

"They are slaves who dare not be in the right with two or three"

OUR TOWN

"Don't let your wishbone take the place of your backbone"

VOLUME I. NUMBER 10

NARBERTH, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1914

PRICE TWO CENTS

LOCAL COMMUTERS SAVED THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

Although no complete rout can be accredited to those opposing the railroad's plan of increased passenger rates, while the partial victory is not entirely satisfactory and may still be pushed aggressively to gain that which it is felt is just, the decision of the State Public Service Commission, which was rendered last Saturday afternoon in the case of the Pennsylvania Railroad vs. Narberth Civic Association, et al., means no small advantage and actual saving to local commuters. Narberth fared well in comparison with many communities.

Several forms of commutation tickets, the use of which has been enjoyed over a long period of time but which the railroad sought to discontinue, were reinstated by the commission, thereby preventing what would have worked a real hardship on the citizens of Narberth.

The two most important points of the decision, as it particularly affects Narberth, was the reinstatement of the 10-trip and the lowering of the rate of the ten-ticket strip, the 100-trip now costing \$10.50 (a raise of 90 cents) and the ten-trip, \$1.40 (a raise of 14 cents).

What the saving means to the head of just one family is concretely set forth. Under the increase as first proposed, tickets for the use of himself and of his family would have been purchased at an increase cost of \$70 a year. Under the rates as established by the commission the increased cost will be \$11.70, a saving of \$68.30. This was 1300 rides.

Let us assume that two adults in each family in Narberth use one 100-trip ticket a year each—which is undoubtedly the minimum frequency of use of the average family. What would the saving be to 575 families in Narberth (and there are really a few more than this number resident here)?

Taking the cheapest rate allowed by the schedule of increases proposed by the railroad, 100 trips would have cost each person \$16.20. Under the ruling of the commission, 100 trips will cost \$10.50, a saving of \$5.70 on each 100-trip ticket or a minimum saving of \$6555 to the 575 families in Narberth in which at least two adults use one 100-trip ticket each year.

To compute the actual saving to the citizens of Narberth, would be to guess, but, on all forms of tickets, it will be several times the minimum mentioned in the foregoing.

The Narberth Civic Association took up the case against the railroad on behalf of its membership and played an important part in the presentation on behalf of all the commuters on the Pennsylvania Railroad at the hearing before the State Public Service Commission held in the Finance Chamber of the City Hall in Philadelphia.

A public meeting was first held in Narberth at which resolutions were passed and a committee appointed to conduct the case for Narberth. After several meetings of the committee, a formal petition was presented by W. Arthur Cole, secretary of the Civic Association, on behalf of himself and the membership of the association, the petition having been formally drawn by Geo. M. Henry, president of the Civic Association, who gave his services as counsel.

Mr. Henry also attended several meetings in Philadelphia of the Central Committee acting for all committees, gave his time to presenting Narberth's case at the preliminary and final hearings of the commission, made the closing argument for all the commuters at the final hearing and prepared a written brief which was filed with the commission.

Those serving on the committee which handled the case were: George M. Henry, chairman; W. P. Nash, Andrew Greene, Carroll Downes, Sr., H. C. Gara and W. Arthur Cole.

TAX ON TELEPHONE MESSAGES.

As for the tax on telephone messages, Mr. J. M. Brown, Jr., manager of the Bell Telephone Company, when seen this morning, told how the Bell Telephone Company had prepared to collect the tax as directed by the Government.

"The preparations for the collection of the one cent tax on all messages of 15 cents or over has been a big job for the Telephone Company," said Mr. Brown. "A special rate of mechanism had to be devised and placed on many coin box telephones. This meant changing thousands of coin box telephones in the system, a tremendous job in itself. The tax of one cent is to be inserted as directed by the operator, in the quarter slot of the coin box by the person who sends the message.

"Special preparations for billing regular subscribers correctly for the tax imposed on their messages of 15 cents and over also had to be made. New collection routines had to be prepared and new systems of accounting worked out. The Telephone Company has advised all telephone users of the new law and the methods put into effect for collecting the tax. Notices giving full directions have been placed on all public telephones and all subscribers have been advised by means of a circular enclosed with their monthly bills. This circular explains the method of making the charge for the tax and gives a digest of the law relating to it.

"The law applies not only to all messages on which the rate is 15 cents or more per message, but also to all messages on which the total charge, including overtime, amounts to 15 cents or more. Thus, while a single call at the rate of five cents bears no tax, should the conversation be prolonged over a period which would make the aggregate charge of 15 cents or more, the tax of one cent is imposed.

"All telephone bills rendered during the life of this law will include a toll service statement that will show those messages on which the tax is to be levied, together with the amount of such tax.

