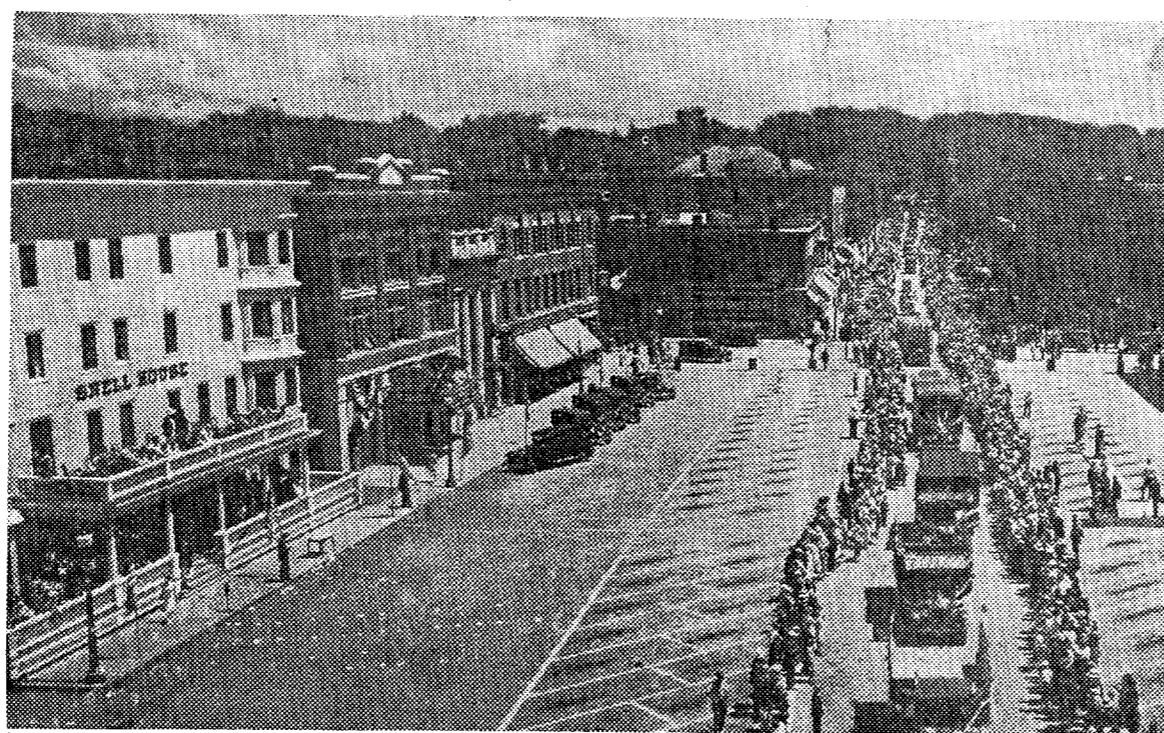


# A July Fourth Celebration In 1930



The parade takes its customary route through Market Square being viewed by the usual crowd from the Snell House balcony.

Rev. Frohock, whose term in parish had been so epochal in affairs, was succeeded by Rev. White. It was during this storate that the campmeeting in Hodgdon was relinshed. The Caribou campmeeting association united with the alton and Hodgdon associa- is to select the well known tleton campmeeting site, which is to be occupied for 25 years.

At the century's end the Rev. Mrs. Daniel Phelen came to ilton and had the distinction being the first ministerial fam- to occupy the new Methodist sonage, then located on School et. The previous parsonage been located at what is now telleran street.

**BUILDINGS BURNED**  
n May of 1901 Rev. and Mrs. n Tinling became the leaders he church and it was during pastorate that the fateful v fell and the entire church its parsonage was wiped out he disastrous fire of May 2, 2 which destroyed the major of the entire town of Hou-

nd so was wiped out in a mat- of hours, the church that the usiastic parish had worked ard to attain and had been ined to occupy less than ten s. During the summer of 2 the congregation met with

the Presbyterians. The Metho- dists held their Sunday school preceding the morning service and the Presbyterians held their Sun- day School following church ser- vices.

These resourceful people were not daunted by their misfortune. In the spring of 1903, one year after the disastrous blow, they were back in their own church to worship, although the parsonage was not completed until another year.

