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Living Past Presidents

Charles W. Rice, Wrentham, MA	1955-56 & 1974-75
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Allen F. Rice, Englewood, FL	1969-73
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Seaver M. Rice, Southbridge, MA	1975-76
Henry E. Rice, Jr., Framingham, MA	1976-78
C. Whiting Rice, Jr., Sheldonville, MA	1978-80

COVER

This sketch of the original home of Edmund Rice has been used on association stationery as well as reunion programs.

One such program was that of September 30, 1950. At that time Ralston F. Rice of New York City was president. Addresses were given by John A. Bigelow and John E. Rice, Sr. Another feature on the program was the "Wedding of Edmund and Thomasine Rice," portrayed by Ralston Rice and Betty Rice respectively.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Cousins,

Spring is once again upon us and plans are underway for the 1982 Rice Family reunion on Sunday, September 26. The Hilton Inn in Natick has been selected both for its facilities and its location. It is convenient to the Massachusetts Turnpike and is only a few miles from the Edmund Rice cemetery site. This year we really *will* have a caravan to Edmund's grave, unlike the confusion that prevailed at the close of the 1981 meeting. Have a good summer and I hope to see all of you in the Fall.

Sincerely,
William H. Drury

EDITOR'S NOTE

I imagine there are folks waiting to see their name on our new member list or their lineage published. Well, we do have to set a printing date and some material just doesn't get through channels in time but we save it for the next news letter.

Fall is around the corner in the editor's mind, so please send your material in *now!!*

MEMBER'S QUERY

Are you the descendant of a witch? Are you interested in starting an association for descendants of the victims of the Salem Witchcraft Trials? If so, please contact:

Col. John W. Rixham, Jr.
1907 Burnwood Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21239

Would especially like to hear from "cousins" who are descended from the Towne sisters, Rebecca Towne Nurse, Mary Towne Estey, Sarah Towne Cloyes.

(Col. John W. Rixham, Jr., lineage will follow in subsequent news letter.)

Our Members Write . . .

"Again this year, the dates of my annual reunion of the WWI Observation Balloon Service coincided with the date of your meeting. Due to expense, and our age, we plan to break up next year into smaller meetings, at earlier dates."

Charles L. Hayward
Portland, Oregon

"Had hoped to tell about a wonderful response to my request. However, there was none. I am not disappointed about the lack of a response — there is always hope that someday, someone may be reading News Letter Number 42, find that article and write to me."

Margie Rice Hazen
Jacksonville, Florida

"If any one has a 'Willard Clock' for sale, or knows anyone who has, I would appreciate being so advised."

Ruby Jordan McKelvie
3608 Lancaster Pike
Wilmington, DE 19805

Are These Rices Descendants of Edmund¹?

- 1 Jonathan, husband of Eunice, father of Jonathan (b. ca 1780 Mass., d. 1/17/1863 Sheldon, Vt.)
- 2 Levi, m. Matilda McMitchell 1/20/1805 Palmer, Mass., parents of Willis
- 3 Charles, husband of Hannah Riley, father of Harriet N. (b. ca 1818), Lucy (b. ca 1825), Mary Ann (b ca 1828 Chesterfield, N.H.)
- 4 Moses, b. ca 1808 in area of Marlboro, Mass.; m. Laura C. Wilson 2/19/1837 Woodstock, Vt., d. 3/27/1875 Lowell, Mass.
- 5 William, of Barre, Mass. m 2/26/1854 Martha L. Atchinson, Rockingham, Vt.
- 6 David Hall, b. Penn Yan, N.Y. ca 1782, s. of N. J. & C. H. Rice; m. Elizabeth H. Garland 2/25/1808 Dover, N.H.; lawyer

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Jane B. Drury, 24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford, Mass. 01824

News Items . . .

A very informative December 1981 letter was received from Mrs. R. Taylor Drake (Peggy) of Kenilworth, Illinois giving us the news and activities of her family. It even included pictures of Peggy and her husband, Taylor as well as those of children, grandchildren and even family pets! Peggy is serving her second year as president of the Chicago Genealogical Society along with other activities too numerous to mention. Nice to hear about our industrious cousins!

