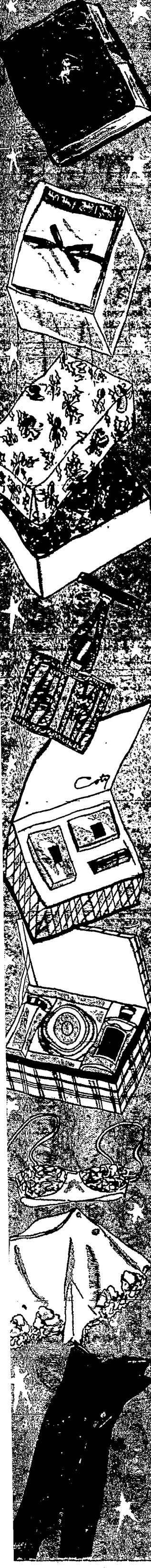


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To WILMA WIFE. Imported from France. Variety of tailored and fancy styles. In black, brown, navy.

EDWARDS, Street Floor

MIDNIGHT MASS IN MID-SUMMER HEAT IS LOT OF MISSIONARIES CHRISTMAS DAY IN S. AFRICA

(Continued from page 10)

homes, five, ten or even thirty miles away. It is unheard of to come to Mass without going to the altar rail to receive the Christmas Babe so that means Confession virtually the whole day. As the sun moves east and night draws on, silent shadows come from out the darkness after long walks over mountain foothills until the church is quickly filled and at least time late-comers must remain without.

Every person with the power of locomotion comes to Midnight Mass, white haired, white bearded, be it bodied "khehls" who should have been asleep in their graves years ago, the pillars of the church, those old "dabbles" who will hear their coughs and young men with their babes on their backs, heathens by the score in their picturesque native dress and their "love pipe" headdress, abuzz with multi-colored bead tinkles, and children of all ages. Prayers in strange languages with many thick, various groups keep the vigil up to midnight and the soft, beautifully harmonized traditional hymns in a Zulu garb, which do not disturb the missionary busy about Father's business during the night.

Five minutes before midnight and the procession starts as the priest carries the image of the Christ Child and lays it in the manger. Midnight Mass with all its sweetness, a single voice is heard like the wail of some lonely bumbkin and then a thunderous peal till the roof shakes with the magnificent harmony that is natural to the people. The high pitch of the children, the varied middle tones of the women, fall into some mellow tones of the men in the lower minor octaves piano and forte. "Wozani malolwa-Vozani malolwa-Adede Fideles" until the stars in the heavens blink their admiration and the znyu babes present aroused from the land of dreams add their bit to the musical masterpiece.

Silence at the congregation and the baby God is born now in Zulu and warm hearts in black bodies are open to receive Him. Communion time and life is born in the hearts of all. The last blessing visits to the crib to gaze at the puzzled Joseph and the girl-mother, sure don't forget that one of the wise men who rode the camels to Bethlehem had a black skin. The bubble of voices growing loud as their possessors draw away toward home and then the darkness of the night leaves the missionary alone with his thoughts.

Simplicity the keynote but beauty without. No Christmas customs of their own for my people have only recently been. He was on heathenism. As I close these many I request that when you go to Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve in Boston or New York, or Washington or in other cities many hours after us, ask the Christmas Babe in His crib to send out some stars of His grace to draw to the Bethlehem of His church some of the many million of us yet unconverted pagans.

DAY ONE OF GREAT CONSOLATION FOR OBLATE FATHERS AT TAUNGS

Christmas season is a busy time for the Oblate missionary in Taungas, South Africa. A few days previous to the feast, the missionary visits the outstations, putting up small cribs. The little black boys are ever eager to give a helping hand but experience has taught the missionary that he must do the work himself, he wants to have any statues left unbroken.

Two days before Christmas confessions are heard. For some who live far from the mission, this is their only opportunity in the year to go to confession. On Christmas Eve little presents are given to the school children. The adults too, seek some gift no matter how small. An artificial Christmas tree 20 inches high, is lighted by the lay Brother.

The missionary is always in the confessional on Christmas Eve until time for Midnight Mass. In the few moments of respite he must prepare and learn his sermon. At the stroke of 12, Midnight Mass begins. The heat in the Church is stifling because Christmas in South Africa comes in the middle of Summer.

