

At Home

Come in & Chat Awhile

—Ruth Raeburn.

My dear Ruth,—
I have always enjoyed the Christmas giving and this year our circumstances are such that there is practically nothing with which to buy the extras. Could you pass along a few suggestions that would enable me to have a share in the joy of giving without an outlay of money?

—LIMITED LUCY

First of all I would suggest that you keep in mind the fact that Love is the most necessary ingredient in any Christmas parcel, no matter whether the gift be for the rich or poor or in the class between those two. A gift that is lacking in love does not in any way represent the great gift of love to humanity—the Christmas Child.

Children have no idea of the value of money and the gift that pleases the eye or meets their fancy is not judged on the basis of money. A few years ago a cartoon appeared in one of the papers during the Christmas season, showing a little girl in a wealthy home surrounded with a multitude of costly gifts to which she was giving no attention. Her interest was centered on a little ten cent dolly in her arms, the gift of an elevator boy. A woman in straightened circumstances made into rhyme the story of a mouse and sketched the mouse in attitudes mentioned in the rhyme. The child was delighted with it.

If old magazines are available, a variety of scrap books can be made. A story in picture of the process the grains of wheat go through until they are made into bread is not only interesting but a means of education. A story in picture of an automobile trip to places of interest to the child, with the people in the pictures given names of those known to the child, a book of farm scenes, or animals at the zoo, or a miscellaneous collection of pictures are all of interest. Story books or poetry books can be made from clippings. Cloth dolls and animals stuffed with feathers are light in weight and keep their shape. What is particularly nice for a sick child is a box of pictures clipped from magazines or postcards pasted together with a plain white paper over the written side. They spend many happy moments lifting these out of the box one by one and looking at them. Also a box of short stories pasted on the cards one gets in boxes of shredded wheat. Puzzles and various kinds of games can be made from pasteboard for the older children. Clothing can be made from partially worn adult garments, and mittens can be made with thread ripped from old sweaters put into skeins and washed first. Stockings for little tots can be shaped from the best portion of cast off adult stockings and socks.

For your personal friends the simple gift, the more often it is most appreciated. A few homemade buns or loaf of bread for the one who always buys her baking, a few fresh eggs to the one who keeps no fowl, a favorite vegetable to the one whose garden failed him in that particular product, or some fruit either in natural state or preserved.

Have you ever taken time to write a word of appreciation to your minister or any speaker in public who has given you helpful thoughts? Have you ever tried this same idea on any author of poems or books or composer of music who has written something which appealed to you? When you pay your subscription for your daily or weekly newspaper or your favorite magazine, take a little time to sum-up some of the things you have enjoyed and tell the editor, then see him smile happily. These are very helpful "Christ-like thank-yous" as you will find from the sincere replies you will receive.

I sincerely hope there is something here that will help you "enjoy giving".

—RUTH RAEBURN

SUNSHINE BELT OF THE SOUTH

The longest beach in the world "Strung" way along the Gulf of Mexico, down around the Key West, up the coast of blue to somewhere east of Jacksonville will not mean a thing to those who never see it, nor will the warm tropic suns of midwinter or the sea bathing of January. There are oranges to be picked when the snow is barricading your door, golf and tennis down South when the weather strips alone will not debar the breath of the North. When you think things at their worst they are really at their best in Florida and along the gulf coast. Hotel rates are reasonable and long limit winter tourist fares giving you a wide choice of routes are surprisingly low. Why not make a travel investment in health?

For all travel information consult R. Macfarlane, Durham, or any Canadian Pacific ticket agent.

Strange Bedfellow
A young man had fine collection of East African trophies, and amongst them a splendid buffalo head.

"What a wonderful head!" said a girl who had come to inspect them. "How did you get that? was he very savage?"

"I had a deuce of a time with that buffalo," replied the hunter. "Never had such a morning in my life. I shot it in my pyjamas." "Good heavens!" murmured the sweet young thing. "How did it get there?"

Read The Chronicle Ads. on Page 9.

TWELVE GREATEST WAR HEROES PICKED

London Writer Puts Albert of Belgium at Top and Includes Wilson.

