

January 5, 1975

Speaking of New Year's resolutions-what do you think would happen if the United States passed a resolution that for the year 1975, the whole country would "speak no evil, hear no evil, think no evil?" Would we be completely isolated from the rest of the world? Would all the newscasters be unemployed, and Congress be disbanded to go home and find an honest way of making a living? The implications of this idle speculation boggle the imagination, so we shall just have to make that motto our own particular resolution.

The Town Clerk, Don Hayes, requested us to notify all car owners who wish to retain their present registration numbers that they must secure permits in January, and as he expects to be away the last two weeks of the month, the deadline will be January 19.

The Great Books discussion group will reopen their program on January 12. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of the Elementary School at 7:30 P.M. The subject for discussion will be the "Federalist Papers."

The Madison Historical Society will meet January 15 at the home of Norma and Jack Alexandra. Leon Gerry will be the speaker. He has been studying the early census reports, 1790-1840, and has come up with some interesting points, which he will present as his subject.

Cliff and I had our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary on New Year's Day. Our boys and their families gave us a celebration dinner at the Scottish Lion in North Conway. There were ten of us at the table and we all enjoyed the delicious dinner and the fun of being together. It was an occasion to be long remembered.

There was quite a gathering at the Silver Lake Motel on New Year's Eve - about thirty-five couples, we understand. There was music and dancing and a buffet supper which was enjoyed by all, and the New Year was properly ushered in.

Don and Carol Kennett, and Anne and David Anderson, with their families, were here for part of New Year's week. They stayed in their mother's house (Edith Kennett) and all had a hilarious time, joining in skiing, skating, coasting and ski-mobiling with their cousins, the John Sherwood family.

A near tragedy was averted by prompt and knowledgeable action on the part of two of our townsmen New Year's Eve. A dinner guest of Mrs. Litchfield choked on a piece of meat. We understand the Rescue Squad was called, but Bob and Don Colcord reached the Litchfield house first. As they knew the "bear-hug" method of first aid in such cases,

the offending material was coughed up, and "all's well that ends well." Bob and Don have truly started the New Year with a good deed.

Charlotte Hamilton spent New Year's Eve and day with Madeleine Ward. Mildred Frost was also a dinner guest there New Year's Eve, and all three recalled many previous holidays spent together.

Our Sandy-cat says this cold weather is "for the birds." He has grown so fat and lazy that he can't catch them, and the snow makes his feet cold. He says he will wait for spring to get his outdoor exercise. We have not been able to fit him to skis or snowshoes.

January 12, 1975

"The drifting snows, or thaws, or both together,  
Are what we call right January weather."

This little quote from the Old Farmer's Almanac was especially appropriate this past week, with five inches of snow on Thursday followed by a thaw on Friday night and rain on Saturday.

The Youth Fellowship from our church had invited an exchange group from the Quincy, Massachusetts Methodist Church for the weekend. Skiing at King Pine was scheduled for all day Saturday, and in spite of the dubious weather, the young people carried out their plans. Mrs. David Beyerle who, with Mrs. Bruce Jones, heads up our Youth Fellowship, said, "The Quincy group had ridden three and a half hours to go skiing, and nothing else would do. They were on the slopes by 9:30 A.M. and by late afternoon there were thirty-two wet, tired, and bedraggled youngsters, but satisfied." Saturday night the combined youth groups had a spaghetti supper at the Silver Lake Motel where the game room was also made available for their further entertainment. The Quincy guests were cared for overnight in various homes in Madison. Mrs. Beyerle and Mrs. Jones wished to express their thanks in this column to all those who had so hospitably offered their guest rooms. The Quincy Fellowship, with their minister and advisers, attended church here, before returning home in the afternoon.

The men of the Madison Fire Department, with some assistance from their wives, put on a chicken fricasee supper at the Town Hall Saturday night. It was planned for the benefit of the Department, and as many tickets had been sold in advance, was quite a successful venture.

Last week we reported on the timely first aid which was received by a dinner guest of Mrs. Litchfield. The story was correct in the essentials, but the rescue was credited to the wrong men. Don Colcord's son, John, and his cousin, Glenn Clayton, should have received the laurels. The corrected version of the story is that Don Colcord directed John on the "bearhug" procedure, and that Glenn was then able to retrieve the piece of meat on which the lady had choked. Our congratulations and apologies for this belated recognition are due to John and Glenn.

The Madison Historical Society is contemplating plans for the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976. One project that has been mentioned is the restoration of the old Town Pound. The steering committee would welcome any suggestions from the townspeople for other projects to mark the two-hundredth birthday of our nation.

The Board of Library Trustees will hold a meeting at the library at 8 P.M. on January 28. They will discuss the needs of the library for future growth, and the possibility of adding more members to the Board of Trustees.

As chairman of the Conservation Committee, Richard Hocking attended the RC & D (Dump) meeting at Flanders Motel recently. The speaker, General Atterbury, was highly in favor of the open pit incinerator, of the type which is now being operated in Conway. Richard said he took "lots of notes" for future presentation to the town.

The after-holiday doldrums have not been conducive to many items of news about town, but a few telephone calls presented the following gleanings:

Rita Colcord has improved so much from her long illness that she is now able to return to half-time work at the Conway Post Office.

Susie Lyman was ill all last week, but by Saturday was feeling much better.

Mr. & Mrs. Roy T. Simoneau and family have completed the move from their former home, "The Majors." They are now at home at "Windcroft", in the village. This was previously the Henry Plummer place.

Miss Frances Dunham of Fryeburg "spent the day" with May Ward on January 7th. As Fran and May were schoolmates at Fryeburg Academy, May reported "it was a very talky visit."

Miriam Madison had a birthday January 11 and Lottie Meader's is the 20th. An impromptu birthday luncheon for both of them was held at the Hockings' last Saturday. Of course, Ward Madison and Ernest Meader were included in the party. Fortunately, the hill roads have been plowed and sanded, so no difficulty was experienced in reaching the Hockings, and it was altogether a joyous occasion.

A last minute notice has just reached us. Don Hayes writes: "To correct a statement in this column last week by our Town Clerk the following is offered. The Clerk is hoping to

be able to visit his mother who is now 91 years of age. If his wife's health permits, he plans on going to New Jersey January 15 and returning on or before January 23. There will still be a week to apply for your special number after he returns. The deadline for special numbers is January 31, according to state regulations." Don said that Dot is not feeling too well, and these plans may have to be cancelled. He suggests giving him a phone call before coming over. The number is 367-9910. Any emergency Town Clerk work can be taken care of by any other Town Clerk if Don is out of town.

January 19, 1975

Blessed be the telephone at this stormy time of year! With only one exception, all the news in this column would never had been gathered otherwise.

