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CHOOSE HIS CHRISTMAS GIFT From These Unusual Values

They are the kind of things he would select for himself. Most of them are in attractive Christmas boxes.

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Fancy Socks in Christmas packages . 25c, 50c, 75c
Scarves, Silk and Wool, Boxed 50c and \$1.00
Men's and Boys' Suspenders, boxed . . 25c and 50c
Fine Gloves. Every pair boxed at . . . 75c to \$2.95
Broadcloth Shirts 79c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00
Pyjamas, attractive patterns . . \$1.69, \$1.98, \$2.50
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Handkerchiefs, plain and fancy . . 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c
Pure Irish Linen Handkerchiefs . . . 25c, 29c, 35c
Ski Caps. All colors for Men, Boys and Girls \$1.00
Windbreakers for Men and Boys . . \$2.95 to \$4.95
Boys' Golf Hose, very special value . . 25c, 39c, 50c
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OVERCOATS, SUITS, BILTMORE HATS, BRILL CAPS, BATH ROBES, HOUSE SLIPPERS, OVERSHOES, RUBBERS, BOOTS AND SHOES AT ATTRACTIVE PRICES FOR THE CHRISTMAS TRADE.

P. J. THOMPSON Men's and Boys' Wear, Markdale

Former Grey Resident Says French People 90 Per Cent Behind Britain in This War

Richard W. Whittaker, Veteran of Great War and Native of Artemesia, Says French People Were Stunned When News of Surrender to Germans Without Defence Was Announced.

In a recent issue of The Windsor Daily Star there appeared an interview by Angus Munro, with Richard W. Whittaker, who had just returned to Canada from Paris, France, where he had been engaged in business. Mr. Whittaker is a Grey County man and was born on a farm west of Cayton. He attended school there and later went to the Flesherton High School. He enlisted for overseas service in the great war of 1914-1918, and at its conclusion remained in Paris, France, where he married a Belgian girl at that time resident in that city. He made one visit to his native land since that time and was in Paris at the outbreak of the present war. He succeeded in getting out of France only after a great deal of difficulty and after relinquishing much of his property. He is at the present time residing in Windsor. The Star says: At least 90 per cent of the French people are solidly in support of the British cause despite the surrender of their country. Richard W. Whittaker, for 20 years a resident of Paris, said yesterday. He escaped with his family from the stricken country only minutes ahead of the advancing Nazis. "If anyone had told me in Paris two days before the surrender that the city was not to be defended, I wouldn't have believed it," he said. "There was no thought of surrender in the minds of the French people and even today they are at least 90 per cent behind the British cause. "We were dumfounded and confused when the surrender was announced; no one believed it possible! We thought France was prepared to defend her cause by fighting in the colonies if necessary. On the ninth of June it would have been impossible to convince anyone in Paris that the city would be handed over without a struggle. A Canadian veteran of the first World War, Mr. Whittaker returned to France in 1919 and has been in the importing business in Paris for 20 years. His two children were born there although the family has always remained British. A native of Ontario, Mr. Whittaker served with the Seventh Red Cross Unit from Queen's University. The family departed France after a nightmare journey of 14 days and nights to the Portuguese port of Lisbon by way of Spain. They travelled hundreds of miles out of their way in order to avoid the Nazi advance. On many occasions only minutes separated them from the advance attacks of the enemy. Mr. Whittaker was interviewed by The Star at Red Cross Headquarters in Windsor where he went to interview Secretary Estelle Hewson with respect to locating employment here. He is an accomplished linguist and a highly trained business executive; his son won high distinction in his French studies and is a two-year student of a Paris university. When war first broke out, the Whittakers' father, mother, and two children, son and daughter, left Paris, but when an immediate attack failed to materialize, they returned. They remained until June 11, 1940. When the French government left the capital on June 10, they made plans to depart. They started out with their two automobiles at 6 a. m. and for the whole of the first day managed to get only 25 miles, so great and so confused was the congestion and movement of traffic in both directions. They slept the sleep of weary travelers on the roadside. Early the next morning they started out again and the second day made it as far as a small place called Etampes. There they were able to get a room. At 1.30 the next day they started out again. At 2 p.m. the hospital, the church and the bank in the small community were bombed; five automobiles were burned and 30 women injured by flying shrapnel and bomb splinters. The next night they found lodging at Orleans and at 5 a.m. prepared to move on. That night Orleans was bombed. The next night they spent in a cowshed. Shortly after starting out in the morning they were forced from their cars by soldiers and told to hide under the trees on the roadside. Overhead Nazi bombers hammered and French anti-aircraft batteries opened up. Shrapnel fell all about them. A piece struck the daughter of the family on the head but injured her only slightly. When it was all over they got up from the ground and carried on. That night they made Loye, a small village. During the night reports came the Germans were only 40 kilometers distant and at 4 a.m. they started on again. That night they stayed at a farmhouse. The route took them at least 100 miles out of the direct path to the coast but the Nazis were pressing from two directions and it was necessary to back-

