

The Dawn of Tomorrow

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

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WHAT MAKES FOR A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

"Wishing you a happy Christmas." How common such words are at this season of the year. They fall so glibly from our lips and the wish costs us very little. It is well to pause and consider just for a moment what they mean.

"A Happy Christmas." Why a happy Christmas? What makes Christmas happy? Is it the Christmas holiday? the feasting and the dancing? Is it the valuable gifts we receive? No, to the Christian there is something deeper than all that in Christmas. "Behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." It is the village inn, the stable, the manger and the Holy Child, the fact of the Incarnation! of God made man! Of the Eternal word clothing Himself in human flesh and all that underlies that fact. First of all, Christmas brings us face to face with the "Great Reality."

"No man hath ascended up to heaven but He that came down from heaven even the Son of Man which is in heaven."

The philosophy based on materialism, so loudly proclaimed by scientists when I was a boy, is passing. In a book by Professor Eddington entitled "Science and the Unseen World" we read "Briefly the position is this. We have learned that the exploration of the external world by the methods of physical science leads not to a concrete reality but to a shadow world of symbols, beneath which those methods are unadaptable for penetrating. Feeling that there must be more behind, we return to our starting point in human consciousness the one centre where more might become known." Science has gone as far as she can go with the methods at her disposal in the physical world. She has reached the end of her resources in seeking the "Ultimate Reality." Her hope now is to discover in the spiritual world by other methods, that for which she seeks. To that spiritual world man is closely related

through his immortal spirit. Science can only bring us to a Great Unknown, perhaps Unknowable. The guiding star of revelation however leads the humble and earnest seeker to Bethlehem. There veiled in the humanity of the Holy Bible we see the Deity. There we see that which is the substance of all shadows, the meaning of all symbols, the True Reality. Christ brings us face to face with God. For centuries earnest souls had been praying "Lord show us the Father"—At length on Christmas Day came the answer in the gift of Him who afterwards said: "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father."

So we are happy, contented and restful and wish all Christian people "a happy Christmas."—After Christmas comes the New Year. Again I wish you a happy New Year—God puts into our hands a new book of 365 pages all white and clean and not yet soiled by sin. What shall we write in it? By next Christmas it may be stained with sin, blurred and blotted with errors and mistakes but thanks unto Him that loves us and washed us from our sins in His Own

Merry
Christmas
to All!

blood these may be wiped out. The pages of the book may be, and I hope will be, illumined with deeds of kindness and words of love. If so, what an offering it will be to present as a Christmas gift to our dear Lord twelve months hence. How much of our happiness as well as the happiness of others depends entirely on ourselves. The secret of happiness lies in making others happy.

It was Henry Drummond who pointed out how much of our Lord's life was spent in just wiping away tears, healing sores, and making others happy. Streaks of sadness there will always be in our lives as there was in the life of the Master who was "a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief" but there is the happiness of hope even in the days of darkness and doubt. Let us go forward in hope.

Hope through the watches of the night,
Hope 'till the morning brings the light,
Hope 'till thy faith be turned to sight.
Abound in hope—

May a happy Christmas and hopeful New Year be yours—

ASK THAT JOBS BE MADE FIRST AIM

More than 1,500 government employees packed into Shiloh Baptist Church at Washington, D.C. unanimously adopted and pledged support to the U.G.E. national public resolution asking President Roosevelt to make WPA the No. 1 "must" legislation on the Western Hemisphere and National Defense schedule to be submitted to Congress in promotion of the Good Neighbor policy at home, and throughout America, as well as South and North American countries, thereby assuring a genuine peace and job security for 10,000,000 unemployed—American citizens first, without regard to race, creed or color.

The petition demands that the President's budget and appropriations in 1939 and 1940 recommend and urge Congress to provide for every American family first—not only against starvation, air, gas and cannon attack, but more WPA jobs at decent living wages guaranteeing sick and annual leave with pay—a \$1,500 minimum annual wage for all regular and emergency government employees—abolition of pictures in federal civil service examinations—larger old age pensions for needy old persons—extension of Social Security law to include domestics, farm laborers and others.

"There must be no cut in CCC and WPA," says the U.G.E. resolution. "Adult Education, Women's Sewing Projects, Household Training Aid Centres, Recreation, and public improvement projects such as slum clearance, school building, road construction, park and playground development are imperative."

THE CHRIST CHILD

Only a manger, cold and bare,
Only a maiden mild,
Only some shepherds kneeling there,
Watching a little child;
And yet that maiden's arms enfold
The King of Heaven above;
And in the Christ-Child we behold
The Lord of Life and Love.

