



Items of Interest during the Year 1946-47

(taken from Barber's Almanack 1948).

Gathered from the Local Newspapers, etc. during the past year.
Every care is taken to make the following list correct
but no item or date is guaranteed by the publisher.

December, 1946.

4--At a meeting of the Isle of Ely C.C. it was revealed that subject to the approval of the Home Office, 4 pairs of police houses were to be erected at Littleport

It was decided at a meeting of E.R.D, Council that a further 210 houses were to be erected at Littleport. A proposal to build houses at S, Matthew's was adopted by nine votes to six

6--Highly successful Christmas sale, followed by a whist drive and dance, held at St. Matthew's Institute, realised over £38. £28 was sent to the Bishop's Appeal Fund

7--Salvation Army Christmas sale. £40/4/8 was raised

9--Annual meeting of Women's Institute. A successful year was reviewed by Mrs. Milne Wilson (President). Mrs. A. F. Price (Hon. Sec.) reported an increase in membership of 20 members

11--Miss F. E. Lee, Head Teacher of the Infants' School, received 8 letter of thanks for the sum of £2/16/3 contributed by the staff and scholars of the school to the Hospital for Sick Children, Gt. Ormonde Street, London.

14--Christmas sale held at the Constitutional Hall to raise funds for the renovation of the Parish Hall realised over £90

17--Mrs. Legge-Bourke presented prizes at a whist drive organised by the Women's Conservative Association, About £20 was raised for the Association funds

Concert given by members of the local B.R.C.S, Cadet Unit and Link A silver collection of £2/15/0 was taken for Red Cross Funds

19--Marriage, at St, Mary's Church, Disley, of Mr. Alfred Spinks, B.Sc, Pb.D., only son of Mr, and Mrs A. R. Spinks, of Victoria Street, Littleport, and Miss Patricia Kilner, of Disley

20--Over £11 raised for St, Dunstan's at a whist drive in S. Matthew's Institute, The drive was organised by Mrs. Benstead

21--Marriage at St. George's Church, Little Thetford, of Mr. Frederick W. Coulson, of Littleport, to Miss Edna Markham, of Little Thetford

23--Meeting of Parish Council. Dr. Gordon drew the Council's attention to the danger caused by buses parked outside the Littleport schools and it was decided to recommend to the Isle of Ely Education Committee that a grid be erected at the Infants' School and that the buses be parked elsewhere.

25--Christmas Day--130 Communicants attended the Parish Church

27--Collection at the Girls' School in aid of the Hospital for Sick Children London, amounted to £55/11/0

29--first open meeting of the newly formed Littleport Brotherhood. The speaker, Mr. A. L. Atkins, of Ely spoke on "Christianity and Fellowship"

30--Sudden death of Mr, Michael Laws, of Outwell, at the age of 74. Mr. Laws, who was a native of Littleport, settled in Outwell about 30 years ago He collapsed while cycling and died from a heart attack

January, 1947.

10--Engagement announced between Mr. Ronald Richer and Miss Pamela Hodson, both of Burnt Chimney Road, Littleport

13--Women's Institute members entertained at their monthly meeting by members of the local B.K.C.S Cadet Unit and Link

!!! Meeting of the local branch of the Tailors and Garment Workers Union.

Resolutions were passed supporting the increase of basic rates, together with two weeks holiday with pay

14--Meeting of the Isle of Ely Coursing Club held on the Plantation House Estate. A good day's sport was witnessed by a large company.

£24 sent to Addenbrooke's Hospital as a result of darts matches organised by Mrs. H. Brown, of Bridge House

17--Engagement announced between Mr. Horace Stanley Ramsey youngest son of Mr, & Mrs. F. Ramsey, of 102, Victoria Street, Littleport, and Miss Violet Wilson, of Chelsea, London

18--19-20--59th Salvation Army Anniversary Services conducted by Adjutant & Mrs. Cyril Hebdon, former officers of the Littleport Corps

18--Members of St, Crispin's Sewing Guild organised a most enjoyable Christmas party for the Sunday School children. About 100 guests attended

