



4 Howard

1948

A GOOD THANKSGIVING
Marion Douglas

Said old Gentleman Gay, "On a Thanksgiving Day,
If you want a good time, then give something away."
So he sent a fat turkey to Shoemaker Price,
And the shoemaker said, "What a big bird! How nice!
And since a good dinner's before me, I ought
To give Widow Lee the small chicken I bought."

"This fine chicken, O see!" said the pleased Widow Lee,
"And the kindness that sent it, how precious to me!
I would like to make someone as happy as I -
I'll give washwoman Biddy my big pumpkin pie."

"And O, sure," Biddy said, "'tis the queen of all pies!
Just to look at it's yellow face gladdens my eyes!
Now it's my turn, I think; and a sweet ginger cake
For the motherless Finigan children I'll bake."

"A sweet cake, all our own! 'Tis too good to be true!"
Said the Finigan children, Rose, Denny and Hugh,
"It smells sweet of spice, and we'll carry a slice
To poor little lame Jake who has nothing that's nice."

"O, I thank you, and thank you!" said little lame Jake;
"O what bootiful, bootiful, bootiful cake!
And O, such a big slice! I will save all the crumbs,
And will give 'em to each little sparrow that comes!"

SPECIAL EVENTS

Any of these events may be an aid
to your programs. By careful planning,
a few special frills, some variety, and
events add appeal.

COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT DAYS
TOURS
BOX SOCIALS
PARTIES - NEW YEAR'S
CHRISTMAS
VALENTINE
HALLOWE'EN
CARNIVALS

When any of these special programs
are planned and entered in your
secretary's book, the secretary should
write minutes of the event just as it
occurred.

THE SURPRISE NUMBER

At each meeting, a member is
responsible for a surprise
program number. It may be
an outside musical, a special
number by parents, a magic
show, or tiny sister's
first recitation, but keep
it as a surprise until the
program chairman introduces
the member responsible, who
produces his surprise number.
This is a fine place for club
members to use ingenuity and
imagination.

THANKSGIVING

Let's look back at the first Thanksgiving:

In 1620 in Plymouth there was a disastrous year for crops and during the winter many of the Pilgrims died of starvation. The next summer crops flourished and there was an abundance of everything.

Governor Bradford of Plymouth decreed that there should be a day set aside for the giving of thanks to God for the blessing of that plentiful summer. It was more than a day of feasting. Gratefully the people met in churches and praised and thanked their Creator for His mercy.

The feeling spread and in 1863 Mrs. Sarah Joseph Hale, the editor of Godeys Lady's Book, succeeded in her ambition to make it a national holiday. In that year President Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

We have forgotten much of the purpose of the holiday as we have many holidays. At the present we have much to be thankful for. We are not lacking in food and we should be thankful that we are not. Let us make this Thanksgiving Day a real day of Thanksgiving.

---Florence House
In "The Appleblossom"

10. Parliamentary procedure
11. Skits - stunts - contests
12. Health activities
13. Visual aids, such as movies, slides, posters, exhibits
14. Courtesy
15. Conservation activities
16. Social activities
17. Special activities which will stimulate boys and girls to appreciate the beauty in the world around them.

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

"What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man
I'd do my part,
Yet what can I give Him?
Give my heart."

Christina Rossetti

A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

"THE BRIGHTEST STAR"

This is illustrated by a living Christmas tree made as follows:

- A very tall member on chair - Brightest Star
- * - Club members on chairs
- * * * * * with candles
- * * * * * - Club members on knees
- * * * * * with candles
- * * * * * * - Club members sitting on floor with small candles.

One person tells story and one person lights candles.

4-H CLUB MEETINGS

1. Devotionals
2. Minutes
3. Business
4. Music
5. Recreation
6. Quizzes
7. Demonstrations
8. Judging
9. Teaching material in project circulars

(Continued next column)

THE BRIGHTEST STAR

By
Margaret Walters

When Christmas was once a time of wonder working, three children, who lived in the Happy Valley, were getting ready for the day. One morning they found a Christmas Tree standing in the best room. It was not decorated, and the Children said: "How shall we make it beautiful?"

