

# AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

1) My wife and I decide to have an old-fashioned Christmas at Great-Uncle Fred's farm way out in Ipswich, South Dakota.



2) But on the way from our home in Lodi, Calif., we get lost on some country roads...and end up in Nebraska!



HELLO UNCLE FRED!  
GUESS WE TURNED RIGHT WHEN WE SHOULD'VE TURNED LEFT!  
HA, HA!  
THE WIFE →

GAS

I WISH THEY'D HURRY UP AND LEAVE!



THE GAS ATTENDANT →



WAH!



3. Just as we get about 50 miles from Great-Uncle Fred's farm, a blizzard hits...



4. Fortunately, the wife sees a light from a nearby farmhouse...



5. A stranger welcomes us into her home. She is very nice, which is lucky for us because we are stranded there for two days!



6. When the blizzard finally ends, we head once more for Ipswich—and Great-Uncle Fred's farm.



7. Five hours later...



8. The kids and I "help" Great-Uncle Fred with the chores...



9. ...while the wife and Great-Aunt Emma make the kitchen into a bakery with pies, breads, cookies, and strudels.



10. Outside, there's wood to be chopped...



11. ...and a host of other jobs like gathering eggs, feeding the pigs, and shovelling snow out of the lane—again!

But we still had time to ice skate on the pond, sled, and build snowmen.



12.

Then...on Christmas Eve...we all go to the country church for the children's Christmas program...

...AND A BABE WAS BORN IN A... IN A...  
**MOMMY! I FORGOT!**

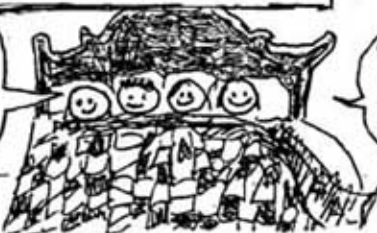


...afterwards, we drive back to the farm (and nearly get stuck again!). Our Christmas eve supper of hot oyster stew hits the spot!

13.

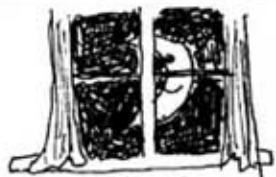
When bedtime can be prolonged no more, the children can hardly go to sleep because they're so excited!

TOMORROW  
WE OPEN  
OUR  
CHRISTMAS  
PRESENTS!



OH, IT  
WILL BE  
GREAT FUN!

I CAN'T  
WAIT!



14.

The wife and I sleep in the North Room, where there is no heat—just some old-fashioned blankets!

OH, I CAN SEE MY BREATH!



15.

Then...at the crack of dawn...

THEY'RE MAKING ENOUGH RACKET TO WAKE 'THE DEAD!



(PORTRAIT OF GREAT-GRANDFATHER HENREICH)

WHEE!

WAKE UP, EVERYBODY! IT'S CHRISTMAS MORNING!

IT'S CHRISTMAS! RISE AND SHINE, EVERYBODY!

TICK-TICK-TICK-TICK

WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS?



16.

CHRISTMAS  
WRAPPING  
PAPER

After the gifts are all opened, we help Great-Aunt Emma in the kitchen because soon the relatives will start to arrive.

WHERE ARE  
THE 46 PLATES?

17.

Our Christmas dinner is a banquet fit for a king—roasted turkey, dressing, baked country hams, potatoes and yummy gravy, cranberry sauce, baked beans with molasses, escalloped corn, salads, rice puddings, pies, cakes, homemade bread, freshly churned butter, homemade cottage cheese, date breads...and Great-Aunt Maggy's special watermelon pickles!

THE  
LATE  
GREAT-  
GRAND-  
MOTHER  
HEPZIBAH



18.

After such a feast, we're all ready for a snooze.



19.

...And that's how we spent an old-fashioned Christmas at the farm near Ipswich, South Dakota.

MERRY  
CHRIST-  
MAS,  
HONEY!

MERRY  
CHRIST-  
MAS,  
SWEETS!



THE  
END  
□