

Merry Christmas

The Men Who Make The Post Join Today In Expressing To The People We Serve, Some Of Whom We Meet Only In Our Columns, A Very, Very Merry Christmas.

THE DALLAS POST

More Than A Newspaper, A Community Institution

We Cannot Thank Personally All The Fine Folks Who Have Given Us Help And Encouragement This Year But We Do Wish Them, Every One, A Happy Holiday.

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POST SCRIPTS

GOD BLESS US EVERY ONE

Our guest columnist this week, a writer of some note, is welcome for several reasons. First, he relieves us of a duty during a busy time, so busy, in fact, that this column has been missing from its accustomed spot for two weeks now. Secondly, his contribution excels anything we might write. And, thirdly, the piece of his we are to print is particularly appropriate to this time of the year.

Writing is merely one of the accomplishments of our able guest. By vocation, he was a physician, but he found time, too, for painting and his portrait of the Virgin is said to be among the finest portrayals of that subject. You may be familiar with the picture of him as a youthful artist, holding in his hand one of his paintings. In brief, writing a life of Christ was merely one, if the most significant and permanent, of the man's accomplishments. His name, you may have surmised, is Luke.

Luke was not the first man to record the life of the Man from Nazareth. Both Mark and Matthew wrote their Gospels before him. But Doctor Luke's version has always been our favorite, perhaps because he stressed the manly qualities of the teacher he adored. Luke revealed a Jesus intensely human and lovable, a wise and generous and forgiving preacher who went up and down a murdered land bringing comfort to the dejected and courage to the weak, a man who could suffer pain and know despair.

Luke was certain Christianity was more than a new religion for the Jews. He wanted to prove that the new philosophy he and Paul preached was for all men, and so he portrayed Jesus as ministering, not merely to the Galileans and the Judeans, but also to the despised Samaritans. He wrote with great simplicity and deep sincerity. "Forasmuch as many has taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us," he began, "it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write . . . that thou mightest know the certainty of those things wherein thou hast been instructed."

And then he went on, and this is the strange story he told:

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 all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

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 one 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 were 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 I have brought you good tidings, as hath been spoken by the Lord.

(Continued on page 4)

What's Ahead In 1939?

For the eighteenth consecutive year, Roger Babson risks his reputation by forecasting what the New Year has in store for wages, jobs, prices and business. His predictions have always turned out 85-95 per cent correct. Remember, for 1938 he forecast: "Resumption of recovery" and "No war in Europe". What about 1939. Will business recovery continue, or does a new tailspin lie ahead? Watch for Babson's Forecast in The Dallas Post.

HOPE HELD FOR SPEEDY CAPTURE OF MURDERER

Europe's Restless Year Keeps County Prothonotary Busy

Record Number Of Appeals For Naturalization Are Filed

ONLY 26 ARE JEWISH

From 19 nations of restless Europe—from Hitler's Germany, from Mussolini's Italy, from all the tight, tense little countries beyond the Atlantic—came 1,120 aliens to stand during the year now ending in the office of the Prothonotary of Luzerne County and ask for citizenship in the United States of America.

That was more than had applied for citizenship in the county in any year since immigration quotas were set, nearly a century ago; double the number who filed last year. It may be the largest number since the prothonotary's office was opened in 1789.

Surprisingly enough, only 26 were Catholic, Hebrew and Protestant refugees from the German Reich. Twenty-five of the applicants, some from Germany, Czechoslovakia and old Austria and a few from other countries, were of Jewish faith. In view of the exodus of Jews from Europe, it might have been expected that more than a mere 2 per cent would reach Luzerne County.

Many of the aliens were from Europe's ill-treated minority groups. Some give one country as their native land but another nation as their government. For example, there were only 290 Poles applying, but 321 persons renounced allegiance to Poland, the 31 non-Poles apparently being members of subject races within Poland's post-World War boundaries.

They're Staying In Ireland

Eire, which, when it was Ireland, saw almost as many people leave for the New World as were born on the Old Sod in a year, has the only quota unfilled. Only 18 persons from Eire sought citizenship, a fact which may attest to the satisfaction of Irishmen with their new status, and which supports statements that Eire has accomplished more in two years than any other nation has in the last century.

Another significant development is the unusually large number of repatriates, ex-citizens of the United States who, having returned to the Old Country, have changed their minds and are now seeking U. S. citizenship again.

