

Courier Comments....

"Give Them Light With Which To See And Stimulus To Reflect."

Hondas, Motorcycles Create Traffic Hazards In Village

Potsdam, like many other communities in this country, has a new traffic problem; one, moreover, which may be extremely difficult to solve. We refer to the Hondas, motorcycles, motor bikes, scooters and other two-wheeled powered vehicles which race through the streets with little or no regard for either pedestrians or other vehicles.

"I guess they think they're on bikes" is the way one policeman phrased it when questioned concerning some of the violations noted by residents. We are extremely fortunate that no accidents or fatalities have occurred so far as a result of this fast-growing fad. We can only hope that our luck holds.

According to Police Chief Don King, the more flagrant violations include riding more than two on a cycle, proceeding through the streets two or three abreast, and wheeling in and out around traffic in such a manner as to confuse motorists.

All motor-powered vehicles are required to proceed in single file within the traffic lane, just the same as a four-wheeled auto, according to authorities. Our local police department has issued many warnings, and has repeatedly outlined the 'rules of the road' for the two-wheelers. Apparently, many of these operators just don't believe what they hear. Or perhaps they are depending upon placing the blame for a potential upset on the luckless motorist who has not been alert enough to get out of their way.

We have even witnessed the incredible spectacle of a young man and woman with a young child held between them in the crook of the woman's arm, while she clasped the waist of the driver with her other arm.

A particular danger exists also for pedestrians; since it is quite possible to start crossing the street in a two-lane area, only to find that a Honda has come zooming around a stopped car directly in one's path.

An accident involving a car and a motorcycle in Heuvelton over the week end resulted in varying injuries to the driver and sole occupant of the car and to the two young people who were on the cycle. Both the latter have been listed in serious condition in Hepburn Hospital, Ogdensburg.

Outside the village, it seems to us that the most hazardous situation exists at night. When two cycles are proceeding abreast of one another with headlights on, they have the appearance of an auto to the oncoming traffic. This is alright as long as they act in unison. If, however, one cycle decides to pull ahead of the other or pass the car ahead, many problems are instantaneously created.

Our local police department is doing its best to cope with this new problem, which is complicated by the lack of adequate information regarding the number of registrations and to whom. Something may have to be done along this line before the summer is over, in order to PREVENT accidents before they occur.

Young children especially should be warned to take extra precautions when crossing streets where the two-wheeled vehicles are in operation.

Comments On The 1965 Legislative Session

Even the leaders said that the 188th session of the New York State Legislature will be remembered for a hundred years to come.

They are right.

Nothing but fights, bitter accusations, delay and more delay in reaching decisions, costs and more costs as the first Democrat-controlled Legislature in 30 years droned on and on.

This will be remembered as the session that approved a lottery as a way to get more money to educate our children in right and wrong.

This will be remembered as the session that screamed to high heaven about Rockefeller's budget, and then went on and on passing bills that would take far more money than in the proposed budget.

Democrats battled Democrats to the bitter end on major legislation. Then they battled Republicans.

Good judgment, statesmanship were needed; they were lacking.

—Massena Observer

Neither Republicans nor Democrats can look back with much real satisfaction on their records in this session. The Democrats came off worse — for their failure to grasp a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and for their need to call on the Republicans for help to accomplish anything of significance.

Given the majority in both houses of the Legislature as a result of the Johnson sweep in the November elections, the Democrats were in position to make a legislative record which could have established the Party firmly with the people of this state, perhaps for years to come.

But they couldn't agree among themselves; they wrangled for weeks in an unsuccessful attempt to elect their leaders in both houses. They were totally unable to get the Legislature organized and moving until the Republicans came to the rescue and with their votes elected pro-Wagner Democratic leaders. Similarly, the GOP bailed out the Democrats in their likewise unsuccessful efforts to vote the sales tax and the executive budget.

But while this bad legislative management on the part of the Democrats is certain to be reflected in the elections this fall, the GOP did not come off scott free either

This was far from a "do-nothing" Legislature; rather, it was a "do-the-wrong-thing" or "do-the-political-thing" Legislature — for which both parties must share the blame. —Gouverneur Tribune Press

For the good of us all, regardless of our partisan affiliation in politics, we are going to have the privilege of electing a new State Legislature in November. What has happened in Albany since January should convince all of us that even after only six months, it is time for a change

Among other things this six-months Legislature virtually ended the death penalty and rewrote the penal code; ended the ban on birth control; authorized an anti-pollution drive; authorized purchase by the state of the Long Island Railroad and subsidies to the New Haven; took the first step toward a state lottery to support education; and, with considerable grumbling, it passed Governor Rockefeller's proposal for a state sales tax

