

# The Smart and Silberberg Co.

## The Advantages of Early Christmas Shopping Here.

The general movement to effect early Christmas shopping is most praiseworthy, if from no other standpoint than that it relieves, in a sense, the great strain on those who serve you.

But there are other advantages without number. You reap the benefit of bright, crisp, fresh, new stocks—seeing them, in their richness and beauty, before they are a bit handled or mussed. That's a great point.

Again—you get the cream and skip the rush. Assortments are better, crowds are not so dense, and salespeople are in better position to give you individual service.

## Finest French Hats at Half Price.

People who have delayed buying and those who wish to economize on their best winter hats are taking splendid advantage of this eventful sale. The opportunity is even more remarkable—there are more exclusive patterns in this sale than we ever had before. Every fine pattern hat in stock is included—none reserved. Come today and make your selection and pay just one-half what the hat is worth!

## Bring the Children to Toyland.

Let them breathe the full spirit of Christmas tide. The most gorgeous dolls, the most ingenious toys of all kinds. All form a panorama to delight the eye of young and old.

## Silk Petticoats for Christmas Gifts.

You can tap the heart strings of most any woman with a silk petticoat—and we've gathered a superb assortment of them, particularly for Christmas gift purposes. All of them are of exquisite beauty; made out of very fine grades of silks in patterns both new and original. Fairly priced.

# The Smart & Silberberg Co.

OIL CITY, PA.

# Your Savings

This company will pay four per cent. on either savings book or certificate. Interest allowed from day of receipt.

Assets, \$2,500,000.00

## Oil City Trust Company.

President, JOSEPH SEEP. Vice President, GEORGE LEWIS. Treasurer, H. R. MERRITT.

# Pennsylvania Railroad.

Bulletin.

## THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS ON THE RAILS.

At no other period of the year does the home-hunger grip the human heart with such an eager yearning as at Christmas time. The lasting memories of the old homestead, the tender welcome of the older and the merry greetings of the younger dear ones, the happy reunion about the festal board, the pungent odor of the cedar, the witchery of the holly, the lurking sentiment of the mistletoe, all combine to make a lure well nigh irresistible.

It is the season of reunions and foregatherings, of meeting and parting.

The zest of travel is rife, for apart from the home-goings and social exchanges it is a holiday time for many and there are pleasant excursions to be made, where sightseeing has an added relish from the prevalent gaiety and good cheer.

The Pennsylvania Railroad is always popular at holiday times. Its system is so far reaching, and at the same time so closely interwoven with the needs of the traveler; its trains are so numerous and so well equipped for the accommodation of every class of travel, and its ticketing arrangements so satisfying that it might be termed the Santa Claus route.

Its limited trains carrying the highest grade of travelers, completely appointed in every detail, offer exceptional advantages to the children going home from school for the Christmas vacation. The boys naturally gravitate to such trains; the girls will find every comfort and safeguard, as well as a maid at their command.

No matter whether bound it is wise to consult a Pennsylvania Railroad Ticket Agent as to trains and rates. He can start you right; the rest will be easy.

### Judged by Their Cats.

"No, ma'am," said an Irish maid of much experience as she returned to a New York intelligence office the other day. "I didn't engage with that family. I didn't like the looks of their cat."

"Of their cat!" repeated the owner of the office in amazement. "Why, Katie, I'm sure they wouldn't keep a cat that was in any way dangerous."

"Not dangerous, no, ma'am, but a restless, unhappy looking creature that didn't speak well for the family," replied the girl. "I always judge a family by their cat—if they have one. A sleek, comfortable pussy who comes up and rubs against you means a quiet, good natured family and one that's not worrying about ways and means, but a nervous, unfriendly looking cat reflects a household which is on the verge of nervous prostration or financial ruin or some other horrible trouble."

"I've been living with families and studying their cats for twenty-five years, and I've never known the sign to fail. A family that can't make its cat happy is one to make any servant miserable."—New York Press.

### Psychologically Explained.

Mrs. Flaherty, who earns her living and maintains two clean little rooms in an uptown tenement by going out to do washing and day's work, has been a widow for many years, and entertains a strong prejudice against marriage for any but the young. "Tis all right at that time o' life," she maintains, "but not for old people with gray hairs. Then 'tis consoling and the height o' foolishness." Holding these opinions as she does, it was a severe shock to Mrs. Flaherty to learn that one of her best customers, a widow of threescore and ten, was about to be married for the second time. Almost tearfully she confided her sentiments to another patron.

