



### The Land of Christmas

Once upon a time there was a poor little lame boy who had no toys. Tom knew this was true, for one day, at the little boy's house, Tom asked him to bring out his toys, and the little boy answered, "I haven't any toys."

Tom could hardly believe that there was anybody in the world without even one toy, so he went home and told Little Sister about it, and together they planned to bring the little boy a toy from the beautiful Land of Christmas.

Mother was willing for them to go, so hand in hand, on the day before Christmas went Tom and Little Sister. They did not know the way, so they asked a feathery snowflake which came and lighted saucily on the end of Tom's finger;

"Pretty snowflake while you linger On the tip of my warm finger, Tell me, where's the Land of Christmas?"

And it answered, oh, so softly; "Little boy and girl, politely Ask you tree that shines so brightly If you seek the Land of Christmas." The children continued their journey, and at last they arrived at the great tree, all shining brightly across the white snow. When the children asked the way to Christmas Land, thus the shining tree responded:

"Step into my trunk so hollow, Take the Magic Wand, and follow The Shining Path to Christmas Land."

So they stepped into the hollow trunk, where they found magic wands. Tom chose a silver wand with a star at the end of it, and Little Sister a golden one, with a white dove at its end.

When the children stepped out of the tree, they were surprised to find themselves grow very small indeed. And this they noticed—if the magic wands were held aloft, the children remained small, but if the wands were lowered, the children grew large again.

The children knew that in the Land of Magic they must obey all the great commands, so they started down the Shining Path, holding their magic wands high in the air. They journeyed on and on and at last they reached a great wall, and when they looked up they saw beautiful lights which spelled the words "Christmas Land" over the tiny gateway!

Tom reached up and pulled the bell-rope, and out upon the frosty air rang the sweetest chimes they ever heard. Soon the tiny gates opened and Tom and Little Sister were glad that they were small enough to slip through! And oh, what a beautiful land as it was! Every tree was a Christmas tree all laden with Christmas gifts. The music boxes were playing, the horns were tooting, the dolls were saying "Mamma" and "Papa," the winks-in-the-box were jumping out and then hiding again, and everything seemed to be saying, "Take me! Take me!" It was hard for the children to select just one toy for their little friend.

They skipped about for a long time, examining the toys. Finally, on the top branch of one of the tallest trees, there hung a box tied with a big red bow. On one side were printed the words "Magic Lantern."

"The very thing!" said Tom; but how could he bring down the box from the top of a tree so tall—for, as you remember, the children were very small. Just then a little breeze whispered in Tom's ear:

"Little fairies, tell me why I see you sit so still and sigh; I will get the box for you!"

Then the little breeze blew into a strong breeze and flew into the top of the tree. There he tugged and pulled and puffed, until at last the string had to go and down fell the box, red bow and all, into a soft bank of snow. The children were over-

joyed when the box containing the magic lantern was safe in their hands! Then they went back along the Shining Path, and very soon reached the great Shining Tree. Into its hollow trunk they went, and left the magic wands, and as soon as they stepped out into the daylight again, they found themselves as large as ever. They ran on and on, until they finally reached the little boy's window. The setting sun was painting everything red and orange and gold, and when they peeped in, there lay the poor boy on his little cot, and his empty stocking hung from the back of a chair.

The chair stood near the window, and on the note that was pinned to the stocking Tom read the words: "Dear Santa Claus; If you should happen to have just one toy to spare for me, won't you please leave me a magic lantern?"

Tom softly opened the window and placed the box with its precious toy on the chair near the empty stocking. Then the children slipped away to their home, where they told Mother their secret.

And all would have gone well, if the lantern had not been a magic lantern, for in some way it had taken a picture of Tom, and another of Little Sister. So the next morning the happy little boy sat in his chair opposite the screen which his poor, hard-working mother had put up. Together they watched eagerly for the first picture.

And would you believe it, that tell-tale machine showed, first, Tom's smiling face, and then Little Sister's dimpled one!

### Christmas.

How tenderly the Peace-song falls  
On listening ears to-night—  
The song that angels sang of old  
In clouds of heavenly light.  
O hear the voice, ye sons of men,  
That speaks from out the glory,  
And tells the strange and mystic birth—  
That blessed, old-time story.  
'Tis peace and love to all mankind  
The angel choir is singing.

'Tis peace and love once more to-night  
The Christmas bells are ringing.  
With humble shepherds we would haste  
The Bethlehem Babe to see,  
And hail with thankful songs again  
His glad nativity.

