



We hope you and your loved ones and friends enjoy this occasion to the fullest extent and that you may have an abundance of joy and happiness.

A very merry Christmas to you, our friends.

Newberry Creamery



The Scots have always made a big fuss over New Years, and no wonder. The wassail bowl goes 'round at New Year's time, filled with savory liquid and nostalgic memories.

Traditionally, the wassail bowl itself should be an ornament of graceful design; its contents should be warm and spicy—with sweetened wine, ale, sugar, and nutmeg.

Custom dictates that at the stroke of 12 on New Year's Eve, the head of the household should sip the mixture and then pass it among those present. A favorite custom of the Scots has been to pile into wagons or sleighs carrying kettles full of the wassail, cheese and buns. The party stops at various houses in the community and the refreshments go 'round at each stop without paying much attention to the approaching dawn.

"Open House" on New Year's Day was quite the vogue in the United States around the turn of the 20th century. Newspapers carried columns of 'at home' notices announcing the hours during which visitors would be received. And having duly received, hosts and hostesses closed their receptions and joined the procession of callers at other 'open houses.'

Human nature being what it is, receptions were often 'crashed' by strangers prompted by the accessibility of free punch, and a succession of several 'open houses' sometimes resulted in the most welcome guests arriving in excessively boisterous or mellow moods and contributed to the abandonment of the publicly announced 'open house.' But intimates still toast each other around a private wassail bowl and "drink a cup of kindness yet for Auld Lang Syne".

New York Claims Santa Claus to Be Its Private Property

While the claim may cause the rest of America to bristle, New Yorkers insist that Santa Claus is peculiarly New York's own. Not only did he land in Manhattan with the Dutch settlers, they point out, but for almost two hundred years he never took his activities or presents out of New York state.

The New Yorkers advance some interesting points to bolster their contentions. They declare that in the genial company of Washington Irving, James Kirke Paulding and Clement Clarke Moore, Santa Claus gradually lost the grim, stern aspect he wore when he arrived with the Dutch settlers to the bulging, benevolent mien he now offers.

It was in New York, too, they assert, that Santa acquired his reindeer sleigh and his habit of arriving on Christmas instead of on the Dutch St. Nicholas eve (December 5). And thus, in his New York panoply, he finally found his way to all parts of the United States, England and even Australia and India.

Indeed, as the New Yorkers will tell you, New York, as New Amsterdam in the beginning, was dedicated to Santa Claus, or St. Nicholas, by its Dutch founders. For Santa Claus—or Sinterklaas, as it is sometimes written in Holland—is of course only the centuries-old pet name which Dutch children gave to their patron and gift bringer, the good Bishop St. Nicholas. And it is said that the ship which brought the first Dutch children to Manhattan island bore his face as figurehead.

From the first, too, his special day of December 6, was set aside with Christmas, New Year's, Easter and Whitsuntide, as one of the five chief holidays of the new colony, just as it had been in Holland.

So, year after year, as regularly as St. Nicholas eve came around in New Amsterdam, in Breuckelen (Brooklyn), in Fort Orange (Albany) and many other hamlets above the icy Hudson, the children in every good Dutch family gathered in expectant circle. For weeks beforehand they had learned their lessons and helped with the milking and churning in an agony of good behavior. And now, all ready, they sang their song to Santa Claus.

In the midst of the song would come a knocking at the door and in would stride Santa Claus, himself—not round and jolly, but solemn and majestic in trailing robes. In one hand he might have a basket of presents or a purse, but in the other was sure to be a birch rod—an awful warning to a naughty boy.

Santa questioned each child in turn about his behavior in the year just past and gave him a pat of approval or a warning shake of the head, as the record indicated. Then, bidding them all look for presents in the morning, the good saint suddenly flung a handful of lollipops into the room, and, in the ensuing scramble, vanished into the night.

Then the children set out their sabots, or later the great blue yarn stockings made for the purpose. However he did it—and the tale varies in many lands—Santa Claus got about, for in the morning over the hearth steaming with waffles and sausages and other good Dutch fare, were the blue stockings bulging with apples, balls, dolls and tops.

