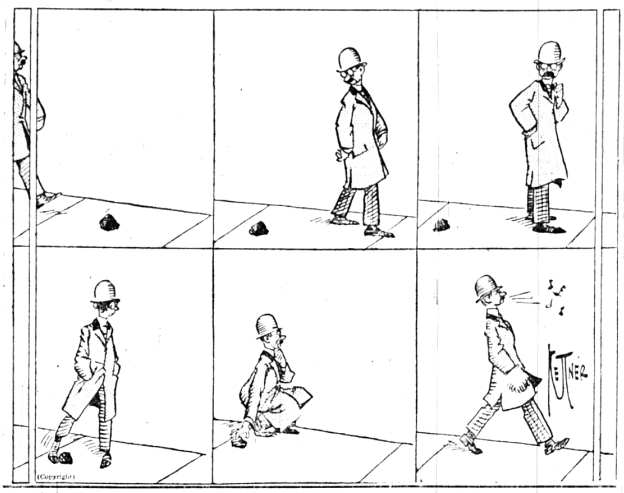
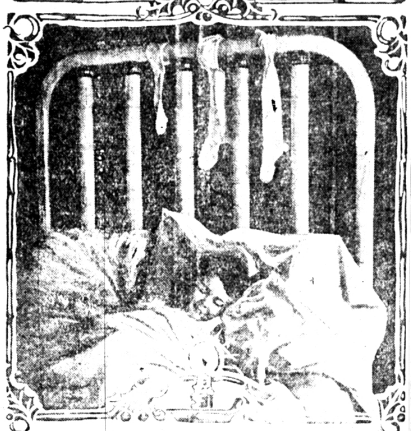
## A Piece of Coal



## The EMPTY STOCKING



*There's an empty stocking hanging from many a little bed,*
*Where a God-blessed dream hangs over each sleeping curly head;*
*And the room gathers nightly of a day that's soon to come,*
*Where little feet should patter to the music of the drum.*

*There's an empty stocking hanging by many a wind blown door,*
*That must wait in vain for Christmas, in the gray haunts of the poor;*
*And eyes that now shine brightly shall, through a rain of tears,*
*See nothing there on Christmas but the sorrow of the years.*

*But out where splendor centers in the mansions of the great,*
*No call will go unanswered, no toy will vainly wait;*
*The Christmas horn will summon —the Christmas drum will roll*
*The tide of joy to magic through the gateway of each soul.*

*But where one gift would brighten the dark of weary days,*
*No reindeer's hoof will thunder o'er Poverty's dreary ways;*
*And so, for God's white season— for some wee dreamer's cause—*
*Don't you think that you might whisper just a word to Santa Claus?*

## Ask Any Doughboy Who Was "Over There"

and he will tell you that American railroads are the best in the world.

He saw the best in service in England and France, the best in European railroads under Government control and he knows.

The part railroads have played in the development of the United States is a matter of history.

American railroads have set the pace and standards of public service. [illegible] have enormous investment, and the constant striving of managers and men to do their best for work well done.

We have the best railroads in the world—we must continue to have the best.

But they must grow.

To the $20,000,000,000 now invested in our railroads, there will have to be added in the next few years, to keep pace with business, billions more for additional tracks, terminals, cars and engines, passenger facilities and trains, automatic signals, grade crossing eliminations, [illegible] construction and [illegible] reduce the cost of transportation.

To attract to railroads the new capital for investment funds so [illegible] the growing needs of the railroads, [illegible] ages, and the [illegible] men—[illegible] ding for capital, [illegible] industry must [illegible] managers and [illegible]

American railroads [illegible] standard and [illegible] if they continue to be [illegible] American people [illegible]

*This advertisement is published by the Association of Railway Executives*

## Classified Liners

**Under this heading 30 words or less, 1 time 25c; 2 times 40c; 3 times 50c; 6 times 75c. Cash with copy**

### FOR SALE.

SEWING machines cleaned and repaired. All work guaranteed. Address Box 88, Royal Oak.

