

Have Our Christmas Celebrations Degenerated?

By D. W. Whitworth, Bagdad, Fla.

Without desiring to usurp the province or prerogatives of the preacher, I trust I may be pardoned for seemingly preying upon their preserves for once. As the day draws near which we commemorate as the birthday of the Lord Jesus, a few thoughts as to the proper observance of the day may not be amiss, though originating or coming from one of the "great unwashed."

Since man, through disobedience, had fallen under the divine displeasure, and was under condemnation; and, as it is written, "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins," therefore, had it not been that the Lion of the tribe of Judah offered and did come into the world, and subsequently to offer himself as a living sacrifice, thereby paying man's debt, and bringing life and immortality to light through His gospel—then this day of rejoicing would have been a day of deepest gloom, a certain fearful looking of judgment and fiery indignation would have prevailed throughout the universe, and Christmas festivals would have been unknown.

But oh, marvelous love! God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Over nineteen hundred years ago, then, this well-beloved Son became a little babe in Bethlehem of Judea; and after some thirty years of loving ministrations among both friends and enemies He laid down His life for the sins of the world, thus redeeming all men from the curse of the law.

Now it is not to be wondered at

that the early Christians, in loving memory of that great event, introduced the custom of celebrating the date of His nativity by assembling at their churches, singing songs of praise and returning thanks to Almighty God for His unspokeable gift; feasting at their homes and in giving alms to the needy, ever as their divine Master had shown them that these things are well pleasing in His sight.

But, now, behold! what a change has come over the spirit of the dream! True, many thousands in all Christian lands still endeavor to celebrate the day in an appropriate manner, yet look you! Satan, the great arch-enemy, both of Christ and His worshippers, seeing His inability to cope with the Christians, and trembling for fear of the downfall of his kingdom, should they continue to commemorate the birth of Jesus in this laudable manner, adopted a method still in vogue among present-day politicians, to wit: setting the capital control this party from the outside, he determined to join their ranks so as to have a voice in their deliberations. The devil then became a lay-member of the church, introducing many innovations, until this Christmas festival degenerated into an unholy holocaust, as witnessed at the present day.

Now, the Saviour forewarned this evil and went as by ancient efficiency to the husbandman, who planted wheat in his field, yet while he slept the enemy sowed tares among the wheat; then the laborers tell him of the tares and he says, "Let them be, I will pull them out, and in other words, to pull up the tares. But He told them this was impossible, for in so doing they would

endanger the life of the wheat also, that at harvest time He would separate them, housing the wheat and burning the tares.

Here, then, is the question answered as to why so few attend church in the present day. The honest seeker after truth, seeing the hypocrisy of the average church member, turns away in disgust, not realizing that these are only tares growing among the wheat.

Here, again, is the answer given as to why the people of the Southland have turned this Christmas festival into a party of July celebration. The devil being at the helm, 'tis not to be marvelled at that the ship has run upon the rocks, being freighted with whiskey and manned by a drunken crew bound to celebrate this primitive rite by rhyed orgies and bacchanalian carousals.

"What would you have us do, then?" some may ask. "Return unto me and I will return unto you, saith the Lord." If we must celebrate Christmas day (for which we are given no authority from the Scriptures), then let it be in the manner into the spirit of the early Christian church. Did it ever occur to the average man to think that if the money spent for licentious gratifications during the Christmas holidays was given to the hungry and clothed the naked, the city, nation or people doing this would experience such pleasure from their benevolence as no Christmas had ever given them before? "Prove me now, herewith," saith the Almighty, "and see if I will not pour you out a blessing that there will not be room to contain it."

NO DYSPEPSIA OR HEARTBURN

A LITTLE DIAPEPSIN MAKES INDIGESTION GO AND YOUR OUT-OF-ORDER STOMACH FEELS FINE IN FIVE MINUTES.

You can eat anything your stomach craves without fear of indigestion or Dyspepsia, or that your food will ferment or sour on your stomach if you will take a little Diapepsin occasionally.

Your meals will taste good, and anything you eat will be digested; nothing can ferment or turn into acid or poison or stomach gas, which causes Belching, Dizziness, a feeling of fullness after eating, Nausea, Indigestion (like a lump of lead in stomach), Biliousness, Heartburn, Water brash, Pain in stomach and intestines or other symptoms.

Headaches from the stomach are absolutely unknown where this effective remedy is used. Diapepsin really does all the work of a healthy stomach. It digests your meals when your stomach can't. A single dose will digest all the food you eat and leave nothing to ferment or sour and upset the stomach.

