PLAYING SANTA TO A POOR CHILD

Joyous Privilege That "A. Goode Fellowe" Seeks to Have Gratified.

RECALLS HIS OWN YOUTH

Wants Name of One Who Will Wake Up to Empty Stocking Unless Some Stranger Fills It.

"Will you help to make Christmas a happy time for me by supplying the name of a little boy or girl I can be Santa Claus to—some son or daughter of the very poor who will wake up on Christmas morning to an empty stocking unless some stranger shall fill it?

"I want to have a real Christmas and how can Christmas be real and festive unless there are laughing little noisy children running to one another with glad shouts of 'See what Santa Claus brought me?'

Into Children's Fairyland.

"I want to go into the shops on Christmas Eve, into the flare of the lights and the jostling throngs and push my way to the toy counters, the fairyland of the children's dreams; and I want to meet the friends of my youth, the old companions that long ago went to their eternal rest—some of them after lives no longer than an hour!—the jacks-in-the-box, the stuffed animals, the trains of cars, the golden haired dolls that opened their eyes when you sat them erect, that closed them in sleep when you laid them down—wonderful babies they were indeed,—the sleds and the skates, the prattles and the rattles, the horns and the drums—I had almost forgotten them.

Arms Filled with Toys.

"I want to fill my arms with toys, and move out into the crowded walks to be jostled by the other shoppers,—hurried all of them and flurried, but happy, very happy, for it's Christmas Eve, remember, and they are shouting 'Merry Christmas' to one another and laughing at every little thing.

"I want to tread my way through the mass and hurry on down to the home of the child whose name you will have given me. I want to go in where the stockings are hanging, there where Santa Claus should be sure to see them' and I want to cram those stockings full of nuts and candies and fruit, and a candy cane, and a little laughing toy man peeking out the top.

A Heart's Desire Gratified.

"I want then to look in at the little child asleep and see in its face the mirrored longings of its soul, and I know that because I shall have gratified its heart's desire that I shall feel new joy on Christmas Day.

"You see, Mr. Editor, Christmas makes me kind of sentimental, but I guess it's designed for that purpose, or we'd never know there were such people as the poor.

"Please don't forget to send me a name.

"Very truly yours,
"A GOODE FELLOWE."

Money and Coupons.

Every mail brings to The Argus Santa Claus fund filled coupons requesting names of poor children to whom it is desired to play Santa Claus and contributions of money to be used by the committee in purchasing gifts for children whose names are in the hands of the committee. Don't hesitate if you feel that you can give only a little. No matter the amount, the spirit that prompts it is worth something to yourself. And then your mite and those of your neighbors will contribute to the aggregate, and this should be sufficient to bring happiness to every poor child in the city on Christmas day.

Salvation Army's Poor.

Captain Agnes Schasse, whose effective work as head of the local branch of the Salvation Army is appreciated by the people generally of the city, is to supply to The Argus Santa Claus Fund committee the names of the children of the poor families who are aided during the winter season by the army. "I regard it a grand plan," Captain Schasse said. "You know, we have our hands full in helping our people in the matter of clothing, food and fuel. Just now we are asking for donations to make up the Christmas baskets for 50 poor families that are looking to us to supply them their dinner on that festal day. Few of the children of the poor know the real meaning of Christmas. It would be so easy for the more fortunately situated in Rock Island, by small donations of money, to make up a fund of proportions adequate to procure gifts that will send cheer to the little ones of all these poverty-stricken homes. The Argus fund should have the support of the entire community. It is a noble cause."

CITY SIGNS UP THE CONTRACT FOR FILTER

Mayor and Clerk Attach Their Signatures to Document Today.

The filter contract has finally been signed up, at least by the city, and the prospects are that the signatures of the officers of the company will be affixed to the document in a few days. The mayor and city clerk put their names on the contract yesterday afternoon. The contract has been made out in duplicate, one copy being retained here and the other sent to the Pittsburg Manufacturing company at Pittsburg. The one which was sent away is to be signed and returned, whereupon the one now here will be sent in its place, giving each of the parties to the contract a copy of it.

OBITUARY.

Miss Lucy Nourse.

Relatives received a message today notifying them of the death last night at Boise City, Idaho, of Miss Lucy Nourse, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nourse. Her mother will be remembered here as Miss Fannie Corker, while the father formerly lived in Moline. The daughter, who is 20 years of age, succumbed to heart failure.

James W. Meyer.

James William Meyer, little son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Meyer, 907 Eleventh avenue, died yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock following a brief illness of whooping cough and complications. The child was born in this city and was 1 year and 6 days old.

PERSONAL POINTS.

J. H. McGarey of Springfield is greeting old friends in Rock Island.

Miss Anna Wich and sister Marguerite have gone to Chicago for a two days' visit.

A. J. Beverlin has returned from Alabama, where he has been visiting for several weeks.

Vincent Findley of Astabula, Ohio, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Flynn, 1301 Thirty-seventh street.

Miss Florence O'Neal left last evening for Velardena, Mexico, where she will spend the winter with Mrs. A. McLean Hamilton.