Dawn of Tomorrow

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A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE CHRISTUS NATUS EST

Christmas is here again but its original Christmas significance seems to be lost among the debris of the past due to the regularity of its annual recurrence. Christmas is the chief addition to the festivals of the church which dates back to the fourth century. Apparently no feast of Christ's nativity was held in the church till that time when it appears first in Rome about 353 or 354. From Rome it spread to the East reaching Constantinople about 378 or 381 and Alexandria between 400 or 432.

Christians throughout the world should observe this festival in a Christian manner. It should mean to them the highest and truest manifestation of God's love and mercy towards a fallen humanity fulfilled; the ushering in of Peace and Goodwill toward men. It is because men have failed to comprehend Christ's mission that the world is today disturbed, that exploitation of life continues unabated, that racial differences exist. Jesus Himself is recorded as saying, "I am the Way, the truth and the Life." That is the standard of life for the Christian and any individual or collective life which falls short of that divine form must be considered not in harmony with Christian living. I am the Way follow it; I am the truth, believe it; I am the life, live it. If men would only follow, believe and live that Christ life exemplified in the life of their Lord and Master who spoke these significant words, wars and rumors of wars would forever cease, and the brotherhood of man would no longer be a meaningless and useless expression. Christ when he came substituted a more humane code for the old Mosaic Law. No longer was it "an eye for an eye", but love and goodwill took its place. If Christ is born, let the Church declare it vociferously and fearlessly with a view this Christmas of seeing Him reigning triumphant in Men's hearts and in this troubled world. Then we shall have "Peace on Earth and Goodwill among men." The Church has not been aggressive enough. By its apathy and indifference men are challenging all religious institutions as favoring things as they are, and making no effort to bring about the social and economic conditions that ought to be. If the Church instead of holding useless Revivals were to inaugurate a proper system of religious education that means something to a child in his plastic years we

might some day have people who will carry religious training and practices into their everyday life and into politics and the result might eventually be a Christian social order and hence a Christian world.

No church, or nation for that matter, can continue bluffing the people all the time. If they fail to manifest love and entirely reject the brotherhood of man then Christianity can mean nothing to anybody. Prejudice without malice and envy within the "fold" and even among so called Ambassadors of Christ can only bring disaster upon and disrespect for the church and its teachings. Most certainly an uneducated and un-Christlike ministry, which throws barriers in the way of Postulants, who would command respect and exalt the ministry if admitted to Candidacy, should realize that they are ruining the cause of Christ and lessening their personal respect as ministers. On this point, too many lies have been told in order to prevent some one from being admitted or some candidate from gaining admission to the Sacred Ministry. The writer knows of a certain church which actually has admitted men of low education status, who, with the help of certain conniving Bishops have attained high orders in the church while at the same time a brilliant colored young man from Nassau was rejected. A combination of causes led to this decision. First among the causes was the fact that that young man was trained in U.S.A. and a graduate of Bishop Payne Theological Seminary in Peterburgh, Va. and again his color was another determining factor in the decision of the Bishop. This happened recently in a certain West Indian island. Certain other churches in Canada and U.S.A. have a way of placing untrained and trained men on equal footing, a practice which should be discontinued. If a man is to serve in this age he should be prepared for leadership. An uneducated porter or mason cannot do much good in an age when every child is required to attend school, and when only the best trained teachers are employed to teach. Preachers should be trained men without any exception, men who have suggestions to make at conferences for growth and improvement of church and people. The Church could not use Galilean fishermen today unless they gave up their fishing, acquired education and culture and passed through the doors of university and seminary. Inspiration alone cannot serve this present age. It must be an admixture of inspiration plus perspiration. Unless a man is prepared to go through intensive and extensive courses of studies he should refrain from getting in at the back door or through the instrumentality of some conniving superintendent or bishop. The example of the Church of Rome should be closely followed. There is only one standard and this is required by everyone admitted to the Sacred Order of the Ministry of Rome.

Ministers are to be leaders, lifters-up of the people. This is impossible if leaders are to be found in the quagmires of ignorance and crudity and

like scarecrows dressed up in clerical garbs frighten men into the Kingdom. Christ must first be born within us before others can see our light and glorify their Father in Heaven. If the minister lives the Holy life and tries to be good then the contagion of goodness will spread among the social order like leaven at work. Yes, Christ is born, in spite of the fact that there was no room for Him in the inn. Let us provide a place for His birth this Christmas and not crowd Him out. If we let Him in, He will enter and take full possession of us and through us control the works of the wicked, making right at length to triumph over might. Let us spend this Xmas in thankfulness to Almighty God that war has been averted and let us pray that the church will take on the armour of Christ and fight for social righteousness and freedom until Satan and his hosts are finally vanquished and God's Kingdom on earth established.

The Church is the only institution able to bring about a changed world order in which we will be able to say, Christus natus est, Christ is born.

—By RANDOLPH A. JAMES

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service. So for another year we say "Merry Christmas
to All!"

