

# Keeping exchange counter cheer

What do you do when your mother, after 20 years, "forgets" you can't stand green—and for Christmas she gives you a green shirt, a greener tie and a not exactly green pair of socks? And what about that "interesting" design on the ash tray you received? You may, of course, just swallow, say a sincere thank-you for the thought, and wonder forever why your tastes are so different from the rest of your family's. Or, just swallow, say a sincere thank-you, and exchange the gifts as soon as possible.

The after-Christmas gift exchange mania has become a traditional part of the holidays. Most stores, says the Better Business Bureau, are willing to go the extra mile during the holidays in order to encourage business during the rest of the year. Except for damaged, soiled or obviously worn merchandise, there's a good chance of an exchange, credit or refund for any unwanted Christmas gift.

**FOR RETURNS**, most stores will require proof of purchase, usually the sales slip. However, since the retailer is familiar with his inventory, often just the original box or wrapper will be sufficient proof. This is especially true of the larger chain department stores, even if the item were bought in another area of the country.

The retailer, of course, is in business to make money. He may prefer not to give a refund, and may insist on an exchange or credit only. In the course of exchanging merchandise, a customer might buy something else, perhaps something even more expensive than the original item. Most stores will feature after-Christmas sales. These sales may represent substantial savings for the cus-

tomers, and for many people the last few days of the year are the best time to shop.

After Christmas is the time of the year for a good buy on such things as greeting cards, toys, clothing, sheets, pillowcases and towels, etc. These sales often attract a horde of after-Christmas shoppers into a store. Inside, the mood to buy seems to spread through the crowd and some people buy articles which they really don't want or need and can't afford.

Buying sale items on impulse is not always a wise way to shop. Often, for these items there is no return, exchange or credit, and you could get stuck with a white elephant worse than the one you returned after Christmas.

**THE BETTER BUSINESS** Bureau suggests that an after-Christmas shopping trip is a good time to buy sale merchandise, or, if necessary, to exchange gifts either received or given to someone else.

Make a note while shopping before Christmas of what may be on sale after the holidays. This will help avoid unwise buying and will save money, time and a good deal of frustration as you become part of the end-of-the-year retail statistics.

One final word—when Christmas shopping, be sure of the store's policies on refunds and exchanges, and keep sales slips until you are sure you remember everyone's favorite color!

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## Award for Pioneer Women

Ruth Miller of Birmingham, president of the Greater Detroit Council of Pioneer Women, recently received from Gov. William Milliken a proclamation recognizing her organization's 50 years of service to women and children, both Jew and Arab, in Israel. Pioneer Women is dedicated to upgrading the status of women in that area through academic and vocational education, child care institutions, legal aid and personal counseling.

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Men's Fur Coats	from \$395

# END OF YEAR CLEARANCE

Terrific reductions on furniture and accessory items all through the store. Immediate delivery on all large pieces. Small items are "take with" and priced accordingly. Quantities limited — no phone orders.

<p><b>\$519 SOFA SLEEPERS</b> Queen Size-Herculan plaid. Reversible seat and back cushions — Bolsters</p> <p><b>\$250 ea. 4 in stock</b></p> <p><b>\$750 SIMMONS HIDE-A-BED</b> Green Velvet Corduroy. Full Size Mattress — floor sample</p> <p><b>\$250 one only</b> 16 other sleepers All Clearance priced</p>	<p><b>ONE GROUP TABLE LAMPS AND CHAIN LAMPS</b></p> <p>Reduced 50% and More</p> <p>One group pictures — Mirrors — Accessories Priced to Clear</p>	<p><b>5 pc. Solid Maple BEDROOM</b></p> <p>Includes: Triple dresser with Mirror, Chest on Chest, Full or Queen Headboard with frame-Night Stand—</p> <p>Reg. \$779 Sale \$459 3 to Sell</p> <p>Fr. Prov. Girl's Bedroom. White/Yellow trim. 2 in stock. Oriental Suites White/Blue. Boys' Pine Bedroom-Western Design. All Clearance Priced</p>
<p><b>35 LIVING ROOM TABLES</b></p> <p>Pine — Maple — Traditional — Colonial — Mediterranean — Marble Tops — Gold Decorated</p> <p>all Priced for Clearance</p>	<p><b>25 CHAIRS 1/2 OFF</b></p> <p>Occasional, Lounge, Colonial, Traditional — Swivel Rockers — La-Z-Boys — Top Quality Covers — Velvets — Prints — Tweeds.</p>	<p><b>5 pc. Maple Dining Room by Temple-Stuart</b></p> <p>48" Round Table—Hutch top. 2— 12" leaves — 4 Side Chairs Reg. \$1227 Sale \$529</p> <p>6 pc. Walnut Table set—48" x 42" — 15" leaves—4 Side Chairs—1 Arm Chair by Pennsylvania House.</p> <p>Reg. \$1,104 Sale \$699</p>
<p><b>6 pc. TRADITIONAL DINING ROOM</b></p> <p>Oval Table — 4 Chairs and Server</p> <p>Antique White with Yellow Trim</p> <p>Reg. \$1,149.00 <b>\$499</b></p>	<p><b>84" LIVING ROOM SOFA with MATCHING LOVE SEAT</b></p> <p>Beautiful Off White Cover with Yellow Stripes</p> <p>Reg. \$1,322 Sale \$999</p> <p>3-Piece Suite—Many Other Sets—And all are drastically Reduced</p>	<p><b>STEARNS AND FOSTER Bedding Clearance</b></p> <p>Twin Mattresses 3 only \$49 ea. Twin Sets Reg. \$159.00 4 only \$99</p> <p>Full Size Sets High Quality Tick 2 only \$139 Set</p> <p>Full Size Sets — Floral Quilted 4 Sets only \$139 Set.</p> <p>Queen Set 4 Sets only \$219.95</p> <p><b>NOTICE: STORE CLOSED WEDNESDAY DEC. 31 For Inventory</b></p>

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