

# Christmas Selections

## GIVE THINGS THEY CAN USE

Presents that can be used in everyday life will be the ones that will be appreciated the most this Yuletide season. The high cost of living is going to enter tremendously into present-giving this year--and well it may. We are offering some real Christmas Bargains in our

### Coat, Suit and Dress Department

We want to clean up this department by the first of the year and to do this we are offering the entire line at

### Exactly Cost

These garments are strictly up-to-the minute in style, quality and material. We have them in many different patterns and colors. The goodness of these will have to be seen before they can be appreciated.

### Christmas Novelties

We have an excellent line of Novelties suitable for the nicest kind of Christmas Gifts. We suggest some of these:

Kid Gloves,  
Collars and Jabots,  
Shirtwaists,  
Dainty Lingerie.

Dainty Handkerchiefs,  
Fancy Hose,  
Kimonas,  
High Boots.

Hundreds of other Suitable Gifts.

You'll be surprised at the pretty new things we have for your inspection and you had better come in now.

# MANNING DRY GOODS CO.

During the month of December no goods will be charged or sent out on approval.



**"Time tells what you did yesterday. Make to-morrow better by starting a Bank account to-day."**

If, for no other reason than the unforeseen demands incident to human life, you owe yourself a Bank Account. It's a duty, because you haven't the power to predict the future but you have power to start a Bank Account and fortify for the future. Besides we want to help worthy young men to succeed. Begin today with \$1.00.

**THE BANK OF MANNING**

#### EXPENDITURES WILL BE BELOW ESTIMATES

A feeling of relief was experienced throughout the country at the statement of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo in Baltimore before the Investment Bankers' Association on November 14, that the actual expenditures of some of the departments of Government were much less than the estimates the departments submitted in July last, and that the task of providing for the expenses of the Government for the fiscal year is not regarded by the Treasury Department as one which will in any way strain the capacity of the resources of the United States.

The Secretary said in part: "Vague and unfounded apprehensions seem to exist in the public mind as to the extent of the financial requirements of the United States during the current fiscal year. It may be helpful to the country to know that these requirements have been greatly exaggerated, and that in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury there is no reason whatever for apprehension on this score. This

opinion is based upon the latest estimates of our financial needs.

"The splendid success of the Second Liberty Loan shows that the people are fully determined to support the war and are prepared to make such sacrifices of luxuries, pleasures, comforts, and conveniences as may be necessary."

The Secretary explained that his optimistic statement was based upon actual figures in hand.

#### THAW BAGS HUN AIRPLANE

American Brings Down Machine Over Enemy's Lines.

Paris, Dec. 7.—Major William J. Thaw, La Fayette Escadrille, brought down a German airplane in a duel over the enemy's line on Wednesday, according to a telephone message received in Paris last night, says The Herald today.

#### Five Deaths at Wheeler.

Macon, Dec. 7.—There were five deaths at Camp Wheeler base hospital during the past twenty-four hours.



**The HOLLOW TREE**  
A CHRISTMAS STORY FOR CHILDREN  
by CLARISSA MACKIE

NED WAYNE kicked his toes against the door.  
"Say, mother, can't I go skating?" he asked.

"Not today, son," said Mrs. Wayne. "It is Christmas eve, and I want you to go into the woods and get some laurel and evergreens to trim the house. The servants are all busy with the housework."

"Aw, bother!" whined Ned.  
"Dear me, Neddy, that is not a nice spirit to show at Christmas time," sighed his mother, for she was much worried about her little boy's selfish spirit. Ned had a beautiful home and fond parents, but he seemed to love his own way above everything else.

So when finally Ned, sulkily enough, took a hatchet and went toward the woods his mother did not see that he had his skates hidden under his thick overcoat.

When he reached the pond he found all the skaters had gone home, for who wants to skate on Christmas eve when there are so many other delightful things to do?

So Ned took a few turns around the pond, knowing all the time that he was disobeying his mother and feeling very unhappy all the while.

By and by he took off his skates and went to the woods to cut some laurel branches. It was snowing very hard now, and he had to work fast, because by this time it was growing dark in the woods.

At last his arms were full, and he staggered along through the snow trying to find the path, but the snow had covered it up completely.

Ned was lost in the woods on Christmas eve! He began to cry, and the tears froze on his cheeks. Right beside him was a great oak tree, with a hollow trunk. There was a narrow opening in the trunk, and poor, cold, tired, lost Ned squeezed his way through the opening and found it snug and warm inside, with a thick bed of dry leaves. He stopped up the opening with branches of evergreen, and that kept the wind and snow out.

