

CHRISTMAS LETTERS

SOMETIMES a letter means more than all the cards and gifts in the world. Why not send a Christmas message by letter this year? A bright holiday seal stuck at the top will introduce your remarks in a jolly fashion, and then you may continue with whatever you think friendly and suitable. This is a cheap method in the actual expenditure of money, but a rich outlay of thought for those you love. Have you not discovered that something somebody does just for you is more precious than a present bought in a hurry? Christmas letters bring great joy. Try some and see!
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The Piper in the Subway

By Christopher C. Reed

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THERE is a contrast to the holiday atmosphere as one passes into the dark and damp underground way out of the great depot. A chill strikes upon the soul as well as upon the body. The passer hurries on to escape into the light and cheer of the street. He hugs his Christmas packages a little closer and tries to whistle himself into something like gaiety. Suddenly he is startled and helped by the tones of a merry tune and discovers the old blind man who has long haunted the dismal place. For years this unfortunate has made it his one business to stand there and pipe up the falling spirits of travelers. His face has refused the marks of darkness and his soul has kept gladness behind its closed and curtained windows. As one stops to leave a token and a word of appreciation with him he says, "Thank you; I don't know as I ever did anybody any good; some people don't like it."

SURE ENOUGH.

Jimmie: Sister says she expects a handsome present from you Christmas.
 Cholly: Hand- some? Maybe she means me.



The Holiday Spirit

(©, 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)

CAN there be anyone who does not polish up his holiday spirit by reading Dickens' "Christmas Carol"? Is there anyone who does not give himself the fun of skimming down the slide with Bob Cratchit and laughing at his comforter, "three yards long, exclusive of the fringe," stream out behind him like the woolly tail of a kite? Is there anyone who does not creep up the cold staircase with Old Scrooge and shiver into his dismal room, there to eat a small and lonely bowl of porridge with the crusty old gentleman? Is there anyone who does not love Tiny Tim and his wee, brave crutch? And Mrs. Cratchit, who can cook a goose to beat anything thus far accomplished in the history of mankind? And then, when we follow the Spirit of Christmas Past, can anyone fail to be moved by the forlorn little figure of Old Scrooge as a lad, left in loneliness at school during the holidays? Could anything be more pathetic? Has anyone such astounding control of his feet that he can prevent them from dancing at Mr. Fezziwig's party? And where is the impossible person who can suppress a cheer at that remarkable gentleman's performance with his legs? "If such there be, go, mark him well," for he has no pleasant places in his heart for these delightful humors. And then the damsel with the "lace tucker"! Dear me, what a chase she gave one interested young man in Blind Man's Buff! And how he paid her up for it in a certain shadowy corner of the room; how he did, indeed! But she liked it. Oh, yes, she liked it very much indeed, did the damsel with the lace tucker! Then to return to the Cratchit family, who is there to resist the simple toast of Tiny Tim, a toast of five words that encompasses the hope of all men: "GOD BLESS US, EVERY ONE!"

Raisin Macaroon Ice Cream.

One quart cream, 1 cupful macaroon (1 doz.), 1/2 cupful sugar, 1/4 cupful finely chopped raisins, 1 teaspoonful vanilla.
 Heat cream in double boiler. Dry macaroon in oven and roll. Add macaroon, raisins and sugar to the cream. Flavor and chill. Freeze.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

EVERY Christmas they invited one or two to have Christmas dinner with them who would otherwise have been alone. It gave them so much pleasure that they never felt they were being "kindly" nor that they were "doing a real charity." So that their guests always had a real Christmas with real Christmas cheer. For they never felt that they had been invited out of kindness, nor out of charity!

SANTA FOR ITALIAN KIDDIES

Befana, Good Fairy, is supposed to Fill Stockings With Toys on Twelfth Night.

THE character in Italian childhood lore corresponding to our Santa Claus is Befana, a good fairy who is supposed to fill the children's stockings with toys on Twelfth Night. She does not, however, come down the chimney, and the stockings are hung in the child's bedroom. When someone enters to fill the stocking, the child, according to a very ancient practice, cries out "Ecco la Befana." The legend concerning this lady is that the Magi, while on their way to Bethlehem, stopped at her home, but found her too busy with household affairs to entertain them. She told them that she would see them on their return, but they went back by another route, and therefore Befana comes out in search of them every Twelfth Night. Her name is a corruption of Epiphany, which is Jan. 6, the twelfth night after Christmas, according to the church calendar.