FOR SALE Ten very fine grade Guernsey cows at an attractive price. In good condition and T. B. with good milk records. For further particulars as to prices, etc., see W. C. Stark, Utica, Mich. 21

Corner Watkins, 50 foot lot at $1,250, with $350 down, balance easy. Other lots at $1,250. MAIN 2000. J. McGRAW RUDG.

FOR SALE Christmas trees at wholesale and retail, one and one-half miles from Birmingham, on the Quarton road. H. E. Ralston. Phone 75-F2. 21

WANTED Refined couple with room and board for room with furnished parlor, with conveniences. Adds. A. B. Eccentric office.

WANTED TO RENT Young couple need to rent home with [illegible] rent furnished or unfurnished apartment. Best of references. Address B. Eccentric Office.

SPECIAL Those who will [illegible] Birmingham needs small homes. I have one hundred for sale cheap on [illegible] and inside of Ashland and Adams boulevard, for $500 and up. Will give easy terms to suit with C. E. JONES, Phone 304-J. 21

## PERSONALS.

Allie Castle of Utica was a recent caller in town.

—o—

The two small sons of Dr. and Mrs. P. D. Hill are ill with the mumps at their home on North Woodward avenue.

—o—

Gordon McGregor left recently for a hunting trip in the north.

—o—

Miss Luella Davenport left recently to spend several weeks with friends in Florida.

—o—

Mrs. George Hulbert of Lake [illegible] is seriously ill at her home.

—o—

William Pollock of South Woodward avenue is ill with measles.

—o—

Mrs. L. T. Walker of Indianapolis is visiting here.

—o—

Ray Mack is ill with measles at his home on Dalton street.

—o—

M. L. Randle of Ferndale left Thursday for Miami, Fla., where he will spend the rest of the winter.

—o—

Ray Whalen of Detroit is the guest of relatives here.

—o—

Miss Edna Schlaack of Ridge [illegible] has been ill for several days.

—o—

Dale Harbison and Lelah Shaw are home from Lansing for the Christmas vacation.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Staley will spend Christmas with relatives in Toledo.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gobble attended the concert at the Detroit High school.

—o—

Dallas Hayes is home from Ann Arbor.

—o—

Miss Ethel Van Zandt, who attends the Lady Elsie school at Detroit, is spending Christmas vacation with her parents.

—o—

Leslie Sandford is on the sick list.

—o—

Leon Poppleton is recovering from a severe illness.

—o—

Paul Hislop is [illegible] his home on Pierce street.

—o—

Miss Alta Brown of Cleveland, O., is visiting her [illegible] Mr. and Mrs. William Brown on Bates street.

—o—

Miss Helen Rodabaugh is home from Ypsilanti.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Walters left recently for Tampa, Fla., to spend the winter.

—o—

Word has been received from Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Smith, who are [illegible] from California. They [illegible] their home on K. [illegible]

—o—

William Bream of Bay City was a guest over night after [illegible] for many weeks.

—o—

Mrs. Jay Nash was in town recently.

—o—

Emil Hoehing is ill.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] are the proud parents of a baby girl, born Christmas morning, who will be named Marion.

—o—

Miss Florence Gault of Oak street left recently for California, where she will spend the remainder of the winter.

—o—

Miss Leona [illegible] is home from Ann Arbor for the holidays.

—o—

Dora Green is [illegible] with measles at the home of Mrs. [illegible]

—o—

Miss Catherine Jennings of Detroit is [illegible] Miss Mary Bell of Park street.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Robinson of Detroit are [illegible] with their mother, Mrs. Mary Bell of Park street.

—o—

Florence Hartwell of Detroit, [illegible] Ann Arbor, is [illegible] Miss Mary Bell of Park street.

—o—

Miss Grace Bell of St. Clair will spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. A. McCallum.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Schlaack and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schlaack entertained at dinner Christmas day at the home of Ernest Schlaack on Lincoln avenue all the boys of Fort Rhea [illegible] Edison on West Maple avenue.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Cox and family left Tuesday for New York, where they will spend several weeks.

—o—

Miss Cora Symons will spend Christmas with friends at Jackson, Mich.

