

The Greatest Gift

Those who give themselves grow richer.

The kindly word, the spontaneous smile, the thoughtful deed — those are outward expressions of the goodness inside the hearts and minds of men.

Those of us in the newspaper business must record the little things that make news day by day. Often we wish there were less of pettiness in the world and more of the spirit of Christmas scattered throughout the year. But the day that marks the birth of Jesus brings with it a rebirth of faith and hope and a realization that deep down inside each person there are Christ-like qualities of unselfishness, loyalty and devotion to the highest principles of God and man. It is those qualities which make Christ-

"To Sir, With Love"

Warm and Dramatic

"To Sir, With Love" is a motion picture about a teacher and his students, with

mas the most joyous season of all.

Truly, there is "joy to the world" in abundant evidence of self-giving, of hands clasped in friendship, of hearty good wishes. How insignificant are the little troublesome things of the world in the light of the Christmas spirit that pervades the world!

And so we again join in the gladness of the season to wish all our friends and subscribers

A Merry Christmas

the starring role played by Sidney Poitier, who faces the challenge of a difficult and insubordinate group of youngsters in a problem school in London's East End. It is a warm, dramatic story of how the teacher in changing the lives and outlook of his students, also changes his own.

It is believed by many that "To Sir, With Love" filmed on location by Columbia Pictures in London, offers the best starring vehicle for Poitier and he in turn demonstrates his superb acting talent that has grown with his career.

Though Poitier's students are "problem" youngsters who have not fitted into normal schools, the kids are basically good. Their unruly, rebellious behaviour is a reflection of bad upbringing, parental neglect, and indifference. They are products of the slums. By treating them as young adults and not as "kids" Poitier gives them a new outlook, an awareness of their responsibilities.

"To Sir, With Love" filmed in Technicolor and the wide screen, is based on E. R. Braithwaite's book of the same title, written about his experiences as a teacher in London. Mr. Braithwaite, a citizen of Guyana (formerly British Guiana) who has spent the last six years in Europe, was recently named by his government to head the Permanent Mission of Guyana to the United Nations. Ambassador Braithwaite is now living in New York City.

James Clavell demonstrates his capabilities as the writer-producer-director of Columbia Pictures' "To Sir, With Love," in putting Braithwaite's book into film form.

Clavell is the author of two outstanding best-selling novels, "Tai Pan," which has dominated book lists for the past year; and "King Rat"

which was released as a Columbia Picture.

Of his role in "To Sir, With Love," Academy Award-Winning actor Poitier says: "It

was something I really wanted to do. I read the book. I liked it. It is warm, human, ingratiating."

This estimate from a distinguished and accomplished actor carries weight and significance, because Poitier is hard to please, highly critical, and highly selective, choosing his roles with extraordinary care. So when he opines that "To Sir, With Love" is good, in anybody else's language that means it must be "great."

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

And 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."

Fear not, for behold I bring you good news. When the angels appeared to the shepherds, who were in the fields tending their flocks, they must have been filled with fear at the suddenness of what was happening. Today we also have fears in our hearts. For some it may be the fear of death; or the fear of losing ones health and prosperity—or fear of any kind.

It was in an atmosphere of fear that the angel brought the comforting words. "Fear not." The angel brought good tidings. A Saviour was born.

At Christmas time we prepare presents for the children, some for our relatives and friends. So it is that at this season God gives us a present. That present is His only begotten Son.

Unto you is born this day a Saviour which is Christ the Lord. This Saviour is God's gift to us. Jesus was born for us and for our Salvation. He came to save us from our sins and to give all who had faith in Him—the gift of eternal life.

Let us try to go back, in our minds, to that first Christmas and see what happened there. The first event was the arrival of the holy family at Bethlehem. The fulness of Mary's time was come. She was ready to give birth to her child. This child was to be called Emmanuel which being interpreted is "God with us." The angels fell down to worship and rose up to sing.

Then after the birth of the Christ Child the angels appeared unto a few shepherds who were watching their flock by night. The angels message was: "Unto you is born this day a Saviour." And the heavenly host sang "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of goodwill."

So often we can be so busy with many things in this world and as a result miss Christ. We are living in a world today which seems to have no room for God, with its imperialism, war, murder, lust and greed. Yet we can, if we will, make room for Him in our hearts.

Christmas will always be empty and un-meaningful, until we possess the Christ Child in our hearts. He is the Saviour of the world and He wants to be your Saviour as well. This was His purpose in coming into the world. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins."

Merry Christmas to All



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