

From The Dailies

(From Page 1)
Mary Joyce Reider, aged eleven months, was burned to death when a dwelling was destroyed by fire on Route 2, Denver.

The State claims that at least \$750,000 in soft drink tax money is being withheld by bottlers in hope

the levy is unconstitutional. The Lancaster postoffice handled 3,126,418 pieces of mail since Dec. 1. For the entire month last year the clerks handled five million pieces. The Phila. Eagles, underdogs in the betting, defeated the Chicago Cardinals Sunday for the All-American Conference football championship 7 to 0. The Fish and Wild Life Service at Washington, D.C. requests that after the family is thru with its Xmas tree it should be placed in the back yard as a feeding spot. In Mount Joy the editor has been using the discarded street trees as bird and game shelter in his game propagation area.

Weddings Thruout

(From Page 1)
daughter of Mrs. Cora Strickler, of E-town, and Harry G. Heisey, 1944.

son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Heisey, Florin, took place Saturday in the parsonage of St. Paul's Evangelical U. B. Church in E-town. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Paul E. Fridinger. The bride wore a checked suit with black accessories and a corsage of white carnations. The matron of honor, Mrs. Alvin Strickler, E-town, wore a brown suit with matching accessories and a corsage of yellow pompons. Alvin Strickler served as best man. The bride is employed at the Kenwood Hotel, E-town, and the bridegroom is employed at E-town College.

FELL OFF HORSE, DIED

Miss Esther Mae Henne, 22, fell off a horse at Columbia last Sunday and died at the Columbia Hospital of a fractured skull. She was a graduate of the East Hempfield Twp. High School Class of 1944.



A Very Merry Christmas
And
A Happy New Year

ESHLEMAN BROS.
MOUNT JOY

SHORT STORY

The Man For The Part
By
STEPHEN CORBETT

I KNEW the moment that I saw him that he was the type. Just the man for the part of Steve the old hillbilly in the second act. As he trudged the street toward me I noted with satisfaction his matted grey whiskers, long, untrimmed hair, and the look of defiant misery in his eyes. He was the part to the life.

The part had given me considerable difficulty in filling. You see the whole plot revolves around this Steve although he appears but a few minutes in the second act. Steve must be a very real person or the point of the play is lost. I'd turned down dozens of applicants, even Tommy Kingston, the best character man of them all. "I hated to refuse Kingston, on account of past associations. Besides he needed the work. But this last bit of casting was very important to the success of what I believed to be a sure-fire hit. Kingston had argued that the judicious use of make-up would supply me with a Steve that even the author would recognize. But I'd told him I was too old a hand not to know the limitations of grease paint. My man must be true to life.

I was sure I'd found him. When the old man was a few paces from me I said: "Pardon me, but would you like to earn some money?" He stopped and stared at me in amazement. For a moment he couldn't speak, then words tumbled from his lips in desperate, guttural tones. "Yes," he said, "I want money. Work, any kind of work so long as it is honest! I'm strong, sir, I do not tire easily and if there—"

"This will require no muscular exertion," I interrupted. "I want you for a play I'm producing."

"A play?" he repeated, puzzled. "I believe you're just the man for one of the parts. My office is nearby. If you'll come with me I'll try you out."

He seemed nervous when we entered my office. I suppose his realization that the hopeless search for work might be over made him tremble that way. Reaction, psychologists term it. When he was seated in the big arm chair opposite my desk I gave him a drink, a rare concession. He gulped it down.

I THUMBED through the script and showed him the part he was to read. I'd expected to hear him go through it once, then to show him how to put more into it. But I found myself on the edge of my chair watching him intently. The man was living Steve, getting the utmost out of every phrase, giving each word its proper value.

3-Minute Fiction

He finished reading and turned to me anxiously: "Did I—do all right?"

"All right? Man you were perfect. The part is yours," and I meant it.

The occasion called for a celebration. After weeks of searching hotels, park benches and flop houses I'd found Steve. We drank to his success.

There were contract forms handy on my desk. I filled in a few spaces till I came to "salary." "The part pays \$100 a week," I told him. "Please sign here."

He hesitated. Was this old fellow, half-starved, jobless, going to be difficult? He said, "It is this way. This acting I do better than anyone else?"

I nodded impatiently.

"Then should I not get more than you would ordinarily pay?"

I was getting sore even though there was a kind of logic to his argument. "Good heavens, man, this is just a bit part. A hundred dollars is high pay for such."

He remained obstinate. Maintaining that an artist such as he should receive more than a lesser person. I regretted now the brandy I'd given him. Taken on an empty stomach it had undoubtedly gone to his head. He agreed to accept \$150. He signed and it occurred to me for the first time that I didn't know his name. I picked up his contract. Then I reached for the brandy bottle. I really needed it this time for the signature written in a familiar, round hand was "Thomas Kingston."

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