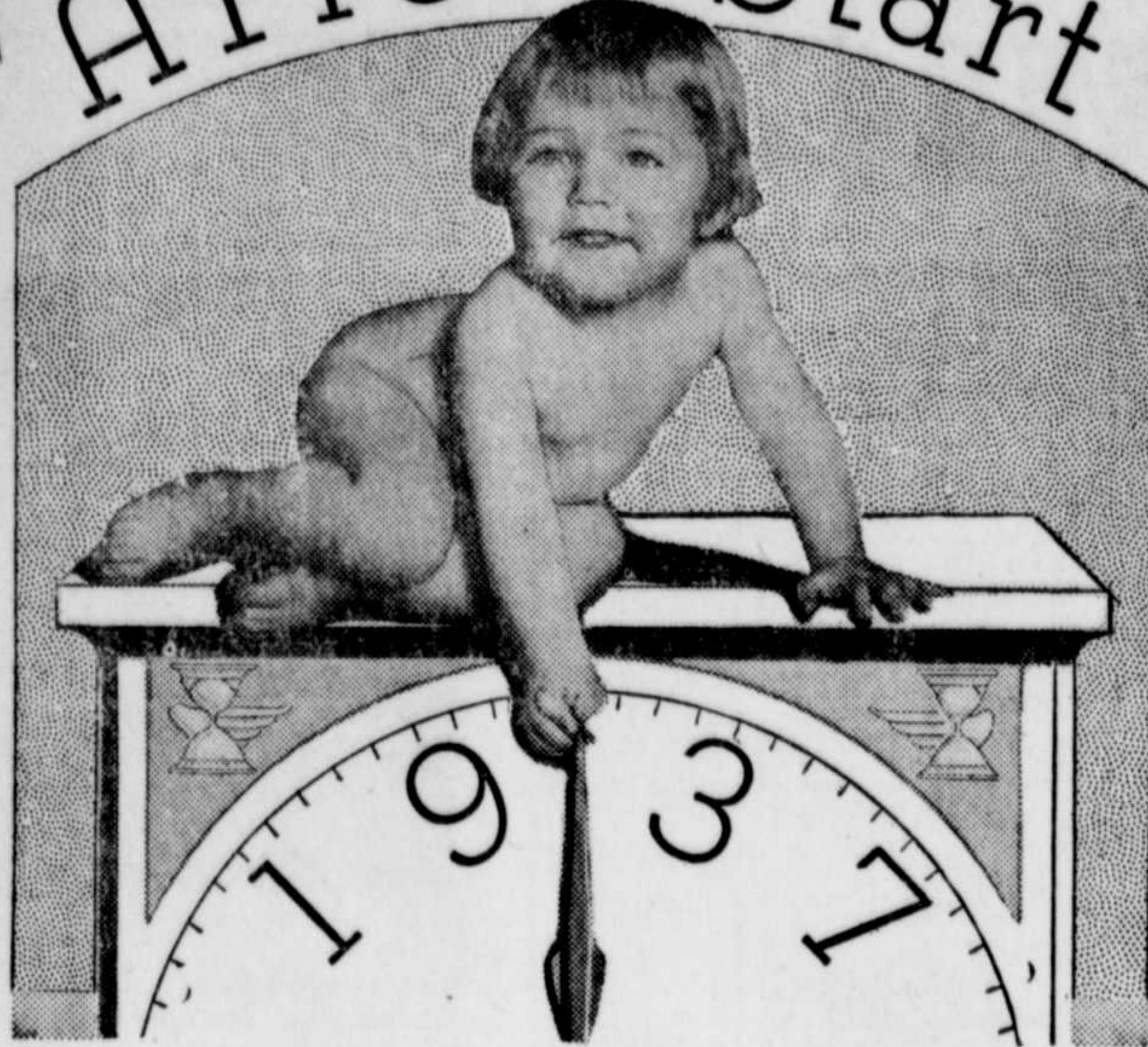


A Fresh Start



HAPPY NEW YEAR MUSH

By Luella B. Lyons

LEAH MERWIN had been the one elected to stay at home when the others went into town in the old flivver to the morning New Year's service at the church. Someone had to remain at home to watch the stock and, too, Leah hadn't a new or even a decent coat. Jake Merwin was having tough sledding in financial affairs without one more need being voiced, so Leah never told him of her need.

"I wouldn't have minded if it hadn't started snowing the minute their backs were turned and now—they won't tackle driving home in



this weather," but Leah's words stopped at once as she made out in the swirling snow a car that was stopping in the barnyard. The plump figures of a man and a woman were making a wild dash for the protection of the house.

