

THE HISTORY
OF
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS
A SUPPLEMENT: 1916-1960

by
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COMMITTEE TO UPDATE
THE HISTORY OF
CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

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PREFACE

Articles twelve and thirteen of the warrant for the 1965 annual town meeting created a commission and appropriated the money for an updating of Chelmsford's town history. The commission engaged me as the town's historian in the spring of 1966. The work of preparing this volume has been in progress since June, 1966.

With very few exceptions, this history begins in 1916 (the year Rev. Wilson Waters finished his town history) and ends in 1960. In two cases of exceptional importance, I have included material prior to 1916. In other cases, where early records have not been available or it seemed more logical to continue, I have gone beyond 1960. The year 1960 was chosen as a closing date because it seemed undesirable to include "current events" in a volume of history.

This history is primarily devoted to the reconstruction of Chelmsford's past. For the most part, the material has been collected from town records and newspapers. To add color and to amplify the written records, I have interviewed a number of residents who have been closely involved in the living of Chelmsford's history. If the reader finds factual errors in this volume, he may charge them to faulty information in the records or to the frailty of human memory. Any other error is my own.

On several occasions, while searching for material, I have been confronted by one question from some of the newer Chelmsford residents. "What ever happened in Chelmsford?" they ask. If the reader is looking for sensational history, he had better go elsewhere, for it is not here. But if he is interested in knowing how Chelmsford has developed as a community, I hope he will find some clues in this volume. Perhaps, if nothing more, a better understanding of Chelmsford's recent past will help suburban dweller and "old-Family" Yankee in their communication with each other.

This volume is not large as town histories go. It has been my intent to provide a sampling of Chelmsford's past, rather than to record every event, regardless of its significance. There are no genealogies in this book, although pages and pages of genealogy usually compose the bulk of a town history. To record genealogies in a community where everyone no longer knows everyone strikes me as wasteful.

What has happened to Chelmsford in the past fifty years has not been unusual. Many other communities have faced the same kinds of problems. Yet, there is something unique about the events and actions of each community, a distinctiveness that gives character to a town. This history is concerned, therefore, with Chelmsford's character as well as with its historical past.

I am deeply indebted to the committee who watched

over this history. They have understood that history is best written by the historian who has complete freedom of action. The committee members have given of themselves unstintingly in guiding me toward information, in offering suggestions, and in the reading of the manuscript. I am especially grateful to the Rev. Roland E. Morin, Chairman of the committee, for his faith, trust, and time taken from his many pastoral duties; to Mrs. Julia P. Fogg, who edited this manuscript with the keen eye of a former English major; and to our two "outside experts," Mrs. Charlotte P. DeWolf, and Mr. George A. Parkhurst.

Special mention should be made of the many townspeople who gave of their time to permit interviews, produce town records, and answer innumerable questions. The importance of their efforts is evident on every page of this history.

Finally, my warmest appreciation goes to Mrs. Edith Pickles and her staff at the Adams Library. They have tolerated this historian's disruptions for many months with a patience and thoughtfulness beyond description. A special note of gratitude must go to Mrs. Pickles, Mrs. Emma Greenwood, and Mrs. Donald Fox, who, because of their close proximity to my downstairs office, bore the brunt of the burden.

This history is unofficially dedicated to the late Wilson Waters, with the hope that he would approve.

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CHAPTER I.

CHELMSFORD: 1916-1945

As Wilson Waters scrawled his name on the preface to the manuscript of his town history in October, 1916, he must have paused to think about the town to which he had devoted so much and about which he then knew more than any man. He might have envisioned himself leaving his church, crossing the trolley track on Chelmsford Street, and walking down to the point across from Falls' Drug Store. From there he could look out on the scattered houses and broad fields on Boston Road. Or perhaps he saw himself topping the rise on North Road and viewing with one gaze the chimneys of the mills of the North, which symbolized the sense of activity and progress unique to that section of the town. He may even have thought of the East, so isolated from the commonweal, so involved in the affairs of Lowell; the West, so indebted to Chelmsford granite; or the South, so lazily rural. Whatever he really did think as he finished his history, we can be sure of one thing--he thought Chelmsford to be a fine place in which to live.

The People

The first year for which population statistics are relevant is 1920. The United States Census for 1920 reported that five thousand, five hundred eighty-two people lived

in Chelmsford. There were two thousand, fourteen residents born of native parentage. What is interesting is the number of first-generation or immigrant stock in the town. There were two thousand, two hundred forty people born of foreign or mixed parentage, and one thousand, four hundred twenty-eight who were foreign-born and therefore immigrants to the United States. In 1920, there were seven hundred eighty-one naturalized Americans living in Chelmsford. The statistics do not tell us the extraction of the people who lived here, but the figures for Middlesex County give some indication. People of Irish, French-Canadian, English, and Italian descent ranked most prominently in the make-up of the county, and it seems safe to assume that Chelmsford shared that mixture in some proportion.

There were 667 families in the town in 1920.¹

In 1930, there were seven thousand, twenty-two people in town, of which one thousand, sixteen lived on farms.² In 1940, the population rose to eight thousand, seventy-seven, a level which the town maintained throughout the following decade.³

In general, population statistics reveal very little about what people were like fifty years ago, but they do give a great deal of understanding about the problems of town government. It is, for example, much easier to conduct a town meeting when there are only two thousand voters than when there are ten thousand. All of the town services-- police, fire, welfare--require less attention, need less

personnel, less office space, and therefore cost less money to operate.

In the first four decades of this century, the population of Chelmsford was less than nine thousand. Therefore, as might be expected, the problems of town government were minimal. There was no pressing need for a full-time fire department since seven thousand acres of land were devoted to farming. The police force was composed of two, then three, and eventually four men. In 1930, there were only two thousand, thirty-nine motor vehicles registered in Chelmsford. In most cases, when schools became overcrowded, additions were made to the old buildings.

This is not to suggest, of course, that town officials of fifty years ago had nothing to do, only that what they did was in direct proportion to the number of people they had to serve.

Today, the people of Chelmsford tend to think that life moved at a slower pace in their town in the 1920's and 1930's. It is true that the automobile only went forty miles an hour until the early 1930's and people were not so apt to travel long distances. Sectionalism was rampant in Chelmsford and people tended to cling to their area rather than to the community as a whole.

Social life in the 1920's

Lest anyone conclude that life in the early decades of this century was dull, we ought to indicate just a few

of the events that Chelmsfordians could participate in during any given year. A Grange fair was held every year, emphasizing handicrafts and farm products. The Woman's Alliance of the Unitarian vestry sponsored a monthly supper, not to mention the host of other suppers organized by church groups and organizations of every description. In addition to dancing parties, there were community sings, minstrel shows, church socials, and movies. If you played cards, there were whist parties; if you preferred to sew or cook, there were sewing clubs and homemaker groups sponsored by the Middlesex County Extension Service. If you were dramatically inclined, there were children's performances to applaud, teenagers put on plays, and the adults even tried their hand at dramatics. On Easter Monday, the Grange sponsored a semi-formal dancing party highlighted by a Grand March. To celebrate Halloween, there were costume parties. At Thanksgiving, there was a traditional Thanksgiving night dance.

Christmas was, of course, something special. There was a Christmas community party enjoyed by all, the annual sale of the Central Baptist Society featuring jellies and Christmas cards; and, on Christmas eve, trumpets from the belfry of the Unitarian church resounded, calling everyone to come and sing carols around the community Christmas tree, accompanied by the Chelmsford Band. Afterwards, a group of carollers would board a sled to visit the sick and shut-ins.

Friction between North and Center

There are several reasons why there was ill-feeling between the North and the Center. The background of the people in the two areas was dissimilar. A large percentage of the population in the North worked in the Chelmsford mills or in Lowell. There was a greater concentration of foreign-born or first-generation families in the North. The Center had a greater concentration of "old families" than the North, and the Center was the hub of town government for the entire community.

Some people have suggested that religion provided the main focus for the difference between the two sections but that theory seems untenable. Although there was some anti-Catholic feeling in Chelmsford, it probably was just a small part of a nationwide prejudice toward Catholics that erupted after the disillusionment of the first World War. A group of Ku Klux Klansmen did meet in Chelmsford in October, 1924, and it was rumored that during the previous summer, there had been large outdoor meetings in the open country. There were probably very few, if any, members from Chelmsford, although crosses were burned on St. Mary's lawn in the early 1930's.⁴

There can be no question that attempts were constantly made to minimize the division between North and Center. At least one Selectman came from each section, town committees were divided evenly, graduations were held in the North and in the Center on alternating years, and what was built in

the Center was then built in the North. Each section had its town newspaper correspondent, as did the other sections.

The highpoint of this enmity came in 1924 when the North debated seceding from Chelmsford. Led by Bernard Gilmore, the Agent at the Silesia mills, a group of residents of the North met to discuss setting up a separate township or merging with Lowell. The impetus for the secession move came from a recent legislative enactment that permitted the creation of new townships.

Apparently, Barney Gilmore felt strongly about the way in which the town of Chelmsford, particularly his section of the North, ought to be administered. In order to understand his influence, it is necessary to understand the power of the Agent at that time. An Agent in the mills of 1924 was equivalent to the Superintendent of today, but with greater influence not only upon the mill, but upon the community of which it was a part. For the people who depended on the mill for sustenance, the Agent's word was law, not only in matters pertaining to the mill, but also in matters on which the Agent had an opinion. To oppose him was to invite dismissal from one's job.

In any event, it was Gilmore's plan to encourage both the North and the West to secede from Chelmsford. He was supported by citizens who felt that the North paid the bulk of the town's revenue, but received little in return. On February 1, 1924, a large meeting was held to discuss the subject. John Hogan, President of the Overseers and Second

Hands Association, presided over the meeting. It was the consensus of opinion that the North ought to form its own Village Improvement Association rather than to leave the township, and this was ultimately accomplished.

The Center viewed this attempt at secession with some distaste. An article was entered in the town warrant asking if the town would take any action to oppose such a move on the part of the North. Fortunately, for the tranquility of the community, the article was dismissed.

With the organization of a Village Improvement Association, the plan of a new township for the North was discarded.⁵

World War One

President Woodrow Wilson's call to sacrifice was answered in Chelmsford with a patriotism worthy of the fighting men of '76. Since those were not originally the days of Selective Service, soldiers had to be recruited through appeals to their patriotism. On the 6th of April, 1917, a cavalcade of automobiles blowing their horns and bearing flags passed through town urging young men to join the Army. In response to this makeshift parade, Alberton "Bertie" Vinal and Arthur Polly volunteered, but Polly was rejected. That day the Chelmsford Rifle Club pledged its support of the war effort.⁶

During the war, fear of sabotage was widespread. Therefore, a number of men were delegated to guard the Silesia mills. During the war, these mills were busy making cloth for

soldiers' uniforms.⁷

On April 20, 1917, the Selectmen appointed a Committee on Public Safety, composed of fifty residents, and chaired by Walter Perham. The Committee met on April 24 to consider the conservation of food supplies.⁸ Food was of constant concern during the war years. While never as drastically rationed as in the Second World War, the country (and Chelmsford) were constantly urged to plant victory gardens and cultivate every available piece of arable soil. So, in keeping with the idea, on May 3, 1917, the Food Production Committee of the Committee of Public Safety asked farmers to plow up all available land in town, especially to grow potatoes and other vegetables.⁹

Sugar was rationed. In June, 1918, a card was issued that entitled the bearer to get twenty-five pounds for canning. The Ginger Ale plant was closed because of the sugar shortage. In April, 1918, it was announced that anyone having more than thirty pounds of flour in his possession must report it by May 1. In order to conserve coal, people went without heat one day a week, known colloquially as "heatless Monday."

On June 9, 1917, the town held a flag-raising ceremony complete with a parade. According to the newspaper account, it was the kind of summer day that makes New England famous.* For the occasion, a one-hundred foot flag pole had been erected. The town appropriated the money to raise a flag given by the late Rev. Edmund T. Schofield (St. John's) *The author is aware that summer begins on June 21.

to the graduating class of 1913.

The parade was led by Augustus E. Duncan of the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment. Among the marchers were the Civil War veterans, the Red Cross Society, St. John's Total Abstinence Society, and a couple of bands. In addition to the American flags, English and French flags were flown, and the audience stood proudly not only through the American national anthem but also through "God Save the King" and "the Marseillaise." Ex-Governor John L. Bates gave the major address for the ceremony.¹⁰

While the young men fought in the trenches, the civilians back home subscribed Liberty Bonds, made bandages, and supported the war effort as best they could. The Red Cross held several campaigns during the war for funds and Chelmsford supported it generously. The Young Men's Christian Association also raised money for its "Red Triangle" huts, a kind of travelling canteen that provided services in the trenches and in the prison camps.¹¹

News of the armistice sent Chelmsford into the kind of ecstasy that only the end of war can bring. On November 8, 1918, the bells of the churches began to ring as the news spread throughout the community. The whistle at the Chelmsford Spring Company joined in a duet with the church bells. The schools were dismissed after all of the children had sung The Star Spangled Banner. Parades of automobiles, flagwavers, and children moved through the Center. North

Chelmsford, with amazing speed, organized a parade complete with the Middlesex Training School band. Reverend E. Ambrose Jenkins and Dr. Fred Varney gave speeches on the steps of the Congregational church.

Everyone was disappointed when it was discovered that the celebration was a bit premature. The armistice was not signed until November 11, three days later.¹²

Naturally, the official victory required even more recognition than the unofficial one had received. With more time to plan, these observances were less spontaneous. The children in the Center gathered on the common to sing and then went to Lowell to march in that parade. Business generally stopped and the post office went on holiday hours. In the North, another parade was held but with almost no one to cheer as it passed. Everyone was in the parade. The Kaiser was burned in effigy to the singing of patriotic songs, and then the group moved to the town hall to listen to speeches and to do some more singing. Some patriotic person, probably filled with an excess of the victory spirit, put gasoline in the lower watering trough in the Center and blew it to smithereens.

The West, South, and East also held parades and every church held services to celebrate the end of the war.

On June 16, 1919, the town held its Welcome Home celebration. Most of the mills and businesses were closed as the citizens turned out to pay tribute to their newly-returned boys. Many of the homes were decorated with

bunting and flags. In the North, the parade was led by Walter Monahan. In addition to the parade, there was a dinner, a band concert, and a dance. Wilson Waters wrote a "welcome home ode" and Arthur Hadley, the "celebrated American tenor" performed.¹³

Not everyone who went off to war came home. Among others, Alberton Vinal, Egbert Tetley, and George Quessy were killed during the conflict. At a special town meeting on May 14, 1920, a committee, consisting of Rev. E. Ambrose Jenkins, Mark Ingham, and John Monahan, was instructed to plan a memorial in the North in memory of Tetley and Bertie Vinal. At the annual town meeting in 1922, it was voted to raise \$3,000 for a memorial dedicated to the veterans of World War One. The meeting also voted to rename Stevens Corner, the Alberton W. Vinal Square, and the West Chelmsford School, the George R. Quessy School.

The Depression: 1929-1939

The depression years, from the point of view of an historian, are difficult to reconstruct. It was an uniquely personal experience, affecting each individual differently. It was not a time in which a community or a neighborhood could rally in support of some distressed individual or family. It was, instead, a time in which each person seemed to be at the mercy of some force beyond his ken, a time when a man's talents and abilities might be of no avail. Until the depression came, going on the welfare rolls

was degrading. But, in the depression, welfare sometimes was the only way in which a family could survive.

The closing of the Silesia mills, coupled with the economic distress prevalent everywhere, brought widescale unemployment to Chelmsford. It was not as distressing here as it was in the cities because Chelmsford, even as late as 1929-30, was still heavily influenced by farming. A farmer could always eat, even if he could not sell his produce. In November, 1930, a committee was formed in the town to assist the unemployed. Selectman Royal Shawcross estimated that, at that time, some thirty to forty families were receiving aid from the town. The committee, headed by Charles E. Bartlett, was asked to work on the problem. They met on November 20 and considered the situation. The major difficulty was that the Board of Welfare had run out of money and the public works project only had employed fifty-three men occasionally during the summer.¹⁴

A special town meeting was called in October, 1931, to ask for a \$5,000 welfare appropriation. The town was then aiding forty-seven people, consisting of the unemployed, mother's aid, old age, and veteran's benefits. In addition, some \$3,000 was requested for road construction to provide employment. The town approved the requests. A meeting of representatives from most of the organizations in town was held in December to discuss the formation of a Welfare Committee and this was accomplished. The Chairman was Clarence E. Woodward, and the committee immediately formed

a special Christmas committee.¹⁵

In September, 1932, the teachers voted to contribute five per cent of their salaries to the welfare funds, a practice already engaged in by other town employees. Heads of town departments were giving up ten per cent of their salaries.¹⁶ In August, 1932, a special town meeting appropriated \$8,500 for welfare.

In August, 1933, welfare cases dropped from sixty-three to thirty-one as the federal government prepared to offer financial assistance to the town.

By November, 1933, an emergency had been declared by the Selectmen enabling them to transfer \$1,500 from excess and deficiency to the welfare account.¹⁷ In the same month, Frank J. Lupien, Stewart MacKay, and Ancel E. Taylor went to Boston to discuss the situation with Governor Joseph B. Ely. Federal grants were to be given on the basis of population which meant that Chelmsford would receive about \$17,000 to be used to put people to work on the public payroll. The town was eventually given \$16,242 to employ seventy-four men on school repairs and road grading. In December, \$12,685 more was given, thus enabling employment of one hundred sixteen in the town, twenty-eight in the county, and twelve on federal projects.

In March, 1934, Frank Lupien, the Welfare Agent, was appointed the administrator of the first federal relief program, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. His first quota, one hundred four men, began work on curbing,

sidewalk construction, and the painting of the exterior of the Center town hall.¹⁸ In May, the project's funds were reduced by half and the manpower quota was cut to fifty. The next project to receive funds was a class in practical English and reading, open to high school graduates. These classes were held in the library.¹⁹

The first yearly report of the F.E.R.A. (1934) indicated the extent to which the federal government had aided the town. Curbing and sidewalks were placed on North Road, Main Street, Gorham Street, Middlesex Street, and Chelmsford Street. Pine Hill Road was widened. The athletic field and Varney Playgrounds were enlarged. Public buildings were painted. Water holes for fire protection were dug. The cemeteries received gates, and moths and apple pests were destroyed. The ladies made garments, a ten-piece orchestra was formed, and snow was removed from the ground. As of February 1, 1935, one hundred fifty-four people were on the payroll earning an average of twelve dollars a week. The total cost--\$115,490.51; Chelmsford's share--\$10,500.

In August, 1935, the F.E.R.A. disappeared, and in its place came the well-known Works Progress Administration. In its first year, the WPA laid water mains in the South, renovated the North town hall, and worked on parks and roads. It employed one hundred eighty-five people. In 1936, it carried out flood relief, two water projects, road repairs, and the drainage of a section of the Westlands.

The year 1937 was an important one for WPA. It

carried out a town survey project, repaired the Town farm, constructed the Westland school and the East school playgrounds, repaired the East, South, and Center firehouses, did more work on the Varney Playgrounds, remodelled the Center town hall, worked on the roads, killed moths, and encouraged the ladies to keep sewing.

In January, 1937, sixty-five families (two hundred ninety-three people) were on the welfare rolls. By December, 1937, ninety-three families (three hundred eighty-five people) were on relief of some kind. In January, 1938, the number of families had risen to one hundred twenty (five hundred four people), but by December, the figure dropped to forty-eight families (two hundred five people). Without a doubt, 1938 was the worst year for Chelmsford.

One hundred thirty-two families were forced on relief in the winter of 1939, but the figure dropped to thirty-seven as economic conditions slowly improved. Social Security payments had started and a Bureau of Old Age Assistance was created.

The last few years before the war saw a reduction of federal relief as employment quickened and industrial re-development continued. In 1942, with the war going strong, the WPA was abolished in town because the voters felt that it was no longer needed. The money had run out and the town refused to appropriate any further funds.²⁰

There is little evidence to indicate just what the depression meant for Chelmsford. In terms of town revenue,

in 1934, 53.7 per cent of all taxes went uncollected. From 1935 to 1938, the percentage steadily declined until, in the latter year, 39.2 per cent of all taxes were uncollected. These figures not only indicate the reduction in personal income due to unemployment, they also demonstrate the slow economic recovery of the 1930's.²¹

World War Two

Even before America entered the war, there was some enthusiasm in Chelmsford for the Allied cause. On October 9, 1941, over Station WRUL in Boston, Frank Lupien, Chairman of the Chelmsford Committee to defend America by Aiding the Allies, Stewart MacKay, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Mrs. Arnold Perham, representing the women of Chelmsford, and Reverend Charles W. Henry, Pastor of All Saints' church (he had been to Europe), broadcasted a message to Chelmsford, England, encouraging that community in its struggle against the Germans. On October 12, a telegram came from Mayor Taylor of Chelmsford, England, informing the group that reception had been excellent.²²

It was not long thereafter that Chelmsfordians in America had the opportunity to visit their European counterparts. The second war encouraged the participation of every citizen, either through combat duty or through the sacrifice of desired luxuries. Everything was rationed--from tires to sugar. Karl Perham served, for example, as head of the Tire Rationing Board, and there were food stamp centers, sugar

rationing, flour control, butter rationing, and meat rationing.

In January, 1942, \$2,500 was voted for national defense and a state of emergency was declared in Chelmsford. No one seriously expected the Germans to attack the town, but on the other hand, no one was absolutely sure that they (or the Japanese) would not attack somewhere. This concern, in part, explains why the blackout system was used throughout the war. Each evening, as dusk appeared, the lights of Chelmsford were muffled by drawn curtains, paper over the windows, and automobiles travelled without the use of their headlights. The public street lighting system was not often used.

An air raid report center was organized in Chelmsford with Guy Files as the Air Raid Warden. In January, 1942, he issued an appeal for more volunteers to man the report center, a twenty-four hour task. People were taught how to recognize aircraft and to report their appearance in the Chelmsford skies.

To indicate just how seriously national defense was considered, an item has been taken from the Selectmen's minutes of February 2, 1942. On that day, they approved the purchase of fifty-six steel helmets, plywood for blackout material, and thirty first aid belts.

On March 22, the town held its first practice blackout. A simulated attack was carried out, the air raid siren wailed, and two minutes later the town was in darkness.²³

in December, the "dim-out" went into effect. This limited the size of lights that could be used. For example, in the case of automobiles, one-half of the headlights had to be covered. Also in March, an auxiliary fire department was organized.

A Salvage for Victory campaign was conducted in April. William Bellwood and the auxiliary police went out to collect a list of salvage available and then sent in junk dealers to collect it.²⁴ Also in April, sugar rationing went into effect, and all of the men of the town were registered for the draft. Gas rationing came in May, conducted by the teachers at the elementary schools.

During the early years of the war, the railways of the trolley system were dug up for scrap iron. When the trolleys ceased operation, the tracks had been covered over with asphalt. Now, in June, 1942, an excavation began on Middlesex Street and on Chelmsford Street. The federal government provided the asphalt to cover up the holes.²⁵

In August, it was announced just who would man the report center. Eleven organizations had volunteered their membership for report duty. They were:

- South Village Improvement Association
- Westlands Improvement Association
- South, East, North, and Westlands Parent-Teacher Associations
- Chelmsford Grange
- Delphonia Fraternity
- Center group
- North and Center Legions
- South Gun and Rod Club

So it went throughout the war. Residents became used to seeing army convoys passing through Central Square, sometimes

taking four or five hours before the last truck went by. Many men from Chelmsford went off to fight, some did not return. For four long years the citizens of the community were asked to forego their normal pleasures in deference to the war effort. The mills, of course, ran at capacity with the coming of the war. Southwell Combing became the largest woolen top mill in the nation. H.E. Fletcher Company became involved in military defense.

In addition to the usual activities in celebration of the end of the war, Chelmsford also erected an honor roll in front of the Center town hall. War honor rolls and new flagpoles and flags had been erected in the East and in the South in November, 1942. Now, due to the urging of a Chelmsford Grange committee (John E. Johnson, Ernest Byam, and Warren Wright), the town was prepared to sponsor a roll. On April 3, 1943, all of the organizations in town met at the town hall to elect a permanent committee who would collect the names. Since twelve hundred nineteen men were serving at that time, it was a tremendous task. The honor roll was dedicated on May 23, 1943, under the supervision of John E. Johnson, Harold Petterson, Harold Clayton, and Karl Perham.²⁷

CHAPTER II.

THE LANDSCAPE AND THE WEATHER

It is difficult in this decade of housing developments and shopping centers to visualize a Chelmsford predominantly characterized by fields, forests, brooks, and streams, with clusters of houses making up the five villages in the town. Sixty years after the turn of the century, the landscape has been drastically altered, familiar names have been lost or changed, and new landmarks have taken their place to become reminiscences of some future generation.

Chronologically, the first landmark to be renamed was Stevens Corner in the North. In February, 1922, the common became the Alberton W. Vinal Square, in memory of the young Chelmsfordian who gave his life in World War One. Vinal left Chelmsford from Stevens Corner.

In 1923, the town voted to accept from Walter Ferham land on Chelmsford Street for a park. Funds were appropriated to grade the land and, in 1929, the park was marked by a boulder from the Ferham farm on the Westford Road. The boulder had a tablet on it that gave the name of the park. The piece of artillery presently on the land was given by the Westlands Improvement Association after the Second World War.

A familiar and practical landmark disappeared from the North common in 1923, when the watering trough at the extreme end was removed to make the extension of the

grounds around the monument more aesthetic.¹

Also in 1923, a business owned by the Parkhurst family since 1843 left their hands. S.S. Parkhurst owned it originally and the present building used to be located where the flagman's house stood for many years, by the railroad crossing at the beginning of North Road. The store was moved to its present position on the corner of Chelmsford Street in 1871, on the site of the tavern that had burned in 1861. The upper part of the building, known as Central Hall, was used for social affairs. S. Waldo Parkhurst became the owner in 1888 and remained the same until 1923. The store was sold to the E.E. Gray Company of Boston in 1923, but the Parkhurst family has continued to own the building. The store has been operated in recent years by Henry Erickson.²

George Day purchased the Dadmun property in September, 1923, and took down the blacksmith shop in Central Square. The shop had been put there in 1828 when it was moved from behind the Unitarian church. F. Willis Santamour was the blacksmith and he moved his business to the Cushing mill yard just across the street.³ The Dadmun property is presently the Page building on Boston road. Santamour died, incidentally, on August 1, 1955, the last of the local blacksmiths. He had learned his trade from George M. Wright before starting his own business. A Chelmsford resident all of his life, he was easily recognizable around the town with his slightly stooped figure in black cap and apron. Other blacksmiths were David Billerrose in the Center and H. Stavely (Staverly) in the South.

An anniversary of a sort took place on May 1, 1926, when the town clock completed fifty years of service. The clock had been purchased from Howard and Company for \$275.

On October 9, 1926, Girl Scout Troop No. 1 placed a marker on a pine tree on Park Road. It read, "This tree was planted July 4, 1876, by the late J.N. and A.W. Park to commemorate the 100th anniversary of American independence."

In June, 1926, the town appropriated \$6,000 to improve the Center common. Work started in July with plans drawn up by a Cambridge architect, Egbert Hans. Trees and shrubs were planted, a flag pole was erected, and a curbing was constructed around the common. The fence that had kept cattle from grazing on the common was removed. The trees were given by the Chelmsford Grange and the Center Village Improvement Association. The common was completed in 1930. 4

In 1932, the "Clinton house" on Boston and Hall Road burned down (July 23). The house dated back to 1700 and it was thought that it may have been built by Ephraim Warren.

The town meeting of 1932 voted to sell two horse-drawn hearses that the town owned. One had been built in 1875 and was replaced by the other. They were rented out by the town to undertakers whenever appropriate until 1900, when the automobile took over. The hearses were kept in the 1802 schoolhouse until they were removed

because the Cemetery Department needed space for its equipment.⁵

In 1934, the modern age arrived with the installation of a traffic light at the junction of North Road and Princeton Boulevard.

On the evening of March 23, 1939, the faces of the town clock were illuminated after many months of darkness. The Village Improvement Association, which traditionally had paid for the lighting, had run out of money. The town increased its appropriations for the care of the clock at the annual town meeting.

Sometime in the early 1940's, the Odd Fellows Hall was remodelled into apartments, ending an era that saw everything from Catholic services to movies take place in the building.

In 1947, in recognition of their services, the process of naming squares for soldiers began again. South Square became the Walter Belleville, Jr. Square, and was dedicated on August 10. In 1940, the square at the junction of Marshall and Riverneck Road became the Americo DeCaires Square.

Also in 1940, the Boston and Maine tower in the North closed down. This tower had served as a clearing station for the many trains that passed through town.

In August, 1954, the destruction of the Princeton Street schools unearthed a time capsule placed there in 1899. In the capsule were three newspapers, a plaque,

histories of the churches and civic groups, a town report, and a catalogue from the old North Library.⁶

In 1956, the Isaac Adams house was sold to Cedarwood Homes, Inc. It was probably built by Isaac Adams, grandfather of Amos Francis Adams, donor of the library. It was constructed sometime between 1797 and 1813.

In 1958, another business disappeared. The Perham cider mill had to be destroyed because of the new interstate highway 495. Its history is covered by Wilson Waters.

On September 22, 1959, the town celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Revolutionary monument on the Center common.

Chelmsford's Weather

Ice, snow, wind, and rain are familiar events in the New England weather scene and are normally taken for granted by its residents. But, occasionally, one or more of the elements requires a second glance and then the historian must note the effects.

The first inclement weather to demand public attention was the winter of 1920. The local correspondent for the Lowell Courier-Citizen reported that the various sections of town were virtually isolated. The electric car lines were constantly blocked and the trains ran hours late. Some electric cars even got stuck and froze on the track. The schools were closed often in February and March as blizzards required constant dig-outs.

