

## Police Seeking Pawtucketville Pest Who Telephone False Alarms

LOWELL.—The "Pawtucketville pest" telephoned his fourth false alarm in four days into the Central fire station at 4:09 o'clock yesterday afternoon to send three pieces of apparatus and Fire Chief Kelleher to 31 Fourth street for a phoney cellar fire.

Chief Kelleher revealed last night that the "false" ringer is known to be a teen-aged youth, but his identity has not been established. His usual procedure is to telephone in an alarm or an

urgent appeal for the fire department ambulance from a pay station, the fire chief said. On one occasion this week the youth barely escaped after making a false alarm call from a pay station in a store at Central and Jackson streets. Serg. Robert T. Mulvey, vice squad chief, attempted to trace the call while officers were racing to the store to capture the caller.

The worst feature of false alarms, Chief Kelleher explained, is the danger of sending fire apparatus racing to places where serious fires are expected to be found raging.

Firemen sped to the Fourth street location, he said, because a cellar fire is often dangerous, and firefighters make all possible speed getting to such fires.

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**ACCIDENT VICTIMS LEAVE HOSPITAL**—Pictured above is the happy group present at the discharge yesterday from St. John's hospital of Claude and David Bouvier, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bouvier, 26 Huntington street. The two lads were seriously injured on July 1, when involved in an accident with an ice cream truck, whereby the truck backed over them. In the photo, they are, left to right: Mr. Bouvier, Claude, nurse Miss Gertrude Liggatt, David, Mrs. Bouvier and John Racette, great-grandfather of the tots.

## St. Benedict Center Ruling Appealed

BOSTON, July 28 (UP)—Members of St. Benedict Center in Cambridge, placed "off limits" to Catholics because of the "Boston heresy case," have appealed to the courts to see why veteran-students have been cut off from benefits under the GI bill of rights.

They filed a petition in superior court yesterday for a review of the action of State Education Commissioner John J. Desmond in failing to grant the independent Catholic theology school recognition of its course. This automatically prevents payment of government subsistence to veteran-students.

Judge John E. Swift made the case returnable next Friday, two days before the benefits of the GI bill will expire at the Center. Massachusetts law provides that the decisions of the education commission can be appealed to the superior court.

Both Frankincense and myrrh are obtained from trees.

## Louella Parsons

HOLLYWOOD, July 28 (INS)—How do you like the idea of Bing Crosby as "Rip Van Winkle" in a musical with Cole Porter tunes? I'd never have known such a plan was cooking if I hadn't run into my old friend, E. H. Griffith, who directed some of the biggest silent hits.

For years, Griffith and Gene Fowler have had on and off ideas for making Gene's original treatment of "Rip" as an independent. But it was Bill Morrow, Bing's close pal and traveling companion, who said, "Let me take this to Bing." He likes it, maybe because there's a little bit of "Rip" in Bing.

After 18 years in the movies, popular comedian Frank McHugh is saying goodbye to Hollywood. On August 3, Frank, his wife, his daughter and son start driving across the country toward a permanent home in New York.

"I love Hollywood and always will," Frank told me. "But I'm concentrating on the stage from here on—so it's wisest to pull stakes and move to New York."

Chit-chat:  
Garson Kanin, responsible for Judy Holiday getting the lead on the stage in "Born Yesterday" after Jean Arthur left, is writing a movie story for Judy.

I asked Judy about it and she said: "I heard he is writing an original and I hope it's true. I feel I owe him so much. I hope I get a character as good as Billie in 'Born Yesterday.'"

Marlene Dietrich won't have any time to have a gay whirl on the continent after she finishes "No Highway" with Jimmy Stewart in London.

She comes back to the USA immediately—Arizona, to be exact—to make "Chuck-a-Luck" for Fritz Lang and Fidelity Pictures. The role brings Marlene (I'm determined to write something about her without mentioning she's a grandma—or have I?) back to her days of being a belle of the barrooms—movies, of course.

Snapshots of Hollywood collected at random:  
Well, whattaya know? Francis X. Bushman, original matinee idol of the movies, will be King Louis XI in "The Vagabond King" at Hollywood bowl August 15-20. No, he won't sing with Nadine Conner and Leif Erikson. Neither will Don Wilson, who'll play the comedian.

If beautiful Nancy Oakes and Richard Greene are cooling, they didn't look like it at her cocktail party—a gay affair at her home.

