

"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

COMPUTERIZATION OF WELFARE FINALLY COMES TO NEW YORK

As the vice-chairman of the Temporary State Commission on Revising the Social Services Law, I have seen from the inside the actions of our state government in dealing with the welfare problem. I have proposed and introduced many bills to clean up our welfare system, but they have nearly always met defeat. Finally there is a ray of hope.

After years of careful, thorough research, the Commission issued a report in February of 1975 citing the inefficiencies of the New York State welfare program. The report that the greatest dollar savings could be realized through administrative and managerial changes in the welfare system.

The Governor's 1976-77 budget made no proposals for implementing the cost-saving welfare reforms proposed by the Commission. This was a very big disappointment to me.

However, the State Legislature took on the responsibility of attacking a part of the welfare administrative mess. The legislature passed two measures which provide for the computerization of medical and welfare payments. This action by the legislature has turned into a very positive note for 1976 as the Governor has finally given his approval and signed the legislation into law.

The development of centralized computers will allow quick, efficient and continuous monitoring of the eligibility of welfare recipients before any benefits are paid out. This technology will become a major factor in eliminating the welfare cheat.

I have visited the State of Michigan which has one of the most advanced welfare computer systems. The flux and accurate movement of their welfare monies to the people who are eligible for benefits is remarkable.

I have also talked with the County Executive of Suffolk County which recently installed a computer system for their own use at a cost of \$2-million. The County Executive related the outstanding success of the computer which now catches \$250,000 in mistakes on welfare payments each month. Before the computers were installed these payments would have been made and never corrected.

The time has long since past when New York State should end its status of being the only major industrial state without a computerized social services payment system. A look at the bare dollars and cents of the issue will prove this.

During the current 1976-77 fiscal year, \$6.4-billion will be expended on medical and welfare in New York State.

It is estimated that the computerization of welfare and medical payments will save \$1-million daily in medical payments and \$60-million annually in welfare payments.

The cost of the computer system will be a total of \$9-million. This is a very small price to pay for an annual savings of over \$100-million or about five per cent of our annual welfare and medical budget.

The complete implementation of a computerized welfare system will take three years to complete, though portions could be operating in 15 months.

True, meaningful welfare reform can only come when we get a handle on the total cost of the welfare program. Our present system does little more than spend forth money in an attempt to solve our social problem.

The computerization of the welfare system will provide the needed management reforms which will eliminate most of the welfare cheats, the overcharging for medical services and the many other overpayment abuses now abounding in the New York State welfare system.

The state taxpayers can be glad the State Legislature pressed the Governor for the welfare computerization, and perhaps the taxpayers can now be hopeful that efforts to limit overabundance of welfare benefits now provided, will be next on the State Legislature's list of legislation which must be passed.

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GREENWOOD NEWS

Grace Young, Reporter

The Volunteer Fire Company sponsored their Fifth Annual County and Western Jamboree at the Town Barn, Sunday, August 1 from 2 to 10 p. m., with proceeds going towards the cost of the new fire truck. Bryan Higgins Chairman was assisted by Reg Baker and Bob Studer on the General Committee. All members and their wives assisted in the fund raising event.

The eight hours of music featured Gary Cook and the Countrymen; Dave Chissom and his Band; Dottie Lynn and Wine Country Unlimited; and George Benjamin and his Gang. There was a refreshment stand of short orders and games. There was also a stage for dancing and a tent for shade.

Last year the Firemen raised \$2400 at the Jamboree. There is a balance due of \$24,000 on the \$38,000 Pumper bought last May. The people kept coming from the area so it made a good turnout for the Firemen and they reported 900 tickets sold.

The Rev. Thomas Burr was General Chairman for St. Mary's Chicken Barbecue at Rexville, Sunday. The barbecuing was in charge of Principal Gary Moore. A good supply was ordered and the committee reported between 550 and 600 people attended or had take-out servings. The meat was all grilled and excess was sold. Games and handmade items all added up to a good total. There were many from Greenwood attending and working.

Mrs. Anna Cerrillo, Bicentennial Chairman of West Union, announces that the Community Picnic that was scheduled for Labor Day Weekend has been postponed. The date will be reported later. The Firemen are going to work with the committee and the picnic will be at the Fire Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Murray attended a 50th wedding anniversary for cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Northrup last Sunday, July 25 at the Pleasant Valley Grange Hall at Hammondsport. He is a nephew of Mrs. Pearl Hillman.

