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A FROLIC IN MEXICO

BREAKING THE PINATA DURING THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

This Mirth Provoking Pastime Is the Great Social and Fun Making Feature of the Season-Dressing and Filling the Olla.

Christmas in Mexico is not the typical Christmas of cold and snow and ice, but one of bright, warm sunshine, cloudiess blue skies, flowers in profusion, trees in full foliage and a life of out of doors.

At least a week before Christmas in the principal streets of Mexico arches are erected from sidewalk to sidewalk. festooned with wreaths of flowers and bunting in the national colors-red, white and green. Under the arches booths are erected, and every toy manufactured in Mexico is on sale.

In every Mexican house great preparations are made for what is called the "pinata." Every child begs and scrapes and saves the centavos for weeks and months ahead. All kinds of articles are made especially for this ceremony, and every family vies with its friends and neighbors to have its pinata more beautiful and fanciful than

any one else's. The pinata is really an earthenware utensil which is in general use for cooking. It is called in common parlance an olla and is of brown pottery something like the old fashioned earthenware crocks used in the north before enamel ware became the fad.

The pinatas are large or small, as the purse of the purchaser permits. They are round, pot bellied and very large at the top. They are sold from door to door on the streets and in the markets. They cost only 10, 15 or 20 centavos, but the olla is the least expensive part

of the game. The body of the olla for a woman is covered with tissue paper; then a crinkled paper dress is fashioned; then a bodice is built up draped to represent a loose white waist, and above this is placed a false face. The hair is made with black paper, braided into one long plait at the back, as the women wear their hair in Mexico. Sometimes a white tehuana headdress is made of the lace paper used by bakers and confec-

A flower pinata is decorated with large paper flowers in every color of the rainbow. Red, white and green ribbons, forming long streamers, and silver and gold tinsel, glass balls and colored lights all help to make the flower pinata very beautiful. The possibilities for dressing these pinatas are endless. In a large family the mother and daughters have their own pinatas, and great secrecy is maintained in the decoration of the olla. It is the aim of each to devise as original a dressing for the pinata as possible, and it can be made a very extravagant ornament. In the families of wealthy Mexicans the luxury of the pinata often mounts

into thousands. After the olla is decorated to the taste it is filled. The filling consists of pea-nuts, hazel nuts, hard candies, like marbles, and all kinds of Mexican dulces. These dulces are candied fruits,

nut paste, etc. Christmas night the pinatas are carried in great state into the sala and suspended from the ceiling one at a time. All the relatives of the family are present, and as cousins of the fifth and sixth degree are recognized and children are very numerous there is generally a large gathering. They all sit very demurely on chairs ranged in a row around the walls of the room.

One person is constituted master of ceremonies, the eldest son or daughter of the house. He or she stands in the middle of the room. Near by is a jar or umbrella stand filled with apisaco canes or sticks. When everything is ready a child or grown person is selected and called by name. She comes

forward and is blindfolded. Then the fun begins. The person blindfolded is turned round and round until she loses all knowledge of where the pinata hangs. A cane is put in her hands, and she is told to hit the pinate and try to break it. She is given three chances. If she fails to hit it she sits down amid laughter and ridicule. If she hits it without breaking it she is entitled to a small prize.

And so it goes on, one after another being called up, blindfolded and given a cane and three chances to break the pinata. Finally one more fortunate than the rest succeeds in giving a hard enough blow, and, crash, the pinata falls to the grounds in hundreds of bits, and its contents are scatte ed far and

A wild scramble ensues. Everybody rushes forward to gather as much of the spilled contents as possible

The fortunate breaker of the ninate gets a handsome prize and is awarded the seat of honor. He or she sits down and is debarred from another trial at breaking another pinata. As soon as the confusion dies down and order is somewhat restored another olla is hung up and the same routine gone through. So the fun continues until the last pinata is broken, and then the prizes are

awarded. The pinata party is the great social and fun making feature of the Christmas season. After the pinatas have been broken and a supper has been served there follows dancing, or a traveling company of Indians from the mountains is brought in to sing and

dance in native costume. These traveling Indians are some what like the singing bands which go around at Christmas time from house to house in England, Germany, France and Italy. They have been known and popular in Mexico from time immemorial. The are much in demand during the Christmas holiday season.—Kansas

Oity Star

YOUR CLOTHES.

Those That Should Be Bought to Last and Those That Shouldn't. It's a mistake to buy everything with an eye to its enduring qualities even if you've an extremely limited pocketbook. It depends entirely for what purpose you choose your gown whether or not it should last.

A fairly safe rule to go by is that the staple sort of clothes, made in conserva-tive ways, should be bought with a very distinct idea of "long life" and that evening gowns, especially if you're a good deal of a butterfly, should be got with, almost the sole idea of effect.

We've all known the unpleasant sensation of putting too much money in a gown and then feeling that we must get the wear out of it" even the it be a conspicuous style or soils at its first wearing. And the woman with little money is the one who suffers most of all in such an experience.

Evening gowns oughtn't to last tee long; business and street clothes can't -always supposing it's the woman with the small purse who is consider should be of quiet, rather neutral colors -the kind "you don't get known by," as one woman put it.

Afternoon gowns get hard wear—as hard as the street clothes in reality so they should naturally be made of materials that can hold their own and yet not stretch nor shrink nor get out of shape. They must be got to last, for the "set" and the "hang" must last as long as the gown.

