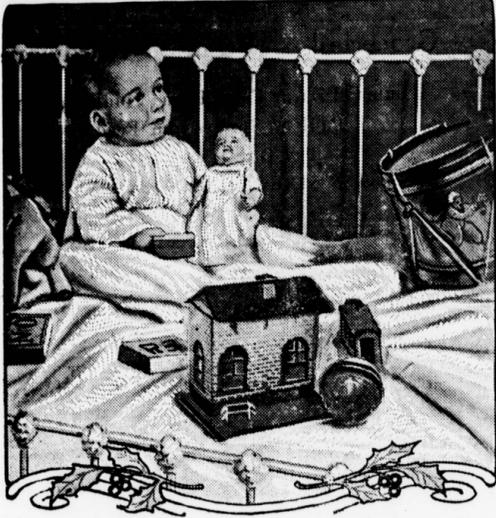


A Nautical Christmas Tale



A ship came in from the Land of Nod,
Its deck was white as snow,
It bore no tow'ring masts above,
No anchor chains below,
Its small, spring-bottomed mattress-hull
Was laden high with wealth,
Which strangely had been placed aboard
En voyage—hast!—by stealth.

The skipper of this freighted craft
Was quite a careless sort,
The cargo he did not espy,
Till he hove into port,
And then upon the portside bow,
In raptures he did kneel,
For Santa Claus is no mere dream,
And Christmas toys are REAL!

—GENE MORGAN.

A CHRISTMAS DREAM

By J. A. WALDRON.

I DREAMED a dream on Christmas eve that no one, surely, will believe. All will discredit it because in it I was with Santa Claus and witnessed many things so queer I hesitate to tell them here.

Old Santa had just filled his pack and made it ready for his back. It holds a million things or more from Santa's rare and endless store, and like some basket magical, though taken from 'tis always full.

Though I saw Santa plainly, he seemed not at all to notice me. He sat in silence with a map spread out upon his ample lap to mark his course o'er land and sea while waiting for his evening tea.

His cook—he has no wife, you know—came in and said she meant to go. She said her job did not quite suit and he must find a substitute. Cooks everywhere just grump and gad, and with most folks they get in bad.

Well, Santa's smile quick left his face and he ripped up a dress of lace perhaps intended for this cook, who gave him then a wrathful look; and



when she put the teapot down I saw her slip from out her gown and drop into the teapot quick some sort of dope with movement slick.

"Would take much more than this, I think, to drive old Santa Claus to drink; that is to say, to run, perhaps, though sometimes he may like his schnapps. Pull many a cup of tea he quaffed. The more he drank the more he laughed. Uncanny was his jollity, and I at first thought I should flee.

He seized his pack, and full of joy piled me upon it like a toy, and rushing forth into the night began his world-embracing flight. He used a sleigh, as we all know, but needed neither ice or snow. We sailed away o'er mount and plain, through many weathers, snow and rain—through wind and sleet and zero air—though all the time it seemed quite fair.

A dozen reindeer ran ahead. Their bells were soundless as they fled, and all the ghostly journey seemed quite fitting in the dream I dreamed. A continent would loom and melt into an ocean ere I felt a moment pass, and yet between a million Christmas homes were seen and gifts uncounted were bestowed from Santa's rich and boundless load.

Though I upon the top reposed I was in no way discomposed, for magic wonders multiplied that night upon my snowy ride. The greater wonders, though, to me might have been traced to Santa's tea, sophisticated by his cook, and of which he so much partook; for at the homes of wealth, where boys and girls had much, he left few toys, while upon

St. Nick in the City

By GEORGE JAY SMITH

IT WAS the night before Christmas, and through the apartment the rooms were so still you could hear how your heart went.

The janitor banked all the fires ere he slept. And the heaters no more hissed and hammered and wept. The stockings were hung by the steam-pipe with care. In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there. And in their small bed, in a room eight by ten, the children dreamed Christmas had dawned once again. And now on the roof from his air-sleigh alighted Dear Jolly St. Nick, who no good child e'er slighted. He turned off the sparkler and slowed down the motor—His reindeer he'd sold for a new auto-floater—



And then looked around for a chimney to enter. And seeing but one let himself down the center. 'Twas a pretty tight fit for a saint of his size. And the soot made him smutty and got in his eyes; But when used to flying one won't mind a flue. So he kept on a sliding that long chimney through. Then he paused, for the dolls in his pack shrieked "You'll burn us!" Alas! he'd arrived at the steam-heating furnace! In fright all the Teddy-bears squeaked out in chorus. "A too warm reception! What fate is before us?" The toy cars and engines all rattled and bumped. The stuffed cows and lambs moaned and bleated and jumped. "A pretty scrape, this!" said St. Nick; "but before giving up let me see if I can't force the door." Happy thought, for the door opened outward with ease. And he wriggled right through, as neat as you please. Then he rushed up the steps to the hall-ways above. And stopped at each door where lived children to love. And selecting their gifts, whether useful or handsome



He hurled them with skill right in through the transom; And what is most strange—all untrunks I think about— A lot of them landed in each small one's stocking! At length to the flats next the roof he ascended. Where he paused when his last distribution was ended. And, laying his finger aside of his nose, And wrinkling one eye, he struck a gay pose. And burst into laughter that shook his round belly— You remember, of course—like a bowlful of jelly: "Apartment-house architects truly are clever. But can they contrive to keep me out? Never!" Then he climbed to the roof, sniffed the air, made a dash. Hove into his sleigh, and was off like a flash! (Copyright, Frank A. Munsey Co.)

