

Customers' Corner

"We mean what we say..."

"Guarantee" is a word that is used rather loosely. To A & P, it means just one thing—you must be completely satisfied with any item you buy in our stores, or your money will be refunded promptly and cheerfully, without question!

This is just one more safeguard to maintain the confidence of our customers and the reputation for value we've built over 92 years of business.

We invite you to see your A & P manager if ever you're displeased with anything you buy, he's sure to set it right!

CUSTOMER RELATIONS DEPT.
A & P Food Stores
420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

EIGHT O'CLOCK COFFEE

NO WONDER MORE FOLKS Buy A&P Coffee THAN ANY OTHER!

FRESHER!
CHOICE OF 3 BLENDS!
GROUND JUST RIGHT FOR YOU!
PRICED FOR REAL VALUE!

and Mellow

Maybe that Potsdam guess the government was right idea. Whatever the reason, the result of the 11th hour cancellation of airplane spotting in thousands of cities and villages all over the east have been particularly unfortunate in Potsdam.

The village has lost its top civil defense officials, James T. Lahey, director, and Grant F. Cotton, chief of the Ground Observer Corps. Both resigned Friday in protest over the government's action.

The civilian defense organization has lost the good faith of more than 100 Potsdam residents who had volunteered for airplane spotting only to learn at the last minute that they were evidently not needed.

Here's how it all happened:

For more than a year, the local observer post has been active in occasional weekend tests in which the Air Force sent planes over most of the eastern states to train observers and to tryout the ground observer organization. A month ago, the post here was notified that it was expected to go on 24-hour, seven days a week duty on May 17, last Saturday.

During the test period, only about 30 observers out of the 80 who had signed up ever served. So it was necessary to recruit vigorously to get enough volunteers for the fulltime schedule.

Recruiting lagged. Many persons felt that the United States was not in sufficient danger to make the fulltime operation of spotting posts necessary. But finally toward the end of last week volunteers began to trickle in. It looked as if the local post could be manned for a week or more without too much strain.

And on Friday a telephone call cancelled the entire show.

At this writing the only explanation local officials have received of the government's backing down on its plans has been a statement released Friday to the Associated Press. The cancellation, said the dispatch, was caused by civilian protests over the "sacrifices" they would have to make to man the posts all over the country. The situation will be restudied, the AP quoted an Air Force spokesman.

The government's indecision has disgusted and disillusioned a lot of willing volunteers in Potsdam—and probably in a thousand other villages. It has undermined Potsdam's small but willing civil defense force. This cry of "wolf" will make it even more difficult to recruit civilian defense workers if an emergency arises.

Rebuilding what has been destroyed by last week's fiasco must start with restoring the public's confidence in civil defense officials in Washington. Until then civil defense in Potsdam and elsewhere will remain an expensive farce.

Insurance Rates Zoom

Next month automobile insurance rates are scheduled to go up an average of 20 percent around the nation. This continues a steady postwar trend.

The insurance companies blame the higher rates on several factors. Chief among them is the cost of settling property damage claims. Motorists appear to be far more "claim conscious" than ever. Furthermore, the cost of automobile parts is up from 10 to 25 percent in the last half year or so.

All this makes grim reading for the automobile owner. But just possibly it has its bright side. If accidents are so costly, and this cost is reflecting itself consistently in rising insurance rates, the time may come when the average motorist may decide that he can't afford to have an accident.

Then, at long last, he may decide to drive carefully, saving his life at the same time he saves his dollars.

Letter to the Editor

To The Editor:

As a citizen of this village and a business man on the street for some years, I have noticed for several years the gathering of loafers lined up along almost the entire front of the Potsdam Bank and Trust Company Building. There they have a lean-to and cuss and discuss the passers by, passing derogatory comments on the ladies especially, and even blocking a proper entrance to the bank. The sidewalk seems to be a good place upon which to expectorate,

throw their stubs and leave a line of dirt. Surely the decent people passing to and fro in front of the bank are entitled to respect and free passage. If necessary to cater to those loafers, why not buy for them a parking lot, put in some easy chairs, add a few sun shades, install a radio and furnish ship style bouillon and crackers at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

But in all seriousness let's have some relief.

Yours truly,
Citizen

COURIER and FREEMAN EDITORIAL PAGE

DAYS OF YORE

Year Ago

May 21, 1951

debate on several unrecesses at a public hearing night, the Village Trustees gained unanimity from affected owners to proceed with sewer project on out-St.

annual fund drive for the Boys Club began Tuesday solicitors collected money club all over Potsdam. ally has yet been made of ts, according to Ray Wil and Lowell Herron, comen.

alpha Delta sorority of Pots State Teachers College ned its mortgage in a cere Tuesday night and gained possession of the house at Elm St. The sorority claims be the first local fraternity or sorority to rid itself of a mortgage.