It was very lonesome in the hollow tree. Somewhere an owl was hooting, and again he heard some four-footed animal (perhaps a fox) go pat-patting over the snow. He was not exactly frightened, but it surely was very lonesome.

Sometimes he slept and dreamed of his nice warm home, and he thought of his good, kind parents and how worried they would be, and he resolved never again to disobey them.

After a while he slept and was awakened by the sound of the church bells ringing in the glad Christmas tidings.

Then he heard voices calling his name, and he shouted back, and presently he was in his father's arms.

When Ned woke up on Christmas morning and found all the beautiful gifts that Santa Claus had brought to him he registered a vow that when next Christmas came around he would be worthy of all the blessings that were showered on him.

And his parents always said, "Neddie has never been the same since he spent the night in the hollow tree."

Found All the Beautiful Gifts.

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### How Animals Figure In Christmas Customs

THE Christmas customs in Norway and Sweden are the most interesting of any country. It is time of great rejoicing. To show that there are friendly feelings between every one in the household the shoes are placed in a row in the hall when retiring on Christmas eve, and, like the German custom, candles are left burning in the village windows all night to light the way for "Kristine," who brings the gifts. The Christmas tree is largely decorated with candles and pretty cakes arranged in bright colored baskets, all usually home made.

The richer households send good things to the poor, and everywhere among both rich and poor are the animals and birds remembered, says Our Dumb Animals. The boys and girls save up their pennies during the year for this purpose. Sheaves of grain are fastened to the window ledges in town, and in the country the sheaves are fastened to long poles and renewed every day for a week, and many are the birds that spy this feast. On the barn floors of the peasants bowls of hot porridge are set for poor "Robin Goodfellow" to comfort him because he has no "soul." The cows and the horses share in the general happiness by having a double share of food given them.

It is a big skip from the northland to the southland or tropical countries where Christmas is celebrated without the evergreen tree to decorate and hang gifts on. In Brazil the holiday may be spent outdoors in the sunny flower scented air.

They have quaint superstitions in these summer lands relative to Yuletide. On the coffee plantations the old folk say that on Christmas night the animals have the gift of speech and that if only a child has sufficient courage to go out alone after dark it will hear on the stroke of 12 the cock crow in a loud, clear voice from his highest perch:

"Christo nascere"—Christ is born.

The bull in a deep, sonorous bass inquires from a distant field, "Onde"—where?

The sheep then answer in chorus, "Em Belem de Juda"—In Bethlehem of Judea.

In ten all the domestic animals give to the world the glad tidings of the Nativity. Many a child wishes it had the courage necessary to enable him to spend midnight outdoors and hear this wonderful conversation of the brute creation.

### Christmas Pie Has Long Family History

HAPPY the Christmas reveler who has a digestion to tackle the Christmas pie. The modern faddist in diet is trying to rule out the plum pudding and the mince from the Christmas feast.

Shame on him! Better a night of groaning to the few than a ban on a time honored custom for the many. Lay in a stock of soda mint, pepsin and salt water. Be sporty and take chances on the plummy goodly.

First it was old Santa under a ban—a dreary world it would be without Santa Claus—now it is the toothsome Christmas pie bulging with raisins, flaky of crust and redolent of burning brandy.

Truly the modern progressive who lives by rule is akin to the old Puritan to whom the Christmas pie was an abomination savoring of heresy. Indeed the Roundhead had more excuse for his abstinence; it was a test of orthodoxy. He felt his morals would be injured by eating a pie whose savory contents were typical of offerings of the Magi and whose form was often that of a manger.

The Christmas pie is of ancient and honorable lineage, and its name of "mince pie" came centuries later, being given in derision by the Puritans. Are we such weaklings that what our ancestors have thrived on for centuries will slay us in one eating? Surely the stomach specialist, that product of modernity, must have slipped up.

Our grandparents did not eat one measly little slice of the Christmas pie in fear and trembling. Boldly they swallowed huge hunks, not on Christmas day only, but during the entire season of Christmas, unto Twelfth Night. Was it not writ, "As many different houses as thou shalt eat mince pie during Christmastide so many happy months shalt thou have during the year?"

And they began the mixing of that Christmas pie early and with great ceremony. It was a gala occasion when the plum pudding was to be stirred and each member of the household down to the infant in arms must have a turn at the spoon.—Philadelphia Press.

In the Days of '61-'65.

"Christmas mornings in the Civil war days," says the veteran, "were generally spent in reading letters. After dinner the men indulged in sports, particularly prize fights, and then in the evening they gathered together and sang the wartime songs and told stories of the Christmases before the fighting began. It wasn't all chorus singing, either, for we had some good soloists in the line, and our company actors showed their abilities by reciting or rehearsing the plays they had seen while on furloughs."