

IN WAKE OF A VIOLENT TRAGEDY An Editorial

Less than three weeks ago the Allen family from Cameron Mills was wiped out when their car was hit head-on by a teen-age driver. Now, as an after-math of this tragedy, it has been announced that two Bartenders face charges in this Addison car crash that was fatal to seven persons.

According to a front page story in Monday's Elmira Star-Gazette & Advertiser: "Two bartenders have been charged with violation of the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Law following the investigation of a highway accident in which seven persons died, state police reported Sunday.

Ronald E. Kilburn, 33, and Clifford G. Knapp, 50, both of Addison, were accused of selling alcoholic beverages to an intoxicated person, a misdemeanor.

State Police said Knapp and Kilburn sold the drinks to Franklin L. White, 19, of nearby Rathbone on March 22. White, one of the seven accident victims, was identified by troopers as the driver of one of three cars involved in the collision on a highway near Addison that night.

The arrests followed an intensive investigation and the questioning of a number of persons by Asst. Dist. Atty. Donald Purple of Corning and BCI Investigators Edwin D. Nearing and Jesse J. Moulthrop.

The accident, third worst in New York State history, wiped out a Cameron Mills family of four and brought death to White and two passengers in his car".

Two weeks ago we commented Editorially about this tragedy from the aspect of teen-age drivers and the responsibilities of their parents.

Now we must look at it from another angle, striking a different facet of the case, lighting up another big responsibility which rests entirely on the shoulders of the bartenders and owners of drinking places through our State of New York.

Teen-age drivers as well as young people on up to 25 are recognized by Insurance Companies to be poor risks for auto insurance. This is why their auto insurance rates are so high for drivers under 25.

In New York State, young people can legally buy alcoholic beverages as soon as they are 18. They can also get their senior operator's license at the same age providing of course that they pass the necessary exams or meet the required qualifications. Mix the two and you have a highly dangerous potential situation.

Putting a teen-ager that has been drinking, behind the wheel of an automobile, is like handing a loaded gun to a young lad that has been playing cops and robbers all day. No one can clearly predict what may happen or what their reactions will be.

This is why the State Legislature in its recent session passed the law making it presumptive evidence that a person under 21 years of age is driving under the influence of alcohol if there is more than .05% alcohol found in the bloodstream within a certain specified time limit. This is commonly known as the "one-drink law" since most persons will fail to pass this test if they have more than one drink.

This clearly places the biggest share of the responsibility directly on the shoulders of the bartender. If he sells a teen-age driver more than one drink he is deliberately placing that person's driving license in jeopardy. Thus he is becoming an accessory to anything that this driver might do with his car within the next hour or two.

Furthermore, most experienced bartenders in possession of all their faculties, can tell when a teen-ager or adult has had enough to drink to near the stage of intoxication. If they can't tell—they have no right to be behind the bar in the first place!

We believe that all bartenders should accept and exercise their full responsibilities under which they are granted a permit to sell alcoholic beverages and obviously, if they sell, and continue to sell drinks to a person until they fall flat on their face when they leave their bar-room or place of business, they no longer deserve to have the right to keep their permit and liquor license.

**Turning Back
The Pages
of Andover History**

(Taken from the Files of
The Andover News)

50 YEARS AGO

April 4, 1913

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Daniel Witter had the misfortune to be struck in the eye with a piece of steel while working in the Cutlery Plant. He was taken to the St. James Mercy Hospital.

The Senior Class of Andover High School held an organization meeting Wednesday night. J. Archie Diffin was elected President; Erma Clarke, Vice President; Pearl Potter, Secy-Treas. The class voted to go to Washington in June.

O. B. Trowbridge, George Robinson and Lou Bloss were among the graduates at Alfred Agriculture School this week.

Miss Angie Davis has accepted a position with the Dansville Sanitarium.

J. Harvey Backus was a business visitor in Albany over the week-end.

Mrs. C. E. Brown was called of Jasper the first of the week by the illness of her father.

40 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1923

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mrs. Richard McAndrew, 78, a life-long resident of Andover, died March 17th. Her husband, six children, a brother and a sister survive.

