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G. C. RANKIN, D. D., EDITOR.

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Joy to the World, The Lord is Come

"Glad tidings of great joy" is the message of Christ to a troubled world. Trouble had no permanent relief before his advent. His appearance put in operation those forces that made joy possible to the race. Throughout the world of Christendom today joy finds its expression in millions of minds and hearts. They are celebrating the coming of the King and his beneficial reign among the children of men. Church houses are vocal with praise, homes are echoing notes of thanksgiving, and the babbling thousands are speaking his tones of triumph. Who can adequately describe the joy that Christmas brings to the world!

Childhood is happy and expectant. Tender remembrances come to them, and many tokens of love. It is because Christ came as their Christmas gift that this is true. In lands where there is no Christ, there is not much interest in childhood. It is Christ who has imparted value to child-life, and his influence largely has invested it with its present sanctity. Think of how we love children in our Christian lands. All the sacred memories that cluster around the Christmas occasion are connected mostly with the innocency of childhood. He loved little children while in the flesh and the world has learned more and more to love them where his gospel has gotten in its work on humanity. Think, today, of the multiplied thousands of children with their bright faces and

joyous hearts, as they enter into the pleasures of the Christmas festivities!

And what was womanhood when Christ came into the world? She was the victim of man's passions and appetite. She had no claims that the sterner sex was expected to recognize. She was his slave, his plaything. She had no property rights and no social distinction worth the name. But today she stands side by side with man in her claims to recognition. In all Christian lands her proper value in the home and in society is recognized. She is appreciated for her worth and she is held in the highest esteem as the most beneficial asset in the domestic, the social and esthetical esteem of the world. She is enthroned in her sphere as the uncrowned queen and through her power and influence the old world is taking on a brighter aspect.

Therefore, both sexes and the whole of childhood have occasion today to rejoice in the beneficent administration of grace under the sway of King Emanuel, the Prince of Peace, the friend of the friendless, and the inspiration of all good. His birth, his life, his death, his resurrection and his ascension afford a thousand reasons why we should be glad and thankful and happy. His truth is our strong hold, his life our exemplar, and his blood is our sole hope of deliverance from the power of sin and darkness. From him all our blessings flow. Let the world bow down before him and crown him Lord of all!

Wise and Timely Words From the Bench

Dallas is becoming noted for its record for homicides. The dockets of the courts in this city show a record of sixty-three who have died at the hand of their fellow men. This is an awful record and it certainly shows up badly for a city of one hundred thousand population in one year of killings. But we are glad to say that our courts are mending their pace in giving speedy trials to criminals and in meting out punishment to them. There is still room for improvement, but we are making progress in the right direction. Let the courts redouble their diligence in these matters.

The other day, a young fellow was before the court for man slaughter. He was in a drunken frenzy and tried to shoot his young lady escort to death, and he did seriously wound her. But an accidental ball struck an innocent man two blocks up the street and sent him to a bloody grave. For this last act the young fellow got

twenty-five years; and for the assault to kill his sweetheart, he confessed judgment and received five years. In sentencing him under the last conviction, Judge Barry Miller pronounced these wise and timely words:

"I do not like to preach from the bench," the court declared, "but on behalf of those who have associated with you and other boys and girls, I want to say that however wild we may all have been, that there comes a time when we must realize the absolute truth of the Biblical saying, 'The wages of sin is death.' Other young men and young women who are traveling the same road will find that it inevitably leads to one place—death, both moral and physical. I hope that you will get better and that you will outlive your sentence and make a good record while in prison."

Truer and wiser words never fell from the lips of a jurist, and there are scores and scores of young men testifying to their reality today in a felon's cell. Others have tested them on the gallows. No man can violate the laws of God and of the country and not suffer the awful penalty. No wonder that this young fellow, though too late, cried out and said:

"Oh, what a mistake I have made in not following the good teachings of my mother. I

have seen the error of my ways and I have changed. I have tried to be a good prisoner in jail and I am going to live straight in the penitentiary. Some time the day will come when I can come out a free man and lead a really useful life."