In August, 1924, there came a violent electrical storm with cyclone-force winds that knocked down trees and telephone poles. A truck owned by Chasse and Company of Lowell was buried by a falling tree (the driver was not in it). Electric car service was halted on the Tyngsboro line and Lowell-bound trains were flagged down because of the debris covering the tracks. Riazzas were damaged, chimneys torn off, orchards were ruined, and gardens were demolished.⁷

The snowstorms of January, 1935, closed down the schools for a week. The workers who dug out the hydrants had to carry their shovels on their backs because cars could not get through the snow. Children created a hazard because they coasted on the highways. In order to achieve the maximum effect, they swept the sand off the roads or else covered it over with snow. The police warned that sleds would be confiscated from the offenders.⁸

Perhaps the greatest natural disaster in New England history hit Chelmsford in March, 1936, when the Merrimack River flooded its banks concurrent with general floods throughout the Northeast. Unaware of the coming danger, no preparations were made to stem the rising waters. It had been a typical winter, but the spring thaw started much earlier than usual. The snow began to melt with great rapidity. On March 13, the ice of the Merrimack began to break up, creating an ice flow that, as it passed, was described as a "...thunder, cake after cake weighing

hundreds of pounds, sliding and careening over each other." 9

The flood began in the early morning hours of the 18th. In two days, the water rose sixteen feet. At the close of the first day, the water level was even with the window sills of the second floor of the houses along the Tyngsboro Road. People were taken from their homes by boat, men docking at the second floor, and people stepping out into the boat. On the second day, the water rose six feet higher.

Travel between North and Center was restricted to Gr^oton Road because the lowlands between Drum Hill and upper Princeton Boulevard were also flooded. On March 20, a train got through from the West section. Elsewhere in the community, lower Central Square was covered with water rising above the wheels of automobiles, parts of Littleton and Boston Roads were under water, Dalton Road was inundated with a foot of water, while parts of First Street and Garrison Road were covered with several feet of water. The tracks of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad were covered, and some of the rails washed out.

On the third day, the waters began to recede, and by the end of the week, the river, while still high, was contained. Everything that had been under water was covered with inches of mud and silt. There were driftwood, old tires, and logs in the North Chelmsford

cemetery. Several homes in the North were undermined and there were huge holes in the Tyngsboro Road, some as deep as twenty feet. Now the major problem of cleaning up began.

The residents of the North who had fled their homes stayed with relatives and friends while the clean-up took place. One family, suffering from scarlet fever, received special attention. People in the North were warned not to drink well water in flooded areas and to boil all their drinking water. The schools closed down, the mails stopped, and the mills in the hollows set about repairing the damage to their wool and machinery.

As the flood waters rose, the North town hall and St. John's hall had been immediately opened to flood victims. Clothing and food were quickly distributed with the help of the Red Cross. The churches in all sections began to collect money and supplies. A clothing deposit was set up in the Unitarian Church vestry. The American Legion, Post 313, took over the job of guarding property and moving supplies. Clinics were set up for immunization against typhoid. The Center American Legion, Post 212, guarded the roads to the North. The Center water district hooked up with Lowell to ensure that there would be no water shortage in that city. Center residents worked to move people to temporary homes, and all of these workers, through the early days, were served refreshments by the Boy Scouts in the Center town hall.

Teams of workers were soon organized to pump out cellars, clear debris out of houses, and repair the damaged roads. Meanwhile, the drive for relief went on. A Red Cross committee was formed to handle the canvass. Theodore W. Reed, Chairman of the Lowell Red Cross, James Grant, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Donald C. Knapp, Harold C. Petterson, James Kiberd, Jr., and the clergymen of the town directed the operations. Reverend Herman Van Lunen, pastor of the North Congregational church became the purchasing agent for Red Cross supplies. Dr. Varney served as the physician. Mrs. Hazel Swallow handled the disposal of clothing, and several nurses from the Somerville Work Projects Administration went on duty. James Grant told the Lions Club on Tuesday, March 24, that three hundred eighty-three people were being cared for in some manner. By March 28, nearly \$5,000 had been raised for relief.

On July 1, the Selectmen declared an emergency in order to be able to meet the expenses connected with the flood, and the annual town meeting in March, 1937, appropriated over \$4,000 to cover the emergency, more than two-thirds of the money going for highway repairs.

In retrospect, it seems almost unbelievable that the flood waters did not carry some of the North homes down the river. One resident recalls seeing a hen house float down the river with the hens perched on the roof, but they were not Chelmsford chickens.¹⁰

As if challenged by the water, the wind made its appearance to wreck havoc with Chelmsford in the now famous hurricane of 1936. The hurricane came to Chelmsford on September 21, destroying trees, blocking highways, disrupting telephone service, and cutting off electricity. The debris collected with such speed that the highway men could not keep the roads clear. Motorists caught unexpectedly in Central Square congregated to see what to do and found that they could do nothing.

Although the river flooded, most of the damage was caused by the wind's intolerance of upright obstacles. The two chimneys of the old Fiske house were blown down and then an elm tree toppled on the structure. A tree damaged the Episcopal rectory as it fell. The road to Lowell was closed as a tree formed a temporary barrier there. Robin's Hill's observation tower came tumbling down, while in Forefather's Cemetery, so many trees were uprooted they broke down the granite retaining wall on the Littleton Street side. Warren's grove on Bartlett Street, a favorite spot, was levelled, while two trees in the yard of Charles Bartlett fell, one striking the ell of his house. An elm, considerably more than one hundred years old, fell on the home of Mrs. Hiram B. Olney. The spruce at St. Mary's, traditionally serving as a Christmas tree, was uprooted and later removed. Fred Wiggins had a tree fall on his garage.

In the West, Main Street was blocked by trees and a blue spruce planted in front of the postoffice in memory of George Quessy was felled. In the South, nine cottages owned by Wilbur Lapham were damaged by trees.

One of the heaviest losses during the hurricane came to Arthur Carll on Riverneck Road, who lost three of his four greenhouses. The fourth one had most of its glass blown out. A henhouse belonging to A.H. Howard was blown down with the loss of all of his hens. The belfry of the **First Baptist church** was damaged--one side of it ripped off. Gardens and fruit orchards were ruined.

In total, the hurricane destroyed two million feet of pine lumber in Chelmsford. It might be noted that one of the major tasks of the Civilian Conservation Corps was to remove the many fallen trees in the woods.

There was some flooding in the North. The buildings of the Southwell Combing Company were surrounded by water and people once again took to boat transportation on the Tyngsboro Road. Several people had to be evacuated from their homes. Light and telephone service were discontinued for several days and the schools remained closed.¹⁴

In 1955, Hurricane Carolé prompted Selectman Roger Boyd to declare a state of emergency as Central Square flooded, but the hurricane passed by with only minor damage. A great deal of debris was left behind and communications were disrupted for a few days.

CHAPTER III.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

It has often been noted, especially in regard to the growing costs of government, that the local town government is one of the larger businesses in Chelmsford. From 1940 to 1960, demands of town services have forced what were once one or two-man offices to expand, encouraged the construction of new and larger public buildings and, inexorably, forced upward the costs of government. In no other segment of the community life of Chelmsford, except education, has the population influx of the 1950's and 1960's been so dramatized. The police force has doubled and redoubled; the fire department has grown larger and less dependent on volunteers; health, welfare, and every other town service has expanded to meet the needs of its citizens. Inescapably, the Center has benefited most as the center of town activity and therefore tends to contain more vitality than the other sections of the town.

In 1916, there were thirty-five town offices. In 1960, there were fifty-two such positions. In the past fifty years, such offices as that of Weigher of Hay, Measurer of Wood, Surveyor of Lumber, and Field Driver, have disappeared. New groups, such as the Personnel Board, the Planning Board, and the Civil Defense Committee have been created to administer new programs. Some positions, like

that of the Superintendent of Burials, have had their character altered. Some, like the Superintendent of the Town Farm, have been abolished. In general, it can be concluded that the character of Chelmsford's town government has changed as the needs of the community have changed.

The town meeting system of government has come under much attack throughout most of this century because of its inability to deal adequately with community affairs when the population rises beyond a certain point. Chelmsford, however, has tenaciously clung to this method of government despite attempts to change it.

The annual town meeting date was changed from the first Monday in February to the first Monday in March in 1934 and the new plan went into operation in 1935. In 1941, the date was changed again, this time to the second Monday in March, meeting at 7:30 in the evening. Although the idea was universally applauded, a tradition was lost when the change was made--that of the noon lunch served by ladies of different organizations in the town hall.

In addition to the annual business meeting, special meetings have been held to perform such varied duties as accepting new streets to voting the expenditure of large sums for schools and welfare. The special town meeting has become so popular that we must record those years when there were none--1936, 1943, 1944, and 1957.

The town report, that repository of a community's past, was revised in 1920 to cut down on the costs of

printing. At that time, the practice of itemizing the costs of running the town was ended. Again, in 1959, the report was revised, this time eliminating such items as the report of the Superintendent of Schools, and adding pictures of town officials.

In 1917, the Committee on Appropriations was abolished and a Finance Committee was established. In 1920, the post of Town Auditor was abolished and a Town Accountant's position was opened. Justin L. Moore was the first accountant. In 1950, the term of Moderator was changed from one year to three years. In 1952, the appointment of the Finance Committee was moved from the Board of Selectmen to the Moderator. In 1954, a Personnel Board was created to direct job titles, wages, and salaries. In 1958, a Wire Inspector's post was created.

Local elections have traditionally been a time for much discussion. Usually, the posts of selectmen are divided between different sections of the town--provided that the North and Center have one representative each. Perhaps the most impressive victory ever achieved in a local election was that of Edgar P. George in 1956. He polled four thousand, three hundred, forty-seven votes, the largest number in the history of the town to that date.

Elections and politics have sometimes led to unexpected results. In February, 1921, one Chelmsfordian charged another with assault and battery following an altercation on voting day. The first man had lost the election for

Selectman. In court, the charges were withdrawn (the two men were friends) while a large contingent of North Chelmsford residents looked on.¹

Among those employees who have served the town with distinction for many years, there was Edward J. Robbins, who retired in 1920 after seventeen years as Town Clerk; Harold C. Petterson, "The Watchdog of the Town," who served in the same position for many years until his death in 1956; Walter Perham, the Moderator for over thirty years; Ervin W. Sweetser, the Town Treasurer for thirty years; and Herbert Clifton Sweetser, a member of the Board of Assessors for thirty years. Warren Wright, who is presently (1967) the oldest Town Official, started his career in public office in 1923 as a member of the Board of Assessors. Town Counsels have included, among others: Frederick A. Fisher, John H. Valentine, John Corbett Donahoe, and Edward J. DeSaulnier, Jr.

There have been some physical changes in the Town Hall throughout the years. The building was renovated by the Works Progress Administration in September, 1937. Town officials moved up to the North town hall during the repairs, returning in April, 1938. In 1953, the upper floor was converted to offices to handle the increasing staff. In 1956, a \$7,000 addition was added to the hall.

It was expected in 1917 that a controversy would arise over the \$117,000 budget proposed for the following year. The tax rate would jump to \$23 a thousand--a fifty per cent increase over the year before. By 1942, the cost of

running the community had jumped over the half million mark. In 1954, the town achieved some kind of a landmark when the budget rose over a million. Since then, the budget has steadily increased.

The reform Movements

For almost fifty years, the townspeople have been aware of the difficulties inherent in calling together the resident voters to transact town business and operate a growing community with part-time personnel. From time to time, various proposals have been offered, investigated, and then rejected as solutions to this problem.

In 1923, the town meeting authorized John J. Monahan, Sidney Dupee, James P. Dunigan, Birgir Petterson, and Herbert E. Ellis to form a committee to investigate the idea of having limited town meetings and electing town meeting representatives along the Brockline plan. The Brookline community had organized itself into a form of representative town government where each precinct elected representatives to the town meeting. At the 1924 town meeting in Chelmsford, the committee reported its findings and it was voted to petition the General Court for legislation providing for limited town meetings and precinct voting. At this same meeting, Precinct 1 (Center) was divided into three precincts to facilitate the representation idea. This entire plan collapsed when the committee reported in

1925 that the population of Chelmsford, by law, was not large enough to adopt the Brookline System.

The second attempt to change the form of town government came twenty years later when an article in the town warrant providing for a committee of twelve to look into the advisability of a representative form of town meeting was dismissed.

The most significant attempt at reform began in 1949 when Charles Boles, Clifford Hartley, Norman Mason, Roger Welch, and Leslie Adams, were authorized by the town meeting to study the Selectman-Town Manager form of government. In 1950, the town reaffirmed its interest by increasing the committee to eighteen members. Since nothing seemed to come of the earlier investigation, in 1955, the town voted to petition the General Court to approve legislation to have representative town meeting government--the Brookline System again. A committee of seven was appointed to study the matter. Having two committees doing essentially the same task could only lead to confusion and in 1951, the second committee asked to be dismissed for that very reason.

In December, 1955, the first committee, that seeking a Town Manager plan, petitioned the General Court for permission to enable a bill, as filed by Representative Edward J. Desaulnier, to appear on a ballot of the town so that the voters could express their preference. At a hearing in Boston in January, 1956, no opposition was voiced and so it was decided to have a local hearing. Accordingly,

the Town Manager committee arranged a public hearing on April 30, 1956, in Chelmsford, before members of the Committee on Towns from the state legislature. The proponents of the new system argued that a town manager would save the town money and provide badly needed centralized control. The opponents, on the other hand, feared the loss of voter privileges and extolled the virtues of keeping the traditional form of government.²

In May, 1956, after hearing the objections, the committee in Chelmsford decided to withdraw the petition they had submitted to the General Court in 1955 and to substitute a new, amended one. In the meantime, the committee planned to ask for money and to hold discussions in the town on the new petition.

At the 1957 annual town meeting, a motion was offered to petition the General Court to again enact legislation establishing a Town Manager form of government for Chelmsford. When the balloting was finished, one hundred four had voted in favor, one hundred seven had voted against; a motion to reconsider failed, and the whole idea has since been ignored.

The Police Department

Prior to 1925, the duties of the police department were carried out by the Town Constable but, in that year, the town meeting appropriated \$3,000 to employ two regular police officers, thus relegating the Town Constable to

posting town warrants. Donald F. Adams and Charles F. Shugrue were appointed the first police officers. In 1926, the position of Chief of Police was created and Fred I. Vinal was appointed as the first Chief. Harold C. King and John E. Johnson, the two regular police officers at the time, immediately resigned and demanded the removal of Vinal. The situation was resolved at a meeting with the Selectmen and Vinal soon resigned. John E. Johnson then became the Chief and Bernard McGovern took his place as the regular officer.³ Johnson resigned in 1929 to become deputy sheriff of Middlesex County and Harold King moved into the position of Chief. He also moved into the Center town hall, taking part of the old Water Board's office across from that of the Town Clerk.

King's resignation was requested on December 8, 1930, and, when it was refused, the Selectmen dismissed him because of the manner in which he administered the office of Chief of Police.⁴ Bernard McGovern became Chief and Winslow P. George became the regular officer. McGovern was asked to resign at the end of 1935 and Arthur Cooke took his place. He resigned in 1941, to become the deputy sheriff of Middlesex County and Ralph J. Huslander took office, a position he was to hold until his sudden death in 1967 during the writing of this history.

In 1934, the police department received an additional regular officer, and in 1948 and 1950, two more were added. In 1960, there were thirteen regular officers under the

administration of four sergeants, reflecting the impact of the population growth upon the police department.

The question of civil service for the police disturbed the voters at town meetings in 1936, 1937, 1938, and in 1944. In the latter year, the voters finally placed the chief and his regular officers on the civil service.

The police carried out their duties on motorcycles until 1932, when the town meeting authorized the purchase of a car for the first time. This prize possession was a Ford V-8 touring car, solid black except for a narrow gold stripe and larger letters reading: CHELMSFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Unquestionably, the most exciting period of crime from the point of view of the average citizen was during the 1920's when prohibition laws were in force. Donald Adams seems to have been an untiring foe of distillers and rum-runners for it is his name that most often appears in the items concerning violations of the liquor laws.

The first incident occurred on August 3, 1924, when a raid was made on two stills located on Proctor Road. The police netted one hundred thirty-five quarts of beer, twenty pounds of hops, twenty-five pounds of malt, and the two stills.⁵ On the 20th of September, federal agents and Donald Adams exchanged pistol shots with moonshiners out in the woods in the West section. The culprits were captured, although one of them almost shot one of the officers at point-blank range before being overpowered. The officials

collected one thousand gallons of alcohol on that raid.

On April 10, 1925, Adams arrested a Lowell man for storing nearly \$1,000 worth of grain alcohol in a barn on East Road. It was believed at the time that the barn was a rendezvous point for Canadian liquors brought down from New Hampshire for Lowell bootleggers. In June, another Adams raid resulted in the capture of a one-ton truckload of alcohol and branded liquors on the Riverneck Road. During the next three years, the police continued to find stills and storage areas throughout the town.⁶

In July, 1929, the police found a twenty-five gallon still in West Chelmsford by disguising themselves as tramps. In his annual report of that year, Chief King stated that: "We have conducted 5 raids and siezed (sic) 2 small stills, 1 gaming machine, about 625 gallons mash, 600 lbs. sugar and other ingredients for the manufacture of liquor, one truck (which was turned over to the Federal Agents) and numerous bottles and cans." And, in his statistical report, King noted the following facts: ⁷

Fines for illegal keeping of liquor.....	\$600.00
Fines imposed for sale of liquor.....	400.00
Fines imposed for manufacture of liquor.....	500.00
Fines imposed for illegal transportation of liquor.....	4,100.00
No. of gallons of beer taken in raids.....	20
No. of gallons of distilled spirits.....	900

Other crimes of different varieties have also occurred in this generally peaceful community. In 1919, the new Buick of James W. Stevens was stolen from his garage late at night. Stevens, alerted by the noise, appeared at the window just in time to see men pushing the car out of his driveway. Waking his son, Stevens borrowed another car and proceeded to follow the tracks in the road to Ayer. There he alerted the police and they in turn followed the car tracks to Shirley, but the robbers eluded them when the police car broke down. The thieves were finally located in Cambridge, but they escaped capture by jumping onto the running board of a passing car.^o

In 1920, police ejected two disorderly men from a dance in the Center. Disgruntled by their treatment, the men retaliated by firing two pistol shots into the dance hall, neither of which did any damage. In 1921, there was a rash of thievery at the dancing parties. Automobile tires, and then automobile rugs were taken. Finally, someone took an entire automobile. The theft could not be reported immediately because the phones were not working.

The Death of Donald Adams

Perhaps the most significant historical event in the history of the police department occurred on July 20, 1927, when Donald R. Adams, the Constable and a regular police officer, was killed by a man from Lowell. Adams had come into the police department as a special officer, appointed as such because he was the custodian of the Center

Town Hall and the motorcycle officer. He had been asked to resign on October 29, 1924, because, so the rumor went, he had permitted the Ku Klux Klan to meet in the town hall. George Rigby and William Belleville voted for the removal, George Day voted against it. Controversy raged throughout the town while Adams filed for reinstatement, supported by a citizens' petition with over seven hundred signatures. Both petitions were rejected by the Selectmen.⁹

At a public hearing on November 25, 1924, the Selectmen charged Adams with two offenses, neither relating to the KKK. The result was that Adams, while not reinstated, ran for Constable in February, 1925, was elected, and then was appointed as one of the first regular officers.¹⁰

While on duty on July 20, 1927, Adams was shot on the electric car going to Lowell. Cusard G. Saab, the alleged assassin, had come from Lowell to the summer home of Arthur G. Pollard, a Lowell merchant and banker, demanding money. Pollard not only refused, he proceeded to chase Saab down the road, all the time calling for the police. Adams, hearing the commotion, also took up the pursuit and corralled Saab on the Lowell car. He was shot while making an arrest. Adams, who was twenty-seven, was married and had two children. Taken to St. John's Hospital in Lowell, he died soon thereafter.

A committee was immediately organized to raise funds under the direction of Herbert Rollin White, Frank W. Proctor, and George E. King. The stores closed for the

funeral, flags were lowered throughout the town, and the citizens turned out en masse to pay tribute to Adams. The alleged murderer was found to be deranged, never tried for the crime, and was committed to a hospital. Mrs. Adams became a teacher in the Chelmsford schools on January 5, 1928, and served in that capacity until her resignation in November, 1965.

The Fire Department

Although the office of Fire Engineer had existed prior to 1920, in that year it was reorganized into a Board of Fire engineers. The first members were Arnold C. Perham, Chief, Loren J. Allinwood, and Joseph E. Hogan. These three men set about to change the structure of the fire department. Five districts were created in the community with one piece of motorized apparatus in each, thus establishing a tradition of parcelling out equipment that still exists today. Each district was given its own fire fighting organization under the direction of a district chief. The first district chiefs were:

District 1.....Walter S. Fletcher, Center
District 2.....Joseph D. Ryan, North
District 3.....Elmer Trull, West
District 4.....Henry Quinn, East
District 5.....William E. Belleville, South

The new system worked well despite some in-fighting and complaints from various districts about inadequate equipment. In 1925, District 4 got a new chief after several months of controversy culminating in the resignation of

every member of the fire company. The Board had refused to reappoint Quinn even though he was the first chief. The residents of the East held a protest meeting in May, but the Board refused to change its position and appointed Otto Grantz to the post. He quickly got a new complement of men and organized a new company.

There were some difficulties involved in a five district system. The most obvious problem was the cost of maintaining five separate fire departments. The second problem was getting the right fire company to go to the fire. In order to get assistance, a resident faced with a fire during the day called the Chelmsford Garage in the North or Falls Drug Store in the Center. If at night, he called C.O. Rollins or V.L. Parkhurst. Until 1923, the Unitarian church bell was used as a fire alarm. In that year, the Village Improvement Association installed a fire whistle. Sometimes, when the wind blew just right, a company other than the one expected would respond to the bell, and sometimes, though not often, no one went at all. A story is told, for example, about the particular fire in the North that broke out on a cold winter's night sending Chief Ryan running down the street to ring the bell and get the fire truck. To his dismay, he discovered, upon reaching the firehouse, that the battery in the truck was dead. Whether the fire was ever put out is not remembered.¹¹ The modern fire alarm system with outside boxes was started in 1924 in the North and Center and then gradually extended throughout the community.

But, someone still had to run to pull the mill whistle in the North until the mill closed down and a whistle was installed on the post office. By 1948, a telephone switchboard had been added to the alarm system (located in the Center) to centrally control fire-fighting.

A third problem was the number of men available to fight fires. The original complement for each district was twenty-five, but in 1931, fifteen men were removed from the Center and North companies. The Board of Fire Engineers did this partly to conserve money (depression time), but also in order to reduce the number of men who got into each other's way at a fire.¹²

The fourth problem, and the major one, was the question of centralization. The idea of a central fire department under the direction of a full-time chief first appears in print on January 20, 1946. At that time, a meeting was called with the Selectmen, the Board of Fire Engineers, and interested citizens to discuss centralization and twenty-four hour protection. Nothing came out of the meeting except a discussion of the same objections: protection for all the districts from a central fire house would reduce the safety of outlying sections, the mills in the North would be endangered, insurance rates would go up, and the Chief would need a car.¹³ All of the voters got a chance to act on the question at the 1947 annual town meeting when an article calling for a chief for the fire department was dismissed.

By 1954, the town had grown too large to afford not to have a chief and the annual town meeting of that year voted to abolish the Board of Fire Engineers and created the post of Chief. Allan Kidder, who had started his fire-fighting career in 1930, was named the first Chief. He later died suddenly in his bed after returning home from a fire.

The fire department that the new Chief inherited was very different from the one in existence when this history begins. In 1917, a discussion was already going on as to the merits of having motorized fire trucks. At the town meeting that year Arnold Perham, Patrick S. Ward, and Wilbur E. Lapham were appointed to investigate the costs of purchasing new fire trucks. They reported at the 1918 meeting, but the article to buy the equipment was dismissed. Not until 1921, with the new reorganization, did the town buy five pieces of fire equipment.

Throughout the ensuing years, the town voted to purchase new equipment or replace old ones. Occasional town meetings balked at requests for new trucks, but future town meetings always voted the funds. By 1926, the department had two triple combination fire pumpers to cover the areas outside the hydrant district. In 1932, the men of District 3 gave the town a fully equipped^P fire truck (complete with a Chandler chassis and an eighty horsepower Pike's Peak motor) which they had built themselves. The influence of the volunteer system upon the "fire-mindedness" of the town ought to be noted. As citizens take on the duties of fire-

fighters, they tend to influence many other citizens around them. Furthermore, their interest in fire department matters often influences town voting.

With the additional equipment, the question of housing became a recurring problem for the town. In 1922, the town appropriated \$2,850 to buy land on Gorham Street in the East district and erected a new fire station. In 1929, the North fire house on Mt. Pleasant Street was sold. In 1930, Historical Hall was purchased to be used as a fire station in the West. For several years, the Center fire truck was housed in a special "stall" in Kidder's Garage, and later the trucks were housed in the horse sheds behind the town hall. There the volunteers came to play cards and eat popcorn out of a new, clean chamber pot. In 1945, a committee consisting of John J. Monahan, William T. Ricken, Harold A. Frazer, and T.W. Emerson was instructed to get plans and costs of erecting two new fire houses-- one each in the North and Center. This committee reported in 1946, the article in the warrant was dismissed because of the high costs, and the committee was discharged. Six years later, a revised plan was accepted, and \$80,000 was appropriated to build a new fire station just in the Center. In 1954, a plan was drawn up for a new fire house in the North to be built on the Princeton Street school site. In 1955, the money for this project was voted, and a new fire station was constructed for \$48,000.

While searching the records, a few fires have seemed

important enough to deserve mention here. In April, 1925, a forest fire broke out in the West section on Ledge Road, burnt along Dunstable Road, swept onto Groton Road and around Fletcher's Quarry, and turned toward Crystal Lake. At times the fire completely surrounded homes in the area, but the firemen concentrated their efforts on saving those houses with perfect success. Apparently the fire destroyed mostly scrub pine, but it did burn over two hundred acres of land.¹⁴

April and May, 1930, were extremely dry months with what seems to have been a brush fire every day. It was in May, 1930, that some thirty men went to Nashua, New Hampshire, to help fight the huge fire there that destroyed most of the city. The Center and North fire trucks were used, being escorted along the way by Harold King on his motorcycle.

In 1933, eight ice houses were destroyed by fire in the South. When in use, the buildings stored twenty-six thousand tons of ice, but there was no ice in them at the time. Otherwise the fire would probably have been put out without the need of the fire department.

In 1941, a serious house fire destroyed the John Kruger home in the North, consuming his fourteen room house, the barn, and his garage. A fire in the Rostler block in Vinal Square in 1942 threatened that area, forcing twelve people into the street. On September 9, 1951, the T.W. Emerson barn was destroyed with a loss of forty-nine cows and one horse.

The history of the fire department would not be complete without mention of the forest fire observation tower on Robin's Hill. In 1918, a new seventy foot tower was constructed, replacing the old thirty foot one, and it lasted until toppled by the hurricane of 1938. At that time, a new one was constructed. For many years, Clarence E. Blood served as the forest fire observer, working on the tower seven months of the year. He died suddenly on November 23, 1933. Walter Merrill, Lester Ball, Gilbert Perham, and Claude Welch were also observers.

The Highway Department

All too often, town histories tend to ignore the growth of the highway department, primarily because few people are interested in reading about snowplows and dump-trucks. Yet, it is this department of the town that works to make possible the operation of motorized transportation in the most comfortable manner possible.

Motorized equipment for the highway department was slow in coming. During the first decade of this century, the roads were still hard-packed dirt, and the main roads, divided by the electric car tracks, resembled the wide main streets so often associated with Western towns. In the winter (except in the West section) the electric car tracks were plowed out by the street car company, thus providing a route through which automobiles could move if their drivers dared. After 1917, snow was plowed rather than rolled, but the lesser travelled roads received no attention at all.

The first expenditure of note for the highway department

was the purchase of a new, self-propelled steam roller in 1921.¹⁵

The first record of the use of the modern snowplow comes in 1922 when it was reported in the Lowell Courier-Citizen that the Merrimack Transportation Company, a private firm, had used snow plows to clear the road to the North in order that their trucks could get to the mills.¹⁶

In 1930, the highway department was given an International truck at the town meeting, and equipment has since been purchased whenever needed. In 1951, a Road Machinery fund was created to enable the town to buy expensive road equipment without affecting the tax rate.

In 1956, a committee was appointed to plan for a new highway garage: Warren C. Lahue, William M. Burns, Edward Hoyt, Frederick R. Greenwood, and Henry B. Mauti. In June, 1956, a special town meeting appropriated \$5,000 to build the new garage out on Richardson Road, and so the department moved from its quarters behind the town hall.

The highway department served its most altruistic function during the depression years. Men who could find work nowhere else were employed at the task of road construction. In 1932, for example, ninety-eight men were working for the department. The regulars were receiving fifty cents an hour, while the temporary help received forty cents. Public welfare recipients worked out their dole.

In 1953, the highway workers walked off their jobs

because the town accountant refused to pay increases in wages since the Personnel Board had not given its approval. The men remained away for five days, June 11 to 16, until a special town meeting rescinded the actions of the annual meeting in March.¹⁷

Two employees have lost their lives in the service of the town. Sylvester Yeschanin was killed in January, 1950. John W. Hafey was killed on November 29, 1950, by a falling tree during a wind storm.

Streets and Roads

In the 1920's, one of the major questions before the state was where to construct a road that would extend from Boston toward the vacation areas of the White Mountains in New Hampshire. At one point the decision, as far as Chelmsford was concerned, was to build the road on the opposite side of the Merrimack River. But for some reason, probably financial, it was decided to reconstruct the Boston Road. As a joint project, Chelmsford had to supply some of the money, duly appropriated at every town meeting through most of the 1920's. Finally, in 1926, the Boston Road was reopened, providing great traffic problems at Vinal Square. Similarly, the Littleton highway was widened, reconstructed, and opened in 1926. The Concord road (frequently called the Carlisle Road) was reworked in 1930. The Billerica Road was improved in 1935 from the Billerica line to Riverneck Road.

On May 27, 1938, construction began on the Middlesex

Turnpike from Manning Road to Boston. It was announced that the road would run through the Chelmsford woods to the Center, following the old stagecoach road to Arlington.

