

Dublin Historical Society

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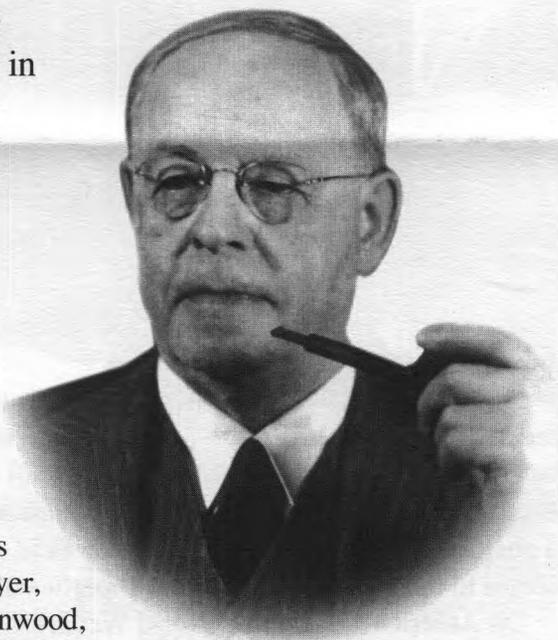
DR. HARVEY C. HAYES, FATHER OF SONAR

We hear a good deal about the distinguished artists and writers who came to Dublin as summer folk in the 19th and 20th centuries. Equally illustrious but perhaps less well known was a man of science, Dr. Harvey C. Hayes, whose career as a physicist with the U.S. Navy included, among other inventions, the development of sonar.

The Dublin connection

Harvey Cornelius Hayes (1877-1968) was born in Binghamton, New York. His connection to Dublin was through his wife's family. His father-in-law, Horace Gay Wood, came to town during the building boom of the 1890s, when he built the red shingle style house at Bond's Corner, across Route 101 from Carr's Store. Horace Wood was a lawyer, author, and at one time District Attorney of Vermont. His wife, Almira Greenwood, was a great-granddaughter of Moses Greenwood, who settled in Dublin in 1771.

The Woods' daughter, Marjorie Dodge Wood, became the wife of Harvey Hayes. Harvey and Marjorie were married in 1909 in Dublin. They had four children: Harvey Cornelius, Jr., Shirley, Gordon and Benjamin.



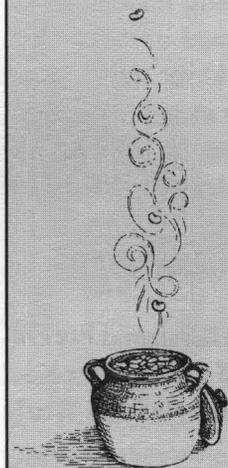
Dr. Harvey C. Hayes
(Acoustical Society of America, 1959.)

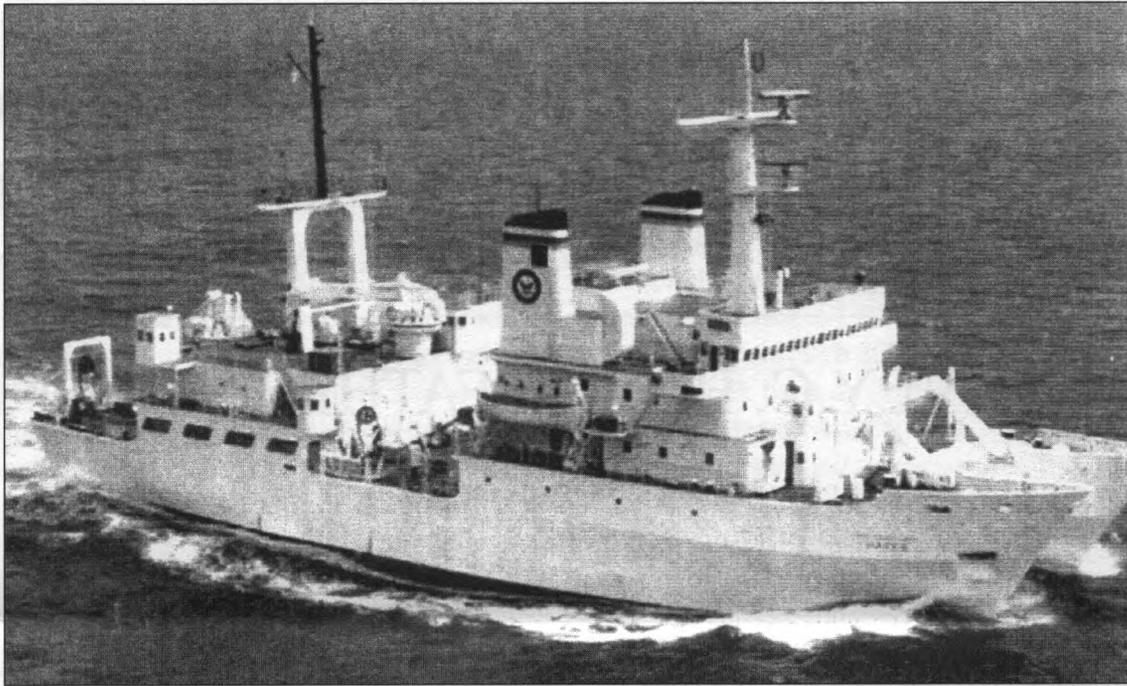
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The ANNUAL POT-LUCK SUPPER
will be held on Friday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m.
in the Vestry of the Community Church.

