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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th, 1935

CHRISTMAS HERE AGAIN

The return of the Christmas season each year serves to remind us that the Prince of Peace still reigns supreme, and that the celebration of His birthday is a very significant event in the eyes of men.

The spirit of peace and goodwill which prevails so generally at this season reflects the spirit of Christ. His coming to the world was an occasion of great rejoicing and so it is fitting that amid the joyous celebrations of Christmastide the outstanding significance of the day should be recognized and emphasized.

A serious consideration of the meaning of Christmas naturally leads one to reflect on whys and wherefore of Christmas giving. Some say there should not be general giving at Christmas time such as we now practise; that the money and effort might better be spent in other ways. But it is just the trouble in selecting gifts, the perceptiveness shown by friends as to what will please other friends, whether the gifts be large or small, the forethought and the sacrifices of time and money which build up for the great day such a spirit of sympathy and helpfulness. The gifts can hardly be omitted by those with money to spend.

Christmas is a time for renewal of spirit, for refurbishing of hope, for putting away anger and all uncharitableness, and for showing goodwill toward our fellow men. The heart becomes like a rock garden in spring, blossoming under the warm rays of the sun. For a time at least, even the hardest-hearted can then see in the customs of Christmas, something more than feeble ideas suited for weak-minded altruists. Each of us can then see that the altruist has really got hold of a great truth.

It seems that the best way to enjoy Christmas is by considering and contributing to the happiness of others, especially the children. This is truly a season when gift giving, sincere friendliness, and warm hearted hospitality find expression and foster a goodwill and a sense of appreciation and thoughtfulness of others which brighten many a countenance and bring happiness and joy to many a heart.

A CHRISTMAS SECRET

What thoughts arise in our minds, what profound urges come into our breast, what noble actions are achieved when we think of Christmas. Christmas is the one season of the year that is not against anybody. It is for everybody.

Christmas has become synonymous with two things, giving and receiving. The younger we are the more we think of the latter. The big question then, is, "What will I get?"; as we get older the question is, "What Will I Give?" This is as it should be for the true spirit of Christmas must ever be the spirit of Christ, which is epitomized in service to the glory of God and the uplift of others.

The person or persons, who during this Christmas season, give of their means to feed those who faint from hunger, warm those who are perishing with cold, clothe those who are scantily dressed and shelter those who are homeless, may safely rely on this, that their food will be sweeter, their own fireside the cozier, their homes the more cheerful and their joys the more complete as a result of the part they have played in the helping to make others happy. Herein lies the secret to true happiness. An anonymous poet puts it in these words:

Christmas is a time of secrets,
So I'll whisper one to you;
Grandpa says that all who try it
Find that every word is true:
"Would you have a happy day?
Give some happiness away."
Grandpa says this little secret
Should be carried throu' the year,
And if all would try to heed it,
Earth would soon be full of cheer:
"Would you have a happy day?
Give some happiness away."

RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE

Greater financial aid to the Provinces for relief purposes has been promised by the Dominion Government and the burdens of municipalities will be lightened considerably as a result of this action. The Inter-Provincial Conference at Ottawa took up the relief question as its first major problem. Every phase was fully covered by the Provincial Premiers and the Federal Prime Minister and it was agreed that a larger share of the cost of relief should come from the Ottawa Treasury.

Premier Hepburn took a prominent part in the discussions and was ably supported by Hon. David Croll and Attorney General Roebuck. The Ontario delegates, representing the largest and wealthiest Province in Canada, expressed their views with force and candor and they led many of the debates. The Ontario Premier, though far from being in the best of health, displayed all of his old-time vigor and fire and stood out from his confreres by the very force of his personality.

Revision of the British North America Act by the Parliament of Canada and the settling of many controversial issues which have arisen in recent years in connection with Dominion-Provincial jurisdiction, was endorsed by the conference. Mining taxation was also discussed and the Ontario delegation went on record as opposing further concessions to the mining industry in the way of decreased taxation. It is believed Premier Hepburn favors securing revenue from this industry which he maintains is well able to stand it. With tremendous financial problems confronting the Province, the Premier does not intend to overlook any legitimate source of revenue, particularly the prosperous gold mining industry of the Province.