The two most significant highways are Route 3 and Route 495. Route 3 was officially opened on Friday, August 5, 1955, while federal, state, and local officials looked on. The road itself, however, did not come through Chelmsford until 1960. Although the construction of Route 495 does not officially come under the purview of this history, it ought to be noted that the town was not totally in favor of being divided in half, and the Route 110 Committee was formed to prevent its construction. The Committee was not successful.

The decision to accept new streets in the town of Chelmsford has generally been an automatic one. In 1916, the town accepted one new street--Summer Street. From 1916 to 1945, as the list in the appendix shows, the town accepted approximately eighty-five new streets. From 1945 to 1960, the town accepted approximately one hundred sixty new streets.

Highway Department Superintendents:

David Higgins 1916-1916 (Highway Surveyor)
George W. Pickard 1916-1919 (Superintendent of Streets)
Charles K. Forsythe 1919-1924
William Shanks 1924-1932
Ancel B. Taylor 1932-1943, 1947-1949
Timothy F. O'Sullivan 1943-1944
Fred R. Greenwood (acting) 1949-1950
Harold C. Malley 1950
William Jenkins January, 1951
Herbert M. Sturtevant 1951
Fritz H. Pearson December, 1951
Robert W. Sealey 1952-1953
Frederick R. Greenwood 1953-----

The Board of Health

The history of Chelmsford's health opens with an influenza epidemic in October, 1918, that closed the schools, the churches, the libraries, and saw the banning of public gatherings. By the 5th of the month, thirty-five cases were reported in the town with two deaths from the disease in the North. By the end of the year, approximately nine hundred fifty cases had been reported with twenty-five deaths attributable to pneumonia and one from influenza. The churches and the Board of Education aided the health department and Doctors Varney, Scoboria, and Howard in tracking down the cases.

The Board of Health headed for the political listings in May, 1920, when the town voted to elect a three member Board beginning in 1921. The first elected officials were Abbott L. Emery, Curtis A. Aiken, and A. Samuel Gustafson.

The duties of the Board of Health have always been varied and its decisions in matters of health have not always been accepted docilely. In 1926, the Board considered the idea of forcing milk dealers to use paper cartons where families had a contagious disease in the home. The decision was not easily accepted because, for some people, milk had always been delivered into containers left out on the front porch.

In 1941, the milk business again received attention. On June 10, the Board agreed to insist upon the pasturization of milk. The question of pasturization was as controversial

in those days as the question of fluoridation is today. Six hundred residents signed a petition protesting the Board's action. Such determined opposition could only bring about one result and so the Board threw out the new regulation. However, in February, 1948, they again ruled that milk had to be pasturized. Confronting another petition of lesser force, the Board upheld its ruling.¹⁸

Early in the century, the Lowell Guild provided a visiting nurse for the people of Chelmsford at a cost of \$1.00 a visit, but eventually the Board got its own nurse. In 1951, the Board dismissed Mrs. Christina S. Park, the nurse and agent for the preceding twelve years, because it wanted a male agent.

In 1945, the town voted to collect its garbage and \$6,000 was given to the Board of Health to administer the process. Eventually, the task was assumed by the Highway Department, but private contractors continued to do the actual collecting.

The Town Infirmary

In 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Hannaford were replaced as administrators for the town infirmary (or farm) by Mr. and Mrs. James Long. At that time, there were eleven inmates. The greatest income producer was milk, the greatest expense grain. The Selectmen made an annual tour in 1916. "The Board met at the Town Hall at 6 p.m. and visited the Town Farm. Went in to see S. A. (initials mine) who is out of his head and looked over the farm."

In 1923, Ross S. Spaulding, the Superintendent of the Town Farm, died. Sometime after that, Frank Hannaford became Superintendent. Sinai Simard replaced him in 1932. In 1942, Simard resigned. At that time, there were only three inmates, costing the town over \$2,000 to care for. In the ten years of Simard's administration, the highest number of inmates was nine. In 1942, the livestock consisted of one horse and three old cows.

The town tried unsuccessfully to abolish the farm in 1939. On July 30, 1942, however, a special town meeting voted to discontinue the infirmary and to sell the building at public auction. Roy A. Clough bought the farm for \$4,500.¹⁹

The Water Districts

Chelmsford Water District. The facilities of this district have been extended twice in this century. In 1939, a second reservoir was placed on Robin's Hill with a capacity of five hundred thousand gallons. In 1941, a two hundred fifty thousand gallon tank was constructed near the junction of Westford Road and Locke Road in order that West Chelmsford could receive water from the district. In 1954, a new pumping station was built.

Winthrop A. Parkhurst served as the clerk from 1915 to 1948 when he was replaced by Claude A. Harvey, Jr. The death in 1954 of Walter McMahon ended thirty-six years of service to the water district, usually as Superintendent. It was he who supervised the installation of the South

district's water supply.

The district began to search for more water after 1950, and new wells were laid in 1953, 1956, 1956, and 1960. In 1960, the district pumped 250,930,810 gallons of water, laid 54,536 feet of water mains, and provided 450 new services and 76 hydrants.

North Fire District. The North, which is very proud of its water supply, built a new pumping station in 1954, off Richardson Road. The Superintendent in 1916 was Morton B. Wright. He was replaced by John A. Andrews in 1935. Emery Gagnon became Superintendent after the death of Andrews in 1957.

The question of sewerage concerned the voters of the Fire District in the 1920's. On November 4, 1919, a meeting was held at the home of Dr. Varney to discuss the possibilities of a sewerage system in the North.²⁰ At the regular meeting on June 28, 1920, a committee, consisting of William J. Quigley, Elias DeLaHaye, and William T. Picken, was organized to consider the proposition of establishing a system at what was estimated would cost \$100,000. When the question came before the district voters at the April 16, 1924 meeting, it was voted down because the cost would have pushed water taxes up seven or eight dollars.

The North district has been a paying concern. The Eleventh annual report indicated that there was a \$3,000 excess in the treasury. Only one customer had not paid

its bill--the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 1960, the district provided twenty new services.

East, and South Water Districts. An investigation, launched in 1930 to consider the existing water works system in the entire town, reported that the water of the North and Center was satisfactory, but emphasized the need of the East, South, and Center for hydrant service and water supplies. The East Chelmsford Improvement Association appointed a committee to get water: John J. Meagher, Henry G. Quinn, Birgir Petterson, and John Birtwell. They petitioned the legislature to set up a district and the first meeting was held on July 31, 1933. Quinn, Meagher, and Petterson were named as the first commissioners. They were authorized to try to borrow \$75,000 as a Work Projects Administration grant to lay four miles of water main. The water was to come from Lowell although the system would be connected with the Center. The Commissioners succeeded, the contract went to C. Repucci Company and the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company on May 2, 1934, and the work began on July 19, 1934.

The South Water District got its impetus when a committee, composed of Emile E. Faignon, Wilbur E. Lapham, Sanford A. Philbrook, and Arthur W. House, working under the direction of the South Village Improvement Association, began to investigate the possibilities. A Works Progress Administration grant was secured and the work was under its direction. The first commissioners were Faignon,

Lapham, and Charles D. West. Three and one tenth miles of pipe were laid with thirty-six installations. Water was supplied by the Center. The project was started on July 12, 1935, and completed on March 7, 1936.

The question of a central water system has interested the town for many years. In 1918, William E. Belleville, C. George Armstrong, James P. Dunigan, William H. Shedd, and John J. Monahan were appointed to a committee to consider the unification of the water districts of the North and Center. The town meeting of 1919 raised \$500 for their expenses. In 1920, the committee reported that no money had been spent because there had never been a meeting. That committee was subsequently discharged.

In 1922, another committee was entrusted with the task of laying plans for a unified water district. Dunigan and Monahan were on this committee along with Herbert E. Ellis, John J. Kelley, and Wilber E. Lapham. They found that water could be extended to other parts of the town for \$200,000. Needless to say, nothing came of their recommendations.

A committee in 1930 was given \$1,500 to employ a water engineer to investigate the water supply. The engineer recommended a municipal water system as most appropriate. His report was accepted, the committee was discharged, and a motion to petition the General Court to allow a municipal water district was postponed--indefinitely.

However, on the positive side, it should be noted that it was this report that spurred the other districts in the town to get water. The reason for the postponement does not seem to have been great opposition to the plan. Rather, it may have been the conservatism bred by the depression.

In 1945, an article in the town warrant was dismissed that would have allowed the town to seek legal advice for consolidating the water districts. In 1954, a survey by the New England Fire Insurance rating section reported that Chelmsford needed to spend \$75,000 on the water department, primarily to connect the districts into one municipal system. Again, the matter was taken under advisement and there it has remained.

Cemeteries

In 1926, Riverside Cemetery on Middlesex Street sold out its lots. The town purchased land on Main Street in the North for a new cemetery, subsequently named Fairview. During the depression, the Works Progress Administration erected a wall around the land and constructed the entrances to the cemetery. Fairview serves as the principal cemetery in the North.

Pine Ridge Cemetery on Billerica Road and Riverneck Road underwent a process of modernization during the late 1950's. The Douglas Trust Fund perpetuates the development

and care of the cemetery. The Douglas Memorial Entrance pays tribute to that bequest. Pine Ridge has one of the few automatic sprinkling systems in the area.

CHAPTER IV.

THE ECONOMY

The first three decades of this century saw a startling change in the economic life of New England. Agriculture, as a large-scale activity, was breathing its last in competition with the mid-West. The huge textile industry, a major source of income, met its demise in the depression years. North Chelmsford was, of course, most dramatically faced with the problems of readjustment, but the influence of the economic landscape affected all parts of the community in some way.

Agriculture

It seems difficult to believe that fifty years ago a major portion of the land in Chelmsford was devoted to farming. In addition to that portion produced for home consumption, produce was sold throughout the community, in Lowell, and even in Boston. The importance of this activity cannot be underestimated. The United States Census of 1930, for example, reported that out of a total population of seven thousand, twenty-two, one thousand sixteen (or fourteen per cent of the population) lived on farms. The Census Bureau also counted two hundred three farms in Chelmsford, with a total acreage of seven thousand. Cattle, hogs, grains, dairy products, and apples were the principal products.¹

Perhaps the best way to illustrate farm life in the early decades is to reconstruct life on one farm. In the South, the Paignon family operated a seventy acre farm on Proctor Road. Emile Paignon, father of nine children, had a grain business across from the old railroad station. Customers would come to the farm to buy pork, beef, and products of all kinds. At one time, the family ran a butcher cart to Lowell; at other times they, or their hired hands, would rise early and drive a horse and cart to Boston. The cattle drive, a New England invention, brought new stock to the Paignon farm.²

The presence of cattle on the streets of the town was not always appreciated. In March, 1917, the Selectmen instructed the town clerk to "notify Samuel Kreuser, Joseph Keller, Peter Messerman, and William Karp, to cease driving cattle on the streets of the town on the Sabbath day."³ The slaughtering of livestock was also an important business. In 1916, slaughterhouse licenses were issued to F.W. Merrill, J.W. Perham, Emile Paignon, Edwin C. Perham, William Karp, and Edward Kemp.

Farming became an unprofitable business after the Second World War, but some farms remain. During the depression, the number of farms still operating helps to explain why Chelmsford did not, as a whole, suffer drastically, although some dislocation in the economy was inevitable. Today, those fields that once grew apples for

the Perham Cider mill, or provided grains and fodder for livestock, have been plowed under. In their place have come homes for the non-agriculturally minded suburban dweller.

Among the many casualties of the electronic age, the ICE HOUSES rate highly. There were ice houses in the North and South, large operations that employed many men during the height of the cutting season in the dead of winter. The Boston Ice Company operated five ice houses on Crystal Lake with a storage capacity of fifty thousand tons. A spur track from the Stony Brook Railroad went up to the houses to load ice for the major cities. In January, 1919, the employees of the Boston Ice Company demanded higher wages. They were receiving \$3.60 a day, but wanted their pay raised to \$4.50. When the Company refused, the men quit. In the South, a similar operation was carried on by Daniel Gage. Ice houses lost their popularity when the electric cooling system came into vogue during the 1930's, although some people continued to buy ice from the local ice dealer even into the 1940's.⁴

The Middlesex County Farm Bureau was created in January, 1917, to promote better methods of farming. The Extension Service has sponsored 4-H Clubs, lectures on farming, cooking and sewing classes, and all types of demonstrations. The town appropriates its share of the cost of the Extension program each year.

Industry

Drawing from various sources, in or about 1920, the following businesses were operating in Chelmsford:

D. Frank Small--grocery and grain store
North Chelmsford Coal Company
S.W. Parkhurst--general store
J. Cushing Company--grain mill
Harry L. Parkhurst Coal Company
Chelmsford Garage--operated by the Bernard Brothers
James P. Daley and Son--milk dealer
H.J. Keyes and Son--milk dealer
Edward B. Russell--trucker
Theodore Murphy--barber
George W. Paasche--touring car rental
North Chelmsford Market--operated by E.F. Anderson
Chelmsford Spring Company
Rostler's Market
North Chelmsford Garage--operated by Henry S. Elliott
W.J. Kneeland--house painter
W.D. Falls--drug store
Johnson Brothers Tailor Shop
Paignon's grain store
Perham's Cider and Vinegar mill
George B. Wright--nursery
Mello's Barber Shop
Parkhurst Press
E.T. Adams--grocery store
Isaac Knight--wheelwright
F.W. Santamour--blacksmith
William P. Proctor Company--lumber dealer
Sweetser and Day--grain dealers
Wilson's Livery Stable

In 1930, the United States Census reported that there were seven candy stores, fifteen grocery stores, one general store, one men's store, one shoe store, two restaurants, ten other eating places, two lumber stores, one hardware store, two farmer's supply stores, five coal and wood yards, ice dealers, and two drug stores, for a total of thirty-four retail establishments.⁵

In comparison, in 1953, there were one hundred thirty business establishments in Chelmsford, including a new

supermarket, motel, drug store, food store, and an appliance store.⁶

The desire for cooperative business interests and the need for new industry to provide employment and tax revenues has often turned businessmen to organizations. Prior to 1917, there was a Chelmsford Board of Trade, composed of local businessmen, but apparently not flourishing. On January 16, 1917, therefore, a meeting was called to form a new business organization. This new organization, chaired by Walter Ferham, did not do well either. On March 28, 1930, a meeting was held with the Selectmen and interested citizens to consider a new Board of Trade to encourage new businesses to come to Chelmsford. The reason for such concern at this time was the closing of the Silesia mills. Stewart Mackay served as the temporary Chairman of this meeting. On April 9, 1930, the constitution and by-laws were accepted and a membership drive was launched. Meetings were to alternate between North and Center. On April 25, the Board of Trade came into permanent organization with the election of Stewart Mackay as President, Daniel E. Talley, Vice-President, Hosmer W. Sweetser, Treasurer, and Royal Shawcross, Secretary. In May, the Board met to form committees to cover every phase of economic activity in the town. On April 13, 1931, the Board held its first annual banquet for its one hundred fifty members. Then it was reported that the board, in its first year of operation, had accomplished nothing.⁷

In February, 1956, a group of merchants met to organize a committee to discuss a business organization in

the town. Roger Boyd served as Chairman, but nothing came of the idea.^o

In 1955, the town took steps to encourage new economic activity when an Industrial Development Commission was established. Its task was to survey the town's resources, entice new business into Chelmsford, and print a brochure praising the virtues of the town. Thaddeus W. Zabierek served as the first Chairman, resigning in 1957.

The Industrial North

By 1920, the industrial outlook in the North was gloomy. The textile mills, certainly the biggest employer, were in trouble. In September, the Silesia mills went on short hours. In October, the Wool Sorters Union for both the Silesia and the Moore mills protested a reduction in wages. In November, the Silesia mills shut down indefinitely. In March, 1930, the Silesia mills were sold to the Southwell Wool Combing Company. Loss of tax valuation for the community totalled over \$800,000.

The Silesia mills were of great importance to Chelmsford and helped to determine the character of the community. For example, some of those residents who trace their ancestry to England probably had forebears who were brought to America as highly skilled workers for the textile mills. Similarly, a great many of the New England Irish were employed as unskilled laborers in the mills. Although by 1920 federal and state laws had eased

the difficulties of working in a mill, there was still enough power and prestige in the hands of the mill executives to determine the future well-being of their employees. The Silesia mills owned a good many houses for its employees to live in; ran a farm and sold the produce to the help, and there was a Silesia clubhouse and baseball team for employee recreation. At one time, probably around 1920, over four hundred people (not all Chelmsfordians) worked in the Silesia mills.⁹

The Southwell Wool Combing Company got its start in 1922 with a plant off Vinal Square. Combing wool brought into the community, it managed to keep operating during the depression years. In 1930, the company acquired the mill on Middlesex Street, part of the Silesia plant. In 1948, a third mill was added on Princeton Boulevard for the processing of synthetic fibers. During the Second World War, Southwell was the largest woolen top mill in the country.

The William P. Proctor Company was incorporated in 1905 in the North. It expanded throughout the first decades of the century, adding yards in South Acton, Nashua, and Milford, New Hampshire. The saw mill was shut down in the North in 1939. Proctor died in 1917, but another officer, Miss Lettie W. Goodhue, remained the bookkeeper and treasurer from 1917 to 1937, when she retired to Hancock, New Hampshire, dying in January, 1954, at the age of ninety-four. In 1923, Norman P. Mason joined the com-

pany, having married Helen Proctor, daughter of the founder, in 1920. He became President in 1926 and Treasurer in 1937. In 1954, he moved on to become the Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration in Washington under the Eisenhower Administration. The Proctor Company was sold in the late 1950's.

The plant of the Chelmsford Ginger Ale Company, Inc., that had been rebuilt after a 1912 fire, was sold in 1928 to the Canada Dry Ginger Ale Company, Inc. C. George Armstrong, the original founder, became Vice-President and a Director of the latter company until his death on April 20, 1936. The Ginger Ale Company closed down during the First World War because of the sugar shortage. In September, 1937, an expansion of the Canada Dry plant saw the destruction of several landmarks, among them the Reverend Thomas Clark house, built in 1677 for the second minister of the town of Chelmsford.

The West

Although the H.E. Fletcher Company is primarily not a Chelmsford industry, it earns its place in the town history through its economic impact upon the community and because it uses Chelmsford as its mailing address.

In the early decades of this century, the Fletcher Company had some seven hundred employees, of whom better than one hundred came from Chelmsford. Today, thanks to mechanization, the company employs two hundred fifty (1961),

of whom some forty-five are from Chelmsford.

Mechanization has made the difference in the stone cutting industry. Machines now do the work that once was done purely by muscle, and new techniques of operation have removed the dangers of lung disease traditionally associated with mining operations.

Thanks to Fletcher ingenuity, the company has pioneered in the development of machine equipment. Jet piercing and wire sawing are considered their major accomplishments. Travellers come from all over the world to inspect the Fletcher operation.

The ancient art of stone cutting has changed for the better. Today, a stone cutter, while still needing a great deal of skill, uses complex machinery to perform the technical operations that he once did manually.

During the Second World War, the Fletcher company produced anti-torpedo nets, landing mats to permit vehicles to disembark on soft beaches, machine tools, and reworked Navy rockets.

Another plant in the West has seen varied operations. The Sugden Press Bagging Company, located on the site of the old Eagle Mills, manufactured a cloth used for pressing cotton seed. Donald Cameron was the proprietor. About 1925, the building was enlarged, a new company was formed with some of the executives of the Hamilton Mill in Lowell, and the company began manufacturing an artificial plush for the casket trade. This firm operated for two or three years

and then closed. The plant was then leased for the manufacturing of paper cups. Later the plant was sold to the present owners who carry on a job painting operation.¹¹

* * * * *

Small businesses as well as industrial operations make up the economic framework of Chelmsford. Many of the smaller ones appear on the scene, provide some kind of service for a while, and then disappear. Others remain for many years--an historical part of the town. For example, Wilhelm and John Johnson ran a tailor shop in the Center for many years. The Johnsons came from Sweden to Chelmsford. Wilhelm Johnson served as the District chief of the Center fire department for twenty-five years, retiring in 1946. He also was the head usher of the Unitarian Church for twenty-five years and was the chaplain of American Legion Post 212 for twenty years. He died on October 4, 1956.

Another business has been that of Thomas Parkhurst--printer. He established his business at the turn of the century in Central Square and there it has remained. Parkhurst, a member of one of the older families in town, was the son of Solomon Waldo and Martha (Dutton) Parkhurst. He married the late Ednah F. (Byam) Parkhurst. Parkhurst was also noted for his directorship of the Chelmsford Band and for having originated the custom of having Christmas carols played by a brass trio from the belfry of

the Unitarian church on Christmas eve.

In the North, one of the oldest businesses is the Picken Printing Company. William T. Picken established his company in 1920 in a garage on Newfield Street. In 1930, he moved his business to a section of the Southwell Combing Company. In 1950, a new building was erected in the center of the North business district. His son, Robert A. Picken, presently operates the business.

The oldest automobile dealer in Chelmsford is Roger Boyd. His company was established on September 6, 1931, in the Center. In 1941, he moved to his present location on Chelmsford Street.

* * * * *

Statistically, manufacturing has always employed the greater number of people and provided the greatest income for Chelmsford. In 1926, there were twelve firms employing four hundred eighty-two people at an average annual salary of \$1,245. In 1929, the figure had dropped to nine, employing three hundred fifty. In 1931, there were ten with three hundred eighty-one workers. In 1932, eight firms employed three hundred ninety-three workers at an average annual salary of \$1,142. The numbers remained fairly constant after that, but salaries continued to decline. In 1930, eight firms, employing six hundred thirty-six workers, brought the annual salary down to \$978, a reflection not only of the increased number of workers, but also of the depression years.¹²

In 1958, to jump twenty years, it was reported that twenty firms employed 74.6 per cent of those working in Chelmsford. There were five wholesale and fifty-five retail establishments operating. Poultry raising, fruit growing, and dairying employed the rest.

In 1956, the year in which the above statistics had been compiled, local manufacturing in order of payroll size included: carbonated beverages, textile machinery parts, wool scouring and carbonizing, wooden boxes and shoo, quarrying and granite fabrication, iron and steel casting, wool top combing, and enameling and lacquering. The rest went into construction, services, transportation, finance, and insurance, and real estate. A total of one hundred sixty-three businesses provided two thousand, one hundred eighty-three people with employment. The total annual payroll was \$8,197,000.¹³

Of those businesses mentioned by Reverend Wilson Waters in his town history, the Proctor Company, Stanhope Manufacturing, Lowell Textile, Boston Ice Company, Daniel Gage Ice Company, and the Eclipse Chemical Manufacturing Company have disappeared.

Real Estate and Housing

In 1917, four hundred fifty-seven houses were assessed for a total valuation of \$4,788,770. In 1927, the assessment was up to \$7,721,960, its highest point until 1947. In the latter year, the valuation climbed to \$8,050,018.

In 1952, it was \$11,247,315, and in 1957, it was \$15,046,018.

In 1945, seven new homes were constructed in town and there was concern over the presence of a housing shortage. In 1946, the Selectmen were urging houseless townspeople to tell them, so that they could estimate the need. As of October 11, 1946, forty-nine people reported that they needed housing. One original suggestion to alleviate the shortage was to erect barracks for the people. Apparently it was assumed that ex-G.I.'s would not notice the difference.

A request to build a twelve apartment house building was turned down by the Board of Appeals when so requested by W.C. Lahue. He wanted to build one on Worthen Street, but public opinion was against the project. The State Emergency Housing Committee overruled the town appeals board on the matter. The apartment house was built, but on Chelmsford Street, and completed in August, 1947.¹⁴

In 1948, there were eight requests for sub-divisions (four in the Center, three in the North), but in 1949 there were only three requests. Not until 1956 did the building boom begin. In 1956, there were twelve requests, in 1950, there were nine, and in 1959, there were fourteen requests, indicating the extent to which housing developments were being planned.

In 1950, one hundred fifty-one new dwellings were erected. In 1954, one hundred seventy-three were built, in 1955, there were two hundred twenty-two. In 1956, two hundred twenty-seven were constructed, and then the

figure declined considerably for three years. In 1959, four hundred eighty-two houses were constructed, and in 1960, six hundred seven were put up. Therefore, from 1950 to 1960, two thousand, five hundred twelve houses were constructed. (If the one thousand, seven hundred nineteen houses from 1960 to 1965 are added, the total is four thousand, two hundred thirty-one new homes).

Concern about housing and building standards came much earlier than the building boom. In 1935, the town meeting authorized the Selectmen to appoint from each precinct three persons to serve as a committee to investigate the idea of zoning by-laws. In 1936, John Valentine reported a delay while the Work^S/_AProgress Administration prepared a plan of the town. In 1937, a Planning Board was created for zoning, consisting of seven members:

Sidney E. Dupee
John J. Meagher
Howard D. Smith
Lester W. Ball

Bayard C. Dean
Ernest C. Soule
William Bellwood

At the 1938 town meeting, a code of zoning laws was adopted after a heated and sometimes bitter discussion. Howard Smith explained the benefits of such a code. Edward Monahan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Representative John Valentine, and Captain John Monahan spoke in favor of zoning. A motion to dismiss the code was defeated in the morning session and a motion to reconsider the original motion was defeated in the afternoon. Another motion to adjourn the meeting until the evening of March 15 aroused such furor that the voting on that proposal had to be done

by the checklist--and was defeated.

A special town meeting on May 28 on a petition of Charles Wright and others considered the repeal of the zoning and building by-laws. John Valentine advised the town that the building laws were illegal because the town had failed to adopt certain chapters of the Massachusetts General Laws. A vote taken at this meeting, however, upheld the legal zoning laws.

In 1941, the building laws were accepted. In 1950, a new building code was approved. The zoning laws were revised again in 1956.

Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

In 1917, it cost six cents to ride the electric car to Lowell, and when one considers just where you could go with transfers, it was an amazing bargain. The tracks came down Chelmsford Street through the Center just past Warren Avenue. They also went up into the North to Tyngsboro and Ayer. There were regular-size cars for the slow hours and king-size cars for the rush times. During the First World War, it was a familiar sight to see a king-size trolley car coming down from Fort Devens, filled to overflowing with soldiers, some of whom sat on the roof. During the winter months, the tracks provided an extra service. Since they were often the only path cleared of snow, they provided a route for horses, pedestrians, and the most adventurous-- the automobile driver. The coming of the automobile as

an accepted mode of travel began to put a strain on the electric car business even as early as 1920. In that year, the North Chelmsford--Tyngsboro line was abandoned by the Bay State Street Railway Company, one of the two large operators of the electric car service.¹⁵

Another challenge to the electric car monopoly was the jitney--a very small bus that cost a nickel (commonly called a jitney) to ride. The town was faced with the decision whether or not to accept the Jitney Act of 1916 which sought to regulate the licensing and operating of jitney service. A special meeting was called to discuss the controversy at which time the electric car interests sought to put an end to the jitney. Joseph Ryan was the jitney operator from Lowell to North Chelmsford. At the meeting, most citizens took the opportunity to criticize the electric car service rather than discuss jitneys, so the town later voted to postpone the question.¹⁶

It required a special kind of talent to follow the electric car schedule. In 1921, for example, part of it read:

...the electric cars from Chelmsford to Lowell will leave promptly at 20 minutes of and 20 minutes past the odd hours and on the even hour. Cars leaving Lowell for Chelmsford will leave at 15 past and 25 minutes of the odd hour and five minutes of the even hour. The regular 20-minute schedule during the rush hours will be continued.¹⁷

By 1930, the electric car had run its course. When the question of relaying the tracks came before town officials, there was much speculation that it was time for

bus service. The Railway Company reported that it was not yet ready to motorize even though a petition to that effect had been presented to them in August.

By June, 1931, they were ready, and on Sunday night, June 14, the car service came to an end for North Chelmsford and buses began to roll. Four years later, on July 12, 1935, at 11:55 p.m., the last electric car left Chelmsford for Lowell, thus ending an important and colorful era in urban transportation.

Bus service was not new to Chelmsford. The original jitney controversy gave way to hearings before residents about bus transportation. In September, 1926, a hearing was held in the West section to see if people wanted a bus line to replace discontinued electric car service. In 1928, another hearing was held to decide whether or not the New England Transportation Company of Boston could run buses between Lowell and Framingham through Chelmsford. This was probably Chelmsford's first inter-town bus service. The North, as previously mentioned, got its bus service in 1931, but only after a hearing in May two years before indicated that the section approved.

Train service to Chelmsford was plentiful in the early decades of this century. The sound of the train whistle was often an unwelcome addition to the proverbial rooster call in the early morning. The trains brought the mails, carried passengers, and provided transportation for both large and small industrial freight. But, like

the electric car, the advent of the automobile brought many difficulties. To avoid the high cost of commuter service, the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad introduced a motorbus coach on its tracks that arrived in Chelmsford on May 5, 1925. It looked like a passenger car except that it had an automobile-shaped hood and a "cowcatcher" in the front. It was operated by two men and carried forty people.¹⁰ The New York line petitioned the town for permission to end its train service in 1932, and that request was granted. Passenger trains continued to pass through the West as late as 1950, but soon after they carried only freight.

The North depot was of such importance in directing train activity that it had a telegrapher in residence. He was Albert O. Wheeler. Albert Freeze served as stationmaster for many years.

Taxi service was introduced in the community in 1937 when G. Ronald Holmes began a business known as the North Chelmsford Taxi.

The automobile, of course, drove all other forms of transportation before it. This mechanized horse gained great popularity about 1920 when the inexpensive Model T came into vogue. It was, however, essentially a seasonal machine. When winter came, most people jacked up the rear end on blocks and walked until spring. Thus came the tradition of inspecting cars in April of each year. In case the snows came early, a lighted candle was placed

inside the car next to the windshield. It kept the glass free of ice.

There are no historical records that tell of the impact of the automobile on Chelmsford. But, from general knowledge and some studies, it would appear that the automobile, along with those elements previously discussed, played a significant role in the growth of a community spirit. If there had been no internal combustion engine, there would have been immeasurable difficulty in getting children to the new high school, greater opposition to centralizing town functions in the Center, and certainly, no mass housing development after the Second World War.

