

## HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY OF NEWPORT, N.H. -----

You may simply scroll through the pages for the fun of it, if you like, poking along to see what emerges, or to satisfy your general interest in history. But if you seek some particular date to see what happened then, or if you want to know when the town acquired the Common, or when the Newport House burned or when the Newport Opera House Association was formed, or what a factory worker earned in 1910, then use the Search or Find function of your software.

### **Explanation:**

History is not bunk, despite Henry Ford's belief that it is.

Nor is it -- at least not always -- events agreed upon by the victors, as some cynics have said.

Ambrose Bierce in his Devil's Dictionary calls it "an account mostly false, of events mostly unimportant, which are brought about by rulers mostly knaves, and soldiers mostly fools." Little wonder that he disappeared without trace and was never found.

History is understanding the past, attempting to apply it to the present, and hoping that such understanding will keep us from repeating the errors -- and sometimes the disasters -- of the past as we work to shape the future. The chronology below is not history.

The American historian Daniel Boorstin calls history The Cautionary Science and quotes William James: "A large acquaintance with particulars often makes us wiser than the possession of abstract formulas, however deep."

The historian Will Durant says: "Civilization is a stream with banks. The stream is sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting and doing the things historians usually record; while on the banks, unnoticed, people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry and even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happened on the banks. Historians are pessimists because they ignore the banks for the river." This chronology hardly ignores the banks of the historical river.

Although even historians are not in precise agreement about a definition of their trade, they generally agree that history is based upon events (James' particulars), that it involves interpretations of those events, and that it often places them in perspective with other events happening simultaneously or previously to the events recorded.

For example, the Sugar River Canal, proposed in 1816 to connect Lake Sunapee with the Connecticut River (see 1817 below) was doomed before one shovelful of earth was turned because, 3,000 miles away, English engineers were experimenting with steam locomotives; railroads were to replace canals all over the world.

In the 18th century, textile mills flourished in New England and languished in southern states because New England had soft water as well as water power for processing cloth; the South for the most part did not. The invention of water-softening processes, as well as political, cultural and economic changes reversed that concentration of manufacturing, and the livelihood of many Newporters slid to the South with the textile mills.

In fact, the American textile industry itself was made possible only because American industrial spies memorized the workings of English textile machinery and brought those secrets to America.

There is a lot of because in history.

But there is no because in what is listed below. Only particulars, events. Some day someone else will add the becauses, and then we will have a history.

Who we were helps to tell us who we are.

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The sources vary. They include Wheeler's History of Newport, Parmalee's history of Newport in the 1886 History of Cheshire and Sullivan Counties, Pillsbury's New Hampshire, A History, Edes' Tales from the History of Newport, Newport's Bicentennial Booklet, the original Proprietors' Records on microfilm at the town clerk's office, the Granite State Monthly, the 1870 Newport Business Directory, the Scrapbooks of the Newport Historical Society, which are coded in the entries as NHS, the Argus-Champion and its predecessors (where they exist) -- The Argus, The New Hampshire Argus, The New Hampshire Argus and Spectator, The New Hampshire Spectator, The Argus and Spectator, and The Republican Champion. Many entries have come from the fine work that Ella Reney did for years in her weekly Argus-Champion column As We Were, and later by Roger Small. A good reference for understanding what the early settlers faced and how is A Long Deep Furrow -- Three Centuries of Farming in New England by Howard S. Russell, 1982, University Press of New England.

When Andler is listed as a source, this refers to an article by Kenneth Andler titled "Newport, N.H. 1761-1961" and published in the Bicentennial Booklet.

The Newport Business Directory of 1870 has been a good source and is useful to discover the names and addresses of the town's merchants in that year. Alonzo Fogg's description of Newport in his 1874 Statistics and Gazetteer of New Hampshire, as well as the description of Newport in the 1839 New England Gazetteer (5th edition) by John Hayward are included in their entirety in this chronology.

Two especially useful sources exist only in one place, to our knowledge. That place is the Andler Room of the Richards Free Library in Newport. Among the other

treasures housed there are two volumes of notes, photos, photo copies, short essays on history, and excerpts from other writers, both compiled by Richard D. Parker in 1995. They are “A Study of Newport’s Waterpowered Mills,” and “Taverns of Newport, NH.” The larger of the two (150 pp.) – on waterpowered mills – traces the industrial growth of Newport with maps, deeds, and summaries of the starts and ends of the town’s sawmills, scythe shops, tanneries, and woolen and cotton mills, as well as a history of textile making in America. It is an invaluable source for historians. So are the 21 pp of “Taverns of Newport, NH.”

The decennial reports of workers' annual earnings, length of work week, and cost of some commodities are taken from Historical Statistics of the United States - Colonial Times to 1957, Bureau of the Census.

You will probably notice that references to many places (i.e. near the Phenix Hotel, the Lewis Block, the Lafayette House, the Newport House, the Tontine) are not helpful unless you have previous knowledge of those places. In some instances we have clarified the location of some of these no-longer-existing landmarks, but many more need modern explanation of where those buildings once stood. We welcome help in this matter. Clarifications left at the Richards Free Library desk will be added to this chronology.

Andrew L. Andrews labored heavily in the first undivided (to use the parlance of land deeds) one-quarter or so of this chronology, and I am indebted to him for this help. But any errors are mine alone, and alone I will answer for them.

-- Evan Hill

**A note about Sidebars:** *Scattered throughout the next 195 pages or so are about two dozen interruptions I have labelled “Sidebars” and which add some color and perhaps perspective to the events into which they have been inserted. I hope they are helpful, and sometimes amusing.*

*Here’s where they are: -- EH – 11 Oct. 2007*

*The year: 1808 -- Female Teachers  
 1820 -- Use of Forks at Table  
 1827 -- Parsimonious We  
 1835 -- Violence Against Blacks 30 Miles North in Canaan  
 1855 – Temperance  
 1861 – Health of American Men in Civil War Times  
 1872 – Railroad  
 1873 – Divorce  
 1883 – The English on Americans  
 1890 – Longevity of Americans  
 1900 – Life Expectancy  
 1900 – Newport Foreign-Born 1900-1990  
 1907 – Frugal Water Users*

1910 – *Life Expectancy*  
 1920 – *Life Expectancy*  
 1920 – *This Was the Year We Left the Farm*  
 1930 – *Life Expectancy*  
 1940 – *Life Expectancy*  
 1950 – *This Was the Year We Began to Have More Females than  
 Males, but not by much.*  
 1950 -- *Lost Words and Phrases*  
 1950 – *Life Expectancy*  
 1960 -- -- ditto—  
 1970 -- -- ditto –  
 1978 -- *Newport 30 Years Ago*  
 1980 -- *Life Expectancy*  
 1990-- -- ditto --  
 1990 – *Education of Newporters*  
 2000 – *Decennial Census of 2000*  
 2000 – *Life Expectancy*

### **The Chronology:**

**1724** -- English settlers found Brattleboro (then called Ft. Dummer), Vermont, about 55 miles west and south along the Sugar and the Connecticut Rivers from what in 1766 was settled as Newport. The first settlers followed the Connecticut. -- Websters New World Encyclopedia 1992, p. 163

**1747** -- To understand why towns along the Connecticut River were settled so late, we must remember how difficult it was to travel west on foot from the coastal settlements. The rivers of the region, which give easier access to inland town sites, flow north and south rather than from east to west.

But the French and Indian War was the main reason for late settlement. Here, paraphrased, is what the History of the United States of America, printed in Keene, N.H., in 1821, says about that war. -- Actually there were many French and Indian Wars because the wars in America were linked to the wars of England and France during the late 17th and early 18th centuries. The ultimate aim in North America was the domination of the eastern part of the continent. France held Canada, and by right of discovery, the Mississippi River and its tributaries. The French and Indian War about which New Hampshire was most concerned began about 1750 when King George II granted 600,000 acres of land on and near the Ohio River (which drains into the Mississippi) to a group of London merchants and noblemen. This disturbed the French Governor in Canada who feared that Canadian fur trade would be destroyed and all communication cut off between Canada and Louisiana (then French Territory). The French laid claim, says the History, "on the eastern side of the Ohio, extended to the Alleghany mountains. By the ancient charters of France also, the territories granted, extended from north to south without limit; while the English charters extended, east and west, from the Atlantic to the Pacific." So clearly trouble could be anticipated. "The

Canadian Governor wrote to the Governors of Pennsylvania and New York that if these English traders on the Ohio did not immediately stop their encroachments on the French territories, he should order their seizure wherever found. The Canadian traders excited the fears of the Indians by telling them that the English were about to deprive them of their lands." -- pp. 125, 126. And so began another wilderness war for territory and the one which kept settlers away from Newport. That war got quite close to what later became Newport when French and Indians attacked Fort. No. 4 at what later became Charlestown, N.H., only 21 miles away.

Here is the account of that battle from pp. 38-40: (This was taken by the author of the 1821 History of the U.S. from Jeremy Belknap's History of New Hampshire.) Remember that this battle took place only 19 years before Newport was settled.

"In the latter end of March, 1747, Captain Phinehas Stevens, who commanded a ranging company of thirty men, came to Number-four; and finding the fort entire, determined to keep possession of it. He had not been there many days when he was attacked by a very large part of French and Indians, commanded by M. Debeline.

"The dogs, by their barking, discovered that the enemy were near; which caused the gate to be kept shut, beyond the usual time. One man went out to make discovery and was fired on; but returned with a slight wound only. The enemy, finding that they were discovered, arose from their concealment and fired at the fort on all sides.

"The wind being high, they set fire to the fences and log houses, till the fort was surrounded by flames. Captain Stevens took the most prudent measures for his security; keeping every vessel full of water, and digging trenches under the walls in several places; so that a man might creep through, and extinguish any fire which might catch on the outside of the walls.

"The fire of the fences did not reach the fort; nor did the flaming arrows which they incessantly shot against it take effect. Having continued this mode of attack for two days, accompanied with hideous shouts and yells; they prepared a wheel carriage, loaded with dry faggots, to be pushed before them, that they might set fire to the fort. Before they proceeded to this operation, they demanded a cessation of arms till the sun-rising, which was granted.

"In the morning Debeline came up with fifty men, and a flag of truce which he stuck in the ground. He demanded a parley which was agreed to. A French officer, with a soldier and an Indian, then advanced; and proposed that the garrison should bind up a quantity of provisions with their blankets, and having laid down their arms should be conducted prisoners to Montreal.

"Another proposal was that the two commanders should meet, and that an answer should then be given. Stevens met the French commander, who, without waiting for an answer, began to enforce his proposal by threatening to storm the fort, and put every man to death, if they should refuse his terms, and kill one of his men.

"Stevens answered that he could hearken to no terms till the last extremity; that he was entrusted with the defence of the fort, and was determined to maintain it, till he should be convinced that the Frenchman could perform what he had threatened. He added, that it was poor encouragement to surrender, if they were all to be put to the sword for killing one man, when it was probable they had already killed more.

"The Frenchman replied, 'Go and see if your men dare to fight any longer, and give me a quick answer.' Stevens returned, and asked his men whether they would fight

or surrender. They unanimously determined to fight. This was immediately made known to the enemy, who renewed their shouting and fighting all that day and night. On the morning of the third day, they requested another cessation for two hours.

"Two Indians came with a flag, and proposed, that if Stevens would sell them provisions they would withdraw. He answered, that to sell them provisions for money was contrary to the law of nations; but that he would pay them five bushels of corn for every captive, for whom they would give a hostage, till the captive could be brought from Canada. After this answer, a few more guns were fired, and the enemy were seen no more.

"In this furious attack from a starving enemy, no lives were lost in the fort, and two men only were wounded. No men could have behaved with more intrepidity in the midst of such threatening danger. An express was immediately dispatched to Boston, and the news was there received with great joy. Commodore Sir Charles Knowles, was so highly pleased with the conduct of Capt. Stevens, that he presented him with a valuable and elegant sword, as a reward for his bravery. From this circumstance, the township, when it was incorporated, took the name of Charlestown."

**1753** -- First grant of Newport is made, but never followed by grantees. -- Population of N.H. Part I, N.H. State Planning and Development Commission, Concord, 1946.

**1760** -- The French and Indian War ends with the capture by the English of Montreal, and French Quebec was ceded by France to Canada.

**1761** -- "Newport Incorporated, 1761. Newport was granted in 1753 to Isaac Pennell and others, and was called 'Grenville.' It was regranted in 1761 to Nathaniel Fish and others and incorporated and named after Newport, Rhode Island. Only one of the 63 grantees was an actual settler." -- p. 231, Vol. I, New Hampshire, A History by Pillsbury, 1827.

**1761** -- Colonial Governor Benning Wentworth grants charter for Newport (previously chartered as Grenville in honor of a friend of King George III) named after Newport, R.I. because the charter was granted to men living in Rhode Island. George Grenville was prime minister of England 1763-1765.

**1761** -- Town of Newport is incorporated. -- p. 18, Population of N.H., Part I, N.H. State Planning and Development Commission, Concord, 1946; also New Hampshire, A History, by Hobart Pillsbury, Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc. New York, 1927, Vol. 1, page 231.

**1761** -- Gov. Benning Wentworth also grants 78 towns on both sides of Connecticut River. Bennington, Vt., is named for him. Vermont did not exist at that time and both New Hampshire and New York claimed that land. -- p. 50 Up and Down N.H., by Bailey.

**1762** -- David Lyne and Moses Spafford are first settlers in Claremont. Spafford's son is born 1763. -- p. 46, History of Claremont, in History of Cheshire and Sullivan Counties.

**1764** -- King George III sets New Hampshire's western boundary. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History.

**1765** -- Six men from Killingworth, Conn., clear six acres of land each in valley along what is now Pine Street and Unity Road and return to Conn. for the winter. In 1766, with two other men, they return with their families and settle along Unity Road. They hold Congregational services under a tree on the first Sabbath. -- Bicentennial bklet, p. 5.

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**NOTE:**

At this point it might be wise to put Newport's pioneers into perspective. How wild and how lonely were they in the town's first years?

Here are their neighbors: (Source: see individual towns in Parmalee.)

(Some towns were granted several times because the grantees forfeited their claims by not settling their grants.)

**Acworth** -- granted 1752, 1766, 1767. Settled 1767. Population in 1783 - 429.

**Charlestown** -- granted 1735. Settled 1740. In 1774 it had no more than ten families. Population in 1767 - 334. (this doesn't make sense, but see Parm. pp. 23 and 408)

**Claremont** -- granted 1764. Settled about 1762. Population in 1767 - 157.

**Cornish** -- granted 1763. Settled 1764. In 1767, 13 families in town; population that year, 133. (Large families - average of ten per family.)

**Croydon** -- granted 1763. Settled 1766. Population in 1773 - 91.

**Goshen** -- formed from Newbury, Sunapee, Newport, Unity and Lempster in 1791. Settled 1769. Population in 1800 - 383.

**Grantham** -- granted 1761, 1767. Settled 1767. Population in 1773 - 60.

**Langdon** -- formed from Charlestown and Walpole in 1787. Settled in 1773. Population in 1790 - 244.

**Lempster** -- granted 1753, 1761, 1767, 1772. Settled in 1767. In 1772 had eight families. Population in 1773 - 66.

**Plainfield** -- granted 1761. Settled 1764. Population in 1767 - 112; in 1775 - 308.

**Springfield** -- granted 1769. Settled 1772. Population in 1786 - 127.

**Sunapee** -- granted as Saville in 1768. Settled 1772. Population in 1767 - 72.

**Unity** -- granted 1764. Settled about 1770. Population in 1773 - 72.

**Washington** -- granted 1735, 1752, 1768. Settled about 1769. Population in 1773 - 132.

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So, you see, those wooded, wilderness towns along the Connecticut River were settled to a very slim degree when those six first Newporters pulled together their first rude shelters in 1766. The Connecticut was the settlers' navigable highway to their grants;

Newport settlers had no such advantage; certainly the Sugar River was little access.

Claremont was four years old at that time, with perhaps 100 persons living there in quite primitive conditions. Cornish was two years old, Plainfield the same age. Charlestown was the region's metropolis -- 26 years old with a population of about 300. (See comment about this above.)

These four settlements were linked mainly by the Connecticut river. Access to Newport and other towns not on the Connecticut River was by trail. (See 1767 below.) Charlestown had the nearest gristmill where wheat could be ground into flour. There were no settlements to the east -- no Sunapee, no Goshen, no Croydon. Keene, with not yet any land connection by trail or road, was 16 years old. Hanover was one year old.

This quotation from A Long Deep Furrow, by Howard Russell, Univ. Press of New England, 1982, p. 100, will also be helpful. -- "The character of the settlers who took up land in the new towns [the Conn. River valley towns are included in these] seems often to have differed somewhat from that of people who remained in the home towns. They were apt to be the young and adventurous, ready to take the risk of leaving a comfortable established community with school, church and neighbors in order to acquire farms of their own in new situations, rough though life there might be. Sometimes, however, a group of neighbors in the home town acquired the rights to a whole new township, sent a committee to spy out the land, plotted the house lots, and in the old town organized a complete town government for the new homesteads with some speculative proprietor who had acquired a large tract and who offered inducements to get settlers to start in a spot where there was not even a road, let alone any society."

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**1766** -- Settlement of Newport begins on Unity Road. First settlers hold church services in June under a tree on first Sabbath after arrival. For next 6 or 7 years meet regularly in a private house. -- Wheeler, p. 113. Also Argus and Spec. 13 April 1888 which reports moving of village to its present site, and the building of the first houses.

**1767 Population: 29.** -- Newport Master Plan from U.S. Census

**1767** -- A road (the first road) is cut from Newport by way of Pike's Hill to Charlestown (probably about 12 miles through Newport, Unity and N. Charlestown in somewhat the same area where roads now lie. -- Wheeler p.19; Edes, Tales of... p 11.; Newport Business Directory 1870; Proprietors' Records p. 96; Wheeler 84.

**1767** -- Zephaniah Clark operates first hotel. "First regular and legal meeting of the proprietors was adjourned to convene on Oct. 16, 1767 at house of Zephaniah Clark, innholder in said Newport." It was a log cabin. -- Newport Business Directory of 1870, p. 19.

**1768** -- First birth and first death in Newport. Mary, daughter of Major Jesse (?) (see Wheeler p. 39) Willcox born Feb. 28, died March 9 after 11 days of age. Buried in Pine



Street Cemetery. She was also the first to be buried in Newport. -- Wheeler p. 170; Newport Bus. Directory of 1870, p. 77.; Hist. Soc. Photo.

**1768** -- First mill. A saw mill and grist mill to grind corn and wheat into flour is built in Guild upstream from the site of the present Dorr Woolen Mill. Benjamin Giles was builder and operator. -- Wheeler 72.

**1769** -- Moor's Indian School in Hanover becomes Dartmouth College. /// The first five N.H. counties are established. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of New Hampshire History, 1996

**1769** -- "The first town meeting was held on the 27th of Sept., 1769; Samuel Cole, justice of the peace, appointed it, as the inhabitants could not warn the first meeting. At 8 o'clock, on the appointed day, the people met and elected Benj Giles moderator, Amos Hull, town clerk, Sam'l Hurd, Jesse Wilcox and Amos Hull, selectmen. Sam'l Hurd being a strong man, was elected constable. " -- Source: Newport Business Directory, 1870, p.23.

**1769** -- 15 families live in Newport, in houses near the present golf course on Unity Road. -- Wheeler 20; Bicentennial, p. 5

**1770** -- --Elm Street, third road laid out in town, was built from Fairbanks place (as of 1879) or from present Franz house (1990) on Pine St. to Dorr Woolen Mill. Street was unnamed until 1875 when streets were officially named. Source: Wheeler, p. 84, 263; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook, p. 17. (The Fairbanks family arrived in Newport about 1840. see Wheeler.)

**1770** -- Colony from Worcester County in Massachusetts, settles in northwest Newport and southwest Croydon on ridge known as Baptist Hill "Long rise of ground...north of Northville on old road...to Croydon." Many were Baptists and used schoolhouse as church. -- Wheeler, 109.

**1771** -- The state is divided into five counties. Previously there were no counties, and all courts were held in Portsmouth. After Cheshire County was formed in 1771 courts were held at Keene and Charlestown. Sullivan County was not carved out of Cheshire County until 1826. -- Parmalee p. 3.

**1771** -- Benjamin Bragg gives the town's first cemetery to town. 31 Dec. 1771. -- Newport Bus. Directory of 1870, p. 77. (See also 1795; 1814; 1824.)

**1771** -- First graduation is held at Dartmouth College.

**1772** -- First settlers arrive in Springfield, N.H., originally called Protectworth.

**1773 Population: 156** -- Newport Master Plan from U.S. Census

**1773** Congregational Church building is erected (location unknown) for church use on Sundays and as schoolhouse on weekdays. -- Wheeler, 113.

**1774** -- On Sept. 5 Continental Congress assembles in Philadelphia.

**1774** -- "On March 8, 1774, it was voted to pay out of the town treasury four pounds lawful money towards the support of a school the ensuing summer. Having no money, they found an equivalent in the shape of grain." -- Newport Business Directory, 1870, p. 24.

**1775 Population: 157.** -- p.19, Population of N.H., Part I, N.H. State Planning and Development Commission, Concord, 1946.

**1776** -- First bridge built across South Branch of Sugar River on what was later named Elm Street (presumably, the river had been forded before bridge built.) -- Newport Business Directory, 1870, says voted to build bridge across E. Branch 1774; across S. ranch, 1775. -- Wheeler, 85; Argus 12 Oct. 1983.

**1776** -- In Newport 36 men signed the Association Test (agreeing in effect to join the Revolution). No one refused. In Claremont 84 men signed and 31 refused. The refusers -- Tories loyal to the King -- were persecuted in Claremont, and even today some people recall the "Tory Hole" at the foot of North Street near the junction of Steven Brook and the Sugar River where Tories are said to have hidden. Population of Newport in 1775 was 157; of Claremont, 523. (Population Source: "Population of New Hampshire Part I, 1623-1940, published by the N.H. State Planning and Development Commission, Concord, 1946.

**1776** -- Newport had 36 men and 14 muskets "fit for service" in Revolutionary War. Wheeler, 26.

**1776** -- First road in town is built. "It extended from North Charlestown, through Unity, over Pike Hill, to the foot of Call Hill on the Unity Road." (Dates of first road differ with historians. Note 1767 notation.) -- Wheeler, 84.

**1777** -- Fourteen Newport men fight at the Battle of Ticonderoga.(July 6). They left Newport 29 June, and went 80 miles as the crow flies over the Green Mountains in 7 days. -- Wheeler, 26.

**1779** -- Congregationalists organized as a church. -- Wheeler, 114. Nine men and eight women are the congregation.

**1779 (?)** -- The first town Common, reserved and used many years by the early settlers, was on the Unity road, and occupied the table-land between the Call hill and the A. Pease house. -- Wheeler 263.

**1779** -- Road from Croydon to Goshen line is built. (Along Pine Street? - where did it

cross river to E. side? At what is now Elm St.?) -- Wheeler, 84.

**1779** -- In May Baptists organize as Baptist Church of Croydon and Newport in North Newport. -- Wheeler, 109.

**1780** -- William Osgood from Claremont buys land in Newport near Claremont line. This same farm was still operating in same family in 1995, now owned by Fred and Norma McDonough. -- Source: The McDonough family.

**1780** -- Luther King (born 1755), a bass violin maker, made first bass viol in town. -- Source: Historical N.H., Vol. 46, No. 4 Winter, 1991, p. 240.

**1781** -- Newport joins 33 other N.H. towns in seceding from N.H. and joining Vermont. p.42, New Hampshire; American Guide Series (WPA). At the 29 Mar. 1781 town meeting the town voted "That the town of Newport join in Union with Vermont." Later that year another town meeting was called in the name of the State of Vermont and Newporters voted for state officers of Vermont. By 1782 the town was back in N.H. after George Washington dissolved the union of all N.H. Connecticut River towns with Vermont. -- p. 211 Parmalee.

**1782** -- William Osgood buys Lot 51 (100 acres) from Benjamin Giles on 21 June for "100 pounds of lawful money." (This is the first record of the McDonough Farm -- Beaver Pond Farm -- on McDonough Road near the Claremont line. It is the oldest farm in Newport still in the same family. -- source is Mrs. Fred McDonough and her search in Vol. 13, p. 433 of Register of Deeds in Keene. The county seat was in Keene at that time, before Cheshire County was split to make Sullivan County and Newport became Sullivan County seat.

**1782** -- George Washington settles the N.H.-Vermont boundary dispute. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1783** -- **Population: 442** -- Newport Master Plan - U.S. Census

**1784** -- Slavery is abolished in N.H. -- Sanborn's History of N.H., p. 365.

**1784** - Dr. William Page of Charleston seeks to have Cheshire County made part of Vermont. Cheshire had 38 towns. County jails and courts were in Keene and Charlestown. -- "Sullivan County Historical Information" - a chronology by Donald Fontaine, Sr., a Sullivan county commissioner.

**1785?** First Woman Doctor. .... Mabel Nettleton Buel succeeded her mother, and was the only physician in Newport for several years. Her mother once traveled to New London on a hand-sled hauled by four men for the purpose of visiting a patient. -- p. 269, Parmalee.

**1785** -- First bridge across the Conn. River is built from Walpole, N.H., to Bellows

Falls, Vt. -- Source: Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Allen, Stephen Greene Press, 1957, p. 40. // Marble quarry opens in Dorset, Vermont. -- Source: First Facts.

**1786 -- Population: 554.** (Seems unlikely that the population grew by 112 in three years.) -- Source: Newport Master Plan -- U. S. Census, and p. 19, Population of N.H., Part I, N.H. State Planning and Development Commission, Concord, 1946.

**1788** -- Sarah Josepha (Buell) Hale born (Oct. 24) on the Buells' 400-acre farm on the Sunapee side of East Mountain about two miles from Newport village, which then was on what is now Pine Street. First female editor of "Godey's Lady Book". Wrote poem "Mary Had A Little Lamb." Convinced President Lincoln to hold a national Thanksgiving Day. - -- Wheeler 313; Newport Historical Society Scrapbook II, p. 63; Sarah Josepha Hale, New England Pioneer 1788-1879, Sherbrooke Rogers, pub. by Tomson & Rutter, Grantham, N.H. 1985. // (The 1790 U.S. Census (N.H.) lists 11 Buell families in Newport, with 67 members. This is about 8% of the total population of the town, which was 779. Average family size in Newport in 1790 was six. In the 1800 census only three Buell families with 19 members remain in town. In 1810 census ten Buell (spelled with one "l") heads of families are listed -- Aaron, Abraham, Chalker, Chas. W., Gordon (sic), John, John 2nd, Joseph, Mathew, Ruth. By 1860 only one Buell (two "l's), Harriet, is listed in Newport, although Phebe lived in Claremont.)

**1788** -- N.H. is the ninth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution. - N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1790 Population: 780** -- Newport Master Plan, U.S. Census  
[Population of the state is 141,885.]

**1790's** -- Transportation. In the closing years of the 1700's Americans started using Conestoga wagons for hauling freight. The larger ones were pulled by six horses and carried up to eight tons. The driver rode behind the left wheel horse and that's why Americans drive on the right side of the road. -- p. 90, Man on the Move, by Firestone. [See also Transportation 1812 in this chronology.]

**1790** -- A post-rider, carrying The Farmer's Museum (printed in Walpole, then the metropolis of the region) rode a circuit through Charlestown, Claremont, Newport, Unity, Lempster, Acworth and Alstead. -- Wheeler 267.

**1790** -- Dr. James Corbin, 28, begins practice of medicine in Newport. Dies here in 1826 at age 64. First permanent doctor in town. -- Wheeler 41.

**1791** -- 11 lots in southeast part of town become part of Goshen. -- Andler's map of 1783; Laws of N.H 1791, Chapter 32. // In 1791 part of Newport, together with parts of Sunapee, Lempster, Newbury and Unity went into the incorporation of Goshen. -- Pillsbury, Vol. I, p. 231.

**1791** -- A Congregational meeting house is built on land from Absalom Kelsey on "cone-like hill east of present (1879) village." (This hill was leveled and was west of Spring street and south of Elm Street. -- Wheeler 115. (See 1895 Birdseye View map of Newport.)

**1793** -- Shaker Village in Enfield, N.H., is founded. It is the ninth of 18 Shaker villages to be established in the U.S. At its peak in 1850 more than 300 adults and children lived, worked and worshipped in the Enfield community. -- Brochure from The Museum, Lower Shaker Village. This village traded with Newport, and had influence on it.

**1795** -- (North Newport) Joel Wakefield gives cemetery in Northville to town. -- see also 1771, 1814, 1824 in this chronology. -- Npt. Bus. Directory of 1870, p. 77.

**1796** -- ... a huge uncovered wooden arch is built 236 feet long in a single span across the Conn. R. at Hanover, N.H. It collapsed in 1804. -- Covered Bridges of the Northeast, R. S. Allen, Stephen Greene Press 1957, p. 40

**1798** -- Baptists erect church 44 feet square adjoining cemetery at Northville. -- Wheeler 110.

**1800 Population: 1,266.** [Population of the state of N.H. is 183,858, up 29.6%.]

**1800** -- Caleb Ellis, first lawyer, arrives. -- Bicentennial Booklet, p. 5; and see Wheeler 375.

**1802** -- Col. David Humphreys, U.S. Minister to Spain, ships 100 Merino sheep from Lisbon to Derby, Conn., and begins massive sheep farming in New England. In 1809 these sheep were valued at \$1500 each. Source: First Facts. (This does not fit with story of Jarvis in Claremont bringing same sheep to Windsor, Vt. See 1809 in this chronology.)

**1803 President Jefferson buys the Louisiana Purchase from France, which doubles the size of the U.S.**

**1803** -- Charter granted to Newport Social Library. (The books were kept in various homes, offices and stores.) -- Wheeler 148.

**1803** -- The First N.H. Turnpike from the seacoast to Concord is opened. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1804** -- Lewis and Clark leave St. Louis May 14 to explore the continent. After reaching the West Coast, they return Sept. 23, 1806,

**1804** -- The first cotton mill in N.H. opens at New Ipswich. [See 1813 for first cotton mill in Newport.] -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1806** -- Toll road is built from Lebanon through Grantham and Croydon to Newport, then on to Goshen and Hillsboro. The road followed the east side of the Sugar River in Newport, along what is now Main street, and caused the original settlement on the Unity Road to cross the river to where the village now sits. (Stages run from Washington to Lebanon. -- Parmalee 286.) -- Wheeler 85.

**1808** -- **Sidebar** -- *Female Teachers:*

*Female teachers were first recognized by New Hampshire law in 1808 and “their accepted mental inferiority was noted” in that they were required to teach only the “letters in the English language, reading, writing and English grammar.” By 1827 they were expected to teach beginning arithmetic and geography as well, and in 1858 “all teachers were held equal under the law. “ -- [except in matters of pay] according to the 1924 Report of the State Board of Education. Source:*

*Portrait of a Hill Town, a History of Washington, NH 1876-1976 by Ronald and Grace Jager, 1977, p. 93. NOTE: This is a remarkably well-written, well-researched and informative book and is a joy to read as well.*

Note: on p. 13 of the Nov. 2007 Atlantic, an essay introducing “The Future of the American Idea”, includes these sentences. “In literature, they wanted to provide a platform for an emerging American voice; in politics, they had a cause – abolition – that gave granite definition to the American idea as equality, at least among men. One can easily imagine that beyond abolition, agreement would quickly break down. Only reluctantly did Lowell (the Atlantic’s editor) finally agree, in 1859, to publish an essay called “Ought Women to Learn the Alphabet?”

**1810 Population: 1,427. [Population of state of N.H. is 214,460, up 16.6%]**

-- The state capital is moved from Portsmouth to Concord. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1810** -- In 1810 the first Merino sheep ever imported into the U.S. were brought by William Jarvis, American consul in Lisbon, and introduced into Claremont (and thus into Newport) by his kinsman, Dr. Leonard Jarvis.-- p. 128, New Hampshire, American Guide Series, (WPA). This date is given as 1809 on p. 75 of The Hill Country of Northern New England by Harold F. Wilson. In the next six years 24,000 Merino sheep arrived in America and much of New England farmed sheep. The peak of sheep farming was reached between 1830 and 1845 as a result of declining tariffs and western wool. -- Squires, The Granite State of the United States vol. I, p. 232. See also, Hill, The Primary State, p. 68. /// In 1809 the American consul to Portugal, William Jarvis of Weathersfield, Vt., obtained Merino breeding stock from noblemen desperate for cash to wage war against the invading armies of Napoleon Bonaparte. European breeders had resisted selling their best animals to the New World, fearing the growth of competitive flocks and herds. Jarvis brought wooly Merino sheep to his farm in Weathersfield, and from these animals came the breeding rams that improved the fleeces of flocks throughout

New England. The "Merino Craze" made raising sheep for wool production a cash crop. It led to the development of many small mills for carding, spinning and weaving woolen cloth. -- p. 189, A History of Plainfield and Meriden, N.H. 1991, Peter Randall, Publisher. //// "Wm. Jarvis, Consul at Lisbon was first to import Merino sheep to the U.S. In 1811 Jarvis brought from Spain to his farm in Weathersfield Bow, Vt., the prized Merino sheep, whose longer fiber revolutionized the woolen industry and stimulated sheep raising throughout the east. In the 1830's Merinos were the state's principal livestock." -- Historical roadside marker in Weathersfield Bow, Vermont. [Note how the date of importation differs.]

**1810** -- First post office established. -- Wheeler 267; Parm 279; Bicentennial p.5.

**1810** -- Amoskeag Cotton and Manufacturing Co. is incorporated.

**1811** -- Rising Sun Tavern is opened just north of South Church.  
-- Wheeler 77.

### **WAR OF 1812**

U.S. declared war against Britain June 18, 1812.  
Peace treaty signed Dec. 24, 1814.

**1812** -- Transportation. During the War of 1812 east coast freight could not go by sea, so it went by Conestoga wagons. Freight from Boston to Charlestown, South Carolina -- a distance of about 850 miles -- cost 40 cents a pound, or \$800 a ton. -- p. 117, Man on the Move, by Firestone.

**1812** -- "N.H. formally made part of the Arch-Dioecese of Boston...Prior to that time an occasional Jesuit priest would come to celebrate Mass and do some missionary work among the Indians. There was no church or parish; no priest or missionary...Portsmouth had a few Catholics." (this was first Catholic church in the state.) -- Source: St. Mary's Church, Claremont, N.H. 1823-1973, p. 5.

**1813** -- Col. James D. Wolcott [Wheeler, p. 90 spells it Walcott] builds first cotton mill in Newport. This burned. (Why bring cotton all the way from the South to process here 58 years before we had a railroad?) -- Newport Bus. Dir. p 21. (Also see 1804 for first cotton factory in N.H.) -- Col. James D. Walcott erected a building in 1813 on the site now occupied by the establishment of W. L. Dow and Co., for the manufacture of cotton yarn. After running it for several years, he sold out to Hon Franklin Simonds, who continued the business until 1831, when the factory was burned. -- Wheeler, p. 90.

[ I wrote Richard M. Candee, a historian at the American and New England Studies Program at Boston University in July of 1995 asking why cotton mills were so far from the source of cotton, and on 30 Aug. 95 got this reply: "Part of the issue of where mills were located was water power. There was very little near the source of cotton as a raw material. Thus when Americans borrowed English machinery for spinning and eventually weaving it went where there were sites that could power the machines. Not

too much head in the coastal South, nor the free labor to serve as managers, mill hands, operatives, etc. Nor the surplus capital to invest; most Southern plantation owners were constantly in debt (whereas Boston and Providence trans-Atlantic merchants, for example, made a ton of money 1790-1810 and in the War of 1812 wanted somewhere to place it.) For woolen mills, of course, New Hampshire was the source of raw materials then. Don't forget the competition was English and French imported goods (who also had to import cotton from the South or Egypt to their mills to make cloth) or the spinning wheel and hand loom of rural families. It was the latter that were 'put out of business' since power machines were faster. " He cites these sources: Carloline F. Ware, *The Early New England Cotton Manufacture (1931, reprint 1966) the classic study of this industry's origins*; John Armstrong, *Factory Under the Elms (1970 and reprint a story of Harrisville, N.H.*; John Coolidge, *Mill and Mansion 1942, reprint, the story of Lowell, Mass.*; Steve Dunwell, *The Run of the Mill (1978) which tells the textile mill story in words and pictures.*

**1814** -- The town, on 29 Aug. 1814, buys land for another cemetery. [On east side of Pine St. across from the first one?] -- Newport Bus. Directory p. 77. (see 1771, 1795, 1824.)

**1814** -- Newport House built. Burned in 1860, rebuilt same year at cost of \$10,000. -- Wheeler 78. Destroyed by fire Christmas night 1965.

**1815** -- Boat travel begins between Concord and Boston via the Middlesex Canal. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1816** -- Masons Lodge of Free Masonry formed. First meeting held June 21. -- Wheeler 151.

**1816** -- Freewill Baptist Church is formed. Location uncertain. (Wheeler, p. 120, is vague.)

**1817 Population: 1,427.** -- Gazetteer below.

**1817** -- Construction of the Erie Canal is begun on July 4.

**1817** -- "Newport, in Cheshire county, was incorporated in 1761, and contains 1427 inhabitants; bounded N. by Croydon; E. by Wendell, S. by Unity, and W. by Claremont, comprising an area of 25,267 acres. It lies about 8 miles E. from Connecticut river and the same distance from Sutton. Sugar river flows through Newport and receives here a number of its branches. The Croydon and Cornish Turnpikes unite in this town and pass on to Amherst. There is here a handsome village of about 20 houses and several stores. The town contains a Baptist and a Congregational meeting house, a cotton factory, several mills and a carding machine. Rev. John Ramele was the first minister here, and Rev. A. Wines is the present pastor." Source: Gazetteer of the State of New-Hampshire, 1817, p. 171.



**1817** -- "A canal has been contemplated to connect the Connecticut and Merrimack river, and this lake (Sunapee Lake) has been proposed as the reservoir, it being situated on the height of land between the two rivers. It now discharges its waters through Sugar River into the Connecticut. This would undoubtedly be the western course of the projected canal, but as to its eastern route there are differences of opinion. The most advantageous has been said to be through Herrick's Cove and Small pond in its vicinity, and thence through Keazer's pond near the north meeting-house in Sutton, and thence through Steven's brook into Warner's river, which empties into the Merrimack." -- p. 199, Gazetteer of the State of New Hampshire, 1817.

**1818** -- The Tontine is built by Col. William Cheney. Four stories high, 150 feet long. For stores and mechanics' shops with tenements above. Torn down in 1851. Was built facing the Common just north of where the Methodist Church now stands. -- Wheeler, 266.

**1818** -- "The first stage which passed through this town was the stage from Windsor, Vt., to Boston in the year 1818." Source: Newport Business Directory of 1870, p. 78. -- First official dispatch of mail to Newport was on this stage. Before this, mail was informally carried by travelers coming into and leaving town. -- p. 27 BiCentennial booklet.

**1818** -- Newport Lodge of Freemasons votes "that no ardent spirits shall hereafter be introduced into our Lodge during Lodge hours." Source: Wheeler, p. 152

**1818** -- At annual town meeting on March 10, 267 votes were cast. [Population in 1820 was 1,679, and only men could vote. If male voters over 21 numbered about 500, then 53 percent of the voters cast ballots. In 1994 school meeting 10 percent of Newport's registered voters cast ballots.] ... The collector of taxes' job was auctioned to lowest bidder. Capt. Joel Nettleton won with bid of 1 1/4 percent. -- Town Records, Vol. 4, p. 17.

**1819** -- The nation's first major economic depression began this year. - p. 2 The Washington Spectator, Jan. 1, 1996.

**1819** -- The Toleration Act. State law: No person shall be compelled to join a church and anyone leaving a church shall no longer be compelled to pay a share of church expenses. Previously the law required each citizen to pay his share of support to the settled minister in his town unless he produced a certificate from some society of another denomination, stating that he attended their worship, and contributed to the support of their religious order. Therefore, whether a member of a church or not, everyone paid a tax to support a church. Source: New Hampshire, a History, Pillsbury, Vol. I, p. 384. Thus public support for the South Congregational Church ended. // p. 119 New Hampshire, Heffernan and Stecker, 1986, Tompson & Rutter.

**1819** -- Newport Academy, first institution for advanced education, incorporated June 24 to give "more education than common schools ...to fit them for college." Built on

south side of bridge (Elm Street) at east end. Burned in 1843. -- Argus - 12 Oct. 1983 & H. Soc. Scrapbook I p. 17. In 1822 a Town Warrant article asked for money to support the academy, but was passed over. -- Vol. 4 Town Records p. 60-61.

**1820 Population: 1,679.** [Population of state of N.H. is 244,022, up 13.8%.]

**1820** -- Furniture and cabinet makers thrive in Newport until 1837. -- Wheeler, 96; Historical N.H., Vol. 43, No. 3 - Fall 1988, pp 202-224.

**1820** -- The Sunapee Dam Corporation was incorporated by the New Hampshire State Legislature, December 4, 1820. This company is composed of mill owners in Claremont, Newport and Sunapee, who derive the motive-power from Sugar River. Among the rights granted by the Legislature was the right "to sink the outlet of Sunapee Lake at the source of Sugar River to the depth of ten feet below the low-water mark of said Lake, and to erect and maintain a dam there, with suitable gates and flumes, to the height of said low-water mark, for the benefit of the mills and mill privileges." .... The Sunapee Dam Company was duly organized immediately after the charter was granted and suitable dam and other appliances were erected for holding the water of Sunapee Lake in reserve for use at times of low water in the river, by mills along its course. This corporation has been kept up and the dam and other appliances erected have been maintained and improved from time to time. Whenever the lands about the lake have been flowed, or other damage accrued from the erection of this dam, those injured have been compensated by the company, and in not a few instances the right to flow has been purchased. Without this great natural reservoir and the right to use it, granted by the Legislature, neither Claremont, Newport or Sunapee could have reached their present condition of wealth and consequent importance. Although this company has the right to draw the lake down ten feet below low-water mark, it has never been drawn to anything like that extent. -- pp. 73-74, History of Sullivan County, N.H. by Joseph W. Parmelee -- from History of Cheshire and Sullivan Counties, N.H., edited by D. Hamilton Hurd, Philadelphia; J. W. Lewis and Co. 1886.

**c. 1820** -- [This date is an assumption based on Edmund Wheeler's report of A Negro Wedding (pp. 219-220) in which he says he heard the story in his boyhood and he was born in 1814.) Negro colony exists on east side of Coit Mountain. Wheeler 252. An untitled, un-footnoted monograph by Lynn Clark, curator of the Sargent Museum of Archaeology in Newport has more information (but few sources). It was used as a talk she gave at Amos Fortune Day in Jaffrey, N.H., in Mar. 2001. She said later that she would give copies of the monograph to the Newport Library and to the Newport Historical Society.

**1820** -- Selectmen license 7 taverns in the town. Four licenses for a year, others for a few days or one day only. Previous year's licenses indicates these numbers were typical. -- Town Records, Vol 4, p. 43.

**1821** -- The town is still using shillings and pence. A story in the Mar. 21, 1918 Argus describing the Nettleton tavern in 1821 quotes prices in shillings and pence. [In 1792

Congress passed the Coinage Act which established the metric system for U.S. money. Nearly 30 years later some Newporters still have British coins and use them.]

**1821** -- Newport Baptists erect church -- 64 feet by 44 feet -- at north end of common. - - Wheeler 111. It faced North Main St. and was swung around to face the common when it was remodeled in 1870. -- Bicentennial - p.10

**1821** -- Town at annual meeting (Mar. 13.) votes to buy what is now Common from William Cheney for \$200, " to be used and occupied (sic) as a public Common." -- Town Records, Vol. 4, p. 53. Land then was very swampy. -Wheeler 262.

**1820s – Sidebar – *Use of Forks at Table***

Americans, who previously had considered it an affection, began to use forks as eating utensils. Previously we used knives and spoons, as well as our hands, to feed ourselves. Source: *The Way Our People Lived* by Wm. E. Woodward, Washington Square Press, 1965, pp. 42, 63 and Francine Prose, *Knives and Forks*, Google.

**1823** -- First Catholic church in New Hampshire built in Claremont by Father Virgil Barber, a former Episcopalian minister (whose father had been Episcopalian minister in Claremont for 24 years before coming a Catholic) is ordained in Catholic Church and sent to Claremont in 1822 as missionary. He builds St. Mary's Church with funds from his father and from Canadian clergy and laity. Also founded first established Catholic School in N.H. - Source: "St. Mary's Church, Claremont, N.H. 1823-1973" p. 5

**1823** -- Congregational parishioners build the brick church now standing (1995) on South Main street. The architect was Elias Carter who also designed churches in Hancock and Acworth. [Acworth church, seemingly a wooden duplicate of the Newport church, has a most beautiful setting.] -- South Church Parish Post, June, 1995. (Wheeler 116, and Bicentennial says 1822.)

**1823** -- Local newspapers. -- Cyrus Barton founds Claremont Spectator. In 1825 Barton accurately anticipated that Newport would be named the county seat of the new county of Sullivan, and moved his paper to Newport and named it the Newport Spectator which is an ancestor of the Argus-Champion. In 1834 the Argus, then printed in Claremont, moved to Newport, and in 1835 was merged with the Newport Spectator to become the Argus and Spectator. -- Wheeler 60; Argus 27 Feb. 1985; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook Vol. I, p. 59. In 1881 the Republican Champion was founded in Newport; in 1925 it merged with the Argus and Spectator and became the Argus-Champion. From 1948 to 1953 the Newport Guardian and Kearsarge-Sunapee Sun was published each Thursday. During this period it encountered bankruptcy and re-emerged as the Newport-Lake Sunapee Times. ----- (See 1839 for Whip and Spur, a campaign newspaper published every presidential year until 1860.)

**1824** -- The N.H. Legislature moves the Supreme Court of Judicature from Charlestown to Newport. -- Parmalee, 3. Thus Newport become the shiretown, or county seat.

**1824** -- A cemetery .... "the principle one, is purchased in 1824, situated east of the Congregational meeting house, on the Bradford road, in which two tombs were built for the use of the town in 1842." [Maple St. Cemetery] -- Npt. Bus. Dir. 1870, p. 77.

**1825** -- General Marquis De Lafayette visits Newport while on goodwill tour of the U.S. He has lunch at a house near the southeast corner of S. Main Street and Elm St. That house was taken to Queechee, Vermont, and re-erected there. -- The Mountaineer, Vol. 1, No. 3, Aug. 3, 1964, New London; Wheeler 259; Argus 14 July 1925.

**1825** -- Amasa Edes is one of the early preceptors (teachers) of the Newport Academy, 1825, and later a trustee. -- Parmalee p. 273.

**1826** -- Eagle Hotel (now the Eagle Block) is built on Main Street. -- Wheeler 78; Edes 26.

**1826** -- Construction of the Pennsylvania Grand Canal is begun on 4 July.

**1826** -- The County Court House (in 1995 the Newport District Court) is built and in 1827 Newport becomes the shire town, or county seat, when Sullivan County is carved out of Cheshire County. The court building later served as a Grange Hall, public school and Greek school. Wheeler 69-70; also reference in Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 53; Parmalee, p. 3.

**1827** -- Friction matches replaced flint and steel for lighting fires and candles. They were sometimes called "Lucifers." Previously householders preserved hot coals in fireplaces and stoves overnight with a blanket of ashes so that they could start a fire in the morning.

**1827** – Sidebar – *Parsimonious We: (see p.33 below)*

Notes from "Town Schooling in Early New England 1790-1840" Old Sturbridge Village Booklet by Catherine Fennelly, 1962

*p. 5 -- The parents.....too often failed to initiate or join a movement for better schools and better teachers because such a movement, if it succeeded, would mean greater expense to themselves. New Englanders were never free spenders, not even in matters educational.*

*p. 9 -- The indifference to education, or at least opposition to its expense, continued throughout most of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and reached its peak during the Revolution. Many towns closed their schools for long periods during the war. ....Manchester, NH, closed its school in 1775 as did Weare. Swanzey schools were closed in 1775 and 1776. The town vote usually was to "drop the schooling for the present. ... Samuel Adams .... took time to warn Massachusetts against so short-sighted an economy."*

*p. 12 -- When it came to locating the schoolhouse within the district the exact center, provided the land was of no value, was considered the least controversial site....*

*p. 14 -- "...the land (for a schoolhouse) must be valueless, or as nearly so as possible," a clergyman pointed out with pride.*

*p. 28 -- A resident of Temple, NH, looking back on his school days... said that "it was then the custom to employ those for teachers who were in the most need of support; if they could read a chapter in the Testament, teach the Shorter Catechism, and whip the boys, they were sufficiently qualified."*

*p. 33 -- .... In country areas all over New England teachers boarded around among their pupils or were auctioned off to the lowest bidder for their board. .... ( A teacher wrote of his placement): It was arranged for the schoolmaster to live with the family that would board and lodge him the cheapest. Having been informed where I was to board....."*

*p. 37 -- ..... the story of the New England district school system is scarcely a happy one. Cheap and inadequate buildings, poorly paid and too often poorly equipped teachers, a niggardly attitude on the part of town and parents alike were all too common in the early nineteenth century.*

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**1827** -- The first Concord stagecoach is made and sold. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1830 Population: 1,913.** [Population of state of N.H. is 269,328, up 10.3%.]

**1830s** -- Iron stoves for cooking and heating begin to replace fireplaces. Benj. Franklin invented Franklin stove (he called it a Pennsylvania Fireplace) in 1742, and Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford) designed the first practical cooking stove in the 1790s, but it took time for inventions to get to rural New England areas. -- World Book Encyclopedia.

**1830** -- Methodists begin meeting in Newport.  
(See 1851 - build church in Newport.) -- Wheeler 118; Andler 5; Historical Soc. Scrapbook III, p 21, has history of Methodist church in an undated newspaper clipping.

**1831** -- "Dexter" the town's hand pumper, or hand tub, is bought from the City of Worcester, Mass. for fire protection. It was built in 1815 by William Hunnemen, an apprentice of Paul Revere. The tub is No. 39 and is the second oldest Hunnemen pumper in existence. Worcester bought it in 1815, and used it until 1831. At that time it was sold to Newport and was used here until 1833 when the steam fire engine was bought. (It found its way into a museum in Worcester, Mass., around 1956, but in 1961, former Newport fire chief Herbert Wright asked that Dexter be returned to the town in celebration of the town's bicentennial. - Argus - 29 Nov. 1995.) It takes about 24 men to man it properly and is capable of throwing 200 to 300 gallons a minute a distance of 150 to 200 feet. -- caption on photo Argus- 17 May 1995. -- See also a one-sheet fund-

raising description produced by the Newport Firefighters Association.

**1832** -- The town's first fire department, Engine Co. 1, is incorporated and stationed near the Elm Street bridge. Public subscription purchases the "1832 Dexter" second oldest Hunnemen handtub in existence, still owned by the Newport Fire Department. -- Wheeler 268; Bicentennial 44; Argus 12 Oct. 1983; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook. [As We Were col. in p. 22 of 10 Sept. 1997 Argus says that in 1947 "local firemen celebrate their 143rd year as a town organization." This does not agree with Wheeler or the Bicentennial booklet, making the first fire department coming into being in 1804.]

**1832** -- "A mill erected...by Messrs. Smith and Rockwell on the East Branch. This burned in 1835." -- Npt. Bus. Dir. of 1870. p. 21.

**1832** -- Adm. George Belknap born in Newport Jan. 22. Went to common and high schools. At age 15 he became midshipman in US Navy. Appointed to Naval Academy in 1847, fought in China in 1856 and in Civil War in 1860s. He was present at opening of Japan in 1868. Had a marvelous Naval career. Died in Key West. -- Wheeler p. 301. (See excerpt of Belknap 1895 speech at 1865.)

**1833** -- The town's hand pumper is replaced with a steam fire engine. (See 1831.)

**1835** -- 720 Roman Catholics live in the state. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996. [Total population of the state in 1830 was 269, 633.]

**1835** – Sidebar -- *Violence Against Blacks 30 miles North in Canaan:*

*In March, when abolitionists established Noyes Academy in Canann, with 28 white and 14 black students , “to afford colored youth a fair opportunity to show that they are capable, equally with the whites, of improving themselves in every scientific attainment, every social virtue, and every Christian ornament,” Canaan citizens at public meeting declared that more than 4/5<sup>th</sup> of them opposed the academy and were “determined to take effectual measures to remove it.”*

*On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 1835, a mob approached the building, but dispersed when confronted by a local magistrate. Later than month Town Meeting appointed a committee to do away with the school.*

*On Aug 10 the committee gathered hundreds of men from Canaan and surrounding towns, including Hanover, who arrived with 90 oxen [some accounts say 100 yoke of oxen], ropes and chains, and dragged the schoolhouse from its foundations. The students watched from the homes of local townspeople where they boarded. After destroying the school building, the mob threatened the students and the people sheltering them by firing cannons at the homes. –(Source: [www.dartmouth.edu/dartlife/archives/15-5/noyes.html](http://www.dartmouth.edu/dartlife/archives/15-5/noyes.html))*

*When the job was done the committee met briefly to condemn abolitionism, praise the Constitution, and invoke the memories of the patriots of '76. ‘So ended the day’ the Concord Patriot wrote, ‘joyful to the friend of his country, but sorrowful to the Abolitionists.’ Rumors in the town before the school was destroyed, “centered on fear of*

*an influx of blacks , and visions of ramshackle huts full of fugitive slaves lining the streets of Canaan, of town tax rates driven sky high by black paupers and good citizens subject to public nuisances.” -- (Source: *Slavery in the North* [www.slavenorth.com/newhampshire.htm](http://www.slavenorth.com/newhampshire.htm).) –*Timeline of State History* -- [www.shgresources.com/nh/timeline](http://www.shgresources.com/nh/timeline).*

**1835** -- Inauguration of the Boston and Worcester Railroad is held on 4 July.

**1835** -- Little Red Schoolhouse (District 7) south of town on Goshen Road is said to be built this year. -- see photo caption, Argus 5 Sept. 1985. -- Bicentennial 28.

**1835** -- Newport Mechanics Mfg. Co., was incorporated and after running two years failed. Parks and Twitchel commenced in 1838 to manufacture Cassimere there. (Cassimere is a plain or twilled woolen cloth for men's apparel. Variant of Kashmir.) -- Newport Bus. Dir. 1870, p. 21.

**1835** -- Corbin Covered Bridge across Croydon branch of Sugar R. in N. Newport is built. (destroyed by arson 25 May 1993.) -- The Newport Historical Society gives date of construction, and says the bridge is 96' long. Allen says 105' on p. 109. -- Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Allen, Stephen Greene Press, 1957, p. 109.

**1837** -- A major economic depression began this year. -- Washington Spectator p. 2, Jan. 1, 1996.

**1837** -- Universalist Society builds chapel on Main Street where Johnson's Ben Franklin Store now stands. [In 1995 the store was closed and became Sierra Photo; in 2001 Sierra Photo moved and the store remained empty for a while.] A Paul Revere bell is installed in the chapel, and remained there until 1897 when it was sold to the town of Newport for \$200 and "hoisted to the roof of the Town Hall for use as the town's main fire alarm and was used for that purpose until 1923. ... It was removed from the Town Hall roof in 1975 and in Nov. 1977 was encased ... in front of the town hall. .... The town also has two other Paul Revere bells -- one on the South Church and other in the First Baptist Church. Both date from 1822." -- p. 27, Newport, N.H., The Sunshine Town, Building on Strong Foundations, pub. by Newport Chamber of Commerce, 1998.  
 ===== In 1873 it (the Universalist Church) was joined by Unitarian Society. -- Wheeler 121. -- In 1870, Day and Thurston, dealers in Fresh, Salted and Pickled Fish -- cakes, pies, etc., had store under chapel. -- Npt. Bus. Directory 1870. (see 1895 when building was sold for a store.)

**1838** -- Croydon Turnpike, built in 1806, running from Lebanon through Croydon Flat, Newport Village, Goshen Mill Village to Washington, was given up and a public road "laid out over it by the town in 1838." (This was end of the turnpike era, and many turnpikes in the nation went broke with great losses to the investors.) -- Wheeler 85; Edes 28.

**1838** -- "The mania for raising and manufacture of silk prevailed here between 1838

and 1850." Mulberry trees were planted, silk worms were raised, silk spun, woven and manufactured into clothing. -- Wheeler - p. 104,5.

**1839** -- Description of Newport as printed in the New England Gazetteer of 1839 (5th edition, by John Hayward --

"Shire town, Sullivan county. Its central situation and its water power, together with the enterprising spirit of its inhabitants, has rendered Newport a place of considerable business. It is 40 miles W. by N. from Concord, about 35 N. from Keene, and 14 E.S.E. from Windsor, Vt. Near the centre of the town, and the confluence of the E. and S. branches of Sugar river and the Croydon turnpike, is a handsome village. In general the soil is rich and poroductive. Sugar river flows through this town, and its three branches unite near the village, whence it passes through Claremont into the Connecticut. On the eastern branch are situated, principally near the village, large and valuable manufacturing establishments. --There are other mills in different parts of the town. There are a few eminences, designated as Bald, Coit and East mountains, and Blueberry hill. Newport was granted by charter in 1761. The first effort towards a settlement was made in the fall of 1763. (Question: is this first settlement effort mentioned elsewhere?) The first settlers were principally from Killingworth, Ct. This town is noted for its good schools and its various charitable societies. Population, 1830, 1,913." -- end of excerpt from Hayward's Gazetteer --

**1839** -- First issue (March 12) of Whip & Spur, a campaign newspaper, said to be the first illustrated newspaper in United States, is published at office of Argus & Spectator. Was printed every presidential year down to 1860. Circulation was nation-wide and never less than 12,000. Cost: 25 cents. -- Granite State Monthly, Vol. II, Nov. 1906, No. 5, pp. 239-244.

**1839** -- Town buys clock for \$300 and places it in Unitarian Chapel on Main Street. Removed to tower of county and town building (town hall) in 1875. -- Wheeler, 269.

**1839** -- First N.H. railroad opens, running from Lowell, Mass. to Nashua. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1840 Population: 1,958.** [Population of state of N.H. is 284,574, up 5.7%.]

Weekly Wages Typical of All New England Factories about 1840

After deducting \$1.16 per week for board:

Carding ..... \$0.92

Spinning ..... 0.89

Weaving ..... 1.89

Source: p. 60, New Hampshire - The American Guide Series

A Guide to the Granite State, HMCo, 1938

*(Caution: These figures are useless unless they are compared to what they could buy at that time.)*

**1840** -- The Town Sexton's duties:



**1840** -- Last of the N.H. counties, Belknap and Carroll, are established. [Legislative act of Dec. 22, 1840] -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996; N.H. Manual for the General Court.

**1840** -- Between 1840 and 1940 approximately one million French-Canadians left Quebec for the United States. Two thirds of these found new homes in the mill towns of New England. -- Robert LeBlanc, UNH.

**1840** -- Methodists build church in Newport (had been using schoolhouse, but there were objections.) -- Wheeler - 118.

**1842** -- Sibley Scythe factory opens (named Sibley in 1845 when Ezra Taft Sibley purchased one-half interest). Sends scythes to clear jungle for Panama Canal. The factory was closed in 1929. (check date of closing.) -- Wheeler 105; Bicentennial 53; also the periodical "Soo Nipi, Covering the Greater Sunapee Area," July, 1949.

**1842** -- County jail is built on Main Street, later to become Empire Theater, Krans Department Store, S&K Department Store. Now (1995) houses Twin Valley Cable. The jail was remodelled in 1876 by County Commissioners. -- Wheeler 70.

**1843** -- County Safe building (Newport Police Department in 1995) is built to house "county offices and safes." -- Wheeler 71.

**1844** -- Many North Newport residents, swayed by the adventist William Miller (see an encyclopedia) prepare for the end of the world in March. Some are said to have given away their land and goods. -- Wheeler, 122 In 1840 New England Shakers were alert to the religious fervor being generated by the Adventist preacher, William Miller of Poultney, Vt. He urged his growing following to expect the end of the world in 1843 and then in 1844. After the "Great Disappointment" of 1844 [Oct. 22] some Millerites became Shakers. -- Shaker brochure from Enfield, N.H.

**1844** South Church builds a "little wooden chapel or vestry," north of the church -- Bicentennial p. 10.

**1847** The railroad reaches Lebanon. (Rail reached into N.H. in 1838 from Lowell.) -- Up and Down N.H. pp. 78,79, by Bailey.

**1847** -- Sugar River Mill established. (In 1870, 62 were employed. Manufactures 800,000 yards of union flannel each year. Dexter Richards, proprietor.) -- Newport Business Directory, 1870, p. 44.

**1848** -- Gold is discovered at John Sutter's mill in California, starting the famous gold rush. -- "During the excitement occasioned by the discovery of gold in California, a company known as the 'California Trading and Mining Co.'" was formed, with capital stock ... of \$30,000..... purchased a vessel .....several prominent men of Croydon were

shareholders.....Among those from this town [Newport?] who joined the company.....The enterprise did not prove so successful as was hoped. -- pp. 258-259 Wheeler.

**1847** The New Hampshire legislature passes a 10-hour-a-day work day, but left mill owners with the power to coerce workers into signing contracts for 12 hours, which was the norm before the law was passed. - p. 956, Run of the Mill, by Steve Dunwell, Godine, 1978; also p. 62, New Hampshire: A Guide to the Granite State, HMCo., 1938.

**1848** -- Nathaniel Adams opens first drug store in Little's Block. -- Wheeler 82.

**1850 Population: 2,014.** [Population of N.H. is 317,976, up 11.7%.]

**1850** -- Forty-four cotton mills and 61 woolen mills are operating in N.H. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1850** -- The Amoskeag mill in Manchester is making a mile of cloth a day. -- p. 79, Up and Down N.H. by Bailey

**1851** -- The Tontine on the Common is torn down. It was built in 1818. -- Wheeler 266.

**1851** -- Methodist Church is built on Common. (See 1830) -- Wheeler 118; Andler 5.

**1853** -- The Sugar River Bank, the town's first bank, is opened. Was ancestor of First National Bank. -- Wheeler 67; Bicentennial 56.

**1853 Average wages per month in N.H.:**

woolen mills - male: \$22.84

female: 14.51

cotton mills - male: \$25.45

female: 13.47

work day probably was 12 hours; six days a week.) source: - p. 482, Hayward's United States Gazetteer, 1853.

