Last-Minute Christmas Gifts You Can Make at Home

BY NINA H. DUFFIELD.

for it. But even a few days before light: Christmas is not too late to "get into May Christmas bells, which sway and the game," if one is willing to be a little bit original. So, instead of An avalanche of blisses bring rushing to town and undergoing that On your devoted head; awful experience of last-minute shop. Yes, an avalanche is what I saidping, why not look around the farm An avalanche of joys, by jing! and find gifts right at hand which A-tumbling down, bing-bang, pellwill carry with them a homey atmosplans myself.

I once sent a dressed turkey clear ly to the side: to my mother in Montreal. Since it Herewith, my friend, the reason why that I had a big part in their family this card with a gay ribbon: celebration after all. It was all farm- Breathes there a man with soul so grown products a dressed turkey, a sack of dried sweet corn, a jar of peas. Who never to himself hath said. and three one-pound coffee cans, pack- "Where can I find some pie?" home-made mincemeat. I made everything festive with bright wrappings, As to the pantry he hath turned and tied gay little verses to the pack- His wants to satisfy? ages. This really is a delightful way You can imagine what a desperate to remember "home folks."

and tie it to the box.

The rarest fruit that I could find I send to this good friend o' mine. To give a little "eggstra" cheer This happy season of the year.

If you are sending a dressed turkey or duck or chicken, be sure that it which I have used when planning my these old-fashioned toys are right up- which to keep them; and those that emies. gets there at least a day before Christmas in other years. I'm sure to-the-minute. And what if we do are not kept in their proper places I. In the House of Friends, 10: 38-42. listening. Martha had obscured her Christas. This verse on a little card the fun of making up jingles for other think them a little old-fashioned? when not in use should be forfeited V. 38. As they went; on the way to love in her freeting. Mary had re-

Oh, let your fare be fowl to-day

Laid down His sweet head

Looked down where He lay,

The stars in the bright sky

Away in a manger,

No crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus

The little Lord Jesus

Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,

The baby awakes,

But little Lord Jesus

And stay by my side

No crying He makes. I love Thee, Lord Jesus,

Look down from the sky

Until morning is high.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever.

And love me, I pray Bless all the dear children

In Thy tender care,

To live with Thee there.

ber, his father, his wife and children.

that would charm man or child.

little Christmas hymn.

And fit us for Heaven

We farm women, with the rush of daintiest gifts imaginable. A friend fall work hardly out of hand, are often once sent me quince jelly, and the dismayed to find the Christmas sea. rollicking verse which accompanied it son fairly upon us and no plans made made the little gift an absolute de-

phere and a real Christmas spirit? And tasting sweet-like this here jell! Your friends will hail these things A pie pumpkin, in its orange coat, with delight. I know, because I am a needs no embellishment. Tie your farmer's wife and have tried these Christmas greeting to the otem, or with brass tacks fasten the card firm-

was to travel all the way from West. You need not lack for pumpkin pie. ern Ontario, I planned that it should "Have all you want and more," sez I. reach her a day or two before Christ- Everybody is fond of mincement. mas. Although I was deprived of the especially the kind made in country joy of cooking that dinner for my kitchens. A quart will make two fat mother and the folks at home, I felt pies. Wrap the jar well, and attach

ed each with fresh butter, lard, and Whose heart within him ne'er hath

effort some friend in town will be I always think that the object of making to find some "really good" a gift is to bring real pleasure to the butter for her Christmas dinner table. receiver. That's why I send a dozen She will indeed be a queer housewife fresh eggs at Christmas to one friend if she is not delighted with the unwho has a special fondness for egg usual gift of a roll of fresh butter. and add a little verse just for fun:

tucked under its wing is sure to give farm presents will add a great deal of What is more old-fashioned than chil- for a short time. It does to mine. I've found that it forever, the world over?