10 Years Ago

May 20, 1942

Attorney Edward E. Wright of Norwood has been appointed to the Board of Visitors of the Potsdam State Normal School, which on July first becomes a State Teachers College. Mr. Wright's appointment, which is for a term of seven years, was made at the State Board of Regents meeting held in New York Friday.

The 20th Century Club held its annual meeting at the ladies' club room at the Civic Center, May 12, at which time Mrs. Elmer J. Murphy was elected president to succeed Mrs. Earl West.

The schools appointed as gasoline rationing centers in the towns of Madrid, Potsdam, Parishville, Hopkinton, Colton, and Piercefield, issued 2,271 cards during Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Number of A cards issued were 884; B-1 cards, 275; B-2 cards, 300; B-3 cards, 254.

25 Years Ago

May 25, 1927

Thursday, May 18, twenty-six of the local Presbyterian Endeavorers held a picnic at Sylvan Falls. The Endeavorers were accompanied by Rev. W. J. Froot and A. R. Powers of Clarkson College. They arrived at the picnic grounds about 6:00. After having their supper they did some stunts; sang some songs and returned at 9:45.

At the Rialto Theatre: "The Sea Beast" with John Barrymore, Dolores Costello, George O'Hara. Directed by Millard Webb. From the story—"Moby Dick" by Herman Melville. "The Sea Beast" has been declared by reviewers in all parts of the country as one of the greatest pictures ever made. In addition to starring John Barrymore it has made a star overnight of Dolores Costello. So sensational was the acting in this picture that Warner Brothers immediately signed her to a long-term contract.—Adv.

50 Years Ago

May 21, 1902

An exciting game between the Normals and the Techs occurred Wednesday afternoon, May 14th. It being institute week, the attendance was unusually large and the enthusiasm on both sides was quite intense. The score:

R. H. E.
Normals18 8 4
Techs11 8 9.

Marsh Post No. 214 will meet at G.A.R. Hall next Sunday morning at 10 o'clock sharp, and through the kind invitation of the pastor and congregation of the Presbyterian Church will unite with them in Divine service at half past ten.

75 Years Ago

May 24, 1877

Lieut. General Sheridan proposes to send an expedition to the scene of Gen. Custer's fight with Sitting Bull for the purpose of removing the remains of the gallant band who were massacred upon that occasion, and giving them proper military burial at such place as may be designated by the War Department.

Under Fire



Potsdam Preview

- FRIDAY, MAY 23**
Vega Chapter 98, Order of the Eastern Star, meets in the Masonic Temple, Elm St., at 8 p.m.
- SATURDAY, MAY 24**
Hospital Guild holds its annual luncheon at the Potsdam Club at 12:30 p.m.
- Potsdam Country Club holds its opening party from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.
- SUNDAY, MAY 25**
First Church of Christ Scientist holds its dedication services at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the church on Elm St.
- MONDAY, MAY 26**
Roy D. Graves Post 1194, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meets in the VFW clubhouse at 8 p.m.
- Potsdam Volunteer Fire Department meets in the fire station at 7:30 p.m.
- Frank Barclay Post 74, American Legion and Auxiliary, meets in the legion rooms of the civic center at 7:30 p.m.
- TUESDAY, MAY 27**
Marsh Woman's Relief Corps 91 meets in the civic center at 2:30 p.m.
- Potsdam Lions Club meets at the Knotty Pine Lodge at 6:30 p.m.
- Potsdam B's Home Bureau unit meets in the civic center at 7:30 p.m. for a business meeting.
- Knights of Columbus meets in the K of C clubhouse at 8 p.m.
- Excelsior Lodge 548, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, meets in IOOF hall, Market St., at 8 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 28**
Potsdam Rotary Club meets at the Potsdam Club at 12:15 p.m.
- Potsdam Grange meets in the civic center at 8 p.m.
- MONDAY, JUNE 2**
Village Board of Trustees meets in the board room of the civic center at 7:30 p.m.
- TUESDAY, JUNE 3**
Potsdam Lions Club meets at the Knotty Pine Lodge at 6:30 p.m.
- Knights of Columbus Auxiliary meets in K of C hall, Main St., at 8 p.m.
- Union Rebekah Lodge 22 meets in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows hall, Market St., at 8 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4**
Potsdam Rotary Club meets in the Potsdam Club at 12:15 p.m.
- Nihanawate Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, meets in the civic center at 3 p.m.
- Woman's Society of Christian Service meets in the First Methodist Church at 8 p.m.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 5**
Racket River Lodge 213, Free and Accepted Masons, meets in the Masonic Temple at 7:45 p.m.
- MONDAY, JUNE 9**
Roy D. Graves Post 1194, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meets in the VFW clubhouse, Main St., at 8 p.m.
- TUESDAY, JUNE 10**
Marsh Woman's Relief Corps 91 meets in the civic center at 2:30 p.m.

THE GRANGE NEWSLETTER

BY E. PAYSON SMITH

National Grange executive committee has called upon Congress to eliminate price controls as part of the Defense Production Act. Charging that the present shortage of potatoes is the result of a price control policy which fails to recognize the importance of abundant production as the surest way of maintaining a reasonable price, the Committee said these measures retard production, create an economic "squeeze on the farmer, destroy faith in the future, and feed the forces of inflation.

