

ANOMALIES IN YULETIDE GIFTS ARE HUMOROUS

Queer Things Happen in London Homes at Christmas Season.

PRICE TAGS CARRY TALES

Manitoba Blacksmith Sends Nephew Autobiography, With 94c Postage Due.

What happened at your home Christmas?

The London Advertiser called a number of London homes at random in the last two days and asked that question. Many answers came on promise that the names would not be used, and here are some of the responses:

Single young woman who "dwells" on Queen's avenue: "My Christmas present was a talking machine. Under the lid I found a salesman's carbon slip showing the price of the gift was \$55. On the bottom of the slip were these words: 'Tear off all price tags and insert Christmas card, reading, 'To Evelyn, from your own Harry.'"

Married woman on Dufferin avenue, who sent her cousin's husband a suit of summer underwear, with legs and arms embroidered in lace, as a practical joke, received in return a nursery bottle filled with grape juice, with a rubber nipple over the neck.

Miss Helen McMillan, who recently rejected the attentions of an ardent suitor, reports she got a photograph of him for Christmas with the inscription, "You'll remember me."

John, aged 16, had let a boarder in his mother's Maple street home know weeks beforehand his fondest wish for a watch. John received a beautiful 30-cent toy watch in his stocking.

Cynthia Grey, overjoyed admiring a present from her really "best beau," says she let him away, forgetting to give him a present.

Fourteen-year-old son of well-known editor who recently acquired a "clock" of London real estate hurried to his stocking hanging at the fireplace. Nothing was in it. He began weeping. Literary father then pointed to a heap of presents in a corner of the parlor. They were too big to put in a stocking.

Somebody got seasonal cards of greeting mixed. G. C., a budding young classed ad. solicitor, reports receiving a card bearing "Happy Easterday."

A wealthy uncle who had to spend Christmas Day at the Tocomah Hotel, says he got a letter from his 10-year-old niece at Quebec. It read: "We are going to have a big time Christmas. Your presents is requested."

A Victoria Hospital nurse received a pair of wooden clogs from a Chinese who was a former patient of hers.

Wife reports her family ate pork chops for their Christmas dinner, while a huge turkey strutted about the back yard. Neither she nor her husband could muster up enough courage to "mar" the happy bird's seasonal joy.

Nine-year-old school girl received yesterday, not Christmas Day—a bottle of scented perfume from a boy who had been a Christmas present from Emma Goldman, who fled to Russia to escape imprisonment.

Nephew says he received from his uncle, a retired Manitoba blacksmith, a paper-bound book. "It is my uncle's autobiography," he reports. The pasted cover was marked "insufficient postage," and cost him just 94 cents.

Verne De Witt Rowell, the says he would like to see a book of publicity. He got a beautiful look of grey hair as a Christmas present from Emma Goldman, who fled to Russia to escape imprisonment.

D. S. C. R. OFFICES WILL STAY OPEN EVENINGS

Local veterans will be interested to know that the local office of the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment at the Brexton Hotel, 7 to 9 on and after Jan. 3, and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings every week will further notice, for the purpose of accepting applications for returned soldiers' insurance. This will enable those of those who are unable to visit office during ordinary business hours to obtain full information. Premiums may also be paid of the returned soldiers' insurance act, is of course, the fact that it is available without medical examination, having been provided by the government particularly for the benefit of individuals whose health was impaired by war service.

Your Christmas Snapshots

deserve expert attention when being developed and printed.

WE GUARANTEE PERFECT PICTURES FROM EVERY NEGATIVE. Mail orders receive very prompt attention.

Cairncross Chemists

Four Graduate Druggists, 216 Dundas St. Phone 880. "Experts in Kodak Photography."

City Aldermen To Discuss Unemployment With Ontario Cabinet

THE Chamber of Commerce has been asked to send a representative, together with the city council, to meet by appointment the cabinet of Ontario in Toronto at 2:30 Thursday, for a discussion in respect to the unemployment situation of the province.

It will be the mission of the deputation to ask the government to grant relief on the two-thirds basis, as the federal government has promised a contingent allowance if the Ontario government does its share. The deputation will meet in the mayor's office in Toronto at 1:45. The invitation came from Mayor G. C. Coppy of Hamilton, and that city is sending a very large deputation.

Mayor Little, who is at Chippewa today, had the invitation forwarded to him, and it is likely that many of the council will proceed straight to Toronto before returning home.

Town Topics.

Tomorrow's Doings.

There will be a bonspiel at the London Curling Club rink, Thursday. The games will start at 4:15 o'clock.