That one exception was a letter from Margaret Holmes. It was a joyous piece of news which should be quoted verbatim: "Mrs. Margaret Holmes of Greenfield, Massachusetts and Mr. Frank E. Carleton, Charlton Massachusetts, were married on Saturday, January 11th at two o'clock in the chapel of St. James Episcopal Church in Greenfield. Mary Holmes was her mother's attendant. Lee Pontilla was his father-in-law's best man. Rod Drake, nephew of the bride, gave her away. Following the ceremony a reception was held in the church parlors. Only the immediate members attended the ceremony and reception. Mary and her mother served a buffet luncheon for twenty-seven members of the bride's family in Mary's apartment. Because of the heavy fog Saturday night many of the guests spent the night in Greenfield. So, once again, Mary's apartment was the scene of fun and laughter as twelve people gathered for breakfast. Mr. and Mrs. Carleton are now living in Charlton, Massachusetts." All of us in Madison send our very best wishes for their future and continued happiness.

Now from those telephone calls:

At the Alexanders', Jack is about to complete his work at Plymouth Teachers College. By January 30, all of his credits will have been achieved, and although formal graduation ceremonies will not be held until May. Jack is a graduate teacher as of February 1st.

Karen Alexander has just acquired a new job - selling candy and popcorn at the North Conway Theatre - for the express purpose of earning money to go on the French Club tour.

Sixteen or more French students from Kennett High School are planning a trip to France, with their teacher, during the April vacation. It will be a ten day journey by air, and classes will be held every morning, with the afternoons devoted to sight-seeing.

The current influenza has stricken several members of the community. Doris Parker, Minnie Gilman, the minister and his wife, and Norma Alexander were ill last week. Most of these were improving, and Gordon and Rose Umberger were at church Sunday, although Rose did not sing in the choir. We heard also that Laura Twombly is seriously ill and unable to work, but her illness was not influenza.

A meeting of the Couples Club was held Saturday evening at John and Joan Sherwood's house. A skating party on Silver Lake was planned, but the all day snow made that impossible, however, they had a pleasant get-together, with games and refreshments indoors.

Jay Sherwood, with others of the Kennett High Basketball Team left early Sunday morning for Boston. At the Boston Garden they were to attend a basketball clinic put on by the Celtics in the morning and were to stay for the Celtics game in the afternoon. Cliff Ward, Jr., with May and Steve went to Portland Friday night to bring Terry home for the weekend. All four of them went to dinner at "Bonanza", which made their trip a sort of party. Terry reports that the Portland hospitals are so crowded with Influenza patients that they are refusing all new cases except emergencies.

There was a big family party at the Deer Hill home of Bill and Elizabeth Annis Saturday night. The occasion was a birthday party for George Forrest, and a wedding anniversary for Henry and Susie Forrest. There were eighteen guests - all of the Forrest and Annis families, Priscilla Philbrick and Mr. and Mrs. Hilfrank from Freedom. We hear that it was a gay party, and that Henry and Susie were completely surprised by their part in the celebration.

The Philathea Class will have their regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 20, at the home of Beatrice Harmon.

The next Church Supper will be held at the Town Hall on Saturday, January 25, at 6:30 P.M. At church today, the minister said that attendance at past suppers this fall has not been good, and it is a question whether the project is worth continuing. So if you want to have church suppers in the future, it would be wise to show your support next Saturday.

Every now and then friends who know that for twelve years we ran away to Florida in the winter ask if we are finding the cold weather and snow difficult to endure. One of the compensations for reaching retirement years is that one can stay at home when it is stormy. There is a little poem by James Whitcomb Riley which expresses this concisely. This is the final stanza:

Then blow, Winds, blow!  
And rave and shriek,  
And snarl and snow,  
Till your breath grows weak -  
While here in my room  
I'm as snugly shut,  
As a glad little worm  
In the heart of a nut!

January 26, 2015

Did you see that quip in the Reader's Digest? Motto displayed over the desk of a country editor: "Lord give me this day my daily idea, and forgive me the one I had yesterday." During these winter weeks of scanty news, that little prayer strikes a heartfelt note.

Don Hayes, the town clerk, brought two items for inclusion in this week's column: one business, and one pleasure. Business first. The filing period for Town Offices starts Monday, January 27, at 10:00 A.M. and ends Monday, February 24, at 5:00 P.M. Anyone wishing to run for any Town office, who wants his name to be printed on the town ballot, must file with the Town Clerk and pay the necessary fee, if any is due.

Dot and Don Hayes returned last week from a visit to New Jersey. They spent a few days with Don's mother who was in good health and spirits, despite her 91 years. His mother sent her best regards to her many friends in Madison. Dot and Don also visited Don's sister in Hawthorne, New Jersey and Dot's sister in Pequannock. They attended a testimonial dinner honoring their lifelong friend, George Goffken, retiring Chief of Police in Sparta, New Jersey. Mr. Goffken served his town with distinction for thirty-eight years. The dinner was held in the Playboy Club of Sussex, New Jersey, and over eleven hundred guests were present. Dot and Don were the only people from New Hampshire and had traveled the greatest distance to attend the dinner. The last few days of their stay were spent with Don's brother who runs a rehabilitation home in Port Jervis, New York, and who is a frequent visitor to our town. Madison is home now to the Hayes, and although they greatly enjoyed their trip, they said they were very glad to be back here.

We went to the Church Supper Saturday evening. After writing that notice of it in past week's column, we could hardly do otherwise! It was a miserable night with snow and sleet and bad traveling. About sixty-five or seventy people attended the supper, which

was pretty good, considering the weather, and the food was enjoyed by everyone. The Youth Fellowship had a small bake sale, which was pretty well sold out.

Gordon and Rose Umberger, Minnie Gilman and Norma Alexander were all sufficiently recovered from the "flu" to be at the supper Saturday. Minnie said that her mother, Doris Parker, was better but still troubled with a racking cough, and that her father, Carlos Parker, had been suffering with arthritis in his hands. We hope all our friends will be on the road to recovery soon.

Only two notices of coming events have reached us, and these are both in February. The regular meeting of the Madison Historical Society will be held on Wednesday, February 19, at the home of Clifford and Alice Ward. The speaker will be announced later. The 4-H club will hold a Cherry Tree Dance at the town hall on Friday evening, February 21. Further details about this will also be announced in a later issue.

It is with real regret that we report the death of Mrs. Ruth Meserve of Freedom at Huggins Hospital on Sunday, January 26. Ruth was Charlotte Hamilton's aunt and Phyllis Mayhew's mother, and a long-time friend of our family. She had been ill since last November, and although we realize that this is a blessed release for her, she will be greatly missed by many of her friends in Madison.

Nellie Berry has had a cardinal at her bird feeder this winter! All his friends are probably inquiring, "Why aren't you going to Florida this year?" Perhaps he sold his house down there, and decided to become a New Englander!

February 2, 1975

The weatherman must literally have turned over a new leaf. The first two days of February were the first really good weekend of the New Year. Of course, Sunday was Groundhog Day, and if the groundhog managed to wallow out through the snow drifts, he surely saw his shadow in that bright sunshine. So there will be six weeks more winter, but what's different about that? Winter in new England always lasts through March anyway. So be grateful for sunshine and slightly longer days.

