EASE THE STRAIN!
Let further your sight tested in the morning when it is convenient for you to do so.
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The Ely Standard
AND
CAMBRIDGESHIRE TIMES.

MORE LINKS IN LIFE.
The other day, looking at a watch-maker repairing a gold chain, I was struck by the patience and skill of his craft, each link being examined, tested and finally polished.
And so through life—a chain—we forge the link, fashion it with clear endeavour, principle and purpose, and hope to attain a measure of success.
F. VERNON CROSS,
Baker, Pastrycook and Caterer,
Ye Olde Tea Rooms, FORE HILL, ELY.

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MEMORABLE VE-DAY SCENES AT ELY

Large Congregations at Thanksgiving Services

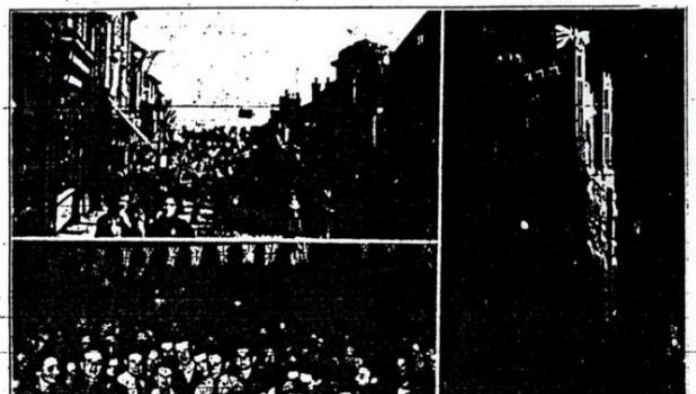
A VICTORY DANCE AND STREET REVELS

TURNED to silver in the brilliant beams of powerful searchlights, the majestic tower of Ely Cathedral stood out against the dark night sky on VE-Day, as a glowing symbol of the great cause of freedom for which we have fought—and still are fighting.

Thousands of people who watched the play of these giant lamps of war on Fenland's magnificent monument to christianity and peace, as the wind-up to their day of thanksgiving and sober rejoicing, could not but be impressed by the spectacle. It seemed right and proper that prominence should be given to this house of God on this memorable day—a day which, for all its rejoicing, found many in whom war has dealt a severe blow in the loss of loved ones.

And so, while in various ways the citizens gave vent to the joy and relief which the news of the defeat of Germany brought, their celebrations were tempered by the knowledge that the war with Japan has yet to be concluded, and that until our Far Eastern enemies have been defeated, there will be anxious hearts in the families of those sons of the Fens who were captured with Singapore. So it was, that there were no officially sponsored celebrations in the city on VE-Day, but with Service personnel giving rein to their pent-up feelings, there was plenty of revelry at a dance in the Corn Exchange, and in the bedagged streets during the night, and into the early hours of Wednesday morning.

A short service of thanksgiving which was held in the Cathedral in the evening was attended by a vast congregation, and there were large gatherings at similar services in other places of worship throughout the day.



Some pictorial impressions of VE-Day in Ely. Top left is seen flag-bedecked Forehill; below are the revellers at the victory dance held in the Corn Exchange, and on the right is the flood-lit tower of the Cathedral.

THE NEWS BREAKS

VE Day followed a Monday of speculation and expectation, when it was known from German sources that the enemy in Europe had surrendered. It was not until Monday evening that it was declared on the radio that Tuesday would be the long awaited day and that the Prime Minister would make the official announcement of the Cease Fire in Europe at 3 p.m.

By mid-day on Tuesday flags and bunting displayed gaily from buildings in all streets in the city, while many business establishments blossomed forth with attractive window displays. Throughout the morning the streets were thronged with people who strolled quietly about looking at the decorations.

It was not until after the Prime Minister's speech that the spirit of relief and joy began to make itself really apparent and the first outbursts of it the populace was one of thanksgiving, at the services held in the Cathedral, and other places of worship in the city. Thereafter, the people gave themselves up to rejoicing, and until the early hours of Wednesday morning the streets were crowded.

SERVICE REVELLERS

Most spirited and vociferous among the revellers were the large numbers of Service personnel who came into Ely to celebrate the ending of Germany. It was not long before the public houses had nothing to offer but empty bottles and barrels, and then the revellers marched up and down the streets gaily singing popular songs of two wars.

