WENHAM, MASS

NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS ISSUE

DID YOU HEAR

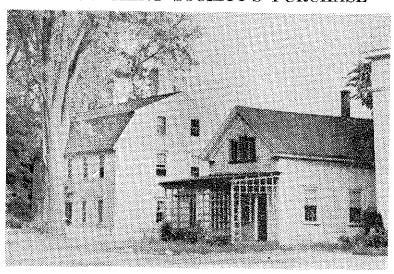
Hi, fellows. So much news from you has crawled, climbed and flown across our desk that we hardly know where to begin, or how we will get it all in our limited space. Brevity is the word, and for your convenience we'll arrange this alphabetically, one line to a customer. Mr. John Amory is an assistant field director for the Red Cross at Bougainville with the Americal division... Cdr. Fred Ashworth after taking part in many Pacific assignments is now on shore duty, experimental work at Dahlgren, Md... Brother Win-throp is a QM 2/c now in amphibious training at San Bruno, Cal., after 3 convoy trips to the Mediterranean where his destroyer was almost sunk under him... Lt. Bentley, the third Ashworth member, is on a transport ship in charge of berthing troops; a Pacific address... Ens. Johnny Armington's address is S.S. Santee... T/Sgt. Bob Aylward, overseas since Oct. 1942 was in India, but has now moved up "over the hump' with Gen. Chennault's staff; is in "Intelligence" there somewhere in China . . . Hank Bagnell, AMM 1/c CLUB

(Continued on page two

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

In this, the Christmas number we promised last year, Wenham Wanderings once again goes out from your home town with every kind thought and best wish we can we have sacrificed to crowd in those items we know you are anxious to hear. The proceeds from paper salvage drives has paid the freight, and the kindness of the women members of our staff has made possible the collection of such a store of information. Sometime between Town Meeting and Easter. we again hope to once more bring home town news to you whom we miss and eagerly await your safe return.

IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY'S PURCHASE



The home of the late Hattie Hobbs is now the property of the Wenham Village Improvement society, which should prove of lasting value to the protection of the square. The little building adjoining the church is now loaned to the new Wenham Boys' club conducted by Chief Ed Hall.

YOUNG MEN'S

Remember Ed Hall's Young Men's club of some years back? Our hard working police chief has started a new one, this time for the boys too young to be out there with you — the 14 to 17 year old group. The Improvement society, new owners of Miss Hobbs' property, gave him the use of the little building adjoining the church, and Ed and his crew with paint gather. Appearance and makeup and elbow grease have transformed it into a real club. Proceeds from dances will pay the maintenance, and the club is operating as the Number One American answer to keeping Young America busy while big brother is out there making the world a safer and better place in which to live in the future. Don't worry about any juvenile delinquency in this town with projects like this being carried on with the utmost cooperation between boys and adults.

STECKER PROMOTED

Unconfirmed reports have reached town that Col. Ray Stecker is now advanced to the rank of Brigadier General. Ray who was a member of the backfield of the last West Point eleven to beat Notre Dame (1931) up to this year, and was one of our leading softball pitchers in town, has had an exciting career with the Army Air corps, participating in many engagements with the Ninth Airforce Thunderbolt fighter unit of which he was last spring named commander.

If he has made that rank, it puts him right up at the head of the class for ranks held by men from this section. Before our next issue, we will try to list a few ratings from this town; a casual glance shows we have plenty of leaders in both Army and Navy from our little town.

FIRST CHURCH OBSERVES ITS TERCENTENARY

Last year our fine old town celebrated its 300th birthday, and this year on Oct. 8th the First Church here likewise held a Tercentennial. When you fellows out there hear some Californian bragging about a 50th or a 100th anniversary of something back home, just remind him that in your home town anniversaries don't count until they reach 300 years. The affair was a simple one with Maj. Ransom again back with us from the Canadian army post to deliver an anniversary sermon. Rev. Fred Vaill, now in charge of a large pastorate out in Youngstown, Ohio, also returned for the observance and once again our old church bulged with a Sunday congregation of more than 200.

