Barquilla de la Santa Maria

BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society - Diocese of Columbus

Vol. XXXXI, No. 2 | Feb. 22: Chair of St. Peter at Antioch | February, 2016



St. Peter Church, Black Oak
(Courtesy of The Steubenville Register*)*

St. Peter's, Black Oak, Wheeling Township, Belmont County 1907-1920

(Bishop Hartley's "Coal Churches"-- Part 2)

The coal mine and town of Black Oak were about half way between Flushing and Lafferty, on Black Oak Road but at that time on the railroad between the two towns. More precisely, Black Oak Mine was two miles southeast of Flushing, in southwest quarter of Section 7. It was opened in 1904 by the Kennon Coal & Mining Co. of Cleveland. Initial employment was 90 and by 1909 it employed 214 miners and 14 day men; the superintendent was John Whalen of Flushing.[1]

The Catholics among the miners were attended along with many other stations by Father Roderick A. McEachen of Our Lady of Angels Parish in Barton. In his census report of July 1, 1907, Father McEachen reported that Black Oak was only a station, with no church or school. There were 123 Catholics there, comprising 100 Poles, 10 Italians, 10 Krainers, and three speaking English. (The Krainers were from that part of Upper Austria called in German *Krain* but more familiarly in Italian,

Carniola, now part of Slovenia.) He had administered eleven baptisms, three marriages, and three burials for the Black Oak Catholics during the previous twelve months. He was already offering Mass there on all Sundays and holydays and taught catechism once a week. (In comparison, his other responsibilities included 887 souls at Maynard, 886 at Barton, 97 at St. Paul's in Flushing, and an unspecified number at Provident, Fairpoint, and East Richland.) Father McEachen was assisted in this large mission area by young Father Elwood S. Berry and then by Father Joseph G. Mehler.

The Black Oak mission was organized later that year and the coal company gave the use of a small building that was transformed into a chapel.[2] There is no record of its blessing, but it was given the name of St. Peter. One account names the first priest there Father Aloysius Kulpa;[3] no documenation of any such a priest has been found locally or nationally. In March of 1909 Bishop Hartley sent Father James Bieronski to take charge of the parish at Fairpoint, with Black Oak as his mission. Father Bieronski was a native of Poland, then aged about 43 years. His first census report, in 1909, noted 109 Italians, 15 Poles, 6 Slovacs, 2 Greeks, and 7 English-speaking Catholics at Black Oak. This was quite a change since 1907, indicating the transient nature of the mining population. He reported that there was a Slovacs' Catholic Union of St. Peter & Paul. By 1912 the community had grown to 465 souls, outstripping Fairpoint (325) and Flushing (153).

The pastors' census and financial reports list many members of the mission who taught catechism or who served on the financial committee:

1909 - Mr. Webber and Joseph Lubuch taught catechism every Sunday

1909 committee: H. Gaffney, W. Webber, Joseph Kubici, John Grusiki, Joseph Woznick

1909 committee (second report): John Gruszka, Joseph Kubicki; Mr. Wornick, Mr. Jilli

1910 committee: Joseph Kubicki, John Gruszka, Mr. E. Falenczykowski, James Gaffney, Hugh Gaffney, Andy Pocharski, John Masztak

1911 committee: Joseph Kubicki, John Harkiewicz, Joseph Kaczmarczyk, John Gurszka, L. Falenczykowski, John Masztak, Joseph Mamystowsky.

1912 catechism teacher: Joseph Kubicki

1912 committee: Joseph Kubicki, John Gruszki, Peter Kaczmarek, John Harkiewicz, John Rachul, Mike Wysocki, Joseph Kolánski

1913 committee: Jan Gruszke, Konstanty Krygrowski, JohnMasztak, Teodor Kowal, Jan Lermak, Josef Kovacik, Ignacy Rozewicz, Pietere Kaczmarek.

1914 committee: Jan Grusaks, Pietre Kaczmarek.

1918 committee: John Feit, sec., John Bujok, Celeste Melchiori.

1919 committee: Jas. J. Gaffney, Thomas Jordan, John Feit

1919 committee (second report): John Feit, Antoni Kaczmarek, John Rechnil(?)

