

# SARGENTRIVIA

Vol. 5

192 Bishop St., New Haven 11, Conn., May 27, 1947

No. 5

Ziegler Sargent, editor; Agnes W.B. Sargent, assistant editor.

Lawton G. Sargent, Jr., was "tapped" for Wolf's Head, the Yale senior society on May 15th. Lawt expects to graduate from Yale in February 1949 as a member of the Class of 1945W. As a First Lieutenant in the Army Air Force Reserve Corps he has been appointed one of the Staff Operations Officers in the New Haven area in connection with the flying time required of active or inactive men in the Reserve. An air ferry service has been organized from the New Haven Municipal Airport to Westover Field in Massachusetts, where the required flying of 40 hours, evenly distributed over a year, will be done in Army AT6 planes.

Bradford S. Tilney, son of Rhoda Sargent Tilney, and Josephine, his wife, staged an enjoyable buffet dinner on Saturday, May 3d in their home in Cheshire Conn., to bid bon voyage to Elizabeth C. Sargent (Brad's aunt). Of course a toast was drunk to the traveler and one also to the hosts. Twenty-one were present, not counting Timmy Tilney, age 4, who greeted the guests on arrival. In addition to the hosts and the guest of honor the following attended: Ruth and Richard C. Sargent, Barbara and Richard C. Sargent, Jr., Janet Wyer Sargent, Laura and Kenneth Deming, three Lewises (Sargent, Carol and Emily), Forbes and Charlie Sargent, four Hartford cousins of the hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Hazen and Mr. and Mrs. Doty) and Agnes and Ziegler Sargent.

Elizabeth Collier Sargent, daughter of Henry B. Sargent, has arrived in England. Her ship, the Queen Elizabeth was nearly a full day behind her scheduled sailing from New York, because of a grounding on the English end on a previous trip, and cleared New York on May 10th. Elizabeth's address while abroad is C/o Brown, Shipley & Co., 123 Pall Mall, London, England.



Howard L. Sargent, son of George Lewis Sargent, and Florence, his wife, who live in Los Angeles, expect to come east for the graduation on June 4th of their son Peter (Howard L., Jr.) from Deerfield (Mass.) Academy. The snapshot reproduced at the left was made in LaJolla, California in the summer of 1946. Left to right: Howard, Florence, Phebe Sargent Howard (whose husband, Willing Howard, took the photograph), Phebe Downs Sargent, J. Weir Sargent holding his granddaughter, Anne Howard.

Murray Sargent, son of Henry B. Sargent, on May 14th was elected president of the Greater New York Hospital Association. The association, of which he had been previously vice president, includes 97 voluntary and 22 municipal hospitals in the New York City area. Murray since 1934 has been director of the New York Hospital, which received its original charter from King George III. He has also been reelected a trustee of the Associated Hospital Service, known as the Blue Cross, operating in New York City and in the surrounding cities and other communities. Murray and Mary, his wife, recently had a quick trip to Nassau which appears to have been mostly a sea voyage. He was a welcome

visitor at the publication office on May 21st, attending the big Hopkins Grammar School dinner in honor of the rector, Dr. George B. Lovell.

James C. Sargent, son of Murray Sargent, has been elected to the vestry of the Church of the Epiphany at York Avenue and 74th Street, New York City.

Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907), forebear of most of us, wrote the following letter from New Haven on March 17, 1882, to his wife vacationing at Old Point Comfort, Va. The tide of Italian immigration had begun. It was long before the days of employment departments, and Sargent & Company's foremen and "contractors" who did the hiring could not speak the same language as that of many applicants for jobs. "Dear Florence: The only advantage in having an Italian wife is usually supposed to be in that she can play the tambourine, but you have never exhibited any talent in that direction. You have done a little interpreting between some of your countrymen and me, but now you can make your mother tongue of value. I want to have you put the following 'Notice' into Italian and send it to me. NOTICE All persons persons who come to work must remain and work faithfully at least one week or they will not be entitled to any pay for what they do. and oblige, Yours truly, J.B.S."

