

Mind Your Manners

"What I hate about women is that they seem to think my office reception room is a dressing room," Businessman speaking. He had turned mis-gymnist the week he interviewed several dozen women for a job.

"She has no consideration for anybody. Look at that napkin." Complaint was a young hostess, whose house is beautifully managed, but who is far from being a fussy "dope."

"Women are always dabbling at their faces and fiddling with their hair." Speaker was a highly successful professional woman, slightly sour on her own sex.

Remarks like that have become so common that we have been wondering if revolt is brewing. Have we, in our anxiety to be beautiful, forgotten our manners? Instead of attracting by the perfection of our make-up, are we doing our best to lose friends and alienate people? The interesting fact is that no one is lukewarm on this subject; everyone has emphatic ideas and at least one pet hate.

How to Annoy Your Hostess

Top complaint of all good housekeepers is lipstick on napkins. The worse the stains, the more the hostess sometimes they are none too easy to wash out. Since the best party-givers are often those who take most pride in their possessions, the moral is plain. The guest who wants to be asked again to blot her lips comes to dinner. This (small precaution also prevents the telltale red on glass and spoon, embarrassing to the perpetrator and often repellent to the attractive man on her right.

You would think no nice girl would be guilty but we hear caustic comments about guest towels so gaudily besmeared with crimson and ochre. There seem to be women who don't know that only a washed face should be presented to a towel.

Unpopular, too, are the guests who sprinkle powder everywhere; accessories as comb, lipstick, and rouge; and the one who arrives just a trifle late and then, while the hostess fidgets, sits down for complete and leisurely hairdressing and make-up.

If you want to make people keep their distance, car research shows that the sure-fire way is to gnaw your nails. Even the nail-biters themselves don't like to see anyone else do this. Another way to insure empty space around you is to douse yourself with so much perfume that the odor suffocates everyone around. And practically every face will turn away from you if you take out a messy vanity case to work with a grimy puff.

Sticklers for old-fashioned etiquette still frown on any face-fixing outside the dressing room; but popular sentiment is in favor of touching up shiny noses and pale lips whenever necessary. Always, though, the gesture should be light, pretty, and casual, and your vanity and lipstick should be as bright and clean and beautiful as you want to be yourself.

How to Estrange A Man

Men, as a rule, are tolerant of making-up in public. They like the results and don't cavil at the means. But they draw the line at some things. No. 1 objection—we bow our heads in shame for our insensitive sex—is haircombing in public. And one man added, "especially at a restaurant table."

Four Rules To Mind

Rule One is the golden one: "Do unto others—Be as fastidious and considerate in the presence of others as you would like them to be in yours. For example, you may shudder at the idea of moistening a mascara brush with saliva; but do you think nothing of leaving a trace of lipstick print on some cherished lady's cheek? Do you comb your hair over public wash-bowls, fall to wash the tub after a bath, leave used paper towels and tissues for someone else to pick up?"

Rule Two is this: Since make-up is intimate and personal, practise it as far as possible in private. Use a lasting powderbase that will keep you looking flawless for hours. Find a lipstick you can depend on. Choose a hairdo that stays put. Get yourself together before you go out. If you know that you are bathed, brushed, and powdered—not a hair or a strap out of place—you won't have the desire to pat and pull and touch up here and there.

Rule Three is simple courtesy. If you must make repairs in public, choose a moment when no one is talking to you. And do it casually. Undertake no basic job, and don't screw up your features.

Rule Four trains you to a brave belief in yourself. Do nothing to give away your doubts and quakes. Learn to do without such nervous mannerisms as hair-fumbling, face fussing, powder-dabbing. Set the stage, and then leave it alone. Make yourself pretty; then forget your appearance, only in this way can you have the self-conscious charm so much more powerful than mere beauty.—Selected.

Christmas Greens And Flowers

Santa Claus with a gleam full of fresh flowers makes a splash on a table for a Christmas table. White carnations, yellow pompons, red roses, snapdragons and African daisies are a festive choice; and a "roadway" of holly or fragrant evergreens down the centre of the table will add to the Yuletide spirit. Even if you can't get home for the holiday at the last minute, you can wire the family's favourite flowers and plants so that they may enjoy them during the Christmas season. Silvered angels, streamlined reindeer, white holly leaves and brightly coloured cones are just a few of the novelties designed to add a gay touch to Christmas.

Follow These Rules When Addressing Christmas Cards



IN ADDRESSING Christmas cards, many questions are bound to arise with regard to correct form. The following tips on addressing Christmas cards will, therefore, be welcomed by all who have cards to send.