Get a large 50 cent case of Pape's Diapepsin from your druggist and start taking now, and in a little while you will actually brag about your healthy, strong stomach, for you then can eat anything and everything you want without the slightest discomfort or misery, and every particle of impurity and gas that is in your stomach and intestines is going to be carried away without the use of laxatives or any other assistance.

Should you at this moment be suffering from indigestion or any stomach ailment, you can get relief within five minutes.

A Holiday Sale of Xmas Suits, Waists and Novelties

We are putting on a list of Xmas bargains for this week which will probably surprise you. Remember, a handsome Suit makes the best kind of Xmas, although we have beautiful Xmas Novelties, too, such as ruffs, distinctive Neck Wear, Combs, Hair Ornaments, Feather Boas, etc. In fact, all the accessories of the really stylish woman. When shopping for Xmas week, see our fine stock and note our remarkable prices. We mean to make this week a memorable one in real bargains:

- \$20 SUITS FOR \$15. These suits are among the finest values ever shown in Pensacola. They are stylish, dashing affairs, in the latest styles and tailored effects. They come in all colors, in black, navy, green, etc., and make delightful Xmas presents. Regular \$20 values, special Xmas price—\$15.00.
- \$30 AND \$35 SUITS FOR \$25.00. These suits are the pick of the season's stock. The tailoring is nothing short of elegant; they come in all shades, all colors and all sizes, and are all around desirable garments. They have the Moyer age effect, and for downright style are unequalled. Regular \$30 and \$35 suits at—\$25.00.
- \$35 AND \$40 ONE-PIECE DRESSES AT \$21.75. Every woman knows our one-piece dresses. They have been the most stylish and distinctive of any shown in the city this year. They are all colors, are beautifully braided, have embroidered neck yokes, and their lines and style are delightful. Regular \$35 and \$40 dresses. Special Xmas price—\$21.75.
- \$25 AND \$30 COATS AT \$15.00. We have a complete line of ladies' coats at greatly reduced prices. Prominent among our stock are the handsome Moyer age and "Dress" coats, in beautiful braided and plaid effects, and in all the latest colors. They are the handsomest cloaks of the season, regular at \$25 and \$30. Special Xmas price—\$15.00.
- NEW PONGEE AND SILK DRESSES FOR \$15. These brand new styles are handsome beyond description. They are for afternoon toilettes, are in hand embroidered effects, have dainty net yokes, art buttons, and are made with the new modish waist lines. They will make elegant Xmas presents, and are priced extremely low at—\$15.00.
- \$27.50 SUITS AT \$19.75. Speaking of really handsome suits, these cannot be equalled anywhere for the price. They are in a beautiful all-wool worsted material, in rose, wisteria and all the leading shades. The skirts plaited and in the Moyer age effects, the coats trimmed with jet buttons and beautifully lined. Regular \$27.50 values, special Xmas price—\$19.75.

Remember, We Are Headquarters for Dainty Xmas Novelties for Ladies. See Us!

The Ready-to-Wear Store

7,201 ARRESTS MADE BY POLICE IN ELEVEN MONTHS

ACTIVITY OF THE DEPARTMENT IN APPREHENDING VIOLATORS OF LAW SHOWN IN REPORTS—FINES IMPOSED AMOUNTED TO \$27,543.50.

For eleven months of the present year, there have been arrested by the city police 7,201 persons charged with violating some city statute. For twelve months, taking in the month of December of the past year, the arrests by the city police numbered 7,984 persons. For the eleven months of the current year the total in fines and costs imposed in the recorder's court amounted to \$27,543.50. The amount collected or turned over to the city treasurer by the marshal's office, for the eleven months of the year, was \$17,330.75. The total amount of fines and costs imposed for the past twelve months, to make a year period, was \$39,441.51. The total amount turned over to the city treasurer by the marshal's office for the past twelve months, which leaves out entirely the present month of December, was \$19,776.

All the above is compiled from reports which the chief of the local police department has from month to month filed in the office of the city clerk. For the twelve months, the average per month would have been about 655. The record, however, is regarded by the city officials as a good official showing for the department, and one said that it reflected much credit upon the present marshal.

RECORD BY MONTHS.

