

Turkey Lives in Apartment

This 25-Pound Texas Tommy Too Big for Home of G. T. Hodges, So Gets Own Suite.

On the Sunday morning before Christmas an express van purred to the curb of the big apartment house at the north-west corner of Washington Square and spilled to the sidewalk a short, active person, who immediately, and without the deference accorded usually to that person, addressed the magnificently uniformed doorman.

"Is there a guy named Hodges liv-

in here—Gil Hodges?"

"We have a Mr. Gilbert T. Hodges," said the major-general at the door.

"Dat's de guy," said the express van driver. "I got a tokey for him."

"You have a what, my good man?"

"Toikey, toikey. I said it plain. Don't you know no English?"

"If I am supposed to understand that you are delivering a turkey to this house for Mr. Hodges, you should know enough to take it to the service entrance," the doorman said coldly.

"Aw go chase yourself 'round the block," the driver replied. "It ain't that kind of toikey."

A 25-Pounder.

He hopped back upon, or rather into, his van and with peculiar skill removed from it a crate slightly smaller than a bathroom. Within this enormous cage stood a living turkey, Meleagris Gallopavo himself, a giant of his sort and kind, weighing, as was ascertained later, a few ounces more than twenty-five pounds. The huge bronze fowl, even in the constrictions of its crate, strutted from sheer pomp and pride.

Between doorman and driver a brief colloquy ensued. This was terminated when the driver recognized the impropriety of admitting turkey on the hoof through the front of the house, and consented, therefore, to convey the enormous bird to the back entrance. Delivery was made and Mr. Hodges, who is president of the Advertising Club of New York, found himself possessed of one of 300 such Christmas remembrances that had been sent to people all over the country by Amos G. Carter of Fort Worth, Tex.

Mr. Carter is president and publisher of one of the most prosperous and vigorous newspapers in the State of Texas, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, and owns near Fort Worth a large country place which he calls Shady Oak Farm. Here he grows many things including turkeys, and every Christmas it is his custom to express a particularly choice specimen to some friend or other. Of the three hundred sent this Christmas at least two hundred came to New York.

The modern New York apartment is not designed with an eye to the accommodation of live turkeys, and Mr. and Mrs. Hodges, along with other New Yorkers who were recipients of the Fort Worth man's gifts, were thoroughly puzzled as to what could be done for the housing and entertainment of their startling visitor.

The problem was barely less difficult than would have been presented if Mr. Carter had sent a live steer instead of a live turkey. However, there was a vacant apartment across the hall and after some negotiation Mr. and Mrs. Hodges transferred their turkey to this suite. The turkey is still there and taking nourishment instead of giving it. The Hodges confess to a growing attachment for the splendid creature whom they have named Richard, and raise the point that if one must have a pet one might as well have a twenty-five pound turkey as a sixty pound police dog.

These things are after all matters of habit and custom. Mr. Hodges suggests even that turkeys may come to be quite usual as household pets in New York.

Some Went to Butchers.

There is no record as to what other recipients of Mr. Carter's turkeys did with their gift. Some doubtless sent them to the butcher at once. Others have places in the country suitably adapted to the care of large Texas turkeys. Still others, living in usual type of New York apartment, must have been more puzzled than the Hodges.

A letter from the Fort Worth publisher and turkey breeder arrived almost simultaneously with his gift.

"Now that the Democratic donkey has lived up to his name," he wrote, "and as a result may be in mourning for the next four years, the Republican elephant has again demonstrated the great strength of that rather substantial family, and both have dominated the front pages of the newspapers long enough. It's time to talk of other things—Texas and turkeys, for instance.

"Down here the sun still shines despite the Democratic eclipse and everybody is happy and prosperous. Enthusiasm for the growth and progress of the State was never greater. We lead the nation in petroleum. Crops were never more bountiful. And our cattlemen are enjoying their greatest prosperity. And, with an abundance of turkeys raised this year, we still contend that if the Texas Tom has not displaced Old Crow as the national bird he has certainly become the most democratic of all feathered creatures. At least he has a big following in both parties."

We Got the Birds.

Among the people in New York and elsewhere to whom Mr. Carter sent a bouncing big gobbler are Brig.-Gen. Frank P. Lahm, Judge Kene-saw Mountain Landis, baseball arbiter; Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune; Lafayette Young, Walter Teagle of the Standard Oil Company, Joseph A. Moore, publisher of the Morning Telegraph; Conde Nast, John N. Wheeler, the syndicate man; Fred Sterry of the Hotel Plaza and other hotel interests; Frank W. Harwood, Irvin S. Cobb, Paul Block, publisher and baseball club owner; H. F. Sisson of the Guaranty Trust Company; C. E. Mitchell, president of the National City Bank; John N. Willys, baker car manufacturer; George F. Baker, Jr.; John Ringling, the circus man; Frank B. Noyes, president of the Associated Press; Kent Cooper, general manager of the Associated Press.

Judge Robert S. Lovett, Barron Collier, Frank Presbrey, Darwin P.

Kingsley, head of the New York Life Insurance Company; Frank Crownshield, publisher; Sidney Smith, cartoonist; Will Rogers, jester; William H. Rankin, Roy W. Howland, chairman of the board of the Scripps-Howard newspapers; Harry Chandler, Los Angeles newspaper owner; John J. McGraw of the Giants, O. O. McIntyre, the sole humorist; Arthur Brisbane, President Coolidge, Secretary Mellon, Albert L. Pratt, Mayor Walker, Vice-President Dawes, Gov. Smedley D. Lee, railroad executive Robert W. Stewart, Standard Oil, Texaco, Tex Richard, Bud Otto W. Kahn, W. R. Ruce Barton, Harry F. Sinclair, R. Mallinson and Charles banker.