

# Gazette News Items Mirror 1950 History of City

## Tragedies and Joys Of Falls Life Seen In Day-to-day Story

Commonplace and Unusual Events Alike Recorded Comprehensively and Completely in News Columns Throughout Year

The pages of the Gazette have been mirrored, comprehensively and completely, the history of Niagara Falls in 1950. Reported in the news columns were the progress, the historically-significant events, the commonplace and the unusual, the tragedies and the joys in the day-to-day story of this city's people. Presented here, according to the dates of publication, is the "History of Niagara Falls—1950."

### Accidents

- January**
  - 14—Miss Stella Grace, 36, of 2002 Independence avenue, Niagara Falls school teacher, is injured critically when struck by taxi cab at intersection of Elmwood avenue and Nineteenth street, January 17—Miss Grace dies at Memorial hospital.
- February**
  - 13—Mrs. Sophia Smith, 63, of 234 Sixty-first street, dies at Mt. St. Mary's hospital as a result of injuries sustained in a fall down the cellar steps of her home.
  - 14—Sandra Lee Freeman, three, dies at Memorial hospital as a result of severe body burns believed sustained by contact with a "bucket-a-day" stove in basement of her home at 2514 Tenth street.
  - 15—Probe blast at Mathieson Chemical corporation plant here in which one workman is injured and considerable damage is caused to plant and equipment.
  - 21—The Rev. F. J. Aukstakalis, 39, pastor of St. George's Catholic church, dies at Mt. St. Mary's hospital from injuries received in fall from a nine-foot ladder at church.
  - 25—John Hudson, 56, of 603 Erie avenue, drowns in 12 feet of water in pit at Kimberly-Clark corporation plant's pumping station.
  - 27—Peter Villone, 334 Third street, dies on arrival at Mt. St. Mary's hospital after suffering head injuries in mishap at New York Central railroad freight yards.
- March**
  - 18—Donna Angela Bowers, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. Bowers, is injured fatally when struck by an IRC bus within a few feet of the porch of her home at 3805 Pine avenue. Mishap occurs during blizzard which raged throughout Western New York.
  - 27—Edward E. Franchot, 69, prominent lawyer, dies as a result of injuries received when his automobile collides with a bus in Grand Island Express highway.
- April**
  - 17—William Kelley, 13-year-old son of Mrs. Theodore Fleming, 221 Sixth street, is drowned while fishing from a rowboat in Tuscarora creek.
- May**
  - 9—Joseph Bartko, 40, of 102 Niagara street, suffers multiple injuries, and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hunt, 451 Third street, escape injury, when the auto in which they are riding is struck by a New York Central railroad switch engine at Niagara street crossing between First and Second streets.
  - 18—James W. Webb, 35-year-old Niagara Falls industrial executive, is killed instantly when the automobile he is driving crashes into a tree in Lewiston road near Niagara university.
- June**
  - 7—Calvin Carson, ten-year-old son of Fred Carson, 1722 Eleventh street, is drowned while fishing for pollywogs in Niagara river.
  - 3—William E. McConnell, 28, of 649 Sixth street, suffers fatal injuries when he is tossed to pavement from his motorcycle in Military road.
  - 5—Michael Pfeifer, 22 months, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Pfeifer, 9333 Read avenue, dies of injuries received when struck by a milk truck near his home.
  - 5—Peter E. Broden, six, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Broden, 984 Rankine road, drowns in Niagara river at Youngstown while on a July 4 holiday cruise.
  - 5—David Benson, 50, of 431 Seventh street, is instantly killed and four of his fellow workmen are injured in the explosion of a hypochlorite mixer at plant of Mathieson Chemical corporation.
  - 7—Robert Pay, 21, of 238 Third street, and Hollis Parker, 20, of 201 Main street, are rescued by firemen after being stranded for five hours on a rock ledge in Niagara river gorge bank while on fishing trip.
  - 14—John Jarrot, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Jarrot, 1410 Ferry avenue, is killed in crash of a B-50 bomber near Lebanon, O.
  - 18—Henry C. Waters, 25, of 345 Third street, is killed instantly when a truck he is operating strikes power pole near Gasport.
- August**
  - 4—Eddy Ship, 39, of 230 Memorial parkway, suffers possible fractured spine when the car in which he is riding is struck by a Lehigh Valley passenger train at the Twenty-fourth street grade

