

TOPTON CENTENNIAL 1876-1976

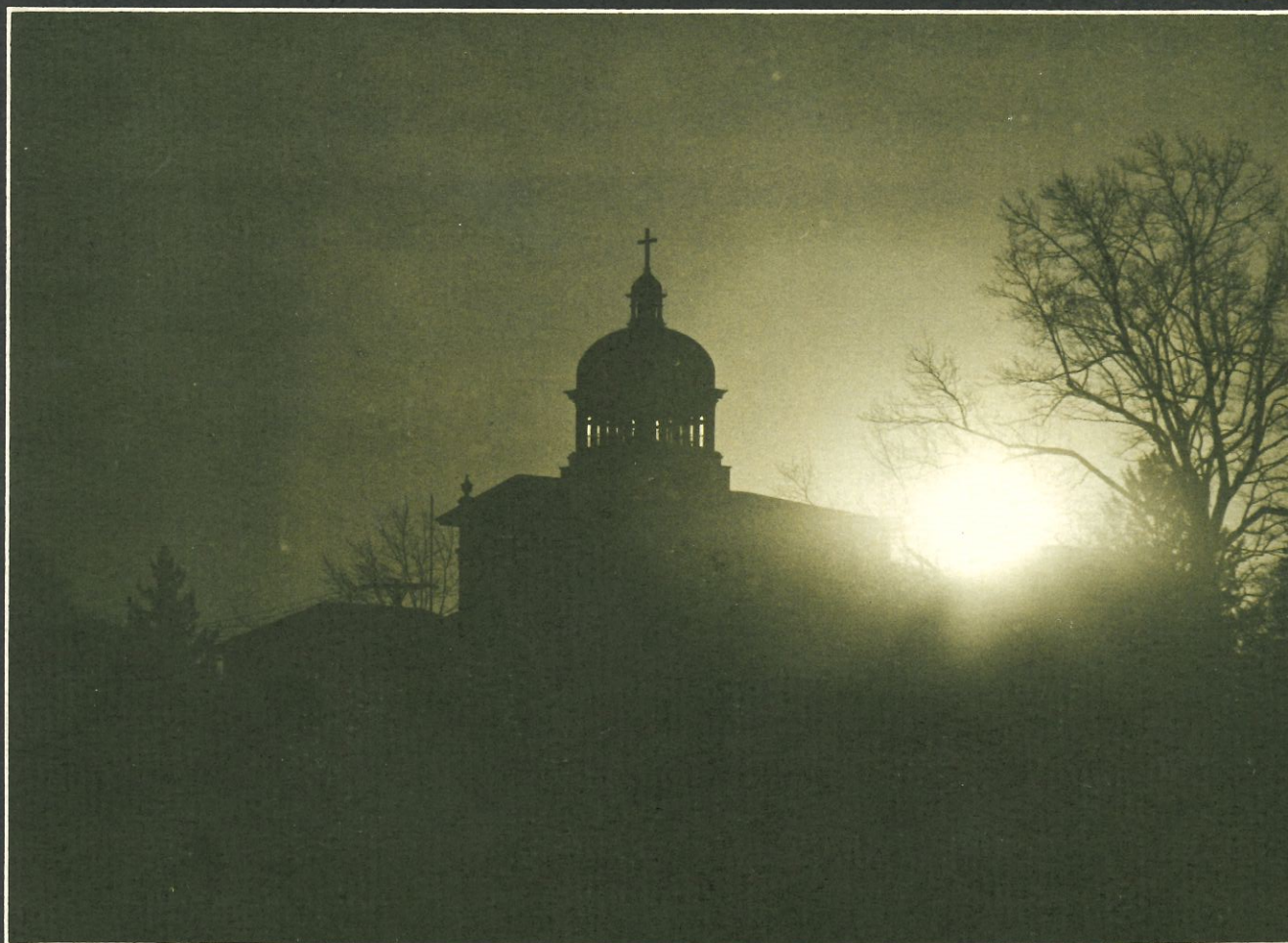




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CENTENNIAL SYMBOL

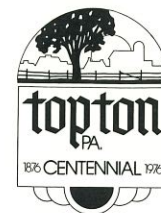
Designed by Steven Frederick of Tipton. It was selected by a faculty committee of Kutztown State College headed by Nunzio Alagia, chairman of the Fine Arts Department. The symbol depicts a rural area town and the peaceful, beautiful scenery found in its area. The trees symbolize growth as Tipton has grown over the past 100 years. The symbol is being used as the official Tipton Centennial emblem.

Mr. Frederick is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Frederick of Callowhill Street, Tipton. He is a graduate of Brandywine Heights High School and Kutztown State College.

Other winners in the Tipton Centennial Symbol contest were:

2nd Place—George Springer, Tipton
3rd Place—Mrs. Diane Angstadt, Mertztown, R.D. 2
Honorable Mention: Herbert Geist, Tipton
Elwood Noll, Fleetwood

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THE BOROUGH OF TOPTON

44 West Keller Street

TOPTON, PENNA. 19562

Phone - 682-2541

To The Citizens Of Tipton:

The observance of our Centennial Anniversary is for us an occasion of deep pride and thankfulness.

As we pause to reflect upon the past one hundred years let us not forget the efforts of our early founders without whose determination and sacrifices we would not be observing this great event in the history of Tipton.

Let us also reflect upon the traditions of pride in our achievements, our religious beliefs, our homes and families, our community service, and our craftsmanship, all of which have combined to serve as a cornerstone in molding our community.

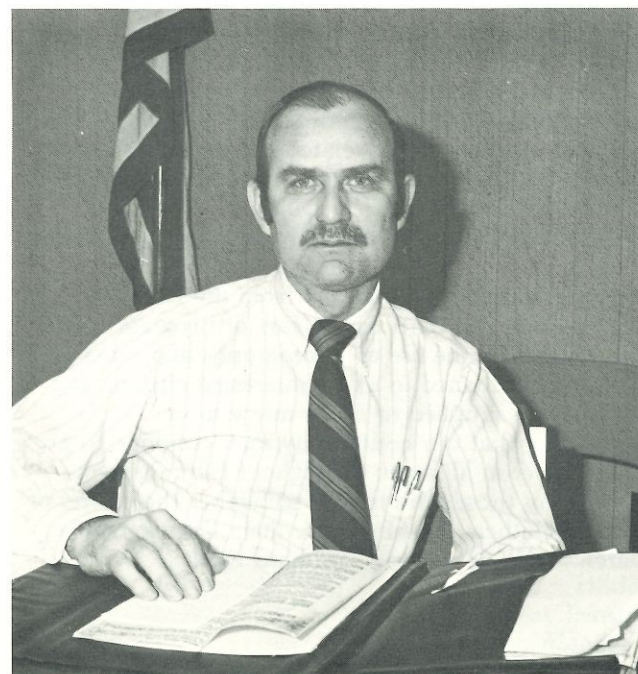
We dare not rest, however, on the laurels of the past; instead we must combine and expand our efforts for further improvements for future generations.

We are further honored in that all across this great land cities and towns will join in the celebration of the Bicentennial of America. After all what better way for our small community to celebrate a century of progress than to share that celebration during our Nation's Bicentennial Year.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the many people, citizens and friends, who have contributed much time and effort to make this, our centennial, a memorable occasion. Enjoy the festivities and make each one a lasting memory.

My Best Wishes To You All,

James L. Schauer
James L. Schauer
Mayor



FOREWORD

During the One Hundreth Anniversary of the Incorporation of Tipton it is only natural to reflect back to the beginning of our community and to study the progress made over the past century. Therefore, the Historical (Book) Committee of the Tipton Centennial was formed for the purpose of compiling a history of Tipton to be published in conjunction with the Centennial Celebration. This book is the result of that task. Hopefully, we have accomplished what we set out to do.

We realize that in such an endeavor as this, a small group of ordinary citizens cannot possibly write a history that will be absolute in its accuracy or complete in its content but we hope that, based on the recorded facts available and memories of individuals, we have compiled a book that you will enjoy reading and that the many pictures included will add to that pleasure.

It should be noted that a supplement to this book will be published shortly after the Centennial. It will pertain to the Centennial celebration and will contain pictures and accounts of all the events of that week, including all the various committees, Belles and Brothers, and any other related centennial affairs.

We wish to express our thanks to Edward Miller, Jeanne Powell, and Patricia Duffy, for the book layout, Rod DeJarnett for photo processing, American Graphic Arts for the typesetting, and J. Park Smith for permission to use material from the Diamond Jubilee book, "Seventy Five Years of Progress". We also appreciate the use of photographs and other memorabilia loaned to us by interested citizens and information supplied to us by many more.

We pray that our community may continue to grow and prosper in all ways throughout future generations. May those who follow remember the efforts of their forefathers, keeping alive their "Pennsylvania Dutch" heritage of thrift and hard work.

Historical Committee

Historical Committee: Front Row: (left to right) Dr. Darwin Miller, Paul Bond, Margaret Wiser, Mary Jane Schofer, Eleanor Bieber, Ernest Rohrbach; Second Row: Walter Wiser, Jacob Schofer, Edward Miller, Burton Bordner.



Tipton Centennial Executive Committee: Miriam Rauenzahn, Dorothy Trexler, Goldie Geist, James Schauer, John Tallman, Oscar Schupp

TOPTON CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES

Executive John Tallman James Schauer Oscar Shupp Dorothy Trexler Goldie Geist-Sec. Miriam Rauenzahn-Treas. Alfred Ayres (deceased)	Historical Book Paul Bond, Co-Ch. Margaret Wiser, Co-Ch. Eleanor Bieber Burton Bordner Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Schofer Ernest Rohrbach Edward Miller Walter Wiser Dr. Darwin Miller Ralph Merkel Rev. Franklin Slifer
Religious Rev. Morgan Haney, Ch. Kermit Adams Fred Derr Manrow Reinhard J. Park Smith Mae Schlegel Julie Angstadt	Historical Revue Mr. & Mrs. George Bollinger, Co-Ch. Donald Hieter Walter Herman Hosea Kline Dr. Gilbert McKlveen George Schofer Marcia Hieter
Royalty Allan Borell, Co-Ch. June Boyer, Co-Ch. Frank Dolny Violet Schaeffer	Parade Richard Nester, Co-Ch. Kerry Freeby, Co-Ch. Leonard Epting Brooke Gernert Lee Hertzog Gene Landis Calvin Miller Dennis Seibert Wanda Lou Kemp Dennis Musser
Publicity James Hook, Ch. Paul Bond, Sr. Sue Diehl Dr. & Mrs. John Grossman Milton Kuhns Mr. & Mrs. Kermit Schofer Mr. & Mrs. Robert VanSyckle Pat Miller	Pennsylvania Dutch Keith Brintzenhoff, Ch. Mrs. Fred Derr, Sr. Peter Fritsch Fred Fritsch Paul Croll Mabel Merkel Carol Rhoads Elda Gambler Darlene Weinsteiger Clara Rauenzahn (deceased)
Exhibition Michael Radcliff, Co-Ch. John Angstadt, Co-Ch. Brooke Gernert John Grossman Robert Blanchard Gene Weisbecker	Belles Patricia Confer, Ch.
Finance Marvin Schaeffer, Co-Ch. Earl Trexler, Co-Ch. Wayne Meck Miriam Rauenzahn Clyde Steffy Lowell Frederick	Brothers William Kahley, Ch.
Field Day Jeff Walbert, Ch. Roger Hendrickson Hilda Neusch LeRoy Fenstermacher Kendra Quigley Harry Kline Larry Werst	Tom Haney Paul Keiser Angela Gentile Jackie Gentile Charles German



CENTENNIAL WEEK JUNE 20-26, 1976

SUNDAY, JUNE 20	Religious and opening ceremonies
MONDAY, JUNE 21	Fun Day (For children through adults)
TUESDAY, JUNE 22	Historical Revue
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23	Teen Night (2 rock groups)
THURSDAY, JUNE 24	Belle and Brother Night, Fireworks
FRIDAY, JUNE 25	Pennsylvania Dutch Day
SATURDAY, JUNE 26	Parade, Centennial Ball

All events held on premises of Brandywine Heights High School, except the Saturday events.

HISTORY, GOVERNMENT & UTILITIES



THE BEGINNING

"Topton is situated along the East Penn Railroad in Longswamp Township, near the line of Maxatawny. It was started with the construction of the railroad in 1859 and derived its name from its location at the highest point on the railroad between Reading and Allentown." It is thus that Morton L. Montgomery introduces us to the history of Topton in his now famous and much cherished Historical and Biographical Annals of Berks County, Pennsylvania published in the year 1909.

However, one can hardly appreciate the real history of Topton and its beginnings without having an appreciation for the founding of our state and county. Therefore, we shall look briefly at the colonization and growth of the area surrounding Topton.

EARLY PENNSYLVANIA

During the early colonization days of this part of our country most settlements were made along the sea or inlets. Then as land became scarcer and the settlers bolder they gradually moved farther into the interior. As they advanced they found land that was a trackless wilderness. Here the Indians had possession of the country. The cries of the wild animals were heard instead of factory whistles or dinner bells. The streams pursued their seaward courses unmolested by the inventions and contrivances of men. Instead of factory smokestacks there were columns of smoke rising above the wigwams. The fertility of the land and the inexhaustible beds of limestone, iron ore, sand, clay, and numerous animals, fowls, and fishes lured on the coming white man.

Soon after King Charles II ascended the English throne, he granted by patent, dated 12th of March, 1664, all the territory between the Connecticut and Delaware rivers and the adjacent islands, including the possessions of the Dutch, to his brother James, the Duke of York and Albany. Colonel Nicholls was sent, accompanied by three commissioners, to take possession. They offered the most liberal regulations and the best security to the Dutch settlers if they would change their allegiance to the British crown. They were successful, and remained under the English crown until 1667, when Colonel Lovelace was forced to surrender to the Dutch.

In 1673 Louis XIV declared war against the Dutch, and England united with him. The Dutch were victorious. A treaty of peace was made in 1674, and the English received control of the territory west of the Delaware River. King Charles then renewed a grant to the Duke of York and Albany and Sir Edward Andros was sent to take control.

In 1681 the territory which included Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn in satisfaction of a large debt which had been owing to his father for meritorious service in the navy. William Penn visited the province in 1682 and remained for two years. He distinguished himself by his kindness to the Indians, who gave him their confidence and regard.

EARLY BERKS COUNTY

On his return to England, William Penn prepared and published papers relating to the advantages of Pennsylvania for the purpose of inducing immigrants to go there. In this respect he was most successful with the Germans. They crossed the ocean by shiploads. The Frankfort Land Company was formed for the purpose of influencing immigration. These immigrants, who had come from the Palatines, purchased large tracts of land from William Penn. They scattered themselves throughout the different counties, and Berks County received a large share of them,

principally of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations.

The Indians were troublesome. This was due to the constant urging of the French and led to the French and Indian War in 1744.

William Penn was kind and considerate and wished to pay for all the land that he had received from the King. He began to negotiate with the Indians for the purchase of their lands. He regarded them as rightful owners by virtue of their possessions. Many purchases were made by him. He gave in consideration many articles that the Indians regarded as useful.

There are two deeds for lands included in Berks County in which we may be interested. One is dated the seventh of September, 1732. It is from Sassoonan, alias Allummapis, sachem of the Schuylkill Indians, in the province of Pennsylvania, Elalapis, Ohopamen, Pesqueetomen, Mayeemoe, Partridge, and Tepakoa-set, alias Joe, on behalf of themselves and all the other Indians, unto John Penn, Thomas Penn, and Richard Penn. The territory involved was situated along the Schuylkill River or any of the branches or streams, fountains, or springs thereof, eastward or westward, and all the lands lying in or near any swamps, marshes or meadows, the waters or streams of which flow into or toward the said river Schuylkill situate, lying and being between those hills called Lechay Hills and those called Keckachtanemin Hills, which cross the said river Schuylkill about thirty miles above the said Lechay Hills and all the land whatsoever lying within the said bounds; and between the branches of the Delaware River, on the eastern side of the said land, and branches or streams running into the river Susquehannan, on the western side of the said land, together with all the mines, minerals, quarries, waters, rivers, creeks, woods, timber, and trees, with all and every appurtenances, etc.

The consideration mentioned in the deed consisted of the following articles:
"20 brass kettles, 100 stroudwater, matchcoats of two yards each, 100 duffels do., 100 blankets, 100 yards of half tick, 60 linen shirts, 20 hats, 6 made coats, 12 pairs of shoes and buckles, 30 pairs of stockings, 300 lb. of gunpowder, 600 lb. of lead, 20 fine guns, 12 gun locks, 50 tomahawks or hatchets, 50 planting hoes, 120 knives, 60 pair of scissors, 100 tobacco tongs, 24 looking glasses, 40 tobacco boxes, 1000 flints, 5 lb. of paint, 24 dozen of gartering, 6 dozen of ribbons, 12 dozen of rings, 200 awl blades, 100 lb. of tobacco, 400 tobacco pipes, 20 gallons of rum, and fifty pounds of money."

The deed was executed by one of the Schuylkill Indians, Lingahonoa on the 12th day of July, 1742, and attested by Benjamin Franklin, William Peters, Conrad Weiser, and Lynford Lardner.

The other deed is dated August 22, 1749. It is from nine different tribes of Indians unto Thomas Penn and Richard Penn. The tribes were represented by their chiefs. The consideration was 500 pounds of lawful



money in Pennsylvania. The land involved the north of the Blue Mountains and extended from the Delaware on the east to the Susquehanna on the west. It included the whole of Schuylkill County.

EARLY LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP



Topton House

During 1734 and 1735 several trains of immigrants wandered from Goschonhoppen and Oley towards the Lehigh Mountains adjoining Longswamp. Among these were the Fenstermakers, Carls, Haases, Zimmermans, Reicherds, Brauszes, Schmidts, Schneiders, Lynns, and others. Several brothers named Fenstermacher were from Oley. One of these remained in Longswamp and the others proceeded with the Lynns farther up the valley towards the Blue Mountains, where they founded the settlement of

Allemaengel, at times called Lynn. From Longswamp the elevated land commands a view which overlooks the great valley over Weisenberg to Lynn in a straight line to the Blue Mountains, the elevation forming the watershed between the Schuylkill and the Lehigh. From this elevation there appear to the left and the right little valleys which descend gradually and draw the best water from the springs. The immigrants followed this stretch of country, and Longswamp became the entrance in the immigration from Goschenhoppen and Oley to this valley. Many sections of our county bear Indian names, and settlements were named after neighboring streams. Names were given to communities before they had been settled. The first settlement was called "Little Lehigh", and at the same time the land lying east and west was called the "long swamp". Subsequently the Lutheran community, situated several miles below, recognized the name "Little Lehigh" and the upper part of the area was known as Longswamp.

On the elevation in the valley above what is now called Topton several springs were found from which sprang a little creek which was then known as "Frog Creek". It flows alongside the mountain through the township and into the community called "Butz's Valley" and empties into the "Little Lehigh". Along this creek was found a swampy region upon which grew only sour grass and thickets. For this the immigrants had no inclination.

At the time of settlement there was no township of the county in which iron ore was more abundant than Longswamp. Nearly every farm was found to be underlaid with it and as many as 100 mines were soon opened. Steam power was used to operate most of the mines and within a very small area one could see smoke issuing forth from the stacks showing that industrious men were seeking the ore. Numerous villages and hamlets sprang up in every part of the township on account of this prosperity.

GROWTH OF THE SETTLEMENT

In 1854 the Allentown Railroad Company was incorporated and was authorized to construct a railroad from Allentown to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad at any point on said road between Reading and Port Clinton; and if this railroad should be extended by way of Kutztown, a branch should be constructed to that place. A large portion of this road was partly constructed but never finished. Subsequently a section of the road was constructed from Topton, on the East Pennsylvania Railroad, to Kutztown. It was four and one-half miles in length and was opened for travel in January, 1870.

In 1858 the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad was given authority to build the Lebanon Valley Railroad—a distance of 54 miles extending from Reading to Harrisburg. In the next year this same company

laid out the bed for the extension of the East Penn Railroad from Reading to Allentown. This afforded great opportunities to the communities to ship their products to the cities, and as a result towns and villages sprang up. Buildings were erected for the "miners" and stores and taverns were promptly established. More mines were opened for there was an abundance of hematite ore. Furnaces and rolling mills and other works of various kinds also sprang up.

Edward Myers Clymer was the real promoter of the enterprise which brought about the construction of the East Penn Railroad from Reading to Allentown. On May 19, 1859, officials inspected the East Penn Railroad and gave names to the communities that had sprung up. Among them was Judge George D. Stitzel. When they came to the highest point along the railroad between Reading and Allentown, he suggested the name be Topton, and from that time on, the community has been known by that name.

Some of the land on which the community is situated was owned by the Haas family and part was owned by the Butz family. To the south of the original community lay the Peter Diener farm.

The community lies near the natural watershed that divides streams flowing into the Lehigh and Schuylkill Rivers. It became a prominent shipping point for great quantities of iron ore mined in the immediate vicinity. This induced the erection of hotels, business places, and a post office.

The house which stood where the Bank of Pennsylvania is now located, and the double house located where the former theatre building stands, were the first to be erected in the community. Both were frame dwellings. The twin house was built by a Mr. Haas.

In 1859 an iron furnace was erected by Isaac McHose of Reading. This furnace failed in 1873. The Eckert Brothers reopened it in 1875 and operated it for 10 years. Then it was purchased by the Empire Steel and Iron Company, which operated it from 1894 until the Fall of 1920.

In 1860 a store was erected by Jerome Titlow and Company in the Butz building, later occupied by the Topton Bank. This store was later operated by Peter L. Diener and Smith Ubil.

In 1861 the Post Office Department granted the request of the citizens of the community and established a post office with J. D. Haas as postmaster. He was followed by Peter L. Diener, C. D. Trexler and Levi F. Moll. In 1871 there were four mails per day. In 1866 another store was operated by Peter W. Fisher on the premises where Charles D. Trexler later operated a store. This location is now 9 Centre Ave., and is presently occupied by the L & A Luncheonette.

In 1866 James Butz built the Topton House, which became the property of Peter W. Fisher the same year. The building now houses the Railroad Crossing Inn. In 1867 the American House was also built by Mr. Butz.

The Washington House, in which was the community's first lodge hall, was built in 1874 by James

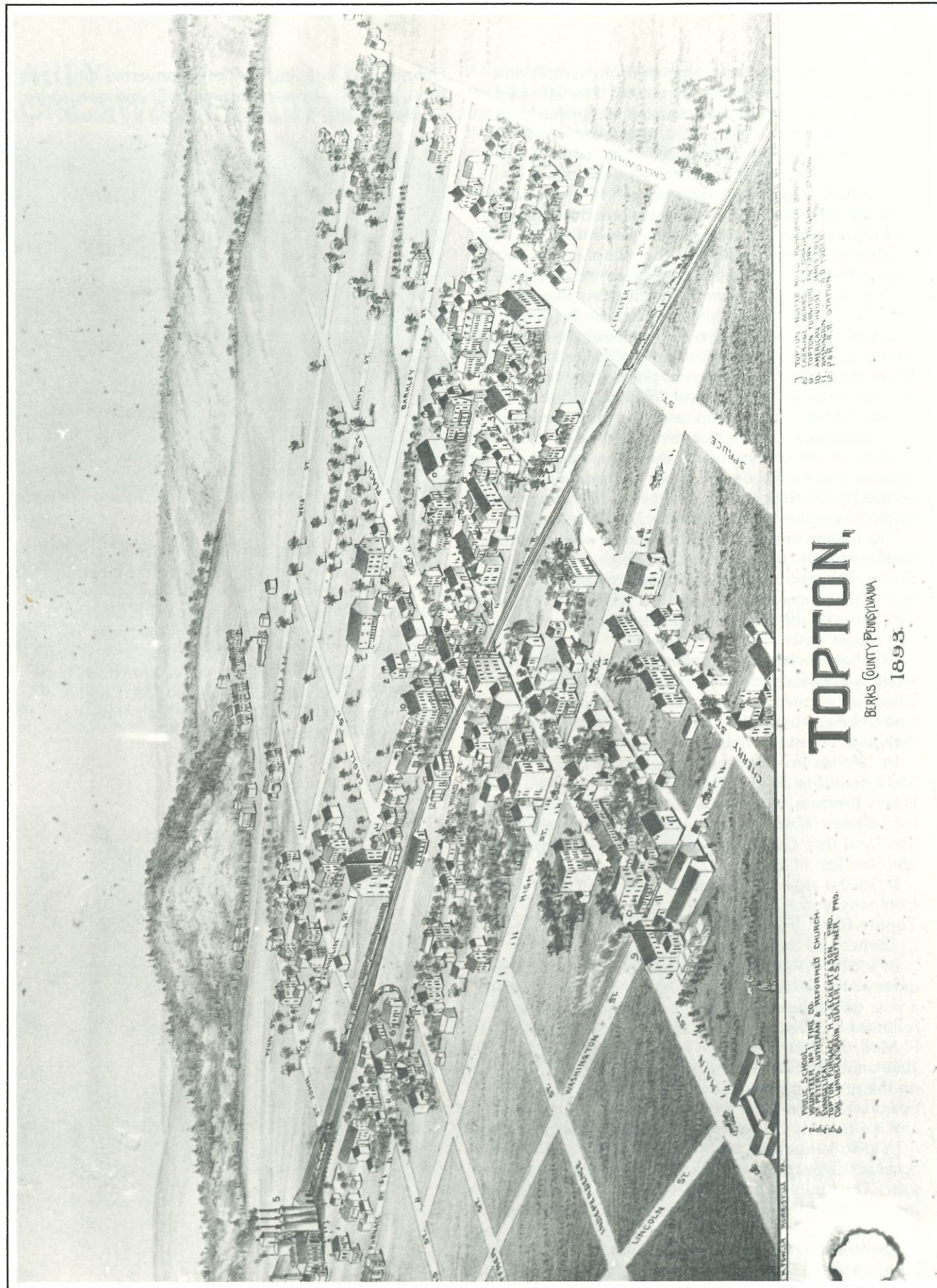
George. This building was later converted into a factory. In 1875 a store room was built and opened by Michael Miller. It was later operated by David



Topton Railroad Station

Merkel, and still later by Peter L. Diener.

The spirit of fraternity challenged the citizens, and the Topton Stamm, No. 201 Red Men was instituted in 1873. This organization grew until it reached a membership of 35 in 1885. In the same year, the Topton Lodge No. 437 K. of P. was organized. It had 46 members in 1885 and met in the Washington House Hall. In 1876 Centennial Castle No. 80, Knights of the Mystic Chain, was instituted, but after three years the meetings were discontinued.



INCORPORATION OF TOPTON

On October 9, 1875, a petition signed by 45 persons was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions of Berks County, praying for a decree authorizing the incorporation of the town into a borough, and on the twelfth day of the same month the Grand Jury reported favorably. Exceptions having been filed October 27, 1875, objecting to incorporation on account of including too much land, action on the matter was stayed. Subsequently on November 8, 1875, additional exceptions were filed. On February 12, 1876, the Court granted the petition and issued a charter of incorporation except for boundaries. On September 21, 1876, the Court vacated the decree of incorporation and set aside the charter. On October 16, 1876 a rule was issued to show cause why the charter should not be granted. Finally on January 18, 1877, a rule was made absolute and the Court issued a decree of incorporation.

An election was held and the following officers were elected:

Burgess	Peter W. Fisher
Tax Collector	J. D. Bobst
Justice of the Peace	L. P. Kuhns
Councilmen	Benjamin Potts
	J. D. Sanders
	David Merkel
	Tilghman DeLong
	Peter S. Diener
	Charles Trexler

The first Council appointed the following officers:

Secretary	E. J. S. Hoch
Treasurer	Tilghman DeLong
Highway Commissioner	Michael H. Miller
President of Council	Peter S. Diener
(Organization meeting)	
President of Regular Council	Benjamin Potts

These salaries were paid the first officers:

Burgess	\$1.00 annually
Secretary of Council	\$10.00 annually
Treasurer	\$5.00 annually
Tax Collector	\$8.00 annually
Highway Commissioner	\$1.00 per working day
Laborers	\$.80 per working day

At the time of incorporation 53 names were listed as taxables. Among them were six listed as single men. These single men were taxed 50 cents plus the assessment of their occupations. Married men were taxed 25 cents plus the assessments of their occupations. The first tax levied was on a 1½% basis.

The first taxables were listed as follows:

Baer & Miller, Charles Bear, Benjamin C. Baer, James Butz, Henry Butz, Henry C. Bear, John Bobst, Bear & Merkel Co., Manoah Carl, Peter L. Diener, Tilghman DeLong, Philip DeLong, William Fenstermacher,

Frank Fenstermacher, Henry M. Freed, Peter W. Fisher, Fenstermacher-Trexler & Co., James George, William M. Hoffman, Abraham Hilbert, John Hemmig, Daniel D. Hinterleiter, Hilbert Hinterleiter, Hannah Hinterleiter, Nathan Heffner, Levi Kuhns, Reuben S. Leibensperger, Adam J. Lighty, Michael H. Miller, Lewis Moll, David Merkel, John H. Miller, James Madarey, Benjamin Raut, Henry C. Raut, Joshua Smith, J. D. Sander, Casper Seyebartyn, Abraham Siegfried, Peter Sterner, Eugene Sholl, Llewellyn Shabbel, Joshua Smith, Sallie Siegfried, Charles D. Trexler, Daniel Trump, Jonas Trexler, William Trexler, M.D., Charles D. Trexler, Trexler & Moll, Benjamin Wisser, Esther Zangley.

A list of tenants at the time of incorporation is as follows:

TENANTS

William Baus, Bear-Dieroft & Miller, Samuel Baus, Jacob Bechtel, Bear & DeLong, Peter C. Conrad, John Drollinger, Herman Fetterman, Wilhelm Frederick, Isaac Fegley, John Gamler, Charles A. K. Grime, David Gerhart, Joshua Hinterleiter, Jonathan Herring, William Halman, William F. Heener, E. J. S. Hoch, William Hilbert, Matthias Deckert, Henry Diener, Stephan Dankle, Diener & Carl, John Delp, Thomas Eck, Josiah Fisher, William F. Kerchner, James Miller, John J. Reader, William Reinhard, Thomas Reichenderfer, William Scheerer, Henry Sox, Amentes Sterner, Trexler & Moll, William Weaver, Minial Wies, J. S. Ward.

SINGLE MEN

Charles Butz, Benjamin Carl, Henry Ebert, Solon H. Fisher, Jonathan Sterner, Henry Wiser.

The following parties owned dwellings or other buildings in the Borough of Tipton in 1876. The owners and the streets on which they were found in 1876 are listed.





Home Avenue



North Main Street

CHERRY STREET

Francis Stoudt, James Seiffert, Nathan Heffner, Smith P. Ubill, J. Adam Lichty, D. D. Hinterleiter, Israel Fegely, Henry Sterner, David DeLong, David Sterner, Solomon Fisher Est., Smith P. Ubill.

MAIN STREET

Nathan Spon, James H. Madeira, Benjamin Wisser, P. Kramlich, Peter Sterner, Henry Rhoad, Joshua Smith, Sebastian Kasper, Smith P. Ubill, Tilghman DeLong, James George, David Merkel, H. Freed, Charles H. Grim, Charles H. K. Grim, Abraham Siegfried, Charles Trexler, T. Reichenderfer.

RAILROAD STREET

P. W. Fisher, Trexler & More, P. DeLong, Benjamin Potts, Bear & DeLong Grain Stores. In addition the Railroad Depot and Freight House and the Lumber Yard were located here.

FRANKLIN STREET

Frank Fenstermacher, James Trexler, H. Gehman, Joseph Hinterleiter, Henry Bear, D. Hinterleiter, Peter Diener, J. Batz, J. P. Wert, William Hoffman, J. Henning, Reuben Leibensperger, Levi Moll, Henry Diener, J. Sanders. In addition the School and the Wagon and B. S. Shed were located here.

BARCLAY STREET

L. Schappell, John Bobst, and the Andreas & Frederick Planing Mill.

HAAS STREET

John Barto, Benjamin Fenstermacher, Dilla Staudt, Ephraim Wise, Reuben Haas, Jonathan T. Haas.

MAIN STREET (Home Ave.)

James Batz, J. H. Miller, James Boltz Tavern, H. A. Batz Store, Esther Zengal, M. Carl, E. J. S. Hoch, James Batz.

PENN STREET

Charles Gallmoyer, John Trexler, Reuben Geist, David Bloch, Henry Bower.

WEISS STREET

Charles Baer Tavern, Abraham Hilbert, Moses Neubold.

MILESTONES

September, 1893—Borough council bought a lot from Smith and Croll with frontage of 25 to 30 feet for the purpose of erecting the Borough Hose House. David Koch contracted to build the House 20 ft. by 14 ft. by 9 ft. for the sum of \$245.00

September, 1893—The Schuylkill Valley Telephone and Telegraph Company was given permission to erect poles and string wires for telephone purposes.

July, 1902—A resolution was adopted by Borough Council authorizing and establishing street lighting with 25 lamps. Charles S. Christman was hired at \$8 per month to be the first "Lamp Lighter."

March, 1905—M. T. Butz was given a permit to build a movie hall. Attached to this permit was a clause stating that Mr. Butz would be exempt from paying a show license provided he would grant free use of the hall once each year to the church, the public school and the Orphans Home.

August, 1909—B. Frank Harpel offered to furnish 50 incandescent lamps of 80 candle-power each at \$1,050 per year, contract to be over a seven year period. The offer was accepted.

August, 1913—The first lockup cells were purchased for \$195.

August, 1914—Petitioners presented a petition to Council to have their land to the south of Weiss Street annexed to the borough. It comprised an area of 32 acres.

April, 1915—Names of Peach Street and Railroad Streets were changed to Home Avenue.

April, 1918—The pump house was built. The Bowers Electric Company was granted permission to supply light, heat and power by means of electricity for the borough.

April, 1922—The trees on the pump house lot were planted.

May, 1923—Barrett Company was given an order to oil the streets for the first time.

March, 1924—The northern part of Main Street was ordered paved. Citizens living alongside this street were assessed part of the costs.

October, 1925—Property lying in Longswamp Township and adjoining the eastern borough line was annexed.

July, 1927—Signs showing the borough limits were ordered and placed at entrance to borough limits.

May, 1929—Consumers Gas Company was granted a franchise to construct an underground conduit, ducts and pipes to furnish and supply gas in the borough.

