



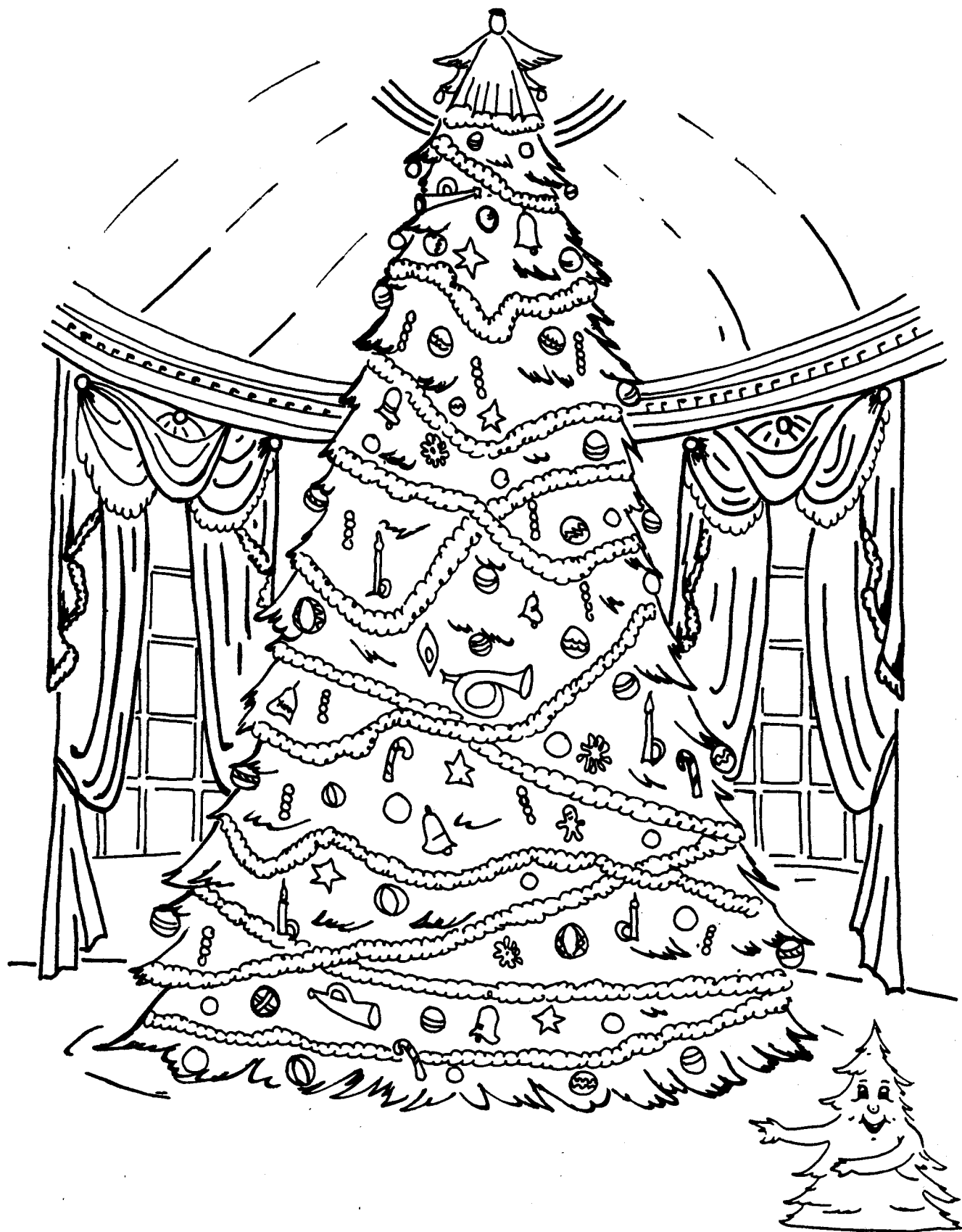
In 1882, the first Christmas Trees to have electric lights took place in New York City. Thomas Edison, the inventor of the light bulb and the Mayor jointly flipped the switch, lighting the rows of Christmas Trees that lined both sides of Broadway. News stories described it "As the most beautiful event ever seen in New York City, or any other city."

The use of electric Lights soon replaced lighted candle use in Christmas Tree decorations, as cities, then later small towns acquired electricity and lights became available. Towns and cities across America and much of the world have adopted New York's custom of having large beautifully decorated Christmas Trees for their people to enjoy.

