Many Unique New Year Customs Still Exist in Foreign Countries

Young Scotchmen used to wait eagerly for the first stroke of twelve marking the coming of the New Year. As the bell in the church steeple began to toll, he would rush lup to the door of his beloved's home, to be the first to cross her threshold. The girl would listen for

"The first foot's entering step.

Ere blushing maids have braided up their hair;
'The laugh, the hearty kiss, the good New Year, Pronounced with honest warmth."

In Scotland, as in most northern European countries, it is an old be-lief that spirits, both good and evil, ere peculiarly active on New Year's Eve. On the stroke of midnight, according to the ancient superstition, ail genii were in motion and could be exorcised by appropriate words. Good genii were called hillmen or "hoghmen" in the dialect of Scot-land, and evil spirits called trolls. mers used to wander about the



streets, wearing masks and carrying cudgels, reciting this doggerel verse, in an effort to attract the good "hogomanay" and to drive off the evil "trollolay"-"Hogomanay,

Trollolay. Gie o' your white bread, I'll hae nane o' your grey-Scotch New Year's Toast Here's to the year that's awa'!

sma'; And to each bonny lassie that we

dearly loo'ed, In the days o' the year that's awa'! When the sorrows of adversity

Who can join in our song, and i

Cechoslovakia

Celebration of New Year's Day seems to have arisen in Italy in the early Middle Ages. In the year 546 a bishop reproved his people for the drinking, feasting, and general wild time that they were indulging in on the latter of the drinking of the drinking in on the latter of the drinking in the drinking in on the latter of the drinking in the drinking is not considered. Crechoslovakia a holy day-the Feast of the Cir- Czechoslovakia after Christmas. He told them to the future by little "lightboats" turn their backs on "the old, profane" nut shells filled with wax and float-and evil ways of paganism." In the later Middle Ages the observances each shell. If the boat floats toward

To touch a nig on New Year's Eve brings good luck, according t Hungarian tradition. In the princi

Year's Eve a Syrian child sets out a

bowl of water and a dish of wheat

for the refreshment of the came

who is supposed to bring him gifts.
According to legend the camel was

he youngest of the animals bearing

Wise Men, and it fell down ex-

amortality upon it. In Lebanon it

a "magic mule" who bears the

One of the quaintest New Year's

customs is the visit of the chimney

sweeps in Hungarian towns. The

sweep knocks at the door with his

broom, and the householders snatch

a straw or two from it. These are

austed by the strenuous journey.

The Christ Child, seeing this blessed the animal and conferred

of the day grew more spiritual, the center, its owner will take a through the efforts of St. Gregory
Thaumaturgus and St. Gregory the two boats come together, the owners will be married within the year.



Busy Wheeler-Robert McArthur of Brantford has been travelling four months, has worn out three pairs of pants, three pairs of shoes, 19 tires.

"Yes, we could" she had an in

spiration. "Better still we can wai

until tomorrow night and see for

"We can?" she sat up in surprise.

"Sure. You go to bed just like

always then when he comes I'll wake you up."

She got up from the floor all excited. "You mean we can peek?"

"That's just what we'll do."

"George," she turned to her husband that evening after Kally had been put to bed, "our daughter has quite a problem."

"Women always have problems."

he smiled over his newspaper. "What is it this time?"

"That,s too bad," he pursed his lips, "but what can we do?"

"Sure," he laid the paper down,
"why couldn't I do it?"

"She heard that you are Santa."

He chuckled. "She isn't the only

woman in the family thinks that."
"How about Bob Perkins?" she

ignored his attempt at humor. "He's the right build."

"Okay," he agreed, "I'll arrange

"Kally," her mother shook her

gently, "Santa is downstairs."

"He is?" she sat up rubbing her
eyes, "HE IS?!"

Let it be Christmas in our hearts

Amid children's bubbling laughter,

lighted trees spread their boughs over many gifts.