THE WEEKLY REPORT of communicable diseases for the week ending Dec. 21, given by Dr. W. S. Downham, M. O. H., is as follows: Chickenpox, 4; diphtheria, 3; scarlet fever, 7; and tuberculosis, 1.

THE SPRING-LIKE WEATHER has appeared here had an effect on the migration of birds. A woman informed this office that she saw a robin at Wharncliffe road and Elgwood avenue about 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

THE EMPLOYEES of the American Dry Cleaning and Dry Works on Beaufort presented R. Holmes with a beautiful office chair of quarter-oak, as a token of appreciation.

In return such received a turkey from Mr. Holmes.

WILBERT DARCH, through his solicitor W. G. R. Barram, has issued a county court writ against John Scott, claiming \$1,000 damages for injuries to his person and property through the negligence of the defendant, his servants and agents.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS hall will be the auditorium at St. Peter's Parish Hall, Wednesday night. The auditorium has been beautifully decorated with streamers and electric lights for the occasion. At the conclusion of the dance a buffet supper will be served.

THE POLICE BENEFIT FUND is in receipt of another \$50 check from the firm of Robinson & Little. These \$50 contributions have been coming in regularly since the benefit fund was first started in 1887, and the officers of the association wish to thank the donors, and also Mayor Little, who has been a generous contributor.

WHILE THE CITY is facing a material loss on the houses which the Housing Commission built on a special lot to sell, it is noted that on the 101 houses which were built under the individual loan scheme, only five or six are backward in their payments.

Some of the purchasers have had back and got back a little, but they are trying now to make up. This is true in all but two cases, and in these two out of the 101 it looks as if the commission will take action to get possession of the houses.

WHILE DRIVING west on Dundas street Tuesday, the sedan car driven by Gordon Francis was badly smashed by an Oldsmobile touring car. The Oldsmobile was struck by the Ford truck going north on Mainland street, and as a result of this impact the touring car was thrown against the car driven by Mr. Francis. Although several persons were in the car, none were injured.

Mr. Francis was badly hurt. Gordon Francis and several of his passengers were slightly hurt, but Mrs. Francis, his mother, was badly cut about the face by broken glass.

NOMINATIONS to fill the four vacancies on the separate school board were held at the Catholic Club at noon today. Four of the 1921 trustees' term expired, and when nominations were called, the four had been renominated, and they were declared elected.

The re-elected trustees are: Ward 1, P. H. Regan; Ward 2, J. P. McEwen; Ward 3, W. P. Regan; Ward 4, M. F. Forristal. The members of the board whose terms did not expire this year are: Mr. W. G. Coles, A. H. Murphy, J. Laughlin and R. M. Burns.

ODDFELLOWS TO HOLD JOINT INSTALLATION

A joint installation of the newly-elected officers for the year 1922 will be conducted by the four London lodges of the Independent Order of Oddfellows on the night of Jan. 10.

The arrangements, under the direction of District Deputy W. A. McRoberts, have also been made for the installation of the officers of the lodge at Dorchester on Jan. 16, and at Ilderton on Jan. 19.

The January installation, District Deputy McRoberts announced, would be conducted by the four London lodges of the Independent Order of Oddfellows on the night of Jan. 10.

The funeral services will be held at A. L. Oatman's Funeral Home, at 2:30 o'clock Friday afternoon. Interment will be made at Mount Pleasant cemetery.

Fourteen million Irish are in the United States while only 4,500,000 are in Ireland.

"TIGHT" BUT NOT DRUNK, PLEA OF MAN IN COURT

Prisoner Claims Nice Distinction, But Pays Usual Fine of \$10.

RUSSIAN ALSO ASSESSED

"'Tain't a very good proposition," admitted a drunk in police court Wednesday morning, when asked by Deputy Magistrate P. Birrell, indignantly, "sobered up" (He was in court on Tuesday and had to be remanded owing to his swaying tendencies).

"Do you think you are drunk now?" inquired the court.

"No, I'm strictly sober," was the reply, "and I'm drunk."

Constable Snell, who made the arrest, was then called to the witness-box. He stated that the prisoner was very drunk and staggering when arrested.

"I was tight," admitted the youth. "Why didn't you say so first of all," demanded Chief Birrell, indignantly.

"Yes, \$10 and costs," said the court. Another imber stated that he "had a little" and pleaded guilty.

A tall Russian then popped up in the prisoner's box and stared at the magistrate with a blank expression on his face when asked if he had been drinking. He couldn't understand how he had arrived at the police station.

Constable Inch stated that he had arrested the prisoner in the southern section of the city. He was staggering all over the sidewalk.

