



The Young Highway

EDITED BY W. E. GREEN,
14 Hollywood Drive, Moncton, N. B.

"Let No Man Despise Thy Youth, But Be Thou An Example..."

Guest Editorial

CHRISTMAS

by Rev. E. W. Tokley

Christmas, like all other seasons, should be approached and kept thoughtfully and with sincerity. With us all it should be a time of much spiritual rejoicing. The Christmas message is still one of "good tidings of great joy," proclaiming the coming of a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And our knowledge of the message, and of the Saviour and His saving fulness, should cause us to rejoice and be exceeding glad.

It ought also to be a season of thanksgiving; a time of much giving of thanks to God, especially for "His unspeakable Gift", or as Dr. Weymouth says, "His unspeakably precious Gift." God's giving of a gift of such supreme worth calls for our sincerest thanks, spoken and practical. And there are many ways to say with Paul, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift."

Then the first Christmas message, "I bring you good tidings . . . which shall be to all people," sounds a missionary note. It links missions with Christmas. It calls for missionary endeavour. The good tidings are for all people — all including us, thank God, but all besides us. Yet many millions have never heard these good tidings. They have never been told them. But "how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent (and supported)?" A fitting scripture to remember at the Christmas season will be: "Go thy way, drink the fat and eat the sweet, and send portions for those for whom nothing is prepared"—Not that sending portions will be enough. We sing, "I love to tell the story, for some have never heard," and we can tell those who are near, and send to those who are far away.

Then there is the Christmas giving and gifts. God's gift to us, as we have seen, is the gift of His Son, to be received in His fulness and with gratitude. But let the wise men of the Christmas story speak to us about our giving. They travelled far to worship Christ and to present to Him their treasures. It is written of them that when they saw Him they fell down before Him, and worshipping Him, opened their treasures and presented to Him their gifts of precious worth, thus expressing their love and loyalty, and setting a pattern for our Christmas worship and giving.

I think Frances Ridley Havergal must have had something of a like experience, before or when she wrote her hymn and prayer of consecration; "Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee," offering to Him her time, her hands, her feet, her voice, her lips, her possessions, her intellect, her will, the throne of her heart, her love's treasure store, her whole self to be ever, only, all for Him, to joyfully do His will and work.

Doubtless we have all sung our way through that hymn of consecration, perhaps many times, but let us at this Christmas time pray our way through it, verse by verse, until we too have joyfully laid at Christ's feet our love's treasure store. His love for us, so amazing, so divine, does demand our soul, our life, our all.

Love knows no bounds beyond which it cannot reach; no height above which it dare not rise; no depth beneath which it has not gone.

The King's Highway

CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS AND CHRISTMAS IN OUR HEARTS

Christmas is always a time of merry-making for the Christian. It is a tragedy when we become too busy to include Christ in our Christmas plans. Christmas without Christ is not Christmas. When Christ is crowded out of Christmas, Christmas becomes another holiday, not a Holy Day. Christmas without Christ is like a pond without water. But, Christmas with Christ is joy and peace.

The angelic announcement was, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy . . ." the heavenly hosts sang saying, "glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Both of these references refer to heart experience. Joy and peace are heart experiences. Thus, he who would enjoy the best Christmas must have the Christ Child born in his heart. This heart experience, with the Christ of Christmas abiding within, is the secret of joy and peace.

Each gift we receive and each gift we give should remind us of the supreme gift of God. Someone has said, "The greatest gift God could give to man was love." This gift God gave in His Son. Christmas should remind us that the greatest gift we can give to God is love; for with it we give ourselves.

In giving our love to God this Christmas season, let us be reminded that God's gift of Love was born to bless. He died to save. He lives to love; and loves that he might live in our hearts. Is this not a good cause for rejoicing?

"Good Christian men rejoice,

With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what I say,

News! News!

Jesus Christ is born today:

Ox and ass before Him bow,

He is in the manger now.

Christ is born today!

Christ is born today!

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for The New Year

THE OLD YEAR'S LONG CAMPAIGN IS O'ER,

BEHOLD A NEW BEGUN;

NOT YET IS CLOSED THE HOLY WAR,

NOT YET THE TRIUMPH WON.

OUT OF HIS STILL AND DEEP REPOSE

WE HEAR THE OLD YEAR SAY:

"GO FORTH AGAIN TO MEET YOUR FOES,

YE CHILDREN OF THE DAY."

"Great is our God, and of great power."

Psa. 147:5

The R.B.Y.P.A. Executive.