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CHRISTMAS.

Christ Was Born 1921 Years Ago, and He Still Lives—What is there to Make Us Afraid?

The Christmas season is upon us. The world is about to again celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Him who died that mankind might live. It is the most important anniversary in the calendar year. We reckon our time itself from that mighty event.

It is a solemn but sweet occasion, and should be forever observed in that manner. At the Christmas season our thoughts should turn, for a while at least, upon the life and character of Him whose birth we celebrate.

And if we do this our celebration of Christmas will be the right kind.

We will forego undue feasting and ostentatious display. We will share our stores with those less fortunate than ourselves.

It is a beautiful old custom to give presents at Christmas, but judgment should be used in the giving. There is nothing in the Christ spirit in buying things we cannot afford to give to people who do not want them.

Our gifts should be to the poor, to children, to the aged, to those very near and dear to us, and every gift should be in the Christmas spirit.

And this Christmas season, of all times of the year, is a season for sobriety and the most sober thoughts. It is but a few days until the close of the year, and we should strive to make these closing days the best of all.

The whole world, and our own country in particular is passing through a time of stress and uncertainty. We have not fully recovered from the shock of the world war. There is a general let-down, a deadening of the moral sense.

During this Christmas season let us, each one, examine our own selves, and study our individual relation to others around us. Maybe, by thinking for a while on the life of the Master, we may get the inspiration which all of us need for our daily life and conduct in the year just ahead.

This is a time for solemn thought, we repeat, but not a time for despondency. For from our solemn thoughts we should get comfort, and cheer, and cause for happiness.

Christ was born 1921 years ago, and He still lives. What is there to make us afraid? Christmas is a good time, a glad time. Let us make it so for others. And with Tiny Tim, let us pray, "God bless us all, every one."

BIRTHDAY SUPPER.

Saturday night found several young men wending their way to the home of Mr. Fred Poole. As these guests arrived they were met by Mrs. Poole, who immediately began to separate the sheep from the goats. Two of the party were ushered into the parlor, while the others were inducted into the kitchen by way of the back door, from thence to the dining room.

Mr. Poole, Mr. Walton, and the two people who entered the front door, were allowed to enter the dining room, where Mr. Poole's great surprise, he found all these other guests in waiting. Each one found his place by means of a Christmas place card. In the center of the richly laden table stood a miniature Christmas tree artistically decorated with silver tinsel. Over the roof of the tree was placed cotton which held in concealment several different ridiculous presents, such as poppers, toy balloons, etc. Each present was tied by a ribbon which each pulled at the designated time to find his gift.

A delicious dinner was served which was very much enjoyed by all those hungry men. Supper being over, Mr. Poole began opening his presents and gifts which consisted of toy balloons and one lone chocolate almond. Mr. Poole was then presented with a nice fountain pen and an ever-sharp pencil, gifts from the company as a whole.

At eight o'clock all departed, wishing Mr. Poole many happy birthdays and declaring Mrs. Poole a charming hostess.

Those enjoying Mrs. Poole's hospitality were: Messrs. Joe House, Hugh House, Robert Gordon, C. F. Gore, F. H. Clark, R. L. Williamson, W. C. Walton, H. M. Morrison, W. P. Davis and W. B. Edwards.

THE BOOK CLUB

Delightfully Entertained by Mrs. S. B. Pierce.

Mrs. S. B. Pierce was hostess to the Book Club Tuesday afternoon, December 13th, after its Christmas meeting.

It was the pleasure of the club to have with them again their president who had been absent for a number of meetings. In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. C. S. Vinson acted as secretary pro tem. The President gave an interesting report of the meeting of the Ninth District of Federated Clubs which was held in Macon December 9th, which meeting was largely attended by the Book Club members. The chairman of the Library Committee gave an enthusiastic report, and the club voted to purchase another book case. The treasurer reported two donations to the club in the form of money from Mrs. Snipes and Mrs. Blalock, two former associate members. The most important business of the afternoon was the discussion of and the decision to send twenty Christmas stockings filled with gifts and goodies to the ex-soldiers in hospital at Greenville, S. C.

Following the business session a delightful Christmas program was given. "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World," as Christmas carols were very impressive. In a most interesting manner Mrs. S. P. Johnston told of Christmas observances and customs in other lands. Mrs. G. C. Green gave a very enjoyable reading, "The Christmas Bells."

