ELECTRIC SANTA WILL VISIT CITY

Gifts as Well as Decorations Show Modern Trend This Year

LUXURY, UTILITY, SAFETY

"Electrical Week" Sees New Spirit Pervading Christmas-Time Shopping

Santa Claus may be compelled by the modernizing influence of electricity to make his Christmas Eve rounds by automobile this year. "Do it electrically" has so permeated living that the good old patron of Yuletide may deem it an anachronism to deliver electrical gifts and to adorn electrical Christmas trees, in a conveyance that has become as passe as the wax candles that are now replaced by the incandescent bulbs as illuminants of that household necessity of a real Christmas.

The predominance of electricity in the holiday novelties is evidenced during "Electrical Week."

One has but to walk along Market or Chestnut streets to find, even at midday, along either side of the highway, an apparently unending line of electrical displays appropriate to the approaching Christmas season. Mottoes flash down from tops of doorways of buildings, windows scintillate from festooned bulbs artistically disposed, while, if curiousity attracts the stroller to the interior of the establishment he finds himself in many cases surrounded by myriad electrical devices utilized in the holiday decoration.

EVEN CHRISTMAS TREES.

Nor is this all. The advance of electricity in the Yuletide composition has extended even to the Christmas tree itself.

True, the product of the Maine woods will still mingle its fragrance with the glad spirit of the Christmas time in as many homes as of yore and hold its place as the central feature of every Christmas celebration where there are little children. And many a member of that class known as "children of a larger growth," will demonstrate their incontrovertible belief that Christmas is not Christmas without a Christmas tree.

But the up-to-date Christmas tree and the concomitant holiday decorations in thousands of homes this year will be electric. Previous experiences with the flimsy ornaments and unguarded wax candles have too often turned the Christmas festivity into sudden and ineffaceable gloom.

Electric lighting has removed this possibility of disaster and decorative outfits are now available for the adornment of trees that are danger free. Moreover, they have been found to afford increased pleasure to the little people while relieving the minds of the parents, such as was not possible when wax candles were used.

Some of the electric decorative sets now offered for Christmas trees are furnished with a plug, which may be attached to any electric light socket. Leading from this is an insulated wire with branches to the small electric lamp sockets.

By this means the householder whose home is wired for electricity is enabled at no extra outlay to carry power to the wires which are strung along the branches of the tree. This method of stringing can be accomplished in such a way as to conceal completely the wires when the tree is lighted.

Small lamp bulbs, designed especially for this purpose, may be had. These are made in the form of birds, nuts, fruits, toys, animals, snowmen and even Santa himself. These decorative lamps add immensely to the beauty of the tree, and the use of electricity permits the lighting of the tree at the beginning of the Christmas season and keeping the illumination up every evening throughout the holiday period. Plain lamps may be had in the Christmas colors or in the various forms dear to the juvenile heart.

NOW A NECESSITY

Electric decorations are now regarded as necessary to almost any social festivity. They may be elaborate or simple, the cost is not excessive and they are absolutely safe. Their use in the home at the coming Christmas time is foreshadowed by these economies, which the modern householder considers more and more each year.

The Christmas gift electrical is another innovation that is likely to play an important part in the holiday observance. Almost every electrical appliance which a year or two ago was considered a luxury is now deemed a necessary comfort by the housewife and would be regarded by her as an appreciable gift.

In the selection of a Christmas gift many persons face a perplexing problem. They find the essential qualities hard to combine. They desire something serviceable and yet wish it to convey the spirit of Christmas. They do not wish their present to cost much and yet would have it possess a touch of real luxury or value. They would have it offer some practical utility, but at the same time are confronted with the difficulty of having it follow the fine line of distinction between the welcome gift and what the purchaser would prefer to buy for his own use.

INTEND TO WIN MUMMER PRIZE

Joseph Ferko, captain of the Fralinger String Band, is already out with the announcement that his organization is after a first prize. The band is named after a downtown physician.

THE WEATHER

Official Forecast

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.

For eastern Pennsylvania — Fair and somewhat colder tonight; Thursday fair; moderate west winds, becoming variable.