Father Charles L. Walsh temporarily substituted for Father Bieronzki for about six months in 1911. Then in 1913 Father Stanislaus A. Szadzinski replaced Father Bieronski. He was only twenty-seven years old, a newly ordained priest whom Bishop Hartley borrowed from the Archdiocese of Chicago. Like Father Bieronski, he lived at Fairpoint.

Under Father Szadzinski, a movement to replace St. Peter's with a new church at Lafferty began almost at once. "According to the parochial meeting - held Dec. 28, 1913 - the catholic people of Black Oak, Old and New Lafferty and Bannock, in the State of Ohio, agreed to build a new church with school - so-called combination Building - in Lafferty, O. near the depot with the permission of the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Columbus, O."[4] New Lafferty was the area along Township Road 1138, on the east side of County Road 72, about four miles southwest of Lafferty. Bannock is two miles east of Lafferty. A 1 1/2 acre site for a church at Lafferty was purchased in 1914 for $250, but development of the new parish progressed very slowly. An organ

was purchased for St. Peter's that year. Its price, $12, probably indicates its quality or age or both. The organist was paid $35 for the year.

Work began in earnest on the new church at Lafferty in 1918. A subscription list was started and $578 was collected. Plans were drawn by the Hague & Smith Company. A well was drilled, bricks and other materials were purchased, and a bricklayer was hired. G. B. Wilson was the contractor. Father John C. Matysiak took up residence at Black Oak that year, in a mine company house, with charge of St. Peter's along with St. Paul's at Flushing and the responsibility of continuing to build the church in Lafferty.

The 1919 parish census numbered 390 Poles, 120 Slovaks, 28 Italians, 18 English-speaking, and 2 Lithuanians, for a total of 558 souls in Black Oak, "Old Lafferty," New Lafferty, and Oco. (Oco is a village a mile east of the center of Lafferty.) A "Polish Society Zjednaczessie" was supported by the dominant nationality of the parish. Father Matysiak offered Mass every Sunday and holyday in St. Peter's. Within his first twelve months there, Father Matysiak purchased an ostensorium, a chalice, a ciborium, a set of white vestments, a benediction veil, a censer, a holy water pot and sprinkler, altar candlesticks, oil stock, and cruets. Formerly such items no doubt were brought from Fairpoint as necessary but now St. Peter's needed its own. During 1919, $3,786 was spent on the new church, of which $2,209 was a debt owed to the contractor. The new church, St. Mary Help of Christians, was finished, with an insurance value of $13,500, and was occupied during the first half of 1920.[5] The congregation then numbered 856. St. Peter's chapel at Black Oak was returned to the mine company.

Soon a rectory was built beside the new church. St. Mary's was dedicated on November 7, 1922 by Bishop Hartley.[6] It was used for ninety-two years, until destroyed by a fire in May, 2012.[7]

St. Ambrose Cemetery

As early as 1909 the Catholics at Fairpoint, Flushing, and Black Oak were using the "public cemetery at Blainewood."[8] This was the Linwood Cemetery, just north of Blaine. Bishop Hartley in April, 1911, purchased the southwestern ten acres of this cemetery,[9] which in Church circles then was called St. Ambrose Cemetery. The Catholics of Blaine built a Spanish-style chapel in the cemetery in 1920 that served as All Saints mission for the town until 1950.[10]

Bannock, Richland Township, St. Tecla's Mission

Bannock is just over two miles to the east-southeast of Lafferty. In his census report for July 1, 1920, Father Szadzinski of Fairpoint reported that, besides Sacred Heart at Provident, he had a station at Bannock. He did not mention Bannock the next year. But in 1923 he noted that he had St. Tecla's mission at Bannock as well as a station at Uniontown in Wheeling Township, two miles northeast of Lafferty. The mission church at Bannock, if indeed Father Szadinski had use of a building there, and the station at Uniontown are not mentioned in subsequent years. Like the mission at Black Oak, they were absorbed into the new St. Mary Help of Christians Parish at Lafferty.