Christmas greeting cards fall into two general classes, formal and informal. If you use printed or engraved cards for formal use, the title Miss, Mr., or Mrs. should preferably appear above the greeting. For instance: "Mr. and Mrs. Frank Russell wish you a Merry Christmas," rather than "A Merry Christmas from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Russell."

Whose name should come first, the husband's or the wife's? Generally, the husband's name comes first. On informal cards, signed in ink, it is quite proper to sign, "Bill and Shirley," or Bill and Shirley Adams, depending, of course, upon how well you know the acquaintance.

A married woman, whether her husband is alive or not, should be addressed with "Mrs." prefixed to her husband's full name. Every card sent out should bear a Mr., Mrs., or Miss prefix. Failure to use

this prefix is an unpardonable breach of courtesy.

Do not address a divorcee by her maiden name, unless such name has been established by legal procedure.

John Robertson may be a business associate of yours, to whom you want to send a Christmas card, but you do not know his wife. What shall you do in a case of this kind? It is quite proper to send your card to Mr. and Mrs. John Robertson, although, on the other hand, it is equally proper to send the card in his name only. It adds a little of the personal touch to learn the home address and send the card there, although directing the card to a business address is quite proper.

Some question as to the propriety of sending out Christmas cards may enter the minds of the family in mourning. By the same token, some question may arise as to the sending of Christmas cards to them. If the bereavement is very recent—within a month—it may be better for the family to omit Christmas cards. And cards to be sent to the family should be selected with considerable care.

Superstitions About Christmas

SIGNIFICANT meanings surround Christmas, according to superstitions believed in various parts of the world.

☞ In Holstein, Mistletoe is not only supposed to be a cure for all green wounds, but will insure success in the chase and give strength to the wrestler.

☞ Early Norsemen believed for centuries that the Mistletoe would give protection against both bodily ailments and evil spirits.

☞ A person who is born on Christmas will have power to see and command spirits, according to a Scottish belief.

☞ French peasants believe that babies born on Christmas have the gift of prophecy.

☞ If a baby is born at sermon time on Christmas Eve in Middle Europe, it portends that someone in the house will die within the year.

☞ Daughters born in the Vosges, France, on December 25 will be wise, witty and virtuous.

☞ A baby born on Christmas in Silesia will become either a lawyer or a thief.

☞ Girls in the ancient Duchy of Swavia seldom missed the opportunity offered by Christmas to look into the future at their future husbands. On Christmas Eve they would go to the woodpile to draw sticks. If a girl pulled a thick stick, her husband would be stout; if a long stick, he would be tall; if a crooked stick, he would be deformed. They would determine the business of their future husbands by dropping melted lead into a pan of cold water. The molten metal would form various shapes in cooling, and thus resemble the insignia of his occupation: hammer shape, a carpenter; shoe shape, a cobbler. Every piece of lead resembled some occupation to the old wives.

☞ A maiden in Switzerland who accepts a bunch of Edelweiss at Christmas also accepts the man who proffers it.

☞ All animals in the German Alps can speak on Christmas Eve.

☞ It is believed in the Netherlands that nothing sown on Christmas Eve will perish. Even seed sown in the snow will live.

☞ A Bohemian wife will die within a year if she burns a Christmas cake.

☞ To insure an abundant harvest in Denmark, some of the bread baked on Christmas is kept until sowing time, when it is mixed with the seed.

☞ It is said that bread baked on Christmas in England never becomes moldy.

☞ Ashes must not be thrown out on Christmas day in some sections of Europe, for fear they might be thrown into the Savior's face.

☞ Some families in Scandinavia place all their shoes together on Christmas. This will cause them to live in harmony throughout the year.

Christmas Tree Industry 'Aims to Please'



A highly developed industry, Christmas tree production aims to satisfy all types of customers. Here a workman after bundling his trees according to size and grade is saving the butts to even lengths. In cities where ceilings are high, as in old communities, taller trees are desired. For modern low-ceilinged living rooms, only medium and shorter sizes find ready market. The most popular kind of Christmas tree is the fir. It is generally preferred because it tends to hold its needles longer than any other evergreen tree. Spruces, pines, hemlocks and red-cedars are also used as Christmas trees.

CHARM OF CHRISTMAS

THE chief charm of Christmas is its simplicity. It is a festival that appeals to everyone because everyone can understand it. A genuine fellowship pervades our common life—a fellowship whose source is our common share in the world's greatest life which was given to the whole world.—Kimball.

French Village Portrays Story of Christ's Birth

Les Baux in France, a village of shepherds, puts on one of the most dramatic Christmas celebrations in the world, and has done it yearly for over a thousand years. The peasants act out the whole Bethlehem story. Joseph and Mary drive into the "City of David" with real oxen. Thousands of visitors come every Christmas eve to see the event.

