

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1925

CHRISTMAS 1925

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to ward men.

CHRISTMASIDE

Christmas Day is the central point in the year, the one day in all the year around which all other things centre. For no other day is such preparation made. For this past month every home was making ready for Christmas. Every store in City and Country selected its goods in anticipation of the Christmas demand. Poor and rich alike canvassed the appropriations for their gifts, their charities, their benevolences. The poor, out of their hard earned savings lay aside what they can ill spare for the sake of remembering a friend. The rich open their purses ungrudgingly to help the city's charities, to brighten the day for their less fortunate brethren, to make it a real Christmas for the children their own and others.

The first Christmas, 1925 years ago began with a miracle and the miracle has been repeated year after year through the ages. The day is a miracle still and the world's greatest gift on that morning repeated today in the generous gifts of millions of men and women who, now as then are finding the Babe lying in the orphanages the hospitals the homes of the poor.

What a miracle is Christmas! What a boon to the world was the Babe in Bethlehem! It is the central point in the history of the world. All the events in history occurred so many years after that day so many years before that day. We measure the flight of years by that central event. Our dates are Anno Domini in the year of our Lord, or B. C. before Christ. And the spirit of the Day dominates Christendom. We measure the worthiness and the unworthiness of actions by their relation to the Babe of Bethlehem. He it was who "in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God." The spirit of Christ is inherent in the human race blurred and blunted, it is true, by times, but ever and again fanned into flame by the Love which was incarnated 1925 years ago.

Though I speak with the tongues

of men and of angels and have not Love I am become as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and though I give my body to be burned and have not love, it profiteth me nothing. Love suffereth long and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, Love never faileth, but whether there be prophecies they shall fail; whether there be tongues they shall cease, whether there be knowledge it shall vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then shall that which is in part be done away.

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child, but when I became a man I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face; now I know in part, then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, love but the greatest of these is love.

THE CHRISTMAS TRADE

Seldom has the weather during the Christmas season been as favorable as during the past week and especially the past few days. Just enough snow to make good sleighing, just enough moist snow to prevent drifting and, yesterday, clear, bright sunshine with just enough tang of frost in the air to make walking and driving a delight and shopping a pleasure.

And the stores never looked more attractive, nor shoppers more easily satisfied. The Spirit of Christmas was in the air, in the people, in the goods bought and sold. It was indeed a splendid time for Christmas' business and last night the stores were filled with last minutes buyers, all wearing the smile that went come off.

The impetus given to trade during the Christmas season will have its effect upon the remaining business of the winter. The money has not all been spent and there is more business yet to do. In every way there is much to be thankful for and apparently all are thankful.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Merry Christmas. The same to you and many happy returns.

The principal nations in the world are laying the foundations for future world peace, but there still are Turkey and Russia.

Santa Claus was a busy man last night but the children who crept down stairs this morning in their nighties were not able to see him. Yet, some of them heard him going up the chimney, and heard his bells.

What would the world be without Christmas? Charity would become, atrophied and die. Our hospitals, our orphanages, our free medical attendance upon the poor, our friendliness and our sympathy and our mutual helpfulness are all fruits of Christianity. And these are all renewed, re-burnished, rejuvenated and made eternal by Christmas exercise.

Notes By The Way

Heap on more wood! the winds is chill. But let it whistle as it will We'll keep our Christmas merry still!

Christmas Day, as we are told in the Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, was transferred from the 6th of January to the 25th of December by Julius I. When Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1582 he omitted 10 days; but when New Style was adopted in England in 1752 it was necessary to cut off 11 days which drove back January 6th to December 25th of the previous year. In the old days of heathenism the feast of Saturn was held in December, when the people decorated the temples with such green things as they could find. The Christian custom is partly the same, transferred to Him Who was born in Bethlehem on Christmas Day.

The holly, or Holy Tree, is called Christ's Thorn in Germany and Scandinavia from its use in church decorations and its putting forth its berries about Christmas time. The early Christians gave an emblematic turn to the custom, referring to the "Righteous Branch," and justified the custom from Isaiah IX: 13—"The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee; the fir-tree the pine tree and the box together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary."

