

Published by the Society of Inquiry, Lancaster Theological Seminary

5 April 1950

Lancaster, Pa.

CHRISTIANS SING AT EASTERTIDE

There is abundantly more reason for Christians to sing at Eastertide than at any other season of the Church Year. It is inconceivable that any man could ponder again in faith the story of the resurrection without giving voice to joyful praise.

Hymns and carols of Christmas, along with ditties about Santa Claus, sound unceasingly in our ears from Thanksgiving until Christmas Day. How well we know their tunes, yet how strange to many are their messages!

Easter hymns have so far escaped such a fate. The Church's observance of lent with its climax in Holy Week lays emphasis upon a sacrifice even unto death. During this period, the "alleluias" of Easter are felt to be out of place. (Our hymnal provides no "alleluia" hymns from "As with gladness...." of Epiphany to "Jesus Christ is risen today.") But when Easter Day brings triumphant victory over death the sound of "alleluia" rises again.

These Easter "alleluias" are working to unite men in glorious faith today just as truly as the voice of the angel at the tomb spoke cheer to Mary and a hopeless world.

Prof. McConnell

AS I SEE IT . . .

Have you heard the not-so-far-from-truth fairy tale that is going around about President Truman? The story goes that Truman asked his local banker for a loan of \$500, but admitted that he already owed the bank approximately \$25,800. He was then asked what his annual income was. "My take-home pay is \$3,750", Truman answered. The banker wondered how Mr. T. could pay the old debt, let alone borrow \$500 more. "Will you save a large portion of your income this year?" the banker asked. "Oh, no indeed", the President is supposed to have replied, "My living expenses this year hit \$4,250 - I'll be forced to spend more than I can earn."

The banker could not understand why someone would spend more than he could earn, especially when that person owes seven times this year's earnings. The President explained: "I must provide (cont. on page two)

THEY STILL NEED YOU

"Only half the human race can read or write. Something like five per cent of all the human beings in the world have completed high school.

Starved minds breed totalitarianism and war just as hungry stomachs do and figures like these point to famine conditions - a famine of the mind over half our globe. They explain why educational and cultural reconstruction in the war-devastated countries is more than just a humanitarian need.

The foundations of our civilization have never been broad or solid enough. Now a large part of this foundation has crumbled away. Repairs are urgently needed if the whole building is not to collapse."

- Jaime Torres Bodet

There are two serious problems facing the life of every university student abroad: the acute shortage of books and general equipment, and the lack of proper food, clothing, and medical care. To meet the needs of our brothers abroad, we here in America are called upon to share our possessions with them. This appeal is made only to prep-school, college, university, and grad-school students and professors. The entire program of WIRF depends upon contributions. The goal for 1949-50 is \$200,000, which is really a very small amount in comparison to the astronomical figures we face daily. The theme for this year is They still need you.

Since it is possible for each institution to designate the recipient of the contribution, the Seminary has chosen to donate all to Waching University in China. This has a special significance for our Seminary family, since our Eddie and Davey come to us from this school. They assure all of us that the need is great.

The committee asks that each student make a sacrificial contribution to the appointed men from each class. Here is the opportunity to take an active part in a plan for world peace.

Yes, they still need you, but you - all of you - need them too. We need them to insure a common ground, a common hope, a common striving in every nation. Knowledge is the most international of commodities, but it is also the most perishable! You can keep it alive today - it may help to keep you alive tomorrow!

Dick Masters

AS I SEE IT . . .
(Cont'd from page 1)

tuition at private schools for my kiddies, and I have to set a friend of mine up in business in which he's going to lose money for many, many years.

The banker can't understand this, but the President has more to say. "Then I'm going to establish price supports - my boys sell newspapers for a nickel apiece, but I give them a nickel extra. My daughter makes lampshades for \$5, but I don't think that's a fair price, so I give her an extra two dollars for each one she sells. Besides, my wife wants a new television set."

This completely baffles the banker. Here's a fellow who owes more than he can repay, but he still wants to borrow more - and boldly admits his fantastic money-spending schemes.

What would you do if you were the banker?

Now here's the odd part of the story - it's not fiction! It constitutes a faithful reproduction of the program set forth by President Harry S. Truman.

Multiply all the figures by 10 million, and you have the Truman budget, his plan of government, the government income, and the government debt.

In this case, Congress is the banker. If the loan is approved, you as a taxpayer, will have to sign the note. Like the idea?

EASTER-TIME

Once again we come to that time of the year when Christians everywhere gather to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Not only is this a great time of rejoicing for the Christian, but also for the Jew who is observing the feast of the Passover. The Christian Easter is founded in many ways in this old Hebrew ceremony.

Hence, this season is a time of gladness for both Christian and Jew. We have followed, in the Christian Church, Christ's journey to Calvary. We have tried to do what he has done in the best way we know how - by our observance of Lent. Now as the morning of the resurrection approaches we are in a mood of gladness and have a feeling of brotherhood for all men and a desire that all nations shall be able to share our joy with us.

It has been truly said that if all men acted all year through as they do on Christmas, what a wonderful world this would be! This could be applied to Easter also. If all men could continue to feel the joy of living that comes with the spring and with Easter, what a wonderful world this would be!

Lent being the period of examination and dedication that it is, perhaps an Easter resolution is in order: To try, in the months ahead, to put into action our Easter wish, that all men may know the joy we know at this Easter-tide.

Dave Mark

Dick Clatfelter



This is a paid political advertisement and does not necessarily constitute the sentiments of the publishers. (Seriously, it is a contribution by one of our more artistically inclined readers)