In the afternoon Scott Libby gave an organ recital, and the Historical society put on an exhibition of old Wenham curios. In the evening the Town Hall was the scene of a banquet for 225 persons with Mel Grey as toastmaster, Fred Batchelder as historian, and Rev. Karl Kopf of Boston, the guest speaker. It was a fine affair, appropriate to the occa-

(Continued on page four)

LEGION OFFERS REAL SERVICE

Lt. Norman Prince post, 182 American Legion of this town has information and data which should be of help and value to you when you return home. Come to us as soon as you arrive back in Wenham, and count on us for all the helpful and friendly service we can give you.

> PHILIP HORTON SMITH. commander

HARRY M. PARTRIDGE. vice commander

HORACE H. FOSTER, adjutant.

Circulation

MRS. WILLIAM CAMPBELL MRS. ERNEST GREGORY MRS. JOSEPH HARRINGTON MRS. W. ARTHUR TROWT

PUBLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING WENHAM CLOSER TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN

IN THE SERVICE

Editor DEL KENNARD

DID YOU HEAR

(Continued from page one) has a San Francisco P.O., but we saw him in town for a brief period last summer and he told of being one of the navy's forgotten gobs on a Pacific isle for months prior to that . . . Brother Phil Bagnell is a BM 2/c with a Miami P.O. address . . . Wave Kathryn Banter is an apprentice seaman, located with the other waves in the Bronx Pvt. Arthur Bartol is located at Ft. Worth Tex . . . Pvt. Tom Barry has been in a hospital for two months, and would like to hear from his friends. We'll pass along his address to any who desire, but regulations prevent giving it here . . . Pvt. Aut. Batchelder is with a bombing squadron in England. Recently visited Scotland Brother Warren Batchelder is a PFC on the move heading over-seas . . . Lt. John Bik of Monument street holds the record for the town thus far, twice wounded, and still fighting we understandin Italy . . . Leon Bradshaw after various stations all over the country is back near home as a RM 1/c Corp. Lloyd Brooks is an MP at Lawrenceville Coast Guard spent the winter in an ice breaker in the Great Lakes and the summer off Florida. New ship is U.S.S. Sweetgum . . . Corp. Bob Campbell is now somewhere in France after nearly three years of service with signal corps in this country . . . Ewen Campbell Sk, 2/c has been in the Aleutians for nearly two years . . . PFC Carl Campbell with the infantry in France . . . Lt. Aut (Soup) Campbell is to his disgust still a navigation instructor at Ellington Field, Tex. . . . Lt. Johnny Campbell of Monument street a skipper of an LCT with 10 months of service in an advanced Pacific unit . . . His brother Lt. Bill Campbell now at a small craft training center after 21/2 years of service as chief engineer on destroyer doing convoy duty in Atlantic . . . Pvt. Bobby Caves still languishing in India aftermore than one year there. Had an attack of dengue fever, but is O.K. now . . . Sgt. Jake Christofferson, has been right in the thick of Bougainville and other Pacific battles,—18 months of it . . . His sister Vera Chris-Robert Case and has two sons; she was a nurse at the outset of the war... Corp. Roy Clarke has been in Iran for 18 months with a hospital unit, and in the service 25 months, never back in Wenham since he left for induction . . . Pvt. Dick Clarke with 17 months of service behind him is now in England . . . Its Major Dave and Major Dean Cogswell, the former in the Pacific and the latter now in Germany . . . Roger Colbert is rated C Aer M on the U.S.S. Cowpens... Lt. Fred Cook in So. America for two years, with an Navy air squadron. Wants to return to Wenham permanently, the sooner the better . . . Ken Cook, a seaman 1/c on a new LCM rode out a recent hurricane on a shakedown cruise . . . Some shakedown!!! Syd Cook is war, and later on Carribean and

We Carry On At Home And Abroad That These Friends and Neighbors May Not Have Given Their Lives In Vain

Lt. JAMES B. GINTY, the first Wenhamite to sacrifice his life in this war, killed in action on the Cruiser Vincennes, in

the summer of 1942.

Corp. WILLIAM A. TROWT, JR., who succumbed in December 1943 in the Lovell hospital, Fort Devens, following a long and brave fight against illness.

Sgt. PAUL LEWIS SAWYER, radio gunner in the Army Air Force, killed in action battling Jap planes in the South Pacific, September 1944.