At the conclusion of the program the members followed the hostess into a very Christmas dining room where they were bidden by her to find their places at the attractive little tables grouped about the room. There amid the miniature trees, the lovely mistletoe and holly, all enhanced by the soft glow of the Christmas tapers, a delightful social hour was spent. Mrs. Ovid Pierce and Mrs. Pierce Johnson assisted the hostess in serving a delicious salad course, coffee, minis and nuts. Before departing each guest was allowed to put their thumb into the Christmas pie and pull out a favored plum.

The club was pleased to have as a guest of the afternoon Mrs. J. A. Musgrove.

THE CARROLL FUND.

The following are those who very generously contributed towards swelling the funds which we have been trying to raise for Mr. W. H. Carroll. Mrs. W. T. Shaw very kindly canvassed the town and raised the greater part of this amount. The sum would doubtless have been larger, but Mrs. Shaw was taken sick before she had finished canvassing:

W. T. Shaw,	\$25.00
J. S. Jennings,	5.00
R. S. Travis,	5.00
John E. Branch,	5.00
Rev. L. D. Hayman,	5.00
R. A. Harris,	5.00
Miss Laura Powers,	5.00
J. W. Sledge,	5.00
C. F. Rhem,	2.50
J. S. Turner,	2.50
W. T. Parker,	2.50
Edgar Bounds,	2.00
F. S. Moore,	2.00
L. E. Hull,	1.00
D. T. Clark,	1.00
L. C. Draper,	1.00
Fred. Poole,	1.00
C. Foster,	1.00
Mike Josephson,	1.00
Joe Dickens,	1.00
Gus Pappas,	1.00
Mr. Craven,	1.00
Boone Grant,	1.00
Elliott B. Clark,	1.00
Miss Virginia Bishop,	1.00
H. L. Grant,	.50
J. P. Garner,	.50
R. A. Price,	.50
Mike Rabil,	.50
W. C. Allen,	.50
A. Rabil,	.50
Total,	\$86.00

"THE WEAKER SEX."

If the average man tried to put away as much candy, cakes, ice cream and sodas and other things as some girls he'd be flat on his back with all the doctors in town shaking their heads over him, the undertaker listening for the telephone to ring, and the minister and the lawyer stumbling over each other in their haste to get to his bedside.

Children Cry

FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Our Greetings

In the Meaning of Christmas

IN THE true spirit of the occasion and with due appreciation of all it implies, we extend Christmas greetings to the readers of this publication. Christmas has a meaning possessed by no other holiday throughout the world. America has its national and special days, other countries have theirs; Christmas is the only one alike in spirit and celebrated in all Christian lands. So pure is its principle that it commands respect and admiration among people who worship their Creator in different ways or ours.

Christmas typifies all that is best in mankind. It is the culmination of the human mind throughout the ages dwelling upon the wonders and mysteries of existence, turning to a reverence for God and His representative on earth. It expresses the ascendancy of spirit, the realization of men of their interdependency and their duty to one another; and so it is marked by the bestowal of gifts and other sentiments of benevolence and well wishing.

The makers of newspapers, concerned as they are with the doings, manifestations and thoughts of their respective communities and the world at large, and recording them in their more important aspects for the information, mayhap the education of readers, are brought into an intimate sense of the spirit and meaning of Christmas. Would that we could express to you all the good that we see in the hearts of men and the increased brilliancy behind a few shadows of the light which has upheld the world for so many centuries. In the happy auguries we see for the future, there is every reason to be merry.

Our Yuletide thoughts go out to the people of this community and our thanks are due the patrons and kind friends who have given us practical support or extended encouragement during the year. May this be the best Christmas you have ever spent, is our wish to all.

THE PUBLISHER

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HALIFAX D. A. R. MEETS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Elizabeth Montfort Ashe Chapter D. A. R., was held at the home of Mrs. W. A. Wilcox on Thursday last. According to the new ruling adopted by the last convention this month was selected in which the officers of the chapter must be elected for the coming year. After a most interesting meeting the following officers were elected:

Regent—Mrs. W. A. Wilcox.
1st Vice-Regent—Mrs. Job Taylor.
2nd Vice-Regent—Mrs. R. S. Travis.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. E. L. Travis.
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C. W. Gregory.
Treasurer—Mrs. H. B. Ferguson.
Registrar—Miss Ursula Daniel.
Historian—Mrs. J. H. Norman.
Chaplain—Mrs. Ida Wilkins.
Miss Ursula Daniel, the newly elected registrar, had served the chapter as regent since its organization and had worked earnestly and well. She asked to be relieved of this office and the chapter acted wisely in electing Mrs. Wilcox to succeed her. Both these ladies will fill well any position they may occupy.