On July 25, the descendants of Rose and James Harkenrider held their first reunion at Letchworth State Park. There were 60 in attendance from Buffalo, Getzville, Towanda, Shortsville, Addison, Hornell, Rexville and Troupsburg. Paul Harkenrider was the oldest in attendance; and Krista Harkenrider was the youngest. Mary Harkenrider Connolly came the farthest. It was agreed to have this annual event, meeting the last Sunday in July at the same place.

Kevin Moore, Dave Adlerly and Leon Babcock were enrolled in a Basketball School at Alfred University one week in July. The next week Andy Moore, Tom Harkenrider and Danny Edwards enrolled in the Basketball School at Alfred.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Redmond attended a Steam Engine Conference several days in July at Meadville, Pa. This week Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Redmond are at the Allegany County Fair at Angelica with his Steam Engine, Tuesday to Saturday.

Mrs. Howard Lamphier is seriously ill at Bethesda Community Hospital, Hornell, where she has been a patient for several weeks. She went by Ambulance for emergency surgery and was about ready to come home when she was taken with a stroke.

Dean Baker from Fords Home, was a patient at St. James Mercy Hospital last week, Monday to Saturday.

Robert Davenport entered the St. James Mercy Hospital, Monday for surgery.

Mrs. Fred Studer was a patient at Jones Memorial Hospital, in Wellsville, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Miss Kathy Murray of Palmyra, Pa., is spending some time with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schwartz, helping take care of the children.

Miss Parmella White went to Addison last week to stay with her sister, Mrs. Sophrona Short.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton York, Miss Judy York, Miss Betty York of Washington, D. C., and Mr. and Mrs. Douglas York returned home Thursday from a two weeks trip to Hawaii.

Mrs. Marie O'Connell and two children of Williamsport, Pa., spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Campbell. Her sister, Mrs. Ruth Huckins of Towanda came after Mrs. O'Connell and children and Mrs. Wiley Campbell for two days.

Mrs. Bill Schwartz and family and Kathy Murray took Patricia Murray to her home with Mr. and Mrs. John Murray at Palmyra, last weekend. The Murray family has bought a home at Bristol, Va. and plan to move there August 16.

Friday night guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lamphier were Mrs. Georgia Daggett and Miss Charlotte Daggett of Delevan. Weekend guests were her sister, the Rev. and Mrs. Paul Akers and daughter, Joanne and friend, Fran Throckmorton.

Mrs. Barbara Birdsall and daughter of Canisteo, R.D., spent Sunday afternoon with her mother Mrs. Marve Kirk.

Mr. and Mrs. Luke Hambruck of Gasport and Miss Betty McCormick of Syracuse, spent the weekend with their brother, Leo McCormick and all attended the Chicken Barbecue at Rexville, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Doty spent a week in July visiting her brother Mr. and Mrs. Milton Newberry at Virginia and going on to South Carolina.

Mrs. Clair Rollins entertained several children Wednesday in honor of the birthday of her son, Tracy Rollins.

Francis Acker returned home Thursday after spending a week in Wellsville with his son, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Acker. His daughter, Mrs. Mariyn Wyant took him to Hornell, Friday to check with the Doctor. Sunday Mrs. Wyant and girl friend of Canisteo went to Rexville and bought three chicken barbecue dinners and came back to eat with her father.

Elizabeth Canty of Belmont came Friday to see her mother Mrs. William McDonough. Saturday Mrs. Canty and son, Dan of Buffalo came. Dan had a new car and they rode over to the Bath Hatchery.

Jimmie Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Smith of Whitesville, spent Saturday and Sunday with his grandmother, Mrs. Louise Smith.

Mrs. David Knickerbocker of Mayville, came Monday and stayed until Tuesday with her father, Francis Acker.

Rush Hayler of Woodhull came Sunday and took Mrs. Hulda McDonough to the Chicken Barbecue Dinner at Rexville.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Hussey and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Stewart of Florida and Canisteo, had Sunday dinner at the Hornell Country Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Wallace went out for Sunday dinner to observe the birthday of Mr. Wallace.

The Rev. Harry Eld of Canisteo, was guest speaker at the United Methodist Church, Sunday morning. Special music was by Mrs. Sheldon Atherton and son.