Our tables are heavy with good things to eat.

And church bells tell their song of joy in peaceful heavens.

It's a good Christmas, a happy Christmas,

in Canadian homes again this year.

Let it be Christmas in our hearts, too.

Let us be thankful we live in a land of plenty...

glad we can share our many blessings with peoples

in countries less fortunate than ours.

Giving, born of the heart, is the true spirit of Christmas.

Giving is the one way to

"Peace on Earth, Good-will to Men".

it in the morning."

"Get someone to put her toys un der the tree while she watches."

"She knows about Santa."

By DANIEL F. LINDAY.

ALLY O'NEIL walked slowly u the front steps. Her mother watched her from behind the curtain. Being five years old and having a problem had her near tears. She reached up on tip toes and opened the door.

"Kally, honey. Come in here a minute." Kally pushed the nood of snow suit back and went into the living room.

"What do you want, Mommie?" She shook her blonde curls free. "Oh, nothing much," her mother smiled, "I just want to know why my little girl looks so sad?"
"Well, Mommie," she slipped her coat off. "it's that girl down the street."

"Yes, dear, what about her?" Kally could stand it no longer. She burst into tears and running over laid her head on her mother's lap. "That girl says," she sobbed, "that there isn't any Santa Claus." "Well, now," her mother leaned down and gently bit the tip of her

"You don't believe her?" "Of course not" she smiled down into the worried blue eyes. "We know there's a Santa Claus." "Oh pooh. Sit down there on the | into her slippers. In the early morn-

ing light she looked like a tiny blond "Put on your robe." She got it and took her mother's

hand. They crept down the stairs. Mommie held her back while she made sure Santa wasn't smoking a



"Where's daddy?" she asked in a

racks bag over his shoulder. The three of them ran and hid behind the staircase. As soon as the front steps like a shot.

Good Timber

For sun and sky and air and And always got its share of r Never became a forest king But lived and died a scrubby

By hand or mind 'mid life's tu Who never had to win his shar Of sun and sky and light and Never became a manly man But lived and died as he began

trees.

Where thickest stands the growth, We find the patriarchs of both. And they hold converse with

Of many winds and much of st This is the common law of life.

she like the trike?' "I'm afraid, dear, that you'll er understand the feminine n

"Her coat . . . why?" "She's going down the stre Because she has just seen Sa

eds-And One Thing OF Another

about this time of year it tomary, in sports-writing cirhe twelve months just past. stom has twin advantages. ermits a writer to cooper column with the least nt of brain-fag and d-if he happened to call its of any such events cornce-it allows him to self a few friendly pats on sert a few, "Didn't

will be largely the present mess of we remember calling Toronto Argonauts and squeaks both of them aren't exactly taking any bows. Oh, yes, we also said, in the King's Plate, that horsho had wintered in the South d have a great advantage over that hadn't-but that's a preew of us think of it till

o get into it without further ended with the Canadians selves the best team nonth period, and the Leafs showing they were su-over a two-week stretch. Toronto team got far ter glory and acclaim for their st of speed than the Mont did for their all-season sujust goes to show, once or some such. At the height itement some of the Big agers and coaches also

orse-racing picture was le for the severe shock ings of various race-track nd managements on realiz money should be a conthe Sport of Kings or the horse-owners, not s, that is. For a while en a threat that some ild refuse to operate; but sel (and perhaps a quick previous years' profit ally prevailed, and the

e most determined teams rently went into the serneluding one for the num ommercial announcements nsors were able to ge. in

se, the best sport of them and to kill, in spite of the f big-city promoters, and iters to give it the go-by.
the best comment we the question of why mog athletes fail to take to large numbers, was the one of an old-timer. ese kids nowadays keep of the time when they'll oving-picture stars," he nd they just won't take a getting that photogenic rred up with a lacrosse

