

# "FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW"

An Editorial

"For He's A Jolly Good Fellow Which Nobody Can Deny" is an old popular song which is still being sung at many gatherings and can apply to many businessmen in various types of enterprises.

However, as unpleasant and sad as it may be this does not and can not apply to a good weekly editor or writer, for, by the very nature of his work, he has to get around as much as possible, and regard everything he sees as possible news.

Besides keeping both eyes open, he must also keep both ears open with one constantly to the ground in order to call attention to the needs of the entire community and for the good of the public — for after all he is running a public service — publishing local news and happenings that would not be found elsewhere.

A good Editor must be above party politics, local disagreements, petty quarrels, impartial on religious matters, fair minded, just, and honest with the public and "call things as he sees them".

He has to carefully analyse all problems and reach a conclusion to what is best for the majority of the people in the community. In doing this he has to avoid all groups with special interests which do not necessarily conform with the interests of the entire populace.

He has to separate rumor from truth and then in many cases has to file it or tone it down so that it does not border on the immoral or sensational type. After all if something unfortunate happens to a family they have enough troubles without shouting it from the rooftops in a newspaper even though it is true.

All Editors from the largest magazines to the smallest weekly newspaper will always find a small minority of readers who do not agree with him or else misinterpret what has been written. This is part of the business that has to be accepted even though in most cases it could be straightened out and wrong impressions corrected if the people involved would only stop in and ask about it instead of nursing a secret grudge for years and years.

Almost any Editorial is bound to offend some who have opposing opinions or who are out to do as much harm as within their power to any civic minded citizen that takes active part in trying to improve facilities in the community. No matter how much time, trouble, effort or cost an individual may make in serving the interest of the members of the community there are always those that sit along the sidelines doing nothing except to find fault, gripe, gossip, and even in some cases maliciously start rumors that are entirely unfounded and untrue.

Then too, almost every week someone with a guilty conscience will read something in the paper and think that it's directed at them when actually we have not heard or do not know anything about their personal affairs.

Occasionally someone will get real brave and call us up on the phone to threaten, abuse or attempt to intimidate us over something that has been written and is all too true as far as they are concerned. Also, once in a great while we get an anonymous letter from someone who must be evidently so yellow and so much a coward that they don't sign what drivel, trash, nonsense or filth they send thru the mail.

Incidentally this reminds us that there are laws against using the phone system or U. S. Mails for purposes such as these, so of course, in performing our Civic duty, any such type of incidents are turned over by us to the police for investigation.

Naturally, we too are human, and by being so are susceptible to making mistakes or errors — and of course they are in plain sight in our showase — The Newspaper.

If this should be the case, and the wrong impression conveyed about any of our readers, we would certainly appreciate having it called to our attention so we could rectify the misconception or error.

## THE ANDOVER NEWS

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# "Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

In place of my usual column, this week I would like to submit for your thoughtful consideration, the following article contained in the "Legislative Report" published by the New York State Council of Churches. I hope you will find it interesting and enlightening.

Many people depending upon the various media wonder just what these people in Albany are doing. Frankly, they are trying to make our political and legislative system work, a dialogue process not a dictated one.

Many of our citizens can't remember the last power struggle that emerged when parties in Albany changed or split power. Nor, when the shift between the Federal and State systems came in with such crisis.

The American citizen is not a patient person. We have become a nation of people expecting instant remedies, or bought answers to any problem facing us. We want to be pleased or have our needs answered. We have looked to first the local area, then the State, and the Nation. As our problems grew and became consuming we began to lose confidence in the Federal Administration and started the reverse process of using State Government as our agent.

Thus great bureaucracies were built. Each group divided and subdivided and was thus placed into bureaus, divisions, departments until the cost of running a program was greater than the benefits of that program.

The social action demonstrations of the 60's became sophisticated and in the 70's they are group actions on legislative matters. Laws that created change could be pushed. The problem would be that those same laws could destroy.

Into this confusion and tension each district sent representatives to Albany to form a new Legislature. We also sent a new Executive to create a new Administration.