The storm that was over the upper Lake region has passed eastward to the St. Lawrence valley, accompanied by light rains. A cool area has followed it and has spread over all districts from the Mississippi River eastward, causing a drop in temperatures just about sufficient to restore normal conditions at most places. A storm of moderate energy overlies the northern plains States this morning and is attended by rising temperatures, and there is a general excess of about ten degrees over the whole Missouri basin.

Observations at Philadelphia

8 A. M.	
Barometer	29.88
Temperature	44
Wind	Southwest, 13 miles
Sky	Clear
Precipitation last 24 hours	Trace
Humidity	40
Minimum temperature	43
Maximum temperature	64

Lamps to Be Lighted

Autos and other vehicles ..... 4:40 p.m.

The Tides

PORT RICHMOND

High water ..... 11:16 a.m.
Low water ..... 6:21 p.m.
High water ..... 11:36 p.m.

CHESTNUT STREET WHARF

High water ..... 11:28 a.m.
Low water ..... 6:32 p.m.
High water ..... 11:48 p.m.

REEDY ISLAND

High water ..... 8:05 a.m.
Low water
High water ..... 8:25 p.m.

BREAKWATER

Low water ..... 11:49 a.m.
High water ..... 5:52 p.m.
Low water ..... 11:48 p.m.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin

Observations taken at 8 a. m. eastern time.

Station.	8 a.m.	Low 8 p.t.	last Rain fall.	Wind.	Veloc. Hy.	Weather
Atlanta, Ga	46	44	.02	NW		Clear
Atlantic City	42	42		W	12	Clear
Baltimore, Md.	42	42		W	20	Clear
Delaware, N. D.	32	24		E	22	Cloudy
Boston, Mass	44	44		W	16	Clear
Buffalo, N. Y.	34	34		W	42	P. Cldy
Chicago, Ill.	36	36		SW	14	Cloudy
Cincinnati, O.	34	34		SW		Clear
Cleveland, O.	36	36		W	20	Clear
Denver, Col.	40	36		S		Clear
Detroit, Mich	32	32		W	18	Clear
El Paso, Tex.	44	38		NW		Clear
Galveston, Tex.	62	62		SE		Clear
Harrisburg, Pa.	40	40		NW	18	Clear
Hatteras, N. C.	54	54		N	36	Clear
Halifax, N. S.	46	44	1.10	W		Cloudy
Huron, S. D.	34	34		SE	16	Cloudy
Indianapolis, Ind.	34	34		SW		Clear
Jacksonville, Fla.	60	60		NW		Rain
Kansas City, Mo.	42	42		SE	12	Clear
Key West, Fla.	68	68		NE		Clear
Knoxville, Tenn.	50	50		NW		Clear
Los Angeles, Cal.	52	52		NW		Clear
Louisville, Ky.	34	34		S		Clear
Memphis, Tenn.	40	40		E		Clear
Montreal, Can.	38	36	.20	S	22	Rain
Nantucket, Mass.	44	44	.04	W	16	Cloudy
New Orleans, La.	62	62		NW		Clear
New York, N. Y.	40	40	.01	W	38	Clear
Norfolk, Va.	48	48		W	24	Clear
Oklahoma, Okla.	40	40		S	12	Clear
Omaha, Neb.	40	38		S	10	Clear
Philadelphia, Pa.	44	42		SW	12	Clear
Phoenix, Ari.	44	44		SE		Clear
Pittsburgh, Pa.	34	34		W	10	Clear
Portland, Me.	40	40	.08	SW	14	P. Cldy
Portland, Ore.	38	38	.64	S		Cloudy
St. Louis, Mo.	40	40		S	18	Clear
St. Paul, Minn.	28	26		SE	10	P. Cldy
Salt Lake, Utah	28	28	.22	NE	14	Snow
San Antonio, Tex.	62	58		S		Clear
San Francisco, Cal.	46	44	.02	N		Clear
Sault Ste. Marie	32	32	.28	NW		Clear
Savannah, Ga.	58	58		N	12	Clear
Scranton, Pa.	40	38		SW	22	P. Cldy
Tampa, Fla.	58	58		E		Clear
Washington	44	44		W	18	Clear
Winnipeg, Can.	10	8		W		Clear

LANSING ASKS ENVOYS FOR PALMERO FACTS

Orders U. S. Diplomats to Transmit Information on Sinking of Ship

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.