How the Idea Started Christmas Candles



Christmas tree candles date back to the very earliest times in the Christian era. The Yule candle, of goodly size, lighted early Nativity celebrations. The lighting of candles is indeed a universal religious and national custom. Candle lighting featured the Norse mid-winter festival of the turning of the sun. The Jewish Feast of Chanukkah or Lights is also celebrated similarly at the same season.

Christmas Gifts



Romans exchanged gifts during gay celebrations. But giving of presents of course goes back much earlier. The Romans, however, gave it clearer identity as a part of their festival program. Christmas boxes and cards of today have a link to the ancient Roman festivities. In France, gifts are distributed to children New Year's eve instead of Christmas. In England, Germany, Italy, and most everywhere else, the custom is like in the United States. Santa comes a-visiting at Christmas.

Christmas Wreaths



In ancient times the Teutons regarded holly as a symbol of good luck. The custom was widespread of hanging evergreens in the interior of dwellings. Later the legend was widely circulated that all shaping things blossomed and bore fruit the night of the Nativity. Holly came also to symbolize the crown of thorns worn by Christ. The Puritans, however, regarded holly and mistletoe decorations as pagan in nature, and they therefore were outlawed.

Christmas Stockings



St. Nicholas rides Woden's horse on Christmas eve in Holland. There the children put up their wooden shoes in the chimney corners as a stop signal for the merry fellow. Children of France followed the custom by placing their shoes for Bonhomme Noel by the hearth. In England and the United States, boys and girls improved on the idea by hanging up stockings. These can hold more gifts.

Christmas Hymns



The Puritans predicted the disappearance of Christmas carols and did what they could to discourage the custom of singing them. But it has grown more and more a part of the Christmas tradition which began in early Christian days in Rome. The French Noel, dating to the Eleventh century, and the German Weihnachtslieder, have the same origin.

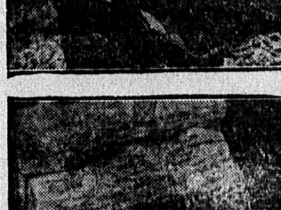
How Good Boys Act the Week Before Christmas



BRUSHES HIS TEETH



WRITES TO SANTA



SAYS HIS PRAYERS



EATS HIS SPINACH

SAFETY FIRST Merry Christmas Also Famous As Year's No. 1 Danger Season

If you want a truly merry Christmas be sure that the frivolity of the season doesn't turn it into tragedy. The National Safety Council points out that the Holidays are the most dangerous part of the year, replete with auto casualties, home accidents, burns and falls. Keep these "don'ts" in mind and you'll live to see the new year:

DON'T give children dangerous toys, or toys with sharp points. If they operate with electricity, be sure you supervise their use.

DON'T decorate the tree with lighted candles unless it's absolutely unavoidable. Carefully wired electric bulbs are much safer.

DON'T place the tree near a stove or fireplace.

DON'T leave a lighted tree unguarded at any time; you must be on the lookout for fires.

DON'T use a rickety, unsafe ladder in decorating the tree.

DON'T place Christmas candles near the tree, curtains, paper wreaths or other decorations.

DON'T overlook the opportunity to make your tree fire-resistant. Ac-



According to the United States forestry service, you can do it this way: Divide the weight of your tree by four and buy that many pounds of ammonium sulphate. Dissolve it in water, one and a half pints to each pound of ammonium sulphate. Cut the end of your tree trunk on a diagonal, put some solution in a jar and stick the diagonal butt into the solution. Add solution as the tree drinks it up.

DON'T be excessive about Christmas "spirits."

DON'T leave toys exposed where people can trip on them.

DON'T leave your tree in the house after it becomes dried out.

DON'T allow steps and sidewalks to become icy in cold weather. During Christmas you'll probably have many guests; sprinkle salt or sand in dangerous spots.

DON'T drive carefully—unless you want to live and enjoy 1941.

City of New Orleans Likes Its Fireworks In Christmas Season

Christmas without fireworks just isn't Christmas—down in New Orleans.

"If anybody got no fireworks he mighty be," says the Creoles gayly. The more the fireworks, the better the Christmas on the lower side of Canal street.

While other people are shooting off fireworks on July 4, New Orleans is sweltering under intense heat. Outside activities are out of the question.

With noisy July 4 festivities out of the question, it was easy to begin celebrating Christmas, instead, with the firing of skyrocket, Roman candles and firecrackers. Once started, there was no stopping it.

Shooting starts several weeks before Christmas, and every night the tumult increases. Parents consistently caution their children to save the firecrackers until the twenty-fifth, because they won't get any more. The boys and girls refuse to believe this prophecy, but feel that Providence will not allow them to go crackerless.

