



DID YOU HEAR

Hello again, you Wandering Wenhamites, as we greet you once more with word of you and your old buddies... John S. Amory, an assistant field director for the Red Cross is home after serving in the Pacific and finally in the Philippines... Bob Brown, Ch.Mo.MM has written that through our little sheet he learned what ship Alf Landers was on, and met him when the two happened to be near at hand. He also bumped into Lt. Cecil Whittier, recently assigned

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HARLAN WILDES IS WOUNDED IN ACTION

Harlan Wildes, AOM 1/c, is reported recovering from wounds received in action in the Pacific on March 11, only a few months after he went out into active duty in the far eastern sector. Harlan entered the Navy back in August 1942, but had been assigned to schools and various home stations up until late last fall, when he was transferred to an aircraft carrier.

From various reports received, Harlan got altogether too close to some exploding shrapnel that rather peppered his body, although most of his wounds were considered at first of superficial nature.

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Lt. Preble Motley Is Recovering

Good news from Europe tells us that Lt. Preble Motley is out of the hospital after recovering from a badly wounded arm. He holds a Purple Heart, and Bronze Medal, and is now anxious to join his old outfit in the 10th Division which is somewhere in Austria or Germany.

TWO DOWN, ONE TO GO

As we rejoiced with the news of V-E day, all of us experienced mingled emotions. One and all had that feeling of pride in the accomplishments of those of you who had crushed Naziism and Fascism: It was a feeling of satisfaction over a difficult job well done, and we were proud that those close to us had played such a vital part. Some of us naturally enough had hopes raised of seeing some of you within a relatively short period.

Yet over all hung a cloud best expressed by one Wenhamite who declared "I feel that a wonderful party was taking place, yet I have not been invited." That feeling came to us one and all as we thought of those of you in the opposite corners of the world still facing an even greater job. Working none the less efficiently but under even greater handicaps, yours is the lengthier of the two tasks.

One and all we stand with you, and until those from the Pacific are able to join with those from the European area, we only say "Congratulations on everything accomplished thus far, and we're all in there pitching toward that great day when we all get together again in good old Wenham."

Croix de Guerre is Given Ray Stecker

We wonder how many of you when playing basketball and in the softball league with Ray Stecker back half a dozen years ago would have pictured him in this brief space of time as an Army colonel, in charge of one of the most advanced Air Force units, and now singled out by the French government as the recipient of the Croix de Guerre. From a Ninth Air Force fighter-bomber base in Germany this month came the word that Col. Rya, group commander of a P-47 Thunderbolt unit, had been so honored in recognition of exceptional services rendered toward the liberation of France.

Our fellow Wenhamite's famed 365th "Hell Hawk" group was flying off a Normandy landing strip but five days after D-Day, and since then has occupied 11 different

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Bronze Star Medal To Col. Currier, M.D.

Col. Donald E. Currier of Cherry street was recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service while commanding an evacuation hospital of Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's Seventh Army. Col. Currier's citation says "For meritorious service from August 19, 1944 to Jan. 20, 1945 in France, as C.O. he demonstrated exceptional organizing ability in producing a perfectly integrated hospital. Col. Currier's visualization of their utilization by evacuation units produced in all cases a remarkable smoothness for patient flow with a minimum of waste effort, and has continually made excellent care available for those seriously wounded casualties."

Col. Currier was previously cited by Gen. Mark Clark for services

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Lt. Ed. Joiner Home Freed From Nazis

Lt. Ed Joiner, our first, and we hope our last, war prisoner arrived in town about a month ago after a harrowing experience which followed his escape from a German prison camp last January. The officers and members of Lt. Norman Prince Post American Legion who have, since the war broke out, been constantly on the job seeking to do everything within their power to show their appreciation

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MOURN DEATH OF ARTHUR D. PRINCE

Arthur D. Prince, one of our town's best-known and respected citizens passed away on May 17 after a long illness, in his 77th year. A member of the board of assessors for 36 years, an office from which he retired only this spring, and a selectman for 30 years, the veteran town official was always a pillar of strength to our community. Conservative, yet tolerant, and imbued with a keen sense of humor, his voice was always one of great weight in Wenham affairs, and on more than one

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More Mail Received From You

Since our last issue we have received letters or cards from Bob Aylward, Warren Batchelder, Bob Campbell, Corp. Harold Cummings, Jim Cummings, Carlton Dodge, Julian Dodge, Dean Harwood, Jared Inches, Richard Knowlton, George Landers, James H. Mangan, Gus Merrill, Thorndike Sargent, Walter Sears, John Sturgis, Allen Webb, and Brad Webb.