One such party, the members with linked arms stretching the width of Market-street in several rows, comprised Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, W.A.A.F.s, A.T.S. and civilian friends. Their accompaniment was provided by a harmonica and an accordion, with drum effects by enterprising gentlemen with dustbin lids!

VICTORY DANCES

Filled to overflowing with an exuberant and wildly-happy throng, the Corn Exchange was gaily festooned with streamers and bunting at a public dance which raised well over £100 for the City of Ely Home-Coming Fund. Red, white and blue were the predominating colours worn by the girl dancers and there was a grand show of allied uniforms. Dancing continued until the early hours, the Four Aces band (augmented) supplying the music.

Through the initiative of Ely Super Relay Service music for overflow dancing was also provided on the Market-square and, later in the day the speeches by the Prime Minister and H.M. the King had been heard. There was also a dance at the Palace Convalescent Home.

At Waterside a piano was brought out into the square and a crowd soon gathered for a sing-song and dance.

BISHOP AT BONFIRE REVELS

Bonfires were lighted in several parts of the city and carefully preserved fireworks were brought out and presumably fired.

The bonfires at the Kings' School had a bonfire in their grounds, the Bishop of Ely joining in their revels.

The high-light in more sense than one—was the floodlighting of the Cathedral. This was done by the R.A.F. by means of searchlights and a truly lovely effect was achieved. The Palace Green, where one of the lamps was placed, was almost as light as day and here large numbers held impromptu singing and dancing, watched by the fascinated crowds. (It is interesting to note that the Cathedral was flood-lit in 1897 and 1897 by Messrs. Graven and Sons, the first engineers, using an electric arc lamp. The power was being provided by a portable steam engine!)

Other contributions to the illumination were a Victory-V sign over the Prudential Society and the rotunda of the Art Theatre.

IMPRESSIVE THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Thousands of citizens and serving personnel attended the services of thanksgiving which were held in the Cathedral and in various places of worship during the day.

[illegible]

Miss Blackburne led the singing of Elgar's "Song of Liberty," Miss Whitworth accompanying on the piano; and the singing of "God save the King" concluded the service.

PRIVATE PARTIES

Through the kindness of Dr. and Mrs. G. B. Davis, all the inhabitants of the almhouses and the ladies of the County Council Maternity Hostel in Cambridge-road were able to listen to the Prime Minister's announcement, the service which followed it and the lively music broadcast by the B.B.C. The Londoners particularly enjoyed the descriptions of the street scenes. Tea were provided and served by the kindly host and hostess, Miss Nicholas and Mrs. Balfour assisting. After tea, the evacuee children of the Buffer Hostel in St. Mary's-street went to the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Davis and for two hours enjoyed ping-pong, croquet and card games in the garden.

IN THE VILLAGES

HITLER "EXECUTED" AT LITTLEPORT

Jubilation rose to high levels in Littleport where, on the evening of VE-Day an effigy of the ex-Fuehrer was hanged and later burnt in the midst of great rejoicings.

During the day the church bells were rung and services of thanksgiving were held in the two churches. The Vicar (Rev. J. K. C. Payne) conducted an informal service in the Parish Church, which was to a large congregation. He stressed the need for re-dedication and asked the assembled not to forget, in the time of their celebration, those men who are still fighting in the war against the Japanese. At St. Mary's Church, Mass was held at 8 a.m., Sung Mass at 8, and a special service at 6.30 p.m.

A procession was made round the town by the Bugle Band of the Army Cadet Force with the suspended effigy of Adolf Hitler bringing up the rear. In Granby-street the Band played selections under the direction of Bandmaster Dent and then proceeded to the Town Hall to beat the Retreat. Dancing was held in the Institute and outside the Constitutional Hall with a break at 9 p.m. for H.M. The King's speech. There were several bonfires, the "Fuehrer" being consigned to the flames soon after dusk falls. Dancing continued until 3-30 a.m.

Collections were made during the evening and the entire proceeds will be devoted to the Littleport and District Hospital.

