

1911, under the direction of Sister Mary Wilford with an enrollment of 65 pupils. This was a notable incident in the history of this parish.

The school was first located in the former Mansur residence, purchased at a cost of \$15,000, a not inconsiderable sum in those days.

The convent, as it was called then, was presided over by the Sisters of Mercy who were brought here to give instruction. The building was renovated and remade into an adequate school.

AN ACADEMY 14 YEARS

It functioned as an Academy for the next 14 years and made a substantial contribution to the cultural life of the community. Music was emphasized and the periodic public recitals of the convent pupils were always generously patronized and responded to by the townspeople.

The status was changed from a private academy to a free parochial school in 1925 at which time resident pupils were no longer received and pupils of the parish were no longer required to pay tuition, the parish itself then assuming full responsibility for the upkeep of the school.

During the pastorate of Father Silke another outstanding development occurred in the founding of the Madigan Memorial Hospital. Beginning with the benefactions of the Madigan family, who gave the homestead and farm to be used as a hospital, later bequests from these and other sources, shrewd and skillful management and the tremendous contributions of the Sisters of Mercy over the years, this fine hospital stands today greatly enlarged over its original size and completely free of all encumbrances of debt.

FATHER SULLIVAN ARRIVES

In March of 1933 when Rev. Silke was moved to St. Dominic's in Portland, he was succeeded by Father Joseph Sullivan who also was called upon to face the problems of an expanding parish and the need for enlarged facilities.

When it came time for him to leave this parish ten years later, in 1943, he could look back with considerable personal satisfaction on the record of his accomplishments for and with his people.

The first important event came about in 1937 when it became possible for the church to buy the

old Post Office building adjoining its convent property on Water Street. The deal was made for a price of \$10,000 although there was not funds enough then in the parish treasury to swing it.

This was no obstacle to Father Sullivan nor to the parish. The response to an appeal to raise the necessary cash resulted in an over subscription within a week. The building was appropriately remodelled into four large classrooms. Further expansions made in recent years have increased the facilities to six classrooms which now serve a total enrollment of about 250 pupils.

CHURCH EXTENDED

The next move was a substantial extension of the church that created a vast improvement both within and without and which will remain as a tribute to the inspiration of the presiding pastor at the time, Rev. Joseph Sullivan, whose death occurred in May of this year at his parish at St. Joseph's in Gardiner to which he moved 14 years ago.

The present accupant of the Pastorate of St. Mary's of the Visitation is Rev. Michael F. Tierney who came here in 1943 but was no stranger to the town nor to the church. He served for some years here as a curate in the earlier days of his priesthood. There has been no halting in the development of the facilities of the parish nor any diminution in its advancement since he came to this church.

In order better to appraise the spiritual life of this parish as it is exemplified by the number of vocations it has given to the Christian brotherhood, the priesthood and the religious orders of women, we quote here directly from the history of the Parish as compiled and written by Rev. Michael Tierney a few years ago and from which we have freely drawn for this story.

SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE

He wrote: "With regard to vocations to the Christian Brotherhood and the Priesthood, the names of four native sons of St. Mary's stand out conspicuously. Augustus Abernethy joined the Xaverian Brothers on August 15, 1917, taking the name in religion of Brother Michael Angelus. At present he is teaching at Keith Academy for Boys at Lowell, Mass. Father Raymond McCluskey, S. J., has the very en-

viable distinction of being the first priest to be ordained from St. Mary's Parish. He was raised to the holy priesthood June 16, 1945. Father Robert McDonald, S. M. was ordained June 15, 1950. Father James Skehan, S. J. was ordained June 19, 1954. Mr. Francis McGillicuddy is reading theology at St. John's Seminary at Brighton, Mass. and will be ordained D.V. in due time.

"Vocations to the various orders of women have been numerous, as the following list will show. At the head of the list are the two Madigan Sisters: Misses Mary and Winnifred. It is extraordinary that of the first six vocations to the religious life from this parish of St. Mary of the Visitation, three should come from the one family: the family of James C. Madigan (Sr.) and Mary Whittier. Misses Mary and Winifred entered the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and were known in religion as Mothers Mary and Winifred Madigan. Miss Mary Gertrude Attridge followed in the footsteps of the two Madigan sisters into the Sacred Heart of the Society of Jesus.

