

When you're buying Christmas presents for the children...

Don't get mechanical toys for the under-fives Do buy little dolls for little girls

MANY parents buy toys to please themselves and not their children, according to Mr. Hilary Page, psychologist and a pioneer designer of psychological toys.

Here he gives guidance in filling the Christmas stocking.

Don't buy mechanical toys for children under five. They prefer to push things along themselves rather than to watch things move. Don't give a large doll to a small girl. A little girl likes a doll

Through a woman's eyes by Constance Noville

that is soft and small enough to cradle.

Constructive toys are suitable for children from three years upwards. Puppets are frustrating for children who are too young to handle them.

WHAT'S YOUR BIRTH-HOUR?

It affects you all your life's claim

ASTROLOGER Michael Jenks delivered in a lecture in Dublin (from Africa) last night that a person's disposition depended on the time of day he was born.

People born around six a.m. "feel like six o'clock in the morning of their lives," he said. "It is a lonely hour and they will be lonely at work and play."

Those born at midday, when the

sun is shining, keep the sunshine in their lives. They court light and publicity.

Those born at six p.m. will have a "sundowner" complex, like people, parties, and mixing.

The midnight child, born at the hour of "privacy," will like living in the background, and make good bedroom boys in industry, said Mr. Jenks.



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What a real friend of the family is "Milk of Magnesia". Grows-up' indigestion... teen-age acidity... the youngster's tummy upsets... "Milk of Magnesia" dispels them all. Baby's "windigestion" too, is soon put right.

But "Milk of Magnesia" is more than a pleasant and effective antacid—it acts gently but surely as a laxative as well. A bottle kept handy in the Medicine Cabinet ensures ready relief whenever the need arises.

'Milk of Magnesia'

(SAVE MONEY!) Buy the large size containing 3 times as much!



LIKE FATHER LIKE SON—thank goodness they both wear FAULAT shirts!

The magic clean-again cuffs, three semi-stiff collars—reinforced front means double life and half the Laundry Bills.

Reinforced front—3-pocket coat-holes

Faulat SHIRTS are FAULTLESS SHIRTS

Obtainable in White, Self Colours and Stripes.

Pram styles

RICH babies out with their nannies in the royal parks, are going in for fancy decoration in their prams. They used to be noted for the severity of their plain navy covers.

Now they have lace-trimmed cushions and white embroidered linings or lace turn-backs over the top of their plain dark covers.

While we are prying into prams I can tell you that a friend who has removed from flat in Fulham to a house in an "upper income group" suburb, boasts that she can now push her babies out in their shabby pram without feeling self-conscious.

"The better the district, the poorer the pram," is her verdict.

Ministers relax

CHRISTMAS will be a home-gathering for most families, from the Prime Minister downwards. Mr. and Mrs. Churchill are going to Chequers, where they will be joined around the Christmas tree by their young grandchildren.

Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has ordered a quiet rest for himself after a strenuous time in Parliament. He and his wife and their three children will be going to their farm in Essex.

Mr. Harold MacMillan, Minister of Housing and Local Government, who describes himself as a patriarch, is looking forward to a fireside gathering at his home in Sussex, with his wife, four children and several grandchildren.

For Mr. Iain Macleod, the Minister of Health, Christmas will be an especially happy occasion. He will spend it quietly at home, as usually, celebrating his wife's return to good health after her serious illness.

Everest housekeeper

HOUSEKEEPER for the 1953 Christmas expedition to the North Pole is Mrs. J. M. Hunt, wife of the leader, Colonel John Hunt. She is not going with the climbers, but she is equipping their expedition with the best of everything.

Mrs. Hunt knows exactly what they want in the way of cooking utensils and household gadgets. She is an experienced housewife and has climbed with her husband in the Himalayas.

One of her jobs will be to find the "luxury box," perhaps the most important item in their luggage. It will contain what Major C. G. Wylie, the organising secretary, calls the "fads."

"We get faddy about food at very high altitudes and lose our appetites, so each of us is allowed to put something tempting in the luxury box," he said.

Daily basic rations for high altitudes will be 14 ounces of sugar, one gallon of water and a little pemmican (dried meat) which is less than the normal type. The sugar, used in sweet drinks, is to supply heat quickly.

Shopping snapshots

A DOLL'S SHOP has opened in a London toy fair. Every child can find a toy suitable to a party frock can be bought off the (doll-size) peg.

Present for a tidy husband: A dress stand, comprising shoulder hanger for jacket and waistcoat, rail for trousers, and a tray for pocket contents. Price £4 6s 9d.

"Pop's apron," introduced as a joke, and mentioned in this column a few weeks ago, has sold by the thousand.

Now a "serious" apron, like a butcher's in blue and white stripes, has appeared, price 9s 11d.

Ties can be bought in boxes ready for the post.

Ready-made almond icing can be had for 5s (enough for a large Christmas cake).

DUCHESS IS STILL THE BEST-DRESSED

MRS. MAMIE EISENHOWER, wife of the American President, elect, is one of the 12 best-dressed women in the world, according to the New York Dress Institute.

Top place on the Institute's list is still held by the Duchess of Windsor. She has been voted "number one" every year since 1942.

