

# What Can We Do?



By this time let us hope that there are more Christmas packages in France, by many thousands, than there are American soldiers. We know that the Red Cross will see that they are all properly distributed. If there are any women among us who sent nothing, through neglect or oversight, our self-respect must be suffering. We can reinstate it and retrieve ourselves by getting busy for the boys in the cantonments at home. There are six hundred thousand of them, besides the thousands in our regular army posts and in the navy. Now is the time for women to send an expression of their good will to all our soldiers.

The woman's bureau of the American Red Cross has issued a bulletin giving suggestions for Christmas packages, with a list of suitable gifts and directions for packing them. This bulletin suggests that articles, to an amount not exceeding \$1.50 be selected from the list (or according to individual wishes), and packed in the following manner:

"Use a khaki-colored handkerchief, 27 inches square and form the base of the packet by placing on the center of the handkerchief a pad of writing paper about seven by ten inches. Arrange the articles to be sent, on the

pad of paper so that the entire package shall be the width of the pad and about five or six inches high. Wrap and tie with one-inch wide red ribbon, and place a Christmas card under the bow of ribbon. Wrap the parcel again in heavy, light-brown manila paper, tie securely with red, green, or gilt cord, and use Christmas labels or American flags as desired."

The bulletin suggests that dried fruits and other food products should be packed in small tin or wooden boxes. Send only hard candies or chocolates and nothing crushable, no liquids, or articles packed in glass should be placed in the package.

A partial list of gifts suggested by the Red Cross follows: Fruit cake, preserved ginger, fruited, chocolate, or other sweetened crackers in original packages, salted nuts, prunes, figs, dates, raisins, hard candy, chocolate in tinfoil, tobacco, chewing gum, water-tight match box, playing cards, checker board, electric torch, mouth organ, neckties, khaki-colored handkerchiefs, steel mirror, pocket knife, pencil, envelopes, postals-book (in paper cover). Send packages to your nearest chapter headquarters, and they will be forwarded for distribution. Of course only a few of the suggested articles will be needed for one packet.

## What Well Dressed Women Will Wear



Blouses and Separate Skirts Join Forces.

In the apparel offered for this season there is nothing more satisfying or useful than the blouses of dark-colored crepe georgette, embroidered with silk or small beads, and the separate skirt. Each has made a permanent place for itself and a model of each join forces in the picture given here to make an illustration that will prove interesting. The blouse is expected to do duty with other skirts, and the skirt may be worn with blouses of a different character. In any case the skirt and blouses, if selected with reference to each other, will convince us that they belong together.

These sheer blouses are surprisingly long-lived—like fragile looking persons with strong constitutions—they outlast many more robust looking specimens of the species. There is nothing more durable than fine voile, and a good quality of georgette has astonishing qualities. The blouse pictured is in dark blue with embroidery in the same color with a dash of red and a sprinkling of white in the pattern. It fastens on the shoulder and at one side in ways that are desirable but satisfactory. Its sleeves are especially interesting, with a group of pin tucks in

the under arm at the elbow and two wider tucks where they join the close-fitting cuffs.

The skirt is of dark blue taffeta with stripes in black outlined with hair-line stripes in white. It is a combination of yoke and the tonneau drape with stripes well managed. This particular model is not for stout figures but stripes matched in this way at the front, in skirts without drapery, make models especially becoming to them.

It can be taken in at a glance that this blouse would look just as well with a skirt of wool or silk in plain blue, and make itself an important factor in the style of a tailored suit. The skirt suggests sheer white lingerie blouses as companion pieces or blouses in light colored crepe georgette. It is a good idea to select one color to dominate the wardrobe for a season, to buy with it—always in mind. It makes more variety possible in combinations of the blouses with various skirts.

Julia Bottomley

## DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

### SHARPY AND CHIPPY.

"I am wondering," said Sharpy, the squirrel, "if they will remember."

"What are you wondering if they will remember?" asked Chippy Chippy the chipmunk. "And who do you mean by they? You must be more clear, Sharpy. Even with the quick wits I have I cannot understand you."

"Sorry," said Sharpy. "But I mean that I wonder if people and children will remember to give us something to eat. They're having the most wonderful dinner in there."

Sharpy led Chippy Chippy up a side porch which looked in on the dining room. There sat a big family, a mother, daddy, grandmother, and several children. They were having their Christmas dinner.

Chippy Chippy squealed delightedly. "Oh, food!" he said. "And so much food, too! Right in the middle of winter. How could they ever save so much and where do you suppose they hid it?"