Our corresponding secretary and historian, Margaret S. Rice attended a farewell reception held at the West Newbury Women's Club on Saturday, April 10, 1982 for her former assistant in our association, Mrs. Marjorie P. Fields.

Marjorie and her husband, Harris G. Fields of West Newbury, Massachusetts will be making their new home in Corvallis, Oregon. We will deeply miss them here on the East coast but they will be the Northwest's gain!! Come See Us — Reunion time!!

We are real pleased to announce that Corinne M. Snow, M.D. of Delmar, New York (author of "The Deacons") has joined our association's publication committee.

Our historian, Margaret S. Rice would like to remind folks to return lineage on the form provided in past news letters. Sending lineage on any other form causes more hours of work for her.

BIRTHS . . .

Jonathan Thomas Drake, born 24 October 1981, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Drake of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Jonathan is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. R. Taylor Drake of Kenilworth, Illinois.

Christopher Channing Rice, born 14 April 1982 to Mr. and Mrs. C. Whiting Rice, Jr., of Sheldonville, Massachusetts. C. Whiting is a past president of our association and his wife Larisa is a director.

Christopher is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Rice of Wrentham, Massachusetts and great-great nephew of Mr. Seaver M. Rice of Southbridge, Massachusetts.

New Members . . .

The following people have joined our association since our last News Letter No. 42.

Roy E. Addicks — Eagle Lake, Texas
Peter Loring Dodge — St. Paul, Minnesota
Dr. Azel A. Griswold — Charlotte, North Carolina
Mrs. Mary Louise Harrison — Dedham, Massachusetts
James Parker Rice, Jr. — Ashburnham, Massachusetts
Reginald W. Rice — Menlo Park, California
Col. John W. Rixham, Jr. — Baltimore, Maryland
Mrs. Carol Schulz Shaw — No. Cape May, New Jersey

In Memoriam . . .

Word has been received that one of our members, *Mrs. Elizabeth Rice Gariepy* (Mrs. Armand J. Gariepy), 123 South Street, Barre, Massachusetts, died in 1981. Her children, Mrs. Richard Strauss, Gerry and Richard Gariepy live in Barre, Massachusetts.

Senior member of our association, *Mrs. Callie Burris Wiley*, (Mrs. Texas Wiley) of the Crown Manor Nursing Home, Zion, Illinois, died 9 November 1981.

Clara Mabel Rice-Bate, last of the children of eighth generation Adelbert "Del" Rufus Rice and Harriet Evelyn Erwin, died 10 January 1982, at a rest home in Eureka, Kansas, where she had been confined by ill health for more than a decade. Born in Tama county, Iowa, on 1 February 1883, she came to Kansas with her parents at the age of seven. She was 98 years, 11 months and 10 days of age at the time of her death.

Mrs. Bate is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Vern (Elsie) Lyon, of Eureka; a granddaughter, Mrs. John (Wilda) Sample, of Claremore, Oklahoma; a great grandson, Philip Sample, of Valley Center, Kansas, and a great, great, granddaughter, Kristina Marie, who was born 23 December 1981.

Her sister, Nellie Leah Rice-Bate; two brothers, Clyde Benjamin Rice and Ralph Brittin Rice, and a daughter, Naomi Bell, all preceded her in death. She and her sister both married Bate brothers, affording the family many double as well as single nieces and nephews, scores of whom are still living in the Eureka vicinity and in Greenwood country, Kansas.

Mrs. Bate was a member of the Eureka First United Methodist church and a former member of the now extinct Climax, Kansas, Methodist church, where she served as secretary and treasurer of that church's Sunday school for many years.

Mabel Rice-Bate was the granddaughter of Oren D. Rice of Iowa, who was a seventh generation descendant of Edmund Rice (1638). Services were held January 12, with interment in Greenwood County cemetery, beside her husband Stanley who preceded her in death 2 June 1947.

