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## CHRISTMAS CLERKS

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"There's Too Many Haughty Princesses an' Serious-Faced Grouches Behind th' Counter These Days—Girls Who Expect t' Marry an' Young Men Who Hope t' Drop In t' Somethin' Better. As a Result, It's Gettin' t' Be an Ordeal Instead of a Pleasure t' Shop."

Now that th' Christmas shopping season has begun in earnest th' most attractive holiday display a retail merchant can make is a full line of attentive, pleasant faced clerks. In these days o' tight money, high prices an' sharp competition it is up to th' merchant t' see t' it that his clerks show th' prospective customer over-courtesy an' attention if he expects t' get an' hold his patronage. There's too many haughty princesses an' serious faced grouches behind th' counter these days—clerks who consider their jobs as bein' only temporary—girls who expect t' marry an' young men who hope t' drop in t' somethin' better. As a result it's gettin' t' be an ordeal instead of a pleasure t' shop. A clerk who feels above his position will not warm up at th' seek counter, an' th' powdered doll who is countin' th' days till June is rarely interested in her customers. A feller feels like he wuz buttin' in when he approaches a counter. Sometimes he has t' interrupt a conversation like this: "Honestly, kid, he's only twenty-one an' towers 'way above me," or "You wait on that ole hen, Mama, she makes me sick." Lots o' folks don't like t' go in a store for fear they'll disturb th' clerks, or buy somethin' they don't want jest t' keep from gettin' their fill will. It takes an iron constitution t' withstand th' witherin' look a clerk gives you when you say, "I believe I will look around a little more an' see if I can't find somethin' that suits me better." How often we stutter an' pull ourselves t'gether an' say, "Jest lay it aside till I come in agin." We wish t' buy but

we're lyn' t' git away from a stupid an' indifferent clerk. If ther's anything worse than a lazy preoccupied clerk it's th' fresh persistent clerk who knows your wants better than yourself—th' positive, overzealous clerk who destroys whatever inclination t' buy we may have had when he started t' wait on us.

People are all alike when it comes t' payin' out money. They like t' feel that their patronage is appreciated an' that some effort has been made t' please them. Poor people, who make up th' great mass o' cash customers an' without whose trade it would be impossible t' conduct any kind o' business, are especially responsive t' kind, now an' consideration when they dole out their scanty earnings, and they're entitled t' all th' smiles an' accommodations that are so cheerfully extended t' th' impatient an' critical customer who happens t' have a charge account.

We don't mean by all o' this that a clerk should gush an' fall all over us—that he or she should show us what they wear an' ask after th' children an' tell us how swell we look in anything an' do ever-thing but give us a little kiss when we buy somethin'. All that any one kin reasonably ask of a clerk is that they have some knowledge o' ther business an' a willin'ness t' wait on us, interspersed with a dash o' good nature an' politeness. Outside of a few public service monopolies an' th' postoffice th' day o' th' cold blooded business transaction is passed. T'day th' smilin' bird gits th' worm.

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## Around the Christmas Tree



## KING of THE CHRISTMAS SEASON



## Christmas Is Still a Religious Holiday

Christmas holds a unique place as a yearly celebration. The observance of other holidays has changed, but Christmas has yielded none of its original sacredness. It is now, as at first, essentially a religious day. Its reality voices a song of fraternity people grow at this season more generous, more indulgent, more human. It is evangelistic for the destruction of malice and ill-will—differences between one and another are forgotten. Year by year Christmas devalizes selfishness, and consequently the day is a powerful factor for good. Great characters step from the spiritualized atmosphere; majestic deeds of charity leave their blessing and example everywhere. Yuletide is not merely a period of gift bestowal or solely a time of thoughtfulness. Its significance is more profound. Feeling is immersed in kindness. Conduct is adapted to what is highest and best.

The first plain Christmas, of which that of today is a sublime issue, dignified sacrifice. The Good Book says: "And there were shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flocks." A manifestation of personal sacrifice. Those who would be rich must give. The gift need not be monetary. Giving is without limitation—if a singer, give to others a glad-song; if a millionaire in experience, give freely of advice; if a table of plenty, share the feast with those who are not only physically hungry, but thirsty for sympathy; if invested with geniality, become a prince giver of laughter, of service, of encouragement. Be constructive. Followers of this doctrine draw from the season a rich return in happiness.