VICTORY SCENES AT SOHAM

Monday afternoon saw the first display of Victory signs along the streets of Soham and by Tuesday morning the whole town presented a unique display of flags from private and business establishments while, in many cases there were displays from one side of the road to the other. The streets were thronged with people on Monday evening while the fine day of public holiday was responsible for adding still further to this number. For the benefit of those who did not know it was installed by Mr. P. Lyon so that passers by could keep in touch with up-to-date information. With the exception of the banks, which were open during the usual hours, and certain other essential food shops which were open during limited hours, all business came to a standstill and every one appeared intent on making the occasion one of great rejoicing.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Special services of thanksgiving were held on Tuesday evening at all churches, and met with a wonderful response from grateful hearts. At the Parish Church the service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. F. P. Boughey) and at the Methodist Church by the Rev. E. J. Waring, while at the Baptist Church the Rev. M. C. Newman officiated and at 9 o'clock the congregation listened to the King's speech. The Rev. A. Carley conducted the Congregational Church service and Capt. Attenborough led the proceedings at the Salvation Army Hall.

Earlier in the day a meeting of the Soham Parish Council, together with representatives from other public organisations in the town, was held in the Recreation Ground Pavilion, when it was agreed that the Parish of the various war-time services be organised to take part in the special united service of thanksgiving arranged for next Sunday afternoon in the Parish Church. Major Ford was appointed to organise the parade and to be its sharp with the assistance of a committee.

Mr. Lines. In connection with this it was decided to invite all units to meet at the Grammar School and parade to the Parish Church for the Service. Owing to the anticipated crowd on that occasion, it was decided that Mr. Lyon be asked to instal an amplifier with loud speaker outside for the benefit of those unable to gain admittance inside the church. During the proceedings an offertory will be made and donated to the Lord Lieut's County Remembrance Fund. In the evening an effort will be made for the Soham Comrades Silver Prize Band to give a performance in the Recreation Ground, and the collection made on this occasion will also be added to the same fund.

VICTORY DISPLAY AT SUTTON

The Flag was displayed as never before in the village of Sutton on VE-day; flags of other nations were in evidence, but in the main it was the Union Jack that fluttered in the breeze from improvised flagstaffs hung proudly from cottage upstairs windows and from street-lamps lining High-street and the byways. Here one saw flags supplemented with evergreen festoons, effective decoration of window-sills with flowers in red, white and blue containers and further on an example of some child's painstaking effort Union Jacks produced from brown paper and chalks. Apart from the decorations there was little manifestation of victory day during the morning. In the afternoon there were the gladsome peals from the bells of the parish church and in the evening many wended their way to church and chapel to thanksgiving services, conducted in the parish church by the Vicar (Rev. J. H. Humphreys) and at the Methodist Church by the Rev. T. Ostlam.

At the houses of the familiar signs, the Chequers Inn, the George and Dragon, the Crown and All—as the evening wore on the companies grew and joined in song and cheery chatter.

Dusk approached and with it came the crowning spectacle of the victory display. The parish church was flood-lit, well-placed lamps of great candle power lighted up the stately pile and from a distance searchlights played upon the centuries-old tower. A View-near of it was an impressive sight; villagers and visitors through the village stood greatly impressed with the sight. That part of High-street known as "The Hill" was vantage point for many to view the lighting and here it was that suddenly a bon-fire came into being, smoked and blazed, and an impromptu display of fireworks followed. In Victory mood sights seers dodged "jumpers," crackers and what not.

Then, with here and there a little crowd singing snatches of the songs associated with the war of today and that of yesterday they wended their way home as midnight approached through a street softly lit with the diffused light of floodlamp and searchlight, shading an emotion common to all, that of thanksgiving. But in the moment of joy, for many, as in other villages, there were the conflicting thoughts—heart-aches for those boys of the village in Japanese hands and for the boys who went, but will not return.

The celebrations were continued in a modified form on Wednesday evening. There was another largely attended dance in the Corn Exchange; the Cathedral was again flood-lit and there was dancing on the Palace Green.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. H. EVERTON

After VE-Day Dance

While watching, as caretaker, the proceedings at the VE-Day dance in the Corn Exchange, Ely, on Tuesday night, Mr. Harry Everton, of 13, Crouswell-road, was taken suddenly ill and died in the early hours of the following morning. He was 58.