* * * * *

Shifting from transportation to utilities, street lights had become popular by 1916. There were three hundred forty-seven lights in 1916--eleven in the Center, one hundred thirty-four in the North, and ninety-six in other parts of town. By 1922, most of the town had street lights. In 1933, it was decided at the town meeting to reduce the lighting budget and eliminate some street lights. Two hundred seventy-six street lights were scheduled to be eliminated, but the outcry was so loud, the Selectmen asked for additional funds to keep some of them going.

The Chelmsford Telephone Company

On December 21, 1903, E.T. Adams, George W. Day, Harry L. Parkhurst, J.E. Warren, A.J. Park, C.G. Crosby,

Dr. A. Scoboria, and E.W. Sweetser met in the Odd Fellows Hall to form a telephone company. E.T. Adams was sent to Wilton, New Hampshire to investigate that town's private system (still in operation) and to report back. On December 28, the articles of agreement were drawn up. In part, they read: "We the undersigned unite in the formation of a Company for the purpose of establishing Telephonic Communication among the people of Chelmsford." J.E. Warren was voted the President and E.T. Adams was named as the Clerk. They met with representatives of the New England Telephone Company to hear about rates, and then voted on January 11, 1904, not to accept the rates the larger company offered.

The original subscribers were:

J.E. Warren	F.A. Hazin
G.W. Day	E.H. Russell
G.L. Parkhurst	Arthur E. Dutton
E.T. Adams	Carrie A. Dutton
E.W. Sweetser	H.E. Sweetser
George M. Wright	Sweetser & Day
E.A. Ferham	R.B. Barbour
Mrs. B.M. Fiske	Helen L. Fletcher
A.B. Adams	G.L. Adams
S.W. Parkhurst	David F. Byam
F.G. Byam	Emile Paignon
E. Hall	Isaac H. Knight
L.A. Byam	Mary H. Knight
Emerson & Company	Dr. A. Scoboria
W.E. Lapham	John B. Emerson
Robert Smith	Charles Metcalf
E.R. Parker	H.E. Ellis

The switchboard was installed in the home of Arthur Dutton. Warren, Wright, and Byam volunteered to install it and the Dutton family would take care of it. George Wright was voted the Inspector upon his entrance into the

company on July 30, 1906, and Arnold Perham replaced him. Perham got thirty cents an hour plus fifty cents more if he used his team. Heavy trees and poles were used for the wires and usually fifteen to twenty subscribers were on the same line. Each person put up his own wire and box. When one phone rang, so did the rest on that line. A man named Crosby sold the instruments. As Arnold Perham remembers it, the biggest problem in caring for the lines came during ice storms.

In 1905, the company voted to extend service to the home of George Mansfield in the South. The line went over Central Square up Bartlett to High Street, then over Robin's Hill.

At one time, the switchboard was moved to the home of Herbert Knowlton on High Street.

Eventually, due to a loss of subscribers and the ease of belonging to a larger system, the company was sold to the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. The date of sale is unknown.

Dial telephones came to Chelmsford on March 5, 1939, ending a delightful era of knowledgeable operators. In 1957, the New England Telephone Company built two dial control offices, one each in the North and Center.¹⁹

CHAPTER V.

THE CHURCHES IN CHELMSFORD

It happened that in April, 1917, a Lowell florist was asked to decorate the vestry of the Central Congregational Church for an afternoon reception. On the day of the affair, however, he failed to appear with the flowers. When telephoned, the florist insisted that he had delivered the flowers as instructed--to the church with the big clock, plainly marked "First Congregational Society." The flowers were promptly moved from the Unitarian church and the reception was held as planned.

This story, a true one taken from the Lowell Courier-Citizen, is told to illustrate the number of churches in the various sections of Chelmsford. Each church serves its own special role in the lives of its parishoners and contributes in some way to the total life of the community. The very brief histories that follow are only intended to record major events in each church's past.

First Congregational Society (Unitarian)-----Center

In 1917, it was voted at the business meeting of the church to remove the horse sheds adjacent to the church and the work was done. In October, 1927, Reverend L.L. Greene ended his twenty year pastorate with a service followed by a reception.

On October 25, 1942, the church celebrated the centennial of the Meeting House with appropriate religious services, a banquet, and an organ recital.

In 1950, Miss Susan S. McFarlin bequeathed her home to the Society to be used as a parsonage. This home was later sold and the parsonage was moved to Acton Road.

In 1955, it was reported that active organizations in the church were: the Evening Alliance, the Woman's Alliance, the Liberal Religious Youth, the Men's Club, and the Unitarian Players. In October, 1955, the church had to build a new steeple after the old one was damaged by lightning.

On September 23, 1956, a new children's chapel and church school wing (containing classrooms, a nursery, a church office, and a minister's study) was dedicated. Doctor Frederick May Eliot, President of the American Unitarian Association gave the dedicatory address. The chapel was named the Susan S. McFarlin chapel in 1965, in memory of the late Chelmsford teacher.

As of 1965, the constituency of the church totalled three hundred forty-eight.

Pastors:

Rev. Lorenzo L. Greene	1907-1927	(24th minister)
Rev. Lyman M. Greenman	1928-1932	
Rev. Floyd J. Taylor	1932-1940	
Rev. Edward Cahill	1940-1943	
Rev. Karl Bach	1944-1947	
Rev. Percy Brayton	1947-1949	
Rev. Joseph Giunta	1949-1952	
Rev. Phillip M. Larson, Jr.	1953-1962	
Rev. Roland E. Morin	1962-----	
	1963	

Central Congregational Society-----Center

At a meeting of the Society held on January 9, 1917, it was announced that the church debt had been paid and that there was a forty dollar surplus in the treasury. The mortgage note was therefore burned while the congregation sang a Doxology. In March of the same year, the gas lights in the vestry were replaced by electric lights. In 1918, the church was enlarged and a new organ was installed.

In January, 1927, Dr. Fred Varney gave the Society four acres of land on which to built a parish house. A banquet was held to formally acknowledge Dr. Varney's gift.

In 1933, a Men's Club was formed with Harold E. Clayton as the first President. They planned to hold four meetings a year.

Since the middle 1940's, a number of parsonages have been owned by the Society. In 1944 (1945) Mrs. Margaret Wright gave her home on Boston Road as a parsonage, but the Wright house was sold when Miss Carrie Elliott left her home on Worthen Street to the Society in 1945. In 1956, the Society purchased the old Nichols house on North Road and onverted it into a Religious Education Center. In 1960, this latter house was also used as a parsonage, while the Elliott house was moved to Westford Street.

Needing room, the Society built a new church in 1960, dedicating it during the week of May 1 to 8. Doctor Fred Haskins, Minister and Secretary of the General Council, gave the dedicatory address. Doctor Albert J. Penner,

President of the Massachusetts Congregational Council, spoke at the banquet. A three-story Religious Education Center was also built at the same time.

Active organizations have been: the Women's Fellowship, the Couples Club, the Nisele Club, the Sojourners, the Junior and Senior Youth Fellowship, and the Social Action Committee. As of 1965, six hundred people were members of the Society.

Sidney Dupee, the clerk of the church for thirty-five years until his resignation in 1962, died during the writing of this history.

Pastors:

Rev. Edward A. Robinson	1913-1919
Rev. John G. Lovell	1919-1932
Rev. Everett Lasher	1932-1935
Rev. Howard Page	1935-1941
Rev. Lloyd Williams	1941-1944
Rev. Elton Brown	1944-1940
Rev. Warren Chandler	1946-1955
Rev. Richard F. Manwell	1956-1965
Rev. William L. Parsons	1965-----

Congregational Church in North Chelmsford

In 1912, the Second Congregational Society changed its name to the Congregational Church in North Chelmsford. Captured by the revival movement led by Billy Sunday, the parishoners held a revival service in January, 1917. The newspaper announcement advised "revivalers" to bring along their Billy Sunday hymn books.

On April 27, 1924, the church celebrated its 100th anniversary.

In December, 1928, a Pioneer's Boy Club was formed. In 1929, the girls organized into the "Co-eds" with Helen Rigby as the first President. In January, 1930, a Men's Club was formed with Dr. Varney as the first President. It disappeared after a few years from lack of interest.

In 1935, the church acquired two pieces of quarry land from Charles Wilsteed, thirty-five acres of which have since been sold to the Guilmette Quarry Company. The church still continues to own the acreage bordering on Route 3.

A new Parish House was built in 1959 containing seven classrooms, a chapel, kitchen, auditorium, and pastor's study. On April 19, 1959, a dedication ceremony was held. Reverend Charles Edward, the pastor, delivered the dedicatory sermon.

Until 1964, the church sponsored two Girl Scout troops. Active organizations are: the Couples Club, the Women's Guild, and the Senior Youth Fellowship. In 1966, there was an active membership of one hundred eighty-five.

Pastors:

All Saints-----Center

Prior to 1959, All Saints' was, on occasion, a mission church because it was not always possible for the small congregation to support itself. For example, during the 1920's, fifty people at the Sunday service made it a good day.

A new guild room was built in 1945 and a kindergarten room was added in 1951. On November 16, 1952, a new Parish House was dedicated.

In 1960, a new church was built and was dedicated on June 9, 1961, by Bishop Anson Phelps Stokes. The original plan of the church was to build into a quadrangle and that dream has been followed as closely as possible. Because Reverend Wilson Waters looked like the kind of man who would build All Saints' church, it is often assumed that all of the construction is his. Actually, he added the tower, the cloister, and the study to the original structure.

In 1955, a family service was introduced. In 1957, a second one was added along with two Sunday school sessions.

Active organizations are: the Couples Club, the Girl's Friendly Society, and the Episcopal Young Churchmen. In 1966, there were four hundred fifty families in the church.

Reverend Wilson Waters, D.D.

Reverend Wilson Waters, D.D.

It is sometimes assumed that Reverend Wilson Waters, because of his English mannerisms, was a native of England. Actually, he was born in Marietta, Ohio in 1855. He attended Marietta College and travelled throughout Europe after his graduation. He then went to Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Massachusetts. There he earned his minister's degree.

Reverend Waters came to Chelmsford in 1892 to assume the duties of rector of All Saints. In 1907, commenting on his thoughts prior to coming to Chelmsford, he wrote, "I came to Chelmsford, having no thought for myself or my future, and resolved to stick to the work until I had lifted the parish 'out of the hole'!"¹ He never achieved that dream, but he stayed on for forty years trying.

Reverend Wilson Waters is remembered most because of his physical appearance. He cherished the skullcap that he wore, although there is no apparent reason why he chose to wear such an unusual headpiece. He developed a grand white beard that added immeasurably to his stature. Since he considered all Chelmsford to be his domain, his appearance became an accustomed part of community life.

In addition to his eccentricities (like travelling to D.L. Page's in Lowell every day for his lunch) Reverend Waters contributed substantially to the life of Chelmsford. For many years, he served as a trustee of the Library and encouraged its work. He was one of the original founders

of the Chelmsford Historical Society. He visited the schools and quizzed the children on their studies. He wrote odes and poems for local festivities. And, of course, he wrote the definitive history of Chelmsford. It was his sense of history and the importance of the past to the community that remains in Chelmsford as his legacy.

Reverend Wilson Waters saw himself as something more than a rural minister. He also saw himself as a scholar. Writing in 1922, he described his work in this way:

The Pastor deems himself to have
The confidence of holy men
For when he will, he holds concline
With Butler, Hooker, Taylor, Ken,
With Herbert 'in his rural nook'
Or Kempis 'o'er his clostial book.'

With such as these he spends his days,
Or else he goes among his flock.
And oft he for his people prays,
that they may rest of Christ the Rock.²

Reverend Waters did most of his writing in his pastor's study. Seated behind an old oak desk, warmed by a fireplace over which hung a picture of the crucifixion, lit by the sun peering through a panel of stained glass, he wrote his books and pamphlets. In all, he published:

Ancestry of the Waters Family of Marietta, Ohio.
Historical Sketch of All Saints' Church. 1900
Sketch of the History of St. James' Church, Lancaster,
Pa. 1902
Some Account of the Rev. Theodore Edson, D.D. 1905.
The Church Militant. 1907 (?)
Symbolism. 1922.
"The Attainment of Spiritual Freedom!" 1922.

"Report of the Proceedings at the 250th Anniversary
of the Settlement of the Town of Chelmsford, Mass."
History of Chelmsford, Massachusetts. 1917.

In 1926, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from his alma mater, Marietta College. On June 13, 1933, he died. His death brought great public mourning in the town and many distinguished people attended his funeral. Reverend Waters was buried in Forefathers Cemetery.

Pastors:

Rev. Wilson Waters, D.D.	1892-1933
Rev. David W. Norton	1934-1937
Rev. Charles W. Henry	1937-1947
Rev. John M. Balcom	1948-1954
Rev. Paul D. Twelves	1954-----

Central Baptist

In February, 1917, the church celebrated the 70th anniversary of its founding with a supper and entertainment. Letters were read from all living former pastors.

The vestry of the church was enlarged and the church's seating capacity was doubled in November, 1921. A kitchen and a classroom were also added.

Sometime around 1940, the first of the stained glass windows was given, and others have been added since then.

In 1955, the old parsonage (Chelmsford Classical School) was torn down and a new parsonage was erected.

In 1959, the church contemplated merging with the Chelmsford Street church in Lowell, but decided against it.

In 1963, the mortgage on the parsonage was burned and a Christian Education Building, named for Dr. Frank T. Littorin, was built. In November, 1964, the Lewis property to the rear of the church was purchased for future

expansion. In 1965, the vestry of the church was renovated for new classrooms.

The total 1966 membership was two hundred eighty-five. Active organizations are: the United Workers, the Youth Fellowships, and the Ellis Men's Fellowship, organized in 1956.

Mrs. Fred Wiggin, the clerk of the church for forty years, died in 1952.

Reverend Charles H. Ellis.

Reverend Charles H. Ellis was born in England. He came to North Billerica at the age of thirteen, working in the Talbot mills. In 1886, he went to Worcester Academy, graduating in 1890. From there he attended Brown University, receiving his A.B. in 1894. Off to Newton Theological School in September, 1894, he graduated on June 10, 1897. Reverend Ellis came to Chelmsford as a substitute minister and here he stayed. Chelmsford was his only parish.

In addition to his many pastoral duties, Reverend Ellis had a secular passion--sports. For many years, he umpired official and "sandlot" baseball games.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his pastorate, Reverend Ellis announced his intention to resign. On October 10, 1937, he preached his last sermon, "Work that Pays." For a number of years, Reverend Ellis made it a practice to return to his church once a year. In 1955, in his role as Pastor Emeritus, he wrote the Tercentenary Prayer for Chelmsford's 300th anniversary. He died in October, 1960.³

Pastors:

Rev. Charles H. Ellis	1897-1937
Rev. William H. Van Arsdale	1937-1942
Rev. Herbert E. Levoy	1943-1945
Rev. Kenneth M. Savage	1946-1948
Rev. L.N. Selfridge	1948-1955
Rev. Cyril E.G. Bentley	1955-1959
Rev. Dr. Frank T. Littorin	1959-1963
Rev. Stanley Thomson	1964-----

First Baptist-----South

In March, 1917, the members held a chopping bee to get enough wood to repair the church horse sheds. Dinner was served by the ladies' chopping bee auxiliary.

The church observed its 150th anniversary in October, 1921, with a supper. Mrs. Thomas Parkhurst wrote an anniversary hymn for the occasion to the tune of "The Church's One Foundation."

One month later, fire destroyed the parsonage and a barn, and the church did not acquire a new parsonage until 1959.

From 1929 to 1945, the church was served by the pastor of the Baptist church in the Center.

Pastors:

Rev. Daniel J. Hatfield	1911-1918
Rev. George H. Nickerson	1918-1925
Rev. Charles Fowler	1925
Mr. Porter	1925-1927
Rev. Charles H. Ellis	1929-1937
Rev. William A. Van Arsdale	1937-1942
Rev. Herbert E. Levoy	1943-1945
Rev. Kenneth Savage	1945-1947
Rev. Bryant Benner	
Rev. Joseph Bayles	
Rev. Edward Brinkman, D.D.	1963-1966
Rev. Guy Brockett	1966-1967

Methodist Episcopal--West

About 2:30 in the morning of July 15 (or 16), 1920, fire broke out in the church and a waterbucket line was formed from a nearby house. The pumping engine was called from the Center and Lowell also sent a truck. Despite valiant efforts, the church was totally destroyed at an estimated loss of \$50,000, with only \$22,000 worth of insurance covering the building. Services were held in Historical Hall while a new building was planned. At a meeting called the same day as the fire, plans were formulated for a fund raising drive. The decision was made in the spring of 1921 to build a new church on the foundation of the old one, using the original design, but with some modifications. On January 18, 1922, the new \$30,000 church was dedicated with the sermon given by Reverend C.C.F. Hiller, D.D., Pastor of the Federated Church in Millbury. On February 26, 1920, the mortgage was burned.⁴

In 1941, a building and land were purchased for a parsonage. In 1954, this building was sold and the present parsonage on Main Street was purchased.

In 1962, a new Christian Education Building was constructed, and was consecrated by Leslie H. Johnson, the Worcester District Superintendent on December 2.

Active organizations have been: the Woman's Society of Christian Service, the Methodist Men, and the Junior and Senior Methodist Youth Fellowships. The membership in 1966 was two hundred ninety-five.

Pastors:

Rev. Thomas Hancock	1914-1916
Rev. H.H. Lippincott	1916-1917
Rev. Ralph C. Brown	1918
Rev. Charles D. Maurer	1918-1919
Rev. W. A. Moore	1919-1920
Rev. John H. Parker	1920-1922
Rev. Everett E. Jackman	1922-1924
Rev. B.A. Gessner	1925-1927
Rev. Edward A. Boetticher	1927-1928
Rev. Horatio F. Robbins	1928-1929
Rev. L. Burlin Main	1929-1931
Rev. Harley H. Zeigler	1931-1933
Rev. Donald Wright	1933-1934
Rev. Wilbur E. Goist	1934-1937
Rev. Charles W. Hamilton	1937-1938
Rev. Owen E. Osborne	1938-1940
Rev. Charles W. Cox	1940-1941
Rev. Francis J. Mazzeo	1941-1943
Rev. Ernest R. Case	1943-1945
Rev. Warren M. Roberts	1945-1948
Rev. Sidney J. Lawson	1948-1949
Rev. J. Carleton Green	1949-1952
Rev. T. Landon Lindsay	1952-1958
Rev. Edward L. Hoffman	1958-1960
Rev. Wayne G. Austin	1960-1962
Rev. Miller C. Lovett	1962-1963
Rev. Wayne S. Moody	1963-----

St. Mary's-----Center

The move to start a mission in the Center began sometime around 1921 (or July 6, 1919) when some one hundred parishioners gathered at the Odd Fellow's Hall to attend Mass. In May, 1924, they bought the estate of Lottie L. Adams at the corner of Fletcher Street and North road to use as a mission church.

The construction of a new church began in 1926 and was completed in February, 1927. On November 18, 1931, the church was organized into the diocese as a new parish,

and the first pastor was Reverend Daniel F. Gorman.

Need for more room prompted plans for a new church, constructed in 1962, and dedicated on October 5, 1962. The old church was torn down, the original site now serving as St. Mary's Rectory's front lawn. Since 1960, land has been purchased on Crosby Lane and North Road for future expansion.

Catholics compose a large part of the Chelmsford population. In 1932, in the Center, there were five hundred ninety people in the parish. In 1960, there were three thousand, three hundred twenty-five, and in 1967, there are seventy-five hundred. In 1955, to illustrate the growth dramatically, three masses were said each Sunday to a partially filled church. Today, nine masses are said to an overflowing church. Or, to put it another way, there are, in 1967, as many Sunday school teachers as there were children in the school in 1932.

Pastors and curates:

Rev. Daniel F. Gorman	1931-1935
Rev. Walter A. Quinlan	1935-1940
Rev. Cornelius A. Foley	1940-1941
Rev. Daniel J. Golden,	1941-1944
Rev. Joseph J. Leonard, pastor	1944-1947
Rev. Frederick T. Burke	1947-
Rev. Thomas J. Dixon, pastor	1947-1955
Rev. Arthur Dunnigan	1947
Rev. John D. Zuromskis	1949
Rev. William H. Roche	1950
Rev. Thomas J. Finnegan	1951
Rev. Robert H. Carolan	1952
Rev. John E. Thomas	1955
Rev. John J. McGinly, Pastor	1955-1958
Rev. James J. Battles	1950
Rev. Joseph F. Sullivan	1958-1966
Rev. Thomas J. Buckley	1961

Rev. George S. Hickey	1962
Rev. Francis A. McLaughlin	1963
Rev. William F. Salmon	1965
Monsignor James J. Manning	1966-----

St. John the Evangelist-----North

In November, 1921, one of the more interesting organizations in the community resumed its meetings. St. John's Total Abstinence Society, pledged to the avoidance of alcohol, reorganized. St. John's Society was part of a nationwide Abstinence movement organized in the Roman Catholic church.

Reverend John Crane, who left St. John's in 1930, was largely responsible for St. Mary's Church and the renovation of St. John's.

In the early decades of this century, St. John's had to handle the mission churches in Graniteville and Chelmsford Center.⁵

Pastors:

Rev. Charles P. Heaney	1916-1922
Rev. Francis J. Kenney	1922-1924
Rev. John J. Crane	1924-1930
Rev. Joseph Curtin	1930-1932
Rev. Jeremiah Driscoll	1932-1936
Rev. Timothy J. Donovan	1936-1941
Rev. Thomas O. Toole	1941--

CHAPTER VI.

EDUCATION

[For some reason, Wilson Waters failed to include a complete history of the public schools in Chelmsford in his book. The following is a digest of the more important events from about the 1850's through to the time where this history begins. The material is taken from "The Public School System of Chelmsford 1696-1938," by Susan S. McFarlin, the property of the Chelmsford Historical Society.]

In 1850, there arose a need for a bigger school in District No. 1 (Center) and the town tried to buy the old Academy building. The plan, however, did not succeed and so it was decided to build a new two-room building. The land was purchased on the North Road opposite the Common and the school was finished about 1853. It cost \$181.25 to operate the school in 1835 and \$241.82 to run it in 1848.

The revenue collected to operate each of the district schools depended on the amount and valuation of the property of each district. Therefore, if one particular district's expenses exceeded its allotted sum, that school closed down unless the parents of the children made up the deficit.

The first Superintendent was appointed in 1861. Mr. J.R. Fletcher, who received the position, resigned shortly thereafter to fight in the Civil War. He was succeeded by Reverend Horace W. Morse, the pastor of the Unitarian

church. During the winter of 1862-63, Frederic T. Greenhalge was hired to teach in the North Row School. He received thirty dollars a month and was required to teach twenty-two pupils for two months and ten days. Greenhalge later became a governor of Massachusetts.

Educational conditions in the mid-nineteenth century were generally unsatisfactory. The highest paid teacher in Chelmsford received \$39 a month and the lowest got \$17. Men teachers were usually paid more than women teachers, regardless of the level of education and experience. Attendance at the schools was abominable.. In 1862-63, only two schools had an average of ninety percent attendance, while eight averaged a little over seventy percent. For the five hundred ninety-one pupils in attendance in the schools, there were three thousand seventy-six tardy marks for that year. Students were required to purchase their own books (usually from the Superintendent who doubled as the book agent) and, as a result, many different kinds of texts were likely to appear in the same grade. Until 1864, school sessions ran for five and one half days, but in that year the Saturday morning session was eliminated.

At some point in the 1860's, a new two-room building took the place of the old school in the North on Princeton Street. A recent state law required that any community with five hundred families must build a high school. Since

Chelmsford now had four hundred ninety-one families, the school committee suggested that the town ought to think about building. In 1870, the citizens voted down an article in the warrant which provided plans for a high school.

In 1869-70, Reverend George H. Allen became the Superintendent and one of his first functions was to oversee the construction of new school buildings. In 1870, a new two-room building was opened in the West. A new one-room building was erected on the land of T.J. Pinkham in Mill Row opposite the old school and closer to the Boston Road. A third school was constructed in the North Row. The total cost of this 1870 building program was \$9,100.

In 1872, the town built two high schools, one for the Center and one for the North. The Center school opened with forty-three pupils, the one in the North contained twenty. In 1875, both high schools were abolished and the two buildings then functioned as grammar schools until the number of families in the community finally exceeded five hundred.

In 1880-81, a music teacher, Edward Everett Adams, was employed to teach the children in the Center school. His salary was paid by the other teachers. Report cards were used for the first time by some of the teachers. Free textbooks and supplies became mandatory by state legislation in 1884 and the town appropriated \$500 for that purpose.

In 1887, the Center grammar school, and in 1891, the one in the North, were enlarged to four-room structures.

One room in each building was devoted to a high school and, in 1888, the first graduating class received diplomas. Sometime after the North school was enlarged, Mrs. George T. Sheldon gave it a bell and the town built a cupola within which to contain it.

The Westlands received a one-room school in 1896, the last such structure to be built in Chelmsford. In the same year, four rooms were added to the old Center school and indoor plumbing was provided for the first time in any of the Chelmsford schools.

In 1897, Chelmsford joined with Dunstable and Carlisle to form a district and employ one Superintendent. Mr. George H. Knowlton was the first man to be employed for the district. After three years of service he resigned and, in 1900, Mr. Frederick L. Kendall was appointed. In this year, the North received a new four-room building.

Sometime close to the turn of the century, a new two-room building was erected in the East. In 1905, a four-room school went up in the West.

In 1911, Benjamin E. Martin became the Superintendent for Chelmsford alone and the town withdrew from its union with Carlisle and Dunstable. Martin was convinced of the utility of vocational education and tried to introduce industrial training, home economics, and woodworking in all of the schools. It was he who planned the division of the high school program between the North, (commercial

and industrial) and the Center, (academic but with home economics for the girls).

The first Parent-Teacher Association was formed in 1913. Superintendent Martin resigned in 1916 and Alberto W. Small took his place.

[this concludes the McFarlin section]

The history of education in Chelmsford, as in most other communities throughout the nation, has reflected the growing importance that education has come to have in the twentieth century. As Susan McFarlin's history makes clear, until the period just prior to World War I, a sixth grade education was considered sufficient training to enable any young Chelmsfordian to take on the responsibilities of his emerging adult life. The one-room schoolhouse was thought to be an adequate facility for such purposes and, regardless of the number of rooms a building actually contained, the one-room concept still controlled education. To teach in this situation the untrained teacher was employed, and it was not uncommon for college students to earn their living by teaching grammar school. Only when several factors came together--the decline in agricultural production in the East, the growing disenchantment with child labor in the factories, the emerging demands of the industrial revolution, and changing attitudes toward education in general--did education receive more attention.

For Chelmsford, these demands were expressed in the building of new schools, greater investment in the costs of education, curriculum changes, and the practice of employing teachers trained by the normal schools. Without a doubt, the greatest problem for Chelmsford in the period 1916-1965 has been the ever-growing numbers of children and the need to make room for them in the schools. The erection of new school buildings has accounted for most of the public building throughout these years and, as a result, the school budget has consistently remained the greatest single source of expense for fifty years.

In 1916, when this history opens, the town was faced with an unworkable situation--the operation of two high schools with two different sets of curriculum and goals. There were too few students to fill both schools, the costs of operating two high schools was too great, and it was very difficult for youngsters from either section (or from the other sections) to take advantage of programs some distance from their homes. This last point probably was the most significant of all, not only because of transportation problems, but also because of the sense of ill feeling that existed among the different sections and some discontent over a school system that prevented a student from choosing the type of program that he wanted. Despite Superintendent Martin's beliefs, the two-school plan rested on a foundation of superiority for it assumed that most children in the industrial North would want a

vocational training suitable for millwork, while children in the Center would be more academically-oriented. The opportunity to go to either school, considering the difficulties, never became a reality.

In any event, in 1916, the town voted to build a new high school and a building committee, composed of James P. Dunigan, Herbert E. Ellis, and Frederick A. Snow, recommended that it be built on the Timothy Adams place (Billerica Street). The town appropriated \$61,750 to cover the costs of construction. When the building opened in 1917, it contained the students of the entire town, for it had been decided to close the school in the North. However, to appease the irate citizens of the North, who now opposed the sending of their children to a Center school, it was agreed that the first year would be a trial period. If it appeared that the difficulties of getting North children to the new school outweighed the advantages, the North school would be reopened. The last graduating classes from the two schools were:

Center

Dorothea Chambers Emerson
Clarence Albert Barry
Ellen Emma Paignon
Donald Francis Adams
Florence Madeline Dutton
Earl Russell Richardson
Elizabeth Leighton Ward
Glen Roy Blaisdell
Edwin Leslie Burne
Charles Albert Ellis
Harriet Steward

North

S. Weldon Stevens
Alonzo H. Russell
Ebba H. Haberman
Sara F. McGrath
M. Evelyn Constantino
Myrtle M. Daniels
Edna L. Daniels
Myrtle V. Day
Florence E. Emery
Mary A. Flannery
Margaret M. Hogan
Ruby M. Emery
Florence M. Pinel

The North graduating class was the largest ever to graduate from that school.

The new high school was built to house two hundred and twenty-five pupils and the enrollment in 1917 was one hundred sixty-one. Sixty-one students selected the commercial course, forty-three, the general course, forty, the classical course, and seventeen, the science program. Considering the limited size of previous graduating classes, it was felt that the new school would be adequate for some time to come. The curriculum included the usual college preparatory subjects--four years of English and Latin, three years of French and German, Ancient History, the sciences, algebra and plane geometry, and courses in mechanical drawing and business. The vocational work and household arts that had been the central feature of the North school were discontinued. And, for the first time, the eight-week marking system was put into effect.

