

THE

HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y.

CHALLENGED VOTERS MAY BE PROSECUTED

Quoting 'reliable sources' the Times of Ti reports that at least 10 and maybe more names will be turned over to Warren County District Attorney Prime in the near future for possible prosecution for perjury. The allegations of perjury stem from the recent school referendum when more than 80 voters were challenged as to the legality of their claim that they were residents of the Town of Hague and qualified to vote.

We talked to Robert Denno, President of the School Board, and he confirms that a number of names have already been submitted to the District Attorney for investigation. He believes that there will be as many as seven persons whose qualifications to vote are being questioned.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY VISITS WOODSTOCK

Twenty-eight members and guests of the Hague Historical Society visited Woodstock, Vermont on September 7th.

Woodstock is a pleasant two-hour, 5 mile drive through the New York and Vermont countryside. It is surrounded by ski areas with Mt. Tom a mile north of the village and the Suicide Six ski area two miles further. The first ski tow in America was built in 1934 on a farm just north of the village.

The principal point of interest is the Dana House, headquarters of the Woodstock Historical Society. Dana House was built in 1807 for Miles Dana, a prosperous merchant, and was occupied by his descendants until 1944 when it became the Society's

home. Each of the many rooms in the house was filled with fine collections of period furnishings from the years 1800 to 1860. Of especial interest to the ladies was a collection of bridal gowns dating to the middle 1800's. In the barn, the men examined a fine collection of farm, household and artisan's tools.

Following the visit to the Dana House, most of the members took a walking tour along several of the streets lined with old but well preserved typical New England homes, then along the Ottauquechee River, across a covered bridge and back to the Woodstock Inn where a delightful luncheon was served.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be on October 16 at the Hague Baptist Church.

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REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

The laws of New York provide for exemptions from real property taxes in a number of instances. The most common ones are:

1. VETERANS - Real property purchased by veterans with the proceeds of a pension, bonus or insurance, or dividends or refunds of such insurance, or payments received as a prisoner of war, is exempt from real estate taxes, provided the maximum exemption shall not be more than \$5000 of assessed valuation.

2. FOREST LANDS - An owner of forest lands of at least 15 acres having 800 trees per acre or underplanted with an average of not less than 300 trees per acre, may be assessed at the value of the land excluding the value of such planted or

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implanted trees. Forest lands meeting these criteria shall be assessed no higher than similar lands without substantial growth in the same town.

To obtain this exemption, the owner shall file a verified application with the assessors who will send a copy to the Conservation Department for approval or disapproval. If approved, a certificate of approval shall be filed with the assessors and the county clerk.

When cutting the forest growth is proposed, the owner is required to give thirty days notice to the assessors and shall pay a tax of 6% of the stumpage value of the timber when cut. The tax shall be paid before the removal of the timber. Two-thirds of the tax shall be distributed to the town and one-third to the school district.

3. THE ELDERLY - Where the income of the owner or combined income of the owners does not exceed \$3000. or such other sum between \$3000. and \$6000. as is provided by local law, ordinance, or resolution authorizing the exemption, persons over 65 years of age are entitled to an exemption of 50% of the assessed value of their property. The exemption can apply only to the taxes on the taxpayers legal residence which has been occupied at least 60 consecutive months prior to the filing of an application. The property must be used solely for residential purposes. The taxpayer's income includes social security payments, salary, wages, interest, dividends, disability payments, etc.

By local law both Warren County and the Town of Hague have authorized this exemption provided the income of

It is understood that the County is considering an increase of allowable income to \$5000. and presumably after the County has acted the Town will do likewise. Applications for this exemption shall be filed with the local assessors before May 1. The school board may also allow a similar exemption from school taxes but has not done so.

4. MINISTERS - A minister of the gospel, priest or rabbi of any denomination, when an actual resident and inhabitant of the state, who is engaged in the work assigned to him by the church or denomination of which he is a member, or who is unable to perform such work because of impaired health, or is over 70, may obtain an exemption of \$1500. from the assessed value of his real property. In the event of his death, the same exemption applies to his widow.

The exemptions to veterans and to ministers were adversely affected by the recent re-assessment since the amount of the exemption remains fixed while the level of assessments went up almost three times. For example, a veteran whose property was assessed at \$5000. last year and who is entitled to the full exemption, paid no tax. If the re-assessment increased his assessed value to \$15,000., he would now be required to pay on an assessed value of \$10,000. The same situation exists with respect to the minister's exemption. The exemption to the elderly has not been affected since it is based on a percentage of the assessed value.

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TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board met on September 10 with all members present.

Fred Spreeman was re-appointed dog enumerator.

