

The Children's Christmas Story

By HATTIE BOYD SCOTT

Mr. Squirrel awoke one fine fall morning to find Mrs. Squirrel out of the nest.

After looking around and calling in a high squeaky voice, she still did not answer and he became very disturbed.

In the fall they had gathered many nuts and acorns and had buried them in a very special place. Papa Squirrel remembered this and decided she had gone there for a late fall breakfast.

However, when he got there, she was nowhere to be found. So now, he really became upset. He started calling and calling. Finally, after a long time, he heard high up a very nervous, shaky answer.

There sitting on a limb and rubbing her eyes as the big tears began falling was Mrs. Squirrel. Papa Squirrel landed beside her and put his arms around her. He said, "My dear, what can be the matter, you had me so worried when I found you gone from our nest and you didn't answer when I called."

"Well," she said, "I have had quite a fright. In jumping from our tree to the ground, I landed on the Master's big yard dog. Very careless of me, I'm sure—however, as I fell with all force, he awoke with a start and started chasing me. Oh, husband, you can not imagine how my heart started to beat so fast, that I thought I was going to faint and then that big 'ole' dog would have had me, for sure. But, I beat him to the tree!"

"Well, my dear," said Papa Squirrel, "let this be a lesson to you. What would our children, when they come home, have

thought, if they found their beloved mother eaten up by a big yard dog?"

"And what about me?" he asked. "My dear little wife gone, and me a sad, lonesome Papa, with no one to talk to, and no one to cuddle up to on cold mornings?"

So, they leaped from tree to tree until they were safely in their nest high in the tree tops.

However, during the night, there came a bad wind storm with rain, thunder and lightning, and blew Papa and Mama Squirrel's home down to the ground. Being agile and spry, they spent the rest of the night sitting on a limb cuddled close together.

When the sun came up the next morning, guess what had happened? - - Looking out of my window there were all the children who had come home to help Mama and Papa build a new nest. They were all happy being together and loving each other.

This is as it should be, the children loving Mama and Daddy and helping them in all the ways they can, and holding the family together with love and understanding.

"God takes care of all his creatures."

EDITOR'S NOTE—Mrs. Scott, 95-year-old resident of Brehon Street, Warrenton, is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Will Boyd of Warren County and is the widow of professional baseball pitcher Jack Scott. She wrote the story of the squirrels this year as a gift to our younger readers.



Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Thompson, of the Macon community, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 26 with about 150 relatives and friends in the Warren Plains Baptist Church fellowship hall. Hosting the event were their children, Mrs. Frances Sykes of Durham, Mrs. Margie Robinson of Richmond, Va. and Mrs. Mellea Laney of Wilmington.

Around Warrenton

Lew Hege and Miss Laurie Spencer of Apex attended the Nutcracker ballet in Raleigh Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Benton and daughter, Sara, were weekend guests of her mother, Mrs. Roy B. Shearin.

Jeff Palmer recently returned from visiting his daughter, Betty Harrington and her husband, Pete, and their children, Lindsay and Peter, in Oakton, Va. He also visited his son, Jeff, Jr. in Arlington, Va.

Marvin "Spud" Tharrington is recuperating from surgery at home following a month-long stay at Duke Medical Center.

Mrs. Lib Arrington of Raleigh, Mrs. Nancy Kornegay of Rocky Mount and Mrs. Estelle Cheek of Littleton were luncheon guests of Mrs. Helen Farmer last week before visiting friends in town.

Mrs. Lucy Scott and Mrs. Hattie Scott attended the christening of their great-niece in Enfield on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Tucker and Ashly of Raleigh, Donna and Dennis Blake of Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lark, Christopher and Jonathan of Greensboro, Mr. and Mrs. William Perkinson, Kiley and Crystal of Wise were dinner guests of Mrs. Glenn Perkinson and Mrs. Elizabeth Overby on Sunday.



Forty Warren County members of the N.C. Museum of History Associates attended the Associates' annual Christmas party held on Dec. 1 at the museum in Raleigh. Coordinating the trip was Mrs. Jan Perkinson, county co-chairman.



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