> No More "Appropriate" Christmas Gifts.

gifts that your friends do not expect. or a cushion for the base of the spine. give her silk stockings or some stylish and becoming neckwear. Grandfather a good deal of time over her clothes, bumps and knocks and the rough At the age of two to four years, add treatment to which they are subject- toys to stimulate the imagination, V. 40. Martha was cumbered. The the street. It sought the regard of ter's snow"—would be hopelessly inof always receiving frills and frip-

friend who likes sweets a spicy Coleridge wrote a hundred years Christmas cake attractively packed, ago: "I can scarcely conceive a more or a box of home-made fudge; if you delightful volume than might be made can do fancy sewing, embroider a from Luther's letters, especially sheer handkerchief with the initials those from the Wartburg, if translat- of the person who is to receive the has when he opens the throttle of vide: Dolls representing nationalities by playful fashion, for he knew the about them.

Some of the letters of Luther were preserves. collected in 1530 during his life-time. Finally, if you are going to spend The most satisfactory collection was a considerable sum of money on a few days. Such toys are of less use blocks, musical toys including automade by Margaret A. Currie in 1908. gift, let the person who is to have the in developing a child than is a tin harp, violin, mouth-organ and Jews'-Particularly lovable is Luther seen considerate and sensible thing to do. trough. to be in his home letters-to his sis-

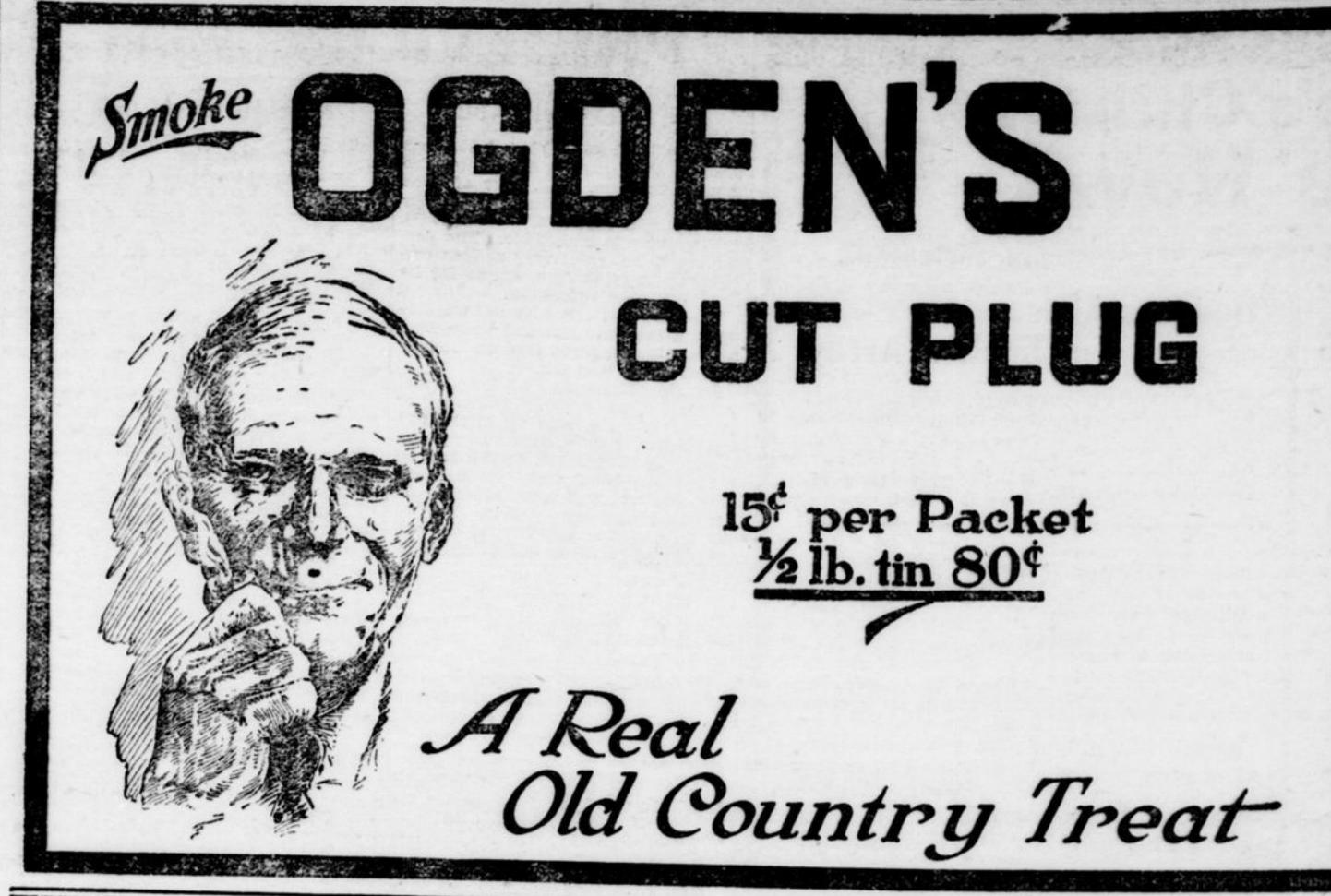
A Birthright.

