

# CHEER UP! XMAS TURKEYS CHEAPER THAN LAST YEAR

And So Are Geese, Ducks and Game for the Big Holiday Dinner.

CRANBERRIES LOWER.

All the Good Things May Be Had for Less Money, Dealers Say.

In spite of all the woes that beset the world this Christmas there will be one bright spot. There is every indication that the Christmas dinner will cost less this year than it did last. There is a general smile of optimism on the face of the market-man, for while it will not set so

much for the thing, that he will probably sell a whole lot more Christmas dinner "makings" than he did last year, in spite of the war, cold weather and hard times. "Last year," said C. A. Koelisch of Washington market yesterday, "many persons couldn't even add cranberry sauce to the Christmas dinner because cranberries cost so much. About everything is going to be less this year. Turkeys are selling in New York for five cents a pound less than a year ago, and all other accessories have fallen correspondingly.

### EXPLAINS WHY PRICES WERE HIGH LAST YEAR.

"Last year, just before Thanksgiving, there were several weeks of warm weather which spoiled many carloads of turkeys, and when they arrived here they were seized by the health authorities and destroyed. As when Christmas came around the market still felt the depression and prices were high. "All this year the weather has been favorable to the raising of good turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens, and no warm spell has spoiled. So there is an abundant supply. I expect turkeys this year will sell from 25 to 28 cents, whereas last year they sold for 28 to 32 cents a pound. This year's are better birds too. Geese will sell probably for 25 cents a pound, whereas they were 28 last year. Chickens for roasting are worth 25 cents, last year's price being 28 cents a pound. Fowl is around 20 cents compared with 24 last year. Ham—many persons like a ham for Christmas, you know—are 22 cents com-

pared with 25 last year. Pork has gone down distinctly. "Hoineman Bros., at No. 42 Barclay street, have some of the good news by saying: "Turkeys will sell from 27 to 28 cents a pound, whereas last year they were around 30 cents a pound. Squab chickens are \$1.10 a pair against \$1.25 a year ago. Broilers were \$1.50 last year, but this year have dropped to \$1.25 a pair. Fat-hens are high and scarce, bringing 60 cents a pair."

### CRANBERRIES, TOO, WILL BE CHEAPER.

Mrs. Elizabeth Raines of Washington Market, who makes a specialty of vegetables, fruit and nuts, said: "Cranberries are selling for 10 cents a quart, last Christmas' price being 15 cents; celery 10 and 15 cents a head as compared with 15 and 20 cents a year ago; lettuce is 6, 8 and 10 cents a head, compared with two heads for 25 cents last year, and mushrooms are 40 and 50 cents a quart, whereas they were 75 cents last year. Vegetables and apples are cheaper too. "Fancy game is cheaper too," said E. Joseph of Washington Market. "Guinea hens for roasting are selling at \$1.25 a pair, whereas they were around \$1.50 last year. Jumbo squab sell for 40 cents, last year's price being 50. Capon is 25 cents a pound, last Christmas 30, and ducks 22, as compared with 25."

### Banks Will Make the Usual Gifts to Their Employees.

White Wall Street, as a rule, will have a very lean Christmas this year because of the depression that existed in the early part of the year and the complete suspension of business on the Stock Exchange for more than four months, the employees of some banks and the benevolent objects will receive their customary gifts. Announcements of Christmas distributions were made by some institutions yesterday. The Executive Committee of the Union Trust Company voted the usual bonus of 10 per cent, on the salaries of the employees. The directors of the Corn Exchange Bank authorized the officers to distribute \$40,000 among the employees.

### Rush at the Relief Shop and New Stock Is Needed.

Christmas buyers have been so many at the Home Relief Shop in the old Calumet Club, at Fifth Avenue and Twenty-ninth Street, that the promoters fear the stock may not last long enough. If you have anything you want to give away—books that you have read, clothes that you have worn, ornaments that you have tired of, or furniture that you care to pass on—it will be acceptable at the Shop. Since the opening last Monday \$4,000 has been taken in and purchasers have found fine bargains. The objects at the shop are three: To afford opportunity to the poor to buy warm winter clothing at a nominal sum; to give employment to women in the sewing rooms, where the worn garments are refurbished and donated materials made up, and to give direct relief to the poor through the charitable work of St. Mark's Hospital.

