

Church Of The Good Shepherd Born In Aroostook War Years

The history of the parish of the Church of the Good Shepherd is closely entwined with the early history of the town, especially during those days of the 1830's and later which encompassed the exciting era of the Aroostook War in Houlton.

As in so many other ways in which the interlude of these federal troops being stationed at Hancock Barracks, made an impact on the town and its institutions, so, too, was its influence felt in the establishment of this church.

CHAPLAIN AT BARRACKS

Among those stationed at Hancock Barracks was Capt. John Blake, who was in Houlton from

1842 to 1846. He was chaplain of the federal troops, during that time, and it was through his influence that the few communicants of the Church of England who were stationed at the barracks gathered for service in a home or a public building whenever they might find an opportunity.

The Bishop and Rectors from Canada came here from time to time to administer Holy Communion and Baptism.

This parish has a real reason to remember Capt. Blake with gratitude. Although he was transferred from this post in 1846 to become a chaplain in the U. S. Navy, he carried the memory of this town and

this parish with him for almost 50 years afterward. After his death in 1893 it became known that he had bequeathed to the Church of the Good Shepherd a legacy of \$20,000.

The Bishop of Maine became interested in the small local parish, at about the time of the Civil War. He came here first in 1863 for a meeting that was held in the Congregational meeting house, then located at the intersection of Main street and the Military Road. It was on this spot that the mission known as St. John's Church, had its beginning.

AID FROM NEW BRUNSWICK

In the case of this church, as in those of other denominations that were established in Houlton, members of the same faith and their ministers in New Brunswick were sympathetic and helpful. Until a clergyman could be secured to conduct regular services, St. John's

Church (the forerunner of the Church of the Good Shepherd) was under the guidance of the Episcopal clergy of New Brunswick.

The first permanent rector to occupy the parish was the Rev. Hudson Sawyer, who assumed charge July 1, 1884. Work on the Rectory was started almost immediately and was completed the same year. Construction of the church was started June 1, 1885 and was finished within the year.

Both were side by side in an excellent location on Main street, and it is believed that this church is one of two established in Houlton before the turn of the century that has preserved intact to the present day both its church edifice and its Rectory.

