



Everywhere Tonight

Everywhere, everywhere Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine;
Christmas where snow-peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where corn-fields lie sunny and bright.

— Phillips Brooks

A Child's Song of Christmas

My counterpane is soft as silk,
My blankets white as creamy milk,
The hay was soft to Him, I know,
Our little Lord of long ago.

Above the roofs the pigeons fly
In silver wheels across the sky.
The stable-doves they cooed to
them,
Mary and Christ in Bethlehem.

Bright shines the sun across the
drifts,
And bright upon my Christmas
gifts.
They brought Him incense, myrrh
and gold,
Our little Lord who lived of old.

Oh, soft and clear our mother
sings
Of Christmas' joys and Christmas
things,
God's holy angels sang to them,
Mary and Christ in Bethlehem.

Our hearts they hold all Christmas
dear,
And earth seems sweet and heaven
seems near,
Oh, heaven was in His sight, I
know,

That little Child of long ago.
—Marjorie L. C. Pickthall.



Sunday School Lesson

LESSON XIII

GOD'S GREAT LOVE

Golden Text

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3: 16.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

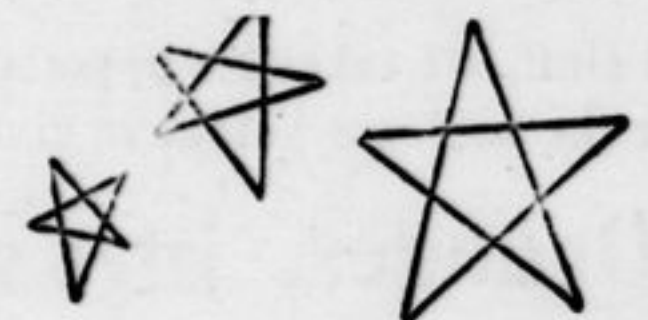
Time.—The time of our Lord's birth is still a matter of dispute, but we follow here the chronology of Samuel J. Andrews and many others, and date it in December, 5 B.C. The visit of the Wise Men, therefore, took place in February, 4 B.C.

Place.—Jerusalem, of course, was the capital of Palestine, located in the province of Judea, while Bethlehem was in the same province six miles to the south.

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea, Bethlehem was the home of Ruth and Boaz, and consequently was the birthplace of David, from whose royal line the Son of David came. In the day of Herod the king, this Herod was called Herod the Great, the son of Antipater.

Behold, Wise-men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, The word here translated "wise-men" is the Greek word "magi". They were men truly learned in mathematics, astronomy, geography, and medicine.

Star in the East
2. Where is he that is born King of the Jews? It is a truly great question as to how these men ever knew that a king of the Jews had been born. There was, throughout



and myrrh. From the fact that there were three gifts the tradition has developed that there were three Wise Men, and only three, but there is nothing in this record to substantiate such an idea. We cannot help feeling that these gifts do have some spiritual significance.

From the gifts here presented by the Wise Men undoubtedly comes the custom of giving gifts at the Christmas season. In all our giving to one another, which is always a joy, or should be, let us not miss the true significance of Christmas, but give what we give in the name of the Lord Jesus.

12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

When Christmas First Was Celebrated

The earliest celebration of the birth of Christ, December 25 of each year, took place in the Fourth Century, and the custom spread from the western to the eastern church. Before that date the commemoration of Christ's nativity and baptism took place January 6.

First mention of Christmas is found in a Roman document known as the "Philocalian calendar," in the year 354, and the first English celebration of the festival was in 598, when St. Augustine baptized 10,000 converts.

In 567, the Council of Tours, France, declared a 12-day festival from Christmas to Epiphany, and later, from 991 to 1016, the laws of Ethelred ordained that all strife should cease at Christmas. In Germany, Christmas was established in 813 by the Synod of Mainz, and in Norway by King Haakon the Good, in 950.



David, the Shepherd

By Molly Chittick

"You can't go out to tend the sheep tonight, Judah," David heard the voice of his mother's voice. "The lion's claws have sounded out to tend with them."

"He is hot, so hot," she whispered to David after his father had fallen into a troubled sleep. "It will make him sick unto death if he goes out on the plain."

"Fear not, mother, I will go. Now that I am fourteen, I can prove myself a man. I will go, like my great forefather, David, the king."

Rebecca bade him good-bye tenderly. "Had I a son older, I should send him. But you are all I have. Take care, The lion may return."

So David drove his father's flock herds watched their flocks by night. The cool breeze from off the mountains made him draw his cloak close.

Suddenly over the hill before him he saw a group of men approaching. That was a surprising thing, to see men wandering about at night. But there was nothing alarming in their action. They seemed to be filled with excitement and joy.

Now one of them called: "Who is this, guarding his sheep here? Oh, is it you David, son of Judah? Come with us. We have seen you star, brighter than any star of the morning. It is moving, and we are following it."

David was on his feet, listening with boyish excitement to their tale of the words they had heard from the heavens, as an angelic host praised Jehovah. His heart burned within him, and he was eager to accompany the band of shepherds.