The twelve most outstanding figures of the war have been selected tentatively by a writer in the London Graphic, who appears to have been personally connected with the great struggle in an important capacity, but who hides behind the pseudonym of "Post Hoc". They are Albert, of Belgium; Lloyd George, Woodrow Wilson, Lenine, Hindenburg, Foch, Clemenceau, the Kaiser, Lawrence, of Arabia; Edith Cavell, Earl Haig and d'Annunzio.

It is admittedly a strange list at first glance, but the man who tries to take history by the forelock makes it clear that he is not choosing on the standard of virtue alone. What he has tried to do is not to select the heroes of the war, but the "heroes" of the story of the war, the twelve figures who will live in history and legend, those whom one will associate with the greatest upheaval of the early twentieth century almost without mental process—as Nelson or Napoleon are merged in their epoch.

Weighs Claims of Each

He then proceeds to justify his selection, weighing the claims of each name against its competitors for fame. About King Albert he has no hesitation whatever. "Time," he says, "has not relieved him from being the most purely heroic figure of the war. His great merit is that and his faith, despite the temptations put in his way to make a separate peace. Yet all the time his kingdom was merely a strip of sand on the Yser. He carried on, amid his troops, in the muddy misery of succeeding winters, steadfast and defiant, preferring defeat to dishonor."

And the writer adds a picture of the "outcast King" walking alone on the sands, gazing long and sadly at the light of Ostend—his Ostend—glimmering barely ten miles away. "Post Hoc" is equally sure of his ground in picking his national leaders for the lost. Clemenceau, he says "has his niche forever as the greatest popular hero France succumbed to (if only for the shortest while) since "le petit Caporal himself."

Lloyd George Secure

Nor, he thinks, will anybody dispute Lloyd George's place. "He first got the shells, and then, suiting himself to the swing of the nation, drove like fury till the end."

Wilson he chooses from among all the Americans as the one really historic figure, for whatever the pitiful denouement, he did stand out and like none other since Bonaparte.

"There were six months in 1918," "Post Hoc" continues, "when the White House, with Wilson in possession, came to be looked upon as Delphi itself; ally and enemy alike stood in awe of this obscure professor as he appeared to ladle out the wisdom of the ages . . . as the very shorthand clerks seemed to be taking down history when he deigned to speak. Like Caesar, Wilson later rode through the capitals of the Old World, preparing the way for his Fourteen Points."

Case of the Kaiser

But then we come to two figures of a different kind—Lenine and the Kaiser. "Post Hoc" explains their inclusion by saying that "many of the most outstanding men of history have been of the deepest dye."

"Of course," he says, "the founder of Bolshevism goes into our list—virtually at the top. A sinister figure? yes; a man of blood? yes; yet this is no chronicle of spotless virtue. Vitalizing a new horror, Lenine profoundly influenced the course of the war (and of the peace). A creator, a leader, an organizer, a whipper-in of British illiterates."

Similarly the Kaiser was all along the embodiment, the living symbol of the German people. "Seven million graves constitute his monument—and they will continue to do so."

Foch and Haig Eligible

And the only other soldiers he considers eligible to the twelve are Foch and Haig.

Neither Joffre nor Ludendorff nor Pershing passes the test! "Papa Joffre," he says, he is on the way to becoming a kind of legend, for "no one seems to know for certain whether he was a complete washout or a sly old strategist of great lethargy." Ludendorff, too, is a disputed figure.

The third of these omissions, Pershing, requires more explanations, and "Post Hoc" doesn't hold it back. "Had Pershing," he says, "commanded a larger force than twenty-two divisions (last-minute number) or for longer, actively, than six brief months . . . he would have gone into any list of the first twelve." A more serious argument for his exclusion, according to this writer, is found in the heavy losses in the Argonne in the fall of 1918, and he adds his "belief" that the question of Pershing's relief from command had already arisen when the end of the war came.

Three Romantic Figures

The remaining three names in the list are romantic figures, figures important for their appeal to the imagination rather than for their influence. "Lawrence of Arabia"

Fashion Fancies

Ruffles of Tulle Are Used Diagonally on This Evening Frock.