James Johnson of Milan will leave tomorrow for Urbana to attend the reunion of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, of which he is a member.

AMEND INJUNCTION BILL

Leave Given Rock Island Plow Company in Circuit Court.

The attorneys for the Rock Island Plow company were given leave this afternoon to amend their bill asking for an injunction against the members of the Rock Island Molders' union. Judge E. C. Graves entertained a motion to amend and it was argued all day yesterday and today with the result that the motion was granted. Searle & Marshall, as attorneys for the company, wished to change the name of the defendants in their bill from the Iron Molders' union to the International Molders' union. Kenworthy & Kenworthy and J. F. Witter appeared for the defendants. The hearing on the request for a permanent injunction was set to come up before Judge Graves later this afternoon.

Switch Engine Off Track.

A switch engine on the Burlington road left the track last evening in the Moline yards and it was necessary for the passenger trains to be detoured to the D. R. I. & N. W. tracks to reach Rock Island. The trains to and from St. Louis were delayed a short time.

Wife Given Divorce.

The suit for divorce brought by Albert F. Olson against his wife, Minnie Olson, whom he charged with desertion, was heard before Judge E. C. Graves in the circuit court this afternoon and a decree in favor of the plaintiff was issued. Attorney Peter R. Ingelson of Moline appeared for the plaintiff.

Striking Indian Nomenclature.

"Muskoko," Clear Sky Land; "Maganetewan," Smooth Flowing Water; "Kawartha," Bright Water and Happy Lands; "Temagami," Deep Water; "Wawa" The Flying Goose are Indian words that fittingly describe some of the most delightful spots for a summer's outing on the American continent. All reached at special low round trip fares via Grand Trunk railway system. Double track from Chicago to Montreal and Niagara Falls.

Particulars of fares, descriptive literature, time tables, etc., will be mailed free on application to W. S. Cookson, A. G. P. A., 135 Adams street, Chicago.

HOUSE OUTCASTS IN A CITY OFFICE

Rosberg Children, Taken From Worthless Parents, Without Home.

IS NO PLACE TO SEND THEM

Need of County Detention Home Is Presented — Miss Ramser in a Quandary.

Possibly you are one of those who don't believe half you read about homeless, friendless and abused children.

If you happen to be one, just drop down to the city hall and inquire for Miss Dina Ramser, probation officer of the Rock Island county court. She will introduce you to three of her recently acquired wards: Willie Rosberg, aged 8; Violet Rosberg, 5, and Richard Rosberg, 3. They are the offspring of worthless parents, from whom they were taken by the probation officer when they were about to be ejected from their ill-kempt quarters above a restaurant next the Billburg saloon, on Twentieth street between Second and Third avenue, last Monday.

No Home for Outcasts.

Do you imagine these little ones will see Christmas through the same sparkling eyes and beating hearts that you children will when they arise in your warm and comfortably appointed home on the festal morn

Miss Ramser is a Santa Claus to the neglected youth of the city every day in the year. She can't do it all. She must have help. It must come from you and others who make up the community.

There is a state law that says counties shall provide detention homes for the care of just such cases as Miss Ramser has on her hands in the Rosberg children. Rock Island county has no such home. Its cost of maintenance would be small. Mrs. Carrie O'Connor, police matron of Moline, daily sees the need of such an institution also. There ought to be some action by the county board, and without delay.

Bethany Crowded.

You say, send them to Bethany home. Very well. But, as it happens, Bethany home is crowded now to the limit of its capacity.

So who is to care for the Rosberg children in the interim? Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights they slept in the little room reserved as an office for Miss Ramser at the city hall. She is in a quandary. She does not know where to send the children . Imagine their waking up on Christmas morning on the floor of a cheerless little office.

Fail in Their Promise.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Rosberg are the parents of these children. They drink and don't seem to care what becomes of their offspring. They were called to account a year ago for neglecting their little ones, and they promised then to do better. But they have not done so.

Miss Ramser was called to the Rosberg apartments last Monday. There were empty whisky bottles thrown about the room. She was told that the family was about to be ejected, and there was no one who seemed to care what became of the children.

So Miss Ramser took them.

CHILD POISONED?

Peculiar Circumstances in the Death of 2-Year-Old Emma Mary Vande Mortel.

SUFFERING IN THE STREET

Thought to Have Eaten a Drug—Spinal Meningitis Develops and Proves Fatal.

Emma Mary, 2 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Odeal Vande Mortel, died last evening at 6:30. The little child had been playing in the street during the morning and at 11 o'clock she was suddenly seized with convulsions. The supposition is that the child picked up something poisonous from the street and swallowed it, causing spinal meningitis and then convulsions. When found, the child was suffering terrible agonies. She was taken to the home of her parents immediately and medical aid summoned. After suffering for several hours, the child passed away.

Probably Ate Pills.

When the child was found, she was clutching a piece of paper in her hand. It is thought that the paper contained some sort of patent medicine, possibly pills, and that she swallowed these.

The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 9:30 from the home, 2700 Sixth avenue, with services at 10 o'clock at St. Paul's church. Father Leon Van Stappen will conduct the services and burial will be in St. Mary's cemetrey.