### University Women's Residences.

Women students at the University of Toronto have organized to raise funds for a residence building. For many years the pressing necessity for women's residences at the Provincial University has been apparent. Increasing numbers of young women from the rural districts, from the villages towns, and cities of Ontario are coming to this great institution in quest of an education and they must be suitably and comfortably housed near the University. Of the several buildings which the University of Toronto so badly needs this one is the most urgent and it is to be hoped that the young women will be successful in their endeavor to arouse interest and to secure funds for the accomplishment of their purpose.

Col. H. A. Mullins, the well-known cattleman, leaves Winnipeg for England on January 12, where he will spend the winter campaigning against the cattle embargo.

### A Carol

To Bethlehem beneath the Star  
The Wise men from the outlands far  
Came clad in silk and vair;  
Christ Jesus in His Mother's hold  
Stared at the jewels and the gold  
The three made wondrous fair.

Then first the swarthy Baltasar,  
Whose glance was like a scimitar,  
Stood forth before the rest;  
Although he bore the fragrant myrrh,  
Christ Jesus turned from him to her  
And hid within her breast.

Behind him was the youth Gaspar  
Who held a shining crystal jar,  
His face was merry and red;  
Although he bore the frankincense  
And was of debonaire presence  
Christ Jesus turned His head.

The third was haughty Melchior,  
Dark with the spoil of mart and war,  
He bore the crusted gold;  
Christ Jesus gave a cry of pain  
And looked not on them once again,  
But nestled in His fold.

For they had brought Him treasure-trove,  
But had not any little love  
For one they thought a King;  
Christ Jesus gave to Mary then  
His first mild message unto men,  
Love is the precious thing.

—Duncan Campbell Scott.

### Dominion News in Brief

Victoria, B.C.—Despite the duty of 30 cents per bushel imposed by the Fordney tariff, more British Columbia apples are selling on the New York City market than last year. Whilst but a few cars of the province's crop reached New York last year, thirty cars had arrived there by the beginning of November. Though New York seems to be the favorite outlet for these Canadian shipments, Boston, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Chicago and other large cities are receiving apples from the Okanagan Valley.

Edmonton, Alta.—In the past ten years the number of poultry in Alberta has increased from two and a half million to four and a quarter million, nearly one hundred per cent, according to the provincial Minister of Agriculture. Previously the local market consumed practically the entire production, but at the present time a steady export trade of eggs to Great Britain is being built up.

Regina, Sask.—J. C. Mitchell, of Dahinda, Saskatchewan, winner of the wheat sweepstakes at the International Grain and Hay Show at Chicago last year, was runner-up in Chicago, being beaten by George Kraft, of Bozeman, Montana. This is the first time in several years that Canada has had to relinquish her hold upon this much-sought prize. A consoling fact, however, is that the prize-winning wheat was grown from seed supplied by Seager Wheeler, of Rosethorn, Saskatchewan.

Winnipeg, Man.—Western Canada is enjoying greater prosperity than any other area of the North American continent, according to Babson's winter outlook chart. The chart indicates degrees of prosperity by their shades, and the belt across the central and northern parts of the Prairie Provinces is the largest area of prosperity shown. Comparative figures based on bank clearings for the past ten years show a continuous rise in all Canadian cities. Winnipeg bank clearings increased 154 per cent in the last ten years and Vancouver 205 per cent.

Ottawa, Ont.—More than \$80,000 will go to the French Children's League as a result of Poppy Day Campaign in Canada. At the same time \$90,000 remain in the hands of the Canadian committee to be used exclusively for the relief of unemployment among the soldiers during the winter months. More than 1,050,000 small poppies were sold, together with approximately 100,000 large poppies and wreaths to the value of \$5,000. The poppies were manufactured in France by orphan children of French soldiers and practically every poppy sent to Canada was sold.

Montreal, Que.—The movement of grain to Montreal by water in the seven months preceding the closing of navigation reached shipments totalling over 65,000,000 bushels, surpassing the entire grain shipments of all other Atlantic ports combined, including New York, and creating the most phenomenal year in the history of Montreal port. From 85,000 bushels in 1920, American corn jumped to 65,000,000 bushels this season, whilst the wheat shipments doubled in turnover.

Fredericton, N.B.—New Brunswick is supplying Maine's famous potato belt with seed potatoes in the Aroostook growers' efforts to obtain disease-free stock. Two carloads were recently shipped by the Aroostook Farm Bureau, and it is believed that despite the Fordney tariff there will develop an active demand for New Brunswick potatoes in the general market of the United States as well as for seed purposes.