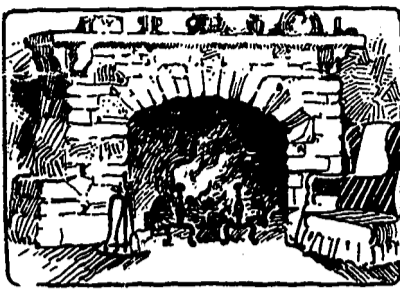
"The law directs that this tax shall be collected from the person paying for such messages or conversation and places the responsibility for collection upon the Telephone Company."

BASKET BALL.

The Narberth Ex-High team defeated the strong Narberth High School team in a very well played and exciting game. The game was featured, throughout, by many thrilling plays. The star of the game was Colwyn Humphreys. His wonderful passing has seldom been equalled on the local floor by the Juniors. He also contributed seven field goals. Frank and Junior played well for the respective teams, and the playing of Jefferies brought many plaudits from the crowd. The score: High School, 21; Ex-High, 38.

Narberth High: Narberth Ex-High. Smith forward. F. Urnne J. Urnne forward. J. Jefferies Downes center. C. Humphreys McCarter guard. O. Humphreys Odell guard. P. Redifer Substitutions—Narberth High School, Harsch for Smith. Field goals—High School: Odell, 4; J. Urnne, 2; McCarter, 1; Downes, 1. Ex-High: Humphreys, 7; J. Jefferies, 5; F. Urnne, 3; O. Humphreys, 3; Redifer, 2. Referee—"Bill" Durbin, of Haverford School. Timekeeper—Davis, L. M. H. S. Umpire—Jefferies, of Drexel.

The Negro in fifty years has come from slavery to citizenship; he has come from barbarism to Christianity; he has come from absolute ignorance to 70 per cent. literacy; he has come from abject poverty to the place where he pays taxes on nearly \$30,000,000 worth of property; he has come from utter homelessness, illegal marriage, illegitimate childbirth, to the place where he lives in 1,832,818 homes, nearly one-half of which he owns, and on nearly one-half of which he pays taxes.—Advance.



THE FIRESIDE

By Lady Narberth

The Narberth Dansant conducted under the direction of Charles S. Stretch in Elm Hall every Thursday evening aims to combine the giving of competent instruction—without freak and extreme fads—with a social hour. Several couples started at the first session last week and more are expected this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Townsend wish to express their appreciation for all kindnesses to them during their recent bereavement.

Rev. Emerson L. Swift has returned to Narberth after a visit to the home of his mother in New York State. He also made a short visit to his college.

Red Cross Xmas Seals may be purchased at the post office.

On Monday evening last, at the monthly meeting of the Men's Club of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. J. H. Jefferies, of Wayne, Pa., made a stirring address which was much enjoyed and appreciated by those present.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS.

Letters addressed to the following named persons remain unclaimed in the Narberth post office: Mrs. Louis Schwartz, Mr. H. B. Keiper, Mrs. Ella Johnson, Mr. Walter Brooks.

SANTA CLAUS LETTERS.

The usual Santa Claus letters have begun to arrive at the post office.

Postmaster Haws reports having received several from those children who wish to advise "The Wise Old Fellow" of the things they want in good time. Mr. Haws will despatch the letters promptly to Santa and if the name of the writer is plainly signed to the letter, Santa will get the letter and will probably bring what he can of the things asked for.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF NARBERTH.

In regard to the past and present agitation of an increase in railroad fares instituted by the Pennsylvania R. R. Company, Narberth has been very fortunate in having a very able and energetic Burgess to represent the Borough of Narberth at its several meetings of the Civic Association, some of which were held in Philadelphia.

We hereby wish to thank Mr. Henry for the interest he takes in the borough affairs generally and particularly in any movement for the progressiveness of Narberth.

A CITIZEN.

WANTED—A HOME TOWN BASE BALL TEAM.

To the Editor of "Our Town": Glad to read the stuff on base ball! Give me a live home-talent team for live home town fans!

Rooter.

What's In a Name?

"Who can give a sentence using the word 'pendulum'?" asked the teacher. Little Rachel's hand shot up. The teacher nodded encouragingly.

"Lightning was invented by Benjamin Franklin."—Everybody's Magazine.

Jenkins had ceased to complain, but one evening his troubles as a strap-hanger in the train got so bad that he felt bound to expostulate.

"Excuse me, sir," he said to the man sitting by him, "but would you mind moving your portmanteau from the gangway? I really can hardly find room to stand."

"Move my portmanteau?" gasped the stranger. "Those, sir, are my feet!"

"Is that so?" said Jenkins. "Then perhaps you will pile them one above the other."