"Think of it! Her w-a-i-t-in' all them fine clothes and takin' as much pride in it as if she was to be a bride of twenty instead of an old woman that'll never see seventy again! Why," and her voice dropped to an awed whisper, "at her time o' life I believe 'tis the ravin' o' death is on the woman!"—New York Times.

### A Scotch Excuse.

A canny Scot was brought before a magistrate on the charge of being drunk and disorderly. "What have you to say for yourself, sir?" demanded the magistrate. "You look like a respectable man and ought to be ashamed to stand here."

"I am verra sorry, sir, but I came up in henna company fra Glasgow," humbly replied the prisoner.

"What sort of company?"

"A lot of teetotalers!" was the startling response.

"Do you mean to say teetotalers are bad company?" thundered the magistrate. "I think they are the best of company for such as you."

"Begun' yer pardon, sir," answered the prisoner. "Ye're wrong; for I had a bottle of whiskey an' I had to drink it all myself!"—Reynolds' Newspaper.

### Strong Soup.

In the life of William Stokes, written by his son, it is told how Stokes was sent over to Dublin during the great famine to show the people how to make soup. Stokes asked a starving beggar why she did not go and get some of the soup that was being freely distributed.

"Soup, is it, your honor? Sure, it isn't soup at all! And what is it, then?" inquired Stokes. "It is nothin', your honor, but a quart of water boiled down to a pint to make it strong!"

This is the soup made which Hogarth caricatured in his picture of the French troops at Calais.—London Standard.

### Mixed Liquors Barred.

Rory MacSnory was the village blacksmith and one of the most powerful singers in the choir of the kirk at Auchinclocher. To show off his voice to full advantage he would vary his style from bass to alto and from alto to treble in the same hymn.

The minister had long observed that Rory's methods were upsetting the general melody of the congregation's singing, and at length he resolved to bring the culprit to book.

"Hymn 34," he announced, "and a' together. And, Mr. MacSnory, if ye're ta'e sing tenor, sing tenor, or if ye're ta'e sing bass, sing bass, but we'll hae nae mair o' yer shandygaff!"—Dundee Advertiser.

### The Reason.

All sorts and conditions of men have excellent reasons for their position in life. Illustrated Bits tells of a tramp who had no illusions about the cause of his own condition:

Mrs. Pinehealth (at hotel entrance)—No, I have no money to spare for you. I do not see why an abled-bodied man like you should go about begging.

Lazy Tramp—I s'pose, mum, it's fer about the same reason that a healthy woman like you boards at a hotel, instead of keeping home.

### A Rebuff.

"Do you think your father would like me as a son-in-law?"

"Yes, I believe he would."

"Oh, joy! I—"

"Papa and I never agree about anything, you know."

### Feminine Nerves.

There are nervous women; there are hypernervous women. But women so nervous that the continual rustle of a silk skirt makes them nervous—no, there are no women so nervous as that!

Error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.—Jefferson.

### He Was Right.

"See here," feebly complained the victim after the accident. "I thought you said it was perfectly safe to go up in that old elevator!"

"Well," replied the elevator man, "so it was safe to go up. You see, the dangerous part of it was comin' down!"—Philadelphia Press.

### Considerate.

Mr. Younghub—Did you bake this bread, darling? Mrs. Younghub—Yes, dear, Mr. Younghub—Well, please don't do anything like that again. You are entirely too light for such heavy work.

### Famous Lilac Tree.

Chief among the many objects of interest in the gardens of Easton Lodge, Dunmow, the residence of the Earl and Countess of Warwick, is the magnificent lilac tree which occupies a conspicuous position on the terrace. This tree is the finest specimen of its kind in the United Kingdom. It has a circumference of 120 feet and a height of sixteen feet, and it has so dense a growth and blooms so profusely that when in flower it forms a huge bouquet of lilac blossoms.

The lilac is that commonly known as the Persian and described by the botanists as the Chinese, but it is not a native of either Persia or China, but was raised in the Rouben botanic garden in 1705 by the hybridization of the true Persian lilac and the common lilac of British gardens.

It was of noble proportions at the middle of the last century and produced such a magnificent display of blossoms that in the dowering season Viscount Maynard, Lady Warwick's grandfather, used to make a special journey from London to enjoy the beauty and fragrance of the flowers.—Gardener's Magazine.

