

TIMELY TOPICS FOR WOMEN . . .

By Barbara Baines

WHAT WILL I GIVE HER (OR HIM) FOR CHRISTMAS

"In spite of all my good resolutions here it is just a week before Christmas and I haven't nearly finished my shopping yet." This is the comment most often heard these days. Perhaps it is because until recently the weather has been so mild, perhaps it is because the war is so often in our thoughts, or maybe it is because we have been busy getting off overseas parcels and mail . . . but whatever the reason, Christmas, the most looked-forward-to day of all the year, has sneaked up on us in a most surprising manner.

But then I personally wouldn't feel that it was really Christmas if it weren't for all the bustle and bustle of last minute shopping among the good-natured crowds in the gayly decorated stores.

Have you taken a stroll through Toyland yet? What a change from peacetime. Even little children will be really at war it seems this year, and a mechanized war at that. Ack-ack guns, tanks, bomber planes, corvettes and battleships have taken the place of fire-engines and wagons, and there are tin soldiers by the thousands. But some things are scarce. There are fewer dolls in Santa's pack, fewer metal pull-toys and fewer trains.

Sports equipment is always tops with growing boys and girls. This is a good year to buy skates. Perhaps next year you won't be able to. A new pair of skis would be too, too wonderful, and a badminton racket equally acceptable. Sports togery of all kinds has taken on a new importance, and nothing would please teen-agers more than a smart pull-over, a windbreaker or a pair of slacks . . . unless it is one of the new skating costumes.

"Mother is always easy to buy for. You can be sure that she will like something new for the house, a lamp, a cushion, a piece of silver or a pair of sheets (now that cotton is getting scarce). But she would appreciate something more personal equally as much, a smart house coat, a new hand-bag, or some of the modern jewellery.

What will you get "Dad"? He says he likes to buy his own ties and socks and pyjamas. Well how about some fishing tackle, a camera, some new golf sticks or some tools for his work bench, depending on what his special hobby is.

You have to be smart to buy Christmas presents for grandparents. They have such a habit of sticking things away in a drawer, and there is no use in adding more to the stacks of socks and handkerchiefs and scarfs that are piled high. What about a subscription to a favourite magazine, or a pass to the movies. They can't hoard those. Or perhaps Granddad would like a bedside radio, and Nana an electric heating pad to keep her warm on cold nights.

In spite of the threatened scarcity of many commodities, the shops are full of interesting suggestions for small gifts for friends and relatives. . . . lingerie, cosmetics, novelty jewellery, gloves or stockings for "her." (They tell us there will be very few stockings of silk for sale once Christmas is over) . . . leather goods, shaving outfits, smoking equipment, gloves or slippers for "him."

But before you finish your shopping be sure you have some little gift to help bring good cheer to the young girl or boy next door whose daddy is overseas. There is not much margin for toys on an army allowance. And what about "rummy royal" or a checker board or a new book for your neighbor's son who has just gone off to train for a pilot.

FROM MY SCRAP BOOK

When a bit of sunshine hits ye,
After passing of a cloud,
When a fit of laughter gets ye,
And yer spine is feeling proud,
Don't forget to up and fling it,
At a soul that's feeling blue,
For the mint that ye sling it,
It's a boomerang to you.

—The Boomerang by Capt. Jack Crawford.

IT IS TIME WE GOT MAD

We have a war on our hands . . . an all-out full-dress war against a crafty and powerful enemy, a war the tremendous implications of which have been most forcibly brought home to us by a series of shocking defeats in the Pacific.

It is time we got mad, not just angry but blazing, fighting mad. Public indignation (as well as consternation) and public rage once fully aroused and harnessed for action is an indomitable force. If you don't believe this watch an angry woman start in to clean up the house. How the dust flies. There may be a few accidents but she does get things done in a hurry, and thoroughly too.

It has been said of us on this continent that as people we are regrettably afflicted with good temper. Good nature is a virtue, of course, within certain limits, beyond that it is only an alibi for stupidity, laziness, indifference and inaction.

But this is no time for indifference or inaction. What guarantee have we that we are going to win this war? Our reputation for always winning the last battle is not enough. Nor are our unlimited resources in materials and manpower unless they are put to better use than they have been so far.

The shocking news in the Pacific has shaken us out of our well-learned boredom, but has it aroused us to grim anger as defeat in Europe aroused the British? Has it fired us with the fighting spirit that alone will carry us to victory?

We on this continent are but infants at the game of war. We hardly even realize yet that we are playing the game "for keeps." The stories of sacrifice and hardship we have been hearing for two years to us are . . . well, just stories. But before this war is over we, too, will know what loss and sacrifice and hardship really mean.

Are we going to let some crafty little slant-eyed yellow devils from the far east kick us around, or let those brutal fanatical braggarts of Europe dictate to us our way of life? Never! We have been slow to anger, but surely all of us with red blood in our veins have at last been incited to fury . . . a fury that will speed up four fold the wheels of our war industries, that will sharpen the wits of our leaders, and inspire the men of our fighting services to fight to the death.

