

VOLUME XXIX. No 2

PLYMOUTH, MICH., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1916

WHOLE No. 1472



Edison's New Invention

NO BETTER XMAS GIFT

Just received a complete stock of Christmas Machines and Records. Prices and styles to suit everybody. Prices, \$15.00 to \$250.

Edison simply asks you to hear his RE-CREATION of the human voice. So convincing is Mr. Edison himself of the truthfulness of his Re-Creation that he simply asks you to hear it. Words cannot convince you. Music's Re-Creation baffles description.

Come and hear the world's greatest voices. New records every month, both Edison and Victrola.



BEYER PHARMACY

Phone No. 211 F-2 *The Recall Store* Block South P. M. Depot

"PUT DOWN MY NAME, SIR!"

A gentleman in one of our eastern cities has said: "Quite the best thing about the present European war is that in the nation's hour of need myriads of men have risen to heights of sublime self surrender, and have answered, without reluctance, their country's call to arms. In countries where compulsory military service is not the law, the response has been soul-stirring. Cook's sons and duke's sons have vied with each other in the promptness with which they have appeared at the recruiting office, saying, 'Put down my name, sir.'"

What is the church? Never mind what it is not. Whatever the church lacks she is still the army of the living God. She needs recruits and recruits are being mustered into service.

The pastor of this church is a recruiting officer and he is securing many recruits. Another class is being formed and many have said: "Put down my name sir." What do you say?

The pastor has a great deal more to say about the heading of this advertisement. It is his theme next Sunday evening.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Services for Sunday, December 17th:
10:00 a. m.—"An Unashamed Workman."
7:00 p. m.—"Put Down My Name, Sir."



The GIFT SHOP

THE VICTROLA

The instrument that brings the world's greatest artists into your home is sure of a welcome at Christmas time. And only the Victrola brings you the actual living voices of such famous singers as Caruso, Calve, Farrar Gluck, McCormick, Melba and Schumann-Heink. Only the Victrola brings you the superb art of such noted instrumentalists as Elman, Kreisler, Paderewski, and such entertainers as Harry Lauder. The wonderful array of famous artists and the absolute fidelity with which it presents to you all the world's best music make the Victrola not only a joy at Christmas, but a delight all the time. Inquire about our easy payment plan.



We Are Also Headquarters For Dolls, Toys, Books, Ivory Goods, Manicure Sets, Fancy Baskets, Perfumes, Stationery, Box Candies, Cigar Humidors, Christmas Boxes Cigars.

Pinckney's Pharmacy
THE PEOPLES DRUG STORE.
Always Open. Free Delivery

A Suggestion for Christmas Shoppers

Why worry what to buy him or her for Christmas. There is nothing more appropriate for man or woman, and nothing that will be appreciated more than a nice

Leather Traveling Bag or Suit Case



Leather Traveling Bags from \$5.00 to \$10.00

Buy them from the man who knows leather and will guarantee the quality. TRUNKS, SUIT CASES, AND TRAVELING BAGS.

GEORGE W. RICHWINE

THE LEATHER GOODS STORE. Plymouth, Michigan
Phone 114-F2

Late Christmas Suggestions...

We have a fine line of guaranteed POCKET KNIVES for both ladies and gents. Just what you want at a wide range of prices.

Also three sizes of WIZARD TRIANGLE POLISH MOPS 40c, 50c and 75c. Call and See Them.

F. W. HILLMAN

The Heating Men. Phone 287.

Low 20th Century Manure Spreaders

WITH OR WITHOUT WIDE SPREAD ATTACHMENT

In actual dollars and cents the Low 20th Century Manure Spreaders pay their way.

There is no question in this farmer's mind about the Low 20th Century paying its own way—and then some. Every farmer every year can figure dividends on the 20th Century.

Profit—if you use a Low 20th Century manure spreader and apply the manure to the soil in an even, thin coat as rapidly as it accumulates.

Loss—if he allows the manure to go to waste by letting it lay around the yard half of the season, or by spreading it by hand.

Low 20th Century manure spreaders because of their simple and effective operation and the high grade materials of which they are constructed, are leaders among reliable manure spreaders.

HENRY J. FISHER

North Village.

Prominent Livonia Citizen Passes Away

After a lingering illness continuing through the greater portion of the past year and becoming very severe during the past few months, James A. LeVan passed away last Monday night, at his home on the Plymouth road.

Mr. LeVan had attained the ripe age of eighty-two years, having been born July 15, 1834. He was one of two boys born to Raser and Sarah LeVan, residents of Northfield township in Washtenaw county, but the brother died shortly after attaining the years of manhood. February 27, 1855, Mr. LeVan was married to Emily C. Peebles and brought his young bride to the parental home, where they spent the first fifteen years of their married life. When the father died about 1870, Mr. and Mrs. LeVan moved to Ann Arbor, where he engaged in the grocery business, continuing for about twelve years. It was thirty-three years ago when Mr. and Mrs. James A. LeVan moved onto the LeVan homestead east of Plymouth, and since that time they have filled a large place in the religious and social life of their vicinity. Mr. LeVan was a capable singer and this special talent was used generously in

The Plymouth Motor Castings Co. Inc.

The first half of the new foundry of the Plymouth Motor Castings Co., Plant No. 2, is rapidly nearing completion and it is expected will be ready for occupancy the first week in January, when the other parts of the foundry will be commenced. When the Plymouth Motor Castings Co. started building, the plan was to build their foundry in four units, a unit (50x100) at a time, but the increasing volume of business compelled them to build two units at once, with a cupola of 35 tons daily capacity, and during the time it has taken to build, the business offered has been so great that the company is purchasing another and larger cupola and expect to get it here and install it in the present cupola building being built. As soon as this part of the plant is equipped and running, work will be immediately commenced to build the first unit, 50x200, making a foundry building 50x246, with core ovens, cupolas and grinding rooms in separate buildings, all fitted with the latest foundry improvements, including an overhead trolley line or lift, for the transportation of molten iron and castings. When complete it will be one of the best equipped foundry plants in the state.

Near the main buildings are the general offices of the company, comprising a fine general office, a drafting room, a private office and a board room. A. J. E. Torre, who has resigned his position with the Daisy Manufacturing Co., has charge of the offices. The business has grown to such proportions that it became necessary to employ a competent man for this position, and the company believe that in Mr. Torre they have the man required who can handle not only the present volume of office business, but take care of the much greater volume of business taken on for the coming year. Foundry labor is plentiful, and those who were inexperienced at first are fast becoming efficient. Through the able management of James Hickey, general manager and superintendent, the quality of castings turned out is excellent. Detroit experts pronounce the work as some of the finest in the United States. As soon as the new foundry is running, about 150 men will be employed. The problem of housing these employees and their families, has been gone into with the results that the company has made arrangements for a first batch of twenty houses to be started at once. The roads leading to the foundry are already made, with a fine boulevard. The Edison company have run electric light wires up to the foundry, and the water main is just being completed. With all these facilities and the large volume of business coming in, the Plymouth Motor Castings Co. is destined to be the largest organization Plymouth has ever known.

Plymouth Birds Win High Honors

Orr Passage, breeder of the Plymouth Excelsior Strain of Rhode Island Whites, carried away high honors at the A. P. A. State show at Battle Creek, December 7-12, winning first ribbon on cockerel and first and second on pullets exhibited.

Plymouth Band to Play at Dearborn

Dearborn Odd Fellows will give a bazaar and entertainment at Lapham's hall, Dearborn, Dec. 21, 22 and 23, to which the public is invited. The bazaar will be held in the evening only on the 21st and 22nd, and all day and evening on the 23rd. A Christmas tree on the last day will be a feature. The Plymouth band will attend on this day and furnish the music, and of course many of their friends will undoubtedly accompany them.

Much Interest in Municipal Xmas Tree

A great deal of interest has been manifested in Plymouth's first community Christmas tree, and the plans being perfected by the committees in charge give promise of a most successful launching of this beautiful custom in this community. The tree itself, and of course it must be a large one to serve as everybody's Christmas tree, will be brought from the forest and set in place at the edge of Kellogg park on Main street, the latter part of this week, and then the work of its adornment will be carried forward by the carpenters and electrician. The details of the program have not all been worked out, but the band will assist and their music will add much to the occasion. The program will not be long, it being rendered out of doors, and will consist principally of the old Christmas favorites, which everyone loves to hear at Christmas time.

The several Plymouth young ladies, who are attending the State Normal, are expected home today for the Xmas vacation.

NOTICE

There will be no deliveries Christmas and New Years. H. B. Brown.

Ye Old Time Dance

An old time dancing party will be given by Grainger's Old Homestead Orchestra at Penniman hall, Thursday evening, December 21. Grainger's Old Homestead Orchestra is composed of six pieces and they play all the old time dance music that will awaken many old memories of those happy days of forty years ago, more or less. All the old time dances will be on the program and a splendid evening's enjoyment is in store for all those who attend. The bill is 75c per couple. Don't miss ye old time party. Old folks and young folks are cordially invited.

New Officers Elected

The annual meeting of Masonic Lodge F. & A. M. was held in Masonic hall last Friday evening. Dinner was served at 8:30 to about seventy members. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

W. M.—Myron Willett
S. W.—Harry Green
J. W.—R. R. Parrott
Treas.—Warren Lombard
Sec.—George Richwina
S. D.—Fred Holloway
J. D.—Scott Cortrite
Tyler—Clarence Sayles
Private installation will be held in Masonic hall, Wednesday evening, December 27th.

The next state fair will open August 31, and will close ten days later, Sept. 9, Sunday. Geo. W. Dickerson was re-elected as general manager at the annual meeting on Wednesday.

Dairy Farmers Attention!

There will be a meeting of the dairy farmers of Plymouth and vicinity at the Grange hall, Plymouth, Saturday, December 16, 1916, at one o'clock p. m. for the purpose of deciding on the price of milk for the next twelve months. Every patron of the Plymouth creamery is urged to be present. This is a general meeting.
J. J. Neley, Secretary

Friendship and Finance

The prosperity of our depositors is of great importance to us.

We want you to deposit FRIENDSHIP as well as MONEY when you start an account with us.

Your interests will be protected and you will be assured of OUR friendship in return for your confidence.

Plymouth United Savings Bank

PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN.

One of the Essentials of a Real Merry Christmas Is a Supply of Good, Pure

CANDY

We have a splendid stock selected to meet all your needs for the Holiday season.

An especially attractive assortment of box goods in any desired size for gift purposes.

Phone 123. O. M. ROCKWELL, Ph. C.

Our Goods Are Right, Our Prices Are Right, We Want Your Trade.

Subscribe for the Mail Today

Happenings of the World Tersely Told

European War News

With a new ultimatum from the allies in the hands of the Greek government...

The Romanians who have been retreating in eastern Wallachia before the Teutonic advance have made a stand east of Ploest...

The British steamer Caledonia was sunk by a German submarine on December 4...

The Danish steamship Sigurd, 2,119 tons, and the British steamship Aviston, 3,818 tons...

The disciplining of Greece by the allies has begun. A blockade of Greek ports was formally announced...

Ninety-four allied airplanes and 31 German machines were lost on all fronts during November...

The German emperor, according to the Berlin papers, has ratified the auxiliary service bill...

The battleship Suffren, which left port on November 24, has not been heard from since that day...

Domestic

Four persons were killed and a fifth seriously injured when the north-bound Winthrop flyer on the Soo road crashed into the auto...

Gov.-elect James M. Cox of Ohio is ill in Washington at the home of former Representative Anshery...

English shell contracts in the United States virtually all run out within six months, and most of them within three months...

A lone robber threw pepper in the face of an express wagon guard in Los Angeles, Cal., and seized \$20,000 in gold and currency...

A locomotive, a loaded street car and automobile crashing together in a blinding snowstorm resulted in injuries to 18 persons...

An organized effort directed by the American Federation of Labor, to induce congress to grant wage and salary increases to all employees...

With all its members pledged to secrecy, the Birth Control League of California has opened a campaign at San Francisco to legalize the practice of birth control...

If Nelson H. Archer recovers from the shock of 25,000 volts of electricity he will have suffered from perhaps the most expensive injuries in the world...

Officials of the farm loan board announced at Washington that 50,000 farmers have applied for mortgage loans aggregating approximately \$15,000,000...

The engagement was announced for New York of Miss Elizabeth K. Reynolds, daughter of Edwin I. Reynolds, and Norman Hagood...

"California Favorite," grand champion steer at the International Live Stock show at Chicago, sold for \$1,375.00 to a Detroit firm...

Prizes are still scouring the country for four diamonds which locked Charles Martin of the Farmers' State Bank of Warren, Ohio, to the vault...

Big millers and board of trade wheat speculators came in for condemnation at the national conference on marketing and farm credits, held at Chicago.

Washington

Announcement was made at the state department at Washington that complete information now at hand covering the case of the British horse ship Marina...

United States Attorney Anderson, in general charge of the federal government's investigation into the high cost of living, went over plans for grand jury investigations with President Wilson at Washington...

Private advices from Paris received at Washington telling of the secret proceedings in the French chamber of deputies during the last week confirm previous reports that General Petain, the defender of Verdun, is to succeed General Joffre in supreme command of all the allied forces on the western battle front...

One cent postage for local first-class mail deliveries and a zone system of rates for second-class matter, which is expected to increase the charges for magazines and other periodicals having a nation-wide circulation, are provided for in the annual post office appropriation bill...

Contracts for 96 high-power hydro-airplanes for the coast artillery stations in the United States, Hawaii, Philippines and the Panama Canal Zone were let by the war department at Washington...

A note to Germany protesting against the deportation of Belgians for forced labor as contrary to all precedents and humane principles of international practice was made public by the state department at Washington...

Official information to the state department at Washington establishes that the British ship Marina, sunk by a German submarine, with loss of six Americans, was a no sense transport and was entitled to the immunities of a peaceful merchantman...

Foreign

Official announcement was made at London that the Government had been constituted with a war cabinet comprising the following: Premier, David Lloyd George; lord president, Earl Curzon; Arthur Henderson, Minister without portfolio; Lord Milner, minister without portfolio; Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer...

Two hundred Sinn Feiners stopped a charitable performance given in behalf of the families of the soldiers of Cork. They sang Sinn Fein songs and shouted, "Up rebellion! Down recruiting!"

German steamers interned at Las Palmas have been obliged to move into the inner harbor, according to a Madrid dispatch to the Petit Journal of Paris. The dispatch adds that the Spanish cruiser Princesa de Asturias has been anchored off the port to prevent submarines from communicating with the ships...

The Overseas agency at Berlin says: "German newspapers state that the French destroyer Yatsugan, sunk in collision with a British transport, is the fifth French destroyer lost in this way during the war."

Paris says that Germany's reply to the Swiss note regarding the deportations in Belgium makes it clearly understood that Switzerland has no ground for interfering with events in Belgium unless her own interests are affected...

An explosion and fire destroyed the Quaker Oats building at Peterboro, Ont., with an estimated loss of eight lives and injuries to ten other persons, all employees, and with property damage amounting to about \$1,000,000.

One thousand persons are believed to have perished when an explosion took place in an ammunition factory at La Sannayya, the Russian paper Redi reports, according to the Semiofficial news agency at Berlin.

Field Marshal Prince Iwao Oyama, commander in chief of the Manchurian army of Japan during the Russo-Japanese war, is dead at Tokyo. Margus Iwao Oyama was one of Japan's greatest soldiers. He was born in 1842.

Berlin reports the arrival of the submarine merchantman Deutschland, after a quick trip.

Sir Ernest Shackleton will sail from Dunedin, New Zealand, for Ross sea to rescue the members of his antarctic expedition marooned there, according to a Reuter dispatch to London from Washington.

Captain Peralus, naval critic of the Berlin Tageblatt, in an article on America's preparedness movement, which is remarkable for its frankly friendly characterization and appreciation of President Wilson, tells the German people there is no jingoism latent in the Wilsonian preparedness.

Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, is being held in his palace by the German authorities, according to the frontier correspondent of the Amsterdam Telegraph. The reason given is the action taken by the cardinal against the deportation of Belgians.

Earl Curzon of Kedleston made known his engagement at London to Mrs. Grace Evelyn Duggan, widow of Alfred Duggan of Buenos Aires. Mrs. Duggan is the eldest daughter of the late J. Monroe Blaine, formerly American minister to Brazil.

LITTLE RESULTS FROM RAIL QUIZ

State Commission Does Nothing But Gather Data for Interstate Body.

BLAME PUT ON COAL BROKERS

Only Remedy for Car Shortage Proposed by Roads Represented at Hearing is Increase in Reconsignment Charges.

Lansing.—The only results of the Michigan railway commission hearing on the car shortage was to gather data for the interstate commerce commission and clear up several misconceptions. As the coal business is interstate commerce, the state board found it had no power.

Despite the hundreds of pages of testimony taken in the two days from railroad men, board of commerce traffic experts and brokers, the only constructive remedy came from the railroads which are advocating an increase in reconsignment charges. This is a blow at brokers who buy coal from the mines and later offer its distribution. They can hold the cars indefinitely by paying demurrage charges and New York Central records showed brokers had held cars 35 days in Detroit.

