

THE Roanoke Beacon and Washington County News

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY in Plymouth, Washington County, North Carolina

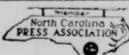
The Roanoke Beacon is Washington County's only newspaper. It was established in 1889, consolidated with the Washington County News in 1929 and with The Sun in 1937.

Subscription Rates

Payable in Advance One year—\$1.50 Six months—\$.75

Advertising Rates Furnished Upon Request

Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Plymouth, N. C., under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



December 24, 1942

ALMANAC

NO SIZE (M NOT SHAVING TILL PRYAN IS ELECTED)

"What we acquire with most difficulty we retain longest"—Colton

DECEMBER

- 24—Treaty of Ghent, 1814. 25—Christmas Day. 26—Alien registration completed, 1940. 27—Incubator patented, 1870. 28—State of Erie (formerly Irish Free State) established, 1938. 29—First YMCA in U. S. organized in Boston, 1851. 30—Iniquitous Theatre Fire, Chicago, 602 persons perished, 1903. 31—Ellis Island, N. Y., first opened as immigration depot, 1890.

Christmas—1942

By RUTH TAYLOR

On this, the second war Christmas, home circles are broken all over this land of ours. War has touched countless families throughout our nation. We are separated from those whom we love. We are face to face with broken homes, changed lives. Christmas gaiety is far from the hearts of many of us.

But we can still keep Christmas in our hearts. Christmas is not merely a time of personal rejoicing and good fellowship, important though that is. Christmas is the one holiday that cannot be celebrated alone. Christmas is not getting, but giving—not of mere material gifts but of ourselves.

All over this world, on the battlefronts where the armies of right fight the battle of Him who taught "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"; behind the battle lines, in palace and in humble home, in crowded city and on lonely farm; deep in the conquered countries where every act of worship is watched with suspicious eyes, men are keeping Christmas in their hearts, praying that the Prince of Peace may rule on earth.

We, the fortunate ones, in this land protected by our valiant forces from the onslaught of the aggressor, have the opportunity to answer the challenge and to share our Christmas cheer with all. We who have much to give must give much to bring comfort to the desolate and happiness to the sick at heart. We may be lonely, we may be sad, we may be impoverished. But there is none of us who cannot give in some way. Only in giving can we keep the Christmas light burning bright. Only in giving may we follow the Star.

In another war, Henry Van Dyke wrote a Christmas prayer for lonely folks. In his words let us say:

Lord God of the solitary, Look upon me in my loneliness. Since I may not keep this Christmas in the home, Send it into my heart.

... For His sake, give me a cheerful courage to endure my lot, And an inward comfort to sweeten it.

... Though I am poor, send me to carry some gift to those who are poorer, Some cheer to those who are more lonely.

... Teach me that I am not alone, But that many hearts all round the world, Join with me through the silence, while I pray in His Name. Amen.

Christmas Cards

We choose greeting cards without wondering just how long folks have been following this custom at Christmas. The average citizen today receives at least 12 cards at Christmas.

"PEACE ON EARTH"

By The Right Reverend HENRY HOBSON, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio and National Chairman of the Fight for Freedom Committee

To many who read and hear the Christmas story this year "Peace on Earth" will be words without meaning. There is no peace on earth.

There was no peace when these words were first sung by the Angels on the night that the Child of Bethlehem was born. The crowds which jammed its inn, and filled each house in the village, until only a stable manger offered refuge for a new-born babe, were evidence of the oppressive tyranny which robbed a people out of their peace. A decree from the dictator had gone out.

There has been no peace on earth since that first Christmas, for always through the years that same hand of oppression has rested heavily upon countless millions of men made by God to be free.

The Angels proclaimed not a fact but a hope—a hope to be realized on earth only as all men everywhere are able to live not as slaves but as children of God. For Christ's peace is not just for the United States, or for people of white skins, or for those with education in their minds, food in their stomachs, or money in their pockets. It is for all men on earth, and he who would find peace for himself must be striving to insure it for others. Those who seek to live in a peace of isolationism, while others are in turmoil of body and soul, will never share in realizing the hope of peace on earth. God doesn't answer the prayer, "Peace for me."

Peace is that state in which man, no matter what his race or nation or color, can freely live with an equal opportunity to use his talents and abilities as a child of God. When this right is denied to men anywhere there can be no peace on earth.

As Christians are are called today to face the fact that the forces of oppression are robbing man of his right to peace. The people of England can have no peace as long as shelters must be their refuge from destructive bombs, and while their coasts are threatened by invasion. The people of France can have no peace as long as the Hitler-appointed appeasers force a hallowed collaboration with the conquerors who have made them slaves. The peoples of Holland and Belgium—violated, impoverished—can have no peace while they suffer under the tyrant's heel. The people of Poland—the tragic country of broken homes and divided families, deprived of leaders by mass slaughter—can have no peace while systematic ravishing destroys life and land. The people of Norway—betrayed by men who as children they nurtured—can have no peace while they shiver through bitter cold nights robbed of their blankets and hungry for want of food stripped from their land. The millions of China—wandering, starving, history's supreme sufferers—can have no peace while bombs fall like rain to wrack their bodies and blast their homes. The people of

Greece—where courage never faltered and vision was never dimmed by appeasement—will never know peace while forced labor makes slaves of their bodies and while the invader defiles the beauties of their land. The people of Germany—the older people distraught and in terror, the younger ones poisoned from infancy by falsehood—can never have peace while the concentration camp closes its brutal jaws on every free spirit, and Hitlerism prostitutes truth and justice to make right appear wrong and wrong appear right.