There was considerable discussion concerning the use of the boat slip, the new bathhouse and the need for additional parking area at the Town Park. It was suggested that rules be developed regarding the use of

the slip be drawn up and that the feasibility of parking boats cross-wise in the slip be considered. It is also proposed that the present parking space be increased by about thirty feet in depth, that the parking area be black-topped and that parking spaces be marked. It was reported that additional work was needed to complete the bathhouse. The possible need for a lifeguard or other form of supervision for next summer be considered. All these matters were turned over to the Park Committee with directions to submit recommendations.

The Highway Committee recommended that a new sander at an estimated cost of \$2200. be purchased to be used in conjunction with the new pick-up truck. The type proposed could be operated by one man (instead of two) and would probably pay for itself in several years. The Board voted to advertise for bids.

The Highway Committee also reported on efforts being made to clear the road to the road bed at Sabbath Day in order that improvements to the road can be made. After some discussion, conclusion was reached that the Sabbath Day residents would be advised that it was their responsibility to see that title problems were resolved and unless and until this was done, the Town was powerless to proceed.

After some discussion the Board voted to establish a depository for junk cars at the site of the old sanitary landfill and that when enough junk cars had been assembled, the car crusher company would be called in to take them away. Regulations are to be prepared and when adopted, probably at the next meeting, the public will be advised.

There was a general discussion concerning conditions at the landfill. The Board agreed to meet at the landfill at an early date in an attempt to correct the problems and put operations on a satisfactory basis.

Michael Fitzgerald obtained approval from the Board to proceed with a

subdivision of twenty-one lots of an acre or more each. The land is located on Overlook Road behind the school building. Since the land is in a Hamlet area, no approval from the Adirondack Park Agency is required. Necessary approvals from the State Health Department have already been obtained.

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Hague School Board met on September 9th with all members present.

The principal reported that there are now 187 pupils in attendance and that from all appearances the fall term got off to a good start.

Trips sponsored by the school for various groups of students were approved, as follows: highschool physical education classes to attend a physical education exhibit at Lake Placid; highschool art students to visit the Hyde Art Museum in Glens Falls; seventh and eighth grade social studies students to visit the Adirondack Museum; and science classes to visit Au Sable Chasm and the Syracuse University Huntington Forest Service Station.

A resolution to permit Board members and the school principal to attend the School Board Conference at the Americana Hotel in New York City was approved.

Mr. Riley was appointed soccer coach and varsity basketball coach. Mr. White was named junior varsity basketball coach.

Under a change in the law increasing from 10 to 15 miles the distance transportation to parochial schools is required to be provided, the request of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stull that their children be transported to St. Mary's School in Ticonderoga was approved. Approval was also given to the request of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Reynolds that their children be similarly transported to Ticonderoga. The Board made it clear that hereafter requests for transportation would not

be honored unless submitted before April 1.

The Board granted permission for use of the school two nights a week for a physical fitness program.

Mr. Gary Dillon was appointed teacher of commercial subjects.

The Board discussed the need for some work to be done in the locker rooms to improve on ventilation. An unnamed contractor would be consulted.

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KLEBE TO LEAVE SILVER BAY

Robert O. Klebe, Associate Director of the Silver Bay Association will be leaving in November to become Executive Director of the Downtown Branch of the Metropolitan St. Louis YMCA. The Downtown YMCA is one of 14 branches in the St. Louis Metropolitan area.

Bob has been associated with the YMCA since graduating from Hope College in Holland, Michigan. He spent three years as program director with the North Penn YMCA in Landsdale, Pa. and several years with the Arlington, Virginia YMCA where he was in charge of youth work and day camps. He joined the Silver Bay Association in 1969.

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PRIMARY ELECTION

Few people in Hague took time out to vote in the state-wide primary on September 10. There was only one contest on the Republican ballot with Congressman King getting 25 votes to 14 for Ronald Hamilton. On the Democratic ticket, Ramsey Clark received 20 votes in the race for U.S. Senator with 5 votes to his opponent. In the balloting for Governor, Hugh Carey polled 19 votes while Howard Samuels received 11. Mary Ann Krupsak handily won the nomination for Lieutenant Governor collecting 28 votes to 4 for other candidates.

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HOME BUREAU OPENS FALL SCHEDULE

The fall schedule of the Home Bureau Federation got underway on September 17. Plans were made to attend the Warren County Fall Workshop at Glens Falls on October 8 and 9. The programs for future meetings of the Mohican Chapter were outlined. The next meeting will be on October 17 with a program on apples presented by Betty Decker.

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YOUR OPINIONS ARE WELCOME - BUT!

We will be glad to receive your opinions on matters of community interest. But please sign your letter.

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