Home Chats

By

MARIE ANN BEST

Isn't it a good thing the new year comes around once in a while with its manuscript of 365 days, all untried clean sheets? Somehow we feel we can start over then for Father Time seems to be handing us another chance to make good.

One of the yearly puzzles that keeps growing more and more perplexing to many people is the money question. Things that were considered luxuries are now necessities and it is hard to keep track of where the money goes. The following suggestion might help to solve this problem.

First subtract from the annual salary 10 per cent. for savings and income tax payments. Then divide the remainder into five equal parts for—1st, food; 2nd, shelter; 3rd, clothing; 4th, household expenses (which includes electricity, fuel, water, maid service, repairs and refurnishing); 5th development (which includes church and club dues, vacation funds, benevolences, medical bills, automobile upkeep, personal expenses, entertainment, education and recreation).

Then lay aside these sums every pay day over the year and keep within them every week. It works out fairly well.

Window Cleaning

Occasionally wipe the windows off with clean paper. Tissue paper is best if you have it. It keeps the dust and dirt from accumulating and reduces the number of real window washings. The amount of black dirt collected on the paper, also the ease with which they can be cleaned is a surprise and clean, shining windows for another week or so is the result.

Three-year-old Beatrice was eating her porridge slower and slower. Her mother knew she wanted her toast and honey waiting on her plate, so she said: "Eat all your porridge now, dear." But there was no answer. After a while a violent coughing took place. "Why, what is the matter, what are you doing that for?" Still no answer, but the coughing kept up, a noticeably forced cough. "Listen, Beatrice, why do you do that?" At last the muffled answer came: "I coughing 'cause I don't want my porridge."

Twilight Hour Story—Chapter 7

Billy, the farmer man's son, left the barn door open and then went to get George, the horse, and pretty soon Mamma Hen thought she would see if it was a nice day outside. Of course when she went out all the four little chicks went too. It did look nice outside for the sun was shining, but just as they got outside of the door—swish came the wind, and it was such a cold wind. It was so cold that the little chicks came running back and wanted to get under their Mamma again. But just think, Mamma Hen wouldn't sit down on them as she did before, so they could get warm under her wings. All she did was hunt around for something to eat for herself, and besides that, she walked so fast they could hardly keep up with her. I really believe she is going to be a bad Mamma, and the chicks looked so cute, too. I don't see how she could act that way, do you? Well, she just got worse and worse and even got quite cross because they followed her, and all at once she ran real fast away from them and left them all alone. Wasn't that a dreadful thing to do? And there were four little chickies without a Mamma. She went off and left them just like some bad mammas leave their little boys and girls sometimes. It is a good thing it isn't often that there are bad Mammas but once in a while that is what happens. We should be so glad we have dear kind mammas who always take such good care of us, shouldn't we? I tell you there is nothing, no, nothing in the world so good and nice as a good mamma, is there? So you must always remember to love her and help her just all you can and when bed time comes, it pleases her if you hurry up and get into your warm little beds, then turn out the lights too, so you can feel the soft dark that makes eyes sleepy. What that little verse again? Perhaps you can say it from memory.

The dark is kind and cosy,
The dark is soft and deep,
The dark will pat my pillow,
And love me as I sleep.
God made the dark so daytime
Could close its tired eyes,
And sleep awhile in comfort
Beneath the starry skies.

Next Week—"The Little Chickens' New Mamma."

What New York Is Wearing

BY ANNABELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern

3190

All the smart young women are wearing snappy jacket suits of lightweight woolen.

The one sketched is just adorable with the bodice of dress in lighter blending tone.

The pointed treatment of skirt creates a flat slimness through the hips and waist. The snug fit of the skirt is what makes it so popular. Note the low placement of fulness with three inverted plaits at front and one at centre-back which flare only in motion.

Style No. 3190 can be had in sizes 16, 18 years, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust.

Spanish red tweed in diagonal weave with beige wool jersey bodice is youthfully smart.

Hunter's green wool jersey is sportive made entirely of the one fabric.

Wool crepe, silk crepe, kasha, canton crepe and tweed-like rayon crepes are suitable for this chic model that may be worn all through the spring.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving the number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred, wrap it carefully) for each number and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Sunday School Lesson

January 18. Lesson III—The Ministry of John the Baptist—Luke 3: 7-17. Golden Text—Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance.—Luke 3: 8.

V. 15. We are told that many people wondered whether John the Baptist might not be Christ. The word "Christ" is of Greek origin and means anointed. It thus corresponds exactly with the Hebrew term "Messiah." In the Old Testament "Messiah" hardly occurs as a title, but many people are thought of as "anointed" in a special way. Thus kings or high priests, or even foreigners, such as Cyrus (Isa. 45: 1), might be spoken of as "mine anointed."