THE BOOK OF THE WEEK

"BOTANY BAY" By Charles Nordoff and James Norman Hall (McClelland and Stewart, 374pp. \$3.00)

The writing team of Nordoff and Hall have once again produced a best-seller, a thrilling tale of adventure with an authentic historical background.

An unusual train of events lead the hero, Hugh Tallant born of U. E. Loyalist stock, from his home in America to Nova Scotia, and then to London where he is convicted of highway robbery and sent to Australia. It took nine months for the convict ship to reach the British penal colony at Botany Bay, and for two years the abandoned colony had to fend for itself.

But Tallant's adventures were not at an end. With a motley crew he escaped by sail-boat, and after a perilous journey returned to England with a price on his head. But to find out how the story ends you must read the book. It is a story rich in characterization, and minor adventures, a love story, and plenty of dramatic action round out a balanced book that stirs the imagination.

ENGLISH MONKEY

Candles burn in the windows of countless homes. Wreaths of evergreen or holly, with huge red satin bows, decorate hospitable doorways. This is the most festive season of all the year, a time of generous hospitality. Here is an appetizing snack that is easy to prepare for a late lunch when friends drop in to call.

1 cup stale bread crumbs ½ cup soft cheese
1 cup milk 1 egg, slightly beaten
1 tablespoon butter ½ teaspoon cayenne
½ teaspoon salt Pinch of mustard
Soak bread crumbs in milk 15 minutes. Melt butter and add cheese cut in small pieces. When cheese has melted add soaked crumbs, egg and seasonings. Cook 3 minutes and pour over toasted crackers which have been spread sparingly with butter. Serve with relishes and coffee.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Barbara Baines welcomes letters from readers. We would like to hear what was unusual about your Christmas this year. Address all communications in care of this newspaper.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D., Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for December 21

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THE COMING OF GOD'S SON

LESSON TEXT—Isaiah 9:6, 7; John 1:1-4, 10:14; 1 John 4:9-11.

GOLDEN TEXT—The Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.—1 John 4:14.

Christmas again! How shall we keep it in a world torn by strife and poisoned by man's bitterness against man? Let us keep it with all the joy and gladness at our command. Let us make this the best Christmas we and our families have ever had. How? By giving more and richer gifts? No—although they have their place when rightly given and received. By feasting and merrymaking? No—although they too have their place when carried on in the true spirit of love and friendship. What then? Let us make this an outstanding Christmas by centering our thoughts, our affections, our joys—yes, and our gifts of self and substance—around God's Son, whose "birthday" we celebrate.

May Christmas, 1941, be the best you have ever spent. This is the writer's sincere wish for you. One way to make it just that is to diligently study our lesson for this next Sunday, which tells of the coming of God's Son.

I. His Coming and Character Prophesied (Isa 9:6, 7).

God who was to send His Son into the world to become the Saviour of sinful man fittingly made known His coming through Isaiah (and others) 800 years before it took place. The greatest event in all history was the subject of exact and detailed prophecy, which was completely fulfilled. Although Isaiah calls Him "a child" (as indeed He was), he saw Him as the divine One whose glory and power is revealed in the magnificent array of names found in verse 6.

"Wonderful," a much abused and misused word, found its real meaning in Him—He really is wonderful in every way. "Counselor!" He does not need or seek the counsel of others—He is the Counselor. Have you sought His counsel? "The Mighty God"—not a mere man, but God unlimited in power. "The Everlasting Father," which is really the "Father of eternity," the One to whom eternity owes its existence. "The Prince of Peace," who will one day bring peace to the earth when He comes to reign; something we need not expect before that blessed day.

Little wonder that "the government shall be upon his shoulders" (v. 6), and that He shall reign on the throne of David forever. That is prophecy yet to be fulfilled, but it will be, even as the others, for "the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

II. His Incarnation and Redemption Completed (John 1:1-4, 10:14).

The Eternal One—who was in the beginning with the Father, He who was God and who made all things, this One who was the life and the light of men—humbled Himself and took upon Himself the likeness of sinful man. He was "made flesh and dwelt among us," revealing the grace and glory of God. The incarnation of Christ is a truth we cannot fully understand; but we know that it was for us that He came—for our redemption.

The world—His own world—received Him not. "But"—and thank God for that "blessed"—"but"—as many as received him, to them gave he the power (or better, "the right," as in R.V.) to become the children of God." Redemption is by a new birth, a divine birth, "not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man." It is a complete redemption by faith in Him who revealed the grace of God to man. This is the great message of Christmas. Let us not miss it.

But there is another word for this precious and blessed season—it is that of love.

III. His Love and Our Love Manifested (1 John 4:9-11).

The love of God has been expressed in many precious ways, but the full and final manifestation was in the sending of His only begotten Son into the world that we might have life through Him. This is love supreme, that God loved us when we did not love Him, the altogether lovely One giving His best and dearest in loving sacrifice for the altogether unlovely ones.