The nationalities of applicants, as listed by Phillip Forte, chief of the Naturalization Bureau at the Prothonotary's office, follows:

Polish, 290; Repatriates, 231; Italian, 166; Slovak, 113; Lithuanian, 52; English, 46; Welsh, 34; Russian, 31; German, 26; Hebrew, 25; Ukrainian, 21; Irish, 18; Scotch, 16; Magyar, 10; Spanish, 10; Ruthenian, 6; Portuguese, 5; Jugo-Slav, 5; Greek, 4; Slovene, 4; French, 4; Scandinavian, 3; Croatian, 2; Dutch, 1; Montenegrin, 1.

Second Xmas Funeral For Martin Family

This will be the second time the Christmas of Mr. and Mrs. John Martin and family has been marred by death.

About 13 years ago a son died suddenly a few days before Christmas. It was on the anniversary of his death that Margaret disappeared.

POLICE SPREAD NET FOR HER MURDERER



Winsome Margaret Martin, 19-year-old Kingston girl, whose body was discovered in isolated Keelersburg Creek, 12 miles from Dallas, on Wednesday.

Court En Banc Divides In Awarding Victory To James

A split decision by Luzerne County's court en banc this week gave Governor-elect Arthur H. James victory in this, his home county, by 269 votes, but Democratic leaders, who persist Charles Alvin Jones carried the county, have decided to take the case to the Superior Court.

With two Democratic judges dissenting, the court en banc quashed an appeal of Democratic action of the election board voiding the returns from two precincts, one in Wilkes-Barre and one in Hazleton. The decision was handed down by Judge James, who carried the county majority.

Charles Alvin Jones, Democratic challenger, was handed the case to the Superior Court.

Three judges, including Judge D-mocrat, and Judge A. Valentine, Republican, of the Election Board, voided the returns from two precincts, one in Wilkes-Barre and one in Hazleton. The decision was handed down by Judge James, who carried the county majority.

The decision was the first complicated chapter in a struggle which began the day after election and may not be ended until the Superior Court has heard the case. The returns gave Jones a majority in the dismissal of the two alleged fraudulent returns, both from Democratic districts, put Judge James in the lead.

The returns have been sent to Harrisburg for the signature of James, Democratic mi-

nistry member of the Election Board, now stand as follows:

For Governor: James, 97,550; Jones, 97,281; For U. S. Senator: Earle, 99,653; Davis, 96,302; For Congress: Flannery, 99,004; Yeosock, 94,281.

Release Man Arrested Early In Martin Case

A 23-year-old Wilkes-Barre man who was arrested early this week on suspicion of having been involved in the Margaret Martin case has been released for lack of evidence. It was announced at Wyoming Barracks yesterday.

Meanwhile, State police were endeavoring to check the stories of three unidentified girls who said they had obtained their names from a state unemployment office, ostensibly to offer them stenographic positions, but who had finally suggested a life of crime.

The girls did not report their experience until the disappearance of Miss Martin. The Martin case was the motive for a number of extraordinary stories this week about girls who had narrowly escaped a fate similar to hers.

Latest Clues Spur Search For Slayer

Discovery Of Margaret Martin's Body Opens New Channels Of Investigation To Police; Trapper Finds Corpse In Creek 12 Miles From Dallas

HAD NOT BEEN ABUSED BEFORE SHE WAS KILLED

Spurred on by the discovery of new clues, police of eight states joined yesterday in a determined quest for the trail of the slayer of Margaret Martin, 19-year-old Kingston Sunday School teacher, whose body was found at Keelersburg, 12 miles from Dallas, late Wednesday afternoon.

Virtually without tangible clues since Miss Martin's disappearance last Saturday morning, police agreed that the tragic discovery of her naked, mutilated body, jammed into a burlap sack and hidden in the icy waters of remote Keelersburg Creek, had opened a number of new channels for investigation.

MOTHER'S WISH IS FOR FUNERAL SERVICES ON EVE OF LORD'S BIRTH

Margaret Martin will be laid to rest tomorrow, the day before Christmas, in accordance with the wish of her mother.

"As a girl who lived as a true child of God," she said, "I would like the funeral to be on the eve of the birthday of the Saviour."

Services will be held from the home, 43 Covert Street, Kingston, at 9, followed by a requiem mass at St. Ignatius Church, Kingston. Interment will be in the parish cemetery.

There was a pronounced feeling among police officials that the new angles to the case will result in the capture of the murderer, perhaps within the next few days.

After an all-night inquiry at Tunkhannock, police were able to reconstruct the manner in which the winsome brunette was murdered. It was established definitely that she had not been touched before the slayer strangled her. One theory was that the girl, who left home to keep an appointment with a prospective employer, had been induced to accompany her slayer to his "office". On the way, the murderer may have sensed that Margaret would not submit to his designs. Perhaps he decided then to kill her.

