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Christmas Letter to Alumnus of K.S.T.C. from Brandenburg, 1937

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Kansas State Teachers College

OF
PITTSBURG, KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 13, 1937

Dear Alumnus of K. S. T. C.:

The evergreen and holly with all the colored lights so beautiful on every hand tell me the time has come again for me to write my Christmas letter to the loved ones of K. S. T. C. Alumni.

A few evenings ago I saw a motion picture of a bombardment of Shanghai from planes. Great buildings were being blown to fragments. Bodies of innocent, helpless persons—men, women, and children, were torn into pieces, and for no good reason, at least, no reason known to those who were being destroyed.

For more than a year nothing short of human butchery has been going on in one of the nations of Western Europe. It is little more than a year since an invasion was made against a helpless, peace-loving people in Africa. They were subjected to terrible suffering and finally subdued. They had committed no offense. They begged to be let alone, but their plea fell on deaf ears.

All over our Nation and in other parts of the World we are putting on colorful parades, and are beginning to celebrate the anniversary of the Prince of Peace, our Savior. What a contrast to the ugly pictures of warfare! How can we think only of gifts and Christian pageantry?

It occurs to us that you and I might well raise the question at this time of just how civilized has humanity become during these two thousand years while we have been celebrating the anniversary of the Prince of Peace.

What is wrong with this human society we call civilization? Are we doing all in church, in school, in home, that we should do—all that we could do to make the Christmas time reflect more clearly the wishes of Him who said: "Peace on earth, good will to man." "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." How about it?

I sincerely hope that you and I will not let this Christmas season go by without giving much thoughtful meditation to these great issues respecting humanity's welfare. We all know that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," and that there are many different ways and different kinds of giving.

We hope the past year has been kind to you and your loved ones.

Remember that the name, and the spirit of your Alma Mater is SERVICE.

"You've favored us in many ways
Throughout the old year's vanished days,
And now we trust the year that's new
In many ways may favor you."

W. A. Brandenburg
"PREXY"

