

# Bethlehem Is The Christmas City Of The Keystone State

### Yuletide Festival Annually Attracts Thousands Of Pennsylvania Tourists

The City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, has become widely known as the "Christmas City of the United States." This appellation is all the more significant this year for the reason that the people of Bethlehem on the evening of December 24 will begin one of two city-wide celebrations of the bi-centennial of that municipality. It was Christmas Eve, December 24, 1741, that the early Moravian settlers gathered in their first log cabin and during their worship service were inspired to name their new-world home "Bethlehem." The Christmas Eve celebration will be especially appropriate in that it will present much of the sacred songs of the season for which Bethlehem has long been famous.

Commenting upon this celebration, Vernon K. Melhado, President of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and a guiding force in the Christmas City program, summarizes the aim and ideals of Bethlehem when he says: "We, the citizens of Bethlehem, feel that the Bethlehem of Pennsylvania is the traditional Christmas city of state and country. We do not say this to exclude a single American community from the Christmas spirit. Massachusetts does not exclude Arizona from the spirit and observance of Thanksgiving, nor does Philadelphia begrudge to other communities the commemoration of Independence Day.

"So, we in Bethlehem do not claim that Bethlehem created Christmas. Nor do we do anything but admire and appreciate the Christmas spirit of our neighboring cities and towns in our great Nation. We do not say Bethlehem created Christmas. What we say is that Bethlehem created Bethlehem."

"Our Bethlehem—the Bethlehem of the New World—has in its very name a tradition and hope upon which rests the thesis of Christianity. Add to this the traditions associated with the naming of our Bethlehem and you cannot help but realize that here is a community which must not fail to remember the circumstances of its birth."

#### The Christmas City

During the Christmas season thousands of persons from all over the United States send their greeting cards for re-mailing and thousands journey to Bethlehem each year to see the traditional Moravian "Putz" a distinct Bethlehem contribution to the Christmas season, which will be presented as usual this year.

Bethlehem is rich in an early American history and legend. It was founded in 1741 by members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Unitas Fratrum, more generally known as Moravian, a missionary effort to the Indians and the German settlers of that section of Pennsylvania. The first building of the town, a log cabin, was built on an old Indian trail above the Monocacy near the site of the present Bethlehem Hotel. It was here that the Christmas Eve service was held at which Bethlehem was named.

Many of the early buildings of the eighteenth century architecture are still in use, with quaint dormers, hand-hewn logs of virgin timbers, handmade locks and hinges, and sturdy buttresses.

Through these buildings, young women of the Moravian Service Guild in traditional eighteenth century Moravian costume during the Christmas season will conduct visitors and tell the story of early Bethlehem. Thus will be created the atmosphere of the stern life of the wilderness, hostile and friendly Indians, game and wild life in the forest, streams abounding with fish, early industries, and music as a service and a recreation.

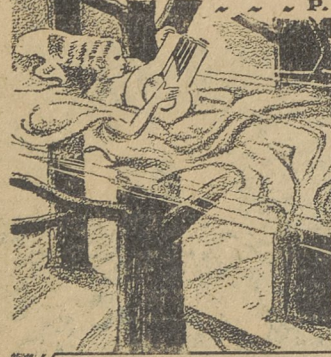
#### Place Of Refuge

Bethlehem was a city of refuge in the French and Indian War and a supply center and hospital in Revolutionary days. Visitors pass through the halls where walked many great figures of the colonial period, George and Martha Washington, Baron von Steuben, Baron de Kalb, Marquis de Lafayette, Gen-

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### "Wonderful Words of Life"



Sing them over again to me,  
Wonderful words of life,  
Let me more of their beauty see,  
Wonderful words of life,  
Words of life and beauty,  
Teach me faith and duty;  
Beautiful words, wonderful words,  
Wonderful words of life.

Little Stories  
GREAT HYMNS

This song, born years ago in the heart of this favorite gospel-song writer, still brings joy to thousands. Especially talented, Bliss could write the music as well as the words for his hymns.

These "Little Stories of Hymns" are presented to you by

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### Fifth Of Family Becomes Member Of Boys' Choir

Nine-year-old Sheldon MacAvoy of Shavertown has been accepted as a soprano soloist with St. Stephen's Boys' Choir, Wilkes-Barre. Sheldon is the fifth in his family to have sung with St. Stephens. His uncles, William, Sheldon, Donald and Daniel Evans were all members of the choir for a number of years. They had the distinction of all being soloists and being the only four brothers ever to sing in the choir at the same time.

