



In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is written on the morning of Thanksgiving Day, which got its start 338 years ago when Governor William Bradford of the Plymouth Colony proclaimed December 13, 1621, as a DAY OF THANKS.

What did the Plymouth Colonists have to be thankful for on that raw December day a third of a millennium ago—at the beginning of ANOTHER rugged New England winter?

They were thankful they were STILL ALIVE. In his proclamation of the first Thanksgiving Day, Governor Bradford specifically stated that as the reason.

So—
If you're a pseudo-cynic who likes to ask WHAT HAVE I GOT TO BE THANKFUL FOR IN THESE DAYS, you might remember Governor Bradford and be thankful you're alive. Maybe you don't even deserve to be.

Another question:
How did Thanksgiving Day get to be a NATIONAL holiday?

It's a long story.
Like so many long stories, it starts with a woman. The woman was Sarah Josepha Hale, editor of Godey's Lady's Book. She worked for 30 years to promote the idea of a national Thanksgiving Day. She wrote editorials, and she wrote letters to the various Presidents. Finally, in 1863, President Lincoln issued a proclamation setting aside the LAST Thursday of November of that year as a day of national thanksgiving.

He issued a similar proclamation in 1864. Each year afterward, for 75 years, the President of the United States formally proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day should be celebrated on the LAST Thursday of November. The governors of all the states also called on their people to give thanks on that day.

Then—
In 1939—
President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a great innovator and a strange and many-sided character—proclaimed Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated one week earlier. His purpose, he said, was to help business by making the shopping period between Thanksgiving and Christmas longer.

Some governors refused to follow his example, and their states celebrated Thanksgiving on the traditional day. There was great controversy. Finally the congress ruled that after 1941 the FOURTH Thursday of November would be observed over the nation as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal holiday.

A thought:
In 1863, and again in 1864, what did President Lincoln have to be thankful for? What did our nation have to be thankful for? We were at the most hopeless and most tragic hour of the most tragic war of our history.

President Lincoln HAD FAITH. He had faith that the time would come when we would again have something to be thankful for. His faith was justified.

Now back to Sarah Josepha Hale.

In 1822, her husband died, leaving her practically penniless with five children to support. She took up writing. She wrote of women and women's interests and ideals. She was so successful at it that she attracted the attention of Louis Antoine Godey, who in 1830 founded the first woman's magazine in America, calling it the Lady's Book. He chose Sarah Josepha Hale to be the editor of it.

One might ask what, in 1822, did Sarah Josepha Hale have to be thankful for? Well, she too HAD FAITH. And, in time, she had PLENTY to be thankful for.

She had faith and she was eager to work. People who have faith and are willing to work are the salt of the earth. They nearly always wind up with plenty to be thankful for.

In conclusion—
Sarah Josepha Hale has an honor that is not too widely known. She was the author of Mary Had a Little Lamb—probably the most parodied poem in our literature. One parody goes:

Mary had a little lamb,
She stood it on the shelf,
And every time it switched its tail
It spanked its little self.