But neither the judge nor the prisoner stated the real cause of this trouble. Its explanation is found in the licensed saloon! He was a patron of this institution, muddled his brain with drink, and in his mad state, he wrought himself into a furor and committed the crimes for which he is to spend the flower of his manhood behind prison doors. And while we appreciate Judge Miller's words of warning to young men and young women and commend him for their timely utterance; yet it is true that Judge Miller has done his utmost as a public speaker against local option and against State-wide prohibition to fasten the liquor traffic, with all of its diabolism, on the State of Texas! And now, as a judge, he is doing some excellent work in helping to send to the gallows and to the State prison the unfortunate victims of the saloon habit.

After all, we fear that so-called good citizens, who place "business" above morals, are more responsible for these crimes than the poor devils who have to suffer the consequences of saloon habits. These vile resorts have done more to fasten the drink habit on boys and men than all of the other influences combined. And to their existence can be traced at least ninety per cent of the deeds that blacken society, feed the gallows and fill up the penitentiaries. But, notwithstanding all this, we commend the wise words of Judge Miller as he imposed this prison penalty upon this wailing young wreck of humanity. On with the battle!

"THE UNSPEAKABLE GIFT."

Paul gives thanks to God for his unspeakable gift. This word "unspeakable" is used in two other places in the New Testament—the "unspeakable words" and "joy unspeakable." In both cases it signifies that which is beyond the expressing power of human speech. All of God's gifts to us are gifts of creation, except those of His Word and His Son and His Spirit. The creature gifts are expressible by the native gift of language. But the gift of Jesus Christ is too great for human expression. So Paul, speaking on the question of gifts, refers to Jesus as "the unspeakable gift."

This unspeakable gift of God was a gift of love, given freely; and so our gifts to God should be given in love and given freely. The same spirit should mark our gifts to others. This is a helpful and wholesome thought in connection with Christian giving. Our gifts at the Christmas season

should be given in love and given freely. This means that they should be free from extravagance, from the spirit of exchange; that they should be always tokens of genuine love. If this is followed, much disappointment and even bitterness and burden will be removed.

Christmas giving to some people has become a mere passion for extravagance. In many cases the gift is beyond the means of the giver, and therefore is dishonest. It often means the taking from one what he has a right to have, to give to another what he has no right to have. This often leads to such pressure and burden that it drives out every item of love and freedom. This passion was greater a few years ago than it is today. Everybody then seemed to stretch to the utmost to see how much he could give and get, until the habit became vulgar. More recently people have become more sane in the matter, and with sanity more real, more loving. Yet there is enough suffering from the passion of extravagance. There are loan sharks who have taken notice of the extravagance, and they stand ready to loan money at a good rate of interest for this purpose. They are already scattering their circulars to catch the unwary. They tell how easy it is to get ten dollars or one hundred dollars, and how easy it is to repay it after Christmas. But they are sure to make their contract so that they can follow with persecution any who fail to make repayment on date. These schemes and the passion for extravagance have made many sad hearts at the Christmas season without contributing anything either to the honor of God or to the good of man. Gifts at the Christmas season are appropriate, but the value depends more upon the spirit and motive than upon anything else.—The Presbyterian.

"A righteous life and character must issue in right conduct, in righteous activities. Righteousness is uprightness; that is, what is straight, neither crooked nor warped. The righteous man is set on the utmost fairness toward every man. He takes account of the Golden Rule in business, as it is bound up with his prayers. Any man, even a bad man, may keep within the law, but it takes a righteous man to 'fulfill the law.'"—Methodist Recorder.

The echoes of ancient song and laughter give Christmas a rich merriment, a ripe and tender wealth of associations. The mirth of one Christmas overflows into another until the sense of an unbroken joy, sinking and rising year after year like the tide of life in the fields, is borne in upon us.—Hamilton W. Mabie.