DEATH OF CAPT. LILLINGTON.

Capt. N. W. Lillington, of Yadkin county, died at his home on Monday morning last. He leaves one brother, Mr. John Alexander Lillington, of Yadkin county, and one sister, Mrs. Mrs. E. T. Clark, of this place, also a wife and a son by his first wife, Mr. George Lillington.

He will be remembered by some of our older citizens, he having practiced law here at one time with Mr. E. T. Clark. He was a great grandson of General John Alexander Lillington of the Revolutionary war.

AMERICAN LEGION.

The William Shaw Post American Legion, held a meeting Monday night in the Legion rooms. Light refreshments were served and as a social gathering of the members it was a decided success.

After the refreshments were served, a business meeting was held to outline the work for next year. A committee was appointed to co-operate with Mr. W. B. Edwards, Superintendent of the Weldon Schools to promote and stimulate athletics. The Legion will offer for improvements and various other things in athletics. Announcement of prizes and rules governing awards will be announced later.

The American Legion will take the initiative on calling a mass meeting of all business men and professional men for the organization of a Chamber of Commerce. The meeting will be held as soon as possible after January 1st. Speakers of wide experience in chamber of commerce work will be present to help perfect the organization.

GIVES RECEPTION.

Miss Ida Sledge was hostess at a reception Saturday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock in honor of Miss Willie Blackwell Musgrove, bride-elect. The home was beautifully in its Yuletide decoration. The rooms were darkened and illuminated with many candles and shaded lights. Miss Florence Allen received at the front door, while Mrs. J. W. Pierce introduced the guests to the receiving line, composed of Miss Ida Sledge, Miss Musgrove, Mrs. H. V. Bounds, Mrs. Wiley Ellis and Miss Carolyn Rowe. From the parlor the guests were shown into the dining room by Miss Elizabeth Vaughan and Mrs. Michael Josephson, where Misses Lucile Allen and Louise Pierce served a delicious salad course.

VIRGINIA WANTS HIM

At End of Life Sentence—Fugitive Gets More Deeply Involved When He Robs Halifax House.

"When you get through with him here, they want him over in Virginia for five years," suggested the High Sheriff of Halifax county to Superintendent George Ross Pou at State Prison Friday when he delivered one Will Stewart into the keeping of the prison authorities.

"Alright—how long do we keep him?" replied Superintendent Pou. "The Judge gave him a life sentence," said the sheriff, who is a laconic sort of man. Stewart was serving a five year sentence in Virginia for burglary. He got away, and wandered down into Halifax county. Cold and hungry, he broke into a farmhouse one night a month ago. He was tried last week and will spend 99 years in the State prison, if so be it that he lives that long, and then go to Virginia.—News and Observer.

VESPER SERVICE.

There will be a Vesper Service at the Methodist church on Christmas evening at 5 o'clock. The following is the program:
1. Instrumental Music: Orchestra
(a) Carol, "Far Away," Chorus
(c) Carol, "Everywhere Christmas Tonight," Chorus
2. Scripture Lesson, Luke 11:8-20 Mr. Hayman
3. Gloria Chorus
4. Invocation Mr. Hayman
5. "Sweet and Low" Orchestra
6. "Harken to the Message Sweet" Solo and Chorus
7. Offering
8. "The Angel's Song," Solo and Chorus
9. "The Sweetest Story Ever Told" (b) "Love's Old Sweet Song," Orchestra
10. "Come, All Ye Faithful," Chorus
11. Benediction, Mr. Hayman
12. Postlude (Selected) Orchestra