21--Death, at Ring's End, Of Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Simpson, formerly of Littleport. She was 69

24--Miss F. E. Lee, Head Teacher of the Infants' School, received a letter of thanks from the Isle of Ely Society for the Blind for the sum of £5/5/0 which was raised by the children as a result of the Society's Christmas Appeal

22--Under the leadership of Mr, George Smith, the newly formed "Meiodians" Dance Band made its first public appearance at the Constitutional Hall

Flight Lieut. P, A. Rowell, only son of Mr. & Mrs, H. Rowell, of "Aberfovele" awarded the Air Force Cross for his work as test pilot at High Ercall R.A.F, Station, Shropshire

!!! 23--Speaking at the annual New Year party of the local St. John Nursing Division. The County Commissioner (Dr. K. S. Maurice-Smith), said that although enthusiasm in the S.S.A.B. had "gone off a bit" in some districts, he was glad to be able to say that the Littleport division was still flourishing.

February, 1947.

1--Death, at Northampton Hospital, of Mrs. Margaret C. Gaul, wife of Mr. Reginald Gaul, of Ten Mile Bank

3--Mothers' Union Party, About 36 Littleport members attended with several from St. Matthew's

The marriage of Mr. Norman Charles Field, youngest son of Mr, & Mrs. J. W. Field, of Ely Road, and Miss Lillian Ward, of Leicester, took place recently at Leicester

!!! 5--It was revealed at a meeting of E.R.D. Council that the Ministry of Health had provisionally allocated a lump sum grant of £7,500 for work on sewage and sewage disposal at Littleport

8--Marriage, at Stuntney Parish Church, of Miss Freda M. Spencer, of Quanea Farm, and Mr. Stanley Mackender, third son of Mr. & Mrs. W. Mackender, of 93, Victoria Street, Littleport

10--Marriage, at Riccione, Italy, of Captain J. D. Lofting, M.C., Royal Ulster Rifles, and Miss Edna M. Gotobed, British Red Cross Commission, younger daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. C. Gotobed, of Downham Market, late of Black Horse Drove

!!! A record entitled the "Shoe Maker's Song" was played by the B.B.C in the "Housewives' Choice" programme at the request of Mrs M. Roakes and her daughter, Angela, of Lynn Road. Announcer, Roy Rich, said he knew Littleport and he hoped Angela was listening

Although a concert party from Wisbech failed to appear members of the Women's Institute had a merry time at their annual party

!!! The film record of Littleport's War Weapon's Week, taken in 1941, was included in the programme at the Regal Cinema. The nights takings were devoted to the Parish War Memorial fund.

11--Death, at Desborough, Northants., of Mrs. Jessie Maud Ashman, wife of Mr. L. H. Ashman. Mr. & Mrs. Ashman, both native of Littleport, went to live at Desborough several years ago. Mrs. Ashman was the only daughter of Mr, John T. Thornhill, and the late Mrs. Thornhill

Engagement announced between Mr. Sidney Brown, of Sedge Fen, Lakenheath, and Miss Eileen Arch, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. F. Arch, of Wisbech Road, Littleport

16--Death, at her home, of Mrs. Rosina Dennis, wife of Mr, J. Dennis, of Wyverstone, Suffolk. Mrs. Dennis was the second daughter of the late Mr, & Mrs. Robert Watts, of Littleport

18--Meeting of the Parish Memorial Fund Committee. The future of the Camping Close--the proposed site of the playing field--was discussed

24--28-Rev. Phillip Hayes, an Australian Evangelist, held services at St. John's Methodist Church. Good congregations attended

28--The "Wryneck Mill" darts team successful in the finals of the Ouse Valley League. They won the shield given by Messrs. Hall, Cutlack & Harlock

March, 1947.

1--Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, re-opened the Convalescent Home of the Transport & General Workers' Union. During the war the Home was taken over by the R.A.F. as a hospital

Building plots on the Greyfield Estate, Ely Road, sold at the Town Hall by order of Mrs. E. L. Fendick and Mr, C. J. E. S. Fendick, 3 1/4 acres were sold and realised £2,495

4--Death, at Burwell, of Mr, William Turner, formerly of Littleport, For many years

Mr, Turner was foreman for Messrs. Martin Bros.

