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## Pears' Annual

1919.

A Christmas Annual with plenty of the old time  
fest, lightened and animated by new ideas.

**CONTENTS:**

Christmas Fifty Years  
Hence by W. L. George  
A Festive Christmas—  
Four drawings by  
Heath Robinson.  
Tommy's Christmas Re-  
port, 1969, by Twells  
Brex.  
Extracts from a School History Book, 1969, dealing  
with the present period, by G. K. Chesterton.  
Moments Apart—A Reverie, Amy M. Leake.  
Extravagance—S. L. Bensusan.  
Christmas, 1919, E. A. Woodhouse.

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The Booksellers

**He Had Hopes.**

was a beautiful little place. The  
house was small, but perfect, and the  
garden lovely, with flowers and fruit  
vegetables and hens and all. And  
surrounding country matched it  
prettiness.

How ever did you get such a nice  
house? asked the friend after the  
house had proudly shown him round.  
It was this way, said the host,  
taking a cautious look round to where

his lady was inspecting and condemn-  
ing the gardener's work. "The prop-  
erty was for sale, so I brought my  
wife to see it. When she had looked  
round the house and the garden, and  
admired the views from the windows,  
I asked her what she thought of it.  
"Henry," she replied, "it is so pretty  
it leaves me speechless!"

Try Phorane for that nasty  
Cough and Cold you have. Price  
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Store.

**Items of Interest.**

**GATHERED FROM EVERYWHERE.**  
The German Imperial Standard cap-  
tured at Jerusalem has been presented  
to the 5th Welsh Regiment for special  
services.

"Never hunt with yourselves, hunt  
with the pack," was the Prince of  
Wales' advice to the Boy Scouts at  
New York.

It is a strange fact that Africans  
never sneeze; neither do their descen-  
dants, if they are pure-blooded, al-  
though domiciled in other parts of the  
world.

Taken down in war-time, the tele-  
graph cable beacon indicating the  
position of the cable to Germany has  
been re-erected on the beach at Mun-  
desley, Norfolk.

Wm. C. Brown, M.M., late of the  
Leicester Regiment, for no particular  
reason, has set himself the task of  
walking 25,000 miles in the United  
Kingdom.

"There's one trouble of these soft  
drinks." "What is it?" "I find I can't  
drink more than two or three of them  
in succession without wanting to quit  
and go home."—Detroit Free Press.

Miss Elsie Menn, 18 years old the  
other day stood in an airplane and  
grasping a rope ladder dangling from  
above, climbed safely to a second plane  
as the machine flew 200 feet above  
the ground at Chicago.

After working for the same firm  
for 40 years, Dietrich Cardis, 64, a  
laborer at Martineau's Sugar Re-  
finery, was struck on the head by a  
revolving bolt and died from his in-  
juries in the London (G.B.) Hospital.

The London Jewish Hospital of  
Stepney Green, which was opened by  
Lord Rothschild, has been founded al-  
most entirely by small amounts given  
by the Jewish poor in the East end,  
largely in the form of contributions  
of a penny a week, which began in  
1907.

Wilfrid Parker, formerly a pawn-  
broker, of Coalville, G. B., who serv-  
ed in the R. G. A., and died after dis-  
charge about six months ago at Leices-  
ter Base Hospital, has bequeathed  
100 pounds to the Salvation Army at  
Coalville, in consideration of the  
kindness and civility he experienced  
at Salvation Army huts in France and  
at home.

The New York Herald in its report  
of the departure of H. M. S. Renown,  
says that shortly before she left "a  
barge from the Renown slid through  
the water toward shore carrying  
twenty-four cases of Scotch Whiskey

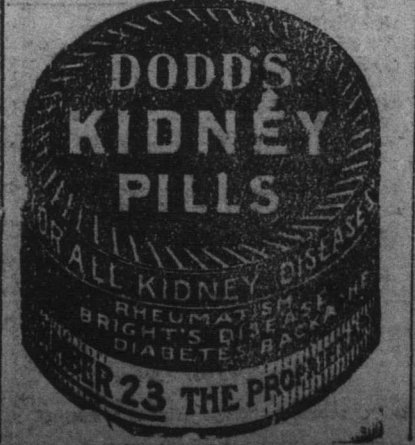
to be delivered to the British Em-  
bassy in Washington."

A gold-handled penknife that is so  
small it could pass through the eye  
of an ordinary darning needle has  
been on display in the window of its  
maker, Solomon L. Baxter, a Welles-  
ley, Massachusetts, jeweller. Baxter  
claims it is the smallest penknife in  
the world. The little knife has two steel  
blades measuring three-thirty-seconds  
of an inch. Three tiny steel rivets hold  
the sides and blades in position.

The notorious "gold brick" is an  
anachronism in New York. Whisky  
which is 100 per cent. H2O is the lat-  
est. According to the police, fifty at-  
tempts have been made in the last two  
weeks to sell this variety of "whisky"  
for American dollars. In attempting  
this feat the preferred method is to  
insert a barrel of water and a metal  
cylinder containing some fine grade  
whisky and connect with the bung-  
hole. After the first taste—curses. The  
information was volunteered by de-  
tectives at the arraignment there of  
James White, a former bar-tender,  
charged with attempting to sell a bar-  
rel of such "whisky" for \$800.

**Death of R. L. Stevenson.**

Robert Louis Stevenson, who died  
at Vallima, Samoa, on December 3,  
1894, at the early age of 45, deserved-  
ly ranks as one of the most notable  
writers of the later Victorian age. His  
chief popularity, no doubt, came to  
him in fiction, but he was also an es-  
sayist of singular charm and no mean  
poet. His work, indeed, is remarkable  
not only for its variety, but for its  
amount, when it is remembered that  
he had suffered from ill-health almost  
all his days, as he was of consumptive  
tendency. It was for that reason that  
he had settled at Samoa, where for  
some years he had enjoyed much-im-  
proved health, so that the end, which  
came quite suddenly, was also some-  
thing of a surprise. It was on Decem-  
ber 2, towards sunset, after a day  
spent in letter-writing and work on  
his half-finished romance, "Weir of  
Hermiston," that the stroke fell. His



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**J. J. LACEY & CO., Ltd., City Chambers**

day's work was done, he was helping  
his wife on the verandah and busily  
talking, when suddenly he put both  
hands to his head and exclaimed:  
"What's that?" Then he asked quickly,  
"Do I look strange?" and fell on his  
knees beside her. He was helped into  
the hall by his wife and body-servant,

and lost consciousness instantly, as  
he lay back in an armchair. Medical  
aid was speedily available, but proved  
useless, and after twenty-four hours,  
he passed away without regaining  
consciousness, at ten minutes past  
eight on Monday evening, December  
3. The next morning, he was laid to

rest on the summit of the mountain,  
Yase, in a large tomb built after the  
samoean fashion, of large blocks of  
cement, and on each side there is a  
bronze plate, one inscribed, "The tomb  
of Tualara" (his native name) and  
the other with the speech of Ruth to  
Naomi, taken from the Samoean