SUNSHINE

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Christmas

This is the season of good cheer. The bells of Christendom ring out "Peace on earth; good will toward men." The world is slow to catch the spirit of the music, but it will by and by. The homes are astir awaiting the reunion of loved ones. The churches are being bedecked by willing hands. The spirit of joy has even reached the halls of commerce. The crowded streets tell of something out of the ordinary. Persons who would hesitate at carrying parcels at other times are now laden down with boxes, rocking-horses, dolls and a multitude of nick-nacks, deeming it a joy to do it. All this evidence of good cheer and forgetfulness of self is significant, and points backward to the advent of the Christ-child, whose message to a troubled world was, and still is, peace and good will.

In the midst of our social festivities and our gift-giving, let us not forget that the genius of the Christianity that prompts this season of good cheer is unselfish. There are those who have not the physical comforts that so much help in the rejoicing. Let us emulate the example of the shepherds of old and bring gifts as a thank-offering, and thus enable others to share in the rejoicing with ourselves. Those who have empty coalbins will find it hard to rejoice. It will be difficult to be glad with the larder empty. It is heart-breaking for the mother with her little tots about her, who have large expectations like others, to

feel that they must be denied a visit from old Santa; that their little stockings on Christmas morning will be unfilled. Let us give to those who, while they cannot bestow upon us any visible gift, will recompense us with the gift of a thankful heart, which is current gold, beyond the stars.

We wish our friends a pleasant and joyous Christmas. May it be a season when the mistakes of life may be righted, and may we all enter the new century under the smile of Peace.

Farewell!

In a few more days the nineteenth century will have passed into history. It is not our purpose to recall the wonderful advances made. Space forbids it. Among the centuries it can easily claim the first place; yet compared to what the twentieth promises to be it is but an infant, and a person need not be classed among the prophets to make such a statement. As a Company we will always have pleasant memories of number nineteen. It has nurtured and brought the Sun Life of Canada into growing young manhood. We face the twentieth century full of the hopes of such a stage. We have had an experience of thirty years in the ways of life; we have enough of the spirit of youth to keep pace with the changes of the times, and maturity enough to know the paths of safety.

The appellation, "Prosperous and Progressive," given to us is a fitting one. We have been wondrously prosperous—not by chance or luck, but by a carefully prepared plan of action, faithfully and assiduously carried out. We have been progressive from principle, knowing that a company that lives on its past will eventually be relegated to the past.

Nineteenth Century, good bye! We