**1854** -- Because of a sizable and growing Catholic community (mostly Irish) in Newport and because of the time it took to walk or go by horse to Claremont, Father Cornelius O'Sullivan, pastor of St. Mary's Church of Claremont, began to say Mass at the Sunapee Street home of Patrick Herrick. -- History of St. Patrick's Church - 75th Anniv. - 1902-1977. (see 1883)

**1855** -- N.H. legislature passes a liquor prohibition act "in consequence of the utter failure of license to suppress the rising tide of drunkenness." Sale of intoxicating liquors is forbidden in the state. -- lecture by R. Stuart Wallace, N.H. Historical Society, July 1987. Also pp 702 and 703, New Hampshire, A History, Vol. II, Pillsbury, 1927 which has a good summary of liquor prohibition laws in the state since 1680; and p. 256, Vol. IV, History of New Hampshire, Stackpole, undated.

**Sidebar -- Temperance:** *Gerald Carson, in the American Heritage Cook book and Illustrated History of American Eating and Drinking, p.91 / 1964 says that in New England, "Almost everyone took rum as a form of central heating ... At militia trainings it was more necessary than gunpounder." Horace Greeley, the prominent newspaper editor of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century, wrote: "Cider was, next to water, the most abundant and the cheapest fluid to be had in New Hampshire while I lived there – often selling for a dollar per barrel. In many a family of six or eight persons a barrel tapped on Saturday barely lasted a full week. ... The transition from cider to more potent stimulants was easy and natural; so that whole families died drunkards and vagabond paupers from the impetus first given by cider swilling in their rural homes." -- Judge Jonathan Kittridge, a Canaan lawyer who lectured for total abstinence, "estimated in 1828 that New Hampshire had 2,441 common drunkards and 3,663 ... occasional drunkards, and that the state consumed 732,483 gallons of ardent spirits annually at a cost of \$366,241." – p. 253, Vol. IV, History of New Hampshire by Stackpole, 1916. [ The population of New Hampshire in 1830 was 269,328 and included 6,104 drunks, according to Kittridge whose figures make every 44<sup>th</sup> person a drunk. If one-half the population was 18 or under, then every 22<sup>nd</sup> adult was a drunk. Kittridge's stats indicate that each New Hampshire resident, regardless of age, drank 2.8 gallons of ardent spirits a year. That is 346 ounces a person. If only half the population was drinking, that half consumed twice that amount or about five gallons or 692 ounces a year. That's 2 ounces a day including Sundays]*

**1857** -- A major economic depression in the U.S. began this year.

**1857** -- New Hampshire grants blacks full citizenship with right to vote. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1856** -- Water from Cold Spring Grove introduced into village by Samuel H. Edes in wooden aqueduct "replaced by iron and cement in 1862." Another reference says aqueduct is pipe. -- Npt. Bus. Dir of 1870, p. 79; Wheeler 269.

**1858** -- Sidewalks started on the then "narrow, unpleasant part of Main Street, south of the bridge." -- Wheeler 263.

**1858** -- Sugar River House is built. Burned in 1867. -- Wheeler 79.

**1859** -- Lighting. Kerosene (although known to the Arabs from early times) began to be popular in 1859 when Edwin Drake discovered how to recover it from petroleum rather than from coal tar (thus the term coal oil) and shale oils by drilling his historic well in Titusville, Penna. Until electricity (which see) entered the home, kerosene lamps were the major source of light. Before kerosene, it had been candles, and before that lard oil, chicken grease, whey from making butter, whale oil, all used in Betty lamps. But lard oil, chicken grease and whale oil solidified in cold weather so Newporters burned candles in winter before kerosene. Candles were made from the tallow of beef, deer, bear. -- Colonial Lighting by Arthur Hayward, Dover, 1962, pages ranging from 24 to 82.

**1859** -- A park at the south end of the Common as fenced in and improved with walks,

and decorated with shrubs and flowers, in 1859, by Dr. Thomas Sanborn and Messrs. Cross, then their proprietors of the Newport House. -- Wheeler 263.

**1860 Population: 2,077.** [Population of state of N.H. is 326,013, up 2.5%, the lowest rise in the state's history, but see 1870!]

**1860** -- Forty-eight percent (48%) of N.H. is forest. Farmland at its peak. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1860** -- Newport House is built to replace the 1814 building which burned this year. Citizens contribute to cost. -- Wheeler 78.

**1860** -- Water reservoir "in the park at the south end of the common" was built. One at north end, 1871 and at south end of village, 1874.-- Wheeler 269.

### **1861 CIVIL WAR**

April 14, 1861 Confederates capture Fort Sumter and war starts. Ends April 9, 1865

**1862** -- The first Seventh Day Adventist Church in the U.S. is organized in Washington, N.H. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1863** --Thanksgiving Day is proclaimed by President Lincoln as the last Thursday of November. Sarah Josepha Hale of Newport, after a long campaign, is responsible for his proclamation. -- page 100, Sarah Josepha Hale, New England Pioneer, 1788-1879, by Sherbrooke Rogers, published by Tomson & Rutter, Grantham, N.H. 1985. (For more on Hale, see Historical New Hampshire , published by the N.H. Historical Society, Vol. 49, No. 2, Summer 1994.

**1861-1865** -- Newport men enlist in Civil War; of the 240 who serve, 30 die in service. -- Wheeler 29; Andler 6. (This figure is contradicted by Belknap below. Andler's source probably is Wheeler.)

"In looking over the Roll of Honor of this Post (GAR), I find that of the men who went from this town to the front, one died of starvation in a rebel prison, one was accidentally shot to death by our own pickets, twelve were killed in battle or died of wounds received on the battle-field, twenty-four died during the war of diseases contracted in line of duty, and many others received strokes of disablement that carried them to early graves, or left them in a condition of chronic ailment through the hardships incident to service in presence of the enemy.

It is a well known fact .... that in all wars the rigors and deprivations of camp and ship life, climatic changes and influences, the insidious ravages of malarial poison, bad water and poor food, carry off a much larger percentage of men than the bullets of the enemy...." -- p. 30 of ms. of Admiral George Belknap in his Memorial Day (1895) Address. Ms. is owned by John C. McCrillis, and copies are in the Richards Free Library and the high school library. The speech was covered, and might be reprinted completely in Repub.-Champ. 6 June 1895.

**1861 -- Sidebar -- Health of American Men in Civil War Times:**

*“Sixty-five percent of the male population ages 18 to 25 signed up to serve in the Union Army. .... Eighty percent of the male population ages 16 to 19 tried to sign up for the Union Army in 1861 but one out of six was rejected because he was deemed disabled. ....the Union Army was not very picky. ‘Incontinence of urine alone is not grounds for dismissal,’ a regulation said. A man who was blind in his right eye was disqualified from serving because that was his musket eye, but blindness in the left eye was O.K. ... As the veterans entered middle age [in the 1890s and early 1900s] 80 percent had heart disease by the time they were 60, compared with less than 50 percent today [in 2006]. By ages 65 to 74, 55 percent of the Union Army veterans had back problems. The comparable figure today is 35 percent.*

*“Men living in the Civil War era had an average height of 5-foot-7 and weighed an average of 147 pounds ... Today, men average 5-foot-9½ and weigh an average of 191 pounds. -- Source: New York Times, July 30, 2006 “So Big and Healthy Grandpa Wouldn’t Even Know You”*

**1866 --** Western Union Telegraph lines reach Newport. Extended to Claremont in 1873, to Northville, 1875 and to Sunapee Harbor, 1876. -- Wheeler, p. 268. also Manchester Union, Aug. 7 or 8, 1898, a clipping in Richards family scrapbook in possession of Louise Hawkins, Hanover, N.H.; Parmalee, History of Sullivan County 228.

**1866 --** Sullivan County buys 395 acres of land with its buildings in Unity for \$6,500 from Lyman Rounsevel and the concept of the County Farm is established. -- Sullivan County Historical Information Sheets, by Dobnald Fontaine, Sr., a county commissioner.

**1866 --** Trees on the inside of the streets around the Common were set out.. mainly by Cyril Wheeler, Esq., and paid for by citizens living around the Common. -- Wheeler 263.

**1867 --** Perley Coffin and William Nourse build and operate Granite States Mills in Guild to produce woolen cloth. This mill is now Dorr Woolen Co., own by Pendleton Woolen Mills. The mill was built downstream a few hundred yards from Giles' grist mill of 1768. -- Wheeler 72, 92; Bicentennial 56; interview with George Dorr, Jr.

**1867 --** Circa - Post Office is moved to Cheney Block at corner of Main and Depot Streets. Before that it had been located on Maple Street and in several stores on Main Street. -- p. 27, BiCentennial Book.

**1867 --** Sugar River House burns. -- Wheeler 79.

**1868 --** Newport Savings Bank incorporated July 1, 1868. Opens in September. -- Wheeler 68; Bicentennial 57.

**1868 --** "First coal stove in Newport was bought by William Nourse about 1868 and installed in house now occupied by D.A. Newton."  
(Is this the house now (1995) occupied by the funeral home of Newton and Bartlett on Main Street north of the Wheeler Block?) -- Historical Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 142 As We

Were.

**1869** -- The transcontinental railroad is completed, but Newporters wanting to travel to California were required to catch their train at Bradford, the closest rail connection to Newport. Newport was connected to Bradford by rail in 1871.

**1869** -- The Mount Washington Cog Railway is opened. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1870 Population: 2,163.** [Population of the state of N.H. is 318,300, a loss of nearly 8,000 (2.4%) since 1860.]

Sketch of Newport.

from the 1870 "Newport Business Directory and Advertiser published by the business men."

NEWPORT, N.H., is the shire town of Sullivan County. In it are several villages. The principal one is situated on the banks of the Sugar river, a stream rising in the beautiful lake Sunapee, five miles distant. The village is snugly placed between the hills and from many points it can be seen presenting the charming appearance which has gained for it the name of one of the most beautiful villages in New-England. A very wide street, crossed at right angles in many places, runs through the center of the village until it is divided in two at the north end. The two streets thus made inclose a handsome common, which would be doubly so were proper care taken of it. On account of the many mills, the sessions of the courts and its being the business center for a number of farming towns, the place presents quite an animated appearance. The inhabitants are industrious, intelligent and energetic.

THE SCENERY in this neighborhood is most romantic. On the east Sunapee lifts its high head. This mountain has been rendered famous by the book, entitled Old Sunapee, written by the talented authoress of our town, Miss Mary D. Chellis. Looking down upon the village are Coit, Bald and Croydon Mountains, famous resorts for picnic parties. From these points a comprehensive view is had. Sunapee lake, extending ten miles in one direction and three miles in another, can be plainly seen. In the west Ascutney mountain presents a bold front. Twenty miles in another direction Kearsarge rises to view, and midway up, the Winslow House is seen. Near the village are most retired nooks which captivate the eye. One never tires, in summer, driving or walking over the delightful roads, through pine groves, or beside brooks lined with moss and shaded by the over-hanging trees.

FROM INCORRECT STATISTICS given a few years ago of the mortality in the village, unfortunately a wrong impression was given to those living at a distance. The atmosphere, it was supposed, engendered certain kinds of disease. Nothing is farther from the truth. The air is pure and bracing. The number of deaths each year, in proportion to the population, is very small. The large number of old men and women, born here and who are still living, is specific proof that the climate is healthy. One thing

particularly noticed by strangers is the sweetness and purity of the water, of which each family has an abundant supply. There is good fishing in the vicinity. The proximity of the lake is an inducement to many who love to fish from a boat, while the many brooks tempt those who love the speckled trout.

THERE ARE TWO HOTELS IN THE VILLAGE. One is a frame building, nearly finished, the other a brick building, which has been enlarged and greatly improved. The beauty of the village, the activity and pleasant manners of the inhabitants, the delightful roads and romantic scenery, the fishing haunts in the vicinity, the ample accommodations and good fare at the hotels and private homes, all make the village a desirable resort for those who wish to spend a few weeks in the country.

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A SKETCH OF THE  
EARLY HISTORY OF NEWPORT

from

The Newport Business Directory  
and Advertiser

Published by the Business Men, 1870

Near the middle of the last century a trapper, by the name of Eastman, left his home in Killingworth, Conn., and followed the course of the Connecticut river until he came to a stream running into it, now called the Sugar river. Finding beaver and otter in abundance, he trapped on the south branch of the Sugar, and on a brook running through a meadow since owned by Reuben Haven. Eastman was the first white man who entered this town. Having been successful in trapping, he returned to his native place and gave his friends a description of this part of the country, which led some of them to apply for a charter, preparatory to setting out for what was then a wild, uninhabited save by Indians. Eastman, after disposing of his furs, again set out for the new country, but he never returned. The early settlers found on Reuben Haven's farm the bones of a man, which led some to think that Eastman had been killed by the Indians.

The Charter

The Charter of the township of Newport was granted Oct. 6, 1761 by George III, King of England. In it was stated that the first meeting of the proprietors should be held on the third Tuesday of November, 1761, for the purpose of electing officers -- Mr. George Harris to act as moderator. The Charter named a few conditions which were to be fulfilled by the grantees, or else the lands were to be forfeited. Among them were, in substance, the following:

1. That five acres out of every fifty must be cultivated by each grantee or heirs within five years.
2. All the white and other pine trees must be preserved for masts to be used on ships belonging to the Royal Navy.
3. That a tract of land should be reserved and marked out in the center of the township for town lots.

4. "Yielding and paying therefor, to us, our heirs and successors, for the space of ten years, to be computed from the date hereof, the rent of one ear of Indian corn only, on the twenty-fifth of December, annually, if lawfully demanded, the first payment to be made on the twenty-fifth day of December, 1762."

5. It was further stipulated, that upon the expiration of ten years after the above date, one shilling, proclamation money, for every one hundred acres, should be paid each year by the proprietors.

The number of the original grantees is sixty-two. Those obtained their land through a committee chosen at Killingworth, Dec. 25, 1764. The drawing took place at the house of John Hastings, in Charlestown, July 6, 1765. Stephen Wilcox, Robert Lane, John Crane and Isaac Kelsey, formed the committee. During the fall of the year last named, several men came into the town to make preparation for the company that wished to come in the spring.

Three of the men, having extra work to do, resolved to stay and finish it after their companions had left. At night they went to Bragg's camp, near the present residence of Mr. Fairbanks. Next morning a severe snow-storm arose, which compelled them either to follow their companions to No. 4, now Charlestown, or remain and starve. While traveling through Unity, one of the party, Mr. Merritt, became so chilled and tired that he thought he could go no farther, and so laid himself down to die. Mr. Kelsey, who believed in resorting to severe remedies, when gentle ones were ineffectual, cut some sprouts, and not very tenderly, but mercifully, applied them to Mr. Merritt's body. Mr. Merritt rose, and with an evil intention, it is supposed, pursued Mr. K. After running quite a distance the passion of Mr. M. subsided; he thanked his companion for the castigation, and all went on their way rejoicing and reached their temporary home at Charlestown in safety.

#### First Meeting of Proprietors

The first regular and legal meeting by the proprietors of Newport was held October 13, 1767, and was called to order by Benjamin Bellows, of Walpole, one of "His Majesty's Justices." This meeting adjourned to convene on the 16th of October, 1767, at the house of "Zephaniah Clark, Innholder in said Newport."

#### The First Hotel

The first hotel was not a very elegant edifice. It was simply a log cabin, and Zephaniah Clark had the honor of being the first hotel-keeper. From the records it seems he was a prominent man. He stands first in the following list, which comprises the names of those who first moved to Newport:

Zephaniah Clark	Nathan Hurd
Ebenezer Merritt	Ephraim Turner
Benjamin Bragg	Roswell Kelsey
Samuel Hurd	Roswell Hull
Jesse Wilcox	William Stannard
Amos Hull	Jesse Lane



James Church	Benjamin Giles
Ezra Parmalee	Charles Avery
Jesse Kelsey	

The first five were married, and received eighty acres each; the rest being bachelors received fifty acres each. Thus the men in olden time had substantial inducements to marry.

#### Roads

For some time after the town was settled the inhabitants traveled on horseback or went on foot. They could not ride in wagons or carriages. The husband, wife and child, might be seen upon a horse, on a Sunday morning, going to church, while children who could walk, trudged on behind. Finding it difficult to bring merchandise to the place without wagons, a road was cut through the woods to Charlestown, by way of what are now called Pike Hill and Unity. Committees were afterward appointed to confer with other towns in reference to building turnpikes. Several roads were made in town shortly after the permanent settlement, a direct tax being laid upon the people to meet the expenses.

#### Woman's Rights

Mrs. Bragg made out the first taxes in town, no other one, at that time, understanding how to attend to this business. It is not stated in the records whether the privilege of voting was granted or not to Mrs. Bragg for her more than manly work.

#### Bridges

It was voted by the people, March 8, 1774, to build a bridge across the east branch of Sugar River, near the site of the present bridge in the center of the village. On March 13, 1775, it was voted to build another across the south branch, just west of the residence of Dea. Chapin. The streams before the erection of these bridges were forded, but as this was dangerous in certain seasons of the year, it was found best to build these two and many more.

#### Mills

The inhabitants, for a short time after the settlement of the town, when they wished to have their grain ground were obliged to travel by a bridle road to Charlestown. The road was rough and the distance long. When Benjamin Giles resolved to build a saw and a corn-mill, the town quickly came to his help, and a liberal grant was made, which enabled him at once to erect the mills. These were situated near the factory recently built by Messrs. Coffin & Nourse. The first cotton mill was built in 1813, by Col. James D. Wolcot. This was afterward burned. A mill was erected in 1832 by Messrs. Smith and Rockwell, on the east branch. This was burned in 1835. The Newport Mechanics Manufacturing Company was incorporated in June, 1835, and after running two years failed. Parks and Twitchel commenced in 1838 to manufacture Cassimere in the mill formerly owned by the Manufacturing Company, now owned by Samuel H. Edes, Esq. The factory now owned by Solomon Dean, Esq., was built by Moses P. Durkee, and was originally used for an oil mill. No reference need be made to the other mills now standing, as full statements will be given by the owners in the advertising columns.

#### Proprietors' House.

On November 23, 1772, a meeting was held at the house of Jesse Wilcox, where it was voted to erect a building, "thirty feet in length and twenty in width, with one fire-place." A tax of fifteen shillings was levied on each proprietor to meet the expense. The house was to be finished in July, 1773, but the interior did not indicate that it ever received the finishing strokes, as a few boards were merely nailed upon the beams overhead and on the sides, thus leaving large open spaces. At public meetings, when the lower part of the house was full, the small boys clambered up the rude steps into the loft, and feeling their importance looked down upon their elders. This building was used on Sunday for religious worship, and at certain times during the year, on week days, as a school house.

#### Proprietors' Clerks.

On December 25, 1764, at Killingworth, Isaac Kelsey was elected the first clerk of the proprietors. In March, 1767, Benjamin Giles was elected clerk, which office he filled with acceptance to 1787. He was an energetic, capable man. He was the delegate chosen to represent the classed towns in the Assembly. The day upon which the election was held was very rainy and boisterous. Giles wore an old gray coat, that had seen better days, and which probably did not add much to his appearance. After the vote was declared an honest and facetious Scotchman exclaimed, "The de'ils in the mon, here's what we've been after all the day under this old rag of a coat." "True, friend," replied Giles, "it is better to carry about a ragged coat than a ragged conscience." Mr. G. enjoyed the public confidence, and was so highly esteemed by the Governor that while he was a member of the council blank commissions for justices of the peace were given to him to be filled at his discretion. In 1788 Jedediah Reynolds was elected clerk. In 1790 Jesse Lane was chosen. He acted until 1819, when Benjamin Lane assisted at a meeting which elected Phineas Chapin proprietors' clerk. In 1826 James Breck was elected, which office he held until 1841, when Amasa Edes, Esq., the present incumbent, was chosen clerk.

#### First Town Meeting

The first town meeting was held on the 27th of September, 1769; Samuel Cole, justice of the peace, appointed it, as the inhabitants could not warn the first meeting. At eight o'clock, on the appointed day, the people met and elected Benjamin Giles, moderator, Amos Hull, town clerk, and Samuel Hurd, Jesse Wilcox and Amos Hull, selectmen. Samuel Hurd, being a strong man, was elected constable. For a number of years town meetings were warned in the name of "His Majesty," but on March 11, 1777, a meeting, warned in the name of the State of New-Hampshire was held.

#### Patriotism.

On the 24th of July, 1775, a large meeting was held, in obedience to the recommendation of the Continental Congress, and resolutions were adopted in opposition to England. Men were fitted out for the war, and from time to time the Continental army received recruits from Newport. In 1812 the same patriotism was displayed by the inhabitants, and also at a later date when the flag of our country was insulted.

#### Education.

On March 8, 1774, it was voted to pay, out of the town treasury, "four pounds lawful money" toward the support of a school the following year. Having no money they found an equivalent in the shape of grain. The early settlers showed that they were not content to have their children grow up in ignorance. The efforts of these thinking men resulted in good. A few years ago, from carefully prepared statistics, it was found that Newport furnished a larger number of college graduates, in proportion to population, than any other town in New-England, with a single exception. It is hoped that this statement will be the means of spurring the present inhabitants to consider the necessity of introducing an education system and building school edifices worthy of the times, in order that the children here may receive the best education.

#### Old Style of Living.

The houses in which the early settlers dwelt were made of logs. Moss was used, instead of mud, for filling. A large fire-place was built, in which wood from three to five feet long could be placed. On one side of this the children could sit; on the other the parents, and "yet there was room." Stoves were not then in use. Ventilators were not needed. The food was not as fine and unhealthy as some placed upon tables to-day. The strength of the grain was retained, and so gave strength to the people. Elegant dishes were not owned by many. The beans, potatoes, brown bread and meat, were placed upon wooden trenchers.

#### The Village.

The early settlers laid out the village on the west side of the south branch of Sugar river, but nature did not acquiesce. The fine water power on the main river attracted capitalists who erected mills. Houses were also built by these for themselves and their employees. The increase of trade drew business men to the place; many public buildings were erected in rapid succession, and marked improvement was seen in street and dwelling. Fine looking houses have lately been built. A healthy spirit of emulation has been aroused. What with the thrift and enterprise of its citizens, the fine water power, the anticipated increased method of travel, the improvements now in contemplation, the healthful climate and delightful situation, Newport bids fair to become one of the largest villages in New-Hampshire.

--end of Business Directory account--

**1870** -- Town votes to publish a history. History of Newport from 1766 to 1878 is published in 1879 by Wheeler. -- Wheeler 3.

**1870** -- "July 6, 1978. Box buried in 1870 at cornerstone-laying of Baptist Church when building was turned to face Common, is opened...information in box proves church is oldest in Newport....formed in May 1879." Parmalee p. 242, disagrees; says "prior to June, 1775" for the Congregational Church. --Hist. Soc. Scrapbook V, p. 21; As We Were, Argus July 6, 1978.

**1870** -- Phenix Hotel is built on site of former Sugar River House, which was built in 1858 and burned in 1867. -- Wheeler 79.

**1870** -- Post office established in North Newport. "Soon after another one established at Guild." -- p. 27 BiCentennial Booklet. Wheeler, p. 268, says 1878 for North Newport.

**1870** -- Carlton Hurd purchases Amos Little's hat factory on north side of river on South Main Street and moved his pharmacy (later called Sugar River Pharmacy) across street from Eagle block. Building was shared on north side with a fishing tackle store that had a bar in the rear. -- Bicentennial 64.

**1870s** -- Attracted to New Hampshire by previous immigrants from Quebec, sometimes recruited by textile mills, French-Canadian immigration is accelerated and many of these workers settle in Newport. Catholic Mass is held in Masonic Hall on South Main Street. Other version puts date as 1873. -- New Hampshire, the American Guide Series, 1938 pp. 75-77.

**1870** -- In this year 134 waterwheels were in use on the 24 miles of Sugar River producing waterpower for a variety of mills. They were used by textile mills, sawmills, a tannery, a linseed oil mill, a hosiery. See Argus-Champion 19 May 1993, p. 17, a long interview with Richard Parker, an expert on the town's water-powered mill sites.

**1870** -- Catholic Mass is held in Masonic Hall on Main Street. (Wheeler says 1873.) -- History of St. Patrick Parrish - 75th Anniversary - 1902-1977.

**1871** -- Newport House has "French roof" and observatory added. -- Wheeler 78.

**1871** -- Railroad -- Rails of the Sugar River Railroad on Nov. 21 reach Main Street from Bradford, connecting Newport to Concord. (The last regular passenger service stopped in Nov. 1955.) First regular run from Bradford to Claremont Sept. 16, 1872. -- Wheeler 87.

**1872** -- Sidebar -- *Railroad: By 1853 the railroad had reached as far west as Bradford, and citizens of Newport (enthusiastically) and Claremont (not so enthusiastically) attempted to raise \$150,000 to continue the line to Claremont. Claremont, however, refused to raise its share of \$100,000, and the western terminus of the railroad stalled in Bradford. Thirteen years later the town of Newport voted at meeting to raise \$45,000 for the project; individual Newporters raised another \$20,000, and regular rail service began in 1872. (Wheeler 86,87)*

*At that time an old couple lived in the house immediately to the south of the County Safe Building on Main Street, which almost touches the railroad tracks as they cross Main Street. It was a noisy location; the train engineer regularly signalled his crossing by blowing his whistle loudly and often to warn Main Street traffic. As a result the occupants of the house were often disturbed. When the wife became ill her husband asked the engineer if he could stop sounding his whistle right outside their bedroom window when he made his crossing. The engineer agreed, and for some time the train passed their house quite silently. Then one day as the train silently approached the Main Street crossing, the husband appeared on his porch, only a few feet from the locomotive,*

*and shouted to the engineer: "She's a-gone, the old lady. She's a-gone. Let 'er rip, boys!" [Ken Andler]*

**1872** -- Masons (the Mt. Vernon Lodge) move out of what was then known as the Matson Block (57-59 South Main St., Priscilla Sweet Shop). Roman Catholic Church opens a mission there. (History of St. Patrick Parish places date at 1870 for this move. Edes Ms. "The New Priscilla Sweet," 1956 agrees with this date. Bicentennial p. 13 says 1870.)

**1872** -- Town Hall and Court House is built by town vote on Main Street at a cost of \$40,000. It burned in June of 1885 and was rebuilt immediately on the same site.

Wheeler 70; Bicentennial 6 and 7.

**1872** -- Sicebar -- *Rules for Teachers 1872:*

1. *Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.*
2. *Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.*
3. *Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.*
4. *Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.*
5. *After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.*
6. *Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.*
7. *Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.*
8. *Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.*
9. *The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.* – copy of a framed notice on the wall of a one-room schoolhouse in Andover, N.H. – Oct. 2007.

**1873** -- A major economic depression in the U.S. began this year.

The Newport Fire Department, organized as a municipal service with the acceptance of bylaws March 8, 1874 will mark the 100th anniversary of its organization with a two-day celebration in August. -- from 25 Years Ago in As We Were in April 3, 1974 Argus.

**1873** -- Sidebar -- *Divorce:*

**“CAUTION.**

*“Whereas Mary, my wife, has left my bed and board without sufficient cause; and I hereby forbid all persons from harboring or trusting her on my account, as I have made suitable provisions for her support, and shall pay no debts of her contracting after this*

*date. Signed: Welcome A. Angell. Sunapee, Nov. 28, 1873.” ////*

*“Correction.*

*“ Whereas Welcome Angell, my husband, has advertised me as leaving his bed and board, he having made suitable provisions for my support. This is to say that the only provisions he made for me was potatoes and beef’s liver, without any pepper or salt, and I did not leave his bed, but took it away with me. Signed: Mary Angell. Newport, Dec. 9, 1873.”*

NOTE: These two ads were placed in the Newport weekly newspaper of approximately these dates, and were later pasted into a scrapbook of clippings that is now in my possession. At that time several Angell families lived in the Newport section now called Guild and which then and now is called Paradise. Paradise Road in that area commemorates the Angells somewhat more than do these two classified ads. See 1931 in this chronology.

**1874 -----**

from **The Statistics and Gazetteer of N.H. by Alonzo J. Fogg -- 1874 p. 279-283**

**NEWPORT**

This is the shire town of Sullivan county. Owing to its central location, its valuable water power, and railroad facilities, together with the business character of its inhabitants, Newport has become one of the most important and enterprising towns in the western section of the State. For a number of years it has not kept pace in the march of improvement with other towns in the State, inferior in natural resources, for the lack of railroad facilities; but that obstacle has been removed by the completion of the Sugar River Railroad to this town, in November, 1871, and to Claremont in the fall of 1872. Since the first date, business, in every department, has made rapid strides, and improvements are seen on every hand.

The surface of the town is generally uneven, frequently broken by considerable elevations; but on the borders of the Sugar River and its branches are large tracts of interval land, yielding good crops of corn, grass, etc. The soil on the uplands is strong and when properly tilled, produces excellent crops. There are many valuable farms in this town, under high cultivation. The apple productions are more valuable than in any other town in the county. Some of the finest maple sugar orchards in the State, may be found in this town. Forty thousand pounds of maple sugar are annually manufactured.

**Rivers.**

Sugar River, the outlet of Sunapee Lake, together with the North and South branches, are the principal streams in town. Near the village, the Sugar receives the waters of the South Branch, which has its source in Lempster, Unity and Goshen; thence flowing north about two miles, it meets the waters of the North branch, coming from Springfield, Grantham and Croydon, nearly in an opposite direction, whence it passes west through

Claremont into the Connecticut. At the outlet of Sunapee Lake, there is a stone dam, with gates arranged for drawing from the surface of the lake ten feet of water. The full capacity of this valuable reservoir has never been tested. (from page 596 of Fogg under Rivers in N.H.: Sugar River: Sunapee Lake is the principal source of Sugar River. Flowing from the Lake, in a westerly direction, through Sunapee into Newport it receives the waters of the South Branch, coming from Lempster, Goshen, and Unity; thence flowing in a northerly direction, by the course of the river, about three miles, it unites with the North Branch, having its source in the towns of Springfield, Grantham and Croydon; thence turning and running westerly thirteen miles, through Newport and Claremont, it empties into the Connecticut. From the lake to the Connecticut, by the meandering course of the river, is about twenty-five miles, with a fall of over 500 feet. The Sugar, with its tributaries, turns over 120 water wheels, and has an improved horse water power, of nearly 3,000, with not any more than half of its power improved. With the reservoir of the lake, its water power is considered as permanent and as valuable, in proportion to its size, as that of any river in the State. It drains a surface of over 180,000 acres, and its waters flow from part or the whole of twelve towns.)

#### Mountains.

Bald, Coit, Blueberry ledge, and East mountains are the principal elevations in town. From the summit of these mountains a fine view is present of the surrounding country.

#### Villages.

On Sugar River, about six miles from Sunapee Lake, is located the thriving village of Newport. It is considered one of the pleasantest and most enterprising villages in the State, both in manufacturing and as a centre of mercantile trade.

The main street is more than a mile in length, crossing the river over a handsome bridge nearly in the centre of the village. On this street are located four elegant church edifices, the court and town house, jail and county buildings, three school-houses, two large hotels, two banks, the Argus and Spectator office, seven lawyers', three insurance, and six physicians' and dentists' offices, between thirty and forty stores and shops for trade, of various kinds, and over one hundred dwelling houses. There are many other pleasant streets with well built residents on them. The manufactories are valuable, being situated on water power which never fails in a dry time.

The woolen manufactories annually produce 1,600,000 yards of flannel, valued at \$408,000. The amount paid for labor, by these mills, is over \$60,000. Eighteen thousand sides of leather and 16,000 lbs. splits are annually produced, valued at \$33,000. There are lumber mills, carpenter shops, and various other kinds of mechanical shops, common to a New-England village.

The court house and town hall building was erected in the fall of 1872, and the spring and summer of 1873, at an expense of over \$40,000, and is one of the finest edifices of the kind in the State. The hotels are new, commodious, and pleasantly located. The books of the hotels show the number of arrivals last year to be over 12,000. Some of the business buildings are large and substantial structures. Richards' building is one of the

finest mercantile blocks in the county. In the north part of the village is a beautiful common, shaded with the maple, and capacious enough to parade a regiment on. On either side of this common stand some of the finest residences in the village, adorned with yards and gardens.

The future prospects of the inhabitants of this town are very flattering; and their fond anticipations of seeing a large village, double its present size, may be fully realized within the next ten years.

About two miles north-west from the principal village is the small, busy, manufacturing village of Northville. Here are annually made, 1,600 dozens of scythes, valued at \$17,000; 500 dozens of rakes; 13,000 butter tubs; 5,000 pails; besides, there are lumber mills, and other small manufactories.

#### Summer Resorts.

But few localities in the State offer better inducements to summer tourists than Newport. The fine roads, pleassant drives, and delightful views from the crests of its many hills, render it very attractive to lovers of country homes and natural scenery in its varied forms.

A pleasant ride of six miles brings you to the romantic shores of Sunapee Lake. This lake is about nine miles in length, and from one half to two miles in width. Three miles south of Newport village, is Unity Springs, which has become quite noted for its medical qualities. Its waters are highly charged with salts of iron, and possess tonic properties. Here is a fine hotel to accomodate invalids and lovers of recreation. A ride on the cars, or by carriage, of six miles, carries you to the "Sunapee Mountain House" in Newbury.

The views from this house, of Sunapee Lake and the surrounding country, are some of the finest in the State. This house is becoming a popular summer resort. The number of tourists who spend their summer vacation in Newport and vicinity is estimated at over five hundred.

Employments. The employment of the inhabitants is nearly equally divided between agriculture on the one side, and mechanical, mercantile, and official business on the other the the preponderance in favor of the latter. The capital invested for manufacturing purposes is over \$375,000; the annual value of manufactured productions, \$619,100.

#### Resources.

Annual value of agricultural products, \$148,156; mechanical labor, \$117,700; professional services, \$105,000; stocks, etc. \$64,800; money at interest, \$41,724; deposits in savings banks, \$118,282; stock in trade, \$105,975; from summer tourists, \$15,000.

#### Churches and Schools.

The Congregational, Rev. G. W. R. Scott, pastor; number of members, 248; church



valuation, \$50,000. Methodist, Rev. E. R. Wilkins, pastor; members 230; valuation, \$13,000. Baptist, Rev. H. C. Leavitt, pastor; members, 189; Christian church at Northville.

There are 18 school districts, and 16 schools; average length for the year, 20 weeks; average amount of money annually appropriated for school purposes, \$2,234.50. It is intended to build a large school house (with all the modern improvements), in the village, the coming season. (1874.)

#### Banks.

There are two banks in town -- the First National, and Newport Savings banks.

#### Libraries.

Newport Social Library, 400 volumes; Hon. Edmund Burke's private library, 6,000 volumes; besides several other private libraries with over 1,000 volumes each.

#### Hotels.

Newport House, and Phenix Hotel.

#### First Settlers.

Ezra Parmalee, then about 21 years of age, in company with Dea. Jesse Wilcox, and his two sons, Jesse and Phineas, Samuel Hurd and Jesse Kelsey, came, early in the month of June 1766 -- occupied the lands to which they were entitled, built their camps, and commenced the actual settlement of the town. These men were from old Killingworth, Conn. Some years later, John McGregor (father of the late John McGregor, M. D.) Joel McGregor, and Deacon Daniel Chapin, made a settlement in the north-western section of the town. Joel McGregor died a few years since, aged one hundred and one years. Newport has been the birthplace and residence of many prominent men and women of this country. Mrs. Sarah J. Hale was a native of this town.

The town was incorporated Oct. 6, 1761.

Hon. Benjamin Giles, long a resident, and high respected, built the first gristmill in 1768. Captain Ezra Parmelee settled on the Unity road about one mile south of the village, and built his barn soon after coming to Newport. This barn is now (1873) standing and in good repair. It is safe to say that it has been built and been in use over one hundred years. The covering boards are fastened to the timbers with strong wooden pins, which clearly shows the scarcity of nails in those early days of the settlement. A few rods from the barn stands an apple tree which is quite as old. Captain Parmelee brought it from Connecticut over one hundred years ago.

#### First Ministers.

Rev. John Remelee, ordained in 1783, dismissed in 1791; Rev. Abijah Wines, settled in 1785, dismissed in 1816. Congregational and Baptist churches were established in 1779.

#### Boundaries.

North by Croydon, east by Sunapee and Goshen and Unity. Area, 25,267 acres; improved land, 18,533 acres.

Distances.

Forty miles north of west from Concord, and about 35 miles north from Keene.

Railroad.

Concord and Claremont Railroad passes through the town in an easterly and westerly direction.

-- end of excerpts from Fogg's Gazetteer --

**1875** -- Newport streets are officially named. -- Wheeler 263. Streets are described with names of some house owners. Also Argus Oct. 12, 1883.

**1875** -- First cotton factory in N.H. is established at New Ipswich. -- Sanborn's History of N.H., p. 227.

**1874** -- Sugar River Lodge No. 55, IOOF, (Odd Fellows) instituted May 25. Meets in Richards Block. -- Wheeler 156.

**1876** -- All New Hampshire public lands have been sold. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1876** -- County Jail on Main Street, now nearly squeezed by the new railroad tracks, is remodelled. -- Wheeler 71.

**1876** -- The Centennial Tree at the south end of the Common was set out by the Grand Army of the Republic, July 4, 1876. Centennial trees were planted around the Baptist church the same year. -- Wheeler 263.

**1877** -- Rowell Bros. opens. (check with Mac R. to see if started in Korn Alley.) -- NHS Scrapbook II p. 25.

**1877** -- Newport High School graduates first class. See 1878 below.

**1877** -- J.K. Pierce, a carriage maker, runs a private telephone line from his shop on River Street to his house on Maple Street. -- Wheeler 268. (The telephone was invented only a year earlier by Alexander Graham Bell. This is certainly early use of new technology.)

**1877** -- South Congregational church builds parsonage on site of old chapel. -- Bicentennial p. 10

**1877** -- Religious discrimination. Amendment to state constitution abolishes the requirement that representatives, senators, and governor "be of Protestant religion." -- p.

537 New Hampshire, a Guide to the Granite State, WPA series, 1938.

**1878** -- Post office is opened in Northville and called the North Newport post office. Ezra T. Sibley, postmaster. -- Wheeler - 268.

**1878** -- July 5, 1878. The second commencement of the Newport High School will take place in the Town Hall Wednesday evening, July 17, at 7 p.m.. At the close of the exercises the graduating class will hold a reception for invited friends. Music for the evening is by Hough's band. -- Source is page 6 of the Argus on 5 Aug. 1998.

**1878** -- The first commercial N.H. telephone exchange opens (in Manchester). -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1879** -- Women are permitted to vote in N.H. school district meetings. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History 1996.

**1880 Population: 2,612 [Population of state of N.H. is 346,991, up 9%]**

**1880** -- "Ladies of the [Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd] rallied together to raise funds to construct the ... adjoining vestry to the south of the sanctuary." -- Letter to the editor, p. 17, Argus 5 Nov. 1997, from The Rev. Thomas L. Shanklin, pastor.

**1882**-- Telephone service is expanded from Newport to Lebanon. (The world's first telephone exchange opened in New Haven in 1878.) Newport exchange is established on South Main Street in Fred Currier's Furniture Store. (Priscilla Sweet Shop, at 57 Main St.) Currier was the operator. (See 1877 for installation of private phone.) -- Bicentennial 31.

**1882** -- Electricity powers street lights in Manchester and Berlin. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1882** -- The high water swept away the boat house of Austin Corbin Jr. last week, and his elegant canoe, which was inside, was demolished in the wreck. [from As We Were, 100 Years ago, in Argus 23 Sept. 1992.]

**1883** -- George K. Guild of Boston buys "three undivided fourths of certain tracts of land .... together with three undivided fourths of all buildings.... including the Granite State Mills [Dorr Woolen] with mill dams, yards" etc. in what is now known as Guild. -- Vol. 117, page 97 Sullivan County Registry of Deeds; also Eagle Times, July 12, 1990, p. 3 [The Eagle times story gives the date of sale as 1881, but the Registry sale of 1883 is quite clear. This is probably where Guild got its name, although there is no indication that any Guild ever lived there.

**1883** -- Sidebar -- *The English on Americans:*

*This is from the front page of the Oct. 19, 1883 issue of the New Hampshire Argus and Spectator of Newport. It reminds me of the wry comment that the English in*

1944 made about the thousands of American soldiers, including me, I suppose, who were in England waiting for D-Day. They said often, and sometimes with a smile, "They're overpaid, oversexed, and over here."

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Here is the Argus report:

"Americans traveling in Europe this summer were given much to talk about an attack made on them as a class by a writer in Vanity Fair, in London, whose communication was copied into the English papers of Paris and various other papers in England. The following is the communication:

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"I cordially agree with your recent appreciation of a fashionable party where 'there were no Americans,' for in truth, London is becoming utterly demoralized and deteriorated by the autumnal plague of wandering Yankees. The nasal twang is heard in all our streets, and the vulpine face stares from every hotel window. Really an extradition treaty ought to be put in force, and these very objectional visitors should be shipped back to their own land like the Irish paupers, even supposing we paid the return passage money. For speaking calmly and dispassionately, every one must acknowledge that the Americans as a race are simply unendurable. Forward, obtrusive, inquisitive, and impertinently familiar, without the slightest idea of the reticence and savoir faire that marks the gentleman, yet with all his assumption of brutal republican candor, the American has the soul of a flunky and grovels before a lord. For the American mind is totally deficient in dignity, reverence, and grace, and the manners of such a people must be and must remain, irredeemably vulgar.

"Active measures, therefore, should be taken in time to repel this inroad of migratory dry goods men and Wall street speculators, or they will soon exercise a degrading and pernicious influence on ...." It goes on for several hundred more indignant words.

**1883** St. Patrick's Church, then a wooden structure, is built on land given to the parish (2 lots by Dexter Richards, one by Patrick Herrick) at corner of School St. (then Chase St.) and Beech Street. Cost \$5,600. Many parishioners donate their labor after working 10-12 hour day. -- History of St. Patrick's Church -- 75th Anniv. 1902-1977. See 1854)

**1884** -- A new telephone connection is made between Newport and Lebanon. The line will run through Newport, Croydon Flat, Croydon Four Corners over Croydon Mountain to Cornish Flat. (See 1882.) -- Argus & Spec. 24 Oct. 1884. Hist. Soc. Scrapbook Vol I, p 49. // For the first time in the history of our Lake Sunapee, a lighthouse will soon be established and in working order. -- Argus and Spec. June 1, 1884.

**1885** -- Cold weather and low water has closed Pollard's Mills until warmer weather. --Argus & Spec. Feb. 27, 1885.

**1885** -- The Registry of Deeds was first housed in the Old Grange Hall in Newport (now known as the Harry V. Spanos District Court Building) and later moved to the Town Hall. In 1885 a town hall fire damaged some of the earlier Registry records and Volume 1 was destroyed. -- Sullivan County Historical Sheets by Donald Fontaine, Sr. a county

commissioner.

**1885** -- "**Great fire in Newport...**Sunday morning at 2 a.m., the Nettleton Block was found to be on fire, and the flames did not cease to rage until the corner of the buildings enclosed by Main and Sunapee Streets, including the Nettleton Block and ell owned by F.W. Lewis and Mrs. Bella Nettleton, M.S. Jackson's livery stable and office, the dwelling known as the 'Bank Building' and barns connected therewith, owned by F.W. Lewis, and the county building [town hall] containing court room, Odd Fellows, GAR Halls, etc., were completely destroyed. -- Argus June 26, 1885. Hist. Soc. Scrapbook Vol. I p. 79. The next week, "the bell was taken from the ruins of the town hall Monday and the safes there have been covered to protect them from the rain." -- Argus 3 July 1885; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook Vol I. p. 84. see also As We Were, p. 91, Hist. Soc. Scrapbook, Vol. I; Bicentennial 6 and 7. As a result of the fire, the Argus & Spectator moved to the first floor of Wheeler's Block. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. Vol. I, p. 87.

**1885** The Newport Polo Club returned from its visit to Vermont and were met at the depot by 15 or 20 of our young men and driven in sleigh by hand to Main Street. (It may possibly have been the home of their Polo Club.) -- Argus 6 Mar. 1885.

**1885** -- Newport High School Alumni Association is founded. (See Argus and Spec. 22 June 1917.)

**1886** -- Footbridge built over river near Rounseval's tannery. -- Npt. Hist. Soc. Scrapbook Vol. II, p. 130. Sugar River spanned by iron bridge. (Location unknown.) -- Dec. 24, 1886 Argus and Spec.

**1886** -- F.W. Lewis Block on (southeast corner of Sunapee and Main Streets) nears completion. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. II, p. 127. Tarbel and Stoddard open soap factory north of village. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. II, p. 100. Union Church in North Newport celebrates Centennial. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. II, p. 76. -- Town Hall, burned in 1885, is rebuilt by Hiram Beckwith of Claremont; cost, \$26,000. Walls are 16 inches thick on the first floor and 12 inches thick on the second floor. -- Town Times, Vol. 11, Fall 1997. p. 2.

**1887** 32nd snowstorm of season hits in March...in 1962, the 22nd snowstorm of season hits in March. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. II, p. 23.

**1887** -- State law sets maximum work day of ten hours for women and children in manufacturing and mechanical establishments. -- p. 62 New Hampshire; A Guide to the Granite State, HMCo, 1938.

**1887** -- "Manual of the Congregational Church" in Newport is published. Includes historical section and drawing of first meetinghouse 1793-1823.

**1887** -- Sunapee cottage census. "The cottages around Sunapee Lake have been carefully counted by N.H. Gardener with a view to embodying the statistics in the Annual Lake Directory and the number is as follows: John George has one; James George, 1; Mr.

Hastings, 5; Dr. Quackenbos, 4; at Blodgett's there are 50; at Pine Cliff, 8; at Lake View, 15; on the islands, 7; and at John Rowe, 4; making the handsome footing of 95 cottages, with a large number more in prospect." -- Argus & Spec. 17 June 1887.

**1887** -- Discovery of Sunapee trout -- Oquassa type. -- April 28, 1887 Argus and Spec. Court records moved to new vault in town hall and county building. -- Argus and Spec. 22 April 1887. Fair held here in October. -- Argus and Spec. 7 Oct. 1887. & Argus 14 Sept. 1888. The Unitarians have purchased the interest of the town in the basement of their church. -- Argus & Spec. 11 Nov. 1887. "Freeman Cutting and H.A. Wilcox took a drove of 50 head of store cattle from White River Jct. last week." -- Argus & Spec. 23 Sept. 1887.

**1887** -- The skill with which George W. Karr guided the reins attached to the six horses that drew the Newport Drum Corps through our principal streets last week elicited much praise. [See Nov. 1947 for "reorganized American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps."] -- Argus (from As We Were 1887, Argus 19 Nov. 97.)

**1887** -- "An act has passed the Legislature incorporating the Public Guarantee Savings Bank of Newport." -- Argus & Spec. 9 Sept. 1887. Baseball club organized in Guild. -- Argus & Spec. 7 May 1887.

**1887** -- Knipe Shoe shop is opened. -- Repub. Champ. p.4, Jan. 18, 1900. "...main building of Knipe Bros shoe factory is nearly completed... they plan to use Singer sewing machines." -- Argus and Spec. 16 Sept. 1887. "The Knipe Bros. take \$500 worth of stock issued by the Newport Improvement Co., for the erection of their new shoe factory." -- Argus & Spec. 24 June 1887. On Jan. 1, 1888. Knipe Bros. factory became known as the Newport Shoe Co. -- Argus and Spec. 13 Jan. 1888.

**1887** -- "Sheriff Claggett has completed the jail fence, both iron and wood...greatly lessens possibility of escape..." [Jail was on S. Main St., a brick building occupied in 1995 by Twin Valley Cable TV.] -- Argus & Spec. 16 Sept. 1887.

**1887** -- From a woodcut in Argus & Spectator, 21 Oct. 1887. First meetinghouse, looking east. (1793-1823). Second building erected for town and church purposes. It occupied a rise of land near the foot of Claremont Hill to the left of the road turning toward Unity. It was used for town purposes specially until 1826 when the first county and town building, the present school building in the Union District was occupied. It was the Congregational Church until 1823.

**1887** -- Richards Mill shut down to construct new dam, new water wheel and penstock. Iron penstock to be eight feet in diameter." -- Argus & Spec. 22 July 1887. A parlor car began running over the Concord and Claremont Line Monday." -- Argus & Spec. 1 July 1887.

**1887** -- Bills have been introduced in the Legislature to incorporate the Newport Waterworks Co. and the People's Guaranty Savings Bank of Newport. -- Argus & Spec.

24 June 1887.

**1887** -- The Peerless Mfg. Co. is founded and manufactures "women's muslin underwear and the like"- (in 1908 employs 200); expanded to similar plants in Barton, Vt., and Greenfield, Mass., each employing about the same number. -- Granite Monthly Vol. 40, p. 275. The whistle at the Peerless was sounded Monday a little past noon for the first time. It was an indication that the trial of their steam engine was to be made. -- Argus & Spec. 17 June 1887. Work began Wednesday. -- Argus & Spec. 8 July 1887.

**1887** -- "Newport has a street sprinkler (no pavement?) for which she is to be complimented. It is something the need of which has been long felt..."The bandstand has been painted..."We are glad to know that the selectmen have forbidden the sale of intoxicating drink and ordered saloons closed at 9 p.m." -- Argus & Spec. 27 May 1887.

**1887** -- "The store lately occupied by Jonathan Barnard has been taken down to make way for the proposed library building." -- Argus & Spec. 10 June 1887

**1887** -- The machinery for the Croydon pulp mill is at the depot. Amos Patten has the job of hauling it to its place of destination. -- Argus and Spec. 17 June 1887. // Dennison Humphrey of Croydon Flat is credited with inventing the tined hoe. -- Argus & Spec. 8 April 1887, also NHS Scrapbook II, p. 14.

**1887** -- Barter - "We wish those who expected to pay for the Argus in wood would improve the present good sledding and haul it along. Just now we are in need of such a commodity." -- Argus 30 Dec. 1887/ Hist. Soc Scrapbook V p. 57.

**1888** -- The Springfield mail carrier left West Springfield for West Andover Thursday morning and because of the snow did not return until Saturday evening....In Newbury, the worst blizzard ever experienced visited us last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Trains were stuck in the snow and 30 men stayed at the station last Thursday. The highways were not opened until Monday because of the drifts. -- Argus & Spec. 3 Feb. 1888.

**1888** -- Blizzard of [1888] March 11-14 causes at least 400 deaths in Eastern United States. -- 1991 World Almanac. "...snow began to fall Monday a.m. and continued on Monday and Tuesday until 2 1/2 feet on the level...town meetings were adjourned...Dye house connected with Richards Mills was crushed...3 of the double sheds at M.E. Church were crushed...Argus' Croydon correspondent arrived 4 p.m. Wednesday part on foot and part on horse. -- Argus 16 March 1888.

**1888** -- The Newport Shoe Factory is now turning out about 1200 shoes a day. -- Argus 15 June 1888. O.W. Page has rented, for a short time, the restaurant in the basement of the Unitarian Church and will open an ice cream, confectionery and fruit store. -- Argus 22 June 1888. The reservoir at the upper end of the Common has been covered over with new plank. // The proposed new iron bridge across Sugar River on Oak Street is to be 76 feet long and 16 feet wide. -- Argus 22 June 1888. A new bridge is to be built across the Sugar River near Huntoon's Tannery. [The 1892 map shows a tannery below the mill

pond on North side of the Sugar R. near Central St.] -- Argus, 17 Aug. 1888.

**1888** -- "The selectmen have contracted with East Berlin Iron Bridge Co., Conn., to put an iron bridge near the L.F. Dodge place. The price to be paid is \$1250. (The 1892 Newport map from Town and City Atlas shows the Dodge place on east side of Sugar River on Oak Street.) Argus 3 Aug. 1888.

**1888** -- "The central telephone office has been removed from Carlton Hurd's to the furniture store of F. Currier." [1892 map shows C. Hurd on west side of Main Street, immediately north of Sugar River.] -- Bicentennial booklet also mentions this in its history of the local telephone. -- Argus 17 Aug. 1888. /// Austin Corbin is repairing and improving the Corbin Bridge, so-called, at his own expense. // Dr. J.L. Cain has removed from Grantham to this town. -- Argus 17 Aug. 1888.

**1888** -- Fairbanks boarding house. "George Fairbanks has purchased a nice two-seated top carriage. He has purchased a new horse and is prepared to drive either a single horse or team. (He) spares no pains to make his residence a desirable and pleasant place for boarders." -- Argus 13 July 1888.

**1888** -- "The Newport Shoe Factory shipped over 100 cases of shoes Monday and Tuesday." -- Argus 6 July 1888. The selectmen have appointed a board of health: J. W. Parmalee (author of the History of Sullivan County, 1886), Dr. T. B. Sanborn and E.M. Kempton. (Not known if this is the first board of health.) -- Argus 10 Aug. 1888.

**1888** -- Richards Free Library is built by Dexter Richards on Main Street where in 1955 the Sugar River Savings Bank stands. The library opened in 1889 with 1100 books. Hira (correct name) Beckwith of Claremont drew the plans. Richards also built a brick house - - called the Library House -- just north of the library to be rented and the income used to support the library. -- see p. 12 photo and caption Argus, 9 Jan. 1991. Wheeler 148, Bicentennial p.20. also 1870 Newport Business Directory for earlier private libraries.

**1888** -- "The pulp mill is steadily progressing towards completion in Sunapee." -- Argus 14 Sept. 1888.

**1888** -- Austin Corbin fences in 26,000 acres in Newport, Croydon, Grantham, Plainfield and Cornish, and stocks it with wild boar, elk, bison, moose, antelope and Himalayan goats. -- source is probably Argus.

... Austin Corbin, a Newport native, bought a total of 60 farms in Croydon, Grantham, Plainfield, Cornish and Newport and brought his collection of deer, antelope and bison from his Long Island home to this area. He named the plot Blue Mountain Forest and added wild boar, caribou, mountain goats and other wild life ... His buffalo herd increased and many were shipped to parks and zoos throughout the U.S. In the 1930's Bangs disease hit the herd and the last buffalo had to be shot in 1944. -- Croydon Bicentennial Book. Also: Rep. Champ. p. 1, 25 Jan. 1900; and N. H. American Guide Series, PWA, 1938, p. 348.



**1889** -- A Commission of Immigration is created to market abandoned farms. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History.

**1890 Population: 2,623.** [Population of the state is 376,530, up 8.5%]

**Industrial workers this year worked 60 hours a week for about 20 cents an hour, or \$12 a week, or about \$624 a year.**

**Butter cost 26 cents a pound, and you could buy 5 pounds of flour for 15 cents.**

**1890** -- In 1890 the first Greek immigrants begin to arrive in Newport, disembarking from New York City and Boston. -- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church, Newport, 1952-2002. Pages are not numbered.

**1890** -- Sidebar -- *Longevity of Americans:*

*In 1890, nearly everyone died on the job, and if they lived long enough not to die on the job, the average age of retirement was 85. Now the average age is 62. Source: See 1861 Sidebar. – Health of ...*

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 48 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 51 years. -- Source: National Center for Health Statistics.*

**1890** -- The Newport Electric Light Co. is incorporated and on the evening of May 28 a "trial was made of the arc electric light plant by which our streets are to be illuminated: 15 arc lights."

**1890** -- Corbin Park . Six men arrived in town last night from Jersey city to fence Austin Corbin's big park. About 1,000 acres are to be fenced off with their netting, and topped with several strands of barbed wire. The fence is to be eight feet high. -- from As We Were 100 Years ago in May 9, 1990 Argus. --- [Also -- From As Were Were Dec. 5, 1990 -- "1890- Nearly 25 farms with buildings have been sold to Austin Corbin, and the families are leaving town. We think that those who have sold are on the lucky side, but it remains to be seen whether it is lucky for the other townsmen."]

**1892** -- The bandstand, which like John Howard Payne, has long been a wanderer without a home, has at last an abiding place. It is in the little grove of maples just south of the Common. – from As We Were in Argus 10 July 2002, probably from a July issue of 1892.

**1892** -- Mrs. Dexter Richards has generously donated some settees for the Common, which are ornamental as well as useful. -- from As We Were in Argus 24 July 2002, probably from a late July issue of 1892.

**1892** -- CROYDON -- Willis Loverin, who has been sick for some time, is no better. His sickness was caused by drinking too much cold water when haying and bathing too often. Let this be a warning to all our boys. -- from As We Were 100 Years Ago in Argus of 2 Oct. 1892. [Bathing was considered unhealthy at this time.]

**1900** -- E. R. Heath with his gang of men and teams are distributing telephone poles on the route through "Pleasant Valley" to the "Hub," George's Mills. They will be set in a few days, and the wire will be strung, and the telephone communications to the "Hub," the coming center of this to be great summer resort, will be open. /// The soldier's graves, 40 in number, who fought for their country in the Revolution, War of 1812 and the late war for the maintenance of our Union will be decorated May 29 by Prescott Jones Post, No. 32, under the direction of Comrade Joseph L. Brown. -- Argus 24 May 1900.

**1890** -- Fifteen schools close in November. Not known why. "South and West primary schools close this afternoon, East primary Friday forenoon, North primary Friday afternoon. The Emerson and Whittier schools also closed this week, Gould, Guild, Kelleyville, Northville and East Mountain next week, and the Grammar, Intermediate and Paul schools the following week. High school closes the 26th." // Election checklist has 783 names. -- Argus 7 Nov. 1890.

**1890** -- Selectmen bar velocipedes and bicycles from village sidewalks. // Richards & Son put in foundation for new store front at the flannel mills. Its dimensions will be 30 x 60 feet. // D.C. Barton with a gang of men are setting posts for the (Corbin) extended deer park in Croydon. // "Messrs. Jackson and Rawson are piping their water from the back of John H. Cutting's house to some of the residences on Summer Street." -- Argus 5 Sept. 1890.

**1890** -- Nineteen moose, elk, etc., arrived in town Saturday for the Corbin deer park. The grizzlies have not put in the appearance yet. -- Argus & Spec. 14 Nov. 1890.

**1890** -- The telegraph office, which has occupied a room in the Lewis Block (SE corner Main and Sunapee sts.), is soon to be removed to the passenger depot where the present operator, Miss Gertie Tilden, will continue to be in charge. She will assist the station agent by selling passenger tickets, a much needed reform. -- Repub.-Champ. - 20 Nov. 1890.

**1890** -- Mr. Corbin and family, with friends, arrived from New York Thanksgiving Day, in his private [railroad] car, "Manhattan." They spent several days at the farm [the Corbin place on Corbin road owned in 1995 by Wm. B. Ruger, Jr. ] and returned to New York Monday. // Everybody in this vicinity will rejoice to learn that the Granite State Mill at Guild [Dorr Woolen in 1995], which has been idle since last spring, is being put in condition to start up, under new management. -- Repub.-Champ. - 4 Dec. 1890.

**1890** -- A field, within Corbin Park, is of interest as being the birthplace of one of the wives of the late President Filmore. Her name was Abigail Powers, and she was the daughter of the late Lemuel Powers of Croydon. // The lovers of dead Swine look forward to the month of December as a kind of a carnival, when the pork barrel can be filled to overflowing, and the crock of lard can be replenished, etc., all of which things are ranked among the necessaries of life. [Lifestyle in 1890 was not concerned about cholesterol.] -- Argus & Spec- 12 Dec. 1890

**1890** -- George H. Dyer is making the gates to close up the Corbin Park. (Q. Is this the end of public admittance to park?) -- Argus and Spec 26 Dec. 1890.

**1891** -- A new coal stove has been put in the village passenger depot. It was done in the interest of the telegraph office, now in charge of the efficient operator, Miss Gertrude M. Tilton. // Eleven deer arrived in town Monday, by freight, for Austin Corbin (for Corbin Park). They were shipped from Lake Megantic, P.Q., Canada and were in charge of S.D. Ball, a hunter and trapper of that region, who did the work by contract. Mr. Ball informed us that his method of capturing deer was to hunt out their yards, so-called, and then drive them into the deep snow and catch them by using snow shoes. -- FEATURE ARTICLE ON page 2 - Austin Corbin and likeness. -- Argus & Spec. - 6 Feb. 1891.

**1891** -- Two reporters from the New York World have been stopping in town this week, making sketches and writing up the (Corbin) Deer park, which will probably be published in the Sunday edition of the World. -- Repub-Champ. 12 Feb. 1891.

**1891** -- Town warrant includes article to exempt Eagle flannel mills, lately burned, from taxes for ten years, and all buildings and machinery that may be erected and placed on the same, provided new buildings are to be erected. [No info here about article passing, or about mill burning. This may be Edes' mill. See Advt. in 1870 Newport Business Directory.] -- Repub-Champ -- 26 Feb. 1891.

**1891** -- At the annual school meeting L. W. Barton submitted a resolution embodying a motion to raise \$15,000 to erect a new high school building. The motion was substituted by one made by Dexter Richards to appoint a committee of three to make investigation and estimates in detail regarding location, expense and plans, etc. of building a new house. [See entry in 1896 where Dexter Richards gives the high school to the town.] The district voted to raise \$400 for school purposes, which, together with what the town raised, will be \$1,800 for school purposes above what the law requires. -- Argus & Spec. 27 Mar. 1891.

**1891** -- Georges Mills - The stage and other teams commenced running on wheels Monday. [Indication that the stage ran on runners during snow time.] Repub.-Champ. 2 April 1891.

**1891** -- Newport schools outside the village will have a spring term for ten weeks, commencing as follows: Northville, Chandler's, Whittaker's, Emerson, East Mountain, Guild, April 20; Kelleyville and Gould's April 27. -- Argus and Spec. -- 10 April 1891.

**1891** -- A plank sidewalk on West Street is to be one of the ornaments of the village. [Was this the only plank sidewalk? If not why is it called an ornament, or is this the tongue-in-cheek smart-alecness that this editor often exhibits?] // Moody Blood is engaged in erecting a suspension bridge at the Newport Trotting Park. (where is this?) -- Argus & Spec. 24 April 1891.

**1891** -- Of course, as Sunapee felt very distinctly the earthquake of the first of May, it

will not be improper to tell, in common with the rest of the folks, how the buildings trembled and the dishes rattled, for such was literally the case. -- Argus & Spec. 8 May 1891.

**1891** -- One hundred and thirty three dog licenses have been granted by the town clerk. [Population was 2,623 in 1890. That's one licensed dog for every 20 Newporters. How many were not licensed?] -- Rep.-Champ. - 14 May 1891.

**1891** -- Improvements on the Common have begun. We learn that the bandstand is to be moved further north, the land plowed, and a walk five feet wide laid around the circumference, and near the trees, crosswalks laid, rock mounds built, etc. -- Argus & Spec. - 22 May 1891. // Work on the common is progressing finely under the superintendency of Mr. Barnett. C. F. Pike has charge of the grading and turfing, and has made a good beginning on the West side. -- Repub-Champ. 11 June 1891.