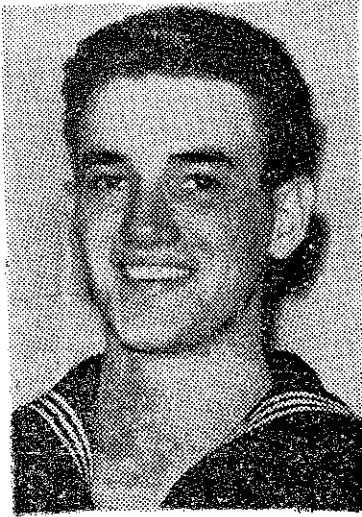
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PUBLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING
WENHAM CLOSER TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN
IN THE SERVICE

Circulation
MRS. ERNEST GREGORY
MRS. JOSEPH HARRINGTON
MRS. W. ARTHUR TROWT

WILDES WOUNDED

(Continued from page One)

**HARLAN WILDES**

He wrote his parents he was lucky to be still seeing the light of day, and that he was now carrying around in his pocket for luck a piece of steel removed from his head.

After a period in a shore hospital, he returned to active duty, but latest word we had was that one of his wounds was causing considerable trouble and he had been hospitalized aboard ship. He is still in the front line attack against Tokyo, we understand.

His is the only local casualty we have heard of since our last issue, and here's the hope that good fortune stays with all of you out there on the distant points where the final push is being made to bring this whole terrible mess to a conclusion.

DID YOU HEAR

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to the Panama area. Also has been assigned to a ship on which a former pal Elmer Richardson of Danvers was also placed, a nice break... Phil Bagnell, now on a mine sweeper, has just become Papa to a new daughter... Brother Hank Bagnell is on Guam... Corp. Richard Cosh tells us he is with an infantry medical detachment. Has served there for two years.... "Oats" Caves is still in India, and with him his companion of all these months is Ed Lynch.

Ed tells us that he was invited to an Indian home for dinner, and following the custom he sat on the floor with his hosts and ate with his fingers from a bowl, (must remind him of days up on the golf links)... And while on the subject of the Lynch family, brother Lester who was mustered out months ago to be placed in the Willow Run bomber plant is now back home for good. Now doing business at the old stand at Conway's drug store down in South Hamilton...

James R. Reynolds Is On Overseas Mission

James R. Reynolds, former selectman, and for several years secretary to the former governor and now Senator Leverett Saltonstall was named a member of the secretariat of the United States Strategic Bombing Survey of which Judge Charles C. Cabot is the head. In this position our former town official has gone to the continent where on a six months' leave of absence from his duties with Sen. Saltonstall, he will make first hand studies of bombing damages. "Jim" is receiving valuable experience through his associations in Boston and Washington, and we might hazard a guess that he will be heard from in connection with even more important official work one of these days, either in an elective or an appointive position.

COL. CURRIER

(Continued from page One)

performed at the Anzio beachhead. The Wenham doctor participated in the landings at Casablanca, was in the entire African campaign, the Sicilian campaign, Salerno, Cassino, and landed in the invasion of Southern France with the Seventh Army, advancing with them through Austria up into Germany.