A wise grandmother lived with them and she said: "Only by keeping the Christmas Spirit can you make it beautiful."

In those days the selfish and unkind needed not to put a tree in their houses; they could not make it bright. Only those who knew the Christmas Spirit could have sparkling trees.

So the children hastened to set the house in order. When every room was fair, a star was shining on the lowest bough of the tree. Then they set to work patiently and lovingly and finished the gifts for father and mother and grandmother. When they ran to the tree, a row of stars has blossomed on the lower boughs. Then they packed baskets to take to neighbors who might not have much Christmas cheer. When they came dancing home, all the middle branches were alight. "What now?" they cried, "for we want it all shining". "The birds and beasts have not had their gifts," said mother.

They got ready the crumbs and sheaves of wheat for the birds, and prepared extra tidbits for the horse and the cow and the dog and cat and they gave the food to these friends with caresses and kind words. They then found all but the topmost bough alight with stars. By this time it was Christmas Eve, and they had to go to bed.

They arose in the dawn, and under the shining tree they sang carols and rejoiced, each over her own gifts and over those gifts of the others. No one said, "Is this all?" or "Sister's gifts are finer than mine". Each heart was full of Christmas joy and love.

Then they saw someone coming to their door. It was the boy from the great house on the hill.

"We do not want him", said the eldest child. "He is a bad boy".

"He is bringing us gifts", said the second. "We do not want them. He thinks he is better than we are."

"In the summer he treads on our flowers, breaks our sand villages and frightens our birds," said the little one. But their mother let him in.

"Oh!" he said, "Your tree is shining, but mine is dark. Nurse said it was because I had been unkind all the year. So I came to be kind to you. I've brought you gifts, for you do not get so many things as I do."

Then, because they had the Christmas Spirit, they did not send him away. "We thank you for the gifts," they said. "We hope you will find your tree alight, and you may stay and play under the trees."

"Oh, look!" cried the children, "The Star"! for on the topmost bough a great star blossomed out.

SONGS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Scripture - Psalm 100

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

1. We gather to-gether to ask the Lord's blessing, He chastens and hastens His will to make known; The wicked oppressing cease them from distressing, Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, Ordaining maintaining His Kingdom divine; So from the beginning the fight we were winning, Thou, Lord, wast at our side, Let the glory be Thine!
3. We all do extol Thee, Thou leader in battle, And pray that Thou still our Defender wilt be: Let Thy congregation escape tribulation, Thy name be ever praised, and Thy people be free Ever.

Scripture - Matthew 2

O Little Town of Bethlehem: This lovely carol is one of our very own. (Most of our songs, customs and traditions have come to us from other lands.) As we sing this we may think back with gratitude to Phillips Brooks who wrote this "Christmas Carol after he had visited the 'Little Town of Bethlehem' where Jesus was born. In that year he was the young rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal) in Philadelphia. Later he became one of the best-loved American preachers. Phillips Brooks had spent a year traveling abroad, visiting the Holy Land in December. On Christmas Eve he went to Bethlehem, the scene of Jesus' birth. He saw the shepherds "keeping watch over their flocks", just as they had on that night when the angels came to tell them of Jesus' birth. He attended a midnight Christmas service in the Church of the Nativity, built at the spot where it is believed Jesus was born. Three years later after Phillips Brooks had returned to his Church in Philadelphia, he wanted a Christmas song for the children of his Sunday School. The beautiful scenes of the Holy Land were still in his memory. So he wrote verses describing the little town of Bethlehem as he had seen it sleeping under the stars.

When he had finished the song he took it to Lewis H. Redner, his organist and Sunday School superintendent, and asked him to compose a tune for the carol so the children could sing it on Christmas Day.

