

# SHAVERTOWN

By "RED SCHWARTZ"

## Dinner Party

Mr. and Mrs. James Mackie of Perrin avenue entertained at dinner recently. Following dinner, cards were played and prizes awarded to Mr. and Mrs. William Dietz, Mrs. Walter Kressley. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kressley, Mr. and Mrs. William Good, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lueder, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. William Dietz, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Robertson and Mr. and Mrs. James Mackie.

Mrs. John Seymour of Glen View Terrace entertained at cards recently in honor of Mrs. Joseph Moore of Philadelphia.

The Kellar Klass of the M. E. Church will meet at the home of Mrs. Ray Isaacs this evening. A full attendance is urged.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Paul's Lutheran Church will hold an "aprou social" in the basement of the church this evening.

Mrs. Kathryn Malkemes, who underwent an operation at the Nesbitt West Side Hospital during the past week is improving.

## Covered Dish Supper

A covered dish supper was held at the Methodist Episcopal Church on Wednesday night. The troop committee and mothers were guests. Games were played and stunts were given by different patrols. The following were present: Troop committee and mothers: Mrs. Walter Fletcher, Mrs. Martin Porter, Mrs. Harry Bogart, Mrs. Henry Sipple, Mrs. Vester Vercoe, Mrs. Herbert Williams, Mrs. William Ferrell, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. John Gallagher, Mrs. John Stevenson, Mrs. Charles Ayers, Captain Mrs. H. F. Henry; Lieutenants Mrs. Wheeler Hess and Esther Thomas; Girl Scouts: Emily Preston, Mildred Isaacs, Charlotte Monk, Margaret Koche, Shirley Mitchell, Emma Rath Shaver, sther Warden, Mae Warden, Jane Hontz, Marjorie Hughes, Betty Carvie, Ruth Evans, Eleanor Cortright, Marguerite Patton, Elizabeth Searfoss, Virginia Rosser, Vivian Eckhart, Helen Gallagher, Dorothea Ayers, Grace Ferrell, Edna Hunt, Marion Heale, Beatrice Williams, Jean Vercoe, Hilda Stevenson, Rebecca Platt, Clara Mae Evans; visitors, Doris Vercoe, Verna Nutchlar, Dorothy Carey, Jean Hughes, Nell Clemow.

Tickets were given out for the entertainment to be held January 29 in the M. E. Church, proceeds to be used for buying badges for the scouts. The first girl selling ten tickets will receive three blue ribbons. Mrs. Wheeler Hess is in charge of the tickets. The local Girl Scouts, Troop 9, had the pleasure of going through the Miners Bank on Wednesday afternoon as their educational trip.

Mrs. Maretta K. Warden, North Main street, entertained members of the Birthday Club at her home on the occasion of her birthday anniversary. Cards were played and luncheon was served to the following members present: Mrs. Nellie Makinson of Forty Fort, Mrs. Margaret Fisher of Trucksville, Mrs. Helen Honeywell of Dallas, Mrs. Anna K. Richards of Beaumont, Mrs. Estella K. Isaacs, Mrs. Amanda W. Herdman, Mrs. May H. Conden and Mrs. Marie Rydd, all of Kunkle; Sherman, Elizabeth, Abilene Warden and Sherman Kunkle.

## Auxiliary Meets

The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Paul's Lutheran Church held its regular meeting at the church recently. Business was transacted and plans for an "apron social" to be held this evening in the basement of the church were completed. A good time is assured all who attend. Aprons have been mailed to a large number of women folk of the town. A program of entertainment has been arranged and refreshments will be served. After the business session luncheon was served by the hostess, Mrs. K. Lemke, to the following members present: Mesdames Ayers, Avery, Batey, Eck, Drum, Dressel, K. G. Laycock, C. Malkemes, E. Monk, G. Norton, G. E. Ruff, M. Phillips, J. Harfman. Guests: Mrs. George and William Hierolf, Mrs. Carl Kast and Miss Helen Anderson, of Dallas.