**Don't Really Mean It.**  
"Wishing your friends and neighbors a 'Merry Christmas' is a pleasing custom."  
"True, but I have conscientious scruples against doing so," answered the thoughtful man.  
"What do you mean?"  
"I fear a great many people say 'Merry Christmas' in much the same spirit that they ask, 'How do you do?' They don't care a hang how you do."  
Exchange.

**Ye Christmass Tyme.**  
Mare everie kyndnesse ye have wroughte  
Uponne youre fellowe mienne,  
Uponne thys blessed christmass dave  
Returne to you againe,  
And maye eche logge whyche blazeth  
highte  
Uponne youre yule-tyde fyre  
Reflect in tongues of living flame  
Youre dearest heart's desyre.  
—Marion V. Higgins.

## INTERPRET YOUR NEWSPAPER TO YOUR CHILDREN

The Chantauqua Reading Hour  
(Dr. William Byron Forbush.)

Our schools are setting us a fine example today in encouraging general intelligence among our children. The text-book in civics is more than the text-book. Certain popular weekly periodicals are scanned for the latest movements in community enterprise. In Denver, "Municipal Facts," the organ of the city government, is regularly circulated and studied in the schools. Some times the local newspaper is used as the outlet for the school city history clubs, and again the pupils are practised in writing respectful, but earnest letters of protest or appeal upon public needs or abuses to the city fathers or the daily press.

The public schools are doing much to interpret current events to our children, but it is doubtful if any personal habit of importance is ever formed outside the home. The child who enjoys the local newspaper is the one who has seen his parents read it, has heard them talk it over, and has been encouraged to ask questions about it. He is the one who forms the habit of becoming a regular reader.

**Connecticut Model.**  
That great Connecticut citizen, Horace Bushnell, used to read the news at table to his children, interpreting as he went along. He made for them, so his biographer says, "a fascinating panorama of the world's life for the past twenty-four hours." He was a refreshing contrast to the father who barricaded himself alone behind one propped up against the coffee pot.

That other eminent citizen of the Nutmeg State, Lyman Beecher, used to select from yesterday's events a subject, set it as a topic of debate to his large family, and sit upmiring the discussion. He never allowed a loose statement or an illogical one to get by him. His children did not get fooled by partisan political camouflage.

**Give Your Child "Exposures."**  
Some people do not think that complete details of crime ought to be made known to children. Let it be so, then. All the more reason why parents intervene. Fortunately, the press is sound at heart, and it always shows from each moral tragedy that the White Way has a dark ending.

## Questionnaires Mailed Out By Local Exemption Board.

The local board for Randolph county began sending out questionnaires Saturday, the 15th, mailing 100 each day and will continue to mail out 100 until the 20th names are exhausted. Any registrant who wishes help can receive it by applying to the legal advisory board which is composed of J. A. Spence, Clifford Cox and H. M. Robins.

## Rev. J. R. Scroggs, of Marion, Died Suddenly Monday

Dr. J. R. Scroggs died suddenly at his home in Marion Monday morning. He was serving his second year as pastor of the Marion M. E. church having been re-appointed at the annual conference in Asheville in November. Mr. Scroggs served many of the most important churches in the state. His first charge was the Pleasant Garden district which comprised a part of Randolph and surrounding counties. He was presiding elder of the Old Trinity District, the Greensboro, Statesville, Salisbury, Winston and Charlotte districts.

Mr. Scroggs was at one time pastor of the Randleman M. E. church and it was there that his daughters Kate Scroggs married Dr. J. O. Walker, both of whom are dead. Mr. Scroggs is survived by his wife, Clarence Scroggs of the Winston-Salem Journal, Mrs. Fortune of Asheville and Miss Stella Scroggs of Marion.

His body was taken to Shelby for burial. Mr. Scroggs was the grandfather of James, Hal and Frances Walker of Asheville.

Every attorney in High Point tendered his assistance to the High Point exemption board and the draft eligibles of High Point township in the capacity of the legal advisory board.