"I'm not wondering about where they hid it, when now it's right out in the open—at least almost in the open," said Sharpy.

"We might be able to see where some more is hidden," said Chippy Chippy.

"Oh, dear; oh, dear," said Sharpy. "You're a very queer little chipmunk. I believe in saving up for hard days, but you are always thinking of the future."

"What's the future?" asked Chippy Chippy as he sat upon his hind feet and looked at Sharpy.

"The future means the days ahead—the days that haven't come yet, but the ones we expect to come."

"Then if we expect them to come," said Chippy Chippy, "isn't it well to be prepared for them?"

"Yes, yes, yes," said Sharpy. "But this is a special feast and we might as well enjoy it without thinking all the time of the days ahead. We



The Children Fed the Little Creatures.

mustn't miss the good things of the present. You're very sensible to be saving and to think of the future, as I said before, but take a piece of advice, Chippy Chippy. That is—enjoy the present. Have a good time and be happy every day as the days come around."

"I don't see that we're enjoying ourselves so much by seeing those people in there who are eating. That is neither saving for the future nor eating in the present," said Chippy Chippy.

"Wait, have patience," said Sharpy. He ran along the porch and told Chippy Chippy to follow him.

"What are you doing this for?" asked Chippy Chippy.

"We want to make a noise so they will notice us," said Sharpy.

"Perhaps they won't like us," said Chippy Chippy. "And some folks don't enjoy noise."

"They look as if they liked it," shrieked Sharpy. "Listen to the children. I don't believe they will hear us."

But when Chippy Chippy and Sharpy began to scamper over the porch and as they shrieked at each other, sometimes as if they were scolding and sometimes as if they were laughing, the people in the dining room heard them.

"Oh," said the children, "there is a squirrel and a dear little chipmunk!"

Sharpy and Chippy Chippy looked their very best, or tried to, standing on their hind legs and looking very sweet and cunning as they begged. Their little mouths were moving all the time as if they were quite ready.

"We must share Christmas dinner with them," said the children.

Sharpy and Chippy did not know the difference between Christmas dinner and any other kind, but they did know that this seemed to be an especially fine dinner.

"We have quantities of nuts today," said the children. "Isn't that fine?" And I can assure you that Sharpy and Chippy Chippy thought it was fine, too.

The children fed the little creatures who had splendid meals and who also took many nuts home as Chippy Chippy suggested.

"Merry Christmas," shouted the children as they emptied the last dish of nuts, and though the little chipmunk and squirrel did not quite know what it meant they knew it meant something very, very nice!

