

History of carols goes back many hundred yrs.

The first Christmas carols were danced to, according to Encyclopedia International. Carolers took hands and formed a ring, singing as they went round. Oldest of all carols, it has been said, was that sung by the heavenly host when the birth of the Saviour was announced to the shepherds on the plains of Bethlehem. Probably, the practice of singing carols at Christmas arose in imitation of this, as the majority of carols declared the good tidings of great joy, and the title of Noel, nowell or novelle, applied to carols, would seem to bear out this idea.

BIRTHDAY NEWS . . .
"Nowell" or "Noel" means birthday news or a "shout of joy" for the birth of Jesus.

The earliest carols were songs of the Nativity, the Incarnation and the Annunciation. Later, on shepherds' themes and the Epiphany were composed, and there were also many of folk origin on the festivities of the Christmas season.

These latter included such songs as "The Holly and the Ivy." Many of the surviving old carols were originally part of the medieval plays.

Christmas carols first were written in scholar's Latin. The Blessed Jacopone of Todi, of the Franciscan order, led the way to a wider enjoyment and appreciation of joyous Christmas songs by musical poems in the language of the common people.

The saint, who lived from about 1230 to 1306 A.D., had a good precedent for his interest in carols in St. Francis himself. To St. Francis is traced the creation of the first creche or manger scene, in 1223 A.D. Villagers gathered around the scene and sang hymns to the Christ Child.

"THE BOAR'S HEAD" . . .
"The boar's head in hand bear I,
Bedecked with bays and rosemary."
The Boar's Head Carol, one of the earliest carols, appeared in the first collection of English carols, printed in 1521, and is still sung on Christmas Day at Queens College, Oxford.

Other colleges of Oxford had their own versions of the same song. "The boar is dead, lo, here is his head," remarked the carol sung at St. John's, which

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Even in early times, the "boar" romantically referred to as traditional at the feast was probably a pig. The wild boar is believed to have been extinct in Britain early in the 13th century.

FEAST OF STEPHEN
"Good King Wenceslas looked out on the feast of Stephen."
This familiar carol commemorates two famous men. One is King Wenceslas, who ruled in Bohemia in the 10th century A.D. He was noted for his generosity to the poor, and practiced this generosity on Christmas and on St. Stephen's Day, December 26.

St. Stephen was the first martyr, noted in legend as a follower of Christ who, at the time of the Nativity, had been in the service of King Herod. When he was permitted to see the Star, he left Herod to serve the Child.

Today the "feast of Stephen" is remembered primarily because of the carol, "Good King Wenceslas." His day is now more commonly observed, especially in England and Canada, as Boxing Day, when presents are given to servants and others who have rendered services throughout the year.

SHEPHERD MAIDEN . . .
Shepherds are familiar figures



FROTHY FASHION connections, romantic new blossoms make marvelous gifts for every girl on Santa's list. Feminine ruffles and lace trim make a gal feel as festive as the season.

Artists discover much inspiration

From earliest times, artists found in the story of the Nativity and the events surrounding it, a source of inspiration and a challenge to their talents. The Madonnas and Child, the Holy Family, the Magi, the manger scene—these are the subjects that have engendered some of the world's most famous paintings.

And, as students of both art and history know, such paintings not only portray a scene, they also tell something of the times in which they were painted.

As the Middle Ages drew to a close and the Renaissance dawned, new light was spreading over the world.

Mid-15th-century artists were turning from theories of painting which depicted more stylized poses and ornate detail, liberally touched with gold, to an approach which emphasized more realistic, lifelike figures in a landscape, as seen in paintings of humble peasants adorning the Christ Child, true-to-life stable animals and even blacksmiths working in the background of the manger.

In "Adoration of the Magi," a painting by Giovanni di Paolo which is now in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., the Three Kings are depicted in an elaborate, decorative style. The background of the painting, however, shows a more lifelike interpretation. The landscape is filled dotted with crops, crisscrossed with roads and bath-

ed in sunlight is refreshing—and a treatment new to the times.

Another "Adoration of the Magi" at the National Gallery is even more indicative of a world in transition. This fresco (circular) painting was begun by one artist, Fra Angelico, and finished by another, Fra Filippo Lippi. The principal part of the

painting, attributed to Fra Angelico, has an idealized, otherworldly atmosphere. Realism appears in the solid, substantial figures of the foreground—typical Renaissance forms, the work of Fra Filippo.

Both of these "Adorations" were painted in tempera on wood. Tempera, a mixture of pigments and dyes with egg yolk to produce a full finish on a surface prepared with egg white for adhesion, was a common medium for medieval Italian artists.

Thus, as the darkness of the Middle Ages faded, artists, in more than one way, spread the light of the Renaissance.