In the time of Jesus the term had come to have a technical meaning. For long centuries now the Jews had been subjected to one great heathen empire after another; at this time they were a part of the Roman Empire; they were allowed certain special privileges in it and almost complete religious freedom; but they had nothing like the liberty and independence of "Dominion status." They were held down by military force, and felt that in spite of religious liberty their national life was thwarted and spoilt by the heathen oppression. They were perhaps the proudest and bravest race in the Empire, and they dreamed of freedom. God, as many of them thought, must raise up for them a Deliverer, a great king in their midst, as David had been who should restore and increase the ancient glories of their nation. This Deliverer, for whose reign they hoped, they called "Messiah."

This hope and widespread expectation was much more than political. The world, as they saw it, was given over to evil; the best of them were much concerned for the triumph of righteousness and the spread of true religion than they were for their own national aggrandizement. Surely, they felt, the world had suffered the rule of Satan and of the heathen long enough; surely God must soon overthrow sin and evil, and establish his glorious kingdom of righteousness and peace and true religion! The expectation of Messiah was widespread, but not, it seems, universal; many thought that the Messiah would be an earthly king and deliverer like David; others thought of a mysterious, angelic Being who should appear on the clouds of heaven. It was not unnatural that in the excitement of John's "Revival" some should wonder whether he might not be the expected Messiah.

V. 16. But this was not John's function. He was like the outrider who precedes the royal carriage, or like the servant who cuts a way through the thick brush, that his master may follow. He was the herald, the forerunner of the Messiah, not the Messiah himself. John had baptized with water, immersing his disciples in the Jordan, but there would follow him "the stronger One"—apparently he meant Messiah—who should baptize men "with the holy Spirit, and with fire."

This phrase combines two very different ideas. What is meant by "fire" the following verses show. John proclaimed the near advent of the fiery Judgment. In the Day of Judgment the worthless chaff would be given to the flames and burnt. Hence, the future baptism would be a baptism of "fire." It would not, however, be quite true to say that John the Baptist preached "hell fire," for his meaning is that the wicked, the chaff, will be destroyed, not that they will be eternally punished. We ought not to expect to find in his teaching a realization of God as the Father of infinite mercy as the divine Shepherd who seeks for the lost sheep "until he find." It is not very clear how John could have spoken of a baptism of fire and of the holy Spirit at the same time, and it is possible, though not certain, that the words, "and with the Holy Spirit," were added by the Christians to correspond better with the real facts, for though the coming of Jesus was in a real sense a Judgment (see John 3: 19), yet, actually, Christian baptism was a baptism of the Spirit.

"Denunciation is an ineffective method. It is very doubtful if scolding ever does any good. Righteous indignation may sometimes be needed, but it is not enough. Rebuke for failure in duty will only aggravate, unless the better way can be shown. Humanity need not despair, but hope. The gospel is positive, not a mere negation of evil, but the overcoming of evil with good. Herein is its glory. Duty can be achieved, and conscience can be void of offence, and righteousness can, and presently will, cover the earth like a garment."

In Acts 19: 2 we read of a company of disciples in Ephesus who knew of John's baptism, but knew nothing of a pouring out of the holy Spirit. It was this new "Spirit," given to Christians which chiefly distinguished John's baptism from that of Jesus. The receiving of the holy Spirit, which was the seal and proof that a man was a Christian, was associated with baptism, sometimes because it was given in baptism, sometimes because it immediately preceded baptism. When we think of baptism by the holy Spirit we should not have in mind the strange "speaking with tongues," so much as the new power and hope and character which came with Christianity.

John is here represented as looking forward to the coming of Messiah (though the name is not used) whose shoe-lace he felt himself unworthy to untie.

Cold Compressed Air From Texas Oil Wells Baffles Geologists

Nature Continues to Astonish Men of Science—But Man Bodly Harnesses Force Even Though Phenomenon Remains Mystery

Snyder, Tex.—One of the greatest mysteries in Texas to geologists, that of the source and cause of the frigid compressed air which comes from wells in the section around Snyder, has been heightened by the bringing in of another well of enormous compressed air flow in a new locality five miles from the other wells. The latest discovery was made in a test for oil that was being drilled by Seifert, Dibble & Blackburn.

The air stratum was encountered at a depth of 1,171 feet. The air rushed out of the hole with a tremendous roar and quickly covered the derrick with frozen moisture. The flow was brought under control and preparations are being made to harness it for use in boilers in industries of nearby communities.

The first of these strange wells was completed near Snyder about five years ago. The air was below the zero mark in temperature and during the hot summer days, when the surface temperature was 90 to 100 degrees, the freezing air from the well was used for refrigerating vegetables and other products. Later it was turned into boilers of industrial plants and the power used as a substitute for steam. Since the original discovery two other similar wells have been brought in here and are furnishing power for boilers. Many geologists of note have visited the freak wells, but none of them has been able to explain the phenomena. For a time it was thought that the product of the wells might be non-inflammable helium gas, but an analysis showed that it was pure oxygen.

