

Watch the News
Christmas
Ads.

Sylvan Valley News

Do Your Christ-
mas Shopping
Early.

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HOME SUPPLY COMPANY ADOPTS CASH POLICY

The announcement of the Home Supply company in the News, this week should be received with considerable interest. Mr. Cooke gives good reasons for the change of policy and these reasons are backed by convictions resulting from the company's experience in a few months of administering the business in this way. As to his home affairs, Mr. Cooke expresses satisfaction at the results, goods coming better and cheaper and no annoyances with bills on the first of each month.

SANTA FOR FARMERS SUPPLY CO.

Arrangements have been made for Santa Claus to distribute gifts to the children at the Farmers Supply company on Saturday. Nearly 500 letters were received in the Santa Claus mail box.

GOOD CALENDARS

The Farmers Supply company is presenting to its customers a useful calendar, which contains a map of North Carolina by counties and the pictures of all the presidents of the United States.

The Life of Christ

By Charles Dickens

What images do I associate with the Christmas music as I see these images set forth on the Christmas tree? Known before all others, keeping far apart from the others. An angel, speaking to a group of shepherds in a field; some travelers, with eyes uplifted, following a star; a baby in a manger; a child in a spacious temple talking with grave men; a solemn figure, with a mild and beautiful face, raising a dead girl by the hand; again, near a city gate, calling back the son of a widow on his bier to life; a crowd of people looking through the opened roof of a chamber where he sits and letting down a sick person on a bed with ropes; the same, in a tempest, walking on the water to a ship; again, on a sea-shore, teaching a great multitude again, with a child upon his knee; and other children around him, again, restoring sight to the blind, speech to the dumb, hearing to the deaf, health to the sick, strength to the same; knowledge to the ignorant; again, dying upon a cross, watched by armed soldiers, a thick darkness coming over the earth beginning to shake and only one voice heard: "Forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Christmas Chords

By Sister M. Fidelis Shepperson, M. A.

THE world is at its best on Christmas day. The spirit whence issued the Sermon on the Mount, the spirit eminent in the sublime world-absolution of the cross, the spirit of the gentle Christ of Bethlehem, of Nazareth, of Galilee, Jerusalem and Calvary, seems strangely at home in an alien world on Christmas day.

The church's chant "Adeste" and we go. Faithful or unfaithful, self commending or self condemning, loving, doubting, sorrowing, yet we go to the church on Christmas day when the chimes ring out "Adeste."

Something deeper than life calls through the Christmas call. It murmurs of the eternal years; it connotes the one Knower; it tells of the gentle Lover of souls. And then in golden silence there is hope in the world, there is promise, there is One who knows and cares; there are Calvary, compassion, kindness, good will, Christmas.

Gather together all the children of the world under thy sheltering wings, O Spirit of Christmas day! Let them not sorrow any more; let them not hate one another any more; let them not despair; comfort the lonely; console the mothers that mourn, the women and children that wait; assuage the pangs of maddening memories that arise from happier Christmas days; breathe blessings over the nameless graves; speak pardon and pity over the battlefields; tell of peace to a war wounded world. And tell again the old, old story of the Prince of Peace and bid the churches chime as joyfully as ever their welcoming "Adeste" and let the little children sing the hope songs of the year to be—peace on earth, good will to men, glory to God in the highest.

Christmas Long Drawn Out.

It has become the custom to imagine that every ceremony connected with the Christmas holidays in old England was observed on the holiday itself. Nothing could be further from the real facts. It should be remembered that in England of old, and to some extent even in industrial England of today, Christmas does not refer only to the holiday itself, but to the twelve days and nights immediately following the feast of the Nativity. It would easily be discovered by anybody who took the trouble to give a few moments thought to the subject that it would be almost physically impossible to follow all the ceremonials and customs connected with the Christmas season on one day.

In the Heart of Mary.

Hannie Johnson Flint in Atlantic Monthly.



Mother of Sorrows, I—

But my babe is on my breast,
He resteth quiet there
Who bringeth the weary rest;
He lieth calm and still
Who bringeth the troubled peace,
Who openeth prison doors
And giveth the sad release,
For there reacheth him yet no sound,
No echo of cry or moan.
Today, little Son, little Son,
Today thou art all my own. . . .

