

Day Days

MARY CRANE emptied the last tub and stood it against the shed to drain, sighing her thanks that if she must wash clothes on Christmas Day the job was at least over and done with by noon. She had just returned to the kitchen when a knock came at the door. It was her neighbor, Hattie Jamieson, decked out in her finest.

"Aren't you the one," Hattie exclaimed, "washing clothes on Christmas Day!"

Mary conceded it wasn't the best way to pass the day, but added that it must be done.

"I wonder if you'd do me a favor?" Hattie asked. "John and Fanny have asked us to come to town for Christmas dinner and the tree tonight. You know, times were a little tough for Henry and me this year, so I took those two little State orphans to board. Now, I don't want to leave them at home alone, and Fanny wouldn't want them to come mingle with her youngsters." She sighed faintly. "Would you let them come stay with you for the evening?"

"Why, of course," Mary replied, smiling. "It will make Christmas for me, who was spendin' it alone. What time will they come?"

"Fanny's sending the car for us about five o'clock, and we'll drop them off here on the way."

After Hattie had left, Mary mused that she didn't suppose the Lord thought Fanny's children too good to mingle with these two orphans, but after a moment she realized there was much to be done. By five o'clock she had walked to the store and spent her few pennies on two tiny pair of red mittens, which were now hanging on the little spruce tree Mary had cut in the back yard. And in the kitchen a hot, hearty supper was waiting.

Mary sat in the living room, waiting. "Lucky I did that extra washing today, so I feel justified spending those pennies on the youngsters. Those children must have a Christmas, and maybe—" she sighed—"I shan't have a home another year!"

Waiting there in the old rocker, her head dropped slowly, and Mary Crane fell asleep.

"One thing I'd like to do before dinner," rich old Andrew Craig said to his wife. "S'pose there's time? You remember Mary Crane had some tough luck a few years back. She borrowed money from the bank on her house and couldn't keep up the payments. Well, the directors decided not to give her any more time.



"All tall and bright and—beautiful."

"I couldn't help remembering our lean years, Sue, when Mary was our neighbor and worked day and night to pull you through pneumonia. So I just gathered in that debt—it was only a few hundreds—and had some papers made out to Mary. I'd kind of like to take them out to her on Christmas night."

Sue pulled his head down and kissed him. "It will take just 10 minutes to pack a basket for you to take along," she reckoned swiftly. "If you drive there and back in half an hour, you can do it. Remember, we have guests coming!"

It was snowing when Andrew alighted from the car. A lamp showed him Mary's kitchen through the window, the cheery tree, and the sleeping old lady. He tip-toed in and placed his basket on the table, papers on top. The latching of the door aroused Mary.

Her small guests rushed in a few minutes later to find Mary holding the papers to her heart, her face alight with joy.

"Merry Christmas, Mary," cried the little girl. "There was a man on your steps when we came down the lane. We saw him plain as could be!"

"You're right," said Mary. "Andrew Craig is a man, if ever there was one."

"Not the man in the fur coat," insisted the child. "It was another just behind him. All tall and bright and—beautiful."

"Well," said Mary. "I'm not surprised. Some folks might say it was shadows and lamplight and snowflakes, but"—tapping the papers—"wherever there's things like this goin' on Christmas night, I'm persuaded He's there!"

Steers Give Boy a College Education

Harold Marler, a member of the Four Oaks 4-H Club in Johnston county, is going to have a college education and he is going to make baby beef calves pay for it.

Harold fed out his first steer four years ago. According to John E. Piland, assistant farm agent, he fed corn from his father's crib and other borrowed feed to that first steer until he could market him.

The second year Harold decided to grow an acre of corn and an acre of hay along with his steer, thinking his profits would be larger. And that's just exactly what they were. Then he decided on two steers and larger yields of corn and hay.

And so, like Topsy, Harold's business "just grew." Today he has five steers and he tells Piland that he not only has enough feed to carry them through the season but also some extra money in the bank.

With another year or two in school, Harold hopes to continue to add to the surplus which he has already built up. He is going to have a college education and he is going to pay his own way.