Mrs. Leah Dugan and son, William of New Castle, Pa., are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Gleason.

Miss Ella McLoughlin was in attendance at the fashion display at Buffalo last week.

J. M. Hartum went to Canaseraga Friday to open his cheese factory for this season.

Mr. and Mrs. John Deming returned home Monday from Raleigh, N. C., where they passed the winter with Prof. and Mrs. Leon Cook.

Miss Marie Walsh is home from her school duties in Utica to pass Easter with her mother, Mrs. Ellen Walsh.

Clarence Trowbridge and family were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Trowbridge over the week-end. They were en route from Youngstown, Ohio to Shady Side, N. J., where Mr. Trowbridge has been transferred by the Barrett Tar Co., as assistant foreman.

30 YEARS AGO

March 31, 1933

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mrs. Mary Driscoll, 73, died unexpectedly Sunday evening, Mar. 26. Surviving are a son, two daughters, a sister and three brothers.

Mrs. Ella Dougherty, 58, died in the St. James Mercy Hospital, March 27, following a long illness. Surviving are her husband, Michael Dougherty and five brothers.

Mrs. W. C. Pero was taken to the Wellsville Sanitarium Monday for treatment. She has been ill the past three weeks.

Mrs. Jessamine Holden of Ithaca was a Sunday caller of Mrs. V. G. Graves.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Borden of Rochester were Sunday guests of her parents, Atty and Mrs. C. L. Earley.

Mrs. Hattie B. Eggleston has returned from a few weeks stay at Norwich, N. Y.

Mrs. Ellen Walsh returned Friday from a visit at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Dagon of Hornell.

Mr. and Mrs. Jett Blodgett and Ellis Horsfal visited Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cronk at Knights Creek the first of the week.

Mrs. Mina Gordon is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Raymond New and family of Niles Hill, Wellsville.

Trinidad drug plans are being studied as possible sources of anti-virus serums. Among them are colorfully named specimens such as Love Vine, Wild Coffee, Shadow Bence, Chandelair and Man-Better-man.

**Capitol Comments
By Assemblyman
Don O. Cummings**

By the time you receive this final report, the 1963 Legislative Session will have become history. Whether it will prove to have been good or bad for the future of New York State depends, I suppose, on one's philosophy of Government.

For the first time since I have been in Albany a Legislature has asserted its prerogative on fiscal affairs; has reduced State spending and defeated the proposal to raise auto registration fees. I believe that our action has been responsive to the desires of the people whose communication to me strongly indicated that they desired the action taken.

As adopted, the Budget shows the following major appropriation items:

- \$974 Million for schools.
- \$264 Million for state and community mental health programs.
- \$212 Million for highways and other capital construction.
- \$93 Million for operation and expansion of the State University.
- \$204 Million for the State's share of welfare costs.


The Republican legislative action cut the Governor's recommended appropriations by approximately \$168 Million and cash expenditures by approximately \$75 Million. I believe the Legislature next year should concentrate on the huge sum for welfare costs and on the large amount of money that is required to run the Executive Department. I believe significant cuts can be made in these areas without impairing essential services.

As the Session ends, there are many problems that constitute unfinished business. Among these

is the proposal to raise the drinking age to twenty-one years, which I strongly believe should be brought before the Legislature for consideration. A Constitutional Amendment providing a Korean War Bonus to be funded by a bond issue, and specifying a particular tax to finance it, should be passed by this Legislature and by successive Legislatures in either the years 1965-66 and then submitted to the people. I believe the Korean War veterans are entitled to have this proposal submitted to the people for their decision. I firmly believe that we should proceed in the future with Legislative Reapportionment, and with a review of the Divorce Law situation in the State of New York. These are but a few of the many important things that we should take action on in future Sessions. I deeply appreciate the tremendous amount of mail and communication that I have received from the residents of Allegany County this year. I am sure that this communication of ideas has been helpful to me in my work in the Assembly during this past Session.

A Rust Remover newly developed by Northwest Chemical can be used on most metals including ferrous, copper, stainless, nickel-silver and most exotic metal. Industry can also use the compound to remove scale, paint, smut, oil and buffing compounds.

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