WELDON M. E. CHURCH

Begins New Conference Year—Rev. S. E. Mercer Holds First Quarterly Conference

What promises to be a year of great progress in the Weldon Methodist church was evidenced by the fine attendance of the Official Board on December 15th when this body convened the first Quarterly Conference for the new church year. Rev. S. E. Mercer, the new Presiding Elder, was in the chair. He is new in the office of a Presiding Elder, but not so in Weldon. He was on the ground when the foundation for the present church building was laid, and so entrenched himself in the hearts of the people that it is more like having him as pastor rather than presiding elder. Mr. Mercer appeared to be at home in the chair, and conducted the business with ease and dignity. While quite early in the year, nevertheless, the report on the general state of the church, showed that the pastor and his people are getting down to work. Several forward looking plans for the immediate months were suggested by the pastor. The laymen, many of them, made speeches the content of which was co-operation with the pastor and the elder in carrying forward these plans. Those taking part in the discussions were Messrs. W. A. Pierce, Dr. D. B. Zollicoffer, O. W. Pierce, W. T. Parker, W. L. Knight and Dr. W. G. Suiter. Plans were made for more evangelistic work in and around Weldon, completion of the ground floor of the church, and other like special features of church work. The conference went on record as favoring the publication of a quarterly review of the work in the Weldon District, and Mr. W. L. Knight, District Lay Leader, and the pastor, Rev. L. D. Hayman, were appointed to act with the Presiding Elder in determining the advisability of such undertaking. The Presiding Elder announced that he would take up the matter with other churches in the district in the near future. Also, the conference favored the holding of an early district conference and requested Mr. Mercer to do so if he could see his way clear. A fine spirit prevailed throughout the session. Every one seemed optimistic. The annual budget was fixed the same as last year. The pastor is to receive \$2,500, and the Conference and General Assessments 48 per cent of the pastor's salary. Weldon church is well organized in all departments and each doing fine work.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The choir will usher in Christmas morn by singing familiar carols and hymns. At 11:45 p. m., there will follow the ancient Christian practice of a midnight celebration of the Holy Communion.

At 9:45 a. m., the church school will have their own special service. The Rector will make an appropriate talk.

At 11 a. m., there will be a Choral Holy Eucharist and sermon. It is hoped that all will come to the midnight service and make their communion at this time. You are cordially welcome.

ONE OF THE FIRST.

Mr. A. G. Green called in last Monday morning and paid his subscription in advance, as it is his custom every year. He says he has been a subscriber to THE ROANOKE NEWS since 1866, when it was owned and edited by Stone and Uzzell, and that being the case, is doubtless the oldest subscriber on the list. He is 86 years old and is still hale and hearty. May he continue to live and prosper, is our sincere wish.

SWEET TO BE REMEMBERED.

We want to return many thanks to our friend and kinsman, Mr. S. P. Johnston for a bag full of the best part of the hog killing. He knows when and how to touch a tender spot, just at this season of the year. How it does carry us back to the days of "Auld Lang Syne."

A LARGE GARAGE.

Workmen are busily engaged in erecting on Walnut street a large garage. The building will be 36x80 feet. The outside of the building will be sheet iron and will be occupied, when completed, by Mr. H. A. Hardison.

PERSONALS

And Other Items Told in Brief Form.

Christmas gift.

Farewell 1921.

Get your presents ready.

Sunday will be Christmas.

Remember the poor and help them.

Old Santa is on the way, little children.

Good will to all men and most of the women.

You can always judge a man by the habits he keeps.

An old cotton stocking will hold as much as a silk one.

We are nearing the natal day of Him who died to save.

When some men tell the truth it is stranger than fiction.

Another way of borrowing trouble is to loan a friend money.

And one half of society doesn't know how the other got in.

Turkeys will be cut low in the neck and gored at both ends.

The modern woman never denies her age. She pains it out.

Mr. Casper Gregory, of A. & E. College, is home for the holidays.

Mr. Jack Anderson, of Hendersonville, is home for the holidays.

Miss Katherine Ward has returned home from a visit to Norfolk.

Miss Virginia Inge, of Roberstonville, is spending the holidays here.

Mr. Early Neville, of Aurelian Springs, paid this office a visit last week.

Mrs. Pierce Johnson and little daughter are visiting relatives in Oxford.

Mrs. S. B. Pierce and little daughter are visiting relatives in Durham.

You have noticed, of course, that the knocker objects to being knocked.

The best thing to do about most of the gossip that you hear is to forget it.

