

THE PATHWAY OF PEACE

(Ed. Note: Due to the timeliness of this editorial, which was printed last year, the editor obtained permission to reprint this in this issue.)

From the time when the first Christmas hymn was sung by the angelic choir, Christmas has been a time for taking stock of ourselves and for the renewing of faith in fundamental truths of living. We shall read poems and stories and editorials and shall hear sermons on the theme of peace on earth and good will toward men. We shall sing again with Phillips Brooks that the "hopes and fears of all the years" are met in the Christ today as they were in Bethlehem of old.

Is it possible that we might be too busy taking stock of the hopes and fears of states and of nations, of peoples being persecuted in other lands, or of abstract theorizing about unemployment and the fighting in Spain and China to be aware of empty spaces in our own lives? We would not question for a moment the imperative need to know and to form conclusions about great world problems but how will our conclusions help to spread peace if we are only empty shells of opinion? What can come of plunging ourselves into feverish discussion and thwarted desire to do something about the tangle of world affairs when we in our own smaller realms fight wars of prejudice and persecute our neighbors with unjust attitudes?

Can there be peace on earth, an abiding peace, until there is peace in the hearts of men? Violent prejudices, misguided ambitions, and fear can mar the calm of men as well as of nations. Only when he is at peace within himself can the individual be a true force for growth toward peace in the world.

Do we have within ourselves that poise of spirit which fosters peace in others? Within our own college community, what is our influence? Do we

practice the love and charity toward our neighbor that we so readily point out as lacking in Europe today? In imperfections of life around us there lies the need for growth with the opportunity to give of our strength. The Greeks taught us to honor perfection but Christ taught us to understand imperfection and to be charitable.

Resources for understanding are near at hand, more conveniently placed than for almost any other class of people. We live with people and with books; these are life and the mirrors of life. They can help us to better understanding and to sympathy for our fellowman whether he be a neighbor on the campus or across the sea. Are our attitudes and principles conducive to peace at home as well as abroad?

Every individual can be a nucleus for peace, even world peace, through the positive force of that inner calm which comes from sureness of faith and the ability to wait quietly when in doubt. One does not need to be a person of unusual capacities or of extensive influence. Where our influence fades, those who have caught the vision will carry it father so long as it rings true and convincing.

In these troubled times then, let us renew within ourselves the significance of the Christmas message of peace on earth, good will toward men. Let us fill the empty spaces in our own lives with Love, Mercy, and Charity. For true peace can grow outward toward one's fellowman only from a strong root within the heart.

"And all must love the human form

In heathen, Turk, or Jew;

Where Mercy, Love, and Pity dwell,

There God is dwelling too."—Agnes Stout.

CHRISTMAS

That time of the year, which is the climax of all things, is fast arriving—Christmas. It is then that the happiest holidays of the year are spent; the old year has almost expired, and thoughts of resolutions and possibilities for the New Year are playing around in everyone's mind. Above all, it is the birthday of One whom we have all been taught to love and honor.

Christmas is symbolic of myriad things. To some it means happiness and reunion with friends and family; to others, it means sadness and solitude, perhaps on some distant and ravaged battlefield, perhaps in the midst of a big city. Christmas always means giving—whole heartedly and willingly; and for every phase of giving there is the happiness and fellowship that someone gets in receiving.

Christmas is broad. It is far away, in Paris and Melbourne and San Francisco and New York; yet, it is right here, in your home, in your city—and in your heart. Wherever you go, Christmas will come at its place in December, because Christmas is more than a holiday; it is a spirit that dwells in the mind and heart throughout the year and on December 25th it spreads and flourishes over all. Even the death roar of guns, and the boom of cannons in the distance can not drown out the peace and contentment that comes when the bells ring out the Noel of Christmas—"Peace on earth, good will toward men." That is the message of Christmas and it will be heard.

MARY JANE HART.

Student Opinion

How do you think the scholastic standing of Queens could be raised? "The best medicine for curing sick or low scholarship in this student body is a large dose of few or no cuts, mixed with close intelligent attention in class, taken regularly."

ELIZABETH GREEN, Senior.

"Scholarship is practically synonymous with work. Let's devote a little more time to work, and the scholastic standing will raise accordingly."

CAROLINE EDWARDS, Junior.

"I think that this problem of raising the scholastic standing of Queens is serious. My opinion is that if there were more co-operation between faculty and students, this would raise the standards considerably."

