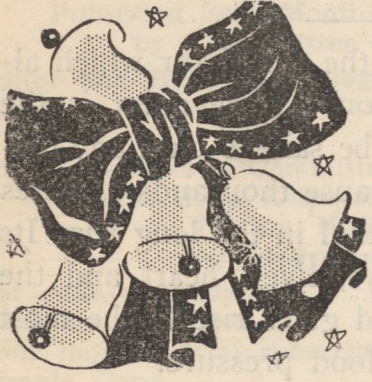


YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

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

Editor: REV. B. COCHRANE, Moncton, N. B.



GIVING TO CHRIST

The giving of gifts is ever associated with the observance of the anniversary of the Lord Jesus. That was the occasion when God impoverished heaven by sending His Son to earth to be the Saviour of fallen humanity. While the commercial spirit, and the "giving expecting something in return" attitude, is prevalent in the world, yet I think there are some who appreciate the true background of the celebration, and are capable of entering into and enjoying the high motive which gave us the Christmas season.

As suggested, the true spirit of Christmas springs from God Himself, and the revelation of His love in the gift of His Son. The contagion of that spirit was revealed clearly at the incident of the visit to Bethlehem, of the eastern magi. "When they saw the star," the guiding light which brought them to where the child lay, "they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts." There is a picture of the spirit of Christmas in its original beauty and purity. The discovery of the Gift of God, the realization of the character and value of the same, and the pouring out of precious gifts as a spontaneous expression of love and gratitude.

The dollar-seeker, the pleasure-seeker, the self-seeker, may miss the way to Bethlehem and terribly abuse the sacred spirit of our Yuletide season, but we need not follow in their train. There were mercenary inn-keepers, fun-loving holiday crowds, and ruthless Herods at the time of Christ's birth, but the wise men followed the star, found the Lord, and fell at His feet in gift-worship. So we may reject and resist the worldly influences of this time-serving age, and, following the guiding light of the Gospel, go "even unto Bethlehem," until we have a personal revelation of the glorious Redeemer, and in the atmosphere of His saving presence realize and enjoy the true meaning of the nativity we commemorate. Let us go, let us worship, let us give!

"Christ wants the best. He in far-off ages
Once claimed the firstling of the flock, the
finest of the wheat;
And still He asks His own with gentle plead-
ing

To lay their highest hopes and brightest
talent at His feet;
He'll not forget the feeblest service, humblest
love;
He only asks that of our store we give to Him
The best we have.

"And is our best too much. O friends, let us
remember

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

To all our Young People, and readers of our Y. P. Page, we extend sincere good wishes. Special greetings to the young men and women in active service. May the presence of the Christmas Saviour gladden your hearts, and the hope of His peaceful millennial kingdom fill you with all joy in believing. "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

How once our Lord poured out His soul
for us,
And in the prime of His mysterious manhood
Gave up his precious life upon the cross;
The Lord of lords, by whom the worlds were
made,
Through bitter grief and tears gave us
The best He had."

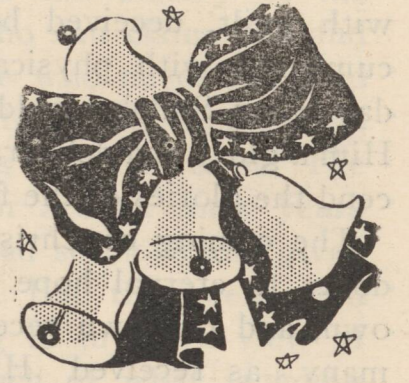
"MORE BLESSED TO GIVE"

Once two travelers were passing along a road, and saw a pair of empty shoes and a worn coat lying beside them. Said the professor to his student companion: "Some poor man has left his shoes here while he finishes his day's work." "Let us play him a trick," eagerly suggested the student. "Let us hide the shoes, and conceal ourselves behind these bushes. Then we will see what a state the man will be in."

"My young friend," answered the professor, "we must never amuse ourselves at the expense of the poor. You are rich, and may give yourself a greater pleasure than by hiding the shoes of the man. Put a silver dollar in each shoe, and then we will hide ourselves as you suggested." And so he did. Slowly and wearily over the field came the man who had left his shoes at the wayside. When he reached the spot, he slipped one foot into a shoe, but he felt something hard, and stooped down to remove it. A silver dollar! Had it dropped from the skies? He looked up at the clouds, and then down the road. The professor and his pupil, unseen, were watching the man. He put the dollar into his pocket, and proceeded to slip his foot into the other shoe, but there was something hard in that, too. What! Another dollar? Then the poor man fell on his knees and thanked God for having heard his prayer for help. He spoke of a wife sick at home, and helpless, and of hungry little children, and asked God's blessing on the unknown hand that placed the two dollars in his shoes. Then he rose from his knees, put on his shoes, and walked as though he was rested. When he was out of sight the professor and the student came out into the road. "Are you not better pleased than if you had played your intended trick?" asked the professor. "Indeed I am," replied the student. "I feel the truth of some words I have never understood before: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"—Selected.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Memory verses for the three months, October-December, have been published. Those following the series will have until Jan. 15th to review, and in the issue of The Highway of that date, a list of questions will appear. On that list papers will be written and for the best paper, prizes given. Remember, the period for study and review ends Jan. 15th.



WISE MEN THEN AND NOW

Florence Cole Brown
In ancient days the Wise Men saw
God's star of guiding light,
Whose shining led them on, until
In wondrous beauty bright,
It came and stood above the place
Where lay the infant King,
Before whose feet they laid their gifts
And knelt a-worshipping.

Let us be wise and watch the signs
That glow in eastern sky,
Believing, as did men of old,
His coming draweth nigh;
For prophecy is now fulfilled
Before our very eyes,
And eagerly we wait to see
The Morning Star arise.

A thrill of glad expectancy
Is stirring souls today,
As signs of Christ's return increase—
The King is on His way!
We know His promises are sure;
He keeps His word to men.
So faithful hearts will watch and work
Until He comes again.

GAMBLING IN BRITAIN

One would have thought that the anxieties incident to the war, together with the huge taxes the people of Britain have to pay, would have cut down substantially, if not eliminated the gambling evil in the Old Land. It is not so. Rather do the figures show tremendous increase in this vice. In The Manchester Guardian there was published recently the figures of betting on greyhound racing in eleven cities in the Old Land, ten in England and one in Scotland. The amount spent on this vice during the year 1942 was more than forty-two millions of dollars. This, of course, only takes into account the eleven cities mentioned, and is for this one form of gambling alone.

It is one of the saddening features of present-day conditions that the war should have made so little impression on the minds of people that vice of all kinds has increased rather than diminished. For years previous to the opening of hostilities gambling was eating like a cancer at the heart of Britain. This, with its enormous drink bill, imposed a tremendous burden upon the people, wasting both their substance and their strength. It was thought that these twin evils might be drastically reduced under the stress of war, and it is no comfort for the present or the future to realize that it is not so. One sometimes wonders, in reading such statistics as these, if we are yet as a people ready for victory—or worthy of it.—The Evangelical Christian.

Whenever the inborn sin nature is cast out and all the faculties are harmonized, what is there to hinder the soul from having rest?