Away in a Manger

The Stable of Bethlehem did not in any way resemble the airy porticoes—complete with plaster of paris animals and adoring shepherds—so dear to the heart of modern Christendom.

With comfort increasing throughout the western world, the poverty of the Nativity scene simultaneously startles, and fascinates us—as perhaps Matthew, the publican, was impressed by the story of the Wise Men; and St. Luke, who had been a ship's doctor and probably knew very little about shepherds, was charmed by the shepherds abiding in the field.

There was no room in the inn that night, so Jesus was born in a stable; a place of shelter hewn into a rocky ledge of the Judean countryside. It was cold and dark and damp, and Judean travelers—frequently 'put up' in such caves—welcomed rather than disdained joint tenancy with beasts because the breath of the cattle and the heat of their bodies provided a little warmth, while the guests inside the inn had no heat at all.

The cave, which was the birthplace of the Saviour, is now a grotto beneath Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity; and though fascinated by the simplicity of the original Nativity scene, Christianity has been unwilling to maintain its poverty and has covered the entire surface with costly ornamentation.



New Year's Day, aside from its festive connection, may not seem very momentous to the average citizen, but in the past it figured prominently in the making of history.

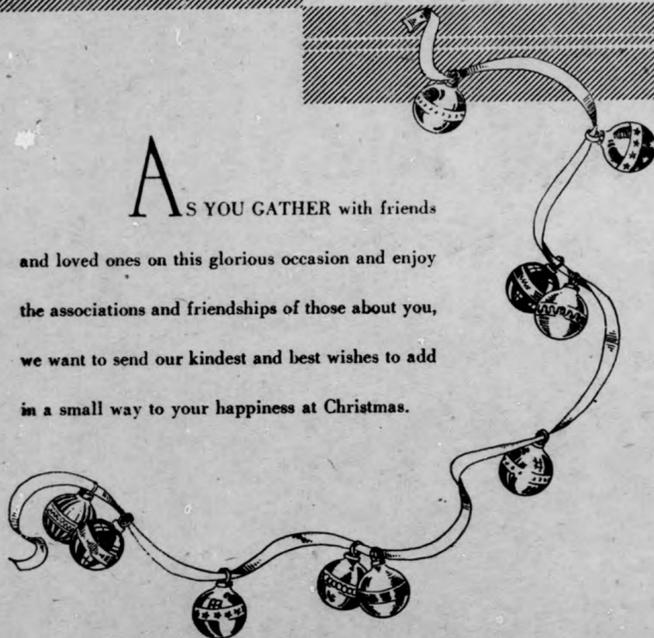
It saw the unfurling of the first American flag by George Washington, and the emancipation of Negro slaves.

Here is a list of important events that have occurred on New Year's day throughout the ages:

- January 1
- 38 B. C. The era of the Caesars began.
- 1349 A. D. Edward III, king of England, defeated the French before Calais with great slaughter.
- 1785 Paul Revere born.
- 1757 Calcutta, India, captured by the British.
- 1776 First Union flag of 13 stripes unfurled by George Washington.
- 1792 Kentucky admitted to the Union.
- 1801 Union of Ireland with Britain.
- 1814 American dragoons attacked the British who had seized Buffalo, N. Y.
- 1815 General Jackson repelled British when they attacked New Orleans.
- 1825 Great Britain acknowledged independence of South American republics.
- 1863 Emancipation of Negro slaves became effective by proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln.
- 1907 U. S. pure food law put into effect.
- 1913 Parcel post system inaugurated.
- 1919 New Year's day declared a legal holiday throughout the country except in Massachusetts and Washington, D. C.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

AS YOU GATHER with friends and loved ones on this glorious occasion and enjoy the associations and friendships of those about you, we want to send our kindest and best wishes to add in a small way to your happiness at Christmas.



Chapman Lumber Co.

May Your CHRISTMAS

be a Happy One

This is the sincere wish of every member of this organization.

We are deeply appreciative of the opportunity we have had in serving you . . . and we truly hope that for each of you, this may be a day of great joy.

Layton Bros. Grocery

We'll send our

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

any way

you prefer,

but--

it will still

say

Merry Christmas

Smith Motor Co.