CHRISTMAS AND ECONOMY

A Day of Reckoning Sure to Follow Holiday Extravagance.

By MARGERET SANGSTER.

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THE spell of the yule-tide lasts very much longer than the yule-tide itself. Weeks before Christmas holidays we are all thinking about them, wondering what we can do to make them better holidays than we have ever had, planning surprises for everybody from the grandparents to the little ones toddling about the nursery floor and keying ourselves to concert pitch over the whole matter. America as a nation is growing immensely rich among the nations of the earth, but while men of wealth are no longer extraordinary, the rank and file still have and always will have limited means, so that thrift is a golden virtue at Christmas as well as at other periods of the year.

* * *

Sometimes there is complaint at home that father is moody and taciturn, and a little management and tact are in order before mother and the girls ask him for money, the fact being that the poor man is borrowing right and left, and is almost beside himself to meet the drain on his resources.

Several years ago, soon after the glow of the yule-tide had faded into the ashen embers of mid-winter, a business man was taken ill. Dragging along through the weeks of February and March, the victim it seemed of a mysterious malady, he died and was buried during Easter week. When his affairs were settled, they were found to be extremely involved. The entire scheme of living for the family had to be reconstructed, and with pangs of agony those whom he had loved discovered that their extravagance had really sapped the springs of his life. They were not altogether to blame. Husbands are not invariably frank and candid with wives. Fathers dislike to let sons and daughters know that they have anxieties, they resort to every legitimate or illegitimate means to gratify those who bear their name, and in the end if a crash does not come, there are heart burnings and distress that might as well have been avoided.

When the yule-tide casts upon us a spell of foreboding or leaves a legacy of importunate creditors, it has been robbed of its finest essence and defrauded of its noblest meaning.

* * * * *

It is our misfortune that we cannot divest ourselves of a feeling that to make the home happy we must spend too much money for our mental comfort. Never was there a greater mistake. Pleasure in the household depends on simplicity far more than we think. Children often turn away from the playthings that have cost a goodly sum in dollars and cents, and find their delight in something cheap which they may use at their pleasure. The costly doll imported from Paris and dressed in the height of the fashion is shown with pride by its owner to her little friends, but it is not the doll which gives most satisfaction. It is not the doll that the child plays with. Very likely her mother considers it too fine to be spoiled and puts it away in the closet except on state occasions. A doll on the closet shelf may be a marvel of elegance, but it brings no particular gratification to the child who seldom sees it.

Our yule-tide should be full of warmth and cheer, our extra money should be spent on plenty of light and an open fire, and there should be good times at home, the best times then in all the year.

The beneficent spell of the yule-tide has most of heaven in it when we remember our poorer neighbors and our lonelier friends. There are people known to us all who will be made very happy by so simple a thing as Christmas-tide as a letter. For instance, there is the seamstress who worked for you 20 years ago and who is ending her days in an old ladies' home. She has nobody of her own left to visit her and one day passes just like another. Her yule-tide will be made more cheerful by a visit if you can make it, or a letter if you can send it.

Christmas Bells.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Words Written by Martin Luther for His Little Son, Hans. Music Specially Composed by Josiah Booth.

To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen mother mild;
This little child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

'Tis Christ our God who far on high
Hath heard your sad and bitter cry;
Himself will your salvation be,
Himself from sin will make you free.

He brings those blessings, long ago
Prepared by God for all below;
Henceforth His Kingdom open stands
To you, as to the angel bands.

These are the tokens ye shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark;
There shall ye find the young child laid,
By whom the Heavens and earth were made.

Too Much of a Good Thing.

"I wish people would be more particular about giving that boy of mine Christmas presents," growled the industrious old man.

"Why so?" asked the soap peddler.

"Why, somebody gave him a lounging robe an' he hasn't done anything but lounge since he got it."

His Idea.

Teacher—Johnny, what's the longest day in the year?

Johnny—The day before Christmas!

Appreciated.

Clerk—May I leave early to-night, sir? My wife wants me to help her to trim the Christmas tree at home.

Employer—I'm afraid I can't let you off to-night, Johnson.

Clerk—Thank you, sir. I shall remember your kindness."

Under the Mistletoe.

Grayce—Maude asked George to kiss her.

Gladys—Well I like her cheek!

