

### Potsdam Hospital Student Infirmary Should Be Welcomed Addition For All

The announcement this week of the joint colleges student infirmary or "pavilion" as part of the new Potsdam Hospital plans, is a welcomed one indeed for several reasons. First of all, it will enhance the entire prestige of the Potsdam Hospital program, and will serve as a much-needed additional facility in our growing community. Secondly, this experimental program — one of the first of its kind anywhere — may pave the way to future developments of joint college infirmaries as a part of community hospitals.

The third important aspect of this new concept in hospitalization in a college town is that it is a tremendous example of the kind of cooperation possible between the two educational institutions in our community. This project has been "in the works" for over a year now, and many intricate details had to be ironed out before the announcement was made. However, through the patient and persistent efforts of many individuals from both colleges, from the State University of New York, and the Potsdam Hospital Board of Directors, campaign personnel, and staff, the goal was accomplished. It is no secret that the State University had planned to build its own infirmary on the new State College campus here, and had even gone so far as to include the building in the plans it first released last Fall. However, after the Potsdam Hospital "pilot project" was examined and studied, the State University planners and Dr. Frederick Crumb, president of Potsdam State, had the foresight to see the value in the project, and to agree to it.

Clarkson College, from the beginning, had been most enthusiastic over the Potsdam Hospital project, and they too were anxious to see it become a reality. If the student infirmary plan had not materialized, Clarkson would also have had to erect and establish its own facilities for medical care, hire nurses, and have the expense of equipping such a facility. Now, although the two colleges are laying out considerable sums

for the establishment of the student wing on the portion of the hospital now known as I-A, these students will have the advantages of all the facilities to be housed in the new, modern hospital, including laundry, food service, x-ray, operating rooms, etc.

Another important point which can not be overlooked is the fact that grouping the students together in their own section will have definite advantages at the local hospital. We do not mean this in a derogatory sense, but young and energetic patients, unless they are seriously ill, can sometimes create a problem to those older and perhaps more seriously ill patients around them. Also, in the student wing, special "study rooms" will be established for convalescing patients, who wish to keep up or catch up on their work, while other facilities will be available for those who just wish and are permitted to gather and chat quietly. These are services which could not be provided in the normal hospital routine.

Undoubtedly, this student infirmary project will be watched carefully by hospital officials both here in Potsdam and by others around the country. The problem of college student care in small communities where there is no established infirmary or medical facility on campus is an acute one. If the project here is successful — and we fully expect that it will be — then we predict that this will become a function of many community hospitals across the land. As has been pointed out many times in the past, this period of growth and expansion in our community, being caused mainly by the growth of the colleges, is a two-way street. Cooperation must come from all sides. Problems will arise in the next few years — plenty of them, but with determined patience and fortitude, such as has been displayed in this latest endeavor to bring the colleges and communities closer together, we will come out of this with a better Potsdam — a place in which all of us can take continued pride.

### Small Children and Big Machines—CAUTION

There's no doubt about it. The "building boom" is on in Potsdam. The sounds of bulldozers, hammers, buzz saws, and other "construction music" can be heard throughout the village, as at least a half dozen major construction projects are now underway with more to follow soon.

Here's just a partial list: In the downtown area — St. Lawrence County National Bank Building on Market Street; Sperlings Furniture Store addition on Raymond Street; Courier and Freeman building on Market Street; and other smaller construction jobs; and a big one coming up — the new Niagara-Mohawk Building on the corner of Market and Munson Streets; at the colleges — two new dormitory wings on the State College campus, and completion of the new Science-Math Building; slated to start this summer, the library building in the center of the quad at State, and a dormitory possibly at Clarkson; the start of construction of the new three-story wing to the Potsdam Hospital, scheduled to begin next week; and we could go on.

