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LOCAL PASTORS WRITE CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

(Continued from Page 6)

beyond all question, not by naming the doctrine, but by telling the story of the Lord who came down from heaven that men might live.

May God the Father, for whose gift to-day we offer praise, in love direct and guard you on your way

Through all the days, May God the Son, Who left His home above

To save our race, Enrich you from His treasures of love With gifts of grace.

May God the Holy Ghost, our Guide and Friend, Through toil and strife, Be your Companion till this life shall end

In Endless Life." Christmas 1919.

WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME

By B. H. Fleming, Pastor of the Methodist Church

To me, Christmas is first of all a time for reflection.

At Christmas time, those of us who have lived long enough and traveled far enough to begin to cite the range over which we must all eventually go, we do well to cast a look back down the path by which we came.

As for me, I was born "down on the farm." I was reared in "God's great out-of-doors." I regard this as a piece of great good fortune.

Some of us can remember the good old days when the churches were crowded to the limit with men and women eagerly seeking the Christ whose birthday we celebrate on Christmas.

My FIRST CHRISTMAS AT DOWNERS GROVE

By Wm. Grotefeld, Pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Church.

Christmas is an ideal one. The ground is covered with snow so that the jolly old Santa can happily come jingling along with deer, and sleigh and silver bells.

in silent benediction, are the old pine trees that had beaten back the storms of centuries.

Here Father and Mother came in the pioneer days as bride and groom. They sat opposite each other at a little round table.

Our boys who needed not give the supreme sacrifice have all returned and are with us. The Christmas of 1918 was a "glorious" one, this one with our boys returned and at home is indeed a "merry" Christmas.

Never to my recollection, did so many appeals for help reach my office than this Christmas season. Armenian, Syrian, Russian, Jewish, German, French, Belgian, Indian, Relief—and, O, how urgent were these appeals.

Yes, there are plenty of measles around, measles in the village, measles in the country, measles interfering with parties and Christmas programs, measles everywhere.

We all tend as the years go by to grow away from the children.

I read "The Youth's Companion" every week just to keep my heart young and to keep next to the boys. Christmas is a time for old folks all to become children again.

Nature has her revivals why should not the church? Nature has her revivals why should not the church?

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Produced in the lives of our children and our children's children with heartiest good wishes for a merry Christmas.

Christmas is an ideal one. The ground is covered with snow so that the jolly old Santa can happily come jingling along with deer, and sleigh and silver bells.

Wind raises the spirit of man to a fine pitch that he can give manifold expression to the joy that is within him.

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