

# WESSINGTON SPRINGS INDEPENDENT

Official County and City Paper

Single Copies 5c Each

WESSINGTON SPRINGS, JERAULD COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1932

NUMBER FORTY-ONE

## Let us be happy!

THIS has been a hard year for all of us—a year of many disappointments and discouragements.

But now Christmas is almost here.

Happiness is in the air.

Let us focus our eyes on that guiding star which led the Wise Men to a poor abode, and in the warmth of its glow rekindle in ourselves the genial flame of charity. Let us crowd out of our hearts all fear, all foolish foreboding of disasters that may (but probably will not) come to us and those we love.

Let us, for the day at least, forget the things that worry us. In their places let us substitute thoughts of the many things for which we may be thankful. Let us forgive our enemies and lean more heavily upon the staff of friendship. Thus each of us will become a center of happiness and able to spread that cheer which is at the heart of Christmas observance.

Let us be happy!

It is in this spirit that we send you this greeting for a Merry Christmas and the wish that all of us may carry much of ~~the~~ and blessings of the day into every other day of the year. Thus shall we draw nearer to the fulfillment of the ideal typified by Christmas.

THE PUBLISHER

Copyright 1932

### Special Singing at Local Churches Sunday

Splendid programs of song were presented at the Congregational and Methodist churches here Sunday evening at the regular evening worship hours and large attendances were reported at both places which showed a keen interest by the community in general.

The Christmas story was presented and both choirs appeared at their best, realizing the fruits of weeks of strenuous practice, all of which was forgotten in the thrilling presentations.

Eighteen voices presented a miscellaneous program at the Congregational church, under the direction of Mrs. R. J. Cook, who accompanied at the pipe organ.

The church was decorated with green and white crepe paper streamers, with red and green across the platform. Between the two Christmas trees at the east end of the platform was the head of one of Santa's reindeer peering through the branches.

"Oh Come All Ye Faithful" was sung as the processional, following which the pastor gave the invocation. "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" was sung by the congregation and the pastor gave the scripture reading.

The choir opened its program with the anthem, "The Gift of God", with solo score by Mrs. D. D. Buhl. Mrs. G. L. Wood and Mrs. N. E. Williams sang "First Christmas Carol" as a duet. Mrs. Buhl sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem", a solo arrangement by Bartlett. "To Victory" was sung by Mrs. J. J. Carson, the entire choir taking the chorus.

A trio, "There Were Shepherds" was sung by Mrs. R. W. Gibson, Mrs. J. E. Robinson and Mrs. Buhl. Mrs. R. V. Calverley read Henry VanDyke's "The Other Wise Man" with organ accompaniment by Mrs. Cook. Mrs. G. L. Wood sang the soprano solo in the choir anthem, "Sing Ye Faithful". Professor W. R. King of the college sang a

tenor solo from Handel's "Messiah", "Comfort Ye".

Phil Raebel played a clarinet solo, "Premier Amour", Mrs. R. J. Cook accompanying at the organ.

Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Buhl, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. O. W. Tiede, Henry Heinz, D. D. Buhl, O. W. Tiede and Rev. J. E. Robinson sang "Hail Smiling Morn" an old Christmas carol. Mrs. J. J. Carson sang "O Wondrous Night!" as a solo, the choir singing an obligatto "Holy Night".

Iola and Fernella Tiede sang, "Glory to God" as a duet. An anthem by the choir, with Mrs. R. W. Gibson singing the soprano obligatto, was the closing number.

Other members of the choir are Miss Hulda Tiede, Mrs. H. Brodtkorb, Mrs. Charles R. Hatch, Mrs. Clyde Price, H. Brodtkorb, G. Van-Olst.

The M. E. choir presented the cantata, "Hail Messiah" by Ira B. Wilson, under direction of Kenneth F. Lohn, Mrs. R. W. Bromwell piano accompanist.

The choir loft was decorated in heavy white rope hung with icicle and the background of the platform was in dark blue, representing the sky, with an electric star in the east.

The congregation sang two Christmas carols and the pastor offered prayer, followed by reading of the scripture.

The opening chorus of the cantata, "Good Tidings", was sung, with Miss Genevieve Vessey taking the soprano interlude. Miss Cleone Wetherbee sang, "A King Shall Reign". Miss Winifred Walker sang "There Were Shepherds" with choir accompaniment. A chorus of ladies sang "Glory in the Highest", with choir accompaniment. A. C. Crouch, tenor, sang "Even Unto Bethlehem" with choir accompaniment. The choir sang "Crown Him" with two-part men's chorus.

