

IN DAYS OF YORE
Turning Back the Clock

One Year Ago

May 31, 1951

Three hundred and ninety seniors of Clarkson College of Technology will receive degrees Sunday, June 3, at the 58th annual commencement of the college. The ceremonies which are planned for Snell Field at 3 p.m. will be held in the Clarkson Arena in case of rain.

Kappa Kappa Tau, Clarkson fraternity, will move into its first home this September in rooms above the Montgomery Ward store on Fall Island formerly occupied by girls from Potsdam State Teachers College.

10 Years Ago

May 27, 1942

In wartime most schools and colleges are confronted with the problem of decreasing enrollments and, at the same time, with the necessity of maintaining staff, plant and the ordinary activities of peace-time education. The need for men in the armed forces and in productive capacities is expected to make great inroads into the student body of men's colleges and universities the world over.

A recent statement from Washington declared that "confronted by the greatest avalanche of public indignation that ever has been loosened on Washington, President Roosevelt stepped into the gasoline situation and declared in effect that discrimination against Northern New York and other sections along the Atlantic seaboard must end."

The President said in effect that handling gasoline is a national problem and that he did not feel that any one section should be singled out and restrictions imposed on it, when other sections nearby had an abundance.

25 Years Ago

June 1, 1927

A light frost was reported in this village on Friday night. A harder freeze sufficient to form ice occurred in some sections but no extensive damage was done to growing crops. A little snow fell in the mountains Thursday night.

Camp Vigor, the Boy Scout camp on the St. Lawrence this year will surpass in size and enjoyment anything yet in its history, said County Scout Executive, W. A. Wright, today. The boys who have already signed up for the camp are Russell Smith, Andrew Rogers, Philip Craig, Donald Cassada, Loren Bull, Robert McGill, Gerald Armstrong, James Moffett, Howard Moffett, and Harold Puls.

50 Years Ago

May 28, 1902

It seems rather peculiar for an agricultural community like this to be compelled to secure potatoes abroad, but owing to the scarcity of these necessary vegetables, Benson and Kingsley have just secured some imported from Belgium. They are very good looking tubers too, considering that they did not have the privilege of growing up in America.

75 Years Ago

May 31, 1877

A serious accident to Miss O'Driscoll—sister of Father O'Driscoll, of Canton—occurred in this village, on Sunday last. As the funeral procession of Thomas Haley was proceeding up Elm St. to the Catholic Church, the line became a little too close, so that in turning up Lawrence Ave., a check occurred. The whole line was thrown into confusion, and Miss O'Driscoll's horse, becoming unmanageable, turned partly across the road and backed off the embankment, opposite the school house, crumpling the carriage so suddenly as to pitch the lady and her driver violently out.

She was taken to the residence of O. E. Honey and Dr. Felson was immediately called. She was soon able to be taken to the home of her sister, Mrs. John Joy and her recovery is beyond reasonable doubt.



Potsdam Preview

(Each week the Courier and Freeman will print in this space notices of meetings and other occurrences of interest of Potsdam residents. Organizations wishing to list an event should send in the name of the group and the date, time and place of the meeting. Deadline for these items is Monday noon of each week.)

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 at the Arlington Inn at 12:15 p.m.

Nihanawate Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, meets at the home of Mrs. R. L. Sisson Jr., 26 Garden St., 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.

Men's night at Potsdam Country Club, golf and dinner.

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.

Potsdam Lions Club meets at the Knotty Pine Lodge at 6:15 p.m.

Knights of Columbus meets in the K of C hall, Elm St., at 8 p.m.

Union Rebekah Lodge 22 meets in Independent Order of Odd Fellows hall, Market St., at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Potsdam Rotary Club meets at the Arlington Inn at 12:15 p.m.

Potsdam Grange meets in the civic center at 8 p.m.

