

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 judgement. 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 a non-alcoholic. Otherwise, the road you take may be a short-cut to the graveyard.

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

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FROM OUR FILES

50 YEARS AGO

November 27, 1925

J. A. Backus, Publisher

Who Said Andover Is Losing Out? According to the report sent to The News this week by Forence E. S. Knapp, Secretary of State, the Village of Andover has made a gain of 19 inhabitants in the last five years, but the Town of Andover sustained a loss of twenty-four. This places the Village of Andover fourth in the number of inhabitants in Allegany County, being exceeded only by Wellsville, Cuba and Bolivar. The Village of Andover has shown a population gain during the last five years as the 1925 Census figures were announced as follows:

Village	1920	1925
Andover	1,192	1,151
Town	1920	1925
Andover	1,800	1,785

Last Friday, December 4, a new idea was brought up in the regular meeting of the Literary Society of Andover High School. This was that we have a critic. Miss Onnolee Hammell brought the idea before the Society. They brought arguments both for and against and how they should be chosen. It was decided that there should be one from each English Class and that he should hold his office for one month. The following took part in the program: Mary Cable, Irma Greene, Guy Nye, Gertrude Joyce, Rose Greene and Mary Horan.

Last Thursday night the Andover High School Boys opened their Basketball Season by winning from Whitesville. The score was Andover 24 and Whitesville 8. The players for Andover were: Alvord, Hann, Horton, Howland and Dawson.

Kenneth Alvord was elected Captain of the Boys Team on Wednesday night. He was Captain last year and we all are looking forward and hope that he will lead his team to victory this year.

The Entire Noug Club was entertained Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. R. E. Temple.

John Gorman of Wellsville, died at the Jones Memorial Hospital December 5, at the age of 50. Mr. Gorman has been a lifelong resident of Duffy Hollow.

Andover merchants are giving you a fine assortment from which to select your Christmas gifts.

Jesse A. Hills of New York City, a former resident of Andover, has left by motor for Florida where he will spend the winter in the interest of the E. A. White Real Estate Company, an organization with which he has been associated for the past six years.

The household goods of Rev. C. C. Conrad were taken to Holland, N. Y., Monday, where they are to reside. He was a former pastor of the Andover Baptist Church.

The evening division of the Kings Daughters will meet at the home of Miss Mary Snyder this Friday evening, December 11.

What is locally known as the "Old Hinchey Farm" in Elm Valley, was recently sold by its owner Jay Burdick. The building and the adjacent lots came into the possession of Con Lynch of Andover while the hillside portion was added to the farm of Walter Downer.

During the past week Jay Burdick and son, Carl of Elm Valley pressed what will probably be the last crop of hay from Mr. Burdick's maternal homestead.

The Wheaton Brothers held an Auction at the Rust Farm on West Greenwood Hill, Wednesday. Cows sold as high as \$95 and horses sold at \$1 to \$2.

The Elm Valley Store should be appreciated by the people of this hamlet. No doubt they do. The proprietor carries a stock of general merchandise, gas and oil with prices corresponding to those of larger stores. Mr. Stowell is "one of the boys", so let's boost him.

The little settlement of Elm Valley does not feel isolated from the world on account of its size. Almost every farmer has his serial from the peak of the barn and he has first hand information from the large cities, his market reports, musical treats, jazz or grand old opera during the long winter

"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

I find it somewhat incredible that Governor Carey has continued to insist on massive new State taxes as the one panacea to whatever fiscal ills may now plague this State. If you check back over the past 11 months, the Governor has not budged from his original stand since he first proposed the matter of higher taxes shortly after he took office.

With every so-called "crisis" we have faced — solvency of the Urban Development Corporation; the whole quagmire of the New York City fiscal mess; the still unsettled question of possible default by important State agencies; and now the financial integrity of the State itself — the cry from the Governor's office and the Democratic Administration has remained the same: taxes, taxes, and more taxes.

This, you must remember, is the same Governor who campaigned in 1974 on the promise that he would reduce State spending by 10 percent. If Mr. Carey would just attempt to fulfill that pledge alone it would not be necessary for him to say one more word about new taxes.

But let's look back a few years. In 1971, the State was faced with a deficit of approximately \$400 million. That was the first real shockwave since the pre-Nelson Rockefeller years, and it had become painfully obvious that something had to be done. Instead of immediately advocating more taxes, then Assembly Speaker Perry Duryea called for a three-year fiscal plan of austerity management. The Legislature cut \$700 million from the State budget that year and through that trimming of State spending to a level below annual revenues a surplus was created and used to pay off the deficit. In fact, the Duryea plan was so successful that it took only one year, not three, to eliminate the 1971 deficit.

