

WHAT'S TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT?

A Few Timely Remarks About the Best Season of the Whole Year

Christmas time is surely the special season of doing something for somebody else. Then, if ever, the spirit of giving, rather than receiving, should be first in our thoughts. Let us begin now, not even waiting for the twenty-fifth of December, and let us make sure that Christmas time is going to be a good time for ourselves, our little ones and for somebody else who otherwise might be passed by.

Before the great day really arrives, take a few moments to consider the Christmases of the past few years. Have they been days of "Peace on earth, towards all men good will", or have they been days of perpetual worries, heart burnings and unattained desires?

Christmas is of sacred origin and name and a certain veneration should be mingled with the festivities, a rosy light of imagination and mystery of a divine Presence, unseen and unheard, give us just the right sort of new mood with which to welcome Christmas Day.

So why debate it with mean worries and petty scoldings, when a successful, happy time is easily attained without fatigue if we plan ahead. Then there will be no regrets and debts, to be considered afterwards, due to hasty buying.

Planning Christmas

The days before Christmas should be carefully divided and time allowed on each day for certain things—shopping, gift making, wrapping and mailing them—a certain day to cook the Christmas dainties or candies, to decorate the house, to help the children with their gifts, the children's own little Christmas party, our own entertaining, Christmas correspondence, charity or church work. All these items are usually covered in some way, but the way is often to let the things all slip by heedlessly until the last week or two, then they pile up till they are actually burdensome.

At best this Christmas business is a serious affair to most of us, so let us begin by adopting the optimistic view that our true friends will value our presents by the spirit that impels them. By this I do not mean that we should not think of the beauty or utility of the gift, nor should we forget the longing for the esthetic in the old people. Why do we look so eagerly for something beautiful for our friends and give our dear mother a common house-dress? If she wanted a house-dress she would probably get a most of us manage to get the necessities of life and there is a saying of sardonic humor—"Give us the luxuries of life and we will get on without its necessities"—which is worth remembering when buying our family presents.

Yet practical gifts often have a distinctive value to give, and we now recognize beauty in the useful articles as well as in the fine arts. The woman who can make a sparkling glass of jelly or a perfect Christmas cake is an artist in her line, and the friend who is an artist of the paint brush will appreciate a glass of fresh home-made jelly more than an expensive box of paints.

Shopping at Last Hour
If we must shop at the 11th hour, amid the hustle and bustle of an ever increasing crowd of fellow shoppers, we must take extra precautions against losing our parcels and our purse. Parcels lost at this time are seldom recovered and the loss often means more than the mere money value.

Both pocketbook and handbag should have the owner's name and address on the inside with indelible ink. And the name and address should be written on each parcel as we receive it. If we go to a rest room we should keep watch of our packages for although people may be honest they may make mistakes.

If bundles must be carried about instead of being marked and left in one shop, to be called for later, it is a good plan to have the clerk tie them all together with stout twine.

If shopping on a stormy day it is a good idea to wear hat and clothing that will not be harmed by the weather, thereby avoiding the necessity of an umbrella, which has such a knack of getting lost to say nothing of its inconvenience. Muffs have no place in a shopping tour and neck pieces should be securely fastened and not removed in the stores. They should be marked by sewing a piece of tape, addressed in indelible ink, on the under side. Check off each errand from the list as it is accomplished. Count the change at once and see that both purse and bag are tightly closed after each purchase.

Boxes, greens and wrapping paper can be bought last as they need no special thought for by this time we are "too tired to think".

Cardboard and crepe paper for an artificial fireplace should be bought to amuse the children. They can hang up dolly's stockings and have a make-believe Christmas that will keep them busy for hours.