Three days this past week have been partially involved with library work. Officially I have retired, but perhaps I have reached the position of consultant now. Monday afternoon there was a meeting to discuss the library budget, prior to presentation at the Town Budget Meeting Monday night. Although this is not a good year to ask for increases, the library budget has always been so tiny that some added amount was really necessary. I heard later that the Budget Committee was very agreeable to the

idea. Then Thursday morning, Kay Hocking took Virginia Currier, Joan Sherwood and me to a meeting of the Bearcamp River Library Group at the Tamworth Inn. Chocorua, Tamworth, Sandwich, Moultonboro, Center Harbor and Madison libraries were all represented, and Miss Cynthia Miller came from Littleton, as the State Library Regional representative. Various library problems were discussed, and some plans made for future improvements in service. A couple of hours Friday afternoon were spent in putting the non-fiction section of our library in proper order. Some of our townspeople who have never visited the library really should come in and get acquainted. It is an attractive place and has a lot to offer.

Saturday a letter came from Ruth (Clayton) Lancaster with an announcement which will be of interest to many Madisonians. The Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Bronson of Hudson, New Hampshire, announce the engagement of their daughter, Debi Bronson, to Walter E. Lancaster of Falmouth, Maine. Walter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Emmons Lancaster. The bride elect and her fiancé attend the University of Maine at Orono. Debi graduated from Alvirne High School in Hudson and Walter from Falmouth High School. As many of you know, Walter is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Clayton of Madison. Our congratulations and good wishes are sent to the young couple.

Eva Twombly told us today that Laura was operated on at the Laconia Hospital last Friday, for a severe stomach ulcer. The report is that the operation was successful, and Laura is recuperating well. Many of her friends have visited her and sent cards. Eva said her son, Raymond, from Belfast, Maine is staying with her for a couple of weeks, and is a tremendous help during these trying times. Raymond's son, Allan and his wife are here from Portland for the weekend, and are seeing Laura at the hospital during her stay.

Edith Kennett has been a patient at the hospital in Reading, Pennsylvania since January 26. She is being treated for a heart condition which necessitated a few days in Intensive Care. We understand she has improved sufficiently to be in her own room now, and we hope for continuing news of recuperation.

The Parent Teachers Organization is sponsoring a dance at the Town Hall on Friday, February 14, to raise money for the support of the Pooh Corner Kindergarten. The dance is called a Happy Days Socks Hop, and is for young people from grades seven through twelve. The hours will be from 8 to 11 P.M. Admission is fifty cents, and refreshments will be sold. There will be prizes for the best costume of the 1950's, and for the best jitter bugging. It sounds like fun, and we regret that we passed grade twelve quite a while ago.



February 8, 1975

By the time you read this column, it will be nearly St. Valentine's Day. If it were possible, I would decorate it with little red hearts and a paper lace border, but since newspapers don't have space for such things, our good wishes to you all for a happy day will have to reach you unadorned.

The news this week is mostly good. For the last few weeks we have reported on illnesses of our friends, and it is pleasant to be able to write an encouraging sequel. Dot Parker has sufficiently recovered from the flu to go shopping this past week. Laura Twombly is still at Lakes Region Hospital, but she is said to be gaining slowly, and is able to eat real food now. Phlebitis developed in her left leg and has prevented her getting back on her feet as much as she would like, but her spirits are good. Last Sunday, February 2, Dot Hayes was taken to Lakes Region Hospital by ambulance. A severe bronchial infection, plus her heart condition made a very bad combination. However, the latest word is that her cough has eased, and that she is improving slowly. Don Hayes said he hopes to bring her home by the end of the week. Edith Kennett is still in the Reading Hospital in Pennsylvania. Her daughter, Joan Sherwood, flew down last Monday, and has telephoned news of Edith's progress several times this past week. The latest bulletin offered hope that she would be released from the hospital in a few days.

Beatrice Harmon, School District Clerk, requested the inclusion of the following notice: The closing date for filing for School District Officers with the District Clerk is February 27, 5 P.M.

Mrs. Cormack, the local chairman of the Heart Fund Drive, called to remind us all that February is Heart Fund Month. Volunteers will be calling. Please open your hearts - and your wallets.

Calling all seventh to twelve graders! Don't forget the Happy Days Sox Hop to be held at the Town Hall, Friday, February 14 from eight to eleven p.m. Hunt up some 1950's costumes in the attic, and practice your jitterbugging! There will be prizes for the best entries.

Charlotte Hamilton is making a round of visits with old friends from Madison, prior to her return to her Florida home. She spent Friday with Madeline Ward, Saturday with Mildred Frost, and planned to go out to dinner Sunday with both of these friends. Sunday night will be with the Clifford Wards', and Monday with Harry and Lillian Jones at their home on Ossipee Lake. The exact date of departure is not yet settled, as it is

contingent on one more possible visit, and on airplane reservations.

Ralph and Kay Chick and Jimmy and Sylvia Twombly traveled to Florida together in their respective motor homes shortly after Christmas. They got home last Wednesday, and reported a wonderfully good holiday trip. They went to Stuart, Florida, and from there all the way out on the Keys to Key West. Kay said they took a train ride around Key West, and enjoyed the sights of the old city tremendously, although the weather was "too hot!" On the way back, they detoured to Nashville, Tennessee to see the new "Grand Old Opry House" there. The show was so enjoyable on the Friday night they were there that they stayed over to see the Saturday night performance. Their homeward way led through the Great Smokies, which Kay said was "almost like New Hampshire." They reached home just before the storm - a very happy ending to a most pleasant trip.

The next meeting of the Madison Historical Society will be on February 19, at the home of Clifford and Alice Ward. There is some question about the speaker, as Dr. David Works has been asked to talk on the Bicentennial Celebration plans. As we have not heard definitely that he can be here on that date, Mrs. William Eglit has promised to be a fill-in speaker. Her subject will be President James Madison.

By way of the grapevine, we heard that the pupils of the Elementary School gave Nellie Berry, who manages the school cafeteria, a sort of birthday celebration one day last week. We have not been able to learn any details, but probably they all sang "Happy Birthday to You." So do we all, Nellie.

If you hear that people in the North Country are developing "periscope eyes", it will be the direct result of trying to peer around snowdrifts before venturing from our driveways onto the road!

February 16, 1975

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

Like prosperity, spring is just around the next snowstorm, if one may judge by the flood of garden catalogues in the mail. Truly, those catalogues are "the stuff that dreams are made of." Even if past experience teaches that the results of our gardening will never be as lovely as the illustrations, they make a vivid spot of color on the library table.

Here are some other signs of spring: By the time this column goes to print, there will be less than two weeks to Town Meeting Day. Anyone who is planning to file for Town

Offices must file with the Town Clerk by February 24, to get his name on the ballot. And April first, which is the deadline for car registration, is less than six weeks away.

Some time ago we wrote that Mrs. William Eglit was offering a prize to the pupils of the fifth and sixth grades for the best essay on the life of President James Madison. These essays were completed and judged last week. Patty Meader was the first prize winner, and Teresa Leavitt won second prize.

Martin Furnbach took a group of youngsters ice fishing on Silver Lake one day last week. Freddy Blocher, who is only seven years old, covered himself with glory by catching a seven-pound lake trout!

Dot Hayes came home from Lakes Regional Hospital last Tuesday, the eleventh. She is much better, although not on top of the world yet. Laura Twombly is still in the hospital, as the phlebitis is not clearing as well as was hoped. We hope to have better news of her recovery soon.

