

Not Only Groceries But One of Houlton's Earliest Bakeries



One of Houlton's leading grocery stores of another day was McGary Brothers, operated by Will and Frank McGary at the corner of Bangor and Kendall streets. The brothers also later were dealers for Hudson motor cars. In this picture is Henry McGary, right, in the wagon, father of Will and Frank, and Ed Merrill of Patten. Beginning at the far left occupants of the three delivery wagons are, George Fiske, Thad Grant and Percy McGary. Bernie McDonald is standing to the left of the lamppost. The others are, left to right, Frank McGary, Elizabeth McGary, Angus McLeod. The man with the tray on the steps is Percy Cumming and, at his right, is Will McGary. The firm also conducted one of Houlton's first bakeries.

Putnam Brothers Has Been Gulf Distributor 45 Years

Forty-five years of activity in the petroleum business in Houlton and Aroostook County is the record of Putnam Brothers Company, distributors of Gulf Oil Corporation products from Old Town to Allagash. As Houlton observes its sesquicentennial, Arthur O. Putnam, general manager of Putnam Brothers Company, can look back over nearly half a century of growth of his company—from the day of the first "filling station" to today's modern service station.

The bulk plant enabled them to buy several railroad tank carloads at a time, and they put a horse-drawn tank wagon on the road, delivering to other hardware and grocery stores in the Houlton area. It was not until 1916 that the first tank truck was placed in service.

HORSE DRAWN TANK
Delivery by horse-drawn tank wagon, with a capacity of 500 gallons, unloaded by gravity, could service customers all summer. When winter came the tank was

day. L. C. Good was the first Gulf customer in Monticello, selling kerosene and gasoline at his grocery store. Harry Hartt, still a Gulf dealer, was among the early customers in Monticello. First to sell Gulf products in Smyrna Mills were the Tarbell brothers.

In Bridgewater, as early as 1915, Fred Snow, A. M. Stackpole, Jr., and Frank Bradstreet jointly purchased carload lots of Gulf gasoline in 55-gallon drums for resale at their places of business. First customers in Presque Isle included Sidney Cook and the Grange Store.

INTERESTED IN TOWN
Fred L. Putnam retired from the Company in 1945 to devote his

He became ill and finally died. The response to the appeal was very generous and the hospital acquired the Lane Dormitories for housing the nurses. However, the funds raised were not adequate to undertake the new addition.

The Training School was soon obliged to close because of new regulations eliminating all hospital schools where the hospital had less than 100 beds. As a result, nurses are very scarce and a very difficult situation has developed. Most schools have been closed in Maine, and several colleges having training courses have dropped them.

NEW WING NEARLY READY

In 1956 the hospital received a Federal allocation of \$90,000 and a grant from the Ford Foundation of \$23,400. With this wonderful help, and a further generous contribution from local friends of the institution, a contract was signed in September, 1956 and the new wing with 32 beds and a nursery for 12 bassinets and other services, nurses dining room and room for many other services is nearly ready for occupancy.

As of July 19, 1954 the Madigan Memorial Hospital received full accreditation from the Board of Commissioners of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. The rating is based on a survey of the hospital facilities, its services to the public and its medical staff.

The Commission is composed of the following member organizations: American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Hospital Association, American Medical Association and Canadian Medical Association.

The survey covered the following departments: physical plant, administration, medical staff organization, medical records department, clinical laboratory, X-ray department, nursing service, and dietary departments.

MEANS MUCH TO HOSPITAL

Full accreditation means that a hospital is provided with a safe, sanitary physical plant, that it possesses an organized, competent and ethical medical staff, that its medical records are accurate and complete, clinical work is reviewed periodically, that fee-splitting is prohibited.

Adequate diagnosis and therapeutic facilities, including a clinical laboratory, supervised by a registered pathologist, and operated by a Sister of Mercy who is a registered medical technologist, an X-ray department under the direction of a registered radiologist, are provided.

The standardized accredited hospital is an important pillar in the edifice of modern surgery, its most important function being the protection of the patient. This means the enforcement of standards determined by the medical profession as based only upon professional ability and moral integrity. It is the responsibility of the administrator and the Board of Trustees to insist that professional attainment and moral character determine the composition of its medical staff, and staff privileges be limited to such a qualified staff.

Hospital accreditation is freedom in action. It has resulted in the raising of the quality of medical

time to other interests. Busy as they have been in their own business, Fred and Arthur Putnam have been always vitally interested in the betterment and growth of Houlton and Aroostook. Their contributions to the civic development of this area are innumerable.

With the passing of the years, more and more products have been added to the items marketed by Putnam Brothers Company. In addition to motor and diesel fuels, lubricating oils and greases, Putnam Brothers Company also handles heating oils, household insecticides, specialty items and a complete line of tires, tubes, batteries and automotive accessories.

OWNS SERVICE STATIONS

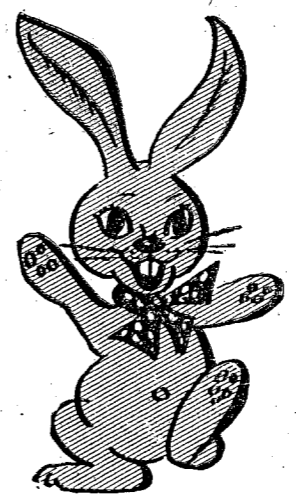
The Company owns a number of service stations, with more being added yearly. Forty-three employees are presently in the service of the company. A fleet of tank trucks serves Gulf dealers and consumers in this area. Only a few years ago a modern warehouse was built in Houlton by the company to accommodate its tire, battery and accessory line.