Sargent & Company, of New Haven, suffered the first accidental death in the factory about 1877 when a 20-year old employee named White failed to follow directions about siphoning liquid cyanide from one tank to another, and swallowed some of it. Henry Bradford Sargent (1851-1927) described another nearly fatal accident as follows (referring to himself in the account as "H.B.S."): "H.B.S. learned, however, out of this experience (the cyanide case-Ed.) one method of artificial respiration, so that when a year or two later word was sent to him that a man was dying in the North Foundry, he at once rushed out to see what could be the matter, on the way wondering how a man could be dying in the foundry at 11 o'clock in the morning when there was nothing apparently to kill him; but found on arriving at the scene that an Italian, whose duty it was to take out the charge of the annealing furnace when cooled; had opened the door and at once crawled into the annealing furnace and was there overtaken by the gases as he crept in, and fell flat on his face. The only indication that he needed assistance was his kicking his legs, and he was hauled out. When H.B.S. found him he was sitting on someone's knee and some were fanning him. The man was at once placed on his back, and artificial respiration resorted to as in the case of White, and word was sent to Bill Johnson to come and help in this case, as he had in the White case. So he relieved H.B.S. for a moment, but he in his nervousness rather interfered with the respiration of the patient, so that H.B.S. himself had to take his place again, and soon the man revived. He then asked Johnson to go up to the Plating Room and get a bottle of whiskey which was kept there in case of need. When Johnson returned with the bottle and glass, H.B.S. poured into the glass about two fingers of the whiskey, and one of the molders (by this time relieved of their anxiety) said: 'Mr. Sargent, don't give him a drink like that; he will go in there again'—which he never did. Another remark as the molder looked at the bottle was 'Begorra, Mr. Sargent, you do know the way around the shop'."

#### BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARIES

- June 1 - (17th) Mary Hammond Bailey, daughter of Nathaniel Hammond Bailey
- (12th) Abigail Jane Sargent Lewis, daughter of Wilfred Sargent Lewis
- (1st) Phebe Sharon Farker, daughter of Phebe-Norton Fisher Parker
- 6 - (2d) Anne Channing Turner, daughter of Nancy Grove Turner
- 12 - (12th) Barbara King Moorehead, daughter of Barbara Sargent Moorehead
- 13 - Charles Forbes Sargent, son of George Lewis Sargent
- (16th) Emily Sargent Lewis, daughter of Wilfred Sargent Lewis
- 16 - Jane Cater Sargent, wife of Lawton Griswold Sargent
- 22 - Robert Lewis Fisher, son of Margaret Sargent Fisher
- 23 - Lawton Griswold Sargent, son of Edward Rupert Sargent
- 30 - Alice Maud Sargent Tate, daughter of Colonel Frederic Homer Sargent
- (23d) Willard C. Rappleye, Jr.
- (20th) Mary Sargent McCance, daughter of Molly Sargent McCance
- (2d) David Loring, son of Caleb Loring, Jr.
- (1st) Penelope Wiser, daughter of James Sargent Wiser

#### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- June 14 - (25th) Lawton C. and Jane Cater Sargent
- 15 - (29th) Laura Rice and C. Kenneth Deming
- 16 - (9th) Bradford S. and Josephine Toy Collins Tilney
- (3d) James S. and Norma Harvey Wiser
- 17 - (25th) Margaret (Peggy) Fisher and Theodore Babbitt
- 21 - (34th) Richard C. and Ruth Kingsbury Sargent
- 26 - (2d) Mary Cuming and Alexander Stuart Fitzbugh, III
- 28 - (27th) J. Weir and Phebe Downs Sargent
- (25th) F. Homer and Lilah Walker Sargent
- (7th) Murray, Jr., and Lucy Garfield Sargent
- (6th) Phebe Sargent and Willing Howard
- 30 - (26th) Mary (Molly) Sargent and Rev. William H. McCance



The Sargent Card Clothing Company, a Connecticut joint-stock corporation, held its first meeting of stockholders in New Haven July 4, 1866. This company's capital stock amounted to \$100,000 divided into 4,000 shares of \$25 par value. There were five original stockholders, who were also the original directors. The three brothers, Joseph B., George H., and Edward Sargent (partners in Sargent & Brother which

198

CARDS.

THE  
**SARGENT CARD CLOTHING CO.,**  
OF  
**WORCESTER, MASS.**

Manufacturers of the very best quality of

**MACHINE CARD CLOTHING,**

For Woolen and Cotton Machinery.

**Superior Diamond Point,**

Coarse, Medium and Fine Numbers.

**NAPPING CARDS,**

Common, Brass, Plated or Diamond Wire.

**Long, Medium and Short Teeth Fancies.**

**DOFFER RINGS OF ANY WIDTH.**

**CYLINDER AND STRIPPER CARDS,**

Common or English pitch.

