New Year's Eve Party

By Mary Graham Bonner

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IT WAS New Year's eve. In the big house on the hill a party was being given.

There was dancing and talking and laughing and merriment of all kinds.

The mistletoe was still hanging over the door as it had hung throughout the Christmas season, urging shy youths to snatch kisses from shy but eager maidens and encouraging those youths who needed no encouragement.

The music played on, the dancers never wearied. And then suddenly it stopped. All was very still following a trumpet call.

The lights were turned out. A door leading into the big dancing room from the out-of-doors was opened.

And then could be seen an old, old man, with long white beard and long white hair, hobbling along upon a stick, a lantern in his hand.

He threw a light as he walked along and going out of the opened door waved an arm as though in farewell and was just about to shut the door—when, lo and behold, a little lad rushed in, clad in very few garments, all young and excited and bounding with spirits. The door closed. He was within. The lights were turned on.

Dancing began, but only he danced. Around and around, in and out of the people he danced, while the music played, faster, faster, faster.

And then he made a low bow and dashed out of the dancing room.

There was applause. All the guests clapped their hands. They called for the little young dancer.

But as they called, in rushed a group of small boys. Under their arms they carried imitation newspapers and as they rushed about they cried,

"Extra! Extra! See about the great new arrival!

"Extra! Extra! The New Year has many packages of joy to scatter over the earth this year.

"He will be with us for twelve months! His stay is to be exactly that long.

"He danced for you now. And he will come in response to the encore you gave him and dance again.

"And after that he will give his encores day by day if you call for him and ask for the happiness, which he has to give, to dance in your hearts!

"Extra! Extra! The New Year is here!"

And around they went with their newspapers to every guest.

Then the little New Year came in and danced once more and then left with kisses and New Year greetings to all.

Once more the dancing began for everyone and way into the New Year they danced.

It was splendid to begin the New Year with dancing!

The New Calendar

By Marie V. Caruthers, in New York Times

DAYS three hundred sixty-four,
Like fair, uncut pages are
In the volume, yet unread,
Of my New Year's calendar—
One continued chapter they,
Starting in afresh today!

Though this selfsame calendar
Serves us all throughout the years,
Hours which make your joy, for me
May be fraught with grief and tears;
Those my happiness which bring,
Will find others sorrowing.

Days that stretch on far ahead,
I must live them one by one,
Till the year's long tale is spun.
What is written there? I turn
One page at a time—and learn!

Falls my lot in pleasant ways?
Will death interrupt my task?
All is hid from mortal eye.
But, Life, just one boon I ask:
Let me meet courageously
Whatsoever fate may be!

The New Year Pledge

THIS is the time to take stock, being the last of the year, the time of reckoning to consider that new leaf that is to be turned. Is it to be turned, or not? Is any effort to be made to start the year with a resolution of better conduct?

There is something more than mere tradition in the regarding of New Year day as a time for efforts at personal betterment. Of course, any other day in the year is just as good, but that invites endeavors for betterment. Even if the good intention lasts only a short time it is worth recording.

There is nobody who cannot find some specific way of self-improvement, some habit to be broken, some trait to be checked or corrected. Nobody is perfect, and good resolutions will not make the perfect man. But even the best of folks can improve themselves. They can be more considerate of others, more thoughtful, more unselfish, more tolerant and patient. Strict righteousness is often extremely disagreeable if it is not mixed with human kindness and compassion.

An eminent French psychologist recently came to this country to teach the American people, so far as he could reach them, how to help themselves to better health. His prescription was simple, consisting largely of a formula or a "litany" in which the subject gave daily assurance of being better. Let this method apply to other than physical ills and the New Year start with a resolution to "be better" in every way every day of 1924.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF

Lansing—One of Michigan's oldest, if not its oldest agricultural organization, the Michigan Beekeepers' Association held its fifty-fourth annual convention here last week.

Marshall—Calhoun County Agricultural Society directors have voted to erect agricultural and horticultural buildings 100 by 40 feet and to build new horse barns for the seventy-sixth annual fair to be held next fall.

