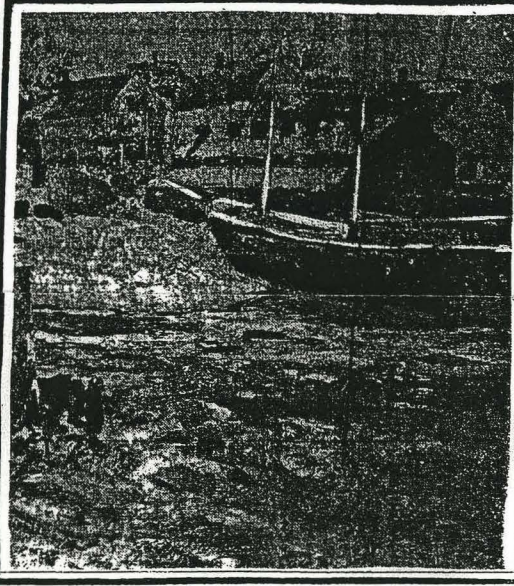
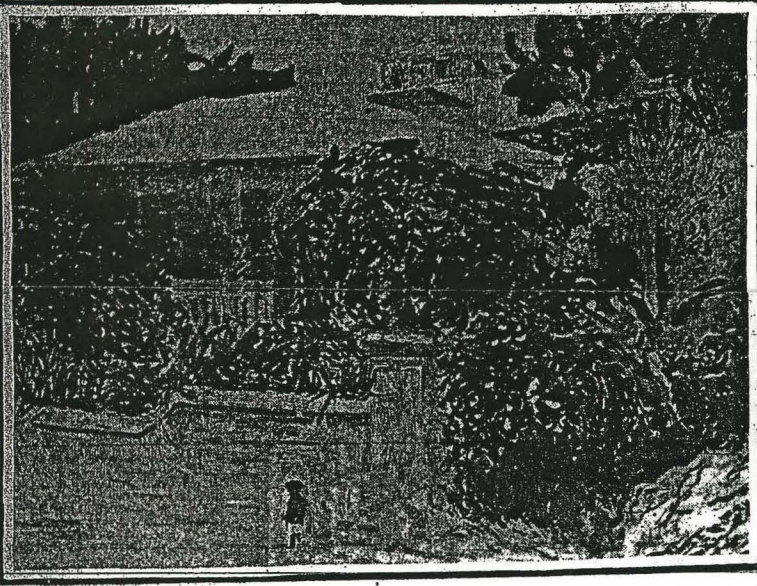
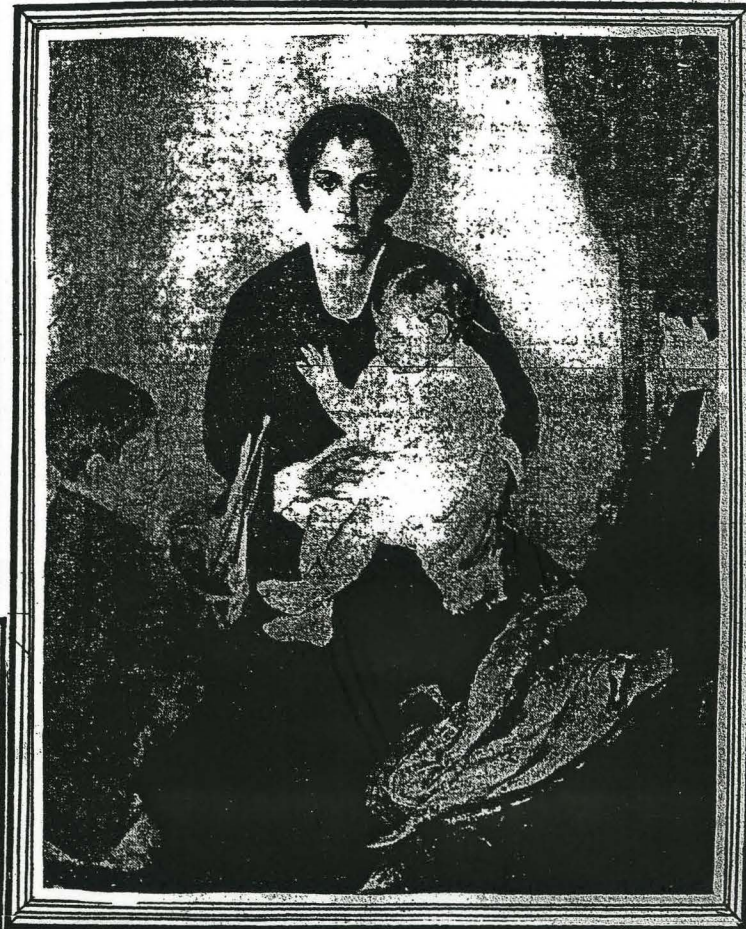
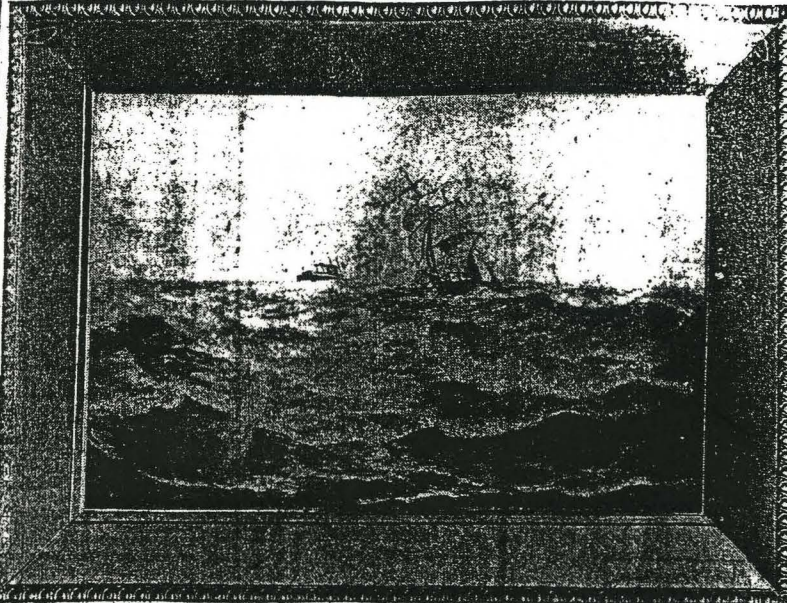


