

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

An Editorial

With Thanksgiving behind us, Deer Season just over with, and winter weather confronting us, our thoughts have been on everything else—but Christmas.

Now, all of a sudden, with Christmas Advertising in front of us, and the A.C.S. boys putting Christmas Trees in the planter boxes in front of the business places on Main St., comes the — great awakening — and realization — that Christmas is just about THREE WEEKS AWAY! !

The Village Decorations and Christmas Lights have been in evidence for over a week and the Bank as well as several homes on North Main St. have their Christmas Decorations up as well as lighted.

Several years ago, the Chamber of Commerce sponsored a plan for the decoration of both homes and business places, giving recognition for the prize-winning homes, and cash prizes for the High School groups that were in the winning circle.

For the last three years, the Chamber of Commerce have been carrying out a plan for "year-round" decorations along Main St., by furnishing the materials that were used in the nice looking planter boxes — as well as supplying the Trees that were put in them.

This past year, the A.C.S. students under the guidance of Al Barden and Frank Russell, fixed up the planter boxes that were still serviceable but, sad to say, several of the boxes were beyond repair — so this leaves a few gaps along Main Street. However, we understand that plans are underway to come up with something new along the same lines.

We, at the "News Office", have been very pleased with the fine spirit of co-operation shown between the Students and Merchants as well as the results achieved. In fact, as far as we could tell, Andover was one of the best decorated and lighted Villages anywhere in the U.S.A. over the past years.

Unfortunately, there were a few "idiots" — that were perhaps trying out for "a juvenile delinquent award" — who stole many of the bulbs out of a few of the Christmas Tree Lights in front of business places along Main St. Hopefully, this mean, despicable caper won't be repeated this year — and perhaps the A.C.S. Students will help "police" the "Christmas Decorations as they have done in the past — so that the "Christmas Spirit" won't become tarnished here in Andover.

At any rate, now it is up to the rest of us — businessmen and residents alike — to decorate the Main St. trees, our stores, and homes, in the truly festive Christmas manner.

We are firm believers in the revival and preservation of our ancient traditions, and when the young people of Andover are interested enough to contribute their share, it would seem that we grown-ups could exert ourselves a little more.

For the stores that don't have the facilities for lighting up an outside tree — a decorated Christmas Tree could be put in a front store window — or different ideas for window decorations could be used as displayed by several merchants last year.

For the ones that haven't had a display before — all we can say is that judging from our own past experience, it doesn't cost very much for a string or two of lights (these are really an investment anyway as they can be used year after year) — all it truly takes is a little "Christmas Spirit" — and some hard work.

Another thing that would improve the "Christmas Look" along Main St., would be to have different Civic Groups decorate or put displays in the windows of the vacant stores that sick out like a sore thumb at this time of year.

In past years we have seen some beautifully decorated homes, and stores in Andover. This year let's see if we can't outdo the past and set a precedent for a bright and cherry new future!



50 YEARS AGO

November 21, 1919

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Mrs. June of Hornell is spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Brown.

Mrs. Lee, Baker of Dalton, N. Y., was visiting her sister-in-law, Mrs. N. P. Brainard from Sunday to Tuesday.

Mrs. Anson Brewster has returned from a visit at the home of her son, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Jackson of Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Clarke returned Tuesday from several week trip through the South.

Leo Snyder of Elmira, spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Snyder.

Capt. and Mrs. Den Doran of Patterson, N. J., are guests of his mother, Mrs. B. Doran and brothers at Elm Valley and greeting his many friends in Andover.

H. W. Boyd has gone to Drumwright, Oklahoma, where he expects to work during the winter.

November 28, 1919

Mrs. Eliza M. Baker died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Fuller of Alfred, Friday, November 21st. She was brought to the home of her son, John S. Baker of Pingrey Hill. Interment was in Wellsville, Monday.

Mrs. Mary Syink and Edward Wilcox, both of Andover, were united in marriage by Rev. H. D. Bacon, Thursday, November 27th.

Miss Edna Green and Miles B. Kenyon, both of West Union, were united in marriage Tuesday evening at the Methodist Parsonage by Rev. W. P. Trowbridge.

Monday evening the Ladies Aid Society of the Baptist Church, tendered Mrs. V. L. Eggleston a farewell reception at the home of Mrs. R. B. Burrows.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Nye of Whitesville are parents of a son, born November 19th.

The following Independence youths received prizes in the Potato Contest at Andover Grange Fair Thursday: Cleon Clarke, 1st Prize; Chas. Clarke, 2nd Prize; Maxson Crandall, 3rd Prize and Stephen Clarke, 4th Prize.

Tracy Drake, 33, died at his home on the Greenwood Road, Tuesday, November 25th. His widow, and one child survive. Interment was in Greenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Trowbridge returned home Sunday from Youngstown, Ohio, where they have been visiting their son, Clarence Trowbridge and family.

Miss Doris Livermore is home from Geneseo Normal to pass the Thanksgiving vacation with her grandmother, Mrs. Georgianna Hardy.

Miss Mary Janette Mourhess of Washington, D. C., is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Sylvia Mourhess for a week.

Rev. Father Tracy, the new pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, arrived in Andover Friday and has taken charge.

Walter Hammond of Spokane, Wash., is visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Hammond.

40 YEARS AGO

November 29, 1929

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

The three act play "And Mary Did" was well staged by the Seniors at the High School Auditorium Monday and Tuesday. The cast consisted of Misses Kathryn O'Donnell, Marguerite Perry, Julia Joyce, Virgil Blight, Cecelia Gavlin, Doris Church and Glenora Baker; Messrs. Francis Cable, Edward Crandall, Lloyd Gee and Ralph Williams.

