

CHRISTMAS CHEER "IN SPIRIT or "SPIRITS"?

An Editorial

Christmas Eve will soon be here — a night of peace and good will, and also, ironically, a night of increased death and injury on our highways.

Each December, the death and injury rates climb sharply as the holiday season approaches. Each December, people forget their usual caution and become increasingly careless as their minds become occupied with holiday planning and festivities. Worst of all they begin to ignore the dangers of driving after drinking.

The problem is not confined merely to party-goers who have substantially over-indulged. It extends to everyone who has been drinking before driving, even though it may only have been a drink or two. Scientific studies have clearly shown that even small amounts of alcohol in the bloodstream result in an immediate impairment of driving ability and judgment. This is so, even though the person affected may not be aware of his handicap and he displays no outward signs of his impairment.

Most of us are well aware of these facts. We have heard them repeated over and over again by public officials, safety educators, and others. Yet many people tend to ignore these truths — they think that they can ignore the consequences of their actions, that for some reason or other, they will not suffer by taking a chance and driving after drinking. It is these people, the ones that think they can escape, who will become our accident statistics this year.

As Editor of the Andover News, and as a private citizen as well, I would like to take this opportunity to urge you not to forget the dangers of drinking and driving this year.

However, if no admonition or plea will stop you from driving after drinking, then — for the sake of your family, friends, and fellow citizens — when you do get behind the wheel, recognize the fact that you are handicapped no matter how well you feel, and drive with the utmost of caution.

For the safest and merriest of holidays the choice is really simple — do not drive after drinking!

"Drunks don't get hurt because they are relaxed and roll with the punches" This is a commonly held belief, and it may be so in some cases. But it isn't true when it comes to traffic accidents, says the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles. Intoxicated people get hurt just as badly as sober people when a car crumples up in a crash. And they are more likely to be in such crashes because alcohol fogs their judgment. So whether you are actually drunk or just a little high, the best advice concerning traffic is to stay away from it. And this applies to pedestrians as well as to drivers — one survey showed that 82% of the adult pedestrians killed by cars had been drinking before the crash.

Some drivers have taken a chance and driven after a few drinks. They managed to avoid an accident, so they think they are different from others — they think that they can drink and drive. However, they're dead wrong as their earlier escapes were solely a matter of luck, not talent. If they keep it up, their dead-wrong judgment may make them dead drivers.

One drink for the road may sound like a good idea, but it isn't. It may feel fine when you take it but it won't be fine when you put your car in a tight spot and suddenly find that you haven't the quick reactions you need to get out of trouble. Thus if you want a drink for the road make it non-alcoholic. Otherwise, the road you take may be a short-cut to the graveyard.

Remember — the life you save — Could be your OWN!



50 YEARS AGO

December 12, 1919

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Mrs. Sarah E. Burdick, 82, died December 8. Two sisters and a brother survive. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Rev. J. L. Lynch of Buffalo was the guest of his father, M. T. Lynch and family of South Hill from Saturday until Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. McAndrew of South Hill moved to their recently purchased home in Andover, Tuesday.

Rev. George Shaw of New York City spoke at the Independence Church Friday; Saturday and Sunday evenings.

E. R. Crandall of Independence is in New York City this week attending a Dairymen's League meeting.

The farm of John Wahl Jr., was sold to Lloyd Mead and the farm of Charles Cochrane to William Burger, who will take possession soon.

Cashier and Mrs. J. M. Brundage have gone to Los Angeles Calif., to pass the winter.

Thomas McTigue of Syracuse is the guest of his sister, Mrs. Delaney on Center Street.

Mrs. Edw. Reiman of Angelica came to Andover Tuesday to visit her sister, Mrs. Jesse Hunt.

December 19, 1919

Arthur York of Greenwood has been elected Master of Steuben County Pomona Grange for the coming year and also delegate to the New York State Grange which convenes at Rochester in Feb.

Mrs. Annetta Taylor, 86, died Tuesday, December 16th at the home of her son, Stephen Taylor in Andover. Five sons survive. Interment was in Bennetts Creek Cemetery.

C. L. Hann was given a surprise dinner party at his home Saturday in honor of his 52nd birthday.

At a special meeting of the village Board of Trustees held Wednesday, J. F. Clarke was appointed Police Officer and night watchman beginning January 1st. Melvin E. Clair died Wednesday. A son, Dell Clair of Elm Valley survives.

Mrs. John Strait is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Harvey this week.

Harry S. Boyd of Batavia passed the week-end with relatives in Andover.

Mrs. Anna Moquin of Woodhull is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Robert Brundage.

J. L. Williams is at Depew, superintending some concrete work at the branch of the Andover Silk Co.

Mrs. Ethel Webb of Cleveland Ohio, came home for a two weeks vacation visit with her parents Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Proper.

Mrs. Clark Furgerson and family returned home Wednesday after spending a few days guest at the home of Mrs. Chas. Tanner of Hornell.

Sixty friends gave Mr. and Mrs. William Jones a genuine surprise party Friday night.

Miss Carrie Hauley of Olean has been spending several days with her nieces, Mrs. Leata Rogers and Edith Green.