A well-known Ely personality, Mr. Everton had lived in the city for over 40 years. He was a native of Warwickshire. For over 30 years he was employed as manager of Walker's Stores, Ely; he had been caretaker of the Corn Exchange for the past seven years.

Mr. Everton was a member of the City of Ely Bowls Club and also of the Conservative Club.

The funeral will take place at Ely Cemetery at 1.15 p.m. today (Friday).

Theft of Notes and Coupons

Woman Fined at Ely

FINES and costs totalling over £7 were imposed on an Ely woman by the Ely magistrates yesterday (Thursday) week, accused admitting that she possessed a number of clothing coupons that were not her property, but she pleaded not guilty to a charge alleging the theft of a leather wallet, a book of stamps and three £1 notes, the property of Doris Lewis, of Ely, and six clothing coupon books, the property of the Board of Trade.

Accused was Mrs. Ida A. M. Sharpe, of New Barns-avenue, who was fined £2 with one guines advocate's fee, on the first charge, and £1, with 15s. Court costs, and 25s witness's fees, making a total of £7 11s.

The Court heard the theft charge first, and Elsie Maud Stevens, The Bungalow, Dunkirk, Little Downham, said that on May 8th she gave her sister, Doris Lewis, her book of clothing coupons to get something for her.

Handed a book of coupons, witness considered it to be her property, although it had the name "Ida Sharpe" written on it.

COUPON BOOKS MISSING

The next witness, Doris Lewis, of 110, Fieldside, Ely, agreed that her sister gave her her clothing coupons book on March 8th to get something for her, and went on to say that on March 14th, accompanied by Sharpe, she visited the clinic at Forehill, Ely, with another woman's baby. She left the pram in the Conservative Club passage, and before going into the clinic she placed a small black purse containing a wallet and three £1 notes, 7d. in coppers, a book of stamps and six clothing coupon books, under a pillow in the pram.

When they got into the clinic Sharpe said she had left her baby's weight card in the pram and left the room to fetch it. She was gone from three to four minutes. After they left the clinic said witness she went to the fish shop, and it was there she first noticed her purse, that she found the articles mentioned in the charge were missing. Included in the missing clothing coupon books was her sister's.

Accused to witness: Have you any idea that I knew you had a wallet in your handbag? Yes, you saw me put it there week after week.

Pc. Green said that on March 14th at 8.30 p.m. in company with P.s. Langford, accused was interviewed at her home and told the nature of their inquiries. Sharpe replied: "I don't know anything about it." At first accused refused to let him look in her handbag, but later consented. Inside he found a ration clothing book in her name, a child's clothing book, five lots of series F and H coupons, and a part sheet of series K coupons.

"I BOUGHT THEM"

Looking at accused's clothing book witness found that the wire staples had been removed and replaced. In the back of Sharpe's book witness found two lots of pink coupons. Witness pointed this out to Sharpe who said she had inserted a sheet of D coupons, a sheet of series F and H coupons, and a sheet of pink coupons in her book (produced). Asked how she came in possession of the coupons, she said "I bought them from a man named Partridge, from Littleport, an insurance agent, for two shillings each."

In a statement, accused alleged that Partridge had said he's a number of coupons.

Witness said he interviewed Sharpe again the next day and told her he was not satisfied with her explanation and that she would be reported for the larceny of the articles mentioned in the charge, including the coupon books which were the property of the Board of Trade. Sharpe replied, "I know nothing about the wallet."

Albert Partridge, The Crescent, Littleport, formerly a [illegible] followed that occupation he came in contact with Mrs Plumb, accused's mother. He knew the accused. Witness denied that he sold clothing coupons to accused at any time. All the coupons he collected on his round were sent daily to his firm.

All that accused said to the Court was that she did not touch the wallet.

ILLEGAL POSSESSION

Sharpe was then charged with illegally possessing clothing coupons which had not been issued by or on behalf of the Board of Trade.

Accused pleaded guilty.

Mr. A. J. Woodhouse prosecuted on behalf of the Board of Trade, and said in view of the plea he proposed only to call the police witness.

Pc. Green said that when accused was told she would be reposed for having the coupons in her possession she answered, "I know I am in the wrong."

The Chairman, announcing the fines, said they had evidence that the coupons were from six different books, and that the magistrates were of the opinion they had been stolen.