- crossing. Two other passengers in the car, Andrew Gregory, 35, of 230 Memorial parkway, and George Chappell, 23, of 4417 Link court, also suffer injuries.
- 5—George Smart, 25, of 127 Thirtieth street, suffers a scalp laceration when the auto he is operating crashes into a New York Central railroad switch engine at the Thirtieth street crossing.
- September**
  - 5—Amos H. Hardy, 28, and his wife, Vera, 27, of 902 Ninety-fifth street, are rescued by police, firemen and a neighbor, after being found unconscious in a gas-filled room in their home.
  - 9—Lawrence J. Farris, 26, of 454 Twenty-third street, drowns while fishing at Oak Orchard creek, near Kenyonville.
  - 11—William Wiley, 44, of 218 Fourth street, drowns after being overcome with gas while working on the new city water intake job off Buckhorn island in Niagara river.
  - 22—Mrs. Willie G. Butcher, 26, of 1215 Eighty-seventh street, suffers a crushed skull, and her husband, Alfred J., 26, a city fireman, sustained a lacerated cheek and bruises, when the auto in which they are riding leaves highway and strikes tree in River road near Stella Niagara.
  - 23—Mrs. Butcher succumbs to injuries at Buffalo General hospital.
  - 28—Pamella Gayton, six-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gayton, 22 B Center Court, suffocates in a bed in which she is sleeping with her parents.
- October**
  - 2—Michael M. Brans, 44, of 520 1/2 Fourth street, suffers fatal injuries when the auto he is driving crashes into steel girder abutment of New York Central railroad viaduct in North Main street. Three other passengers of auto are slightly injured.
  - 7—Raymond Jones, 13, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore M. Jones, 224 Eighteenth street, is killed instantly when struck by a train at Eighteenth street crossing.
  - 28—Louis Villone, 89, of 350 Eighth street, dies of injuries sustained when struck by an automobile at Niagara and Seventh streets. George Howard, 21, of 717 Twenty-second street, driver of car, is charged with criminal negligence and released in bail of \$2,500.
- November**
  - 6—Stanley Pzyznki, 72, of 2566 East Falls street, dies at Memorial hospital of injuries received when struck by an auto in vicinity of Twenty-fourth street and Cudaback avenue.
  - 7—Clifford Morgan, Jr., four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Morgan, 2719 LaSalle avenue, is fatally injured when struck by a truck near his home.
  - 8—Samuel S. Sproi, 46, of 5649 Frontier avenue, is killed when a bicycle he was riding is struck by an auto in Pine avenue near Niagara Junction Railway company grade crossing.
  - 13—Joseph Wysocki, 42, of 1050 Ontario avenue, assistant night operator at No. 1 pumping station, succumbs at Memorial hospital to burns suffered in an electrical explosion at the station's high-tension switchboard. Explosion virtually cuts off area water supply for 3 1/2 hours.
  - 13—Willis Thomason, 22, of 553 Jackson drive, is injured seriously when he is pinned by a trailer against a loading dock at Charles H. Kubus Delivery, Inc., 2198 Seneca avenue.
  - 20—Probe gas-fume deaths of two Detroit youths in tourist cabin in Pine avenue at Seventy-first street. Dead are Alvin A. Stankiewicz, 20, and Stanley Cichon, 19. Hospitalized are Donald T. Kowalczyk, 18, and Donald J. Kowicki, 20. Four had come to this city for weekend holiday.
  - 21—Donald J. Kowicki dies at Mt. St. Mary's hospital.
  - 25—George F. Craig, Jr., nine, of 3017 Panama street, Town of Niagara, is killed when a bicycle he is riding in Petroleum avenue, strikes and hurls him into path of moving automobile.
  - 25—Edward Chalmers, 62, of 428 First street, suffers burns and other injuries in explosion and fire at plant of Mathieson Chemical corporation.
  - 8—Claude W. Miller, 56, Sanborn, and Clinton A. Johnson, 35, Pekin, Mathieson Chemical corporation employees, are killed almost instantly when the auto in which they are riding, en route to work, is wrecked in a collision with a Lehigh Valley railroad passenger train at the Hyde Park boulevard grade crossing.
  - 11—Naval officials here probe crash of a Corsair fighter plane near Lewiston in which Lt. Louis Steege, Watkins, Glen, Niagara Falls Marine Air Reserve pilot, is killed.

