

SNOWBLOWERS: USE AS DIRECTED an Editorial

Santa leave you a snowblower for Christmas? Can't wait for the next big accumulation of snow? Before you use your present for the first time, let the snowblower experts give you some tips to make your winter a safe and pleasant one.

1. Know your machine and know it well. Read the owner's manual and understand it thoroughly before operating the machine.

2. Try to minimize the chance of a clothing related accident — don't wear loose clothing that would catch in the machine's drive mechanism.

3. Never try to defeat any of the safety controls or any other safety features, of your snowblower. They are there for a reason.

4. If you must clear a clogged chute, shut down your snowblower and disconnect the spark plug wire.

5. Your snowblower's moving blades can hurl stones so be particularly careful if you must clear a gravel driveway. Set the auger at least an inch above the ground. And be sure to clear debris from the surface of the snow before you start.

6. Don't let anyone stand or play in line with your direction of travel.

7. If you're anticipating particularly severe weather, check into purchasing accessories for your snowblower which can make snow-clearing an easier task. For example, a walk-under shield, which protects the operator from cold wind and blowing snow, can be attached to some units. And for unusually icy conditions or steep driveways, tire chains can provide added traction.

These tips aren't magical, or all-inclusive; they are based on experience and common sense. When you start your snowblower, think ahead and use your own common sense, and you'll get the most from this work-saving machine.

SNOWMOBILES AND POSTING An Editorial

The last two winters have been frustrating for most snowmobilers with the lack of good snow. They are all looking for signs that this winter will not let them down.

Though the poor two winters may have slowed the mushrooming expansion of the popularity of snowmobiling, it certainly didn't do anything to reduce its popularity. Good snow conditions this winter will undoubtedly mean more snowmobilers out than ever before.

As snowmobilers go forth this winter, it will behoove them to remember that as their numbers increase, there is also an increase in the amount of irritation that their noises and fumes make to the public in general. A study conducted by Cornell University revealed that for every landowner who wouldn't let hunters on his property, there were at least two landowners who wouldn't let snowmobilers on theirs. True, most posters went up before the snowmobile became an important item of winter recreation and were instigated by a rapid increase in the number of hunters afield.

But, snowmobilers must be aware of landowner attitudes. This two-to-one attitude against snowmobiling on their land reveals the rapid degradation the sport has taken with its rapid increase in numbers. This is what occurred to hunting when many new hunters joined the hunting fraternity to get some of those "easy" antlerless deer. Because snowmobiling is a more social type of recreation than hunting, they have some advantages in overcoming a poor reputation.

Most snowmobilers recognize that as a group they must regain a good image as recreationists or additional regulations and posting will drive them back to their television sets. Common sense and common courtesy are the best antidotes for their poor image. Peer pressure — voluntary policing by other snowmobilers — may be the best way to get those out of step back in line.

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"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

I have now had what I consider a proper amount of time to digest Governor Carey's "State of the State" message delivered last week (Jan. 7) to the opening of the 1976 Legislature. I must say that the meal was more like a snack than a banquet, because the Governor's remarks, although couched in rhetoric composed by some expert speech-writers, had very little of substance and even less for the residents of this State to cheer about.

It was, in my estimate, a weak message which reflected the general lack of leadership which has characterized the first year of this floundering State Administration. The Governor, in effect, repeated his predictions of "doom and gloom" sounded in his infamous "wine and roses" address of 1975, and told us all that there would be less State government around in the next few years to "interfere" with our lives.

That might have been good news to many of us who have generally held that philosophy long before Hugh Carey. However, the "State of the State" medicine gets pretty hard to swallow when you're told on the one hand, to expect less of State government and then you hear the all too familiar Carey cry for still more State taxes. I am sure that's why the 210 legislators listening to his address last week sat stone-faced through the 25-minute presentation. This prompted one long-time Capitol Observer to remark that it was the most unresponsive legislative opening in his memory.

