CHRISTMAS 1943

This story of Christmas coming up from the long ago is jewelled with the thought of peace on earth and good will toward men. Two thousand years has passed, great changes have come and gone like phantoms of the night. Generation after generation of human souls have lived and died, the gospel of the Lord Jesus has been preached in every land and now in an advanced age of science, skill, inventions, and wonders on sea, earth and sky, the race of men find themselves locked in a life and death struggle, shooting, beating, destroying each other as though human flesh were cheap, and as though man were a beast, a scourge of the earth, something to kill and clear from the earth. Still above this wild carnage and brutal charge of mighty armies rings the loving words that refuse to be drowned in the mad rage of the earth's people—"PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

The wild winds may blow, the night and darkness that cover the earth may frighten the bravest of men, yet the banner of peace and good will shall always wave above the rage and stupidity of the earth's people. If men would put first the things that make for peace, war would have no place in the affairs of men. If men would put the same energy and gold in the scales of the world's peace as they do in the scales of war, then the order of the day would reverse itself.

After all is said and done, that dreaded thing called evil is the arch enemy of the races of men. Herod was an evil man and in the village where the Prince of Peace was born, when the heavenly host chanted, "Peace on earth, and good will toward men"; where the shepherds came to see the astounding event of all history, Bethlehem, the mecca to which the wise men journeyed from far off Arabia; Bethlehem the little town where the star appeared that is the place that within a few weeks Herod the wicked one, not discerning the Lord's plan, and filled with greed and jealousy, he, Herod, ordered all the little boys in Bethlehem and in all the coast thereof, from two years old and under to be killed by the sword. What a bloody monster he was! And that in Bethlehem. Bethlehem, the birth place of the Saviour of men; Bethlehem, honored by a heavenly host that chanted words that can never die, "Peace on earth and good will toward men."

So this is Christmas 1943 and peace and good will is still written in the Book; it is sung by all heavenly hosts; it is lisped reverently by all who pray; it is preached by all servants of the Most High. Yet it appears to be afar off, for our boys are away from home. They wear uniforms and carry guns and they live afar, in strange lands, and we read of battles, and sinking of ships and destruction of great cities and devastation of lands and they tell us that the world is at war, that evil is slowly impoverishing and destroying the people of the earth. Still out from the strife of battle comes echoing up from the long ago a beautiful word—peace, peace on earth.

The Christmas cheer is dimmed in many homes, a chair is vacant, a voice so happy, so gay one or two years ago has passed into si-
lence. Its not just the same as it was in our yesterdays, the clock of time will not turn back. Many are bewildered and alone. But up from the past undimmed, more beautiful because of clouds, darkness and an evil world, comes the chant of the long ago, “peace on earth and good will toward men.” Right is greater than wrong, good is stronger than evil, hope lives when despair wanes and dies. So be of good courage, the star that lit up the gloom of Bethlehem is your star and mine. The night of the human race is

“The Everlasting Light” that guided the shepherds... is a symbol of the Power that is guiding us today toward Victory and Peace.

THE McGOWAN FUNERAL HOME
well on the way out, and the morning star of peace on earth and good will toward men will soon light up the whole earth.

GEO. M. HULME

BIBLE STUDY LESSON
December 26

GOD'S GREAT LOVE AND HIS GIFT

Golden Text—For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:16.

Herod the king, a great sinner, was troubled when he heard of the birth of Jesus. Evil men are always disturbed by Him, and are prompted to action, such as removing the Bible from places of public worship and substituting "Mein Kampf."

The scribes were familiar with the prophecy and expected a king to be born in a certain small village called Bethlehem but they were indifferent. They expressed the unbelief and opposition of the people as a whole for, sadly enough, "he came unto his own and his own received him not."

The men who sought Jesus, who came a long distance when travel was tiresome, difficult and dangerous; who did not know just where the journey would end; who brought expensive gifts such as were offered only to royalty or a very dear friend; who expected nothing for themselves; who were looking for a King; these were called Wise Men.

If we are wise we will seek Jesus as they did; we will not be satisfied until we have found him; we will offer him gifts worthy of a King, the sweet odor of prayer, consecrated lives, a good part of our earnings. If we
are wise we will follow the Star. Making a living, or keeping a house, or going to school, plus recreation, can take up all of our time if we are foolish enough to let it be that way. If we are wise we will let the lamp of heaven point us to a little Child, whoever we are, wherever we are.

Hazel Gillam

DEATH

Fred Coates, age sixty-three years, of Homewood Ave., Johnson Alt., suffering a stroke, passed away at the Akron City Hospital, Wednesday, December 8th.