Piland says that it's excellent experience for any farm boy to save the money that he has made in a project and then re-invest it for still larger profits. In speaking of Harold, Piland says: "When he does realize his ambition in

getting an education, he will have earned it himself. He will be a much more practical man because of having done so."

DEATH BLOCKS REUNION
Chicago—Death blocked Danielle Toniouette's 18-year dream of a reunion in Italy with his wife and five children. Coming to this country 18 years ago, Toniouette, 36, told his wife he would send for her shortly. Then came the depression and he was out of work. By 1940 he had saved up enough for the fares and then came the war. This month, as he was planning to return to Italy to join his wife, seriously ill in a hospital, he was struck by an automobile. The driver hurried him to a hospital, but he was dead on arrival.

Wyatt, in housing farewell, blames short-sighted selfishness.

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WORK FINE
Portland, Maine—Calling to find out how the city's recently installed parking meters were working out, A. L. Somers, who sold them to the city, listened to City Manager Lyman S. Moore laud the meters for almost an hour. He didn't get the whole story, however, until he left the office and found, on his car, besides a "time-expired" meter a police traffic ticket.

UNUSUAL ACCIDENT
New York—Alexander Cook, 41-year-old mail carrier, and father of four children, was fatally injured when he was struck by the body of a woman who plunged to her death from the laying stage.

top of a 15-story apartment building. He died an hour later in a hospital.

SMART MERCHANT
Butler, Pa.—When J. F. Dennis' loaded truck leaped a bank and somersaulted twice, the wreckage looked like a total loss to everyone except Dennis. After patching up his bruised eye, he set up shop right on the spot and sold his entire load of potatoes, oranges, apples and beer to curious motorists who stopped to "rubberneck" the accident.

About 25 pounds of feed are required to develop a pullet to the laying stage.

More than 200,000 people visited prewar Baden, Germany, famous for its castle and its university, every year.

Eire, which was called the "poor-house of Europe" in 1840, today has one of the highest per capita wealths in Europe.

Stockholders Meeting

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Mountain Burley Warehouse, Inc., will be held December 28th, 1946, at 3:30 p. m., at the Junior Order Hall, Boone, N. C.

All stockholders are urged to be present.

H. GRADY FARTHING, Pres.
CLYDE R. GREENE, Sec'y.

Announcement
Every Monday and Wednesday

Beginning Monday, September 9th, and until further notice

DR. H. E. HALLER
of Lenoir, N. C.

will be in his offices over the Western Auto Associate Store, in Boone, N. C., for

Complete Eye Examinations, Fitting, Adjustments and Repairing of Glasses

One week service (or less) from examination to delivery of glasses.

Hours: 8:00 to 5:00

Monday and Wednesday
Every Week

After 5:00 by appointment only.

R. N.

The Norburn Hospital of Asheville, having moved to its new location, is ready to open the East Wing with the most modern equipment but lacks Registered Nurses. Your living conditions will be ideal remuneration excellent. If available please wire or write Superintendent of Nurses, Norburn Hospital, Asheville, North Carolina.

List Your Property For Taxation

All male persons between the ages of 21 and 50 years, are to list their polls at the same time. Returns on property and listing for poll taxes are required, and those failing to do so are subject to the penalties of the law.

It is also required that farmers make a crop report at the time of listing. Don't fail to do this.

be at the various listing places during the month of January, at which places and times all taxpayers are required to list their property as of January 1, 1947. Listing places and dates will be announced early in January.

In accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, all persons living in Watauga County are required to list their property, real and personal, for taxation during the month of

January, 1947

The list-takers for the various townships of the county will

The continued co-operation of the taxpayers is respectfully requested.

PAUL A. COFFEY

County Tax Supervisor



SANTA CLAUS OFFICE

Hello Folks
Merry Christmas
1946

★

ALL OF OUR
FOLKS ARE HOPING
THAT ALL OF
YOUR FOLKS WILL
SPEND A MIGHTY
Merry Christmas

★

CAROLINA PHARMACY
and Employees