### Distribute Shoes

Following its custom of many years, Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club is distributing \$250 worth of shoes and articles to underprivileged children in the Back Mountain region. Howard Woolbert is chairman of the committee.

### Electric Stars

Two attractive stars have been erected on the Shavertown Grade School building by the janitor, John Stevenson. A blue star illuminates the front of the school house and a brilliant red star is visible from the new highway back of the building. Mr. Stevenson, who is a carpenter, made the stars himself.

### MEEKER

Mrs. John Rebennack who has been ill for the past week is somewhat improved.

Lawrence Drabick who has been employed in Baltimore, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Drabick.

Mrs. Walter Wolfe R. N., is taking care of Frank Foss of Sweet Valley who is ill with pneumonia at Nesbitt Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. James Davenport recently entertained for a few days Mrs. Alice Lattimer of Newburgh, N. Y., and Helen Thompson of Highland, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. William Valentine will entertain at a family dinner on Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hildebrand and family of West Greenfield will spend the holidays as guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Hildebrand.

Miss Esther Decker, a student at Stroudsburg State Teacher's College, is spending the holiday vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Decker.

#### Fish Supper

Men's Bible Class will hold a fish supper in the church basement on New Year's Eve. Following the supper Biblical pictures will be shown and a midnight Communion service conducted.

eral Pulaski, John Paul Jones, John Adams and others of the signatories of the Declaration of Independence, Dr. Warren and Dr. Lewis of the Continental Army Hospital, and many others. Outdoors, visitors may walk through the peaceful graveyard where lie the founders and forefathers of the town, many friendly Indians, West Indian Negro converts, the "Strangers Row," a Revolutionary surgeon and a steward of the Continental Hospital.

Bethlehem can claim many "firsts" and "oldests": The first community water works in the United States, and the newest, too, but recently dedicated; the oldest fire engine, brought from London in 1762; Simon Rau and Company, the oldest drug firm in continuous existence in the United States; as well as the oldest Protestant girls' boarding school in the United States.

But Bethlehem will not be content with the Christmas Eve celebration alone. On June 24 it will begin another period of celebration, because it was on that date in 1742 that members of the congregation held a general council of all the people in the settlement and took first steps toward a definite organization of the community.



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## THE SAFETY VALVE - By Post Readers

### Too Little and Too Late

December 20, 1941.

Breakdown of the conference between business and labor, called by the President, to arrive at an agreement whereby work stoppages would be out for the duration was announced by press and radio this morning. The breakdown was caused by, and I quote an AP story, "the union shop issue was said to be the chief stumbling block to reaching an agreement." One of the radio news-casters said, "the closed shop issue has again raised its ugly head." "Ugly Head" to my way of thinking is the correct way to designate this thing; the closed shop means just what it implies namely, that no man is privileged to work in a shop having a union unless he joins that union. Don't forget that the goal of these Hitler's of labor is the unionization of every working man in the country. Boiled down this means that the racketeers are determined to see to it that they collect their tribute, "their pound of flesh," if you please, from every sweating worker. In other words, unless some one calls a halt on these human vultures, no man may sell his services save he has the "Mark of the Beast in his hand or on his forehead." It is not my purpose to belittle labor unions nor to minimize the good they have done; neither is it my purpose to detract from honest labor leaders, but the saturation point has been reached and passed where labor disputes can be tolerated. This is WAR, my fellow citizens, with all the sacrifices and blood and tears that go with it. Time was, perhaps, when it was all right for our President to go to labor leaders, hat in hand, and say "pretty please" but I submit that time is past and its now up to him to lay down his hat, put his coat on top of it and use sterner methods. We have stopped temporizing and appealing our foreign enemies and it's high time we quit the same with the enemies within our borders. No Nazi trained regiment of saboteurs could have done a better job of hindering our armament program than have these unscrupulous labor leaders. They have hidden under the cloak of "labor's constitutional right to organize and strike" to gain their own selfish ends with no regard whatever for the welfare of their country.

No where in the black pages of secular history, is there a more striking example of man's ingratitude than that displayed by the present day labor leaders. In spite of the fact that labor, in its fight for emancipation has made more gains under Mr. Roosevelt than it made before in the history of its fight taken as a whole. In spite of this I say, they have contemptuously turned down his appeals for co-operation. They have steadfastly set their faces against the appeals of this kindly man and, have like mad dogs, bitten the hand that was feeding them. If this act of gross ingratitude effected only the President and he saw fit to ignore it, it would be none of our business, but since it vitally effects the welfare of the whole one hundred and thirty millions of us, it becomes everybody's business.