He is survived by his wife, Mary. Services were held in the Weiler Funeral Home, Saturday, Dec. 11th. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Mr. Coates will be remembered by many who loved flowers. Just across the bridge at the top of the hill on Homewood Ave. he lived with his wife amid the shrubbery, trees and flowers. It was from these flowers, bulbs and plants that he derived a livelihood. Some may remember that each spring and fall Mr. Coates ran a small ad in this paper offering for sale seasonable bulbs, etc.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to his bereaved wife.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

During the past few days Christmas cards have come from service men in many parts of the world. The number is such that we can not very well make mention of each one individually, so each and every one take this note as a sincere thank you.—It is our prayer that next Christmas you may be at home.

H. J. Stockman

STOW FIVE TO $1.00 STORE
LETTER
Leone Bay
Tutuila, American Samoa
Dec. 4, 1943

Dear Sir:

How is everything going in the good old United States? I am hoping all the church peoples are all well.

I know you don't even know me. I am a Samoan girl sixteen years old. There is a very religious man from your church, he expected me to write to you, as a friend in the name of Jesus. His name is Mr. C. R. Walkup. He is a very nice friend of my family.

I am in the Girls' Life Brigade. We all go to church regularly every Sunday and I am happy to say that I have enjoyed hearing many fine sermons. Several weeks ago I heard one that I especially appreciated. The sermon was given by a British minister. It says, Our Lord is a good shepherd. So, tell to dear mothers of America, don't worry about their sons. I am sure that Christ is with them every step of the way. Let us keep on praying to our Heavenly Father to take good care of all our men who are trying to fight for the freedoms.

Sometime ago I was reading a book by Student Kennedy. Kennedy was an English chaplain in the first world war. He came out of it with his life more fully dedicated to Christ and His cause than ever before. He was dead sure in his own mind that all the wisdom and plans of statesman would not prevent another war. The hope of the future according to him was in the Lord Jesus. Kennedy knew that men who followed Christ had to fight. They had to fight for righteousness and he was prepared to give everything he had to the cause of Christ.

Gaily Tied With Holly
Come Our Best Wishes

Serving you has been a pleasure. You have cheerfully overlooked the curtailing the service that wartime has made necessary, and we appreciate your cooperation.

STOW DAIRY
A. F. STEIN, Prop.
He wrote a poem about that time which has been very helpful to me. Here it is:

FAITH

Upon one side in life's great war.
I can't stand out. I must take sides.
Who is a neutral in this fight is not.
A man. He's bulk and body without breath.
I want to live, live out, not wobble through.
My life somehow, and then into dark.
I must have God. This life's too dull without.
I plunge head first."

Christ is waging ceaseless war against evil. That war never ceases. It is being waged now all over the world, and is just as real as the war against Germany and Japan. We all know the importance of being good American soldiers and I pray too that everyone of our church is standing on the side with Christ in this conflict.

There is a verse in the Bible, a very short statement, which has been very helpful to me. The man who wrote it came through adversity and sorrows which almost crushed him. It seemed as if they never would end. At length he made this statement. "By these things men live." Isaiah 38:16.

I am sure that you realize how true that is. We do not live by ease and selfish pleasure. We live and grow by facing difficulties and working our way through them.

Before I close my letter I would like to thank you very much for sending church papers to the boys and I wish they will all become Christian men when this awful war is finished.

I also send thanks to all men in your church who are trying to fight for the good of our country. Co, try to kill the Japanese as many as you can. I think we're going to win the war pretty soon. God bless you all.

Sincerely yours,

Your friend in South Pacific
Miss E. Su'e Avegalio
Leone Bay, Tutuilla, Pago-Pago
American Samoa

EDITOR'S NOTE to Miss Su'e Avegalio, South Pacific. We are indeed pleased to receive your nice letter and we do thank our friend, Mr. Walkup, for having you write to us.

It is certainly a comfort to those of us in this country who love the Lord to know that there are such good Christian people in the South Pacific where our men are stationed. We feel that the Spirit of God must be particularly present in your part of the world. One American soldier boy writes from the South Pacific that nearly one hundred percent of the men in his company read the Bible and pray daily. So surely God's presence must be there. In fact, we believe that where tremendous evil is present and God's people are in need, He will be there to help them fight their battles. While

Christmas Joy

May your Christmas be a joyous one, and may the joy soon spread over the entire world as the result of an allied victory.

