

## QUESTIONS

1. The first spirit which appears to Scrooge, is the ghost of his own Christmas past.

(a) Why is it represented as being a dwarf ?

(b) Why are the hands represented as being very strong ?

2. (a) What is the significance of the jet of light which sprang from the head of the Spirit ?

(b) Under what conditions could this light be extinguished ?

(c) What does the writer mean by saying that "the figure fluctuated in its distinctness" (page 29) ?

3. (a) How did Scrooge spend his Christmas in his school days ?

(b) Why did he not go home for Christmas ?

(c) What part does Scrooge's sister play in the story ?

4. Give an account of the Christmas celebration in Fezziwig's warehouse.

5. (a) What reason does Scrooge's betrothed give for releasing him from his engagement ?

(b) Why does the Spirit insist on showing Scrooge the later scene (pages 45-47) ?

## STAVE THREE

49. plume themselves. Pride themselves.

equal to the time of day. Ready to take part in anything that is suited to the particular time of day.

pitch-and-toss. A game which consists in tossing up a coin, and guessing whether it will come down with "heads" or "tails" uppermost.

50. brawn. Head-cheese.

twelfth-cakes. Cakes made for Twelfth-Night celebrations. Twelfth-Night falls on the evening of the twelfth day after Christmas, which is set apart as a day of festival in some churches.

Plenty's horn. A cornucopia, which means literally, "horn of plenty." A horn overflowing with good things is the symbol of plenty, or abundance.

53. in their apoplectic opulence. So rich and over-fed that they looked as if they might at any time have a stroke of apoplexy.