

Coast Guard battles back at fishing plunderers

Sunday Bulletin Bard: Lots of prominence given to that re-enactment of Washington's crossing of the Delaware and, as usual, he's pictured standing in the boat, which calls for a bit-tot from safety experts. But there's an added bit of interest to the re-enactment. The man who owned the ferry, used by Washington and his men, one McConkey by name (if memory is correct) is buried in the hills south of the Mohawk, over Montgomery County way.

An idea of how much plundering of our coastal waters is done by foreign fishing fleets is proved by the fact that captured vessels, operating within the twelve-mile limit, have paid \$3.6 million in fines; twenty-one ships have been nailed by the Coast Guard. One Japanese visitation was worth \$600,000 in penalty. Biggest on record. If the U.S. would extend its coastal waters to at least fifty miles, we could probably make a sizeable dent in the national debt.

Total paid out by the NYS Police Benevolent Association for legal expenses of troopers questioned about the Attica thing, has gone well over \$250,000. Meantime, of course, the state itself sits on its novel record of having appropriated \$750,000 for legal expenses for convicted felons involved in the riot, and not one damned cent for troopers.

What we didn't know: Even though the CSEA does not represent the State Police uniformed members, the giant union came through with a \$5,000 contribution, along with a blast at the state for not backing its own men. Meantime, this corner's thanks to those in this area who individually contributed to the Attica Defense Fund. Odd, isn't it, that there has been no comment from the governor or his lieutenant governor on the state's failure to back its own police.

BARNEY FOWLER



Over in Vermont a hike in state campsite fees has gone into effect. NYS should note that non-residents pay more than the Vermonters whose taxes support the campsites. In NYS many campsite areas are dominated by out-of-staters and Canadians.

Incidentally, Vermont's state health dept's has warned pregnant and nursing mothers not to eat wall-eye pike, channel catfish and smallmouth bass taken from Lake Champlain. Reason: PCBs.

Rep. Sam Stratton, speaking before Sch'dy Kiwanis the other day, brought up an interesting point on congressional and other disclosures of many of the international workings of the United States. He summed it all up in a question, in essence: Should foreign policy of the country be conducted in Macy's window?

He's got a point. Too many things are tearing this country apart; if it all keeps up we'll all be hanging on a feather for faith. And another thing I'm getting sick of as a citizen: The vicious barbs being tossed at President Ford; the jokes based on his speaking ability, on his skiing ability, etc. Way things are going, it's a wonder some loopy writer hasn't looked up Washington's marriage certificate to see if Martha was legally his spouse.

Ases have a way of boomeranging. Ex-

ample: Carey tried to ditch special state prosecutor Maurice Nadjari, and the hatchet swung full circle; Atty. Gen. Lefkowitz said nothing doing on immediate dismissal and Nadjari has six more months to go on his investigations. In that length of time, working under deadline, the prosecutor should be able to uncover quite a bit of political garbage that needs airing.

Andrew Becker of Andy and Bill's, E. Main St., Johnstown, urges continued disclosure in this corner of cruelty to horses in transportation, which is something I plan to continue. Andy also suggests The World's Greatest Set of Living Teeth be given a big bone to start the New Year right. Will do and I'll try to convince the doggy lady she should write a thank you note.

No question but what John Papp of John Papp Historical Publications, 58 Woodlawn Ave., Sch'dy, is a busy man. In his "spare" time, this remarkable gentleman, who is also a camera buff and a good one, has knuckled out thirteen historical publications. And his latest is based on Albany's Bicentennial; includes some fascinating bits on Albany's past and, as usual, is well illustrated. Cost is \$1.50 plus twenty cents postage. Cover designer and editorial as-

sistant is Harry Shave, who handles PR work at Samaritan Hospital, Troy, an expert in the graphic arts.

Don't forget Richard Allen's talk on the Champlain Valley in the Revolution Friday, Jan. 9, 8 p.m., at the courthouse in Elizabethtown. Admission free.

I know it's a promotional gimmick, but I still get a charge out of seeing WRGB's fine newscaster, Ernie Tetrauli, placidly sculling the Mohawk in January; not that the scene is set this month. It does give an idea of what Tetrauli does at the crack of dawn during those happy months when all of us don't have to get buried in fur. So far I haven't seen any promotional blarney showing a WRGB'er whooping his way on a snowmobile. For which, on this blessed day, thanks are offered.

"Substantial files of detailed and irreplaceable reports, covering investigations and studies of industrial health hazards over the past thirty-five years by a unit of the State Labor Department, have by executive order of Gov. Hugh Carey been preserved and transferred to custody of the State Health Department."

So reads a report by the NYS AFL-CIO, Raymond R. Corbett, president. The labor organization says up to the time of the transfer, the studies had been kept secret and mostly unavailable. Said Corbett, in a letter to Gov. Carey:

"We have reason to believe that many workers have died and even more will die or become ill because of the way the Division of Industrial Hygiene has for so many years kept the results of its surveys and studies from scholars and independent scientists working in this field."

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