

The SANDMAN STORY

ABOUT CHRISTMAS LOVE

"THERE is nothing in the world like it," said Santa Claus. Boy of the North, Santa's dog, wagged his tail and looked up at his master.

He seemed to know that Santa was going to say something else by way of explanation.

"There is nothing in the world like it," Santa Claus said again. "I mean," he explained, "that there is nothing in the world like Christmas love.

"It is the very best and the most beautiful thing in the world.

"Perhaps I should say that love is the very best and the most beautiful thing in the world without saying anything about Christmas love.

"And it is very perfect, quite by itself. Without our families and our



Boy of the North Put His Head in His Master's Lap.

friends, without being able to feel affection for each other, we'd find nothing in life very interesting.

"If some one won a prize, or was very brave or did something fine or noble or clever, it would not be very much fun if there were not those we love to whom we could talk about it or who would be proud of us.

"If no one loved Santa Claus, for example, there would be no pleasure in anything. Why, my whole life work would be work then and not play as it is now!

"If mothers and daddies did not love their children there would be no pleasure in belonging to a family. One might just as well be anywhere, at any time; and then no one would care!

"If children didn't love others there would be no joyous good times. There couldn't be the same enjoyment.

"And so of course there is nothing like love, for it makes everything else beautiful and happy and interesting and fine.

"But Christmas love! Oh, Christmas love, Boy of the North, is so wonderful, so perfect.

"It is just at Christmas time that Christmas love is at its height.

"Sometimes throughout the year, beginning perhaps in the summer, people will begin to save a little money to give Christmas presents and their hearts will begin to feel some of that Christmas love then.

"But around Christmas time people have so much Christmas love in their hearts.

"It seems as though they could not do too much for each other. They plan what they will give and they have so much fun in working.

"They earn money so they will have more Christmas money.

"They give more than they feel they should—and have a gorgeous time doing so.

"They love their own presents, too, because the ones they receive are from their families and friends who care for them and think of them.

"They love Santa Claus' presents because they know how much Santa loves them.

"And my thanks are their love and their smiles of delight and happiness.

"Those looks and those smiles and those shouts of joy are what make me so jolly.

"And they keep me young.

"Ah, yes, Santa will never grow really, really old as long as the children love him!

"You know that, Boy of the North." And Boy of the North thumped his tail very, very hard and put his head in his master's lap and looked at him with his adoring eyes.

"We shall see them soon. We shall look through our magic telescope, which makes us see so far, far, far away, and we shall see into the windows, and we'll know that Santa's visit was not frowned upon!

"No, not frowned upon, Boy of the North!

"Ah, Christmas love—Santa Claus is ready to go record (which means he is always willing to stand by this statement) that he thinks there is nothing in the world to compare with it!"

(Copyright)

Corinne Griffith



One million dollars' insurance for the voice of Corinne Griffith was written when this popular player was recently given a new contract specifying that she appear only in talking pictures. The insurance was decided upon when Miss Griffith was filming the scenes for "The Divine Lady," in which she was called upon to play the harp and sing old English songs of the period.

Why We Do What We Do

by M. K. THOMSON, Ph. D.

WHY WE LOOK UP TO SOME, LOOK DOWN ON OTHERS

IT IS a common human trait to look up to some and look down on others. We look up to those who have some advantage over us—in wealth, social position, skill, learning, personal beauty—anything. Envy is the chief urge. We would look up to no one unless we envy him, and are eager to get into his class.

This envy may be quite sincere and without ill will towards those whom we envy. In fact we envy because we are overcome by a sense of inferiority in some particular. The people we envy exert a mysterious power over us. We often admire them and try to emulate their distinguishing characteristic. It may be as strong as hero worship in most cases, for it is not always the man that we envy so much as his superior position and power that we would like to secure for ourselves.

We cultivate those we look up to. There is a certain satisfaction in hobnobbing with people a little above our station in life. Physical proximity is unconsciously interpreted to mean a closeness in quality. One man naively boasted that he sat very close to a celebrity at a banquet. This made him feel that he was not very far removed from this man's greatness.

