

The Boston Post cane, presented to the selectmen of this town many years ago, to be awarded by them to the town's oldest male citizen and by him to be held in trust, is once more to be passed on as a token of just such honorable distinction. Four men have possessed this cane, namely, in order, David M. Gould, Enoch M. Marsh, George H. Currier and Thomas Harrison. And another "oldest citizen," Edgar M. Hardy, should have stood second in this line of custody, but failed of possession by reason of the brief period of heirship prior to his death. Mr. Harrison, who received the cane last March, recently removed from town, so honorably returned the much-prized token for proper disposal. A careful canvass of all the older male citizens has been made and the cane was awarded this afternoon in annual town meeting to William J. M. Blackman of the North Pelham district. Mr. Blackman is but a little over 86 years of age, born Jan. 4, 1844, in Mooers, N. Y., and bids fair to hold this cane many years. He is a Civil war veteran, enlisted at Plattsburg, N. Y., Oct. 19, 1861, in Company F, 96th regiment, New York infantry, serving throughout the war. He has been a resident of this town for 15 years. When 79 years and 9 months of age he purchased his first automobile, a Ford touring car, learned to operate and has driven it ever since without accident. He quite recently drove on an 8000-mile trip through the western grain belt to Oxbow, Saskatchewan, to visit a sister, also visiting two other sisters and a brother in Hancock, Minn., during the same trip. He hadn't seen these relatives for more than 50 years.

He is a hale and hearty old man today, and his years rest lightly upon him as he ambitiously plans his future with much apparent enthusiasm.

Ed. Atwood's orchestra will present a program of old and new dances at the social to be held in the local town hall on Wednesday evening, March 12. See adv.