For the Boys and Girls

THE ELEPHANT COOKIE.

Buster looked down the snow-covered path to the gate and scowled hard. An extra hard kick at his sled sent the thing scurrying away from him, and zigzagging down the slight incline.

Buster was tired of everything—the snow, the sled, but most of all, I guess, he was tired of himself.

Now the sled didn't stop at the gateway, but it went on across the street and landed into the steps of a hobby brown house, with a group of boys standing on the porch. They were watching a race started on a run after it. Then they looked at the gate. The five boys on the porch, and two that were coming from the side of the house, were all boys that Buster knew. He had played with them many times, but now he felt shy.

The sixteen feet that separated him from the group seemed a mile in the snow. But he was funny than the cold in the pit of his stomach.

And they were all laughing and happy!

Buster made a stand to go home with all speed left. The sled was dragged back to the porch, where they all came up.

"We'll take turns, two at a time, and you twins."

The twins needed no second invitation. They scrambled on to the sled. Bob was off like a projectile.

As Buster watched them, a little lonely feeling crept into his heart. It grew into a big longing. He wanted more than anything else to join in the fun. He was just on the point of going across the street when a nice, motherly looking woman came out on the step.

"Children!" she called.

They came running. Their mother held up a huge cookie. Even from across the street Buster could see that it was the biggest cookie in all the world. And it was shaped like an elephant.

Bob took the cookie and sat down on the top step. The children crowded close to him. He broke off the elephant's left leg.

"For the twins," he shouted, and handed it in each a leg.

Off came the elephant's trunk.

"For Dickie." And Dickie sprang up like a jack-in-the-box.

Now came the head.

"For Julie," Julie giggled and bit into the soft cookie.

Buster watched the scene as the with floured eyes. How he like that elephant. His eyes grew larger and his mouth grew so wide that it hurt. He had to lick his cakes or the cookie would run down his chin.

"Here, you," said Bob, "what's the matter with you? Would you like the rest of the elephant?" He threw the sled back to the porch, where they all came up.

A look of surprise and relief crossed Buster's face. "Thank you," he said. "Let's share it." And it was like a game.

"Mother always makes us share everything," said Bob, awkwardly. "I'm glad that I saw you before I swallowed him all."

"I'm going to share things, too, after this," said Buster. "Let's put the twins around the house again."

And the strange part of it was that that was the happiest day Buster had ever had, the day he began sharing his toys with others.

The Wife's Song.

I sit beside my sewing-wheel,
And croon my little song,
Content to like a wife at home
The sweet day long.

The supper waits beside the hob,
The kettle steams away,
For him who comes so swift of foot
At close of day.

The gravel grinds beneath his step,
I fly to ope the door,
Compared wi' me, the gilded Queen
Upon her throne is poor.

I trim the lamp, I stir the fire,
I set his place and mine,
Fair falls to me the linen white,
The silver shine.

And while I sit beside my wheel,
Hands busy, song,
And all am I, my heart's asleep,
Heart warm and strong.

I see their father watch with pride,
Fullsoon at their ways,
I turn me to my sewing-wheel
And give him praise.

Ah, who could have a dream like this
For any pride or place,
Beyond the single dower
With love's kindly grace?

Give me for eye to dream my dream,
Beside my sewing-wheel,
Give me to keep my singing heart,
The rest I feel.

Give me my song for lute and shield,
While life shall last,
Yea, all the world and I have part
In joy's glamour.

—Mary Gilmore.

The Care of Linoleum.

The [illegible] where you have a [illegible] kitchen, a charmingly smart [illegible] floor in your dining room, or a graceful floor in your bedroom or sun parlor, this proper way is surprisingly easy.

Take your scrubbing brushes a good strong soap and a pail of hot water. Then put them all in the cellar or in the attic, or throw them out of the window. Do anything with them you want, except use them on your linoleum. They are not only unnecessary, but they are very likely to shorten the life of your floor.

The proper method of care is just this: If your linoleum is plain or inlaid, simply wax it. No scrubbing. No hot water. No soap. Nothing but wax.

Spread a little wax or liquid form, between the folds of a piece of cheesecloth. Rub the floor thoroughly with this, applying the wax sparingly. Then polish it.

For this purpose soft cotton flannel is excellent. A brush made especially for this purpose or make a similar one yourself with a heavy brick wrapped in a soft cloth.

