

## LODGE HISTORY REVIEWED AS MASONS MARK BIRTHDAY

Chartered In 1875, Lodge Lost Records In Blaze; Has Had Only Two Treasurers—Both Brickels

By WARREN HICKS

A steady growth in membership and local significance of the George M. Dallas Lodge No. 531, F. & A. M., which marked its 64th Anniversary recently, was seen this week by Fred Eck, lodge secretary.

"The increase in population and the change of Dallas from a farming to a thriving suburban community will be reflected, as in the past, by the progress of our lodge," he said.

The membership of the lodge, which has remained constant for the past two years at 200, reached its peak in 1928 when 220 members were on the rolls. Depression reverses have been largely overcome, however, and a marked increase in membership is predicted by Mr. Eck.

The enthusiasm with which local Masons greeted the 65th year of the George M. Dallas Lodge at an anniversary banquet last Thursday is indicative of the renewed interest and activity in the organization and points towards increased power and prestige.

George M. Dallas Lodge was chartered March 1, 1875, and the late Asa B. Shaver served as first Worshipful Master. The man after whom the lodge was named was a crusading congressman of the middle 1800's who helped to quell anti-masonic legislation introduced at Washington during that period. He was the son of Alex Dallas, colonial patriot after whom Dallas was named.

### Fire Destroyed Records

Early records of the Dallas lodge were destroyed in 1893 when a fire razed the old Odd Fellows' building, but from all indications the lodge was locally prominent from its formation. Since that time it has grown to be one of the outstanding organizations of this section and stands high among the smaller chapters of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Its members have always been among the most prominent people of Dallas and vicinity and its work has been an excellent comment on the progressive development of this region.

Free Masonry has been in existence 5939 years. Records indicate that masonic meetings were held before the days of King David. Since its Biblical beginnings, however, the fundamental principles of masonry have been altered considerably.

Masonic orders were originally trade organizations, similar to craft guilds of early England and the labor unions of today. The change of masonry to its present form may be traced back into medieval times.

The first masonic lodge formed in America was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in pre-Revolutionary days. After the United States came into being, free masonry on this continent was separated from the English Lodge. Grand Lodges were set up in each of the states, and the organization spread rapidly.

During the Revolutionary War, records of masonic meetings among American and British officers were made. In some cases there were even meetings between masonic officers of both armies, it is believed.

George Washington was a member of one of the early American masonic lodges, and since his time a large percentage of our presidents have been Masons. President Franklin D. Roosevelt is a mason, and King George VI and the Duke of Windsor belong to English lodges.

### Banned In Italy, Germany

Masonry is world wide, although open meetings of the organization are currently banned in both Germany and Italy.

Getting back to Dallas again, the George M. Dallas Lodge is part of the 12th masonic district of Pennsylvania, which covers nearly all of Luzerne County. The center of 12th district masonic activities is the Masonic Temple on North Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre.

The local lodge meets the third Thursday of each month in the Odd Fellows' Building, Main Street. According to old masonic custom, the lodge used to meet on the first Thursday after the full moon, the idea being that the light from the moon made transportation to and from meetings more feasible during the horse and buggy days. The regular meeting date was set some 20 years ago.

The lodge owns a plot of ground on the upper end of Main Street, where it may build a permanent meeting place in years to come. No definite plans in that connection have been made, however.

There have been only two treasurers of the Dallas lodge since its organization, and both of them have been Brickels. The late B. William Brickel was first treasurer of the lodge, and his son, Ralph L. Brickel of Main Street, has carried on in his place.

Twenty-seven active Past Masters are in the lodge, among them James B. Benninger of Brandon, Fla., oldest member on the rolls. Alfred Milliner-Camp of Trucksville is Worshipful Master of the lodge this year, Russell A. Ide is Senior Warden, Ralph L. Hazeltine is Junior Warden, Fred Eck, secretary, and the trustees are Carl E. Hontz, William R. Neely and Frederick W. L. Frank.

### Orchestra Draws Crowd

Charles W. Locke's orchestra at Dallas Inn drew another large crowd last Saturday night. Members of the orchestra are Charles W. Locke, leader; Jack Yeninas, guitarist; Edward Pointek, bass, and Margaret Arnold, banjo.

### BUSINESS MEN HIT UPON UNUSUAL WAY TO ASSIST SENIORS WITH FINANCES

Several local business men have hit upon a novel way to help high school seniors to finance their graduation trips to Washington.