It is almost certain that the discussions at the Conference will be translated into legislation, both Federally and Provincially, within the next few months. The pressing problem of relief, the revision of the B.N.A. Act and some sort of refunding plan on debts are certain to be dealt with by the House of Commons.

Considerable benefit is expected as a result of the Ottawa Conference. Eight Liberal Premiers met with a Liberal Prime Minister of Canada and a spirit of co-opera-

tion pervaded the deliberations, though, as expected, there were differences of opinion as to the methods which should be adopted to meet various problems. Western Canada delegates, faced with issues of a different nature from those of the east, sought Federal aid for their own worries, while the eastern members had their particular problems to meet. But understanding prevailed throughout the sessions and the Conference wound up on a note of optimism.

The Ottawa Spotlight

Ottawa, Dec. 17—The Dominion-Provincial conference grappled with problems which have baffled to a greater or lesser extent the statesmen of the world for several years. It is not to be wondered at, perhaps, if the conference ended on a note of incompleteness, of uncertainty, even, in some respects of failure and defeat. No magic formula was achieved which would banish the ills of unemployment and want, would balance budgets and increase government services, would cut through constitutional knots or ease tax burdens. But it was something at least that some of these major problems were threshed out in a spirit of friendly co-operation. The most urgent immediate problem, the provision of funds for unemployment relief, was solved in a temporary way, with some hope of more permanent achievements later on.

The conference covered a lot of territory. In the following paragraphs the main achievements of each section are indicated:

1. **Unemployment and relief:** It was proposed that a distinction be made between persons unemployed because of economic depression and those unemployable because of mental or physical condition. The federal government would restrict its financial responsibility to the former: the municipalities and provinces would alone be responsible for the latter. The training of youth and a more adequate apprenticeship system was recommended.

While new policies were being worked out and employment provided wherever possible, it was recommended that the federal government substantially increase its monthly relief grants to the provinces. Though the official statement did not say so, the suggestion is that the increase be from 50 to 100 per cent, and that a large part of the increase be passed along to the municipalities. Thus the general expectation that a considerable part of the burden be lifted from the cities and towns was substantially realized.

2. **The B.N.A. Act.** By a vote of nine to one, New Brunswick being the dissenter, it was agreed to seek a formula whereby Canada would acquire the power to amend its own constitution, just as Australia and other members of the British Commonwealth do. The Minister of Justice was instructed to convene a meeting of officials to work out a method, this in turn to be submitted to a later Conference. New Brunswick's representative was not in full accord with the resolution as passed.

The same committee passed a resolution favoring the draft of new laws so as to provide uniform companies legislation throughout Canada.

3. **Mining Development and Taxation.** The idea of applying uniform mining taxation in all provinces was abandoned as impracticable. A demand on the part of the provinces

for increased depletion allowances on gold mines, and for a portion (50%) of the income tax collected from metal mines was considered, and will come before the federal Cabinet. The possibility of stabilizing mining taxation over a period of years was investigated and the principle approved. Further reduction of import duties on mining machinery and equipment was agreed to.

4. **Agriculture.** It was agreed to continue efforts to eliminate duplication between Dominion and Provinces in the agricultural field. The federal government was urged to reduce the interest on farm loans to four per cent, to keep the loans to reasonable size and to relax conditions so as to enable all farmers with sufficient security to avail themselves of them. The Dominion was asked to restore its grant of \$1,000,000 annually for agricultural education. Export markets for agricultural products in general and potatoes in particular are to be explored and pushed wherever possible.

5. **Tourist Traffic and National Parks.** A stock-taking of Canada's tourist attractions is to be undertaken and a co-operative policy evolved for their preservation. Tourist bureau services are to be co-ordinated. National Parks are to be extended to all provinces. It was urged that it is vital to solve the problem of dust-free highways in the parks and elsewhere. The Trans-Canada Highway is to be proceeded with on a basis of 50% from the province and a like amount from the Dominion. The elimination of all possible highway level crossings was urged. An important series of recommendations with respect to the regulation of truck and bus traffic were passed.