### CHANDELIER DONATED

A memory of this occasion hung from the ceiling of the main church until it was taken down in 1950. It was an electric chandelier, donated by Rev. and Mrs. Tinling in memory of their son who had died a few weeks before they came to Houlton.

Following the Tinling pastorate was that of Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Edgett who came to occupy the new parsonage and whose young- est son is the only child ever to be born in the Houlton parsonage.

Rev. A. H. Hanscom came to the church in the spring of 1906. It was at this time that the church purchased a new communion set with individual cups.

In 1908 the parish entertained for the second time the East Maine conference and it was mid- way through this conference year that Rev. Hanscom accepted a call from a church in the Midwest.

His year was completed by a Mr. Easton and who also remained for the next conference year. Because of educational advantages he sought for his family, he asked to be returned to southern New Eng- land.

**FAMILY ALL HELPERS**  
He was supplanted by Rev. W. H. Davis who had two sons and a daughter, all helpers in the church. One of his sons, W. H. Davis, Jr., was for several years a teacher of mathematics in Houl- ton High school.

The elder Davis brought to the local parish the benefit of a long experience and his congregation found him to be "a sympathetic and true friend, and a good preacher as well as a good busi- ness manager." During his regime a new pipe organ was installed in the church largely through his efforts. It was also during this period that the Houlton Church became united with the Littleton Church.

In 1917 the church welcomed Rev. and Mrs. Thomas L. White- side. Their son, Osmond, grew up in the church and became a minister in Oregon. A second daughter, Eleanor, was for sev- eral years a teacher in a Massa- chusetts College. Rev. Whiteside received the appointment of dis- trict superintendent and he was succeeded by Rev. A. E. Luce who had finished his service in the dis- trict and came to the Houlton church.

**OVERTAKEN BY ILLNESS**  
Next occupants of the pastor-

workmen were ready to begin, an invesigation revealed that the roof of the church was in need of repairs which had priority over the actual construction of the addition. The repairs were made and the addition was completed

in 1950 but the cost was consider- ably higher than had been antici- pated.

### DEBT COMPLETELY PAID

The church has, however, prov- ed itself equal to the task. The debt has been completely wiped out, the last note in payment of this church debt having been burned by the trustees on Decem- ber 27, 1953, a welcome Christ- mas present to the parish.

It was prior to some of these events that Rev. and Mrs. Harold J. Rowley came to the Houlton church and it is correct to assume that they took an important hand in the outcome of some of the things that were done. Both have greatly endeared themselves to the townspeople as well as the congregation.

It was again in 1955 that Houl- ton was chosen to be the site of the Church conference, a respon- sibility the congregation accepted with some misgivings. Under the direction of the pastor and his capable committee the event turn- ed out to be a complete success and the parish was roundly praised for its handling of the affair.

During the past two years Rev. Rowley has, in addition to other pressing assignments within and outside his church, found time to serve in an important capacity for the annual Pastor's Assembly held at Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H.

He, too, like his predecessors, has been active in the affairs of the community and is a member of the Houlton Rotary Club.

The membership rolls of the parish now contains 727 names, a considerable increase over the handful of faithful church goers who began their worship together in this parish in the wilderness over a century and a quarter ago.

It is noted on the records of the church that the official board contains the names of members of two families who are third gener- ation members of the board. They are the Hagan and Porter families. Fred Hagan is president of the trustees and Herman Porter is a member.

The late legislature restored the number of the judges of the Su- preme Court and increased their pay \$1000 each per annum. This adds \$11,000 to the annual burdens of the taxpayer. The highest salary any chief justice of Maine ever had received up to the expiration of Judge Tenney's term, was \$1,800, but the Republicans think that nothing less than \$3,000 a year will do for the eminent jurists who now sit on the bench. — Aroostook Times, March 23, 1880.

Walter Mansur is soon to com- mence the erection of a fine resi- dence on Water street.—Aroostook Times, April 22, 1880.

Mr. W. D. Buzzell has decided to build his new hotel on the east side of Court street, nearly opposite the Times office, and has a crew of men engaged in clearing the ground for laying the foundation. He has purchased the J. P. Kinney lot, and with what land he owned previously, will have a front of about 90 feet on Court street. The new building is to be 60 feet on Court street, four stories high; will have a driveway on the north side about 20 feet wide and a pas- sage way on the east about six feet. The new location in many re- spects, is better than the old stand and will be appreciated by the traveling public.—Aroostook Times, April 22, 1880.

