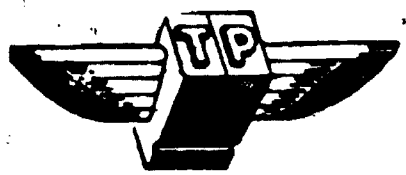


# THE GOUVERNEUR TRIBUNE-PRESS

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## What do you lose?

The Utah Power & Light Company noted in their publication "Circuit" that, "A youth was stopped for a traffic violation. The officer recognized the odor in the violator's car. The defendant had a few joints (of marijuana) with him. He was convicted of possession, a felony, and received a suspended sentence.

Did he lose anything?  
All he lost was the right to vote, the right to own a gun and the right to run for public office.

## Buy near home

Mobility is now considered one of our inalienable rights. However, it is not free, and sometimes it can be exercised beyond the point of practicality. The Wells County Free Press of Fessenden, North Dakota, makes the point very well. It says, "Did you ever drive 50 to 100 miles or more to take advantage of a super-duper special that was advertised somewhere? A local \$50 item 50 miles away would have to sell for \$34.50 in order for you to break even. The American Automobile Association certifies that 15.5 cents is what it costs to drive your car one mile. So if you've driven 100

He lost the opportunity of ever being a licensed doctor, dentist, CPA, engineer, lawyer, architect, realtor, osteopath, physical therapist, private detective, pharmacist, schoolteacher, barber, funeral director, masseur or stockbroker.

He can never get any job where he has to be bonded or licensed nor can he serve on a jury.

He can enlist in the military service, but he will not have a choice of service.

If this happened to you, would you think you had lost anything?"

miles round trip to pick up that special, you'll have to add \$15.50 to that purchase. That sweet buy can suddenly turn quite sour.

Local merchants, whether it is groceries, clothing, drugs, hardware, appliances or whatever, feature top line, nationally advertised products. And they are also at comparative prices. They also support your local schools, churches and organizations. They also help to pay for improvements to make this a better place to live. And they'll be here tomorrow to serve you personally.

## Our Readers Write

### Answer to Power's inquiry regarding county lab issue

Following is a letter received by District Attorney William H. Power from the office of Arthur Levitt, State Comptroller, regarding the St. Lawrence County Laboratory:

Dear Mr. Power: This is in reply to your letter dated January 20, 1972, in which you raised certain questions concerning the St. Lawrence County Laboratory.

You have inquired whether the board of managers of the laboratory had the power to authorize the director of the laboratory to render certain services for a hospital located outside the county, and whether, if so authorized, the director could retain the fees charged for the services.

We would note initially that the board of managers could not authorize the director of the laboratory to undertake the tests in question in his capacity as director of the county laboratory. The county laboratory may serve the county in which it is located, but is not authorized to render

services for hospitals located outside the county except pursuant to a contract with another county, which is not the case here.

Since the board of managers cannot order the director to perform the tests, it, of course, cannot authorize the director to retain any fees.

It is our opinion that the director might well be civilly liable for the reasonable value of any county materials or facilities used by him in the performance of his private practice.

We trust the above will be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,  
ARTHUR LEVITT  
State Comptroller  
By James C. Cooper  
Associate Counsel

### Our foolish laws!

The Harrisville Volunteer Firemen have tapped the maple trees along the village streets and are taking the sap to the James and Robert Burke's new sugar house to be processed. The people we pay to make our laws, sure make some strange ones, for they bind the people that are paying them down so

we have very few privileges. The volunteer firemen received word that they cannot accept the help of our boys, as in the past to gather sap. Why? They might get injured. How many have been injured playing football, basketball or soccer? Oh, that is all right for it is essential in school to get their exercise. Why not let them do a little manual labor for exercise? Those firemen have jobs and work to care for their families. They are tired, but they gather the sap to raise money for a worthy cause, and they would be grateful for the boys' help. Our boys are ready and willing to help them, but they cannot. The laws bind our youth so they can't help a neighbor, it also binds the adults we can't let them.