Events of the past two weeks have proven beyond per-adven-

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**THE DALLAS POST**  
ESTABLISHED 1889  
*A non-partisan liberal progressive newspaper published every Friday morning at its plant on Lehman Avenue, Dallas, Penna., by the Dallas Post.*

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Dallas, Pa., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscriptions, \$2 a year, payable in advance.

Single copies, at a rate of 5c each, can be obtained every Friday morning at the following newsstands: Dallas: Hislop's Restaurant, Tally-Ho Grille; Shavertown, Evans' Drug Store; Trucks-ville, Leonard's Store; Huntsville, Frantz Fairlawn Store; Idetown: Cave's Cash Store.

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## Air Raid Post Wardens Named

### District Nine Now Completely Manned

Air raid post wardens and their assistants: Dallas Borough: Post 1, business section, Lake and Church streets; John Hislop, Karl Kuehn, Harold Titman, Daniel Richards; Post 2, Brooklyn section, east of Main street, Clyde Veitch, William Carrol, George Lewis; Post 3, Center Hill area, John Jeter, Ray Shiber Charles Elston; Post 4, Parrish Heights, William Schmoll, Joseph Schmerer, Clifford Space; Post 5, Machell, Norton, Lehman avenue, and Huntsville and Franklin streets, George Von Arx, Irwin Coolbaugh, John Durbin; Post 6, Irem Country Club, Carl Schlingmann.

Dallas Township: Post 1, Kunkle to Demunds, Ike Elston, David Bevan, A. C. Devens, Olin Kunkle; Post 2, Fernbrook to Pioneer avenue, Earl Layaou, Clyde Hope, William O'Boyle, Henry Ralston; Post 3, Fernbrook, Demunds and Payne's farm area, Fred Hughey, Leslie Schultz, Fred Lamoreaux; Post 4, Dallas Fair Grounds area and Coss Manor, Arthur Newman, Giles Wilson, Wilson Ryman.

Jack Township: Post 1, Chase to Farmer's Inn, William Hablett, Earl S. Smith, Lansford Noryris, James Simpson; Post 2, back section, Elmer Laskowski, J. K. Murray, F. A. Shouldice.

## "Whitey" Brace Sends Greetings From Iceland

Friends of Granville "Whitey" Brace, who is stationed with American Expeditionary Forces in Iceland, have received novel Christmas cards mailed November 20. The front appropriately is a map of Iceland with a polar bear silhouetted in the background. The coats-of-arms of the United States, Canada and Great Britain are embossed in color around the edges. Inside depicts an Iceland winter scene with snow bound half-round army huts and sky ablaze with the northern lights. Stars form an enormous celestial "V" for victory.

"Whitey's" Iceland adventure came as the result of his choice to go to that northern post rather than choose Trinidad which the army offered as an alternative.

## Damage To Structure

Fire of undetermined origin for a time Saturday night threatened the unoccupied frame house on Orchard street, Fernbrook, owned by O. R. Mullison, general manager of the American Stores Company.

## Three Mentioned For Council Job

### Franklin, Cave And Ohlman Are Favored

Salaries of police, street commissioners and other Borough employees were paid at a brief meeting of council held for the purpose Friday night in the Borough Building. No other business of importance was transacted. Councilmen discussed informally the appointment of a new councilman to fill the unexpired term of James Ayre who has taken a defense job with the York Safe & Lock Company.

Mr. Ayre has not yet resigned and may be able to handle his councilmanic duties during his frequent trips home. If he decides to resign, Council can appoint a man to fill the unexpired term until the next regular election when a new councilman will have to be elected. If it chooses, council may defer appointing anyone in which case the Court will name a man to serve Mr. Ayre's entire unexpired term.

Among those who have been mentioned are James Franklin, Harry Ohlman and Nick Cave, Mr. Ohlman and Mr. Cave were both candidates for Council at the recent election. Mr. Franklin was a member of Council until the last election when he decided not to aspire for the office. It is believed, however, that he would be willing to serve again if asked to do so by members of Council.

## Doorways Will Be Judged On Friday

Wyoming Valley Garden Club's Christmas doorway contest in Dallas Borough will be judged by Mrs. Wilbur Manning and Mrs. Jerome Marshall on December 26. Mr. and Mrs. John Williams have contributed the prize, a beautiful flower container.

Contest entries should be made with Mrs. Herbert A. Smith before Christmas Eve. All residents of the borough who decorate their doorways, no matter how simply, should enter the contests. The award will be made on the basis of artistry rather than on profusion of decoration. In an effort to promote conservation of laurel and rhododendron, no doorways decorated with those materials will be judged.

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