7--Y.M.C.A. Youth Club bring and buy sale realised over £30 for Club funds

12--Meeting of Parish Council. It was decided to procure additional land for the cemetery

In recognition of his proficiency in radio service engineering, Mr Donald E, Law, son of Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Law, of Wisbech Road, was awarded a diploma by the Bennett College, Sheffield

!!! Following a blizzard that swept the whole country, heavy drifts of snow on Portley Hill prevented traffic from getting through to Ely. Passengers on the 8:40 bus had to leave the vehicle and trek down to the bottom of the hill where they were picked up by another bus, which had come from Ely. The "shuttle" service had to be adopted until roadmen were able to clear the road

13--Another violent blizzard. Snow drifts on Portley Hill again blocked the road to Ely. Mails were brought to Littleport from Ely via Prickwillow

16--Mothering Sunday--Mothers from St. Matthew's and St. Crispin's were among those present at the special service held in the Parish Church

April, 1947.

5--Comming of age party of Mr Charlie Fincham, of Little Ouse. Fifty guests attended

Marriage, at St. Mary's Church, Ely, of Miss J. I. M. Reditt, of Ely, and Mr. George Arthur Gathercole, son of Mr. & Mrs. A Gathercole, of Ten Mile Bank, Littleport

9--British Legion social evening. On behalf of the members of the Club, the President (Major Hilton Luddington) presented a silver tray to the Chairman, Mr. F. R. Hannent, who had held that office for the past 21 years

11--Engagement announced between John, son of Mrs. and the late Mr. R. Hanslip, of Black Horse Drove, Littleport, and Hilda, daughter of Mr. and the late Mrs. L. Fletcher, of Friars Way, Littleport

National Savings--It was revealed that the Chancellor's Challenge had produced the grand sum of £52,710 during the twelve months ended March 31st, 1947

12--Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Youngs, of 43, Victoria Street, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary

18--It was revealed that during the Easter performances at the Regal Cinema, over £17 was collected for the Aid for China Fund

20--St. John's Methodist Church Anniversary The Rev. Walter Wilson, of Sutton, was the special preacher

21--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. Mrs. G. Summerlee was chosen as delegate for the London Annual Conference

22--St. John's Methodist Church Anniversary Services continued. The Rev. Arthur Ince, of Ely, conducted divine service, and in the evening lectured on "Cornish saints and sinners"

27--Death of Miss Elsie Kate Dye two days after the death of her father, Mr, Charles Dye, of 40, Hempfield Place, and only a few weeks after the deaths of her mother and sister

!!! 28--Annual meeting of the Littleport & Prickwillow Nursing Association. It was revealed that the nurses had made a total of 6,725 visits during the year. The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of £329/4/7

Miss C. M. Taylor (B.R.C.S. Assistant County Director of Youth) made the following presentations to members of the local Red Cross Detachment at the Girls' School, First Certificate--Miss Greta Smith; advanced certificate, Miss Sylvia Fletcher and

Mrs. D. Rodwell; proficiency, Miss M. Pope, Mrs, D. Cole, Miss N. Padgett and Mrs. M. Scotting; bar, Miss S. Leggett, Miss H. Page and Mrs H. Rowell

30--A branch of the Community Association formed at Black Horse Drove

May, 1947.

4--Salvation Army services conducted by Major Cox. Major Cox was stationed at Littleport in 1921

7--Annual meeting of Infant Welfare Centre, It was revealed that the centre had been in operation for 30 years

9--Rev. I. K. Cecil Payne received a letter from Ald. S, Childs thanking church-goers for their offertory of £14/15/2 to the Flood Relief Fund

Whist and domino drives followed by a social realised £34 for the renovation of the old school at Black Horse Drove, to be used as headquarters for the newly-formed branch of the Community Association for Youth

10--Cricket-Playing their first match of the season Littleport gained an easy victory over E. Smith's XI. at Downham Market

12--W.I. "Members' Night." The President (Mrs. W. M. Wilson) announced that she

had received a number of gifts from Australia for sick folk

13--Empire Youth Week opened in Littleport with the film show; 'The Youth Services of Gt, Britain' which was shown to the senior boys and girls of the local schools. Mr. K. Shelton, the newly appointed Local Youth Organiser, invited all young people to join one of the local Youth Organisations

14--Meeting of Parish Council-Recommendations for the revision of Littleport burial fees were considered and approved. It was decided to submit the revision of fees to the Ministry of Health for approval.