Getting to the specifics of the speech itself, I cannot understand the Governor's reasoning in addressing the business community of this State (what's left of it) in the fashion he chose. To advocate some kind of vague "incentives" for business and industries just two and a half weeks after he forced \$600 million in new State taxes on New York's business community seems to me to be the height of hypocrisy. The additional taxes on corporations which were rammed through the Legislature at 4 a. m., on December 20 (and which I adamantly opposed) are already beginning to have a devastating effect.

We hear reports daily of corporations — both big and small — who have scrapped any expansion plans they may have had, and in some cases are going ahead with proposals to relocate outside New York State. It's a little late now for the Governor to plead for understanding on behalf of industry which has been taxed beyond its limitation and then to talk about "incentives". The damage may already have been done.

Another of the Governor's proposals which I oppose is the call for a wage freeze on all State employees. For several years now the State workers have become the "scapegoats" of this State's inability to cope with the economic situation. Although I have always maintained that we must make the best and most efficient use of our State employees, I think it is unfair to single out public employees for this kind of treatment.

The Governor has also proposed a series of legislative measures which he says are designed to help localities control costs in a year when there is some serious though being given to cutbacks in State aid. One of these would allow units of government to invest in each others' obligations, and I feel this is a dangerous precedent-setting approach. The fiscal picture of many localities is tenuous enough without getting into this rather complicated system, and I do not feel it is a sound idea.

I certainly wish that we could have begun 1976 on a more positive and constructive note in the approach to State government. It is easy to agree with the Governor in his call for "less government; less spending; fewer government employees; less interference in the lives of our citizens and businessmen." That has been the call of conservative thinkers in this State for years, and it might be welcomed. However, some of the other proposals in his speech, such as decriminalization of marijuana, vague proposals on gun controls, and many others, leave me with the impression that he is still very much giving into the liberals who

**50 YEARS AGO**

December 25, 1925

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Contractor Mark Kemp is drilling a gas well on the Del Hawkins lot on Water Street adjoining the property he has leased. Drillers are now down to a depth of 200 feet and oil interests are already coming into town, all expecting success in the project. The completion of the drilling is set for New Year's Day.

Edward Seaman Relief Corps sent a Christmas box containing jellies, candy, smokes and scrapbook to the Marine Veteran Hospital in Buffalo to be distributed to the War Veteran Patients there. The box weighing over 30 pounds, was packed and shipped by the Corps Chairman of Relief Work, Elizabeth Hann, Tuesday. The ladies wish to thank Mr. Karcantes, proprietor of the Sugar Bowl, for the generous gift of ten pounds of candy for the box.

Daniel Coleman of Rexville died at the Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville, December 17. Funeral and burial was in Rexville.

Miss Mary E. Wallace of West Union and Fred D. Short of Wellsville were married December 17.

Comrade William McDonough has received a Christmas Card from Sergeant Elmer Kemp of Augusta, Georgia for which his is very grateful.

Andover friends are receiving Christmas Greetings from Thomas H. Williams, son of Rev. Hamilton B. Williams from Antioch College.

Miss Helen O' Connor who has been teaching in the Dean District has received and accepted a position as teacher in the Wellsville High School.

Andover Merchants have received many compliments upon the fine appearance of their display windows this season. We have seldom seen them more attractively decorated.

Miss Thelma Alvord is caring for the baby of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Eldridge who is very ill.

Joseph Eberle made his first appearance this week on the streets in the capacity of Special Policeman for the Village of Andover.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Camille Irvine of Mercersburg Pa., to Clarke M. Slade of Albany, N. Y. Mr. Slade is the son of the late Howard Slade and Mrs. Carrie Slade and a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Clarke of Independence.

The Borden Company has dismantled their plant in Elm Valley, having installed a refrigerating plant during the past summer.

Howard Burdick is busy these days since thrashing season closed he has kept his tractor busy by cutting wood for some of the Elm Valley neighbors.