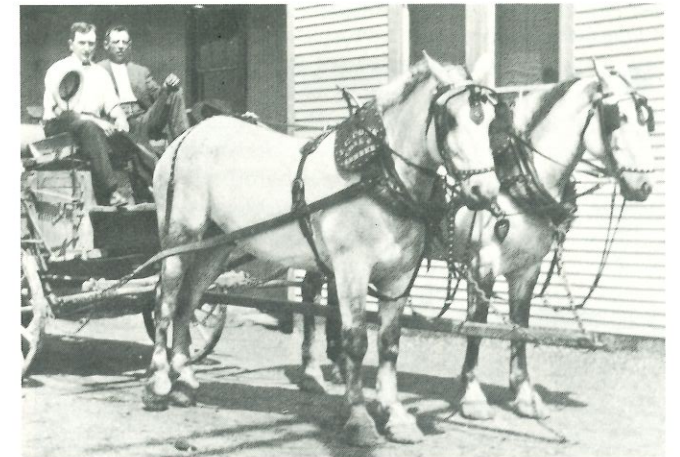
June, 1929—A chlorinator was ordered purchased.

October, 1936—The Police Department for the borough was established.

November, 1936—The House Numbering Ordinance was passed.

July, 1940—Borough Council purchased individual chairs and desks for council chambers.

April, 1943—Appointees for the Civilian Defense



Dealer—Grain, Coal & Lumber, John Cook and Alvin Wean

Council with Asa Sechrist as the chief, was approved by council.

July, 1945—J. P. Trexler sold a plot of ground to the borough for a Memorial Park.

April, 1946—A plot of ground was purchased from William Swoyer for an addition to the Memorial Park.

September, 1948—The Hubler Road Maintainer was purchased.

November, 1948—The voters were asked to give their approval to increase the public debt by \$30,000 to purchase the John J. Leibensperger tract of land and to build a swimming pool thereon.

December, 1948—The Leibensperger tract of land was purchased.

May, 1950—Mail Carrier service was established.

July, 1950—The first full-time police was employed. Robert Kerchner was appointed to be the chief of police.

March, 1959—177 building lots and the site of the new elementary school were annexed to the western end of the borough.

August, 1960—Contract awarded to Kramer and Shade of Fleetwood to build the new Borough Hall for \$46,980. Open House, June 1961.

March, 1962—Plot purchased for construction of sewage treatment plant.

July, 1962—Sewer installation project to cost \$970,000. Assessment of \$10 per front foot approved.

June, 1966—Ordinance restricting outdoor fires within the borough on public and private property except outdoor cooking.

August, 1966—Christmas lights (18th century lanterns) purchased.

December, 1966—Borough Planning Commission created.

May, 1967—Pavilion built in grove.

November, 1967—VMC request borough to assume ownership and management of pool.

July, 1968—Agreement of sale of VMC Pool for \$44,000. VMC will operate pool through 1970 at \$1500 rental and 25% of net profit.

First Post Office in Tipton; Williams Store. Today it is the home of John Leibensperger.



Postal Employees: (left to right) Donald Hieter; Virginia Schauer; Paul Croll, Postmaster; Mark Maeder; Lee Heffner

June, 1969—Brooke Gernert received permission to operate his fire truck.

September, 1970—Tipton Boy Scouts request permission to erect monument in memory of Larry Hoch and others who served in the armed forces.

December, 1970—Occupational privilege tax enacted.

December, 1971—Tipton Police Department tie into Berks County Police Communications network.

October, 1973—School crossing lights in operation, paid for by Jaycees.

November, 1973—Robert Klein (Brandywine Developers) and William Straccia (Electro-Space Fabricators) request rezoning of 49 acres, 165 perches northwest corner of borough for use as an industrial complex.

December, 1973—Council agrees to the above rezoning.

May, 1975—Regulations and restrictions for location and use of lots, land, buildings and other structures. Borough divided into districts.

POST OFFICE

The Post Office for this area was established on October 24, 1845 and was first named and known as "Williams Store". It was located at the present residence of John Leibensperger, corner of Callowhill and Weiss Streets. The name was changed to Kutzville on March 17, 1854 and then to Tipton in August, 1801.

From 1877 to 1893 the post office was located at 7 Centre Avenue and from 1893 to 1917 at 14 Home Avenue. It was again located at 7 Centre Avenue from 1917 to 1934 and from 1934 to 1958 it was located at 17 N. Main Street. Mail carrier service was established in May, 1950. The present post office building was built on Home Avenue in 1958.

The following is a list of Postmasters who served:

Thomas E. Williams—Oct. 23, 1845
 John Kutz—March 17, 1854
 Jerome Titlow—Sept. 29, 1861
 Jairus T. Haas—Feb. 25, 1863
 Peter L. Diener—June 18, 1866
 Charles D. Trexler—May 22, 1875
 Levi F. Moll—Dec. 19, 1884
 Charles D. Trexler—June 20, 1889
 Benjamin C. Baer—May 15, 1893
 Mrs. Catherine Baer—May 2, 1894
 Fayette Hinterleiter—Dec. 22, 1898
 Hanna L. Hinterleiter—May 13, 1901
 Robert Gallmoyer—Sept. 1, 1914
 Jacob H. Gallmoyer—Jan. 9, 1917
 Pearson Hinterleiter—Jan. 5, 1922
 Ralph O. Knauss—Oct. 16, 1929
 LeRoy R. Herman—Oct. 1, 1934
 Edward O. Meck—March 16, 1947
 Arthur Magners—June 2, 1972
 Paul A. Croll—June 2, 1973

THE TOPTON WATER SYSTEM

The year of Tipton's Centennial also marks the completion of a major improvement program of the Tipton water system. The Borough water system had its beginnings in 1893, when a small tract of land was purchased south of Tipton, to serve as watershed. Several springs and a reservoir were constructed, and a small water system began servicing the community. Over the years, additional land was purchased in Longswamp Township, to bring the watershed tract to its present size. In addition, another reservoir was built, the water system was expanded, as the Borough's population grew.

Tipton's water system, like many others in its category, consists of three major components: a water supply system, water storage facilities, and a transmission and water distribution system, each performing an important function to provide a reliable supply of good, potable water to meet the demands of Tipton's residents, and commercial and industrial establishments, at all times. The Borough's *water supply* system consists of thirty-one active, flowing springs, all located on the Borough-owned 208 acre watershed tract in Longswamp Township, south of Tipton; and four drilled deep wells, two of which are located in the Borough; Well No. 2 near the Borough Hall, and Well No. 5 adjacent to the Swimming Pool. Wells No. 1 and No. 4 are in the watershed tract (the fifth well—No. 3—was taken out of service many years ago because it did not meet supply requirements). All springs are enclosed in small, covered stone and cement pits located in clearings of the wooded terrain of the watershed. The water from the springs is conveyed by small cast iron pipes of two and three inch diameter, to two main collector lines which run almost the entire length of the watershed and discharge at the reservoirs. These springs presently furnish essentially all of the water used in Tipton, approximately 175,000 gallons per day. Because the springs are affected by prolonged dry spells, and do not have the capacity to meet higher short-term or long-term supply demands, the wells are kept in readiness for use, and are periodically operated. Well No. 5 is the newest addition to the supply system and is part of the water system improvement program referred to previously. This well was drilled in the nineteen thirties as swimming pool water supply, but was later abandoned for that purpose. It has remained idle for many years, until the need for greater water supply capacity and reliability brought it back to Borough Council's attention. A thorough six week testing program was conducted in 1972, which determined that both the water quality and quantity of the well were satisfactory for use as a public water supply. A modern brick building was designed to house the pumping and disinfection facilities, and also serve

as control center for the water system. The well is equipped with a 30 horsepower motor to discharge 288,000 gallons per day into the distribution system.

The second component of the water system is the *water storage* facilities. Since the construction of the original water system, two stone and cement reservoirs with a combined water storage capacity of 275,000 have served the Borough. These tanks, which are mostly buried and are covered with a wooden and metal roof, are located in the southern portion of the watershed, off Henningsville Road. Gradually increasing daily water demands and fire flow requirements have made the storage capacity of these tanks inadequate and have resulted in the construction of a new concrete water reservoir. This new reservoir, designated Reservoir No. 3, has a capacity of one million gallons in two chambers, and will adequately meet the Borough's storage requirements for the next decade. The water from the springs is discharged into the reservoirs, after chlorination, which occurs at the reservoirs. The reservoirs maintain the same water level in them and in this way establish the water pressure of the system. They are interconnected with each other to permit the cleaning of individual tanks without seriously affecting the reliability of the system.

From the reservoirs, the treated water flows into the *distribution system* via three transmission mains. For many years, a six inch pipe in Henningsville Road was the only transmission main available; increasing water consumption has made it inadequate to convey sufficient quantities of water at proper pressures into the Borough. Because of this, a second six inch transmission main was placed into service for this purpose in 1974, as part of modifications made to Well No. 2. A force main in Henningsville Road used by this well to pump water directly to the Reservoir was converted into a transmission main by connecting the well directly into the distribution system. These improvements doubled the transmission capacity but still did not meet water industry standards for capacity and delivery pressure. To assure these standards, a new twelve inch transmission main was installed as part of the current water system improvement program. This new line almost triples the combined flow capacity of the two six inch transmission pipes at greatly improved delivery pressures. In addition, two interconnections exist with the water system of the Lutheran Home, permitting flow into either system for mutual assistance and protection. The first such interconnection was made in September, 1922. The distribution system is the network of four and six inch diameter pipes in streets and alleys conveying the water directly to the users, which are supplied by individual small diameter metered service laterals. Including the additions recently installed, there are approximately 9.5 miles of piping serving the system's customers. Portions of the distribution system are over sixty years old, dating back to the initial construction of a public water system for Tipton, while

the remainder was built over the years to meet continually increasing demands and needs. A number of extensions and "loops" were made in the distribution system at strategic locations, as part of the current water system improvement program. These loops improved the hydraulic efficiency of the system and eliminated dead-ended mains which were the source of stagnant water at times.

All water supplied to the users is disinfected by chlorination, in accordance with State law. The first chlorination system was originally installed in 1929. More modern units replaced the older chlorinators over the years. The water supplies—springs and wells—meet State regulatory agency requirements and are approved under permits issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Department of Environmental Resources. The water served to the public meets the required quality requirements, which are monitored at monthly intervals. The system is under supervision of State-certified water works operators.

The improvements made will be able to meet the projected Borough population, and at the same time encourage renewed residential and industrial development in the Borough, thus helping to assure Tipton's continued growth and stability.

SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM

In recognition of a gradually deteriorating ground water quality caused by inadequate and malfunctioning individual on-site sewage disposal systems, and resulting public health problems, Borough Council initiated preliminary planning for a municipal sanitary sewerage system in the late 1950's. On October 6, 1958, as a first step, an application for financial assistance for preliminary plan preparation was filed with the Housing & Home Finance Agency of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and active sewerage planning got under way.

On July 11, 1960, the preliminary engineering report on the sewage collecting system and treatment plant was submitted to and reviewed by Council; the report proposed a certain routing of sewers and a treatment plant east of Tipton. The initial total project cost estimate was \$1,225,000. Since this amount of money substantially exceeded the borrowing

capability of the Borough, a municipal authority was necessary to take over the planning and financing arrangements of the project. On August 1, 1960, Borough Council appointed a committee to choose five members to serve on an Authority. The committee made its suggestions to Council, and on October 3, 1960, Council adopted Ordinance No. 313, creating the "Borough of Tipton Municipal Authority" and appointed five borough citizens to serve as Authority members. A certificate of incorporation was issued on October 17, 1960. The Authority organized with the following results: Max R. Croddy to serve as Chairman; Ralph C. Reifinger as Vice Chairman; Richard F. Druckenmiller as Secretary; Earl F. Lantz as Treasurer; and Ernest V. Rohrbach as Assistant Secretary & Assistant Treasurer.

The design of the sewer system and sewage treatment plant was completed during the following year. In order to better serve the drainage area, the treatment plant was to be located approximately 3,000 feet east of the borough, in Longswamp Township and discharge the fully treated sewage to Toad Creek. Three distinct components make up the sewerage system: The collection system includes the piping and manholes in streets and alleys, and small service laterals to each dwelling. The minimum size for sewers in streets and alleys is 8 inches, and 6 inches for service laterals. The average depth of these sewers is 8 to 12 feet, to pick up basements. Because of topographic conditions, the entire borough was not serviceable by gravity, and a small pump station of the ejector type was necessary on Washington Street, to serve the northern area of Tipton. The collection sewers discharge the sewage into the second component of the system, the interceptor sewer or trunk line. This sewer is usually larger, because it handles more flow, and is installed at a lesser depth than collection lines, since no more service laterals are connected to it. The interceptor carries the sewage from the collection system to the sewage treatment plant.

The plant is designed for a flow of 300,000 gallons per day, utilizing the contact stabilization process. Duplicate treatment units, each with a capacity of 150,000 gallons, are capable of producing a pollution removal efficiency in excess of 90%. This efficiency is known as secondary treatment. Each unit is comprised of a central settling tank surrounded by an annular ring segmented into aeration, reaeration, digestion and chlorination zones. Sludge drying beds are located adjacent to the tanks.

The control building between the units houses duplicate turbine blowers, electrical generator and controls, laboratory, office, storage, chlorine room, garage and maintenance shop. Water service and fire protection are provided by a water transmission line from the borough water system.

A comminutor, or grinding pit precedes the wet well and pumping station which lifts the sewage into the treatment tanks.

Space for future expansion has been provided in the

layout of the equipment in the building as well as in the position of the units on the plant site.

A number of meetings were held with financial advisers and a preliminary financing plan was developed. With these matters resolved, and permits and approvals secured, the Authority authorized the advertisement of construction bids. The Spring of 1962 saw several last-minute changes made on the plans, to assure a most cost-effective system, and options on the sewage treatment plant and sewage trunk line lands and rights-of-way were purchased.

On May 15, 1962, construction bids on seven contracts were received. The total of all low bids was \$803,739.30. Total project costs could now be ascertained, and on July 11, 1962, a proposal was received from the investment bankers, to underwrite the bond issues needed to finance the project. On the basis of these costs, a detailed financial report was prepared, outlining the proposed financing of the project, with a total estimated project cost of \$1,110,000. An \$810,000 long term (40 years) revenue bond issue was proposed, to be repaid by sewer rentals, and carrying an average net interest of 4%; in addition, a \$300,000 short term (6 yrs.) assessment bond issue was necessary, repayable with a front foot assessment of \$10.00 per foot on all sewer-improved or benefitted properties. With all financing arrangements completed, construction contracts were awarded to the 7 low bidders and construction was started and proceeded in a satisfactory manner. On November 14, 1962, a Federal Financial Grant offer was received, in the amount of \$115,832.64, to assist in the financing of the project.

Sewer construction went on for a year. On July 10, 1963, official action was taken by the Authority, to accept the essentially completed sewerage system, installed under the 7 contracts. Because of the speedy payment of assessments by borough residents, the assessment bond issued was ordered redeemed by the Authority at its meeting on August 14, 1963 although not due until 1968.

In accordance with the financing arrangements, the system was leased by the Authority to the Borough, and the Borough took over operation of the system and treatment plant in the summer of 1962. Sewer connections started to be made at the time and the first sanitary sewage entered the sewer lines. Minor corrective repair work was made to the system during 1963 and 1964, and the U. S. Government conducted its inspection of the facilities. On July 6, 1964, the Authority executed an official completion certificate on the system.

In the summer and fall of 1964, the interest rates in the bond market dropped, and an opportunity presented itself to refinance the outstanding bond issue, paying off the existing bonds and issuing new bonds, at a lower interest rate, thereby cutting the costs for all users. The refinancing consisted of a new long term revenue bond in the amount of \$725,000, with an average interest rate of approximately 3¾%.

Subsequent years saw several small extensions made to the collection system, to serve added users. These extensions were made in the Tipton Heights subdivision (Herbein Dr.), the East Gate subdivision (E. Smith St.) and most recently, in West Washington Street to serve the proposed Tipton Industrial Park. A major expansion of the system was made in 1974 to provide service to The Lutheran Home. It presently discharges an average daily flow of 45,000 gallons into the borough's system, paying its proportionate share of all operational expenses.

The most significant event in the operation of the system since its beginning was the receipt of a State requirement to provide additional treatment to revenue ammonia nitrogen from the treated effluent. This requirement was the result of a general upgrading of stream water quality in the Lehigh River Basin area. In order to implement the new state water quality requirements, and determine exactly what was necessary to achieve the new standards, an engineering report was prepared by the Authority engineer, Spotts, Stevens and McCoy. With the receipt of preliminary approval of the report by the State, detailed engineering design of upgrading modifications took place and plans thereon were submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. Simultaneously, an application for financial assistance in the cost of upgrading was submitted to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. The proposed work to be undertaken at the treatment plant consists essentially of the addition of two new aeration tanks, to increase the aeration time in order to reduce the ammonia nitrogen present in sanitary sewage below the minimum levels. The type of treatment will be changed from the contact stabilization process to a variation of the extended aeration process. Also included in the work is the construction of a garage to house a sludge tank truck; in addition, modifications to the settling tank, comminution, pumping and chlorination facilities will be made, to achieve maximum benefit at the least cost.

The estimated project cost for the proposed improvements is \$232,000 of which \$174,000 is to be received as a grant, and the balance of \$58,000 will come from the Authority's Bond Redemption and Improvement Account, a reserve fund established as part of the original sewerage system financing arrangements.

Present plans call for public advertisement for bids early in 1976, with receipt and opening of bids scheduled to take place in April, 1976, and construction expected to be underway in the summer of the borough's centennial year.



Tipton Telephone Exchange Personnel—Somewhere in the 1940's

TELEPHONE

The first place to have a telephone installed in the Tipton area was Tilghman DeLong's Furniture Store. Seven additional people received telephone service from the Consolidated Telephone Company from Kutztown. These people were: Tilghman DeLong, Dr. C.D. Werley, The Lutheran Home, Schofer's Furniture Store, Morris Trexler, a branch of the Boyertown Casket Factory and the Reading Railroad station at Tipton. Some of these places had two phones for if you had a Bell telephone you could only talk to people who had a Bell phone. Eventually the Bell Telephone Company bought the Consolidated Telephone Company and transacted business as the one company.

In 1907 the Mountain Telephone Company was organized at Landis Store and extended their lines to Mertztown where Katie Schall was the first operator. The exchange was then moved into Tipton to Smith Street.



Metropolitan Edison Tipton District Office

In 1910 the exchange was moved to the Home Avenue home of Charles Herman where the family operated the exchange during the day and Mr. Herman was the night operator. Mr. Oswin O. Meck was lineman and installer with 100 to 125 telephones in service.

Again the exchange was moved in 1924 to 304 Home Avenue where Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Gaugler were in charge until 1942. At that time Mrs. Arline Fenstermacher became head operator. The exchange remained here until the company converted to the dial system.

In 1946 the Conestoga Telephone and Telegraph Company of Birdsboro bought the Mountain Telephone company and still owns it today. The operators and exchange were replaced in June 1956 when the present dialing system was installed.

GAS

In May of 1929 the Consumers Gas Company was granted a franchise to construct an underground conduit, ducts and pipes to furnish and supply gas in the borough. The gas lines were brought in the "back" way through Fleetwood into Weiss Street and down Home Avenue. The line work was supervised by D. W. Culp.

At that time the holding company for Consumers Gas was the United Gas Improvement Corporation of Philadelphia. Later that company took over and Consumers Gas Company became United Gas Improvement (UGI). They still supply gas to the community.

ELECTRICITY

Electric power was first served in Tipton by the Tipton Electric Light and Power Company in 1918. The Hamburg Electric Light and Power took over in 1921 and in 1928 the Metropolitan Edison Company planted its roots in the Tipton area. Through consolidations and mergers, Met. Ed. acquired the Tipton Light and Power Company and its two operating companies. Met. Ed's first Tipton District Office was located at 35 West Franklin Street, a building which dates back to the early 1900's. After occupying that building for more than 47 years, Met. Ed. moved to its present office at 330 West Weiss Street in January, 1975. Here, Met. Ed. has access to more modern facilities to better serve the area. Twenty five people are employed in the Tipton District Office in various capacities such as linemen, meter readers, engineers or business office personnel. There is a new garage which houses line trucks, bucket trucks and other vehicles. A cashier is always on hand to serve customers paying their electric bills. The Tipton office serves Tipton, Fleetwood, Mertztown, Bowers, New Jerusalem, Fredericksville, and the surrounding communities.

BURGESSES OF TOPTON

Peter W. Fisher	1877-1878
John Henning	1878-1882
Solon H. Fisher	1883-1885
S. W. Kline	1886-1887
A. C. Herman	1888
B. F. Lichtel	1889
Tilghman DeLong	1890
Peter W. Fisher	1891
Charles W. Wisler	1892
Daniel B. Heist	1893-1896
Cyrus Lessig	1897-1899
Martin S. Croll	1900-1902
William E. Ebert	1903-1905
Benjamin E. Bieber	1906-1909
James McKeever	1910-1913
Frank Keiser	1913-1917
J. Morris Schappell	1918-1921
Frank R. Moser	1922-1925
Paul W. Bond	1926-1929
James Bollinger	1930
William B. Herbein	1930-1952
LeRoy Tobias	1953 (Resigned)
Norman Kramer	1953-1964

MAYORS OF TOPTON

Allen Borrell	1965 (Resigned)
Norman Kramer	1965-1968
James Schauer	1969-

BOROUGH SECRETARIES

E.J.S. Hoch
William D. Trexler
Levi F. Moll
Frank H. Moyer
A. S. Heffner
M. H. Brendlinger
Oliver C. Rohrbach
James W. Sallade
Charles H. Schlenker
George J. Moll
Owen J. Hinterleiter
Clifford Meck
Leland M. Sechler

BOROUGH OFFICIALS - 1976

Mayor James L. Schauer
President of Council Lowell G. Frederick
V. President of Council Marvin P. Schaeffer
Councilmen Paul W. Keiser
Kerry L. Freeby
Lawrence D. Werst
Ezio DeSantiis
Dennis Musser

Secretary-Treasurer Leland M. Sechler
Elected Tax Collector Miriam I. Rauenzahn
Appointed Tax Collector Leland M. Sechler
Borough Supt. & Sewer Plant Operator
Ray M. Stauffer

Street & Water Dept. Howard P. Schauer
Street & Sewer Dept. George L. Zuber
Zoning Officer Leland M. Sechler
Zoning Variance Hearing Board Chairman
Milton F. Kuhns

Zoning Variance Hearing Board Members
Barry C. Kemp
Ronald R. Gorham

Planning Commission Chairman Morgan S. Haney
Sec'y Francis Dolny
Member Thomas Ziegler
Member John Schofer



Borough Council Members: (left to right)
Front Row—Leland Sechler, Secretary; James Schauer, Mayor;
Marvin Schaeffer, Vice President
Back Row—Larry Werst; Dennis Musser; Kerry Freeby; Lowell
Frederick, President; Richard Schloesser, Engineer.



Tipton Borough Hall



Tipton Police Force: (left to right)
Richard DeLong; LaVerne Stevens; James Tierney, Chief; Franklin Hill; Stanley Waltz.

Municipal Authority Chairman *Walter W. Hilbert*
Sec'ty *Kermit E. Schofer*
Treas. *Ernest V. Rohrbach*
Member *Herbert J. Geist, Jr.*
Member *Max R. Croddy*

Municipal Authority Solicitor *David L. Levan*
Recreation Board Acting Chairman *Lawrence D. Werst*

Secretary *Dale Cullin*
Member *Paul Keiser*

Borough Solicitor *Robert H. Kauffman, Esq.*
Borough Engineers *Spotts, Stevens & McCoy, Inc.*
Chief of Police *James P. Tierney*
Patrolman *Stanley P. Waltz*
Patrolman *Richard J. DeLong*
Part-time Patrolman *LaVerne Stevens*
Part-time Patrolman *Franklin H. Hill*

POLICE HISTORY

CONSTABLES

Martin Kemp
Andrew Hieter
Jacob Wisler
Howard Yanish
William Stoudt
Theodore Carl
Harvey Kemp
James Luckenbill, Sr.
James Luckenbill, Jr.

PART TIME POLICE CHIEF

Robert Kerchner
Ralph Reifinger

First Full Time Chief *Ryan Miller*
Part time Police *Edwin Rauenzahn*
Chief *Austin Strohl*
Chief *Lawrence Gaul*

EDUCATION



EDUCATION

"The educational spirit of a community is best shown to the public by the type of building it has at its command for the education of its children. As a community grows its educational facilities must be enlarged and the program enriched if the school shall keep abreast of the times." So wrote Luther B. Herbein in the December 12, 1949 edition of the Kutztown Patriot. Mr. Herbein was the last Supervising Principal of the Tipton Borough School System; subsequently he became Assistant Supervising Principal in charge of Elementary Education in the Brandywine Heights Joint Schools.

Prior to the incorporation of the borough the schools of Tipton were part of the Longswamp Township system. Shortly after the Civil War a two room building was erected on a plot of ground on the north side of Franklin Street; several additions and alterations were made until the last one in 1926 when the building as it existed prior to its being abandoned and the property sold as the borough schools became part of the Brandywine system. Upon completion of the 1926 addition tenth grade was added to the educational program and the borough had a very modern Junior High School. Grades eleven and twelve were permitted to attend adjacent schools.

In December of 1949 the directors of Tipton Borough and Longswamp Township met in the bank basement with the late Dr. A. F. Kemp, the County Superintendent, to explore the possibility of a joint school system; this meeting was actually sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. It must be noted that the provision for the establishment of joint schools was part of the school code for a long time prior to this but the 1948 session of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provided strong financial motivation (\$500 per unit for joint schools and \$800 per unit for union schools). A unit as defined in referenced act was composed of 30 elementary pupils or 22 high school pupils. This same act also charged the County Superintendent's Office, now the Intermediate Unit, with the preparation of a reorganization plan for the county.

Three basic questions had to be answered: A. How to meet the basic state regulation of 1200 pupils? B. What are the specific educational needs of our children? C. How much can the taxpayers afford? Many meetings and private conferences with organizations and citizens were held in an effort to resolve the hereinbefore mentioned questions. The county office staff worked very hard on this problem and while they were specifically charged with the responsibility of formulating the plan, they were, nevertheless, determined that whatever organization of the county would become a reality, it had to be with the approval of the local boards and their constituents. Tipton Borough along with the townships of District,



Brandywine Heights Area High School and Middle School

Rockland and Longswamp finally became District 1-E of the county plan. One major obstacle presented itself in that the state said there shall be 1200 pupils K through 12; there were 1167 in 1-E. After many trips to Harrisburg, many studies, and projections of future growth, the state finally granted approval for 1-E.

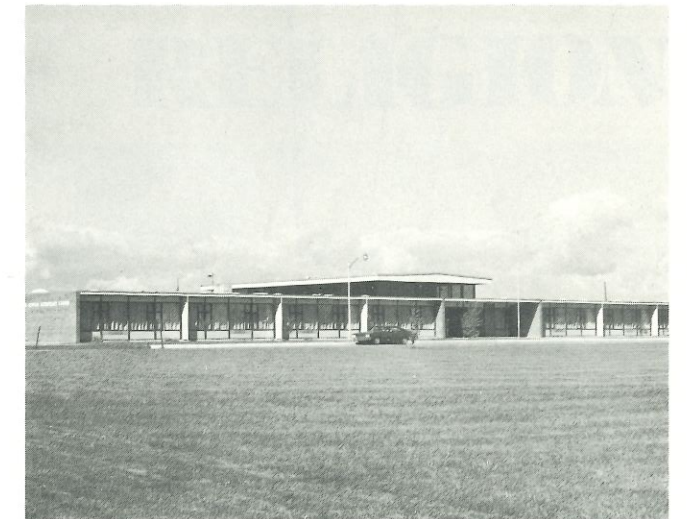
The problem now was to implement 1-E, said problem was accelerated when the major receiving district for grades 11 and 12 sent word that the districts of 1-E had only one of two choices—either to form a joint district with them or they could no longer accept 1-E's 11th and 12th grade pupils. With the full cooperation of all component boards the decision was made to proceed with 1-E. An agreement was developed which provided essentially that for all secondary pupils the component boards would pay into the joint treasury according to average daily membership; District and Tipton would join for their elementary pupils also according to average daily membership, while Rockland and Longswamp would provide for their own elementary pupils. The preceding was for all current expenses; all capital outlay and debt service was apportioned on the basis of market value of real estate for the term in which the money was expended.

On July 1, 1954 the Brandywine Heights Joint School System began operation. The pupils were housed as follows: All secondary pupils in the former Tipton Junior High School; two rooms in the basement of St. Peter's United Church of Christ, and two rooms in the basement of Trinity Lutheran Church; seven rooms in the former Lutheran Home school building; four rooms in the former Longswamp High School building; a two room building housing grades 1-3 in one and 5-6 in the other; a two room building with grades 1-4 in one and 5-8 in the other; a one room building housing grades 1-6; and 15 one room buildings housing grades 1-8. All pupils had equal or better educational opportunities than they had prior to the reorganization.

After the first year of operation it was learned that the calculations as hereinbefore outlined were almost impossible and were not significantly different than if all elementary schools were operated similar to the secondary school. This being acceptable to the several boards, the agreement was amended accordingly. This method of operation was continued until the state mandated that all districts become union districts with a nine member board which might be elected by regions of approximately equal population or they could be elected "at large". When referenced options were discussed the words of one director clearly outweighed all the rest, he said, "irrespective of where I live it is my duty to be concerned about the welfare of all our pupils and I strongly recommend the second option." Hence Brandywine elects its school directors "at large".

On February 27, 1957 the keys to the High School building were received. This building was erected on a site of approximately thirty acres donated by the

District—Tipton Elementary School



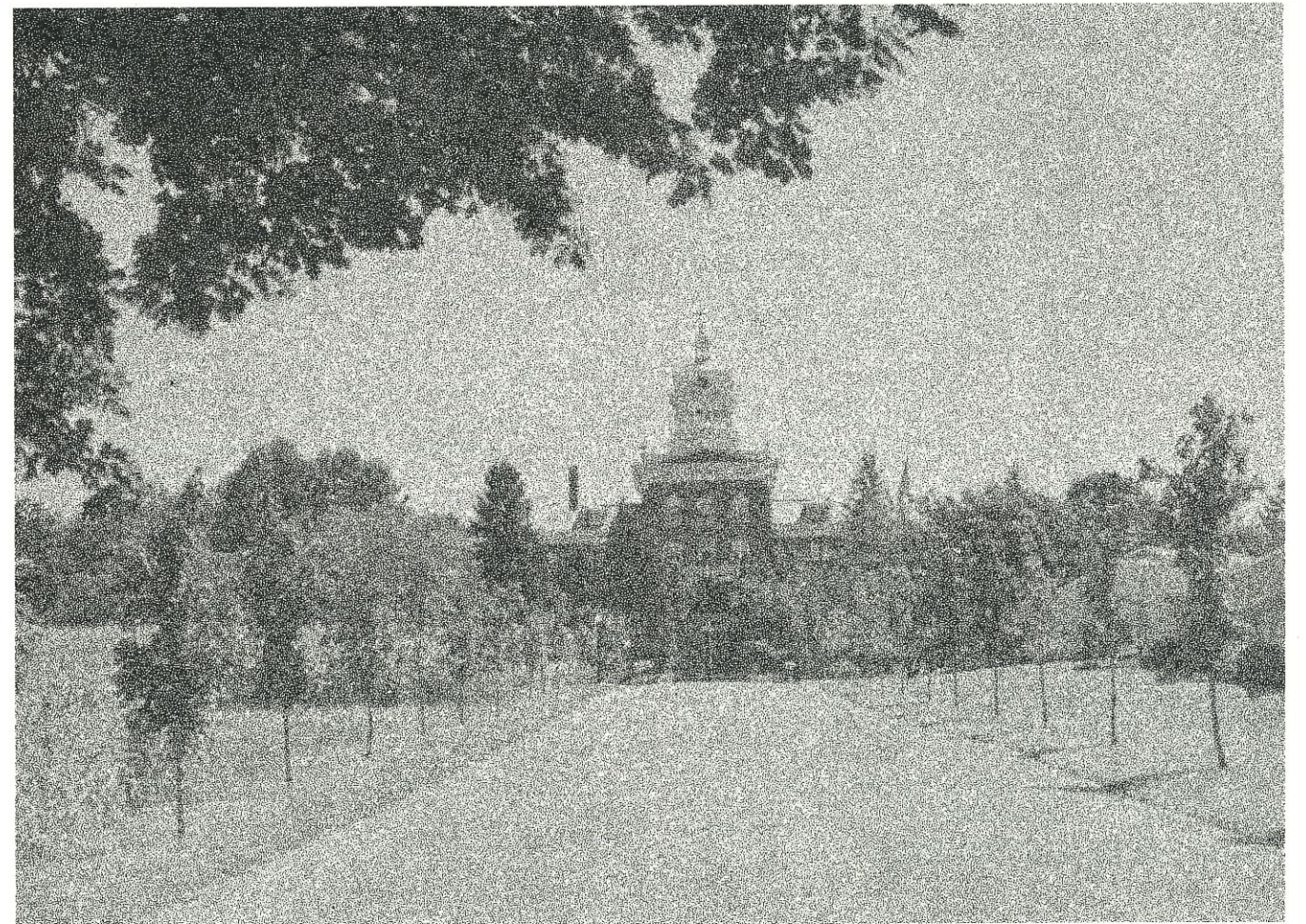
Caloric Corporation in memory of its founder, Samuel Klein. The Longswamp Elementary, District-Tipton Elementary, and the Rockland Elementary Schools were completed in that order.

When projections were made and studies conducted it became very evident that there were two choices: A. Add additions to all of the buildings; or B. Effect a middle school organization and build an addition to the high school. Studies at that time indicated that the addition would ultimately be part of the high school. The *Long Range Plan* provided for the construction of a new building designed specifically to house and provide a modern middle school program. However, with the declining birth rate and other sundry reasons, this later construction was not warranted and what needs to be done along this line must be determined by those now in authority.

This brief summary of educational progress proves that the maxim as outlined by Mr. Herbein is still the creed of the populace of this area.



RELIGION



HISTORY

ST. PETER'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor of St. Peter's U.C.C.—Rev. Morgan Haney



St. Peter's United Church of Christ

According to the minutes of the Eastern Synod of the Reformed Church in the U.S., the membership of the Tipton congregation numbered 100 in 1892, twenty years after its organization. Forty-five years later, the number of members in good and regular standing had increased to a total of 161, a gain of 140 in sixty-five years. At a first glance this number may not seem very impressive; however, considering the nature and size of the community in the years from 1872 to 1937, the growth of the congregation was most commendable, and it vindicated the faith of the fathers that there was a need for a Reformed congregation in the community. For this growth was achieved despite the fact that St. Peter's Church was shadowed by three older congregations: Christ Church, Bowers, organized in 1732; the Longswamp congregation, 1734; and Zion Church, Maxatawny, 1828. When it is remembered that folks who belong to historic congregations in which they have strong family ties are hesitant to unite with other congregations, and even more so with a newly organized congregation which cannot lay claim to any tradition, the growth of St. Peter's Church may well be regarded as phenomenal.