For evening frocks, tulle is particularly delightful, and here, in a pale shade of green, it makes a very lovely model.

Deep ruffles with a deep band of shirring at the top extend from the shoulder diagonally across the dress and the skirt is made up of the ruffles placed in this fashion, with the points falling below the hem.

About the hips there is a narrow satin ribbon tied in a bow with short ends.

takes precedence over Allenby, Maude and all the military leaders in the East: "Lawrence, brilliant, beautiful, outstanding genius on his cabbage patch, the hero of boys forever, and of grownups, too." So he enters "our elect." And so does Nurse Cavell, though all she may have done was to die. "Yet she lives on forever, internationally, on the strength of war service and therefore fills the utmost meaning of the term 'outstanding'."

Finally, there is d'Annunzio, as the only Italian in the entire list.

He is there as the "bringer-in" of Italy against her former Allies. As the "recognized inspirer of Fascism" when the Duce was still a sergeant of Arditi, and "as the very-much-on-earth acquirer of Fiume, this long-fingered poet bomber and utter human contradiction cannot be barred from the ultimate dozen."

The list is more remarkable, perhaps, for its omissions than its inclusion, but "Post Hoc" explains them all. At one time, he says, Venezelos, Alenby, Grand Duke Nicholas, Colonel House and Lord Northcliffe were all among his candidates. Kitchener, Jellicoe, Beatty, Hoover, Page and others were all crowded out by a hair's breadth. None of these cases, perhaps is as remarkable as Winston Churchill, who had to yield precedence to Haig. "Post Hoc" hates to omit him and grants him a long eulogy instead.

Finally, he says, there is "a thirteenth who soars above them all," and that is the Unknown Soldier, resting in a million graves.

PUTTING ASIDE SOIL FOR HOT-BEDS

When spring approaches thought is turned toward the hot-bed for starting vegetables and flowering plants, but it very often happens that soil for the hot-bed has not been set aside and is not available, and as a result nothing is done. It is wise, therefore, to prepare for spring now, and to make up a cone-shaped pile of suitable soil in a convenient place, so that it will be reasonably dry and ready for spring work. Or it may be put under cover in an outbuilding in barrels. Any good friable loam is suitable for starting plants in it. It is wise to use a soil that does not bake, or one containing considerable sand and decayed vegetable matter or humus. The surface soil from a garden that has previously been well-manured serves the purpose admirably. Or, if the soil is poor, well rotted manure should be added and mixed well with the soil, using about fifteen to twenty per cent of manure. Sods gathered during the summer and piled alternately with manure will, when cut down and well worked together, make the best hot-bed soil. If flats or shallow boxes to grow the plants in are available it is not necessary to put aside much soil, and usually two barrels will suffice to meet the requirements for an ordinary garden. If on the other hand the soil is to be put into the hot-bed direct, twice as much will be necessary.

Plants may also be started early in a cold frame. The frame is set in place now and six inches of good, rich, friable soil is placed in it. Over this, leaves, straw, stony manure or litter not containing weed seeds is put to keep out the

frost. In the early spring this litter is removed and the sashes put on, and it will be found that in a short time the ground will nicely warm up, so that seeds of the hardier vegetables and flowers may be planted.

For Her Dear, Old Mom
The sweet young thing was saying her prayers: "Dear Lord," she cooed, "I don't ask for anything for myself, only give Mother a son-in-law."

For Stenographers and Executives As Well As All Other Writers.

Read this list to your friends, one word at a time, and ask them to spell each word for you. The percentage of errors will be high enough to deflate the most educated ego, tranquility supersedes rarely kimono naphtha paraffin sacreligios naphtha picknicking liquely

Read The Chronicle Ads. on Page 9.

