

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 judgment. 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 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

December 17, 1920

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Mrs. Eliza Houghtaling, 80, died Wednesday, December 8. Her husband, a daughter, a son and a sister survive.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Honegger are the parents of a daughter born Wednesday, December 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Greenan are the parents of a son, born Wednesday, December 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartley Joyce are parents of a son born last Sunday.

Miss Mary Dean of South Hill, spent the week-end with relatives in Wellsville.

Mrs. Jim Dean and children of South Hill, visited Andover relatives and friends from Friday until Sunday.

Mrs. M. F. Baker and son of Salamanca, spent Saturday and Sunday at the B. S. Baker home at Tip Top.

Marjorie and Ralph Williams of Andover, spent from Friday until Sunday with their grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Lee of Tip Top.

Mrs. Minnie Galpin of Alfred Station is visiting her sister, Mrs. S. S. Spencer for a few days.

Mrs. Ella Traster of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George Vickers.

L. M. Blakeslee of Castile, was a guest at the home of Mrs. LaRue Crandall from Friday until Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Scribner of Greenwood were guests of A. L. Rogers Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brown and sons of Painted Post were called to Andover this week by the death of Spencer Scribner.

Mrs. L. S. Bassett and daughter, Edna of Independence, have been passing the week with Andover relatives and friends.

Messrs. Edward F. and Edward J. Padden were in Dansville one day last week in attendance at a school entertainment given by Miss Monica Padden and pupils.

Highland Moore arrived in Andover Friday from New York City to attend the funeral of his uncle, S. S. Scribner.

40 YEARS AGO

December 19, 1930

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Clara W. Crandall, 78, died Friday, December 12th. Two sons, two grandsons and several nieces and nephews survive.

Mrs. Jesse Hunt was given a surprise visit Saturday evening by a company of neighbors to remind her of her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Leeman Davis are the parents of a son, Clarence LeRoy, born Tuesday, December 16th.

A party of neighbors were entertained at the home of L. E. Davis of Davis Hill, by Roy Meade, Friday evening. A nice supper was served and a pleasant evening enjoyed by all present.

E. G. Hall and Louis Jaenecke of North Tonawanda, were week-end guests of Mr. Hall's sister, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Rogers of Rochester, spent the week-end visiting relatives and friends in Andover.

Miss Ella Dailey, who has been spending some time with friends in Andover, left for Limestone to pass Christmas with her sister, Mrs. Mary Mullen.

Miss Ruth Parker left Friday for Washington, D. C., to visit Miss Fannie Spaulding and Mrs. Travis and from there she will go to Spruce Pine, North Carolina to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sheppard.

Mrs. Hattie Eggleston returned to Andover Friday from several days stay at New Berlin, N. Y., called there by the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs. O. D. Borden Monday she left for Ontario, Calif. to visit her niece.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bennett spent the week-end guests of relatives in Cuba.

Mrs. Rose Atwell of Greenwood

ALBANY

open line

by Alex Rankin

One of the big events of the 1971 session of the state Legislature scheduled to open next month will be the way Rockefeller pays New York City Mayor John V. Lindsay back for the political slap he gave him recently concluded in the gubernatorial campaign.

The governor, worried at the time about his strength in the big city, asked Lindsay to remain neutral and not endorse anyone.

Some inkling of the method of payment has come to the surface in recent days.

In an interview Rockefeller let it be known that he was seriously thinking about taking over some of the operations of the New York City government. Not directly, mind you, but through the back door by making the city account for every penny spent.

Now no one can argue that huge amounts of money are being wasted in the city every year, as the governor claims, or that citizens are not getting the services they are so heavily taxed for, as he claims, or that such is not the case in a lot of other cities in the state.

But, on the other hand, the governor has made one of the key elements of his administration the fact that local government has a large degree of autonomy.

How he will get around that one will be fun to watch.

spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. Howard Green.

Mrs. Bertha Pingrey returned to her home on First Street Monday after visiting relatives in Canandaigua for several days.

Herbert McCaffery of Canisteo, called on his niece, Mrs. Edward McAndrew, Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hann returned home Wednesday from several days visit with A. E. Youngs and Emery Hann at Norwich.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blackman and children of Hinsdale, spent Sunday night and Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nobles.

Lee Millsbaugh was in Whitesville Wednesday to take his mother to her home, after spending a few days visit in Andover.

30 YEARS AGO

December 19, 1940

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

F. C. Vars and Son are moving their jewelry and sporting goods store from the Vars Block to the store owned by F. C. Vars across from the Postoffice, formerly the Cheesman Drug Store.

Rev. Lloyd L. Tebo of Unadilla Forks, has accepted the call of the First Baptist Church to become its pastor, and will assume the pastorate here December 29th.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sackett are parents of a son, Robert Gordon, born Saturday, December 14th.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis are parents of a daughter, Anna Mildred, born Sunday, December 15th.

Howard and Edward Brewster of Greenwood Hill, are the first to seek voluntary induction into Uncle Sam's draft call since the first quota of five were sent to Rochester last month.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Spicer returned to their home in Independence Saturday from Kingston, where they had been attending State Grange.

Mrs. William Spicer and daughters of Independence, spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Frank Larowe in Canisteo.

Mrs. Lizzie Burdick of Elm Valley, passed a couple of days last week with friends in Hornell.

Mrs. Elmer Coats was a recent guest of her aunt, Mrs. Mae Davis in Wellsville.

Miss Edna Smith, R.N., of Hornell, passed Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith.

Miss Margaret Dougherty and Tracy Dutcher of Towanda, Pa., visited her mother, Mrs. P. J.

Rockefeller's plan is to get the state heavily involved in a lot of New York City problems and then very indirectly hint that the reason he has to do it is because he is being forced, that he can't sit idly by and allow a mayor to run a city into the ground.

The other day the state's new education commissioner, Ewald B. Nyquist, invited about 2,000 school administrators to Albany from all over the state and told them he is interested in the informal British school system in which children work as they please at different subjects.

It is a sharp contrast to the present system in elementary schools, which could be described as highly regimented.

The commissioner said members of his staff had recently been in England to study the system there, and had come back favorably impressed.

Nyquist hastened to add that he was not suggesting that such a system be mandated here in the near future, but was talking about the attitudes of teachers that might be changed to accommodate the system.

Some New York City schools have already adopted the new approach, and the state of North Dakota has had such a system for the past three years.

Dougherty Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Emily Swain of Canaseraga is spending some time with her brother, E. E. Orvis.

A. L. Rogers is passing some time in Whitesville, guest at the home of Dow Scribner.

Louis Fulkerson of Quoddy, Me., arrived Sunday to pass the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Pat Hyland.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Witter left Tuesday for Omaha, Neb., where they will attend Bible School. They have been spending several weeks with his father, Ernest Witter.

Mrs. Violet Montana of Syracuse spent several days last week at the home of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Howe.

Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Gilfillan left Friday for an extended business trip in Southern Pennsylvania. They will spend Christmas in West Virginia.

Jack Saunders of the University of Maryland, arrived Sunday to pass the holidays with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Snyder.

HELP RESEARCH SAVE LIVES

Scientists are trying to find better ways of diagnosing and treating emphysema... tuberculosis... and other respiratory diseases. Help vital research with your Christmas Seal contribution. It's a matter of life and death.



USE CHRISTMAS SEALS