

Seventy-five Years Ago  
February 24, 1875

Improvement

Mr. P. C. Young, our ever accomodating and efficient postmaster, is always looking out for the wants of the public. His latest improvement is in adding about one hundred new lock-boxes of a new pattern. They are much smaller than the old ones, and each box has a small light of glass in the door, thus saving the owner the trouble of unlocking it when it is empty.

- August 14, 1958 -

## \$35,000 Fire Damages Building-Shops, Firemen Keep Flames From Spreading

Sam Shalom, owner of the building on Commercial Street opposite Adams Pharmacy, which was badly damaged in a dramatic two-alarm fire late Saturday afternoon, said yesterday he is planning to rebuild. Work on clearing debris from the building has already begun. Structural damage to the building was estimated at \$25,000 and \$10,000 to the contents. Mr. Shalom also said the loss in business for the rest of the summer would amount to about \$10,000.

According to Lieutenant George Killen of the State Fire Marshall's office and Provincetown Fire Chief James J. Roderick, who conducted an investigation, spontaneous combustion was given as the probable cause of the blaze.

The building, said to be nearly 100 years old, had a long history. It was used as the Post Office for many years; at one time as a furniture store, and for years before the present owner bought it, it housed a well-known camera shop operated by the late Walter Stiff.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1962

### Miss Josephine H. West

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at the Nickerson Funeral Home for Miss Josephine Hatton West, 90, who died Monday at the Hatchway Rest Home in the West End. Rev. Kenneth Warren, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Barnstable officiated. The local Order of the Eastern Star also conducted a service at the funeral home. Interment was in the family lot in the Provincetown Cemetery.

Miss West was a daughter of Joseph A. and Josephine (Weeks) West, attended Provincetown schools and LaSalle Junior College and was graduated from Bridge-

water Normal School.

For a time, Miss West was employed at the Provincetown Post Office, where her father was postmaster for many years. She was a charter member of Chequocket Chapter, OES, was a past matron of the chapter, and was a former grand secretary of the grand chapter. She also had written a history of the local chapter.

In addition to her interest in Eastern Star work, she also was interested in work of the Animal Rescue League.

She was a member of the Church of the Redeemer, Universalist.

Survivors include one first cousin, Mrs. Elizabeth Pigeon of East Boston, and several second cousins.



Main Street, showing Post Office, PROVINCETOWN, Mass.

1910 view. Gosnold Street & Adams Pharmacy, left. Old Postoffice, right. Facing East.



COMMERCIAL STREET AND POST OFFICE, PROVINCETOWN, MASS.

- 1918 -

old PO no  
new " "  
opp Cann  
95

August 11, 1953

## Funeral Today For Walter Stiff

Funeral services are being held this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Provincetown Methodist Church for Walter George Stiff, 77, of 1 Gosnold Street, who died Tuesday after being stricken suddenly by a cerebral hemorrhage. The Rev. Arthur O. Dewey, pastor of the church, is officiating and interment will be in New Section Cemetery.

Mr. Stiff who observed his 77th birthday on Sunday was born in Ottawa but came to this country at an early age and to Provincetown about 35 years ago. He was skilled as a photographer and built a large photographic trade at his place of business at the corner of Commercial and Gosnold Streets.

Mr. Stiff was a devoted member of the Provincetown Methodist Church, served on a number of its committees and was an usher and its treasurer for a number of years. He was also active for a long period as a member of Marine Lodge 96, IOOF, and was a past noble grand. He was also a member of Rebekah Benevolent Lodge 141 of Orleans.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Alice Stentiford Stiff, of Provincetown; a brother, James Stiff, Providence; two nephews, James Stiff of Nashua, N. H., and Cary Stiff of Michigan, and a niece, Mrs. Charlotte Pellitier of Las Vegas, Ariz.

Mr. Stiff's Shop was in the same building where Postoffice was.