



A WEATHERED OLD STUMP stands silent vigil during the snowy months above ice-bound Crater Lake.

Houseware Gifts Should Be Selected With Eye On Use

Housewares, because they're used almost every day by the whole family, should be selected carefully with an eye to practicality, looks and durability. For this reason, china, glass and linens are wonderful gifts to give within the family. They show superb taste.

Some families add to their china every year. But if you have never had china, quiz mother and see if it isn't something she's craved. A touch of the very best—Lenox's Plymouth cream and sugar, for instance—may satisfy her taste for

the expensive. But perhaps she'd rather start buying place settings of table china. Royal Worcester's "Monterey" has a fern pattern that's informal but not too modern. Royal Jackson's "Pagoda" is in the traditional dark-and-gold pattern of classic English china.

A set of glasses just for entertaining is welcome in most homes. Libbey's "Golden Rose" has the unornate shape so popular today, but has a rose design in 22-karat gold. For a golfer, Libbey has a glassware pattern with a Scotsman that comes packed with golf balls. Pilsener glasses that are plastic have ducks on them.

Good-looking canisters for the kitchen may be more of an investment than you expect. Copper ones are pretty, but come high. In the fancy canister department are Braat's blue Delft ones that would grace any traditional kitchen. Moderately priced are plastic ones by Columbia. The clear ones have the popular Pennsylvania Dutch patterns painted on them.

Easy to care for are the lovely stainless steel flatwares. Ekco's Flint Deluxe never needs polishing. A nice pattern is "Patina." Ekco's Flint carving set is a sound buy if you've always lacked a good carving set.

You may use paper or plastic tablecloths, but at least one real cloth is still a necessity. Bate's pine green "Festival" is a warm-looking cloth for Christmas and winter.



LIGHTWEIGHT portable camp stove operates on two cylinders of propane gas. It all folds into suitcase.

Photo Accessories, Other Hobby Items Top Gift List

The number of suitable gifts you can buy are almost endless in variety. They range in price from a few cents to hundreds of dollars, so whatever your budget you're sure to please.

Accessories such as lens caps are needed by every photographer, but often cost less than a dollar. Something a little more costly is an accurate electrical timer. Then there are wide-angle telephoto lenses, enlargers, books and dozens of others.

The important thing to remember

is to check with the photographer to see if he already has the item. The same goes when buying for other hobbies.

Does someone on your list crochet or knit? Virtually every city has specialized shops or department store counters which deal with such hobbies exclusively. A chat with the clerk in charge will turn up scores of suggestions. Ditto for workshop or cooking fans.

It's probable, too, that one of your friends likes gardening. Why not a new set of garden tools, or durable, washable gloves? Or practical dungarees, adorned with a gardening motif?

Then there are those who like model building. Learn which types they prefer (and which ones they've already built) and your shopping dilemma is solved. Some new kits, among others, reproduce old locomotives, Early American autos and various furniture styles. And, of course, the latest in airplanes.

The list of additional pastimes is much too long for mention, but the moral, by now, should be clear. If any names on your Christmas list still are followed by question marks, see if they have a hobby. Then walk down to the hobby shop and have a chat with the salesclerk.

A good bet to keep in mind is the snowballing interest in oil painting kits. Paints and canvases are numbered, so that adults or even children can turn out beautiful paintings with virtually fool-proof results.



SEW or truss opening. Tie drum sticks and tail together with cotton string.

Jewelry Gifts Always Favored By Women Of US

When it gets to be close to Christmas and a woman starts using that trite old expression, "Good things come in small packages," the odds are extremely high that she doesn't mean Mickey Rooney.

She means that she'd like some jewelry.

In most cases, however, the hinting around isn't needed. For the odds are equally high that a man choosing gifts for his lady will always think first of jewelry items, as his forebears have done for centuries.

When he goes to the jewelry store this year, he's due for a pleasant surprise. Scores of leading designers have created high-type sparkle—in compacts, rings, necklaces, clasps, earrings, scatter pins, etc.—at truly low prices.

A new set of pins, by Trifari, for instance, has a high-fashion gold-against-tweed effect that would seem to demand a whole month's wages. Yet the price is a mere \$7.50.