All this activity means progress and a growing economy; it also means problems which we all will have to face. To begin with, there will be inconveniences. We have not even begun to mention the sewer and water projects planned by the Village for this summer. This will mean tearing up of some streets; possible detours, etc. This will also mean that large pieces of construction equipment and piles of materials will be in evidence everywhere; in business areas, on college campuses, and in some residential areas. It is good for everyone — especially parents — to be aware of this situation, for these pieces of equipment and piles of lumber and brick, make wonderful "curiosities" for eager and roaming children. And since this type of atmosphere promises to be with us for some years to come, it would be wise to train children now of the dangers of playing near or around such areas.

At the same time, contractors and construction chiefs have an obligation to see that their crews are alerted to the dangers of small children in the

area. This is a small community, where children are used to romping and roaming pretty much at will, especially in their own neighborhoods. They are not used to the restrictions which may have to be placed on them if there is construction in the area. If construction work and equipment is left over night in the open, it should be clearly marked and lighted, and ALL HOLES SHOULD HAVE GUARD RAILS AROUND THEM WITH APPROPRIATE SAFETY MEASURES.

During these times, all of us must take the responsibility to seeing that no harm comes to anyone — children or adults — because of the vast amounts of construction work which will be done here. This is a problem we began to face two years ago when the gas company came in to dig, and although there were problems to begin with, eventually they were straightened out. This was due to the cooperation of the construction firm doing the work for the gas company, and the concern of local citizens. This may be a hectic summer, but let's make it a safe and happy one.

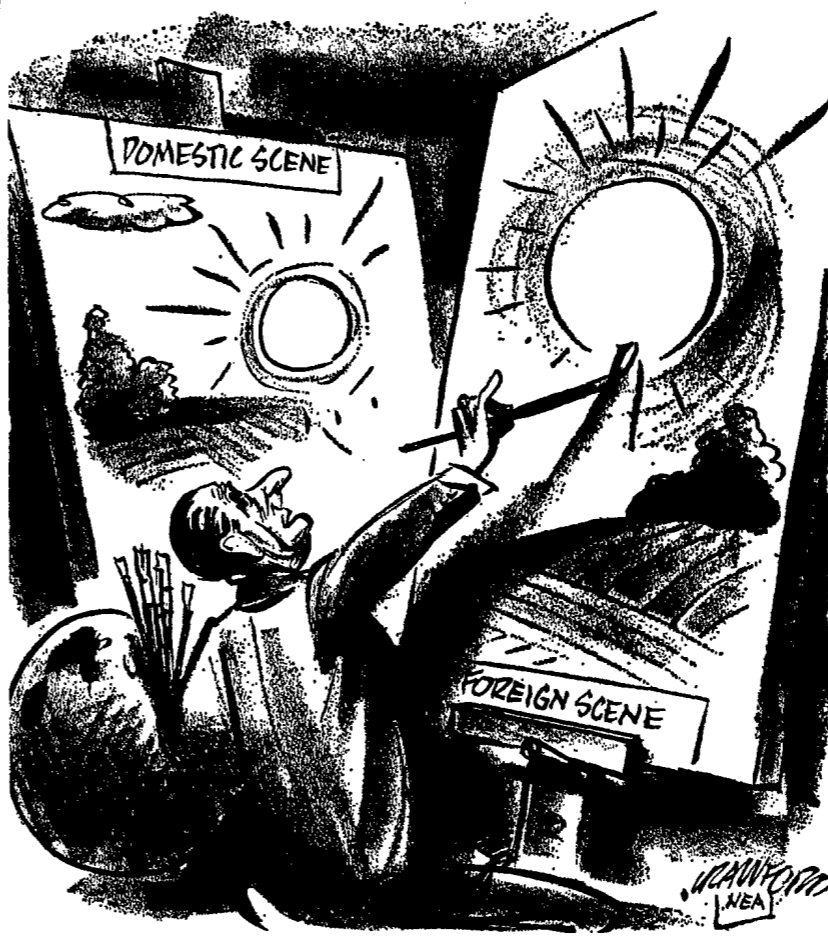
### Welcome Back, Alumni

Clarkson's Moving Up Day ceremonies, augmented for the first time this year with Parents and Alumni Homecoming events, will take place this week end. Next week end will find State Crane alumni returning for the annual Spring Festival concert on Saturday and Sunday.