Guy and Margaret Hayford went to Berlin last Saturday for a first glimpse of their new granddaughter. Sheri, who was born on February 10, and weighed 7 pounds and 7 ½ ounces, is the daughter of Roger and Janet Hayford. Margaret reported that all is well with the young family, and the trip up through the mountains was spectacularly beautiful on Saturday. Since that was the first day of a three day weekend, an unbelievable number of other people were on the road, and the traffic through North Conway was backed up for a couple of miles from the traffic light.

Jesse and Ruth Shackford also welcomed a new grandchild this past week - this one a boy. Joseph and Wanda Shackford had a son born on February 9, weighing 9 pounds, 3 ¼ ounces. His name is Joseph Martin Shackford, Jr., and he is reported to be big and healthy. His father is studying draughting at Laconia Vocational Technical College, and the family is living for the winter with Bud and Ruth.

Kay and Richard Hocking will be spending the next two weeks in Atlanta, Georgia. The official reason for the trip is a Philosophy Meeting which Richard wants to attend, but an equally important reason is that their youngest granddaughter, Joanna Wiley, is just beginning to walk and say a few words, so it is important Grandma and Grandpa should be there to applaud her initial efforts.

A card came a few days ago from the Ward Madisons in Beirut, Lebanon. They have been visiting friends in England and the Middle East for the past month, and are expected home shortly. The picture on the card was of Rivol Square in Beirut, and looked like any busy modern metropolis, with busses and sky-scrapers. Miriam's note

said that they had visited the Museum of Antiquities near there, "but there is nothing antique about the building boom, the autos, and the colorful people in the streets." We shall all be keen to hear more of their experiences when they return.

Just one more thought about spring. Easter is only five weeks from today. Are you saving up for a new Easter bonnet? My great-great grandmother earned twenty-five dollars for teaching eight weeks in primary school, and she blew it all on a Leghorn for Easter that year!

February 23, 1975

"Living is minute by minute, and the clock keeps ticking on\_" The "minutes" in the lives of our townspeople make up the composition of this column, and if we could know the details which fill the days of all our friends, the local correspondents would all have writer's cramp. Since, however, people do not always realize that their everyday doings are of interest to others, the news is sometimes hard to come by, and the column is a series of bits and pieces.

Last week was school vacation, and as the weather was generally good, all the young crowd enjoyed skiing and other winter sports, such as ice fishing. We heard that Pamela Ward caught a fourteen-inch pickerel in Silver Lake.

The 4-H Club held a successful dance party at the Town Hall on Friday evening, February 21. Since the refreshments were made and donated by the members, the net result of the dance was fifteen dollars to be added to their treasury, and it was a happy evening for all.

Grafton and Olive Ward's daughter, Dorothy (Mrs. Stephen Moore) was home with her parents for a two-day visit. She now lives in Brewer, Maine. Dotty's three-year old Peggy, and five-months old Pamela accompanied their mother, and were enjoyed by their grandparents.

The Historical Society meeting on the nineteenth was well attended. About twenty members and guests were there, and we were pleased and surprised that the Ward Madisons returned from "furrin parts" in time to be of the company. Mrs. William Eglit gave an entertaining and informative talk on President James Madison and his wife, Dolly. I think we all felt we had learned a great deal about this early statesman for whom are town was named. Eva Twombly says that Laura is much improved and hopes to get home from the Lakes Regional Hospital soon. Laura's spirits are high, and although her illness has caused the loss of forty-five pounds, she says that will be a

good excuse for some whole new outfits- just in time for Easter probably. Raymond Twombly went back to his home in Belfast for a few days, but returned to stay with his mother last Friday. Howard Twombly came up from Chathamport, Massachusetts on Friday, February 15, and visited his mother and Laura over the holiday weekend. A rummage sale for the benefit of the Madison girls' softball team is planned for Saturday, March 1st. It will be held at the Town Hall from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The Diaconate and the Philathea Class of the Madison Church are planning a work party at the church Saturday, March 1st, to consider the refurbishing of the Sunday School rooms. Ten o'clock is the meeting time, and anyone willing to help will be most welcome. Mrs. Lillian Clay, a long resident of Madison, passed away Saturday, February 22, at a nursing home in Dover. Mrs. Clay was a sister of Mrs. Maude Chase of Albany, and is survived by three sons. Since this is the last week before the Town meeting, it was suggested that a list of the candidates for the various town offices might be helpful. The final date for filing is February 24, which is one day too late for presentation in this column. From the Town Clerk's office, the following is the slate of candidates as of February 23:

Selectman: Martin Furnbach Warren Virgin

Town Clerk: J. Donald Hayes

Town Treasurer: Roland Lyman

Trustee of Trust Funds: no candidate

Budget Committee: Samuel Lyman Dr. Frank Paret

James McGonigle Wm. (Franklin) Jones

Road Agent: Richard Chute Edward Lyman

Constable: David Chute

Fire Commissioner: Jesse Shackford III

Town Auditor: no candidate (but Ernest Meader has agreed to do this thankless job again if nobody else offers)

Library Trustees: Virginia Currier Barbara Anderson

Barbara Thompson May Ward (The Board of Library Trustees is to be increased to six members this year)

School Board: Jack Zemla

School Treasurer: Roland Lyman

The Town Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 4, and the School Meeting, Monday night, March 3. As the proposed budget for both Town and School appropriations is considerably larger this year, it behooves all townspeople to attend these meetings, and to vote on the various issues.

March 2, 1975

Do you remember an old time humorous monologue called "No News - or What Killed

Madison (NH) Library Local History Project

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the Dog"? If you do, you will recall that a number of happenings led up to the dog's sad demise. Until last Saturday night, it seemed that the imminence of Town Meeting must be the cause of a dearth of other news about town, or "what killed the dog", so to speak. Everybody is so concerned with running for office, or getting support for issues dear to their hearts, that there is little else to write about our daily affairs. But we stayed for the coffee and doughnut hour after church on Sunday for the express purpose of collecting news, and came away with several items of interest.

The Stage Band of Kennett High School went to Durham last Friday to compete with other High School bands at the University. Pamela and Douglas Ward from Madison are members of this group. We hear that the competition was interesting and successful, although the results of the judging have not yet been announced.

Last Wednesday George Ames was taken to Lakes Region Hospital by Mr. Lord of West Ossipee. It was reported that a coronary heart attack caused his sudden illness. No further news as yet, but we hope to hear soon that his recovery is in progress.

Delinda Currier has been at home for the last four days. She is studying Special Education at Springfield College in Massachusetts. This is her junior year, and the vacation was the mid-year break.

Two new residents of our town were in church today. They were Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Peyron and although Mr. Peyron has been manager of the New England Lumber Company for ten years or so, he and his wife have only recently moved to Madison. They have a new house on Route 41.

The minister's topic in church was "Weary Wednesday", the fourth in a series of Lenten services on the various days of Holy Week. Next Sunday's sermon will be on "Maundy Thursday." Do you know the origin of term "Maundy"? It comes from the Latin "mundatum" meaning command, and Maundy Thursday was the day when Christ washed his disciples' feet, and said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another."