### Business

- January**
  - 3—City market collections for 1949 reported at \$17,794.51, largest in history of market and an increase of \$1,134.84 over 1948.
  - 12—President Samuel S. Wolkind and officers of the North End Business association are returned to office by acclamation.
  - 17—Record construction year indicated here as 1949 building permits hit \$8,412,589.
- February**
  - 3—Radio Station WHLD hikes broadcasting power from 1,000 to 5,000 watts.
- March**
  - 2—Niagara Falls Hotel corporation reports profits of \$43,702.74 for 1949, representing 49 cents a share. All of the board's 16 directors are re-elected.
  - 13—New York Central railroad puts three Niagara Falls trains back in service.
  - 13—Twenty-Niagara Falls builders announce plans to construct 800 rental housing units during year, with a rental range of from \$45 to \$60 a month.
  - 23—J. Clark Cassidy is re-elected head of Niagara Falls Hotel corporation.
- April**
  - 19—Duane L. Tower, Niagara Falls customs broker, is one of 11 Western New York men named to board of directors of reorganized International Railway company.
- May**
  - 1—Tower elected vice president of Niagara Frontier Transit system.
  - 1—Building tieup is seen here as two unions begin strike. May 2. Building tieups, layoffs spreading in strike here. May 3. Meeting is under way to end plumbers' strike. May 4. Eight hundred are idled by strike; complete shutdown feared. May 10. Plumbers return with two-year pact and pay boosts. May 15. Plasterers and cement finishers end two-week strike.
  - 15—Five new directors named to Chamber of Commerce board of directors are Maurice E. Gillett, Marshall J. Henderson, James S. Hill, Walter S. Johnson and J. Percy Williams.
- June**
  - 14—Plans are announced for construction of an eight-story, \$200,000 shopping center in Main street, directly opposite Spirella company factory.
  - 21—R. Wolcott Hooker is elected president of Chamber of Commerce.
- July**
  - 27—To build \$250,000 shopping center in Pine avenue between Military road and Eighty-second street.
- September**
  - 7—Langford H. Vandervice announces his resignation as manager of Hotel Niagara. September 15. Floyd W. Vandervort, assistant manager of the Hotel Niagara and secretary of the Niagara Falls Hotel corporation, to become hotel's manager October 1.
  - 29—Milk price here to rise one cent a quart.
- October**
  - 2—Robert T. Harrold is appointed general manager of Niagara Falls Gazette Publishing company.
- November**
  - 8—Permit is granted for \$600,000 housing project in Lafayette avenue.