The hundreds of visitors pouring into the village can scarcely fail to notice the physical changes now taking place in the area. Some of them will doubtless compare this bustling activity with the placid slow-moving tempo of the community a generation ago — or even a decade ago, for that matter.

But we're sure they'll all rejoice with us that Potsdam is enjoying such an economic boom and making its place "in the sun" which will be surpassed by none in Northern New York.

### Preparations for the Fall Show



### 1964 & Still 'No Room At The Inn'

## Lomax Civil Rights Speech Receives Standing Ovation

(We are pleased to present this exciting account of an address by Louis Lomax, noted Negro novelist, written for the Courier by the Rev. Frank Halse, director of the Wesleyan Foundation in Potsdam. Rev. Halse and his group have been active participants in the Civil Rights efforts in Northern New York for many months, and attended the famous "Washington March" last August in the Nation's Capitol. Here is Rev. Halse's report on Mr. Lomax's speech at Clarkson College last Tuesday. — Editor)

By the Rev. Frank Halse, Jr.

Louis Lomax, noted Negro novelist, lecturer, and leader in the Civil Rights struggle in this nation, addressed a capacity audience at Snell Hall, Clarkson College, on Tuesday morning. Mr. Lomax's address concerned the state of the civil rights issue today.

The Convocation was one of a series initiated by Clarkson College which is designed to bring before the students, faculty, and administration foremost personalities in the nation today.

Mr. Lomax presented the case of the Negro in quietly impassioned terms, setting before his audience examples of courage and despair on the part of the Negroes in this nation that quite obviously moved the audience very deeply. At the end of his address, he received a standing ovation.

After a rather amusing opening, during which Mr. Lomax recounted the difficulties he had in arriving in Potsdam via chartered airplane, (the pilot first landed in Ogdensburg, thinking it was Potsdam), he then proceeded to set before his audience examples and incidents from this nation's contemporary history that, in themselves, made the case for the civil rights movement.

Warned of Violence He warned of what the nation can expect this summer by way of violence, and in somber tones, declared that the North would know more violence and bitterness than the South has heretofore. This is so because of the difference in the socio-economic makeup between the South and the North. He likened the North to a man who had cancer and wouldn't admit it, and so died.

To illustrate this difference between the North and the South, Mr. Lomax said that in the North, white people call the Negro "mister" and permit him to starve, while in the South, white people call him "boy" and will feed him if only he will go around to the back door. Further highlighting the problem, he then cited New York City as one of the major areas of trouble this coming summer.

The discrimination in housing, schools and jobs there are such that the Negro quite literally cannot overcome them. If the city at this point were to make a massive effort to adjust the schooling problem alone, (here Mr. Lomax was in favor of transporting students to white schools, but not vice-versa), a brand-new subway system would have to be built. Since this is impossible, the Negro is experiencing a sickening frustration; a soul-deep awareness that they can do nothing about the situation.

Mr. Lomax contended that this kind of thing sets the stage for revolt in the streets, and inevitably, violence. Because of such conditions, he said that it will be easy for the Negro to lose his head, as well as his life.

Courageous Officials He further stated that, where there are public offi-

cialists who demonstrate courage, the problem will be eased; but where there is a moral indifference, the nation will edge toward another kind of civil war.

Then Mr. Lomax cited other examples of discrimination against the Negro to highlight the problem even further. In New York City, it has been certified for three and one half years that segregation exists in the building and trade unions. In all of the city, there is but one certified electrician who is Negro, and but one certified plumber who is Negro. There are no Negroes running the bulldozers, cranes, etc., that are part of the construction industry.

