

A NEW YEAR'S PARTY

BY JANE HEMMINGWAY.

For invitations make a pattern of an hourglass five and a half inches long and three and a half inches wide. Transfer this to correspondence cards and cut out carefully around the glass. Speck the bottom part of the glass with pencil dots to simulate the sand and write "Happy New Year, 1927" on the top half. On the back write the following verses, one on each half: Old Father Time will tip his glass - To run another year, Next Friday night at midnight, And we'd like to have you here.

Come early on that evening, We promise time will fly, With "timely" games and jolly stunts The old year says good-bye. If you prefer you may simply draw

a sketch of the hourglass in the upper left corner of the card and write the verses beneath it.

Games and stunts should be arranged for the evening, so it will not drag before midnight arrives.

Measuring Time would be great fun. Pass balloons to all your guests and have someone play a very short piece on the piano or phonograph. Then let every one guess how many minutes it took. The hostess must time it carefully of course.

Footprints on the Sands of Time is a follow-the-leader stunt. Cut footprints from brown paper and pin them in pairs to the rugs all through the house, placing them at all sorts of angles. Form the crowd in line and at a given signal they must

march around, each guest fitting her own feet onto the paper ones before she can move on.

Once Upon a Time is a paper-and-pencil game. Pass slips of paper, each containing a noun. Everyone takes one, and in a given time must write a fairy story of ten words, beginning "Once upon a time." These can be read aloud later and voted upon to choose the winner.

Pass "timely" refreshments on past-board plates, each one marked like the dial of a clock with the figures drawn in around the edge with black ink. Serve hourglass ice cream, calendar cakes and stuffed dates. The calendar cakes are little oblong sugar cookies or squares of sponge cake leed in white and marked off in squares with the days of the month written on them. This can be done very easily by dipping a fine paintbrush in melted chocolate and drawing the lines after the white icing has become hard. Very attractive hourglass ice cream can be served on the plate by using two ice-cream cones.

Break the end from one of them and stand it on the plate, the big end down. Stick a second cone, which should be filled with the ice cream, into this.

Serve your refreshments around half past eleven so you will be finished when the new year arrives. It would be very nice, especially if the party is given for a crowd of club girls, for everyone to stand as the clock strikes midnight, then to make a resolution in the presence of the other girls.



The Children's Friend

WHEN FATHER TIME ENTERTAINS

When your guests first arrive they may feel a bit stiff or shy. If you can make them all forget themselves in the excitement of some unusual game or unique stunt they will soon be "quite at ease." Here are some suggestions.

People never tire of having their fortunes told, and if it is a clear starry night Father Time can take them out and pretend to read the stars. Before hand he will have read up on the subject of astrology. There are little books giving the characteristics of people born in the different months. These are usually on sale at newsstands.

Father Time's Fortunes. Asking the date of the birthday, Father Time will consult the book for that month by the light of his old lantern and with frequent glances at the stars will give them interesting facts about their virtues and shortcomings, their lucky days and special talents. If you are not able to procure the little books he can draw upon his own imagination and the following suggestions:

MARCH 21st-APRIL 19th-Aries.

Mental energy, often headstrong and impulsive, ambitious, independent, persistent, quick tempered, elevating idealism, pioneers and leaders, good executives, would do well as architects and designers—pen sketchers, writers, lecturers, milliners, auctioneers, reformers, promoters, electricians.

APRIL 20th-MAY 20th-Taurus.

Self-reliant, persistent, firm, careful, abhor pain, patience, secretive or reserved, practical, faithful friends, sincere, make excellent public servants, executive workers, bankers, can succeed as doctors, nurses, farmers, gardeners, financial agents, singers, actors, taxidermists.

MAY 21st-JUNE 20th-Gemini.

Sympathetic, kindhearted, affectionate, sensitive, individual, idealistic, studious, nervous, excellent reasoners, changeable, impulsive, like change; make good as bookkeepers, demonstrators, commercial travelers, writers, newspaper men, solicitors.

JUNE 21st-JULY 22nd-Cancer.

Quiet, reserved, sensitive, versatile, dramatic ability, industrious, prudent, frugal, retentive memory, fear ridicule, conventional; make good as actors, nurses, confectioners, cooks, dressmakers, hotel keepers, managers.

JULY 23rd-AUGUST 22nd-Leo.

Good natured, generous, natural leaders, determined, persistent, honest, conscientious, impulsive, intuitive, ardent and sincere. Make good as executives, writers, goldsmiths, lecturers, policemen, army mechanics.

AUGUST 23rd-SEPT. 22nd-Virgo.