In the continuing years, St. Peter's Church has been a growing church, and there are signs on the horizon of even more significant growth in the future. While the congregation has enjoyed a healthy growth, the denomination of which St. Peter's Church is an integral part has also enjoyed an enviable growth in recent years by virtue of its ecumenical spirit. St. Peter's Church was born a child of the Reformed Church in the U.S., a denomination of approximately 300,000 members. When the Reformed Church in the U.S. merged with the Evangelical Synod of North America, an action that owes its impetus to the ecumenical vision and the dedicated leadership of Dr. George W. Richards, a son of the Maxatawny congregation, St. Peter's Church became a part of a fellowship of approximately 600,000 members. And again in 1957 when the Evangelical and Reformed Church merged with the Congregational Christian Churches, the denominational membership soared to almost 2,000,000 members.

Signs of maturity appeared on the horizon as early as 1913, for it was in this year that action was taken to dissolve the union agreement, and only two years later the Lutheran congregation moved into its newly built church at Home Avenue and Smith Street, leaving the Reformed congregation in control of the old building. Two years later the Reformed congregation began to explore the possibility of erecting a new church edifice. Gradually the plans and procedures began to crystallize. An architect was employed, and a lot was donated by Mr. H.A. Miller. Finally ground

was broken in May 1926, and a building contract was awarded the following month for the erection of what is now St. Peter's United Church of Christ, located at the corner of Franklin and Spruce Streets. The total cost, including furnishings, was approximately \$55,000. On Palm Sunday, April 10, 1927, the members of the church and Sunday School marched in triumphal procession from the old church building to their new house of worship, which was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on Whitsunday, June 5, 1927. Taking into consideration the economic conditions of those years and the financial resources of the members, the total project was a very ambitious and adventurous undertaking. But by 1937, at the time of the death of the pastor under whose leadership the project had been undertaken, the indebtedness had been reduced to \$8000.

Due to the fact that St. Peter's Church was part of a four-point parish, religious services had been conducted only on alternate Sundays, although Sunday School sessions were held every Sunday. It was not until September 1937, when the Maxatawny Parish, of which St. Peter's was a part, was reduced to a three point parish, that a service on an every Sunday basis was initiated, alternating on a morning and evening schedule. In 1949 regular Sunday morning services of worship, preceded by a Sunday School session, were instituted. This schedule was made possible by securing a student assistant pastor to assume part of the preaching load in the parish and to promote a young people's program on alternate Sundays. This arrangement continued until 1960, when a fourth congregation was added to the Maxatawny Parish and an assistant pastor was called, the Rev. Charles E. Fogle, whose responsibility it was to conduct a monthly service in each of the congregations and to assume charge of the educational and young people's work in all the churches of the parish. Upon the resignation of Pastor Fogle in 1964, the parish was divided, and St. Peter's Church for the first time in its history, became a one point parish with a full time pastor. This was made possible by the fact that the membership had more than doubled in the years from 1937 to 1964. The present membership is now 420.

Evidence of congregational maturity is the response of two members of the congregation to the call of the Christian ministry. The Rev. David P. Seigfried, Pastor of St. Stephen's U.C.C., Reading, was ordained on June 22, 1969; and the Rev. Michael C. Romig, Pastor of the Lykens Valley Parish, was likewise ordained on June 16, 1974.

The following are the pastors who served St. Peter's Church for more than a century:

1872-1887	The Rev. Alfred J. Herman
1887-1889	The Rev. Gustave Schwedes
1889-1892	The Rev. F.B. Hahn
1892-1937	The Rev. George B. Smith, D.D.
1937-1968	The Rev. Franklin D. Slifer, D.D.
1960-1964	The Rev. Charles E. Fogle, Associate
1968-	The Rev. Morgan S. Haney



ST. PETER'S UNION CHURCH

The living cells of the two congregations in Tipton undoubtedly germinated in the late 1860's when a Sunday School was organized in the community. It was on October 29, 1871 that initial steps were taken by some of the supporters of the school to effect an organization of a congregation of their own. In conjunction with the Lutherans, the Reformed people joined in a cooperative enterprise for the erection of a union church building at the corner of Franklin and Cherry Streets. A constitution was adopted on March 9, 1872; and in all likelihood the following officers were elected on the same date:

LUTHERAN

Elders: Benjamin Weiser, Joshua Hinterleiter
Deacons: Jonathan Sanders, Charles Trexler, Daniel Bailey, O. Allen Leibensperger.
Trustees: Daniel Hinterleiter, Michael Miller.

REFORMED

Elders: Charles Baer, Henry Diener.
Deacons: Henry Brobst, Manoah Carl, Levi Moll, Joshua Smith.
Trustees: James Butz, Peter Diener.

On Ascension Day, May 9, 1872, the cornerstone of the building was laid; and the first Reformed service was held on the Sunday after the Ascension, with the celebration of the Holy Communion, when 21 persons communed. Likewise the first Lutheran service was held on May 26, 1872 when communion was administered to 18 members. The church was known as St. Peter's Union Church.

In 1881 the church was rebuilt and enlarged, and the first organ installed. Adam Lichty was the first organist. The membership in each congregation was approximately 60 members. In 1893 the steam heating plant was installed and in May 1897 another organ was purchased.

The Union church continued until 1913 when the two congregations voted to dissolve.

apply for a charter to incorporate the congregation. Thus the congregation was incorporated on April 12, 1912 and the name was changed to Trinity Lutheran Church, Tipton, Pa.

On May 8, 1912, it was voted to purchase a lot at the corner of Smith and Peach Streets and to erect a church building there. The ground was broken on February 23, 1915 and the cornerstone was laid on June 27, 1915. On September 24, 1916, the new church was dedicated. Built of Seisholtzville granite, it consisted of an auditorium and a church school room with a balcony. The primary and social rooms were located in the basement. The total cost was \$18,000.

On June 5, 1924, the Rev. Mark K. Trexler was ordained into the Lutheran Ministry at Salem Church, Bethlehem, the only son of Trinity Church in the ministry to this date.

On November 21, 1925, a new Tellers-Kent organ was dedicated at a cost of \$4,450. Numerous improvements have been made to the building and its facilities over the years. The most recent, the remodeling of the basement with panelled walls, carpeting, enclosed ceiling, moveable classroom walls and kitchen improvements.

In September, 1946, St. Paul's of Fleetwood withdrew from the parish leaving Christ, Dryville and Trinity, Tipton. This parish continued until February, 1958 when Christ, Dryville and Trinity decided to also divide effective as of February 24, 1958. The Trinity congregation voted to pay Christ congregation for their share of the parsonage. This parsonage, the former John Cook property, Home Avenue and W. Smith Streets directly opposite the Tipton church was purchased in 1952. A new parsonage was built on Keller Street in 1966. That same year the Horace Jacobs property adjoining the church on the north side, was purchased and renovated for use as an educational building, with five classrooms, a secretary's office and a meeting room for Luther League.

The church program has been supplemented from time to time by various organizations of the church. The first Lutheran choir was organized in 1912 with seven members. Mrs. C.D. Werley was the organist. Mrs. Lloyd Bieber served as organist from 1915 to 1946 and Mrs. Campbell Moatz was organist from 1946 until her death in 1974. The Ladies Mite Society was also formed in 1912 with Mrs. William H. Kline serving as the first president. In 1914 Martin S. Croll was elected the first president of the Sunday School and C.H. Wisler the superintendent. Organizations active at the present time are: Lutheran Church Women, Luther League, Senior Choir, Teenage Choir, Youth Choir, Chapel Choir as well as the Church Council.

In 1957, Trinity Lutheran Church was presented with an anonymous gift with the request that part of it be used to furnish a room at the Muhlenberg Medical Center. A double bedroom was furnished at a cost of \$2500.00. An amplification system for the bell

tower was installed that same year and a pew was given to the chapel at the Lutheran Home during their renovation program, in memory of the late Rev. William H. Kline, a former pastor at Trinity. New heating systems were installed throughout the church during 1954 and 1956. Three hundred new service hymnal books were received and dedicated in 1959.

In 1972 the congregation celebrated their one hundredth anniversary with special events and the publication of an historical booklet.

Eight pastors have served this congregation. The Rev. Benjamin E. Kramlich, the first pastor, served the first year without remuneration. He served from 1871 to 1900. He was followed by the Rev. A.C. Schenk who was succeeded in 1902 by the Rev. Jonas O. Henry who served until 1909 when he became superintendent of the Lutheran Home. The Rev. William H. Kline was pastor for forty-two years, from 1909 to 1951. The Rev. Alton F. Hoffman served from 1952 to 1958 and he was followed by the Rev. Alton H. Wedde from 1958 to 1961. The Rev. Robert H. Loucks served from 1962 until 1965 and was followed by the Rev. George R. Deisher in 1966 until his retirement in 1975. At this printing the church is currently without a pastor, the pulpit being filled each week by supply pastors. Present membership is 614.

By the mercy and blessings of God, the work of Trinity Lutheran Church, Tipton, will continue to move forward.

TOPTON COMMUNITY DAILY VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

The Tipton Community Daily Vacation Church School was first conducted in June 1953. The Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Slifer from St. Peter's United Church of Christ and Rev. Alton Hoffman from Trinity Lutheran Church were then the Pastors.

Other Pastors serving the school were Rev. Charles Fogel, Rev. Theodore Jentsch, Rev. Alton Wedde, Rev. Robert Loucks, Rev. George Deisher and Rev. Morgan S. Haney.

Directresses of the school have been, the late Mrs. Campbell Moatz, the late Mrs. James Guildin, Mrs. George Wean, Mrs. Ernest Doll, Mrs. Harold Shoemaker, Mrs. Darwin Miller, Mrs. Pious Dillon, Mrs. George Schofer.

Mr. Paul Bond also contributed his services to the maintenance of the school having served as Treasurer and Publicity Chairman.

Teachers and helpers serve from both St. Peter's U.C.C. and Trinity Lutheran and formerly from the Tipton Lutheran Home.

All children are invited to attend the school from the home churches and surrounding areas regardless of church affiliation.

UNITED EVANGELICAL

In 1886 another church was established in Tipton. A Rev. Mr. Weidner was responsible for erecting the United Evangelical Church on the site of the present Fire Hall. The congregation was affiliated with the Kutztown circuit of five churches.

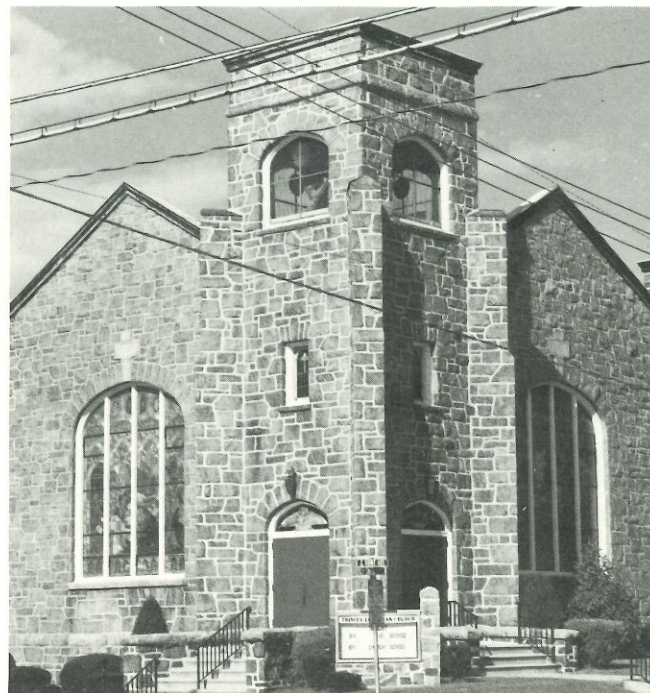
According to records, improvements were made in the building and colored glass windows were installed in 1898 during the pastorate of the Rev. D.F. Kostenbader. The original windows were of historical significance since they had been received from Zion Reformed Church, Allentown, where they had been used during the time that the famous Liberty Bell had been hidden there during the Revolutionary War.

The Rev. H.L. Yeakel was pastor in 1902 when the Tipton church was noted for having the largest attendance of the entire parish. The Rev. I.L. Reitz was responsible in 1906 for reducing the parish to three churches. The work at Tipton reached its peak in 1914 when the Rev. D.P. Longsdorf conducted a successful revival with a large attendance.

Finally in 1920 Grace Church, Kutztown, became a self-supporting church, detaching it from the parish, leaving only Virginville and Tipton. To all knowledge these two churches disbanded, their several members uniting with other Christian communions.

CHURCH OF GOD

A Church of God was established in Tipton in 1912 by Mr. Ephraim Steffy. It was built next to the Lutheran Church on Smith Street. The preaching was done by one of the worshippers. Its influence was felt for approximately 15 years during which time Mr. Steffy was chiefly responsible for its activities. Following his death in 1925 its activities gradually diminished until the congregation was finally disbanded.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran congregation first came into being in 1871. In conjunction with the Reformed congregation the first church, St. Peter's Union Church, was erected. The Rev. B.E. Kramlich served as the first pastor. In 1902 the Lutheran congregation became a part of the Tipton Parish, comprised of St. Paul's, Fleetwood, Christ Church, Dryville and the Tipton Church.

On February 14, 1912, a congregational meeting was held by the Lutheran members of St. Peter's Union Church at which time a motion was made to

adopted and a Board of Trustees was elected. The first officers were: Rev. U.P. Heilman, president; H.W. Schick, secretary; and E.S. Wertz, treasurer. The institution established by this board was given a charter as "The Lutheran Orphans' Home in Berks County, Pa." and Rev. Heilman was elected superintendent.

A farm just southeast of Topton was purchased on October 12, 1896, known as the Peter Diener farm of 105 acres. Rev. Heilman moved into the farmhouse and on May 17, 1897, two orphans, 6 year old Sallie Carl and 9 year old Clair Carl were admitted. A building site for the main building was selected and on June 29, 1897 ground was broken and a corner stone was laid on September 18, 1897.

The sum of \$40,000 had to be raised to pay for the farm and the new building. Autumn train excursions to Gettysburg were organized as a fund raising project and these excursions were an annual event until 1917 and realized \$38,457 for the Home.

The new building was completed on September 14, 1899. On April 10, 1900 Rev. Heilman died at the age of fifty and was buried on the grounds. He was succeeded by the Rev. John H. Raker six months later. During the Raker administration a reservoir was constructed, the Home became debt-free and there was an accumulation of \$55,000 for a proposed Old Folks' Home. Rev. Raker left the home in 1907 and was temporarily succeeded by the Rev. Jonas O. Henry until a permanent superintendent, the Rev. Frederick Halter assumed the position on January 1, 1908. Rev. Halter resigned the post one year later and Rev. Henry again assumed the post temporarily. However, on July 1, 1909 Rev. Henry took full charge of the Home, a position he and his wife retained for thirty-six years.

The Home enjoyed a remarkable period of expansion under the Henrys. On August 18, 1910 a tower clock and bell was installed and the following year the Annie L. Lowry Memorial Infirmary was built. In 1911 an east and west wing were added to the main building and a year later a dining room section was added.

In 1914 the first infant was admitted to the home and in 1916 funds were received for the erection of the George E. Holton Memorial Cottage for infants.

The first anniversary day was held on August 16, 1900 and each succeeding year the Home's birthday was celebrated on the third Thursday of August. This annual celebration attracted thousands of people to Topton to attend the program and tour the buildings.

In January, 1897 the first copy of the Home's paper was published. It was published monthly until 1959 when its size was doubled, color added, and became known as the "Herald", a bimonthly publication.

A two story building was erected in 1917 for use as a school house. Further growth included building a small dam for summer swimming and winter ice skating. A wading pool fifty feet in diameter was built in 1916. The Allentown Conference Boys' Cottage was erected in 1926 and in 1930 a new girls' cottage was

built. The year 1934 saw construction of a swimming pool.

Property lines grew also. 1905 saw the addition of the nine acre Weida property. The 156 acre Butz farm was purchased in 1923 and a year later the 29 acre Bieber tract was added. In 1941, 27 additional acres were given by F.M. Miller.

A new school and recreational building named "The Henry Building" was dedicated on May 17, 1939 in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. J.O. Henry.

1940 became the year of decision. The official name adopted in 1896 was changed to "The Lutheran Home at Topton, Pa." The board was enlarged from 12 to 18 members including six members of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. Services began to the aged when the Annie Lowry building was converted to an old folks residence and on May 13, 1941 Mrs. Fyanna Flicker of Dryville became the first guest. To assist in the expansion program, Rev. Paul J. Henry was called to assist his father and served as assistant superintendent until 1946. Late in 1945 Dr. J.O. Henry announced his retirement to be effective at the end of the year.

In 1949 Miss Mary Belser a member of the staff presented a tower music system dedicated to the honor of Rev. and Mrs. Henry.

The Rev. Webster K. Reinert assumed the superintendentship on January 16, 1949 to care for 175 children and 12 aged guests. A new home was constructed for the superintendent's residence in 1949. It was dedicated as "The Krum Memorial Cottage" on January 10, 1950.

On the southwest end of the Home's campus was a fine building that was the residence of Oliver C. Collins, a Topton rug manufacturer. This residence was purchased and put into use on September 17, 1950 to house elderly guests and was named the Heilman Cottage in memory of the first superintendent.

Children now were being admitted because of broken homes, parental inability to provide a home, mental disturbances of parents and other social problems. To meet the changing needs of the children the Home's first case worker, Miss Catherine Schmidt, was assigned to Topton by the Lutheran Children's Bureau in November, 1951.

The building of a sewerage treatment plant was approved in 1952. A new utility building was built and the old school building was converted to a residence for senior boys in 1954.

Early in 1955 the trustees purchased the Bitting home at 1711 Hampden Boulevard, Reading and named it the Caum Home in honor of Mrs. Elizabeth Caum, a benefactor of the Home. This was converted to a residence infirmary for the aged and was opened in December, 1955 with Miss Rose Dillman as the first guest. The 22 hospital beds and 15 beds for ambulatory guests were quickly filled. In 1959 an addition was built to house 12 more infirm guests and was named the Unangst Infirmary.

Next in line for modernization was the Chapel in the main building in Topton. It was completely

renovated and modernized and was dedicated on October 12, 1958.

When the Brandywine Heights Joint School District opened a new elementary school building in close proximity to the Home, it became apparent that the Henry School Building would no longer be required for educational purposes. The board therefore approved plans to convert it into a modern infirmary for the aged. The project was begun in the fall of 1961 and dedicated on the Home's 65th Anniversary Day, August 11, 1962. The Henry Infirmary made available accommodations for 41 additional guests.

In 1962 the board approved a bold new program for the care of the elderly. The Lutheran Home would erect single family dwelling units in the area north of the Main building along Home Avenue. The occupants of these cottages enjoy all the comforts and privacy of their own homes and they cook, keep house and care for themselves as long as they are able. They also have a peace of mind and security predicated upon the proximity of the Home's facilities and services, which are readily available to them whenever needed. The group of cottages is now known as "Luther Haven". Rev. and Mrs. Rufus E. Kern became the first Luther Haven residents, having moved into their cottage on October 15, 1962.

The year 1962 also saw the completion of the kitchen renovations. The arts and crafts program was started with Mrs. Carlton Heckman as instructor. In 1963 the "candystripers", a volunteer group of teenage girls was organized to help in the infirmary. Another volunteer group formed that year was the Women's Auxiliary. Mrs. Campbell Moatz was elected as the first president. By 1975 membership in the auxiliary had increased to 4364 members. Mrs. Carlton Heckman and Mrs. Paul Carlson also served as presidents of the auxiliary. The president at this printing is Mrs. Thomas Reinsel.

Early in 1967 construction of an addition to the infirmary got under way. In 1969 the updating of the children's program saw improvements and renovations to the children's cottages and the organization of a Social Services Department. Paul W. Ernst was named director of Children's Services in 1970.

The Home also was reaching out into the community in its efforts to serve the elderly with the establishment of a "Meals on Wheels" program.

June 30, 1975 saw the retirement of Rev. Webster K. Reinert and Mrs. Reinert as superintendent and matron of the Home. The Rev. Paul L. Buehrle was chosen to succeed Dr. Reinert in a new capacity as Executive Director.

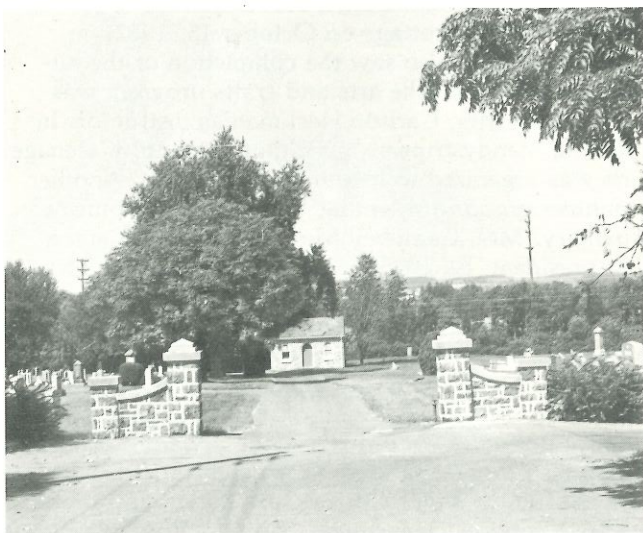
The Koch-Knauss cottage for boys was opened in June, 1975. A 96 bed east wing addition to the Henry Infirmary was begun and a merger of the Home for Widows and Single Women of Reading was completed.

Future plans for the Home now include a complete renovation of the main building to be used as office space.



THE LUTHERAN HOME

On October 16, 1895 a conference Sunday School Convention was held by the Lutheran Churches of the Reading Conference in Boyertown. The question of what could be done on behalf of the orphans of the congregation who were being deprived of their homes and the means of a Christian education. A committee was appointed to study the problems and make a recommendation which the following April they did recommend that "We commence." On June 11, 1895, after the conference had agreed, the report was presented to the Synod. The following May, after Synod approval, a provisional constitution was



TOPTON UNION CEMETERY

On April 3, 1872 a plot of land in Longswamp Township, Berks County, consisting of 100 perches was sold for \$343.75 by David and Catherine Weiser to Peter S. Diener, James M. Butz, Daniel D. Hinterleiter and Michael H. Miller, Trustees of St. Peter's Union Church. This plot became what is now commonly known as the old cemetery. On June 30, 1904 after the need for more land was evident, two tracts of land, one containing 1 acre and 96/100 perches, and the other 18 perches, were bought from Elizabeth Fenstermacher and her husband William F. Fenstermacher. The price paid was \$223.70. These two tracts contain the land on the newer portion of

the cemetery lying adjacent to the East Penn Railroad. To make provision for future expansion a third purchase was made in 1922 when a plot of ground parallel to that purchased in 1904 was bought for \$800 from Mary A. and Reuben A. Fenstermacher.

In November, 1947, a reorganization of the Cemetery Board was effected. Former board members were: George J. Moll, Secretary; Benjamin E. Bieber, Treasurer, deceased; William F. Rohrbach, deceased; and Frank R. Keiser. Mr. Moll assisted in the reorganization but declined serving on the new board. Members of the reorganized board, elected by the Consistory of St. Peter's Reformed Church and the Council of Trinity Lutheran Church, respectfully, were: Harold Fenstermacher, Ray Keiser, John Schappell and Curvovs Stauffer, Sr., Edwin Rauenzahn, Jr., Raymond P. Werst, Jr. Incorporation of the cemetery, a move long advocated by many, was undertaken in 1948 by the board with the approval of the members of the two congregations. Application for incorporation was made by John W. Dry, Esquire, on May 3, 1948 before the Court of Common Pleas of Berks County. The application was approved and upon the recording of the Articles of Incorporation in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of Berks County, the corporation having the name Tipton Union Cemetery Company came into existence on the 24th of May, 1948.

On April 18, 1950, the Caloric Stove Corporation presented to the Tipton Union Cemetery Company, a plot of land as a memorial to George J. Moll, a trusted employee who also served for a long time as a member of the cemetery board. A marker on this plot reads, "By faithful employees of the Caloric Gas Stove Works." A modern tool shed constructed of stone was completed in 1950. This building was a gift from J. Morris Schappell.

In 1974 extensive repairs and improvements were made. The entrance piers were replaced, the tool shed had aluminum siding, gutters, downspouts, fascia and soffit installed; the driveways were blacktopped. A loan from private sources at a nominal interest rate was made to augment the general fund to pay for these improvements. Invested in a Perpetual Care Fund is a total of \$27,500 from which the company receives the interest for maintenance and general expenses.

In 1975 negotiations were made for the acquiring of approximately one and a half acres of land from Brandywine Developers. The land represents the last possible adjacent expansion of the present cemetery. The land has been surveyed and awaits final conveyance to the Cemetery Company by the Brandywine Developers.

The present board of directors consists of the following members: Manrow J. Reinhard, President; Kermit E. Shofer and LeRoy F. Fenstermacher of St. Peter's Church and Kenneth J. Yerger, Elliot F. Delong and Raymond P. Werst, Secretary-Treasurer, from Trinity Lutheran Church.

PROFESSIONS



PHYSICIANS

Over the years Tipton has had many practicing physicians, the first of whom was Dr. William D. Trexler who attended to the area residents around 1866. Today the community is served by Dr. William O. Muehlhauser and Dr. Richard C. Reichard.

The following is a list of the doctors who served the community, their place of practice and their years in Tipton:

- 1866 Dr. William D. Trexler
- 1870 Dr. C.H. Rives
- 1875-1876 Dr. J.P.F. Brunner, High's Hotel
- 1881-1889 Dr. A.C. Herman, 110 Main Street
- 1889-1915 Dr. Charles D. Werley, 110 Main St. - 51 Centre Ave.
- 1897-1903 Dr. James Smith
- 1907 Dr. Curtis Heffner, W. Franklin St. - 23 Centre Ave.
- 1913 Dr. George Pflueger, 25 E. Franklin Street
- 1913-1949 Dr. Charles F. Smith, 26 E. Franklin St. 51 Centre Ave.
- 1933-1960 Dr. Warren L. Trexler, 112 S. Home Avenue
- 1949- Dr. William Muehlhauser, 51 Centre Avenue
- 1956-1957 Dr. Marvin Snyder, 51 Centre Avenue
- 1957-1965 Dr. Richard Knerr, 51 Centre Avenue
- 1964- Dr. Richard C. Reichard, 112 S. Home Avenue
- 1968- Dr. Lyster Gearhart, 51 Centre Avenue
- 1974- Dr. Conrad Maulfair, Brandywine Medical Center

At the present time the borough is fortunate to have two doctors practicing full time.

Dr. William O. Muehlhauser began his practice in 1949 at 51 Centre Avenue. A resident of Quakertown, he graduated from Muhlenberg College and Jefferson Medical College. His internship was served at the Allentown Hospital and in the U.S. Navy.

Three other physicians have been associated with him. Dr. Snyder, Dr. Knerr and at the present time, Dr. Lyster Gearhart, an obstetrician who is in the office each Thursday. His two efficient nurses, Mrs. Geraldine Sechler and Mrs. Frances Geiger have been with him for many years.

Dr. Richard Reichard opened his office on October 13, 1964 at 112 S. Home Avenue in the former office of the late Dr. Warren Trexler. An alumnus of Kutztown High School, he graduated from Muhlenberg College. Following his graduation from Temple University School of Medicine in 1963, he interned at the Reading Hospital. He served with the U.S. Navy, being stationed at Key West, Florida.

Dr. William Muehlhauser, M.D. (Office)



Dr. Richard Reichard, M.D. (Office)

The Brandywine Medical Center was dedicated in October, 1974. At that time a plaque was unveiled in honor of Mrs. Bessie Moatz, a member of the board of directors who gave so much of her time and effort to establishing the center. She passed away on June 10, 1974.

DENTISTS

Dentistry also has played an important part in the health care of the community. The following dentists have served the community:

- 1905-1920 Dr. Otto J. Specker, Lutheran Home & 51 Centre Ave.
- 1920-1925 Dr. Vincent Mogel, 51 Centre Avenue
- Dr. Hamilton, 36 E. Franklin Street
- Dr. Charles Meter, 36 E. Franklin Street
- 1939 Dr. Hoagland, 16 Franklin Street
- 1939 Dr. Paul Kroll, 16 Franklin Street
- 1955 Dr. Robert Phillips, Theatre Building, Franklin St.
- 1946-1973 Dr. Harold DuBois, Home Ave. (till 1958) - Henningsville Rd.
- 1958-1968 Dr. Heber T. Graver, 205 S. Home Ave.
- 1968- Dr. Dean Wetzel, 205 S. Home Ave.

The present dentist in the borough is Dr. Dean G. Wetzel who hails from Pittman, Pa. A 1961 graduate of Lebanon Valley College, Dr. Wetzel, worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Health before entering Temple University School of Dentistry. Upon graduation in 1966, he spent two years as a dentist in the U.S. Navy in Jacksonville, Florida. In August, 1968, he became associated with Dr. Heber T. Graver and assumed his practice later that year. He and his family moved permanently to Tipton in January, 1969. He is ably assisted by Sandy Snyder, a dental assistant and Mrs. Janet Reed, receptionist.

Dentists serving the Brandywine Medical Center are as follows:

- Dr. William R. Burfeind
- Dr. Lee R. Phillips
- Dr. Richard C. Stauffer
- Dr. Benjamin Weinberger, Oral Surgeon
- Dr. Phillip J. Tighe, Orthodontist

Dr. Dean Wetzel, Dentist (Office)





Forry and Forry Law (Tipton Office)

ATTORNEYS

The Forry and Forry Law Office in Tipton was established in the year 1953, in a two-room office building belonging to Bessie F. Moatz (now Bessie F. Moatz Estate) situated on the east side of the dwelling known as 52 E. Franklin Street, and has operated continuously in the premises since that date. The Tipton Office is a branch of the Law Firm of Forry and Forry located in Reading, the County Seat. Although there are five attorneys in the Forry and Forry Law Office in Reading, only two of these attorneys, John H. Forry, Esquire, and William R. Forry, Esquire, operate the Tipton Office. The office is open Tuesday evening and Thursday evening each week from the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Obviously, the time spent in the Borough by the attorneys who operate the office is devoted primarily to interviewing clients and to delivering completed work. Most of the actual work is done in the office in Reading where the records of the Register of Wills, the Recorder of Deeds, the Court of Common Pleas, Civil Division, Criminal Division, and Orphans Court Division are available. During the twenty-two years which the office has served the community of Tipton and surrounding areas, the office has performed legal services contributing to the existence of the Grange, the Veterans' Memorial Committee Pool, and has represented the Township of Longswamp and the Brandywine Heights Area School District, as well as innumerable individuals.

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



INDUSTRY

CALORIC CORPORATION

The Caloric Corporation, the town's largest industry had its origin in Philadelphia in 1889, when Samuel Klein, the founder, established the Klein Stove Works. Its principal products were gas, oil, wood and coal burning stoves made almost entirely of cast iron and weighing as much as 600 to 700 pounds.

Since cast iron was the basic requirement, Mr. Klein naturally turned to famous foundries of Berks County for his needed source of parts. Berks County was iron country in those years and several foundries were well known as a source of iron since the days of



Caloric Corporation Research Center

the American Revolution when cannon balls were produced in great quantities.

The Tipton Foundry and Machine Company was established in 1903 and became the source of cast iron stove requirements for the Klein Stove Company due to the relatively close location to the company's headquarters in Philadelphia. Also in 1903 the Klein Stove Company changed its name to Caloric Stove Works. The company's name changed again in later years.

The business relationship between the two companies continued for many years until 1918 when the Tipton Foundry Company had financial difficulties and was threatened with closing. The Philadelphia company was considerably involved due to this reversal and in order to continue its main source of iron parts, decided to acquire the foundry and assume its financial obligations. All obligations were paid to the pleasure of local banks and stock holders. There were 59 people employed in the plant with 2 people in the office and an annual payroll of \$175,000.00

The Caloric Stove Company continued to make all of its cast iron casting for gas ranges and later grew to such an extent that operations were carried on in three Pennsylvania areas—Philadelphia, Collegeville and Tipton.

On Monday evening, February 2, 1926 a disastrous fire destroyed about one half of the Tipton plant, including the vitreous enameling and foundry service department, pattern vault and general office together with all office records and equipment. Six months later the production departments were again in operation and out of the ashes there grew a more modern manufacturing facility than before.

Today, the Caloric Corporation, with its vast facilities covers approximately 600,000 square feet of floor space in ten separate buildings situated on the center of a 200 acre tract of land in Tipton. The company has established all its manufacturing facilities at this site since 1940 and employs approximately 1300 people, most of whom are Tipton and Berks County people.

After many years at the helm of the Caloric Stove Corporation, Mr. Samuel Klein stepped aside and turned over the active management to his five sons, Nathan, Julius, Meyer, Gustav and Harry Klein. The third generation of Klein family also occupied important management posts.

From 1941 to 1945 the company converted its assembly lines to products for the Armed Forces including Army field ranges and heaters, ammunition trays, cartridge chutes and metal radio cabinets.

Since Caloric first settled in Tipton in 1917, the company has grown to a multi-million dollar company. The payroll amounts to more than 8 million dollars annually. They contribute to local charity needs, including education, church and civic projects.

