

After Lengthy Search, State Finds College Loan Defaulters

More than 300 former students who now work for New York State, and who defaulted on New York State Guaranteed Student Loans at some time in the past, have been persuaded to begin repaying their loans as the result of an interagency computer search begun this year. A probable \$600,000 is owed to the

state in the 300 cases. A summary of the loan collection effort was issued by Eileen D. Dickinson, president of the Higher Education Services Corporation. Last winter a matchup of student-loan defaulter lists with the state payroll was conducted jointly by the Department of

Audit and Control and the Higher Education Services Corporation in cooperation with the Department of Civil Service. Initially the matchup produced a raw list of 2,433 persons who had defaulted loans and who either were on the state payroll Dec. 31, 1977 or had been in state employment within the previous few years.

Rural Communities To Receive Help

WASHINGTON—Some rural communities will get priority assistance to improve their drinking water systems under a recent agreement. The agreement, intended to insure that rural drinking water meets minimum health standards, was signed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the agreement, EPA will designate communities whose drinking water fails to meet EPA standards. Communities receiving this designation will be given higher priority to receive FmHA water system improvement grants or loans than those whose water meets EPA standards.

Grants and loans come from \$1 billion available this year under FmHA programs to help build, enlarge and improve water treatment systems in communities with populations under 10,000.

Grants are made for up to 50 percent of the cost of building drinking water facilities or acquiring land and water rights associated with the operation of a

system. Loans, available for up to 100 percent of these costs, are made at five percent interest with a maximum 40-year repayment schedule.

FmHA grant and loan programs are aimed at rural communities, public agencies, private nonprofit corporations and Indian tribes unable to obtain credit at reasonable terms from other lenders.

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 authorizes EPA to set and enforce national drinking water standards but does not provide for funds to help water suppliers meet the standards. EPA estimates that 12,000 communities—most of which are classified as small or rural—will need additional water treatment of some sort to meet EPA drinking water regulations.

Family Film Night

Family Film Night featuring "Wilderness Day", "Famous Movie Monsters" and "Dizzy Heights and Daring Hearts" will play at 7 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Potsdam Public Library.

Further examination of the list showed 1,600 of these persons to be still in state employment in 1978. Of these, fewer than 800 still owed money on their previous defaulted loans, the others having repaid, or escaped their debts through bankruptcy or a past disability. About 300 of those still owing money were making payments, leaving about 500 who had outstanding balances and were making no payments.

The loan collection staff of Higher Education Services Corporation began contacting those 500 persons in April. About 300 now are repaying, the collection staff reports.

The collection staff is continuing to pursue the approximately 200 who owe on their loans and have not begun repayment. Also being pursued are a number of former state employees, where the computer matchup provided a new home address or other clue to their whereabouts.

In cases where the defaulter refuses to begin repayment, the cases are referred by HESC to the Office of the Attorney General for collection through the courts.

The computer search turned up names of 75 loan defaulters currently or recently employed by the state at salaries of \$18,000 a year or more. Of these, 46 were still employed and still owed money on their loans. The recent HESC collection efforts, however, have brought about payoffs of 18 of the loans, leaving 28 persons with unpaid balances in early July. Of these 18 are repaying on a regular basis, five are being solicited to start repayment, and five have been referred to the Attorney General.

When all types of collection efforts have been exhausted in the 500 cases of state employees who were not paying on their defaulted loans as of early 1978, the state may collect as much as \$900,000 as a result of the inter-agency data search. This estimate is based on the average balance of defaulted loans, at time of default, of \$1,819.

A loan is defaulted when the state honors its loan guarantee by purchasing the loan from the lending institution. This usually occurs 90 days after the lending institution has declared the loan uncollectible. The purchase makes the state the owner of the loan, but does not relieve the borrower of his obligation to repay principle and accrued interest.

NORFOLK TOPS

Norfolk Tops met Aug. 1. Best loser for the week was Elizabeth Bronson; winner of the "Ha Ha Jar" was Jean Cousineau. Household basket was won by Phylena Shyne.

New members are accepted at the Norfolk Library every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. For more information call 384-4930.



50 YEARS AGO—Thirteen alumni celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation from Clarkson this summer. Members of the class of 1928 returning to the campus for Alumni Weekend were, first row, from left: John L. Siles, Ogdensburg; Raymond A. Edgill, Copenhagen, N.Y.; Allen J. Carter, Harrisville, N.Y.; Charles J. Hollis, Baldwin, N.Y.; George W. Clark, Huntington, N.Y.; John W. Miller, East Williston, N.Y.; Paul W. Wood, Colonia, N.J.; and Kenneth C. Swanson, Lancaster, N.Y. Second row, from left: William N. Macartney, Jr., Ponte Vedra, Fla.; Clyde F. O'Brien, Wethersfield, Conn.; Rupert H. Young, Bethlehem, Pa.; William W. Fuller, Cranford, N.J.; and Howard C. Rapp, Cincinnati, Ohio.

ROXY Theatre
265-9630
Main St. POTSDAM

North Country Movie Guide

HELD OVER 3rd & Final week

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water...

JAWS 2
SHOWS 7 & 9 PG
Bargain Matinee Sat. & Sun. at 2:00

Coming next
GREASE

American
Canton/386-2981
Wed. thru Tues.
SHOWS 7:00 & 9:00
MATINEES DAILY AT 2:00
THEY NEVER MET AN ADULT THEY COULDN'T DRIVE CRAZY.

THE BAD NEWS
BEARS GO TO JAPAN

Ideal D.I.
Canton/386-3590
Wed. thru Tues.
A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

STAR WARS
MARK HAMILL HARRISON FORD

MOONLIGHT DRIVE-IN

POTSDAM-NORWOOD RD.

Wed. thru Tues., Aug. 16 thru 22

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

—PLUS—
"LOGANS RUN"

Go where everybody goes to the Moonlight Drive-In

THREE WAYS TO SAVE AN EGG.

1.

2.

3.

Martha White Corn Muffin Mix not only saves you the egg, it saves milk too. All you add is water for corn muffins with a rich, "nothing-missing" taste. Each box makes 6 to 8 high, light and fluffy yellow corn muffins at a savings of about 9¢ over the leading brand.

You Can Trust Martha White For Better Baking.

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SIXTH ANNUAL PENNY SALE
Aug. 17, 18, and 19

Here's how it works
Buy one pair of shoes at our regular price (the higher price item) Then buy a second pair of shoes that's the same price or less and only pay

1¢

Some examples:

- All women's sandals and summer shoes
- Famous brand name women's shoes
- Selected brand children's shoes
- Famous brand name men's shoes
- Athletic shoes - for golf, jogging.
- Great specials in every department

Just look for the "GREEN DOT" and signs to indicate "penny" specials.

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Shoe Nook
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Store Hours: Daily from 9-5 Except Friday 9-9

Come on down!! If you think our prices are suspiciously low, you're right, they are! No gimmicks, no hidden surprises, no extras, we're having a real 2 for 1 sale. Nobody should go away disappointed for there's something for everybody at prices you can afford. So come on down and FIGHT INFLATION with us at SHOE NOOK where you'll find quality name brand footwear at prices so low it's unbelievable. Honestly, we are looking for 2,000 new customers to enjoy our wares. We feature leather shoes.....