Services for *Mrs. Evelyn Bernice Rice*, 60, wife of Herbert Leroy Rice (tenth generation), were held Monday, March 22, 1982 at All Saints Catholic Church in Wichita, Kansas. Mrs. Rice died of cancer on Friday 19 March 1982. Interment was in Calvary Cemetery at Wichita.

Member Genealogies . . .

Gary Bob McAninch, P.O. Box 493, Plainview, Texas 79072

- 1 Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
- 2 Edward Rice m. Agnes Bent
- 3 John Rice m. Tabitha Stone
- 4 Capt. Moses Rice m. Sarah King of Charlemont
- 5 Aaron Rice, Sr. m. Freedom French of Deerfield and Charlemont
- 6 Aaron Rice m. Lova Thompson of Charlemont
- 7 Peter Rice m. Betsy Cole of Putnam Co., Ohio
- 8 Hepzibah Rice (No. 4356 Ward pg. 260) m. Lemmuel Riley Vanscoder
- 9 Sarah Matilda Vanscoder m. Robert McAninch
- 10 Charlie J. McAninch m. Bertha Mae Dillon
- 11 Bobbie Lee McAninch m. Katie Elene Chandler
- 12 Gary Bob McAninch m. Diane Marie Milstead

Children: Heather Michelle McAninch b. 2 June 1969
Trevor Michael McAninch b. 21 Sep. 1971

Reginald W. Rice, 2250 Tioga Drive, Menlo Park, California 94025

- 1 Edmund Rice b. 1594
- 2 Thomas Rice m. Mary
- 3 Jonas Rice b. 6 March 1672
- 4 Jonas Rice b. 10 Feb. 1701
- 5 Thomas Rice b. 5 Oct. 1741
- 6 Francis Rice b. 19 July 1782
- 7 Henry E. Rice b. 17 Jan. 1823
- 8 Arthur L. Rice b. 1870 d. 10 Nov. 1946
- 9 Reginald W. Rice b. 30 June 1929

Part of "A Brief History of the Edmund Rice Family through the eyes of Reginald W. Rice" (Rice Reg. pg. 975) written by him for his sons, 1982

The exodus of Rices from Barre, Mass. to the "far West" started in the early 1870's by my Dad's older siblings. By the time *Arthur Louis Rice*, (Rice Reg. Pg. 777), my father and the 5th child of Henry E. Rice, finished high school, there was no one left in Barre from his family except his mother. The closest sibling was Daniel H. Rice who lived in Worcester. After living and farming in Barre for four generations and over 100 years, the Rice children were "moving out."

It all started with one of the sons of Horatio Wheelock who lived just down the road from the Rices in Barre. Everett Wheelock was the first to kick the traces and moved to Chicago, Illinois shortly after the Civil War to work in the dairy business. His glowing reports of new opportunity in the Midwest piqued the interest of his younger brother, *Seymour A. Wheelock*, (Rice Reg. pg. 776) who then made an exploratory trip to Sterling, Ill., to check things out. He liked what he saw and began making plans to emigrate himself.

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At the same time he was falling in love with Dad's older sister, Fannie. Seymour E. Wheelock, Jr. of Denver has the 1869 diaries of Fannie and Seymour A. which record the year of their courtship leading to their formal engagement in the fall of the year. It is a fascinating account of life in those days . . . consisting of endless farm chores followed by dances, parties and parlour games almost every night of the week and into the wee hours. Frequently, the two lovers were up until 2 a.m. even on week nights. Amazingly, Fannie was 16 and Seymour was 21 at the time. During that same fall, my own father was conceived and was born in May, 1870. A lively time was had by all.

Seymour and Fannie were married in March of 1872 in Barre. He then quit his school teaching job and took his new bride to Chicaco and entered the produce business. The first Rice had now moved West and my Grandmother was not pleased at all.