The result will be a soft mellow gloss on your linoleum that you can retain always by an occasional dry mopping and polishing with a cloth. Should you with Should wax the places that are worn most.

If your linoleum is printed, that is, if the design is printed on the surface of a genuine linoleum base, then you should varnish it with a good clear varnish. This protects the printed design from being scuffed or scratched. Apply the varnish in this way: Do not attempt to brush it on, but rather let it flow from the can in a uniform film. Allowing at least a day between coats, apply a second thin coat and your linoleum can be kept like new with occasional washing. The process of varnishing should be repeated once or twice a year.

When you first wash linoleum be sure that you do it with a mild soap, with lukewarm water and wash but a small section at a time.

These "don'ts" and "don'ts" for linoleum are simple, easy rules to follow. Yet they will keep your floors delightfully attractive, lengthen their life, and save you hours of needless work around the house.

1st Snowman: "Going to the ball tonight?"

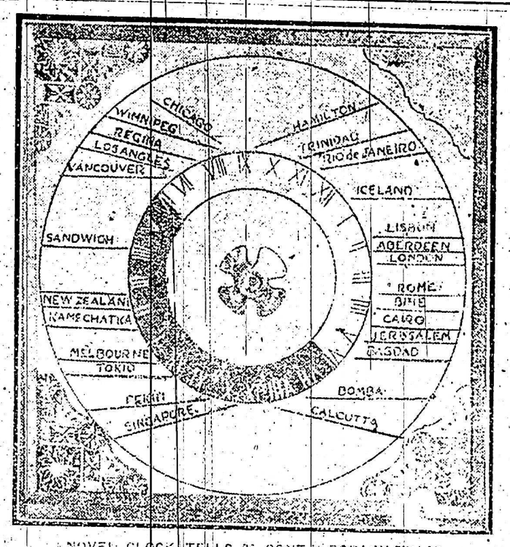
2nd Snowman: "What ball?"

1st Snowman: "Why the snowball."

Says Tall Men Are Hungrier.

The tall man requires more food than a short one, even though both are the same weight, is the contention of a Japanese doctor. He declares that the amount of food needed depends on the total area, not the weight of the body.

The Chinese learned how to make paper by watching wasps build their nests.



NOVEL CLOCK TELLS 26 CONTEMPORARY TIMES

This clock, the dial of which is shown above, shows the time in 26 centers of the world. It is owned by John Dargavel, 250 Prince St., Hamilton, who made it himself, taking about 20 years, on and off. The names of the cities and countries shown on the clock are stationary and do not revolve with the hands. The hands, however, do revolve with the clock. One half of the dial is black and the other half white, to show day and night. The clock requires winding every four days.

The British Empire To Decline and Fall?

AMERICAN VIEWPOINT IN "WORLD'S WORK."

The smallness of the great kingdoms of old has spun history's largest empire over the face of the earth, until long since, it could boast that the sun never set on its territory. During four centuries Britons have roamed the seven seas and the five continents, looking for trade or trouble, taking under their flag colonies which now include nearly one quarter of the world's land and more than one quarter of its people.

Surface Signs.

But recently there have appeared signs and portents which lead the gloomy to prophecy the ducline and fall of this glorious empire. The motherland, ray they, stagnates. The coal mines which caused its bread were long idle; its army unemployed are still legion; factories are [illegible]; unrest steals through the land. In the overseas possessions, linked to the motherland by the Pax Britannica, are surface signs which hint at revolt underneath. Canada has finally appointed her own Minister to Washington [illegible], which already had her own minister to America, campaigned for her own Council seat on the League of Nations; and South Africa has said that she can continue under the Crown only if assured her full and free nationhood. Hence the [illegible] who said that the [illegible] October avoided an open break only by skating [illegible] real issues.

Canadian Views.

Yet there are many Canadians who agree with the Canadian lawyer who wrote in his newspaper of his belief

"that the empire has one fundamental Constitution, the essential principle of which is the liberty of the subject; that the development of the Dominions to local self-government, whether under the denomination of 'nations' or not, is only a natural municipal development and does not affect the general constitution; that even a Parliament or legislature or court of any component part cannot, conformably with the spirit of the constitution, take away nor infringe such a right . . . and that . . . the ark of the Constitution is founded on the fundamental acquired right of every British subject to the whole Empire, and on his liberty to move it."