Who has made our idle youths today? The law! Our boys today would like to work and learn just as much as we did 60 years ago, when we didn't have these fool laws. We learned that it was our responsibility to help our neighbor, and it never hurt us either. I hope our lawmakers wake up before it is too late and give our youth and adults a chance.

Mrs. Bilo Hooper

## Fresh Proof That The 1968 Gun Act Is Faulty

WE, the people, now have it on the high authority of the Federal courts that the 1968 Federal Gun Control Act is in some respects a faulty and questionable law.

The courts have in effect made a judicial repeal of portions of the law, something that the Congress might well do next by enactment to tidy up the remaining mess.

The act, a hasty hodgepodge incorporating three previous laws, depends on the interstate commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 8) for its authority for the Federal Government to prosecute over guns.

But the U.S. Supreme Court, terming the act "ambiguous" or unclear in that respect, ruled that Federal prosecutors hereafter must prove that convicted defendants played some role in transporting the allegedly illegal firearms in interstate commerce. No longer may they assume this and fail to show a connection.

On the strength of that decision a Federal District Court in California quickly threw out charges that a private citizen there had made illegal sales without a firearms dealer license. And it developed that at least five other Federal courts had already questioned the constitutionality of the act on this or another basis.

Some other provisions of this ill-advised and poorly drawn law are also open to challenge. It appears, and are still unclear after more than three years.

What, for example, constitutes dealing in firearms under the law? The law itself nowhere defines this, although it subjects private citizens to as much as five years and \$5,000 if convicted of violating its requirement that firearms dealers be licensed.

Does an individual who sells five guns a year need a Federal firearms dealer's license under the law? Ten guns? Fifteen guns? \$100 worth of guns regardless of the number? \$1,000 worth? No guns but 500 rounds of ammunition? 2,000 rounds of ammunition?

The answer in every instance depends upon what the administrators of the law, namely the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of Internal Revenue Service, say it is. If you doubt this, just sell a few guns and then—perhaps too late—ask the ATF if they think you are a firearms dealer. You can get different answers, too, depending on the region of the country, in which you live or the person answering your question.

That, so help us, is the Federal Gun Control Act in all its supposed majesty and justice. And that is not nearly all.

Hand grenades have become a sensitive subject, as if every last one had the pin pulled and was about to explode. Another ambiguity or omission in the 1968 act is responsible for that. It fails to make a clear distinction between a dummy or practice grenade and the combat type.

To observe a law—any law—the public must first understand not only the basic reason for the law but what it says.

We do not suggest that the provisions safeguarding the public be abolished. Contrary to the misleading impressions given by critics of the NRA, the NRA has for decades favored laws which would bar convicted criminals, proven drug addicts, adjudged mental cases, alcoholics, and habitual law breakers from owning firearms. That continues to be our position.

The present law, however, could hardly have been more diabolically designed to befuddle and entrap everyday citizens—and that apparently is what it has done in dozens of cases.

Now that the courts have highlighted the weaknesses in the law, Congress should repeal it and replace it with a clear, simple anti-crime act that all law-abiding Americans can understand and support.

(The above editorial is reproduced here in part. For the entire editorial see pages 16-17 of The American Rifleman March 1972.)



THE ICE IS ABOUT GONE FROM THE RIVER BY THE MAIN STREET BRIDGE.



SIGNS OF SPRING — Road crews are busy cleaning the winters accumulation of dirt off the Main Street bridge.

## 'Twas A Great Night For Drama

By The First Nighter

The Junior High Dramatics Club of Gouverneur Junior High School recently presented George Sorell's whimsical comedy "Sir Slob and the Princess," much to the delight of a near-capacity audience.

Directed by Helen Heller, the play could have tottered under the weight of its grandiose and ornate presentation but the saving factor of the production was the youthful exuberance which one encounters when he views juvenile dramatic productions.