Civilian Navigator STUART B. BARTON, killed in plane crash in Labrador, November 12, 1944, after more than a year's service "flying the hump" to China, and with a record of more than 50 Atlantic crossings with the Air Transport Command.

an armed guard on the S. S. Shiloh 'Atlantic sub patrol. Has four Lt. Cdr. William Coolidge is years of service, and is now at stationed at Fort Williams, Portland . . His son A. William is a QM 3/c on the U.S.S. Canberra... Sgt. Gene Corning has completed troopers in Kiski . . . Maj. Donald a full year with Gen. Chennault's Ferris is at Cochran Air field, Ma-14th air force . . . His brother Sgt. con, Ga. . . . Horace Foster holds Frank is with the 8th air force, and honarable discharge from the holds a citation and 2 oak leaf army . . Lt. Cdr. Harrison Gard-clusters . . . Corp. Dick Cosh is ner is in command of an amwith a station hospital in Oran phibious training unit in the Pacific ofter 19 months as a pharmacist there . . Sgt. Jack Crediford is in France . . Harold "Red" Cummings is a scaman 1/c on the U.S.S. Bennington . . . Jim Cummings is still waking gobs up with his bugle,—rates as a buglemaster on the West Point after three and a half years of service that took him around the world three times and across the equator more than 25 times . . . Col. Donald Currier M.D. is in command of an evacuation hospital in the Southern invasion after going through the Sicily, Anzio, and Salerno campaigns . . . His son Lt. Don has completed 27 missions, and has been awarded the Flying cross, the DFC, three oak leaf clusters, and a presidential citation . . . PFC Ernie D'Amato is in training with the marines, now at Ft. Worth, Tex. One year of service behind him . . . Houston Thomas Davis, Boatswain 2/c has served more than a year in Pacific on tanker, liberty ship, and other merchant vessels . . . His brother Thornton is a PFC with a combat of it . . . His sister Vera Chrisengineers unit; served in Africa tofferson is now married to Capt. and was in "D" day; now driving a truck on the "Red ball express to front of invasion lines . . . Major Frederick Dearborn is with a Field artillery battaloin with a New York APO address . . . Lt. Carlton Dodge (married before he went overseas) is with an engineers unit, probably in France . . . Jim Donlon is an SM 2/c on duty with the North Atlantic patrol . . . Pvt. Norm Eastwood is a navigator-cannoneer on a B-25 in the Marine Corps flying unit in Pacific . . . Sgt. Forrest Eaton is recovering at Fort Devens and on limited service after participating in Guadalcanal campaign . . . Lt. Charles Elliott stationed in Canal Zone . . . Lt. Cdr. John Erhard holds an Air medal and several citations for valor in early days of So. Pacific

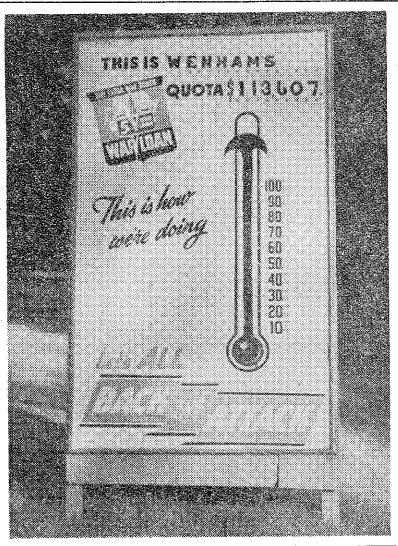
Bronson field, Fla. Henry is a flight officer on a P-47... Pierre the third brother is with the ski . . . Corp. Richard Goldsmith is at Camp Haan, Cal. . . Lt. J. B. Gregory is stationed with the first service command . . . Sgt. Ray Green who was employed by the late E. R. Anderson for 9 years has been overseas for six months. Mrs. Anderson would like to hear from him . . . Bob Hagar is with a casual company in the Pacific area . . . Sgt. Doug Harwood with the Army Air corps has seen service in the African and Mediterranean campaigns for two and a half years . . . Brother Dean has been an aerial gunner, bombardier and navigator and is now training at Eagle Field, Cal. . . . Wayne the third Harwood brother after two years at Portsmouth, N. H. is now with a submarine unit in the Pacific . . . Ens. Ted Hollander who entered service in 1941 as a boatswains mate was commissioned last April. Came up the hard way and is now in the amphibious forces in Pacific . . . Pvt. Lawrence Homan is with an engineering unit in France . . . PFC Carter Inches in service since November 1942 has a San Francisco PO address . . . Capt. Herbie Jaques stationed at Washington, D.C. with AAF stat. control group . . . Pfc Don Joiner in England 14 months . . . S/Sgt Ed Kavanagh with a casual squad with Pacific address . . . Lt. William Kemble with an air combat intelligence unit at Quonsett Pt., R. I. ... Lt. Calvin Kennard, in a Navy welfare education dept. in Aleutians, was recently transferred to Oregon . . . Jim Kinsella, vet of world war I now with Seabee unit in Hawaii . . . Brother John still in Africa with signal corps. Brother Steve, one of the first to leave back in 1940 is due home after many months in So. Pacific. Brother Vin, the fourth member of this patriotic family is still sailing the Atlantic as an Electrician's mate 1/c operating out of Florida . . . Dick Knowlton is a yeoman 2/c