APPEAL TO YOUNG LADIES

"The Congregation of the Sister of Mercy held out a special appeal to young ladies of Irish extraction as soon as it made its appearance in New England. The first to enter the Congregation from this parish was Miss Isabelle Abernethy. She joined the Sisters of Mercy in Hartford in 1881 and was known in religion as Sister Mary Mark Abernethy. Miss Mary Donovan joined the Sisters of Mercy in Boston, Mass., September 1887. Her name in religion was Sister Mary Josephine Donovan. Miss Alice Madigan entered the Second Order of St. Dominic in 1889. She took the name of Sister Mary Albert of the Rosary. The path to the religious life from this on led to the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Mercy in Portland, Maine. Sister Mary Bertrand Coffey entered October 17, 1914. Sister Mary Ursula McNally entered April 30, 1917. Sister Mary Terence Conlogue entered September 8, 1951. And Miss Mary Theresa Skehan entered as a postulant September 24, 1954."

In September, 1956, the Misses Helen Callnan, Ruth Conlogue and Hannah Lynds also entered the novitiate in Portland.

Earlier Houlton People Were Picnic Lovers



A typical Sunday afternoon outing was this group of men, women and children posing for a picture while picnicking. The quintet in the very back row is, left to right, Ansel Lumbert, Leon Mansur, Harry M. Briggs, John C. McIntire and Dr. Louis Johnson. In the second row, left to right, is Hudson Frisbie, Jennie Wetmore, an unidentified woman, Mrs. Melvin Putnam, William C. Donnell, three women who cannot be identified, Mrs. Hiram Fogg, Almon H. Fogg, Mrs. Hudson Frisbie, Mrs. George B. Dunn, Gen. Fred Perkins, Mrs. Almon H. Fogg, Mrs. William C. Donnell and Ed Healand. The third row starts with Mrs. Don A. H. Powers, with the two on her left unidentifiable, Mrs. Jessie Lovejoy Waterall, Mrs. Coburn, the next one is unidentifiable, then comes Mrs. Helen Hume Pearson, Mrs. Gertrude Lumbert, Al Page and Hiram Fogg. In the front row, from the left, is Charles H. Fogg, (holding the child, unidentified), Mrs. Leon Mansur, the next lady cannot be named, then Mrs. Charles H. Fogg, the only one known to be now alive, Mrs. Belle Briggs, Winifred Perks and a woman whose name is not known.

Houlton Women's Club Has Contributed Much To Community Since 1904

By Mrs. Louella G. Ebbett

On April 11, 1904, a group of about 40 or 50 civic-minded women gathered in Perks Hall, (a building now occupied by Feeley's Drug store) to consider the matter of organizing a Woman's Club in the town of Houlton. In order to give this meeting a business like semblance, Miss Elizabeth Yates was chosen chairman and

Mrs. J. C. Koon, wife of the minister of the Episcopal Church, secretary.

CONSTITUTION ADOPTED

After much discussion and constructive thinking as to the good work that might be accomplished by the organization of such a club, a committee to consider a constitution and by-laws was elected and shortly after this first meeting, the constitution and by-laws

work and free milk lunches for undernourished children and many smaller items all of which represented substantial expenditures.

Contributions have also been made to the State Scholarship Fund, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, Little Wanderer's Home and many other worthwhile projects.

HOME FOR AGED

Besides these amounts expended a sizable amount has been put aside for a "Home for the Aged" and considerable effort is being expended at present towards promoting a scholarship fund for some worthy girl who will teach in secondary schools and who is in need of financial assistance.

Patroness Association Has Helped Madigan Hospital For Past 24 Years

In September 1923, Sister Cecilia, who was Administrator of the hospital at that time, invited four ladies, Mrs. Lucy Doherty, Mrs. J. A. Donovan, Mrs. Doris Madigan and Mrs. James Pierce to meet with her and talk over organizing an association for the purpose of aiding the hospital, and to add little extras for the comfort of the patients, and also to form sewing bands to help with mending, make layettes, hospital gowns et cetera.