Lili Damita was there looking none the worse for her court joust over alimony with Errol Flynn. Among those who were having too much fun to pay attention to the "eight o'clock" closing hint on the invitations were Sir Cedric Hardwicke, the Edward G. Robinsons, Joan Fontaine and Bill Gillette.

From Nancy's some of the guests went on to the Mocambo for the Nat "King" Cole debut. Ringsiding were Jimmy McHugh and Pretty Jeannie McLaren.

Patti Myer, with Johnny of course, looked like a dreamboat.

I'm going to believe that Milton Berle has written a novel called "Sit Still, My Soul" when I read the galley proofs. But his P. A. says he's been dictating it for years and it's finished.

Viveca Lindfors, born in Sweden, has been an American citizen for six weeks—but she wanted no pictures taken of her oath of allegiance because "it was too serious a moment in my life."

That's all today. See you tomorrow.

## SAMPASCOOPIES

By CHARLES G. SAMPAS  
The Days of Long Ago When Lowell Was Young and Had Such Interesting Personalities: Another Chapter in The History of Lowelltown

**THE OLD LOWELL TOWN...**  
Lowell was not only a center for local talent of a goodly character, but she drew to her the best there was to be had. So write Judge Samuel P. Hadley and Mabel Hill in an old memorandum. I find in my collection of Lowelliana. They point out that early histories of the Lowelltown are full of descriptions of fete days and celebrations, when the grandees of the country came to view the infant city of spindles. Presidents Jackson, Polk and Tyler, John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, Lafayette—each came and left his word of ardent praise.

Lincoln visited Lowell in 1848, little dreaming that the visit would be cherished by her citizens years after when he had become their martyred chief. Webster and Choate, brought by the famous case of "Commonwealth versus Wyman," gave a stir to the pulse of her young lawyers—Abbott, Sweetzer, Crosby, Wentworth, and John P. Robinson, "he who wouldn't vote for Governor B." and here in Lowell the two great logicians met in turn an equal at the bar in the young Butler who was later to become himself so famous in the courtroom.

Possibly at no time in the life of the city was the social atmosphere more literary than during the ten or 15 years previous to the Civil War. With society as it was in the 40s and 50s we find in Lowell an environment which was conducive to pleasing intellectual growth. Whittier was living in town, editing The Standard, and gathering about him in a quiet way a small school of disciples. Franklin Pierce, who belonged to the Wentworth family, came and went among the social leaders. Wendell Phillips, a law student in the office of Lawrence and Hopkinson, was in evidence both in club life and society. He himself gives us a glimpse of the life he saw here:

"Lowell was then crowded with able men—well-read lawyers and successful with a jury; among them, scholarly, eloquent, deeply read in his profession, and a genius, was John P. Robinson. The city was rich in all that makes good society—amiable, hospitality and amply able to contribute their full share to interesting and suggestive conversation; gentlemen of talent, energetic, well informed and giving a hearty welcome to the best thought of the day."

Among the women to whom this pleasant tribute must refer were the much honored Penhallow ladies, Miss Lucy, Miss Susan and Miss Julia whose originality of mind and charm of manner have given them a place sui generis. For years they were not only among the most faithful workers in the schools of the city but they were associated with the beginnings of the Unitarian society and the many branch missions which were starting up at that time.

Mrs. Jane Erminie Locke, sweet poetess of the town and young poet Joshua Swan, were among this coterie of clever folks. Mrs. Locke was the woman above all others whose home was the salon for wit and culture. Just above the factory district near the Wamesit Falls stood her low picturesque cottage, where the dainty hostess and her family dispensed their gracious hospitality. Both Mr. and Mrs. Locke lived long enough in the city to become identified with its spirit and ambitions. The literary career which had every promise for fulfillment was cut too short by the comparatively early death of the lovely woman.

N. P. Willis, Mrs. Hemans, Mrs. Osgood, Webster, Choate and the rare-minded but unfortunate Edgar Allen Poe were the men and women whom she gathered closest to her—belonging to the "world of letters" heretofore and claiming kin with others in that world. Poe's friendship with her is especially interesting and it was emphasized by his visit to Lowell during the summer of 1848, when he delivered his lecture, "Poetic Principles."

It has been stated that at the outset of industrial activity in Lowell all the land and water power very soon came under the control of the Merrimack Manufacturing Company. In 1825 the Merrimack Company conveyed to the Proprietors of the Locks and Canals, whom Greenhalge called "The Captand," then so much as was required by them in turn conveyed by the Merrimack Company for individual purposes, thus putting the latter corporation upon the same footing with all other manufacturing companies. As new mills were erected, so new canals were necessary.

