



A scene from the Putz at Brothers' House.

Putz And Tea Begin Season Of Christmas

The Candle Tea and the Christmas Putz formally opened the Christmas season here at Salem. These are being held at Brothers' House from 3:00 to 9:00 each afternoon and evening.

The tea and putz are sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Home Moravian Church, and have been in process since yesterday afternoon, and will continue through tomorrow night.

Callers are greeted by hostesses wearing the dress of the early settlers, a full skirt with laced bodice of the same or contrasting material.

Down in the cellar of Brothers' House is the Christmas Putz, pronounced to rhyme with "foot's". The word putz comes from the German word meaning "to decorate".

At the Candle Tea one finds the moss covered putz with its miniature scenes; the toothsome Moravian sugar cake and Lovefeast coffee; the fragrance of pine and cedar boughs everywhere, and best of all, the pungent aroma of hot beeswax as it is being fashioned into candles for the Christmas Eve services of the Moravian Churches. The seniors carry these candles at the Christmas Vesper service.

Each year thousands of people find Brothers' House full of hospitality. It was in this house in the early days of the Salem community that the unmarried men lived. The first building for the single Brethren was begun in 1768 and was dedicated in 1769.

The number of Brethren living in the House varied from 30 to 50. These Brethren carried on various industries, such as farming, milling, weaving, tailoring, clock-making, and baking.

Financial trouble befell the Brothers' House and on June 6, 1823, the Board of Salem Congregation closed the House. Later it was remodeled and became the "Widows' House" and ultimately the "Moravian Church Home".

The idea of putz-building was brought over with the Moravians when they came to America and was a way to teach a great lesson. From these early putz-builders of Salem, have come many of the dolls, animals, and nativity sets.

Various persons claim they have seen 'the little red man' apparition, which is said to be Andrees Kremser. At the time of his death he was helping dig a foundation for the brick addition to the Brothers' House, and was wearing a red shirt when the foundation caved in upon him.

News Briefs

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On Sunday, Dec. 5, Dr. Hixson and Mrs. Heidbreder will leave to attend the fifth annual meeting of the Southern College Personnel Association. Dr. Hixson has been asked to conduct a seminar on "Problems of Foreign Students" on the final day of the three-day convention.

Reed Sarratt, chairman of the editorial board of the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, spoke to the advanced composition class this afternoon. Mr. Sarratt, whose talk was entitled "Editing and Revision," was the second in a series of outside speakers secured for the comp class. Miss Elizabeth Trotman, feature editor of the Twin City Sentinel, spoke earlier in the year.

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