Then he heard one of the young lads: "Ma-a-a-a." The answering bleat came from a distance. The mother had wandered off in search of tender morsels. David heard heard once again his mother's warning.

"I have come to guard my father's flock, I cannot go with you."

"We left our sheep, David. This is the king you are about to see. We must go. You are a fool to stay here with these few sheep, when the King is to be seen."

"I came here to tend this flock. It is not mine, but it is my task," was his only reply.

When they saw that he would not accompany them, they made haste to be on their way.

At first his excitement over the tale the shepherds had told him kept him awake. But gradually his eyes grew heavy. He was almost asleep when he heard the "Ma-a-a-a" of a young lamb again. He jumped to his feet, conscious that he had forgotten to hunt up that wandering mother. With staff in his



In Its Season

At Christmas I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled mirth,
But like of each thing that in season grows —
— Shakespeare . . .

first printed card to J. C. Harsley, who in 1846 designed a Christmas greeting card in elaborate proportions. It had allegorical designs of clothing the naked and feeding the hungry, together with a family group of three generations quaffing wine. Only 1,000 of these cards were lithographed and then colored by hand.

Most Artistic in Eighties
The Christmas greeting card reached its artistic height around 1883-84. The collection of cards at McGill of this era show that many were elaborate and colorful in design. Some have borders trimmed in silk, lace or feathers. Still others are in the forms of sachets. The sentiments expressed in the greetings are typically Victorian. Many of these would arouse laughter today.

The Little Fir Tree

By Henry Harding

There was very little sunlight in the forest. The trees were so big, all the grown up trees. The little fir tree stretched himself, and he tried to imagine himself as full grown. Looking up at the sky and the stars and the moon, he listened to the big trees talk. "Isn't the 'morn' bright tonight," one would say; and there would be a gentle rustling of their leaves as the trees would shake their heads in agreement.

"I'm afraid you're going to be stunted, because there is so much shade here," a little squirrel said to the fir one day as he jumped into its branches and brushed the top limbs with his bushy tail. "It takes sunlight to make anything grow strong and tall."

So the little fir tree stretched himself up, and kept his head just pointed up toward the spot of sunlight he saw clear up through the maze of heavy tree growth. He could be straight and upstanding, even if he hadn't grown tall.

Today the ground was all covered with the snow which stayed all white in the forest. All but a few of the birds had gone south. Every once in a while there was the sound of steel striking against the wood, and infrequently a crashing sound of falling trees.

The tall trees began to tremble. "The woodcutters are out. But this is a funny time of year," one mured to the others. Then one of the little snow birds spoke, "Have you forgotten that every year they come to cut Christmas trees?"

"What are Christmas trees?" the little fir asked.

"Oh, they cut down the trees and take them in the house, and put candles on them so they look like

stars, and spangles that look like snow shining in the moonlight. And the people sing songs and give each other gifts, and it is a time of being glad," the little snow bird twittered.

"Oh, I wish they would take me," the little tree cried in excitement. "I'd love to see it all I'd love to make people happy. But I'm too little," and he sighed unhappily.

"Sh! Let's all be quiet," one of the tall trees exclaimed. "The woodsmen are coming near us. We must be quiet so they won't notice us. Then we won't be cut down and left to die."

But in spite of their silence, the men drew near. They looked at the trees, and one of them said: "Oh, these are too tall. No house or church could hold them. Let's get on."

Just then a little lad who was riding in the sled, called to his father: "Dad, can we find a little tree for sister? Couldn't we find a cute little tree to put in her very own room?"

"Ho! Ho!" laughed a big rough man. "In her room? No little girl will stay in her room on Christmas day!"

The lad's father answered, sadly: "Yes, my little girl will. She had infantile paralysis last summer, and hasn't been able to walk since. Surely, son, we'll find a little tree for her."

"Here I am, here I am! come and get me," the little fir tree called out lustily. And the little boy turned and saw the branches trembling, and the little snow bird flying away.

"Why, dad, there is a cute little tree over there. Such a beautiful straight tree. Wouldn't that do?" he called.

The man got out from the sled. He walked to the tree and fondled it gently. "I never saw a more beautiful tree. It seems to glow. Molly will love it," he said with a smile.

The little tree was so happy that he didn't feel the blows from the ax that cut him to the ground. And when they put him into the sled, he was still happy. The little boy called to his father: "It sounds as if the little tree was singing when the wind blows through its branches." And the little tree laughed delightedly.

Ancient Holly Spreads Cheer

In homes throughout the continent this Christmas the holly plant will carry on its age-old duty of spreading Yuletide spirit, a custom that dates back to the pagan tribes of continental Europe.

Current popularity of the holly is a continuation of the custom of the Druid feasts which honored the mistletoe and holly in pagan rites. In Europe the tribes under Roman rule sent holly branches to each other as evidence of good will. Homes and churches were decorated with holly laden with crimson berries when the pagans celebrated the feast of Saturnalia, the "turning on of the sun."

