



Christmas and the Lavaca County Courthouse Lights

By Brenda Lincke Fisseler



The first Christmas lights were strung from the Lavaca County Courthouse tower to store fronts on the square in November 1934. In honor of Santa, the square was decorated with colored Christmas lights, the wires stretching from the store fronts on the square up to the courthouse tower. The city fathers, with his honor, Mayor Traxler, himself, justly inspired with the great honor bestowed on Hallettsville by Santa's personal visit, furnished the labor free and the merchants donated the necessary means to buy the lights which would become a permanent fixture for Christmas decorations of Hallettsville every year.

From 1942 to 1945, during World War II, outdoor Christmas lights were not permitted due to blackout conditions and fuel conservation.

The City of Hallettsville was again crowned with lights in December 1946. The local newspaper reported that Hallettsville was again glittering with Christmas lights. Although there was a shortage of lights and other necessary materials, only four strings were hung from the Lavaca Courthouse tower.

The Tribune November 30, 1934

Lavaca County Tribune December 17, 1946

*“Great minds are related to
the brief span of time
during which they live
as great buildings are to a
little square in which they*

*If you would like to be added to the email
list to receive this newsletter, please send
you name and email address to:
lavacanewsletter1@gmail.com*

*Please share this newsletter
with any one who might be
interested!*