"Was he taking more than the sidewalk?" asked the court.

"Yes, he was taking in the curb," said Inch.

"Pretty far jag on it," commented the chief.

prisoner then came to bat with a lot of Russian words, and was even asked to get into the box and give evidence.

"He doesn't know what I mean," declared the court. "Ten dollars and costs."

Port Rowan Baby Claims Laurels in "Perfect Baby" Contest

BABY Robert Walter Caswell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Caswell of Port Rowan, Ont., is another fine young specimen of babyhood, who questions the physical perfection claim of the Kalamazoo baby to first place.

Baby Caswell is 7 months old, weighs 20 pounds and stands 30 inches tall. From finger tip to finger tip he measures 27½ inches, from hip to foot 13 inches. His arm is 11½ inches long, and he measures 18 inches around the chest and 18 inches around the abdomen.

SEEKS FOR GIRL HE SAVED FROM THUG

Montreal Man Requires Woman As Witness in Suit For Damages.

Montreal, Dec. 28.—Sustaining serious injuries while attempting to capture an alleged kidnapper, John L. Porter, 22, a mechanic living at 2159 Ontario street is now scouring the city for the girl he rescued, because without her he cannot sue the man responsible.

The alleged attempt at kidnapping occurred last August, when a man driving a Ford coupe endeavored to force a young girl who was waiting for a street car to accompany him.

Hearing the girl's screams, Porter rushed to her assistance and freed her from the clutches of the stranger, who immediately leaped into his car and drove off, not, however, before Porter had jumped on to the running board with two friends, who had witnessed the incident.

The incident took place in a corner. Porter claims the man deliberately upset the car on top of him. In the confusion that followed the driver escaped. Porter's injuries necessitated his removal to a hospital for two months. He has not been able to return to work so he is now seeking the identity of his "protector" in order that they may sue the would-be kidnapper for damages.

Exodus of Mennonites To Mexico Constitutes But 500 Persons

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.—Newspaper dispatches appearing in the United States and also in some Canadian papers, announcing that 200,000 Mennonites are leaving Canada for Mexico, have come to the attention of the Canadian government.

"The reports are grossly exaggerated," said an official of the department today to the Canadian Press. The extent of that exaggeration may be judged from the fact that according to the census figures for 1916, which are the latest as yet available, the total Mennonite population of the province of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta was 37,000. Just now 27,000 people could constitute an exodus of 200,000, even if they all went, is not made clear in the dispatches.

According to telegraphic information received today by the department not more than 500 Mennonites, including men, women and children, have left, or contemplated leaving Canada in the near future. This is a smaller total than the number of farmer immigrants arriving in Canada in any average week.

Conductor "Stung" By Making Change For Spurious \$20 Bill

It will be a long, dreary spell before any person is able to get change for anything bigger than the well-regulated \$2 bill on the London street railway system. The \$2 currency is supposed to be the limit for which change will be made, but a conductor on old 124, that runs between London and that side of Lucan, via Richmond street, raised the limit to \$20 on Tuesday, and thereby had a tale.

For some weeks there have been reports around the city of spurious money being in circulation in a small way. Several queer-looking bills have changed hands, but the one that came to light on the street car was nothing short of a raise from a \$1 to a \$20. It was a fairly clever piece of bill-raising, although close examination soon showed how the trick had been done.

It is not a new piece of business, by any means, as persons and conductors have often put in their spare minutes in this kind of work.

The passenger having the \$20 claimed that was all the money he had on him. The conductor, however, in order to the rules, have refused to make change, but the Christmas season was still in his mind, and he accepted the \$20.

If you want to see what a riot looks like, just try to get change for a \$20 bill on the London street railway today, especially on the Richmond line.

R. MORRIS WINS "Y" TREASURE HUNT

Local Organization Staged Third Annual Event Tuesday.

The third annual treasure hunt for Y. M. C. A. boys in connection with the association's holiday program held on Tuesday was won by Robert Morris.

The treasure hunt started at the Y. M. C. A. building at 2 o'clock, and after an extensive trip through the city the boys received their final directions to go to Smallman & Ingram's, Dundas and Richmond streets, where they were given clues.

The program arranged for the Y. M. C. A. members during the holiday season is undoubtedly the best in the history of the association. Starting Wednesday, Dec. 14, and continuing until Monday, Jan. 2, there is something doing every minute, basketball, indoor baseball and swimming contests, and many other special features.

On Saturday night, Dec. 31, beginning at 11:30 o'clock, the seventh annual watch night service will be held. The services will be conducted by the members of the association.