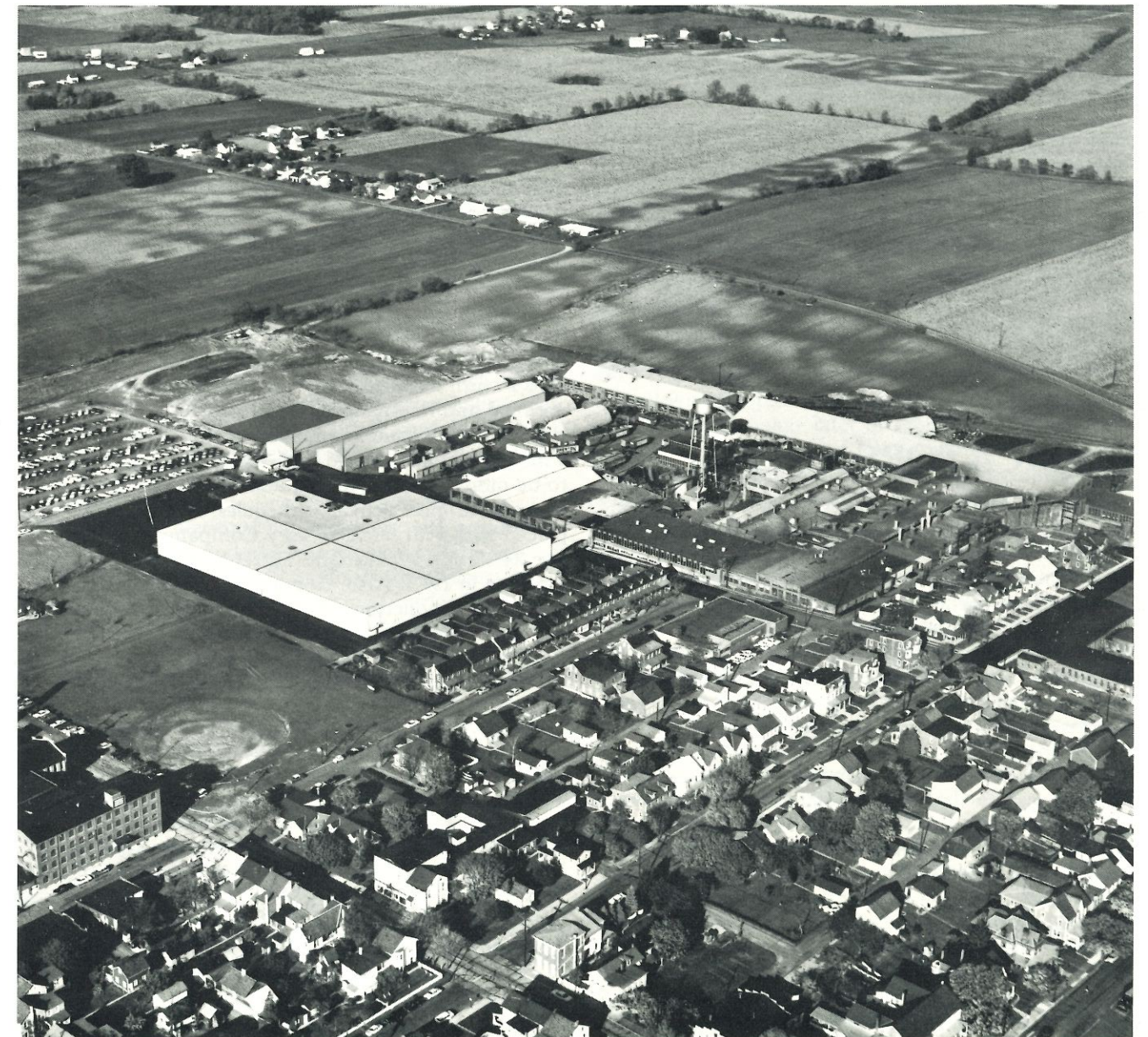
Caloric is recognized as the most experienced manufacturer of gas ranges in the United States. It is estimated that three million homes have Caloric products in them including more than 60 models of

ranges as well as dishwashers, disposers, outdoor gas grilles and a complete line of kitchen accessories.

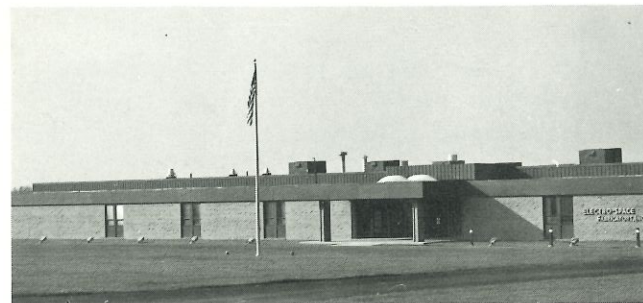
It is interesting that Caloric products made in Tipton by local people are shipped to all world marketing areas, such as Central and South America, Australia, Republic of China, Iran and the Soviet Union, to name just a few, and they are also found in some of the most exclusive areas of our country. In addition to exporting finished products, Caloric has licensee arrangements, whereby products are fabricated in foreign countries from parts shipped from Tipton.

In 1967, Caloric was acquired by the Raytheon Corporation and now operates as a Raytheon subsidiary. This association has given Caloric a new source of strength and vitality which will become more and more apparent as their growth continues to contribute to the prosperity and progress of Tipton.

Caloric Corporation



Electro-Space Fabricators, Inc.



ELECTRO-SPACE FABRICATORS, INC.

In the summer of 1961, a new company was being born. Mr. Brooke E. Gernert, General Manager of General Metal Products Company, a division of Planetronics, Incorporated of Easton, Pa. decided to go into a sheet-metal fabrication business. It was at this time that Mr. Gernert decided to approach Mr. William J. Straccia, Director of Procurement at Planetronics, to join in the venture. The details were worked out and after much discussion and many suggestions, a company name was decided upon, Electro-Space Fabricators, Incorporated. This was because the company was going to fabricate precision and high quality sheetmetal products for the electronic and space industry.

After months of fruitless searching in the Allentown, Easton area, a vacant building on Centre Avenue in Tipton was finally located. The building was originally built in 1933 and was the home of Weidner's Bowling Alley until 1946, at which time it was purchased and occupied by the East Penn Weaving Company until July of 1961. In early December, 1961, an agreement was negotiated to purchase the property. Work was started immediately to clear and

prepare the building for business. After many hours of hard work, the business was incorporated and started by the end of January, 1962. Financing was accomplished by the sale of blocks of stock to interested investors besides the officers.

Mr. Gernert and Mr. Straccia resigned from Planetronics, Incorporated in January of 1962 and shortly thereafter were joined by six former employees of General Metal Products. With this nucleus, Electro-Space was on its way. The first sales representative, Winter Associates of Boonton, N.J., was engaged and is still representing Electro-Space at the present time.

Electro-Space's name and products were constantly involved in the early space flights, in the form of battery boxes and electronic chassis. The steady growth of sales had boosted employment to 27 people by 1965.

By 1968 the company had outgrown its 12,000 square foot facility and had built a new addition of 6,500 square feet, including a new front to the entire building and the installation of a new heating and air conditioning system in the entire plant.

Electro-Space became the sole supplier to General Electric for all their television cameras used by the entire American Broadcasting Company network. They also produced for General Electric, Mexico's first television cameras which were used for the first time to televise the 1968 Olympics held in Mexico City.

The company received a patent in 1971 on a rack to house printed circuit boards, which are used in all types of computers and other electronic equipment. This in turn developed the company's sales field to national and international proportions.

In 1972, the company made a major decision to advance into computerized high speed piercing in order to be more competitive, maintain improved production and to meet delivery schedules. A contract was placed with Warner & Swasey Company to deliver one 24 station Weidematic Turret Press and a second machine in 1973. Also, to maintain close tolerances and boost production, all the press brakes were equipped with computerized gauging systems. The tremendous growth, with sales representatives now covering the entire nation, had once again forced expansion by the end of 1973.

Mr. Brooke E. Gernert, Chairman of the Board, Mr. William J. Straccia, President, Mrs. Ellen E. Gernert, Secretary, and Mrs. Patricia A. Straccia, Treasurer of Electro-Space Fabricators, Incorporated formed a new venture, the Tipton Industrial Park. Approximately 42 acres of prime land located on West High Street in Tipton was purchased from Brandywine Developers, Incorporated in May of 1974. The firm of G. & S. Industries was formed as a prime contractor on the Tipton Industrial Park development and building construction, with Brook E. Gernert, President and William J. Straccia, Vice-President. Upon a financing arrangement with the Industrial Development Authority of Berks County, ground was broken in October of 1974 to construct a

60,000 square foot plant at a cost of \$1.1 million, to be leased to Electro-Space Fabricators, Incorporated. The new construction proceeded on schedule and was completed with occupancy starting August 5, 1975. The modern facility now has a continuous work flow including a highly automated and conveyORIZED chemical finish room, a conveyORIZED paint department with a four pass dual zone fully controlled paint oven and two water fall spray booths, each equipped with electrostatic spraying equipment. Two make-up air systems provide dustfree, temperature controlled fresh air. The plant is completely air conditioned and is an all electric facility including a complete sprinkler system.

Employment has now reached 62 with ample floor space to expand to 100 or more employees. Sales have steadily increased from \$90,000 in 1962 to an estimated \$2.3 million for 1975.

On October 5, 1975, a public open house was held with some of the various equipment in operation and approximately 3,000 people toured the facility.

BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA

Bank of Pennsylvania in Tipton is the result of the merger of the National Bank of Tipton with Peoples Trust City Bank in 1968 and a subsequent name change later in 1968 to Bank of Pennsylvania.

On June 1, 1885 the Tipton National Bank was organized under the National Banking laws with a paid up capital stock of \$50,000. The bank occupied the former Butz Building located at the northwest intersection of Home Avenue and Franklin Street. The first president was John N. Jacobs and the first cashier was James M. Slifer both from near Lansdale, Pa. This bank, after some years of operation was voluntarily liquidated by the stockholders.

The second bank was incorporated on May 15, 1906 under the National Banking laws with a paid up capital of \$25,000 and was known as the National Bank of Tipton. It opened its doors for business on July 2, 1906 in the west wing of the Charles D. Trexler store on Centre Ave. The first president of this bank was Martin S. Croll, a well known civic leader. The first cashier was Albert H. Smith who moved here with his family from Elizabethville, Pa. where he had organized the Lykens Valley Trust Company. An organization meeting for the bank had been held on April 11, 1906 at the office of C.D. Werley, M.D. Attending this meeting were Martin S. Croll, B. Frank Baer, William H. Clymer, Rev. John H. Raker, Samuel Hacock, John Hartley, Edwin DeLong, George W. Smith, George W. Schwartz, Albert H. Smith, and Dr. Werley.

Albert H. Smith and his son J. Park Smith became synonymous with banking in Tipton. Albert Smith was the first cashier of the National Bank of Tipton and served for 44 years until the time of his death in 1950. J. Park Smith succeeded his father and served with the bank until the merger in 1968. He then

Bank of Pennsylvania



served on the Board of Directors of the Bank of Pennsylvania Corporation.

In 1918 the National Bank of Tipton moved into larger quarters at 14 N. Home Avenue and in 1928 again moved into the then newly erected bank building at the southwest corner of Home Avenue and Franklin Street. A branch of the National Bank of Tipton was opened on Lehigh Street in Allentown in October, 1963. In 1961 another branch office was opened in the former bank building at 14 N. Home Ave. Then in 1968 the National Bank of Tipton merged with Peoples Trust City Bank of Reading and with the name change later in 1968 became the Tipton Branch of the Bank of Pennsylvania.

Bank of Pennsylvania dates back to the founding of Peoples Trust Company of Wyomissing in 1913 and to City Bank and Trust Company which was organized in 1934. In 1960, City Bank and Peoples Trust merged to form Peoples Trust City Bank and after mergers of the two banks with Sinking Spring Bank, Womelsdorf Bank and Trust, Strausstown National Bank, National Bank of Birdsboro, Farmers National Bank of Boyertown, and the National Bank of Tipton, the Bank of Pennsylvania emerged.

Today the Bank of Pennsylvania corporation and its wholly owned subsidiary Bank of Pennsylvania have assets of more than \$320 million ranking it among the top 300 banks of the nation. The bank has 24 full service branch offices in the areas of Berks, Lehigh and Montgomery Counties.

The Tipton branch has a staff of ten people with Wayne R. Meck as the branch manager. Wayne is an assistant Vice President of Bank of Pennsylvania. The Tipton advisory board is composed of Nathan Klein (died March 7, 1976), J. Park Smith, Dr. Conrad W. Raker, Dr. Webster K. Reinert, Attorney John W. Dry, Russell Trexler, Theodore E. Berger, and George Gabriel.

Secretary, Ambrose L. Moll; Asst. Secretary, Mrs. Iva F. Moll; Attorney, James R. Hevalow; Directors, Paul W. Bond, LeRoy F. Fenstermacher, Hosea I. Kline, Charles Knerr, John N. Schappell, Kermit E. Schofer, Raymond R. Weil, Clarence K. Yerger. At the close of business December 31, 1974, assets totaled \$1,081,986. Meetings have been held regularly the second Tuesday of the month at 8 P.M.

Approval of a merger between the Topton Savings and Loan Association and the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Pottstown, Pa. was received from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board in Washington, D.C. The announcement was made by George R. Wean, President of the Topton Association and Raymond S. Elliot, President of the Pottstown Association. The merger became effective February 28, 1975 at the close of business. This merger makes available to Topton area savers insured accounts up to \$40,000 together with greater availability of funds for home loan mortgages. The new office building located at 24-34 West Franklin Street is known as the Topton Office of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association. All officers and directors of both associations remain.



First Federal Savings and Loan Association

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

The Topton Building and Loan Association was organized and incorporated, April 4, 1903. The first officers were: President, Martin S. Croll; Secretary, Dr. Charles D. Werley; Treasurer, Stephen B. Smith; Attorney, James H. Marx; other directors were: B. Frank Baer, O.C. Rohrbach, William F. Rohrbach, M.D. DeLong, John Hartley, Solon H. Fisher, William H. Smith, Levi A. Walbert and W.F. Welder. This group started out with \$6,417. Only a few homes were built by the association and sold to prospective home buyers. Government regulations prohibited this and designated such institutions as an investment organization only.

On January 11, 1972 the name was changed to Topton Savings and Loan Association. Present officers are: President, George R. Wean; Vice President, Leland Sechler; Treasurer, Pearson H. Hinterleiter;

GENERAL SEATING AND SASH COMPANY, INC.

General Seating Company was originally the Pennsylvania Division of Art Rattan Works, Inc., a California firm incorporated in 1920, with three plants. Operations at the Topton plant were started in the D.S. and W. Hosiery Mill building at 120 Home Avenue, Topton on February 1, 1936 and continued there until 1942.

Transportation Sash Company was incorporated in 1940, and in 1942 General Seating and Transportation Sash jointly acquired the building formerly occupied by DeLong Furniture Company. After alterations, and construction of an office building, Art Rattan Works occupied the four story portion of these buildings.

On December 29, 1949, the Art Rattan Works was dissolved and was incorporated separately under the name of General Seating Company. Since 1949 there have been five expansion programs making the total square footage under roof 113,060 square feet.

In 1973, Transportation Sash Company was liquidated and its assets were acquired by General Seating Company. The new name became General Seating and Sash Company. Products manufactured are: Seats for trucks, street cars, subway cars, high speed trains and busses, as well as sash for like vehicles being used all over the world. This plant now has approximately 150 employees. Some of the original personnel that helped build the businesses still remain with the company—Arthur DeLong, LeRoy Hilbert, Earl Hehr, Max Croddy, Elmer Kramer, Arline Leshner, and Caroline Strauss. Other employees

with 20 or more years of service are Ralph Althouse, Pearl Conrath, Sarah Conrath, Betty Kerchner, Jonas Kline, LeRoy Lilly, Richard Litschke, Charles Readinger, Edith Reinert, William Weller and Mary Werst.

The following are the current officers and directors:
 *Charles E. Ferreira, Sr. Chairman of the Board
 *Charles E. Ferreira, Jr. President
 *Christopher D. Markey Executive Vice President
 *George J. Faller Vice President, Engineering
 *Carolyn Strauss Secretary
 *James Fox Purchasing Agent
 Mary Werst Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
 Mark Schmoyer Accounting
 *Philip Varricchio Contoller
 Robert Kunkel Factory Manager
 John Reese Quality Control

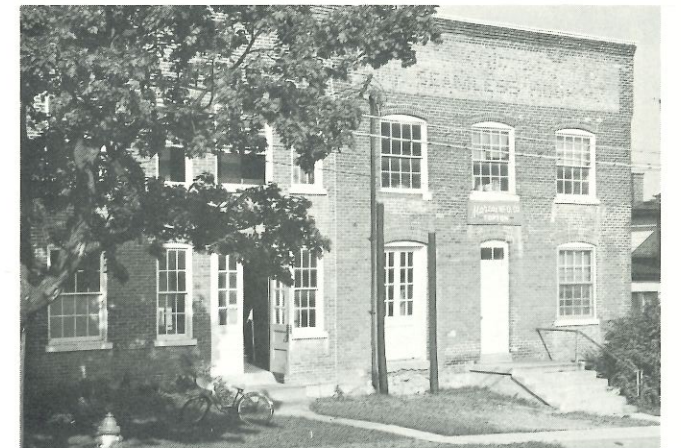
Those marked * are Directors

MARCUS MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

Marcus Manufacturing Company, Inc., 120 South Home Avenue, Topton, was established in 1945 by the parent company Movie Star Lingerie as the Movie Star Topton Plant. In 1954 Movie Star moved to Mississippi and the plant was sold to its senior executives, Sol Marcus and Lester Nissenbaum who have operated it since that time. The company employs forty people making ladies sleep wear. They supply a number of nationally known manufacturers. Ed Nissenbaum is the plant supervisor and Irma Kamp is the forelady.



Transportation Sash



Marcus Manufacturing Company, Inc.

HENRY G. NEUSCH CHURCH FURNITURE PLANT

The Henry G. Neusch Church Furniture plant is located at 424 North Main Street, Topton. Henry is the sole owner and operator of the business of architectural church furniture since January 1, 1949. He has preserved the tradition of the Neusch family, as everyone of them were experts in architectural wood work especially church furnishings. Henry is semi-retired, still making many items for churches and other organizations as well as for individuals. Much of his work can be seen locally at Huffs Church; Zion Church, Maxatawny; St. John's U.C.C., Kutztown, Christ Church, Dryville; Trinity Lutheran Church, Topton; the Chapel at the Reading Y.M.C.A.; and the Chapel at the Topton Lutheran Home was done entirely by him. Many other jobs have been done in the area as well as out of state and even over seas. Topton is proud of Henry Neusch.



Henry G. Neusch Church Furniture Plant



DeLong and Trexler Furniture Store

DeLONG AND TREXLER FURNITURE STORE

The DeLong and Trexler partnership began in March of 1953 when Earl Trexler saw the need to expand his Antique Decorating and Refinishing business. He was joined by Irwin W. DeLong to form the partnership venture into retail furniture. Since then there have been three phases of expansion and the necessity of full retail business since 1966. The business has a staff of five full time employees and three part time employees. Two capable employees should be mentioned because of their years of service. The one is James K. Yerger, one of our town's older residents who has worked for Mr. Trexler and the partnership for twenty five years and the other one is Elwood C. Noll of Fleetwood R.D. #1 who was employed several months after the store opened and is still with the business as a salesman and supervisor. The store is located at 15 East Weiss Street.



Smith's Pharmacy

SMITH'S PHARMACY

The first registered Drug Store in Tipton was owned and operated by Jeff Miller on the corner of Cherry and Franklin Streets from 1911 to 1914 when he was succeeded by Harvey Fenstermacher who operated the business as a non-registered drug store selling patent medicine and operating an Ice Cream Parlor from 1914 to 1916. The business then was passed on to Peter Moyer who did business there until 1918 when it was terminated.

Early in 1921, William H. Smith bought the dwelling at 10 North Home Avenue, demolished the house and ordered the new Pharmacy building to be erected. At the same time his son Winfield Smith, Sr. was a graduate assistant at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Upon completion of the building, it was stocked and fixtured with cases and fountain appointments and on August 15, 1922 Smith's Pharmacy held its gala opening under the direction of Raymond W. Smith and Winfield F. Smith, Sr., sons of William H. Smith, trading as Smith Brothers Pharmacy.

After a two year period Raymond W. Smith left the partnership to become partner to his father in the W.H. Smith and Son, Wholesale and Retail Hatters in Reading. From that time on until 1960, Winfield and his wife, the former Nellie L. Matz, conducted the Pharmacy with the aid and assistance of many reliable and hard working employees, three of whom became pharmacists in their own right, namely, Dr. Harold J.E. Lantz, who presently is Director of the Department of Prosthodontics at Temple University, Ammon W. Mengel and LeRoy J. Hilbert, all home town boys.

After a tenuous beginning and the difficulty of the depression, the business flourished during the 30's and on through W.W. II when the Smith's sons William and Winfield, Jr. were trained as clerks at a time when all the adult clerks were pressed into the armed forces. Both sons were educated as pharmacists, graduating from the Philadelphia College. William earned his Doctorate in Science while Winfield, Jr. joined his father in partnership in 1960.

The building has been remodeled internally and expanded twice during the ensuing years. During their 53 years of service to the area, the Smiths have seen a dramatic change in the services and profession of pharmacy in general, reshaping the modes of operation with respect to the handling of drug agents, drug interactions, therapeutics, theory, principles and practice insofar as caring for the patient-customer is concerned. To this end, both partners have from time to time enrolled in seminar courses and symposia in order to stay abreast of the latest in pharmacodynamics while still retaining the best of the old style of treatment, maintaining sound pharmaceutical principles and practice and a good working relationship with other members of the health care team.

By the time of the Tipton Centennial, Smiths Pharmacy will have passed the 100,000 mark for prescriptions filled, which is an enviable mark for a small town drug store.

TREXLER AND HOOK FUNERAL HOME

The origin of the present Funeral Home dates back to 1873 when Tilghman DeLong and his brother Milton started the business on North Main Street, Tipton. Just before the year 1900 Tilghman's son Irwin D. DeLong became a licensed funeral director. He and his father formed the DeLong, Son and Company which comprised a branch office in Fleetwood. This association continued until 1910 when Mr. DeLong moved to Alburtis. He did business there until the death of his father in 1924. At that time he returned to Tipton to 107 S. Home Avenue where he continued until his death in 1942. His widow, Katie, who was always active in the business continued with Earl A. Trexler as licensed supervisor. In April, 1947 Mrs. DeLong and Mr. Trexler formed the partnership of DeLong and Trexler Funeral Home. This continued until January, 1960 when Mrs. DeLong retired and Mr. Trexler opened a newly built Funeral Home at 25 East Weiss Street. This new building offers all the latest facilities, including off street parking and a recent addition of a casket selection room. On January 1, 1973 Mr. Trexler formed a partnership with James M. Hook. It is now known as the Trexler and Hook Funeral Home.



Schofer Funeral Home

GEORGE F. SCHOFER FUNERAL HOME

George F. Schofer Funeral Home had its beginnings in 1900 when the founder, Jacob J. Schofer entered the profession. Like the furniture store, it had as its predecessors, Jacob J. and John G. Schofer. After the death of John G. Schofer the direction of the Mortuary passed to his sons. The name of J.J. Schofer & Son had to be eliminated because of changes in the State Legislation. It is still located at 109 North Main Street under the name of the George F. Schofer Funeral Home.



Trexler and Hook Funeral Home

J.J. SCHOFER AND SON

In 1900 Jacob J. Schofer moved to Tipton where he became active in the furniture and undertaking establishment owned by Tilghman DeLong located on Main Street. This business failed and in 1911 Jacob J. Schofer assumed the furniture and undertaking business for himself. A son, John G. Schofer started



J.J. Schofer and Son, Furniture

to work in his father's business. John was educated in the Tipton Schools, attended Keystone Normal School and graduated from Eckel's College of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia. On January 1, 1928 Jacob and his son became partners in the business and the establishment became known as J.J. Schofer & Son, Furniture and Funeral Directors. During this period the furniture store was expanded by three additions until it reached its present size. In 1936 the need for a Funeral Home was realized. The residence next door to the furniture store was renovated and Tipton's first Funeral Home was established. An addition to the house contains a preparation room, retaining rooms and general storage. There was also a casket display room. After the death of Jacob on June 24, 1946 the business was run by John G. Schofer under the same title.

In March, 1947 Jacob J. Schofer II, a son of John G. Schofer became affiliated with the business. Jacob is a graduate of Muhlenberg College and did graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania. George F. Schofer, the second son of John G. Schofer entered the business in 1947. He attended Muhlenberg College and graduated from Eckel's College of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia.

John G. Schofer met an untimely death in June, 1956. His will directed that the business pass to his two sons, Jacob and George. The furniture store retained the title of J.J. Schofer & Son and is still operated by the sons of John G. Schofer. During this tenure numerous improvements were made to the furniture showroom. Central heating and air conditioning were installed and a new store front added. Lately aluminum siding was placed over the front. It is noteworthy to state that J.J. Schofer and Son Furniture and the George F. Schofer Funeral Home are Tipton's oldest business still in the hands of the original founding family. It might also be noted that Andrew C. Schofer, a brother of the founding Jacob J. Schofer has been a life long employee. Walter F. Angstadt was also a faithful employee for many years until his death.

NOLAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Nolan's Department Store located at 33-35 East Franklin Street has existed for more than half of Tipton's first century. The store was purchased in 1949 from the late Harry Simkowitz who operated it for more than forty years. At the outset of management by the Nolans, the store has been a family operation dedicated to community service. Mr. Nolan's mother, sister, brother and sister-in-law as well as Mrs. Nolan's father have assisted with the store's operation. The five Nolan children have grown up with the store and have all demonstrated ability to participate in the

operation. Two of Tipton's citizens have been invaluable assistants, the late Mrs. Abner Croll and at present Mrs. Mildred Diehl.

Nolans are known for their annual Christmas party for area children. A free gift is given to each child who visits Santa in the store. In the early 1960's the store was completely remodeled. In those years the store was considered by the trade publication an outstanding small town retail establishment, a store with "big city" fashions and small town prices. Today the store continues to carry a complete line of clothing, shoes and accessories for every member of the family.

To maintain their up to date inventory the Nolans attend the fashion market shows in Philadelphia and New York, and buy their current, nationally advertised merchandise from the New York market.

The directors of the Nolan family operations are: Stanley, a native of Reading. He has six years experience in the Textile Industry and has studied at Penn State, Wharton School, University of Baltimore, Philadelphia College of Textile Science and Tulane University. His wife, Margaret, of Shade Gap, Pa. is a registered nurse. Both held captains rank in the U.S. Army during World War II, Margaret as a nurse.



Nolan's Department Store

ADAM'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCE STORE

The Adam's Electrical Appliance and Television Store was founded in April of 1946 at 109 North Main Street as a department of the J.J. Schofer and Son Furniture Store. Within one short year it was realized that as more appliances became available, more floor space would be needed. The store therefore was moved to 1-7 South Home Avenue where it is still located.

In today's highly competitive market many different brands of electrical appliances and products are available for home use. Many brands that at one time were household words are no longer in the business today. Other brands are now a part of large, highly diversified corporations. Do you remember some of these appliances which are no longer available? Brands from earlier years such as: Coolerator, Leonard, & International Harvester refrigerators; Horton, Dexter, Thor, Universal & ABC washers; Crosley television and appliances to name just a few.

At present the store handles such famous brands as General Electric, Motorola, Quazar, Sunbeam, Sony, Speed Queen, Eureka, Philharmonic and many more. Things have changed greatly in the past thirty years of the store's existence, changes in ways of living due to the introduction of different electrical products and Adam's store has continued to change with the times. They are happy to be celebrating their thirtieth anniversary during Tipton's one hundredth anniversary.



Adam's Electric Appliance Store

SCHAPPELL'S PRINT SHOP

John Schappell, one of the sons of J. Morris Schappell, while still with his father in the hardware business, started a Print Shop in 1927 in a small room on the third floor of the hardware store. In 1939 he moved the shop to his home at 206 South Haas Street where his wife, Norma, and he still do commercial printing, social printing work, advertising and many specialties.

SCHAPPELL HARDWARE STORE

J. Morris Schappell built the hardware store at 21 South Home Avenue in 1910 which soon after became known as The Schappell Hardware Store. Later it became known as the J. M. Schappell and Sons Hardware Store after Morris took his two sons into the partnership. The following are a few firsts for the store in Tipton: set up and operated the first gasoline pump in town selling gasoline at ten cents per gallon; first automobile agency, Overland and Willys Knight; first farm tractor agency, Moline, large tractor; first building wired for electricity in Tipton; Deering farm implements; gasoline engines to run washing machines, water pumps and light machinery; first radios and radio agency, Atwater Kent; first phonograph agency and record selling, Columbia.

In 1926 a large addition was built to the rear of the present store. The third floor of the building was rented to the following for meetings: P.O.S. of A.; Golden Eagles; P.O. of A.; and the Pioneer Grange.

In 1960 Dennis Seibert started working for Schappell's Hardware Store and on April 1, 1966 he took over the operation of the store and is still doing so to date, retaining the name of Schappell Hardware Store.

MERTZ JEWELRY STORE

Luther and Elva Mertz opened the jewelry store located on the corner of Main and Franklin Street following Luther's graduation from Bowman's Technical School in Lancaster in 1948. Luther was an authorized dealer in ArtCarved Diamonds, Hamilton, Elgin and Bulova watches, Parker and Waterman Pens and Rogers Sterling Silverware. In 1958 the Mertz's purchased the jewelry store property and the grocery store adjacent to it. They operated both businesses until 1963 when they leased the grocery store to Clifford and June Greenawalt and eventually to Shades. Luther died in 1970 and his wife, Elva, continues to operate the jewelry store, still handling the same brand merchandise and repairing jewelry and watches. Elva is assisted in the store by Peg Luckenbill.

CHARLES D. TREXLER, FLORIST

The Trexler flower business was originally started as a hobby, raising flower and vegetable plants, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Trexler. In 1940 the business was transferred to their son, Charles D. Trexler, who specialized in Floriculture at Rutgers University. Now maintaining several greenhouses, the Trexlers grow most of their own flowers, and while specializing in funeral work, wedding designs and bouquets for all occasions, they also have dish gardens, terrariums, potted plants, foliage plants and other vines. Mr. Trexler is assisted by his wife, Wilda, and his son, William. The shop and greenhouses are located at 32 North Main Street.

SHADE'S ECONOMY STORE

The only remaining grocery store in Tipton Borough is located at 2 North Home Avenue. It was operated by Jerome and Clara Trexler from 1900 to 1950; Robert and Mabel Trexler from 1950 to 1958. Luther and Elva Mertz bought it in 1958 and operated it until 1963 when it was leased to Clifford and June Greenawalt until 1972 when the present owners, Henry and Fern Shade, took over the business.

HAROLD JONES TRUCKING SERVICE, COAL AND ANTIQUES

Harold W. Jones purchased the mill and property located at 130 West High Street in 1968 from William Tragus who operated a coal, lumber and hardware business. The mill was built in 1905 and was owned and operated then by John Cook. Jones purchased the property primarily as a place to keep his fleet of trucks and equipment which is leased mainly to Windsor Service of Temple for hauling asphalt and crushed stone. He continues to sell coal, the only coal dealer in the area, and also sells lawn and garden supplies. The main building is used for Mr. Jones' hobby, the collection of antiques and artifacts. In 1970 his interest turned to collecting gasoline engines and antique cars. He presently owns fourteen Studebakers and two Packards.



Schappell Hardware Store



Mertz's Jewelry Store



Charles Trexler Florist



Shade's Economy Store



Harold Jones' Trucking Service

PURITY
THE U. S. STANDARD BEER
OF THE
Reading Brewing Company
IS ON TAP AT
QUALITY HOTEL KEPT BY E. M. HIGH
EXCELLENCE
— DRINK IT —

FOR COUNTY CONTROLLER



W.M. A. DONMOYER
KUTZTOWN, PA.

FOR POOR DIRECTOR:

D. B. HILL
OF COUGLERSVILLE
Cumru Township, Pa.

SUBJECT TO DEMOCRATIC RULES
Your Vote and Influence, at the Primary Election, Saturday,
June 3, 1911, will be greatly appreciated

D. K. HOCH
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
PRIMARIES, JUNE 3d, 1911

SCHOFER'S
Furniture House
In the building formerly
occupied by DeLong, Son & Co.

Furniture, Carpets, Pianos
SINGER SEWING MACHINES, ETC.
FUNERAL DIRECTOR
IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

JOHN O. COOK
DEALER IN
Grain, Coal,
Lumber,
Flour, Feed, Etc.
TOPTON AND HANCOCK, PA.
Terms Cash



For Prison Inspector:

JOHN H. RHODES
OF OLEY

SUBJECT TO
DEMOCRATIC RULES

I am a candidate for re-nomination and so kindly ask for your influence.

10c. GIVE IT A TRIAL 10c.

The soap that has never failed to take grease from your hand is the

ERICKA
HAND SOAP
FOR SALE AT
DIEB'S, TRELLER'S and DIEB'S STORES

ON TAP at the HANCOCK HOUSE

In Bales
Barbey's
Laur's
Reading
Muhlenberg
Deppen's
Horlacher's
Schneider's
Beer
F. W. SCHWARTZ, Owner and Propri.

DAVID W. De LONG
DEALER IN
Grain, Coal, Lumber
FLOUR, FEED, ETC.
ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO
MOUNTAIN RURAL
TELEPHONE 1922

SEASON 1910-1911

Butz's Auditorium

TOPTON, PA.

Open During the Season Weekly

M. T. BUTZ, Proprietor, Tipton, Pa.

Butz's Auditorium

Official Staff

M. T. Butz, Proprietor and Owner

C. H. Schwartz, Advertising Solicitor

John R. Butz, Ticket Agent

James H. Butz, Head Usher

C. Harold Trellar, Assistant Usher

Louise Rhodes, Assistant Usher

Charles Rhodes, Stage Carpenter

Richard Weir, Janitor

Clare Hays, House Officer

Mark Hunsy

Program

Cast of Characters

N. D. L. Hays

Phyllis E. Hays

Robert Hays

William H. Hays

Lillian Hays

George Hays

Lloyd Hays

Edwin Hays

Anna Hays

Theresa Hays

For Dates and Terms, a "Press" M. T. BUTZ

Piano used in this hall is from M. Z. SCHUBERT'S BIG MUSIC HOUSE, ALLENTOWN, PA.

Spitting on the Floor Strictly Forbidden. By order of the BOARD OF HEALTH

Ladies are kindly requested to remove their hats.

FREY'S PLUMBING AND HEATING

J. Fred Frey started in the plumbing and heating business in 1932. The business grew gradually and on January 21, 1946 he purchased a store from Benjamin E. Bieber, located on the northwest corner of Franklin and Main Street. The firm employs three people in addition to Mrs. Frey, Mr. and Mrs. Russel Grim and Richard Heck. Business activities include plumbing and modernization, heating, air conditioning, installation of coal, oil, and gas fired heating system. Hardware, gifts and kitchen ware are retailed.

