

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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Hague, N.Y.

FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Jasper and Jennie Shattuck celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on November 21, 1975 at a dinner party at their home. The party was arranged for by their son Wayne who came here with Mr. and Mrs. Doyle from Ithaca, Mrs. Austin from Glens Falls and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Henry of Hague. That evening, following the dinner, the Shattucks were host to many neighbors and friends. Mrs. Roland Manger, of Warrensburg, Mrs. Shattuck's niece, presented the couple with gifts of money from many friends and relatives and a card and money gift was presented on behalf of members of the Hague Baptist Church.

The Shattucks were married at a quiet ceremony in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Hague by the Rev. Florence E. Baxter. For the first years of their married life they resided on the senior Shattuck's farm on Split Rock Road where Jasper operated the farm. Later they moved to their present home on Route 9N in Silver Bay where they continue to live.

Jasper Shattuck was born in Hague in 1903. His family lived in the "Shattuck Cottage", later to be known as the "McPeck" house which Jasper's father had built. Later they moved to the farm on Split Rock Road. Jennie Shattuck, who is several years younger than her husband, was born in Bolton Landing. When about 13 years of age her father died and she came to Hague to live with her brother Alford Lamb who lived in the "Burt Block", the red building across from present town hall. Both she and Jasper attended school in Hague. When eighteen she went to work for the Thomas family in the home now

owned by the Howard Englers.

After leaving the farm, Jasper worked for International Paper Company first as a fireman and later at a variety of jobs. During World War II he branched out for himself as a supplier of pulp wood but later returned to regular employment at the mill. He retired in 1967.

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HAGUE POST OFFICE

Penny Bolton, the postmaster at Hague, advises that effective February 2, 1976 the post office will be closed each day from 1 PM to 2 PM.

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WINTER FUN DAYS

The Hague Fish and Game Club is again sponsoring "Winter Fun Days" on Saturday and Sunday, February 21 and 22. Mrs. Inza Jordon is Chairman of the event.

On February 21 at 7:30 P.M. at the highschool, the winter queen will be selected from girls in grades 7 to 12. A government bond and bouquet of roses will be awarded the winner. The following day at the beach in front of the Town House beginning at 10:30 A.M. there will be a variety of events, such as broom hockey, kite-flying, and an ice augur contest. Bob Patchett has promised to again build a bonfire on the ice over which hot dogs will be cooked. Other refreshments and drinks will also be served.

While this event is primarily for the young, all are invited.

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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is edited and published monthly by Emil Seerup, Box 2504, Silver Bay, New York 12874. It is supported financially by civic-minded citizens and local civic organizations. News items and announcements of general interest to the community are solicited.

SNOWSHOE RACES SCHEDULED

The second annual snowshoe races commemorating the "Battle on Snowshoes" will be held on February 15 at the Ticonderoga Country Club beginning at 11 A.M. There will be classes for youngsters in various age groups, 5 to 16 years of age, classes for women, 17 to 30 and 31 and over, and classes for men 17 to 25, 26 to 35, and 36 and over. Cross country races will be over a two-mile course and there will be 100 yard dashes in each class. Trophies and medals will be awarded winners.

Pre-registration will close on February 13th. Write to the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce, the sponsor of the event, at Box 70, Ticonderoga, N.Y. or call 585-9837 or 6619. Registrations will also be accepted on the day of the races. Entry fee for adults is \$5.00 and \$1.00 for youths. The National Guard has a number of pairs of regulation snowshoes which will be available. The country club will be open and refreshments will be served.

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THE IRON MEN OF HAGUE

Of the 47 boys in grades 7-12 this year, five sophomores and two freshmen have turned out for basketball and only two of them were on last year's team. These and other facts concerning the lack of numbers at Hague were featured recently in an article by the Sports Editor of the Glens Falls Post Star following an interview with Mike Riley, Hague's basketball coach. Although Hague had not won a game, Riley was optimistic.

