



Modern day carolers (above), are photographed singing at the Tower of London, along with the famous Beefeaters. From the New Book of Knowledge; photo, by the British Travel Association.

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Well-Loved Carols Ring Out Everywhere

"Joy to the world! The Lord is come!"
"It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old."

"Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright."
"Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant."

Decking Halls Has History

"Christ was born on Christmas day, Wreath the holly, twine the bay."

From England of long ago come the words of this carol, showing the early role of the bay tree and its greens in decorating for Christmas.

Its use harks back to ancient Greece, when both the bay and the laurel bedecked homes and public places in symbol of triumph. As traditional Christmas greens, they reflect the same joyful spirit, say the editors of the *Grolier Universal Encyclopedia*.

Holly, of course, is still popular as Yuletide greenery. But nowadays, when it's time to deck the halls, bay leaves are more likely to spice holiday cookery, rather than holiday decorating.

Greens Have Meaning
Greens that adorn home, streets and stores at holiday time entered the lore of Christmas from pagan rites of old.

The ancients believed that each green had its own significance, and an ability to do certain good — or evil — things.

Ivy, they thought, was festive. Its convivial nature came from Bacchus.

Yew and cypress had the highest virtues. Theirs was the quality, and the symbol, of eternal life.

Mistletoe Has Powers
Mysterious powers by the dozens have been credited to mistletoe, among them the power to heal, to ward off evil, to summon ghosts and force them to answer questions.

At present, the most prized property of mistletoe is the license it gives for plenty of Yuletide kissing.

these well-loved carols are familiar even to little children, and they'll be heard this Christmas wherever carolers get together.

"Joy to the World" was written by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), English hymnist.

Watts, who is known as the creator of the modern hymn, wrote nearly 600 hymns. Many of these still appear in Protestant hymnals, says the *Encyclopedia Americana*.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" is the work of Edmund H. Sears, a Unitarian minister in Massachusetts, more than a century ago.

Perhaps the most famous of Christmas carols, "Silent Night" was first sung on Christmas Eve, 1818, to guitar music.

Mice in the bellows had silenced the organ of a tiny Austrian church. Father Joseph Mohr met the challenge by writing "Silent Night." His organist

composed a melody for guitar.

Father Mohr's inspiration — aside from the mice — was the vast, still beauty of the snowy mountains around the village.

"Oh come, all ye faithful" is translated from the Latin, "Adeste Fidelis," and its exact beginnings are shrouded in the mists of time.

Historians say it may have been written by Saint Bonaventure, in the 13th century.

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How To Make 'Basketball Soldiers' From Wrappings

Christmas Edition, December 7, 1972 - 3

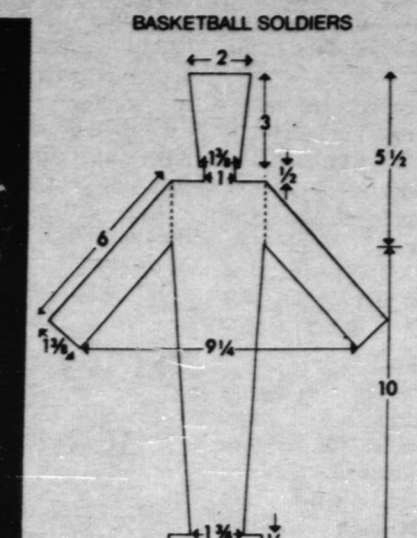
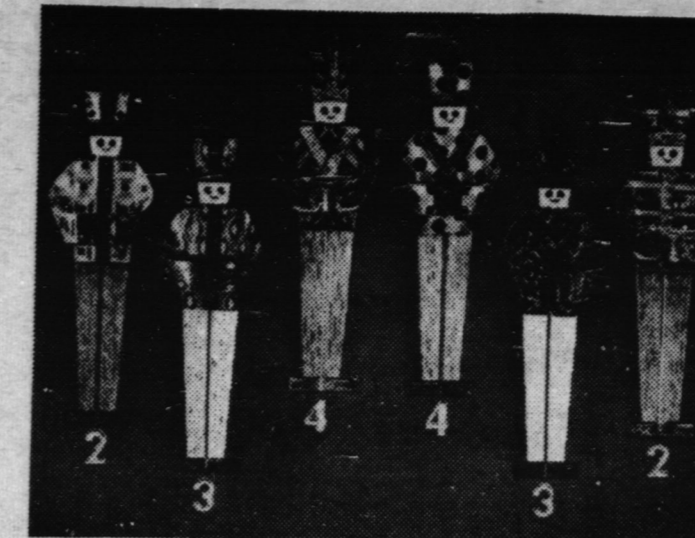
Christmas — what a fabulous, fascinating, thoroughly fantastic day for the children! It's a day for eating the tastiest goodies, opening the most exciting surprises from Santa, playing with the most wonderful toys, dolls and games.

In fact, it's so exciting that sometimes even the

liveliest youngsters want to rest.

This is the signal for Mom and Dad to suggest a change of pace, such as a slow-paced game to play or something that's fun to do or make.

"Basketball Soldiers" could be the answer. The soldiers can be made from leftover ribbons and



Fun to make on Christmas Day are "Basketball Soldiers," which can then be mounted on covered, corrugated board to become part of a game played with ping-pong balls. Numbers on the board help in totaling up game points. Materials are gift wraps and ties, either leftovers or those removed from packages. Suggested by Norcross Design Studio.

Diagram shows dimensions for making the soldiers in the "Basketball Soldiers" game. Dash lines indicate where arms should be scored and folded.

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wrappings in the house on Christmas Day, or even from gift wraps and ties that the kids have removed from their own share of Santa's bounty.

Material not immediately at hand can be added later, but if there are corrugated board and ping-pong balls around, the soldiers can be used at once for an impromptu basketball game.

A diagram accompanying this article shows dimensions to follow in cutting out the soldiers. The whole idea was developed by the Norcross design studio.

The following materials, or substitutes, can be used.

Solid-color glazed gift wrap; patterned gift wrap; Foil gift wrap; Cord and ribbon; Ribbon spools, 3/4" wide x 3" diameter

Stapler; White glue, rubber cement, spray adhesive; Corrugated board, poster board or heavy cardboard

Numbers cut from gold paper

1. Using spray adhesive, cover corrugated board (26" x 36") with red gift wrap. Edge board with gold ribbon.

2. Cut soldiers from poster board. Score arms on back at dash lines (see diagram) and fold forward.

3. Cement patterned gift wrap to hat and shirt area, including backs of arms.

4. Cement foil gift wrap to legs. Glue a piece of cord down center of legs to divide trousers.

5. Add sequins for eyes. Cut mouths from gift wrap.

6. Decorate hat and add other decorations, from shredded ribbon.

7. For the ring or "basket," remove top and bottom from ribbon spool. Cover the inner ring with foil. Place arms around ring and staple in place. Staple ring to body.

Basketball soldiers can then be glued to covered, corrugated board and numbers glued in place under each figure.

Object is to toss ping-pong balls into the rings. Numbers on board, under the soldiers, determine the score.

GOAT GIVES
One of Santa's most unusual stand-ins is the "Jul-Bock," a goat, once the Danish gift-giver.

Greetings
Holiday time is aglow, in the hearts of young and old. Add to its warmth our bright "thank you."

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