Jimmy, "The Barber" Parkinson has promised to donate to the travel treasury one-half of the price of every hair cut for students. Ken Cobleigh, coal dealer, will chip in 25c for every ton of coal ordered by students' families.

The offers apply to pupils from Dallas Borough, Dallas Township and Kingston Township. The two civic-minded business men will also give 1 point for a hair cut or a ton of coal and the class which accumulates the greatest number of points will receive \$5.

### Conference Year Ends

Anticipating the end of the conference year next month, the official board of Dallas M. E. Church has urged members to co-operate in helping the church to end its fiscal period in good financial condition.

### SWEET VALLEY SERVICES

Church will be at 11 Sunday at Sweet Valley Christian Church. Sunday School meets at 10, Christian Endeavor at 6:45. Preaching at 7:30 by Rev. Ira C. Button, pastor.

### Pupils Give Recital

A piano recital was given last week by the following piano pupils of Mrs. Wesley Oliver: Eloise Freeman, Jane Ayre, Ruth Scott, Ruth Monk and Doris McCarty, Dallas; Dean Dodson, Jane Case, Richard Case, Dorothy Smith, Robert Malkemes, Shavertown; Janet Post, Richard Post, Trucksville; Mildred Ide and Ann Emery, Kingston.

## Car Is Destroyed In Unusual Blaze

Spark Ignites Gasoline After Car Bumps Rock

Destroyed in one of the oddest accidents of the year, an automobile owned by Phillip S. Van Blarcom of Lehigh Street, Shavertown, was destroyed by fire on the Wilkes-Barre-Easton highway near Mt. Effort Saturday afternoon.

When his car, a '37 Ford V8, hit a large rock in the middle of the highway, Mr. Van Blarcom pulled up to the side of the road, stepped with his wife and two friends from the machine, and saw the car burst into flames a minute later.

The rock had broken the bottom of the gas line tank and a path of gasoline was formed from it to the parked car. Ignited by a stray spark, a sheet of flame travelled down the path and enveloped the car, completely destroying it in an hour.

A blanket and gravel thrown on the flames had no effect. The State Police were notified and friends of the Van Blarcom's came and took them to Easton.

### St. Patrick's Party

The Dallas Borough Hi-Lites staff held a St. Patrick's Day party on Friday, March 17. Those present were Betty Him, Stella Misson, Helen Sullivan, Doris McCarty, Gert Kintz, Earl Brown, Jan Coolbaugh, Lewis Reese, Bud LeGrand, Eva Brace, Nancy Ayre, Ruth Monk, Betty Jones, Mr. Morgan, Red Holcolm, Jimmy McCottin, Edward Sheridan, Charles Remfrey, Loren Fiske, Fred Drake, Gerald Sullivan, Rhoda Thomas, Lanthy Eveland and Mr. Davis.

### CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Mrs. Mary Crispell wish to express their appreciation for the many kindnesses extended them by friends and neighbors during the recent illness and death of their mother. They also wish to thank the Ladies' Aid Society for their assistance at the home.

### Who Lost A Keg Of Nails?

Chief of Police Walter Covert is holding a keg of nails which dropped from a truck while it was passing through town one day this week. The owner can claim his property by applying to the chief.

## Legion To Make Plans For Spring Activities

The regular meeting of Daddow-Isaacs Post, No. 672, American Legion, will be held at post headquarters, I. O. O. F. hall, Dallas, at 8 p. m. Wednesday, April 5. Special matters of Spring activities and subjects of interest to all ex-service men and women.

## Mr. And Mrs. Elston Fete Champions

Dallas Township Quintet Honored At Peppy Affair

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Elston, parents of Marvin "Jiggs" Elston, Dallas Township basketball player, honored the school's team, which won the scholastic championship, at a dinner on last Thursday night.

Tables were decorated with the school's colors, red and white. Two white basket balls, bearing the letters D. T. H. S. in red, were centerpieces and the favors were red and white baskets. The boys did ample justice to Mrs. Elston's splendid chicken dinner.

Those present were: Gerald Snyder, coach; Maurice Girton, J. Lloyd Drake, James Knecht, Fred Girton, Fred Schray, Francis Kamor, Forrest Stevens, Marvin Elston, Glen Knecht, John Stochmal, James Hummel, Edwin Lumley and Keith Kresge.