Riley's faith paid off when, after a 27-game losing streak, Hague defeated Keene, 61 - 54 on January 27.

This was a most amazing feat since Hague played the last three minutes of the game with only three players on the floor. With only seven men on its roster and with four of them out on fouls, the stage was set for the remaining three to hang on and bring about a deserved victory.

Barry Jordon and Randy Frasier are co-captains; others on the squad are Bolton, Porter, Fish and Perkins.

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BOHANAN'S ON VACATION

Rev. and Mrs. Clifton R. Bohanan will be away on vacation during the month of February. Mrs. Eleanor Pearson, a member of the congregation, will lead the worship and deliver the sermon the first four Sundays.

The Bohanan's will be visiting with their two daughters in Victor and Belfast, N.Y. and then will drive to Mt. Dora, Florida to spend some time with Rev. Bohanan's mother. On their way back they will visit their son in Red Bank, New Jersey.

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ELIZABETH SEERUP

Mother died on January 18th. She wasn't what you might call sick; her body just wore out. At 92 this could be expected.

She was born in a small town in Denmark on September 24, 1883. At 21 she left for the United States where she was married to father who had preceded her to this country by several years. They settled in Chicago where she resided for the rest of her life.

There were three children, two of whom survive, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Although widowed in 1947, she continued to maintain her own household until the summer of 1974. An unfortunate fall and resulting lengthy recuperation brought her to the Danish

old people! None where she was able to get adequate care and spend her remaining months with friends of many years standing.

Mother visited us at Silver Bay on a number of occasions; the countryside reminded her of Denmark. Hers was a full and satisfying life.

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THE LIBRARY/MUSEUM

Mrs. Brock, Mr. Meola and several students attended the January meeting of the Board to press for action on the proposal to build a library/museum. The supervisor read a letter from the Streater in which he offered the Streater home to the town at a price of \$20,000. \$12,000. cash and the balance to be paid over a two-year period at no interest.

The property adjoins the Town Hall on the west. The house contains 1440 square feet on the ground floor with an attic of 720 square feet. It is heated with a hot-air furnace and is lined with storm windows and doors. Fixing was completely replaced in 1962. Bathroom and kitchen facilities appear to be adequate.

The members of the Board expressed a variety of views. Some thought the property offered by Mr. Fitzgerald could not be adapted to a library without considerable expense, that it was located too far from the school, etc. Some thought the Streater property was not suitable and the cost of remodeling would make it prohibitive. The question of costs was uppermost, particularly at this time with threatened cut-backs in state aid, increases in school, town and county taxes, and the possibility of a reduction in Federal revenue sharing funds. Some even questioned the need for additional library facilities.

It was apparent that a majority of the Board was not at this time prepared to accept either offer or appropriate funds for further study. This brings us to the place where the possibility of obtaining financial aid from some other source should be

considered. Henry Crandall contributed "The necessary furniture and \$2500. worth of books" with which the Crandall Library in Glens Falls got its start in 1892 and the Carnegie Foundation underwrote the expenses of the Ticonderoga Library. In this area we have many public spirited individuals and families who, if asked, might be willing to assist the town in this endeavor. Should this not be explored?

Meanwhile, the librarian wants it known that your contributions to the present library are needed and will be appreciated. She reminds us that books now cost more than ever.

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NEWS OF THE SCHOOL

The school board met on January 12 with all members present.

Consistent with the "Smoking in Public Places" law which was enacted last year by the state legislature, the Board designated the faculty room as the only area where smoking will be permitted. "No Smoking" signs will be placed elsewhere throughout the building. Mr. Meola indicated that smoking in the school building by the students had never been a problem.

Allowable income for families qualifying under the free lunch program was recently increased by the Federal government and the Board adopted the changes. There will be no change locally by virtue of the new regulations. Currently 65 students qualify for free lunches.