The process of power in a split Legislature, as we have in the State, takes time. Today, with instant news and commentary pressures are tremendous.

The Church like any other group is concerned and involved in this process, but we must consider another dimension — The personhood of those selected to represent us in Government. Just electing someone does not give us a license to demean or destroy that person. They are elected servants, not slaves or lackies.

The New York State Legislature is technically a part-time job, from January through May or June (it used to be April). Political life on the average is short (in Assembly 6 - 8 years — in Senate 7 years).

Therefore, the average legislator who has a family, works to maintain a source of living outside the Legislature.

They are religious men by profession of their faith, some more so than others, but they would meet the average standards of any local community.

They are human, subject to all the pressures that the citizenry have plus the pressures caused by citizen action and reaction.

It seems strange that election to some office separates or isolates them from the decent concerns of those who elect them. That election automatically makes a Legislator suspect, corrupt or evil.

The electorate too quickly would brand or class Legislators and the political system in a negative pattern.

How many of the citizenry write in a positive vein to their Legislators? How many write in support or offer constructive views, though perhaps different?

The tragedy of the situation is not totally with the Legislator and the process. Nor that they are only Human Beings.

The problem or tragedy is in the electorate.

The citizen reaction only reflects the attitude of the electorate. An electorate that became involved in only part of a process or some of the citizenry not at all. So they look for a scapegoat.

No one is asking anyone to



## 50 YEARS AGO

February 27, 1925

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Jesse Grossman of Independence, was badly injured while drilling at Bolivar, Monday, and is in the Olean Memorial Hospital. Edward Moore, a pumper from the Penney Sand Oil Co., of Wells-ville, was found dead in the power house near Whitesville, February 22. He was 40 years old. Cause of death was asphyxiation.

Mrs. Claire Backus entertained a group meeting of the Kings Daughters, Monday evening.

The name of Carl Hann of Andover, is among the personnel of the Alfred Glee Club. They expect to tour Eastern New York and New Jersey the fore part of April.

A company of young people gave Loretta Quigg a surprise party at her home on West Greenwood Street. A delicious supper was served and the evening greatly enjoyed. Miss Quigg expects to leave Saturday for New York City to enter training for a nurse at the Lenox Hill Hospital.

Frances M. Hovey of Buffalo and A. Lorey Mitchell were married January 28, 1925.

The Presbyterian Ladies Aid Society will meet Wednesday, March 4 with Mrs. Michael Poling. Mrs. S. P. Taylor is assistant hostess.

Mrs. Emma P. Clair and Charles F. Church were united in marriage February 24, 1925 at the home of Byron Clair on Dyke Street.

Rev. Benzil Clumb, pastor of the Associated Church of Almond, will speak at the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning. Mr. Clumb has been appointed Moderator of the Andover Church and will meet with the session after the services. Robins were seen on South Hill and the Wild Geese were going North.

Miss Ruth Freeland, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Denzil Freeland of Greenwood, died February 18. She was a senior at the high school this year. She is survived by her parents and one brother, Glenn. Burial was in Hornell.

Mrs. Mary Parmelia Warner died at her home in Greenwood, February 20 at the age of 78. She is survived by one son, Frank; one grandson, Marshall; one granddaughter, Mrs. C. E. Hounds, all of Greenwood. Burial was in Gully Cemetery.

The Alfred girls played the Andover girls basketball team last Thursday, here. Andover won 17

"Love a Legislator", only to be a little considerate and humane.

Remember the story of the man who always complained about his wife and how bad she was. Finally one of his friends had it and told him candidly he was only reflecting himself, because he married her and to publicly ridicule his mistake was stupid. If the Legislators are what many claim, we are stupid. We sent them and pay them, therefore, let them hear all sides.

If we differ tell them why. If we agree tell them why.

COMMUNICATE DON'T HATE. WRITE DON'T GRIPE.

The office of Assemblyman James L. Emery (R-Genesee) announces his schedule for the week beginning February 28, 1975.

