

The

(Abominable
Snowman)

GREEN

LIGHT



BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

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No. 2

Just as we had finished painfully scratching the above heading on a stencil, there ambled in Ol' Cap'n Scuttlebutt, whom we have not seen for some time. He took one look, shifted his quid of tobacco, and said:

"Now ain't that jest like winmin-folks? Don't you know polar b'ars is at the Nooth Pole an' penguins at the Sooth Pole -- an' them Bomibble Snowmen in the high Himalayers? I been whalin' in Antarticar, an' I was to the Nooth Pole with Peary, an' --" "And you've also climbed Mount Everest, no doubt," we put in acidly. "Cap'n, we are well aware of the geographical and zoological phenomena of the regions you have mentioned. We merely felt that the winter of 1960-61 here in Newport, Rhode Island, partook of the characteristics of all three locales."

The Cap'n took another squint - first close to his nose, and then at arm's length. "Aw - sorta joke, like, ye mean?" he conceded grudgingly. "Well - real cute, real cute, I reckon."

We gave him a cup of coffee laced with anti-freeze and ushered him out into a seven-foot snowdrift, whence he hollered back - "Anyway, time folks gits yer leetle maggyzeen, likely the daffydils'll be a-bloomin'!" Whether this was a weather forecast, or a criticism of our efficiency, we still don't know.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the General Membership took place on the evening of Jan. 26 at St. John's Guild Hall. Owing to the (yes, you've guessed it!) "inclement weather" it was sparsely attended. Some 18 or 20 hardy souls had a cosy meeting, but the speaker, Mr. W.W. Corcoran, though he kindly put in an appearance, postponed his remarks until the April meeting.

Owing to the illness of the President, Wm. C. Harrington, the Treasurer Richard S. Weiss presided.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were read by the Recording Sec'y, Mrs. Gordon A. Eates.

The Treasurer reported a total balance of \$3778.30, which still includes the Homeland grant.

A plant sale and distribution of seeds will be a feature of the spring meeting. Mr. Fullerton will be in charge. Mr. Weiss also announced that John L. Murphy will attend to care and maintenance of trees this season, and that Mrs. Geo. D. Weaver, jr. will again conduct a clean-up drive.

The GREEN LIGHT reported a total circulation of 1194 for the quarter, and a balance of \$267.78. The 50 out-of-town members were listed: Alabama 1, Arizona 1, California 3, Connecticut 3, Delaware 1, Indiana 2, Iowa 1, Maryland 1, Mass. 10, N.Y. City and state 8, Ohio 1, R.I. (off island) 3, So. Carolina 1, Vermont 1, Virginia 2, Wisconsin 1, Washington D.C. 4, Nova Scotia 1.

The Editor stated that the membership should be 478, but that far too many people have still not paid dues. These have been sent a final notice, and will no longer receive the GREEN LIGHT.

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It was noted that the Fleet Landing has now been declared surplus and has been offered to the City. It was moved by RADM Henry Eccles that a committee be appointed to keep in touch with the situation and advise the Executive Committee as to developments. It was so voted.

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It was agreed that final decision on the Revolving Loan Fund plan be postponed to the April meeting. However, Mrs. R.S. Weiss, chairman of the Revolving Fund Study Committee, read proposed By-Laws and Charter amendments which would be necessary should the plan be adopted. This reading constitutes the necessary notice of amendment, as set forth in the By-laws. In order to inform the entire membership, these amendments are published here :

ARTICLE XII: Revolving Loan Fund
In order to preserve the character of the Point and to facilitate the improvement of the appearance of the Point, the Association shall establish a special Revolving Loan Fund.

The Fund shall be used to assist in the purchase, the reconditioning and/or improvement of houses by persons who would otherwise not have sufficient resources to do this work.

Section 1. This Fund shall be administered by a special committee comprising the Treasurer of the Association and four (4) other members to be appointed by the Executive Committee; however, no more than one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Committee. The appointments shall be confirmed by the Association at a regular or special meeting of the general membership. This committee shall be termed the Revolving Fund Advisory Committee, and its duties shall be:

- 1) to make investigations of applications for funds.
- 2) to make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

A two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee shall be necessary to approve the recommendations of the Revolving Fund Advisory Committee

Section 2. The Revolving Fund Advisory Committee shall set up its own rules and regulations and submit them to the Executive Committee for approval.

Section 3. REVOLVING LOAN FUND:
There shall be a Revolving Loan Fund which shall be separate from the General Treasury. Moneys designated for the Revolving Loan Fund cannot be used for any other purpose

Funds in the General Treasury exceeding \$2000.00 can be transferred by vote of the Executive Committee from the General Treasury to the Revolving Loan Fund.

CHARTER AMENDMENT:
"In addition to the foregoing, said corporation shall have the following powers and authority," viz. . . (g) to lend money
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Because of the small number present, there was no further discussion of the Revolving plan, which will be decided upon at the April meeting.

