The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968.

A LIFT FOR TODAY

In your patience, possess ye your souls.-Luke 21:19.

Hard conditions has life, such that every dear and precious gift, every rare virtue, every genial endowment, love hope, joy, wit, benevolence—must sometimes be put into the crucible to distill the one elixir patience.-Gail Hamilton.

Gracious Heavenly Father, curb our restless spirits. Fill us with patience and love of Thee and others.

SPEAKING OF JUSTICE

The professional hand-wringers are at it again.

Discussing the skyrocketing crime rate and the need for law and order at a press conference the other day, J. Edgar Hoover was asked about justice by one of the reporters. The FIB chief suggested that justice was inci-

Whatever amount of carping may be made about the observation will not provide justice for those who are murdered, raped or robbed and denied the protection they have paid for through taxation and to which they are entitled. Is it justice that statutory punishment is nullified through legalistic legerdemain? Is it justice that a man who admits his crime should escape its penalty?

We have heard a great deal in recent years about poverty being responsible for crime. Some of the chief exponents of that theory have wrapped themselves in a cloak of alleged humanitarianism and urged that they be given access to the public treasury with the assurance that they could buy the bandits off. They haven't put it quite that bluntly, but it is the burden of their ap-

The record, however, doesn't seem to confirm their representations. During a period when steadily increasing amounts of public money have been devoted to alleviation of poverty - and that in a period hailed as one of great prosperity — the rate of crime has accelerated beyond belief.

Great Britain has had a similar experience, according to Lord Justice John Passmore Widgery, of that nation's Court of Appeals. Addressing the American Bar Association, in Philadelphia, he admitted he had accepted the view that, with the welfare state established in this country, crime would taper off. Somewhat ruefully, he conceded that, in spite of all that had been done to eliminate slums and wipe out poverty, the evidence revealed that crime is continuing to rise in Britain about as fast as it is here.

And when another speaker suggested that we must rely more on public housing and more handouts to combat crime, Judge Widgery commented: "Anyone here who believes that relief of poverty will bring a decrease in crime is in for some kind of disappointment."

We've known a lot of poor people; and they weren't criminals. But no one encouraged them to believe that they could get — or take — something for nothing.

You can plan your life and your actions without regard to what others think or do, but you can't live to yourself, whether

you want to or not.

People who stand outside the church and criticize those on the inside have very little to do.



Thanks to Rev. Walter E. Isenhour, retired minister of Taylorsville, the following poem is very appropriate for this issue

IN LITTLE BETHLEHEM

From all the fair Judean fields
The sun withdrew her light,
And sent the evening shadows o'er, Which deepened into night, Where shepherds kept their flocks of sheep Beside the rippling rills, And led them into pastures green Through valleys and o'er hills.

When everything in stillness lay. And scarce a sound was heard, Our Father sent the angels down To bring to them the word That Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord— God's precious Diadem—
Was born the Savior of the world
In little Bethlehem.

In swaddling clothes He lay that night, Cradled in a manger.
And although promised to the world,
Yet to the world a stranger.
And Joseph watched beside His bed
While others coundly sleat While others soundly slept, And Mary, mother Mary, too, Her vigils o'er Him kept.

The angels sang, O sweetly sang,
In melody and mirth,
Out in the fields that blessed night:
"Good will toward men on earth." The shepherds heard this sacred song From Heaven's holy band, As in the stillness of the night It floated o'er the land.

And soon they hastened to the town, The town of Bethlehem, To find the holy little Babe God promised unto them
As Savior and Redeemer true—
The fair EMMANUEL— To make salvation's only plan
To save the world from hell.

When they had found and worshipped Him They happily returned
To tell the good news unto men From hearts that in them burned And soon the good news spread abroad—
O, the wondrous story—
That in the town of Bethlehem
Was born the "King of Glory."

Unanimity Lodge No. 7, A. F. & A. M., is, without a doubt, the oldest fraternal organization in Edenton and every now and then a local member has been asked, "just what is Masonry?" Well, the other day Bill Easterling, one of the latest to become a Mason, fund the following article which is titled "Facts About The Masons." Here

WHAT MASONRY IS

- -It is a voluntary association of men.
- -It is a system of moral conduct.
- -It is a way of life.
- -It is a fraternal society.
- -It is religious in its character. -It teaches the Golden Rule.
- -It seeks to make good men better. -It teaches morality through symbolism.
- -It uses secret rites and ceremonies to instruct its members.

-It is based on a firm belief in the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the immortality of the Soul. -Its tenets are ethical principles acceptable to all good men. It teaches toleration toward the beliefs of others, and charity toward all. Masons have a fraternity consisting of men bound together by bonds universally applicable through the world.

-Masonry teaches love and kindness in the home, honesty and fairness in business or occupation, courtesy in social contracts, help for the weak and unfortunate, resistance to wickedness, trust and confidence in good men, forgiveness toward the penitent, love toward one another and, above all, reverence for the Supreme Being.

WHAT MASONRY IS NOT -It is not an insurance or benefit society.

- —It is neither a religion nor a creed.
- -It is not a charity organization. -It is not organized for profit.
- -It does not solicit members.
- -It dictates to no man his religion or secular beliefs.
- -It seeks no advantages for its members through business or
- -It is not a forum for discussion of partisan affairs.
- -It is not a secret society, for it does

not conceal its existence.