This year's freight congestion was caused through fear of a strike, according to the rail men, who also claimed that embargoes were essential in relieving Detroit congestion. The Michigan Central has a track capacity of 4,000 more cars than last year in Detroit, and claims congestion is not as bad as it was in 1912.

All railroads claimed they have sufficient motor facilities to move the freight if cars are released promptly. The Michigan Central has 123 switching crews in Detroit, but collects \$23-000 monthly demurrage charges. The Detroit yards of the Pere Marquette yield \$9,000 demurrage monthly, but rolling stock in hauling service would bring the roads much more revenue.

The Wabash railroad representatives testified they hold 903 cars for Detroit which they cannot deliver owing to Grand Trunk embargoes. They have some 500 cars of coal, of which 228 are for 23 Detroit brokers.

New Registration Bill Drawn

Secretary of the Senate Dennis E. Alward and Clerk of the House Charles S. Pierce, who were authorized as special commissioners by the last legislature to revise Michigan election laws, have finished one of the bills which they plan to have presented to the legislature.

The bill has to do with registration, and would completely change the present registration system. The bill has been mailed out to city and county clerks for their approval before it is ready for the legislature. The proposed law would practically eliminate boards of registration. Registration, as proposed, would be continuous. Any citizen could register at any time at the office of the city, township or village clerk. These officials would be empowered to take registrations at any time during the year. They would be compelled to announce registrations and advertise regular registration days as the second and third Saturdays before any election, regular or primary.

In case any city, township or village wanted to have a registration board sit before the primary or regular election. It could do so by resolution. It is thought, however, that once the plan is put to work, boards of registration except in the larger cities of Detroit and Grand Rapids, will be a thing of the past.

Messrs. Alward and Pierce figure that they will save cities, villages and townships \$200,000.

Guardmen Not Complaining

"Reports are again coming from the border that the Michigan soldiers are complaining of their lot, are worrying over the financial welfare of their families in Michigan and are otherwise unhappy in their service," declared Col. J. S. Bersey, adjutant general of Michigan, who has just returned to his desk in the military department at the state building after a visit to the Michigan troops on the border.

"I fall to see the basis of these reports," he continued. "During my visit to the border, I was with our brigade commander, Gen. John Kirk, about ten days, during which time I visited every regiment and battalion commander, also the commanding officer of every company, battery and troop of the Michigan forces."

"I was particularly struck by the trim, spick-and-span personal appearance of our solid soldiers and their excellent physical condition. Their five months' continuous training has certainly developed them physically to a wonderful extent, and so far as I could learn there was no serious cases of sickness."

Colonel Bersey declared that he had taken occasion to question the company and battery commanders as to the spirit and morale of their commands. "While in each unit there may be a few men who are suffering because of their service, nearly all stated that their men were in good spirits and fine morale," declared the state adjutant.

"There is no question but what all the men would like to return to their homes and people as soon as practicable, but it is very noticeable that they are not whiners nor cry-babies, but are a class of men who are willing to make the best of whatever comes to them."

Fellow's Opinion Favors Bacon. Attorney General Grant Feltus has given an opinion to Secretary of State Vaughan that the state board of canvassers must accept the totals returned by the board of county canvassers in the Beakes-Bacon fight in Jackson county, a part of the Second congressional district. This upholds the county canvassers in accepting the figures of the city board, but does not preclude a recount in the city precincts.

The returns of the Jackson county canvassers would make Bacon's plurality in the district 37, while if the disputed votes were counted Beakes would have a plurality of 44 votes.

Cunningham Heads Rail Board. Commissioner Charles S. Cunningham of Detroit was elected chairman of the state railroad commission when David H. Crowley qualified as a member of the commission to succeed Lawson T. Hemans.

Commissioner Cunningham declined to discuss the rumor that he intends to resign as a member of the commission to become traffic manager of the Detroit board of commerce, to succeed A. T. Waterfall.

Cunningham said the position with the Detroit board of commerce had not been tendered him.

Would Abolish State Tax Levy

There is a concerted movement to amend the constitution so as to abolish the primary school fund. John W. Haarer, state treasurer, will be backed by other state officials when he goes before the legislature with the project.

The claim is advanced that Michigan has outgrown the present system, adopted nearly a century ago.

Mr. Haarer was the first state official to suggest a change in the constitution whereby school districts having sufficient money on hand to pay teachers' salaries be prohibited from sharing in the annual apportionment. Not many years ago some smaller counties were fast hoarding up primary school money, drawing the interest while the state was devising ways to pay its other debts.

Treasurer Haarer believes that taxes received from corporations assessed on an ad valorem basis which now goes into the primary school fund should be diverted into the general fund. This includes taxes paid by railroads, telephone and telegraph companies, express and car loaning companies.

This year primary money disbursed was \$6,486,472.18. The total state tax this year was \$7,220,831.20, and according to O. B. Fuller, auditor general, 54 counties received more primary money than they paid in state taxes.

Treasurer Haarer points out that by using for general state expenses the funds now diverted to the primary school fund a state tax levy would be unnecessary except in emergencies.

Dry Statute Not Sought. The dry forces of the state will not attempt to force a statutory prohibition on the state at the next session of the legislature. The amendment passed by the people last month will not be hurried in any way. This is the decision of the Anti-Saloon league of Michigan, reached at a meeting of its executive committee here.

Ever since the election, some of the dregs have been besieging Grant M. Hudson and others high in the prohibition councils to have the legislature make the state dry and not wait until the amendment becomes operative May 1, 1918. The executive committee decided unanimously that it should stand by the amendment.

Wheat Crop Better Than Last Year. The condition of wheat in the state as reported by the monthly crop report is 86 per cent of an average condition, which is 1 per cent better than at this time a year ago. The estimated total number of bushels of wheat marketed in the state for the four months' period, August to November, is 4,250,000. Rye condition is 89, as compared to 90 a year ago. Fall pasture condition is reported as 83 per cent of an average crop, while the condition of live stock is: Horses, 96—same for sheep—96 for cattle and 94 for swine.

SHORT STATE NEWS. Hastings.—Ambrose Cox of Cedar Creek saved the four-year-old son of E. Baker of Dexter from being devoured by a pig, when he beat off the animal, which was biting the boy's head.

Flint.—After five hours the jury in the trial of Andrew Yurkovich, charged with the murder of Frank Spine last summer, convicted him of manslaughter. Judge Stevens sentenced Yurkovich to Marquette prison for from 7 1/2 to 10 years.

Bay City.—The Bay City board of commerce has sent a letter to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States asking that that body frame a petition setting forth present conditions regarding the cost of foodstuffs and necessities, calling upon the government to take all possible steps to maintain all possible factors of the demand, supply, distribution and price of foodstuffs and other necessities, to take decisive steps to retain a normal supply of such commodities and to enforce regulations regarding speculation, "corners" and price-fixing.

In den Gebirgstälern und an den Bergabhängen traf man auf große Herden von Hornvieh, Laufende und Abertausende Zuhüter, von Ochsen gezogen, wurden eingebracht, die ausgedehnten viel Kriegsmaterial. Die zurückweichenden Rumänen warzen an vielen Punkten ihre Kanonen in Schluchten hinab oder verließen sie in Wäldern. Es wird Monate dauern, ehe die ganze zurückgelassene Beute geädelt sein wird.

Die Operationen haben bis jetzt den Verlauf genommen, wie er vom deutschen Kommando geplant war. Das ganze westliche Rumänien befindet sich jetzt in den Händen der Zentralmächte. Das große Gebiet des Weizenlandes, die reichen Viehlande an sich und andere erbeutete Vorräte, erlöhen, zusammen mit dem großen Reichtum des Bodens, die Stärke der Zentralmächte in einer deterrigenen bauernden Weise, daß die Hofkammer der Entente, welche nie wirkliche Aussicht auf Erfolg hatte, jetzt vollständig nutzlos geworden ist.

Der Vorstoß der deutschen Verbündeten wurde mit solcher Hast durchgeführt, daß es unmöglich ist, die gemessene Beute abzuschätzen. Der größere Teil des Weizenlandes ist in die Hände der Sieger. Heberdeies sind enorme Lager von Weizen in Schuppen, Bahnhöfen, Mühlen und an Bord von Booten vorhanden. Es scheint, daß die Rumänen nicht imstande waren, die Ernte der Wallachei nach Braila und Galatz zu transportieren.

Der erbeutete Petroleum- Vorrat war enorm. Viele der Bahnhöfe sind voll von Leuchttransport- Wagen. Große Mengen Leber, Fleisch und Salz wurden erbeutet. Nur ein unbedeutender Teil des Rindviehs konnte von den Rumänen weggebracht werden.

Die allgemein angenommenen wird, beabsichtigt Gindenburg, jetzt den Krieg in den Süden des heiligen rufischen Reichs zu fragen und Obeja als Ziel. Und im Osten wird sich nun das Schicksal erfüllen, der Weltkrieg zum Erlöschen gebracht werden. Feldmarschall von Ludendorff hat mit der Einnahme von Bukarest, die auf seinen Geburtstag fiel, sich in seinem Lande das schönste Geschenk gemacht.

Die Abtheilung ist für die Familienglieder, welche am liebsten Deutsch lesen.

Vom Schauplatz des europäischen Völkertrieges. Genau hundert Tage, nachdem Serbien von Rumänien, dem Bräutigam der Allierten nachgegeben, sich ihnen angeschlossen hatte, sah er die Hauptstadt seines Landes in den Händen des Feindes und die Trümmer seines Heeres so gut wie abgetilgt...

Alliierten Verluste auf 15,000,000 Mann geschätzt. Berlin, drahtlos. (Uebersetzung Nachrichten-Agentur.) Die Gefährdung für das Studium der sozialen Folgen des Krieges in Kopenhagen hat die bisherigen Gefährdungen der Alliierten auf 15,000,000 Mann berechnet.

Diese Zahlen lassen sonderbare Schlüsse ziehen. So nach betragen die Verluste der Belgier, Serben und Rumänen drei Viertel der britischen, und so sich die rumänischen Verluste nur auf zwei Monate beziehen, haben diese drei kleinen Nationen tatsächlich die große Opfer gebracht, als das britische Reich Italien hat bereits Verluste in der Höhe von einem Drittel der britischen erlitten, obgleich es erst zehn Monate länger als Großbritannien in den Krieg trat. Die französischen Verluste sind dreimal so groß als die britischen und bilden fast ein Drittel der Gesamtverluste aller Alliierten, während die russischen Verluste siebenmal größer sind als die britischen, die nur 8 Prozent des Gesamtverlustes betragen, obgleich die Verluste der Canadian, Australier, Neuseeländer, Südafrikaner, Indianer, Japaner und anderer eingeschlossen sind.

Zu England befehlsmäßig seine Hilfstruppen in die erste Linie zu senden pflegt, kann mit Sicherheit angenommen werden, daß die Hälfte dieser englischen Verluste auf das Konto der Truppen aus den Kolonien und den Dominionen zu setzen ist. Die Gesamtverluste der Briten selber dürften kaum diejenigen Serbiens übertreffen, während die französischen Verluste zehnmal größer sind als diejenigen Englands.

Ausfahrt von Rohstoffmitteln für Alliierten nimmt bedeutend zu. Washington. Im Monat Oktober wurden für rund 54 1/2 Millionen Dollars Waffen und Munition exportiert, außerdem 44,899 Pferde und Maulthiere, 6024 Autos, Säuren im Werte von über 3 Millionen Dollars zur Herstellung von Explosivstoffen, leere Patronenhüllen im Werte von rund 16 1/2 Millionen und leere Granatenhüllen im Werte von beinahe 18 Millionen. Der Export von frischem Mehl betrug \$2,000,000, jener von Schinken 4 1/2 Millionen. Dazwischen aber die Interfeboot-Kampagne in demselben Maße an wie bisher, nicht sich England vor die Alternative gestellt, entweder seinen Waffen- und Munitionsbezug einzuldrücken oder sich den Gürtel enger zu ziehen. Der Hunger, den England, wie gegen die Bureau lo auch gegen die Zentralmächte zu mobilisieren dachte, ist heute deren härtester Allierter. Die Handelsflotte der Welt reicht nicht mehr aus, Kriegsschiffe und Magenbedarf zu gleicher Zeit im alten Umfang zu befriedigen.

Das Friedensbedürfnis wächst. Berlin, drahtlos nach Sanville. Im hiesigen allen größeren Zeitungen erschienen Leitartikel über die gegenwärtige politische Situation, wie sie durch die jüngsten militärischen Ereignisse in Rumänien und die wirtschaftliche Lage in den Entente-Ländern beeinflusst wird, und alle Väter erklären, daß das Friedensbedürfnis in diesen Ländern wachsen wird. Die Weltzeitung sagt: "Wir alle fühlen, daß das Ende des Krieges durch die Ereignisse der jüngsten Wochen bedeutend näher gebracht wurde. Selbst Staatsmänner scheinen das einzusehen, wenn auch ihre Worte noch der Klarheit ermangeln."

50,000,000 Geldstücke in einem Monat. Philadelphia. Im Monat November sind in der hiesigen Münze 9,850,000 Schenkstücke, 8,266,200 Nickel und 28,975,450 Pennies geprägt worden. Dieses Ergebnis bildet einen neuen Rekord für die hiesige Münzanstalt für einen Monat der Ausgabe von neuen Wertbezeichnungen. Der Gesamtverbleibswert der Anzahl belief sich auf \$1,688,064.50. Außerdem wurden noch zwei Millionen silberne Sechszehnstücke für die Republik Ecuador geschlagen.

Rumänischer Getreideraht. Rom. Ein Bericht des Internationalen Ackerbau- Instituts schätzt Rumaniens gesamten Weizen- Vorrat auf 109,000,000 Bushels, von denen 30,000,000 den letztjährigen Ueberflus bilden. Die Abschätzung der diesjährigen Ernte von Roggen, Gerste, Hafer und Weizen ist 153,000,000 Bushels. Ein großer Teil dieser Ernte ist den siegreichen Deutschen in die Hände gefallen.

Michigan Happenings

Lansing.—The Casualty Company of America has voluntarily withdrawn all of its business from Michigan, according to a notice served on Insurance Grand Rapids.—The new National Guard armory here was turned over to the state at a meeting of the state military board in this city.

Adrian.—Louis Jennings, seventy years old, hanged himself in a barn at the rear of his home. Despondency over illness and the recent death of his wife is believed responsible. Monroe.—While riding a railroad speeder, William Harms, Lake Shore section foreman, and Nick Fete, an Italian laborer, were struck by an automobile at the First street crossing here. Both men suffered fractured collar bones.

Kalamazoo.—Figures announced by Secretary Towne of the Chamber of Commerce showed the wage increase in Kalamazoo the last year had been more than \$4,500,000, and that this city's plants were paying their workmen \$17,300,000 annually.

East Lansing.—Because of the lack of finances and the increased cost of supplies and materials, Secretary A. M. Brown and President Frank S. Keizer have suspended the publication of all experiment and extension bulletins, except such as are especially urgent. The printing bills for bulletins amount to about \$10,000 annually.

Jackson.—Governor Ferris held interviews with a number of convicts at Jackson prison. It is not expected that he will again visit the prison before the expiration of his term. It is expected that several Christmas presents in the form of parcels will be given to long-term men. Who these men will be is not intimated at this time.

Flint.—To Frank Hall, a cripple, goes the distinction of being the first Flint man to make application and receive a "widow's" pension from the board of education. Hall told the school board that his wife had run away with another man and that he found it difficult to provide for his family.

Saginaw.—W. H. Wallace, general manager of the Michigan Sugar company, said his company will write 1917 sugar beet contracts on a sliding scale. The minimum price a ton will be \$6. Taking the market price of sugar from October to January inclusive, the price of beets paid to the farmer will be fixed by the wholesale price of sugar. There will be plenty of seed for next year's campaign.

Flint.—"Be careful, Tom," said Patrolman Frank Moore to Flagman Thomas Barry at the Hamilton avenue crossing of the Pere Marquette railroad, as he passed the latter. "You bet I will, Frank," said Barry as he waved his flag for a south-bound train that wished a clear crossing. A moment later Barry was run down and instantly killed by a train backing from behind him and which he did not see.

Jackson.—John E. Baker was held up at the point of a revolver and robbed in his meat market by two men. The thieves getting \$40 in cash and a check for \$10 from the register. Mr. Baker was in his market with a boy when the two men entered and purchased a small quantity of meat. As soon as they received the meat they pulled revolvers and commanded Baker to throw up his hands. They backed him into the icebox and robbed the till and escaped.

CHRISTMAS IN THE SWISS ALPS

While nearly all the rest of Europe is bleeding to death the sturdy citizens of the mountain republic enjoy their glorious winter sports



NEAR ST. MORITZ, THE FAMOUS RESORT



A SETTING FOR WINTER SPORT

ONLY three years ago the advent of winter in the Swiss Alps was the long expected signal for the city dwellers of all parts of the world to journey forth to that beautiful land, where the season of white is the jolliest time of the year, says the Washington Star. Then came the war, cruel, devastating and ever-spreading. With wizardlike swiftness Switzerland mobilized her army and ever since the ancient Helvetian republic has been described as "an island of peace in a sea of war."