Such love in making the unseparable gift to us must of necessity call forth from us not only love toward Him, but also for one another. Christmas is an excellent time to deepen and sweeten the love which exists between Christian brethren. We need to be drawn very close to one another for mutual encouragement, strengthening of our faith, and for the effective outreach of Christ's love to the whole world through us.

The eternal, glorious Christ came. He wrought out redemption—full and free. He revealed God's great love to us—and to all the world. What a delightful Christmas message that is. Let us receive it and declare it.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to All

- Mixed CUT PEEL lb. 29c
- Red Glace CHERRIES ¼-lb. 12c
- Assorted Pineapple CIRCLES 2 for 13c
- With Seeds, Lexia RAISINS 2 lb. 25c
- Seeded, Lexia RAISINS lb. 15c
- Bleached RAISINS lb. 19c
- Peel Citron Caps ¼-lb. 12c
- Bowe's Almond ICING ½-lb. tin 21c

- Aylmer Golden Kernel (in brine) CORN 16-oz. tin 10c
- Aylmer, Sieve 4 PEAS 16-oz. 2 tins 17c
- Rideau Loaf CHEESE lb. 37c
- Queenland Sweet Mixed Pickles 27-oz. jar 23c
- Silver Ribbon Pumpkin 2½ lbs. tin 10c

ROMAR COFFEE
1-lb. bag 39c

- Aylmer PEACHES 2 15-oz. tins 25c
- Catarac Dry Ginger Ale 2 lg. btl. 21c Deposit Extra

- CASHEW NUTS Shelled ¼-lb. 15c
- WALNUTS Shelled ¼-lb. 19c
- Cinnamon or Cloves oz. 4c
- PEAS Aylmer Jumbo 2 16-oz. tins 25c
- Cowan's Cocoa ½-lb. 14c, 1-lb. 24c
- Dressing Hellman's Homestyle jar 10c, 19c
- C. & S. Coffee Drip or Regular lb. 52c
- WATER ICE WAFERS Assorted lb. 19c
- Ketchup Heinz 14-oz. 19c
- JELL-O Assorted pkg. 7c
- OLIVES McLaren's Stuffed 6-oz. jar 29c
- Asparagus Tips Aylmer 12-oz. tin 17c
- Baumert Cream Cheese Spread 4-oz. 16c
- P. & G. SOAP 3 cakes 14c
- Old Dutch Cleanser tin 10c
- SODAS Christie's Premium 5½-oz. pkg. 11c
- SARDINES Pride of Fantasy 2 tins 25c
- Grapefruit Juice Unsweetened 2 tins 21c

- Tomato Juice Aylmer 3 20-oz. tins 25c
- MINCEMEAT MAPLE LEAF 2 lbs. 25c
- FRUIT CAKE Light or Dark lb. 40c
- Plum Pudding Christie's 1½-lb. 65c
- PUDDINGS Christie's Fruited each 30c
- MAGIC BAKING POWDER 16-oz. tin 28c
- BACON Sliced Side lb. 39c

- SUNKIST NAVEL ORANGES 252's 220's 176's 29c 35c 48c doz. 25c Doz.
- CHOICE Cranberries lb. 29c
- FIRM RIPE Tomatoes lb. 21c
- CHOICE Grapes 2 lb. 27c

CARROLL'S

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ALMA McENERY HEADS UNITED YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION

At a recent meeting of the Young People's Union of Georgetown United Church, officers were elected and installed for the coming year. The executive for the coming year consists of: Past President—Madeleine Erwin. President—Alma McNery. Secretary—Marjorie Fry. Treasurer—Isabel Dobson. Christian Culture—Marion Ostrander. Christian Fellowship—Marjorie Evans. Christian Citizenship—Frances Deana. Mission—Kathleen Lyons. Pianist—Betty Snyder. Assistant Pianist—Alma McNery. Social—Millye Davidson and Elsie Dewhurst. Recreation—Jack MacLaren.

MEETING WOMEN'S ASSOC. GEORGETOWN UNITED CHURCH

The quarterly meeting of the Women's Association of the United Church was held on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 9th, in the schoolroom of the church. The president, Mrs. F. Sinclair, opened the meeting with a

ent prayer for our Empire and our Country.

The Christmas story from St. Luke was read by Mrs. V. MacDonald and Mrs. H. A. Stanton gave a reading: "Christmas Customs in Other Lands." An interesting feature of the afternoon was a pageant "Peace on Earth" presented by the members of Group 3. Rev. R. C. Todd presided for the election of the following officers: President—Mrs. H. Clarke. Vice-president—Mrs. F. Sinclair. Secretary—Mrs. W. Tyndall. Treasurer—Mrs. H. Kemner. Correspondence Secretary—Mrs. George Campbell.

LANZ FAMILY HAVE OPERATED ACTON EXCHANGE 21 YEARS

Miss Grace Lanz, of Acton, is resigning her position with the Bell Telephone Co. A little over a year ago she assumed the management of the Acton exchange. The Lanz family have operated this exchange for over twenty-one years. Miss Elsie Gordon of Rockwood is to succeed Miss Lanz and commenced her duties on Monday.

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