

# My Typewriter Talks

by The Rev. Charles H. Gilbert

My self-imposed assignment today was to translate the next few verses of Genesis (6-8). My work on the first six verses was quite rewarding. But whenever I do try any extensive work in the Septuagint I realize that a lexicon covering the New Testament is not quite sufficient for the era of the second and third centuries before Christ. And so I thought I would try my friend Father Crogan of the Carverton parish, knowing that he has an interest in the Greek.

So I did—and incidentally got a lift to my spirit. He was not sure that the voice he heard was actually mine. So I apologized for the tricks my voice plays on me sometimes, even to the point of my turning the transmitter over to Catherine for greater ease on those who have to hear me. But to my amazement and uplift of spirits, Father Crogan said, "It sounded too young for you!" Wow! How's that? I've been trying not to get the quaver and squeak of an antiquarian, and now my voice sounds too young to me! With that leaving its welcome mark in my bones (Is my hair still brown?) I can with enthusiasm go back to my hobby.

For some reason, or no reason at all, I drew a volume from my diary book shelves. It was number 19 dated Jan. 1951. On the inside cover for whatever value the measurements were which I sent to the store that year as a guide to the selection of a Geneva Pulpit Robe. I note that I had listed my height as 5 ft., 11 1/2 inches. (Since then the padding between my vertebrae have been squashed thinner, and my weight of 180 pounds is down in the low 170's. And then there is one of the most beautiful pictures I ever had taken. It is a professional job done. I think while I was still at Carverton.

And then followed my travail of spirit while I was trying to get together some remarks I was to make in the Trinity Episcopal church in Binghamton. I was to talk about prayer. I had done a lot of research, meditation, and practice in this realm until a few people were thinking of me as an "authority" on prayer, which I am not now, or ever was, or ever will be. I have been for years a serious student of prayer and a willing experimenter in the practice of prayer. I have said many times I want to experiment in prayer, not with any intention of discarding the practice, but with a purpose of using it in more situations, and even in trying more dangerously to try it in more difficult periods when it is entirely possible I might find that for some reason it does not always work perfectly for me. I am dedicated to a permanent use of prayer, risking my faith as often as I dare.

I was committed to this attitude in prayer and so dared to speak from the lectern of the aforementioned Episcopal Church. Because I had not claimed authority in the subject I received very little challenges to my premises.

But even without having a more specific volume of vocabulary for this delightful new volume (gift from the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches) I have nevertheless found some unique values from its study.

Perhaps I have written this before—about the Greek word used for "create." The word "poieo" is definitely the word from which we get our word for poetry. Everybody knows (I hope) that writing poetry has to

## Two Dallas Students Named to Dean's List

A total of 430 students have been named to the dean's list at Monmouth College for outstanding achievement during the spring semester.

To qualify, a student must take 14 or more credits in the semester, achieve a current grade point average of 3.2 or better and have no grade lower than "C". A 4.00 is equivalent to an "A" and a 3.00 is equivalent to a "B".

Two students from the local area have been named to the dean's list. Janine Malkemes, RD 3, Box 369 and Patricia Williams, 41 Grandview Ave., Dallas. Miss Malkemes is a senior art education major and Miss Williams is a junior and a computer science major.

## Board of Directors Set Special Meeting

Dallas School Board of Directors will hold a special meeting to open bids and for general purposes July 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the senior high school library.

be a creative act. Any writing, for that matter, whether poetry or purposeful poetry, or music, or any other form of art begins in the realm of ideas. I have often used as an illustration the process by which a woman makes a dress. Watch the process if you have a chance. It goes also for any object that a man makes.

A friend of mine once asked me the question regarding my making an electric cross, of which I have made several. I finally had to tell him it all started as an idea in my mind. It has been fun trying to trace the piece of work back to the idea that made me go here and there, for instance, to go to the lumber yard to select the kind of wood; and to the electric store for fixtures, and kinds of lights, and to the art glass studio for help in choosing the kind of art glass and materials with which to attach it to the wood box frame. I have to admit that the "poetry" of my hand-crafted articles is really crude, but the principle of creation is there.