"We saw we couldn't go another turn of the wheels," the sweet, friendly woman told Leah—the lady who introduced the two of them as Mr. and Mrs. Tom Madison, 11 miles to the east of Borger. "We hoped to spend New Year's and visit at our son's, Tom Junior's over at Borger, but now—well, we want to buy our dinner here from you. May we, my dear, without putting you out?"

They were such a jolly pair and Leah even forgot to be embarrassed when she had to serve them the only thing she had prepared, a feast of delicious fried mush and butter and syrup and plenty of fresh milk and coffee. Supper consisted of the same fare and so did breakfast the next morning, but



by that time the Merwins were able to break the drifts and reach the farm and the Madisons, via those breaks, went on their belated way.

"It will be a happy New Year every day for a year for us, Mommie," Leah shouted when the Madisons were out of sight. To a smiling but perplexed family, Leah explained that Mr. Madison owned a small chain of meat markets and small cross road grocery stores and that he had given her sufficient orders for slabs of cornmeal mush just like she had served him and his good wife, for all those stores for one year at least. "The labels on this mush, he said, are to read 'Lady Leah's Prize Mush.' When the trio had quieted down a bit she added: "The money end of the contract will settle all our financial difficulties for the year and who knows, maybe forever!"

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New Year's Resolution

HERE'S a New Year's resolution... Any one can make and keep! It will help one's constitution, and enable one to sleep.

"I will try to keep from fretting When I cannot see the sun; I will try to keep from getting Into quarrels I may shun.

"I will try to keep from grieving Over troubles that are past; I will try to keep believing Things will all come right at last.

"I will try to keep from sighing When I ought to smile, instead; I will try to keep on trying To deserve to get ahead."

—Montreal Herald.

New Year Cavalier



by Helen Gaisford Waterman

FENTON DUMONT was bored with the party. All right welcoming in the New Year so smugly for people like these—but he was an adventurer, a cavalier, and the formal drawing room, the lovely ladies so ready to smile upon him, the classical music, the slow, pompous talk of the men suffocated him. He stepped to the balcony.

It had stopped snowing. In another hour the year would be dead. A grand year. But another would be beginning. He slipped over the balustrade, wound his leg around a pillar, and slid down to meet it. To the east, far away, the year was already new, and so he set off in that direction.

He was almost half way across the bridge before he noticed the girl, but then he strode quickly to her side. "Please don't," he said gently. She started. "I should only have to jump in after you, and can't you imagine how cold I'd be?" he ended, and shivered with clown-like intensity. "I might even catch my death," he continued lightly, but the girl looked back to the river, and he realized his error. "You may want to die," he said earnestly, "but I don't. Please!"

"Then leave me be," she answered. Her voice was soft, musical, but passionately desperate. He gathered her in his arms and kissed her. She struggled fiercely. He kissed her again, and again, pinning her arms to her sides with



Her Voice Was Soft and Musical, But Passionately Desperate.

his strong clasp. And suddenly she went limp in his arms, and cried against his shoulder. He took off his overcoat and wrapped it around her, for she was shivering. "Why did you come off without your coat and hat?" he chided, and stroked her soft hair.

Behind him, bells and whistles proclaimed another year. "Happy New Year, lassie," he said gayly. She dried her eyes. "I'm being a fool," she apologized.

"Not at all," he answered, gallantly. "Methinks I behold a restaurant across the bridge. How about some coffee?"

She let him lead her, and he found a corner table. When their order had been placed, he turned to her.

"Why should you love a man like that?"

She looked up quickly, studying him. "How did you know?"

"Why else should a lovely girl like you be spending New Year's eve that way? You should be dancing."

She smiled. "I don't know. It seemed terribly important half an hour ago. But I'm all right now. It doesn't matter any more."

"Off with the old," he quoted, "on with the new. This is the season for lovers as well as years. The old is off!"

"Yes."

He took her hand. "The new—would like very much—to be on." His gaze caught and held hers.

"May I take you home now?"

She nodded her thanks. Outside, it was snowing again, but they scarcely noticed. At her door, he kissed her, and this time she did not resist. "On with the new," she murmured gently.

"That's O.K. this time," he answered, "but I won't let it happen next New Year's."

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THE FIRST DAWNING

EVANGELIST JOHN MOSES BAKER
Baltimore, Maryland

The first dawning of that morning,
In the land o'er the sea,
And we look on the face of our Savior,
Who died for you and me.

The first dawning of that morning,
All our burdens will be lifted,
And all tears be wiped away.

The first dawning of that morning,
Where all is perfect peace,
The angels strike their harps of gold,
And pleasures never cease.

The first dawning of that morning,
Around the great white throne,
To meet and greet our loved ones,
And never more to roam.

