



An annual classic from Copresco...

Yes, Virginia, Of Course There Is a Santa Claus

Yes, Virginia is a yuletide tradition that has been featured on Copresco's website since 1994.

This holiday season, we thought it appropriate to tell you more about this famous editorial that first appeared in the *New York Sun* on September 21, 1897.



The classic of American Christmas lore was written by Francis P. Church and carried the heading: "Is There A Santa Claus?" Following is the text of this famous piece:

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age.

"They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little.



"In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy.



"Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias.

"There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You

The NEW YORK Sun

PUBLISHED AT NEW YORK CITY THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1897

Dear Editor—

I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so." Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove?



"Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus.

"The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

"Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.



"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

"Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Under The Tree

The good girls and boys at Copresco obviously made it onto Santa's "nice" list this year! Look what he brought us!

We'll have more information about the new toys that Santa brought in the January issue of *Overnight Lite*.



Santa arrived at Copresco on a flatbed truck instead of a sleigh.



Copresco's present from Santa Claus wouldn't fit into a stocking.



Some assembly required! He sent elves to put everything together.

We're Open

Copresco is closed Monday December 25 for Christmas and Monday January 1 for New Years Day. Besides that, we're open every weekday until Memorial Day. Happy Holidays!

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A former Secretary of State was asked by a reporter what he wanted for Christmas. "A box of chocolates would be nice," he replied thoughtfully. That night the same reporter gave this account on the national news: "Tonight, Christmas Eve,



the President of the United States is wishing for peace throughout the world. The Vice-President wishes for fraternity between nations. The Secretary of State wants chocolates."



This is a truly unique holiday season. What other time of year can you find people sitting in front of a dead tree eating candy out of their socks?



Elves: Subordinate Clauses



The three stages of a man's life:
1. He believes in Santa Claus; 2. He no longer believes in Santa Claus; 3. He is Santa Claus.

On the fourth day of Christmas my true love gave to me: four calling birds, three French hens, two turtledoves, and a lawsuit from PETA.



Polite Responses for ugly gifts:

1. "This'll be perfect for wearing around the basement!"
2. "Gosh, I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season, though."
3. "If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!"
4. "I love it, but I fear the jealousy it will inspire."
5. "Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Witness Protection Program."
6. And to think I got this the year I vowed to donate all my gifts to charity!"
7. "I really don't deserve this."



I found the perfect place to hide my



son's Christmas present this year. It's right behind the snow shovel.

Many stores hire extra help for the holiday season. That way, customers who don't know what they want are helped by people who don't know where it is.



I bought my brother some gift wrap for Christmas, as it was on sale. I then had it wrapped in a different print, so he would know when to stop unwrapping.



A little boy wanted \$100 very badly, so he prayed and prayed for two weeks. Nothing happened, so he decided to write Santa a letter requesting the \$100. Postal workers were so touched by the little boy's letter that they took up a collection and raised \$50. They forwarded the money to the boy and signed the note, "Santa Claus." Two weeks later the crew received this letter: "Dear Santa, thank you for sending me money. Just so you know, the creeps at the Post Office kept half of it."



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Copresco
262 Commonwealth Drive
Carol Stream, IL 60188-2449
phone (630) 690-2000 fax (630) 690-8182
<http://www.copresco.com>