

## STORIES of New Jersey

three forts to be placed in full war time working order within 72 hours under command of the officer in charge at Fort DuPont on the Delaware shore.

A government launch from Fort Mott takes visitors, by special permission from the War Department, to Pea Patch Island. Here can be seen the old granite fort surrounded by its 40-foot moat, looking much as it did in those dark days of the Civil War. Many of the old cannonballs, weighing as much as 107 pounds, are still in evidence.

On the ground floor one of the bastion rooms was set aside for a bakery. The old-fashioned brick oven built into the walls can still be seen. Looking at the size of the oven one wonders how enough bread could possibly have been baked for the thousands of prisoners.

During the late '80s and '90s young people from Salem held dances in the guard rooms and prison rooms on the second floor. But from the time of the Spanish-American War no civilian has been allowed on the island without special permission. Once more, during the World War, a garrison was stationed at Fort Delaware; but no enemy ships have ever threatened the defenses of the Delaware.