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Southern Methodist University. REV. H. A. BOAZ, D. D., Vice-President. FRANK REEDY, Bursar. EDITORS. One Million Dollar Endowment Campaign Is Now On

The Advocate next week will publish in full the splendid address of Bishop Atkins, delivered at the laying of the cornerstone of Dallas Hall, on Thanksgiving Day.



Rev. L. L. Cohen.

Rev. L. L. Cohen, whose photograph appears above is one of the original District Commissioners of the North Texas Conference, appointed by Bishop Mouzon last year.

address, took a collection for the college. Considering the circumstances and conditions generally, it was a most successful collection.

The college, at the present time, has in its possession 250 acres of very valuable land on which there have been erected buildings valued at \$80,000, all well located.

There has already been much of sacrifice and toil put into this enterprise. When the Church decided to build a college here it chose Rev. W. L. Linebaugh, D. D., to do the work.

We are making large plans for the future and feel confident that the greatest success lies out ahead of us. We are not expecting to build in a day nor a year, but the years to come will see an institution here worthy of the great Church which gave it birth.

Let prayers be made throughout the Church for the success of the Church of Christ in the field of education.

THE OKLAHOMA WESLEYAN COLLEGE. The Oklahoma Wesleyan College is entering upon a campaign for the raising of \$100,000 with which to complete the building, pay the debts and re-open school.

W. A. SHELTON. Oklahoma City, Okla.

Inward and Outward. The inward effect of humors are worse than the outward. They weaken all the organs, inflame the mucous membrane, cause catarrhal troubles, and endanger the whole system.

Epworth League Department

GUS W. THOMASSON, Editor. 5115 Victor Street, Munger Place, Dallas, Texas.

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES. The following is a list of the Corresponding Secretaries of the League Boards of Conferences in Texas:

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR THE DECEMBER PROGRAM.

- 1. Names of missionary books and periodicals I expect to read in 1913, by all, given in quick succession. 2. The results of systematic offerings to missions.

A PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TOUR OF THE WORLD IN BALTIMORE BY BRO. COLLYER IN FOUR NUMBERS. NUMBER THREE.

The second story of the Exhibition Building is devoted to all sorts of work on the American continent and in its colonies. We come first of all to the work among the Indians which is illustrated by several native huts and a small mission school building.

Here opposite the Indian section is one devoted to Alaska, and it is perhaps the most graphic of all the sections in the Exhibition. The ground is covered with silt to represent snow, and everybody's attention is attracted to the sledge drawn by a team of seven dogs.

We pass southward on to the section devoted to the Mountain People, where is built a shack just such as we find in the remote mountains of Kentucky. This is adorned with strings of red pepper, and other things hung up to dry.

ed, for in the next section we find opposite a great corn shack, two log cabins, one a dwelling and the other a little school house. But, of course, the most interesting thing here is the representation of the work carried on in the Hampton Institute.

We go through a doorway and enter ourselves in Porto Rico, the land of palm and bamboo. Around us on all sides are models of buildings just as you would see them there.

THE MISSIONARY VICE-PRESIDENT'S DIGEST.

Edited by Miss Mary Hay Ferguson. YOUR CHAIRMAN'S CHRISTMAS WISH FOR YOU.

The Epworth League is Making Good in the Mission Field.

From statistics published in the 1912 Annual Report of the Board of Missions it is shown that there are in the United Mission Conference 176 chapters, with 6200 members.

Table with columns: Name of Chapter, Pledge, Paid. Lists various chapters like Trinity, Dallas, First Church, Dallas, Grace, Dallas, etc.

RECEIPTS: July 17, 1912, cash due from bank, \$ 688.20. Sept 16, 1912, receipts, 1st quarter 62.60

Ring Facts. Established 1854. For more than half a century C. P. Barnes & Co.'s Rings have been the standard for excellence among Southern people.

Financial report table with columns: Date, Description, Amount. Includes items like Dec. 16, 1912, receipts 2nd quarter 508.90.

Total Due \$ 758.50. McKinney (Ruby Kendrick's District) and Sherman District, report all pledges paid in full to date.

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