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The Dawn of Tomorrow

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. VII, NO. 11

LONDON, ONT., DEC. 17, 1936

The Message Of Christmas

By the Rev. W. Constantine Perry,
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As the gracious and hallowed season of Christmas approaches, I accept it as a pleasure at the request of the Editor of the Dawn of Tomorrow, to send you its readers, this brief Christmas message. I doubt if there has ever been a time in the history of the world when the application of the Christmas message justifies its adoption as it does now.

It is regrettable that the Christmas of 1936 will again appear finding the world in a more critical and fearful state than it was a year ago, due to the continued economic condition, plus the anxiety and fear of an impending world war. In a recent broadcast of mine, I spoke on the subject—"Are Christians justified in Praying for Universal Peace?" Or are they justified in expecting from God who is the One to whom prayers are made, an answer in the affirmative. I contended that while we all would like to have this universal peace, such an experience will never be the outcome until the causes of war are destroyed. "Wars," I said, "are effects of causes, and if the causes are not rooted out, the effect will forever remain. The message of Christmas is that of 'peace and good-will to all men' which will eventually extend to 'an universal brotherhood' without which, there can be no universal peace."

Prior to the birth of our Lord two thousand years ago the world experienced a most complex situation as it is now experiencing. "That whole period was an hour and power of darkness" said Archbishop Trench. "We will wait," said Plato, in words almost prophetic "till one shall come, he being a god or an inspired man, to teach us in holy things and take the darkness from our eyes." Men were blightly feeling out into the darkness for some solution to solve the grave problems with which they were faced. Hence it was like a bolt from the blue sky bringing unprecedented joy when announcement was made to the shep-



herds of Bethlehem, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for unto to you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour which is Christ the Lord," with the musical accompaniment of the heavenly choir—"Glory to God in highest and on earth, Peace, good-will to all men."

This peace which characterises the anthem of the heavenly host, will not

be realized now universally but in the experience of the individual echoed in the following words—"Peace like a river is flooding my soul, Since Christ my Saviour maketh me whole."

If these causes of war are not removed, I am afraid that the universal peace for which so many are praying will never come till the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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ATLANTA GIRL GETS WELFARE POSITION

Atlanta, Ga., December — Miss Maudlea Norris, 1936 graduate of the Atlanta School of Social Work and well-known member of Atlanta's younger social and civic group, has been appointed visitor for the Child Welfare Association of Fulton and De Kalb counties. Miss Norris is the daughter of Mrs. N. T. Norris, who for a number of years was secretary of the First Congregational church of this city. She received the appointment on the recommendation of Forrester B. Washington, director of the Atlanta School of Social Work and on the basis of her training for and experience in the field of social work.

Killers Given Life Sentences

Detroit, Mich.—Five member of the infamous Black Legion, a white organization, who slew Silas Coleman for a thrill, got life sentences from Judge Zile of Recorder's Court on Friday. Judge Zile commenting on the case, said: "It is hard to understand why you kill this man, who never had done anything to you and whom you did not even know."

While nations are talking and preparing for the outbreak of war, let us endeavour to remove from our individual hearts everything that would mar our own peace and happiness and the peace and happiness of others by the practice of the following bit of history. In 1428 during the war of the Roses, while Orleans was under seige, the English lords, history tells us, requested the French commanders to suspend hostilities, and let the usual celebration of Christmas Eve take place. This was agreed upon, filling the air with the song of the minstrel and the music of the trumpets, instead of the discordant note of battle.