—o—

Clyde Price of Shelbyville, Mich., is visiting his father, Leo Price of Martin street.

—o—

James Bagley of Detroit visited his sister, Mrs. H. E. Smith of Maple avenue on Sunday.

—o—

Elizabeth Benning is home for her Christmas vacation.

—o—

Miss Ann Young will spend Christmas with her parents in Ohio.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Shafer and family of Detroit spent Sunday at the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Baker of Maple avenue.

—o—

Miss Marcella Stocker spent Sunday with relatives at Farmington.

—o—

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Brewer of Pontiac were guests of the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Davenport on Sunday.

—o—

W. H. Bolles, 65, died at his home in Orion last Saturday. Mr. Bolles was a father of Mrs. Lulu Carter of Birmingham.

—o—

W. C. Black, president of the North Indiana Oil Co., was a business caller in this village last week.

—o—

John Wilmot has been ill at his home the last few days.

—o—

Mrs. Mary E. Berry, 70 years of age, fell and broke her leg near the hip last Saturday.

—o—

Miss Ethel Moore and Flor[illegible] Kitchen will spend the latter part of their vacation at Grass Lake, Mich.

—o—

Vereka Porter will spend next week in Detroit.

—o—

Glenn and Alice Vorhees are home for their Christmas vacation.

—o—

Mrs. John Boughner of Clarkston was a caller in town one day this week.

—o—

Emily McKnight is spending Christmas vacation at her home.

## A Christmas Carol

*"What means this glory round our feet,"*
*The Magi asked, "more bright than morn?"*
*And voices chanted clear and sweet,*
*"Today the Prince of Peace is born!"*
*"What means that star," the shepherds said,*
*"That brightens through the gloom?"*
*And angels answering overhead,*
*Sang "Peace on earth, good-will to men!"*
*'Tis eighteen hundred years and more*
*Since those sweet oracles were dumb;*
*We wait for Him, like them of yore;*
*Alas, He seems so slow to come!*
*But it was said, in words of gold,*
*No time or sorrow e'er shall dim,*
*That little children might be bold*
*In perfect trust to come to Him.*
*All round about our feet shall shine*
*A light like that the wise men saw,*
*If we our loving wills incline*
*To that sweet life which is the Law.*
*So shall we learn to understand*
*The simple faith of shepherds then,*
*And, clasping kindly hand in hand,*
*Sing, "Peace on earth, good-will to men!"*
*But they who do their souls no wrong,*
*But keep at eve the faith of morn,*
*Shall daily hear the angel-song,*
*"Today the Prince of Peace is born!"*

—James Russell Lowell.

### THINGS OF INTEREST.

Navy sailors have formed a relief of food prices in Eastern cities.

"No times for shoplifters" is the working agreement of the police and justices of general and special sessions in New York during the holiday season. Light fingered persons will go to jail.

A hunter's remedy for warts is given as follows: Heat castor oil, or similar thick oil, and apply to the wart with a stick or brush. Three treatments, he says, usually finishes the wart.

## *Different Now, But Christmas Just the Same*

*By DeLyle F. Cass*

In olden days they used to bring a boar's head all smoking into the feast and deck the halls with Yuletide to the great fireplace with special ceremonies.

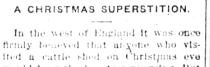
And yet as regards the custom was for lords and [illegible] boys to go from house to house on Christmas morning, standing grouped in the street and singing carols of joy to the mellow sounds of bells.

And in grandfather's time folks made big jolly, holly-[illegible]-dashing parties, when they rolled up nicely and let out the horses, with the iron runners gliding swiftly over the hard-packed snow.

But Mollie and I live in a little house in town, where the sanitary department keeps the streets swept clean if snow; where there are municipal rules against chopping down trees and no fireplaces in which to burn the logs, even if we had them; where the policeman on the beat [illegible] would arrest a [illegible] who dared to [illegible] around and wake up the neighborhood by singing early in the morning.

