

THE LEXHIPEP

Published Monthly by the Lexington High School

Subscription Rates 75cts Per Year in Advance.
Advertising Rates Upon Request.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Elisabeth Davis	Editor-in-Chief
Martha Burkhead	Assistant Editor
Virginia McCarn	Assistant Editor
Lois Hackney	Literary Editor
Theodore Thompson	Literary Editor
Joe Walser	Athletic Editor
Frances Thompson	Athletic Editor
Dick Walser	Joke Editor
Christine McCrary	Social Editor
Joe Moffitt	Exchange Editor

STAFF OF MANAGERS

Charles Davis	Business Manager
Ella Raper	Advertising Manager
Mable Bruton	Asst. Sub. Manager
Ham Hargrave	Asst. Sub. Manager

Miss Elizabeth Brown	Censor
Mrs. E. J. Harbison	Censor

LEXINGTON, N. C., DEC. 22, 1922.

We, the new editors of the Lexhipep, present for your consideration our first effort of the year 1922-23. Our purpose is to make each succeeding issue better and more representative of student life and thought in the Lexington High School. Therefore, we beg the hearty co-operation of each pupil and teacher in attaining this aim. And, too, we covet the support of the town and patrons of the school in general.

By the practical English involved, we hope to give to each student a greater appreciation of the fundamentals of English composition and to make our place secure among the A-1 school of the State, all of which edit creditable papers.

This is your paper, edited for your good, and so we invite your suggestions and criticisms for its improvement.

To all who have made this issue possible we extend grateful thanks.

The Christmas Spirit

Of all the occasions during the year Christmas is the one that is looked forward to by all people, especially by the smaller boys and girls. Why? Because it is a time

when we receive and give gifts.

The average family begins to prepare for Christmas about three weeks before—when the stores begin to mark time for us with—“Only 21 days till Christmas.” We feel our blood begin to rise and get hotter and hotter, and in a fever of haste, we join the whole community in making gifts. There is nothing wrong in making gifts for one's friends but the spirit of Christmas which prevails today is not what it was intended to be.

Two of the most common mistakes that lots of us make are first, that we give the best and the most beautiful gifts to those who have an abundance of this world's goods and save the trifling and useless things for those in need. Second, we go to department stores and purchase any thing and everything in the hope that it may be suitable for some of our friends when it is absolutely worthless to them. To guard against these two mistakes, we should stop and consider the taste, the needs, and the wishes of those to whom we are going to give the gifts.

Christmas is a time when we should show our love to our relatives and friends. We can do this with gifts, but there are numerous other ways in which we may show our love. It is not the gift that means so much to the person to whom we give it, it is the manner of giving.

Some one has said that she had been giving expensive gifts to her relatives and friends every year. One Christmas she realized that it was impossible to keep up with the ever increasing Christmas rush, so she decided to try a new plan. She decided to try to give more of herself and fewer gifts. A few days before Christmas she sat down and wrote long personal letters to all of her relatives and friends. She soon discovered that a personal letter without a gift brought her friends and relatives nearer to her than any gift without a personal thought.

Of course some of us do not like to write letters. But just imagine how much happiness and joy we would bring into our mother's and father's Christmas, and how their eyes would fill, if their son and daughter in the stillness of the night sat up to write them a letter telling them how much they appreciated, although they did not always show it, the sacrifices that

mother and father were making to give them a better chance in the world.

What should we do about giving gifts to children? Of course we mean to make them happy, but when we load up a child with things until he is confused and bewildered, we lose the spirit of Christmas. He does not appreciate the gifts and toys because he has so many, and when he tires of them he soon breaks them into pieces. Then, too, in the joy of giving we hardly give him a share. We do not teach him to help the needy. We not only allow, but we even teach him to center his thoughts on getting.

O. Henry in his short story entitled “The Gift of The Magi,” presents a splendid example of The Christmas Spirit. In the story, the characters Della and Jim could make no use of the combs and chain, but the love that prompted the giving shines all the more resplendent, because the gifts, humanly speaking, were egregious misfits. These were their gifts, but the gift was love. Della and Jim have been said to illustrate the “story of cross purposes.” But the phrase is not well used. Their purposes were one, only their methods crossed. O. Henry himself says of them: “Of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the Magi.” If the Magi, as O. Henry says, “invented the art of giving Christmas presents,” Della and Jim re-discovered it.

As the days draw near to Christmas let us try to understand the real meaning of Christmas. Let us try to realize that it is a time of happiness and we should be glad because it is the birthday of our Saviour. It is a time of “Peace” and “Good Will.” This year let us make it so.

—VIRGINIA McCARN.

The Lexhipep.

Give three cheers for the Lexhipep,
For her former and growing rep,
For her managers and editor-in-chief
Whose ability is shown in every leaf.

She's the very best in the state,
We all think so at any rate,
We'll do our best by day
To make everybody think this way.
MILDRED LINDSAY, '24.