**1891** -- The first building ever slated [slates for roofing] in town was the one now used for the Citizens' National Bank, which was erected by the late J.W. Wilmarth, in 1815. // Non-resident Austin Corbin paid a Newport tax bill of \$458.06 for the highest, and Nathaniel Brown, \$25.04 for the lowest. (Industrial workers in 1890 earned \$12 a week.) -- Argus & Spec. 5 June 1891.

**1891** -- The selectmen and a surveyer laid out the new road Wednesday, commencing at a point in the northeast corner of S.H. Edes lot on Main St. and terminating at a point on Pine Street, south of the Aiken place. [This is Belknap Avenue.] -- Repub-Champ. 11 June 1891.

**1891** -- In Croydon Flat Mr. Corbin's help is at work fencing in the Marsh place of about 300 acres, which is inside the park. This, we understand, is to be winter quarters of some of his animals. -- Argus - 19 June 1891.

**1891** -- Gristmill. The last miller in Sunapee. With the death of Daniel A. George, Sunapee is left without a miller. For many years there has been none at the harbor, and now the nearest mill for grinding is at Goose Hole, New London or at Newport. -- Argus & Spec. - 3 July 1891.

**1891** -- A beautiful birch-bark canoe was shipped to town Saturday for Austin Corbin. -- Argus and Spectator 17 July 1891.

**1891** -- Two more animals arrived at the station for the (Corbin) deer park last week. // The new electric fire alarm has been put in during the past week. -- Repub-Champ - 23 July 1891.

**1891** -- Work has begun in earnest on the new highway from Main St. to Pine St. (Belknap Ave.) and the abutments for the bridge will soon be put in. // Union Chapel at North Newport has been renewed inside by a coat of paint. A new carpet has also been laid, which was given to the society by Mrs. Austin Corbin. -- Argus & Spec. 31 July

1891.

**1891** -- See Page 2: Full column feature on The Corbin Deer Park, written by the Hon. Charles R. Corning of Concord, who with a party from Pine Cliff paid a visit to the park on Thursday last. -- Repub-Champ. 3 Sept. 1891.

**1891** -- [Church and State] A religious service will be held in the Guild schoolhouse next Sunday at 5 o'clock. -- Repub-Champ. 20 Aug. 1891.

**1891** -- Austin Corbin will entertain the directors of the American Express in this town Friday. // The tax of the Austin Corbin & Co. in New York City is \$600,000. -- Argus and Spec. - 26 Aug. 1891.

**1891** -- The Peerless Manufacturing Co. has made a purchase adjoining that on which their factory now stands, and the company now owns down to the Sugar River. The company will soon erect an addition to their factory, the dimensions of which will be 40 by 31 feet and two stories high. -- Argus & Spec. 11 Sept. 1891

**1891** -- The number of scholars at Guild schools is 41; the freshman class in high school numbers 16. // It is expected that the work upon the common will be completed today. It has been a long and expensive job, but those who put their hands in their pockets to pay for improving the same do not begrudge the money spend. If they are satisfied, others ought to be. // Mr. Corbin's new palace car is at the Northville depot. Rumor has it that he is to build a new depot at that place and that a new side track is to be put in. // Thirty elk arrived at the Corbin park yesterday from Idaho, under the charge of Joseph Komp, a typical westerner who makes his business that of a mountain guide and hunter. One of the elk died on the way. Eighty-five rabbits also arrived at the park this week. -- Repub-Champ. 17 Sept. 1891.

**1891** -- "It does seem as though something might be done to stop the importation of liquors from Concord and Manchester parties to individuals in this place. It is known for a fact that certain persons in town cannot buy a drop of intoxicating liquor at our hotels, saloons, drugstores or other stores, but they get it from above mentioned places. It is high time that a stop was put to it."

"We have heard a good deal of complaint of late, regarding a crowd of young men who loaf until a late hour every pleasant night, upon the doorsteps of the stores and churches, covering them with tobacco and many other kinds of filth. We hope a word may be sufficient to make an improvement in this respect." **ROWDYNESS** // The road around the Edgell place is to be built this fall. -- Republican-Champion, 29 Oct. 1891.

**1891** -- The new addition to the Peerless Factory is nearly finished, and Milliken's block on S. Main street is fast approaching completion. -- Argus and Spec. 23 Oct. 1891.

**1891** -- A petition is in circulation asking that the new street bear the name of "Belknap Avenue" in honor of Admiral George E. Belknap, U.S.N., a native of Newport. ... Sunapee -- This item is written on the first paper made at the new paper mill in Sunapee.

This company has a large plant here, including the pulp mill at the harbor. -- Repub-Champ. 24 Nov. 1891

**1891** -- On Sunday there was a steady stream of men, women and children passing over the new road, making inspection of the new iron bridge and the stone work of Mr. Bradley's new home. The view of the village from the latter place is one of the best and the location one of the most sightly from the village. -- from As We Were, Argus Nov. 21, 2001, quoting a previous report. [this is the Belknap Ave. bridge, and the Bradley new home -- on Pine St. -- was later the George A. Dorr, Sr. home, and later still the Woodlawn Nursing Home. -- See above in this chronology, Argus and Spectator, 31 July, 1891.]

**1891** -- The project of supplying the village with water from the springs in Unity on the Barrett farm on the Unity Road has been suggested. ... Another lot of quail, upwards of 100 in number, have been shipped to Corbin Park. ... Lockhaven - Commodore Dan Arlin has bought the Thompson property, married and settled down. The most sensible thing he has done in years. -- Argus and Spec. 11 Dec. 1891.

**1891** -- A telephone is being constructed from East Acworth to Newport, running through Lempster Street. -- Argus & Spec. 14 Dec. 1891.

**1891** -- One of the most interesting families in all New England is that of Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel R. Barton of Newport. They have 16 children, all living and without mental or physical defect. ... Fay Osborne has placed a wireless apparatus on the Republican flag pole on Main street and has connected it with his instruments in his apartments in the Emerson Block (across from Town Hall). He expects to be able to pick wireless messages from the Atlantic coast. [Marconi discovered radio in 1895, so this date needs checking.] ... F. P Rowell is slating his skating rink building. -- Argus and Spec. 25 Dec. 1891

**1892** -- The grand jury has returned an indictment against George Eggleston for fornication, to which he pleaded guilty, and was fined \$50 and costs of \$26.50. -- Repub. Champ. 28 Jan. 1892.

**1892** -- Local physicians are making 30 visits per day at the present time. (Epidemic?) ...The Champion has finally moved into its new quarters in Lewis Block. .. G. B. Lear has completed six logging sleds for John Kenney. They were good ones. -- Argus & Spec. 8 Jan. 1892 /// Sunapee - Sunapee, though a small town, has no lack of organizations, secret and otherwise, affording their members opportunities for enjoyment, improvement and usefulness. There is the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the Loyal Legion, the Order of the Helping Hand, the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, the Chatauqua Circle, the Odd Fellows, the Rebekahs and the Good Templars. -- Rep. Champ. 14 Jan. 1892. /// Our Chinese laundryman left town Monday morning for good. It is not known why he did so or whether he is to have a successor. (Jan. 8). Moy Yum Has Come. He is ready for business at his laundry, 3 Wheeler's Block (27 May) both Argus and Spec. // The

Richards Free Library has been supplied with the Century Dictionary. It embraces six large volumes and defines 200,000 words. .. Efficiency and improvement in the Fire Department seems to be the aim of the engineers. They have just supplied the doors of the engine house with an apparatus whereby six doors can be opened momentarily by pulling a knob.-- Argus & Spec. 5 Feb. /// A furnace is being put into the Baptist parsonage. ... Sunapee - Lewis Evans has sawed some 6,000 cakes of ice this winter, doing it all by hand. He will cut 300 cakes a day of ice 16 inches thick. -- Repub-Champ. 25 Feb.

**1892** -- Richards & Sons have completed the arrangement this week, whereby we are to have electric lights. The Thompson and Houston system is to be used. /// A petition is in circulation for a new highway, leading from Maple St., at a point where Laurel St. ends, southward on a line parallel with Main St., one hundred rods or more. -- Argus and Spec. 19 Feb. 1892.

**1892** -- The Newport checklist will contain about 800 names when they are all on. ... /// Sunapee - The checklist as posted shows 238 names of persons entitled to vote. About 230 has been our average of legal voters for years. -- Argus & Spec. 4 Mar. // (Drunkeness) Two imbibers of the ardent were incarcerated in the county hotel Saturday. -- Repub-Champ. 10 Mar. /// The primary schools will open a week from next Monday. ... Austin Corbin has notified the selectmen that he is ready to contribute \$50 toward the lighting of the streets in Newport village, providing \$350 additional is raised by subscription for that purpose. -- Argus & Spec. 18 Mar. // At the annual school meeting, voters approved raising \$750 and appropriating \$1,000 and what the old building will bring for sale, for the building of a new schoolhouse at Guild. It was also voted to raise \$600 to build a new schoolhouse near the Barrett corner, so called, on the Unity Road. ... Selectman Bartlett has received a letter from Sanford B. Sargent, Boston, signifying his willingness to contribute \$25 for the electric light. Others have signified their willingness to subscribe liberally if they are assured of its being put in. -- Repub-Champ. 24 Mar. 1892 (NOTE: The average mill worker in 1890 earned \$439 for a year's work. -- p. 92 Historical Statistics of the U.S., Colonial Times to 1957. So these gifts were significant.)

**1892** -- The Odd Fellows have voted to light their rooms by electricity. // WASHINGTON --The Washington Man'fg. Co. are soon to start up their chair shop. -- both from Argus & Spec. 15 April 1892.

**1892** -- Newport Electric Light Co. is incorporated, and on the evening of Saturday, May 28, 1892, a "trial was made of the arc electric light plant by which our streets are to be illuminated." -- 15 arc lights. -- Bicentennial Booklet, p. 59.

**1892** -- George T. Stockwell of Claremont has been building an addition to the paper mill near Guild. -- Argus and Spec. 18 Mar. 1892.

**1892** -- Fixtures have been adjusted at the Richards Free Library and other arrangements made for lighting the rooms with electricity from the plant which is about to go into

operation. -- The arc electric light is coming. Now let us agitate for city water works. -- Repub-Champ. 7 April 1892

**1892** -- NEW LONDON - Colby Academy, of New London, one of the finest of the educational buildings in the state, was consumed by fire Monday morning. The origin of the fire is yet unknown. /// The location for the new school houses have been selected. The one at Guild will be located about half way between the Newell place and the old schoolhouse. The one on the Unity Road will be located at Frank Reed's corner. /// The hearing of the petitioners asking for a new highway from Oak to West St. will open Saturday at 10 o'clock a.m. -- Argus and Spec. 29 April 1892.

**1892** -- A new smoking car is to be put onto the noon train, we understand. -- Rep. Champ. - 5 May 1892.

**1892** -- Since the burning of Colby Academy in New London, there has been considerable talk of the removal of the institution to some other locality. If this is to occur, why may not Newport be selected as the new seat? What town could offer better advantages for such a school? -- Argus and Spec. - 13 May 1892.

**1892** -- NOTICE: We, the undersigned meat and provision dealers of Newport, considering that we can better serve the interest of the public, hereby give notice that and after June 6, we shall close our respective places of business on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8 o'clock. Rogers & Peasley, J. B. Mayes, Spooner and Watts. /// The Congregational parsonage is being slated. /// Considerable agitation was wrought up last Saturday over the question of as to where the bandstand should be moved. An attempt was made by a few to move the stand up to race track but the attempt failed. /// At a meeting of the Water Works Co. last evening, a committee was appointed to ascertain how many patrons could be secured to take water. -- Rep. Champ. 2 June 1892.

**1892** -- [River polluting.] A. C. Bradley is putting in a sewer from his place on Pine Street to the river. -- [see other references to Bradley and A. C. Bradley in this chronology.] from As We Were, 100 years ago, in Argus 19 June, 2002.

**1892** -- Ball playing in the streets of Newport village is dangerous to travelers and a violation of the laws of the state and must be discontinued. Per order of selectmen. -- Argus from June 5, 2002 As We Were, 100 years ago, probably in an issue near June 10, 1892.

**1892** -- The contract for the electric lighting of our streets has been made and they will be run upon what is called the "dark night schedule," that is every night except when the moon lights our streets. /// About 60 transient teams were taken care of in our livery stables last night. -- Repub.-Champ. 16 June 1892.

**1892** -- The concreters have commenced - paving - work on the road from the Phenix to the bridge. /// Advt. - They say he'll be "in clover/ And they say it with a whoop,/ But when we're through with Grover/ They'll find him in the soup. [Grover Cleveland, the



Democratic candidate for president, that year defeated Benjamin Harrison, the Republican.] -- Repub-Champ. 30 June 1892.

**1892** -- Auctioneer Wright will sell at auction on Sat. July 2 at 3 p.m. at the band stand in the village the unused school houses in town, also the stoves and pipes in said school houses. // The band stand, which like John Howard Payne, has long been a wanderer without a home, has at last an abiding place. It is in the little grove of maples just south of the common. // CROYDON - F. S. Currier of Newport is soon to supply A. N. Parlin's summer residence in Croydon with a telephone machine. // The first day of the "Sunday excursion" brought from down below a steamboat load of the multitude. No serious accident happened and at sundown quiet reigned at the harbor. A caterer from Boston fed the crowd in the dining hall at the Ben Mere Inn. The number was said to be about 300. // Herbert Heath has charge of the electric light plant. He goes around once a day to put the lamps in order. -- Argus & Spec. 24 June 1892.

**1892** -- Rudyard Kipling and his American wife, Caroline, arrive in Brattleboro, Vt., to build a home on land adjoining her grandparents' farm. While there he wrote the Jungle Book. They left in Aug. 1896. -- source: Rudyard Kipling in New England, Stephen Daye Press, Brattleboro, 1936. (He is said to have visited the Hay family in Newbury.)

**1892** -- The accident to the school float (4th of July parade) was the only thing that happened to mar the fourth and is to be deplored. Newport has reason to feel proud over the success of her celebration in more ways than one. No person under the influence of liquor was seen upon our streets, and the police were not obliged to speak to anyone for disorderly conduct. It was a model Fourth in that respect. -- Repub.-Champ. 7 July 1892.

**1892** -- Three important manufacturing establishments in Newport village proper are the flannel mill of Dexter Richards and Sons, producing about 1,000,000 yards of fancy mixed flannels annually, and which has already made a millionaire of the senior proprietor; the Peerless Manufacturing Company's establishment, employing about 200 hands and producing \$225,000 worth of ladies' muslin underwear per annum, and Knipe Brothers shoe factory, recently enlarged wherein 150 employees turn out daily 30 cases of men's slippers. -- Repub.-Champ. 14 July 1892.

**1892** -- Pine Street is to be widened and straightened – a portion of the expense being defrayed by the town and a part by Mr. Bradley. – As We Were, 100 Years Ago, as reported in the Argus of 26 June, 2002.

**1892** -- The Opera House is to be throughly lighted by electricity during the week of the musical festival -- Repub.-Champ. 21 July 1892. // Dr. Currier has recently put a telephone into his house. -- Repub-Champ. 18 Aug. 1892. // The Peerless Manufacturing Co. has decided to locate their new underwear factory at Barton, Vt., a town of about 2,000 inhabitants. -- Repub-Champ. 25 Aug. 1892.

**1892** -- anti-catholic bigotry - WANTED - Immediately, a Protestant girl to do general

housework. Apply to Mrs. Feilden, 103 N. Main St. // FLOOD - The high water swept away the boathouse of Austin Corbin, Jr. last week, and his elegant canoe, which was inside was demolished in the wreck. (The concrete foundations for that boathouse could be seen in 1995 near the west side of the Corbin covered bridge.) -- Repub.-Champ. 1 Sept. 1892.

**1892** -- The new schoolhouse at Guild was dedicated on Saturday by a social gathering. -- Repub.-Champ. 8 Sept. 1892.

**1892** -- The Champion office has been fitted with electric lights. // The shoe shop is to be wired by the Newport Electric Light Co. and will use 175 incandescents. [Think of what it was like for workers using coal oil lamps as illumination before electricity.] // Willis Loverin (of Croydon), who has been sick for some time, is no better. His sickness was caused by drinking too much cold water when haying and bathing too often. Let this be a warning to all our boys. [Too much bathing! We must have smelled wonderfully in those days, with many wool clothes, little bathing, no showers, no deoderants, and no dry-cleaning.] -- Repub.-Champ. 15 Sept. 1892.

**1892** -- The 40 Italians employed by the Boston and Maine Railroad left Newbury Tuesday for Hancock. // Six excellent horses have already been entered in the Free-for-All race at Riverside Park, Newport. The other classes are also filling up with fine trotters. -- Argus and Spec. - 23 Sept. 1892.

**1892** -- Two hundred and twenty-seven cases of shoes, or 13,620 pairs, were lasted at the shoe shop last week, the largest week's work ever done at that establishment. -- Repub-Champ. 13 Oct. 1892.

**1892** -- Corbin Park. Six imported boar hounds were shipped here (Croydon) Tuesday for Austin Corbin. They were imported from Paris, having been thoroughly trained for hunting wild boar and will be used for that purpose in the park. -- Argus. and Spec. - 2 Nov. 1892.

**1893** -- A major economic depression in the U.S. began this year.

**1893** -- Two moose were recently put into the Corbin Park, and ten buffalo will soon be shipped into Newport for the park. This will make with what are now in the park 33 ... the largest private herd in America with a single exception. -- Argus and Spec. - 6 Jan. 1893.

**1893** -- Electricity. The town hall is being wired for incandescent lighting. -- Repub-Champ. 2 Feb. 1893

**1893** -- The supervisors posted the checklist Saturday with 757 names thereon. Sometime between Sat. night and Mon. morning the checklist was torn down. The penalty for such an offense is a serious one. (1890 population of Newport was 2,623, and 28.8% of the population registered to vote. In 1993 with a population of 6,110, 47.6%

voted. But remember that before 1920, women could not vote.) -- Argus and Spec. - 27 Feb. 1893.

**1893** -- Chinese in Newport.-- Moy Yum, our washee-washee man, has had the electricity put into his laundry. (Racist humor?) -- Repub.- Champ. 16 Mar. 1893.

**1893** -- S. M. Richards, A.C. Bradley and S. D. Lewis have purchased the Union Rink Stable and express building of Chas. M. Jackson. // The courtroom has been supplied with electric lights. // School district meeting resolves to appoint a committee of five to investigate the needs of a new central school building. -- Argus & Spec. - 24 Mar. 1893.

**1893** -- There is to be considerable building in Newport this season. From ten to a dozen buildings at least will be erected. The end of the building boom is not yet reached. // Job teaming done on short notice by O. W. Page. // Messrs. Tarbell and Spaulding have begun the manufacture of hard and toilet soap in addition to soft soap. // Patrick O'Maley was sentenced to 30 days confinement on the charge of being a common drunkard. He appealed and furnished bonds for his appearance at court. -- Argus and Spec. 14 April 1893.

**1893** -- Sheriff Hurlbutt, who is to hang Almy this month, was in town Saturday, looking up our Chinese population and having them registered. -- Repub.-Champ. - 4 May - 1893. // By an interesting process, the flatirons for ironing at the Peerless factory are now heated by gasoline. [Before this were they "sadirons", heavy cast iron heated on wood stoves?] -- Argus & Spec. 12 May 1893. // The much talked-of social club was organized last Friday evening with the following choice of officers: President, Arthur C. Bradley; vice-president, Seth M Richards; sec., William H. Nourse; treasurer, Sam. D. Lewis. The new club is formed for the purpose of social intercourse, mutual improvement and recreation of its members and has secured rooms in Lewis' new block. [Lewis Block on S.E. corner of Main and Sunapee st. was built in 1886.] [Was this before Elks, Moose, Foresters, Knights of Pythias, Grange? Masons existed and GAR, but not Am. Legion.] -- Repub.-Champ. 18 May 1893.

**1893** -- The new block now being built by Sam. D. Lewis will be known as "The DeWolf." -- Repub.-Champ. 1 June 1893.

**1893** -- Austin Corbin has improved his house at the farm with a new porte cochere. -- Argus & Spec. - 16 June 1893.

**1893** -- Mr. and Mrs. Edgell and children arrived in town Thursday evening last, in Mr. Corbin's private railroad car "Manhattan," and are now at their summer home for the season. -- Repub.- Champ. - 22 June 1893.

**1893** -- George Dorr, clerk in the grocery store of A. S. Jameson, will soon resume his old position as bookkeeper at the Granite State Mills, Guild. -- Repub.-Champ. 22 June 1893.

**1893** -- The cellar wall of S. D. Lewis new block [The DeWolf - see above.] was completed Wednesday noon, and it is probably the finest piece of stone masonry of its kind ever constructed in Newport. -- Argus and Spec. - 30 June 1893.

**1893** -- In Grantham Horace Kimball has the Lebanon stage route for the next four years, commencing July 1. After that date it makes tri-weekly trips, going Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. -- Argus & Spec. - 30 June 1893. [The nation's first automobile was built this year by the Duryea Brothers in Springfield, Mass. and several automobile manufacturing plants opened within the next few years. Ford Motor Co. started in 1903.]

**1893** -- Dr. Piper, a popular and successful dentist of Claremont, has been spending occasional days at Sunapee, and will again be at the Ben Mere Inn on Thursday .. where he will accomodate any who may wish to have teeth extracted by the painless process. -- 13 July 1893 - Rep. Champ.

**1893** -- The addition to the high school will soon be completed. The former wood shed has been transformed into two recreation rooms, and a shed for wood, etc. has been built connecting with it. -- Argus & Spec. 18 Aug. 1893.

**1893** -- High school exams. Examinations for entrance to the high school will be given at the high school room on Sept. 4 at 2. p.m. -- Argus and Spec. - 1 Sept. 1893.

**1893** -- Fourteen elk were recently shipped to Newport for the Corbin park which is now supplied with animals. We are informed that Mr. Corbin has decided to get rid of the wild boar and will soon instiute some hunts with this end in view. [Well, this end in view never happened. Boar now range the countryside outside the park.] - Argus and Spec. 29 Sept. 1893.

**1893** -- Black man as resident. - By the death of Charles Hall, colored, at his home in Newport, a short time since, a locally well-known citizen disappears from the community. Mr. Hall, with the exception of a few years spent in Sutton and Grantham, has been a resident of Newport since 1837, a period of 56 years. "Charlie," as he was familiarly called, was born a slave, and lived in that condition until he was a young man in his twenties. - Argus and Spec. 13 Oct. 1893.

**1893** -- Page 2 Headlines: New Mill Burned. Newport Loses a Large Mill by Fire. The Estimated Loss Placed at \$100,000. -- Newport again has been visited by a most diastrous fire, and this time one of the most important industries has succumbed to flames. At 12:15 p.m. word was received by telephone that Granite State Mills (known as Dorr Woolen in 1995) was on fire. The mills were build in 1867 by Perley S. Coffin and Wiliam Nourse and have always been occupied as a woolen industry. The present owners are A. M. Armstrong and Co. -- Repub.-Champ. 16 Nov. 1893.

**1893** -- George and Chester Wheeler of Keyes (Hollow) have made nearly one thousand barrels of cider this season. - Argus - 30 Nov. 1893

**1893** -- Springfield -- The tramp law will rigidly be enforced here. Constable John Wiggins' eagle eye is on the lookout. Springfield is not fit for vagabonds and loafers. - Argus - 8 Dec. 1893.

**1893** -- Grand Army Hall has been wired for electric lights. -- Argus and Spec. - 8 Dec. 1893.

**1893** -- H. R. Beckwith, of Claremont, has been in town to look over the job of rebuilding the Granite State Mills in Guild. // The town hall is to be supplied with the new iron fire escapes. -- Argus and Spec. 18 Dec. 1893.

**1893** -- The Champion office has increased its facilities by addition of a Shipman automatic steam engine, and will hereafter use steam as a motive power to run its presses. [What had it used previously? Water power? If so, how?] - Repub.-Champ. 21 Dec. 1893.

**1893** -- Mrs. Dexter Richards has presented the Richards Library with a very fine likeness of herself. It has a place in the ladies' reading room. [The Richards gave the library to the town and with it some Victorian immodesty, apparently. Notice separate sex reading rooms. Men too raucous?] // Daniel Webster, Mr. Corbin's colored cook, has arrived from New York, preparatory to attending to a party at the farm during the next few days. - Argus and Spec. - 29 Dec. 1893.

**1894** -- Electric lights are to be placed in the Masonic Hall. - Repub.-Champ. 4 Jan. 1894. // Prof. C. S. Partridge has opened a singing school in the Reed school house with 50 pupils. [The Reed schoolhouse in 1995 was a private dwelling on the south side of the Unity Road, occupied by Langlois, and opposite Bascom Rd.] // In New London ice cutters began to harvest their crop Tuesday. -- Argus and Spec. 12 Jan. 1894.

**1894** -- The plan of this village made from a survey by Samuel Wadsworth, city engineer of Keene, should be examined by our people. [This town map has disappeared, apparently, and no one was able to find it in 1995.] -- Argus and Spec. - 26 Jan. 1894.

**1894** -- The workshop of the Newport Electric Co. is to be established in the basement of the Richards Block [Lake Sunapee Bank] in rooms vacated by C. A. Puffer. - Argus and Spec. 23 Feb. 1894.

**1894** -- Notice: The dead in the village tomb will be buried Thurs. May 3, 1894. Those that have no lots will please confer with me before that time. D. A. Newton, Sexton. - Repub-Champ. 26 April 1894.

**1894** -- Town Warrant articles: discontinue road from Newport village to Croydon Flat; to provide a place or permit coasting in any place in Newport village; to exempt from taxation the Richards Free Library; to bring water into the town. // A couple of beavers arrived on Wednesday from Montana. They were the property of Austin Corbin. [Corbin

Park] -- Repub-Champ. - 1 Mar. 1894.

**1894** -- One of the largest, most enthusiastic and harmonious town meetings ever held in this town was that on Tuesday of this week. The most surprising thing of all was the weakness of the vote upon public water works. ... It was said that the roof of the town hall was seen to rise about three inches when the affirmative vote on the water works was given. -- Repub.-Champ. 15 Mar. 1894. [The 1948 Town Report contains the Report of a Committee to Study the Newport Water System: says water system supplying town with water from Gilman Pond, 5.5 miles south in the town of Unity, is completed in 1895, and water rates set in 1894 were still the same in 1948.]

**1894** -- The horse distemper is prevailing at the south part of Newbury. // The Woodward and Brown Piano Co. of Boston have sent a few of their upright pianos here to Newport. One will be placed in Phenix Hotel for inspection. -- Argus and Spec. 23 Mar. 1894.

**1894** -- It is thought that the mill at Guild [Granite State Mills which burned in Nov. 1893] will be about ready to run full by about the first of April. - Argus and Spec. - 9 Mar. 1894.

**1894** -- Racism -- A drunken Finn was put in the lockup Sunday evening. [Were other drunks identified by nationality?] -- Rep. Champ. - 14 Mar. 1894.

**1894** -- A large reservoir has been built on the hill east of the mill in Guild [in 1995 known as Dorr Woolen] to supply the sprinklers at the mill. Its capacity is 60,000 gallons. // Newport's five heaviest taxpayers: Richards, Dexter and Sons, \$2,011.15; Austin Corbin, \$704.22; E. L. Putney, \$349.41; Mrs. Dexter Richards, \$323, and Arthur C. Bradley, \$318.71.

**1894** -- Baseball. The new grandstand at the Syndicate Campus is proving to be more of a structure than we had anticipated. It is located at the southeast corner, at the entrance to the grounds, and is circular in construction. It will be covered entirely and the seats will be made wide with back supports upon each. There will be a ticket office and at each end will be dressing rooms for the use of the players. The front of the stand will be covered with wire netting to protect the occupants from being hit by the ball. - Repub-Champ 10 May 1894.

**1894** -- The work of putting in the new water system is about to begin. Thirteen carloads of iron pipe has arrived, and workmen under the supervision of R. B. Willard, who has the contract for unloading and hauling the same, are at work unloading it from the cars. The Italian head contractor, Ben Gagiano of Boston, has been in town during the past week and contracted with C. S. Partridge for putting up of a lodging house for the Italian help, which is now being erected a few rods south of Moody Blood, on the east side of the road to Goshen. ... Hon. Dexter Richards has bargained for 15 feet on the south part of the Nettleton lot for the library property. ... The 1894 graduating class at Newport High School is eleven. -- Repub-Champ. June 7, 1894.

**1894** -- The Blue Mountain Forest [Corbin Park] is now open to visitors and will remain so at all gates on Sundays until further notice. The following gates will be open: Brighton, East Pass and West Pass. ... The Italians have constructed a number of sod houses on their camping ground near the south end. They are interesting little domiciles and afford evidence of neatness and ingenuity. ... Work was begun on our water system Monday morning. The gang of hands numbers between sixty and seventy .. mostly Italians, who came to town from Boston Saturday evening. ... Mr. Corbin is surrounding his park with a complete circuit of telephone wire and will put in telephone machines at each important point. F. S. Currier has charge of the work. -- Argus and Spec. 15 June 1894. // There will be a gospel meeting in Reed Schoolhouse, Unity Road, on Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. [No conflict about separation of church and state here.] -- N.H. Argus & Spec. 13 July 1894. // Mr. Pillsbury will preach next Sunday at the schoolhouse at East Mountain. -- Argus and Spec. 29 June 1894.

**1894** -- This week will see the ditching for the water works pretty nearly finished in the village. // Our enterprising and philanthropic grain merchant, Franklin P. Rowell, has contracted for a large block of Sunapee granite and will have it finished into a handsome and substantial watering tub [horse trough just south of Little Common] and drinking fountain which he will present to the town at some future date. -- Repub-Champ. 16 Aug. 1894.

**1894** -- Provisions are being made at the Granite State Mills [known in 1995 as Dorr Woolen] to install electric lights. - Argus and Spec. - 29 June 1894. // The electric light wire is being extended to the Edgell and Corbin residences north of the village. -- Repub-Champ. 2 Aug. 1894. // The next band concert will be given on the veranda of the Phenix Hotel on Saturday evening next. // Applications for water are being filled already. It is expected that patrons will be supplied with water by Nov. 1. The new reservoir [on East Mountain] attracts the attention of many visitors. It is well worth a journey to see. -- Repub-Champ. 30 Aug. 1894. //

**1894** -- Another gang of Italians arrived on Saturday and work on the water works will progress more rapidly. // New arc and incandescent lights have been placed in Stowell's hardware store and Fairbanks' grocery store, improving the looks in both places. The South Church vestry has also been wired for incandescent lighting. -- Repub.-Champ. 27 Sept. 1894

**1894** -- The force of Italians engaged on the Newport water works has been increased. // Work on the new library building is now progressing rapidly. // The horse race at Riverside Park Friday and Saturday will be the best ever held in Newport, as there is a large entry in each class of the fast ones. // It was our pleasure recently to make a hasty examination of Messrs. Bartlett & Rowell's plant in Sunapee for the making of hames. Its capacity of 1,500 pairs of hames per day, though not so many are being turned out at the present time. All the work is done by improved machines of the latest kind and it is the best equipped plant of its kind in the U.S., if not in the world. -- N.H. Argus and Spec. - 5 Oct. 1894 // Gilman Pond in Unity, 5.5 miles away, becomes Newport's water supply.

Water system is installed connecting town to Gilman Pond. Water rates set in 1894 were still the same in 1948. // "Over 40 water rights have already been put in and many more will be before the ground is frozen." -- Repub-Champ. 1 Nov. 1894. // About 90 applications have already been made to the commissioners for water from the Newport water-works. It has been remarkable that not a leak has been discovered in all the ten miles of piping in the water-works system. -- Argus and N.H. Spec. - 23 Nov. 1894. // The water from Gilman Pond was ushered into the reservoir last night with fireworks and cheers by those who made the trip to the reservoir. [Ken Andler recalls story that many men in town thought water works engineers were "crazy because they thought water would not run uphill to East Mountain reservoir." Of course Gilman Pond is much higher than the reservoir and those who went to watch and laugh were disappointed as slowly the reservoir filled and the onlookers could not scorn "those damned fools from Boston."] -- Repub-Champ. - 15 Nov. 1894. // A temperance mass meeting was held at the town hall Sunday evening, addressed by Rev. A. J. Wheeler of Boston and Frank C. Brown of Laconia. -- Argus and Spec. 7 Nov. 1894.

**1894** -- Front-page, 3-col. advt.: You Press the Button. We'll do the Rest. We mean the electric switch button. By a simple twist of the wrist you can light up your dark cellar from the kitchen; your attic from the front hall, and your stable from the house. No broken chiminies![kerosene lamp chimneys] No bad odors from poor wicks! No smoked up ceilings! -- The Newport Electric Company. -- Repub-Champ. 29 Nov. 1894 // Napoleon Geoffrion has removed his harness business to his attractive automobile display rooms in the Old Hampshire House, which has been greatly renovated. -- Repub-Champ. 4 Dec. 1919.(?)

**1895** -- "What is the right thing to do regarding a sewage system? That is a question which will be likely to be considered in the near future." - Argus & Spec. 19 Jan. 1895.

**1895** -- Lovell the druggist has had the city water put into his drugstore and now has a handy contrivance for washing tumblers and cups connected with his soda fountain. ... We have been handed a printed copy of an act to incorporate the Sullivan County Street Railway Railroad Co. for which parties are trying to obtain a charter from the legislature. ... from Sunapee: the snow has come but the roads are still unrolled. We understand that the roller has never been weighed [weighted?] in any way, and therefore is not practical. - Repub Champ. 31 Jan. 1895.

**1895** -- Owing to the low water and hard times, Richards Mill is running on half time, the weave room and the lower room running one day and the spinning and card rooms the next. ... Snow on East Mountain Road is six and eight feet high, for long distances. ... Since our last issue, the fire engineers have supplied the department with a sleigh for carrying hose. ... We, the undersigned butchers of Newport, agree to close our places of business Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 o'clock; the rest of the week as heretofore: J. B. Haven, J. S. Haven; J.C. Spooner, Geo. Dandrow, A.R. Davis and Son. [Population of town then was about 2,800 or one butcher for every 560 persons.] ... In Washington, roads were blocked and cold so severe that there were no mails on either route; both stages started on their regular trips, but were obliged to return. -- Repub.-



Champ. 14 Feb. 1895

**1895** -- "Many people were out Sunday evening to behold the fair Luna hide her face. Quite a good view of the eclipse was obtained part of the time." ... At the annual Town Meeting ..voted that \$20 be appropriated for the purchase of a sled for the Fire Department, and \$300 for a receiving tomb at North Newport Cemetery. -- Argus and Spec. 15 Mar. 1895

**1895** -- A lot of English red deer and other animals have been shipped to Newport this week for Corbin Park. The entire consignment is valued at \$2,500. It is now estimated that this park contains about 3,000 animals. -- Argus and Spec. 1 Mar. 1895

**1895** -- The Universalist Church on Main Street, built in 1837, is sold to John W. Johnson to remodel into a store. [In 1995 it is known as Just Johnson's]. - p. 5, 14 Bicentennial booklet. [See sale of Just Johnson's (1995), and plans (see 1895 below) by Corbin and two Richards brothers to build on that land.) The Oct. 11, 1895 Argus and Spec. reports that ..."Johnson who recently purchased the Unitarian Chapel, has men engaged in making changes. The present church floor will be made into a store, with a central entrance and two plate glass windows, 7 by 12, on each side, while on the south side there will be a flight of stairs leading to a tenement above.

**1895** The Sullivan County electric railroad bill was killed in the House Tuesday by a vote of 212 to 60. -- A bill regulating the speed of bicycles upon the highway and providing that they shall be equipped with alarm bells has passed the House of Representatives. -- The charter for the new savings bank, to be called the Sugar River Savings Bank, has been obtained, and a meeting for organization will be held in the banking rooms of the Citizens National Bank, on Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. -- Photographer Ross photographed the school house at North Newport Wednesday, and the views will be sent to Mr. Corbin, whose architect will make plans for the remodeling of that building. -- Republican Champion, 21 Mar. 1895.

**1895** -- Sugar River Savings Bank is established in the County Safe Building -- the brick building on the east side of Main Street just south of what is now (1995) the County Building and what in 1995 was the Newport Police Department. -- Bank Advt. in Argus, p. 24 on 22 Mar. 1995.

**1895** -- N.H. has experienced the worst floods certainly in the present decade, and perhaps, when the full details are known, the most extraordinary in the memory of the present generation. Not for years has Newport witnessed such a freshet as that which reached its height on Sunday evening last. For upward of 40 hours it had rained steadily, and the rapidity with which the river rose was something remarkable. In 55 minutes it rose nine inches. // In Croydon last Saturday the boom broke which held the logs in the sawmill pond and let them all down into Spectacle Pond. // The stage from Croydon was unable to get to Newport April 15. // The organization of the Sugar River Savings Bank, which is to succeed the business of the Public Guaranty Savings Bank, now in the process of liquidation, was completed on Friday last. It will be the policy of the management to

make this bank a purely home institution as far as its investments are concerned. -- Repub-Champ.-- 18 April 1895. // [Also on flood see Argus and Spectator 19 April 1895.]

**1895** -- The First National Bank is to enjoy the luxury of a telephone which is to be put in this week. ... Dr. Stickney has engaged rooms for a time in Dudley's Block. He has also had a telephone installed and will be ready for calls day or night. ... Corbin Park has nine buffalo calves. The herd now numbers about 50. -- Repub-Champ. -- 10 May 1895. // John Rawson's livery stable has been supplied with a telephone machine. ... The work of supplying the Methodist Church with electric lights, which was noticed by us some time since, has been completed. It was a gift to the church from Mrs. Cutting. -- Argus and Spec. May 31, 1895. // Front page 3-col. story: Blue Mountain Forest Park (reprinted from the New England Magazine) continued next week.(this refers to Corbin Park). ... Through the generosity of the Newport Electric Light Co. the bandstand has been supplied with eight incandescent lights. -- Repub. Champ. 23 May, 1895.

**1895** -- Memorial (Day) address is delivered by Rear Adm. Belknap, USN. [The full text of that speech, with revisions apparently in Admiral Belknap's hand, is in the Richards Library, a gift of John C. McCrillis and his sister Sally, and is significant for its reflection of the nation's attitude about what was called "Our Little Brown Brothers".] A three-column text of the speech is printed. [Memorial Day in 1895 was on Thursday, May 30] ... The Rowell fountain (in middle of Main St. immediately south of Little Common) is formally presented to the town by John A. Bowers, Esq., in a neat and pretty speech which was responded to on behalf of the town by A.S. Wait, Esq. .. The graduating class of Newport High School numbers seven. .. Shipment of a lot of fox squirrels from Wichita, Kansas, for the Corbin Park, arrived in Newport Tuesday. -- Repub-Champ. June 6, 1895.

**1895** -- In Sunapee the electric light is a sure thing at the harbor. The work of setting the poles and getting plans ready is being pushed. -- Repub-Champ 1 Aug. 1895.

**1895** -- It is understood that Austin Corbin, Seth W. Richards and Wm. F. Richards will erect a fine new block on the lot now occupied by the Universalist Chapel. [This plan apparently died, because John. W. Johnson bought the building. (See 1895 above.) According to present plans, Mr. Corbin will own a half interest and the Richards brothers a fourth interest each. // The electric light poles were raised last Saturday in Sunapee. // There have been 14 cases of diphtheria in Mount Sunapee, six of which have been fatal. - N.H. Argus and Spec. -- 23 Aug. 1895.

**1895** -- The Newport Shoe Co. is pushed to its utmost capacity. Two hundred cases is the weekly output. The Peerless has 150 names on its payroll, and large orders are booked daily. The Granite State Mills are working spinners and weavers extra time. -- Repub.-Champ. 29 Aug. 1895.

**1895** -- Members of the Newport Agricultural and Mechanical Association are to meet to "see about arrangements for a town fair." // A handsome gate has been erected at the

front entrance of St. Patrick's Catholic cemetery. // An indication of what our farmers grew is in the comments that "three threshing machines ...are in the Kelleyville neighborhood," and that 200 bushels of barley were harvested by one man in New London. --Argus & Spec. -6 Sept. 1895.

**1895** -- We are informed that upward of 175 service pipes have been laid up the present date, and that 169 families, two hotels, railroad depot, two printing offices and 20 or more stores are using the city water. -- Repub-Champ. 12 Sept. 1895. // Newport's water bonds have been selling at 108 at the private sale at Citizens National Bank this week. Newport's credit seems to be quite good. -- The income of the Newport water works is now thought to be in excess of \$2,000 per year, and it is not quite 12 months since water was turned on. -- Argus & Spec. 25 Oct. 1895.

**1895** -- The new library building, the construction of which was entrusted to W. R. Beckwith of Claremont, has been completed. It is a dwelling house, the proceeds of which will be used in the interests of Richards Free Library. It has been rented to John (NMI) McCrillis. -- [This was commonly called the "library house" and for many years its rents were the only income for the library other than what the trustees -- mainly the Richards -- provided.] -- N.H. Argus & Spec. 20 Sept. 1895.

**1895** -- Newport Town Fair exists at this time, and p. 1 and p. 4 of Oct. 10, 1895 Repub. Champ. lists prize winners for cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, fruit, vegetables, corn, grain, rugs and quilts, ladies' handwork. etc. [when did this fair begin? See earlier in this chrono. Doesn't the charter give permission for an annual fair? When did it end? Why?]

**1895** -- Elm trees are being set out along the south side of Belknap Avenue. -- Repub.-Champ. 14 Nov. 1895.

**1895** -- Calvin Brown is planning a skating ground on the level lane just off the Riverside and will carry it into effect if the water commissioners will provide the water. It would give a skating surface of about 150 feet by 300 feet. - Argus and Spec. 22 Nov. 1895.

**1895** -- A new watering trough has been placed at the corner of Main and Oak Streets. /// The syndicate has broken ground for a skating rink. The ice will be formed from water of the Newport Water Works. /// Austin Corbin recently chartered from Eunch, Edey and Co. the steamship Chateau Yquem. This vessel sailed from Genoa Nov. 8 with 700 Italians on board. She is due in New Orleans Nov. 26. It is known that Mr. Corbin is at the head of a big colonization enterprise. /// In Sunapee Trow Brothers are getting the machinery into their mill this week. -- Argus and Spec. - 29 Nov. 1895.

**1895** -- Oral examinations are in the Grammar school on Monday and Tuesday to which parents and friends are invited. /// The case regarding the sale of the Universalist chapel was left to Judge Chase (in the fall session of the Supreme court for the county) by agreement, his decision to be final. /// In Sunapee men are setting the new telephone

poles. -- Argus and Spec. - 6 Dec. 1895.

**1895** -- The buffalo at the [Corbin] park, 59 in number, have been housed for the winter. -- Argus Dec. 1895

**1896** -- At present 22 families are supplied with water from the Newport Water Works, besides many business places. [See 1895 above for contradictory figure of users.]/// Front Page Article about Corbin's Colony, in Chicot County, Arkansas. /// Thirty-eight students are enrolled in the high school (more than usual); 58 in Grammar School. The intermediate school is in two divisions - one of 34 pupils in the high school building and the other of 36 pupils in the Armory building. -- Argus 10 Jan. 1896.

**1896** -- Stage connections at Bradford for New London and Sutton; at Newport for Croydon, Grantham, Unity, Lempster, Acworth, Goshen and Washington. -- Argus and Spec. - 31 Jan. 1896.

**1896** -- Austin Corbin, who recently attained an ambition which he had cherished for 80 years, in obtaining complete control of the entire railroad system on Long Island. [A rather unlikely cherish, for he died at age 69. see below for his obit.] -- Argus and Spec. 14 Feb. 1896.

**1896** -- E. L. Putney has improved the Newport House by putting in a new bath room, which is supplied with hot and cold water and all the usual appurtenances. [I wonder what appurtenances were supplied?] -- Argus and Spec. 14 Feb. 1896.

**1896** -- Box 48 of the fire alarm will be rung [at noon] to test the box. - (shows that alarm system existed then.) -- Argus and Spec. 21 Feb. 1896.

**1896** -- In Sunapee the snow roller makes good roads in the village, but is hardly able to roll down the drifts in the hills. -- Argus and Spec. 21 Feb. 1896

**1896** -- Sunapee town meeting votes to have the streets lighted by electricity, and votes \$200 for sidewalks. -- N.H. Argus and Spec. 13 Mar. 1896.

**1896** -- J. W. Johnson has begun the work of transforming the Universalist Chapel (in 1896 the site of Sierra Photo on Main St.) which he has purchased, into a store for his own use, and thus disappears an old landmark of the town. // Town warrant articles: To see if the town will vote to purchase the bell formerly used in the Universalist Church (a Paul Revere Bell on display in front of the town hall in 1896) in Newport Village and use the same for a fire bell and appropriate money for the same. // to see if the town will vote to quit claim to the First Baptist Church of Newport its interest in land of said church situated at the north end of the common and instruct the Selectmen to execute a deed of the same and pass any vote relating thereto. -- Argus and Spec. - 28 Feb. 1896

**1896** -- J. W. Johnson advt. announces that his new store (in former Universalist church across from town hall) will open May 30 with the largest assortment of goods in

his line ever shown in Newport. // In Sunapee we understand that a brass foundry is to be added to the business of the Consolidated Hame Co. -- Argus and Spec. - 29 May 1896.

**1896** -- There were 881 names on the checklist and 690 voted, 78 percent turnout. About 500 are Republicans. - Clipping in Richards Family Scrapbook.

**1896** -- Richards High School (now Richards Elementary School) is built and given to the town by Dexter Richards. (See entry of this chronology at 27 Mar. 1891 where Richards proposes a committee.) - Bicentennial p.7. // "One of our well-known citizens, honorable Dexter Richards, placed at the disposal of the district the sum of \$22,000 for the purpose of erecting a commodious and well-equipped building, with all modern arrangements, to accomodate the High school and Grammar Grades. It was built on School St. -- 1896 Report of the School Board. --- Sewers exist at this time and are used to connect Richards. -- clipping (probably from Argus) in Richards Family Scrapbook.

**1896** -- David Leach is making several stone watering troughs which are to be shipped to Austin Corbin in New York. /// Advt. Croydon - Blue Mountain Forest: The Brighton, East and West Pass Gates are now open to visitors and will remain open until Oct. 15 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. No four-horse teams allowed. The Central Station is open Wednesdays only. /// The Corbin family came to their summer home last Saturday in their private palace car. -- Argus and Spec. 5 June 1896

**1896** -- Austin Corbin dies 4 June. - reference in a story on the Corbin mansion in Argus 3 Aug. 1988; also Hist. Soc. Scrapbook V, p. 15. [Also see pp 7-15 in the Annual report of the Town of Newport, N.H.

-- following is the complete obituary of Austin Corbin, as printed in the Friday, 12 June 1896 issue of the Argus and Spectator.

#### AUSTIN CORBIN KILLED!

in a Terrible Accident

Also Coachman John Stokes

Corbin Edgell's Leg Broken

Dr. Paul Kunzer Badly Injured

Mr. Corbin's Brilliant Career

The sad and tragic event with which the community was shocked on Thursday afternoon of last week, and which resulted in the death of Austin Corbin and his coachman, John Stokes, and the serious injury of his grandson, Corbin Edgell, and the boy's tutor, Dr. Paul Kunzer, cast a shadow over the community which deepens and darkens as the days pass by. The awful calamity could not be taken in at once by the community, and even now after the lapse of a week, it can hardly be comprehended in all its fullness.

How much was crowded into that fatal afternoon in connection with that one family! The planning of a pleasure trip by its honored head, the preparing of the team, its

appearance at the place of departure in charge of the faithful coachman, the good-byes spoken, the start, the fright of the horses, their rapid plunging down the driveway, the upsetting of the carriage, the groans of the dying -- and finally, the deathbed scenes -- one about as the shades of evening began to gather and the other a little later -- when the stars in silent sadness, were gazing down upon the house of sorrow.

The Corbin homestead in this town, embracing every convenience and arrangement for enjoyment and comfort that wealth can give, is situated about two miles and a half from this village in a north-westerly course. The mansion is located a short distance north of the main road, which runs east and west. From it two driveways converge -- one leading to the main road in a south-easterly direction, and the other leading to it in a south-westerly direction.

A week ago last Saturday, May 30, Mr. and Mrs. Corbin and their youngest daughter Miss Anna Corbin, came to the farm in their private car to enjoy a season of rest and recreation. On the day of the fatal accident a drive to Governor's Pond, situated in the park at the southern extremity of Croydon mountain, had been planned by Mr. Corbin for the purpose of fishing. The party, which included only the four individuals before mentioned, started with a span of horses and a two-seated open carriage on the driveway leading south-westerly to the main road. About as soon as the start was made the horses which had been harnessed for the first time without blinders, became frightened and ran rapidly down the driveway. They acquired speed and momentum in their flight, and when at a point where the roads intersect the carriage was upset and the occupants thrown out with great force. As the accident was seen from the house it appeared as if the victims were sent many feet into the air. Mr. Corbin was thrown against the stone wall on the south side of the highway, young Corbin Edgell was thrown about the same distance and also came in contact with the wall. Dr. Kunzer was sent over the wall into the field, and Mr. Stokes was partially wound around a tree near the wall.

Mrs. Corbin and other members of the family witnessed the frightful scene from the veranda, and at once telephoned for assistance. Dr. J. Leavitt Cain arrived in nine minutes after receiving the dispatch, and Dr. Stickney a little later. Drs. Tolles and Upham, of Claremont, came on the 4 o'clock train, and Dr. O. G. Cilley, of Boston, accompanied by A. N. Parlin, Jr., an intimate friend of Mr. Corbin, arrived by special train at 8:30.

On the arrival of Dr. Cain preparations were at once begun for taking the injured to the house and this was soon accomplished by the use of mattresses. The wounds were attended to as far as possible. Mr. Corbin's injuries were found to be of a most serious nature. The right leg was badly broken in several places, the bones projecting a number of inches, a scalp wound three or four inches in length was found on the forehead, another incision of about the same size on the right side of the face in front of the ear, while the lips and chin were badly cut, bruised and distorted. The coachman's right leg was frightfully fractured and mangled, and there were two fractures on the skull -- one on the right temple and other at the base of the brain, either of which would have caused death. Corbin Edgell sustained a compound fracture of the right leg, and Dr. Kunzer a fracture of his right wrist. The two latter, after the fractures were adjusted, were removed to the Edgell residence on the Croydon Road. Mr. Stokes died at about 6 o'clock, having been unconscious from the time he was thrown from the carriage.

Mr. Corbin died at 9:45 o'clock. He may have been partially conscious for a few

minutes after he was injured, but if so he soon lost consciousness and did not regain it. Mrs. Corbin and the two daughters, Mrs. Edgell and Miss Annie Corbin, and several attendants were constantly at his bedside until he breathed his last. Dr. Cilley, of Boston, and the local physicians were also present and closely followed every symptom of the dying man.

The son, Austin Corbin, Jr., was in Boston at the time of this accident and came to town that evening by special train. He did not arrive, however, until about three-quarters of an hour after the death of his father. George B. Edgell, Mr. Corbin's son-in-law, was in Arkansas and was not able to reach New York until Monday. The horses with which Mr. Corbin set out on his fatal drive were recently purchased by him of one of our livery stable keepers who bought them in Lebanon a short time since. They were a handsome seal-brown span, and Mr. Corbin was proud of them. At about the time they began to ..... Mr. Corbin raised a ... umbrella, and this may have been the cause of their fright as they had always been accustomed to blinders; but of course this is mere conjecture, and cannot be stated with any certainty.

Brief Episcopal services were held at the Corbin mansion at 10 o'clock, a.m., Saturday, and were conducted by Rev. W. B. T. Smith of Charlestown. The director was David A. Newton, who performed all the duties appertaining to the position. (Father of Dixi Newtown?) The casket, in which were the remains of Mr. Corbin, was of Spanish cedar; its covering was of broadcloth and its trimmings silver. The inscription was as follows: "Austin Corbin: 1827-1896." The services were private, and were attended by the following persons outside of the immediate family circle: William Dunton, Edmund Wheeler, Albert S. Wait, Abiathar Richards, Seth M. Richards, Mrs. Dexter Richards of Newport, Miss Alice Wheeler and Mrs. Wm. P. Wheeler of Keene and A. N. Parlin, Jr. of Boston.

The remains were taken to New York in Mr. Corbin's private car Saturday afternoon, just a week after his arrival in Newport, and were accompanied by Mrs. Corbin, Austin Corbin, Jr., Miss Annie Corbin and Mr. Parlin, Mrs. Edgell going Monday noon. The remains of Mr. Stokes, accompanied by Mrs. Stokes, who arrived in town the day following the death of her husband were also taken to New York on the same train.

The funeral services in New York were held in St. Bartholomew's church, Forty-fourth street and Madison Avenue, Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, and were conducted by Bishop Williams, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Huntington and the Rev. Dr. Booth, assistant rector of the church referred to above. They were attended by twenty or upwards of the directors of the different railroad enterprises with which Mr. Corbin was connected and one hundred of the employees of the Long Island Railroad Company were present in a body. The pall bearers were Cornelius Vanderbilt, Gen. B. F. Tracy, Senator William E. Chandler, Sir Roderick Cameron, C. M. Pratt, J. Rogers Maxwell, J. G. K. Duer, Dumont Clark, A. N. Parlin, and William B. Kendall. The remains were taken to Woodlawn in Mr. Corbin's private car and the interment was made in the family vault.

Mr. Corbin was a remarkable man. As a financier he had few equals in the country and perhaps no superior. His strong mind and unerring judgment, coupled with great executive ability and a clear understanding of human nature, enabled him to grapple successfully with any enterprise which he took up in earnest and to crown his life-work with a success that but a few men ever attain.

He was born in this town on the very place where his life so tragically ended, July

11, 1817, [NOTE: both Wheeler and Parmalee give his birth date as July 11, 1827] and was therefore nearly 60 (this is an error, nearly 70 is correct) years of age. He was well educated, though not a college graduate. He turned his attention to the law, pursued his studies with the late Chief Justice (of N.H. court), Edmund L. Cushing and the late Gov. Ralph Metcalf, and completed them at the Harvard Law School, from which he graduated in 1849. He practiced with much success in Newport two years and then, his ambitions lead him to seek a wider field. In the fall of 1851 he located in Davenport, Iowa, where his reputation as a lawyer was soon established. He practiced first alone, and then as head of a firm which he formed, and which, it is said, had a more extensive and lucrative practice than any other law firm in his adopted State. But there came a time, his success in the profession of the law notwithstanding, when he was ambitious to explore other fields of labor. Accordingly in 1854 he launched into the banking business, and was engaged in it in Iowa most of the time, and with remarkable success, until 1865, when he removed to New York and formed the Corbin Banking Company. This company has always been pre-eminently successful, and today one of the best known institutions of its kind in the country. He has been at the same time connected with many other banking institutions, and the story of one is the story of all where he has had a controlling influence.

But the business of banking alone seemed not to afford sufficient scope to satisfy his ambition. He sought other worlds to conquer. Among his great enterprises has been that on Manhattan Beach. He had occasion to visit Coney Island in the interest of a child in feeble health in 1873, and his keen intellect at once saw a fortune in the locality. For generations the conditions had existed just as at that time, but it remained for Mr. Corbin to see them as they were and turn them to practical account. This conversion of the island from a barren waste into one of the finest seaside resorts in the world was accomplished in a few years, and the enterprise while bringing large sums of money to Mr. Corbin's coffers, has been a great blessing to the people of New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, and other places more remote.

He next became engaged in vast railroad enterprises, the scope and success of which have been marvelous. His railroad enterprises on Long Island, his work accomplished as president of the great Reading and Pennsylvania railroad, and his other enterprises of this character are so well known that we need not recount them here.

The same may be said regarding his enterprises in this vicinity. His purchasing of the old homestead in this town, where his parents lived many years, and where he spent the days of his youth, the additional purchase of many neighboring farms, the extensive improvements thereon, the purchase of Croydon mountain and surrounding territory, its transformation into a park containing twenty-five thousand acres and stocked with buffalo, deer, elk, wild boar, and other specimens of the animal kingdom, are facts so well known to the general public as not to require recital in this article.

But after the accomplishment of all which we have mentioned and much more to which we have not the space to refer, his mind, fertile in the conception of enterprises and many great schemes which he hoped to carry out, were not begun at the time of his death. Conspicuous among these was that of crossing the Atlantic in four days by means of a line of steamships running between Montauk Point, Long Island and Milford Haven, England. Another favorite scheme was that of uniting Long Island and New Jersey by a tunnel. Extending under the North and East rivers, it was to connect the Pennsylvania



depot with the Long Island Railroad terminus at Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn. Some of these proposed enterprises may, and doubtless will, be carried out by living participants in the world's progress, but they will not have the assistance of the departed save in the spirit and influence which he left behind.

We are unable to make any accurate statement with regard to the amount which Mr. Corbin was worth, but there is no room to doubt that he was a multimillionaire and worth many millions.

Mr. Corbin, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Corbin, well known and highly honored residents of Newport, had brothers and sisters as follows: Lois, now dead, who was born in 1819 and married William Dunton; Mary Ann who was born in 1829 and died in 1847; Daniel C. who was born in 1832 - a very successful man; Sarah Emily, born in 1835, married True W. Childs, a Toledo, O. merchant; James, born in 1838 and a successful lawyer. --- (see Wheeler p. 351 and 188) ----

Mr. Corbin was united in marriage August 16, 1853 with Hannah M., daughter of Simeon and Hannah (Haven) Wheeler and grand-daughter of the late Rev. Jacob Haven of Croydon who has ever been a worthy consort of her lamented husband. Their children have been Mary, now dead, who was born in 1855, and married Rene Cheronnet Champollion of France; Isabel, who was born in 1858 and married S. Edgell, a noted business man; William, who died young; Annie, born in 1863; and Austin Corbin, Jr. born in 1872.

It was in his family circle where Mr. Corbin's happy, sunny, and kind disposition, and the excellent characteristics of the man were displayed to the best advantage and neither the affluence and luxury with which the bereaved are surrounded, nor the sympathy and consolation of friends can bind up the severed ties of the mourning household or assuage the grief produced on that fatal day.

----- then follows a poem written for Mr. C.'s death, and a reprint of a story from "Friday's Brooklyn Eagle." -----

In the Eagle story Henry W. Maxwell "who was vice-president of the Long Island railroad when Mr. Corbin was president" is quoted "... he was the liveliest man I ever saw.....The firm of Maxwell and Graves became associated with him in the purchase of the Long Island railroad in 1881..... most indefatigable worker and the most buoyant type of a man. He had profound faith in New York ..... and too, great confidence in the West, but he concluded that genius and hard work had a very good chance in developments about the metropolis.....He invested his money and gave all of his thought, time and strength to the development of the Long Island road without compensation or salary, feeling that in the growth of the road his compensation would come with that of the other stockholders. I regard...his conception and development of Manhattan Beach as one of the greatest of his achievements. He made it the great, clean playground for the people, and it is a worthy monument to his life. Had he done nothing more than to create this from the sand hills he found there his life would not have been lived in vain."

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-- from page 188 of Wheeler's History of Newport:

AUSTIN CORBIN, son of Hon. Austin Corbin, was born July 11, 1827. He was well educated, and at the age of nineteen commenced the study of the law, pursuing the same with Hon. Edmund L. Cushing, of Charlestown, since chief-justice of New Hampshire, and later with Hon. Ralph Metcalf, afterwards governor of the state. His

legal education was completed at the Harvard Law School, where he received his degree in 1849. In that year he was admitted to the bar, and at once began practice as the partner of his former teacher, Mr. Metcalf. He practised for two years, and with great success, but, desiring a wider field, determined to remove to the West, which he did in the fall of 1851, locating himself at Davenport, Iowa.

In Davenport he resided until 1865. During all this time he was engaged in the practice of his profession, -- first, alone, then as the senior partner of the firm of Corbin and Dow, and afterwards of Corbin, Dow and Brown. These firms took high rank in the state; and for some years no law firm in Iowa had a more extensive or more successful practice. During the later years, however, Mr. Corbin had very little to do in the active practice of his profession. In 1854 he became interested in banking, as the partner of Mr. Louis A. Macklot, under the firm name of Macklot and Corbin; and from that time on he occupied a very prominent position in the state in that business. In 1857 there were seven banks and banking-houses in the city; and in the severe times that followed the financial troubles of that year, every one suspended except that of Macklot & Corbin. That house met all demands promptly, and paid depositors in full.

In 1861 Mr. Corbin sold his interest in the house to his partner, and retired from the business; but in 1863, immediately upon the passage of the national currency act, he organized the First National Bank of Davenport, became its president, and commenced business on the 29th day of June 1863, which was two days in advance of any national bank in the United States. The result of the organization of this bank was also most successful. In June, 1865, after the bank had been in business two years, and had paid dividends of 15 per cent. per annum, its stock was worth \$250 on the books, and very soon thereafter sold for \$300.

This year Mr. Corbin sold out all his stock and nearly all the property he had in that county, and removed to New York, where he established himself in the banking business, and where he has since been. His first partner in New York was Mr. Gilman S. Moulton. He retired in 1870; and then Mr. Corbin organized "The Corbin Banking Company." This is a private company, under the laws of New York, issuing no notes, but with stock, as in other banks, except that all shareholders are individually liable to the extent of their entire estates for the debts of the company. Connected with him are several prominent capitalists; and the company stands high, as well in New York as in the West, where they do a very large business. A large part of this is the lending of money upon farms; and they are reported to have on their books collections of this character amounting to over \$15,000,000. In this special class of investments they have larger dealings than any other firm in the world.

Mr. Corbin is also largely interested in stock companies for the investment of capital, outside of his own, -- "The New England Loan Company" at Manchester, N.H., and the "New England Mortgage Security Company," at Boston. He has also large holdings of stock in the "American Mortgage Company of Scotland," at Edinburgh, the Corbin Banking Company being its American correspondents.

But probably no undertaking of his life has met with such immediate and signal success as the organization of the Manhattan Beach enterprise near New York city. In 1873 he was compelled under the advice of his physician, to go at once, with his sick child, to the seashore; and taking the nearest one at hand, went to Coney Island. Here the family remained most of the summer, and during his sojourn he

was astonished to find, within an hour of New York city, the finest sea-beach on the Atlantic coast. But its proximity to the great city had made it largely the resort of the worst portions of society; and, so far as its front was occupied, it was constructed of poor buildings. A portion -- nearly half the island, and the best part -- was wholly unoccupied, the titles being in very great disorder. This portion Mr. Corbin determined to secure, redeem from its bad reputation, and build up and preserve for the better classes of New York. After three years of work, and at great expense, he acquired all the titles, and had under his control an ocean front of 2 and one-half miles, and a territory of over 500 acres, extending from ocean to bay. He then organized a railroad company, to which the whole was conveyed; and in 1877, on the 19th day of July, it was opened to the public. On the ocean a magnificent hotel -- the finest seaside hotel in America -- had been erected; extensive bathing-houses had been built; and the Railway hotel and grounds were crowded with guests the balance of the season. During the years 1877 and 1878, the railway carried over 1,600,000 people. It has been already a very great, and is destined in the future to be a much greater, blessing to the citizens of New York. Its hotel, its bathing facilities, and its police system, are unequalled in any city on this continent. Mr. Corbin has received from every source, public and private, high praise for the conception of this grand idea, and the grand manner in which it has been carried out. [See Wheeler Genealogy.]-0-

**1896** -- The will of the late Austin Corbin has been filed and his estate is estimated at \$40,000,000. - Argus and Spec. 17 July 1896.