ANNUAL MEETING OF Y. M. C. A.

The annual meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association was held in the association building on Monday night and, as had been previously indicated in these columns, the main topic for discussion was the recent action of the Board of Directors in deciding to close the building on January 1st. There was a large attendance of men active in furthering the interests of the borough, and the early discussion indicated that there was a strong sentiment against permitting the Y. M. C. A. to close and admit a failure of the people of Narberth to support a desirable object. A large delegation of boys was on hand and considerable enthusiasm was aroused when one of them stated that he was prepared to guarantee not less than fifty energetic members of the association from the ranks of the younger element of the town. There was some discussion of grievances arising out of past occurrences, but good feeling prevailed. Vigorous speeches were made by W. Arthur Cole, Robert G. Savill, C. L. Metzger, Edward E. Seaver, J. Robert McCoy and others, and the consensus of opinion seemed to be that the operation of the association had not been of a character to make it sufficiently attractive to enlist the enthusiasm of the people of Narberth; and that if the people were offered a larger welcome and increased social privileges, there would be a prompt response guaranteeing certain success. Accordingly, a committee of five men was named by the meeting to confer with a like committee from the Board of Directors for the purpose of preparing a plan of ways and means for the maintenance of the building for the benefit of the borough and its people, with direction to report at a meeting to be held in the near future. The committee named consisted of W. Arthur Cole, Edward E. Seaver, C. L. Metzger, R. G. Savill and H. C. Gara. The gentlemen already named by the Board of Directors were F. W. Stites, C. H. McCarter, E. S. Haws, W. S. Horner and D. D. Stickney.

A meeting of this joint committee was held at the close of the principal meeting. One of the members later said:

"While I cannot state at this time details of the plan which will be proposed, I have no hesitation in saying that the committee was unanimous that the town needed the Y. M. C. A. building and its splendid facilities, and that nothing was needed for its success other than a broad-minded, energetic leadership, coupled with efficient cooperation on the part of those entrusted with carrying out the plans in view. There is nothing intrinsically wrong with the Y. M. C. A. situation nor with the attitude of the people toward it. It has simply gotten into a rut and the necessary boost to put the wagon on the high road to success will be forthcoming from the people when they learn that the building and its equipment is for them and that there are real attractions surrounding it. In the vernacular, all the Y. M. C. A. needs to put it over is the punch. We propose to give it the punch."

"That is the principle of the Young Men's Christian Association, to make a place where the atmosphere makes great ideals contagious. You can test a modern community by the degree of its interest in its Young Men's Christian Association. You can test whether it knows what road it wants to travel or not; you can test whether it is deeply interested in the spiritual and essential prosperity of its rising generation. I do not know of any test that can be more conclusively put to a community than that."

FIRE COMPANY ASSISTS AT HAVERFORD FIRE.

At about 3.30 A. M., Monday, December 14, the Narberth Fire Company received an urgent call to assist the Ardmore and Bryn Mawr Fire Companies to fight a serious blaze in the home of Mrs. John H. Morice at Haverford.

The Narberth volunteers lost no time in getting out at so early an hour, responding to a man. They rendered all assistance possible, in conjunction with the Ardmore and Bryn Mawr companies, the fire lasting for about one hour and doing \$8000 damage.

Co-operation among nearby volunteer fire companies is absolutely necessary for efficient work and no company appreciates this fact better than our local corps.

OUR TOWN SHOULD HAVE A BIGGER POST OFFICE

Narberth needs a bigger and better Post Office.

Like everything else in the world this borough has grown a lot during the last ten years. With the increase in the population the amount of incoming and out-going mail has also increased.

Postmaster Haws and his two assistants, Miss Small and Miss Richlin, are giving the public efficient service—the very best service under the circumstances. But even the highest grade efficiency has to slow down when it comes in contact with such physical limitations as bound our Post Office.

Of course, we're all neighborly and good natured, and none of us minds if three or four of our fellow townsmen walk all over our feet; and in the true Christian-like way we return the favor. And yet—and yet, it is funnier to talk and write about such experiences than to have them.

There should be more room in the Post Office proper, and there should be more boxes and more space for the people, particularly at night when hundreds of men and women call for their mail on their way home from work. The present cramped quarters handicap the postmaster and his assistants, and delay the people. Insufficient space makes for poor service.

Narberth has grown beyond its present post office. It is growing every day. The amount of mail handled and the demand for stamps and money orders, and the use of the parcels post, increase steadily.

Uncle Sam should direct a little of his Post Office appropriation toward Narberth this year, and give us better and more commodious quarters.

PRESIDENT WILSON AND THE Y. M. C. A.

