

# Wyoming Valley's first 200 years



By D. A. WATERS

By August 1771, the Yankees had suffered enough due to lack of precautions, and from that time on posted guards and look-outs and built fortified block-houses and forts in all the settled townships. Dates are approximate, but the best known were Fort Ogden (1769), Fort Durkee (1769), Fort Wyoming (1771), the Yankee redoubt later, and Fort Wilkes-Barre before 1778, all in Wilkes-Barre. Stewarts blockhouse in Hanover (1771), and a Fort Shawnee in Plymouth protected the lower end. Fort Jenkins (1776) and Fort Brown or Pittston (1772), at the upper end. On the Kingston side stood Forty Fort (1770), one opposite Mille Creek, another opposite Fort Wyoming, and probably others. Fort Wintermoot, not Yankee, was opposite Pittston.

They refused to accept the authority of Pennsylvania and had none from Connecticut, being about in the same position as early squatters rights set-

## SMITH

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put them out into that fog where they are open to stereo-type—or, perhaps, where they will achieve no identity at all.

Because of our limits, we can no more identify with an empty stomach in Biafra than we can with the pain of a steer going to slaughter. A good case can be built to the effect that we experience a greater emotional wrench when an old family pet dies than when we hear of the death of a hundred nameless soldiers.

Which sounds pretty awful. But it has to be that way. Our psyches just weren't designed to take the stress of complete awareness.

So we have this week's paradox. We have to know the score if we are to respond to problems and continue what progress we've had. And yet we can't really know the score, or we might feel so defeated as to give up.

I guess the solution is to keep one eye closed, one ear plugged, and to stay groping as we have for the last fifty thousand years. It's been an interesting adventure so far.

## YWCA ballet

The Physical Education Department of the Wilkes-Barre YWCA will offer ballet classes in the Back Mountain Area starting April 17. Classes will be held in the Trucksville Methodist Church.

The classes for advanced beginners will start at 6 p.m. for girls 6 to 10 years of age. The teen ballet class for girls 11 to 16 will start at 7:15 p.m. Miss Linda Colonas will instruct these classes. Registrations will be taken by Mrs. Walter Phillips, Laurel Lane, Trucksville or may be made at the YWCA program desk.

ters in Rhode Island and Connecticut, for over 25 years until charters were issued in 1662-63.

But some government was necessary. On June 12, 1773 at Hartford, The Susquehanna Company adopted what was designated as "Articles of Agreement," which was in effect a form of government. Three Directors to serve in each of six towns, until election in the next first Monday in December were named for Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth, New Providence (on the Lackawanna), Kingston, Pittston, and Hanover. The Susquehanna and Delaware Companies were land stock covanies operating a giant real estate promotion bigger than all Connecticut.

The word "Township" used locally meant about the same as "Town" in New England. Each township tried to have a recognized list of settlers entitled to land. Government was by town meeting. Frequently there was a compact village plan, with larger farms farther out. Some had public squares or greens. Common pasture fields were established in which owners placed animals, identified by registered ear marks, and pounds were built to detain strays.

Towns built meeting houses for church and public purposes and hired and fired preachers. Lands were set aside for church, parsonage, and school support, and committees were named to build, maintain and operate schools.

Gristmills and sawmills were frequently built at "town cost." The most common plan was to give a man or partners a free farm on condition that the mills be in operation by a stated date. Best known mills were on Mill Creek on the east side, and on Abrahams and Tobys Creeks on the west side.

Blacksmith shops, distilleries, etc. were usually privately operated. Towns fixed the prices of commodities, tavern meals and drinks, wages, services of teams, etc. They ordered roads and authorized ferries.

In the valley proper, lands were allotted beginning about 1770. Kingston had the town plot on present River Street, Forty Fort, where the Fort stood on the River bank. The second division was along the river to the Wyoming Avenue, called The Great Road. The third division was on the flat land west of the Avenue, and the fourth division in two tiers of land on and over the mountain.

Each division had forty lots for the forty proprietors, not uniform, so that each man would have four parcels, running from about 4 to over 150 acres. Selection was made by drawing lots.

After the Township had been laid out, the Town plot in Wilkes-Barre was completed in 1772. In addition to the Common and Public Square, there was a total of 200 acres in eight squares. Each square had six lots, about three and three quarters acres each. Five women are named in the town in 1772.

we care



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<b>TREE BRAND—SWEET Pickles</b>	Sliced Crispies Qt. Jar	49c	
<b>Dexo SHORTENING</b>	3-Lb. Can	69c	
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<b>ANN PAGE SPAGHETTI</b>	Italian Style 2 15 1/2-oz. Cans	35c	
<b>CONTADINA TOMATOES</b>	Pear Shape 2 1-Lb., 12-oz. Cans	69c	
<b>TUNA FISH</b>	Cloverleaf Grated White Meat 4 6 1/2-oz. Cans	99c	
<b>SLICED CARROTS</b>	Monroe Brand 4 1-Lb. Cans	49c	
<b>JANE PARKER—FRESH Potato Chips</b>	1-Lb. Pkg.	55c	
<b>JIFFY—ASSORTED (Frostings 7 1/2 Oz. Pkgs.)</b>		10c	
<b>DELSEY Bathroom Tissue</b>	White, Ass't. & Print	4 Rolls	49c
<b>SAIL DETERGENT</b>	Clear Liquid	Qt. Bot.	59c
<b>FABRIC SOFTENER</b>	King Fluff	Half Gal.	59c
<b>PETITE PEARS</b>	Crater Lake	2 1-Lb., 12-oz. Cans	79c
<b>CUT GREEN BEANS</b>	A&P Grade "A"	4 15 1/2-oz. Cans	49c
<b>KLEENEX DESIGNER NAPKINS</b>		Pkg. of 75	29c

