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POST OFFICE TRAILER.  
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Christmas is almost here. So this timely warning. Father's got his own reminder - and a good one, too.

~~These~~ Christmas presents will have to be posted much earlier, if they are to get there in time. ~~after all,~~ <sup>don't</sup> you can always write on the label, "~~do not~~ open till Christmas Day", to make sure that the Christmas pudding is not attacked on Christmas Eve. ~~Yes, the proof of the pudding is still in the pudding.~~

~~But~~ This year, owing to war conditions, the postman's job is going to be very ~~very~~ difficult. There'll be the same enormous avalanche of parcels, but with fewer staff to deal with them; and a whole lot of other complications due to so many people being obliged to change their address - and sometimes more than once.

~~The black-out of this house must have had a grand sense of humour.~~

The Black-out doesn't make things any brighter either. Collecting letters in a half-light is a big problem, and ~~so is~~ transportation ~~no less so~~. And with the black out period getting longer and longer delay is unavoidable.

As a result the job of the postmen and the sorters ~~is harder & ever~~ <sup>is harder & ever</sup> isn't an enviable one. Many an address ~~may look~~ <sup>looks</sup> all right on an envelope but ~~it simply~~ <sup>the house</sup> isn't there any more; so the letter has to ~~go into a special pigeon hole~~ <sup>be returned</sup> until the owner can be traced.

But that doesn't stop the postman from trying to "deliver the goods"; and often he'll turn up at a house with a parcel for yet another tenant who's "gone away". ~~Later~~, ~~There~~ wasn't much left to stay for.

So ~~the~~ <sup>another</sup> parcel goes back to the post office, until the bombed tenant applies for it, or his new address is traced.

(forms)

Remember - just let the post office know your new address immediately on the special ~~one~~ forms provided; and don't forget to tell your friends.

Another point is that this Christmas, the post office won't be able to get as many temporary staff as usual, as so many are in the Services.

The postman has a problem too, in finding your house in the black-out - just as you sometimes have.

Many other difficulties crop up or drop down too - like this -

Somebody once said that "there's no present like ~~the~~ time, and no time like the present." If you should be a little before time - well, so much the better. JUST DO THIS.

She's not going to be late, for one. She's doing her bit to help the Postal Authorities do theirs.

Follow her good example and post now, but in any case not later than the 18th December.