Particular attention paid to

**CLOTHING FLAX COTTON CARDS.**

Dealers in Manufacturers' Supplies and Woolen Carding Machines.

**SARGENT & CO.,**  
**70 Beekman Street, New York,**  
**SOLE AGENTS.**

operated the card manufacturing business in Leicester, Mass., and which turned the business over to the new company), Edwin S. Lawrence and Thomas J. Atkins (a partner then or later of Sargent & Co., of New York). Each of the first four had 940 shares and Mr. Atkins 240 shares. Edward Sargent was the corporation's first president and Joseph B. Sargent treasurer and secretary. Henry B. Sargent (1851-1927), ye editor's father, in a typed account of the company stated: "As said by J.B.S. (Joseph B. Sargent), 'established to satisfy the desire of E.S. (Edward Sargent) substituting for the waning business of Sargent & Brother, of Leicester, and to give him opportunity to do business in a larger way and in the larger community (Worcester, Mass.) where he had many friends.' Mr. E.S., however, did not realize that while he was perhaps a good buyer, he had little experience in merchandising, since that of the Leicester manufacturing business had largely been done in New York where the principles and policies had been solved or adjusted under all kinds of adverse conditions and experiences by the vision of J.B.S. and the watchfulness and alertness of G.H.S. (George H. Sargent) and T.J.A. (Thomas J. Atkins); and particularly that the merchandising of Card Clothing was more of a specialty than the run of product sold and distributed by S. & Co., N.Y., and their differently trained salesmen. J.B.S., at least, was therefore quite alert and apprehensive of the results. E.S. was elected manager (president-Ed.) and on his recommendation E.S. Lawrence was engaged, and in 1868 a three-story brick shop was built in Worcester on what was later known as 'Sargent Street', near the old Jamestown R.R. Station, with Mansard roof, then a bit in vogue, but later generally out of favor on account of its bad fire hazard, through providing more cubic feet of space and better light than the common peaked roof and without the necessity for monitor head for light and ventilation. It appeared later that Lawrence was extravagant, wilful and profitless. He had been a stockholder, and Edward Sargent was at

his wits' end how to dismiss him and at the same time keep the peace. J.B.S. was therefore appealed to, and after some transfers of shares to him, Lawrence on Dec. 11, 1869, peaceably transferred his 940 shares to J.B.S. and resigned without an outward row. \*\*\* When Dad wrote the above he did not have before him the "Record Book" of the company which turned up a few years ago in clearing out one of the vaults of Sargent & Company at New Haven. The book is in the handwriting of J.B.S. the company's treasurer and secretary, and includes the Articles of Association and minutes of stockholders' and directors' meetings, the first of each occurring in New Haven July 4, 1866. After the initial meetings the next meeting recorded was a directors' meeting in Worcester May 26, 1869. At that meeting (which Mr. Lawrence attended) Edward Sargent resigned as president and his brother George H. was elected to succeed him. It was "Voted that the whole matter of hiring, appointing,