On New Year's Day the doors of the Y. M. C. A. will be thrown open, and all the boys are invited to bring their parents.

An exceptionally large program has been arranged, including sport events and a concert.

Those responsible for the successful holiday program are: W. D. Deamer, chairman; Lloyd Houlding, Wilfred Spearman, David Allan, Arthur Horwood and Janet Patterson.

CALIFORNIA GETS 10 DAYS OF RAIN

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 27.—Rain has fallen in Southern California for ten days, and continued today, with no forecast from the weather bureau as to when the rain will cease. San Diego was isolated except by ocean-going vessels, as the highways and railways have suffered many washouts.

No loss of life has been reported at any point in Southern California, but the property damage has been heavy. Nearly nine inches of rain have fallen in Los Angeles in ten days.

In San Francisco the rainfall in the last 24 hours was 1.59 inches, with a forecast of more rain today.

PREDICTS OHIO TO REMAIN AT CREST

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 28.—The Ohio River, after having reached the highest stage recorded here in almost a decade, today will reach the crest, and will be stationary for several days, according to the official forecaster of the weather bureau.

When the muddy waters begin to recede a number of families that were driven from their homes in the low-lying sections of the city, will reclaim their own, but not before the city health department has mopped up a bit.

BRIAND INVITES NATIONS TO CANNES CONFERENCE

Paris, Dec. 28.—Premier Briand has invited British, United States, Italian, Japanese and Belgian governments to be represented at the international financial and economic conference to be held at Cannes, Jan. 6. The program will include questions of reparations, the calling of an international conference.

The reparations commission is to examine immediately the situation in view of the adopted program, and in view of the new breach by that country concerning the deliveries of industrial coke to France. The reduced amount of the deliveries is said to not only be the available coke, but to the reluctance on the part of the German manufacturers to supply coke for aid in the mineral industry in Lorraine.

RESERVES DECISION IN MT. BRYDGES TRUCK CASE

Has Arden Sutherland, who operates a motor truck in Mount Brydges, a right to enter London and whisk loads out to the country without a city license?

This is the question that Deputy Police Magistrate Bartlett reserved judgment on in police court Wednesday morning.

It seems that a resident of London was moving his effects to Mount Brydges and came to the conclusion that he was being charged too much by a London carrier, so after one load had been moved, he hired Mr. Sutherland to finish the job.

Chief Birrell contends that Sutherland had no right to do the work without having a license, while J. C. Elliott, K. C., states that his client is perfectly within his rights, declaring that the bargain was made in Mount Brydges by a resident of that place.

The judgment, whichever way it goes, will have far-reaching effects on motor truck owners.

CHURCHES WILL DEVOTESUNDAY TO UNEMPLOYED

Ministerial Alliance Decides That January 8 Be Set Aside For Special Services.

HELP THE SINGLE MAN

The special meeting of the ministerial alliance was held Wednesday morning for the purpose of discussing the unemployment situation of the city. The executive of the association prepared a report for the consideration of the alliance.

The report contained the proposal that one day be set aside by all the churches at which all the aspects of the situation would be presented to the people along with recommendations for relieving it.

That a single young man out of work should, as far as possible, go to the country and find employment on the farms for the winter months, was another proposal.

Urged To Create Work. It was also urged that the city provide at least half time employment for married men instead of only one-quarter as at present. The questions were thoroughly discussed and it was pointed out by Rev. T. J. Roy that in order to obtain the best results from the pulpit, it would be necessary to have uniform program for all the churches to take up on a specific Sunday, mentioning that at Brantford for a similar cause, \$27,000 was raised in one drive.

T. D. McCulloch, secretary of the Social Service Council, outlined what was being done by the committee composed of some of the city officials and members of the relief boards, and said that an urgent call had been sent to the citizens as a whole to create as much work as possible, and not to wait for the reduction of prices in material, but to start right away and try to relieve the situation.

It was suggested that the different churches be assigned so many families to look after, and that they be responsible for those assigned to them, regardless of their creed, and that the churches to report periodically to prevent overlapping.

Rev. W. R. McIntosh said that he thought there was need of more visitation on the part of the ministers of the city in order that those cases which would ordinarily be overlooked, because the people would not apply for help on their own behalf, but who were really in need of relief and employment, would not be missed. Mr. McIntosh thought that it was not on account of the exchange rate or unrest in other countries that had caused the unemployment situation, but that people had just become afraid to go ahead with projects because they feared something might happen. He believed that if the ministers would speak on this subject it would in arousing the public to create work.