Children's Shopping

Children enjoy doing a little Christmas shopping by themselves and will usually make good use of a small sum, buying something for mamma and papa and baby brother. How proud they are! They will want to hide their gifts and we must be very careful to appreciate their desire for secrecy and their pride in their purchases, for after all, Christmas is really a children's day and we should all strive to make them happy in this best of holidays. Their presents should be chosen with the greatest care in order to avoid the disappointments that nearly break the heart of some dear little ones on Christmas eve—disappointments that a little forethought would have prevented. If we would all use real brain-work when selecting our presents for the little folks there would be less of the unspoken, though none the less keen feeling among mothers of them, that somehow they were being misunderstood and their wishes forgotten. If we look back over our past we will probably remember some such instance in our own life, when it seemed to us that "Santa might have known better". So let us be quite sure this time that we are doing what we can to make Christmas a happy time for the children, not merely our children. Warm, loving, loyal thoughts and deeds of kindness towards all children should be the slogan of the world, not only at Christmas but through the long calendar of the year. This is what "Christmas for the children" will mean, eventually, we hope. For even now Christmas comes earlier and lasts longer than in years past. By and by, it may be Christmas time, so far as kindly thoughts and

feelings are concerned, the whole year round. Meanwhile we will try to remember that old-time Christmas—the best that the world has ever known—the only true Christmas, in Bethlehem of Judea.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Once more the happy season of the year is at hand, when we begin to prepare gifts of love for Christmas. It is indeed a pleasing indicator of the rapid spread of feelings of kindness and goodwill throughout the world that the preparation of beautiful articles for Christmas gifts affects the industries of all civilized nations. The choice of articles for Christmas gifts is a perplexing pleasure. According to Emerson, articles of beauty rather than of use are appropriate for gifts. In giving we have to avoid, on the one hand, the imposing of a sense of obligation and, on the other, of making the occasion for assuming to ourselves the role of benefactor. The donation party given at Christmas to the faithful pastor whose past due salary is unpaid is only an unfair method of making him appear the recipient of a favor, while his just claims are disregarded. Nor can we refrain from suggesting to the husband and father: Do not make a Christmas to your wife of a new carpet or a pair of shoes or a cooking stove, for she needs and has a right to these things anyway. Your little boy needs a new school-book for the next session of school, but he would probably experience a sense of wrong which it would be difficult for him to explain if he should find it in his stocking on Christmas morning, and we may suggest as an idea wholly foreign to Emerson that if the husband and father has from negligence or penuriousness failed

to provide his wife with a good supply of dry, well-cult wood or fuel for the kitchen stove or the needed quantity of winter flannels, it would be equally inappropriate for him to present her with a pair of big pink glass flower vases or some similar article, the price of which might have added vastly to her comfort and the money been placed for spending in her own hands.

Gifts for children depend but little on their value for the pleasure they shall give. A household of children can be made entirely happy by a quarter's worth of mixed candy placed in their stockings, each piece of candy being wrapped in a separate paper, thus multiplying the number of gifts. It is very important, however, that the gifts be put in their stockings. The sweet illusion adds a priceless value to the veriest trifles.

And so we feel like saying to ourselves and to our readers: Let us prepare for a merry, happy Christmas; let us forget for a little while all the environments of our lives that are sad and depressing; let us think of the treasures we possess that "man did not make and cannot mar"; let us give tokens of love to our friends, though it should be only a geranium leaf or a rosy cheeked apple. Let us celebrate Christmas. The yoke loosened and laid aside for a little will give rest and strength to the shoulders; the affections of the heart called into play and indulged will give strength to our soul; and both will aid us for a better performance of the duties and work appointed for us in the coming New Year.

CANADA NEEDS SUCH SETTLERS

An example of how certain types of foreign settlers who come to Western Canada are determined that their children shall obtain a complete Canadian education, in order that they may enter fully into Canadian life as properly equipped citizens, is given in the person

of Protok Magera, a settler of many years' standing in the Bon Accord district, north of Edmonton.

Magera came to the province many years ago, and took up a homestead. He has always had keen ambitions for an education for his family, and as a result, today he has a son and a daughter attending normal school at Camrose, a son and daughter attending high school in Edmonton and another son preparing to take the course in agriculture this term at the Vermilion School of Agriculture. In addition to this he financed the son of an old friend of his for his school and college course, and this boy, as a result of the financial aid given him by the little Ruthenian homesteader, was able to complete his education and take an arts master's degree in one of the Eastern universities.