I sat dreamily but not with a look of any brilliance! And I told my daughter I "have to get started on my 'Typewriter Talks' column". Admittedly I did not have even a "ghost of an idea", but I knew it had to come or the typewriter would have nothing to report.

That is why I turned to my diary book shelf and for no reason pulled out a certain numbered notebook; one could find some thought-starter on almost any page. But one should not get in the habit of thinking that one's own experiences would be of interest to another.

Just coming across the name of a certain "old" lady, oh yes, she was very old. I had listed her age as 84! Good gracious! Is that so very old? Enough to write about? No! I'm only 83.

Only she called up a memory that could as well have been forgotten. Her son, or maybe grandson, was in jail. And she wished I would go and see him and talk with him. Of course I would do my best as a minister for this "old" lady. She was in my church. So I went. He was only in the lock-up and had not been sentenced about anything. He did not run away from me when I went in. In fact he was glad to see me. He wanted me to use my influence to "get me out a here!"

That was to become for me an old story which I was to hear from everybody whom I ever went to visit. I confess my failure as a minister; I was never able to get anybody released from jail! The Lord have mercy on my soul!

Well, I'm not succeeding in being very creative with this typewriter. There is this difference between my using this machine to write, against writing along with a fountain pen. My pen wants to go on over the edge and write pieces and bits of literature on whatever paper happens to be under the top sheet of paper.

My typewriter will stop anywhere. And is adjusted to stop at the end of a line.

# Local Florist Honored At FTD Member Day

John P. Mattern, Dallas, has been chosen one of the "96 Great People" to be honored at the first annual "Member Day" sponsored by Florists' Transworld Delivery Association (FTD). Mr. Mattern, of King Floral Co., Forty-Fort has been a member of FTD for 30 years.



John P. Mattern

Mr. Mattern has been selected as one of the association's outstanding florists, who in addition to being a top businessman, has given an "extra touch" to his community through his civic, social and charitable interests.

Active in numerous community organizations for many years, Mr. Mattern is a charter member of the greater Wilkes-Barre Junior Chamber of Commerce and has served as its director and president. He was a moving force behind the establishment of the community's annual Cherry Blossom Festival and continues to serve in an advisory capacity.

A founder of the first Tulip Festival in Luzerne County, Mr. Mattern is also chairman of the ad hoc committee for beautification and a member of the planning commission in the Forty-Fort Borough. Named as "Florist of the Year" in 1973 by the Pennsylvania Retail Florists, Mr. Mattern was also appointed to the American Academy of Florists by the Society of American Florists.

Other organizations in which Mr. Mattern has been active include the American Red Cross; YMCA; the Rotary Club; the Party-of-the-Month Club; the Westmoreland Club; three Parent-Teacher Associations; fund raising campaigns

## Local Man Participates In Specialized Program

Midshipman David M. Haines, son of Mr. and Mrs. George K. Haines Sr., Route 1, Sweet Valley, is one of more than 800 Naval Academy midshipmen who are undergoing specialized summer training at various stateside Navy and Marine Corps bases.

The program for the class of 1976 consists of two weeks of professional training at the academy in Annapolis, Md.; two weeks of damage control training at Philadelphia, one week of aviation orientation at Pensacola, Fla.; a week with the Marine Corps at Quantico, Va.; one week of submarine training at New London, Conn.; and one week at Newport, R.I. with the destroyer force.

He will enter his junior year at the academy in September.

## Legion Cancels Meeting

It has been announced that there will be no August meeting for American Legion members. The next regular meeting will be held Sept. 13 at 8 p.m. The installation of new officers will be held Oct. 12, at the Post Home.

for Penn State, Kings College, Wilkes-College and Misericordia College; FTD; and the Pennsylvania Retail Florists' Association.