People ask me how I can give allegiance to the Prince of Peace and at the same time urge that our country take up arms against the aggressors of our day. My answer is that there can be no peace on earth in a Hitler-dominated world, and that we face a moment in history when the use of force is the only effective means of halting the rush of those evil powers which, because they despise true peace, are seeking to enslave mankind under a brutal war system for centuries to come. There are times—and this Christmas, 1942, is one such time—when our desire for peace is determined not by our willingness to sacrifice and suffer as we courageously fight against the enemy who seeks to destroy all peace. By action, not evasion, we have our chance to share in the fulfillment of that hope which the Angels have held before all mankind—Peace on Earth.

will worship the Prince of Peace, men will be killing one another. Is that what Christ came to the world for? No; he came to the world to bring peace and good will to all men.

This Christmas many will let it pass and will not catch the real meaning of Christmas. Thank God, that He gave His Son to come to a world in darkness to bring light. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

In Bethlehem, in London, and almost all over the world, the Christmas lights will be dimmed. But in the hearts of every American, the real light of Christmas will burn. And we pray before another Christmas the lights will be burning all over the world. And the Prince of Peace will have His way.

The Quickest, Surest Way YOU Can Help Win This War... Buy Defense BONDS—STAMPS Now!

Merry Christmas To All From Your Local Bakery

HASSELL Bros. BAKERY

A Christmas Prayer

(From an Editorial by the Late W. C. Manning)

Heavenly Father, as the Christmas Day arrives, we come to thee humbled in heart and mind, praying of thy goodness to teach us to be thankful for what we have. Help us, not for ourselves, but that we might help those less fortunate than we are at this, the one season of the year. Turn our thoughts from our greedy wants to those of us who have met with adversity and now need help. Let us make the age-old wish, "A merry Christmas to all mankind," come true. Amen.

Having Our Doubts

A scientist who made a report on alcohol before the American Association for the Advancement of Science made a distressing statement when he said that folks who think drinking can be controlled by will power, resolutions or abstinence pledges are wrong and are laboring under a delusion and "popular misconception." According to science, perhaps there is need of physical treatment to have a sure cure, but there are many people in this section who know of cases where liquor addicts were able to be cured of the habit through their own will power and tenacity. Many a person has been helped to overcome the drinking habit through pride for self and family. Religion also has brought some drunkards to a right-about-face. Maybe it isn't all in medical and scientific treatment.

The most successful man on a quiz program is the father of three small children.

A fact is a fact until it happens to disagree with our own personal opinion.

Fencing should be more popular than boxing, for foils are so much more romantic looking than a pair of boxing gloves.

A man will advertise publicly for his lost dog, but try to hush up the fact that he has lost his wife.

Prince of Peace

By PRESTON E. CAYTON Pastor Saints Delight Christian Church

Some 1942 years ago, some shepherds were on the hillside of Bethlehem watching their flocks by night. Perhaps David had tended sheep in that same field. These shepherds knew about David, and about God's promise to David that one of his descendants would be the Savior of men. And suddenly there came near a glorious light. They were sore afraid. The angel said, "Fear not, for I bring unto you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Glory to God, peace on earth, good will to ward men."

The shepherds said, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known to us." They went to Bethlehem, and there they found Mary and the baby Jesus. The shepherds told the angels' message, and the people wondered about the strange things that the shepherds told.

When the baby was eight days old, Joseph and Mary gave Him a name, "Jesus," meaning "salvation," and it told to men the works that God had sent this child to do. The rich people gave a lamb as an offering; the poor gave two young pigeons. There Jesus was blessed and called "The Prince of Peace," who came to the world to bring joy to all mankind.

The world today is fighting for peace and liberty. We will have no lasting peace until it is found through God. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men in whom He is well pleased. The Prince

of Peace will bring joy to the world this Christmas.

Just before Christmas in 1941, the newspapers carried stories of a blackout in Bethlehem, the place of Christ's birth. Usually the birthday of Christ is celebrated there in a festival of lights and processions. Under the conditions of modern warfare, such a festival was prohibited by the authorities. War blacks out Christmas in the place where Christmas began! What more pointed commentary upon war itself could there be than this dramatization of its result? War is the negation of Christmas. It is everything that Christmas is not. If we allow it to rule on earth for very long, everything that Christmas stands for will sink into darkness.

On the Christmas of 1915, in the trenches of France, a very curious thing happened. The German and English trenches were close enough in some sections that the Tommies could hear the German soldiers singing Christmas carols. The language was different, but the tunes were the same. They joined in. The fighting ceased. The men left their trenches and mingled in no-man's land, between the trenches, talking and singing. All day the little fraternizing groups up and down the line broke the routine of battle and Christmas had sway. Then the matter came to the attention of the headquarters. Soldiers were moved so that the newly formed friendships would not interrupt hostilities. Yet for a brief hour, the Prince of Peace had ruled.

Christmas had brought men together. Christ will bring men together. This Christmas, the day we

Sixteen Years--

of extending the greetings of the season to our patrons have only served to make more sincere our good wishes for them . . .

In the uncertain and difficult days which lie ahead for all of us, we hope to continue serving you as in the past. Come what may, the entire facilities of our organization are at the disposal of our customers whenever we can be of service

To you and yours at this Christmas season, we would extend our sincerest wish for happiness, both now and throughout the years to come.



100 PER CENT LOYAL TO THE DEALER

W. H. Basnight & Co.

Wholesale Distributors for Eastern Carolina PHONES 122 and 123

AHOSKIE, N. C.