Kirk Boott, the first agent of the Locks and Canals, whom Greenhalge called the "Captain of Industry" in Lowell, was ably fitted to open up these waterways—the Merrimack, Lawrence, Eastern and Western canals. A standard was established called a mill power, which was the right to draw a certain amount of water (25 cubic feet per second) over a fall of 30 feet. During the years from 1825 to 1840 the company made sales of this power to the following corporations—Hamilton, Appleton, Lowell, Middlesex, Tremont, Suffolk, Lawrence, Boott and Massachusetts.

Six years after the construction of the Boott and Massachusetts corporation, it was discovered that the capacity of the old canals was insufficient to answer the growing demand. Then it was that the fine scientific knowledge of hydraulic engineering which James B. Francis possessed became of such importance to the manufacturing interests of Lowell. The construction of the Northern Canal brought about an entire change in the flow of water, keeping it more nearly constant and with but little loss in its flow.

In addition to this great waterway, with its beautiful "mill walk" from the Falls to the Old Stone Tavern (now the Ayer Home for Children), Mr. Francis constructed a new dam, securing the rights of higher flash-boards, and removing a portion of Hunt's Falls. This latter engineering resulted in a large increase of available water power.

One of the new dramatic incidents connected with the practical life of Lowell's waterways was the cause and effect of the "sliding gate" at the Guard Locks of the old Pawtucket canal. The early engineers of the Locks and Canals had investigated the history of freshets in the Merrimack; and it has been ascertained that once at least, in 1785, the overflow had been so devastating a nature that some precaution ought to be taken for the future, especially as the growth of the city would make possible great peril to its inhabitants.

But it was left to Mr. Francis to build this important protection. In 1850 there was erected at the Guard Locks on Broadway, a portcullis gate with extensive wing walls, which should cut off the water in case of another freshet. The dike was constructed from the guard gates to the westerly bank, in which an opening had to be left for the locks. Above this opening and in the wall of the lock Mr. Francis constructed guides, and swung a gate of solid timbers in an iron strap above the height of navigation.

The protection was completed, which was to prove its own utility if a freshet should occur. The old gates to this canal had themselves been deemed sufficient for any ordinary emergency; but in April, 1852, the waters of the river began to rise rapidly, and at three o'clock on the morning of the 22nd the water crept its way around the head post of the old westerly gate. Then it was that the great sliding shield and dykes became famous. The straps were cut, the wooden gates dropped into place, and the city was saved.

## Police Seek Radio Thief

Believed Responsible for Theft of Three Sets

LOWELL.—Police today are looking for a juvenile thief who boldly walked out of the Scott Jewelry Co. at 60 Merrimack street yesterday with two portable radios valued at \$77.50 in a shopping bag.

This daylight theft was discovered just an hour after someone with a good sense of timing infiltrated into a Moody street radio and television store while the owner was busy out behind the store and walked off with a table model radio valued at \$25.

Edward B. Lantagne of 19 Gorham street, East Chelmsford, salesman in the Scott store, told police that he discovered the loss of the radios at 12:25 p. m. yesterday after he saw a youth about 14-years-old leave the store from the direction of the appliance department with a loaded shopping bag.

Lantagne said that the boy wore a blue shirt and slacks and had close cropped-dark hair.

The table radio was stolen from the Cloutier Television center at 65 Moody street about 11:30 a. m. while the proprietor, Eugene Cloutier, was burning rubbish behind the store. The radio was on display on a table just inside the door, Cloutier said.

Inspectors George L. Handley and Thomas D. Maguire are continuing the investigation today.

Contrary to prevalent belief, you don't have to sleep on your back to snore.

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15 Oz. Can **14¢**

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16 Oz. Can

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4 CAN  
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**HELD IN SLASHING**  
BOSTON, July 28 (INS)—A Roxbury brewery worker, who allegedly slashed his wife with a small knife in the kitchen of a cafe where she was working, today was held by police on assault charges. Police said Aubrey H. Warmunde, 32, steadfastly refused under questioning to say why he attacked his wife, Clara, 44, who was released after treatment at Peter Bent Brigham hospital for superficial wounds.

All eclipses repeat themselves after a period of approximately 18 years and 12 days. This period of time is known as the "Saros."

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