Grayce—So did George.

TOOTHPICK LED TO FORTUNE.

Seeking One, Man Overheard Tip From John W. Gates.

At the Waldorf the other night Charles M. Schwab was seated with a party of friends when he happened to overhear a man near by call attention directed to a toothpick which he held in his hand, and remarked:

"I scarcely ever take a toothpick without being reminded of the time when an acquaintance of mine made $30,000, and it was a toothpick that did the trick.

"You see," he continued, "it happened in the spring of 1904, when on the day in question my friend was taking luncheon at this hotel, and after he had finished and paid his check he directed his steps toward Broadway. He had proceeded scarcely half a block, however, when he found himself greatly annoyed by a particle of food very firmly wedged between two of his teeth, and, finding himself without a toothpick, he retraced his steps to the hotel to get one.

"On his way out of the hotel he chanced to pass a table at which were seated John W. Gates and a friend, and just as he reached the table he heard Mr. Gates remark:

"'I feel very positive that you will see Steel (common) selling at 10 before the end of the summer.'

"Now, my friend did not happen to make a regular business of trading in the market, but knowing it was Mr. Gates who made the remark, and also the great weight his word carried in such matters, he decided to take advantage of the tip and it did not take him long to place his order with a broker to sell 1,000 shares of Steel at 42.

"Well, you all know what Steel did during the summer of 1904, going down below nine, but my friend ordered his trade to be closed around 10, and he cleaned up a profit of $30,000, which he never would have made had it not been for the little toothpick."—N. Y. Press.

It Is Easy for the Lawyer.

No law firm in Somerset county, Maine, is better known than the firm of Walton & Walton, S. J. Walton being the senior member of the firm, and his nephew, Lyman, the junior. So well known were the men personally that they were always spoken of as "S. J." and "Lyman."

A number of years ago the citizens of the town of Solon, in the northern part of Somerset county, bent their energies upon getting up the biggest Fourth of July celebration ever known in the county. Among the numbers on the programme was an oration by Hon. S. J. Walton of Skowhegan, ex-senator of the county.

A large platform was built under some large trees, and it was there that the senator poured out his eloquence and told over the well-known features of the revolution and how many times his great-grandfather died for his country.

A visitor approaching the platform observed an old farmer gazing at the speaker with open mouthed wonder. As the visitor drew near the farmer, the latter remarked: "Pooty spoken man, hain't he?" "Yes," answered the visitor, "S. J. is an easy speaker, and it is very easy for him to earn ten dollars to-day." "Yes, yes," observed the farmer, as he stroked the yellow corn tassel on his chin, "very easy for him, but mighty hard for us."

"Jes' Tired o' Freedum."

"I jes' up an' says to him, says I, I'm a-goin' back home.'"

"Whar is home?" says he.

"Marse Willyum's," sez I.

"You clean furgit youse a free 'oman,' sez he, "an' you ain't got no marster but me."

"I ain't furgit it," says I, uncon-earned like. "Ise jes' tired of freedom; has ter work too hard fur a livin'. Ise goin' back to Marse Willyum."

Den he looks roun' at my t'ings; de bed what he wuz layin' on; an' de good quilt what I made o' nights; an' de stove; an' de cheers; an' de lamp; an' he says to me, sez he:

"What all you gwinter to take wid you?"

"I ain't gwinter take nuffin. I cum here widout nuffin, an' I'm gwine back to Marse Willyum, and Miss M'riar, jus' like I cum way."

"You got six chillun. I reckon you gwinter take de chillun?"

"I cum here widout any chillun, an' I ain't gwinter take no chilluns back wid me."—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Business Very Quiet.

Two tall ranchmen bought seats in the back row in the balcony of a city theater. One of the ushers chanced to be standing near them while he was not busy and accidentally overheard some of their conversation. Before the curtain rose they talked about various things in the theater. While the orchestra was preparing to play its overture one of the ranchmen said: "Jim, what do you s'pose all them red lights with 'Exit' over 'em is for?"

"I ain't sure, but I think I know," was the reply.

"Well, what your idea?"

"That there 'Ex-i-t' is French talk for 'Saloon,' I think," said the other. "Them doorways lead to some place where you can get a drink."

