HURRICANE OF SEPTEMBER 1944, continued

tric current was demonstrated right after the end of the storm when it was impossible to get gasoline, news by radio, ice cream, toast, coffee and many other things usually taken for granted.

Selectman Rogers today described the preliminary organization for the coming storm and the work done by the various agencies during and afterward. Chief John Rego had his full force of policemen on duty and the prowl car ready. Superintendent Leo Silva of the Highway Department equipped an extra truck with lanterns, ropes, a rescue dory and other aids, and stood by with his full force. Each of the firehouses was manned all night. Captain David J. Murphy called out the full company of the Provincetown State Guard and set up quarters in the Town Hall basement. All members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary were on constant duty.

## Plans Made

During the day Horace F. Hallett, Cape Cod chairman of the Red Cross, had notified Mrs. Louise Baumgartner of the Canteen Committee to stand by with her workers and Mrs. William Mayo, chairman of the Motor Corps, to be ready with her assistants. He alerted Disaster Chairman, Warren Boothby of South Yarmouth, to organize the remainder of the Cape Ried Cross agencies, as well as Rowley Brockway, vice chairman of West Barnstable. Then he contacted Superintendent of Schools, Alton E. Ramey, and Sivert J. Benson, chairman of the School Committee for the use of the Governor Bradford and High School buildings for evacuees. At the warning of the Governor to evacuate shore properties. the police car was sent to Beach Point by Selectman Rogers and all residents were warned to come to the High School in Provincetown. Almost 60 civilians obeyed the summons and the State Guard moved in Red Cross cots and blankets for their use. The Canteen workers provided sandwiches and coffee with fruit juice, oatmeal and coffee for breakfast in the morning. In addition the Canteen provided food and coffee for highway workers, firemen, police, State Guard members, First Aid, and Navy and Coast Guard personnel-in all about 300. Men from the Navy trailers in the Town parking space near Jolly Jack's were evacuated to the High-School as well.

Mr. Hallett paid tribute to work done by Mrs. Norman Cook of the Red Cross Home Service in the storm's aftermath in managing to get information to frantic relatives and friends cut off from Provincetown.

Selectmen Rogers said that it was impossible to single out any one agency among the many who helped so greatly during the storm, because all did everything within their power, and beyond, to assist. He denied that the town had been under martial law at any time and said that the State Guard had been called out for emergency work and this had been invaluable. The bars were closed on Friday and Saturday nights at 6 to simplify the situation and eliminate unnecessary confusion at a time when public agencies and private citizens had their hands full already.

## State Police Help

Appreciation was expressed for the cooperation of the State Police who provided the town with a radio transmitter and operator Saturday morning and a radio phone on Sunday for urgent messages. Public Safety Commissioner John F. Stokes and State Police Lieut. John Dempsey arrived Saturday night to ascertain the needs of the town, and representatives of the State Health Department were here to check on the water and other conditions.

Selectman Rogers said that the smoothness of the performance of the various agencies and the prevention of overlapping was due in no small measure to the way in which the telephone operators used their heads and their ingenuity, often preventing the concentration of aid in one place and the neglect of others.

Yesterday Roger Gott, district manager for the telephone company at Hyannis, said that Provincetown had suffered far less in its telephone service break than many other places on Cape Cod. By yesterday morning at 10 toll service was again normal with no delays, but Wellfleet, because of two heavy trees across the cable, has about 60 per cent of its service out of order 'at present. The exchange here, Mr. Gott said, began to lose power about '10 Thursday night and another battery was rushed here, arriving Fri-'day afternoon. This supplied current until 10:45 Saturday morning when hand generators were used. 'At 10 o'clock Sunday morning a radio telephone service was installed for urgent calls and toll calls on an emergency basis. The first land circuit was restored at 4 Sunday afternoon and two more were put into service Monday morning.



Draggers ashore by Uncle Bert's Jetty - Town Wharf, right

## HOW WIND AND WAVE BATTERED CAPE COD

Some Cabins Missing

The Lighthouse, the summer hotel in West Dennis operated by State Sen. and Mrs. Everett Stone of Auburn, composed of a main house, or lodge, eleven cabins, a guest house, a kitchen and dining room building accommodating 150, a laundry and a 160-foot pavilion is destroyed, except for part of the lodge and five cabins. All the rest was washed away.

The roof, most of the walls and part of the furnishings of the lining room were carried five nundred yards back to the ridge over the highway. Some cabins are not to be found. Others were wrecked.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Stone, son and daughter-in-law of the senator, were poking through the wreckage yesterday looking for anything worth salvaging. Mr. Stone said an estimate of more than \$100,000 damage would be "conservative."

The elm arch over the main street in Yarmouthport, long called the most beautiful of its kind in New England, was almost completely destroyed. Most of the felled trees were more than 100 years old.

A string of 50 cottages were washed away from Seaside Village, West Yarmouth. The tidal wave had picked them up and carried them over pine trees that had been levelled.

Cape Cottages Turn Yellow, Windows Are Nearly Opaque

House painting and window cleaning will be hurricane chores all over Cape Cod.

Many white Cape Cod cottages were turned yellow by the storm blasts, and windows that were not broken are nearly opaque with mud, leaves, sand and salt.

Emergency crews for electric and telephone utilities labored today to repair communications to the lower Cape as the debris was being gradually cleared from Thursday night's destructive hurricane.

An accurate estimate of the total damage on the Cape was impossible today, but a survey seemed to bear out the belief that it will run near \$5,000,000.

Provincetown and Wellfleet remained isolated from other parts of the Cape and the only reports of how the Lower Cape fared under the terrific force of the gale were meager and came by motorists who by various detours, succeeded in getting through.

Buses were not running to the lower Cape and relatives of persons living at Provincetown, fearing for their kin there, had taken trains to the Cape, only to have their trip halted in Hyannis. Hyannis hotels were filled last night with the travelers.

## 15 Vessels Pounded

One of the few reports from Provincetown today said that at least 15 vessels at the wharves had been demolished or sunk and that the waterfront was badly damaged.