry so many trees."

"Yes," said practical Robert, "they took up too much room, and he wanted to make toys."

Mrs. Martin nodded.

"So the mothers and fathers agreed to get the trees and trim them for him, which helped him a great deal."

"That's how they thought of these ornaments, then," said Souzette. "This, the last one to put on, too."

"Come on; let's get to bed quick now, so Santa will come," suggested Robert.

"And they've been helping Santa all these years," said Jean dreamily.

"Ever since," replied Mrs. Martin. "Now let's see who will be in bed first."

FORMER TEACHER

SOUNDS WARNING

Dr. L. A. Riser, campaign manager for the Christmas bond and seal sale for the South Carolina Tuberculosis association, has received a heart appealing letter from Miss Nellie Crouch, a former school teacher, now suffering with tuberculosis. This letter was written by Miss Crouch in an earnest effort to arouse other teachers, and the public in general to the dangers of tuberculosis and the necessity of preventing its further spread by furnishing means of treatment for those who are already afflicted.

This letter from Miss Crouch will doubtless be read by numbers of interested people through the state: "I have just heard that you are writing to the teachers asking a special effort from them in the Christmas seal sale this year. Would a letter from an old friend and patient help any?"

"When I taught, I was not interested in this work to any great extent—so many things crowded it out. I did not realize then that tuberculosis was really a menace to me and to the children I taught."

"Now that I know, it is too late for me to help you as a teacher—I must be on my back for a long, long time yet. After eight years of fighting, perhaps my experience and that of my shack mate, Frances Pruitt, another teacher, who is paying the price, might be the means of bringing home to others of our profession the terrible fact that the school room furnishes too many victims to this disease, which can be prevented."

"As the buying and selling of the bonds and little seals are the means of defeating the enemy and saving lives, surely the teachers who know will back you up. I have faith in their willingness to serve where they know the need."—The State.

Mrs. Edith E. Williams, well-known lawyer of Dallas, Texas, is the first woman to sit in the Legislature of that State.

The Correct Procedure.

William Doublex is noted for his nerve, his shortness of temper, and his scarcity of cash. While he was seated at a lonely breakfast in his club one morning, a debt collector broke in, through the downiness of the porter at the door, and presented his bill.

"Sir," said William, glaring at him, "is this all you know of the usages of decent society? To present a bill to a man breakfasting, sir? Do you know that you are intruder in this club sir? Do you know I could call the servants and have you thrown out? If you wish to talk business, go outside and send in your card."

The collector went out and sent in his card. William picked it up between thumb and forefinger, adjusted his monocle, and read it.

"Tell the gentleman," he said, sweetly, "that I'm not in."—Tit-Bits.

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A box of GROVE'S O-PEN-TRATE SALVE for Chest Colds, Head Colds and Croup is enclosed with every bottle of HAYES' HEALING HONEY. The salve should be rubbed on the chest and throat of children suffering from a Cold or Croup.

The healing effect of Hayes' Healing Honey inside the throat combined with the healing effect of Grove's O-Pen-Trate Salve through the pores of the skin soon stops a cough.

Both remedies are packed in one carton and the cost of the combined treatment is 35c.

Just ask your druggist for HAYES' HEALING HONEY.

TAX NOTICE.

The treasurer's office will be open for the collection of state, county, school and all other taxes from the 15th day of November, 1922, until the 15th day of March, 1923, inclusive.

From the first day of January, 1923, until the 31st day of January, 1923, a penalty of 1 per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes. From the first day of February, 1923, until the 28th day of February, 1923, a penalty of 2 per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes. From the first day of March, 1923, until the 15th of March 1923, a penalty of 7 per cent. will be added to all unpaid taxes.

The Levy.

For State purposes7 1-2 mills
For county purposes7 mills
Constitution school tax.....3 mills
For highway purposes1 1-2 mills

Total19 mills

Special School Levies.

Bamberg, No. 14.....21 1-2 mills
Binnaker's No. 12.....3 mills
Buford's Bridge, No. 74 mills
Clear Pond, No. 19.....2 mills
Colston, No. 18.....9 mills
Denmark, No. 21.....16 mills
Ehrhardt, No. 22.....19 mills
Fish Pond, No. 5.....2 mills
Govan, No. 11.....12 mills
Hutto, No. 6.....6 mills
Hampton, No. 3.....2 mills
Heyward, No. 24.....2 mills
Hopewell, No. 1.....3 mills
Hunter's Chapel, No. 16 12 mills
Lees, No. 23.....8 mills
Lemon Swamp, No. 13.....4 mills
Little Swamp, No. 17.....2 mills
Midway, No. 2.....10 mills
Oak Grove, No. 20.....16 mills
Olar, No. 8.....16 mills
Oakland, No. 15.....8 mills
St. John's, No. 10.....8 mills
Salem, No. 9.....12 mills
Three-Mile, No. 4.....8 mills
West End, No. 25.....10 mills

All persons between the ages of 21 and 60 years, except Confederate soldiers and sailors, who are exempt at 50 years, are liable to a poll tax of \$1.00.

Capitation dog tax, \$1.25.

All male persons who were 21 years of age on or before the first day of January, 1921, are liable to a poll tax of \$1, and all who have not made returns to the auditor are requested to do so on or before the first day of January, 1922, and thereby save penalty and costs.

I will receive the commutation road tax of two (\$2.00) dollars from the 15th day of November, 1922 to the 15th day of March, 1923.

In addition to the above levies there is a three mill levy for drainage on all property in the town of Bamberg and some of the surrounding territory.

G. A. JENNINGS,
Treasurer of Bamberg County.

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All children troubled with Worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a general Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Nature will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the Child will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

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...VIA...
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Winter Excursion tickets now on sale to all Southern resort points. Tickets on sale daily until April 30th, with final return limit June 15th, 1923.

Stopovers allowed at any and all points either going or returning within final limit of the ticket.

For further information call on Southern Railway Ticket Agents or

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