Modest, contemplative, industrious, refined, desire wealth, active, not easily contented, lends the ideal with the practical, careful, keen, intellectual, and successful as authors, draftsmen, decorators, lawyers, philosophers.

SEPT. 23rd-OCT. 22nd-Libra.

Courteous, pleasant, agreeable, even tempered, affectionate, sensitive, peacemakers, modest; are fitted for influential posts, lecturers, librarians, writers, doctors, lawyers, actors, housekeepers, secretaries, carpenters.

OCT. 23rd-NOV. 21st-Scorpio.

Strong characters, shrewd, mentally suspicious, reserved, tenacious, secretive, fond of luxuries, but economical, quick, restless, energetic; make good as detectives, doctors, surgeons, chemists, druggists, lawyers, dentists, butchers, mechanics, soldiers, hotel keepers.

NOV. 22nd-DEC. 21st-Sagittarius.

Jovial, hopeful, generous, self-reliant, enterprising, honest, good foresight, direct, great economist of time and energy, rarely fail, aggressive, aspiring, reserve power, make good as musicians, artists, writers, printers, cashiers, teachers, inventors, astronomers, horsemen, advance agents.

DEC. 22nd-JAN. 19th-Capricorn.

Quiet, thoughtful, good reasoners, practical, religious, prudent, faithful, economy, thrift, may rise in life through own efforts; make good as builders, designers, lawyers, ministers, miners, aviators, grocers, huge undertakings.

JAN. 20th-FEB. 18th-Aquarius.

Determined, quiet, patient, faithful, philosophical, refined, cautious, intellectual, discriminative, sympathetic, generous, often radical, easily influenced but can't be driven, artistic, make good as authors, lawyers, teachers, musicians, explorers, reformers, engineers, electricians.

FEB. 19th-MARCH 20th-Pisces.

Loving, kind, industrious, methodical, logical, scientific, trustful, honest, amiable, idealistic, capable, orderly, precise, prudent, often modest and timid; make good as actors, teachers, language instructors, artists, milliners, tailors, nurses, sea captains, accountants, advance agents.

CLOCK GAME.

Form a large circle with one person called the Striker in the centre. Give each person an hour and if there are more than two use half hours. When the Striker touches a person he or she must immediately strike the hour and give a small pantomime of what it stands for. For instance, if he is twelve noon, he could pretend to eat, if twelve night, he could snore. And all this must be done before the striker counts fifteen. Continue until each person has had several turns.

FATHER TIME'S GRAB BAG.

If the party is made up of young

people this will be good fun. Otherwise it might hurt some of the older folk's feelings, though almost anyone is fond of a joke. In an old sack tied up in many papers put enough articles for everyone present. Then give everyone a chance to find out what Father Time has in store for them. Huge spectacles, small battles of rheumatism liniment, red night caps, foot warmers, suggest themselves. A little bag full of pennies would denote wealth, a wreath made of shiny leaves and labeled "Fame" could be mixed in with the funny articles, a bottle of hair restorer, a wig, a pussy cat, signifying single blessedness, and several weights from a scale would of course mean added weight for the unlucky drawer.

FATHER TIME'S QUESTIONS.

Pencil games are always popular for a large party, especially when there is a surprise to work for.

1. What is Father Time's favorite pudding? (Hasty pudding.)

2. What is Father Time's favorite flower? (Four o'clock or century plant.)

3. What is his favorite furniture? (Time tables.)

4. What is his favorite bird? (Rooster.)

5. Give a timely verse. (A few are suggested here, though many will occur to you.)

For instance: "Turn backward, turn backward, oh, time, in thy flight, Make me a child again just for tonight."

"Early to bed and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise."

"Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime And departing leave behind us Footprints in the sands of time."

6. Why does Father Time prefer country folk to city folk? (Because city folk are always punching the clock.)

7. Name everything you could find in a clock. (Face, hands, glass, wheels, works, figures, springs, bells, minutes, seconds, hours, etc.)

8. Why is a road going over a hill like a clock? (Because it winds up and runs down.)

9. Why is time like a bird? (Naturally because it flies.)

10. Put down all the times you can think of. (The list will vary but might contain all of these: Good time, bad time, right time, wrong time, standard time, daylight-saving time, summer time, winter time, day time, night time, ship's time, lost time, some time, high time, betimes, any time, and no time.)

For the best answers Father Time could award a subscription to a magazine, so they could keep up with the times. To the person who answers the least number of questions Father Time could give a time table to some funny place.

If you wish your guests to come in costume, ask them on the invitations to come dressed in timely garb. This will give a wide choice as they have the seasons, months, holidays, and various historical periods to choose from.

