

SARGENTRIVIA

Vol. 4

192 Bishop St., New Haven 11, Conn., January 3, 1946

No. 1

This number begins a new volume and follows Vol. 3, No. 23 of December 12, 1945. An index to the issues published from July to December 1945 (Vol. 3, Nos. 15-23) is being mailed with this number, excepting to those overseas. Ye editors wish all a Happy New Year. Ziegler Sargent, editor; Agnes W.B. Sargent, assistant editor.

First Lieutenant Lawton G. Sargent, Jr., of the Air Corps wrote from Kitzengen, Germany, on November 22d: "To-day is a holiday, Thanksgiving Day, and at this point I have just finished dinner. It was really quite a meal, though several traditions were broken in that we had French fried potatoes with the turkey and somewhere along the line the cranberry sauce got lost. However we really ate in style, with all the trimmings, even to bottles of wine! Mail is getting thru pretty well now. *** We now have a little electric stove in our room on which we cook late evening snacks and sometimes Sunday breakfasts. This morning we had fried eggs (from a nearby farm) and bacon. As we know the men of the mess hall pretty well, they keep us supplied with a little stock of edibles. One of the Kraut maids has made us some red and yellow curtains for our windows, so we are really very cozy. Life here at the base goes on as usual with nothing special happening. *** It is impossible to go anywhere any distance away. This being in a Service Group outtails flying no end, especially since we have nothing yet but cubs. We are hoping for an AT-6, an advanced trainer, soon, but I'm afraid the P51s are out, as red tape is involved and lack of maintenance personnel curbs activity. The bomb group is in pathetic shape, as at present with nearly 100 planes here only two or three are flying. The point score of enlisted men is at 55, so they keep leaving and no replacements arrive. I imagine in a month or so why things may begin to straighten out. As you know the Nuremburg trials are now going on and we hear them broadcast. It's about impossible to get a pass to them unless you have beaucoup rank and high connections, so we have given up that idea. The place is really heavily guarded and quite impressive to pass by. Day before yesterday I went to Frankfurt with Lt. Stipes (one of my roommates) to buy some warm clothes. It was quite a jaunt, and we traveled thru some beautiful country. We stopped in one place for coffee and doughnuts to take the chill off and got to Frankfurt just at noon, after 2-1/2 hours of driving. The city is pretty battered in spots, but the clothing store well stocked, and we got about what we needed. We drove thru Wurtzburg on the way, and there is literally nothing left of that town. I don't see where the people live, as there are just hollow shells for buildings. It is something terrible to see! ***"

Second Lieutenant Cornelius K. Ham of the Marines, stepson of Hilda Sargent Ham, has sailed recently on the S.S. Manhattan on the way to Tientsin, China, 45 days, going by way of the Panama Canal.

Major Nathaniel H. Bailey, son of Mary Emma (Tiny) Hammond Bailey, has been separated from the Army Quartermaster Corps and has returned to Griffin, Ga.

Lieutenant Arthur N. Turner, husband of Nancy Grove Turner, has been separated from the Navy and has returned to his studies at Yale. He and Nancy with their two children, Nicky aged 2 and Anne aged 6 months, are living in Madison, Conn.

Corporal Margaret Sargent Fisher was discharged from the Marines on December 6th. Soon afterwards she visited her paternal grandparents, the Samuel H. Fishers, in Litchfield, Conn. After a stop-over in New Haven with the Babbitts she went on December 20th to Pittsburgh to visit her father, Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Fisher, who is now living outside Pittsburgh and whose residence address is c/o C.H. Curry, Jr., Thorn Run Road, Coraopolis, Pa. Having been stationed for two years in the Carolinas Daisy was glad to see snow for a change. She saw plenty in New Haven.

Louise Fisher entered Radcliffe College last fall. She was introduced to society in Philadelphia on December 27th by her grandmother, Mrs. Norton Downs, at a reception at The Barolay, Rittenhouse Square.

Janet Wyer Sargent, wife of Captain Frederick K. Sargent, and her two daughters, Leslie and Sandra, on December 12th left North Haven, Conn., where they had been visiting the Richard C. Sargents, Fred's parents. They are now living in an apartment near her parents in Wayzata, Minn., and expect to be there till Fred returns from the Philippines.