A chick, go-everywhere earring, this one designed by Coro, has a smart shower of pearls set in a raucous of fluted gold and sells for just \$2. For \$2 more, there's a matching necklace.

These, of course, are merely a sampling.

EXTRA TRACK

While not as spectacular as a new locomotive or car, you would be surprised what a hit you'll make with a toy train owner if you give a large package of extra pieces of track. Be sure of the gauge, however. There are several.

New Folding Doll Carriages Offered

Folding doll carriages will take the spotlight in the doll department this year. A new model has an expanding handle which can be changed over the years to fit the child's growth.

Smart doll carriages feature all the safety devices used in prams for real babies. Draft-proof, tip-proof construction and sun shades are included to assure dolls comfortable, safe promenading.

MISTLETOE

Mistletoe was thought to have had magic powers by the ancient Druids. Young men today probably believe the same thing when their ladies stand beneath the mistletoe waiting to be kissed.



Gifted Ideas

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Rail Mounts Suggested

For millions of youngsters with model trains, the saddest day of the year comes roughly one week after Christmas. That's the time when the tree comes down and Mom says the living room floor no longer can serve as a trackbed.

The trains and tracks go back in their boxes to wait for another Christmas—and it's nothing short of a shame.

When trains are received as Yuletide gifts, they are set up for quick operation. But afterward the tracks should be mounted, so the child can use them whenever he wishes. The effort required is small and so is the usual cost.

The best permanent location will, of course, depend on your home—the playroom, attic, basement, garage, or wherever there's extra space. And to help you design the layout, equipment firms, such as Lionel, offer handy track planning kits.

An excellent mounting surface is any large table, especially a ping-pong table. Or you may wish to build special platforms in custom-made sizes and shapes. These can be built out of scrap lumber in such a way they are easily stored.

Reusers of small apartments can mount their platform on casters for storage beneath a bed. Or build it in three or four sections to be stowed in a back of a closet. Or purchase a "corkscrew" layout, with 180 feet of track spiraled into four square feet.

Weekend Stay At Hotel Suggested

Novel Christmas gift: a weekend stay at a hotel for you and your wife—away from the dishes and housekeeping in the quiet luxury of a hotel.

It can be a weekend for the whole family, if you like. The way to do it is to make your reservation well in advance and put the hotel's confirmation card in a box neatly wrapped in holiday paper.

It's like serving breakfast in bed, only more so.



A BOGGED DOWN BULLDOZER calls for some close inspection by the park engineer when the crews go all-out in their efforts to clear the Crater Lake roads of snow.

Blouse, Aprons Make Good Gifts

For the young lady of the family, or a young wife, a gay holiday blouse is a refresher for the wardrobe and a present that will delight. The Singer sewing machine people suggest one of white wool, from a Butterick pattern.

Appliques of holly-green velvet leaves can match or contrast with a Christmas skirt. The zigzag attachment for the machine will make a squared paneling for the front and a border for the collar.

An apron for the hostess of holiday parties can be strictly for Christmas, too. One can easily be made from a 100-pound cambric flour or sugar bag. A green border at the bottom and a green sash are made from an osenburgh bag.

For the seasonal touch, two green trees are applied to the apron, one side of each left open for pockets.

To brighten the trees, new or paste on (with special glue from art store) sequins in the patterns of Christmas tree balls.

Patterns are available for many gifts to sew and knit, but it's easy to take an old one and add the Yuletide touch with bells, sequins, ribbons and tree and wreath patterns.

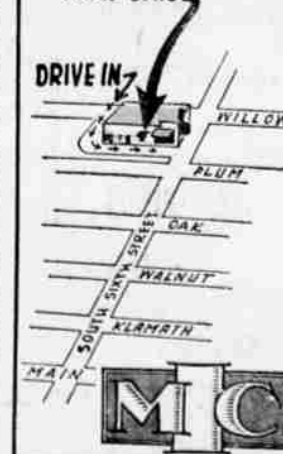
The younger gentlemen and ladies will like a stamp pad of their name and address. You'll find are made from an osenburgh bag, they'll write more letters, too.

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