The fact that the students put the time into the production and were dedicated to their purpose of entertainment deserves a lot of credit as does everyone associated with the play's production.

Compliments go to the cast: Richard Gerber as Sir Slob; Paula Robson as the herald; Cindy Curcuruto, drummer; Mark Gruisen, trumpeter; Fred LaVaack, Sir Jack; Mike McKinney, Sir Jim; Chuck Mousaw, Sir Joe; Mike Matott, Sir Jerry; Robin Versailles the King and Kathy O'Connor the Queen; Barbara Maloy Princess Rosebud; Tauno Schweinus, the Wizard; Elizabeth Stevenson, the nag; Brent Raven and Chris Matott, soldiers; Carol Matejick executioner and townspeople (also ushers); Belinda Tessler, Rebecca Washburn; Kathy Bartell, Darlene Kinney; Jodi Gonyeau, David McClure; Sue Chambers, Carl Fitzgerald; Bey Connor, Margie Grout; Dana Norton, Sheila Todd and Kevin Palmer.

Congratulations are also due to the dance ensemble consisting of Karlene Hartle, Debbie Tambur, Diana Wood, Donna Wood and Bette Otto, Mary Serviss, Laurie Fuller, Kathy LaVaack, Nyla Cook, Kathy Phelps and Maureen Taylor.

Those behind the scenes who contributed to the play's success were: Mrs. Helen Heller, director; Mr. William Lacy, business manager; Joe McAllister, technical director and Marlee Bancroft, bookholder. Others were the costume committee with Mrs. Elliott (Carol) Glangberg as advisor which was comprised of Judy Leeson and Elaine Wycerley.

Miss Harriet Welch and Miss Pat McNeill took charge of the makeup committee which did a fine job. The members were: Kay Griffith, Lori Brundage, Carol Link, Cynthia Stammer, Sandy Fifield and Debbie Tripp.

Props committee: Connie Spillman, Cathy LaVaack and Jodi Gonyeau.

Also assisting backstage were Jamie McAllister, lights; Miss Patricia McNeill, scenery; Robert Webster, tickets and Mary Kay Robson and Elizabeth Norton, programs.

Handing publicity was Laurie Fuller, Kevin Palmer, Laura Tharrett, Tim Markwick, Trina Benjamin, Mary Serviss, Dan Connor, Joel Lewis, Dennis Mong, Judy Leeson, Robin Washburn and Donna Wood.

Advisors also included Mr. Don Reynolds, photographer and Mrs. Diana Lynde posters.

The cast and crew also wished to express their gratitude to Allen Meyer, music director, and Mr. Don Reynolds and Edward Schweinus for some of the props as well as to the Tribune Press, Watertown Times, WIGS, Gouverneur Community Players, Watertown Matress Elliott Glangberg Joanne Lahtinen, and Miss Joyce Jones.

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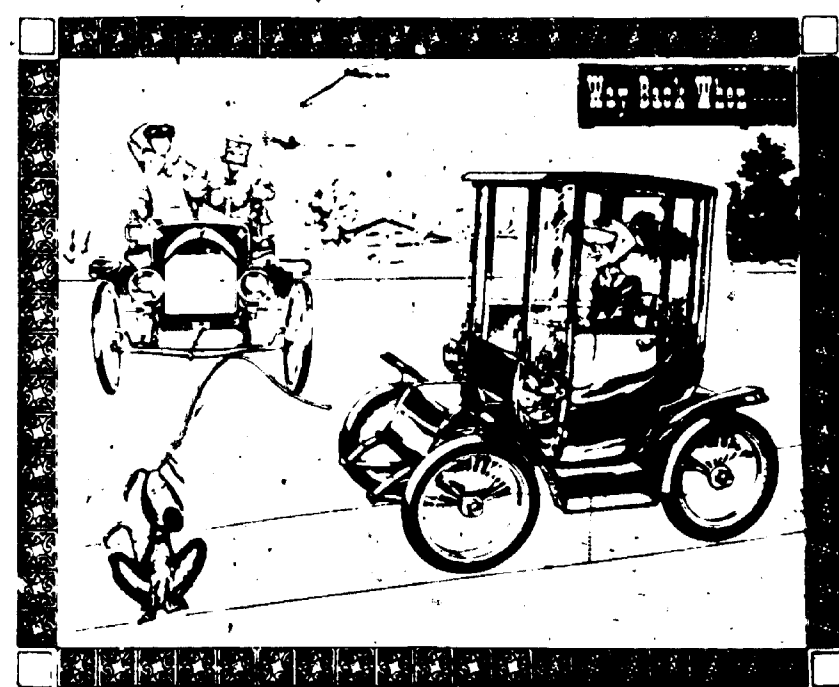
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This reviewer would also wish to express our gratitude to the entire cast and crew of "Sir Slob and the Princess" for a job well done.