The first dawning of that morning,
We have said our last good night,
All safe at home in Heaven,
Where God forever is the light.

FORCASTING FUTURE TRENDS (The Stars in Their Courses)

by JOHN RANDS
Astro-Numerologist

An Astrological Forecast For The Year 1937

PLANETARY INFLUENCES—II

The Influence of the Planets upon Famous and Public Persons during the year 1937.

The Influence of the Planets upon Famous and Public Persons during the year 1937.

You read in the preceding issue of the Midland Journal about some of the more important Planetary Influences which will affect World Conditions and Human Affairs during the coming twelve months. This week, we respectfully draw your attention to some of the Great and the Near Great and their stars for the year 1937.

President Roosevelt's stars continue to bring him into the International Lighthouse. The transit of Neptune (Idealism) over his natal Uranus (Change, the New), and the transit of Uranus over his natal Saturn (the Old), involving the First (Personal) and the Ninth (Interests at a Distance) Houses which occurred during the month of December, 1936, were influences which urged Roosevelt to make his South American trip with the view of forming new alignments and adding force to old, long established doctrine. During 1937, Uranus will aspect the natal Sun of our Chief Executive. This aspect will tend to urge the President to make wise moves and changes as affecting agrarian and land interests. Foreign Relationships will become matters of moment during the Summer months, during September, and again about the middle of November. Changes in his Cabinet are indicated during the early part of the year, and again during the month of May.

King George VI is to experience much difficulty during the Spring months. An Administrative crisis arises during April and May, 1937. Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin is also under powerful planetary vibrations at this time. Foreign Relationship Affairs will be much stressed during the Spring months of 1937.

Anthony Eden, as England's Foreign Secretary, is in for four years of strain and stress, of which 1939 will prove the climax. The Leader of the Opposition, C. R. Attlee, has two years of stress and accentuation affecting his leadership, of which 1938 will be much the more important. The Aga Khan, of India, is a very important person in Great Britain's affairs. She dried her eyes. "I'm being a fool," she apologized.

In America, Senator Borah will receive much public attention during 1937 for some stand he will take in relation to Employment or the National Services. Senator Robinson has four years of unusual activity ahead. He will become a most important factor in American affairs. T. Allen Goldsborough, U. S. Congressman from Maryland, should be very careful during the next four years not to alienate himself from the affections and good-will of his constituents. He is, however, under especially favorable planetary rays during the Summer of 1937. This would be the time for him to promote his social and affectional ambitions. James H. Rand, Jr. (Remington-Rand) is due for plenty of trouble in his Legal and Public relationship affairs during the next four years, 1938-39 being especially indicated. Gen. Malin Craig, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, Gen. Fox Connor, and Gen. Mosely, army commanders,

are under planetary rays during 1937 which will bring them new moves and changes—occupationally.

The Emperor of Japan will find it expedient to make well-advised new moves and changes particularly in relation to Administrative Affairs during the months of December, 1936, January, March and April, 1937, January 5-20, threaten attacks upon his Colonial or Foreign forces.

Stalin, as the Chief Influence in Russian Affairs and Policy, is due for plenty of trouble of an Administrative nature during 1937, especially between June and November, and again during 1938. A period of grave Administrative Crisis involving Foreign Relationship affairs will center about Sept. 5, 1937.

Dictator Mussolini is due for a long stretch of turmoil and stress affecting his Administrative Policies. He still seeks to force changes and new moves favorable to Italy. The year 1939 is very critical for him. During that year he may become disillusioned. Aggressive attitude on his part between Jan. 5-16, 1937, could prove costly. January is a month during which Mussolini will need to move very cautiously. About February 10th is another critical period. Again, during June, we find Mussolini asserting himself aggressively. His birthday will be the signal for another public display of his superb showmanship. Indeed, throughout the year Dictator Mussolini will be heard from and no important move which could possibly affect Italian affairs will be made without hearing from him. Italy would emerge successful from any conference or struggle in which she was a factor during the close of 1937.

Hitler's stars are also premonitive of much stress in Foreign Relationship Affairs during 1937—worse during 1938. Indeed, no other National Head has such threatening aspects. Should War break out during 1937 or 1938 (and 1938 looks very threatening in this respect) Hitler would prove to be as fully responsible as any other World Leader. Even Hitler, however, is not as dangerous as is his Lieutenant—General Goering. CONT TO GAL. 2—

The demands for concessions and territory during 1937 and 1938 will prove very disturbing to other nations.

John L. Lewis will continue to be a troublesome factor in the affairs of the American Federation of Labor.