The one who had asked about the exits looked at the red lights a moment. "Gosh!" he said finally, "that saloonkeeper is sure enterprisin', but it don't look to me like he's doin' much business."

John Drew on Drawing Power.

A fellow actor was the subject of discussion at the Players' club not long ago.

"He is perfectly devoted to that blonde"—so Mr. John Drew was informed. "His family thinks it is a case of hypnotism."

"Seems more like chemical attraction," said the great actor, thoughtfully.—Lippincott's Magazine.

Balanced.

"Yes, he's very vindictive. That's one of his worst faults," said Gadd.

"I didn't know he had that fault, too," said Lenders.

"Oh, yes; I tell you, I'd hate to have a man like that owe me a grudge."

"Yes, but there's his other fault: He never pays what he owes."

TRAFFIC IN HUMAN FLESH.

German Hospital Officials Accused of Serious Offenses.

A sensational case has been occupying the Hamburg law courts. Recently the head of a workingmen's association, Herr Schonberg, publicly accused the Hamburg hospital of carrying on a large traffic in corpses. He declared that closed coffins were delivered to relatives of the deceased containing only ashes and rubbish or a wooden image. In several cases the body had been placed in the coffin in the presence of the relatives, and extracted after their departure. The leg of a man who had suffered from a peculiar disease was cut off and replaced by that of a dead woman. In this state the body was exhibited to the relatives. A former employe of the hospital, whose trial for selling bodies was the occasion of these disclosures, declared that he had seen the arms of a dead man amputated and replaced by a girl's arms in order that the man's relatives should suspect nothing. It was also proved that warders had cut off and sold heads and other parts of corpses for their own profit and without the knowledge of the doctors. In two cases at least coffins were buried containing only parts of the body.

TRYING EXPERIENCE.

Spent Over $100 in a Vain Search for Health.

Miss Frances Gardner, of 369 Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill., writes:

"Gentlemen: I heartily indorse Doan's Kidney Pills, as I have found by personal experience that they are an ideal kidney remedy. I suffered with complications of kidney complaint for nearly five years, spent over $100 on useless remedies, while five boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills cured me in a few short weeks. I am now enjoying the best of health, have a fine appetite, the best of digestion, and restful sleep, all due to your splendid pills."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

VISION SHOWED SON DEAD.

Italian Mother's Dream Followed by Discovery of Body.

A strange case of telepathy in connection with a murder is arousing much interest in Milan, Italy. A woman named Lazzaroni awoke suddenly at three o'clock the other morning, and calling her son John, who lives in her house, told him that his younger brother, Leopold, living in the outskirts of the town, was dead.

The mother was deeply affected, but John tried to comfort her by ascribing her fears to a bad dream. At dawn, however, Leopold Lazzaroni, a handsome and strong young man, the owner of a dairy, was found dead at a spot some distance from his dwelling. After having made an examination of the body, the doctors affirmed that Leopold had been murdered actually at three o'clock in the morning.

The next day the culprits were arrested.

The facts of the mother's vision, which have been duly authenticated, are the subject of endless discussion.

TORTURED WITH ECZEMA.

Tremendous Itching Over Whole Body —Scratched Until Bled—Wonderful Cure by Cuticura.

"Last year I suffered with a tremendous itching on my back, which grew worse and worse, until it spread over the whole body, and only my face and hands were free. For four months or so I suffered torments, and I had to scratch, scratch, scratch, until I bled. At night when I went to bed things got worse, and I had at times to get up and scratch my body all over, until I was as sore as could be, and until I suffered excruciating pains. They told me that I was suffering from eczema. Then I made up my mind that I would use the Cuticura Remedies. I used them according to instructions, and very soon indeed I was greatly relieved. I continued until well, and now I am ready to recommend the Cuticura Remedies to any one. Mrs. Mary Metzger, Sweetwater, Okla., June 28, 1905."

The Highest Bridge.

Work is now in progress on a suspension bridge over the famous "Royal gorge" of the Arkansas river, in Colorado, at a point where the channel is only 50 feet wide at the bottom and 220 feet wide at the top. This bridge will span the river 267 feet above the surface of the water, and will be, therefore, by far the highest bridge in the world. The material will be of flat steel and steel cables, the curved girders finding secure attachment in the solid sides of the canyon. The floor of the bridge will be of plate glass one and one-half inches thick, to afford visitors the pleasure of looking down the chasm. On each side will be strong, high steel railings. The bridge is part of an electric railway scheme.