NOTES

1) *30th Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines for the year ended Dec. 31, 1904* [to the Governor of Ohio], pages 97 & 258 & 301; and 31st Report, year ended Dec. 31, 1905, p. 331. Henry L. Berryhill Jr., *Geology and Coal Resources of Belmont County Ohio (Geological Survey Professional Paper 380)*, U.S.G.P.O., Washington, 1963, p. 100; see at pubs.usgs.gov/pp/380/reort.pdf.
2) Most Rev. James J. Hartley, *Diocese of Columbus: The History of Fifty Years, 1868-1918* (Columbus: 1918) p. 420. July 1, 1911 census report, Archives, Diocese of Columbus (ADC).
3) *Steubenville Register*, Nov. 2, 1984, Supplement p. 43.
4) ADC, 1913 Financial Report, Black Oak.
5) ADC, 1920 census report.
6) Most Rev. James J. Hartley, *The History of*

the Diocese of Columbus, Volume II, 1918-1943 (Columbus: 1943) p. 83.
7) *The Steubenville Register*, July 4, 2014.
8) ADC, Rev. James Bieronski to Bishop Hartley, July 10, 1909.
9) Jefferson County Deed Record 183/217.
10) *Steubenville Register*, Nov. 2, 1984, Supplement page 30. Francis F. Brown, *A History of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio* (Lewiston, 1994) p. 428.

Chronicle of Events in the Diocese of Columbus for 2015

Compiled by the Editor

Additional 2014

Dec. 16 Rev. Fritzner Valcin of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Columbus was incardinated.

Universal Church

Sept. 8 In motu proprios for the Latin and Oriental churches, Pope Francis simplified the process for obtaining a declaration of nullity of marriage, in cases wherein both parties seek the declaration.

Oct. 4-25 The world Synod of Bishops on the family was held, to discuss ways to strengthen the Church's support of families and its outreach to those struggling to live fully the Catholic ideals of marriage and family life.

Church in the U.S.

Feb. 6 The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life approved revised statutes of the U.S. Leadership Conference of Women Religious, which were changed to clarify the conference's role as a public juridical person centered on Jesus Christ, faithful to the teachings of the Church.

April 16 The same congregation accepted the joint report of Archbishop Sartain and members of the LCWR, closing the Vatican's doctrinal assessment of the LCWR. In April of 2012 the Vatican had released the findings of a four-year doctrinal assessment of the LCWR, which found a state of doctrinal crisis. Subsequently, Archbishop Sartain of Seattle was given a mandate to help the conference review and revise its statutes, formation materials, presentations, events, and links with affiliated organizations. The joint report outlined the process in which the implementation of the mandate was carried out.

Sept. 22-27 To express his appreciation for the Church here defending human life and the family, Pope Francis visited Washington (with an address to Congress), New York City, and Philadelphia.

Diocese of Columbus

June 12 Bishop Campbell reconsecrated the diocese to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in a "packed" St. Joseph Cathedral.

Bishop Watterson's chalice, which had passed to his nephew Rev.C. H. A. Watterson of this diocese and then to the latter's nephew Rev. Leo S. Watterson, for sale on e-bay, was purchased by Msgr. Michael Campbell of St. Mary Parish, Marietta.

Oct. 12 The relics of St. Maria Goretti were displayed for veneration in St. Joseph Cathedral.

Agencies and Institutions

Aug. 19 The diocese transfered ownership of the Villas at St. Therese assisted living facility to the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm. The independent living facility had been similarly transferred in November, 2014.

Sept. 9 Bishop Campbell blessed a new, two-story wing at the St. Vincent Family Center in Columbus, consisting primarily of classrooms but also with administrative space.

Parishes

Feb. 17 A new Adoration Chapel was blessed in the basement of St. Matthew Church in Gahanna.



Sacred Hearts Church, Morrow County

April St. Peter Parish in Chillicothe completed renovation of its former school building to house parish offices, library, food pantry, classrooms, and meeting rooms.

May 11 Ground was broken for an additon to St. Vincent de Paul parish school in Mt. Vernon.

July 14 Two new consortia of parishes were formed:

- St. Peter in Chillicothe, St. Coleman in Washington C.H., St. Sylvester in Zaleski, and St. Mary in Waverly, with three priests stationed at St. Peter.
- St. Peter in Wheelersburg, Holy Trinity in Jackson, and St. Monica in New Boston, with two priests stationed at St. Peter.