To those who know her, Switzerland in summer represents a master study in artistic color combinations; Switzerland in winter, however, is a totally different vision, radiant in dazzling, spotless white. Jack Frost has imprinted a silencing kiss upon the bubbling lips of every tiny brook and mountain stream, and glistening sheets of the smoothest ice cover also the limpid blue eyes of ponds and Alpine lakes. While mother earth is thus wrapped in a wonderful mantle of ice and snow, the sky above has assumed the matchless hue of a precious sapphire and the always delicious mountain air seems to have acquired some additional qualities which rejuvenate and strengthen the whole human system and which instill into every being, young or old, an inexplicable feeling of light-hearted happiness. Very shortly, one finds everybody interested and engaged in some form of winter sport.

There is skating, of course, but many games compete now with this oldest of sports on the ice, which has, however, been developed into an art which charms the onlooker by the gracefulness of its movements, and again astonished by the cool daring of its swift rushes.

As in summer over the lawn, so flies the tennis ball over the ice in the game of hockey. Curriers are frantically sweeping their "stones" toward the coveted goal, and the unlimited diversity of gymnastic stunts offers constant amusement for the players as well as for the onlookers.

The improved appliances for sport requirements have nearly ousted the old-fashioned herdsmen's sleds which are now only occasionally used by timid beginners. The up-to-date vehicle is the so-called skeleton, a low, yard-long toboggan, on which the rider lies flat, steering the craft with hands and feet. Like an arrow, it darts up the ice walls of the curves, and as the bewildered spectator fearfully anticipates an accident, the toboggan shoots down into the furrow and around a beautifully shaped curve.

One of the most attractive and certainly a very social sport is bob-sledding. Long, low, padded toboggans seating as many as six persons are used and under this heavy burden the bob-sledder shoots down its course with amazing speed. As the leader ways, almost automatically, the close-

ly crowded team bend themselves, so guiding the sleigh to the right or left; they apply a brake by letting themselves drip on the snow, or drive to greater swiftness by bending forward like jockeys. Strong iron spikes which are driven by a lever into the ice enable the leader to stop the vehicle almost instantly, but a sudden application of those brakes whips up the ice and snow in clouds.

Skiing has taken root to an extraordinary extent in Switzerland; even the poorest youth does not want to do without skis, though they might consist of only a couple of crudely adjusted barrel staves. Thanks to the skis the boys and girls living on remotely situated farms are now able to attend school every day; their parents are no longer isolated for the best part of the long winter months, and, thanks also to the "wooden wings of Norway," the mail and newspapers can be delivered regularly.

Sport is furthermore made easier by the different mountain railways, which in winter run toboggan trains. Thus one can travel a couple of stations upward and arrive at a starting point on a mountain road without exertion and without waste of time. Then one descends to the valley on toboggan, ski or skates, or vice versa, goes down first and returns by train to winter quarters.

Even competitions, ski excursions, sleigh drives, ice carnivals and an equal variety of fascinating indoor entertainments transplant the happy winter visitor into a totally different world where sorrow and care seem to be banished and where every human being seems to realize that the best life after all is found right next to nature's heart.

But Christmas in Switzerland does not only indicate the time when winter sports are beginning to be at their best; it signifies for the natives a period full of sacred mystery and the anniversary of many a day particularly specified in ancient legends.

In many parts of the country the Yuletide customs and festivities still have their beginning on December 6, which is the anniversary of St. Nicholas. Markets and fairs are then held in villages and cities, and seeing that the old traditions prescribe for this day the purchasing of presents for the children. It is an event of utmost importance to all youngsters. In some districts St. Nicholas parades around in person, in an attire very similar to that of our American Santa Claus, generally carrying a bag filled with apples, pines, nuts and homemade cookies which he distributes among the children who have been obedient during the year.

The next and in modern days the most important festive day of the Whole Yule season is Christmas. History relates that it was only in the year 334 that the Roman Bishop Liberius designated December 25 as the birthday of Christ, as the Romans regarded this particular day as the birthday of the sun, and as they were

furthermore desirous of giving more religious importance to two important Roman festivals which also fell due in the same period. With the observation of Christmas day the Christkindli, described "as a lovely angel with wings," gradually started to take old Santa's place in many sections of Switzerland. Christkindli, the Christ Child, is said to come from the far North and always brings a wonderful Christmas tree, decorated with all the glittering things associated with fairyland and heavily laden with manifold gifts.

A pretty legend about the origin of the Christmas tree tells us that in the beginning of the ninth century a certain St. Winfried went to preach Christianity to the people in Scandinavia and northern Germany. One Christmas eve these people were gathered around a huge oak to offer a human sacrifice, according to the Druid priests, but St. Winfried hewed down the great tree, and as it fell there appeared in its place a tall young fir. When St. Winfried saw it he cried to the people that here was come a new tree, unstained by blood, which, in pointing to the sky, showed them what they were to worship.

"It is the Christ Child," he said. "Carry it to the castle of your chief, and in future, instead of the bloody rites of the Druids, your worship shall be in your own homes, with ceremonies that speak the message of peace and good will to all. A day will come when there shall not be a house in the North wherein on the birthday of Christ the whole family shall not gather together round the fir tree in memory of this day and to the glory of the only God."

In many parts of Switzerland the peasants are still fervent believers in mystic powers and supernatural occurrences which ancient traditions have reported to be prevalent during Christmas-time.

And when the happy Christmas days are over, there comes New Year's eve, with its joyous social and family gatherings and its marvelously effective ringling-in of the New Year, when all the church bells throughout the land are lifting up their voices for half an hour.

While Christmas of 1916 will hardly be a general day of rejoicing in many a great country in Europe, Switzerland is preparing to celebrate it in her usual way. There will be less laughter in the valleys and fewer brilliant festivities in the fashionable winter resorts above the clouds. Brotherly love and sympathy for her bleeding neighbors could not will it otherwise, but Switzerland is grateful to the fate which has so far, in spite of everything, been kind to her, and with gratitude and love she will think and take care of her soldiers watching at the front, and she will open wide her already generous heart to the many refugees whom she is sheltering and to the destitute, homeless wanderers passing through the country, to make them feel that Christmas is after all the most wonderful day of the year.

TEUTONIC POWERS WILL TALK PEACE

FOLLOWING IS A FULL TEXT OF THE NOTE DELIVERED BY GERMANY TO ENEMIES.

BASIS FOR LASTING PEACE

In Spite of This Offer of Peace and Reconciliation the Struggle Will Go On to a Victorious End.

Berlin, by Wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—Following is the full text of the peace note addressed by Germany and her allies to the hostile governments: "The most terrific war ever experienced in history has been raging for the last two years and a half over a large part of the world—a catastrophe which thousands of years of common civilization were unable to prevent, and which injures the most precious achievements of humanity.

"Our aims are not to shatter nor annihilate our adversaries. In spite of our consciousness of our military and economic strength, and our readiness to continue the war, which has been forced upon us, until the bitter end, if necessary; at the same time prompted by the desire to avoid further bloodshed, and make an end to the atrocities of war, the four allied (Teutonic) powers propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations.

"The propositions which they bring forward for such negotiations and which have for their object a guarantee of the existence, of the honor and liberty of evolution for their nations, are, according to their firm belief, an appropriate basis for the establishment of a lasting peace.

"The four allied (Teutonic) powers have been obliged to take up arms to defend justice and the liberty of national evolution. The glorious deeds our armies have in no way altered their purpose. We always maintained the firm belief that our own rights and justified claims in no way control the rights of these nations.

"The spiritual and material progress, which were the pride of Europe at the beginning of the Twentieth century, are threatened with ruin. Germany and her allies, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey, gave proof of their unconquerable strength in this struggle. They gained gigantic advantages over adversaries superior in numbers and war material. Our lines stand unshaken against ever-repeated attempts made by armies.

"The last attack in the Balkans has been rapidly and victoriously overcome. The most recent events have demonstrated that further continuance of the war will not result in breaking the resistance of our forces, and the whole situation with regard to our troops justifies our expectation of further successes.

"It is in spite of this offer of peace and reconciliation, the struggle should go on, the four allied (Teutonic) powers are resolved to continue to a victorious end, but they disclaim responsibility for this before humanity and history.

DEUTSCHLAND IS HOME AGAIN

Made the Return Trip in Nineteen Days—Having Battered Her First Voyage Four Days.

Berlin (by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The German commercial submarine Deutschland, completing a quick trip home from the United States, arrived at the mouth of Weser, near Bremen.

The arrival of the Deutschland marks the completion of the second round trip of the undersea commercial boat to the United States. On her voyage just finished she made the passage in 19 days, having left New London November 21. This bettered considerably the record of her previous eastward trip, which, starting from Baltimore, took her 23 days. Her two westward voyages occupied respectively 16 days and 21 days.

The Deutschland, which is the only commercial craft of her type that has succeeded in reaching this country from Germany, her sister ship, the Bremen, having been lost on her outward voyage, was forced to make two starts from New London on this return trip.

On her first attempt, November 17, she collided with an escorting tug and had to put back to port. She was not badly damaged, however, and was able to put out again four days later without mishap.

The Deutschland, on both of her trips, brought valuable cargoes, chiefly of dyes and chemicals. On her present voyage she took a cargo estimated at \$2,000,000 in value and official mail to Germany.

Mrs. Frank Wheeler, 122 Belden street, Jackson, and her two children, Homer and Nellie, 2 and 5 years old, were badly burned when a gasoline stove exploded while the mother was filling it. It is believed they will recover.

There is one new case of smallpox developed at Ann Arbor. Miss Fhea Seybold, a high school girl, has the disease, making seven cases since last Saturday. No students in the university have had the disease or shown symptoms of it since the outbreak.

Marjetta, O.—Marjetta has voted dry, 1,762 to 1,877.

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Live Stock.
DETROIT—Cattle—Receipts, 2,690. Best heavy steers \$8.00; best handy-weight butcher steers, \$6.75 to \$7.50; mixed steers and heifers, \$5.75 to \$6.50; handy light butchers, \$5.50 to \$6.25; light butchers, \$5.25 to \$5.75; canners, \$3.50 to \$4.25; best heavy bulls, \$5.50 to \$6.25; bologna bulls, \$5.25 to \$5.75; stock bulls, \$2.75 to \$3; feeders, \$4.67; stockers, \$5 to \$6.25; milkers and springers, \$4.40 to \$9.

Calves—Receipts, 1,310; good ones brought \$12.50, but bulk of sales for good was at \$11.50 to \$12; mediums, \$8 to \$10.50; heavy, \$5 to \$6.50.
Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 9,487. Best lambs \$12.50 to \$12.60; fair lambs, \$11.75 to \$12.25; light to common lambs, \$8 to \$10; yearlings, \$10 to \$10.50; fair to good sheep, \$7.50 to \$8.35; culls and common, \$6 to \$6.50.

Hogs—Receipts, 14,956. The hog department was the only part of the yards where prices were lower and the bulk of the mixed grades were 10 to 15 cents lower, selling at \$9.40 to \$9.55, a few choice bringing \$9.70, the extreme top. Pigs held steady, selling at \$8.25 to \$8.50.

EAST BUFFALO—Cattle, Receipts, 165 cars; market active and 25c higher; choice to prime steers, \$9.75 to \$10.15; fair to good, \$8.50 to \$9; plain, \$7.75 to \$8.25; very coarse and common, \$7.25 to \$7.75; choice heavy butchers steers, \$3.50 to \$3; fair to good, \$3 to \$3.25; best heavy steers, \$3.50 to \$3.9; fair to good, \$2.75 to \$3.25; light and common, \$2.25 to \$2.75; yearlings, prime, \$9.50 to \$10.50; fair to good, \$8.50 to \$9; best heavy heifers, \$7.50 to \$8; fair butchering heifers, \$6.50 to \$7; light and common, \$5.50 to \$6; best heavy fat cows, \$6.75 to \$7.25; good butchers cows, \$6 to \$6.75; medium to fair, \$5.50 to \$6; culls, \$4.25 to \$4.75; canners, \$3.25 to \$4.15; few at \$4.25; best heavy bulls, \$3.75 to \$4.50; good butchering bulls, \$3.50 to \$4.25; sausage bulls, \$3.50 to \$4; light bulls, \$4.25 to \$5.25; best feeders, \$3.75 to \$4.25; common to fair, \$3.25 to \$3.60; best stockers, \$3.50 to \$3.75; common to good, \$3 to \$3.50; milkers and springers, \$3.50 to \$4.10.

Receipts, 100 cars; market 10c higher; heavy, \$10.30 to \$10.40; Yorkers and mixed, \$10 to \$10.15; pigs and lights, \$8.75 to \$9.25.
Sheep and lambs: Receipts, 35 cars; market 25c higher; top lambs, \$13.15 to \$13.50; yearlings, \$11.50 to \$11.75; wethers, \$9 to \$9.25; ewes, \$8 to \$8.50.
Calves: Receipts, 900; market strong; tops, \$13.50 to \$14; fair to good, \$11.50 to \$12.50; fed calves, \$5 to \$5.50.

Grain, Etc.
DETROIT—Wheat—Cash No. 2 red, \$1.79; December opened without change at \$1.80, advanced to \$1.81, declined to \$1.79, advanced to \$1.79 1/2 and closed at \$1.79; May opened at \$1.87, advanced to \$1.88, declined to \$1.86, advanced to \$1.86 1/2 and closed at \$1.86; No. 1 white, \$1.74.
Corn—Cash No. 2, 95 1/2c; No. 1 yellow, 97c; No. 4 yellow, 95c.
Oats—Standard, 59c; No. 3 white, 58 1/2c; No. 4 white, 57 1/2c.
Rye—Cash No. 2 red, \$1.50.
Beans—Immediate and prompt shipment, \$6.10; December, \$6; January, \$5.50.
Seed—Prime red clover, \$10.75; March, \$10.90; alsike, \$10.60; timothy, \$2.50; alfalfa, \$6 to \$10.
Flour—Per 196 lbs. in eighth paper sacks: Best winter patent, \$9.30; second patent, \$8.90; straight, \$8.70; spring patent, \$9.90; rye, \$8.50 per bbl.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, \$14 to \$15; standard timothy, \$13 to \$14; No. 2 timothy, \$12 to \$13; light mixed, \$13.50 to \$14; rye straw, \$9.50 to \$10; wheat and oat straw, \$8.50 to \$9 per ton in carlots, Detroit.
Feed—In 100-lb. sacks, jobbing lots: Bran, \$3 1/2; standard middlings, \$3.35; fine middlings, \$3.55; cracked corn, \$4.35; coarse cornmeal, \$4; corn and oat chop, \$3.75 per ton.

General Markets.
Pears—Common, 50 to 75c per bu.
Grapes—Fancy Catawbas, 22 to 23c.
Fruit—Apples, \$4 to \$5 per crate.
Grapefruit—\$4.50 to \$5 per crate.
Malaga Grapes—\$5.50 to \$6.50 per keg.
Strawberries—California, 30 to 35c per pint.
Oranges—California Valencia, \$3.75 to \$5 per box.
Cranberries—Late Howes, \$3.25 per bu and \$9.25 per bbl.
Apples—Fancy, \$3.50 to \$4; choice, \$2.50 to \$3.50 per bbl.; No. 2, 75c to \$1 per bushel.
Cabbage—\$3.75 to \$4 per bbl.
Dressed Hogs—12 to 12 1/2c per lb.
Tomatoes—Hothouse, 16 to 17c per lb.
Celery—Kalamazoo, 20 to 25c per doz.
Honey—Fancy white, 16 to 17c; extracted, 9 to 10c per lb.
Sweet Potatoes—Jersey, kiln-dried, \$1.90 to \$2 per crate.
Dressed Calves—Fancy, 15 to 16c; No. 2, 14 to 14 1/2c per lb.
Potatoes—In carlots; bulk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; in sacks, \$1.65 to \$1.75 per bu.
Tallow—No. 1, 9c; No. 2, 8c per lb.
Live Poultry—No. 1 spring chickens, 17 to 18c; No. 2 spring chickens, 15 to 16c; No. 1 hens, 16 to 17c; No. 2 hens, 14 to 15c; small hens, 10 to 11c; ducks, 16 to 17c; geese, 15 to 16c; turkeys, 24 to 25c per lb.
Cheese—Michigan flats, 23 to 24c; Wisconsin flats, 24c; Wisconsin daisies, 24 to 25c; Wisconsin double daisies, 24 to 25c; New York flats, 26c; long horns, 25 to 26c; Michigan daisies, 24c; Imported Swiss, 55 to 60c; domestic Swiss, 27 to 32c; brick, 24 to 24c; Limburger, 1-b pkgs, 24 to 25c; do 2-b pkgs, 24c per lb.
Lettuce—Head lettuce, \$1.75 to \$2 per case; hothouse, \$2 to \$2.50 per lb.
Onions—Spanish, \$1.65 per crate; Michigan yellow, \$4.50 per 100-lb. sack.
Hides—No. cured, 24c; No. 1 green, 21c; No. 1 cured bulls, 17c; No. 1 green bulls, 15c; No. 1 cured veal kip, 30c; No. 1 green veal kip, 25c; No. 1 cured mutton, 20c; No. 1 green mutton, 18c; No. 1 cured calf, 35c; No. 1 green calf, 35c; No. 1 horsehide, 45c; No. 2 horsehide, 37c; No. 2 hides 16 and No. 2 kip and calf, 1 to 2c lower than the above; sheepskins, as to amount of wool, 80c to \$1.25 each.