Interest The Young Man. For the single man, who is idle, he thought that young men of the churches should become interested, and bring him into the activities of the church, if only to keep him out of the poolrooms and from bad company. It was contended that it was the young man outside of the church that caused the unemployment situation, but that people had only to keep him out of the poolrooms and from bad company. It was contended that it was the young man outside of the church that caused the unemployment situation, but that people had only to keep him out of the poolrooms and from bad company.

It was finally decided that Jan. 8 should be set aside by the churches in which a statement will be read from the pulpit on the unemployment question as it affects this city.

A committee was appointed composed of Rev. W. R. McIntosh, T. D. McCulloch and Rev. M. Kelly, to arrange for the program to be carried out on Sunday, Jan. 8.

Notices will be sent to all the city churches, and it will be left to the decision of the minister whether he will devote his services to the problem of unemployment, or to the nature of the appeal it is not expected that very many, if any, will refuse.

LONDONER HAS CHARGE OF CHURCH IN ILLINOIS

E. J. Davis, R. R. No. 7, London, has just completed his first half-year's service as pastor of the Baptist Church at Western Springs, Ill. Mr. Davis is a student at the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, and does this work in connection with his studies.

TORONTO PASTOR SHOT BY CALEDONIA BANDIT

Toronto, Dec. 28.—Rev. J. G. Rogers, 53 Innes road, pastor of the Prospect Park Methodist Church, Northwest Toronto, was shot in the leg by a bandit at the home of W. R. Burrell at Caledonia east early this morning.

Mr. Rogers was visiting at the home of Mr. Burrell, who is his father-in-law. About 3:30 o'clock this morning four men drove up to the house in an automobile and broke in. Mr. Rogers was awakened by the strangers ransacking the place. He seized one of them, who broke away. The family were aroused and the bandits ran for their car. In leaving one of them fired two shots, one of which hit Mr. Rogers in the leg.

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In London

Barnard's exhibition of Christmas Cards is really worth while. Every card is clean—and the prices are no more than one penny for the "picked-over kind."

BARNARD'S

Diamond Merchants and Jewelers. "Buy Here With Confidence." 399 Richmond Street, London. ZV.

Gets Big Tribute



At a luncheon preceding the official opening of the Chippewa Canal today speeches were made eulogizing the foresight and energy of Sir Adam Beck in his "big ditch" undertaking.

CITY ORANGEMEN INSTALL OFFICERS

Dr. Bean Conducts Ceremony At Star of Bethlehem Lodge.

The installation of the officers of Star of Bethlehem, L. O. L., was held Tuesday night in Uster Hall. The meeting was well attended. Eleven applications for admittance into the lodge were received.

The work of the evening was conducted in the usual proficient manner by members of the lodge, the installation ceremonies being conducted by District Master Dr. Bean.

Some very fine addresses were delivered by the members. Each speaker commented on the progress the Orange Order is making in the city of London, and of the new and higher plane which the order has attained.

The retiring master of the lodge, W. T. Clark, in his valedictory address to the members of the lodge, said: "We have now come to the end of our journey and milestone in the history of our lodge, and as your retiring master, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking one and all for the excellent support you have given me during my two years as your chief officer. We have had our ups and downs and have found things hard going during certain periods, but it is very pleasing to me to have things running so harmoniously, and as I leave the master's chair I would ask your hearty support for the incoming officers."

In conclusion, Past Master Clark thanked the members for making possible the big undertakings the lodge had carried out in the past year.

FORMER FREE PRESS PRINTER SUCCEUMS

The death took place in Brantford Monday of W. J. Thompson, after a short illness. Mr. Thompson was a printer. He learned the trade at the Free Press Publishing Company in London. Besides a widow he is survived by one daughter, Adeline, and two sisters, Mrs. Norfolk of this city, and Mrs. Insell of Toronto.

MRS. MCCORMICK SEEKS DIVORCE

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick today filed suit for divorce in superior court against Harold F. McCormick, president of the International Harvester Company.

To the Professional Woman

APPEARANCE AND A CLEAR MIND COUNT

Until scientists began to discover how greatly women depend upon their physical well-being for success, few women paid much attention to anything except appearance. But in order that the professional woman, as well as every woman, should gain full joy from unquestioned style and full bloom of health, the Ease-All has been built to her purpose.

Ease-All

The Shoe of Invisible Comfort and Visible Style.

Doctors are now trying to prevent the ever-growing tendency toward weakened, suffering feet of women. In the perfect style mode of the day the Ease-All is made to support the foot with a steel arch, an invisible "bandaged brace," to permit muscles to strengthen and mend, and a combination last, the three giving positive rest.

Every wardrobe requires an Ease-All.

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