40 YEARS AGO

December 20, 1929

J. H. Backus & Son, Publisher
Melvin Henderson of Andover passed the week-end at the home of Floyd Slocum of Davis Hill.

Mrs. James Wallace returned home with Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Frost on Sunday after spending several days with her son, Lee and family of Canisteo.

Mrs. Nora Bassett of Independence is in Hallsport helping care for her new granddaughter and mother.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Crandall of Andover spent Saturday and Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. R. E. Spicer and family of Independence.

Fred R. Henderson, 64, died at his home on West Greenwood Street Thursday, December 12th. Three sisters and two brothers



by Alex Rankin

Democrats appear ready to throw some cash around next year in their drive to take the state legislature away from Senate Republican Majority Leader Earl W. Brydges of Niagara Falls and Assembly Speaker Perry B. Duryea, Jr., of Montauk, L. I.

The plans were revealed in a recent news conference in New York City by the top Democrats in the state.

State Chairman John J. Burns said the money and effort would be concentrated in the so-called "swing" districts of the Legislature — those districts which are not solidly for any political party and which could go any which way in any given race.

Assembly Democratic Minority Leader Stanley Steingut said he thought about 30 seats in both houses fit that description. He didn't name them.

A committee has been set up to funnel funds to deserving Democratic candidates in the swing districts.

Why? Democrats have big stakes in the 1970 state legislative elections beyond unseating Brydges and Duryea. The legislators elected in

1970 will be the ones who will draw the state's U.S. Congressional lines in 1971, when the figures from the 1970 federal census will have been tabulated.

If Republicans are running things in 1971, you can be sure there will be a lot more Republicans in Washington, D. C. in 1972.

To this end state Democrats are holding a special fund raising dinner December 17 at the Waldorf-Astoria — \$250 a plate.

The biggies of the party will be there, former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, national party leader Fred Harris and Senators Edmund Muskie, George McGovern and Birch Bayh.

There are no slouches on the committee that will hand out the money either — former governor and Paris peace negotiator W. Averell Harriman, former secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Robert C. Weaver, former chief judge of the State Court of Appeals Charles Desmond, former assistant Secretary of Defense Anna Hoffman and Arthur B. Krim, a film executive and one of the party's leading fund raisers.

December 15, 1939

At the regular meeting of Anna W. McArthur Chapter No. 242 Order of Eastern Star held Monday Queens Cory was elected Worthy Matron and Harry Smith Worthy Patron.

Flames of undetermined origin destroyed the barn on the Ernest Snyder farm near Alfred Wednesday night.

William Vickers, 33, died Friday, December 8th. His parents, a brother and a sister survive. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Miss Edna Smith, R.N., of the St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith.

Mrs. Frank Holmes is spending the week with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Cartwright in Belfast.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Clarke of Independence returned Saturday from a few days visit with their daughter, Mrs. Glenn Baker and family of Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Chambers and children of Paynesville, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Glover of Elm Valley.

Attorney and Mrs. Reginald Sootheran visited their parents in Niagara Falls, Canada, over the week-end.

Dr. P. B. Hardy of Tecumseh, Michigan, passed the week-end at the home of his son, Harold Hardy and family.

Mrs. Dorothy Joyce spent from Friday until Sunday in Buffalo with her sisters, the Misses Gertrude and Agnes Joyce.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Burgett of Pavilion, were guests of his sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Higby, Sunday.

Lawrence King left Thursday to pass the winter in the South. He will visit relatives in West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky before going to Miami, Florida.

Miss Charlotte Cook returned the first of the week after several weeks visit with her aunt, Mrs. Caroline Cook and family of New York City.

30 YEARS AGO

December 8, 1939

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Estes S. Stevens, 32, died Thursday, December 7th at his home corner of Elm and Barney Streets. His wife, two daughters, his parents and grandmother survive. Interment was in Valley Brook Cemetery.

Mrs. Augusta Coats, 87, died Tuesday, December 5. Two sons, and two daughters survive. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery.

Miss Irene Jones of Wellsville was a week-end guest of her brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Jones.

A company of friends from the Seventh Day Baptist Ladies Aid Society and their husbands, gave Mrs. F. S. Potter a surprise visit Monday in honor of her birthday.

Director S. W. Clarke of Independence, is in Harrisburg, Pa. this week on business.

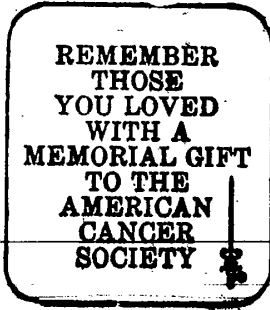
Mrs. John Lewis of Independence received word Monday of the sudden death of her brother, Ray Lewis at Rexville.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Green of Davis Hill are visiting their daughter, Mrs. Glen Amesbury and family at Richburg this week.

About twenty-five relatives and neighbors and friends cooperated with Leo Horan Tuesday afternoon in the raising of his new barn on South Hill.

Miss Louis Fanton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Fanton of Fulmer Valley was united in marriage to Walter Ormen Saturday evening.

William Rogers left Tuesday for Englewood, N. J., to drive home a new drilling rig.



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