

Christmas Poem

By FOLGER MCKINSEY

BEHIND the bangles on the tree a fairy sits and sings:
And if you closely look You'll see it has exquisite wings.
Its little eyes are sunny bright,
And laughingly they glow
To help the very lovely light
That shines all below.

Each bangle has its fairy true, and each of them, you see,
Is part and parcel of the love and life of Christmas glees.

For fairy things are life and love
So delicate and fine,
That guided by a grace above
With heavenly grace they shine.

On Christmas night, when candle rays
Are thrown around the room
To make the tree a loveliness amid
encircling gloom,
To jolly him to watch and wait
To see the fairies gleam,
Open their little thrones of state
Like little stars of dream.

But awhile they slowly fade, and one
by one they go
To shadowland and slumberland across
the Christmas snow.
But every time they light the tree
They'll surely shine and sing
Behind the lovely ornaments
That on the branches swing.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

By G. HARMON

In Successful Farming

THE earthly orb once more hath run
Her beaten course around the sun
That brings again the sacred time
When shepherds with the angels sang
Carols unknown to mortal tongue,
And wise men from a distant clime
Led by the star—rich gifts to bring
And worship their newborn King.

His throne is not of royal state;
Nor won by wars of jealous hate
That leave destruction in their wake,
Nor amidst of supremacy,
But in the hearts of those who make
His life their guide—the only goal
That sanctifies the yearning soul.

That Shepherd's song of long ago
Of whom the wise men sought to know,
With "Peace on earth, good will
toward men,"
Is still an olive balm of grace
That reaches earth's remotest place
To banish pagan darkness when
True missionary friends have brought
To them the precepts that He taught.

Dark superstition's lost decrees,
And brotherhood's supremacy;
The fruits of Him from Bethlehem:
Our church, our school, and woman's sphere,
Our moral plane and Christmas cheer
Are bright stars in His diadem,
As still that song the nations sing
And wise men seek to find their King.

The Hollander who says that America has nothing to compare with the Dutch windmill will soon have the privilege of seeing the cheer leaders in action—Springfield Union.

"Busted but Happy," Was His Christmas Slogan

"BUSTED," but happy, busted, but happy. These words kept ringing through Dick Westworth's ears. He had overheard them as he had slipped through the hall, past the cheery living room, where his mother and brother Jack and his adoring little wife were enjoying the Santa Claus routine.

Dick had been urged to join them in putting the final touches on the tree and in filling the six little stockings of the six little Westworths, but he had pleaded a downtown engagement. "The idea of Jack actually assisting himself to buy a lot of foolery for his kids and then broadcasting the fact as though it were something to be proud of. Now if I had kids I'd get them sensible presents, not things that are likely to be busted up before the holidays are over. I'll set an example for Jack and his dodging wife by giving each one of the children something they would have to have anyway—catch me wasting my money just because it happens to be Christmas," and so saying, he undressed himself and turned into bed.

But, somehow, sleep wouldn't come. He drifted about nervously, finally falling into a feverish sleep only to awaken again.

"Maybe moving about a bit will help," he said to himself. "I'll go down and slip the handkerchiefs into the youngsters' stockings instead of giving them in the morning," and so saying he slipped on his bathrobe without turning on a light and picked up the little flat package he had laid on the chair beside his bed.

Not until he had switched on the light in the living room did he notice that it was his well-filled wallet that he had picked up in the dark. He started to go back for the sensible gifts that he had told himself "would do," but something restrained him. If you believe in the Christmas Spirit you will know what it was. If not, no explanation would make it any more clear to you. Dick Westworth did not believe in the Christmas Spirit; so, of course, he did not understand exactly why he suddenly decided to change his Christmas gifts.

But the Christmas Spirit, very right on with its good work, having got a tiny corner in his heart, and Dick went right on tucking bills and coins into the chinks of the six knobby stockings that were dangling by the fireplace.

"Busted, but happy," he said to himself later, as he tossed his empty wallet carelessly aside and dropped off into a peaceful sleep.—After Crowell Hoffman.

(© 1929 Western Newspaper Union.)

As Jesus of Nazareth Passeth By

IT WAS Christmas morning. An old man stood with hared and bowed head before the great cathedral. Chimes pealed forth the glad message—"Joy to the world, the Lord is come." The hour was early for passers-by, and the man had thought him self alone until a youth touched him, saying:

"Can I help you, sir?" The worshiper looked up. Observing a tool box swung over the lad's shoulder, he exclaimed, "A carpenter?"

"No; a carpenter's son. Father has an emergency call this morning. He is not well, and I'm carrying his heavy tools."

"I see," said the man, "and you also wanted to help me. Good boy. You nurse the spirit of kindness, the Christ-like spirit. Thank you, son, but I'm not needing assistance: I just paused to consider that other carpenter's son who went about doing good."

"I know," said the boy, "the Christ."

"Yes, and may many this Christmas day realize that again Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." —Lily Rutherford Morley.

(© 1929 Western Newspaper Union.)

A FAT MAN'S TROUBLES



"Ready for the holidays, Bill?" "Holidays me eye. I'm jes gettin' ready for some real work." "Wazzamatter, ain't the pint closin' down?" "Yeh, but every year I gotta play Santa Claus for the school."

Flowers as Presents Flowering plants make good Christmas presents. Cyclamen, flowering bulbs, poinsettia pans, ferns, primulas, and azaleas may all be used.

Florence Is Man but Navy Thinks Him Girl

Lynn, Mass.—Florence Wright, seventeen, about as perfect a physical specimen as the navy recruiting station here ever saw, despite his name, was turned down for enlistment in the United States navy because a Maine town clerk has recorded him a girl.

Wright recently moved here from North Vassboro, Maine, his birthplace, and after passing all requirements was told he must present his birth certificate. The birth certificate arrived and stated that Florence Wright, female, had been born there March 6, 1912.

Florence hates his name now, and was about ready to clean up the recruiting station until he was told he probably would be allowed to enlist if he can clear up his birth record.

Now that the world series is over the baseball fans can get back to work.

To the Women of Farmington

It gives us pleasure to extend to you the compliments of the season and wish you a Most Happy Christmas and A Prosperous New Year

Elsie Young Beauty Shop

236 Grand River

Phone 371

KROGER STORES

THE COMPLETE FOOD MARKETS

ANNOUNCE

The Opening of a

New Meat Market

Saturday, December 21

CARRYING A COMPLETE LINE OF

QUALITY MEATS AND POULTRY

Order Your Christmas Poultry Now

We offer a complete line of selected poultry—the best that money can buy at very reasonable prices

TURKEYS CHICKENS DUCKS GEESSE

KROGER STORES

THE COMPLETE FOOD MARKETS

1929 Greetings 1930

That your Christmas will be a season of many new pleasures and your new year bright and happy every day, is the wish we send to our patrons whose business during 1929 has left us appreciative and encouraged for the days to come.

Boston Shoe Repair Shop

Thomas James, Prop.
Grand River at Division

Merry Christmas

To All Our Friends and Patrons we send the Choicest Greetings and express our Lasting Thanks for Favors of the Past
We look to the future in the hope of continuing to serve you

RALPH AUTEN

Painter and Decorator
Farmington

GREETINGS!

With heartiest greetings for Christmas and Best Wishes for your Happiness throughout the New Year

J. L. TAYLOR

Chrysler Motor Sales

Phone 49

Walled Lake