Feast of Celtic Sun God
Yuletide, the feast made to the Celtic sun god, Yaloui, finally became the celebration of Christmas, and the holly tree, known as the holly tree, became the sacred tree for decorations at our Christmas festivals.

Holly does not bear berries until it is five years old. Before that time the male and female trees cannot be told apart. There are more than 200 species of the plant, all of them native to the temperate and tropical regions of both hemispheres.

Only the American and English holly trees have rich green leaves. These are outlined with sharp spines or teeth, and the fruiting branches have round crimson berries.

Christmas Cards: Custom Is Recent

Greeting Card Industry Is Less Than A Century Old

From a small beginning in 1846 the Christmas greeting card industry has grown to gigantic proportions.

Research into Christmas traditions at McGill University discloses that the exchange of printed greeting cards dates back less than a century. Other Christmas customs date to pagan times.

The First Card Sent
The records at McGill indicate that there is some uncertainty as to the exact date that the first Christmas card was actually sent.

Most authorities ascribe the

Are You Listening?

By FREDDIE TEE

SHE PREFERRED ACTING

Pretty Gretchen Davidson, pictured here, is an Evanston, Ill., girl who couldn't wait until she got out of college to embark on her life's career. So she quit Northwestern

University after the first year and got herself a job with a touring company of "Showboat."

Her stock experience with the Providence Players followed, and then she turned to radio, in 1934. She has been on the air since, having been heard in the CBS serials, "The Trouble House,"

and "Carol Kennedy's Romance," and at present is appearing in "Aunt Jenny" and "Big Sister," also over the WABC-Columbia network.

CAROLE LOMBARD
Carole Lombard, glamorous star of the films, has been signed for her first radio series. The program, sponsored by the Kellogg Company, will begin on Sunday, January 15, 1935, and will be heard each week over the NBC-Red Network from 10:00 to 11:00 p.m., EST. Miss Lombard is the first of several stars to be signed for the new full hour show. Other members of the cast and the director of the orchestra will be announced in the near future.

RADIO TUBES GUARANTEED
The Rogers Radio Tube factory have just announced that they are now giving an unqualified warranty to apply on all types of Rogers radio tubes, which should be good news to every owner of a radio set—and of course, they will always be sure to re-tube with Rogers Radio Tubes. This also applies to every tube in the new 1935 Rogers, DeForest Crosley and Majestic radio sets.

IN "SILVER THEATRE"

Ida Lupino, daughter of the famed British comedian, Stanley Lupino, but a popular screen star in her own right, will play opposite

Conrad Nagel in the "Silver Theatre" productions to be heard over the Columbia network on both

Christmas and New Year's Day, (WABC-CBS, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. E.S.T.) in order to get away from the possible surfeit of Christmas plays to be heard during the holidays, these two

episodes of "Silver Theatre" will be devoted to a presentation of David Garth's "Challenge for Three" the story of a smuggling ring. And among the American pictures in which Miss Lupino has appeared, have been "Artists and Models," "Peter Ibbetson," "The Gay Desperado" and "Anything Goes."

Ida Lupino

Gretchen Davidson

Appointed to



Mr. Gerald J. King who has been appointed Ontario High Court judge created by Tague's promotion to Court of Ontario.

Iceland: On Unarmed

Country Hasn't A Soldier — Sovereignty Twenty Years

Iceland, the only world without a warship or fighting force last week in 20th century, peace and sovereignty was celebrated. The anniversary of sovereignty was observed by student processions to the parliament building. The statesman Jon Sigurdsson, including a broadcast, Minister Hermann Jonsson, and other leaders in America.

Oldest Parliament in the world—1018, by the Danish king, King X of Denmark.

Iceland a sovereign state since 1944. It was from Iceland, to some authorities, that sovereignty was first discovered.

Iceland has a population of 1,000,000 people. It is the only country in the world to have a population of 1,000,000 people.

Auto Spills Blood From Baby

HAMILTON, Ont.—An automobile non street Saturday night was pushing a baby Frank Under suffered a fractured leg and injured back and face.

The "baby"—two-year-old—didn't escape several bottles were broken, the contents poured over the child.

The auto damaged by witnesses expressed very anxious moments there was a child in the hulator.

New Syrup Ju Is Easy-Po

Can Be Secured at Grocery Stores by Users of Beehive Syrup

Long realizing the syrup jug that would make syrup easier, the makers of Beehive Syrup now have a new jug in retailing in Toronto at \$1.50 for a 12 oz. size for a 40 oz. size. The new jug is a marked improvement on the old one. For Beehive Syrup users can be secured at big savings. 12 oz. size can be had for 12¢. 40 oz. size can be had for \$1.50. The jug is absolutely new in that it has a patent action that serves the jug without dripping or sticking. The jug is filled, people seeing action instantly say—"This I want."

Readers should address all orders to the St. Lawrence Co., Fort Credit, Ont.

There is an old French saying that a man who is telling of a horse named which was a master of the cunning and duplicity. They were at the service of a flattered him and carried him down.

From this satire came the expression "to curry favour" to those seeking to obtain other benefit by insincerity.