Canada's Fisheries Report Good Year

Outstanding Increase is in Salmon Pack on Pacific Coast

Although prices were lower, Canada's catch of sea fish and shell fish in the first nine months of the past year was larger by some 30,000,000 pounds than the catch in the corresponding period of 1929. The outstanding increase was in the salmon pack on the Pacific coast, in which it is already clear there will be a new record established for the year. The combined catch of all varieties of sea fish and shell fish in the nine months' period was approximately 818,570,000 pounds, compared with 788,291,700 pounds in the first three-quarters of 1929.

Increase on Pacific Coast

The sea fisheries for the month of September showed an increase, on the Atlantic. For the two coasts together there was a drop of 32,900,000 pounds in the catch. On the Atlantic coast decreases were fairly general in nearly all the principal fisheries, although Quebec and Nova Scotia both fared better as regards mackerel than they had done in 1929, and there was an increased catch in Nova Scotia halibut. The major lobster fishing for the month was in New Brunswick, and the catch there was nearly 1,997,000 pounds compared with 1,311,400 pounds in September, 1929. The total catch of lobsters on the coast as a whole since the beginning of the late season of 1929 was 40,105,200 pounds, while in the preceding corresponding period landings totalled only 36,498,900 pounds.

On the Pacific coast, salmon and pilchard landings for September were both well ahead of the totals for the same month of 1929, though in each case the value was less than a year ago. The salmon catch amounted to about 33,643,000 pounds, a gain of over 600,000 pounds. The pilchard catch was 58,240,000 pounds, against 50,826,200 pounds in September last year. The month's halibut fishery was much less productive than the halibut operations in September, 1929. In September of the present year the catch was 2,874,000 pounds, compared with 3,493,800 pounds in September, 1929.

For the British Columbia salmon pack figures are now available up to Oct. 11, at which date it had reached 1,990,509 cases, or more than 590,000 cases above the pack total for the full year 1929, and only 74,689 cases less than the record quantity put up in 1926. There have been large increases this year in the pack of all varieties of salmon in British Columbia except cohoes. The sockeye pack increased by over 187,000 cases. Pink production has more than doubled as has also the production of springs. There have been substantial gains in the case of chums, bluebacks and steelheads, although the pack of the last-named is never large. There is little question but that the pack for the full year will set a new record for the British Columbia canned salmon industry.

Hey-Day

Come and go a-berrying,
Would you wiser be!
Come and learn that everything
Younger is than we—

We who almost dared to think
In our wearying
There were no more springs to drink,
No more pails to swing!

We were dusty with our books,
Come and let us go
Out among the lyric brooks,
Where the verses grow,

Where the world is one delight
Made of many a song
Lasting till the nod of night,
Lovely all day long.

Till the smallest glimmering nook
Holds the moon in glory;
And the heavens are the book
And the stars the story!

There the peaceful earth is sweet,
Either way it lies—
Under unacquainted feet
Or in tired eyes.

—Witter Bynner, in "Young Harvard.'

Obligations

No man can be under an obligation to believe anything, who hath not sufficient means whereby he may be assured that such a thing is true.—Tillotson.

Master: "How did you puncture the tire so badly?" Chauffeur: "Ran over a bottle, sir." "Didn't you see it in time?" "No, sir; the man had it in his pocket."

Canadian Coal Industry

The last three years in the Canadian coal industry have shown a larger output than any similar period in the history of mining in the Dominion. Two of the three years have seen new records established. The year 1929 showed a slight decline, but the output even in that year was nearly 12 per cent. higher than the average production of the past five years. Within the five-year period the increase in output has been nearly 30 per cent. Canadian mines last year supplied approximately one-half of the coal consumed in the country. Imports came largely from the United States, while there were similar quantities from the United Kingdom.

The Canadian fuel problem is geographical in character. The Dominion possesses abundant supplies of coal, but these are situated at the extreme ends of the country. The two central Provinces of Ontario and Quebec are without local coal supplies, though at present certain deposits are under investigation in the northern part of Ontario. As a result of the distribution of coal within the Dominion, there are large imports into Quebec and Ontario from the conveniently situated mines in the United States.

Customer: "The sausages you sent to me were meat at one end and bread-crumbs at the other. Butcher: "Quite so, madam. In these hard times it is very difficult to make both ends 'meat,'"

Mother—"Have you much room in your new flat?" Dorothy—"Mercy, no! My kitchen and dining room are so small I have to use condensed milk."

Through a Glass Darkly

If I could be as sure of life
As I am sure of death,
It would be easier by far
To draw this constant breath.