Pages made lengthy

Maybe you just aren't interested | their orders to the grocer in in statistics-or have become rather | French and order in person at the counter, also in French. It makes the language a function at once, rather than just another study.

cupy so much space in our papers Health, of course, is not overlooked. Despite the general state Still, there's something awe inspiring in the statement that 200,000 of good health among our children, the fact remains that epidemics, light ones like whooping cough, and severe ones like scarold world every 24 hours. And while let fever and polio - are still takwe haven't had the time to make a ing many lives every year. "Small personal check, we believe that the Fry" attempts to show what has figure given is so nearly correct as been done, and to indicate what

Pity The Poor Stork

tired of the masses of facts and

figures, surveys and polls that oc-

and magazines today.

"makes no matter."

Canada's share in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surveyed in a new film produced by the National Film Board which is at present being shown in many rural Ontario communities. After much furrowing of the brow it was decided to entitle the film, "Small Fry," for it deals with Canadian children up to the ages of nine and ten, as well as with newborn babies

One factor that is brought out is the increasing amount of assistance given our children from sources outside the family. Family Allowances is a recent example, and in the film you see the various forms this takes. To most people it is a cash proposition, but to the Indians and Eskimsos of our far north, it comes in the form of pablum and powdered milk, clothing and canned tomatoes.

Nursery schools are spreading across Canada, and today liddies and canned tomatoes.

Nursery schools are spreading across Canada, and today liddies and connected the seed of sheep favored have been the Lincoln Longwool and Romney Marsh. As I stand here dooking out my wind the film of parts and the film of parts of the form of pablum and powdered milk, clothing and canned tomatoes.

Nursery schools are spreading across Canada, and today liddies across Canada, and totay liddies across Canada, that the seed of sheep favored have been the Lincoln Longwool and Romney Marsh. As I stand here dooking out my wind the film on Large White.

TERN TOWN TOPICS

By BARRY MURKAR

As I stand here looking out my window on the threshold of a new year, the scene is hardly what one would call please the film of the film is the increasing amount of assistance given our children from sources outside the family. Family and in the film you see the various forms this takes. To most people it is a cash proposition, but to the north, it comes in the form of pab-lum and powdered milk, clothing

couraged to attend these special schools. In the film we see the Sunnylea School, near Toronto, where modern architecture has pro-vided scores of healthful and help-ful designs. The classrooms of this one-story structure are each in a wing by itself with a door to the outdoors, a "project" nook where art, drama and games groups may work unhindered—and unhindering. Three walls of each classroom are mostly window. The "blackboards" are not black, but light in color and easier on the pupil's eyes. Children are taught to express themselves— and who will object if this expres-sion takes the form of paint on paper instead of jam on the wall

paper and paint?
"Small Fry" also illustrates new methods of teaching. Taking the audience to a Montreal school, it shows a junfor class being taught languages by actual use rather than by study or rote. In French, to take an example, the pupils them-selves construct a tiny grocery store right in the classroom. Actual products are on the shelves and the kiddi 3 print placards in French for advertising, telephone

ments about how much good the Westerners' surprisingly fine show-ing would do for the sport. While heartily agreeing, we would merely add that it didn't do the blood pres sure of those sportsmen who had wagered liberally on the Argos a tiny bit of good—and you may take

A Pleasant Call We had a very pleasant caller t ently, in the person of Beverlie Wilson, our Teen-Town Reporter from Colbourne. Bev is a very pleasant toes with the teen-age activities of Colbourne. It's a pleasure to meet

Milverton - Eva Loney - Hello Teens" agree with me after the en-

clude cattle, sheep and pigs. Dairy Shorthorn and Hereford heifers have been chosen while a special journey was made to Scotland to see Shorthorn bulls of which a big selection was made. Breeds of sheep "makes no matter."