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CHRISTMAS 1938

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will be festivals and pageants depict-
ing the birth of the Prince of Peace.
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be told of the shepherds on the hill-
side of Galilee, and of the wise men
who sought the manger where the
Christ Child lay. It is a wonderful
story that never grows old in the
telling. A story that for almost nine-
teen centuries has lighted the faces
of little children and quickened the
pulse of countless men and women.

And there will be tears and sorrow.
For across the world men have re-
nounced the teachings of the Prince
of Peace, have rejected the idea of the
Brotherhood of Man for which He
lived and died; and have erected
altars dedicated not to love but to
hate, not to peace but to war, not
to God but to Mammon.

The consequences of this abandon-
ment of the fundamental concept of
all religious teachings, the common
brotherhood of all mankind have cast
a lengthening shadow over the earth.
We stand on the verge of an uncertain
future, so fraught with possibilities of
catastrophe and chaos that we know
not at what moment we shall be call-
ed upon to defend not only our prop-
erty and our lives, but what is infini-
tely more important, our ideals which
though never completely attained,
have been the guiding stars of all our
efforts, the end of all our dreams.

Christmas 1938. The same star
that guided the wise men now looks
down upon the onward sweep of racial
prejudices, religious bigotry and in-
tolerance; the enthronement of hate
and the deliberate evocation of all
that is cruel and brutal in man, in
many parts of Europe.

The bells ring out—Peace on earth,
Good Will to Men.

But fear peers from the haunted
faces of the Jews in Germany—and
Justice tosses a Negro boy into the
hands of a lynch mob in Mississippi.

Ave Maria wells from the throats of
bright-eyed children in the cathedral
choir.

But the broken windows of the Car-
dinal's hove echo the strains of the
hymn of hate.

Christmas 1938. Death and Destru-
ction — Hate and Bitterness — Per-
secution and Deprivation — Oppres-
sion and Exile. . . .

NEGROES RECEIVE LAND FROM MEXICO

Mexico City, Dec. — (CNA) — Fifty
nine Negro families, whose ancestors
arrived in Northern Mexico during
the Eighteen Sixties, received grants
of land this week when the Cardenas
Government decreed the expropriation
of 7,200 acres held by a white Ameri-
can woman, Mrs. Lottie W. Weller of
San Antonio, Texas.

The land, part of the so-called Las
Rusias estate, was ordered divided
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LONDON NOTES

The Busy Workers Sewing Guild will have their annual Xmas party next Thursday. The Guild will be attired in their uniforms of navy blue. Mrs. L. Jones will be hostess. Mrs. Berry, president elect, will pour the coffee. Mrs. C. A. Johnson will cut the cake. Mrs. Jean Meyers and Mrs. Brown will receive.

The B.M.E. Sunday school gave a very entertaining Xmas concert on Thursday evening. A play was enacted 'When Santa Forgot the Smiths'. The caste was as follows: father, Norman Fountain; mother, Kay Jenkins; grandmother, Pearl Smith; Sue, Wilma Miller; Tom, Laverne Jenkins; maid, Vera Brown; Mr. Smith, Kenneth Milton; Mrs. Smith, La Rene Fontaine; Tabby Cat, Lily Anderson; Neighbor Cat, Geraldine Moxley; Santa Claus, Mr. Brown; messenger boy, Ross Jenkins; Smile Girls, Audrey Fontaine, Tiny Jenkins, Jean Fountain, Marion Smith.

Mrs. J. Coursey of Glenwood Ave. spent a delightful week in Oakville visiting friends and relatives.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C. Phionix. A baby girl. Both mother and child are doing nicely.

Mrs. E. Richardson of Brantford was a welcome guest at the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. W. Fontaine of Sackville St. Mrs. Richardson spent most of her time visiting old acquaintances.

A very successful 'Southern Supper' was served in the church under the auspices of the church. A large attendance and unusual programme made it a delightful evening.

Among the expected guests of London for Xmas are: Miss Myra Berry of Detroit, as guest of Mrs. Wm. Berry. Mr. and Mrs. Turner as guests of the Jenkins-Houson household. Miss Annie Richardson as guest of Miss L. Fontaine.

Miss M. Harrison and Mr. B. Harrison have been frequent visitors in London of late, on week-end jaunts.

We are sorry to see our friend Bernice Fountain not feeling "up to the minute" of late. Here's wishing you a quick come-back Bernice.

Mrs. Jenkins-Houson who has been ill for sometime is now well on the road to recovery.

Miss Rosetta Wilson was a guest in the city over the week-end.

The B.M.E. church held their 83rd anniversary in the Tabernacle Centre. The choir took over the initial part of the programme, and although they were without their leader, Mr. Ball, who was ill at the time, the choir rendered a well sung programme. This was followed by an inspiring address by Rev. C. A. Johnson. Mrs. Wm. Berry gave a solo. Mrs. Strickland of Detroit also gave a beautiful solo. Later the choir returned to King St. Church to preside at the fire side hour, where a quartette composed of Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Johnson. Mr. McKurdy and Mr. Jones. They sang some very stirring spirituals.