Mr. DeFranco was given permission to attend a science conference at Philadelphia on March 19 - 21.

At the October meeting of the Board, Mr. Michael Fitzgerald proposed that the Board authorize the granting of a 50% exemption from school taxes for property owners over 65 years of age who meet statutory requirements and whose annual income does not exceed \$5000. The Board felt additional information was need-

ed before a decision could be made. Inasmuch as the information has not been submitted, the newly elected assessors are now gathering the necessary data and it should be available shortly.

The present school term will conclude on January 30th with the new term beginning on February 2. There will be a mid-winter recess the week of February 16th.

The very energetic music teacher, Mrs. Robert Meade, has arranged for a program at the Hague School by the Saratoga Highschool Jazz Band on the afternoon of February 13th. A music program with a bicentennial theme will be presented by K through 6 on March 3rd at 7:30 P.M. The program will feature numbers by both the band and school choruses.

As a follow-up to its discussion on drug use and abuse, State Trooper Perryman was scheduled to cover the subject at the PTO meeting on January 26th.

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TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The organizational meeting of the Town Board was held on January 6th with all members except William Cobb present.

The supervisor announced appointments to standing committees of the Board, as follows (name of chairman underscored):

- Building and Grounds - Yaw and Middleton.
- Planning and Zoning - Cobb and Seerup.
- Police - Middleton and Cobb.
- Highway - Cobb and Seerup.
- Town Park & Beautification - Yaw, Seerup and Middleton.
- Recreation and Promotion - Seerup and Cobb,

Additional appointments were made, as follows:

- Official Newspaper - Glens Falls Post Star.

Depository - First National Bank of Glens Falls at Bolton Landing.

- Dog Warden, Constable, Ordinance Enforcement Officer - Herbert Belk
- Registrar of Vital Statistics - Maryalice Hall.
- Custodian - Ida Jordon
- Town Historian - Vila Fitzgerald

Mr. DeLarm was elected Finance Officer.

Harry A. White was elected Chairman of the Board of Assessors.

James Fitzgerald was re-appointed to a three year term on the Park Commission. Other members of the Commission are Robert Hoyt and Earl Phillips and the three members of the Board's committee on Town Park and Beautification.

S. Richard Frasier was re-appointed to a new five-year term as a member of the Board of Assessment Review. He will serve through 1980. Mr. Seerup who has been a member of the Board since its inception submitted his resignation which was accepted.

Robert Denno submitted his resignation as a member of the Planning Board. Mr. Seerup also submitted his resignation. The Board is seeking candidates to fill these vacancies.

Rates of pay were established as follows:

- Highway employees - temporary help \$3.10 an hour; regular help \$3.70 an hour; mechanic \$4.10 an hour.
- Member of Board of Elections - \$48 per day.
- Custodian of voting machine - \$53 per day.
- Members Board of Assessment review - \$65. per day plus mileage allowance to school sessions.
- Driving on town business with own car - 15¢ per mile.

The Board held its regular meeting on January 13 with all members except Aaron Middleton present.

Norman Strumm was reappointed to

a new term on the Planning Board.

The superintendent of highways reported that it is likely there will be a substantial reduction in the levy the town will get from the state under the Donovan plan. For several years, the town has received 40% of the cost of repairing and blacktopping town roads under this plan but in view of the austerity budget being proposed by the governor, the town cannot expect more than 25% of these costs. Hence, some of the work projected for this year may not be done for lack of funds.

Proposals to have the town take over as town roads Pine Orchard Road in the Lake Forest Subdivision and a portion of Overbrook Road in Michael Fitzgerald's subdivision have met the requirements of the law and the approval of Warren County's Superintendent of public works. Accordingly the Board authorized the supervisor to arrange for necessary deeds transferring title to the roadbeds to the town.

The Board approved acceptance by the town of funding for new road signs throughout the town. The Federal government will pay 90% of the cost with the county paying the remaining 10%. The obligation of the town is to keep the signs in repair and to replace any that are destroyed or damaged.