track in order to avoid them. The fourth night out the family slept in a strawstack. For 14 days and nights this continued, always the same uncertainty, always the immense jumble of traffic, always the shortage of gasoline and the continued warnings of soldiers to avoid endangering their lives. At the end of this time they were still 30 miles from Bordeaux. At their last French stop, they stayed until the French collapse, then were fortunate in getting 18 gallons of gasoline which took them to the Spanish border. Here began a battle of passports and visas. First of all Mr. Whittaker had to procure a ticket reading from Lisbon to New York in order to justify his claim to Spanish visas. He was able to get this at the sacrifice of considerable money, far more than the ticket's face value. When everything else was ready there still remained the problem of getting out of France with his son who was of military age and the problem of taking with him sufficient funds to see them safely to Canada or the United States. The younger Whittaker had never become a Frenchman but had the family remained two days longer in Paris, he believes he would have been called. He is just 18. Mr. Whittaker had considerable French money but the rate of exchange was four times greater than normal and in Spain it was four times that of France. It took 80 French francs to make an American dollar. He paid a Spaniard 5,000 francs to get the Whittaker funds across the line. The man handed the money to him when he got into Spain. From the border they boarded a train for Barcelona, and from there went to Madrid. Barcelona to Madrid took 18 hours in "the worst train" he has ever seen, according to Mr. Whittaker. Smoke poured in upon them the whole time. To close the windows meant suffocation. There were 50 tunnels on the trip. Impoverished Spain is a sorry sight, Mr. Whittaker explained. Bread is at a premium and is sold only by card and only to Spaniards. Every morning 30 or more persons were in line at stores to get their day's allowance. Bread is sold one pound at a time. Soldiers are clad in ragged uniforms and wear carpet slippers for shoes. Stamps are used for money. Six out of every taxis operating are model T Fords. Lisbon was entirely different. A clean, hospitable, well stocked city. The family remained there for three weeks while waiting for a ship to New York. A Greek vessel of 18,000 tons finally took them aboard. They were stopped once on the 12-day journey to New York by a British cruiser. Mr. Whittaker had to leave a valuable property in Belgium to the Nazis. He had to leave his two automobiles on the roadside. Only a portion of his savings could be taken, the family being allowed only so much for each member. On September 12, they arrived in New York. They reached Windsor yesterday after visiting in the United States where Mr. Whittaker has relatives. Mr. Whittaker is planning to stay here if he can find employment. "But we're expecting someday to go back and claim our property," he said confidently today. "France may have surrendered but she is not dead. She will rise again and will be a greater France. Every intelligent Frenchman and thousands of us from other lands believe that. Yes, we shall go back."

Sincerely Wishing All A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy and Prosperous New Year W. W. ALCOX Barber and Tobacconist CHRISTMAS GREETINGS To Our Friends

During the year just closing it has been a pleasure to serve you and we trust in the year 1941 we may be able to serve you even better. Wishing one and all Happiness and Prosperity

Chong's Studio in the Knott Block

HAY WANTED 1st and 2nd Cutting Alfalfa Trent Dehydrated Products Ltd. Gord. Engel, Manager Phone 17, Markdale

SPENCER Individually Designed CORSETS MRS. B. GRAHAM Phone 67 - Flesherton

Good Cheer Though there is not peace in the world around, May peace within your heart be found This Christmas-tide, And may prosperity, health, good cheer Be yours throughout the coming year.

W. D. Mercer DRY GOODS MARKDALE

MERRY CHRISTMAS MAY THIS CHRISTMAS BE THE MERRIEST AND NEXT YEAR THE HAPPIEST YOU HAVE EVER HAD.

White Swan Bakery Phone 168 Markdale

A Merry Christmas and a HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR Phone 1w ART. WRIGHT We deliver THE WRIGHT PLACE TO SHOP

CHERRY GROVE We are looking for you at the Christmas tree concert on Friday night. Come along and watch these ambitious pupils perform and help them with their Red Cross fund. Every cent of the proceeds of this concert is to help some one less fortunate than themselves. Admission only 10 cents. Santa will be disappointed if he doesn't see you there. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sewell of Vandeleur visited on Sunday with Mr. Jas. Pendleton and family. Little Francis and Marion Dickson of Markdale spent the week-end at the same home. We understand some of our boys have received notice to report for duty or training. Pte. Clayton McWhinney has moved his wife and family back to our neighborhood. He is on twenty days leave. Knowing there is no edition of our weekly paper we join in wishing our genial editor and his worthy helpers a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. Don't forget the Red Cross meeting at the Mesdames Taylor home on Jan. 2. Everyone who is interested please attend, it being the annual meeting. Sunday being the shortest day of the year in this country we will welcome a few more hours of daylight and hope that in 1941 Old Sol sends his rays more frequent than he did all through 1940.