to his son. Hans, telling of a beautiful. It was at a Christmas dinner.

pick up rosy-cheeked apples, pears, ing of everything, and, with the plums, from under the trees, and sing, stamina of healthy youth, passed his jump and rejoice all day and where plate for a fourth helping of pudding. they also have pretty ponies with "My goodness, Bobbie, how can you

golden reins and silver saddles, is one eat so much?" exclaimed his mother. "Dunno!" grinned Bobbie. "'Spects After reading these letters it is it must be just my luck!" easy to see him writing this beautiful

Small Boy-"I promised I'd be generous with my Christmas sled, so I'll Sympathy steps into the shadow to let Sis have it going up hill, and I'll. war into the sunshine. have it going down!'



The Right Kind of Toy

BY LYDIA ALLEN M.D.

Christmas is the kiddies' time and of lumber about every farmhouse he breakfasts. You may be sure that a And if you think such a gift can't be at once brings visions of a laughing, can build a house, a barn or a town. dozen of them, separately wrapped properly festive, just experiment a happy, old Santa Claus bearing upon So while amusing himself the child in twists of tissue and packed in a bit with oiled paper and dainty wrap- his back a bag of toys which he has will be learning in about the only way gay holly box, will be received with pings. Then tie with bright yellow provided for his young friends. that a child can learn—that is, enthusiasm. Copy this little rhyme ribbon to signify the "gift o' gold," But Santa Claus has heard of the through play.

better babies' movement and of the Orderliness is one of the most im-These are only suggestions, ideas when they were children. To-day every child should have a place in and secondly in relation to his en- V. 42. One thing is needful. Mary

And frets, like feathers, fly away; pays to add a little verse or note to Beginning with the smallest child as deep as is necessary for the proper the Exodus from Egypt and the in-May joys abide and cares take wing, the present I give to my own family. Of all, let us think of just the right height, depending on the age of the vineyard. Entered into a certain vil-And lasting luck the wishbone bring! It makes the most practical gift seem haby's idea of loving anything is to so that it can be easily moved about.

A class of ielly makes one of the festive.

Of all, let us think of just one right neight, depending on the age of the baby's idea of loving anything is to so that it can be easily moved about.

V. 42. We unto you Pharisees. The baby's idea of loving anything is to charge of Christ against the Pharisee was first that it was purely external, or unbleached linen. Cut two eightput it in his mouth; so for the littlest Instead of a lid, it is fitted with a commanded at two miles distance, an dealing as it were with the outside of inch squares and French seam toones, dolls and bunnies must be made top extending from four to six inches impressive view of Jerusalem. It was the cup and platter, and neglecting gether on two adjoining sides. Hem of something that will wash. For a on all sides of the box, so that the box here that Jesus uttered his memorthe inward part. Secondly it was the other two edges with a narrow baby of six months, a small rubber when closed serves as a play table. able lamentation over Jerusalem. At hypocritical because behind the mask the fact of the Mount was the Garden of religion they about for the wrong side. Cut a strip An "appropriate" Christmas gift is doll or rattle is perhaps the most The top can be hinged on to the box of Gethsemane. A certain woman of Gethsemane. A certain woman removed from religion. Then Jesus of the material two and one-half often a dismal failure, because what statisfactory plaything; besides cut- or held in place by cleats on the under of Gethsemane. A certain woman removed from religion. Then Jesus you select as especially suitable to a ting his teeth on it, he can use it to side. The top can be painted as a of the family of Martha, Mary and thing that is associated with the re-