In a democracy the people laugh at the idea of a caste system such as exists in India and the titles of nobility and other purely social class distinctions. These seem ridiculous to us because they appear to be based on artificial distinctions. We prefer the ideal situation of basing superiority and class distinctions on character and ability.

The motive back of it all, however, remains the same. Human beings the world over look up to some and look down on others regardless of the standards used. We do this to satisfy the double-barreled impulse of self-assertion and self-abasement.

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For Meditation

By LEONARD A. BARRETT

COURAGE

A LEGEND relates how a wanderer had to go a long and dangerous journey. The road pointed out to him was over rugged and rocky mountains. The guide gave him a leaf of paper describing the way. This he followed closely, but as he journeyed, the rocks grew steeper and the path lost itself in lonely, dreary ravines. Discouraged, he desired to return, but he heard a voice—

"Take courage—follow me." Turning he saw a companion by his side smiling at him. They walked on together between ravines, precipices and rushing mountain torrents until at last they arrived at a lonely valley where bloomed the myrtle, the pomegranate and the flowers.

L. A. Barrett.

From just such experiences in actual life, as the legend relates, come our most cherished possessions. Had it not been for the death of Arthur Hallem, we would have had no "In Memoriam." Robert Browning wrote his wonderful poetry when passing through experiences so deep that he could not see his pen for the thick darkness. In his dungeon cell Bunyan became a prophet and wrote his "Pilgrim's Progress." Dante wrote most of his immortal work in his exile journeys. For four long years Angelo carried a deep sorrow in his heart. Behind barred doors in the Sistine chapel he painted beautiful angels upon the chapel walls. Mozart wrote his own requiem suffering from a disease that was fast destroying his life.

Courage to carry on, in spite of the dangerous and rugged pathway, is like that guide in the legend, ever ready to climb with us the dangerous steeps, cross rushing streams, weather many storms, and to lead to the lovely valleys after we have done our best work and developed a strong and enduring character. Courage leads to success, happiness and peace.

All is well though faith and form Be sundered in the night of fear

Well roars the storm to those who hear A deeper voice across the storm.

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THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

WHISTLING GIRLS AND GROWING HENS

HERE we have a very ancient superstition. To the primitive man what was unusual was unnatural and what was unnatural was very calamitous. He arrived at the first part of the proposition psychologically—experience taught him the last part. As a rule hens don't crow or girls whistle. The rest follows naturally—the cave man's syllogism. We all have in us more of the primitive man than we are aware of or willing to acknowledge perhaps. Therefore we say:

Whistling girls and crowing hens Always come to some bad ends.

Or perhaps:

A whistling girl and a crowing hen Is neither fit for God nor men.

The rhyme is different in different localities. It will be seen that according to the first mentioned rhyme the calamity predicted is to the abnormal girl or hen. The second would appear to carry more the idea of unworthiness than of calamity; yet those who repeat it generally attach to it the idea of bad luck or distaste and regard the same not only as threatening the abnormal girl or hen but also those who hear them whistle or crow. The one idea is merely an extension of the other.

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4,000-Year-Old Toy

A child's toy believed to be over 4,000 years old has been found during excavations on an encampment at Tonbridge, England, built during the Iron age. The toy is a miniature weapon, made of flint, and the discoverer is convinced that it was used either for playing as soldiers or for teaching self-defense.



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Careless Washing Spreads Disease

When Spray Residue Is Not Removed From Fruit Storage Rots Result.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Washing fruit to remove spray residue is another of the newer practices which add to the market value of the product when the job is properly done. But when carelessly done washing may be the means of spreading storage rots, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Washing Proves Value.

For the past two years the washing treatment has been used commercially and has proved its value, says D. F. Fisher of the bureau of plant industry of the department, who is conducting investigations in this phase of fruit handling. "Comprehensive studies and surveys covering important shipping points and all the larger marketing centers," he points out, "have shown conclusively that both in storage and on the market washed fruit holds up as well or better than that which is unwashed, and in addition it usually offers a more attractive appearance.