**1896** -- Electric lights are being put into the South Church. /// The excavation for the Richards school building will be ready for the laying of the wall the first of the week. /// The Peerless Manufacturing Co. has contracted with the Newport Electric Light Co. for enough fluid [?] to supply 200 incandescent lamps. -- Argus and Spec. - 19 June, 1896

**1896** -- The N.H. Mica Mining Co. of Newport has been incorporated with a capital of \$250,000. /// from Blodgett's Landing: (Racial comments) Mrs. Annie Jones, Warner, visited the H.C.Davis family last week,. She is from North Carolina, a cook, which Owen Meredith said was one of the finer arts. She belongs to the dark skinned race, so often unjustly despised by men and women of white skins, and far inferior to delicacy and refinement to the negro. - - Argus and Spec. 10 July 1896.

**1896** -- Rear Admiral George E. Belknap has been spending a few days in Newport. /// The Congregational Church was lighted by electric lights Sunday evening. A long-felt want has been supplied. /// Moy Yum [a Chinese] has leased his laundry for a year and is going to Helena, Montana. /// NEWBURY - The farm houses are now full of city boarders and owners cater to the comfort and enjoyment of their guests. /// "Grover Cleveland," the enormous buffalo at Corbin Park that escaped from his enclosure a short time since and has had the liberty of the park, has been recaptured and confined where he is usually kept. -- N.H. Argus & Spec. 24 July 1896

**1896** -- The Baptist vestry is to be refurbished with electric lights. /// G. Pollard and son are rebuilding their mill dam (at Pollards Mills) which was carried away in the great

freshet of last February. -- Argus & Spec. 7 Aug. 1896.

**1896** -- The Newport Electric Light Co. has contracted with the town of Newport to supply 50 arc lights, 1,200 candle power, to run until midnight, for \$50 a light per annum. Incandescent lights of 16 candle power will be run all night for \$8 each. - N.H. Argus & Spec. - 14 August 1896.

**1896** -- A special town meeting is to be called Wed. Sept. 23 at 2 p.m. to consider sewage. /// The mill dam at Guild is nearly completed and it is expected that the wheels will soon be set in motion. That portion of the old mill which was consumed by fire last spring is soon to be rebuilt. -- Argus and Spec. 18 Aug. 1896

**1896** -- The New York papers report that Miss Annie Corbin, daughter of the late Austin Corbin, is engaged to Hallett Alsop Borrowe, who is said to be well known in the "Four Hundred" of New York society. -- Argus and Spec. 23 Oct. 1896.

**1896** -- The work of taking down the twin bridges and filling their places with earth is now in progress. The public will miss the annual report of their being carried away by freshets. /// Granville Pollard and son have completed extensive repairs on their mill. (at Pollard's Mills) /// Croydon - Twenty-five buffaloes will be shipped to Cortland Park, New York City, from Corbin park as soon as the necessary cars for their transportation arrive at Newport depot. -- Argus and Spec. 29 Oct. 1896

**1896** -- The work on the sewer from the Richards school building to the river is progressing fast, and will soon be completed if the weather is favorable. According to the plan, it is the main sewerage for more than one half of the village. -- Argus & Spec. 6 Nov. 1896.

**1896** -- On Nov. 7, 1896, 22 women met at the home of Mrs. Fred E. Lovell and organized Reprisal Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Newport. Lucy Nettleton Bradley was elected regent, and other ladies present were Ella W. Barton, Georgia Chase, Frances M. Dana, Marcia J. Edes, Laura Robinson Hall, Ellen Chapin Kimball, Marian Kimball, Maude Bibby Lewis, Marie Metcalf McCann, Alice Booth Woodbury, Grace M. Lovell, Mary E. McCrillis, Effie Booth Nourse, ary E. Partridge, Lizzie M. Richards, Louise Hatch Richards, Ella Grace Robinson, Ellen N. Rogers, Ella M. Wilmarth, Marcia Nourse Spofford and Melvina Chapin Rowell. -- Argus and Spec. 13 Nov. 1896.

**1896** -- Fred Porter Claggett, son of Rufus P. Claggett of this town, graduated from the Dartmouth Medical College on Tuesday last, and is now a full-fledged physician. -- Argus & Spec. 27 Nov. 1896.

**1896** -- (Entertainment) We are exceedingly glad that Mr. F. J. Lewis has booked the Vitascope for our town hall week after next. The Vitascope is Mr. Thomas Edison's latest invention, [a forerunner of motion picture projectors] having had a continuous run at Keith's Theatre, Boston, for over four weeks. -- Argus and Spec. 4 Dec. 1896.

**1896** -- Charles H. Fairbanks, George A. Fairbanks and George A. Dorr, who had purchased a grocery and meat store in Melrose, Mass, intend to leave town for their new field of labor, Monday, Dec. 28, and will take possession of the business, January 1. -- Argus & Spec. 11 Dec. 1896.

**1897** -- The Newport High School Senior class will give an entertainment in the Opera House March 10 to defray the expenses of graduation. The main feature of the evening will be a talk upon "Books and Reading" by Prof. Gardner. Whatever the subject may indicate, it is guaranteed that this talk will be the reverse of dry. The class consists of only five members and relies upon the people of Newport for support. -- Argus and Spec. - 22 Feb. 1897. [ See entry below from Argus 15 June 1897.]

**1897** -- A photo of six horses and a snow roller is reproduced in the Argus of 27 Dec. 1995 and credited to Charles Hill in the Sunapee 1968 Bicentennial Book. Its caption reads: It's beginning to look like 1897 when the first snow rollers were used by Sunapee to compact the snow to be used for horse-drawn sleighs and coasting. The rollers were built by Holmes Brothers of Georges Mills. They were about ten feet wide and eight feet high, drawn by six horses. There were four in town, two at the Center, one at Georges Mills and one in South Sunapee.

**1897** -- [Sewers] Town Meeting on March 9 adopts "Rules Regulating Plumbing and Drainage of Buildings" -- (Some minor additions made to these rules by Town Meeting in 1898, 1900 and 1902 and then unchanged for half a century or so. -- source: pamphlet printed in 1951 by Barrett Press, Newport, titled: "Rules Regulating, etc.")

**1897** -- Town Meeting appropriated not more than \$1,400 for lighting the streets of Newport village by electricity for the year ensuing. [In 1882 Manchester and Berlin lighted their streets with electricity.] Also voted \$50 to provide a suitable place to hang the "Universalist Bell", so called, to be used as a fire alarm, the location of which to be left with the fire engineers. -- Argus and Spec. 17 Mar. 1897

**1897** -- Rear Admiral George. E. Belknap, since he retired from the Navy, has by no means been an idle man. His unusual literary talent and ability as a writer and speaker have frequently been brought into requisition. During the past few weeks he has been called up to deliver several addresses. We have noticed that he has delivered one at Concord, one at Hanover and still another before the Military Historical Society of Mass. -- Argus and Spec. 10 Mar. 1897

**1897** -- Eugene B. Pike has put in a sewer system from his three sets of buildings at the north end of the village to the river. [pollution]-- Argus 4 May 1897.

**1897** -- A comedy, under the auspices of the high school alumni, is being held to raise money to furnish the School hall. -- Argus 25 May 1897.

**1897** --The graduation exercises of the Newport High School took place Wednesday evening. The attendance was large, many being unable to obtain a seat. The stage was elaborately decorated with evergreen and flowers, while the class motto, "Much in Little," was centrally displayed with the inscription "97" on either side. The class, numbering five, [population of the whole town two years later was slightly more than 3,000] all of whom have completed the four years' course with great credit to themselves, took their places on the stage a few minutes past 8 o'clock. The principal, F.O. Chellis, and his assistant, Miss Morrill, also occupied seats on the stage. -- Argus 15 June, 1897.

**1897** -- Newport High School Class of 1897: Ray P. Bascom [that's an old family], Silas C. Newell, Mabel L. White, Effie G. Call and Luella E. Carr. [Total of five. Town population in 1900 was 3,126.] -- Argus 22 June 1897.

**1897** -- Finns. -- Seima Aronen, an orphan girl born in Finland, was here over Sunday. Can any philogger give the origin of this unique name? -- Argus 2 July 1897 -- [See entry at 1905-1910 -- first Finns in 1880s.]

**1897** -- The Richards School building is to be dedicated Monday, Sept. 6. President Tucker of Dartmouth College will be speaker of the day. //// All those interested in the preservation of the Little Red School House on Goshen Road [Route 10], in the Dist. No. 7, are requested to join in a basket picnic, to be held in the grove of the school house, on Friday, Aug. 27 at 10 a.m. All former teachers and pupils of this school especially are urged to be present. -- Argus, 20 Aug. 1897

**1897** -- Work on the basement wall of the new depot is progressing finely. -- Argus 10 Sept. 1897. [The railroad got to Newport in Nov. 1871. Is this a second depot since that time?]

**1897** -- North Newport Schoolhouse ...has been renewed and enlarged. -- Argus 24 Sept. 1897.

**1897** -- The Richards School building is lacking three things that ought to be supplied at once for the accomplishment of the work and for the proper preservation of the building. Namely, electric lights, heating, and seats for the Alumni Hall, and the cementing of the basement. The building, with the exception of the third story, is already wired for lighting, and all that is needed is the fixtures. The janitor occupies the extra time from the close of school until six o'clock in sweeping, dusting, and other work. In a short time this work will have to be done by lamplight, and the only way will be to carry lamps from room to room, an arrangement by which he can do the work neither easily nor satisfactorily. In each of the schools there is much work that must be done by the teachers and pupils after school hours when there must be some means of lighting. -- Argus 19 Nov. 1897.

**1897** -- TOWN SUBSIDY -- At a special Newport town meeting it was voted to exempt from taxation for 10 years the shoe factory to be erected on the Edes [water power] privilege by the Newport Power and Building Company. //// The Boston and

Maine Railroad Monday began experimenting on long runs, the 1:34 p.m. mail train starting from White River Junction and running through to Boston, a distance of 145 miles. -- Argus 3 Dec. 1897.

**1897** -- The buffaloes which the late Austin Corbin presented to the city of New York, on condition that it should take care of them, have been shipped back to the Corbin Park, and are now occupying their old home. A New York dispatch says it took five hours to get the 23 buffaloes into the six cars. //// About 40 sat down to the turkey supper enjoyed at the Phenix Hotel last Thursday evening by the employees in the shoe shop, which was a sequence of the annual Thanksgiving Day hunt. -- Argus 24 Dec. 1897.

## **1898 SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR**

Begins Feb.15 when U.S. battleship Maine is sunk in Havana harbor; ends Dec. 10 with Spain ceding Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines to the U.S.

**1898** -- A public telephone is one of the improvements at North Newport. It will be a great convenience to that section of town. -- Argus 28 Jan. 1898.

**1898** -- Chas. S. Partridge will soon erect a box factory on W. T. Milliken's lot, South Main St. [Probably across from the South church and down near the river where later Sargent had a sawmill.] He will manufacture all kinds of boxes for which there is a demand. The industry will be a useful one, not only to those who desire boxes, but also to those who have for sale such timber and lumber as may be used in their manufacture. - Argus 4 Feb. 1898.

**1898** -- Spanish-American War -- The departure for the seat of war of Co. M which will embrace about 100 members, will make a serious drain on the young men of Newport. [Total population of the town that year was slightly over 3,000.] Nearly the entire company is made up of Newport boys, many of whom are so situated regarding business or otherwise that they can ill be spared. But we hope that victory may early perch upon the banner, and that they may soon "come marching home again." -- Argus 29 April 1898. [Congress declared war on Spain on April 25.]

**1898** -- Spanish-American War -- About 15 enlisted in Company M from the shoe shop in Newport, and since their departure the shoe shop rink has been beautifully decorated in their honor. // From Springfield: Four of our brightest young men have enlisted for the war, which more than doubles our quota for the president's call for 125,000 men. // Nearly the whole village of Sunapee went to Newport Monday evening, and again Tuesday morning, when the boys in blue left on the train. -- Argus 6 May 1898.

**1898** -- In Newport -- On Tuesday morning occurred still another remarkable demonstration. Company M was escorted from the armory to the railroad station by Currier Company, U.S. Sugar River Lodge, No. 55, IOOF, Frederick Smyth Post

followed by a long procession of pupils and hundreds of citizens. When the 8 o'clock train arrived, the company boarded the two finely decorated cars that had been provided for them, and were soon borne from the station amid the cheers of the multitude, the explosion of cannon crackers, the shrieks of steam whistles, and the soft dulcet strains of the Newport Cadet Band. /// Last week we briefly alluded to the decorations at the shoe shop in honor of Company M. They have been improved during the past week. A large piece of canvas has been placed on the wall at the head of the rink, on which are appropriate inscriptions and drawings. Beneath the inscription "Remember the Maine," is a large picture of that battleship. -- Argus - 13 May 1898.

**1898** -- Spanish-American War: Off for Chickamauga -- Since our last issue many of the relatives and friends of the members of Co. M. and citizens of Newport generally, have been to Concord to say "Goodbye" to "the boys" before they depart for the seat of war. A continued ovation has indeed been paid them. Last Sunday 151 tickets were sold at the village station to parties who availed themselves of the opportunity to go to Concord by special train. -- Argus 20 May 1898

**1898** -- On and after June 1 the Corbin Park will be open to the public for pleasure driving. The roads through the park have been put in good condition this spring. The buffaloes in Corbin Park have mostly been turned out from their winter quarters, and now have the run of the park. //// The Boston and Maine Railroad, in a recent issued order, said that trainmen shall collect \$1 for each pane of glass broken by drunken men or others disturbing the peace on trains. -- Argus - 27 May 1898

**1898** -- There was a ripple of excitement on Main and Sunapee street Monday, a little before 5 p.m., consequent upon the sounding of a fire alarm. It was run up from box 41, which is located on the new shoe shop building. There was no fire and the alarm was set off by accident. The fire department was brought out as were hundreds of other citizens. /// F. P. Rowell will soon begin the erection of a building at Korn Alley, 96 feet long, 28 feet wide, and two stories high. It ... will be used for general purposes -- Argus 3 June 1898.

**1898** -- The selectmen had a "hearing" Saturday afternoon upon the petition of S. M. Richards and others for new streets. One is proposed to run from Sunapee St. east along the north line of Mrs. Amos Beck's land, and the other to be an extension of Cross St. northward over land of John Ahern, the two streets to intersect upon the property of S. M. Richards. These streets are comparatively short, but they open possibilities of great further extension. // The New York concern that purchased the mica property, Chandlers Mills, has had a number of men cleaning up at the mine near the half-way house the past week, and intends to commence developing the property further at once. -- Argus 1 July 1898.

**1898** -- During a drive through Corbin Park Monday afternoon, we saw a single herd of 46 buffaloes. Many elk and deer and a few goats were seen in the fields. //// -- [Newport Doctors] Notice: We take this method to notify the public of the increased charge of prices for medical service: Village calls within a radius of one mile \$1; obstetrics \$10; 25



cents for each additional mile; calls after 9 p.m. \$1.50. D. M. Currier, J.L. Cain. H.L. Stickney, A.S. Marden, W.W. Darling, F.P. Claggett. [Note: House calls were common then. These charges are not as inexpensive as they appear. Read below [1900] the wages of industrial workers.] -- Argus 15 July 1898.

**1898** -- Our town is in deep mourning. Hon. Dexter Richards, a life-long resident of Newport, and one of the best known and most prominent men of New Hampshire, departed this life, at his residence on North Main Street, on Sunday, Aug. 7, at 6:15 o'clock p.m. -- Argus - 26 Aug. 1898.

**1899** -- Dr. H.L. Stickney buys Newport's first automobile, a Locomobile. Stickney's office was on Central Street in what is now known as "The Colonial" behind the Eagle Block. - source is a photo from Diana Holtshouser, a relative.

**1899** -- We are pleased to announced that the wheels of the Granite State Mills at Guild are soon to be set in motion. Geo. A. Fairbanks and Geo. A. Door of this town will be the operators, and the firm will be known as Fairbanks and Dorr. Both are young men of business capacity and industry, and we trust that success will crown their efforts. They will manufacture dress goods, besides goods for other purposes. -- Argus, 7 April 1899. (See also Argus of March 10, 1899 for obituary of Perley S. Coffin, who erected Sugar River Mills.) -- see Coffin obit below.

**1899** -- Perley S. Coffin died Tuesday at the age of 81. Mr.Coffin came to Newport in the 40s when a young man. His business throughout all his life was that of manufacturing. Soon after coming to Newport he erected in company with the late John Puffer, the original Sugar River Mills. He carried on the business in company with D. J. Goodrich, subsequently with Capt. Seth Richards, and still later with the Hon. Dexter Richards. In 1867 he sold his interest in the plant and in company with William Nourse erected the Granite State Mills at Guild. -- Argus 10 March 1899.

**1899** -- Central Street has been supplied with an incandescent street light near the Armory. Two other incandescent street lights have also lately been put in -- one on Maple Street, near James Beirne's, and the other on Summer St. near Mr. Cram's. -- Argus 16 June, 1899.

**1899** -- According to the New York papers, Austin Corbin Jr., as he is called, is not unlike his lamented father. It is stated that he has earned the right to a seat with the Bonanza Kings, having in one short year acquired the fortune of a "cool million" in the mining industry in the west. The scene of his operations is in the town of Joplin, Mo. He is the directing head of several companies engaged in the zinc industry and each is moving right along the lines of success. Young Mr. Corbin is not so large a man, physically, as was his father, but in his make-up is evidently included the same sort of metal. -- Argus 25 August, 1899. [Note: He did not pay income taxes. The 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment which authorized federal income taxes was passed in 1909.]

**1899** -- A large clubhouse, 50 by 20 feet and two stories, is being constructed at the

central station in Corbin Park. -- Argus 11 Aug. 1899.

**1899** -- Richards High School opened last week with 84 pupils. Entering class numbered 35. -- Argus 15 Sept. 1899

**1899** -- In Newbury the Hon. Sec. Hay is preparing for raising water from the lake to his residence with a gasoline engine for power. [John Milton Hay, 1838-1905, had a summer home on Lake Sunapee in Newbury. He was President Abraham Lincoln's secretary (1860-65), secretary of state under Pres. McKinley and Roosevelt (1896-1905); he established sovereignty over Hawaii and the Philippines, negotiated treaties that ensured U.S. control of the Panama Canal and evolved the Open Door Policy in China. -- New American Desk Encyclopedia.] //// C. A. Sylvester, of Newton, Mass., a guest of Dr. Stickney, arrived in the first automobile to be seen in Newport, unless we may make an exception of the "Road Steamer," known as the "Fairy Queen," invented and made by E. Merrill Clough, a native of Grantham, who had a public exhibiton of his horseless carriage on the Newport Common 28 years ago on Sept. 11, 1871. -- Argus 22 September 1871. (1899?)

**1899** -- John B. Cooper and help have completed the sewer, taking sewage from West St., Central St., a portion of Sunapee St., and from Richards Block across the river to the southern section. -- Argus 20 Oct. 1899.

**1899** -- During the past week the main high school room (see 15 Sept. 1899 above) has been fitted with electric lights. -- Argus 3 Nov. 1899.

**1900** -- **Population: 3,126. [Population of the state is 411,588, up 9.3%]**  
Industrial workers this year worked 59 hours a week for 22 cents an hour, or \$12.98 a week, or about \$675 a year. Butter cost 26 cents a pound, and you could buy five pounds of flour for 13 cents.

**1900** -- **Sidebar** -- *Life Expectancy:*

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 49 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 51 years. -- National Center for Health Statistics.*

**1900** -- **Sidebar** -- *Newport Foreign-Born*

**Newport Foreign-Born**

	<u>1.</u> Total Population	<u>2.</u> With a Foreign-Born Parent		<u>3.</u> Foreign Born		Total of <u>2. &amp; 3.</u>
1900	2812	367	13%	313	11%	24%
1910	3765	568	15%	529	14%	29%
1920	4109	756	18%	623	15%	33%
1930	4659	1009	21%	666	14%	35%
1940	5304			604	11%	

1950	5131	304	6%
1980	6179	187	3%
1990	6062	190	3%

Source: United States Census Bureau's Decennial Censuses

**1900-1920** -- Most Greek immigrants settled in Newport because they were attracted by jobs in shoe shops and mills. Others set up their own business such as restaurants, fruit stores, grocery stores, barbershops, cobbler shops, tailor shops, poolrooms and bus lines. Many settled on Sunapee Street, an area close to their employment or business. -- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. -- pages are unnumbered.

**1900** -- Necrology for 1899 on p. 4 Rep. Champ. 4 Jan. 1900.

**1900** -- The old covered bridge [in Kelleyville] is down at last, and Mr. Kelsey and force of men are relaying the eastern abutment. -- Argus - 2 Jan., 1900.

**1900** -- Boston and Maine Railroad controls 1,187 of 1,239 miles of track in N.H. - N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1900** -- Some homes get electricity. First time since Newport Electric Light Co. put in lighting has the public been inconvenienced. Opera House Tuesday evening was plunged into dark ness. Power failed because engine at Richards Mill broke down. -- Rep. Champ. p. 4, 18 Jan. 1900.

**1900** -- "Clarence Pike has had the electricity put into his house." (Newport Power and Building Co. is mentioned) - Rep. Champ. p. 4, Jan. 11 1900. // Newport Laundry opens on Myrtle street. -- Rep.-Champ. p.4, Jan. 4, 1900.

**1900** -- Newport Shoe Co. erects building on site of Diamond Mill (South of Main Street bridge) which was torn down in 1887. -- Rep.-Champ. p. 1, Jan. 18, 1900.

**1900** -- Covered bridge on Elm Street (92 feet long and 18 feet wide) "and now about 50 years old" needs replacing. Selectmen consider buying used iron bridge from Augusta, Maine. It will cost \$478; freight \$70; erection \$200; new iron bridge would cost about \$2500. - Repub-Champ. 1 Feb. 1900.

**1900** -- The Finns of Newport gave a very pleasant entertainment at the Armory Hall Friday evening. It consisted of singing, recitations, tableaux and piano solos. A choir of about a dozen singers, who have been receiving instruction in vocal music from one of their number for some time, did most of the singing, which was in the Finn language, as were also the recitations. -- Argus 8 March 1900.

**1900** -- A piece of sewerage is being put in on North Main Street this week, near Belknap Avenue. -- Argus 12 July 1900.

**1900** -- Report has it Commodore D.K. Arlin, son of Mrs. John Wiggen, and postmaster of Lockhaven (Springfield, N.H.?), was one of the first to get to Cape Nome gold fields and now holds claims worth \$200,000. Thus is virtue rewarded. [Placer gold was discovered in Nome, Alaska in 1898 and resulted in a gold rush similar to that to the Klondike in the same period.] -- Argus 16 August 1900.

**1900** -- A day or two since we were treated to an enjoyable ride in Dr. Stickney's new automobile. The doctor took us up and down hills, along narrow roads, and around sharp turns so glibly [?] and skillfully that we hardly "knew where we were at," some of the time. -- Argus 16 August 1900.

**1900** -- Work on the waterworks extension is in progress. The pipe has been put under the river near the Belknap Avenue Bridge -- the hardest piece of work of any part of the extension to perform. /// The J. C. Rockwell Pavilion Theatre Co., which gave a series of entertainments in Depot Square last week, played to large audiences during the entire week and gave excellent satisfaction to its patrons. It is among the best companies that have visited Newport during the past dozen years. -- Argus 20 Sept. 1900.

**1900** -- Wanted at once: Twenty-five weavers, five spinners and card room help for night work. Good work, good warp, good wages. Fairbanks and Dorr. /// The jail buildings are being wired for electric lights. -- Argus 4 Oct. 1900.

**1901** -- The Kelleyville Iron Bridge, which arrived last week, is being put into place. -- Argus Feb. 12, 1901. /// The old wooden bridges, which for so many years served the people of the town, are gradually being replaced by iron ones. The change, although expensive for the time being, will probably be the more economical in the end. We do not look upon the innovation as an unwise one. -- Argus 9 April 1901.

**1901** -- Hearings held on a proposal to build an electric railway from Newport to Sunapee. - Repub-Champ. 5 Sept. 1901. Sewerage system being constructed. Italian workers in knife and stone fight. -- Hist.Soc. Scrapbook 7/19/1901.

**1901** -- (This date needs checking) Town meeting votes to extend water main to Guild, which would serve Dorr Woolen. Seth Richards (Richards Mill) recommends to the meeting that interest rates for the bonds needed to finance the extension be set low "so that townspeople could buy them," but in fact he was proposing interest rates so low that no one would want to buy the bonds. He "wanted to cripple what he thought was competition from Dorr Woolen." Dorr, Sr. then said he'd pay the difference in interest so that the bonds could be sold, and they were. But months went by without work on the project. The selectmen "couldn't seem to find the steel pipe that was needed." (The selectmen were controlled by the Richards family.) So Dorr went to Howard Coonley, a Sunapee resident and president of a plumbing fixtures company, who arranged to get the pipe. And it was installed and Guild got water. -- Source: George A. Dorr, Jr., Dec. 1, 1990.

**1901** -- Thirty deer were shipped from the Corbin Park to F. M. Smith, Greenport, Long Island, N.Y., Wednesday. /// Wm L. Morrison of the Corbin Park appeared in Newport Village Wednesday, bearing the scars of a furious attack from a wild boar. He came suddenly upon him in a thickly wooded place, and with jaws extended and tusks protruding, the animal immediately began an onslaught. Mr. Morrison made an unsuccessful attempt to climb a tree but finally succeeded in beating off the infuriated beast. He was a happy man when the animal decided to retreat. -- Argus 12 March 1901.

**1901** -- Three elk were shipped from Corbin Park to Chicago on Saturday for exhibition at the Sportsman's Show. /// [Chinese in Newport] Sing Wah has disposed of his interest in the laundry to Hop Liung, who will take possession in a few weeks. -- Argus 19 Mar. 1901

**1901** -- School Board and Board of Health announced that no pupil will be allowed to attend school without being vaccinated against small pox. /// Anne Parmalee was elected to the school board, but declines to serve. She would make a very efficient member of the board, but she considers that she owes her first official duty to the Richards Free Library, of which she is librarian. Hence her declination. -- Argus 26 Mar. 1901.

**1901** -- [Visitors to Corbin Park this week ] report seeing 97 buffalo, 29 elk, three goats, one bear, one moose and 19 deer. /// The upper dam connected with the Guild Mill for holding back the water was washed out Sunday. /// The Emerson Pulp and Paper Co. in Sunapee have put into their pulp mill the noiseless suction packer screen built by the Sandy Hill Iron and Brass works, Sandy Hill, N.Y. and are making other improvements in the machinery. They have on the lake about 1,000,000 feet of spruce logs. -- Argus - April 2, 1901.

**1901** -- The Italians have arrived to commence digging for the aqueduct at Georges Mills, 36 of them. -- Argus May 1, 1901

**1901** -- The dead in [Newport's] Maple Street Cemetery will be buried Wednesday at 1 o'clock p.m. -- Argus 15 May 1901. [During winter months when the ground was frozen so solidly that digging graves was impossible, bodies were stored in underground vaults built for that purpose in cemeteries and then buried when in the spring.]

**1901** -- GEORGES MILLS -- There are about 40 men laying the water pipes which are to bring water from Ledge Pond to this place. A large amount of rock has thus far been encountered which has greatly hindered the progress of the work. -- Argus 22 May 1901.

**1901** -- Newport selectmen have issued an order to the police, and the latter have notified all local dealers that they must close their bars at 9 o'clock every night and all day Sunday, and must not sell "stagger juice" by the bottle. This action will meet with general approval. -- Argus 5 June 1901.

**1901** -- Newport's water commissioners are about to extend the six-inch water main on

Elm Street 300 feet farther west to accommodate the houses now being built and soon to be built there. /// In Sunapee the men from Bellows Falls have come to pile the logs for the pulp folks. There is about 1,000,000 feet in the lake. It will take them about two weeks to pile them. There are 10 men in the gang. /// In Newport Charles H. Stockwell last week erected a building in his pasture at the lower end of Main Street for the use of Italian laborers on our new sewer system. It is located in the same spot as the one that was used at the time the water works were put in. -- Argus 19 June 1901.

**1901** -- Monday evening several Italians, employees on the sewerage system, became engaged in an imbroglio, arising from matters connected with the commissary, and a battle about as fierce and bloody as that before Santiago was soon raging. Razors were used by one party and stones by the other, the former appearing to inflict the greater injury. Dr. Stickney was sent for. He was assisted in dressing the wounds by Miss Broad, a trained nurse from Worcester, Mass. Two of the Italians, who belonged to the razor side, ran to the woods and were not seen again until Wednesday forenoon, when they returned to the place of encampment south of the village. --- Argus 24 July 1901.

**1901** -- A few days ago we paid a visit to Corbin Park. It is an interesting place to visit, but the contrast between the locality now and a few years ago is very marked. Then waving fields of corn, wheat and oats met the eye this season of the year, and cattle and sheep in large numbers grazed upon the hillsides. Now none of these things are to be seen, but in their place are deer, elk, wild boar and buffalo. Time is sure to bring changes, though they may not always be for the best. -- Argus -- 7 August 1901.

**1901** -- The Stowell Guards will receive all money due them from the State of N.H. at the Armory Friday evening at 7 o'clock. The boys will receive \$342.50. [This was the State Militia, the precursor of the National Guard which was formed in 1903. See Wheeler's chapter on the State Militia, p. 37.] //// Advertisement -- Charlie Hong-Chi Chinese Laundry. I have bought the business of Sing Wah, and solicit the patronage of everyone. Am just in from Boston, and can do a first-class job. Ordinary repairs. Work delivered three days after received. Clothes sent in Friday morning will be ready for delivery Saturday evening. Three Wheeler Block, Newport. -- Argus 4 Sept. 1901.

**1901** -- The work on the [Newport] sewage system, which was laid out for this season, has been practically completed, and the contractor, Lucien Taylor, has taken the Italians that have been employed here to Connecticut, where he has another large contract. We judge from what we have learned regarding the sewage system in this town, and from what we know of those who have had the work in charge, that it has been well and faithfully done. -- Argus 25 Sept. 1901.

**1901** -- George H. Fairbanks and John H. Glynn have had their houses wired for electric lights. -- Argus 9 Oct. 1901.

**1901** -- Improvements are in progress in front of the Newport House consisting of the readjustment of the stone steps, the laying of curbing and concreting. -- Argus 16 Oct. 1901

**1901** -- There are 84 pupils in the high school at present, of which 16 are seniors, 23 juniors, 18 sophomores and 27 freshmen. One of the most interesting classes in the High School is the chemistry class. It numbers 17, and its work is worthy of a visit by all who are especially interested in this science. -- Argus 23 Oct. 1901. [ In 2001 the high school had 440 students: 70 seniors, 99 juniors, 109 sophomores and 162 freshmen. There were two chemistry classes; the fall semester had 19 students, the spring semester had 21.]

**1902** -- Attendance at the Richards School numbers 160; 81 are in the high school. -- Argus 30 Jan. 1902.

**1902** -- Sickness -- Mrs. James Perkins, whom the doctors thought might have blood-poisoning from using water coming through a lead pipe, is much improved since using the water from the water supply company. -- Argus 6 Feb. 1902

**1902** -- [Electricity] Cols. S. M. and Wm. F. Richards have begun the work of erecting a steam plant near their factory on Sunapee Street. The building will be mostly of brick, and 115 feet in length. It is designed partly for their own use, and partly to furnish power to rent. -- Argus April 10, 1902.

**1902** -- Sunapee -- Al Noyes, who has been caring for the smallpox patients at Grantham, has got through and returned to Sunapee. -- Argus 24 April 1902.

**1902** -- William Morrison, of the Corbin Park, informs us that he now has charge of 25 buffalo calves, making the entire herd of buffalo 131. This is the largest in the country, with the possible exception of that owned by "Buffalo" Jones. /// A new building for the fire apparatus has been erected at Richards Mill. In it are kept a hose wagon, hoses, etc. /// Joseph Sennotte has a new telephone at his house. Several others have recently been added to the Newport exchange out of town. -- Argus 29 May 1902.

**1902** -- [Wooden sidewalks] -- There are several places, we are sorry to note, in the plank sidewalk here that render walking unsafe after dark and even in daylight. Only a few days since a lady fell on the broken walk and was badly injured. -- Argus 19 June 1902.

**1902** -- President Teddy Roosevelt arrives in Newport on private car from Newbury where he had been guest of John Hay.-- The Mountaineer, Vol. 1, No. 3, Aug. 3, 1964, New London, N.H. Also Argus of 27 Nov. 1996 on p. 24, has a cutline to a 3-col photo: "President Theodore Roosevelt, in white wide-brimmed hat, prepares to leave the Newport train station shortly after arriving in town Friday morning, Aug. 29, 1902. The carriages are in front of the present (1996) offices of McCrillis and Eldredge Insurance. The president is in the carriage owned by George E. Edgell and driven by Anton Carlson. Ernest L. Putney is on the white horse, and Mr. Edgell is in the second carriage. (photo from the 1980 Newport Carriage Festival book.) /// Arrangements for the reception of President Roosevelt who, with an official party including several members of his cabinet, is to visit this state the last week in August,

will be completed in a few days. -- Argus from As We Were printed July 30, 1997.

**1902** -- St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church is built. Before then Newport Catholics were under the jurisdiction of St. Mary's church in Claremont and in 1854 masses were celebrated in home of Patrick Herrick on Sunapee St. Later they were held in the Armory on Central St. and in 1870 in the Masonic Hall (later Priscilla's Sweet Shop, a restaurant) on Main St. In 1883 a wooden structure was built on the site of the present church. -- Bicentennial 13.

**1902** -- Dye and Nadeau are at work on the parochial residence to be erected near St. Patrick's church. -- Argus 24 July 1902.

**1902** -- Fren [Fred?] W. Stowers of Methuen, mass., civil engineer and general contractor, arrived in town Monday and is now engaged with a force of Italians from Boston in finishing up the work about the Common that was not completed last fall. -- Argus 31 July 1902.

**1902** -- The electric light plant at Richards Mill is so far along as to enable the owners to begin to rent power. -- Argus – 11 Sept. 1902

**1902** -- Construction of the telephone line between Newport and Grantham is well along and will be soon in operation. There will be three pay stations, Croydon Flat, Croydon and Grantham. Between 15 and 20 subscribers have already been secured. -- Argus – Dec. 4, 1902

**1902** -- [Advt.] The Newport Electric Light Co. is now prepared to furnish motor service at reasonable rates. For convenience, cleanliness, steadiness and ease of regulation, there is no power equal to that furnished by electric motors either large or small. // [In Springfield] we are having fine roads now that the roller has been started. -- Argus – 2 Jan. 1903.

**1903** -- Heavy forest fires burn across the state. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History.

**1903** -- Temperance. Local option license law passed that gave towns options to sell intoxicating liquors and voiding the prohibition law passed in 1855. -- p. 703, Vol. II of New Hampshire, A History, Pillsbury, 1927. See also 1855 in this chronology.

**1903** -- Primary School (in 1995 the town office building) is built on Sunapee Street. - Bicentennial p. 24.

**1903** -- Croydon – Our telephone is a reality. Office in the library at S.W. Gilman's store. /// Newport –The Richards Free Library will be open to the public only Saturday afternoons and evenings until further notice. This action is taken on account of the scarcity of coal. /// Dr. A.L. Marden of the Claremont Board of Health made a fortunate discovery of a case of smallpox in Tremont Square of that town Saturday. The patient



was Richard Smith, who was delivering wood from the Whipple Mill near Unity. He contracted the disease in Claremont and had been delivering wood from the mill only three days. He was taken to the pest house and the people at the mill were immediately informed of the case, which was the 28<sup>th</sup> in Claremont. There are at present only three cases at the isolation hospital. -- Argus 16 Jan. 1903.

**1903** -- A day or two ago we paid a brief visit to the shoe shop of H.W. McElwain and Co., otherwise known as the "new shoe shop." We found things lively at the establishment. -- Argus 13 Feb. 1903.

**1903** -- In Newbury Walter Kimball had a horse killed while coming down the mountain with a load of logs last week. /// In Washington Rodgers and Manley will give a graphophone entertainment at the town hall Saturday evening, after which there will be a dance, the proceeds to be used to purchase a new whistle for the steam mill. A woman suffragist is to speak in the town hall in the near future. /// About 300 hands of the Sullivan Machine Shop in Claremont are on strike. A foreman was discharged and the strikers demand his reinstatement. -- Argus 20 Feb. 1903.

**1903** -- A Washington dispatch under the date of April 7 states that a telegram was received at the Navy Department from Key West, announcing the death by apoplexy of Rear Admiral George E. Belknap, USN, retired. Admiral Belknap, was a native of this town and was one of the most distinguished men that New Hampshire has ever produced. -- Argus 10 April 1903

**1903** -- In Georges Mills the telephone men have the poles nearly set to here from Sunapee. /// The Newport water commissioners are putting in a large supply pipe for the Peerless to accommodate an extra elevator in the new building and improve fire facilities. Argus 1 May 1903.

**1903** -- To date there have been 21 buffalo calves at Corbin Park this season. These animals now number 146. /// The dead in the tomb of the Maple St. cemetery are to be buried Wednesday at 1 o'clock. [Because the ground froze during winter months often to a depth of six feet, those who died during the winter were stored in underground tombs at cemeteries until the ground thawed in the spring.] -- Argus 8 May 1903.

**1903** -- Secretary Hay and family will not arrive for the summer [at their Newbury summer place] before July 15. /// In Newport at the special town meeting it was voted to exempt the new bobbin industry from taxation for ten years. The balloting on the liquor question resulted in a total of 554 votes -- 369 being for license and 185 for nolicense. [The 1900 population of Newport was 3,126; if the average family consisted of five, that would leave about 605 male voters available, only 51 fewer than voted, assuming that women could not vote in town meeting. Women were granted the right to vote only in 1920 by the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. So this was one of the heaviest votes ever taken, compared to population.] -- Argus 15 May 1903.

**1903** -- John G. Sargent of Newbury, representing the International Paper Co., is

advertising for 30 men to work in a lumber camp in Newbury. // D.M. Richards and family will move into their new house on South Main Street in August. // There will be a game of baseball on Syndicate campus Saturday between Newport and the Clippers of Exeter. // [drunkeness] John Spellman and Charles Root paid \$2 and costs Monday for failure to walk uprightly in our midst. [Industrial wages were 22 cents an hour, so these men were fined a day's work.] -- Argus 26 June 1903.

**1903** -- Mrs. Austin Corbin will soon go to the Oriental Hotel on Long Island. [*Is this one of Corbin's enterprises there?*] -- Argus 17 July 1903.

**1903** -- Rural Free Delivery will soon be inaugurated between Claremont and Chandlers Mills. /// The up Sunday train will begin next Sunday and the steamboats will meet all such on and after that date. -- Argus 24 July 1903.

**1903** -- Charles A. Trow has been the driver of the stage between Washington and Newport 26 years in succession. The distance is 15 miles. The traveling during the winter months is often rough, and Mr. Trow has many a time been obliged to take the mail on his back and carry it over Washington Mountain, leaving his team behind. -- Argus 2 Oct. 1903

**1903** -- Improvements in the factory of the Bobbin and Spool Co. are still in progress. Another water wheel is being put in and a new engine has been purchased. About 50 hands will be employed. -- Argus 9 Oct. 1903.

**1904** -- "In 1904 a three-story stage was added [to the Town Hall], along with extensive electrical equipment and was referred to as 'the largest stage north of Boston.' Directly beneath the stage were 11 dressing rooms." -- Newport Town Times, p. 2, Vol. 11, Fall, 1997.

**1904** -- The fire alarm boxes will be tested each Saturday at 12:15, beginning this week.

**1904** -- In Sunapee the Crescent Rebekah lodge held a sugar party Wednesday evening, with a graphophone entertainment. // In Newport the U.S. Moving Picture Co. will give an exhibition at the tall hall Friday evening, using Edison's latest improved machine. -- Argus 1 April 1904.

**1904** -- There are now 23 buffalo calves at the Corbin Park. This will make a herd of 156 buffaloes all told. Six or seven more calves are expected. -- Argus 6 May 1904.

**1904** -- The first appearance of an automobile in town was on Friday, when two suddenly appeared on Main Street – one in charge of E.B. Bisbee and the other in charge of B.H. Wells of Barre, Vt. The parties were on their way from Boston to Barre. /// The contractors who are to build the new jail are expected in town today. -- Argus 13 May 1904

**1904** -- J.A. Scott, who represents the Pauley Jail Building Co. of St. Louis, arrived in

town last week and is at the Newport House preparing to begin the work of erecting the Sullivan County Jail. -- Argus 24 June 1904.

**1904** -- The McElwain shoe factory is turning out 175 dozen shoes a day and is prepared to turn out 25 dozen more if necessary. -- Argus 15 July 1904.

**1904** -- In Croydon the thunderstorm last Saturday was very severe for a short time, burning out many telephone instruments. -- Argus 1 July 1904.

**1904** -- The Woodsum Steamboat Company will give a moonlight excursion on Lake Sunapee this Thursday evening, leaving Sunapee at 8.p.m.. Fare 25 cents. // L.L. Ransom has a telephone at his residence. // Edwin Perry has supplied his house with a telephone. -- Argus 29 July 1904. *NOTE: The telephone items are included to indicate how rare and unusual telephones were at that date; enough to rate a news item. And remember what wages were in 1904 when you click your tongue at how cheap the fare was for the moonlight boat trip. See Census data at 1900 above. The moonlight trip cost more than an hour's pay for a mill worker.*

**1905-1910** -- Immigrants from Finland settle in Newport. The first Finns came to Newport in the 1880s. -- Source: Olli Turpeinen.

**1905** -- The covered bridge over Sugar River on the Claremont and Concord Railway, one span, 122 feet long, and west of Chandlers mills, is built. -- Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Allen; Stephen Greene Press, 1957, p. 113.

**1905** -- Newport Women's Club founded on Jan. 10. - Granite Monthly, Vol. XL. p. 264.

**1905** -- H.E. Richardson of West Brookfield, Mass., shipped from this station Monday between 20 and 30 deer, eight or ten elk and 50 wild geese, all of which are to go to New Zealand. The deer and elk were obtained in Corbin Park, and the wild geese were raised by Mr. Richardson. He exhibited them at the World's Fair in St. Louis, and took them to this point from the exposition. Both the geese and the animals go to the government of New Zealand, and will be taken in charge at Washington, D.C. by an agent of that country. -- Argus 9 Feb. 1905.

**1905** -- The buffaloes at the Central Station (Corbin Park in Croydon) now number 150. -- Argus 6 April 1905.

**1905** -- Ernest Harold Baynes has taken charge of two three-weeks-old buffalo calves from the Corbin Park, which he will bring up on a bottle and attempt to break for draft purposes. The experiment is a novel one and will be watched with interest by persons interested in animals. -- Argus 1 June 1905.

**1905** -- Poles have been set and wires partially strung to carry electric juice to the Peerless factory, where about 15 motors will be installed. An additional dynamo is being

put in place at the electric light station in anticipation of the growing demand. – Argus 1 June 1905.

**1905** -- The Newport High School Alumni Association holds its first reunion. -- Repub-Champ. 10 June 1920. (Some dispute here; see 1917 which observes the 32nd reunion.)

**1905** -- Dr. J. Leavitt Cain was called to Newbury Sunday night to attend Secretary Hay, who was taken suddenly ill. Dr. Scudder and Dr. Murphy of Boston were also summoned but the secretary had been relieved by Dr. Cain before their arrival. /// In Goshen a petition has recently circulated among the ladies in the vicinity against Senator Smoot being seated in the Senate on account of his being one of the highest officers in the Mormon Church. -- Argus 29 June 1905.

**1905** -- The county commissioners have put in a new steam laundry at the county farm [in Unity], and are now engaged in putting in water closets and other fixtures. [Note: Before this, the county farm was using outhouses? See when sewers came to Newport.] -- Argus 7 Sept. 1905.

**1905** -- WANTED – One hundred men at once for night work: carders, spinners, weavers and finishing room help. Work will begin Monday night. Fairbanks & Dorr. -- 28 Sept. 1905.

**1905** -- Charles Dunbar, the driver of the South Acworth stage, passed Thanksgiving with his parents in Croydon. His father was one of the best-known merchants in Croydon; his grandfather was a physician in Cheshire County; his great-grandfather was a graduate of Dartmouth and a lawyer in Keene; and Charles inherited many of the good qualities of an honorable ancestry. His position as a stage driver may be more menial, but he is true to the interests of his employer. – Argus 7 December 1905.

**1906** -- Berlin Mills is largest chemical pulping company in the world. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1906** -- The covered bridge over the Sugar River on the Claremont and Concord Railway, two spans, 228 feet long and east of Chandlers Mills, is built. -- Covered Bridges of the Northeast, Allen; Stephen Greene Press, 1957, p. 113.

**1906** -- George H. Holden has supplied his place of business with a telephone, which seems to leave nothing to be desired in the way of the equipment on a first-class barber shop. -- Argus 1 Feb. 1906.

**1906** -- Granliden Hotel is built by sisters Carrie and Annie Covell on Lake Sunapee. Removed in 1967. -- Argus Founder's Day Supplement 29 Mar. 1995 p. 12

**1906** -- In Sunapee a large force of Italians came to town Monday and will work under Lewis Davis at Granliden. -- Argus May – 1906.

**1906** -- William Morrison returned from Cleveland, Ohio, where he had been to take a half-dozen buffalo from Corbin Park . -- Argus 17 May 1906.

**1906** -- Brampton Woolen Co. is founded in former Knipe Shoe Co., building at corner of South Main Street and River Street. (River Street is now a parking lot for Arlington Sample Book Co.) Two-story building erected in 1946. -- Bicentennial, 67.

**1906** -- In Lempster 15 farm homes have been supplied with telephones. // *Comment for haying time:* It is surprising how quickly some young men's scythes become dulled when a top buggy containing a pretty young girl stops at the house. // During June and July the Newport House registered 1800 people. -- Argus 16 Aug. 1906.

**1907** -- State law sets fifty-eight-hour maximum work week for women and minors. -- p. 62, New Hampshire: A Guide to the Granite State; HMCo, 1938.

**1907** -- A new telephone cable was begun Wednesday, which will extend from the Central Station to Cheney St. It will contain 60 wires and 30 circuits. -- Argus 6 Sept. 1907. //// A new barn will soon be built at Central Station to take the place of the one recently destroyed by fire. A sawmill has ben put in and there is timber of all kinds. -- Argus 9 Aug. 1907.

**1907** -- Automobiles have a hard time getting over the railroad crossing in Sunapee. Several have had to get teams to pull them over. -- Argus 9 Aug. 1907.

**1907** -- Snowrollers still being used. One broke the plate glass window in Gamash's shoe store on Feb. 13, 1907. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 47.

**1907** -- A major addition is made to the water system which was first built in 1894. -- 1948 Town Report.

**1909** -- Ground has been broken by a gang of Italians for the building of an addition to the McElwain Co.'s shoe factory, a building 50 feet long and width of present structure and 4 stories in height. -- Repub- Champ. 7 Oct. 1909.

**1909** -- More than 50 stockholders of the Newport Power and Building Co. meet. -- Repub-Champ. 18 Nov. 1909.

**1909** -- The first snow plough in the nation was introduced in Manhattan in 1909 mostly to clear off trolley lines. The invention reached Boston several years later. Previously winter roads in New England were not ploughed, but rolled and packed down with huge oaken snow rollers (sometimes 8 feet in diameter) and pulled by as many as eight horses. The wheels on vehicles were removed in snow time and replaced by sleigh runners. (So Newporters were using snow rollers until 1910 or so, and snow was hauled into and spread on the floor of covered bridges so that sleighs could slide through.) -- Boston Globe Magazine p. 11, Dec. 31, 1995.

**1909 -- Sidebar -- *Frugal Water Users:***

Newport, N.H. May 5, 1909

*We the undersigned, who desire to be furnished with water from the Newport Water Works System, believing that a pipe, which, when lined, is one inch in diameter, will furnish all the water needed for domestic purposes at Pollard's Mill, so-called, do hereby agree to the laying of the above named and described pipe instead of a 4 inch cast iron pipe which, at the last annual town meeting the Water Commissioners were instructed to lay to said Pollard's Mill.*

[Signed:] C. A. Chadwick (prospective  
R. S. Pollard (water takers  
E. A. Robinson (at Pollard's  
Illegible (mill

NOTE: These four families combined probably had at least 20 persons using water, but not very much. For some time Americans had considered bathing unhealthy. J. C. Furnas in his The Americans, p. 140, comments that people "could ignore the way everybody smelled because, since everybody did, it made no individual objectionable." On Oct. 2, 1892, the Argus reported: "Croydon. Willie Loverin, who has been sick for some time is no better. His sickness was caused by drinking too much cold water and bathing too often. Let this be a warning to all our boys." The New American Desk Encyclopedia tells us, p. 31, that "Only after World War I did plumbing and bathtub production allow the bath to become a permanent installation in the home."

**1910 -- Population: 3,765. [Population of the state is 430,572, up 4.6%]  
Industrial workers this year worked 57 hours a week for 26 cents an hour, or about \$14.82 a week, or about \$770 a year. Butter cost 36 cents a pound;  
and you could buy 5 pounds of flour for 18 cents.**

**1910 -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy* -- A baby boy born this year can expect to live 50 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 53 years. Source: National Center for Health Statistics.**

**1910 -- Finnish Church is founded at 40 Beech St. -- Argus -- 5 July, 1945.**

**1910 -- Thirty buffalo were shipped from Corbin Park to Pawnee Bill in Oklahoma. Shipping charge: \$525. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 131, As We Were.  
(on p. 28 of 24 Oct. 1996 Argus is photo of Rocky Mountain Goats in Corbin Park. Caption says: ... the type of feed needed for these animals was not sufficient to sustain them, and the strain died out.)**

**1910 -- Immigrants from Greece begin to settle in Newport. First Greeks come in about 1905. -- Source: Soterios (Sam) Saggiotes.**

**1910 -- William Henry Wright bequeaths his home on Maple Street for "Carrie F. Wright Hospital" in memory of his wife. The site now (1995) contains elderly housing. -**

- Bicentennial p. 41. // "...The necessary alterations were made, and the hospital opened. The first patient admitted was a boy named Winn. A school of nursing was established and Mrs. Carrie L. Brennan was one of its first graduates. Around 1950 it became apparent that a new hospital in a new location was needed. The necessary funds were raised and on Jan. 25, 1952 the patients were transferred from the old building to the new hospital on Summer St. -- picture caption, Argus, 5 May 1993.

**1910** -- New dark brown three-section seats are bought to replace the deacons' benches in the Town Hall (Opera House). -- Pamphlet by the Newport Opera House Association at 1998 annual fund drive.

**1911** -- Finnish Socialists dedicate the Finn Hall on Winter Street. -- NHS Scrapbook II, p. 66. /// Buffalo from Corbin Park shipped to South America by Dean Bowman of Goshen. Deer, buffalo and elk from Corbin Park go to Pennsylvania. -- NHS Scrapbook II, p. 130. /// Ethnic men (Greek, Italian, Polish, French? No women?) taught English by Samuel S. Baker in YMCA-sponsored project. -- NHS Scrapbook II, p. 130.

**1911** -- The Weeks Act authorizes the White Mountain National Forest. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History.

**1912** -- The weave room in Guild [Door Woolen Mill] struck on Monday morning and demanded a 15% pay increase. According to Mr. Dorr, of the 56 weavers all but two or three were Finns. They were making good money, Mr. Dorr said. A beginning weaver could make nine dollars a week and the average wage was almost \$13. It was first thought the Wobblies had come into town and precipitated the strike, but it was found out later that a Mr. Eronen, from the socialist paper Raivaaja in Fitchburg had come to town and organized the strike. -- Argus 12 April 1912 -- also mentioned in Olli Turpeinen's History of the Finns of Newport, N.H. [Dorr settled for the workers' demands in order to avoid delay and possible loss of contracts. The Peerless struck the same week.]

**1912** -- The floor gave way in Newton and Cummings livery stable Tuesday night and eleven horses went down about eight feet. Fortunately none of the horses was injured. -- Repub-Champ. 30 May 1912

**1912** -- "Tentative agreement made with Bell Association to...convert Newport House into a sanitarium for mildly insane and those broken in physical health." -- Repub-Champ. 26 Sept. 1912.

**1912** -- Soldiers' Civil War monument is dedicated on the Common. "The monument was completed this morning by the placing of a stand of arms in the space between the pillars." (These have long since been stolen.) -- Argus and Spec. 7 June 1912 /// In North Newport " a bandstand is being built on the park at the south end of the cemetery." -- Repub.-Champ. 27 June 1912.

**1912** -- The Peerless, Richards, Brampton mills, McElwain shoe factory are shut down

for the week. (Geo. Dorr, Jr. says business in textiles usually slacked off at this time of year.) -- Repub-Champ. 4 July 1912. /// The contract for building the new engine house has been awarded to Andrew Allen and Edmund Nadeau. -- Repub.-Champ. 20 June 1912

**1912** -- In Georges Mills, the steamboat Armenia White makes her last trip of the season. Her place will be filled by one of the smaller steamboats. -- Repub.-Champ. 12 Sept. 1912. The contract for Citizens Bank block has been awarded to S.D. Morgan of Lisbon. -- Repub-Champ 1 Aug. 1912. /// "In accordance with instructions from the state Board of Health, the drinking cups have been removed from the railroad station." -- Repub.-Champ. - 18 July 1912.

**1912** -- The President of the United States comes to Newport. President William Howard Taft in front of the Newport House on Oct. 10, 1912 (photo) -- Argus 6 July 1912.

**1912** -- Special Town Meeting Oct. 1 "to see if ...rescind town meeting action re movies and to grant to L.L. Ransom a license to exhibit motion pictures in the hall recently built by him on Belknap avenue." -- Repub.-Champ. 26 Sept. 1912. In October Ransom starts showing moving pictures at his casino and is having good houses. -- Argus and Spec. 18 Oct. 1912.

**1912** -- Fifty-five Greeks have gone from this town to their native land to take part in the war in the Balkan peninsula. Only those between 21 and 34 years of age are ordered home for service. -- Repub-Champ. 10 Oct. 1912.

**1912** -- Sibley Scythe Co. is breaking ground for a new building to be used for the manufacture of hatchets. -- Repub.-Champ. 10 Oct. 1912. /// Phenix Hotel is sold at auction. -- Argus and Spec. 12 April 1912.

**1912** -- President William Howard Taft passes through Newport Oct. 11 on his way from Bretton Woods to Keene. He stayed about five minutes and was greeted by school children "armed with flags and by the firing of a salute." He spoke briefly. -- Argus & Spec. 11 Oct. 1912

**1912** -- Richards Mill Strike. Threats of personal violence have been made against August Santti and the Rev. C.E. Stenman in connection with the past strike at the Richards Mill. - Repub-Champ. 24 Oct. 1912.

**1912** -- Early automobile. -- The Richard's Packard [the Richards family's] was taken to Boston last week to be stored for the winter. from As We Were 1912 in Argus of 3 Dec. 1997.

[In the non-snow months that auto was kept in the carriage house -- now (1997) the Library Arts Center -- where there were stalls for three teams. Horse and carriage was used during snow months, apparently. Much later several Cadillacs, including a convertible which was a favorite of Sid Rollins, was housed there. -- Ed.] --



- 1913** -- "Dr. Cain is remodeling the old jail into a hall where it is intended to have motion pictures." -- Argus -17 April 1913.]
- 1913** -- "There were about 50 parcels by the parcel post on the first day of use. Postmaster Varney has everything in readiness for the business." -- Argus - 3 Jan. 1913.
- 1913** -- "Two school teams are necessary this term to carry the scholars out of the school district in North Newport to and from school. Mrs. Lizzie Blodgett, taking the children from Head Station (Corbin Park), and Clesson Parker and Mrs. Perley Goodwin taking the children from Smith and Goodwin over on the other road back and forth to school." -- Repub-Champ. 18 Sept. 1913.
- 1913** -- In Goshen, the Italians have stopped peeling pulp wood and most of them have gone away. Three of them are having to stay and cut pulp wood and not peel it. They have cut about 1000 cords. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook V, p. 14. a local paper 22 August 1913. /// In North Newport, the largest number of automobiles that have been seen this summer in one day, more than 50, went over the Cornish road Sunday. -- Argus - 14 August 1913.
- 1913** -- "The water in Gilman Pond (Newport's water supply) is reported to be 15 inches below high-water mark, having dropped a foot in 16 days." -- Argus 3 July 1913.
- 1913** -- "The Citizens Bank will be in business operations in the new block next Monday morning." (Brick building at NW corner of Main and West St. owned by James Lantz in 1991). - Argus 31 July 1913. /// Fairbanks and Dorr have commenced running the Dorr Woolen Mill at nights. About 50 men are on night force. -- Argus and Spec. 10 Jan. 1913.
- 1913** -- "President Woodrow Wilson has chosen the Cornish home of Winston Churchill, the novelist, to be the summer capital, according to a telegram received from Mr. Churchill who is now in Santa Barbara, Calif." -- Argus 4 April 1913.
- 1913** -- Porch and steps of the Wheeler Block (at NE corner of Main and Central streets) are removed. "A new granolithic approach makes a decided improvement of that section of Main St." - (Wallings 1860 Sullivan County map shows a picture of the block with wooden steps and porch. Awnings replace the wooden porch.) -- Argus 31 July 1913.
- 1913** -- "...two 3-globe lampposts were set in front of the Opera House [the Town Hall], the model for today's vintage lighting on Main Street." -- Newport Town Times, p. 2, Vol. 11, Fall, 1997.
- 1913** -- "The Finnish Socialist band, 10 pieces, gave a very credible concert in the street last night to gather audience for John Burke, socialist orator." -- Argus and Spec. 5 Sept. 1913.

**1913** -- The town got an "official police department" this year. -- Argus p. 1, 30 April 1997.

**1915** -- Chatauqua Week, July 24-30, is held in Newport. Program included a women's singing orchestra, a priest and two preachers (both with Ph.D.s), all of whom gave lectures, a magician, a "Japanese Music Play," Victor's Italian Band and Venetian Troubadours (24 singers and musicians), a trio, an operatic company, a quartet, a world traveler and orator, and The College Players presentation of "Twelfth Night. -- from the program for that week. "Chatauqua Week; 7 Joyous Days".

**1915** -- In Sunapee, quite a gang of men are getting ready to work on a line to furnish Georges Mills and New London with electric lights. /// In Newport, the Board of Trade discusses whether free mail delivery would be a good thing for Newport. The answer is probably to be found in the fact that no place where it is established wants to give it up. (Did residents pay for mail delivery at this time?) -- both from Argus and Spec. 5 Nov. 1915.

**1915** -- Probably from Newport Guardian, a weekly newspaper published in Newport about 1950... a full-page, undated story on Billy B. Van and movie co. in Georges Mills with headline 'Irate Georges Mills People Drove Away Motion Picture Producing Industry in 1915.' -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III, p. 23.

**1915** -- Edward J. Maley becomes postmaster. Cyrus E. Varney, postmaster for previous four years, succeeds Dana W. Keyes at First National Bank. -- Argus, As We Were, p. 18, 5 Sept. 1990.

**1915** -- Henry Nygort, a Finn, was arrested Friday noon for stealing a fur coat of Dr. J. Leavitt Cain's from the doctor's office. As the coat was returned, he was fined \$5 and costs which he paid. -- Repub-Champ. 18 Nov. 1915. [note: identified as a Finn; why? Prejudice?]

**1915** -- The Lewis Block (SE corner Main & Sunapee) barber shop has gone out of business and will become a Greek shine parlor and pool room. (Often editors identify persons by ethnic origin, i.e. a Greek, a Finn, an Italian, rather than by names, often when reporting crimes. Other offenders are identified by name. Prejudice?) -- Argus & Spec. (probably 5) Dec. 1915.

**1916** -- The Elm Farm team, property of a Greek [has he no name; just identified as a Greek? -- prejudice?], was capsized at the corner of Sunapee and North Main Streets, near Rand's Newport House, Tuesday forenoon, and bottles, milk and broken glass were all conglomerated, and one of the occupants of the team received cuts upon the hand from the broken glass. /// Uncle Tom's Cabin at the Opera House Friday evening Jan. 21. -- Repub.-Champ. 20 Jan. 1916.

**1916** -- GRANTHAM -- The tax commissioners are conducting a hearing on the petition of the Blue Mountain Forest Association [Corbin Park] v. the town of Grantham

for an abatement of taxes. Jesse M. Barton, Esq., is counsel for the petitioners, and Frank O. Chellis, Esq. for the town of Grantham. -- Republican-Champion 20 Jan. 1916

**1916** -- The fifth fire since Jan. It occurred about 4 a.m. Friday morning when the roof and most of the top floor of the Silsby block near Main street bridge was burned. The property abuts Mrs. Dudley's block and stands very close to Carlton Hurd's store, so the absence of wind was very fortunate. Chief Lewis had five heavy streams on the building and was nearly two hours getting it under control. -- Argus & Spec. 28 Jan. 1916.

**1916** -- Newport's first Winter Carnival was held Saturday afternoon under the direction of the Y.M.C.A. and proved an encouraging success. A parade was formed at one o'clock, composed of skiers, snowshoers, sliders and skaters and proceeded to Bela Cutting's meadow (on the western slopes of the Pinnacle and leading down to Wilmarth Flat, just north of the Newport Middle High School) where races and exhibition jumps were held. -- Argus & Spec. 11 Feb. 1916. /// The enterprising New Hampshire town of Newport, always alert for business or sports, comes to the fore this season with a pleasure plan which is all its own. The sponsor of the plan is the Newport Outing Club, of 150 members, and the program includes a grand carnival of winter sports the first three days in February in an arena especially constructed for the purpose, where a toboggan slide a third of a mile long, with a mile straightaway is already in the process of erection. -- Repub.-Champ. 14 Dec. 1916. -THE DATES OF THE YEARS SEEM CONFUSING. (Also see Bicentennial p. 8). (Also see a fine report by Sharon Christie in the 1996 Town Report, and an excerpt from that on p. 8 of the 1998 "Newport, N.H." publication by the Newport Area Chamber of Commerce.) (Also Winter Carnival supplement to the Argus, Feb 1, 2006, pp. 4 and 5.

