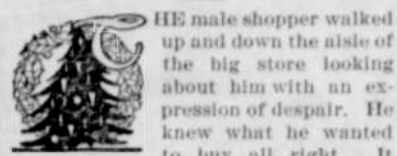


## BUYING A GIFT FOR HIS WIFE

This Man Had Plenty of Help While on a Shopping Tour.



The male shopper walked up and down the aisle of the big store looking about him with an expression of despair. He knew what he wanted to buy all right. It wasn't that. But he kept wandering about looking at the saleswomen behind the counters with all the perplexity of a dog trying to recall where he had buried a soup bone.

He stood off to one side staring intently at a busy young creature with dark bay hair behind the ribbon counter, and at last walked up within talking distance.

"Don't suppose you can leave here for a few minutes, can you?" he began in a low tone.

"W-h-a-t!"

"I say—never mind. I mean wait a minute I'll be back."

And he rushed away to hide his confusion from the other shoppers. He did not return, but went over to another aisle and began sizing up people there, both in front and behind the counters.

Was the man binghous? No. Just be patient and you'll hear all about it.

He kept looking and looking, and at last his gaze took in a tall young woman—reasonably young—with a bunch of small packages tucked under her arm. He walked up to her, hesitated, and then blurted: "Beg pardon, madam, but may I speak to you a moment?"

She gave him a look and started to hurry away, but he was obliged, hav-

ing gone that far, to make good and convince her of the innocence of his motives.

"Don't be alarmed," he said, catching up with her. "I'm not trying to flirt or get fresh. Honestly, now, I'm not in the habit of speaking to women I don't know. Look me over and you'll see that I'm well-meaning enough. But the fact is you-ah, you-ah, you're just the same size as my wife—apparently! And—"

The woman gasped. "I don't see— she began.

"Oh, but I want to ask a favor of you," went on the male shopper, more at ease now. "I've looked all over the saleswomen and the only one that would do was busy behind the ribbon counter, but you're just precisely what I need—oh, I beg your pardon, I mean you're just exactly my wife's size and can tell me what to ask for. You see, I came here to buy her a shirtwaist that she's been dropping little hints about, and now that I'm here it's just struck me that I haven't the remotest idea about her size. I'm the dearest person you ever saw about such things—don't even know my own waist measurement. I'm positive, though, that whatever your size is would do for her. You may be an inch taller than my wife, but that's about the only difference."

"It's a little unconventional, isn't it?" the woman smiled not unpleasantly. "Still I don't see why I shouldn't tell you that my size is—that my shirtwaists are usually size thirty-six."

They had been walking down the aisle and were now right by the shirtwaist counter.

"I had a blue one picked out there," remarked the man, "that seemed to be about what I wanted to get, but I didn't know what size it was. See? That's lying over there on top of that pink outfit."

"Does your wife like that shade of blue?" the woman asked significantly, after biting her lips for a moment.

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"Don't You Suppose You Can Leave Here for a Few Minutes?"

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MAY the music of the chimes ring you glad and happy times, and their voices clear and sweet, unto you my wish repeat.

see it," replied the male shopper. "Do you suppose she'd like some other color better?"

"You see," pointed out the kind woman in a considerate, half-sympathetic tone, "that particular shade of blue doesn't go with any other color. Now, if I were receiving a shirtwaist for Christmas I should want a white waist. Of course your wife may have expressed a preference for some other color. No? Well, now you understand it's none of my affair—and this is certainly rather informal, me helping you to select something for your wife when I don't even know, to say nothing of not even knowing your name—but I should think any woman would be delighted with something like this one, for instance." And she reached over to pick up one with a lot of lace and mosquito netting on the front of it.

The male person inquired the price. It was \$4 more than the blue one he had selected, but he said he would take it, and no questions asked.

"Send it out to number so-and-so—Such-and-such street, and—oh, that won't do. It might be delivered when she was at home and that would queer the whole thing. Better send it to my office. Thomas J. Wingett is the name in the Pretentious building. I'd carry it, but I've got a lot of stops to make."