cipient's business or age—things that first birthday and up to school age will be found suitable for the first into her house. This home was the most persons like to forget once in made tows. One caution reads to be cup, silver spoon new clothes pins door was always open to him. It was made toys. One caution needs to be cup, silver spoon, new clothes-pins, door was always open to him. It was of the tenth, the Pharisees were very pot with "Hot Dish Holders" was em-Make the experiment of giving observed; that is, not to make the kitchen utensils, such as bright tin like the Palace Beautiful on the sumtoys of woolly or furry material from pans in a variety of shapes or sizes mit of the Hill of Difficulty, of which For example, instead of giving your which a very small child can pick and (must have neither sharp edges nor Gornele we read in Pilgrim's Progress. In the judgment, While thus scrupulous in For example, instead of giving your grandmother some such "help to the grandmother some such "help to the animals are all that a child needs to the celluloid toys which float."

Which a very small child can pick and (must have neither sharp edges nor constant and busy, and and busy, John 11: 20; 12: 2. She is things, they were blind to the great

washings which are required of toys do, with the addition of unpainted deeper than that of Martha. At the may be pleased with new cuff links or a novel. If you have a friend who likes to go to parties and who spends a good deal of time over her clothes.

They must also be breakable, washable dolls, a sand or strong enough to withstand the hard sawdust box with bucket and spoon. At the age of two to four years, add trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind as they which looked towards Jerusalem, were strong enough to withstand the hard sawdust box with bucket and spoon. At the age of two to four years, add trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the wind and the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the wind and the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the wind and the wind and the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the same trivialities, it also had a craving for the wind and the same trivialities. ed. Therefore, toys which are merely such as dolls and doll accessories—a time of the Feast of Tabernacies the street. It sought the regard of ter's snow"—would be hopelessly inglued or pasted together, or these doll house, dishes, furniture, clothes would be one of more than usual stir man. having anything but the most durable and laundry equipment. Also Noah's for Martha, and the arrival of Jesus V. 44. Ye are as graves. If a man from the Mother Country have conconstruction, are unsuitable for chil- ark, scap-bubble pipes, linen picture necessarily added to her burden. She touched a grave he was ceremonially fessed that it has taken them many peries, and so will welcome a more dren or any age. Especially to be books (large pictures), Montessori becomes cumbered or distracted with unclean. Great pains were taken to years before they could get in any This tender little Christmas hymn
You can follow the same principle when you give gifts to those who are when you give gifts to those who are was written by Martin Luther. To when you give gifts to those who are cornaments. At any moment these wagon, herse reins, tenpins, balloons expression. Lord, dost thou not care, awares. So the Pharitees were sources of unsuspected corruption and evil. only it will hardly seem possible that not give the dressmaker a sewing baby's throat. Equally objectionable When from four to six years use carries with it a mild censure of Jesus V. 53. The Pharisees began to urge of Christ—Christmas Day. The year, too, is wrong. Most people would

> Besides being loveable and durable, constructive toys include: Picture might be helping Jesus far beyond the that his boldness of speech would inspect to catch some.
>
> Mary's volve him. Seeking to catch some. toys should appeal to the child's im- puzles, painting book, drawing paper spread of Martha's table. Mary's volve him. Seeking to catch someagination. With a whitete and a row and crayons, modeling clay or wax, quiet listening was more to him than thing out of his mouth; lying in amof kitchen chairs, the caild can make blackboard, blunt-end scissors and Martha's distracted bustling. Time is bush to catch a word from his lips, mony have been later than February,

ed in the simple, idiomatic, hearty gift; if you live on a farm, send a the "Limited." It is only the adult or historic characters, interlocking who needs the imitation car or the toys and apparatus for building and intricate toys which are wound up construction, dominoes, checkers and arranged in such an order as to form surprise, but since it will assure sat- to drag the can behind as a caboose, stilts, croquet, tennis, punching-bag, ting salt on their tails—you can lure isfaction all round it is really a most or which he sets to sail in the horse baseball and bat, marbles and jack-