The costumes for winter, summer, spring, and autumn are not difficult to contrive, nor are costumes for the various months. For the holidays, there would of course be old St. Nick, a clown to represent April Fool's day, Jack Canuck for the First of July, a witch for Halloween, and a man in overalls for Labor Day.

Guessing the days, months, or periods the various guests stand for will be mighty amusing, and where it is hard to do Father Time will ask them to either recite a verse giving a clue to their costume or give a short pantomime to enlighten the company.

Santa Claus Letter Reaches the Address

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—A remarkable incident is reported—the case of a child at Houston, Texas, who addressed a letter to Santa Claus to North and Canada, and the epistle through the efficiency of the American and Canadian postal employees, reached Northland on the A.C.R., 24 miles north of the Soo.

Hubby—"I don't know how I'm going to get through the holidays. I'm up to my neck."

Wife—"And just think! Only a year ago you were up to your necking."

Plowing in fall and early winter exposes the soil to alternate freezing and thawing, thus improving the physical condition of the soil. The plowed ground will absorb a larger amount of moisture than the unplowed. The insect pests wintering in the soil are exposed to the weather and soon perish. If the ground is plowed in fall or winter, the first favorable weather conditions for the spring seeding can be taken advantage of. Occasionally heavier soils are better off if not plowed before winter sets in, because there is some danger of this type of soil running together in case there is very much moisture during the winter and early spring. This applies only to the heaviest types of soil.

Purification. I have set away in my heart One holy day, apart, Clear of a meadow, clear of a hill, I shall be walking out until I enter a door and, deep in the wood, I shall find a white orchid under a hood.

—Eleanor C. Keenig.

DROWNED WHEN DRIVING OVER OTTAWA

Parents and Child Go Through Hole in Thin Ice During Blizzard.

Pembroke, Ont., Dec. 19.—Driving in a blizzard which swept over the upper Ottawa River Friday afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. John McGuire and their six-year-old child were drowned in the Ottawa River when the cutter in which they were driving went through a hole in the ice, while they were returning from Christmas shopping at Pembroke.

The McGuire family lived at Demers Centre, Allumette Island. An inquest is to be conducted by Coroner C. E. Josephs.

According to information received at Pembroke when the fate of the trio became known, they were driving over what is known as the "lover trail" below Pembroke, when the horse, cutter and its occupants plunged into the icy waters of the Ottawa River.

Some residents of Pembroke claim to have seen the vehicle and its occupants disappear through the hole in the ice. The bodies have been recovered.

Turkey Famine Reported Where Turkeys Abound

Sarnia, Dec. 19.—Residents of Lambton County, which produces more turkeys than most counties in this province, may have to be content with the homely goose or a brace of ducks for Christmas dinner if the inroads of American buyers along the back concessions of this territory continue. The last big pre-Christmas market Saturday was almost shorn of the popular Christmas bird, and what few were available were bringing the high price of 55 cents a pound. Trucks by the score from Detroit have thoroughly combed the rural districts in the last few weeks, taking all the live birds that could be bought.

Former Canadian Editor Passes Away in London

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 19.—News has been received here of the death in London, England, of Peter Mackissock, architect, contractor and literary. As "Serge Rafferty," Mr. Mackissock was well known to the Canadian reading public, as he contributed many articles to current periodicals, both before and during the Great War. He was for a time night city editor of the Manitoba Free Press. After the war he returned to England to engage in newspaper work.



Indefinitely Postponed.

How come that you won't fight me? As you did in days gone past? S-h-h-h! Christmas' time is comin' And it's comin' mighty fast.

So I'm on my good behavior, And to me that means a lot, Cause when ol' Kris Kingle gets here, He'll leave me all he's got.

That's right! How many days are left 'Bout nice or ten or 'leven? Well whatcha say to have this fight In nineteen twenty-seven.

Forestry in Scotland. Viscount Cowdray has given £5,000 to endow a chair of forestry in Aberdeen University.

earth's rainfall amounts to 100,000 tons a second.

CANADIAN PEONIES TO HONOR HER JUBILEE

100,000 Blooms Will be Sent to England Next July.

Montreal, Dec. 19.—One hundred thousand peony blooms, the production of W. Ormiston Roy of Montreal, will be sent to England next July in honor of Canada's Diamond Jubilee. The Dominion Government has presented these to the British people as Canada's Jubilee gift. Every passenger that sails from a British port during July will carry on board a bouquet of peonies, grown in Canada, donated by the Canadian Government. Peonies will be placed in the Government Buildings in London, in the newspaper offices and the homes of leading citizens.