10 YEARS AGO  
Gouverneur Tribune Press  
April 11, 1962

Teachers' salaries will be increased in the Gouverneur school district next year as a result of recent state legislation mandating a new schedule and also to compete with surrounding districts. A starting salary of \$4,500 was adopted as a special meeting of the School Board Monday.

Cities Service Oil Company has announced the appointments of Delbert McLearn and Ken Filiatrault as representatives in St. Lawrence County. The new business will be known as Del and Ken's Fuel Service.

25 YEARS AGO  
Gouverneur Tribune Press  
April 9, 1947

A year and a half of reconstruction work has converted the old St. Lawrence Inn on Main street into an ultra-modern home furnishings center and tomorrow it will be opened to the public as the newest and largest branch of the Watertown Matress Company.

Hundreds of worshippers observed Easter Sunday at services in the Gouverneur churches, which were bright with spring flowers and Easter lilies.

50 YEARS AGO  
The Northern Tribune  
April 12, 1922

— Dirt and sand for grading and filling free for the drawing, Erwin Cox, corner Barnes and Park street.

— The post office at Pope Mills was broken into during the early hours of Tuesday morning and the sum of \$9.94 was taken from the cash drawer.

— Marshville Notes — A good many are drawing hay this spring.

75 YEARS AGO  
Gouverneur Free Press  
April 11, 1897

— A stranger in town Saturday got very much intoxicated and when he regained his senses found that he had enjoyed a nap near the old tannery building. While he slept someone removed his hat and shoes and took them away.

— The weather became colder Friday evening and a snow storm set in Saturday morning the ground was again white, about an inch of snow having fallen.

100 YEARS AGO  
The Gouverneur Times  
April 6, 1872

— Mrs. Firth has rented a part of W. A. Short's store and moved her millinery stock into it.

— Mosher has taken that part of the store vacated by Mrs. Firth. Hereafter the Book store may be found in the corner building, No. 30 Main street.

— In consequence of the extreme length of the essay on our second page, and the Correspondence from Clinton on our third, we are compelled to omit several articles and items this week. — We shall endeavor to get them all in type next week.

## NEWS FROM

### ASSEMBLYMAN DANIEL HALEY

State Government should not then have an Ombudsman. Haley replied in the negative. "If people are awake and watching what goes on, they have the review of their Legislators every two years. I propose a six year term for the Ombudsman and that he be appointed by a two-thirds voting majority of both houses."

Assemblyman Haley said he thinks the cost may run around \$350,000 to establish this office but pointed out, that thereafter, the savings would be considerable. "I think the people are willing to make an investment in better government and of all the institutions man has concocted, I know of none which at this time would make a greater contribution to improving government than the institution of Ombudsman."

When asked if this office would not be too similar to that of the District Attorney, Mr. Haley pointed out that the Attorney General is an Executive appointment and it is to handle complaints against this Division as well as the Judiciary that the bill is aimed. "I think our present Attorney General is a fine person but there are political considerations. If we can establish an independent office such as Ombudsman, we are going to get more done."

