



Speaking of Christmas

With the coming of the Christmas season we are again confronted by the newspaper advice to "buy your Christmas presents early."

We refuse!

Buying Christmas presents is not a case of bargain hunting. Even the poorest of us, if we have but a dime or two to spend, want to get the most possible out of it, and the joy of mingling with the Christmas crowd, the glare of the lights, the contact with others who are filled with the spirit of the season, the rush and crush and bustle—what would Christmas be without all these things?

Sordid merchants who want to decrease the expense account, and who want you to get your purchases earlier because the prices rule a little higher, will advise you to "buy 'em early," but if you succumb to their blandishments you are going to miss your rightful share of the season. This thing of buying Christmas presents ahead of time and storing them away is too much like eating tomorrow's supper this morning in order to make sure you'll have it.

Besides, what's the use of buying the Christmas presents early and trying to keep them concealed from a bunch of kiddies that can detect a hidden treasure in the house as easily as a dog can find the place it buried its last bone?

Why, who of us having experience in such matters would miss the tingling delight of trying to sneak into the house an evening or two before Christmas eve, with our arms full of bundles, and getting them stowed away without arousing the suspicions of the kiddies? That's half the fun of the Christmas season.

Buy your Christmas presents early!

We'll do no such thing. We'll wait until the last minute, and then we'll get into the rush and have our toes stepped on, our skirts torn, our hats crushed, our coats ripped and our collars wilted—but through it all we'll be as happy as kids just out of school.

This cold, calculating, time-saving, nerve-conserving, mechanical method of observing the Christmas season does not make a hit with us.

Slightly Mixed

"Fine stroke of luck that came to Wimberly the other day."

"How's that?"

"He struck oil a short distance from town."

"O, that wasn't so lucky. Wimberly merely collided with the tank of Cumberly's automobile."

Worse

"Madam, pardon me, but will you kindly remove your hat?"

We made the request several moments after the curtain had gone up and after repeated but futile efforts to see what was going on upon the stage.

Little did we know of modern methods of hair dressing.

"Certainly, sir," was the ladylike reply.

The hat was instantly removed, and during the process we rejoiced.

Alas, the ignorance that possessed us!

No sooner was the heavy hat removed than a mass of fluffy hair sprung up, just like the flowers out of the paper cone the magician uses on the stage. Higher and higher

it arose, until it passed far beyond the altitude of the hat removed. It rippled and billowed and waved until the proscenium arch was as not, and we seemed to be trying to look through a hair mattress.

In despair we again leaned over and in a tearful voice remarked:

"Thank you, madam, but would you mind replacing the hat? We could see the border lights when you had it on."

Forgotten

Alas, of all the figuring we learned to do at school,

We have forgot so much we can't exactly place that mule.

We've added and subtracted, and multiplied in vain;

Tried algebra, geometry, and algebra again.

But ev'ry time we get results and think the job is done,

Up bobs another precinct—and once more the job's begun.

The Price of Admission

The morning after the employer had delivered his illustrated lecture of his European trip, his employes being the auditors, the daily papers lauded him for giving the workmen and their families such a rich and free treat.

"O, it's true we didn't pay any admission at the door," remarked one of the men.

"Did anybody pay admision," we asked.

"Sure, but not at the door. We paid it when the last reduction in wages was made."

Her Impression

The little northern girl had just returned from her first trip to the south. A friend asked her what was, in her opinion, the greatest thing she saw. Instantly the little girl replied:

"O, it was a big black man sitting in the middle of a great big load of white cotton."

Brain Leaks

The foolishness of a moment may mean the regret of a life time.

The man who "takes the world as it comes" is usually left stranded when the tide turns.

This would be a better world if people were as quick to commend as they are to condemn.

About the silliest object we see is the young fellow who is pretending to be a Dead Game Sport.

The fact that Thanksgiving comes before congress convenes is another reason why we should seize the opportunity to be thankful.

Of course you are not going to buy your Christmas presents early. Getting into the Christmas rush is a big part of the Christmas joy.

One good thing about being on the losing political side is that you are not worried about fixing up any combinations to land a political job.

Men would have less time for business if they worried as much over getting a new suit of clothes as a woman does over having a new dress made.

When a man's business gets so big he hasn't time to wave a farewell to the baby, it is time he took a vacation.

We have often wondered if some women really imagine that us fellows can't distinguish the difference between paint and natural complexion.

Newspaper Comment

The Union has given Mr. Bryan hearty and earnest support because it sincerely believed the welfare of the country demanded a change of administration. The people seem to believe otherwise and we are content to abide by their decision. From the first we were convinced that it was a mistake to nominate Mr. Bryan. * * * The returns would indicate that no democrat could have been elected at this time.—Rochester Union and Advertiser.

The administration of this country will be republican, but it will carry out many of the policies demanded by the people and so vigorously contended for by Mr. Bryan and the democracy. In what position the election will leave the democratic party later information will determine. It has unquestionably revived and strengthened it in many parts of the country, notably in the west, where a number of democratic candidates have been successful; and this greater strength will have the good effect of holding offensive republican partisanship in check.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Had William Jennings Bryan been elected to the presidency yesterday there would indeed have been profound cause for congratulation. There is, therefore, a deeper sting in defeat; but there is no reason for despair. The nation has still made a step in advance. William Howard Taft is a safer man than Theodore Roosevelt. The fate of the nation is not bound up in any single triumph of any man or party.—Philadelphia Record.

It looks as if the democratic party, as a political power, has come to an end. It will continue to exist in some of the states for local purposes, and there will always be a dominant white party in the south, but as a national power the indications are that democracy will play a very subordinate part. Issues are changing with great rapidity. The republican party is the parent of all the great private fortunes in the union, and of all the vast corporate monopolies and trusts. Under its fostering care a money power has been created and built up, and of necessity the offspring must stand for its parent in a struggle that threatens both.

Realizing, as the American people will, that no constitutional conservative organization like the grand old party of constitutional guarantees and Jeffersonian principles can overthrow a political party entrenched and maintained by a vast consolidation of wealth, the time will come when means will be found, not provided for in the national constitution, to work such changes as the people may and surely will demand.

If Mr. Bryan had been elected to the chief magistracy of the American republic, the possibilities of a tremendous political and social upheaval would have been long postponed, but as matters now stand, they are visibly impending, and those men are but blind guides who in the face of such conditions shall cry peace and safety. For then sudden calamity may fall upon them.—New Orleans Picayune.

In viewing the scattering returns, that show republican strength in almost every quarter, we must ask whether the people wish to rule? Where is the revolt by the labor vote? Where were the unemployed hosts? Where the myriad victims of panic? Where the revolters against bossism? Where the opponents of the trusts? Where those that rebel against the ownership of

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