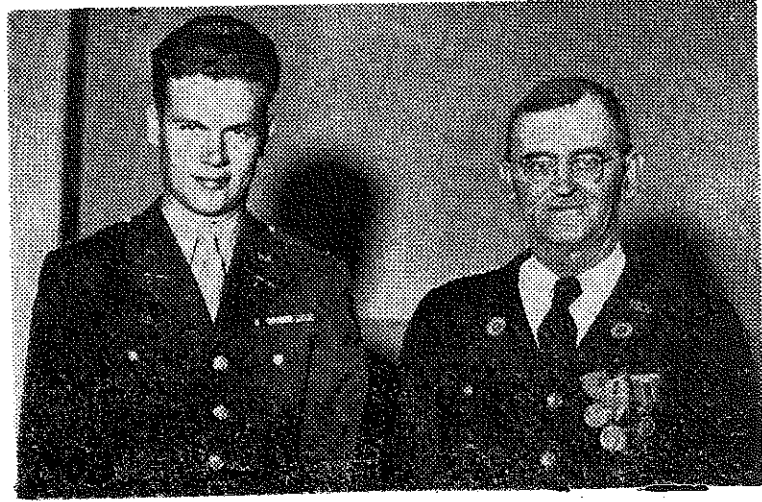
He made a visit to the Dachau prison camp where sights so sickened him that he was forced to leave, despite the many horrors of the battlefield he had previously experienced. Later he returned, and wrote of his reactions to prominent columnists with the idea of impressing those at home of the horror and brutality of those camps.

Arleen Chamberlain,

one of the first local women to sign up as a nurse (the only one we believe in the Marine Corps) resigned her commission to become married to Navy Lieutenant John Escales of Brooklyn, N. Y. Recently she presented her husband with twin daughters weighing four pounds 13 ounces and five pounds nine ounces respectively. Let Arleen tell that to the Marines. Her husband is now on duty in the Pacific... Lt. Cecil Dodge (a newcomer to Wenham) is near Prague working on railroad supply lines for Patton's armies...

Lt. Aut Campbell

finally got his wish and is now going into action after several years wet nursing and training wild young student pilots down in Texas. He is flying the Pacific somewhere around the Mariannas, and hopes to drop in for a chat with Hank Bagnell some afternoon (let's know if you get together you two old Main streeters)... S/Sgt. Dean Harwood was recently home on furlough. He has completed a course of specialized training in California and when

**BOTH VETERANS**

Lt. Edgar E. Joiner, Jr., escaped from Nazi prison camp is guest of honor with his father Past Commander Joiner of local Legion Post at reception in Town hall.

JOINER HOME

(Continued from page One)

of all you men in the service took this opportunity to single out Lt. Joiner as a symbol for all of you, and tendered him a public reception in the Town Hall.

Prior to the reception, members of the post, Lt. Joiner, and his family enjoyed a luncheon in the Barn, and from there the group adjourned to the Town Hall where some 150 or more neighbors and friends dropped in to congratulate Ed on his fortunate escape. Everything was most informal and it was just a nice neighborhood gathering, a sort of a preview of the big party that every citizen of the town is standing by waiting to attend on that great day when every man and woman of you are back in our midst once again.

Lt. Ed cannot talk too much about his escape as you may well imagine, but the fact that he hitchhiked some 300 miles through enemy-held and later friendly Russian territory after five months of internment in a German camp is sufficient to show that he really went through some real experiences before finally arriving safely

this reaches you will be on a new assignment in Florida... But for a sudden and near fatal illness months ago which deprived him of going across the Atlantic with a bomber crew

with which he trained, he might already been wearing several decorations, for his crew made a name for itself, we understand... His brother Doug is a tech sergeant in Italy, and his other brother Wayne is a coxswain with the coast guard in the south Pacific. Kingsbury "Tink", the youngest of the family recently passed his physical and was inducted with the April contingent from this area...

at an American mission in Odessa.