### This Santa, Minus Sleigh, Gets 3,000 Letters a Day.

The door of the Post Office, Eighth Avenue and Thirtieth Street, opened yesterday afternoon and a man with a long white beard and snowy locks, with 1,000 letters in his arms, came out and came down the steps. There was no reindeer sleigh waiting for him, but all the children in the street immediately recognized him as Santa Claus. He was King Bagrott, the actor, and he had been to the Post Office to get the mail that little children all over Greater New York have been sending to him, and he was carrying it to the Santa Claus Association at No. 147 Fifth Avenue. Mr. A. H. Woods has donated the proceeds of the Republic Theatre and the play "Kick In" for Dec. 22 to the cause. Eight thousand people who want to give gifts have asked for the letters.

# WACK SAYS HE'LL ASK GRAND JURY INQUIRY INTO WILL CONTEST

Says Koeppen Named Him Trustee Against His Wish, But Feels Bound to Fight.

Henry Wellington Wack, attorney, of No. 42 Broadway, said today that he would ask the Grand Jury of Bergen County, N. J., to investigate the methods of certain persons contesting the will of the late William G. Koeppen of Hillsdale, N. J.

Mr. Wack was a friend of Koeppen and drew his will, in which he was named as residuary legatee with the proviso that whatever was left after the payment of bequests should be devoted to Mr. Wack to certain specified charities. The will is contested on the ground that Mr. Koeppen was unduly influenced in making it. Mr. Wack said yesterday:

"Mr. Koeppen left no widow, children, grandchildren, father, mother, brothers, sisters or cousins. He owed his bounty only to his loyal friends and the benevolent objects to which he bequeathed the small residuum of his estate. "That he chose me to carry out his objects as his trustee was his voluntary act against my protest; but, having accepted the trust, I believe it to be my professional duty, as well

as that of his friend, to defend his estate against the disappointed persons who would set aside his wishes. "It is an exceedingly small estate, the net value of which will be under \$7,500, and when the legacies, debts and other necessary disbursements have been paid, the residuary estate coming within the trust where I have been appointed may be a negligible amount. "I have no personal financial interest in the estate whatever. The testimony given by the Harrison woman on Wednesday, as reported in The Evening World, will be stricken out in its entirety unless it should be connected by further evidence. I doubt if this woman will reappear in the State of New Jersey and submit to our cross-examination."

# POISONS HIMSELF WHEN MINING STOCKS DECLINE

Preston, Promoter, Was Brother-in-Law of F. L. du Pont of Powder Family.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 18.—Henry K. Preston, fifty, a mining promoter, with offices in the Real Estate Trust Building, and a brother-in-law of Francis I. du Pont of the powder manufacturing firm, committed suicide late yesterday by taking poison in his home, No. 325 West Schoolhouse Lane. Decline in the value of mining shares is given by the family as the cause. A daughter, Mrs. Walter R. Mitchell, of Chicago, arrived at his home a few hours after her father had killed himself. She had come to spend Christmas with her parents. Immediately after he swallowed the poison Preston wrote a special delivery letter to a business associate, W. K. Beard, of No. 5043 Pulaski Avenue, telling him of the act. He also wrote a letter to his wife, which the police held until her arrival from Wilmington, Del. Preston has been in this city for many years. He comes originally from Augusta, Ga., where his family is prominent.

For growing children—good oatmeal and lots of it. H-O is good oatmeal, steam-cooked at the mill.



**H-O**  
THE ONLY STEAM-COOKED  
Oatmeal



**Boston Garter**  
Velvet Top

IN HANDSOME CHRISTMAS BOXES  
For Father, Son, Husband, Brother or Friend

SILK 50¢  
LISLE 25¢

Garter Colors  
BABY BLUE, MARINE  
BLACK, WHITE, TAN  
PINK, LAVENDER  
AND GRAY

## PEASE PLAYER PIANO

A piano the entire family can use. The player action is not complicated, and will respond to the slightest musical wish.

We take old pianos in exchange and sell on convenient terms.

Our Music Roll Library is free.

Used pianos of our own and other good makes from \$125 up.

Write for player booklet and bargain list. Open evenings.

**PEASE PIANO CO.**  
128 WEST 42D ST.,  
near Broadway, N. Y.  
34 Flatbush Av., Brooklyn  
10 New St., Newark

A complete stock of Victor Victrolas, Columbia Talking Machines, Records and Supplies.

Demonstration Rooms on Main Floor.

# B. Altman & Co.

## SALES OF SPECIAL INTEREST FOR SATURDAY

### A Sale of Fur Garments, Neckpieces and Muffs

at prices far below those usually asked for Furs of similar qualities.

