

THOUGHTS AT CHRISTMAS

It is said that years ago a French nobleman was spending a few days in Paris. One night as he sat in a certain part of the city, he was charmed by the music of the nightingales. He then thought of his own vast estate, with its lovely parks, and wondered sadly why no nightingales spilled out their heavenly music there. When he returned he discovered the reason. His parks were infested by birds of prey, screaming hawks and the hooting owls. He therefore set hunters to work destroying these evil birds until not one was left. Then, one night, he heard the song of a lone nightingale. The next night there were others, and today his once songless parks are known as the Garden of the Nightingales.

What a marvelous transformation was wrought in this garden and how beautiful was the result. Similarly, we are now in the season when transformations in our own lives should be made.



ie Thomas are obviously enjoying this Yuletide chore which they eagerly volunteered for. Decorating the home is, and should be, a family affair at most New Bern residences.—Photo by Billy Benners.

NEAT AS A PIN — Four-year-old Rosalind Simpkins doesn't want Santa Claus scrambling down into a dirty fireplace. Thanks to good use of that broom, she now has things in order.—Photo by Billy Benners.

Is He Welcome?

The inn keeper slowly shook his head,
 "We have no room for you," he said;
 So Mary, aglow with virgin grace,
 Brought forth her King in a lowly place.
 Is your heart, like the inn, too crowded for Him,
 Are your Christian thoughts a passing whim;
 Or will you eagerly open the door
 To welcome the Christ Child forever more.
 The choice is yours, you can turn Him away,
 Or bid Him enter on Christmas day.

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What Christmas Means to Me

To me Christmas means
 A time for children both old and new,

A time to keep God in a special view.

A Christmas tree with presents beneath,
 Beautiful decorations and a holly wreath.

Have no place in their thoughts;
 Santa Claus, and fairies too,
 You'll find in youthful hearts.
 So the very nicest wish

That oldsters can convey
 Is wishing childhood's blessings
 For their grown-up friends today.

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WE PAUSE AT THIS HOLY SEASON
 TO GIVE THANKS FOR OUR BLESSINGS

City Drug Store

But most of all a birthday
 Not like yours or mine,
 But the birthday of the Christ Child,
 So good, so fresh, so kind.

So when Christmas comes 'round again,
 Don't forget to say, "Thank you, God, for everything,
 Especially Christmas Day."

Samuel Lane Pittman, III,
 Age 10 years,
 Brinson Memorial School.
 Mrs. J. T. Hollister, Jr.,
 (Teacher)

Tiny Tim Expressed It

As Dickens' Tiny Tim would say,
 If he were in your home this day,
 "Merry Christmas—God bless everyone!"

For all of us are well aware
 That nothing else can quite compare
 With warm and cheerful, hearty
 Yuletide fun.

Get the spirit in your bones,
 Sing out in your strongest tones,
 Lift your laughter, 'til it shakes the ceiling;

If you're eight, eighteen or eighty,
 Small fry, gent or gracious lady,
 May you know that grand old
 Christmas feeling.

A Christmas Wish

We wish for you the simple faith
 Of little girls and boys
 Who, toddling off to trundle beds,
 Soon dream of dolls and toys.
 Doubts that plague a man made world



We pray the Christmas story told in the Book will light your way in the future.

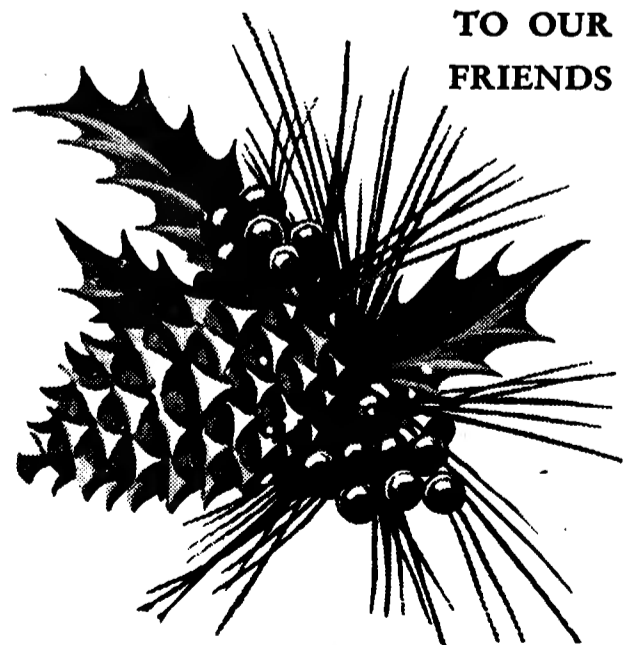
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 be the happiest Holiday
 ever for all of you!

Ballard's Service Station

YULETIDE GREETINGS TO OUR FRIENDS



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