

To The Teen-ager

# The Meaning of Christmas

Christmas—the time of Christmas trees and mistletoe, eggnog and Christmas cookies, carols sung in the snow and re-newed friendships—is at hand. The spirit of the holidays has permeated most of Greensboro's teenagers. While they have been adrently anticipating the coming of the holidays for the last three months, they have also been banding together and doing something about it. The service clubs have contributed greatly toward making the holidays happy for less-fortunate people. For example, Page Senior High School's Civitans and Civinettes provided the opportunity for interested individuals to donate gifts for the patients at Butner Hospital through its operation Santa Clause.

Other service clubs and private groups have done their share, also. Many thousands of children in the hospitals and orphanages who might not have had a visit from Santa this year, were treated with gifts and Christmas parties. In some instances they were even honored with the visitation of that jolly, old gentleman himself.

Boxes of food were sent to needy families who might have otherwise gone hungry while the more fortunate celebrated the holidays with turkey and all the trimmings. Exceedeing ts goal of \$200 collected within two days Grimsley's Student Council again sponsored its annual drive for contributions for gifts of food for members of the school's maintenance department. Many groups made their contribution to making the holidays happy for all by visiting old and disabled persons at the County homes. A small gift of an orange or an apple or even just having someone to talk to them made the day brighter for someone who might otherwise have been ignored.

The Great One

## What Makes A Person Great?

What makes a person great? 375 lbs? No, rather a culmination of ideas and principles resulting in the ideal human being.

Greatness does not come from being a status symbol from being "big time", much consists of wearing the right labels, living in the right part of town, belonging to all the right organizations among other things. Being accepted by the "in" group does not constitute greatness.

What does constitute greatness is many things—one of the most important of which is respecting the other person. Greanness is knowing how to make an outsider feel at ease and a part of the group, knowing just what to say and when to say it. Greatness is understanding another person and being able to communicate with him. It is a hard task to be able to really talk with another, sharing opinions and constructive criticisms. Greatness is doing nothing to hurt another's feelings. Greatness, in effect, is thinking of the other person.

Greatness walks hand-in-hand with individualism. Greatness is not following the crowd in everything they do. Many people are afraid to divert from the crowd in certain aspects, afraid that by keeping their morals they will be losin respect in the "gang" by seeming too "goody-goody." In the long-run, however, such people gain the highest form of respect and become the true leaders. Greatness is not being a carbon-copy of everyone else in the area. Neither is it, on the other hand, going to the extremes to be different. Rather, greatness is a happy compromise of indivial taste. It is formulating opinions by intelligent deductions.

Greatness is love, life, and God. It is having faith in something and believing. The Great Ones are not the ones who consider themselves great, but the ones who are truly great. The Great Ones are all of these and more—they are, simply, the great ones.

Excuses, Excuses!

## MORE EXCUSES

It has been known around the campus of Grimsley High School that many students major in too many extra-curricular activities. In other words, things one is required to do fail to get done. They fall victim to extra, less important, but somehow more important activities. Since the required work is not done, a large amount of made-up excuses is brought forth explaining in one's best ability, the reason for not doing a requirement. Here are a few, GHS students might use following a hard night or afternoon on the town.

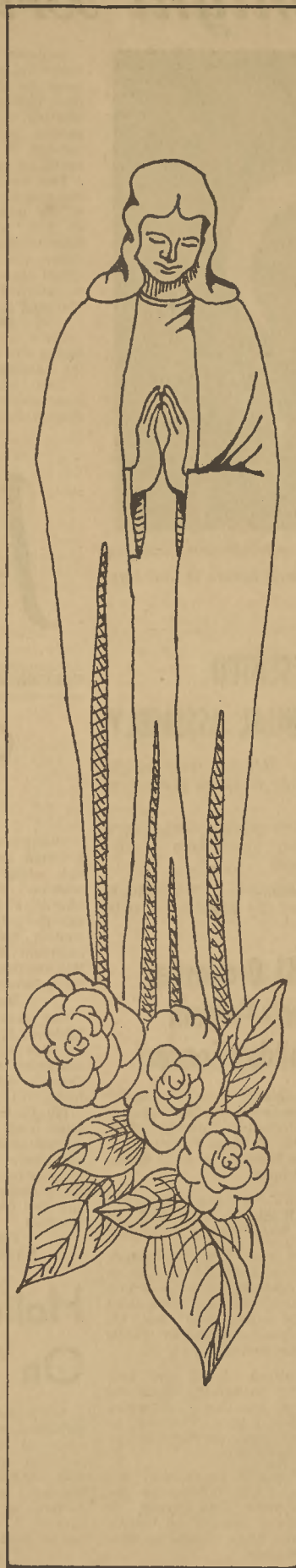
A teacher might ask a student why he has failed to memorize his Canterbury Prologue. Naturally, a favorite excuse is, "I thought tomorrow was assembly day," or better yet, "I thought tomorrow was Saturday." By all means, be careful when you use the last one. Some of the more stable teachers here have caught on to it. Another favorite excuse that could be used in time of great emergency is that "while chewing vigorously on a piece of gum, it fell from my mouth and stuck the book pages together." That would be an ideal excuse, but chances are, there would be no gum as evidence to prove it.