Although Putnam Brothers Company can point to an interesting record in the past, its management has eyes fixed on the future. Several older service stations are currently undergoing modernization, and ultra-modern new stations are being erected. When Houlton observes its 200th birth-

day, Putnam Brothers Company expects to be able to review another 50 years of service and good citizenship in Houlton and Aroostook County.

Mr. John C. McIntyre is soon to remove his stock, and the American Express office, to quarters in the new building recently erected by E. Woodbury, Esq. on Mechanic street.—Aroostook Times, Nov. 12, 1885.

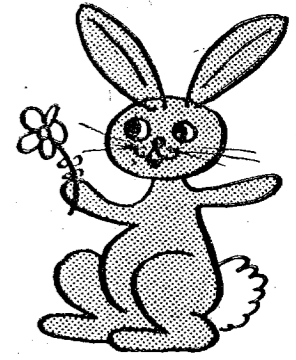
Workmen are engaged on the frame of the St. John Episcopal church, Main street. The edifice is to be erected this fall. The stone foundation walls were laid during last summer.—Aroostook Times, October 15, 1885.



Warm Congratulations!

Houlton's twin anniversaries this week are heartwarming indeed.

The entire State of Maine salutes Aroostook's county seat and the hale and hearty hometown newspaper that serves so well the community of which Houlton is the heart.



The Pioneer Times can point with very real pride to its century of service, the last quarter of it under the able leadership of its publisher, Bernard E. Esters.

In America's field of home-town journalism, your "Bunny" Esters has given distinct credit and nation-wide prominence to Houlton by his devoted and able contributions to the National Editorial Association. Bringing NEA members to Maine for their annual convention which brought the state priceless publicity in 1936, Bunny went on to become NEA's president.

For their many, many contributions to the greater good of their community, we of a sister home-town newspaper at the other end of the state offer to Bunny and Marcia our warm congratulations on this, the hundredth anniversary of their fine newspaper and on their twenty-five years of association with it.

THE BRUNSWICK RECORD

PAUL K. NIVEN, Editor and Publisher
JERRY WILKES, Superintendent
CAMPBELL B. NIVEN, Advertising Manager

a registered medical technologist, raising of the quality of medical
an X-ray department under the di care in hospitals, without compl-

vice station.

MANY CHANGES

Many a change has occurred in the oil business during this span, which has seen the motor age come into its own. From 1912, when kerosene lamps were in universal use and automobiles were a rarity, until today when petroleum products are widely used in every home and the highways are crowded with motor vehicles, Putnam Brothers Company has kept pace with the increasing demand for oil and its companion products.

The history of the Company is a story of service to the people of Northern Maine — service which has resulted in extensive growth of the business.

It was in 1908 that two brothers, Fred L. and Arthur O. Putnam, jointly purchased the interests of the late R. L. Turney who operated a hardware store in the location now occupied by the Chain Apparel Shop. Graduates of Bowdoin College, Arthur and Fred became the proprietors of Putnam Hardware Company which soon was to become Putnam Brothers Company.

FIRST PURCHASES IN 1910

This company made its first purchases from what was then the Gulf Refining Company in 1910, when kerosene, motor oil and axle grease were included in the stock of the hardware store. It was not until 1912 that the Putnam boys bought their first gasoline, in drum lots.

The first Gulf Gasoline pump in Aroostook was set up at the curb in front of the hardware store in Market Square in 1914, and in that same year Putnam Brothers Company installed its first small bulk storage plant in Houlton. Having noted that the sales of gasoline, which they hand-pumped out of 55-gallon drums into one- and five-gallon cans, were steadily rising, the Putnams ventured into the oil business in a more whole-hearted way.

sion or government enactment.

Buildings can house people but only people can insure quality care to patients. It is with this realization that full credit for the accomplishment of our goal, which was set, when the Joint Commission for Hospital Accreditation was organized in December 6, 1952, goes to those whose untiring efforts deserve it, the physicians, the trustees, the administration in each hospital department, in whole, the entire hospital family.

service customers all summer. When winter came the tank was mounted on a sled, and the horses could cover ten or 12 miles a day. Dealers used hand pumps of the "Visi-Gauge" variety whereby gas was pumped by hand into a five gallon glass container on top, and drained through the delivery hose by gravity.

Principal products in the early days of the company were Gulf kerosene, gasoline and Supreme motor oil. Kerosene was used to light the lamps of Aroostook, for electric lights were yet to be universally used. The first automobiles arrived about 1912, including such makes as the Nyberg, long since departed, and Ford, Cadillac, Studebaker, Packard and Buick, still on the market. Trucks were few until the 1920's.

EXPANDED TERRITORY

Putnam Brothers Company confined its activities to the Houlton area until the end of World War I, when expansion was begun. As demand increased and the business developed, additional bulk storage plants were built to service various sections of the territory, until today 16 such plants serve the needs of Gulf customers in the Putnam Brothers Company area north of Old Town and Milo, a distance of about 230 miles, north and south.

The company expanded its activities into Canada in the early 1920's. Gulf products were hauled from the Houlton bulk plant to Woodstock, Hartland and Meductic, N. B., and from Fort Fairfield to Perth-Andover and Grand Falls, N. B.

In 1928, Putnam Brothers Limited, a Canadian company, was formed. As the Canadian business expanded, water storage facilities were installed in St. John, N. B., where tanker shipments were received direct from Gulf refineries in Texas, Providence, R. I., and Bayonne, N. J. From this St. John plant, the Company shipped product by tank car to various bulk storage plants throughout the Maritime Provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

CANADIAN INTERESTS SOLD

In 1936 the Putnam Canadian interests were sold to the British-American Oil Company. Since that time the business has been confined to northern Maine.

Among the early dealers in Gulf products in Houlton were L. R. Ingraham, Elbridge E. Bell and Harry Cates,—names still in evidence in the automotive field to-

the Company in 1945 to devote his



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