

The Three Golden Bells

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) taken the greater portion of the mysterious gift and now he was faced with the same hopeless prospects as before. Again he remained before the cheerless empty fireplace until sleep overcame him.

Then a remarkable thing took place. Exactly at the stroke of midnight another Christmas parcel was thrown through the chimney and landed on the hearth. The nobleman jumped up wide awake, and picked it out of the ashes. He could hardly believe his senses when he found it was another ball of gold pieces.

He rubbed his eyes as if he

were still dreaming. But no, there could be no mistake. Here was another small fortune, coming to him out of the sky on Christmas Eve.

OTHERS HELPED
"Who among all the people I know can be such a real friend on Christmas Eve? But nobody knew who it was that remembered them so generously. "He must be a saint or an angel from heaven!" they exclaimed.

The following Christmas the nobleman sat before the empty hearth in the castle dining hall but this time he did not fall asleep. He was determined to discover who the mysterious benefactor really was. When the midnight hour drew near, he was trembling with excitement.

He was not disappointed. With a loud thump another heavy ball of gold came down the chimney. He did not wait to pick it up but ran as fast as he could out into the street.

He was just in time to see the shadowy figure climbing down the castle wall. "Stop, please stop," he called but the unknown dropped to the ground and hurried away through the rear gate.

Down the street after him ran the nobleman, for he'd made up his mind he was not going to miss this chance to solve the mystery. In the moonlight he could see that the stranger wore a long black cloak and cape which covered him from head to foot.

MYSTERY SOLVED
"Wait for me, friend," he kept shouting but the other sped the faster. Suddenly he started around a corner and into a doorway. The count plunged after him and caught him by the heel. The mystery was solved. He had captured the unknown!

"I hope you are not displeased with me, sir, but..." began the nobleman and then he stopped and fell to his knees with a reverent gasp. He was looking into the noble, kindly face of Bishop Nicholas of Myra.

"So, it was you, my lord. I might have guessed it could be none other," and he began stammering out his thanks and gratitude.

"Say no more, my son," the saintly bishop told him in his gentle, fatherly way. "I ask only one thing. Promise me on your honor never to reveal what you have found out tonight."

The nobleman eagerly gave his word but curiosity made him ask Bishop Nicholas what prompted him to perform his secret acts of generosity.

"Tomorrow is the birthday of the Lord Jesus," explained Nicholas. "My gifts are made for His sweet sake. Who made Himself poor for our sakes?"

For many years the Bishop continued his Christmas Eve custom and only after his death was the secret revealed. Long before then people knew that he was a saint and his example has come down through the ages as the perfect model of Christmas giving.

His special love for little children combined with his secret visits of good cheer on Christmas Eve has made him the patron of childhood. How sad that so many American boys and girls do not know he is a saint of the Catholic Church whose feast is celebrated on December the 6th every year.

ship of ours about this man, and she said the man was "very nice", but that she doesn't want to be responsible. So, will you please tell me what you think about this? VERA.

DEAR VERA: Good heavens to Betsy, don't you be selling your home and driving 2,000 miles to marry a man you've never even met! Instead, invite him to drive to YOUR city so that you can become personally acquainted. If then you like what you see, take a trip to his town and meet his family, his clergyman, his boss... and maybe his creditors. Play it smart!

DEAR SALLY: I hope this doesn't make you laugh too much. It's serious with me. I'm a fellow of 16, a sophomore in high school, and have just started to date girls once in awhile. Every time I take a girl home after a date, her folks are waiting up for her—because the lights are on and I can see their heads in the window. Now the question is, should I kiss her goodnight in my car, or kiss her at the door and take a chance on being caught at it by one of her parents? I appreciate your advice very much. AMATEUR.

DEAR AMATEUR: My vote is for the front door... and take your chances. And it's much better to be "caught at it" out in the open than within the dark confines of your car.

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Hardware Co.
If It's Hardware, See Us!
Warrenton, N. C.

Norlina Super
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MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
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YOUR KELLY SPRINGFIELD DEALER
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Fuel Oil - Kerosene
YOUR TEXACO DEALER
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Complete Line of Hardware
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A Complete Food Market
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FCX STORE
Warrenton, N. C.