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(EASTERN STANDARD TIME)
EAST BOUND
For Detroit via Wayne 5:30 a. m. 6:48 a. m. and every hour to 7:48 p. m.; also 9:48 p. m. and 11:30 p. m. changing at Wayne.
NORTH BOUND
Leave Plymouth for Northville 6:05 a. m. and every hour to 7:30 p. m.; also 9:05 p. m. and 10:35 p. m.
Leave Detroit for Plymouth 4:30 a. m. and every hour to 8:30 p. m.; 7:30 p. m.; also 9 p. m. and 10:15 p. m.
Leave Wayne for Plymouth 6:43 a. m. and every hour to 7:43 p. m.; 9:43 p. m.; also 10:15 p. m. and 11:30 p. m.
Cars connect at Wayne for Ypsilanti and points west to Jackson.

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are often marred by ill shaped and poorly cut letters. Note the work we have erected; or better still, visit our works and see the class of work we are turning out in this line.

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Play's Depreciation.

I always allow for a depreciation of 50 per cent of a play's face value on production—25 per cent is lost through my own incompetence, and the other 25 per cent through the disabilities of the players.—Plymouth.

Mischief in Misplaced Comma.

Even the lowly comma, when misplaced, may be the cause of disaster. Of this no better instance can be found than that where the printer, setting up a little story, asserts: "The two young men spent the early part of the evening with the two young ladies; and after they left, the girls got drunk."

Uncle Eben.

"A man has to be smart to get his own way," said Uncle Eben; "and even smarter to know how to manage it after he gets it."

Mean Rejoinder.

Wife (during the spat)—"I wasn't anxious to marry you. I refused you six times." Hub—"Yes, and then my luck gave out."—Boston Globe.

Pick Your Associates.

A good way to avoid the pitfalls of folly is to associate with thoughtful, cheerful, earnest, serious, sensible folks.

Keep Sun From Cut Flowers.

It is understood that the direct rays of the sun should not reach cut flowers, as they wilt at once, not only on account of the light rays, but also on account of the heat.

But Otherwise.

"You must take me for a miserable fool." "Oh, no; you are cheerful enough."—Boston Transcript.

Their Source.

Half the fun in this world comes from unexpected sources, and half the sorrow from planned joys that didn't materialize.—Detroit Free Press.

Prepar Physical Education.

The purpose of physical education is, of course, not merely to build up the bodies of boys today, but to put into the lives of boys that thing, whatever it is, that will make the boy sturdy and able-bodied when he reaches manhood. Such men—lovers of fresh air, of hiking in the wild, of sleeping out under the sky—men who can both enjoy and endure, are the men who will make up a strong nation and not a nation of weaklings.—Scouting.

Standard Lights.

Such a dissimilarity has been found by the bureau of standards in life-buoy lights supposed to be of the same power that makers are now required to submit samples of their lights for tests before they can be approved. Some lights show as low as 13 candle power, while others run as high as 180. The minimum requirement is 150, and samples must at least reach that standard to be accepted.

Slightly Mixed.

There is a good anecdote of an Irishman giving the password at the battle of Pontenay, at the time the great Saxe was marshaled. "The password is Saxe; now, don't forget it," said the colonel. "Saxe; faith, I won't. Wasn't my father a miller?" "Who goes there?" cried the sentry, after he had arrived at the pass. The Irishman looked as confidential as possible and whispered in a sort of howl: "Bage yer honor."

Her Idea About Golf.

Many anecdotes are told of some of the curious ideas held about golf by people to whom it was a new and strange game before its modern popularity had set in. One woman who had evidently had a new view of the game said: "It is played by two men. One is a gentleman and the other by a common man. The common man sticks a ball on a lump of dirt, and the gentleman knocks it off."

His Intentions.

"Young man, said the stern parent, with the accent on the 'young,' 'do you intend to stay here all night holding my daughter's hand and looking into her face like a calf?' 'No, sir.' 'What do you intend to do, then?' 'Well, I had thought, when you had done us the kindness to retire, that I would put my arm round her waist, and, if she did not object, I might risk giving her a kiss.'"

Change of Scene After Grief.

Many women find in change of scene a most wise course to follow when some trouble comes to them. The old associations but serve to renew their grief, whereas being in a strange place among strangers they seem to find new strength. New interests make claims upon them, and little by little they become resigned to the inevitable.

The Right One to Question.

"Jimmy, did you take the pennies out of the cup on the table?" I asked my youngest son. "No, mother, said Jimmie, aged five. "You must not tell a story, Jimmie, because God sees everything and you know you can't hide from him." "Ask him who took the pennies, then," was the curt reply.—Cleveland Leader.

Community Responsibility.

Generally speaking, a community is held responsible for the property of its citizens, and may, if the demand is not unreasonable, be sued for damages in case of loss. Some such suits have been brought, and some of them have been won by the plaintiffs. Exception is made of loss due to war or insurrection.

Their Life in Their Works.

If you look around the world for the greatest writers, you will see that they were people equal to doing many things besides putting little black scratches on paper; they were the people most alive in their time, and that is one reason why they are still alive now. Vernon Randall recently said in a paper read before the London Society Council School of Arts and Crafts, according to the London Saturday Review. They were so full of life that they had to express it for others.

Poor Man's Limitations.

"After all, it's no crime to be poor." "Maybe not, but no poor man can afford to live a lawyer to prove that it isn't."—Kansas City Star.

Was Well Trained.

Many a man who permits himself to be led forth to physical exertion does not care for what appreciates the following: "What made you stop clapping your hands when the runner stepped on your foot in the stadium?" "I was dozing," answered Mr. Harrox. "I thought, mother and the boys were having a musicale at home, and one of them was singing 'God Save the King'."—Boston Globe.

SEES END AT THE START

Nothing Ever Makes God Anxious or Uncertain as to Outcome of Problem.

Nothing ever frightens God. Nothing ever worries him, or perplexes him, or makes him anxious or uncertain as to the outcome. He deals with problems so great that we would not even dare to think of them; but he sees the triumphant ending from the beginning. Why not remember this the

WE NOW SPEAK IN BILLIONS

Englishman in Investigating American Finances Had to Send for Help.

The finite mind of mere man becomes befogged at the infinite figures necessary to express a billion dollars. It would be easier for the mind's eye to picture a flock of fifty English birds with \$25,000,000, a mass than to grasp the abstract idea of a billion perfectly good American dol-

thought I could do this job alone, but I am among a people who think and speak of billions, and frankly I must have help, as I feel that my mind alone cannot grasp the immensity of this country's wealth and operations.

My dear, I don't think the guests liked your caviar sandwiches.

"Why, they are all gone from the table."

"Yes, I found most of 'em inside the grand piano."

ars. Yet the American industrial and railroad companies always work on such totals in their business conduct, says Wall Street Journal.
Recently, the representative of a leading English journal, who is over here to prepare an American special number visited Washington and talked with the president, cabinet and heads of the departments and bureaus. He returned to New York and interviewed some of the capitalists and the burden of his first cable to his employers ran something like this: "I

Suggestions for Christmas

Handkerchiefs
all our large line
5c, 10c, 15c, 25c, 50c

Dress Gloves
Capes, Suedes and Yarns
all colors and sizes
50c to \$2.50

Neckwear
Don't fail to see our large line of
Silk Ties and Neck Scarfs
25c, 50c, \$1.00
A Holiday Box with each tie

Fur Caps
Bellemont quality
\$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00

Sweaters
large assortment and good values
\$1.00 to \$6.00

WALK-OVER SHOES.
Enjoy the comforts of a pair on Christmas.



Leather Specialties
Collar and Glove Boxes
50c to \$2.50

Dress Shirts
Silver and Ide Shirts
newest styles and patterns
\$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00

Night Gowns and Underwear
make Useful Gifts

Hosiery
Hose of Luxite
25c, 35c, 50c

Suspenders
in pretty Holiday boxes
25c, 50c, \$1.00

Open Evenings

R. W. SINGLETON

Plymouth North Side

THE PLYMOUTH MAIL

F. W. SAMSEN
L. B. SAMSEN, Editor and Manager

Plymouth Farmers Listen to Splendid Address

A committee from the Plymouth Agricultural Association and Milk Producers met at the Hotel Plymouth Monday evening, where they listened to an excellent talk by C. E. Bassett, a specialist from the Market and Rural Organization department at Washington, D. C. Mr. Bassett gave the committee a clear understanding as to the necessary by-laws and constitution of an agricultural association, and gave in detail the workings of such organizations and made many valuable suggestions as to financing and incorporation, so as to not conflict with the Sherman law. Mr. Bassett said it was not the purpose of forming organizations of this kind to raise prices, but for the purpose of making a saving by collective buying and selling. Produce would be sold in the open market just as it is now. He also touched on many other points of the work.

Tuesday afternoon a general meeting of the farmers of this vicinity was held at the Grange hall, and was largely attended. Harry C. Robinson, president of Plymouth Agricultural Association, presided over the meeting and introduced Mr. Bassett as the speaker of the afternoon. Mr. Bassett gave a general talk, touching on many phases of organization work and the many benefits to be derived from farmers' community organizations. He spoke at length on successful buying and selling organizations. Some were unsuccessful, he said, and told the reason why, by pointing out the errors that had been made by not being properly organized. Mr. Bassett has had twenty-five years' experience in farmers' co-operative community organization work. He has also had over ten years' actual experience in managing the business of the Fruit Growers' association at Fenoville, Mich. His address was filled with good practical ideas and he held the closest attention of his hearers throughout. At the conclusion of Mr. Bassett's address a resolution was adopted authorizing the president to appoint a committee of five to formulate a definite constitution and set of by-laws and also arrange for incorporation. A vote of those present favoring the permanent organization of the Plymouth Agricultural Association was taken and ninety per cent were found to be in favor of such action.

Will Blow Fire Whistle

Through the efforts of Manager Allman of the local telephone office, the Michigan State Telephone Co., have very kindly consented to blow the new fire whistle, which was recently installed on the bell tower in the rear of the village hall. The new whistle is operated by electricity and the pushing of a button in the central office. Persons calling central in case of fire will please give the location as plainly and distinctly as possible. This action on the part of the telephone company is highly commendable and will be appreciated by our citizens.

Literary Club Will Entertain

The Civic Department of the Woman's Literary Club will give a social evening to the club members and their guests in the Presbyterian church next Tuesday evening, December 19th at 8 o'clock. The opening number on the program will be a duet by Miss Hazel Conner and Rev. B. F. Farber. During the evening Mrs. C. H. Bennett will show picture slides and tell something of her cruise in the West India. A social hour will follow the program and light refreshments will be served.

Christmas Advertisers

This issue of the Mail contains a large amount of Christmas advertising. A close perusal of these ads will convince our readers that there will be no need for anyone to go out of town to buy their Christmas gifts this year. Plymouth merchants have made special efforts this year in buying their Christmas stocks to secure the latest and best gift articles. The stores are taking on a decided holiday appearance and shoppers will be surprised and delighted with the splendid displays that are now being made. In order to get first choice it is desirable to do your shopping early while the stocks are complete. There are many attractive window displays that show our merchants are progressive and up-to-date. Do your Christmas shopping in Plymouth.

Announcement

I wish to announce to the public that I have transferred my entire stock and agency of Presto Razor Strops to the Beyer Pharmacy. From now on Mr. Beyer will carry a full line of these goods and will be pleased to show the merits of these strops, which have proved satisfactory in every way. One of these strops would make a fine and useful Xmas present for your friends. L. W. Wolfrom, Plymouth, Mich.

Local News

Miss Esther Strasen of Detroit, visited her parents here over Sunday.

C. G. Draper's jewelry store will be open every evening next week.

Orlo Brown of Detroit, was an over Sunday guest at Wm. Glympe's.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Levi Zeno, a daughter, Thursday, December 7th.

Miss Bernice Lane of East Plymouth, visited at B. F. Vealy's Wednesday.

Mrs. S. C. Hench has returned to her home at Benton Harbor after a two weeks' visit with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. John Newman and Mr. and Mrs. George Streng of Detroit, visited their father, Chas. Gentz, Sunday.

The Misses Ina, Mable and Jennie Wilson of Elm, and Miss Marion Carson of Newburg, were guests of Mrs. T. P. Sherman this week.

Jack McVey, who was called to New York City about six weeks ago on account of the serious illness of his mother, has returned home.

Lloyd Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Robinson, who is with a Canadian regiment, writes that he landed with his regiment in England, December 5th.

Mrs. N. W. Ayers and little son returned to their home in Syracuse, N. Y., Wednesday. Little Norval, Jr., has been staying with his grandparents since last July.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spicer and Mr. W. Murray are attending the State Grange at Lansing this week. Mrs. H. A. Spicer is staying with her grandchildren during their absence.

The Woman's Literary Club will meet at the home of Mrs. George Wilcox this (Friday) afternoon at 2:15 o'clock. This will be the last meeting before Xmas and all members are urged to attend.

Plymouth's new bowling alley in the Edison Theatre building opened for business yesterday. Three five pins have been installed, and there is plenty of room for all who desire to indulge in this popular pastime.

The Home Missionary Society of the Methodist church held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Clarence Saylor on Harvey street, last Wednesday afternoon. The ladies planned to send a Christmas box to the girl at the Bennett Home at Madison, Miss., whom they are sending through high school.

The Bury Woman's Bible class of the Presbyterian Sunday-school met with Mrs. J. R. Rauch on Penniman avenue, Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Ida Stevens was to have entertained them at her country home, but on account of the weather Mrs. Rauch invited them to her home. One new member was added to the class. This class is gaining at every meeting and they invite all the ladies not attending elsewhere to join with them.

CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.
First Church of Christ Scientist, corner Main and Dodge streets. Sunday morning service, 10:30 o'clock. Subject, "Is the Universe, including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" Sunday-school at 11:30 a. m. Wednesday evening, testimony service, 7:10. Reading room in rear of church open daily except Sunday, from 2 to 4 p. m. Everyone welcome. A lending library of Christian Science literature is maintained.

METHODIST.
Rev. Frank M. Field, Pastor.
"The Christmas Tree" is the subject of Rev. Field's first Christmas message, which will be given in the village hall Sunday evening at seven o'clock. It is "something different," a sermon story for both young and old. Morning sermon at 10:00. "An inventory of the Redeemed Life." A story for the boys and girls before the morning sermon. Sunday-school at 11:20. Epworth League at 6 o'clock.
On Christmas Sunday, a week hence, there will be reception of members into the church at the morning service after the special Christmas sermon, and the Christmas concert by the Sunday-school will be held in the evening.

PRESBYTERIAN.
Rev. B. F. Farber, Pastor.
Services will be held in this church on Sunday, December 17th, as follows: Morning worship 10 o'clock. The pastor preaches, theme, "An Un-ashamed Workman." Sunday-school at the close of the morning service. Evening service at 7 o'clock. The pastor preaches, theme, "Put Down My Name, Sir." Sunday-school Christmas gathering on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. Prayers meeting on Friday evening at 7 o'clock.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL MISSION.
Rev. E. Midworth, Minister.
Sunday, Dec. 17, (Sunday in Advent.) Divine service at 10:15 a. m. Morning prayer and sermon. Subject, "The Resurrection; with what body shall we rise?" Visitors cordially invited.

LUTHERAN.
Sunday-school at 9:00 standard time. Subject, "The Conclusion of the Lord's Prayer." The morning services will be in English. Text, I Corinthians, 4:1-5. Theme, "Why the Ministry should be esteemed." The ministry should be esteemed above all other gifts. Evening services will be in Swedish. Text, Genesis 43. There will be women services at the Lutheran church on Livonia next Sunday afternoon. The Lord's supper will be celebrated. All who wish to partake of the Lord's supper must announce this to the pastor before the services begin. There will be advent services at the Lutheran church at Plymouth this Friday evening.

BAPTIST.
Rev. Archibald L. Bell, Pastor.
Phone 64 W.
Morning worship, 10 o'clock. Theme of sermon, "The Call to Personal Work." 11:15 a. m., Sunday-school. 6 p. m., young people's meeting. 7 p. m., evening service. Subject of sermon, "What will ye do with Jesus?" Mid-week prayer meeting, Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

BIBLE STUDENTS.
Services as usual at the hall for Dec. 17, 2 p. m. Ten minutes talk by A. K. Dolph. Berean about 2:30. Topic, a continuation of the chapter "The Resurrection of Israel," as found in Scripture Studies, Vol. III, pages 243 to 300. Read this chapter. "The lost sheep of the house of Israel," were the ones our Lord at his first advent came to look after, so will it be at his second coming so far as earthly matters are concerned. Have we read recently Romans eleven? Also see Jer. 24:5-7; 30:18, 20, 21; 31:8-12. Wednesday and Friday evening meetings as usual.

