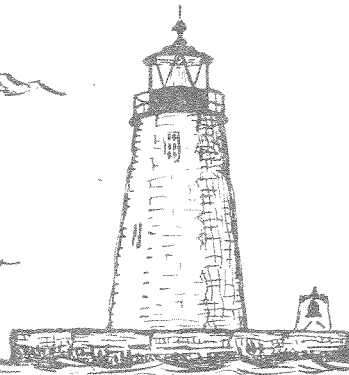


# The GREEN

# LIGHT



## BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

VOL. IV

NOVEMBER 1960

No. 11

**APPEAL !** Renewals of membership are coming in rather slowly. It would be of tremendous assistance to the Editor if you can be prompt, in order that reminders do not have to be sent out. If it's inconvenient for you to mail your dues, give us a call at VI 7-3341 and we'll try to pick them up.



THE ANNUAL MEETING of The Point Association was held on the evening of October 27 in St. John's Guild Hall, with an extremely large attendance. The President, Edwin H. Brownell, was in the chair. Mrs. H. E. Watson, Recording Sec'y, read her report, which was followed by the Treasurer's report, read by Mr. Brownell in the absence of Mr. Weiss. This showed a total balance of \$3529.55, which includes a grant of \$500 from the Homeland Foundation in New York to be used for the Revolving Fund in the event that this should become an actuality.

Mr. M. Joseph Sullivan presented checks and ribbon awards to the young people of the garden contest who had also entered the Festival of Flowers sponsored by the Newport Horticultural Society. These were: Outstanding: Louise O'Loughlin; First: Gertrude and Louise Duffy; Second: Lisa Nemptzow; Third: Charles Cabral, Ronald Potter; Fourth: Stephen Sanfilippo, Dennis and Diane Oliveira; Fifth: Arthur and Donna DeAscentis.

The reports of both Mrs. George D. Weaver, jr. Clean-up Committee, and Dr. David Nemptzow, Protection, expressed frustration over the continuance of the same old problems.

Mrs. Weaver had hoped to show new photographs demonstrating great improvement, but displayed instead the pictures taken last spring, stating that the same untidiness existed in the same places. The success of the young people's contest and their awakened interest, formed a bright spot in the over-all scene.

Dr. Nemptzow drew laughter when he stated that his next big project had been an all-out attack on the soot problem - but that the week after the August meeting, the closing of the Goat Island power plant had solved his problem as if by magic, and he disclaimed any credit ! Dr. Nemptzow told of hundreds of complaints received, with action taken every time, but though both city officials and police are always most attentive and courteous, no ordinances have been enforced, no fines imposed. Said Dr. Nemptzow, "As your Protection Committee I feel frustrated, and as a taxpayer I feel cheated."

Mrs. R.S. Weiss reported on publicity, praising the splendid cooperation of the press and radio, naming Mrs. Ralph Emerson, Jerry Nevins, Jerry Taylor, and Gardner Dunton.

The report for THE GREEN LIGHT showed a circulation for the year of 4151, an increase of 925 over a year ago, with readers in sixteen states and Nova Scotia. The expense involved in getting out the Bulletin totaled \$221.98 for the fiscal year - supplies and postage. Membership Oct. 17 - 456.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND: The report of the study committee was read by Mrs. R.S. Weiss, chairman. She explained the purpose of such a fund, and told the members that amendments to the charter and by-laws would have to be made if the plan were adopted, in order to permit the Association to loan money and to set up a special steering committee. Mr. Wm. W. Corcoran, the Association's legal counsel, answered a number of questions. It was pointed out that decisions as to eligibility for loans would be the responsibility of the policy committee. Loans might be made for the improvement of houses other than 18th century structures, if their preservation contributed to the general improvement of the Point and no other means of financing could be found.

Amendment of the charter and by-laws would have to be proposed for approval or disapproval at the next General Membership Meeting!

Mrs. Weiss stated that the Executive Board recommends that the general membership adopt the revolving fund resolution in principle. In order to facilitate discussion, and as chairman of the Revolving Fund Study Committee, Mrs. Weiss moved that the general membership accept the recommendation of the Executive Board.

This was adopted after a hand vote, with a number of persons abstaining! (Note: The Revolving Fund Study Committee plans to meet soon; a full report of that meeting will be given in the Green Light and should be very carefully considered by the membership.)

ELECTION: Miss Marion Galvin, in the absence of Capt. C.J. Harter, chairman of the Nominating Committee, read the following slate:

For President: (two years)  
William C. Harrington  
2nd Vice-President: (two years)  
Miss Ann. E. Hagerty  
Recording Secretary: (two years)  
Mrs. Gordon A. Bates  
Three members of Nominating Committee (one year): William F. Kitts  
Miss J. Caroline Olney, Capt. C.J. Harter.

This slate was duly elected. Officers continuing till Oct. 1961 are G.D. Weaver, jr. 1st Vice-President; R.S. Weiss, Treasurer, and Miss Mary B. Perry, Corr. Sec'y.

The outgoing President thanked his Board, and welcomed Mr. Harrington, who spoke briefly.

After the adjournment of the business meeting, "Charlie Sherman's Orchestra" again delighted the audience with old-fashioned music played with much gusto, and a sing-along in which the members joined. The spirit of this delightful group was exemplified by one of its members, aged 78, who was glad the music came at the end of the meeting so that he would not have to miss his Thursday night bowling!

"Happy Birthday" was played in conclusion, and a large birthday cake decorated with a green light-house and the dates 1955-1960 was cut and speedily dispatched.

The refreshments were under the direction of Mrs. William F. Kitts assisted by Mrs. Ivy O'Neill.

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Well, the Great Election is over - and so are many, many other elections, including that of Benjamin Harrison in 1888.

Annie Lathrop Bachelier remembers when "at election time, red fire burned in the gutters along the route of the torchlight parade. The parade would start from somewhere near the High Bridge (Walnut Street) to Washington, sometimes coming through Poplar Street past Bob Hamilton's store at the corner of Third and Poplar, and up Bridge Street past the Hamilton house to Thames Street. (The Hamiltons were in politics.)

"Many men and boys carried smoky, flaring torches. Some men, my grandfather Enoch Lathrop among them, wore beaver hats and carried canes. They belonged to the George Pierce association. One year, grandfather carried a big wooden axe which had the word VETO on it. Another time, he carried a long pole at the top of which was a big wooden pail with FULL DINNER PAIL printed on it in large letters. I remember, as a child, seeing the axe and pail in our woodshed.

"The William Hamilton house was decorated with bunting and flags, and flags flew from all the houses along the parade route. The William Hamilton club made a fine showing, in white suits trimmed with red. Of course there were bands - the Newport Municipal, the Artillery, the Light Infantry, and a fife and drum corps. All these parades were, of course, in October or November -- but for Fourth of July there were the 'Horribles' with the 'Rough-and-Ready Fire Engine' at (of all times !) five o'clock in the morning !"



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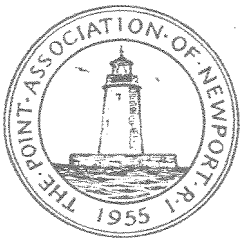
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PETE'S CANTEEN 74 1/2 Third Street  
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Editor: 16 Battery Street  
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