17--A target of £100 was reached for the Church of England's Children's Society by means of a jumble sale and whist drive held in the Constitutional Hall

!!! 23--Annual meeting of Littleport St. John Ambulance Maintenance Committee. Concern over delay in the delivery of the new ambulance, ordered last June, was expressed. It was revealed that 183 patients had been conveyed by the ambulance during the year

24--House-to-house collection for the National Children's Home and Orphanage. The sum of £32/14/9 was raised

It was revealed that £41/12/5 resulted from the recent B.R.C.S. flag day collections

27-Football-Littleport Town Reserves defeated Little Downham in the final of the Hull Challenge Cup competition by 2--0. The game was marred by an unfortunate accident to G. Ayres, the Littleport captain, who broke a leg a few minutes before the end of the game

2a--Candidates from Littleport, Prickwillow, Little Downham and Chesterton were confirmed in the Parish Church by Bishop Walsh

29--Isle of Ely Society for the Blind flag day realised over £34. The collection was organised by Mrs, Mille Wilson

31--County Show at Wimpole Park. Messrs. Martin Bros. were successful in gaining prizes with their shire horses

June, 1947.

!!! 1--Unveiling of Tablets at Soham Parish Church and Soham railway station to commemorate the heroic action of three railwaymen. It was in the early hours of Friday, June 2nd, 1944, that the people of Soham were awakened by a tremendous explosion, which swept the railway station flat, and damaged hundreds of houses in the town. An ammunition train, comprising 51 wagons loaded with bombs, and

driven by Mr. Benjamin Gimbert of March, who had as Fireman, Mr. J. W. Nightall, of Littleport was approaching Soham, when it was discovered that the wagon next to the engine was on fire. Fireman Nightall uncoupled the blazing wagon from the remainder of the train and rejoined his companion, who proceeded to drive it away, clear of the town. Driver Gimbert had gone about 100 yards when the truck blew up, tearing a great crater in the track and completely flattening the station buildings. The rest of the train was saved and with it, Soham, but Fireman Nightall and Signalman F. Bridges, who was on duty at the station, were killed, and Driver Gimbert was severely injured. For their great devotion to duty Driver Gimbert and Fireman Nightall were awarded the George Cross.

The Vicar (Rev. J. K. Cecil Payne) revealed that £79/17/7 had been sent to the Bishop's Appeal Fund towards Littleport's quota of £83

At Evensong, in the Parish Church, the Vicar (Rev. J. K. Cecil Payne) dedicated a Lectern Bible in memory of Herbert and Rebecca Lofts

!!! 1--Two shops in Main Street ransacked by thieves in the early hours of the morning. A quantity of men's wear was taken from Mr Stanley Taylor's premises and a number of pairs of boots and shoes from Mr. P. S. Gray's shoe-shop

4--Two commemorative tablets inscribed with the names of Littleport men who made the supreme sacrifice in the two world wars unveiled at a service in the British Legion Club

8--Victoria Street Methodist Sunday School anniversary services. The preacher was Mr. Ralph Newson, of Dagenham

9--Monthly meeting of Women's Institute. The entertainment was provided by members of the Ten Mile Bank branch

11--Members of the Wesley Guild enjoyed a programme given by the Young People's Choir, of Suspension Bridge Sunday School

13--Engagement announced between Flight Sergt. Horace Nicholas, son of Mrs. F. Nicholas, of Littleport, and Miss Elizabeth Cooper of Richmond, Yorks.

15--Salvation Army Sunday School anniversary. Major Phillips conducted.

