

THE MESSAGE OF HOPE

By MRS. C. O. BRANSON.

Christmas Day comes every year but it has a significance that no other day has to us, it being the birthday of our Christ—Jesus the Son of God, who was born 1918 years ago in Bethlehem of Judea. The birth of Christ marks the new era of time. Before it all time is reckoned up to it. After it all time points back to that event. No one writes a letter unless they record the date of the birth of Christ. No document in law is legal unless it bears that date.

This is the anniversary of the day when hope was born. In old Testament times God sent prophets to bring messages to cheer the people. The world was in darkness and needed a light. The world was perishing and needed a Savior. The world needed to be saved from eternal death and be given eternal life. The world was plunged in deep distress, and needed the shades of death to be chased away. In that old dispensation, judgment needed to be enacted upon the people. It is puzzling to a great many people why God visited the people with judgments and when people were slain at His command. It was the only way He could manifest himself to the people to make known to them His love, protection and care in those times they revered through fear. After awhile something had to be done to bring hope to the world so God sent His own son to bring this hope.

"While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angels of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around."

And the angel said unto them,
"Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." There was at this time, a general expectation throughout the east that one would be born in Judea who should possess universal dominion; this was founded on acquaintance with the prophecies of the Old Testament. The learned chief priests and the scribes, told them when confirmation of the news was asked, that it was thus written by the prophet. The angel said, "For unto you is born this day in the city

of David, a Savior, 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 suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will toward men."

The Christmas Day reminds us that God is in his heaven and all is well. Hope was born on that night 1918 years ago and it has never died. The song the angels sang on that Christmas eve has been ringing through the ages. To some it has not sounded as clearly as it might but it is their fault. The song still rings. Those who try may catch it. Why are carols sung on Christmas? They are but a re-echo of those carols sang on that blessed night on the Judean plain.

What is a carol? A song of joy, a hymn. A hymn is a song of praise to God who made it possible for that Christ to come. May the slumbering nations rise to meet and appropriate this message of hope to the world, this glorious dream of long prophetic years. Many thousands have not yet heard this message. Oh, let us know the work He came on earth to do is only just begun. Let us answer the prayer of the angels as they prayed that men might open their sinful hearts to the pleading voice as he pleads to be admitted.

The wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We need no other gift than love in royal measure to offer this heavenly babe. "Let us again listen to the angel song. Love catching the key, the theme will prolong
In lives of kindness, help and cheer,
Again will a light from the skies appear."

The gifts we so cheerfully give our friends are but symbols of the gift God gave to us of His Son. May we remember this as we give and receive, and may we soon hail the day when peace and good-will among all peoples shall reign upon the earth.

WHAT TO USE TO PREVENT APPENDICITIS.

Gresham people should know simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-i-ka, flushes the ENTIRE bowel tract so completely that appendicitis is prevented. ONE SPOONFUL Adler-i-ka relieves ANY CASE sour stomach, gas or constipation because it removes ALL sour matter which clogged and poisoned your system. THE INSTANT action surprises both doctors and patients.—Gresham Drug Co.—Adv.

GREAT NEEDS OF THE YEAR

S. B. HALL, County Agent.

Although much has been expected from the farmers of the county the past year and much has been the returns they still are expected to continue their untiring effort to do their part in replenishing the world-wide food condition. The manner in which the farmers have responded in all branches of their work is illustrated well by the comparative figures on grain production. When our national call for increased acreage of wheat was made each and every one planned their crops so every available acre could be planted to wheat with a result that the wheat acreage harvested in 1918 was 2022 compared with the acreage harvested in 1917 of about 700, this being an increase of 300 per cent.

Although the seasonal conditions the past summer were adverse and the wheat yield only averaged fifteen bushels per acre compared with a twenty-four bushel average in 1917 there was an increased production of about 25,000 bushels for this county. The response has been equally prompt in the general increase of crops considering the labor conditions that have existed and the prevailing prices of equipment and supplies. We must extend credit to many of the dairymen of this section who have maintained their herds and production under the very adverse conditions and in many cases at a loss, especially to those who have responded to the national call to raise the dairy calves. Many have been raised at a cost beyond the present price of producing animals.

The needs have been great under the strain of war and now come the still greater needs for the coming year for the period of reconstruction and the protection of the people of the ravaged sections of Europe. It is too early yet for our Government to outline the detail of spring planting as we do not know how the fall grain will come through the winter. However, the following suggestions have come from Secretary of Agriculture, D. T. Houston.