Economically, the problem is that since a Negro cannot get a job, he must apply for relief. The relief laws are such that a family cannot receive relief if there is an able-bodied man in the family. In order to secure food for his family, the Negro head of the family must leave his family. The net effects on the family are obvious: moral breakdown, children deprived of the father, etc.

The real enemy of the Negro is other ethnic economic power blocs. The Italians, Irish, etc., occupy positions that they do not want to relinquish. Mr. Lomax said that it's not so much a question of the Negro's being discriminated against, as it is a question of these ethnic groups favoring their own.

It is impossible for a Negro to get a union card in New York City; but immigrants from Italy, Germany, etc., are met at the boat with a union card made out in their name. Mr. Lomax then pointed up the tragic paradox of the Negro in this: The Negro has served his country well, in the armed services, in all wars, including the Civil War. He is, by definition, a "reluctant immigrant." Now, those Negroes who served in World War II for the American nations, are on relief, or worse, while the very people who were shooting at Americans in World War II are making \$9 an hour in the building trades, and to make it worse, these same people aren't even citizens.

Negro 'Fed Up' Mr. Lomax then said that the American Negro is so fed up that he considers himself at war with the whites. The American Negro leadership today has a gun at its head—the average Negro has lost faith in the ability of the white man to give them equality. This bitterness undergirds the recent bloody deeds of Chester, Pa., Cleveland, O., and New York City this summer.

In spite of the seriousness

of the address, Mr. Lomax frequently had his audience laughing, as when he was telling of Secretary of State Dean Rusk's instructions to him when he was about to leave on an approved tour of Cuba for "Harper's" magazine: Mr. Rusk cautioned him to be careful there, for the American government could not vouch for his safety. Mr. Lomax replied, "The American government can't vouch for my safety in this country."

Citing the condition of Cuba prior to the revolution, with such things as gangsters from America owning the major hotels, and the Cubans unable to work, Mr. Lomax posed this question: "Did Communism win Cuba, or did we lose it?"

Mr. Lomax then gave his audience a wider vision of the problems facing America, citing the inability of the white man to deal with the colored man in South America, and noting that the American representative for the OAS, (The Organization of American States—the inter-American alliance) was none other than Ferdinand de Lesseps Morrison, of New Orleans, La. who later resigned his post to come home to Louisiana to run for the office of governor of that state on a segregation ticket.

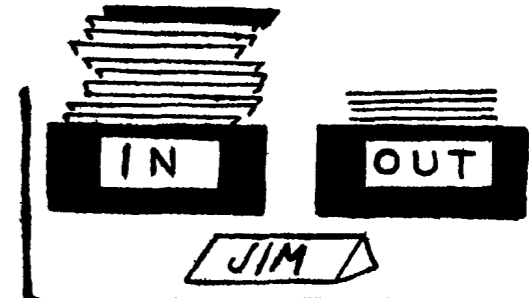
Mr. Lomax then dwelt at length on the moral bankruptcy of the white man, noting how churches practice segregation, how wherever the American dollar is present, one is liable to hear derogatory statements concerning Negroes.

He cited two instances of his trying to secure a home. The first concerned Groesbeek, Mich., a wealthy suburb of Detroit. The people there said that he personally was welcome, since he was so famous, etc., but they were "raid that less desirable Negroes would follow, and "lower the moral standards of the community." Mr. Lomax amused his audience at this point by noting that in the same neighborhood resided several notorious underworld figures: "Three-Finger Lucci, etc.

Deprived Home The same thing happened to him in Glen Cove, Long Island. The same welcome, and the same reservations. It was but one week later that the newspapers in New York erupted with the story of the housewives of this area and their prostitution ring.