Bountiful refreshments were available at the end of the meeting, presided over by Mrs. Wm. F. Kitts and Mrs. Ivy O'Neill.

CALLING ALL BOYS between the ages of eight and eleven !!! A Point Cub Scout Pack is being formed, to meet in St. John's Guild Hall. Join up ! If you want to be a CUB and have fun, call Mr. Edward Cox, VI 6-2120

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Committee met at 16 Battery St. on the evening of February 9, with the President, Wm. C. Harrington, in the chair.

The Treasurer's report was the same as that given at the Quarterly Meeting.

The GREEN LIGHT reported a circulation of 399 for January, and a balance on hand of \$267.78. The final notice sent out with the last issue has brought in about 50 lagging members, but there are still many in arrears. When the weather moderates, a personal contact will be made.

A copy of the By-laws and Charter amendments (see preceding page) was sent in by Mrs. Weiss, chairman of the Revolving Fund Study Committee, who stated that she might call another meeting of her committee in order to clarify various points and to make a formal recommendation to the Board. She emphasized that a revolving loan fund would not necessarily be for furnishing mortgages, but could be used for very small expenditures such as paint and minor repairs, and would be extremely flexible in its uses.

The Board discussed the advisability of a membership drive in September, and also felt that a summer event this year would probably be on a fairly small scale, as in 1959.

Acting on the vote of the Quarterly Meeting re: a committee to keep abreast of the Fleet Landing situation, several members of such a committee were named - Kenneth V. Stein, Richard S. Weiss, Wm. H. Fullerton, Mrs. Harold Watson, and Mrs. John Howard Benson, chairman pro tem.

It was voted to send a letter to the City Council bringing to their attention the concern of the Point Association over use for the Fleet Landing. The text of this communication, which was sent in for the docket of the February 15 Council meeting, is as follows:

"The proposed acquisition by the City of Newport of the Fleet Landing or Section Base at Long Wharf and the south end of Washington Street, is understandably of vital concern to the Point Association.

"The area forms the most prominent access to the historic Point, and properly developed could add immeasurably to the economic, recreational and esthetic aspect of this part of the city. Improperly used for industrial or utilitarian purposes, it could prove a terrible detriment to the residential waterfront.

"The Point Association is forming a committee purposely to study, evaluate and promote the proper use of the area, and requests that the Association be represented in any deliberations the City may institute regarding the matter.

"At this time, the Association would like to remind the Council of the action of the Board of Aldermen (Records of the Board, Vol. 18, page 68, Dec. 10, 1940) in accepting \$5000 raised by Miss Agnes C. Storer and others for the purchase of 78,980 sq. feet of land at the north end of what is now the Fleet Landing. It would seem that not only should the City be exempt from re-purchasing this portion from the U.S. Government - but that the Council is bound to develop at least this portion for recreational use, as committed by the terms of the gift."

(signed) William C. Harrington
President

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A special meeting of the Board and members of the Fleet Landing Committee will be called in the near future to discuss with counsel Wm. W. Corcoran various matters on the agenda.

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DO YOU HAVE A FIFTY-STAR FLAG YET ?
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This issue of THE GREEN LIGHT is full of business; and Newport is full of snow and slush. Perhaps it would be refreshing at this season to relax and be a bit nostalgic - looking back to summer nights that so many of us remember with a sigh.

NEWPORT HARBOR - 8:45 to 9:15 P.M.
(By the late Mrs. Mary Marren, about 1911)

Through my window the silvery light
Falls from the moon on a summer night.
Into the room from the water below
Drift sounds of launches to and fro,
From the battleships that dot the bay,
Fast at anchor from far away.

Out of the darkness into the light
Comes the radiant queen of night -
The Commonwealth, on her way to town,
Wearing her ruby-jewelled crown!
The searchlights play, and whistles blow
And water life is all a-glow.

After a space, a change is seen,
And gay sights merge in things serene.
Sweet bells ring out - ship's time they tell;
Bugles call that "all is well";
And peace rests on the quiet sea,
While harbor lights watch patiently.

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THE COMMONWEALTH PASSES

A moving shape of light she comes,
Casting the harbor in a dream;
Slumbrous and soft her engine drums,
We see the ghostly foam-wake gleam.
So brief a moment, while the air
Is shaken with a cry of light
That clothes her, radiantly fair;
Her bow-wash whisper thrills the night.
Her twinkling gold reflections slip
Among the piles of gaunt gray piers -
The vision of a fairy ship
Invoked from tales of magic years.

A moment when her mighty stern
Half spans the fairway like a crown;
Tier upon tier her star-lights burn;
A snatch of music flutters down.
Lo ! where she was, the night is dark;
The harbor wakens from its spell.
But still about the sea-wall - hark !
Runs the last murmur of her swell.

E.B.P.
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