Aug. 17-19 The termite-ridden Church of the Nativity in Utica was razed. It had not been used since March.

Nov. 26 Bishop Campbell dedicated the new Sacred Hearts Church, Cardington.

Personnel and Vocations

Jan. 17. Sean Michael Dooley was ordained a (transitional) deacon at the Pontifical College Josephinum by Bishop Campbell.

Jan. 20 Daniel Swartz, third-year diocesan theologian at the Pontifical College Josephinum, was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy, intent on joining the Navy Chaplain Corps.

May 1 Bishop Campbell ordained transitional deacons Jeremiah Guappone, Timothy Lynch, Stephen Smith, and Daniel Swarz at St. Joseph Cathedral.

May 22 Charles Shonk, O.P., 1999 graduate of St. Charles Preparatory School and graduate of Denison University, was ordained to the priesthood in Washington, D.C. by Most Rev. Charles J. Brown (Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland).

May 30 At St. Paul the Apostle Church in Westerville, Anthony J. Davis, Sean M. Dooley, Thomas L. Gardner, Michael R. Hartge, Brian J. O'Connor, and Nicola D.Ventura were ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Campbell.

May 30 William Duraney of St. John Neumann Parish, Sunbury, was ordained a priest for the Institute of the Incarnate Word at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington by Theodore Cardinal McCarrick.

July 14 Retired: Msgr. A. Anthony Frecker, pastor of St. John XXIII Parish, Canal Winchester; Rev. Patrick Toner, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Plain City; Deacon Thomas

Johnston of St. Joseph Cathedral; and Deacon Gene Staker of St. Nicholas Parish, Zanesville.

Necrology

Jan. 11 Rev. John L. Metzger, in Columbus, retired priest of the diocese.

Jan. 12 in Bexley, Msgr. James L. T. Ruef, age 75, retired as a pastor but still active at the diocesan Tribunal.

Jan. 20 Rev. Patrick Joseph Byrne, in Florida, retired priest of the diocese, age 86.

Feb. 4 Msgr. Thomas G. Bender, age 84, retired priest of the diocese.

Mar. 8 Sr. Andrea Callahan, O.S.U., in Louisville, Ky., age 90, a native of New Straitsville.

Mar. 26 Rev. Paul O. Smith, retired priest of the diocese, age 83, in Westerville.

June 8 Sr. Venard (born Loretta) Kessler, O.P., in Columbus, age 97, a native of Lancaster.

June 18 Sr. Victoria Dixon, O.S.F., in Stella Niagara, age 80, a native of Summit Station in Licking County.

Aug. 1 Rev. Harold E. Schneider, age 87, retired priest of the diocese.

Sept. 16 Deacon James R. Davis, age 97, retired

Sept. 24 Sister Mary David Mulroy of the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor, in Cincinnati, age 90, a graduate of St. Mary's schools in Lancaster.

Oct. 10 Msgr. Robert E. Schneider, age 84, retired priest of the diocese.

Oct. 27 Sister M. Macrina Dorrian, R.S.M., in Cincinnati, age 88, a graduate of Holy Family High School, Columbus.

Oct. 31 Sister Catherine Siena Bosch, O.P., in Columbus, age 91, a native of Steubenville.

Nov. 1 Sister Jeanne Marie Laufersweiler, of the Stella Niagara Franciscans, in Columbus, the city of her birth, age 67.

Nov. 5 Sister Michaela Fox, S.S.J., in Erie, Pa., age 86, a native of Lancaster.

Nov. 17 Rev.Terence Tobin, O.F.M.Conv., in Tiffin, Ohio, a native of Marion, age 92.

Nov. 21 Rev. Bernard J. McClory, age 88, in Columbus, retired priest of the diocese.

Dec. 15 Sister Justine (born Rosemary) Lyons, O.S.F., in Stella Niagara, age 93, a native of Columbus.

Dec. 31 Rev. Raymond E. Lavelle, in Columbus, age 85, retired priest of the diocese.