And yet we are informed that not only are the quota laws rigidly enforced against such immigrants entering Canada, but that rulings on unimportant technical points are at times employed to keep them out of the country.

Canada wants not only settlers of British origin, but those from other countries who are willing to work and observe the laws and customs of the land of their adoption. Experience teaches that they or their children usually become good Canadians. A new country like Canada cannot afford to be too particular about the nationality of its immigrants. The big thing is to keep out the agitators, and they do not come from any particular country. There are many trouble makers in Canada who came here from the British Isles and the United States.—Financial Post.

If men had no faith in one another all of us would have to live within our incomes.—Marion Star.

Minard's Liniment for stiff muscles.

CANADA

WARNING TO USERS OF RADIO

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MUST be Licensed

Penalty on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding \$50.00

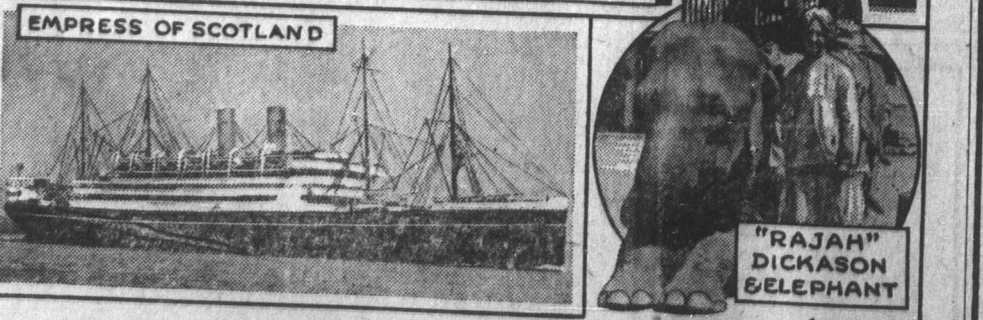
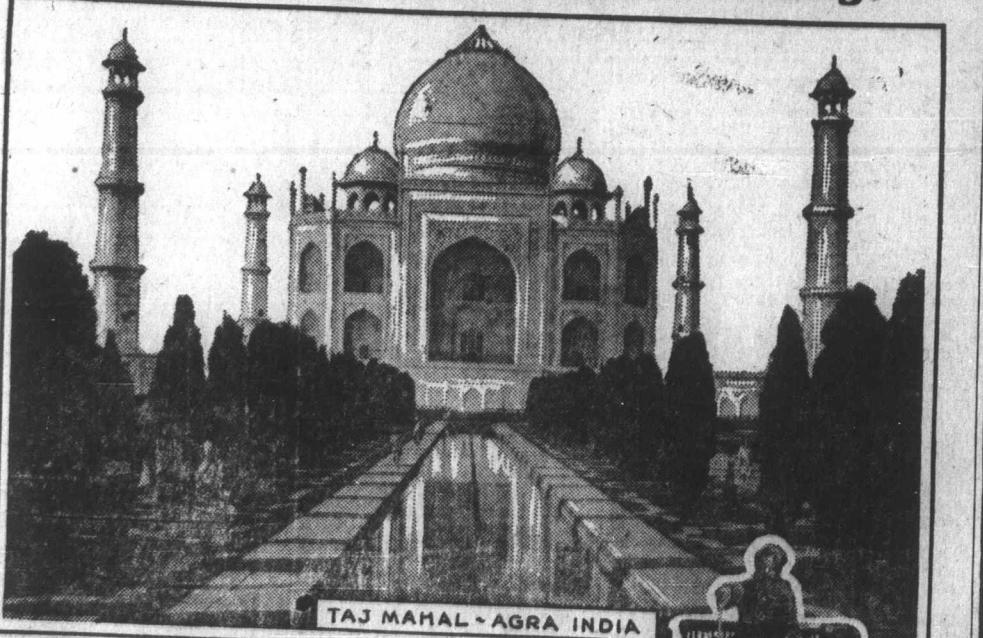
License Fee \$1.00 per annum

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A. JOHNSTON, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries

"Don't You Hear The East A-calling?"



