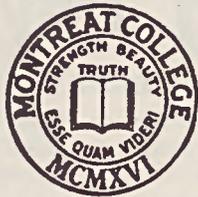


The



Diary

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MONTREAT COLLEGE, MONTREAT, NORTH CAROLINA

November - December, 1953

Graham Transcribes From Montreat

THE HOUR OF DECISION

"This is the hour of decision!" Many Sunday afternoons we have listened to these words over the radio, spoken by the expressive voice of Cliff Barrows. On November 23, this same timely sentence was spoken in our own Montreat when the Christmas broadcast of the Hour of Decision was recorded in the lobby of Assembly Inn.

It was a memorable experience for each of us. It was something significant in the history of Montreat. It once again displayed the spirit and work of Billy Graham and made us realize the blessing we have in his living among us.

Those of us in the choir, who already this year have been shown what truly worshipful singing is under the conducting of Mr. Guy, were able to experience the same thing with Cliff Barrows as he helped us with the opening, "Joy to the World." At that moment we captured the spirit of Christmas. We felt it throughout, in the songs of George Beverly Shea, in the carol sung by little Gigi (eight year old daughter of the Grahams), and in the beautiful organ music played by Paul Mickelson. The words of Scripture read by Grady Wilson were the familiar ones from Isaiah's prophecy and they again spoke to our hearts. The prayer of Dr. McGregor was inspirational and uplifting.

And finally, the message itself by Billy Graham was one for this hour. The fact that he stood before only a microphone rather than the usual thousands of people did not alter the manner or impact of his delivery. It carried the same conviction that has brought light into the hearts and lives of those who listen to him across the country.

On December 20, 1953, when we are reunited with families and loved ones, may we all be joined in spirit while we listen to the Christmas message on the Hour of Decision. Though miles separate us, may we be thankful for the gift of the Christ-child, Him who is the Risen Savior.



Scene from "A Bird's Christmas Carol" presented by the Sophomore Class. From left, Nancy Cresap, Pat Sartelle, and Mable Brown.

Soph Christmas Party

The Sophomore Class with its presentation of "A Bird's Christmas Carol" helped bring the true Christmas spirit to the hearts of all those present at the annual Christmas party on the evening of December 14.

The play "A Bird's Christmas Carol," which was based on a book of the same name, told of an invalid girl who spent her last Christmas day giving joy to a happy, but needy family. The child, Carol, as portrayed by Pat Sartelle, was a wonderful example of the true happiness of giving rather than receiving. The play was an impressive production under the direction of Muriel Greenwood.

Following the play, guests enjoyed games, refreshments, and the appearance of Santa Claus.

S. C. A. CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill among men."

Again we hear the old, well-loved carols ring out the praises to God for his most wonderful Christmas gift to all mankind.

In the Christmas Pageant of 1953 we see portrayed again the familiar story of the most precious gift we can ever receive—the birth of our Savior—the Lord Jesus Christ.

We remember once more the prophecy of Isaiah 800 years before the birth of Christ, telling of the One who was to come and bring peace from God. Then, we hear the angel telling Mary that she has found favor with God and shall have the privilege of being the mother of God the Man. Mary praises God and bows down in humility.

On the holy night that our Savior is born,
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