Mrs. J. W. Foster, Miss Bertha Wahl, R. W. Bromwell and W. A. Sheppard sang "He Shall Have Dominion". Mrs. H. W. Blackburn, contralto, sang "How Can I Crown Thee?" with men's chorus accompaniment. F. A. Locke, bass, sang "The Glory of Israel" with accompaniment by double quartet: Mrs. Will Sanders, Mrs. A. C. Crouch, Miss Wetherbee, Mrs. Arnold Erland, Howard Stratton, Roland Cutler and Arnold Erland.

The choir sang "Thy Sceptre is Righteousness". Miss Vessey, Mrs. Blackburn, Mr. Crouch and W. A. Sheppard sang "Song to the Christ Child". The final chorus was "Hail Messiah".

Others of the choir are: Miss Esther Walker, Mrs. Howard Jones, story interpretation.

The "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah" was sung as the chorus finale.

Christmas carols were sung as the audience dismissed.

### HOLIDAY IN FULL SWING

Many Attractions. Christmas Spirit is in the Air

#### CHRISTMAS ATTRACTIONS

Community Christmas Tree and Treat for Children, Saturday afternoon at 3:30 on Main St.

Methodist and Congregational Sunday school Tree, Program and Treats, 7:30 p. m., Saturday.

Baptist Sunday School Program, Tree and Treats, and special Choral Program, Sunday evening 7:30.

Christmas Mass Saturday, midnight, at St. Joseph Catholic church.

Christmas church services Sunday as announced in regular church announcements.

Business Holiday all day Monday, December 26.

Holiday Movies Midnight Sunday; Matinee and Evening Shows on Monday.

Kiwanis "Good Cheer" Basket distribution Saturday morning. Food donations to be in by Friday evening at Hayes-Lucas or Flittie Creamery.

With only two days left until the biggest holiday of the year, preparations are about complete for its celebration in home and church. Gay trimmings in the stores and attractive tree and lights on the streets herald the happy season of good cheer and crowds of holiday shoppers are coming to Wessington Springs daily, many from adjoining counties and beyond the actual trade territory, to share in the outstanding values for which our town has gained an enviable reputation.

Churches are gay with holiday garb and more than ordinarily interesting services have been held are to be held, honoring the Christian holiday.

Many homes are attractively decorated inside and out, and the youngsters are patiently awaiting the coming of Santa Claus, the spirit of Christmas giving.

Coming on Sunday this year, Christmas will be celebrated at the churches with services at the usual hours; and Monday will be the business holiday. Most local stores anticipate remaining closed for the day to give employes a holiday and patrons are urged to obtain supplies enough on Saturday to tide over until the resuming of business on Tuesday morning.

The annual Kiwanis treat-giving for children will be at three-thirty Saturday. The club's distribution of "good cheer" baskets will be Saturday morning and all food donations should be delivered at the Hayes-Lucas yard or Flittie Creamery Friday afternoon or early evening.

#### FIRE SCARE AT RED OWL SATURDAY

Just as the Red Owl store is about to quit business here, business seems to be picking up wonderfully at their store; at least, great crowds were drawn there from all parts of town Saturday evening when the fire alarm was given and the store was filled with smoke.

Investigating as to the cause of the smoke revealed that fire had broken out in the coal pile in the basement of the store. Workers in the post-office were hot on the trail of the fire when the discovery was made as the postoffice building was also filled with smoke.

Quick work of the local fire department confined the loss to the burning of a small quantity of coal and slight damage by water and smoke. The outbreak was thought to be from spontaneous combustion in the coal, until the possibility of a burning cigaret stub falling into the coal bin was considered. However, the facts remain a mystery as to the origin of the fire.

Mrs. E. E. Brown, Miss Elta Leyson, Mrs. Ernest Vessey, Mrs. F. A. Locke, Mrs. W. A. Sheppard, Miss Arlene Bigelow, Harley Walker, James Bromwell, J. W. Foster, Delbert Shryock.

#### Father Sage Says:

Sculptors hate trousers, but when they try to depict their modern heroes without any

they only create something ridiculous.

#### GLEE CLUBS PRESENT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The combined glee clubs of the local high school presented a program of Christmas carols and tableaux, under the direction of Miss Treva Sasse, instructor, at the high school auditorium Wednesday evening. It was very commendable and was attended by a good-sized crowd.

The entire chorus sat in the balcony, singing as the Christmas story was unfolded in tableaux on the stage.

The stage setting was beautiful. A double platform was arranged in front of a half circle map showing North America back of the upper platform. On each side of the map were young ladies in white robes representing angels. An outline in silhouette of Bethlehem formed the background of the lower half of the stage setting.