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Plymouth Poultry and Pet Stock association in the room over Daggott & Wingard's store in north village, this, Friday evening. Election of officers and other important business. Every member is urged to be present.

At the time that the pay of the rural mail carriers was raised to \$1,200 in 1914, Postmaster General Burleson interpreted the law to mean that \$1,200 should be paid to the carriers on routes that he designated as standard, that is a route of a certain number of miles in length and on which a certain number of pieces of mail was handled. Later the ruling was brought to the attention of congress and it has been decided that the law as passed meant that every carrier should receive the full amount, and now it has been announced that they will receive the amounts that were held out.

A CARD—We desire to extend our thanks to the kind friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted us in our late bereavement, also for the beautiful flowers, the singing and Rev. Farber. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Clarence Zeidern Mrs. H. Leadbeater Bert Leadbeater

Give Sensible Gifts This Year

worth while gifts, the useful gifts are sure to be appreciated and remembered. Here in our stores you will find a splendid showing of sensible gifts of real value.

- Holiday Neckwear**
A splendid assortment of patterns and silks
25c, 35c, 50c, 65c 75c \$1.00
- Men's Mackinaw Coats—\$5.00 to \$10.00
Boys' Mackinaw Coats—\$4.50 to \$8.00
Sweater Coats—50c to \$8.00
Fur Caps—\$2.50 to \$6.00
Cloth Caps—50c to \$1.50
Hockey Caps and Toques—25c to \$1.00
Kid and Yarn Gloves—25c to \$1.50
Gauntlet and Driving Gloves—\$1.00 to \$2.00
Suspenders—25c and 50c
Handkerchiefs—5c to 50c
Initialed Handkerchief—25c
Mufflers—25c to \$2.50
Hosiery—10c to 50c
Fancy Shirts—50c to \$3.00
Flannel Shirts—\$1.00 to \$2.50
Umbrellas—75c to \$1.50
Suit Cases—90c to \$6.00
Traveling Bags—\$1.50 to \$5.00
Arm Bands—10c and 25c
Garter and Arm Band Sets—50c

- Shoes and Slippers**
Ladies' Felt Slippers—\$1.15 to \$1.50 (Gray, Tan, Maroon, Black)
Misses' and Children's Felt Slippers—50c to 90c
Ladies' Moccasins—\$1.75
Men's Moccasins—\$2.00
Men's Leather Slippers—\$1.00 to \$2.00
Shoes for Men—\$2.00 to \$5.00
Shoes for Ladies—\$1.50 to \$6.00
Shoes for Boys and Girls—\$1.50 to \$3.00
Shoes for Children—50c to \$1.75
Ladies' Gray Kid 3/4 inch Boots—\$6.00
Ladies' Colored Overgaiters—\$1.50 (White, Gray, Tan)
- Suits and Overcoats**
Staple and Pinch Back Models
Men's Overcoats—\$6.00 to \$20.00
Boys' Overcoats—\$3.50 to \$8.50
Men's and Young Men's Suits—\$10.00 to \$20.00
Boys' Suits—\$3.50 to \$7.50
Raincoats—\$3.00 to \$15.00
Men's Hats in all the new shapes—\$1.00 to \$3.00 (Black, Green, Blue, Gray, Brown)

Store Open Every Evening Next Week.

A. H. DIBBLE & SON

Make This An Electrical Christmas

And Buy One or More of the Following Gifty Gifts of Electric Nature:

- Electric Flash Lights
- Electric Percolaters
- " Radiators
- " Toasters
- " Boudoir Sets
- " Elgrilos
- " Portable Lamps
- " Flat Irons

House Fixtures Tree Trimming Outfits Colored
Home of Franklin Mazda Lamps

ARTHUR A. HOOD

Store Over Pinckney's Pharmacy Phone 126 F-2



FORD

THE UNIVERSAL CAR

Three strong reasons urge you to buy the Ford car: First, because of its record of satisfactory service to more than fifteen hundred thousand owners; Second, because of the reliability of the Company which makes it; Third, because of its large radiator and enclosed fan, streamline hood, crown fenders front and rear, black finish, nickel trimmings. It is most attractive in appearance. To these must be added its wonderful economy in operation and maintenance—about two cents a mile; likewise the fact that by reason of its simplicity in construction anyone can operate and care for it. Nine thousand Ford agents make Ford service as universal as the car. Touring Car \$360, Runabout \$345, Coupelet \$505, Town Car \$395, Sedan \$645—f. o. b. Detroit. On sale at

THE BONAFIDE GARAGE

Phone 27 F-2 Wm. J. Beyer, Prop. Plymouth, Mich.



TOYLAND

Santa Claus makes his Headquarters here.
It is the place all children should visit. Here you will find the most toys—the newest toys—the best toys for the least money. Look over our stock before you buy.

The latest achievements from Santa Claus' workshop are here and ready to welcome all the little folks and the big folks too. We have a splendid display of everything needful to adorn the Christmas tree or bulge the big stocking on Christmas morning. We want you to come in and see this wonderful display before making your purchases. We know we can please you with the goods and prices.

The Home of Dolls

Every little girl should see our wonderful display of Dolls. It's a splendid showing of bright-eyed, life-like little creatures all looking for a home on Christmas morning.

Big Dolls, little dolls, dolls with golden silken curls or rich black Tresses, dolls with deep blue, dark brown or gray eyes, some in pretty fancy dresses, others in plain dresses, dolls from foreign countries, all are here with open arms to greet you.

FOR THE GIRL

Dolls, Doll Cabs, Doll Houses, Doll Beds.

..Fancy China..

American and English Dinner Ware

A 100-piece dinner set and a large line of Fancy China offers many suggestions for a gift for wife or mother.

A Fine Line of Smoking Sets for the Men

Toys! Toys!

Animals from every nation and continent, brown bears, polar bears, elephants, etc.

Fire Engines, railroad trains, trolley cars, automobiles, and many other novel toys for boys of various ages.

Child's tea sets, banks, blocks, books.

FOR THE BOY

Erectors, Sleds, Wagons

Full Line of Christmas Tree Ornaments


A Fine Line of Christmas Candies, Groceries, Fruits and Vegetables

GAYDE BROTHERS

Telephone No. 53

The Home of Santa Claus

North Village, Plymouth



The most Practical of ALL Gift-Shops

Electrical Christmas gifts are both useful and ornamental—and their novelty adds to their appropriateness.

Here are a few suggestions from our varied assortment.

- CHAFING DISH
- CURLING TONGS
- HEATER
- GRILLS
- HEATERS
- HOT PADS
- IRONS
- ELECTRIC COOKER
- PERCOLATORS
- DISC STOVES
- TOASTER
- VACUUM CLEANERS

The Detroit Edison Co.,
PLYMOUTH, MICH.

QUALITY - MEATS

Tender, excellent flavored meats that are bound to please the most critical.

Always the BEST QUALITY at the MOST REASONABLE PRICE—that's our motto—and it's the main reason why you should buy your meats of us.

We want you for one of our SATISFIED CUSTOMERS—give us a trial order today.

Prompt delivery always assured.

WILLIAM GAYDE

Telephone 12R

North Village

THE Christmas Treat

By MARTHA HOLDEN

MRS. WOODHULL lived in a one-story brick house, whose warm sitting room in winter smelled of dry wood burning in an air-tight stove, and of apples ripening in the nearby pantry. It was a warm, fruity smell that no amount of onion or cabbage cooking could obliterate.

Mrs. Woodhull, called "old" by her neighbors, is only sixty-eight, and as trim and slender as a girl. It is sad experience, rather than years that wrenches youthfulness from the heart and quenches the thirst for life, so it was that Mrs. Woodhull spent most of her days quietly rocking and knitting. Her padded wooden rocker faced a daguerreotype that hung on the brightly papered wall of the cozy front room.

Christmas was a lonesome time for the shriveled little old lady who had, forty years ago, to give up the curled gentleman in the daguerreotype, who



happened to be her husband, to a woman much younger, who happened to need a sweetheart.

Christmas brings a train of memories, and Mrs. Woodhull lived over the old sad days as she cooked and knitted. She recalled the happy hours, too, which was worse. She talked to herself a good deal.

"If that Armster girl had only let him alone," she would well softly. "He was all right till she set her cap for him. I bet she's suffering somewhere."

"But I must read my Bible and try to forgive her. Lord help me to forgive her," and so she would pray.

The children of the neighborhood liked to go to see Mrs. Woodhull for she always opened the cookie jar or brought out a pan of apples.

Of all the children in the neighborhood who came to see her Mrs. Woodhull liked Lisbeth Baker best. Her mother being dead, Lisbeth lived with her gloomy, rheumatic grandmother at the end of the street.

She had only been here a year, having been handed over from her mother's mother, out West, to her father's mother at the end of the street. Lisbeth was fair and wistful, and, like Mrs. Woodhull she was very much alone.

Today, the day before Christmas, Lisbeth stood at the window. "My other grandma's coming tomorrow," she said. "My grandma, Hild. We just got to the house."

"You'll not come for Christmas," said Mrs. Woodhull. "You'll not come for us. What's I do, all that?"

"We'll all come over and see you Christmas afternoon," said Lisbeth, duncing home to tell Grandmother Baker.

Mrs. Woodhull became, in this way, the possessor of a Christmas plan. "I must have a little treat for them," she said. She got out her good white dishes, and set the big table in the sitting room. In the center she placed a blooming red geranium. "I'll make it into a Christmas tree," she joyously exclaimed, and she wrapped into three neat parcels a length of each of her knitted lace inscribing them with "Merry Christmas" and the name of each guest.

Next day she put the finishing touches to her table. She had a glass dish of candy, and one of nuts and raisins.

At three o'clock Lisbeth arrived with the new grandmother. Grandma Baker couldn't come on account of rheumatism. "The ladies sat talking, and Lisbeth hovered happily about. Then she wandered out to the middle room where stood the fine table, and she came dancing in to hug Mrs. Woodhull. "You just ought to see it, grandma," Lisbeth's eyes were shining.

"We'll go and visit it, as soon as the coffee is ready," explained Mrs.



Woodhull, happy in the child's pleasure.

She excused herself and went to the kitchen. Lisbeth danced round and round the gay table, and Grandma Hild was left alone in the front room.

Presently she followed Mrs. Woodhull to the kitchen and closed the door between them and Lisbeth. "Don't you know me?" she asked, softly. "Has no one told you? I was Lisette Armster. I have suffered more than you. He is dead. We both loved him. May we not be friends?"

Through the closed door Mrs. Woodhull could hear Lisbeth happily singing. She looked at Lisette Armster, shaken with sobs. She put friendly arms about her, and soothed her with kindly, broken words.

"Come, now," she said at last, leading the way to the table with the shining coffee pot. "Let's be merry. We must not spoil Lisbeth's Christmas treat."

A Conversation.
Well, Christmas time has come again. To find us all so poor. We've spent enough in buying to finance one world's tour. But let's console our empty jeans. With these few words of cheer. These Christmas joys and Christmas pains. Do come but once per year.

Lesson One.
"Do you know how to run an automobile?"
"Certainly," replied Mr. Chuggin.
"What's the first thing a man who has bought a machine ought to do?"
"Well, you ought to get at New Year's, and when you get to January, you ought to get at the other months, and at the end of the year, you ought to get at the end of the year."

DO YOUR SHOPPING HERE

Now for Christmas

This Year More Than Ever Before

The Useful Gift Store

What shall I give Father, Mother, Brother, Sister and Lover. We mention just a few things in our line.

Gloves

Woman's smart washable Kid Gloves. Perfect-fitting one-clasp gloves in white, ivory, pearl and tan. One-clasp mannish gloves in tan. Two-clasp kid gloves in black and colors. Cashmerettes and leatherette gloves. For warmth and comfort the famous Lamb Knit gloves and mittens for men, women, children and infants. Cape and kid gloves for men.

Bath Robes

Beautiful line of Bath Robe Blankets and Bath Robes.

Silk Hose

Silk hose for men and women in black and colors.

Handkerchiefs

Our line of handkerchiefs is second none: in beautiful boxes and seal packages. A pure linen handkerchief for 6c. Children's handkerchief in a neat box for 5c.

A fine line of Umbrellas, Coats and Shirt Waists for ladies.

Linens

Stamped and plain linens in Cambric pieces, Dresser Scarfs, Towels, Gowns, Pillow Slips, etc.

Blankets, Comfortables

Nothing like a pair of soft woolen blankets and soft downy comfortables these cold winter nights. We have them all you will find them extra quality. Bedspreads (extra size), sheets and pillow cases.

What Shall I Give Father, Husband, Brother

Look over our line of Neckwear, Suspenders, Hosiery, Arm Bands, porters in Boxes, Umbrellas, Bath Robes, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, etc., and your question will be answered.

Call and Look Over Our Many Lines Before You Buy

J. R. RAUCH & SONS



Useful Christmas Gifts

Bring Home a Box

Liggett's Chocolates for Christmas or Barr's Saturday Candy 50c Quality, 29c

Or some Special Xmas Candy at Popular Low Prices



Don't forget Baby. Get her the Violet Dulc Soap and Powder

Infants' Sets 25c to \$1.50

Fill the Christmas Stockings



STATIONERY

Symphony Lawn and Royal Vincennes

You save money when you buy Stationery of us. When impression will she gain if your Stationery lacks high quality? 40c (1 to 2 quire) to \$1.25 per box.



A Happy Xmas Thought

KODAK

The gift that adds to the good times at the moment; that indoors and out gives zest to the merry making and then preserves the happy picture story of all that goes to make the day a merry one.

We carry everything photographic

Will There be Real Music in Your Home at Xmas

There is no one so unmusical as to believe that a talking machine produces real music. At best, a talking machine, no matter how much it costs, no matter what artists make records for it, no matter what claims are made for it by its manufacturers, gives only a hollow imitation of the original music.

THE NEW EDISON



is not a talking machine but a real musical instrument.

Hear This New Invention

Come to our store and let us give you a concert of re-created music. Come any time. You will always be welcomed. There is no obligation to buy. We merely want you to hear what we consider the world's greatest musical instrument.

Beyer Pharmacy

The Rexall Store

Phone 211 2R. Block South P. M. Depot

The Gift That Came Back

By C. R. SWAIN



IT WAS early morning and the toy department of the big store was comparatively quiet, although Christmas was only a week away. In his den, surrounded by all that was brightest and best in Toyland, sat Santa Claus, benign, red-coated, white-furred, carressing thoughtfully his half-yard of snowy beard.

As yet no confiding infants had been pushed up to his chair by sympathetic parents, there to make artless pleas for "a dolly as big as a real baby" or "a train o' cars with a wind-up engine," so the good saint had leisure to indulge in certain holiday recollections and longings of his own. In other words, Santa Claus was homesick—not for the North Pole, but for snowy mountains and a little town nestled in their midst from which he had been an exile for many months.

Suddenly Santa pulled himself together with a start, as he realized that a small girl with a wistful look was standing before him.

"Well, my dear?" Santa Claus held



out his hand, and his kindly voice and confidential smile seemed to reassure the little girl, for she came nearer and nearer and smiled back timidly.

"You've come to tell me what you want? Where's your mamma, honey?"

"Any," she replied in a tone of gentle resignation, putting her little hand into his big one. "I came by myself, because it's Aunt Bertha's present I wanted to ask you about, and she mustn't hear. I asked her to wait a minute for me around the corner of that big pile of dolls."

"I see." Santa's rosy cheeks grew just a little redder, for Bertha was the name that had been in his thoughts a moment before, and involuntarily, for that name's sake, his manner held a special friendly interest for the plainly dressed, thin-faced little girl.

"Well, do you know what your auntie wants me to bring her?" Santa smiled behind his beard at the incongruous situation, but the child's look was gravely concerned.

"That's just the trouble, Mr. Kris! But I know there's something she wants very much. She was crying yesterday, and when I asked her how she could feel bad so near Christmas, she said that was just it, and when I asked her some more questions, she explained that she had a lovely Christmas present last year, and she lost it, and it was her own fault, and now she'd never have it again. But she wouldn't tell me what it was."

"Don't you remember what presents she had last year?"

"Oh, she didn't live with us then. She's my papa's sister, you know, and he wrote and asked her to come and take care of me when—when mamma died—"

The brown eyes blinked bravely. "Aunt Bertha lived way up in the mountains, with grandma and grandpa, so of course I don't know about her Christmas presents. I thought, maybe, as you're a sort of a fairy, you would know how to find out."

"And where does she live?" he asked, with his heart thumping under the scarlet coat in a manner ill befitting his age and dignity. The little girl gave an address which he recognized as a small street in a section of the city near his own modest lodging.

"Now, don't you worry any more about it," he charged her as he wrote it down. "I feel sure that we're going to find out what that Christmas present is and see that she gets it, too. And we hope it will make her all happy again. Don't we? Run along, dearie—I must talk to these other little folks now. It's our secret and I won't forget."

He nodded to her once more as she disappeared in the crowd, and his eyes followed her progress to the distant, dim corner. Just one glimpse he caught of the tall girl who stepped



from behind the showcase and smiled down into the happy little upturned face, but it was enough to make the glittering scene look misty for a moment.