Ironton and Father Rauck in 1879

Editor Catholic Columbian:

A few notes from Ironton and neighborhood may be of interest to the many readers of the COLUMBIAN. Ironton has suffered much from the hard times, yet it is not alone in this, for all, or at least most of the river towns, felt the panic more than the interior cities. The prospects for better times are very flattering here at present. Some of the mills and furnaces are in opeation, and many more are expected to start before long.

St. Lawrence O'Toole's congregation held a fair some weeks ago, and cleared almost fifteen hundred dollars. This congregation has the best church proprety in the diocese. There is situated on the grounds a church, school house, convent and rectory. This property has been encumbered by a heavy debt for a number of years, but through the zealous work of the Rev. Pastor [Father Bric], the debt is now almost wiped out. This congregation has five societies with a total number of five hundred. A fine new church may be looked for if the congregation are blessed with their present pastor for a few years to come.

Rev. Father Weber is rector of the German congregation. This congregation is carrying a heavy debt, but with the return of good times, they will be able to sweep it off in a short time. They also have a fine rectory, Sisters' house, and school house.

Six miles west of Ironton, on the Ironton and Centre railroad, we find one of the oldest priests in the Diocese of Columbus, Rev. Father Rauch. This saintly priest came to this country in1852, and at

once took charge of St. Mary's of the Furnaces, at Pine Grove. After nine and a half years he went to Coshocton. He was transfered, after four months, to Zanesville. After six and a half years at Zanesville, he returned to Pine Grove, his first mission in this country, and there he has remained ever since. For many years he had charge of all the missions on both sides of the Ohio river for many miles above and below Ironton. Rev. Father Rauch is now sixty-two years old, and almost forty years a priest. Often he even now makes a journey of twenty miles on foot in one day to administer the Sacraments to some of his flock. Rev. Rauch was born and ordained in Fulda, where St. Boniface is buried. This priest is truly a follower of the Good Shepherd. LAWRENCE.

- *The Catholic Columbian*, May 22, 1879

St. Dominic Parish, Beaver, Noble County
Baptisms 1832-1852

(Continued, from Vol. XXXXI No. 1)

1838, continued

same day [July 23] Rosanna daugher of James and Sara Delong, spouses; spons. John Jeffries and Rosanna Galaher. E. T. Collins

page 50 [Father Quinlan's records are in English rather than Latin, so the names are transcribed here just as written.]

October 14 John son of Robert Gallagher and Elisabeth Geffers; spons. John S. Geffers and Sara Geffers. James Quinlan

same day John son of Michael Brown and Bridget Hughs; spons. James Gallaher and Nancy Car. JQ

same day Laurence son of George Morgan and Anne Delong; spons. John DeLong and Sera Winteringer. JQ

Oct 20 Julian son of John Fredrick Beitenhorn and Lisette Benninghouse; spons. Edmond Gallagher and Dina Bietenhorn. JW

Oct. 22 Nicholas, son of Jacob Mey and Anne Mary Weig—; spons. Jacob Sheidts and Anna Mary Hoillinger. JQ

Nov. 20 Bernard son of Benedict Low and Luena Dillehey; spons. Thomas S. Dillehey and Geane Dillehay. JQ

Dec. 5 Alley daughter of Jacob Archer and Rikeal Davis; spons. Abraham Archer and Hanna Archer. JQ

1839

Feb. 3 James age — weeks son of Simon Rinehart and Allias Mulrine; spons. Peter Mulrine and Anne Mulrine. JQ

Feb. 10 Simon, age — months, son of Nathaniel Delong and Isabella Masley [Ensley]; spons. John Delong and Effye Delong. JQ

Feb. 17 William, age two months, son of Peter Timony and Elisabeth Ward; spons. William Windle and Effye DeLong. JQ

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Feb. 21 Mary, age 24 days, daughter of James Laiux and Mary Hynes; spons. Patrick and Ellen Kennon. JQ

Apr. 1 Alban, age three months, son of John Jeffers and Sera Brinton; spons. Robert Gallagher and Elisabeth Jeffers. JQ

Apr. 2 Michael, age six weeks, son of Michael Creaton and Rechael Condon; spons. James Quinlan and Margret Bready. JQ