DR. W. B. OCKER
DENTIST
we cannot say that all Japanese are evil people, we do believe that the Japanese war lords are inspired by the Evil One and for that reason God is particularly interested in their overthrow. And that He cares for His own we do know too. However this care may not always include the preservation of physical life, but it does include the spiritual and eternal. The Church (and by the Church we mean God's saved people who are under the blood of Jesus Christ), has not been promised worldly wealth and physical safety. On the other hand they have promised just the opposite, that is, such things as trials, tribulations and even cruel death. So, I believe that it may be God's plan that He take some of our good Christian servicemen to be with Him where there is certain safety from all sin and no more sorrow—and then for others he may
have plans for their future service and for such, the Evil One and all his Satanic Hosts cannot prevail against His plan.

Of late years, here in our country, there are many people who have united with the Church for other than spiritual reasons. In other words, the world has crept into the church. So to you people over there in Samoa to whom, Mr. Walkup tells us, the story of Jesus has been brought by English missionaries and preachers, and to whom Jesus is very close, we solicit your prayers for our soldiers, and even for us here in America. To make this request is just a little like bread cast upon the waters, coming back when it is most needed. America certainly needs a closer walk with God.

So—thank you for your good letter and do write again.

H. J. Stockman

TROUBLE

Last week our paper was a day late on account of motor trouble. This week two forms were printed on Saturday and the outlook is for more motor trouble. If Santa really knew, we believe he'd bring us a new one for Christmas but some say he is so rushed with war orders, that there is no chance of a poor civilian receiving any attention—anyway, if your paper is late again this week—blame the motor.

H. J. S.

STOW PUBLIC LIBRARY
Stow, Ohio

BOOKS ADDED NOV., 1943

FICTION—Baum, The weeping wood; Bentley, Hedge against the sun; Brand, Silvertip's round-up; Browne, See what I mean?; Buck, The Promise; Caldwell, Turnbulls; Carroll, Dunnybrook; Chase, In bed we cry; Comstock, Terry; Corbett, Golden grain; David, As runs the glass; Dowdey, Tide-water; Ermine, Brave in the saddle; Fisher, The mothers; Flavin, Journey in the dark; Forbes, Mama's bank account; Gilbert, The woman in red; Hauck, Cary Fordyce; Holbrook, Wanted: a murderess; Holt, Outlaw's trap; Taneway, The Walsh girls; Kaye-Smith, Tambourine, trumpet and drum; Knight, The covenant; LeMay, Useless cowboy; Marks, Knave of diamonds; Norris, Corner of heaven; Olsen, Cat's claw; Costenso, O river, remember; Rohmer, Seven sins; Schriber, Invitation to murder; Shappiro, Mustang marshal; Taylor, Going, gone; Wallis, Too many bones; Westland, Gunsight ranch; Weston, Indigo.
NON-FICTION — Adamic, My native land; Chapel, Gun care and repair; Curie, Journey among warriors; Estabrooks, Hypnotism; Hathaway, The little locksmith; Jordon, Ohio comes of age, 1873-1900; Lasser, Your 1944 income tax; Lichtenstein, Handbook of psychiatry; Mantle, Best plays of 1942-43; Pyle, Here is your war; Reeder, Letter writing in wartime.

JUVENILE — Etting, Soldiers, sailors, fliers and marines; Hogan, Nicodemus helps Uncle Sam; Huzarski, Brushland Bill; Leeming, Fun with magic; Menas, Teresita of the valley; O'Milley, War wings for Carol; Sackett, Sponder's jinx; Seidlin, Green wagons; Stansbury, Bars on her shoulder; Trott, Santa Claus in Santa Claus land; Wright, Lucy Ellen's college daze.

PERSONALS

Gaylord Hamman left for the service December 15th.

Joe Adams, Jr., seventeen this last September, left for San Diego, Monday. He has enlisted in the Marines.

Corp. Victor O. Baughman, and wife, home on an eight day furlough, left last Sunday for an army air base in the South.

Orin G. Rorabeck who enlisted in the Navy on his seventeenth birthday, Nov. 26 is now an apprentice seaman at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

Mrs. Frank S. Hamilton arrived home unexpectedly last Sunday night from Oklahoma and will spend Christmas at home because of her husband's sailing orders.

D. Flickinger. Plumbing-repair work. Reasonable. 158 Hiwood Ave., Stow. (adv.)

Pfc. Robert E. Green, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Green, home on a ten day furlough recently, is now stationed at the Army Air Base, Salt Lake City, Utah. His wife came from Florida to meet him here.