Quotations from President Wilson's address given at the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Pittsburgh Young Men's Christian Association, October 24, 1914:

"The Young Men's Christian Association for a long time excited, perhaps it is not too much to say, the hostility of the organized Churches of the Christian world, because the movement looked as if it were so non-sectarian, that perhaps it were an effort to draw young men away from the churches. But after a while it appeared that it was a great instrumentality that belonged to all the churches; that it was a common instrument for sending the light of Christianity out into the world in its most practical form, drawing young men who were strangers into places where they could have companionship that stimulated them and suggestions that kept them straight, and occupations that amused without vicious practice and then by surrounding them, selves with an atmosphere of purity and of simplicity of life, catch something of the great ideal which lifted when He was elevated upon the cross."

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Editor.
W. ARTHUR COLE,
Business Manager.
H. C. GARA,
Advertising Manager.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1914

EDITORIAL NOTES

WORLD PATRIOTISM.

Our country is not the only thing to which we owe allegiance. We need the spirit which will not merely hate war because it is hideous and hellish, but will love and seek peace because it desires the welfare of other peoples, and finds the same sort of happiness in seeing them happy which each of us enjoys in the happiness of his own friends.—James Bryce, former British ambassador to the United States.

AIMLESS LIVES.

The frivolous, purposeless lives of this world are like ships at the mercy of wind and tide. Half one of them and ask "Whither bound?" and the answer will be: "I don't know." "What cargo do you carry?" "Nothing." "Well, what are you doing out here on the ocean of life?" "Only drifting." Ah! but you don't know what a sorry spectacle you make—only drifting, when there is so much to be done.—The Evangelical.

BUSINESS INSTINCT.

"The graspiest man I ever knowed," said Uncle Jerry Peebles, "was an old chap named Snoopins. Somebody told him once that when he breathed he took in oxygen and gave out carbon. He spent a whole day tryin' to find out which of them two gases cost the most if you had to buy 'em. He wanted to know whether he was makin' or losin' money when he breathed."

THE RATE DECISION AND A SUGGESTION.

According to an article in another column of "Our Town," the local commuters have been saved—as a minimum—the sum of \$6,555, as a result of the protest and presentation of fact and argument to the Public Service Commission by the Civic Association.

The Y. M. C. A. is struggling financially and less than one-half this sum would put it on a solid business basis. Why not give willingly to this worthy institution a little of that which you would really begrudge giving to the railroad? Try it!

Incidentally, one dollar a year is all it costs to be a real supporter of the association that has saved you no small amount. The coupon is on this page. Read it; mark it; mail it!

Then there's the Fire Company, too. Take your choice—but show thanks by giving something to one of the civic bodies in our midst.

NEW BOOKS

Have You Read These?

BETTY'S VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS.

For a young girl who loves books or an older woman who loves to re-live her own youth, no sweeter story of merry Xmas times in the Southland could be had than the novel of the above title by Molly Elliot Seawell, a writer whose popularity is ever upon the increase.

Betty is a girl whose charm is not cut and dried, but willful and peculiarly Southern. She is pretty as one of her own Christmas roses, loyal as a soldier's daughter to the stately old man who has come down to live with her in a simple little home at Holly Lodge within sight of the fine old manor that has belonged to his family for generations. It is in the little house that sweet Betty's Xmas story begins, and while the romance ends as all expect much intervenes. "Kettle," a little "nigger" boy whom Betty adopts, unexpectedly, is second only to his young mistress in interest.

Col. Beverly, Betty's soldier grandpa, is a dear, and not to have known Aunt Tulip would have been too bad. The "hero," Lieutenant John Fortescue, is very much of a man and lover, and knows how to manage a girl and a spirited hunter equally well. The description of the doings at Christmas parties, and the marvelous squads accompanying them, and upon the Big Day makes one's palate tingle.

It's a gloriously youthful work, full to overflow of Xmas spirit, and love for everyone within the friendly circle. It is one of those books that renew the cackles of the heart and rebuild one's faith in the doctrine of good will to men. Above all, it's a love romance of extraordinary charm.—Lippincott's.

A VENEZUELAN CHRISTMAS CUSTOM.

In Venezuela there is a very peculiar custom called the "Christmas Eve wake." This wake is not, however, connected with the dead, as one might suppose, but it is a "wake" in a literal sense. One cannot sleep when the wake is on.

A company of young people, usually about a dozen in number, come singing to your door. First, they chant a Christmas carol; then they chant a request for the "alguinaldo," or yearly gift, that is expected by the "waits" as the singers are called.

If you are familiar with the custom you will invite them in, give them some coffee and light refreshments, and they will give you a very pleasant evening indeed, going homeward after it is all over, singing your praises ever and over again.