Redner worked hard all the week trying to compose the right tune. He went sadly to bed on Christmas Eve for he must disappoint his pastor and the children of his Sunday School. Suddenly he was awakened in the night by a strain ringing in his ears. He got up and wrote it down. The next morning the lovely carol was sung by the Sunday School children in Philadelphia, Christmas 1898."

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

Folklore of Christmas

In Nature

The great peace that came upon the earth on Christmas eve is told in many legends. One old legend says: "The sun in the East bowed down; the stars stood still; the forests shook and the summits touched the earth; the green pine tree bent its branches, and all gave thanks to the Great God."

The Blue Flower

On Christmas eve, so one legend runs, a beautiful blue flower falls from the heavens, but only those pure in heart can find it. If it is found, it will not only bring blessings to the finder but it will cure all his human ills and bring joy and peace to his family.

A Quarrel

If, on Christmas day, we quarrel with anyone--then luck will be against us all through the year.

Cricket

If you hear a cricket singing in your home on Christmas eve, it will bring you good luck through all the new year.

Brownies, Elves and Fairies

When we bring in the green branches at Christmas time, we are helping the Brownies, the Elves and the Fairies who live in the forest. We are making them warm and happy. On this one night in all the year the Wood Folk are free. They run through the forests playing strange music, they ride in the thunder, and on the wings of the lightening their music echoes. Have you ever heard them?

WREATHS AND DECORATIONS are in great demand. Uphold 4-H quality.

4-H MADE GIFTS are the desired gifts. desired, useable, durable.

HOLIDAY MEALS AND HOLIDAY GOODIES are favored features in December foods work.

KEEP FROST FROM STORAGE PITS. Time to cover deeper with straw or leaves.

HELP SAVE POULTRY FEED. Eat or can roosters and culls. Keep feed from rats.

PROTECT RABBITS FROM DRAFTS. Have hutches open on south, tight on other sides.

TIME TO TURN THE PORKERS INTO PORK. Quick cooking for good keeping.

DON'T SKIMP ON FEED OF DAIRY ANIMALS nor overfeed them either. Just right is best.

CUT A CORD OF FIRE-WOOD. Save a ton of coal. Be careful with axes and saws.

HOME AGENTS - 4-H HOMEMAKING RECORD BOOKS HAVE GONE TO PRESS! We hope they will be ready by the first of the year.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH
"Take Time"

Take time to work -- it is the price of success.

Take time to think -- it is the source of power.

Take time to play -- it is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to read -- it is the fountain of wisdom.

Take time to be friendly -- it is the road to happiness.

Take time to dream -- it is hitching your wagon to a star.

Take time to be loved -- it is the privilege of the gods.

Take time to look around -- it is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to laugh -- it is the music of the soul.

North Carolina 4-H Club Dress Revue

Our 1948 State Dress Revue was cancelled due to polio this summer; so when school opened and the polio ban lifted, nine district dress revues were held. Our 1948 State Dress Revue Winner from the Northwestern District - Peggy Carmon, from Guilford County, Gibsonville, Route 1, is a member of McLeansville 4-H Club. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Carmon. Her Adult Leader is Mrs. Banks Garrison, and her Home Demonstration Agent is Miss Mary Harris. Peggy lives on a farm of 281 acres. She is 15 years old and has been a 4-H Club member for five years.

Peggy's dress is orchid picolay. The bodice has a low oval neckline and cap sleeves. The skirt has three full tiers, each one corded where it joins the other. A starched batiste petticoat made by the same pattern gives the effect of a hoop skirt. The cording is made from bleached fertilizer sack ties, which made Peggy "feel like a creator instead of a seamstress". The fabric is pleasing, does not wrinkle, launders easily, and the color is permanent.

Peggy reports that through her 4-H clothing project she has learned to plan her wardrobe more completely. She plans colors which harmonize, wears the proper things at the proper time, and her garments are made by a higher standard, fit better, and her finishes are better. She has become "fashion-wise", and reads extensively of fashions in the better magazines.

In other fields of 4-H Club work, Peggy is a good worker.