Shortly thereafter, my Dad's older brother, Frank H. Rice, graduated from Amherst College and really pulled stakes, heading to the Pacific West. This shadowy figure in the family history has always intrigued me and I am only now learning something definitive about him. The Denver Seymour W. also has letters that Frank wrote home from California and Oregon indicating that he had some kind of traveling job out there as early as 1877. Previously, he had at least visited Fannie in Chicago.

Next, I learned he married a 16 year old girl named Lizzie Davis in 1881 while he was away from his family out West. The 1900 Census showed that he was living in Oakland, Calif. with Lizzie, four children and a servant. Later, in 1903, they had another child named Gerald.

Lizzie was a beautiful young woman as attested to by several pictures of her in the family album. Frank was also a dashing looking young husband and I don't know why Dad didn't keep better track of them. He even had her incorrectly captioned in the photo album as "Florence", the name of her only daughter who incidentally was born in Nevada. I am trying to locate their younger son who would be 79 now or any of their grandchildren in hopes of fleshing out more of what I hope will be an interesting story.

Dad's oldest sister, *Olive* (Rice Reg. pg. 776), married Henry Brigham and moved to Wisconsin. However, in the 1880 Census they were listed as living with the widow, Elizabeth Rice, and their first child in Barre at the old Rice Homestead. Olive's youngest child, *Henrietta Schussman* (Rice Reg. pg. 973), is now 91 and living alone in Arcata, California. Her son, *Myron Schussman* (Rice Reg. pg. 1169), is superintendent of our local school system and lives in nearby Redwood City, California.

Dad was probably closest to his brother, *Daniel H. Rice* (Rice Reg. pg. 776), who was only 7 years older. However, I never knew him as he died in 1930 when I was a year old.

Now, let's get back to Arthur L. Rice and the founding of the new Rice "settlement" in Wilmette, Illinois. Dad's formal biography is covered in "Who's Who" and his obituary so I won't go into that. The first to move to Wilmette was Everett Wheelock who built what was a mansion in those days at the north-east corner of Central Avenue and 9th street. Some time or other Seymour and Fannie moved from Chicago and built a house next door at 822 Central Avenue. Shortly after 1900, Dad came to Chicago and helped start the Technical Publishing Company. He built a house on 9th street, near the Wheelocks in Wilmette and lived there I believe until his first wife, Annie Cook Rice, died in 1922. I know he was living at 518 Central Avenue when he married my mother in 1928.

The other major addition to our "settlement" was the Burge home at 924 Forest in Wilmette. Here lived Edward H. Burge and his wife, *Grace Wheelock Burge* (Rice Reg. pg. 974) ("Uncle Ed and Aunt Grace"). Aunt Grace was actually my cousin since she was the daughter of Dad's sister, Fannie Rice Wheelock. Got it?

I was too young to remember much about the Wheelock families of Central Avenue even though I went by the houses every day on the way to grammar school. I do have vague memories of Uncle Seymour, Aunt Bertha, and the Wheelock "girls" on the corner. I visited Alice and Margaret Wheelock in 1977 and I understand that one of them is still living at the Everett Wheelock house now. Mainly I remember the delicious smells in their spacious kitchen at family gatherings.

Our most frequent and memorable family get-togethers were with the Burges . . . particularly at Thanksgiving. Although I was quite a bit younger than the Burge kids, I really felt welcome. (Maybe it was because I mowed their lawn in the summers . . . for 60¢ an hour!) I could easily ramble on ad nauseum with my nostalgic memories of those scenes but fortunately for you I can't type fast enough. It's an understatement to say I am really glad we were included.

Life in those days seemed quite simple and delightful even though the grown-ups went through a Depression and World War II. I know Dad used to swear about Roosevelt (Franklin, not Teddy!) and Hitler, to a lesser degree; but through a child's eyes everything was just great.

The Wilmette Era fro the Rices is now over and we are pretty well scattered to the winds. Perhaps this is why I am driven to put all this down in writing.