Their Majesties and members of the Royal family will be asked to accept gifts of peony blooms.



All Wrong. "I understand you're not on speaking terms with your wife." "Nonsense! Why, every morning we're quarreling over Christmas expenses."



Carlyle A. King, Nineteen-year-old westerner, who is studying for his master's degree at the University of Toronto on a research fellowship, has been awarded the Saskatchewan I.O.D.E. overseas scholarship for \$1,400. Mr. King, whose home is in Tugaskie, Sask., graduated from the University of Saskatchewan this spring and will spend a year at Oriel College, Oxford.

Just a Snack.

SAs usual breakfast was 12 pancakes. But, then, he generally had a good hard morning before him in the field. One morning a heavy rain made his chores impossible, so as he passed the kitchen he called to the farmer's wife:

"I shan't need much breakfast this morning. Eleven'll be enough. But make 'em a little larger."

The Duck's "Oil-Can."

Ducks carry oil in a little pocket near the tail. With this they oil their outer feathers and so make them waterproof.

LOW WATER CAUSES CLOSING OF PLANTS

Industries in St. Catharines District Forced to Shut Down Temporarily.

St. Catharines, Ont., Dec. 17.—Unusual weather conditions forced a shut down of several large industries in this district on Friday, including the Ontario Paper Co., Lincoln and Interlake Tissue Mills.

Low water in the summit level of the Welland Canal caused largely by the gale in Lake Erie, caused a water shortage in the paper industry. The feed pipes were also choked with ice, aggravating the shortage. The town of Thorold had to call on Merriton to secure a supply of water for municipal needs.

Near Lock 1 of the Welland Canal, where the Maple Leaf Rubber Company was shut down, divers went below and repaired the valves of the locks. This was necessary to permit the last two boats of the season, after a two-day battle with the elements to reach Lake Ontario. The steamers Taylor and Donovan got out at an early hour Friday morning after a two-day trip through the canal.

Wishes.

I wish that all the folk I know Would not annoy and vex me so. By saying: "How are you—all right?" From early morn till late at night.

I wish that people would not tell Me obvious things I know quite well, As that the weather's wet or fine, Or that a stitch in time eaves nine!

I wish it might be reckoned sin To say: "The days are drawing in," And that it might be counted less To say: "It's dreadful how time flies!"

I wish that, should I catch a cold, I might not fifty times be told: "You've got it, sir! Got what! THE FLU! It's very deadly this year, too!"

I wish that never more I might Hear the responses "No!" and "Quite!" Or meet the man who says, "Too true!" "You know!" "I see!" or "Entre nous."

I wish, in short, that people would Nip such expressions in the bud, Or, if they must say things so trite, They'd whisper them at dead of night! —A. B. Cooper.

Peggy Pours.

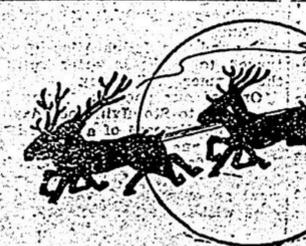
When Peggy helps to pass the tea, It's very cute—she's only three. She drops a cup. Why should she not? To tender little hands tea's hot. I know. She split it on my knee.

She's just as helpful as can be. Scarcely a gown or suit is free From accidental stain or spot. When Peggy helps.

That tray she's passing now to me Is listing like a ship at sea. All cookies to the floor have shot Except the one that Peggy got. But that's her right, as all agree. When Peggy helps. —Fairfax Downey.

The Ideal Hobby.

Gardening is regarded as an ideal hobby for most people because it takes them into the open air, exercises the muscles of the body, soothes the nerves, and causes mental activity.



How Many Days?

How many days are there in your year?

This is a good question to ask yourself at the beginning of a new year. Because, although each of us has the same number of days according to the calendar, in practice the number varies considerably.

What I mean is this: One man may get so much done each day that his year contains the full number of days. Whereas another man may waste so much time that in effect his year is cut down by about half.

And six months wasted out of twelve isn't good enough if you've the slightest wish to get on. It is amazing how quickly time slips by—so quickly that we cannot afford to waste any of it.

Sometimes we are tempted to slow down unnecessarily, because there are so many days ahead upon which we can do the little job we want to put off.

On the other hand, the busy man's day is the longest day, judged by results. And there are few things more satisfying than the knowledge that you have done a good day's work, or a good year's work, as the case may be.

Don't let the calendar mislead you with the number of days it seems to have in store. It won't have nearly enough for you if you waste some of them.



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Wife—"And just think! Only a year ago you were up to your necking."

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—Eleanor C. Keenig.