Detroit—T. A. Farrand, 51 years old, horticulture specialist in the extension department of the Michigan Agricultural college, Lansing, died in a Detroit hospital last week. He was secretary of the Michigan Horticultural association.

Three Rivers—Having served 30 years with one firm here, Murray J. Russ, office manager, has been retired on a pension. Mr. Russ for 24 years has been a member of the board of education here, of which he is president now.

Lansing—An investigation into charges that state lands are being shorn of their evergreen growth and that the state forest conservation policy is endangered by the Christmas tree traffic has been ordered by Governor Groesbeck.

Ithaca—The civil service commission has certified to the postmaster general the name of Floyd J. Gibbs as eligible for appointment as postmaster at Ithaca, Gratiot County. He was the only candidate at the examination held for the position.

Sherwood—Fire destroyed five buildings in the business section of this village last week. Among the buildings destroyed were the postoffice and the telephone exchange. The local fire department was assisted by firemen from Colon and Union City.

Cadillac—Dr. Frank Hollsworth, of Tawas City, was elected president of the Northwestern Clinical Society at a meeting here. The other officers are: Dr. J. W. Guntlett, vice-president and Dr. F. C. Swartz, secretary and treasurer. All the officers are from Traverse City.

Alpena—John Young, of this city, shot a white fox while hunting on Little Wolf Creek last week. The fox is a fine specimen, with a coat of fur heavier than that of the red or black fox which are larger. As far as can be learned this is the first white fox to be caught in the state.

Reed City — Announcement was made by the comptroller of the currency that a charter has been issued to the Reed City National bank, here, which has been converted from the Commercial Savings bank of the same place. Its capital is $25,000. O. W. Clark is president and E. G. Wurm cashier.

Kalamazoo—Sinking deeper and deeper as he struggled to free himself from the mire in Big Lake, near Diamond Springs, Jacob Smith, 17 years old, a duck hunter, sank until his head disappeared under the water. The body was found in a standing position by a hunter who noticed an overturned boat and investigated.

Hart — Notwithstanding that this county has seven large canning factories they can consume only a small part of the large fruit crop that is annually grown near here. A dozen prominent growers, meeting here, considered the building of another factory to be run on the co-operative plan. A sum has been pledged sufficient to assure the construction of a $60,000 plant.

Lansing—J. F. Collins, vice-president and general manager of the Michigan Electric Railway Co., successor to the M. U. R., announced recently that fast passenger buses and freight trucks have been authorized to connect its lines with Flint from Owosso. Two freight cars and 15 trailers will be added to the service and a $50,000 freight station will be built at Lansing.

Cheboygan — Twenty-seven thousand acres of land in Cheboygan and Presque Isle Counties became the property of F. C. Browne, of Chicago, through his purchase of the Black River ranch near here. The ranch comprises some of northern Michigan's wildest land, the habitat of considerable large game. Black bear, deer, wolves and coyotes are said to be plentiful within its boundaries.

Ann Arbor—Charles Lathrop Pack, of Lakewood, N. J., president of the American Tree association, has offered to give the University of Michigan a fund of $1,000, proceeds of which will be used as a prize for forestry students, the faculty of the forestry department to make suggestions for administration of the prize. The donor's father, George W. Pack, was elected regent of the university in 1858 and served as one of the presidential electors for Lincoln.

Alpena—Capt. Joseph Valentine, keeper of the lighthouse at Hammons Bay, near Rogers for years, having been the first appointee to that post and retaining it until his retirement a few years ago, died recently at his home in Rogers. Capt. Valentine was known the length and breadth of the Great Lakes and widely respected. He was a member of various Masonic fraternities, including Moslem Temple, of Detroit. Many retired captains of life saving stations on the great Lakes attended his funeral.

Monroe—By a vote of 10 to 8, supervisors here elected Dr. A. Degroot, Dundee, as veterinarian for Monroe county. The position is for one year.

Pontiac—Pansies blooming in an open door yard were displayed here last week by Mr. Charles Shaw. The blooms were as large and perfect as those of summer.

