

February 25, 1960

IT WAS A dramatic and historic event in Provincetown's long, eventful record when the Mayflower II came into our harbor, in June, 1957, the first stop after leaving England as a goodwill gift from the mother country to the new world. Today, the famed Mayflower II is wintering against an East Boston pier shorn of her masts and being overhauled at Plymouth, near the spot where the Pilgrims landed. Carpenters wielding chisel, plane, and adz are engaged in cutting out the rot from her main and mizzen masts and replacing it with sound wood. Permanently moored ships tend also to "warp toward the sun" and they will be resteped the other way around to twist them back again. In moored ships this tendency is also counteracted by turning them around at the pier as is done twice yearly with the frigate Constitution. Wooden-masted ships in service generally do enough sailing in many directions to keep them more or less normal. Mooring ropes, ratlines, shrouds are being rewhipped, tarred, replaced where necessary, and generally brought into condition. One day, Mayflower II's custodians hope, she will be brought up the Eel River for permanent mooring two miles south of Plymouth Rock. She will then lie in the lee of a hundred acre tract of land now given over to a reproduction of the early Pilgrim colony. There, under auspices of Plimouth Plantation Incorporated, a non-profit venture, she would complete a representative cycle of the early settlement days. Costs of bringing her in from Plymouth harbor and up to the Plantation dock are estimated at \$250,000.



Mayflower II with Pilgrim Shallop in foreground. The shallop was brought over in the original Mayflower and stowed "in quarters." It was to stay with the colonists to be used in trading and fishing. The Shallop built in 1957 is a reproduction of the Pilgrim Shallop, a 32' open, rowing, sailing boat of the early 17th century.

- July 19, 1962 -

A WELCOME VISITOR in Provincetown harbor this week has been the USS Yancey, with its skipper, Captain Gordon R. Keating, an old Cape End friend, who for years was skipper of the S. S. Steel Pier on her daily trips between Boston and Provincetown. The USS Yancey, an 18,000 ton attack transport with a crew of 250 officers and men, arrived Wednesday for amphibious training between Wood End and Long Point during morning and afternoon periods. Capt. Keating his officers and men enjoyed liberty ashore in Provincetown at night. Capt. Keating didn't neglect to inform his old friend, Howard Slade, in advance of his arrival and Howard, who served under Capt. Keating as one-man welcoming committee for the Steel Pier, was elated and we will hear more about it the coming Fall and Winter.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1962

## Storm Brings Red Craft To Harbor

A howling northeast storm plus a heavy backlash from Hurricane Daisy brought high winds, torrents of rain and a small fleet of six Russian trawlers to the Cape Tip over the weekend.

Top winds clocked at the Race Point Coast Guard Station here Sunday reached hurricane proportions with gusts up to 75 miles an hour. Total rainfall, however, totaled only 3.79 inches during the entire storm while up to eight inches were reported elsewhere on the Cape.

Little damage was reported here in Provincetown as the fishing fleet rode out the storm at moorings except for one or two vessels including the Flyer I, which came into harbor shortly before dark Sunday night and passed the Russian trawlers on its way in. Evidently seeking refuge from the storm, the Russian boats anchored late Sunday about a mile and a half off-shore, well outside the harbor, but within Cape Cod Bay between Long Point and Truro. Only three were visible from MacMillan Wharf when the weather cleared, but the small fleet had been identified by incoming fishermen by the "hammer and sickle" insignias on their stacks. Coast Guard boats, including the Cutter Frederick Lee and the Race Point 30-footer, carrying Coast Guard officials, patrolled the area, but there were no unusual incidents reported.

Three United States Customs officials arrived here Monday, apparently to investigate possible violations involved in the proximity of the Russian ships, but there was no official word as they awaited a Coast Guard vessel to pick them up nor when they returned from where the ships were anchored. By noon Monday the Russians had sailed out to sea again.

Little damage to Provincetown fishing boats was reported. A 16-foot inboard cabin cruiser, Ebb Tide, owned by John Shelley, parted its line during the night and smashed against MacMillan Wharf, damaging its pilot house, but was recovered by Ralph Gray, sportfishing guide, and tied safely to the wharf. A few small dories were reported swamped and adrift.

There were numerous minor incidents of flooding in town Sunday and Bradford Street was under water in several places during the torrential rain, due to drains backing up.

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