## Local Church Services

Church of the Prince of Peace—Services Sunday will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church with Sunday school at 3 p. m. and evening services at 4 p. m. Rev. Paul Weatherly, pastor. M. E. Church—Church school at 9:45; morning worship at 11 a. m.; vesper services at 7:30 p. m. Rev. H. Henry, pastor. St. Therese's—Masses on Sunday are at 8:30 and 10:30 with Sunday school following the 10:30 mass. Rev. J. J. O'Leary, pastor. Glen View P. M.—Sunday school at 10 a. m.; preaching service at 11 a. m.

Christian Endeavor meets at 6:30 p. m.; preaching service at 7:15 p. m. Rev. A. Iveson, pastor. St. Paul's Lutheran—Sunday school at 10 a. m.; morning service at 11 a. m.; vesper service at 7:30 p. m. Rev. G. Elson Ruff, pastor.

## Statement Corrected

Due to a number of telephone calls during the week on the action taken by the court en banc on the local appointment of chief of police here, we wish to make a correction to read as follows: The petition was then sent to court, who, in turn, handed down an order "authorizing" and not directing the supervisors to make the appointment. He hope this correction is satisfactory to all who called.

## Fire Company to Meet

The local fire company will meet at the school house Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Captain and lieutenants on the membership drive are requested to turn in all new membership cards at this meeting.

## SEEN AND HEARD

By Will Wimble

Dropped into the tonsorial emporium during the week and found things all topsy-turvy due to the fact that George is having the place all painted up and Bill Reilly was doing the work.

We heard that at the fire company election last week that the candidates must have had some railroad experience the way some of them were rail-roaded into office, but they all got a kick out of it.

It was also heard that Stanley Wrisler went so far as to go and pay 50 cents for every vote he received. Twenty-one votes at that price would mean a layout of \$10.50. Potato business must be good. We think Stan will make a good chief.

I wish someone would give us some information on this "Green Dragon" that is said to be in town some place.

"Jiggs" VanCampen was a hustler in the fire company and a hard worker. We don't know "Red" Schwartz very well but from what we hear "Red" will make a fine president. If you need any help, "Red," come around. We will help you.

The campaign for new members is meeting with much success. Everyone in the town should get in while this drive is on. The firemen need your help. The dues are but \$3 a year with \$1 for initiation fee. The money received from the dues help the men buy tires, acids, hose, pay rent and other necessities for a fire company.

The township supervisors have erected "Twenty Mile Speed Limit" signs along the two main roads of the township as well as "School Zone" signs where children have to cross the roads while going and coming from school.

The Dallas and Shavertown fire companies were helpless at the fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Chernes last Sunday morning. The fire had a big start before it was discovered, due to the heavy wind. The boys did good work in keeping the fire confined to the one building.

C. W. Hoffman, pulled the piano half way out of the parlor when he became all puffed out and asked a few men to help him. It took eight men to carry it to a neighbor's house.

One of the boys from Dallas came to help put the fire out with a rubber coat over his pajamas. We wonder if he felt the wintry blasts?

F. C. Malkemes cranked his "Graham Cracker" for half an hour trying to get it started with the switch turned off to get to the fire.

Rev. Harry Henry was there and when the blaze was at its highest Rev. Henry remarked: "Boys, that's a hot fire. Now's the time to mend your ways."

Stanley Wrisler, the newly elected fire chief, has been a very busy man the past week. Stan saw to it that the tanks on the truck were fully charged and those that were not were made so. The brass was all shined up and the lenses were taken to be re-nicked. New batteries were put in the hand lamps. Atta boy, Stan!

Don't fail to fill out one of the membership cards when it is handed to you by one of the firemen. It is through these means that the fire company is kept going and they need your help.

We heard during the week that the Justice of the Peace of Shavertown submitted to an operation at the West Side Hospital and that Mrs. K. Malkemes is getting along very nicely.