P.f.o. Thomas C. Babbitt of the Infantry, son of Peggy Fisher Babbitt, wrote from Prachatice, Czechoslovakia, on November 8th: "More changes in the choir—our director, Rosen, has gone home on points. Now we have to break in a new one, so to speak. He (the new one by the name of Doolittle) knows a good deal about music, but has had no directing experience, so it'll be quite a while before we're back where we were. *** The day after Rosen left the Regimental Commander, who was our guardian angel (he liked to look at our polished boots as we sat in church on Sunday and say to himself, or possibly to his hovering adjutant, 'They're my boys') was giving a farewell party, as he was leaving. Having had one horrible experience on trying to sing at a G.I. dance where the liquor was flowing, the Chaplain decided to send only the quartet (like lambs to the slaughter) as being more in keeping with the occasion. Well Rosen was first tenor in the quartet also, so that meant, starting at 11:00 A.M. we had to break in a new man (name of MacIntyre from New York, a good gent) and whip up an appropriate repertoire by 8 P.M. By that time we could only just peep from being so hoarse, but we sallied down and walked in just as things were commencing. We started off with 'Jerusalem Morning' and were going very smoothly until the first tenor's solo came along. There was a pause—one of those pauses. Then our baritone with great presence of mind said: 'Wait a minute, that's where you come in, les try thet agin' in a beautiful negro voice. So we tried it again—with the same result. Still not so much as a chuckle from anybody. By then the whole thing had developed into a sort of black-face act without the black-face, so I suggested to MacIntyre that 'he git on wid de business at hand' and reminded him of the words, and we carried on from there. After that one there was another pause, again filled in by Tomaszewski with the next number, 'You Shall Be Free', and some comment. Doolittle has perfect pitch, but he was a little flustered I guess, and that whole number was a little sour. Again no applause. We proceeded with 'Sorta Miss You' in about the same vein. Ditto after that one. Then our prize—'Graceful And Easy' with a second verse like the inkspots with the baritone stepping out and saying 'This is the Celestial heavenly choir ('Celestial' is the code name for the 302nd Regiment) wishing you a speedy trip home. And we wish to say, Colonel, that we've always thought of you as an officer and a gentleman and a fine judge of good music.' That, bless its heart, finally got a laugh, and we got a big hand at the end. As we left, the Colonel shook us each by the hand and said, with a tear in his eye, he'd always enjoyed our music. Then, even more unheard of, the adjutant parted with half a bottle of scotch for the four of us. That was really unusual! The Chaplain came out with and suggested we go down to the regimental G.P. building where we wouldn't have to share it with 28 others, so we polished off the first taste of real liquor I've seen since I've been in the E.T.O.—in the chaplain's office! Well anyway it showed our hearts were in the right place, and everyone was very polite to us. We're going to Switzerland on the 17th according to the latest dope. ***" On November 14th: "The Switzerland pass has been postponed again. The division, as you may have seen in the paper, is moving into Germany or Austria before Dec. 1, so all leaves and passes have been canceled. We're giving a concert here on Thursday and one at Division next week. Doolittle is doing fine at his new job of directing. The quartet will sing 'Ol Ark', 'Evaline', maybe 'I Got Shoes', and 'Ain't It A Shame' for an encore. Also a couple that are not in the song book. ***" Tom wrote from Gothofen, Germany, on November 28th: "At last the choir is broken up. About 14 men out of 28 have enough points to be transferred to another division, and so they shipped right from Czechoslovakia. We had a grand party last Saturday with lots of singing for a last farewell. Most of the guys I liked best have left. *** The ride down here was pretty rugged. We got up at 4:00 A.M., and got here in time for 11:30 P.M. supper. The roads were icy a lot of the way, but I was in the back of the chaplain's jeep, which I had helped to 'winterize', so it was pretty warm. The rest of the choir in a truck had motor trouble and got separated from the convoy and wandered around southern Germany till 5:30 the next morning. At the moment the whole regiment is billeted in a Hitler Youth camp, along with a regiment from the 71st Division. Altogether about 3,000 men, I guess. You can imagine what sort of a place this is. Tremendous stone buildings, many of the rooms paneled and with huge beams of rough pine. There are huge lounges, a gym, swimming pool (empty) and a huge mess hall, staffed by Germans. Best food since I've been over here. This is really a beautiful place. I can see how a German boy from some little town would gladly 'Sieg Heil' all day if they sent him here. ***" From Gothofen on December 12th: "Much news! I'm a pfo! It's perfectly automatic of course, one year in the army, but still it's a stripe. The other big thing is that we're moving to the 4th Armored Div. in Landesbut, Germany. Ten of us in the choir will all be in the same company and will be the nucleus of a regimental choir there! Also Chaplain Small, the guy who has been our boss for a couple of months is going with us and will be Regimental Chaplain. This whole business required a great deal of finagling and thereto hangs a tale. Chaplain Small got orders to go to the 4th Armored last Saturday, but they were verbal orders and he had too many points to go to an occupation outfit, so he thought there might be a mistake, and on Sunday afternoon he and Grappy (a guy who was in my replacement company) and I went up to Munich to see about this. We got there that night and by flashing his orders (written by the 94th) and telling some poor little pfo that Grappy and I were on the same orders, he got rooms and supper and breakfast for all three of us in a huge transient mess in Munich. The next day we found that the people he wanted to see were in Bad Toltz, 40 miles south. So off we sail again and in about an hour and three quarters we arrived at 3rd Army Forward Cp. There the Chaplain went to work. First he found from 3rd Army Chaplain that he was supposed to go to a stockade for AWOL's, etc., attached to the 4th Armored. Grappy and I were waiting by the jeep and we got this news as he whizzed by to the G1 office. We did this till about 3 o'clock, the chaplain buzzing from one office to another and we getting last minute bulletins as we caught a glimpse of him. *** However things were finally straightened out and we took off home, by a southerly route that went through the edge of Austria. We found ourselves in Garmish about 6 o'clock as it started to snow and get dark, so the chaplain hauled out the same orders and got us rooms and meals again, in a very luxurious hotel for transients, and we came back by various backroads, as we found Austria at that point was the French zone and the