"Wingett," repeated the woman after hearing his name; "there's a Mrs. Wingett in our card club. You don't happen to be Mrs. Alice Wingett's husband, do you?"

"I sure am," grinned the man. "She's the girl that's going to get that shirtwaist off the pine tree next Monday."

"Well, of all things," gasped the kindly disposed woman. "I don't know Alice Wingett so very well, but I've met her at the club, and it does seem funny that I should be helping her husband to pick out a Christmas present for her. My name is Cummins. I don't suppose you know my husband. He travels most of the time."

"Seems to me I've heard Alice speak of a Mrs. Cummins," says Wingett. "Er—by the way, maybe you'd better not say anything to Alice when you see her about—about how informally we were introduced. She might think it funny. Like as not she'd think I'd been walking up and down the aisle staring at folks."

"I have a notion to tell her what you just said," gurgled Mrs. Cummins. "I guess I won't though. Seems to me the joke would be partly on me. Well, I hope Alice likes the shirtwaist."

"If she doesn't she hasn't good taste," grinned Wingett. "I certainly am obliged to you. If you can't make up your mind what to get your husband, let me know, and maybe I can help you out."

And he bowed gracefully as his new acquaintance gathered up her packages and tripped on her way.

Holiday Activities.

Dear father's busy as can be, He toils when day is done, The small boy gets the Christmas tree, But father has the fun.

Utility.

"Does your wife favor useful gifts?" "Too much," replied Mr. Meekton. "Last Christmas she bought me a nice, new snow shovel."

A Christmas Plot.

She wanted some Christmas cigars and the dealer sold her a box of hay perfect for 40 cents.

"Her husband will give you his when he gets those," remarked a bystander.

"No," he told me to do it," explained the dealer. "Why, his wife would sue for divorce if she knew he pays \$5 a box for his cigars."

Always a New Lot.

About Christmas, consider this: There are at least four thousand kids who were too young to take note last year who are just old enough to be surprised when the tree lights up this year. Always there is a new bunch of Christmas come-ons.

Howdy, Uncle?

To keep the Merry Christmas from turning out a hotch when the girls hang up their stockings poor dad hangs up his watch.

Our Christmas Sermon.

The hilarious chap who feels like a king on Christmas eve is very apt to feel like the deuce the next morning.

Could We Survive?

Christmas comes but once a year: Write the words, but true. If it came say twice or more—Scott! What would we do?

The man who wants to show appreciation will wear on New Year's day the bright new necktie which he received on Christmas.

# The STAR

Douglas Malloch

UPON the East appears a shining star, Pinned like a jewel to the purple night, One glowing star that lights a waiting world, One gleaming star, a beacon and a lamp.

FIVE points it has, five points like lesser stars: One looks to Heaven, and its name is Faith. Two follow the horizon: one is Love, The other world-encircling Brotherhood. Another, Kindness, burning on unchanged, And Charity, the fifth, are set toward Earth To bring it nearer Heaven.

OUT from them all, from every shining point. Pour forth such rays!—a glory radiant That seeks and finds the heaven's highest dome, That seeks and finds the deepest vale of Earth, The hearts of princes melts, the beggars' warms.

BEHOLD the Star," they cry, "of Bethlehem!" The Star of Faith and Love, of Brotherhood, of Charity and Kindness! And behold Around, about, its fair, effulgent rays— The Christmas Spirit—lighting all the World! Now "Peace on Earth," they cry, "Good Will to Men!"

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Good Christmas Motto.

"Peace on earth, and good will to men," is the Christmas motto, and the Christmas spirit should ring in our hearts and find a kindly expression in acts and words. What a joyful thing for the world it would be if the Christmas spirit of peace and good will could abide with us all every day of the year. And what a beautiful place this world would be to live in. And it might be so if each one of us would resolve in our hearts that peace and good will should be our motto every day, and that we, individually, would do our best to make the Christmas spirit last all the year round.

Benevolence Vs. Extravagance.