### A Riddle.

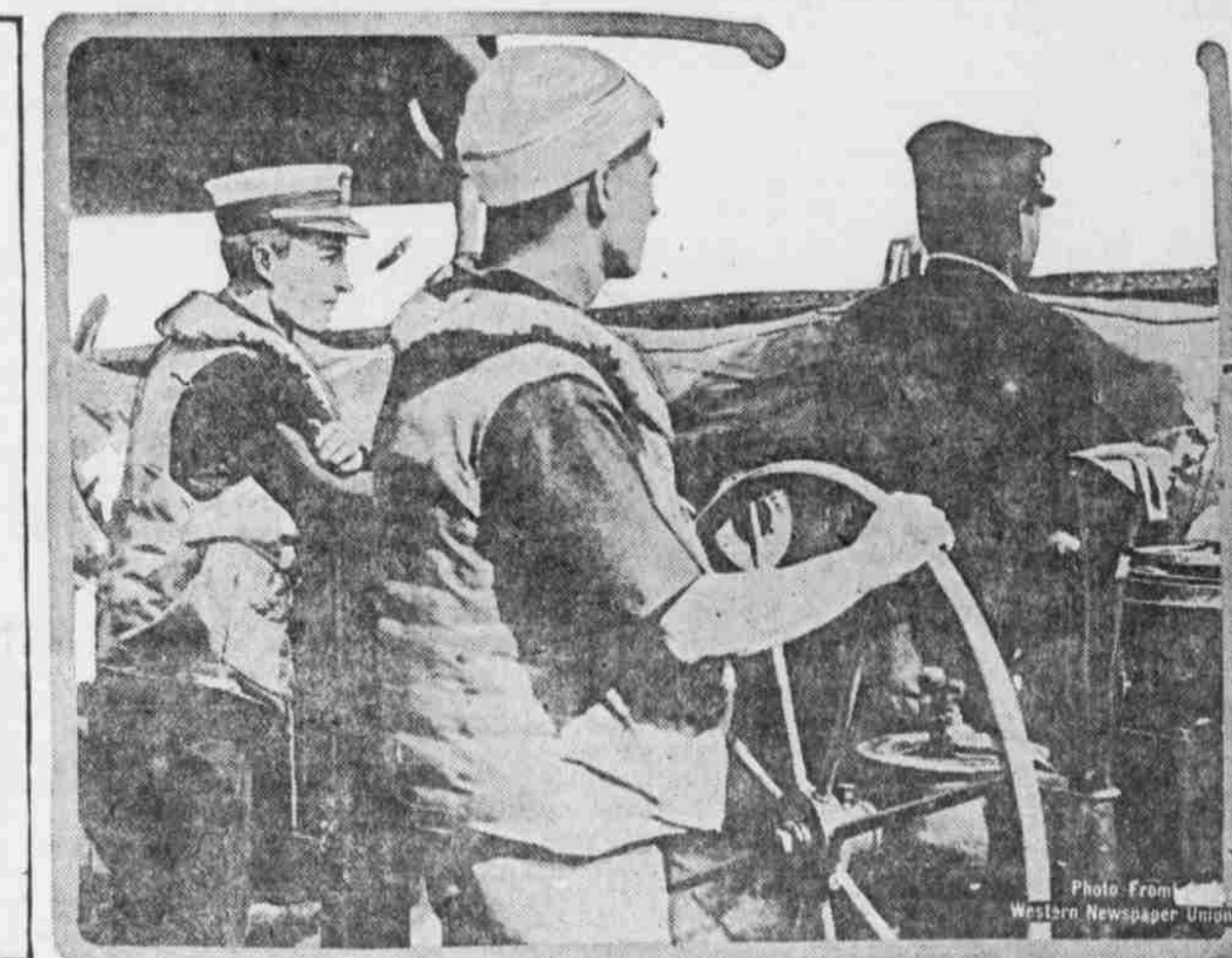
I lift, I raise, I help all men,  
Transpose two letters, and I then  
Dispel all gloom, and can at least  
Be called a jolly, merry feast.  
Answer: Lever, revel.

## DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY HALIFAX SHIP EXPLOSION



Above, the ruins of the Richmond railway station and docks near which occurred the explosion of a French ammunition ship that wrought such devastation in Halifax and its suburbs. Below, a view along Barrington street where every residence was burned to the ground.

## WATCHING FOR SUBMARINES FROM BRIDGE OF DESTROYER



Scene on the bridge of an American destroyer in the east Atlantic, where the men are ever on the lookout for German submarines and other enemy craft. Each man wears his life preserver and is ready for any emergency.

## ENEMY ALIENS MUST WATCH THEIR STEP



"Notice to Enemy Aliens" signs have been posted on streets and avenues along the waterfront in coast cities warning against trespass. Our subject, following the "get-out" order, must pick his steps while on a moving expedition to other quarters.

## BRIEF AND BREEZY

The best Isinglass comes from Russia. It is made from the giant sturgeon, which abounds in the Caspian sea and other waters of that country. For the use of bow-legged men a light, flexible frame has been invented to be strapped to a leg by a garter to make trousers hang straight.

Addresses of manufacturers of tur extracting machinery are wanted by an Allendale, S. C., firm.

As indicative of the present earning power of steamers, it is reported that a vessel recently arrived in Liverpool with a cargo of 45,000 cases of onions from Valencia, which earned more than \$187,000 for the nine day voyage.

## WOOLEN HELMET IS WARM



Thoughtful friends of home are wearing these warm woolen helmets which protect the head and part of the face. They are especially suitable for aviators.

### Glorified Junk.

"The queerest thing about the war to me," said a junkman whose business runs into five figures annually, "is the fact that it has made even old tin cans valuable. One Iowa junkman who had been holding his stock of scrap iron, old brass, rags, rubber and paper for higher prices sold his hoarded junk at the end of the first year of war for \$100,000. Junk is tremendously valuable. Now attempts are being made to salvage the tin film on so-called 'tin cans' by melting them. Tin is very valuable as a war metal and the despised 'tin can' is becoming an economic asset where formerly it was a liability. Rags, tin and battered old copper boilers, brass candlesticks, stove lids and old newspapers, rubber, wires, aluminum and lead have doubled and quadrupled in price since the great war began."