FOR SALE—E-flat Saxaphone with case. Martin (Troubador Model) silver with gold bell, like new. Originally cost $160.00—now $85.00. Call OV-8240. (adv.)

From Fish Creek comes more financial aid to help keep the paper going to those from Stow in the service of their country. This money comes in as a gift and with a Christmas wish for the welfare of all who have gone from Stow. For a small community this group of people have done "right well" in their efforts to see that this paper continues to be sent to the soldiers, sailors, marines, air corps and all other branches of Uncle Sam's defenders.

Furnace Repairing, Cleaning, Parts, prompt service, all work guaranteed. Call WA-4635 or nights call FR-1631. Wagner Heating Co. (adv.)

BECKLEY'S BARBER SHOP
CHRISTMAS

This is Christmas week. Whenever we turned on the radio today, we heard songs and stories about Christmas. How much I enjoy the comparatively new song, "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas!" I listen eagerly to hear it and do not tire of it even when it is sung often. This year I have enjoyed hearing the tale of that old and most beautiful Christmas song, "Silent Night, Holy Night." Whenever I hear that song I think of a Christmas just a quarter of a century ago.

I see a German chapel in the Blind Institution in Neuwied filled with American soldiers. We turn at the sound of the pipe organ at our backs. The old German organist is playing and Ed Meder is singing in his clear sweet tenor in the original German, "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht." Those boys are spread over a good part of the United States today, but I'm guessing that every living one of them remembers that night so long ago and so far away.

So too other boys and girls have come up to the Christmas season and will find themselves among

On Christmas Day

Let our hearts be filled with joy, let our song echo good cheer to the entire world.

STOW MARKET

JOE FISHER, Prop.
McGRAIL ANTIQUE

strange surroundings this Christmas Eve. These surroundings may be colorful; perchance they are drab; yet none of these young people will ever forget this Christmas Eve. At historical times such as these we feel that life is charged with destiny, and impressions made under the stress of danger are ever so much more lasting.

This Christmas millions of boys and girls have realized for the first time what a wonderfully desirable place home is. We take so many things for granted; we prize them only when they have been taken away from us. The things these boys and girls wanted most of all at other Christmases were as varied as their personalities; this year the one thing they want most can be expressed in one word—home.

I know that most of you are making a firm resolve to be with your parents each Christmas from now on if it is at all possible. Cling earnestly to this resolve and gladden their lives as each new Christmas rolls around. I have heard it said that Christmas is mostly for the little folks. It isn't that way with me. I did look forward right eagerly to the Christmas morning scramble for gifts and the candy and bountiful dinner that came afterward; but, after all, that was a selfish reason for wanting Christmas to come. The people who really got the greatest joy out of those Christmases so long ago were my good father and mother who had planned and saved to make the celebration a happy one for us five children. So too it is only within recent years that I have come to the fullest enjoyment of the Christmas holiday season.

To you boys and girls who are serving your country this year and cannot leave your posts of duty, we wish for you warmth and good food and health this Christmas of 1943. May this Christmas be the last one you spend away from home and loved ones.

JOE A. MITTEN

For A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS And A HAPPY NEW YEAR

ROBERT IMHOFF INSURANCE
LETTER
Camp Lee, Virginia
December 13, 1943
Dear Mr. Stockman:
I have been receiving the C. C. News but it is delayed at times because of another slight change in address.
It is swell receiving the Stohion and keeping up with Stow High. I can't help but be regularly informed by receiving the C. C. News, Stohion, Beacon Journal and the B. F. Goodrich Circle.
There are many Ohio boys in this camp but none are as close as Akron or Stow.
Virginia has many historical sites and landmarks but haven't had the privilege or time to see them.
Well times about up so I'll close now.
Pvt. Robt. Lowry, 35236087
Co. E, 6 QMRTC 4th Pla.
T-248
Camp Lee, Va.

ED. NOTE: You certainly should be well informed, receiving all the papers that you do. Thanks for the change of address notice and let us know again when you get a new one. H. J. S.

V-MAIL LETTER
Nov. 28, 1943
Dear Mr. Stockman:
I must beg forgiveness for not writing and thanking you and the people of Stow making it possible for the servicemen to receive news about all the friends they know. As you know I'm in a transit unit and we move quite a bit but the C. C. News catches me a little late but its very welcome.
There is many things one could write about this area that I'm in at present but it would disclose location of Naval units such as this one. There will be many tales to tell when we all get home again. Until then,
Yours,
Robert H. Nesbitt
C-o Fleet P. O.
San Francisco, Calif.