DEAR SALLY
DEAR SALLY: My sister-in-law has been married to my brother for five years, and all this time she has given us the impression that she is a strict teetotaler. At every party or family gathering she's always been insistent about this and has refused to accept any drink that contains alcohol, always taking just plain ginger ale. Then, last week at a party, while she was drinking her usual ginger ale, she excused herself and went out of the room. I happened to pass the bedroom where she was and I spotted her pulling what appeared to be a medicine bottle from her handbag and taking a big swallow from it. A few minutes later, after she had left, I checked the bottle, and sure enough... bourbon! Do you think I should have this out with her and tell her I happen to know how she's been trying to pull the wool over our eyes, when in reality she's a lush? IN THE KNOW.

DEAR IN THE KNOW: Stay out of it. Your sister-in-law needs help more than she needs humiliation. Letting her know that YOU know she has alcoholic tendencies will not improve the situation. And furthermore, the fact that you peddled your nose into her handbag and the general tone of your letter indicates that you are not moved by any desire to help or be understanding.

DEAR BACHELOR HUSBAND: It's wonderful that your wife has gained a daughter and love her so much. But it's a shame that she's fast losing a husband. A wife should never lose her devotion for the man she married and her interest in doing things with him. Tell her that there are such people as sisters, and that she positively MUST go out with you at least once a week, or she may live to regret it.

DEAR SALLY: I'm a widow of 54, still considered attractive, own my own home, a new car, and have a fairly comfortable income. I've been corresponding with a man whom I've never met. He happens to be a friend of a friend who thought it would be nice for us to get together. His letters have become very romantic, and then last week he phoned me long distance (2,000 miles away). He said he wants to marry me, and suggested that I sell my home, drive to his town, and with the money from my home we could build a new love-nest together. Now, I AM in a quandary. I asked the "friend" who started this mailbox friend-

WOOD'S CASH GROCERY
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LEGGETTS
Make Our Store Your Shopping Headquarters
WARRENTON, N. C.

RX For Christmas Cheer:
When All Else Fails, Just Shed A Tear
Sometimes a little reverse psychology proves best for bringing Christmas cheer to everyone. Last Christmas, a young Red Cross worker in an Army hospital overseas was working hard to cheer the soldier patients in a gloomy ward. But in spite of all her efforts—individual Christmas trees, funny gifts and a lively quartet—the soldiers remained downcast.

CHRISTMAS JOY
From all of us to all of you, may happiness be yours.

SAVING STORE
Clothing for the Entire Family!
Warrenton, N. C.

THE CITIZEN'S BANK
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
Warrenton, N. C.

Merry Christmas AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TOO
DIAMOND DISCOUNT STORE
Headquarters For Army Surplus and Used and New Clothing
WARRENTON, N. C.

LEGGETTS
Make Our Store Your Shopping Headquarters
WARRENTON, N. C.

that bad," said a GI. "Strike up some music, boys," ordered a hardboiled sergeant. "We have to cheer Miss Mac."
And everyone had the merriest Christmas since they were sent overseas... especially Miss Mac.
—CATHOLIC DIGEST

Christmas Goodies
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) mon stars and cakes that are much like candy are the delight

SERLES SINCLAIR Service Station
A Complete Car Check-Up
WARRENTON, N. C.

C & S SALES
NEW AND USED FURNITURE
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ROSE'S
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BULLOCK OIL COMPANY
Your ESSO DEALER
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All boys and girls who will enjoy their usual bountiful supply of Christmas goodies should be thankful that the boys and girls in some far away lands will also enjoy Christmas goodies even though they are very poor. These goodies will be made from flour, milk, sugar and other ingredients which our country sent to them from our food surplus of 1961.

Season's Greetings
Christmas Greetings
WE hope your Christmas tree is loaded with gifts of good health, prosperity and contentment.
Brown's Superette & Grill
G. M. BROWN, Owner
Warrenton, N. C.

To All of You from All of Us!
To Our Many Friends and Customers. Wishing You A Merry Christmas and A Prosperous New Year!
C & S SALES
NEW AND USED FURNITURE
Warrenton, N. C.

BEST WISHES AT CHRISTMAS TIME AND ALWAYS
May all the good things of life be yours now and forever is our wish for you and yours on Christmas.
ROSE'S
5-10-25c
Warrenton, N. C.

Long after the last present is opened may the good cheer of the Christmas season remain with you.
BULLOCK OIL COMPANY
Your ESSO DEALER
Warrenton, N. C.