employing, fixing the Salaries of, and also discharging of any and all employees of this Company be and it is hereby left with the Treasurer of this Company; and that he is hereby authorized to appoint, employ, hire, fix the Salaries of and to discharge from the employ of this company, any or all of the agents or employees of this Company at any time that it may seem to be for the interests of this company, and, by an instrument in writing to authorize, under such restrictions and limitations as he may deem proper, any other person to do the same or any part thereof." (The initial directors' meeting had "made choice of" E.S. Lawrence for Agent at Worcester and G.E. Sargent for Agent at New York".) At a directors' meeting in Worcester on June 3d of the same year, 1869, it was voted to call for payment of the capital stock — 50% on June 5th and 50% on June 10th. This may have squeezed Lawrence, who had probably given his personal note for his shares of the stock. The brothers Sargent probably paid for their stock with the assets from the copartnership of Sargent & Brother. T. J. Atkins' stock was also acquired by J.B.S., which made the latter holder of 53%. The next entry in the minute book records a vote at a meeting of the three remaining stockholders in Worcester April 15, 1879, nearly ten years later, naming George H. Sargent to carry out as agent the contract of sale of "the machinery tools and card clothing and material for the manufacture of card clothing" to James Smith & Co. of Philadelphia "for a certain sum as agreed and the premises or a portion thereof rented, for a time, to said James Smith & Co." It was further voted by the stockholders "to sell and transfer, for the sum of one dollar, all the remaining property of this company, of every name and nature to the Sargent Hardware Company, a joint Stock company incorporated under the general laws of the state of Connecticut and located in New Haven in said State". Ye editor believes that the property "sold" to the Sargent Hardware Company was largely the Worcester real estate, which in 1889 was sold to Harry W. Smith of Worcester for \$25,000. Ye editor has also before him a newspaper clipping, apparently from a Worcester paper, giving public notice dated April 17, 1879, by the three brothers Sargent of the dissolution by mutual consent of the copartnership of Sargent & Brother of Leicester and Worcester and that the business of the "late firm will be carried on as heretofore by The Sargent Hardware Company, to whom all the Factories, Machinery and other manufacturing property, trademarks and stamps have been sold and transferred." The Sargent Hardware Company should not be confused with Sargent & Company, which owned and operated the hardware factory in New Haven. Ye editor was told by his father that J.B.S. and his brothers incorporated The Sargent Hardware Company chiefly to prevent the name from being used by a possible unscrupulous competitor. It was dissolved after J.B.S.'s death (following some years of inactivity) when the federal laws on unfair competition seemed to make it unnecessary to so protect the name. Reproduced here is a page from the 1866 catalogue of Sargent & Co., the New York partnership, which mentions the products manufactured by the Sargent Card Clothing Company. The catalogue was printed by "Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, Steam Printers" of New Haven, which in 1947 is going out of business.

Reginald Foster (about 1595-1681), immigrant ancestor of most of us, was born in Brunton, England. His last name was frequently spelt Forster and his first variously as Renald, Reynold, Reynald, Ringdell and Reginold. He signed his will "Renold ffoster." He came to America in one of the vessels embargoed by King Charles I, accompanied by his wife, Judith, five sons and two daughters, and settled in Ipswich, Mass., about 1638. He was one of the early inhabitants of that town. The proclamation of King Charles, who "refused his dissenting subjects the security of the wilderness", was little regarded. The dangers to the Puritans at home seemed greater than those in the "wilderness". He resided in Ipswich near the "East Bridge". On April 6, 1641, is "granted to Reginald Foster eight acres of meadow in the west meadow if any remain there ungranted, in consideration of a little hovel that stood at the new bridge, which was taken away for the accomodation of the passage there." The danger from Indians in those days was such that in 1637 a law was passed in Ipswich that "no person is allowed to travel alone above one mile from his house, except when houses are near together, without arms." In 1645 the colony passed a law requiring the "youth from ten to sixteen years to be experienced with small guns, half pikes, bows and arrows, and also that every town is to have a guard set a half hour after sunset, to consist of a pikeman and musketeer, and to prepare for any sudden attack from the Indians." Reginald Foster December 19, 1645, subscribed with others his proportion of three shillings towards the sum of £24, 7sh. "to pay their leader, Major Dennison", who commanded the military forces of Essex and Norfolk counties. His first wife, Judith, died in October 1664 in Ipswich, and he was married secondly in September 1665 to Sarah, widow of John Martin, who survived him. He died in 1681. He was called "Goodman Foster". His estate was appraised for £744-16-00. (One of the appraisers was John Whipple, our ancestor.) In his will, a long one, he provided " \*\*\* To my beloved wife Sarah I give the use of the house I now dwell in, and the oroyards, and gardens and five pound yearly, dureing her naturall life, and two cowes, which she shall chuse out of my stock, and the keeping of them both summer & winter yearly, also I give her the bedstead with bedding in the parler and the rest of the linnen and woollen garme that she hath made and provided into the house, also the use of the bras pot and cheespres, and kneading trough, with the utensils in the Leanto, and the great kettle & two skilletts dureing her naturall life. Also I give her three sheepe to be kept winter or summer, also two piggs, and what provisions shall be in the house at my decease, also the table and forms for her naturall life, ffurther my will is that the household stuff & things that my wife brought into the house when I marryed her be at her dispose in life and at death. \*\*\* I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary the wife of ffrancis Peabody the sum of ten pound, part of it to be payd in a payre of sheetes and a paire of pillo oases & a fether bed, the bed after my wives decease. \*\*\*" Mary Foster and Francis Peabody were greatgrandparents of Hannah Bucknam, who married Joseph Sargent (1690-1760). (See the chart on the last page of Sargentrivia of December 4, 1944.)