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WHERE THE BOY JESUS PLAYED . . . Looking southeast from the Hill of Precipitation, Nazareth, is shown the view where the boy Jesus played.

#### Southern Customs Have Remained at Christmas

Negro families of Virginia have their own traditional method of gittgiving.

On Christmas Eve a large sheet is spread over the dining room table with a har related the sheet above table level. Each member of the household writes his name on a slip of paper and pins it to the sheet.



Gifts are sneaked in during the night and pisced under the names of the persons for whom they are intended: even the youngest children forbear to "snoop" until the morning and removal of the sheet reveals all the presents.

Years ago, eggnog was served while breakfast was being prepared—such a breakfast that no one paid much attention to Christmas dinner. When friends dropped in, everyone had something to eat so that families just sort of "pieced" all day.

PEYTON McSWAIN
Lawyer
Office: Webb Building
Phone 380
Shelby, N. C.

#### Romans Started Christmas Boxes

Boxing day has been a day of gifts to public servants since Roman times. It originated as a pagan custom, for the Romans observed the rite during their winter

people became Christians, the gifts were handed during Mass to the priests, who placed them into boxes. The feast was then known as Christ's Mass and the boxes as Christmas boxes, not to be opened except by being broken.



All manner of tradesmen soon realized that the idea was a good one, and it became a common practice for apprentices and others to take a box round to their business acquaintances, singing carois the while.

By the time Pepys wrote his famous diary, Christmas boxes were well established, and he mentions them several times in his writings. Swift also has a word to say about them in his "Journal to Stella," written in 1710; "By the Lord Harry, I shall be undone here with Christmas boxes."

One public servant, the "bellman," who enjoyed the privilege of soliciting Christmas boxes, was in some respects the forerunner of the postman, often being commissioned to deliver letters. At the approach of Christmas he would push poems of his own composition under the doers of townsmen whom he had served. They were reminders that recognition was expected on Boxing Day.

Fresen Berries
Frozen berries stored for four
months showed a 50 per cent loss
of vitamin C.

### TO OUR MANY FRIENDS



FIRST
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
TO YOU

Kings Mountain Bus Co.

#### Many Are the Legends of Ancient Yule Log Customs

Old books and legends surround the Yule Log with much mystery and superstition.

Thus, it must be touched and lighted with scrupulously clean hands: certain types of persons—such as squinting or flatfoued—are unwelcome while it is burning and; should the fire go out during the night, bad luck is portended for the New Year.

Less superstitiously, Tyroleans decorate their Log with paper flowers and bright ribbons. Wine is poured over it by the youngest child of the household who offers a prayer that the fire may warm the cold, the hungry obtain food, the weary find rest, and all may enjoy heaven's blessing and peace.



CHRISTMAS

May
CHRISTMAS
Bring You
JOY
AND GLADNESS

McCURDY CLEANERS - DYERS A new soil conservation district has been approved in Cumberland County. Eighty four counties of the State are now organized in 22 districts.

County Agent Earle Brintna of the State College Extension Service says that Catawba is the banner at talfa producing county in the State with about 3,000 acres.

Cuttings Root
Cuttings made of shrubs, trees
and many flowers such as petunias
and carnations will root immediately if given half shade and plenty
af moisture.

The number of death claims for National Service Life Insurance received by Central Office of Veterans Administration during September do clined to 3,599.

Sites have been selected for 63 of the 89 new hospitals that Veterans Administration is authorized to built in the world's largest hospital construction program.

Veterans Administration homes for disabled or aged veterans had their origin in the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers established in 1865 at the end of the Civil War.



fashioned, but there are times when it's very genuine—and Christmas is one of them. Yes, folks, we wish you an old fashioned Christmas this year ... the best one of them all!

### Reynolds Motors

117 Battleground Ave.
Phone 338



# LET'S ALL BE HAPPY!

Christmas is likely to become too prosaic to many of us grownups, but to boyhood's eager eyes it is a time of preparation and expectancy... an enchanted season when the woodland is hushed and even ordinary tasks take on the glamor and joy of dragging home the Christmas tree. May your Christmas of 1946 be in this spirit.

## Myers' Department Store

). W. Myers, Proprietor

Paul Walker, Manager

Myers' Dress Shop