Arrests.	Fines Imp.	Col.
Dec. 1909.	\$2,898.00	\$1,746.75
913	3,690.00	2,215.00
787	2,560.00	1,560.00
558	1,548.00	1,161.85
545	2,038.00	1,225.50
544	2,064.00	1,629.50
584	2,138.00	1,227.50
619	1,989.00	1,315.25
675	1,839.50	1,283.45
597	2,643.00	1,778.75
665	2,936.50	1,881.00
644	2,553.00	1,496.75
Totals—	\$30,441.51	\$19,077.00

During the past year, some reforms looking to the betterment of the city's police system have been instituted. First and foremost, a person to be a resident or a qualified voter before his application as a member of the force is even worthy of consideration. Then he must be physically sound, has to pass as rigid an examination as if he was going to take a large insurance policy, and he has to be in excess of 150 pounds in weight. Then his intellect must be above the average. The recently established police examination as to fitness mentally for a position in the department

STR. GRACIA STUCK IN MUD

SERRA LINER WHICH IS DUE HERE NOW HAS NON-ARRIVAL EXPLAINED BY CABLE WHICH REPORTED THE SLIGHT ACCIDENT.

Word has been received here that the Spanish steamship Gracia, Capt. Rato, suffered an accident on the south shore of Cuba after arrival from Liverpool with cargo. The Gracia, the report stated, had stuck in the mud at a place reported as Cayo Justus, but the following day a report was received that the Gracia had discharged cargo and had slid into deep water without injury to hull or machinery. The vessel must have been unharmed for her arrival has now been reported at Calberan, Cuba.

The Gracia was due here on Wednesday of last week, and some concern was felt over the continued absence of the ship. Capt. Rato is known as one of the best schedule-makers in the service of the Serra line, and the accident above reported now explains the delay.

Many persons find themselves affected with a persistent cough after an attack of influenza. As this cough can be promptly cured by the use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, it should not be allowed to run on until it becomes troublesome. Sold by all dealers.

Pine and Oak Wood, fit to burn.—Stratton Ice Works.

CRADLE, ALTAR AND GRAVE

The following is the record of marriages, births and deaths during the past week as are of record in the offices of the city clerk and county judge:

- White Marriages.**  
William A. Bell and Pearl P. Eagan.  
Valentine S. Nea and Margaret E. Maloney.  
Marcus L. DeRoach and Maude May Stewart.  
Henry Dockens and Ella Roach.  
John Ramagane and Ella D. Smith.  
Chas. G. VanMatre and Elen T. Torgersen.  
John Malone and Seala Roach.  
John H. C. Delmar and Emma Neilson.
- Colored Marriages.**  
A. C. Swindow and Roxie Frances.  
Thomas Larkins and Ora Lee Rutledge.  
John Oliver and Leslie Lee.  
Hazel Carter and Mary Frazier.  
Will Roberts, Jr. and Sallie Lanier.  
Fox Oliver and Nancy Shine.  
Mose Ray and Lena Vickers.  
Richard Love and Leola Grimes.  
Lump Jones and Gladys Pinkston.
- White Deaths.**  
Infant of E. M. Robbins and wife, premature birth.  
Mrs. George Nichols, 31 years, tuberculosis.  
Mrs. Josephine Houlland, 19 years, phthisis.  
Infant of D. H. Hart and wife, stillborn.  
Francis H. Abercrombie, 27 years, cancer uterus.  
Angelo Razeto, 20 years, typhoid fever.
- Colored Deaths.**  
Infant of Joe Sims and wife, premature birth.  
Eddie Simmons, 22 years, tuberculosis.  
Eliene Galters, 33 years, dysentery.  
Infant of Melvina Norris, stillborn.  
Sammie Finks, 4 months, pneumonia.
- White Births.**  
To E. Colson and wife, a boy.  
To Marion Cravey and wife, a girl.  
To E. M. Robbins and wife, a girl.  
To E. L. Herring and wife, a girl.  
To Lennie Gomez and wife, a girl.  
To C. W. Forcum and wife, a boy.  
To George J. Turner and wife, a boy.
- Colored Births.**  
To Wesley Bryant and wife, a girl.

A. H. McLEOD & CO.

Manufacturers of Hammocks, Cots, Awnings, Tents, Tarpsauls, and Canvas Hoes.  
MACHINE-MADE SAILS A SPECIALTY  
"If It's Made of Canvas, We Can Do It."  
No. 708 S. Palafox. Phone 1176.

Fruit shipped to any point, express prepaid. Order of Stratton Ice Works.