"The principal hazard in washing apples, aside from increases in rots due to punctures resulting from extra handling, is caused by soluble arsenic, derived from the spray residue itself. This injury is usually localized at the blossom end," says Mr. Fisher. For this reason, he says, varieties characterized by a large proportion of open calyx tubes—such as Jonathan, Stayman, Winesap, Spitzenburg, and sometimes Delicious—should be sprayed rather than immersed in the cleaning solution. Other varieties such as Rome Beauty, Winesap, Ben Davis, Arkansas Black, and Yellow Newtown may be immersed without danger of starting core rots.

Change Washing Solution.

The department recommends that the washing solution be changed after about 500 bushels of apples or the equivalent in other fruits has been treated in each 100 gallons of chemical solvent. It also advises that fruit be dried as quickly as possible after the washing.

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Market All "Weed" Trees Suitable Only for Fuel

Farmers owning woodlots should cull them as the dairy farmer culls his herds, says Parker O. Anderson, forester with the agricultural extension service of the University of Minnesota.

"The discouraging part of this woodlot business is that the owner is usually killing the goose that lays the golden egg," says the forester. "Many valuable trees cut and marketed for cordwood would, if left to grow, be better suited in time for a special and more desirable market and thus yield a higher return. We have weed trees in the woods as well as weeds in other crops—trees which are slow growing but of species that are crowding out the more desirable kinds.

"Weed trees are just as desirable for fuel purposes as the better, fast growing varieties of woodlot timber. Good woodlot management recognizes the same principles inculcated in dairy husbandry—elimination of the undesirable. Woodlots can be conserved and made a never failing source of income by means of selective and improvement cuttings."

Manufacture Pecan Oil From Waste Products

Pecan oil, described by chemists of the United States Department of Agriculture as of very mild, agreeable, and characteristic flavor, is one of the latest additions to the long list of products manufactured from what were formerly farm wastes.

Fine nut fragments accumulate at the pecan shelling plants. Chemists have made experimental pressings of this waste and determined the properties and composition of the oil. This oil is of excellent quality and can be used for making salad dressings or other edible products. It is necessary to express the oil before the nut waste becomes rancid, otherwise, however, the oil would not be edible.

Potatoes Are "Gassed" to Incite Sprouting

Science has awakened an extra amount of ambition in the common potato and literally "kidded" it out of its usual winter vacation. Everyone knows that spuds like to rest about four months before they begin to sprout. At the Nebraska agricultural college experiment station, the spuds are "gassed" and made to believe that the long winter is over. They begin to grow within three weeks after they are dug in the fall. They are dipped in a liquid called ethylene chlorohydrin for a minute, then put in an air-tight container to be gassed for 24 hours.

Repairing Roofs

The repairing of roofs to prevent rain from dripping on the feed and spoiling it will save much money both in feed and in chickens that might die or be thrown out of production by eating such feed. It is a good plan to use all old feed first rather than use a lot of new feed as soon as it is delivered—better see that the new feed is not pilled on top of the old feed, for if the old feed is allowed to stand, it might be older than is thought when it is desired to use it.

Growing Tree Stock to Order Best Plan

Nurseryman Knows in Advance What Is Wanted.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

One of the new ideas in fruit growing is that of having nursery stock grown according to specification. It is true that orchardists now specify the particular varieties they want, but other than that they know very little about the stock they plant. Closer co-operation between fruit growers and nurserymen would make it possible for the growers to get stock from high-producing strains and at the same time would allow the nurseryman to know in advance what stock will be wanted.

Such an arrangement would be highly advantageous to the nurseryman since a large amount of nursery stock is annually consigned to the trash pile for the simple reason that it is impossible to predict the demand for all types of stock. If growers placed their orders far enough in advance so the nurseryman could grow the desired stock for delivery two or three years later it would guarantee sale of the lot and justify special attention to it.

