

This month was named after Janus, the God of Beginnings. The birthstone is the Garnet.

ANDOVER NEWS

Sun rises 7:22 a. m. Sets 4:48 p. m. Day's length 9 hrs., 24 min. Moon sets 5:34 a. m.

A PROGRESSIVE FAMILY NEWSPAPER FOR ALLEGANY COUNTY PEOPLE, IN POLITICS INDEPENDENT BUT NEVER NEUTRAL.

VOL. XLVII, NO. 1.

ANDOVER, N. Y., FOR THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 1932.

25 Cents the Year in the Copy

ROOT DEFENDS OLD AGE PENSION

Bolivar Man in Open Letter Says "Supervisors See Nothing But the Dollar Sign."

Burr L. Root of Bolivar comes to the defense of the Old Age Pension and criticizes the Board of Supervisors for their resolution asking for the repeal of the law under the caption, "In Defense of Our Aged Parents," the Bolivar man champions the cause of "our aged" so they won't be "thrown back on charity."

His letter follows:

"I note with shame that the supervisors of Allegany county and others of the state are asking the Legislature at Albany to repeal the Old Age Relief law to try to save a few dollars for the taxpayers.

"In their arguments they appear to see nothing but the dollar sign with no thought of suffering humanity, of justice or the teachings of Jesus Christ.

"They claim that many are receiving aid that are not in need.

"If this be so the fault lies with the officials who are supposed to look into each individual case and who may need some looking into.

"They state the law is a detriment to thrift and that people are not encouraged to save for their old age.

"To anyone who reads the many reliable figures on the average wage paid the producers of our country's wealth and will take the time to figure how much they can buy, their arguments will seem both asinine and silly.

"Again, in the world wide crack up of capitalism which is going on at present, the owners of industry are not crying to the producers to save their old age but to spend 'till it hurts,' to save for them their profits and dividends.

"Their argument is that children are shirking the responsibility of the care of their aged parents.

"Reliable statistics again tell us that a worker of today receives in wages a smaller percentage of the wealth he produces than his father before him.

"That being so, what necessity of our modern age would our county solons have him do (without thus causing more unemployment under our present social order) so that their aged parents may be saved from the bitter crumbs of charity after having given the best of their lives in the service of some industry that at the end of each year probably enriched by a million dollars one of our industrial kings?

"Also, if they will look about them they will find that we have now reached a stage in decadent capitalism where many a parent is having to care for their grown-up children.

"If the coming change to some form of the common ownership of our wealth producing machinery and the democratic management thereof is born in a river of blood the fault will lie, not with our so-called radicals but with those whose vision cannot pierce beyond the dollar.

"A Taxpayer of Allegany County, "B. L. ROOT."

UNION WEEK OF PRAYER MEETINGS

The churches of Andover are uniting for four evening meetings during the Week of Prayer, Jan. 5-8, 1932. The churches are urged to observe together these seasons of united prayer and meditation. As scheduled these places of meetings, the leaders and the topics for prayer, song and meditation are as follows:

Tuesday, Jan. 5th, at 7:30 in the Baptist church. Topic: "Leadership of the Holy Spirit." Rev. McIntosh presiding.

Wednesday, Jan. 6th at 7:30 in the Presbyterian church. Topic: "Deepening the Consciousness of God." Rev. Bisbee, presiding.

Thursday, Jan. 7th at 7:30 in the Methodist church. Topic: "Protection of the Home and Youth." Rev. Shergur presiding.

Friday, Jan. 8th at 7:30 in the Seventh Day Baptist church. Topic: "The World in a Day of Depression." Rev. Greene presiding.

Remember the time and the place and plan to attend each evening. Music appropriate for the time and occasion may be expected.

SEEKING LOWER GASOLINE TAX

Petroleum Industry Demands That Money From Gas Tax Be Used For Good Roads Alone.

Reduced gasoline tax rates, with complete collection of all levies and proper use of the income therefrom will be sought by the petroleum industry.

The Board of Directors of the American Petroleum Institute, meeting in Chicago recently, adopted resolutions calling for a decrease in the rate of taxation, the strict application of proceeds to construction, improvement or maintenance of highways and complete collection of income by preventing gasoline tax evasion.