16--Salvation Army Citadel packed to hear a programme given by Sunday School scholars of Wisbech

17--Religious Brains Trust held in St. John's Methodist Church followed by a rally of Methodists and friends from every part of Ely circus

21--Garden Fete held in the Vicarage grounds of St. Matthew's the splendid sum of £106 for Church Funds. Mrs. Legge-Bourke who opened the fete, was presented with

a bouquet by Iris Young

The Vicar and Mrs. Payne accompanied 20 Sunday School scholars to the "Consider Africa" exhibition in Ely Cathedral

22--Brandon Bank Sunday School anniversary services. Organised by Mr. E. Youngs, of Littleport, the services were most successful and the proceeds for Sunday School funds amounted to over £14.

24--Members of the Mothers' Union spent an enjoyable day at Yarmouth

25--Parish Church gift day. A total of over £40 was devoted to the diocesan quota

27--Social held in the Cafe Marguerite with a view to re-forming a junior branch of the Conservative Party in Littleport. Major Legge-Bourke attended

!!! 28--Cottenham Band welcomed at the Salvation Army Citadel. Mr. A. Wright, who presided, gave the band a "civic welcome"

July, 1947.

!!! 2--At a meeting of Ely R.D.C., the Medical Officer (Dr. K. S. Maurice Smith) reported that he had found the condition of Littleport swimming pool very unsatisfactory. He thought that the bath should remain closed until some method of dealing with the problem could be devised

National Day of Prayer. 50 communicants attended the Parish church.

Anniversary services held at St John's Methodist Church. Collections amounted to over £28

10--Meeting of Parish Council. Following a report from the Rural District Officer concerning the bad state of the water in Littleport's swimming bath it was decided not to open the bath during the season

13--Mr F. G. Starling repeated his success of last year by winning the Silver challenge cup for the best single horse turn-out in the open event at the Haddenham Young Farmers' Club's open show

13--Sunday School Festival observed at the Parish Church

Visit to St. John's Methodist Church of the German Orchestra and Male Voice Choir from the P.O.W, Camp, Ely

15--Annual meeting of Town Football Club. A record number of members attended

16--At the invitation of their President (Major Hilton Luddington) members of the

British Legion spent a pleasant interlude in the grounds of Wallington Hall, Norfolk. The party numbered about 380

18--Marriage, at the Baptist Gospel Fishermen's Mission, Tamilba, Australia, of Mr. Henry G. Wellen, of Nabeic, to Miss Annie Theobald, daughter of Mr. George Theobald, late of Littleport

19--Y.M.C.A. Youth Clubs first public venture--a garden fete--a huge success. The function, opened by Major Legge-Bourke, brought in over £145 for club funds

20--Feast Sunday -- Rev. Canon F. G Scovell, late of Sheffield, preached at the Parish Church, following. the annual parade

22--It was revealed at the Infant Welfare Centre that Miss Kilda Lawrence, of Bury St. Edmunds, who was health visitor for Littleport for several years, had died recently in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Miss Lawrence left the district about 12 years ago

25--Engagement announced between Mr. Allan Lee, son of Mr. & Mrs. G, F, Lee, of Parsons Lane, Littleport, and Miss Joan Turner, of Sutton

26--Annual show of the Horticultural & Foal Show Society. Mr. F. G. Starling President described the horse show as the "best ever". The rabbit show, organised by the Littleport & All England Fur & Fancy Society, in conjunction with the Horticultural & Foal Show Society, attracted a large number of entries. There was a record attendance of 6,000

!!! 30--At the half-yearly meeting of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Wisbech District, held at Littleport, Brother Harold Stimpson, secretary of the local Hereward Lodge, was nominated to the office of Prov, D.G.M. Following the meeting the delegates adjourned to the Odd Fellows' Hall, Church Lane, for the unveiling of a clock which was dedicated to the memory of the brothers of the Hereward Lodge who made the supreme sacrifice in World Wars I. & II. The Rev. J. K. Cecil Payne performed the ceremony.

