

Merry Christmas To Everyone

Editorially Speaking:

TOWARD A CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS

REVEREND ROBERT DEWITT YOST
SHAVERTOWN METHODIST CHURCH

The story of Saint Nicholas or "Santa Claus" as we call him is a beautiful legend, and deserves retelling each Christmas season. It is not, however, the Real Christmas Message, nor can Santa substitute for the Saviour. A legend of a kindly gentleman is inadequate in today's world where the real story of the Lord Christ is sorely needed.

Christmas cards are gay and their greetings are cherished. Sending them to friends and acquaintances is a pleasant and important custom. But a card with a gay sleigh and prancing reindeer is not a Christmas card—it is merely a greeting card. Superficial exchange of felicitations cannot equal vital fellowship, with the sending of greetings holding the life-giving story of God's entrance into the crusty world, by way of a holy babe.

Trees, festoons, wreaths, gay glass ornaments are all beautiful, and express the gladness of a holiday occasion. Scenes reminding one of the birth of the Saviour, Bethlehem—the manger—the star above—the lowly animals and men beneath—and at the center, the Holy Family—are the CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS, and should be increasingly prominent at this season.

Gifts represent the glad sharing of life, and the exchange of love and loyalty, but "gadgets" hardly symbolize the artistry of life, or gather up its spiritual content, or memorialize its sacramental values. Gifts that tarnish after a day of use, or break during the first hour of examination are not adequate interpretation of the eternal gift of the love of God. Let gifts be genuine, their exchange tender, their reception whole-hearted, and above all, let the great gift, Christ, be central in all our thinking.

The child who was named Jesus proved to be more than a baby boy; he became Christ, the supreme revelation of the Most High God. He was and is a demonstration of the Character of God. His coming again into the heart of the world, distraught by ugliness and tragedy, will be the best news we can hear, the greatest thing that can happen to us. Jesus of Nazareth, The Lord Christ, makes Christmas a great Holy Day.

PLEASE LIVE TO GROW UP

Dear Kids:

Please give us a Christmas present, the most wonderful one in the world.

It won't cost you a cent.

It will save us hours and weeks and months of heart-ache, and thousands of dollars.

It will save us from bearing the dreadful burden of guilt which is our responsibility for the death of a companion. It is difficult for us to meet the grieving eyes of a mother whose daughter lies silently in a casket instead of dancing and singing her light-hearted way through a happy holiday season.

There is the unspoken question in her eyes: Why, oh why, must my daughter be sacrificed to speed?

Someday you will be parents. You will lie awake nights, hoping that your daughter is safe, or that your son is driving carefully so that some other mother's daughter will be safe.

It CAN happen to you.

No matter how carefully you think you are driving, the needle on the speedometer creeps up. It is late. There is the feeling of urgency. The highway is empty and smoothly flowing under white-walled tires.

The State Police bring the grim message, and our life lies in ruins.

Your safety is the only Christmas present that matters to us. Give it to us for Christmas. Please live to grow up.

We love you so.

Mrs. T. M. B. HICKS

FROM PILLAR TO POST

By MRS. T. M. B. HICKS

Christmas is like poetry, in that everybody translates the joy of the season in terms of his own experience. But the underlying thought is the same—the love of a mother for a helpless little child, the protection of a father for his wife and his baby, the eternal triangle of the family. To a child, Christmas is the wonder and the dream, its joy reflected in his mother's eyes. To the young mother, it is the ecstasy in a baby's eyes as he reaches for the gleaming red ball on the Christmas tree. To the mother who has seen her own children founding homes of their own, it is the realization that her children's children are strong of body and clear of mind. To the great-grandmother, it is the thought that the circle is nearing completion, and that each Christmas sees the gap inexorably closing.

To each, his own. Tradition is a binding thing, deep rooted in the race. We need traditional observance. We take on the new, but we look longingly back at the old, to the basic, fundamental, FIRSTS of our life.

If Christmas when we were children meant a bulging stocking hanging from the mantel, and a doll with flaxen curls sitting under the Christmas tree, no Christmas seems complete without these symbols. No elaborate television set can compensate for their absence. Christmas lacks its savor.

If Christmas meant Santa Claus, there must be a Santa Claus.

If Christmas meant a tiny creche embowered with greenery, weary camels kneeling at the Wise Men's command, and shepherds bowing low under the Christmas Star, then Christmas must embody these symbols of our childhood or there is a vacancy which cannot be filled.

But always and forever, no matter what the symbol, the foundation of love remains the same for all of us.

Post To Come Out Early Next Week

Next week's issue of THE DALLAS POST will go to press on Wednesday and will be on the streets and in the mails on Thursday morning, one day earlier than usual. We will appreciate your cooperation in sending your items in early.

