vol. III, NO. 5 • \$1.00 A YEAR JANUARY 9, 1958 • TEN CENTS

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESSES FLUORIDATION

Fluoridation of the water supply in Water District No. 1 is now being considered by the Bethlehem Town Board. The Bethlehem Community Association has requested the town board and the water board to test the natural fluoride content of the present water supply and if it be found to be less than the 1 part per million of fluoride recommended for the prevention of tooth decay, to take the necessary steps to bring it up to that level when the new water supply is put into use.

"The Bethlehem Community Association believes that fluoridation of our water supply is a forward step that should be taken now, " declared Robert Van Raden, chairman. "The reasons for this belief are clearly stated in our letter to the town board. which is hereby made public for the general information of our Spitizens. We hope that all citiens. We hope that all citizens vill familiarize themselves with he facts on fluoridation, and Shat many will write the town oard, or call the town superisor, stating their position on he issue. Such action is the urest way of securing a decision that represents the convictions of the majority of the residents of the water district." The Association's letter

follows:

Town Board

Town of Bethlehem 393 Delaware Avenue Delmar, New York and Board of Water Commissioners Water District No. 1 Town of Bethlehem Delmar, New York

Gentlemen:

The Bethlehem Community Association's committee on water supply has for the past year studied the new water system of

Water District No. 1 and the desirability of fluoridating the water coming from the new reservoir.

We are happy to note the adequacy of the new reservoir to serve this community for many years to come, the possibility of expanding it should the need arise, and the good planning shown in utilizing most of the facilities of the present water system as parts of the new system.

Our studies of water fluoridation, plus the technical advice we have obtained from the State Health Department and from local dentists, convince us of the following:

1. Tooth decay is our most prévalent disease, affecting abour 95 per cent of our people. More money is spent on the treatment of this disease than on any other, over \$1,500,000,000 a year in the United States. Despite this expenditure, tooth decay is increasing faster than dentists can treat it. Such a situation obviously calls for preventive measures.

2. Fluoridation of public water supplies is the best procedure now known to science for preventing tooth decay. It will prevent up to 60 per cent of tooth decay in children who consume it from birth, and this protection lasts throughout adult life. Hence the entire community will eventually benefit from it.

3. Water containing 1 part per million of fluorine, the strength recommended in water supplies, is absolutely safe. It will not harm the human body in any way, nor will it interfere with any industrial process. It will not result in any undesirable staining of the teeth; rather it enhances the brilliance and beauty of the teeth.

4. Fluoridation is inexpen-



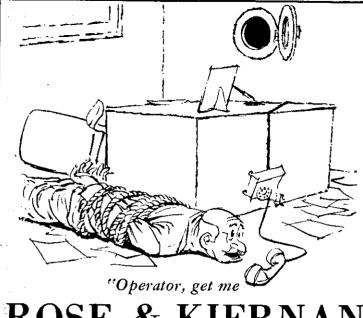
"WINTER WHITE" by Bill Bennett took first place in the December competition at the Delmar Camera Club meeting. The club meets twice monthly in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Delmar, and a black and white print competition as well as color slides are entered in a contest at each meeting.

sive. It will cost 10c to 20ca year per person. A person can drink fluoridated water for most of his life for less than the cost of filling one tooth.

5. Fluorine is colorless and tasteless and will not interfere with anyone's enjoyment of water, whether as a beverage or in the preparation of food.

The above facts have been clearly and incontrovertibly demonstrated in research studies carried out in many parts of the country, one of them in our own state in the cities of Newburgh and Kingston. Research workers have not only studied the effects of fluorine added to water supplies, but have also studied the dental health and general health of large populations living in those parts of our country where fluorine has been naturally present in the water consumed for many generations.

More than 32 million people in our country now enjoy the benefits of fluoridated water. Over 1500 communities have, fluoridated their water supplies, including such New York Communities as Hoosick Falls, Sche-(Continued on Page 5)



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LETTERS

Here's an answer to William Kromer's letter published last week: Dear Bill,

The letter which you addressed to the Spotlight could well be prophetic since it has taken a tragedy, in the form of a bicycle accident, to awaken parents and many Town of Bethlehem organizations to the necessity of safety education within our community, not only with children, but also with parents.

You asked, "What can be done about the situation?" On the State level, a law was recently passed which will soon make it mandatory for all bicycles to carry front and rear reflectors as well as headlamps. Such laws will be strictly enforced within the Town of Bethlehem.