Now the Republican Assembly Minority, under Duryea, has once again recommended this three-year fiscal program to eliminate any deficit that might exist in 1975.

There have been conflicting reports as to the actual size of the State's 1975 deficit but to eliminate any argument, the proposed three-year plan for 1975 was based upon Governor Carey's own revenue and expenditure estimates. With past experience proving that a three-year plan can work and that new taxes are not necessary, no one, including the Governor, can in good conscience continue to propose higher taxes.

During this period of economic recession, taxes should be the last solution to State fiscal problems — not the first. The State must cut spending, it should make the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (the New York City subway) pay it what the MTA owes and the Governor of this State should take every responsible action possible before heaping more and more taxes on the already overburdened New York State taxpayer.

It is hard to believe that those who favor fiscal soundness for the State would be more impressed with the Carey tax program, than with a three year commitment to fiscal austerity and balanced budgeting, with no tax increases.

What we need is less state spending, not more through higher taxes.

(NO MORE TAXES)

We just can't afford any more taxes.

Governor Carey has been pressing for taxes since January. In July, the Governor said he realized that the Republicans, who control the State Senate, would not support any tax increases and he said the issue was dead for the rest of the year. However, the issue of new taxes has surfaced again under the urging of the Governor and a new found ally of his — the BANKERS.

evenings.

Mrs. F. J. Dougherty and son Anthony, attended the funeral of a relative in Bolivar, Monday.

Mrs. Cynthia Scott and Frank Ingraham, both of Andover, were married November 20.

Miss Margaret Dougherty was

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After reading all of my constituency mail, and after listening to the many daily phone calls from residents of the District, I can say without a doubt that the Banks are the only ones who are supporting higher taxes. Well, if the Banks want higher taxes, I would gladly support higher taxes on banks. They are making millions of dollars on your money so perhaps they can afford the new taxes. I know the residents of my district, and the rest of the state, can't.

The taxes in New York State are already the highest in the country. To increase those taxes would be digging ourselves into a deeper hole. Businesses and industry are already leaving this state. While the total number of jobs have increased by 500,000 in this country, the number of jobs in New York State has decreased by 180,000 since 1968. Increased taxes will only force more businesses to move out, and discourage new businesses from coming into New York.

Higher taxes in New York will also mean that State Governor will not be making those spending cuts that are vitally necessary. In light of all that has happened this year concerning government over-spending it is ridiculous for State government to be talking of increasing taxes so that it can meet the costs of increased government spending. As I have said before, what is needed, and what the people want is less government spending, not more.

Cuts in government spending are always painful. They are socially, economically, and to some, politically painful. Obviously, with Governor Carey's constant push for higher taxes, the Governor can not endure the pains of these cuts.

The Governor is presently over-spending, for this fiscal year alone by nearly \$300 million. As a colleague has said, "In all fairness and candor, how can we as legislators be asked to tax, and how can you as the taxpayers be asked to pay, when there has been no legislative authority given for such over-spending?"

The Governor must come out from behind his barrage of press releases and face reality. Cuts in state budget have to be made instead of increasing taxes. The Governor has got to release the Budget Summary. Remember two weeks ago that it was reported the Governor had stopped the publication of this document which made public mid-year budget data available. Only in this way can we legislators and the public be given a straight forward look at the state's actual fiscal picture.

As a final note, I would like to say to each and everyone of you keep your eyes open. We have a Governor who:

- campaigned on the promise of no tax increases and a cut of 10 percent in state spending.
- assumed office proclaiming "the days of wine and roses are over" and the implementation of an austerity budget, and then almost immediately called for \$800 million in new taxes and began his administrative over-spending to the tune of \$300 million;
- now wants nearly \$1 billion in new taxes and says it is a "showdown" with the Republican Senate and if they don't give in then he will fire 7,000 State employees.

Governor, this kind of blackmail politics is most resentful, but it does prove what the Republicans have been saying all along — the budget can be balanced without higher taxes. You have told the Bankers in effect that their demands for higher taxes do not have to be answered. You have told the state taxpayers, in the same way, that they do not have to pay higher taxes. Now, let's sit down and talk about an orderly procedure of cutting state expenditures instead of making rash threats.

An Alfred University student will serve a four-week internship in January in the Albany office of Assemblyman James L. Emery of Genesee.

Brent Culver, senior economics major from Savannah, near Geneva, will fulfill requirements for the University's independent study requirement, or Allentown, by working in the Republican legislative office.

Emery represents the 136th Assembly District, which includes Livingston, Allegany and Ontario Counties.