assigned to Hingham ammunition depot . . . his brother Sgt. Stuart is with an Army Air corps group at Fort Brag . . . George "Al Landers soon to come for rate of chief machinist's mate, a CPO. Is on the U.S.S. Ingham and has seen as long service as any Wenhamite, serving on Neutrality patrol months before Pearl harbor . . . His brother Bob a seaman 1/c on the SS James Harlan, a gun crew man we believe . . . Capt. Art Lindsley is with the ATC in Central Pacific, was cited for work at Saipan and is now in Fiji Isle. His son Syd is just beginning a college training course under the Navy . . . Corp. Elmer Luxton is at San Bernadino, Cal. . . PFC Ed Lynch, a long way from home, but with Bobby Caves is still in India. Is called "Pop" as the oldest man in his outfit . . His brother Lester got mustered out with the over-age group and has since been at the bomber plant at Willow Run . . PFC Don Mead is with a hospital unit with a New York APO . . . His brother Ed is a seaman 1/c on the USS Piedmont . . . Lt. Gus Merrill completes 7 years of service in January. Is in charge of a photo lab at Fort Sil 1, Okla. with signal corps . . . Jim Morgan is a cook on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga; has completed two years of service ... Wave Edith Morson is a classification interviewer at the USNTS (WR) in the Bronx, assigning new recruits to job to which they are best fitted. Soon to go up for officers training . . . Lt. Preble Motley, Jr., with F.A. in Camp Swift, Tex... Cornelius Murray discharged with over-age group Sept. 1943 . . . Charlie Inches is a BM 1/c on the U.S.S. Leyte . . . Marsh Nielsen is a seaman 2/c working on parachutes and expects to try a jump anytime . . . Lt. Col. Edward Osgood is with the G3 Supreme head quarters staff . . . Lt. Cdr. James Parker is at San Franscisco . . . PFC Carl Page is a marine at Key West, Fla. . . . His brother John is an instructor in amphib training at Little Creek, Va. Sgt. Myron Perkins Jr., is with a med unit at Camp Edwards . . . Porter Perkins Jr., is doing research with the Army Air corps enlisted reserve at Lakewood, Ohio . . . S/Sgt Win Perkins is now in France with a service group, overseas one full year . . . Corp. Frank Pews moved into France shortly after D day... Dick Phippen now in foreign service as a BM 1/c after two and a half years service with coast guard in local waters . . . Lt. Gif Pedrick has a N.Y. fleet PO address . . . Lt. Richard Preston is overseas in the European area . . . Ens. Hardy Prince is a pilot on a patrol bombing plane in Pacific . . . S/Sgt. Nate Prince now training glider troops at Fort Bragg after winning DFC, Air medal and other awards for valor in transport command in Gordon Prince, S 2/c is at Bain-bridge, Md.... George Prince holds a medical discharge and is now in war work in England . . . Lt.