PROVINCETOWN'S FIRST ART EXHIBITION

Historic Old Town Now the Mecca of Art Lovers—Work Shown by Painters of International Reputation



Charles W. Hawthorne's painting, "The Madonna," has the place of honor in the exhibition. It is a large and the work is splendidly executed. It is Mr. Hawthorne's latest painting and hangs in interesting contrast with "Provincetown Fishermen," the first canvas the artist painted in Provincetown, 16 years and which he has presented to the association's permanent collection.

Lower painting, "Match Me If You Can," is by E. Ambrose Webster. Painted in Bermuda, it was named for a flower found there. This flower is a rich red and the artist has reproduced it to perfection. Mr. Webster has contributed to the association's permanent collection a wonderful winter canvas, "Snow Scene, Tamworth, N. H."

Upper painting, "A Sunny Morning," by Frank H. Desch of Philadelphia and Provincetown. This canvas has been exhibited in the Chicago Art Institute and in the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Its coloring is delicate and lifelike. The painter has a national reputation as an illustrator for calendars.

The upper marine scene is entitled "The Caribbean Sea," and is by William F. Halsall of Provincetown, who has presented it to the permanent collection. It is a scene which delights every visitor. Mr. Halsall paints marine scenes which, and first became famous through his list-rice, Spanish war painting entitled "Old Glory."

"The Packet in Winter," the lower painting, is by Gerrit A. Bencker, widely known as an illustrator of cover designs for leading magazines. The painting is high in tone and the Provincetown atmosphere shown on the canvas makes a very strong appeal.

Historic old Provincetown has an art exhibition—the first of the kind.

It is being given in the Town Hall by the Provincetown Art Association.

The exhibitors include artists of national and international reputation. There are nearly 150 canvases and a variety sufficient to suit almost every taste.