Legislation which would permit counties to establish low rent housing projects has now been filed in Albany by Assemblyman Daniel Haley.

The St. Lawrence County Legislator said in the memorandum accompanying the bill that: "It is often important for counties to be able to establish housing projects just as cities now do, and this measure would permit this."

The bill A-1045 calls for a concurrent resolution of the Senate and Assembly, which if passed would put the amendment before the voters for a referendum.

Haley pointed out that this bill passed both houses of the Legislature in 1969. It passed the Senate again in 1971 but failed to go on the 1971 ballot because it was defeated in the Assembly by one vote. In 1972, the passage of the Community Development Article would have made this amendment unnecessary, he added. "This concurrent resolution was not considered during the 1971 session."

Since the Community

Development Article failed, and since it is still important for counties to be able to establish housing authorities, I hope that we can start the long process all over again of getting this needed amendment onto the ballot."

The Waddington Assemblyman explained that a concurrent resolution of the Senate and Assembly, proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, must be passed by two consecutive sessions of the Legislature before it can be placed on the ballot.

### Haley introduces legislation for recycled paper

Assemblyman Daniel Haley has introduced legislation which will require the Legislature and the State departments to use recycled paper.

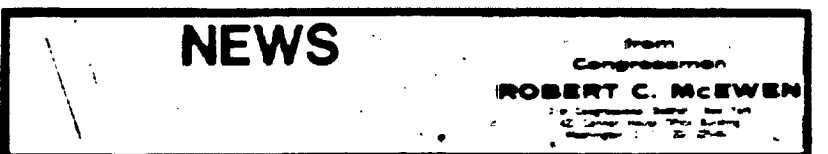
The bill A-10304 amends the State printing law and mandates the use of recycled paper for legislative and departmental printing.

Assemblyman Haley said the use of recycled paper would significantly advance environmental and conservation considerations by reducing the number of trees to be cut, preserving our natural beauty, and the paper that is to be recycled has not had to be disposed of in any manner thus reducing a major source of pollution.

The St. Lawrence County Legislator listed the fiscal implications of his bill as "Anticipated Savings."



Beltton Texas Journal "Now comes a report from 12 scientists After a two-year study and \$1 million spent; they conclude that 'mayberry' or television could lead children prone to violence to behave more aggressively. They begged this conclusion by saying perhaps these violent-prone children might have become mean anyway. This long expensive study could have been reduced to 15 minutes plus a 10-cent phone call to nearly any parents."



from  
Congressman  
ROBERT C. McEWEN

Congressman Robert C. McEwen (R-N.Y.) has co-sponsored a hard-hitting crime control bill aimed at restructuring the 1968 gun control act. The McEwen-sponsored bill would emphasize criminal prosecution of persons who use guns wrongfully, rather than harassment of law-abiding sportsmen and collectors.

Specifically the bill would impose strict mandatory penalties on those convicted of using a gun while committing a crime. In addition it would change all references to age in the 1968 Gun Control Act from 21 to 18 and remove registration of ammunition.

In commenting on the bill McEwen stated, "I believe that the existing gun control law has failed to effectively cope with crime involving firearms. Since enactment of the 1968 law murders by firearms has in-

creased by 17 per cent; aggravated assault with a firearm has increased 22 per cent; and robbery with a firearm has increased 190 per cent over 1968."

I believe that this bill takes a different approach and the correct approach to the problem. Its thrust is directed at the criminal who uses a gun in the commission of a crime the individual who through his actions jeopardizes the rights and lives of honest law-abiding citizens. The actor we need to take is not against firearms but against those who use them in their criminal pursuits.

### To Save on Fuel

Automobiles are striking increasing concern for designing ways to conserve fuel and decrease pollution. This concern is being shared by many consumers and other transportation material.