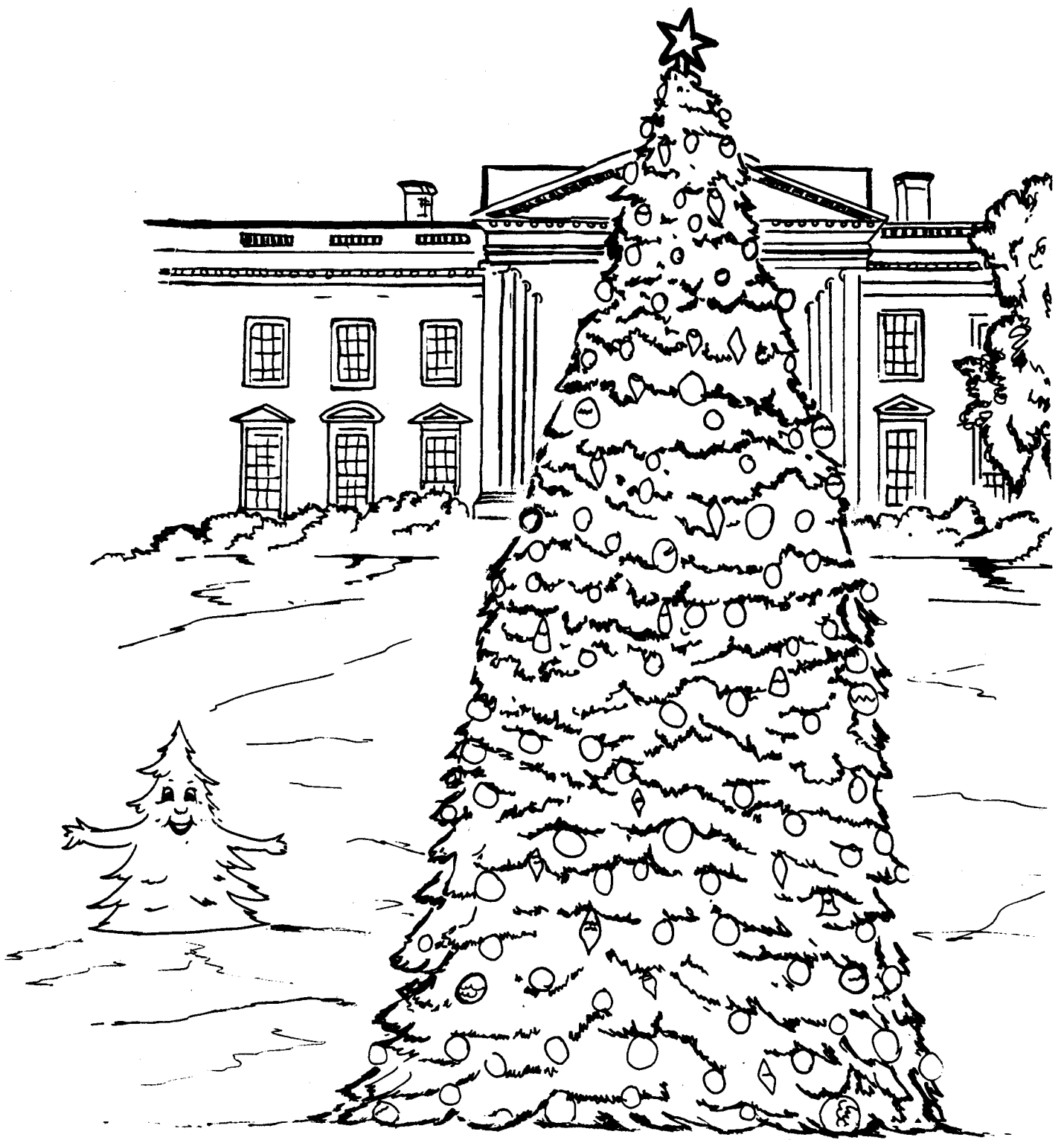
Television has made it a new tradition to show all the world some of these magnificently lighted trees, such as at Rockefeller Center in New York City, at the White House in Washington D.C., also in San Francisco's Union Square and London England's Trafalgar Square.



Franklin Pierce, the 14th President of the United States, was the first to have a Christmas Tree in the White House in 1856, at which time caroler's sang "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" for the first time.



The White House usually has two Christmas Trees inside, one on the first floor and one upstairs in the First Family's living quarters.



In 1923, President Calvin Coolidge established the National Community Christmas Tree and The Tree Lighting Ceremony Tradition on the White House lawn. Each year one of my big relatives is chosen from a different State, so each State has their turn for the honor of providing the National Tree. Part of the decorations is 50 special ornaments, one for each State. The tree is always so big and beautiful, it makes all Americans happy and proud. When the President turns on the lights it signals to everyone the Christmas Season has started.



As you SPECIAL, SPECIAL FRIENDS might say "That's some family tree CT". It sure makes me happy to tell you about my relatives and how for hundreds of years, they have helped people have fun and happiness. SPECIAL, SPECIAL FRIEND, ask your Mother and Father to explain and tell you about your "family tree".