Since one of the tests of the effectiveness of the new school was to be the ease with which North children could be brought to it, in 1917, a committee, consisting of Dr. Fred Varney, Captain John Monahan, and C. George Armstrong, was appointed to investigate various means of transportation. On the committee's recommendation, the town voted to purchase two automobile trucks, appropriated \$7,600 to buy them, and \$220 to operate them. The first truck was a General Motors Corporation bus, seventeen feet, nine inches high, that could seat forty pupils. A newspaper

description of that time reported that this new wonder could go up Drum Hill in high gear! Apparently, George Gaudet drove the G.M.C. while Lewis Fisk drove the other one, a Pierce-Arrow. The school report of 1917 indicated that the two buses were performing exceedingly well and that two teachers had been assigned to ride in each bus to ensure decorum and order. The ride to the North could not have been overly comfortable since originally the buses did not have pneumatic tires and the ledge at Drum Hill was very hard. Although the buses were primarily used for the North, the South Row route and the Westlands were also covered. Grade children were transported one way from the Groton and Tyngsboro roads, riding the other way on the electric cars.

While discussing mechanized transportation, it might also be worthwhile to briefly point out how children not on the bus routes got to school. Obviously, a great many walked, and for those near the electric car routes, tickets were issued by the school. But, for the children from the outlying sections, there was the school barge. The barges were covered wagons drawn by teams of horses, the drivers of which were sometimes employed by the school district and sometimes were boys on their way to school. For example, Everett Whitcomb drove the school barge to the Quessy school in the West, Andrew Shaehan came up the

Littleton Road, and a man named Sullivan drove in from the East. On the other hand, "Rusty" Faignon was a student who came from the South, tied his horses next to the Unitarian church, and fed them during lunch. The school barges quietly went out of business as the automobile trucks began to take over their routes.¹ In 1929, the town gave up its operation of the buses and George Marinel of the North was awarded the bus contract. Since that time, the contract has remained with the Marinel company. It should also be noted in passing that the first "no school" signals were employed in 1917 whenever weather conditions made travelling by bus hazardous. It shall be left to the parents of school children to decide whether the horse was better than the bus.

According to Wilson Waters, there were, in 1916, forty-one teachers in the schools, all of them women, and supervised by three principals.² It is interesting to note that the influence of women teachers remained in the Chelmsford schools even as late as 1947. As of that year, a teacher who married while in service could be dismissed from her job. That rule was changed in 1949.³ The opening of the new high school in 1917 was an obvious source of interest to those teachers so they organized into the Chelmsford Teachers Organization on May 10. After reorganization in 1926, the group has continued to flourish. Miss Susan S. McFarlin was the first President, Miss Catherine McDermott became the Vice-President and Miss

Margaret Gookin was the Treasurer. The state "Tenure of office act" had just been passed giving teachers tenure after three years of service and the new minimum salary was set at \$550. Apparently some of the teachers did not take their work too seriously for this comment appears in the 1917 Superintendent's report:

I would commend especially some of our older teachers who have put their best efforts into the work without selfish thought of the time element. It might be well if a few other teachers copied this rule of labor, for I have noticed in individual cases where teachers have seemed to count the minutes when they could leave the building and have been in their rooms 'just' on time in the morning. 4

In retrospect, it would seem that the building of one central high school for the entire town was extremely significant. Although at first it appeared that youngsters from the North and Center were more interested in physically defending the honor of their section, eventually the high school became the meeting place for children and their families from every corner of the town. Some caution must, however, be exercised at estimating the speed with which this phenomenon occurred, for not every youngster of high school age went to school. For example, in 1920, of some six hundred children of high school age, only three hundred and five went to school.⁵ Not until the 1930's did the high school enrollment begin to adequately match the number of children of high school age. Nevertheless, in the long run, children from every section were forced to make their peace with each other. In terms of tying the

loyalty of its students to a sense of community rather than section, the high school cannot be underestimated. Or, to put it in the words of one citizen who remembers those days, "We discovered that the girls in the other sections looked better than the ones we grew."

The history of elementary education in Chelmsford is much more complex. There were, at one time, nine one-room schoolhouses in the community. South Row was the last to be closed, that occurring in 1935. There were grade schools in all of the sections and in each of them several classes met together in one room. These classes were studying such basic subjects as the three "R's" and also one intriguing course in Physiology which we would today probably call "health." In 1919, Superintendent Walter K. Putney inaugurated the tradition of granting diplomas to grammar school graduates with appropriate exercises, a move of a very practical nature. In 1919, for instance, there were one hundred twenty-four pupils in grade six but only twenty-one in grade twelve. Therefore, that grammar school diploma was likely to be the only one for many students. Furthermore, in 1919, the state required all students to receive a sixth grade education or attain the age of sixteen before leaving school, thereby ensuring ample attendance on graduation day.

Because of the growing antagonism on the part of many to the inadequacies of one-room schools, and also because

of the sheer need for space, plans for new elementary schools were formulated in 1920 and similar concerns have continued to occupy a large part of the budget ever since. The first section to receive attention was the Westlands. Ever since 1918, the Superintendent had been urging a new building to relieve the congested conditions of the old structure. In 1920, Williston Carl, Josiah E. Marshall, and Edwin L. Stearns were charged by the town with the responsibility of preparing plans for a new school. In 1921, \$50,000 was appropriated to build a four-room schoolhouse on land purchased from J. Adams Bartlett. The building committee was Eben T. Adams, Edwin L. Stearns, and Walter J. McEnaney.

In 1923, Charles H. Ellis, Birgir Petterson, and James F. Dunigan were appointed as a committee to investigate the conditions at the East school and formulate some plans. At a special town meeting on July 2, 1923, \$20,000 was raised to add two more rooms to the East school.

Another special town meeting, this time in May, 1924, named Charles H. Clough, Thomas H. Varnum, F. Vincent Kelly, M. Edward Riney, and William E. Belleville as a planning committee for a new grammar school at the Center. In October, they recommended that a new twelve-room building be constructed plus an assembly hall that would hold one thousand people to be built near the high school. The assembly hall was a constant project of the school administration because they could not assemble all of their pupils in one

place. At the annual town meeting in February, 1925, \$140,000 was appropriated to build a new twelve-room schoolhouse but without the assembly hall, and the planning committee was named as the building committee. This new grammar school (now McFarlin) the largest yet in Chelmsford, opened in September, 1926.

At the same meeting, the town voted to add two more rooms to the East school and to remodel the South Row school.

The old grammar school on North Row, which had been closed for some years, also received some attention as the town considered what to do with it. Arnold Perham wanted it used as a firehouse, Sidney Perham suggested that it be given to the American Legion, and others saw it as a possible community center. It was finally sold to Frank J. Garvey who remodelled it into a home.⁶

In October, 1926, Americanization classes were formed in the North with approximately twenty immigrants present at the organization meeting. Two classes were held-- beginners and intermediate English. A citizenship class was planned for a future time and all classes were free. The school operated out of the Princeton Street building and was taught by Miss Genevieve E. Jantzen and Lucy T. Norden, each of whom received \$2.00 an evening for their services. The classes were abandoned in 1928 because of a lack of interest.

Miss Susan S. McFarlin retired in 1929, after fifty years of teaching in the Center schoolhouse, beginning on April 14, 1879. In recognition of her service, on October 3, 1930, the new Center school was dedicated as the Susan S. McFarlin Grammar School. At a speech before the Chelmsford Grange some years later, Miss McFarlin recalled her fifty years of teaching and the fact that prior to that, she had been a student in the East school. She remembered that in her school days, "The only book of reference...was a dictionary. A map of each hemisphere hung on the wall and these together with a small globe and a box of blackboard crayons were about all the equipment we had." As a teacher, she not so fondly remembered the rusty wood stove with the pipe that sometimes came apart and smoked everyone out, and which gave off a great deal of heat in the front of the room while the water froze in the pail in the back of the room. Yet, as she noted, the schools of that time "turned out citizens and men and women of high character which, in the last analysis, is the test of the efficiency of our public schools."⁷

The year of Miss McFarlin's retirement also ushered in the depression. Those years were a time for what Chelmsford residents, echoing the cry of the nation, called "retrenchment." The costs of education, like other necessary services, had to be kept to the lowest minimum possible. Unfortunately, the children were not as retrenchment-minded for a report of a committee on schoolhouse conditions

in 1930 found that the high school, built for two hundred twenty-five, had three hundred five pupils and needed an addition. The Westlands school was also overcrowded. To add to these problems, the opening of school in September found a controversy in the North over the admittance age of first-graders. One parent threatened suit because his child was not admitted to an already overcrowded school. The school committee solved the problem by voting that no child would be admitted who was not five and one half.⁸

In the interest of retrenchment, the position of physical education teacher was abolished in June, 1931. No raises were to be given to those teachers earning more than \$1,200 in the elementary schools, \$1,500 in the high school.⁹ In 1933, the school committee attempted to close the South Row school which contained an average of fourteen pupils and cost \$1,200-1,300 a year to operate. The pupils were to be sent to the McFarlin school. The parents in South Row proved not to be as retrenchment-oriented as the school committee, and the school remained open for two more years.¹⁰

Retrenchment again came into conflict with necessity when the town considered the proposed addition to the high school at a special town meeting on April 30, 1935. A committee, composed of C. George Armstrong, Roy A. Clough, James Kiberd, Sr., and John J. Meagher, was named to select plans and get costs. At another special town meeting on November 27, the committee recommended the expenditure

of \$120,000, forty-five per cent of which would be paid for by a Work^{5/}Progress Administration grant. The article in the warrant was dismissed, for the sentiment at that time was that conditions were not right for an addition to the tax rate. Furthermore, it was thought that the birth rate decline in Chelmsford would reduce the entering Freshman class to one hundred and seven pupils by 1947. (One hundred and two entered the 1947 Freshman class).¹¹ Three years later, a special town meeting on July 29, 1938, again appointed a committee to study proposed plans for an addition to the high school. This time the committee, consisting of Fred F. Wiggin, John J. Dunigan, George L. Waite, and Viranus E. Osborn, was turned into a building committee, for the town, on September 20, voted to raise \$105,454 to build the addition, forty-five per cent of which would be paid for by the federal government.

The overcrowded Westlands school got its addition in 1940 when \$49,000 was raised to build four rooms and an assembly hall. Classes for the mentally retarded were formed in 1941, twenty-two years after the state had demanded that it be done. The town also voted in 1941 to pay the costs of vocational education and this subject returned to the curriculum after a twenty-five year absence.

In 1943, Bernard Larkin organized a high school band. In 1944, the town voted to buy approximately thirteen acres of land adjacent to the high school for athletic purposes which, in addition, gave the band plenty of room to march.

Construction of the athletic fields was done by the WPA with appropriations from the town and a variety of organizations. On September 28, 1946, the Chelmsford High School Memorial Field was dedicated in memory of the veterans of World War II.

Before discussing the postwar years, it is necessary to take an overall look at enrollment figures and the costs of education from 1916 to 1945. In 1917, there were one thousand, eighty-three pupils enrolled in the public schools. From 1917 to 1937, the amount increased by about one hundred pupils a year even in the high school where the growth was more significant. But, in the decade from 1937 to 1947, the overall attendance dropped by about one hundred a year. This decline in enrollment reflects the national decline in the birth rate during those years, probably a result of the uncertainties of the depression and the war.

In terms of cost, in 1918, school expenses amounted to \$50,860. In 1930, they rose to \$107,467. In 1934, they had dropped to \$90,022. In 1942, expenses ran about \$130,000, and in 1947, they rose to \$197,295.

Despite the decline in school enrollment from 1937 to 1947, there was still overcrowding, especially in the North. The Princeton Street schools had not been repaired since 1934 and some parents feared for the safety of their children. In 1949, the town voted to secure land owned by the North Water District for a school site, thus following the recommendation of a committee that had been established

the year before. In 1950, \$6,000 was made available to buy the land and a building committee, composed of Harold E. Stewart, Philip J. Gilinson, Jr., Robert E. Picken, Edward J. Stefan, and Warren Lahue, was set up. In 1951, the town appropriated \$600,000 to build a new elementary school in the North combining pupils from Highland Avenue, Princeton Street, and the Quessy school. With the completion of this new building, the North got the new school for which it had been asking for twenty-five years, and two more "Two grades to one room" schools--Highland Avenue and Quessy--were closed.

Lucien H. Burns resigned as principal of the high school in August, 1950, after serving for twenty years, and John T. Conrad was appointed to and still holds that position. The high school needed more room again and plans were drawn up to add ten classrooms, a library, and a gymnasium to the existing structure. These plans were promptly dismissed at a July 19, 1951 special town meeting. Meanwhile, the high school curriculum was expanded by the introduction of a guidance department and driver education into the curriculum. Elsewhere in town, a new private school, Belvidere, received its notice of incorporation.

The town voted \$50,000 to build a new elementary school in the Center in 1953 under the supervision of George S. Archer, George R. Duppe, Albert J. Lupien, and Arthur B. Nystrom. This new twenty-four room building finally made possible the permanent closing down of Princeton

Street, Quessy, and the East schools. To relieve their overcrowded conditions, the McFarlin seventh and eighth grades began going to the old Highland Avenue School (which had closed when the new North school opened) and they also began going to the high school. In the same year Miss Genevieve E. Jantzen, principal of the Princeton Street school, unsuccessfully petitioned the courts because she had not received the position of principal of the North school.¹² The teachers demanded a salary raise of two hundred dollars for the third year in a row.

In 1954, permanently-closed Quessy reopened to accommodate the fifth and sixth grades of McFarlin. A youngster could (and did) begin elementary school at Quessy, move on the the new North elementary, spend the seventh grade at Highland Avenue, the eighth and ninth grades at McFarlin, and end up at the new high school.¹³ In 1954, the grammar school graduation exercises were abolished as the school system went onto a six-six plan. The days of sixth grade education were officially over. H. Morton Jeffords, the Superintendent, resigned in the middle of the year, and the high school added mechanical drawing to its curriculum once again.

At the annual town meeting in 1956, a committee, consisting of Clifford Hartley, Louis L. Hannaford, Daniel E. Walter, and Harold Hollingworth, was intrusted with the task of supervising the construction of a \$2,763,156 new high school. With the completion of this one thousand pupil building, a junior high plan was introduced for grades

seven and eight in the old high school. To meet the new requirements of a large high school, the curriculum was organized into departments and it was voted to have department chairmen. The first such officials were:

Mrs. Charlotte S. Carriel--English
Miss Marjorie B. Scoboria--Mathematics
Mr. George Simonian--Science
Mr. John J. Dunigan--Social Studies
Mr. George J. Betses--Business 14

An Elementary School Needs Committee was appointed in 1960 under the chairmanship of Cristy Pettee. They recommended a new elementary school between Boston road and Mill road. The town duly voted \$984,000 for a new twenty-four room school at a special town meeting on November 14, 1960.

From 1947 to 1961, the student population of Chelmsford has risen rapidly. In 1947, there were one thousand, six hundred sixteen pupils, in 1957, two thousand, six hundred seventy, in 1959, three thousand, one hundred forty-three, and in 1961, four thousand pupils. In 1950, the cost of education in Chelmsford was \$250,262. In 1952, it jumped nearly fifty thousand, and in 1957, it soared to \$623,400. In 1960, the closing year of this history, school expenses were \$867,826.

School Officials

Superintendents:

Alberto W. Small	1916-1917
Walter K. Putney	1917-1921
Roscoe G. Frame	1921-1923
Charles H. Walker	1923-1927
George S. Wright	1927-1945
Everett L. Handy	1945-1947
H. Morton Jeffords	1947-1954
Thomas L. Rivard	1954-----

High School Principals:

C.A. Holbrook (Center) and W.D. Merrill (North),	1916
Evan W.D. Merrill	1916-1920
Lester F. Alden	1920-1927
Horace E. Hobbs	1927-1930
Lucien H. Burns	1930-1950
John T. Conrad	1950-----

CHAPTER VII.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY

Social, political, religious, and recreational organizations providing ample opportunity for social life are a healthy phenomena for any community. Many of the groups that were once popular in Chelmsford have long since disbanded or lost their vitality. Others have survived the years and still continue to attract members. No particular measuring stick has been used to decide which are included in this town history. Some belong here because it would be incomplete without them, some because they seem interesting, and some because there is information about them.

Without a doubt, the Chelmsford Grange deserves to be mentioned first. One of the oldest surviving groups in town, the Grange has traditionally served as a gathering place for all sorts of social functions and as an altruistic force in the community.

The Grange was organized on December 30, 1904, at the Odd Fellows Hall in the Center. Another meeting was held on January 7, 1905, (the official birthday) and at that time, forty-two members signed the charter. Of those original charter members, Arnold Ferham, Jennie Hildreth Vickery, and Ralph Adams are still alive. The first officers were:

Master--Fred L. Fletcher
Overseer--W.E. Lapham
Chaplain--Abbie M. Ford
Treasurer--Herbert C. Sweetser
Secretary--Mrs. E.T. Adams

In 1909, the Grange became Chelmsford Grange No. 244 with a membership of over two hundred. In May, 1931, the meeting place was moved from the Odd Fellows Hall to the Center Town Hall. In 1952, the Grange bought the South school from the town for \$1.00, and a dedication ceremony was held on January 15, 1953.

In addition to its suppers and fairs, the Grange has also served the community through donations and gifts, especially in the planting of trees. At the present time, the membership has dwindled to one hundred and forty-three, a reduction that is probably due both to a general disinterest in organizations and a public association of the Grange with rural interests. Two members of the Grange have served in prominent state offices. John E. Johnson was State Master from 1962 to 1966, and his wife, Marion, has been State Lecturer.¹

There was, incidentally, a West Chelmsford Grange functioning about 1918 that met in a little hall on Main Street. It disbanded sometime around 1920 and its members joined the Chelmsford Grange.²

According to a news clipping, the regular meeting of the North Chelmsford Women's Club was held in the parlor of the Congregational Church in January, 1917. Mrs. Edgar Dixon presided in the absence of the president, Mrs.

Hiram C. Gage. Their first sleighride of the season, out to the Dunstable town hall for a supper and dancing, was to be held on January 6. If the snow failed to cooperate, they decided to go by hayrack.³

In January, 1923, a new club was formed--the Jolly Nomads, under the direction of James Kiberd, Sr. Apparently, the organization was tied into scouting in some way for it included many scouting activities. E. Clifton Lakin was the first President.⁴

The Littleton St. Social Club organized on March 8, 1920, with eighteen members. Twelve years later it celebrated its anniversary and then disappeared.⁵

In March, 1920, thirty to forty women joined to form the Community Club of Chelmsford for the sole purpose of bringing the women of the town together in helpful social relationships. The club was to be connected with the Middlesex County Farm Bureau. The first President was Mrs. Walter K. Putney, while Mrs. C.V. Hazeltine became the Vice-President, Mrs. Karl M. Perham, the Secretary, and Mrs. Frank Lupien, the Treasurer. The ladies were very active attending food demonstrations and the like.⁶

Although the Garden Club was originally incorporated as a part of the Village Improvement Association, in April, 1923, the club organized as a separate society. The first officers were: Miss Maud H. Perham, President, Mrs. Tennyson W. Simpson, Vice-president, Mrs. E.R. Clark, Secretary, and Mrs. Charles E. Bartlett, Treasurer. In

addition to occasional offerings of plants to the town, the club serves as an opportunity for the women of the town to study nature. For several years, the Club furnished cut flowers to hospitals, especially to the Bedford Veterans Hospital.⁷

One of the most pervasive groups ever to organize in the town was the Parent-Teacher Association. The first group was organized in the Center. On May 12, 1923, it was voted to form an association, and on May 24, the first officers were elected. Mrs. T.W. Simpson was elected President, Mrs. Almon Harmon and Mrs. R.C. Hazeltine became first and second Vice-Presidents, Thomas Varnum was the Treasurer, and Miss Katie D. Greenleaf, the Secretary. This PTA's first project was selling hot soup and cocoa to grade school children to supplement their cold lunches. This activity was directed by Mrs. Edith Hemenway. Thus began the impetus for the later program of "hot lunches" in the Chelmsford schools.

Never to be outdone, the North formed its PTA at the town hall on February 28, 1924. Mrs. William Picken became the first President. Other officers were: Mrs. Richard Melley and Mrs. John A. Howard, Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Walter Steele, Secretary, and Mrs. Bernard F. Gilmore, Treasurer.

On May 20, 1924, the West organized its PTA. Officers were: Mrs. Luzerne Safford, President, Mrs. Frank Lupien, Vice-President, Miss Mary Dunn, Secretary and Treasurer. On December 10, 1924, an East PTA was formed at the East

schoolhouse. On May 13, 1926, a PTA was organized for the Westland school with Mrs. Roy Merrill, President, Mrs. William Dickinson, Vice-President, Mrs. John Chalmers, Secretary, and Miss Marion Bradley, Treasurer.

The proliferation of PTA's led to plans for the formation of a Chelmsford Council of PTA's. Prior to this time, all of the associations were part of the Lowell Council. In November, 1931, an independent association was formed. Mrs. Royal F. Dutton of the Center became president, Mrs. John Howard of the North, Vice-president, and Mrs. Ruth Osborne of the Westlands, Secretary and Treasurer.

Plans for forming a high school PTA were encouraged by Principal Lucien H. Burns and in February, 1932, this was accomplished. Officers were: Ellis C. Johnson, President, Otis R. Wright, Vice-President, Miss Mildred Wells, Secretary, and Mrs. Patrick Cassidy, Treasurer. One can only wonder what there was about a high school PTA that encouraged the election of male officers.

With the opening of the new North school, the PTA's of the North had to be combined. Highland Avenue, Princeton Street, and Quessy School PTA's were joined together in September, 1953.⁸

One of the more hopeless organizations in town held a farewell dinner on September 13, 1927. The Bachelor's Club, with what was probably the most exclusive membership roll in the community, gave a farewell party for one of its soon-to-be-married members, Clarence G. Audoin. The club

was originally organized to study art, music, and literature, but apparently some of its members preferred other attractions. Needless to say, the Club eventually disappeared.⁹

A Lions Club was organized with a big roar on October 6, 1930, at the town hall. About fifty members joined under the leadership of King Lion Harold MacDonald. Other officers were:

Vice-presidents--Francis B. Clark
Walter Perham
Harold C. Retterson
Secretary-----Sigmund Hostler
Treasurer-----G. Thomas Parkhurst

The Lions Club, in addition to its charitable functions, has taken a great interest in high school athletics. It disappeared in the early 1940's, but reorganized again in 1948.¹⁰

The Chelmsford Historical Society was formed on October 7, 1930, in George Memorial Hall. The society was organized to answer the desire of people who wanted to donate historical memorabilia, but who also wanted assurance that it would be cared for. The trustees of the Adams Library set aside a large room on the second floor for the keeping of the Society's treasures. Charles E. Bartlett was the first President, Joseph E. Warren, the Vice-President, Mrs. G. Thomas Parkhurst, Secretary, and Mrs. Lester W. Ball, Treasurer. Originally, the Society had twenty-three members.

In May, 1934, the Society voted to assume the tasks of the Chelmsford Monument Association. Paul Dutton, Secretary of the Association, reported that his group had

only four surviving members. The group had been formed in 1859 to raise funds to construct and care for the revolutionary monument on the Center common. The Association had last met in 1909 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the monument. In 1934, it dissolved.

In 1959, the Historical Society was faced with two major decisions--whether to incorporate and whether to accept a seventeenth century house as its headquarters. Although they did incorporate, they did not accept the house because of the expense involved. An Old Chelmsford Garrison House Association was later formed to care for the house.¹¹

Mention ought to be made of the Delphonia Fraternity, which was not another garden club. It was a men's club of South Chelmsford organized by Reverend Daniel Hatfield.

The Chelmsford Taxpayer's Association got its start at the end of February, 1935. Composed of real estate taxpayers, the purpose of the group was to become better informed about articles forthcoming at town meetings and legislation at the State House. The first meeting was held at the Odd Fellows Hall with some two hundred people present to discuss the warrant. The first officers were: Walter Jewett, President, John J. Carr, Vice-President, T.W. Emerson, Secretary, and Arthur E. Dutton, Treasurer.¹²

A Kiwanis Club was formed on January 19, 1956, with Warren F. Miller as the first President.¹³

On September 9, 1957, the Chelmsford League of Women Voters met and organized a Provisional League with Mrs. James

Armour as Provisional President. A "Know Your Town" study was made by the members during the next several months and, in 1958, a "Know Your Town" booklet was published. The following year, the local organization was accorded the status of a full-fledged League and the following officers were elected: Mrs. George A. Parkhurst, President, Mrs. R.L. Drapeau, Vice-President, Mrs. Warren F. Miller, Secretary, and Miss Phyllis Huff, Treasurer.

Village Improvement Associations

The oldest of the VIA's is the Center organization. It held no meetings from 1897 to 1915, but in the latter year, a renewal of interest in community activities occurred. In 1915, the group improved the playground at the back of the high school. In 1916, they inaugurated the "clean-up" Day. After the first clean-up Day was over, it was reported that some streets showed definite improvement. The highway department had lent its teams of horses to pick up the rubbish. Shrubs were planted around the flagpole at the Center. "This day," says the minutes of the Association, "makes an excellent opportunity for the townpeople to get together and it is hoped that clean-up Day will be an annual event." That wish was, for many years, fulfilled.¹⁴

In 1917, the group attacked the problem of town planning. In May, 1920, they voted to sponsor a Boy Scout troop. In 1921, the Garden Club organized as part of the VIA and remained affiliated for two years. Also in 1921, the lighting

of the community Christmas tree and carol singing was started. In 1922, the Association sponsored the lighting of the town clock. Fourth of July observances were inaugurated in 1923 and it was claimed that this event was the biggest ever in town history. The parade was over a mile long, led by Chief Marshall Edward J. Robbins. There was a midway, ball game, dancing, and a band concert. The Girl Scouts, Troop 1, who co-sponsored the events gave a pageant. For three years, the festivities were carried on until, in 1926, the VIA voted them out. In 1924, the town was given a fire whistle and a band stand. Since that time the VIA has given the curtain on the town hall stage, the drinking fountain in the hall and, in 1934, they put up the sign on the town hall.¹⁵

The South VIA, which had organized in 1881, also had a yearly work day. In 1923, they gave a fire whistle to the local district and in 1954, they bought land for a bathing beach at Hart (or Baptist) Pond. Private contributions in the amount of \$2,500 were raised that year for the project. In 1957, another drive netted \$1,600 which was used to purchase and renovate another portion of the land. Since then, it has been primarily through the auspices of the South VIA that the recreational facilities at the South have been continued.¹⁶

The Westlands Improvement Association was formed in February, 1923, at the home of J.C. Henderson. The first officers were F. Vincent Kelly, President, J.A. McAdams,

Secretary, and D.E. Osborne, Treasurer. In 1931, the Association incorporated, and received its charter on April 13. In 1933, the town voted to sell the Golden Cove schoolhouse to the Association for \$200 for as long as the W.I.A. was active. The organization had previously used the schoolhouse for meetings and had repaired the building extensively. Although the organization was primarily devoted to social activities, it was active during the Second World War. The Selective Service used the hall, as did other groups. The W.I.A. decorated the Christmas tree at Fernham Park (starting in 1939), demanded house-to-house delivery from the post office, and planned for a war memorial after the war. In November, 1945, the Association purchased an artillery piece for the park and then transported it from New Jersey. In 1949, they bought a bronze plaque for the monument.

In 1924, after talk of secession had quieted in the North, a meeting was held in May to consider a North VIA in co-sponsorship with the West. The meeting was chaired by Bernard Gilmore and a committee reported favorably on the idea. The Association was formed on May 7 in the recreation hall of the Silesia Mills. It was to be known as the Village Improvement Association of North-West Chelmsford. The first President was John E. Hogan. Apparently the organization faltered from the beginning for nothing more was heard of it.¹⁸

In April, 1930, the South Row section formed a South Row Neighborhood Club. The first chairman was J. Clark

Osterhout and the Secretary-Treasurer was Hilda Pearson. In 1935, these same residents met to discuss disbanding their "VIA" and forming a South Row Community Club. Nothing came of the idea and, in 1947, the town voted to sell the South Row schoolhouse to the South Row Improvement Association for \$1.00 for as long as the association was active.¹⁹

In May, 1960, an East Chelmsford Residential Association was formed, a modern VIA.

American Legions

On September 19, 1919, a meeting was held in the Center town hall to discuss plans to form an American Legion post. The speaker was Sergeant G.E. Wilson, the state organizer. The group received a charter and organized as American Legion Post 212. There were some thirty-five members at the start. The first permanent officers were: Sidney C. Perham, Commander, J. Carrol Monahan, Vice-Commander, Paul Swanson, Adjutant, and Quincy Park, Treasurer. The first event to be sponsored by the group was an Armistice Day dance in 1919.

In 1921, a Ladies Auxiliary was formed. In 1932, John H. Valentine negotiated with the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad Company to use the Center railroad station as a post. The group installed electric lights and a kitchen. In 1935, the first formal observance of Armistice Day in the Center was sponsored by Post 212. There was a short parade and speeches in the Town Hall. The Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, sponsored by the post, gave an exhibition.

The veterans of the North applied for a charter in October, 1933. The new Post 313 voted to call itself the Alberton W. Vinal Post. The first officers were: Joseph F. Lavell, Commander, George Hill, Senior Vice-Commander, George Swallow, Adjutant, Raymond Ballinger, Historian, and Benjamin Russen, Chaplain. The new post held a parade on November 5, 1933. A Ladies' Auxiliary was formed shortly thereafter.

Both organizations have been very active in sponsoring youth groups, providing community services, and organizing patriotic celebrations.