### Lunches in Germany.

I was told at 8:30 it was time for luncheon, writes an American tin-smith working in Leipzig. On stating that I did not care to eat, he told me that it would be better if I did not work, so I sat down for half an hour and watched the others. At noon we had an hour and a half and at 4 o'clock fifteen minutes for lunch.

It may be of interest to some readers to know what the German eats. For his first breakfast he generally has a milk roll and a cup of coffee. The second breakfast is almost always a slice of bread with lard or goose oil, a piece of sausage or cheese and a bottle of beer. For dinner he has two slices of bread as above, with a herring or large green pickle, cheese or sausage and another bottle of beer. For lunch another bottle of beer and a milk roll. For supper soup and potatoes.

This is the general variety of foods we had for the four months I worked in that shop, and they had it day in and day out.—New York World.

### When He Enjoyed Life.

Among the tombs near the old Arlington mansion on the Chesapeake is the mausoleum of John Custis, the father of Martha Washington's first husband. It bears this suggestive inscription:

Beneath this Marble Tomb lies ye Body of the Honorable John Custis, Esq. of the City of Williamsburg and Parish of Burton Formerly of Hungers Parish on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and the County of Northampton the Place of his Nativity.

Aged 71 years, and yet lived but seven years.

Which was the space of time he kept A Bachelor's House at Arlington On the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

It is said that before his marriage Custis did have a free and easy life. His marriage was of importance to the country, for he was the progenitor of several leading families. One would like to know Mrs. Custis' version of the life they had together, which he regarded as unworthy to be called living.—Youth's Companion.

### Finding a Grave With an Egg.

The Miau-tsze, a little known tribe in Asia, are very superstitious about death and will not bury a man until they have first tested the ground with an egg. This operation is very curious. While the body is being prepared for burial a number of Miau-tsze, including the male relatives of the deceased, go out to the appointed spot bearing a large basket of eggs. Stopping down, one of the natives lets an egg drop softly on the ground. If it breaks it is considered an ill omen, and another spot is selected. In this way the party often wanders about for hours, breaking eggs over the ground until they finally strike a place where the shell does not crack.

### Java's Fire Island.

One of the greatest wonders of Java, "the fire island," a large lake of boiling mud, is nearly two miles in circumference, and in the center immense columns of soft, hot mud may be seen continually rising and falling, like great black flinders thrust forth and then suddenly withdrawn by a giant's hand. Besides the phenomena of the columns, there are two gigantic bubbles near the western edge, which fill up like huge balloons and explode on an average three times per minute.

### Cause For Hurry.

"I understand they were married in haste."

"Yes; they told the minister to hurry because there was only a little gasline left in their automobile, and they were twenty miles from home."—New York Town Topics.

### Plenty of Them.

Joakley—You're right. Most people worry over what they haven't got, but I know certain people who worry because of what they have. Coakley—That so? What have they? Joakley—Nothing.—Philadelphia Press.

### Evolution.

"Father," said little Rollo, "what is evolution?"

"Evolution, my son, is a sort of apology which man has invented for displaying so many of the traits of the lower animals."—Washington Star.

### Good Plan.

"How can I prevent the flies getting into my swar basin?" wrote a "Constant Reader" to a journal.

"Fill the sugar basin with salt," was the laconic reply.—Pete Mele.

Lovers' purses are tied with cobwebs.—Italian Proverb.

### A Home Made Haver by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

About two months ago our baby girl had measles which settled on her lungs and at last resulted in a severe attack of bronchitis. We had two doctors but no relief was obtained. Everybody thought she would die. I went to eight different stores to find a certain remedy which had been recommended to me and failed to get it, when one of the storekeepers insisted that I try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I did so and our baby is alive and well today.—Geo. W. Spence, Holly Springs, N. C. For sale by Dunn & Fallon.

### Unconscious Humor.

A class of little folk in an English elementary school were recently asked to define "a lady," with curious results. The definition of Lizzie, aged seven, will strike a responsive chord in the heart of the busy woman and shows that Lizzie must be an observing person. "A lady is something like a man," says Lizzie, "but she's got long hair and she's got a different face and different clothes, and she's got a lot of work to do." (Charlie, aged six, is impressed by the difference between the sexes. "A lady" he finds to be "different from a man because a lady has different clothes from a man, a lady has different shoes from a man, and a lady has different feet from a man.") Howard, aged seven, gets at the same facts from a different point of view. "A lady," he says, "has not got some trousers, but a man has got some trousers." A second Charlie, a year older than the first one, thinks that "a lady is a nice woman because she don't have torn clothes, and she has a woch with her, and she has a chane on the woch."