Billings Delayed

Local billings of Commonwealth Telephone Company were delayed two to three days this month due to the added burden of mailing 15,000 monthly statements from the local office for the Pennsylvania Community Telephone Company, newest addition to the Commonwealth family.

Changing To Dial

Commonwealth Telephone Company is cutting over its fortieth exchange to dial on December 28 at Toga in the Wellsboro District.

THE DALLAS POST

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER, A COMMUNITY INSTITUTION

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The Dallas Post Has Two Easy To Remember Telephone Numbers 4-5656 or 4-7676

Rotary Is Host To Fifty-Four Boys and Girls

Santa Dropped In At Prince Of Peace Parlors On Saturday

Dallas Rotary Club with the help of members and friends entertained fifty-two youngsters at its annual Christmas Party Saturday afternoon in Prince of Peace Church Parlors.

Rev. William McClelland, pastor, and Robert Graves, party chairman, were in charge.

After the Christmas story, Santa arrived early, thanks to Ted Poat, and presents were given each child. Film stories of the Birth of Christ and the poem Night Before Christmas were shown. Gaily colored puppets portrayed the parts in the film which has been shown to many groups in the area by Commonwealth Telephone Company.

Members of Prince of Peace Couples Club furnished sandwiches. Mesdames Ralph Smith, Edwin Roth and Jack Stanley prepared the refreshments which included sandwiches, cookies, ice cream, and chocolate milk given by Nesbitt Garinger.

The group heartily sang several carols and Rev. McClelland read a story. As the children prepared to go home, each received a parting present in the form of a pretty favor of candy, fruit and gum enclosed in colorful cellophane by Harry Smith.

The Rotary Club is grateful to the many people who contributed and helped with the party. Among the Rotarians who brought children and helped with the entertainment were: Francis Ambrose, Myron Baker, Atlee Beagle, James Besecker, Robert Bodycomb, Joseph Bond, Daniel Chapman, Hanford Eckman, Harry Edwards, A. N. Garinger, Paul Gross, Robert Graves, Lester Jordan, L. F. Kingsley, Sheldon Mosier, Charles Roberts, Harry Smith, Peter Yokum, Walter Mohr and William McClelland.

Miners Plans To Split Stock

Directors Approve Re-Issue At 5 to 1

Directors of Miners National Bank of Wilkes-Barre at their meeting Tuesday morning declared a regular semi-annual dividend of \$3 as well as an extra dividend of \$1 a share to shareholders of record as of December 24, 1954. The dividends are payable January 10, 1955.

At the same time the Board agreed to split the stock 5 to 1 but this must await the approval of the stockholders and the Comptroller of the Currency. A special stockholders meeting will be called later since there is not time for sufficient notice before the regular annual stockholders' meeting.

Frank Anderson, president, said the stock split will permit a broader market for the distribution of the stock. Current market has been around \$153 per share.

Former Air Marshal Commonwealth Guest

A. F. Lang, Chicago, retired vice marshal of the Royal Air Force of England, was a guest this week in Dallas of Col. H. H. Butler, general manager, and Jack Sordoni, president of Commonwealth Telephone Company. During the early stages of World War II he was Director of Radar in charge of the defense of the British Isles.