Art and his son, *Arthur L. Rice, III*, live in Barrington, Ill., and are the only Rices left in the Chicago area. He sold the Technical Publishing Company a few years ago to Dun & Bradstreet, although you will still find his picture and King's in the Board of Director's Room. Art's daughters live in the Minneapolis area and their names and addresses are in our address files.

My oldest brother, *Kingsley L. Rice* (Rice Reg. Pg 777), and his wife, Mary Jane, are now dead, but you know his son, Jim, (K.L. Rice, Jr.) and his family who live in Tiburon, Calif. King's daughter, Alice Ann, (Mrs. John Bell) lives in Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii.

My sister, Betty, *Mrs. Armand J. Gariepy* Rice Reg. pg. 975), died in 1981 shortly after Alice and I visited with her and her wonderful family in Barre, Massachusetts. So you still have contemporary relatives in Barre. This is what Elizabeth F. Rice "hoped and prayed for", but it happened too late for her. So if you get near Barre, be sure to visit there and introduce yourselves to Betty's children . . . Mrs. Richard Strauss, and Gerry and Richard Gariepy.

My generation of the Burges and the Wheelocks would also enjoy meeting you I'm sure, if you are ever in their neck of the woods. (Our address book will tell you which woods)

The ultimate family historian is *Seymour E. Wheelock, M.D.* (Rice Reg. pg. 1169), of Denver. By all means, look him up if you are in the Rocky Mountain area. He has some fascinating records and memorabilia about the Rice family . . . because of the merger of his grandfather, Seymour A. Wheelock, and Fannie Rice. I am grateful to him for his help in gathering much of the previous information.

THE KING ALIAS RICE STORY

For those members of our Association who may be descended from that child who was given by Samuel² Rice to his "Brother and Sister King", we print the following extracts from the New England Historical Genealogical Register of October, 1976, given by Norman Thomas King Newton of Cambridge, Mass.

"Two seemingly small errors (one of commission and one of omission) in Ward's classic "The Rice Family" (1858) have been allowed to stand all these years uncorrected in print. For this reason — and because the unusual adoptive record of the King alias Rice line has not been adequately published — Jonas Rice (1673–1753), although long honored as the 'Father of Worcester', has not been accorded by his descendants the recognition due him as one of their authentic early New England progenitors.

"On page 30, Ward says that Silence, daughter of Jonas³, and Mary (Stone) Rice, married John Bond. The error of omission is on page 38 where Ward gives only the birth, but not the marriage of Ezra⁴, son of Lt. Samuel³ and Abigail (Clapp) King alias Rice. To be sure, the 1970 Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants, pages 8 and 35, attempts to correct the omission, but it only supplies another mistake, stating that Ezra King alias Rice married 'Silence Bond.' The correct entries would have been that Ezra married Silence Rice, and vice versa, in Worcester, c. 1719.

"After the birth of thirteen children in Worcester and Brimfield, Ezra and his oldest son, Jonas, went on the Louisburg expedition where both died in 1746 at Cape Breton.

"As Ezra's widow, Silence was granted letters of administration on 12 August 1746, signing as Silence King. At ratification of the settlement, in 1751, she was referred to as "Silence Bond, alias Silence King, relict of sd. deed." At some time between September, 1747 and Apr. 1751, she married John Bond of Worcester. She died at Templeton, Mass., in 1763, and her gravestone there reads: 'Silence Bond, relict of Ezra King and only daughter of Jonas Rice, Esq. 8 Dec. 1763, in her 61st year.' "

Margaret S. Rice
Association Historian

"Kansas State Fair Ribbon Accomplishments of Two Kansas Cousins"

When the gates closed on the final day of the September 1981 Kansas State Fair at Hutchinson records revealed that the competitive sister team of Mrs. Josephine Rice-Smith, 79, of Wichita and Mrs. Doris Rice-Barb, 73, of El Dorado had extended their ribbon winnings to a combined total of some 680, plus other awards, during their lengthy history of exhibiting in the food department.

