

AMERICAN LEGION ANNIVERSARY

An Editorial



Forty-eight years ago, a small group of war-weary servicemen representing the various outfits of the American Expeditionary Force met in Paris, France, and brought forth a magnificent idea. These delegates — still in the uniform of their country and thousands of miles from home — brought to that assembly in Paris the raw materials with which to build a civilian organization of war veterans dedicated to God and Country.

They recognized the need for a fraternity of service which should have as its purpose the preservation and perpetuation of the lofty principles of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy.

And their "big idea" became The American Legion.

In the succeeding 48 years, three generations of war veterans have been united under the banner of The American Legion. While they are proud of having met the highest obligation of citizenship — service in the uniform of their Country in time of war — American Legionnaires also realize that the responsibilities of citizenship do not end when the military uniform has been exchanged for civilian apparel.

As a fraternity of service which has as one of its basic purposes "to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state and nation," The American Legion has become a pacesetter to the nation in the expression of patriotic thought and deed. Of great concern to the Legion today is the possibility that leaders of the godless communist doctrine shall mistake demonstrations and expressions by a handful of dissidents as an indication of weakness on the part of our nation.

A staunch advocate of our nation's policy to defend the cause of freedom against the threat of forces seeking world domination, The American Legion has stepped to the forefront in the upsurge of patriotic expression which has swept the country in recent months. In so doing, the Legion has helped not only to reawaken a spirit of national responsibility but also to affirm in the eyes of a doubtful world the depth of our nation's purpose.

On this 48th Anniversary of The American Legion we salute the "big idea" of this gigantic fraternity of service. May the millions of Legionnaires throughout the nation continue to succeed in their endeavors dedicated to God and Country — and, ultimately, a better world.

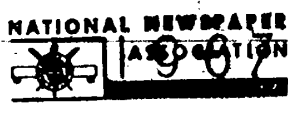
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FROM OUR FILES

50 YEARS AGO

March 9, 1917

J. H. Backus, Publisher

M. Fred Clark, 51, of Fulmer Valley, died Saturday, March 3rd. His wife, two sons and two brothers survive. Interment was in Hallsport Cemetery.

Ed Horan purchased of Gridley, Fuhrman and Martin Co., of Elmira, Tuesday, their Andover Hardware Store and took possession the property Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Joseph Sauter of Hornell spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Dean.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Joyce and Mr. and Mrs. John Burns went to Hornell Saturday and remained in the city until Monday to attend the funeral of Mrs. James Haysley.

Miss Aimee Eason and Miss Reva Clarke of Wellsville were week-end guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Clarke.

Mrs. E. H. Brandes and two children of Hallsport visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Diffin from Friday until Sunday.

Menzo Burdick visited his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Burdick of Rochester over the week-end.

Clayton Burger visited at the home of his uncle, Z. M. Burger of Greenwood from Tuesday until Friday of last week.

Mrs. Estella Richardson went to Geneva Thursday to visit at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Lee Robbins.

Mrs. Lee Trowbridge was called to Corning Wednesday by the illness of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Clarence Trowbridge.

W. S. Calhoun went to Buffalo Tuesday to purchase goods for the Calhoun Clothing Company.

Ed Scott of Canisteo visited his son, Floyd Scott and family this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kauffman of Riverdale are spending a few days with their daughter, Mrs. Harry Smith of Elm Valley.

40 YEARS AGO

March 11, 1927

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Ed Green has resumed his position as janitor at the school building after several weeks enforced vacation on account of injuries received while starting the gas engine at the building.

Mrs. Margaret Dean of South Hill was a Saturday overnight guest at the home of her brother, J. A. O'Leary of Andover.

Jesse Corwin left Wednesday on his return trip to his home in DeWagiac, Mich., after visiting relatives and friends in Andover and vicinity for several weeks.

The Misses Onnelle Hammett and Marjorie Williams left Monday for New York City, where they have entered for a three years training in the School of Nursing at Lenox Hill Hospital.

Earl Dawson has been down from Buffalo this week visiting his mother, Mrs. M. Dawson.

Mrs. John Strait of Almond was a week-end guest of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith.

