

THE HILLTOP

"Plain Living and High Thinking"

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Peace And Good Will

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace good will toward men." Thus sang the angels nearly two thousand years ago. Thus was the birth of our Savior announced. Thus was salvation given to the world.

And yet how humanity has lost sight of the teachings of our Christ. We seem again on the verge of another great war. The world is again rearming. Hatred and fear are again breaking over the boundaries of reason. Nations are viewing each other with suspicion. We are headed straight toward the hell of another war. And what is there for us to do? Certainly Christ did not intend for nations to be always at each other's throats.

Why can't we as Christians do our part in preserving world peace? Why can't we so spread this message of peace throughout the world that there will be no thoughts of war among the nations?

We are now more civilized than ever before, and yet we are more able to destroy civilization. Can this be what Christ intended? Is this why our Savior died?

Let us unite and tear these flaming war gods from the hearts of men. With the message of Christ alone can we ever hope to do this. The League of Nations has failed. The disarmament conferences have failed. Now let us try Christ. Will He fail?

—L. T. H.

President Robert Lee Moore

The statement that a great institution is the lengthened shadow of a great individual can be truly applied to Mars Hill College and Dr. R. L. Moore. Through the seventy-eight years of its history, the College has received the consecrated gifts of life and money of devoted men and women; but more than any other individual, President Moore is responsible for the Mars Hill College of today. Into the warp and woof of the character of the institution has gone his personality.

A third of a century ago he, himself a son of the hills, assumed responsibility for the destiny of this, then weak and obscure, institution in a relatively secluded mountain community, and for thirty-seven years he has devoted the powers of his body, mind, and heart to providing here education that is Christian to heart-hungry boys and girls seeking broader and more abundant lives. The innumerable acts of self-sacrifice he has made; the times his strength of faith and purpose have carried him through periods when lesser souls would have given up in despair; his patient labor through the years in adding here a little and there a little to the physical equipment of the college; his unrelenting efforts in wooing the more mundane to nobler and holier modes of living, and his kindly but uncompromising tolerance for those who have not shared his ideals; the numbers of students whom he has helped personally in countless ways; his work and influence in the community and abroad, the world will never know. The principal evidence of his work is seen in a rugged community made better by his presence and in the institution which he has served—a college which, despite its material limitations, is rich in spirit and tradition, standing for Christian ideals of personal life and service and for high standards of scholarship.

Those who have been closely associated with him through the years have never known him to be guilty of employing a word or deed for the exaltation or aggrandizement of himself, or to resort to chicanery as a means of achieving his aims. Likewise, he has never been known to attempt to promote the immediate interests of the College at the expense of other agencies of the Kingdom. His loyalty to Mars Hill is surpassed only by his loyalty to the world at large.

In his personal life President Moore exemplifies his motto of "plain living and high thinking" and its corollary, from Phillips Brooks, "The man who has begun to live more seriously within, begins to live more simply without." In our luxury-seeking day, he has been accused of being ascetic. With a soul sensitive to the needs of others, however, he always has money to give away but none to waste in extravagant living. In training others in self-denial and giving, he leads the way, as in teaching lessons of nobler living he supports his precepts with an example. He abhors waste of money and time and the dissipation of the powers of body and mind. Accordingly, in his teaching he insists on honesty, thorough-



For One Brief Starry Night

For one brief starry night let us forget
The clamor of the world, our loss, our fear,
And let us light the candles in our souls
This one night of the year.

Let us be shrived of self, and let us pray
Only white prayers—white selfless prayers tonight
Lifting clean hands up to one glorious star
That is burning with holy light.

Unfailing it has shone thro' all the years,
While we, God knows, have wandered strangely far;
Now for this one brief night let us forget
All but his steadfast Star;

All but the supreme high sacrifice
Of God, the Giver, sending One to lift
The burden from our hearts, and let us reach
Glad hands to take His gift.

—GRACE NOLL CROWELL.

THE HILLTOPPER

H. A. ELLIOTT

Many have requested that we print the editorial carried in the New York Sun thirty-six years ago in reply to a letter written by Virginia O'Hanlan on whether or not there is a Santa Claus. So in place of the usual observations that are recorded here I shall give that article from an excerpt in the *Readers Digest* of December, 1933.

Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Please tell me the truth.

—Virginia O'Hanlan.

The Answer

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect in intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by intelligence capable of grasping the world of truth.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa

ness, and accuracy.

To infer that Mars Hill is a one-man institution because of the place President Moore holds in its life is to err. A secret of his success as an executive lies in his respect for the opinions of others and his ability to utilize the knowledge and initiative of his co-workers by granting them freedom in their respective fields. As president of Mars Hill College, he leads rather than dictates.

One frequently hears the expressions, "I want my son (or daughter) to study under R. L. Moore." A student was heard to say that his faith in mankind was stronger because of his having known President Moore. Hundreds, even thousands, of former students are today on higher planes of living because of his influence. His faith in God, his devotion to Truth, his personal culture, his love of mankind, and of youth in particular, his attachment for learning translated into usefulness, makes him one of God's noblemen.

Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist. And you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not to believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest men, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside

Gift To Girls' Home To Honor

Miss Allen Gives \$300
Roof Garden In Honor of
Father, Admirer of

The initial gift of three dollars made in October toward the roof garden for girls' home inspired others enthusiastic efforts in securing for the building. Eventually "only to help the cause", Stone told us an interesting story recalled the days of "Old" the sacrifices of that pioneer.

During the Civil War her Northern soldier (New York) remained long in Libby prison, and suffered the remainder of his life from this experience.

Mr. Allen greatly admired Christian character of the Southern general, and named his first son for him Lee Allen. He saw above the worth of real character and idealism and sought to instill into the lives of his children.

Miss Allen and her brother, sonville, Florida, wish to give a gift as a memorial to the and to the ideals of Christ and womanhood which in Mars Hill College.

The College deeply appreciated this faithful instrument the purpose for which it was

that curtain and view the beauty beyond. Is it all Virginia, in all this world nothing else real and abiding?

No Santa Claus? Thank lives, and lives forever. A years from now, Virginia, times ten thousand years from he will continue to make heart of childhood.