The final test of a toy is whether or Once when the busy man sent to Christmas is pretty little good do something. A toy which a child "What did you give your mama for not it is one with which the child can Numberg for oranges for his wife, without, shall we say, half a dozen can only admire is one of which he Christmas?" asked one small boy of will tire in a short time. With a doll, another. wrote: "Why should he not be glad Roast turkey, Christmas puddings, a child can play family, school or "A paper-knife," was the reply to do her bidding, for was she not and mince pies are made to be eaten. Church. With a ball he can invent "What did you give yours?" dearer to him than the King of France "Eat and let eat," should be the motto games. With a few pieces of china "Oh," answered the other, "I read and tin, the child can play house, in a book about preparing for war in With a basket full of blocks, such as time of peace, so I just bought her a garden, where are many children who Young Bobbie had had a third help- can be cut from the ordinary scraps pair of slippers with knit soles."

ON HIS WAY

DECEMBER 17

Jesus Among Friends and Foes, Luke 10: 38-42: 11: 42-44. 53, 54. Golden Text-Ye are my friends if ye do the things which I command you, John 15: 14 (Rev. lavender ribbon. Use the very narrow

This gay little gift, they tell to me, Is hard to buy in its infancy.

Is hard to buy in its infancy.

Such a Merry Christmas I'm wishing learn through play. But the proper equipment must be given him and he must be given him and with, but because they give us an inful and troubled about many things; pack, but is going to bring the kind he must be instructed in its use. From sight into the mind and method of and therefore she had lost the true You'd butter believe I mean it, too! of toys that father and mother had the time he begins to have playthings, Jesus, first in relation to his friends proportion of things.

For the second year, most of the V. 39. She had a sister called Mary To come safely through the many toys suggested for the first year will . . at Jesus' feet. Mary's nature is

anything so exquisitely lyrical could basket; see how a flask of delicate are those painted in bright colors, the following: Musical toys, triangle, in permitting Mary to sit and listen, him vehemently. The bold words of too, is wrong. Most people would take it for granted that Christ was Pictures of him show a broad, maslit is a good plan, however, to give Either of these toys may be respon- bugle. The outdoor toys include: Us- of the offence of drawing a guest into The Pharisees began to follow him up born in A.D. 1—literally, of course, the Very of sive face, with dark eyes that look gifts that are identified with yourself, sible for a sick baby and frightened able garden tools, volley ball, top, a family difference. Bid her . . help closely. Their hate becomes purpose-the Year of our Lord, No. 1. able garden tools, volley ball, top, a family difference. Bid her . . help chosely. Then have becomes purpose-hoop and ring-toss. Imaginative and me. Martha did not realize that if ful. Proveke him to speak; cross-lingly did not help her, it examine him on many points, hoping out. This should be 1926 and not

Don't Forget the Birds'

Christmas.

the birds close to you, and give them a Christmas as happy as your own. I want so much on Christmas, Suppose you had to live out-of-

doors all winter, and suppose all the I want a rocker pony, things you like to eat were covered with snow or frozen and dead, what I want a sword and pistol, would you do? You may be a sixkid, but it would not matter, for you'd soon be like the babes in the woods. would have to cover you with leaves.

don't neglect to see that the birds get

warm some suet and stick it full of seeds and muts and bits of meat. That will make the finest trimming that Most British thoroughbred horses gether in every sense. ever a birds' tree wore, and you will of mainly Eastern descent can trace

fun to your Christmas preparation. dren themselves who are the same It does to mine. I've found that it forever the world over?

It does to mine. I've found that it forever the world over?

I be a short time.