August, 1947

1--Kathleen Hensby and Doreen Pendle, scholars of Feltwell Fen School, Anchor Drove, Little Ouse, gained scholarships to Thetford Girls' Grammar School

The following pupils of the Town Schools were successful in passing the Entrance Examination to Ely High School for Girls and Soham Grammar School :--Girls--Marilyn Barrett, Edna Cooper Rita Crabb, Pauline Gorham, Verona Guyton, Doreen Holmes Joan Legerton, Pamela Lofts, Brenda Neale, Shirley Pettitt, Thelma Pettitt, Jill Smith, Margaret Sleight, Velda Taylor and Averil Turner. Boys--Oliver Murfitt, Roy Murfitt, Bernard Nicholas, David Norman and Victor Watson

6--Preliminary meeting with a view to forming a junior branch of the Conservatives held in the Cafe Marguerite

!!! Women's Institute party for old age pensioners. About 80 pensioners enjoyed a huge spread of dainties of every kind, and each was presented with a 2lb. pot of jam or syrup, gifts from Australia.

10--Special service for the dedication and re-affirmation of vows by members of the Mothers Union held in the Parish Church. 24 mothers made their promises

14--Interment at Littleport Cemetery of the ashes of the late Elizabeth Ann Gardiner, of Moat Farm, Kessingland, who died on August 6th. Mrs. Gardiner, who was 74, was the third daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. George Taylor, of Wisbech Road.

15--It was announced that recent collections for Dr. Barnardo's Homes (organised by Miss M. Peake) and St. Dunstan's Home for the Blind (organised by Mrs. J. K. Cecil Payne) amounted to £27/1/8 for Dr. Barnardo's Homes and £72/6/3 for St. Dunstan's

17--Death of Mr. Leonard Secker, younger son of Mrs. Secker and the late Mr. G. Secker of Sutton St, James, Lincs, and formerly of Shippea Hill Farm, Prickwillow, Mr, Secker, who was 38, had borne with patience and courage an illness lasting many years

!!! 18--A ticket purchased by Mr. Charles Peacock, of Ten Mile Bank, Littleport, to see a car at one time owned by Goering, on exhibition at Great Yarmouth, won for him a new "Midget" car given by radio producer, Carroll Levis

22--It was announced in a recent supplement of the London Gazette that H.M. the King had approved the award of the Imperial Service Medal to Mr. Albert Willett, of Hempfield Road, Mr, Willett had earned the award as a result of his service as a postman from 1921 to May 31st, 1947

28--News received with widespread regret of the death of Mr, "Bert" Wright, the well-known and popular saddler of Main Street. Mr. Wright was born at Outwell 67 years ago and came to Littleport in the early part of this century.

30--Mrs. F. G, Starling performed the opening ceremony at a bazaar organised by the Amalgamated Friendly Societies Charities' Committee, Mr. Bob Murfitt again won the Snushall Darts Challenge Cup and Mrs. G. Summerlee won the Ladies' Cup. The financial result was £76/6/3

Marriage, at St, Mary's Church, Ely, of Mr. Keginald Stanley Frank Rutterford, son of Mr. & Mrs, J, W, Rutterford, of Mildenhall Road, Littleport, and Miss Ruby Mary Osborne, of Ely

31--Salvation Army harvest services conducted by Adjutant Booth, a former

commanding officer

September, 1947.

1--It was revealed that Mr. Jary, who was for many years Curate in the Parish of Littleport, had been appointed a Chaplain to Addenbrooke's Hospital

2--Y.M.C.A. Youth Club re-opened after the summer recess. Mr. C. J. E. S. Fendick was the guest of honour

3--Mrs. R. Robinson, of Littleport, received a cheque for £259/15/9, the result of a correct forecast in Strang's Football Pools

!!! 7--The local unit of the N.F.S. called to extinguish a fire at Wood Fen where 400 square yards of grass and peat soil were alight

Harvest festival services held at St. John's Methodist Church. Rev. W. Wilson, of Sutton, was the special Preacher

8--Members of the Prickwiliow branch were responsible for the greater part of the programme at the monthly meeting of the Women's Institute. Miss Cross gave a demonstration of different forms of weaving