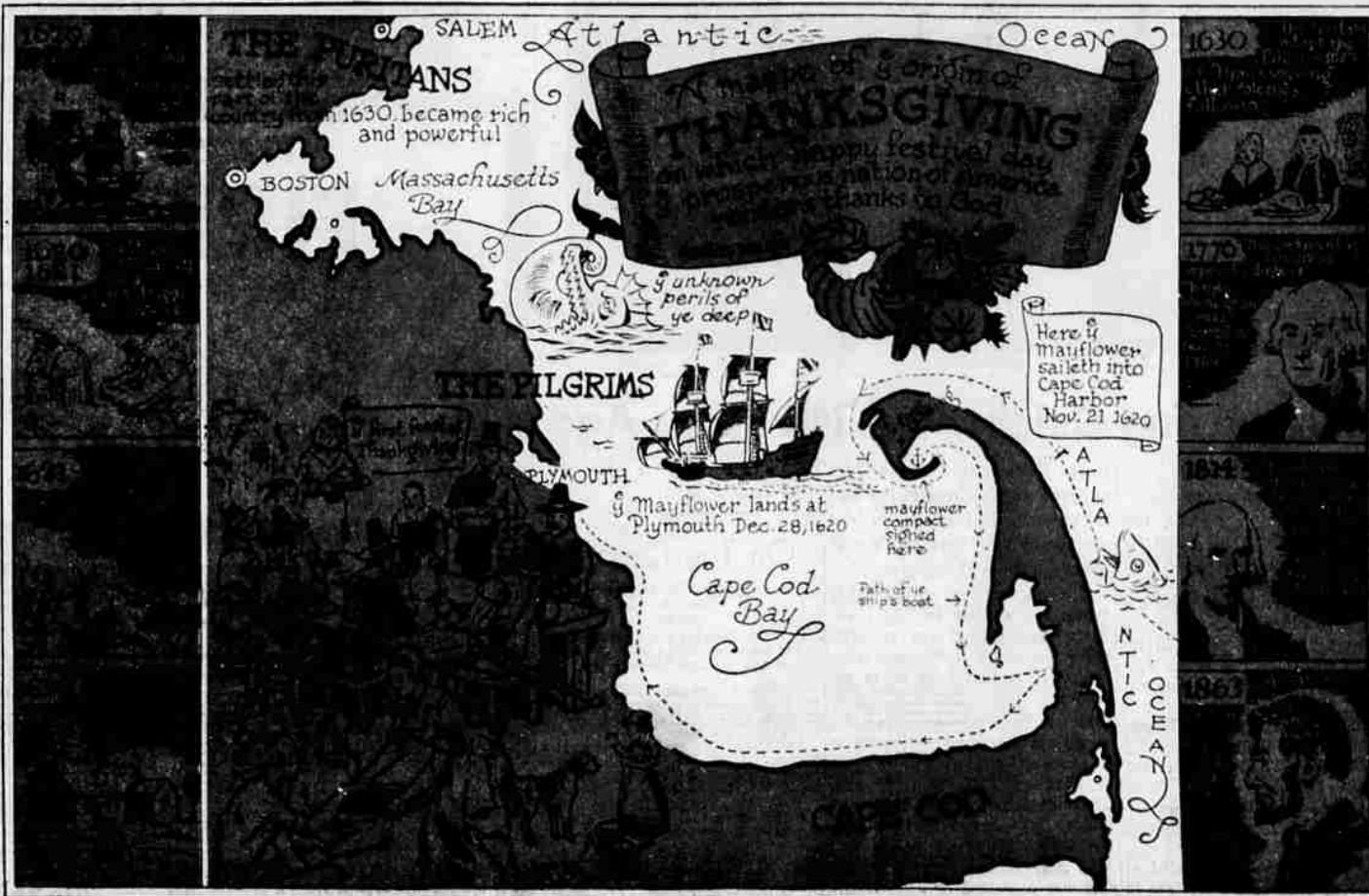
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Words Of Abe Recalled In Ike's Proclamation

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Text of President Eisenhower's Thanksgiving proclamation:

The time of harvest turns our thoughts once again to our national festival of Thanksgiving, and the bounties of nature remind us again of our dependence upon the generous hand of Providence. In this sesquicentennial year of Abraham Lincoln's birth, it is fitting and proper that we should use his words contained in the historic proclamation of 1863, establishing this annual observance, to express anew our gratitude for America's "fruitful fields," for our national "strength and vigor," and for all our "singular deliverances and blessings."

Death Count Rises Slowly

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The count of deaths in Thanksgiving Day traffic accidents rose slowly today.

Snow and icy roads checked speed in sections of the Rocky Mountain region, the Midwest and the East.

Bad weather apparently held down the traffic volume in the wintry areas.

Fires killed relatively few persons. Wind-whipped grass and brush fires burned in widespread districts in Texas and the western sections of Louisiana and Arkansas.

Property losses ran into hundreds of thousands of dollars. Forty homes were destroyed in Texas. But a heavy dew reduced the danger.

Only one death was reported. Mrs. B. Q. Adams Sr. died of a heart attack while fighting a grass fire in the Smyrna community of Texas.

The National Safety Council estimated that 470 persons normally died on highways in a 162-hour non-holiday weekend period at this time of the year.

A nationwide survey by The Associated Press covering a similar period two weeks ago listed 433 dead in traffic accidents, 49 in fires, 100 from miscellaneous causes for a total of 582.

Last year's Thanksgiving holiday weekend brought death to 454 in traffic, 54 in fires and 118 from miscellaneous accidents.

The Safety Council makes no forecast for the Thanksgiving holiday and some others on the theory that they "are not conducive to compulsive, one-for-the-road trips and driving."

The present year has been one of progress and heightened promise for the way of life to which we, the people, and the government of the United States of America, are dedicated. We rejoice in the productivity of farm and factory, but even more so in the prospect of improvement of relations among men and among nations. We earnestly hope that forbearance, understanding, and conciliation will hold increasing sway among us and among all peoples everywhere.