Two heads are better than one, of course, but a wife will seldom admit it.

You can't always make people look up to you by looking down on them.

Of course. People who know it all generally know a great deal isn't true.

What we want is to pay no more taxes than we look like we are able to pay.

Selling storage eggs for fresh ones is merely another form of the shell game.

The innocent mistletoe gets blamed for a good deal of human perverseness.

There are plenty of self-made men, but women usually go to a beauty parlor.

The bald headed man is flattered when his little son presents him with a hair brush.

The old maid never gets under the mistletoe by mistake—she gets there intentionally.

"How can I get into the movies?" asks a correspondent. Buy a ticket and walk right in.

Fortitude is the quality which keeps you from worrying over other people's troubles.

It is more pleasant to receive presents than to give them, and it is not so expensive, either.

Christmas is approaching, and father can do almost anything now without being balled out.

Some people have been getting ahead by not trying to keep up with the fashionable set.

It is not the Christmas past but the Christmas present which so depresses the pocket book.

Mr. M. M. Drake has moved his family to town and is occupying the District parsonage.

It may be more blessed to give than to receive, but it isn't nearly as easy on the pocketbook.

Christmas Day falls on Sunday this year, and some people will probably feel sore about it.

Miss Mabel Vincent, of High Point, is spending the Christmas holidays with relatives here.

Mr. Walter Allen, of Fork Union Military Academy, is home for the holidays.

Doctors say hard work never killed anyone. But some people don't believe in doctors anyhow.

Ever notice how many unreasonable people there are in the world—who don't think as you do?

Of all stern words of tongue or pen, none beat these: "If she doesn't soon lay, I'll kill that old hen."

Miss Mary Anderson has returned home from Southern College, Petersburg, to spend the holidays.

Another good thing about phonograph music is that you don't have to brag on it unless you feel like it.

We hope the Recording Angel turns a deaf ear to some of the hunting stories that are being told nowadays.

No more the sun our faces fry, No more we mop the brow, And, best of all, there are no flies On any of us now.

Counterfeit \$50 bills are said to be in circulation, but so far none of them have been found in the church collections.

Get ready for Santa. If you haven't stockings of your own to hang up, get out and borrow a pair. Don't be left.

The great need of the country now In Christmas days so mellow, Is just a stocking big enough To fit a little fellow.

About this time of the year how fervently father wishes there was a Santa Claus for fathers—one that would pay all the bills!

Mrs. J. D. Arnold, of Waynesville, is visiting her brother, Mr. E. T. Clark. She expects to remain until after the holidays.

And some men who object to their wives paying \$10 for a new hat will pay \$40 for a new automobile tire and never bat an eye.

The shortest days of the year come just before Christmas. But you'd have a hard time making the average small boy believe that.

We've seen, and you probably have too, some autoists who drove as if their life insurance was paid up and they were anxious for their heirs to collect.

We are requested to state that the next regular meeting of the U. D. C., will be held at the residence of Mrs. Geo. D. Hawks on January 11th, 1922.

If all the children in this country got all they asked for or wanted for Christmas there would be no unemployed men or women. They'd all be busy making Christmas toys.

We've often wondered, and so have you, perhaps, how many of the writers of "Advice to Lovers" columns are happily married, or ever had a chance to be happily, or otherwise, married.

Offer some men a chance to invest in something in their home town and they'll give you the laugh. Offer them stock in a gold mine or an oil well a thousand miles away and they're ready to sign on the dotted line before the salesman has gotten half way through his spell.

God bless the master of this house, Likewise the mistress, too, And all the little children That round the table go.

And your kin and kinsfolk That dwell both far and near, We wish you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year!

PENDER'S

This well-known Norfolk firm, who has been busily engaged for the past ten days arranging and getting their store in order, will open for business Thursday, December 22nd. They have a chain of 72 stores and wherever they go the people are pleased with goods and prices. Remember a cordial welcome awaits you at Pender's. Advertisement announcing prices will appear later.

REDUCED CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EXCURSION FARES.

The Atlantic Coast Line will sell reduced fare round trip tickets for all trains on December 21 to 25, inclusive, between all points on its line and to all points on connecting lines in the southeast. Tickets will be limited returning to reach original starting point by or before midnight of January 4th. Call on A. C. L. Ticket Agents for tickets and further particulars.