

## 100 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1906

### A New School Year

The opening of the school year scattered the summer boarders and young people of Prospect. Miss Dorothy Hotchkiss returned to the home of her aunt, Mrs. F. A. Sanford, in Westfield Massachusetts, where she was attending high school. Frederick Hotchkiss attended school in Waterbury this year. Miss Bernice Talmadge and Miss Lena Plumb also attended there.

Miss Florence Plumb returned to Northfield Seminary on September 11. Miss Mabel Hotchkiss returned to her studies at Mount Holyoke College on Monday. Robert Clark left the same day for Cornell University to resume his studies in civil engineering. Treat Hotchkiss also went to Cornell to take a course in the agriculture department.

Miss Ruth Hotchkiss returned to teach at the Webster School in Waterbury. Miss Matilda Peterson went to the East Mountain School to teach. Miss Bertha Clark taught kindergarten in the Hanover Street School in Meriden.

The schools of the Union District commenced on Monday, September 10. The following teachers were in charge: Miss Wallace in the East School, Miss Congdon in the Northeast School, Mrs. Cornetts at Center School, and Miss Anthony in the West School.

### Under the Weather

Mrs. Theodore Allen was very sick. She was taken to New Haven Hospital on Tuesday for treatment. Mrs. Ernest Wooding was also very sick and was staying at the home of her mother, Mrs. Jeannette Webster.

### William McDermott

William McDermott died Monday after a long and painful illness. He had spent a large part of this life in Prospect and left a wife and one daughter.

### Emmeline Hitchcock

On Wednesday, September 19, Mrs. Emmeline Hitchcock celebrated her 90th birthday with a small gathering of friends. Mrs. Hitchcock was the oldest person in town. She was still very alert and active in spite of her many years.

### Prospect Congregational Church

Rev. R. A. Nichols of Waterbury preached at the Prospect Congregational Church. Later in September, Rev. George Cheney of North Hampton, Massachusetts preached there.

## 75 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1931

### Prospect Cemetery Association

The Prospect Cemetery Association met on Saturday evening at Grange Hall for its annual meeting. Many of its members met at the cemetery on Tuesday afternoon to look over conditions there. It was considered necessary to have several of the gravestones reset. This work

would be attended to in the near future.

### Girls 4-H Club

The Girls 4-H Club met at the home of their leader, Mrs. Clifford P. Clark, on Tuesday afternoon. Josephine Clark, a member of the group, celebrated her birthday on that date. A luncheon was served by Mrs. Clark.

Members of the canning club had accomplished a good summer's work. They canned 424 pints of fruit and vegetables and also 56 glasses of jellies and jams.

Those who attended were Edna Keiper, Helen Fournier, Helen Mahoney, Helen Rasmussen, Althea Main, Leila Wallace, Josephine Clark, Edmund Fournier, Donald Mahoney, Leonard Main, Alfred Clark, and Gertrude Clark.

### Road Work

Road contractors bid on three new stretches of road to be built this fall. Those roads which will benefit from the dirt road bill were: Matthews Street, Spring Road, and Summit Road. All work started from the main state road. Approximately \$5,000 was to be spent on each.

Bids were opened the first part of the week and the work was to begin within 10 days. The road contract was awarded to Julius Varvello of New Haven, who had the lowest bid. His figure was \$21,900.20. Fourteen contractors put in bids. The highest bid was more than \$62,000.

### Edna Blackman

Miss Edna Blackman sold her home on Summit Road to Arthur Merriman of Waterbury. Miss Blackman now made her home in Hartford.

### New Voters

Forty-six names were added to the list of voters. This was the greatest number of names the registrars have ever received in one year. It showed the interest the town took in the coming town election.

### Pomona Grange

A number of Prospect Grange members attended the meeting of the Excelsior Pomona Grange at Wolcott on Wednesday evening. Lester Green drove over with his kick-less mule and told about some of his farm experiments during the lecturer's hour. Lester was a local humorist and writer whose works often appeared in the Waterbury newspapers.

## 50 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1956

### Prospect Historical Society

At the summer meeting of the Prospect Historical Society officers were elected for the coming year. Those elected were: president, Miss Nellie Cowdell; vice president, Frederic Shattuck, Jr.; secretary, Miss Mabel Hotchkiss; and treasurer, Mrs. Calvin Richardson. New members on the Board of Directors were Leonard Brauneis, Mrs. Edith Canfield, and Mrs. Murphy

Bieler.

At the meeting it was announced that the small exhibition room in the Grange Hall be given over to a collection of articles belonging to the Historical Society. The exhibit would be open during the Grange Fair on Saturday. Dwight Downs of Bethany was a guest speaker at the meeting. He spoke on early Connecticut Agriculture.

### Billy Sills

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Sills Jr. were hosts for a birthday party honoring their son, Billy, on his fourth birthday. Guests included family and friends from Prospect.