liaison officer was not to be found. The scenery down in that area is something really amazing. All the houses look as though they came with the Alps, they fit into the countryside so well. There was about a foot of snow all over, so all had the effect of a Christmas card. The whole route from Garmish is through the Alps, which are of course far more beautiful than any pictures of it ever could be. When we left Garmish in the morning the sun was shining on one huge mountain that looks down on the town, and the effect was tremendous with the whole beautiful valley in a bluish shadow and this bright mountain top towering over it all. *** His new address is Pfc. Thomas C. Babbitt, #11140578, c/o Chaplain's Office, C.C.B., A.P.C. 254, c/o Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Samuel H. Fisher, of Litchfield, Conn. (Aunt Daisy to most of us) has given to the Yale University Library her collection of playing cards acquired by her during the last fifteen years. These cards are not, as most people suppose, an assortment of the backs of the cards, but they are a collection from countries all over the world, and are ancient as well as modern. The pips and pictures on the cards have varied with the centuries and the times. In the collection are cards made by American Indians from the skin of their captives; there are cards from Persia delicately pictured and lacquered, cards from Spain with realistic clubs instead of the conventional design of to-day—fortune-telling cards, "transformation" cards, and cards produced during various wars and political crises in which the faces of the usual court cards have been changed to those of prominent men and women or royalty of that era. Some of these are now on exhibition (during December and January) at the Yale Library. Ye editors were much interested "before the war" in hearing the owner talk about the collection before a large audience at the library.

Samuel H. Fisher (Uncle Sam to most of ye editor's generation) is the author of a biography of Chief Justice Topping Reeve of Connecticut which appeared in the Connecticut Bar Journal for October 1945. Justice Reeve, who began to practice law in 1772, founded the famous old Law School at Litchfield, Conn., where something like one thousand students came under his instruction. The author tells a fascinating story.

The trustees of the Sargent Trust Estate held their annual meeting in New Haven on December 20th. Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907) established this trust on December 14, 1892, which originally consisted of the majority of stock of Sargent & Company. Nearly 84% of the original principal has been distributed. The income for the last fiscal year totaled \$2,136.20 and was paid to three life beneficiaries. Officers were re-elected. Samuel H. Fisher resigned as a trustee. The present trustees are: John Sargent (chairman), Ziegler Sargent (secretary and treasurer), Lawton G. Sargent (auditor) and C. Forbes Sargent.