Will Observe Eclipse of Sun.

It is announced from Paris that the "Bureau des Longitudes" has decided to send to Samarakand a scientific mission to observe the eclipse of the sun that will be visible in central Asia on January 13, 1907. The mission will be under the direction of the astronomer, Stefnik, of the observatory of Meudon, who accompanied M. Janssen on his expedition to Spain for the observation of the eclipse of August 30, 1905. Among the instruments with which the party will be provided is a cinematograph, to picture the French, Russian and other scientists in the course of their observations.

Gas Engines on Canal Boats.

Canal boats propelled by gas engines supplied from plants on the boats which make the gas from coal, are used in Germany. For slow boats of moderate capacity the system seems efficient and economical.

ATTRACTIONS OF WESTERN CANADA.

Magnificent Crop Returns for the Year 1906.

The manner in which the Canadian West has attracted settlers in recent years has caused many of our journals and public men to "sit up and take notice," to use a current phrase. From every European country and from almost every State in the Union large number of settlers have flocked to the prairie provinces of Canada, where free homesteads and wide opportunities are open to all who desire to avail themselves of them.

The greatest factor in attracting settlers lies in the inherent richness of soil and suitability of climate for producing what is universally considered to be the finest wheat in the world—the "No. 1 Hard" of Canadian growth—and other cereals that rank in the very first class. This year the harvest returns were: Wheat, 90,000,000 bushels; oats, 78,000,000 bushels; barley, 17,000,000 bushels; and when it is considered that the entire population of the three provinces—as evidenced by the quinquennial census just completed—is only 810,000, it is easily seen that the lure of the Canadian West is in its agricultural potentialities.

Another feature which attracts the settler is that railway construction is proceeding with such rapidity that almost every district is within easy reach of outside markets, and that good prices for all lines of farm products rule practically from the commencement of agricultural operations. This is a factor which did not prevail when the earlier settlements in the West were made in Canada and in the United States, and has given a great impetus to Canadian Western settlement in recent years.

The free grant system of homesteads which prevails in the prairie provinces, by which every settler who is able and willing to comply with the conditions of actual settlement (by no means onerous) is given 160 acres free, except $10 for entry, is a great drawing card, and in the last fiscal year gathered in over 189,000 additional to the western population, of which 57,796 were from the United States.

The further fact, as is strongly brought about by the agent of the Canadian Government, whose address appears elsewhere, that a splendid common school system, practically free, prevails throughout the entire country, and is easy of access in even the most remote districts, is another great inducement to the settler who has the future welfare of his family in mind, and this, coupled with the fact that western Canadian law and order are proverbial, completes a circle of good and sufficient reasons why the tide of immigration has set in so steadily toward the country to the north of our boundary line.

BROKE THE WILDCAT'S BACK.

Philadelphia Man Victorious in Hand-to-Hand Combat.

Unarmed and alone, Thomas Dyke was attacked by a wildcat on Locust mountain, south of Mount Carmel, Pa. He had been in Ashland and started to drive home. His horse stepped on a nail and he put the animal in a stable.

Then he started to walk home and was on the mountain when the cries of a wildcat alarmed him. A few minutes later he saw the beast ten feet in front of him. The animal finally sprang. He jumped aside and as the body of the cat struck the road he leaped upon it. For several minutes the fight between the wild animal and the man went on. At length by a quick swing he broke the animal's back.

A physician dressed the several deep scratches on his face and hands, but otherwise he was uninjured.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, price 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Playwright's Complaint.

Bronson Howard lays the blame for an inferior stage upon the tired business man who has to be amused. He lately said: "I hate the tired business man. He is the cause of plays being produced that keep four other men at home. I wish he would go home and rest. The drama has no future in this country until we cease to cater to the tired business man."

Where Lawyers Are Unpopular.

A lawyer made his appearance at Colobar, West Africa, the other day and a Gold Coast newspaper, noting the fact, said: "It is very unsafe for the people for lawyers to practice at this place. Their appearance in this river will soon invegle everyone who is not careful into litigation, and they will feed on their folly, thereby ruling them."

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

In Use For Over 30 Years.
The Kind You Have Always Bought.