John K. Knowlton, the last surviving Civil War veteran, died on August 2, 1940. He entered Company A, 13th Maine Infantry, on September 5, 1864, at the age of fourteen. He was discharged from Company B, 30th Maine Infantry, in June, 1865. For many years, Knowlton was a familiar participant in the Memorial Day parades.²⁰

Scouting

Scouting was organized on Labor Day in 1910 by James Kiberd, Sr. and Deacon Hoyt on Wilsted's Hill in the North. The first troop, appropriately enough, was numbered "1," headed by patrol leader, Harold Hodge. The first formal meeting was held in the basement of the Second Congregational church, the sponsoring organization. Exiled by the church elders, the scouts then moved to Cowan's Barn on Groton Road (opposite the Marinel Company) in 1912. Their primary

interest was to encourage the formation of boy scout troops in other parts of the town. The first Eagle Scouts were Clarence Bacon, Raymond Ballinger, and John Buchanan.²¹

James Kiberd, Sr., the motivating force behind boy scouting not only in Chelmsford but throughout the area, was a native of England. He and Reverend Victor Bigelow, pastor of Eliot Church, Lowell, drew up the last three parts of the Scout law. "Uncle Jim" also sponsored the first participation of the Boy Scouts in a Memorial Day parade. In recognition of his service to scouting, the Boy Scouts of America awarded Kiberd their highest award, the Beaver Medal. "Uncle Jim" died on February 18, 1940.²²

Thanks to Kiberd's enthusiasm, in June, 1920, a Boy Scout troop was formed in the Center. A meeting was held at the town hall on June 3, 1920, by the Village Improvement Association. Lester Alden became the Scoutmaster and meetings were held every Monday.

In 1928, the scouts in the North got a club room on Newfield Street, in a garage. In 1932, the American Legion Post 212 took over the sponsorship of the Boy Scouts in the Center. Also in that year, Troop 3C was formed in the West section under the leadership of Scoutmaster Wendall Luke.

Apparently, over the years the North troop faded away, for on January 31, 1939, a meeting of former scouts and their sons was held at the North town hall. Troop 313 was organized.²³

Troop 212 in the Center serves that section, the East and the South. Troop 66, organized in March, 1957, is

sponsored by the Unitarian church. There is also a Troop 74.

The Girl Scouts were organized in March, 1919, as Troop 1. In 1920, they had about thirty members. The girls met every other Saturday at the Unitarian vestry and played games and went on hikes. The Captain was Miss Esther Dane.

In April, 1939, a Girl Scout troop, No. 49, was formed in the North as a Senior troop. Sylvia Bowers was the Captain. A Troop 23, Westlands, was organized in 1925 under Captain Louise Coleman. A North troop was established in 1931 as Troop 19. Another troop, No. 42, was directed, in order of succession, by Captains Elizabeth Warren Smith, Esther Thayer, and Julia Fogg.²⁴

It would not be appropriate to mention the Girl Scouts without paying special attention to the work and inspiration of Mrs. Paul Dutton, Mrs. Arnold C. Perham, Mrs. John Parker, and Mrs. Mildred Woodfall, all leaders in the movement.

Recreation

The story is told that John Marinel, while out cutting wood at Crystal Lake, decided that the lake would be a good place to have a playground. The town had been discussing the idea of a recreation area for some time. Marinel suggested his idea to William Picken who, in turn, mentioned it to Dr. Varney. Varney then bought the site and gave it to the town.²⁵

His first donation was given in 1927 and consisted of six acres. He gave more in 1928 and, in 1929, the town

appropriated \$2,000 to improve the area. During the Works Progress Administration era, more work was done to enlarge the playgrounds and improve conditions there.

The question of who should control the playground and Crystal Lake came up in 1939. The Selectmen requested Representative John H. Valentine to file a bill in the legislature giving them control, and this he did. The town would maintain a beach and bathhouse there. Stewart Mackay reported that it was felt that the Park Commissioners appropriated funds for the work and then did it themselves. The Park Commissioners approved of the change, as did Royal Shawcross, the President of the Varney Playground Association, the private group administering the area. In 1941, therefore, the Varney Playground Commission was created with Leslie H. Adams, Arnaud R. Blackadar, and Clifford Hartley, the first members.²⁶

In August, 1940, a memorial archway to the Playground, built by the WPA with funds provided by the Frederick Edwards estate, was completed.

* * * * *

In 1926, the town meeting agreed to accept the Town Forest Act permitting the community to acquire land for the purpose of reforestation and the creation of a town forestry committee. The first members of the committee were Edward B. Russell, George B. Wright, and Patrick S. Ward. It was an easy task for the committee members to administer their duties since there was no town forest to

look after until 1936. In that year, Martina Gage of Lowell gave seven parcels of land at Hart Pond to the town. Twenty acres were sold (four parcels), but the other three were kept and became the Town Forest. From 1950 to 1960, the growth of housing developments led to a fear that one day the Town Forest might be engulfed.²⁷

George B. Wright was tree warden for many years and is responsible for much of the greenery in the town.

* * * * *

Prior to the opening of the first movie theatre in Chelmsford, residents had to travel to Lowell to see either silent films or professional theatre. Since Lowell was one of the major stops for theatrical performers, there was much to see.

However, on February 1, 1918, the Park Theatre held its grand opening on the second floor of the Odd Fellows Hall in the Center. Fred W. Park, the promoter, promised good clean fun at reasonable prices. Movies were shown on Tuesday and Saturday evening with a matinee on Saturday. An auto truck ran from the South section for ten cents a ride. The first movie was "His Busy Night," a comedy in two reels. The price of admission was twenty cents for adults and ten cents for children. Miss Harriet Mansur played the piano accompaniment for several years. Fred Park sold his business to the Harvard Amusement Company, which reopened the theatre on September 16, 1920.²⁸

In the North, the Crescent Theatre opened in the Town

Hall on August 31, 1919, with a nine by twelve foot screen as the major attraction. Herbert S. Russell and George Parker were the promoters for this business. Sound came to the North section in October, 1929.²⁹

On July 31, 1957, the Chelmsford Drive-In opened with accommodations for one thousand cars and bi-weekly programs. The first movies were "Night Passage" (with James Stewart), and "The Black Tide."³⁰

Sports

It is impossible to do justice to all of the various teams and groups that engage in some form of physical exertion. A mention of some, however, will indicate the extent to which the town has encouraged athletics.

In 1917, the North Chelmsford Cricket Club and Athletic Association held its annual Old English Tea Party with a brief entertainment. Later in the year, there was a bowling contest between two teams of the Chelmsford Fire Department. In 1920, reports were in on the freshman-sophomore hockey contest played on the mill pond. The Freshmen won. In the same year, St. John's Cadets formed in the North for young men interested in calisthenics and drilling. The group was in charge of John Hafey and Richard Lyons.³¹

One of the Clubs in the early decades of this century was the Hornbeam Hill Golf Club. The men wore knickers, white shirts, dark red vests or jackets, and dark red berets. The women wore long, sweeping skirts.

In 1929, a group of women organized a bowling league known as the North Chelmsford Women Rollers. They had four teams.

In 1919, the cricket field, owned by the Worsted Mills, was put into shape for baseball. From that time on, various groups played baseball. Perhaps the largest special town meeting ever held came over the subject of "Sunday baseball." On July 2, 1923, the voters were asked to accept the playing of baseball on the Sabbath. Dr. Varney tried to get a ballot vote on the subject but his motion was defeated. Another attempt to vote by checklist was voted down. There was a delay in the proceedings while tempers were cooled, and then the voting proceeded: 260 in favor, 258 opposed, and the cry "play ball," was heard thereafter on Sunday.³²

Baseball, in the twenties and thirties, was a very serious game. Lots of communities paid outsiders to come and play for their teams. The game was rougher, the spectators sometimes forgetting their places and fighting with the players. In Chelmsford, the Silesia team was probably the best-known. Encouraged by Bernard Gilmore and sponsored by the Silesia mills, this team had its own clubhouse and playing field, and did well in its competitions.

No discussion of baseball would be complete without mentioning Chelmsford's most famous ballplayer--Tony Lupien. Lupien first played with the Middlesex County League American Legion team in the 1930's. A graduate of Harvard, he went into the major league in 1939. In September, 1942, a

tribute to Lupien was held at Fenway Stadium in Boston. The American Legion Junior Drum and Bugle Corps paraded on the field while a group of Chelmsfordians cheered for their star.³³

A Little League was formed by the Lions Club and the Boosters in January, 1953, and is still popular.

Athletics in the schools became popular when Ellsworth Thwing was appointed the first physical education director for the schools. The money for his salary was borrowed from the defunct position of art teacher. Thwing organized football, but the team had to wait until the athletic field was graded before practicing proficiently. The first football game was played on November 5, 1927, at Mitchell Field, Billerica, against Howe High School. Unfortunately, Chelmsford lost, 6-0, probably because of the ungraded athletic field at home. The football team ran into trouble during the Second World War because George Marinel was not permitted to run his buses to transport the team. A Civil Committee was quickly organized to transport the team and when the crisis was over, the committee remained. In November, 1943, an Athletic Advisory Board was organized for the high school. Lucien Burns, the school committee, three members of the Civil Committee, John Dunigan, and Roger Welch served as the first members.³⁴

Music

Because singing is something almost everyone can do, it was very popular throughout the early decades of this century. The churches, of course, had their choirs, but the community as a whole also did a great deal of singing. The high school pupils sang once a week (and sometimes more). The community gathered together on occasion for a community sing. For instance, in 1917, everyone was invited to the Center town hall to sing old hymns with special music provided by the church choirs.

North Chelmsford had its own Choral Society complete with orchestra. Although it was connected with the Congregational Church, it was open to anyone who liked to sing. In January, 1917, this group was rehearsing for the forthcoming revival meetings in the Congregational Church.

In 1935, the Chelmsford Choral Society was organized in 1935 with George Drew of Lowell, director. For its first concert, the Society presented "From Olivet to Calvary," and "The Golden Legend." Marjorie Marshall Field was the accompanist. The program for the second concert on January 22, 1936 consisted of two cantatas: "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" and "Death of Minnehaha." The soloists were: Miss Olive Appleton, Soprano, Wesley Copplestone, Tenor and Harry Newcomb, baritone. The Narrator was Mrs. Arnold C. Perham. Miss Elizabeth Homes and William C. Heller accompanied the group.

The local band is usually a by-gone memory in the lives of most communities. The Chelmsford Brass Band gave its first open-air concert on the porch of the Center town hall on August 8, 1919. It had played in public for the first time at Byam's Grove on August 5. In 1920, the town voted \$150 a year to pay for five band concerts, one concert for each section of the town. In 1923, the band was still giving concerts under the direction of F.M. McKay. In 1932, as a measure of economy, the town ceased underwriting the concerts. For a brief time the band continued to play at its own expense, but then finally it died away.³⁵

Plans to organize a junior drum and bugle corps were made by the American Legion, Post 212, in 1933. The first meeting to organize was held on Friday, December 1, and George B. Stone assumed the instruction of the corps. The members were equipped first with bugles and then money was raised to buy their uniforms. Their first appearance in Chelmsford was at the 1934 Memorial Day parade. Their uniforms were white and they wore blue berets. Under the direction of Guy Hazeltine, Archibald Cook, Charles Searles, and later Ralph Staples, the corps went on to win a national competition in 1937, for which the town gave them a testimonial dinner. The corps eventually disappeared because of a lack of interest.³⁶

A Federal Emergency Relief Administration orchestra was organized in April, 1934, and gave its first concert at the Center town hall on April 10. It was sometimes

called the CWA orchestra, and was conducted by George Libbee. The concert was sponsored by the newly-formed Varney Playground Association to raise money for the play grounds.³⁷

In 1955, the Chelmsford Auxiliary Police Band made its appearance, playing for the first time at the Varney Playground on May 29, and then marching in the Tercentenary Parade. Basil Larkin, of the locally famous musical family, directed the band of thirty members dressed in their police uniforms.³⁸

Dancing was the most popular form of indoor sport in the community until the Second World War. Almost every group in town held dances in the various town halls either as part of their yearly activities or to raise money. For many years, one of the most important dances was the Thanksgiving Ball, a formal affair sponsored by the Unitarian church. Vacationing college students, in particular, looked forward to that affair. In 1917, dancers could revel to the music of Gray's Banjo-Mandolin orchestra in the town hall. In 1928, the Village Improvement Association offered, as a highlight of its annual community party, "country dancing," then a new form of popular dancing (now called "square" dancing). In 1945, music for a dance was provided by Smiley and his Oklahomers Orchestra.

Drama has also had its important place in the town. Unitarian Players were formed in April, 1934, and gave their first performance, "The Prince of Liars," at the Unitarian vestry on Friday night, May 18, 1934. They were a great success. Now known as the Chelmsford Players, they have been performing ever since.

It cost thirty-five cents to see their first play. In the fall of 1934, they did the "Restless Jewel," and thereafter continued the tradition of two performances a week. The group moved from the vestry of the Unitarian Church to the town hall in 1937, and in 1940 to the high school. In 1950, the Players joined with other groups in the town to form the "little theatre" movement. In 1960, to complete the historical sequence, the Players presented "A Man of a Salesman," which indicates the high quality of the members.

MacKay Libraries

In 1916, the librarian of the Adams Library was Mrs. Albert H. Davis, Edwin K. Clark, Otis P. Wheeler, and Reverend Wilson Waters, and Mrs. Clark were the librarians. The library then contained approximately five hundred books, and had a circulation of one thousand, one hundred seventy. There were some two hundred to seven hundred active borrowers and ninety-four borrowers had been added that year. Books were being loaned to the South and to the East section for the first time.

Mrs. Clark retired as the Librarian on August 7, 1920, after fifteen years of service as librarian, thirty years of service as the purchasing agent, and thirty years of service as a member of the Board of Trustees. She died on April 3, 1939.

The Adams library has received both unusual and substantial gifts throughout the years. In 1918, Mrs. Amos Adams, widow of the donor of the library, gave a variety of stuffed birds, one stuffed wildcat, and one large lawn vase to the library. The stuffed wildcat has since disappeared.

The largest bequest ever given to the library was that of Mrs. Orra A. George Flint, a Wordester resident, and widow of Charles A. Flint of the North section. He had been a Selectman from 1882 to 1890, and representative from the district in 1890-91. Mrs. Flint gave a total of \$19,000 to the Adams Library--\$17,000 to be used to build an annex (George Memorial) and \$2,000 (George Fund) to buy books.

There were two stipulations attached to the bequest. First, the portraits of the parents of Mrs. Flint were to be hung in the George Memorial Hall. The second, and more important, has given rise to a variety of rumors. Mrs. Flint instructed that the family cemetery plot was to be cared for in a certain way or else the terms of the will would be void. Some people say that the stone was to be cleaned with salt water, some say ocean sand, and still others mention Merrimack river water. To still the rumors,

the terms of the will are here reported verbatim:

...that said lot shall be kept well seeded and sodded and the grass be kept cut, watered and green; that all the stonework in and about said lot shall be kept free from moss or other blemish. I direct that the granite in and around said Cemetery Lot be treated once a year to a vigorous scrubbing with river sand, naphtha soap and a new steel brush.

Mrs. Flint noted in her will that she had planned the idea for an annex after reading of the need for an addition in the 1914 Report of the Trustees. Had the library trustees not accepted the bequest, the Unitarian church would have been offered the money, on the same terms.

For many years Albert Davis directed the cleaning of the stone. In the 1940's, it became apparent that continued cleaning under the terms of the will would soon erase the marking and damage the granite. Therefore, the cleaning process was extended to once every several years.³⁹

The George Memorial Hall received attention again in 1960 when it was planned to turn it into a children's room. Some residents felt that Mrs. Flint's original intention was that the annex was to be used solely as a meeting place. Actually, her intention, from the statements in her will, was only to create more room for the library.

Although the will was contested, the Library received the money and Wilson Waters was delegated to travel to Worcester to get it. Construction on the annex was started in 1929 with plans drawn up by E.R. Clark, and the George room was opened in March, 1930. The first organization to use the George Memorial Hall was the Chelmsford Garden

Club (on April 22), which used the occasion to end restrictions on its membership.

In April, 1930, the late Mrs. Amos F. Adams left \$10,000 to the Adams Library to care for the grounds and to buy books. She also gave a portrait of Mr. Adams in a hunting costume with his dogs.

In January, 1930, F.A.P. Fiske and John Minot Fiske gave two lamp posts which were placed at the entrance to the George Memorial. They are presently surrounded by evergreens which were planted in May, 1931, while the new sidewalk was being laid to enclose the library. A Steinway piano was given to the George Memorial Hall in 1934 by Mrs. Austin K. Chadwick of Lowell. In 1946, Thomas Proctor left \$10,000 to the Chelmsford Public Library and in 1949, his widow, Mary B. Proctor, did the same.

In 1916, the library at the North was operated by the North Chelmsford Library Corporation under the trusteeship of Henry T. Ripley, H. Ellen Sargent, and Sarah E. Sheldon. The library contained some seven thousand books and had a circulation of sixteen thousand. Sixty-four new borrowers had been added that year. In 1946, the town voted to accept the home of the late Stewart MacKay for a library and designated that the trustees would be the pastor of St. John's Church, the pastor of the Congregational Church of the North, and Attorney Frank J. Garvey. Stewart MacKay, an active member of the community, had devoted much of his life to teaching. He died on October 28, 1947, after

a long illness. At a meeting with the Selectmen on March 22, 1948, the Trustees of the North Chelmsford Library Corporation, Mrs. Nellie Shawcross and Mr. Arthur Wheeler, agreed to dissolve their corporation and return all funds to the Mackay Library.⁴⁰ In 1949, Anna J. Brake left the town \$3,207.35 to which the town added enough to make \$10,000 and the entire amount was used to renovate the Mackay home. The North Chelmsford Library closed on October 19, 1949, and on December 17, 1949, the Mackay Library opened for business. The Adams Library trustees were in control since it was discovered that by law a town could only have one set of trustees. Bertha M. Whitworth was appointed the first librarian.

In 1945, the South depository was ended because there were so few borrowers. In 1946, the East deposit was closed, but it started up again when Mrs. E.G. Russell volunteered to administer it. Mrs. Frederick Burne was handling the deposit in the West.

In 1960, the combined circulation of the two libraries was over sixty-one thousand with over one thousand borrowers added that year. Some fifty-five hundred people were considered active borrowers. Miss Bertha Whitworth died in 1960, and Mrs. Georgann McDonald was appointed to replace her. At the Adams Library, Mrs. Edith Fickles was the librarian. The Trustees were: Marjorie Scoboria, Ethel Booth, Roger Welch, Raymond Kroll, Eustace Fiske, and Howard Moore.

Newspapers

On July 31, 1924, the Lowell Courier-Citizen celebrated its 100th anniversary. Although serving primarily as a paper for Lowell, the Citizen carried suburban news for towns like Chelmsford. For most of this century, the Citizen served as the local newspaper. Local correspondents for the Lowell paper were:

in 1933, for the North, Miss Mary Cassidy
in 1934, for the North, Mrs. Marjorie M. Kiberd
in 1937, for the North, Mrs. James Kiberd, Jr.
for the Center, Paul Dutton
for the South, Mrs. Otis Brown
for the West, Mrs. Elmer Trull

The Chelmsford Newsweekly began publishing on May 2, 1940 with Harry M. VanDernoot as the publisher and Edward G. Krasnecki as the business manager. They started in a small room on Newfield Street in the North with the paper printed in Everett and Lawrence. VanDernoot sold his interests to Krasnecki in February, 1941, and moved to Rhode Island.

In 1940, the Newsweekly included such features as a "Newsgist" front page, a "Detective Riley" comic strip, and a crossword puzzle. Edgar George, later a Selectman, became the Sports Editor, a position which he filled for fifteen years. Phoebe Murphy was a reporter and Mary Sheehan was the advertising solicitor.

The war interrupted the newspaper business. On December 23, 1942, the Newsweekly suspended publication and Krasnecki went off to the service. After the war, he re-

turned to reopen his business and the first edition of the newspaper came out on September 13, 1946. Krasnecki's pre-war staff joined him once again in the same positions. In September, 1947, the newspaper office was moved to the Withington Building in the Center and the paper began to print in offset type, claiming to be the first one to use this technique. Paul Reilly was the Managing Editor from 1949 to 1951, and E. L. Murphy from 1954 on. The newspaper intended to cover the news for Dunstable, Tyngsboro, Westford, Forge Village, and Graniteville. After a few years, however, the paper returned to local news.

In 1965, the circulation was six thousand, one hundred.⁴¹

The local newspaper is an important asset to a community. Not only does it provide the expected services of reporting news and community announcements, it also helps to tie a community together. The Chelmsford Newsweekly, for example, used to print a person's address in the 1940's and then add the section--North, Center, or whatever. Today, the newspaper no longer adds the section. Furthermore, because the Newsweekly reports news items as it finds them, there is no need to sectionalize the news. In the old Courier-Citizen, each section of the town required its own correspondent and emphasized its own achievements.

In the early 1930's, one William McCarthy published a newspaper called The Chelmsford Times. It appeared occasionally, and lasted for only a short time. The issue of November 3, 1932, headlined a reception for Wilson Waters.⁴²

CHAPTER VIII.

CHELMSFORD: 1945-1960

After the war, the town of Chelmsford began to expand its population base and its physical appearance. Returning soldiers thought about settling down and many of them chose to remain in Chelmsford. As reported in an earlier chapter, there was a housing shortage in Chelmsford just after the war. Little could anyone know that in five years Chelmsford would be flooded with people.

Population

From 1925 to 1950, the population of Chelmsford grew about four hundred people every five years. From 1950 to 1955, it expanded at a rate of over two thousand; from 1955 to 1960, over three thousand. To be specific, in 1950, there were nine thousand, four hundred seven people in the community. In 1955, there were eleven thousand, seven hundred forty-nine, and in 1960, there were fifteen thousand, one hundred thirty. In 1960, the predominant ages in Chelmsford were one to fourteen and twenty-five to forty, indicating the youthful nature of the population. That one to fourteen age bracket also indicates why there has been so great a need for elementary school buildings.

In 1960, there were four thousand, two hundred forty-eight households. From the year 1959 to 1960, two thousand

seven hundred seventeen people moved into their present house^s, a one thousand jump from the 1958 number. There were three thousand, six hundred forty-four married couples, three thousand, five hundred forty of which owned their own homes, one thousand, four hundred thirty-nine of which had children under six years of age, and two thousand, three hundred seventy-three of which had children under eighteen years of age.

In terms of education, the average for Chelmsford in 1960 was twelve and two tenths years, which is much better than the national average. Two hundred thirty-five young people were in college. This kind of educational level indicates the large number of college graduates and technically trained people that have moved into Chelmsford in the last twenty years.

In 1960, there were five thousand, six hundred thirty-nine people who were employed. Four thousand, seven hundred ninety-four worked in Middlesex County, and six hundred forty-five worked outside. Of the three thousand, nine hundred sixty-two male employed, seven hundred eleven were professional and technical people (two hundred thirty-eight engineers), three hundred fourteen were salaried or self-employed, five hundred eighty were managers or executives, two hundred sixty-one were clerical workers, two hundred seventy four were sales workers, nine hundred fifty-four were craftsmen or foremen, and one hundred six were farm laborers. Of the one thousand, seven hundred

thirty female employed, two hundred seventy-two were professional and technical, one hundred seventeen were technical secretaries, five hundred two were clerical, four hundred six ran machines, and one hundred twenty-six were salesgirls.

To continue employment statistics, fifty-five people worked in mining, two hundred ninety-five worked in construction, two thousand, one hundred ninety-one worked at manufacturing, one hundred thirty-nine worked at wholesale, two hundred one at food and dairy products, twenty-two in hospitals, and two hundred thirty in government services. Family income in 1960 averaged \$7,130.¹

Where did these people come from? In 1961, a street list indicated that twenty-four per cent of the people moving into Chelmsford came from Lowell, eleven per cent from other nearby towns, and thirty per cent from the Greater Boston area. They came to Chelmsford for several reasons. First, there was a mass exodus from the cities directly following the war and continuing today. However, it must be remembered that people would not have moved into suburbia unless they could be assured of gainful employment near their homes, or else easy access to the city. As indicated in the 1960 Census, most Chelmsfordians work in Middlesex County, many of them in Lowell. A small number of residents travel into Boston to work. However, for those that do, the construction of Route 128 and Route 3 must be considered important factors. Route 3 not only

provided Chelmsford a way into the city, it also provided a route by which people could move into Chelmsford.

Another factor was land. As previously indicated, farming as a major occupation disappeared about the time of the Second World War. Those seven thousand acres of land under cultivation in 1930 were also available in 1950 for housing developments. There was room to build and foresighted people began to construct the large housing developments that are now an integral part of the Chelmsford landscape.

Another reason for the growth was the good condition of the town. Water and utilities were available, town government was in a satisfactory condition, and schools were acceptable. Zoning laws were not impossibly complex. Chelmsford was already a suburban community with the exception of the North.²

For all of these reasons, people came and the costs of town government rose drastically. The new high school, the several new elementary schools, the new fire stations, and the new police station all reflect this increased demand on town services. But, in addition, this new growth forced the various sections of the community into even closer cooperation. The housing developments absorbed the barren land between sections to the point where it has become impossible for a newcomer to distinguish the sections. The new breed of people could care less about sectional differences because their concerns are for schools, water,

taxes, and community growth. In summary, then, Chelmsford has come a long way since 1916.

The Tercentenary

There have been three occasions in this century when Chelmsford has sought to celebrate in grand style. The first came on June 26, 1926, when the church bells rang and the fire whistles blew to mark the sesqui-centennial of the United States. The flag was raised in the Center, and Willard A. Parker, Chairman of the Sesqui-centennial Committee spoke. Later, at the 4th of July celebration, further festivities were held in honor of the anniversary with a band concert, another speaker, and a ball game.

On the second occasion, the 275th anniversary of the town, a committee was formed to make plans. The ever-active Reverend Wilson Waters chaired a committee consisting of Charles E. Bartlett, Dr. Fred Varney, Captain John Monahan, Henry C. Shedd, Sidney E. Dupee, and Williston Carll. This group investigated the possibilities and reported back that no formal celebration could be sponsored by the town because the state laws permitted expenditures only for anniversary years divided by fifty. Therefore, the Village Improvement Association sponsored a ball in the town hall and the Chelmsford Grange planted a tree on the Common.

The anniversary that could be divided by fifty came in 1955--the 300th anniversary of the founding of the town. At the March 10, 1952 town meeting, a preliminary committee

was formed to make plans for the Tercentenary. Royal Shawcross was the chairman, Arnold C. Perham the Vice-Chairman, Margaret Robbins Mills, the Secretary, and the other members were: Sidney Dupee, Clifford Hartley, Charles Harrington, Edward Krasnecki, John J. Meagher, and Perry Snow. Their first meeting was held on January 29, 1953. The committee was reappointed at the 1954 town meeting, but Royal Shawcross declined the chairmanship and Carl A.E. Peterson took his place. At a special town meeting held later that year, John Valentine, Thomas J. Campbell, and Harold C. Petterson were added to the committee. The meeting appropriated \$5,000 for the committee's use, and in 1955, \$10,000 was added. The committee established a command center on the second floor of the Center fire house and began to plan.

The results of their planning--the official celebration--was held from June 9 to 12, 1955. The post office had used a special cancellation on its stamps for six months to advertise the event. A flag was raised on June 5 that had previously flown over the Capitol building in Washington. Early on the morning of June 9 the bells in all the churches began to herald the commencement of the celebration. The Tercentenary prayer was written by Reverend Charles Ellis, Pastor Emeritus of the Central Baptist Church. Congratulations came from all over, most notably from President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice-President Richard M. Nixon. Chelmsford,

England sent its message of greeting.

The first major event was the choosing of the Tercentenary Queen. Betty Lee Morrison was the recipient of that honor. Mrs. Ednah F.B. Parkhurst won the Tercentenary Ode contest and Arthur N. Thompson added music to the ode. An official program was published with the official seal drawn by Kay McElroy. The Middlesex Canal Toll House (1832) was used as an information booth and then given to the town. The booth had previously sat on the property of the Proctor Lumber Company.

There were many events to occupy the time of the celebrants. The Garden Club presented two Hicks yews to the Adams Library to be placed on either side of the front steps. There were demonstrations by the 4-H Clubs and Girl Scouts, and Arts and Crafts display in the Unitarian Vestry, and an Historical Society display. There were concerts and a Fireman's Muster.

One of the highlights of the celebration was The Olde Folkes' Concert, conducted by Roy Allen. Roy was the son of Arthur Allen who conducted the Olde Folkes' Concert at the 250th anniversary of the town. Sons and daughters of the 250th singers now sang in the 300th.

The climax of the four-day celebration was the mammoth Tercentenary Parade. Governor Christian A. Herter and Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers were present to view the procession. The greatest impression made during the parade was that of Andrew Peterson, impersonating in every detail the late Reverend Wilson Waters.

The final event of the celebration was the Choral
Concert conducted by Arthur N. Thompson.

APPENDIX A.

CIVIL LIST

1917. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Justin L. Moore, A. Heady Park, D. Frank Small; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Edward J. Robbins.
1918. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: D. Frank Small, Justin L. Moore, A. Heady Park; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Edward J. Robbins.
1919. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: William E. Belleville, D. Frank Small, Justin L. Moore; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Edward J. Robbins.
1920. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George W. Day, William E. Belleville, James P. Dunigan; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Edward J. Robbins.
1921. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George Rigby, George W. Day, William E. Belleville; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Justin L. Moore.
1922. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: William E. Belleville, George Rigby, George W. Day; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Justin L. Moore.
1923. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George W. Day, William E. Belleville, George Rigby; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1924. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George Rigby, George W. Day, William E. Belleville; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1925. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George W. Day, George Rigby, Robert W. Barris; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1926. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George Rigby, Robert W. Barris, Ralph P. Adams; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1927. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Robert W. Barris, Ralph P. Adams, George Rigby; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1928. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Ralph P. Adams, George Rigby, Eliphalet G. Brown; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1929. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: George Rigby, Eliphalet G. Brown, Frank J. Lupien; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1930. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Eliphalet G. Brown, Frank J. Lupien, Royal Shawcross; Treasurer: Ervin W. Sweetser; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1931. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Frank J. Lupien, Royal Shawcross, James A. Grant; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.

1932. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: James A. Grant, Royal Shawcross, Frank J. Lupien; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1933. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Herbert C. Sweetser, Frank J. Lupien, Stewart MacKay; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1934. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Frank J. Lupien, Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1935. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1936. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham, Stewart MacKay; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1937. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Karl M. Perham, Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1938. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1939. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham, Stewart MacKay; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1940. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Karl M. Perham, Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1941. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Stewart MacKay, James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1942. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: James A. Grant, Karl M. Perham, Stewart MacKay; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1943. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Stewart MacKay, Karl M. Perham, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1944. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Stewart MacKay, Raymond H. Greenwood, Karl M. Perham; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1945. Moderator: Walter Perham; Selectmen: Raymond H. Greenwood, Karl M. Perham, John L. Dusseault; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1946. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Karl M. Perham, John L. Dusseault, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1947. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: John L. Dusseault, Raymond H. Greenwood, Theodore W. Emerson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1948. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Raymond H. Greenwood, Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.