If I could see the gates of life
Swing wide on such delights
As swing the gallant gates of death,
I should sleep well o' nights.

But life is such a twisted thing,
And death it goes so straight
Between the stars and through the moon.
Oh, I must not be late—

And I must not be hesitant,
But step with valiance out
Beyond the little lanes of life
To learn what death's about.

—Barbara Young in The New York Times.

Like the Rest of Us

Wifey—"There's an old clothes man at the door."

Hubby—"Tell him I've got all I need."—Judge.

Bad Patches

Have you noticed how disappointments come in waves? The explanation is hard to find. It puzzles us why, at certain periods, all kinds of troubles should seem to concentrate upon us.

It is really stupid to allow ourselves to be intimidated by a continuous run of bad luck. If we were wise enough, we should probably discover just why these things happen. We may be suffering these set-backs through a force of circumstances over which, apparently, we have no control. On the other hand, they may be the final result of some perpetual wrongdoing of our own. Much of the trouble can be eliminated if we look into the reasons honestly and without fear of finding unpleasant facts about ourselves.

"I'm feeling blue and bad-tempered," we say. Immediately the fact becomes more certain. In nine cases out of ten, these bad patches are of our own making, and they continue with us because it is too much trouble for us to get rid of them.—G. H. G.

jj:ffq:B

Stuff To Give 'Em

Farmer Jenkins believed in giving his workers a real Christmas meal.

This year he ordered the feast to start with soup, to be followed by goose, roast beef, and unlimited supplies of plum-pudding.

The workers, having fasted all day in order to be in good trim for the Christmas meal, were prepared to make the supplies look foolish. Roast goose and strong ale were all they expected.

"'Ere, what's this?" said a disappointed guest, when a plate of soup was placed before him. "You've forgotten the goose and stuffin'. I don't want any gravy."

Cheek

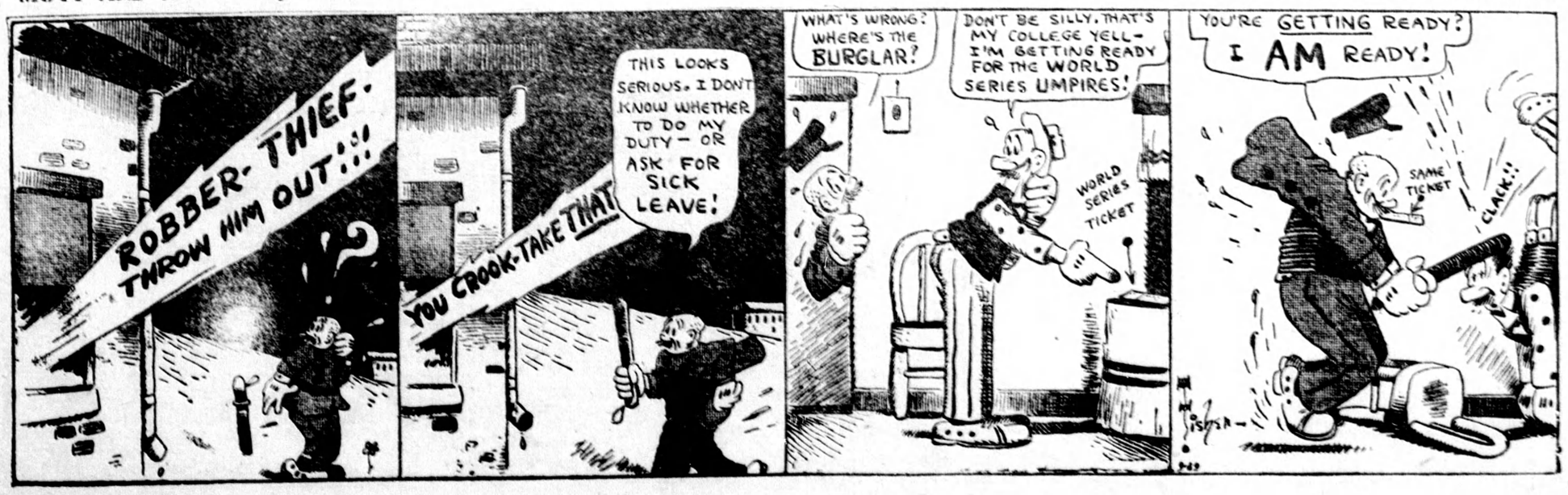
A very young man-about-town entered the hairdressing establishment for a quick shave.

Much to his annoyance, however, the shop was full of people waiting to be attended to.

"I say, my man," he said, "how long before I can get a shave?"

The barber, who was working at full speed, looked him up and down.

"Well, sir," he said curtly, "you might be able to start in about a couple of years."

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Mutt Should Have A Sound-Proof Room.