

Shepherds and Kings

AND she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

From near at hand and from distant lands there came visitors to Bethlehem. There were kings and there were shepherds. They followed the same star. Somewhere in the streets of the little town these columns met, and there was talk between the wise men and the shepherds as to the nature of their mission. They exchanged such information as they had about the birth of the King of Kings and where He was to be found.

One of the royal party leaned down from his camel to listen to a shepherd who said, "We were in the field watching our flock and suddenly an angel appeared. We were very much frightened. And the angel said to us, '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. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And then suddenly the sky was filled with a great light and voices sang, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.'"

"And the light faded and we began to talk to each other and we decided to leave just one man with the flock and we went up to Bethlehem to see this thing which is come to pass, and which the Lord has made known to us. And we were in great haste."

And the king who sat high above the shepherd got down from the back of his camel to hear the story more clearly, and the shepherds clustered around him to learn what signs he and his party had received which brought them from far countries to Bethlehem.

And the eldest of the wise men explained, "For us it was a star, a new star in the heavens, and it seemed to us that the star beckoned, and we gathered together treasures of gold and frankincense and myrrh."

And he pointed to the great retinue behind him and the camels heavily laden with bores and bundles of precious stuffs. And the shepherds seemed ashamed and said, "We have

brought nothing. We came straight from the field when the angel spoke to us. And we were in great haste."

And all the shepherds were abashed in the presence of the three kings and their servants and their camels bearing the burdens of rich gifts. They could see and detect the place of their destination at the end of the street. The star shone directly on the stable. And because it was only a small place and the party of the kings was large the shepherds made as if to step aside so that these great men from a distant land might go first with their precious gifts for the King of kings. But the eldest of the wise men waved to the shepherds to join his servants and not to humble themselves.

"Whether it be from far or near," he said, "we are on the same mission. We should enter into the house together."

But the shepherds were still reluctant, and one of them answered, "First must come your servants with your precious gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. We have told you we bring nothing. We come straight from the field, and even if we had not come in great haste there is nothing we possess to bring as a gift to the King of kings. We will begin and tarry here until you have given over your answers."

The city was dark and still, but in this street there was a bubble of voices and the sound of camel drivers calling to the great beasts to kneel so that they might dismount and unfasten the things which held in place the treasure chests and the sacks of incense.

And the cavalcade drew up before the door with clatter, noise and tumult. The shepherds were silent, for they had seen many wonders in a single evening, and not the least

of these were the kings of the East and their camel train.

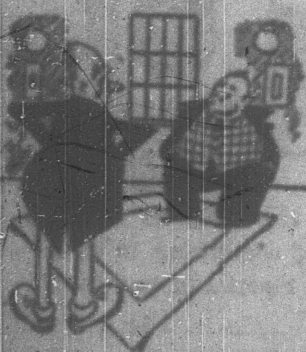
And in the street the servants opened cedar chests and revealed great bars of gold heavier than the stones which lay in the meadow where the flocks had been left to graze. And the eyes of the shepherds opened wide again as when they saw the light of angels and heard the voices from the heavens.

Through the narrow door and up to the manger itself strode the kings and great bearded men bearing treasure. The timid shepherds followed and ranged themselves in the back of the room against the walls of the stable, for they were affrighted to be in the presence of princes and of the King of kings.

The eldest of the wise men said, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and are come to worship Him. And we bring with us rich treasures of gold and frankincense and myrrh."

And Mary, the mother, looked up at the great throng and paid heed to the gifts of gold and incense but placed her finger upon her lips and said to the shepherds and to the kings, "The baby sleepeth." —By H. E.

JUST THANKS



"Being a husband on Christmas reminds me of Thanksgiving."
"Why?"
"Because, about the only thing we get is Santa."

Epiphany Saw Arrival Of Three Wise Men

Twelfth Night is the evening before Epiphany or Twelfth Day, which is the festival celebrated on January 6, the twelfth day after Christmas. It honors the arrival of the three wise men at Bethlehem. It is held by some that Twelfth Night commemorates the appearance of the star of Bethlehem to the three wise men. In any event, the festival symbolizes the manifest belief of Christ to the Gentiles.