Mr. Lomax closed his address with an appeal to the nation not to waste its resources. He said that the Negro has made many very significant contributions to the American scene, and by continuing the practice of segre-

### From The Administrator's Desk...



By JIM MULCARE  
Village Administrator

I'm glad to be home. Yes, I'm back in Potsdam now after a three day trip to Washington D.C. to attend a conference, called by the New York State Congressional Delegation and Senators Javits and Keating. The conference was called "STAMINA", a Washingtonesque for State Municipal and Industrial Action Conference. The spark plug for this most interesting conference was Senator Kenneth Keating. Sen. Keating's work was applauded by all at the conference, and participants and legislators alike were pleased by the turn out of representatives from all parts of the state. I was fortunate to be chosen to represent Potsdam. Representatives from Massena, Ogdensburg and St. Lawrence County were all in attendance.

The meeting was held in the auditorium of the new Senate Office Building Court yard. (Each of us had to pay \$2 for chicken salad, limp lettuce, lukewarm coffee and dry cake — catered by the Senate Restaurant.) It was at this luncheon that we had an opportunity to talk to the Senators and Representatives and get their feelings on the various programs. I had met both Senator Javits and Keating before, and I was pleased to have the opportunity to talk with both of them on Potsdam's problems. I was assured by all the legislators that they would take a particular interest in Potsdam's problem. In addition, to meeting the legislators themselves we had the opportunity to meet and talk with the aide and staff of the Senators and Representatives. It's a known fact in Washington if you have the ear of the aide or administrative assistant, you can often times move faster than with the honored gentlemen themselves. I've added to my list of assistants to important men.

In the morning, and also during the afternoon sessions, we heard brief remarks from representatives from the various federal agencies that are involved with Federal Aid and Assistance to Municipalities. The gentlemen who spoke to us were the administrators, commissioners or directors of the several agencies. The speeches were interesting and the presentations were both direct and brief. After the morning sessions speeches and also after the afternoon sessions, workshop sessions were held, where each of us had an opportunity to speak to the 37 agencies represented.

Workshops Fruitful I don't have room in this column to list all the participating agencies, nor will I attempt to summarize the particular program that were presented. It was most significant that the workshop sessions, where we went out and talked to the representatives of the agencies, were most fruitful. We broke for lunch

and the American people were guilty of killing off its geniuses—those who might one day discover the cause of such things as cancer, etc. He highlighted this appeal with the story of Dr. Charles Drew. Dr. Drew was a Negro. He couldn't belong to the AMA because it was segregated. But the AMA had made a general appeal to all physicians to come up with an answer to the problem of storing human blood. It was Dr. Drew who discovered the process, and turned it over to the American Medical Association. It is this process by which we save countless thousands of lives. Mr. Lomax noted that one of the first things they did with the process was to segregate it: Negro blood and white blood.

Some years later, Dr. Drew was driving late at night in the South, and becoming tired, stopped at a motel to rest. The owner refused him entrance, and Dr. Drew had to continue his journey. Some miles later, he fell asleep at the wheel and crashed. He was thrown from the car, and lay, bleeding, by the roadside. The state policeman on the accident, but did nothing to relieve Dr. Drew, for "the hospital which was just two miles away was for whites only. So Dr. Drew lay there by the roadside and bled to death. Mr. Lomax told this story in the New Testament metaphor: "And there was no room at the inn..."

His final words were delivered in an altogether hushed setting: "Don't love me; don't tolerate me. We just want a chance to be ordinary people." Old Hat Much of the information presented at this conference was somewhat old hat. I've been associated with urban renewal for the last four years; the Federal Treasury is insignificant. New York State has its urban problems. New York State has its problems of mass transportation; New York State has problems that result from unemployment — this conference conceived by Senator Keating — goes far in making the various communities aware of what aid and support the federal government offers.

As I said in the beginning of this article, I'm glad to be home, 1200 miles and three days later, my feet hurt and my car is dusty. While in Washington I checked on the new addition of the Capitol, drove to Arlington to pay my respects to the grave of the late President Kennedy, and refamiliarized myself with one of the really beautiful cities of America. I've been in many national capitals from Tokyo to Lisbon, and back again, but Washington is still the most beautiful.

### Courier & Freeman

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