1949. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson, Arnaud R. Blackadar; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1950. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Carl A.E. Peterson, Arnaud R. Blackadar, Theodore W. Emerson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1951. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Arnaud R. Blackadar, Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1952. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1953. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Carl A.E. Peterson, Raymond H. Greenwood, Roger W. Boyd; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1954. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Raymond H. Greenwood, Roger W. Boyd, Donald E. Smith; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1955. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Roger W. Boyd, Donald E. Smith, Daniel J. Hart; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1956. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Donald E. Smith (resigned March 4, 1956), Robert F. McAndrew (elected May 28, 1956), Daniel J. Hart, Edgar P. George; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson (died August 3, 1956), Charlotte P. DeWolf (Temporary Treasurer and Clerk).
1957. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Daniel J. Hart, Edgar P. George, Robert F. McAndrew; Treasurer: Charlotte P. DeWolf; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1958. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Edgar P. George, Robert F. McAndrew, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1959. Moderator: Vernon R. Fletcher; Selectmen: Robert F. McAndrew, Raymond H. Greenwood, Edgar P. George; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1960. Moderator: Daniel J. Coughlin, Jr.; Selectmen: Charles A. House, Claude A. Harvey, Warren Wright; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.

1949. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson, Arnaud R. Blackadar; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1950. Moderator: John C. Monahan; Selectmen: Carl A.E. Peterson, Arnaud R. Blackadar, Theodore W. Emerson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1951. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Arnaud R. Blackadar, Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1952. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Theodore W. Emerson, Carl A.E. Peterson, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1953. Moderator: John H. Valentine; Selectmen: Carl A.E. Peterson, Raymond H. Greenwood, Roger W. Boyd; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1954. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Raymond H. Greenwood, Roger W. Boyd, Donald E. Smith; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1955. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Roger W. Boyd, Donald E. Smith, Daniel J. Hart; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson; Clerk: Harold C. Petterson.
1956. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Donald E. Smith (resigned March 4, 1956), Robert F. McAndrew (elected May 20, 1956), Daniel J. Hart, Edgar P. George; Treasurer: Harold C. Petterson (died August 3, 1956), Charlotte P. DeWolf (Temporary Treasurer and Clerk).
1957. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Daniel J. Hart, Edgar P. George, Robert F. McAndrew; Treasurer: Charlotte P. DeWolf; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1958. Moderator: Edward J. Desaulnier, Jr.; Selectmen: Edgar P. George, Robert F. McAndrew, Raymond H. Greenwood; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1959. Moderator: Vernon R. Fletcher; Selectmen: Robert F. McAndrew, Raymond H. Greenwood, Edgar P. George; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.
1960. Moderator: Daniel J. Coughlin, Jr.; Selectmen: Charles A. House, Claude A. Harvey, Warren Wright; Treasurer: Walter R. Wilkins; Clerk: Charlotte P. DeWolf.

- 1953--Pleasant St., Frank St., Wesley St., Plymouth St.,
Clark Ave., Sheila Ave., Harold St., Warren Ave.
- 1954--Diamond St., Edgelawn Ave., New Spaulding St., Carolyn
Ave., Waverly Ave., Erlin Rd., Bradford Rd., Joyce
St., Bellevue St., Eugenie Terrace, Douglas Ave.,
Rainbow Ave.
- 1955--Greenacre Lane, Linden St., Starlight Ave., Pearson
St., Roosevelt St., McFarlin Rd., Northgate Rd., St.
Nicholas Ave., Housatonic Ave., Allen St., Leedberg St.
- 1956--Roberts St., South Row St., Cove Street, Eclipse Ave.,
Moonbeam Ave., Joy St., Susan Ave., Deborah Terrace.
- 1957--Orchard Lane, Bowl Rd., Rutledge Ave., Aberdeen Rd.
- 1958--Southgate Rd., Hemlock Drive, Latch Rd., Forrest St.,
Kenwood St., Sunrise Ave., Kiberd Drive, Wildes Rd.,
Fairbanks Rd., Colonial Drive, Asbury St., Martha St.,
Sheppard Lane.
- 1959--Rogers Rd., Arlington St., Dorrence St., Navillus St.,
Bailey Terrace, Buckman Drive, Larssen Circle, Diane
Lane, Walnut Rd., Chestnut Ave., Spruce St., Anna
St., Lemire Court, Scott Drive.
- 1960--Lauderdale Rd., Lancaster Ave., Murray Hill Rd.,
Pearson St., Oriole St., Balsam Drive, Gail St.,
Arbutus Ave., Hickory Lane, Sycamore St., Kensington
Drive, Maros Ave.

APPENDIX C.

HONOR ROLL: world War I, II, and Korea

WORLD WAR I

(* denotes killed in service)

Abrahamson Frederick E.
Abrahamson, Paul T.
Adams, Adelbert B.
Adams, Alfred E.
Adams, Donald F.
Adams, Roger H.
Allard, Edgar E.
Anderson, Alfred
Anderson, Emile
Armitage, Joe H.
Atherton, William G.
Ayotte, Arthur J.
Baldwin, William H.
Ball, Frank O.
Ballinger, Raymond F.
Barner, Walter E.
Barris, Arthur
Barton, Charles W.
Battison, Wallace A.
Battye, William
Benson, John A.
Berg, Ralph A.
Blaisdell, Glen R.
Blakeslee, Marshall E.
Booth, Ira M.
Borland, A.R.
Boucher, Alfred P.
Boucher, Edmund J.
Boulter, Edward F.
Bridgford, Ernest W.
Bridgford, John W.
Brown, William
Buchanan, John J.
Burne, Edwin L.
Burns, Ella M.
Butler, Gordon B.
Byam, Edwin Colby
Cahey, John
Cahey, William
Callahan, Alexander
Callahan, Paul L.
Callahan, Stephen
Carll, Arthur N.
Carll, Williston

Carlson, Edward O.
Carlson, Herbert W.
Carlson, Nels B.
Clough, Walter F.
Colpitts, Fred M.
Colpitts, Guthrie Stuart
Cooke, Archibald
Cooke, Arthur
Corson, Harold B.
Courtney, Alexander J.
Craven, Louis J.
Crease, Albert E.
Crocker, James H.
Crockett, Lyman C.
Crockett, Russell L.
Cruans, John
Cummings, John J.
Cunningham, John
Curran, Thomas C.
Curran, William M.
Dearth, Emery A.
De Kalb, Francis L.
Devine, Elizabeth C.
Dix, John A.
Douglas, Charles E.
Downing, Henry J.
Duffy, George H.
Duncan, Augustus E.
Dunigan, John J.
Eaton, Olive G.
Elliott, Henry S.
Ellis, Charles A.
Emerson, Breck
Erwin, John F.
Erwin, Joseph C.
Fadden, Ralph
Fadden, Roscoe
Fallon, Joseph T.
*Ferris, Valentine E.
Field, Guy G.
Fisher, Austin L.
Fisher, Roy W.
Fletcher, Ralph
Flodin, Gustaf

Fox, Edward A.
Fox, Leo F.
French, Joseph P.
French, Thomas J.
Frye, Charles F.
Frye, Ellsworth W.
Gagnon, Alfred
Gagnon, George E.
Garvey, Frank J.
Garvey, John J.
Gilbert, Frederick
Gill, Jesse B.
Gladu, Claude E.
Gleason, John
Grady, Henry
Graham, John H.
Graham, Joseph
Grantz, Herman
Green, James
Green, Harry
Green, Thomas
Greenwood, Fred R.
Greenwood, Percy C.
Griffiths, William J.
Guerin, Albert A.
Guillardety, Adelard
Hagerman, Ralph G.
Hackett, James H.
Hafey, John F.
Harrington, Frances M.
Harrington, John J.
Harris, Everett E.
Hartley, Madeline L.
Hazeltine, Guy
Hildreth, Raymond C.
Hill, Elmer R.
Hills, Arthur H.
Hobson, Frank E.
Hodge, Harold B.
Hoelzel, Claude L.
Hoelzel, John A.
Holbrook, John A.
Holgate, John J.
Hollis, James A.
Howe, James A.
Hylan, Malcolm
Johnson, John E.
Johnson, Wilhelm T.
Kasinsky, James

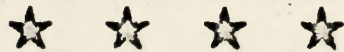
Kerins, John J.
Kiberd, James, Jr.
Knox, Harold B.
Labarre, Alfred
LaFrance, Henry J.
Lakin, Edward C.
Lakin, Leroy T.
Lamphier, Malcolm
Lane, Charles W.
Lapham, Nathan G.
Lavell, Joseph F.
Leclerc, Frank
Leclerc, Hector
L'Hereaux, Alpha
L'Hussier, Armand T.
Lippincott, Rev. Haines L.
Lloyd, Samuel A.
Lofstedt, Mangus A.
Lyons, Richard A.
Lyons, Timothy
McCann, Vincent J.
McComb, Chester R.
McComb, Willis L.
McEnaney, Leo H.
McEnaney, Owen F.
McGilliam, Charles S.
McGrath, Hugh F.
McKnight, Andrew
McMaster, Charles H.
Manseau, Napoleon T.
Meagher, John J.
Merrill, Gilbert R.
Merrill, Forrest A.
Merrill, Harry M.
Miller, Anthony W.
Mills, Forrest A.
Miner, Henry V.
Mitchell, George
Monahan, John C.
Monahan, Walter T.
Moore, Claude L.
Morrison, Edgar
Mullen, James
Murphy, John L.
Nasutowicz, Adam
Nasutowicz, Peter
Naylor, Edwin L.
Nelson, Axel M.

Nichols, George O.
Noble, Henry C.
Noble, Lloyd S.
Nystrom, Carl E.
Nystrom, Gustave A.
O'Brien, Michael A.
O'Brien, Philip L.
O'Neil, Walter E.
Paignon, Francois J.
*Paignon, Pierre
Palley, Arthur W.
Park, Quincy B.
Parkhurst, Charles E., Jr.
Pearson, Arthur W.
Perham, Sidney C.
Perry, John L.
Pickard, Ray H.
Pope, Lee R.
Prince, Warren F.
Queen, Clifford H.
Quinn, Henry G.
Quinn, Martin J.
Ramsbottom, George
Ramsbottom, Thomas
Reed, Mark.
Reidy, John J.
Reid, Clarence A.
Rennard, George O.
Reno, Alfred W.
Roark, Thomas E.
Robarge, Theodore
Robertson, Richard G.
Robinson, Bertram F.
Rouleau, Norton E.
Russell, Frederic
Russell, Robert D.
Russon, Benjamin
Rutyna, John
Ryan, William J.
Sargent, Raymond E.
Saunders, John A.
Scoboria, Glendon A.
Scott, Charles
Sheeham, Francis J.
Shevlin, James O.
Shinkwin, Robert R.
Seigel, Frederick W.
Silk, Nelson Miles
Simard, Alfred
Simard, Emery P.

Sleeper, Joseph N.
Slater, Raymond W.
Spaulding, Jacob Ira
Sullivan, Joseph F.
Swallow, George N., Jr.
Swanson, Mabel E.
Swanson, Paul F.
Sweeney, Arthur W.
Sweeney, Charles J.
Sweeney, J. Edward
Sweeney, George M.
Sweetser, Hosmer W.
Taylor, Charles A.
Taylor, William A.
*Tetley, Egbert F.
Thing, Carey W.
Trembley, George
Tripp, David
Trubey, Clarence A.
Trubey, Cyril C.
Tucke, Edward D.
Valentine, John H.
*Vinal, Alberton W.
Walsh, Frank B.
Walsh, William
Webb, John C.
Welsh, William
Westberg, Carl
Westberg, John W.
Wheeler, Leslie C.
Wood, Waldo L.
Woodhead, Joseph A.
Wright, Samuel T.

✓
OMIT

In Solemn Tribute we place together the
Names of Those who have Paid the
Greatest Price of all...
that of Life itself.



"And they... shall shine as the brightness of the firmament: and...

WORLD WAR II & KOREA

as the stars for ever and ever."

Daniel 12:3

START HERE ↓

Killed in Service's

AHEARN, FREDERICK G.
ARNOLD, THOMAS F.
BELLEVILLE, WALTER B., Jr.
BERUBEE, WAYNE R.
BRIDGEFORD, DONALD E.
CAIRES, AMERICANO C.
CAPUANO, RALPH J.
CARLL, EDMUND M.
CLARK, ALLAN D.
CLARK, HERBERT S.
CLOUGH, ROY F.
COLLETTE, JOSEPH E., Jr.
COURCHAINE, ROLAND
DeFLUMERI, ALFRED L.
FIELDS, CARL W.
FOGG, DONALD H.
FRENCH, BERNARD J.
GAY, DONALD A.
GRANT, DONALD C.
HOLLAND, JAMES D.
HOVENCAMP, EDWARD D.
KIBERD, BRYCE H.

KRUGEL, STANLEY
LEMIRE, ALLEN
L'HEUREUX, IRVING A.
LOCAPO, ABEL J.
LUND, PAUL O.
MacPHAIL, WALLACE A.
McDONALD, AMBROSE
McKOWN, MALCOLM K.
NEEDHAM, LEO
PETTERSON, JOHN V.
POPE, HARRY R.
REED, THEODORE W., Jr.
RUTNER, WALLACE F.
SMITH, JOHN J.
SMITH, NORMAN S.
SMITH, ROBERT
SPEED, HAROLD C., Jr.
TRUBEY, CLARENCE A., Jr.
TRUBEY, DWIGHT
VINSON, PAUL C.
WIEDE, WALTER G.
ZABIEREK, WALTER E.

AND

CAMP

Leave 4 spaces
between killed and
this list.

The Men who served . . . O.M.V.

Abbott, Ralph R.	Barron, George E.	Berubee, Rodney A.
Abrahamson, Albert C. Jr.	Barron, William J.	Bettencourt, Edwin A.
Abrahamson, Frederick	Barrington, Chester E., Jr.	Bettencourt, Ralph A.
Abrahamson, George	Barris, Robert W., Jr.	Bettencourt, Robert A.
Abrahamson, Robert M.	Bartlett, Clarence A.	Bezanson, William A.
Adams, Benjamin R.	Bartlett, W. Pollard	Bianco, Florence J.
Adams, Leslie H.	Bartlett, Sheppard	Bickford, Stuart C.
Adams, Ralph E.	Barton, Donald E.	Bill, Walter E.
Adle, George E.	Barton, William A.	Birtwell, James W.
Adle, Leo R.	Batchelder, Donald	Birtwell, John L.
Adle, Paul F.	Batchelder, John M.	Bishop, Edward J.
Ahearn, Edward C.	Baum, Reginald S.	Bishop, Raymond R.
Ahearn, Wilfred H.	Bean, Donald P.	Blanchette, Wilfred J.
Alling, Gordon L.	Bean, Howard K.	Bleau, Arthur J.
Ambler, Gordon D.	Beaubien, Donald J.	Bliss, Raymond C.
Anderson, Carl T.	Beaubien, Herbert A.	Blodgett, Frederick C.
Anderson, Donald E.	Beaubien, Richard A.	Bober, Walter J.
Anderson, Leon R.	Beaulieu, Arnold	Bomal, Joseph
Anderson, William A.	Beaulieu, Roland J.	Bomal, Stephen J.
Anderson, William Jr.	Beauregard, Paul H.	Bordon, Joseph E.
Andrews, Albert F.	Beauregard, Raymond A.	Borodowka, Peter L.
Andrews, Robert E.	Belanger, Raymond N.	Borrows, Vincent M.
Angers, Perley R.	Belida, Alexander	Boutilier, Earl A.
Angus, Alfred J.	Belida, Andrew	Boutilier, Raymond
Angus, Robert M.	Belida, Anthony	Bowen, Harry C.
Apostolakos, James G.	Belida, Frank	Bowen, Robert O.
Archer, George S.	Belida, Leo	Boyd, Charlton P.
Archibald, Richard C.	Belida, Michael L.	Boyd, Ralph G.
Axon, Gordon L.	Belida, Peter	Boyd, Roger W.
Ayotte, Raymond J.	Belida, Steve	Boyden, Alonzo
Babcock, Eric M.	Belida, Walter	Bradbury, Philip
Bachelder, Arthur H., Jr.	Bell, Gilbert C.	Bray, William J.
Bacon, Alberton W.	Bell, William	Brennan, Frank
Bacon, Harry M.	Bellegarde, William C.	Britko, Stephen J.
Badmington, Forrest E.	Bellemore, Marcel	Brooks, James, Jr.
Baldwin, Ellsworth J.	Bellemore, Robert R.	Brooks, Norman R.
Baldwin, Thomas L., Jr.	Belleville, William E.	Brooks, Thomas A.
Ballinger, Francis E.	Bennett, Allen B.	Brown, Albert E.
Barlow, Edward E.	Berg, Carl H.	Brown, Bernard R.
Barlow, Raymond H.	Berg, Edward H.	Brown, Carl J.
Baron, Edward	Berg, Ralph A., Jr.	Brown, Carroll D., Jr.
Baron, John B.	Berry, Paul D.	Brown, Frederick H.

Brown, Richard E.
Bruyere, George R.
Buchanan, John H.
Buchanan, Kenneth
Buchanan, Warren
Buckley, Charles F.
Buckley, Herman T.
Buckley, John G.
Bujnowski, Stanley K.
Buonopane, Edward A.
Burne, Donald E.
Burne, Richard T.
Burns, Harlan B.
Burton, Alfred C.
Burton, Vernon L.
Butler, Melvin R.
Butterfield, Russell S.
Butters, Alvin F.
Butters, Avery J.
Buxton, Richard E.
Byam, Arthur W.
Byam, Lyman A., Jr.
Byam, Rodney F.
Calder, Donald C.
Caldwell, John A.
Callahan, Arthur
Callahan, Donald F.
Cameron, Stewart M.
Campbell, Charles J., Jr.
Campbell, Edward
Campbell, John K.
Campbell, Raymond R.
Campbell, Richard J.
Cann, Warren H.
Capuano, Albert
Capuano, Marco
Capuano, Nicholas P.
Carey, Elliott J.
Carey, John R.
Carlin, Lee W.
Carlin, Richard B.
Carlson, Edward
Carrick, Francis
Carruthers, Robert A.
Carter, Arthur L.
Carter, Ernest

Carter, George C.
Carter, Maxwell B., Jr.
Carver, Harold
Cassidy, David T.
Cassidy, John H.
Caton, Robert J.
Caton, Warren C.
Chambers, Edward A.
Chagnon, Walter J.
Chagnon, William P.
Chambers, Robert H.
Champagne, Silvio N.
Chandonnet, Raymond A.
Chenevert, Henry R.
Chenevert, Walter
Clark, Albert J.
Clark, Bernard V.
Clark, Edwin G.
Clark, Francis C.
Clark, John L.
Clark, Joseph A.
Clarke, Mathew C.
Clayton, Harold E., Jr.
Cleghorn, John T.
Cleghorn, Leonard B.
Clough, Edward J.
Clough, Lawrence A.
Clough, Robert T.
Cobb, Elmer M.
Coburn, Alfred H.
Cochran, Gordon S.
Cogger, William
Cole, Frederick W.
Cole, Ralph R.
Coleman, Ralph K., Jr.
Coleman, Walter H.
Collette, Joseph E., Sr.
Colmer, William W.
Comer, Edward F.
Comer, Joseph
Condon, Joseph E.
Connors, Raymond P.
Cooke, Kenneth A.
Coppen, William L.
Corbiel, Charles A.
Corcoran, John F.

Corey, Wesley C.
Corkery, John E.
Cormick, Mathew J.
Cormier, Henry C.
Cormier, Robert F.
Cornwall, Rae D.
Corr, William F.
Cott, Allen E.
Coughlin, Paul J.
Couilliard, Raymond
Courchaine, Arthur L.
Courchaine, Leo R.
Courchaine, William
Croft, Louis J., Jr.
Crowell, Elmer G., Jr.
Cummings, George R.
Cummings, John F.
Cummings, John J.
Cummings, Raymond P.
Curran, Hugh M.
Curren, Gerald W.
Curry, Phillip C.
Cyr, Levite
Dane, Frederick A.
Davis, Alfred F.
Davis, Edwin A.
Davis, Franklin A.
Davis, Raymond E., Jr.
Davis, Richard A.
Davis, Wilbur
Deamicis, Alfred
Deamicis, Frank S., Jr.
Deamicis, Victor E.
Dean, Jeremiah, J.
Dean, John A.
Dearborn, Alton L.
DeCaires, Manuel
DeCelle, Arthur J.
DeCosta, Anthony M.
Deforge, Arthur J.
Deguise, George L.
DeKalb, Francis L.
DeKalb, John E.
DeKalb, Robert E.
Delaney, Edward F.
Delmore, Francis E.

Delmore, Richard P.
DeLong, Edward, Jr.
DelPonte, Joseph L.
Dempsey, William F.
DePalma, Leonard J.
Deputat, Joseph
Deputat, Joseph F.
Deputat, Walter J.
Desaulnier, Edward J.
Desaulnier, Warren L.
Deslandes, Edward A.
Desmarais, George R., Jr.
Desmarais, John H.
Desmond, John E.
Desmond, William
Dewing, Philo R.
DeWolf, Brenton P.
Dexter, Robert
Dillion, Frederick C.
Dillon, Edward F.
Dillon, Joseph I.
Dillon, Robert F.
Dinnigan, Robert C.
Dirubbo, James
Dirubbo, Jerry
DiRubbo, Nicholas
Dixon, Edgar C.
Dixon, George R.
Dixon, Norman M.
Donaher, James E.
Donaldson, Charles F.
Donaldson, Robert E.
Donavan, Forrest L.
Donovan, Dana
Donovan, John E.
Doole, James E., Jr.
Doran, Joseph F.
Dorsey, John F.
Dorsey, Lewis V.
Doyle, Paul F.
Drauch, Bernard E.
Ducharme, George A.
Ducharme, Paul
Ducharme, Raymond G.
Ducharme, Thadde P.
Duffy, Edward J.

Duffy, John H., Jr.
Duffy, Richard J.
Dulgarian, John
Dumais, Maurice
Dunigan, John J., Jr.
Dunigan, Joseph H.
Dunlavey, Francis
Dunstan, Gilbert V.
Durgin, Alfred H.
Durrell, Herman C.
Dutton, Lewis A.
Dutton, Nelson A.
Dutton, Robert T.
Eaton, Ambrose D.
Edge, William W.
Edwards, John A.
Edwards, John S.
Edwards, Robert M.
Edwards, Walter W.
Edwards, William F.
Egerton, Charles
Ellinwood, Harold W.
Elliott, Thomas J.
Emanouil, James
Emanouil, Nicholas
Emerson, James P.
Emslie, James C., Jr.
Eno, George L.
Eriksen, Donald H.
Eriksen, Harold E.
Eriksen, Melvin O.
Eriksen, Robert E.
Estabrooks, Wilbur
Etzel, Robert
Fallon, Edward A.
Fallon, Robert F.
Fantozzi, Frederick J.
Fantozzi, James E., Jr.
Fantozzi, John
Fantozzi, Michael M.
Fantozzi, Nicholas S.
Farrington, Charles C.
Farrell, Edward J.
Farrell, Edward W.
Farrell, Milo L.
Faulkner, John A.

Fay, John J.
Fay, Robert S.
Ferguson, Laurence D.
Ferguson, Walter L.
Ferreira, John C.
Ferreira, Manuel C.
Ferron, Wilbur L.
Feyler, Irving W., Jr.
Finn, Edward J.
Finnegan, Blair E.
Finnegan, Leo F.
Finnegan, Paul N.
Firth, Clifford E.
Firth, Harold F.
Firth, Robert A.
Firth, Thomas E., Jr.
Fish, John L.
Fitzpatrick, George J.
Fitzpatrick, Neil J.
Fletcher, Erwin
Flynn, Joseph M.
Flynn, Joseph O.
Foley, John J.
Foley, Leo A.
Fletcher, Vernon
Fletcher, Walter E.
Fontes, Raymond J.
Forest, Roger J.
Forrester, A. William
Foster, Francis R.
Fox, Edward A., Jr.
Freeman, Edward W., Jr.
Fremeau, John W., Jr.
Fuller, Charles G.
Gagnon, Clayton W.
Gagnon, Donald E.
Gagnon, Edward J.
Gagnon, George E., Jr.
Gagnon, Raymond J.
Gagnon, Robert E.
Gallagher, John B.
Gallant, Arthur H.
Gannon, James F.
Garrow, Arnold A.
Garvey, Vincent P.
Gaudette, Frank

Gaudette, Gilbert H.	Gray, Donald P.	Hazeltine, Charles J.
Gaudette, Joseph F.	Gray, Harrison	Hedlund, Albert R.
Gaudette, Norman A.	Gray, Robert S.	Hefler, Clarence M.
Gaudette, Raymond O.	Gray, Wayne	Helleur, William H.
Gaudette, Victor A.	Gregoire, Peter E.	Hennessy, Thomas R., Jr.
Gauthier, Albert G.	Gregory, Alfred W.	Hennessy, William J.
Gauthier, E. Paul	Greig, Wallace A.	Hill, Arthur J.
Gauthier, Edward A.	Green, Harry	Hill, Chester L.
Gauthier, Emile J., Jr.	Greenwood, William R.	Hill, Elmer R.
Gauthier, Ernest A.	Greenwood, Raymond J.	Hill, Elmer R., Jr.
Gauthier, Joseph L.	Greenwood, Arthur C.	Hill, Kenneth R.
Gauthier, Raymond M.	Guiney, John L.	Hill, James J.
Gauthier, Silius L., Jr.	Guilmette, John J. G.	Hill, John A., Jr.
Gauvin, Arthur R.	Guilmette, Joseph G.	Hill, Wayne K.
George, Bernard L.	Guilmette, Louis	Hill, William J.
George, Edgar P.	Haberman, Leonard E.	Hinckley, Roy B.
George, Winslow P., Jr.	Haberman, Ralph G., Jr.	Hines, William L., Jr.
Gervais, Adelard J.	Hadley, Jack	Hodgson, Edwin R.
Gervais, Alexander W.	Hafey, John W.	Hodgson, Herbert
Gervais, Frank J.	Hafey, William A.	Hodgson, George
Gervais, Oliver J.	Hainsworth, James	Hodgson, Herbert, Jr.
Gibbons, Gregory R.	Haire, M. Weldon	Hoelzel, Norman R.
Gibbons, Raymond H.	Haithwaite, G. Raymond	Hoey, Ernest A.
Giffin, Harold A.	Haley, Elbert A.	Hoffman, Raymond P., Jr.
Giffin, Ralph W.	Hall, Bradley P.	Holden, Albert A.
Giffin, Robert	Hall, John A.	Holden, John
Gifford, Henry F.	Hall, Milton I.	Holmes, Richard H.
Gifford, John R.	Hall, Robert E.	Homenick, Peter P.
Gilbride, John P.	Hamilton, Andrew E.	Hood, George C., Jr.
Gill, Joseph A.	Hamilton, Creighton M.	Hood, Robert E.
Gleason, Carll T.	Hands, George W., Jr.	Horan, Raymond A.
Goes, Joseph Z.	Hannaford, Louis L., Jr.	House, Albert H.
Golden, James R.	Hansen, Harold R.	House, Charles A.
Golubisky, Benjamin J.	Hardman, George	House, Walter E.
Gordon, Clifton B.	Hardman, John W.	Howard, Arthur, Jr.
Gordon, George S.	Hardman, Walter A.	Howard, Harry E.
Gorton, James	Harmon, Raymond E., Jr.	Howard, Richard E.
Gorton, Robert R.	Harmon, Robert L.	Howard, Robert L.
Gould, Robert L.	Harper, Ernest E.	Howard, Winfield H.
Greeley, Richard F.	Harper, Wesley M.	Howland, Ernest
Guidry, Clifford	Harrington, Timothy J.	Hoyle, Robert H.
Grant, Fred E.	Harvey, Arthur C.	Hoyt, Clifford M.
Grant, Lawrence L.	Harvey, Claude A.	Hoyt, Elmer B.
Grant, Theodore H.	Harvey, William L.	Hudson, Thomas B.
Grasse, Charles D. A., Jr.	Hayden, Richard H.	Hulick, Archie G.
Gray, Charles A.	Hayes, Lawrence T.	Hulslander, Angus M.

Hulslander, Donald J.
Hulslander, Frank B.
Hulslander, Frank R.
Hulslander, Lucien O.
Hulslander, Ralph J., Jr.
Humiston, Elliot F., Jr.
Hunt, Bernard F.
Hunt, Gerald E.
Huskey, Michael
Hyson, Gary
Ingle, Lawrence
Ivers, Gerald A.
Jamros, Adam M. P.
Jamros, Frederick J.
Jamros, Henry J.
Jamros, John A.
Jamros, Lulack M.
Janulis, Ernest
Jason, Joseph V.
Jason, Mitchell A.
Jelley, Alton L.
Jenkins, Charles E.
Jenson, John C.
Jenson, Montell R.
Jewett, Edwin M.
Johnson, Bernard L.
Johnson, Eric H.
Johnson, Henrick R.
Johnson, Marvin
Johnson, Ralph A., Jr.
Johnson, Roland S.
Johnson, Roy T.
Johnson, Walter T.
Johnston, Merton H.
Jones, Albert M.
Jones, Foster F.
Jones, Franklin L.
Jones, Robert K.
Jones, Robert L., Jr.
Jones, William M.
Judge, Lawrence G.
Judge, Raymond W.
Kacinkos, Benjamin
Karafelis, Arthur
Karafelis, James
Keene, Harold W.

