

Pedestrians Should Also Observe Usual Highway Manners

"Maybe one of these days we'll stop thinking of most pedestrian mishaps as 'accidents' and instead put them on the record for what they actually are—'self-inflicted wounds'!"

That was Assistant Motor Vehicles Commissioner Joe W. Garrett's word for pedestrians this week as the Motor Vehicles Department intensified its campaign for safer walking.

"There is a tendency," Garrett said, "to discuss motor manners as though they apply only to drivers. Well, in my book there are plenty of discourteous pedestrians, and a good many of the walkers injured and killed in traffic accidents every year are victims of their own thoughtlessness, discourtesy and stubbornness!"

Walking against the traffic signal, crossing diagonally at intersections, darting from behind parked cars and crossing streets between intersections were listed by the vehicles official as the violations of etiquette—and law—most common among pedestrians.

"The one with the most to lose in a traffic accident caused by a pedestrian's bad manners," Garrett said, "is the pedestrian himself. But this never seems to deter them. The driver suffers from pedestrian discourtesies in terms of frayed nerves and exhausted patience—factors that increase the likelihood of his being involved in an accident."

Garrett also pointed out occasional instances when pedestrian discourtesies are the direct cause of accidents in which the pedestrian is not involved—as in the case of a driver swearing to avoid a pedestrian and striking another vehicle.

"Laws regarding pedestrians are relatively few," Garrett said, "and for that reason, doubly important. The most important thing for the pedestrian to do is observe traffic signals. It's not smart to jay-walk, to cross against red lights, or to cross a street in the middle of the block between intersections, except at plainly marked crosswalks.

"Keeping these laws in mind can mean keeping yourself and others alive," he said. "Let's observe them. Remember, when you're walking, let traffic laws do the talking. Don't take a step in the wrong direction."

know the place of His birth, but must consult his scribes. The coming of Messiah has taken Jerusalem completely by surprise. Nor are they roused to take any interest in the matter save, as we read, they are troubled. "He was in the world . . . and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not."

Had we read that Egypt, or Babylon was troubled it would not have surprised us. But Jerusalem! All Jerusalem! Troubled by the arrival of her long awaited King! Not excited—not apprehensive—but troubled!

The statement of the wise men contained nothing alarming. They spoke but of the birth of a mere helpless baby. They came not to secure His rule by force, but merely to worship Him. The title they gave Him, "King of the Jews," might have alarmed Herod—but certainly not Jerusalem. Then, too, this was good news. Messiah was their great national hope—a hope that had been nourished through the ages until now it glowed more brightly than when the promise of God first gave birth to it.

Do you know why they were troubled? I'll tell you. They realized they were not prepared for His coming; they were not prepared to face Him. The news would spread quickly through Jerusalem—poor and rich, priest and scribe, and Pharisee—our homes have been fulfilled! Messiah has come! And then they began to examine themselves. "Am I ready to stand in the presence of God?"

The wise men were not troubled. They were eager to greet Him and welcome Him. They made haste to seek Him out and worship Him, for they were prepared at once to own Him as Saviour and Lord, and feel "Fear ye not, I know that ye seek Jesus." It is only those who are not prepared to submit to God's terms who can be troubled at His coming. Take Him for what He is and you have nothing to fear.

So, today, some two-thousand years later, men are still troubled by the presence of Christ; He will not let men alone. He went to Jerusalem, and it was troubled. He appeared to a young man named Saul on the Damascus Road, and Saul was troubled. He went to Thessalonika, and Thessalonika was troubled. He went to Philippi, to Rome, and they were troubled. A young German scholar named Martin Luther began to study his Bible—and Luther realized he was in the presence of Christ—and Luther was troubled. And from Luther He went to all Germany, and Germany was troubled. He went to Switzerland, to Holland, to Scotland, and they were troubled. He comes to a town or a village today and it is troubled. He comes to a heart dead in trespasses and sin, and it is troubled.

Yet the world's only hope is to be troubled by Christ, for were He to leave it alone it would leave Him alone. Why does a man today oppose the Gospel? Because Christ is troubling him, and he is under conviction of sin. Discuss the infallibility of the Bible with an unsaved man and you can do it on friendly terms. Tell a non-Christian about the second coming of Christ and he will listen politely. But show Him from the Book that he is a sinner in need of a Saviour and he will either become angry or change the subject. It always happens—I've never known it to fail.

Perhaps some who read this column have been troubled by Christ. You know that some day you will have to face Him, and you know also that you are not prepared. Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me."

Resolve Him now, by faith, as your Saviour and Lord, and feel in your heart the true peace on earth proclaimed by the angel to the shepherds so many years ago.