"Two things seem to be clear: "One is that, for a considerable

period, the world will have need particularly of a larger supply than normal of live stock, and especially of beef and fats. We should not fail, therefore, to adopt every feasible means of economically increasing our live stock products. As a part of our program, we should give due thought to the securing of an adequate supply of feedstuffs and to the eradication and control of all forms of animal disease.

"The other is the need of perfecting the organization of our agricultural agencies for the purpose of intelligently executing such a program as may seem wise. We should not only have the best possible organization and co-operation of the Department of Agriculture, the agricultural Colleges, the State Departments of Agriculture, and Farmers' Associations, but we should especially strengthen the local farm bureaus and other organizations which support so effectively the extension forces and assist them in their activities. The perfecting of this organization is highly desirable not only during the continuance of the present abnormal conditions but also for the future. The local as well as the State and Federal agencies are of supreme importance to the nation in all its activities designed to make rural life more profitable, healthful, and attractive, and, therefore, to secure adequate economic production, efficient distribution, and necessary conservation."

The day of closer organization is here. The slipshod methods which have been nation-wide must be replaced by organization which will extend from each farm community to a national unit. This must be accomplished in order to regulate production of the different products to avoid over production of some and under production of others, to make a more systematic fight on pests and diseases, and to better organize our marketing facilities so that what the farmers have to sell can find a market that will compensate him for his efforts, and avoid the enormous waste of products in some sections which are at a loss to the producer while in other sections the consumers are compelled to pay exorbitant prices for the same product.

SANDY BLUFF

Mr. and Mrs. Hengstler took their daughter, Lillah, to the Good Samaritan hospital on Thursday. And as Mrs. Hengstler came down town she was crossing the street a car struck her, knocking her down. She received a gash on the back of her head and a bruise on one arm and shoulder and knee. She was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital. Mr. Hengstler was in to see them Sunday and says unless something develops from the fall that Mrs. Hengstler will be out in a few days and that Lillah was some easier, but the doctors are going to take an X-ray of her foot to determine what is the trouble with her ankle.

Mr. and Mrs. Widner, Mr. and Mrs. Kratz and baby visited at the homes of Mrs. Laura Barnes and Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Browning on Sunday. Mrs. Brook received word that her daughter, Mrs. Carrie Chandler of Troutdale was sick with the "flu." Mrs. R. H. Radford reports that again her son Jesse, who has been in the hospital at Vancouver Barracks for over a year, is able to be up.

Mrs. Isley's Letter.

In a recent letter Mrs. D. W. Isley of Litchfield, Ill., says, "I have used Chamberlain's Tablets for disorders of the stomach and as a laxative, have found them a quick and sure relief. If you are troubled with indigestion or constipation these tablets will do you good."—Adv.

Chevrolet parts and repairing. C. E. Osburn & Co.

ACTIVITIES AT UNION HIGH

PRIN. ELMER F. GOODWIN.

The enrollment of Union High school has reached 180 students, or 100 girls and 80 boys, representing twenty districts in Multnomah and Clackamas counties. Seventy per cent. of this enrollment or 125 students live outside of Gresham District No. 4, and many of them live six and eight miles from the school buildings. Free transportation for students living within the Union district is a great convenience which should soon be enjoyed by the girls and boys from other districts in this community.

Notwithstanding the epidemic of the Spanish influenza, which has appeared in a mild form in a few families in this vicinity, the per cent. of attendance is about 94, which is normal. There are now two cases among our students, and they are convalescent and will return to school in a few days.

The longer school day is serving well the purpose of making up work during the time school was closed by the county health officer. It is gratifying to report such a high per cent. of attendance and no cases of tardiness although school opens one half hour earlier than heretofore. We have maintained this record for three years.

A new department of Vocational Agriculture under the Smith-Hughes Act has enrolled a class of twenty-five enthusiastic boys. The instructor, Mr. Cecil P. Moffitt, is arranging for practical field work as soon as possible. After the holidays classes in Plant and Animal Husbandry will be formed for adults interested. These classes will meet once or twice a week in the school building at such times as will suit persons interested. A circular outlining the work is now being prepared for distribution.

