

DRIVE SAFELY!



May the Star of Bethlehem Light Your Way
Fashion Craft Furniture Mart

OXFORD, N. C., U. S. Highway 15-A South, P. O. Box 1244, Phone 2354.

THE BLACK MADONNAS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
tured, the Black Virgin is everywhere the object of special devotions, and her altars are always bright with flowers, light-

MERRY CHRISTMAS

To All Our Many Friends & Customers!



GRANVILLE FEED STORE
Groceries - Feeds - Flours
Seeds
OXFORD, N. C.

ed candles, offerings from grateful petitioners. Who is she—and why is she?

These black wooden statues date from the Romanoque period; the earliest ones we have seem to be 11th century works. Many of them are merely copies of older images. Their origin is a hotly debated question; seemingly the most reasonable opinion places their most immediate ancestry in central France, in the cult statues of mother and child turned out in

vast numbers by the pottery "factories" of pre-Christmas Roman Gaul.

These statues honored the beloved Gallo-Roman goddesses called the matres (the Roman matrones)—the goddesses of the earth and of all growing, living things. Each matre presided over her special locality, protecting its fields and animals, watching over the growth of the crops, listening to the petitions of expectant mothers.

As the guardians of living things the matres were naturally the most popular deities of an agricultural people such as the Gauls. Their worship was so deeply rooted in the hearts of the people that not even the powerful new Christian God could eradicate it.

Controversy has waxed strong over the explanation of the black color of these statues. Many historians have tried to see in it a deliberate reference to the words of Solomon's "Canticle of Canticles": "I am as dark—but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem—as the tents of Cedar, as the curtains of Salma. Do not stare at me because I am swarthy, because the sun has burned me." (1:5-6).

Others believe that the black color is simply an accident; the color of the wood gradually darkened due to exposure to atmospheric condition. On the other hand, the use of black wood may have been the artist's choice, subconscious or otherwise, for the color black has always been associated with the Earth and her twin faces of life and death. It symbolizes night, the mother of all creation; it stands for life and fecundity as well as for sadness, death and destruction.

The black goddesses of the East descend into the dark kingdom of death and bring forth those slumbering there into the light of day; or they come up once a year from their homes in subterranean realms, to signal the rebirth of life upon the earth after the death-like night of winter.

DIRECT DESCENDANT
Thus the beloved Black Virgin has a long and glorious family lineage. She symbolizes all that men have worshipped and held dear from the very beginning of their history as thinking, human beings: eternally

renascent life and Woman who bestows it, the spiritual Mother who is the mediatrix of life-giving supernatural graces, the mysterious forces that cause living things to burst forth from the earth each spring; only to die and return to her womb in the fall.

She is the direct descendant and heiress of all the Earth-Mother goddesses that men have ever worshipped—but she stands as far above them as her Son outshines the gods of the Greek pantheon.

In this Woman and her Son, man finally found what he had been confusedly searching for in all times and in all places since his first appearance in the Universe: the one God, and the one Woman who, at once Mother of God and Mother of men, helps to join the two within the boundless, unending flow of love that is life itself.

Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

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DRIVE SAFELY!



To All Our Friends and Patrons

We extend our heartfelt season's greetings

VANCE Furn. Co.

5 SHOW ROOMS—5 FLOORS
Dial 9-3911 Henderson, N. C.

DRIVE SAFELY!

Noel



Glad tidings of great joy and gladness we send at Christmastide to you and yours

Home Owned and Operated by L. H. VICKERY & SON

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309 South Garnett Street
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Telephone: GE 2-3617

THE CAROLINIAN
RALEIGH, N. C. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1962

PLAY FAIR!

Greetings



May happiness be with you and yours at this Christmas... and throughout the coming New Year!

Coca-Cola BOTTLING CO.
HENDERSON, N. C.

Merry Christmas



May the warmth of this Christmas Season Abound in your home Throughout the year. **GOODYEAR - MOTOROLA NOBGE Henderson Vulcanizing Co.** HENDERSON, N. C.



GEORGE CURRIN, JEWELER
OXFORD, N. C.

To all our many customers and friends, we wish a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest New Year. We are grateful for the friendship that exists between our customers and ourselves!

JOY AT CHRISTMAS

to you and your family

Granville Savings & Loan
133 Williamsboro St.
OXFORD, N. C.



Best Wishes for the Holidays

May the Season Be Truly Joyous for All Our Friends!

SHOES-CLOTHING BERGEN'S
Oxford, N. C.

CHRISTMAS JOY



NOW, and in the days to come, may Christmas Joy be yours.

TAYLOR SUPPLY CO. Inc.
OXFORD, N. C.



YULETIDE WISHES

To thank you for the innumerable times you've favored us with your patronage, and to wish you a multitude of joys thru all the seasons.

CHRISTAN HARWARD FURNITURE CO.
Henderson, N. C.

FOX'S

Oxford, N. C.

Merry Christmas

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TOO



OXFORD NATIONAL BANK
COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
OXFORD, N. C.



it's **Christmastime**

Time to wish you the very merriest of holidays!

PENNY FURNITURE CO.
Oxford, N. C.

Season's Greetings!



Peace on Earth Good Will

May the message of the angels fill our hearts always.

LEGGETT'S
Oxford



O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL!

OXFORD HARDWARE
Oxford, N. C.



TO OUR MANY GOOD FRIENDS

EAGLE Store
Oxford, N. C.



THE CANDLE GLOW REFLECTS GAY WISHES

May the warmth of this Christmas Season Abound in your home Throughout the year.

Peoples Bank & Trust Co.

HENDERSON, N. C.
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

HAPPY NEW YEAR



As another year passes by, we wish you and your families an abundance of joy, health, and happiness with our sincere appreciation for your past kindnesses.

DAVIS
Henderson, N. C.



THAT'S OUR WISH FOR EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN THIS CITY

And an extra wish of success and happiness to all our old customers.

TO YOU!

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
Henderson, N. C.

Greetings



In these festive days we wish to thank all you good folks for your friendship and patronage this past year.

ROSE'S
Henderson, N. C.