### Not a Stranger to Her.

The conductor of the Pullman car had for some time had his eye on the man who seemed to be fishing for an excuse to speak to the lady across the aisle. The passenger finally left his seat and took one beside her, and when they had conversed for a few minutes the lady seemed to be protesting, and the conductor's opportunity had come. He stepped forward and said:

"Madam, if this man is forcing his attentions upon you he must resume his own seat."

"He is not exactly a stranger to me," she admitted.

"But you seemed to be annoyed, madam."

"I am not exactly annoyed, but I wish he wouldn't talk to me."

"I am simply arguing a case," explained the man.

"Yes, but there is nothing to argue. We have been married and divorced twice, and we can't be married again until he dies. Give it up, Jimmy—give it up and go back to your seat."—Chicago News.

### If Washington Were There.

Two prominent society women of Washington were seated in the gallery reserved for the families of congressmen.

"What a grand body of men!" exclaimed the younger of the two enthusiastically.

"Do you think so?" asked the other demurely.

"Why, of course, I do. See how alert and businesslike they are. I am sure if George Washington could come back to congress he would be proud of such a dazzling spectacle."

"I fear, dear," remarked the elder of the two seriously, "that if George Washington were to come back and see congress he would lose no time in delivering another farewell address."—Lippincott's.

### Early Use of Tobacco.

I have heard my grandfather say that one pipe was handed from man to man round about the table. They had first silver pipes; the ordinary sort made use of a walnut shell and a straw. Tobacco was sold then for its weight in silver. I have heard some of our old yeomen neighbors say that when they went to Malmesbury or Chippenham market they culled out their biggest shillings to lay in the scales against the tobacco. Sir W. R., standing in a stand at Sir Robert Poyntz's park at Acton, took a pipe of tobacco, which made the ladies' snuff it until he had done.—Brief Lives Set Down by John Aubrey, 1698-99.

### Two Acre Farms.

In Belgium a two acre holding is sufficient to maintain a farmer and his family. The typical two acre farm in that country contains a patch of wheat or rye and another of barley. Another fair portion grows potatoes. A row of cabbage grows all round on the sloping sides of the ditches, with a row of onions just outside, leaving bare walking room between them and the grain. The shade trees round the house are pear trees. Every foot of land is made to produce, and the farmer keeps pigs and chickens.

### Turned Down.

"Beg pardon, sir," said the waiter, with outstretched palm, "but aren't you forgotten something?"

"No," replied the departing guest, "but I'm trying to forget it. Good day."—Catholic Standard and Times.

### The Ring in His Speech.

Edyth—You ought to have heard Mr. Higgins' ringing speech last night. May—Why, I wasn't aware that he could make a speech. Edyth—Well, I can't repeat the speech, but I can show you the ring.—Westminster Gazette.

### Too True.

After our landlord had pocketed the \$30 which we pay monthly for our little apartment he blushed painfully.

"Why do you color so?" I asked.

"Because I have a rent in my trousers," he murmured.—Exchange.

### Getting Squared.

He—I'm going to bring Jolt home with me to dinner tonight. She—Oh, mercy, dear, don't! It's the cook's day out, and I'll have to cook dinner. He—Never mind; I owe Jolt one, anyway!—Yonkers Statesman.

### A Stinger.

Mrs. Nagger—Perhaps you recall, it was on a railway train that we first met, and— Mr. Nagger—Yes, but it's too late now for me to sue the company for damages.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

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## This the Week for Undressed Dolls.

We've found from experience that the second week preceding Christmas is always the big week for Undressed Dolls. That's because it takes some little time to dress them. Three famous makes of Undressed Dolls to choose from here, "Majestic," "Duchess" and "Lilipute." The price range is 19c, 25c, 33c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 65c, 75c, 89c, 81 and up to \$4.50. If you're so busy that the dressing of the doll must go over till next week, the assortment here will still be good. If you're looking now for Dressed Dolls you'll find nowhere a bigger or better assortment and priced extremely moderate.

## Books.

We've gone into this book business on no small scale as you'll find if you've a mind to look into the matter. One thing that will surely surprise and please you is that our prices for books will range from 25 to 33 per cent. less than the publisher's price and that's an actual fact.

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