

Ceramic Figurines Are Popular Art

Authentic "Hummel" ceramic figurines have been top-ranking collector's items among fans of all ages for nearly a quarter-century and a favorite gift item. Made exclusively by the W. Goebel Co. of Bavaria, West Germany, they are instantly recognizable by the meticulous craftsmanship, subtle coloring, and the indented "M. I. Hummel" seen on the base of every piece. The secret of these figurines' appeal lies in their unaffected, childlike, caught-in-action feeling. Be it a little girl clutching a few willed posies, a young boy merrily on the way to market, or a child frolicking with pets, their moods and manners are typical of tiny people the world over, and reflect the timeless dreams of eternal childhood.

This wide-eyed, ingenuous charm emanates from the artist's deep love and understanding of children. Berta Hummel, whose original sketches have been the basis for these ceramic figurines made by the W. Goebel Co., was one of six children who grew up in a home in Massing, Bavaria, where music and art were as natural as air and water.

Born in 1909, she demonstrated her talent and imagination at an early age, beginning by sketching and painting portraits of her young school friends.

Throughout her formal art training, including the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, Berta Hummel continued her warm interest in children, artistically as well as personally.

Became a Nun
An outstanding example of the fact that art and religion

'Hinting' Tips Are Set Forth For Homemaker

With Christmas almost here, the "hinting season" is in full swing, and husbands are fair game, especially if it's a family gift you're aiming at.

Here are a few "hinting" tips for a homemaker who has her heart set on a major item, an electric dishwasher, for example:

Collect dishwasher ads from local papers and national magazines. Show them to your personal Santa Claus and tell him what style and features you especially like. You might choose a built-in model, a portable, or a convertible that can be built in later.

Tell him about the choice of cycles for light or heavy loads, the easy-to-load rack designs, and the new powerful washing action that gets dishes really clean, and the hot-air drying that leaves them sparkling.

Saves Hands
Tell him that an automatic dishwasher will save your hands from that rough redness constant hand-dishwashing gives them. Explain that your hands won't have to do anything except brush food off the plates and place tableware and kitchen utensils in the machine.

Don't forget to say that an electric dishwasher uses water much hotter and detergent much stronger than your hands could stand.

Explain how much time an automatic dishwasher will save, time you can spend helping the children with their homework or doing something else that's important to the family. If your children help with the dishes, get them to help persuade Daddy that an automatic dishwasher would be a wonderful Christmas gift.

Since men like to see how appliances work, get him to take a look at a friend's dishwasher. Let her or her husband show him how easy it is to use, how clean and bright it gets the dishes, and how neat the kitchen stays when dirty dishes go right into the dishwasher after every meal.

New Range Makes Holiday Helper

Harried homemakers need all the help they can get during the holiday season. One way a thoughtful husband can lend a hand without lifting a finger is by presenting his wife with a new automatic electric range just before Christmas.

With its automatic timing and accurate heat controls, a new electric range will save her from constant pot-watching and those tiresome treks to the kitchen to make sure everything's all right. It'll also assure her of consistently good results.

Christmas dinner cooked in a new electric range with two ovens will be just as lavish and succulent as Grandma's used to, but Mother will have far more time to spend with the family instead of in a steaming kitchen.

Those double ovens will be especially handy during the weeks before the holidays—for making pies, cookies and cakes to give as Christmas presents. Baking them in big batches in two automatically controlled ovens saves hours of kitchen time.

And it's no trick to make Christmas candy on a new electric range with a thermostatically controlled surface element. It gives exactly the right heat—a must in candy making.

Cleaning up after a big cooking spree will be easy, too, since the new electric ranges stay cleaner during cooking and are designed to be easy to clean.

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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

"MY POOR HUSBAND," moaned a woman to the town's leading psychoanalyst. "He's convinced he's a parking meter." The analyst regarded the silent, woe-begone fellow holding the wife's hand, and asked, "Why doesn't he say something for himself? Can't he talk?" The wife said, "How can he—with all those dimes and nickels in his mouth?"

George Jessel, making one of his innumerable after-dinner orations, noticed with chagrin that his audience was growing rather restless. "Take it easy," he assured the wrigglers. "Like Lady Godiva on the last lap of her historic ride, I am drawing near my close."

Robert Bennett poses three questions in the Dramatists Guild Bulletin that play lovers will find challenging: 1. Why are there so many more rewriters these days than writers? 2. Why does grand opera sound grander in every language than in English? 3. When the old theaters are all replaced by new parking lots, what will the cars come there for?

Mrs. Loomis read aloud a newspaper item about a movie patron who arose from his seat while viewing a picture and shot himself. "Humm," mused Mr. Loomis, "I believe I saw that picture!" © 1963, by Bennett Cerf, Distributed by King Features Syndicate



I Heard the Bells

on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men!

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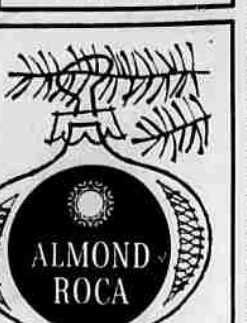
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