Two more bits of church news-The combined forces of the Diaconate and the Philathea Class made real progress on cleaning the walls and ceiling of the Sunday School rooms last Saturday. Another work party is planned for Saturday, March 8 at 10 A.M. At this time they hope to get the walls and ceiling repainted. Anyone who can give some time to this project will be most welcome. Coffee will be served by the committee.

The other note has to do with the ladies who provided rolls for the last church supper. If anyone is missing her roll pans, Rose Umberger says they are at the parsonage, as

several did not have any identification.

The Great Books Discussion Group will meet again March 9 at 7:30 P.M. at the school cafeteria. "Democracy in America" by Alexis de Tocqueville will be the subject. Although this was written nearly one hundred and fifty years ago, some of the observations are very timely.

There will be two unusual items to be considered by the town at the coming meeting. In the School Meeting warrant is a proposal to make the Pooh Corner Kindergarten a recognized part of the school system, with a requested budget of \$4600.00. The private sponsorship of the Kindergarten has accomplished a great deal in maintaining it this year by means of fairs, bake sales, et cetera, but now that the Kindergarten has proved its worth, it seems desirable that it should be placed on a more permanent basis, with a town appropriation.

The second item will come before the Town Meeting. Henry and Barbara Anderson are considering the conversion of a part of the Silver Lake motel into apartments for retired or elderly people of limited income. This project requires only the approval of the townspeople. No appropriation is involved. The outcome of these two projects will be presented next week, and perhaps we won't have to "kill the dog" to provide other news.

March 9, 1975

During the years we stayed in Florida through the month of March, my brother used to complain bitterly if the local news column failed to report some of the more interesting results of town meeting. From the article on the front page of last week's paper, you will have already learned who the new town officers are, and that we voted to have an expensive new piece of road machinery. But there was no report of the School Meeting nor of some other items in the town warrant. So for those who could not be present let's bring you up to date on this year's issues.

The School Meeting began at eight Monday evening and nearly became an all night session as those who attended did not get started for home until 1:30 A.M. The budget was mostly approved as presented, except that there will be no salary increases this year. It was voted that an architect should be hired to draw up plans for a new elementary school or alternatively, for an addition to the existing one, and present them at the next meeting. The sum of \$1500 for an option on land for the new building was also voted. The item for making the Kindergarten an integral part of the school system was voted down, mainly because there is no room for it in the school, which is bursting at the seams with our increased enrollment.

At the Town Meeting, the Library was given a slightly increased appropriation, and the enlargement of the Board of Trustees from three to six members was approved. It was also voted to change the hours when the Library is open. From now on, Wednesday from 1 to 4 in the afternoon and 6:30 to 8:30 in the evening, and Fridays from 1 to 4 will be the schedule.

The proposal to convert a part of the Silver Lake Motel into housing for the elderly received the approval of the townspeople.

Except for some discussion of what roads were to receive the benefit of Town Road Aid, most of the items in the long warrant were passed as presented. It was a good meeting with some intelligent discussion, but no acrimony. At the end, a rising vote of appreciation was given to Sam Lyman for his twenty-seven years of faithful service as Selectman.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be on March 19, at the home of Henry and Susie Forrest. The Ward Madisons have promised to tell us of their recent trip to the Middle East, and they will show slides.

Laura Twombly is home from the hospital after her long illness. She returned on Wednesday, March 5, and we trust that all she needs now is a little time to get back into her regular routine.

Nellie Mc Cain arrived home from her winter in Washington, D.C. on last Wednesday also. She said it had been a good winter for her, and that she had stayed most of the time with her daughter. Her son's baby boy was very ill for a month or so, and Nellie went to his home to help out in any way possible during that time. Happily, the baby was much better before his grandmother had to leave.

A very nice note came this week from Katherine and P.J. Holmes in Sarasota. In a way it was an answer to my appeal for news. Katherine wrote "We had the pleasure of having three lovely Silver Lake or Madison people for a visit. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cullington and Eunice Currier. We had a nice afternoon and very homey. Eunice is fine. Looking well and doing well. Stanley Cullington has had a rather unwell winter, and has lost some weight, but as of now, he is feeling much better and beginning to gain a pound or two. We thought you would like to know!" We thank you, Katherine, for this reply to our SOS! The note reported also a sunny and warm winter with beautiful roses blooming in their yard. Katherine ended by writing, "We are glad there has been good skiing up there all winter, but please get rid of the snow before May."



The Madison Fire Department put on an extremely successful and delicious oyster stew supper Saturday night at the Town Hall. Latest reports were that at least 150 people attended, and we know they all enjoyed it, as everybody went back for seconds. This is rather an innovation in our town, and we all hope the firemen will repeat it soon and often.

It has been reported that George Ames is recovering from his heart attack. The most recent news was that he might be released from the hospital soon.

Edith Kennett is at her own home in Silver Lake. She made the trip from Pennsylvania Sunday, via private plane to North Conway, and ambulance from there. She will still need a nurse in attendance, but she is so glad to be back in her house, that it seems her full recovery is just a matter of time. "The March winds do blow, and we shall have snow..." but spring is almost here, never the less.

March 16, 1975

"This is a day which the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it." Sunday, March 16, a truly beautiful day, and the news this week, although scanty, is all generally good. Let's begin with reports on all those people whose illnesses have been in the news these past weeks. So far as we have heard, everybody is recuperating well. Laura Twombly said she has been exercising on her porch, and as soon as her legs gain more strength, she hopes to be able to get out at least as far as her garage. Otherwise, she is feeling fine and not having trouble with her diet.

George Ames came home from the hospital last Wednesday. He is still confined to the house, as the doctor says he must not go out in the wind, nor try to drive his car, but if he obeys orders, he will soon be on the up-and-up.

Professor Edward Kracke, whose heart condition has kept him on the critical list since last summer, has improved so much recently that his doctor is amazed and delighted. We surely hope this continues, and that the Krackes will be at home on the Hocking Hill come spring.

Edith Kennett is so happy to be at home again that her condition improves daily. Donna Brooks and Barbara Bottomley are dividing her twenty-four hour care, and their cheerful attention is doing wonders for Edith's mental and physical well-being.

Joey Shackford was rushed to Memorial Hospital last Wednesday and operated on for acute appendicitis at 3 A.M. His mother says that the operation took place before the

appendix burst, and that Joey is much better and will be home soon.

William Eglit fell down a flight of stairs at his house one day last week. He struck on his head and was knocked out for a few minutes. Mrs. Eglit reported that except for slight dizziness in the morning, Bill is almost himself again.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sherwood, Sr. are back from their winter in Naples, Florida, where they stayed with their older son, Bill. They had a good winter, but are rejoicing at being back in New Hampshire, Liz particularly. The flew to Connecticut on March 1, and spent a couple of weeks with Liz's sister there, then drove home, and arrived last Thursday, March 13.

Marcia Shackford (Mrs. Jesse, III) and Mr. MacPherson's snow plow were in a slight collision Saturday at the corner of High Street. Fortunately, nobody was hurt. Only Marcia's car sustained injuries. One wheel was damaged, and there were some other bangs and bruises. As it was a new car, Marcia is feeling bad about that.