Kelly, Chester
Kelly, E. Palmer
Kelly, Harlen P.
Kennedy, Gerald P.
Kerins, Paul J.
Kiberd, James M.
Kidder, Allan
Kidder, Thomas K.
Kilburn, Bertram E.
Kimball, Paul C.
Kinch, Cedric D.
Kinch, John F.
King, Harold C., Sr.
King, Harold C., Jr.
Kinnal, Julian S.
Kinnal, Tarassy
Kinney, Arthur J.
Kinney, Frederick A.
Kinney, Leo H.
Kinney, Milton H.
Kinney, Norman E.
Kisiolek, Joseph J.
Kisley, Anthony
Kisley, Ernest G.
Kittredge, Thomas D.
Klier, William F., Jr.
Klonel, Neland S.
Klonel, Ronald S.
Knapp, Robert J.
Knight, Raymond C.
Knowlton, Harlene
Knox, Arthur W.
Knox, Harold B.
Knox, James J.
Knox, John D., Jr.
Kolesnikoff, Emerson E.
Koulas, Charles S.
Koulas, Samuel
Krasnecki, Edward G.
Krasnecki, Marrison S.
Krol, Stanley
Krol, Walter J.
Kulaga, Joseph J.
Kulp, James R.
Kydd, John R.
Kydd, Robert L.

Lacoy, Ernest A.
Laferriere, Francis D.
Laferriere, Paul A.
Lagasse, Richard C.
Lahue, Richard O.
Lahue, Robert H.
Lamson, Edward N.
Lane, Herbert W.
Lantagne, Edward B.
Lantagne, Harold J.
Lantagne, Joseph G.
Lantagne, Raymond P.
Lantagne, Vincent B.
Lapham, Roger E.
LaPoint, Andre E.
LaPoint, Paul E.
Larkin, Francis E.
LaRock, Charles N.
Larocque, Donald D.
Latham, David A.
Latham, Vincent
Laton, Dexter W.
Lavallee, Russell N.
Lawrence, Manuel H.
Lawson, Howard
Leach, Ronald E.
Leaver, Richard P.
LeBarron, Clyde E.
Lebedzinski, Carl J.
LeBoeuf, Charles A.
LeBoeuf, John L.
LeBouef, Napoleon M.
LeBourdais, Armand W.
LeBrun, Raymond L.
LeBrun, Wilmer E.
LeBurn, Ernest H.
Leclair, George A.
Leclair, Raymond J.
Lecourt, Charles F.
Lee, Vincent F.
Leech, Harold M.
Leedberg, Chester G.
Leedberg, Harry M.
Leedberg, Kenneth H.
Lefebvre, Raymond H.
Leman, Albert

LeMasurier, George
LeMasurier, John B.
Lemay, Roland G.
Lennox, Charles M.
Lennox, Daniel H.
Lennox, Walter S.
Leno, John J.
Leonard, Charles E.
Leonard, Robert N.
Leslie, Randolph P.
Lessard, J. Albert
Lessard, Joseph A.
Letteney, Ward H.
Levoy, Herbert E., Jr.
Lewis, Reid E.
L'Heureux, Leo V.
L'Heureux, Louis G.
L'Heureux, Paul V.
Linstad, Carl E.
Linstad, Russel H.
Logan, Ralph D.
Locapo, Adam A.
Locapo, Elias P.
Llewellyn, Lawrence S.
Loiselle, Donald J.
Loiselle, Edmund J.
Loiselle, Emery J.
Loiselle, George E.
Loiselle, Henry A.
Lombard, John E.
Long, James A.
Lord, Joseph A.
Lovett, George S., Jr.
Ludwig, Robert S.
Lundberg, Charles W.
Lupien, Donald F.
Lupien, Ulysses J., Jr.
Lyons, Thomas
Mackey, Edward F.
Mackey, John J.
Mackey, Peter
Mackey, Thomas L.
MacLean, Donald
MacLean, Francis J.
MacNichols, George H.
MacQuesten, Roy W.

Maines, Walter R.
Malloy, Robert F.
Manahan, George F.
Manahan, John F.
Mann, Willard S.
Marchand, Albert A.
Marchand, Lionel D.
Marchildon, Armand O.
Marchildon, Raymond G.
Marcotte, Alfred, Jr.
Marinel, Donald A.
Markofsky, Edward J.
Marr, Roland E.
Marshall, Arthur G.
Marshall, Howard E.
Marston, Everett J.
Martel, Charles W.
Martin, Sylvio L.
Mason, David H.
Matley, George H.
Maurais, Raymond P.
McAdams, Francis G.
McAndrew, David F.
McAndrew, Thomas J.
McCallum, Leonard F.
McCarthy, Justin R.
McCarthy, William J.
McClure, Richard E.
McClure, William J., Jr.
McCormick, John T.
McCrady, Donald B.
McCrady, Douglas L.
McDonald, Wayne
McEnaney, Harold F.
McEnaney, John J.
McEnaney, Russell J.
McEnaney, Thomas B.
McEnany, Carroll P.
McEnany, Francis V.
McEnany, Herbert L.
McEnany, John P.
McEnnis, Charles F.
McEnnis, James J.
McEvoy, John W.
McGeown, John M.
McGlinchey, Francis E.

McGlinchey, Raymond
McGovern, William F.
McHugh, Bernard R.
McHugh, Peter J., Jr.
McHugh, William F.
McKinley, Fred W.
McKinley, Robert N.
McKinley, Walter T.
McKinnon, Laughlin J.
McKittrick, Carl F.
McLaughlin, Henry P. M.
McLaughlin, William L.
McMaster, Charles H., Jr.
McMaster, Wilfred A.
McMullen, Alfred D.
McNulty, Edward F.
McNulty, John J.
McSheehy, Alfred F., Jr.
McSheehy, John W.
McSheehy, John W., 3rd
McTeague, Joseph P.
Mendes, Frederick A.
Mercer, James E., Jr.
Merrill, David R.
Merrill, Elwin C.
Merrill, George L.
Merrill, Harold F.
Merrill, Russell W.
Messer, William L.
Michaud, Robert A.
Mikulis, Benjamin M.
Milan, Grover C.
Miller, Arthur L.
Miller, Arthur P.
Miller, A. William, Jr.
Miller, Charles A.
Miller, Forrest E.
Miller, Raymond S.
Millett, Henry J.
Millman, Chester J.
Millman, Frederick C.
Millman, Kenneth R.
Mills, William C.
Milot, Joseph D.
Milot, Maurice J.
Miner, Edward F.

Miner, Edward H.
Miner, James J.
Miskell, Francis G.
Mochrie, Kenneth S.
Mochrie, Norman E.
Mochrie, Richard D.
Molleur, John B.
Molleur, Kenneth A.
Molloy, James
Monahan, John J.
Monette, John L.
Monette, Lester W.
Montgomery, Richard H.
Moore, Leonard S.
Moorehouse, Thomas, Jr.
Moreno, Leonard
Morley, Raymond K.
Morris, George R.
Morrison, Haven A., Jr.
Morrison, Richard L.
Mortham, Ernest
Mountain, Richard B.
Mozykowski, John F.
Muldoon, Thomas J.
Mullen, Harold P.
Mullen, Warren G.
Mullen, William R.
Mungovan, Joseph P.
Munzell, William E.
Murphy, Alfred G.
Murphy, Alfred T.
Murphy, Daniel D.
Murphy, Dennis J., Jr.
Murphy, Edward J.
Murphy, Edward P.
Murphy, Edward T.
Murphy, Harry R.
Murphy, Hubert J.
Murphy, Robert F.
Murphy, Roy F.
Nadworny, Adolph J.
Narus, Toffin P.
Nasutowicz, William
Nawassa, Isidore J.
Needham, Edward M.
Needham, Herbert T.

Neilson, Emil
Nelson, Arvid W.
Nelson, Carlton E.
Nickerson, Howard L., Jr.
Nickles, Alfred L.
Nickles, James P.
Nickles, Robert
Nickles, William H.
Niemaszzyk, Anthony J.
Niemaszzyk, Joseph E.
Nobrega, Peter J.
Noel, Francis A.
Nolet, Ralph B.
Norton, Arthur E.
Norton, Mark H., Jr.
Norton, Robert L.
Norton, Warren B.
Nystrum, Fred W.
O'Brien, William E.
O'Brien, William F.
Oczkowski, Henry
Oczkowski, Joseph
O'Donnell, James F.
O'Donnell, Thomas L.
Olsen, Alberton V.
Olsen, Everett V.
Olsson, Carl H.
O'Neil, Charles J.
O'Neil, George H.
O'Neil, Joseph F.
O'Neil, William F.
O'Neill, W. Jerome
Ouellette, Joseph Jr.
Ouellette, J. Peter
Owen, John P.
Page, Herbert S.
Paignon, Arthur L.
Palm, Arthur
Palmer, Charles C.
Palmer, Morley B.
Palmer, Thomas H.
Panessiti, Joseph T.
Panessitti, Samuel D.
Paquette, Albert M.
Park, Philip W.
Parker, Hector M.

Parker, Lester R.
Parker, Royce M.
Parker, Walter N.
Parkhurst, George A.
Parkhurst, Richard E.
Parkhurst, Wendell Jr.
Parlee, Arnold V.
Parlee, Frederick
Parlee, Kendell S.
Parlee, Ralph S.
Paruti, Joseph C.
Patenaude, Armand J.
Patenaude, Arthur W.
Paul, Raymond V.
Pearson, Richard P.
Peck, Gordon C.
Pedersen, George W.
Pedersen, Ralph J., Jr.
Pederson, Harry E.
Pederson, Ralph J.
Peirce, Charles A., Jr.
Pelletier, George H.
Pelletier, Charles E.
Pepin, Ernest
Pepin, Everett A.
Pepin, Gerald E.
Perkins, Ernest F.
Perkins, Frederick W.
Perreault, Henry W.
Perzel, George J.
Peterson, Elmer A.
Peterson, Eric
Peterson, Hilmer A.
Pettazoni, Paul G.
Pettee, Fred C.
Petterson, Birger, Jr.
Petterson, Harold A.
Petterson, Robert G.
Phelps, William D.
Phillips, Kendrick W.
Pickard, Donald F.
Picken, Robert E.
Piekos, Walter A.
Pierce, Donald E.
Pickard, Raymond H.
Pickard, Ronald S.

Pierce, Laurence C.
Pierce, Raymond E.
Pierro, Albert J.
Pierro, Ralph
Pierro, Rockeen
Pihl, Walter M.
Pike, Raymond III
Pillsbury, Edward
Pitts, Alexander J.
Pivrotto, Harold
Polley, Walter E., Jr.
Pomerleau, Arthur J.
Pontefract, George H.
Pontefract, Robert A.
Pope, George R.
Popolizio, Michael J.
Porter, John R.
Posnak, Paul
Potter, Francis R.
Potter, George S.
Potter, James A.
Pratt, Arthur D., Jr.
Prince, Warren F., Jr.
Proulx, Richard G.
Proulx, Rodger A.
Provencal, Arthur L.
Prowker, Andrew J.
Purcell, Herman L., Jr.
Pyle, Oden F.
Pyle, Robert C.
Quinn, Edward G.
Quinn, John P.
Quinn, Reginald H.
Quintin, John L.
Rafferty, James M.
Rafferty, Leo B.
Rafferty, Raymond
Rafferty, Richard R.
Ramsey, John H.
Rawnsley, Millage S.
Rawson, James S.
Reed, Charles S.
Reed, Philip M.
Reedy, Fred E.
Reedy, Joseph J.
Reedy, Ralph J.

Reeves, Albert W.
Reeves, James W.
Reid, Frederick H.
Reid, Kenneth R., Jr.
Reid, William L.
Reis, Allen E.
Reis, Robert A.
Reno, Irving E.
Reynolds, Alexander F.
Richardson, Ernest A.
Richardson, Hiram L.
Riley, Robert B.
Riopelle, Arthur F.
Riopelle, Leo J.
Riopelle, Raymond J.
Roberts, George E.
Robertson, Richard G.
Robey, Asa E.
Robinson, George F.
Robinson, James O.
Robinson, John
Robinson, William H.
Russell, Earl D.
Rogers, John A.
Rogers, Richard P.
Rogers, Wellman L.
Rondeau, Henry J.
Rondeau, Louis R.
Rooney, David E.E.
Rose, Roy G.
Rosendale, Clarence M.
Rosendale, Walter E.
Ross, Stuart C.
Rugg, Roscoe W.
Russell, Chester C.
Russell, Kenneth O.
Russell, Raymond H.
Russon, Wallace S.
Ryan, Frederick L.
Sanders, Edwin H.
Sanders, Wallace A.
Santos, Joseph, Jr.
Sargent, Charles A.
Sargent, George
Sargent, John W.
Saunders, Raymond D.

Savage, John L.
Sawyer, Joseph W.
Sawyer, Wesley M.
Scobie, Wallace H.
Scollan, Edward J.
Scott, John S.
Scully, Charles J.
Secor, Raymond E.
Secord, Gilbert B.
Sedelnick, Nicholas
Sedelnick, Stephen P.
Sereduk, George
Sevigney, Lindy P.
Sheperd, George E.
Shaw, Harry F.
Shaw, Kenneth A.
Shawcross, Lee R.
Shea, Daniel G., Jr.
Shedd, William H.
Sheehan, Arthur F.
Sheehan, Dennis A.
Sheehan, Timothy F., Jr.
Sheerin, Jeremiah P.
Sherman, Warren C.
Sherman, Warren L.
Shinkwin, Harold C.
Shinkwin, John E.
Shugrue, Charles F.
Shugrue, Leon T.
Shuler, Desse L.
Sigerson, Charles W.
Sigerson, David K.
Sigerson, William C.
Silk, Frederick
Silva, Frank J.
Silva, Seraphine M.
Simard, Roland S.
Simm, Donald W.
Simpson, Albert R.
Simpson, Charles, Jr.
Simpson, Stanley K.
Small, Richard I.
Smith, Henry J.
Smith, John A.
Smith, Joseph H.
Smith, Joseph J.

Smith, Prescott D.	Swallow, George N., 3rd	Urbanowicz, John V.
Snow, Perry T.	Sweet, Mark N.	Urbanowicz, Michael A.
Snow, Stanley L.	Swimm, George H.	Valentine, Edward L.
Sousa, Albert J.	Symmes, Allan	Valentine, John H., Jr.
Sousa, Anthony L.	Symmes, Willard	Valentine, Napoleon J.
Sousa, John	Taintor, Albert W., Jr.	VanLunen, Lloyd M.
Sousa, Manuel F.	Talty, Robert P.	Vayo, Gerard A.
Spanos, Constantine	Tansey, James J.	Vayo, Myles P.
Spanos, John J.	Taylor, Frederick G.	Vennard, Frank T., Jr.
Spaulding, Robert C.	Taylor, Robert A.	Vennard, Thomas
Spaulding, William J.	Taylor, William W.	Vinal, Kenneth
Speed, Harold	Teehan, John F.	Villemaire, Paul E.
Speed, Lincoln J.	Teehan, Maurice F.	Vinecombe, Bradford L.
Speed, Sidney	Tharp, Paul M.	Visniewski, Anthony
Stanewicz, Frank A.	Theodoros, George P.	Visniewski, Frank
Stanley, Neal C.	Theodoros, Louis P.	Visniewski, Joseph
Stanley, Walter	Theriault, Daniel D.	Vondal, Edward A.
Staveley, Norman L.	Theriault, John E.	Wadge, Gordon F.
Stearns, Louis W.	Thibault, John S.	Waite, George F.
Stephens, Clifford H.	Thibeault, James F.	Wallace, Glenn L.
Stephens, Samuel G.	Thifault, Leo P.	Wallace, Robert A.
Stephens, William C.	Thomas, George W.	Wallis, Sterling R.
Stevens, Weldon M.	Thomson, Douglas E.	Warley, William G.
Stewart, Elmer J.	Thorburn, Bradford T.	Warren, William C.
Stewart, George T.	Thornber, Ira A.	Watt, Charles, Jr.
Stone, Valmos H.	Thurber, Edward A.	Watt, Earl J.
Stone, Winthrop, Jr.	Thurber, Ernest R.	Weatherhead, Russell E.
St. Onge, Edward J.	Tighe, Edward	Weilbrenner, Charles
Stott, Harold F., Jr.	Todd, Allen D.	Welch, Edmund J.
Straughan, George T.	Todd, Paul A.	Welch, Everett W.
Straughan, Jesse B., Jr.	Tousignant, John P.	Welch, George R., Jr.
Straughan, John	Tremblay, Roland J.	Welch, Gordon L.
Straughan, Robert P. L.	Trubey, Alton C.	Wells, Kenton P.
Streiferd, Fritz	Trubey, Donald E.	Wetmore, Leslie A.
Stromquist, Robert W.	Trubey, John W.	Wetmore, Warren B.
Stromquist, Wilfred T.	Trubey, Marshall Q.	Whealen, Robert J.
Sturtevant, Herbert A.	Trubey, Walter H.	Wheeler, Albert E.
Sugden, Thomas, Jr.	Trudel, Edmund C.	Whitcomb, Irving A.
Sulham, Paul D.	Trudel, Joseph A.	White, George E.
Sullivan, David F., Jr.	Trull, Marshall	Wiggins, Richard J.
Sullivan, Dennis J.	Tucke, Gerald C.	Wiggins, Thomas, Jr.
Sullivan, Francis J.	Tucke, Harold M., Jr.	Wihbey, Louis P.
Sullivan, John L.	Tucker, Paul E.	Wilkins, Walter Q., Jr.
Sullivan, Joseph F.	Tucker, Robert R.	Whitney, Chester M.
Sullivan, William J.	Tuniewicz, Walter J.	Whitton, Frederick H.
Svenson, Charles E.	Twombly, Raymond E.	Wikander, Lars G.

Wikander, Oke R.
 Wilcox, Alden J.
 Wilkins, Roger D.
 Wilkins, Walter R.
 Willey, Clifton H.
 Willey, Gordon F.
 Willey, Harold A.
 Willey, Howard A.
 Williams, Edward B.
 Williams, Sidney C.
 Wilson, Bradford S., Sr.
 Wilson, Bradford S., Jr.
 Wilson, George C.
 Wilson, James B.
 Winblad, Fritz A. S.
 Winnette, Ellsworth A.
 Wisniewski, John M.

Wojtas, Frank
 Wojtas, Stefan E.
 Wood, Ralph I.
 Woodard, Malcolm R.
 Woodhead, Frank A., Jr.
 Woodman, Alfred E.
 Woodward, Chester A.
 Worthley, Arthur B., Jr.
 Worthley, William W.
 Wotton, Roland C.
 Wright, George S., Jr.
 Wright, Joseph C.
 Wright, Norman O.
 Wright, Raymond G.
 Wright, Royal K.
 Wrigley, Vincent L.
 Yates, Robert C.

Yeschanin, Frank
 Yeschanin, John
 Zabierek, Edmund R.
 Zabierek, Edwin W.
 Zabierek, Emil
 Zabierek, Henry C.
 Zabierek, Stanislaw
 Zabierek, Thaddeus W.
 Zabierek, Waclaw V.
 Zaher, Charles
 Zaher, John M.
 Zaher, Lewis
 Zaher, Mederick
 Zaher, Michael L.
 Zaher, Nicholas P.
 Zollinger, Edward C.
 Zouzas, Charles

The Women who served . . .

Andrew, Marie G.
 Babcock, Ada W.
 Baron, Anna
 Baron, Rose
 Barron, Monica
 Barron, Rita
 Bicknell, Gertrude M.
 Birtwell, Mabelle B.
 Branch, Eugenia M.
 Brandt, Ilene M.
 Brooks, Pearl M.
 Brown, Phyllis R.
 Burndrett, Edith
 Burton, Mildred
 Cahill, Dorothy C.
 Cahill, Joan L.
 Coppen, Eleanor L.
 Densmore, Margaret J.
 Dexter, Edna M.
 Dillon, Marion R.
 Faulkner, Sarah M.

Forgays, Lorraine M.
 Foster, Virginia E.
 Francis, Gladys A.
 Gagnon, Muriel M.
 Green, Ruth A.
 Hazeltine, Catherine Claire
 House, Ruth H.
 Karafelis, Mabel
 Karafelis, Magdalene D.
 Kardys, Blanche M.
 Lapham, Doris E.
 Lessard, Esther
 Lombardi, Doris
 Long, Mary E.
 McDonough, Josephine E.
 McHugh, Patricia M.
 Mills, Helen L.
 Miller, Sadie May
 Miner, Mary J.
 Monette, Mary R.
 Mullen, Louise

Mullen, Myrtle M.
 Murphy, Evelyn L.
 Noel, Pauline R.
 Pelletier, Irene C.
 Peterson, Arline E.
 Plein, Josephine
 Pope, Mildred E.
 Powers, Ruth M.
 Robinson, Jean
 Riopelle, Florette
 Sanders, Muriel E.
 Smith, Nora C.
 Straughan, Jeanette A.
 Straughan, Theresa M.
 Tainter, Evelyn M.
 Thayer, Ester M.
 Vondal, Mary L.
 Wrigley, Dorothea M.
 Wiggin, Norma O.

FOOTNOTES

Any material that I have taken from town documents readily available to the public I have not footnoted. For the most part, the reader can assume that the material is, therefore, in the Annual Report of the Town.

Chapter I. Chelmsford: 1916-1945.

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of the United States: 1920. See especially the volume on Massachusetts.
2. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of the United States: 1930. See volume three, part 1.
3. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of the United States: 1960. See the volume on Massachusetts.
4. Telephone conversation. May, 1967.
5. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 31, Feb. 2, 12, 1924.
Interview. May 10, 1967.
6. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 6, 1917.
7. Ibid., April 8, 1917.
8. Ibid., April 21, 1917.
9. Ibid., May 3, 1917.
10. Ibid., June 11, 1917.
11. Ibid., June 19, 31, 1917.
12. Ibid., Nov. 9, 1918.
13. Program of the Welcome Home Celebration Day.
14. Lowell Courier-Citizen, November 15, 1930.
15. Ibid., Dec. 15, 1931.
16. Ibid., August 15, Sept. 7, 1932.
17. Board of Selectmen, Minutes., Nov., 1, 1933, v..2, p.75.
18. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 14, 1934.
19. Ibid., Nov. 14, 1934.
20. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Oct. 29, 1942.
21. Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Trends, uncollected taxes, 1934-date. Form 22A.
22. Board of Selectmen, Minutes. See the back of v. 2.
23. Chelmsford Newsweekly, March 26, 1942.
24. Ibid., April 23, 1942.
25. Ibid., June 18, 1942.

Chapter II. The Landscape and the Weather.

1. Lowell Courier-Citizen, May 9, 1923.
2. Ibid., July 7, 1923.
3. Ibid., Sept. 8, 1923.
4. Ibid., July 16, 1928.
5. Ibid., Aug. 10, 1932.
6. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Aug. 19, 1954.

7. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Aug. 8, 1924.
8. Ibid., Jan. 30, 1935.
9. Ibid., March 13, 1936.
10. The Lowell Courier-Citizen covers the flood from March 9 to the end of the month. The Chelmsford Historical Society has clippings from other newspapers which also cover the Lowell area.
11. See the Lowell Courier-Citizen for September, 1938.

Chapter III. Politics and Government.

1. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Feb. 9, 1921.
2. Chelmsford Newsweekly, April 12, May 3, 1956.
3. Board of Selectmen, Minutes. p. 578, Lowell Courier-Citizen, June 25, 1928.
4. Board of Selectmen, Minutes. v. 2, p. 10.
5. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Aug. 4, 1924.
6. Ibid., Sept. 20, 1924; April 10, June 8, 1925.
7. Town of Chelmsford, Annual Report, 1929, p. 81.
8. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Aug. 14, 1919.
9. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Oct. 29, 1924; Board of Selectmen, Minutes. v. 1, Oct. 29, 1924.
10. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Nov. 16, 26, 1924.
11. Interview, May 10, 1967.
12. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 6, 1931.
13. Board of Selectmen, Minutes, v. 3, p. 98.
14. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 24, 1925.
15. Board of Selectmen, Minutes, v. 1. p. 359.
16. Jan. 14, 1922.
17. Chelmsford Newsweekly, June 11, 1953.
18. Ibid., July 31, 1941.
19. Interview, April 4, 1967; Board of Selectmen, Minutes. v. 1, p. 230; Chelmsford Newsweekly, July 9, 1942.
20. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Nov. 6, 1924.

Chapter IV. The Economy.

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of the United States: 1930. v. 3, pt. 1.
2. Interview, June 15, 1967.
3. Board of Selectmen, Minutes, v.1.
4. Interview. May 10, 1967. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 24, 1919.
5. U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of the United States: 1930. v. 3, pt. 1.
6. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Oct. 22, 1953.
7. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 1, 11, 26; May 8; Nov. 20, 1930; April 13, 1931.
8. Interview, April 4, 1967.
9. Interview, May 15, 1967.
10. Interview, April 19, 1967.
11. Interview, June 21, 1967.

12. Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Census of Manufactures. Form 7, Code 264, Forms and data.
13. Massachusetts Department of Commerce, Monograph No. 148. Town of Chelmsford. 1955.
14. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Dec. 6, 1946.
15. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Nov. 5, 1920.
16. Ibid., Nov. 21, 1919.
17. Ibid., Nov. 17, 1921.
18. Ibid., May 6, 1925.
19. Records of the Chelmsford Telephone Company. These can be found in the possession of the Chelmsford Historical Society. Interview, June 21, 1967.

Chapter V. The Churches in Chelmsford.

1. Rev. Wilson Waters, "The Church Militant." 1907(?)
2. Ibid., Symbolism. 1922.
3. Interview, June 19, 1967.
4. Lowell Courier-Citizen, July 16, 1920. An observer who was there that night remembers no waterbucket line.
5. I was unable to acquire any additional information from St. John's.

Chapter VI. Education.

1. Interview, June 15, 1967.
2. Wilson Water, History of Chelmsford, Mass., p. 642.
3. School Committee, Proceedings, 1949.
4. Town of Chelmsford, Annual Report, 1917, p. 103.
5. U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of the United States; 1920. Massachusetts.
6. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Dec. 13, 1926.
7. Speech by Miss McFarlin. Located in the back of her "The public School System of Chelmsford." Property of the Chelmsford Historical Society.
8. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Sept. 11, 1930.
9. Ibid., June 29, 1931.
10. Ibid., July 1, 1933.
11. Ibid., Nov. 20, 1935.
12. Chelmsford Newsweekly, June 25, 1953.
13. Interview, June 21, 1967.
14. School Committee, Minutes, Sept. 23, 1959.

Chapter VII. Social and Cultural History

1. Chelmsford Tercentenary Edition, published by The Chelmsford Newsweekly.
2. Interview, June 21, 1967
3. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 5, 1917.
4. Ibid., Jan. 23, 1917
5. Ibid., March 9, 1932.
6. Ibid., March 31, 1920.
7. Ibid., April 11, 1923.
8. Ibid., May 7, Nov. 19, 1923; March 1, May 23, 1924; May 6, 1926; Nov. 30, 1931; Feb. 26, 1932; also Chelmsford Tercentenary Edition.
9. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Sept. 14, 1927.
10. Ibid., Oct. 8, 1930.
11. Ibid., Oct. 9, 1930, May 2, 1934, Oct. 1, 1959.
12. Ibid., March 1, 1935, June 8, 1935.
13. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Jan. 26, 1956.
14. Records of the Village Improvement Association, v.2.
15. Lowell Courier-Citizen, July 5, 1923, Dec. 31, 1935.
Regarding 4th of July observances, Charles Watt has uncovered an interesting earlier history of the area where the carnivals were held. Originally called the Golden Cove Park, it was established as a horse trotting park around 1910. Located on the old gun club grounds, adjacent to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad at the foot of Monahan Street, it was built by the Lowell Driving Club. There was a half mile dirt track with bleachers, band stands, and a double row of horse stalls. As many as nineteen races were run here at one meet, with \$300 purses offered. This park was also used for balloon ascensions, boy scout jamborees, sports events, the Middlesex North Agricultural Society fairs, a muster field in 1917, and, later on, motorcycle races.
16. Chelmsford Tercentenary Edition. My decision to spell the name of the pond in the South as "Hart" will give apoplexy to some. Many feel it should be "Heart," including Wilson Waters, (p. 632 of his history). The evidence for either spelling is inconclusive. This historian has used Hart because, after viewing the pond, he concluded it looked like two balloons.
17. Records of the Westlands Improvement Association.
18. Lowell Courier-Citizen, May 1, 1924.
19. Ibid., April 2, 1930, Sept. 18, 1935.
20. Ibid., May 31, 1934.
21. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Feb. 11, 1960.
22. Interview, May 19, 1967.
23. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 28, 1939; Chelmsford Newsweekly, Feb. 10, 1955, Feb. 11, 1960, Feb. 6, 1962.
24. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 26, 1920; April 8, 1939.
25. Chelmsford Newsweekly, August 29, 1942.
26. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 17, 1939.
27. Chelmsford Newsweekly, April 14, 1960.
28. Lowell Courier-Citizen, Jan. 31, 1919.
29. Ibid., Aug. 30, 1919.

30. Chelmsford Newsweekly, July 25, 1957.
31. Lowell Courier-Citizen, April 21, 1917, Nov. 10, 1920.
32. Ibid., July 3, 1923.
33. Chelmsford Newsweekly, Sept. 24, 1942.
34. School Committee, Minutes, Oct. 7, 1943.
35. Lowell Courier-Citizen, June 30, 1923.
36. Ibid., Nov. 27, 1933, April 5, 1934.
37. Ibid., April 7, 1934.
38. Chelmsford Tercentenary Edition.
39. Mrs. Flint's will is on file at the Town Clerk's office.
The information on why the cleaning stopped was given
in an interview, May 10, 1967.
40. Board of Selectmen, Minutes, v. 3, pp. 202-203.
41. Interview, n.d.
42. There is one copy of the Chelmsford Times in the possession
of the Chelmsford Historical Association.

Chapter VIII. Chelmsford: 1945-1960

1. U.S. Bureau of the Census. Census of the United States: 1960. Massachusetts.
2. Summary report of Comprehensive Planning Studies.
Chelmsford, Mass. Economic Development Associates,
Inc., 1963.