If, however, you refuse hospitality, they will sing for a while and then they will ask you for at least a pleasant "good night." They do not wish you harm, but the way in which they descend from the alguinaldo to at least good night, makes one feel very much embarrassed because of not granting them their first request for the alguinaldo. It is like wishing a "Merry Christmas" after he has berated the other fellows.—Home and School.

Lady (in registry office)—I am afraid that girl won't do for a nurse. She is too small. I should hesitate to trust her with the baby."

Clerk—Her size, madam, we look upon as her greatest recommendation. You should remember that when she drops a baby it doesn't have very far to fall!

SPEECH OF LIDA STOKES ADAMS BEFORE NARBERTH WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE PARTY.

In her recent address at a well attended meeting of the Woman's Suffrage Party at the home of Mrs. Edwin C. Town, Miss Lida Stokes Adams outlined the three departments of our government—legislative, executive, and judicial—and repeated the very apt and much quoted definition made by Mrs. Brandford, of Colorado, that "government is the science and art of living together in organized communities so that righteousness may prevail." She briefly pointed out the share of each department in realizing for the individual the power to live righteously and attain his own best development without interfering with that of others.

Women wish the political power of voting in order to have their part in controlling the living conditions around them, the things that vitally affect the welfare of their homes and their children. It is a far cry from this desire, in which so many women have found their power to better conditions limited because they did not form an active part of the constituency of the law making and law executing officials, to a desire to fill the large executive offices such as the presidency. Women and men work together in a home, in industry. It is only in political activities which so largely control many vital things, both in the home and in industry, that women have no share in the State of Pennsylvania.

In a peaceful, comfortable, home suburb such as Narberth it is only occasionally, as in the recent arbitrary and unreasonable increase in railroad fares, that people feel the iron heel of great special interests, which grinds so remorselessly helpless women and children in industrial life. It is these women and children who need through the power the ballot can bring the help of women in comfortable homes. It is our duty and we hope that after November, 1915, it may be our privilege to contribute our small share as individuals to overcome the political inertia which makes such injustices possible.

All of the arguments for and against Votes for Women can be classed under two heads, expediency: Is it good or bad for the State? Is it good or bad for women? and justice. All the opposition is really along the lines of expediency as there is practically no one but will admit the abstract justice of the desire of women for political freedom, finding it impossible to get around such well-known postulates as "All just governments derive their powers from the consent of the governed" and "Taxation without representation is tyranny." The idea of our government is Democracy; to those who have real faith in real democracy, and closely follow political events, every year shows some advances toward that ideal.

The recent addition of Nevada and Montana making practically one-fourth of the States which now have equal suffrage for men and women, and the many other states in which women have the right to vote at school elections, marks the growth of public opinion.

In discussing the expediency of women voting, it is well to consider the good it can do the individual woman in bringing her in touch with the broader issues of life through her more direct interest and actual responsibilities in political affairs. Children, both boys and girls, brought up in a home atmosphere of free and intelligent discussion of local and national issues, will have an opportunity to develop a strong sense of civic duty and such an actual knowledge of the machinery of government

as to be prepared to practice that "eternal vigilance" which is the price of liberty. Whatever makes the individual woman more mentally alert and brings her mother sense to bear on the problems around her, is expedient for our government in the best sense, for then its full citizenship has power to work directly for the good of all.

Miss Adams had no doubt that the amendment granting the women of this State the suffrage, would pass the coming legislature, as all three parties are pledged for it. She emphasized the need of thorough and effective organization in order to carry the State in 1915 when it is submitted to the voters and credited the recent successes to good organization and hard work on the part of the women of the states concerned. This State has an exceptionally hard battle to fight in order to overcome the effects of political corruption in its two large cities, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, for always and everywhere it is the special interests and the liquor interests that finance the organized opposition. There has been a remarkable growth of favorable sentiment in the State at large since the early days of the movement.

MAIN LINE LEAGUE.

Narberth defeated the strong Overbrook five made up of former High School boys, by the score of 41 to 17. The feature of the game was the star shooting of Landis Davis, Lower Merion star, with nine fields goals to his credit. Bill Durbin's dribbling was the best seen on this floor for many years, and Speakman, the former Central Manual star, played a fast, snappy game. Long, of Overbrook, was the bright star for his team. Next Saturday night Narberth plays St. Paul at Y. M. C. A. gym. All turn out and see the game.

Main Line League.

