

THE BRITISH WHIG 80TH YEAR



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THE HOLIDAY MAIL

There is nothing unreasonable in the request of Postmaster Stewart for public co-operation in handling the Christmas mail. Such co-operation is more in the interest of the patrons than of the government and failure to grant it will react upon those now asked to give it.

Happily the need for asking public co-operation in dispatching Christmas mail is not what it was. The people are becoming accustomed to mailing parcels early, to bind up packages of letters, to wrap securely and mark legibly. Many still refuse or fail to take note of these requirements, but the number is decreasing constantly.

Already Christmas packages are in the mail in thousands. These parcels are getting to their destination while the getting is good. The people recognize that "mail early" is quite as satisfactory and possible as "shop early." Both practices commend themselves. They ought to be adopted universally.

THE POET SON

That wealthy Chicagoan whose will, recently probated, specified that one of his sons, who is a poet, should get a larger share of patrimony than the other heirs, has caused a great deal of discussion by his strange bequest.

Many men make funny wills, but he who in his last testament puts the handicap of wealth on a poetical son files hardest in the face of convention. The popular idea has been that starving poets produced the best verse in all ages. Thus the ancient Chinese rhyme, so cleverly translated to read:

Be cruel to poets, and don't let them think You like their preposterous patterns in ink, For poets write better when not overfed— The time to praise poets is after they're dead.

The lines seem to be written in irony, for was it not a poet who penned them? Goodness knows, most of the poetry written nowadays seems to indicate that the poets are all given to gout and indigestion. It is interesting to recall that the most popular of all English poems, the "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard," brought Gray never a penny his life long. He thought it was undignified to make money from verse. Modern poets really seem to suffer little from an ingrowing sense of dignity.

LOSING BY DELAY

There is virtually no mercantile selfishness in the tocsin, "Do your Christmas shopping early." The call is sounded in the interest of the customer more than in the interest of the store.

Merchants want to render service. They want to please their patrons. They want them to have the option of the greatest choice in the selection of their purchases. If the public starts early, takes reasonable time in placing its orders, this can be accomplished. But this is scarcely possible if everybody pours into the narrow neck of the hour glass and expects to squeeze through in time.

While merchants are compelled to replace and reinforce their stocks during a busy Christmas season, necessarily there comes a time when the stocks are thinned out, when the variety of choice is restricted, when certain sizes of garments are out of stock, when the most attractive toys have been sold. Purchasers who wait until that belated hour are certain to find some disappointments—disappointments that might have been avoided had heed been paid to the doctrine of "shop early."

Then there are the store staffs, the clerks and others who must necessarily grow weary as the shopping season advances. If the buying were evenly distributed this might be avoided, but it cannot if all the rush comes at one time. Some consideration, not only for the store girls but for the selfish interests of the purchasers, suggests early shopping.

Many valuable days have already passed. Something has been lost already by delay, but the loss will increase in geometric progression as the delay grows. Shop early.

THE GODS AWAKEN

Not for 3,000 years had the two rooms which lie below the tomb of Rameses VI, pharaoh of Egypt, been opened, until the other day Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter explored them.

It was impressive when they came into the funeral chamber of King Tutankhamen, near Luxor. "First," says a cable dispatch, "they saw three magnificent statues, all gilt, with exquisite carving and the heads of Typhon, Hathor and a lion. On these rested beds beautifully carved, gilt and inlaid with ivory and semi-precious stones, and also innumerable boxes of exquisite workmanship."

Three thousand years! And in all that time, while mankind slowly reached forth from his Egyptian cradle, like Moses stretching his hands out to Pharaoh's daughter in the burlesque struggling to the light of civilization that sometimes led him to great heights, and some-

times plunging into the morasses of warfare and dark ages—in all that time the three statues, Typhon, Hathor and the lion, kept guard over the bones of Tutankhamen.

The three statues, even had they been the deities the ancient Egyptians thought they were, could have seen nothing of all this, the most glorious phase in mankind's history. For they were entombed with Tutankhamen, and like Tutankhamen they have slept.

BETTER BOOKS IN DEMAND

The information disclosed by a bookseller as to the kind of books which were most in demand for Christmas presents will be gratifying to all who desire to see good taste cultivated in popular literature. It is stated that the best sellers are not trashy novels of the type which formerly led in sales, and that the beautifully bound and printed but rather empty "gift books" which once were popular are not wanted now; customers instead are calling for thoughtful fiction of the better sort, for works on travel, and especially for books dealing with history and biography.

Less attention is being given to binding and more to content. Several reasons are advanced for the change. One is that books cost so much more now than they used to; that people no longer feel ashamed to choose them for Christmas gifts. A few years ago, the bookseller states, when it was possible to buy a book for about a dollar, there were those who feared they would be considered niggardly if they spent no more than that on a present; therefore, they demanded the expensive leather-bound "gift books." But now that a novel costs \$2 and non-fiction as a rule two or three times that much, there is no longer that feeling.

Non-fiction is selling as well as novels. This may be attributed to the fact that the war and the succeeding events have broadened the average outlook on life and the world; at least, that accounts in some degree for the demand for books treating of general history and the lives of statesmen.

Whatever the causes are for the improvement of popular literary taste, it is to be welcomed as evidence of the spreading of intelligence.

ALONG LIFE'S DETOUR BY SAM HILL

Can You Beat It? They don't use sponges in sponge cake. And yet this fact I've read— They always have to use a sponge When they are making bread.

Observations of Oldest Inhabitant. The old-fashioned women who used to brag about what a good housekeeper she was, now has a daughter who brags about what a good bridge player she is.

An Exception. "Pa," said Clarence, "when a man is caught in a lie or something and is ashamed they say he changes color, don't they?" "Sometimes," admitted Pa. "Well, is a dyer ashamed of his job since he always is changing color?" asked Clarence.