6. **Financial.** A number of proposals regarding the re-funding of loans, the reallocation of taxes, and setting up a National Loan Council, were examined. None was endorsed. This committee conducted some valuable discussion, but resulted in no tangible achievements.

At the same time some spadework was done which, when times grow a little easier may result in momentous changes. Possible paths out of the financial morass were considered. The re-funding plan, by which the Dominion government would have guaranteed provincial and municipal bonds so as to result in lower interest costs, encountered insuperable difficulties from both sides. A plan whereby the Dominion would give up some sources of taxation in exchange for relinquishment of the relief burden was studied.

Love is the greatest force known in the world. Nothing else can reconcile a boy to soap and water.

Fiance—I haven't the courage to tell your father of my debts.
Fiance—What cowards you men are! Father hasn't the courage to tell you of his.

Curious Old Lady: "Why you've lost your leg, haven't you?"
Cripple: "Well, I'll be darned if I haven't!"

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Christmas Gift Suggestions

Let us help solve your Gift Problem. In our store you will find suggestions and our stock includes gifts for every member of the family. We extend to you a cordial invitation to shop here this Christmas.

JUST A FBW SUGGESTIONS:

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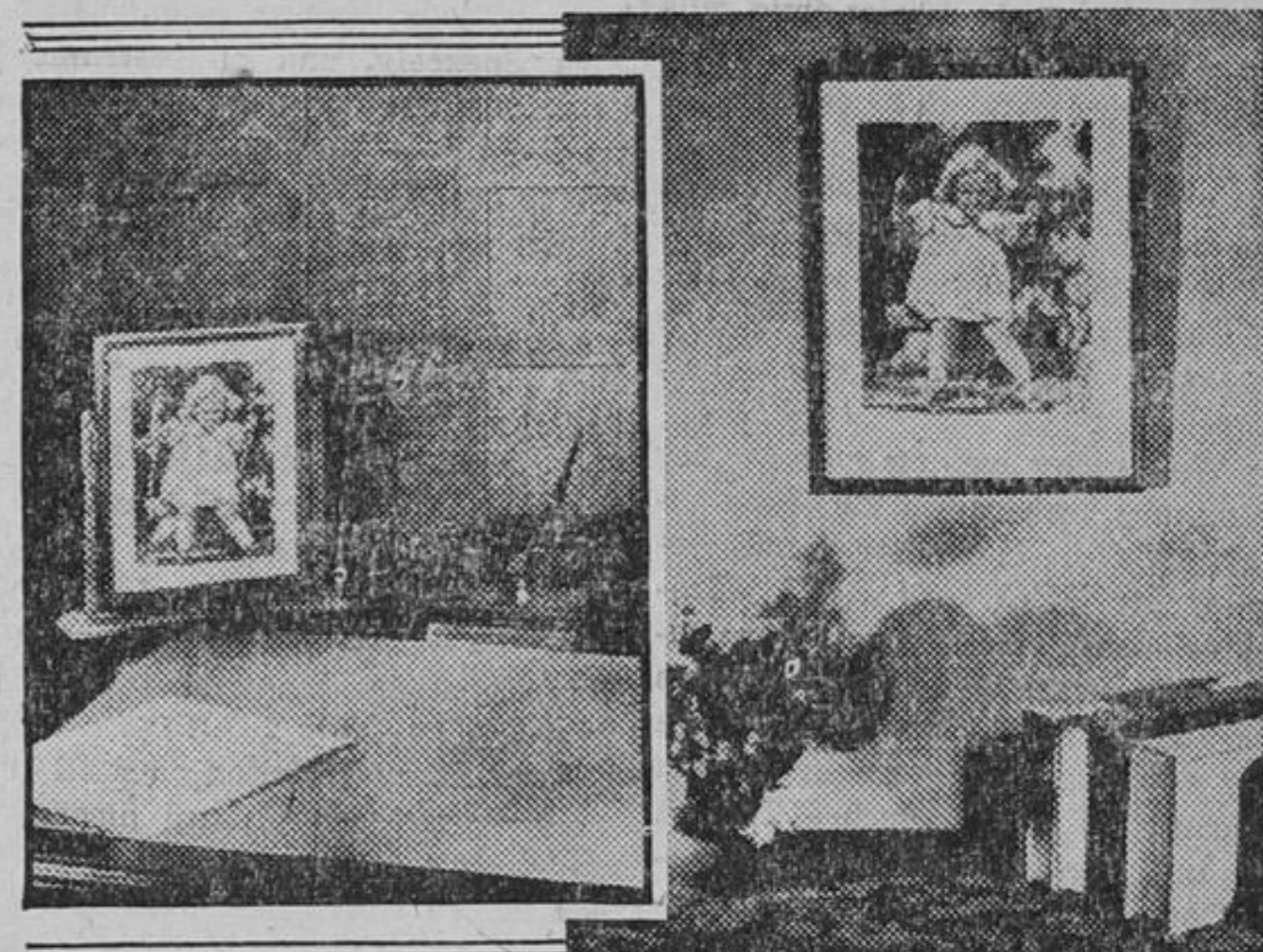
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The SNAPSHOT GUILD