The Music Department deserves mention. Under the direction of Mr. Tom G. Taylor instruction is being given in both vocal and instrumental music three days each week. Several chorus and glee clubs have been formed and two orchestras organized. One day is given to instruction on piano each week. A revival in music is in progress at Union High.

Under the Portland system a new library has been opened in the room formerly used by the editorial staff of "The Argus." Books are being furnished as fast as shelves and cases are made by the Manual Training department to receive them. This room also contains the magazines and other publications of the reading room. Miss Klemle of the Portland Central Library spends two half days here each week, and the library is open during school days in charge of students.

The Home Economics and Science Departments have recently installed gas which is a great convenience. The girls in cooking are trained in the use of kerosene oil stoves, gas hot plates and wood range.

The Manual Training Department this semester is giving instruction in cement work along with regular classes in woodwork and mechanical drawing. The last two mentioned departments are planning an exhibit of their work in the near future at

which time patrons will be invited to visit the school.

The Commercial classes this year are demanding more typewriters than we have been able to purchase on account of the war. A new room has been provided for this work, new machines purchased, and the office typewriter pressed into service. A large class of girls and boys are beginning shorthand under the Gregg system. Seventy-five words a minute is our standard for the first year's work.

We are planning to do some extension work after the holidays in Vocational Agriculture, Home Economics and Manual Training. Any of the graded schools of the Union district desiring assistance may make arrangements to secure, free of cost, an occasional visit from our instructors in these subjects who will give appropriate talks and demonstrations as requested. In this way Union High School may serve the community better by reaching many of the boys and girls before they complete their elementary school work.

The Student Body Organization elections will be held next Friday. The Senate and Assembly will elect their officers according to the Australian ballot system. At the same time the editorial staff of "The Argus" will be chosen. The Senate and Assembly will meet once a month and a literary program will be a feature of the work. Under the new Constitution the Student Body Organization will consist of about fifty students as officers and committeemen. Each club, society and association of the school is entitled to one member of the Ways and Means Committee. Our Soldier Boys, is a new committee whose duty will be to see that the fifty boys represented by as many stars on our service flag are not forgotten.

"The Argus" will appear next month. It will be printed and bound by the Commercial Department, and will sell for 10 cents a copy.

The members of the Senior class have decided to publish the Munchinot again about Commencement time, since the war is over. The editorial staff will be chosen after the holidays.

Gymnasium classes, which have been suspended on account of the Spanish influenza, will begin work after the holidays. The gymnasium will also be used for basketball games between classes as usual.

The Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts will be in charge of the Red Cross campaign among students and teachers this week. There is a contest between these popular organizations to secure memberships.

There will be one week's vacation for Christmas holidays, beginning next Monday, December 23d. School will open again on Monday, Dec. 30.

KELSO

The Red Cross committee with Mrs. R. Jonsrud as captain and the following helpers is at work this week: Mrs. I. H. Phipps, Max Kilgel, A. C. Baumbach, Andrew Lindholm and Aug. Johnson. Every adult over 19 years is expected to enroll under the \$1.00 membership for 1919 and children may also be enrolled in the same way. A heart and a dollar is all that is needed to stand by the "Greatest Mother in the world," as the Red Cross now is universally known.

Our Red Cross auxiliary meets regularly every Wednesday, all day. Full attendance is urged as there is much work to be done.

Joel Jarl has recovered from an attack of "flu" and so far as known there are no other cases in the district.

"Give Me Something I Can Wear"

MEN are practical. Therefore useful gifts are most appreciated. He wants something he can wear, and here you can find just the kind of things he will appreciate as well as some useful gifts for women and children.



FOR MEN

Box Hose
Box Handkerchiefs
Kid Gloves
Auto Gloves
Gowns
Pajamas
Sweaters
Garters
Hats

Caps

Shoes
O'Coats
Suits
Mackinaw Coats

FOR WOMEN

Silk Hose
Handkerchiefs
Umbrellas

Sweaters

Kid Gloves
House Slippers

FOR CHILDREN

Hose
Toques
Shoes
Umbrellas
Handkerchiefs
Sweaters, Etc.

E. W. Aylsworth

Suits : Furnishings : Shoes

The Merry Christmas Store

PRACTICABILITY is the keynote of Christmas gifts this year and this store is ready with its carefully selected merchandise, ready for distribution, which will greatly help to spread Christmas cheer. Everything has been arranged to serve you promptly without crowding. Here you will find gifts at right prices for men, women and children.

DRY GOODS

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