"The nation's food supply is being seriously threatened by the indecision, delays and frustrations of these controls", the committee said, "and are affecting the decisions farmers must make today which will determine the amount and kinds of food we will eat during the next three years."

Farm production outlook points to an average start for crops, probably at drop of about 10 percent in at-the-farm prices from last year, production costs up five percent. Net farm income will probably decline some three percent at least, in spite of any boost farmers can make to produce more. Wage rates, freight rates, machinery, fertilizer and other supplies are all higher, and cannot be absorbed by a like increase in production. It is predicted that farmers' purchasing power, most important to all segments of the economy, will be the lowest since 1941.

Pomona Grange meetings scheduled for early June assume great importance this year to spark the final phases of the Gork Memorial as well as State Grange membership goals. Many Granges are finding that net gains are not too easy to make but are commendably sticking to the usual high qualifications for membership. Solid growth depends on careful selection, and there are an abundance of fine prospects in every community, most of whom are attracted by Grange's active and enthusiastic leadership in civic and agricultural affairs.

The Big Lie in Russia—

Arts Used to Spread Propaganda in USSR

by CHARLES E. SEIB

Courier Washington Bureau

Washington—There is no escape from thought control for the propaganda-hounded Russian people.

Although the Soviet Press and radio are the main day-to-day means of spreading the Communist fairy tale, the arts are also subverted to the Kremlin's purpose of breeding hate toward the outside world and blind, unquestioning loyalty to the Communist cause.

The hierarchy of the Communist party in Russia is the ultimate critic of all artistic output—and it is a critic which must be pleased. There is a world of intellectual coercion behind this bland statement from the Soviet Literary Monthly.

"At every important stage in Soviet history, the party adopted fundamental decisions on questions of culture that changed its further progress and enabled writers and artists to avoid errors and deviation from the basic objectives of artistic reaction."

Writers, painters, musicians, dancers all are assured that "the great Stalin... is the first and best friend of the Soviet artists, their sagacious teacher and counselor" and that in his writings "workers in all branches of Soviet art find exhaustive answers to every question."

A. Petrov, assistant director of the Gorky Institute of World Literature, explained that Soviet literature "reflects the lofty ethics of the Soviet man" and the "richness and fullness of the Soviet man's spiritual life." In addition, he says, the writers "are indefatigably unmasking the warmongers."

In other words, the writers are complying in every way with the fairy tale that the Kremlin constantly dings into 200 million Russian people—"Stalin is good, Russia is paradise, and the free world, particularly the United States, is a degraded, unhappy place, bent only on war and destruction."

This "total propaganda" is hard on the Russian who is looking for a little relaxation. If he picks up a current novel, he is likely to spend most of his reading time helping the hero meet his production quota and reflecting on the glory of working for the Soviet.

Thus, in the novel "Honour" by G. Bashirov, we find the hero, a collective farm official, thinking that even the cloud of dust around a girl as she works in the fields is "mysteriously beautiful." The story goes on

"How deftly she works, how swift, he whispered to himself, watching her move rhythmically in that cloud.

"Then his glance fell on Karligach. Supple and slender, the girl handled the rake as though it were a toy...

"It was beautiful, passionate work! Fatigue was forgotten and the inspired fervor of labor transfigured the faces of the girls..."

If an average Russian should seek escape in a travel book—"Italian Impressions" by P. Pavlenko, for example—he would have to wade through pages of diatribe against the Vatican, criticism of the "decadent" architecture of the Roman buildings, the ecstasy over the successes of Communism in Italy.

He would encounter all the propaganda cliches, including that well-worn one that Americans are debasing European culture.

"Our artists and architects are still in debt to the people. They must make greater demands on their work and strain constantly for greater skill. Soviet literature and art have every chance of fruitful development. The Soviet people are confident that their writers and artists will achieve new creative triumphs and will produce works of art worthy of the Stalin epoch."

There is no humor, however, in the picture of the Russian artist constantly being pressured to produce for the Kremlin, even when the pressure is sugar-coated as was this paragraph broadcast on the Soviet home radio:

"I have, all my life, urged every eligible American to register and vote, regardless of his political affiliation. In the midst of such complex domestic and world problems upon which every voter must render a verdict, it is essential that the privilege of suffrage be exercised in order that the people's will may be registered.

"This is the only way in which the average American can participate in government. They cannot all hold office or seek office, but they can determine who shall hold the offices created by law for their government and guidance. I have always felt, and have frequently stated, that those who deliberately ignore or refuse to take part in elections have no real right to complain if the wrong men are elected.

"I sincerely hope that the American people, in larger numbers than ever before, will exercise this fundamental right, in order that our democracy may be more complete and our government constantly more representative of the people's will."

Alben W. Barkley,
Vice-President of the United States.

... Are YOU Voting This Year?

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