(Continued on page three)

DID YOU HEAR

(Continued from page two) Charles Rice is instructing on advanced instrument flying and also doing ferrying work . . Lt. Cdr. George Sargent on active duty since May 1941; was on West Point with Jim Cummings for three yrs (see above), and on April 1, 1944 was named executive officer of USS Chiwawa, a fleet tanker . . . S/Sgt. Thorndike Sargent was in south, but recently transferred to a New England air field . . . Oliver D. Sawyer, RM 1/c on the USS Texas . . . Sgt. Paul Sears has been in Carribean area for a year, now in S. America . . . PFC Walter Sears at Ft. Belvoir . . . Pvt. Robert Smith in service 15 months, 10 of these in England with 9th army air force . . . Wave Martha Sparrow (Webster to us) holds the rating SPR 2/c and operates out of the Naval Recruiting office at Providence, R. I. . . . S/Sgt. Everett Steen is in Philadelphia . . . Pvt. Phil Stevens is instructing gunners and co-pilots in high altitude flying at Ft. Meyers. Just completed a 20-day furlough at home—His brother Warren is a SK 3/c on a tanker. Some time ago he was only two miles away from Bob Woodbury at Saipan . . . Lt. Fior-ence "Stobbie" Stobbart has just left for another overseas post... PFC Johnny Sturges is with a railway unit in India, and has been on sites of recent Jap battles, Imphal, Head Hunters Villages, etc. His APO number puts him not too far from several other Wenhamites . . . Ph. Mate 2/c Ernest Swift is stationed at the U.S. Maritime service training station at Sheepshead Bay, N.Y.... Corp. Franklin "Shaney" Trowt is overseas with an engineers unit; had desert training, but his APO number is N.Y.... George Trowt is now a lieutenant commander serving in the merchant marine . . Fred Vickers, Jr., is an AOM 3/c on the USS Essex . . . Corp. Brad Webb is in New Guinea... Charles Webster received an honorable discharge from Army in 1943 after serving in MP. His brother Capt. Frederick is still in India with the 48th evacuation hospital after 20 months . . . a third brother Lt. Cdr. Homer Webster is in the naval air transport service . . . Lt. Farely Wheelwright is on overseas duty in the So. Pacific . . . Lt. Ed Wigton with the Navy Air Facility... Brother Bob Whittier is a cadet at Lt. Lannie Woodbury is with an Atlantic patrol with the navy... inventory coordinating group in Capt. Furber Libby is stationed in New York . . . Pvt. Bobbie Wood- San Francisco . . . Air Cadet Ben



bury is with a signal corps unit in the advanced Pacific area . . . Seaman 1/c Herman Young is on the USS Baltimore, and holds ribbons for four major engagements . . . And that gang is where your buddies are, and a brief,—too brief sketch of what they may be doing.

Late reports include news that Lyman Welding recently was cited for achievements with the Air corps . . . George Merrill, a chief pharmacist's mate at sea for three years has participated in two major invasions, and is now completing a year of land duty at Chelsea glesworth, Jr., is on the USS Yons Naval hospital . . . George C. . . . George F. Wildes, now on the Noves has a medical discharge USS Solomons is still seeing plenty after being in a hospital for six of excitement after serving in the months... Corp. Emerson Harlow Pacific for more than 20 months is a member of a Rescue Boat on another ship . . . His brother squadron at Tyndall Field, Fla. . . . Harlan AOM 1/c has a fleet PO Lt. Col. Edward McNichol attached address out of New York . . . Lt. to the India-China wing of the Cecil Whittier is stationed in Bos- ATC; holds a unit citation badge and a combat star . . . Lt. Col. Neil W. Rice now on inactive duty after Corpus Christie hoping soon to get two years in Alaska, Aleutians, his wings...Corp. Walter Wilson and South Pacific...Allen Webb is with a bombon squadron in Engine a quartermaster 3/c in the land . . . PFC Frankie Woodason Pacific; his brother Gordon is also and Corp. Raymond Woodason hold in that area with the Navy, and APO numbers out of New York ... the third brother Donald is on the

Cole is training in Marine corps ... Arthur M. Campbell is in war work in Brookline after receiving his honorable discharge . . . Sgt. Dennis A. Harrigan participated in the first bombing of Berlin last spring, and was in more than 20 of the most important battles over Germany as an aerial gunner. Holds the DFC, the air medal, and three clusters . . . Steve Kraizynski is an airplane mechanic in England, and his outfit has been cited for something like 200 successful missions . . . Warren Heath is an air cadet down South . . . Fred Ayer is on special government work in England and France, and Ted Osgood is now a lieutenant colonel, one of the youngsst of that rank in the service. He is also on the continent now . . . Capt. Francis Chalifoux a pilot for the ATC recently was awarded the Air medal for his part in a rescue mission in the North Atlantic . . . And Bobby you, and we'll be seeing you.