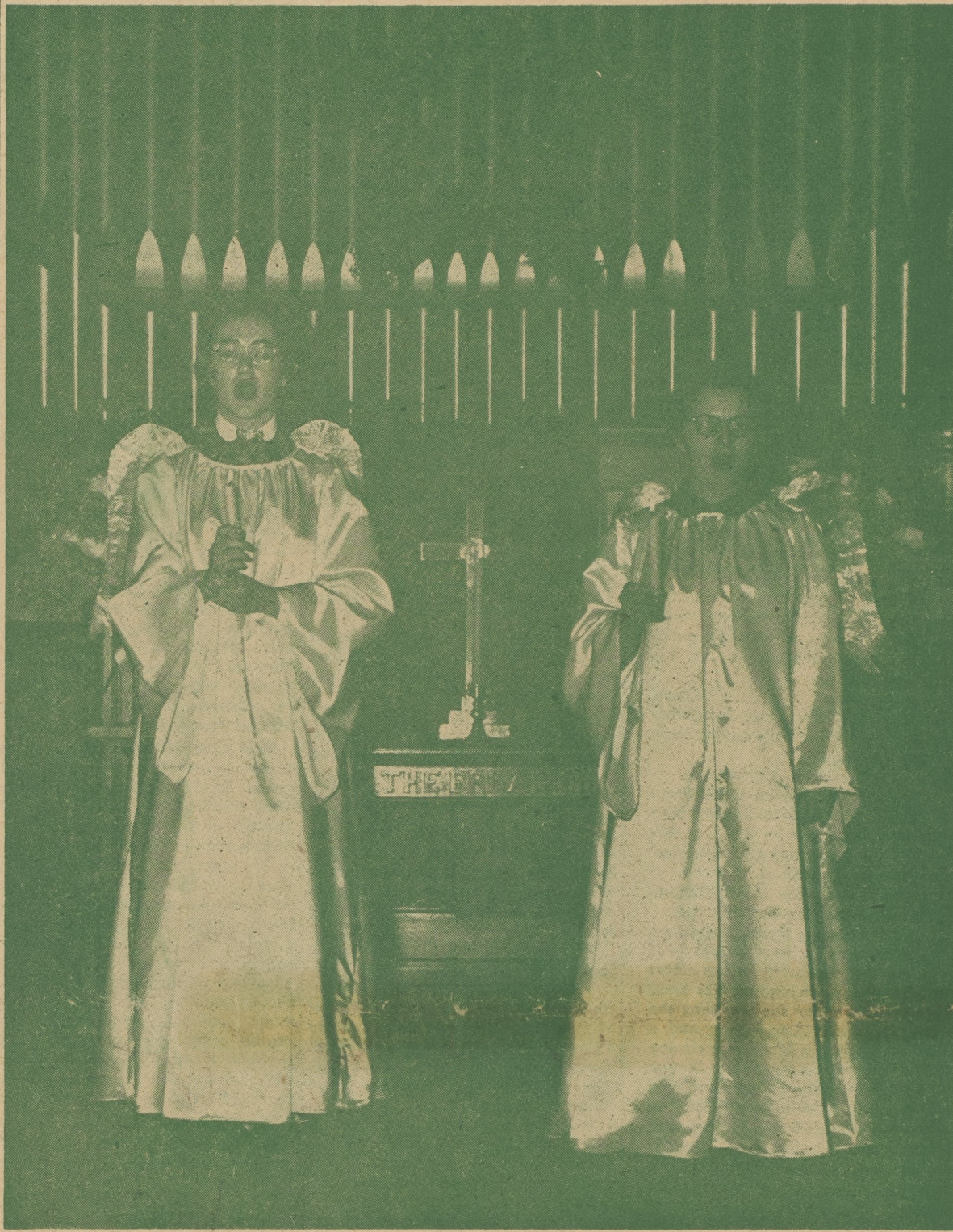
He is now overseas engineering and political representative of the Automatic Equipment Company of Chicago from which the Commonwealth Telephone Company purchases much of its dial equipment.

New Skating Rink Opens For Business

Low temperatures of the last few days have frozen a beautiful glare of smooth ice on Tibus Sno Mountain Ice Skating Rink on Memorial Highway.

The rink is open daily from 2 to 6 and from 7 to 11. Rates are 20c for children and 35c for adults with special concessions to large parties. Between 250 and 300 skaters can be accommodated at one time. There is also music.

Hark The Herald Angels Sing



Typical of the pageantry that ushered in the Christmas festival in all churches of the Back Mountain Region is this scene at Dallas Methodist Church. Here Roberta Williams and Mildred Kingstone practice the songs with which they led the Children's Choir Processional at the opening Christmas services Sunday morning.

Water Plentiful At Lake School

Pupils To Attend School Next Week

Lake-Noxen students returned to school Monday morning at the usual hour, after missing fourteen school days because of lack of water. Friday morning's test of the 257-foot eight-inch drilled well showed that the flow had been stepped up by recent rains and melting snow, and an adequate supply was obtainable.

Pupils will make up three days of lost time during the holidays, attending school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. One day has already been made up, as the school was originally scheduled to close on Wednesday for Christmas instead of Thursday.

Another two days will be snipped from the Easter vacation, with students attending school Holy Thursday and Easter Monday, leaving only eight school days to be made up in June.

New Chrysler Reduced To Wreckage



Remains of the car which hit the guard rail on Tunkhannock highway at Goss Manor Sunday morning at 2 a.m.

—Photo by Kozemchak

New Chrysler Wrecked Sunday All But One Escape Serious Injury

Sally Kear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Kear, Lake Street, escaped without a scratch from the wreckage of a brand new Chrysler Sunday morning at 2 a.m., when it skidded on a patch of ice, and ploughed through the guard rail. Catastrophed through the drivers window she landed in a huddle, and was on her feet immediately, waving her white coat to flag down traffic.