Monroe—Joseph Huber, 88 years old, Civil war veteran, a former resident of Monroe and father of Coroner George Huber, of Monroe, died at Gibsonburg, O. recently.

Battle Creek—Mrs. Susannah Rannells, the first Battle Creek woman to register for voting, observed the 94 hundred and first anniversary of her birth quietly at her home recently.

Grand Rapids—The Grandville Methodist Episcopal congregation, one of the oldest Protestant groups in the Grand river valley, bade farewell to its old church building with simple services recently, its new church having been dedicated last week.

Grand Rapids — Completing his fourteenth year on the bench of the United States circuit court of appeals and attaining his seventieth year, Judge Loyal E. Knappen, of Grand Rapids, will retire soon, according to an announcement here last week.

Flint—Sheriff Peter D. Rogers, in feeding the prisoners committed to his charge at the county jail, has established a record for efficiency and economy thought to be unequaled in any other similar institution in the state, serving two good meals for thirteen cents.

Cheboygan—Solemn and impressive ceremonies accompanied the raising of a new 300-pound bell at the Sacred Heart church in Riggsville, recently. Rev. Father Felix Vogt, of St. Mary's Cheboygan; Rev. J. E. Galzke, of Alpena, and Rev. C. S. Zypen, of Metz, assisted the local pastor.

Pontiac—The Rev. Fr. T. J. Ryan, 67 years old, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, died here last week. He had been pastor here for 30 years, and was the first pastor to die at St. Vincent's. During his pastorate he has established a large school, convent, parish community house and campus.

Lansing—First definite action toward an investigation of the possibility of supplying cheap current for farmers of Michigan was taken at a meeting of the special committee of the Michigan public utilities commission appointed for the purpose of probing the cost of furnishing electric power to the rural communities.

Cadillac—Henry Harrison Harper, 54 years old, Pleasant Lake farmer, dropped dead suddenly while cutting wood near Lake Mitchell recently. His stepson 17 years old, dragged the body to the auto and started for this city, supporting the body upright on the front seat. The boy didn't know his father was dead until he arrived here.

Hillsdale—The Hillsdale country fair board has announced it has granted the Hillsdale Chamber of Commerce the right to equip a portion of the fairgrounds for tourists' camp purposes. Because of the convenience of city gas and water, it is proposed to have a modern sanitary camp, with shower baths, toilet and cooking facilities.

Grand Rapids—Bishop John N. McCormick, of the Western Michigan Diocese of the Episcopal Church, will sail Jan. 14 for a four-months' stay in Europe, Egypt and the Near East. Bishop McCormick has charge of the American Episcopal churches in Europe and will make supervisory visits to various cities where these churches are located.

Battle Creek—Rev. Carlejon Brooke Miller, pastor of the First Congregational church, has been granted ten weeks' absence for a trip to the Holy Land. The congregation tendered the trip as a mark of esteem and also in recognition of the fact that last year Miller's church set a record by admitting 160 new members on one Sunday, the largest of any Congregational church in America.

Lansing—Dr. George W. Dunphy, 74 years old, state veterinarian from 1897 to 1901, and from 1913 to 1921, and nationally known for his efforts to eradicate the hoof and mouth disease among cattle, recently. He served as chairman of the educational committee of the American association of veterinarians in 1918 and devoted his life to raising the standards of the veterinary colleges of United States and Canada.

Port Huron—Fourteen Grant township farmers, headed by William Ellerthorpe, for whom warrants have been issued for failure to pay a dog tax as provided for by a state law, have engaged an attorney and are fighting the constitutionality of the law. The state law requires farmers and others not residing in cities to pay a tax of $3 to the state for a male and $4 for a female dog. The Grant township farmers claim a watch dog is a necessity and should not be taxed.

Marquette—Statistics proving that the tourist traffic to the upper peninsula of Michigan, for the past year, has far exceeded that of any previous season have been compiled here by the questionnaires designed for getting information relative to (1), the number of tourists who visited the peninsula during the past year (2), the revenue derived by each community and the peninsula from the tourists, (3), the effect of the tourists upon the community at large, and (4), the prospects of tourist traffic for the future.