**1916** -- George A. Dorr (Dorr Woolen) has bargained for the residence of Mrs. Lucy N. Bradley on Pine St. -- Repub-Champ. - 17 Feb. 1916. Arthur C. Bradley (see Bradley, 1894) built this home in the 1890's. It was designed by a college classmate of his, Stanford White, who went on to become a famous architect. In 1995 it was the Woodlawn Manor nursing home. -- Photo caption, p 20, Argus 17 April 1991. (Bradley is not in Wheeler; but is mentioned as a Newport lawyer in the 1886 History of Sullivan County, p. 273.)

**1916** -- Mr. and Mrs. George Dorr are occupying their residence on Pine Street. /// John English, a Greek, has made a trade with A. B. Scribner, the proprietor of the fish market in Milliken block, whereby Mr. Scribner will vacate, and Mr. English will install a modern steam cleaning plant and tailoring establishment. -- Repub-Champ. - 27 April 1916.

**1916** -- Report of Winter of 1816. Remarkable Weather Conditions of One Hundred Years Ago. Vermont had no summer. Ten inches of snow fell in June of that year and people were frozen to death. (Front page feature story.) (Wonder what the source is? No newspaper in Newport then.) /// John W. McCrillis and Wesley Thompson (Dartmouth students) skied down from Hanover Saturday. They started from Hanover a little after one o'clock and arrived home at 10:30 that night. (Long after nightfall.) They rested in

Grantham an hour and a half. They found the roads badly drifted in some places fully five feet deep. -- Argus & Spec. 25 Feb. 1916.

**1916** -- NEW LONDON - The Public Service Commission has issued an order authorizing the Sunapee Electric Light and Power Co. to purchase the New London Acetylene Co. and to extend the service into the towns of New London, Sutton and Newbury. Electric lights have been enjoyed at Colgate hall for three weeks, but were turned on in the post office block for the first time Monday evening. -- Argus & Spec. - 3 Mar. 1916.

**1916** -- E. H. Carr and Eugene Purington have recently installed electric lights in their houses. (Electricity was first available in Newport in 1892.) -- Argus & Spec. 12 May 1916.

**1916** -- A consignment of 25 deer from Corbin park was shipped by American Express, in a special car, to the state game preserve at Jameson City, Pa., Monday noon. /// North Goshen: W. E. Bowen, the big Rhode Island ice shipper, writes that he has got his supply in all right, but intends coming here next summer to look up a location for storing ice. -- Repub-Champ. 16 Mar. 1916.

**1916** -- Rev. Alex Muhonen. for the past two years minister of the Finnish Congregational Church, is closing his affairs here, preparatory to removal the first of the month, to New York, where he will take up work among the Russian people. -- Argus & Spec. - 24 Mar. 1916.

**1916** -- West Unity -- Herman Lane & Son, with gasoline engine, sawed Millard Barney's woodpile last week. (If sawing with gasoline engine was news, it was not common. We lived then with crosscut saw and bucksaw, and woodstoves in kitchen and parlor.) -- Argus & Spec. 30 Mar. 1916.

**1916** -- Croydon: Professor G. Harold Edgell of Cambridge, Mass., is spending a few days at Central Station, Corbin Park. -- Argus-10 April 1941.

**1916** -- A pleasing aftermath of Memorial Day was the marching of a squad of Boy Scouts to the estate of Andre C. Champollion and placing a wreath of flowers at the gateway in remembrance of the young soldier who lost his life fighting in the trenches in France. The wreath was tied in position with Harvard colors. /// Several autos and motorcycles in Grantham have had troubles peculiar to their kind the last two days, keeping Blacksmith Goddard more than busy. -- Repub-Champ. - 1 June 1916.

**1916** -- Newport High School will graduate 13 seniors. /// The new Elm St. bridge, of concrete and steel, (replacing a lattice truss wooden covered bridge) will be finished about Sept. 1. -- Argus & Spec. - 9 June 1916.

**1916** -- Splendid Act of Generosity. Loren D. Towle Presents Newport with \$75,000 High School Building. Those who attended the adjourned school meeting June 24 had

their controversial spirit completely swept away, if any such spirit was present, when Frank D. Chellis for the committee, chosen at the annual school meeting to investigate the subject of increasing school accommodation, read a letter from Loren D. Towle of Boston, in which he offered to give to the town a high school building, including site and equipment at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. -- Repub-Champ -29 June 1916.

**1916** -- After a long wait in Concord, the First Regiment National Guard, U.S.A., New Hampshire left Concord Saturday afternoon enroute to Laredo, Texas - a six-day journey. Upon arrival the First Infantry will be brigaded with the second Maine and in all probability will be hooked up with the first Vermont now on duty at Eagle Pass. /// The McElwain Co. has been taking care of the families of their employees who are at the front with various companies of the National Guard. Each week since Co. M. left, Superintendent Murphy has called on all of the families and given them from 75 to 100 percent of what the husband or wage earner was given at the time he was called into service. /// Workmen are tearing down the old Elm street covered bridge and will start on the new concrete bridge next week. /// At a joint meeting of school boards of Newport, New London and Sunapee W. H. S. Ellingwood of Wilton, Maine, was elected superintendent of schools for those towns. -- Argus & Spec. - 21 July 1916.

**1916** -- In Sunapee a movement has been set in progress to secure for communities that are in the vicinity of the lake, the entire service of a graduate nurse. She will be provided with horse, buggy and sleigh, and establish headquarters near George's Mills where she can be summoned by telephone. For such services, people will not be expected to pay more than they can afford. -- Repub-Champ. -- 31 Aug. 1916.

**1916** -- Cliff F. Gile has sold his Newport Gristmill to his son, Leland W. Gile, who will continue the business. -- Argus & Spec. -8 Sept. 1916.

**1916** -- House numbering. Arthur S. Currier has been authorized the the selectmen to number the houses in the village in accordance with the map of the village recently made. -- Repub-Champ. 14 Sept. 1916.

**1916** -- CAMP NEWS: Laredo, Texas, Oct. 24 -- Thirty nine recruits of the First New Hampshire regiment arrived here yesterday, 13 band and 26 infantrymen. The arrival of the band was received with great enthusiasm by the regiment which turned out en masse to meet it. -- Argus, Oct. 27, 1916 --Local national guard? Pancho Villa troubles?

**1916** -- The town's first Winter Carnival is started on Washington's Birthday.

**1916** -- Elm Street covered bridge (a lattice truss) is replaced by one of concrete and steel.

**1916** -- George S. Robb has sold his house on Sunapee Street to Fred'k Gamash. It is understood that the lot will be used sometimes for a new Catholic church. -- Argus and Spectator, 5 Oct. 1916.

**1917**

## **WORLD WAR I**

U.S. enters war on April 6; war ends Nov. 11, 1918

1917-1918 230 Newporters serve in World War I. Nine die in service.

-- Andrew L. Andrews, American Legion.

**1917-1918** -- Polish families begin to immigrate to Newport. About 40 families arrive in a period of a few years. -- Irene Kulesza Boyle.

**1917** -- Business has improved wonderfully throughout the year. The shops and mills are running to their fullest capacity with a constant call for more help, and have increased their employees' wages until they are now paying more than for many years past. -- Argus and Spec. 14 Jan. 1917.

**1917** -- To the inhabitants of the Town School District: Whereas, after long and persistent efforts on the part of the committee and Mr. Towle, without success, to secure from landholders by purchase, a suitable site for the new high school, it now appears necessary to invoke the laws of eminent domain to obtain land for the location of the school. -- Repub. Champ. 18 Jan. 1917.

**1917** -- The Winter Carnival, sponsored by the Newport Outing Club, will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1. The first day will be devoted to the seven-mile sleigh ride to Blue Mountain Forest Park, where the deer drive on snowshoes will take place, followed by a dinner at the clubhouse of the Blue Mountain Forest Association. Friday afternoon will be devoted to snowshoeing, skiing and ski jumping on the club grounds, with various races transpiring. In the evening there will be a grand concert and ball at the opera house with music by Hough's Orchestra. Saturday there will be races of all kinds on the outing club grounds, a hockey game between the McElwain and Newport Outing Club teams and an exhibition of ski jumping by Morton Bridge of Hanover. In the evening the carnival will be brought to a close with a huge bonfire on the club grounds. -- Repub.-Champ. 23 Jan. 1919. -- (See also Argus and Spec. 26 Jan. 1917. "Pictures of the buffalo and ski jumping at the Outing Club grounds. The stores are busy preparing for the carnival next week. One merchant has sold more snow shoes this season than in all of the past five years.")

**1917** -- Three male and three female buffaloes were shipped from the Blue Mountain Forest Park by the American Railway Express to Honiny, N.C. as a gift from Austin Corbin of New York City to the Pisgah Club of that place. -- Repub.-Champ. 23 Jan. 1917.

**1917** -- Early morning fire destroys the Gamash Block on Main St. and damages Emerson Block. - 4 Feb. 1917.

**1917** -- National Guard returns from Mexican Border (Pancho Villa troubles.) The

arrival of Co. M in Newport was announced by the ringing of all the bells in town and the blowing of whistles on all of the mills as soon as the train left Sunapee depot. The men arrived in two special cars attached to the five o'clock train Monday afternoon. The whole town was out to see them and the square at the station was filled with friends of the men that Newport is proud to have sent to the border just eight months ago to the day. Front page photos of Capt. (Sam) Edes, Lieut. Taylor, and Lt. Bowen. -- Argus and N.H. Spec. - 23 Feb. 1917.

**1917** -- School meeting warrant include articles to see if town will appropriate money for medical inspection in schools, and to consider the continuance of kindergarten. -- Rep. Champ. - 1 March 1917. /// A carload of 45 deer was shipped from Corbin's park yesterday afternoon to Buffalo, N.Y. -- Argus and Spec. - 9 Mar. 1917. /// Ty L. Barker, who has been a clothier in town for about 32 years, transferred (sold) his business on Tuesday to the Miller Bros. of Springfield, Vt. -- Repub-Champ. - 15 Mar. 1917.

**1917** -- H. W. Kendall and Frederick Gamash (whose buildings are named after them) (also see Gamash and Emerson block fire on 4 Feb. 1917.) contemplate one solid front from Korn Alley to the J. W. Johnson block of pressed brickwork, and work will commence at once. // F. A. Barton has petitioned the Public Service Commission to sell the Lempster telephone company to Fred M. Clarke for two thousand dollars. -- Argus and Spec. 23 Mar. 1917.

**1917** -- Grantham - The Newport stage went on wheels Monday for the first time this season and the Lebanon stage on Tuesday. (On skis or sled runners for the winter?) /// Lyman H. Howe's moving pictures drew a good attendance in the opera house Friday evening, and was, as always, very instructive and interesting. -- Repub. Champ. - 29 Mar. 1917.

**1917 -- The United States Enters World War I on April 6, 1917.**

**1917** -- The selectmen have started enrolling all men of military age. This has nothing to do with the present crisis .. that is, the law requires that it be made annually, war or no war. -- Argus and Spectator - April 6, 1917.

**1917** -- Street lights are kept on all night for the present. /// The shoe factory of W. H. McElwain is protected by an outside guard during the hours it is closed. -- Repub.- Champ. 12 April 1917.

**1917** -- Main St. was hit by another bad fire Wednesday when a basement smudge in the Richards Block (Lake Sunapee Bank building in 1995) developed alarming proportions and for a time threatened the destruction of Newport's biggest block. Firemen attacked the fire vigorously but had a stiff two hours fight before it was certain damage would not extend to all parts of the building. Millers Brothers store and stock was practically ruined as the store filled with smoke so quickly that very little could be removed. The First National Bank rooms next door were stripped of furniture and the Lovell Drug Store was emptied, considerable damage from smoke, water and breakage

resulting. -- Argus and N.H. Spec.- 20 April 1917.

**1917** -- The students of Colby Academy in New London have military drill every morning from eight to nine. -- Argus and Spec. 4 May 1917.

**1917** -- This issue of the Champion comes to its readers under new proprietorship, the paper and job printing having been purchased by a voluntary corporation under the name of the Champion Press Association. The personnel of the corporation is as follows: Francis P. Murphy, president; Jesse M. Barton, v.p.; Bernard W. Carey, clerk; Chas. W. Rounseval, treasurer; Paul E. Trask, Edward J. Gallagher of Concord, Frank A. Rogers, directors. -- Repub.-Champ. 10 May 1917.

**1917** -- The third serious Main St. fire since Jan. 1 took place early Sunday morning. Two men from Boston who were riding through town on a motorcycle about four o'clock discovered the Dudley Block all ablaze and had the alarm rung in. The firemen had a stream on the block quickly and had it under control in about an hour. The building, owned by G. E. Lewis and F. P. Rowell, was being repaired at the time. /// All males between 21 and 31 years of age, whether citizens or aliens, must present themselves and register at their voting place in their home town or city between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Tuesday June 5th. /// A band of gypsies passed through the village Tuesday in automobiles. -- Argus and Spec. - 25 May 1917.

**1917** -- Capt. Edes has received orders for drilling Co. M. twice each week until the company is called to join the regiment. /// There have been 22 enlistments for the Home Guard from Newport. The men will go to Claremont one night each week for drill with company. (sic) /// The Claremont milk dealers increased the price of milk to 8 cents per quart and then very sensibly inserted a well-written quarter-page advertisement in the local papers to give what they considered good reason. -- Argus and Spec. 1 June 1917.

**1917** -- Postal uniforms. The postmen were out Wednesday morning for the first time in their uniforms. (Did they not have uniforms previously?) -- Argus & Spec. 15 June 1917. /// Earl H. Chase is spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert A. Chase. Mr. Chase is employed by the contractor who is to build the concentration camp at Ayer, Mass. (World War I was declared 6 April; what is this about a concentration camp? Isn't there now, and was there then, an Army post in Ayer?) -- Argus and Spec. 22 June 1917.

**1917** -- ...the 32nd annual reunion of the Newport High School Alumni Association was held at Rand's (probably Rand's House) immediately after graduation in the town hall. (This makes the High School Alumni Assoc. founded in 1885, but a 1905 entry observes its first reunion.) -- Argus and Spec. 22 June 1917.

**1917** -- The contract for the new parsonage of the South Congregational Church has been awarded to O. G. Osgood and work will begin soon. /// Corbin Park will be open to the public June 20. Passes can be obtained at the Newport House, Brighton, East and



West Pass Gates. -- Argus and Spec. 19 June 1917.

**1917** -- Shaker community in Enfield is closed, and land and buildings sold. -- Historical New Hampshire, Vol. XXX, No. 3, Fall 1975, page 146.

**1917** -- Finns. Tom Djerf, leader of the Finnish National Band, saved the life of Wilhard Onnela of this town. Onnela went in swimming in the swimming pool at Finnish Park (where was this?), and when Mr. Djerf, who happened to be nearby, saw him sink and dived in to rescue him. -- Argus and Spec. 6 July 1917.

**1917** -- Front page Feature Story on Croydon Mountain. Notes of Corbin Park and Something of Life on Croydon Mountain with Buffalo, Deer and Other Wild Animals for Neighbors. Picture of the buffalo in the park. /// J. Hugh and Richard P. Donovan bought the Corner Pharmacy (at corner of Sunapee and Main streets in Lewis Block) last Thursday. The Donovan brothers made many friends during some years of service at at Lovell's (drugstore) and are well qualified to make a success of their venture. /// Sullivan County's list of men liable to draft was made complete with cards and lists all numbered last week. There are 1871 cards in the county. /// Remember that the stores are closed Thursday afternoons during July. -- Argus and Spec. 13 July 1917.

**1917** -- Five of the largest taxpayers in Newport were Brampton Woolen Co., \$1,392; Draper Co., \$3,892; Fairbanks and Dorr, \$2,079; McElwain Co. \$3,306; Richards and Sons Co., \$3,340; and Newport Electric Light, \$2,312. /// D. C. Barton started to move the main part of the parsonage of the South Church Monday morning to the Lear lot on S. Main St. -- Argus and Spec. 20 July 1917.

**1917** -- HEADLINES: Company M Mobilizes. Coast Artillery Boys Leave Wednesday Morning. Members of Local Company Leave Friday to Join Regiment. -- Argus and Spec. 17 July 1917.

**1917** -- Entrance exams. High school exams for entrance to high school will take place Sept. 7, three days before schools open. -- Argus and Spec. 31 Aug. 1917.

**1917** -- Rev. T. C. Watkins lost control of his horse while driving down the long hill this side of his summer residence on Coit Mountain, and was thrown from his carriage. -- Argus & Spec. - 14 Aug. 1917. (Indicates that Coit Mountain road and that house were still being used at that date.)

**1917** -- Mr. Budnitz has taken the district agency for the sale and manufacture of Coca Cola and will commence manufacturing this popular drink in about three weeks. He has bought the place now occupied by him on Sunapee Street of George Wilkins and will soon erect a new building to replace the old one. -- Argus and Spec. - 7 Sept. 1917.

**1917** -- The street was surprised Monday morning to learn that Robert E. Gould of Claremont had bought out W. G. Rand at the Newport House, although there had been rumors. -- Argus and Spec. - 21 Sept. 1917.

**1917** -- There has been a feeling for some time among members of the School Committee that the good condition of the teeth of the school children was as important as any part of their physical welfare and we are now in receipt of an offer from Dr. Keith to examine free every child attending our school this year. -- Argus and Spec. - 12 Oct. 1917.

**1917** -- Whitmore and Cutting have started an auto bus service between Newport and Claremont. The auto leaves the Newport House at 8:30 and leaves Claremont in front of the Post Office at nine-thirty every morning except Sundays. -- Argus and Spec. 19 Oct. 1917.

**1917** -- The new store fronts being set in the Richards Block, now being remodeled by Hoggson Brothers, the New York builders, illustrates the latest ideas in modern display windows. Lovell's Drug Store, Rogers and Robb, Miller Brothers and W. H. Sargent's grocery will soon blossom out with them. -- Argus and Spec. 26 Oct. 1917.

**1917** -- Stores in the Kendall block are rapidly nearing completion. The store to be occupied by the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. is ready for the fixtures. -- Argus and Spec. 2 Nov. 1917. /// Clarence D. Mooney has been appointed war historian by the Newport Board of Trade. - Argus and Spec. 16 Nov. 1917.

**1917** -- "Newport is certainly one of the most remarkable towns it has ever been my privilege to visit," said a business visitor in town the other day. "When you think that in the last year every clothing store, a dry goods store and shoe store have been burned out, that Lovell's Drug Store was flooded with water at the time of the Miller Bros. fire and that the First National bank had to move on account of that same fire, it is truly wonderful what they have done to rehabilitate themselves." -- Argus and Spec. - 21 Dec. 1917.

**1918** -- Temperature -- 48 below. S.C. Newell's spirit thermometer recorded 48 below zero this morning. He said that the average for the past few days has been 45 below. /// Finn fined. A Finn (no name used here; why not?) was before Justice Nourse charged with leaving his horse on the street without being properly blanketed. He was fined \$25 and costs of \$10.30. -- Argus and Spec. 4 Jan. 1918.

**1918** -- The town hall has been closed for the remainder of the winter to conserve coal. --Repub. Champ. 10 Jan. 1918.

**1918** -- Front p. school superintendent's report: High school opened last fall with 98; there are now 92. Sewing is now taught in sixth grade. One of our greatest needs is Manual Training for the boys. Drawing was introduced last fall. Sunapee has united with us this year, making it possible to retain Miss Bateman, thus improving the music of both towns. A paper press has been installed and all waste paper is pressed and sold. Tall stools have been furnished the teachers. At least two or three windows in each schoolroom should be screened against flies. W. H. S. Ellingwood, sup't. -- Repub-Champ. 7 Mar. 1918.

**1918** -- Nettleton Tavern of 1821 is front p. feature in Repub-Champ. 21 Mar. 1918.

**1918** -- The coal shortage in this vicinity is getting serious. The Newport Electric Light Co. would have been obliged to shut down Tues. morn if Fairbanks and Dorr had not come to its rescue with a car of bituminous coal which was in the freight yard. /// Sunapee bus. J. N. Lambert has started a jitney trip between Newport and Sunapee leaving Sunapee daily at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. /// The Newport Equal Suffrage League will hold its regular meeting at the home of the president, Mrs. Silas C. Newell, 163 Cheney st.-- Women's Lib -- Repub-Champ. 25 April 1918.

**1918** -- The question of what stores should keep open Sundays and what should be closed was easily settled Saturday by the Selectmen. Every store was closed Sunday with the exception of the drug stores, and they were allowed to sell only drugs and the Sunday papers. /// The town hall was filled Friday night for the patriotic meeting held in the interests of the Liberty Loan committee. That this is a patriotic town was demonstrated when in the course of the introduction by John (NMI) McCrillis, the chairman of the local committee, the honor flag was lowered from the ceiling as he was telling the audience that Newport had once again gone over the top, subscribing her quota of one hundred thousand dollars by more than 25,000 dollars. -- Argus & Spec. - 3 May 1918.

**1918** -- Every red-blooded American will be in the Red Cross parade Sunday. /// Clarence Bailey has begun taking pictures of the various people around town for the past two weeks to send to the soldiers in France. /// Sullivan County sent another quota of 18 men for the war this morning. The men were escorted to the railroad station by the Newport Band where they were addressed by F. P. Rowell before taking the train to Durham where they will receive mechanical training. -- Argus and Spec. 17 May 1918.

**1918** -- Fairgrieve's store. H. Fairgrieve, who has been occupying the store on Sunapee st. for the last 4 years, has moved into the Lewis block where he has larger quarters. (He later moved across the street into the Richards block.) -- Argus and Spec. 31 May 1918.

**1918** -- The barber shops and nearly all of the stores will close Thursday afternoons at noon from June 20 until Sept. 19. -- Repub-Champ. 13 June 1918. /// John Condon is removing his stock of groceries from his store in the Richards block to his store in the Cheney block. /// The cobblers in the shoe stores of Walter E. Davis and the Dudley Shoe Co. went out on strike last week, and the proprietors have made arrangements whereby the repair work will be handled out of town, as it is difficult to secure good cobblers here at present. -- Repub.-Champ. - 27 June 1918.

**1918** -- One of the red letter days for Guild was last week Thursday when the United States flag and a service flag, containing 14 stars, was unfurled at Fairbanks and Dorr's mill at noon. Very interesting speeches were made by G. A. Fairbanks and F. O. Chellis of Newport. -- Repub.-Champ. 4 July 1918.

**1918** -- In Sunapee the church, moving pictures and library are closed and all public

gatherings are postponed on account of the epidemic. (Influenza?) /// Two implements of warfare are attracting much attention in M.J. Hourihan's window this week. There is a shrapnel shell and a grenade such as is used by the fighters in France. -- Argus and Spec. - 12 July 1918.

**1918** -- Newport has been placed on a sugar ration of three pounds per capita per month. - Repub.-Champ. 18 July 1918. (In this year the average American used 74.6 pounds of sugar each year. -- Historical Statistics of the U.S. ) So this was quite a cutback.

**1918** -- Strikers at the Richards mill voted to go back to work Friday morning with a raise in wages for the weavers at 25 percent; for the spinners, 20 percent; and for the day help, 25 percent, which was just what D.S. Rollins had offered them the previous Monday. -- Repub.-Champ. - 1 Aug. 1918.

**1918** -- The firm of Fairbanks and Dorr, who have been owners of the woolen mill in Guild for nearly 20 years, was dissolved by mutual consent on July 1. Mr. Dorr has bought out the interest of Mr. Fairbanks. Mr. Dorr will have as a partner, his brother, Roy L.Dorr, who has been the New York representative of the firm for the past eight years. -- Argus and Spec. 9 Aug. 1918.

**1918** -- In North Newport a barge (?) is running every morning to convey employees to the McElwain shoe factory. /// A billboard has been erected in Court Square (in 1995 occupied by the County building) upon which the honor roll of Fourth Liberty Bond purchasers will appear. - Repub.-Champ. 26 Sept. 1918.

**1918** -- Influenza. (The 1918 worldwide influenza epidemic killed an estimated 20 million persons, including 548,000 in the U.S. - World Almanac.) Our schools have lost three or four weeks from the months of the year when schools may be run with the greatest efficiency and now opening disorganized by the enforced vacation. It will still be a week or more before full attendance may be secured and schools able to do regular work. The school board at its last meeting voted to open an evening school for all who wish to attend as soon as health conditions permit. An enrollment fee of one dollar will be charged to help cover expenses. If conditions continue as at present, Empire Theatre and the public library will reopen Monday. The Health office in the Knights of Columbus rooms have been closed and the two nurses secured to relieve the situation have been released. -- Argus and Spec. - 3 Nov. 1918.

**1918** -- The town hall bell was rung Monday afternoon to announce the surrender of Austria. Germany comes next. The (influenza) ban on public gatherings, with the exception of dancing, was lifted Saturday at midnight, and everything has resumed its normal condition. -- Repub.-Champ. - 7 Nov. 1918.

## **1918 WORLD WAR I ENDS ON NOVEMBER 11**

**1918** -- There will be a grand concert and ball in the opera house Monday evening,

Dec. 9, for the benefit of the Newport Cadet Band in appreciation of the services at various sendoffs of the boys drafted in the service. /// Richards mill is on a three-days-a-week schedule until further notice. -- Rep. Champ. 5 Dec. 1918.

**1918** -- The Carrie F. Wright Hospital has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. -- Repub.-Champ. - 19 Dec. 1918. /// The new parsonage of the Congregational church was dedicated Sunday morning, Dec. 15. It is a gift to the church by Mrs. Seth M. Richards, a member of the church, whose family has been prominent in town for many years. The house is designed along colonial lines and in perfect harmony with the meetinghouse by which it stands. -Repub.-Champ. 19 Dec. 1918. /// Those who had occasion to pass the covered bridge near the scythe shop (in North Newport) appreciate the return of electric lights. -- Repub.-Champ. - 26 Dec. 1918.

**1919** -- In Mill Village the annual church roll call and business meeting has been postponed because of the epidemic (influenza still?) and, also the Grange meeting. /// Nine inches of snow fell Jan. 2 furnishing the first sleighing of the winter. /// Lt. Burton D. Thorpe arrived home from Fort Ogelthorpe Saturday and we feel confident that the public will be glad to see him at his profession here again, as the other doctors have been more than busy for several weeks. -- Repub.-Champ. 9 Jan. 1919.

**1919** -- The 18th (Prohibition) Amendment is ratified Jan. 16.

**1919** -- The W. H. McElwain Co. will adopt the 48-hour system at the local factory beginning Thursday morning Feb. 13. (Is this a 48-hour work week? If so, what had it been?) -- Repub.-Champ. 6 Feb. 1919.

**1919** -- In Springfield Charles French has a gang of Italians working in the woods. -- Repub.-Champ. - 6 Feb. 1919. (See previous reference to Italians.)

**1919** -- Feminism. / The Girl Scout movement is a new departure in Newport. Much has been done for our boys but little for our girls. A small body of women who have the interest of our Newport girls at heart have introduced the National Girl Scout Organization into this always progressive community. The movement is non-sectarian. -- Argus and Spec. 14 Feb. 1919. (See suffrage.)

**1919** -- The Brampton Co. closed its local mill (not the one in Sunapee) Saturday for an indefinite period, depending upon business conditions in the woolen business. (I thought Brampton was owned locally by McCrillis, Rowell and others. Yet it seems here to be one of a larger group.) -- Repub.-Champ. 20 Feb. 1919.

**1919** -- Local Eccentric. / The appearance of Judge Franklin P. Rowell, attired in his red cape and tall silk hat, which was shown at the Empire Theatre Thursday evening of last week in the Pathe's Weekly in the reception tendered General Clarence E. Edwards at Concord a few weeks ago, brought great applause from the audience. (He was owner of Rowell Brothers building supply store in Korn Alley, and was widely known for his cape and top hat, even inserting himself into the reviewing stand at a Boston parade one time

when authorities seated him as a dignitary because of his clothing.) -- Repub.-Champ. 6 Mar. 1919.

**1919** -- In Town Meeting it was voted that the selectmen be instructed to issue permits to druggists in Newport "to fill liquor for medicinal purposes on prescription in accordance with the provisions of Ch. 147, session law of 1917 and amendments thereto. -- Argus and Spec. 14 Mar. 1919 (The 18th amendment -Prohibition - was passed 16 Jan., two months earlier.)

**1919** -- First police force? At the town meeting Tuesday ... eleven hundred dollars was appropriated with instructions to the selectmen to appoint a police force in Newport and designate the hours of service. -- Argus and Spec. 14 Mar. 1919. (Part-time constables before then?)

**1919** -- Clayton Morgan of Sunapee has taken a contract to ship a large quantity of ice to Hartford, Conn. He has a crew cutting near Lake Station, where it is loaded in (freight) cars. /// Buffaloes were shipped from Corbin Park (in? to?) Boston via American Express Tuesday. (Going where?) /// It was voted (by whom?) to give the Carrie F. Wright hospital the material from the emergency hospital and to grant it free use of the town hall two evenings during the year. (why?) /// From Grantham .. We are glad to know that Mr. Smith has heard from his son, Perley, who has been in a German prison camp. -- Repub.-Champ. - 20 Mar. 1919.

**1919** -- The strike of the telephone operators, which went into effect Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock did not affect Newport locally, but no communication could be established with surrounding towns and Claremont, which caused much inconvenience and delay. -- Repub-Champ 17 April 1919. /// There are 24 members in the high school graduating class of 1919. - Repub-Champ. May 24, 1919. /// All returned soldiers and sailors are urgently requested to meet in G.A.R. hall Monday evening ... to take steps to form a post in the American Legion. -- Repub-Champ. June 12, 1919. /// Posters are out announcing the auction Sat. June 28 at the Phenix Hotel Stable. The entire stock including horses, Ford touring car, wagons, robes, etc., will be disposed of. The livery business has for some time been conducted by Lacroix and Ladieu. /// SUNAPEE - the people in the vicinity of Lake Sunapee have contributed from time to time during the last 8 years a little more than \$9,000 with which to purchase 656 acres on the mountan, including the timber surrounding the summit and all of that in the basin of the beautiful Lake Solitude. Six and one half miles of trail and a log shelter at Lake Solitude have been constructed. (This is the beginning of Sunapee State Park.) -- Argus and Spec. - June 20, 1919.

**1919** -- The Newport Workers will hold a lawn party at the residence of George A. Dorr on Pine Street, Tuesday, July 22 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and a fine musical program has been arranged. Ice cream and cake will be on sale. Admission to the grounds is twenty-five cents. Free automobile conveyance to and from the party to anyone. (This is odd. Dorr charging? Or are the Workers (?) using his lawn? /// Edes and company has an interesting exhibit of war souvenirs this week, brought home by Capt. S. H. Edes. -- Argus & Spec.-- 18 July 1919

**1919** -- Five of the heaviest taxpayers are Dexter Richards and Sons. Co., \$5,443.68; W. H. McElwain Co., \$5,073.32; Newport Electric Light Co., \$2,820; Peerless Mfg. Co., \$2,652.21, residents; and Draper Co., \$2,084.07, non resident. -- Argus & N.H. Spec. 1 Aug. 1919.

**1919** -- The N.H. Senate voted yesterday to ratify the Susan B. Anthony (19th) amendment to the Federal Constitution, granting full suffrage to women by a vote of 14 to 10. (It was ratified in 1920) /// The high school opened with a total registration of 89. Late arrivals will bring the total to about 95. Registration by classes: Seniors, 8; Juniors, 16; Sophomores, 29; Freshmen, 37. /// The Dorr Woolen Company is building a new boarding house for help at Guild. A new club house for the men is also in process of erection. -- Argus and N.H. Spec.-12 Sept. 1919.

**1919** -- Ever since the deal was completed whereby the block containing the Newport Home for Aged Women became the site for the Towle High School, the trustees of the home have been looking for the the right place for the Home. Sometime last week it was decided to buy Mrs. Myron Tenney's home on Laurel street, and it is expected that the work will be transferred to the new location within a short time. -- Argus & Spec. 26 Sept. 1919.

**1919** -- Elm St. has been improved from Main St. to the bridge by the building of a concrete road and sidewalk under the supervision of Andrew Allen. -- Repub-Champ. 2 Oct. 1919.

**1919** -- Front page headline: Big Fire in Richards Block. Fire Started in the South End of the Block Friday Morning, Nov. 14. The two Upper Stories Totally Guttled. (Picture) Since the fire of Friday morning which practically destroyed the two upper stories of the Richards Block and did big damage to the stores therein, it seems advisable to us that a night patrolman should be kept on duty on the Main street in this town for just such an emergency as this; also that the electric lights should be kept burning all night long. (editorial). -- Repub-Champ. 20 Nov. 1919. -- Fire destroys Miller Bros. Clothing store and top two floors in Richards Block. The Lake Sunapee Bank in 2000 occupies most of the building. -- Bicentennial p. 8.

**1919** -- Newport Golf Course opens on Unity Road on land leased from Dr. J.L. Cain and parts of land owned by George Spooner and Will Davis. (See 1920 - a contradiction.)

**1919** -- The field glasses, which Frank C. Foster lent to the Navy (Navy so short of equipment that it borrowed from citizens?) have been returned to him with an engraved certificate from the war department in appreciation of the great service rendered by them. /// The soldiers, sailors and nurses of N.H. who participated in the World War will receive an additional bonus of \$70 according to state law passed Sept. 10; effective Dec. 1. -- Repub.-Champ. 19 Sept. 1919.

**1919** -- "Following is a list of the nationalities now employed at the [Richards] mill and

it takes in everybody, including the office force: Americans - 92; Irish -12 (all born on this side except one, making total Americans, 104). Finns - 44; French - 48; Polish - 18; Greeks - 10; Italians - 3; Austrians, 3; Germans, 1. Out of this total of 231 there are approximately 75 who are not naturalized." -- letter dated Dec. 2, 1919, from D. S. Rollins, treasurer of Dexter Richards and Sons, Inc. to Mrs. Lizzie M. Richards, his mother-in-law.

**1920 Population: 4,109. [Population of state of N.H. is 443,083, up 2.9%.]  
(Average yearly earnings in U.S. industry: about  
\$1,500; work week was 51 hours; (that's slightly less than 59 cents an hour  
for 50 weeks of work)  
bread was 12 cents a one-pound loaf;  
flour, 41 cents for 5 pounds.)**

**The 19th Amendment is ratified in August, and gives women the right to vote.**

**1920 -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy:***

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 56 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 57 years. -- National Center for Health Statistics*

**1920 -- Sidebar -- *This Was the Year We Left the Farm:***

*In 1920 the Decennial Census showed that for the first time since censuses were taken in 1790 more Americans lived in cities and towns than lived in rural areas. That year 51 percent of us were listed as rural; 48.9 percent were listed as urban; and that distinction has continued. (In the year 2000 seventy-nine percent of us were urban.) Part of the reason was the automobile; by 1925 a majority of American families possessed cars. Source: U.S. Census, and p. 517, Oxford Companion to U.S. History. Median age for all Americans that year was 25.3; in 1870 it was 20.2; in 1820 it was 16.7. In the year 2000 it was 35. Source: U.S. Census*

**1920-1940 --** Greek families were growing and children were educated in the public schools as well as the Greek School which was established and financed by the Greek community. [Note: what was the Greek school curriculum?] A few students sacrificed participating in after-school sports programs (as per their family's wishes) to attend Greek School. These two decades probably saw the greatest growth of the Greek community. It was during this time that the Greeks felt a strong need for a church of their own. Baptisms, weddings, funerals, memorial services and church services all required the presence of a priest and church. Priests were brought in from Keene and Manchester, N.H. Economic reality prevented the establishment of a church in Newport. The country was recovering from the Depression, and funding was not available. Wages were low and the number of Greek families (only 30) was not enough to finance the church. Even with the attendance of a few generous Greek families from Claremont it was not enough to make the difference. It was through the kindness of the Episcopalians of Newport, who graciously gave the Greek community the opportunity to conduct their religious services in the church on the corner of Cedar and Cheney streets that the children experienced their first contact with a house of worship. This act of ecumenism



was carried on for many years. Weddings, baptisms, funerals, memorial services and regular services during Easter and Christmas were held at that church. The Greeks would have to wait until after World War II to make their long-held dream of building their own church a reality. -- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Creek Orthodox Church 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. --pages unnumbered.

The W. H. McElwain Co., with factories in Manchester, Nashua, Claremont and Newport, will list upon the Boston stock exchange \$2,500,000 of 7 percent cumulative first preferred stock authorized at a meeting of the company stockholders at a meeting held in Boston at the central office last Thursday. ... Reserve Friday evening, Jan. 23, for the carnival dance. ... Franklin P. Rowell has purchased a one-ton truck of Fred Gamash. ...Plan to participate in the deer drive and game dinner at Corbin Park Thursday, Jan. 24, the first day of the carnival. ... A handsome gold medal will be given for the best decorated toboggan in the parade Saturday afternoon, Jan. 24. -- Repub-Champ. 15 Jan. 1920.

**1920** -- Newport School Board votes to raise the salary of every women teacher \$100 per year except Guild teachers, who have but recently been engaged. (What about men teachers?) ...Heaviest snowfall of winter, Feb. 5, with a fall of about 12 inches driven by a heavy east wind. Traffic was brought to a standstill and everybody was kept busy shoveling themselves out. ... No school in Springfield; Lempster stage could not get to Claremont, so no mail there. -- Repub-Champ.12 Feb. 1920.

**1920** -- D. J. Leavitt Cain and his son, William, were thrown from their sleigh Sunday evening when the horse became frightened as it went through a pitch-hole (pot hole) on Sunapee Street and ran away when the bit broke. -- Repub. Champion 4 Mar. 1920

**1920** -- Town warrant article: To see if the town will instruct the selectmen to appoint a police force in Newport, designate the hours of service and pay for the same, raise and appropriate money for the purpose.... -- Argus and Spec. -- 5 Mar. 1920

**1920** -- The Boston Lunch, Wheeler Block, (in 1995 Hubert's Clothing Store at NE corner of Main and Central streets) is well filled every noon by people who enjoy the good 40-cent dinners which are being put out. -- Argus and Spectator, 19 March 1920.

**1920** -- Maple sugar is bringing 40 cents a pound and maple syrup \$3 a gallon. ... Town Meeting voted to raise the salary of the town clerk from \$125 a year to \$300 which is none too much for the proper execution of that office. (was this job part-time then?) -- Repub. Champ 1 April 1920.

**1920** -- [housing development] W. R. Whitney of Goshen, who purchased the Hatch pasture at the junction of Highland and Prospect Streets, intends to stake the pasture of nine acres into building lots, 50 by 100 feet each, and will build a home for anyone who wishes on easy terms. The town has agreed to lay out a street for those slots as soon as possible. -- Repub-Champ. 15 April 1920.

**1920** -- The New Hampshire Argus and Spectator is glad to announce to its thousands of friends, old and new, the installation of a Model 14 Linotype. The Linotype is a machine that does away with the slow, tedious process of setting types by hand, or indeed setting them at all. (Two-column front page story with picture of the machine.) -- Argus and Spec. 16 April 1920. (Linotype was invented in 1884; first used, by New York Tribune, in 1886.)

**1920** -- HEADLINE - Daylight Savings. Newport Clocks Have been advanced One Hour. Town Clock Unchanged. -- Argus & Spec. -- May 1920 /// A good many Finnish people are going back to Finland this spring. Some are going back to live under the new regime (Ruled by either Sweden or Russia for 800 years, Finland became independent in 1917; Finn Communists were defeated in civil war in 1919, and Finnish republic was established.), others only to see their families from whom they have been pretty much out of touch since the beginning of the war. -- Argus & Spec. -- 14 May 1920. 100 voters attend special town meeting, most of whom appeared to have gone for the purpose of expressing their disapproval of the daylight saving scheme in general. The motion, amended by Judge Barton, prevailed and the town clock will not be altered from standard time until Nov. 1, provided the town in general is on daylight saving time on that date .. as of course it will not be. ... Newport Golf Club votes to authorize the lease of parts of the Dr. Cain, William Davis and George Spooner farms one mile out of town on Unity Road, and to work on them at once. (By Oct. 14, the Repub. Champ. reports golfers "learning the rudiments of the game on the new golf links on Unity Rd" ...) /// The Cutting house is on its way to its new location on Belknap Ave., and the Thorpe house will be following immediately. (refers to clearing space on N. Main Street to build Towle School.) -- Argus and Spec. May 28, 1920.

**1920** -- At the special town meeting Saturday afternoon it was decisively voted that the town clock should not be advanced one hour to correspond with daylight saving time, which has been adopted in the shops and nearly all of the stores. The vote was 95 to 4 against putting the town clock ahead. (see above.) -- Repub.-Champ. May 27, 1920.

**1920** -- Maple Street from Main to the hilltop has been posted as a "hospital zone" and all gas(oline)-propelled vehicles must go as quietly as possible. /// The employees of the W.H. McElwain Co. were called together Friday and notified of a flat 10 percent raise and further told that this raise was retroactive to March. -- Argus and N.H. Spec. June 4, 1920.

**1920** -- Miss Ruth Perry is organist at Coniston Theater during her summer vacation. (This is here to indicate that the Coniston existed in 1920.) -- Repub-Champ - 5 Aug. 1920.

**1920** -- Rev. Wm. Newcomb is holding services in the school house at Ryder Corner in Croydon on Sunday afternoons. (no separation of church and state.) -- Repub.-Champ. 19 Aug. 1920.

**1920** -- In the first vote for women, 508 women registered, and 60 percent of these voted. (Newport's population then was 4,109.) "When I went to the town hall to vote at the primary election I was impressed with the unusual dignity of the occasion. The presence of the women certainly gave the event additional tone and put the menfolk on their good behavior." -- Argus and Spec. - 10 Sept. 1920.

**1920** -- Corbin Meadows at the north end of town (later Parlin Field, the Newport airport) were the scene of a novel exhibition Saturday and Sunday when Lt. Bob Fogg, a U.S. air service instructor, came up from Concord and took some of the spectators up in the air to view Newport and its surroundings. His flying time from Concord was about 25 minutes. -- Repub. Champion - 16 Sept. 1920.

**1920** -- The Coniston Theatre is sold to Sam D. Lewis and Arthur C. Chadwick, proprietors of the Empire Theatre. The Coniston has been running 11 months and was built on the site of the old Phenix Hotel. Part of the old building was used. The price is reported to be \$33,000. /// Brewster Post of the American Legion has decided to take four rooms on the third floor of the Richards Block. -- Argus & Spec. 24 Sept. 1920.

**1920** -- It became known the latter part of last week that the Republican Champion, a Newport newspaper, was being transferred to George E. Brown, managing editor of the Manchester Union-Leader. When Olin H. Chase was appointed a commissioner of motor vehicles in 1916, a corporation composed of Francis P. Murphy (N.H. governor 1937-39-41), W. E. Beaman, Jesse M. Barton, Charles H. Rounsevel, Frank A. Rogers, Paul E. Trask, Bernard W. Carey and Edward H. Gallagher was formed to buy the Champion, and this corporation has operated the plant ever since. -- Argus & Spec. 22 Oct. 1920.

**1920** -- Claude J. Brewster Post, No. 25, American Legion, auctioned a Ford touring car; Vincent J. Brennan, Sr. won, and gave car to the post which sold it to furnish "the new rooms in Richards Block." -- Repub-Champ. 25 Nov. 1920.

**1920** -- The Newport Outing Club has begun its winter activities by placing its club house and toboggan chute in position on the Van Meadows on Elm St. (This was later known as Fairbanks meadows and is north of the shopping center between Elm St. and Routes 11 and 103.) The ground has been rolled for the skating rink, which will be flooded immediately. /// at a Farm Bureau meeting the Claremont members resolved "that we ... are opposed to any form of so-called 'Daylight Saving' legislation either by our state or Congress." -- Repub.-Champ. 2 Dec. 1920.

**1920** -- Residents of N. Newport are aroused over the announcement that the North Newport

**1921** railroad station is to be discontinued after 13 years of service. -- Repub-Champ. 30 Dec. 1920.

**1920** -- A German baron, a prisoner of war trying to earn money to return to his homeland after World War I (there was a prisoner of war camp in Stark, N.H.) painted

murals in the sanctuary of the Church of the Good Shepherd (Methodist church). -- Letter to the Editor, p. 17, Argus 5 Nov., 1997 from The Rev. Thomas L. Shanklin, pastor.

**1921** -- A \$23,000, four-room annex is added to Richards Junior High School on School Street. -- Argus, caption, p. 26, Feb. 7, 1996.

**1921** -- Electric lights are installed in the Primary School. -- p. 86, Town Report for 1921.

**1921** -- McElwain Co. Reduces Wages in Effort to Keep Factories Going. -- Repub-Champ. 13 Jan. 1921.

**1921** - Two buffaloes were shipped from Corbin Park to Granlock, N.J., by American Railway Express. -- Repub. Champ. - 3 Feb. 1921.

**1921** -- (This will need further research.) Headline: Withdraws Offer to Build High School. Loren D. Towle Explains his Reasons in Letter to Committee. The withdrawal by Mr. Towle, of his offer to erect a new high school, is a regrettable incident, but it is felt that the town will be saved a big expense by the action. /// (Women's Suffrage) Unusual interest is attached to the upcoming Town Meeting because women voters will take part for the first time. -- Repub. Champ. 3 Mar. 1921.

[previous mention of Towle's gift for a high school is mentioned in this chronology in 1916, 1917, 1919, 1920 and 1920. See under Towle. Some explanation of what happened -- although written in rather coy manner -- is on pp. 20-22 of Francis Parnell Murphy, Governor of N.H.: Biography of an American by Samuel R. Guard and Lloyd Graham; The Roycroft Shops, East Aurora, N.Y. 1940.]

**1921** -- The seven highest taxpayers in town for the year of 1921 in order are as follows: W.H. McElwain Co., \$8,887.66; Dexter Richards and Sons, \$8,770.23; Dorr Woolen Co., \$5,328.05; Brampton Woolen Co., \$3,798.57; Peerless Manufacturing Co., \$3,688.25; Mrs. Lizzie M. Richards, \$3,291.50 and Draper Co. \$2,270.90. Some other high taxpayers are George A. Dorr, \$1,191.58; Sam D. Lewis, \$1,026.60; and F. P. Rowell, \$907.70. (See the year 1920 above for annual earnings of workers.) -- Repub-Champ. 9 June 1921.

**1921** -- Newport High School class of 1921 has 18 members; seven young men, eleven young ladies. -- Repub. Champ. 16 June, 1921.

**1921** -- The inventory of the town of Newport for the year 1921 is \$4,045,447, which is \$196,970 more than the inventory of 1920. Total property taxes amount to \$117,318. The town has 369 horses, 48 oxen, 396 cows, 344 neat stock (my dictionaries define neat stock as cows, bulls, oxen, so this differentiation is not clear to me.), 125 sheep, 7 hogs, 205 fowl, and 23 vehicles on its inventory. -- Repub.-Champ. 23 June 1921. (The population of Newport in 1920 was 4,109 and clearly this inventory, while probably low,

shows how non-agricultural we were. With an average family size of six, Newport had about 685 families and only 369 horses, so a lot of families had no transportation, probably living in the village in tenements near the mills. We did a lot of walking.)

**1921** -- The new organ which is being installed in the South Church will be ready for trial Sunday, but will not be fully completed for another week or two. /// In Washington [N.H.] (labor problems) the Shephard and Morse Lumber Co. will close their mill Monday morning. The men are going out on strike against a 25% reduction in wages. -- Repub.-Champ. 4 Aug. 1921.

**1921** -- HEADLINES: Early Morning Fire Destroys Restaurant; Wheeler Block Saved Big Damage by Quick Work of Firemen. -- Repub.-Champion 11 Aug. 1921.

**1921** -- Automobile licenses statewide have reached 39,896. /// Chatauqua banners and advertising are everywhere in evidence, announcing a week of solid enjoyment from Aug. 25 to Aug. 31, inclusive. -- Repub.-Champ. 25 August 1921.

**1921** -- In North Newport the committee for installing electric lights in Union chapel has announced that plans are progressing for raising the needed money. -- Repub.-Champ. 15 Sept. 1921.

**1921** -- A cutting department will be added to the McElwain Shoe factory. The Newport factory which now has 550 employees, is turning out 4,000 pairs of shoes a day. Within a few weeks after the cutting department is installed, it is expected that 5,000 pairs will be the daily output. -- Repub. Champ. 20 Oct. 1921.

**1921** -- The school census shows a total of 765 pupils. /// Seventy-four dwelling houses in Newport are lighted with electric lights. -- Repub-Champ 3 Nov. 1921.

**1921** -- Newport's notable family of Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel R. Barton gained greater prominence last Sunday when the stork again visited their home in Kelleyville and presented them with their nineteenth child. It was a boy which makes the tenth son in the family. (See also Repub-Champ. 3 Nov. 1921 for photo of family in County Fair Parade.) /// A new Esty pipe organ has been installed at St. Patrick's church. It is 18 feet in depth and 12 feet in width, has 7 stops, 10 couplets and is encased in light oak. The Methodist, Congregational, Baptist and Catholic churches are all equipped now with up-to-date pipe organs. -- Repub-Champ. 17 Nov. 1921.

**1921** -- Through the courtesy of the Red Men, children will be admitted to the matinee at the Coniston theatre Monday free of charge. -- Repub-Champ. 22 Dec. 1921.

**1922** -- The first N.H. radio station, WLNH, opens in Lebanon. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1922** -- Editorial There is scarcely a citizen or well-wisher of Newport who did not read with the profoundest regret Mr. Loren D. Towle's letter in this paper withdrawing his

offer of a new high school building for Newport. No one can read this letter without realizing that someone has blundered beyond comprehension, and that Mr. Towle has taken the only course possible for a gentleman of sensibilities. But only those who know him personally can realize how truly he is speaking from the heart when he says "the outcome of this schoolhouse matter is the greatest disappointment of my life." -- Argus and Spec. - 4 Mar. 1922.

**1922** -- Headline: Newport voters give Loren D. Towle unanimous endorsement. The annual meeting of the Newport School District ... held Saturday afternoon proved a record breaker in every respect. Probably there never were so many people in the town hall at any one time. About 900 seats were provided and 200 or 300 people were standing in the rear of the hall and in the balconies. Likewise it was the angriest, most determined crowd which ever met there, and the anger and determination were directed at the members of the school board who had, in their opinion, not only offended the town's friend and benefactor (Loren D. Towle) but placed it in a bad light in the eyes of the rest of New England. -- Argus and Spec. 11 Mar. 1922. [This excerpt from the Argus' 100 Years Ago does not explain what Towle had offered, what the school board had done, and what the Saturday school district meeting did. Same with excerpt of 4 Mar. 1922 above.]

**1922** -- Judge J. M. Barton and Spiros Condos were in Concord yesterday attending a hearing before the Public Service Commission as to whether Mr. Condos should have a permit to run a public auto between Claremont and Newport and Sunapee. Mr. Condos is planning to make three trips each day, which will make a very complete service. [The Condos Bus ran until the 1950's and probably longer.] -- Argus and Spec. -- 18 Mar. 1922. Spiros Condos has been granted a license to run a bus service between Sunapee and Claremont this summer. Mr. Condos is well equipped to give a much needed service. He will start his regular trips as soon as the roads are in condition. [mud season; mud time]. There have been several attempts to establish a regular service, but none has been successful. -- Argus and Spec. - 1 April 1922.

**1922** -- [Letter from Loren D. Towle to the citizens of Newport after voters rejected School Board motion and approved Towle's gift to the town.] "I desire to overlook the offensive actions of a majority of last year's School Board. I accept your earnest request and hereby reinstate my previous offer to build a new high school building. As a consideration in renewing this proposal, I must make one reservation: Viz., the building to be erected at such time as it is possible for me to give it my personal attention. At present I am engaged in a large construction enterprise that has already been greatly delayed and will require all of the present year and possibly all of the next year to complete. I cannot undertake the construction of the schoolhouse until this work is completed. Knowing the need of the building I will not delay it a moment longer than is necessary." -- Argus 15 April 1922.

**1922** -- It will require at least ten automobiles to carry the members of the GAR and other organizations from the Town Hall to the cemetery on Memorial Day. The men of the Grand Army are now too old to take their place in the line of march and must be

carried. Any person who will assist these men on this occasion will please notify A.L. Post Commander Milo H. Brill or Post Commander Fred P. Carr of the Spanish War Veterans. [Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans of the Civil War, established in 1866. In 1868 it got Memorial Day adopted. At its peak it had 400,000 members. Had strong influence on the Republican party. Its last member died in 1956. -- Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia] -- Argus 3 June 1922.

**1922** -- "I notice that a new bridge has been built over the Sugar River at The Riverside Trotting Park. Probably two-thirds of my readers [we can assume, perhaps, that this is the editor writing] never even heard of such a place for it must be 25 years ago that the last horse race was run there. Why doesn't John G. Glynn, Frederick Gamash, or someone of those old-time horse men, who used to make the dust fly around the half-mile course, write up some of the exciting times that have taken place there in the days when race horses were fairly common in this part of the country." -- Argus 17 June 1922.

**1922** -- Eight of the 23 in the Richards High School graduating class were members of the football team which won all eight games, including a 12-0 victory over Stevens as well as the Connecticut Valley League championship. -- Argus - July 1922. [from As We Were 2 July 1997]

**1922** -- Francis P. Murphy, for 24 years connected with the McElwain Co., has resigned as director of the company and as manager of the Newport, Claremont and Windsor factories to become a member of a new shoe organization. Mr. Murphy said he planned to keep his residence [a brick house on the west side of Spring St.] here for some time, on account of his other local interests as chairman of the board of managers of the Newport Electric Light Co. and treasurer of the Lake Sunapee Power Co. -- Argus 19 Aug. 1922.

**1922** -- The local office of the American Express has been furnished with a Ford truck and its deliveries will be made in it instead of in horse-drawn wagons. -- Argus - 23 Sept. 1922.

**1922** - Hon. George A. Fairbanks of the building committee for the Towle High School building, Supt. W. H. S. Ellingwood and Headmaster Joseph A. Wiggin were in Boston Monday to meet Mr. Towle and his architect and make final plans for the new building which will start as soon as the weather will permit in the spring. -- Argus -- 23 Dec. 1922.

**1923** -- Six automobile loads of Claremont Rotarians come to Newport, and the Newport Rotary Club, the sixth in N.H., is organized. -- Argus 3 Jan. 1923.

**1923** -- [Probable racism, unless this was a quirk of the editor then.] A false alarm was rung in from ..... by a Finn youngster who evidently wished to see what would happen when he pulled it. [Italians as well as Finns seemed to have no identity other than nationality. This does not seem to be true of the French, although there were many of them in town, or of the Poles or Greeks.] --- Argus 1 Feb. 1923.

**1923** -- The biggest business and real estate transfer that has been recorded in Newport for some time, took place this week when the Eagle Block and the dry goods business of Edes and Co. were sold by George L. Edes to A. Teitelbaum. The building and the dry good establishment is one of the oldest in town. Originally built as a hotel, the structure was erected in 1825 and for many years was known as the Eagle Hotel. The property was bought by Samuel H. Edes in the 1850s, who transformed it into a business block and established a dry goods store on the street floor. For nearly 70 years the property has been kept in the Edes family. -- Argus 15 Feb. 1923.

**1923** -- The U.S. Postal Department [in Newport] has found some more money somewhere and we again have our three deliveries a day in the business section. -- Argus 16 May 1923.

**1923** -- Contracts were signed in Boston on May 10 between Loren D. Towle and Charles W. Keith of Nashua for the erection of the new High School building on the lot purchased by Mr. Towle in August of 1919 and located on the corner of Main Street and Belknap Avenue. It is hoped that the building will be completed by next December. -- Argus 31 May 1923.

**1923** -- Loren D. Towle dies in Boston. Born in Kelleyville, graduate of Newport High, class of 1892. He became Boston's leading real estate man. Donor of Newport's High School, Loren D. Towle died at the Newton Hospital September 26, 1923. The news was a great shock to Newport, for very few people had heard of his illness, although for quite a period of time he had been below his usual standard of health. That week it was decided that an operation was necessary and it was performed Wednesday morning. His condition was at once found to be hopeless, and he passed away on Friday morning. At about nine o'clock, C. W. Keith, contractor for the Towle High School building, received a telephone message announcing his death, and immediately all work on the building discontinued. -- Argus 10 Oct. 1923.

**1923** -- A meeting of the building committee of the new Towle High School with C. W. Kieth (sic), the builder, was held Friday. Work on the building was stopped shortly after the death of Mr. Towle but Mr. Kieth showed the damage that was likely to happen to the building if the windows were not put in and some heat provided. As the windows are well started, it was decided that these must be finished as soon as possible and put in, and the heating system must be carried on to permit heat enough in the building to keep the green plaster from freezing. It was also voted to meet Mrs. Towle's attorney as soon as he could give the time, to see what could be done. The supply sheds have been torn down and the grounds put in condition to leave. -- Argus 28 Nov. 1923.

**1923** -- After 130 years of farming, manufacturing and productive existence, declining membership forced the Shakers at Lower Shaker Village in Enfield to close their community and put it up for sale. (See 1927.) -- Brochure from Museum at Lower Shaker Village.

**1924** -- (headline) -- Town will complete Towle High School. \$25,000 voted for



purpose. Original contracts to be completed. Resolutions passed on Mr. Towle's death. The annual meeting of the Newport Union School District was held Sat., March 1 with an attendance of something over 200 voters. The central point of interest was the question of what disposition should be made of the high school building left incomplete by the death of Loren D. Towle last September. -- Argus 7 March 1924.

**1924** -- Work on the Towle High School building has commenced after several months delay owing to the death of Mr. Towle. Plumbers started work Monday, the electricians are expected today and the lathers will be at work soon. It is hoped to have the building ready for occupancy at the opening of the school year in September. -- Argus, 28 Mar. 1924.

**1924** -- The last class graduates from Richards High School.

**1924** -- Ku Klux Klan organizers have been in town, but so far as learned have received very little encouragement. At least four businessmen have [been] reported as heading the movement, but these reports appear to have been started for the purpose of hurting the business of the men involved. Poor stuff, but probably harmless, unless people are more credulous than usual. -- Argus - 2 May 1924.

**1924** -- The foreman on the Towle High School received by telephone from New Bedford this morning, word of the sudden death of C. W. Kieth [sp?], general contractor on the building. Coming on top of other delays and misfortunes connected with the Towle school project, Mr. Kieth's death is almost stunning. The building has been progressing well, the last bit of plaster was applied this morning. -- Argus 1 August 1924.

**1925** -- The old Empire Theatre is being remodeled and put in condition for meetings where the Town Hall is too large and the Citizens Hall too small. When finished it will be used for dances, card parties, and other meetings of a similar nature. /// Carl T. Smith and a Boston construction force have installed a new automatic traffic signal at the Central Street railroad crossing. The old signal ... gave warning of the approach of trains by means of a gong and shifting lights. -- Argus 18 Feb. 1925

**1925** -- Town warrant -- To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen to appoint a Police Force in Newport and designate the hours of service. -- Argus 25 Feb. 1925.

**1925** -- High school students move from Richards building on School St. to Towle building on N. Main. First class from Towle graduates this year. [This is from a letter to the Argus in the April 1, 1927 issue from Odetta Flint Hardy of Henniker, a Towle High School graduate in 1926, and seems to contradict the Bicentennial Booklet notation at 1926 below.]

**1925** -- Republican Champion and N.H. Argus and Spectator merge to become Argus Champion.

**1925** -- Saturday, June 27 was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the best-remembered event in the history of Newport -- the visit of General the Marquis de Lafayette. It was on a Monday evening and the coming of the great Frenchman had been eagerly awaited all day. Everybody in town who could ride and get a horse joined the cavalcade which went to the Sunapee line to meet him. -- Argus 14 July 1925.

**1925** -- The entertainment at the Winter Street Hall Saturday night included the well-known operetta "The Castilian Rose" rendered in the Finnish language. -- Argus 14 July 1925.

**1925** -- The cry that "something must be done" for Newport's economic health was answered this week with one of the first comprehensive plans for bringing in new industry and additional visitors to the town that has been presented since the sale of the Gordon Woolen Mill. The plan was created by an every-day citizen of the town, Harry V. Spanos, in a letter to the Argus -- Argus 12 July 1950.

**1925** -- The heavy blasting heard the past few days is from the pit being dug for the Brampton Woolen Company's new water wheel. [Water power still being used.] -- Argus 27 July 1925.

[Argus of Nov. 3, 1925 mentions "The new Brampton penstock is progressing rapidly and appears to be in a fair way to reach completion this week."]

**1925** -- Bigotry? -- SUNAPEE -- Camping privileges were obtained from Victor Gregory by a well-dressed man for tourists from Florida. They proved to be gypsies and local officers ordered them to move. There were three big cars filled with people. -- Argus -- 2 Aug. 1925.

**1925** -- Newport headmaster J. A. Wiggin reports he now has in the High School 178 pupils, divided as follows: seniors 34, juniors 40; sophomores 44; and freshmen 60. This the largest number ever enrolled in the High School. //// When the pupils of the Towle High School came in the morning they found a new \$150 Victrola, an anonymous gift to the school. -- Argus 21 Sept. 1925. [Population of Newport in 1920 was 4,109; in 1998 the high school had 389 students. Notice the huge difference in 1925 between the number of freshmen (60) and seniors (34). The Victrola cost the equivalent of five weekly paychecks for mill workers.]

**1925** -- The Brampton Woolen Co.'s (in Newport) 200 hp turbine is being placed in the new powerhouse which spans the river at the site of the old dam. The penstock from the Gristmill Dam, which will supply water, remains to be constructed. /// Four arc lights have been erected on four 11-foot cast iron standards in front of the Towle High School building on N. Main St. -- Argus --8 Nov. 1925.

**1926** -- The Outing Club, with the cooperation of the water commissioners and superintendent, have made possible a long season for skating. As during the summer the town water was extended to the playground so that water can be used for the skating rink any time, requiring only a short piece of fire hose. -- Argus - 3 Jan. 1926

**1926** -- The W.H. McElwain shoe factory of the International Shoe Company, which has been operating on three and four days a week for six or seven weeks, has received orders enabling it to go on fulltime again. "We are now making 375 dozen pairs of shoes per day," said Superintendent Carl A. Chadwick. -- Argus 28 Feb. 1926. [see item at June 6 below.]

**1926** -- [Immigrant classes] Evening classes have gotten underway and the work is progressing satisfactorily. There has been much interest shown by those attending, and a helpful term is anticipated. At present enrollment is twenty-two, with several nations represented: Poland 5; Greece 8; Russia 2; Finland 7. The attendance is smaller this year due to the fact the students are paying for instruction. -- Argus 21 Mar. 1926.