# History of Dallas

(Continued From Last Week) Characters

Abram Pike, the "Indian killer," was a wandering medicant for many years prior to his death. He was found dead one morning in a barn near the present residence of George Ide, in Lehman (then Dallas) township. He was buried by Dallas townfolk as a pauper, under an apple tree near the Presbyterian Church in old "Ide burying ground," in the present township of Lehman.

The following incident, connected with his later years, has been told me, which I do not remember to have heard or seen in print before. The owners of an eel were in the Susquehanna River, just above the gas house at Wilkes-Barre, had strong suspicions that some one was stealing their fish, and set a watch to catch him. In due course the thief was caught, and it proved to be poor Pike. He was taken down to old Hollenback's storehouse, which stood on the river bank a short distance below Market street, and locked up. Some waghish boys put up a card over the door, "The largest Pike ever caught in the Susquehanna River now on exhibition here—admission 10 cents;" and it is said they took a good many dimes from the curious people who flocked to see it.

In 1813 Steuben Butler proposed to publish a life of "Abraham Pike," but for lack of support the work was not published. The following is a copy of the original subscription paper now in hands of C. E. Butler (verbatim):

## Proposals

"For publishing by subscription a New Work, being the life of Abraham Pyke, containing his adventures in the british service and in America in the Wyoming war, etc., etc. The work is ready for the press as soon as sufficient subscribers will warrant the publication. It will be printed on good paper with an entire new type and stitched in blew, price to subscribers, 50 cents.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., August, 1813.

"Subscriber's name.

Place of residence."

(No subscribers). While speaking of the wandering propensities of Pike, I am reminded of the other two characters who are

still remembered, no doubt, by many in widely separated parts of the State of Pennsylvania. I refer to John Shaw and James or "Jimmy" Bradshaw. The latter was a soldier of the war of 1812 and was very old and very deaf, at my earliest recollections, and was a peddler by occupation. He spent his winters usually at the charge of the town where he happened to be when the first snow came. He was out, however, again with the first warm spring days, and would find his way to some near storekeeper and secure a pack of goods to peddle. This pack consisted usually of a few pins, needles, buttons, some thread, and possibly half a dozen other small articles costing probably five or ten dollars for the entire outfit. Of course, his purchases had to be made on credit, but none who knew him would refuse to trust him. He traveled over a vast extent of country. Almost everyone knew him along the line of his routes and was always willing to trade with him or give him food and lodging. He was careful to return sooner or later, often not until he drifted around next year, and pay his bills for purchases in kind and manners he was as simple as a child. He spoke with a low, genteel mumble, which made it very difficult to understand him. He never shaved, yet his face was almost hairless and soft as a woman's.

John Shaw came nearer to being a veritable wandering Jew than any other man of my knowledge. Not that he was ever supposed to be a bearer or precursor of pestilence, but because he was a persistent and constant wanderer. About once a year he would be seen, always alone, slowly strolling across the country from the south towards the north, wearing a shabby genteel black suit with broadcloth frock coat and a much worn silk hat. He generally walked with his bowed down and hands clasped behind him, as if in deep thought. Later in the year he would pass down across the country again, but in the opposite direction. I have seen him pass by my father's house in this way many times, but do not remember to have ever seen him look up and speak to any one in passing. No one, so far as I could ever learn, knew where his home was or where he went on his annual trips.

A story is told of him that on one occasion he was taken sick while then tramping through one of the lower counties of Pennsylvania, and was