The KITCHEN CABINET

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The roses, the roses that lately
blossomed red,
Are wreathed in frosty bud and
bloom of sparkling white instead;
The sunflower's golden plunder of
buccaneering bees
Has turned to weathered hostelries
for hungry chickadees;
The fountain's voice is silent, the
dial capped and blind
With winter stretching bleak before and sunny hours behind.
And yet—like far, faint voices of
March-awakened streams—
I seem to catch the laughter of
little garden dreams.
That walk the tiny, drifted paths
'mid blue snow shadows dim,
To linger by the wicket-gate and
mounded fountain brim,
That raise sky eyes of greeting
where the circled lilac stands,
And guard frail bud-blown promises within small fragrant
bands.
—Martha Haskell Clark.

WHAT SHALL WE EAT?

In various parts of the country where deer abound, venison is now being served. The gamey, wild flavor of the meat is especially attractive to all lovers of the chase. Venison is one of the meats which should not be overcooked; it should be served rare to have it at its best.

Sauted Venison Steaks, Cumberland Sauce. — Cut venison steaks into circular pieces and use the trimmings for making stock. Saute the steaks in hot butter in a frying pan and serve with

Cumberland Sauce.—Soak two tablespoonfuls of citron cut into short matchlike pieces, two tablespoonfuls of glaced cherries, one tablespoonful of sultana raisins, in orange juice for several hours. Drain and cook the fruit in a little fruit juice, add one-third of a cupful of currant jelly, and as soon as the jelly is dissolved add one and one-third cupfuls of brown sauce and two tablespoonfuls of shredded almonds.

Venison Cutlets.—Clean and trim slices of venison cut from the loin. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, brush with melted butter and roll in soft bread crumbs. Place on a hot broiler and broil five minutes or saute in butter. Serve with a currant jelly sauce. A roast or a saddle of venison are prepared as one does lamb or mutton and served with currant sauce.

Roast Leg of Venison.—Lay a leg of venison in mild vinegar with one-fourth teaspoonful of ginger, one sliced onion, six cloves and ten peppercorns. Turn once and leave two days. Remove from the vinegar, wipe, season well, dredge with flour and roast as usual.

A fine roast, if one desires a good-sized one, is fresh ham. Roast until well done, seasoning well with a bit of garlic thrust into the meat, baste often and serve with apple sauce.

Amid the clamor of the street
The fancy often dills
With far-off thoughts; I live again
Among the streams and hills.
—William Dunn.

GOOD THINGS FOR THE TABLE

For a change from the usual method of serving chicken try

Cadillac Chicken.—Wipe a chicken, dressed as for broiling, sprinkle with salt and pepper, place in a well-greased broiler and cook eight minutes. Remove to pan and rub over with the following: Cream four tablespoonfuls of butter, add one teaspoonful of mustard, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of vinegar, and a few dashes of cayenne. Sprinkle with three-fourths of a cupful of soft, buttered crumbs and bake until the chicken is tender and the crumbs are brown.

French Macaroon Cream.—Soak one tablespoonful of gelatin in three tablespoonfuls of cold water. Scald two cupfuls of milk with one square of chocolate, add the yolks of three eggs beaten with one-half cupful of sugar. Stir constantly until the mixture thickens, then add the stiffly-beaten whites, two-thirds of a cupful of macaroons rolled and one teaspoonful of vanilla. Turn into individual molds and chill. Serve with whipped cream.

Molded Salmon.—Cook one cupful of stale bread crumbs and one cupful of milk to a smooth paste. Add four tablespoonfuls of butter, one cupful of flaked salmon, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-eighth of a teaspoonful of pepper, fold in the stiffly-beaten whites of two eggs, fill buttered mold two-thirds full and set in a pan of hot water, cover with buttered paper and bake in a moderate oven until firm. Garnish with slices of hard-cooked eggs and parsley.

