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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 **EXALTING CHRIST IN THE** LIFE OF THE NATION Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 1:26-33 The Birth of Christ Prophesied by

By Ben F. Favell

Isaiah

siah was foretold by the prophet one of these titles. The spirit of Isaiah 734 years in advance. Says this same prophesy was also re-Isaiah, "The people that walked peated by the Angel Gabriel to the in darkness have seen a great Virgin Mary who was to become light; they that dwell in the Land | the medium through which God of the Shadow of Death, upon them | was to send his son, the prince of hath a great light shined." If peace into the world to establish ever a people walked in darkness it his heavenly Kingdom. was the descendants of Juda dur- The Jewish Nation Turned from ing the century marked by the birth of Christ. God's people were under the heavy yoke of Rome, The mistress of the world. They spiritual life was under a cloud of oppressive regulations and man made commandments. The simple

laws of Moses written at the com-

mand of God had been so circum-

was taken out of religion. No word had come from God and no prophet had arisen for centuries. Isiah prophesied that the Christ should come as a child. He should be called "wonderful counsellor. The mighty God. The everlasting father, the prince of peace." One needs only to review the record of the life of Jesus the Christ to The coming of Christ the Mes- find that Christ exemplified every

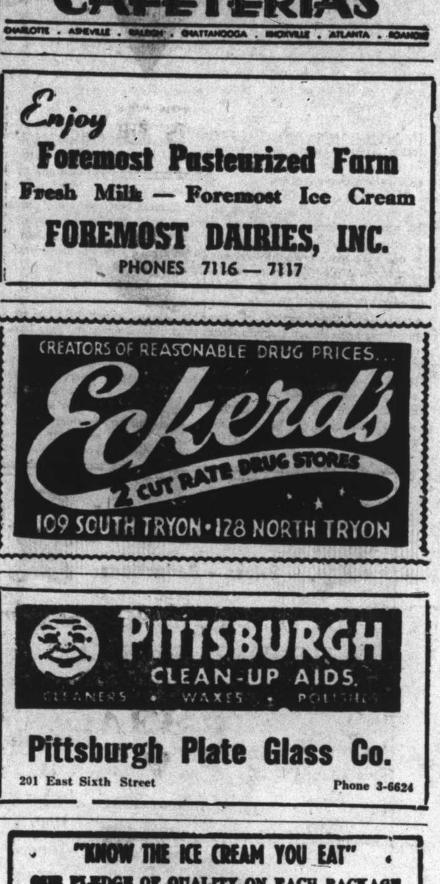
the Light The people who walked in darkness saw a great light but they bath seen me hath seen the as a people with the exception of Father," but they resented it and had only limited freedom and were a hand full of devout followers, | called it blasphemy. He taught forced to pay crushing taxes. Their | failed to see the way out of their | that the way of peace is the Golddilemma. They loused for a great en Rule and brotherly love, but military leader. Christ came a they preferred "An eye for an great spiritual leader. They expected a political revolution. Christ began a revolution of thought. scribed with interpretations by They were given a wonderful scribes and pharisees that all joy counselor, but they turned a deaf





ear. They admitted that only one from God could do, such mighty works but refused to be convinced by them. Jesus testified, "He that eye and a tooth for a tooth." There could be but one inevitable result. Destruction. Even the temple was utterly destroyed and the people massacred or carriec away into captivity. During the last few years the descendants of

that some philosophy that degreat military leaders are exalting stroyed Germany. But there are Christ. Let us follow their lead. also encouraging evidences that We must turn to the light personally. Nations are made up of .hey will turn to the light of lights. individuals. No nation can ex-As evidence of this let me quote rominent military authorities. alt Christ and follow his teachings eneral McArthur said "What unless its individuals first follow merica needs is better people." him. As a teacher in the Bible eneral Hodges in an interview school, however, small your class, when asked what Korea needed you are a vital factor in the savmost said: "The greatest need of ing of our loved America. As 'a forea is missionaries." General parent your greatest responsibilsenhower stated recently that ity is to teach by example and when he first went to Germany precept the better way of life to your child. Together exalting he task of making over the German nation seemed hopeless till Christ America will become better he found that a number of devout and greater.



Timesday, December 12, 1945