Christmas trees as well as May-poles are very ancient in their origin. The Egyptians at the winter solstice thousands of years ago used a palm branch having twelve leaves or shoots to symbolise the completion of the year. The modern custom of utilising a tree on which gifts are hung comes to us from Germany, or perhaps earlier from Scandinavia.

Santa Klaus is a rather clumsy contraction of Sankt Nikolaus, or St. Nicolas, the patron saint of children. Formerly St. Nicholas had his anniversary day on December 6, but now his visits are supposed to come at Christmas, but his mission has always been to distribute gifts to good children. Santa was supposed to have been a bishop before he was canonised as a Saint. He comes late on Christmas eve after the little ones are asleep and leaves his gifts in the stockings or other receptacles hung up to receive them. His team of swift reindeers and his entrance to the home and fireside by way of the chimney may be doubted by some older children, but Santa has for many generations given innocent joy and good cheer to millions of both young and old.

Christmas Carols are sung in England and other European countries in commemoration of the song of the angels to the shepherds at the time of the Nativity. In the literature of Christmaside the reader may come across the word Noel, which may mean either Christmas Day or a Christmas Carol. It is a contraction of nouvelles (tidings) and in old English was written nowells. An old carol for Christmas day runs as follows: A Child this day is born, A Child of high renown, Most worthy of a sceptre A sceptre and a crown.

Nowells, nowells, nowells: Sing all we may, Because that Christ the King Was born this blessed day.

Christmas has come this year to Prince Edward Island in good old winter array. By a series of preparatory weather changes, there came a mild snow storm which spread a mantle of purity over all the land. The brown landscape was turned to white and the trees from which the leaves had fallen were decorated by a silver thaw that made each branch and twig resplendent in beauty. And then came the north wind with his airy forces, frosty but not unkindly, for it crusted the level-lying snow so that it could not be piled in drifts.

And thus Christmas has come again to our fair island, bringing with it the spirit of peace and good will, of love and kindness, and of thankfulness also to the Giver of all good gifts, that the land we live in has during the past year and during generations past been favored above many. Ours has been always a land in which nature has been bountiful and there has always been bread enough for all; where the good things of life have been more evenly distributed than in most lands, where few are very poor or very rich and where those who may be in want are not forgotten by those who are in better circumstances. It is only in Christian lands that the joys, the hopes

That Body of Ours By James W. Barnes, M.D. BRAINS AND PLAY

In the examination of the boys of a reform school some time ago I was associated with a professor of psychology. He found that the majority of the boys were below normal mentally, even as I had discovered that they were below normal physically.

I attributed this principally to the lack of regular home training in diet and rest, as at least fifty per cent of the boys had parents who were living apart. And now some research men at Stanford University, California, have been investigating the children who stand head of their class in the schools.

The idea was to investigate the underlying causes of "genius." These bright children were given a complete physical examination and what is their report? "In physical growth and in general health, the gifted children unquestionably rate somewhat above the average." Indeed the investigators state that "there is no shred of evidence to support the widespread opinion that typically, the unusually bright child is weak, undersized, or nervously unstable."

And another point that was discovered was that these unusually bright children loved to play, and played to the same extent as other normal children.

Now a youngster may start out with a good brain, but if the body be neglected completely, he hasn't the physical strength to carry him far, even if he has plenty of ambition.

It is therefore most interesting and gratifying to learn that the bright child, the genius of tomorrow, does not lose his play instinct.

December 25, 1925. TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY:—The angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2: 10, 11.

PRAYER:—O Thou Lord of Life, be Thou born anew in us, and then we will pass on daily the good tidings and great joy to others until all people have received them. December 26, 1925. WHY WILL YE DIE?—Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; make you a new heart and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye. Ezekiel 18: 31, 32.

PRAYER:—We daily rejoice, most merciful God, that Thou wilt not that any should perish but that all should come unto Thee and live.

THE CHRISTMAS STAR Not to the busy dwellers of the town Filled with their dreams of state And pleasures early, late, Nor to the mighty ones of far renown The self-sufficient great.

But to the simple shepherds of the plain, Who watched their flocks by night, The tidings came—the light Of that immortal star of love and peace, Broke on their wondering sight.