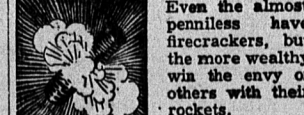
Even the almost penniless have firecrackers, but the more wealthy win the envy of others with their rockets.

Enthusiasm is not limited to the young boys, but it is shared by the entire family. Boys and girls parade up and down the streets at night, making a racket with tin trumpets and "instruments" they picked up on the way. They ring doorbells, then run away with joyful laughter. The sky is lighted up with rockets and firecrackers beat a constant staccato.

The fun begins again the next morning, with greater enthusiasm than ever. Although a boy may have bankrupted himself the day before, firecrackers have taken a great drop in price. He must have a new supply because they are cheap.

Now the juveniles grow reckless. Whole packages of firecrackers go off at one full blow; those who were firecracker boys yesterday are skyrocket boys today. As night comes on, the streets seem ablaze with explosives and colored rockets.

The second morning after Christmas the streets are strewn thick with burned pieces of fireworks; but the air is clear. The acrid odor of fireworks is again replaced by the perfume of Christmas roses.



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Sugar and Water Stops Fall Of Christmas Tree Needles

It's easy to stop the fall of Christmas tree needles. Saw off a portion of the tree's base—enough so that fresh wood will be exposed. Set a shallow pan of water beneath the base of the tree, in which the base should be immersed. A teaspoonful of sugar should be added to the water. The water provides needed moisture and the sugar nourishes the needles, giving them strength to hold on longer.

Christmas Week Offers Chance to Predict Weather

Weather prognosticators have found means of forecasting most of the coming year's weather by cooking an eye at the sky during Christmas week. You may not believe them, but here are a few of the varied—and conflicting—beliefs about Christmas weather:

If the sun shines through the apple tree on Christmas day, there will be a good crop the following year.

If ice will bear a man before Christmas, it will not bear a mouse afterward.

Thunder and lightning Christmas week means much snow in the winter.

Wet causes more damage than frost before than after Christmas.

If it snows Christmas night, the hop crop will be good next year.

At Christmas meadows green, at Easter covered with frost.

If windy Christmas day, trees will bring much fruit.

Christmas wet gives empty granary and barrel.

A green Christmas makes a fat graveyard.

A warm Christmas, a cold Easter.

A green Christmas, a white Easter.

Tropical Christmas on the Islands in Hawaii

IT'S asking a lot to expect people born in temperate latitudes to get steamed up about Christmas in the tropics. But to children born on islands in the middle of the Pacific, Christmas is still—Christmas, writes Armine von Tempelk in Cosmopolitan.

On the outlying islands in Hawaii, Christmas is carried in on horseback, and the jingle of panioles' spurs replaces the imagined tinkle of Santa's merry sleigh bells. On Christmas eve some inner part of me waits and listens all night for the tramp of horses' hoofs, the ringing of spurs, rich Hawaiian voices singing above resonant guitars and gay ukuleles; for cowboy serenaders, riding from ranch to ranch.

Like cadenced meles, which put an everlasting spell upon you, memories of Christmas spent on the sixty-thousand-acre cattle ranch my father managed on the slopes of Haleakala, the extinct volcano on the island of Maui, persist with undying vividness. A fair number of persons, representing different races making up the sum total of humanity, participated in them. Americans, Hawaiians, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese and their crossings assembled under our roof Christmas eve. Each group brought a favor peculiarly its own to add to the Birthday of all birthdays.

Use Flashlight to Test Christmas Tree Bulbs

If you are doubtful about certain lamps in your Christmas tree string, here's an easy way to check for those that are burned out.

Remove the regular lamp from a five-cell flashlight. Then screw in the lights one at a time. While they will not burn brightly with such low current, they will glow if still good. Burned-out lamps will not glow at all.

Nation's Christmas Bill Set at \$62 per Family; Toys Cost \$183,000,000

You're paying a part of this bill: Santa's middle men predict a \$183,000,000 national toy bill this year, which would be about the same as was spent last year to spread cheer among the youngsters.

The array around American Christmas trees this season, including toys, will cost each family an average of \$62.50, according to reliable surveys.

There's another side to it. Between 250,000 and 300,000 persons are being added to the nation's payroll during the holiday rush, and the turnover should raise total 1939 sales for the year to at least last year's volume of nearly \$40,000,000,000.

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Camel Distributes Gifts To Children in Syria

Christmas gifts are presented by a camel in Syria. The youngest camel which accompanied the Wise Men is called the Camel of Jesus. It performs the task each year of distributing presents.

Dark Christmas The sun does not rise above the horizon for a week in Iceland during Christmas season.