

# Christmas Cheer 1945

## Christmas In A Shattered World

A Message Of Assurance; Divided Into Four Classes In This Christmas Lesson.

In writing my word for the Christmas season this year four classes of people are in my mind: (1) Those who are under the necessity of facing an empty chair and of longing for "the sound of a voice that is still"; (2) those who are deeply burdened on account of the vast amount of suffering, sorrow, hunger, sickness, and distress that is literally spread abroad over the whole earth; (3) those who are facing the future with misgivings, with anxiety, with apprehension, with dread, with fear; (4) those who are deeply concerned as to what God's will and purpose are for them personally and individually as they face the unparalleled challenge of the task of rebuilding a shattered world. Some have one, some have two, some of us have all of these trying conditions to deal with. May the One who gave us Christmas give us at this time His special presence, His much-needed help, His all-sufficient grace, and His unlimited blessing!

**COMFORT IN FELLOWSHIP**  
Some one has said that "misery loves company." Perhaps a better statement as to this matter would be that all intense feeling longs for a fellowship. At least, there is comfort in the assurance that others before us have gone through similar experiences. Only a few examples will be suggested here but these should suffice. (1) If we think of the situation with those who faced life after that catastrophe which we speak of as Noah's Flood we must know that there was an experience much more difficult and trying than the one that surrounds us; (2) God's Chosen People had to face a situation fully as difficult as our own when Moses led them out of Egypt to go toward the Promised Land; (3) the scattered, harassed, humiliated exiles to whom Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Isaiah (Chapter 40-66) ministered were surrounded by conditions fully as difficult and as hard to deal with as those that surround and confront us today; (4) when Rome fell into the hands of the barbarians in 476 A. D., the peo-

ple of Europe stood face to face with tasks and trials that would beggar description; (5) the conflict with the Mohammedans at the break-up of the Middle Ages was one that tried men's souls to their very depths; (6) the hardships and tasks that were experienced and dealt with by our own grandfathers and grandmothers right here in the South two generations ago were a heart-rending and as soul-testing as anything that we see today or probably shall see in this generation. The God who led and helped His people hitherto surely will not fail us now.

**WHAT SHALL WE DO?**  
There is no question, then, as to the fact that all the peoples of the Earth (each of us included) are having to face experiences that are most trying, even excruciating in many cases. What shall we do with these experiences? What can we do?

I venture to suggest six simple things: (1) That we bring ourselves to realize deeply and strongly that our help must come from God; and that His resources are amply sufficient even for those who face the direct difficulties; (2) with this conviction in our souls, that we learn to wait on God in earnest prayer and in humble supplication until our souls shall be reinforced "from on high" for all that is about us, all that is ahead of us, and all that shall be required of us; (3) that we see to it that no root of bitterness, no feeling of resentment, no suggestion of retaliation shall be allowed to find lodgment in our souls; (4) that we believe in God with such fervent earnestness that we shall not lose hope even for those who have tried to destroy all that we have considered most worth while in the world; (5) that while we wait and pray, we shall make sure that we respond promptly, heartily and faithfully as step by step God shall make known to us His will and purpose for us and for the world about us; (6) that we understand thoroughly that absolutely nothing short of this will be anything like a worthy or even an approximately ad-

## OUR DEMOCRACY—by Ray

### Christmas 1945



A Season of Peace and good will in the homes of America.

equate response to the approach of God in Christ which gave us our Christmas with all that it signifies to us (Jno. 1:14; Phil. 2:5-11)

**ENCOURAGING EXAMPLES**  
(1) As a direct result of their loyalty to their God, three young Hebrews were cast into the fiery furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated. When the King came on a tour of inspection he found "four" walking in the midst of the flames and said, "The form of the fourth is like the Son of God" (Dan. 3:18-25). One of the names given our Lord in connection with His entrance into the

stream of our human life was "Immanuel," which means, "God is with us." Is this not for us the deeper meaning of Christmas?