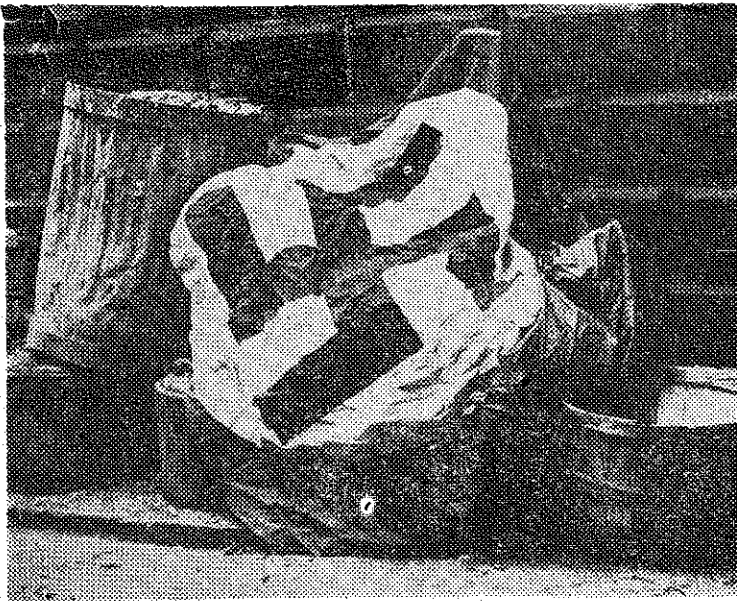
He is now enjoying a month's furlough with his wife and family, at the end of which the old point system may make him eligible for complete release. He participated in the entire Anzio campaign, won his commission under fire, and was captured while performing his duties as a forward observer during the campaign in Southern France in September 1944. As a member of the National Guard he was inducted into Federal service early in 1942, then was released to do war work at the Shoe for a brief period in 1943 before being recalled to active duty. With that long service record, it is highly probable that he may be one of the first to don civies again from this town.

None was more pleased nor more proud at the reception than his father, Edgar Joiner Sr., past commander of the local Legion post. Ed Senior says that while he didn't make a commission, and was never captured, he can boast one more battle star than his son, for in World War I he was in the thick of most of the American battles in 1917-1918.

Corp. Warren Heath

is a waistgunner in the Army Air forces, having recently completed a course at Drew Field. His next stop may be Shreveport, La. for further training... Ted Hollander who turned down a commission to come up the hard way in the early days of the war is now an executive officer on an LSM. He saw with his own eyes that now famous flag raising on Iwo Jima, and is currently due home for a brief leave... S1/c Bob Landers was recently home on a leave. As an armed guard on a merchant ship, he has the right to wear a star

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SWASTIKA IN THE DUMPS

This picture while not taken in Wenham, appeared in the Salem News the day following V-E day, and we thought you'd be interested in seeing how young America celebrated. Back 25 years ago we celebrated as we hung and burned the Kaiser, and the same spirit is with us. The above flag was sent home by some Salem soldier, and his kid brother thought a fitting V-E day picture would be the Swastika thrown in the rubbish.

A Word About Wenham, England

Some of our men in the armed services who have been stationed in England have already visited the community for which our town is named and others have asked for information about and how it is reached.

For the benefit of the latter, and all others who will wish to take advantage of the opportunity to visit Great Wenham and make themselves known as citizens of the only Wenham in the United States thus inducing friendly relations between the two places, the following information will be of value and interest.

Great Wenham and Little Wenham are in Suffolk, England, a mile or so in a westerly direction off the main highway from Colchester to Ipswich, and about eight miles in a south-westerly direction from Ipswich. They are not on any railroad line, being situated some two miles from the Capal and Rayden railroad.

Today both Wenhams in England are small villages, and although sizeable in area, count a normal population of probably less than two hundred persons mostly farmers and farm hands. There are no shops in the towns and only one "Pub" between them. They are in the part of the country in which Constable painted so many famous landscapes.

Great Wenham is a pleasant hamlet set in a frame of elms and oaks. It contains several very fine Elizabethan farm houses and

quaint thatched cottages. It is wholly agricultural and contains about 1123 acres.

It started as a Roman settlement, the church now standing was built in the 13th century and is dedicated to St. John. It was repaired two hundred and fifty years ago and again a century ago. There are three bells in the tower and until recently at least, there was a clock run by electricity, one of the earliest of the sort, worked by wires attached to platés sunk in the earth. The carved portions of the church are thought to have been done by local craftsmen, and the linenfold patterns are worth noting.

Little Wenham gives a good idea of the old manor days. The castle and church are close together for the protection given by the ancient moat. The castle now known as Little Wenham Hall, is owned and occupied by Miss Crisp whose present day garden contains the portion of the castle she does not occupy, as well as the old church. It was through the kindness of Miss Crisp that Mr. Fairfield obtained the photographs of Little Wenham which are valued so highly here.