13--Football-littleport lost their opening match of the season at Burwell by 4-3

14--Mr. R. T. Newson was the special speaker at Victoria Street Methodist Church harvest festival services

15--Engagement announced at her coming of-age party of Miss Joan Bell only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Bell, of The Crescent, to Mr. Derek Elsegood, only son of Mr. & Mrs. A. Elsegood, of Friars Place

16--First of a series of lectures given under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association held in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The speaker was Mr. J. K. Mitchell, B.A. His subject was "Britain's Crisis and the United States"

20--Marriage, at St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, London, of Mr, Horace Stanley Ramsey, of Littleport, to Miss Violet Wilson, of Chelsea

First county rally of the Isle of Ely Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs staged at Wisbech Park. Mr. F. G. Starling's gelding proved to be the best animal in the horse show.

22--A railway carriage bungalow, the home of Mr. William Murfitt, of Common Acre, seriously damaged by fire. The contents were completely destroyed

24--Marriage, at St. Mary's Church, Ely, of Mr. Frederick Arthur Bishop son of Mr.

& Mrs. Bishop, of Ten Mile Bank, Littleport, and Miss Beryl Reditt, of Ely

Visit to the School for Crippled Children, Ely, of four members of the Women's Fellowship to present the sum of £25/15/0, the result of a whist drive and competitions, organised by Fellowship members

26--At a sale of Percheron horses at Histon, Mr. F. G. Starling's half-bred gelding, Simon, sold for 158 guineas. Mr. G.P. Peacock bought Canewdon Dragonfly for 32 guineas

27--Marriage, at Ely, of Mr. John Hanslip, of Black Horse Drove, and Miss Hilda Maud Fletcher, only daughter of Mr. Fletcher and the late Mrs. Fletcher, of 10, Friars Way

28--29-Christian Mission Sunday School celebrated its first harvest thanksgiving festival at the Town Hall

29--Annual meeting of Littleport and District Pig Owners' Club. The guest of honour was Mr. D. J. Capper (Regional Officer), who gave a talk on the Pig Club Movement.

!!! 30--Demonstration of potato and sugar beet harvesting and conveyancing held at Plantation House, Littleport. The machines demonstrated how crops can be reaped and in some cases sacked at the time of lifting, with a minimum of labour

October, 1947.

4--Marriage, at St. Mary's Church, Ely, of Miss Beryl Joan Tyrrell, of Ely, and Mr. Gerald Stanley Murfitt, son of Mr. & Mrs. S. Murfitt, of 42, Hempfield Place, Littleport.

5--At Evensong, at the Parish Church, the Vicar made a special reference to the late Mr. Albert Wright. Paying tribute to his life's work in the church and the parish and neighbourhood.

6--Mrs. Philpott from Australia, was the speaker at a Mothers' Union meeting. Mrs. Philpott was spending a year's holiday in Littleport with her parents.

!!! 7--It was revealed at a meeting of S.J.A. Social Committee that Littleport's proposed new ambulance would cost considerably more than was originally estimated. Ways and means of raising the additional money were discussed.

9--Mr. & Mrs, James W. Brown, of 75 Victoria Street, celebrated their golden wedding

10--Cricket-It was revealed that the Town Club had enjoyed one of its most

successful seasons for many years. Altogether 22 matches were played, of which 16 were won, 3 drawn and 3 lost. Sid Stubbings was top of both the batting and bowling averages. The highest individual score was made by W. P. Register (78 not out)

11--Littleport Bowls Club finished a successful season's play with the Club's singles and pairs finals. Mr. H. Barlow won the singles and Mr. W. Halves and Mr. B. Washington the pairs

12--Special "Cradle Roll" service held at St. John's Methodist Sunday School, The speaker, Mrs, R. George, of Cambridge, presented the certificates of enrolment

13--Members of Y.M.C.A. Youth Club entertained 35 members of the Wisbech Youth Centre at their club room

Women's Institute members' night. Three new members - Mrs, Garner, Miss Wool and Miss Allens - were welcomed

Recent harvest thanksgiving sale held at St. John, Little Ouse, realised over £15 for the fund for paying for repairs to the church roof

