bration of Old Home day. In an all-day program which lasted about the parsonage. Top left is the committee largely respon- 
urne, Mrs. Lillian M. Wood, Mrs. Doris Foss, Miss Eleanor For-
ftcomb and Mrs. Alma Stiles. Top right, some of the contestants
ins of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Burton, who run a local farm. Bot-
town's oldest residents, John D. Jeannott, 81, left, and George
'ebody tags a pitch in the game between the married men and
PELHAM—Hundreds of Pelham’s native sons and daughters were back in town yesterday, mingling with their relatives and friends in one of the most successful Old Home Day celebrations since the war. More than 1500 townsfolk and citizens from neighboring communities turned out for the celebration which was marked
Old Home Day
In Pelham

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with a complete entertainment program extending deep into the night.

Meeting grounds for the gay and traditional celebration was the lawn in front of the parsonage in Pelham Center. There beneath the arches of giant shade trees, virtually the entire town turned out to participate in festivities.

From noon until midnight, hundreds of townspeople milled about the grounds meeting old friends and reminiscing. If, however, some people looked backward, the old as well as the young generation also looked forward to a promising future for the community which has been mushrooming with new construction in recent years.

From Far and Near

Some returned to Pelham from distant places, like Joseph Marsh from California, and Miss Blanche Hillman from Florida. Others came from points more nearby, like the George and Richard Currier's families from Connecticut and Ervin Burton from Hudson.

The annual celebration began at noon, when some 100 persons turned up for dinner at the Congregational church. From then on a carnival atmosphere prevailed, highlighted with an afternoon sports program and a band concert until midnight by the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Girl Scouts softball team from Camp Runels won the ball game with the town's married men in a blistering onslaught, 14-1. Pitcher Arthur H. Peabody, police chief, and Catcher Frank Foisie, Deputy, were forced to bow out with their teammates at the end of the ninth after a battery combination of Evelyn "Rusty" Desmarais of North Chelmsford, and Alice O'Brien "drove them to the showers."

Prize Winners

Little Carol Horsman, of 22 County street, East Ipswich, won the bubble gum contest in the girl's division while Norman Sancier was the winner in the boys' group.

Winners in other contests were Peggy Comer of Ipswich, first in the cracker eating contest; Joseph Cyrus of Pelham, first in the blueberry pie eating contest; and Karol Kenerson of Saugus winner of the shoe contest.

Last year in proceeds. Early estimates yesterday indicated this year might be equally successful.

Numerous booths and food concessions were active throughout the day, dispensing goods contributed by townspeople generally. Embroidery, aprons, glassware, books, and other material were selling well until late last night.

50th Year

Old Home Day, a holiday somewhat unique throughout the country, is being celebrated for its 50th year in New Hampshire this month. Originally suggested by New Hampshire Gov. Frank W. Rollins in 1898, according to authorities, the holiday was adopted in Pelham at least as far back as 1911. President of the original committee was the late Charles W. Hobbs of Pelham, whose daughter, Miss Mary E. Hobbs of Pelham, was on hand for this year's celebration.

Old Home Week is set aside in New Hampshire by an association, the object of which is to promote the welfare of the state by increasing the interest among her citizens and among natives of the state located in different parts of the world. President of the organization is former Gov. Robert O. Blood.

Farewell Party

More than 150 parishioners and neighbors gathered in the recreation room of the First Congregational church last night for a surprise farewell party given to Rev. and Mrs. Thomas C. Roden who leave Sept. 12 for North Conway.

Miss Marjorie Garland acted as mistress of ceremonies and announced the following program; Piano selections, Paul Balcom; community singing; vocal solos, Albert Nickerson and Susan Foss.

Fred W. Garland presented a purse to the honored couple on behalf of the parishioners and friends. Rev. Mr. Roden expressed his appreciation for the gift. He has been called to the Congregational church in North Conway and has been appointed as field director for the N. H. conference in the northern area for rural work.

Refreshments were served by a committee which included Mrs. Nettie Spaulding, Mrs. Alma Stiles, Mrs. Alvina Spaulding, Mrs. Helen Spaulding, Mrs. Frank Sleeper, Mrs. Ethel Hayes, Mrs. Fred Garland and Paul Balcom.
Refreshments were served by a committee which included M. Nettie Spaulding, Mrs. Alt Stiles, Mrs. Alvina Spaulding, Mrs. Frank Steeper, Mrs. Ethel Hayes, Mr. Fred Garland and Mr. Paul Balcan. Baskets of garden flowers were placed around the room.

The centerpiece for the refreshment table was a vase filled with the exquisite "Angels Trumpet" from the gardens of Mrs. Mary Sheburne and Mr. Clara Janes.

General chairman of the program was Rev. Thomas C. Roden and sponsor of the Old Home Day was the Congregational church. Scores of committee men and hundreds of townspeople contributed to the day's success. Rev. Mr. Roden was called among them "Chief Peabody, Director of the sports program, 1945. He has been instrumental in bringing about many improvements in the church and has contributed to the maintenance of the church, some $1000 was raised.