	Won.	Lost.
Narberth	1	0
Ardmore	1	0
Overbrook	0	1
St. Paul	0	1

The score:

Narberth A. A.	Overbrook.
E. Davis forward	Weyer (Speakman)
.. Davis forward	Buret
Durbin, capt. centre	Long, capt. (Kriebel)
Neven guard	Rice (Ensinger)
Heck guard	Dooley (Humphreys)

Field goals: L. Davis 9, Durbin 4, E. Davis 3, Ensinger 1, Weyer 2, Buret 3, Long 1. Foul goals: L. Davis 4, Durbin 1, E. Davis 1, Weyer 5. Referee: Simpson, Penn.

Ardmore scored a one-sided victory Over St. Paul last night in a Main Line League game on the former's floor, 39 to 3. Campbell, their star forward, is out of the game on account of sickness. Line-up:

Ardmore.	St. Paul.
Bartlett forward	S. Smith
Belsher forward	Harsh
Godfrey, capt. centre	W. Parson
Danfield guard	N. Parson
Heston guard	W. Smith

Field goals: W Parson 1, Bartlett 2, Belsher 4, Godfrey 6, Danfield 3, Heston 1. Foul goals: Smith 1, Belsher 2, Bartlett 2. Referee: Fielding, Yale. Time: 20 minute halves.

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ON THE 8.14

And Elsewhere in Our Town

Just what do you mean when you say "Merry Christmas?" Is the greeting merely two words, or is there a thought back of the phrase, and, if so, how wide—how far-reaching is the thought? Has it ever occurred to you that one little "Merry Christmas Gift," sent through the mail touches and affects the daily lives and labor of an army of people, stretching all the way from our own post office to the other end of the line, wherever that may be? What do we mean?

Do Your Christmas Mailing Early.

Don't wait until the last minute; that means hurry, worry, nervous strain and unnecessary weariness everywhere your little "Merry Christmas Gift" goes. Get an early start.

Why not try some of those neat little "don't-open-until-Christmas-morning" stickers that can be bought at any of the stores? (Positively no advertisement.) Better spend a dime or two on some of these stickers and use them than add unnecessarily to the strain and labor of the post office folks.

It used to be a popular superstition that the "bigger the cannon crackers the bigger patriot the boy would grow to be." But what happened was that the list of injured grew bigger and bigger each Fourth of July, until someone discovered that noise had nothing at all to do with patriotism, and that blown-off fingers were not altogether essential to boys and girls having a good time.

In much the same way people have changed their views about certain kinds of so-called Christmas festivities. So many accidents have happened as the result of lighted candles on Christmas trees that such displays are being done away with more and more every year. Why take chances? Christmas is a time for merry-making. We hope there will be no ambulance or fire engine calls in Narberth this Christmas.

Hist! All you indignant commuters gather round. I, Chief Wingebone Junior, descendant of Old Man Wingebone, have had my ear to the ground. I have learned things concerning two of the most eminent and active members of the Civic Association; things that I shall reveal. To wit:

On the morning of December 11, on the train leaving Narberth at 8.29, said two members of Civic Association—and what makes it all the worse, they're officers—did, and I do so swear, and give and bequeath to all—No, no, that's all wrong. Counsel, why don't you keep me straight? Again:

I do swear or affirm (you may take your choice) that said officers of the Civic Association, either

First: Attempted to bribe the conductor, or.

Second: Made secret contributions to the railroad company to help pay the company's expenses at the rate hearing.

Yes, sir, that's just what they did and this is how it happened: They were sitting together, were these two Civicers (there's a brand new one for you) chatting quite volubly of what they were going to do if they got on the witness stand or had a chance to cross-examine the railroad company's witnesses. When, along came—no, not Ruth—but the conductor. Two tickets were produced and the conductor punched them. Note that fact, Honorable Judge. "the conductor punched them."

It was just east of Overbrook that the dire deed was done. Along came the conductor again, with his familiar "tickets from Overbrook." Then what do you think happened?

Why these two Civicers up and handed out their tickets—and the conductor punched them again. Who do I mean by "them?" Well, perhaps that is a rather careless use of the pronoun. If you read the word as meaning the ticket-holders perhaps you are right; or then again, perhaps it is a question of the wish being the father of the thought. At all events, that's no way for members of a Civic Association to act, and besides, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the railroad in its wildest flight of fancy never hoped to collect two tickets, or the equivalent thereof, for one ride.

Judge Rumhouser, we leave it to you, ain't they some guys; give it to us straight, your honor, ain't they?

Chief Wingebone Junior.

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News of the Churches

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

Rev. Andrew T. Burke, Rector.
 Sunday services
 8 A. M.—The Holy Communion.
 9.45 A. M.—The Sunday school.
 11 A. M.—Morning Prayer and Sermon.
 4 P. M.—Evening prayer.
 There will be a second celebration of the Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month at 11 o'clock.
 The Thanksgiving Day service will be at 11 o'clock.