- vice principal at Trott Vocational high school, at Clearwater, Fla.
- 19—Charles H. Banks, 76, longtime city official.
- 21—Alfred J. Campbell, 65, veteran Country club pro.
- 23—Mrs. Agnes B. C. Chormann, 89, member of a pioneer Niagara Falls family.
- July**
  - 1—George Walter Chorman, 72, former Carbo executive.
  - 3—Charles Newell Allen, 64, president of Allen Milling company.
  - 6—Mrs. Anna Polewicz, 81, mother of the Rev. Chester Polewicz and church leader here.
  - 14—Eugene Gordon Hartshorn, 87, prominent merchant.
  - 20—Harry C. Kinsey, 82, former LaSalle assessor.
  - 22—Michael F. O'Brien, 64, Immigration inspector at Whirlpool Rapids bridge for 25 years.
  - 26—The Rev. Patrick M. Boland, C.M., 85, Niagara university professor emeritus.
- August**
  - 3—William H. McDowell, consulting engineer at Electro Metallurgical division of Union Carbide and Carbon corporation.
  - 4—Augustus G. Porter, 74, distinguished citizen and descendant of first Niagara Falls settler.
  - 18—W. Mason Bowen, 85, well-known pharmacist.
  - 24—Martin McGraw, 95, one of this city's oldest citizens.
- September**
  - 25—Mrs. Maude Mary Ann Milne, 101, Falls centenarian.
  - 29—George Norman Smith, 53, former operator of the Cataract House and recently owner of Normandy restaurant.
- October**
  - 2—Lewis P. Dayton, 92, Niagara Falls' first city clerk.
  - 18—Matthew Victor Allen, 86, member of pioneer family.
  - 24—Dr. Francis Farron Talbot, 36, prominent physician.
- November**
  - 4—Archibald D. Kysor, former executive here of Carborundum company, at Manchester, Eng.
  - 25—Andrew J. Skimin, 57, well-known former Niagara Falls athlete.
- December**
  - 11—The Rev. Perry Conroy, 85, C. M., former president and superior at Niagara university.
  - 26—Fred V. H. Piper, 46, City Water department head.

### Finance

- January**
  - 3—George F. Bates, president of the Power City Trust company, named a director of the Buffalo branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
  - 10—Power City Trust company announces election of Ross Hare as a director and Edwin R. Bartlett member of executive committee, and resignation of James L. Coe, vice president.
  - 12—Elton B. Hall, president of the Niagara County Savings bank, elected president of the Niagara Falls Clearing House association.
  - 12—Niagara Permanent Savings and Loan association takes over large block of mortgages on Niagara frontier property from the Home Owners Loan corporation.
  - 13—Floyd B. Hall re-elected president and John T. Williamson re-elected chairman of the executive committee of the Niagara County Savings bank.
  - 21—Power City Trust company announces the installation of a drive-in wicket at its Main street and Michigan avenue office.
- February**
  - 7—J. Percy Williams is re-elected president of the Niagara Permanent Savings and Loan association's board of directors.
- May**
  - 15—Power City Trust company is high bidder in City bond note sale.
  - 27—Porter F. Pohl, Niagara Permanent Savings and Loan association, is named president of Group 1, Western New York Savings and Loan league.
- June**
  - 13—William W. Mollison is appointed assistant secretary of the Power City Trust company.
- July**
  - 19—John H. Bingenheimer is elected a trustee of Niagara County Savings bank.
- August**
  - 23—Power City Trust company opens auto-teller window service at its Peoples office in Main street.
- October**
  - 17—Power City Trust company buys \$3,390,000 in water bond anticipation notes from city.
  - 28—In address here Charles H. Dieffendor, president of the Marine Midland group, urges an economic austerity program as a means of maintaining confidence in United States dollar.
- November**
  - 11—Christmas club members here to split \$1,408,563 from Niagara County Savings bank and the Niagara Permanent Savings and Loan association.

### Fires

- March**
  - 3—Three Niagara Falls families are left destitute as fire destroys interior of three-apartment building at 229 Memorial parkway. John Robinson and Mrs. Mary Shaw rescue five children from the building. Fire caused, according to Fire department officials, by overheated oil stove igniting wall.
  - 6—Family of five is driven into street in night at fire rips apart through their second-floor apartment at 806 Buffalo avenue.
  - 7—Patrick Whelan, three, and his brother, Michael, two, are rescued by James Brady, 618 Ninety-sixth street, and Jack Mercer,