(2) George Boone was a student in the theological seminary at Fort Worth, Texas, when I saw him. Like so many of us under such circumstances, George was finding the going hard. He stood one day before his window thinking over the situation. A heavily loaded freight train was stalled in trying to make the grade just a few hundred yards from where he stood. An extra engine was brought out from the yards, gave a little help, and off the train went on its way. George said to himself, "I need a double-header in my life." And when he had told me the story he pointed to a large placard hanging on his wall and said, "There it is." And here is what was on the placard: "Have faith and be faithful."

(3) A dear friend of mine was critically ill. I called to see her as often as I could. One morning when I walked in she reached out her feeble hand to me and said, "Brother Cullom, I'm almost gone." I thought so too, but thought it wise not to say so just then. My reply was this: "Well, Mrs. Blank, we don't know about that: I may go now before you do. But as to which shall go first is a comparatively insignificant matter. Whichever one of us may go first has this assurance from God's Eternal Word: 'The Eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.'" I made a brief prayer while I held her hand, turned away, and never saw her in the flesh again. When I asked the daughter, who stood by and heard the above conversation with her mother, the next day whether she had any suggestion as to the funeral service, she said that on my last visit to her mother I had quoted something from the Bible about "the everlasting arms." It comforted her mother so much that if I could she wished I would use that Scripture for the funeral. Accordingly Deuteronomy 33:27 was the text for that service.

(b) A lawyer in England had all his sons (four killed in World War I. When he brought the last death message to his wife he said, "Jean, we have nothing left but memories." "But such beautiful memories," she faltered between her sobs. On Armistice Day of that year (1918) that lawyer locked himself in his office, got down on his knees and thanked God that his four sons had not died in vain.

(c) A dear friend who has had to spend a long time in a hospital sent me recently this gem: "The soul would have no rain-bow, had the eyes no tears." And so it has been hitherto, so it is now, and so it will be world without end. His presence, His Grace, His help, His blessing will make us adequate for whatever duty, whatever trial, whatever task, whatever difficulty may be ahead of us. And with this assurance in our souls, we shall sing as we go forward with the beloved F. P. Blise, "So on I go not knowing,

## Report On Christmas Seal Sales Are Given

Seal Sale total through Dec. 8, 1945	\$4,124.44
Personal Solicitation and Tuberculosis Bkds	-972.50
From letters:	
Belmont	\$211.96
Bessemer City	143.87
Cherryville	201.85
Cramerton	216.31
Dalla	128.50
Gastonia	1,723.64
Lowell	119.60
Mt. Holly	220.00
Stanley	55.10
Total	3,020.44

The office has received from the colored people: 131.45  
Seals are on sale in all the schools this week through Thursday.  
Ladies from various clubs are selling seals in a booth at the Post Office in Gastonia.  
Belmont is carrying on a well organized Mill Sale.

## Christmas Candle-light Vespers

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 7.—Seven programs are scheduled for the Meredith College Choir this month. The most important is the annual Christmas Candlelight Vesper in the college chapel at 4 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, December 16. The public is invited to attend this concert.

Of equal importance are the three concerts at the Fort Bragg Service Clubs, and at the Camp Butler Hospital. The Christmas program will be broadcast from Station WPTF at 6:30 on Christmas morning; and the girls in the choir will lead the whole student body of 600 girls in Christmas carolling in all parts of Raleigh early in the morning of the last day of school before Christmas holidays begin, Tuesday morning, December 18, and again for a 6 o'clock broadcast of carols from Station WPTF that morning.

The choir numbers 60 girls, representing all sections of this State, and is conducted by Dr. Harry E. Cooper, Head of the Department of Music at Meredith College.