Clifford Ward, Jr. with May and Steven, went to Somersworth on Sunday to visit May's sister, Mona, and her family. It was such a nice day that they took off early, before emergency calls to the garage started arriving.

Emily Shackford and her aunt, June Thurston, share the same birthday, March 16. So there was a joint birthday celebration at the Shackford's Sunday. Emily was thirteen years old that day. June----?

Next Sunday, March 23, is Palm Sunday. The Great Books Discussion Group will meet that evening at the Elementary School. The Gospel of St. Matthew will be the subject. How's that for timing!

Do any of you know the derivations of the names of any Madison landmarks? The Historical Society has had a letter from a gentleman in Ashland who is compiling a dictionary of New Hampshire place names. Some of the names he mentioned we know, but if anyone can tell us about Whitton Pond, Ham Brook, Bimba Island, Cream Brook, or others the Historical Society would be most pleased to pass on that information.

By the time you read this column, the first day of spring will be arriving, according to the almanac. Even if it snows that day, isn't that a happy thought?

March 23, 1975

With the imminence of income taxes and car registration, life has been pretty quiet in Madison this past week, and there seems little news to write.

Today is Palm Sunday, which started as a beautiful almost spring-like, morning, but has clouded in and grown a bit colder since. The sermon today was a "Sorrowful Saturday," the final one of the minister's series on the days of Holy Week. Mr. Umberger presented it as that quiet, almost empty, time which occurs in everybody's life following the death of a loved member of one's family. As this is the beginning of Holy Week, there will be special church services.

On Thursday evening, March 27th, at 7:30, the Maundy Thursday Family Communion Service.

The Good Friday Evening Service, also at 7:30.

Easter Sunday morning, at 6:30, the Sunrise Service at Nichol's Beach on Silver Lake, followed by breakfast at the Town Hall. At the church service at 10 o'clock, the Senior Choir will offer a cantata, to which they have given a great deal of rehearsal time, and which will be well worth the hearing.

A few other bits of news about the continued recuperation of friends who have been ill have reached us. We thought we saw Laura Twombly driving her car last Friday, and we did see her walking on the road the day before, so she must be a lot better. Joey Shackford recovered from his appendectomy so well, that he was able to start the new semester at Laconia Vocational Tech last Monday, only four days after the operation. Edith Kennett seems to be improving almost day by day. Being at home has given her a mental uplift, and she has greatly enjoyed seeing many friends who have called.

The Historical Society had a pleasant and interesting meeting last Wednesday night at Henry and Susie Forrest's home. Ward and Miriam Madison gave us a good talk on their recent trip to England, Beirut, and Cairo. They showed some beautiful pictures of old abbeys in England, and those on Beirut and Cairo were quite mind-opening, as most of us knew very little of these places or the people who live there. It was a smaller group than usual who attended the meeting, as some of the members had other commitments. Richard Hocking was in Cambridge for a Philosophy meeting, and Kay, who had planned to come up from there by bus to attend the Historical meeting, encountered a most uncooperative bus schedule. Ernest and Lottie Meader were among the missing also, and we heard afterwards that neither of them was very well, but no particulars. Bill Eglit, although recovering from his fall, is not ready for evening affairs. Plans for the April meeting are still tentative, but the 16th would be a very timely date for a commemorative program on the 200th anniversary of Paul Revere's Ride.

More about this later. "Listen, my children, and you shall hear."

David Currier has completed his tour of duty with the Army's Alpine activities, and is flying back this week from Switzerland. He expects to return immediately to Dartmouth to resume his interrupted studies there. His younger brother, Jesse, hurt his knee while skiing at Dartmouth and is temporarily on crutches, but we hear the damage was not permanent.

Ronald and Kay (Kennett) Rider expect to be in Puerto Rico for the week following Easter. Ron is to attend a Manager's Conference for Travelers Insurance there. Kay has had such a busy winter, due to her mother's illness during her stay at their house, that a week of sunshine and a complete change of scene will be a most welcome break for them both.

Spring has officially arrived! Have you finished perusing the seed catalogues yet? Cliff has little pots of lettuce and tomatoes growing in a miniature greenhouse in the cellar. Both he and they are standing on tiptoe waiting for the snow to disappear.

Easter Sunday, and it snowed! Only a New England weatherman would pull a trick like that! We understand about thirty brave souls defied the weather and attended the sunrise service at Nichols Beach and the Easter breakfast. The church was full for the ten o'clock service, and was redolent with the fragrance of the memorial lilies. The performance by the Senior Choir of the Cantata, "The Cross of the Redeemer" by Norman, was beautifully sung, and greatly enjoyed by all the congregation. We all realized how many hours of rehearsal had been required to achieve such perfection.

Before I began with other items of news, Edith Kennett has requested a special note of thanks to her friends who have called, sent cards and flowers and good things to tempt her appetite. She appreciates all these kindnesses tremendously, and as soon as her hands gain more strength, she will try to write some acknowledgments. Edith's youngest daughter, Anne Anderson, with her husband and family have been here from New Brunswick for the past three or four days. They are visiting John and Joan Sherwood, but spending as much time as possible with Edith.

Wayne Lyman left March 14 for Singapore, where he expects to fly helicopters for an oil company. It is a little uncertain how long he will be staying, so Roberta and the children will remain at their home in Madison until the end of the school year, at least. After that, if the work promises to continue for a considerable length of time, Wayne will be rejoined by his family in Singapore.

A Madison Recreation Association is being proposed. The plan is to create a non-profit

organization of private individuals dedicated to the improvement of recreation opportunities and facilities in our town. An organizational meeting will be held on April 4, at 8:00 P.M. in the dining-room of the Silver Lake Motel. At this meeting officers will be elected, and articles of corporation drawn up. We understand that all kinds of recreational activities, such as square dancing, bridge, and whist parties, as well as the coordination of existing outdoor games and ball teams will be included. All interested townspeople are urged to attend the preliminary meeting.

On Saturday, April 5, the Madison Boulder 4-H Club will have a Foods and Nutrition competition, at 10 A.M. at the Town Hall. The 4-H-ers will present food which they have cooked under the direction of their leaders. This will be judged, and ribbons of merit awarded. Following this, the products of their efforts will be the basis for luncheon.

George Chick was operated on for hernia repair at Laconia Hospital on Monday, March 24. He has made a marvelous recovery, and returned to his home last Friday. He feels so well that his family is worried for fear he may overstrain before the muscles are completely healed.

Some new cars have appeared in town this past week. Al and Betty Lyman have a Ford Granada, Gerald and Priscilla Ward, a Mercury, and John and Joan Sherwood a Ford LTD. It looks as if the Ford Motor Company will be recovering from its slump in the near future! Do you suppose Robert Browning would mind if we add one word to his famous line? "Oh to be in (New) England, now that April's there."

April 6, 1975

We are sad to report that Spring suffered a serious relapse last week. The opinion of experts is that it will recover, but there were two days when we despaired of its life. So now Spring is buried under a foot and a half of snow from a northeast storm more severe than any the winter produced. The red-winged blackbirds who thought Spring was on the way have arrived in hordes at the bird feeders, chattering loudly their thanks for a well supplied restaurant.