HOME FRONT ACTIVE

We are not just trying to fill up space with the picture of this thermometer, but rather giving proof that everyone here in Wenham is in there pitching. The thermometer was used in the Fifth War loan when Wenham's quota of \$113,000 was exceeded so much that it broke the glass, the final figures crediting this town of 1,270 persons with a total subscription of \$150,959.

In the Sixth War loan coming up, our quota has been set at \$108,171 as compared with \$20,469 for Topsfield, \$78,618 for Hamilton and \$13,474 for Essex. It looks as though Uncle Sam knows where to go to finance this war.

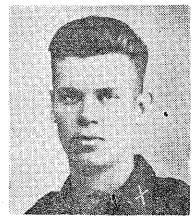
And war bond purchases are just sample of how some of your folks back here are backing you out there. More than 23,000 surgical dressings made right here in town since Sept. 1943; dozens of gifts made and distributed to camps and ships by your younger brothers and sisters and sons and daughters in the Junior Red Cross group at school; many persons go in regularly to donate blood at the Red Cross center in Boston; a National War Fund drive now on bids fair to surpass last year's success; salvage drives are always certain to produce as much if not more than that from our neighboring communities. Local people have done quite a bit of entertaining of Navy men over at the Beverly airport, which has developed into quite a spot. Yes, you never need to feel worried that we at home aren't trying to do our job, small though it may be as compared with yours out there.

BIRTHS AND WEDDINGS

Vital statistics are always interesting reading so here are a few: Married, Edward Freeman of Beverly, medical discharge from navy, to Doris Clay on Jan. 1, 1944; Richard Perry of Boston to Nancy Osgood of Larch Row on Apr. 22; James I. Cummings of Perkins street to Carolyn D. Fullerton of Beverly, on May 10; Edwin R. Sparrow of Belmont to Martha Webster of Walnut road, June 17; J. Carter Inches of Main street to Grace F. Reed of Westwood, July 29; George A. Landers 3rd of Main street to Ruth Donovan of Beverly, Aug. 12; Winthrop Ashworth of Main street to Anne Hale of Walnut road, Aug. 13; Lt. John M. Darnton, USMC of Clayton, Ohio, to Katherine H. Cogswell ot Cedar street, Aug. 19, and Alexan-Bly who tried every way possible der Koloski of Hamilton to Doris to get into action with all his bud- Chace of Arbor street, on Oct. 20. dies is now doing important home Births include a son to Capt. Cecil front work in a hospital in Phoenix, L. Mhoon of Friend court on April Ariz., and that completes all re- 21, and a son to Sgt. and Mrs. ports from all of you up to Satur- William S. Jobe Jr. of Putnam, day. November 18. Let's hear from Tex. Mrs. Jobe is the former Louise Summitt of Friend court.

LT. ED JOINER IS GERMAN PRISONER

Lt. Edgar Joiner, Jr., who came up from the ranks to win his commission on the field of battle because as a citation read "of his



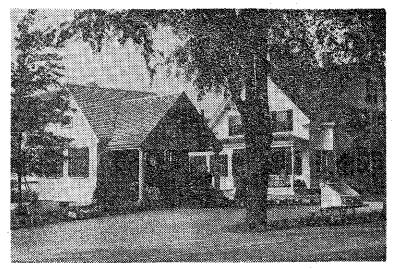
ability to lead troops under fire" was reported missing in action early in September. After more than a month of anxious waiting, his parents, wife, and many friends here rejoiced to hear that he was safe, though a prisoner of the German.

Ed participated in the entire Anzio and Italian campaigns, and was then shifted up into the Southern French invasion. It was there that he was taken prisoner while engaged in the highly important and dangerous mission of serving as an advance observer for his outfit.

