

### SOCKS AND CHOCOLATES

It was Christmas Eve. Along Main Street clamoring crowds of shoppers thronged from department to department in the brightly lighted stores in an effort to finish their Christmas shopping before closing time. Fir-trees, decorated with shining tinsel, lined the sidewalks where people rushed—some of them unsteadily—to the resounding notes of 'I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas' which blared from a loud speaker on the corner. The noise was ominous. Apart from the pushing throng and leaning against a chilly brick wall was a figure shivering so much that his tattered garments rustled on his emaciated frame. A tear could be seen on his cheek; and from time to time he whimpered, 'I thirst.' But no one noticed him.

He has stood there for many Christmas Eve's now. He has watched attentively the excited and warmly-clad shoppers, people from every walk of life, hastening homeward with items ranging from socks and chocolates to golf-clubs; leaving a beaming salesman behind them. He has called out to many of them; but was ignored. He will likely be there again this year. Watch for him.

For he is Christ, the babe of Bethlehem Who comes to us every Christmas with a message, a lesson of Love. Most of us have known Him from our childhood and have greeted Him every year on His birthday—this Omnipotent God Who deigned to come upon a sinful earth to redeem us, to save us by His supreme sacrifice, the epitome of Love. But there are many forces and groups in our present-day society which tend to undermine Him. Under their guidance Christmas is slowly becoming a pagan fiesta. The spirit of love and adoration at Christmas is being supplanted by a spirit of commercialism and riotous celebration. Our society seems to prefer hate and war to love and peace; the ring of the cash register has more appeal than the sonorous peal of church bells; socks and chocolates for our 'loved ones' are more necessary than a warm blanket of love and thanks and adoration for the shivering Babe in the windy stable. But Santa Claus is warmly clad.

We urge you students, then, to try to maintain a proper sense of proportion with respect to Christmas. By all means let us make expression of our love for others by presenting gifts; but let us not confine Christmas to that one and insignificant aspect. Remember, first things come first. Let us, then, by our words and example remind the many warped minds that Christmas is essentially a religious feast; a time of love. Let us not lose sight of the true spirit of Christmas.

—EDITORIAL.