

"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

When the riots broke out at Attica Prison a few years ago, I was one of a very few legislators who actually went to the scene of the disturbances and attempted to mediate the two sides involved. In recent weeks we have had a new series of minor problems at Attica and several other state correctional institutions; there have been some discussions of sorts and there are reports that some kinds of "agreements" were reached. Because of my past involvement with this problem, I have more than just a passing interest in what is taking place now under the present Carey Administration.

The thing which both alarmed and disappointed me about the recent so-called "negotiations" conducted by Corrections Commissioner Ward was the person with whom he did the negotiating. The idea of sitting down and trying to talk out these problems is fine, but the person who represents the opposing side should be a credible spokesman.

In this case Commissioner Ward chose to negotiate with an Attica inmate whose criminal record is enough to chill anyone's bones. You may remember the famous case of a few years ago in New York City where a young man stabbed a woman repeatedly while a crowd watched and no one would call for help. Well, that assailant was none other than the inmate who was supposedly negotiating terms with our State's Corrections Commissioner. But that's just the beginning.

It was also discovered that he had killed another woman, and thus he was tried and convicted of two murders. He was sentenced to death, but that was changed, of course, by the Supreme Court decision outlawing the death penalty. He then received a life sentence. However during this long trial period, this same man escaped from jail and it was later discovered committed rape before he was apprehended.

Is this the type of person who the State Commissioner of Corrections should sit down with and negotiate terms of sentence? And that, you know, was the key element of the Attica disturbance recently. The prisoners, using this criminal as their spokesman were demanding that no one should serve more than five years for any stated crime. Under their plan, the Parole Board would have nothing to do with release of prisoners, but this would be up to the judge who sentenced them. Thus all of those crimes which this particular inmate committed would be punishable by only up to five years, if the prisoners' demands were met.

To carry this a step further, we have Commissioner Ward negotiating with this particular inmate on the length of terms and acting as a spokesman for the Governor of this State — Governor Carey, and possibly even carrying this recommendation to the State Legislature. Meanwhile, we find the Chairman of the Assembly Codes Committee (which handles criminal matters), Assemblyman Stanley Fink (Democrat of Brooklyn), telling this notorious criminal that the Legislature actually will consider this plan during its 1977 session.

I don't believe that the people of this state want the Legislature enacting any laws such as this which relate to sentencing. We tend to forget that people are sent to prison for committing crimes — many of them of the most heinous nature — and they are sent there for punishment and rehabilitation. Can you imagine what kind of chaos would exist if every criminal and potential criminal realized that the most he or she could serve for any crime — I repeat, any crime — was five years? The thought is mind-boggling.

I think it is preposterous for the Chairman of the Assembly Codes Committee to even suggest that such a plan would be considered by the Legislature, and he



50 YEARS AGO

August 20, 1926

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Arrangements have been made with the Wellsville Concert Band to give a concert from the upper balcony of the Joyce Hotel here Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Harland Robinson in company with a party of friends from Mid West, Wyoming, are enjoying a motor trip through Yellowstone National Park and will visit other points of interest in that vicinity before returning to Mid West. The News is pleased to note the success of Mr. Robinson in his work going from Andover to Mid West about four years ago he has worked his way up to the responsible position of a District Booster Supervisor.

The members of the congregation of the Presbyterian Church held an informal reception for Rev. and Mrs. F. A. Hassold at the Church Parlor, Friday evening, August 13. About 80 people were present. There was a short musical program following which ice cream and cake were served by the evening division of the Kings Daughters. The guests were happy to welcome the bride and united in good wishes for her future. The bride was the recipient of a four piece set of furniture presented by the members of the congregation.

Andover American Legion will have a 3-Day Celebration, September 4 through Labor Day for their building fund. Rev. Robert Findley of Cuba, will give an address. Their will be a man's choir from all churches which will be held in the auditorium. Sunday there will be a band concert on the Joyce Hotel porch. The Midway will be on Greenwood Street. Monday, a Parade, ball games and dance climaxed by fireworks Monday evening.

The 50th Harvest Home is in full swing today, with a Chicken Pie Dinner — over 500 dinners were served at Noon.

Miss Cymboline Hammell, a graduate nurse of the George Washington University, Washington, D. C., is spending some time guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Hammell.

Miss Elizabeth Owen of North Evans and the Misses Mary Snyder, Mary Boyd, Katherine Folsing and Harold Howland returned Sunday after spending the past week in Philadelphia. Atlantic City, Gettysburg, Pa., Newbury and Watkins Glen.

Among those from out-of-town who are here today to attend the 50th Harvest Home of the Presbyterian Church are: Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Richardson of Hornell, Mr.

certainly isn't speaking for me.

In recent weeks, I have begun to receive replies to a questionnaire I mailed to the 136th Assembly District in the late summer. There were questions pertaining to prison reform, the treatment of criminals, and the like. From the early indications — and I see no reason why this would change — people are in no mood to lessen our criminal statutes or to go easier on our criminal element, especially in light of the recent rise in the crime rate in some areas.

It continues to remain a mystery to me just how Commissioner Ward and Governor Carey plan to carry on their corrections program in this state. If the recent handling of the Attica disturbance in terms of negotiating was any indication, then I think we are in for big trouble. Certainly we accomplished nothing and suffered a great deal from the tragic events of Attica, 1971, but we may suffer more if prisoner relations are handled in the fashion we have recently witnessed by this Administration.

and Mrs. Lee Robbins and daughter of Canisteo, Dr. and Mrs. L. G. Probasco and his mother, Mrs. E. G. Probasco of Whitesville, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Swain, C. P. Sattor and Mrs. Etta Phillips of Hornell, Mr. and Mrs. Elton Harder and family, Mrs. George Lee of Wellsville, Mr. and Mrs. Knox Miller Mr. and Mrs. Lester York of Greenwood, Mrs. Nancy Lever of Boston, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Wendslow of Rochester and Mrs. W. J. Redmond of Canisteo.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Snyder and daughter, Nancy Jane left by motor for Lake George for a two weeks vacation, Monday.

Miss Reima DeWeger, a student nurse at the Lenox Hill Hospital, arrived home Sunday, looking to spend some time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John DeWeger.

B. B. Henn has returned to the porch on his residence on Greenwood Street, enjoying the sun with glass making a beautiful sun porch.

When young friends of Jack Saunders gathered at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Snyder, in honor of his fifty birthday, Friday afternoon, August 13. The young people enjoyed a fine afternoon and at the close dainty refreshments were served.

The work of grading the Legion lot, corner of West Greenwood and First Streets which was begun last week, is showing much progress and improvement. The lot has been cleared, entirely plowed and harrowed and is now ready to be graded. When finished the corner will be one of the beauty spots of our Village.

Andover was well represented at the Chautauqua which closed Wednesday night in Wellsville. The course this year upheld its former favorable reputation.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dean and little daughter of Casey, Illinois arrived at the home of his mother, Mrs. Margaret Dean of South Hill for their annual vacation.

Charles Fisher of Andover was over Greenwood Hill Wednesday selling groceries.

Mrs. A. O. Kemp and niece, Marion Swartz are spending the week at Waneta Lake guests of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Swartz.

Miss Sylvia Reese, a graduate nurse of Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, arrived Sunday to spend her vacation at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. Georgiana Hardy.

Rev. H. B. Williams and son Thomas have been greeting their many Andover friends this past week. Mr. Williams who is Captain in the Regular Army, is doing active duty as Chaplain at the Wilbur Wright Aviation Field at Dayton, Ohio. He also is Professor of Social Science at Antioch College where Thomas is a sophomore in the chemical engineering department. Rev. Williams was a former pastor of Andover Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. A. M. Selden of Port Allegany, Pa., a former resident of Hallsport, died August 11. Burial was in the Hallsport Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Rife and Mrs. William Hammell were in attendance at the funeral of the late Mrs. A. M. Selden held at Hallsport Saturday afternoon.

40 YEARS AGO

August 7, 1936

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

The Democratic Executive Committee met Saturday evening at the Hotel Fassett and endorsed a full County, State and Federal Ticket to place before the enrolled Allegany County Democratic Primary Election in September. There are five County Offices to be elected in the Fall: Allegany County Assemblyman in place of William Mackenzie of Belmont; County Clerk in place of William Bush; and Public Welfare Commissioner in place of Dr. Ivan G. Howe; also two Coronors in place of Dr. H. E. Cooley of Wellsville and Dr. G. W. Batt of Angelica. The Democrats designed the following men to run in opposition to the above: For Member of Assembly, George Bliss of Bolivar; for County Clerk, Neil Sullivan of Hallsport; for Commissioner of Public Welfare, John J. Powers of Wellsville; for Coronors, William F. Keedy, M.D., of Wellsville and Dr. Howard Leahy M.D., of Andover. Delegates to State Convention: F. E. McCarthy M.D., of Wellsville; Robert H. Lyman M.D., of Fritzsche; J. Herbert Rockwell of Wellsville; Alternate Delegates to State Convention: Percy Collins of Belfast; George Lewis of Almond; Samuel B. Scott M.D., of Andover; Dele-



BROOK TROUT PARADISE

My companions, Bill Thorne and Ted Kochanek, were ecstatic about the fishing they had found on the Montserrat River deep in Quebec's Laurentians Park and it was easy enough to convince me to join them on their day. The area is a beautiful one with many streams and lakes which are the perfect spots for brook trout fishing. The water is clear and the fish are plentiful. The scenery is breathtaking and the air is fresh. It's a perfect spot for a day of fishing and relaxation.

forming a sophisticated brown trout into gulping a feathered creature is a high level of challenge requiring a high level of skill and a great deal of patience. There is a certain art to it, and only an experienced angler can offer some suggestions. The key is to use the fly which the trout is most likely to take. This is often a matter of trial and error, but once you find the right fly, the rest is easy. The trout will rise to the fly and you will have your catch.

The weather on our most recent trip was hot, temperatures into the nineties, with almost constant sunshine — not the most ideal weather to fish. Larger brookies had sought the coolness of deep lakes, and were unavailable except by trolling. Some of the fishermen in camp used Dardville spoons brook trout up to three pounds. The shallow lakes in our area seemed almost devoid of trout, but we found them in the rivers. Either fly fishing or spinning would take trout in the streams.

And make no mistake about the wilderness aspect of the Laurentians, even though you can drive there in a day from upstate New York. We saw moose, and signs of wolves. A bear visited our camp one day and knocked all the screens out of the cook shack. One bright morning, three bald eagles wheeled effortlessly over a grassy mountain top. Dozens of evening grosbeaks had up feet of us, and were constantly fluttering around our feet in camp. A spruce grouse watched us make a portage, jerking its head in time with our steps.

Taking wilderness brook trout is fun fishing, as opposed to difficult fishing. The trout are plentiful and the fishing is easy. The scenery is beautiful and the air is fresh. It's a perfect spot for a day of fishing and relaxation. The trout are plentiful and the fishing is easy. The scenery is beautiful and the air is fresh. It's a perfect spot for a day of fishing and relaxation.

One of my friends claims that his great addiction to trout fishing is due to the fact that he likes to be where trout live. There is a lot to be said for that, because a brook trout paradise has much to offer the devoted sportsman. All of those beautiful brookies, inhaling flies with authority, could be considered a bonus. They give us a reason for going and I'm going back as soon as possible.

gates to Judicial Convention: Chester Bliss, and George Bliss of Bolivar and Edward Halligan of Belmont. The following were named as Committee to fill Vacancies: Don White of Independence, Claude Oliver of Angelica and J. Harvey Backus of Andover.

Miss Florence Marie Wightman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wightman of Irvale, and Lawrence Green, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen W. Corwin of Wellsville, were married July 26 at the home of the bride, by the Rev. W. N. Mason of Elchburg.

The Greene Family Reunion was held at Watkins Glen, Sunday, August 2. Rev. Walter Greene was elected President; Mrs. Edward Greene, Secretary and Treasurer; and Maxson Greene, Historian. Those from Andover who attended were: Rev. and Mrs. Walter Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Howland and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Williams, Mrs. Elvora Mathews, Mrs. Muriel Bragle and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Grapp.

John Bishop, 54 and wife, 51 were killed in Lakoa, N. D., and their two sons, Roy 29 and Jack 18, were injured when their automobile left the highway and rolled over several times and landed in a ditch. They were on their way to Vancouver, B. C., to visit Mr. Bishop's sister, Mrs. John Coats who he had not seen in 14 years. Three daughters of Buffalo also survive. The bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop were sent to Buffalo. The Bishop family were former residents of Independence. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Atwell of Elm Valley, with other relatives, attended the double funeral of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop in Buffalo, Monday. Mrs. Bishop was an aunt of Mr. Atwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester York of West Greenwood, were hosts at a Miller family dinner Sunday. Those present were: Rev. and Mrs. James C. Miller of Harrisville, Ohio, Mrs. A. W. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. David Plough and daughter of Brookton, Mrs. Ray Head, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Brased, Mrs. Emma Mae and Wilbur Head of Big Creek, Mrs. Margaret Miller of Canisteo and Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Miller of Greenwood.

Miss Grace Young of Greenwood has returned home from spending several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Waight Young in Valley Stream,

Lena Island. The Rev. H. J. Gerlach, pastor of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Andover, assisted Bishop Thome as J. Walsh as sub-deacon in saying High Mass at the funeral of Monsignor H. Baker, held in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victor Church in Lakawanna, Monday morning. The service was attended by 8 Bishops, 500 Monsignors, 700 Priests and over 500,000 friends. It is estimated that well over 300,000 people visited the Shrine State Father Baker's body lay in state. Father Gerlach was associated closely as an assistant to Monsignor Baker for 21 years.

The Burbank and Sutherland Family Reunion was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Prince of Shinglerouse, Pa., Sunday, August 2. 70 relatives enjoyed dinner at Noon, followed by a program. At the business meeting the following officers were elected for 1977: President, Axel Holly; Vice President, Robert McElroy; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Alice Holly. It was voted to hold the Reunion next year at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Loran Leake of Bolivar. Those from Andover who attended were: Mr. and Mrs. Leon Wehl, Mrs. Harry Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. James Bushart, Mr. and Mrs. John Coats and daughter, Laura Mae and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sutherland.

A. G. Kemp and son, Oliver took a load of maple syrup to New York City, Sunday for Irving Gillis.

The Harvest Home of the Andover Presbyterian Church will be held Thursday, August 20.

County Chairman Mrs. Genevieve Bliss and County Secretary, Mrs. Edith Bliss attended the picnic given by the Allegany Co. American Legion Auxiliaries to the Units of Chateaugus County, Wednesday at Gabe Lake. There were over 100 in attendance at a most enjoyable social gathering.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown are parents of a son born August 6. Mrs. Mottling Driscoll is Nurse in charge.

The Robinson Family Reunion will be held August 12-14, the cabin of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Robinson in Williams Grove on "The Dyke".

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