Halifax, N.S.—Nova Scotia's coal supply is sufficient to last about 200 years, according to the Western Canada Coal Review. At the present time the Dominion Coal Company of Nova Scotia mines about 4,500,000 tons a year, of which 3,000,000 tons are consumed by the Dominion Steel Corporation, a part of the same company. The company contemplates increasing its output to 10,000,000 tons.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Twenty choice silver foxes are being taken to Norway by Howard MacKendrick, who proposes to establish the silver-fox industry in that country. Recent shipments of foxes have gone to United States, England, Japan, Switzerland, Russia and other countries.

Three persons were injured by bombs thrown in Belfast on Thursday.

### LEADING MARKETS

Toronto.

Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern \$1.25; No. 3, \$1.14.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 CW, 52½¢; No. 3 CW, 50½¢; extra No. 1 feed 50½¢.

Manitoba barley—Nominal.

All the above, track, Bay ports.

American corn—No. 2 yellow 69½¢; No. 3 yellow, 68¢; No. 4 yellow, 67½¢; track, Toronto.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, nominal.

Ontario wheat—Nominal.

Barley—No. 3 extra, test 47 lbs. or better, 55 to 58¢, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2, 74 to 76¢.

Rye—No. 2, 84 to 86¢.

Manitoba flour—First patents, \$7.40; second patents, \$6.90, Toronto.

Ontario flour—90 per cent patent, bulk, seaboard, per barrel, \$5.

Milfeed—Del. Montreal freight, bags included: Bran, per ton, \$25 to \$26; shorts, per ton, \$27 to \$28; good feed flour, \$1.70 to \$1.80.

Baled hay—Track, Toronto, per ton, No. 2, \$21.50 to \$22; mixed, \$18.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, \$12.

Cheese—New, large, 21 to 22¢; twins, 21½ to 22½¢; triplets, 22½ to 23½¢. Old, large, 25 to 26¢; twins, 25½ to 26½¢; triplets, 26 to 27¢; Stiltons, new, 25 to 26¢.

Butter—Fresh, dairy, choice, 33 to 35¢; creamery, prints, fresh, No. 1, 43 to 45¢; No. 2, 40 to 41¢; cooking, 26 to 30¢.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 25 to 35¢; roosters, 20 to 25¢; fowl, 20 to 28¢; ducklings, 30 to 35¢; turkeys, 45 to 50¢; geese, 27 to 31¢.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, 20 to 25¢; roosters, 14 to 16¢; fowl, 14 to 20¢; ducklings, 22 to 25¢; turkeys, 45 to 50¢; geese, 20 to 22¢.

Margarine—23 to 25¢.

Eggs—No. 1 storage, 52 to 53¢; select, storage, 57 to 58¢; new laid, straights, 86 to 88¢; new laid, in cartons, 88 to 90¢.

Beans—Can. hand-picked, bushel, \$4 to \$4.25; primes, \$3.50 to \$3.75.

Maple products—Syrup, per imp. gal., \$2.50; per 5 imp. ozs., \$2.35.

Maple sugar, lb., 19 to 22¢.

Honey—60-30-lb. tins, 14½ to 15¢ per lb.; 5-2½-lb. tins, 16 to 17¢ per lb.; Ontario comb honey, per doz., \$3.75 to \$4.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, med., 24 to 26¢; cooked ham, 36 to 40¢; smoked rolls, 23 to 24¢; cottage rolls, 25 to 26¢; breakfast bacon, 25 to 30¢; special brand breakfast bacon, 30 to 35¢; backs, boneless, 33 to 36¢.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 18 to 20¢; clear bellies, 18½ to 20½¢.

Lard—Pure, tierces, 14 to 14½¢; tubs, 14½ to 15¢; pails, 15 to 15½¢; prints, 16½ to 17¢. Shortening, tierces, 13¢; tubs, 13½¢; pails, 14¢; prints, 15½¢.