WERT'S BEVERAGES

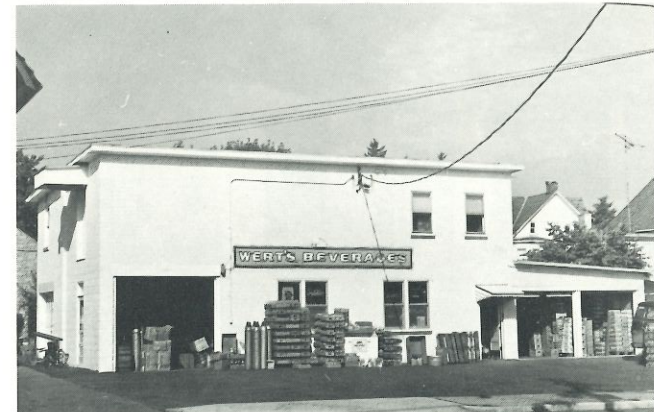
Wert's Beverages, Bottlers and Distributors of pure wholesome, delicious, refreshing and energizing drinks is located at 204 Franklin Street in Tipton since 1938 when the business was started by John Wert. In 1949 Mr. Wert had a modern two story building erected which included the latest bottling equipment, a modern bottler and washing machine, a sanitary syrup room which at the time was a two man operation. In 1951 an ultra modern washing machine was installed. In 1950 Wert's Beverages expanded with the addition of a beer distributorship. In 1959 John A. Wert sold his business to Preston C. Hoch and his wife LaRue. Mr. Preston Hoch died in 1960 and his wife LaRue took over the operation and has been the proprietor ever since. Preston J. Hoch, a son, joined his mother and made it a partnership in 1970 following his discharge from the Navy.

C. E. SHEARER PLUMBING AND HEATING

Clarence E. Shearer of 128 Centre Avenue, came to Tipton on the suggestion of his former employer, R. V. Laros Brothers of Allentown in 1953 and started a plumbing and heating business. Approximately sixteen months later he acquired the building where he is presently located. This building built in 1876 had been the first railroad station in Tipton. When the building was no longer used for this purpose it was converted into a creamery and then to a grain mill. After standing for almost 100 years Mr. Shearer recently had the complete exterior remodeled. Prior to that he had the interior remodeled, the west side of the building converted into a modern shop area with a paneled office adjoining it. Together with four competent men he not only does complete plumbing and heating, water systems renovations and repairs but specializes in heavy industrial piping.



Frey's Plumbing & Heating



Wert's Beverages



C.E. Shearer Plumbing & Heating



Weil's Potato Chips



Hinterleiter's Garage



Harold Shoemaker's Garage

WEIL'S POTATO CHIPS

Weil's Potato Chips were first made in the basement of Richard D. Weil's home at 19 Spruce Street in 1930. Coal fired kettles were used at that time. The chips were made in the evening as Mr. Weil had a full time job. Potatoes were peeled by hand by his daughters after they returned from school and the chips were packed by hand in the home's kitchen. After a near disastrous fire, the chip making was moved to a building on the rear of the lot, at which time a potato peeler was bought to eliminate the hand work. Chips were sold on a door to door basis. Finally a truck was bought to make deliveries. Employees were hired as the business grew. Carl Acker, a son-in-law, took over the making of the chips and a son George drove the route. In 1948 a new machine for making chips on a large volume was purchased and put into operation and another truck was purchased. As the business continued to grow another building was added to house the trucks and a larger automatic machine for making chips was put into service. The name of the company was changed to R. D. Weil and Sons to take into partnership the two sons, George and Raymond. Mr. Weil died in 1957 at which time Mrs. Weil and the sons continued the business. In 1966 the chip manufacturing was discontinued. The products are now bought and packed under the Weil name.

HINTERLEITER'S GARAGE

Charles J. Hinterleiter of North Main Street, owns and operates a garage at the present site since 1947. Charles worked for the William Grim Motor Company for 19 years before building and opening the present garage. In 1963 he formed a partnership with his son, David, who does all of the bookkeeping and recording. Charlie does all kinds of automobile repair work. Hinterleiter's Garage is listed by the AAA Emergency Road Service. The garage is open from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. daily.

SHOEMAKER'S GARAGE

In 1920, William E. Grim and Luther DeLong formed a partnership under the name of Tipton Motor Car Company and located on West Franklin Street. This building still stands today and is located next to St. Peter's Reformed Church. Tipton Motor Car Company contracted with Chevrolet Division of G.M. and Studebaker Corporation in 1921. In 1922 the company moved its facilities to the south east corner of Home Avenue and Weiss Street. In 1927 the Grim and DeLong partnership was dissolved resulting

in proprietorship by William E. Grim. In 1936 the R. Miller and Son Chevrolet Agency in Kutztown was also acquired by Mr. Grim. Tipton Motor Car Company and Grim Motor Car Company broke relations with General Motors and continued with Studebaker Corporation. In 1946 a partnership was formed with John C. Grim, a son, and Willard Dellicker. During the following years Grim Motor Company sold Studebakers and Philco Appliances.

In 1964 Grim's Motors closed its doors and in December, 1965, the building was sold to Mr. Harold Shoemaker, who had worked for Mr. Grim for twenty-one years. He started his own garage business along with his son Dennis. Mr. Shoemaker signed a contract with ESSO to buy and sell Esso Petroleum products. Since that time the name has been changed to EXXON. In the past ten years many cars have been serviced, inspected and sold by the Shoemakers. The garage is a State Inspection Station and both Harold and Dennis are licensed inspection mechanics. There have been many changes made to the building. An apartment was built on the second floor and the front and west side of the building received an entirely new look.

BOYER'S GARAGE

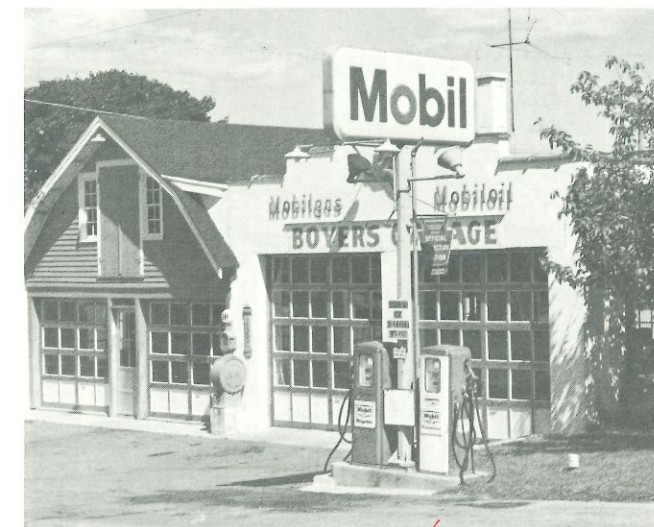
Elam C. Boyer, owner and operator of Boyer's Garage, started his automobile repair shop on October 1, 1950 in a two-bay building at 103 East Weiss Street. The business grew and made it necessary to add an extra two-bay facility to the original in 1951. In 1953 a second building was erected to house some of the inventory needed for efficient operation of the business. Throughout the years, Mr. Boyer, by working long hours in a day, has done all of the repair work himself, employing only an occasional part-time employee. In 1957 he added Block and Crushed Ice to his inventory which is still a part of the establishment at the present time.

CAR WASH

Clyde Steffy and Alfred Grim are the co-owners and operators of the four bay U-Do-It Car Wash located at 500 North Main Street, Tipton. It was opened for use on July 4, 1966.

SCHLENKER'S SAFETY SERVICE

Clifford Schlenker opened a car service in April, 1974, at the corner of North Main and Washington Streets in Tipton. He specializes in front end alignment of automobiles and wheel balancing.



Boyer's Garage



Car Wash



Schlenker's Safety Service



Carl Weber Steel

CARL M. WEBER STEEL SERVICE, INC.

In May, 1950, Carl M. Weber, as sole proprietor, started a business known as the Carl M. Weber Steel Service maintaining an office in his residence in Tipton. During the first five years the company operations were limited to the placement of reinforcing steel in bridges, culverts, and dams. In January, 1965 the business was incorporated and new office facilities were obtained at 6 West Franklin Street. The corporation soon thereafter began performing other aspects of bridge construction, such as metal stay-in-place deck forms, shear stud applications and certified welding. Generally and currently the company operates in a four state area and employs an average of 35 men, approximately one-third of them residing in our local area. During the summer of 1974 a building was erected near Kutztown for the purpose of storing tools, equipment, and the maintenance of trucks and welding equipment.

TELEPHONE ANSWERING SERVICE

Schaeffer's Telephone Answering Service was started in March, 1957, by Marvin P. Schaeffer at 111 East High Street. It was at this time that Mr. Schaeffer was confined to bed with a body cast. The first to use the service was C. E. Shearer, Plumber, followed by DeLong and Trexler Funeral Home. In January, 1960 siren and radio equipment were placed in the Schaeffer home by the Tipton Fire Company. Soon Marvin was answering for the local police department. As time went on people from Kutztown and surrounding areas asked for this service. Permission was granted in 1970 from Bell Telephone and Conestoga Telephone. In February, 1971 George Brubaker, Inc. was the first from Kutztown to use this service. Marvin also takes calls and dispatches from the Kutztown, Maxatawny Twp., and Richmond Twp. Police Departments.

In January, 1973, Kutztown Fire Company and the Kutztown Ambulance started using the service. The siren can be activated at the Tipton office for the Kutztown Fire Company. In July, 1973 Mr. Schaeffer moved into his new headquarters to the rear of his home, where an addition was built to house the necessary equipment to conduct this service.

The answering service gives 24 hour service to all its customers. In order to give around the clock coverage, he is assisted by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schaeffer, Mrs. Eleanor Faust and Mr. Norwood Lawfer, Jr. Marvin is Vice President of the Tipton Borough Council and is active in Lions Club and Jaycees.

WAGAMAN'S SERVICE STATION

Nevin Wagaman opened his service station in January, 1946 and is still doing business at the same place, 41 West Weiss Street, Tipton. He is presently a dealer of Texaco Gasoline and Oil products. He does general car maintenance and repairs.

FETHEROLF PLUMBING AND HEATING

Forrest K. Fetherolf is the owner and operator of a plumbing and heating establishment located at 20 Spruce Street, moving there in November, 1964. He came to Tipton in 1961 and was located at 101 S. Home Avenue before moving to the present address. Forrest is a native of Lehigh County and has been in the plumbing business for 32 years, 17 of those years as a helper to Paul S. Rinker of Emmaus. He employs one full time helper and occasionally an additional helper. Mr. Fetherolf is employed by the Borough of Tipton as Plumbing Inspector.

SELF EMPLOYED

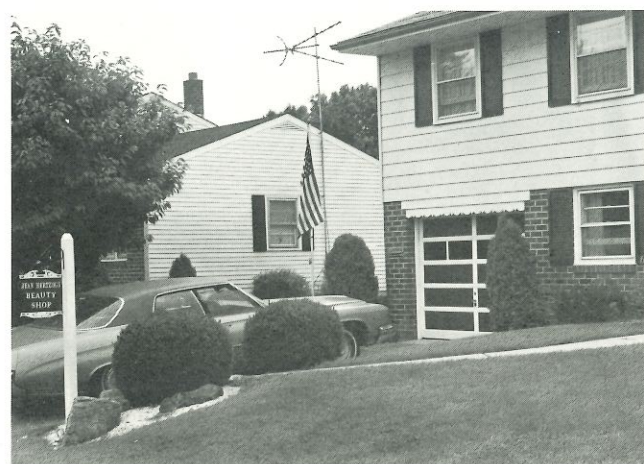
AUCTIONEER SERVICE—Robert F. Zettlemoyer, Sr. 39 East Weiss Street
BIEBER'S DOG GROOMING—Mrs. Esther Bieber, 24 East Franklin Street
CARPENTRY WORK—Harold W. Batz, 220 Barkley Street
GENERAL CONTRACTING—Harold M. Blacker, West High and Callowhill Streets
HOUSE PAINTING—George Hertzog, 216 East Smith Street
PAPER HANGING & PAINTING—Paul Lantz, 30 Barkley Street
SLIP COVERS & DRAPERIES—Mrs. Robert (Catharine) Rumble, 41 E. High St.
DRESSMAKER & GARMENT ALTERATIONS—Mrs. Carl (May) Trexler, 33 E. High St.
COTTON CANDY & SANDWICHES—Earl Hassler, Keller Street
TAXIDERMIST—Reynold Wilttrout, 224 Barkley Street
BABY SITTING SERVICE—Mrs. Harold Showalter, 47 North Main Street



Wagaman's Service Station



Amy Trexler's Beauty Shop



Jean Hertzog Beauty Shop



Ethel Croll Beauty Shop

AMY TREXLER'S BEAUTY SHOP

In 1942 the late Raymond Hieter bought the home at 106 North Main Street and opened and operated a beauty shop there until his death. After 1962 the property was bought by Mrs. Geraldine Sittler who continued to operate the shop. In August of that same year Mrs. Amy Trexler joined her staff. Prior to that time Mrs. Trexler operated a beauty shop in her home on Home Avenue. The shop was then sold to Mr. and Mrs. James Lambert. In January, 1974, Mrs. Trexler took over the business and is renting the shop portion of the home now owned by Mrs. and Mrs. Wayne Kline. Amy operates the beauty shop and is assisted by Mrs. Linda Isamoyer.

JEAN HERTZOG'S BEAUTY SHOP

Jean Libold Hertzog came to Tipton in 1950 and was a beautician for Minnie Wert and Ethel Wert Bernhard at 204 West Franklin Street. In 1952 Jean purchased the shop at 204 West Franklin Street and operated a shop there until June, 1957 when she moved her shop into her home at 120 South Callowhill Street where she continues her business at the present time.

ETHEL CROLL'S BEAUTY SHOP

Ethel Croll's Beauty Shop is located in her home at 124 East Keller Street. Ethel has been in the beauty business since 1968. She styles hair for both men and women.

GLORIA GIFT'S BEAUTY SHOP

Gloria Gift bought the old National Bank of Tipton building at 14 North Home Avenue on January 1, 1971. After making renovations she opened her beauty shop. She offers a full line of hair dressing.

FLO HILBERT'S BEAUTY SHOP

The Flo Hilbert Beauty Shop opened in March, 1951 at 37 East High Street, Tipton. During our centennial year Flo will celebrate 25 years of beauty service in the community.

STUMP ANTIQUES

Stump Antiques, located at 214 West Barclay Street, is operated by Mrs. Evelyn Stump. She has been in the antique business since 1955 and handles antiques, copper, brass, china and glass articles and primitive furniture.

INSURANCE AGENTS

Ray J. Moyer opened an insurance office in April, 1975 at 308 South Home Avenue. He is an agent for the Erie Insurance Company. He handles insurance on homes, automobiles or any special item as well as life insurance.

Stanley E. Haas of 327 South Home Avenue is an agent for the Prudential Insurance Company.



Gloria Gift's Beauty Shop



Flo Hilbert's Beauty Shop



Stump Antiques



Railroad Crossing Inn



"Full House" Hotel

RAILROAD CROSSING INN

Railroad Crossing Inn, formerly known as the Tipton House, was built by James Butz in 1866 and in the same year became the property of Peter W. Fisher. Other proprietors of this landmark were, Philip Dotts, Josiah Fisher, Thomas Reichelderfer, George Madeira, Elmer High, Warren High, Willard E. Brey and Luther J. Fritzsinger. The hotel became the property of Methods, Inc. in 1974. It is still operated as a hotel, bar, cocktail lounge and a fine dining room serving the public.

FULL HOUSE HOTEL

Located at 15 North Home Avenue is the hotel now named the Full House. It was formerly known as the American House. The present owners and proprietors are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith who acquired the property in September, 1974. Operating the American House before the Smiths were: William Stamm, Robert Koch, James Fronheiser, Calvin Bartholomew, Nida Hoffman, Adam Hausman, Fred Webb and in the early 1900's, Frank Dierolf.

BORO LINE INN

The Boro Line Inn located at 327 East Weiss Street in Tipton serves beer, wine, liquor and sandwiches. It is owned and operated by John W. and Gertrude L. Angstadt. It was purchased from Nancy and Gene DeLong November 30, 1973.



Boro Line Inn

KERN MASONRY, INC.

Kern Masonry, Inc., located at 331 North Main Street, Tipton has been doing business for 15 years specializing in brick laying, cement block and masonry work. They opened their Main Street office in 1970 at the former Unger Garage.

COLONIAL FURNITURE OUTLET

Colonial Furniture Outlet located in the old Palace Theatre at 16 West Franklin Street maintains a storage and outlet store which is open to the public on Saturdays from 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. It is operated by Sid and Jack Engleson who specialize in colonial style furniture.

GEHRIS BUTCHER SHOP

Daniel Gehris has owned and operated a butcher shop along North Main Street since 1955. The business was originally owned by William Miller and his daughter Bessie Moatz. The Millers did slaughtering in the shop on the farm and also maintained a shop on the rear of the lot on South Haas Street where they lived for many years. The business was operated by David Mabry from 1954 to 1955 when Mr. Gehris acquired it.



Kern Masonry



Colonial Furniture Outlet



Gehris Butcher Shop



Adams' Barber Shop



Eisenhart's Barber Shop



E. H. Schofer Insurance

ADAMS' BARBER SHOP

Robert Adams' Barber Shop, first located at 24 Centre Avenue was established on June 24, 1939. During 1940 the shop was located on the NE corner of Franklin and Main Streets. Then in 1941 Mr. Adams moved the shop to the theatre building. His final move was in 1949 when he opened his barber shop at the present location of 27 Centre Avenue. From time to time he has been assisted by his two sons, Phillip and Jason. Bobby has been in the barbering business for 37 years.

EISENHART'S BARBER SHOP

Larry Eisenhart has operated the barber shop at 16 North Home Avenue in Tipton since January, 1964. The barber who previously operated there was David Hieter who died in December, 1963. The property is owned by Mrs. LeRoy Kunkle at the present time.

MOTHER GOOSE NURSERY SCHOOL

Mother Goose Nursery School located at 312 Barkley Street in the borough of Tipton since 1971 is operated by Mrs. Milton F. Kuhns. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11:30 A.M. for children ages 3 through 5 years. Our teacher is Mrs. Ronald Fulton. Our program is informal and flexible. We aim to meet the children's needs and build foundations for later experiences.

ELMER H. SCHOFER INSURANCE AGENCY

Elmer H. Schofer has had an insurance office in the old Palace Theatre Building at 16 West Franklin Street since 1949. Prior to entering the insurance business he was employed at the Tipton Motor Car Company as a painter. When people bought cars they asked if there was an insurance agency in town. Elmer started to sell insurance and went into business for himself in 1942. The business grew and in 1944 he got a license for his son Kermit Schofer. He then added bond business. He has a brokers license for the past ten years and he is also a notary public. For the past twenty-five years he has been an agent and director for the Goschenhoppen Mutual Insurance Company, Pennsburg, Pa. Mr. Schofer is also affiliated with the Ohio Casualty Insurance Company.

ANN'S PLACE

Mrs. Anna M. Remaley is the owner and operator of the tavern at 7 South Home Avenue known as Ann's Place. She has been here since July, 1955. The business was previously known as Weidner's Cafe.

L. & A. LUNCHEONETTE

Loretta and Angelo Sorrentino are the proprietors of the luncheonette located at 9 Centre Avenue, opening for business in September, 1974. Three years ago when they operated the concession stand at the Tipton V.M.C. Swimming Pool the idea was born that they would like to go into business in the Tipton area. They presently reside in Allentown but hope to soon move to Tipton. The place of business was formerly occupied by the Ira Moyer Music Store and prior to that by the Smith and Eckert Grocery Store.

HERMAN'S DRIVE IN

Herman's Drive-In located at 50 West Weiss Street is owned and operated by Harry H. Herman, Jr. and his wife Nettie. It was built by Nevin Wagaman in 1958 and operated by the Wagaman family until 1961 when the Hermans bought it. It is in operation every year from April through September, specializing in soft ice cream, sandwiches and soda.

HILBERT'S WATCHMAKING AND JEWELRY REPAIR

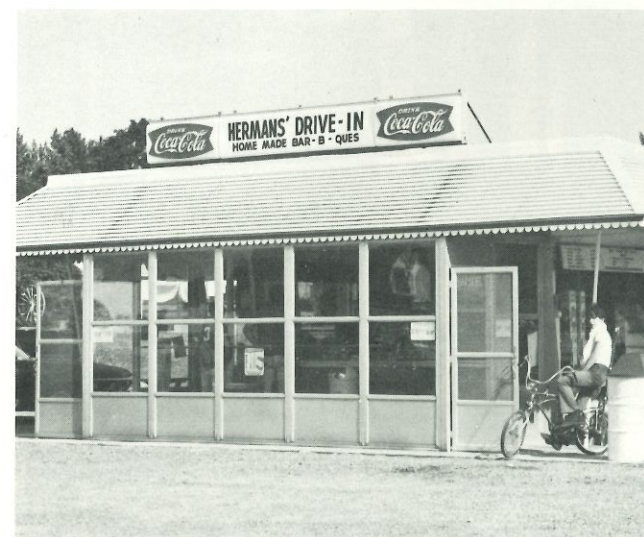
Walter Hilbert, 37 East High Street repairs watches and does all kinds of jewelry repairs. He started in this business in 1953 with Luther Mertz, now deceased. He has his shop in his home.



Ann's Place



L & A Luncheonette



Herman's Drive-In



Field's Archery

FIELDS ARCHERY

Fields Archery is owned and operated by Richard R. Fields at his home, 107 East High Street. He handles new and used bows and accessories. The business was started in 1964 to supply the needs of archers in the area. Mr. Fields is also a Hunter Safety Instructor. Since 1964, a trophy has been awarded each year to the Archery Hunter who has shot the heaviest doe or the buck with the most points.

KELCHNER LAUNDROMAT

The Laundromat located at 229 East Weiss Street was opened in 1963. It was built by Samuel L. Kelchner of Kutztown and is still operated by Kelchner, Inc.



Kelchner Laundromat

STATE LIQUOR STORE

A State Liquor Store is maintained in Tipton at 25 East Franklin St. Herman Zettle is the manager. The property is leased to the state from Ralph Silsdorf of Bowers.



Pennsylvania State Store

ORGANIZATIONS





Topton Volunteer Fire Co.

TOPTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1

In 1893 a group of Topton citizens organized what was then known as the Topton Volunteer Hose Company No. 1. The officers were: President, C.D. Werley, M.D.; V. President, S.D. Rohrbach; Recording Secretary, E.J. Rohrbach; Assistant Secretary, Irwin DeLong; Financial Secretary, William H. Rohrbach; Treasurer, Martin S. Croll; Trustees, Tilghman DeLong, Stephen B. Smith, Michael Miller; Foreman, G.B. Herring; First Assistant Foreman, William F. Rohrbach; Second Assistant Foreman, Oliver C. Rohrbach; Third Assistant Foreman, William J. Fritz. The constitution and by-laws for this company were adopted on October 16, 1893.

On May 18, 1909 the organization became known as the Topton Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 of Topton, Pa. and a new constitution and by-laws were adopted. The officers of this organization were: President, B. Frank Harpel; V. President, H.A. Miller; Recording Secretary, Claude Haas; Financial Secretary, Luther Rhode; Treasurer, Martin S. Croll; Trustees, Dr. Werley, L.A. Walbert, Louis Keller; Chief, Henry Tiedeman, Jr.; First Assistant Chief, Claude Keiser; Second Assistant Chief, George Harpel; Foreman, Walter Losch; First Assistant Foreman, William H. Rohrbach; Second Assistant Foreman, Frank R. Keiser; Third Assistant Foreman, William J. Keller. The equipment consisted of a hand drawn two wheeled cart. For approximately eight years this organization efficiently extinguished every fire in the community.

In August of 1915 a public meeting was held by the Topton citizens for the purpose of re-organizing and creating the present Topton Volunteer Fire Company. The following officers were elected to serve: President, Frank Keiser; V. President, Harvey Miller; Recording Secretary, Dr. Charles Smith; Financial Secretary, William Ebert; Treasurer, William Smith; Trustees, Henry Wean, Edwin Morgan, James Guldin; Chief, Ira E. Desch. The new constitution and by-laws were adopted on September 20, 1915. The company was incorporated under the state laws on May 17, 1917, through the Berks County Courts with Associate Judge George Wagner securing the charter.

The first motor driven Hahn two tank chemical apparatus was acquired in August of 1918. An electric siren was installed at the Fire House at this time with a switch at the telephone exchange. The company membership at this time was 160. In 1926 a new American LaFrance 750 gallon pumper, chain driven and with solid rubber tires was purchased for \$12,500. The tires were later changed to tube tires.

In September, 1926 the Social Quarters were organized and in 1927 a Beneficial Association was started. William Leiby was elected the first president. This organization has functioned in cooperation with the Fire Company and has progressed in similar fashion. In October of 1935 a Relief Association was formed for the purpose of insuring the men fighting fires in case of accidents to them while in the service of the Fire Company.

Headquarters for the Fire Company and the Beneficial Association were located at the corner of Franklin St. and Home Ave. until January, 1940 when the P.O.S. of A. Hall located at the corner of West High and Cherry Streets was purchased for \$6000.

Since this new building did not provide for the housing of the fire apparatus, an addition was built for this purpose, also added were an office for Borough Council and two cells. This new building was dedicated on November 15, 1941.

In 1946 the company purchased a new Seagrave 750 gallon pumper with a 500 gallon water tank for the price of \$12,900. This was paid for by the Beneficial Association. A parade was held in the borough commemorating this event. The company now had two pumpers which were used by the borough and surrounding communities until the spring of 1950 when the American LaFrance was put out of service.

In the Spring of 1951, a booster tank and lighting system was bought by the Beneficial Association at a cost of \$15,000. The company was justly proud of its equipment, the most modern available at this time. Membership was now over 2000. The question of communication on the trucks came up and on October 11, 1954 one base station and two mobile radios were installed. A GMC emergency truck was purchased in November, 1955. This panel truck carries much useful equipment to the scene of an accident or fire.

A new siren was purchased in 1958 and placed on the roof of the engine house but later moved to a tower in the parking lot at the Fire Hall. The telephone and a siren switch were placed at the residence of Marvin Schaeffer in 1960. A console radio was also purchased and placed at the Schaeffer home. With this arrangement the telephone, radio and siren were in operation 24 hours a day. The Borough Police also installed a radio at the Schaeffer Answering Service in 1960.

In January 1961 coin cards were distributed in the Topton Zone. This money is used for the Equipment Fund only. A 2000 watt generator was installed on the emergency truck. This can be used anywhere by just plugging the lights into the socket on the truck. In December, 1962, a 1350 gallon tank truck was purchased from George Brubaker. This truck, a 1951 Studebaker was converted for fire use by the men of the company. The inside was lined by the Atlas Mineral Products Co. so that the truck can be used to carry drinking water. In 1963 the Seagrave was given a complete overhauling.

The portion of the building formerly used by the Police Department was rebuilt to house the emergency truck. This room is also used for meetings. A Homelight portable pump was purchased in 1964 and placed on the tanker. In 1965, 300 feet of 1½ inch hose and 200 feet of 2½ inch hose were purchased for the trucks. The By-Laws were revised allowing 16 year old persons to join the company.

A new explosion-proof smoke ejector was added to the equipment. In 1965 an additional 3000 watt portable generator was purchased and an additional 300 feet of hose. Later that year two brass foam nozzles were purchased. In January, 1966 a four ton winch was installed on the front end of the Studebaker truck



Fire Hall

and a 50 cup coffee maker was purchased for the emergency truck.

In April of 1966 the engine house property was transferred to the Topton Volunteer Fire Company from the borough. A two-way radio was bought in 1967. During 1968, company caps and badges and a power saw were bought. In 1969, an electric door opener was installed and another 200 feet of hose was purchased. At the April 13, 1970 meeting the company accepted a 4500 gallon single axle trailer as a gift from George Brubaker of Kutztown. A 1967 International short wheel base tractor cab over engine was purchased to pull the trailer.

On June 17, 1972, a large parade was held and the new fully equipped Mack Truck was dedicated. It should be noted that the Topton Jaycees and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Company helped to equip this truck. The 1947 Seagrave Fire Truck was sold to Brooke Gernert. By December of 1973 the Fire Company had cleared up all debts.

In July, 1974 two 360 gallon per minute Homelite portable pumps were purchased for \$7000. A check for \$500 was acknowledged from the Minnie K. Fink Estate.

Although all equipment is currently paid for there is no end to the repairs and replacements. Training young men how to operate the equipment effectively and safely is a continuing operation. The company is proud of its equipment and grateful to the community it serves for their support. Current membership is 1100. Present officers are: President, Leon Moyer; V. President, Dale Geist; Secretary, Kermit Schofer; Treasurer, Marvin Schaeffer; Financial Secretary, Dennis Schaeffer; Trustees, LaVerne Stevens, Barry Epting, and Paul Geist; Chief, Robert Weiser; First Assistant Chief, LaVerne Stevens; Second Assistant Chief, Paul Geist; Third Assistant Chief, Leon Moyer.

TOPTON VOLUNTEER FIRE AUXILIARY COMPANY

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Tipton Volunteer Fire Company was organized on June 23, 1926 at the Palace Theatre, Tipton. The first officers were: President, Mayme Epting; Vice President, Mrs. Mary Fenstermaker; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Sallie Hinterleiter; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Anne Moyer; Treasurer, Mrs. Alice Yanish. Over the years, the Auxiliary has been active in raising funds to help the Fire Company to buy hose and tires for the trucks, make repairs to the building, paint the meeting room, buy shades, new floor, and many small items. In December of 1970 the Auxiliary gave the Fire Company a check for \$1000.00 to help pay for the latest equipment bought. This was one of the highlights of service by the Auxiliary since its existence. Mrs. Marie Keiser was cited at a recent meeting for serving as Secretary for 43 years. Present officers are: President, Gail Zettlemoyer; Vice President, Barbara Arndt; Recording Secretary, Judy Harpel; Financial Secretary, Marie Keiser; Treasurer, Christine Burnish.



Fire Company Auxiliary: (left to right) Judy Harpel, Rec. Secretary; Christine Keiser, Treasurer; Gail Zettlemoyer, President; Marie Keiser, Fin. Secretary; Barbara Arndt, Vice President.

RAY A MASTER POST #217

AMERICAN LEGION, TOPTON, PA.

On a cold winter evening in January of 1925, during a raging snow storm, a group of service men of World War I eligible for American Legion membership assembled at a dinner meeting at High's Hotel, Tipton, awaiting the arrival of Clarence Naugle, Edward Quinn and Earl Weaver, members of the Herbert P. Lantz Post of Allentown who had the unique experience of completing the last leg of their journey from Allentown to Tipton by hiring a horse and sleigh from a Maxatawny farmer to get through the snow to be present at this meeting. The three men had been invited to guide and assist the local men in the formation and organization of an American Legion Post in the Tipton area.

The Post title of Ray A. Master Post was selected in honor of Corporal Ray A. Master, the first enlisted man of the Tipton area to pay the supreme sacrifice in World War I. Corporal Master, a fine cornetist, enlisted July 1, 1917 and served in the 58th Infantry Band as a musician, losing his life in the Battle of Chateau Thierry, France on August 4, 1918.

A petition for charter was made and signed by the following members comprising the charter member group: Ralph Knauss, George Carl, Solon Angstadt, John Leibensperger, William A. Maderia, Mahlon Eck, Claude M. Eltz, Raymond Croll, John Hertzog, Clair M. Price, Howard B. Reinert, Winfield F. Smith, Rufus D. Mest, James S. Guldin, Jr., Raymond W. Smith, Harold M. Levan, Frank C. Dunstan, Norman Minn, Harry Stauffer, Edwin Rauenzahn, John Gracely, Mark K. Trexler, Raymond Reinert, George R. Wean, Alexander Bomowsky, Grover P. Behringer, Lewis Shoemaker, Raymond Werst, William Grim, Raymond Knappenberger, Clarence Walbert, Herbert Springer, Irvin Benfield, Ruel Haas, Claude Walbert, James Bollinger, Howard DeLong, John H. Moser, Amandus Miller, George Hertzog, LeRoy Herman, Edward Behrk, Charles E. Miller, Earl Gambler, Warren Good, Fred Lauer, Harry Dierolf, William Miller, Harrison Moser, Luther DeLong, Clinton Reppert, and Howard Schauer.

The charter was received April 20, 1925 and the Post was known as the Ray A. Master Post #217 American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania. Officers were elected and the first regular meeting of the Post was held on May 14, 1925, at which time a program was adopted and plans made for its first Legion Parade on May 30, 1925.

A Post Home was built in 1926 and an addition was built in 1931 to take care of increased membership and activity. The Alvin J. Miller residence, adjoining the Legion Home property was purchased in

1947 as a meeting room for both the Legion and Auxiliary Units, as well as a community center to conduct various social affairs.

A Post Band was organized in 1932 under the baton of Mr. Horace D. Fisher. This organization attained a high musical standard and was a fitting memorial to the musician whose name the Post adopted at its inception. Economic conditions in 1937 forced the band to disband.

A community ambulance was purchased in 1948. More can be read about the ambulance service at another place in this booklet. A community hall addition was built in 1956 to be used for various community activities.

The following have served as Commanders since 1925: Winfield Smith, Ralph O. Knauss, Rufus D. Mest, Alexander Bumowsky, LeRoy Herman, John H. Moser, James Bollinger, Warren Good, George R. Wean, William Mertz, Clayton L. Meitzler, John Gracely, Charles Eisenhard, Warren Knerr, Zacharias Brendle, Fred Leiby, Clarence Walbert, Wilmer Lynn, John Leibensperger, William Stuffle, Max Brown, Paul Croll, Wayne Hinterleiter, Lee Trexler, George Hilbert, Melvin Gambler, Woodrow O. Walbert, Richard Druckenmiller, Clifford C. Boyer, Earl H. Walbert, Jr., Ralph Oswald, Max Croddy, Lowell Frederick, Howard Reinert, Harold Oswald, Earl Deibert, Moody Dry, Lee Bernhart, James Luckenbill, Karl H. Fritch, William Landis, Stanley Hummel, Harold Showalter, George Harpel, and Nevin Walbert.

The officers for 1975-1976 are: Commander, Randy Frey; Senior Vice Commander, Earl Lantz; Junior Vice Commander, Raymond Smith; Adjutant, James S.A. Brensinger; Finance Officer, James S.A. Brensinger; Historian, Moody Dry; Chaplain, Morgan Haney; Service Officer, Max Croddy; Sgt.-At-Arms, James Luckenbill, George Harpel, Nevin Walbert and Max Croddy; Executive Committee, Earl Lantz, Max Croddy, Raymond Smith, George Harpel, Harold Shoemaker, Clarence Snyder, William Gehman, Nevin Walbert and Paul Lantz.

The Ray A. Master Post #217 American Legion, Tipton, with a membership of 429, pledges itself on this anniversary occasion to serve the community, state and nation, in accordance with the obligation embodied in the American Legion Preamble.