Bertha here in the same store with him! The city to which he had drifted almost at random during the wretched year following their foolish quarrel was now her home—and he was going to see her again!

Only nine o'clock—ten hours at least before he could see her. Santa Claus sighed in a manner inconsistent with the jolly red suit and rosy cheeks. But almost immediately he smiled again, as he softly patting the left side of his broad chest. Hidden under the gay coat, in an inner pocket, lived the little ring, this famous because it had been worn by Bertha's mother for a week. One thing was certain, this little ring would have the sweetest Christmas in his power to be-

Danny's Christmas Eve

By E. W. GERRITSON



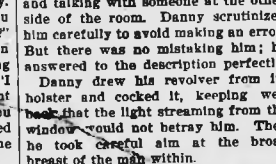
IN THE narrow confines of the pass the blizzard screamed with redoubled fury and whirled the snow cuttingly into Danny Donovan's face as he trudged along behind his sled, shouting now and then to urge his dogs to greater effort. He breathed easier when, clear of the pass, he began the descent to the valley below. Three thousand miles is a long distance to travel for the purpose of killing a man, but Danny did not consider it a hardship, for the man he was tracking so mercilessly had killed Danny's brother, Jim, up in the Forty Mile Diggings. True, according to the testimony of eye-witnesses, Jim Donovan had been the aggressor, and in killing him, Lebonne, the big Canadian, had acted only in self-defense. But Danny cared not for that. In his blind rage at the news that his brother had been stricken down, his one thought was for a fitting retaliation, in which a sense of right and justice figured not at all.

Lebonne had been acquitted at once and had departed two months before the news of the affair had reached Danny's ears, consequently the tracking of him had been no easy matter.

At a little distance from the cabin Danny halted his team and fed a frozen fish to each of his dogs to insure quiet on their part. Then he left them and approached the cabin alone. He crept stealthily to the uncurtained window and peered within. A man sat beside a table. He was laughing, and talking with someone at the other side of the room. Danny scrutinized him carefully to avoid making an error. But there was no mistaking him; he answered to the description perfectly.

Danny drew his revolver from its holster and cocked it, keeping well back that the light streaming from the window could not betray him. Then he took careful aim at the broad breast of the man within.

Impelled by curiosity, Danny stepped across the bar of light to the other side of the window. A slight mist met his gaze that drew forth a murmur of surprise. In a corner of the room stood a Christmas tree, glittering with crude, homemade ornaments of tinzel, and alight with tiny candles. Before it, in attitudes of awe-struck



admiration, three children stood and marvelled. They evidently had just been admitted from another room. Beaming on them with maternal pride, stood a woman with rosy cheeks and coal black hair, telling them, no doubt, of the wonderful things that would grow on that tree over night. It was Christmas eve; Danny had no thought of that before. And tomorrow would be the day of "Peace on earth, good will toward men." And here was he, Danny Donovan, with black murder in his heart. A feeling of deep shame came over him and he lowered the hammer of his revolver, and returned it to its holster.

"By the saints!" he muttered into his beard; "an' I kem near to puttin' an end to a bit of fun like that!"

And now the children were sent away to bed, and the task of hanging the presents on the magic tree began. Unmindful of the biting wind and snow, Danny watched, and slowly a feeling of loneliness crept over him, and with it longing hope that perhaps, some day, he, too, in his own home—

And why not? Over in the Fort McKenzie settlement was a fair Rose whose eyes had always been lowered before the look in his own.

With a last lingering look inside the cabin, Danny made his way to his team. There a new thought came to him and he paused to ponder it. Did he not owe these people something? He had come with a heart black as sin, and he was leaving with a heart light as air.

He fumbled beneath his pack, in the bottom of the sled, and drew out a deer-skin bag. It was dirty and greasy, but it was filled with yellow nuggets and dust. Danny had several more like it in the sled, for luck had been with him in the North. He made a loop in the string that fastened the bag, and plodded back to the door of the cabin. He felt cautiously about until he found the latch, then hung his offering upon it and went back to his team. With subdued shouts he roused the dogs, then turned his sled around and made for the pass, the blizzard at his back and a joyous lightness in his step.

Danny Stepped to the Other Side.

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BEFORE AND AFTER



Engaged Girl—I'm going to give John a cigar case and a diamond stickpin. What are you going to give Frank?

Married Friend—Oh, I'm giving him a useless cooker and a dime savings bank.

APPROPRIATE PRESENTS

For Christmas, our line, without question, offers many valuable suggestions.

Keen Kutter Tools and Cutlery

THE BEST IN THE WORLD

FOR FATHER OR SON

Shot Gun, Rifle, Air Gun, Fishing Rod, Razor or Pen Knife.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Ice Skates, Roller Skates, Sleds, Wagons, Sets Knives and Forks.

FOR MOTHER

Carving Sets, Electric Flat Irons, Choice Nickel-Plated Ware, Kitchen Ware and Utensils.

Don't Overlook Us, But Come In And Look Us Over.

THE CONNER HARDWARE CO.

AGENTS FOR GARLAND STOVES AND RANGES.

C. Heid's Greenhouse

Is the Place to Get Your

Cut Flowers, Christmas Green Pine, Holly Wreathes, Cemetery Wreathes



Leave your orders for Cut Flowers, early as possible and avoid any delay in getting them.

Telephone No. 137-F2 North Village

CHRISTMAS SHOPS

Presents for Men

Practical Gifts That Will Make Glad the Hearts of Men and Boys

Our display of rich, beautiful, dependable Holiday furnishings is larger and more varied than ever before, at popular prices.

We extend you a cordial invitation to look over our stock.

Books

Books make happy and lasting Christmas gifts. We have many new fall books.

- Books of Travel
- Books of Adventure
- Bibles
- Testaments
- Diaries
- Dictionaries
- Popular Copyrights, 75c and 60c.
- 25c Books for Girls
- 50c Books for Boys
- Children's Books.

Select early to get best choice.

Christmas Stationery

Makes a very acceptable gift. We have a fine line of Initial Stationery for 25c.

Fancy box paper, 25c to \$1.00.
Pound paper at 35c, 30c

- Christmas Boxes
- Decorated Crepe Paper
- Place Cards
- Wax Sets for Sealing Letters
- Wrapping Tissue
- Tinsel Cord
- Gummed Ribbon
- Stickers
- Cards
- Gummed Ribbon
- Napkins
- Jewel Cleaning Outfits

Games for Everybody

- Carrom
- Checkers
- Chess
- Dominoes
- Cribbage
- Diabolo
- Cards
- Flinch
- Mechanics and Boy Contractors for making
- Cement Building Blocks



Toilet Articles Always Make Acceptable Gifts

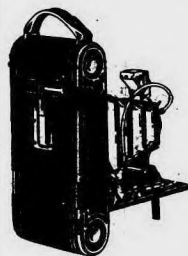
In our stock you will find the latest designs in dresser sets, manicure outfits, hand mirrors, combs, brushes, etc. Don't worry if you are unable to think of suitable presents for any member of the family or friends.

A glance over our line will suggest many appropriate gifts and the prices are satisfactory. Come in.

THE GIFT SHOP

Is Another Name for Draper's Jewelry Store

Our Christmas Display is selected from a splendid line of high-grade goods, well adapted to the wants and requirements of our patrons, and trust that it will be a real pleasure to you to select such gifts as you may want from our line.



KODAKS

Let your gift be an EASTMAN KODAK and the receiver can preserve the joys of Christmas in picture form throughout the year. We have a complete line from the 75c and \$1.25 to \$10.00 Brownie. The Eastman Vest Pocket so compact and light you will always want it with you. The sharp clear pictures it takes make fine enlargements. Let us show you the Eastman line of Kodaks and supplies. We will do your finishing and enlarging at reasonable prices.

FOR THE TABLE

Silverware, Cut Glass, China

There is a double delight in the gift of a set or a piece of Silver, Cut Glass or China for the table. First, because it is something whose beauty and use cannot be exhausted by years of service. Second, because it not only delights the recipient, but constantly identifies her table as a thing of charm and distinction to her guests.

How About a Diamond Ring

Yes! certainly we have them. Some good ones too. Genuine Perfect, Blue White, from \$25 to \$200 each. I have a few 1/2ct stones mounted in 14k rings, which I purchased before the advance in prices, which I will offer at \$10 each. The stone and ring at the present price of the stone. Call and have a look at them. We also have a fine line of Wedding Rings, Signet Rings and Set Rings, set with all kinds of birthday stones. Every ring guaranteed.



A Fine Line of Purses and Bill Folders



The Pen With The Crescent Filler
This Crescent-Filler under the thumb identifies the most perfect, convenient and satisfactory fountain pen made—
CONKLIN'S Self-Filling Pen
On a fountain pen it insures what "Sterling" does on silver. The Conklin is different from all other fountain pens—and better. Call and see.

Beautiful Clocks

A beautiful mantle clock that keeps accurate time is not only useful but ornamental. It makes a room more cheerful and homelike. We have them, ranging in price

FROM \$4.00 TO \$40.

All styles and finish. They make a handsome present. If you want to be long remembered by some dear friend, present him or her one of these ornate and serviceable clocks.

For a gift that will give greatest satisfaction to the recipient you should select some article of

JEWELRY

You will find in our Holiday stock many things that will be especially pleasing.

We have appropriate gifts to fit any price you wish to pay.

An examination of our stock will assist you in the preparation of your list of Christmas purchases.

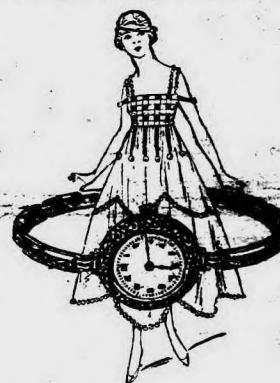


Watches

There is nothing more acceptable to a young lady or gentleman than a good timekeeper. Our showing comprise the best that we can find for the money—from the special Railroad Watch down to the \$1.25 Boys' Watch. Take my advice and buy your watches now, as there has been an advance in prices in some grades and others will follow the first of the year. We are still selling at the old prices. Call and see our line. Get our prices before purchasing elsewhere.

Wrist Watches

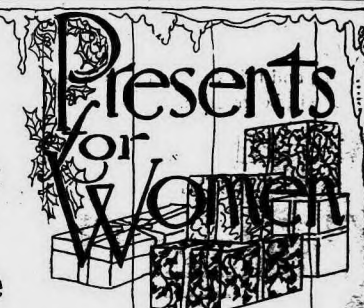
have come to stay. A more welcome gift cannot be imagined. The style which proves useful and convenient is bound to continue. Our line of Bracelet Watches are Gems and must be seen to be appreciated.



The prices are:

- Oxidized Steel..... \$4.50
- Gold-filled, 7 jeweled..... \$10.00
- Gold-filled and 15 jeweled..... \$15.00 up
- "Don't miss seeing them. 1850"

Buy Her Gift in This Store and Rest Assured That She'll Be Pleased



Our store is full of intimate personal gifts for women and misses, and doubly attractive because sensible and also useful.

Come in and investigate our goods for yourself.

A Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year to All Is Our Sincere Wish

C. G. DRAPER
Jeweler and Optometrist PLYMOUTH, MICH. Main Street



The Memory of the Giver Lives Long in the ...Heart of the Home...

This year more than ever before you should consider it a self imposed duty to give useful, practical gifts—and surely nothing is more practical, than a fine piece of furniture. It is a necessary luxury that pleases the eye, appeals to personal pride and affords life-long comfort. All of our Christmas things are here and ready for you and we can promise you substantial savings on whatever you may select here. Buy now and we will hold your purchases until you want them delivered.

Here Are Some of the Many Useful Gifts to Be Found at This Store for Your Choosing

Bedroom Suits
Parlor Suits
Chiffoniers
Dressing Tables
Buffets
China Cabinets
Dining Tables

Easy Rockers
Leather Rockers
Rugs of all kinds
Electric Table Lamps
Electric Floor Lamps
Writing Desks
Pedestals

Cedar Chests
Brass and Iron Beds
Telephone Tables
Davenport
Serving Tables
Carpet Sweepers
Vacuum Cleaners

Kitchen Cabinets
Smoking Sets
Sewing Baskets
Shopping Baskets
Waste Paper Baskets
China Cabinets
Skirt and Waist Boxes

MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS EARLY

PLYMOUTH AND
NORTHVILLE

SCHRADER BROTHERS

PLYMOUTH AND
NORTHVILLE

Furniture Dealers and Funeral Directors.

Ambulance on Call.

APPROPRIATE PRESENTS

This year we are better prepared than ever to cater to your Christmas wants in wearing apparel. Our Christmas stock is large and complete in all departments, and this year, with the high cost of living, something they really need to wear will be greatly appreciated.

We Have Something For Everybody
THE MEN, THE LADIES, THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

Christmas Cloaks, Furs, & Suits

Dress Skirts, Silk Waists
Silk Underskirts
Dress Goods
Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats
Men's Fur Overcoats and Gloves
Young Men's Pinch Back Suits and Overcoats
Bath Robes
Mufflers, Neckwear, Garters, Suspenders, Umbrellas in Christmas boxes.
Underwear, Shirts
Night Robes
Blankets, Quits
Table Linen and Napkins

Suit Cases, Trunks, Bags
Ladies' Hand Bags
Rugs, Draperies
Gloves and Mittens
Hats and Caps
Men's Fur Caps
Hosiery
Silks, Velvets, Ribbon
Handkerchiefs for everybody
Ladies' and Men's Jewelry
Knit Caps and Caps with Scarfs
Sweaters and Mackinaw Coats for everybody
Ladies', Men's and Children's Shoes and Holiday Slippers

And many other things too numerous to mention. Tie up to us for your Christmas shopping. Something for every member of the family.

Old Prices Prevail

We are displaying Christmas goods now. Goods laid away on small payments.

SPECIAL SATURDAY SALES

Plymouth,
Michigan.

E. L. RIGGS

Christmas Greetings

By William Marion Reedy

MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all. Let yourself surrender to the season. Don't be afraid or ashamed to be a bit soft toward everybody. Ohey that impulse to kindness. Throw off that inhibition on spontaneous friendliness. Note how it gets you more than you give. Reflect how splendid it would be to carry the feeling on beyond Christmas always. Don't let the horror and misery of the great war oppress you. In the conflict men are giving all they have and are for ideals. They are making and shaping a new world and a better one, building it with the supreme sacrifice of self. This world is what we make it. The love habit will beautify and sweeten it. Every little bit helps to make a mighty fire of love eventually to burn all hate away. Merry Christmas.

VENGEANCE ALL HE SOUGHT

When Crowd Learned Nature of Christmas Gift It Left Him to Commit His Crime.

It was Christmas eve, and a stout man with a large package beneath his arm hurried through the crowded thoroughfare, closely pursued by a small man of haggard aspect, with a thick stick in his hand.

On and on, relentlessly, the forlorn man dogged the other, and those who passed him heard an occasional word drop from his lips, indicative of despair or awful terror.

Finally, some of the crowd turned and followed the pair, determined not to miss the fun. The crowd grew larger, and finally a bold man went up to the person of haggard countenance.

"What's the matter?" The little man turned.

"Matter?" he asked. "The big man with a bundle? He is my neighbor's neighbor, and he has bought me a present which he has brought to his small son to play upon."

But the crowd, called to anger, surged about and left him to seek on his own salvation, and when he had been pursued the remainder of the midnight hour, he returned home, very much the worse.

EASILY MADE GIFTS

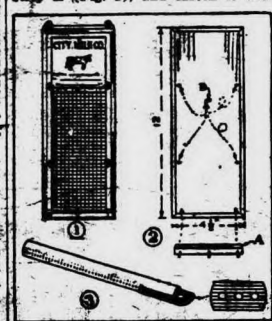
Articles That Boys Can Quickly Put Together.

Practical Christmas Presents Any Mother Will Appreciate, Coming From Son—Milk Card, Seam Ripper and Matchbox Holder.

By A. NEELY HALL.

THE articles shown in the illustrations will appeal most to my readers who prefer ideas for things quickly put together, perhaps, but even the boy who likes more complicated problems will enjoy making these practical articles for the home.

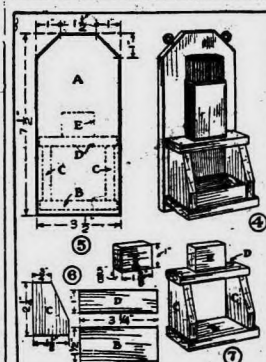
The milk-card board in Fig. 1 is provided with screweyes to hang upon hooks outside of the door at which the morning milk is delivered. Fig. 2 shows a pattern for the board, but because milk cards vary in size you had better measure the card for which the board is to be used, to see that it fits, before you begin work. The margin around the card should be about as in Fig. 1. Bevel the edges of the board as shown. Then prepare the strip A (Fig. 2), and fasten it with



brads along the lower edge of the board for the card to rest upon. Give the board two coats of shellac, varnish, or paint; then when it is dry, saw four holes into it at the points indicated (B, Fig. 2), to hold the edges of the card, and a pair of screweyes into the top edge, for hangers.