The Immemorial East has from the beginning of time exercised its fascination on the West. Color movement, mystery, strange creeds and stranger races; the cradle of civilizations with mighty monuments of the past to attest their reality; customs that are so old that they seem new; costumes that look as though their wearers had stepped out of some masquerade, and even no costumes at all; immense multitudes speaking strange languages; the whole making up into a picture that is so alluring, so utterly different, so incomprehensible to the Westerner that it seems as if he had been transported into another planet where only the stars, the sun, moon and sky remind him that he is still standing on mother earth. Add to all this the fact that the North Temperate Zone of America is left thousands of miles behind and you step into the land of eternal summer, where you have the widest range of emotional and climatic change that this world has to offer.

This shedding of every-day usage and spectacle is provided by the "Round the World Cruises" on the Canadian Pacific liner Empress of Scotland which sails from New York, December 3rd next. For the following 128 days there is a never ending and shifting panorama of utterly new things presented to the passenger on this cruise. What he or she has before him is read of in books and seen in illustrations and rolls itself before the astonished eye. Thoroughly competent guides tell of the wonders of each place visited and conduct to every point of interest. There is no let-up in the continually changing novelties presented and the passenger stores up in the short period of four months enough memories to last a life time.

Some few of these are presented in the above illustration. The good ship Empress of Scotland is shown as she is just starting her long voyage. Then in sunshine, the concrete proof of a mighty conquest and of a civilization that has passed, yet intact today as when it was first completed hundreds of years ago. Yet another scene is the bazaar of a small Indian city where the elephant that typifies India is kneeling to receive his master who is attired as a Rajah.

These are but a few high lights in a voyage that is crammed with new delights each day. If one were to undertake this voyage on his own initiative it would cost thousands of dollars and it is not at all likely that he could take in all that is offered on the Empress cruise in double the time. Further, he would certainly lose the atmosphere of luxury, efficiency and bonhomie which are the special characteristics of a voyage taken in common with men and women of his own class and outlook on life.

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Fred A. Forsyth
WOLFVILLE

The Store of the Christmas Spirit

The Christmas Spirit is already in the air, and we have filled our store with those things you will need to make the festive occasion as bright and cheerful as possible.

Christmas Cards

First of all be sure to remember all your distant friends by sending them some of our beautiful cards. If you have not been in to see them yet do not delay. Although we have sold a great many we still have plenty for all. We know you will be delighted with the dainty designs, and the prices are very reasonable. There is a large assortment of 5 and 10 cent cards, with a few at 15 and 25 cents. Quite a number have the lined envelopes which are so popular. If you want post cards we have a large assortment at 15 cents a dozen.

Our New Year and Thank You cards are also now on display.

The Christmas Parcel

For some a card is not sufficient, but you must send a gift, and here you will find all the requisites to make your parcel attractive.

Tissue Paper, red, green, and white, 1 cent a sheet.
Ribbonene and Tinsel Cord, 15 cents per spool.
Red and green twine, 15 cents per ball.
Seals, Tags, and Gift Boxes.

A Few Gift Suggestions

A box of Stationery is an ideal way to present the Christmas Spirit in Gift Form. We have a varied assortment, and many of the boxes can be used for other purposes after the stationery has been used.

Prices range from 75c. to \$3.50

The French deckle edge stationery, with lined envelopes, is very nice and is only \$1.00 per box.

Then we have some very pretty colored fountain pens, self-filling, 14 karat gold nibs, with ribbon attached. Price \$1.75.

Also regular style pens, some with gold bands, others in popular orange shade, fully guaranteed. Price \$1.75.

Eagle Pointer Pencils, with eraser and extra leads, orange color, only 50 cents.

Congress Playing Cards and Bridge Sets.

Christmas Decorations

Interlake Crepe, red and green, 15 cents per roll, 2 rolls for 25 cents.

Hanoki Rope, red and green, 3 yards for 5 cents.

Paper Garlands, Bells and Balls. Paper Napkins.

Christmas Tree Decorations.

Candy Boxes to hang on tree, 5 cents each.

The Acadian Store
WOLFVILLE