MERION MEETING HOUSE.

Mary Travilla, a prominent minister among the Friends, will be present at Merion Meeting on December 20, at 10.30 A. M.
 It is earnestly hoped that all Friends and those interested will attend.

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH.

Rev. Emerson L. Swift, Pastor.
 The subject of the sermon Sunday morning is "The White Gift." The Bible School will hold its session at 2.30. This will be the Christmas service. The envelopes of the "White Gift Service" were distributed last Sunday. They will be returned at this time and the impressive features of this service will be carried out.
 The subject of the sermon Sunday evening is, "The Study of the Book." This is the third in the series. Good singing by the Young People's Choir.
 The Christmas festival will be held Tuesday evening, December 29. The young people are preparing a cantata and other features for that occasion.
 The Young People's meeting last Sunday evening had a fine attendance and interest in spite of the storm. The service Sunday evening at 7 o'clock will be a very helpful Christmas meeting. Mrs. F. E. Derby is the leader, and the subject is "An Unselfish Life," Phil. 2:1-11. The membership of the society is increasing.
 Cottage prayer meetings will be held in the homes of our members Tuesday and Friday evenings from 8 to 8.30. Watch for the card in your neighborhood. You will be made welcome at the service you attend.
 Rugs have been laid on the floor of the Sunday School room. This has added materially to the comfort and attractiveness of the three department rooms. It has been made possible through the generous efforts of the Berean Bible Class.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Rev. John Van Ness, Pastor.
 Sunday, December 20, 1914:
 10 A. M.—Sabbath school: all departments. 193 were present in the school last Sunday.
 11 A. M.—Morning worship with Christmas sermon by the pastor and special music by a trained quartet.
 7 P. M.—Junior congregation, led by Stuart Cowin and Frank Foster.
 7.45 P. M.—Public worship with short address by the pastor. Chorus will render Spence's Christmas Cantata, "The Story of Bethlehem."

On Wednesday, December 23, at 3 P. M., the Primary Department of the school will have their Christmas exercises in the main auditorium and in the evening of the same day the main school will celebrate the birthday of the King with the "White Gifts Service." The public is invited to these Christmas exercises.
 A Communicants' Class will be organized next Sunday afternoon for the young people intending to unite with the church at the next Communion.
 In the absence of the pastor last Wednesday evening, the prayer meeting was conducted by Mr. H. C. Gara. A most interesting and helpful symposium of the Lord's Prayer was given by Messrs. W. J. Peebles, W. G. Hastings, D. W. Foster, B. J. Myers, W. P. Nash, Ambrose Custer, George M. Henry and G. W. Colesworthy.
 The Junior Congregation is rehearsing for its cantata, "The Holidays' Grand Review," to be given on New Year's Eve. Later in the evening there will be an address by Dr. J. Berg Esenwein, entitled "Riding the Winged Horse." Instrumental and vocal music will follow and then refreshments will be served by the Ladies' Aid Society. The last half hour of the old year will be spent in a devotional meeting conducted by the pastor.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH.

Sundays: Early Mass, May to September, inclusive, 6.30 A. M., early Mass, October to April, inclusive, 7.00 A. M.; late Mass, 9.30 A. M.
 Masses on holydays: 6.30 and 8.30 A. M.; Masses on weekdays, 8.00 A. M.
 Lenten and other evening devotions, 8 o'clock.

ENTERTAINMENT AT ST. MARGARET'S HALL.

The first of the series of euches for the benefit of St. Margaret's Church was given in the Parish Hall last Thursday evening, December 10, by Mrs. F. J. Hipkiss and Mrs. E. L. Hogan, and much credit is due to these two ladies. Through their untiring efforts many beautiful prizes were donated, and judging from the large attendance it should be a grand success financially. As for the social end, it will be an evening well remembered by all those attending, as the enjoyment was universal.
 The second of the series will be given on Tuesday evening, January 12, 1915, by Miss Julia Minnick, of Wynnewood, so come and bring your friends. Tickets thirty-five cents.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Rev. Chris. G. Koppel, Pastor.
 Christmas services: 9.45 A. M., Sunday School Assembly. 11 A. M., Offertory, "Raise Now on High," Noel, C. Saint-Saens; sermon, "The Descent of Christ," 6.45 P. M., Young People's service. 7.45 P. M., Offertory, "Nazareth," Gounod; anthem, "Sing, O Heavens," Tours; semon, "The Second Coming of Christ."
 Tuesday evening, December 22, Children's Christmas party, Primary and Intermediate departments of the Sunday School. Christmas tree and distribution of gifts by Santa Claus.
 A memorable event in the social life of the church was the reception to the new members given last Friday night by the Ladies' Aid Society. The pastor in an address of welcome presented interesting facts regarding "the thirty-eight." Of these twenty are men and young men, eighteen women and young women. They represent five denominations and five states, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Eleven were received on profession of faith and twenty-seven by letter. Music, games and refreshments provided a most enjoyable evening. Old and new members are united in endeavoring to make the spiritual and social life of the church a power for good in the community.
 An old and new fashioned Watch Night service will be held New Year's eve. A large number of persons will take part in a unique and interesting program. The community is cordially invited.
 The last two Sundays have added nine to the intermediate and adult rolls of the Sunday School. There were 112 present Sunday.