Rev. J. H. Seeley has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Kennedy, N. Y., and will move there today.

Miss Florence Burdick was a member of the class of trained nurses graduated at the Mountair Clinic, Olean, Monday, November 25th. Miss Burdick will spend a couple of weeks with her parents and friends in Elm Valley and Andover, before returning to the Clinic as a member of the staff.



by Alex Rankin

The annual battle over who gets what slice of the taxpayer's wallet officially got underway a few days ago.

The state Social Services Department and its policy-making arm, the State Board of Social Services, issued a report to the governor and the state Legislature asking for an increase in the basic allowances to welfare recipients and a return to some of the special aid grants that were dropped by the last session of the legislature for a budget grant system.

Governor Rockefeller says he will ask the lawmakers to pass the increase, but was cool about returning to the special grant system.

A spot check of senators and assemblymen across the state indicates the legislature will follow Rockefeller's lead, that chances of passing the increases are good and passing special grants are bad.

One Assemblyman, John H. Terry of Syracuse, argues that the Social Services Department has circumvented the law and is giving out special grants anyway.

Terry said welfare recipients are receiving moving expenses and Medicaid clients are getting taxi fares in violation of the state law which outlawed special grants. It is done, he said, by charging the money to the general administrative cost of local welfare offices — the item normally used to pay for pencils and paperclips.

Terry said he is meeting with state officials next month, and that if he gets no satisfaction he will introduce legislation to close the

loopholes the social services department has found.

And in September the Governor restored two special grants himself, telephones for elderly persons who otherwise would have little or no contact with the outside world, and money for special dietary needs of elderly patients — both good ideas.

The increase in payments to recipients is tied to the rise in the cost of living.

It also conforms to recent court rulings which have thrown out the regional differences in the flat grant payments.

The board and the department is asking that a family of four get \$230 a month, exclusive of heat and rent, which vary from one part of the state to the next.

At the present time a family of four gets \$208 a month in New York City, \$191 on Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, \$181 in central and northern New York and \$185 in the Buffalo area.

Despite the fact that there are differences in the cost of living across the state, the courts have ruled that the payment under the flat grant system must be the same everywhere.

The increase will cost about \$136 million — \$40 million from the state and the rest from the federal government.

In the current fiscal year, which ends next March 31, the state is spending \$1.3 billion for welfare — \$545 million of which comes from federal funds, \$413 million from state funds and another \$413 million from local taxpayers.

Franz Teribury was elected Master of West Greenwood Grange Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Margaret Dean has returned to her home on South Hill after her visit to Ithaca and Waverly.

Mrs. James Thompson of Hornell is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kaple for a few days.

Mrs. E. O'Leary of Sugar Grove, Ohio, who has been passing the week with her sister, Mrs. Sarah Guinn, leaves for her home today.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Parker moved to Bolivar Sunday, where their daughter, Miss Ruth Baker of the Bolivar High School faculty, who has been passing the week-end with her parents, returned to her work.

Mr. and Mrs. William Childs and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cheesman left Wednesday by motor for East Haddam, Conn., where they will spend Thanksgiving and until Monday, guests at the home of Mr. Cheesman's daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Searles.

R. K. Hammond of Rochester is visiting his mother, Mrs. Ida Hammond.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Wilcox of Hornell, passed the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kaple entertained as week-end guests, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Loughlen and Mrs. Julia Dunton of Portage.

Mrs. D. A. Murphy, who was called to Andover by the death of her brother-in-law, James Guinn, returned to her home in Jamestown, Tuesday.

Clifford Howland left Wednesday for Detroit, Mich., to pass Thanksgiving with Lenford Horton.

Mrs. William Diffin and daughter, Atty. Mira Diffin, went to Arkport Wednesday to pass the Thanksgiving day and week-end at the home of their daughter and sister, Mrs. Nellie Monahan and family.

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Thorne of Pleasantville are spending a few days guests of his nephew, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Thorne.

30 YEARS AGO

November 17, 1889

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers  
Miss Belle Brundage, 87, died Saturday, November 11th at the

home of her niece Mrs. Guy S. Wood of Elm Street who survives. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Miss Ruth DeRemer of Andover and Joseph Crews of Rochester, were united in marriage Thursday, October 26th in Rochester.

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Joyce are parents of a daughter, born Saturday, November 11th.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Joyce are parents of a son, born Tuesday, November 14th.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Vincent are parents of a daughter born Thursday, November 16th.

Mrs. Olive A. Watson, 88, died at the home of her son, Dr. Lloyd R. Watson of Alfred, Wednesday, November 15th. Two sons and two daughters survive. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mullen are parents of a daughter, Bernice Irene, born November 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Stewart are parents of a daughter, Barbara Leigh, born November 3rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cheesman of Elmira, were guests Saturday at the home of his father, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cheesman.

Mrs. Hattie Clark returned Wednesday from Moshertown, Pa., where she has been for several weeks and is now at the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Trowbridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Drake of Binghamton, were guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Joyce Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Horton and family of Buffalo passed the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Sibeum. Sunday they were all dinner guests of their sister and daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Bohne of Wellsville.

November 24, 1929

Mrs. George Calhoun, 81, died at her home on Main Street Friday, November 18th. Her husband, three sons and a daughter survive. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Elmer Jackson was elected Master of the Hagarville Grange at the regular meeting held Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Downs of Schenectady who have been spending a few days with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Menzo Burdick of Elm Valley, have returned home.

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