JUST GOSSIP

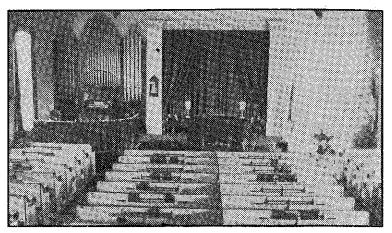
Yes, you probably heard we had another hurricane, but this one did little damage locally. We were all standing by waiting for it, and while a few of our fine old trees suffered, damage to property was negligible, the only report we heard being the old barn on Perkins street across from the Woodason property. This suffered such a twisting that it had to be pulled down . . . Lightning struck the Baptist steeple last summer, but caused so little damage, it was not noticed until the current was found cut off the following Sunday . . There have been quite a few real estate changes in town, the biggest being on Cherry street where the Stoddard estate at the corner of Main was broken up, the Ludden house being purchased by Louis Bodge of Peabody and the Stoddard house by Edwin Thurston of Belmont. The Don Bell family moved over to the Neck purchasing the Leach house. Justin Poor of Danvers has purchased the Hill house on Main street, while Sig Linderoth of Marblehead, an active member of the Forty Niners in those good old Pre-War days, has bought and moved into the Elbridge Anderson house. Harlton Burr, manual training teacher that many of you know so well at the school, has bought the Ames house on Arbor street, while numerous other rives. sales and moves have been made locally in recent months.

THANKSGIVING TIME IN WENHAM



This picture of Greycroft Farm is not being included to make you home sick, but to show that the old town still looks just about the same as ever. Mel Grev's stand every fall, as you all remember is one of the most attractive spots anywhere around, as the pumpkins, squashes, cider jugs, and all the other good things that make Thanksgiving time interesting are on display.

The only change this year is that Mel, along with all the other farmers did not have any chickens or turkeys hung out on display. We at home ate fowl, or pot roast, so that all the available turkeys could go out to you fellows to bring what little we could of Thanksgiving to your mess halls.



Interior of 100-year old building where First Church celebrated its 300th anniversary on October 8, 1944.

WATER SYSTEM

Post-War Wenham will be a place you will be proud to come back to. An active committee has been at work all year drawing up plans for future development, the most thorough of these being a program for town water; a new town building, improvements about the school, and many other plans to keep this town abreast of the times without in any way marring its fine old New England appearance and customs are being prepared and filed away to be available when the proper moment ar-

Don't get the idea that we have any thought that the war is over, but with good old New England conservatism that plans for the future, the Town Fathers do not intend to be caught napping when the day for expansion and development comes around.

With all out debts paid, and some \$70,000 in cold cash in the banks, not to mention a few thousand in War Bonds held in the Town's name, Wenham will be in a position to prove a real factor in taking up any slack that may arise as war industry gives way to peacetime occupation.

That town water will be the first of these modern developments is almost a certainty, with such things as improved town buildings, improved appearances of central sites, etc., following along as the need arises.

FIRST CHURCH

(Continued from page one)

We'll let you in on the harshest deed ever played on an unsuspecting public. The banquet was scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 7. Less than two hours before the guests were to arrive, Chairman Del Kennard found to his consternation that the caterer or someone had bungled and there was no food available until Sunday, that being the date the caterer had understood he had been booked. During a hasty council during which Del, Mel, Ethel Wentworth, and Mrs. Frank Gray of the committee considered the most painless form of suicide, it was decided to move day,

NO NEWS GOOD NEWS

To date there has not been a single building fire in town in 1944, and hardly any grass fires. Not an accident has been reported, and Police Chief Hall hasn't had to make a single arrest. With that little summary, we need go no further in explaining that news is hard to find in our little town.

NEW FREE SERVICE

This year for the first time in history garbage and rubbish is being collected at taxpayers' expense, Eddy Richards holding the con-tract from the Board of Health for the former, and Joe Lynch is caring for the latter with town trucks. Who says this town isn't progressing even in wartime.

PROMINENT DEATHS

An unusually large number of prominent citizens have died here in recent months, this group including Elbridge R. Anderson, George H. Perkins, "Capt." Tarr, George Wildes, Henry P. Cogswell (Wenham's oldest citizen), Mrs. Horace Killam, Mrs. Katherine Hoyt, and Miss Harriett Hobbs. Looking back over past years we can not think of any period that has seen so many leading citizens pass on in such a short space of time.

OVER 200 NOW IN SERVICE

New names added to the honor roll bring the list from this town to more than 200 at present. It is interesting to note that 92 of you applied for and received soldier ballots, and that 75 arrived back with Town Clerk Roscoe Batchelder in time to be counted.

the whole affair over one night, and the speakers were all found able to make the change. As many guests as possible were notified, and then the committee disappeared from town until the next