In the exposition of the past season Mrs. Smith collected 16 ribbons — eight firsts, two seconds and six thirds — in addition to sweepstakes on her peach preserves, while Mrs. Barb netted eight ribbons on cookies and canning as well as the Kansas Wheat Commission Award on original cookies.

Jo Smith, a housewife and mother throughout life, began exhibiting at the Kansas State Fair 28 years ago in 1953 and during that time her 478 ribbons break down to 174 first places, 148 seconds and 156 thirds. She has also five sweepstakes and two trophies on decorated cakes, plus 16 other sweepstakes in categories of breads, cakes, rolls, cookies, pies, jellies, janes, preserves, candy and sugar molds. Past governors Avery and Docking have each been presented her prize-winning cookie jars. Many supplemental cash and certificate awards have been received from bakery, yeast and flour companies, and from radio and television stations, who sponsor special recognition in connection with the state fair.

Doris Barb, who retired in 1974 after 42 years of elementary grade school teaching, was encouraged by her sister in 1958 to begin exhibiting at the state fair, which resulted in five to eight ribbons during each of the first few years. Prior to retirement Doris used culinary skills as therapy but since 1974 it has become a hobby, and her cookery extends not only to the state fair but to county and local shows as well. Over 200 ribbons and six sweepstakes are her accomplishments at the Hutchinson competition.

In 1979, her biggest year at the state fair in Kansas, she brought home 22 ribbons, with other honors including Governor's Cookie Jar, a \$100 bond from Archway for best cookies, and sweepstakes for quick bread. The 1980 fair brought a first place award for the State Fair President's Bread Basket — a basket made entirely of dough and filed with a variety of six different kinds of rolls.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Barb are asked frequently to appear on radio and TV shows, and the past August a Wichita station set up in the Barb kitchen in El Dorado to film her as she prepared bread and rolls and other items, as a promotion for the 1981 fair.

Each exhibitor winning a cookie jar, bread basket or other special award is by fair rules eliminated from competing in that category again for three years. Mrs. Smith at one time was winning so many decorated cake sweepstakes that fair officials asked her to drop out of the competition in order to give other Kansas ladies a chance — which she did graciously.

Cooking, baking and canning is an art and challenge of these two Rice women (daughters of the late Ervin L. Rice, granddaughters of Jabez Judson Rice, all descendants of Edmund Rice through Oren D. Rice — page 454 of the Rice Register). Their present hope is to exhibit for two more years, which would make a total of 30 for Jo and 25 for Doris. Depending on their health and other circumstances, not many people in these parts would wager they'll stop after 1983.

Roger E. Rice

The "Skating Rink" Portraits

Horace H. Bigelow was a true Rice, being descended from Edmund in two ways on his father's side and once on his mother's side. He was born in Marlborough, Mass., in 1827 and came to Worcester at the age of 36, where he started the Bay State Shoe Company. He also invested heavily in real estate on both shores of Lake Quinsigamond, and in 1882 built a large roller-skating rink and amusement center known as Bigelow's Gardens. He established here for the use of the rink and for electrical exhibitions, the first electric light and power station in the city, which he subsequently sold to the Worcester Electric Light Company. He was at that time one of the largest real estate owners in Worcester.

Horace Bigelow commissioned portraits to be painted of his five sisters and these were hung in Bigelow's Gardens in very massive and ornate frames. The author knows the location of three of them today, but the other two seem to have disappeared. Electa's picture is in the possession of Mrs. Marjorie Field, a member of the Rice Association, who recently moved from Massachusetts to Oregon taking the portrait with her. Cordelia's picture hangs in the house where she lived in Berlin, Mass., and presently occupied by her great grandson, Willard Wheeler. Dr. Richard Evans of Cleveland, Ohio, has the portrait of Mary, my great-great grandmother. The whereabouts of the pictures of Ann and Ada is unknown, but they may be in an attic somewhere in Central Massachusetts.

Ann married Solon Wood and lived in Hudson, Mass. Their daughter Ada married Alfred Woods and they had a son Harold. Ada married Henry Lawrence and lived in Berlin and Northborough, Mass. They had two children, Ellen and "Bertie."

