Lo! he comes, with clouds descending.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NINETEEN NINETY-EIGHT.

Travel bracketed 1997 with my duties with the AMERICAN FLOCK ASSOCIATION taking me to Germany for the 14th International Flock Symposium in January, and to Las Vegas for the corresponding American program in October.

After finishing my business in Europe, I enjoyed a holiday by train through GERMANY, ITALY, and SWITZERLAND. Stops in Frankfurt, Munich, Venice, Milan, and Luzern offered a chance to meet up with European friends while doing the usual sight-seeing.

The charm and ease of European living were quite in contrast to Las Vegas, a place for which the word "gaudy" doesn't begin to do justice. Beginner's luck held true for this non-gambler who more than gained at the roulette table what he lost at the slots.

BOSTON CONTINUES as ever, which surely is a large part of her attraction. The year 1997 saw the 100th Anniversary of our subway (America's first) and the end, after many years, of the ten-cent pay phone call. We were visited by snowstorms, including the third biggest snow-fall in recorded Boston history, which, on April 1, fooled all of us who thought winter was finally over.

A Monday evening LITERARY SALON, organized by my girlfriend Mary DiZazzo, entertained a small group of us who meet at her Beacon Hill flat to read plays and other literature. Having enjoyed Molière's *Imaginary Invalid*, Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and other literary works through the summer, we took a break this autumn while I pursued other, political, activities.

My CAMPAIGN FOR CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL brought together many familiar and new faces. My manager, *Paul Watson*, is due much of the credit for keeping us focused in the midst of the distractions of a political campaign. Raising more money than any other challenger candidate was due to scores of friends and supporters and to the work of my treasurer, *Mike Slemmer*.

Steve Jens and *Kevin Acklin* organized active student campaigns at M.I.T. and Harvard, while *Greg Rose* put the campaign on the internet at **http://members.aol.com/CambGOP.**

State Treasurer *Joe Malone* gave the campaign a boost when he came to a party in my honor that Mary hosted in Boston. And the Republican State Committee gave much needed support—their printing press and voter lists, with which I sent out over 6,000 pieces of campaign literature. Especial thanks are due to State Committee Deputy Director *Bob O'Keefe* who stayed late to help me get those letters done.

I did well for a first-time candidate. Although I did not win a seat this year when all incumbents were re-elected, I was one of the strongest of the eleven challengers.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 1998, I remind you that tickets are available for the **NAACP's Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast** on Saturday, **January 17**. The breakfast is a fun event and the biggest event of our Cambridge branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The revenue from the tickets, which are **$30 per ticket**, provides scholarships to college-bound Cambridge high school seniors. Contact me for tickets.

Wishing you all a happy and holy holiday,

I remain,

Your servant,

David Trumbull

In the bleak
mid-winter, frosty wind
made moan, earth stood hard as
iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen,
snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak
mid-winter, long ago. . . . What can I give
him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb; if I were a
wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him
—give him my heart.
(Christina
Rossetti)