The meeting which was planned for the organization of the Madison Recreation Association on April 4 had to be cancelled on account of the weather. This has been postponed for a week, and will be held on April 11, at eight o'clock in the dining-room of the Silver Lake Motel. The sponsors hope for a good attendance of interested townspeople.

By Saturday morning, the roads were sufficiently clear so that the Foods and Nutrition

competition of the 4-H Club was held at the Town Hall as planned. Eight young visitors from the 4-H Clubs of Jackson and Bartlett made their way to Madison to attend the meeting, and there were twelve boys and girls from our town who competed in making their favorite foods. The judges were Mr. Edelstein, Penny Perry and May Ward. Blue ribbons were awarded to Sharon Zemla who made macaroni and cheese, Brenda Lyman for cherry cobbler, Emily Shackford for oven-fried chicken, Kenneth Ward for vermicelli in home-made spaghetti sauce, Annjanet Alexander for fruit kabob, and Becky Forrest for apple crisp. The red ribbon winners were Susan Zemla for cornbread, Lauren Zemla for fancy pudding, Lyn Call for macaroni and cheese, Linda Sheaff for frankfurt and potato chowder, Debby Miller for baked bean casserole and Mark Chute for cinnamon balls. We understand the food was purely delicious, and was greatly enjoyed by judges, visitors and participants. Mrs. Robert Miller who is in charge of the Foods and Nutrition program would like to express her thanks to Roberta Lyman and Marilyn Chute for their assistance in keeping the foods warm in the kitchen, and to Jean Zemla who made a lovely centerpiece to decorate the display table.

Richard and Margie Ann (Chick) Matthews are rejoicing in the arrival of a baby daughter, born April 5 at Huggins Hospital. The baby's name is Roxanne Jo, and she weighed eight pounds, five ounces. All is well with the family, and we all offer our sincere congratulations.

Douglas Ward has a new part-time job, starting last Saturday, at Aubuchon's Hardware. He will be working two afternoons a week and all day Saturday, during the rest of the school year.

Jay Sherwood, Billy Arnold, and Pamela Ward went to Fryeburg Academy last Saturday morning to take the Scholastic Aptitude Tests in Mathematics and English. These tests are a sort of preliminary to the College Entrance Board Examinations. We hope to hear that they all passed with flying colors.

If there are any other items of news about town, they must be buried in our new snow mountains. Maybe by next week a warm sun will thaw them out.

April 13, 1975

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks GO!" The green light must have been turned on this past week here in town. So many activities of various groups have taken place, and several dates for these to come have been reported. Madison must indeed be thinking GO! The youth fellowship of our church made an exchange visit to the corresponding group of the Methodist Church in Quincy, Massachusetts.

They left here on Friday afternoon and returned on Sunday. The Quincy Fellowship were here for skiing on that rainy weekend in the middle of January. Our group was much more fortunate, as this has been a lovely weekend.

On Friday afternoon, Cliff and I entertained the Steering Committee for Bicentennial Celebration plans. Kay and Richard Hocking and Leon Gerry discussed various means of coordinating the Historical Society, the Grange, the Recreation Association, church and school groups, and 4-H into well-planned, and not overlapping activities. It was also suggested that our town might join with the town of Eaton, since our roots are the same. Three phases of the Bicentennial are to be considered: Heritage, Festival, and the Future.

The organizational meeting of the Madison Recreational Association was held Friday evening, April 11, in the dining-room of the Silver Lake Motel. Twenty-seven townspeople attended, and the following slate of officers was elected:

President, James Smith

Vice-president, Elaine Shackford

Treasurer, William Pope

Secretary, Eleanor Jones

Directors, Sam Lyman, Beth Lyman, James McGonigle

Charter memberships are now being accepted, so show your interest in this new association by signing up immediately. Any additional information can be obtained from any of the officers listed above.

On Saturday, April 12, a county 4-H Dress Review was presented in North Conway. About thirty girls participated, four of whom were from Madison. The judges were Mrs. Magee and Miss Marion Stocking. Each modeled the outfit she had made, and the judging was based 50% on the construction of the finished product, and 50% on the modeling and the suitability to the personality of the wearer. Wendy Eldridge and Kelly Richardson received red ribbons for the dresses they had made, Susan Zemla and Tammy Richardson were awarded blue ribbons - Susan for slacks with a smock top, Tammy for slacks with a knit pullover top. Blue ribbon winners are eligible to enter the State Competition which will be held in May.

We had a note last week from David and Myrna Levitman which contained two pieces of news, one sad, one glad. David's father died very suddenly in January - so suddenly that there was no preliminary warning or illness and it was evident that David was still feeling the shock of his loss. The glad news was of a new baby which is due to arrive on or about April 12. We shall be awaiting the formal announcement, and shall look forward to seeing the family when they return to their summer home on Colby Hill.

The next church supper is scheduled for April 26, at the Town Hall. This is an early announcement, so that everyone will know in time to make plans to attend. Due to the bad weather, and conflicting suppers in the surrounding towns, our church suppers have not been well attended this past season. Let's make a concerted effort this time to repay the committee and all those who contribute food by presenting them with a full house.

The Great Books Discussion Group will meet again on April 27 at the cafeteria of the Elementary School. "The Death of Ivan Ilych" by Leo Tolstoy will be the subject of discussion.

We've been reading up on the life and works of Paul Revere, preparatory to the Historical Society meeting, April 16. Quite apart from his famous ride, he was a talented and inventive person. Almost everyone knows he was a creative silversmith, and that he cast bells which are still highly prized. (There is one in the tower of the old church on Lord's Hill in Effingham). But did you know that Paul Revere, at the age of 65, by his own knowledge and with his own money, solved the problem of rolling sheet copper for sheathing ships? "Old Ironsides" when over-hauled in 1803, was sheathed with copper plate made in the Revere Foundry in Canton. His was such an inventive genius, that one wonders if he and Ben Franklin might have had interests in common, other than politics. The midnight ride will be commemorated at Concord and Lexington, as it is every year, but Paul Revere should be famous for his other achievements, and our Historical Society plans to do something about that, in our small way, at our next meeting.

A special notice from the Planning Board has just reached us. This week volunteers will be distributing and collecting Madison Town Planning questionnaires. The cooperation of all townspeople in filling these out is requested, and will be greatly appreciated.

The Freedom Historical Society is inviting all interested persons from the surrounding towns to attend a special meeting at the Freedom Town Hall at 7:30 P.M. on April 24. The speaker will be Mr. Eric Small from Concord, who represents the New Hampshire American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Mr. Small is desirous of presenting State-Level Celebration plans and suggestions to as large a group as possible, so make a note of this date on your calendar, and be sure to attend this meeting.

April 20, 1975

"Spring comes slowly up this way-"



One sunny day last week Cliff brought home some big fat pussy willows from down near the brook, and it seemed that Spring had truly arrived. Today a cold and gusty wind feels as if it were presaging snow flurries. A quotation from Mark Beltaire says, "The nicest thing about the promise of Spring is that sooner or later she'll have to keep it." So we live in hopes.