Miss Lenore Tupper played "Evening Chimes" as a piano solo prelude and the chorus took their places in the balcony in a processional. The carol "Joy to the World" was sung by the boys' and girls' glee clubs.

The first tableau "O Little Town of Bethlehem" included angels around the globe with the lights shining from the town. Those taking the parts of angels were: Marguerite Parmely, Helen Kieser, Cora Mae Wagner, Doris Posey, Ann Brenneman, Verna Hodgson, Marjorie Gebhart and Leah Cool.

The girls' chorus of 22 voices sang "Angels from the Realms" and "While Shepherds Watched", from the stage. All wore white and carried candles, with no other light in the hall.

The second tableau was "The First Noel", which showed the shepherds gazing at the star while the mixed chorus sang from the balcony, the song of that name.

Shepherds were: Alfred Beckman, Everett Rumelhart, Robert Austin, Leonard Haddorff, Arvid Shulenberger and Merle Carlson.

Miss Beth Kieser sang "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night".

#### Schools Close for Holiday Vacation

The public schools closed this evening for the annual Christmas and New Year's vacation, until Wednesday morning, January 4.

Teachers plan to spend the holidays at their homes or with friends.

Miss Sievers expects to leave Saturday for Chicago to visit at the home of a brother. Miss Allison and Miss Evans will go to their homes in White; Miss Leyson, Ree Heights; Miss Berg, McIntosh, Minn.; Miss Stahl, Huron; Miss Felix, Carthage; Miss Sasse, Redfield; Miss Hazle, Aberdeen; Coach Arnold and Mr. Campbell, Mitchell; Mr. Lohn, Crookston, Minn.; Mr. Sanderson, Strandquist, Minn., and Mr. Gibson and Miss Walker, Wessington Springs.

Wessington Springs College closed today noon to reopen Tuesday morning, January 3.

ing the star, the parts being taken by Alwyn Robinson, Harold Olson and Roy Jones. The boys' glee club sang the carol during the tableau.

Miss Alice Churchill played "Pastoral Symphony" from "The Messiah" as a piano solo.

The fourth tableau showed the angels above the earth, shepherds and kings grouped about Mary (Evelyn Bidleman) and Joseph (William Srstka) and the manger, as the girls' chorus sang "Silent Night" from the balcony.

The mixed chorus sang "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing"; and the final chorus, "O Come All Ye Faithful" was sung by the boys' and girls' glee clubs, the scene showing the group in an attitude of praise.

Colored spotlights were produced by Mr. Campbell and added to the effect. Miss Hazel assisted Miss Sasse in directing. Miss Sievers was responsible for the cast makeup. Gertrude Holcomb was chairman of the stage committee. W. A. Hunter did much work on the scenery.

#### COLLEGE CHORUS PRESENTS CANTATA

The Wessington Springs College chorus of 75 voices presented the cantata "The Story of Bethlehem" by Protheroe, at the college auditorium here Tuesday evening, directed by Miss Carolyn Fern Ambrose, director of music at the college. Miss Virginia King was piano accompanist for the entire program. The auditorium was filled to capacity.

Soloists included: Miss Lydia Andrews, soprano; Miss Bernice Greeno, contralto; Merrill Hurd, tenor; and Professor Wilson R. King, bass.

The prologue included a chorus number, "Behold I Will send My Messenger"; a three-part chorus number, "The Redeemer Shall Come to Zion"; a tenor solo by Mr. Hurd, "For the Lord Shall Comfort Zion"; and a full chorus selection, "Arise, Shine".

The opening of the cantata was illustrative of the birth of Christ, "Now When Jesus Was Born", a chorus number. Miss Andrews sang "Where is He?". Miss Greeno sang "When Herod the King". Mr. King sang "Go Now and Diligently Find this King". Mr. Hurd sang "The Star" and the chorus, "Guide Them to Him".

The second part opened as on the plains of Bethlehem, with a solo by Miss Andrews, "And There were Shepherds", the chorus taking up the strain, with "And Suddenly There Was With the Angel" and "Glory to God". Miss Greeno sang "And the Shepherds Came with Haste". The chorus sang a beautiful arrangement of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" with duet interlude by The Misses Andrews and Greeno. Miss Greeno sang "Sleep, Holy Babe" very effectively as the closing number in part two.

The third part presented the story in Bethlehem, Miss Andrews singing "The Angel of the Lord". Miss Virginia King played a piano solo "Intermezzo". Mr. Hurd sang "And be Warned of God". The ladies of the chorus answered with "Accursed King" and the full chorus with "Sing and Rejoice", producing an effective contrast in the