Credit for the accomplishments of the Legislature is already being claimed by both Democrats and Republicans It is The Plaindealer's contention that it is time we elect a new Legislature with our state interests at heart. —Canton Plaindealer



POTSDAM FIREMEN POSE for the camera, fresh from recent first place honors at various field days. They were declared the top department without band at Norwood's annual July 4 parade Monday. Shown in the front row, left to right are: Bernard St. Dennis, Lester Spear, second assistant chief Walter Smutz, third assistant Douglas Pete, Chief Albert Jarrett, first assistant George Sullivan, Howard Smith, Scott

Holden, Louis White. Back row: Robert Jeho, John Durham, Ken Perry, Bernard Shatraw, Jerry Yette, Terry Davis, Bill Andrews, Walt Collins, Carl North, Dewey Peck, Frank Wolstenholme, Hugh Sprague, Paul Whalen, Cecil Moore, Al Grant, Henry Domy, Robert Williams, William Riggs, Alan Fuller, James Prosper, Frank Corbett.

Blue & Yellow State Auto Licenses Soon

Albany — Blue and golden yellow will replace black and golden yellow as the colors on New York State auto license plates beginning in 1966. Motor Vehicle Commissioner William S. Huits announced last week.

The color change is one of a number planned in the State's vehicle registration program for next year. Other features include the setting up of a system of permanent plates and staggered registration expirations.

"We plan to overhaul the present antiquated system and provide New York State with a truly modern method for registering motor vehicles," the Commissioner explained.

As for the registration or "license" plates: There will be two plates, manufactured in Auburn Prison to last for six or more years. They will have a specific area to which a small, almost-square plastic sticker will be attached each year to show payment of registration fee.

The plates will have a deep blue background and the golden yellow numbers will be the same color as is now used. These colors were chosen because they are similar to the State's official colors of blue and gold.

There will be no change in the State's basic numbering system, but eventually, some additional series of plates will be issued to accommodate the State's growing auto population.

Passenger car plates will be

Working Children's Parents May Claim Full Tax Exemption

Albany — Parents of youngsters who are working during the summer vacation were reminded by William E. Williams, Albany district director of Internal Revenue which services Northeastern New York State, that under certain circumstances their children may still be claimed as full exemptions for Federal income tax purposes.

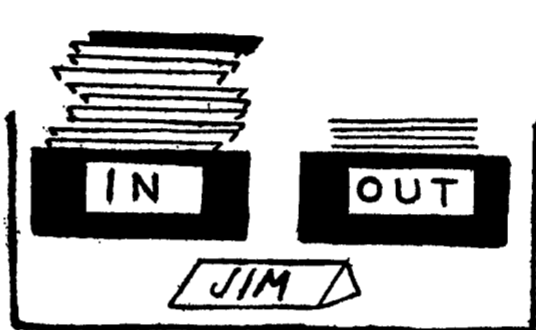
The children themselves may be entitled to refunds (in whole or in part) of income taxes withheld from their wages during their employment. The special exemption rule, Williams explained, applies to children who will still be under 19 years of age at the end of the taxable year and to children who are full-time students, regardless of their age.

Exemption may be claimed by the parents if they contribute more than half of the child's support, regardless of the amount earned by the child.

Children 19 and over must be engaged in full-time study at a recognized educational institution for a least five months of the taxable year or must be pursuing a full-time accredited farm training program. Attendance at night school while holding a day time job does not qualify; this is considered as part-time attendance.

Any questions regarding individual cases should be referred to the Internal Revenue District Office, 161 Washington Ave., Albany, 12210.

From The Administrator's Desk . . .



By JIM MULCARE

Steady readers to this column, if there be any, might think I was nothing but a bell ringer for Potsdam. I've rung the bell and told the story of the efficiencies and glories of water distribution and the up-coming sewer treatment here in the village. The craggy grandeur of sandstone and scintillations of the Raquette Falls have been praised and extolled to one and all . . . but not today.

I just returned from a couple days up north. We visited Ottawa and the environs and saw many of the smaller Canadian communities. Potsdam—hang your head, for many of the communities smaller and apparently less prosperous than Potsdam took pride in the accomplishment of beauty in their parks and grassways. In Ottawa alone, hundreds of acres along the canal are painstakingly landscaped. At this time of the year petunias, massed like battalions, invade the hill-sides; and throughout the year seasonal flowers replace one another with beautiful regularity.

