

SENIOR CLASS PRESENTS TRADITIONAL PAGEANT OF NATIVITY SCENES

True Christmas Beauty Expressed
Reverently and
Impressively

The Senior Class presented its traditional pageant, *Peace on Earth, or The Christmas Story*, under the direction of Miss Florence Davis and Mr. Russell Broughton, in Saint Mary's Chapel last Sunday evening. The pageant was divided into four scenes: the Message to the Shepherds; the Holy Family; the Journey of the Wise Men to Bethlehem; Joseph Warned in a Dream, and the Flight with Mary to Egypt. At intervals throughout the pageant Sue Harwood, the Narrator, read portions of the Christmas story from the Scriptures. However, the nativity story was interrupted for the most part by music and pantomime. There is no more beautiful story than that of the birth of our Lord, and the whole pageant was characterized by reverence and impressive beauty.

The chancel, screened by a row of pine trees, was clothed in darkness until hidden spotlights displayed the full scope of the shepherd scene. The only direct lights in the Chapel were those of the candles on the altar. The familiar star burned brightly over the altar like the famous star of Bethlehem and shed its peaceful rays over the Nativity scene, creating a quiet, hazy atmosphere and heightening the feeling of awe.

The music was especially lovely. Not only were the traditional Christmas carols and hymns used, but also the angel choir sang two old French carols, *Now Sing We All Full Sweetly* and *Angels O'er the Fields*. Cordelia Day Jones, who portrayed the Virgin Mary, sang an old Bohemian carol, *Still Grows the Evening O'er Bethlehem Town*.

Edna Earle Boykin portrayed Joseph. Representing other Biblical characters were: Christine Hatfield, Janice Fitzgerald, and Jinnette Hood as Gaspard, Melchior, and Balthazar, the three Wise Men; Mary Chambers, Martha Ellen, Virginia Hassinger, Betty Hilker, Margaret Kitchin, Martha Newell, Bettie Vann, Mary Wells, and Gray Woodard as shepherds; and Elizabeth Toepelman and Helen Ford as angels. Elvira Cheatham and Adelaide Curtis appeared as pages. The angel choir was composed of Frances Barrett, Margaret Blount, Mary Emily Claiborne, Sarah Lance, Page Marshall, Helen Royster, Marjorie Stenhouse, Betty Wales, Edla Walker, and Mary White.



DR. FREDERICK H. KOCH, founder and director of The Carolina Playmakers, reading Dickens' immortal ghost story, "A CHRISTMAS CAROL." School Auditorium tonight at 8:15 p.m.

DR. KOCH WILL CONTINUE CHRISTMAS CAROL TRADITION IN READING HERE TONIGHT

Dickens' Immortal Story of
Scrooge and Morley Sets
Christmas Spirit

Dr. Frederick H. Koch, founder and director of the Carolina Playmakers of the University of North Carolina, will read the immortal "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens at Saint Mary's tonight. The reading will take place in the auditorium at 8:15 p.m.

For thirty-five years Dr. Koch, or "Prof" as he is called by his students, has been reading "A Christmas Carol" to enthusiastic audiences. During that time he has read the story of Scrooge more than two hundred times. It all began when he was a young English instructor at the University of North Dakota. Prof says, "It was a Sunday afternoon that I read the story, and I felt myself greatly cheered by it. So much so, that I mentioned the fact to a little group of my friends at supper in the University Commons that evening with the comment: 'Everybody ought to read Dickens' Christmas Carol every year before Christmas.'" A friend at the supper that night asked that he read the story to a small group the following Sunday. He did read the story, and so the nationally known custom of Dr. Koch's Christmas Carol began.

Since that time "Prof" has kept a full schedule around Christmas, for his fame spread rapidly, and soon towns and villages everywhere were asking him to come and read to them. He answered every call and had some uncomfortable experiences doing it. "On more than one occasion," Dr. Koch remembers, "I was bound in by the blizzard and had to drive many miles by sleigh, for the drifting snow had made all means of communication by rail quite out of the question."

Once after a performance in a small village, a heavy snow blocked all the roads. Early the next morning, Prof rode by sleigh to the nearest railroad where he hoped to get a train coming from Seattle. When he arrived at the station, however, he found that no trains were scheduled to leave. On a sidetrack, he saw an engine attached to a snow plow with a caboose behind. "Prof" explained, in desperation, to the engineer that he had to be at the University of North Dakota for a performance that night, for 2,000 people were waiting to hear him.

"Oh, you're the fellow that reads 'A Christmas Carol' every year," ex-

Upper Classmen Dance In Moonlit Central Park At Annual Senior Affair

Freddie Johnson's Orchestra Provides Sweet Music For Smooth Dancing

Low lights, sweet music, and smooth dancing made the Senior Dance last Saturday night in the gym live up to its famed reputation. According to all reports it was the best yet.

Chris Hatfield, chairman, plus her decoration committee and Elvira Cheatham, president of the Senior Class, deserve all the wonderful compliments given the gym. All were convinced that they were dancing in Central Park. The ceiling was a mass of blue sky with silver stars that sparkled when the rose-covered spotlights shone upon them. A view of New York's snow-crowned skyscraper-line disguised the walls, partially hidden behind frosted pines deep in cotton snow. The orchestra stand, banked in evergreens sprayed white, filled the west end. The orange half-moon behind the orchestra served its romantic purpose, except when the drummer got a little too excited once or twice and "turned off the moon."

Freddie Johnson and that up-and-coming Carolina band, was the main attraction. Hearts burned to the tune of scorching music while dancers congaed and melted under sentimental strains of husky swing favorites.

Mr. Broughton Gives First Faculty Recital In Saint Mary's Chapel

Program Includes Works of Bach, Karg-Elert, and Vierne

Mr. Russell Broughton, organist and composer, presented the first of Saint Mary's faculty recitals in the chapel on December 17. Mr. Broughton is a fellow of the American Guild of Organists and is very well known in organ circles.

Mr. Broughton included on his program works of only three composers, Johann Sebastian Bach, Sigrifrid Karg-Elert, a German organist and composer who died in 1933, and Louis Vierne, a contemporary French organist. The marked impressionistic style of the two modern composers produced a high degree of contrast against the strict contrapuntal style of Bach. As for organ form, Mr. Broughton again achieved contrast by playing not only a classic chorale prelude by Bach, "We All Believe in One God," but also four chorale improvisations by Karg-Elert. Karg-Elert's method of using contrapuntal devices is much the same as Bach's, but his feeling for organ tone color and his ingenuity in achieving striking harmonic effects produced the characteristic difference.

Another Bach work included on Mr. Broughton's program was the "Allegro" from the tenth Vivaldi concerto. Bach wrote this series of

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