

PEOPLE in the News

Rev. Pike, Wife Granted Divorce

Esther Pike, wife of the Rt. Rev. James A. Pike, retired bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California, has been granted an interlocutory divorce decree.

She appeared yesterday before Superior Court Judge Byron Arnold at a hearing which lasted five minutes. Mrs. Pike, 48, charged mental cruelty.

Bishop Pike, 54, now theologian at the Center for Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, did not contest the suit.

Lurleen Back Home

Gov. Lurleen Wallace continues her recovery from cancer surgery in the familiar surroundings of Alabama's gubernatorial mansion.

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The governor returned yesterday, three weeks from the day of her departure for the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, Tex., where the surgery was performed.

She looked well, but thinner as a crowd of 500 greeted her: "I am happy to be home. I'm feeling real good and I look forward to resuming a completely normal schedule."

Briton Gets New Post

Judith Hart, who has been minister of state for Commonwealth affairs since 1966, is Britain's new social security minister.

Miss Margaret Herbison, 60, resigned from the social security post yesterday to protest Chancellor of the Exchequer James Callaghan's plans to reduce welfare benefits to ease Britain's precarious economic position.

Mrs. Hart, 42, is a sociologist and the wife of a scientist. Lord Shepherd, 48, a government floor leader in the House of Lords, was named to her commonwealth

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