obliged to take a room at a hotel. The appearances not being favorable to the theory of his having much wealth, there was a coldness and lack of attention on the part of the landlord. Shaw's genteel, though much worn hat and apparel, together with his natural shrewdness, came to his relief. Assuming an importance and dignity equal to his purpose, he sent for the landlord, and hinting that he feared that his illness was something of a most serious nature, which might terminate fatally, he asked to have a doctor and a lawyer sent for at once. The former, of course, to cure his physical ills, and the latter to draw his will. He hinted at large possessions in other parts of the state, and from this on the doctor, lawyer and landlord were all attention to his wants. He dictated a will with great care and elaboration, disposing of large blocks or imaginary estates, consisting mainly of farms and coal lands in and about Kingston and Wilkes-Barre, making most liberal provision for the doctor, lawyer and landlord. With the excellent attention and nursing that followed he was soon convalescent, and through the kindness of the landlord was favored with many long and pleasant drives in the fresh air. When, later on, he was strong enough to walk, short strolls were indulged in from day to day, until one day, when recovery was quite complete, Shaw continued one of his strolls so far that he failed to return, leaving the landlord and other attendants to grow wiser at their leisure.

## Some Dallas Yarns and Incidents

There was at one time, before the days of the organ and choir in the Dallas church, a good deal of rivalry between Jacob Rice and his brother-in-law, William C. Roushey, both leading members, as to which could best start the tunes. During the hymn it was not an uncommon occurrence to see each of them rise from his seat and remain standing. The boys generally understood from this that there was fun ahead, and were seldom disappointed. Hardly would the last words of the reading be finished before each of the tune starters would make a drive at the singing. Sometimes the same tune, but sometimes different tunes with different meters. A long meter hymn to a short meter tune, or vice versa. The question with them was which

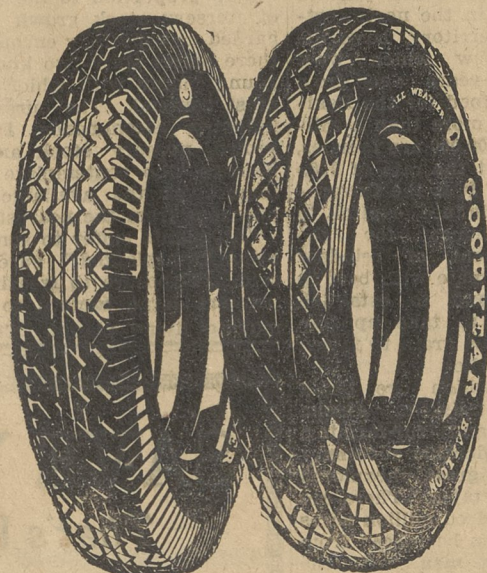
would the congregation follow. One or the other usually got the following, though I have known instances when, to my untrained ear, it seemed that each had a following a different tune. To say that the music was usually "executed" well, would, as I recall it now, seem to define the situation perfectly.

As an example of how greatness is sometimes born in us and sometimes thrust upon us, it is said of Mr. Roushey that he once remarked that he did not understand how it was that so many people knew him whom he did not know, unless it was because he started the tunes in church. Mr. Roushey was a much respected citizen through a long life spent in Dallas, but like most of us, he had peculiarities which it is difficult to dissociate from his memory. He was a privileged character in his church, and felt it his duty to interrupt the minister at any time, from his seat, if he thought any misstatement was being made; and not infrequently I have heard him call to the minister during the reading of a him and ask for its number, which probably he had not accurately heard at the first announcement. This probably grew out of his desire to be ready to start the tune.

Another amusing story is told in which this same Mr. Roushey figures somewhat. He had recently been licensed as a local preacher or evangelist, and began by trying himself on the Dallas congregation. Among those present was John Linskill, a large-brained, sharp-witted Yorkshire Englishman, whose critical comprehension nothing uttered by the preacher was likely to escape. Of course the sermon and the text must be delivered without notes, lest someone might question the genuineness of the "call to preach," and as a result there were some "bad breaks." The text probably intended to be used was "The ways of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord," and to this text he stuck. Faithfully for a long hour he chased it up and down and ran it into all kinds of human experience, and pictured the horror and abomination of the Lord over the prayers of the wicked. How wicked it was for the wicked to pray. To those who happened to be awake during the long harangue, among them Mr. Linskill, of course it was all very ludicrous.

(Continued Next Week)

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