In the enjoyment of our good life, let us not forget the birthright by which we reap the fruits of life and labor in this fair land. Let us stand fast by the principles of our republic enunciated in word and deed by the statesmen, teachers, and prophets to whom we owe our beginnings. Let us be thankful that we have been spared the consequence of human frailty and error in our exercise of power and freedom. As a token of our gratitude for God's gracious gift of abundance, let us share generously with those less fortunate than we at home and abroad. Let us at this season of Thanksgiving perform deeds of thanksgiving; and, throughout the year, let us fulfill those obligations of citizenship and humanity which spring from grateful hearts.

Now, therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, in consonance with the joint resolution of the Congress approved December 26, 1941, 55 Stat. 862 (5 U.S.C. 87b), designating the fourth Thursday of November in each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 26, 1959, as a day of national thanksgiving. On that day let us gather in sanctuaries dedicated to worship and in homes devoted to family sharing and community service, to express our gratitude for the inestimable blessings of God; and let us earnestly pray that he continue to guide and sustain us in the great unfinished task of achieving peace among men and nations.

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Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Fair through Friday. Low tonight 15-20; high Friday 46-52. High yesterday 51. Low last night 32.
Northern California—Fair through Friday. Little change in temperature. Variable coastal winds 5-15 miles an hour.

SHOOTING HOURS DUCKS, GEESE

OREGON

November 27

OPEN 7:10 CLOSE 4:40

CALIFORNIA

November 27

OPEN 7:08 CLOSE 4:38

Yank Troops Feast On Turkey

TOKYO (AP)—American troops from front line bunkers in Korea to remote island radar posts in Japan feasted on tons of turkey and trimmings today. In scores of chapels they offered Thanksgiving Day prayers for the peace they guard.

Everywhere were the familiar tokens of America's day of thanks—mince pie, ice cream, dressing, relishes, ham, football games, bands and parades—but no cranberries on the Far East posts.

The berries were banned by military authorities again Wednesday in a sudden reversal of an earlier decision releasing stocks cleared of possible contamination by a weed killer which caused cancer in rats in laboratory tests.

Rear Adm. Frederic S. Withington, commander of U.S. naval forces in Japan, kicked off the first football to touch off a giant American-Japanese celebration at Yokosuka, Japan.

Japanese college all-stars played a U.S. Navy-Marine squad with a 175-pound weight limit per player. A play-by-play account was given in both English and Japanese. A Navy man in Pilgrim dress led a turkey around the field.

Deep snow sealed off tiny American units manning radar sites at Wakkana and Nemuro, in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, within sight of Soviet islands. But steaming plates of turkey were served.

Biting cold gripped the front lines in Korea. Special frontline community center programs were held. In an unusual reversal, the Buk Han San orphanage entertained GIs in the 1st Cavalry Division center.

In a special message, Maj. Gen. David H. Tulley, U.S. Army commander in Japan, reminded his men: "Let us not fail to hope for a lasting world peace which will one day enable people of all nations to share our manifold blessings."

Feast Of Thanksgiving Had An Erratic History

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the last 18 years, the American Thanksgiving has been firmly set on the last Thursday of November.

But it took an act of Congress to put it there. During its erratic history since that first Pilgrim Thanksgiving feast at Plymouth in 1621, illustrated in the accompanying map, the day of prayerful thanks has moved all over the calendar. There are only three months that haven't had official Thanksgiving days: March, June and October.

The Pilgrims themselves skipped Thanksgiving entirely the first year after they founded the feast—the harvest was poor and they didn't feel they had much to give thanks for.

Good crops and Thanksgiving returned in 1623 and the ceremony spread from the Plymouth colony through New England. But it wasn't always held in the fall. The Pilgrims once gave thanks in July.

After the Continental Congress began appointing days of Thanksgiving there was one every year until 1783. Then the custom died for six years.

President George Washington got the feast back into use by calling for a national day of thanks in 1789. It popped up irregularly for the next 70 years.

Abraham Lincoln gave the observance a shot in the arm by urging that Thanksgiving be a holiday and work suspended so that everyone might give thanks to God. All of Lincoln's Thanksgivings were not in November, but his last one fell on the last Thursday of that month.

Following Abe's example, succeeding presidents have declared annual Thanksgiving days and all of them have settled on a Thursday.

SP Net Income Shows Increase

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Southern Pacific's net income was \$62,608,397, during the first 10 months of 1959—an increase of \$13,206,597 compared with the corresponding period in 1958.

Actual SP Transportation System income accounted for only \$2,172,866 of that figure with net income of separately operated affiliated companies accounting for the balance.