Mother would appreciate the seam ripper shown in Fig. 3. All that you need is a safety-razor blade, and a short, stout wooden round for a handle. Saw one end of the handle, slip the blade into the slot, and fasten with small nails driven into the handle and through a hole in the hole in the handle. Varnish the handle, and the little tool will be completed.

Fig. 4 shows a handy holder for safety matches. The cover of the safety-matched box sets down near the block B (Fig. 7), to hold the matches and keep the match-ends from falling into the match-ends on the block B when the match ends on the



above the cover. The safety-match box stands on shelf B, between ends C, (Fig. 7), for a burnt-match receptacle.

The match-box holder may be built up of cigar-box strips or wood one-quarter or three-eighths-inch thick. Fig. 5 shows a pattern for the back board A, and Fig. 6 shows the patterns for the other parts. Fasten block B to shelf D, in the center of its length, and about one-sixteenth of an inch inside of the back edge; then nail B and D to the ends of pieces C (Fig. 7), so their back edges are in a line with one another. Screw a pair of screweyes into the top of back board A, for hangers.

(Copyright, 1915, by A. Neely Hall.)

Try a liner in the Mail. It pays.

My Christmas Tree

On Christmas morning when I awake, and sleep-dust from my eyes I shake, see a sight that makes me start in my heart! A Christmas tree—oh, pretty sight—with candles, bells and balls afloat. With horns and dolls and sugar plums, and skates and trains and beating drums. And oh, it is a wonder-tree, with heaps of things for me to see! Rare gifts hang upon the side, which stashed fabrics cannot hide. A soldier-doll, a doll house, too, and strings of gold come to my view, and all I look I seem to hear sweet Christmas music soft and clear.

A Merry Christmas is yours to say, A merry, happy, holy day!

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy This is not only one of the best and most efficient medicines for coughs, colds and croup, but is also pleasant and safe to take, which is important when medicine must be given to children. Many mothers have given it their unqualified endorsement.—Adv.

COAL!

Don't Delay

The time to put in your winter supply of fuel is NOW. Don't wait until the real cold weather sets in, when there is a rush of orders on. Call up now and place your order now.

J. D. McLaren Co.

TELEPHONE 91

25 in box - 1.00

Have Your Barn Equipped With the James Barn Equipment.....

IT WILL INCREASE YOUR PROFITS!

- Sanitary Cow Stalls, Horse Stable Fixtures, Bull Pens, Calf Pens, Hog Pens, Milk Can Carriers, Manure Carriers, Food Trucks, Food Trucks, Watering Buckets, Manger Cleaners, Barn Scrapers

Give the James Service a chance to show you the way to bigger profits.

OPPOSITE PARK D. L. DEY TELEPHONE 336.

SATURDAY SPECIAL

8 Rolls 5c Toilet Paper for only 25c

Christmas Tree Candles

Three Sizes at 3c, 4c, 5c doz. or 10c per box

Have you tried our U J I and Chop Suey Teas. They are right from the gardens of Japan and are fine.

Our NE-RO-MA COFFEE has a flavor all its own. Try a pound and see.

HEARN & GORTON Free Delivery Main Street Phone 29

Local News

Shop early. Read the Christmas ads. Mrs. Arthur Sharrow spent last Friday and Saturday in Detroit. E. A. Chase visited his sister, Mrs. Fuller at Jackson last week. Mrs. Mary Lou of Waterford, visited Mrs. H. H. Passage Wednesday. Born, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. David Comiskey, Saturday, Dec. 9th. Mrs. George Shafer visited her son Claude and wife in Detroit last week. Miss Hazel Kingsley spent Tuesday at Salem, the guest of Miss Viola Carey. Mrs. S. E. Cranson of Northville, was the guest of Plymouth friends last Friday. Carl Helde has received a shipment of Xmas trees. Place your order for one early. Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kline left Friday for Atlanta, Ga., where they will spend the winter. Mrs. Chas. Olds spent the week-end with her daughter, Miss Hilda Smye, at Ypsilanti. Mrs. W. R. Lewis of Romulus, is spending the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Ernest Vealy. Mrs. Mae Tillapaugh of Ann Arbor, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Wilcox last Sunday. The Misses Kathaleen Safford and Marie Wilcox of Northville, were guests of Miss Inez Kingsley last Sunday. George Pierce of Seville, Ohio, a former resident here, was calling on old friends the latter part of last week. Buy your Xmas Victrola here. We give a special easy payment plan. Inquire of us. Pinconey's Pharmacy. Rev. and Mrs. B. ... entertained a company of friends at a six o'clock dinner at the ... on Wednesday evening. The greatest ... of the world are reproduced in the Victrola. Come in and hear the records. Pinconey's Pharmacy. Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Wirt Lee and son Stewart of Detroit, visited at the parental home last Sunday. Mrs. Will Taylor and little daughter have returned to their home in Detroit after a week's visit with her mother, Mrs. Mary Lyon. Miss Wilma Smith visited her sister, Miss Imogene Smith at Ypsilanti, the latter part of last week and attended the Normal concert. Little Bradburn of Belleville, has a position in the Hamilton factory and is spending the winter with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Vealy. The telephone girls gave a miscellaneous shower in honor of Mrs. Tracy Passage, a recent bride, at the home of Miss Mayme Chambers last night. Mrs. Passage was the recipient of many nice presents. Mrs. Hulda Everett, Mrs. Sarah Armstrong and Mrs. Thos. Patterson and granddaughter, Miss Irene Loomis, were entertained with a party of friends at the home of Mrs. Ida Stevens in Livonia last Friday. The Misses Eva Passage and Ethe England gave a miscellaneous shower at the former's home early in the last Friday evening in honor of Miss Louise Frederick nee Miss O. ... Fifteen young ladies ... and Mrs. Frederick was ... of several nice gifts. ... refreshments were served. A. J. E. Torre has ... position with the Daisy Manufacturing Co., and has joined the Plymouth Motor Carriage Co., Inc. where he has charge and management of the office of the company. During the seven years Mr. Torre has been with the Daisy Co., he has made many friends here, especially among the boys in the shops. Wm. Hillmer and daughter, Mrs. Chas. Olds, attended the Christmas concert given by the State Normal choir at the Normal Conservatory last week Thursday evening. The Misses Hilda Smye, Imogene Smith and Mary Bradley of this place are members of the choir. Last Sunday evening this choir sang in the Woodward Ave. Congregational church, Detroit. Eighteen neighbor friends of Mrs. Tracy Passage gave her a surprise miscellaneous shower at the home of her mother-in-law, Mrs. E. N. Passage on Main street last Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. George VanDeCar, in her usual genial manner, presented the gifts to the guest of honor, who was the recipient of several beautiful and useful presents. The afternoon was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Light refreshments were served. The second number on the Citizens' Entertainment Course was given at the opera house last Tuesday evening, when the Oxford Company appeared before a full house. The first part of the program was composed of vocal and instrumental selections. The second part was the presentation of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Mikado." Each member of the company took his part in a creditable manner and the audience was generous in their applause. Delbert Bulmon of Salem and Miss Gladys Northrup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Northrup of Phoenix, were married at the Baptist parsonage by Rev. A. L. Bell, Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock. The young couple were accompanied by Miss Amy Allen and Glen Northrup. The bride and groom left immediately after the ceremony for Grand Rapids on a short wedding trip. They will make their home on the groom's farm near Salem. A host of friends extend congratulations.

J. M. Young of Detroit, was a Plymouth visitor Tuesday. C. G. Draper's jewelry store will be open every evening next week. There will be no deliveries Christmas and New Years. H. B. Brown. Miss Marjorie Travis of Detroit, has been the guest of friends here this week. Mrs. Floyd Remington of Detroit, visited at H. H. Passage's the first of the week. Inquire about the Victrola that runs a half hour without winding: Pinconey's Pharmacy. Mrs. Olive Cole of Port Huron, has been the guest of her niece, Mrs. Karl Hillmer, this week. The only complete stock of Parisian Ivory in town, at reasonable prices. Pinconey's Pharmacy. Mrs. Sarah Bartlett returned home Tuesday from a four months stay with friends at Holton and Grand Rapids. George Vealy and wife of Wayne, were guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Vealy, last Sunday. H. H. Passage, who has been confined to his home for the past two months on account of illness, remains about the same. Mr. and Mrs. Karl Hillmer went to Port Huron last Saturday to attend the funeral of the latter's uncle, W. D. Brown. Richard Vealy and wife of Northville, are spending the week with the former's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Vealy. The party who took the pocketbook containing about \$4.00 out of the post-office last Friday, please return to Mrs. Herman Poole. L. D. Macham's new bungalow at the corner of Blunk avenue and Williams street is nearly completed and ready for occupancy. About twenty members of the local Grange went to Lansing Tuesday to attend the State Grange meeting being held there this week. Frank Whitbeck, who has been traveling in the West for the past few months, is spending his holiday vacation with his parents here. H. A. Spicer returned home Wednesday from Traverse City and other northern towns, where he had been visiting his sister and other relatives the past week. Blunk has sold his residence at the corner of Blunk avenue and Williams street to R. D. Castle. Mr. Blunk will build himself a fine new house on Blunk avenue in the spring. The McKain Ice and Fuel Co. are erecting a large ice house at Northville, which will enable them to supply their Plymouth patrons with the best quality of ice in any quantity they desire during the coming summer. Three weeks of revival meetings at Oxford conducted by Dr. M. P. Fikes of Detroit, have resulted in 368 conversions. Practically all business men were present to the ... engagement in October, 1917. John ... of this place was examined by ... last week and adjudged insane. Supervisor Lindberg took him to Eloise Saturday - Northville Record. Mr. Blunk is a former resident of Plymouth and has many friends here who will regret to hear of his misfortune. The Misses Eva Passage and Ethe England gave a miscellaneous shower at the former's home early in the last Friday evening in honor of Miss Louise Frederick nee Miss O. ... Fifteen young ladies ... and Mrs. Frederick was ... of several nice gifts. ... refreshments were served. A. J. E. Torre has ... position with the Daisy Manufacturing Co., and has joined the Plymouth Motor Carriage Co., Inc. where he has charge and management of the office of the company. During the seven years Mr. Torre has been with the Daisy Co., he has made many friends here, especially among the boys in the shops. Wm. Hillmer and daughter, Mrs. Chas. Olds, attended the Christmas concert given by the State Normal choir at the Normal Conservatory last week Thursday evening. The Misses Hilda Smye, Imogene Smith and Mary Bradley of this place are members of the choir. Last Sunday evening this choir sang in the Woodward Ave. Congregational church, Detroit. Eighteen neighbor friends of Mrs. Tracy Passage gave her a surprise miscellaneous shower at the home of her mother-in-law, Mrs. E. N. Passage on Main street last Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. George VanDeCar, in her usual genial manner, presented the gifts to the guest of honor, who was the recipient of several beautiful and useful presents. The afternoon was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Light refreshments were served. The second number on the Citizens' Entertainment Course was given at the opera house last Tuesday evening, when the Oxford Company appeared before a full house. The first part of the program was composed of vocal and instrumental selections. The second part was the presentation of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Mikado." Each member of the company took his part in a creditable manner and the audience was generous in their applause. Delbert Bulmon of Salem and Miss Gladys Northrup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Northrup of Phoenix, were married at the Baptist parsonage by Rev. A. L. Bell, Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock. The young couple were accompanied by Miss Amy Allen and Glen Northrup. The bride and groom left immediately after the ceremony for Grand Rapids on a short wedding trip. They will make their home on the groom's farm near Salem. A host of friends extend congratulations.

Nine Rooms and Bath

An excellent location on West Ann Arbor with large maple shade trees, half acre lot, well drained, several fruit trees, large barn, chicken house, etc. House has heavy oak frame and joints, hot water furnace, five rooms and bath on first floor, and four bed rooms on second floor. Price \$2,250. Terms, \$600 cash, balance \$15 per month.

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NOTICE!

Miss Clara F. Church of the University of Paris, will conduct classes here in the French language. New, simplified, efficient methods employed. Enrollment for classes to form the week of January first. Private lessons if preferred. For further particulars, phone Northville 32812.

Wants, For Sale, To Rent, etc.

- LOST - A gold watch fob with locket attached, containing two pictures. Reward if returned to O. H. Kincaid at Bonafide garage. FOR SALE - Collie puppies. Inquire of J. J. Nefey. Phone 259-F2. FOR SALE - Seven-passenger Studebaker, looks like new. Big bargain. Inquire Pinconey Pharmacy. 21f FOR SALE - Belgian Hares. Inquire of John Amrhein, Route 3. 11l FOR SALE - Art Garland base burner with oven. Bert Gunzolly. 11l FOR SALE - Reed baby carriage. In first-class condition. Phone 138. TO RENT - A dwelling house on Mill street. Phone 318-F4. 213 FOR SALE - Number of full blooded Barred Rock Cockerels. Inquire of F. L. Becker, phone 317-F31. FOR SALE - High grade Holstein yearling bull. Byron Wilkin, Route 4, phone 314-F13. 212 FOR RENT - House on Main street formerly occupied by Dr. Dodsley. Inquire of Chas. Greenlaw. FOR SALE - Farm of 80 acres on Plymouth road, four miles east of Plymouth. Inquire of George Oldenburg. 52-14 FOUND - Boot for automobile top. Owner may have same by calling at Griffith Garage. FOR SALE - A modern home on Penniman avenue. Inquire of D. M. Berdan. 50f

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SPECIAL ICE CREAM FOR THE HOLIDAY TRADE BRICK ICE CREAM - Two Flavors in individual pieces. Any amount you want.

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Grocery Dept. We have a large stock of Fine Candy on sale at cheap prices. Just received a new stock of Citron, Lemon Peel, Raisins, Currants, Mince Meat, Etc. A fine stock of Oranges, Grape Fruit, Bananas, Grapes, Cranberries, Apples, Celery, Vegetables in season. We carry a fine line of Canned Goods, Nuts of all kinds, Teas, Coffee, Chocolates, Cocoa, etc. Pickles in bottles and bulk. Open Kettle Molasses, 60c per gallon.

Christmas Cards We have a large stock of Christmas cards, booklets, Christmas letters, tags, etc., bells and wreaths. Books We have a fine line of books for boys, girls and children from 5c to 50c. Chinaware Come in and see our fine line of Water Sets, China and Glass Dishes of all kinds and prices.

Just received a new assortment of Souvenir Dishes at 10 cents each PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN JOHN L. GALE Store Open Evenings During Christmas Week.

W. E. SMYTH Watchmaker and Optician Watch inspector for the Michigan Central R. R. for 17 years. PLYMOUTH, - MICHIGAN

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Advertise Your Auction In The Mail. It Has a Large Circulation and Brings Results.

THE LONE STAR RANGER

This is a story about the Texas Plains People

By ZANE GREY

SYNOPSIS.

The time of the story: about 1875. The place: The Texas cow country. The chief character: Buckley Duane, a young man who has inherited a lot to kill, which he suppresses in self-defense he shoots dead a drunken bully and is forced to flee to the wild country where he joins Bland's outlaw band. Eucher, an amiable rascal, tells him about a young girl who had been abducted and sold to Bland for a bad fate. They determine to rescue the girl and restore her to civilization. Eucher is killed. Buck kills Bland and dangerously wounded by Mrs. Bland, but escapes with Jennie. Jennie is abducted. Buck never sees her again, but kills her abductor. Duane barely escapes death at the hands of lynchers for a crime he never committed. He goes to see Captain MacNelly of the Rangers.

CHAPTER XIV—Continued.

Duane averted his face a moment, hesitated with the swelling left hand, and then said: "It's worth what I went through to-day to hear that." "I can imagine how you feel about it. When I was in the war—but let's get down to the business of this meeting."

He pulled his chair close to Duane's. "You've had more than one year in the last two years that I wanted to see you, why didn't you hunt me up?" "I suppose you imagined me one of those gun-fighters who couldn't take a dare and expected me to ride up to your camp and be arrested."

"That was natural, I suppose," went on MacNelly. "You didn't know me, otherwise you would have come. I've been a long time getting to you. But the nature of my job, as far as you're concerned, made me cautious. Duane, you're aware of the hard name you bear all over the Southwest?"

"Once in a while I'm jarred into realizing," replied Duane. "It's the hardest, barring Murrell and Cheseldine, on the Texas border. But there's this difference. Murrell in his day was known to deserve his infamous name. Cheseldine, in his day also. But I've found hundreds of men in southwest Texas whose rangers friends, who swear you never committed a crime. The farther south I get the clearer this becomes. What I want to know is the truth. Have you ever done anything criminal? Tell me the truth, Duane. It won't make any difference in my plan. And when I say crime I mean what I would call crime, or any reasonable Texas."

"That way my hands are clean," replied Duane. "You never held up a man, robbed a store for grub, stole a horse when you needed him bad—never anything like that?"

"Somehow I always kept out of that, just when pressed the hardest." "Duane, I'm glad," MacNelly exclaimed, gripping Duane's hand. "Glad for your mother's sake! But as a Texas outlaw accountable to the state. You're perfectly aware that under existing circumstances, if you fell into the hands of the law, you'd probably hang, at least go to jail for a long term."