A simple box for toys can be made the most joyous of all the Jewish Master in quiet thought. Martha had with bright colored bias binding. Sew

asks the question, "Is God the God of inches wide and ten inches long. Sew the outside of things only? Is he together lengthwise and turn. Fold

all the thrills that a real engineer When from six to nine years pro- V. 41. Martha, Martha; said in kind- of everything that Jesus had said That settles the year of the first

spots beyond the reach of cats. Heap

A Small Boys' Dilemma. And want it without fail; With a really mane and tail.

And cap and coat of red. foot boy, or you may be a very little I want a little wagon, And a double-runner sled and when the robins found you they I want a pair of mittens, All right, then, boys and girls, I want a book of pictures, For this one's lost a thumb:

A trumpet and a drum; their Christmas tree, or, if you prefer, And with the nuts and popcorn, If it is to be a tree, you will want I'm just afraid our chimney an evergreen. Then you will need to Is bout a size too small!

see many birds enjoy the treat. their ancestry to one of three famous

If you invite the birds to a dinner, horses of the eighteenth century.

Excellent are the lessons of experience, but they often come too late.

USEFUL GIFTS

The New Old Tea Cozy.

The loving thought that has been put into the fashioning of a pretty, practical and inexpensive tea cosy, will make the simple gift a delight to Mother or Aunt Sally.

Tea is properly "drawn," then poured off the leaves into our very best pot and the cosy is used to keep the tea

The outside cover of a very pretty cosy was made from the front of a discarded embroidered shirtwaist. The front pattern was placed so that the embroidery formed the centre decoration. The back of the cosy was cut from the backs of the blouse.

The cosy cover was French-seamed and finished at the lower edge with a tiny hem. A perky knot made of white crocheted cord finished the top.

The pad for the cosy, cut a little smaller than the cover, is of unbleached muslin and padded with sheetwadding. This padding must be heavy enough so heat will not pass through The pad is placed inside the cover and the edge of the cover is turned up on the inside of the cosy and basted in position. It is very easily removed for frequent laundering.

Mules.

Who in the world named bedroom slippers mules? Well, anyway, mules will be charming gifts. They can be made from a pair of soles and odds and ends of pretty ribbons and silks in a few hours' time. Purchase a pair The Sunday School Lesson of satin-faced soles in the desired size.

Make the slipper tops of flesh-colored wash-satin and the linings from a firm piece of muslin. Baste together, seam and turn. Bind the edge across the instep with pale blue satin ribbon one inch in width.

Trim the slipper tops with tiny lowers made of pink, blue, yellow and ribbon and gather it into tiny circles for flowers. Lazy daisy stitches of green embroidery cotton form the leaves. Overhand the tops to the soles with strong white thread.

Asbestos Holders.

Purchase a small piece of asbestos material and cut it into five-inch squares. Line the squares with some

demands of religion, justice to man Christmas Day seems wedded to

V. 43. Ye love the uppermost seats, spring-time Christmas, with no holly,

Christmas, but all attempts to fix the be sure to spread the feeding tables in have failed. actual day and month of Christmas

them with apples and cabbage leaves, Christmas, like Easter, took some cen-Look here, bird-lovers! You are dry cakes and bread and boiled pogoing to have the happiest time ever, tatoes. Such food, the birds think, rived at. In the first centuries of Christianity several important Eastern churches observed January 6th as Christmas Day. The Armenian Christiams do so still.

Gradually, however, uniformity was attained, but not before the fifth century. In that connection it must be remembered that for quite a long period England was divided on the question of Christmas. Some people persisted in observing "old" Christmas Day.

But all will agree that December 25th, even if it is not the actual data of Christ's birthday, is a happy choice. Our present-day Christmas, festival and holiday, breaks the long winter, and what better time could there be for family reunions? The cold and unpleasantness outside make it all the more agreeable to keep warm and snug inside? It keeps us to-

lence, but they often come too late.

poison to out suffe Morphia. drug a go enough to Cats s take qui these and

in a for an exter not any grain h being. whole a