The greatest obstacle to charity in the Christian church today is the fact that men expend so much on their table and women so much on their dress, they have got nothing left for the work of God and the world's betterment.—Talmage.

Always New.

"You surely don't give your husband a necktie every Christmas?" "Oh, yes, I do! And the poor dear never seems to know that it is the same one!"

Christian's Right Is Happiness.

God gives us always strength and sense enough for what he wants us to do; if we either tire ourselves or puzzle ourselves, it is our own fault. And we may always be sure, whatever we are doing, that we cannot be pleasing him if we are not happy ourselves.—Ruskin.

Think of the Future.

When you hang up the baby's stockings be grateful that it isn't enough as yet to feel the need of an ankle watch.

What He Missed.

Greens—Old Adam was a lucky man in one respect, anyway. Grins—What's the answer? Greens—Eve never gave him a box of bargain-counter cigars for Christmas.

Everything Matters.

Christianity is not man's confession to God that nothing matters, since man is what he is. It is God's shout to man that everything matters, since God sees in man what man may become.—W. H. Blake.

Through Our Friends.

We shall be greatly helped in our acquaintance with God by knowing the friends of God. Much of the best that God has for us of self-revelation comes thus immediately through others' lives. No friendship, indeed, has yet rendered its best until the friends have made it more easy for each other to believe in God and the spiritual world.—H. C. King.

No reward of patient endeavor can ever be too great to shower upon a loved mother.—W. S. Royston.

## WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

The "dry squad" of the Seattle police department destroys another fine cafe barroom fixtures, including plate glass mirrors, cut glass and cash register.

The total assessed valuation of the state of Oregon for 1916 is \$55,731,087.54 less than the preceding year, according to the State Tax commission.

Caviar from the Alaskan salmon may supplant in the American market that of the Russian sturgeon if experiments made at the Alaskan cannery during the season just closed live up to judgment pronounced in San Francisco by epicures who tasted the product.

The immigration bill containing the restrictive literacy test for admission of aliens, which has caused three Presidents to veto such a measure, was passed by the senate Thursday, 64 to 7. The bill as amended in the senate now goes to conference. It passed the house last session.

Apprehension and confusion created by the Teutonic peace proposals and heightened by vulnerable technical conditions caused another outburst of liquidation in the New York stock market Friday, leaders other than rails breaking 5 to 10 points, with far more serious impairment in shares of less prominence.

Orders for 135 members of the Oklahoma National Guard to report for duty immediately or be prosecuted as deserters were received Friday by Adjutant General Earp from Colonel R. A. Brown, at Fort San Houston, Texas. These men failed to go to the border when the First Oklahoma Infantry went South.

The House of Lords denies the legitimacy petition in the Slingsby case, ruling that Charles Eugene Slingsby was the son of Lillian Anderson, of San Francisco, Cal. The child loses an estate of \$500,000 by the decision, which ends a legal contest that has been fought in the English and American courts for several years.

South Bend, Wash.—The Kleebe Lumber company's mill here was destroyed by fire late Friday night, causing a loss of \$200,000. The blaze started in the fire room and spread to the main mill. The plant is owned by John W. Kleebe, state senator from Pacific and Waukiakum counties. He is now on his ranch at Pasco. Some insurance was carried on the mill.

Ex-Presidents Taft and Roosevelt and all future Presidents of the United States after their terms expire would be seated in the house of representatives, without vote, at a salary of \$25,000 yearly, by a bill introduced by Representative Moore, of Pennsylvania. Candidacy for any political office would automatically bar such men from membership in the house.

While it is practically settled that no safe conduct will be issued by the entente allied governments to Count Tarnowski, the newly appointed ambassador from Austria, it is also confidently expected that he will be permitted to pass through the blockade lines, like any other civilian passenger, on the Danish ship on which he will sail from Copenhagen for New York.

Wilson's plurality in Kentucky is officially announced as 28,136.

The Germans, after taking Bucharest, levy heavy taxes on Rumania.

Arguments in the Adamson bill before the U. S. Supreme court are set for January 8.