Both the Little Wenham church and hall were built in the 13th century and clearly show how the same principles of architecture were applied in that day to domestic and ecclesiastic architecture. No doubt both buildings were done at the same time by the same workmen and craftsmen. The structures are of brick and local flint and have firestone trim. The

V-E DAY BRINGS JOY, SERIOUSNESS

We are proud to report that V-E Day here was observed with joy expressed in work and prayer. Only at the Center school, where by prearrangement among all schools, was there any observance. Special exercises were held there, and then school dismissed early. The First Church bell was rung for several minutes following President Truman's proclamation, but there was no other celebration. Some plants closed at noon, and those persons released returned to their homes and put the balance of the day in on Victory gardens and spring cleaning. The next day we were all back on the job, thinking only of the real celebration when Tokio goes the way of Berlin.

DID YOU HEAR

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for a sea engagement, and an enemy lies at the bottom of the sea as the result of this, we understand...

Lt. Preble Motley

was severely wounded in the shoulder, we only recently learned, but details are still lacking. We hope he may be back with us soon that we may learn more of the incident... George Merrill has been made a warrant officer promoted from a rating of C.Ph.M. He is now undergoing special training at Long Island before going overseas where he expects to be land based and in charge of a medical unit...

Ens. Edith Morson

our first wave, who has been stationed at the office of the Commandant, Third Naval District, N. Y., has recently been transferred to duty in Washington, D. C.... SC 3/c James Morgan recently enjoyed a leave in town after serving as a cook on a large carrier that saw plenty of action in the Pacific... Marshall Nielsen was another to enjoy a brief furlough in town from his training with the Air Corps... Ens. and Mrs. Robert Porter (Ann Conary) have taken an apartment in Beverly, Ens. Porter having just completed his course at Bowdoin college, and is now assigned to M. I. T. for a period...

Lawrence Perkins

has been at Manhattan beach training with the U. S. Coast Guard... (Continued on page Four)

brick is the earliest known to have been manufactured in the present form, which is Flemish. It is likely that the brick in these buildings was imported by way of Ipswich from Holland or Belgium, as being cheaper than stone which had to be transported over land routes from some distance away.

Little Wenham Hall is one of the earliest examples, if not the earliest still standing of a fortified house of brick construction.

RAY STECKER

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RAY STECKER

(Continued from page One)

airfields in France, Belgium, and deep into Germany. It was his outfit that bore the brunt of the breakthrough last December, and it was also this same fighting outfit that was the first to fly from a German airfield on the west side of the Rhine.

Congratulations, Ray, and we are waiting to say it in person when you return here, soon, we hope.

Ice Cream Stands Reopening Cheerful

We're still a long way from business as usual around here, and will remain so until you fellows are back home, but two more cheerful signs that the end of this long drag is in sight is shown by Bromley's ice cream stand reopening for five afternoons a week after being closed up tight for two and a half years, and the old Dutchland reopening this month under new management. Bromley says no matter how much ice cream he sells, business won't seem right until the old gang gathers up around his juke box on a hot summer's evening.

Tax Rate Again Set At \$17.80

While not so prompt as the record breaking speed of last year that had the tax rate set and announced the day following the annual Town Meeting, the Assessors this year proved none the less efficient in fixing the amount of our 1945 tax bills, for the rate has been announced at the same \$17.80. This gives us the same enviable rate, the lowest in the county, and one of the lowest in the Commonwealth, which has held for three years. The total valuation of our town this year is \$3,820,250, which for a community of about 1,280 persons makes us a relatively wealthy little village.

Rev. William J. Darby Begins His Pastorate

On May 6, Rev. William J. Darby became the pastor of the First church, once more bringing a pastoral leader to our community after an absence of more than six months. (Rev. Herbert S. Leazer



WILLIAM H. DARBY

of the Baptist church, is on a leave of absence which left both local churches without regular ministers for quite a period).

Our new pastor is rapidly making friends, and the attendance at church in the few Sundays that he has been with us is a tribute to him. He has many interesting plans in store, which he will announce in due time.

Rev. Mr. Darby is a native of Beaver Falls, Pa. He was ordained in 1927, later graduating from Boston University where he received training in the field of religious education and work with young people. He received his Bachelor's degree at the College of the Bible in Lexington, Ky., and his Master's degree at Andover-Newton seminary.