And fortunately this example of municipal spirit is contagious. Who, living next to a painstakingly attended municipal park, could forget to cut his lawn? Who in Ottawa has anything but pride in their home and community? Who wouldn't feel and act better in such surroundings?

What to do. There are many ways Potsdam could tackle this problem. The Village Board could budget so many hundreds of dollars. We could go out and buy plants and pop them in holes in the ground. We could spend lots of money and hire landscape gardeners to do this work for us—but this would not be an expression of direct community interest, but rather another drain and drag on the tax dollar. Potsdam, as I have said many times, will succeed in meeting the challenge of our growth only

if registrations will be staggered to expire over six months instead of one month. Waiting lines will be shorter and with applications being mailed out, an increase in mail business is expected.

2 — Pre-filled-out application forms replace the cumbersome four-part forms now in use.

3 — The system will assume that car owners whose registrations have been suspended or revoked, but who have failed to surrender their plates, will not be able to register until they get their records straightened out with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

4 — Because the Department's workload will even out, it will be possible to replace some temporary peak-load employees with permanent, well-trained employees. This should reduce clerical errors that have plagued the Department in the past.

1 — End of the annual January plate rush. The six million registrations will be staggered to expire over six months instead of one month. Waiting lines will be shorter and with applications being mailed out, an increase in mail business is expected.

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Lady Shoppers Deplore The Tax

Esther Van Wagoner Tufty

Washington — Washington is expecting smart women shoppers to police the stores which do not take off the excise tax they have been paying on handbags, jewelry, lipsticks, furs and certain other items.

The "J. Edgar Hoover" for the consumer will be Esther Peterson, special assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs. Already she is looking into complaints that the excise tax is not reaching consumers on all items because some manufacturers have raised prices equivalent to the cut.

Mrs. Peterson isn't naming names . . . yet.

Many were the promises the automobile dealers gave Congress to pass on the tax-savings to the purchaser. Some Washington dealers have posted the new price on the windshield of the new cars in their showrooms. Because of tax repeal, a white sports model car in one window could be bought for \$71.36 less than it cost May 14th.

Cars, of course, are one of the items in which the excise taxes are reduced in stages, the first stage out retroactive to May 15.

An amazing number of people from other lands come to the United States on what's called leader-grants. All expenses paid, they spend usually about two months in the country, with the State Department setting up a schedule which fits their special interests.

The other day nine Asian women journalists were in Washington on such an invitation. One of the first American women they met was not a woman journalist but Mrs. Dean Rusk, wife of the Secretary of State, who likes nothing better than to tell others about early American history while her husband makes current history.

She is too intelligent to waste time with the "so glad you are here" remarks, and began her informal talk right in the special reception rooms of the State Department where even the pictures on the wall made vivid her historical references.

One of the nine women was a police reporter from the Philippines, Josefina Protacio. She told Mrs. Rusk and some other wives of government officials that juvenile delinquency is a problem in her country, too. She thinks juvenile crimes are committed by two groups of youths "those who have too little and those who have too much."

More women who work are writing Washington.

They are writing about Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which became law on July 2. It is the title which prohibits discrimination in hiring on any term or condition of employment on the basis of sex as well as race, color, religion, or national origin.

The man who will get most of the letters . . . including those from women with the habit of writing their congressmen . . . is Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., the chairman of the new Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Only eight states . . . Wisconsin, Hawaii, New York, Massachusetts, Arizona, Maryland, Utah and Wyoming . . . have similar laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex but they haven't been in effect long enough to provide much guidance.

Long before July 2, women started sending in complaints. One asked must a woman retire at 60 when the men in her plant may work until 65 years old. Another says she works for 25 cents less an hour than is paid a man performing the same task. One firm never hires a woman, it is reported.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman has presented the First Lady with an "Indoor Garden" planter equipped with high-intensity fluorescent lights which make it possible to grow flowering plants inside the house. Most of the gifts-of-beauty to Mrs. Johnson carry through her Committee for a More Beautiful Capital and will beautify the outdoors. Mary Lasker, the committee chairman, is determined every one of the 751 little park areas in Washington will be abloom.

I remember well in Schenectady the hue and cry that vandals would tear them within the week but this however, has not been the case; and experience has shown that the mall type shopping center is an attractive force in the competitive mercantile world.

A challenge to the Chamber of Commerce and all good and civic minded groups. Let us breed a spirit of competition among the merchants and property owners here in Potsdam. Let the diameter of the dhalia be a status symbol. Let the array of aspidistra assign one's place in society. May the riding mower supplant the golf carts, and may Potsdam become the "garden spot" in the north land.

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