As a community service dedicated to the principles of safety, the Delmar Kiwanis Club Boys' and Girls' Work Committee is now formulating a program which will be on a purely voluntary basis by children and parents, for inspection and registration of bicycles. Registration and reflectors will probably be furnished to all participating. Naturally, all participants will have to be familiar with safety laws and regulations.

We have the assurance of full cooperation from Town, Police and Fire officials and as such a program gets under way, there is no question but that children, and adults alike, will be well informed on the fundamentals of traffic safety so that the "life you save may be your own!"

Delmar Kiwanis Club Boys' and Girls' Work Committee

Co-Chairmen of Safety: Arthur L. Fleahman, Jr. Archie G. Ronk

JC

An open letter to Mrs. Sydney L. Smith, General Chairman, Community Christmas Festival:

Dear Mrs. Smith:

The White Christmas Festival has become an established annual event which reflects the untiring efforts of you and your committees in combining the talents of our church, social, musical and school groups. It is the one truly community and town-wide event of the year and it is gratifying to me as a town official to know that so many people will give so unselfishly of their time and talents to make the program possible. A most important result is the feeling of cooperation and friendliness, not only among the participants and attendants but among all of our residents, old and young. The other valuable result is the financial assistance given to our needy families and children.

It is impossible to thank each of your community members and the participants personally or even to mention them all by name. I do want to express my appreciation and that of the Town Board to you personally and through you to all of the people and request that you convey to them our sincere thanks for a most inspiring and wonderful community project.

> Sincerely, John M. Oliver Supervisor Town of Bethlehem.

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January 9, 1958 - PAGE 3

Plaza and Nearby Merchants Dismayed by Robberies

With eleven business places robbed during the last six weeks of 1957, merchants at the Delaware Plaza and nearby took a dim view of things last week as they did what they could to prevent further losses.

New Year's morning, phones rang in three home as police sought the help of three Plaza store proprietors in determining how great were their losses from three robberies on the eve of the new year. While a capacity crowd of merrymakers were celebrating at the Elsmerian Restaurant, Tom Mooney's Dari-Delite. Charlie Schellhaas' Camera Store andClayt Albright's Center Hardware had their plate glass front doors smashed and were robbed. Nearest store to the Elsmerian to be molested was an attempt to remove the hinge pins and the door from Helen Rasker's Town and Tweed; this was unsuccessful.

A small amount of merchandise was removed from both the Camera Store and Dari-



of merchandise: 6 exposure meters. Year's Eve.

the cash register change, less than \$20. Any one of the three smashed doors was worth more than the combined loot taken. Asked to make a statement,

Police Chief Arthur Blodgett said, "I have no comment on the robberies. However, further Delite, while the Hardware lost break-ins at the Plaza will be "We are almost positive that and Robert Foster.

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BREAKING the Schellhaas' Ca- HOT DOGS (6 lbs. of 'emi) were mera Store front door to gain en- all the burglars took from Tom trance netted the thieves \$36 worth Mooney's Dari Delite on New

> harder to accomplish because we are adding to the night patrol in that area and Murray-Simon, Inc., owners of the Plaza, will leave the lights on under the canopy all night." When asked about leads to the robbers, Chief Blodgett said,

these eleven burglaries were committed by a group from Albany. In two of the crimes a car stolen in Albany was later seen at the scene of the crimes and was returned and abandoned on a downtown street."

Although insurance covers the Plaza property in the event of criminal damage, the merchants were upset and worried by the continual activity of the attacks.

Among the places which have been illegally entered during a period of six weeks, are: Studler's Sales and Service, Boice's Atlantic Station, Neudorf's Mobil Station (twice), Delmar Cleaners, Tri-Village Fruit Stand(twice), Plaza Barber Shop, and on December 31 the three mentioned above. This past summer, the Elsmerian Restaurant was also a victim.

Investigating for the Bethlehem Police on New Year's morning, were: Deputy Chief John Hotaling, Sergeant LeRoy Cooke, Patrolmen Willard L. Marshman

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THE SPOTLIGHT





THE SPOTLIGHT

WATER (Continued from Page 1)

nectady, Cobleskill, Gloversville, Penn Yann, Rochester. Olean, Westfield, Larchmont, New Rochelle, Pelham, Bronxville, Eastchester, Tuckahoe, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie and Elmira.

These facts are such that any reasonable person reviewing them would conclude that fluoridation was desirable in public water supplies.