Perhaps one of our Association members knows where Ann and Ada are presently hanging. It would be nice for the Bigelow girls to have a reunion someday to reminisce about the good old days at Bigelow's Gardens in this the 100th anniversary of its opening.

William H. Drury

THE APPLE BUTTER WINTER

By Seaver M. Rice, Honorary Life Member

There are times in one's life when some little incident will spark off a whole chain of remembrances. So it was with me last night as I sat in my easy chair in deep thought.

The day had been a rewarding one, Kay Newcomb, an old friend, had volunteered to drive me up to Rindge, N.H., to visit the Cathedral of the Pines and to view the fall foliage.

On the way, the conversation had come around to my early boyhood in the Adirondack Mountains 75 years ago and longer, and on my return home, further thought had picked out incidents of early boyhood from my chain of memories.

Back in 1907 during Teddy Roosevelt's administration, there had occurred a brief recession, known in those days as a panic, which upset our lives as a family for nearly a year.

In the small hamlet where we lived, our means of support in the town was by the housing of a thousand or more health-seekers, people afflicted with the dreaded illness of tuberculosis. In the summer months there also were scores of vacationists who camped out in the woods.

There were three or four sanatoriums where the tubercular people stayed. In addition there was a score of rest homes and boarding houses that took care of these patients who came to our town from all over the states.

My folks had a commodious establishment which could accommodate 20 people afflicted with the disease. Also on the premises was a large barn which housed a horse, cow and a flock of hens. There was a small cottage-type house where the laundry was located on the first floor and upstairs were three rooms where the female employees stayed. In addition, a huge woodshed with storage rooms overhead helped round out our holdings. One more building on the premises was a combination ice-house and cooler which housed the perishables.

As the fall months approached things looked bad economically and one evening father announced, "We are closing this place for a time. We only have two guests and this large house is too expensive to heat and maintain." So in a few days, we shut off the second and third floors and a good portion of the first floor.

Our family at that time consisted of father, mother and five boys, Herman, Walter, Seaver, Irving and Sturgis. They ranged in age from Herman at 18 to Sturgis, the youngest at age 8.

It should be mentioned that as was the custom of those times we had stocked up on provisions for the winter months. Father who had not anticipated closing the house and had ordered a large supply of eatables. There were barrels of flour, sugar, canned goods, salt pork and in fact nearly everything that was needed to feed 35 to 40 people through the long winter months.

As I recollect we were not in any immediate difficulties except that we were short on money — none coming in, but as I have mentioned it, it looked as if we would feed well. There was one important article that we didn't have very much of and which later caused a severe upheaval in our lives.

One day father said, "you know we haven't any butter left, but up in the cooler are several tubs of applebutter which we might as well use up." Father had all the traits of his Yankee heritage. "Eat it up, wear it out, make it do," was one of his maxims.

The apple butter was a concoction made from apples, of course, and was a sticky brown-colored substance sweet to the taste and not too bad to eat; except after a couple of weeks it began to pall. We missed the real butter.

One morning a few weeks later, the two older boys, Herman and Walter complained of a rash that itched and exuded pus in some places. It did not clear up and Dr. Wicker, the family physician, was called in. After looking the boys over he said to mother, "I'm not sure just what this thing is. It might be smallpox. A little too early to tell, but you had better quarantine the boys anyway."

Herman and Walter were taken up to the cooler house where a small room was used as sleeping quarters by the handyman whose services we had dispensed with when the house closed.

The boys were waited on by father and mother, and the three other kids were kept home from school.

Two days later I came down with a severe case of hives and a burning sensation all over my body. "I'm burning up," I exclaimed to mother. "I can't stand it." I was put to bed and between the sheets was poured a large quantity of flour. I was covered from head to foot in the white cooling substance. The next morning I resembled Frosty the Snow Man," but the fever had subsided. Although I still had the giant hives.

Before the day was over the two younger boys, Irving and Sturgis, came down with the malady.

