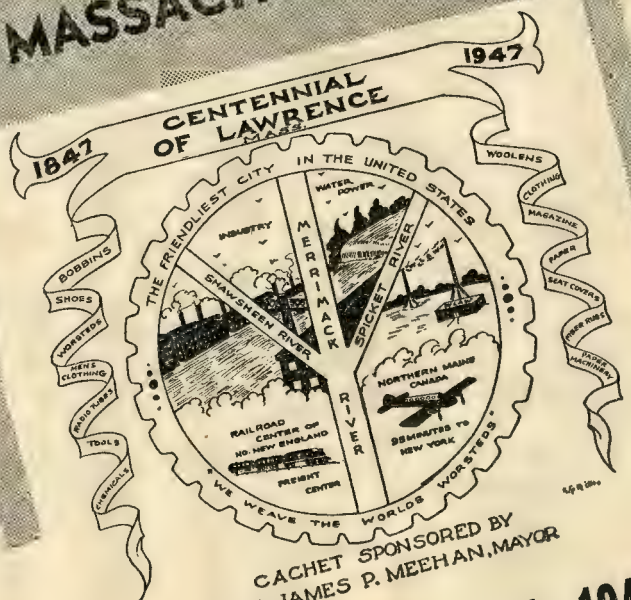


"May the Spirit  
Never Die"

# 17th ANNUAL CONVENTION

## PORTUGUESE-AMERICAN CIVIC LEAGUE of MASSACHUSETTS

Auspices of the  
**LADIES'  
and MEN'S  
COUNCILS**



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Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, 1947

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*Welcome . . .*



LENO MENDACA  
*General Convention  
Chairman*



MRS. HELEN SEARS  
*General Convention  
Co-Chairman*

The coming of the Portuguese-American Civic League of Massachusetts is awaited with pleasureable anticipation by the Lawrence Ladies' and Men's Councils, and in their behalf we wish to extend a friendly hand of cordial welcome to the delegates and guests to the 17th Annual Convention of the Portuguese-American Civic League of Massachusetts.

We are indeed honored to be your host this week-end, and it is our sincere wish that your brief stay in our city will be a pleasant and memorable one.

"May the Spirit Never Die."

GENERAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE,

LENO MENDACA, *Chairman*

MRS. HELEN SEARS, *Co-Chairman*

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Welcome . . . .

Portuguese-American Civic League  
of Massachusetts



Former Representative

**J. KENNY BROOKS**

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS

JAMES P. MEEHAN,  
MAYOR



As Mayor of the City of Lawrence it gives me great pleasure to welcome the Portuguese-American Civic League of Massachusetts to our city on the occasion of the 17th Annual Convention.

I extend the hospitality of the City to the delegates, their families and all friends of the organization.

I hope that you will find that Lawrence is justly known as "The Friendliest City in the United States" and that you will enjoy every minute of your visit here.

I know that I express the feelings of all our people in extending these greetings to you.

*James P. Meehan*  
Mayor

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... *Convention Program* ...



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1947**

**Registration**

2 P. M. to 5 P. M. — Convention Headquarters, Portuguese-American Civic Association Building, 2 Saratoga Street.

7 P. M. to 10 P. M. — St. Mary's Auditorium, Haverhill Street, Lawrence.

**Ball (Semi-formal)**

8 P. M. to 11:30 P. M. — At St. Mary's Auditorium.

Grand March 10 P. M. — Frankie Kahn's Orchestra.

**Open House**

After the ball — At Convention Headquarters.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 1947**

**Delegates' Mass**

10:30 A. M. — High Mass — Ss. Peter and Paul's Church, Chestnut Street.

**Registration**

11:30 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. — 3 P. M. to 5 P. M. — Convention Headquarters.

**Parade (Starting from Headquarters)**

1:30 P. M. (Hayden-Schofield Playstead)

**Banquet**

6:30 P. M. — St. Mary's Auditorium.

Invocation by Rev. John J. Lamond, O.S.A.

Benediction by Very Rev. John B. Martin, O.S.A.

**Frolic**

After Banquet — At Convention Headquarters.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1947**

**Convention Meeting**

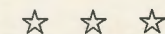
9 A. M. — At Convention Headquarters.

