

She Smiled While Others Wept—

# Cancer Takes Beauty, 19, Who Laughed at Death Sentence

By United Press

ATLANTA, Jan. 9—Betty Thompson, the 19-year-old beauty who smiled while others wept at the pain, heartbreak and sorrow of her four-year fight against cancer, is dead.

Doctors told her last May she had only a short time to live, but the raven-haired girl simply laughed at their death sentence: "I am going to live to be 100," she said.

She remained courageous as death closed in. And even the break up of her romance with Tom Amburn, a naval aviation machinist's mate, failed to dampen her high spirits.

"I Am Ready to Die"

But Sunday, her family said, she seemed to realize the fight was over. The disease had forced the amputation of her right leg and had attacked her lungs.

"I am ready to die . . . Don't break down or grieve for me when I'm gone," she told them.

She was conscious until about four hours before her death late yesterday afternoon, but her agonizing illness had left her too weak to say good-by to her family and friends.

A sister, Mrs. W. J. Jones, of Atlanta, said Betty told her mother she was ready to die.

"I want this to be the day," Mrs. Jones quoted her. "Betty did everything she could to make her death as easy for mother as possible."

Leave Revoked

Betty's ill-fated romance re-leave to fly from the Norfolk, Va., naval base to marry his stayed here only a few hours before flying to his home in Sioux Falls.



BETTY THOMPSON—"Don't break down or grieve for me when I die."

Falls, S. D., at the request of his mother, who was distraught over the impending wedding.

Mr. Amburn's emergency leave was revoked by his commander, who pointed out that the emergency was in Atlanta, not Sioux Falls. The 19-year-old sailor was hospitalized "near the breaking point" when he returned to Norfolk.

Betty then broke their engagement, commenting that "apparently her mother's health is more important than mine." The sailor said he still loved her, but added, "I guess she's branded me."

She was deluged with flowers and mail from well-wishers throughout the nation and some foreign countries. Four Marines in Korea adopted her as their sweetheart and arranged for roses to be sent her every day.

The brave girl was amazed at the public's interest in her case and once exclaimed:

"I never realized the world was so full of helpful strangers. That must be the way it is in heaven."

Despite her burning desire to live, she grew rapidly weaker during the past few months. But she managed to fly to New York City as guest of the American National Theater and Academy for a whirl of entertainment.

A party was staged in her honor at the Waldorf Astoria and she also made guest appearances on television.

Funeral arrangements were being delayed until the Red Cross learned whether her brother-in-law, in Germany with the Army, could be granted leave to fly here.

The archbishop, who succeeds the late Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, was welcomed by a city-wide pealing of bells last night as he arrived to present his apostolic letters of appointment to the diocesan consultors.

A Smooth Talker—

## Guitar-Strumming Lothario, Girl, Believed Headed for Kentucky

DETROIT, Jan. 9 (UPI)—A guitar-strumming Lothario who disappeared two days ago with a pretty, 13-year-old high school girl may be headed for his home state of Kentucky, police said yesterday.

A nation-wide alarm was broadcast for the arrest of 31-year-old Richard D. Davis, also known as William Pinkerton. He was last seen Sunday when he volunteered to drive blond, blue-eyed Edith Hickman to nearby Ypsilanti Sanatorium, where her father is a patient.

Davis, described as a smooth-talker of varied background, roomed at the girl's home in suburban Livonia for three days before they drove away together in his new Dodge convertible.

Livonia police, who asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help in the search, said "on the face of it, it looks like kidnap."

Police Chief George E. Harmon said he learned Davis has relatives in Mayfield, Ky., his birthplace, and may be taking the girl there.



Edith Hickman, 13, of Livonia, place, and may be taking the girl there. The man and girl never reached the Ypsilanti Sanatorium. Edith's father, Goader Hickman, left the girl for five years.

## Arrested in Conspiracy

Times State Service

MUNCIE, Jan. 9—Two Delaware County commissioners, under indictment on charges of conspiracy to commit a felony, were arrested late yesterday and released on \$3,000 bond each.