Secretary of State Lansing today ordered American Embassy officials in Madrid, Berlin and Vienna to obtain all possible information concerning the sinking of the Italian steamship Palermo off the Spanish coast and forward it to Washington immediately.

Officials here had not received today any official information as to the nationality of the submarine. It was pointed out, however, that Austrian submarines have been operating off the Spanish coast.

If official information verifies report that the Palermo was attempting to escape when attacked no diplomatic action will be taken by this Government, it is said, notwithstanding the fact that an American citizen was reported killed by shellfire, and three were wounded.

MADRID, Dec. 6.

The submarine which sank the Italian steamship Palermo, carrying a number of Americans, is believed to have been of Austrian nationality.

A dispatch from Palafrugell that the ship had been shelled led to a belief here that she was trying to escape. One seaman, reported to be an American, was wounded by a shell fragment and died. Three others were said to have been wounded by the explosion of a torpedo fired into the vessel.

The reports as to the exact number of Americans on board vary. One said twenty-five, another forty-three, and still another placed the number at forty-five. Most of them were horse tenders.

The Palermo was carrying contraband from New York to Spezia. She was armed with two guns. The value of ship and cargo was about $2,000,000.

Automobiles Stop Runaway Horse

A flying wedge formed of automobiles stopped a runaway horse on Broad street today after an exciting chase of nearly half a mile. The animal, drawing a wagon, and driven by William Riley, of 1237 Hazzard street, bolted at Lehigh avenue and ran down Broad street. Several automobiles gave chase as the frightened horse narrowly escaped crashing into several other vehicles, and by forming a wedge ahead of the animal brought it to a standstill. Riley was taken to the Samaritan Hospital. He sustained a fractured knee.

CHURCHMEN ORGANIZE CLUB FOR ADVERTISING

Newspapers Will Be Admitted to Body Studying Publicity—Will Join Poor Richards

The Church Advertising Association, an organization for promoting general church advertising which will be affiliated with the Poor Richard Club, has been formed by representatives of more than seventy-five churches, who gathered in the Curtis Building last night.

The association will study methods of gaining publicity in church affairs. Churches and newspapers can become members upon payment of the annual dues of $5, which permit the pastor and representatives of each church to have a voice in the management of the organization.

The association will be governed by a board of directors, consisting of one member of each denomination, a representative of each newspaper and a member of the Poor Richard Club.

The Rev. Dr. Peter C. Wright, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, was chairman, and Harry Hodges, of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion, acted as secretary. A committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. George D. Adams, of Chestnut Street Baptist Church; the Rev. D. E. Weigle and Allan Sutherland, presented a constitution, which was adopted.

Appeals From Fine for Killing Birds

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Dec. 6.—A petition has been presented to Judge Miller in behalf of Charles F. Hall, a Lower Merion policeman, who seeks to appeal from the finding of Magistrate McClellan, of Narberth, who fined him heavily for killing a blackbird, a robin and a flicker. Residents had been pestered by a large flock of blackbirds which gathered in trees, and the policeman fired a shot into one of the trees to scare them away.

TO RAZE SUBWAY GUARD FOR MUMMERS' PARADE

Construction Company Offers to Remove High Fence on South Penn Square

WILL NOT HALT WORK

Director Twining to Let Contract 102 for Transit Job Under City Hall

The Keystone State Construction Company, through S. M. Swaab, chief engineer, announced today that it would remove the high board fence around the Broad street subway excavation at South Penn Square and Broad street on New Year's Day in order that there might be no interference with the big mummers' pageant.

The offer came voluntarily from Mr. Swaab just as the mummers, led by John Haizley, chairman of Councils' New Year Committee, had arranged to interest Senator McNichol, head of the Keystone concern, in their cause and have him arrange for the temporary removal of the board fence. Mr. Haizley, when told that the company had anticipated his request with a voluntary offer, expressed his delight and declared that both mummers and spectators would appreciate the trouble taken by the construction company.

