

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

And It Came To Pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David);

To be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

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.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

—From the Gospel according to St. Luke.

THOSE LAST frantic days before Christmas... the rushing crowds, the excited children, the brilliant lights, the flashing Christmas trees, the music, and the spirit of the Christ-child being reflected, it seems to us, more and more, in the many nice things being done in the community for those who still struggle along in comparative poverty, who were unable to keep their footing in the race for gold... Contributions continue to come into the empty stocking fund, and many families have taken the responsibility of dressing at least one underprivileged child in snug, warm garments, so that it may attend school in comfort... Packages are being prepared by organizations and individuals for those who don't have enough of life's necessities... some few of our hates and prejudices and callous notions are being discarded as the holy season draws near, and an awful lot of the folks in the community are going to have a mighty happy Christmas day... Happy, because they have made a fairly generous effort toward allaying human misery... have, in short, served the Lord, in a little more practical fashion, for these last few days.

THE TUESDAY CLUB, composed of a group of local ladies who meet, and play bridge, and talk, and enjoy themselves ever so often... and which, rather consistently, manages to keep itself out of print... deserves recognition for a gesture of generosity... Customarily the ladies hold a Christmas party, lay the cash on the line for a sumptuous dinner, exchange gifts, and otherwise enjoy themselves... At the last meeting plans were in the offing for the same sort of gathering, when someone had a thought of the folks who had no gifts, no banquets, no carols, and no fun... So, the plans were faced about, and the total cost of the cancelled banquet, the gifts and whatnot, is to be spent for the benefit of the needy... Congratulations... These little manifestations of a Christianity one can see and feel, are heartening to those of us who sometimes grow cynical... And Tuesday club members will enjoy themselves far more than had they gathered around the festive board and exchanged gifts, which weren't needed, and not particularly wanted.

MRS. TEXIE COTTRELL, one of our old friends, has a brief session with us, and we compare a few notes on the many avenues for Christian service now existing in the community as regards the material needs of the unlucky ones... and tears brimmed in her kindly eyes, as she told us of some of her manifold efforts in behalf of these people... Living, practicing and believing in an active Christianity, Mrs. Cottrell is doing fully as much to promote the Kingdom as those who deliver masterful discourses over nationwide radio networks... Her works are where we can see them... When she wished us a Merry Christmas (Continued on page four.)

Merry

CHRISTMAS



As the radiant smile of Santa Claus heralds the arrival of the season of joy and of gladness, we think of the many courtesies which have been shown us during the waning year... The goodwill of our advertisers and printing department patrons... The cooperation and varied expressions of appreciation from our large family of readers... The pleasant associations with all the folks of the community and county... are among the many blessings we have enjoyed. With a sincere appreciation for all the kindnesses and helpfulness of our many friends, please accept our best wishes for a Very Merry Christmas.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

Burley Sales in Boone 2,200,000 Pounds

ROEBUCK SAYS LOCAL BURLEY MARKET GIVES GOOD SERVICE

Field Representative for Burley Warehouse Group Lauds Boone Market; Says Every Sale Has Full Set Buyers.

E. L. Roebuck, Jr., field representative of the Burley Auction Warehouse Association, today praised Boone warehousemen for their service to growers of burley tobacco.

"It is gratifying to know that every burley auction sale in Boone is operated with a full set of buyers," Roebuck said. "In Boone, there is genuine competitive bidding for every pile of tobacco offered for sale at auction."

The Burley Auction Warehouse Association has condemned "rump sales" (sales operated without a full set of buyers). By a campaign of publicity, the Association has pointed out that growers should protect themselves by selling their tobacco only at bona fide auctions such as are being conducted here.

Organized by warehousemen but dedicated to farmer service, the Burley Auction Warehouse Association has rapidly become an able and effective spokesman for producers of burley tobacco. The warehousemen led the successful fight for continuance of 90% parity loans on tobacco.