Other District winners were:

Betty Ruth Broadwell of Wake County; La Rue Holton, Pamlico County; Barbara Ann Cooke, Northampton County; Edith Marie Rogerson, Martin County; Mary Burney, Bladen County; Margaret Putnam, Gaston County; Theresia McSwain, Cleveland County; Carolyn Lime, Cherokee County.

In spite of polio, 88 counties participated this year with approximately 15,000 girls making and modeling complete outfits in local dress revues. Grooming, posture, poise, a pleasing personality, fit, suitability of the dress for the

occasion, line, color, cost, good construction, and personal records helped the judges choose a winner. Peggy Carmon will represent North Carolina in the National Dress Revue Contest at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago in December. This contest is sponsored by the Simplicity Pattern Company and each State winner is awarded a free trip to Chicago and will be presented a war bond.

Judges for the North Carolina State Dress Revue were Miss Julia McIver and Miss Jane Gibbs, Extension Specialists in Clothing.

Brief Report of my European Trip
By: William R. Shackelford

On September 12 I arrived in New York after having spent the summer in Europe. Sixteen other 4-H Club members and myself lived on European farms from the early part of June until the early part of September. I was one of the four delegates that lived in Great Britain as guests of the English Young Farmer's Club, an organization similar to our 4-H Club. Its leaders had a well planned program mapped out for us and really made our trip very interesting.

The three other British delegates and myself arrived in Plymouth, England June 11. After sightseeing in London over the week-end, we traveled by train into southern Wales. We lived in Wales for two weeks, studying Welsh agriculture and observing the beautiful Welsh scenery. I saw some potatoes that were yielding more than ten tons per acre and many dairy shorthorn herds in Wales and England. The farmland was very fertile in southern Wales but became poorer as we traveled north. The four British delegates joined the thirteen other delegates in London on June 26. We toured London for two days and then split up for a short visit to some English farms. I was sent to Wiltshire, a large dairying county about eighty miles west of London. On July 5 our 4-H party began a motor coach tour to the Royal Show at York. The show was much larger than our State Fair and pertained strictly to agriculture. We had the opportunity of going through Ferguson Tractor Company Assembly Plant near Coventry and to travel throughout the Shakespeare countryside at Stratford-on-Avon.

I lived on several farms throughout the western midland section of England for four and one-half weeks. I saw many fields of very good wheat, oats, and barley, also some hops along the Thames River Valley. In Herefordshire, practically every farm had a very good herd of hereford cattle. The majority of the farms throughout the region had a flock of sheep on them.

Practically all the farm homes in Britain are very old. Many of them date further back than 1600. Their old age makes them very inconvenient; however, most of them are very well preserved. Only pre-fabs are made of lumber. The buildings are all made of stone or brick.

From August 11 to 19, I attended the International Youth Conference in London. There were approximately thirty nationalities represented. Following the conference, I lived near Edinburgh, Scotland, for six days. East Lothia, the county that I lived in, had the most fertile soil for growing small grains that I saw in Great Britain. Yields per acre were ranging from 40 to 95 bushels.

Most of the British farms are mechanized; however, the farmers still use many of their old methods for doing things even if they have modern machinery.

The fact that I was a tobacco farmer and lived on a fifty-six acre farm amazed most Englishmen. They imagine that any American farmer owns at least a thousand acres. Cigarettes cost 72¢ per pack in Great Britain and even more in some other countries.

On August 27 I crossed the English Channel and went to Rotterdam. Russ Mawby, another delegate, traveled with me to Paris where we joined the other two delegates. We remained there for three days. The Louvre and its nearby parks and gardens were certainly beautiful. The view from the Arch of Triumph certainly proves how well the city of Paris was planned. On our return trip to Rotterdam, we stopped over night in Brussels, Belgium. It is the dream city of most Europeans. Practically all the scarce items in Europe can be found there; however, American prices must be paid for them. Such prices are unheard of by most Europeans.