Apr. 7 Anne, age four months, daughter of Simon Archer and Mary Anne Hupp; spons. Peter Mulrine and Hanna Archer. JQ

Apr. 8 Rebecca daughter of Philip Hackens and Ellen Melacken; spons. Michael & Rosanna Kenore [Kenon or Keune?]. JQ

Apr. 20 Martha, age eight months, daughter of James Carton and Anne Hamerley; spons. J. Q. & Mary Anne Harris. JQ

Apr. 28 Biddy, age five months, daughter of Henry Low and [blank] Delehey; spons. Thomas Delehey and Margaret Gallagher. JQ

same day Mary, age eight months, daughter of Charles McClaskey and Mary Temple; spons.

James Gallagher and Margret Temple. JQ

May 5 Mary, age three weeks, daughter of Adam Power and Rachael Bermingham; spons. John Shot and Mary Donnell. JQ

May 7 James, age two months, son of William Doherty and Nancy Drum; spons. Edward Doherty and Sera Drum. JQ

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May 9 Roase, age ten months, daughter of Mathew Doherty and Sera Kirkbride; spons. Stephen & Catherine Doherty. JQ

May 10 Ellen, age four months, daughter of William Doherty and Sera Cronan; spons. Stephen & Catherine Doherty. JQ

June 1 Mary Anne, age two days, daughter of James Hacket and Nancy McCunnehey[? over-written]; spons. James Quinlan & Sera McCunnehey. JQ

June 2 Edward, age two months, son of Peter Mulrine & Anne Pollock; spons. Paterson & Margret Mulrine. JQ

same day, Elisabeth age six —, daughter of Abraham Archer & Mary Stereet; spons. William & Hanna Archer. JQ

June 4 Margret Walker, aged 18 years & 5 months, daughter of James Walker & Nancy Walker; spons. William Archer & Hanna Archer.

same day Rodah age six years & six months, daughter of George Sweeney & Elisabeth Sweeny; spons.Abraham Archer & Hanna Archer. JQ

June 16 Mary Delong, age five weeks, daughter of William Delong and Catherine Ensley; spons. James Hacket & Margret Rineheart. JQ

July 14 Cathrine, age five weeks, daughter of Simon Dore and Elisabeth McCammon; spons. Michael Spangler & Catherine D—. JQ

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Aug. 1 Samuel, age six weeks, son of Simon Archer and Cathrine Looney; spons. James Quinlan & Hanna Archer. JQ

Aug. 15 Mary, age two weeks, daughter of Denis Juvalley and Cathrine Visant; spons. Adam Power & Mary Donnelley. JQ

Sept. 1 John, age six weeks, son of Hugh McManamy and Susan Heron; spons. Martin & Mary Heron. JQ

same day James, age fifteen months, son of Patrick Renolds & Rosana Keane; spons. Hugh McManamy & Susana Haron. JQ

same day Ellen age one year and eight months, daughter of Thomas Arnel and Elisabeth Doherty; spons. Alisa Leeke & Margret McGrath. JQ

Sept. 3 Jeoseph, age one month, son of George Leux & Anna Maria Leuth; spons. Jeoseph Sha & Francisca Swaller. JQ

same day Margret, age seven weeks, daughter of George Swaller & Anna Maria Reaser; spons. Valentine Hummel & Margret Wall. JQ

same day Andrew, age two weeks, son of Barbara Reaser; spons. George Hoville & Mary Reaser. JQ

Sept. 15 John, age two months, son of John Delong & Elisabeth Jones; spons. John Delong & Elisabeth Ward. JQ

Sept. 22 James, age two months, son of Thomas Delong & Catherine Meehan; spons. John Delong & Nancy Timoney. JQ

Sept. 30 John, age seven weeks, son of James Messer & Maria Delehey; spons. Thomas Delehey & Susana Martin. JQ

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Oct. 6 Adam, age three weeks, son of Peter Home & Patty Visant; spons. Aam Power & Margret Cryner. JQ

[The following records by Father Murphy are in Latin.]

Dec. 25 Isabel daughter of Jored Jones & Agnes Delong his wife; spons. John Delong & Sara Winterringer. W. Murphy

(To be continued)

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