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## TOYS FULL OF TOYS, BUT NOT FOR AVERAGE TOT

Display Is Something Very Gorgeous, Writer Says, But Is Beyond Ordinary Purse to Buy Clockwork Dogs.

BY MARGARET WALTER.

LONDON, Dec. 19. (Reciprocal News Service.)—There will be lots of English children this Christmas who won't have any toys hanging on their Christmas trees. The toys are there—wonderful toys—but so are the prices.

It looks as if the store people and realized that most of the toys worth having are way beyond the hope of the great mass of kiddies, so are trying to make it up to them. They have turned their toy departments into veritable fairylands where tropical groves, ice cottages, jungles and blue caves beneath the sea rub shoulders with up-to-date doll houses, fully equipped circuses and mechanical clowns, bare-back riders and performing animals—all run by electricity.

The departments are run like a continuous show. A constant procession of delighted children streams through all day long. If you want actually to buy anything you have to wait out of line and hunt round for somebody to attend to you.

In the jungles, mysteriously lighted with pale green, glimmering phosphorescent sparks, roll themselves round knotty monkey trees, apes chatter madly, hanging from twisted branches by their tails, and strange colored birds sing. Suddenly a panther creeps into the open, catches sight of a young lamb, crouches back on his haunches and springs right across at the throat of his victim.

The children shriek with delight, and then the whole thing begins over again. Of course all the animals are for sale. The panther costs \$17, the monkeys come at \$12 and the snakes at \$2.

The birds can be bought singly or in families, a father and mother bird and a nestful of fledglings crawling up their scrawny necks and making realistic squeaks at the worm which father holds tantalizingly in his beak.

There is a desert scene, too, with a caravan, camels and gorgeous Arab chiefs, an oasis and the pyramids painted on the walls behind. The camels kneel down, wiggle their humps and undulate their necks and the Arabs flourish their curved swords.

Camels and trumpeting elephants come pretty high, too, at \$20, but they are lovely; the camels are made of real fur over a real framework; you can see the muscles moving beneath the wrinkly skin. It is so nice to see the difference in these animals. One will be made so lifelike that it startsles even a grownup, another from the same shelf will be like a wooden doll with creaking joints and unnatural angles.

Most of these clockwork animals are made by wounded soldiers, and it all depends upon the man. Sometimes you get the work of a real genius, sometimes you do not. Of course this makes Christmas shopping a long and intriguing affair. People rush from shop to shop, trying to find the work of a favorite, who soon becomes known and whose output is carefully distributed so as to give all an equal chance.

Whole villages, doll houses, wooden dolls, furniture and marionettes made by the Lord Roberts Memorial workshops are amazingly beautiful. Sets of doll furniture for sitting rooms, bedrooms, dining rooms and kitchens, with little houses to put them in, which can be set up in several ways, have their parts numbered and every joint perfect. The miniature furniture is lovely, made from original designs, some of it is stained, some painted and decorated by hand or in stencil with bright peasant designs.

From doll furniture it is but a step to nursery and children's room furniture which is almost irresistible. Most of the designs for this are very simple, what we would call mission patterns; most of it is enameled and varnished so that it can be scrubbed without harm. And it is noticeable that there is no predominance of white. The ground-work is mostly tinted delicately or in some cases painted bright green, blue or yellow. Gray colored flowers or conventional patterns in bright colors are painted on these backgrounds, and the effect seems exactly what children like, for doves of little boys and girls cling gurgling round these juvenile suites and beg to be allowed to stop right there and live always.

To go with the furniture one of the shops has provided bedspreads, curtains, and all the necessary "happenings" in the way of patterns. The bedspread of one set is particularly attractive. It is made of the unbleached government linen and decorated with bunches of bright green, red and yellow tomatoes and purple plums done in cushion work of washable colored silk. The whole set can be sent to the wash without harm, the tomatoes and plums being simply snapped with snap fasteners on to the linen at the places indicated by the flat green leaf embroidery.

Sheets and pillow cases of brown linen are a novelty, but of course they will soon become bleached, and anyhow with laundry work what it is now in London it's no use pretending anything is white, for it is always drab or frankly grey.

The old favorite building toys still hold the loyal allegiance of a vast number of boys. This year the principal achievements seem to be coal mining machinery, house construction and railway bridges and equipment. So do the interests of children follow close on those of the grownups. One shop has a coal pit with a shaft and a cage, galleries and trolleys electrically working complete.

War toys are still to be found; a few out-of-date tanks, some machine guns and anti-aircraft cannons left over from last year, repainted and named Russian; but they do not make much of a show and are passed by for the more lively toys. The best dolls are still French, though

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Loin Pork Chops	25c		

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Prime Rib, Boneless	25c	Lamb Breast	13c
Rib and Brisket Boll	12 1/2c	Lamb Shoulders	28c
Chuck Roast	14 1/2c		
Chuck Steak	20c		
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Sirloin Steak	25c		
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IXL Bacon (sliced)	48c		

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ex-munition girls and wounded soldiers are making some wonderfully interesting rag dolls with moulded bodies and painted faces. But these are what might be called character dolls, mostly funny, and their clothes are queer. But they are amusing and English children like them.

For tiny children hot water bottle soddy dolls are among the most popular novelties. Nothing could be better adapted to this climate, and it's no wonder they are bought up as fast as they can be turned out. Some are made of washable teddy-bear plush, some of cotton flannel or eiderdown cloth. The heads are composite of rag and they are dressed like babies or teddy bears.

Little shops, built of painted canvas, furnished complete with dry goods, groceries or vegetables, are very realistic, and as there is toy money, a real counter and cashier's desk, a whole party of children can play at the always fascinating game of buy and sell.

Sailboats still remain the favorite water craft, though there are a few steam yachts and trollers. But the prices of these are so high that they are practically out of reach. A small steam yacht, such as used to cost about \$6.20 before the war, is now \$29, and not well made at that.

There are very few scooters or any toys which require wheels or tires or welded metal work. All the industrial energy in this direction is concentrated on growup motor cars, motor scooters and motor bicycles.

A Tickle is the Beginning  
HAYES' HEALING HONEY Stops the Tickle by Healing Throat, 50c per bottle.

WOULD BAR JAPS.  
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—Senator James D. Phelan announced today that he would submit to congress on his return to Washington a joint resolution for a constitutional amendment prohibiting American born children of Japanese and Chinese parents from becoming citizens of the United States.

If you don't buy a sewing machine for Christmas at Fry's, we both lose.