The sole reason for an excise tax upon the petroleum industry's principal product, gasoline, the resolutions explained, is the use of funds so derived for the construction and maintenance of adequate highways. But it was said that in the ten years the excise has been levied and collected, it has thru "the extravagance and recklessness of public officials" continually increased until it has reached the sum of more than \$500,000,000 yearly and represents a tax rate per gallon of gasoline that is greater than the present wholesale price of the fuel.

The original purpose of the tax was said to have been accomplished to such an extent that the tax no longer is necessary or justifiable for highway construction and maintenance, but there has been steadily widening effort to continue it, to increase it and to divert the proceeds to purposes entirely unrelated to the use of gasoline or the benefit of gasoline consumers.

Gasoline is a necessity, not a luxury, the resolutions stated, and the tax rate has become so large as to prevent the industry from obtaining a reasonable price for the product. High rates further were held responsible for nation-wide efforts to evade payment of the tax, it being said that evasion and demoralization of the gasoline market would continue unless the rate of taxation is materially and immediately reduced. Fear was expressed that otherwise the purpose of the tax would be defeated and the invested capital of the petroleum industry jeopardized.

The directors declared that if revenue for the support of projects other than highways are to be raised by excise taxes upon commodities, there is no reason why gasoline alone should bear the burden.

The institute was authorized to make one of its major activities an effort to impress upon the public and upon public officials the necessity for an immediate decrease in the rate of taxation and for strict application of proceeds to highway projects alone, and, further, to prosecute a campaign to prevent increases and procure decreases in gasoline tax rates.

Aroused by the menace of gasoline tax evasion, which is causing losses to motorists and state governments estimated at more than \$40,000,000 annually and at the same time is disrupting the business of reputable gasoline dealers thru the price-cutting which evasion makes possible, the directors called for immediate and effective measures to curb such evasion in all states. Ordinance in each state of units of organization in each state of units of the industry to combat gasoline tax evasion in all its forms was recommended, and the institute was authorized to assist in the promotion of state committees and to procure and disseminate information in aid of the effort.

HERE'S TO THE NEW YEAR



New Year 1932! The end of one year—the end of a unique epoch—the beginning of a new! That is what we are all so happy about—it is more than just another New Year—it is a New Era! During the past year we learned our business all over again. It was a year of adjustment—of change of pace—of adaptation to altered circumstances for buyers and sellers alike. We all, now face a new year with new courage—new methods—new ideas. We have become adjusted to new conditions—mutually used to one another's changed manners—ready for a banner year. A happy and prosperous New Year to all!

AMERICAN LEGION CHRISTMAS TREE

The beautiful electric lighted Christmas tree aglow with numerous colored bulbs was a fitting background to the distribution of gifts by the members of Thomas Lynch American Legion Post on Christmas Eve at 7:30. A concert by the Legion band called to the park several hundred people from the village and surrounding territory.

At the close of the concert Santa Claus arrived in full costume and with him gifts galore. Between three and four hundred gifts were presented by him to a like number of boys and girls. The tree has been greatly admired each evening thru-out the week.

Dr. Melvil Dewey, Educator, Is Dead

Lake Placid, Fla., Dec. 26.—Dr. Melvil Dewey, internationally known educator and inventor of the decimal classification system used in libraries, died here today of a cerebral hemorrhage. He celebrated his 80th birthday Dec. 10th.

Dr. Dewey came to Florida in 1926 and established a southern branch of the famous Lake Placid Club of New York, which started a considerable building program in this winter resort.

His widow was with him at his death. A son, Dr. Godfrey Dewey of New York also survives.

Melville Dewey was a student at Alfred University when a young man and lived at Mrs. D. M. Green's mother's "Club." Mrs. Green and Mr. Dewey have corresponded more or less. The day before his death he wrote Mrs. Green a letter which was received the day after his death.

Also, under separate cover, a copy of his 80th birthday letter, written to his personal friends. The ten page letter was of especial interest and Mrs. Green is justly proud of having been so honored by Mr. Dewey.

Lathrop — Wilcox

Edward Curtis Lathrop, of Andover, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lathrop, and Miss Thelma Bevis Wilcox, daughter of Jay J. Wilcox, were married at the Seventh Day Baptist parsonage in Andover by Rev. Walter L. Greene, December 25, 1931, at 8 p. m.

They were attended by R. D. Gowdy and Miss M. B. Gowdy of Wellsville. Mr. and Mrs. Lathrop will make their home for the present at Alfred.

Read the Classified Ads. They pay.