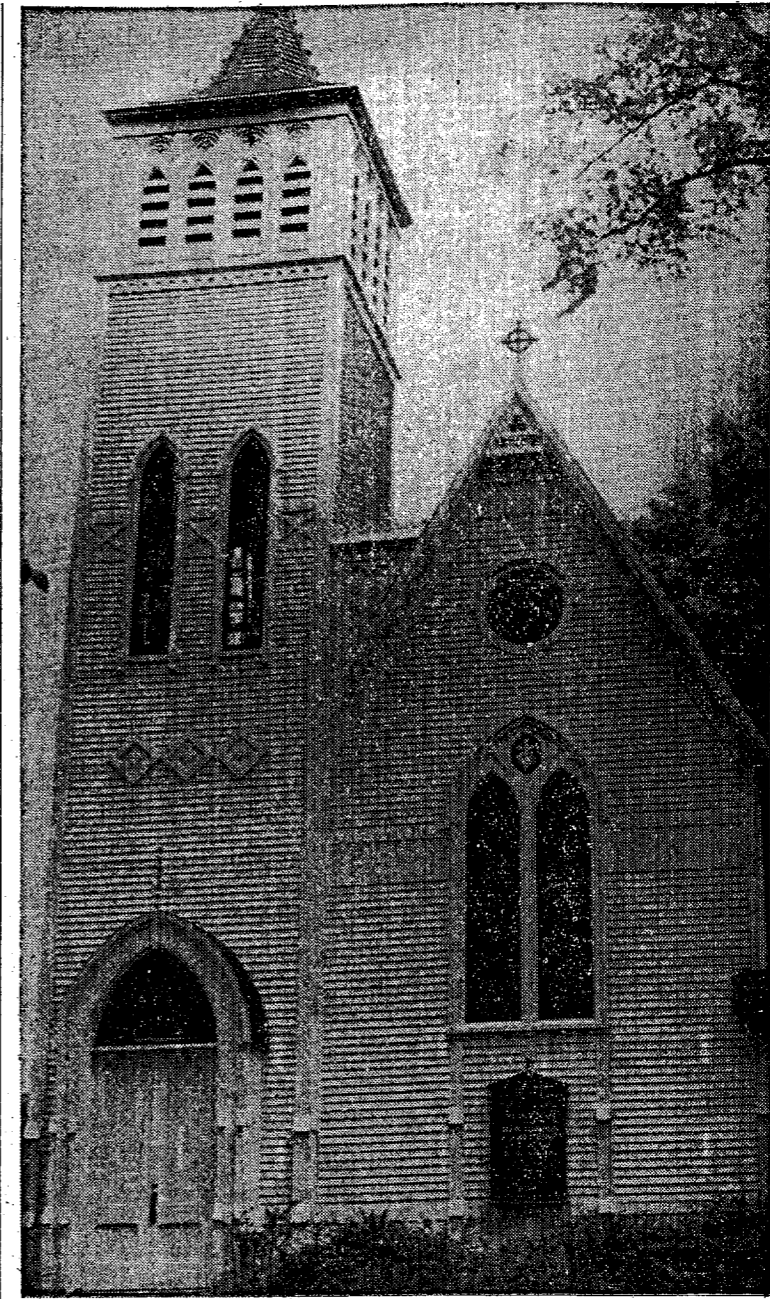
NEW RECTORY THIS YEAR

It was not until almost three quarters of a century later, in this very year of 1957 that the first

change in this relationship has taken place. As this piece is being read, workmen have already been engaged for several weeks on the construction of a new Rectory. It is being built on the north end of the former Burleigh lot, adjoining the church property, which was given to the church by two Laymen. The new building will face the west on Winter Street, the old rectory will be torn down, a move that will greatly enhance the church property.

It was on May 28, 1888, that this parish was reorganized under the name of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

The corporation was composed of the Rev. Hudson Sawyer, Rector; William H. Gray and Richard B. Ketchum, wardens; and Messrs. Gray and Ketchum and J. C. McIntyre, Woodford Ketchum, F. A. Nevers, E. T. Nichols, J. E. Rhoda,



Episcopalians in the parish of the Church of the Good Shepherd have been worshipping in this edifice since it was built in 1885.

the third floor of the present Houlton Trust Company building were rented and for nearly 20 years were kept as club rooms to be enjoyed by the members as a meeting place and for social activities. In order to pay the upkeep and for furnishings for these rooms several large projects were undertaken such as musical productions and plays, including a Shakespearian play.

USED BY OTHERS

The Junior Charity League, then a very prominent group concerned with helping the needy during the years of war and depression, was granted the use of these rooms without a fee, however other organizations or groups sometimes rented these attractive club rooms for meetings or social activities.

The principal project of the Houlton Business and Professional Women's Club was, in the early days of its founding and still is, a loan scholarship fund which is given to any deserving local girl who plans to continue her education in a business or professional field. Throughout the years the B.P.W. Club has contributed generously to all national, state or local fund raising campaigns such as the National Cancer Society, Red Cross, Boy Scouts and local drives for charitable organizations.

ENTERTAINED CONVENTION

The Houlton Club has served as hostess to the state federation here twice, once when Miss Bernice Haley was president in 1926 and again in 1952 when Miss Edna Goodrich was president. She was ill at the time of the convention and Mrs. Nell Cradwick substituted as hostess president for her. Miss Ernestine Davis and Miss Alice Black both served as vice presidents of the state federation and several members have served as chairmen or on state committees. Three members have attended the National B.P.W. conventions: Miss Elizabeth McGary at Mackinac Island, Miss Helen Mitchell in Chicago, and Mrs. Emma Boone in Cleveland.