For many years artists from every State in the Union have summered in this quaint spot at the end of Cape Cod, but this year the European war has added many new-comers who otherwise would have remained in Paris or elsewhere abroad.

Suddenly the number of artists and students at Provincetown has increased to the 300 mark, and the studios are fairly teeming with life and energy.

The Provincetown Art Association is less than a year old. But it is decidedly wide awake as is shown by the present exhibition. Through the interest of some of the leading women in Provincetown, both permanent and summer residents, it came into being last August.

Among the exhibitors are such distinguished artists as Charles W. Hawthorne, E. Ambrose Webster, William F. Halsall, Oscar H. Gieberich and Gerrit A. Beneker.

Many Brilliant Women Artists

And there are some very clever artists represented among the women. Miss Lucy M. Taggart of Indianapolis, daughter of Tom Taggart, known the country over because of his activity in the Democratic party, is one. Mrs. Marion O. Hawthorne is another. Jeanie Gallup Mottet, wife of Dr. Henry Mottet of New York, and Edith Phelps, wife of Stowe Phelps, the New architect, are also in the number, as is Edith Worthington Hall of Baltimore.

The exhibition is of a very high order and is broad in the subjects offered.

Many of the artists at Provincetown are working by themselves, while the students enter the classes of four different schools conducted by C. W. Hawthorne, E. A. Webster, Mary Bacon Jones and Bjor Nordfelt. These busy folk have turned out some splendid material for summer exhibitions.

It should be stated that the purpose of the new association is to form a permanent collection of works of art for the town and to hold exhibits which will draw the artists and others interested more closely together. To this end Charles W. Hawthorne, William F. Halsall and E. Ambrose Webster have given the association some of their most interesting paintings and these form a splendid start. They have made the plan a success already.

Mr. Hawthorne has given a large canvas four by five feet, the first picture he painted in Provincetown in 1888 and which was exhibited at the Society of American Artists, New York, in 1890. "Provincetown Fishermen" is the title. It is dark and brown in tone, painted in the broad,

solid manner which marks the Dutch masters, showing the influence of his study of Hals in Haarlem.

In direct contrast to his first canvas and centered in the place of honor in the exposition is his most recent picture, "The Madonna," a panel four by five feet, a young Portuguese woman with her children about her, showing the influence of Titian upon the painter.

Mr. Hawthorne is recognized as one of the leaders in American art and likewise has an international reputation. Students come from all over the world to study with him. He is a favorite in Boston where he has exhibited. He has taken many medals at the national exhibits.

Mr. Halsall's Splendid Gift

William F. Halsall's gift to the town is a 24x36 painting called "The Caribbean Sea," and is an excellent example of the work of the artist, whose large painting, "Old Glory," showing the battleship Oregon firing on the Spanish fleet off Santiago during the Spanish war, recently voted by the National Fine Arts Commission to be purchased by the government, now hangs in a place of honor at the Panama-Pacific exposition.

Mr. Halsall paints marine scenes wholly. He lives at Provincetown the year around. He has many friends in Boston, having exhibited at Copley Hall.

"Snow Scene, Tamworth, N. H.," is the gift of E. Ambrose Webster. This well-known artist has had a school at Provincetown for several years. The snow scene which he presents hung in the Corcoran show last year. It is spontaneous, high in key and very modern in treatment.

In addition to these three paintings which found the collection, the association has already bought two canvases. They are "Southwest Breeze," painted by Oscar H. Gieberich, and "Under a Wharf," by Gerrit A. Beneker. Both these gentlemen are now making Provincetown their permanent home.

Mr. Gieberich is Mr. Hawthorne's assistant instructor and stands very high in the art world.

Mr. Beneker formerly lived in Grand Rapids. He is best known as an illustrator and makes his living in that way. He designs covers for the Scientific American and the reading public will recall seeing his work in many other publications. At Provincetown he caught the painting fever, studied under Mr. Hawthorne, and his paintings have already become very favorably known. He has exhibited in the Boston Art Club and in the Salmagundi Club in New York. Mr. Beneker has put forth untiring efforts to make this first show of the kind in Provincetown a brilliant success.