Topton Sons Killed in Action While in the Service of their Country

Ray A. Master August 4, 1918 in France
Lee K. Gallmoyer January 12, 1944 in Casablanca
Earl H. Bond March 8, 1944 in England
LeRoy A. Acker June 12, 1944 in Normandy
Robert Kemmerling July 11, 1944 in France
Raymond S. Leshner 1944 in Germany
Stephen Hregician February 7, 1945 in Germany
Lee A. Schlegel August 24, 1945 at sea
Larry D. Hoch May 6, 1969 in Vietnam

Died during service to their country

Charles A.K. Grim June 27, 1900
Raymond C. Haas June 10, 1946
Lee James Guldin July 20, 1946
Charles W. Smith August 27, 1950
Laird G. Heiser April 10, 1963, aboard the submarine "Thresher"

American Legion Home



Legion Officers: Moody Dry, Morgan Haney, James Brensinger, James Luckenbill, Robert Weiser, Randy Frey, Raymond Smith, Max Croddy.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OF THE RAY A. MASTER POST #217

In April of 1926, a group of women met to petition for a charter, to organize a Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion of Tipton. Meeting in the town hall, the petition was signed by forty-six women. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Florence Rhode; 1st V. President, Mrs. Mary Fenstermacher; 2nd V. President, Mrs. Mayme Herman; Secretary, Mrs. Florence Moser; Treasurer, Mrs. Elda Herman; Chaplain, Mrs. Rhoma Bumowsky. The charter was issued on December 4, 1926 and regular meetings have been held since, conducted according to Department regulations. Records from 1926 to 1933 are not available, however the organization met all obligations to the department, district and local organizations and contributed generously to the Post Home. The membership was consistently low until 1939 when it reached an all time high. During this year the unit won the Mrs. Harrison Smith Trophy Award for having the highest percentage gain in membership in the Schuylkill-Berks County Area. This trophy was held for three years consecutively when it became the unit's permanent possession.

The unit sponsored the Drum and Bugle Corps, organized in 1933 and maintained for several years. A Drum and Trumpet Corps was organized in 1973 by the late Ira Moyer and is still active today. The unit also sponsored the organization of a Junior Auxiliary in 1949.

The unit sponsors many awards such as an award to the outstanding Senior girl in Brandywine High School; a medal to an eighth grade student at Brandywine for high quality of scholarship, leadership and Americanism; annual awards for essay contests, Poppy Posters, and to an eleventh grade girl who is sent to Shippensburg to Girls State for one week, where they learn Americanism, good citizenship and government.

Contributions are made to many worthwhile efforts and hospital equipment is available to any one in need. Flags are given to churches, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and wherever requested.

The unit recognizes the Gold Star Mothers at Christmas time. Gold Star Mothers are: Mrs. Ada Fegely, Mrs. Eva Gracely, Mrs. Grace Groman, Mrs. Katie Kemmerling, Mrs. Emma Leshner, Mrs. LaRue Pyatt. Deceased Gold Star Mothers are Mrs. Carrie Gallmoyer, Mrs. Clara Schlegel and Mrs. Lillie Bond.

All veterans in hospitals, nursing homes and ill at home are remembered at holiday time. On a recent trip to a V.A. Hospital in Philadelphia, the unit personally delivered and presented patients with fifty crocheted lap robes, ditty bags and toilet articles. At Wernersville State Hospital the unit gave five radios, a record player and ten record albums. The Tipton

Mrs. Florence Smith Rhode, First President of American Legion Auxiliary; Winfield Smith, First Commander of Legion (Brother & Sister)



Ruth Speer, June Snyder, Sara Derr, Lillian Showalter, Virginia Smith, Clara Rauenzahn, Arlene Younger, Elda Geiger

unit received the Outstanding Christmas Work report in Berks County. The unit and the past presidents each sponsor a child at the Scotland School for veterans' children. A Christmas party for member's children is held jointly by the unit and the Post at the Post Home. Gifts are given to special children.

The president of the unit is sent to the convention and the conference all expenses paid. The unit cooperates with the Post in all of its activities. Four Tipton Unit members have become Directors in Berks County. They are Mrs. Rhoma Bumowsky, Mrs. Ver-na Helbert, Mrs. Beulah Lantz, all deceased, and Mrs. Ruth Speer. Funds required to support the programs are derived from the kitchen serving food and dinners, weekly for Rotary, bi-weekly for Lions, games nights and banquets.

Present officers are: President, Mrs. Virginia Smith; 1st V. President, Mrs. Arlene Younger; Secretary, Mrs. Lillian Showalter; Treasurer, Mrs. June Snyder; Historian, Mrs. Ruth Speer; Chaplain, Mrs. Sara Derr; Sgt-At-Arms, Mrs. Elda Geiger.

Junior Auxiliary officers are: President, Sheila Younger; 1st V. President, Betty Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, Wendy Snyder; Historian, Dennett Younger; Chaplain, Brenda Geiger; Sgt-At-Arms, Shelly Bucks.

THE TOPTON LIONS CLUB

The Tipton Lions Club was organized with 21 charter members on January 19, 1939 at the American House in Tipton. The Lions Club of Allentown was the sponsor and rendered much assistance to the local club in its first years. The first president was William B. Herbein and the first secretary was J. Park Smith who is now the only remaining Charter Member. As the club continued to mature, it became associated with various civic and community projects. A partial list of these include conducting annual band concerts and Easter egg hunts; operating block parties for the Tipton V.M.C. playground program; supporting the V.M.C. Community Swimming Pool; procuring play-ground equipment for the local schools and food baskets for the needy; setting up and maintaining the community Christmas tree and associated scenery; providing eye examinations and glasses for the needy; financial aid for Boy Scouts attending summer camp; and many similar community programs. One of the more recent projects of worthy note is the formation of the Tipton Little League Base Ball program.

To assist in financing the many and various projects, the Tipton Lions Club has conducted weeklong carnivals in Tipton and operated a food stand at the annual Kutztown Fair. Both of these activities are demanding on the time and energy of the members who accept the duties willingly.

On a level outside of our local area and community, the club supports work for the blind in various ways and means, a program which has now become

Lions Club: Back row, left to right: Dewitt McDaniel, Tailtwister; Edwin Conrath, Jr.; Eugene Landis, President; Kermit Adam, Secretary. Seated, Marvin Schaeffer, First Vice President. Missing from picture—Kermit Schofer, Treasurer and Henry Shade, Second Vice President.



the main welfare function of the Lions International Organization.

Since the time of organization, the Tipton Club has sponsored both the Longswamp and Bowers Lions Clubs and has co-sponsored the Lions Clubs of Oley and Fleetwood. The Tipton Lions Club has been faithful to its International Organization by its carrying forth of the Lion obligations. The present officers of the Tipton Lions Club include President Eugene Landis, and Secretary Kermit Adam. The Club meets at the American Legion Home on Centre Avenue and, needless to say, the organization is proud of its activities and accomplishments and hopes to serve the community for many years to come.



Tipton American Legion Community Ambulance Service, Inc.

TOPTON AMERICAN LEGION COMMUNITY AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC.

The ambulance group was started late in the year 1947 during a meeting of the Ray A. Master Post #217 of the American Legion held at the Post Home in Tipton. A committee was chosen to look into the matter and make a report on same at a later meeting. Serving on this committee were: Wayne Hinterleiter, George Carl, Paul Lantz, Lee P. Trexler and Clarence Yerger. The first ambulance, a Buick, was purchased in 1948 and cost approximately \$6000.00.

With the help of volunteers and the committee, the basement of the Legion Home was dug out to make room for the ambulance. In April of 1953 the ambulance group was organized and a charter was drawn up by Judge Warren Hess. The name remained the same, The Tipton American Legion Community Ambulance Service, Inc. First officers under this charter were: President, Clarence Yerger; V. President, Paul Croll; Secretary, Kermit Schofer; Treasurer, Lee P. Trexler; Trustees, Paul Lantz, George Spangler and George Carl.

The first replacement ambulance, a Cadillac, was bought in 1953 at a cost of \$10,000. From the start and up until 1959, all equipment was bought and paid for by donations and yearly drawings held by the Legion Post. The ambulance group was approached by the United Fund and a contract was signed that every four to five years, the United Fund would pay out money to purchase a new ambulance. This worked in supplying a new ambulance in 1959, 1962 and 1969. Then in April, 1971 the United Fund of

Berks County notified all 13 ambulance groups in the county that they would no longer pay for and replace any ambulances under the former contract. This report made it necessary to consider other means of support for the Ambulance Service. The officers met and drew up the following plan to become effective in 1972 and continue until necessity would demand a change: Family Plan—\$5.00 per year; Individual—\$3.00 per year; Non-Member—\$25.00 per trip. Cards are issued to subscribers. All monies received are used to pay current bills and the remainder is deposited in the bank, drawing interest, to later buy an ambulance when needed, new equipment, or to replace worn out equipment. A new ambulance costs approximately \$20,000 today.

There are approximately twelve drivers and assistants, all specially trained for the work. All of this is done on a volunteer basis.

The Ambulance Service serves Tipton, Longswamp Township, District Township, Rockland Township and Maxatawny Township on calls to all of the Allentown and Reading Hospitals. They also serve Kutztown and Fleetwood groups on emergency calls. Other hospitals than those mentioned are served by special arrangements, plus mileage.

A new home has been built on the west end of the Legion property to house the ambulances, a 1969 and a 1973 Cadillac, fully equipped. Work on this building began in 1974 and was completed in 1975. Dedication of these facilities was held on April 20, 1975. Meetings are now held in this building. Present officers are: President, LaVerne Stevens; V. President, Stanley Waltz; Secretary, Kermit Schofer; Treasurer, Paul Geist; Trustees, Leon Moyer and Paul Croll.

Twenty-four hour service is available.

PIONEER GRANGE #1777

Pioneer Grange #1777, Tipton, Pa. was organized March 8, 1919 in Freehall, a small community south of Tipton, by J. B. Althouse, the authorized organizer officer of the Grange. There were 38 charter members, none of which are alive today. The first Master was W. N. Miller.

The first meetings were held in the Freehall Schoolhouse. Later they moved to the third floor of the Schappell Hardware Store on South Home Avenue, Tipton; and still later to the third floor of the Tipton Volunteer Fire Company building on West High Street.

Pioneer Grange was incorporated in 1954 and in 1955 construction was begun on a Grange Hall on East Keller Street in Tipton. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held March 27, 1955 and the Hall was dedicated on December 1, 1956 with J. Collins McSparran, State Master, serving as Dedication Officer. At the September 4th, 1965 Berks Pomona Meeting, the retiring of the debt incurred with the building of the hall was celebrated.

The Hall is used extensively for meetings and other Grange functions. In line with the Grange's policy of being a community service organization, the Hall is rented for parties, dances, wedding receptions, dinners, etc. Meetings and functions of a strictly community service nature are allowed to meet rent free. The Thanksgiving Day Dinner by the Grange was an outstanding event for years but was discontinued in 1968. An Oyster Supper has been an annual event for the past several years. At Christmas, a visit by Santa Claus is held in the Hall for local children and a Christmas dinner is presented to a needy family. The big event of the year is the operation of a food stand at the Kutztown Folk Festival each summer.

For the past thirteen years Pioneer Grange has sponsored its own six team bowling league. In 1967 the Grange began sponsoring a soft ball team in the Grange League, and in 1968 Pioneer won the season championship and also the play-off championship.

Pioneer Grange is proud of its youth and in April, 1957 the Juniors Grange was organized with Martin Loch as the first Master. The Junior held no meetings from July, 1959 to September, 1963 when they were re-organized with Sharon Overly as Master.

Pioneer Grange at the present has over 200 members on the Roll, 30 of them are 25 year, Silver Star Members. They are: Earl and Beulah Diehl; Clarence & Verna Loch; Lillie Rahn; Ruth DeLong; Ruth Christman; Charles W. Fritz; Paul Diehl; Ray & Catherine Pensinger; Bryan Rohrbach; Mary Shaub; Elwood Schaub; Burd Schantz; Eva Hertzog; Erma Trexler; Earl Trexler; Charles Trexler; Wilda Trexler; Bertha Hinter; George Leibold; Robert Seip; Evelyn Werley; Joyce & Harold Overly; Raymond & Mamie Werst; Neda Schantz; Rev. Franklin Slifer, D.D. Regular meetings are held the first and third

Pioneer Grange



Thursday of each month, unless otherwise announced, at 7:30 P.M. in the Grange Hall on Keller Street in Tipton. Present officers are; Master, Dallas Angstadt; Overseer, Ruth DeLong; Lecturer, Jean Hertzog; Steward, Miles Angstadt; Assistant Steward, Robert Tercha; Lady Assistant Steward, Barbara Richard; Chaplain, Robert Scheidt; Treasurer, Ray Pensinger; Secretary, Roxann Fox; Gate Keeper, Keith Hertzog; Ceres, Wilma Reinert; Pomona, Melinda Greis; Flora, Tammy Pensinger; Executive Committee, Lloyd Hess; Pianist, Kathryn Pensinger; Finance Committee, Three Years, Harold Overly; Two Years, Robert Pensinger, One Year, Ernest Fox; Senior Matron, Barbara Grim. The Junior Master is Ruth Flicker. Other Junior officers are: Overseer, Keith Kerschner; Lecturer, Kathy Kerschner; Steward, Dale Berger; Asst. Steward, David Romig; Lady Asst. Steward, Annette Grim; Chaplain, Denise Hedegard; Secretary, Holly Angstadt; Treasurer, Carolyn Berger; Gatekeeper, Cindy Pensinger; Ceres, Christine Grim, Pomona, Tina Pensinger; Flora, Kim Kerschner.

TOPTON ROTARY CLUB

The Tipton Rotary Club #7832 was chartered on July 12, 1951 and thus celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary in Tipton's Centennial Year. The club was sponsored by the Kutztown Rotary Club and the first officers were: President, Dr. William Muehlhauser; V. President, Joseph W. Price; Secretary, Lee P. Trexler; Treasurer, Harry H. Lewis; Directors, J. Fred Frey, Pearson H. Hinterleiter, Jacob J. Schofer, LeRoy H. Tobias, and George R. Wean.

Charter members of the club in addition to the above named officers were: Earnest W. Batterson, Paul W. Bond, Charles J. Hinterleiter, Wayne J. Kern, R. Emory Mabry, Leon W. Mazurie, Henry G. Neusch, Rev. Webster K. Reinert, Winfield F. Smith, H. Howard Strunk.

The charter night meeting was held in the Henry Auditorium of the Lutheran Home. Entertainment was provided by local talent composed of Audrey Moll, Janet Eckert and Curvous Stauffer, Jr. Among the distinguished guests were Judge Henry V. Scheirer of Allentown, the District Governor, Joseph A. Abey of Reading, a Past District Governor and a Past President of Rotary International. Joseph S. Neidig, Immediate Past District Governor and father-in-law to



Rotary Club: (left to right) Joel Reinert, Secretary; John Tallman, President; Oscar Shupp, Vice President; Forrest Fetherolf, Treasurer.

the new club's president, presented the charter.

One of the major projects of the Tipton Rotary Club was to sponsor local boys at Rotary's "Leaders of Tomorrow Camp", which was named "Camp Neidig" in honor of Joseph Neidig, its founder. Local boys who have attended these campings are: Joseph Price, Jr.; Ronald Reinhardt; Henrich Jensen; Philip Smith; Karol Stauffer; Arlan Werst; William F. Bond; Raymond Reed; Alan Sawyer; Franklin Wendling; James Mabry; William Gehman; Robert Fisher; Joel Smith; Michael Bond; Michael Romig; Stephen Reinhard; Richard Druckenmiller; John Kline; Michael Smith; Glenn Fegely; Scott Hieter; Earl Detra; Timothy Hilbert; Neil Fegely; Greg Nolan; Daniel Heydt; David Hassler; Bill Trexler; Timothy H. Long; Bart Flannery; Daniel Nolan; Leslie Meck; Terry German; Joseph Babilon.

The club has projects that are effective locally, nationally and internationally. It has played an active part in the Rotary International Student Exchange Program. This program affords foreign students a chance to spend one year in the United States as a guest of local families while attending the local high school. In addition local students are also sent abroad in the same capacity. Tipton has hosted the following exchange students: 1965-66, Miguel Green from Buenos Aires, Argentina; 1966-67, Lena Lundahl from Daxjo, Sweden; 1969-70, Anne Glover from Cambria, South Australia; 1971-72, Mara Carneiro from Sao Paulo, Brazil; 1972-73, Jorge DeMarco Garcia from Uruguay; 1973-74, Marilyn Bayley from Nords Wharf, Australia; 1974-75, Martine Vincent from Brugge, Belgium; 1975-76, Par Ygge from Sweden.

Local students sent abroad by the Tipton Rotary Club were Raymond Martin to Bolivia and Susan Evans to Sweden.

The club is also active in the LaGrande Exchange Program which exchanges students for a three week period during the summer. Local students who were able to go abroad under this program were: Teresa Gentile, Rebecca Evans, Susan Evans, Bruce Weber and Karen Weber to France and Belgium; Marie Fenstermacher, Debbie Gentile, Mary Beth Schofer to Germany; Beverly Grossman and Susan Keim to France and Belgium. Local families have hosted students from France and Germany.

Some of the many services rendered locally include: the purchase of a wheelchair, an alternating pressure mattress and replacement, trash containers placed in the business section of town, various awards and scholarships, Boy Scout sponsorship to camp and contributions to many community projects.

The club meets every Thursday evening at 6:00 P.M. for dinner at the American Legion Home, Tipton. A program follows the dinner. The present officers for the 1975-76 Rotary year are: President, John Tallman; V. President, Oscar Shupp; Secretary, Joel A. Reinert; Treasurer, Forrest Fetherolf; Directors Elwood DeLong, Joseph DeRentiis, Carl M. Weber, I. Rowland Evans.

TOPTON FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

The Association started in March, 1947 by a group of men with the concern to aid in the conservation of wildlife in the vicinity of Tipton. Following the election of officers in June, 1947, the Association was accepted as a member in the Federated Sportsmen Clubs of Berks County. One year later they received their Charter of Incorporation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Association keeps close contact with the Fish and Game Commissions and is also a member of the Berks County Soil and Water Conservation group. In 1973 they received their affiliate club membership with the National Rifle Association of America. Through the years, with the help of membership dues and various fund raising projects, the Association has released hundreds of cottontail rabbits and ring-necked pheasants in the vicinity of Tipton. With the help of local merchants donating prizes and money, the Association holds an annual Fishing Rodeo for the children of the area. A similar rodeo is held for the members and at the end of that day the remaining fish are released into a local stream maintained by the State Fish Commission where the rodeo is held.

Prior to the acquisition of their own land, the association met at various locations in town. The present clubhouse and grounds are located about one quarter mile southeast of the borough limits. They include the recently built club house, more than twenty archery practice stands, a 50 and 100 yard bench position on the rifle range with three traps. Money raised from holding scheduled trap shoots is used to maintain the club grounds. The clubhouse basement was designed with the capability of constructing an indoor target range to promote archery and rifle sports through the bad weather months. Archery sports are increasing since the merger of the Buckeye Bowman with the association. A Hunter Shoot for the gunners and a Pre-Hunt Shoot for the archers are both annual events. The associations deepest concern is to promote and teach the youth in the Tipton area the proper ways and means to the enjoyment and restoration of this great country's wilderness, the way our forefathers did for us.

The following lists the first club officers and the present officers:

	1947-48
President	Willard Hilbert
Vice President	Edwin Rauenzahn, Jr.
Financial Secretary	Martin Lantz
Recording Secretary	Harold Fenstermacher
Treasurer	Victor Boyer
Trustees	Harvey Trunk Howard Landis Andrew Fegley

	1975-76
President	Harold Batz
Vice President	Raymond Weil, Jr.
Financial Secretary	Lynn Fisher
Recording Secretary	Jay Hassler
Treasurer	Michael Bond
Trustees	Gerald Bogert Howard DeLong Paul Windish

The present membership numbers about 400, consisting of Junior members between the ages of 5 and 17, Senior members ages 18 and older. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 8 P.M. at the club house.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizens of the Tipton area met in the Pioneer Grange Hall on November 13, 1962, organized their first officers, and became known as THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF TOPTON. Twenty eight persons were in attendance.

The organization was sponsored by the Pioneer Grange as a community service project headed by Ray Pensinger who conducted the meeting. The first officers were: President, Manrow Reinhard; 1st Vice President, Stanley Behm; 2nd Vice President, William Leiby, Secretary, Mrs. Mary Guth; Treasurer, Jonathan Conrad; Pianist, Mrs. Bessie Moatz; Entertainment Committee, Marie Wanamaker, Esther Smith, and Clara Rauenzahn.

The group has grown to a membership of 130. There are 110 active members who meet every Tuesday at 1:00 P.M. at the Pioneer Grange Hall.

Once a year they entertain the guests at the Lutheran Home in Tipton with a Bingo party. Prizes are given and cake and punch are served after the games. Mrs. Moatz had organized the Senior Citizens Chorus, and until her death, the group did special singing on a number of occasions. Mrs. Dorothy Trexler recently took over the duties of leading the chorus.

As of the date of this publication, Manrow Reinhard is still the President; Jonathan Conrad is the Treasurer; Mabel Merkel is the Secretary; Charles Reed is Chaplain; Jennie Meitzler is Pianist; Entertainment committee: Clara Angstadt, Earl Diehl and Earl Deibert.



Woman's Club of Tipton

WOMAN'S CLUB OF TOPTON

Seventeen women met in Trinity Lutheran Church, Tipton on January 31, 1955 to discuss the organization of a Woman's Club in Tipton. Representatives from the Hamburg Woman's Club had been invited to explain the workings, the advantages, and the responsibilities of such an organization.

The Tipton women lost no time, they voted to organize. A committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and by-laws and it was acted on at the next meeting of the group. The Charter should remain open until the time of installation of the first officers.

Two weeks later the women held another meeting. The constitution and by-laws were approved and a regular meeting date was set, the third Tuesday of every month, except July and August. Meetings would be held in Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:45 P.M. Dues and entrance fees were also set.

On March 15, 1955 the women met again and elected their first officers, namely, President, Mrs. William Grim; 1st V. President, Mrs. William Muehlhauser; 2nd V. President, Mrs. Robert Trexler; Treasurer, Mrs. J. Park Smith; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Cloyd Bagshaw; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. George Wean. The charter of the Woman's Club of Tipton was closed at this meeting with eighty four members. At this same meeting the women voted to join the Berks County Federation of Women's Clubs.

From that day, the club has continued to grow and put into practice its objective—"to develop the educational, civic and social interests of its members and to advance the welfare of the community." To this end the club sets up a yearly outline and program for its monthly meetings covering inspirational, educational, entertaining and informing programs.

The club is a service organization giving service where needed. From the V.M.C. swimming pool to Berks Heim, from parties for the children and guests

at the Tipton Lutheran Home to Meals on Wheels, they continue to serve.

The women work to maintain a treasury sufficient to support their budget which includes worthwhile community projects such as a scholarship to a worthwhile student, support for the scouts, etc., local Fire Company contributions, the Brandywine Medical Center, tree planting and many, many more.

Each year the President is sent to the State Convention. She also attends monthly meetings of the Berks County Executive Board. This keeps the entire group aware of all state and county projects that the women are asked to support. It provides the inspiration and incentive to attempt and keep abreast of what women are accomplishing in the world.

The club has an executive committee which meets monthly at the home of one of its members. It is made up of officers, committee chairman and department heads. Most of the business is discussed and translated here. This allows the regular meeting to be devoted principally to the scheduled program and social hour.

Ten presidents have served the organization since its conception. Each one is elected for a term of two years. At the end of that time, a tree is planted in the meadow of the park or on the school grounds in her honor. The following lists the presidents, their term in office and the tree selected by each to be planted in her honor:

TERM	PRESIDENTS	TREES PLANTED
1955-1958	Mrs. William E. Grim*	Dogwood
1958-1960	Mrs. Earl A. Trexler	Flowering Crabapple
1960-1962	Mrs. Harold Webb	Weeping Cherry
1962-1964	Mrs. Joseph Forrest	Blue Spruce
1964-1966	Miss Shirley Hieter*	Mountain Ash
1966-1968	Mrs. J. Park Smith	Cedar of Lebanon
1968-1970	Mrs. Campbell Moatz*	English Hawthorn
1970-1972	Mrs. Irvin Detra	Hemlock
1972-1974	Mrs. Gilbert McKlveen*	Douglas Fir
1974-1976	Mrs. Harold Shoemaker	

* Indicates deceased

Present club officers are: President, Mrs. Harold Shoemaker; First V. President, Mrs. Willard Kline; Second V. President, Mrs. Charles Burkhardt; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Owen Moll; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jacob Schofer; Treasurer, Mrs. Max Biery.

TOPTON JAYCEES

Sponsored by the Kutztown Junior Chamber of Commerce in November, 1954, the Tipton Junior Chamber of Commerce was unofficially formed as an infant chapter. Since that time, the Jaycees have grown into an active community service organization. Among the many community projects it sponsors are as follows:

Christmas parties for Special Education students

Awards for the outstanding citizen
Tipton's Outstanding Young Man of the Year
High school Language Achievement Awards
The annual Halloween Parade; A summer Carnival
Provided funds for school zone safety lights and ambulance equipment.

Aside from local activities the Tipton Jaycees also participate in numerous state projects. The Jaycees solicit the community's help and support for its service projects through various money making activities.

Jaycee membership is open to any young man between the age of 18 and 35. New members are always welcome. Membership meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

First officers and other charter members were: President, LeRoy F. Brown; Internal V. President, Robert Fisher; External V. President, Richard Druckenmiller; Secretary, George Noel; Treasurer, Kermit Schofer; Board of Directors: Wayne Geiger, Einar Anderson, Lee Heffner, J.A. Heiter, Edwin Rauenzahn. Other members: Herbert Geist, Grant Schlegel, Thomas Werst, Earl Schappell, Roy Meitzler, Winfield Smith, Jr., Bruce Oswald, Alfred DeLong, Carl DeLong, Ernest Rohrbach, Curvous Stauffer, Donald Heiter, Clifford Boyer, Alfred Grim.

The President for 1975-1976 is Kerry Freeby. The following is a list of the Past Presidents and their term of office:

1954-55 LeRoy Brown
1955-56 Carl DeLong
1956-57 Ernest Rohrbach
1957-58 Earl Walbert
1958-59 Kermit Schofer
1959-60 Grant Schlegel
1960-61 Walter Herman
1961-62 Donald Heiter
1962-63 Clyde Steffy
1963-64 Alfred Grim
1964-65 Herbert Lantz
1965-66 Edward Conrath, Jr.
1966-67 Marvin Schaeffer
1967-68 LaVerne Stevens
1968-69 James Leshner, Jr.
1969-70 Donald Reinert
1970-71 Jesse Keller
1971-72 Norman Berger
1972-73 Dennis Musser
1973-74 Barry Every (Resigned)
James Hook (Interim President)
1974-75 James Hook

JAYCEES WIVES

The Tipton Jaycee Wives first organized in 1955. Their main purpose was to assist the Jaycees in their projects. Mrs. Kermit Schofer served as the first presi-



Tipton Jaycees: (left to right) William Cooperman, Gov. Shapp, Roger Hendrickson, James Hook

dent. Mrs. Alfred Grim as Vice President, Mrs. Arthur Miller as Secretary, and Mrs. Donald Heiter as Treasurer. Meetings were held in the bank basement.

After disbanding for several years, the Jaycee Wives reorganized in 1972. Meeting in member's homes, their purpose remains the same, although they have undertaken several other community projects including a "Welcome to Tipton" booklet and money-raising activities for the ambulance and others. Present officers are Mrs. Leonard Epting, President; Mrs. Kerry Freeby, Secretary; and Mrs. James Hook, Treasurer.

TOPTON BOY SCOUTS

Troop #510 Boy Scouts of America is one of the oldest troops in Berks County. It was the first fully uniformed troop in the county. It has been sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church, Tipton, since 1922. Prior to that time it was sponsored by a group of interested citizens of the area. John Cook and George Lantz were the first Scoutmasters. At that time the troop was known as Troop #1 and their meetings were held on the second floor of a store building on Washington Street.

It is not known who was on the Scout Committee until 1922. At that time J. Morris Schappell was Scoutmaster and Homer Moll and John Schappell were assistants. The Troop Committee consisted of Rev. William H. Kline, Dr. Charles Smith, Harvey Miller and George Dry. Charter members of the troop numbered nine but was quickly increased by seven more names. Troop meetings were temporarily discontinued in 1923.

In April, 1926 the troop was reorganized with Frederick Stauffer as Scoutmaster. The Troop Committee consisted of: Rev. William H. Kline, Harvey Kemp, Pearson Hinterleiter, Abner Croll and William Rohrbach. There were nine scouts at that time.

The following men served as Scoutmasters for the Tipton Troop:

1910-21 John Cook & George Lantz
1922-23 J. Morris Schappell
1926 Frederick Stauffer
1927-29 Luther Herbein
1930-34 William Herbein
1935-39 Russell Stauffer
1940 Woodrow Herbein
1941-42 Charles Trexler
1943 Earl Werst
1944-45 Raymond Rauenzahn, Earl Werst
1946-50 Earl Werst
1951 Ralph Pearson
1952-54 Martin Lantz
1955 Robert Fisher
1956-57 Walter Herman
1958-59 Robert Weiser
1960-74 Duane Moyer
1974-75 John Schofer
1975 Dennis Breidigam

Meetings are held presently every Monday evening at 6:30 P.M. on the third floor of the Tipton Volunteer Fire Company Hall.

Robert Fisher was the first scout to receive the Eagle Scout Award on July 15, 1962. Other scouts who have received this award are: Kenneth Fisher, Stephen Rohrbach, Joel Miller, Larry Hock, Dennis Barto, John Kline, Gregory DeJarnett, Glenn Fisher, John Schofer, Rodney DeJarnett, Daniel Schofer, Glenn Brensinger, Blaine Reeder, Keith Hertzog, Kevin Hertzog and Bradley Reeder (earned but not awarded).

The present committee consists of: Leon Reeder, Institutional Representative; Lowell Frederick, Chairman; Duane Moyer, Secretary; George Schofer, Treasurer; Dennis Breidigam, Scoutmaster; Sidney Haring, Assistant Scoutmaster; Blaine Reeder, Assistant Scoutmaster.

The first church award to be given was awarded to Curvov Stauffer, Jr., and was presented on May 11, 1947 by the Rev. William H. Kline. Others are:

Pro Deo Et Patria — Lutheran

Harry DeLong
Karol Stauffer
Willard Dellicker
Robert Fisher
Kenneth Fisher
Glenn Fisher
Stephen Rohrbach
Randy Miller
Keith Hertzog
Kevin Hertzog
John Kline
Blaine Reeder
Bradley Reeder

God And Country — United Church of Christ

Gregory DeJarnett
Rodney DeJarnett
Thomas Meitzler
Robert Edinger
David Schlegel

Silver Beaver recipients were: William Herbein, Robert Fisher, Duane Moyer.

TOPTON CUB SCOUTS

The Tipton Cub Scouts, Troop No. 510 meets every Monday evening in Trinity Lutheran Church. Richard Johnson is the cubmaster. Boys must have completed second grade before becoming a Cub Scout. After completing certain requirements, a Cub Scout goes on to become a Webelo prior to becoming a Boy Scout. The Webelo leader is Robert Rauenzahn. These boys meet every Saturday morning at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Martin Lantz was the first Cubmaster.

TOPTON GIRL SCOUTS

The Tipton Girl Scout troops were formed on September 24, 1975 under the guidance of the Kutztown Girl Scouts. They are a part of the Great Valley Girl Scout Council with its headquarters in Allentown. There are three troops in Tipton, each made up of girls in certain age brackets.

The Cadettes, Troop No. 284 has girls in the 12-14 year old category. Their leader is Mrs. Jay Adams

and the assistant leader is Mrs. Nancy Hughes.

The Juniors, Troop #378, under the leadership of Mrs. Judy Treichler and assisted by Mrs. Linda Kerschner is made up of girls between the ages of 9 and 11 years.

The Brownies, Troop #52 are led by Mrs. Diane Bieber. These girls are from 6 to 8 years of age.

TOPTON BLUEBIRDS

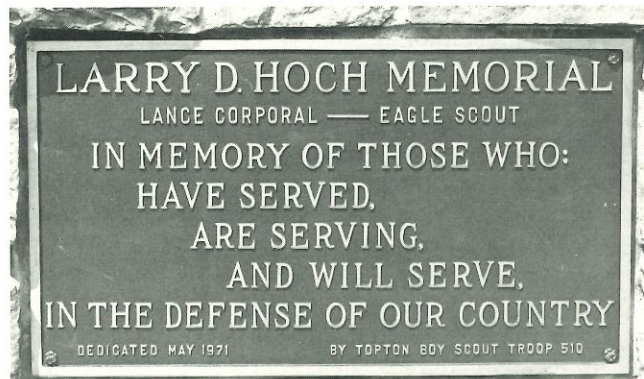
The Tipton Bluebirds group of Camp Fire Girls meets every Monday afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30 P.M. at St. Peter's U.C.C. The girls range in age from 6 through 8 years. Their leader is Mrs. Randy Hollowbush. She is assisted by Paulette James and Joan Tinsman. For many years the Bluebirds were directed by Janet Moyer. The Camp Fire Girls in Tipton have been discontinued for the present.