I would not if I might:  
I'd rather walk in the dark with God.  
Than go alone in the light:  
I'd rather walk by faith with Him.  
Than go alone by sight."  
Wake Forest, N. C.  
December, 1945  
W. R. CULLOM

## Cherryville Ironmen End Successful Season

### Hickory Forfeited Their Game To The "Ironmen" In The Last Game Of Season.

The Cherryville "Ironmen" brought to an end a successful football season last week when Hickory forfeited their game to the "Ironmen". The "Ironmen" under the tutorage of Coaches Erskine Carson and Hinson Quinn, the latter a former star at Cherryville and Lenoir Rhyne, won six games, tied one and lost three. This year's team was most of a stepping stone than anything else since the "Ironmen" will lose only one player next year. Coaches Carson and Quinn will have to replace only Hub Black, Captain and fullback of this year's team. Returning next year will be the entire line of McGinnis, E. Elliott, B. Elliott, Blackwood, Robbs, Moss and Hayes and three backfield men, Quinn, Wright and Rudisill and Replacement Paul Ray Costner.

This year's team had many stars, but the greatest of them all was little Harry Rudisill. In the second game of the season Rudisill streaked 52 yards for a touchdown which proved to be the winning points against N. C. S. D. He ran 100 yards for a touchdown and in between he made lots of runs, of 25, 45, 50 yards and other gains. Also outstanding was the passing combination of Wright to McGinnis which almost paid off in victory several times. The defensive play of Quinn, Blackwood, the two Elliott boys and others were outstanding. In fact you can't name one player without thinking about the others. One thing you can be certain of and that is that you can watch out for that "Ironmen" next year. Teams of the Western Conference take notice.

Much credit should be given to both Carson and Quinn as they have worked hard with the squad this year for the preparation of the coming season and also making an outstanding team out of the "Ironmen" as the Ironmen have retained their name (Ironmen) as they have shown the public that they can do the unexpected and overcome their opponents. Cherryville had the least and biggest team this year, and ended this season by being one of the five teams in the

Western Conference standings. The total weight for each Ironman was around 145 pounds. A fund for the lighting of the High School Park has been raised and the park will be ready for night games next year. The Ironmen are expecting large crowds and a more successful season next year.

Schedule for basket ball will be announced next week.

**1945 FOOTBALL RECORD**

Cherryville 20	Spencer 0
Cherryville 12	Lincolnton 6
Cherryville 0	Morganton 7
Cherryville 7	Shelby 24
Cherryville 6	Bessemer City 0
Cherryville 19	King Mountain 6
Cherryville 0	Newton 20
Cherryville 18	N. C. S. D. 7
Cherryville 0	Marion 0 (Tie)

Mr. J. B. Johnston, Executive Secretary of the Western Conference ruled the Cherryville-Hickory game a forfeit to Cherryville since Hickory twice called the game off making a total of 6 wins, 1 tie game and 3 losses for the season.

## LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa,  
I go to North Brook No. 1 School. Please bring me a doll, a tea set, a table, chairs, some nuts, fruit and candy.  
Dorothy Williams

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy 6 years old. I go to North Brook No. 1 School. Please bring me a wagon, some fruit, candy and nuts.  
Ray Bailey

Dear Santa,  
I am a little girl and go to North Brook School. Please bring me a doll, a pair of bedroom slippers, a house coat, some nuts, fruit, and candy, and anything else you think I need. Please don't forget my teacher, Mrs. Black and all the other little girls and boys.  
Nella Jane Beam

Dear Santa,  
Please bring me a wagon, a tricycle, some candy and nuts.  
Hal Taylor



A Joyous Christmas 1945

That best part of a good man's life— His little, nameless unremembered acts Of kindness and of love.  
—WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

Christmas is the season of the open heart and the open door. Let none stand out in the cold or be unremembered.

In this community of good fellows, where each helps share the other's happiness and all do their part towards making the Christmas season enjoyable for each and everyone, it is a privilege to be in a position to serve you. We take great pleasure in wishing you a Merry Christmas.

## Town Of Cherryville



★ Stealing over the countryside is the blessed peacefulness of Christmastime. The very air seems charged with it. Even the birds—what few remain—appear to share in the general rejoicing that has come over the world.

We earnestly hope that this Christmas season of 1945 will bestow unusual blessings upon you and yours . . . that it will bring to your home the soft glow that even Christmas tree lights cannot bequeath—the full joy of Christmas seasons long past but forever remembered. May such a Christmas be yours!

## Cherryville Building And Loan Association