As one of the "96 Great People," Mr. Mattern will represent his FTD district at the first annual "Member Day" which will be held at FTD headquarters in Detroit, Mich., June 24-25. Selected from 14,000 FTD members throughout the United States and Canada, the 96 district winners will be feted to a gala two-day celebration that will include a terrace party at the Hotel Pontchartrain, V.I.P. tours of FTD World Headquarters and Cadillac Motor Company, a special Garden Luncheon with local and national celebrities, and a "Member Day" dinner and award presentation.

"Over the years, we have known that among FTD's membership there are many outstanding people who are not only extraordinarily capable businessmen, but also responsible, concerned and involved citizens who gladly give their time, energy and money to help others," said Al Wilhelm, Member Day chairman. "We feel that through this Member Day event, these people, of whom we are so proud, will receive the recognition they deserve."

Fourteen regional representatives will be chosen at the Member Day activities as finalists for the distinction of "FTD, Florist of the Year." Final selection will be made by a distinguished panel of nationally known dignitaries at the 1974 Annual Members Meeting, Bal Harbour, Fla. in August. The finalist will be the guest of honor at the 1975 Rosebowl Parade in Pasadena, Calif. Among other nominated Member district representatives from Pennsylvania were John A. Grode, Erie, and James B. Ludwig, Pittsburgh.

JOHN H. MALKEMES  
John H. Malkemes, 75, 92 East Franklin St., Shavertown, died July 16 at Retreat State Hospital where he was a patient for one year.

Mr. Malkemes was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1898 and resided in Shavertown since 1933. Mr. Malkemes was employed by Harry F. Goeringer and Sons, Wilkes-Barre, before his retirement. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Shavertown.

He is survived by his widow, the former Gertrude Lang; sons, Allen R., Centerville; Kenneth L., Mountaintop; sister, Mrs. Harry Goeringer Sr., Forty Fort; brothers Peter M., Fort Meyers, Fla.; Frank C., Wilkes-Barre; Fred W., Shavertown; Raymond, Fla.; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Mr. Malkemes son, Donald, was killed during World War II while in the armed services.

Funeral services were held from the Kniffen Funeral Home, 465 South Main St., Wilkes-Barre with Rev. Clarence R. Schaffer, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilkes-Barre officiating. The burial was in the Oak Lawn Cemetery, Hanover Township.

DAVID MAHER  
David Maher, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Maher, 258 East State St., Larksville, died July 16 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital. A private funeral was held for the infant.

He is survived by his parents and brothers Brian, Richard, Raymond and Scott. Also surviving are his maternal grandmother, Mrs. James Barrett, Larksville; and paternal grandmother, Mrs. Thomas Maher, Kingston.

Funeral services were conducted from the John J. Kilty Funeral Home, 87 Washington St., Plymouth. The burial was in St. Vincent's Cemetery, Larksville.

CLYDE T. BLANNETTE  
Clyde Thomas Blannette, 13 Linden St., Luzerne, died July 17 in Nesbitt Hospital.

Mr. Blannette was born in Courtdale where he was employed by Bonnell Wheeler Grocery Store. He was a member of Luzerne Methodist Church.

He is survived by his widow, Madeline Craze Blannette; sisters, Eloise Bowman, New Jersey; Stella O'Dea, Larksville; and Rosella Blannette, Courtdale; brothers, Ralph, California; John, Kingston; and William, Wyoming.

The funeral was held from the Russell C. Davis Funeral Home, 365 Bennett St., Luzerne, July 18. The Rev. Donald Schalk of United Methodist Church, Luzerne, and the Rev. Thomas

Jenkins of United Methodist Church, Nanticoke, officiated. The burial was in the Denison Cemetery, Swoyersville.

DONALD DAVIS MEEKER  
Donald Davis Meeker, 67, 223 East Center Hill Road, Dallas, died July 16 at his home following a heart attack.

Mr. Meeker resided in Dallas for 13 years and was born in Verona. He was employed by Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. for 45 years before retirement. He was a member of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Dallas.

