

The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1927

CHRISTMAS LONG AGO

Enchanted was the old stone hearth
With crackling Yule log's ruddy
Where lovely ladies stately knights
Made merrily long, long years ago.

In archway of the narrow hall
The many minstrels were there
And singing carols in measured fair.
A blushing maid or measured fair.

A soft & tame cloth of gold,
A mirth in soft and mellow light
Of many candles on the wall
That dimmed silver scented bright.

A joyous eve for one and all,
Jingle bells, jingle bangles greet,
White harp and violin resound,
Beat time for lively tripping feet.

The holly red and evergreen
Were hanging festooned on the wall,
And old-fashioned Christmas
Was served in spacious banquet-hall.

And happy hearty carols made
The great old oaken rafters ring,
They sang of Christ of Bethlehem,
And the good halles us them as their
King.

And quickly sped the golden hours
In gay, romantic days of old,
When Christmas was a festival,
And hearts beat faithfully and bold.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

From the issue of The Free Press of
Thursday, December 19, 1907

The woods are full of amateur chaperons this winter.

An unusual blizzard for December came last Saturday.

Hundreds went from Acton to the Winter home of Queen last week.

Mr. J. B. Blackett is building a neat frame house at Main Street next to Mr. N. P. McLennan's residence.

Mr. G. A. Black has five wood-cutters working in his business and expects to have ten or dozen teams hauling out the wood in a few days.

Johnstone Co. have had the metal sheet furniture store, used at their former site, taken over by a position holder their new brick plant.

Mr. and Mrs. James Henderson, who have lived in Nassauways for many years, are among the most respected residents, are turning to farming and pasture growing to Acton.

The Epsworth League dolls were on exhibition in The Free Press window on Friday last Saturday before being shipped to their destination in Europe.

It is the second year in town since they were first exhibited in 1925.

Mattie H. Smith has sent in her resignation as teacher in the third department of the Public School. Miss Smith has been on the staff the past four years and has been a most efficient teacher.

DIED — At Bluevale, on Tuesday, December 10, 1907, W. H. Stewart, father of Mr. W. H. Stewart, Acton, aged 88 years.

SMITH — In Acton, on Wednesday, December 11, 1907, J. Henry Smith, in his 83rd year.

EVEN TOYLAND GROWS UP!

Santa Claus has fallen asleep ten years and wakes up to-day, he would be very much amazed at the strides that Toyland has taken.

Gone are the simple toy trains, the horse and wagon sets—the stuffed dolls that delighted children a decade ago. In their stead, he would find contraptions which are miracles of creative genius.

In the tiny locomotive and two miniature cars which depended upon a hand-wound spring to jerk them around the wobbly set of tracks, are now circular strings which thread their way in and out of tunnels, slowing down at curves, stopping at automatic signal lights—and all this by Motor Equipment.

The horses and wagons are replaced by automobile dump carts which exact duplicates of the huge trucks that run down the roads to-day. Cranes, derrick, excavators—these work with the precision of the 30-ton originals.

The sets of wooden blocks that clattered to the floor have given way to building sets. To the imaginative younger can exercise his mind, he can build a miniature skyscraper—elephant and tiger. The little fellow who loved to tinker with his toy belts has a chance to harness electricity in the steel structures that can be made from another set running the elevators, lifting and carrying loads.

The simple scooter has given way to the auto-driven toy cycles; the latest is a 4-wheel motorcycle with a side car, in which the young girl rides her sweetheart to and from school.

Change in Doll-land

And the dolls! Ten years ago, only the very wealthy families boasted "maids" dolls for the most part. Little girls were content with dolls of wood, or paper-mache dolls with eyes that closed when the dolls were placed in a horizontal position—sometimes!

To-day, dolls must be dressed in the right "Trotland" fashion; the heads must be upholstered, the wigs must be made of real hair, and the dolls must walk talky-er when spanked and tickled.

Yes, Santa would be a very astonished person if he woke up after a year slumber, and read over the Christmas lists of to-day's younger generation.

THE KWOL SPECIAL FOR METZ

The apothecary of David Garrick that a fellow feeling makes one wondrous kind of Kwol illustrated by an expert—evidence that, according to Dr. S. B. Seeger, before some nurses in London.

Among those who had the Wanderlust immediately after the armistice were two young walking little nurses stationed near Pont-à-Mousson. They wished to see Metz. Having delayed the process of getting a pass, they decided to take the trip without asking permission. They took their bags on their trench coats, slipped out of camp before reveille, and started for the nearest city of Lorraine.

The two nurses, about eight kilometers when they started, struck the road leading them. As it came round a bend in the road they saw to their horror that it was a British truck with two officers on the front seat behind the chauffeur. Then they saw that the officers belonged to the Medical Corps. The two nurses stopped, and the senior officer leaned over with a serious face.

"Where are you young ladies going?"

"Sir, we're—we thought we'd go over to Metz. We know how all of us have been thinking of Metz for months and months."

"Let me see your passes, sir. We've written to going."

"I'm—almost without leave, sir. We've written to going."

"Yes, sir."

Both officers grinned broadly. So did the nurses. Then the senior officer waved his hand toward the body of the truck.

"Come right aboard, ladies. This is the Awdi (about without leave) special for Metz."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

General Lesson Title: — Review of the Early Prophets of Israel.

Scripture Reading: — The life of old Elijah spoke into the hearts of the prophets by diverse portions and in diverse manners, both at the end of their days spoken unto us in His Son.

Bible Readings: — I Kings 18: 1-26.

Devotional Reading: — I Kings 8: 66-61.

Review Questions:

(a) What great idea was Elijah a champion? (b) What was wrong with Ahaz? (c) Who turned Elijah the hero into Elijah the prophet? (d) What did Elijah learn concerning God's methods of dealing with men?

(e) What is your opinion of Jezebel?

(f) How did Elijah and Jezebel differ?

(g) How did Elijah and Jezebel differ?

(h) How did Elijah and Jezebel differ?

(i) How did Elijah and Jezebel differ?

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