But this point of view is a reminder of the days when the Dominions were crown colonies. As Premier King of Canada said during the last election campaign, "The essential feature of the Imperial situation today is the transformation of what was formerly an empire in the old sense into a league of free and equal nations."

Empire Sound.

Does this mean that the next Imperial Conference will really accomplish what the British Empire is in truth falling apart? It does not. Relations between sovereign powers, the Dominions included, are changing, but there is no more chance that the Dominions will abandon their connection with Great Britain than that Canada will cease to speak English, Ireland be tried that, to be sure, but the King's English is still spoken in Dublin.

She Danceth for the King.

In browsing recently among records of the early Tudor period we came upon a bit [illegible] that showed how royal appointed servants received. King Henry VIII. kept a journal which was mainly an account of moneys spent and received, but in part stated where he was and what he did. There are three entries under date of Jan. 7, 1527, one of them reading:

"To a fiddler named [illegible] Lynch, 40 shillings."

Two eight months later, Aug. 10, we find the following:

"To Lynch that [illegible] 40 shillings."

The record is the earliest in which John Cabot was given credit for being the first to sail an English ship to these shores, giving the old land its basis for future territorial claims and colonization. He was presented less than the "master" received who planned diversion for the monarch and his guests.

The Right Farm Home.

"By the condition of the farm home is a country you can measure the size of its agriculture, for make agriculture [illegible] until you have farm boys and girls will be [illegible] Hon. Duncan Marshall.

The Japanese have originated in the ancient Korean custom of carving a delight on the neck of a girl who has lifted her lover.

Not Blowouts.

"I feel as a hurricane there today."
"Why, what were their names?"

Of Course.

Never Meddle—

With a quarrel between lovers,
With a man that is not loaded,
With a policeman who does not talk much,
With a man who minds his own affairs.
With a boy who figures he can lick a man without looking for help,
With a girl you would not have for a mother,
With a dollar unless you are sure to be skinned.

Chad has the largest coal area in the world—330,000 square miles.

New York Motor Show Presents 1927 Models

YEAR'S PRODUCTION ESTABLISHES RECORD.

Besides New Designs in Cars, Maintenance Helps Featured.

This week the twenty-seventh National Automobile Show is being held in full swing at the Grand Central Palace, New York city, continuing until Jan. 15, 1927. The show will be closed on Sunday, but during that week it will be open every day and night, closing Saturday, Jan. 15.

While forty-five different makers are having distinctive names occupy all the available space on the main floor, in addition to the recent addition, the mezzanine floor, which will make the space approximately 400,000 square feet. Among the things which will make the show appear new to the [illegible] public will be the Erskine Six, [illegible] the Studebaker factory and which is the debut at the Palace Show, Lincoln Motors on a new chassis [illegible] Ramses [illegible] four manufacturers with [illegible] to [illegible] some new creations in body and refinements in the [illegible] the surprise features of the [illegible].

Another departure, or rather return to the [illegible] of some years ago, will be the location of [illegible] for the display of commercial trucks. Only the small [illegible] can be shown. Nine [illegible] have drawn exhibit space, which is to be new and [illegible] to be seen exemplify in a striking manner the increasing popularity in the motor transportation for a great variety of commercial uses.

4,500,000 Production Year.

From the manufacturers' standpoint the year 1926 has attained the high mark in the production capability of the industry. When the high production record was achieved in 1925, a total of 4,336,271 cars, comparatively few leaders in the trade were enough to predict a still higher figure for the succeeding twelve months.

For the first eleven months of the present year the total motor production represents 4,272,000 cars, which is only 64,000 less than the entire 1925, and with the December production may not exceed 225,000, it will be sufficient to give the 1926 production of 4,500,000, a figure which several experts state will probably not be surpassed, for [illegible] to come. Yet the absorbing power of the American public for motor vehicles has been so great, the bugaboo of the saturation point been cast into oblivion, so many that positive predictions on the car buying possibilities of the [illegible] are somewhat difficult.

Another big feature of the new show is the necessary display [illegible] at the Grand Central Palace Exhibition of motor car parts and accessories will be more varied than ever before, including [illegible] and its fittings.

Car Repair Equipment.

The shop equipment display [illegible] to attract strong attention from the ranks of those who service the cars [illegible] by [illegible] care and repairs.

Practically every dealer [illegible] the [illegible] up of service [illegible] will be on view, and [illegible] will be [illegible] to show [illegible] getting the [illegible] of [illegible] sales to be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]