Choice heavy steers, \$7 to \$8; butcher steers, choice, \$7 to \$7.50; do, good, \$6 to \$7; do, med., \$5 to \$6; do, com., \$3 to \$4.50; butcher heifers, choice, \$5.75 to \$6.50; butcher cows, choice, \$5 to \$6; do, med., \$2.75 to \$3.50; canners and cutters, \$2.25 to \$2.75; butcher bulls, good, \$3.50 to \$4.50; do, com., \$2.50 to \$3; feeders, good, 900 lbs., \$5 to \$5.50; do, fair, \$4.50 to \$5; stockers, good, \$4 to \$4.50; do, fair, \$3 to \$4; milkers, \$80 to \$100; springers, choice, \$80 to \$100; calves, choice, \$11 to \$12.50; do, med., \$8 to \$10; do, com., \$3 to \$6; lambs, good, \$12 to \$12.50; do, com., \$5.50 to \$6; sheep, choice, \$5 to \$6; do, good, \$3 to \$3.50; hogs, fed and watered, \$10.25 to \$10.50; do, heavy and bucks, \$1 to \$2; do, f.o.b., \$9.60 to \$9.85; do, country points, \$9.35 to \$9.60.

Montreal.

Oats, Can. West, No. 2, 57 to 58¢; do, No. 3, 56 to 56½¢. Flour, Man. spring wheat, firsts, \$7.50. Rolled oats, bag 90 lbs., \$3 to \$3.10. Bran, \$26.25. Shorts, \$28.25. Hay, No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$27 to \$28.

Cheese, finest easterns, 18 to 18½¢. Butter, choicest creamery, 40½ to 41¢. Eggs, selected, 55¢. Potatoes, per bag, car lots, \$1 to \$1.10. \$2 to \$2.75; canners and cutters, \$2 to \$2.75; butchers', \$3 up; veal calves, \$11 and under; thin grass calves, \$3.50; lambs, tops, \$11; sheep, up to \$5; hogs, \$11; sows, \$7.50 to \$8.50.

France Recognizes Soviets Under Conditions

A despatch from London says:—That France has given the Moscow Government to understand that she will break the circle of world isolation of Russia by recognizing the Soviets under certain conditions, is the official information received in Berlin through confidential channels, according to a despatch received here from Berlin.

The principal condition imposed by France for recognizing the Lenin Government is said to be that the Soviet Government sign over to France the rights of Russia to reparations from Germany under the Versailles Treaty.

### Mistletoe Brains.

One of the most curious illustrations of the working of intelligence in plants is offered by the mistletoe, whose sticky berry, finding lodgment on a tree branch, throws out a tiny rootlet, which tries to pierce the bark and thus obtain a foothold. If the bark is too rough, the rootlet swings the berry over to a fresh spot, and makes another trial. In this way such a berry has been known to make five jumps in two nights and three days. On one occasion a number of them were discovered by a botanist in the act of vainly journeying along a telegraph wire, trying to find places to grow.



### QUESTION OF NAVAL RATIO DECIDED BY THREE GREAT POWERS

#### Sixty-Eight Capital Fighting Ships to be Scrapped by Great Britain, Japan and United States—Japan Retains Mutsu and Britain Allowed to Build Two Post-Jutland Ships

A despatch from Washington says:—The world's three greatest naval powers came to an agreement on Thursday afternoon to scrap 68 capital fighting ships with a total tonnage of 1,861,643. Great Britain, the United States and Japan have made their final decision. In bulk these figures do not differ greatly from the Hughes proposals, made when the Conference on the Limitation of Armament first met on Nov. 12. These proposals included the scrapping of 66 capital ships, with a total tonnage of 1,878,043. Secretary Hughes has won out with his famous 5-5-3 ratio.

Under the plan, Japan retains the super-dreadnaught Mutsu instead of the old battleship Seto, and the United States retains two additional ships of the Maryland class, instead of the Delaware and North Dakota. Great Britain as an equivalent will build two super-dreadnaughts similar to the Maryland and Mutsu types, but of greater tonnage, scrapping four old battleships of the original retained list suggested by the Hughes plan.

The agreement includes a status and understanding on fortifications of the Pacific Islands in open waters and exclusive of Hawaii and islands off the Japanese, Australian and New Zealand coasts.

The agreement also provides for a maximum limit in tonnage of capital ships to be built in replacement at 37,000 tons, American measurement, and for an ultimate tonnage ratio between the three powers at the end of the ten-year holiday as follows: Great Britain, 525,000 tons; the United States, 525,000 tons; Japan, 315,000 tons.

Under the agreement during the ten years the United States will have 18 capital ships, aggregating 525,850 tons, Great Britain, 20 ships, aggregating 582,050, and Japan, ten ships, aggregating 313,000 tons. This represents a total of 56,200 tons for Great Britain, more than the United States was allowed, the announcement said, because of the age of the older British battleships.