Not to the busy throng along life's street, With restless, eager gaze Threading the crowded ways— Whose gainful souls and pleasure-loving feet, Pause not for prayer or praise: But to the watchers on the hills of peace Who silent, look afar— Whose hearts as temples are Filled with the glory of a great release. Shines forth the Christmas star. —Helena Coleman.

Your Birthday

DECEMBER 25.—You are generous, broad-minded, thorough, and trustworthy. You love travel and good reading, and are an intelligent and fluent talker. You are true and loyal to your friends, and devoted to the ones you love. You could succeed in many callings. Your birth-stone is the turquoise, which means prosperity. Your flower is holly. Your lucky color is pink. And sweet endearments of the Christmas season are realized and all these we owe to Him Who was born in Bethlehem 1925 years ago.

Happenings Of The Week

"O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie— Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth The Everlasting Light, The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight."

The delightful weather yesterday brought hosts of visitors to the city for last-minute shopping and as they mingled with the home crowds a cheerful spirit of good will was noticed everywhere.

Their Excellencies the Governor-General and the Lady Byng of Vimy have issued invitations for a fancy dress ball at Government House for the evening of Monday, January 11, in honor of Her Excellency's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McLean, of Ottawa, are spending Christmas in Montreal with Mr. McLean's sister, Mrs. Nicholson.

Mrs. A. Brennan, of Summerside, who had been visiting in Halifax, went to Windsor, N.S., last week to spend a week with her sister, Mrs. Raymond Dill.

The younger folks are thoroughly enjoying Rink, which opened this week, and the season promises to be a long one.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Tidmarsh left early in the week to spend Christmas with their youngest son, Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Tidmarsh, in Montreal.

Mr. Harry Ritchie, who came home for the funeral of Mr. L. E. Prowse, left for his home in Ottawa Tuesday morning. Mrs. Ritchie and daughter are remaining over with Mrs. Prowse until next week.

Mrs. Steeves, of Moncton, accompanied by Mr. Cecil Steeves, arrived Thursday to spend Christmas with Mrs. Steeves' mother, Mrs. T. C. Edgett.

Mr. Clyde Auld, of Toronto, is spending Christmas in Malpeque, the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Keir.

Mrs. J. J. Hornby and daughter, Ena, left this morning for Baltimore, where Miss Hornby will enter St. Agnes Hospital to train for a nurse. Mrs. Hornby will visit her brother, Mr. O. A. Hornby of Havana, Cuba, who is seriously ill in a hospital in Portchester, N. Y.

Lady Patricia Ramsay, who is in Bermuda, is occupying "Soncy," the quaint little house nestling among the cedars on the eastern shore of Hamilton Harbor, again this winter. Lady Patricia spent a quiet winter there last year, while attending several functions of note, yet Bermuda's social circles deferred to her expressed wish for rest and quiet during her sojourn there. Lady Patricia enjoys Bermuda, and may be seen on bright days driving over the white roads through long vistas of green cedars.

The Christmas Closings at the Public Schools this year were just get-together sing-songs in their several assembly halls. Although nothing elaborate was undertaken the pupils and teachers co-operated and a jolly Christmas spirit permeated all through.

At the Kindergarten the children had a most delightful closing with the jolliest Christmas tree imaginable, crowded with gifts made by them for their parents and friends. The exercises were very pretty arranged and reflected with great credit on their very capable young teacher, Miss Berna Huestis and her assistant, Miss Helen MacMillan.

Rev. Neil Herman, who was so kindly remembered by his congregation, has gone to his relatives in Dartmouth for the holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. C. Baird and young son are the welcome visitors of Mr. and Mrs. McCready for the holiday season.

Miss Laura Hodgson has gone to Halifax to spend Christmas with her sister, Mrs. Jamieson.

Miss Dora Mathieson is home again with her parents, the Chief Justice and Mrs. Mathieson, after a visit to Montreal.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Turner and son are in Moncton for Christmas, visiting Mrs. Turner's relatives.

Mr. Lloyd Dewar is home from Acadia for the holidays with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Dewar.

