

# History of Highway Supt. Association

Dec. 15, 1960

A meeting was called for 8 P.M., August 10, 1955, by Ralph C. McKernon, Washington County <sup>Highway</sup> Supt. The purpose of this meeting was to see if there would be any interest in organizing an association of Town Superintendents of Washington County. There was 100% attendance at the meeting, and it was decided to go ahead and organize.

Roland C. Lykin, of the Town of Jackson, was elected as president; William Hughes as vice-president; Arck Craig of Hebron, secretary, and Joseph Sillis, of the Town of Cambridge, treasurer. It was decided to have another meeting and draw up some by-laws, and form some committees. The meeting was to be the following month, Sept. 21, 1955.

The association was fortunate to have made the acquaintance, through some of its members, of Russel H. Corrie, who was the secretary of the Superintendence Association in his county of Erie. Mr. Corrie mailed our organization a copy of their by-laws. From this copy, our organization drew up our by-laws. These were presented and adopted on Sept. 21, 1955. At this same meeting,

Committees were formed for the year, and the Association was off to a good start.

It was decided to hold our meetings on the last Wednesday of each month.

The original members of the Association were the following superintendents:

Argyle - Peter Tufkin, Cambridge - Joseph Ellis, Dresden - Otto Sttenburg, Easton - Harold Snell, Fort Ann - Alfred Gale, Fort Edward - Bill Culligan, Granville - William Hughes, Greenwich - Neil Carswell, Hampton - Malcolm Brown, Hartford - William Thomas, Hebron - Arch' Craig, Jackson - Roland Tufkin, Kennebury - Charles Sheer, Putnam - Glenn Barber, Salem - Stewart Weaver, White Creek - Francis Watkins, Whitehall - Frank Martucci.

Other Association Members were: Ralph McKernon, Washington County Highway Dept., George Norton, Construction Foreman; Lloyd Friday, N.Y. State District Engineer; and the county engineers or surveyors.

Lawrence Mc Auley of the Town of Salem was active in the Association's organization, but was killed in a tractor accident in August, 1955, while working his own tractor.

Before our organization was one year old, Neil Carswell, the Entertainment Chairman, was killed by one of the town

trucks while in the line of duty.

One of the highlights of the Association's activities each year is to take tours during the summer months. On these tours we have each year, some of the state men from the Department of Public Works that are connected with the Crwin Plan have joined us. We have traveled over roads built under the ten-year plan so that every Crwin Plan road that has been built in Washington County has been covered.

Also we looked at bridges built on State highways and County highways.

After the Association had been organized one year, we decided to have a banquet to celebrate our success. We sold ads for a brochure. This has kept our Association in money to pay our expenses.

At the first banquet we had Charles John Stevenson of Cambridge, N.Y. and W. G. Y. as our guest speaker. Music was played by Madeline To Beane during dinner. Invocation was by Rev. Russell Edgerton of Greenwich, and the benediction by Rev. Harvey Desautels of Whitehall. This banquet was held at the Kennebunk Hotel, Hudson Falls.

The second banquet was held at the Masonic Temple in Fort Edward on Nov. 25, 1957. President of the Year was

Frank Martucci of Whitehall. Malcomb Brown was vice-president; Robert Downmont, secretary; and Harold Snell, Treasurer. Honorable William J. Reid, N.Y. Assemblyman, was master of ceremonies. Invocation was made by Rev. Andrew Currier of Greenwich. Music was by Sally Tupper. Speaker of the evening was Mr. Vibert Ostrander from N.Y. D. P. W. Entertainment was by the Blodgett Family and the benediction was by Rev. Kenneth Doyle of Fort Edward.

Between this year and the last, the appointed Supt. of Argyle, William Holcomb, died. Mr. Downmont was appointed to fill the office.

The third banquet was held at the same place as the year before on Nov. 13, 1958, at 7:30. The president for the year was Joseph Stiles of Cambridge. The Master of Ceremonies was Theodore Buckley, Supervisor of the Town of Cambridge. The invocation was by Rev. Andrew Currier of Greenwich and the speaker was Mr. Edwin Hart of N.Y. D. P. W. Entertainment was the Solfegeans and the benediction was by Rev. Francis Hoar of Fort Edward. During the year, Lester Tupper was re-elected to office in Argyle.

The fourth annual banquet was held Nov. 17, 1959, at the American Legion Hall in Fort Ann. The president for the year

was Glennis Barber of Putnam; Alfred Yule was vice-president; Malcom Brown, Secretary; and Foster Tufkin, Treasurer. Master of Cerimonies was Robert Allen of Fort Ann. Invocation by Rev. Andrew Currier of Greenwich. The after dinner speaker was Mr. Edward W. Dayton, Deputy Chief Engineer of the State of New York. The entertainment was a quartet called "The Northway Men". Benediction by Rev. Andrew Gardner.

Our fifth annual banquet was held in the same place as the year before on Nov. 15, 1960. The president for the year was Alfred (Dick) Yule; with Malcomb Brown, vice-president; Foster Tufkin, secretary; and Jesse Randall, treasurer. About 100 attended the banquet. The toastmaster was Clyde Cook from Fort Ann Sales. The speaker of the evening was State Trooper Sarg. J. A. Harrison who spoke on Highway Safety. The invocation was by Rev. Allen Bain, Pastor of the United Protestant Church of Fort Ann. The entertainment was a magician from Glens Falls, N.Y., Jack D. Diabrow. The benediction was given by Rev. Father Andrew Gardner of St. Ann's Church in Fort Ann.

Perhaps one of the most interesting evenings of the years were the nights we have our women to a banquet. These

were held as follows:

1957 - Mrs. Nevt Williams Entertainment

1958 - Masonic Temple, Fort Edward

1959 - Argyle Fire House, Dancing Club

1960 - Hartford Fish & Game, Solfegeans

1962 - W. Hebrew Presb. Church Glee Club. G.S.