

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

An Editorial

With Thanksgiving, Hunting Season and Local Tragedies in the foreground the last several weeks, the "Christmas Spirit" has been rather neglected.

However, with Wintry Weather here, Christmas Advertising in front of us, Christmas Parties all around us, and then Christmas Carolers out serenading last night, comes the sudden realization that Christmas is JUST TWO WEEKS away.

The Village Decorations and Christmas Lights have been up for over a week now and this week the Christmas Trees in the Island and at the South end of Main St., have been donated by local Citizens and set up by Village Officials.

Now it is up to the rest of us — businessmen and residents alike — to decorate our stores and homes in truly festive Christmas manner.

Some stores and a few residents have already put up very attractive decorations, with the large, well lighted evergreen at the North End of Main St. (near THE bridge) standing out very nicely.

When the new sidewalks were put in on Main Street, a flag base was set in front of each store that so desired it. This makes an ideal place to locate a Christmas Tree—and with a little imagination—they can be decorated with colored lights as several merchants did last year.

However, don't make the mistake that we did or you are apt to end up without a place for a flag even. We used a wooden pole to fasten our tree to, and with the snow and wet weather of course it swelled—thus when we took the tree down we had to break the pole off and then drill out the hole. (A metal rod or pipe would have worked much better.)

For the stores that don't have this facility — a decorated Christmas Tree can be put in a front store window—or different ideas for window decorations can be used as displayed by several merchants now.

Naturally things wouldn't be complete unless the homes and residences in OUR Village are also cheerfully decorated.

We can't see why the local Chamber of Commerce and Village Board can't get together and select some Judges who would pick out the best decorated home and place of business at Christmas time and give prizes to the winners.

This has been done several years in the past, and when the young people of Andover are interested enough to revive the Christmas tradition of singing Christmas Carols it would seem that we grown-ups could exert ourselves a little more.

We would certainly be interested in taking pictures of the best decorated places and even printing a picture of the winner of each event in our newspaper.

Last year we heard many favorable comments about the Decorations on Main Street. We hope that the same people will again follow their example set previously, or even perhaps outdo themselves this year.

For ones that haven't had a display before—all we can say is that judging from our own experience, it actually doesn't cost very much for a string or two of lights—these are really an investment anyway as they can be used year after year—all it truly takes is a little "Christmas Spirit" and some hard work. Should you need a little help to put up your decorations, we are sure that your neighbors would only be too glad to "lend a helping hand" during the Yuletide Season, if asked.

In past years we have seen some beautifully decorated homes and stores in Andover. This year let's see if we can't outdo the past and set a precedent for a bright and cheery new future. We have even had an offer from "Mrs. Santa" to come and pick out a tree for the News Office, so now its going to be a race between our side of the Street and John's to see whose tree is up first and lighted up.

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Turning Back The Pages of Andover History

(Taken from the Files of The Andover News)

50 YEARS AGO

Dec. 5, 1913

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Miss Mildred Pease and Freeman S. Rogers were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Pease Wednesday evening, November 26th.

Mrs. Mary Delaney and Joseph Clark were married Wednesday morning by Rev. J. J. Sheehy at the Blessed Sacrament Church.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lynch are the parents of a son born Wednesday.

J. D. Cheesman, John Common and Miss Mary White of Andover have entries in the 8th Annual Poultry Show of the Steuben-Allegany Poultry Association being held in Hornell this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bassett of Oswego and Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Bassett of Andover were Saturday guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Bassett of Independence.

Miss Rena Hunt is home for a few days from her teaching duties in Canisteo, where the school is closed while they put in a new heating system.

S. G. Waffle was visiting friends in Rochester and Buffalo the first of the week.

40 YEARS AGO

Nov. 30, 1923

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

The Government has signed a contract with Baker Brothers to move the Andover Post Office from the Vars Block on Main Street to the East side of Baker's Hardware on Greenwood Street. The contract is for 10 years duration.

Mrs. Elery Updyke, 66, died at her former home two miles East of Andover Village November 24. Besides her husband, four sisters survive.

Lottie E. Hann died at her home on North Main Street Saturday, November 24th. She had been a resident of Andover Village for 38 years. Surviving are her husband and two brothers.

Miss Anna E. Casey of Andover and Robert T. Moran of Wellsville were united in marriage by Rev. P. C. Tracy Wednesday morning, November 28th.

Harriet A. Bullard died Wednesday, November 21st. Two sons L. A. Bullard and Marion Bullard survive.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Murray are the parents of a daughter, born November 21.

30 YEARS AGO

Dec. 1, 1933

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Mrs. Pearl Davis and Elmer C. Coats, both of Andover were united in marriage by Rev. W. L. Greene, Saturday evening, November 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Clark of Andover and Mrs. Herman Horan of Wellsville were Saturday guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Borden and daughter, Lois of Rochester visited her parents, Atty. and Mrs. C. L. Earley Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Calhoun of Penn Yan visited Mr. and Mrs. George Calhoun Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dagan and children of Hornell were Sunday guests of her mother, Mrs. Ellen Walsh.

Mrs. Lyle Mulconery, Mrs. E. H. Higby and Mrs. Charles Caple attended the Rebekah School of Instructions at Alfred Thursday afternoon.

Robert Barrett of Buffalo was a week-end guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Joyce. His sister, Mrs. Joyce, returned home with him.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Hammond of New York City are visiting Andover relatives.

See that article through the Classified Section.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Sir:

In regard to Bible Reading in our schools, we would like to tell the people of this area what we did to express our disapproval to the recent unjust ruling.

We, the Mothers of New Castle, circulated petitions door to door and set up booths at the plazas and when we received 10,000 signatures we presented them to our Congressman Frank W. Clark, who stated that if all Districts represented in Congress, would have active citizens, such as he has, he feels sure that these Congressmen would sign this Discharge Petition, (which is in Washington, D. C., at this time to right this great wrong) thus making it possible to have action in Congress and an amendment to the Constitution would be acted on favorably by the Congress.

These 10,000 signatures were gathered in three weeks by a handful of mothers. Out of every 100 person, approached, ninety-five signed the petitions. We feel that we had just scratched the surface.

Who knows where the next blow will fall. The Christmas Play in school? The Salute to our American Flag? These issues along with the reading of the Bible in our schools should always be put up to the Vote of the People, and let the Majority rule.

So Mother, let's all unite for this good cause. Write to your friends in different parts of this great Country of ours. Have them form committees. Get Petitions, contact their representatives in the Congress. Let's make

a loud noise and be heard in Washington, D. C.

LET'S ALL STAND UP AND BE COUNTED!

Our Petition states: WE THE UNDERSIGNED WANT BIBLE READING IN OUR SCHOOLS.

Respectfully yours,
Mrs. Robert Peterson
2005 Stanton Ave.
New Castle, Pa.
Mrs. Elmer Gibson
2011 Wilson Ave., Ext.
New Castle, Pa.
Mrs. John Small
Marshall Ave.
New Castle, Pa.

Houghton Faculty Member To Give Recital

Dr. C. Nolan Huizenga, Professor of Piano at Houghton College will give a piano recital at Houghton College Friday, December 13 at 8:00 p. m.

The program features all twelve of Chopin's etudes, Opus 25. Dr. Huizenga will also play Mozart's Sonata in D Major "The Trumpet" and two Brahms' intermezzos.

Dr. Huizenga has been a member of the Houghton faculty since 1958. A 1952 graduate of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., he earned his Master of Music degree at the American Conservatory of Music. In 1969 he received his doctorate from the University of Michigan.

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