The only badly injured passenger was Timothy Mack, South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, who was admitted to Nesbitt Hospital in shock, bleeding profusely from the mouth, and tentatively diagnosed as having a punctured lung. At last reports he was doing well, but his mother, Mrs. Alice Mack, died at Nesbitt Monday morning, following a cerebral hemorrhage suffered when told of her son's accident.

Francis Judge, 20, driver of the car; James Hughes, 21; and James Eagen, 21, were treated for shock

at Nesbitt. Paula Heffernan, 20, had seven stitches in a laceration of her leg. The young people were returning to Lake Street after a dinner party at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Francis P. Judge. Young Judge took the wrong fork in the road, found himself passing New Goss Manor, and attempted to turn to the left to find Lake Street.

Dallas Community Ambulance, driven by Al Shaffer, took Mr. Mack to the hospital, followed by Jiggs Elston and Nort Bertl, who transported other passengers for treatment.

A group of doctors and nurses coming home from the Nesbitt Hospital party at Irem Country Club, assisted at the scene of the accident and followed ambulance and cars to the hospital. James Gansel, Dallas Township Chief of Police, stationed his son, home for the holidays, far up the road to halt speeding cars. Scores of New Goss Manor residents turned out of bed when they heard the crash.

Sally narrowly escaped death in a holiday accident two years ago, when the car in which she was a passenger crashed a telephone pole a few miles south of Berwick.

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Commonwealth Trims Tree To Its Complete Satisfaction

There have been prettier Christmas trees in front of the Commonwealth Telephone Company Building on Lake Street, but probably none more difficult to trim.

Jack Landis had a line crew erect it and a cable truck crew trim it on Tuesday. They did the best they could but that isn't the whole story.

For years this particular evergreen presented a problem to line-men working in the Falls area. Its owners refused to have it trimmed. "Some day," they said, "we hope to sell it for a Christmas tree."

Remembering that Jack Landis, who is not a man to let a problem

Westmoreland Pupil Cost Is Below Average

Cost Throughout Nation, However, Is On Increase

An interesting comparison of the cost of educating a pupil in average daily attendance in the Westmoreland Jointure with the cost of educating a pupil in Luzerne County Schools as a whole is revealed in correspondence this week between James A. Martin, supervising principal of Westmoreland schools and William E. Mannear, manager of Wyoming Valley Taxpayers Association.

The figures reveal that it cost \$24.61 less to educate a pupil in the Westmoreland Jointure during the term 1951-52 than it did to educate a pupil in the county schools at large. The per pupil cost that term was Westmoreland \$222.76; Luzerne County at large, \$247.37. The cost for educating a pupil in the Westmoreland jointure during the 1953-54 term, however, has increased \$6.49 to \$229.25, but the figures for the county, not yet announced, have likewise increased.

Mr. Martin's letter to Mr. Mannear follows:

December 16, 1954
William E. Mannear, Manager
Tax Payers Association of
Wyoming Valley
1050-1054 Miners Bank Bldg.
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Dear Mr. Mannear:

In my letter to you yesterday I gave the amounts budgeted for school year 1954-1955 and the A.D.M. for 1953-54 from which you would determine "the current expenditure per pupil in average daily membership" to be \$249.80. This was in accordance with a telephone conversation that I had with your Mr. Hiscox.

Wednesday morning's Wilkes-Barre Record had a long news item quoting the current expenditure per pupil in average daily attendance for Pennsylvania and for Luzerne County.

In order for us to have comparable figures I wish you to use these statistics:

The Current Expenditure Per Pupil in Average Daily Membership: (Pennsylvania Bulletin 74 of June, 1954.) 1950-51 for Pennsylvania was \$246.00; 1951-52 for Luzerne County \$247.37; 1953-54 for Dallas Borough-Kingston Township \$229.25 Registered Audits; 1951-52 Kingston Township \$222.76 Registered Audits.

Note: If you had the 1953-54 figures for Pennsylvania and for Luzerne County they would be higher than for the years given above.

Source of the \$229.26 for the Dallas Borough-Kingston Township Schools:

Registered Audits for 1953-54			
	Kingston Twp.	Dallas Borough	
A	\$ 4,439.06	2,878.59	
B	170,313.17	58,378.72	
C	9,501.80	3,912.00	

\$184,254.03 \$ 65,169.31

This being a school jointure the costs on the individual audits include items A, B, C, D, E and F of the joint audit. All items are included except G which is for Debt Service.

1087.97 is the A.D.M. (average daily membership) for our schools for 1953-54 as shown on our report PICA — 13 to Harrisburg in June, 1954.

Yours truly,
Jas. A. Martin

Comparing the \$229.25 spent for educating a pupil in the Westmoreland Jointure during 1953-54 with

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