**1926** -- Letter to the Editor from Billy B. Van -- "This is just a line of appreciation for the time in the March 5<sup>th</sup> issue of your valuable newspaper regarding the adoption of the name "The Sunshine Town" for Newport, N.H. It is up to the Board of Trade and the businessmen of a little town to take advantage of the enormous amount of publicity that they are receiving through the Broadcasting Campaign that I am now carrying on all over the United States." -- Argus 28 Mar. 1926.

**1926** -- [SCHOOL BUSSING BY TRAIN] -- Towle and Richards schools started Monday morning to begin their sessions at 7:45 o'clock and to close at 3 p.m. so that pupils from North Newport and Kellyville can make connections with the afternoon passenger train. -- Argus 25 April 1926.

**1926** -- Business at the McElwain plant of the international Shoe Co. is rushing at the present time. Over 500 persons being employed, which is the largest number for several months. -- Argus 6 June 1926. [See item above at 28 Feb. 1926.]

**1926** -- **Newport** -- Travel on the railroad has been quite heavy of late with people going on their summer vacations. The afternoon train from Claremont Saturday had 177 passengers huddled into one coach and two combination smokers. Monday afternoon the same conditions were prevailing on the gas electric train. [*What was the gas electric train?*] Argus - 15 Aug. 1926.

**1926** -- Winter fuel shortage. The state has been placed on a coal ration effective at once. Coal dealers can deliver to private residences not more than three tons of anthracite coal, must halt further delivery to persons who have part of their winter's supply in the bins, must refrain from delivering domestic sized anthracite to state municipal buildings, theaters, apartment houses, mercantile and manufacturing establishments where help is employed to tend the furnace. Action was taken, it was said, in view of the continued strike of anthracite coal miners and as a precautionary measure to insure wide and equitable distribution of such coal stocks as are now on hand. -- Argus 13 Oct. 1925

**1926** -- Towle High School is built. ( Towle became Towle Elementary School in 1995.) (Richards High School on School Street becomes Richards Junior High until 1956.) --

Bicentennial, p. 24.

**1926** -- The second excursion to Lake Sunapee from Boston occurred Sunday with 750 people partroning it. It took 12 coaches and three locomotives to haul the train from Concord to the lake. Many patronized the boats of the Woodsum Steamboat Co., while others enjoyed the scenery. -- Argus 5 Sept. 1926.

**1926** -- Henry W. Brown, owner of the Gordon Woolen Mills and a former resident of this town, purchased the plant of the Peerless Manufacturing Company at auction on Tuesday for the extremely low price of \$6,300. There were only about 100 people present at the opening and the bidding was far from spirited. The first offer being \$2,000 which was run up to the selling price, as above stated. Mr. A. Budnitz of this town bid up to \$6,250. -- Argus 1 Oct. 1926.

**1926** -- Newport American Legion members form Drum and Bugle Corps. [See 1978].

**1927** -- The LaSalettes, an order of Catholic priests, buy the Shaker village in Enfield, and investors buy the property in 1985. -- Brochure of Museum at Lower Shaker Village.

**1927** -- Billy B. Van opens Pine Tree Soap. In 1937, firm is liquidated. -- Historical Soc. Scrapbook III p. 45.

**1927** -- (NOTICE) WARNING, WHOOPING COUGH -- [sickness] It is against the law to allow children with whooping cough to go to public places or mingle with other children. Parents and those in charge of children should see that this law is not violated. -- Health officer. -- Argus 9 Feb. 1927

**1927** -- A heap of refuse about the size of an ordinary house marks the beginning of extensive changes at the Edes or Eagle Block. The second and third floors have been stripped, ready for rebuilding into two- to five-room apartments. -- Argus 6 April 1927.

**1927** -- The Concord Monitor devoted a whole page to Newport, "The Sunshine Town." -- Argus 27 April 1927.

**1927** -- Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Morrill of Beverly Hills, Calif., are registered at the Winston. They made the trip from their home by automobile in 16 days and traveled 3,405 miles on 195 gallons of gasoline. [Note: that is 17.46 mpg.] -- Argus 31 May 1927.

**1927** -- A fiery cross was brilliantly burning on Claremont Hill Friday evening. -- Argus 8 June 1927.

**1927** -- Edward J. Maley is having his six houses on Maple St. wired for electricity by Horn's Hardware Store. [NOTE: This is a long time since electricity came to town. The Newport Electric Light Co. was founded in 1892.] -- Argus 13 July 1927.

**1927** -- A total of 873 pupils are enrolled in the high and graded schools of Newport. In the high school there are 168 and in the Junior High 145. In the first grade and the fifth grade the enrollment was unusually large, 106 and 93 respectively. -- Argus 21 Sept. 1927.

**1928** -- The Newport Hellenic Society was founded in 1928 and dedicated to the moral, social and economic advancement of the Greek-American inhabitants of Newport. At the same time, ... without a church building of their own, the group utilized the Episcopal church with [a] neighborly Greek Orthodox priest officiating. -- Bicentennial, p. 15.

**1928** -- More than 75 people listened in on the Sharkey-Heeney fight over the radio in Lovell's Drug Store last Friday evening. -- Argus 19 Jan. 1928.

**1928** -- In Newport an automobile containing 28 cases of scotch, supposedly intended for the Hanover [Dartmouth College winter] carnival, was overhauled by federal officers here this week. The liquor was taken to Concord. -- Argus 23 Feb. 1928.

**1928** -- The American Legion minstrel show on Thursday and Friday proved a riot from start to finish. The Opera House was practically filled the first night, and the second performance played to a standing room only house. This made a total attendance of more than 1,500, more than have ever patronized any one show in the theatrical history of the town. -- Argus 1 March 1928.

**1928** -- Alterations are now under way whereby the municipal courtroom in the Richards Block, under the jurisdiction of Judge J. M. Shulins, will be ideal in every way. Already a railing has been constructed, within which there is a raised bar of justice for Judge Shulins, a large table for the attorneys and a witness chair. At the right of the door, as one enters, the desk of the chief of police will be situated and seating capacity for approximately 16 spectators provided. -- Argus 15 March 1928.

**1928** -- The new spring telephone directories were issued last week. The Newport list contains 611 subscribers. -- [The 1930 census records a Newport population of 4,659. If the town had 900 homes, then nearly 300 of them -- or one third -- did not have telephones.] Argus 29 Mar. 1928.

**1928** -- All the hotels in town have been doing a good business lately. The busiest of the lot, size considered, has been Chief Hasting's cozy establishment under the town hall [the jail] which puts up five to 15 wanderers every night. The second week in April was the chief's busiest week so far, a total of 52 men having been cared for. -- Argus 3 May 1928. [The stock market crash was months away, but already these "wanderers" -- unemployed men probably arriving in town by box car -- are evidence of a depression and of great unemployment.]

**1928** -- The Legion drum corps held its first outdoor rehearsal Friday evening at the playgrounds. It was the first time the three sections of the corps have tried playing

together. /// Saturday was a good spring day and business was brisk downtown. Parking was hard to find on Main Street Saturday night. -- Argus 10 May 1928.

**1928** -- The Hon. George A. Fairbanks has offered to make a gift of the Fairbanks Meadow, so called, to Newport for an airport, and to contribute the sum of \$500 toward the expense to putting it into condition for use as such. [Fairbanks meadow was the field bounded on the east by the Sugar River, and on the south by Elm St.] -- Argus 24 May 1928.

**1928** -- Proprietor William O. Childs has put hot water into five rooms at the Winston Hotel, completing all the rooms on the second floor. //// This year's high school graduating class numbers 32, which brings the total number of our high school graduates to 613. //// R. E. Gould has had two new private baths installed at the Newport House. - Argus 31 May 1928.

**1928** -- At an informal meeting of interested citizens at the Newport House Monday evening, the subject of an airport for Newport was discussed and the organization of an airport corporation considered. The offer of Mr. Fairbanks to donate his land along the Sugar River, know as Fairbanks Meadow, was commended. However, it seemed to be the general opinion that the Austin Corbin field at the junction of the Croydon and North Newport roads was better adapted for airport purposes. -- Argus 7 June 1928.

**1928** -- Hon. George E. Lewis, chief of the Newport Fire Department, on Aug. 4 completes 50 years of service with the department. -- Argus 26 July 1928.

**1928** Robert Fogg of Concord, New Hampshire's premier aviator, was in Newport last week and inspected the Austin Corbin field at the junction of the Croydon and North Newport roads at the request of citizens interested in establishing an airport in Newport. After a thorough inspection Mr. Fogg unqualifiedly endorsed the location. -- Argus 2 Aug. 1928.

**1928** -- Municipal garbage collection as ordered by the town at the March [town] meeting began yesterday. The selectmen have awarded Sid Gobin the collection contract which will be done once a week. [Note: In and for decades earlier the town did not have garbage collection. Did the Depression cause this service to be stopped?] -- Argus 16 August 1928.

**1928** -- On Sunday Capt. William F. Centner, a member of the Airport Division of the Aircraft Corps of Washington, D.C., made a visit to Newport to view the two tracts of land that have been considered for the Newport airport. Capt. Centner met Judge J. M. Barton, E.J. Hurley, agent for Austin Corbin, and Kenneth Andler, surveyor, and examined the Fairbanks meadow and the Corbin field. The Fairbanks field was first inspected and pronounced undesirable. Then they went to the Corbin site and Centner pronounced it most excellent for an airport. -- Argus 13 Sept. 1928.

**1928** -- BILLY'S DINER -- Opening soon opposite Coniston Theater. Day and Night Service for ladies and gentlemen. Newport. -- Argus 27 Sept. 1928.

**1929** -- The sixth real American Depression -- the Great Depression -- begins with the Stock Market Crash on Oct. 29. At its depth in 1933 sixteen million Americans -- 1/3 of the labor force -- were out of work. It ended in the 1940s with early defense spending in preparation for World War II.

**1929** -- [See 1978 for report on American Legion Drum Corps in Louisville, Ky.]

**1929** -- Colby Junior College -- Colby school at New London, which ceased to be a co-educational institution with the end of the last school year, today was approved by the University of New Hampshire and the state board of education as a junior college for girls. Colby is the first school in New Hampshire to be given this rank. By arrangement with several colleges, Colby graduates will be given advanced credit. -- Argus 14 Mar. 1929.

**1929** -- Radio fans were delightfully shocked Monday evening on account of the almost perfect reception from both the local and distant radio stations. On the whole, reception has been very poor for the entire winter. -- Argus 14 Mar. 1929.

**1929** -- Albert N. Parlin Field is opened. In 1930, the airfield is opened by Curtiss-Wright Corp. (Is taken over by town in 1939. See entry Mar. 4, 1937 for town meeting warrant. Did article fail in 1937?) -- Bicentennial, p. 8; Historical Soc. Scrapbook III, p. 41. /// A meeting was held recently and officers were elected for the Austin Corbin Airport, Inc. with Judge Jesse M. Barton as president, J.L. Young and George E. Lewis, vice-presidents, and William F. Sullivan, secretary, and articles of incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State. -- Argus 25 April 1929.

**1929** -- The new Sibley Scythe factory, [this was on the Sugar River in North Newport and operated by water power] replacing the one destroyed by fire last December, is now completed and manufacturing will begin right away. -- Argus 9 May 1929.

**1929** -- In appreciation of a very generous contribution from Susanne H. Parlin, and in fitting recognition of the public spirited career of her late husband, the directors changed the name of Newport's airport to The Albert N. Parlin Field. Mr. Parlin was a life-long friend of the elder Austin Corbin, and the fact that Newport's aviation field is located on the Austin Corbin property is of no little significance in this connection. Mr. Parlin first met Mr. Corbin in negotiations over a western railroad of which the former was president, and they spent many weekends together, both here and in New York. Both were fond of hunting and fishing, and Mr. Parlin was persuaded by Mr. Corbin to buy a deserted farm in Croydon and make it over into a club where he could entertain his friends. -- Argus 13 June 1929.

**1929** -- The NEWPORT sign on the roof of the Gordon Mill for the guidance of aviators has been completed. The word NEWPORT has been spelled out on a sign ten feet high and 114 feet long with an arrow pointing north. When the Albert N. Parlin field is ready for use, another arrow will be placed on the sign pointing to the airport. -- Argus 20

June 1929.

**1929** -- On Monday the Boston and Maine bus started its daily trips between Concord and Newport. -- Argus 27 June 1929.

**1930** -- **Population: 4,659** [ **Population of the state is 465,293, up 5%.**] ( *NOTE:* The Argus of May 11, 1930, reported: "The population of Newport, according to the preliminary count given out by Frederick I. Blackwood, supervisor of the census, is 4,651, a gain of 542 over the total in 1920, which was 4,109. There were 101 incidental farms and 169 general farms enumerated in this area." [I do not know the meaning of incidental or general. Or of this area. But in 2005, only one working farm remained in the Town of Newport. That is the McDonough farm on McDonough Road near the Claremont line which has been farmed by McDonoughs since 1780.]

**1930** -- **Sidebar** -- *Life Exectancy*"

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 58 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 61 years. -- National Center for Health Statistics*

**1930** -- The New Year in Newport opens as far as industries are concerned under favorable auspices. The International Shoe Co. is opening full time. It has been having difficulty in securing sufficient help. The Gordon Woolen Co. is running with over 200 on the payroll. The Dorr Woolen Co. has 275 on its payroll. The Pine Tree Products Co. doubled its output of the year before. [See Oct. 29, 1929 above.] -- Argus 2 Jan. 1930.

**1930** -- Spryos Condos has purchase a new International coach bus to add to his service. It is the latest model, with air cushions and up-to-date appointments, and will seat 15 passengers. --Argus 6 Feb. 1930

**1930** -- NORTH NEWPORT -- For a number of years it has been a custom to give a commmunity gift to our boys and girls who graduated from high school. This year we have two boys in the class, Jack Harding and Philip Conroy, and the gift to each was \$10 in gold. [**Note:** Apparently completion of a high school education was still rare enough to be encouraged.] -- Argus 19 June 1930.

**1930** -- The 1930 reunion of the Alumni Association of the Newport High School was held last Thursday evening at the Newport House. About 155 graduates and husbands and wives of graduates were present. This is the 45<sup>th</sup> year the association has met. [This means that the association was formed in 1885.] -- Argus 26 June 1930.

**1930** -- The reconstruction of the old road around Claremont Hill has been started. When completed it will be the main highway, to relieve traffic from the present route over Claremont Hill. [Elm St. ?] This will be a great advantage to motorists , especially in the winter, as the hill is very dangerous in icy and snowy weather. -- Argus 14 Aug. 1930.

**1930** -- The Information Booth is built on the Common at a cost of \$1,000 by the



Newport Board of Trade, the forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce. -- Newport Town Times, p. 5, Vol. 11, Fall, 1997.

**1930** -- A Sullivan County deputy sheriff has got himself into trouble doing his official duty. James W. Davidson of Charlestown was ordered by Frank W. Hamlin, court judge, to remove to Springfield, Vt., their former homes, Fannie E. Nash and her four children, alleged to be paupers. This action was in accordance with the New Hampshire statutes. Deputy Davidson took the family to Springfield, and upon arrival was arrested under a Vermont law which provides that anyone bringing into Vermont a person with no means of support with the intent to burden the town with the person's maintenance shall be subject to arrest. -- Argus 25 Sept. 1930.

[See "Warning Out" of paupers in *The Hanging of Ephraim Wheeler* by Richard and Irene Brown, Harvard University Press, 2003. This micro history of the trial and execution of a Mass. man in 1806 frequently mentions the warning system that paupers were subject to if they could not support themselves. In this 1930 entry about a Sullivan County sheriff, the same attitude remains after 124 years. This was in the second year of The Depression.]

**1930** -- Newport is to have a new industry. The P.M. Walker Co., makers of skewers, dowels and candy sticks, whose plant at North Newry, Maine, was recently destroyed by fire, has formed an alliance with the Nutting Co. at North Newport and will continue the manufacture of its products under the name of Walker-Nutting Novelty Company, in the Nutting Company Plant. -- Argus -- 23 Oct. 1930.

**1930** -- NORTH NEWPORT – The new covering of corrugated steel roofing is being laid on the old covered bridge near the Scythe factory. -- Argus 6 Nov. 1930.

**1931** -- ADVERTISEMENT -- "Economy Month, Jan. 1 to Feb. 1; Bert's Lunch, 14 Central St. Newport. In order to do our bit to relieve the hard times, we offer the following: Full course dinners – 35 cents and 45 cents. Full course suppers – 35, 45 and 60 cents. Newport's only eating place that can give you broiled steaks or chops from our gas broiler – at no additional cost." -- Argus 1 Jan. 1931. [The Stock Market Crash clearly had reached Newport at this time. That year the nation's mill workers earned an average of \$23 a week, or about 56 cents an hour; public school teachers were paid an average of \$1,417 a year; lawyers earned an average of \$5,090 annually; physicians, \$4,178.]

**1931** -- Elmer E. Dodge, as Overseer of the Poor for the town of Newport, wishes to state his appreciation to Mr. Austin Corbin of New York City and Newport for his generous donation of the meat from one buffalo, two deer and two elk, amounting to nearly a ton, for the use of needy persons in Newport. Mr. Dodge will see that the supply goes to families who need it most. -- Argus 15 Jan. 1931.

**1931** -- The menu for hot lunches served in the Richards and primary schools during the last two weeks is as follows: Scalloped corn, scalloped potatoes, beef stew, cocoa, baked beans, creamed tomato soup, American chop suey, corn chowder. These lunches, as has

been the custom for some years, are prepared by the students of the domestic arts courses in junior and senior high school, as part of their required work in cooking. They are sold at 4 cents per serving. The vegetables used were canned last fall by these pupils. --

Argus 29 Jan. 1931.

**1931** -- Throw the efforts of state Rep. J. R. Rowell, the golf club will receive several pine trees from state nurseries, which will be planted on club property. -- Argus 30 April 1931.

**1931** -- "If anyone informed you that business conditions in Newport are still bad and that the town is suffering from the depression so widespread through this country and Europe, tell that person to visit the local factory of the International Shoe Co., where under the efficient management of Supt. C. E. Jennings, over seven hundred busy employees are earning a weekly payroll of over \$13,000." -- Argus 30 July 1931 [That's an average of \$18.57 a week; or 46 cents an hour for a 40-hour week.]

**1931** -- NOTICE -- My wife, Ruth Hall, having left my bed and board, I refuse to pay all bills guaranteed by her after this date. Leon A. Hall. -- Newport, N.H. July 27, 1931. // With two of the leading textile manufacturing establishments running day and night shifts, and with fall orders beginning to appear in some of the smaller concerns, business conditions in the industry seem to be on the upward trend in Newport. At the Gordon Woolen Company mill over 275 persons are employed in two shifts. The Brampton Woolen Company, which has mills in Newport and Sunapee, is also working day and night shifts with over 200 employees on its payroll. -- Argus, 13 August, 1931.

**1931** -- The game in Blue Mountain Forest, or Corbin Park, as it is more popularly known, is rapidly increasing, and the directors of the Club will probably have to dispose of some of the elk in the near future. This park, which is the largest fenced-in game preserve in America, contains 20 buffalo, between 200 and 300 elk, more than 500 deer and 500 wild boar. -- Argus 20 August 1931.

**1931** -- In New London on Nov. 10 Edmunds' IGA store and Sargent's Nation Wide store will become strictly cash. (*Does this mean that before this time local stores offered charge accounts to most customers, and that cash purchases were unusual?*) /// In Mount Sunapee James Wright is putting in electric lights. (*Is this somewhat late?*) Argus 5 Nov. 1931.

**1932** -- Sabbath Day regulations in Town Warrant: No dancing, horse racing, prize-fighting, etc. Unknown if these regulations were passed. /// Citizens pack town hall for tax reduction. 1000 voters attend. [Town was then in third year of Depression.] -- Argus 18 Feb. 1932.

**1932** -- 21st Amendment, ending Prohibition, is ratified.

**1934** -- Newport Clothing Mfg. Co. begins in factory on Ash street, then later moves to 66 Spring St. to Billy B. Van's dairy barn. Newport Clothing to become "manufacturer of

high class clothing to be distributed all over country." -- Historical Soc. Scrapbook I, p.45; Bicentennial p. 63.

**1935** -- Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. goes bankrupt; mills close. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1935** -- Post Office is built on Common for \$38,700 -- Bicentennial p. 27 & H. Soc. Scrapbook I, p.46. /// State liquor store opens --- Argus - 4 July 1935 /// Social Security Act passed by Congress.

**1935** -- An Emergency Relief Administration project will "provide many hours of work for five certified men" in painting interior of Richards Free Library and other jobs. - (This was the sixth year of the Depression.) -- Argus 28 Feb. 1935.

**1936** -- Town adopts first zoning ordinance on Nov. 18, 1936.

**1936** -- WPA projects under way include the construction of Armory on Belknap avenue. Also planned are a historical survey, bug-destroying project, road project and work on a playground. -- NHS Scrap. II p. 121.

**1936** -- Democrats control town government first time in 50 years. -- NHS Scrap II p.129.

**1936** -- Headlines: Flood Waters Stop Traffic into Newport...Deluge of Rain Swell Rivers...Railroad Tracks Washed Out...Train and Mail Service Largely Cut Off...Bridges in Danger...Lowlands Inundated. -- Mar. 19, 1936 - NHS Scrap II p. 129.

**1936** -- At the airport, Grover Gillingham, a local mechanic and aviator, fractures skull when a propeller being cranked kicks over and strikes him. -- Mar. 3, 1936 - NHS Scrap II p. 136.

**1936** -- 400 Greeks attend picnic held at Birch Grove on Lake Sunapee for benefit of Newport Greek School. -- 16 July 1936 - NHS Scrap II p. 100.

**1936** -- A mile of cotton road in Washington is in use. (This was a section of a few miles on Rte. 31, beginning at the Goshen-Washington town line, where the federal government mixed cotton fibers with road oil in an experiment to see if such a mixture would alleviate frost heaves and potholes.) -- Argus -30 July 1936.

**1937** -- Article 15 in the Town Warrant: To see what action the town will take with respect to acquiring the property of Albert N. Parlin Field Inc., and operating the same as a municipal airport and pass any vote in relation thereto. This is likely to provoke much debate. -- Argus Champion - 2 March 1937.

**1937** -- At the annual school meeting Saturday, with a record-breaking attendance, the plan for the proposed additions and remodeling to the Richards School Building was

defeated by a large majority, following a spirited discussion. -- Argus - 11 Mar. 1937.

**1937** -- Twenty-six buffalo, of all ages, from the one born last fall to full-grown ones, are now included in the herd at Corbin Park. -- Argus 22 April 1937.

**1937** -- Pine Tree Products Inc. (Billy B. Van) is liquidated. -- Hist. Soc. Scrap. III, p. 45.

**1937** -- The new armory on Belknap Avenue, which has been in the process of construction for some time, is now nearly completed and within a month or two will be ready for occupancy. [from As We Were 10 Years Ago June 3, 1987, from As We Were June 4, 1997.] -- The National Guard Armory on Belknap Avenue, under construction since March, 1936, as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project, was turned over to Adjutant General Charles W. Howard last week and on Monday evening, June 28 was occupied by the Headquarters Detachment of New Hampshire's 197th Coast Artillery (AA). -- from As You Were in Argus 2 July 1997.

**1937** -- Brampton mill fire is spectacular. Store house filled with new wool and rayon goes up in smoke, causing large loss. Blaze started by children playing with matches. -- Argus 1 July 1937.

**1937** -- A 12-passenger tri-motored cabin plane, the largest ever to land at Parlin Field, arrives from Boston. /// Richard Thompson, a nephew of George Aiken of Bradford Hill, secured a passport for Brazil, where he was supposed to have a position on a coffee plantation and then went to Spain where he is reported to have joined the Loyalist (Communist) army in the Spanish Civil War. In 1938 he is captured by Franco's rebels and is expected to be sent home. -- Argus 15 July 1937. (See also Argus 7 April 1938, where he is called "Newport flier.")

**1937** -- Electricity to Grantham..."Tuesday...current was turned on for...those living before John Colburn's. As soon as a few minor items can be obtained it will go to North Grantham as far as Monroe Hastings'." -- Argus 22 July 1937.

**1937** -- "A goodly number of local dancers enjoyed the Saturday evening dance at the new armory. Music by Yacht Club orchestra." -- Argus - 14 Oct. 1937. The armory was dedicated Sept. 15. -- Argus 26 Aug. 1937.

**1937** -- A night school is being held at the home of Mr. Andrus, 171 Cheney St., for clerks and shop workers, called Evening Business Training School and already has about 20 enrolled. -- Argus - 23 Sept. 1937.

**1937** -- Representatives of a slipper manufacturing concern inspected the former Kimel Shoe factory (Peerless) on Ash street with the idea of buying. A manufacturer of small garments has also sent representatives here. -- Argus 14 Oct. 1937

**1938** -- The Works Progress Administration (WPA) establishes an office here. -- Hist.

Soc. Scrap. V, p.2.

**1938** -- In North Newport, "the Rixford Co. has begun to make scythes at the local factory and the hum of the business is a welcome sound." -- Argus 3 Feb. 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrap. V, p. 52.

**1938** -- Woolen Mill Strike Averted. "The dispute over a 12 and one-half percent wage cut at the three local woolen mills, which had been in progress since Thursday morning of last week, came to a satisfactory conclusion. .... The agreement in general stated the mill would reopen for 30 days without decrease in payment. -- Argus Mar. 10, 1938. [Interview with George A. Dorr, Jr.: The textile mill management in Newport mills got together to make a cut in wages. Then a union organizer came into town to organize workers into a union and he threatened a strike if the wage cuts were not restored. They were restored, and later the mills were unionized.]

**1938** -- Concert held on Common, first in several years, held by newly-formed Cadet Band under direction of Malcolm W. Rowell. -- Argus 7 July 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook V, p. 21.

**1938** -- New pews installed at St. Patrick's Church. In 1938, St. Patrick's is enlarged, remodeled, renovated and rededicated. -- Argus 7 July 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrap V, p.21; Hist. of St. Patrick Church - 75th Anniv. 1902-1977.

**1938** -- The long tie-up of the Newport woolen mills was broken this week when several departments resumed operations. (This may have been a strike). -- [See Argus Mar. 10, 1938 above] Argus 11 Aug. 1938. Hist. Soc. Scrap. V, p. 20.

**1938** -- The federal relief administration distributes potatoes, preserves, lettuce and meat from headquarters in Korn Alley. (Great Depression is still in effect.) Korn Alley, (in 1996 owned by Lake Sunapee Bank) was one-way street between Richards block and Gamash block on Main street and led to Rowell's Building Supply, now torn down, and American Express shed and south side of Depot Square. -- Argus 18 Aug. 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrap. V, p. 20.

**1938** -- Construction work on the Newport-Claremont highway is completed and the surfacing will be finished this week. -- Argus 25 Aug. 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook V, p. 14.

**1938** -- Alexander M. Blackburn Jr. becomes publisher of the weekly Argus-Champion. -- 29 Sept. 1938; Hist. Soc. Scrap. V, p. 4.

**1938** -- The New England hurricane strikes Newport on Sept. 21, flooding even the airport. -- Argus 29 Sept. 1938; Bicentennial p. 8. [Damage in the state is \$50 million.]

**1939** -- Parlin Field (Newport's airport), buys the land it occupies from the estate of Austin Corbin. The field had leased the land since 1929. -- Argus p. 7, Oct. 18, 2000.

[refers to article, From Trains to Planes, the History of Aviation in Newport, by Kenneth Andler.

**1940 Population: 5,301. [Population of state of N.H. is 491,524, up 5.6%]**  
 -- wages for labor on town roads in Springfield, N.H. are 50 cents an hour; for trucks, \$1 an hour.

**1940 -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy:***

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 62 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 66 years. -- National Center for Health Statistics*

**1940 -- "Cement sidewalks are being built on Cedar street this week by the WPA." -- Argus, As We Were, p. 18, 5 Sept. 90.**

**1940 -- Headline: Push work on W.P.A. projects: New cement sidewalks on Cheney Street and new road on Pine Street give 40 men employment: to continue indefinitely. -- from As We Were - 50 Years Ago, 1940 in As We Were on p. 32, Argus 26 July 2000.**

**1940 -- Headquarters Battery and Combat Train, 2nd Battalion, 197th Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) (National Guard) called to active duty for one year. Chamber of Commerce plans community reception for them before they leave. -- Argus - Sept. 16, 1940. Following is from Argus 28 May 1997, p. 9, a box included with Memorial Day story: Roster of men who served in Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion 197th C.A. (Coast Artillery) A.A. (AntiAircraft) during World War II. Most are from the Newport area. (Names in italics indicate those who are deceased.) Ray Ackerman, Harold Aiken, Henry N. Allen, Donald Bagley, Chester T. Barton, Frank A. Beauchaine, Lawrence C. Bellinger, James H. Brady, Arthur Breault, R. C. Brown, Walter Burke, John Chartier, Edward B. Cheever, George D. Clark, Russell A. Colby, Harry B. Cole, Robert Corliss, Larry Couitt, Leo R. Dahill, Norman R. Delude, William Douglass, Samuel H. Edes, Freeman R. Farewell, Frank Farmer, Charles P. Flanagan, James Flanagan, Owen R. Forrest, Jr., Lloyd E. Freeman, Oliver T. Gladhue, Charles R. Gould, Robert E. Gould, Robert Gould, Eugene J. Goyette Jr., Leonard A. Granger, Donald C. Hall, Rolland Hall, Christy Hasevlat, John P. Heath, Norman Heidenblad, Leo Henault, Donald Hurd, Winston H. Hurd, Oscar Jansen, James Justras, Leonard Kanerva, Richard Larkin, Albert P. Leavitt, Arthur C. Leavitt, Raymond S. Lewis, Elmer O. Lilja, Charles W. MacDonald, Fred Maxfield, Clifton Merchant, William B. Muzzey, John Oliver, Richard Parker, John F. Patten, Arnold Peltonen, Walter C. Piotrowski, Leonard Powers, Richard Ruggles, John Schweitzer, Joseph Sears, Harold P. Shepherd, Adam Smith, Clayton H. Smith, Felix J. Smith, Harold Smith, Leroy Ervin Smith Jr., George C. Stevens, Aubrey Stone, Norman Trudeau, Frank C. Walters, Jim Wright, Richard Wright, and Clyde Young. -0-**

**1940 -- Headline: Bells Ring Out Farewell as Newport Draftees Entrain for Camp Duty. Francis D. Nason, Frederick Dubeil and Clarence Roberts First to go from District No. 10; Begin Year's Service at Camp Devens. /// Joining a national association for Greek war relief, 24 Newport Greek citizens met at the Greek school under the Sunshine Spa on**

Sunapee street last Sunday afternoon and in less than an hour pledged among themselves \$350 for the cause. -- Argus - 21 Nov. 1940.

**1940** -- Final 1940 census figures give Newport a population of 5,304, slightly higher than last summer's figures. Sullivan County population is 25,442. /// A program celebrating the anniversary of Finnish Independence was held at Winter Street Hall Saturday evening. /// Newbury: Surveyors have completed the preliminary work on the survey of the tramway on Sunapee mountain. [Sunapee State Park] -- Argus - 12 Dec. 1940.

**1940** -- The second earthquake within a week in Newport occurred Tuesday morning about 8:45 o'clock, and although shorter in duration than last Friday's is reported to have cracked a plate glass window at Bill My Barber's barber shop on Sunapee Street. /// Tuesday was a happy day for 20 local men who last fall left Newport as members of Hq. Battery and Combat Train, 2nd Battalion, 197th Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) to serve a year in the federal service. The boys, now stationed at Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas, arrived back home that day, tired but happy and glad once more to meet old friends. They had left camp last Saturday morning, riding in day coaches on the 2,000-mile journey and arrived in Boston early Tuesday morning, several hours behind schedule. -- Argus - 26 Dec. 1940.

## **WORLD WAR II**

**War begins Dec. 7, 1941 when Japanese aircraft attack Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.**

**Germany surrenders May 7, 1945; Japan on August 14, 1945**

**1941-1945 -- 701 Newport residents serve in World War II. 26 die in service.**  
-- **Source: - Andrew L. Andrews, American Legion.**

**1941** -- Large herds of elk, migrating back and forth through the towns of Washington, Goshen, Unity, Lempster and Marlow, have often been seen by motorists and woodchoppers in those sections while residents of those towns have reported that the elk have fed off hay and other foods in their back yards. [Elk escaped from Corbin park when 1938 hurricane broke down fence around park.] -- Argus - 20 Feb. 1941.

**1941** -- **HEADLINE: New Draftees Ready for Camp; Fifty men from Towns in District 10 including 10 from Newport, Leave for a Year of Training Monday Morning by Train.**  
-- Argus - 20 Mar. 1941.

**1941** -- The local Greek War Relief committee has announced that a total of \$1,115 has been collected in town and that, to date, \$1,000 has been sent to the main office through the Keene Region office. -- Argus - 17 April 1941.

**1941** -- Through the agency of the American League for Finnish War Orphans, and as a result of a contribution of \$50 for its support, the Finnish people of Newport have adopted a Finnish War orphan. His name is Karl Marcus Karjlainen, he is five years old and in the care of his widowed mother at 4 Pekantie St., Lappeenrate, Finland. -- Argus -

24 April 1941.

**1941** -- For the first time in many years, Newport will observe Memorial Day tomorrow without its National Guard unit as these men are now in federal service for a year's training at Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas. /// The Merchants' Association agrees to keep stores open Wednesday afternoons during the summer months to accommodate the seasonal trade. -- Argus - 19 May 1941.

**1941** -- The reconstruction of the new road at the south end of town from the Wright barn to the old Red Schoolhouse which has been under construction ever since last fall, is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. (This is Route 10, or the Goshen Road, from its junction with Breakneck Hill Road south to Pollards Mills Road.) -- Argus - 5 June 1941.

**1941** -- Plans were made to purchase property adjoining land owned by the Carrie F. Wright hospital ( on north side of Maple St.) for a nurses' home at a meeting of the Hospital Aid Association Wednesday afternoon. /// The new heating system at the Town Hall, which was voted at the last town meeting, is now being installed by F. E. Newcomb. -- Argus - 12 June 1941.

**1941** -- Fifty-four seniors graduated from Towle High School. -- Argus - 19 June-1941.

**1941** -- In North Newport work on the R.E.A. (Rural Electrification Administration) line is nearly completed. The current was turned on Tuesday at Whitney's, and other subscribers along the line hope to have power by the end of this week. (This late for electricity to North Newport!) -- Argus -- 21 Aug. 1941.

**1941** -- The Gordon Woolen Company has purchased the Peerless factory on Ash St. from the Homestead Woolen Co. of West Swanzey to use the building for storage and investment. -- Argus- 4 Sept. 1941.

**1941** -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the president, passed through Newport on her way to New London Saturday where she addressed a group at Colby Junior College Saturday evening. It is understood that she stopped on Elm Street to inquire the way to New London. She reviewed the national defense situation as a whole in her talk and laid special stress on the part women can play in the set-up. -- Argus 22 Oct. 1941

**1941** -- The Newport mill of the Gordon Woolen Co. has received its second government order for wool linings for army clothing, it has been announced by the OPM office in Boston. -- Argus 22 Oct. 1941.

**1941** -- New Hampshire's first open season on elk starts Dec. 16 and continues to Jan. 1, unless 125 elk have been shot before that time. (These were Corbin park escapees during 1938 hurricane.) -- Argus - 30 Oct. 1941.

**1941** -- The fact that Newport and the country in general were shocked last Sunday



afternoon to hear the news that Japan had bombed Hawaii and other United States defense bases in the Pacific Ocean, was bad enough in itself, but when it is realized that several Newport people and others from the surrounding towns were actually in the war zone, the war was brought directly into our homes. -- Argus 11 Dec. 1941.

**1941** -- Newport as a community will go on the air for the first time in its history on Friday evening Jan. 16, 1942, the day that officially opens the 26th Winter Carnival here. Arrangements have been made and completed through the generosity of Ex-Gov. Francis P. Murphy of Nashua, a former resident of this town, who was active in promoting Newport's first carnival. The program will go out over the air from 9 to 9:30 o'clock that evening over radio station WMUR, Manchester, and will be broadcast direct from the Town Hall. -- Argus 25 Dec. 1941.

**1942** -- Although there is no uniform rationing of sugar among the storekeepers of the town, most of the stores have curtailed the sale of sugar, allowing so much sugar with each \$1 purchase of groceries; others allowing so much sugar on the size of the family purchasing the sugar. -- Argus 15 Jan. 1942.

**1942** -- The first air raid drill in the local schools was held this morning just before noon dismissal and according to Superintendent of Schools Alfred W. Smith, was very successful. -- Argus - 29 Jan. 1942.

**1942** -- The public is reminded to set the hands of all clocks ahead one hour upon retiring Sunday night. Daylight saving time officially begins Monday morning Feb. 9. -- Argus 5 Feb. 1942.

**1942** -- The Fifth Company, New Hampshire State Guard, with headquarters in the local armory on Belknap avenue, has begun weekly drills, to be held each Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock. -- Argus 19 Feb. 1942.

**1942** -- George B. Wheeler who died Sunday, left large bequests, valued in excess of \$100,000, to worthy philanthropies, chief among which were the Carrie F. Wright Hospital, the Newport School District and the Newport Charitable Association which operates the Newport Home for Aged Women. -- Argus 5 Mar. 1942.

**1942** -- A one-story brick addition is being added to the dye house at Dorr Woolen Co. mill in Guild, and the entire dye house is being renovated, which will permit the rearrangement of machinery and the installation of some new equipment. -- Argus 5 Mar. 1942.

**1942** -- The first war-time draft lottery since World War I, which was held in Washington, D.C. Tuesday night, listed more than nine million men for possible service in the armed forces of the nation. The first number to affect Newport was T1103, that of Everett Carl Morrow of 65 Church St. Mr. Morrow is married and working in Springfield, Vt. -- Argus 19 Mar. 1942.

**1942** -- John R. Kelly, the progressive druggist, is contributing a public service when he warns the public that they must bring in old empty tubes when purchasing tooth paste or shaving cream. Mr. Kelly acts as a shipping depot for the war board. -- Argus 2 April 1942.

**1942** -- Employees of the Brampton Woolen Mill will cast ballots at the Town Hall this Thursday to determine the bargaining agency to represent them at the mill. Workers have three choices: the Independent Textile Workers Association, the CIO, or no union. -- Argus 16 April 1942.

**1942** -- The first of a series of wood-chopping bees, to be held at frequent intervals, was held Saturday at the woodlot of Fred Moore (the sexton) by members of the South Congregational Church and over three cords of the needed twenty was cut for use in the church next winter. (Apparently the church did not then have oil burners. Stoves, or woodburning furnace?) -- Argus 23 April 1942.

**1942** -- A "meal ticket" system of gasoline rationing with average motorists allowed from two and one-half to five gallons a week, will be instituted by the government in 17 eastern states and the D.C., it was disclosed today. Sugar rationing for both the trade and the consumer will be held in the near future. -- Argus 23 April 1942.

**1942** -- The recent fall of Corregidor (in the Philippines) brought the war very close to home for the residents of New London. A native son, Lt. Burt C. Gay, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. E. Gay, is believed to be among those taken prisoner there by the Japs. -- Argus 14 May 1942.

//// Fifty-six air raid wardens took the oath of allegiance and were fingerprinted at the fire station.

**1942** -- The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co., which has been located in the Emerson Block for several years, has moved to its new location at No. 20 North Main Street in the building owned and formerly occupied by Harold G. Fairbanks, which has been thoroughly remodeled into one of the newest, modern self-service stores in New England and will be known as the A & P Super Self Service Store. -- Argus 28 May 1942.

**1942** -- Newport's first war casualty. Parents of Frank M. Farmer, Jr., were notified that their son had been killed by a bullet May 19, while in action somewhere in the Far East. -- Argus 28 May 1942.

**1942** -- Monday and Tuesday 119 "Minute Men" secured pledges for the purchase of War Savings Bonds from hundreds of signers. Last week pledges were signed at the woolen mills by over 500 employees. Most of these are buying bonds on a payroll allotment plan. -- Argus 25 June 1942.

**1942** -- The newly renovated First National Self-Service store opened yesterday in the Emerson Block. /// The new road around Claremont Hill will be open to the public next week. -- Argus 2 July 1942.

**1942** -- The following barber shops have joined the CIO union: L. Kempton, Coniston, Delaney, Douglas and Zahareas. Prices will be regulated. -- Argus 2 July 1942.

**1942** -- Headline: Newport Merchants Make Great Record in War Stamp Drive. More than \$6,200 sold in Six-Hour Canvass. -- Argus 9 July 1942.

**1942** -- In the wartime drive for old rubber, Grantham, Springfield and Croydon turned in 10,454 pounds to Wilfred Reney. -- Argus 16 July 1942.

**1942** -- Chief Justice of the United States Harlan F. Stone of Washington, D.C. is a guest of Mrs. Marshall Stone at her Burkehaven (Sunapee) home. -- Argus 16 July 1942.

**1942** -- President Roosevelt last week re-appointed Robert W. Gould for a third term as postmaster of Newport. -- Argus 23 July 1942.

**1942** -- Women on telephone duty at the civilian defense control center were fingerprinted Friday evening by Police Chief Merton J. Sargent. The Claude J. Brewster Post No. 25, American Legion, which has been sponsoring a drive for old and worn records for the boys in the Armed Forces, reached its goal of 2,975 records which were sent to headquarters last week. -- Argus 20 Aug. 1942.

**1942** -- A state-wide blackout in which Newport participated was staged Thursday evening with a good record. All branches of the town's defense and safety organizations participated and much improvement was shown over the previous blackout. -- Argus 3 Sept. 1942.

**1942** -- The North Newport school is staying open this year with an enrollment of only 11 pupils, and Guild has 19. Kelleyville opened with 18 pupils. -- Argus 10 Sept. 1942.

**1942** -- North Newport Listening Post to detect enemy aircraft is manned 24 hours a day. 144 local volunteers make this possible. -- Argus 17 Oct. 1942; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III p. 73.

**1942** -- Peter D. Latchis of Keene, owner of theaters and hotels, has bought, for \$25,000, the Newport House in mortgagee's sale from Newport Savings Bank. Paid \$2,500 for furnishings. -- Argus 22 Oct. 1942.

**1942** -- Coffee will be rationed starting at midnight Nov. 28 at the rate of one pound every five weeks for each person over 15 years old. -- Argus 19 Oct. 1942.

**1942** -- This year the no-school signal will be given by means of the fire-whistle only. - Argus 19 Nov. 1942.

**1942** -- One of the most disastrous fires, which has occurred in this town for several years, materialized Friday morning Nov. 27 when an alarm was rung in from Box 47 at

7:15 o'clock just as a contingent of draftees was being escorted to the railroad station accompanied by the High School Band, for a fire in the brick block of Cleon L. Johnson on Main street. (In 1996 this was Sierra Photo.) The fire gutted the recently remodeled building and destroyed a large Christmas stock. -- Argus 3 Dec. 1942.

**1943** -- Settlement of an unauthorized strike in the weave room of the Brampton Woolen Mill was reached this week. -- Argus 15 April 1943.

**1943** -- An adjourned town meeting will be held May 11 to discuss a surface sewerage system from the Common down Pearl street to Sugar River, and the acquisition of the real estate of the Rev. T. Corwin Watkins in Newport for a public park. -- Argus 29 April 1943.

**1943** -- Headline: County Goes Over the Top for War Bonds. Newport was host over the weekend to 27 enlisted men and Lt. James MacAllister from Grenier Field in Manchester. They were welcomed by the Newport band under the direction of Malcolm W. Rowell. People lined the streets as the boys paraded into the Winston Hotel. -- Victory gardens are being organized throughout Newport including a junior school victory corp comprising students in Grades 1 to 6. -- Argus 6 May 1943.

**1943** -- The state's 38 liquor stores went on a rationing basis this week, with purchases limited to not more than two quarts of liquor or not more than one gallon of wine per day. [per day?] -- Argus 13 May 1943.

**1943** -- Word has been received that Mrs. George Miller, the former Hope Johnson of this town [Sunapee?] , has been interned by the Japanese in the Santo Tomas Prison camp in Manila, Philippine Islands. -- Argus 20 May 1943.

**1943** -- Chester E. Pollard brought to the Argus this week a strip of birch bark that had been used for sheathing his house in Pollards Mills district some 200 years ago. [Hardly. The first settlers came in 1766.] The Pollard house is believed to be one of the two oldest houses in town, the other being the Magown house on the Unity Road. -- Argus 20 May 1943.

**1943** -- A most successful surprise blackout was carried out last night with very few minor violations. /// The figures on Newport's Service Flag is now 470 with more leaving for the armed services every day. Of this number Newport is proud to reveal the fact that 40 are commissioned officers. Two lieutenant colonels, Raymond Kendall and Raymond Gunn; six majors, Samuel Edes, Guy Gilman, Leslie Pike, Ronald Pariseau, Richard Kelly and Chester Barton; nine captains, Harold Shepard, Addison Roe, Joseph Budnitz, Edward Budnitz, Felix Smith, Arthur Thibodeau, Guy Alexander, Thomas Alexander, and Adelbert Teague, and one lieutenant commander in the Navy, Norman Gage. -- Argus 3 June 1943.

**1943** -- A large congregation of more than 200 wives, relatives, friends and sweethearts filled the pews of the South Church Sunday when the service flag, representing 55 men

and two gold stars, was dedicated. -- Argus 15 July 1943. [Gold stars indicated dead service men.]

**1943** -- The second statewide blackout surprise was held last night and lasted an hour and a half. The Army reported that two flights of bombers passed over the area to test the alertness of Civilian Defense workers. -- Argus 22 July 1943.

**1943** -- Headline: Statewide Blackout Proves a Success in the Newport Area. All War Plants Blacked Out for the First Time. /// At a special meeting the Newport School District voted to authorize the School Board to sell the securities, real estate and personal property received from the estate of the late George B. Wheeler and to re-invest the proceeds in investments legal for savings banks in New Hampshire. The bequest left to the school district for a building valued at approximately \$150,000, including a half interest with Carrie F. Wright Hospital in the Wheeler business block and the Wheeler homestead on Main Street. -- Argus 30 Sept. 1943.

**1943** -- The trustees of the Carrie F. Wright Hospital and the Newport School Board have accepted the offer of the Socony Vacuum Oil Co. to purchase the Wheeler homestead at the northwest corner of Main and Elm Streets for \$12,000. The property includes one of the older, more attractive brick colonial residences in the business district of the town bequeathed to the sellers by the will of the late George B. Wheeler. -- Argus 14 Oct. 1943.

**1943** -- It is expected that within the next month the shop, better known as the Old Peerless [on Ash St.; dismantled in the 1980's] and now the present mica shop, will be enlarged to four times its present size, employing 60 more women who will produce 8 to 9 times as much mica as is being put out today. /// The War Department has given the Sullivan County Squadron of the CAP (Civil Air Patrol) a Taylor Craft L-2M plane equipped with a 2-way radio, navigator's desk, in connection with the recruiting of Air Cadets and the Air WACs [Women's Army Corps]. -- Argus 16 Dec. 1943.

**1943** -- Labor. Demands for a ten-cents-an-hour wage increase in accordance with the recent decision of the Worcester Conference of Woolen and Worsted Workers, TWUA, will go into effect after Jan. 1 at the three woolen mills here. -- Argus - 23 Dec. 1943.

**1944** -- The Newport School Board and the trustees of the Carrie F. Wright Hospital last Thursday accepted the bid by Burton F. Cady to purchase the Wheeler Block [northeast corner of Central and Main Streets.] Mr. Cady is president of New Hampshire Super Markets, who operate stores in Lebanon, Milford and the Community Store on Central Street in this town. The block was built in 1872 (Edmund Wheeler on p. 267 of his History of Newport says he built it in 1858), and is one of the oldest buildings in Newport, having been built by Edmund Wheeler, whose son, George B. Wheeler, was for many years, editor of the Argus. -- Argus 20 Jan. 1944.

**1944** -- The organization of the Women of the Moose of Newport will be completed within a few days, according to Frank Ray of the Newport Lodge 1236 of the Loyal

Order of Moose. -- Argus 9 Mar. 1944.

**1944** -- Labor shortage in Newport was discussed by representatives of the International Shoe Co., Colonial Mica, Sargent and Hoy Mining Co., Newport Clothing Manufacturing Co. and the Brampton Woolen Mill. -- Argus 16 Mar. 1944.

**1944** -- The Service Flag which hangs over Main Street now contains the figures 620 which represents the number of [Newport] boys and girls in the service of the U.S. -- Argus - 23 Mar. 1944.

**1944** -- Servicemen now on furlough can get their sugar rations in units of one pound, rather than on the basis of a quarter of a pound for nine meals eaten at home. -- Argus 27 April 1944.

**1944** -- War Labor Board approves paying Brampton Woolen Co. weavers by the Pick Clock instead of by the yard. Drawing-in girls are granted a wage increase by the WLB. -- Argus - May 11, 1944.

**1944** -- March 14 Town Meeting Article (#19) reads: "To see what action the Town will take in regard to the construction of a swimming pool on the Playground." Guy A. Dodge offered a resolution that the town take action in regards to a pool being made at the playground, but Jesse R. Rowell moved to amend to the effect that it "be left to a committee of five for further investigation and to report at some future meeting." Moderator Gunn appointed Guy Dodge, Paul E. Trask, Richard P. Donovan, Herbert G. Martin and Merton A. Gobin to serve on this committee. -- Argus 20 April 1944.

**1944** -- Action was taken towards expanding the mica industry at a meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday night. -- Argus 25 May 1944.

**1944** -- The most famous point of art interest in the east, the studio of Augustus Saint-Gaudens at Cornish, was destroyed by fire Tuesday. Most of the valuable pieces of sculpture were lost with the building. -- Argus - June 8, 1944. /// It was just four years ago tomorrow at 2:56 a.m., four minutes ahead of the scheduled hour, that automation replaced the human voice in the Newport office of the New England Telephone Co. (Thus we got dial telephones.) -- Argus 19 June, 1969. [This date needs checking.]

**1944** -- The Newport Lodge of Moose has moved! On Monday afternoon the moving vans pulled up to the beautiful Emerson Stockwell estate with the furnishings of the Moose Lodge, and the Lodge home will be open for its members on Tues. /// Condos Bus Line has discontinued some of its trips to Sunapee. /// Controlling interest of the Blue Mountain Forest Association, (Corbin Park) 22,000-acre private game preserve, around Croydon Mountain, has been transferred by members of the family of Austin Corbin, its founder, to a group of club members headed by Mortimer Proctor, Republican gubernatorial candidate of Vermont.-- Argus - 14 Sept. 1944. /// State Liquor Commission orders all licenses and permittees to suspend sales, service and delivery of liquor and beer

upon receipt of the announcement that hostilities have ended with Germany, or what has been commonly referred to as V-Day. -- Argus - 21 Sept. 1944. (see 12 April 1945)

**1944** -- A thousand dollars was realized at a Finnish bazaar held in the Winter Street Hall Saturday evening with more than 300 people in attendance. The proceeds will be used to pay off the mortgage on the building. -- Argus 28 Sept. 1944.

**1944** -- This fall school children all over the country gather milkweed floss in bags furnished by the federal government and dry it by hanging it outdoors. The floss is to be used in life preservers. The government paid 20 cents a bag and the money was used for the good of the school participating. In Newport the Primary school gathered 32 bags; Richards school, 56; Towle High School, 17; Guild school, 11; Kelleyville school, 2. -- see Argus 20 April 1947 [date is correct].

**1945** -- Starting with a small shop employing eight in 1933, the Newport Clothing Manufacturing Co. is this week starting on its fourth government order since Pearl Harbor. The order is for 5,000 Army overcoats made of 32-ounce O.D. (olive drab) Milton cloth. The plant now employs 60 workers and more help will be needed for this order. ... The War Labor Board has granted an increase in the wages of employees on the third shift of seven cents per hour. The Dorr Woolen Co., Gordon Woolen Mills and Brampton Woolen Co. are affected by this order. -- Argus - 18 Jan. 1945.

**1945** -- Extension of the \$375,000 appropriation for construction of an aerial tramway on Mt. Sunapee was passed this week by the Senate but only after three proposed amendments were defeated. -- Argus 29 Mar. 1945. // HEADLINE - Tramway Bill is Awarded by vote of House, Permitting Construction of a Ski-Tow Aided by House Vote of 204 to 142; Returned to Senate for its Action. -- Argus 3 May 1945.

**1945** -- Lempster -- A wood-chopping bee was given to Mrs. Ella Pollard Sunday by the neighbors and Grangers. A dinner was served to the helpers at the Grange Hall by the Home and Welfare Committee. -- Argus - 1 Mar. 1945.

**1945** -- The Newport Citizens Committee has reported that VE Day will be announced by eight blasts on the fire alarm, repeated three times. If the signal is given before 4 p.m. on any given day, the public will assemble on the Common for a thanksgiving service and renewed dedication of ourselves and our means, to the final victory. -- Argus - 12 April 1945. ( See 21 Sept. 44.)

## **MAY 7, 1945 - GERMANY SURRENDERS**

**1945** HEADLINE -- Wave of Rejoicing Sweeps Newport at News of Surrender. Mills and Shops Shut Down, Bells are Rung, Schools and General Business Suspended in the Afternoon. Prayer Service Fills Town Hall. -- Argus - 10 May 1945.

**1945** -- Beginning June 1 the Condos Bus Line will operate between Newport, Sunapee, Georges Mills and New London every day, instead of only three weekdays.

**1945** -- Members of the Claude J. Brewster Post. No. 25, American Legion, have voted to purchase the Homer T. Sibley home on Cheney street for \$9,000 to be used as a home or club for 700 to 800 service men and women. (Wheeler, p. 462 says house was built by Frederick W. Lewis, Newport banker, in 1876.) This price represents from one-third to one-quarter the probable cost of [building?] the house. -- Argus-14 June 1945.

**1945** -- Harry B. Metcalf, for 20 years owner and editor of the weekly Argus-Champion, announces its sale to William R. Smith and Cesare J. Del Vaglio, recent advertising director and assistant advertising director of the Greenwich (Conn.) Time. (The new owners turn the weekly into a semi-weekly -- twice a week -- on Tues. Nov. 6, 1945.) /// The Newport School District votes to acquire two acres of land from the Catholic Church at a special meeting called Saturday for that purpose. (This is probably land between Richards School and the church.) -- Argus - 2 Aug. 1945.

**1945** -- The Brampton Woolen Mill buildings in Sunapee have been sold to the Connecticut River Mills Inc. of 450 Seventh Ave., New York City. The mill was purchased by the Brampton Woolen Co. of Newport in 1918 from the U.S. Hame Co. At its peak the Sunapee mill employed around 130 persons, but the number had dropped to 40 or 50 before operations were discontinued in 1940. -- Argus - 9 Aug. 1945.

**1945** -- Marshall Britt of Groton, Mass. assumed operation of the airport here on Aug. 14. -- Argus 23 Aug. 1945.

### **AUGUST 14, 1945 - JAPAN SURRENDERS**

**1945** -- The swimming pool project moved ahead rapidly this week when Selectman Jesse Rowell in a meeting with members of the 14 Affiliated Organization Executive Committee offered free of cost a tract of land for the purpose. (Note: No swimming pool yet, 50 years later.) /// With the Japanese surrender, Newporters will now have to speed up the drive for \$25,000 for the purchase, furnishing, and upkeep of the Newport Veterans Club. (See Aug. 14, above.) -- Argus - 30 Aug. 1945.

**1945** -- Newport schools enrolled 1,045, two more than last year. -- Argus - 6 Sept. 1945.

**1945** -- Jesse R. Rowell and J. William Lambert were honored yesterday when more than a thousand pupils of the Newport Schools assembled in front of Mr. Rowell's store (at end of Korn Alley behind Lake Sunapee Bank and now demolished) to thank the two men. Mr. Rowell recently contributed a tract of land for the community swimming pool, and Mr. Lambert, the first contributor, generously gave \$100 toward the project.[The swimming pool was never built.- The superintendent of schools must have emptied every classroom. See item directly above.] -- Argus - 20 Sept. 1945.

**1945** -- \$100 donation to Newport Swimming Pool Fund is made by Fr. Michael Griffin of St. Patrick's. Frank Ray is chairman of the swimming pool organization. -- Argus 18



Oct. 1945.

**1945** -- The remaining \$8,000 due on the Sibley home on Cheney St. was paid this week by the Claude J. Brewster Post No. 25. Renovations began this week on the house which is to be a servicemen's home for the use of members of all armed forces. -- Argus-25 Oct. 1945. /// The first meeting of the Newport veterans was held last night at their newly-purchased home on Cheney St. -- Argus - 15 Nov. 1945.

**1945** -- Chamber of Commerce planning to resume Christmas decorations on Main St. They were abandoned after Christmas of 1940, when the town was gaily lighted with a festoon of colored lights stretching the whole length of Main St. /// Elroy K. Prior, agent of the Brampton Woolen Mill, has announced that the construction in progress includes the building of a two-story concrete and tile building 150 by 80 feet for a carding and spinning room and a one-story office building 20 by 70 feet. - A front page picture of the new building is in Dec. 6 issue. [This date might be Dec. 5.] -- Argus-Dec, 4 & 5, 1945.

**1945** -- At the general committee meeting of the Newport Swimming Pool and Recreational Organization last Thursday evening members voted to protest the proposed chicken hatchery to be operated in the Peerless Manufacturing building. [Was the proposed swimming pool to be placed near Ash St. or Meadow Road, near the Peerless?] /// Boiling pots were placed in front of various stores on Main and Sunapee Streets yesterday for the purpose of donations to the Newport Swimming Pool project. -- Argus 11 & 13 Dec. 1945.

**1946** Local 112, Textile Workers of America (CIO), voted Sunday to strike unless their demands are met by Dorr Woolen, Gordon Woolen and Brampton Woolen. Present labor contracts expire Jan. 31.-- Argus, Jan 15, 18, 1946.

**1946** -- The American Legion rooms in the Richards Block (Lake Sunapee Bank Building) have been rented by the Newport School Board to provide additional pupil accommodations (schoolrooms?) to relieve the congested condition in Grades 1 and 2 in the Primary Building. - Argus - Aug. 6-9, 1946.

**1946** -- The Sullivan County delegation (of 14 representatives to the legislature) yesterday authorized the county commissioners to enter into a contract with the town of Newport for construction of a Sullivan County record building and police station for the town of Newport. - Repub-Champ. 17 and 20 Dec. 1946.

**1947** -- The Fifth Company, N.H. State Guard [this name does not seem accurate] will be deactivated with appropriate ceremonies at the Newport Armory on Sunday evening at 7 p.m. -- Argus (?) 14 Feb. 1947

**1947** -- Dorr estate valued at \$374,000. The estate of the late George A. Dorr, who passed away on last Jan. 10, is estimated on the records in Probate Court at \$22,000 in real estate and \$352,000 in personal estate. The will, which was signed on Feb. 17, 1939,

left the entire estate, real and personal, to the Citizen's National Bank to be held in trust for the widow, Helen N. Dorr, during her lifetime and following her decease, in equal shares to their children, Phyllis N. Dorr, Virginia H. Wadsworth of Winchester, Mass., George A. Dorr, Jr., and Priscilla J. Dorr. The real estate involved consists of the family home and cottages at 84 Pine St. in Newport. -- Argus 9 Feb. 1947.

**1947** -- Article 17 of warrant for Town Meeting: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the method of electing a chief of police by ballot and authorize the selectmen to appoint a chief of police for said Town. /// Billy B. Van has been appointed to a committee along with Eddie Cantor and Irving Berlin which will honor Sophie Tucker with a testimonial dinner May 4 in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor in New York City. Mr. Van has worked with Mrs. Tucker and other members of the committee in vaudeville. -- Argus 9 March 1947.

**1947** -- Colby Junior College campus will be the scene of much activity during the coming summer months, for on June 16, the first group of some 800 to 1,000 leading scientists from all over the country and from abroad will use the college facilities for a series of conferences which will last throughout the summer. [This is probably the beginning of the Gordon Research Conferences which have been held up to this writing in 1997.] -- Argus 13 April 1947.

**1947** -- Town meeting passes article to study the town manager system and report at the next town meeting. [To this date the town was run by parttime selectmen.] -- Argus - 20 April 1947.

**1947** -- The Dorr Woolen Co. has ... suspended all operations due to lack of orders on hand to supply work for its employees. Some 240 workers will be dismissed this weekend for an indefinite period. At the present time the Brampton Woolen Co. is down to some 30 employees on one shift. When operating in a full schedule they are able to employ up to 185 men while Dorr supplied work for some 250 during the recent war period. The Gordon Mill is still closed. [Employment layoffs] -- Argus 4 May 1947.

**1947** -- Peter Latchis, owner of the Newport House and other hotels as well as a chain of theaters, indicated to reporters that "there will be a theater if the people want it" when questioned about rumors that he planned to build a theater on Sunapee St. in the rear of the Newport House. /// Chief of Police Alexander Lewko announced that Howard Mason, a special officer, has been made a permanent member of the police force. The department is now in the position to have a member on duty at all times during 24 hours. Other members include officers Marshall Perkins and Jesse Fowler. -- Argus 25 May, 1947.

**1947** -- The Newport Clothing Manufacturing Company has increased the size of its plant and during World War II, when they were at full production making Army overcoats, they employed as many as sixty-five employees.

**1947** -- John Fairbanks, chairman of the Newport Town Manager committee,

announced today that plans have been completed for Newport's first public forum to be held on the Town Manager form of government Oct. 24, in the Town Hall. -- Argus - 6 Oct. 1947.

**1947** -- Mount Sunapee Forest Fire - "...Then, on Sunday, Oct. 19, an afternoon lightning storm apparently started a forest fire near Lake Solitude on Mount Sunapee. .... 500 firefighters succeeded [about two weeks later] in stopping the spread of the fires only two miles from the town [village?] of Goshen. -- Argus - p. 5, 5 Nov. 1947.

**1947** -- Armistice Day program .... marked the first public appearance of the newly reorganized American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps. -- Argus 17 Nov. 1947.

**1948** -- The Newport Hellenic Society [is this its founding meeting?] met at the Yankee Grill on Sunapee St. owned by Gerasimos Mosconas and Stephan Spanos. President was Spiros Durmas. The group voted to end the Greek School community project, known as Socrates, and refund \$10 to each member who supported the school the previous year. New officers from the younger generation were chosen: Theodore Demetrakopoulos, president; Christy Hasevlat, treasurer; and Soterios A. Saggiotes, secretary. Charles Gokas, John Economu and Arthur Saggiotes were selected as Board members. A contract was made with the Keene Church [Greek church?] to hold six church services annually at the fee of \$400 [annually?], but the final figure was \$425. Finding a lot for picnics and another for a church and hall was discussed. -- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. - pages unnumbered.