"That's what kept me on the dodge all these years," replied Duane. "Certainly," MacNelly's eyes narrowed and glittered. The muscles along his brown cheeks set hard and tense. He leaned close to Duane, laid shrewd, pressing fingers upon Duane's knee. "Listen to this," he whispered, hoarsely. "If I place a pardon in your hand—make you a free, honest citizen once more, clear your name of infamy, make your mother, your sister proud of you—will you swear yourself to a service, any service I demand of you?"

Duane sat stock still, stunned. Slowly, more persuasively, with show of earnest agitation, Captain MacNelly reiterated his startling query.

"So that's it!" burst out Duane, a light breaking in upon his bewilderment. "You want me for ranger service?" "Sure. That's it," replied the Captain dryly. "Now to hear what that service is to be. I've been a busy man since I took this job, and as you may have heard, I've done a few things. I don't mind telling you that political influence put me in here and that up Austin way there's a good deal of friction in the Department of State in regard to whether or not the ranger service is any good—whether it should be discontinued or not. I'm on the party who's defending the ranger service. I contend that it's made Texas habitable. Well, it's been up to me to produce results. So far I have been successful. My great ambition is to break up the outlaw gangs along the river. I have never ventured in there yet because I've been waiting to get the lieutenant I needed. You, of course, are the man I had in mind. It's my idea to start way up the Rio Grande and begin with Cheseldine. He's the strongest, the worst outlaw of the times. He's more than rustler. He's Cheseldine and his gang who are operating on the banks. No one seems to have seen him—to know what he looks like."

"I assume, of course, that you are a stranger to the country he dominates. It's five hundred miles west of your ground. There's a little town over there called Fairdale. It's the nest of a rustler gang. They rustle and murder at will. Nobody knows who the leader is. I want you to find out. Well, whatever way you decide is best you will proceed to act upon. You are your own boss. You must find some way to let me know when I and my rangers are needed. The plan is to break up Cheseldine's gang. It's the toughest job on the border. We want to kill or jail this choice selection of robbers and break up the rest of the gang. To find them, to get among them somehow, to learn their movements, to lay your trap for us rangers to spring—that, Duane, is your service to me, and God knows it's a great one!"

"I have accepted it," replied Duane. "Your work will be secret. You are now a ranger in my service. But no one except the few I choose to tell will know of it until we pull off the job. You will simply be Buck Duane till it suits our purpose to acquaint Texas with the fact that you're a ranger. You'll see there's no date on that paper. No one will ever know just when you entered the service. Perhaps we can make it appear that all or most of your outlawry has really been good service to the state. At that, I'll believe it'll turn out so."

MacNelly paused a moment in his rapid talk, checked his chin, drew his brows together in a dark frown, and went on: "No man on the border knows so well as you the deadly nature of this service. It's a long, long chance against your ever coming back."

"That's not the point," said Duane. "But in case I get killed out there—what?" "Leave that to me," interrupted Captain MacNelly. "If you lose your life out there I'll see your name cleared—the service you render known. You can rest assured of that."

"I am satisfied," replied Duane. "That's so much more than I've dared to hope." "Well, it's settled, then. I'll give you money for expenses. You'll start as soon as you like—the sooner the better. I hope to think of other suggestions especially about communicating with me."

Long after the lights were out and the low hum of voices had ceased round the camp-fire Duane lay awake, eyes staring into the blackness, marveling over the strange events of the day. And as he lay there, with the approach of sleep finally dimming the vividness of his thoughts, so full of mystery, shadowy faces floated in the blackness around him, haunting him as he had never been haunted.

It was broad daylight when he awakened. MacNelly was calling him to breakfast. The rangers were eating in a circle round a tarpaulin spread upon the ground. "Follows," said MacNelly, "make hands with Buck Duane. He's on secret rigger service. The service he'll likely make you all busy soon. Mind you, however, about this. The rustler gang Duane was with a

rumoring greeting, the warmth of which he soon divined was divided between pride of his acquisition to their ranks and eagerness to meet that violent service of which their captain hinted. They were jolly, wild fellows, with just enough gravity in their welcome to show Duane their respect and appreciation, while not forgetting his lone-wolf record. When he had seated himself in that circle, now one of them, a feeling subtle and uplifting pervaded him.

After the meal Captain MacNelly drew Duane aside. "Here's the money. Make it go as far as you can. Write me care of the adjutant at Austin. I don't have to warn you to be careful where you go. Ride a hundred, two hundred miles, if necessary, or go clear to El Paso."

MacNelly stopped with an air of finality, and then Duane slowly rose. "I'll start at once," he said, extending his hand to the Captain. "I wish—"

"Hell, man! Don't thank me!" replied MacNelly, crushing the proffered hand. "I've sent a lot of good men to their deaths, and maybe you've another. But, as I've said, you've a chance in a thousand. And by Heaven! I'd hate to be Cheseldine or any other man you were trailing. No, not goodbye—adieu, Duane! May we meet again!"

CHAPTER XV.

West of the Pecos River Texas extended a vast wild region, barren to the north where the Llano Estacado spread its shifting sands, fertile in the south along the Rio Grande. A railroad marked an undeviating course across five hundred miles of this country, and the only villages and towns lay on or near this line of steel. Unsettled as was this western Texas, and despite the acknowledged dominance of the outlaw bands, the pioneers pushed steadily into it.

The Rio Grande flowed almost due south along the western boundary for a thousand miles, and then, weary of its course, turned abruptly north, to make what was called the Big Bend. The railroad, running west, cut across this bend, and all that country bounded on the north by the railroad and on the south by the river was as wild as the Staked Plains. Across the face of this Big Bend, as if to isolate it, stretched the Ord mountain range. In the valleys of the foothills and out across the plains were ranches, and farther north, villages, and the towns of Alpine and Marfa.

Like other parts of the great Lone Star State, this section of Texas was a world in itself—a world where the riches of the ranches were ever enriching the outlaw. The village closest to the gateway of this outlaw-infested region was a little place called Ord, named after the dark peak that loomed some miles to the south.

Toward the close of a day in September a stranger rode by in a community where all men were remarkable for one reason or another he excited interest. His horse, perhaps, received the first and most judicious attention—horses and men being apparently more important than men. This particular horse at first glance seemed odd. But he was a giant, black as coal, huge in every way. A bystander remarked that he had a grand head. His face was solid black, except in the middle of his forehead, where there was a round spot of white.

The rider, like his horse, was a giant in stature, but rangler, not so heavily built. Otherwise the only striking thing about him was his sonder face with its piercing eyes, and hair white over the temples. He packed two guns, both low down—but that was too common a thing to attract notice in the Big Bend. A close observer, however, would have noted a singular fact—this rider's right hand was more bronzed, more weather-beaten than his left. He never wore a glove on that right hand!

He had dismounted before a ramshackle structure that bore upon its wide, high-boarded front the sign, "Hotel." The hotel had a wide platform in front, and this did duty as porch and sidewalk. Upon it, and leaning against a hitching-rail, were men of varying ages, most of them slovenly in dress and stouped sombrero. Some were hooded, belted, and spurred. No man there wore a coat, but all wore vests. The guns in that group would have outnumbered the men.

It was a crowd seemingly too lax to be curious. These men were idlers; what else, perhaps, was easy to conjecture. Certainly to this arriving stranger, who flashed a keen eye over them, they wore an atmosphere never associated with work. Presently a tall man, with a drooping, sandy mustache, leisurely detached himself from the crowd. "Howdy, stranger," he said. "The stranger had bent over to loosen the cinches; he straightened up and nodded. Then: 'I'm thirsty' That brought a broad smile to faces. It was characteristic greeting. One and all trooped after the stranger into the hotel. It was a dark, ill-smelling barn of a place, with a bar as high as a short man's head. A bartender with a scarred face was serving drinks.

Something went with that name. The stranger did not appear to be impressed. "My name might be Blazes, but it ain't," he replied. "What do you call this burg?" "Stranger, this burg me-tropoles bears the handle Ord. Is that new to you?" He leaned back against the bar, and now his little yellow eyes, clear as crystal, flawless as a hawk's, fixed on the stranger. Other men crowded close, forming a circle, curious, ready to be friendly or otherwise, according to how the tall interrogator marked the newcomer.

"Sure, Ord's a little strange to me. Off the railroad some, ain't it? Funny trails hereshabouts." "How far was you goin'?" "I reckon I was goin' as far as I could," replied the stranger, with a laud laugh.

His reply had subtle reaction on that listening circle. Some of the men exchanged glances. Fletcher stroked his drooping mustache, seemed thoughtful, but lost something of that piercing scrutiny. "Wat, Ord's the jumple-off place," he said, presently. "Sure you've heard of the Big Bend country?" "I sure have, an' was makin' tracks for it," replied the stranger.

Fletcher turned toward a man in the outer edge of the group. "Knell, come in heah." This individual elbowed his way in and was seen to be scarcely more than a boy, almost pale beside those bronzed men, with a long, expressionless face, thin and sharp. "Knell, this heah's—" Fletcher wheeled to the stranger. "What'd you call yourself?" "I'd hate to mention what I've been callin' myself lately."

This snally fetched another laugh. The stranger appeared cool, careless, indifferent. Knell stepped up, and it was easy to see, from the way Fletcher relinquished his part in the situation, that a man greater than he had appeared upon the scene. "Any business here?" he queried, curtly. When he spoke his expressionless face was in strange contrast with the ring, the quality, the cruelty of his voice. This voice betrayed an absence of humor, of friendliness, of heart.

"None," replied the stranger. "Know anybody hereshabouts?" "Nary one." "Jest ridin' through?" "Yep." "Sloppin' yer back country, eh?" There came a pause. The stranger appeared to grow a little resentful and drew himself up disdainfully. "Wal, considerin' you-all seem so damn friendly an' uncourous down here in this Big Bend country, I don't mind sayin' you—I am in on the dodge," he replied, with deliberate sarcasm.

"From west of Ord—out El Paso?" "A-h-h-h!" The stranger's words cut as a knife, stilled the room. "You're lookin' down the river. There's what they say down there—'on the dodge'—a stranger, you're a liar!" "A-h-h-h!" The crowd split, leaving the stranger in the center. The stranger suddenly became bronzed. His attention seemed familiar to him. His eyes held a singular piercing light that danced like a compass-needle.

"Sure I lied," he said, "so I ain't takin' offense at the way you called me. I'm lookin' to make friends, not enemies. You don't strike me as one of them four-fishes, achin' to kill somebody. But if you are—go ahead an' open the ball. . . . You see, I never throw a gun on them fellers till they go fer theirs."

Knell coolly eyed his antagonist, his strange face not changing in the least. Yet somehow it was evident in his look that here was metal which rang differently from what he had expected. Invited to start a fight or withdraw, as he chose, Knell proved himself big in the manner characteristic of only the genuine gunman. "Stranger, I pass," he said, and turning to the bar, he ordered liquor. The tension relaxed, the silence broke, the men filled up the gap; the incident seemed closed. Jim Fletcher attached himself to the stranger, and now both respect and friendliness tempered his asperity. "Wal, fer want of a better handle I'll call you Dodge," he said. "Dodge's as good as any. . . . Gents, line up again—an' if you can't be friendly, be careful!"

Such was Buck Duane's debut in the little outlaw hamlet of Ord. Duane had been three months out of the Neeces country. At El Paso he bought the finest horse he could find, and armed and otherwise outfitted to suit him, he had taken to unknown trails. He passed on leisurely, because he wanted to learn the way of the country, the work, habit, gossip, pleasures, and fears of the people with whom he came in contact. When he heard Fletcher's name and faced Knell he knew he had reached the place he sought.

Duane made himself agreeable, yet not too much so, to Fletcher and several other men disposed to talk and drink, and eat; and then, after having a care for his horse, he rode out of town a couple of miles to a grove he had marked, and there, well hidden he prepared to spend the night. This proceeding served a double purpose—he was safer, and the habit would look well in the eyes of outlaws, who would be more inclined to aid him in the least-welcome fugitive.

Long since Duane had fought out a battle with himself, won a hard-earned victory. He had assumed a task impossible for any man save one like him, he had felt the meaning of it grow strangely and wonderfully, and through that furnished up consciousness of how passionately he now clung to this thing which would blot out his former infamy. He never forgot that he was free. Strangely, too, along with this feeling of new manhood there gathered the force of imperious desire to run these chief outlaws to their dooms. He never called them outlaws—but rustlers, thieves, robbers, murderers, criminals. He sensed the growth of a relentless driving passion, and sometimes he feared that, more than the newly acquired zeal and pride in this ranger service, it was the old, terrible inherited killing instinct lifting its hydra-head in new guise.

This night a wonderful afterglow lingered long in the west, and against the golden-red of clear sky the bold, black head of Mount Ord reared itself aloft, beautiful but aloof, sinister yet calling. Small wonder that Duane gazed in fascination upon the peak! Sooner he deep in its corrugated sides or lost in a rugged canyon was hidden the secret stronghold of the master outlaw Cheseldine. All down along the ride from El Paso Duane had heard of Cheseldine, of his band, his fearful deeds, his cunning, his widely separate raids of his fitting here and there like a Jack-o'-lantern; but never a word of his den, never a word of his appearance.

Next morning Duane did not return to Ord. He struck out to the north, riding down a rough, slow-descending road that appeared to have been used occasionally for cattle-driving. As he had ridden in from the west, this northern direction led him into totally unfamiliar country. While he passed on, however, he exercised such keen observation that in the future he would know whatever might be of service to him if he chanced that way again.

After a couple of hours' riding he entered a town which he soon discovered to be Bradford. It was the largest town he had visited since Marfa, and he calculated must have a thousand or fifteen hundred inhabitants, not including Mexicans. He decided this would be a good place for him to hold up for a while, being the nearest town to Ord, only forty miles away. So he hitched his horse in front of a store and leisurely set about studying Bradford.

It was after dark, however, that Duane verified his suspicions concerning Bradford. The town was awake after dark, and there was one long row of saloons, dance-halls, gambling-resorts in full blast. Duane visited them all, and was surprised to see wildness and license equal to that of the old river camp of Bland in its palmiest days. Here it was forced upon him that the farther west one traveled along the river the sparser the respectable settlements, the more numerous the hard characters, and in consequence the greater the element of lawlessness. Duane returned to his lodging-house with the conviction that MacNelly's task of cleaning up the Big Bend country was a stupendous one. Yet, he reflected, a company of intrepid and quick-shooting rangers could have soon cleaned up this Bradford.

The innkeeper had one other guest that night, a long-coated and wide-sombreroed Texan who reminded Duane of his grandfather. This man had penetrating eyes, a courtly manner, and an unmistakable leaning toward companionship and minglings. The gentleman introduced himself as Colonel Webb, of Marfa, and took it as a matter of course that Duane made no comment about himself.

Duane, as always, was a good listener. Colonel Webb told, among other things, that he had come out in the Big Bend to look over the affairs of a deceased brother who had been a rancher and a sheriff of one of the towns, Fairdale by name. "Found no affairs, no ranch, not even his grave," said Colonel Webb. "And I tell you, sir, it beats any tougher than this Fairdale, don't you want to expiate my sins there?" "Fairdale. . . . I imagine sheriffs have a hard row to hoe out here," replied Duane, trying not to appear serious. "The Colonel sweet tooth."

"What this frontier needs, sir, is about six companies of Texas Rangers. A fine body of men, sir, and the salvation of Texas."

"Governor Stone doesn't entertain that opinion," said Duane. Here Colonel Webb exploded. Manifestly the governor was not his choice for a chief executive of the great state. He talked politics for a while, and of the vast territory west of the Pecos that seemed never to get a benefit from Austin. Duane exerted himself to be agreeable and interesting; and he saw presently that here was an opportunity to make a valuable acquaintance, if not a friend.

"I'm a stranger in these parts," said Duane, finally. "What is this outlaw situation you speak of?" "It's damnable, sir, and unbelievable. Not rustling any more, but just wholesale herd-stealing, in which some big cattlemen, supposed to be honest, are equally guilty with the outlaws. On this border, you know, the rustler has always been able to steal cattle in any numbers. But to get rid of big bunches—that's the hard job. The gang operating between here and Valentine evidently have not this trouble. Nobody knows where the stolen stock goes. But I'm not alone in my opinion that most of it goes to several big stockmen. They ship to San Antonio, Austin, New Orleans, also to El Paso."

"Wholesale business, eh?" remarked Duane. "Who are these—er—big stock-buyers?" Colonel Webb seemed a little startled at the abrupt query. He bent his penetrating gaze upon Duane and thoughtfully stroked his pointed beard. "Names, of course, I'll not mention. Opinions are one thing, direct accusation another. This is not a healthy country for the informer."

When it came to the outlaws themselves Colonel Webb was disposed to talk freely. The great name along the river was Cheseldine, but it seemed to be a name detached from an individual. No person of veracity known to Colonel Webb had ever seen Cheseldine. Strange to say of an outlaw leader, as there was no one who could identify him, so there was no one who could prove he had actually killed a man.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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Here Colonel Webb Exploded.



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