- 632 Ninety-sixth street, as fire damages the Whelan home at 636 Ninety-sixth street. Overcome by fumes, both children are revived by a Fire department inhaler crew.
- 14—Loss is estimated at \$200,000 as an early morning fire almost entirely destroys Whitney avenue school, one of this city's oldest school buildings. School had served as adult education center. Cause of the three-hour blaze is undetermined. March 15. Fire department, Board of Education and insurance company officials launch probe.
- May**
  - 1—Francis Overholt, 69, an invalid, is rescued by firemen from his burning home at 1342 North avenue.
- June**
  - 22—Thirty-five persons are forced to leap to safety as \$100,000 blaze sweeps First Methodist church, 8202 Buffalo avenue. Fire starts while parishioners are attending a meeting of the church's board of directors. Five men suffer burns in attempting to fight the fire.
- November**
  - 30—Mrs. Clayton T. Wilson, Sr., suffers hand and arm burns in \$1,800 fire at her home at 520 Sixth street.

### Government

- January**
  - 3—Supervisor Daunt I. Stenzel appointed deputy county welfare commissioner, succeeding Carl M. Russell.
  - 3—Wilbur F. Connell, former councilman, appointed to Board of Education to succeed the late Thomas L. B. Lyster.
  - 6—John F. McNulty is elected chairman of the Advisory Board of Zoning Commissioners; Elwood F. Treadwell is elected vice chairman and Edward T. Arnold named to nineteenth term as board secretary.
  - 14—District Attorney William E. Miller reported shortage of \$935 in city treasurer's office. January 20. Miss Margaret Glynn, 39, cashier in treasurer's office, pleads guilty to petit larceny and is given suspended sentence and placed on probation for one year by Police Justice Francis L. Giles.
  - 20—By unanimous decision the Appellate division of the State Supreme court affirms Supreme court decision ordering the reinstatement of Thomas D. Heath to his former position of deputy director of public works here. January 31. Heath reinstated.
  - 23—John T. DeSantis, Niagara Falls lawyer, takes oath of office as director of federal census for this area.
  - 25—Thomas F. Fee is elected chairman of the Niagara Falls Air Pollution Control board.
  - 31—George A. Orr and Paul A. Schellkopf, Jr., both of Lewiston Heights, are named to Niagara Frontier State Park commission.
- February**
  - 1—Occupants of temporary housing project at Hyde Park village ordered to vacate by January 1, 1951. Project to be demolished, Feb. 14. Advertising of bids for demolition is begun.
  - 10—United States army announces plan to construct a \$1,000,000 base on 135-acre site at Shawnee.
  - 17—School board sets budget at \$5,017,888; net amount to be raised by local taxes is \$2,963,501.34. Budget is within \$6,500 of tax ceiling. Tax rate is set at \$17.11.
- March**
  - 2—Edwin R. Bartlett is re-elected chairman of the Advisory Board of Airport Commissioners. All officers are re-elected.
  - 13—City Comptroller Eugene T. Creag announces that city's surplus account shows balance of only \$126,994 and warns that departments must operate within amount appropriated.
  - 14—City Council rejects 400-unit housing project proposal.
  - 18—George H. Cooley, industrial secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, is named temporary head of the Niagara Falls Unemployment commission. March 31. Cooley is elected chairman.
  - 21—City to get funds for crossing plans, \$300,000 set up in supplemental budget by Governor Dewey.
  - 22—Air National Guard signs informal agreement for lease of two buildings of Carborundum company's Wheatfield plant.
- April**
  - 21—Anthony P. Soluri is elected chairman of the Niagara Falls Safety and Traffic commission.
  - 27—A budget of \$169,568.60 for fiscal year for operation of the city's municipal housing projects is announced by the Niagara Falls Housing authority.
- May**
  - 2—Mayor William R. Lupton announces re-appointment of Dr. Charles M. Brent, Wesley L. Kester and Stephen G. McMullen to Board of Education.
  - 2—Elwood E. Kysor is appointed to newly-created position of deputy superintendent of city market.
  - 10—Dr. Charles M. Brent and William L. Salicrue are returned by acclamation in the offices of president and vice president, respectively, of the Board of Education.
  - 10—Ferry A. Wilson is appointed full-time traffic engineer.
  - 23—Plans in temporary federal housing projects, such as Hyde Park Village, can stay until 1952, Senator Herbert H. Lehman informs City Council for intake tunnel paves way for initial major project in water supply system-improvement; contract goes to Leo Butler company, College Park, Md., low bidder.
- June**
  - 3—Board of Education names Miss