**1948** Sen. Jesse R. Rowell was elected chairman of the Citizens Town Manager Committee Wednesday evening at a meeting held in the Selectmen's room. Those present heard Mr. Strafford S. Hill, field representative of the N.H. Federation of Taxpayers Association, who spoke on the Town Manager Plan. -- Argus 21 Jan. 1948.

**1948** -- Petition of the Newport School Board: .... there exists at present a dangerous and overcrowded condition in school accommodations in Newport; because of the limited accommodations in its schools the Board has been forced to rent vacant stores and factories as classrooms. Many of the regular school rooms in the school buildings now have crowded therein 45 to 50 pupils per teacher, and that such number of pupils to teacher makes it impossible to give the pupils the proper education advantages to which they are entitled. -- Argus 28 Jan. 1948.

**1948** -- Work on the new theatre project, which began Sunday, is being carried out by Peter Latchis, proprietor of the Newport House and member of the partnership which operated the Latchis chain of theatres in Brattleboro, Vt.; Claremont, Keene and elsewhere. Mr. Latchis told reporters Monday night that the theatre would be open this fall. He stated that the new theatre, a one-story building with no balcony, will have a capacity of 800 persons. -- Argus - 20 May 1948.

**1948** -- Bigger and better was the term applied to the American Legion Minstrel Show presented here Thursday and Friday evening by the members of the Brewster-Gould

American Legion. Revolving around the riotous antics of hilarious endmen William and James Maley, Kermit Daimont, Harvey LaRouche, John Patten and John Anastos, the show was interspersed with an entertaining program. -- Argus 27 May 1948.

**1948** -- With the sale of his jewelry store on Main Street on Monday to Michael J. Harrington of Keene, Mr. Maurice J. Downing completed 21 years of enviable service to people in Newport and surrounding towns. The business which Mr. Downing has sold was started 94 years ago. Previous owners include Amos Woodbury, Mr. Morse and M.A. Noury. Mr. Harrington will be the sixth owner. -- Argus 3 June 1948.

**1948** -- The Newport Guardian and Kearsage-Sunapee Sun, a Thursday weekly newspaper, is started by George D. Graves, Jr. to compete with Argus Champion. (It still existed in 1952, but later went bankrupt). It later emerged as Newport-Lake Sunapee Times which also folded.  
- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III, p. 5.

**1948** -- The Sullivan County Convention (composed of the towns' representatives to the General Court) authorized the County Commissioners to borrow \$85,000 to build a new County Records Building. -- Sullivan County Historical Information Sheets by Donald Fontaine, Sr., a county commissioner. /// Workmen yesterday began demolition of the foundation of the town's honor roll to make room for the new records building. -- Argus 8 July 1948.

**1948** -- Enrollment in Newport schools: Towle High - grade 9 - 80; grade 10 - 68; grade 11 - 67; grade 12 - 63. Total: 278. Richards Junior High - grade 4 - 86; grade 5 - 106; grade 6 - 95; grade 7 - 102; grade 8 - 80. Total: 469. Primary School - grade 1 - 84; grade 2 - 56; grade 3 - 61. Total 201. Sunapee St. Annex - grade 1 - 25; West St. Annex - grade 3 - 29; Kelleyville grades 1-4 - 16; Guild - grades 1-4, 21; and North Newport - grades 1 - 4 - 17. -- Argus 22 Sept. 1947.

**1949** -- Greeks -- Plans were made to acquire a lot at the Newport airport to be named the Robert C. Hasevlat Memorial Park. Bobby, son of Costas and Effie Hasevlat, [please note the change in spelling of Hasevlat; both spellings have been used.] was a sergeant and tail gunner in the Air Corps killed over Europe during World War II. Town Meeting voted to sell the airport land to the Hellenic Society for one dollar with the provision that it revert to the town if the Society abandoned the park. -- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. pages unnumbered.

**1949** -- A \$100,000, six-room addition is added to the annex of Richards Junior High School. -- caption on p. 26 Argus, 7 Feb. 1996.

**1949** -- At a town meeting attended by 1,262 voters, the people of Newport last Tuesday gave a firm vote of confidence to the town manager system and cut selectmen's salaries. -- Argus -23 March 1949.

**1949** -- In town meeting ..... a tract of land on the new road to North Newport and

running a distance of 500 feet along the Newport-Croydon Highway has been sold to the Hellenic Society for the purpose of maintaining a memorial park for the late Sgt. Robert Haserlat (or Hasevlat). This society intends to make a very attractive picnic park which will be open to the public. --Argus - 30 March 1949.

**1949** -- Gordon B. Flint, superintendent of schools, announces that the North Newport school will be closed permanently at the close of school year in June. -- Argus 13 April 1949.

**1949** -- Dr. J. Leavitt Cain (died 1927) has story in N.H. Sunday News of 10 April 1949 -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III, p. 50.

**1949** -- Construction of a \$145,000 gymnasium to be attached to Towle High School will begin next week, according to Sup't of Schools Gordon B. Flint. .... The new construction will be known as the George B. Wheeler Gymnasium, in honor of the late George B. Wheeler who willed \$180,000 to the school district. The name of the building will be sand-blasted into the door portal above the Belknap Avenue lobby. -- Argus 4 May 1949.

**1949** -- Latchis Theater opens in an addition to Newport House on Park Street side. [Newport House was on corner of Sunapee and Park.] -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III p. 38

**1949** -- [photo caption] The new Sullivan County Records building, constructed at a cost of \$85,000, will be ready for officials to move in soon as finishing work is completed and vaults are installed. The register of probate, Mrs. Bernice M. Sawyer MacWilliams, will occupy the first floor; the register of deeds, Mrs. [sp?] Clinton Barton, will have offices on the second floor. The third floor will be used for storage and set aside for future expansion. -- Argus 10 Aug. 1949.

**1949** -- The New Richards School Annex has six rooms that provide needed space for an increase in enrollment there. Last year 536 students attended Richards, and the number this year has increased to 551 on the first day of school to an enrollment of 570 today. -- Argus 21 September 1949.

**1949** -- The American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps is planning to enlarge from 32 playing members to 40. New members need not feel that they are too far in arrears to learn, as the entire Corps is now being instructed by Mac Rowell on the fundamentals of drumming and bugling. -- Argus 19 Oct. 1949.

**1950 Population: 5,131. [Population of state of N.H. is 533,242, up 8.5%.]**

### **KOREAN WAR BEGINS JUNE 27, 1950**

Fighting ends July 27, 1953

**1950-1953** -- Korean War sees 150 from Newport serve. None from Newport die in service. - Source: Andrew L. Andrews, American Legion

**1950 -- Sidebar --** *This was the year we began to have more females than males, but not by much:*

*The 1950 Decennial Census showed us at 74,833,000 males v. 75,864,000 females, and that divergence has remained. Median age for all Americans that year was 30.2 years; in 1920 it was 25.3; in 1870 it was 20.2; in 1820 it was 16.7. In 2000 it was 35.3. Source: U.S. Census*

**1950 -- Sidebar --** *Life Expectancy:*

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 65 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 71 years. National Center for Health Statistics*

**1950 --** A lot on Winter St. was purchased from Edwin Perry of Newport for \$800. It was to become the site of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church. Perry discounted the price \$200 from his asking price. Older members of the community remember Perry as custodian and Spanish-American War veteran at Richards Junior High School. Perry later donated a rolltop desk that had been used by the Spanish-American War veterans and placed it in the church narthex. Frank E. Reivo of Newport agree to build the church. Kenneth Weed bulldozed the lot. Ground was broken Oct. 18, 1951. – [Note: names of contributors of labor and material are in greater detail in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church, 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. – pages unnumbered.]

**1950 --** Gordon Woolen Mill on Sunapee Street is closed. -- Bicentennial p. 8

**1950 --** Nicholas J. Mahoney, Jr. buys the Argus Champion from William Smith and Cesare J. Del Vaglio. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 130.

**1950 --** First Belgian carding machines in United States are installed at Dorr Woolen Mill. - source: George A. Dorr, Jr.

**1950 --** Full obit of Billy B. Van. The date is not clear. Nov. 17 is mentioned in a clipping that is probably from the Newport Guardian. Van is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III pp. 27, 35, 36, 37.

**1950 -- Sidebar --** *Lost Words and Phrases:*

*Not long ago these words and phrases were in fairly common use in local conversation. How many have you heard lately?*

a mowing

a rod

antimacassar

banking (steep edge of  
the road)

bean-hole beans

betimes  
boughten beans  
bubbler  
bulkhead  
butnuts  
chimley  
chunkwood  
cleaning lady  
common crackers  
cookout  
corn husk mattress  
critter (a breeding bull)  
culch  
cut the grass v. mow  
    the lawn  
dashboard  
down cellar  
downstreet or upstreet  
drummer (salesman)  
egg money  
enough to bear up an  
    egg (strong coffee)  
epizootic  
get your shoes tapped  
glassie  
godfrey mighty!  
goin' round Robin  
    Hood's barn  
"go to the show" (the movies)  
groundhog (wood chuck)  
hedge hog (porcupine)  
he's to home  
hold the thought  
horse dressing  
ice box  
leanin' toward Sawyer's  
longer than a wet week  
nasty neat  
not worth a Hannah  
    Cook  
piazza  
poor man's manure  
pope's nose (or) the  
    parson's nose  
puckerbrush  
pung

receipt (recipe)  
 red flannel hash  
 righten up  
 root cellar  
 saltbox house  
 shore dinner  
 slumgullion  
 somethin' wicked  
 spider (fry pan)  
 spile  
 spruce gum  
 sugar bush  
 switchel  
 tap your shoes  
 tar road  
 thank-you-marm  
 throughway  
 tonic (soda)  
 traverse  
 up attic  
 use it up; wear it out;  
     make it do  
 vamp it up  
 verandah  
 water bar  
 weather-breeder  
 wheel (bicycle)  
 widow-maker  
 wringin' wet

*This list is the result of many Newport memories which were often jogged by the following publications: Profiles Magazine; Yankee Talk, by Robert Hendrickson, Facts on File 1996; and the Yankee Dictionary by Charles Haywood, Jackson and Phillips 1963.*

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**1950** -- (photo) Maurice Cummings, incoming chairman of the board of selectmen, argued against the town manager plan at the Little Town Meeting ... He explained his position before the group gathered at the meeting. Newporters voted 640-437 to retain the plan. -- Argus 16 March 1950.

**1951** -- 20th year of Minstrel Show by American Legion, Brewster-Gould Post No. 25. Mar. 26-27. Cast is listed. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III p. 33.

**1951** -- GUILD -- [Labor Trouble] At three o'clock sharp yesterday afternoon workers [who were] recalled to the Dorr Woolen Co. braved the hoots and shouts from the



walking group of pickets encamped in front of the mill entrances, to report for work on the second shift. Amid a raucous blare of fog horns and automobile horns, workers on the second shift reported for duty in defiance of the announced determination of the pickets to prevent that shift from starting. -- Argus -- 28 Feb. 1926.

**1951** -- Only a few years ago the wild boar in Corbin Park were breaking out of the 19,000-acre private game preserve and raiding neighboring farms and garden plots. During the last two winters, more than 30 tons of whole kernel corn have literally poured from the skies onto the boars' feeding grounds, in a local airlift labeled "Operation Wild Hog." -- Argus 27 June 1951.

**1951** -- [Red Scare? HUAC? House Un-American Activities Committee?] Approximately 25 persons working for the town of Newport, with the exception of elected officials, signed affidavits last week declaring that they are not subversives and do not belong to any subversive group. All teachers in Supervisory Union 43 also signed. -- Argus 24 Oct. 1951.

**1951** -- [Layoffs] After a three-week shutdown, employees returned to work yesterday at the Dorr Woolen Co. Depressed conditions were reported by Mr. Dorr at the time of the temporary shutdown. Mr. Dorr now reports the future is looking considerably brighter. -- Argus 5 Sept. 1951.

**1952** -- The state holds its first presidential primary election. - New Hampshire Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1952** -- The remaining 100 workers of the 375 employed at the International Shoe Co. will be back at work in two weeks following a little more than one month's layoff due to reconversion to civilian shoe production at the shop. -- Argus 19 Jan. 1952

**1952** -- On Jan. 25 patients are moved from Carrie F. Wright on Maple St. to the new hospital on Summer St. -- Bicentennial p. 41. [see 1910 - Carrie F. Wright Hospital]

**1952** -- Two months' renovation has produced major changes in Michael J. Harrington's jewelry store. Many changes have taken place in this jewelry business in the 100 years it has been serving this area. Amos O. Woodbury established a retail jewelry and manufacturing plant on nearly the same spot in 1841. In 1852 the business succeeded to Mr. Woodbury's son, George, who operated the jewelry store until the estate was bought by a man named Morse. He ran the store for three years, and in 1918 M. S. Noury from Franklin bought the business. On May 27, 1927, the store was purchased from Noury by Maurice J. Downing. Michael J. Harrington, from Keene, purchased the business from Downing on June 21, 1948. -- Argus 8 June 1952.

**1952** -- St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church is built on Winter Street and dedicated on June 29. -- Bicentennial p 15. --[also see 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book of Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church 1952-2002, Newport, N.H. - pages unnumbered.]

**1952** -- Federal Machine Tool Corp opens on Guild Road. -- Bicentennial p. 8.

**1952** -- SUNAPEE -- Carl Latva of Sunapee, who was investigated recently for Communist connections, will be deported to Finland. Announcement was made yesterday by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Mr. Latva is in Boston at the Immigration detention jail awaiting sailing to Finland. The basis for deportation is reported by Joseph E. Gheary, chief of detention, to be Mr. Latva's membership in the communist party after his arrival in America. Mr. Latva was employed at the Door Mill. -- Argus 1 June 1952.

**1952** -- The gracious home of the late George A. Dorr Sr. on Pine Street becomes one of Newport's business projects as Mrs. Leland Whipple announces its opening as a rest and convalescent home under the name of Woodlawn Rest Home. The Whipple farm on Oak Street will provide vegetables, eggs, chickens and home-grown beef for the menu. -- Argus 10 August 1952.

**1952** -- Schools in Newport reopened with a total enrollment of 1095. The largest class is grade 3 with 126 students. -- Argus 21 September 1952

**1952** -- For the second time since the system was established here in 1948, Newport selectmen are seeking a new town manager to head its government. Robert C. Violette, who has held the post for 2.5 years, resigned to accept a position as town manager of Portsmouth, N.H. at a salary of \$9,000 a year. -- Argus 5 Oct. 1952.

### **KOREAN WAR ENDS JULY 27, 1953**

**1953**-- The Newport town ski tow, parallel to Belknap Ave., will open today. -- Argus -- 6 Jan. 1953.

**1953** -- Edit Comment -- Newport school youngsters can look forward to at least another year of overcrowding. The third graders, or some similar class, will continue their studies in a converted tailor shop in a building apart from the school. Students will commute between Towle High School and Richards School in order to take courses in physical education and what passes for vocational training in our under-equipped school system. -- Argus 12 Feb. 1953.

**1953** -- Joseph J. Sullivan, formerly of Chester, Vt., announced yesterday the establishment of a funeral home at 40 Park Street on the Common in the property he recently purchased from Kenneth Andler. -- Argus -- 18 June 1953

**1953** -- Corbin Park forest fire starts from a lightning strike in late June and burns much of Croydon and Grantham Mountains through July and August. In addition to hundreds of local firefighters, 300 soldiers from Fort Devens, Mass., and 200 airmen from Grenier Field in Manchester fought the blaze. -- pp. 28-30, Soo Nipi Magazine, June 1997; also see Argus for that period, and especially 10 July 1953.

**1953** -- Flareups of the fire still blazing across Grantham Mountain in Corbin Park harried weary men who have been fighting for 10 days to contain the treacherous flames. Local volunteers augmented by 300 soldiers from Fort Devens labored all day yesterday. An additional 200 airmen from Grenier Field, Manchester, are due to arrive today. /// The Red Cross sandwich committee that is working behind the scenes of the Corbin Park fire, under the direction of Mrs. Madlon Karr, has to date made more than 5,000 sandwiches. -- Argus 2 July 1953.

**1953--** Three new improvements at the Newport Playgrounds have been announced. The tennis court is now completed and ready for use. The showers have been connected for the use of the children who visit the playground. Also, two sand boxes, each 12 feet square, have been added for the smaller children. -- Argus 9 July 1953.

**1923** -- Newport now has the same type of motion picture entertainment available at only three other movie theaters in New England. The Latchis Theater is being equipped with a stereophonic motion picture sound system with multiple magnetic tracks. -- Argus 30 July 1953.

**1953** -- The runway at Parlin Field (airport) is paved. -- Argus, p. 7 18 Oct. 2000

**1953** -- Area choir formed by Malcolm Rowell, choir director of South Congregational Church, and Blanche Bailey, organist and choir director of United Methodist Church, Sunapee. Argus ? Nov. 16, 1983 -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook.

**1954** -- The state's first television station (WMUR-TV) opens in Manchester. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1954** -- Richards estate sells Richards Block on Main St. (in 1996 the Lake Sunapee Bank building) and liquor store building on Depot street to several tenants of the building -- Ernest Miller of Miller Bros. Clothes, Kelly Pharmacy, Herbert Martin of Martin's Hardware, and Walter Howland of Howland's Clothing. Cheney block is sold by Richards estate to Gauthier and Woodard. -- Argus 7 Jan. 1954.

**1954** -- Last regular passenger service on Claremont and Concord RR from Concord to Newport in November. Last freight service was from Claremont Jct., in 1970s. -- source: Walter Stapleton, hobbist, Claremont ph. 542-2756.

**1954** -- A chlorine house is built at Gilman Pond in Unity, the source of Newport's water. -- Newport Water Department.

**1954** -- PHOTO – Members of the newly-formed American Legion Police Force were sworn in at the last meeting of the Brewster-Gould Post. Merton J. Sargent, chief of the unit, Anthony Praded, John Feenstra, John DeMayo, Herbert Smith, Leslie Pike, Daniel Scherwerts. William Lantas, Kermit Daimont, Oliver Gladue, Carlton LaFountain, James Maley and Alfred Cusick. They serve as an emergency corps for special occasions, such as football games and are also in readiness for civil defense work. -- Argus 4 March

1954.

**1955** -- International Shoe closes. Had been town's largest employer. -- Bicentennial p. 8.

**1955** -- A fire at the home of Nicholas J. Mahoney (then editor and owner of the Argus-Champion) at the NW corner of Elm and Pine Streets resulted in great alteration to the building when it was restored. The 15-room house was built in 1912 by George Arlington Fairbanks (see Fairbanks genealogy in Wheeler or Parmalee) and served as the Fairbanks homestead until Mahoney bought it. -- Claremont Daily Eagle - 22 Jan. 1955.

**1955** -- Management of the Argus-Champion last week purchased the circulation lists, goodwill and certain other assets of the Newport Lake Times. The announcement was made jointly by George D. Graves, publisher of the Times, and Nicholas J. Mahoney Jr., editor and publisher of the Argus-Champion. Equipment used to publish the Times was not included in the sale. -- Argus 10 Feb. 1955.

**1955** -- Just hours preceding the announcement that the International Shoe Company had reaffirmed its intent to leave town, the Newport School Board considered a vote of the board of selectmen to defer construction of the \$375,000 junior high school in the light of the current industrial crisis, and heard a planning board proposal that would place the school within a reclamation project west of Main Street. -- Argus 30 June 1955.

**1955** -- The Concord and Claremont Railway will petition the Public Utilities Commission today for permission to discontinue passenger service on the local line, it was announced yesterday by S.M.Pinsley, president of the railroad, in a speech before the Newport Rotary Club. Reasons given by Mr. Pinsley for the action, which the community fought so hard to stave off when the line was operated by the Boston and Maine Railroad, is the loss of the U.S. Post Office subsidy of approximately \$12,000 annually for carrying mail. -- Argus 14 July 1955.

**1955** -- (photo) -- International Shoe Company's Newport Shop pulls the shades on the top floor of the plant, as a sign that operations in that department have been discontinued. Cutters were the first laid off ... then the stitchers, in a gradual reduction of plant personnel that will leave the shoe shop vacant by mid-September. -- Argus 25 August 1955.

**1955** -- Newport voters yesterday voted to move ahead with plans to construct the new \$375,000 junior high school, planned for the North Main Street Waterman site. At a special meeting in the town hall, a petition to postpone building was defeated 468 to 364. -- Argus 27 Oct. 1955.

**1955** -- Operating expenses, coupled with a small turnout of skiers in the past two years were reasons given by Town Manager Harry B. Ripley and chairman of the Board of Selectmen Maurice J. Downing this week for a considered shut down to skiers of the

Dorr Hill rope tow. -- Argus 8 Dec. 1955.

**1956** -- A five-man group of Newporters was named yesterday to sign, seal and deliver a still-secret shoe shop to Newport, replacing International Shoe Company. Attorneys Richard Duncan and Harry V. Spanos will work on final negotiations. Meanwhile, refurbishing of the vacated shoe shop moved nearer completion last night after the painting/clean-up bee Sunday that brought 89 Sunday laborers out in a sleet/snow storm. And on Monday and Tuesday, 31 and 39 workers, respectively, brightened up the plant. - Argus 12 Jan. 1956.

**1956** -- Newport Junior High School (now Newport Middle High School) opens on North Main St. Cost: \$395,000, grades 7,8,9. -- Bicentennial 25.

**1956** -- Ersley A. Blanchard is again arranging visits of youngsters (Fresh Air Children) from New York City for 2- or 3-week visits with Newporters. Sponsored by N.Y. Herald Tribune and local Lions Club. In 1955, 30 children visited Newport. They were also here in 1951 (p. 19) and 1958 (p. 25) -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook III p. 1.

**1956** -- Richards Junior High School becomes Richards Elementary School. -- Caption p. 26 Argus 7 Feb. 1996.

**1956** -- The Laganas family, successful shoe manufacturers from Lowell, Mass., are enticed by Newport's business leaders to expand their business to the building vacated by International Shoe Company. Hundreds of local jobs are secured.

**1956** -- The Sarah Josepha Hale Award is founded. Vermonter Robert Frost, generally regarded as America's greatest poet, will address the public in Newport August 23 at the kick-off event to the next day's first annual Library Festival, sponsored by the friends of the Richards Free Library.

Winners have been:

1956 - Robert Frost

1957 - John P. Marquand

1958 - Archibald MacLeish and Dorothy Canfield Fisher

(Although two medals were awarded, Ms. Fisher's failing health precluded her presence at the ceremonies.)

1959 - Mary Ellen Chase

1960 - Mark Van Doren

1961 - Catherine Drinker Bowen

1962 - David McCord

1963 - John Hersey

1964 - Ogden Nash

1965 - Louis Untermeyer and Raymond Holden

(Special medal to Holden, founder of the award.)

1966 - Robert Lowell

1967 - John Kenneth Galbraith  
 1968 - Richard Wilbur  
 1969 - Lawrance Thompson  
 1970 - Elizabeth Yates  
 1971 - Norman Cousins  
 1972 - May Sarton  
 1973 - Henry Steele Commager  
 1974 - Nancy Hale  
 1975 - Edwin Way Teale  
 1976 - John Ciardi  
 1977 - Roger Tory Peterson  
 1978/79 - James MacGregor Burns  
 1982 - Richard Eberhart  
 1983 - Donald Hall  
 1984 - Barbara W. Tuchman  
 1985 - Stephen Jay Gould  
 1986 - Robert M. Coles  
 1987 - David McCullough  
 1988 - Hayden Carruth  
 1989 - Doris Kearns Goodwin  
 1990 - Arthur Miller  
 1991 - Michael Dorris  
 1992 - Maxine Kumin  
 1993 - William Manchester  
 1994 - Laurel Thatcher Ulrich  
 1995 - Jill Ker Conway  
 1996 - Tom Wicker  
 1997 - Wesley McNair  
 1998 - Tracy Kidder  
 1999 - Russell Banks  
 2000 - Robert B. Parker  
 2001 - Anita Shreve  
 2002 - Ernest Hebert  
 2003 - Jay Parini  
 2004 - Charles Simic  
 2005 - Grace Paley

**1956** -- Plans were announced this week for maintaining a ground observer corps post atop Dorr Hill in the ski hut there – ultimate aims to include 24-hour plane spotting, seven days a week. In charge of the program under town civil defense leader Louis E. Willett, is Ersley A. Blanchard. A telephone will be installed at the hut for phoning all airplane sightings to the Air Force base at Albany, N.Y. one-by-one, as aircraft are noted. The purpose of the plane-spotting headquarters is to preclude enemy air attack. -- Argus 3 May 1956.

**1956** -- From 85 to 100 additional employees will be taken on the payroll of the

Newport Shoe Manufacturing Corp. within the next three to four weeks to meet immediate increased production anticipations. This was the announcement yesterday by Peter Laganas. Raymond A. Murphy, plant superintendent, said there exists a potential pool of workers "completely within the Newport area" – and more expressly in Newport itself. -- Argus 16 Aug. 1956.

**1956** -- Final enrollment in Newport schools this year is: 1193. [The town's population in the Census of 1950 was 5131.] At Towle High School the number is 349 students; at the Richards School (three outside classes of grade three are included in the count) 619; at the Guild School, 23; at the Primary School, 202. -- Argus 6 Sept. 06

**1957** --The Newport Division of Sportwelt Shoe Co., specializing in government footwear, takes over part of the Gordon Woolen at 169 Sunapee St. -- Bicentennial p. 64. Caption p. 26 Argus 7 Feb. 1996.

**1958** -- Parlin Field (airport) is extended to 2,800 feet. -- Argus, p. 7, 18 Oct. 2000

**1959** -- Maurice Cummings' house on South Main Street near South Church is dismantled for a First National store. The building is now (2000) occupied by the Kaarle Lehtinen Senior Citizens Center. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 51.

**1959** -- Coniston Theater, owned by Mrs. Walter Howland, was closed for winter months. It is one of town's oldest entertainment places. -- Argus 23 Dec. 1959; Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 51.

**1960** -- **Population: 5,458. [Population of the state is 606,921, up 13.8%.]**

**1960** -- **Sidebar** -- *Life Expectancy:*

*A baby born born this year can expect to live 67 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 73 years. National Center for Health Statistics.*

**1960** -- Radio Station WCNL (now WNTK) begins broadcasting from Belknap Avenue. --Source: WXXX.

**1960** -- James D. Ewing, publisher of Keene Sentinel and Walter C. Paine, publisher of Valley News of West Lebanon, buy the Argus-Champion from Nicholas J. Mahoney Jr. - Dec. 1. - Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 130.

**1960** -- Sunapee Ice Co. completes ice harvest in the harbor, filling their ice houses with cakes 22 inches thick. -- Argus 3 Mar. 1960

**1961-1973** -- Vietnam War 158 from Newport serve. Five die in service. -- Source: Andrew L. Andrews, American Legion.

**1961** -- Newport celebrates its bicentennial. Actually it is five years early. The town

was settled in 1766. So we fudged five years, as we did in 1911.

**1962** -- A 12-unit motel will be constructed in Guild adjacent to Dr. Moore's veterinarian hospital, according to building permit issued here last week. (Guild Motel). - Argus 31 May 1962.

**1962** -- Judge John C. Fairbanks threatens to impose the maximum penalty of \$100 fine and 90 days in House of Correction for anyone caught discharging firecrackers in Newport. -- Argus 21 June 1962.

**1962** -- In front page photo: Structural steel beams were set in place last week to convert Chellis Auditorium at Towle High into 2 floors with 2 additional classrooms. -- Argus 5 July 1962.

**1962** -- Nine of the Newport-Lake Sunapee area towns voted in favor of state-owned liquor stores in their towns. Eleven voted in favor of selling beer. New London and Washington retained their dry status and Grantham and Sutton approved beer, but voted against liquor stores. -- Argus 8 Nov. 1962.

**1962** -- LaValley Building Supply opens (as Reliable Building Supply) on Guild Road with owner, his wife and one employee. (See 1982) - Source: Harold LaValley.

**1962** -- Newport's National Guardsmen who were among the 66,000 Army and Air National Guardsmen mobilized for the Berlin crisis last October, will be deactivated in August and start returning to their homes Aug. 5. -- Argus 19 July 1962.

**1962** -- Civil defense pistol range is dedicated on Alex Lewko's (police chief) land on Bradford road. -- Argus - 13 Sept. 1962.

**1962** -- Photo caption: The South Branch of Sugar River was dredged to free a sewer line covered by 2 1/2 feet of silt. The contractor removed silt from 200 feet of river bottom. [No sewer plant yet? Dumping raw sewage into river?] -- Argus 21 Nov. 1962.

**1962** -- Work has been started on the remodeling of 58 North Main St., the residence of Mrs. D. Sidney Rollins, into a new library for Newport. -- Argus (from As We Were in Argus 16 Nov. 1972).

**1963** -- Starting salaries for teachers will be increased from \$3800 to \$4100. -- Argus 24 Jan. 1963.

**1963** -- Sturm, Ruger and Co., a manufacturer of sporting and law-enforcement firearms, takes over Federal Machine Tool which ceased operations Sept. 3, 1962. Ruger later expands with a 60 feet by 60 feet addition. Production of pistol parts begins at Pine Tree Castings Corp., a division of Sturm, Ruger, on Guild road. -- Argus- 11 April 1963 - (In 1990 it employed 1,040 and was the town's largest employer. -- source: Personnel Department, Sturm, Ruger.)



**1963** -- Gov. King signs into law the state's lottery bill. -- Argus 2 May 1963.

**1963** -- The books and papers of the Richards Free Library (built in 1888 by Dexter Richards) are moved to the mansion of Mrs. D. Sidney Rollins, (Louise Richards) built by Seth Richards, son of Dexter. The original brick building and the so-called library house just north of the brick library are demolished for the Sugar River Savings Bank building. The Seth Richards mansion was designed by a prominent Boston architect, took two years to complete, and cost \$65,504. -- p.8 Supplement to Argus and Eagle Times 23 Aug. 95. - Argus 8 August 1963.

**1963** -- The public hearing on the Claremont and Concord Railway's petition to abandon its line between Newport and Concord will be conducted by the Interstate Commerce Commission in Newport Town Hall ... on Sept. 9. -- Argus 22 Aug. 1963.

**1963** The two and one-half mile relocated stretch of Route 10 between Newport and Croydon is now open. -- Argus 22 Aug. 1963.

**1963** -- The Chateau, widely-known Newport landmark on Guild Road, (generally across from LaValley's), is being demolished. Owned by William Rodeschin, it was once operated as a hotel by his father, Severin Rodeschin. In the 1900's it was headquarters for a horse farm. -- Argus 29 Aug. 1963.

**1963** -- The Rev. William Blair, minister of the South Congregational Church, was one of 200,000 Americans who took part in the August 28 March on Washington to urge passage of new civil rights legislation. -- Argus 4 Sept. 1963.

**1963** -- Drought strikes towards end of summer. Newport's water supply is more than half gone and many of those not on town water have dry wells. -- Argus 26 Sept. 1963.

**1963** -- The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church is expect to hold its first services Oct. 10. The new building is at the southeast corner of Church and Laurel Streets. -- Argus 3 Oct. 1990.

**1964** -- The Town of Newport now owns all the facilities and equipment at Parlin Field, formerly occupied by Buker Airways Inc. Buker Airways had abandoned the field last year and left a debt of \$900 owed to the town. -- from 25 Years Ago in As We Were in April 6, 1989 Argus.

**1965** -- Dial replaces telephone operators in Newport. Many residents protest and petition the telephone company to keep the operators.

**1965** -- The eagle from the Eagle Block has been sold. The 136-year-old landmark was handcarved out of wood and bronzed by Stephen Hasham of Charlestown. It was owned by Maj. Sam Edes. --from 25 Years Ago in As We Were in June 14, 1989 Argus.

**1965** -- New high for enrollment in Supervisory Union 43: 2,336 compared to 2,241 in 1964. - Argus 9 Sept. 1965.

**1965** -- Sturm Ruger expands its Newport facility and begins to manufacture firearms here. (In 1990, it employed 1,040 and was town's largest employer.)

**1965** -- Newport's selectmen explored the possibilities of town acquisition of the National Guard Armory on Belknap Avenue Tuesday night. /// Jan. 10 has been set as date for county commissioners' public hearing on the eminent domain action in which the town seeks to acquire the Pollards Mills property of Douglas R. Barton on which to construct a gravel-packed well to add to the town water system. -- Argus 16 Dec. 1965.

**1965** -- Over a half-million-dollar contract is signed for Newport's new senior high school adjacent to the Junior High School. -- Argus 7 Nov. 1965; also Argus Nov 11, 1965.

**1965** -- On evening of Christmas Day, Newport House and adjacent Latchis (movie) Theatre [at northeast corner of Sunapee and Park streets] burn, and are later demolished. -- Newport Fire Dept. Centennial Book 1974. (see photo, p. 24, Argus 26 Aug. 1992).

**1966** -- A proposed school budget of \$688,335, up \$95,537, will go before a Budget Committee hearing at 7:30 tonight in Towle High School. The new junior senior high school, now under construction as an addition to Newport Junior High School, accounts for \$72,629 of the increase. -- Argus - 27 Jan. 1966.

**1966** -- The town constructs a gravel packed water well in the Pollard's Mills area, near the bridge and in the field east of the Unity Road. -- Newport Water Department.

**1966** -- Negotiations for the sale of the Newport Shoe Mfg. Corp. plant were continuing this week. Meanwhile the plant is being operated by Continental Shoe Corp., Portsmouth, on a week-to-week basis. -- Argus - 3 March 1966.

**1966** -- Clean-up work on the Newport House and Theatre, heavily damaged in a Christmas night fire in 1965, was started last week. -- Argus - 31 Mar. 1966.

**1966** -- A special town meeting to act on a recommendation of the town's option to buy the land and buildings of the Newport Shoe Manufacturing Corp. has been called for April 21 in the Armory. /// Newport is to have a small auditorium and art gallery. (It is later called the Library Arts Center.) The Richards Library Trustees approved construction of such a facility in the barn (the carriage shed) in the rear of the present library, formerly the home of Mrs. D. Sidney Rollins and the late Mr. Rollins. -- Argus - 7 April 1966.

**1966** -- At least three firms are interested in operating the plant of Newport Shoe Manufacturing Corp. which filed a petition with the U.S. Referee in Bankruptcy last week. /// Employees of the former Newport Shoe Manufacturing Corp. may receive

between 50 percent and 60 percent of their wage claims, Atty. Harry V. Spanos, trustee in bankruptcy for the corporation, announced at a special town meeting Saturday night in the Armory. A new corporation, the Sunapee Shoe Corp., was formed Monday and is now the new owner of the land, buildings and equipment of the former shoe company on Canal Street. /// The gondola lift at Mt. Sunapee State Park has been successfully tested with a new launching system and will start public operation on May 28. -- Argus - 5 May, 1966.

**1966** -- A school board decision not to use the 63-year-old Primary School building on Sunapee St. (now the town office building) was based on lack of need, obsolescence and the danger of costly repairs to the heating equipment, according to a statement by the board yesterday. -- Argus - 9 June 1966.

**1966** -- The last class -- 75 seniors -- graduates from Towle High School. They represent the final chapter for the 43-year-old high school building which will be converted into an elementary school by next year. Graduation ceremonies were held in the Newport Junior High School. -- Argus 16 June 1966.

**1966** -- The local small fry who enjoyed fishing from the Pollards Mills Bridge connecting Unity Road with the Pollards Mills Road, may have mixed emotions about the collapse of what they call the Red Bridge. (The kids, including my own, called this the Silver Bridge when it was painted aluminum color. E.H.) The bridge collapsed Sunday when a truck owned by Henry Dairy Transport, Inc., Saxtons River, Vt., crossed it (at the instruction of police) so it could avoid the route of the American Legion parade. -- (Trout were then milk-fed as truck drained into the river). -- Argus - 30 June 1966.

**1966** -- First Lt. John Francis Lee II, son of Mr. and Mrs. John F. Lee, 67 Church Street, died in Vietnam July 6 of wound suffered while serving as an American advisor to a Vietnamese army unit in combat. He was 25 years old. -- Argus in As We Were July 24, 1991.

**1966** -- Pine Tree Castings Corp., Route 103, Guild, a fully-owned subsidiary of Sturm Ruger Co., Southport, Conn., this week starts building a \$144,000, 120-foot wing on the east side of the present building. -- Argus - 18 Aug. 1966.

**1966** -- The new Kearsarge Regional School District will become part of Supervisory Union 43 (SAU 43) thus increasing the responsibilities of the union superintendent, Gordon B. Flint. -- Argus - 25 Aug. 1966.

**1966** -- Because of excellent public reception in its first season, the new four-passenger gondola at Mt. Sunapee State Park in Newbury will continue to operate daily through the foliage season until Oct. 12. -- Argus 1 Sept. 1966. /// Replacement mail routes are established for Newport and other towns served by the Sectional Center, White River Junction, when train service is discontinued Sunday. -- Argus 8 Sept. 1966.

**1966** -- The Dorr Woolen Mill Store opened Monday in its new location, a modern one-

story brick and cement block construction on the Guild Common. -- Argus - 15 Sept. 1966.

**1966** -- Billy B. Van's Pine Tree Soap, first distributed from Newport, is still on the market. The House of Wrisley, Paris, Tenn., manufactures the soap in the hand size cake and it is sold bulk pack, 44 bars to the case. /// The bridge at Pollards Mills (more accurately on Pollards Mills Road near the Unity Road) is to be replaced by Dec. 1 under a contract signed this week with F. D. Swett, Inc., Pembroke. -- Argus -- 20 Oct. 1966.

**1966** -- Sponsored by the U.S. State Department, three educators from Thailand will be here for a three-day visit to observe American education. -- Argus- 27 Oct. 1966.

**1967** -- Richards Library is featured in the January issue of New Hampshire Profiles as the Home of the Month. Seventeen pictures, most of them by Smith Photo Center, illustrate the article by Betty Shelley, which tells the story of the Seth Richards home, designed by James T. Kelley, and built over a three-year period, starting in 1897.

**1967** -- A face-lifting plan for Newport's Main St., will be proposed in March, John Cummings, chairman of the Newport Chamber of Commerce mercantile committee, announced at the annual banquet Monday night. -- Argus 12 Jan. 1967.

**1967** -- Newport residents will get a good look at their new Newport Junior-Senior High School Sunday. The entire building, including the junior high portion, will be on view. -- Argus 12 Jan. 1967.

**1967** -- Granliden Hotel in Sunapee is torn down. (Built in 1906.)

**1967** -- Headline: All Newport selectmen say they'll be forced to quit if the town abolishes town manager form of government. -- Argus 16 Feb. 1967.

**1967** -- Jennie Dunham's (Jennie, the Paper Lady) newspaper route in Newport was interrupted this week for the second time in recent weeks after many years of faithful service to customers. Mrs. Dunham suffered a broken ankle in a fall and is a patient at the Newport Hospital. -- Argus 9 March 1967.

**1967** -- The original carriage house of Seth Richards' home (now the Richards Free Library) is opened as the Library Arts Center.-- p.8 Supplement to the Argus and Eagle Times 23 Aug. 1995. See also p. 15 "Newport, N.H. by Newport Area Chamber of Commerce, 1998.)

**1967** -- Rehearsals are now in full swing for the 1967 American Legion Minstrel Show to be presented in the Opera House in April. (Clearly Newport was not yet sensitive to the protests of American blacks about minstrel shows.) -- Argus 20 April 1967.

**1967** -- Colonial restoration (of Main Street) has been recommended by a Dartmouth College survey team of three architectural course students. -- Argus 27 April 1967.

**1967** -- W. Norman Croteau and R. Gilman Stockwell, owners and operators of Stockwell's Greenhouses, North Main Street, have purchased the Main St. property formerly owned by Silsby and Johnson Inc. from Donald Martin of Newport and Gerald H. Martin, Bradford. (Silsby and Johnson was a brick hardware store and plumber and occupied part of the space now occupied by First N.H. Bank at 55 Main St.) -- Argus 22 June 1967.

**1967** -- Project Headstart, the first such project in Newport, opened at the Richards School at 8:15 yesterday with 41 children, the largest group in three years. (If it's the first how can it be 3 years old?) -- Argus 6 July 1967.

**1967** -- A long-range plan for making a beautiful park of Newport Common will be presented by Leon Pearson of the New Hampshire Landscape Co., Hooksett, as a result of action taken Thursday night by the Newport Tree Committee. -- Argus 10 August 1967.

**1967** -- Newport's 1.6 million dollar sewer project will be delayed at least a year if the Johnson administration cuts the price tag on a Federal pollution program. /// Front page photo: Two and one-half million gallon water tank will be erected on this base, scheduled to be completed next week at the end of Summer St. Extension. This is one portion of the water works improvement program now under way in Newport. -- Argus 7 Sept. 1967.

**1967** -- Construction of a ski jump in the rear of the Newport High School was approved by the School Board Monday night. -- Argus 12 Oct. 1967.

**1967** -- Granliden Hotel in Sunapee, one of the most ornate structures in the Newport-Lake Sunapee area and a popular resort and showplace for nearly 60 years, was sold this week and may be razed in a re-development project. -- Argus 19 Oct. 1967.

**1967** -- Expansion plans for five Newport businesses are nearing completion. Flowercraft, former Stockwell Greenhouse of N. Main St. will have its grand opening Saturday. Reliable Auto Sales was established recently at 199 Sunapee St.; the Yankee Barn is an expansion of a furniture restoration business started by the late Jed Hitchcock and carried on by his widow, Beatrice Hitchcock in the family home on East Mountain Road; LaValley Building Supply, Inc., Guild has started another expansion of its business, established just five years ago in Newport, and Kemp and Chapman Machine Shop is constructing a new shop on Putnam Rd. -- Argus - 26 Oct. 1967.

**1967** -- Newport's first full-time recreation program will start Monday. Recreation Director Robert Young announced a schedule this week that will keep the newly-rented Newport Community Center, formerly the Armory on Belknap Ave., jampacked with activities seven days a week. -- Argus 22 Nov. 1967.

**1967** -- Front page photo caption: Perseverance prevailed and made Coach Ted Niboli's

dream true for a 20-meter ski jump for his Newport High School ski team and other Newport enthusiasts. Shown working on the site behind the school's athletic field is Coach Niboli and team members. They provided the work and generous citizens provided the means. -- Argus - 30 Nov. 1967. [This was the first jump built on that site. In 1972 a 30-meter jump was built.]

**1968** -- Dorr Woolen Co. this week began construction of an 8,500-square-foot addition to its plant in Guild. -- Argus 4 April 1968.

**1968** -- Sturm, Ruger and Co. has begun construction of a new \$179,000 addition to its manufacturing facilities in Guild. -- Argus 2 May 1968.

**1968** -- The goals and methods of the Head Start program in North Newport will be explained to the Friends and Neighbors Club at a meeting in Towle Elementary School. -- Argus -- 16 May 1968.

**1968** -- Swimming pool. Newport Swim Inc. funds reached a total of \$3,614.50 as of yesterday according to Archie Mountain, general chairman of the drive. [Whatever happened to this planned swimming pool, and to the funds accumulated?] /// Employees of Dorr Woolen Co. and Pinnacle Manufacturing Co. will receive a general pay increase of 13 cents per hour, plus an increase in insurance benefits estimated to cost two cents per hour effective May 20. -- Argus 29 May 1968.

**1968** -- Front page photo: Sunapee's oldest hotel bowed to progress this week. Ben Mere Inn, a 75-room landmark overlooking Sunapee Harbor since 1896, is being demolished by its Haverhill, Mass., owners to make room for a more modern establishment. -- Argus 6 June 1968.

**1968** -- Senate Minority leader Harry V. Spanos, Newport, was in the news this week as a possible candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor. -- Argus 6 June 1968.

**1968** -- Newport will have to stop burning at its town dump (on Breakneck Hill Road) in three years. -- Argus 27 June 1968.

**1968** -- Three building permits for expansion totaling \$50,800 were issued to local businesses, Wilcox Lumber Co., Goshen Rd. for construction of an 12 by 16 foot office, \$800; CLJ Realty Co., Newport, to tear down the Purmort property and other small buildings near the railroad tracks on the west side of Main St. and construction of 43 by 47 foot addition to the Johnson Block and store, \$20,000; and McGray and Nichols, Inc. for construction of an office on the Guild Rd., \$30,000. -- Argus 11 July 1968.

**1968** -- Newport's expanded, modernized water system is expected to be in complete operation by Dec. of this year, according to Alvin Heidner, town manager. -- Argus 8 Aug. 1968.

**1968** -- Johnson's Ben Franklin Store, one of Newport's oldest retail establishments, will nearly double its present size as the result of a two-story brick veneer building being added in the rear. It is expected to be ready for operation about Thanksgiving. The store is owned by Cleon L. Johnson, Jr., the third generation of the family to operate the store, and his mother, Mrs. Cleon L. Johnson, Sr. (Photo) -- Argus 19 Sept. 1968.

**1968** -- The installation of water meters throughout the town will begin next Monday. -- Argus 19 Sept. 1968.

**1968** -- Sugar River Savings Bank is computerized. Keyboards at the bank are in direct contact with computer banks in Boston. -- Argus 31 Oct. 1968.

**1968** -- The Charter Revision Committee will conduct two public hearings next week on its proposed new charter for the town of Newport. -- Argus 12 Dec. 1968.

**1969** -- Newport telephones will have direct distance dialing starting Mar. 15. -- Argus 23 Jan. 1969.

**1969** -- The Richards Library has received \$50,000 in securities from the estate of Mrs. D. Sidney Rollins, a bequest that is to be used as an endowment, the income from which is to be used for the maintenance of the library building. -- Argus 6 Feb. 1969.

**1969** -- Crime nearly doubled in Newport during 1968. Criminal arrests during the year totaled 376 compared to 190 in 1967, according to the annual report of the Newport Police Dept. -- Argus Feb. 1969.

**1969** -- The day care center about to be established in Newport by parents of Head Start children is seeking contributions of materials and equipment, Harold Matherson of the committee announced. /// Newport is on the verge of tremendous growth if it will work and invest for it, George E. Slye, executive vice president of Spaulding and Slye Boston, development firm, told the Newport Chamber of Commerce at a dinner sponsored by the Sugar River Savings Bank Monday night. /// Construction of the new Kearsarge Regional High School in Sutton will get underway the third week in April, weather permitting, Gordon B. Flint, superintendent of schools, announced this week. -- Argus 20 Mar. 1969.

**1969** -- Construction begins on new bay at Fire Station as result of Town Meeting approval of \$21,000-bond to house heavy fire apparatus. /// William Massey, Breakneck Road, has been hired as a full time police dispatcher by the Newport Police Department - Argus 17 April 1969.

**1969** -- Two proposed new highways to expedite traffic flow between Wendell and Newport center and eventually to bypass the center will be explained to town officials June 2. -- Argus -22 May 1969.

**1969** -- The three high schools in Supervisory Union 43 ranked high in the 20th annual

statewide National Mathematics contest conducted recently. Sunapee High earned first place in the small school category. Newport High and New London High ranked second and third in the medium public high school class. -- Argus - May 29, 1969.

**1969** -- Ground was broken Monday for Newport's newest industry, the Hartford Element Co., manufacturers of electric heating elements. Construction has begun on an 80- by 84- foot structural steel one-story building on Guild Road. -- Argus - 26 June 1969.

**1969** -- Conversion of the Newport Savings Bank bookkeeping process to a computer system will be completed Oct. 11, and will be available to depositors Oct. 14. -- Argus - 2 Oct. 1969.

**1969** -- New facilities for active participation in the arts (pottery, painting, stenciling) are added to the basement area of the Library Arts Center. -- Supplement to Argus and Eagle Times. p. 8, 23 Aug. 1995.

**1970 Population: 5,870. [Population of the state of N.H. was 738,000, an increase of 21.6%. Newbury's resident population was 520, a gain of 80 over last year.]**

**1970 -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy:***

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 67 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 75 years. National Center for Health Statistics*

**1970** --Newport's population grew 3.2 percent in 1970 from 5,458 in 1960 to 5,630 in 1970 while Sullivan County population grew 4.6 percent from 28,067 to 29,351, according to preliminary figures of the Bureau of Census. -- Argus - 6 Aug. 1970. (These are prelim. figures. The one above for Newport is from Newport's Master Plan which uses U.S. Census figures.)

**1970** -- The new lane of Interstate I-89 through Grantham will be built east of the existing lane. /// The Sunapee School Board voted to drop physical education, art and music to cut its teachers' salary base from \$6,400 to \$6,300 Tuesday night to fit Sunapee's education program into the budget that was cut \$19,043 at their March 11 School District meeting. -- Argus 19 March 1970.

**1970** -- Newport's two oldest banks, the First National Bank and the Newport Savings Bank, this week announced plans for doubling their facilities at 9 Main St. The banks will occupy the space now occupied by Miller Bros. Clothing when the store closes. /// The Newport Planning Board has adopted subdivision regulations. It set rules for development with specifications for street construction, pavement and drainage facilities, curbs and sidewalks. -- Argus 9 April 1970.

**1970** -- Newport voters will be asked to approve a \$33,315 kindergarten program and a \$180,000 athletic facility. /// Towne's Sugar River Pharmacy, 71 Main Street, will



discontinue the sale of cigarettes today.

**1970** -- UFO sighting in Croydon...."Hovered for 45 minutes 50 degrees from western horizon, moved south to Newport where visible from airport."

**1970** -- James E. Lantz, manager of Simon's Jewelers Inc., Brattleboro, since it opened 14 years ago, has purchased the M. J. Harrington Jewelers' Store, 19 Main Street, Newport, according to a story published in the Brattleboro Reformer last week.-- Argus 24 Sept. 1970.

**1970** -- Newport school board buys 17 acres adjacent to Newport High School. -- Argus -15 Oct. 1970.

**1970** -- Brampton Woolen Co. is closing its doors after 70 years in Newport during which top employment was nearly 200 persons. /// McGray and Nichols, Inc., Guild Road, has been awarded a \$700,000 contract to construct the first 24-unit cluster of condominium residences in Hilltop Place on the former Brocklebank property in New London. -- Argus - 25 Nov. 1970.

**1971** -- Fifty of 58 Newporters refused to sign a petition that was part of the American Declaration of Independence, when invited to do so by Royal A. Wallace III of the Argus-Champion. Wallace was called a communist, a John Bircher, an extremist and was ordered out of one Newport business establishment and told never to return. All of the eight persons who did sign it, recognized it. -- Argus 4 Feb. 1971.

**1971** -- Town's first elevator is installed in Richards block (Lake Sunapee Bank building) ... Town builds primary sewage treatment plant, and ends pumping sewage into Sugar River in December.

**1971** -- Newport High graduates a record-breaking 108. -- Argus - 17 June 1971.

**1971** -- Arlington American Sample Co., which completed purchase of the former Brampton Woolen Mill property in Newport last Thursday, will be in operation with a skeleton force in about ten days, Arthur J. Chandler, executive vice president, said yesterday. /// The installation of a traffic light at Elm, Maple and South Main Sts. was approved by selectmen Aug. 16 and will be installed between 90 and 120 days, according to Town Mgr. Robert G. Horne. -- Argus - 19 Aug. 1971.

**1971** -- A front p. pic. of Newport's 3.5 million gallon-per-day sewage treatment plant which will be dedicated Nov. 6. -- Argus 28 Oct. 1971.

**1971** -- Demolition of a long-standing Newport tenement began this week and by next summer Newport will have a much-needed off-street parking area in its site. The three-story building at the corner of West and Ash Streets, known as the Kenerson property for more than half a century, has been purchased just for this purpose by Newport Development Inc., a non-profit organization in which Newport merchants have invested

to acquire property for town needs with the hope they will be reimbursed by the town some time. -- Argus 18 Nov. 1971.

**1971** -- Sturm, Ruger and Co., Inc. Guild Rd., this week announced an expansion program that will increase its plant facilities by 25 percent and increase jobs in its Pine Tree Castings Division 80 percent and Sturm, Ruger 50 percent by the end of the year. The company must step up its production of double action revolvers immediately by 80 percent, John A. Clements, vice president of the Newport Division said, to meet increasing demand for law enforcement weapons. -- Argus 15 Dec. 1971.

**1972** -- Newport Police Chief Alexander P. Lewko completed 26 years as Newport's fifth chief of police and 36 years as a police officer. He will be honored at a testimonial dinner March 1 at Mount Sunapee State Park. -- Argus 2 Feb. 1972.

**1972** -- An autographed manuscript of the famous "Mary's Lamb" signed by Newport's Sarah Josepha Hale, and a piece of wool from the first fleece of the lamb about which the poem was written in 1830 will be put on the auction block at Sotheby Park-Bernet, New York City, April 11. Officials at the Gallery estimate its value at between \$3,000 and \$4,000. -- Argus - 29 Mar. 1972.

**1972** -- Fire destroys 3-story Winston Hotel at SW corner of Main and West streets. // The hotel had been operated for many years by the family of Cleo Franklin and had also been known as the Dudley Block. [The site in 1995 was occupied by BankEast.] -- photo caption p. 18 Argus 10 April 1991. /// Caption of photo in Oct. 25, 1972 Argus: Fire destroys Winston Hotel, third Newport business establishment site which has been destroyed by fire at the Main St. site in a little more than a century, was one of the two remaining tributes to novelist Winston Churchill, author of Coniston, which referred to Newport as Brampton.

**1972** -- The Lafayette House, on S. Main Street [on land occupied in 1997 by Rite Aid] is dismantled and will be reconstructed as part of a model colonial village on Quechee Lakes Corp., in Hartland, Vt. The house was called the Lafayette House because in 1825 [June 27] the French General Lafayette, who served as a major general under General Washington during the Revolutionary War, returned to the U.S. as an old man on a triumphal visit to the land he helped free from the British, and had dinner at the house on S. Main St. [See p. 259 Wheeler] (The general's full name was Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, marquis de Lafayette. Small wonder that today our generals with small names -- Colin Powell, George Patton -- do not elicit the parades that Lafayette did on 1825. Big name, big parade.) -- Argus 19 April 1972.

**1972** -- The Cross Street bridge, long a controversial topic in Newport, was closed at 6:15 p.m. Saturday, only ten days after its reopening. The bridge had been closed since 1967. It was closed because a one-and-a-half foot hole in diameter existed in the bridge. The beams had given way and the ends of the wooden beams were not aligned with the steel beams. -- Argus 9 Aug. 1972.

**1972** -- New London: (photo caption) Operation Skyhook -- Helicopter hovers over a hole in the ground before dropping a ski tower into the earth at the King Ridge Ski Area, New London. The tower is only one phase of the \$670,000 expansion program at the mountain. -- Argus 13 Sept. 1972.

**1972** -- The four-way traffic light at the intersection of Elm, Maple and Main streets will not be installed until spring, Town Manager Robert Horne told selectmen last Wednesday night. -- Argus 20 Sept. 1972.

**1972** -- A Main St. mill site for the past 126 years will soon be a parking lot. Plans to tear down the former Brampton Woolen Co. main mill, the wooden section on the north side of River St. are being formulated by the new owners of the property, Arlington American Sample Co. -- Argus 22 Nov. 1972.

**1972** -- John C. McCrillis, James Lantz, Robert Rollins, Frank MacConnell and Roland Tremblay merged minds and came up with an idea to build a ski jump at Newport High School -- and consistent with the enthusiasm which bubbles among the young members of the club, wasted no time in reshaping the hill behind the high school and building the ski jump. -- Argus 28 Dec. 1972. [This was the second ski jump -- a 30-meter jump. See 1967.]

**1973** -- Petitions are being circulated to change the Newport Board of Selectmen from three to five members. -- Argus - 17 Jan. 1973.

**1973** -- The Newport board of selectmen has requested \$4,000 for preliminary engineering design to convert the Primary School on Sunapee Street to town office headquarters in a special article that will go before the Mar. 6 town meeting. -- Argus 14 Feb. 1973.

**1973** -- Argus photos: Cleaning up the ruins: Backhoe scoops up debris from March fire that destroyed Central St. landmark owned by Arlington Sample Co. Building began as a water-powered corn and sawmill, housed Newport's first theater, once was an armory, bowling alley, laundromat, plumbing and heating firm, and finally electrical contractors. -- Argus 27 June 1973. [A local historian doubts that the building housed the gristmill and sawmill.]

**1973** -- [Photo caption] -- At long last a traffic light for Newport. John Economu, whose pleas for a light to control traffic at Main, Maple and Elm streets have become a Newport town meeting tradition, grins as he throws the switch to activate the light. -- Argus 11 July 1973.

**1973** -- The legislature passes a current use land law, which affects local taxes. -- N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1973** -- The District Court and Town Museum defy destruction and the building is entered onto the National Registry.

**1974** -- (Photo) -- Newport selectmen look over their new offices as work begins on the remodeling of the old Primary School building on Sunapee St. .... The finished building will house the town offices, currently located in the old Citizens National Bank building and the Supervisory Union #43 school offices, now at 11 Main Street. -- Argus 3 July 1974.

**1974** -- Newport Opera House Association is formed. -- Newport Town Times, p. 2, Vol. 11, Fall 1997. // Argus p.C9 (Sunshine Town) 24 May 2006.

**1974** -- The former Primary School on Sunapee Street is being remodeled for town and school offices. -- Argus 7 Nov. 1988.

**1974** -- Area residents turn to wood as fuel to combat soaring oil and electricity costs. Wood stoves sell as fast as dealers can get them. Chainsaw sales mushroom. Many outdoor woodpiles. Wood cutters can hardly supply enough...Grain storage shed in Depot Square torn down.

**1975** -- Encore Shoe Co. of Massachusetts opens a division in Kelleyville. /// Silsby and Johnson Block and Coniston Theater demolished to make way for new home of the First Citizens National Bank. /// Coniston once site of Phenix Hotel...Argus story says bell, then on roof of Town Hall, was originally in steeple of Newport Universalist Church (now Sierra Photo) and given to town when church disbanded. Used as fire bell. Now on display in front of Town Hall on sidewalk.

**1975** -- [photo] On its way from the roof of Newport Town Hall to the belfry of the renovated Newport District Courthouse, the Revere Bell that originally called worshipers to the Universalist Church and later firemen to Newport duty, is lifted by a giant crane. It will be housed in the Newport Fire Station for the winter, and is expected to be installed in the spring. [Is this the bell sitting in a little house in front of the town hall?] -- Argus - 12 Nov. 1975.

**1976** -- 48 Newport families report income of \$50,000 or more according to survey...Volunteers sand smooth 3500 square feet of Opera House floor...John Farrington of Newport gives Opera House Restoration project \$15, the amount he received for his appearance as a boxer in Opera House in 1927.

**1976** -- Newport Charitable Association transfers assets of \$500,000 to N.H. Charitable Fund with proviso that money (interest from principal) will be used for charitable purposes in Newport area. Group formerly operated Newport Home for Aged Women on Laurel street.

**1977** -- Rowell Bros., which is marking its 100th anniversary this month is the only Newport family business still being operated in the same location where it was established in 1877. -- Argus 16 Feb. 1977.

**1977** -- A new 50,000 square-foot addition to...Sturm Ruger will create job opportunities...here, where the weekly payroll is already near 800.

**1977** -- Bruce Cronin plans first world premiere of his new movie, "Henry Phipps Goes Skiing" starring Babe Sargent at Sawyer Center in New London. The second premiere is planned at the Newport Opera House for the NOHA's benefit.

**1977** ..."Newport's Riverside Rehabilitation Project should be...completed before first snow next fall...giving Newport a block-long expanse of scenery overlooking Sugar River on the south side of Sunapee street between Canal and Central streets." Seven buildings to be demolished including Coronis Market and Plant World Nurseries and Florists.

**1977** -- The state of N.H. may take legal action against Dorr Woolen Co. for accidentally dumping less than 175 gallons of concentrated sulfuric acid into the Sugar River and killing more than 1,000 fish. -- Argus 2 June 1977.

**1977** -- Superior Court renovated and first session is held after open house.

**1977** -- The Edes House at the corner of Belknap Avenue and North Main Street is torn down. It was one of the first houses in Newport to have running water and electricity.

**1977** -- Teachers' Union. Newport teachers form a labor union and become a bargaining unit on June 15, 1977. This was enabled by the state's Public Employee Labor Relations law of 1975, Chapter 273-A. -- interview with NEA regional director John Fessenden, 603-747-2759, July 18, 1991.

**1977** -- Editorial Comment – “Gov. Thomson should get an award for his statement last week that Dr. Martin Luther King ‘did great harm to the American way of life....’ He richly deserves the James Earl Ray Award.” – Argus, 17 August 1977. [NOTE -- This was a quote on the edit page, written by the editor, Ed DeCourcy, and is a sarcastic criticism of Gov. Thomson. It was republished in the As We Were column on Aug. 21, 2002 with a 2-col. by 6-inch photo of Gov. Thomson. Apparently the editor who reprinted the comment in 2002 then either agreed with the former governor’s comment, or did not know who James Earl Ray was, or did not recognize DeCourcy’s comment as sarcastic. Even so, what could explain the use of the former governor’s picture?]

**1977** -- Newport’s Paul Revere Bell, which once sounded fire alarms, was placed in a permanent display in front of the Town Hall Oct. 21. The \$1,300 wood and Plexiglas structure was built by United Construction Corp. [Photo] – Argus 2 Nov. 1977.

**1978** -- In the list below is a description of Newport in 1978, as compiled in a one-page brochure titled “The Sunshine Town” by the Newport Chamber of Commerce. Here is what we had then:

- a population of 6,385, up from 5,989 as reported in the 1970 U.S. Census.
- three banks.

- nine churches.
- a library with 22,522 volumes.
- one weekly newspaper.
- one radio station.
  
- one woolen mill.
- three shoe factories.
- one firearms factory.
- one electrical heating element factory.
- five machine parts factories.
- one commission yarn spinning company.
- two lumber mills.
- three print shops.
- two clothing manufacturing companies.
- seven restaurants.
  
- four motels.
- six food stores.
- two drug stores.
- three hardware stores.
- six clothing stores.
- two variety stores.
- one jewelry store.
- one bakery.
- two department stores.
- one sportshop.
- two shoe stores.
- three gift shops.
- three florists.
- two building suppliers.
- eight gas stations.
- three new-car dealers.
- five used-car dealers.
  
- one 27-bed acute care general hospital.
- an unreported number of medical doctors who are specialists in primary care, surgery, diagnostics.
- five dentists.
- two optometrists.
- one chiropractor.

- one optician.
- one veterinarian.
  
- one airport.
  
- five local trucking companies.
- one taxi service.
  