Potsdam B's Home Bureau Unit meets for a work meeting in the civic center at 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

Potsdam Country Club holds men's night, golf and dinner.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

Vega Chapter 98, Order of the Eastern Star, meets in the Masonic Temple at 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

Village Board of Trustees meets in the board room of the civic center at 7:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence Court, Order of Amaranth, meets in the Masonic Temple, Canton, at 8 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, JUNE 17

Potsdam Lions Club meets at 6:15 p.m. at the Knotty Pine Lodge.

Excelsior Lodge 548, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, meets in the IOOF hall, Market St., at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Potsdam Rotary Club meets at the Arlington Inn at 12:15 p.m.



Nation's food supply is being seriously threatened, according to testimony offered this past week by National Grange Executive Committee before the House Banking and Currency Committee on extension of price and wage controls. Experience with controls which have ignored costs, especially livestock, Grange testimony revealed, shows that controllers under OPS gained little from previous disastrous results under OPA, and that livestock products are being squeezed between high costs, scarce feed and ceiling prices, all of which discourage expanded output—the only way farmers know to ease the necessity for control. In other words, in spite of warnings in the way of food shortages—most notably potatoes—controllers seem determined to pursue only a course which will lead to more and more control.

Truck weight problem facing New York's lawmakers received a new twist lately. The Supervisors' Association of New York is giving wide distribution to an article in the April issue of National Grange Monthly entitled "History, Trucks and Money" discussing how we can cure the creeping paralysis effecting our highway transportation system. A letter to state and county officials accompanying reprints of the article warns that with the opening of New York's weighing stations this summer, certain segments of the truck industry may attempt to avoid these check-points, by-passing on town and county roads never built for such heavy traffic.

Rural defenders of the American tradition in lecturers theme this year, and we have already heard some fine programs developed around this stirring subject. Patriotism may be less spectacular than in early days of our country, but it has taken on an increased meaning, responsibility and form of expression. Rural folks, since Concord Bridge, have taken active part in their country's tradition.

National Grange 86th annual session will be held at Rockford, Ill., according to recent word from the Washington office. The midwestern location should draw a record attendance as Patrons from all over the country, nearly a million strong, will be represented at this important agricultural policy-making session Nov. 12-21.

The Big Lie in Russia—

Entertainment News To Red's Party Line

by CHARLES B. SEIB
Washington — The Soviet propagandist finds the idea of entertainment for the 200 million Russian people intolerable unless it is tied to the spread of official Communist fairy tale.

The movies, the drama, even the ballet, are muffled in the strifing folds of the Kremlin's propaganda line. Nothing can survive without the approval of the Soviet official critics.

The famous Russian humor magazine, "Krokodil", has but one purpose—to do the work of the all-powerful Central Communist Committee. The Communists state it best themselves.

"A special task of 'Krokodil' is to expose each and every war-monger and enemy of peace. . . ridicule is a powerful weapon. With it enemies can be defeated, shortcomings corrected and work improved. There must not be a single cartoon that misses the mark! This is the kind of satire, the kind of humor that the Soviet People appreciate."

Two favorite subjects for gibes in "Krokodil" are the free majority in the United Nations and the "marshalling of Europe"—the magazine's term for the U. S. foreign aid program.

The "humor" on these international matters leans heavily on insulting caricatures of a rapacious Uncle Sam, enslaved Europeans and the like. But when the Russian cartoonists deal with domestic subjects they really warm up to their work.

Acting as Kremlin disciplinarians, they lampoon the reluctance of bureaucrats to commit themselves, inefficient use of machinery, artists' dodges in outwardly conforming to ideological lines, scarcity of some goods, poor care of farm animals, and other subjects upon which the propaganda bosses feel pressure is needed.

A typical "Krokodil" cartoon depicts a lumber camp at which trucks of all sorts, obviously out of running order, are being frantically worked on by mechanics while a horse painfully pulls a load of logs. The caption:

"Why do you need a horse in such a highly mechanized lumber camp?"

"What do you mean, why? How else would we haul the lumber?"

