

candy, were hung from the branches for the fairy or blonde angel, who no doubt represented the messenger heralding the Christ Child.

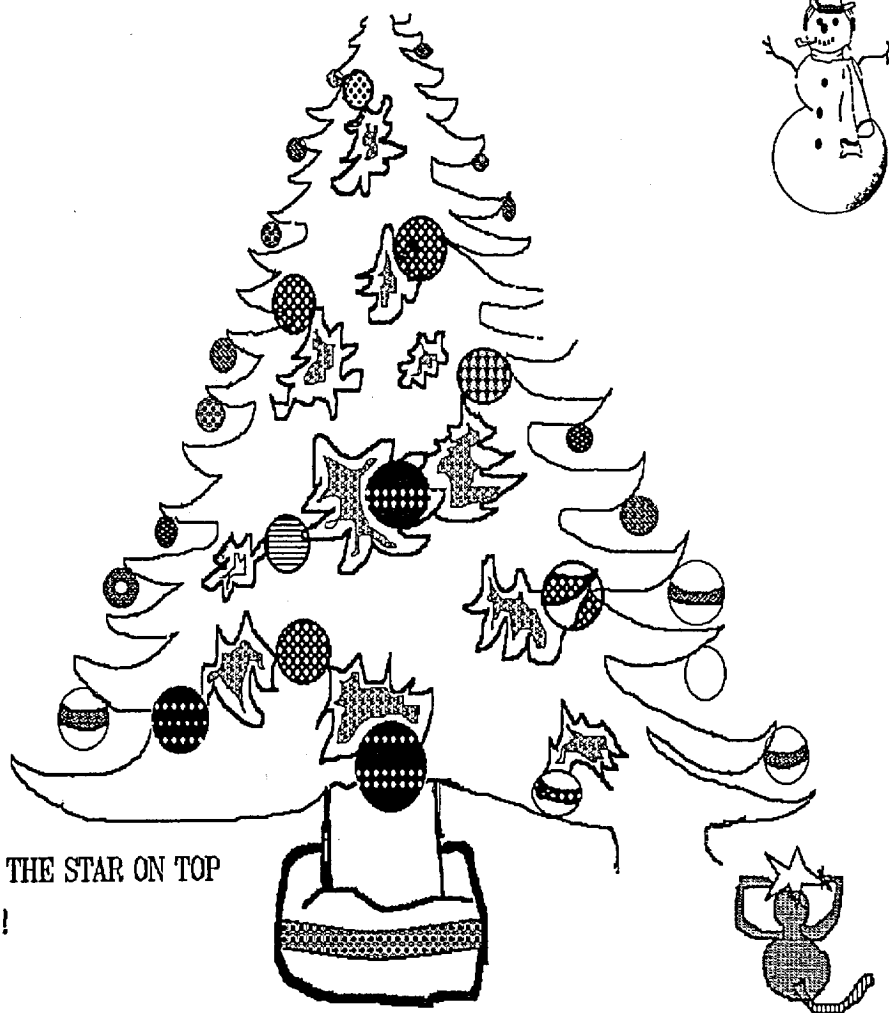
The sturdy gifts are brought by "Jultomten", or Father Christmas, aided by his children or "Tomtenisse".

## In Sweden:

Candlelight was of the greatest importance in the traditional Swedish ceremonies of December. A few centuries ago, candles were saved in anticipation of Christmas. Shining in the farm house windows, they would warmly light the way to church. The Swedes have an unusual way of gift-giving. When the mysterious knock at the door is answered, the "Julklappa", or Christmas gifts, are thrown into the house.

## In Italy:

In Italy, Christmas is not complete without "cenone", a gala meal with fish as the main course. Accompanied by famous Italian wines, the stewed eel, along with marvelous pumpkin ravioli, and famous spaghettis, provide a sumptuous meal. At lunch the next day mamma places a steaming pot of tortellina soup on the table. This is followed by chicken or beef stew and then "mostarda," a delicious glazed, highly aromatic fruit specialty.



FIND THE PATH TO PLACE THE STAR ON TOP  
OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE!