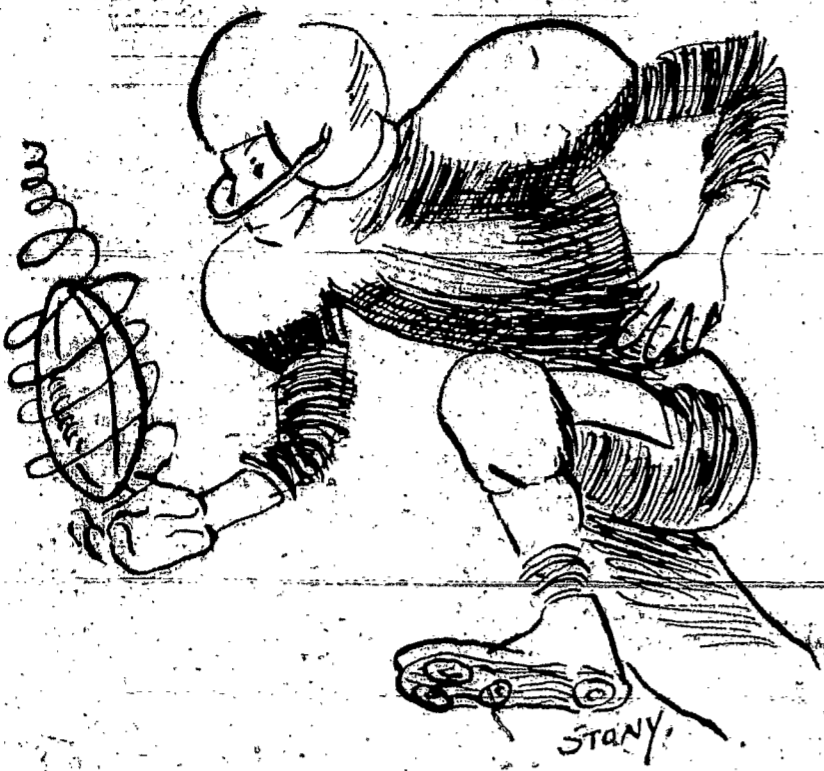


Tri-County Champs



What Happened Hereabouts During the Past Year

(Continued from Page 1, Sec. B) planning, zoning and junk yard ordinances.

5. The board of education of the Greenwich school planned to have the swamp at the north of its property drained.

8. The new wing at the Mary McClellan hospital in Cambridge was dedicated and an open house held.

9. Greenwich village board voted to create a planning committee.

12. David J. Mosher, 19, of Easton was selected national Star Farmer of America at the Kansas City convention of FFA.

13.15. The 190th anniversary of the surrender of General Burgoyne at Schuylerville was celebrated there.

14. The Greenwich Journal observed the 125th anniversary of its establishment.

14. Personal permanent registration of voters was completed in the county. There had been eight days for registering in every election district, preceded by opportunities to register at the central county offices, the county fair, and other places.

15. Donald W. Cook of New Hartford, Conn., purchased the John Deere farm machinery business in Greenwich from Leonard R. Robertson, who had operated it since 1925.

18. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Coon of West Hebron won \$50,000 in the New York state lottery.

19. Lt. Gov. Malcolm Wilson spoke at a dinner sponsored by the county Republican committee and emphasized the impact weighted voting could have on political control of the county board of supervisors.

21. The new campus of Adirondack Community college in the town of Queensbury was dedicated.

22. David M. Wood, 66, of South Argyle was killed when his tractor overturned, pinning him under it.

23. The county board of elections announced that 21,493 had registered in the permanent personal registration program and were eligible to vote in November.

24. The Greenwich central school football team, which won the league championship, was honored at a dinner held at the school cafeteria. John Crowley, coach here 40 years ago, was the principal speaker.

25. The annual Halloween parade was held in the village with many youngsters in costume. Some pranksters were reported to have carried their tricks to the point of vandalism.

3. Roland D. Crandall of Old Greenwich, Conn., published Love and Nuggets, the letters and diaries of Henry Sargent Crandall of Galesville and Mary Caroline Mills of Easton, written from 1849 to 1853 when Crandall was prospecting for gold in California.

7. Election day. Two Democratic supervisors were elected in the county: William T. Sherin of Easton and Leon M. Layden of Kingsbury. Republicans won other town offices in these towns, and Republicans were victorious for all town offices in other towns of the county. Voters in the county defeated all four state proposals on the ballot including the proposed new state constitution, which failed state wide, and the \$2.5 billion bond issue which passed in the state.

Warren Collamer

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ALBANY Open Line

by Alex Rankin A joint committee of the state legislature is going to hold five hearings around the state this month on Medicaid.

It is made up of senators and assemblymen and it is called the Joint Legislative committee on the problems of public health, Medicare, Medicaid and compulsory health and hospital insurance.

The members will take seats behind a long table in some board of supervisors' chamber or hotel ballroom. The committee's lawyers will be there. Microphones will be on the table so that everyone can be heard. There will be stenographers to take down all the words, or maybe even a tape-recorder.

The members will listen to people who will tell them what is wrong with the Medicaid law, and tell them how it ought to be amended. Having listened, the legislators will go back to Albany, write amendments with the proper legal language and submit them. These amendments will either die in committee, be voted on and approved and sent to the governor or voted down.

Whatever happens, legislators will always be able to say that public hearings were held—they listened to the voice of the people.

Which is the kind of thing that makes people who hang around legislators too long cynical.

This is because at these hearings the same people always show up and testify—and the same people do not show up and testify. The people who do show up are the professional testifiers. They are either paid for it or are given titles which go with the job of doing it.

The people who do not show up are the common ordinary taxpayers: The clerks, bus drivers, accountants, salesmen, machine operators and assembly-line workers who punch a clock every day, the farmers. Every week they look at their paycheck's wistfully, sometimes angrily, when they open them, up and see for the hundredth time how much the accounting department has taken out for taxes.

These people never show up at public hearings. These are the people who get stung.

And Medicaid can be an example. Medicaid has gotten to the point where Governor Rockefeller is offering everyone this choice: Either a new payroll deduction for mandatory health insurance to help out the rising costs of Medicaid, or even more taken out of your present payroll deduction for a new state tax hike.

This is an example of why people who hang around governors too long get cynical.

Two years ago the legislators listened to the people who always show up at public hearings—the spokesmen for the lobbies and interest groups, the people who speak for medical societies, labor unions and business associations. And so the Medicaid bill was passed and the governor signed it and it is law.

That was, of course, two years before more than a dozen suburban and upstate counties had done the unthinkable and for the first time approved county sales taxes—all to raise the local share of Medicaid costs—and 10 more were strongly considering it.

The most common remark among legislators went something like this: "I can't understand it, these groups that usually send us reports and studies didn't tell us anything like this was going to happen."

That is understandable. Most legislators' staffs consist of a secretary to open the mail and answer the phone. This is a vacuum. Nature and politics are against vacuums and this one was immediately filled by the lobbyists and special interest organizations, groups that can pay for research. Many times the research produces loaded answers. That is the price of lawmakers without staffs.

There is also the simple fact that the common, ordinary people never showed up at the hearings. Only the experts did. The hearings are designed that way.

The five hearings on Medicaid, for example, will be held beginning at 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. That is when most people are working.

Few employers will let their workers off to attend a public hearing. And few employes can afford it.

But here is a list of the Medicaid hearings anyway. It is not

January 8, 10 a.m. Westchester county center, Little Theater, White Plains.

January 9, 10:30 a.m. State office building, 200 Broadway, New York City.

January 16, 10:30 a.m. board of supervisors' chambers, Onondaga county court-house, Syracuse.

January 23, 10:30 a.m. Buffalo and Erie county library, LaFayette square, Buffalo.

January 24, 10:30 a.m. Mark Twain hotel, Elmira.

January 30, 10:30 a.m. State department of health auditorium, 84 Holland avenue, Albany.

January 31, 1 p.m. State university at Plattsburgh, Hawkins hall, Plattsburgh.

LEGAL NOTICE. ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE. The regular annual meeting of the Stockholders of the First National Bank of Greenwich, New York, for the election of directors for the ensuing year and any other legal business will be held at the banking house on Tuesday, January 9, 1968 at 1:00 o'clock P.M. Polls will remain open one hour. JOSEPH K. HILL, VICE PRESIDENT 12-14, 21, 28, 1-4

CONCERTS AT ALBANY

On January 5 the American String trio will present a concert at Albany state university's Page hall. The trio is composed of artists in residence at the college. In a concert at the hall on January 12, Itzhak Perlman, violinist, will appear, accompanied by Samuel Sanders at the piano. Electronic Perspectives I, a taped concert, will be presented on January 10 in conjunction with two exhibitions of contemporary art. The exhibit will be on view January 8-25.

Meet the New Scout

from International For All Roads All Weather All Uses Rear Wheel Drive or All Wheel Drive at Natale Rambler Tel. Saratoga 584-5440 So. Broadway Saratoga OPEN EVENINGS



Volunteers Clean Paint Off Monument After Halloween

an unoccupied building next to the post office on Main street and a vacant building, next to the Shell station on Washington street, both owned by the Joseph Lytle Sr. estate, had been taken down.

20. A pilot program in milk testing for students in the Greenwich school agricultural program was being held.

24. There were 19,125 people who voted in Washington county November 7, the county board of elections reported. This was the largest vote since the presidential election in 1964.

26. The world's largest freight car, 136 feet long with 32 overized wheels, owned by General Electric, was tested over the Greenwich and Johnsonville railroad line.

28. Supervisor Joseph L. Randles Jr. of Argyle, chairman of the board's finance committee, said this county was not considering a sales tax to avoid an increase in real estate taxes. Several counties including Warren county had adopted a 3 per cent sales tax.

29. Justice Michael Sweeney of Saratoga Springs approved the weighted voting plan for this county, and ordered it to go into effect January 1. The plan gives each supervisor votes on the county board in proportion to the number of inhabitants of his town.

3. Alton J. Pettes Jr., 22, of Ballston Spa, whose father was formerly of Greenwich, was burned to death when a fire destroyed his farm home.

5. Town-County real estate taxes were announced. The general rate was up an average of \$15 a thousand of assessed val-

uation. General rates varied from \$50.96 in Kingsbury to \$85.14 in Putnam. The previous year the rates were \$38.75 for Kingsbury, \$59.81 for Putnam. The supervisors appealed to Governor Rockefeller to do something about the cost of Medicaid, blaming that for the increase in taxes.

for an on the job training program under the state empowerment training administrator.

20. The Washington county junior fair had a contract to purchase approximately 50 acres of land adjoining the fairgrounds on Route 29. This would triple the size of the fairgrounds.

21. The county board of supervisors held its final meeting of the year. Three members, who were not reelected for the coming term, received their desk name plates. Miss Bonnie McGuire of Jackson was given recognition for her American Legion prize-winning essay, On This Rock We Stand.

26. The Battenkill at Shushan was listed as one of the proposed sites for reservoirs to be developed in the state to provide the necessary water needed by residents in 2020.

27. Ben English of Cambridge had been elected vice president of the state association of soil and water conservation districts.

28. Bruce W. Emanuel, vocational agricultural teacher at Greenwich, had been awarded a life membership in the American Vocational Association for his contributions to the FFA program in working with Star Farmer David Mosher.

29. The first big snowfall of the season left nearly a foot of fluffy snow. The storm was accompanied by winds that caused drifting and travel, either by car or foot, was difficult. The snow, however, delighted skiers, and both Willard's Mountain and Easton Valley ski areas were open.

31. The year ended with a light snow.

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