Mrs. Pardue might have asked a student why he did not show up for yesterday's Christmas Pageant rehearsal.

"Well, uh, it's like this. I had so durn much homework, and you know that Canterbury memorization work. Well, I had so much studying to do that I just couldn't make it. But I'll be sure and make it to the next one." Or—"The mimeographed notice was such a blur, that it was simply unreadable—must have been written by Wong Nu."

Another question to the effect of "Why didn't you make All-State Orchestra?" might be asked. A suitable answer might be "I would have, had my chewing gum fallen into my book instead of my tuba." Or, "I was better than most people at the tryouts, but I just didn't try 'cause I really didn't want to be in it in the first place." Or, "I would have made it had my music sheet been turned right side up."

Though these excuses sound trite, it might be a good idea to use one in case of emergency. The worst thing that could happen would be to get an "F" on the particular topic or course. After all, nowadays, what's an "F"?



... symbolizes the peace and hope which is prevalent all over the world during the Christmas season.

The HIGH LIFE staff would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas.

## Whirlies, Whims, & Whispers

BY HALLIE AUSTIN

Wandering Whirlie: The leaves have all fallen. May the cigarette butts rest in peace until School Beautiful time next spring . . . Here at GHS snow is always a welcome surprise, and a pretty one, too. . . . Ever sat on the main third floor next to a stuck-open window in a room facing the grove. Well, on a windy day, in came leaves, straw, rain, snow, and smoke . . . Is there anyone who did not know that there was going to be a Holiday Concert . . . Whoever heard of someone who plans to be a teacher, doctor, and political scientist, all three . . . Here's one, and there are more, who would like to know why our marchin' band doesn't carry a Confederate flag. Three cheers for Dixie . . . Think back: when last year's pre-season basketball critics hardly rated us, and then we became number one.

GRIT FROM GEORGE GRIMSLEY'S GOTTO: Put these on your "hunt list": A Lynda doll: Wind it up and it tears up a military base . . . If your parents are rich, ask for the expensive talking Herber doll. Wind it up and it says, "I was a member of the ADA, but now I go to the YMCA." . . . Perhaps you want a Page Pirate doll. Wind it up and it drowns.

IN THE AUDITORIUM: The way some people start singing when our Alma Mater is half over, you'd think they didn't know the words . . . It's not just Emily Post who thinks we could be more polite to speakers at Assemblies . . . Does the auditorium look larger or smaller when it's empty . . . That's funny. That student passed through the door as the organ music began, sorta perked up, and almost marched down the aisle . . . Teachers patrol back and forth looking for their missing black sheep . . . I'm still waiting for the mural man to wink at me!

THINGS I REMEMBER ABOUT BEING A JUNIOR: Waiting one hour, seventeen minutes for a certain little gold ring, but thinking it well worth it.

LOST AND FOUND: "Treat the student council for Christmas. Fill up the S. C. Suggestion Box. It might shock them, though."

WHATEVER BECAME OF: The little choo-choo like train of cars streaming up our old driveway behind the cafeteria every morn? The guy who stole the Honor Code?

CLASSIFIED ADS: This one from Santa Claus: "Order your Page Pen Pal from your Sears Catalogue. Hurry! Limited supply going fast!"

A HOLIDAY THOUGHT: During this holiday season, as a larger amount of art will be coming into our homes, due to greeting cards and special Christmas publications, I would like to call attention to one small photo I saw in the December 4 issue of Time. Some might say that the picture of the blood-stained body of the late Dr. Paul Carlson is tragic, but if we can realize that it is triumphant because of the cause for which he did not mind giving his life, then we will possess the one true reason why we have Christmas.

## HIGH LIFE

Published Semi-Monthly by the Students of Grimsley Senior High School Greensboro, N. C.



Founded by the Class of 1921 Revived by the Spring Journalism Class of 1937



Second Class Postage Paid Greensboro, N. C.

- Editor-in-Chief \_\_\_\_\_ Jane Turpin
- Managing Editor \_\_\_\_\_ John Giles
- Business Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Ann McSwain
- Advertising Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Diane Robertson
- News Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Fran Upchurch
- Feature Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Billman
- Sports Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Paula Main
- Photographer \_\_\_\_\_ Ralph Beaver
- Cartoonist \_\_\_\_\_ Kitty Keesee
- Exchange Editor \_\_\_\_\_ Judy Lavine