Sheridan Witter came from Buffalo Friday to pass the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Witter.

Mrs. Joseph Crossette and son of Arkport are passing the week at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. DeRemer.

Mrs. Caroline Hunt returned to her home in Andover the first of the week, after passing a week with Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Benjamin of Angelica.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Rogers were in Buffalo over the week-end guests of their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Theetge.

Mrs. Charles Scott passed several days this past week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deming at Whitesville.

A neighbor party and supper was enjoyed by a company Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Slocum.

30 YEARS AGO

March 5, 1937

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Donald W. Rogers of Franklin

Albany Insight

by Johannes Loursen



The State Budget

The State of New York Executive Budget is a storehouse of information for anyone interested in the operations of the State. It runs to some 1200 pages, mostly taken up by tables of figures, but also with lots of pages of explanations. It starts out with Governor Nelson Rockefeller's budget message, 70 pages; followed by 65 pages of appendices and another 40 pages of appendix tables. Then come the operating budgets, 815 pages, and appropriations requested by the Legislature and the Judiciary, 45 pages. The more than 1500 pages remaining deal with State Debt Service, Local Assistance Budget and Capital Construction Budget.

The Governor's Message has been pretty widely reported. It naturally gives a lot of credit to the administration: "This Budget offers a sound framework" — "the past eight years have seen an unprecedented response by the State government" — "this budget also comes to grips" — "prudent planning, careful management and judicious use of bond funds" —

But the Message goes beyond these generalities into many specifics, and in the operating budgets and the various appendices are gems of information regarding any aspect of the State which is affected by State government. The interested citizen will find it well worth spending an evening or several evenings perusing the budget. Any local library will be able to provide a copy, although only about a hundred of the larger libraries received it originally. The total printing of the large (seven by ten inch) volume was 2,500. However, the message part was printed in 7,000 copies and thus

is more readily available. In the early fall a 30,000 copy summary is issued, including the supplemental budget, which is passed at the very end of each legislative session.

Compared With Other States

The 1967-68 budget calls for expenditures of \$4,686 million, an increase of \$644 million over last year's budget. The budget makes skillful use of charts and graphs to illustrate a number of basic facts. One is that New York State's expenditures per capita are actually lower than those of most other states. New Jersey ranks lowest of all the states, but New York is fourth from the bottom. The highest is Alaska.

Another illustration shows that state taxes are a smaller percentage of residents' income in New York than in most other states. New Jersey is again lowest, but New York holds a respectable 15th place from the bottom. The highest is New Mexico. New York State ranks fourth in state aid to localities; California is number one, and New Hampshire is at the bottom of the list. If such facts do not necessarily mollify hardpressed taxpayers, they are at least worth thinking about.

The largest portion of state expenditures goes for local assistance \$2.7 billion out of the total \$4.7 billion. The increase proposed in the new budget comes to \$284 million in direct aid paid by the State to local governments and school districts, all of which is mandatory or obligatory. This is a major factor in the budget. So much is mandated by prior legislation. By the same token, it has to be remembered that each new mandated expenditure has to be paid as it comes due in future years.

Few Changes

There has been little opposition to the budget as proposed. Minor changes are always made during the budget's wandering through the Legislature, but there is no sign of significant amendments.

There has been some doubt that all agencies are really prepared to use the appropriations for which they have asked. During hearings doubt was expressed, for instance, that the new Narcotic Addiction Control Commission will be staffed and ready to use its full appropriation. There has also been much criticism of the inclusion of the expected lottery proceeds, \$45 million, in the regular budget. This money is earmarked by law for education. Many felt that this would mean either additional money for the school districts, or money to be spent for new services.

The main budget battle is over additional state aid to school districts. The budget does not recommend changes in the present school aid formula, "because of far-reaching changes made in 1965 and 1966, the latter becoming effective in 1967-68."

Schoolmen, however, are pushing hard for a 10 per cent formula increase which would cost the State about \$100 million. A compromise of approximately half of that is considered a strong possibility. It would probably be included in the supplemental budget to be passed at the end of the month, if the Legislature sticks to its plans for adjournment before the Constitutional Convention opens April 4. The main budget should be ready for adoption shortly.



Don't drive after drinking!