Bob and Grace Lyman returned home from their winter in Florida on April 18. It must have been a chilly reception for their driveway had to be shoveled. Just before they started north, they had a four day trip to Key West and Miami, where it was almost too warm. They enjoyed the trip around Key West on the "Conch Train," and from Fort Lauderdale took the river trip on the "Jungle Queen" whose final destination was a big and rather primitive eating house. There they enjoyed a marvelous dinner and an old time vaudeville show. The trip home took ten days, with stops at St. Augustine, Brunswick, Georgia, Asheville, and traveling on part of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Grace said the azaleas and the ground phlox were beautiful all the way up as far as Pennsylvania. Even coming back to snow banks did not chill their enthusiasm for getting home.

The French Club of Kennett High School took off for a week in Paris last Saturday afternoon. Karen Alexander and Debby Colcord from our town were in the group of sixteen students and teachers, who left Conway by school bus for Logan Airport. The flight was scheduled to leave at 10 P.M. Each of the students is supposed to keep a diary of all events and places visited, so there will surely be much to report when they return.

Terry Ward has had a two-week spring vacation from her job, but she has not been home, as several social events coincided with her free time. One weekend she went to Connecticut with several college friends to attend the wedding of a classmate. Another classmate from New York has been visiting Terry in Portland this past week, and together they went through the Freedom Train. After hearing of their experience, we did not feel so badly about not being able to attend this memorable event. Although they had purchased tickets in advance, they stood in line three and a half hours before it was possible to enter. There was a sort of treadmill running through the train, and each entrant was given earphones through which a public-address system called attention to various items of special interest. There are twenty-five cars in the train, and the complete trip is rushed through in fifteen minutes! There can be no real time to examine anything, and it seems as if the final impression would be just a blur.

May and Cliff Ward, Jr have just purchased a new Tagalong Camper Trailer. It arrived in their back yard last Saturday afternoon, and they have been entertaining friends on tours of inspection ever since. We took our turn on Sunday afternoon, and spent much

more time than the Freedom Train allows, admiring the clever arrangements of space and convenience. It will be a source of pleasure and recreation during the summer.

Joan and Joan Sherwood and their family went to Connecticut last Friday to attend the wedding of John's cousin, Ned Stearns, in Hartford. We have not heard any of the details as yet, but John said before he left, that from the plans, "it promised to be a real bash!"

Here are just a few reminders of things to come:

The Pooh Corner Kindergarten Fair Committee will have a meeting at 8 P.M., April 24, at the home of Eleanor Jones.

Don't forget about the Church Supper to be held at the Town Hall, April 26, at 6:30 P.M.

The Recreation Association has scheduled another meeting for April 30 at 8 P.M., at which time they hope to make definite dates and plans for future events.

April 26, 1975

There are so many interesting events to tell you about this week that it won't be necessary to write about the weather, although that is changeable enough to make a whole column by itself.

Last week was the spring vacation from school, and the young folks had several entertaining and instructive trips planned for their free time. What happened during the French Club's visit to Paris will have to be related later, as at this moment they have not yet returned.

The Stage Band of Kennett High School went to Warwick, Rhode Island, last Wednesday afternoon. A concert was to be given there the next day. Another performance at the Berkeley School in Boston was arranged for Saturday, and the group will get home on Sunday. Douglas Ward is a trumpeter in the Stage Band.

The Food and Nutrition Group of the County 4-H Club - about sixty boys and girls from Glen, Bartlett, Wolfeboro, and Madison - went to UNH last Thursday. A school bus and two cars were needed to accommodate them all. Roberta Lyman and Ruth Shackford shepherded twelve young people from Madison. The University gave them a tour through the college bakery, where they had their first glimpse of bread, cakes and cookies being produced in wholesale quantities. It is quite an eye-opener to see bread being mixed in two-hundred pound batches. Then they visited the Richman

Experimental Laboratory, where work with deer is being carried on. Following this there was a tour of the Foods Laboratory. In the afternoon, the group visited the Booth Fisheries in Portsmouth, where they were shown all the steps from the arrival of fish from the boats to the final packaging of processed fish for stores and restaurants. As a finishing touch, the Booth Company served everyone with freshly cooked fish, a delicious end to a most enlightening day.

The Philathea Class met at the Sunday School rooms on Monday evening, April 21. Plans were discussed for the upcoming rummage sale and the midsummer sale. After the business meeting the members held a silent auction. The rummage sale will be held at the Town Hall on May 15, at 10 A.M. If anyone has clothing to contribute, and would like to have these things picked up, please call Joyce Richardson, 367-4791, Roberta Lyman, 367-9965 or May Ward, 367-4331.

Congratulations are due to David and Myrna Levitman, from whom we had an announcement of the birth of a daughter, Anne Susan, on April 9. We send our best wishes to all the family.

The meeting of the Great Books Discussion Group has been postponed to May 11. Our leader, Richard Hocking, has some commitments in Cambridge for the original date.

We went to the Church Supper Saturday night, and were very pleased to note that for the first time this year there really was a full house. Besides our local townspeople, there were quite a few from Conway, Chocorua and Tamworth. Supper was good as usual, and the BYF were very attentive waiters and waitresses.

About sixty neighbors, friends and family members gathered at the ELK's Club house in North Conway on Saturday evening to celebrate the twenty-fifth wedding anniversary of Jimmy and Sylvia Twombly. Their daughter, Charmaine Eldridge, and Sylvia's sister, Natalie Rowell, were co-hostesses. Jimmy and Sylvia received some lovely gifts and a money tree. A beautifully decorated cake and other delicious refreshments were served. It seems that the Bicentennial Celebration plans are in everyone's thoughts these days. Last Thursday evening, Marion Weston, Leon Gerry, Kay Hocking and Cliff and I attended a meeting at the Freedom Town Hall, where Mr. Eric Small from Concord gave us some interesting suggestions of ways in which the various towns could become a part of the state-wide projects. He urged that all townspeople should become involved. As you know, the celebration is planned in three sections: Heritage, Festival, and Horizon. Mr. Small said that the Heritage and Festivals parts of the program were self-explanatory, but that Horizon implied making some sort of town contribution that would be of value to the future generations. What would be your reaction, and would each of you be willing to help on the idea of compiling a history of Madison? The

Historical Society has some good material collected, and there are some copies of "A Brief History of Madison" which was written in 1925. If those of you who live in the older houses in town could give us a thumb-nail sketch of the year in which your house was built, who lived there during the years, and any interesting anecdotes connected therewith, it might be possible to combine all these into a very readable account of life and activities in our town. This would surely be of value to future generations. Please give this matter some thought, and if you have items along this line to contribute, write them down immediately, and send them to Richard Hocking, Leon Gerry or me.

This year the Old Home Week Committee is centering its theme on the Bicentennial. On May 20, there will be an open meeting at the Town Hall for all those interested in helping with the celebration.

Beginning next Sunday, May 4, services at our church will start at nine o'clock.

Christopher Morley wrote: "There is only one rule for being a good talker: learn to listen." The same goes for being a reporter!