Freight revenues during the 10-month period increased \$42,371,798 while passenger revenues decreased \$1,207,312.

School, Council Agree On Guard For Crossing

The problem of an adult guard for Riverside Grade School children at the bypass intersection with Main Street was resolved at a meeting in the city council chambers Wednesday afternoon.

Members of the city council and the elementary school board convened to seek a long range solution to the bypass traffic problem.

After exploring possible solutions other than an adult guard, it was decided that this was the only feasible solution to the problem which would provide adequate safety for the 104 children who must cross Link River Bridge to reach the school.

Monday night the city council had gone on record as being willing to absorb 50 per cent of the cost of stationing such an adult guard at the crossing, and had hired such a guard on a temporary basis until the two groups could work out a solution.

Wednesday afternoon, the school board unanimously agreed to provide \$55 monthly as its share of the salary for such a guard.

In the discussion, it was brought out that such a guard should be in good physical condition, with both good eyesight and hearing, and it was resolved that such a guard should have a physical exam prior to being hired.

Mayor Lawrence Slater pointed out to the group that the hazards will be greatly reduced whenever the balance of the bypass is completed. Installation of traffic lights will not alleviate the crossing hazards, he told the group, since the major portion of the hazard comes from the possibility of trucks or cars sliding through the intersection out of control during icy weather.

The possibilities of assembling the youngsters on the north side of Link River and transporting them to the school by bus was discussed but rejected as not practicable.

Also explored was the prospect of building an overhead crosswalk at the intersection. It was dropped when discussion brought out that a runaway truck could tear out such a walk's supports, making it extremely hazardous.

Plans call for hiring an adult guard for approximately \$1.50 per hour, and that he would be in attendance at the crossing from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The question of responsibility for controlling pedestrian traffic entered the discussion, and both groups agreed to let the attorneys of both bodies get together in an attempt to resolve the matter.

In their motion approving \$55 monthly for the project, the school board stated it would be for the balance of the school term.

Although she celebrated the holiday in Orange County General Hospital, doctors now say they have found hope for the blue-eyed seventh grader.

Less than a month ago it was believed she was doomed, hopelessly stricken with tuberculosis. Two weeks before that she was thought to be in perfect health, a happy go lucky teen-ager who made straight A and B in her school work. A medical examination, however, revealed that both of her kidneys and one lung were in advanced stages of infection.

The day before she was taken to the hospital her parents gave her a Christmas party. Amid the decorations and gifts, Mary told her friends she was just going to the hospital so her brothers and sister wouldn't get sick too.

She still does not know how ill she is.

"My next holiday is Easter," she said today. "I'm luckier than most because I had my Christmas way ahead of time."

Doctors now have expressed hope that "wonder drugs" may eventually cure Mary.

"She'll probably be here for a long, long time," said one hospital official, "but that is a much better outlook than we could offer a month ago."

"Mary is a wonderful patient," one of her nurses said. "I've never seen a more grateful girl in my life."

"Every time she gets a letter she passes it around the ward so that everybody gets a lift out of it."

The nurse explained that Mary and the rest of the patients are confined to a contagion ward and are not permitted to go outside.

"All they have to look forward to each day," the nurse said, "is mail."

"It means a great deal to them, especially to Mary who is so much younger than most of the patients."

"She rereads every letter over and over again and keeps them filed in a box beside her bed. One of her favorites is a letter from a child in Washington, D. C., who has been cured of tuberculosis."

"Wonder drugs or no," said the nurse, "morale will be a big problem for a youngster like Mary. For a child used to the on-the-go life of a teen-ager, a hospital can become an awfully drab place."

"She will be here a long time."

BULLETIN

EL PASO, Tex. (AP)—Max Conrad, 36, a flying grandfather, set down here at 9:27 a.m. today after shattering a 10-year-old distance record for light planes.

Conrad, smiling and freshly shaven, stepped from his blue and white craft at the El Paso airport, showing almost no signs of fatigue after his 6,911-mile trip from Casablanca, Morocco.

His original destination was Miami, but Conrad obviously felt so fresh he stretched his flight to El Paso. He said he still had a good margin of fuel when he landed.

The storm made driving hazardous in eastern Colorado and southeastern Wyoming. About 50 cars slid off U.S. Highway 287 south of Laramie, Wyo., Wednesday night but none of the accidents was serious.

Flames fanned by fierce winds raced through grass and brush in northeast Texas Wednesday and forest and brush fires covered more than 2,000 acres in Arkansas today. Texas Forest Service Rangers counted more than 70 fires at one time.

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