The fence as it now stands is directly in front of the point on which the judges and reviewers' stand is always located for the parade. Also, the structure has so curtailed the available traffic space at that place that it would be virtually impossible for the large mummers' floats to pass.

WON'T HINDER WORK

The temporary removal of the fence will entail a slight cost upon the company, but it will not interfere with the work on the subway, according to Mr. Swaab, as the greater part of the actual work at that point is being done at night, when the street traffic is lightest and when the subway-surface cars can be detoured over the surface lines.

The engineers of the Keystone Company today pierced for the first time the massive outside foundation wall of City Hall in connection with the work on the tube and central station. The first opening was made just west of the southern entrance of City Hall. At this point the foundation walls are ten feet thick. Temporary timber supports have been inserted in the hole and these will be replaced by immense steel girders.

The wall will be pierced at points six feet apart between the point of the first excavation and the southwestern corner of the building. When the steel girders have been placed in each of these holes the entire weight of this section of the building, which is estimated at 1500 tons, will be lifted from the present foundations and shifted to the girders, in order to permit the workmen to rebuild the new outside foundation walls.

In discussing the general project today Mr. Swaab characterized it as the most gigantic engineering undertaking of its kind ever attempted in America.

TO LET NEW CONTRACT

Tomorrow Director Twining will open bids for contract No. 102 under City Hall. This contract is in reality a subdivision of contract No. 101, on which the Keystone Company is now working. The original contract was for 700 linear feet of work, and the price limit was $2,000,000. Early this summer, when it was found that it would be necessary to rebuild the City Hall foundation walls at a cost far in excess of the contract limit, City Solicitor Connelly recommended that Director Twining reduce the contract.

The 700 linear feet of contract 101 was accordingly reduced to 405 feet and contract 102 will be for the remaining 295 feet. There is approximately $946,000 available for this contract in the $6,000,000 transit loan of last year, under which the work must be done. Of these loans $3,000,000 was apportioned for the Broad street tube work and a similar amount for the Frankford "L." In addition, the overhead charges of the engineering division of the Transit Department must come from this loan money. The $2,000,000 already under contract for the Broad street subway work would leave about $1,000,000 for the new contract, but this has been reduced by about $54,000 on account of the up-keep of the engineering division.

WARNING TO AUTO THIEVES

Police Director Organizes Citizen Detective Force to Protect Cars

Plans are being formulated for the establishment of a permanent force of detectives, to be known as the automobile division, for the prevention of thefts of automobiles, according to information given out today by Director of Public Safety William H. Wilson.

The establishment of this division resulted from a conference in the director's office Monday, at which many persons, representing virtually all the automobile associations of the city, and many individual owners offered to be sworn in as special officers further to prevent the automobile thefts. The plan was approved by the director. He and his assistant, Harry C. Davis, are planning the division.

SANTA FE GIVES MEN 10 PER CENT PAY BONUS

Will Distribute $2,750,000 of War Profits to Meet High Living Cost

SANTA FE, Dec. 6.—Directors of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company authorized a distribution equal to ten per cent of a year's pay to all its employes in the service of the system for at least two years and whose annual compensation does not exceed $2500.

President Ripley, of the company, said that the amount to be distributed was estimated at about $2,750,000. He said that the railroad, "especially since the influence of the European war has been fully felt, has enjoyed what appears to be an abnormal prosperity." It was in recognition of this and of the increased cost of living that led the directors to make the distribution, he said.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 6.—All the paper mills in western Massachusetts, including Holyoke, Agawam, Mittineague, Berkshire County, have granted their employes an emergency bonus of ten per cent in wages, beginning December 15 and computed monthly on the basis of the preceding month's earnings. This plan will continue until further notice, and is granted, according to a statement, to offset the increased cost of living. Between 4000 and 5000 employes will benefit.

Dewalt Spent $1434.17

READING, Pa., Dec. 6.—It cost Arthur G. Dewalt, Democrat, of Allentown, who has filed his account here, $1434.17 to be re-elected to Congress.