Members who have served as presidents of the Houlton B.P.W. Club have been Miss Josephine Peabody, Miss Margaret Attridge, Miss Bernice Haley, Miss Elizabeth McGary, Miss Ernestine Davis, Miss Ellen Newbegin, Miss Alice Black, Miss Mary Lou Cumming, Miss Helen Mitchell, Miss Helen Lawrence, Miss Nora Knox, Mrs. Ruth Perkins Tapley, Mrs. Marita Peabody, Miss Eva McGinley, Miss Margaret Qualey, Mrs. Emma Boone, Mrs. Freda Grant Carson,

Robert M. Derrah and Sam B. Rhoda as vestrymen.

The roster of clergymen begins with Capt. John Blake, who officiated from 1841 to 1846, and then the Rev. Joseph Jenks served for one year (1873). The first regular Rector, the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, was with the church from 1884 until 1888 and was succeeded for one year by the Rev. D. C. Gwillim.

The succeeding Rector, the Rev. C. W. McCully, also served for a single year, his successor, the Rev. H. Hobart Barber, being in the pulpit from 1893 to 1895. The Rev. Richard Sloggett was here for seven years, followed by the incumbency of the Rev. Jabez C. Koon, the longest up to that time, lasting the nine years between 1903 to

ous church organizations have made valuable improvements in the facilities of Watson Hall. The stage was removed some years ago to provide more room for other events. The meeting rooms at the front have been furnished and decorated and the kitchen facilities at the rear have been improved.

Aiding Girls To Business Careers Aim of BPW Club

By Mrs. Marcia D. Esters

Thirty-five years ago next month, September 15, 1922, there were 23

- - - and now, at this sign, get
SUPER SKY-CHIEF

the finest gasoline we have been privileged
to offer in Houlton since our first TEXACO
hand pumps in 1926 - - -



Service . . .

. . . Filling Stations was our first company name, established in 1926. Although that name has since been changed, the ideal of "service" has never been forgotten or abandoned.

Ten years later, in 1936, we were able to carry TEXACO'S fine quality beyond the Houlton area, to which our contract had been confined up to that time. We added dealerships in Millinocket, Lincoln, Howland

Experience . . .

. . . comes as a business grows and our next logical step in expansion was to devote more and more attention and study to the primary problem of comfortable living conditions in this area . . . the most efficient possible utilization of heating plants, residential as well as busness.

We are glad that, through the application of scientific principles, we have been able to better many Houlton heating systems we have been asked to study and it is our hope we may be able to add improvement and effec-

and intermediate towns, to our growing list of handlers.

Being in the business of providing fuel oil and in the proper engineering of heating and cooking facilities, it was only natural that we should add bottled gas to our line. In 1939 we became distributors for Fuelite L/P propane gas . . . and we still are, under the name of Utility Bottled Gas.

We will welcome your call at our showroom on Leonard Street where we will be happy to show you our quarters, our line of appliances and counsel you on any problems you may have . . . at no obligation.



PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

INC.

L. O. LUDWIG, Jr., Treas.

HOULTON Dial 3061



It has been a privilege to be a part of Houlton's growth during the past . . . and to be a part of its Sesquicentennial observance in 1957. We are proud to be a business colleague of such a venerable newspaper as the Houlton Pioneer Times.

our hope we may be able to add improvement and effectiveness to other heating plants in other homes in the future. We will welcome an opportunity to try.

We have recently expanded our facilities to include some of the best known names in the gas heating and appliance field . . . our showroom is always well stocked with the latest models in ranges, refrigerators, water heaters, space heaters and laundry equipment.

the nine years between 1903 to 1912.

BRIEF PASTORATE

The next three occupants of the pulpit were here for brief periods. They were the Rev. George Robinson from 1912 to 1914, the Rev. Oliver D. Smith for a year, and the Rev. C. H. Bascom, also for a year.

The Rev. H. Scott Smith occupied the Rectory here for the five years, 1917 to 1922. He was followed by two single year tenancies, that of the Rev. F. H. Steenstra, to 1923, and the Rev. J. R. DeWolfe Cowie, until 1924.