ENLARGEMENTS AS GIFTS



Enlargements make just about perfect gifts for any occasion. Here are two different enlargements from the same snapshot negative; one for Dad's desk at the office and the other for the living room out at Grandma's.

EVERYTHING considered, snapshot shooters are a lucky lot. As we have seen, they have the edge on ordinary mortals in the matter of really personal, meaningful Christmas cards. And snapshot shooters are lucky in that they have the means of creating gifts of exceptional charm and value for any occasion.

These particular "means" are the snapshot negatives from which beautiful enlargements can be made. If you haven't yet experimented with enlargements, now's the time. If you have a darkroom of your own, where you develop and print your own pictures, one of the simple modern enlargers will make it a vastly more fascinating place. But you get practically the same pleasure—and uniformly excellent work—out of enlargements made from your films by any regular photo finisher.

In enlarging a picture you get not only a bigger, more realistic image but the opportunity to select the best part of any negative for magnification. Suppose you have a good negative of the youngsters at play in the sandbox—a picture which their grandparents would be delighted to have, enlarged, as a gift. But suppose there's something incongruous—a wash on the line, a lawn mower or anything else that doesn't add a thing to the charm of the view—to the right or left of the children. With an enlargement, that distracting, unnecessary feature can be completely eliminated.

There's nothing complicated or difficult about enlarging. It's exactly like a "magic lantern" or stereopticon. The only difference is that you use a negative film instead of a lantern slide and project the image on light-sensitive paper instead of a silver screen. By masking out the undesired parts of the negative you keep them from reaching the paper. Any photo shop will explain this and other details more fully for you.

Enlargements may be of almost any size. Any good negative, no matter how small, may be "blown up" to make a picture five or six times the size of the original. A sharp 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 inch film will easily give you a sparkling 8 x 10 inch enlargement. But that is by no means the limit. Enlargements have been made to cover an entire wall of a room. But such jobs are not recommended for folks such as ourselves. (Not unless you're wealthy.)

A word about subjects for enlargements—particularly if they're to be used as gifts. Choose pictures that will mean something to the recipients. A shot of Fido trying to climb a tree after Cleo, the cat, will be vastly appreciated by big brother or sister away at college, but it won't mean very much to Aunt Cynthia who doesn't care for either dogs or cats.

Some of the best enlargements we've seen have been landscapes—or seascapes. Mountains usually make good pictures. But if they're to be given as remembrances, choose landscapes familiar to those who will get the pictures.

JOHN VAN GUILDER.



Christmas Suggestions

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

FATHER & MOTHER — SISTER OR BROTHER

The farm, the house, or the car and a price convenient for all.

A few suggestions would be
A CAR, REFRIGERATOR, WASHING MACHINE, RADIO

or a few smaller articles such as
ELECTRIC CLOCKS, ELECTRIC HEATERS,
TABLE LAMPS, FLOOR LAMPS, HOT PLATES, ELECTRIC IRONS, SANDWICH TOASTERS, WAFFLE IRONS, FLASH-LIGHTS, DEFROSTER FOR THE CAR
or numerous other articles

Come in and see us about your gifts for Christmas.

Wm. NEAL