The Duchess of Kent has been placed third. This year the Institute extended its list from 10 to 12 to include two new political figures—Mrs. Eisenhower and Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, who is to be Federal Security Administrator in the Republican Government.

They tied for eleventh place.



These pipers in the Alhambra Memorial B&D, near Newry, have got over the difficulty of hunting for a march that is out of print. Their pipe major has reproduced it on a blackboard.

NEW-FASHIONED IDEAS FOR THE DRESS CONSCIOUS



Black and white woollen lardon skirt-styled shorts go with a loose-fitting white cotton terry cloth jacket in this new sports outfit by Margaret Glane of Milan. (P.A. REUTER PICTURE)

Among the fashions for the Coronation year is this dress in enveloped embossed pulque. The colours are in blue, plum-rose, green and rose. The bodice is a replica of the bodice that was worn by Princess Margaret at Ascot last year.

An unusual finish is given to this tight-fitting black silk dress designed by Pierre Clarence of Paris, by a 'scarf' of the same material which is brought down through a bell and 'flared' out.

MOST ULSTER GIRLS GET WED AT 21-25

Most popular age, Report says

FOR THOUSANDS OF ULSTER GIRLS in the 21-25 age group before next year's Christmas comes round—it will have brought marriage, for of all the women in the Province who dream of romance those are the ones most likely to wed.



Who says so? The Northern Ireland Registrar General's Report on births, marriages and deaths, just issued.

The Report—which covers the year 1950—shows that then 3,157 Ulster girls aged between 21 and 25 got married—far more than at any other ages.

The figures show that if a girl does not get married before she is 25 she is most likely to do so within the next five years. In 1950 more than 2,300 Ulsterwomen in the 25-30 group said "I do."

After this, however, chances of marriage decline rapidly, and of the 35 to 40 year olds a mere 475 found husbands.

At what age may a woman expect to be "on the shelf" for good? The answer is not until very late in life, because in the year under review six women in the 70's were married in Northern Ireland.

Under sixteen

In 1950 eight girls under 16 were married in Northern Ireland, and the average age for the Province worked out at 26½ years.

As for the men, the average Ulsterman waited until he was 30 before "taking the plunge"—a year later than in 1949.

Total marriages registered during the year numbered 9,084. Church was 132 fewer than in the previous 12 months.

Of the 1950 marriages, 2,638 were Roman Catholic, 2,815 Presbyterian, and 2,278 Church of Ireland.

The report states that Northern Ireland's population was greater by 80,185 than in 1947, with an increase of 11,914 in Belfast. Both births and deaths showed a decline on the 1949 figure.

Belfast bride carried her prayer book

COTTAM-LOWRY WEDDING

MISS DOROTHY ELIZABETH COTTAM, 21, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cottam, of 21, Victoria Road, Belfast, was married to Mr. S. H. Lowry, 69, Galway Avenue, Belfast.

Officiating at the service was Rev. J. Merrett, M.A., rector of St. Nicholas, and Canon L. W. Crooks, M.A. The choir of St. Nicholas led the singing and Mr. D. A. Williams was organist.

Miss Lowry wore a satin gown in ivory silk, with bodice of lace and tulle and train appliqued in bullfinches and sequins. She carried pale pink roses and lilies and an ivory buckled Prayer Book.

Her sister, Miss Mavis M. R. Lowry, was bridesmaid. Her frock was of net and tulle in pale blue, with a Juliet cap of net and forget-me-nots. She also carried a Prayer Book, as well as pale pink chrysanthemums.

Mr. Kenneth Raymond Harrison was best man.

Guests were entertained at Edenmore House, Balvaneen, the home of Captain and Mrs. Denton.

Leaving for a honeymoon in Mrs. J. C. Cottam wore a two-piece suit of moss green, with a coat of camel hair.

The bride's brother Mr. Desmond Lowry, came home from Canada for the wedding.

Belfast's 250,000

The population in 1950 was estimated at 1,368,930, and of that 420,000 people were living in Belfast.

Derry's population was 48,719 while Banagher had 18,635. Portadown 17,159, Lurgan 16,112, and Lisburn 15,428.

The birthrate, at 28.794, showed a decrease of 312 on the previous year, while the figure for deaths—15,839—was 187 less than in 1949.

The death rate from tuberculosis, which stood at 6.48 per 1,000 of the population, was the lowest ever recorded.

News Briefs

'THE POOR OLD MAN' LEFT A FORTUNE

MR. WILLIAM ROBERTS, of Claude Road, Cardiff, a 93-year-old retired clerk, who was regarded as "the poor old man" by his neighbours and who would never take a bus or tram and lived in a furnished bedroom, left £21,572. He died on January 14, 1951, intestate.

Sir Evelyn flies back

Sir Evelyn Baring, Governor of Kenya, left London Airport today for Nairobi after his visit to London to report on the Mau Mau terrorist activities.

EXECUTED at Wandsworth Prison

was John Liversy, 281, who was sentenced to death at the Old Bailey on October 24 for the murder of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Stephanie Small. Liversy was said to have stabbed Mrs. Small 24 times in the back.

TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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