Fluoridation is endorsed by the American Medical Association. the American Dental Association, the American Public Health Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the U.S. Public Health Service, the New York State Department of Health, the New York State Dental Association, and by many other medical and dental groups. It has received more support from the nation's leading scientific organizations then did milk pasteurization, smallpox vaccination and water chlorination when those public health measures were initiated.

tists appealed to the town board | up to this desirable level at the to fluoridate the water supply. The board asked them to wait until the new water supply became available. These local dentists are as enthusiastic in their support of fluoridation now as they were then, and have been represented in our committee's deliberations.

Our new water supply is now all but ready for use. This moment, when the new filtration plant is being made ready for use, seems to us to be the best possible time to make the decision to install fluoridation equipment.

The steering committee of the Bethlehem Community Association believes that fluoridation of the water supply of Water District No. 1, Town of Bethlehem, is a forward step that should be taken at this time. It has directed its committee on water supply to place this matter before the town board and the waterboard, requesting these boards to take appropriate action to test the fluoride content of our water supply, and if it be found to be less than 1.0 part per mil-A few years ago 12 local den- | lion, to take steps to bring it | Maitre."

time the new water supply is put into use.

We are confident that a majority of the citizens in a progressive and well informed community such as this desire that this step be taken. Hence we commend it to you both on the basis of community need and community desire. Our committee will be happy to assist the boards in any way that we can to bring about this desirable forward step in our community.

Respectfully yours, Robert Van Raden, Chairman Bethlehem Community Association

Paul A. Hedlund, Chairman Committee on Water Supply

"The Association suggests that citizens desiring further information can get it locally by calling their dentist, their doctor, or the New York State Department of Health, " said Mr. Van Raden. "Members of the Association's water committee will also be glad to be of assistance. They are Paul A. Hedlund, Robert E. Morton, Dr. John M. Knighton and Lucien H. Le-



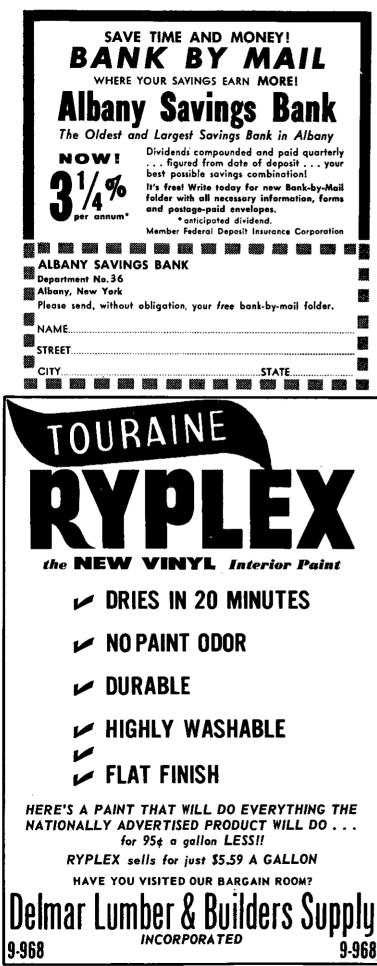
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THE SPOTLIGHT Here & There HICKORY HILL SHOP THE BETHLEHEM YOUNG Adults GIFTS & STATIONERY Association will meet tonight. 149 Main Street, Ravena, N. Y. January 9, at 8 p.m. in the Glass grapes & waxed fruit Homemaking room of the Beth-Spiralite Candles from lehem Senior High School. Fol-Cape Cod lowing the business meeting, with Vice-President David Jourdan Open 11:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. presiding, the program will be Phone Ravena 8-1844 turned over to Mr. Herbert Mayne n winter—smart buyers THE NEXT MEETING of the Delof tires mar Camera Club will be held Are safer by far - on Tuesday, January 14, 1958, With **ARMSTRONG** at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The subject for color slide com-**Silent Storm Kings** petition at this meeting will be On their car! "Christmas Subject Still Life." There will also be black-andwhite print competition. Visitors are welcome. Refreshments THE THIRD AND last Salk vaccine clinic for the Clarksville Parent Teachers Association will be held at the Clarksville School on Tuesday, January 21, at 8 PATRONIZE YOUR LOCAL p.m. Adults desiring vaccina-DEALER -YOUR INTEREST tions should contact the school in IS THE FOUNDATION OF writing by January 13 so that