"Mamma, what's the use of putting all those things for the baby in that sterilizing machine?" "Why, Willie, so that no bad germs will enter his system." "That's what I thought. But I know an easier way." "What's that?" "Why, while you were out I sterilized the baby!"—Life.

National Pure Food and Drugs Act.

Serial No. 384, assigned by the Government, and bearing that the preparations comply in every respect with the requirements of the Pure Food and Drugs Act, appear on every package of the Garfield Tea Company's preparations.

Half Pay for British Officers.

All British officers on the effective list of the army that are elected members of the House of Commons are to be placed on half pay from the date of their election.

The Sunny South.

Now when all outdoor farm work has ceased in the north, the term "sunny south" and all that it means, appeals with full force to the northern farmer as he realizes that with him it is a case of remaining indoors for the next several months consuming everything that has been produced during the growing season. In the "sunny south" something can be raised every month in the year, and while practically every day can be spent out doors. No blizzards. No sunstrokes. Cattle-raising is very profitable. Large profits are made with little labor in growing fruits, vegetables, etc., for northern markets. Strawberries and cantaloupes are great revenue getters. Water unsurpassed. Work plentiful. Lands cheap and productive. For reliable information, address G. A. Park, General Immigration and Industrial Agent, Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, Louisville, Ky.

Squirrels as Waiters.

It has taken Pink Goodyear of Burchtown, Pa., two years to train his pet squirrels, but his efforts are now repaid, and on Thanksgiving he treated his friends to a surprise.

Gathering half a hundred or more gray squirrels, Mr. Goodyear taught them to go into the woods and pick up nuts, carrying them to his home.

On Thanksgiving night at a dinner his guests noticed a small board running from a window to a nut bowl. The host gave one knock on the table with his knife. A squirrel hopped down the plank and dropped a chestnut into the bowl. Two raps brought a squirrel with a walnut, three knocks a shellbark.

Finally, a grave old squirrel took his place and cracked the nuts, winding up the performance by brushing off the crumbs with his thick bushy tail.

The Evils of Constipation.

are many; in fact almost every serious illness has its origin in constipation, and some medicines, instead of preventing constipation, add to it. This is true of most cathartics, which, when first used, have a beneficial effect, but the dose has to be continually increased, and before long the remedy ceases to have the slightest effect. There is one preparation, however, that can be relied upon to produce the same results with the same dose, even after fifty years' daily use, and this is Brandreth's Pills, which has a record of over 100 years as the standard remedy for constipation and all troubles arising from an impure state of the blood.

Brandreth's Pills are the same fine laxative tonic pill your grandparents used, and are for sale everywhere, either plain or sugar-coated.

Pugilist's Sudden Conversion.

"Kid" Wedge, a light-weight pugilist who claimed to be champion of Arkansas, was training for a fight with Guy Buckles in Omaha. Suddenly he "got religion" and sent word to the management of the club where he was to appear explaining why they would have to make other arrangements. At the same time he mailed a copy of the New Testament to Mr. Buckles, who, as he fully expected to win the fight which had been arranged, is not yet entirely resigned.

Picturesque German Custom.

A curious custom procures in the German navy when the sailors, having served their time, pass into the reserve. They don the "reserve flask"—also used on a similar occasion in the army—and parade the streets wearing caps with ribbons which reach to the ground, other ribbons being attached to the canes they carry.

New Hobby for Collectors.

The ingenuity of collectors in the discovery of new fields having been exhausted, there is still open to them that of collecting the finest specimen of forged or spurious works of art and this is capable of becoming a hobby scarcely less interesting or admirable than the pursuit of the genuine article.—Art Journal.

Ascum—"You're a literary man, you say." Woodby—"Oh, yes, I do considerable writing for the papers." Ascum—"I never noticed your name—" Woodby—"Oh, no, I have several pennames that I use; usually 'Constant Reader' or 'Pro Bono Publico' or 'Old Subscriber.'"

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CURES RHEUMATISM & ACHES
DIABETES BACKACHE
The pain will go in a few hours

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First clothing outfit free to recruits. Upon discharge travel allowance 4 cents per mile in place of enlistment. Bonus four months' pay and increase to pay upon re-enlistment within four months of discharge.

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160 ACRES FARMS IN WESTERN CANADA FREE
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