

A Look Back- Sept. 24-30

--

25 YEARS — 1987

- ▶ The Adirondack Park may well be on the way toward the same type of acid rain devastation that afflicts forests in northern Europe, an environmental coalition reported. “We’re afraid that what we’ve found may be the beginning of more serious and more widespread damage,” said a spokesman for the Adirondack Council. The pictorial report, entitled “Beside the Still Waters,” shows extensive damage to the red spruce trees on New York’s highest peak, Mt. Marcy.
- ▶ Highway superintendents in five Clinton County towns were charged by federal agents with accepting about \$20,000 in payoffs from a Washington County firm. Donald Roushia, highway superintendent for the town of Plattsburgh; Paul Schnob of Mooers; Larry “Chub” Moore of Ellenburg; Louis Recor of Chazy and Terry Dumont of Beekmantown were charged with allegedly accepting bribes or kickbacks from Adirondack Highway Materials of Hudson Falls. It was the second set of charges against Recor and Dumont.
- ▶ The Pulp Hill Road Bridge in Redford, one of the seven spans crossing the Saranac River here, will be replaced next year as part of a \$250,000 project jointly funded by the state and Clinton County. According to county Highway Superintendent Frank Madden, the state has agreed to fund about 75 percent of the cost, leaving the county with a share that could reach \$50,000, depending on the final bid price. The project will proceed if county legislators approve the spending in 1988.
- ▶ A Mohawk bingo palace, begun on land near the Ganienkeh Indian Project on Route 190, could bring high stakes gambling to Clinton County. Details about the construction and operation of the building are sketchy. However, members of the Ganienkeh community acknowledged that excavation begun there was the start of a bingo hall.

50 YEARS — 1962

- ▶ An upper Rugar Street trailer court owner said he has obtained 14 property owners signatures on a petition asking the Town of Plattsburgh Board not to let the city operate a dump in their neighborhood. The protest arose after the town supervisor, Bernard Amell, and Mayor John J. Tyrell last Wednesday conferred over the city’s dump problem. They reached agreements clearing the way for the city to use an abandoned 24 acre gravel pit as a landfill dump.
- ▶ The Chamber of Commerce parking committee is reviving interest in the ramp parking plan for downtown. The plan, first proposed in 1960 by Shoppers Downtown Parking Inc., called for

creation of a 325 car parking lot on South River Street at an estimated cost of \$900,000. The city administration turned thumbs down on the proposal for three principal reasons: 1) the total cost, 2) because it would take so much taxable property off the tax roll, thus in effect bolstering taxes, and 3) because it was to be financed by revenue from the city's parking meters.

► A new plan for the county to develop privately owned lands with wood lots was proposed during Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller's visit to Clinton County recently. "There are 12,000,000 acres of woodlands on private lands, which represent a resource of great potential impact on the state's economy," he said during an evening rally at Airborne Park on Salmon River. The Rockefeller program is aimed at firms involved in the manufacture of wood products.

75 YEARS — 1937

► Tensions on New York's milk strike front, which had lessened since members of the dairy farmers Union failed to make good on their promise to stage a sit down strike, was increased following receipt of a letter containing a threat to dynamite the Ellenburg plant of the Sheffield condensed milk company. The letter was received by an Ellenburg businessman.

► Welfare officials of Clinton and Franklin counties found out just how efficiently a Civilian Conservation Corps camp functions, and at the same time discovered the camp commander may have as many headaches as a welfare commissioner, and on a greater scale. CCC camp number S – 60, headquarters of company 220, located at Paul Smith's, was visited by officials at the invitation of Lieut. Col. Edward B. Dennis, commanding the Schenectady District. They were welcomed by Camp Commander Capt. Glenn G. Penniman, who in turn introduced the visitors to Capt. Alan G. Spitz.

► Two persons were killed instantly and 10 injured, one fatally, when a passenger car and a truck collided on the Plattsburgh – Chazy Highway, 5 miles north of the city yesterday morning. Terming the accident the worst ever to occur in Clinton County, district Atty. Andrew W. Ryan, sheriff's deputies and state police began an investigation of the tragedy that may take five lives. Sheriff's deputies said that the passenger car, driven by Raymond Mary, crashed into an oncoming truck as it attempted to pass a parked milk truck.

100 YEARS — 1912

► While en route from Hogansburg to Malone in his automobile, W. A. Donovan of Tupper Lake discovered flames coming through the floor of the car. Realizing the danger of a gasoline explosion, as the car contained 30 gallons of gasoline, Donovan and the one passenger who was making the trip with him, jumped to the side of the road. In a moment it was a mass of flames, and soon an explosion occurred when flames reached the gasoline tank, and the blazing fluid was thrown all over the road. It was a moment or two before the car was destroyed, with nothing remained but the framework of iron.

► Getting wind of the fact that poker was being played at the Mansion House, on the corner of Main and Fort Covington Streets in Malone, the authorities of that village made up their minds that they would look into the matter, and they did. Sheriff Edwards, Chief of Police Robarge,

Undersheriff Williamson, District Attorney Getraway and Officer Bouvier made up a raiding party. They took a walk up to the mansion house and found two rooms running at full blast. Two tables, under the supervision of two out-of-town men, who claimed Syracuse as their residence, were going full tilt when the place was raided.

► Paul and Chilton's general store at Ellenburg Depot was burglarized, with thieves gaining entrance to the building through a window in the rear. The burglary was discovered about six o'clock in the morning when the store was opened by one of the proprietors. Everything in the store was in great disorder, the thieves apparently having gone about their work deliberately and selecting only such articles as they desired to take away. The work was evidently done by two strangers who were seen in Ellenburg early in the evening.

— Compiled by Contributing Writer Shawn Ryan