Recently, the Burley Auction Warehouse Association opposed a 20% slash in tobacco quotas for 1950. A partial victory was won when the cut was held to 14.7%.

The Association is active in building burley exports. In cooperation with the Burley and dark leaf tobacco export association, the warehousemen have sponsored Mr. Hugh Taylor in a trip to Europe as a good will representative for burley tobacco.

Side by side with tobacco growers, the Burley Auction Warehouse Association has worked for crop control, 90% loans, orderly markets, burley exports and farmer prosperity. "Every warehouseman in Boone is an active member of the Association," Roebuck said. "Individually and through their Association, your warehousemen are giving farmers excellent representation in farm affairs."

Democrat Observes Holidays This Week

The Democrat staff is enjoying its annual vacation period this week and the newspaper office will be closed the remainder of the week, following the publication of this edition. It will also be closed Christmas Monday. The publisher long since discontinued the former general custom of withholding the publication of one issue at Christmas time. Now, an early edition is published and the holiday vacation starts for the publisher and employees. It is hoped that the minimum of public inconvenience will be experienced by this shutting down at the Democrat office, which occurs only once a year.

Christmas Pageant

The Sunday School of the Blackburn Chapel Methodist Church at Todd will present a Christmas pageant, "The Scarlet Ribbon," on Friday evening, December 23, at 7:30 o'clock. Everyone is cordially invited.

Yule Program

"His Star Still Shines," a Christmas pageant and cantata will be presented at the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Friday, December 23, at 7:30 p. m. The public is cordially invited.

MACK GREER TAKES UP RESIDENCE CHICAGO

A resident of Boone, Mack E. Greer, is making his Chicago home at the YMCA Hotel, world's largest "Y" residence, while he is attending the Greer Shop Training, Inc., of Chicago. Greer, who was recently accepted for residency at the "Y" Hotel, is an active participant in many of the social and recreational programs provided by the "Y" for its more than 200 young men and women residents. Greer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Greer, 414 Howard Street, Boone.

Radio Plans To Tell Story of Christmas

New York — The ever new, ever absorbing story of Christmas will pour forth from 85,000,000 radios and 3,500,000 television sets next week end.

The remainder of the year, networks and stations differ widely on the type programs they offer and the themes they emphasize. But on Christmas eve and Christmas day, the variety will be in the telling of the same story.

Radio, with its greater audience and its ability to circle the globe with transmissions and pickups, will have the more ambitious presentations.

A highlight of both radio and television will be the lighting of the Christmas tree on the White House lawn Christmas eve, and President Truman's annual yule message to the nation. The ceremony is scheduled for 5 to 5:30 p. m., Eastern Standard Time.

WORKERS

The number of unemployed in November was estimated by the Census Bureau at 3,409,000, compared with 1,831,000 in November, 1948. Last month, the employment figure was 59,518,000.

PREMONITION PROVES TRUE

New York—Once a week, Miss Renee Cohen, 24-year-old bookkeeper, picks up the payroll of her company at a bank and takes it a few blocks to the shoe machinery firm where she works. Recently, she had a premonition of trouble and instead of carrying the \$1,205 payroll in her purse, she slipped the bills into the pages of a magazine she had under her arm. A few steps from the bank, a man leaped from a car, grabbed her purse and fled. She saved the payroll, however.

Sales of burley tobacco on the holidays, even on Christmas day, receipts have been heavy during the past week, but despite the long lines of vehicles seen on the streets, floor space has been ample, and there has been a minimum of delay in unloading the weed. Full sales have been held daily since "grading weather" came, and on Monday 4. Farmers are advised, however, enough tobacco was on the floors that the market will continue to receive tobacco all through the week.

TAKES TOP SHEARING HONORS



Another picture of Clint Reese, of Reese, Watauga county, as he sheared himself to national honors in the sheep-shearing finals of the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago. Young Reese, 18, was acclaimed the national 4-H champion, as he outsheared 26 competitors.

