

Keynote Address

by Mrs. Betty Lynch

(Continued from Front Page)

In 1818. For real traces of these footprints, however, we'd probably do best to visit the burying grounds in Elm Valley and on Pingrey Hill. Much more satisfying might be to visit some of the descendants. The Dykes and Coles have hidden their lineage in names like Wood, Hann and Howland, but the Corwins may be visited on Baker Street.

Baker Street — surely no Andover resident can ask why that name for a street in Andover. Thaddeus Baker was a doctor who came to this community in 1806. He established a practice and built a home, which house still stands on Baker Street. At one time in the very early 1800's there were six families of Bakers living on that street. Andover was known as Bakerstown. It would be particularly easy to follow the footprints of the Bakers. There are in our town 36 direct descendants of the earliest settlers. Alpheus, Thaddeus and Seth Baker. Many of these individuals of our town still wear this surname, while others have the same name only slightly hidden under names like Pelton, Burgett, Congelli and Hoagland.

Andover people have always manifested strong love and devotion to God. There is record to state that as early as 1808 religious services were being held at Dike's Settlement where we now find Elm Valley. The first church to be built in the Andover Village area in 1840 was of Congregational denomination — now the local Presbyterian. The building was located where our present bank stands. I would be remiss, indeed, if I did not mention my own Great-Grandfather Henry Horan as one of the first in the area of Catholic faith.

Do you want to do business in our town? Be careful of the footprints on the thresholds. During your stay to look around, you may relax at Lynch Trailer Court or the Pine Tree Motel. Several of the local farmers named: Dougherty, Lynch, Snyder, Wahl, Dean, and Green, will discuss crops and cattle with you. You may read about your visit in the local Andover News courtesy of the Backus-Allen families. You may obtain sustenance at Sackett's Food Store, be refreshed at Karcanes, and find a cure at the Vars Pharmacy. It all falls, Joyce Western Corporation will be happy to either dig you in or dig you out.

You will not be able to come visit our town via the Erie Railroad as was possible as early as 1851 — passenger service was discontinued in 1963. The depot, now a storage, still stands and the trains still run daily, hauling freight. We no longer have a hotel — the last of the line is defunct, though Harry Joyce and Edna Monroe might reminisce for you. We no longer can make cheese for you or condense your milk, though you might like to chat with Ray and Leo Snyder or with Bill Woodruff. The stores are no longer called Burrows or Cannons, but Helen Folsing Boyd and Emma Folsing Tucker still live here. Down on Main Street you'll find a Williams Store, third generation ownership having recently passed from Ruth and Flossie to descendant Dana.

Andover once had a tannery business, a cutlery, a stamping plant and a china factory. The last of the silk mills, owned by Red Allen, has been closed. Many, many of the villagers were faithful mill workers — Meads, Nobles and the late Hugo Honegger.

No one delivers Andover milk house to house, but the families of Cook and Vickers could still tell us how it was bottled and peddled.

Porters' Hardware is not with us, but you could find "relatives" under the name of Richardson and Brown. These days we don't make many harnesses or shoe many horses, but you could really hear it told "like it was" from either Mary Driscoll, Marv O'Leary or Anna Fisher. Some other old names which must be mentioned since they represent 5 or 6 generations are: Gavin, Kemp, Robinson, and Dodge. You don't know the Robinsons? They are named Huffcut, Clair, Childs, Gorsuch and back again to Joyce.

Our telephone company, begun as early as 1906, has progressed with

the times as has our school system. The first classes were taught in a private home in 1819. We're now into our fifth building, having centralized in 1939. In 1959, when we were building the latest addition to our present school, it was learned that we were to have the second indoor school pool in New York State.

Andover has been, and is called hometown to many fine citizens. Through the years she has produced a few doctors and lawyers — one Jesse S. Phillips, became State Assemblyman. There have been many teachers, a few preachers at least one priest and about 3 nuns. One family, the Commons, have 3 generations of dentists. Yes, their accomplishments, and those of many other alumni of the town of Andover, are something "to write home about", but most of our pride in community must lie in the ordinary person — the one who lives, works, raises family, makes friends, and survives in our little town. From the Dikes through the Bakers, from the Irish and German lines to whatever, THESE are the days that must concern us. Our beautiful Sesqui Spirit has been something to behold. God willing it will be a contagious epidemic that will pass on and on.

I cannot close without saying my personal thanks and those of the Sesqui Committee to each of the lovely young ladies here assembled. I hope each one of you has found a satisfaction in your Sesqui participation, and will take fine memories on into your future years.

So many, many quotes seem appropriate in one way or the other to these our Sesqui Days — Bernice Leslie Kenyon says: Never return in August to what you love; Along the leaves will be rust Andover the hedges dust, And in the air vague thunder and silence burning . . . Choose some happier time for your returning.

We hope, however, you'll feel more as Paul Kester expresses himself —

I want to go home To the dull old town, With the shaded street And the open square; And the hill And the flats And the house I love, And the paths I know — I want to go home.

Thank you for listening.

Named To Dean's List

Miss Lois Gram, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gram of Andover, has been named to the Dean's List at Syracuse University for the Spring Semester. Miss Gram will be a sophomore this fall.

Thank You

This thank you note goes to everyone, Hermie's Hermits, Marie's Jazzie Belles and to the many many people who without their support I would have never made it. Thanks so very much!

If I sat down and began to write thank you notes to everyone who was so kind, generous and thoughtful, I wouldn't know where to begin because everyone has been wonderful.

I don't think that I have ever been so happy in my whole life! I have gotten to meet people and know them better than just by their first names. I will do my best to make Andover and everyone in it proud of me.

I guess I can never tell you how grateful and how happy I feel. Thanks ever so much. You are all beautiful people and should be proud of your town and yourselves!

God Bless you all Love Cathy Swartz

Ordiways Plumbing, Electric and Heating PHONE: 478-8289 or 478-8780 Andover, N. Y.



CLASS B, CAKE WINNERS! Beverly Cason (c) 1st; Bea Compton (r) 2nd; Dawn Gavin (l) 3rd.



CLASS C, PIE WINNERS! Nancy Brewster (l) 1st; Evelyn Bronson (r) 2nd; Noreen Manley (not in picture) 3rd.



CLASS D, COOKIE WINNERS! Edna Carson (c) 1st; Lyla Stephens (l) 2nd; Ginny Milligan (r) 3rd

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