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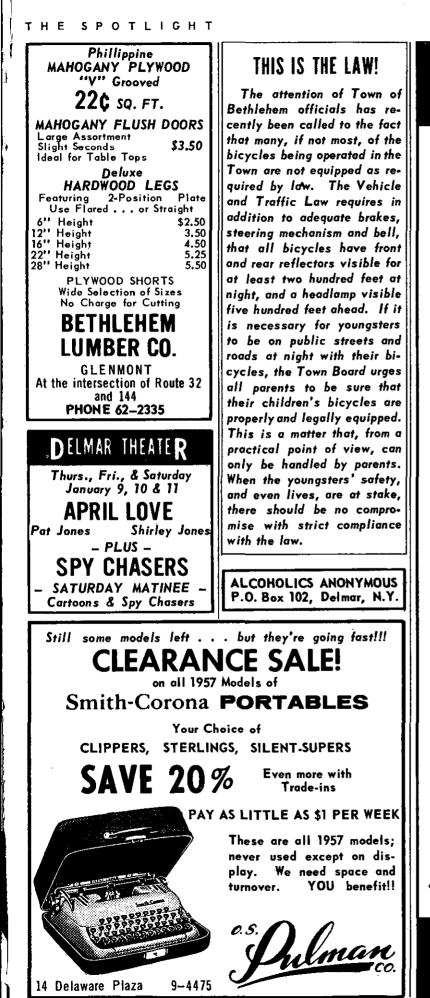
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William R. Warner Thomas Lonatin

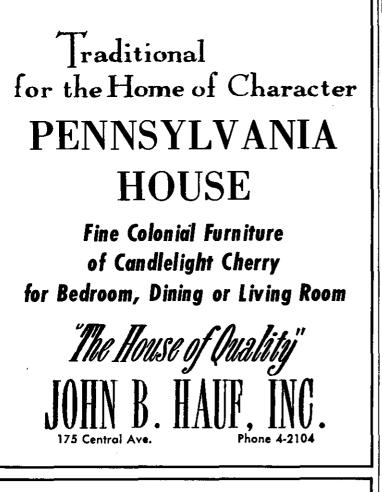
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Here & There .

STATE BOTANIST, Dr. Eugene Ogden, will deliver an illustrated lecture, "Researches on Pollen," to members of the Delmar Progress club at a general meeting of the organization at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13 at the Delmar Public Library.

-0-THE JANUARY MEETING of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Elsmere Fire Company will be held on Thursday, January 9, at 8 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Mrs. Edward Ryan will preside.

-0-

THE OFTEN OVERLOOKED topic of "Wills and Trusts" will be presented to the Junior Women of Albany on Tuesday, January 14, by Herbert Jones of the National Commercial Bank and Trust Co. He will introduce the subject with a film, "So Little for Eve," depicting the problems of a wife left to care for an estate without benefit of a will. Meeting commences at 8:00 p.m. and all members are invited to bring husbands and other guests.

-0-THE HAMAGRAEL Pre-School Group will meet on Monday, January 13, at 8 p.m. in the school.

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THE SPOTLIGHT

ALL BUSINESS GIRLS and professional women are invited to the semi-monthly meetings at the Albany Bible Institute, 281 State Street, Albany, January 8 and 22, Wednesdays. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Devotions will begin at 7 p.m. followed by study of the Epistle of I Corinthians

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Rates – Emergency Service Leonard Price Harold Young A MEETING OF the Delmar Elementary School PTA will be held on Tuesday, January 14, at 8 p.m. in the school.

-0-

THE DELMAR DAY Unit of the Albany County Extension Service will hold its regular meeting at the Delmar Public Library, Friday, January 10.

-0-

DR. FREDERICK McCANDLESS, Professor of Psychiatry at Albany Medical College, will speak to the Woman's Society of the Slingerlands Community Methodist Church on Tuesday evening, January 14. Dr. McCandless' talk will embrace ways by which late adolescents and young adults can find values to follow in their lives.

The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and all women in the area are cordially invited to attend.

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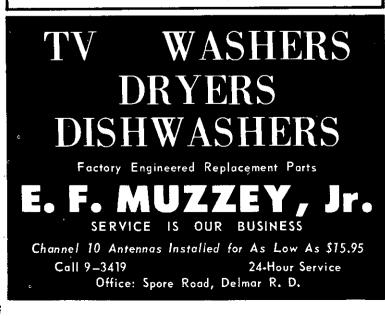
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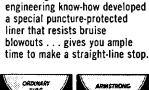
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