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INVESTIGATION SHOWS MISSISSIPPI MOB VICTIM WAS INNOCENT MAN

McGowan Lynched at Wiggins, Miss., Because He "Was Negro Who did not Stay in his Place," Southern White Man Declares. NEW YORK, Dec.—The lynching of

Wilder McGowan in Wiggins, Mississippi, November 21, was the culmination of the pent-up anger of local whites against an innocent colored man who had refused on numerous occasions in the past, to accommodate himself to the attempts of white ruffians to frighten colored citizens of the town, according to an investigator's report made public here today.

McGowan was lynched after members of a white mob accused him of attacking a Mrs. Murray, and elderly white woman living between the towns of Wiggins and Perkinston, Miss., on the night of Sunday, Nov. 20.

The report, which was made public by Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., is contained in a letter which White sent to Senator Pat Harrison, senior senator from Mississippi.

According to the report, which was made by a southern white man the white woman said she was attacked by a "light-colored Negro with slick hair at around eight o'clock in the evening."

McGowan is described as a man of dark brown complexion. Describing McGowan's whereabouts at the time he was alleged to have attacked Mrs. Murray, and his being sought by the mob while he was totally unaware of what was going on, the report has the following to say of McGowan's relationship with the local white hoodlums of the town:

"It is generally known that McGowan was completely innocent of the crime for which he was put to death and that the alleged crime was merely used as an excuse to lynch McGowan because he was a Negro who 'did not know his place.'"

"We are informed that he was manly and refused to be intimidated by the ruffianly whites of Wiggins and had on several occasions been engaged in altercations when they sought to abuse and mistreat him; that on one occasion when a mob of armed drunken whites in an automobile ordered all the Negroes to run McGowan refused to do so and was attacked by the mob."

"He fought and took a revolver from one of the white men, whereupon the mob let him alone. However they bitterly resented his refusal to let them treat him as they wished."

In his letter to the Mississippi Senator, Mr. White described him as a member of that group of senators "who did not favor passage of the anti-lynching measure, repeatedly stating that such legislation was not needed as the states themselves could and would prevent lynchings and bring the lynchings to justice."

McGowan is the fourth colored person to be lynched in Mississippi and the seventh colored person to be lynched in the South during 1938.

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Merry Xmas Greetings

AND BEST WISHES TO THE

Dawn of Tomorrow

Readers



The London Life

Insurance Company

N.A.A.C.P. FIRES OPENING GUN IN NATION-WIDE DRIVE FOR ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

New York, Dec.—A concerted drive to get every United States Senator to commit himself to limitation of debate (cloture) if the need arises, when the anti-lynching bill comes up for a vote in the new Congress, was launched this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Plans for opening the drive were contained in a three-page letter sent out today to the Association's 400 branches and to more than a score of co-operating organizations.

Attached to the letter was a complete record of the vote or commitment on cloture of all Senators, as of December 6.

The campaign calls for the immediate organization of delegations in every city, headed by the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. The delegations will include representatives of all organizations interested in the fight to pass a federal anti-lynching bill. The delegations are scheduled to call upon senators before the opening of Congress and get definite commitments on the solons' attitude toward cloture.

This marks the first step in the Association's program of fighting for passage of a slightly redrafted anti-lynching bill which will be introduced in the House and Senate when Congress opens in January.

LONDON NOTES

The "Le Ensemble" will entertain next Thursday at the club rooms on Sackville St. The girls will be attired in hostess coats, and plans to spend a delightful evening of dancing, popping corn, and roasting chestnuts. The refreshment committee have planned a dainty luncheon. Mrs. J. Brooks, presiden, will receive. Miss B. Fountaine will pour tea before the open fireside. Several people from distant cities are expected to attend.

A beautiful wedding was solemnized on Nov. 19th in Woodstock by Rev. E. Richardson of Brantford, when Miss Leta Smith of Woodstock became the bride of Gordon Johnson of Brantford. Mrs. Johnson had formerly resided in London. The bride wore a beautiful satin gown of white, with veil and orange blossoms, and carried talism roses. Miss Mildred Smith the brides sister, was bride's maid, she wore a blue gown and carried yellow mums. Miss Hilda Smith sang very beautifully, "Because." Miss M. Jackson of Windsor presided at the organ. Friends and relatives attended from different parts of the province.

A lovely Xmas tree programme was given the kiddies of London by the Ladies' Sewing Guild.

The B.M.E. Sunday school also had an interesting program for Xmas. A play was enacted "When Santa Forgot the Smiths." St. Nicholas was also present, and a delightful time was had by all.

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