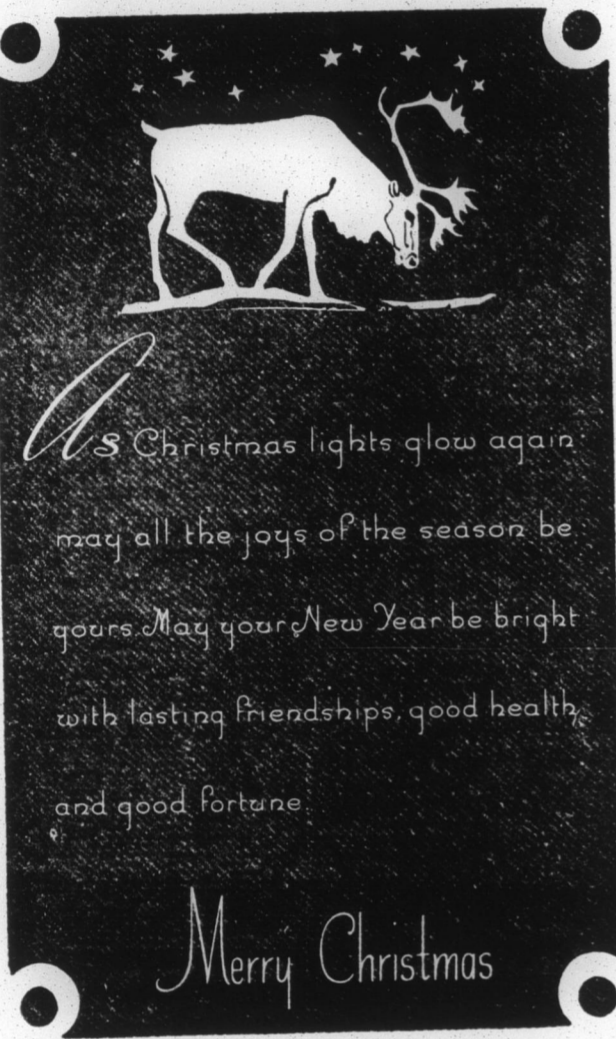
And what is Fame? The meanest have their day. The greatest can but blaze, and pass away. —Pope.

Weekly Devotional Column
By JAMES MacKENZIE

"When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him." (Matthew 2:3)

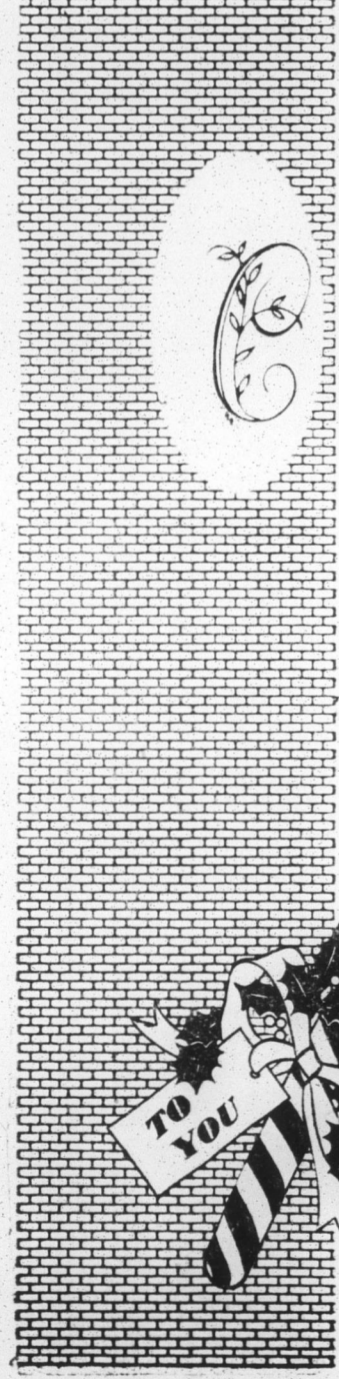
So quietly had the Son of God stolen into this world that His presence was not known in Jerusalem until the wise men came from the East. These wise men came with faith—faith in the promise of God. "We have seen," they say, "and we have come."

But Jerusalem has not yet heard of Him. Jerusalem is amazed. Indeed, her King does not even



As Christmas lights glow again
may all the joys of the season be
yours. May your New Year be bright
with lasting friendships, good health,
and good fortune.

Merry Christmas
JOE'S DRIVE-IN



CHRISTMAS

Christmas reminds us of friends, good times, and all that's brightest and good in life.

It makes us think of those we know, or wish to know. It strengthens all the bonds of feeling and friendship that link us all, one to the other. MERRY CHRISTMAS!—

That is why it makes us think of you with our best wishes for your continued happiness on Christmas and all through the coming year.

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