Early in the morning of Christmas day many people are anxious to go to confession. This keeps the missionary busy until 9 A. M. when he begins the second Mass. Many Protestants and Muslims attend out of curiosity. The missionary all the Christmas hymns which have been translated into their own language.

After Mass the missionary travels one hour on horseback in terrible heat to St. Michael's Mission. Before starting Mass confessions must be heard, the altar must be prepared and it is after twelve o'clock when the third Mass begins.

After Mass, many Christians approach the missionary to bid him a Merry Christmas or to tell him their troubles. It is 2 o'clock before the missionary can take a cup of coffee. He then starts his journey back to Taungas to give Benediction at 3 p. m. After services he distributes small gifts and settles affairs with those whom he will not see for a long time.

At last all have departed and the missionary can sit down to his first Christmas meal. He then recites the Divine Office for the day. Having made a short visit before the crib, the priest, dead tired, retires for the night. Christmas is a day of hard work for the missionary in Taungas, South Africa, but it is also a day of great consolation.

STRANGE PROCESSION OF ZULU FEATURES YULETIDE FESTIVAL

A little church of corrugated sheet iron looms black against the starlit sky. Groups of Zulu gather here and there talking in low tones one to another. The bell rings and

Christmas Plans Of K. C. Include Disabled at Bath

With a committee headed by Advocate Howard M. Woods, assisted by Hamlet A. Smyth and Paul A. Precamore, members of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus are raising a Christmas fund to furnish cheer to unfortunate members of the council and to disabled ex-servicemen at the Soldiers' Home at Bath, N. Y.

The council will hold a Christmas party on Thursday evening, Dec. 19, to which wives of the members will be invited. An address on the meaning of the Feast of Christmas will be given by Chancellor Charles A. Turley. Donations of food-stuffs toys and clothing will be made to add to the Christmas fund. Arrangements to entertain the disabled ex-servicemen at Bath on Dec. 22 are being made by a committee headed by James M. Ryan Jr. The Rochester Knights will leave by bus on that date at 2 o'clock and will meet members of Elmira Council at the Esau Hotel at 8 p. m. The Knights will then proceed to the main auditorium of the hospital and will distribute gifts and furnish entertainment.

Mrs. Jones, "Your milk has been of very poor quality of late." Milkman: "Allow me to tell you, Mrs. Jones, that this milk has been pasteurized by the city sanitarian."

Catholic Schools Save City \$4,500,000 Yearly

Buffalo, N. Y.—(AP)—The Buffalo Catholic weekly here estimates that the Catholic schools of this city save the taxpayers \$4,500,000 annually. The paper bases its computation on the report submitted to the Board of Education by the New York and Buffalo Auditing Company.

The audit discloses that the per capita instructional cost in public elementary schools is \$78.51. A total of 33,093 children are attending the 80 parochial schools of the city. Were they to attend the public schools the additional instructional cost would be \$2,658,131. The annual per capita cost of students attending public high schools is \$67.37 according to the audit. There are 2,800 students in Catholic high schools and an estimate, thus saving the city in this classification the sum of \$200,000. These figures, it is pointed out, do not include the cost of additional equipment and buildings which would be made necessary if the Catholic students were attending the public schools.

TO PROMOTE SOCIETY Detroit—(AP)—The Most Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, Bishop of Detroit, has named a committee of lawyers to cooperate with the Rev. Edward J. Heley and the Catholic Youth Organization in the promotion of housing.

MEETING SUCCESS Colgateville, N.Y.—(AP)—The work of the Benedictine Fathers at St. John's Abbey here in the project of "Liturgical Missions" is being carried on with gratifying success, according to the Rev. Celestine Kapner, O.S.B., one of two priests in charge of the mission.

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Under the gracious way of the Christ, forgiveness, like love, must be infinite. At the Constant Postcard.

If you are suffering from a bad man's injustice, forgive him, lest there be two bad men. St. Augustine.

Forgive quickly you will save time and your digestion. Cardinal Connell.

Forgive and Forget. The first helps your soul, the second, your liver.—Idem.

So long as we strive with all our hearts to the toward God, forgiveness of even the worst injuries is easy. Bishop J. L. Spalding.

Forgiveness to the injured does nothing. But they never pardon who have done the wrong. John Dryden.

To understand is to forgive. To understand everything is to forgive everything. Father J. M. Lelen.

We must forgive those who bore us, but not those who find that we are bored. Bishop J. L. Spalding. (N.C.W.C. Postures.)