This suggestion comes from Dr. L. C. Corbett of the United States Department of Agriculture. Doctor Corbett says that such a plan would be beneficial to the grower because it would eliminate much of the guessing now prevalent in the nursery business. With the knowledge that all of his stock is sold if it meets specifications, the nurseryman could devote more time to producing a high quality product.

Mower Is Continuously Operated at High Speed

One of the farm machines which must continuously operate at high speed and under adverse conditions is the mower. Under the most favorable mowing conditions, the mower is under constant strain. Because it is called upon to do a variety of jobs, from cutting heavy hay in the field to cleaning weeds out of a fence row or along a ditch, it is highly important that the mower be in perfect working condition. Checking the alignment of the cutter bar, seeing that the knives are centered properly on the guards and giving careful attention to lubrication often help to lighten its draft and to improve the quality of work done.

A type of mower has been developed which can be operated at either of two speeds, at high speed in heavy hay where the going is hard, or at low speed when the hay is light and the cutting easy. This 2-speed mower operates on the same principle as the transmission on an automobile. It can be operated with either tractor power or horse power.

Continuous Corn Land Helped by Using Manure

Results from the use of manure on farm land are measured mainly by increases in crop yields. This, however, is not the only benefit derived. A good illustration is had from the Morrow soil fertility plots at the Illinois experiment station. A comparison is made of land that has been in continuous corn since 1876, one plot receiving manure, the other receiving no manure. Aside from increased yield in favor of the manure, the most striking comparison was of the physical condition of the soil. With both plots fall plowed, the land that had no manure was puddled and run together the following spring, whereas the land that had manure was ready to work 10 to 14 days earlier.

Agricultural Squibs

Spraying potatoes to control blight and insects pays well.

High quality potato seed can become ordinary seed as a result of poor storage.

Business farmers will answer letters just as promptly as will any other business men.

It does not pay to treat black locust pests since this species is already very durable in contact with the soil.

Grease is better than oil for protecting the plowshares from rust when they are stored for the winter, as the grease stays where it is put.

That a farmer is ahead in applying a preservative treatment to his fence posts has been clearly demonstrated from the dollars and cents viewpoint.

Every farmer who keeps chickens should study the winter needs of his poultry flock and will find it worth while to take time to supply these needs.

Duck eggs are successfully hatched in incubators at about the same temperature as hen eggs. The main thing is to provide plenty of moisture, which seems difficult sometimes.

The incubator is a success, which has come to stay and which should be considered as necessary upon the farm as a plow or separator. Its operation calls for no heavy manual labor and no remarkable degree of skill.

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Vast Siberian Section Awaiting the Explorer

An immense new mountain range, covering an area as large as the Caucasus has been discovered in Yakutsk, northeastern Siberia. The new mountain range has been named "Cherski" after the Russian geologist and geographer L. Cherski, who headed an expedition sent out in 1891 by the Russian Academy of Science to this region and who died as a result of exposure to the rigors of the Siberian winter. It was Cherski's idea that there were undiscovered mountains forming one great range with the Arctic mountains, and the discoveries made by the Orbruchey expedition have confirmed this view. Very few expeditions have been made to this region, on account of its inaccessibility, the first having gone there over two hundred years ago, and over 500,000 kilometers of land, an area as large as France or Germany, remains unexplored to the present day.

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KENT STUDIOS
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Hoaxing the Hens

Quartz glass used in the windows of a hen house is said to induce hens to lay more eggs. The glass admits ultra-violet rays, which are also said to speed up the process of incubation.

When a quartz mercury arc giving off ultra-violet rays was used in an incubator, 20 per cent of the eggs were hatched from 24 to 48 hours sooner than other eggs not treated with the rays.

Probably Blockheads

First Boy (boasting)—My pa's got a wooden leg.

Second Boy—Huh! dat ain't nothing; my sister's got a cedar chest.

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