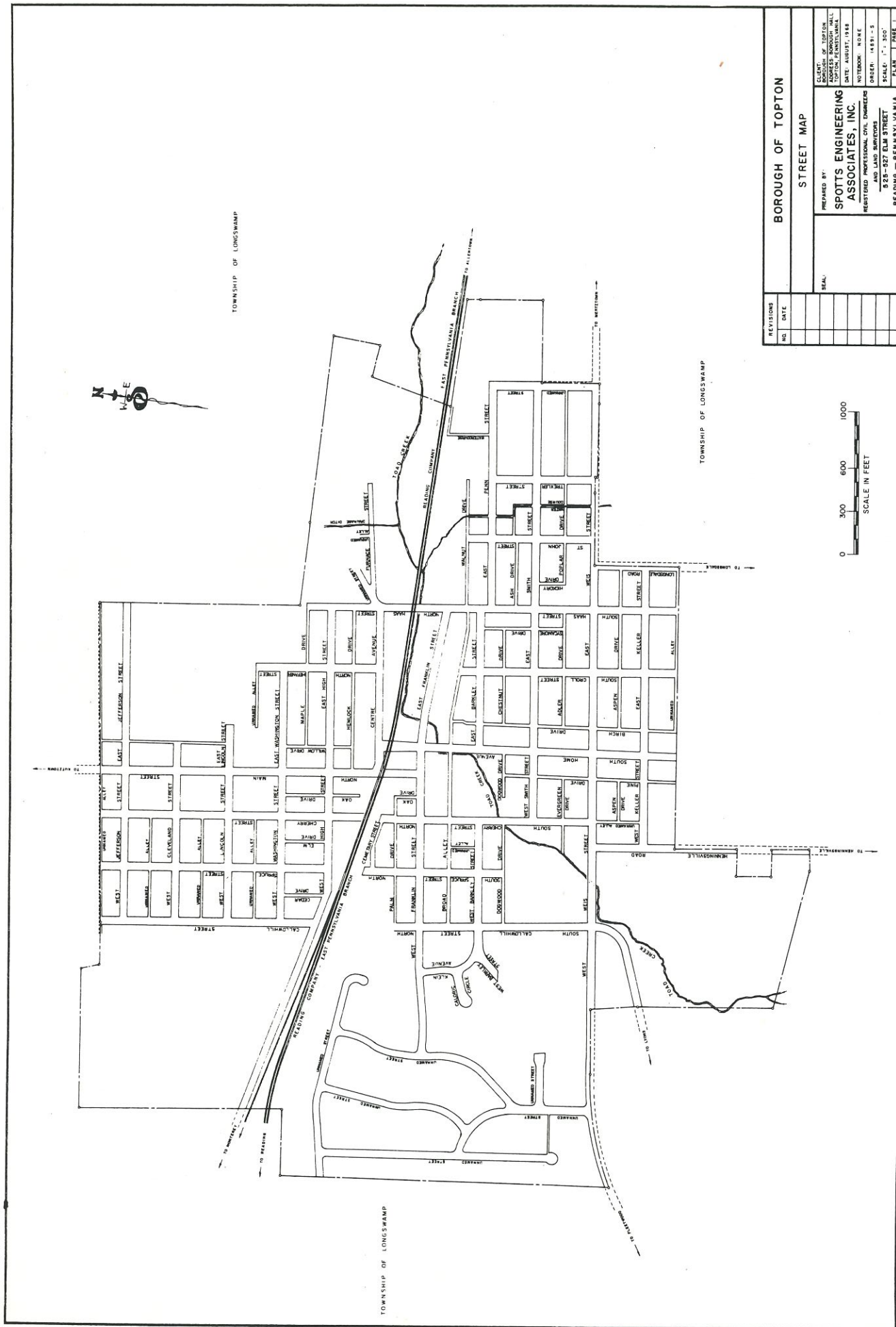
INTERNATIONAL MOULDERS AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION LOCAL #114

The Union at Caloric known as the Mid-Atlantic Conference Board of the International Moulders and Allied Workers Union Local #114 is affiliated with the AFL-CIO and the CLC. It has 600 members and its present officers are: President, John Long; Vice President, Lloyd Reifinger; Corresponding Secretary, George Schauer; Recording Secretary, Ronald Rhoads; Financial Secretary, Nevin Arndt; Treasurer, Edward Arndt; Trustees, John Hilbert, Dale Bailey and Harry Utrutkowski.

LOCAL #1310

The International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers Union, Local #1310, affiliated with the AFL-CIO represents the workers at the Transportation Sash Company. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Tipton Fire Company Hall. The present officers are: President, Jack Hoover; Vice President, Deborah Quillman; Financial Secretary, Max Croddy; Recording Secretary, JoAnn Angstadt; Inspector, Lillian Arndt. This union was organized February 26, 1952.





SPORTS



SOFTBALL

The first softball played in league competition was a team organized by LeRoy Fenstermacher which took part in the Church Social League in the early 30's and known as St. Peter's Reformed. No uniforms were used. Tipton won numerous championships in this era, but no cups or special prizes were given being played mainly for the fun and sociality enjoyed by those participating.

About 1936 a team was organized again by LeRoy Fenstermacher and entry was made in the Berks Co.

1946



Rec. Softball League. Members of the team were Paul Weaknecht, George Weaknecht, Martin Lantz, Robert Pilgert, James Luckenbill, Paul Spotts, LeRoy Acker, Clarence Snyder, LeRoy Fenstermacher, John Kemp, Paul Greis, Wayne Hertzog, Ernest Steffey, and James Spangler. They always gave a good account of themselves losing a game to Temple for the championship by the score of 4-3 in extra innings.

In the year of 1946 the Tipton Fire Co. sponsored a team in the Firemen's League. In 1954 they dropped out.

St. Peter's UCC Church Softball Team participated in the East Penn Church League from 1958 through approximately 1963. They won championships and play-off trophies for 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, finally losing to Longswamp in the finals of the 1962 season. The following players took part: Robert Webb, Walter Herman, Robert Moyer, Lee Heffner, Robert Reinhard, Carl Greiss, Robert Millard, Thomas Ziegler, Jr., Donald Heiter, Terry Ziegler, William Smith, Ronald Reinhard, Clyde Steffy, Dallas Keiser, Lee Hertzog, Jr., Dennis Reinert, Kenneth Reinert, LeRoy Wayne, and James Seyler.

The earliest information given on the formation of the Brandywine Heights Softball League was in 1968. League officers were: Clarence C. Funk, President; Charles Reed, First Vice President; Ernest Frantz, Second Vice President; Stanley Radcliffe, Jr., secretary; Raymond Geoger, Treasurer; Frank Weller, Commissioner.

In 1973, Tipton was the play-off champ with a record of 21-14. The present officers of the league are: Clarence C. Fund, President; Valoria Green, 1st Vice President; Ronald Reinhard, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer; Stanley Radcliffe, Jr., Secretary; and Russ Schaufner, Commissioner.

The Tipton Softball "A" Team is currently in its 6th year of existence. Prior to the 1970 season many of the players were members of the Mertztown Softball Team before it moved to Tipton. During these six years at Ferreira Field countless improvements have been made. In 1973 lights were installed so that games could be played in the cooler evening hours. In 1973 the VIP's fast pitch women's team moved to Ferreira Field from Blandon, bringing with them a new dimension in softball entertainment. Also, in 1974 they added a third team to the organization known as the Tipton "B" Team. This team is made up largely of 17-20 year old boys, with the hopes of developing new talent and offering a greater number of people an opportunity to partake in the sport.

Ferreira Field, the home of the Tipton Softball Association has also been the site of other important activities. The first P.I.A.A. High School State Championship Girls Softball Game was held there in the Spring of 1975.

The King and his Court, the Queen and her Maids, the California Cuties, the Berks Co. B Tournament, and some games in the 1975 State Class B Tournament were held there, too.

BASEBALL

Baseball, a major sport in Tipton, stems back to 1905. There were no uniforms and they played independent ball. The games were played on the field across from the Hancock Hotel. Some of the players were Howard Hickman, George Fisher, Robert Whitman, Roy Mabry, John Trexler, Charles Eschbach, Harry Snyder, and Warren Schwartz.

The first uniformed team was about 1909-10, white with Tipton in front. Some of the members were George Knauss, Howard Madeira, Luther Rhode, Claude Haas, Richard Weil, Nathan Stauffer, George Fisher, Wallace Barto, Nelson Fisher, Charles Fisher and Ralph Knauss.

In 1912 they played on the field east of the Furnace, in what was called The East Penn League composed of teams from Alburtis, Emmaus, Macungie, and Tipton. In 1914, the Tipton Foundry Co. Team, playing on the Foundry diamond in grey uniforms with Tipton A.A., was organized. George Kunkel was manager with Ed Schauer as Treasurer.

In 1919-20 independent ball was played on the field across from the Boyertown Burial Casket Co. Saturday baseball was played. The manager was Nelson Fisher. Players coming from Tipton were Herb Schneck, Ralph Moyer, Wallace Barto, Winfield Smith, George Wean, Paul Spotts, Charles Fisher, Harold LeVan and Ray Werst. The paid players were Samuel Evans, Don Michlor, Al Roth, Ziggy Reinhard, Max Missbach, Slavin, Hecky Sharp, Al Heckman and Bill Martin. This team played the Reading Internationals on the home field and lost 5-2.

In 1924-25 they became members of the East Penn League with teams from Lyons, Alburtis, Macungie, Emmaus, Blandon, and Tipton. In 1924 Tipton won the League Championship from Macungie having the best record of any home talent team in their history winning 17 and losing 5.

In 1927 Tipton with manager George Leibensperger won another East Penn League Championship. The players were: Ralph Riefinger, Francis DeLong, Warren Reppert, Henry Neusch, Paul Yoder, Gene Neusch, Howard Landis, George Spangler, George Leibensperger, LeRoy Fenstermacher, Lloyd Reifinger, Ralph Secher, Chester Reifinger and Stephen Smith. The mascots were Lewis Stoudt, Howard Acker and Harold Lantz.

In 1928-1931 Tipton entered the Lehigh Valley Semi-Pro League, winning the championship in 1931. The home talent players were: Harold Hieter, Francis DeLong, Howard Landis, Warren Reppert, Gene Neusch, Vic Zenglin, George Spangler, Paul Yoder, George Leibensperger, manager and player, Irwin Reifinger, Henry Neusch, LeRoy Fenstermacher, Amos Grims and Frank Weller.

The championship team was feted at a banquet at the American Legion Home. Some of the speakers were former State Sen. Horace W. Schantz, State Sen.

1909



1919

1931



1947

Henry L. Snyder, Ernest "Duke" Langraf, Llewellyn Schelly, Henry Martz, George "Bucky" Boyle, Anthony L. Reilly, Rev. L.J. Letterhouse.

In 1935 the Berks Recreation League was organized and Tipton became a member with Roland Weidner as manager, winning the championship in 1939. The following were members of the 1935 team: Eric Webb, Harold Webb, John Fisher, Reynold Fisher, Ralph Weidner, Ernest Angstadt, Howard Acker, Linwood Hoppes, Arthur Miller, Frank Weller, Mark Fisher, Harold Lantz, Henry Kerr, Robert Fisher, Ned Master, Paul Greis and John Stuffed (Kutztown).

Tipton then became a member of the Tri-Co. League. They won a championship in 1941 by defeating Macungie 4-2 at Macungie. Robert Gallmoyer was manager with Milton Christman serving as coach and Robert Pilgest as scorer. Team members were: LeRoy Acker, Ernest Angstadt, Paul Spotts, Adam Hieter, Harold Webb, Clarence Snyder, Ned and Gerald Master, Carl Fisher, Howard Acker, Wayne Hertzog, Eric Webb, Mark Fisher, Robert Fisher, Linwood Hoppes, Horace Heist.

One of the last baseball teams was in 1947 and 1948 when the Tipton A. A. had the following players: Lloyd Reifinger, Charles Wotring, Daniel Conrath, Raymond Rauenzahn, Donald Hieter, Linwood Hoppes, Adam Hieter, Ray Stauffer, Arthur Miller, Paul Spotts (scorer), Ned Master, Mark Fisher, Paul Keiser, Reynold Reifinger, Lee Heffner, Ralph Reifinger, Jr., and William Smith.

Some of the players from Tipton advanced to professional baseball of which they can well be proud and others achieved honors which also can be carried with pride.

Ralph "Dad" Moyer pitched a no-hit, no-run game while attending College.

Robert "Bob" Gallmoyer had been signed by Reading's entry in the U.S. League. A sore arm shortened his baseball career.

Ernest "Bully" Angstadt in 1940 pitched in the Mountain State League with Logan. His record was 13W and 6L. A bruised finger on his pitching hand shortened his stay. He gave Tipton many fine games upon his return.

Lee Heffner broke into organized baseball in 1950 in the Philadelphia Athletics Farm System and played for a number of years as a catcher and third baseman. Lee brought fame to himself and Tipton by entering the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. through his play at Welsh, West Virginia. In one game, he started two triple plays, never performed in the Major or Minor leagues.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Sometime in the middle 50's Tipton sponsored a Legion Baseball Team. Some members remember that for a few years they had a pretty respectable team, but for some reason the idea was given up.

On February 2, 1975 the Tipton Legion Team was accepted as a member of the Berks Co. American Legion League. The team is sponsored by Ray Master Post #217. The eighteen man roster is made up of Troy Fairchild, Don Keiser, Rich Fegely, Ben Meck, Jeff Fox, Rich Rauenzahn, Jerry Gambler, Scott Ream, Darwin Haas, Mike Reinhard, Barry Hall, Warren Schaeffer, Don Hatch, Scott Scheidt, Darrell Herman, Tom Solt, Jeff Jones, and Steve Stamm.

TOPTON LITTLE LEAGUE ASSOCIATION

The gleam in the eyes of several men in the Spring of 1968 became a reality that summer when Little League Baseball was played for the first time in Tipton on July 7, 1968.

The group of men who founded the organization were: Stan Nolan, Lowell Frederick, Cally Miller, Paul Keiser and Lee Heffner. The teams and their managers in the first year of operation were:

American League

Athletics—Lee Heffner
Orioles—Ken Reinert
Red Sox—Walter Herman
White Sox—Cally Miller

National League

Braves—William Sicher
Cubs—Don Reinert
Dodgers—Paul Keiser
Phillies—Bob Scheidt

The Tipton Little League Association was chartered by the State of Pennsylvania in June 1970. The Little League field, located in Community Park, was dedicated on June 14, 1970 by Senator Gus Yatron and former Phillies star, Andy Seminick. This was made possible by the hard work of the organization, the community, the service clubs, borough council and the Tipton Recreation Board.

In the first year of operation, the Little League had eight teams with eighty boys participating. In 1975, the League consisted of 16 teams with over 200 boys participating. In addition, a girl's league was formed under the direction of Mrs. Diane Herman and Mrs. Shirley Rauenzahn. In 1975 the girls had eight softball teams with 150 girls participating.

In addition to the boys and girls, the Little League Association is comprised of over 100 dedicated men and women who help the youth of the community to spend their time in an activity which helps to establish character, sportsmanship, and positive values in today's complex society.



1971 Athletic Champions: Front row, left to right: James Bower, Jeffrey Heffner, Troy Greiss, Steve Ferry, Jeffrey Fritch. Second row: Scott Guldin, Donald Barlet, Daryl Herman, Eddie Reinert, Dave Miller, Ricky Jarrett. Third row: Coach Earl Lantz, Manager Lee Heffner, Coach Carl Greiss.

BASKETBALL

Basketball has been traced back to the 1920's when it was played on the first floor of the P.O.S. of A. Hall now occupied by the Tipton Fire Co. Games were played by groups of young men. Everything possible was built by the players who were not uniformed. One had to be "rough and ready" to take part. The game was then played in the Tipton Jr. High School beginning in the early 30's. Games were played with teams in the area and the records made were quite good. To complete their H.S. education many of the boys went to Kutztown or Emmaus and played there, some of whom were on State Championship teams.

The young men of St. Peter's Reformed Church organized and started to play independent ball as the St. Peter's Reformed Church team under the direction of Dick Contos and LeRoy Fenstermacher. They entered the Berks Co. Rec. League of which they were members for a few years. The members of the team were: Kenneth Webb, Eric Webb, Reynold Fisher, John Fisher, Reynold Strunk, Woodrow Herbein, Arthur Nester, Carl Acker, Henry Kerr, William Fisher, George Spangler, Harold Fenstermacher, and Melvin Gambler.

The Tipton "Tigers" were organized in 1954 and barnstormed throughout Berks and Lehigh Cos. All games were played away from home because no suitable court was available until 1955 when home games were played on the Lutheran Home court. When the new Brandywine H.S. was completed, the team's name was changed to The Tipton Celtics. The team then entered the Berks Co. Rec. League. The Celtics had the honor of playing the first game open to the public in the new H.S. The best record enjoyed by the team was during the 1958-59 season when they lost to Robeson in the last two seconds for the Co. Championship. The team consisted of the following players: Lee Hertzog, Donald Brintzenhoff, Walter "Monk" Herman, John Keiser, "Muller" Reidnauer, Barry "Butch" Boyer, Lee Heffner, Kenneth Yenger—Coach, Robert "Bob" Millard, Dallas "Butch" Keiser, Donald Leshner, Eddie Houck, Forrest Rauenzahn, and David Remaley.

Others playing with the team over the years were: James Schauer, Howard Schauer, Carl Geist, Jack Drey, Allen "Skip" Bosser, Donald Hieter, and Larry Werst.

There are no teams representing Tipton at the present time.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

From the earliest years of the incorporation when sporting events were held on grassy meadows and in building basements to the present era of two lighted ball fields, a modern field house, a community swimming pool, tennis courts, and asphalt playgrounds,

sports have had an influence on maturing life of the community. The citizens have always honored and supported the adult and youth teams and individuals as they participated in the Lehigh Valley League, the Berks County Recreational League, the Tri-County League, the Fireman's League, the Berks County Inter-Scholastic League and in various district, state and national tournaments.

Many teams and individuals have brought honor to Tipton by winning championships in their division over the years. A number of individuals continued their exceptional athletic ability in professional leagues, on independent teams and the college campus. Tipton has also been proud of its able citizens who coached and managed the teams and of its organizations who sponsored the various activities.

During the latter days of World War II a comprehensive recreational program as a "living memorial" for all veterans was developed by the borough council and the Veterans Memorial Committee. Plans included provisions for softball, basketball, tennis, roller skating, ice skating, playgrounds, swimming, picnicking, a band shell, and a memorial building.

As Tipton looks ahead to its second hundred years in continuing to develop its sports and recreation program, the plans for the acreage in the center of town as originally sponsored by the V.M.C. should now be completed.

TOPTON RECREATION

A Recreation Board was organized in Tipton in 1935 with J. Park Smith as President. Other members were: George Wean, John Eisenhard, William Mertz, Rev. William Kline.

John Kemp and Wayne Hertzog were appointed to take over the Midget Team, and Eleanor Bieber and Isabel Rohrbach, the playground activities.

In 1937 Leadership was transferred to LeRoy Fenstermacher, Hilda Neusch, and Sara Mae Rohrbach. The Reading Times helped in the program by providing one umpire, 2 balls and some equipment. There were no uniforms, only caps and shirts were provided by some kind of donor.

The year 1937 was the worst year for the Tipton Midgets under Fenstermacher. They ended with a 5-5 record. All other years under his supervision ended in 9-1, 8-2, or 7-3. They played for the county championship only once and lost to Wernersville 6-4.

When Fenstermacher left, the program was directed by Hilda Neusch and Sara Mae Rohrbach with the assistance of Jane Wean. The Midget team was then sponsored by the Tipton Fire Co. under the leadership of Harold Lantz. Two years later Carl Moll entered the picture and he had William Smith serve as coach. In 1950 Tipton was represented in the finals of the Berks Rec. Midget League, and lost but the next year, 1951 they again became champions of Berks Co.

Tipton Recreation



Soccer

1958-1959



ARCHERY

They were first organized in 1959. Some of the original members were: Dale Eisenhart, Robert Landis, Elton Eckert, Harold Fenstermacher, Richard Weaknecht, Percy Keiser, Klanroy Keiser and George Oswald. They called themselves the "Topton Plunkers."

In 1960 on Harry Boyer's property an official twenty eight target course was laid out. They became affiliated with State and National Archery Associations. They also joined the East Penn Archery Conference consisting of Unami, Boyertown, White Tail of Hellertown, Reading and Topton. A point system was used and a Conference Championship was won in 1968. The membership at this time was over 100 members.

In 1970 they merged with the Topton Fish and Game and took the name of Topton Fish and Game Association Bow Hunters. Marlin Fox, a member of the Bow Hunters, was the State Champion in the Bere-Bow Class.

GOLF

The first annual Topton Open Golf Tournament was held on September 14, 1975 at the Rich Maiden Golf Course under the auspices of the Topton Jaycees. Prizes were sponsored by the local merchants. The winners were: Rammy Geist with a 72, Karl Koehler with a 74, and Bert Bordner and Dale Hart with 77's.

BOWLING AND POOL

Around 1905 two bowling alleys were erected in what was then known as Butz's Barber Shop. There was also one pool table alongside. Some of the bowlers mentioned were: John Hunsicker, Charles Fisher, Earl Gambler, Robert Gallmoyer.

About 1932 a new building was erected at Heffner and Railroad Sts. which contained four bowling alleys and two pool tables besides a restaurant. The first proprietor was John Passmore. Topton was represented by traveling teams, especially after Roland Weidner purchased the place. A few good records were recorded by the team composed of Ralph Weidner, LeRoy Fenstermacher, Milton Christman, Robert Gallmoyer, Robert Pilgert, and Frank Weller. At Catasauqua against Smith Chocolates a score of 3250 was recorded and bowling in Ephrata on new alleys established a mark of 3151. Others sometimes also bowled with the team including: John Heck, Adam Hieter, John Kemp, Paul Boyer, "Pinky" Webb, William Landis, Clarence Smith. The Fire Co. also had a traveling team made up of: Charles Hartzell, "Tony" Smith, Paul Boyer, Harry Herman, "Brad" Nester, Adam Hieter and a few others.

A new building was erected by a group in the eastern section of town in which there were 12 alleys. It was built in 1958. Some of the men in charge were: H. Reppert, P. Keiser, B. Reinert, F. May, P. Limpus. It was known as the Topton Bowl. For several years it was the scene of tremendous activity, but went out of business in 1962. Topton has not had any such activity since.

SWIMMING

The V.M.C. Pool of Topton went into operation in 1957. Several groups had become interested in renovation of the old pool: the Fire Company Beneficial Association in 1950; Rotary, in 1954 followed by the Lions Club. To avoid duplication of effort and to raise money, the Veterans Memorial Committee assumed responsibility.

A bond drive was launched in 1955. Organizations and individuals responded, raising almost \$45,000 in three years. V.M.C. secured a \$25,000 loan from the National Bank of Topton. The property was purchased from the borough, specifications were made available to contractors, bids were accepted, contracts were negotiated, and construction began.

The pool and partly completed bathhouses were dedicated on July 14, 1957 and opened to the public. Full operations started in 1958. The pool was owned and operated by the V.M.C. until August 1968 when the borough assumed the financial obligations, but not its operation until 1970.

In 1957 when the pool went into operation, those who assisted were: Carl Moll, manager; LeRoy Fenstermacher, admissions; Mrs. Florence Moll and Mrs. Phoebe Dellicker, refreshment stand. The first coaches were Janet Dicks and Betty Weber who developed competition among the groups and had some fine meets.

Starting in 1961 there were many more meets. Some of the outstanding swimmers were: Marsha DeLong, Gayle Miller, Tonia Brown, Sharon Geist, Nancy DeLong, Sherry Herman and Shawn Brown. The instructors were: Pat Hilbert, Jack Brown, Gary Roth, Becky Norris and the four Abbott boys.

From 1967 to 1975 two girls who participated in competitive swimming more than any other locals were: Mindy and Bobbi Millard, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Millard.

In 1968 at York, Mindy won a state swim title by taking first in the Cadet 50 yard Butterfly in 33.5. She was a fifth grade student at this time. She also copped first place in this event as a seventh grader. In 1971 she again won the Y.M.C.A. State Championship for the 100 yd. Butterfly establishing a state record.

In 1971 Bobbi also won the Y.M.C.A. State Championship in the 50 yd. Butterfly and 100 yd. Individual Medley. In 1973 she again won the Y.M.C.A. Middle Atlantic Championship in the 50 yd. Butterfly.



Some of the other swimmers who helped establish Berks County records were: Lisa Andersen, Louise Andersen, Julie Wilson, Joanne Anderson, Brandi Floreen, Marsha DeLong, Nancy DeLong, Lauren Angstadt, Wendy Hoppes, Melissa Saul.

DARTBALL

The Church League of this area was organized in 1932 with only four teams participating.

The Young People's League of the Reformed Church organized and joined the Church League in 1936. LeRoy Fenstermacher was chosen as manager and director. After quite a few years the team had the assistance of Melvin Gambler for a short period after which the team disbanded. One championship was won. The following members participated: K. DeLong, L. Buck, R. Reinhard, D. Rohrbach, J. Reinhard, R. Meitzler, L. Hertzog, C. Meitzler, M. Gambler, Rev. Slifer, C. Webb, E. Ruppert, F. Fenstermacher, J. Bollinger, H. Fenstermacher, J. Stoudt, L. Fenstermacher, and G. Reinhard.

The members of Trinity Lutheran also organized and later became members of the same league. Some of the men who took part were: C. Reifinger, Sr., P. Deisher, G. Weaknecht, P. Hinterleiter, E. Sanders, C. Stauffer, Sr., C. Herman, C. Trexler, L. Stauffer, E. Edinger, W. Angstadt.

BOXING

In 1937 and 1938 Tipton was represented in the boxing games at the Fairgrounds in Allentown and in Mealey's Auditorium. It was strictly for amateurs.

Harry Herman and Ralph Reifinger had charge of the locals. They were: James DeLong, heavyweight; Lee Gallmoyer, middleweight; George Gallmoyer, welterweight; Ernest Steffey, lightweight.

The records of the Gallmoyer Brothers are the only ones known. Both had thirteen (13) fights with Lee winning all of them and George lost one event by decision.

MARBLES

The Tipton Junior High School participated five years in the Berks Co. Marble Championships under the leadership of LeRoy Fenstermacher. The Reading Times was sponsor of the program. The following is a record of the boys from the Tipton Jr. High School who took part together with results:

- 1936 —Boy from Lutheran Home was well on the way to victory when he developed a sore knuckle and had to withdraw.
1937-1938—Alfred DeLong—Berks Co. Champion
1939 —Richard Barlet—Berks Co. Champion
1940 —Peter Brensinger—Did not participate in the finals

FOOTBALL

In the early 30's Tipton had a football team. They organized and drilled themselves on the old baseball field. They were not uniformed and would have made a comic picture compared to the present day. They played independent ball. Some of the members remembered were: H. Neusch, E. Neusch, Kerrick, R. Strunk, Black, R. Stauffer, H. Herman, G. Spangler, etc. They were not too successful, but had wonderful times.

MEMORIES



LOOKING BACKWARD TO PAST BUSINESSES

The history of Tipton would be incomplete if some mention were not made of past business and industry. Some business has undoubtedly been missed but the following list has been compiled as accurately as present information and memory has afforded.

- 1870 C. D. Trexler, General merchandise on Centre Ave.
- 1872 Tilghman DeLong Furniture Co.
- 1874 The Washington House was built by James George.
Benjamin Bieber's Store
- 1880 Tipton Brickyard
- 1881 William Fritz, harness maker
- 1882 Heffner Grain, Coal & Lumber and Creamery
- 1885 Rohrbach Roller Flour Mills
- 1886 Weaknecht Cigar Factory
- 1888 Cyrus Lessig Butcher Shop
- 1889 William F. Rohrbach Blacksmith Shop



E.J. Rohrbach, Tinsmith & Stoves, Established 1890

- 1890 E. J. Rohrbach, Tinsmith
- 1892 Reuben Fenstermacher Bakery
Edward Yanisch, Tailor
- 1898 Tipton Silk Mill
- 1898 J. P. Trexler General Store
Jonathan Heiser's Shoe Factory & Repair Shop
- 1900 Fred Trexler buys Fenstermacher's Bakery
- 1905 Horace Jacobs buys Lessig Butcher Shop
- 1906 Tipton Underwear Mills
- 1910 Simkowitz Clothing Store
- 1911 William C. Swoyer, Plumber
- 1914 Jacob Shankweiler's General Store
- 1914 Fred Boyer's Garage
- 1914 Ira Desch Garage
- 1915 Morgan's Jewelry Store
- 1920 Tipton Motor Car Co.
- 1924 Unger's Garage
- 1925 Oswin Meck—Real Estate and Contracting Business
- 1925 Wert's Beauty Shop
- 1927 Milton I. Leiby, Sr. Restaurant
- 1927 Milton I. Leiby, Jr. Radio
- 1928 Kemp & Deisher Radio Store
- 1928 W. N. Miller, Quality Meats
- 1928 Toth Shoe Repair
- 1929 American Store
- 1930 Leaser Motors
- 1931 Albright's Feed Station
- 1932 Weidner's Restaurant & Cafe
- 1933 Charles Herman, Shoe Repair
- 1934 Weidner's Bowling Alley
- 1936 Raymond Smith's 5 & 10 Cent Store
- 1937 Palace Movie Theatre
- 1939 Raymond Hieter's Beauty Shop
- 1941 Herbert Gordon, Plumbing & Heating
- 1944 William Fenstermacher, Real Estate
- 1947 Charles Wotring buys Jacobs Butcher Shop
- 1947 East Penn Weaving Co. moves to Centre Ave
- 1947 Tipton Dry Cleaners
- 1947 Bieber's Shoe Repair
- 1947 Charles Mengel, Plumber & Tinsmith
- 1949 Moyer's Luncheonette
- 1950 Bair Jewelry & Lingerie

DeLong Furniture Co.



REMEMBRANCES OF YESTERYEAR'S BUSINESSES

The building now occupied by Frey's is an old landmark built by Michael Miller in 1875. As far as can be determined Peter Diener and a Mr. Schaeffer were the first merchants. It later became Benjamin Bieber's store.

Three millinery stores have been located in Tipton over the years. The last was owned and conducted on Home Ave. by Mrs. Kate Dankel.

The "Lamplighter" business was carried on by Alfred Brodman, Henry Christman, and Reuben and Jacob Folk. Long to be remembered are these men who carried a ladder under one arm and a kerosene can in the other going up and down the streets morning and evening attending to the kerosene lights that lit up the streets.

A Chips Factory was found on the back side of the lot where the Crown Knitting Mill was located (now Marcus Manufacturing). The proceeds from the sale of chips were used to buy the bell in the belfry of St. Peter's United Church of Christ.

A retail ice business was conducted by John M. Leibensperger. His ice house and the ice lake was located on Weiss and Callowhill Streets. The creaking of the two-horse drawn vehicle under the burden of tons of ice could be heard in the wee hours of the morning. His successor was his nephew, John J. Leibensperger, who used trucks to deliver ice for 20 years. In his later business days he bought the ice from a firm in Kutztown. He sold his business to Mr. Oswald.

Moses Neubold conducted an ice business with the ice house and lake located on Weiss Street. For a long time Mr. Neubold used the old school house on the corner of Weiss Street and the Henningsville Road as a storage place.

The first ice house in town was located on the Heffner property at the corner of Haas and Franklin Streets. The ice was taken from a dam beside the house. In later years tobacco was raised in this spot.

Mr. Heffner also operated a Creamery in connection with his Grain, Coal & Lumber business. It was located at the corner of Haas and Railroad Streets. He was responsible for collecting milk from the farmers and citizens of the community had to call at the Creamery for their daily supply. Butter was made and sold for twelve cents a pound. Ice Cream was made for picnics, etc.

Milton I. Leiby, Sr. conducted a milk route for many years. The milk house was located on Weiss Street. Jacob Shankweiler and Alvin Weiser also served patrons with milk and cream. All of these milkmen used horse-drawn milk wagons to make deliveries. When these men were in business there

Crown Knitting Mill



Boyetown Casket Works, Tipton Plant



Yoder's



National Bank of Tipton, Carrie Bieber, Harold Trexler

were not so many state regulations. They had the milk in cans and the patrons came to the wagon with pitchers or kettles to fetch their milk. The milkmen used long handled dippers to measure the milk.

Topton was made famous by the fancy rugs made in the Collin's Rug Mill. This factory included a weaving mill, braided oval department, special sewing department and a dye house.

Not many citizens remember that the pioneer liquor store in Topton was established by Josiah Fisher in the brick house on the corner of Cherry and Washington Streets.

Isaac Gambler's Oyster Bar which was located in the basement of High's Hotel will long be remembered for its rich sea food. Later this bar was removed to the basement of the Butz building on Home Avenue.

Leiby's Restaurant was sold to Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Gallmoyer who in turn sold it to Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Kemp who then sold it to Weidners.

The Oswin DeLong's operated a small community store on the corner of Franklin and Home Streets while the Atlantic and Pacific Stores had a branch store in the rooms now occupied by Elmer Schofer.

Henry Wean conducted a shoe business on Centre Avenue in the house formerly occupied by the Dan Heist Shoe Shop and the Jacob Heiser Shoe Factory & Repair Shop.

Fred Diener had a small grocery business on Weiss Street as did Milton I. Leiby, Sr.

Our forefathers in Topton never had an excuse to wear a beard or grow long hair for the town has always had enough barber shops. Never to be forgotten are the establishments operated by David Grim in a building which stood between the railroad and post office, or the Butz's Barber Shop which was found where Eisenhart's Barber Shop is not located. The long row of individual shaving mugs on the shelves in front of the barber chairs are pleasant memories of the beginnings of sanitation in barber shops. David Hieter began his barber career in a residence on High Street. Lloyd Bieber was the proprietor of a barber shop located on Franklin Street.

Mr. Henry Yoder, for a long time a transient merchant, established a large business on the back part of his lot on Barclay Street.

David Hieter became interested in the poultry business as a hobby which grew into a nice sized business.

The first ice cream ever sold in Topton was bought at Weaknecht's Cigar Factory & Candy Store for twenty cents a quart.

John Leibensperger was the pioneer in building and conducting a swimming pool in town. After the use of ice became less and less, Mr. Leibensperger decided to use the ice lake as a swimming pool. With a great number of changes and the building of a bath house and refreshment stand together with the drilling of a well and the installation of a chlorinator he conducted the pool for many years. This pool, after many changes, etc. is the pool being used today.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Do you remember.
the smell of burning leaves in autumn,
kerosene lamps—cleaning the chimneys and wicks and refilling with kerosene,
collecting and drying herbs used in cooking and home remedies,
making home-made soap from lye and fats from drippings,
bed-size tickings filled with feathers, straw or husks, feed and flour bags used for kitchen towels and garments. They were made in prints which were saved or exchanged to get enough material for a dress.
treadle sewing machines,
bed covers made from patchwork or woven in design with date & name,
quilting parties—women gathered to help a neighbor make a quilt, or church groups to raise money for the church. Children who accompanied their mothers frequently played under the quilt frame while the work was done.
rag rugs made from pieces of usable cloth that were saved in a "rag bag", cut into strips, braided and sewed together,
ironing starched curtains with "crimpers" for the ruffles,
emptying the pan under the ice box or having puddles on the floor,
beating rugs with a wire rug-beater at house cleaning time,
the old "crank" telephone, ringing the operator to get your party,
cranking a car to start the engine,
buying products from hucksters who sold their wares from door to door (iceman, baker, butcher, milkman) from horse-drawn wagons, later replaced by trucks. Milk was measured from a dipper into the customer's container,
itinerant repair men who mended umbrellas, pots and pans, and sharpened knives,
when the Rug Mill delivered rugs to homes to finish the end knots by hand. Families worked on them during the evening and they were picked up the next morning.
when slag from the Furnace was poured from the cars onto an embankment. The slag glowed in the dark until the embers died out.
tramps who sometimes worked for their supper the iceman delivering 50-100 pound blocks of ice. The blocks were covered with sawdust to slow the melting. Water dripped from the sides and bottom of the wagon or truck.
watching a horse being shod at the blacksmith shop. Wagon rims were shaped, tools made or repaired. The forge glowed in the background. William F. Rohrbach and Ed Bailey were the first blacksmiths at the shop which was located on the site now occupied by the bank parking lot.



