The Season has tempted all of us to express again our appreciation for friends. Gifts can never be a proper criterion of one's esteem for another; and doubtless on many occasions a brief note or even a signature on an appropriate card has carried a greater love and appreciation during these past few days than was reflected by an expensive gift in attractive wrappings. Taylor University has many friends who have been greater prayer partners than anything else. The letters received in this office from many such friends have constituted one of the most enriching experiences it has been the privilege of Taylor's President to enjoy. When friends tell us they have been unable to give but that faithfully they have carried us to a throne of grace we realize that some otherwise unexplainable Providences are to be accounted for in no other way than that our friends have prayed for Taylor. Of course, the number who are able to help Taylor materially cannot satisfy their consciences by promising only to be prayer partners.

We have given gifts to our friends and to
Taylor because “God so loved the world that he gave.” We have lived and loved throughout this year which is soon to close all because “He first loved us.” The carols have been sung because He has put a new song in our mouths even praises unto our God. Despite the world’s attempt to blind our eyes in the crass materialism of our day we are not forgetting that our holiday came because God came down to earth one night several centuries ago. He dwelt among men as the offspring of the virgin’s womb. With a divine mission underway the angels sang, and shepherds left their flocks in wonderment as they trekked into the village to see the son of God incarnate. Bethlehem became the birthplace of the world’s king.

Can we reconcile the song of the angelic host with the events of our day? Where is the “peace on earth,” and where is there “good will toward men”? We know that within the hearts of men it is true. We must remember too that only as peace reaches the soul and as good will springs from a heart of love can there be any peace on the earth. The cry of hate and distrust springs from benighted souls whose warped and distorted lives have suffered from a lack of peace within. Nor will they have peace without Him who is the Prince of Peace.

The New Year which stretches out before us carries a calendar of untried days. Into each of them we must pour our sacrifices of praise and begin them with a renewed dedication to our tasks. The work of the Christian college is not going to be less but greater. The problems have jumped from the relatively simple to the severest of the complex. Christian people everywhere must unite to aid every Christian college which continues to bear testimony to the great fundamental truths of the Christian tradition. To all our friends scattered East and West and North and South we salute you in the Name of our Adorable Lord as we stand together on the threshold of 1948. May your lives be held precious in His sight as you walk with Him down the pathway of fellowship and service. Covenant anew to pray for this old historic Christian College. As a good starter for the New Year covenant also that as He gives you strength and ability to earn some of this world’s goods that you will give at least 1% of it to Taylor. If ten thousand people would do that much for Taylor in 1948 she could experience the greatest year of her history.
The unusual experiences surrounding the fall revival on Taylor's campus this year gave every evidence that God is still on the Throne, and rules and over-rules in inscrutable providences.

Rev. Robert Waggoner came to us from Portland, Oregon, to begin the meeting. He had been ill during the trip here, and after one service in the chapel he became altogether too ill to even get out of bed. After a second visit by the physician, he was ordered to Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Indiana, where x-rays revealed kidney stones. A treatment was administered to obviate the necessity for surgery. Rev. Waggoner was released from the hospital in Muncie toward the end of the week when the meetings closed, and was hurried back to Portland by plane and train, where according to the latest report he is in the process of complete recuperation.

Why the Lord permits inscrutable providences like this we do not know, but the failure of Rev. Waggoner to function as our evangelist resulted doubtless in a greater volume of prayer and a sense of dependence upon God for a revival. Chapel services and preaching services were filled in by the Dean of the College, Dr. Rediger; the Dean of Men, Professor Phinney; and the President of the University. On Tuesday of the second week of the meetings, Rev. James DeWeerd of Fairmount, Ind., an evangelist and an alumnus of Taylor, came to finish out the meeting. God gave a gracious revival. In fact there were many praying through before the meetings formally opened, and this continued night after night and throughout the day in rooms of the dormitory until everyone became aware that God was moving upon us. As many as 50 seekers were forward in one service for pardon or purity of heart, and the blessing of God was rich indeed. The cardinal doctrines for which Taylor University traditionally has been identified were preached in simplicity and with profound results.

The results of a meeting like this can neither be computed by the numbers helped nor by the blessings received nor by the time element involved. Meetings like we have experienced on Taylor's campus this fall project themselves into the remotest sections of the earth across the decades of tomorrow and
only eternity will reveal the work that was accomplished. We bow in deep thanks to God, and earnestly solicit the continued prayers of our Bulletin readers for these precious young lives on our campus this year.