HOME RETURN CHRISTMAS ROUTE
Get Your LUGGAGE NOW

Santa Suggests LUGGAGE

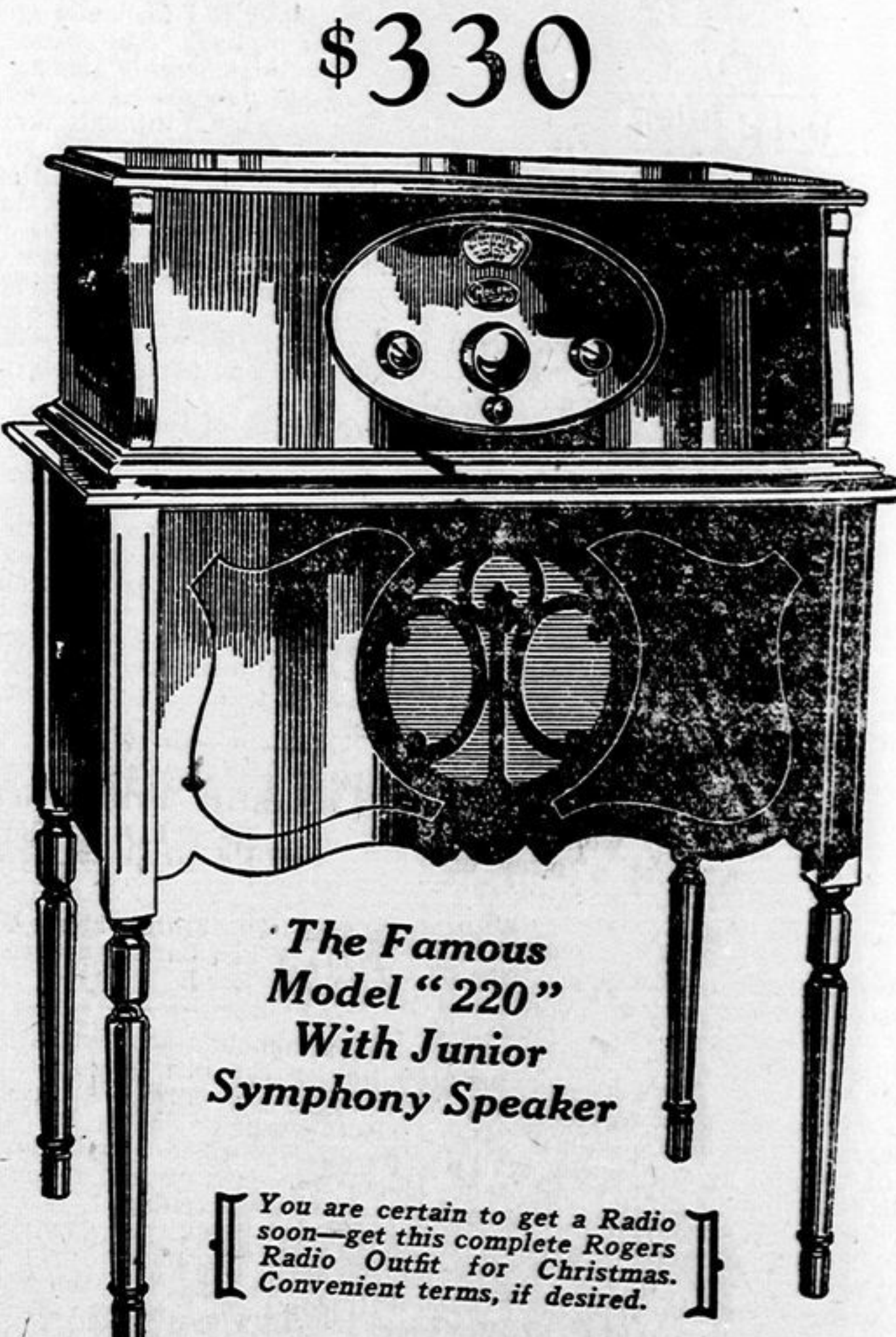
LEATHER articles are durable, useful, and good-looking — most desirable as gifts.

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If it is to be a "Radio Christmas" in your home, by all means see and hear this beautiful Rogers Radio Outfit.

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Christmas Gifts In Abundance at the Rexall Store

Our travellers have shown us so many fine gifts that we couldn't refuse buying. Now we have so many nice things we are just piling them up.

To the first 50 customers buying \$5.00 worth or over we will give

FREE: One Corsage Bouquet Regular Price \$1.00

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and have put in a full line of FLOUR AND FEED

which we are offering at the following prices:

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