The Rev. A. S. Winslow was in charge of the affairs of the Church of the Good Shepherd for the ensuing five years, yielding to the Rev. David Jenkins who was in Houlton for the next 11 years, until 1938.

By far the longest period of service as Rector of this church is that established by the Rev. Percy G. Cotton. He came to Houlton in 1938 and, for the ensuing 19 years, has been a much beloved and popular Rector. During his incumbency he was honored with a Canonship, and he resigned his pulpit earlier this year as the Rev. Canon Percy G. Cotton.

The present Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd is the Rev. Michael Regan, who came here earlier this year from Queens Village, N. Y., to succeed the Rev. Canon Cotton.

WATSON HALL GREAT ASSET

For more than 45 years the Church of the Good Shepherd has enjoyed the facilities of a community asset of great value: Watson Hall, the benefaction of the late John Watson, given to the church in 1911 in memory of his mother, Jane Watson.

When first built, it contained a stage and was often used for local talent performances as well as for church suppers and other parish and public affairs. It was for many years a popular place for dances, and it has always been available as a meeting place for organizations not having convenient quarters of their own.

Soon after it was completed the basement was occupied by one of the earlier local YMCA organizations and Boys Club. It was fitted up with a game room and with athletic equipment including what was the first basketball court in Houlton, a meagre affair but out of which came many of the members of Houlton High School's early teams.

Throughout the years the vari-

thirty-five years ago next month, September 15, 1922, there were 23 enthusiastic women, members of a profession or in business, who met at the former Houlton High School building to discuss with Miss Abbie G. Dennett of Portland, chairman of the organization committee for the State Federation of B.P.W. Clubs, the founding of a Houlton Business and Professional Women's Club here.

Miss Josephine Peabody was chosen chairman of the meeting and the secretary's notes were taken by Mrs. Cora Putnam. After hearing Miss Dennett explain the advantages of belonging to a B.P.W. Club and what the duties of such a group would be, those present voted to found such an organization in Houlton and a nominating committee composed of Mrs. A. T. Smith, chairman, Miss Margaret Folkins and Mrs. Helen Haskell were appointed to present a slate of officers.

FIRST OFFICERS

These first officers to serve the club were Miss Peabody, president; Mrs. Nora Taber, vice president; Mrs. Annie Mellroy, secretary and Miss Virginia Bubar, treasurer.

For four years the meetings were held in the homes of the members. In February, 1926, rooms on

Boone, Mrs. Freda Grant Carso, Mrs. Thelma Hall, Mrs. Loui Currie, Miss Helen Slaney, Miss Edna Goodrich, Mrs. Phyllis Cuming, Mrs. Marion Hyde, Mrs. Elna Stinson and Mrs. Marcia Ester

A new two-revolution Hoe new paper press has been installed in our plant to replace the press which this newspaper has been printed since it was founded in 1860 by the late Theodore Cary. —Aroostook Times, March, 1907.

Work on the new Unitarian church is progressing. The stone and brick work of the foundation and basement is nearly complete and the frame of the building erected and nearly boarded in. —Aroostook Times, August 23, 1885.

Rev. Kenneth McKay of Richmond, N. B., has accepted the pastorate of the Presbyterian church and will move here soon with his family. —Aroostook Times, October 1, 1885.

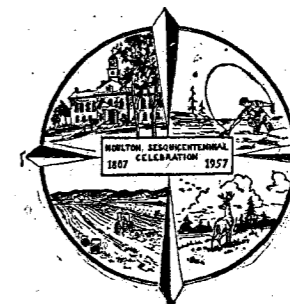
Compliments
of
HAT'S
DRIVE-IN

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOULTON PIONEER TIMES

on your 100 years
of Service in Aroostook
County

from

The SENTINEL PRESS
WOODSTOCK, NEW BRUNSWICK



Serving Neighboring
Carleton County
in New Brunswick
for over a
CENTURY