GIVE TIRES for Christmas



Give a gift of two for Christmas this year. Surprise your husband with a set of top quality tires from Harold L. Matthews, Summerside.

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We have every size and price range in tires. Long lasting retreads and sure grip Goodyear tires for real winter road safety.

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219 Water Street

Summerside

LONG YEARS of fun and companionship are gifts to the lucky little girl who receives her own bike—and her own dog. Chances are, both she and the dog will enjoy the bike—the dog for the fun of romping along beside her as she wheels away.

Fashion gifts sure to please women

Whoever she is, wherever she lives, whatever she does—Santa can be sure of one thing. The woman in his life wants fashion gifts for Christmas.

Actually, Santa will be well advised to think of Christmas in terms of the women, not women in his life. Mother, grandmother, wife, daughter, sister, aunt, cousin, sweetheart, or friend—each deserves to be gifted, and each is in terms of her interests, responsibilities and pleasures, not one woman but many.

Every phase of every woman's life involves the practicality and beauty of fashion, and this happy circumstance makes Santa's gifts, choosing a set, both easy and pleasant.

She's a working gal—as career girl, homemaker, mother or

all three—and therefore she welcomes "on the job" fashions that are smart, attractive and easy to care for. Santa's gifts here can range from comfortable, colorful, well-fitting separates in new stretch fabrics to wash-and-wear daytime dresses or dainty and feminine but thoroughly practical frocks.

HOW TO PAMPER HER
Since she leads a busy life, she deserves to be pampered, and fashion gifts offer Santa myriad opportunities to show her she's appreciated. Whether the gift choice is a luxurious fur coat or jacket, or some inexpensive but important costume jewelry, or even a pretty little handkerchief, presents with a touch of glamour are certain to be cherished by her.

The same is true of all the many fashion accessories with which Santa can gift a woman. These items—as varied as useful—are fashion news, too, and the variety of colors and textures is so great that a hostess wardrobe has become virtually a necessity. Why not give her an assortment—stockings for day, for evening, for sports and casual wear.

GIVE FASHION VARIETY
Handbags, gloves, scarves, headwear, belts—the cost of these items is as varied as the tastes of Santa's girls, yet each carries the extra advantage of versatility which will help her to plan and dress for "the complete look" of fashion, with day-to-day variety, too.

There's something to please every woman in the giftworthy array of sweaters, blouses, shirts, skirts, jumpers, jackets and pants, all of which continue the theme of fashionable variety and versatility for her wardrobe.

in Christmas stories and carols, such as "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night."

More novel, but equally established in tradition, is the story of the shepherdess who visited the stable on the first Christmas night.

"Don't viens, bergere!" (or "Where Come You, Shepherd Maiden") was brought to Canada in the 17th century, by early French settlers. In the carol, the questioner asks the shepherdess where she has been and what she has seen, and she in turn describes the manger scene.



Christmas SURPRISES

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DUSTERS

Heavenly quilted dusters for luxurious warmth without weight—artfully styled and beautifully feminine. These dusters come in assorted styles and colors. Made of quilted rayon, quilted crepe or kitten-soft quilted nylon with lovely detail trim. Colors: pink, blue, white, red and black. Sizes S, M, L and O. S.

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SLIPS

See the beautiful slips of luxury nylon tricot in full and half slips, in our linerie dept. Finest styling, fit and workmanship combine to make these slips a gift any lady will be proud to receive. In beautiful shades of white, pink, blue, moonong red and black—all with delicate lace trim. Full slips in sizes 32 to 42. Half slips in sizes S, M, L, O. S.

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Briefs

Ladies nylon tricot briefs with dainty lace applique, elastic leg. Colors: blue, apricot and white. Sizes S, M, L.

Priced 1.39 Pair

Briefs

Ladies nylon tricot briefs with dainty lace trim with matching nylon briefs. Attractively gift boxed in assorted colors. Sizes S, M, L.

Priced 2.98 Set

Briefs

400 Denier seamstress nylons by Cameo add the finishing touch to the most beautiful party dresses. Shades of black, ice, jet, brown, sunspice and cocoa. Sizes 8½-11.

Priced 1.50 Pair

Gowns

Beautiful shift gowns of finest nylon with overlay of dainty nylon sheer. Colors: pink, maize, apricot, lilac and red. Sizes S, M, L.

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Ladies nylon tricot briefs with dainty lace applique, elastic leg. Colors: blue, apricot and white. Sizes S, M, L.

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Rudolph is added

"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet, on, Cupid! on, Donner and Blitzen!"

Here, just as Santa said them, are the names of the "eight reindeer" who draw his "miniature sleigh," according to Clement C. Moore in his poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas."

But, since Moore wrote his poem in 1823, Santa must have added some new reindeer. It's certain that he has at least one famous sleigh-puller not mentioned in the poem—the reindeer Rudolph.

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