

# Last Minute Home-Made Gifts That Will Always Be Appreciated

By EDITH B. CRUMB.

JUST one more week before everything in the way of Christmas gifts should be completed, and pretty nearly every dear lady who promised herself that each gift and card should be all ready for delivery by at least the fifteenth of December is scurrying around in order to have them completed by the twenty-fourth.

There is this one, that one and the other one for whom gifts must be prepared, little time in which to do this, and yet something individual is desired.

## GIFTS IN THE JAM CLOSET.

Many a good house-wife worries about the time she must find to go down town and shop around for

something different when she has some of the very best gifts in the world right in her own jam closet and cookie jar.

Now is the time of the year when these closets and jars are filled to the edges and a few glasses of jelly, marmalade or jam will never be missed—and what if they are—as long as someone is made happy.

A 10c can of lacquer and a five-cent brush are all that one needs to put the Christmas touch to any of the glasses of these precious sweets. The metal covers should be lacquered in a bright shade of red and in the center of each should be pasted a holly sticker. These can be bought by the box in gummed label form, approximately 25 in a box for 10c. One, two or three of these glasses would be a delight to anyone who is not in a

position to do her own jelly making, because no matter how much one pays in the stores, it seems almost impossible to buy that good old-time home-made taste.

## PACKING THE BOXES.

Metal cans such as coffee is packed in may be lacquered in red, decorated with holly seals and filled with small Christmas cookies. Waxed paper should be used for the lining of the can, then cookies put in to within an inch of the top, crushed tissue paper filling the remainder of the can and on top of this a paper doiling should be placed, (preferably a green one) before putting on the cover.

Home-made candies may be packed in the same manner; and don't forget what a treat a real home-made fruit-cake is. A pound

of this may be wrapped in that fascinating transparent paper, tied with a red ribbon and decorated with a sprig of real holly.

## TINY ELBOW PILLOWS.

A set of boudoir pillows is a very handsome gift, one which is not expensive and yet very simple to make. These may be small sized—not much larger than the little elbow pillows—those pudgy little ones which are just right to put on the arm of a chair and lazily lean on while reading.

If these are cut twelve inches square, one-third of a yard of material will make one and there will be a twelve-inch square left from which two six-inch sachets may be made. So by getting one-third of

a yard each of apricot, light green and lavender taffeta, one will have sufficient material for a set of three pillows and two sets of sachets, three in each.

The inner pillows may be of muslin, stuffed with a commercial filler and these should be only about 11 1/4 inches square when finished, so that the seams on the twelve-inch square will not be stretched.

## ADDING THE DECORATIONS.

In the center of the top of each pillow a small cluster of flowers may be embroidered in wool or chenille with just a touch of silver or gold metal thread. This may be a very simple design, executed in lazy daisy and French knot stitches. And to make these pillows more

attractive, the predominating color in the design of each should be different—ashes of roses on the light green, French blue on the apricot and turquoise on the lavender.

These pillows should be arranged in a pile and tied with a gold or silver metal ribbon and bow. This ribbon should be about one inch wide.

Satin may be used in place of taffeta, if desired; and now the stores are exhibiting silk velvet as one of the favorite materials for pillows of this type. This is especially attractive when decorated with a small quilted motif in the center of the pillow top.

And one need never hesitate to give just one of these very lovely little pillows, which, if wrapped in transparent paper, takes on a real "Christmasy" air.

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gifts and many of them would like artistic and good looking.