WALTERS FALLS Mr. Russell Dixon parked his threshing outfit for the season on Friday and Saturday of last week. The moving of the machine hasn't been all pleasure the last fortnight. The December meeting of the W. I. was held last Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. J. McDonald with a large attendance. Meeting was opened in usual manner by the president, Mrs. Gardner. An appeal was read from the Ontario Federation for a donation to the proposed overseas hospital project. A donation of \$5.00 was voted to the cause. Miss S. McLaughlan demonstrated candy, giving the recipe for the delectable confection. Mesdames A. Dixon, D. Rennie and Laycock read short articles. Mrs. Laycock read Mrs. Murray's clipping. The roll call was answered by an exchange of gifts. "Silent night" and "Little Town of Bethlehem" were sung. Meeting closed with the National Anthem, followed by lunch served by Mrs. E. Quinton, Mrs. King and hostess. Ian McDonald of Owen Sound C. I. spent the week-end at his home here. Cook's Regulating Compound A safe, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, \$1; No. 2, 50c; No. 3, 35c per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free pamphlet. Address: THE COOK MEDICINE CO. TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Windsor)

Proclamation I hereby proclaim Thursday, December 26 — as a — PUBLIC HOLIDAY [Boxing Day] — in the — Village of Markdale All persons interested are asked to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly. ALBERT RUSK, Reeve. Markdale, Dec. 11th, 1940.

VANDELEUR A merry Christmas to ye editor and all readers of The Standard. The December meeting of the Women's Association was held at the home of Mrs. F. R. Boland with the president, Mrs. Geo. Buchanan, presiding. Readings were given by Mrs. Geo. Shaw and Mrs. Lundy Johnston. It was decided to donate quilts to a family in need. The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Geo. Buchanan; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Kelso; 2nd Vice Pres., Mrs. Fitzsimmons; Secretary, Mrs. Will Johnston; Treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Hutchinson; Organist, Mrs. L. Johnston. Mrs. F. R. Boland, assisted by Mrs. Geo. Shaw, had a quilting and served a 10-cent tea at the close of the meeting. The teacher, Miss Bowman, and pupils are preparing for their Christmas concert on Dec. 19. Relatives of the late Chas. Thompson, who met a tragic death on the highway recently, have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement. Mr. H. J. Thompson who taught school here for several years, is a son.

F. T. HILL & CO., Ltd., MARKDALE

Christmas Shoppers Christmas is only a short way off. Shop early at Hills' and get a real choice of suitable gifts for all the family. We have almost everything you could ask for in DRY GOODS, FOOT WEAR, LADIES' READY-TO-WEAR and HARDWARE SPECIALTIES. Look before you buy. We guarantee our merchandise and prices.

HILLS' FOOD SPECIALS

- CANNED PEACHES, 15 oz. size in heavy syrup 2 for 23c
SLICED PINEAPPLE, 19 oz. tin, heavy syrup 2 for 23c
MEDIUM SIZE PRUNES 2 lbs. for 23c
FRESH DATES WITH PITS 2 lbs. for 25c
ORANGES, FANCY QUALITY 25c, 35c, 40c and 50c a dozen
FANCY BISCUITS, large assortment 2 lbs. for 29c
MIXED CANDY 2 lbs. for 23c
CHOCOLATES AND CREAMS 15c per lb.
ASSORTED CHOCOLATES, CREAMS, GUM DROPS AND FRUIT FLAVORS — A Real Candy 2 lbs. for 29c
PEANUTS, FRESH ROASTED 2 lbs. for 23c
MIXED NUTS 25c a lb.
MIXED NUTS WITH PEANUTS 18c a lb.; 2 lbs. for 35c
APPLE JUICE, 20 oz. size 2 for 19c
MINCEMEAT, FIRST QUALITY 2 lbs. for 25c
CANNED PEAS, No. 4 size, 20 oz. tins 2 for 19c
CANNED TOMATOES, Standard Quality, 2 1/2 size 11c a tin
CANNED TOMATOES, Choice Quality 2 for 25c

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