Mollie and I just wake up the kids and let them trundle downstairs to see the [illegible] trimmed the night before, and then let them litter up the parlor, while she sits quietly on the arm of my chair and I smoke, watching them most of the day afterwards.

But, let me tell you, friends, it's Christmas, just the same!



### A CHRISTMAS SUPERSTITION.

In the west of England it was once firmly believed that anyone who visited a cattle shed on Christmas eve would hear the beasts conversing. But such a visit was considered perilous—the irreverent eavesdropper being likely to hear words of ill omen, as in the legend of the farmer who heard his oxen congratulating each other on a certain hard day's work that lay before them in the future: "It is a long way up the hill to the churchyard, and our master is heavy." Brand speaks of a west country peasant who told him that he had himself seen cattle fall on their knees at the Holy Hour, and heard them utter a groan "like Christian creatures."

### Minister Wants to Help

[illegible] suffering should feel encouraged and want to help others. Rev. W. P. M. Saynodes, 818 Elm st., Macon, Ga., writes: My kidneys gave me much trouble before I took Foley Kidney Pills. In every way they [illegible] Foley Kidney Pills. Sold everywhere.

Word comes from Lincoln, Neb., that the price of eggs have been cut from 55 cents a dozen to 35 cents. This was brought about by 2,000 women who united to fight the high prices.


**Useful Gifts for CHILDREN**

Cute little upholstered wicker and mission rockers, Children's dining sets, Kitchen Cabinets, Desks, Doll Buggies, Doll Beds, Cradles, Blackboards, Etc.

**SPECIAL**

We also expect to have a sale by the time you read this. A big shipment of children's autos, doll buggies, etc., at extremely low prices, as they were bought several months ago.

**FOR GROWN UPS**

There is nothing more appreciated than a long wanted piece of furniture.

Maybe it's a Luxurious Overstuffed Davenport, a Lady's Desk, a Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet or a Library Table, Pedestals, Cedar Chests, Dressers, Beds, Dining Room Pieces, Rugs, Rockers, Floor or Table Lamps, or the best of all

**A NEW EDISON PHONOGRAPH**

Our no rent low expense warehouse prices make it a pleasure for one to buy here for you are buying right close to cost and paying nothing for a lot of useless expense usually connected with the selling of furniture.

**STOVES**

If you want to avail yourself of our low prices on Ranges and Heaters, including the famous Renown Underfeed you will have to buy now for this week will probably clean us out and we will buy no more this season, as the prices are much higher.

**D. K. SMITH**

Just Off Woodward, Opp. Ford Factory, also Royal Oak, Mich.



**$100 Reward, $100**

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is catarrh. Catarrh being greatly influenced by constitutional conditions requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists, 75c.



**David C. Bliesath**

BLACKSMITH AND GENERAL WOODWORKER

All Kinds of Wood Working and Band Sawing

HORSE-SHOEING and REPAIR WORK A SPECIALTY

Phone 241



THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK O BIRMINGHAM MICHIGAN

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS — Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the stockholders of this association for the purpose of electing officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before such meeting will be held pursuant to the provisions of the association, at the banking house of the association in the Village of Birmingham, Michigan, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th, 1920, at 10:00 o'clock, central standard time. The polls for the election of officers will be open from 10:00 to 11:00 a. m.

A. WHITEHEAD, President.
Birmingham, Michigan, December 4, 1919.
52dec-3jan



Attend the D. B. U.

for a thorough up-to-date Business training. A good position is assured every D.B.U. graduate—several of last year's graduates already earning $1800 a year. Opportunities open to work for room and board while attending. Write for Bulletin "B."

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61-69 WEST GRAND RIVER AVE.
DETROIT

Established 1850 Accredited



DEVELOPING ANY SIZE ROLL 10¢
BLACK'S 156 WOODWARD AVE DETROIT


Generally Down.

The trouble with the fellow who is so disagreeable that he makes it your force is that he is likely to keep about it afterward.

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928-927 David Whitney Building
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Attorney at Law.
Office 1 1-2 N. Saginaw St.
Pontiac, Mich.
At Birmingham every Wednesday, Justice Lockrow's office.



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