And furs! The woman who can't afford to have changes made in the style of her fur coat or her neck piece and muff doesn't want to put all her ey in an extreme, unusual fur piece, which by its very individuality is likely to "go out" in a short time, but should stick to the most conservative furs, made up in the most conservative

After all, conservatism, not cost, is the greatest help in eking out a small clothes allowance, and conservatism consists as much in having an inexpensive little gown that is put on and worn out soon and replaced as in get ting things that last everlong.-Philadelphia North American.

Mifkins-Wasn't Benedict's death just graduated from a cooking school.

Adversity is sometimes hard upon s man, but for one man who can stand rity there are a hundred who will stand adversity.

ATHENS MODEL SCHOOL

A.M.S. entrance class weekly report, in order of merit. Total 490, a pass 294.

Alan Evertts402
Ralph Spencer388
Glenn Earl
Roy Parish 346
Jean Karley 341
Esther Owen
Harold Wiltse270
Ethel Brown260
Muriel Fair
Bessie McLaughlin258
Lloyd Wilson243
Gertrude Cross227
Caroline LaRose202
Caroline LaRose (last week) 248.

Dr. Hugo's Health Tablets for

Medicines, like clothes, are made from Medicines, like clothes, are made from different materials now than they were twenty-five years ago. Some of the materials used in making Dr. Hugo's Health Tablets for Women had not been discovered then. You cannot get these new ingredients in the old time remedies. And yet these ingredients are used now in diseases of women by all the world's greatest physicians.

Progressive women—thinking women keep up-to-date in the matter of medicines as well as clothes. They are buying Dr. Hugo's Health Tablets, the twentieth century preparation for women,

tieth century preparation for women, and the one now recognized beyond doubt or question as the one best adapted to their special needs.

They make healthy women.

The People's Column.

Adv'ts of 6 lines and under in this co.umn, 25c for first insertion and 19c each subsequent insertions.

Teacher Wanted For Addison Public School. Apply, stating natifications, experience and salary to

JOHN MALE, Addison. For Sale or to Rent FARM of 100 acres in the 6th Concession of Yonge; good house and outbuildings, well

Yonge; good house and ered. Apply to ered. Apply to ROBERT ALLINGHAM. On the premises, Athens P.O. Bees for Sale I have for sale a number of colonies of be which I will sell either "on the limb" or tives. Apply at once to

G. M. BATES, Glen Elbe

25-6

Lost Between Athens toll gate and Greenbush, a purse containing a small sum of money and key. Flider will please leave either at Athens toll gate or Greenbush P.O.

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Every Prosperous Farmer

Will tell you that the Massey-Harris Binder is the right binder to buy, as it will satisfactorily handle any crop. It is famous throughout the world for its reliability and durability.—It has no equal.

All the Massey-Harris implements are sold here, and, in fact, everything in machinery that a Leeds county farmer requires -Price and terms will suit.

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rather sudden and unexpected? Bif on frequeut repairs for your old wagon wheels but order at kins—Well, it was sudden, but not necessarily unexpected. His wife had your wagon. The strongers and hest on the market your wagon. The strongest and best on the market.



If you need a new wagon, get prices and full information of our "handy" before ordering elsewhere.

Every wagon sold is giving continuous satisfaction. Superior Qualities, Low Price Fully Guaranteed.

One and two-horse Cultivators, Potato Plows, etc.

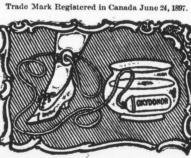
WANTED-In exchange, seasoned white oak plank 2 inches and 31 inches thick, and maple axles. Send for free pamphlet of testimonials and valuable infor-

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Dr. H. Sanche & Co.,

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THE 12TH JULY IN ATHENS



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Complete line of of caps, hats, ties and braces. Extraordinary value in stick-pins,

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RAILWAY TIME-TABLE GOING WEST

No. 1 No. 8 Brockville (leave) 9.30 a.m 4.00 p.m. Lyn...... 9.55 " 4,15 " Seeleys..... *10.05 " 4.22 " Forthton *10.18 " 4.38 " Elbe..... *10.24 " 4.38 " Delta , 11.18 " 5.15 " Elgin 11.32 " 5.29 " Forfar..... *11.40 " 5.55 " Crosby..... *11.48 p.m 5.40 " Newboro 11.58 " 5.50 "

Westport (arrive) 12.15 " 6.00 " GOING EAST Westport (leave) 7.15 a.m. 8.00 p.in. Newboro 7.25 " 8.15 Crosby..... *7.85 " 3.26 " Forfar *7.40 " 3 82 " Elgin 7.46 " 3.42 " Delta 8.00 " 4.01 Lyndhurst . . . *8.06 " 4.08
 Soperton
 *8.18
 *4.17

 Athens
 8.30
 *4.45

 Elbe
 *8.87
 *4.52

Lyn..... 9.00 " 5.24 " Brockville (arrive) 9.15 " 5.45 " Sunday Train -- A passenger train will leave Brockville every Sunday at 9.80 a.m., stop at all stations, and arrive at Westport at 11.80 a.m. Returning, will leave Westport at 5 p.m., and arrive at Brockville at 7.00.

Seeleys *8.58 " 5.10 "

*Stop on signal MARTIN ZIMMERMAN, W. J. CURLE, Gen'l Mgr.

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