They are Woodrow W. Parkerson and Roy J. McBride. A warrant also has been issued for the arrest of former Commissioner Leard Thomas, now in Florida.

The charges grew out of the alleged purchase of a \$415 auto engine.

The grand jury already had indicted Harold Cronin, former county highway superintendent, on a charge of converting it to his own use. He was rearrested with Parkerson and McBride on the conspiracy charge.

Cronin had been free on \$3,000 bond. He was released again yesterday, on the same bond.

Sheriff W. Pete Anthony, who arrested the three, said he expected Thomas to return to Muncie this weekend. He said he would arrest Thomas then.

The sheriff said he would decide later what steps to take if Thomas does not return.

### Red Blasts Kill 5

SAIGON, Indo-China: Jan. 9 (UPI)—Five persons were killed and 30 wounded here today in two bomb explosions set off by the Communist rebels in a demonstration marking the Red "nation day."

## THERE

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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

## Archbishop O'Hara Gets Post Today

By United Press

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 9—The Most Rev. John Francis O'Hara will be installed as archbishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Philadelphia today in a colorful and solemn ceremony attended by 70 members of the American Roman Catholic hierarchy and hundreds of laymen.

Archbishop O'Hara, former president of Notre Dame University and bishop of Buffalo (N. Y.), will become the spiritual leader of one million Roman Catholics in 10 eastern Pennsylvania counties. He is the ninth ordinary and fifth archbishop to hold the post.

The formal ceremony of installation will be conducted in the cathedral of St. Peter and Paul by the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States.

The archbishop, who succeeds the late Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, was welcomed by a city-wide pealing of bells last night as he arrived to present his apostolic letters of appointment to the diocesan consultors.

Attorney Cletus J. Hanifin demanded repeatedly whether she had lived with Mr. Gianacis before they purchased the disputed home. The attorney referred to her as "Mrs. Gianacis" several times.

On each occasion, Miss Meredith corrected him.

"Did you ever say you were in love with Mr. Gianacis?" Mr. Hanifin asked.

Letter in Evidence

"No, I never said 'I'm in love with you' to Mr. Gianacis," the actress replied.

Asked if she ever told him she loved him, she replied: "Well, there's a difference there."

"I've told a great many persons I loved them dearly for things they have done for me . . . I may have told him I loved him for his kindness and goodness to me—I don't know."

Mr. Hanifin produced a letter signed by Miss Meredith in which she told Mr. Gianacis:

"You must know deep in your heart I have never cared for anyone but you . . . I have never allowed any other man to touch me in a caressing way."

Miss Meredith said the letter was written years ago "after a night when he tried to kill me. I thought he was a wonderful man. I never thought he was the type he turned out to be."

Then she took another look at the reporter. When she arrived home today, Miss Garcia disclosed that she and the reporter now are "in love." She refused to disclose his name, but said she expected a visit from him here soon.

Mr. Gianacis testified that he never had handled Miss Meredith's money or acted as her agent, directly counter to her statements.

"I only used my influence to make her a star. I didn't want a penny," he said.

Deputy Sheriff James O. Barker revealed that 21-year-old Mrs. Huguette Lemay left her purse and cosmetics in the family automobile when she vanished Friday night during a fishing trip in the Florida Keys with her husband, George Lemay, a Montreal realtor.

Mrs. Lemay customarily carried her purse and make-up articles everywhere she went here.

He ordered a search continued across the water and beaches surrounding a few small isles near Tom's Harbor bridge popular fishing spot on the overseas highway about 100 miles south.

But you can't prove a crime has been committed without a body," he said.

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Sometimes It's Appreciation—

## There Are Different Kinds of Love, Actress Madge Meredith Explains

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 9—Actress Zasu Pitts stood by to testify today in actress Madge Meredith's suit to recover title to a home from which she was ousted by the man she was convicted of kidnapping.

Miss Meredith, who served two and a half years of a life prison sentence for engineering the kidnap-beating of her former business manager, Nick Gianacis, charged in her suit that he persuaded her to sign the house over to him by fraud.

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