Homer S. Cummings (Attorney General) is due for changes as affecting his personal affairs and occupational interests. Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior should guard his health against over-exertion during all of 1937. He will continue to be under great stress of Public Business, unless sickness overtakes him. Some matter of Secularism is shown. Every cabinet official shows planetary influences denoting strain and stress of affairs during 1937, indicative of the efforts which will be put forth by the Administration to cope with the very difficult situations which will arise.

Claudette Colbert, Screen Star, should find 1937 her most successful year. Lawrence Tibbett, of Stage and Screen, will find 1937 a very important year. Clark Gable is now entering the most important period of his life and will do his finest work during the next two years. Simone Simon, the 20th Century-Fox star, will achieve her greatest success during the year 1939. 1937 is for her a year of important changes.

Lack of space prevents mentioning many other Public and Famous Persons who will be strongly influenced by Planetary Rays during 1937. Those given mention, however, will be sure to appear in the news because of the important nature of their activities and at the indicated time.

Next week this Astrologer will give you the more specific influences month by month. These influences may have some bearing upon your own affairs.

JOHN RANDS.



CHRISTMAS

Not since the appearance of the star in the East over Bethlehem has there been a lapse in observance of Christmas even though its course has been challenged times beyond count. Oliver Cromwell tried to suppress the observance of Christmas by ordering that the "hurtful custom" be ignored.

The celebration of the occasion as we know it, began about 300 A. D. when the sainted Bishop of Myra originated the Yuletide gift idea. He wore a red mantle and was a giver to the poor—especially to the children whose patron saint is "Saint Nick." In Belgium he is known as St. Nicholas and rides a gray horse while in Germany he is Santa Claus. The best evidence shows that he was brought to America by the Pennsylvania Dutch who swapped the gray horse for a reindeer and hung a sock on the mantle instead of leaving a wooden shoe by the door.

Christmas is the principal holiday season in the United States as well as the period of greatest commercial activity—a most excellent time to add to your collection of things Christmas whether your pet aversion be toys, tokens, Xmas cards, books, magazine articles, designs, pictures, poems or songs. Senator George L. Radcliffe's collection of Christmas books and magazines goes well beyond the 2,000 mark and is probably without an equal.

A letter from eight year old Virginia O'Hanlon to the Editor of the New York Sun inspired Francis P. Church to write the famous classic of Christmas literature, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus." For several years after he wrote it, Lewis Carroll was ashamed to admit that he was the author of "Twas the night before Christmas."

A granite statue of Kris Kingle twenty-five feet high has been erected in a thirty-two acre park in Santa Claus, Indiana. From this post-office hundreds of thousands of "North Pole" letters are posted each Christmas season.

In Maryland and Delaware holly wreaths constitute a major seasonal industry. In Maine it is the Christmas tree. Mistletoe growing on gum and oak trees takes us back to the old Druid superstitions attributing mystical powers to this parasite plant.

In many places throughout America Christmas does not come until January 6,—December 25 on the old Julian calendar. It is old Christmas, Little Christmas, Twelfth Night and the Feast of Epiphany to those who keep this date.

Merry Christmas is a happy greeting spoken in many languages. Try these. Arabic—Imbaric a'yad al millad. French Joyeux Noel. German—Froehliche Weihnachton. Spanish—Felices Pascuas. Latin—Felicissimum Nativitatem Domini et Salvatoris Nostri Tibi Inauguro omnia tibi prospere evaniant; at multus annos! Chinese—Kung Hosheng Tan Chia Chieh. Japanese—Kuisuuto Kotan O Shikusu.

Hobby Riding begun this gay Christmas season with a Christmas idea will bring pleasantries throughout the year.

Books: Christmas Tidings—Ault, W. M.; Christmas Traditions—Auld, J. M.; Christmas Everywhere—Scherist; Christmas in Storyland—Van Buren; Yule-tide—Wilkinson.

Next Week: Dancing.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"God" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, Jan. 3. The Golden Text will be from Psa. 118:27—"God is the Lord, which hath showed us light."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible—Deut. 6:4—"Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include the following passage from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, page 256—"The everlasting I Am is not bounded nor compressed within the narrow limits of physical humanity, nor can He be understood aright through mortal concepts."

About \$715,000,000 is spent annually in the United States for drugs, including home remedies and patent medicines.

Americans spend between \$3,000,000,000 and \$8,000,000,000 annually in foreign and domestic lotteries, numbers games, etc.

NEW YEAR'S BELLS

FROM the earliest times the ringing of bells has been employed as a method of announcing death, and the use of bells at New Year's eve symbolizes the death of the old year. In England it was formerly customary to ring muffled bells twice before twelve, and at twelve to remove the wrappings and to allow the bells to ring loudly.

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