

Arthur Paul Snader - Town Crier for 1952

-September 6, 1956-

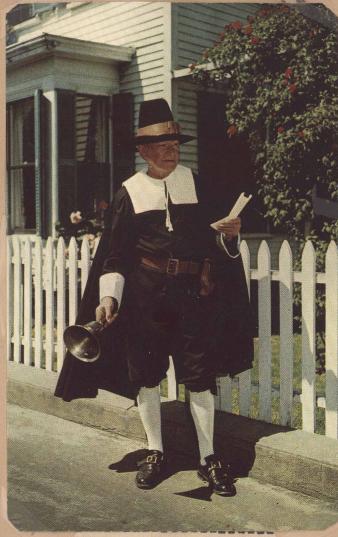
## Town Crier Ends Cape Tip Career

Arthur P. Snader, Province-town's Town Crier and the most photographed of all Cape End institutions has turned in his resignation to the Board of Selectmen, giving as his reasons inadequate pay and the fact that he did not want to be "the man who stayed too long". No action has been taken by the Selectmen.

In his letter of resignation Mr. Snader says:

"Please accept my sincere thanks and gratitude for the five successive appointments to this office. May I say that I have tried to bring to the discharge of my duties a dignity, cleanliness and color that would redound to the credit and profit of the Town. It is, therefore, with regret that I must herewith tender my resignation to take effect at the termination of my current tour of duty.

"Since a decent respect for the courtesies extended me would seem to demand an explanation of this action, the reasons follow: First, I do not wish to join the class of "the man who stayed too long." Second, I can no longer afford the cost of holding the position. It has cost me between three and four hundred dollars of personal funds this year. If any further explanation of this fact is desired, I shall be glad to meet with the Board at your convenience. Again thanking you for



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your very kind consideration, I am most sincerely yours, Arthur Paul Snader."

While the primary duty of the Town Crier is the calling of public notices, Mr. Snader considerably expanded the service rendered. Each day his first task was to notify restaurants and shops and others interested as to the number of people who would be coming in on the boat, in order that they might be ready. Then he would begin his rounds giving the time of the tides, telling of offerings at the movie and wharf theatres. Every now and then it would be necessary to stop while visitors took his pictures, many thousands of which were taken each season. He was also official greeter, answering the vast variety of questions which only strangers could devise.

During each season Mr. Snader opens the Cape Cod Tuna Derby as well as the Cranberry Festival, a job he will take care of cn September 13. He also opens and

closes the Wharf Theatre. He has been on radio as Provincetown's official Town Crier a number of times and on coast-to-coast TV twice. Mr. Snader's 14 years on the stage as actor or director has given him a flair for his unique Cape End work which visitors seem to like.

But, he says it costs him money, too much out of his own pocket to continue. He gets \$600 for the season from the town and it costs real cash to go through a Summer here. He does his own laundering of white kerchief and cuffs of his uniform, made the leather bag, belt and hat band and keeps his five-year-old shoes in repair.



TOWN CRIER, PROVINCETOWN - 1956 - Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce A villager re-enacts for visitors the role of the town crier, who as late as 1927 rang his bell and cried the news of the day through the streets.

Arthur Snader (72 years old)