

## Christmas Wedding Bells

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

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ELIZABETH had always, it is true, admired Howard. He was so faithful and good and reliable. He had been good to his mother and his sister. Everyone knew he would be good to a wife, and they all knew, too, that he wanted Elizabeth for his wife.

"You're foolish not to take him," they said. "We all know you have the opportunity to do so every time he goes to see you. We would wager he'd proposed any number of times."

"I don't know about that," Elizabeth would laugh. They could get nothing out of her.

Once some of them spoke to Howard.

"We wish you two would get married. We're tired of seeing you court-ing all the time," Howard smiled.

"It's up to Elizabeth," he said.

One woman spoke to Elizabeth one day in a very serious fashion.

"The trouble with you," the woman said, "is that you've always had so much attention. Not only Howard, but everyone has been charmed by you, and you think that will go on to the end of time. You'll find it won't. They'll stop, and then, where will you be?"

"I don't want to be married so as to escape being an old maid," Elizabeth laughed. "I've seen too many happy ones to be afraid. What's more—I think a lot more of a person who is faithful to someone they've loved than to marry for the sake of marrying. Lots of the 'old maids' are that. Some of the married ones have been so afraid they'd be thought unpopular and unwanted that they've married out of sheer cowardice."

This was very puzzling. Had Elizabeth loved someone in her earlier days—perhaps when she had gone away on a visit? No one knew. But everyone was puzzled. So much puzzled that they asked no more questions. They stopped telling her she should marry Howard. They stopped telling her what a wonderful husband he would make, and how much he loved her.

They were speculating on which visit it had occurred. And had the mysterious man married or had he been already married and so Elizabeth, as a nice, quiet girl had quickly taken herself home and out of the way?

It was snowing hard. Elizabeth was getting together her Christmas presents when the door bell rang. Outside stood Howard.

"I thought perhaps you'd not mind if I went with you when you took around the presents," he said. "I know it was just about your time."

How lovely it was outside. The snow was falling, the air was so clear and cool, and here was Howard, so

straight and tall, his face glowing with health, his eyes so clear, so keen and so devoted. It made even the cold, crisp air seem warm and soft and affectionate.

They had delivered the presents and were now passing the small church. Inside someone was practicing on the organ. That was doubtless the organist practicing for the music for the service in the morning. There was much beautiful music always for Christmas! So many wonderful hymns, and such an atmosphere about it all.

"I wish," Howard said, "that he'd stop practicing the Christmas music and play us a wedding march."

"Perhaps he would," said Elizabeth. "Do you mean it?" Howard shouted.

"Oh yes, my dear, of course I mean it. You've not said a word about marrying the last four times I've seen you and I've been about to do it myself. The people—they tried to keep me from seeing how wonderful you were by talking about you, making you what they saw in you—not giving me a chance to see for myself."

The organist played the wedding march. The clergyman came over hurriedly to marry them, bringing two witnesses with him.

"The Christmas bells and the wedding bells are joining together for us," Howard said a little later.

They took the basket which had had the presents in it back home. Then they announced to all the people what they had done.

"Merrie Christmas!" everyone wished them. But Elizabeth answered, "We don't need to be wished 'Merrie Christmas,' but we thank you all just the same!"

## HEALTHFUL VIGOR IN STRONG BLOOD

RICH, RED BLOOD BUILT UP BY PEPTO-MANGAN—LIQUID OR TABLET.

Blood is strong and full of life-giving vigor when there are plenty of red cells in it. Anemic people have little strength because there are not enough red cells in the blood. It is thin and watery. Weak blood makes faces pale, pulls down the strength and leaves the body tired, weak and sickly.

A course in Gude's Pepto-Mangan restores weak blood to its normal strength. Taken regularly for a while it adds red cells to the blood. There is pleasure in living, with good blood running through the veins. Gude's Pepto-Mangan is put up in liquid and in tablet form. They are the same medicinally. Physicians have prescribed Gude's Pepto-Mangan for years. The name "Gude's Pepto-Mangan" is on the package. —Adv.

## Fun With Christmas Parcels

LAST year we had much more fun over the Christmas tree than ever before because each parcel was wrapped in such a way that it was impossible to guess what it contained.

To stimulate the children's ingenuity, a prize of a box of candy was offered to the member of the family who displayed the greatest cleverness in wrapping gifts. This was won by eight-year-old Jack. He hung a string of remarkably lifelike sausages upon the tree, as an offering to his mother. When the strings were untied half-a-dozen hemstitched handkerchiefs tumbled out. Each handkerchief had first been rolled in a small cardboard and then wrapped in mottled paper.

