

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4-12

Editor: REV. B. COCHRANE, Seal Cove, G. M., N. B.

Please address all correspondence for Young People's Page to the Associate Editor, MISS WYONETTA SARGESON, 34 Archibald Street, Moncton, N. B.

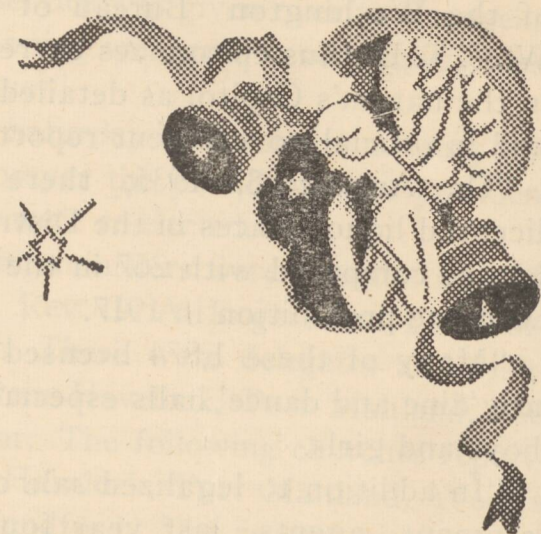
Associate Editor: MISS WYONETTA SARGESON



Christmas Greetings

The Young People's Page takes this opportunity of greeting all our readers, and wishing you joy and happiness during the Christmas season. We remember those who at this time will mourn the loss of a loved one, and we pray that God will bless and comfort your hearts; and to those who are deprived of spending Christmas with loved ones at home, we say, may God be with you wherever you are, and may the day be one of real blessing to you. And again to all our readers we wish that this may be a joyous and blessed season to you all.

W.S.



EDITORIAL

THE FORGOTTEN FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS

The Christian world is throbbing once again with the joyous spirit of Christmas. The familiar words of greeting and the usual bestowment of gifts will once again warm the hearts of kinsfolk and friends and strengthen the ties of friendship.

In the making out of our gift list, we are usually careful that we do not omit any loved one or friend to whom we feel we owe remembrance, but I fear that the One who is most worthy of remembrance, who should receive the richest of our gifts, is neglected entirely in our plans. Christ is too often the forgotten friend of Christmas. Father and mother are placed at the head of the list, and surely they deserve a lofty place in our affections; brothers and sisters are not forgotten, nor should they be; and it is delightful when our finances will permit us to include, with these, other of our kinsfolk and friends whom we desire to bestow gifts upon. But oh the tragedy when the Christ of Christmas is forgotten, for some have no more room for Him in their heart's affections than did the Bethlehem inn-keeper in his place of lodging on that first natal day of the Saviour. It would be shameful for any son or daughter to neglect father and mother in the list of Christmas gifts; brothers and sisters, kinsfolk and friends would be deeply injured if they knew that we deliberately and needlessly omitted their names in our Christmas shopping. But what of Jesus? What is His disappointment, what is His deep sorrow, when He discovers that we have not included Him in the list of those whom we love and to whom we desire to give?

Let us not be among those who will re-enact the tragedy of forgetting Him whose birthday we commemorate, let us not exclude from our Christmas plans and pleasures Him who lived and died that such a glorious season of peace and plenty might be ours to enjoy. If you have hitherto kept Christ without in the courtyard of your life, open the inn-door of your heart and welcome Him in. If you have previously withheld from Him the gifts which He is most worthy to receive, follow the guiding light of salvation's star to the cradle of heaven's king and there lay down at His feet the most precious of your gifts. He does not ask for those things that are beyond your power to give. If the Saviour may make His own choice of gifts, His request will be, "Give me thine heart as a gift, make to

THE MESSIAH'S ADVENT

He came to His own in the fulness of time,
But Him they knew not nor His mission
sublime;

They read not His signs, they saw not His star,
Yet strangers discerned it, and came from afar.

Through dimness of vision they strained for
the light,

But heard not the Bethlehem song in the night;
They knew not the Infant that lay in the stall
Was child of the Virgin, and Monarch of all.

They looked for His coming, King David's
great Son!

But knew not already His time had begun,
That the lowly degree, by prophets foreshown,
And the mission of love were the base of His
Throne.

They stumbled before Him, and over their fall
Came riches and fullness of blessing to all;
The Babe in the manger is born to the race,
And He, the rejected, has magnified grace.

"Despised and rejected of men" was He then,
But when He shall come in His glory again,
The Jew and the Gentile, the bond and the
free,

In glad adoration shall bow down the knee.

Meanwhile at His feet, as the sages of old,
We bring Him our homage for spices and gold,
We worship Him lowly, the Child of the stall,
And hail Him Redeemer and Savior of all.

—Sel.

me a present of thy life." If we have already welcomed Him into the inner chamber of our hearts, may we remember the holy significance of the Christmas day that He has given us and keep Christ in our Christmas. Let us not forget this chiefest of friends.

"Lest we forget His mighty worth
As we commemorate His birth,
Oh Father help us all to say,
'Our blessed Christ was born this day.'"

*It was meet that we should make merry and
be glad.—Luke 15.36.*

*A merrie Christmas to you!
For we serve the Lord with mirth
And we carol forth glad tidings
Of our holy Saviour's birth.*

*So we keep the olden greeting
With its meaning deep and true
And wish a Merrie Christmas
And a Happy Year to you.*

—F. R. Havergal.

THE WISE MEN'S QUESTION—

"Where is He that is born King of the Jews?"

Matt 2:2

Many years before our Saviour was born, men were looking for the coming of some great one, a Redeemer, to come, because the prophets of olden times were inspired by our Heavenly Father to prophesy of His coming. Especially the Jews, God's chosen people, who had been promised by Moses. "The Lord will raise up a prophet from among thy brethren, like unto me," and nearly all the prophets from Moses' time until Malachi had foretold of the coming Messiah. In their times of distress, God's ancient people were sustained and comforted by the hope of deliverance when He would come. Good old Job in the midst of sore afflictions and sufferings cried out "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth." And the great prophet Isaiah, looking down across the years cried "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given."

And so they prophesied, and waited for His coming, and yet when He did come, few were ready to receive Him and very few recognized Him as the long-awaited Messiah. Though they needed just what He had come to bring them, and though they had waited and watched long years for His coming the Word says "He came to His own, and His own received Him not." We wonder at the strangeness of it. These Jews, God's chosen people, preferring to remain under the bondage and fear of the law, when the Deliverer had come.

Though Jesus, the divine Son of God came to earth and brought light and deliverance, many of the Jews are still looking for the Messiah, still asking, "Where is He?" And why? Because they were not seeking Him in the right way. King Herod sought him, but he did not succeed in finding him, because his motive was wrong, he wanted to destroy the new-born babe; but when we ask the important question, and seek Him with the same motive that the wise-men had, that is to worship Him, we will surely find Him. He has said "In the day ye seek me with all your hearts, I will be found of you."

How we wish that all the Young People who read this page and many others, who have not found Him, would seek Him with all their hearts and celebrate this Christmas day with Him.—Wyonetta Sargeson.

Though Christ, a thousand times
In Bethlehem be born,
If He's not born in you
Your life is still forlorn.

"Glory to God in the highest; on earth peace,
and good will toward men."