John J. [Chick] Colony, III, founder and president of Harrisville Designs,
will give an illustrated talk on
“200 Years of Textiles in Dublin and Harrisville”

(The snow date is February 22.)





USNS Hayes. ("Labstracts / News from the Naval Research Laboratory", June 7, 1999.)

Foiling the submarine menace

Hayes was a 1907 Harvard graduate, and in 1911 received his Ph.D. in physics, also from Harvard, where he stayed as an instructor until 1913. He left to become head of the physics department at Swarthmore College, a position he held until 1917. His main field of research seems to have been the physical properties of liquids.

On America's entry into World War I, Dr. Hayes left Swarthmore to become a civilian employee of the U.S. Navy. The Navy had established an experimental station at New London, Connecticut, for the purpose of developing anti-submarine devices. Hayes and other physicists went to New London to develop more effective means of locating and destroying German U-boats. As a result of the scientists' work, twenty-nine German submarines were captured or destroyed during World War I.

Developing the uses of echo-soundings

After World War I ended, Dr. Hayes remained with the Navy, and moved to the Engineering Experimental Station in Annapolis, Maryland, where he would continue his research work. Among other inventions, he developed the echo depth sounder, as well as a sound detection system that would aid ships when navigating in foggy weather or low visibility. His navigation aid enabled ships to know the direction and course of another vessel within a ten to thirty mile radius.

He was the first superintendent of the Sound Division

(later the Acoustics Division) of the Naval Research Laboratory, a position he held until his retirement after the second world war.

During Dr. Hayes tenure, the lab developed sonar equipment for helicopters and blimps. In the late 1920s, he had made an acoustic altimeter for the Navy blimp *Akron*. He was scheduled to go on the test flight, but had been bumped from the flight by an admiral. As it turned out, this was fortunate for the Hayes family, because the *Akron* crashed and everyone on board was killed. Dr. Hayes did fly in a blimp in the 1930s when he flew from Lakehurst, New Jersey to Key West, Florida.

Awards and tributes

Over the course of Dr. Hayes' career he received many national and scientific awards. Among these was the Distinguished Civilian Service Award in 1945 from Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal for outstanding service to the United States Navy. This award is the highest civilian award a citizen can receive. In 1959 he was awarded the Pioneer of Underwater Acoustics Medal for his outstanding contribution to the science of underwater sound technology. A research vessel was christened the *USNS Hayes* in his honor.

One of the greatest tributes to Dr. Hayes and his colleagues can be found in a recovered order from Karl Doenitz, Grand Admiral of the German Navy in World War II:

“For some months past, the enemy has rendered the U-Boat ineffective. He has achieved this objective, not through superior tactics or strategy, but through his superiority in the field of science; this finds its expression in the modern battle weapon – detection. By this means he has torn our sole offensive weapon in the war against the Anglo-Saxons from our hands.”

After his retirement from the lab, he moved to the family home in Dublin where he lived the rest of his life, dying in 1968, at the age of ninety. Dr. Hayes’ first wife, Marjorie died in 1955. He would later marry Katherine Johnson. Dr. Hayes, his two wives, and daughter and son-in-law are buried in the Dublin cemetery.