Of Santa Claus Was Born in U. S. A.

EUROPE brought Christmas to America, but America gave Santa Claus to Europe.

When the early Dutch settlers came to America, they had never heard of Santa Claus. Old St. Nicholas, who brought them presents each December 6, changed rapidly in the New world.

His name became abbreviated and altered to Santa Claus, and his external appearance underwent great changes. From a lean ascetic he was transformed into a jolly, fat old fellow. His pale face became the color of rosy apples. He laid aside his canonical robes, mitre and pastoral staff to become clothed in

a cap and brilliant red suit, trimmed with ermine. The new Santa Claus traded his famous gray horse for a reindeer and sleigh. He also stopped giving presents on December 6, and started distributing gifts on the night of December 24.

The changes in his outward appearance were reflected in his change of character. When he came to America he left behind his red suit bag of ashes with which he beat naughty children, and adopted an entirely lovable personality.

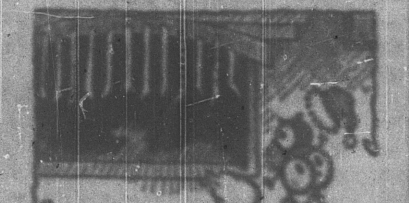
Completely transformed, he again crossed the ocean to be welcomed everywhere from Scotland to Australia.

Men Used Holly-Bush To Beat Unruly Wives

If wives knew history there wouldn't be any holly in the Christmas decorations. A stick cut from a holly-bush was a husband's most effective means of restoring discipline when his wife "went out back." He always left the prickles on the stick, too.

Fortunately for the wives—the custom belongs to the dark past and has long been forgotten.

NERVY GUY



Big Santa—Great Scot, that cutie has his nerve with him!

COAL INDUSTRY EXPANDS RESEARCH

Operators Push Discovery Of New Uses For Soft Coal

Announcement by Bituminous Coal Research Inc. of the signing of a two year contract with Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio, for an expanded program for intensive research into new uses and improved utilization of bituminous coal marks another important step into the cooperative efforts of the coal producers and others closely concerned with the maintaining and expanding the markets for coal.

The contract between the Coal Research organization and Battelle is for a period of 24 months commencing at once and comprehends a final contract investigation of a final contract of \$100,000. The Research group, a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Coal Association has, in fact, obtained pledges of financial support covering a three year period and aggregating more than \$200,000.

The particular coal research studies and experimentation which the Battelle Institute will undertake under the present contract embrace a variety of matters having to do with the domestic utilization of coal, as for example, performance tests on cooking stoves and hot water heaters; and further tests on mechanical stokers; industrial utilization of coal outside the category of steam power plants, as for example, in ceramic; further work on dustless treatment of coal.

One of the most interesting and potentially one of the most far reaching investigations to be undertaken by the scientists at Battelle is with reference to the design and the development of a coal burning internal combustion engine. Such engines fired by oil or gasoline are now a commonplace. The goal of researchers is to develop such an engine of equivalent economy and efficiency utilizing pulverized coal.

Howard N. Evenson of Pittsburgh, a nationally known mining engineer, is president of Bituminous Coal Research Inc. and C. A. Reed, chief of Engineering Division of the National Coal Association in Washington is the secretary of the Research organization.

Bone Meal Seldom Needed.

Results of an experiment at the Pennsylvania State College indicate that bone meal did not furnish enough benefit to justify its use in the raising of dairy cows. The scientists feel that unless the dairymen have exceptional high production or poor nutrition they do not have to add bone meal to the dairy ration.

British Women Organize 'Go to It' Savings Drive

LONDON—Battered silk stockings, with a few stitches here and there, can be converted into effective dresses for children. British women are learning.

A child's frock and knickers, made from an old blue print from an architect's office, also help to contribute to the great anti-war campaign which is being carried out with such vigor.

The "Go to It" women of Britain are alive with ideas on how to save, save and save.