## Mrs. O. W. Carr, of Trinity, Dead

Mrs. O. W. Carr of Trinity one of the best known and most highly respected women of the entire section, died Saturday afternoon at her home after an extended illness of 18 months. She was the widow of the late O. W. Carr, who was a member of the faculty of Trinity College for a number of years. Mr. Carr had a large insurance business, in this section of state. He had an office in Greensboro, but lived at Trinity and died there more than twelve years ago. Two daughters survive Mrs. Carr Mrs. Dred Peacock, of High Point, and Mrs. J. C. Pepper of Trinity. Three sons, J. M. Carr, husband of Mrs. Blanche Carr, who lives in San Francisco; W. C. Carr, husband of Mrs. Lula Carr, of Arizona, and Ernest Carr, are dead. Funeral services over the remains were conducted at Trinity Sunday afternoon by Rev. Mr. Johnson, pastor of the church of which the deceased was a member. Burial followed in the Trinity cemetery.

## Red Cross Membership Drive in Randolph County—One Thousand Members by January First.

Owing to local conditions the Red Cross membership drive in Randolph will not close before January 1. Randolph must have 1,000 new members by that time. To reach this goal the rural sections as well as the towns will need to work hard. An attempt is being made to have Red Cross representatives in all parts of the county so that every one may have an opportunity to join. If no one calls upon you and you wish to become a member of the Red Cross send a dollar to Mr. Frank Byrd, treasurer, Asheboro, or to your nearest branch and you will receive a button and service flag. Branches have been organized at Trinity, Randleman, Worthville and Liberty and those wishing membership in one of these branches should send their dollar to the branch of their choice.

## Not Guilty, Verdict in Means Case

At 10:22 a. m. on Sunday the jury after being out over night, returned a verdict of not guilty, thus ending the longest murder trial in the history of North Carolina. As the jury filed in Means stood nervously smiling while his wife wept at the words "not guilty." It is said that Means will now have to answer an indictment in New York for forgery and embezzlement of Mrs. Means' money. A hard fight before Governor Bickett for extradition is expected.

## Norfolk Southern Will Continue Train Service Between Raleigh and Charlotte.

It was published in the daily papers last week that the Norfolk Southern Railway would discontinue passenger service between Raleigh and Charlotte on account of a coal shortage. Mr. Birkhead, local agent, says arrangements have been made for the government to arrange transportation of coal so that the trains will continue to run as usual.

## Congress Adjourns Until January 3rd.

Nation-Wide Prohibition Bill Passed  
Both houses of Congress adjourned Tuesday until January third, when war legislation is to take the forefront of the calendar. Some of the Congressional committees will work during the holidays on appropriation bills and other legislation. The nation wide prohibition bill passed with a vote of 282 to 228, twelve more than a two-thirds majority.

## Arthur Cagle, of Union Township, the First Randolph Soldier to Die

The people of Randolph county were distressed on last week to learn of the death of Arthur Cagle of Union Township. He was the first Randolph county soldier to respond to the last call. Mr. Cagle enlisted with Company K and went to Camp Sevier where he died in the hospital last Sunday. He contracted measles about four weeks ago and later pneumonia from which he did not recover. Deceased was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Cagle, who with several brothers and sisters survive. Braxton Cagle, a brother, is also with the U. S. Army. The body of Mr. Cagle was sent home, escorted by Floyd Cagle from Seagrave. Funeral service was conducted at Pisgah on Sunday by Rev. Lovins after which the body was laid to rest. Mr. Cagle responded to the call of his country and was a soldier who had the respect of his fellow soldiers. He was an upright, straightforward young man and his death is greatly deplored. The bereaved family have the sympathy of many citizens whom they do not know.

## Randolph Chapter of Red Cross Makes Another Shipment of Quilted Garments.

The Randolph Chapter of American Red Cross sent December 17 a box of garments to Asheville. The Liberty, Randleman and Pisgah Branches also made a large shipment of the garments. The shipment consisted of 27 sweaters, 27 mittens, 20 pairs of wristlets and 20 pairs of socks. This shipment, together with the garments already sent makes a contribution total to date of 100 sweaters, 97 pairs of socks and 90 pairs of wristlets. A small shipment will be made this week on the arrival of the next shipment is expected that can be made as possible. The chapter has a special order for wool which will be used for the eager knitters just as soon as it arrives.