

BAPTIST FEATURES

Children's Page
August 18, 1955

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127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn.

TOYTIME

BY: Marion Flood French

Once there was a toy village.

It sat in a straggley line beside a mirror sea. It had three houses, a log cabin, a school house and a garage. It also had a church with a slender, white steeple. Inside the steeple were silver bells that sang.

Up, away up on the kitchen shelf beneath the night light sat a cardboard cream carton. It was square and small with a peaked roof. It looked at the toy village all day and all night. It looked so long that it almost seemed to look like the toy houses in the village.

"But I really don't," sighed the cream carton. "For look at those houses. They are scarlet and yellow and blue. They have slick, slate roofs. I'm hardly any color at all. I have wax and letters all over me."

But still he couldn't help but think how nice it would be if he were gay enough to be in the toy village beside the mirror sea.

He thought so much about it that he grew sadder and sadder. He grew sorrier and sorrier for himself. He grew so sad and so sorry that he made the whole village uncomfortable. "It's catching you know," said the log cabin to the three gay houses.

"We certainly ought to do something," rumbled the garage to the school house.

"Maybe we can. Maybe we can," sang the silver bells. "What color would you like to be?"

"I'd like to be a pretty pink," called the cream carton. "I'd like to have a green roof." "But it's hopeless, I guess. They've forgotten me."

"I wouldn't give up," sang the silver bells. "Maybe they are only waiting for toytime."

"When is that?" asked the cream carton.

"They don't know for sure," sang the silver bells. "Some say it is Halloween. Some say it is Christmas Eve. Some think it is Valentine's Day or maybe even Easter.

"But when do you think it is?" asked the cream carton.

"We think it is a rainy day. The nicest things happen on rainy days you know."

So the cream carton settled back on the shelf to wait for a rainy day. He waited through sunny days and cloudy ones. He waited through cold days and warm ones. And then it rained.

Sure enough. Into the kitchen they came. They lifted the cream carton down from the shelf. They painted him all over with pretty pink nail polish. They poked tiny holes all over his roof with a darning needle. They filled his inside with soft sand. They sprinkled the soft sand with grass seed.

Then just as the cream carton began to glow with happiness, the sun came out. They put the cream carton back on the shelf.

"Oh now, look," wailed the cream carton unhappily. "It didn't do me a bit of good. I'm still alone."

"Yes, it did too," sang the bells. "You are now a pretty pink. Sit up prim and proper. Wait and see."

So the cream carton waited some more. He waited through soft warm weather. He waited through sunshiney days. And then it rained.

They came. They lifted him off the shelf and put him down in the middle of the village. They put him right at the edge of the mirror sea.

The cream carton looked down and there he was. He was a pretty pink and he had

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grown a beautiful green roof.

The log cabin polished its logs. The three gay houses winked their slick slate roofs. The garage and the school house glowed importantly. The silver bells sang, "You see, you see."

It was the most complete toy village for miles around.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Art for this story was mailed July 15.

STARS

By: Gladys Cleone Carpenter

God put stars in the sky;

And stars in the grass.

Little blossoms of yellow

That nod as we pass. (star grass.)

God put stars in the sea

That we never would know

'Till they're left on the shore

When the tide's running low. (star fish)

COLOR FUN

BY: Violet M. Roberts

Color the spaces marked with "G" with your green pencil. The "Y" spaces are to be colored yellow. The "B" spaces are to be colored black. After all spaces have been colored, turn this page upside down, and you will find in yellow and black something you see in many farmyards.

NOTE TO EDITORS: The mat that goes to the above is labeled B. You will have to turn the mat upside down when you set type.

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