Friday, February 28th — Assemblyman Emery will be speaking at Keshequa Central School from 9:45 - 10:45 a. m., in their auditorium.

Saturday, March 1st — Assemblyman Emery will be attending a dinner sponsored by the Village and Town of Friendship Republican Club at the Six "S" Restaurant.

Thursday, March 6th — Assemblyman Emery will be speaking at York Central School, Grades 7 - 12 from 9:15 - 10:00 a. m., in their auditorium.

Also, Assemblyman Emery will speak at Mt. Morris Central School from 10:00 a. m. - 12:00 p. m. in their auditorium.

to 13. The Almond boys played the Andover boys. The Alfred boys won 22 to 20.

The Parent-Teachers Association held a very successful meeting at the High School, February 24. The Study Hall was over flowing with parents and teachers. The Cannon Orchestra opened the program and Mr. C. H. Watson gave an illustrated lecture on "Here And There With A Nature Lover".

## 40 YEARS AGO

February 22, 1935

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

A Home Talent Play is to be presented at the Andover Auditorium, February 25, when the young men of the Baptist Church will present: "When Youth Comes Tripping". The following will take part: Ray Lehman, Clifford Wilkins, Arnold Eichman, Helen Wilkins, Mary Lehman, Alyse Pope, Howard Baker, Earl Matison and Howard Alvord.

Town Clerk Bloss tells the News that every engrafted dog in the Town of Andover, but one has been licensed for 1935. So at the best our dog catcher will have only one canine to pursue Judging from the reports from neighboring towns the dog situation in Andover has been very satisfactorily taken care of this year.

The Legion Boys have been busy the past week remodeling the rooms on the second floor of the Village Hall. When completed they will make a nice suite of rooms for the three organizations which use them: the Legion, Legion Auxiliary and the Women's Relief Corps.

Miss Elizabeth Cannon of Andover, instructor in English in the Mt. Morris High School, presented a paper Thursday afternoon on "Methods of Meeting and Solving Problems in Written Composition" at the Livingston County Teachers' Association in session at Genesee, N. Y.

Miss Alice Gorman, 66 of Duffy Hollow, died in a Buffalo Hospital, February 14, 1935. She was born in Ireland the daughter of Michael and Anna McMahon Gorman and came to the United States when she was 18 years of age, residing in Duffy Hollow ever since.

A daughter, Beverly Jane was born February 1, 1935 to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Snyder of Arkport.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wereley of West Almond are parents of a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, born February 15. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Wereley are brothers of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Wereley of Andover.

Miss Irene Mather of Andover and Samuel Caple of Hornell were united in marriage February 17, 1935.

The farm home of Mr. and Mrs. James Lynch of East Valley was practically destroyed by fire early Saturday evening. The whole second story was destroyed and much damage was done to the lower floor by water and smoke.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Howland entertained a party of friends at an 8 o'clock dinner Saturday night at their home on Greenwood Street.

Master Ronald Wayne, son of Highway Superintendent and Mrs. Earl Howland, who is ill with bronchitis at his home on Greenwood Street, is reported this morning as improving.

Another little snow storm this week just to keep you reminded that it is still winter in Allegany County. "Pete" Howland had to get the snow plow out Tuesday morning to open up the Alfred road.

The Afternoon Division of the Kings Daughters will meet today at a 1:30 luncheon at the home of Mrs. George Beebe. Mrs. Henry Baker and Mrs. William Pease will assist Mrs. Beebe as hostesses.

Rev. Ray Dronsfeld of the Presbyterian Seminary at Chicago, Illinois, preached in the Andover Presbyterian Church last Sunday and will occupy the pulpit again this Sunday. Rev. Dronsfeld came to the Andover Church as a pastoral candidate.

Mrs. Florence Bloss entertained the A.O.T. Club at a 7 o'clock dinner at her home Thursday evening. The prize was given to Mrs. Raymond Snyder.

Mrs. Pearl Mesler was tendered a surprise visit Thursday evening by friends who came attired in costume apparel and helped celebrate her birthday. Games and a social evening was followed

(Continued on Page 3)