

"Star Of Bethlehem", Yule Show Is Being Shown In Chapel Hill

"Star of Bethlehem," the annual tribute to Christmas based wholly upon the Scriptures, is now being presented at the Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill. It will run through January 6.

For the past eight years, the Morehead Planetarium's "Star of Bethlehem" has been considered one of the largest single planetarium programs in the world. "This year it is even larger," according to Manager A. F. Jenzano. "Numerous changes and additions have been made which we are confident will provide greater inspiration and enjoyment of the program."

In this year's program the audience will travel in space to see the Christmas skies, not as they were over Bethlehem when Christ was born as they appear over Chapel Hill and elsewhere in the world in 1957.

Patrons will also see and hear how the birthday of the Savior is observed in various parts of the world as the great Zeiss Planetarium transports the audience over the South and North Poles.

The traditional colorful pageant of the Birth of Christ, which has been presented in beautiful three dimensional tableaux for the past eight years is being retained in whole. Even so, some of the scenes and lighting arrangements have been improved and revised.

The new approach includes new scenes, new voices, and a complete change in the musical score. In addition to the nightly 8:30 o'clock performance, matinees will be presented on Saturdays at 11 a. m. and on Sundays at 2, 3, and 4 p. m.

There will also be 11 a. m. and 1 p. m. shows daily for school children to which the public will be admitted after all children with reservations have been seated.

Tickets or reservations may be obtained in advance by either mail or telephone, and special shows will be presented for large Religious, Civic, Industrial and School groups on request.

In addition to the Christmas show, Planetarium patrons may view without charge the million dollar art exhibit of the "History of Pharmacy," which will be shown in the North and South Art galleries through December 22.

One addition to the 1957 "Star of Bethlehem" is a second 200-foot panorama of an arctic ice-scape. Others include artists' conceptions and living color projections of Christmas scenes and traditions in the northern and southern hemispheres.

The National Geographic Society of Washington has supplied color projections, and Robert L. Blake, professor of art at Duke University, has prepared new scenes, including an addition to the arctic panorama. Blake also painted the "Hills of Judea" panorama, the authenticity for which was attested by Dr. William F. Stinespring, professor of Old Testament at Duke.

New narrating voices include Miss Carroll Stoker, Greensboro television personality, and Edward K. Zimmerman, UNC radio and television student from Elizabeth City, Miss Stoker and Zimmerman tell the stories of the Christmas celebrations.

Dr. Urban T. Holmes, Kenan professor of romance languages at UNC who has read the Scriptural account of the birth of Christ in past programs, has prepared an entirely new presentation of the account from the New Testament.

Complementing the entire program is a complete new musical score of Christmas music arranged by Myron G. Duncan, former Italian grand opera star who is now musical advisor to the Morehead Planetarium.

To be heard in the popular as well as traditional Christmas music will be the voices of the Norman Luboff Choir, Emily Kelam, the Robert Shaw Chorale, and the Monks of the Abbey of St. Pierre de Solennes. The music of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the chorus and orchestra of the Teatro La Scala of Milan, Italy, will also be heard.

The finale itself is traditional with the Morehead Planetarium. It is the great arched cathedral in which the audience beholds soft light from six huge stained glass windows illuminating the pillars of simulated concrete extending 45 feet to the zenith of the dome. While the audience is enthralled by its appearance, the La Scala chorus presents the "Te Deum Choir."

"It is entirely possible," Jenzano says, "that many patrons

Ticklers

By George



Prosperity Week May Be Observed, But Time Not What It Used To Be

By BILLY ARTHUR

When I learned the first week in December this year would be "National Prosperity Week," my thoughts went back to 1933, the year I began newspapering in Eastern North Carolina.

Business was so bad that, instead of the wolf being at the door, the people were out knocking on the wolf's door.

Buck Blanford sold sugar in the area. That is, he tried to sell it, and times were so tough that he told of calling on eight customers in one day without a single sale. At one store he asked for the buyer and was directed to the back door. Looking through, Buck said he saw the owner out there all alone, making a motion like pitcher, taking a long wind up, and following through. But he didn't have a ball. Buck asked what he was doing, and the clerk said the owner was a former baseball player, who had quit the game and gone into business, but that business had been off so much that he was about to go

crazy, that he couldn't think of anything but baseball.

Buck said, "I told them that I was going to make one more call, and if I don't get an order, I'm coming back and catch for him."

Fires were frequent in those days. To keep within hollering distance of the times, a store had to be burned out every few weeks. Every time the fire alarm sounded, the stock remark was that someone else "is selling out to the Yankees." Meaning, they had taken out fire insurance with all the cash, except 15 cents, and then spent that for a gallon of



kerosene and a box of matches. Then F. D. R. was elected president, and the transition of the times was indicated by a New Bern wag who said that "back in 1932 a fellow would ask another 'what are you doing now?' In 1934, it was changed to 'are you doing anything now?' And in 1935 the question was "what project are you on?"

The late Bill Blades, who had a hand in the real estate bubble around Morehead City, said that even then this was 1935—he didn't stop to take inventory. "When the depression started, I used to wake up in the middle of the night with all the cover kicked off me after dreaming about my troubles." He said, "Then I decided that if I didn't quit worrying, I would either go crazy or catch pneumonia. So I decided to laugh it off. That 1929 year was 'the end of the land buying period. We had tried to buy up all the land between New Bern and Cape Lookout. We didn't think there would be enough to go around. Then the notes came due. Usually we had been able to scrape up enough money to meet them, but we couldn't do it then. We went to Rob Peter to pay Paul, but Peter didn't have anything either. One day I went to see a business man and was told he was in the office worrying over his accounts. 'Receivable or payable?' I asked.

"Receivable, of course," I was told, "He lets the folks he owes worry about the accounts payable." Everybody was trying to get on the cash basis like their forefathers had done during hard times of the late 1880's. Back then it was reported in Wilson that an Austin avenue grocer would henceforth sell for cash because he had lost so much money selling on credit; he wouldn't even trust his own feelings. In Charlotte J. K. Purefoy advertised "To those who ask credit—my store is not the place for your custom, as I have had as much of such as I want." And a Kernersville merchant did collect some of his debts by publishing the names of his debtors on his store's front door. Let's confess things and times are much better today. I'm about like Brack Creek of Chapel Hill who observed recently: "There can't be an unemployed person in Chapel Hill. Everybody's working sending out bills. I got bills the first of the month from people I didn't know would even give me credit, so from now on I'm going to live high high on the hog. If as many people will give me credit as I get bills from, I don't see any reason for not running up a few more debts and living like everybody else."

Of course, there are some people who continue to grumble. They should heed the advice of the 1894 North Carolinian: "It is said that money is scarce and hard to get, and yet all summer

resorts had larger crowds this season than ever before. We are told that times are hard, but there are now more bicycles, buggies, carts, and fine clothes used than ever before. Hard times we hear on every corner, but people are chewing as much tobacco, and drinking as much coffee, swilling as much whiskey and contracting as many bad debts as they ever did. Surely it is time to quit grumbling."

North Carolinians have so far licked all the hard times and depressions and come up to this year's National Prosperity Week in good shape, because they know, as did the elderly colored caddy for golfers at Pinehurst—that it takes three putts to beat hard times. "Put your faith in God, put your car in the garage, and put yourself in the fields."

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