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- Junior Vice-Commander* . . . Salvatore Reis
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- Finance Officer* . . . . . Leno Mendaca
- Chaplain* . . . . . Rev. Fr. John J. Lamond
- Judge Advocate* . . . . . Joseph Andrews
- Sergeant-at-Arms* . . . . . Joseph Oliveria
- Officer-of-the-Day* . . . . . Manuel Mello



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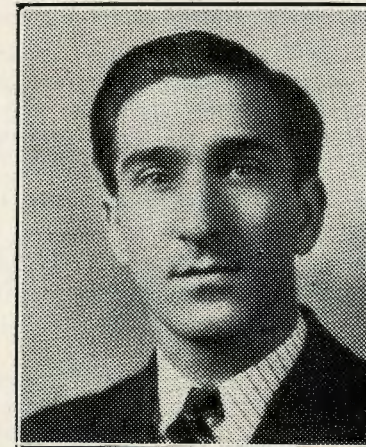


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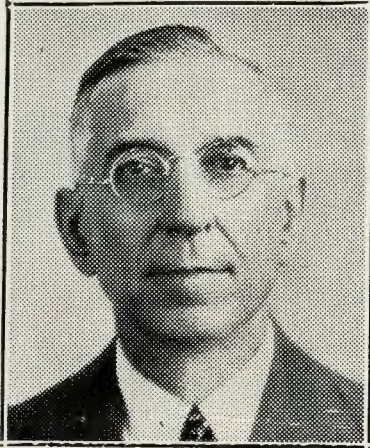
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## History

A Summary of the Portuguese Colony of Lawrence, and the Lawrence Ladies' and Men's Councils of the Portuguese-American Civic League of Massachusetts.



JOHN B. SEARS

A year later in 1931, the Ladies' Council was organized.

Through the efforts of Mr. Alvaro S. Gaiolas, then president in 1941, and one of the staunch supporters of the Civic organization, the present headquarters at 2 Saratoga Street was purchased from the United Spanish War Veterans. Through his supervision, the headquarters is now one of the most modern buildings in the city.

Under the direction of Mrs. Ezilda Lynch, active member of the Ladies' Council, assisted by Miss Philomena Joaquim, Mrs. Mary Picanso, Alvaro Gaiolas, Manuel Sousa, Clarence Andrews and many others, a Victory Committee was formed. The purpose of this committee was to send packages, correspondence, etc., to the boys and girls in the service.

As a Non-Partisan Civic Association, our main activities are in taking part in all civic affairs of the community, state and nation, prompting interest in American naturalization amongst our people.

Mr. Manuel Sears was elected the first president of the Lawrence Men's Council in 1931, followed by Clarence Andrews, 1932; Fred Couto, 1933-34; Jeffrey Vasconcelos, 1935-36; Manuel Sousa, 1937; Manuel Sears, 1938; Joseph Olivera, 1939-40; Alvaro Gaiolas, 1941; John Rosa, 1942; Fred Couto, 1943-47.

Mrs. Jessie Espinola was the first president elected in the Lawrence Ladies' Council in the year 1932. She also served in 1933-34, followed by Mrs. Elsie Foley, 1935-36; Mrs. Jessie Espinola, 1937; and Mrs. Ezilda (Cardoza) Silva, 1938-39; Mrs. Ezilda (Cunha) Lynch, 1941-42; Mrs. Gilda Mendonsa, 1943-45 and Mrs. Helen Sears, 1946-47.

We are proud to be affiliated with the Portuguese-American Civic League of Massachusetts and

*"May the Spirit Never Die"*

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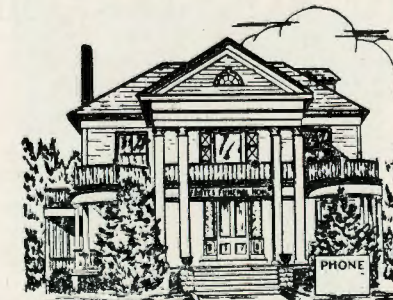
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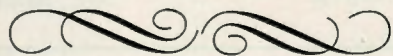
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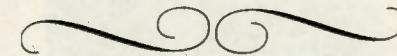
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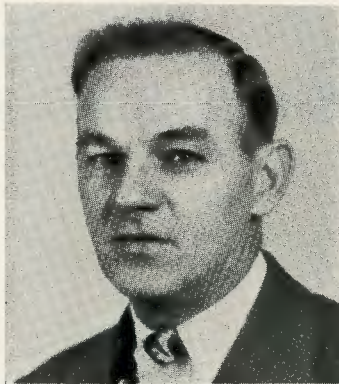
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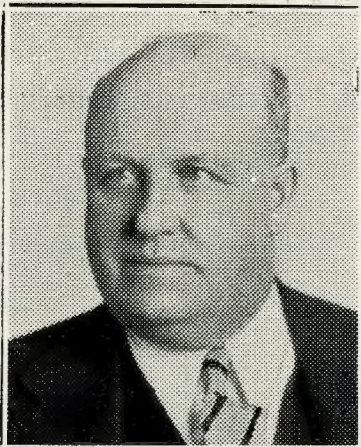