Then there's one in which a Russian official tells another: "Certainly our lectures are terrible, but after all we don't schedule them very often." (There had been criticism of the quality and frequency of lectures.)

Or this conversation between a minor official and his subordinate:

"Don't bother me with trifling details. Settle them yourself."

"But this requires your signature."

"My signature? Oh, in that case I'd better consult the minister."

If the propaganda-weary Russian tries to forget his troubles in a movie, chances are he will be obliged to sit through a wordy eulogy on collective farms, the story of the building of a dam through communist devotion, or some other party line story.

A confidential report on the Soviet film industry received in this country reveals that the Russians are working against this film love and staying away in droves. The industry is reported to be near collapse. Films with the stilted, carefully edited Hollywood pictures, and a few acceptable Russian old timers are used to keep the theaters going.

"Flight of the Russian movie"

is illustrated by this description of the film "Cavalier of the Golden Star," selected by the Soviet press and critics as the best picture of 1951:

"As with many other postwar films, the theme is the collective farm to be reconstructed after the ravages of the great fatherland war into something much grander and more prosperous than before. The film depicts a group of collective farmers in the Stavropol area organizing to build a power station.

"By the third reel it is crystal clear that the power station will be built and the Socialist endeavor will triumph before the end of the film. The hero is one Sergei Tutarinov, whom Pravda found the perfect Soviet hero of today. Tutarinov does all the things that a good Communist should do and always places the interests of the people, the party, the state, above everything else. . . ."

"This trite portrayal of the pure Soviet man takes Sergei back to his native village after the war. He is distressed that there is no movie theater, no house of culture, no electricity. The rest of the film, interspersed with a little love interest, tells how Sergei, assisted by his friend Semyon, seeks to build a power station for his particular collective farm, how he is brought to his senses by Konradtsev, the Communist committee secretary of the district and the second hero of the film, who shows him the selfishness of his actions and that several collectives should band together to produce one large power station, not in two or three years but in one year.

"This artificial conflict is resolved in an equally artificial ending with a fade-out showing an electrically-powered death row, electric tractors, sheep shears and milkers."

The Russians took all this with a grain of salt and showed a decided preference for a film entitled "Sporting Honor" which dealt with how the Soviet soccer player should behave and a couple of mediocre musicals from satellite countries.

At the legitimate theater, the Russian will encounter just about the same thing he finds in the movies. Except for a few pre-Soviet Russian classics, which the propagandists don't dare tamper with, he encounters a vast plateau of propaganda laden drama.

Music also must meet the ideological standards of the Communist critics, as must the Russian's beloved ballet.

An American who lived in Moscow for several years had this to say about ballet, the cultural show-piece of the USSR:

"Their ballet is wonderful, there is no other word for it. They have incredibly extravagant sets and costumes, far-out shining anything we know here. Apparently there is no restriction on the ballet budget.

"The dancers are all superb, down to the last chorus-liner. In fact, the choruses, made up of individually accomplished dancers, make an American or English ballet line look through it was hired off the streets."

So far so good. But our ballet fan adds sadly:

"The wonderful singing and dancing is put to good use only with the old, established productions. There is no creation of new material worthy of the name. The art is becoming stagnant in Russia and the answer is obvious. Like all other artists, the choreographers, composers and dancers are being forced into a 'political' mold. When that is done, art is stifled."

... Are YOU Voting This Year?

"World communism aims at world rule. One of its principal methods is the seizure of one free governments by minorities . . . to prevent a whole electorate from being taken over by minorities, there is one sure prescription: every citizen a voter. In that light, every citizen who has failed to register so that he may vote in November or who, having registered, does not vote, is a silent supporter of the Com-

munist aim. . . Furthermore, the man who does not vote has forfeited all right to complain about his government's policy in any field. He shifts his own responsibility and throws away the proud privilege of American citizenship." Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination.

Hang Out No Flags?

He buttonholed us last Fourth of July while we were watching a parade come down Market St. We've been saving his remarks ever since, waiting for a good time to set them down. Memorial Day is Friday, so this may be the right time.

