



Once upon a time . . .

This nation of ours, having enjoyed freedom for nearly a quarter of a century, was beginning to feel her strength. Being a sturdy people and meeting each challenge that came to them with the fine courage and indomitable spirit that characterized their Pilgrim Fathers, they determined to push back the western frontier and avail themselves of the opportunity offered them to "Homestead" in the vast wilderness that now stretched before them beyond the Mississippi.

Wagon Trains were organized for the long and arduous journey West. As these intrepid bands of pioneers would come upon fertile valleys they would stop, clear the land and build their homes.

As these Wagon Trains from the East trudged their weary way across the barren country they used to send out scouts on horseback to blaze the trail and to warn them of impending danger such as hostile bands of Indians, or impassable stretches of country. Ofttimes they would run across these settlements of homesteaders and tell them about the approaching Wagon Trains from the East.

One farsighted homesteader, being a friendly person, conceived the idea of sending a wagon loaded with food and supplies out to meet an oncoming band of pioneers and welcome them to their community. To the exhausted travelers this welcome often meant more than the distant gold they sought in California, and they remained in the little community that had so sincerely greeted them. This custom spread from town to town and it was through the warm fellowship and hospitality of these first "Welcome Wagons" that many of our cities throughout the Middle West (now known as the breadbasket of the nation) grew and prospered.

In 1928 a young newspaper man from Tennessee, Thomas W. Briggs, overheard a couple of oldtimers from Texas reminiscing about the Golden West—about how the homesteaders used to send out "Welcome Wagons" to greet Wagon Trains from the East and how this simple gesture of friendliness gave the Middle West its first real impetus toward becoming settled. The story of warmth and friendliness on the part of our ancestors so fascinated him that he decided to bring the idea of *hospitality* up to date. He thought: "People are always moving to other cities or to other communities in their own city—what a wonderful thing it would be for a city to make them feel at home and acquaint them with their new community—their schools, churches, shopping centers, etc."

Starting with one Hostess and one "Wagon" this organization has grown, since its inception in 1928, to thousands of Hostesses and Wagons, covering practically the entire country.

WELCOME TO WAYNESBURG!

"Welcome" is one of the most cordial and kindest words in our language.

We like to think of Waynesburg as a friendly town and we believe it will be made more so by the work beginning this week by our "Welcome Wagon" Hostess.

Only those who have found themselves in a strange community with no knowledge of civic, social or church activities, can realize how much a welcoming visit can mean.

Babies born in Waynesburg and Franklin Township will be welcomed too, for they

will be citizens of tomorrow and their arrival merits interest and celebration.

Prospective brides of the community will be called upon as well — for these young people too, will be a vital part of our community life.

If you know of newcomers to Waynesburg and Franklin Township, engaged girls, and new babies, you will be doing them and your community a service by giving their names to MRS. JOHN ROCK, our "Welcome Wagon" Hostess.

To extend these good-will greetings, Welcome Wagon Service utilizes the talents of trained hostesses, who work in an atmosphere of civic hospitality and blend friendly assistance and advice with their sponsors' presentations. The hostess comes laden with gifts from the sponsors, even as the original Welcome Wagons bore provisions for the travelers.

The American National Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the United States Treasury, the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, the Community Chest, the American Cancer Society and many other organizations have given awards of merit for the outstanding services rendered by Welcome Wagon Hostesses.

The Following Leading Merchants are Sponsoring the Waynesburg "Welcome Wagon"

Waynesburg Sanitary Dairy Company

Phone 285

830 East High Street Waynesburg, Pa.

James D. Thomas

"Electrifier Since 1910"

Phone 291

37 S. Washington St. Waynesburg, Pa.

Baily Insurance Agency

Insurers Since 1861

Phone 136

55 S. Washington St. Waynesburg, Pa.

First Federal Savings and Loan Association

Phone 71

25 East High St. Waynesburg, Pa.

Waynesburg Republican

Established in May 1833

Phone 104

63 S. Washington St. Waynesburg, Pa.

J. Ross Garrison

Funeral Home

Phone 601

325 East High Street Waynesburg, Pa.

Howard's Cash Groceries

95 South Morgan Street—Phone 151

1120 East High Street—Phone 1127

Waynesburg, Pa.

Acklin Lumber Company

Builders' Supplies

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404 S. Morgan St. Waynesburg, Pa.

Headlee & Spragg

Drug Store

Phone 9213

45 East High Street Waynesburg, Pa.

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