

Recollection of Those Interesting Days



... Or Having Old Nell Slip On The Ice ...

WE THINK it was romantic to make Christmas calls and deliver Christmas packages in a cutter. Perhaps it was. But there were also unromantic hardships, such as running into a snowbank, or freezing one's car, or catching cold, or having Old Nell slip on the ice.

Nowadays, we hop in our six, eight, or more or less—give 'er gas—and away we go!

We know that we got our gas and oil at Ferguson's Service Station and only a few days ago had the old bus all oiled and greased by Ferguson's high-pressure method, and that we are good for "another thousand."

Before YOU do your Christmas calling and delivering—be sure that you stop at Ferguson's and are all set to go!

Ferguson's Service Station
Carson Street and Arlington Avenue

CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS in the '90's were practically all homemade—strings of popped corn colored red with colored sugar strings of red cranberry beads, strings alternating the cranberries with the white popcorn. There was usually a wax angel, carefully kept from season to season, to surmount the top of the tree. Electric lights were unheard of in the early '90's and candles always supplied illumination. The tree stood in a corner of the parlor on a sheet where falling candles wax and dropping needles might be caught and the carpet so unharmed.

The CARPET was of Brussels or Ingrain weave, ornately floral in the former, a utilitarian red or other dark color if the latter. It came up every spring and fall for house-cleaning, got a thorough beating with a stick or leather

carpet-beater, then—perhaps turned for novelty or freshness, tacked down again all around the edge of the room.

The parlor was likely to be crowded with ornate "furniture" of bric-a-brac. Enlarged cabinet photographs of members of the family framed in heavy gilt reposed on tall white painted wooden easels that were draped with fringed silk squares. DOLLIES of fine thread lace or "battenburg" knitted or crocheted or embroidered in colored silk on white linen, were everywhere. The FAMILY BIBLE always had its place of honor in conspicuous spot and had its dolly to cover it. Everything from fancy perfume BOTTLES to specimens of iron and gold ore reposed in bric-a-brac cabinets. The family ALBUM was still an honorable and respectful adjunct by way of ornament with its covers of plush or decorated celluloid. CURIOS of every sort crowded the home of the traveler. CAT TAILS and dried PAMPAS GRASS hung from the walls in fancy "pockets" or stood in the decorated tin in the corner. The gilded ROLLING PIN and MILKING STOOL might still be discovered in the parlor of the '90's, and SHELLS, large and small, from sea and river, were distinctly parts of the decorative scheme.

HAIR CLOTH that pricked the legs of the visiting children still survived on sofa and carved chair, although the machine carved oak was fast taking the place of ancestral walnut and mahogany.

The PIANO itself was an upright of highly polished oak or ebony, or a ponderous grand piano that filled much of the space in the average parlor. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS were placed elegantly about the parlor—the guitar, mandolin and the banjo, importantly.

The HANGING LAMP with glittering fringe of glass prisms, or shade of ruby glass or frosted glass "hand-painted," hung from the ceiling center in parlor, sitting-room and dining-room. It drew up and down on chains of brass or nickel, and the lamp fitted out for filling. Bed-room lamps were of glass, plain or fancy, with standards and with paper shades, and kitchen lamps hung in iron rings on the wall with harnessed tin reflectors back of their glass chimneys. Filling the lamps with kerosene oil and clean-

ing the chimneys in hot soapy water was a domestic rite of every morning.

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The horse drawn BUS pulled between the railway station and the home, making the rounds in time for the few trains of the day, going and coming from the nearby cities.

RUGS were highly ornamental—on one walked on shaggy dogs and horses, or clusters of flowers high-colored and sometimes rather fanciful.

TRUNDLE BEDS for children were low enough to slip under the parents' wooden beds, their ends folded under them, during the day. LEATHER BEDS were still the favorites against the mattress, and PILLOWS of goose feathers were of immense size.

Colored glass insets in doors were considered extremely posh. COLORED GLASS windows were also in order on stairways and in halls or in panels above the large windows of the parlors.

The long FIR BOA was in vogue for women, the fur COLLALETTE a short cape reaching over the shoulders and turning up around the ears, for young women, and the little girls had their collars of assora goat fur with muffs. Women's muffs were just large enough for the hands to be covered by them. Fur coats and capes were almost always of real

of things. Walls were crowded with pictures of fearful and wonderful variety.