At the moment there is a vogue for early American furniture in maple, walnut and pine. As coverings, the most appropriate materials are the glazed chintzes with patterns that are reproductions of old designs.

The old-fashioned garnet jewelry has been revived and is shown in necklaces, bracelets and earrings as well as long pins and circular brooches.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Nash and little daughter Emma Louise, of Berwick, N.S., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Nash and other relatives.

Rev. W. Bruce Muir and Mrs. Muir entertained at the Manse, 202 Prince street, last evening, on the occasion of their 16th wedding anniversary. A most delightful social hour was enjoyed, the guests wishing Mr. and Mrs. Muir many happy returns.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Fairall Fisher and family, who have been staying at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, have removed to their apartment at the Chateau.

Embroidered shawls have always been regarded as treasures, whether wearing them happened to be in vogue or not. Fortunately for those who love to wear a pretty shawl on special occasions, they are in vogue this year. Not for a generation or more have lovely shawls been as generally worn by society women, as this winter, and she who has one tucked away in a cedar chest, or can buy a new one, may consider herself lucky. But not all are so fortunate. However, where there is a will there is a way, and she who would have one and has not, may have one for a very

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LETTER OF SYMPATHY

Mr. Donald B. Gordon, DeSable: Dear Sir and Brother. On behalf of the members of Lorne Loyal Orange, No. 1492 we wish to convey to you the sympathy we feel for you in the loss which you have sustained in the taking home by the Heavenly Father Himself of your much esteemed father and we would also express to you the sense of loss which we as brethren feel at the passing away of one of our charter members. To Mrs. Gordon and the other members of the family we would extend our sincere sympathy for He who has said well done thou good and faithful servant has also promised comfort to the widowed and fatherless and is able to keep until the end that which we have committed to his care. Signed in behalf of Lorne L. O. L. No. 1492. ALFRED CAMERON, WM. E. McFARLANE, ERNEST C. HOLM, DeSable, Dec. 22, 1925.

She—What position do you play on the football team? He—I'm substitute quarter or half. She—Oh, I see; they put you in when they need a little change.

Condition Better

BORDIGHERA, Italy, Dec. 23.—Today's bulletin on the condition of Dowager Queen Margherita, who is suffering from pneumonia reported a continuant of gradual improvement. Rheumatic pains in the right shoulder have been lessened. Her maximum temperature today was 100.4 degrees.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. RHEUMATISM, BRIGAT'S DISEASE, DIABETES, BACKACHE, GRAVEL, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, BILIOUSNESS, URIC ACID, URIC ACID, URIC ACID.

For Investors INVESTORS find our Bond Department of great assistance in selecting suitable investments, and also in arranging the purchase or sale of securities. A MONTHLY list of offerings will be sent on request. THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE Capital Paid Up \$20,000,000 Reserve Fund \$20,000,000 Charlottetown Branch C. Lomer Miles, Manager

THE BEST GIFT OF ALL This is the Season when the Joyous Spirit of Christmas is abroad; a time of cheer and good will to all. What more appropriate gift than a life insurance policy? It survives the lapse of time and gives constant evidence of the affection, wisdom and forethought of the giver. The Great-West Life wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. HYNDMAN & CO., LIMITED. ESTABLISHED 1872 Provincial Managers Charlottetown

"The Haberdashery" WE WISH OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR MOST GENEROUS PATRONAGE. HENDERSON & CUDMORE

Cardinal Mercier To Undergo Operation BRUSSELS, Dec. 23.—Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, will probably undergo a surgical operation at the end of the month. In a letter to the clergy, the cardinal, who is 74 years of age, explains that he has been suffering from indigestion for some months past. More serious symptoms developed last week, and his doctors have ordered him to take a complete rest. They assure him that a surgical operation presents no serious risk.

A BEAUTIFUL DIGNITY CHARACTERIZES OUR SERVICE. G.D. WRIGHT MORTICIAN CHARLOTTETOWN. AUTO-AMBULANCE

Messrs. C. M. Lampson & Co., Winter Sale Will Commence January 21, 1926

A Merry Christmas To all our Customers and friends, we wish you A MERRY CHRISTMAS A. Pickard & Co Coal Dealer