The Christmas Stocking. St. Nicholas seems to have been the original of our Santa Claus. He was the bishop of Myra about the year 300 and was very popular because of his good deeds and kindness, especially to children, whose patron saint he is supposed to be. An old legend says that he wished to secretly bestow a gift upon an old nobleman who, though poor, did not want anyone to know of his poverty. When the good bishop reached the house he saw the old gentleman asleep by the fire, so he climbed to the top of the chimney and dropped his gift into it, thinking it would fall on the hearth. But it happened that the money fell into one of the old gentleman's stockings, which his daughter had hung up to dry, where it was found and used as a dowry for his eldest daughter. And the story goes on to say that St. Nicholas never failed to put a gift in the stockings which were hung up for him thereafter when a daughter of the house was to marry.

Bessie's Plea. "Say, mamma, please don't make any fire in my bedroom grate," begged little Bessie. "Why, you'll freeze." "I don't mind being cold, just so long as Santa will be able to get down the chimney all right."

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

SALE REGISTER.

Under this head will appear, free of charge, the date and character of public sale, for which bills have been printed at the CLARION OFFICE. Space herein may be secured when bills are printed elsewhere at the rate of \$1.00 for the season.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1915, at 10 a. m., George H. Beitler will sell horses, cattle and farm implements near Loys. E. L. Stutely, Auct.

On Wednesday, January 20, 1915, at 1 o'clock James R. Wood, Exr., will sell valuable real estate near Rocky Ridge. J. W. Snook, auct.

SPECIAL MEETING

Of The County Commissioners. Frederick, Md., Dec. 14, 1914. The January session of the County Commissioners will commence in their office in the Court House, on SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1915, At 9.30 o'clock, a. m.

The first day will be devoted to general business. The Commissioners will settle with the Road Supervisors and make new appointments in accordance with the following schedule:

SECOND WEEK. Monday, January 4, Liberty District, No. 8. Tuesday, January 5, Frederick and Braddock Districts, Nos. 2 and 24. Wednesday, January 6, Buckeystown District, No. 1. Thursday, January 7, Tuscarora District, No. 21. Friday, January 8, Linganore District, No. 19. Saturday, January 9, Hauvers District, No. 19.

THIRD WEEK. Monday, January 11, Midletown District, No. 3. Tuesday, January 12, Creagerstown District, No. 4. Wednesday, January 13, Catoctin District, No. 6. Thursday, January 14, Woodville District, No. 18. Friday, January 15, Johnsville District, No. 17. Saturday, January 16, Petersville District, No. 12.

FOURTH WEEK. Monday, January 18, Mechanicstown District, No. 15. Tuesday, January 19, Jefferson District, No. 14. Wednesday, January 20, Jackson District, No. 16. Thursday, January 21, New Market District, No. 9. Friday, January 22, Urbana District, No. 7. Saturday, January 23, Emmitsburg District, No. 5.

FIFTH WEEK. Monday, January 25, Mt. Pleasant District, No. 13. Tuesday, January 26, Walkersville and Ballenger Districts, Nos. 26 and 23. Wednesday, January 27, Burkittsville District, No. 22. Thursday, January 28, Woodsboro District, No. 11. Friday, January 29, Lewistown District, No. 20.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Supervisors are hereby notified to present their accounts for settlement only on the days set for their respective districts. They are also requested to report all road tools, road machines, lumber, culvert pipe, or any material in their possession belonging to the county. By order, JOHN W. HOLTER, Harman L. Gaver, Clerk. President. dec 17 4t

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court, of Frederick county, passed on December 8th, the undersigned will sell at public sale on the premises 1 1/2 miles from Rocky Ridge, Md., on the road leading to Woodsboro, on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20th, 1915, at 1 o'clock p. m., the following valuable real estate: All that lot of ground containing FOUR ACRES of land, more or less, situated on the road leading from Rocky Ridge to Woodsboro, said lot is improved with a two-story Weatherboarded House, wagon shed, corn crib, chickenhouse, and other necessary outbuildings; also two good wells of water.

Terms as Prescribed by the Court:—One-half of the purchase money to be paid on day of sale or ratification thereof by the Court; the balance to be paid in six months from the day of sale, the purchaser to give a note with security acceptable to the undersigned for the deferred payment, or the purchaser may pay all cash at his option. All conveying at expense of purchaser. JAMES R. WOOD, John W. Snook Auct. Executor. dec 17 4t

ROY H. WAITE, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.