The ESTEY ORGAN graced many a home with its fretted wood case and ornate stool, its pedals and stops, ornamental music rack and sliding keys cover.

Upstairs in the bedroom with bed, bureau and wash stand of matching wood, one found the china TOILET SET and the embroidered SPLASHER adorned with ducks or something else aquatic, such as pond lilies, with its imperative command to "Splash!"

The SAFE BREKNER was the glory of the family sitting room or the parlor that was not "closed off for the winter." It was a friendly, friendly friend of iron with nickel trim, little squares of mica in its doors, a highly ornamental crown, stove pipes and base. It sat on a square of zinc which protected the carpets from falling coals. The ash pan could be slid out at the front and emptied, the poker stood always at hand to agitate the coals into their friendly red glow, and the coal scuttle held it and the long thin shovel for the coal. It was set up with great ceremony in October and banished again with great satisfaction in the spring.

BEAR HUGS, rings of leopard or tiger or goat, were extremely smart, not only in the luxurious boudoir but before the fireplace in the parlor. The fireplace usually had a false hearth where no fire could be built, or the grate just then appearing.

Colored celluloid COMBS that showed the hair straight back from the face and encircled the head, were the rage among little girls. Pigtails followed them when the girls were school girls, with hair ribbons to match the frocks.

The leather SATCHEL was the favorite traveling convenience, although the carpet bag was seen occasionally. The giletone bag was in evidence, but the suit case did not appear for some years later.

The CANDY PULL was a favorite social diversion, frequently coupled with the FLEIGH RIDE. Companies of young people engaged a bob sleigh for these and rode in the hay under the BUFFALO ROBES with sleigh bells jingling on the harnesses of the

horses, their eventual destination somebody's home and an oyster supper or candy pull.

The over-stuffed LOUNGE of cloth or leather necessary to every sitting room, always had an incline at one end. The parlor sofa held a multitude of delicate silk sofa pillows, frilled and ruffled, but lounge usually had a regulation bed pillow with white pillow slip with its wide crocheted insertion or edging.

The crocheted FASCINATOR was one of the cleverest of wraps for home or evening, according to color and fineness of yarn. It was square, and made usually of fine soft silky white yarn, and was followed soon by the crocheted "umbrella" shawl, made circular, folded through the middle, half thrown over the shoulders, the other half over the head.

Little girls rode on TRICYCLES, little boys on VELOCIPEDS, grownups on BICYCLES, some of them TANDEM.

Special blouse and bloomer suits of flannel or divided skirts were deemed necessary for the woman who cycled. Trips for groups of friends were popular everywhere—sometimes to as many as five miles distant.

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seal or mink, varied with chinchilla.

The PIANO LAMP was the pride of the parlor. Its standard of twisted brass, reaching up from a tripod base, telescoped to enable it to be raised to various heights that it might cast its glow on the music rack. Its shade was an elaborate creation of fine silk or tissue paper made on a wire frame. Frequently the tissue paper caught fire from the flame, and then there was commotion and consternation.

Callers were entertained with the showing of pictures through the wooden framed STEREOSCOPES, whose two square lens fitted into a curved box that covered the eyes and fitted the forehead, and which were focused to magnify the photographs mounted in pairs side by side on long narrow cards that fitted into a wire frame that could be brought far or near, according to one's vision.

CURLING TONGS that made one's frizzes tight and smart, were weird contraptions of heavy iron, with long handles opening and shutting, and long prongs, heated in the lamp chimney, opening and closing over the hair and into each other. The CURLING IRON that was a single cylinder with wooden handles, and which heated similarly, was more generally used.

Infants were swathed in BABY CLOTHES, long and fine and numerous, layer after layer of them over the flannel garter and petticoats and woolen skirts, which drew on over the head. Kid booties as well as crocheted and knitted ones were the rule. Baby always had a veil, and Mother would rather be caught without any other articles of dress than face veil and kid gloves.

Small iron ANVILS or FLAT IRONS were devoted to nut crackings, the hammer completing the equipment, although there was a variety of patent spring cracker existing. Only the few used the Mrs. Potts' sad irons with detachable wooden handles, and the gas or electric iron had not been invented.