- one nine-hole golf course.
- tennis courts.
- one bowling alley.
- one motion picture cinema.
  
- a nine-man police department with three crossing guards, five special officers, and four fulltime dispatchers.
- a fire department with a chief and three housemen back by 46 trained volunteers, with three pumpers, one tanker-pumper combination, one van, one pickup truck and one ladder truck.
- a municipally-owned ambulance service with two ambulances, headed by a professionally-trained director.

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**1978** -- "Planners in the early 1960s envisioned a Newport in the 1970s with a new school, recreation area, new town buildings and major changes in water and sewer systems. Each...has been accomplished, but not as planned by planners in 1962 and 1963."

**1978** -- Joint venture in county of solid waste disposal discussed by county delegation. /// Footbridge across Sugar River, about 100 yards downstream from South Main street bridge is considered dangerous and has been closed. /// Argus-Champion establishes office in New London in McKenna building. /// New organ dedicated at South Church.

**1978** -- The worst blizzard in a quarter century stifled activity in Newport-Lake Sunapee area Feb. 7. Schools were closed. Some stores did not open. Others that did closed early. /// Last freight train to Newport delivers cars to LaValley Building Supply.

**1978** -- Joseph and Elizabeth Beecher, Bradford, who formerly operated two restaurants in Chester, Conn., have purchased the Newport Diner from Ole Nicolaisen. Originally a dining place for students at Darmouth College, Hanover, complete with under-counter shelves for students' books, the diner was brought to Newport in the 1930's by the late William Lambert, who operated it as Billy's Diner. -- Argus 3 May 1978.

**1978** -- Newport Legionnaires formed the Claude J. Brewster Fife, Drum and Bugle Corps 52 years ago, and a year later were state champs. So when a handful of survivors meet July 21 at Jimmy Wright's farm in Mount Sunapee for their annual reunion, most of their reminiscing, as in past years, will be about the 1929 American Legion Convention

in Louisville, Ky., in which they participated, as state champions. "We formed the corps because it was the fad for service groups to have such a group and enter competitions," says Amos Shepard. "We bought some old drums and some piccolos that first year. We outfitted ourselves in white duck trousers and blue duck coats. We worked hard under the direction of the late Dell Graves. When we bought tenor and bass bugles the next year, Mac Rowell was our bugle instructor." -- Argus 19 July 1978.

**1978** -- Newport has 3,385 voters registered to cast their ballots. Of these 1,466 are Democrats and 1,154 are Republicans. Independents number 765. Argus 7 Sept. 1978.

**1979** -- Sunshine Baptist Church organized Sept. 23 at 410 Sunapee St. with 41 members. Pastor is Rev. Don Secrest.

**1980 Population: 6,229. [Population of state of N.H. is 920,610, up 25%.]**

**1980 -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy:***

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 70 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 78 years. National Center for Health Statistics*

**1980** -- Robert G. Horne, who served as Newport's town manager for 27 months from June 17, 1971, was appointed to the Newport Board of Selectmen to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Ronald H. Taylor, Jr. - Argus 5 Sept. 1990 (As We Were) - Hist. Soc. Scrapbook.

**1980** -- A photo shows: Part of Newport's 187 parking meters, removed last week as per order of town meeting March 11, loaded into a dump truck and headed for storage in town hall. Town meeting voted in favor of a special article in the warrant asking permanent removal of the meters, a two-hour parking limit to be recorded by chalk marks on tires, and a fine of \$3 for each violation. -- Argus 2 April 1980.

**1980** -- The North Newport covered bridge, which was closed March 18 as a hazard to safety is undergoing repair this week by ... the N.H. Department of Public Works and Highways. Workmen said the bridge was in worse condition than it looked because it had not been maintained. They had to build a superstructure underneath to hold it up, and complained that for every visible rotten plank they found they had to replace nine. -- Argus 2 July 1980. NOTE: See

**1980** -- William B. Ruger, Jr., Newport, wants to generate electricity with Sugar River water. As sole proprietor of the Sugar River Hydroelectric Power Co., he has applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a preliminary permit for feasibility, environmental and marketing studies over a 36-month period. -- Argus - 12 Nov. 1980.

**1980** -- Three organizations responsible for the rebuilding and realignment of Elm St. and rebuilding the Elm street bridge have agreed to purchase and demolish the Jasinski Block, 2 Elm St. (home of Vic's Market) status of which has held up the project for more



than a year. /// Croydon: The town's share of the 1980 Croydon tax rate rose \$6.30 for each \$1,000 in property value this year as the town begins its five-year payment of \$63,000 to the Blue Mountain Forest Ass'n. (Corbin Park). -- Argus - 19 Nov. 1980. (See entry below: Argus 17 June 81.)

**1980** -- (photo) North Newport Covered Bridge opened to traffic at 3:30 p.m. Aug. 15. The bridge was closed March 18 by order of the N.H. Dept. of Public Works and Highways, which proclaimed the bridge dangerous. It was rebuilt by the N.H. Department at a total cost of \$66,000, of which \$12,000 came from Newport tax money. -- Argus 20 Aug. 1980. [See burning of that bridge at 1993].

**1980** -- Headline: Newport Ordered to Close its Landfill by March 1. The town may have to dig up the landfill site and repair damage done by pollution. -- Argus - 17 Dec. 1980.

**1980** -- The Town Hall and Opera House is place on the National Historic Register. -- Pamphlet by the Newport Opera House Association for its 1998 Annual Fund Drive

**1981** -- Six Newport-Lake Sunapee area communities -- Newport, Grantham, Croydon, Goshen, Lempster and Washington -- have been ordered by the N.H. Solid Waste Program to report in writing by March 1 steps they are taking to close their landfills and bring them in compliance with state health regulations. /// A 5 percent cap on property tax increases and governmental spending, plus doing away with all parking restrictions in Newport will be among special articles upon which voters will act at Newport's annual town meeting March 18. (Early indications of desire for fewer government restrictions and something similar to California's and Mass.' Proposition etc.) -- Argus -- 4 Feb. 1981.

**1981** -- The Newport landfill closes March 31. Newporters will then haul their trash to the Claremont landfill. -- Argus - 25 Mar. 1981.

**1981** -- On Dec. 18 the Sullivan County Regional Refuse Disposal District is formed. Two days earlier 14 Vermont towns also formed a district for the same purpose. -- News Leader - 27 April 1995.

**1981** -- The Sugar River Watershed Project, a plan in the works for 15 years to build ten flood control dams and recreation lakes in Sullivan County will be revived May 13 in the District Court Building. -- Argus - 6 May 1981.

**1981** --Letter to Editor of Argus: "The people of Newport are not pleased with the recent closing of the Newport movie theater. It causes many problems, especially for kids, who like to go to the movies. People now have to travel to Claremont to see a movie. I think the town should remodel the theater and reopen it or open a new one at the Sugar River Plaza. The present theater is dirty, the seats are torn, the screen is ripped and the restrooms are not clean at all. The worst problem of all is the ceiling; it has so many holes in it that when it rains you get soaked. The town or someone should raise money to open a new theater in the old building in the plaza. -- Barbara Clement, Newport." -- 27

May 1981.

**1981** -- The Town of Croydon lost its argument with the N.H. Current Use Advisory Board in an unanimous decision handed down June 10 by the five-judge N.H. Supreme Court, ending a challenge that began in 1974. (This involve current use in Corbin Park?) - Argus 17 June 1981.

**1981** -- Freedom Data Systems, a supplier of pharmacy and point-of-sale computer systems, leaves Claremont and moves to 47 Belknap Avenue, Newport.

**1981** -- William Barrett, publisher of Suburban World, Inc., Needham, Mass., has agreed to buy the Argus-Champion, Newport's prize-winning 158-year-old weekly newspaper, effective Sept. 1. W. Arthur Grant, secretary of the University System of N.H. and former executive editor and publisher of the Bennington (Vt.) Banner, has been appointed editor and publisher of the Argus to succeed Edward DeCourcy, who has served in that capacity for 20 years and who will retire after a news career spanning 51 years. [Grant grew up in Newport and attended Newport schools. He remained with the Argus for only a short time, returning to the university of N.H.] /// Selectmen ordered the old Newport landfill on Rte. 10 [probably more correctly on Breakneck Hill Road] sealed by August 31 this year and decided to seal it with clay and top it with soil rather than a chemical mixed with clay or with a plastic cover. -- Argus - 5 Aug. 1981.

**1981** -- An out-of-town man who bought more than \$2,600 worth of fine books and paid for them with \$100 bills, boosted the revenue of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Richards Library Festival to \$6,086.37 in Newport Aug. 21 and 22. -- Argus 26 August 1981.

**1981** -- The Shop-Rite Super Market, 20 N. Main St., a business in Newport since 1956 (formerly Condon's Market), will close Sept. 5 if all the inventory is sold, according to Patrick Zullo and Anthony Kulesza, the owners. -- Argus - 2 Sept. 1981.

**1981** -- The Shop-Rite Supermarket, 20 North Main St., a business in Newport since 1956, will close Sept. 15 if all the inventory is sold, according to Patrick Zullo and Anthony Kulesza, the owners. -- Argus ?? Sept. 1951.

**1981** -- Newport Alternative School officials claim new restrictions are hurting their teaching program, but the school board refuses to change them at the school board meeting Nov. 17. Barry Genzlinger and Linda Trenholm, the alternate school officials, asked the board Nov. 17 to reinstate time, by which the students could leave the school grounds in the afternoon and take walks through the town, loosen up on its restrictions on smoking, and to let teachers dress as they wish during school. -- Argus 25 Nov. 1981

**1981** -- Selectman Arnold O. Campbell believes Newport has too many regulating boards and agencies, and asks his colleagues Dec. 7 to see how town meeting feels about eliminating some of them. -- Argus undated

**1982** -- Site of one of Newport's landmarks .. property at the corner of Main and

Sunapee sts. on which the Newport House once stood .. has been sold to Michael R. Feeney of Oakledge, Mt. Sunapee, for an undisclosed sum. The property includes the vacant one-story building that housed the former Latchis Theater. -- Argus 13 Jan. 1982

**1982** -- 114-acre forest tract in Goshen donated to N.E. Forestry Association in honor of Newport's Judge Jesse Barton. A mine on the land was once owned by President Franklin Pierce. Mine's graphite was used as crucibles. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook IV p. 25; probably Argus 20 Jan. 1982.

**1982** -- Another earthquake, the second in nine days, rattled the Newport-Lake Sunapee region at 7:17 p.m. Jan. 18, lasted 30 seconds, and knocked out telephone service for 15 minutes. It measured 4.4 on the Richter scale. The Jan. 9 quake registered 5.9, and broke a water main opposite the Lily Pond near Sturm-Ruger. -- Argus 20 Jan. 1982.

**1982** -- Town Manager Wm. K. Dugan will investigate cost and legal restrictions of having seven of the eight chimneys removed from the Town Hall. The building uses only one of the chimneys. (The town hall used wood (coal?) for heating when built in 1886.) -- Argus - 27 Jan. 1982 // Three proposed housing developments for Newport got a boost this week as the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development cleared one of a flood plain problem and pronounced two others as eligible to participate in a \$15 million subsidy. The properties are 6 1/2 acres on Oak St. owned by Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Maiola; land on Pearl St. behind Richards Library, owned by Sandell Development Corp., and 50 acres between Whipple Rd. and Old Springfield Rd. in Guild, upon which David Hodges, Concord, wants to build 50 subsidized-rent townhouses. -- Argus - 17 Feb. 1982.

**1982** -- Woodhull's Market moves (probably in January) from 28 Pleasant st., to South Main street. Woodhull's had been on Pleasant St. for 52 years. Later the Main St. store became a senior center. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook IV, p. 24

**1982** -- LaValley Building Supply, on the Guild Road, begun with the owner, his wife and one employee 20 years ago, now employs 110 people in four communities and observes its 20th birthday this month. -- Argus 7 April 1982

**1982** -- School boards throughout this area are to be invited to join the Newport School Board in a study that might lead to a new approach to vocational education in New Hampshire. -- Argus -- 7 April, 1982.

**1982** -- About 20 people, considering the Lake Sunapee Savings Bank's right to recall mortgages on second homes in the area and either raise the interest rates or demand payment in full, discussed the problem July 5 in the Grantham Municipal Building with legal counsel. -- Argus 8 July 1982.

**1982** -- Sugar River Savings Bank, Newport, is adding 5200 square feet to its existing home office space, plus a new teller service in the former Shop-Rite Supermarket on Main St. -- Argus 8 July 1982.

**1982** -- Both leaders, R. Barry Genzlinger, the director, and Linda Trenholm, the assistant, of Newport's alternative school, in existence since the fall term of 1977, have quit the program and the school board is looking for replacements. -- Argus 14 July 1982.

**1982** -- The building needs committee appointed by the Newport School Board was authorized to proceed with definite plans for the renovation of Richards Elementary School and to hire an architect. -- Argus 11 Aug. 1982.

**1982** -- About 25 Newport merchants concerned about business leaving Main St. discussed revitalization strategies Aug. 10 in the Library Arts Center. -- Argus 18 Aug. 1982.

**1982** -- The Sullivan County Delegation decided on Aug. 11 to concentrate on the Hirsch building but has not ruled out other options as a home for the Sullivan County Court and office complex. -- Argus 18, 1982.

**1982** -- Anne Segal, Hanover, recently appointed as assistant superintendent of School Administrative Unit 43 for Newport, Sunapee, and Croydon, is the first woman in an administrative position in the Unit. -- Argus 18 Aug. 1982.

**1982** -- The executive board of Newport's Chamber of Commerce says it's time to work on the revitalization of the downtown area, and they've agreed to spearhead efforts to work towards that goal. -- Argus 9 Sept. 1982.

**1982** -- Opening date of Newport House, the Sandell Development Corp. housing project for the elderly on Pearl St., has been changed to Jan. 1 -- Argus 9 Sept. 1982.

**1982** -- The Hartford Element Co. on Sunapee St. expects its business to double at least during the next year, due to its merger with Eichenauer Electric Heating of West Caldwell, N.J. -- Argus 15 Sept. 1982.

**1982** -- Feature story on Newport's telephone system. First switchboard installed on Main St. Nov. 1, 1882 in building that in 1996 housed Priscilla Sweet Shop. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook IV, p 47.

**1982** -- Photo caption. Making the Grade. Grading work goes on continuously along the top of the Goshen dam. Land has been cleared of trees and brush in the area which will soon be 100-acre Lake Gunnison. -- Argus 3 Nov. 1982.

**1982** -- Dixon's Thriftway has been bought by Associated Grocers of New England. /// Former Rowell Brothers property in Korn Alley behind Lake Sunapee Savings Bank has been purchased by the bank, said John J. Kiernan, bank president. /// Max Wasserman, who is developing the Pearl Street housing project for the elderly, says people should be moving in on Feb. 1. -- Argus - 22 Dec. 1982.

**1982** -- Creation of a Sullivan County Solid Waste Disposal District gathered momentum at town meetings March 9 as 11 of 15 towns contacted approved the concept by large majorities in ballot voting. /// A proposal to buy the DeWolf Block, 16 Main Street, for more county office space may be set aside this year and the \$78,000 used to bolster other department budgets. -- Argus 10 Mar. 1982.

**1982** -- A proposal to convert Sichel Swamp, North Newport, into a 300-acre controlled wilderness recreation area with a 200-acre cold water lake will come before the Newport Master Plan Committee next month, three years after a committee of eight voted against it. -- Argus - 31 Mar. 1982. // Lake Sunapee Savings Bank is calling in mortgages on second homes, "vacation" homes, owned by residents in the area, and offering to renegotiate terms at a high interest rate and extended time or accept (call in) payment on the mortgages in full. /// No smoking from now on in the Newport Town Hall. // Selectmen will discuss the Sichel Swamp conversion (see above) April 19. -- Argus - 14 April 1982.

**1982** -- Richards Library trustees retain New London architects, Sheerr and Gregor Corp., to plan and prepare drawings for library addition. -- Argus -- 18 April 1982 /// Plans of the Newport Sugar River Savings Banks proposed expansion and restoration program will be exposed to public viewing May 14 on the site at the corner of Main Street and Sugar River Square. -- Argus- 12 May 1982. /// A 78-acre Newport site on Rte. 11/103 near the Claremont line, has been selected by Sullivan County Regional Refuse Disposal District as a landfill for ashes if the N.H./Vt. Solid Waste Project builds an energy-recovering incinerator. -- Argus -16 June 1982. /// The state will begin making offers, probably in October this year, to Elm St. residents and businessmen for property so the Elm St. bridge can be replaced. /// William K. Dugan resigned as town manager during a special meeting of the selectmen July 20. -- Argus 21 July 1982.

**1983** -- Newport's railroad depot converted to medical building. Passenger service was discontinued in 1955. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook IV p. 62.

**1983** -- ???????Revitalization Committee is formed in February. -- (Oct. 1982 is given as another date.) ... Voters reject bond issue twice to renovate Richards School. /// Roof begins leaking in a 6th-grade classroom at Towle school. Revitalization Committee offers \$4000 challenge grant to town meeting to match it. /// Blasting begins for extension of water line on Oak street. -- Argus 4 Jan. 1984.

**1983**-- First Citizens National Bank says it will merge with Dartmouth National Bank. /// Lake Sunapee Savings Bank razes the 105-year-old former Rowell Bros. buildings in Korn Alley. - Argus 4 Jan. 1984.

**1983** -- Newport school officials...and others connected with the project...want to forget about the March 5 defeat of a bond issue that would have funded renovation of the 80-year-old Richards school. -- Argus 16 Mar. 1983.

**1983** -- The state and federal project to realign Elm St. and rebuild Elm St. bridge is on schedule, according to the Dept. of Public Works and Highways. -- Argus 13 April 1983.

**1983** -- Lake Sunapee Savings Bank's renovation of its property on Main and Depot Sts., Newport, is moving swiftly, and bank president John Kiernan said he expects the old Kelly Card and Gift Shop (Kelly Pharmacy?) to be in use as part of the bank within three or four weeks. Expansion of the state liquor store (also owned by the bank) on Depot St. should be complete by mid-summer, he said. -- Argus 4 May 1983.

**1983** -- Headline: Richards School Bond suffers a second loss. /// About 50 teachers in the Newport Teachers Assn. [the faculty labor union], each wearing an orange and black button, saying, "Newport Teachers PRO Education," attended the school board meeting in the Newport High School library to show their concern about the lack of progress in their almost five months of negotiations for a new contract. -- Argus 11 May 1983.

**1983** -- The Newport School Board at its May 31 meeting voted to install a sprinkler system and smoke and heat detectors throughout the Richards School building, and, in a separate vote, agreed to install a new smoke tower or stairwell on the east side of the building and construct access corridors between the annex and the old building. -- Argus 2 June 1983.

**1983** -- The Hanover-based Dartmouth National Bank and Newport's First Citizens National Bank have signed a merger agreement that will create a \$125 million asset institution. /// Sugar River Savings Bank of Newport, which opened in 1895 by sharing quarters with the Citizens National Bank, in what was once Newport's police headquarters, is getting ready to celebrate the opening of its newly-expanded banking facilities on N. Main. St. -- Argus 22 June 1983.

**1983** -- Gov. Sununu signed the state's capital budget June 24, and that guarantees the state will provide \$250,000 to pay for Newport's and Croydon's share of the flood control dam in Sichel Swamp N. Newport -- Argus 29 June 1983.

**1983** -- Newport is going into show business. Cinemas 1 and 2, two new movie houses, will open, hopefully, by July 22, in the Sugar River Shopping Center. -- Argus 7 July 1983.

**1983** -- Hubert's Department Store has given up its chance to buy the DeWolf Block, in which the store is located, and Sullivan County commissioners hope to take possession of the property as soon as it is probated. -- Argus - 20 July 1983.

**1983** -- Sullivan county plans to sell almost half of the county-owned land in Unity to help finance renovations of the DeWolf Block. -- Argus 3 Aug. 1983.

**1983** -- Newport Atty. John C. Fairbanks will give Sullivan County commissioners the deed to the DeWolf Block on Main St., Oct. 12, and the Commissioners are expected to give him a check for \$60,000 for the property. -- Argus 12 Oct. 1983.

**1983** -- Elm Street, which will be redesigned in a 1984 road construction project, was the first link to the industrial heart of the community. It was the third town road laid out by the residents who began settlement on the Unity Rd. in 1766 and was the first road to provide access to the water power (in Guild) for industry. -- Argus 12 Oct. 1983.

**1983** -- Nearly all Newport High School students are using or have used one or more drugs, including but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, alcohol and heroin, Michelle Millwood, a high school student, told those present at the Nov. 2 meeting in the Newport High School media center that discussed the first segment of Nancy Reagan's television program, "The Chemical People." -- Argus 9 Nov. 1983.

**1983** -- It will cost Newport about \$19,288 as its share of the \$3 million-plus project to re-align Elm St. and have a new bridge constructed just south of the existing one. -- Argus 21 Dec. 1983.

**1983** -- The nine-acre Sugar River Plaza, opposite Newport Shopping Plaza on Rte. 11/103, is for sale, and Bernie Young, who owns it, said last week he has takers. The two million plus project with space for 14 stores and 450 cars was build in 1980. -- Argus 28 Dec. 1983.

**1984** -- The Newport Revitalization Committee came on strongly Jan. 10 in favor of the \$560,000 Richards School Renovation project. -- Argus 11 Jan. 1984.

**1984** -- Front page photo in Argus: Wrecking Hook on Newport House. Work crews began on Jan. 30 dismantling Newport House at Sunapee St. and Park St. The former hotel, damaged severely by fire before it became the home of the former Newport Cinema, will be rebuilt by new owners, Sturm, Ruger and Co. Initial plans call for reconstruction along the original lines from the foundation up. Place will be hotel and perhaps contain shops and offices. -- Argus 1 Feb. 1984.

**1984** -- The Wendell post office closed permanently Jan. 27 after nearly 100 years of serving the public. -- Argus 1 Feb. 1984.

**1984** -- The Newport School Board refused Feb. 6 to meet Newport Teachers Assn's demands for increased pay raises and fringe benefits for the 1984-5 school budget and voted to turn the argument over to a professional mediator. -- Argus 8 Feb. 1984.

**1984** -- The Richards Renovation Public Relations Committee, pressing for passage of the \$560,000 ten-year bond issue for renovations at the school, this week listed ten benefits the renovations project would accomplish. Voters will decide on the issue at the March 10 school meeting. -- Argus 1 Mar. 1984.

**1984** -- Soterios A. (Sam) Saggiotes and his wife Evelyn, closed The Priscilla Sweet Shop, 59 Main St. for the last time Monday, Feb. 27 after having served a cup of hot chocolate to Anthony J. (Tony) Kuleza, their last customer. -- Argus 1 Mar. 1984.

**1984** -- Some of nine buildings on Elm St. to be burned June 8, 9, 10 to make way for realignment of Elm St. and a new Elm St. bridge. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 39.

**1984** -- Newport receives \$46,779 in federal funds to restore Sullivan County Courthouse. Must be matched by town.

**1984** -- Remains of Newport House are razed. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook, I, p. 26.

**1984** -- Priscilla Sweet Shop sold by Saggiotes to John MacKenna. (Argus of Aug. 1, 1957 has history of the Sweet Shop building by Sam Edes.) -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 42.

**1984** -- Front page picture. Fifty-one crafts and more than 200 persons participated in the 8th annual Almost Anything Goes on the Sugar River Craft Race May 20.

**1984** -- CROYDON - V. J. Processors, a fish processing plant which had to close down last Feb. after being open only three and one half months, will be moving towards "full speed ahead" by tomorrow, June 1, with a complement of 25 employees. -- Argus - May 31, 1984. /// An estimated \$3,000,000 expenditure to renovate the DeWolf Block, 16 Main Street was approved unanimously by the county delegates June 18. -- Argus- June 20, 1984. Sullivan County Commissioners agreed July 27 to offer the Hubert family \$112,500 to help the family relocate the store from the ground floor of the DeWolf Block at 16 Main St. to the Wheeler Block at the corner of Main St. and Central Street. -- Argus - 1 Aug. 1984. /// A solid vote of confidence was given by Newport selectmen Aug. 27 to the NH/Vt Solid Waste Project, which might begin building the trash-to-energy project next spring in Claremont. -- Argus 29 Aug. 1984.

**1984** -- Newport receives \$46,779 in federal funds to restore Sullivan County Courthouse. It must be matched by the town, which voted the funds at Town Meeting. -- Argus 8/15/84 (story contains good background of the building.)

**1984** -- Remains of Newport House are razed. The new owner, Sturm, Ruger and Co., has plans for a new hotel, shops, offices...

**1984** -- Wendell Post Office closed. It is said to have opened at the turn of the century. Wendell's first P.O. was in Sunapee depot, and the station agent was the postmaster and was paid from the sale of postage stamps. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 28.

**1985** -- August. Ground is broken for the incinerator for the Sullivan County Regional Refuse Disposal District. -- News Leader - 27 April 1995.

**1985** -- The DeWolf Block, built in 1893, becomes the Sullivan County office building, housing the Registers of Deeds and Probate, and the County Commissioners. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 41.



**1985** -- Sturm, Ruger and Co., Inc. Newport, has purchased the assets of the Uni Cast plant, Manchester, and the Nashua Brass plant in Nashua. -- Argus-- 16 Jan. 1985.

**1985** -- A final one-week effort to encourage Newport voters to adopt a building code at Town Meeting Mar. 12 was mounted by the Newport Revitalization Committee yesterday, Mar. 5. -- Argus, Mar. 6, 1985.

**1985** -- The NH/Vt Solid Waste Project has cleared the remaining hurdles and project officials have set an official ground-breaking ceremony for August 14 at the Grissom Lane, Claremont, site. -- Argus- 7 Aug. 1985.

**1985** -- Twenty percent of the student body of 200 in Towle Elementary school is classified as "learning handicapped," but the school board voted Aug. 17 (this date in doubt) not to hire two additional teacher's aides to help them out. -- Argus -- 14 Aug. 1985.

**1985** -- Selectmen and Planning Board members of Croydon and Newport meet for the first time Aug. 14 to talk about making the 200-acre lake in Croydon and a dam in Newport which would hold back the water to make the lake. -- Argus 21 Aug. 1985.

**1985** -- New Elm Street bridge, a \$1.25 million project, to be opened Oct. 27. Elm Street was moved south to be aligned with the new bridge. -- Argus 2 Oct. 1985. also Argus 30 Oct. 1985.

**1985** -- On Dec. 2 the signs at First Citizens National Bank on Main St. in Newport will come down, and a new one reading "BankEast" will go up. Brian Towne (a Newport native) will start serving as regional president of the bank that day. -- Argus - 20 Nov. 1985.

**1985** -- In Grantham, Reney's Store, which has been owned by the same family for the past 62 years, was sold this week to Marie and William Bitler, L.I., N.Y. by Eleanor and Maurice "Hap" Reney. Front p. pix of past and present store. -- Argus 4 Dec. 1985.

**1985** -- The sewage lagoon system in Guild "seems to be working" but reports are at a temporary standstill waiting for more state and federal aid for the main sewage treatment plant opposite Newport High School. -- Argus - 18 Dec. 1985.

**1986** -- New England Ordnance Corp. hopes to start building a factory in Newport (on Whipple Road in Guild) next month, and the company's president says the plant may be operating here by early spring. -- 29 Jan. 1986. also Hist. Soc. Scrapbook I, p. 151. Ground is broken June 11. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 101.

**1986** -- Newport selectmen approve a \$7,400 contract for preliminary studies to convert the town's primary sewage treatment plant to a secondary facility. -- Argus - 12 Feb. 1986. [The plant was rebuilt to use an aerated lagoon process and is capable of removing more than 90% of the pollutants from the water. -- Newport Water Works news, Spring

2003.1 /// School meeting appropriates \$57,000 to start a public kindergarten. -- Argus 12 Mar. 1986.

**1986** In May the Registry of Deeds, along with the other county offices, is moved to the old Hirsch/Hubert's Department Store building (the DeWolf Block ).

**1986** -- The Newport Woman's Club, one of the town's oldest organizations, is disbanding this year. The club began 82 years ago, after Mrs. George (Maude L.) Lewis returned from a trip to the World's Fair in St. Louis, Mo. Enroute home she had attended a meeting of an Ohio women's club and decided that Newport women needed an organization for self-improvement.--- Argus 11 June 1986.

**1986** -- Former International Shoe building on Canal street is razed. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 127.

**1986** -- Florida newspaper reports that Robert H. Laber, a former Newport resident, owns a 2-1/2 story farmhouse in Newport built in 1767. Lumber used was chestnut, a wood now extinct for 100 years. Laber quoted as saying father of Sarah Josepha Hale once operated the building as a tavern. No location given. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 122.

**1986** -- New bandstand on Common may be New England's largest. Cost \$15,000. Threat to burn it down cited. "First concert" attracts 1900. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, pp. 92, 95, 100. /// An estimated 1,900 people covered Newport Common and filled parts of Main Street July 6 for the town's first "Concert on the Common" by the Newport Opera House Band from the town's new bandstand. -- John Economu of Newport was honored at the dedication of the bandstand [he was a large donor, I believe.] -- Argus 9 July 1986.

**1986** -- There may be some action soon on "The Barn" north of the Main Street bridge on the east side of the street in Newport. (This was once a livery stable, then a Ford dealership, then a skating rink, and was damaged by fire.) Plans are for the building to be torn down this fall, once there is snow on the ground, according to Town Manager Robert Horne. /// Newport selectmen decide to attach a note to tax bills to inform taxpayers their assessments will not be raised if they paint their houses. This is the result of confusion over what improvements cause tax assessments to increase. - Argus - 6 Aug. 1986.

**1986** -- Newport voters approved an appropriation of \$5.2 million, by a vote of 88 to 9, in a special town meeting last night, Sept. 16, to convert the town's sewage treatment plant from a primary to a secondary system. - Argus 17 Sept. 1986.

**1986** -- A donation of \$100,000 was made to the Richards Library Expansion Fund at Sturm, Ruger Co., Inc. on Monday. Pictured are fund-raising co-chairmen, David and Barbara Yeomans, Judge John Fairbanks, a co-solicitor for the campaign; Wm. B. Ruger, president of Sturm, Ruger, who gave \$20,000 of his own money in the donation; Stanley Terhune, a former trustee of the library, and Kenneth Andler, the other solicitor for the campaign. -- Argus 5 Nov. 1986.

**1986** -- Front p. photo: "The Golden Arches" arrived in Newport on Friday afternoon. Valley Signs of Lebanon installed the McDonald's Restaurant signs at the site on the Claremont Road where the fast food establishment is to open. - Argus 12 Nov. 1986.

**1986** -- Falling milk prices and a U.S. government program cause some farmers in the area to sell 1,000 cows which are slaughtered. Charles Catsam, local farmer, participates.-- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p 124.

**1986** -- Exhibit of Andre Champollion's art at Library Arts Center. The French native, a grandson of Austin Corbin, was killed fighting for the French in World War I. He lived most of his life in Newport. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 99.

**1986** -- Newport Women's Club plans to disband after 82 years. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook, p. 104.

**1986** -- Controversy over stained glass windows in Opera House being permanently covered during renovations. Article states Sullivan County owns ground floor of Town Hall and town owns second floor. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p., 109.

**1986** -- Town leases land rent-free behind Village Pizza on South Main street for 75 vehicles. Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 101.

**1986** -- New public kindergarten starts with 80 at Richards Elementary School. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 84.

**1986** -- PC Connection of Marlow to open film studio in Newport. PC Connection is mail order firm of computer software. -- Hist. Soc. Scrapbook II, p. 50. // Also Argus 24 Dec. 1986: PC Connection, a computer equipment and software retailer, will be establishing a film studio in Newport for the making of training videotapes.

### **1987 -- Population: 6,376**

**1987** -- The Barn. [On east side of S. Main St. right next to the bridge.] Photo in Argus. "Smashing the Barn" Workers began demolishing "The Barn" on Main St. last week. The unoccupied structure caught fire March 8, 1983. No repairs were made following the blaze and the building's future was a topic of discussion for quite some time. Originally a livery stable, the structure was erected about 1900. Over the years it has housed the Dixi Newton Funeral Home, a Ford motor showroom, a plastic toy factory, a motorcycle dealership, a florist shop, a jewelry store, a television repair shop and Fleury's Small Engine Repair. Most recently the building housed Lawrence Larabee's Roller Disco. The property is now owned by Sturm Ruger & Co., Inc. -- Argus 18 Feb. 1987.

**1987** -- Trash incinerator, to dispose of solid waste from Claremont, Newport and other towns (including some in Vermont), goes on line in Claremont on March 9. -- source:

Dan O'Neill, town manager.

**1987** -- Richards Free Library, now in the Richards' mansion, expands with an addition. -- Argus 7 June 1987.

**1987** -- Attempt by United Steelworkers fails to unionize Sturm Ruger. -- Argus 8 July 1987.

**1987** -- Newport School Board authorizes the director of SAU 43 to develop a proposal with the Spurwink School, a Maine-based organization, to establish a local therapeutic residence for emotionally handicapped adolescents. Spurwink, which has programs in four New England states, provides a broad range of services to youths with emotional and behavioral problems. -- Argus - 7 Oct. 1987.

**1988** -- John H. Cain Golf course announces plans to expand from 9 to 18 holes. Course is expanded in 1990. (See Argus 16 Mar. 1988.)

**1988** -- Kaarle Lehtinen, 95, gives \$100,000 to directors of Senior Citizens in Newport to buy former Violette's Market on South Main street from Ernie Hodgdon, and Senior Citizen's Center is created. Group had been meeting in basement of town office on Sunapee street. -- Argus 18 May 1988. (See also p. 24 of "Newport, N.H." published in 1998 by the Newport Area Chamber of Commerce.)

**1988** -- The Corbin mansion on North Newport Road is undergoing major surgery to regain its former air of grandeur. William B. Ruger Jr., the house's present owner, is renovating the estate at a cost of about \$450,000. Austin Corbin II, a Newport native who gained national prominence as a banker and railroad owner, inherited the estate from his family. Before his untimely death in 1896 [see Corbin obit in this chronology], he built various additions onto the house, creating an architectural masterpiece. The estate includes the mansion, a barn, an ice house, a buggy storehouse and 90 acres. -- Argus 3 August 1988.

**1988** -- (Argus photo) Landmark Leaves: An employee of Geddes Building Mover of Concord prepares Newport's diner to leave town. The restaurant was taken last week to Concord where it will be stored until a site in Manchester is ready. The diner, which was originally a luncheonette for Dartmouth College students in Hanover, was brought to Newport in the 1930's. -- Argus 7 July 1988.

**1988** -- For last three months (probably May, June, July) appraisers for Avitar, an appraisal firm, have been appraising Newport property, with a Sept. 30 deadline. -- Argus 10 Aug. 1988.

**1988** -- Landfill in Newport, near Claremont line, to dispose of ash from regional incinerator, is opened despite long-time opposition. -- source: Town Manager Dan O'Neill.

**1988** -- Library Arts Center and Richards Free Library are connected with an addition that provides much needed additional book stacks. -- p. 8 Supplement to Argus and Eagle Times 23 Aug. 1995.

**1989** -- Richards Free Library was rededicated Feb. 22, just 100 years to the day after the library's original dedication. The event marked the conclusion of its Building Funds Campaign -- a successful \$508,000 drive headed by co-chairmen David and Barbara Yeomans. -- Argus 3 March 1999 in As We Were, p. 24.

**1989** -- Students at Colby-Sawyer College in New London barricaded the entrances to the administration building and effectively shut down the school on Thursday of last week. The students are protesting a decision by the college to consider coeducation at the all-women's college. -- Argus 28 March 1989.

**1989** -- District Court judge John C. Fairbanks abruptly resigns from N.H. Bar and from the bench and moves to his seaside home in Ogunquit, Maine. On Dec. 28, Fairbanks is indicted on charges of stealing \$1.8 million from his law clients (other claims raise amount to \$6 to \$8 million). He disappears from Ogunquit home and is a fugitive being sought by Interpol in 150 countries. -- Boston Globe, p. 46, 7 Aug. F. /// Town's sewage system is updated with a lagoon system north of high school.

**1989** -- Parking meters are removed from center of Main St. -- Argus 3 May 1989

**1990 Population: 6,110. [Population of state of N.H. is 1,109,252, up 20%.] Newport's population dropped by 119, the first drop in population since censuses were taken. In 1870, however, after the Civil War, the state's population dropped.**

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**1990** -- Sidebar -- *Life Expectancy:*

*A baby boy born this year can expect to live 72 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 79 years. National Center for Health Statistics*

**1990** -- Sidebar -- *Education of Newporters*

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED in NEWPORT, N.H.  
(percent of those 24 years old and older)

	(3,349 over 25) <b>1970</b>	(3,900 over 25) <b>1980</b>	(4,423 over 25) <b>1990</b>
Elementary - ( 0-8 years)	29%	22%	11%
High School - (1-3 years)	23%	21%	18%
- ( 4 Years)	32%	36%	40%
College - ( 1-3 years )	8%	12%	19%
- ( 4 or more years)	8%	9%	12%

In 1970 nearly one-third of adult Newporters had not gone to high school.  
By 1990 only 11 percent had not.

In 1970 only 16% had any years of college at all.  
 Twenty years later 31% had some college, a figure that approximates  
 that for the state (30%).  
 -- Source: U.S. Decennial Censuses

**1990** -- On August 30 Newport Hospital Board of Trustees votes to file for liquidation bankruptcy and close the 36-year-old institution's doors. -- Argus 9 Jan. 1990 on p. 2 of six-months summary.

**1990** -- 130 employees of Encore Shoe Corp. in Kelleyville are notified that the Newport plant will close Jan. 31, 1991. The plant opened in 1974. -- Argus - 31 Oct. 1990, p. 1.

**1991** -- An advance party of 20 members of a local Newport National Guard unit got its confirmed marching orders Tuesday and is scheduled to depart for the Persian Gulf Thursday, Jan. 10 to participate in Operation Desert Shield. The 159-member 744th Transportation Company, based in Hillsborough and Claremont, includes 21 Newporters and nine from other Lake Sunapee region towns. -- Argus 2 Jan. 1991

**1991** -- Desert Storm calls up N.H. National Guard. The 744th Transportation Co., based in Hillsboro and Claremont, with 21 Newporters and nine from other Lake Sunapee towns, is called to active duty as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, and reports to Fort Devens, Mass. on 19 Nov. -- Argus 9 Jan. 1991. p. 1.

**1991** -- A TV crew from "Unsolved Mysteries," contacted by the N.H. Attorney General's office, films scenes about missing Judge John Fairbanks in Depot Square and in Lake Sunapee Savings Bank building (where Fairbanks had offices) on April 15 and 16. (see Fairbanks entry in 1989.)

**1991** -- Butson's Supermarket holds grand opening. -- Argus 20 Mar. 1991

**1991** -- Andrew H. ("Long Tom") Currier, one of Newport's foremost sportsmen and former superintendent of Corbin Plark, the famed Croydon reserve now know as Blue Mountain Forest Assn. Inc., died March 29 at the age of 74 in Newport Hospital after a long illness. [Tom delighted in telling people, accurately, that he was "five feet, 16 inches tall."] -- Argus 3 April 1991.

**1991** -- The John Cain Golf Club became an 18-hole course this year and has built a new clubhouse.

**1991** -- The former Newport Hospital would be sold to four Newporters for \$112,000 under a purchase agreement put forward by a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Trustee. Speaking for the buyers group, George Kelley said, "Our goal is to see the building remain serving the health care needs of the community. We will be looking for ideas in this regard." In a notice of intended sale, Trustee Stephen Darr said he would sell the Summer Street property "free and clear" to Kelly, John C. McCrillis and Soterios Saggiotes. On

Monday Edward Rochford said he is also one of the prospective buyers, though his name had not been included in the sale notice. -- Argus Nov. 13, 1991. [See 1952, Jan. 25 in this chronology for opening of the Newport Hospital.] Vern Violette was also one of the buyers, and the hospital became One Summercrest Professional Building, and Summercrest Independent and Assisted Living was built next door.

**1992** -- The town's water filtration plant is built. -- Newport Water Department.

**1993** -- 87% of the state is forested. - N.H. Historical Society Timeline of N.H. History, 1996.

**1993** -- Newport Community Television (NCTV) is formed. -- p. 24, April 1999, Wicked Good Calendar, story by Jeff Nintzel, station manager.

**1993** -- July 25 -- Severe arson fire damages Eagle Block at corner of Central and Main Streets. Was built in 1825. (also see Argus p.1. 27 Sept. 1995 for arrest of suspect.)

**1993** -- Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center is opened in Sept.

**1993** -- The Corbin covered bridge, crossing the north branch of the Sugar River in North Newport and erected about 1835, is destroyed by arsonists at 3 a.m. May 25. [This date seems in error.] Townspeople immediately form committees and begin to raise funds to replace it. (See Oct. 16, 1994.) Argus; Boston Globe Oct. 23, 1994) (See 1835.)-- See also Argus 21 May 1993 which says: "The Newport Revitalization Committee, at its regular weekly meeting five hours after the fire was reported early Tuesday, agreed to offer a \$1,000 reward for information leading to conviction of those responsible for what authorities said was a deliberately set fire." [See Covered Bridge Opened, at 20 Aug. 1980]. [See also p. 3 in 1993 Newport, N.H. Annual Town Report.]

**1994** -- In June the News Leader, a weekly newspaper, starts publication in Claremont by Archie Mountain, former editor of the Newport Argus-Champion and the Claremont Daily Eagle. It covers Sullivan County west of Newport, including Newport.

**1993** -- Wal-Mart's new Claremont store is nearing completion. According to Manager Don Wood, approximately 2,000 applicants recently applied for 150 full and part-time openings in the store. -- Argus 7 July 1993.

**1994** -- On Mar. 27 John Fairbanks's body is found in a Las Vegas, Nev. hotel room. His death was judged a suicide. -- Argus Mar. 30 and Apr. 13, 1994.

**1994** -- January -- PCTV, Personal Computer Television, Inc., opens a production studio in a former warehouse on Route 10 across from the high school playing fields. Owned by David Hall and Patricia Gallup of PC Connections in Marlow, the studio had been producing training and promotional tapes. Now PCTV, with state-of-the-art studio and fax, phone and electronic mail, will produce computing shows for cable and broadcast stations around the nation. -- Boston Sunday Globe, p. 81, April 9, 1995.

**1994** -- Butson's, a grocery store in Sugar River Square on Main Street, buys Farm Fare, another large grocery store, in Sugar River Plaza. -- Argus 7 Sept. 1994.

**1994** -- Approximately 10,000 persons attend the 3-day Corbin Bridge Festival, watching oxen pull the replica of the burned Corbin Bridge across the Sugar River in North Newport. -- Argus & Boston Globe, 23 Oct. 1994.

**1995** -- A site committee recommends a 1.2-acre lot on the south side of Elm street for construction of a new Newport police station. The police now occupy the small and very crowded brick building (built in 1843) once known as the County Safe Building on Main Street next door to the County Building. The town needs now to approve a bond issue by a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting on May 9. Cost of the new station is estimated at \$869,599. -- News Leader - 27 April 95.

**1995** -- Photo shows auctioning of the King Ridge Ski Area in New London. The area was auctioned off piece by piece and will not remain a ski area. -- Argus 5 July 1995

**1995** -- About 50 employees of Dorr Woolen Co. who walked off their jobs Sunday in protest of company labor practices went back to work Monday as company and union officials continue working toward a settlement. -- Argus 23 Aug. 1995.

**1995** -- Sugar River Valley OnLine starts the town's first full connection to the Internet in July. Thus Newport and surrounding towns can now participate in a world-wide communications revolution equal in effect to the telegraph, telephone and television. -- source: T. Parssinen.

**1995** -- About one-third of the workforce at Dorr Woolen Co. has been temporarily laid off due to a slump in production, a highly placed source in the company told the Argus-Champion this week. Since mid-August the mill has laid off approximately 85 employees in nine of 11 departments, the source said. -- Argus 18 Oct., 1995.

**1995** -- Charlestown businessman and lifelong Twin State valley resident Harvey Hill was appointed publisher of the Argus-Champion and Eagle Times last week. Hill, 60, was named publisher by Eagle Publications Inc. owner Dick Ippen of Munich, Germany. Hill accepted the position after meeting with Ippen recently in Munich. -- Argus 6 Dec. 1995.

**1995** -- Dexter, the town's 180-year-old hand tub (hand pumper), is installed permanently in the lobby of the Lake Sunapee Bank. (See other references to Dexter.) -- Argus - 29 Nov. 1995.

**1996** -- Rite Aid Pharmacy opens on 27 Feb. 1996 on corner of South Main and Elm Streets, replacing a used auto sales lot, and an abandoned auto repair garage. Rite Aid's former site, on Sugar River Plaza (owned by the Sugar River Saving Bank) on N. Main St. remains empty.



**1996** -- Convicted Eagle Block arsonist Steven Alexander received seven to 15 years in New Hampshire State Prison – the maximum penalty for aggravated arson. We applaud Sullivan County Superior Court Judge Robert E. K. Morrill's decision. The crime had been a black mark on the town of Newport for the past three years, and deserved the maximum penalty allowed by law. -- Argus 2 May 1996.

**1996** -- Town meeting votes to appropriate \$595,000 to buy the Priscilla Sweet Shop building at 59 Main St. and to renovate the building as a police station. // Town meeting also votes \$115,000 "to rehabilitate the Main St. facade of the Opera House." (The town hall.) -- May 14 Town Meeting.

**1996** -- In August groundbreaking was held for the \$2.3 million, 32-bed Special Care Unit at the Sullivan County Nursing Home (formerly called the County Farm). Residents will move in in July, 1997. -- Sullivan County Historical Information Sheets, by Donald Fontaine, Sr., county commissioner.

**1996** -- In August hundreds watch as the beautiful weathervane atop the town hall is removed by helicopter and landed on the common for repair and refurbishing. Two futile attempts to remove it from the town hall steeple were made. Then workers discovered that its base -- a one-inch iron rod -- was threaded eight inches into the roof. Unscrewing it was no problem. It was returned to the steeple by the end of the month, with its vane and directional letters covered with gold leaf.

**1996** -- Excerpts from an article in the Argus of 27 Nov. 1996 by James Garvin, State Architectural Historian for the state of N.H.: "It's do or die time for those interested in saving the Eagle Block in Newport. Unless advocates of preservation can find a way to reverse a determination by owner Sturm, Ruger and Co. Inc., that the structure must go -- and undo a decision by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, which issued a demolition permit -- the old building will soon be a cellar hole filled with bricks.

"Built as a hotel in 1825, and now one of the last of its kind in N.H., the Eagle has many friends in Newport and farther afield. The state historic preservation office began to urge rehabilitation of the building before it was acquired by Ruger in 1995. Last May the Office of State Planning invited the owners to apply for a grant to study the feasibility of rehabilitating the block either for housing or for retail or office space.

"At the same time, Southwestern Community Services Inc. expressed a strong interest in partnering with Ruger or another investor to convert the structure to low-income housing. The National Trust for Historic Preservation recently wrote to the owners offering to "bring together a group with expertise in historic preservation and development" to explore the means of putting the structure to good use. On election day, 230 citizens of Newport signed a petition urging Sturm, Ruger and Co. to reconsider its demolition plans.

".....Together with the Congregational Church, the Eagle is one of the most

impressive examples of a brick-building tradition that mirrored Newport's prosperity in the 1820's. .... Through the Economic Corporation of Newport, the town's business community is taking on new vigor and purpose. ECON just received a grant from the prestigious New Hampshire Humanities Council to mount a storefront exhibit celebrating the region's proud heritage in the machine tool industry and precision manufacturing. Next fall Newport will be the site of a New England-wide Arts and Cultural Congress that will celebrate the theme, "Building Community Through Culture." Until now only large or prosperous centers like Portland, Me., or Providence have been selected to host this Congress. The town of Newport was chosen for the 1997 honor specifically because of its tradition of community involvement, as exemplified in the reconstruction of the Corbin Covered Bridge and the renovation of the Newport Opera House. ...." (See p. 17 of "Newport, N.H." published by the Newport Area Chamber of Commerce in 1998, for "New England Artists Trust Congress IV" for a report on what happened.)

**1996** -- The slate roof and the front and clock tower of the Town Hall (built in 1886) are refurbished. The weather vane is removed by helicopter and restored. Next year's plans include work on the south side, repairing slate, masonry and painting. This is part of a several-years plan to revitalize Main St. -- p. 11 of 1996 Annual Town Report.

**1996** -- "The Wicked Good Calendar", a monthly community newspaper, begins publication in Newport by Lucy Wells in December. -- interview with Ms. Wells.

**1997** -- This year "there will be a major effort put forth to install curbing, planters, enhanced crosswalks, trees and shrubbery, along with new lighting down the center of Main St. All of the old overhead wires which cross the street from the corner of Chubba's [a restaurant in the Lewis Block at SE corner of Main and Sunapee streets] to the corner of Lake Sunapee Bank [Richards Block across the street] will be removed and lighting will be proposed for the center section of the street and the Little Common replicating the style of lights which were present on the Common at the turn of the century." -- Town Manager's Report on p. 11 of 1996 Annual Town Report. By the middle of June, at the cost of the land owners (the Lake Sunapee Bank, and James Lantz) the sidewalk on the west side of Main St. in front of the Gamash, Emerson and Kendall Blocks, and the building immediately south (the former Ben Franklin Store and occupied in 1997 by the Sierra Photo shop -- all owned by the bank), and in front of the old jail and in front of the Citizens' Bank Building (both owned by Lantz) was replaced with brick. Lantz landscaped the ugly square between his Bank Building and the Sierra Photo with grass and shrubbery.

**1997** -- During the early spring and summer the Kelleyville bridge is replaced.

**1997** -- During the spring and summer the following visual changes were made to Main Street:

> the unpainted wooden former blacksmith shop next door to the former Gillie's Garage on the north side of Elm Street near South Main St. is torn down. Irving Oil Co., which operates a filling station and convenience store next door at 27 South Main St., owns the land and will build a 60'x68' convenience store with four gasoline and two

deisel islands. -- Argus 23 July 97.

> The Village Pizza on S. Main, just north of Irving Oil's convenience store is fitted with new white siding which improves the appearance of the building and the street immensely.

> The police department moves its headquarters to a nicely refurbished Sweet Shop at 59 Main across from the Eagle Block which probably will be demolished by Ruger, the owner. The former brick police station, built more than a hundred years ago as the County Safe Building, and once occupied by a bank, is unoccupied.

> The Johnson Block (a new sign designating it as such has just been attached), which once contained the Unitarian church, then Johnson's stores, and now Sierra Photo, has its south side and front cleaned and painted.

> The younger trees on the Common have the grass at their bases removed in neat circles, which improves the appearance greatly. This has been done by an agricultural class at the high school.

> The First NH Bank at 55 Main Street, occupying a site that once contained the Winston Hotel and Silsby and Johnson Hardware, announces that it will close. There is no indication of what will happen to the brick building that it occupies and which was built as a bank in 1976.

> A Coop food store is scheduled to occupy the vacant premises once occupied by Rite Aid pharmacy. [This Co-op attempt was abandoned in August 1998.]

**1997** -- By 1 August the ugly wooden telephone poles, and the parking meters in the middle of Main St. have been removed and work is proceeding for the new lighting and planting. //// By the time the artists begin to arrive for the Congress, Main Street is transformed. The site of the Newport House at the NE corner of Main and Sunapee Streets, is gravelled, rolled and beautified. The small house, once the office of Dr. John Munroe, on Central St. immediately behind the Eagle Block, has been demolished.

**1997** -- Artists' Congress from 25 to 28 Sept.

**1998** -- The Wicked Good Regional Calendar, a monthly tabloid, is founded in May by Lucy Wells as editor and publisher.

**1998** -- The Veteran's Club at 39 Cheney St. is sold for \$85,000 to The College Foundation, an institution that plans to offer courses, conferences, and opportunities for research, and which was co-founded by Marty Cain, a Newport artist. The American Legion, which had been meeting in the building, will now meet at the Veterans of Foreign Wars club on John Stark Highway. -- Argus 7 Jan. 1998.

**1999** -- The 173-year-old Eagle Block on Main St. will be preserved. The owner, Sturm, Ruger & Co., which had planned to demolish the building this month, is deeding the building and land behind and to the south of the building to the Economic Corporation of Newport, a non-profit charitable organization, in exchange for land owned by ECON. The new owner will raise funds to preserve the building. -- Argus, p. 1. April 14, 1999.

**1999** -- The old police station, the two-story brick building on the east side of Main St. just south of the County Building, empty since the police department moved , has been sold to Alin Greenhalg of Adina Realty in Goshen for \$8,000. The new owner plans to restore the structure as a historic building. It was built in 1843 and known as the County Safe Building. The town leased "the south-west corner of the court-house common, for the purpose of erecting county offices and safes, to be held so long as used for that purpose" as a result of a town meeting vote Aug. 1, 1843. -- Wheeler, p. 71 & Wicked Good Calendar p. 20, May 1999.

**2000** -- Population - 6,269, up 2.6 percent from 6,110 in 1990. A gain of 159 persons. [Population of New Hampshire - 1,235,786, up from 1,109,252 in 1990 - Sullivan County - 40,458] -- U.S. Census of 2000 and Argus 28 Mar. 2001 (Also contains figures for towns in Sullivan County).

Who we are in the year **2000**, according to us:

What we said about ourselves when the Census people asked us:

*How Many of us Are There? (Figures rounded to nearest full number.) ?*

	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>
Claremont	13,902	13,151
Cornish	1,659	1,661
New London	3,180	4,116
Newport	6,110	6,269
Sunapee	2,559	3,055

*Here's how long we went to school - (Percent of us over 25 years old)*

	<i>Less than 9 years</i>	<i>High School Dropout</i>	<i>College Dropout</i>	<i>High School Grad only</i>	<i>Assoc. Degree</i>	<i>BA</i>	<i>Grad Degree</i>
Claremont	7%	15%	18%	42%	6%	9%	4%
Cornish	4	8	23	28	9	17	12
New London	1	3	19	11	7	39	21
Newport	7	15	16	43	8	8	4
Sunapee	3	5	21	27	7	23	15

*Here's how much we earn - (Percent of families)*

	<i>Less than \$10,000</i>	<i>\$35,000- \$50,000</i>	<i>\$100,000- \$150,000</i>	<i>\$200,000- &amp; up</i>	<i>Median Family Income</i>	<i>Per Capita Income</i>
Claremont	3%	22%	4%	2%	\$42,849	\$20,267
Cornish	2	15	11	2	60,313	23,165
New London	1	12	18	12	82,201	37,556
Newport	7	20	5	0	45,508	16,964
Sunapee	4	22	13	5	55,909	29,184

Source: United States Census Bureau's Decennial Census

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**2000 -- Sidebar -- Life Expectancy:**

*A baby born born this year can expect to live 75 years. A baby girl born this year can expect to live 80 years. National Center for Health Statistics*

**2000 --** The town replaces a steel tank built in 1967 with a new 1.5 million gallon water tank at the end of Summer Street. -- Newport Water Department.

**2000 --** The historic Nettleton house on Central St. is being restored for use as a branch of the Sergeant Museum, offering access to part of an extensive archaeological collection. [A lot of American Indian]. The work is being done through the philanthropy of local businesses LaValley's and Roymal. // The Community Development Finance Authority has approved a CD Investment Program grant, awarding up to \$450,000 to the Eagle Block in donations via business profit taxes and business enterprise tax contributions. Also the National Trust has approved \$25,000 in grant funding for the building, allowing Arnold Graton Associates to continue priority renovations inside. // The Town of Newport is supporting an application for \$350,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds to complete the package -- an estimated \$1.35 million. -- p. 18 Jan. 2000 The Wicked Good Calendar-Regional.

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**1990 -- Sidebar -- Newport Foreign-Born**

**Newport Foreign-Born**

	<u>1.</u> Total Population	<u>2.</u> With a Foreign-Born Parent		<u>3.</u> Foreign Born		Total of <u>2. &amp; 3.</u>
1900	2812	367	13%	313	11%	24%
1910	3765	568	15%	529	14%	29%
1920	4109	756	18%	623	15%	33%
1930	4659	1009	21%	666	14%	35%
1940	5304			604	11%	
1950	5131			304	6%	
1980	6179			187	3%	
1990	6062			190	3%	

Source: United States Census Bureau's Decennial Censuses

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**2000 --** Wheeler's Block on Main Street at the corner of Central St. (built in 1858) and now occupied by Hubert's Department Store, has built a wide front porch quite similar to that shown in a drawing on the 1860 wall map of Sullivan County. /// The last issue of the News Leader, a weekly covering Newport and Claremont and operated by Archie Mountain, is issued on August 30. It began publication in June 1994. -- August, 2000.

**2000** -- Rite Aid Pharmacy, the only pharmacy now in this town which once had three, was badly damaged by fire June 24, and the building closed. Patrons are now being served from a temporary trailer on the site. -- Argus, 16 Aug. 2000.

**2000** -- William Ruger, Jr. has been granted a building permit for \$191,000 for improvements to the exterior and the foundation of the Lewis Block, the brick building at the Southeast corner of Main and Sunapee Streets, built in 1886, which over the years housed a coffee shop, resaurants, a barber shop and a drug store. -- Argus 15 Nov. 2000

**2000** -- A 202-page soft cover history of The Finns in Newport, New Hampshire by Olli Turpeinen, a Newport Finn and a retired local high school teacher, is published by the author. All proceeds go to the Richards Free Library. The book goes into two printings, and contains a history of Finnish immigration to the U.S. as well as the reasons for it. It is very thorough about Finns coming to, living in, and leaving Newport. It is honest about the Finns and could have been written only by a Finn. It contains many pictures of Finns and their activities and a 70-page genealogy of Finns who lived and worked in the Newport area from about 1887 to 1997.

**2001** -- The town's water department completes the building upgrade to the old chlorine house built in 1954 in Unity. -- Newport Water Department.

**2002** -- The John Cain Golf Club was sold at a public bankruptcy auction on 14 Feb. for \$1.85 million to Regency Savings Bank of Illinois. -- Valley News, p. B5, 15 Feb. 2002.

**2002** -- The local Ames store is closing. The Ames Corporation is going out of business and is in bankruptcy. [a computer problem here. The correct date is September, 2002.]

**2002** -- Ernest Hebert is this year's Sarah J. Hall Award winner.

**2002** -- The district court will be moving across Main Street to new, and finally adequate quarters when it occupies the former Bank East building, probably in March. -- Argus 18 Sept. 2002.

**2003** -- Dorr Woolen Co. will shut down all operations by June. -- Claremont, N.H. Eagle-Times 10 January 2003. [History of the mill beginning on p. 1]

**2003** -- Newport District Court moves from the Harry Spanos District Court building (also known as the Grange Hall) to the former Bank East building on Main Street. -- Claremont Eagle-Times, p. 1, April 1, 2003.

**2003** -- The 18-hole Newport Golf Club (formerly the John Cain Golf Club) on the Unity Road is bought from the Illinois-based Regency Savings Bank for a reported 1.9 million dollars by Nick (of Newport) and John (of Massapequa, N.Y.) Catsam who were raised on the dairy farm across the road from the course. -- Claremont Eagle-Times, p. 1,

April 2, 2003.

**2003** -- Jay Parini, a professor at Middlebury College, Vermont, has been named the 2003 winner of the Sarah Josepha Hale Award. – [Argus 16 April 2003](#).

**2003** -- Sturm, Ruger, one of the nation's largest firearms makers, and Newport's largest employer, announced that it is buying the former Dorr Woolen Co. factory in Guild. Dorr was sold to Pendleton Mills of Oregon several years ago, and Pendleton closed the plant in January of this year. -- [Argus 5 Nov. 2003](#)

**DORR WOOLEN MILL BUILDING UNDER AGREEMENT  
STURM, RUGER TO BUY DORR WOOLEN MILL IN NEWPORT, NH**

October 31, 2003

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. (NYSE: RGR) announced today that it has entered into an agreement with Pendleton Woolen Mills to acquire the 300,000 square foot Dorr Woolen Mill Property on Route 11 and 103 in Guild (Newport), New Hampshire. Ruger's growth plans call for expanded facilities in the Newport area, and the Dorr Facility fits in well with these plans according to William B. Ruger, Jr., CEO and Stephen L. Sanetti, President of Sturm, Ruger. The property is located in close proximity to both the Sturm, Ruger firearms manufacturing and the Company's Pine Tree Castings operations.

Justin S. Bielagus, of Grubb & Ellis Coldstream Real Estate Advisors, Inc. in Bedford, NH represented Pendleton in this transaction, and assisted the Buyer. According to Bielagus the Ruger organization intends to complete a space needs analysis of the Dorr Facility in the coming weeks and will have some of the space available to lease to others. It is expected that current tenants will remain under their existing leases. -- [Ruger press release](#).

**2005** -- Headline: [Sturm, Ruger will open titanium casting facility](#). Will be placed in the former Dorr Woolen Mill, and should be in operation in about six months. -- [Argus – 3 Aug. 05](#).

**2006** -- Sturm Ruger and Pine Tree Casting reduces employees' pay by an average of 24% starting April 10. The company laid off about 55 employees. (President William Ruger, Jr. retired Feb. 28.) -- [Argus 12 April 06](#).

**2006** -- Sturm Ruger CEO visits Newport plant, tells Argus editor that he "doesn't foresee a shrinkage" in its work force because "...our work force is older, they're retiring, moving on, and we can't get enough people to fill the void. ... Getting young people to move into these positions has been somewhat difficult." In April the company announced that it had lost \$2 million and had "underperformed in the last two years." -- [Argus 10 May 06](#).

**2006** -- Sturm Ruger & Co. announced plans late Friday afternoon to cut their payroll by

\$3 million in 2007 by offering voluntary buy-out packages to about 150 senior employees companywide. The company will also change its pay structure. /// ... production still is about half what it was during the company's peak in the early 1990s, when the Newport plant alone made some 800,000 guns a year [said Tom Sullivan, vp of operations at the company's Newport facility.] /// If too few employees accept a buyout, Sullivan said the company would let natural attrition and a hiring freeze (in place since August) take care of the reduction in workers. The company also announced that it would be abandoning its current piece-work pay system in favor of hourly wages, another lean-manufacturing driven move, Sullivan said. /// The company also announced that it would be selling off a portion of the dollar art collection currently housed in its Newport facility as well as some of the 4,400 acres it owns in the town. /// Sullivan said that these are significant changes at the company, but the company would stay the same in its commitment to its American manufacturing facilities, including the one in Newport. /// "Our future is very bright," he said. "We just need to become as competitive as we can." -- Press release from Ruger to the Eagle Times in Claremont, NH on Dec. 16, 2006

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14 Sept. 2007

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