PROFITABLE PORKERS. enough pork for home consumption. In many other instances not even this quantity is home grown.

It is the purpose of this bulletin to show that substantial improvement can be made in this industry in our State and to offer suggestions and plans for bringing about this desired end. Copies may be secured by writing to the Experiment Station, College Park, Md.

ROY H. WAITE, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.

Economy is one word that the average poultry keeper hasn't had much use for. I am glad, however, to note that he is beginning to have more use for it. One of the most flagrant violations of economy has been in house construction. Elaborate and expensive buildings have been built for housing poultry and unnecessary capital tied up. Expensive feeds have been used when much more simple ones would be just as efficacious. Plants have been so planned and laid out that a lot of extra labor has been expended in caring for the birds.

Nor has the violation of economical principles been all on the side of unnecessary expenditure. Houses have been too cheaply and ill-constructed or too many birds placed in them. Too simple feeds have often been used. A maintenance ration fed to a flock that should be laying is very poor economy. Many farmers feed their hens all winter and get no returns from them, when by simply adding perhaps a little protein feed they would turn a loss into a profit. I often hear this statement from persons whose hens are idle: "I can't afford to buy meat scraps," but the great question is: "How can they afford not to buy them?"

Just Efficiency. When any man tries to make people think he is a better farmer than you are, call his bluff: farm efficiency is just the same as any other kind; just efficiency.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Notice to Creditors. THIS is to give notice that the subscriber has obtained from the Orphans' Court of Frederick county, Md., letters of Administration on the estate of MARY C. BIGGS, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same with the voucher thereof legally authenticated to the subscribers on or before July 1st, 1915, they may otherwise be excluded from all benefits of said estate. All persons indebted to said estate are hereby warned to make immediate payment. Given under our hand this 24th day of November, 1914. JULIA A. FOX, Administratrix. nov 26 5t

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

COTTONSEED MEAL IS ECONOMICAL DAIRY F. OJ

Market Conditions Favorable To Use Of Cottonseed At This Time.

G. E. WOLCOTT, Maryland Agricultural Extension Service.

Owing to the conditions brought about by the war in Europe, a large part of the cottonseed cake hitherto shipped to foreign countries will be placed on the American market this winter. The large supply available has already reduced the price several dollars per ton.

Cottonseed meal is one of the richest protein feeds offered to the dairyman, containing as it does, 45 per cent of protein and 84 therms of energy. Ordinarily it is not advisable to feed more than 2 to 2.5 pounds per day.

As it is constipating, some laxative feed should be used in the ration with cotton seed meal, such as bran, linseed meal, or the legume hays. Since cottonseed is rich in protein, it will be economy to supply a large part of the protein needed in the ration from this feed.

The following grain mixtures are suggested for grain production: 300 lbs. corn or hominy chop 100 lbs. wheat bran 100 lbs. cottonseed meal.

The above ration is calculated to be fed when the roughage is made up of silage and alfalfa or some other legume hay such as clover, cow peas, or soy beans. A part of the silage may be replaced by cut fodder. In case no legume hay can be had the following mixture will more nearly fill the requirements: 200 lbs. corn or hominy chop 100 lbs. bran 100 lbs. cottonseed meal.

The grain mixtures should be fed at the rate of one pound of grain to three pounds of milk produced. The cow should be given all the roughage she will consume without waste.

MARYLAND EXPERIMENT STATION ISSUES VALUABLE FREE BULLETIN ON THE HOG INDUSTRY.

It is common knowledge that the swine industry of Maryland is and has been for a number of years at a very low ebb in so far as the production of pork is concerned. Instead of raising on our farms enough hogs to supply the citizens of our towns and cities we are actually importing every year from sister States vast quantities of pork and pork products to meet their demands. Yet in the face of this evidence practically every hog breeder within our borders will tell you that for the money invested there is no other animal on the farm which will yield so large a profit. If he merits this reputation, why is it that our farmers pay so little attention to him? To answer the question is difficult, but it is quite probable that the extension and spread of hog cholera and diseases generally are largely responsible for existing conditions. Then again it is obvious that there are any number of farmers who actually do not realize the monetary possibilities of swine production, for even in localities where hog cholera has not been at all prevalent, there are many farmers that produce barely

enough pork for home consumption. In many other instances not even this quantity is home grown.

It is the purpose of this bulletin to show that substantial improvement can be made in this industry in our State and to offer suggestions and plans for bringing about this desired end. Copies may be secured by writing to the Experiment Station, College Park, Md.

ROY H. WAITE, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.



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Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Children Cry for Fletcher's



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As soon as your meat is smoked, in the early morning, before the dew is heavy, put in an air-tight container, the Peerless Paper Meat Sack, following the simple directions which are printed on each sack, and you can rest assured that you will not be bothered with worms in your meat.

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A full trial will fully satisfy every claim for our sacks, and we feel that where once used they will become a household necessity. Ask your grocer for them. Price 4 and 5 cents apiece, according to size. Sold everywhere only by the Great Southern Pkg. & Mfg. Co., Baltimore, Md.

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