They are performing such tasks as the conversion of old stiffened top hats into carpet slippers.

Discloths are never thrown away now. They can be made into coats for the children.

One woman saves all her bacon rinds and saves all her used matchsticks.

She sticks the matchsticks in the rind and wraps it up in pieces of margarine paper, making excellent fire lighters.

These "Go to It" women, who are attached to 1,450 centers throughout the country, say that their main principle is to keep their minds occupied in useful work.

Japan Honors Descendants Of New England Skipper

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Three members of a New England seafaring family arrived here from Japan, where they were honored guests of the Japanese government—all because their whaling-skipper ancestor 100 years ago rescued five Japanese fishermen from a Pacific islet.

They were W. D. Whitfield, 26-year-old great-grandson of the late Capt. William H. Whitfield, who rescued the Japanese castaways; his mother, Mrs. T. W. Whitfield, and Mrs. A. W. Oney, the daughter of Captain Whitfield. All are from Fairhaven, Mass. This year, on the 100th anniversary of the rescue of the five Japanese, according to the Japanese calendar, the three were invited by the Oriental Cultural society, on behalf of the Japanese government, to visit Japan at its expense.

Sappy Corn Needs Air.

Corn contains a high percentage of moisture this fall. Such corn in the crib needs all possible air circulation or much of it will mold and spoil according to Penn State agronomists. Cribbers down should be kept open, especially on windy days. Corn will keep in the crib several weeks if air is circulated.

A DAY'S WORK

An Editorial by Dr. Charles Stebbins

To some of us a day's work is the completing of a task—so many bricks laid, so many shoes made, so many articles manufactured. In most cases it actually means that the thought and ingenuity of a century, resulting in ideas and devices laboriously worked out by others during the years which enable one to produce a hundredfold more or better, have been concentrated into our work day. They have made our work easier and more comfortable because they have replaced antiquated tools and processes by those newer methods.

The day's work thus stands for a socialized effort, which has become possible only because others in the past have contributed their share to our effort. To these we owe a debt of gratitude.

How may we repay these pioneers who blazed the way for us, making our lives more human and more comfortable, making our tasks lighter and less burdensome? There is only one way in which we may pay the debt we owe them—we have the privilege of building upon the foundation laid by our forefathers, so that other millions may be blessed because of our own labor. We may thus pay future generations what we owe those of the past.

The heroes of our present-day life are not those whose day's work is done simply so that they, themselves, may live, but those who plan and work so that others—some of them yet unborn—may reap where they have not sown, may garner where they have not sown. This may seem idealistic, but the law of progress demands this of us, unless we are content to become parasites, living from the labors of the others.

In a given, every man is a parasite, who is willing to receive the benefits which have accrued as the result of other's labors, without contributing his share to the common good. It is a cause for gratitude that a life of service for others may be lived in the daily grind. For life is made up of the small deeds. It is the giving of a cup of cold water, and the contribution of the widow's mite which Jesus commended. The gifts of the rich were not mentioned. Therein the humblest of us may take courage.

Produce Baby Heaven.

Business counties that have 4-11 clubs growing baby heaven this year are just completing their annual Livestock specialists of the Pennsylvania State College report that 100 counties in the state will go to the Pennsylvania fair show on January 28 to 31.

Here's What He Wants
Here's What He Needs

Shirts, ties, Sox... all sorts of apparel gifts... these are the things he wants, needs and can use! Add to the practicality of wearable gifts the famous Sharbaugh & Lieb label and you've really got something that will please a man.

Suede Jackets \$8.75 to \$9.50 — Fingering Gloves \$2.55 — Broadcloth pajamas \$1.50 — Broadcloth Shirts \$1.00 to \$2.25 — Handmade Ties 50c — Shirts and Shorts 3 for \$1 — Zip-Sweaters \$2.25 — Mufflers 50c to \$1.50 — Silk and Wool Hose 35c to \$1.00 — And not illustrated are dozens of other smart gifts — robes, bath, braces, collar pin sets — everything to please a man is at Sharbaugh & Lieb.

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