



The Sundial

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DAVIS HOSPITAL, INC.

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Season's
Greetings



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

There's abundant evidence that He was born not on December 25th! St. Luke points out that our Lord was born in early fall. We read, "There were shepherds in the field, watching their flocks by night." By December, their flocks were in a sheepfold or in caves at night, for the weather did not allow night time grazing.

His birthdate was not observed until several centuries after He was born. Believers started celebrating Christmas on December 25th to compete with a Roman Feast called Saturnalia observed by the Romans. It was so immoral and ungodly that the believers sought to combat it with Christmas and eventually the forces of the Christ won the struggle and the Romans cancelled Saturnalia.

The Armenian Church even now celebrates His birth on January 6th. The journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem was 80 miles. Accommodations for travelers were very meager. They brought their own food and cooked it by a fire furnished by the innkeepers out in the courtyard. In that day, they sheltered livestock in caves, dug from the soft, limestone cliffs (often attached to homes or inns). They dug pits in the cave floors, called mangers, for feeding animals.

Surely there were persons in Bethlehem who knew that Mary's baby was soon to be born. Yet, no one offered to open his home to her. If she had been a woman of rank or wealth, it would have been different. Mary was "only another peasant woman like millions today who cannot find milk for their wretched babes."

Christian art has made it a beautiful

scene, clean with mild looking oxen and sheep. But it probably was but a little shanty with a donkey. Luke was the only one who dwells upon Jesus' humble entrance into the world. Perhaps it was because he had great sympathy for the poor. He tells us how Jesus was linked with the less fortunate. For example, the lowly shepherds were first to hear of His birth, out there grazing their sheep.

The news did not come first to powerful, wealthy men in Palestine. There were high priests, ecclesiastics, Pharisees, Scribes, but the angels passed them by and told it to those lowly shepherds who were held in contempt. Don't overlook the wording of the announcement: "I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to ALL THE PEOPLE."

That there was 'no room' in the inn was symbolic of what was to happen. The only place where there was room for HIM was on a CROSS. His life was spent seeking an entrance to the overcrowded hearts of persons. So often He can not find it; but still HIS SEARCH goes on.

DAVID E. WILKINSON
Chaplain

Lucille Morrison, Vintage Nurse

All of us probably have the feeling when we see a beautifully restored 1928 Ford that we would like to have been everywhere that car had been. Lucille Morrison's career at Davis Hospital spans that many years. Since entering nursing school here in 1928, she has been in positions of responsibility and leadership. On December 21, 1981, Mrs. Morrison will celebrate her birthday and will also step down from her duties at Davis Hospital, and, like the 1928 Ford, be able to enjoy remembering many trips back and forth from her home near Mt. Mourne in the service of Davis Hospital and its patients.

Mrs. Morrison served as operating room supervisor for 48 years and stepped down several years ago as supervisor. She has continued to work part-time in the operating room since. During her 48 years as operating room supervisor, Mrs. Morrison by her tremendous talent, leadership, loyalty, and dedication built our Davis Hospital operating room into the envy of many much larger and more sophisticated hospitals. She molded the design of the operating rooms, picked and inspired the personnel to conduct

Davis Hospital School of Nursing To Be Phased Out

The governing board of Davis Hospital recently reached the decision to cease recruiting freshmen students for the hospital school of nursing. All current students of the program will be able to graduate with the present freshmen graduating in May, 1984.

Davis Hospital School of Nursing is one of the few diploma schools of nursing remaining in the state. The school is considered to be one of the finest in North Carolina with a high percentage of graduates successfully passing the state board registry to practice nursing.

The school was organized in 1920 by Miss Elizabeth Hill, R.N., and the late Dr. James W. Davis. Sixty-one years of quality education have been provided by the program with over 700 nurses graduating and now practicing nursing throughout the country. Miss Jamie Henley and two other students were the first to be graduated in 1923.

In cooperation with Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), who has signed a contract to purchase the hospital, and the present Davis Hospital trustees, Mitchell College plans to offer a two year Associate Nurse Degree Course to begin in 1982. HCA will cooperate by providing clinical facilities at Davis Hospital as well as furnishing the nursing students with classroom space.

The Board of Trustees assured students and their parents that the hospital will retain qualified instructors to provide the quality of education necessary to graduate the present 43 students. The Board and HCA are pleased to have a part in making a continuing education program for nurses possible.

themselves professionally and expertly in their assigned duties of caring for patients and maintaining our hospital. For those of us fortunate enough to have worked with her in her prime, Mrs. Morrison was nothing short of terrific. She was the best operating assistant and kept the operating room at peak efficiency at all times.

Throughout her education at Davis Hospital School of Nursing where she graduated in 1931, and through her long career as operating room supervisor, Mrs. Morrison has exemplified the very best in the tradition of a fine nurse and citizen. The professionalism shown in the operating room personnel today is a direct result of her leadership and inspiration.

DR. RICHARD A. BOYD