The organization was started and Mrs. Lucy Doherty was elected its first president; Mrs. Joe Perry was secretary, and Mrs. Belle Gorham, treasurer. The board of directors consisted of Mrs. J. A. Donovan, Mrs. Doris Madigan, Mrs. James Pierce and Mrs. Anna Wilson. Mrs. Wilson organized the sewing bands and remained as chairman as long as they functioned.

EARLY MEMBERS

The early members were: the Mesdames Bernard Archibald, Charles Barnes, Kate Burleigh, Royal Crockett, James Callnan, Tom Callnan, Clement Carroll, Bessie Conlogue, Frank Dunn, Clara Fitzpatrick, Charles Fogg, Benjamin Franklin, John Fitzgerald, Garret Fitzpatrick, Belle Gorham, Lillian Jackson, Fern Joy, Rose Mansur, Alberic Mercier, E. E. Milliken, Virginia Powers, Aaron Putnam, Arthur Putnam, Fred Putnam, Alice Rose, Frank Rugan, Robert Riley, Margaret Smart, Allen Smith, Etta Doherty, Maybelle Stackpole, Hazel Stetson, Effie Skehan, Parker Ward, Harry Whited, S. L. White, Parker Newbegin, Ilda Titcomb, Percy Rideout.

The Misses Sarah Mulherrin, Josephine Mulherrin, Winnie Donovan, Teresa and Katherine Lawlis, Clare Browne, and the Mesdames Frank McLaughlin, Harold Chadwick, Walter Clark, Louella Ebbett, Arthur Feeley, Fern French, Simon Friedman, Lydia Hannigan, Jason Hassell, Anne Henry, Alice Lawlis, J. C. McIntyre, A. B. Donworth, Frank McPartland, Ada Palmer, and John

ORGANIZATION GREW

During the first ten years, the early organization grew to 100 members. A room was furnished at the hospital. Patients were remembered at Christmas. New china and silver was purchased. March 17th became the date on which the association had some activity.

At the close of World War Two, hospital costs and needs had risen sharply, along with the number of patients. The Patronesses then began each year to buy some piece of equipment that might not be bought at that time by the hospital itself, which would aid the doctors and benefit the patient. Some of these items were a dictaphone to be used by the doctors and make the matter of record keeping easier for them; money was given towards the purchase of a new dish washer; a diathermy machine and a steam table were another project; an up-to-date incubator was still another year's accomplishment.

SUBSTANTIAL SUMS

A substantial sum was given towards the new non-explosive floor in the operating and delivery rooms. The Patroness room in the hospital was completely redone and during the drive for funds to build a new wing on the hospital, the sum of \$2500 was contributed.

When the new wing is completed this fall funds have already been raised to purchase the latest in bassinets for the new nursery. All these things were accomplished by having about four projects each year, usually a food sale in the Spring and Fall, a \$2, book of chances at some time during the year, and a public supper. Every cent raised is used for the hospital. The membership is 200 and a great many of the original members are still among the most active.

SOME PAST PRESIDENTS

The presidents who have served since World War Two are: Mrs. J. K. McKay, three years; Mrs. Ada Palmer, two years; Mrs. C. G. Burr, one year; Mrs. Dwight Webster, one year; Mrs. Walter Lane, one year; Mrs. Raymond Johnston,

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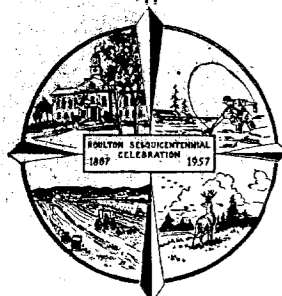
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ing, the constitution and by-laws were presented, accepted and signed by 43 women.

Thus was created the Houlton Women's Club, dedicated to the development of cultural advancement and the pursuit and support of philanthropic work in the community.

The name Houlton Woman's Club was decided upon, the dates of the meetings to be the second and fourth Mondays of each month from November to April inclusive and the annual dues to same were set at one dollar. It was also decided to join the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

OFFICERS ELECTED

A nominating committee, previously appointed, presented the following names as officers and they were duly elected: President, Miss Elizabeth V. Yates, first vice president, Mrs. Harriett Daniels, second vice president, Mrs. H. C. Putnam, secretary, Mrs. J. C. Koon, corresponding secretary, Mrs. Jennie McKay and treasurer Miss Clare Browne.

