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CHRISTMAS WEEK NEARS

London wears the Old Look - the carnival trappings of the year's happiest month. Just for once austerity goes overboard, as kids from far and near come to Toytown - and father resigns himself to paying up cheerfully.

Counters this year are packed with more toys and better toys than at any Xmas since pre-war. There's even a balloon that won't go bang.

Father always has the dirty end of the deal. Santa Claus gets all the credit, while father foots the bill. But the kids can't have it all ways. Shan't be long son, going to see a man about a rocking-horse.