### Prospect Grange Fair

The annual Prospect Grange Fair was held on September 8. A turkey dinner was offered from five to seven o'clock, with an auction at eight o'clock. Frank Plumb was the auctioneer.

Co-chairmen for the affair were Arthur Jones and Edmond J. Morin. The supper committee was composed of Ruth Tibbetts, Betty Grant, Adeline Jones, Rose Alma Doyle, James Doyle, Ray Chandler, Claude Tibbetts, Theresa Connor, Betty Kronberg, Charles Kronberg, Barton Bieler, and Carl Canfield.

### Evening Women's Association

The Evening Women's Association of the Prospect Congregational Church met on Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Thomas Feero of Cook Road for a spaghetti picnic. Members brought their own dishes and silver. Hostesses for the evening were Mrs. Ferro, Mrs. Charles Klein, Mrs. David Chatfield, and Mrs. Arthur Jones.

## 25 YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 1981

### Schools Open

Schools opened in Region 16 on Tuesday without incident. School Superintendent John Proctor reported that "things went very, very smoothly for the teachers, students, custodians, secretaries and administrators. It was a great opening day for us."

Proctor was in his third year as superintendent. He found Tuesday to be a refreshing change from his previous two years when more difficulties arose on opening day.

### CETA Program Cut

Mayor Robert Chatfield told the Town Council that the loss of federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) grants would lead to the curtailment of local services, especially in the area of road maintenance. Chatfield said the CETA program was one of the victims of President Reagan's budget cuts. The program was to go out of existence September 30, which meant the jobs of five people now working for the town were terminated. Overall, he said, "The CETA had been a very good program for Prospect and it provided many, many services for the people."

### 25th Anniversary

Rev. Boardman Kathan cele-

# Life In PROSPECT

by John Guevin

brated the 25th anniversary of his ordination into the Christian ministry during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service at the Prospect Congregational Church. Church pastor Rev. Gregory Errgong-Weider and Rev. Dr. Randolph Crump Miller, professor emeritus of Yale University Divinity School, took part. Dr. Miller preached the sermon at Mr. Kathan's ordination service. A reception was held in Spellman Hall following the service.

After his ordination, Rev. Kathan later moved to the Mayflower Community Congregational Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was minister of youth and Christian education. He then served six years in Boston as minister of church and education for the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ. Since 1970, Kathan was the executive secretary of the Religious Education Association of the U.S. and Canada, a 78-year-old ecumenical, professional organization.

Mr. Kathan was vice chairman of the Region 16 District School Board and served as its chairman from 1977 to 1979. He was also a secretary of the Prospect Bicentennial-Sesquicentennial Commission and a member of the Library Board of Directors.

### Fall Soccer Program

Registration for the fall soccer program sponsored by the Board of Recreation was held at the Town Hall. Boys and girls aged 8-14 were eligible. The program included competition with area towns. Soccer would be played at the Matthew Street field.

### Chapel Senior Center

The first Chapel Senior Center newsletter was published

this month. It contained information about the center's activities and about community services. Contributions such as recipes, humorous sayings, helpful hints, bits of town history, cartoon sketches, and other information for seniors were requested.

The newsletter committee included Dorothy Benson, Mary Baker, and William Jepson. Copies of the newsletter were distributed for free at the Chapel Senior Center, Prospect Congregational Church, St. Anthony Church, and several grocery stores.

A reception to bid farewell to Senior Center director Jean Bajorek was held at the center. At the same time, new director Betty Lou Foley was welcomed.

Miss Bajorek said, "I am most appreciative of the diligent volunteers who prepared and worked on the party to make it a special occasion. I sincerely thank Mark Baker, Ruby DeCosta, Ann Farina, Alice Hyland, Henrietta McClung and Laura Russell. Special thanks also to Commission on Aging Chairman, Joyce Kathan and all commission members for their support over the past two years, and to Mayor Robert Chatfield for his supportive involvement."

### Inez Bramhall

Mrs. Inez Bramhall was recognized as Granger of the Year in an impressive ceremony Friday evening at Grange Hall. Mrs. Bramhall had been a grange member for nearly 50 years. She first was at Mad River, where she held the office of master, secretary, and treasurer.

Inez transferred to Prospect when she and her husband, Jim, came to live here. She was Grange treasurer for many years and also served as treasurer of the Grange Fair.

**It's time for fall  
vehicle maintenance...**

**Murphy's  
Auto Service, Inc.**

*"Where Old Fashioned Service  
& Modern Technology Meet"*

**Domestic & Foreign Specialists**

**758-4640**

**Murphy's Auto Service  
does it all!**

Rt. 68 • Cheshire Road • Prospect

**Brakes Mufflers Transmissions Batteries Oil & Lube Tires**