NECKPIECES		MUFFS	
Beaver . . . . .	\$10.50	Beaver . . . . .	\$15.00 & 21.00
Pointed Fox . . . . .	15.00	Pointed Fox . . . . .	21.00
Black Fox . . . . .	18.50	Black Fox . . . . .	18.50
Natural Raccoon . . . . .	5.25 & 7.50	Natural Raccoon . . . . .	8.00 & 10.50
Skunk Raccoon . . . . .	10.50	Skunk Raccoon . . . . .	14.50
Hudson Seal . . . . .	15.00	Hudson Seal . . . . .	15.00
Black Wolf . . . . .	8.50 & 12.50	Black Wolf . . . . .	10.50 & 16.50
Rose Wolf . . . . .	11.50	Rose Wolf . . . . .	15.00
Sitka Wolf . . . . .	14.50 & 18.50	Sitka Wolf . . . . .	12.50 & 18.50

Women's and Misses' Fur and Fur-lined Garments at Special Prices.

Also Men's Fur-lined Overcoats  
in Oxford and black broadcloth, lined with natural muskrat, at the attractive prices of  
\$50.00, \$58.00 & \$85.00  
(Fur Department, Third Floor)

### Girls' Coats

In the approved styles and fabrics for Winter wear, have been marked, in order to facilitate an early clearance, at . . . . . \$6.75, 8.50 & 9.75

Girls' Imported Coats may also be obtained at greatly reduced prices.

In addition to these offerings Girls' Worsted Dresses, in sizes 6, 8 & 10 years, are on sale at the exceptionally low prices of \$5.00 & 7.50

### A Sale of Men's Shoes

to take place in the Department on the First Floor, will consist of a number of the most desirable styles taken from the regular stock (where they have been \$7.00 to \$8.50 per pair) and marked at  
\$4.75 & \$5.85 per pair.

Visit our "Gift Shop" Devoted to Low Priced Practical Gifts—2nd Floor

# Best & Co.

Offer Remarkable Values Saturday  
in Merchandise Appropriate for Practical Christmas Gifts

Boys' London Made Clothing	For Girls and Misses
<b>220 Boys' Suits</b> Of mixture tweeds or chevots in latest models. 7 to 17 years <b>6.75 8.75</b> Formerly 9.75 to 16.00	<b>Girls' Imported Sweaters—1st Floor</b> Hand-made in Switzerland, high neck models in various colors 3 to 8 years. Formerly to 6.85 <b>4.35</b> 9 " 14 " " " 8.50 <b>5.75</b>
<b>55 Boys' Reefers</b> Of English coatings, belted back, including button-to-neck models. 3 to 7 years <b>9.75</b> Formerly 13.50 to 16.50	<b>Girls' Winter Coats—4th Floor</b> Of chinchilla, belted models. 8 to 16 years. Special, <b>12.50</b>
<b>88 Boys' Overcoats</b> Of cheviot, chinchilla, Irish or Scotch tweeds. 8 to 15 years <b>15.75</b> Formerly 18.50 to 25.00	<b>Misses' Dresses—4th Floor</b> Of superior serge in plain and dressy models. 14 to 17 years <b>12.75</b> Formerly up to 23.50
<b>150 Boys' Worsted Sweater Suits</b> Sweater, leggings and cap, in various colors. 1 to 4 years <b>3.35</b> Formerly 4.25	<b>Misses' Fur Trimmed Suits—4th Floor</b> Of fine chevots. 14 to 17 years <b>16.50</b> Formerly up to 35.00

**Special Gift Negligees**  
for Women and Misses—2nd Floor Gift Shop

Satin Trimmed Eiderdown Robes  
Values 6.75 to 10.50 **4.75 7.50**

Crepe de Chine Dressing Sacques  
Values 9.75 to 12.50 **7.50 to 8.95**

**FIFTH AVENUE** . . . . . **at 35th Street**

### Novelty Jewelry and Bags

at special prices.

Wrist Bags of fancy moire, in black, blue, taupe and brown, with sterling silver trimming and dainty silk lining; fitted with mirror and a chained purse . . . . . at \$5.00

Wrist Bags of fancy black moire with dainty silk lining; fitted with purse and mirror, at . . . . . \$2.25 & 3.00

Silk Opera Bags, variously trimmed and having mirror at base . . . . . at \$2.00

Black Velvet Neckbands, with silver clasp and an ornament of black enamel and rhinestones set in sterling silver . . . . . at \$1.75

Black Enamel - and - pearl Earrings with French back of 14-karat gold, per pair \$1.90

Bar Pins of black enamel and rhinestones set in sterling silver . . . . . at \$1.25

There will also be included in this sale Engraved Sterling Silver Military Brushes, in leather case, per pair . . . . . \$8.75

The above prices are one-third to one-half less than those usually asked for similar articles.