"Youth will be served" is bitterly realized by many a time-worn parent.
 John A. Mowrer Joseph C. Mowrer

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THE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Over one hundred and fifty people made their way through mist and fog to the Presbyterian Church, last Friday evening, to the birthday party given by the Ladies' Aid Society; and all were amply repaid for their efforts. The program was arranged by Mrs. Wickersham, whose splendid enthusiasm has been an inspiration to the Ladies' Aid Society of which she is the efficient president. At the opening of the program came several choice organ numbers, rendered by Mr. L. W. Wickerson. Then came music by the orchestra, consisting of Miss Wentz and Messrs. Loos, Gifford, Arney and W. P. and J. H. Nash. The several selections rendered by these talented artists were greatly appreciated.
 Solos were sung by Miss Beiser and Mr. Morris, both of whom responded to the demands of the delighted audience for encores. Miss Melchoir, in her own inimitable way, gave several captivating readings. Then came the singing by the Ladies' Chorus of trained voices.
 This chorus had been drilled by Miss Wilson, instructor of music in our public school, and was of exceptionally high order and brought forth prolonged applause. A spelling bee followed in which Mr. Gara lined up the men, and required them, much to their confusion, to spell the words backwards. Afterwards the company repaired to the lecture room which had been tastefully decorated—the four corners representing the four seasons. Each person was invited to seek shelter in the appropriate corner represented by his birthday. Familiar songs were sung. The silhouettes of prominent persons in the church were displayed on the wall, and mystified the guessers. And then came the crowning event of the evening when Mrs. Owens, gowned in white, whom we delight to call "mother," being a charter member of the church, cut the big birthday cake, lighted by many candles, and her youthful assistants, also dressed in white, filled their little baskets with the piece de resistance and distributed to the waiting throng. Ice cream and other cakes were dispensed by charming maidens dressed to represent the various seasons of the year. Each person present was supposed to have filled a little silk bag with as many pennies as he was years old, and according to the counting of the coin there must have been many centurians present. At a late hour the company started homeward, having pronounced the birthday party one of the most enjoyable social events ever held in the Narberth Presbyterian Church.

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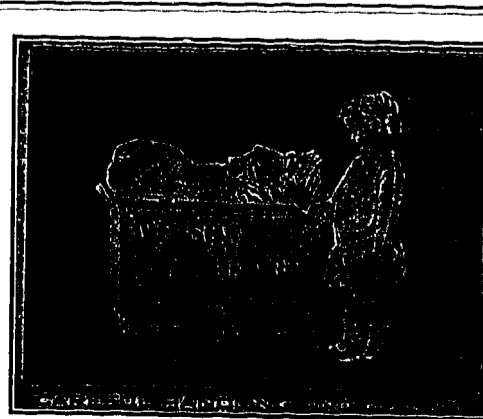
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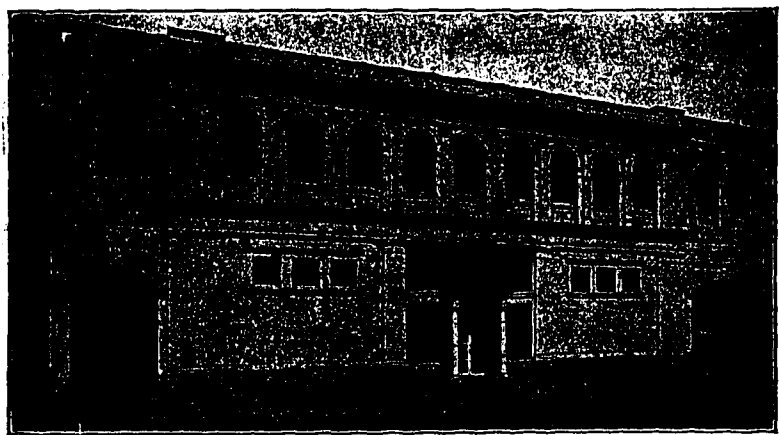
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