ED. NOTE: We are glad to receive your letter and know that you are getting the paper. As for news of friends of service men, we hope some of the friends see this and send in an item or two so you and others will actually receive a little more news. Write again.

LETTER
Nov. 14, 1943
Dear Sir:
Sorry I haven't written before this, but time doesn't permit.
Some of the boys seem to have

[Image of Greetings]

We Wish You A MERRY CHRISTMAS And A Happy And Prosperous NEW YEAR

KENT STOW MARKET

J. B. WELDON, Prop.
the wrong idea about their life in the Army in the States. They think they are making a lot of sacrifice and having it rugged.

Since I have been through the African, Sicilian and now the Italian campaigns, I feel that I know what I am talking about.

We work from daylight till dark and a lot of times we just hit the hay (ground) and they call us again. We sleep in dog tents all the time. We have to be on our toes for our lives every second, listening, looking, hoping and praying all the time. It is very nerve racking. Sometimes I don't see how a human person could stand it without help from above.

It isn't so bad when he gives it to us one way, but when he gives it to us three ways at once, boy, it is really tough. We have to admit they are plenty smart.

Walter Winchell was right the other day, when they cut him off the air, when he told about the rushing of the U.S.O. and Service Clubs.

The Angels Sing

They sing glad Christmas tidings, they sing of a peaceful world, of a happy world. We put our trust in God, and we know that peace is soon to be ours.

THE LAWSON MILK CO.
You boys should be thankful wherever you are in the States and whatever you are doing. I too thought it was tough, but let me tell you, that stuff is kid play. Look around and see how others have it and live while you can. You have it soft and don’t realize it. Don’t draw your conclusions from the war films that you see. They couldn’t make you feel it if they showed you all and didn’t censor it. This war is “a hell on earth” and you should thank God that you aren’t in it yet.

I would trade any of you under any condition anytime and wouldn’t say a word. Yes we are hardboiled but who couldn’t get that way under the conditions. There is but One Power and a few memories that keep us straight.

It is true that the mail is passed out in fox holes. In fact mail is the only thing that keeps our morale up. The towns are vacant and spookie. The people are all way off in the hills. There are Red Cross clubs and stuff but they are so far back. We see them after a campaign. Passes and furloughs are something of the past. So you see boys you don’t have it so tough, you just think you do. Get out of the grave and live while you can. This game is for keeps.

Yours truly,
Sgt. R. L. McCurdy
APO 464
New York, N. Y.

ED. NOTE: As we have said before, what is a hard thing—or “having it tough” is a matter of one’s mind and a relative affair. It all depends on our previous experience and mental make up. The close proximity of death, especially by violence is for most folks a hard idea, and while of course we can’t speak from experience but only by observation, even that may be a relative proposition. Time won’t permit, just now, to elucidate further so we will just say that our sincere prayers are offered daily for you and all our boys on far flung battle lines and may you put your trust, hope and faith—completely in HIM who is able to cause this war to cease. H. J. S.

LETTER
Location (censored)
December 7, 1943

Dear Mr. Stockman:

I haven’t written to you for quite a long time now and I really feel ashamed of myself for neglecting to do so.

Today is my day off so I decided to do a little letter writing and you happen to be the first on my mind as I just finished reading the Church News.

I receive the paper as regular
as clock work, but there was a change made in my address while on furlough and I will give it to you now.

Corp. Harry A. Edminister
15322493
APO 462 c-o Postmaster
Minneapolis, Minn.

I was noticing the different APO numbers and I would be willing to be the church paper reaches more different points of the earth than any other paper that is out. I know that the rest of the boys are as glad to get it as I am, and the people of Stow can be sure that they are doing their part in keeping up the morale of the boys from Stow.

I would like to hear from that brother-in-law in the Navy and also Warren Thomas.

I see by my watch that it is 3:30 and I have to get ready for chow and fix the fire so I will close and say thanks again to those who make it possible for us to get the paper.

Very truly yours,
Harry Edminister

ED. NOTE: We are glad that a letter to the Editor of the C. C. News was first on your mind. Hope you get the letters you desire and write us again 'ere long.

H. J. S.

\[
\text{Merry Christmas}
\]

\[
\text{Good Cheer To The World}
\]

As we wish each other Merry Christmas this year, we are thinking of our neighbors and loved ones across the seas, hoping the holiday season brings them new faith and greater promise of bright days to come.

MARHOFER CHEVROLET
Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for You Throughout the Coming Year

CENTRAL MARKET

EDDIE RUGGLES, Prop.