Canada's share in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surdred thousand daily arrivals in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surdred thousand daily arrivals in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surdred thousand daily arrivals in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surdred thousand daily arrivals in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals is surdred thousand daily arrivals in the two hundred thousand daily arrivals daily arr

In Conclusion

NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

PILE S—Modern medical sciments formerly thought
impossible. Piles were considered one
of them. That's nonsense today. The
new Pyltone treatment has proven it
self in thousands of the most stubself in thousands of the stubgets results because

born cases. It gets results because Your first bottle (a liquid taken by

it goes direct to the internal cause mouth) shows you the difference, of

taking the country as a whole it hasn't been so good. If we stick together and fight high prices, help our fellow man and try to make Canada an even better place to live in - well, who knows, this year may be different.

girl to talk to and is right on her our correspondents, and if any of you happen to be in the vicinity, be sure to drop in. However, the next time we meet Beverlie Wilson in Colbourne, we hope to catch her with her hair in curlers and no make-up

on-then we'll be even. In Appreciation We would like to take this oppor

folks! How is the weather in your town for sleigh-riding this year? It seems early to have the amount of snow in Milverton that we have but I think the sooner winter comes the better. I am sure that the Keen-

visits to many different parts of the country to inspect representative animals. Their purchases so far include cattle, sheep and pigs. Days Shorthorn and Hereford heifers have been chosen while a special

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The Turks call the turkey

Five groups were organized, each choosing a song title and acting it. The other groups had to guess the titles. Sorry you couldn't have heard them or seen the actions. The two chosen teams tied in the speiling contest which was followed by square dancing—although everyone

did not know how to square dance -they all enjoyed the attempt. Everyone worked up an appetite for lunch which consisted of sandwiches, cake and hot cocoa. If party yet, now is the time. I wouldn't miss them because they're really fun. - Cheerio

nity of thanking Manly F. Miner for his very nice letter and the autographed copy of the memorial edition of his late father's book, "Jack Miner and the Birds". This was eccived following our recent story on the visit we made to the sanctuary, with a warm invitation to come back again—and we hope to.

Teen-Town Reporters

BUY WAY'S CHICKS
Lucky number with every order before January 15th. Folder, prices on request. Wey's Hatcherty & Farms, Stratford, ext. We Have day old—and started—chicks for prompt shipment. Chicks for delivery next month should be ordered now. Bray Hatchery, 120 John N. Hamilton. Ont.

Russian Buying
Livestock in Britain

Russian Agricultural experts now in Britain are buying livestock on a large scale for replenishing herds in the Soviet Union. Accompanied by their London agent, they are paying visits to many different parts of the country to inspect representative equal to the same of the support of the property of the property of the purchase of carry chicks. Hatchery are paying visits to many different parts of the country to inspect representative

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"American bird" since its original

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ISSUE 51-1947







stage whisper.

They heard footseps on the stairs.

Daddy crept down. Kally peeked around the corner again. Santa was just coming out with an army bar-racks has over his shoulder. The

"Okay," she slipped out of bed and

"Hey, Sweetheart," Daddy called after her, "he left the toys in the living room." He stopped as he

The man who never had to to

By sun and cold, by rain and sn In tree or man good timber g

she going?"
"To get her coat."

hed themselves by acting on that would get them a corner at any well-run

cing season went on.

uch was the case undoubed a great thing for the ment of the Breed of reds, which is the sole orseracing. What striden made in this direction y the fact that if you can ree outstanding—or ev-utstanding — Canadian reds uncovered during twelve months, it is two

paceball season is mainly to embered for the meeting, World's Series Classic, of s and New York Yankees mly determined to let the ellow win; and their efforts this end will not soon be All kinds of new revere established in this

otball season is too recent re recalling in detail. After ronto Argonauts - Winnipeg game was over practically is writer and not a few



Just A Reminder Of The "Good Old Summer Time" is this picture of young Canadians having fun and at the same time building strength in one of our many supervised playgrounds -a scene from the National Film Board picture "Small Fry" now showing in many rural