J. N. WENTWORTH HEADS ODD FELLOWS

Tuesday evening last was a red-letter day with the local Odd Fellows. It was the regular annual meeting for the election of officers as well as the conferring of the Degree of Truth.

James N. Wentworth was elected Noble Grand for the next term, beginning Jan. 1, 1932. John Kemp, Vice Grand; A. L. Rogers, Secretary and Glenn Ruger, Treasurer. The other officers of the Lodge will be appointed at a later meeting a full list of which will be published after the installation of the various fraternal society officers in January. The new officers will be installed at the meeting to be held Tuesday evening, January 19.

The third degree was conferred in the usual pleasing way the Andover degree team has the reputation of putting it on.

At the close of the lodge session the "bean pot" committee put on a supper that would pass for a banquet and all did ample justice to it.

Leland Kilmer and Homer Martin of Woodhull Lodge, No. 810, were guests of the evening.

ADMITS HOLDUP WAS A HOAX

Sheriff's Office Again Triumphs Over Crime. — Gets Confession From Reeves That He Did It.

Belmont, Dec. 26.—Frank C. Reeves, 32, of Myrtle, Pa., held up and robbed of \$120 Saturday night, Dec. 12, today admitted that his story was a myth and that he had devised it to cover up a shortage of \$150.

Reeves, whose story never rang true to Sheriff Daniel C. Witter, Belmont, was taken into custody by the sheriff's office today and charged with grand larceny. This charge specifically accused Reeves of committing grand larceny at the point of the purported holdup, and is unusual in that it charges Reeves with misappropriating the \$150 at the scene of the fake holdup.

Reeves rushed excited and breathless into a store at Elm Valley on December 12th and gave a startling account of how two men had held him up at the point of revolvers and robbed him. He exhibited a broken car window to substantiate his story of the highwaymen firing guns at him.

Within an hour State police thru-out this section, their forces augmented by Hornell police and Steuben county officers, were scouring the rural section of Elm Valley, where the alleged holdup had occurred, as well as all sections of both counties for the perpetrators.

It is quite unusual that the Allegany county sheriff's office was not notified of any holdup until hours afterward. Sheriff Witter and Undersheriff Harry Kemp took personal charge of the case the next day. They took observations of the broken car window which Reeves said had been made by a bullet, one glance was sufficient to convince them that something was wrong. It would have been impossible for a bullet to make that character of a hole in the glass, they agreed after scrutinizing it.

On the heels of the holdup there was a rush for gun permits of residents in the section where it had been committed, and many appeals were made by residents and motorists to the sheriff's office to clear the case up. This lent impetus to the work of the sheriff's office, ending in the arrest of Reeves late today.

Reeves was employed as the driver of a truck for A. E. Vanskoik, proprietor of a cookie shop, Olean. In a signed confession Reeves says that he was short \$150 in his accounts and framed the holdup story to avert consequences when the shortage was discovered by his employer.

After working on the case, Sheriff Witter and Undersheriff Kemp had their suspicions confirmed that it was a canard, when they talked with Mr. Vanskoik. The officers accused Reeves of perpetrating a hoax on occasions during the past week, but it was not until today that Reeves broke down and made a complete confession.

Rev. H. B. Williams Married

Among the many Christmas greetings to the News, came one from Rev. H. B. Williams, a former pastor of the Andover Presbyterian church. In the letter Mr. Williams tells of his marriage eleven months ago to a Worthington, O., woman, who is a social worker.

They, with their son, Thomas, are now located at Cleveland, Ohio, and his hosts of Andover friends will join with the News in best wishes and a happy year.

BIBLE COLLEGE BUYS SANITARIUM

Is to Move Institution From Red Creek to Hornell. — Poor House Scheme is a Failure.

The much-discussed project of Steuben county purchasing the Steuben Sanitarium for a county home, has been settled now by the purchase of the property by the Elim Bible Training College now located at Red Creek, N. Y., between Sodus and Oswego. The college trains and graduates missionaries and clergymen. Negotiations have been completed by the Rev. Ivan Spencer and associates for the purchase of the Steuben Sanitarium.

The purchase price is \$40,000. Rev. Mr. Spencer says that while it may be that the college will not open until late in the spring, he is in favor of making the change from Red Creek to Hornell at once. Immediate possession is given and the actual work of remodeling the big building will start at once.