For the past three years he has been pastor of the two Congregational churches in Swanton and Alburg, Vt. Previously he was at Newington, N. H., while a student at Andover-Newton.

He is married, and has two children, Richard, five, and Sara, three years of age.

DID YOU HEAR

(Continued from page Three)

P.F.C. and Mrs. Robert Perkins (Betty Porter) are parents of a daughter born last February. P.F.C. Porter was recently given an overseas assignment... Eddie Richards is still undergoing training for the Merchant Marine at Sheepshead Bay, but due to be assigned a ship in the near future if not already on such duty... It's Capt. Florence Stobbart now, Stobbie having recently received her

promotion in France

where she is stationed... PFC Johnny Sturgis is still in Assam, but reassigned from the work he was doing in railroading there.

WHERE WE GET OUR FUNDS AND HOW WE SPEND THEM

Mrs. William Campbell who has been doing a great job in compiling and keeping accurate the many changes of addresses of all you Wandering Wenhamites also has charge of the finances of this little sheet, which likewise is quite a job. Just as an indication of where the money comes from, and where it goes in the production of this paper, here is an accounting since she took over some months ago when this was put on a Bi-monthly basis.

Receipts		Expenditures	
Salvage committee	\$186.53	Printing 3 issues	\$136.50
Gifts	84.60	Postage	40.99
Improvement Society	50.00	Printing post cards....	9.50
	<u>\$321.13</u>		<u>\$186.99</u>
		Cash on hand.....	134.14
			<u>\$321.13</u>

His camp recently was struck by a hurricane which raised havoc, despite the fact according to his letter it is so well equipped that it has showers, a light over each bunk, a built in ice box in each camp. All was flattened by the blow, however... Warren Stevens, SK 3/c was recently taken ill in California on his way back to duty, and at last reports was recovering in the Sojoma Mission Inn in Cal. which is used as a Navy recuperation center... Bobby Whittier is now Ens. Whittier U. S. N. R. Air Corps. Following a leave at home here, where he celebrated the receipt of his wings and commission, he returned to Miami Fla for further training with torpedo bombers to which branch he has been assigned.

REAL WENHAM FISH STORY



When the boys start kidding about fishing in their home town, put in a plug for Wenham. So little fishing has been done since you went away, the old finny ones think they own the ponds. A few nights ago it took the above two members of the Beverly Rod and Gun club (they say) nearly three hours to land that baby they are displaying between them. They hauled it all around Pleasant pond before they finally landed it, so Ernie Tucker Beverly news photographer informed us as he presented us with the yarn and pix. Statistically, the fish weighed 3 3/8 pounds, and was 20 1/2 inches long.

MOURN DEATH

(Continued from page One)

occasion a word from him on town meeting floor was enough to bring about a conciliation between opposing factions.

In the Wenham Baptist church where he was a member for many years, clerk for 52 years, deacon



ARTHUR D. PRINCE

for 45 years, and superintendent of the Sunday school for just short of half a century, his loss will be greatly felt.

His abilities were appreciated beyond our community, for he served as president of the Essex County Assessors association, as well as an active member of the Massachusetts Assessors association. He was also an officer for more than a quarter of a century of the Salem Baptist association, the conference of Baptist churches of this area.

His funeral services on May 20 were attended by a large delegation of town officials, relatives and friends who gathered to hear Rev. Herbert S. Leazer and Rev. Oliva Brouillette of Salem pay tribute to his long service to church, community and fellow man.

Syd Cook Weds Ipswich Girl

A note on the social side we thought might be of interest is the following from the Ipswich items of the Salem News: "Thursday evening of last week, Miss Theresa Eva Sweeney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Sweeney of Ipswich became the bride of Seaman 1/c Sydney R. Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Cook of Friend court, Wenham, at a double ring ceremony performed at the rectory of St. Joseph's church, Ipswich by Rev. Joseph C. Burns.

"Mrs. Cook attended the Ipswich schools, and for the past two years has been employed at the Ipswich plant of Sylvania. The groom enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and is at present stationed in Norfolk, Va."