### DAIRY VALUES!

<b>SUNNYBROOK—MEDIUM SIZE GRADE "A" FRESH EGGS</b>	2 Doz.	99c
<b>SHARP CHEDDAR CHEESE</b>	Bench Cured 1b.	79c
<b>A&amp;P CHEESE BARS</b>	Mild 8-oz. 45c Sharp 8-oz. 49c	
<b>A&amp;P SWISS CHEESE</b>	Sliced 8-oz. Pkg.	55c

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<b>A&amp;P ORANGE JUICE</b>	Florida 2 12-oz. Cans	89c

<b>WELDWOOD Panel Award CLEANER</b>	1-Pt., 6-oz. Can	\$1.49	<b>COLLEGE INN Egg Noodles &amp; Chicken</b>	1-Lb. Jar	43c
<b>IMPERIAL SOFT MARGARINE</b>	1lb. pkg.	45c	<b>DIET DELIGHT APRICOTS</b>	1lb. can	39c
<b>BORDEN'S INSTANT Whipped Potatoes</b>	1lb. pkg.	59c	<b>DIET DELIGHT PEARS</b>	1lb. can	39c
<b>SUNSHINE VANILLA WAFERS</b>	3 12-oz. Pkgs.	\$1.00	<b>DIET DELIGHT Slices &amp; Halves Yellow Cling PEACHES</b>	2 1-Lb. Cans	59c

<b>HUNT'S TOMATO CATSUP</b>	2 14-Oz. Bots.	55c	<b>HUNT'S TOMATO SAUCE w/Bits</b>	2 15-Oz. Cans	49c	<b>HUNT'S TOMATO PASTE</b>	6 6-Oz. Cans	89c	<b>HUNT'S STEWED TOMATOES</b>	2 1 1/2-Oz. Cans	49c
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<b>BUTTER KERNEL SWEET PEAS</b>	2 1-Lb. Cans	49c	<b>CHOCK FULL-O-NUTS INSTANT COFFEE</b>	5-Oz. Jar	79c	<b>SUPER SOFT WEVE SALE WHITE &amp; ASSORTED TOILET TISSUE</b>	2 Rolls In Pkg.	27c
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## "Super-Right" Quality Meats!

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# PORK LOINS

<b>RIB PORTION 7 FULL RIBS</b>	<b>WHOLE LOIN "BONUS BUY"</b>	<b>LOIN HALF NO CHOPS REMOVED</b>
Lb. <b>35c</b>	Lb. <b>59c</b>	Lb. <b>65c</b>
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<b>RIB CUT</b>		Lb. <b>79c</b>

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<b>LEAN &amp; MEATY RIB CHOPS</b>	..... lb.	99c
<b>VEAL COMBINATIONS</b>	..... lb.	65c

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<b>BEEF STEAKS</b>	<b>FREEZER BUY 2-Oz. Serving In Pkgs. of 10—\$1.00</b>	Each <b>10c</b>
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<b>SUPER-RIGHT—THIN SLICED BOLOGNA Plain or Pickle Loaf</b>	1-Lb. Pkg.	65c	<b>ROGGER'S—COUNTRY STYLE PORK SAUSAGE</b>	..... lb.	79c
<b>MAINE SHRIMP</b>	..... lb.	75c	<b>FRESH DUG LITTLENECK CLAMS</b>	2 Doz.	95c

## Fresh Produce Buys!

<b>FRESH FLORIDA SWEET CORN</b>	6 Ears	49c	<b>BANANAS</b>	2 Lbs.	25c
<b>GOLDEN NUTRITIOUS</b>			<b>NONE PRICED HIGHER!</b>		

<b>FLORIDA—WHITE SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT</b>	6 For	49c	<b>FLORIDA—FRESH ENDIVE or ESCAROLE</b>	Head	19c
<b>FLORIDA VINE RIPE TOMATOES</b>	..... lb.	29c	<b>FRESH SPINACH</b>	1-Lb., 4-Oz. Pkg.	49c

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<b>BURRY'S FUDGETOWN COOKIES</b>	15-oz. Pkg.	59c

<b>HEINZ TOMATO KETCHUP</b>	1-Lb., 4-oz. Bot.	33c
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## NEW SUPER SECRET

<b>ANTI-PERSPIRANT SPRAY DEODORANT FAMILY SIZE</b>	5-Oz. Bottle	<b>\$1.39</b>	<b>REGULAR SIZE</b>	3-Oz. Bottle	<b>89c</b>
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