Mr. Francis Barnes has com- menced the erection of the new Nickerson cheese factory at his place on the Bangor Road, about 1¼ miles from the village.—Aroos- took Times, April 22, 1880.

E. Merritt & Sons have put a new Bell telephone in operation connecting their store, corner of Main and Water streets, with their storehouse at the Depot, distance about one mile. The instrument works well and is very convenient for the transmission of messages between their two places of busi- ness.—Aroostook Times, April 22, 1880.

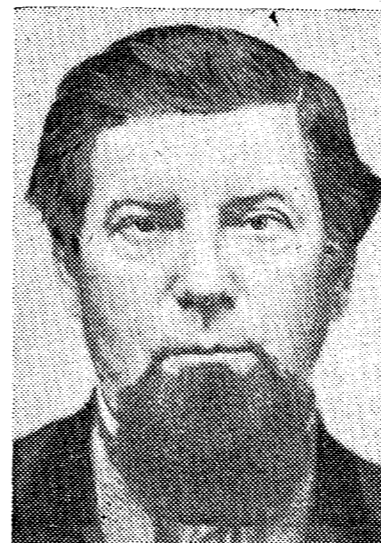
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Next occupants of the pastorate here was Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Allen. The minister was overtaken by a serious illness in the summer of 1932. When the conference was held the following year, he was placed on the retired roll. His son, Eugene, joined the conference at that time and has since served in some larger churches.

Rev. Herman Grant, later to serve in Presque Isle, and who was transferred to the Patten parish at the 1957 conference, came to Houlton in the fall of 1932 and completed the conference year as a supply pastor.

In 1933 Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Christopher were transferred to the Houlton pastorate and, two years later, in 1935, Houlton entertained the conference for the third time in its history. Rev. Christopher took full charge of this program which turned out to be unusually successful.

#### SEVEN YEARS HERE

During his seven years in Houlton he took a keen interest in town affairs, was an active member of the Houlton Rotary club as well as other groups in the community. It was at the close of this tenancy that the 100th anniversary of the church was observed with fitting services, which included a cake with 100 candles.

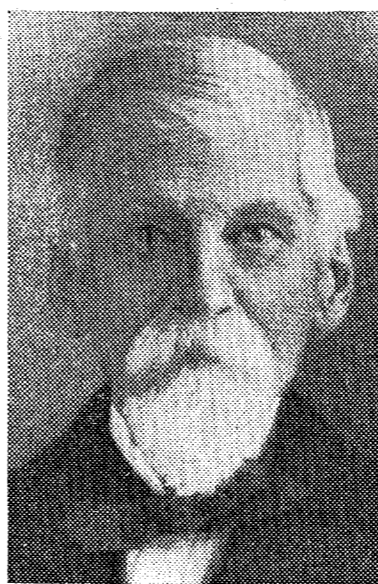
Rev. and Mrs. Royal Brown came to the Houlton church in 1940 to hold a pastorate here longer than any other previous minister of the church. He remained here until 1950 and during those years this popular couple made an indelible impression on the community. Both were very active in local affairs. Mrs. Brown was president of the Aroostook Free Bed and Aid Association, both were active in the Order of the Eastern Star and the pastor was a member of the Rotary Club for all of his years here.

#### ALSO GRANGE CHAPLAIN

While he held his office here he was also chaplain of the Maine State Grange. He was transferred from Houlton to Gardiner and has since retired from the active ministry, serving occasionally in a supply capacity. During the last year of Rev. Brown's occupancy of the Methodist pulpit, the parish was chosen again to entertain the church conference for the fourth time in its history.

It was in the summer of 1949, also, that the decision finally came to stop talking about building an addition to the church, and start to work on it. When the

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LEROY FRENCH



OSCAR FRENCH



...and **P**apa too!

In fact, we remember many a whole family from "way back" . . . having continued faithfully to serve one generation after another for over four generations . . . from the days of bustles and buggies to the age of jet propulsion. True, times and styles have changed since first we opened our doors for business, but basic principles endure. Thus, today as from the beginning, we count on friendly, thoughtful, cooperative service to earn us a permanent place in the family's health picture.

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