A close second to Jack's was a fountain pen concealed in a candle made of thin pasteboard wrapped in white tissue paper twisted to a point at the top to represent the wick and blackened with a drop of ink to show that the wick had been lighted. This was stuck into the kitchen candlestick before placing it under the tree where it presented a very realistic appearance.

A wrist watch was hidden in a bouquet of paper flowers. The tiny watch hid itself in the heart of a huge American Beauty that formed the center blossom of this masterpiece. A bracelet was concealed among the stems and the white ribbon which tied them together.

This year, a silk umbrella is to be disguised as a dachshund by first wrapping it in strong paper and then twisting a wire around each end and bending the ends up to form the short legs of "long bowwow."

Another bit of paper twisted on the ferrule forms the tail. The crook handle of the umbrella is padded with cotton batting for the head and the whole thing covered with brown crepe paper. Two big pins are used for eyes.

Small gifts are the easiest of all to make mysterious. They can be hidden in imitation apples, bananas, oranges or other kinds of fruit or paper cornucopias or drums. A set of dollies has been made into Old Glory by using crepe paper covered with American flags. Two of these were cut out, pasted on cardboard and fastened together on each side of the package of dollies and a small stick attached to one end. This will "wave" most effectively from the Christmas tree.

A bottle of cologne is made into a doll. A round cake of soap forms the head which is swathed in a frilly cap of white crepe paper. Eyes, nose and mouth are lightly traced upon its vacant countenance in water colors. The head is tied to the top of the bottle, the long dress of white crepe paper put on, and another twist of paper runs crosswise for arms.—Paula Nicholson in Farmer's Wife.

STOMACH IS BAD, LET DIAPEPSIN END GAS, INDIGESTION.

"Pape's Diapepsin" has proven itself the surest relief for indigestion, gases, flatulence, heartburn, sourness, fermentation or stomach distress caused by acidity. A few tablets give almost immediate stomach relief and shortly the stomach is corrected so you can eat favorite foods without fear. Large case costs only few cents at drug store. Millions helped annually.—adv.

Subscribe for The Courier. (Pres.)

## MAKE THE FARM SELF-SUPPORTING

Produce Food and Feed Crops for Landlords, Tenants, and Livestock.

Clemson College, Dec. 19.—(Under boll weevil conditions it is considered extremely important for each farmer to raise as nearly all of the staple food and feed crops as is possible to supply all needs of the landholder, the tenants, and the livestock. A survey which was made of South Carolina in 1920 reveals the fact that this state does not produce enough syrup to supply the needs of the rural population of the state by something like 2,000,000 gallons; that there is a deficit of wheat more than 8,000,000 bushels; of hay of over 900,000 tons, of hogs of 229,000; and that we do not have dairy cattle enough in the state to supply the needs of the rural population adequately by 240,000. It was found also that there were a number of counties in the state which did not produce corn enough to supply the home needs. All of these things can be grown at home much more cheaply than they can be purchased from other sections, and producing them should not interfere with the production of staple cash crops but should round out a well balanced cropping system. On any farm on which a good rotation is followed for the purpose of building up the fertility of the land and maintaining a system of diversified agriculture, all of these crops can be grown economically and to great advantage.

Provide A Good All-Year Home Garden.—On every self-supporting farm the "all-year" vegetable garden, be this large or small, is one of the leading sources of food supply and therefore is of first importance and of indispensable value. In fact, with a good garden, both spring and fall, there can be no "lean period" self-supporting farm. The underlying principles involved in good gardening are: (1) site and soil selection; (2) advanced planning; (3) deep and thorough preparation of the soil; (4) judicious and liberal application of fertilizers and barnyard manure; (5) careful selection of varieties and liberal quantities of good seed; (6) thorough cultivation; and (7) insect and disease control.

Provide and Care for a Good Home Orchard.—It has been proved conclusively that the soils of South Carolina are more than ordinarily adapted to the growing of fruit for home use, and in some sections for commercial shipment. In the new agricultural program, necessitating more than ever before the "self-supporting" farm, the well-kept home orchard and fruit garden will play a great part. The underlying principles involved in good orcharding, irrespective of size, are: (1) site and soil selection; (2) fruit and variety selection; (3) laying out the orchard and preparing the soil; (4) planting; (5) fertilizing; (6) cultivation, pruning, spraying and care.