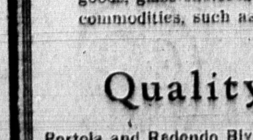
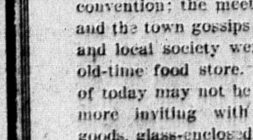
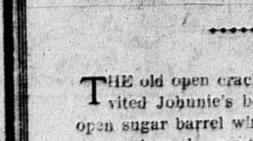
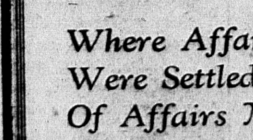
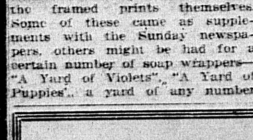
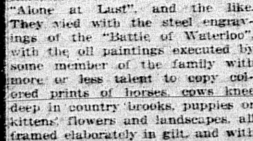
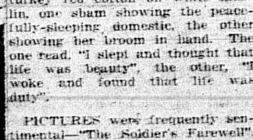
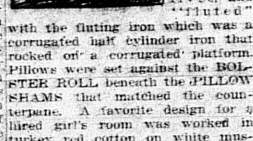
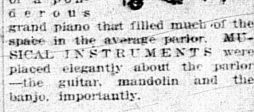
Every Christmas stocking held a KALEIDOSCOPE—a cylinder of cardboard with colored paper and with a glass frame at the end wherein small bits of colored mica or paper shook themselves into fascinating patterns as it was put to the eye and turned with hands.



HOW TIMES DON'T CHANGE!

T WAS "Posies" then, and they certainly caused a flutter. When they still do. Ask any woman of any age. You'll find out. Flowers are easily the most gallant Christmas gift.

Poppy Flower Shop
Haggard's Cravens Ave.
At Post Ave.
Phone 307 Torrance



"IN GOD WE TRUST --- ALL OTHERS CASH"

REMEMBER that "wise crack" that most merchants had posted conspicuously in the old days. Nothing so much typifies the advancement of confidence in our brother men as this old time method of doing business and today's broad policy of granting charge accounts to persons of modest means.

TERMS To Suit Your Convenience

RAPPAPORT'S offer you the convenience of deferred payments. Come and talk your Christmas gift problems over with us. You will find gifts of quality and merit for every member of the family in Rappaport's beautiful Christmas store. You can do your Christmas shopping without restraint, and pay for your purchase later.

Since 1913
RAPPAPORT'S
1613 Cabrillo Ave. Torrance

Suggestions For Gift Shoppers

SELECT FROM OUR HOLIDAY DISPLAYS

Phoenix Hose	\$1 - \$1.65 - \$1.95
Bathrobes	\$2.95 to \$19.95
Linen Table Cloths and Lunch Sets	\$1.25 to \$8.50
Children's Sweaters	\$1.95 to \$4.95
Women's Sweaters	\$2.95 to 5.95
Women's House Slippers	\$1.50 to \$5
Children's Slippers	\$1 - \$1.25 - \$1.95
Men's Slippers	\$2.50 - \$3.50 - \$4 - \$5
Men's Shirts	\$1.95 to \$8.50
Men's Neckties	\$1 to \$2.50
Men's Handkerchiefs, Boxes of 3	50c to \$1.50

Where Affairs of State Were Settled A New State Of Affairs Now Exists

THE old open cracker barrel that boldly invited Johnnie's begrimed fingers; the old open sugar barrel where the flies held a daily convention; the meeting place of town sages and the town gossips where all affairs of state and local society were thrashed out . . . the old-time food store. The modern food store of today may not be so exciting but is vastly more inviting with its protected package goods, glass-enclosed delicacies and finer food commodities, such as you see at the

Quality Market

Portola and Redondo Blvd. Torrance

Meat, Fruit and Vegetable Departments Also Operated at 1404 Cravens Avenue

In the Days of FRIZZES and WATERFALLS

REMEMBER how your mother roused and fanned with her rats, false bangs, spit curls and handline? Those were in the days before woman's crowning glory was a matter of professional talent and artistry—before the VAPORINE process was ever thought of.

Be Modern—Visit the American Beauty Shoppe as a natural prelude to any festivity or function. Take advantage of the beautiful VAPORINE wave that Re-Waves, Re-Vitalizes and Re-Conditions that halt-straight, half-waved hair.

You'll be delighted with

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ETHEL TANSEY
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