Among the pioneer movers and advisers in the early organization of this club were a Mr. and Mrs. Daniels, he being a minister of the Unitarian Church. Mrs. Kenneth McKay, wife of the Presbyterian minister was made chairman of the Board of Directors thus it would appear that the new club was largely officered by the wives of the ministers in Houlton at the time.

PROUD OF ORGANIZATION

Under the leadership of wise and capable women the Houlton Woman's Club has continued to function to the present time and is an organization of which not only the club members but the citizenry of the town is justly proud.

In the 53 years of the life of the Houlton Woman's Club it has contributed much, year by year, to various worthy projects and as long as there was need maintained a district nurse.

CHARITABLE WORK

Sums varying in amount from \$10 to \$100 have been contributed to Red Cross work. Needs at both Aroostook and Madigan Hospitals have been met with substantial gifts. Public schools of Houlton have been assisted in many ways such as furnishing musical instruments, pictures for auditoriums, contributing to remodeling of a stage, building fund at Ricker, supplying free dental

Palmer.

Leaving the financial picture of the club's work it has given much support to public health work by bringing anti-tuberculosis and prevention of cancer speakers here many times.

The Houlton Woman's Club has done a great deal of charity work through its philanthropic committees and has given largely of both clothes and money.

CONTRIBUTED TO CULTURE

By bringing speakers, lecturers and the best of entertainment courses to the town the club feels that it has contributed considerably to the cultural development of the community.

Every effort has been made to foster good music from the first having music on all programs, usually setting aside a special day in charge of a capable music committee.

We of the Houlton Woman's Club have no religious preferences, no social segregations, no prejudices and based upon our Collect which reads as follows we solicit the interest and support of

the women and citizens of Houlton:

Keep us O God from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault finding and leave off self-seeking May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face, without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous. Let us take time for all things; make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.

Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are as one.

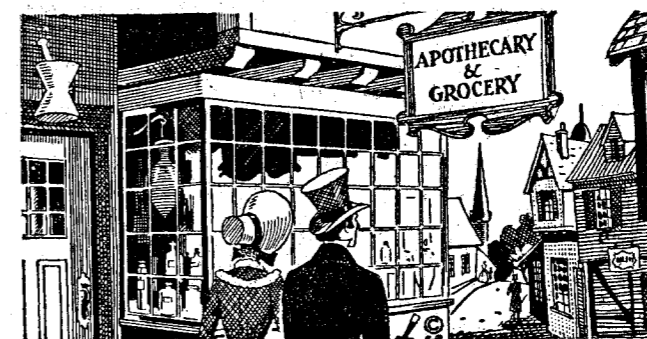
And may we strive to touch and to know the great common human heart of us all; and O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

one year; Mrs. Raymond Johnston, one year; Mrs. Wilfred A. Virgie, one year; Mrs. Ira Tarbell, two years; Mrs. Eugene Gormley, one year.

At the present time the slate of officers is as follows: president, Mrs. Carlisle Stieler; first vice president, Mrs. Larry Ross; second vice president, Mrs. Albert Madigan; treasurer, Mrs. James C. Madigan; secretary, Mrs. Albert Putnam.

The board of directors is comprised of Mrs. Eugene Gormley, Mrs. Ira Tarbell, Mrs. James McPartland, Mrs. George Harrison, Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. David Dunn, Mrs. Francis Pierce. Committees include, membership: Mrs. James Palmer, chairman; Mrs. Dean McCarthy, Mrs. Alfred Green, Mrs. Harold Berry, Mrs. Robert Goodwin, Mrs. Ray Brown; purchasing: Mrs. Donald Dunn, Mrs. Floyd Ledger, Mrs. J. K. McKay, Mrs. Paul Coleman; publicity, Mrs. Paul McGillicuddy; sewing bands, Mrs. William Callnan, Mrs. James Pierce.

1911 - 1957 47 YEARS OF KNOWLEDGE



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