- Ida Frantz and Miss Edith L. Johnson to the principalship of, respectively, Ninety-third street and Seventy-ninth street schools.
- 6—John H. Ryan, Jr., 24, is appointed Democratic member to Niagara County Civil Service commission; Richard Rumsey is named superintendent of county highways.
- 14—Federal, state and Air National Guard authorities attempt to estimate value of ANG equipment reported to have been stolen at Atomic Energy commission plant in weekend burglary.
- 16—Falls school board to get \$134,337 insurance payment in Whitney avenue school fire loss.
- 20—Split Council clears way for hiring of "professionally trained city manager. Charter amended hearing slated.
- 22—Niagara Falls population is set at 90,875. Boost of 12,946 since 1940 is noted in census report.
- 26—Acting City Manager Charles W. Collison states he does not want the job of permanent city manager and intends to retire when a full-time manager is named.
- 29—Fl. Niagara again becomes base for regular troops.
- 30—M. Bradley Norton is appointed by Mayor William R. Lupton to post of director of civil defense here.
- July**
  - 5—City Council votes charter amendments to allow hiring of non-resident city manager.
  - 5—City receives request from Niagara Falls Power company for No. 2 Water Filtration plant buildings when they are abandoned. Company offers free rent for disposal plant.
  - 7—Work is started on \$325,000 construction program at Air National Guard base at Niagara Falls airport.
  - 13—Emergency preparedness is objective as civil defense body is reactivated here.
  - 15—City hospital abandonment is favored in survey report presented by Dr. Basil McLean. Rochester hospital consultant.
  - 17—Board board 80 open for business in Third street school and prepares to process quota of 32 men.
  - 18—Proposed Niagara Frontier Transit-system bus fare hike opposed by unanimous action of City Council, 4.
  - 20—City tax boost placed at \$1.06. Budget is pared to produce \$22.30 tax rate.
- August**
  - 1—\$5,489,531 city budget is approved; increase is \$302,025.
  - 1—Charles H. Rushton is named Niagara County coordinator of civil defense.
  - 18—Board of Education allocates fire insurance money from loss of Whitney avenue school to school's rebuilding and replacement of equipment.
  - 25—Niagara Falls and Buffalo end services of Milo R. Malibu, former Public Service commission chairman, as a consultant in fight against proposed bus fare increase for Niagara Frontier Transit system.
  - 25—New York Central railroad receives Interstate Commerce commission order to abandon rail line to Lewiston.
- September**
  - 1—William D. McCallum, 1512 Willow avenue, is appointed by Governor Thomas E. Dewey to the five-man temporary commission for the revision of the city service law.
  - 8—Six million gallons daily saved by city after water survey.
  - 12—Falls public school enrollment is 14,623; city registration total 16,671 pupils.
  - 13—Col. Lawrence Wilkinson, New York State director of civil defense, states that in opinion of civil defense authorities this city is a bomb target area.
  - 15—Capt. Norman O. Anderson, USNR, assumes command of Niagara Falls Naval Air Reserve station, succeeding Cdr. Laurence D. Ruch, who is designated executive officer of a Naval Air Reserve training base at Jacksonville, Fla.
  - 22—County Judge John S. Marsh dismisses appeals by nine Center court tenants from a City court decision ordering them to pay retroactive rent to Niagara Falls Housing authority.
  - 23—City to start first year with known revenue deficit of \$100,000. City Council is told.
  - 25—First 33 Niagara Falls inductees leave for army service.
  - 26—Lehigh Valley and New York Central railroads are unopposed to elimination of grade crossings but Erie railroad states it is unable to accept either elevation or depression schemes. September 27. City is encouraged by railroads' stand.
  - 26—City Council awards contracts totalling \$1,413,300 for construction of a new pumping station, building of a new airport control tower and installation of high intensity runway lights at airport; \$900,000 cost hike is feared in water plant expansion.
  - 27—Seek to complete arrangements for transfer of the two Grand Island bridges from the Niagara Frontier authority to the State Thruway authority. September 28. Transfer of bridges is being completed at New York City.
- October**
  - 3—Seek to combine park, city police.
  - 3—Council again rejects federal offer to sponsor low-income housing units.
  - 6—Superintendent of Schools William J. Small elected president for 1950-51 of Council of School Superintendents of Cities and Villages of New York.
  - 7—Arthur A. Batts, Lewiston Heights, is one of four named to Northwestern New York Water authority by Governor Thomas E. Dewey.
  - 12—City announces it will borrow notes to carry on financing of water works improvement program.
  - 12—Technical advisory board of international joint commission re-