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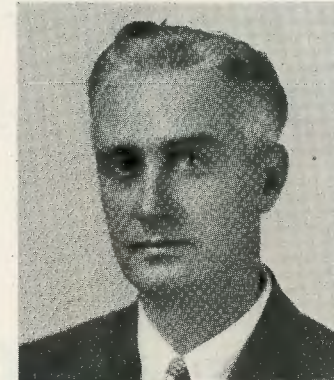
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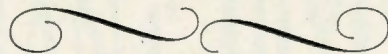


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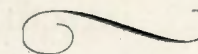
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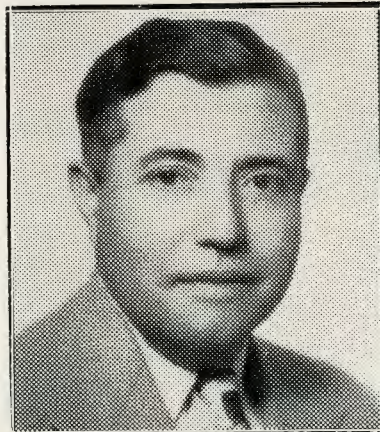
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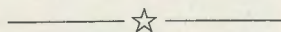
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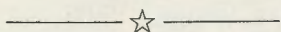


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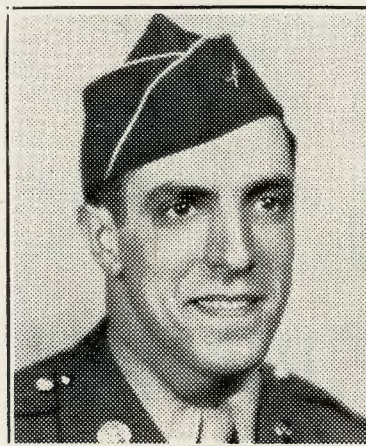
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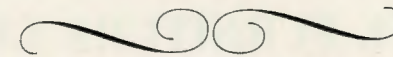
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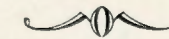
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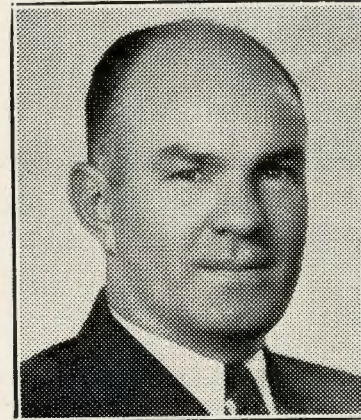
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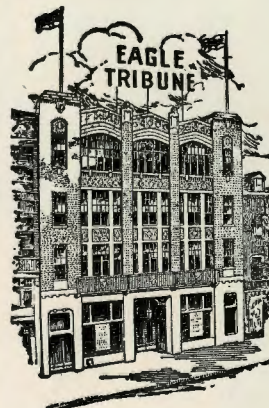
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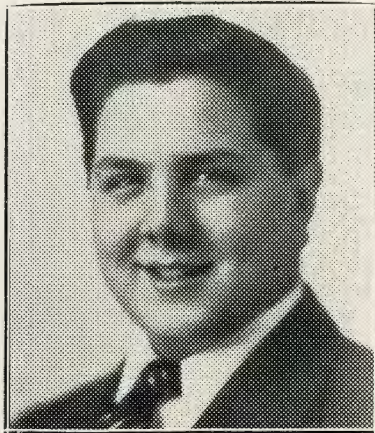


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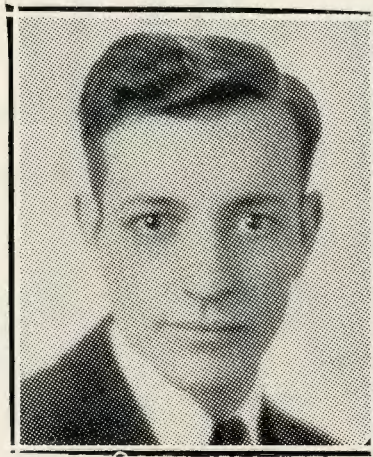
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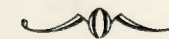
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