Richmond Corn Cakes.—To three-fourths of a cupful of canned corn add one-half cupful of milk, one-half tablespoonful of sugar and two eggs well beaten. Mix and sift seven-eighths of a cupful of flour, one tablespoonful of baking powder, one-half teaspoonful of salt. Combine mixtures, drop by tablespoonfuls into buttered muffin rings, set into a dripping pan and bake in a moderate oven. Very nice to serve with chicken or a roast of beef.

Nellie Maxwell

Lucky Husband.

She was a big, strong woman and the burglar she had tackled and captured bore unmistakable signs of punishment.

"It was very plucky of you, madam," said the magistrate, "to have set upon the burglar and captured him, but need you have blackened his eyes and knocked all his front teeth out?"

"Well," said the woman, "how was I to know it was a burglar? I'd been up three hours waiting for my husband. I thought it was him."

DEMAND "BAYER" ASPIRIN

Aspirin Marked With "Bayer Cross" Has Been Proved Safe by Millions.

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians for 23 years.

Say "Bayer" when you buy Aspirin. Imitations may prove dangerous.—Adv.

Herring Shoals Block Norway Fjords.

The fjords in the extreme north, in the region of Tana and Vadsoe, Norway, have been literally blocked into a semi-solid state by herring shoals. The shoals often penetrate to the narrow heads of the fjords, where they wedge tight into the jetties of small villages and fishing stations. Several ships have been sent to the north to take advantage of the harvest and others have arrived at the herring oil factories heavily laden.

"DANDELION BUTTER COLOR"

A harmless vegetable butter color used by millions for 50 years. Drug stores and general stores sell bottles of "Dandelion" for 35 cents.—Adv.

Men of Few Words.

Fishing develops reticence. Two friends had fished the same stream for many years, yet their common interest had not developed garrulousness. They met one morning and greeted each other thus:

"Going?"

"Been."

"Any?"

"Some!"

"CASCARETS" FOR LIVER AND BOWELS—10c A BOX

Cures Biliousness, Constipation, Sick Headache, Indigestion, Drug stores. Adv.

Why Name Was Changed.

The city of Cleveland was named for Moses Cleaveland, leading shareholder of the Connecticut Land company, who founded the first settlement on the site of the present city. The spelling of the name was changed in 1823, when the Cleveland Advertiser was established and the editor dropped the "a" in the first syllable in order to get the headline into the form.

Watch Cuticura Improve Your Skin. On rising and retiring gently smear the face with Cuticura Ointment. Wash off Ointment in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water. It is wonderful what Cuticura will do for poor complexions, dandruff, itching and red, rough hands.—Advertisement.

Moses and the Bulrushes.

Opposite Cairo lies the island of Roda, where, according to Arab tradition, Pharaoh's daughter found Moses in the bulrushes. At the southern extremity of this island is the nilometer, by which the rise of the Nile has been measured by the Cairenes for 1,000 years. It is a square well with an octagonal pillar marked by cubits in the center.

Keep Well! Avoid Sickness.

Take Brandreth Pills. One or two at bed time will cleanse the system, purify the blood and keep you well.—Adv.

Fires Menace Lumber Supply.

Any hope that the United States may depend upon imports of lumber when this country's own forests are exhausted must be abandoned, says the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture. Attention is called to the fact that this country is using up its forests four times as rapidly as they are being replaced. Forest fires alone burn over 7,000,000 acres of forest land every year, destroying not only mature trees, but—what is worse—the young growth as well.

A Simple, Safe, Sure Remedy

for all local aches and pains due to taking cold or over exertion is an Allcock's Plaster.—Adv.

Any man who tries to dodge his taxes has no business to hanker for fame.

Hall's Catarrh Medicine is a Combined Treatment, both local and internal, and has been successful in the treatment of Catarrh for over forty years. Sold by all druggists.
J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio

Relief for coughs
Use PISO'S—this prescription quickly relieves children and adults.
A pleasant syrup. No opiates.
35c and 60c sizes sold everywhere.

DON'T RUB!
INFLAMED LIDS
It increases the irritation. Use MITCHELL EYE SALVE, a simple, dependable, safe remedy. 25c at all druggists. Mail a Bottle, New York City.