

YOUNG WRITERS

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toy store he saw a toy rifle. He liked it very much but when he saw the price he turned away from the window. It cost P5.95 and Lucas could never hope to save that much.

When he reached home he told his mother about it and she only laughed at him.

The next morning he passed the store again. He looked at it once more and saw that the price had been lowered to P5.00. Only one week before Christmas and he could not save that much. Just as he turned he saw an old man trying

to cross the street but he could not because he was too weak.

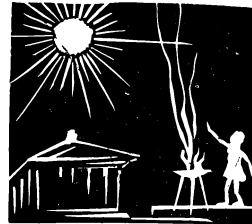
Lucas ran to help him. The old man looked at him but said nothing. Silently he offered his arm and they crossed the street safely.

When they reached the other side, the old man took out his wallet and took out P10.00 and gave it to Lucas and before Lucas could thank him he had disappeared.

Lucas was very happy and ran to tell his mother about it. She consented to buy the rifle and they went to the store together. So Lucas got his rifle and they had a good Christmas dinner.

Erlinda Alcantara

**THE MONTH
of
DECEMBER**



In the old Roman calendar, December was the tenth month and its name was derived from a Latin word that means ten. On the twenty-fifth of this month, the ancient Romans, who were not Christians, held a festival called the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun. If you lived in a country where winter is very cold, you would appreciate better the importance of the sun to men. You would then realize why a festival should be held in honor of the sun, which was believed to be a god.

The early Christians celebrated the birthday of the Christ Child at different times during the year. They finally decided to hold it at a fixed date and December 25 was the date chosen, perhaps because of the old heathen festival.

In early times, at Christmas time, boxes were hung in churches. It was in these boxes that the rich put their gifts for the poor. This practice developed into our custom of giving gifts on Christmas. The custom of having a Christmas tree hung with toys was also started by the Romans in connection with the Saturnalia, another important festival held in December.

The Christmas season is also referred to as Yuletide. Before the Northmen of Europe became Christians, they kept a great festival called Yule. Like the old Roman feast, it was held in honor of the sun.

GOOD READERS' CORNER

Answers to Questions

GRADE ONE

1. candles
2. Christmas tree
3. little dolls
4. bed
5. big doll
6. box

GRADE TWO

- | | |
|---------|-------|
| 1. poor | 3. No |
| 2. Yes | 4. No |
| 5. Yes | |

GRADE FOUR

1. surprised

ON THIS EARTH OF OURS

KEY

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. True | 3. False |
| 2. False | 4. True |

TRICKS OF FLOWERS

KEY

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1. Yes | 6. No |
| 2. No | 7. Yes |
| 3. Yes | 8. Yes |
| 4. Yes | 9. Yes |
| 5. No | 10. No |

ON ANT WAYS

KEY

1. sweet
2. industrious
3. store
4. wise
5. in great numbers
6. many
7. strong
8. feelers
9. aphids
10. three

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 5. False | 8. True |
| 6. True | 9. True |
| 7. True | 10. True |

Christmas Greetings

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