FINEST EVER.

Does Jack send you good Christmas presents?
 The finest I ever exchanged.



Christmas Cake Decorations.
 To make attractive Christmas cake decorations, lightly butter the under side of perfect holly leaves, then coat with icing and let dry. When dry the icing will come off shaped and veined like the leaf. Make into a wreath by joining with icing stems.

Christmas 1922

'Seems as if we just set ourselves for a little winter weather and here's Christmas again with all its joys, with its merry greetings, its gifts and its good fellowship.

For many years the Lord Lumber Co. has been wishing its patrons (and those who are not patrons) A Merry Christmas. Since the first one, many new homes have been built here, many new faces are seen on our streets — and — alas, some of the old familiar ones are gone.

So again at this time when the joys of the holiday season are so rapidly approaching, it is our sincere wish that you may have

A Merry Christmas



Lord Lumber Co.

Phone 20

THE REPORTER—\$2.00 PER YR. THE REPORTER—\$2.00 PER YR. TRY A REPORTER CLASSIFIED.

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Come in at once and order a VICTROLA for the family, your wife, your daughter, together with a selection of records and assure yourself of the most enjoyable Christmas Day you can remember. The great thing about a Victrola is that it will be enjoyed for years.

Our Prices and Terms Will suit you

EVERYBODY likes music on Christmas Day. There is no better way of pleasing owners of phonographs than with a package of new records as a remembrance.

A Few Suggestions for Gift Seekers

We have a very complete line of Christmas Cards, Stickers, and so forth. Give Fancy Boxed Stationery; Cigars, other articles for smokers; they're always appreciated. Let us give you suggestions; you will be surprised at the variety of our stock.



J. L. Swearingen
Records and Supplies

TELEPHONE 26

23 SOUTH MAIN STREET

Suggestions

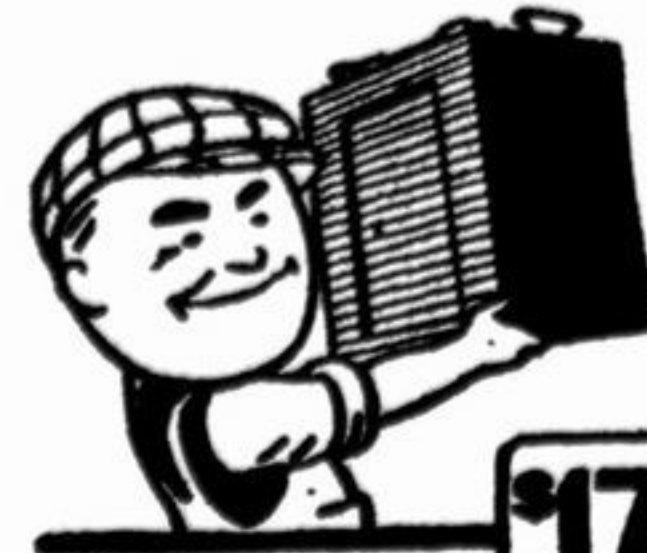
For Your Motorist Friends

Xmas Gift

Nothing pleases a motorist more than some special or accessory for his car. There are many inexpensive things which will make your motorist friend think of you ever time he drives. We have them. Come in and see.

- MOTOMETER — RADIATOR COVER — WINTER FRONTS — WINDSHIELD WIPERS — SKID CHAINS — FLASH LIGHTS — BATTERY TESTERS — STOP LIGHTS — SPOT LIGHTS — SPARE SET BULBS — PYRENE — SHALLER VULCANIZERS—ALEMITE GREASE SYSTEM — FIVE GALLONS CYLINDER OIL — FIVE POUNDS CUP GREASE — SET SPARK PLUGS — KELLY CORD CASING OR KELLY TUBES.

Westinghouse Battery



\$17.00

JUST A FEW SUGGESTIONS
 SOCKET WRENCH SET — A TIRE GUAGE — HORN — A REAL PUMP — MANY MORE ARTICLES ON DISPLAY.

Cylinder Grinding Machine Work a Specialty
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Downers Grove Garage

80 SOUTH MAIN STREET

PHONE TOO-TWO