

SANTA'S TOYLAND IS A GAY PLACE

Old Fellow's Mail Bag Already
Crowded With Letters
From Children.

EVERYTHING TO PLEASE.

DOLLIES THAT TALK, BEARS
THAT PERFORM, EELS THAT
WRIGGLE AND CATS THAT PUR
AMONG MANY NOVELTIES.

Santa Claus' pack will be heavier
than ever this Christmas, for his first
aid, the toy makers are hard at it
turning out playthings for the young-
sters.

The jolly old fellow's mail bag is
already bulging with letters from his
young constituents, unpunctuated and
misspelled epistles, with the letters
crawling uphill, but Santa will man-
age to decipher them, and indications
are that there will be no unfilled stock-
ings this 25th of December.

Every toy shop in the city is ready
to rush orders. It won't be the fault
of "the man behind the counter" if
every boy and girl in Richmond
doesn't have a merry Christmas. It
won't be the fault either of the toy-
makers in Germany and France who
have sent over here shiploads of fas-
cinating toys, mechanical dollies, per-
forming bears, boats that sail on bath-
tub seas and cats that really meow.

The mechanical toys this year will
delight the youngster who can't be
satisfied with a doll unless it says
"mamma" or "pappa" or who hasn't
any use for the dog that can't emit
some sort of a bark.

"Straight from Paris" have come
some wonderful creations. There is a
trapeze performing lady, who needs
only the impetus of a shove to start her
turning flips in midair which out-
do the evolutions of a heroine of the
sawdust ring. Then there are small
black bruits that wiggle their
haunches and kick up their feet in a
gleeful frenzy, and a teddy bear that
has been fitted up with spiral insides
that put him in a frolicking mood and
make his heels lighter than his head.

It is really true about the cat that
says "Meow." She purrs delightfully
when you pick her up, and if you rock
her gently from side to side she makes
such a realistic noise that the humane
thing seems to be to get her a saucer
of milk. There is another puss that has
real fur and a snow white tom cat
with a mouse between its paws.

The imported animals are more nu-
merous and elaborate this year than
ever. Paris has contributed bull dogs
and toy spaniels, poodles and terriers
that would draw prizes at any dog
show. The Taft elephant and, the
Bryan donkey will be favorite gifts,
and puss-in-boots, one of the newest
arrivals is sure to make a tremendous
hit.

Of course, there are old toys that
can never be supplanted. No one
has been so rash as to try to replace
the Noah's ark or even to modify it,
and Noah and his wife, the animals
painted gray and brown with yellow
spots just as irresistible, tempt little
mouths as they did years ago, when
the paint tasted so good.

There is an endless variety of water
toys, whales that squirt, eels that wig-
gle their tails as they squirm along,
motor boats and hydroplanes and a
fascinating lady in a gaudy bathing
suit who swims like a life saver.

You can't begin to recount the toys
that there are for boys—drums and
sifes and steam engines, clowns and
sailors, soldiers for mimic warfare
and the humpty-dumpty circus with its
unlimited possibilities for fun.

For the baby there are blocks and in-
fantum and rattles, balls and rubber
toys that can't be swallowed and, of
course, picture books galore. There is
no falling off in the demand for dolls
and the small girl of today has the
maternal instinct just as fully devel-
oped as her grandmother had. Bisque
and china doll babies an endless var-
iety of rubber and rag infants, French
dolls with elaborate toilets and the
ever popular "celluloid" doll are here
waiting to be claimed by their prospec-
tive owners. Doll houses and furniture
trunks for the doll's wardrobe and
many accessories of dress for the di-
minutive lady have been provided in
unlimited variety at prices to suit the
fattest and the leanest pocketbook.

The vogue of the "celluloid baby" is
greater than ever this year—and the
reason for this is, of course, that soap
and water ablutions don't mar her
smiling countenance and that no
amount of bathing will decrease her
chubbiness.