A family tradition

Harvey Hayes’ son, Gordon, followed in his father’s footsteps, first working at the Naval Research Laboratory from 1942 to 1949, and then at the Naval Underwater Sound Laboratory in New London, Connecticut. In Connecticut Gordon worked on underwater systems, such as torpedo countermeasures, sonar systems, and acoustic environmental measurements. Gordon’s stepsons, Bernard and James Cole, have also worked for the Naval Research Laboratory and the Naval Underwater Sound Laboratory.

In May, 1999, Gordon Hayes donated his father’s memorabilia – medals and papers, including correspondence



Gordon Hayes speaking at the dedication of the Harvey C. Hayes Room at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., 1999. (“Labstracts / News from the Naval Research Laboratory”, June 7, 1999.)



*The Wood - Hayes house from Route 137.
(Dublin Historical Society, photograph by Lucy Shonk, 1980.)*

with Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz – to the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. These materials are now on permanent display at the lab.

Gordon has also been a generous donor to both the town and historical society. He and his wife, Ingeborg, gave over twelve acres of their land to the town under the Land Conservation Investment Program, to protect the area around Mud Pond. The Hayes also donated Dr. Harvey Hayes’ Harvard chair to the historical society, as well as papers relating to his career.

Gordon and Ingeborg are now leaving Dublin to be near their family in Connecticut. We bid them farewell with sadness, and wish them the best of everything in their new home.

— Nancy E. Campbell

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year Dublin marks the 250th anniversary of the first European settlement. As its special Sesquicentennial project, the Historical Society will be working to renovate and preserve our 1841 schoolhouse.

Schools have been important in Dublin from early in our history. In 1830, there were 450 pupils in the 10 school districts into which the town was divided, each with its own schoolhouse. By 1841, when our schoolhouse was built, the population of the town was already shrinking, and by the end of the century only 57 students remained. This decline resulted partly from the secession of Harrisville in 1870, but also to a large extent from the movement of population to the West and to the mills. The Town History (1920) cites as another reason "the pitiably small

number of children in modern families as compared with families of the olden time".

Building and maintaining school houses has always consumed a great deal of the town's energy and funds. Some things don't change, but the value of a dollar has! The original part of the present Dublin Consolidated school was built of brick in 1916 with an appropriation of \$10,000.

As we go through 2002, we will be taking some extra time to look back on 250 years of Dublin history. The schoolhouse on Main Street is very much a part of that history and we want to ensure that it will still be here in another hundred years. I look forward to the help of our membership and all the citizens of Dublin in this important work of historical preservation.

— Paul Tuller

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Since the November newsletter, eleven individuals and one sister society have made welcome gifts to the archives. To all of them we extend our thanks.

The **Hancock Historical Society**, through its Registrar, **Gloria Neary**, has sent us a broadside dated 1867 advertising the sale of the Dublin Town Farm. The principle of sending historical materials to the places they belong is not as widely followed as one could wish, so we are especially grateful to Gloria and the Hancock Historical Society.

Anne Anable and **Nancy Campbell** have given us a number of photographs taken at the Memorial Day and Dublin Day celebrations. We make a point of capturing Dublin history as it goes by, so photographs of current events are always particularly welcome.

Through the good offices of **Elizabeth Pool**, we have received from **William and Amory Glenn** a photograph of a portrait of Amory's mother, Harriet Sears Amory, painted by Cecilia Beaux in 1902-03. This is of particular interest, since both artist and sitter had connections to Dublin.

Anita Greene has given us a copy of the catalogue of a memorial exhibition of Abbott Thayer's paintings in

1922 at the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

In clearing out his family's house at Bond's Corner, **Gordon Hayes** has given us a number of papers relating to the distinguished career of his father, Harvey Cornelius Hayes, which are the main source for Nancy Campbell's article in this issue.

Russell Keith has presented a copy of his World War II memoir, U.S.S. Callaway / P.A. 35, which recounts his experiences as a Coast Guard officer in the Pacific.

Other gifts of archival material have come from **Barbara de Marneffe, Dick Hammond, John Harris, Thomas & Jo Anne Hopkins** and **Nicholas Thacher**. Our grateful thanks to them all.

SOCIETY NEWS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Igor & Amedine Bella	Jay & Buffy McPhee
Marion Gannett	Mike & Barbara Mosher
Zaiga Greenhalgh	Richard & Lara Scheinblum
Dick & Pat MacKinnon	David & Rosemary Wolpe

C R E D I T S

This issue of the Dublin Historical Society Newsletter was edited by John Harris.

Design & layout by Heidi Thomas of Little House Graphics.