Death Came Quickly

She died quickly and easily. Her mouth was not compressed, as it would have been if she had struggled, nor agape, as it would have been if she were frightened. There was no stare in her eyes. Aside from the finger prints on her throat and an abrasion over one eye, perhaps suffered when she bumped against some part of the automobile, there were no marks upon her body before death.

There were slashes across the abdomen and the legs, apparently inflicted when the cold-blooded slayer tried to dismember the body. Failing, he forced the body into a heavy potato sack by pushing the head between the knees and tied the bundle with sash cord.

Authorities believe death came to Miss Martin with merciful quickness. She was probably unconscious one minute after the fingers closed on her throat and dead within three minutes. They feel sure she was murdered last Saturday.

One job which confronted police yesterday was to find the girl's clothing. Sixty men, recruited by the District Attorney's office, were scouring the territory in Northmoreland Township, about Keelersburg, yesterday, under the direction of Chief of Detectives Richard Powell. They were interested particularly in searching the isolated summer cabins on Keeler Mountain, close by the Susquehanna River.

Slayer Left Valuable Clues

The burlap sack and the sash cord also may become vital links in the net which will capture the slayer. Two rings Miss Martin was wearing, one a

(Continued on Page 8)

Charge 'Chisellers' Accepted \$308,000

Issue Warrants For 4,000 County Residents On Relief

A sweeping clean-up of relief chisellers in Luzerne County was launched this week as the Department of Welfare served the first of an estimated 4,000 warrants upon persons who are charged with having accepted about \$308,000 illegally.

A score of persons were given hearings before Alderman Frank B. Brown and Alderman Miles Barber at Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday. Several were committed to the county jail in default of bail. A number, who agreed to make restitution, were held under bond until they carry out their promise.

The first batch of warrants were for 58 persons who were charged with having "chiseled" \$6,848.16 from the State Department of Public Assistance. Some of them were persons who accepted checks for relatives who had died. Others accepted checks after they had moved from the State. Many were accepting relief funds after securing employment.

RUMOR IS DENIED

A story in wide circulation last night that a Kingston man had been arrested as the suspected slayer of Margaret Martin was denied by the State Police. Wyoming Barracks was swamped with queries about such rumors, the policemen said.

Dear Santa: We Told Them We'd Turn These Over To You

Got A Basketball Title? Save It For Austin Snyder

Even in these disillusioned times, a good many folks figure that Santa Clause has something up his sleeve for them, even if it's not exactly in the bag.

Although a check-up with Postmaster Joe Polackey hasn't revealed how many people from this section wrote letters to the Old Gent, several well-known characters have tossed wishes to the four winds and, naturally enough, to The Post.

In the Letters to Santa Clause Department, which is conducted in all faith, the notations range from the sublime to the ridiculous, with a smattering of wishes in between.

Take Eric, son of Harvey's Lake. After living the life of a hermit bachelor for the past eight years, Eric has bought two acres of land and is now building a nice two-story dwelling. And all Eric needs now is a wife. File that in the matrimony department.

George Radwelter and Pete Oberst, who have been exchanging socks at Pete's barber shop on Main Street since last summer, each want two pairs of socks for Christmas. And that goes under miscellany.

Dallas Police Chief Walter J. Covert, who isn't such a far cry from Santa Claus himself, wants a nice, new '39 automobile more than anything he can think of. "There's nothing like a new car for crime detection," says Mr. Covert, who is waiting for the wave to strike.

Speaking of Police Chiefs, there's

always Chief Ira C. Stevenson of the Harvey's Lake force. "If I had a nice new airplane, I could fly over the Sahara Desert," says the Chief, Stevenson intimated that he feels sure there is something on the other side of the desert well worth the time and trouble.

Phil Cheney, affable restaurant manager and a busy man, claims he wants anything at all. That comes under the Anything At All department, which is the least disappointing one of all.

Back to Harvey's Lake again and Squire Ralph Davis who desires a nice Japanese back scratcher and a new cage—for his pet wildcat, of course. He feels it will pep up the poor bobcat, which has just gotten around to enjoy basking in the sun when winter descended.

Don Grose wants some mental telep-

Give That Back Scratcher To Squire Davis For His Wildcat

athy equipment. "Nobody ever tells me anything," claims Don, who has missed the last three games of the Dallas A. C.

Coach J. Austin Snyder of Lehman Township High would like another interscholastic basketball title in his stocking, but so would the other four coaches, so things are kind of dead-locked.

Walter Hicks, football coach of Kingston Township High, wants a recipe for taking off that extra ten pounds without dieting, as does John Hayden, Dallas night club proprietor, used to be quite an athlete in his day.



(Illustrated by Terry Kilburn, as Tiny Tim in "A Christmas Carol")