Home Talent Show



J.J. Schofer, Son Furniture Store, John Schofer, Jacob J. Schofer and Pauline Spatz.

kids playing Hide and go seek, Go round the mulberry bush, Run, sheep, run. When they grew older they played Spin the bottle and Post office. roller skating on the new concrete highway to the Five Points and beyond.
going on a sleigh ride to a nearby hotel for dancing and food
going sledding from the "Home" steps to the railroad, or down Latshaw Hill.
hoedowns and the figure callers
attending lectures, concerts, and plays in the Chautauqua Series.
family reunions and Sunday School picnics at nearby parks (Hancock, Kutztown, Dorney, Carsonia)
going to the Post Office for the evening mail train, and to meet friends

the American Legion minstrel shows
the Nei Yohr Wunschers—to wish you good luck and buying penny candies—nigger babies, buttons on a paper strip, wax forms filled with syrup, fried eggs in a tin pan and tin spoon

measuring cups for candies—glass baskets and shoes, wooden barrels, small cups with handles
taking eggs to the grocery store in exchange for groceries or credit

picking wild strawberries on the railroad bank
storing vegetables and fruits in a ground cellar
the pungent smell of sauerkraut in crocks in the cellar
barrels in the grocery store containing crackers, sour pickles, molasses or fuel

getting a sample of cheese cut from the large "round" the aroma of freshly ground coffee
clear toy candy and horehound drops
eating "Schmeer case" and apple butter
drying corn, sweet apple "schnitz", string beans—on the stove, in the attic, or in the sun

hanging racks in the cellar that held a week's supply of pies, cakes, bread. The racks are now collectors items

cooking apple butter in a large iron kettle. This was hot, tedious work because it had to be stirred constantly to prevent scorching

butchering—making sausage, scrapple, hams
buying a bag of broken pretzels for a penny
making homemade ice cream, turning the crank until it was ready

baked bean and vegetable soup sales conducted by the church groups

climbing the large mulberry tree in the school yard near the R.R. bank

the "Palace" theatre at Franklin and Main Streets. It was the scene of silent movies and talkies, home talent plays and minstrel shows, school plays and operettas, the Chautauqua series. In the silent movie days, Horace Fisher, the resident piano player would bob up and down on the piano bench to follow the action and change the mood of the music he played.

going on hikes to the "Home" woods. Many romances began and flourished there.

Old Home in Tipton, Clarence Oswald



"Big Rocks"

shoot in the new year
traveling circuses set up in the meadow, later in the Caloric lot
the arrival of the Belsnickel (Santa Claus) with gifts for the good children, coal for those who were not
the "burning of the greens" sponsored by Youth Council
piano recitals and musical teas
John Cook's German Band practicing at the coal yard office
John Leibensperger's swimming pool
dancing at "The Jubber" to your favorite tunes on the juke box
chess games at Ray Smith's 5 & 10 Cent Store
the "Millionaires Club" above Mertz's Jewelry Store
the booths in Smith's Pharmacy
Halloween pranks—cornering, soaping, spooling or bottling

V.M.C. block parties for the benefit of the pool fund
the "Kissing Bridge"—a wooden bridge with an iron railing running parallel to Home Avenue from the bend below the doctor's home to the bank building
"high wheeler" bicycle races from William Fritz's shop to the Five Points (a measured mile)

basketball games in Tipton Junior High School's "coal bin" court

post mistresses—Hannah Hinterleiter and Carrie Hacock Knerr

the freight train engineer (Elmer High Sr. son-in-law) who tooted "Home Sweet Home" to announce his trip through the valley

bus service to Reading and Allentown
waiting at the railroad station for the Reading Company local commuter trains to Allentown and Reading, or the "Kutzie" that was used by high school and Normal School students. Benches under the porch roof and inside, near the stove. The penny machine with two Chicklets or a small Hershey bar. The ticket window and the baggage room, the click of the telegrapher's key. The telegraphers were Pierce Teter, Frank Moyer, Horace Fisher
the flight of the U.S. dirigible over Tipton. Eleanor Bieber, a Wave, was aboard with a crew on a training flight

"old timers" gathering around the stove in the rear of Benjamin Bieber's grocery store to gossip, wait for friends, or just pass the time

making rootbeer and bottling it in the basement of Trinity Lutheran Church to be sold on Anniversary Day

when Anniversary Day was a big day. Streams of cars, special trains and buses brought volunteer workers and guests for the day. Homemade articles and food were sold, there was a band concert and entertainment supplied by the children of the Home

the old farm at the present site of the post office
the variety of sounds from the stop and start whistles from the Rug Mill, the Silk Mill, Rohrbach Roller Mill, DeLong Furniture Co. & Caloric. Caloric and DeLong Furniture had a running contest to get in

Home Avenue, 1925



DeLong Furniture

the last "toot" to bring in the New Year. Thomas and Raymond Werst were the chief tooters. meetings at the P.O.S. of A. Hall (above Schappell's Hardware Store, on Main Street and the present Fire Company Building. that students from the Tipton Junior High School attended classes at Kutztown, Emmaus, Allentown, or Reading after tenth grade, graduating from there. Parents had to provide transportation and tuition money. the large coal pile in the rear of the Tipton School. Coal was purchased by the carload from Caloric and delivered as needed. It had to be shoveled into the bins under a concrete slab. Groups of boys eager to escape classes for a while volunteered to fill the bins. the Butz Auditorium (on Main Street behind the hotel now called the Railroad Crossing Inn, razed in



1974). People attending dancing classes and balls, home talent plays, and later the movies. Harvest Home Services in the churches. The produce that was brought was utilized by the pastors' families and kept them busy for weeks afterwards. tolling the church bells to indicate the age of a member who had died Easter and Christmas caroling by groups of children and adults the strike at Caloric in 1937. Violence and bitter feelings between men representing the local union and the International Molders Union lasted for a long time after the strike was settled. the fire at Caloric in 1926. Sparks were carried from the plant to Weiss Street. There was danger of tanks exploding. The plant inventory completed that day was destroyed, as were most of the records. stopping the "Queen of the Valley" of the "Harrisburg Special" for passengers to board. Mr. Collins was a frequent passenger. Rev. William Kline was loaded down with Penna. Dutch goodies for his daughter's family in Wisconsin (pretzels, Lebanon bologna and fresh clams); when Tipton had eight grocery stores Sunday School perfect attendance pins. Additional bars were attached for each year. the May Day celebration at the public school on Franklin Street. Refreshments were served, each grade performed, games and contests were conducted, a May Queen and her court presided. This was discontinued during W.W. II because of rationing. County Field Day at the Kutztown Fairgrounds. Local contest winners competed with other area winners in academic, music, and field contests Excursions to Hershey and Willow Grove Parks for sight seeing and concerts of the Sousa Band and Creator's Band. Sections of passengers from Allentown, Slatington, Leesport, Hamburg would pick up lunch cars made up in Tipton by William Fritz, William Rohrbach, Dr. Werley, and others. revival meetins in the church on Smith Street (now the Union Hall). They sometimes lasted for a week. The converts were baptized in the stream World War II black-outs and defense drills. Block wardens checked black-out conditions, kept people indoors. There were volunteers for first aid, ambulance duty, reservoir patrol and aircraft spotting. scrap drives were supervised by the school. Local children appeared in a movie with their collection of paper, aluminum, fats, tin cans and all kinds of metal scrap the Fire Company Hose House near the bridge on Franklin Street. It was the council meeting place, and the election day site. that the very first draft number drawn from the fish-bowl in Washington, D.C. in 1942 was #158. Tipton's Arthur Reinert was the "lucky winner" but was not accepted because of his large family.

MUSIC

Music has always been an integral part of the community. Tipton had its own orchestra in the early 1900's that played at many functions. Among those who took part were Louis Doll, director and violinist; Robert Trexler and Harvey Miller, violinists; Horace Fisher, pianist; Charles Herman, trombone; Ray Reinert, cello; Fremont Barto, saxophone and clarinet; Howard Moser, bass; Harry Boyer and Ray Werst, trumpets; and John Schappell, drums

Butz's Auditorium was located on the second floor of the garage behind the Tipton House (now Railroad Crossing Inn) that was razed in 1974. The entrance was on Main Street, up a flight of stairs to a large open room with a hardwood floor. Dancing classes were conducted by G. Harel Gundry of Reading. Public dances were held. A postcard dated 1908 is an invitation to the Fourth Annual Masquerade Ball on December 31. It informs that "masking is optional. . . music provided by the Auditorium Orchestra. . . 25 cents to everybody. . . Grand March at 9 P.M." Opposite the entrance was a rather large stage with dressing rooms on either side. The first lighting was with oil lamps, electricity was installed in 1918. Local talent produced plays and musicals such as "Union Depot" and "The Country Store". The first motion picture shown was "The Great Train Robbery".

The Tipton Choral Society, organized in December 1921 held weekly rehearsal meetings in the P.O.S. of A. Hall (now the Tipton Fire Company quarters; . Mr. E.B. Kocher of Allentown was the instructor-director. Seventy one participating members paid 25 cents per week to defray the expenses of the organization; honorary members contributed one dollar per month. Two concerts were presented each year. Prominent soloists, including Metropolitan Opera Company soprano Louise Lerch, were introduced to local audiences. At the final concert on May 15, 1925 the Society, augmented by members of Christ Lutheran Church Choir of Allentown, rendered "The Creation". They were accompanied by the Tipton Orchestra under Mr. Doll's direction.

In 1931 the second Tipton Choral Society was organized. The director was Mr. Alfred Barto of Allentown, a vocal teacher, baritone soloist, and vocalist with The Allentown Band under Albertus Meyer. Bessie Miller (Moatz) was the accompanist. Local soloists included Catherine Croll, Kathryn Shankweiler, Margaret Grim, and Cleon Wilson Jr. Among the membership of twenty, were Verna Bernstein, Carrie Bieber, Hilda Angstadt, Mae Yoder, and Paul Croll. The Society presented the comic operetta "Betty Lou" to a standing-room-only audience in the Palace Theatre in 1933. The group disbanded in 1934 or 1935.

Chautauqua, which originated on Lake Chautauqua, N.Y. produced programs that included music, drama, and lectures that went on tour for five-

day stays in many communities. During World War I the series was brought to Tipton through the efforts of Mr. A.H. Smith, Robert Gallmoyer, Morris Trexler, Martin Croll, Harvey Miller, and Dr. Charles Smith. The series continued until 1926. Local guarantors were necessary to insure adequate financing. Season tickets sold for \$1.25.

The first minstrel show was presented in 1924 for the benefit of the Tipton Athletic Association. Through the next twenty years the shows were produced by the Ray A. Master Post of the American Legion. The first part of the show usually featured music—solos and chorus numbers—and jokes and gag lines between Charles Reifsnyder, the interlocutor, and the "end men". Some of the famous end men and soloists were Chester Reifinger, John Moser, Nelson Fisher, Ray Smith, Emory Mabry, Wayne Hinterleiter, Luther Herbein, George "Kelly" Kunkle, Arthur

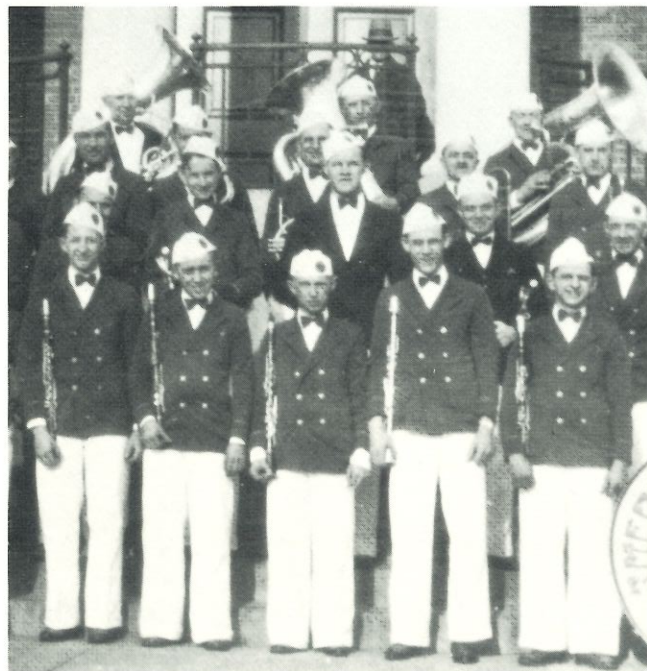


Citizens Band of Tipton

Reinert, Wallace Barto, and Winfield Smith, Sr. Skits and specialty numbers performed by the cast made up the second part, followed by a big production number for the finale. Directors included Horace Fisher, Ray Hieter, Ralph Titlow (who wrote a complete show), Wayne Hinterleiter, and Paul Croll.

The Cantantes Chorus organized in 1940 served church and community. The girls directed by Mrs. Campbell Moatz presented concerts, variety shows, musical teas, and minstrel shows. They sponsored concerts by choral groups from other communities. The Glee-ettes organized in 1948 were directed by Mrs. Dorothy Trexler at the tree lighting ceremonies and local banquets.

The Palace Theatre was the amusement center of Tipton. It was built by Milton Butz in the 1920's and later became the property of Nathan Klein. It was used as a movie theatre and general auditorium for local talent productions, concerts, and Chautauquas. Silent movies were shown. During the depression years churches and local organizations presented plays and entertainment. No admission was charged, but an offering was taken. The Palace was the scene of the American Legion minstrels and Tipton school operettas and grade school programs. With the advent of "talkies", sound pictures were introduced. The theatre drew good audiences with dish give-aways, bingo, and jack-pot nights.



American Legion Band

Tipton's Citizens Band was organized before 1900. Harry Boyer recalls joining it in 1914 when he was eleven years old. Some of the early bandmen were also members of the Mertztown Band. The band held regular rehearsals, so it was available for public service at a moment's notice. Members in 1929 were: Fremont Barto, Ira Moyer, Raymond Weaver, Stephen Leibensperger, John Rothermal, Clarence Yerger, Clarence Rohrbach, Harry Boyer, Howard Moyer, Paul Weil, Harry Shoemaker, Woodrow Hieter, Wallace DeLong, Frank Warmkessel, Horace Fisher, Anthony Long, Carl Moyer, Raymond Reinert, Charles Dankel, Charles Grim, Lewis Frauenfelder, Arthur Reinert, David Mabry, Paul Eck, and Milton Warmkessel, the director. The band's reputation spread (as Howard Moyer put it, "we were as good as the Ringgold Band") and they had numerous engagements in the area, including the Shrine Convention in Reading. The necessity to join the musicians union became an issue. The president of the Reading local tried to get them a special rate since they were in a rural area, but it was not approved. Only a few decided to join the union and they gradually lost their members.

In 1930 John C. Cook, a local merchant, interested the few members who still got together on their own, and organized his German Band. Among them were Curvovs Stauffer, Sr., Frank Warmkessel, Howard Moyer, Harry Boyer, and David Mabry. Rehearsals were held in Cook's business office on High Street. People throughout the county remembered John Cook wearing his white conductor's uniform and his German Band responding to his "eins, zwei, drei, shpiel" and elected him sheriff after his 1935 election campaign.

The American Legion Band was also organized in 1930. Rehearsals were held in the Legion Home under the direction of Horace Fisher. The band attired in blue coats, white trousers, and white overseas caps, played at local parades, picnics, and veterans institutions, and traditionally serenaded the town on New Year's Day. Among the local band members were Ray Reinert, Lewis Reinert, Charles Hinterleiter, Clarence Yerger, Paul Eck, Ray Werst, Fremont Barto, Ray Zimmerman, Charles Smith, John Moser, Ray Weil, Fred Heffner, and Howard Moser. Jacob Schofer was the accordion soloist. For several years an annual concert was held at the Palace Theatre in conjunction with Cook's German Band. The Legion also sponsored a boy's Drum and Bugle Corps. Alex Bumowsky was the drill sergeant and Robert Kerchner, the drum major. Both groups disbanded in 1937. Recently a new group was organized by Mrs. June Snyder and her assistants.

Music continues to serve our community. Choir members of all ages assist in church activities, local talent provides entertainment in variety shows, students perform in school productions, and individuals continue their vocal and instrumental studies.

TOPTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE BOARD

During World War II an idea was presented to the teachers of the Tipton Junior High School to erect a SERVICE BOARD containing the names of those serving in the Armed Forces from December 8, 1941 to December 31, 1946. A committee was formed which included William Herbein, LeRoy Fenstermacher and Ella Sanders. A member of each graduated class from 1922 on was selected to get the names and addresses of his classmates. After all the names were collected, a letter was written to each one asking for a small donation to be used for the project. Plans were made for obtaining the Board, the placing of names and the carving. The committee procured the help of Raymond Werst, Jr., who made the board with a beautiful carved eagle on the top. Werst presented the entire work as his contribution toward the project. The names were fabricated from wood and gilded by an outside concern. They were mounted on the board by the woodworking department of the school. A plaque was purchased and placed at the bottom of the board. The following is the list of the 157 names who served during World War II:

Carl R. Acker
LeRoy A. Acker
Robert F. Acker
Robert O. Althouse
J. Frederick Barto
Malcolm G. Barto
Wallace C. Barto, Jr.
Wayne W. Barto
Eleanor M. Bieber
Kenneth J. Boldt
James Bollinger, Jr.
Earl H. Bond
William F. Bond
Carl R. Bond
Cleon F. Boyer
James Brensinger
Milton S. Christman
Arthur W. Challinor
Paul A. Croll
Paul F. Deisher
Alfred A. DeLong
Joseph H. DeLong
Kenneth R. DeLong
Warren A. DeLong
Walter E. Edinger
Paul L. Einsel
Wayne M. Eltz
Howard G. Falk
Andrew N. Fegely
Eva H. Feger
Carl W. Fisher
George J. Fisher
Jacob A. Fisher

John W. Fisher
Lee C. Fisher
Mark S. Fisher
Reynold C. Fisher
Edward M. Fritch
Nevin E. Fritch
Marion S. Fritz
George J. Gallmoyer
Lee K. Gallmoyer
Mae E. Gallmoyer
Charles D. Gambler
Paul R. Greiss
Earl M. Guinther
Palu L. Guinther
Kenneth L. Guldin
Lee J. Guldin
Geary A. Gum
John E. Gum
Mary J. Hanley
John B. Heck
Richard V. Hecker
Woodrow S. Herbein
Clair C. Herman
Leon M. Hertzog
Paul A. Hertzog
LeRoy W. Heydt
Clair E. Hieter
Kermit D. Hieter
William D. Hilbert
Wayne A. Hinterleiter
Harvey D. Hottle
Lester L. Hottle
Richard P. Jarrett

Glenroy Keiser
Harold S. Keiser
John S. Kemp
Woodrow M. Kemp
Louis C. Kerchner
Betty J. Kleckner
Mary E. Klein
William R. Klein
David W. Kline
William A. Kuehn
Earl J. Lahr
Elwood H. Lahr
Woodrow D. Lahr
Carson O. Lantz
Earl F. Lantz
Harold J.E. Lantz
Mildred E. Lantz
Warren K. Lantz
Willard J. Lantz
Calvin E. Laudenslager
Robert W. Leiby
James W. Luckenbill
William A. Mars
Edward O. Meck
Roy A. Meitzler
Ammon W. Mengel
Roy F. Merkel
Albert B. Miller, Jr.
Harold R. Miller
Herman Miller
Mark H. Miller
Russell E. Miller
Marjorie M. Mohler
Neal F. Mohler
Arthur S. Nester
Kenneth R. Nuss
Lewis A. Oswald
Paul M. Oswald
Robert F. Pilgert
Raymond W. Rader
Walter J. Rash
Edwin A. Rauenzahn, Jr.
Raymond A. Rauenzahn
Wayne C. Rauenzahn
William Regan, Jr.

Brighton P. Reinert
Carl D. Rohrbach
Earl J. Rohrbach
Paul H. Rohrbach, Jr.
Raymond L. Rohrbach, Jr.
Warren A. Rohrbach
Willis H. Rohrbach
Donald R. Schaeffer
Howard P. Schauer, Jr.
Paul Schleicher
Jacob J. Schofer
Kermit E. Schofer
Robert C. Schumacher
Clair S. Schurr
Roy L. Showalter
Warren F. Showalter
Paul F. Silfies
Robert V. Silfies
Charles F. Smith
Doyle K. Smith
William F. Smith
Clarence W. Snyder
Paul A. Spotts
Harold M. Stauffer
Ray M. Stauffer
Russell G. Stauffer
Ruth E. Stauffer
John A. Stoudt
Lee P. Trexler
Paul J. Unger
Betty K. Vandergrift
Carl F. Wagner, Jr.
Howard J. Wagner
Earl H. Walbert, Jr.
Woodrow O. Walbert
George E. Weaknecht
Charles C. Webb
Paul H. Wagman
Leander R. Weiss
Arthur R. Werst
LeRoy A. Werst
Woodrow W. Werst
Vincent F. Wertman
Ralph C. Wisler
Kenneth J. Yerger



Tipton School



The completed board was placed in the upper hall of the school at the head of the staircase and properly illuminated. It remained there during the existence of the old school building.

RAILROAD TO KUTZTOWN

A public meeting was held in 1868 in which the citizens drew up a petition to complete the railroad to Kutztown. Work started June 9, 1869 and was completed in less than six months. On January 10, 1870 the first train arrived. The Engineer was George A. Hoover; Fireman, Jack Bern; Conductor, George Snodgrass; Baggage man, Theodore Faber; Brakemen, Allen W. Fritch and Randolph Goodman. It was known as the Kutztown Flyer. There were four daily passenger trains carrying heavy traffic. A large part were students going back and forth to the Kutztown Normal School and many workers to various stops along the line between Kutztown and Allentown. Passenger service ended on September 30, 1934. Freight service continues to date but recently it was announced that the service would be discontinued to which several manufacturing groups have issued a strenuous complaint. The last word has it that it will continue for the present.

Excerpt from June, 1929 issue of the newspaper "Public Service"

READING R.R. CO.—Tipton on Main Line and Gets Major Transportation Service—

The Reading R. R. station looks like a country gentlemen's bungalow from a distance. There is no bungling about it, however; it is a busy place. Tipton is on the main line of the Reading and for this reason enjoys major transportation facilities. Many trains boom through east and west. The busiest men about the station are the keen-eyed telegraph operators who work the levers controlling the crossing gates that keep north and south bound traffic on two streets free from harm. The freight office is a bustling place because this is the shipping and receiving point for a large area of surrounding territory.

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

A week of celebration was held in 1951 in honor of the seventy fifth anniversary of the founding of Tipton. The dates were June 24 to 30, 1951 and stressed seventy five years of progress. The festivities opened with a religious parade and divine services on Sunday. Speakers at the services were the Rev. J.O. Henry, D.D. who had been superintendent at the

Lutheran Home for many years and the Rev. Charles E. Schaeffer, D.D.

A pageant, "The Settlement and Growth of Tipton" written by Dr. Clyde Lytle of the Kutztown State College faculty was performed in the pavilion of the Lutheran Home. Local residents performed, and Sara Mae Meck and Alfred Ayres were the narrators. The highlight of this presentation was the crowning of the Diamond Jubilee Queen, June Rauenzahn, who would be reigning over the weeks activities. Attendants were Marlene Hieter and Janet Brintzenhoff, flower girls were Susan Lantz and Carol Stoudt, and the crown bearer was Gloria Kramer.

A luncheon sponsored by the manufacturers and business people was held in the Henry Building of the Lutheran Home as the Wednesday attraction. Dr. Allen Stockdale of New York was the featured speaker and entertainment was provided by the Carpenter Steel Steelettes. Dinner music was provided by Audrey Moll and Curvovs Stauffer, Jr.

The Thursday celebration was sponsored by the Service Mothers and the theme chosen was a Pennsylvania Dutch program. Speaking were the Rev. Franklin D. Slifer, pastor of St. Peter's Reformed (U.C.C.) Church and Dr. Alvin F. Kemp, former superintendent of Berks County Schools and a Longswamp resident. John C. Cook's German Band provided the music and G. George Snyder performed as "Die Wunnernauss" over Reading Radio was master of ceremonies.

During the week a "Yesteryear" exhibit was held in the public school building.

Saturday, June 30th, climaxed the weeks activities with a community parade followed by a band concert by the Pioneer Band, the awarding of prizes to the Jubilee Queen and a display of fireworks sponsored by the Ray A. Master Post #217 of the American Legion.

Excerpts from the newspaper "Public Service" dated June, 1929

Truthful Tales of Tipton
"Public Service" survey finds town on a solid financial, industrial and agricultural foundation with good prospects for future growth and prosperity

by W. C. Higgins

Leaning its back up against the hills and the tip of its toes in the grain fields—that's Tipton. Oliver Goldsmith's description of sweet Auburn, loveliest village of the plain, fits Tipton to a T. For the best view of Tipton the place to go is through an avenue of tall northern maple shade trees adorning the center of the town to the veranda or lawn of the Orphans' Home, one of the prettiest and most restful spots to be found anywhere.

From this vantage point one can see the town

spread out on either side with its homes, churches and stores in the foreground with waving grain fields directly adjacent and fringing the resident section. This vista includes the top of the Blue Mountains in the distance.

The scene presents a landscape which might be compared to a jeweled fan, fashioned by dame nature, with Home Avenue as the handle—a country-side fair to look upon; calm and restful to the senses. A Michaelangelo could want no better example of mother earth's horn of plenty and voluptuousness for his genius-guided hand to transfer to canvass. The fairest gem in this husbandman setting is the Lutheran Orphans' Home.

EVERYBODY WORKS

Unless the sightseer gets into Tipton early in the morning, at high noon, in the evening or on Sunday he sees no one on the streets. It looks a deal like a deserted village. There are no idlers on the streets; every one is busy either in the home, the store, the shop or the factory.

If you happen along when the vesperian whistle sounds the hour for surcease from the daily tasks one will see a lot of well fed, well clothed, smiling faced, happy people wending their way to their homes and afterwards note them strolling about, working in pretty gardens, cultivating flowers and vegetables, stepping into automobiles for an evening spin or chatting with their near-by neighbors. Also, if one is up with the sun automobiles may be seen unloading working men from nearby towns who find employment in the town's industries.

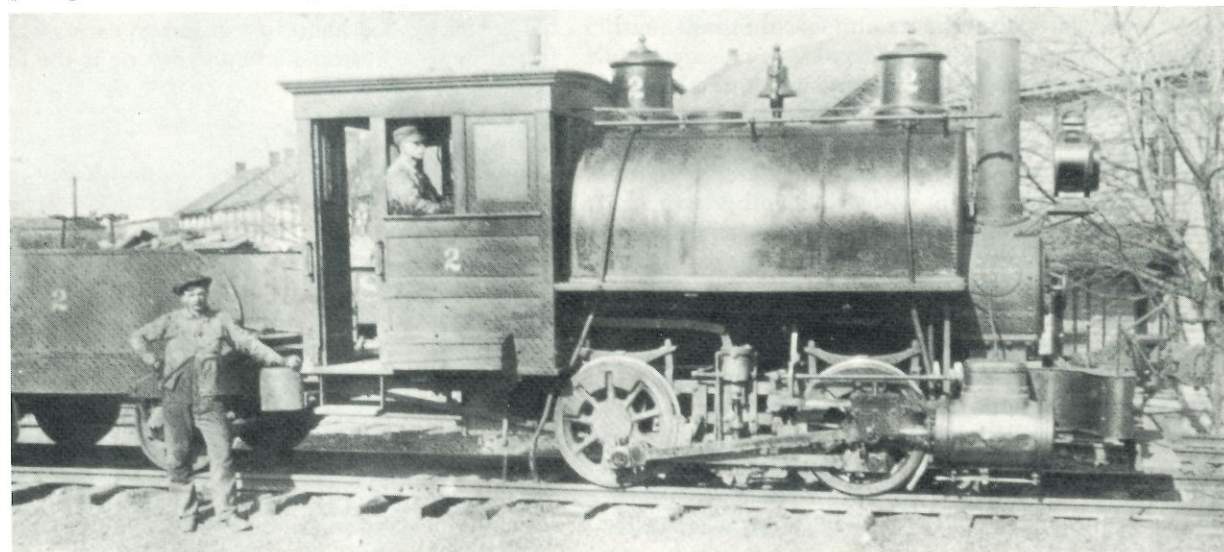
FOUNDED IN 1870

Tipton was founded about 1870 and the reason for its being was the iron business which thrived in that vicinity. It was incorporated in 1877—but that is an old tale and has nothing to do with up-to-date matters. People want news when it is news and ancient history when they are in the mood to enjoy it. Huckelberry Finn told Tom Sawyer that he was all of a sweat to hear about King Solomon and his 10,000 wives but when he was told that Solomon had been dead for 2,000 years he lost interest in the tale.

It is the present day Tipton that is interesting to the present and rising generation. Just now Tipton is looking forward. It hums with progressive, social, civic industrial and agricultural life and its commercial eye sees a deal more of it in the immediate future.

THE NEWSPAPER CONTINUES in great detail about the Borough Officials, with Paul Bond as Burgess; the John C. Cook farm; Caloric Gas Stove Factory; DeLong Furniture Company; Penna. Silk Mills; D.S. & W. Hosiery Mill; Tipton's Citizens Band; P.O.S. of A.; the Legion "bungalow"; the two churches; Tipton schools; the Orphans' Home; A.H. Smith and the Tipton National Bank; Dr. Charles Smith; and William Fritz, harness maker.

#2 Engine at Furnace. Standing, Howard Fenstermacher, in cab, Howard Moser.



Tipton Foundry

RECOLLECTIONS

(Excerpt from a letter from Catherine Harpel to Mrs. Virginia (Harpel) Reinert)

The foundry made its first heat in March, 1906. I think it was the 6th or 7th.

Mr. Charles Rhode, who was the building contractor, did the brick work of the original building. He was a fine bricklayer. Your father was the pattern maker, having come with us from Bernville, as did Louis Beyerle who later married a girl from Ringtown. Clarence Lash and his family also came to Tipton at that time. They were both molders. It is possible that they and your dad helped set up the machinery, etc, but I'm sure they had nothing to do with the construction.

The company was comprised of Mr. John Hartley who operated the silk-mill, Mr. Howard Christman who was the bookkeeper, payroll clerk, secretary, etc. at the silkmill, and my father. Stocks were sold to the townspeople, but the employers had nothing to do with the sale of the stock.

A horse and wagon was used for all purposes, including pulling a carrier on wheels up the track to the cupola. This included coke, scrap iron and pig iron. Only top quality pig iron was used. The horse was a dapple gray by the name of Jim.

The made cellar heaters, gas stove castings, jack

stove castings, laundry stove castings, corner blocks for brass beds, bases for dress forms, castings for display fixtures, such as bases for forms in store windows, and iron shoes for display dummies. Also made wheels for roller skates and lawn mowers.

Most of the castings went to New York City, a goodly portion to Philadelphia, and some very fine stove castings to Royersford for kitchen ranges (coal). The foundry had a reputation for making very fine castings.

Your father was a very good pattern maker.

Later a frame shop was added called "the dog house".

Howard Christman did the clerical work for a short time, then George Moll took over and did a splendid job for years.

The name of the company was Tipton Foundry and Machine Co. There was a machine shop which took care of tapping and drilling. Laundry stoves were mounted there, but the gas stoves and heaters were mounted by the buyers.

The ground for the foundry was bought from Smith and Croll who owned a farm in Tipton and surrounding areas.

(Excerpts from information supplied by Mr. Roy Merkel)

Interest in wireless began with equipment owned by Dave Martin. The large wires were stretched across his garden just to the rear of Ed Morgan's home at Smith and Home Streets.

In 1919 Roy Merkel built his first crystal set and continued his experimentation until Luther DeLong gave him his first radio tube. In Luther's home on Washington Street the two would tune in the few stations then existing.

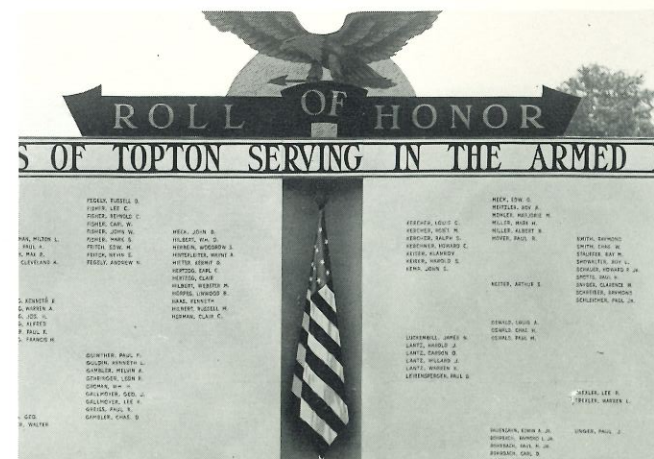
By 1922 Roy had built several one-tube radio sets with assistance from Paul Weil, Russell Trexler, Earl Werst, John Pilgert, and others. Someone was always eager to sit up all night to hear radio stations from Europe, South America, Cuba, and Mexico that were received on the broadcast band.

On many occasions friends would move the antenna in circles across the street at the corner of Callowhill and Barclay Streets into Weiser's field. This showed how the volume of the stations changed, depending on the direction of the antenna wire. The "blooper", a radio that transmits signals, caused interference with radio reception in neighboring homes.

In 1926 Roy constructed his first television receiver. It had a large spinning disc and received pictures from Pittsburgh, Chicago, Schenctady, and Cleveland. There were no channels then; all programs were received on the broadcast and short wave bands.

Many will remember Roy's home-built telescope. In 1925 he demonstrated his telescope to anyone interested in observing some celestial event. He later went on to Radioastronomy and became a professional astronomer.

Do you recognize any of these gentlemen?



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 Amy Trexler's Beauty Shop—Mrs. Amy Trexler
 Ann's Place—Mrs. Anna Remaley
 ** Atlas Minerals & Chemicals Div.—ESB Inc., Mertztown, Pa.
 Batz Painting—Harold Batz
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 * Caloric Corp. Div.—Raytheon Corp.
 Conestoga Telephone Co.—Birdsboro, Pa.
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 * Schappell Hardware—Dennis Seibert
 Schappell's Print Shop—John N. Schappell
 Schofer, J.J. & Son—Jacob J. & George F. Schofer
 Schofer's Insurance—Elmer H. Schofer
 * Shades Economy Store—Henry S. Shade
 * Shearer's Plumbing—C.E. Shearer
 Shoemaker's Garage—Harold Shoemaker
 * Smith Pharmacy—Winfield F. Smith, Sr. & Jr.
 Solt Brothers Saw Mill & Builders—Paul & Russell Solt
 Topton Car Wash—Alfred G. Grim & Clyde E. Steffy
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 * Trexler & Hook Funeral Home—Earl A. Trexler & James M. Hook
 Wagaman's Service Station—Nevin H. Wagaman
 * Walbert Lumber Co.—Earl Walbert
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