Mother of Sorrows, I—

And the sword shall pierce my heart,
But today I hold him close
From the cruel world apart.
It waits with smiling and gibes,
With scourging and hatred and scorn,
With hyssop and wormwood and gall,
The cross and the crown of thorn.
The nations shall watch him die,
Lifted up on the tree.
But today, little Son, little Son,
Today thou art safe with me.

A Merry Christmas to one and all.

The Message Of Christmas

By Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore

TODAY the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration around the crib of Bethlehem and rehearses in accents of love a history which precedes all time and will endure throughout eternity. If asked to explain the rapturous influence which controls us we have no other words than the evangel of joy which the angel gave unto earth, "For this day is born unto you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

The blessings resulting from our Christian civilization are poured out so regularly and abundantly on the intellectual, moral and social world, like the sunlight and the air of heaven and the fruit of the earth, that they have ceased to excite any surprise except to those who visit lands where the religion of Christ is little known.

Before the advent of Christ the whole world, with the exception of the secluded Roman province of Palestine, was buried in idolatry. Men worshiped the sun and moon and stars of heaven. They worshipped everything except God only, to whom alone divine homage is due. Christ, the Light of the World, proclaimed unto all men in its fullness the truth which had hitherto been hidden in Judea. He taught mankind to know the one true God, a God existing from eternity unto eternity, a God who created all things by his wisdom and whose superintending providence watches over the affairs of nations as well as of men—"without whom not even a sparrow falls to the ground."

The message of Christmas day is intended for all men, for all times, for all conditions of existence. Only by stern adherence to the principles therein contained can individuals and nations hope to share in that peace which has been promised to men of good will. To violate them is to reverse the order established by God.

The Season of Joy.

The festival of Christmas is gratefully unique because of the profound sentiment it contains—the note of joy, of a rapture, an abandon of delight, which carries all before it—and, while it enrages the hearts of those who are naturally gay, it also moves the gloomiest and the most sorrowful and creates for them a rift in the constant clouds of the heart.—Rev. S. P. Cadman.

Fitness in Gifts.

The ideal consideration in making a Christmas gift is fitness. What would be an ideal present for one person would be a mockery for another. It isn't the cost—it isn't even the beauty of a gift that must be first considered—it is the need and the tastes of the recipient.

BREVARD INSTITUTE NOTES

A recital by pupils of the music department was given last Saturday night at the Institute chapel, it being the final term examination of this department.

A Christmas service of songs, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. and Y. W. C. Associations. The program consisted of choruses, duets, quartets and solos, and a Christmas story, read by Miss Pike.

A Junior Christmas Association has been recently organized, designed to include the younger students, boys and girls. The officers are, Nellie Hawkins, president; Pearl Cline, vice president; Olga Collins, secretary; Clara Reece, treasurer.

School will close on Wednesday, the 27th, for the Christmas holidays, which will last till January 2. A large percentage of the students are going home for the holidays, but a number will remain here.

On Wednesday a miscellaneous program by the joint literary societies will be given in the chapel. There will be music, recitations and one or two short dialogues.

New or renewal subscriptions after December 31 will cost \$1.00 for one year, 60 cents 6 months, 35 cents 3 months, 25 cents for 2 months.

The Christmas Appeal

By the Rev. George E. Van Hook, pastor of Denver

As the moon lifts the great waters of the deep to floodtide, so Christ's magnetic personality lifts our great human race at the Christmas season, as by the irresistible compulsion of love, out of our sordid selfishness into the practice of peace and good will. Those who have struggled against each other in business, society and politics forget the plottings of selfishness in the contagion of well-wishing.

Oh, that this good spirit of Jesus might abide with us through all the days of the new year! It is applicable to every day. It is here if only we will practice it. Let us enliven the fine art of expressing the best that is in us for and toward each other. Surely every man wants his neighbor to prosper and be happy. Surely no man wants to build himself up at the expense of another. No man wants to see poverty and misery become the portion of his fellows. Such a situation cannot be pleasing to any human being. Shall we not then say every man to his neighbor, "Be of good cheer, brother," and seek each to help the other? Practice fraternity, justice, sympathy and good will with all men.