

A TRIBUTE TO "MOM"

An Editorial

This coming Sunday is "Mother's Day" so, many families across the country will be celebrating the occasion with a family get-together to honor their respective "Moms" in their own customs and traditions.

Many of us that are grown up live long distances away from our parents and find it impossible to drop in and visit or entertain them. Thus on special occasions we send them a card and a gift, or perhaps even talk to them on the phone.

For Mother's Day, we think that one thing Mom would appreciate most of all would be a letter from her children with an account of everyday happenings, and a special invitation extended to come and visit a spell.

Mothers need to have the feeling that they are still wanted and needed by their family. Thus we could sit down with pen in hand, spend a few minutes in retrospect, and write a letter something like this:

Dear Mom,

Do you still remember teaching us to respect our parents and elders, using courtesy and politeness when ever we were addressed? Who was it that taught us to respect other toys, playthings, and belongings — and still not be selfish or greedy?

Who was it that helped us gather May Flowers, make candy, and goodies to put in our little May Baskets made out of wall paper samples — and then watched us distribute them to our neighbors, thus teaching us that it was "More Blessed To Give Than Receive?" Who stuck up for us when a substitute teacher punished us unjustly — and yet on the other hand, spanked us when we were naughty either in school or elsewhere? We weren't continually warned and threatened — we knew that if we misbehaved we would get spanked on the spot — and on the seat — even if it was in Church or Sunday School.

Who taught me to stand-up and fight my own battles when a big bully threatened me and made life miserable for me on the way home from school? Yes, as I remember, you told me to pop him when he came running out to hit me — or else you would spank me when I came home bawling from my lumps and bruises I found out that bully with a bloody nose will run just as fast, if not faster, away from you — as he would towards you to hit you!

Who was it that after Dad was accidently killed in an auto accident, kept the family together and acted as both parents to us. Went on long hikes with us, encouraged us in our study of music, and was even game enough to let us teach you how to swim?

Who was it that let us bring our friends home to play cards or build model airplanes, and when we were through — raid the refrigerator — or help ourselves to the pie or cake in the cupboard? If I recall correctly, you used to bake 9 pies every Saturday morning — and by Monday morning they would all be gone. Of course my pals were growing boys, and even my sisters girl friends used to have pretty good appetites.

Who was it that made us study and do our homework before we could go out and play — or else have our friends in? Yes, we each had our own chores to do — and they had to be finished during the week-end — before we thought about our entertainment. But, I can't recall ever grumbling about being overworked either.

Of course I could go on for hours, time permitting with memories running thru my mind, but instead, must return to the daily grind. So, "Happy Mother's Day" and whenever you decide to come and visit us this summer let us know so we can make arrangements for your trip.

With Loads of Love,
Your only Son

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50 YEARS AGO

April 29, 1921

J. H. Backus, Publisher

At a meeting of the directors of the Andover Athletic Association held Tuesday evening, the following officers were elected for the coming year: J. H. Backus, President; Ed Horan, Vice-President; E. E. Temple, Secretary; J. P. Cannon, Treasurer; and F. S. Potter, Advertising Manager. A try-out game is scheduled for Sunday with Wallville.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hard are the parents of a son, born Saturday. Mrs. Frank Beach of East Rochester, is the guest of her sister Mrs. T. G. Burdick of Tip Top.

Mrs. N. M. Lamphear returned to her home at Tip Top Saturday after a few days visit at the home of T. C. Turner of Alfred Station. Mrs. D. L. Langworthy spent Monday and Tuesday with Mrs. W. E. Baker of Tip Top.

David Yentzer of Roulette, Pa. is the guest of his sister, Mrs. W. E. Baker of Tip Top this week.

M. H. Greene and family have moved into the house recently purchased of E. V. Greene.

Mrs. Erwin Briggs returned to her home in Independence from Almond, where she has been caring for her father, Saturday.

Edward Hyland was home from Dansville for the week-end.

Lynn Hammond of Seranton, Pa. is the guest of relatives in town this week.

Miss Ella Mulcahy returned home Tuesday after spending a few days in Olean.

Mrs. William Perkins of Shinglehouse, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Ida Baker for a few days.

Edgar Baker has returned from Shinglehouse, where he has been visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Collins of Okmulgee, Okla., are visiting her sister, Mrs. Anna Delaney.

Mrs. Alice Clarke returned Friday from the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Maud Clarke where she had been passing the week.

Lawrence Hunt who was summoned to Andover by the death of his father-in-law George N. Bloss, returned to Washington, D. C. Monday.

Mrs. Mark Sheppard of Pittsburgh, Pa. is visiting her parents, Atty. and Mrs. C. L. Earley. Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard are to move from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia in the near future.

Francis Vickers and Miss Helen Vickers were guests at the home of their uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Traster of Hornell, Friday and Saturday.

40 YEARS AGO

April 24, 1931

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers
Mrs. Millie Baker, 69, died at her home at Tip Top Saturday, April 18. Three daughters, three sons, a sister and a brother survive. Interment was in Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Valorous G. Graves, 75, died at his home on Baker Street, Monday, April 20. His wife and a son, Frank, survive. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

The Young Women's Friendly Circle of the M. E. Church held their meeting Friday evening April 17th at the home of Mrs. Bessie Mulconery. It was an old time party and guests were gownned in old fashioned costumes. A most delightful time was enjoyed. Mrs. Mulconery and Mrs. Pearl Mesler were hostesses.