It is to be expected that many of the paintings reflect the Provincetown life and surroundings. Marine scenes predominate. In fact the exhibit is just permeated with the Provincetown atmosphere.

Hawthorne's "Provincetown Fishermen," Gieberich's "Southwest Breeze," Beneker's "Under a Wharf," Halsall's "Provincetown," and "A Knockabout in Winter," Smith's "Sand and Sky," Agnes Weinrich's "Sail Boats," and Oliver Chaffee's "Dunes," and many others, bring out the beauties and the quaintness of Cape Cod.

Mr. E. A. Webster's "Match No. 16"

"You Can," which he painted in Bermuda, is attracting wide attention among art lovers. Frank Beach's "A Sunny Morning," and "Blue Neglige" are received with general enthusiasm.

Mrs. Hawthorne's "Interior" shows that Mr. Hawthorne didn't come anywhere near having all the artistic ability in the family. Of the seven paintings of Mr. Heneker, "The Market in

Winter" is considered as one of the very best. This scene shows the landing of the Dorothy Bradford at Providence.

"The Boston Boat," by Alice Worth, captures in a most interesting way the big daily event in Providence.

Provincetown's summer life. Lucy M. Taggart's "Portrait of Miss Kurtz" attracts attention from its own merits and also because of the personality of the artist.

There are many others in the list that are worthy of special mention. One of the most interesting features of the exhibition is a collection of some 50 pencil sketches of Venice and Paris by Frederick H. Marvin. Mr. Marvin is one of the artists who has come to this country from Paris on account of the war.

Mary Bacon Jones, the art teacher, has contributed her full share in her Jungle Folk plates, designed after Kipling's charming stories. They are certainly clever. There are also some very clever wood block prints in color and in black and white by the Misses Ethel May, Ada Gilmore, Mildred McMillen and Frank Rivers.

Among the exhibitors are Frank H. Besant of Philadelphia, who has made a national reputation by the illustrations he has made for children, and Mrs. Moffet, who makes society women portraits her specialty and exhibits them in New York and Washington.

Dodge Macknight painted brilliant water colors at Sandwich which brought him into the limelight. Henry R. Sutter is a young man who paints landscapes so well that he now has one at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Lawrence Grant has spent much time in France and Italy.

Juliette S. Nichols has come from Caverny, France, and her "Little Street in Provincetown" is filled with local color. H. Cranford Smith was in Paris last year. Edwin Dickerson has come on from Buffalo. Agnes Weirich is a

Hawthorne student from Providence. Other names which arouse interest include Ida L. Greenleaf, Gertrude Roberts Smith, Katharine Critcher, Elizabeth H. Thomas, Abram Molarsky of Boston, Tod Lindenmuth, Sarah S. Monroe, Marie Lokke, Edwin C. Slater, Ives Clannell of Providence, Mrs. Mary Cole Chaffee, C. Arnold Slade of Attleboro, Katha L. Wilkinson, Florence Waterbury, Henry Davenport, Edward F. Boyd, Adolphe W. Blondheim, Margery A. Ryerson, Stella C. Johnson and Mrs. John Hamilton Herring.

As the exhibition visitors are continually asking why it is that Provincetown has so suddenly jumped to the

front as the favored spot for so many artists.

Perhaps Myrick C. Atwood, collector of customs at Provincetown, has answered this question in the sketch he has written which appears in the exhibition catalogue. Mr. Atwood says:

"The many artists have been drawn here by the ever changing marine views, the picturesque sand dunes, the fresh and bracing sea breezes, the majesty and grandeur of the mighty ocean. It lashes with its gigantic billows driven forward by the momentum

created by a thousand miles of unobstructed space in the North Atlantic until it breaks with the roar of a great sand cataracts on the barren shore of Cape Cod. What grander subject can Dame Nature furnish to inspire the painter's brush than these?"

"And they are all welcome," he says. Miss Helen M. Cook, trustee of the exhibition, states that the catalogue of paintings will be almost entirely changed for August. It is now intended to have the best possible exhibit during the greatest vacation month of the year. The exhibit is kept open every day in the week; on Sundays for the benefit of week-end visitors.