Provide Enough Milk for All Families on the Farm.—With an abundance of milk, butter and cream for the family, 25 to 35 percent of the grocery bill may be saved. Each farm family of five should own or be furnished with two cows of standard dairy breed (grade or purebred). One cow should be bred to freshen in the spring and the other in the fall and in this way about two gallons of milk per day may be produced if proper care and feed are provided. The tenant should be given an opportunity to house and pasture his family cows near his home or to milk and feed them under the direction of the landowner at a central plantation barn.

All feeds for the family cows must be home grown. The following feeds for each cow should be stored to be used during winter months: one ton of peavine hay; 1000 pounds of velvet beans; ten bushels of corn; and 500 pounds of cottonseed meal. It is important to prepare one to two acres of permanent pasture for each cow in order to produce the dairy products of the home more cheaply. The milk cows should be pastured on the cultivated fields in the fall when possible and on oats and rye in the winter and early spring.

The milk cows should be bred only to purebred bulls of a dairy breed. The cheapest means of insuring the service of a good bull for a few cows is to organize a dairy bull association among neighbors. This means the keeping of one good bull for each 40 to 50 milk cows in the community. Each farmer pays his proportion of the purchase price and upkeep of the bulls. When several communities purchase bulls they may exchange every two years, thus reducing the expense of purchase.

Provide Sufficient Poultry for Entire Farm.—The keeping of a flock of laying hens on the farm is an important part of good general farm management. The product of such a flock may be produced at a relatively low cost. Eggs produced at home will reduce cost of living, and both the superior freshness and quality of the eggs are well worth the effort expended. Eggs are a highly nutritious food and are so widely used as to be almost indispensable.

On every farm there should be at least 30 to 40 laying hens. These hens will produce plenty of eggs for home consumption and also some for market. Each bird in her pullet year should lay 120 eggs, and the amount of food consumed by that bird will be less than 90 pounds. In poultry raising, it is much more advisable to keep pullets and yearlings than birds over two years. Such birds consume much feed but have not the laying ability behind them.

For general farm conditions, the dual purpose breeds are the most popular. Plymouth, Wyandotts, and Rhode Island Reds are the most popular and from records appear to give the most favorable results. The egg type such as the Leghorns are in favor among poultrymen because of the great egg-producing ability.

When starting in with the farm flock one should be sure to obtain some purebred stock, especially purebred males. Purebred stock produces a greater number of eggs, a more uniform product, makes possible the selling of eggs for hatching, and creates a greater interest in poultry. Standard products command a better price on the market and net a greater financial return.

Develop the Hog Industry as Farm Conditions Justify.—The meat bill is one of the biggest items in the grocery bill of the average South Carolina family. It will take four hogs averaging 150 pounds each to supply pork for the average family of five. Twenty-seven counties in South Carolina are not producing sufficient pork to feed the rural population.

All feeds for hogs, save possibly a little tankage, should be home grown. It takes approximately ten bushels of corn and sixty pounds of tankage to produce a 150-pound pig. If the average family requires four hogs, then it will take forty bushels of corn and 240 pounds of tankage to produce these hogs. If buttermilk, soy bean pasture, rape pasture, or corn and velvet bean pasture is available it will not be necessary to buy tankage. A splendid way to fatten hogs is to turn them on corn and velvet beans and let the hogs do the harvesting.

"TAKE GOOD ADVICE AND SAVE A BOB—BUY THE GRADE THAT FITS THE JOB."

## You'll get a pleasant surprise when you find that for a lot of the odd jobs of repairs or replacement around the farm the lower grades of

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are not only "good enough," but exactly the right thing. Getting the appropriate grade for the given purpose is half the skill of buying. (Economic, too.) The other half, of course, is insisting on "Cypress, of course," because it lasts practically forever—if you get the true "tide water" variety—and therefore means double money's-worth of lumber.

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## Bell Ringing, One of the Oldest Christmas Customs

WHAT would Christmas be without the melody of the bells ringing good will toward men? Bell ringing is one of the oldest of Christmas customs. At one time, in England, the ringers gave their services free, nor would they accept any special payment. The peal was rung as a matter of course, and was the natural expression of English joyousness. The merry music of the bells in Great Britain and wherever churches have peals of bells, is today as much a feature of Christmas as the decoration of church and home with evergreens, or the provision of the good cheer which always marks this festive season.

What an outcry there would be if an edict were issued forbidding the ringing of the bells during the coming festive season! Yet this was actually done during the Commonwealth, for in 1652 the wise men of parliament gave orders that "no observation shall be had of the five-and-twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas day."

