LOCAL PASTORS WRITE

(Continued from Page 6)

eaven that men might live.

We offer praise,

Through all the days.

To save our race,

Through toil and strife,

In Endless Life." Christmas 1919.

By B. H. Fleming, Pastor of the to child life.

Methodist Church

time for reflection. far enough to begin to cite the range to become children again. over which we must all eventually vival. Nature has her revivals why lies us over it all and be done with go, we do well to cast a look back vial. Nature has her revivas why it. We have Christmas just the same. down the path by which we came.

spiece of great good fortune. For women eagerly seeking the Christ ticed that there are lots of bachelors years I lived "next to Nature's heart." whose birthday we celebrate on and maids in this our great village. This made me somewhat of a natur- Christmas. alist and gave me a great love for May these rich experiences be re- whether it wouldn't be a fine stunt the things that God has made. Hav- produced in the lives of our children ing by nature a decidedly mystic tem- and our children's children with hearperament this has contributed much tiest good wishes for a merry unristto my religious life and experience mas ... The story writer is always looking The story writer is always looking for "color" for his stories. Born as I was among the varigeated and profuse beauties of Nature among the sunsets that flame I upon the horizon, I have never wanted for "color."

At Christmas time memory does time memory does work in my heart. Once more I work in my heart. Once its length sloping roof. And above it, its length sloping roof. And above it, but with arms outstretched out as if wind raises the spirit of man to a

but with arms outstretched out as if wind raises the spirit of man to a

Here Father and Mother came in grumbler is unpopular. May God the Father, for Whose gfit Here we gathered every Christmas for is indeed a "merry" Christmas.

and Mother, old and gray, sat once man, French, Belgium, Indian, Relief At the first Christmas sentiment end I forget." I have a habit, every night fore give. after prayers are said, and before Yes, there are plenty of measles steep comes of visiting these sacred around, measles in the village, meascehes of my childhood. Again sles in the country, measles inter-

WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME Christmas for me, is a time for re- fering with parties and Christmas adjustment—particulary with respect programs, measles everywhere. Somegrow away from the children.

every week just to keep my heart worry about it? Once in our lifetime At Christmas time, those of us who young and to keep next to the boys, we are supposed to have them, so say have lived long enough and traveled Christmas is a time for old folks all our old mothers. So better have them

should not the church?

in silent benediction, are the old pine fine pitch that he can give manyfold that the maids invite all the "old"

the pioneer days as bride and groom. Our boys who needed not give the of Joseph and Mary, and the Christthe Lord who came down from six children came and as many leaves 1918 was a 'glorious' one, this one host of angels who all were happy

In love direct and guard you on your ed. One by one the leaves in the ta- fice than this Christmas season, Ar- other, and Christ in the midst of way ble were removed until at last Father menian, Syrian, Russian, Jewish, Ger-them.

how, our doctors must not have been We all tend as the years go by to on guard. Anyway the measles got by them and crimsoned many of our To me, Christmas is first of all a I read "The Youth's Companion" little folks. But what's the use to now, when the Christmas cheer jol-

Christmas is a time to "wonder." As for me. I was born "down on Some of us can remember the good What will Christmas bring me? What the farm." I was reared in "God's old days when the churches were shall I do to make most of Christgreat out-of-doors." I regard this as crowded to the limit with men and mas? Just here I recall that I no-Then I began to "wonder." I wondered Sou

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGES trees that had beaten back the storms expression to the joy that is within bachelors to a Christmas party-next him. The "out of sorts," low ebbed year. At Christmas season we read of Zacharias and Elizabeth, and John; beyond all question, not by naming They sat opposite each other at a supreme sacrifice have all returned child; of the aged Simeon, Hannah, the doctrine, but by telling the story little round table. One by one the and are with us. The Christmas of the prophetess, the shepherds, and the were added to the old extension table. with our boys returned and at home about it. It seems to me there really is something wonderful about the to-day a quarter of a century. Then one by Never to my recollection, did so "own hearth," with a young family one the children married and depart- many appeals for help reach my of there, one deeply interested in the

May God the Son, Who left His home more opposite each other at the lit- and, O, how urgent were these ap- was expressed that has cheered the above the round table where before they sat peals. Then the appeals from our old world ever since. We hear of as bride and groom-old folks-down home land, Chicago Relief, Hospitals, truth and righteousness, faithfulness, Enrich you from His treasures of love on the farm. Then, for them came Orphanages, Red Cross, etc. Here I good will to man, and peace on earth. With gifts of grace. life's sunset and Heaven's morning was reminded of Paul's admonition: It is this cluster of five flowers that May God the Holy Ghost, our Guide fair. Here we skated and coasted and "Let us not be weary in well doing." I wish to present to your heart and and Friend, snow-balled and spelled one another (Gal. 6:9) How happy and grateful home for a merry Christmas. In as down at the old district school. You should we be that we are not among much as you permit Christ to become Be your Companion till this life shall may be interested to know that, "lest the unfortunate ones. Let us there- Alpha and Omega in your life these will be yours forever and shine more beautiful with you and cheer you each Eucceeding Christmas.

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