G. Robinson, Binghamton, is the owner of the building. He is a personal friend of Rev. Mr. Spencer. Recently, when Mr. Robinson learned that Elim College was to expand by building at Red Creek if they could not secure a suitable building and an appropriate site, he suggested that the trustees of the Bible College inspect his premises there.

This inspection resulted in Rev. Mr. Spencer and his associates going into raptures over the building and its location. Pictures of the sanitarium will appear in this week's issue of the official organ of the college.

Rev. Mr. Spencer says that the college some time ago outgrew its quarters in Red Creek. Expansion became vitally necessary, he says. Registration at present is 41 young men and young women. A number of registrations had to be refused when the college opened last September.

Rev. Mr. Spencer says that the college is soundly financed and well endowed. "All we ask is the moral support of Hornell," he said. Included among its graduates in recent years are some of the best known clergymen and missionaries in the world, records of the college show.

When told that the state had approved the building and the site for a county home and the county had not immediately secured the building for such purposes, Rev. Mr. Spencer expressed amazement, saying: "It is the finest located building for a home for old folks and those ailing that I have seen."

"We had engineers inspect it. For \$10,000 it could be remodeled to meet the needs of a college, hospital, county home or anything along that line. Our engineers reported that the building is fireproof and as good as the day it was built. They said that it could not be built for less than \$60,000, while equipment would cost a much larger sum."

Rev. Mr. Spencer expressed concern when informed that the county maintained a tuberculosis hospital near Bath on low ground and could not understand why, if they wanted tuberculosis patients to recover, such a site as the sanitarium with its high altitude was not pressed into service as the county resort.

Last month citizens voted as to whether the sanitarium should be purchased for \$40,000 and \$15,000 spent on remodeling it that a county home might be established there. This was carried but the county board of supervisors has declined to go ahead with the proposition.

With this site gone the state will compel the county to rebuild the home near Bath at a cost of approximately half a million dollars. There are indications that a special election will be held in the spring to make available \$300,000.

Empire Potato Club

The annual meeting of the Empire State Potato Club will be held at Edgerton Park, Rochester, January 6 and 7. A program is available upon request from the local Farm Bureau office. Potato growers of Allegany county are members of the Empire State Potato Club by virtue of their Farm Bureau membership. An educational and instructive meeting has been arranged.

Allegany county will be represented at Rochester in a state potato grading contest by Roland Ketchner and Herbert Mayo of Wellsville and Raymond Ellis and James Moulton of Fillmore.

Jimmie Sweet Captured

Word comes to Andover as we go to press that authorities of McKean county, Pennsylvania, had captured Jimmie Sweet at Port Allegany. He is wanted in many communities for crimes committed. Sweet was driving a stolen car when captured.

IS FOUND FROZEN IN THE WOODS

The Body of Alva G. Smith of Alfred is Found in a Lonely Wood by Night Searching Party.

Alfred, Dec. 29.—His body frozen stiff, Alva G. Smith, 73, who disappeared from his home at Alfred, was found in a lonely woods near here by a night searching party early this morning. He was found by Milo Moland.

No search was attempted for Mr. Smith until late last night, because relatives assumed he had arrived at the home of E. E. Cornelius, near Alfred, where he was going for a visit, in safety Christmas Eve. They phoned to inquire when he was coming home. The answer was that he had not been there. The search was then instituted.

Mr. Smith was a lifelong resident of Alfred. He had been active in Odd Fellow circles for many years. Surviving are a son, Claude Smith, New York City, and two daughters, Mrs. William Collins, Scio, and Mrs. Nora Henderson, Alfred.

Funeral services were held from the home Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment in the Alfred cemetery.

Andover Ladies Injured

Mrs. LeRoy Jordan and Mrs. Pearl Brown met with a serious accident while motoring home from Olean Thursday evening. Between Little Thunese and Bolivar they were crashed into by a car from Prattsville, N. Y. The accident was caused by two cars going toward Olean, attempting to pass a third one. The second car was unable to get back in line in time to avoid a head-on collision with the car driven by Mrs. Brown.

Both ladies suffered severely from shock and numerous bruises. Mrs. Brown had several ribs fractured. The Brown couple was badly wrecked. It was another one of many unnecessary accidents caused by the unsafe practice of so many drivers in attempting to pass cars in line without being able to see a distance ahead.

Annual Meeting

The S. D. Baptist church will hold their congregational dinner at 12 o'clock next Sunday, to be followed by the annual business meeting of the church.