A third and fourth merchant submarine for the trans-Atlantic service now are under construction in Germany.

The French cabinet is reconstructed and a list of members will soon be made public.

One man and three women killed and 37 persons injured, including seven children, was the total casualty list from the last German air raid made on London.

John McVicker, 73 years of age, once president of the International Typographical union and formerly editor of the Detroit News, is dead in Chicago.

Peace overtures bring down the price of wheat on the Chicago market 8 cents the first day.

President Wilson stamps his approval on the investigation by the department of Justice, as to the high cost of living.

A Rome dispatch to the London Wireless Press says that Petrograd reports the Germans have begun the retirement of some of their divisions from Roumania, transferring them to other fronts, and the situation in Roumania is becoming more favorable for the entente.

The Federal Trade commission announces it will start an inquiry of changes in the news print paper situation at a hearing Wednesday.

Prussia's official headman, Lorenz Schwietz, has just retired, after holding his unenviable position for 16 years, and with a record of 120 beheadings. He is now 67 years old.

A cat with a diamond-set, gold-filled tooth, and other Persians valued at as much as \$2000 each will be features of the seventh annual show of the Pacific Cat club, to be held in San Francisco December 16 and 17, it was announced.

## Portland Egg Boycott Slackens, but Product is Lower, However

Dealers report it is not so strong as it was, but, even at that, the price of eggs at wholesale has been forced down approximately 8 cents a dozen.

Before the boycott eggs were sold to Portland consumers at 55 and 60 cents; now they are retailing at from 40 to 45 cents.

Eggs at wholesale Thursday were 35 cents; before the boycott they were 43 cents a dozen.

This is deemed considerable of an accomplishment for the boycotters, but it is denied that to them belongs the credit. The hens have again begun to lay, it is stated, and for this reason eggs are in better supply, with consequently lower quotations.

Eggs are not so high in Portland as they were one year ago, when 60 and 70 cents prevailed for a time. That figure is not unusual at this time of the year, it is said.

The boycott unquestionably made itself felt, however, and commission men agree that consumption was lessened.

However, they maintain that the ill effects of the boycott have been felt by the farmer, instead of themselves or any other factor in the marketing process.

Peace Rumors Bring Down Wheat Prices; Trading Stops

Portland—Trade in all branches of the grain business in the Northwest came to a complete stop Wednesday. Wheat buyers absolutely withdrew from the market, in view of the German peace proposals. With no bids put out in the country, it was difficult to figure out what wheat was worth, but it was the opinion that the market was off fully 8 to 10 cents from Monday's prices. Bids at the local exchange were reduced 5 to 8 cents, but the drop at Seattle was more severe.

The market, strictly speaking, was in a waiting attitude and no one was willing to operate on either the buying or the selling side. It was the belief of local traders that Chicago will show further decline. The oats and barley markets naturally were weak. Oats bids at the Exchange were 25 to 50 cents lower and offers for barley were reduced \$2.50 a ton.

Bond Issue is Opposed.

Kennewick, Wash.—A suit filed by H. A. Bier, a taxpayer of Eastern Benton county, and supported by others in the Superior court for the purpose of having set aside the proceedings of the board of county commissioners, which provide the issuance and sale of bonds of \$125,000 for a courthouse at Prosser, will be heard at that place this week. At a meeting of the board of commissioners two weeks ago the bonds were issued and sold, and further proceedings halted by a restraining order.

Cranberries to Be Raised.

Aberdeen, Wash.—The planting of 350 acres to cranberries on the South Beach bog at Grays Harbor is contemplated by a company being organized here with a capitalization of \$50,000. Some 30 acres of bog are now in cultivation by small land owners and some of this land has started bearing. According to plans of the proposed company, planting of the bog will commence next season. It will be three years before the plants will bear any fruit, and five years before they bear their largest crops.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.45 per bushel; fortyfold, \$1.42; club, \$1.42; red Russian, \$1.40.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$35.50. Barley—No. 1 feed, \$37.00.

