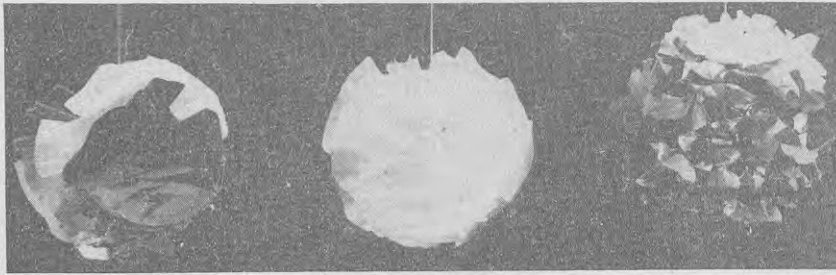


# CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS



Paper balls. [Green and Hahn Ltd. photo.]

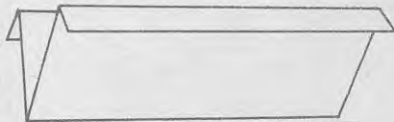
Another type of chain is made by linking small strips of paper together, each piece being 2in. by 8 or 9in., and pasting the ends together. These



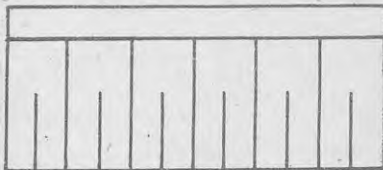
chains give greater scope for individual choice in colour combinations. Sheets of coloured paper, gummed or plain, are readily procurable. If lanterns and paper balls are hung from the festoons the result is most attractive.

## Lanterns

Brightly-coloured paper can be used to make lanterns of various sizes. Fold



a piece of paper in halves and then fold down  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. along the top edges. Make alternate long and short vertical cuts with scissors along the length of the paper, the long ones reaching just up to the folded edges.



Open out the paper, join the ends in a ring, and paste a handle on. A strip of paper of contrasting colour can be pasted round the top to hold the handle.

## Paper Balls

Two attractive types of balls can be made from tissue paper. The middle one in the photograph on this page was made with only white paper and the other two with white, green, black, and red.

A ball like the right-hand one is made as follows: Cut a square of tissue paper and fold it into four small squares. Fold the small square diagonally and then fold along a line from the apex of the triangle to the centre of the paper. The paper now has 16 thicknesses, but some of the folds do not reach all the way to the end.



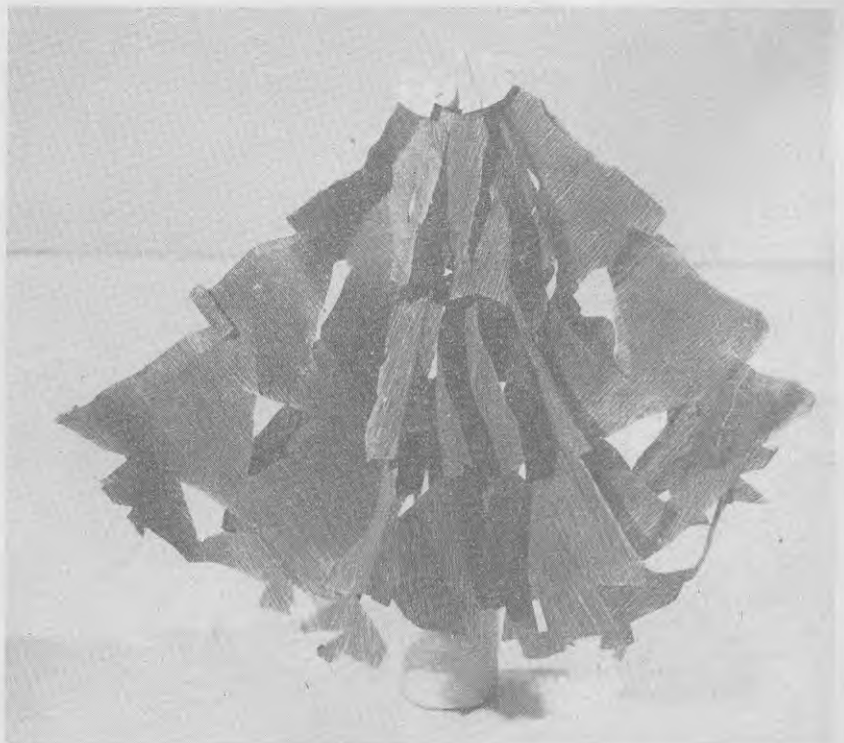
The second method is perhaps easier and quicker. The circles of paper are made in the same way, 12 at least being needed. Pick up each one at the centre with one hand and run it through the fingers of the other hand to the edge, turning it into a small, rough segment of a ball, and thread them together.

## Cut-out Strips

The strip cutting described and illustrated in the September "Journal" can be used most effectively for Christmas decorations. The designs given for candles, bells, Father Christmas, dolls, teddy bears, baskets of flowers, and animals all fit into the Christmas celebrations. They can be made in the winter evenings or on wet holidays, and after a preliminary display at the time of making can be stored away until December. The season's achievement makes a grand showing at Christmas—a family co-operative effort, though the parents probably contribute the lion's share in the family's earlier years. When put up on the wall these paper strips can be hung in one long chain or each figure can be separated and pasted on a long strip of paper to form a frieze.



Cut the extra pieces off along the dotted line. Open out the paper and it should form a circle. Make 16 cuts in the circle and twist each little strip so formed. Make a number of circles in different-coloured paper and thread them through their centres on a string, arranging them in a ball form. To finish off, thread the string several times through the centre of the ball, leaving a piece by which to hang it up. Paper balls like these are more fun if made by a group of children and adults together, and the balls grow more rapidly. To make one would be a very tedious task for a small child alone.



[Green and Hahn Ltd. photo.]  
A fir tree made from green crepe paper.