It is quite certain that this edict was disregarded in many places, while in others it led to open rioting. At Canterbury the mayor of the city tried to enforce the new rule, but the people were not going to be deprived of their pleasures so easily, so they took the law into their own hands, broke the mayor's windows—and some of his bones as well—and affirmed their intention of keeping their Christmas in their own fashion, just as their fathers had done before them.

A Good Modeling Material. It is often very difficult to keep a child confined to the house amused. But with a modeling material with which they can make animals, beads, etc., they can be kept amused for hours. Take four tablespoonfuls cornstarch, eight tablespoonfuls salt and eight tablespoonfuls boiling water. Mix the dry ingredients and pour on the boiling water, stirring until the mixture is soft. Put on the fire and stir until it forms a soft ball, then remove from the stove and stir for ten minutes. A little color may be added. Wrap in oiled paper when not in use to keep from hardening.

Breeders of purebred dairy cattle should continually improve their herds by: (a) Advanced Register testing; (b) showing at fairs; (c) growing out the young animals; (d) tuberculosis eradication; (e) control of infectious diseases; (f) advertising to sell surplus stock.

Try Beef Cattle if Conditions Justify.—While the production of beef cattle is a rather specialized industry and can not be undertaken profitably by every farmer, there is no doubt that South Carolina should produce a larger percentage of its beef. On farms where considerable areas of cheap pasture lands are available, or on farms where large amounts of rough feeds are produced, beef cattle raising will yield a good income to the man who will give it his attention.

Only well bred stock should be kept. The beef cattle grower may begin with native beef cows and by using a purebred bull he will soon have a herd of high grade cattle that will be economical producers of beef.

Breeding herds may be maintained practically the whole year on pasture. In summer they will become fat on Bermuda. In winter they will thrive on the velvet bean fields and rye or crimson clover pastures. If a Bermuda pasture is reserved for winter use it will be very serviceable when the fields are muddy.

Ask Clemson College for Further Information.—Extension Bulletin 48, "Farming under Boll Weevil Conditions," which may be secured from county agents or from the Extension Service, Clemson College, S. C., contains further information on the matters discussed above, and farmers should ask for this bulletin and other publications that will help show how to make the farm self supporting.

The future of agriculture depends upon how much agriculture relates itself to modern sciences.

## The Christmas Card

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

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I AM a Christmas Card. I was born shortly before Christmas of 1913. I was put away in a box after Christmas and the next year I came forth again, and the price put upon me had risen from two cents to five.

The next year I cost ten cents. Still I did not sell.

"We'll have to charge a quarter for that card," my owner said, "and get up the prices of some of these others, or they won't be bought."

So I was a quarter. And then I cost 50 cents and was purchased. The price mark has been left on me. I've been traveling with it written on my back ever since. Sometimes, too, I get around to a number of places around Christmas time, especially if I'm started off early in the first place.

So far, too, I've been greeted with joy, and an exclamation I do not quite understand.

"Oh, good! Here's a card which is marked fifty cents. Who would believe it possible, but no matter, it did! And it's not written on, either!"

I do not understand their joy over me, but they never keep me with them!

Christmas Fish. A fish which resembles a cod is considered by the people of Sweden as an indispensable adjunct of their Christmas feast. This fish is buried for days in wood ashes or else soaked in soda water, then boiled and served with a milk gravy.

## DANDERINE

Stops Hair Coming Out; Thickens, Beautifies.



35 cents buys a bottle of "Danderine" at any drug store. After one application you can not find a particle of dandruff or a falling hair. Besides, every hair shows new life, vigor, brightness, more color and abundance.—adv.

Pulaski Singing Convention. The Pulaski Township Singing Convention will meet at Mountain Grove church on Sunday, Dec. 25th, (Christmas afternoon), at 2 o'clock. The public is cordially invited. Let us all come and enjoy the afternoon in song and praise.

J. B. Phillips, President. Dovey Ramey, Secy. and Treas.

Child Dies of Rabies. Spartanburg, Dec. 16.—Edwin Tuck, aged nine years, died yesterday from rabies. The child was bitten about two weeks ago by a dog belonging to a neighbor. The dog, which had shown no signs of being mad, disappeared soon after biting the child, and has not been seen since.

## Catarrh Can Be Cured

Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions. It therefore requires constitutional treatment. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE is taken internally and acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE destroys the foundation of the disease, gives the patient strength by improving the general health and assists nature in doing its work.

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The Slogan of Omece is "Swat the weevil at every turn!"