

**LEONARD STREET AGAWAM MASS. 1929**

The house on Leonard Street was covered by a mortgage held by the Cooperative Bank in West Springfield. Gilbert & Barker was on short time for so long, it was hard to keep up the payments. I had already paid the town taxes for that year. I went to see Mr. Chandler, head of the Coop. Bank, to see if special arrangements could be made since the taxes were paid for the year. He said "NO" out loud! So I saw I was getting no where.

So I figured out the time I would have it all paid for, and I didn't pay a penny more on the house. It proved after, that it was the best thing, as later I bought the Fairbanks home for \$300.00 after the big flood. I was living at 316 Park Street at the time of the big flood. It was in April, 1936. That story will come later.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford lived next door (on Leonard Street) and he was a foreman at the Gilbert and Barker Manufacturing Company. He lived to the left of us. George Webster lived on the right of us, and he used to install pumps in the gas stations. He was a most vulgar man.

Towards the River Road, a man and his wife had a farm. I used to work for him when he needed me. He raised celery, strawberries and flowers. These were his main crops. He had a greenhouse too. Later in my life story, my sister Violet worked for them. Mrs. Kastner helped her to get a job later.

I joined the Masons in West Springfield at the Elm Lodge, in 1929. Thomas Farrell was the Master of the lodge at that time. I used to attend most of the meetings while I was living in S.W. Massachusetts. When I retired, I attended the lodge in St. Petersburg on two occasions. When the Masons had their get-together once a year I was there.

My Son, George Bostock, was born on Leonard Street, a fine boy of 7 lbs. Dr. Bostick delivered him. A half year passed before I registered him. Dr. Bostick attached my pay as I was on short time. I finally did pay him in full.