The high school band was strutting down the street when our friend came up to use and said, "Good parade. Just as good as the ones we used to have when I was in the high school band.

"But there's one thing I miss around Potsdam on holidays like this—flags."

We didn't quite understand him until he went on:

"When I was marching down the street in the high school band, all the business places and all the homes had American flags on staffs out the second-story windows or stuck in those holes in the concrete sidewalk.

"Used to look pretty nice. Weather was always sunny—as I remember it anyways. Lots of people would turn out to see the vets and the bands. Those flags gave the whole day something it doesn't seem to have anymore.

"You know, you probably see a lot more flags these days than you did 15, 20 years ago. They're in schools, auditoriums, movie theatres, churches bars and factories. But I always thought they looked best being waved by a light breeze on a sunny Memorial Day or the Fourth. That particular flag doesn't look right cooped up, just hanging indoors—even if you do have an electric fan blowing on it."

We thought then that his remarks about putting out the flag were somehow more compelling than any abstract sermon on symbols, history, duty and sacrifice. That's why we saved them until just before Memorial Day, when the nation parades to honor men and women who died, leaving their flag to fly in windy places.

Rising Newsprint Prices Don't Mean Government Should 'Protect' Papers

Once upon a time if you wanted to make a derogatory remark about an editorial you could say it wasn't worth the paper it's printed on. Nowadays that's a dubious dig; even a blank sheet of paper is pretty valuable.

The price of newsprint has risen phenomenally in the past decade and just the other day it took another \$10 jump upwards into what to most publishers looks like the stratosphere. And nobody is more unhappy about it than we are.

But being unhappy about it and turning it into a matter of state are two different things. We see no reason why the U. S. Government should be called upon to tinker with newsprint prices for the publishers' benefit.

Yet that is what Senator O'Connor of Maryland proposes on behalf of the publishers. Most newsprint is produced in Canada and the senator wants the OPS "to bring home to the Canadian authorities the resentment aroused in all sections of the United States by this drastic display of intent to cash in on the fact that America is so thoroughly dependent on its Canadian sources of newsprint supply." He even suggests that the "exceptionally fine" relations between the two countries might be impaired if Canada doesn't do something about it.

To begin with, the latest increase is largely due to the fact that the good old American Dollar isn't what it used to be. Before the last increase, newsprint was selling in New York for around \$116 a ton. In July, 1951, that sum of American dollars increased to the Canadian producer \$123.40 in Canadian money. Today the same sum yields him only \$113.50—in other words, without an increase in terms of U. S. dollars the Canadian producer would get \$10 less.

Now the decline of the good old American dollar is itself a most unhappy situation. But if there is going to be any resentment about it, as the senator suggests, it ought not to be directed at the Canadians. When the French franc, say, has declined in value raising French costs of American goods, people in this country hardly felt it was our fault. This time it is we who are paying the price of our own foolish fiscal practices.

Secondly, we rather doubt that the price increase is going to wreck the American newspaper business. The fact is that consumption of newsprint is higher today than it was in 1939 when the price was less than \$50 a ton. If the latest price increase does prove more than publishers can afford to pay for newsprint—well, the Canadian producers will hear from the market and the message will be more effective than a note from the OPS.

Thirdly, there is the practical matter of getting an increased newsprint capacity. The Newspaper Publishers Association recently, and rightly, said that with the increasing demand for newsprint there should be more investment in pulp stocks and plants. And how, pray, do we encourage that by saying that prices shall be held down by some sort of government action? It is rather pointless to make the newsprint squeeze permanent.

And, finally, it is no business of the OPS—which has made a big enough mess trying to control prices in this country—to try to control prices in Canada.

This newspaper is quite unhappy at the prospect of paying more for its principal raw material. We are more unhappy at the thought of running to the government for "protection" with the sure prospect that this would make the situation more unhappy yet.

—Wall St. Journal