- ports \$19,000,000 needed to end pollution in Niagara river.
- 13—Savings of \$100,000 yearly claimed here by pitometer survey.
- 14—Hyde Park village, its period of usefulness extended by the Korean war, is under repair by a 25-man crew.
- November**
  - 7—Mrs. Dorothea G. Hidy, 8725 Mang avenue, sues New York State for \$110,562 for what she alleges was the "wrongful death" of her husband after he was given blood plasma at a local hospital distributed by the State Health department.
  - 7—Sum of \$20,000 is voted for civil defense here; \$777,922 bond issue for various capital improvements here also approved.
  - 7—City Judge Thomas B. Lee is elected chairman and Bernard D. Sax secretary of Draft board 80.
  - 8—Dewey and "team" sweep city and county. Miller, Brydges, Curtis, Hollinger and Becker elected by large majorities. Local Law 6, 7 and 8 are okayed by voters.
  - 9—City must raise \$90,000 to pay compensation insurance costs; had accident rate is main reason.
  - 11—Eleven miles of city's streets are paved during year at cost of \$612,000.
  - 13—Immediate sales tax urged here. City Comptroller Eugene T. Creag says such a levy is needed to avoid "financial chaos."
  - 14—Niagara Falls Air National Guard units assume status of a separate air wing as ANG reorganization goes into effect.
  - 17—Board of Education approves pay increases for engineers, firemen on split vote after hot debate on issue involved.
  - 20—Two F-82 night fighter planes from undisclosed air base patrol Niagara Frontier area for brief period when an alert is sounded by Eastern Air Defense command. Long Island.
  - 21—Meters, set fare required by city in new law here.
- December**
  - 5—Public Service commission denies request of New York Central and Erie railroads for further, more detailed plans as Niagara Falls completes presentation of railroad relocation plans.
  - 7—Public Service commission denies city's request for a temporary grade crossing over Erie railroad tracks at Pierce avenue.
  - 7—This city has no unemployment problem, Niagara Falls Unemployment commission reports to City Council.
  - 9—Niagara Falls Bridge commission elects Charles Daley, M.P., P. S. Catharines, Ont., minister of labor, as chairman.
  - 16—Because no budget appropriation is made for 1951, Niagara Falls Municipal hospital to be discontinued as of December 31, 1951.
  - 16—Arthur A. Batts, former president of Carborundum company, is named chairman of the Northwestern New York Water authority.
  - 21—Jack E. Gellman, this city, is named Niagara county district attorney by Governor Dewey.
  - 22—Board of Education decides to petition Board of Supervisors for sales tax for education.