Old Doctor Wicker was again called in and examined us thoroughly. Finally he said to our mother, "Have your boys been eating anything unusual?" - I can't think of anything except we have been eating apple butter," replied mother. "Ha" exclaimed the doctor. "Your boys are full of acid. Don't let them have any more of that stuff and they will be all right." And so we were.

There were other incidents in that long cold winter of years ago.

For many years around Thanksgiving time father had a standing order for a barrel of oysters in the shells from a firm in Baltimore. They were large succulent bi-valves of the Chesapeake Bay variety. Also there was on order a barrel of Malaga grapes. These were packed in cork sawdust and always arrived in prime condition as did the oysters which were packed in ice. Father had neglected to cancel the order as he should have. Our rest home was closed as previously mentioned. At any rate the oysters and grapes were put in the cooler for preservation and safekeeping as was thought at the time.

My older brother Walter knows a lot more about oysters as he had worked for a time in the village fish market. He could open oysters in the shell with a knife, while the other kids, if they snatched a few, had to use a hammer. Walter was the "take charge guy", and after school we kids would gather in the cooler house around the oyster and grape barrels where Walter held forth with his sharpened putty knife opening oysters to the deserving and dispensing the Malaga grapes.

The situation began to get out of hand somewhat when our boyfriends were invited in and joined in the festivities. We all developed a healthy appetite for shelled oysters and Malaga grapes.

After a few days, Walter, who had business sense, said, "I ain't going to have all these kids eat up our stuff. They got to pay if they want any of it." So a price-system was set up - three shelled oysters for a nickel, six for a dime. Malaga grapes were priced accordingly.

The supply of oysters and grapes had reached a critical low point. The day of reckoning was at hand when father appeared on the scene one afternoon when Walter, with a whole array of kids waiting for the dispensation of the mouth-watering delights. "What's going on here?" yelled father as he caught sight of the motley gathering around the oyster and grape barrels. That ended Walter's business venture and nearly all the oysters and grapes with it. There was appropriate punishment by father.

Dues Reminder . . .

Please look at the mailing label on this news letter. A red dot on it means that the secretary has not yet received your dues for this year. Why not take a minute right now to drop a check in the mail to:

Miss Margaret S. Rice
Lion's Mouth Road
Amesbury, MA 01913

Make check payable to **The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.**

To refresh your memory:

Dues for under 70 years of age \$5.00
Dues for those aged 70-75 \$3.00
Dues for those over 75 (Senior Member) None

Note: If you are over 75 years old, you must still notify the secretary of your continuing interest in order to maintain your membership.

Publications Available Through The Association

A Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants - Published in 1970 by the Association. A continuation of A.H. Ward's "Rice Family" and the Supplement to that book. \$25.00 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling.

The Rice Family - by Andrew Henshaw Ward (1858) A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamsted, England, and settled at Sudbury, Massachusetts in 1638 reprint \$20.00 plus \$2.50 for postage and handling.

Supplement to the Rice Family - Published by the Association in 1967, additions and corrections bringing the 1858 edition up to date \$3.50 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling.

Index to Supplement - 18 pages \$2.50 postpaid.
Index to Rice Family - 34 pages \$4.00 postpaid. } \$5.00 together

More About Those Rices - by Elsie Hawes Smith. Still a few left, copyright 1954 \$3.50 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling.

You Are Heir To Millions! - by Margaret S. Rice. This seven page speech was made by Margaret S. Rice at the 1971 Rice Reunion \$1.50 postpaid.

Additional NEWS LETTERS - \$2.00 each postpaid.

Checks, payable to **The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.**, should be sent with orders to William H. Drury, 24 Buckman Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824.



Edmund Rice (1638)
Association, Inc.

THE EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOC., INC.
NEWS LETTER EDITOR
Mrs. Louise Rice Trudeau
William Street
Chester, Massachusetts 01011

FIRST CLASS



MR. & MRS. WILLIAM H. DRURY
24 BUCKMAN DRIVE
CHELMSFORD, MA 01824

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