

"General Haze paid a visit to our town last week for the purpose of inspecting the batteries at Long Point. We are led to infer from this circumstance that it was decided to abandon the batteries and carry away or sell the property of the U.S. there stored. This will be a wise piece of economy on the part of the government. But still we shall be sorry to part with our genial and obliging friend and thoroughly efficient Sergeant Rosenthal."

Through the heaviest of the storm Old Highland was scarcely able to blink, and Long Point, with its light now changed from a steady white to an equally steady green, was almost obscured. The color of the light at the entrance to our harbor has been changed so that further confusion with other town and harbor lights would be eliminated.
August 25, 1949

September 22, 1949

A couple of decades or so ago, Ralph Carpenter recalls that he and a bunch of others who used to make up the old Sand Bar Club of retired but far from decrepit lyars in the West End brought up the matter of having a more distinguishable light at Long Point. At that time it was contended that there were so many white lights in town, and fishing boats were able to have bright white electric lights aboard their craft, that the harbor entrance light should have a special color that could be spotted easily. After chewing it over for a few weeks, with the Irishmen at loggerheads with the Orangemen, it was finally decided that the light should be green, and Ralph was designated as the one to take it up with the Boston authorities. This he did, and soon came a snappy letter telling him that the government, man and boy, had been in the lighthouse business some little time and that they knew their business pretty well. It suggested that he put his feet back up on the Sand Bar stove and let those who were capable attend to the light. Of course, Ralph got mad and wrote to Washington, and, of course, Washington referred the matter back to Boston. It is not known now whether the blistering second letter from Boston sent the Sand Bar members into permanent hiding, but it was a lulu, a honey! It refused to concede that the collective intelligence of the club members, and of the rest of the town, for that matter, would heap very high in a quahog shell.

So some twenty years or so later, the light of Long Point peers out with a steady green light, and gradually all of the harbor entrance lights are being changed to that same color. Come out, you Sand Bar Lyars, all is forgiven!

Sept. 1951

Hinckley To Lay Cable

Contract for burying submarine power cable to Long Point Light Station was awarded by the U. S. Coast Guard to E. W. Hinckley Construction Co. of Brockton for \$5,800 according to Gainey's Construction News, daily New England building industry report.

October 4, 1951

Cable Work Starts Soon To Point

Early next week E. W. Hinckley, of Brockton, successful bidder for the contract to lay the electric cable to Long Point Lighthouse and bell, plans to start putting the two-mile cable 20 inches below the harbor bed.

A Coast Guard boat recently delivered the reel of cable which is in one piece and weighs a total of 20 tons. The course to be followed will be from a pole near the Provincetown Inn, going east of the breakwater and to Long Point. Because of the depth of the water in this area it will be necessary to work when tides are low.

October 18, 1951

At low tide yesterday morning the workmen of the E. W. Hinckley Construction Company of Brockton finished laying the long electric cable from a point near the Provincetown Inn across the harbor bed to Long Point to provide electricity for the bell and light there. The cable was buried about two feet in the sandy bottom in a furrow made by a home-made plow rig. There was no need of covering the cable once it was laid. Seeping sea water and the caving sands finished the job quickly and effectively. At one point the tidal water ran too fast and it was necessary to make a 200-foot break here, complete the other end and wait for very low water.

Long Point Light and fog bell have been mechanized and there is need no longer for any crew there. The light has been increased from 600 to 800 candlepower and the fog bell will be sounded one stroke every 15 seconds. The whole thing has been electrified and is being operated from Wood End.

- April 17, 1952 -



- 1910 -

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO CAPE COD - 1955

No More Whitewashing Of Lighthouses

WE understand from a reliable source that whitewash, the familiar product that has been the standard whitening for lighthouses since lighthouses were first whitened, is on its way out for such a purpose. Replacing it is white plastic paint which will make them gleam as never before. The Coast Guard has adopted this new paint for use on aides to navigation.

To apply the plastic white paint, the Portland Head Light's eight-foot tower was sandblasted to free it from all its old whitewash—accumulated on it since the year 1787, when it was constructed of rubble stone and brick during the administration of George Washington himself.