It is impossible, says Dr. Dalton, President of the Board of Trade, to control the price of flags and emblems sold for victory celebrations. The trouble is, he explains, that a lot of little flags will be sold by fortune vendors, and an army of Inspectors would be needed to enforce any regulations.

SUNDAY'S THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Arrangements for Parade

All organisations and official bodies in the city have been invited to attend the great thanksgiving service to be held in the Cathedral on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Units will assemble at 2.15 p.m. opposite the Almshouses in St. Mary's-street and will be marshalled by Mr. G. Sells. The parade will march off to set of 10 March, street to the West entrance to the Cathedral.

After the service the procession will return in the same order, but take the South Door, with the band forward towards the Porta, and proceed via the Porta, the Gallery, High-street, past the War Shrine round the Market-place, Market-st. Lynn-road to St. Mary's-street, where the parade will be dismissed.

MEPAL PRISONER RETURNS

Pte. G. W. Norman

The residents of Mepal welcomed another repatriated prisoner on Friday. He was Pte G. W. Norman, eldest son of Mr and Mrs. G. W. Norman, of 6, Witcham-road, Mepal, who has been a prisoner of war in Germany since December 7th, 1942. Taken prisoner at Leros, Dodecanese Islands, Pte. Norman has served in Tripoli, Malta, Algiers and Egypt.

Since Christmas the prisoners had only potato peelings for food, and it was only through the Red Cross parcels that they managed to keep alive.

Pte. Norman said they were moved from the camp as the Allies advanced and for five days they went without food until the Americans liberated them.

Pte. Norman, who is enjoying seven weeks' leave, wishes to thank the villagers for the way in which they welcomed him home.

Let us have a society in which there shall be wealth and culture, but where wealth shall not prey on commonwealth nor culture degenerate into class or pride. — The Prime Minister.

FOOD FACTS
NEW ways of using dried eggs
They'll help you to give variety to your cooking
Most women realise now what a boon it is to have eggs always at hand in a packet, and to be able to make delicious egg dishes often.
But not everyone realises the large number of ways in which dried eggs can be used. Here are some suggestions for using them in ways which will be new to many women. Try them for yourself and see what variety you can get into your cooking with dried eggs.

If you have a pinch of salt and the lumps from the egg powder will dissolve between the finger tips.

To save fat in frying: Use reconstituted eggs for coating fish fillets, fish cakes, potato, diced cooked potato before frying. You need less fat this way, while egg forms a coating which stops the fat being absorbed.

A "fresh-flavour" tip for Scrambled Eggs: Have you tried adding a little mustard when making scrambled eggs? Add it with the other seasoning—half a teaspoonful of dry mustard for four eggs.

Better baking: Add dried eggs to scones, dumplings, pastry. It makes them richer. Use up to two level tablespoons to half a pound of flour, mixing the egg powder dry with the flour.

Hard-boiled Eggs: Reconstitute the eggs in the usual way, and pour into well-greased egg cups or moulds—one egg to a mould. Put the moulds into a saucepan of hot water coming half-way up sides of moulds, and simmer gently for 15 minutes, until set. Turn out by running a knife round the edge.

Pretty Lunch Dishes, tasty Better, if egg bread is used instead of a little reconstituted egg before baking.

French Fry: Dip pieces of bread in well-seasoned reconstituted egg, soak well, and fry with bacon. This is more nourishing than fried bread and uses less fat. Sandwiches can be fried this way too; they make a delightful supper dish.

Richer milk puddings: Add 1 or 2 reconstituted eggs to milk puddings, using a mixture of milk and water if milk is short. This improves the flavour and makes a splendid nourishing pudding for children.

It's quite easy to make hard-boiled eggs with dried eggs if you follow the instructions here.

THE PRESENT ALLOCATION of dried eggs is one packet per ration book each four-week period (as from April 29th), two for green books.

MORE CHILDREN TO GET ORANGE JUICE IN MAY AND JUNE

Good news! Thanks to a temporary increase in supplies, the allocation of orange juice will be extended to include children from 2 to 16 years old, for eight weeks between May 7th and June 30th. If you are the mother of a child under 16, don't miss the chance. Take your ration book and 5d. in change to your nearest distribution centre or Food Office.