B. C. Williams has purchased the interest of his former partner Charles Stebbins in the insurance business conducted by him and will continue the business under his own name.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Strong are parents of a daughter, born Sunday, April 19th.

Mrs. Harry Baker and daughter of Andover, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clarke of Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Green have purchased the Addie Green property in Independence and will move there as soon as they do some repairing to the house.



by Alex Rankin

State legislators are hopping mad over the manner in which state agencies have trimmed their work force in order to meet deep budget cuts imposed by the lawmakers.

The Assembly has gone so far as to form a committee headed by H. Clark Bell of Ulster County to look into the situation.

The legislators are reacting to widespread criticism from the public that while ordinary state employees who got their jobs through competitive examinations are being laid off in droves, the employees with big salary-patronage jobs are hardly being touched.

They are also angered that some departments are closing down operations calculated to cause the biggest public outcry, notably hospitals under the Department of Mental Hygiene and a host of recreational and fish and game activities under the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

This committee has shown just how far it intends to go by demanding that each department head provide them with a list of every position cut and the salary that went with it.

Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chairman Willis H. Stephens, who formed the committee, said there is "evidence some agencies have been unnecessarily protective" of high salaried state employees "at the expense of lower grade employees."

Stephens said that since last week legislators have been deluged with mail complaining about cuts in activities in their home districts.

Aside from the immediate situation which produced this committee, there are deeper, long range trends involved that may in time produce a more responsible state government. Recently President Nixon voiced a concern that much

of his "silent majority" has felt for some time: Government just isn't working.

In Albany it hasn't worked because, among other things the state's citizens have a part-time Legislature that sits for three months and passes bills setting broad general policy.

The huge bureaucracy living in Albany 12 months a year then translates this policy into daily action.

The trouble with this is that pretty soon the bureaucracy begins to go its own way. It is a gradual thing, built out of bits and pieces, small policy decisions made every day. And the Legislature isn't around long enough to really check on what is happening. Without criticizing them, it is a generally accepted fact that there are few legislators, maybe six or eight in each house, who are really experts on just one subject. The rest are generalists who rely on the opinions of other people they consider experts in making their own decisions.

Gradually these experts tend more and more to be members of the agency bureaucracy. Many of the thousands of bills introduced in the Legislature each year come from agencies.

The problem with all of this is that the agency employees are not responsible to the public. They aren't elected.

Now this may be slowing down and hopefully turning around. It will if this committee actually forces department heads to reorder the priority for firing people. It will be a case of the Legislature sticking its nose right into the daily operations of state departments and agencies.

In terms of making state government more responsive to the needs of the people it is supposed to be serving — the public — that can only be a good thing.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Jayne of Webster passed several days this week guests of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Proper.

Mrs. P. J. Dougherty spent the last of the week in Hornell with her daughter, Mrs. Harold Griswold and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Murphy and daughter, Ellen Marie of Hornell spent the week-end with her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Quigg.

Mr. and Mrs. John Joyce spent the last of the week with friends in Buffalo.

Miss Irene Dougherty was on South Hill last week with her sister, Mrs. A. Dougherty.

Mrs. Ella Millsbaugh of Whitesville, spent Friday and Saturday with her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Millsbaugh.

Mrs. Eva Williams has gone to Karr Valley where she expects to remain for some time with her daughter, Mrs. Raymond Hardy and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ruger spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Byron Ruger at Hornell.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Thorne passed the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lincoln at Henrietta.

Mrs. Lettie Coats of Whitesville is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Potter this week.

30 YEARS AGO

April 24, 1941

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nichols of Randolph, former Andover residents, are the parents of a daughter, born April 16th.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lynton entertained at a family dinner Sunday in honor of the 84th birthday of her father, Ezra Slocum.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Burdick (Rita Dean) of Mt. Jewett, Pa., are the parents of a son, born April 21st.

Mrs. Arnold Remaley of Hornell is passing a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Crandall of Independence.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hawks and family of Shongo are visiting their mother, Mrs. Eliza Hawks at the George Billings home in Independence.

Miss Esther Drew returned to her home in Independence Sunday after passing a week in Buffalo guest of Mr. and Mrs. William Bell.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Francisco and two sons of Rochester were week-end guests of her brother, Victor Hoagland and family of Davis Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Davis have moved from their farm home on Davis Hill to their new home on Barney Street in Andover.

Mrs. Shirley Evans and son of Freemont passed a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mullen of West Greenwood.

Norma and Ethel Mae Crowner of Elm Valley spent their Easter vacation with their sisters, Mrs. Iva Jordan and Mrs. Ruth Angood in Hornell.

Howard Perry of Buffalo was visiting friends and relatives in Andover, Saturday.

Mrs. Dan Witter returned Sunday after spending several days in Buffalo with her son, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan Witter.

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Trowbridge and son, Robert of Pulaski, were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Trowbridge from Thursday until Sunday.

Betty Jean and Ronald Howland returned Sunday after spending the Easter vacation with their sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Andrus of Franklinville.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Huffcutt and daughter, Ruth of Sea Cliff, L. I., have been guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Robinson this week.

Village Electric Commissioner C. S. Bennells is attending the Municipal Electric Utilities Association Training School held in Albany this week, Tuesday until Saturday.