He is survived by his widow, the former Frances Eaton; son, George E., Plymouth; sisters, Margaret Grefson, Willow Grove; Josephine Culver, Kenosha; Wis.; and Elizabeth Bube, Palo Alto, Calif., brothers, James C., Huntington Mills; and Robert M., Willow Grove and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held from the Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Highway, Dallas, July 19. The Rev. Andrew Pillarella, pastor of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church officiated. The burial was in Pine Grove Cemetery, Harveyville.

SADIE E. BERRY  
Sadie E. Berry, 76, RD 3 Tunkhannock, died July 18 in Carpenter Nursing Home, Idetown, where she had been a patient for three years.

She was the former Sadie Jenkins, born in Edwardsville, Aug. 30, 1897. Most of her life she resided in Kingston and Wilkes-Barre. She was a member of the Tunkhannock United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Berry is survived by her husband, George M., Shavertown; sons, George J., Shavertown; Donald J., Kingston; daughter, Mrs. Clayton Evans and Mrs. Edward Myers, Towanda; sisters, Mary Kleppinger, Allentown; and Elizabeth Kleiner, Shavertown; seven grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held from the Harold C. Snowden Funeral Home, 420 Wyoming Ave., Kingston, July 20. The Rev. Arthur B. Mayo, pastor of Dorranceton United Methodist Church officiated. The burial was in the Memorial Shrine Cemetery, Carverton.

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# Obituaries

INFANT LAIBINIS  
The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Laibinis, 107 Gaylord Ave., Plymouth, died shortly after birth in Nesbitt Hospital. The mother is the former Diane Urbanis, Plymouth.

Surviving besides Mr. and Mrs. Laibinis are the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Laibinis, Lyndwood; maternal grandparents, Mrs. and Mrs. William Urbanis, Plymouth; sisters and brother, Erwin Ann and Ronald.

The funeral was held from the S.J. Gronkowi Funeral Home, 530 West Main St., Plymouth. The burial was in St. Casimir's Cemetery, Muhlenburg.

LEONARD LASKOWSKI  
Leonard Laskowski, 233 Hughes St., Swoyersville, died at his home July 20.

A self employed truck farmer until his retirement last year, he was life long resident of Swoyersville.

He was a member of Holy Trinity Parish of Swoyersville. He is survived by his wife, the former Anna Evanko; daughters, Mrs. Thoms, Mountaintop; Carol, Swoyersville; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday from the Bednarski Funeral Home, Wyoming. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Holy Trinity Church. Interment in the parish cemetery.

WILLIAM P. BRISLIN  
William P. Brislin, 80, 256 Miller St., Luzerne, died July 14 at Closure Chester County Hospital, Chester.

Mr. Brislin was born in Luzerne and employed with Glen Adden Coal Company for 52 years. He was a member of St. Ignatius Church, Kingston. Serving on the USS Maine, he was a veteran of World War I. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 525, Luzerne.

He is survived by his sisters, Nellie Ellen Brislin, Luzerne; and Josephine Morgan, Marcus Hook.

The funeral was held from the Karl E. Blight Funeral Home, July 18. Burial was in the St. Vincent's Cemetery, Larksville.

STEPHEN F. PAVCO  
Stephen F. Pavco, 187 Hughes St., Swoyersville, died in Hampton House Nursing Home July 18.

Mr. Pavco was born in Swoyersville and was employed as a miner for 46 years. He was a member of Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville.

He is survived by a brother, John, Forty Fort; nieces, Emma and Mary Zabreski, with whom he resided.

The funeral was held from the Baloga Funeral Home, 1442 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, July 20. The burial followed the requiem mass in Holy Trinity Church Parish Cemetery.

Drownings Often Within Safety—Do you know that in 1973 it was estimated that half of all drownings happened within 20 feet of safety. That's about the distance from bumper to bumper on your car says Joseph R. Cardenuto, Extension recreation specialist, The Pennsylvania State University.

The National Safety Council advises that each person needs to learn: How to hold or row to someone in trouble in the water, how to stay afloat with clothes on, how to swim and how to use simple life-saving skills. Often a simple stroke like a dog paddle will enable a floundering swimmer to reach shore, points out Cardenuto.

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