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- January 3 - S 1/C Thomas Owen Sargent (19th)
son of Major Thomas D. Sargent
- 4 - Thomas Huntington Wiser (23d)
son of Dorothy Sargent Wiser
- 10 - Katharine Avies Fenn (2d)
daughter of Lt. Commander Bruce Fenn, 2d
- 11 - Mary Hale Cunningham Sargent
wife of Murray Sargent
- 16 - Anne (Nancy) Hoyt Sargent
wife of John Sargent
- 21 - Ludwig K. Moorehead
husband of Barbara Sargent Moorehead
- 22 - Florence Rebecca Sargent Ericson
daughter of John R.W. Sargent
- 29 - Timothy Collins Tilney (3d)
son of First Lieut. Bradford Sargent Tilney

WEDDINGS

- January 18 - Murray and Mary Hale
Cunningham Sargent (33d)
- 23 - Captain James C. and Rebecca
Porteous Jackson Sargent (3d)

Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907) in his first message as Mayor of the City of New Haven on January 1, 1891, among many other matters stated: "Election of Janitor to the City Hall. There are no personal reasons why I should ask for any change in the City Charter except that part relating to the election of janitor. The Mayor is presumed to be responsible for keeping the interior of the City Hall building sufficiently clean for decent respectability. In domestic, professional and business life in New Haven, the head of the family, office or business, is allowed to hire such caretaker as she or he may select or approve, with the right to discharge at pleasure. It would be a rather severe law that would compel a housekeeper to accept and keep a servant of the former tenant. Yet such seems to be the law of the City of New Haven in the matter of the janitor of the City Hall. The outgoing tenant selects the caretaker for the incoming tenant, and the incoming tenant is obliged to submit. It is a poor kind of politics, and I propose to ask the Legislature to change it for the benefit of the next tenant. I exonerate the outgoing tenant from any other sin than that of obeying the ill behest of his political party."

Captain Josiah Jones (1643-1714), ancestor of most of us, was the son of Lewis and Ann Jones of Roxbury and Watertown in Massachusetts Bay Colony. He was married October 2, 1667, to Lydia Treadway (daughter of Nathaniel and Sufferana (Haines) Treadway), who lived to be 94, dying September 18, 1743, in Weston, Mass. Josiah Jones was admitted freeman of Watertown April 18, 1690, was a Captain, and one of the first deacons of Weston Church, to which position he was elected January 4, 1709/10. February 20, 1655/56 he purchased of John Stone and his wife Sarah, of Watertown, a farm of 124 acres, on the north side of Sudbury Highway, about two miles from Sudbury. April 21, 1684, he sold to John Bright his share, a one-quarter interest in the mills of Sony Brook, together with 30 acres of land bought of Nathaniel Treadway February 19, 1678/79. Josiah and Lydia (Treadway) Jones had four daughters and six sons, of whom Nathaniel, the second son and fourth child is the one from whom we are descended in two lines. Nathaniel's daughter Rebecca married Daniel Denny and became the grandmother of the mother of Joseph Denny Sargent (1787-1849), and Nathaniel's son Nathaniel became the grandfather of Mindwell Jones, the wife of Joseph Denny Sargent. (See chart on the last page of Sargentivia of December 15, 1943.)

On December 1, 1858, the three brothers, Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907), George Henry Sargent (1828-1917) and Edward Sargent (1832-1883) signed two partnership agreements, in both of which all partners' interests were equal. A facsimile of the agreement covering the New York business (merchants) under the name of "Sargent & Co." was printed in Sargentivia of February 23, 1945. The manufacturing business at Leicester, Mass., had been carried on by two of the brothers under the style since about 1852 of "Sargent & Bro.". The firm name was not changed when the third brother became a partner on December 1, 1858. When Brother George was admitted to an interest in this partnership a bill of sale was signed by his brothers of which the following is a facsimile.

A/c Stock Cords. Machinery &c. Dec 1st 1858.
Total amt of Cords & Machinery. Material &c
at Leicester ————— 16983 56
Am't of Cords in N.Y. 9156.20
\$26139.76 26139.76
Less 18/- on Cords ^{Staples} in N.York (amt 9156.20) 164811
" 20/- on Cords in Leicester (" 3548.15) 709.63 2357.74
\$23782.02

Memorandum December 1st 1858

This day Sold one third interest in the above property to George H Sargent for the sum of Seven ^{17,927.34} ~~thousand~~ hundred and twenty Seven ^{24/100} dollars; and received from him in payment, his two notes payable on demand with interest, each for Three Thousand ^{3763.67} ~~Nine~~ Hundred and sixty three ^{67/100} dollars; one payable to and delivered to J. B. Sargent, and the other payable to and delivered to Edward Sargent. Both notes are dated December 1st 1858

J. B. Sargent
Edward Sargent