Notice.

The firm composed of Terry F. Burke and Joseph J. Gross, doing business as the Burke Plumbing & Heating company, having discontinued business, notice is hereby given that the undersigned will not be responsible for any debts contracted in the name of said firm from and after this date.

Dated at Rock Island, Illinois, December 16, 1909.

T. F. BURKE.

Licensed to Wed.

Dorian Cushman ..... Geneseo
Miss Edna Pearson ..... Cleveland
John Staubach ..... Rock Island
Miss Della Fitzsimmons ..... Milan

CHILDREN TO GIVE CANTATA, "SANTA, JR."

Members Central Presbyterian Sunday School in Entertainment Tomorrow.

A pre-Christmas cantata, "Santa Claus, Jr.," will be given by the junior and intermediate scholars of the Central Presbyterian Sunday school tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at the chapel, Twelfth street and Eleventh avenue.

There will be three different programs given this year by the Sunday school scholars, the cantata mentioned above, a Christmas tree and treat for the "beginners" and primary scholars next Sunday evening, and a sacred song service by the older scholars of the school Sunday afternoon, Dec. 26, at 4:30.

At the exercises tomorrow evening, the Misses Minnie Johnson and Emily Russell and Arthur Jonassen and Milton Johnson will sing solos; Miss Emily Russell will preside at the piano; Mrs. Florence B. Knight will assist at the piano, and Robert B. Knight will assist with traps. The characters for the cantata are: Ann, Miss Mabel Trenkenschuh; Elizabeth, Miss Evelyn Eckhart; Mary, Miss Margaret Anderson; Sue, Miss Bessie Simpson; Spirit of Christmas, Miss Fay Atkinson; North Wind, Miss Georgiana Brinkerhoff; Santa Claus, Jr., Master Robert Pearce; Thomas, Ilsley Rexdale; Robert, Harry Russell; John, Raymond Arndt; Charles, Curtis Coulter.

TO REMAIN IN ROCKFORD

Rev. C. A. Wendell Declines Call to Church in Seattle, Wash.

Rev. C. A. Wendell of Emmanuel Lutheran church, Rockford, has declined a call from Emmanuel Lutheran church, Seattle, Wash.

Mr. Wendell, who is one of the ablest and most popular pastors of Rockford, declined an offer a year ago to accept the chair of literature in Carthage college. He was formerly an educator holding the position of teacher of English in the Rock Island high school.

Prosperity Camp Elects.

At the annual meeting of Prosperity camp 3831, R. N. A., officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

Oracle—Mrs. J. Kerns.
Vice Oracle—Mrs. Rose Whitaker.
Chancellor—Mrs. C. Allsbrow.
Receiver—Mrs. Lillian Clayburn.
Marshall—Miss Echo Allsbrow.
Assistant Marshall—Dr. Hada Burkhart.
Inner Sentinel—Miss Ella Wright.
Outer Sentinel—Mrs. Maude McCoy.
Manager (three years)—Mrs. Ella Godfrey.
Physician—Dr. Hada Burkhart.

Royal Neighbors Here.

The supreme board of managers of the R. N. A. and the beneficiary committee of the same organization are holding their monthly sessions at the local office. There are five members of the board and three committeemen present and they are stopping at the New Harper. Miss Lina M. Collins of St. Paul, supreme oracle of the Royal Neighbors, has returned to St. Paul.

Will Gives to Charity.

The will of the late Mrs. Fanny D. Pearlstine was admitted to probate this morning by Judge R. W. Olmsted in the county court. The document was dated Oct. 2, 1907. By its terms small sums of money are given to the Jewish church at Cedar Rapids, a Jewish church at Chicago, the Orphans' home at Jerusalem, Palestine; the Jewish Old Ladies' home at Chicago and the children and grandchildren of the deceased. Noah Effron of Cedar Rapids and Max Ruben of this city are named as the executors of the will.

Have Sleigh Party.

The Beta Gamma Sigma sorority and friends enjoyed a sleighing party last evening. The party met at 8 o'clock at the home of Miss Merle Hirst and after a pleasant ride, stopped at the home of Miss Marie Tremann, 741 Twenty-third street, where refreshments were served.

OPPOSING NEW PAVEMENT

Fred Appelquist Heads List of Objectors on Third Avenue.

A petition containing 32 names was handed into the office of the city clerk this afternoon, its purpose being to object to the proposed improvement of Third avenue by the laying of asphalt paving instead of the present delapidated brick paving. Fred Appelquist drew up the petition and circulated it. The signers represent a frontage along the avenue of 2,045 feet out of a total of 5,400 feet, showing that by far the majority of the owners are in favor of the improvement. The petition will have little bearing on the proposition to pave, as the matter is already past the board of local improvements and ready to come before the council in the form of an ordinance.

Many persons find themselves affected with a persistent cough after an attack of influenza. As this cough can be promptly cured by the use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, it should not be allowed to run on until it becomes troublesome. Sold by all druggists.

Cut Out and Mail to Argus

I will agree to buy Christmas gifts for.....poor children.

I desire that the names of the children be furnished me.

Name .....

Address .....