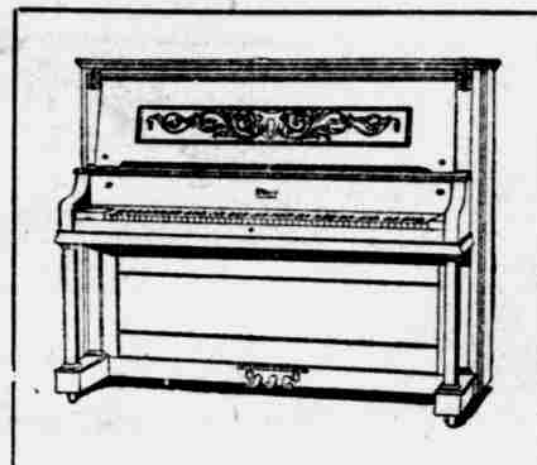
Domestic instincts of the embryo
housekeeper are encouraged by tin
kitchens, dining room sets of dishes,
cooking utensils and household im-
plements with which the busy make be-
lieve housewife lightens the burdens
of her home-making duties.

The toy department of one of the big
department stores is presided over
these holidays by Mrs. Katzenjammer
—the roly-poly Dutch woman of comic
supplement fame. "Mr. Jigger" is an-
other prevailing genius of the do-
main of toys who can make things
German art toys are more attractive
than ever, and an innovation is the
game of Russian jack straws which
consists of hooking up diminutive toys
of every shape and variety.

The Twilight Of Life.
The muscles of the stomach in old age are not
as strong or active as in youth and in conse-
quence old people are very subject to constipa-
tion and indigestion. Many seldom have a
bowel movement without artificial aid. Many
also have unpleasant cructations of gas from
the stomach after eating. All this can be avoid-
ed by the use of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin
which permanently regulates the bowels so the
passages come naturally, and so strengthen
the stomach that food is digested without dis-
comfort. Druggists sell it at 50 cents or \$1 a
large bottle.



The Home Comforts Are Not Complete Thanksgiving Day Unless You Have a Piano



The Acme of Musical Excellence

The STARR PIANO

The Yard Stick of Commerce Can Not Be Used in
Making a Piano of Art

THERE is something in a piano besides wood and metal. There is a soul which
gives it an individuality and a timbre. To the eye all violins may look alike, but
placed in the hands of a master, the strains of a real Stradivarius bespeak that indefin-
able art that has entered into its construction. The same is true with a piano. There
is something to be attained even after the mechanical possibilities have been exhausted
and the rules of the most scientific construction have been carried out in detail.

The Starr Piano not only represents the highest type of piano construction, but it is
also acknowledged to possess that "unseen" quality which makes it a work of art instead
of a piece of machinery, which has commended it to prominent musicians.

Additional Facts For Richmond People

In addition to the general qualities of durability, tone
quality, constructive details and artistic designs and finish,
people of Richmond should bear in mind that in THE STARR
PIANO they have an instrument that saves them the large
middleman's profit. It is sold direct from the factory to
you. No shipping expenses, no agent's commission, and
agency's expenses. The Starr Piano Company is a home
concern, and the Home people get the benefit. Come in
and see our splendid collection for Thanksgiving and Holi-
day trade. Our prices are right, and you can pay for any
piano on our floors, by using our easy payment plan, you
choosing your own way.

The Musician Who Cannot Play

The greatest boon of the times is the player-piano. It
enables those who are lovers of music, but who cannot
play, to sit down and enjoy a classical, sacred, operatic or
rag-time piece of music, and by our careful study in
making these instruments, the effect is almost the same as
played by the composer. We invite every citizen of Rich-
mond and surrounding territory to come in and try the lat-
est pieces on our player-piano. We keep a nice library of
the latest music in our parlors and want you to feel you
are welcome at all times. If your piano is not used as
much as you would like to hear it, we suggest that you
change it for one of these instruments.

Special Sale of Used Pianos

We have on our floors a few STARR used pianos. They are only slightly
worn, and we will dispose of them at remarkably low prices, and on terms to
suit you. See them. Also organs in the very best condition will sell cheap.

You are always welcome to call at our factory and witness the making of a STARR
from its inception to its completion.

Why not buy it for Christmas now? Our stocks were never more complete, both in
Pianos and Player-Pianos. Beautiful veneers in the natural woods — mahogany, walnut,
oak and ebony. At any rate, do not fail to call at our salesrooms, inspect our goods, and
learn our terms before you buy.

And we save you the agent's commission.

Direct from factory to you.

STARR PIANO CO.

Warerooms, 10th and Main