



**Mexican Arts Display**

This arrangement of Mexican art work is on display in the third floor hall of the Science-Engineer Building. The ma-

terial is owned by Dr. Herbert Hechenbleikner. The display has created quite a lot of interest from students.

## Christmas In Other Lands Recalled By College's Foreign Students

By DENNIS WHITAKER and BRAD KEISTLER

The Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration throughout most of the world.

In an effort to understand and appreciate Christmas in other lands, The Collegian has interviewed foreign students at Charlotte College to find out how the Christmas season is observed in other lands. Here is what the various students revealed about this holiday season in their homelands:

### INDIA

According to George Thomas, classmate from India, the Christmas season in his country is celebrated by only about three per cent of the population.

The season's festivals begin on Christmas Eve with everyone meeting at church. Prayers are said and carols are sung.

The whole congregation joins in the celebration.

During the course of the evening, Father Christmas, the Indian equivalent of our Santa Claus, arrives to distribute gifts to all the children. As the midnight hour approaches, Christmas Day is ushered in by a service.

Christmas time in the homes of India is much like that in our homes in America. There is a gaily decorated Christmas tree, and there are many presents. To represent the Star of Bethlehem, a large star—made of bamboo and brightened by a light in its center—is hung on the tree.

### ENGLAND

GAY PORTER remembers Christmas in her country as a very gay time, a time to be shared with members of the family. "It's a longer holiday, since the day after Christmas is also a holiday," said Gay.

"The twenty-sixth is called Boxing Day. This day used to be the time for presents, while Christmas Day was a religious holiday. Today, however, the presents are given on Christmas Day," Gay continued.

The whole family spends Christmas Day together, playing games and having a day of fun. The high point of the day comes when everyone gathers around the radio or TV to hear the Queen's Christmas greeting. Later in the day, colorful cakes decorated with

Christmas scenes are served with the tea.

### GERMANY

Petronella Coulter is our student from Germany. She has fond memories of Christmas in her country.

The Christmas season begins with the baking of many cookies and cakes for the holidays. In the tradition of the German people, Saint Nicholas visits the children on December 5th. A great deal of pageantry comes on this day, as two Saint Nicholas appear: one, with a big white beard, has plenty of candy and cookies for the good children; the other, wearing horns and dressed in black, scolds the bad children (all in fun, of course).

When the holidays begin, the family Christmas tree is cut from a forest by the men in the family and brought back to the house, where it is decorated with real candles. Christmas Eve finds the children eagerly awaiting their gifts. The presents are given on Christmas Eve, and they are said to be gifts from the baby Jesus. On Christmas Day, there is a big dinner, and families meet to spend the holiday

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## Celebration Of New Year Lasts 13 Days

A 13-day holiday that starts 365,2564 days from the last one is the Persian's unique and exacting way of celebrating the arrival of a new year.

The Persians, who gave birth to many of our scientific theories, don't quibble about Leap Year and the like.

They figure that after 365,2564 days have passed, another year has begun, according to Iraj Ghaemmaghami, Iranian exchange student at Charlotte College.

It's a social requirement to visit one's relatives during the holidays and to exchange gifts, mostly for the children. Everyone wears new clothes on New Year's Day and eats seven foods which have names beginning with the letter "s."

On the thirteenth day after New Year's Day, the Persians throw away some specially grown plants and go on a picnic—then back to school.

together. (The twenty-sixth is also a holiday in Germany.)

### HOLLAND

Leo Zoutewelle, a native of Holland, says that the Dutch Christmas is really divided into two events. The people of Holland separate the giving of presents from the religious observance of the birth of Christ.

The giving of presents occurs on Saint Nicholas Evening, which is on the fifth of December. Then everybody buys or makes presents for friends and family, and with each present traditionally goes a light, humorous poem written by the giver, usually making fun of the receiver of the gift. The man who "brings the present around" is Saint Nicholas. He is an old bishop from Spain who rides on a white horse over the roof of the houses—dropping in through each chimney to deliver the presents. He has several black helpers who are called "Black Petes."

All gifts supposedly come from Saint Nicholas and all the poems are signed by Saint Nicholas. Therefore, theoretically, no one knows who gave him his presents.

On the 26th of December, the Dutch observe only the birth of Christ. On Christmas eve there is an evening spent by the family in a serious frame of mind. Everybody stays up until late in the evening, when all the clocks all over Holland start ringing. Then everybody goes to bed. early the next morning the family is awakened by Christmas music, after which a special Christmas breakfast is served; afterward, everyone goes to church. The rest of the day is spent in festivity with plenty of good food. The 26th of December is "second Christmas day, which is considered to be a regular holiday. Christmas in Holland is not a commercialized event. Instead, the whole country is engaged in a more or less reverent atmosphere. If there is any commercialization of the season, it occurs around Saint Nicholas Day, December 5.

### CUBA

There is sadness in the report from Cuba. As our Cuban student, Enrique Percal, puts it: "As long as Castro is in power, there will be no Christmas; even Christmas trees are forbidden!"

## NSA MEETING

# Students Analyze World Problems

By GEORGE THOMAS

Students from the Carolinas-Virginia region of the National Student Association met for the Fall Regional Assembly Dec. 1 and 2 at Woman's College in Greensboro.

Charlotte College representatives attending the conference were Bill Ferguson, student body president, Florence Morrow, and George Thomas.

Speakers for the occasion were from South Rhodesia, China, England, and the United States. They kept discussions intellectually alive with comments ranging from conservatism to radicalism.

Discussion group sessions on Asia, Latin America, and Africa lasted several hours. A student with just a casual acquaintance with politics could have understood and participated in these informal discussions.

Fiery Konishi of Japan talked about the Japanese political scene and the role of Japanese students in this country. He commented on the high rate of suicide in Japan, attributing it primarily to the absence of moral standard among the young people today.

"Japan has lost much of its ancient culture and traditions by its contact with Western technology," Mr. Koniski said.

P. M. George of India spoke about the "inner restlessness" of students throughout the world and particularly the problems facing students in Asian nations.

In answer to a question from Miss Pat Rogers, a student at Women's College, Mr. George said the Indian government is taking steps to end the caste system.

The assembly ended with a talk by Peace Corps member James Kweter, who explained the Corps' objectives and contributions toward world peace.

## CC Chorus Program Planned

By GAY PORTER

The Christmas program of the Charlotte College Chorus will be given in the Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church on Monday, Dec. 18, at 8:30 p.m.

The principal work for the evening will be a cantata, "An Appalachian Nativity," by Lewis Henry Horton.

The mixed chorus of 40 voices, under the direction of Harvey Woodruff, will be led by Eleanor Starnes Glass, soprano; Van Trapp, baritone; and Torrence Smith, tenor. Richard Van Seiver will accompany on the church organ.

"An Appalachian Nativity" is a Christmas folk cantata arranged from the familiar shape-note hymn tunes of the Southern Appalachian foothills, charmingly and tastefully put together. This cantata preserves a musical tradition distinctively American and uniquely Southern.

The cantata will be broadcast on Christmas Eve on WSOC-TV at 9:30 a.m.

## German Class At CC Offered First Time

Mrs. Jadwidga Solecka, a new faculty member at Charlotte College, is teacher of the first elementary German class at CC.

The course covers the fundamentals of German grammar with particular stress upon correct pronunciation and self-expression through practice in the language laboratory.



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