## Centermoreland

MRS. BESTEDER CORRESPONDENT

The Ladies' Aid held an ice cream social at the church Tuesday evening. The Epworth League met at the home of Miss Ida Schoonover Thursday evening.

A baseball meeting was held at the gas station Tuesday night for the purpose of electing officers for the coming season.

Rev. Thomas Kline and wife presented the church with a hymn board and Sunday School schedule last Sunday.

## Shavertown Firemen's Mammoth Party

Next Tuesday Night

FIREMEN'S HOME

20 Games, 35c

\$3 and \$5 Awards On

Regular Lapboards

Door Prize — Cash Prizes

## A Cappella Chorus In Concert Sunday

Famed Choir To Sing At Trucksville And Laketon

The a cappella chorus of 30 selected mixed voices from the A. M. Chesbrough Seminary, North Chili, N. Y., which is on its seventh spring tour, will present a program of sacred songs at the M. E. Church, Trucksville, at 3 Sunday afternoon and at Laketon High School at 8 p. m.

The chorus will broadcast over Station WBRE at 9 on Sunday morning. It will be directed by Prof. Lawrence D. Fink and will include in its program groups of sacred songs, spirituals and chorus numbers, all sung without instrumental accompaniment.

Chesbrough Seminary, the school represented by the chorus, is a denominational school under the auspices of the Free Methodist Church. The chorus, which will appear in twelve cities during its tour, has received high praise from appreciative audiences. Especially noticeable, say critics, is the spirit and evident enjoyment with which the group sings.

The appearance of the chorus here will be especially timely because of the observance of Holy Week and a cordial invitation is extended to all by the local sponsors. There will be no admission charge, but a free will offering will be taken to help defray the traveling expenses of the chorus, which travels in a large, chartered bus.

## LEHMAN

MISS VERA IDE CORRESPONDENT

Mr. and Mrs. William Valentine were callers in Pittston recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thomas and family of Ceasestown and Mr. and Mrs. Dick London were callers at the home of S. W. Ide on Sunday.

Mrs. Joseph Parks, who has been seriously ill at her home, is improving slowly.

Steven Zosh is a patient at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in serious condition. An operation may be necessary.

Mrs. Archie Wilcox and Mrs. Isaac Ide are on the sick list this week.

Theodore Condon and sisters, Nina and Flora, called on their uncle, S. W. Ide, recently.

Mrs. Grant Ashburner of Outlet has been caring for her mother, Mrs. Joseph Parks, who is ill.

## Gowdy To Speak Here At Union Service Easter

Bishop Gowdy of China, eminent Methodist missionary leader, who is now on a furlough, will speak at a union service of Shavertown, Trucksville and Dallas Methodist Churches in Shavertown Church on Easter Sunday evening. Mrs. Gowdy is a former resident of West Pittston and the Gowdys, who have had unusually interesting experiences in the Far East, consider that community their home.

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**SALE! CHICKEN FEED!**

SCRATCH GRAIN	25-lb bag	39c
LAYING MASH	25-lb bag	53c
STARTING MASH	25-lb bag	53c
GROWING MASH	25-lb bag	53c
CRACKED CORN	25-lb bag	39c
CHICK STARTER	bag 10-lb.	29c
BABY CHICK FEED	10-lb. bag	29c

Wilson's Tender Extra Mild **HAMS** lb. **17c**  
SHANK OR BUTT END  
PURE PORK **SAUSAGE** 2 lbs. **29c**

**LIBBY'S CORNED BEEF** can 15c  
**PILLSBURY FLOUR** 24-lb. bag 77c  
**DELICIOUS PEARS** lgst. can 10c

**SEEDLESS RAISINS** Pkg. **5c**

**ALASKA SALMON** tall can **9c**

**PURE LARD** lb. **7c**

**SPRY** 1 lb. Can **19c** 3-lb. Can **49c**

**RINSO** Sm. Size **7½** Lge. Size **18½** Giant Size **55**

**LUX FLAKES** Sm. Pkg. **9c** Lge. Pkg. **20c**

**LIFEBUOY or LUX SOAP** 3 for **16c**

**SALADA ORANGE PEKOE TEA BALLS**

Pkg. of **100 69c**

Pkg. OF 8 **8c** PKG. OF 17 **17c** PKG. OF 35 **33c**

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