THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

(Luke 2: 1-14)

AND IT came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David).

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there was in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them: Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

TORRANCE NEWS ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burkhart, owners of Kern Court, have moved into one of their large homes in Arlington Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Root of Wasco, California, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. Kembel, of Cota street, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Algeo and son Floyd, arrived this week from Pittsburg and are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Campbell of Park Terrace.

R. J. Earl and two children returned from a four month's visit in Michigan this week and are with Mrs. Earl's sister, Mrs. H. C. Ainsworth of Andreo street.

Frank Sammons sold to the Pacific Electric this week one of the two remaining houses now under construction on Cota street. After the first of the year Mr. Sammons expects to build several more cottages for sale.

In Algeria the waters of two streams, one containing iron and the other gallic acid, join, making a river of ink; which reminds me that a gallon of paint will cover 360 feet, two coats. Ask "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.—Adv.

Mrs. Clara Bell, Miss Mildred and Stanley, Miss Alta Fishburn of Pasadena, motored over from Pasadena Sunday, and visited Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Paige and family of N. Arlington street. Later they all motored to Redondo Beach and called on friends there.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Denney and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Van Buren and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Earnshaw of Hollywood, motored to Newhall and Peconia Canyon, Sunday, to gather holly They enjoyed a picnic luncheon at noontime and dinner in the evening as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Earnshaw of Hollywood.

A delightful afternoon was planned at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Harris, of 216th street, December 4, when their son Russell celebrated his third birthday anniversary. Many games were played with amusements for the children, who were present, and refreshments were served. The dining room was prettily decorated, and bluebirds occupied conspicuous places on the table. Mrs. W. D. Russell, cut the birthday cake and gave a lovely toast and prayer. Those who were present were Myrtle and Wootsie Meinser, Harry, Raymond and Margaret Richhart, Grace Denny, Ruth, Dee Dee and Daniel Barnard, Dinty Rubido, Doris, Perry and Carl Hillkirk. Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Meinser, Mrs. Russell Mrs. Richhart and Mrs. Harris all joined in the happiness of the children's play.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. James have moved to Kern Court, into the house formerly occupied by H. H. Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bowers and three sons, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Rees and two children of Spurlin Court, motored 170 miles Sunday to visit Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bowers of Riverside. They also visited the Bush Gardens in Pasadena, and several other places of interest.

Mrs. R. E. Mann and Mrs. J. F. Anderson of Kern Court, were most fortunate Monday in an automobile accident, when they drove up in front of the Dolley Drug Company. The break bands on their car gave way and their Dodge which Mrs. Mann was driving plunged ahead toward the front of the store. The one thing that prevented them from going through the window was that the rear wheels caught on the sidewalk and stopped the car. No one was injured, but damage was done their machine.

SMASHING A THEORY

For years there has been a popular theory among cartoonists, joke writers, funny men on the stage and others that crooks and confidence workers find their richest hauls in the rural districts. Possibly there was a time when that was true, but not now. And, frankly, we doubt if the rural district citizen ever was as "easy" as some of the jokesters try to have us believe.

To the contrary, it is noticeable that in almost every instance now in which someone is roped in by confidence men and fake promoters it is usually a resident of a city. Possibly ninety per cent of the fake stock now being floated is sold in the larger cities and very little of it is grabbed up by residents of rural districts or in towns of this size. The reason is, largely, that we are not as quick to gamble on an uncertainty as the city men who sees so much of it going on around him.

So far as gullibility is concerned humanity is much the same everywhere we find it, and city folks are as easily "taken in" by get-rich-quick schemes, usually more so, than you do find thousands being taken in on fake stock, or the big city papers wouldn't be carrying page after page of ads exploiting it. We point to the Ponzi case in Boston if evidence is needed to the easy manner in which city residents may be buncoed. No, the old theory that rural residents are "easy" won't hold good any more. So the joke writers and funny men are changing their material accordingly.

Polar Bears have been known to weigh more than 200 pounds, and if you want a good bicycle, see "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance,—Adv.

Try the Rio Tan for a good meal.—Adv.

Mme. Kerensky, whose husband once was premier of Russia, was compelled to sell cigarettes on the streets of Petrograd to obtain food before making her escape to France. You should get your wife a beautiful reading lamp from "Hardware" Reeve, Torrance.—Advertisement.

TORRANCE LODGE NO. 447
F. and A. M.

Friday evening, Dec. 10. Two First Degrees.

Lomita California