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ was host for the Western New York District of the RLDS Church at a family camp out at the farm of Elder and Mrs. Carol Bassett, Friday night to Sunday afternoon. Guests were there from West Greenwood, Niagara Falls, N. Y., and Niagara Falls, Ontario, Buffalo, Rochester, Honeyey Falls, Onelda, Meadville Pa., and Gold, Pa. They slept in



40 YEARS AGO

July 4, 1946

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

The Allegany County Firemen's Convention will be held July 9 to 13 in Cuba, N. Y. Glenn Skuse is a delegate from Andover Firemen and Roscoe Tidd is an alternate. All Andover Firemen having uniforms who do not expect to attend the Parade are requested to notify George Gath, Foreman, as soon as possible. Any members of the Firemen's Auxiliary not filling their uniforms should contact Mrs. George Mickle. The Andover Fire Truck will leave at 6:30 p. m. sharp for the Parade on Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Kearby Hames are parents of a daughter, Penelope, born July 2 at the St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Lynch are parents of a daughter, Victoria Elizabeth, born June 22 at the St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell.

George Reff, President of the Andover Exchange Club, announced the following Committees at the regular meeting held Thursday evening at Hotel Joyce: Entertainment and Program, R. J. Sootheran, A. M. Wood and E. L. Kent; Membership, E. J. Allen, and J. E. Cannon; Education, Dr. S. B. Scott and Rev. Charles J. Keller; Extension, R. V. Harder and S. B. Crandall; Attendance, A. R. Baker; Commissary, E. N. Clair, J. E. Cannon and Geil Reynolds; Auditing, A. D. Fuller and A. W. Osborne; Publicity, Fay E. Boyd and C. C. Backus; Inter-Club Relations, Geil Reynolds and E. N. Clair; Civic, F. W. Burrows and R. V. Harder; also Everett Clair, R. J. Sootheran and Almon Wood were appointed to confer with the Village and Town Boards to consider the proposition of Andover co-operating with State Aid Youth Project. The Annual Ladies Night will be held at the Baker-Wood Farm on the third Thursday in July and the Stag Party will be held at Dr. Scott's Cabin the 2nd Thursday in August. C. H. Stevens of Wellsville was the guest speaker.

District Deputy Earl Harvey and Staff of Wellsville installed the following Officers of Andover IOOF Tuesday evening: Nelson Brewster, N. G.; Vincenz Burrows, V. G.; C. C. Freeland, Warden; Basil Hancock, Conductor; Orville Mesler, Chaplain; O. I. Kemp, R.S.N.G.; W. E. Greene, L.S.N.G.; A. O. Kemp, R.S.V.G.; Hector Yette, L.S.V.G.; Wilmer Cronk, R.S.S.; Burton Lehman, L.S.S.; Donald Kemp, I.G.; Howard Brewster, O.G.; Warren Ahrens, P. G.; Francis Vickers, Secretary and E. H. High, Treasurer.

A double wedding was held July 3 at the home of the brides' par-

their campers and youths in the hay mow of the barn, Sunday a Special Service was held for blessing of the babies for Meridith Lynn Bosworth, daughter of Charles and Vicki Kinner Bosworth and Kristen Paige Banta, daughter of Bob and Ingrid Banta.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Halsey of 29 Martin Street, Wellsville, were honored guests Saturday afternoon at an Open House in observance of their 50th Wedding Anniversary at the Greenwood American Legion Post.

They were married in 1926 in Holton. Mrs. Halsey's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Carson stood up with them. They are parents of six children. He was employed in the Preheater in Wellsville and is now retired.

The party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Halsey, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Murray and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blee. Guests attended from Belmont, Wellsville, Whitesville, Andover, Middleport, Medina, Barton, Titusville and Greenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hulm were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arland Russell in Nunda.

Mrs. Grace Howland and Mrs. Grace Brundage are guests this week of Mrs. Brundage's daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Langworthy of New Park, R. I.

Mr. and Mrs. Clave Jackson and family left Sunday for a vacation motor trip to Washington, D. C., Gettysburg, Pa., and Salomons Maryland where Mr. Jackson was stationed for some time while he was in the Navy.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Burdick and daughter, Maxine and Louis Gurnshaw of Rochester were calling at the home of Mrs. Patty Wood of East Valley, Saturday. They also attended the Burdick Reunion held in Genesee Park, Genesee, Pa., Sunday.

THE ANDOVER NEWS

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