

SNOW
New starting Thursday
(See Page 1)
10-Minute Record at 11 a.m.
High 30°, Low 19°,
Forecast 23-34, Windy

Brattleboro Reformer
Serving Windham County, Vermont and Southwestern New Hampshire

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1980 BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT

STATE OF VERMONT
DEPT. OF REVENUE
MAILING PERMIT NO. 1009
BRATTLEBORO, VT 05702



A Happy New Year To All

Iran Mocks Reagan

Carter Sends 'Final' Hostage Offer

The Carter administration sent its final offer to Iran today for freeing the 52 American hostages... The offer included a \$2 billion ransom...

Away from Northeast

Census Figures Confirm Shift

There are more than 30 outstanding legal challenges to the findings of the 1980 census... Census Bureau director Vincent Barabba said his department has concluded a change is needed in the House of Representatives representing major shifts in the population...

In an evaluation of census operations in 1980, the Census Bureau generally did a good job of evaluating the data it collected... The census figures will face legal challenges from the cities of New York and Detroit in apportionment.

Economic Indicators Rise; No Sign of Recession Yet

The average workweek rose and there were fewer layoffs... The price of business inventories, contracts and orders, building permits, inventory, stock prices and liquid assets were all on the upswing...

Vermont Senators Agree With Reagan

Senators in Vermont generally agree with President Reagan's foreign policy... Senator Robert Stafford has proposed strong military action to deal with the Iranian situation...



THOMAS - Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher, left, Tuesday discussed the release of the U.S. hostages in Iran. The Vermont representatives are returning to the state with a reformulation of U.S. proposals.

Vermont, New York Sign Pact on Power Purchases

The new contract, both states agree, will be a "development of additional transmission facilities within the state of Vermont" without agreement to work together as a single power pool...

Treasurer's Admission Shocks Town

As a sign of possible embezzlement, the treasurer of the Brattleboro Reformer admitted to a \$1,000 deficit... The treasurer's admission shocked the town...

COMED AND BROWNE
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BOOKSHOP

CLASS OF '82
BOTTLE DRIVE
HAPPY NEW YEAR

SOUL'S
WARRHOSE
BIRTHDAY
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Come to the
NEWFARE
COUNTRY STORE

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### Weather Eye

Clear tonight with low 4s. Snowing steadily early Thursday with snow accumulating about midday. High reaching through the weekend.

### Bank President To Resign

BURLINGTON (UPI) — John Wilson, 61, who has headed Vermont's largest commercial lending institution since 1960, will resign in two weeks.

### Family Court Said Expensive

MONTPELIER (UPI) — The state's chief administrative judge says creation of a special family court in Vermont is too expensive.

### Resources Council Urges Ground Water Protection

MONTPELIER (UPI) — The Vermont Natural Resources Council has asked the state to be more aggressive about protecting ground water supplies.

### Marshall McLuhan Dies in Toronto, 69

TORONTO (UPI) — Marshall McLuhan, noted writer, educator and pioneer commentator on the popular TV medium, died today in Toronto after a long illness. He was 69.

## State of New England's Economy Eyed

Editor's Note: This article was prepared for United Press International by Dr. James H. Bennett, senior vice president and chief economist of the First National Bank of Boston. He also is head of the research firm New England's economy at the end of 1980 and what lies ahead, concluding that several factors have helped the region weather the 1980 recession better than other sections of the nation.

**By JAMES H. BENNETT**  
Vice President, First National Bank of Boston  
Written For UPI

BOSTON (UPI) — As 1980 draws to a close, New Englanders should be able to understand exactly how Mark Twain felt when he saw his old country in the newspaper and remarked: "The report of my death was greatly exaggerated."

Throughout much of the preceding decade, economic observers, cynics included, were openly pessimistic about the region's future, largely because of New England's poor economic performance in the 1970's and, especially, the 1975-76 recession.

Looking backward on the events of these years from the vantage of 1980, it is clear that the structure of our regional economy was designed to weather a recession. Indeed, over the past 10.8 months to emerge has been noted by such publications as The New York Times, The London Economist, The Wall Street Journal and even The South Magazine. The analysis in all of these respected papers clearly is a "Kubler-Turnabout" in the New England economy.

I would like to comment on a number of the critical factors affecting this region's economic turnaround, specifically:

—The contemporary state of the New England economy relative to the rest of the country.

—Economic issues in the 1980s and their impact on regional prosperity.

—The 1980 National Recession — A Minor Footnote

The recent economic resurgence of New England has been led by impressive gains in the manufacturing sector. Indeed, relative to the rest of the nation, regional manufacturing activity in the first half of the 1980s, employment activity in the manufacturing sector through February has a long history of starting new industry trends only to see reductions reappear in other regions as they begin to mature and their job creation impact increased.

Regionally, manufacturing employment was up 1.6 percent in New England during the period but down 2.3 percent nationally.

Economic issues in the 1980s and Their Impact on Regional Prosperity

Looking to the future, one might ask whether the manufacturing sector is great and high-tech industry is particularly — the region's key strength — will continue to grow along a high growth path, and whether the primary expansion goals will continue to be in the region's labor force.

As one of the few New England economies that has a long history of starting new industry trends only to see reductions reappear in other regions as they begin to mature and their job creation impact increased.

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### Manchester Scandal

Because of his failure to act, borrowing, investing, re-investing, Friday can appoint a successor in Manchester in a matter of days.

Three names — all accountants — have been submitted to the temporary committee until the town Friday.

It's a job that somebody not working at a job where he was and required good credit at the time. It's a job of time.

Manchester is a town of 10,000 people. It's a town of 10,000 people. It's a town of 10,000 people.

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### Census Shift

The census shift must have been the result of a change in the way the census is taken. The census shift must have been the result of a change in the way the census is taken.

### Power

continue to transmit the 12 megawatt of energy Vermont has already brought from Quebec.

### Lottery

The Vermont state lottery is expected to be a success. The Vermont state lottery is expected to be a success.

### N.H.

Monday 371  
Sunday 676  
Monday 371

### Mass.

Monday 608

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