- a highly restricted national defense project.
- September**
  - 1—Niagara Wallpaper company, Walnut avenue, is picketed as strike of Mixed Local 13, United Wallpaper Craftsmen and Workers of North America, AFL, begins.
  - 22—Bell Aircraft corporation announces purchase of a former Otis Elevator company building at Buffalo, as a foundry.
  - 25—Fred Van Liew, mill manager of Kimberly-Clark corporation's plant here since 1937, announces he will retire in December. Van Liew's post to be taken over by John C. Simovich.
  - 28—Entire stock of Anbaco corporation, this city, is acquired by Joseph Green, president and general manager of the American Terrazzo Strip Company, Inc., of this city.
- October**
  - 6—Vanadium Corporation of America announces plan to spend \$4,000,000 in expanding and modernizing its plant in Saunders Settlement road.
  - 11—Charles F. Colbert, Jr., is re-elected president and general manager of the Pittsburgh Metallurgical company for twelfth consecutive year.
  - 20—Merger of Niagara Falls Power company and Niagara Mohawk Power corporation is completed.
- November**
  - 10—Charles B. Read is named general manager of Shredded Wheat bakeries here and at Niagara Falls, Ont.
  - 16—Donald O. Notman is appointed general manager of Electrochemicals department of E. I. du Pont de Nemours and company, Inc.
  - 27—Study plans for a merger of Carborundum company, of this city, with Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing company, St. Paul, Minn.
  - 30—A. Floyd Wray, Rome, N. Y., is appointed manager of Niagara district of Niagara Mohawk Power corporation.
- December**
  - 7—Twenty-five Niagara Falls plants face \$5,000,000 power rate increase if Niagara Mohawk Power corporation is given permission to hike its rates here.
  - 27—Proposed merger of Carborundum company and Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing company, St. Paul, Minn., is abandoned in view of legislation adopted by both houses of Congress broadening anti-trust laws.

### Police

- January**
  - 9—Maurice Kinney, 20, is shot in leg by Det. Lt. Edward J. Clines while Kinney is allegedly burglarizing service station at Niagara and First streets.
  - 14—Police Justice Francis L. Giles orders confiscation of 10,000 feet of wire used to dispatch horse race information.
  - 17—Unidentified man fires five bullets through the side door of a building at 2109 Pine avenue, the rear door of which was under police suspicion as a gambling place. Gunman escapes amid shots fired by Patrolman Sam Augustine.
- February**
  - 2—Charles Cole, 32, and Ross Cole, 24, brothers, held after James Amerson, 35, is shot in left leg.
- March**
  - 8—Lennard Cabness, 35-year-old entertainer, stabs in death his 24-year-old wife at Buffalo avenue home, then takes cab to police headquarters to surrender himself. March 9. Cabness waives hearing in Police court and is ordered held for the grand jury by Police Justice Francis L. Giles. March 20. Grand jury at Lockport presents indictment charging Cabness with first degree murder. May 19. Cabness sentenced to ten to 20 years after pleading guilty to first degree manslaughter.
  - 20—Burglars crack and loot safe of \$2,200 at Levy Brothers Furniture store, 1422 Pine avenue.
- April**
  - 4—Mrs. Lillian M. Bordeau, 52, of 1666 Cleveland avenue, wife of a city fireman, is found dead in backyard of her home with rope around her neck. April 15. Holding man here in death of Mrs. Bordeau. Foul play feared as probe continues. April 6. John J. R. Butler, 37, of 272 Third street, city fireman, is arrested and charged with first degree murder in slaying Mrs. Bordeau. April 7. Butler may be given mental test. April 14. Butler's preliminary hearing is adjourned until April 21. April 20. Mental test for Butler is approved. April 28. Butler waives examination and is ordered held without bail for grand jury.
  - 17—Valuable processing materials are stolen in burglary at plant of Oldbury Chemical company. April 18. Oldbury values loot at \$5,000.
  - 19—Jury trial is slated for Edward Burns, 30, of 454 Ninth street, charged with operating an alleged lottery in connection with a bingo game. May 23. Police court jury acquits Burns.
- May**
  - 29—Major Hardin, 30, of 2216 Allen avenue, is held by police on charge of first degree assault in connection with alleged shooting of Carl Billups, 31, or 204 Twenty-fourth street. Billups is confined to Memorial hospital with two bullet wounds.
  - 31—John J. R. Butler, 37, Niagara Falls fireman charged with the murder of Mrs. Lillian Bordeau, 52, of this city, is indicted at Lockport in a report by May grand jury.
- June**
  - 15—Saul Rose, 1300 Willow avenue, operator of a liquor store at

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