INEZ FULBRIGHT, Sophomore.

"I think that the raising of scholarship must be a co-operative movement on the part of both teachers and students. Interest plays a big part in the work and grades a student makes, if one is bored and has to force oneself to go to a class naturally not much work will be given to that course. So it is up to the teachers to make their classes so interesting that students will not want to cut them. On the part of the student, she should realize the need of doing her work day by day. I know that at some schools all freshmen and failing upperclassmen are required to put up a *busy* and *study* in their rooms at night. A supervisor sees that this is enforced. This method works fairly well at those schools. Do you think ours is different? Do you think ours is different?"

GEORGIE HURT, Senior.

"P. S.—I can't think of a thing for day students." H. G.

"The scholastic standards of Queens can be raised by first raising the scholastic standards of the entrance requirements to Queens. This will enable the faculty members to require more thorough work from the students than they now require."

TERA BAILEY, Junior.

"Sororities could use their influence on pledges and actives to raise their scholarship. Queens has taken long strides forward socially, but one would be prouder to say she had graduated from a Queens with a higher scholastic rating."

ANNE CROMATIE, Sophomore.

Summary:

From this consensus of opinion five main points are brought out concerning the raising of the scholastic standing of Queens:

1. More emphasis on studying.
2. Fewer cuts in classes.
3. More co-operation between faculty and students.
4. Raising of entrance requirements of Queens.
5. More studying.

—LIB BRAMMER.

How About Your O.A.O.

By PATSY NIVEN

I imagine nearly every girl at Queens has her O. A. O. (one and only) in mind—whether she's already met him, or still has her fingers crossed!—so, we thought everyone might be interested in seeing what three things other girls deem most important for their ideal.

How do the following girls' O.A.O.'s check with yours?

Justine Jones, 1. Personality; 2. Patience.

Dot Dorn—1. Good dancer; 2. Personality; 3. Appearance.

Virginia Smith—1. Character; 2. Character; 3. Character.

Nancy Walker—1. Looks; 2. Money; 3. *Must* be a Beta."

(Continued on page six)

Poems

THROW ANOTHER LOG

"At Christmas time" the saying goes,
"There's nothing like the present."
A custom from that quip arose
That is definitely pleasant.

A dollar here—a dollar there,
And as we sow we reap;
And by shopping with a care
We find it twice as cheap:

The Yuletide cards so full of cheer
And wishes for the future—
Remodelled some from year to year
With prices that will suit you.

The shoppes and the department stores
Triumphantly display
"Something each girl adores"
(Its been there every day.)

A gift for her; a gift for him—
Oh, hopeful, helpful hints,
But happy chances are very slim;
Though not so, the candy mints.

Oh, glorious, joyous Yuletide season,
Your weighty problems perplex;
How can one give within reason
What someone least expects?

The moral of this poem, then:
(There is one to be sure!)
If your strength be as of ten—
Ere long it will be fewer.

—JAY.

GLORY TO GOD

"Glory to God" the Angels sang
While the earth in silence lay.
"Peace to the world, good will to men"
Awed shepherds knelt to pray.

"A King is born in Bethlehem
And this shall be a sign
Ye shall find him wrapped in swaddling clothes
In a manger where a star shines."

The kings of the east paid homage
To the small child that day,
As he lay in the midst of people
Humble and poorer than they.

One thousand nine hundred years ago
The Christ child was born to man
Centuries of time have rolled away
Since the night when the angels sang.

But still in the midnight silence
You can hear the Angels say
Glory to God in the highest
And Peace to the world this day.

—Pete Munroe.

CHRISTMAS EVE

The candles in the windows flicker low
Casting fantastic shadows on the snow
'Tis Christmas eve and yet how few
souls dare to know

The meaning of this sacred night.
How few hearts blessed by happy
years of plenty
Seem to remember who hast given
the same.

The guests who so easily forget
How can they know real joy
When the host stands waiting in the
cold outside alone.

—Pete Munroe.

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT!

For any English student—
Sing out the praises
Long and loud!—
If he has never had
The urge to write about
The Christmas shopping crowd.

—Mary Jane Hart.

SOULS

Our souls are wings
By which we fly to higher things.
But if our wings are weak
Or numbed by sordid storms of life,
We can not fly.
We only sink, and drown
Beneath the world's ignoble strife.

—Pete Munroe.

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