Another very enjoyable Christmas party was held Thursday night when Edenton Rotarians and Rotary Anns held their annual Christmas party at the Country Club. Instead of a long-winded speaker, a program of entertainment was provided. One feature was a quartet, called "The Rotary Eagles," who sang a group of Christmas carols just about like professionals and much to the enjoyment of all present. The quartet included John Becker, Alton Elmore, Jimmy Earnhardt, Jr., and Bill Sanford. To say it was great is putting it mildly. Then John Becker, together with Dickie Dixon, put on a skit which was just as much fun as any act I've seen in vaudeville. Then Sammy Byrum, Jess Harmon and Miss Betty Fulcher put on a program of music and although they completed what they intended to do, they were persuaded to do a few more numbers. Sammy can give a guitar a fit and Jess can tear a banjo all to pieces. Miss Fulcher also sang two delightful numbers. It was, in my opinion (and I've attended a great many) just about the best Christmas party the Rotarians ever put on.

Gee Whiz! I almost forgot to wish everybody a Merry Christmas. Anyway, it's the season of the year when, for the most part, season of the year when, for the most part, most people are wearing a smile—which is a very good indication that they are happy. Let's wear a smile even if we could be a little happier. So MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!

The Jublic Parad

That Good Feeling

This note in an unattended typewriter signed by Mrs. Cabell Pruden expresses our own feelings and should not be taken for granted by others who meander along The Public Parade.

"After weeks of traveling to other towns and cities, watching owners, managers and clerks of many different stores, we have certainly realized how very blessed the Town of Edenton is for all its wonderful people who take an interest in you, are polite to you and your family as well as appreciate your business.

"This includes the police department, rescue squad, post office, fire department and road crews.

"Many of our friends have expressed this feeling. We'd like to thank you one and all and wish you a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year."

Ballet, Symphony Thrills Audience

Five young ballet students from Edenton experienced the joy of Christmas morning on Friday as they watched "The Nutcracker" from the fifth row of Memorial Auditorium in Raleigh.

Instead of a bus full, planned by the Chowan Arts Council, a car made the trip for the exciting program with Margaret Bennett, Lee and Nelson Chears. Penny Jo Powell and Ruth Emma Wright fast asleep on the return to Edenton at 10:30 P. M.

This was one of three performances given in Durham and Raleigh by the North Carolina School of Arts and the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra and sponsored by the N. C. Arts Council and the N. C. State Ballet Company.

Robert Lindgren did the choreography. He is dean of the Dance Department at the School of the Arts. Breathtakingly beautiful scenery and costumes were designed by Christina Giannini, niece of the deceased famous composer and first president of the School of the Arts. Lighting, said to be the best on the East Coast, was designed by Eugene Lowery.

To insure the success of this expensive undertaking and hopefully to make it an annual series of events to highlight Christmas in North Carolina, patrons of the N. C. State Ballet at East Carolina University made special contributions to the Thursday evening performance after which they were entertined at a reception at the Governor's Mansion by Gov. and Mrs. Dan K. Moore.

New Jail Rules

New minimum required standards for operation and construction of local jails and lock-ups were sent to city and county officials throughout the State today by the State Department of Public Wel-

These standards became mandatory when signed by Gov. Moore in November, after being approved by the State Board of Public Welfare earlier this year. There are 238 county and city jails and seven juvenile detention homes in the State that will be covered by the new standards.

Many areas that insure the humane treatment and care of persons apprehended and held in custody in these facilities are covered by the new standards. Proper construction requirements include safety features, adequate space for proper grouping of prisoners, and adequate heat, light and ventilation. Other standards cover proper supervision including properly trained personnel, sanitation, medical care, food preparation, and personal hygiene and comfort of prisoners to mention a few.

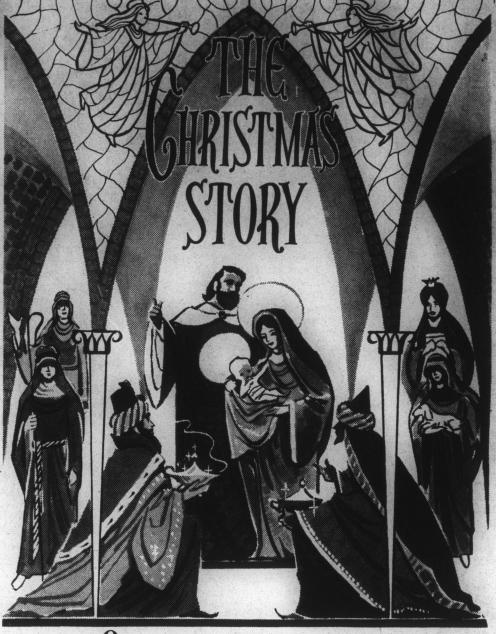
"This step is a significant milestone in our State's jail inspection program," states State Welfare Commissioner Clifton M. Craig.

"We now join an elite group of a very few states who have similar standards," Craig further stated.

The State Welfare Department has been in the jail inspection business since its original mandate from the General Assembly 100 years ago in 1868. Reports have been made and recommendations, but there have been no required standards.

The Standards were brought to fruition by the 1967 General Assembly.

"For those who might think this sort of needed reform is just another effort to be kind to criminals, let me remind them that most people in North Carolina's jails are not criminals but people charged and awaiting trial. We are talking about a place where any citizen could find himself temporarily while trying to make bond after an accident or minor incident. Persons convicted of crimes spend most of their time in state prisons, not in city and county jails," Craig added.



Unce again we pause to observe, and gather new inspiration from the age-old story . . . the birth of our Saviour . . . and His divine, eternal presence. May every joy and blessing of this Holy Season come to you and your loved ones, bringing peace and happiness . . . making spirits bright!

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