Amen! Many a man who puts a muffler around his neck doesn't need it there half as badly as he needs it on his mouth—Sam Hill in Cincinnati Enquirer. Can't muffle? A lot of fellows' mouths, Sam—they blow 'em right off.

'Nother Kind of Hero. They sing the praises of the heroes bold, Who in grim war have risked their lives, But they don't say a word about the boob, Who married and lived with seven wives. —R. H. B.

Drink Didn't Change That. "What's your full name?" sternly asked the Lieutenant of the deck. "His! Same's 'His—hic—when I'm sober," tittered the souze.

Fool Questions. F. C. J. asks: "Couldn't you call a visit to the bathing beach a 'see trip'?" Might, if you didn't take your wife along—you won't see much but the sea if she's with you.

Lives Up To His Name. Dear Sam: Over in Lawrence, Kan., I saw this sign: C. A. Smart, Lawyer. Guess he is one, for he is a former Judge. —E. E. Corry, Columbus.

Another Feat. I'd like to bolt the door On William Dood; It's simply fierce the way He bolts his food.

Gems From Guide Book To Success. Spend the otherwise idle hour in silent thought, and from out of each dozen mental conceptions you will find at least one that is well founded and will prove productive of much good if acted upon. Try it. —J. E. F.

Gobs of Gloom. In a good many homes this year it is gonna have to be a choice between filling up the stockings or filling up the coal bin.

Daily Sentence Sermon. The more you use your head the better it gets.

That Isn't Thousands Miles From Truth, Either. Cutting out the foolishness will do more to prolong life than cutting out

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY

GOD IS MERCIFUL:— Thou are a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness.— Nehemiah 9: 17.

the tonsils, adenoids and appendix. — Sam Hill. Cut out the foolishness and many persons would not consider life worth living. —Y. H. Reed.

News of the Names Club. Did you know you can buy pants from A. Coat, who is a clerk in one of Cincinnati's department stores? Curtis Will Stutter lives on Prospect street, Kansas City, but he has no impediment in his speech.

BLUNDERS



Why Is This Wrong? The answer will be found among to-day's want ads. (What "Blunder" do you suggest?) Copyright, 1922, Associated Editors.

Our Canadian Question And Answer Corner

Q.—What is claimed to be the greatest transportation system in the world? A.—The greatest transportation system in the world is claimed to be the Canadian National-Grand Trunk Railways with a mileage of 22,375 and 102,000 miles of telegraph lines.

Q.—What are the latest figures of Canada's mineral production? A.—Canada's mineral production for the calendar year, 1921, was \$172,327,580, and for the first six months of 1922, \$57,682,944.

Fire Near Conesecon. Conesecon, Dec. 13.—The barn, drive-house and shed of Harry Burris, three miles east of Conesecon on the county road, were destroyed by fire. The stock was saved. Twelve hundred bushels of grain, hay and straw were lost. The origin of the fire is unknown. It started in the hay loft over the drive-house. Mr. Burris states that no one had been up there since Saturday. The buildings were insured for \$1,100 and there was nothing on the contents.

The institution of an electric storage battery car service between Brockville and Westport on the Canadian National line is announced to take effect on Dec 27th.

Fred Robinson, proprietor of the Windsor Hotel, Belleville, received a message announcing the death of his brother, Robert Robinson, Madoc. It is pretty hard for a wise man to see a girl who makes herself conspicuous.

Farms For Sale 1.—100 acres in the Township of Loughboro, three miles from Sydenham, close to church, cheese factory, school and railway station; good, frame dwelling four bedrooms; large barn with good stabling and silo and other necessary outbuildings; about 75 acres fertile soil under cultivation; well drained, well watered. Price \$11,750.

2.—182 acres, ten miles from Kingston, fronting on the Bay of Quinte; cheese factory and school at the door; two dwellings, large barn; about 140 acres tilled; plenty of water; wood for fuel. Price \$7,500.

T. J. Lockhart Real Estate and Life Insurance Phone 1223 or 1797. 65 BROCK STREET

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We are headquarters for Tom Smith's Christmas Crackers and Christmas Stockings All sizes. All prices. Jas. REDDEN & Co. "The House of Satisfaction" Phones 20 and 990.

It is a waste of time for a shoe salesman to tell women "If the shoe fits put it on." She does not care a rap about the fit. She wants it to look small even if it gives her fits. About the only way for a man always to remain a hero to his wife is to die right after the wedding ceremony.

According to some women men are not all alike. Some are worse than others.

BIBBY'S We extend a cordial welcome to the many merchants who have wisely moved to the metropolitan block, known as the block between King and Wellington streets, made famous by the Bibby's Limited, Kingston's One-Price Men's and Boys' Wear Store. THE NEW STORES: The Dominion Stores, Groceries, Provisions Hogan's Meat Market. Jack Elder, Cigar and Tobacco Store. Austin's Red Cross Drug Store. Johnston & Ward, Stock and Bond Brokers. Kingston's Art Studio. Dr. Millan, Dentist, and the New Taxi Stand.

BIBBY'S 78, 80, 82 Princess Street, Kingston, Ont. "BUY A MAN'S GIFT IN A MAN'S STORE"

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FRENCH IVORY A gift of this beautiful product is always acceptable. Our line of it is exceptionally large and varied, and each piece has that beauty of grain and uniformity of texture that is found only in the best makes. —BRUSHES AND COMBS. —MIRRORS. —CLOCKS. —PHOTO FRAMES. —PERFUME BOTTLES. —JEWEL BOXES. —SHOE HORNS. —MANICURE ROLLS. —INK WELLS. Dr. Chown's Drug Store 185 Princess Street. Phone 348

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