15--18 members of the Prickwillow branch of the Mothers' Union made a pilgrimage to the Church of St. John, Little Ouse

24--It was revealed that the Rev. W. Hum, Vicar of St. Matthew's, Littleport, was to be Vicar of St, Edward's, Holbeck, Yorkshire, in an exchange of benefices with the Rev. S. P. Chambers, Vicar of St. Edward's, Holbeck

25--Littleport juvenile performers, supplemented by the "Fenland Follies," a Wisbech concert party, entertained a large audience at the Constitutional Hall. The proceeds were devoted to the Ambulance Maintenance Fund

!!! 26--At a children's service, held at the Parish Church, Mr. John Payne spoke to the children about Africa, making particular mention of the menace of the witch doctor

31--Formation of a Young Conservatives branch in Littleport was given a great send off by Major Legge-Bourke, M.P. for the Isle, who addressed the members at their formation meeting

Women's Institute Group Meeting held at Little Downham. A sketch presented by the Littleport members entitled "The Village Store" caused much amusement

November, 1947

1-2--Anniversary services of the Women's Bright Hour of St, John's Methodist Church

2--28 members of the Y.M.C.A. Youth Club took part in the B.B.C. Broadcast Youth Service from Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge

4--Continuation of Women's Bright Hour Anniversary. Rev. Fred Peacock, London Missioner in the Dalston area, was the special preacher

!!! 6--Second visit to Littleport of the German orchestra and male voice choir from the P.O.W. Camp, Ely. The visit was arranged by members of Victoria Street Methodist Church

6--Rev. S. P. Chambers inducted as the new Vicar of St. Matthew's

7--The casual vacancy on Ely Rural District Council occasioned by the death of Mr. Albert Wright was filled by the election of his son, Mr, B, G. Wright, who was the only nominee

8--Marriage of Mr. Peter Goodge, of Ten Mile Bank, Littleport, to Miss Sylvia May Medlock, of Girton, Cambridge

9--Annual Armistice parade and Church service held at Littleport. Rev. G. I. E. Thompson, Rector of Hilgay, gave an address to a very large congregation. The offertory (over £15) was devoted to Earl Haig's Fund

Special memorial concert given by the British Legion Band at the Constitutional Hall under the baton of their new conductor, Mr. J. Hawkes

10--Women's Institute meeting chiefly devoted to a social evening arranged by members of the Southery branch

14--Engagement announced from Lubeck, Germanp, between Miss Freda Allen, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Allen, of Black Horse Drove, Littleport, and Sgt. W. A, Jones, 10th Royal Hussars, Connah's Quay, Flintshire, North Wales

A whist drive at St. Matthew's Institute, organised by Mrs. Benstead, realised the splendid sum of £19/5/0 for Earl Haig's Poppy Fund

22--Missionary "At Home" held in Victoria Street Methodist Church to meet the Rev. Hugh Thomas, of Richmond Theological College. His visit was in connection with the week-end missionary anniversary meetings

23--Mr. Keg, Harding, of Branch Bank, Prickwillow, had a lucky escape when his car left the road near Pypers Hill. It crashed through the fence on the roadside and ran down the bank of a drain but stopped before reaching the water. Mr, Harding was unhurt

26--To mark the occasion of his retirement after 45 years as clerk to Littleport Parish Council and Littleport Town Lands Charity a silver salver was presented to Ald.

Heber G. Martin at the Town Hall. The gift had been subscribed to by councillors, feoffees and friends from the parish

Meeting of Parish Council. Mr. A. S. Harlock was appointed clerk to the Council and the Town Lands Charity in succession to Ald. H. G. Martin. It was unanimously decided that Ald. Martin be appointed clerk emeritus for as long as he wished to attend. This would enable him to keep up his great interest in parish affairs

28--It was revealed that during the season Mr. H. E. Sallis, of Ely Road, had gained the distinction of bringing to Littleport one of the finest national outboard motor boat racing trophies in the country --the Earl Howe Challenge Cup-- to say nothing of other awards. In addition he nearly won the Daily Mirror Challenge Cup, gaining second place in this important national event.