Flour—Patents, \$8.00; straights, \$6.80; exports, \$6.80; valley, \$7.50; whole wheat, \$8.20; Graham, \$8.

Milled feed—Spot prices: Bran, \$16.50 per ton; shorts, \$30.50; rolled barley \$40.41.50.

Hay—Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$19.21 per ton; timothy, valley, \$16.17; alfalfa, \$17.15; valley grain hay, \$15.15; clover, \$12.50.

Butter—Cuba, extra, 36c per pound. Jobbing prices: Prints, extra, 38c; butterfat, No. 1, 38c; No. 2, 36c, Portland.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, current receipts 35@37c per dozen; Oregon ranch, candled, 39@40c; Oregon ranch, select, 42c.

Poultry—Hens, 13@15c per pound; springs, 14@16c; turkeys, live, 18@20c; dressed, 23@24c; ducks, 14@17c; geese, 11c.

Veal—Fancy, 12@13c per pound. Pork—Fancy, 12@12c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c@1.10 per dozen; tomatoes, 16c@1.75 per crate; cabbage, \$2 per hundred; peppers, 20c per pound; eggplant, 15c; lettuce, \$1.85; cucumbers, \$1@1.25 per dozen; celery, \$4.25@4.50 per crate; pumpkins, 16@18c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.75@1.85 per crate; peas, 15c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon buying prices, \$1.25 @ 1.40 per hundred, country points; sweets, \$3.50 per hundred.

Onions—Oregon buying prices, \$2.60 per sack, country points.

Green Fruits—Apples, new, 50c @ \$1.50 per box; pears, \$1@1.50; grapes, lugs, \$1.50; cranberries, \$12.00 @ 12.50 per barrel.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, fine, 25@27c per pound; coarse, 33@34c; valley, 33 @35c; mohair, 35@45c.

Cattle—Steers, prime, \$6.75@7.50; good, \$6.40@6.75; common to good, \$4.25@6.25; cows, choice, \$5.50@6.15; medium to good, \$5.25@5.50; ordinary to fair, \$5.00@5.50; heifers, \$5.00@6.00; bulls, \$2.75@5.00; calves, \$3.00 @7.00.

Hogs—Prime, \$8.50@9.75; good to prime, mixed, \$9.40 @ 9.50; rough heavy, \$8.50@9.10; pigs and skips, \$8.50@8.75.

Sheep—Lamba, \$7.00 @ 9.60; yearling wethers, \$7.50@8.50; old wethers, \$6.75@7.00; ewes, \$5.00@7.00.

## BOTH SIDES PLAN REPEAL OF LAW

Adamson Promises to "Spank" Brotherhoods and Railways.

TEST SUIT MAY BE WITHDRAWN

Presidential Election Makes Railroads and Men More Eager for Industrial Peace to Continue.

Washington, D. C.—Reports that railroad and brotherhood heads in peace conferences have planned to propose the repeal of the Adamson act and the substitution of a working agreement of their own making for it, Sunday aroused Representative Adamson, author of the law, to declare that congress would "spank" both sides to the controversy if necessary.

Mr. Adamson is willing to co-operate in any plan employes and employers may evolve for the interpretation of his law, but will oppose vigorously repeal of it.

"The measure was passed in good faith and it is a constitutional enactment regulating hours of labor and not wages," he said. "Let the roads and their men settle their wage disputes.

"Congress will see that the public gets a fair deal. If it becomes necessary to spank both sides, we'll spank them, though I hope that won't be necessary."

Representative Adamson says the result of the Presidential election made the employers more eager for peace than they were last fall and that the growing belief that the President stands for compulsory arbitration law has put the brotherhood leaders in a conciliatory frame of mind.

Neither labor nor congressional leaders here have official reports as to just what phases of the railway situation the conferees have taken up. Belief is current, however, in congressional circles that the foremost feature of the final agreement will be an interpretation of the Adamson law so satisfactory to both sides that the suit to test the act's constitutionality now before the Supreme court may be withdrawn.

Coast Products to Move Eastward at Old Rates

Washington, D. C.—Decision of the transcontinental