

The Gospel According to St. Buck

- 1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a greed from all, that they might have more.
- 2 [And this greed first came about when Material Wealth became important.]
- 3 And all went out to get more, everyone in his own way.
- 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; [because he was of the house and lineage of David:]
- 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- 6 And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- 7 And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- 8 And there were in the same city, businessmen abiding in their shops and marketplaces, keeping watch over their money by day and night
- 9 And then, a great Idea came upon them, and the signs of dollars shone through their eyes, and they were filled with greed.
- 10 And the Idea said to them, Fear nothing, for behold, I bring you a fantastic opportunity for great wealth, which shall be to all who have money already.
- 11 For starting this day, which is 25 days prior to Thanksgiving, you shall start sales and other exploitations of Christmas.
- 12 And this shall be a sign unto you to start; Ye shall see little children entering you shops and marketplaces, looking for costumes and masks to celebrate Halloween.
- 13 And suddenly there shall be Christmas decorations and psychedelic aluminum trees everywhere, with loudspeakers proclaiming: Joy to the world, if you shop now, and Silent night, Holy night, all is claim if you shop early and right.
- 14 And each year hereafter, the "Christmas" season will start earlier than the year before, so that soon the "time to buy for Christmas" will be in January of the same year.
- 15 And so it shall be, that the wealthy businessmen will get richer and richer as the years go by.
- 16 And it came to pass, as the Idea was put into effect, the people of the fair city said one unto another, Let us go now, even though it is still October, to see and buy the Christmas items in the stores, which the T.V. hath made known unto us.
- 17 And they came with haste, and found "specials," and "sales," and the babe in the manger shoved to one side.

RUEGGY

TONGUES OF FIRE

"Close your eyes and go to sleep! When you wake up you will find that Santa has left you lots of presents under the tree!" "Close your eyes and when you wake up you will discover that the Easter Bunny has filled your basket with candy!"

Why is it that on the two most important holidays, that Christians celebrate, you can hear parents telling their children to shut their eyes to the true meaning of the season? Commercial Christmases and Eas-ters are part of the American tradition, but there is nothing stopping you from having a meaningful celebration within your own heart. As this Christ-

mas season draws nearer, let us prayerfully approach it-asking God to make the familiar Christmas story of Jesus' birth alive and new and real to us this year. Let us remember the humble beginnings where our Lord began his earthly pilgrimage.

If we must shut our eyes during this season, let it be to whisper a prayer of thanksgiving-awed by the tremendous potential of a little baby born under the shining star of God's guidance.

Thought: God loved me so much, that He sent His perfect Son into this world of cruel rejection to suffer and die for me.

Dear Editor,

We, as students workers, do a mighty good job for those that employ us, and we are mighty proud to be representing the college in the different positions that we do. However, pride in the college is not going to pay our bills. Yes, we have debts and creditors to pay off, just like a "real person." This letter is to let the people that pay us know that we are quite upset at the tardiness of our paychecks, again. It's not like we are making a lot, (heaven forbid!)

but what we do make does help out when it comes time to pay the bills, which unfortunately, this month are already past due.

Not only are we upset but so are the people that we owe. However, they are upset at us, not at the real culprits in this matter...the ones responsible for the lateness of our checks. The pay checks were supposed to be handed over into our possession on the 29th of November. It is now December, and have we seen any checks?

OFF THE WALL

By MITCH PARKER

Christmas is finally here. I know it is because of the change in the weather. The temperature has got down to a least 50 degrees one day. Another way I know its here because the Final Exams are coming up. Exams are not a nice way to end a semester and start a Christmas break but with the good must come the bad. But, the dead giveaway that made me think Christmas was here was the huge Christmas tree in the Student Center. When they decorated it they forgot to put candy canes on it. If they did that we would have something good to eat at the cafeteria. All the tree really needs, thought, is a bunch of presents under it. And it would really be great if they were all for me. I don't want to sound greedy though, so I plan to give away a couple of presents. The following is my list:

For Rueggy (the editor) a new whip because he wore out the old one on the staff; for J. Fred and Kendall Church - 10 free visits to Dix Hill for a little rest;

To the nurse-a new rectal thermometer because someone bit the last one in two; to Ralph-Betty Crocker's book, "Great Recipes";Let's hope he can follow directions.

To the professors (except mine because this would not be appropriate for them) a book "How to Put Yourself to Sleep". I thought this would be good for them since they have been doing it to us all semester;

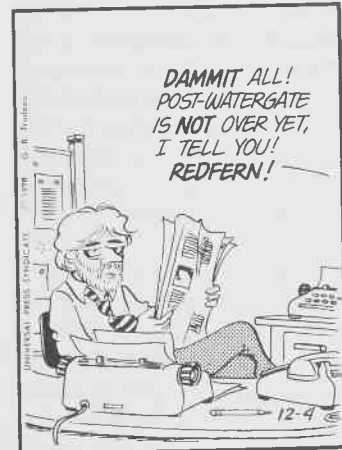
To all the guys in my fraternity-a keg...of water; to my sister-a pair of "buckets". (If it doesn't make sense, ask her.)

To my professors-the pleasure of not having to see me

next semester...maybe. I think that is everybody. Well it's been a long semester and this is probably the last time you hear from me this year. Oh, by the way, that is your present, not having to read "Off the Wall" anymore this year.

Well, I will see y'all next semester, so have a good Christmas and a happy New Year. And remember be back next semester ready for more fun and great times that I know y'all have here at AC. At least I hope you have a good time here. I'd hate to think I'm the only one who's not.

DOONESBURY



by Garry Trudeau

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