George McAndrew appeared in Elm Valley one morning with a Ford, but judging from what was taking place — George was having sometime to teach the Ford to back up, manipulating everything as far as pedals, switches and brakes were concerned. Finally a good samaritan came along who relieved George from his troubles.

A son was born December 13 to Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Easton of Independence.

Cleon Clarke of Independence has recovered from the mumps so as to be about.

Misses Mable Wagner and Ruth Parker are home from Alfred University for the Holidays.

Miss Elizabeth Cannon is home from Wellesly College for the Holidays.

Everett Clair was home over the weekend visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Clair.

The Misses Loretta Harrington and Gertrude Beebe are home from Geneseo Normal for the Holiday vacation.

Fay Boyd arrived in Andover Sunday morning from Tulsa, Oklahoma to pass the Holidays with relatives and friends.

control the majority of his Democratic Party. As long as that is the case, as in the past, I'm very much afraid that Governor Carey's actions will not match his words.

**State Senator
Jess J. Present
Issues Warning**

Local governments across the State may be facing a fiscal crisis in the coming year which is not of their own making, according to State Senator Jess J. Present (R-57), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Local Government.

"Many local governments began a new fiscal year on January first and are now implementing budget based on the assumption that the State would continue to provide revenue sharing and other local aid programs in the coming year as were granted in the previous fiscal year. This has been the traditional practice in local budget planning and State officials have long recognized local reliance on this assumption," Senator Present explained. "Since the Governor's lamentably vague statement on local aid in his State of the State Message, the amount of State aid to localities during their present fiscal year has been seriously questioned. The loss of anticipated revenues without adequate advance notice can be expected to seriously unbalance local budgets, creating a local fiscal crisis for which our local officials should not be blamed," Senator Present continued.

"Local governments need immediate clarification from the Governor concerning specific changes in the kind and amount of State aid they can expect this year. They need to act now to minimize the damage which will be done if Governor Carey acts upon the sudden change in State policy which he seemed to propose this week. I would hope that cuts in the local assistance budget will prove unnecessary. If the Governor feels that cuts must be made, at the very least he might time them to coincide with the beginning of the fiscal year in each locality. It is unfair to local officials and to the State taxpayers they represent to change State aid policy during their fiscal year, merely because the State operates on a different fiscal calendar," the lawmaker stated.

Senator Present went on to suggest that any cuts in State aid to localities should be offset by corresponding cuts in financially burdensome requirements that the State mandates on localities.

"Once Governor Carey clarifies his own policy, my committee will still take a very close look at any changes he proposes in State aid programs benefiting local governments," the Senator concluded.

Howard Leahy came home from New York City where he is attending Fordham University, Wednesday to pass his vacation with relatives.

Miss Marion Rogers came home Thursday from Rochester where she has completed her studies at the Phono Syllabic Business College.

Charles Downer is home from the Phono Syllabic Business College at Rochester for vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Water Downer of Elm Valley.

Miss Frances Clarkson of Canisteo, died December 19 at the State Hospital in Rochester where she has been under treatment for the past week. She was a niece of Edward Mullen of Andover. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Clarkson and was born in Canisteo May 18, 1898. Besides her parents, one sister and one brother survive.

The Annual New Year's Ball will be held at the Auditorium on December 31. Music will be by the Fire Brothers Novelty Band of Olean. Dancing will be from 9:30 to 1:30. Admission is \$2.00, tax paid.

January 1, 1924

Mrs. Margaret Garvin died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Dean, December 30. She was the daughter of James and Margaret Riley and was born in Portageville June 8, 1850 and came to Andover when she was a small child. She married Henry Garvin in 1876. She is survived by one son, Peter of Santa Paula, Calif.; and one daughter Mrs. Dean. Since the death of her daughter, Anna, eight years ago, she has cared for her granddaughters, Loretta and Rose Harrington, who with eight, other

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