DANGER OF FIRE FROM THE CHRISTMAS TREE

"The Christmas tree, when finished, is a giant torch," says a writer in the Jacksonville Metropolis. On it are put festoons and wreaths of dry leaves or tissue paper, which will burn with a flash. Many of the presents are made of celluloid, which burns explosively. Others are covered with lace or embroideries, which may be light by a spark.

"In this collection of inflammables are placed candles, feebly attached to light branches which can be moved by the slightest touch or swayed by a current of air. What a temptation is to the fire fiend!

"While the candles are lighted no finishing touches should be permitted. Door should remain closed because of the dangers from drafts swaying the branches or blowing lace curtains against the tree. To leave the tree alone is dangerous."

These are some of the words of warning from "The Dangers and Chemistry of Fire," a book in use in the schools of Ohio.

There are two editions of the book.

One is for use in the primary and the other in the grammar grades. The state furnishes them to the teachers, and the latter are required to devote a quarter of an hour each week to reading from them to the children, and to instructing the pupils how to be careful with fires.

At this season, when the Christmas tree danger is at hand, the words of warning to the children are alone that fine, the little ones being told how the tree may catch fire, and what to do if this happens.

Ohio is the first state in the union to adopt instruction on fire danger as a part of the public school course. The law was passed by the last legislature, after the disaster at Collinwood.

A rather unique office is that held by the author of the book in use in the schools. He is Dr. Clarence Maris, and he is known as "pyrologist" to the state fire marshal. In other words, he is an expert on fires, and aids the marshal's department in solving all mysteries connected with fires.

**CAPUDINE FOR "THAT HEADACHE."**  
"Out last night! Headache and nervous this morning!" Hickey's Capudine just the thing to fit you for business. Cures the head—braces the nerves. Try it. At drug stores.

Read Watson, Parker & Reese Co.'s ads on pages 38 and 44.

Car extra fine Oranges, Grapefruit and Tangerines. Special prices Monday.—Stratton Ice Works.

The Fountain Head of Life Is The Stomach

A man who has a weak and impaired stomach and who does not properly digest his food will soon find that his blood has become weak and impoverished, and that his whole body is improperly and insufficiently nourished.

**DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY** makes the stomach strong, promotes the flow of digestive juices, restores the appetite, makes the assimilation perfect, invigorates the liver and purifies and enriches the blood. It is the great blood-maker, flesh-builder and restorative nerve tonic. It makes men strong in body, active in mind and cool in judgement.

This "Discovery" is a pure, glyceric extract of American medical roots, absolutely free from alcohol and all injurious, habit-forming drugs. All its ingredients are printed on its wrappers. It has no relationship with secret nostrums. Its every ingredient is endorsed by the leaders in the schools of medicine. Don't accept a secret nostrum as a substitute for this time-proven remedy of known composition. Ask your neighbors. They must know of many cures made by it during past 40 years, right in your own neighborhood. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Dr. R. V. Pierce, Pres., Buffalo, N. Y.

**Holiday Suggestions**

FROM **THE HUB** Opposite the Postoffice

**Benj. C. Heinberg Prop.**

**REGAL SHOES Here**

A shoe is only as good as its worst part. We have proven to thousands that the hidden parts of Regals are honestly built for long wear and shape retention; such shoes are made to wear, not merely to sell.

Regals are the shoes that prove.

We have just received some Regal riding leggins—solid Regal leather. An excellent gift. \$5.00 the pair.

**That Make Acceptable Presents to Any Man or Boy**

Cluett Shirts	Handkerchiefs (Silk, Initialed and Plain)
Monarch Shirts	Handkerchiefs (Linen, initialed and Plain)
Sweater Coats	Mufflers (Fine Silk)
Stetson Hats	Combination Sets (Hose, Tie and Handkerchief)
Neckwear (the finest)	Combination Sets (Ties and Hosiery)
Scarf Pins	Hosiery (25 and 50 cents)
Cuff Links	Handkerchiefs (fine linen)
Sets of Scarfs Pins and Buttons	Walking Canes
Suit Cases (Genuine Leather)	Regal Shoe Findings
Umbrellas	

**KUPPENHEIMER Clothes at Cost**

We are selling beautiful woven and tailored Kuppenheimer Winter Clothing at cost. All this season's stock had been bought when we decided to discontinue the clothing business, so here is the best chance you ever had to get a suit of fine clothes—there are none finer than the House of Kuppenheimer—at actual cost.

**A NICE LINE OF BOYS' SUITS**

**BE A HUB DRESSED MAN**