Russ and I sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, September 1 for New York. My visit to Europe was exceptionally interesting, giving me an opportunity to live in the foreign homes and to talk with the people about their every day problems. I think that the world would certainly be a better place in which to live if more exchange visits of this nature were possible. To me, my visit to Europe was a dream that had come true.

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Ellen Taylor, secretary to Mr. L. R. Harrill, State 4-H Club Leader, who has resigned to become Mrs. Joseph Thigpen on November 27 in Hamilton, North Carolina.

LOST

Lost yesterday, somewhere
between sunrise and sunset,
two golden hours, each set
with sixty diamond minutes.
No reward is offered for
they are gone forever.

- Anonymous

PREPAREDNESS

For all your days prepare
And meet them ever alike:
When you are the anvil, bear--
When you are the hammer, strike.

- Edwin Markham

RECREATION

Christmas Carols: Before the party, get the help of a musical friend who can play the piano. Pick out a dozen or so Christmas carols, and arrange them so that very familiar ones and less familiar ones are alternated. Then give a numbered card and pencil to everyone. Turn out the lights, and have the room lighted only by candle-light or firelight. This will make the playing of the carols most effective. The first line of each carol is played, repeated if necessary. The players are to write down the title. When the quiz is finished, the papers are exchanged, and checked. A book of carols would make an appropriate prize for the one with the most correct titles. This might be a good way to work into singing the carols toward the end of the evening.

Catching the Reindeer - Players form a ring as for "Drop the Handkerchief." The player who is "it" represents the reindeer. He is given a number of bells which he jingles as he runs around the outside of the circle. He also carries a small stuffed stocking which he drops behind a player who must pick it up and pursue him. The reindeer then attempts to steal the place of the person behind whom he has dropped the stocking. If caught before he can accomplish this, he must go to the center of the circle. In either case, the pursuer becomes the next reindeer.

Toys come to Life - Each person is secretly given the name of some toy. One at a time they are asked to come forward and "act out" their toy. The remaining players must guess what each toy is.

The Same to You - Players seated in a circle. One person is "it" in the center. "It" points to a person and says "Merry Christmas to You". The person who has been pointed to must say "The same to you," before the one in the center has finished. If he fails to do so, he must take his place in the center and the game continues. If a person gives "The same to you" without the leader saying "Merry Christmas to you", he must exchange places.

Christmas Stage Coach - This is played like the game of Stage Coach. One person reads the Christmas poem, "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" as the other players sit in a circle with all chairs full. The players are given words in advance, for example: House, mouse, reindeer, stockings, toys, etc. As the poem is read, the one who has the word must get up and turn around. At any time the person who is reading may yell "Santa Claus" and when he does, all must change seats. If the leader secures a seat, the one left over becomes the reader.

Name and Shake -- A Mixer Game - Give each player a paper bag containing the same number of small nuts, dried peas or beans. Announce that everyone is to introduce himself to everyone else, shaking hands and giving his name. Each time two people shake hands the one who manages to say his own name first, "Hello, I'm So-and-So," claims a nut from the other person. The same individuals may greet each other any number of times, but never twice in succession.

Relay for Stormy Night - Divide into groups -- stand in straight lines. Several feet ahead of the line is a pan of peanuts (or crackers). At a given signal, the first in each line goes to the pan, shells a nut, eats it and then whistles. And so it goes down the line. The line finishing first wins.

MEMORANDUM

Continued... the party... the Christmas season... the lights... the decorations... the spirit of the season... the joy of the occasion... the love of the people... the hope of the future... the faith of the soul... the strength of the arm... the courage of the heart... the wisdom of the head... the grace of the hand... the beauty of the face... the kindness of the tongue... the gentleness of the spirit... the meekness of the mind... the lowliness of the heart... the forbearance of the soul... the long-suffering of the flesh... the patience of the spirit... the kindness of the heart... the gentleness of the tongue... the meekness of the mind... the lowliness of the heart... the forbearance of the soul... the long-suffering of the flesh... the patience of the spirit...

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

AND

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RALEIGH

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