Professor Has Better Name for Carols

Los Angeles—A music professor has suggested that a better name for Christmas carols would be "Songs of the Nativity."

"The word 'carol' originally meant to dance in a rings," explained Dr. Pauline Alderman, head of the department of music history and literature in the University of Southern California School of Music.

"It goes back to the old round dances of medieval times and earlier. And not all carols have Christmas themes. Some were written about Easter and other seasons of the year, although many are hymns like 'Holy Night,' 'Joy to the World,' and 'O, Little Town of Bethlehem.' "Carols are defined in the Oxford Book of Carols as 'songs with a religious impulse that are simple, hilarious and popular,' " she said. "Remember that when you sing them."

REVIVAL MEETING

A series of revival services will be held at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in the Silverstone neighborhood, starting Monday evening December 26, at 7:30. Evangelist E. O. Gore of Kings Mountain, N. C. will assist the pastor, Rev. Victor Trivett in the meeting.

DIVIDENDS

Publicly-reported cash dividends in the quarter ending October 31st totaled \$1,378,800,000, or one per cent above the 1948 quarter.

The proved-sire system of breeding better dairy cattle is one of the outstanding contributions made by the USDA Bureau of Dairy Industry during its first 25 years of existence.

SANTA CLAUS TO APPEAR AS PARTY IS HELD BY MERCHANTS

Final Party is Arranged By Merchants Association at Theatre; Candy Will Be Passed Out By Santa.

Climaxing the Christmas shopping season, Santa Claus will make his final visit to the city before his scampering reindeer clatter over the rooftops, Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Appalachian Theatre, where the Merchants Association has arranged a gay party for both the children and the adults.

The jolly old gentlemen from the polar regions will have candy and other tidbits for the kiddies and all the children of the county are urged to be present.

The theatre management has arranged an appropriate film which will be shown before and after the merchants Christmas party, and a loudspeaker on the street will announce the events which take place on the stage. A big crowd is expected to take part in the fun.

Store Closing Days Are Set

Since a large percentage of the retailers of the city, have indicated a desire to remain closed Monday, December 26th and Monday January 2 the Merchants Association has recommended that these two days be observed as holidays, says Stanley Harris, secretary of the Merchants Association.

The Association, it is said, is not attempting to enforce any closing regulations, and each business house will, in the final analysis, determine its own policy in this regard.

The postoffice, will be closed both Christmas and New Years Monday, while the bank will close both next Monday and Tuesday, and New Years Monday. Public offices are expected to be closed next Monday and for the new year holiday, while a number of merchants of the city have indicated their desire to remain closed through next Tuesday. However no definite announcement has been forthcoming in this regard.

Court house officials have decided to close the county offices both Saturday and Monday in observance of Christmas, it was learned at press time.

Democrat To Publish Babson's Forecasts

Roger W. Babson's Business and Financial Outlook for 1950 will appear in the Watauga Democrat in its issue of December 29. In the belief that the readers of the local newspaper deserve the best, the publisher of the Democrat has bought this feature to be released simultaneously with its publication in the metropolitan dailies.

Mr. Babson has maintained an outstanding record for accuracy in his annual forecasts—an average of 87% for the past 14 years, and the feature will give a preview of business and finance in 1950. The Outlook will contain 50 forecasts covering such important topics as: general business, commodity prices, taxes, retail and foreign trade, labor, deficit financing, farm outlook, stock market, real estate and politics.

David Horton Gets Football Honors

Coach Roy Smith has received notice that that David Horton, right halfback on the Cove Creek football team, has been chosen as an all-conference back in the Highland conference.

Other schools having all-conference representatives are Wilkesboro, Valdese, Sparta, Elkin, Granite Falls and Boone.

Christmas Play

There will be a Christmas play given at the Meat Camp Baptist Church Sunday night December 25, at 7:00 p. m. The public is cordially invited.