The supervisor will notify all contractors in the area using heavy equipment that the movement of heavy equipment over town roads, unless on rubber tires, is forbidden by local ordinance and that violators will be prosecuted.

The ski tow was discussed at considerable length. Problems have developed because of the extreme cold weather and it is not clear now when the ski tow will be in operation. The engine which was donated to the town requires some repairs, the rope has not yet arrived, and other problems are causing the delays. The concrete base for a small building at the site has been completed but work on the structure cannot be undertaken

until the weather moderates.

The Board held a meeting on January 27 to give special attention to 1. Town ordinances with respect to building and sewer permits; 2. Security matters at the town shed; and 3. Possible settlement of lawsuits against the town in which assessments placed on various properties is being challenged.

Herbert Belknap was present at the initial session and discussed the practices and procedures he follows in processing building and sewer permits. Sewer permits on properties where there is no likelihood of seepage into the lake or adjacent streams are approved by him almost routinely. Where the property is along a lake or stream, he generally refers the application to the Lake George Commission for its examination and approval. The important requirement on building permits is that the owner procure one.

Mr. Belknap was directed to be alert to all construction work and make sure that building and sewer permits are obtained where required. Failure to comply with these ordinances may result in fines of as much as \$25. for failure to obtain a building permit and \$25. per day for each day a dwelling is occupied without a valid permit for the sewer system.

Mr. Fred Sharpe, who has been a security guard at the town shed for the past year, was present for the second phase of the meeting. He reported on acts of suspected vandalism petty thievery, improper use of facilities, etc. at the town shed. He felt that security was lax and needed to be tightened. He proposed making the windows and doors secure and had some ideas as to how this should be done. He also proposed to act as town policeman in addition to his other activities which, he argued, would give the town a year-round policeman at about the cost of what the town has been paying for a summer policeman.

The Board assigned the project to its highway committee consisting of Cobb and Seerup who will report their conclusions at an early meeting of the Board.

The final session had to do with two lawsuits against the town which are pending. In both cases property owners claim that their properties have been improperly assessed. In the one case an offer of settlement was considered which would reduce the assessed value \$29,500. or about 11% and would cost the town, county and school district about \$1200. in tax revenues for the years 1974 and 1975. The Board considered this a good settlement and approved. The other case will be permitted to go to trial since it involves purely legal and technical questions.

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THE WEATHER

There is only one word that describes the weather during the past thirty days - COLD. During the period December 23-29 temperatures ranged from a high of 36 to a low of 2. There was considerable snow and rain during this period which produced icy road conditions. There were snow flurries on both the 30 and 31 with the temperature ranging from 22 to 44 degrees.

During the first few days of January the lake froze over at lake

George Village. Several days later the ice reached Sabbath Day Point and by the ninth it had reached Slim Point. On the 11th the ice extended from shore to shore at Silver Bay on the 12th it was completely frozen over at Fague. Now the lake was frozen from side to side and from end to end.

Six inches of snow fell on the 2nd with 3" more on the 8th and another inch on the ninth. Meanwhile the thermometer began its descent to -2 on the 10th, 0 on the 11th, -10 on the 18th, -15 on the 19th, and -13 on the 23rd. There were readings in our town of -28 on the 19th. During this entire period readings never did get above the freezing mark. Currently there is about 12 inches of snow on the ground.

What at first appeared to be the beginning of the traditional "January Thaw" arrived on January 25 with climbing temperatures and precipitation of all kinds; freezing rain, rain, and then on the night of the 27th about six inches of heavy, wet snow. Temperatures did get to mid-forties but quickly receded to the teens and twenties.

In Glens Falls the winter's average snowfall is 75 inches. Between December 20 and January 13, 42.5" had fallen which suggests that this has been a tough winter - and February, normally a rough month, is still ahead of us.

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