

in 1949 and occupied in early 1950 for handling wholesale items. This building was constructed of concrete and steel and has a sprinkler system to make it as fireproof as possible. The operation of this building has been speeded up by the use of a fork lift truck thus eliminating a great deal of manual handling.

James M. Piercé has now been with the firm 50 years; Percy Campbell, 32 years; Clarence Lee, 27 years; Neal Bither, who has charge of the retail store, has 28 years of service; Ralph Black, 23; Gordon Fitzpatrick, 24 and Paul Reed, 23.

Francis Pierce worked several summers learning the job while he was attending school and has been active steady for 14 years. The following other records have been established: Gene Brown has been with the firm 15 years, George Brown, 15 years; Bob Hawkins, 11; Art Brewer, 10; Vonal Tracy, nine; John McCann, eight; Mac Embleton, eight; Merle Tyrrell, four; David Carson, five; Lee Cummings, three; Leo Archer, two; Billy Fitzpatrick, one; Leo Crafts, one and one half, which make a total of three hundred and fifteen years service by all of the personnel.

An Italian is around town selling pampas grass and ostrich feathers. —Aroostook Times, Nov. 5, 1885.

Charles H. Sleeper has sold the old landmark, the tavern stand on Bangor street, which he has occupied for many years, to Mr. Frank W. Titcomb, who will utilize the property in his extensive lumbering business. — Aroostook Times, Oct. 2, 1890.

Second Costly Fire on Main Street in a Year



The ruined shell of the Thibodeau block can still be seen standing in the background as fire again visits that neighborhood of the business section in 1910 and destroyed the Burnham block and adjoining buildings. Burned out was the restaurant of Ed Keating, the shoe repair shop, of Ben Rideout, Dalton's barber shop, the Fashion, ladies' garment store owned by Nathan Weston, and Mrs. Fowler's boarding house.

Aroostook General Was First Hospital In County; Started Nursing School

At the turn of the century hospitals were not as common as they are today. The doctor made his call at the home, he usually dispensed medicine that was needed to cure the patient or performed the operation at the home.

The late Dr. T. S. Dickison con-

ceived the idea that Houlton needed a hospital, a place where doctors could pool their surgical and medical facilities and thus render better medical and surgical care to the community. Dr. Dickison's vision of the future was so vivid that he started the first hospital for Aroostook County. He called it the Aroostook General Hospital. It had ten beds and the day it was opened in 1903, all of the beds were taken. Within a few days three cots had to be set up in the corridors.

NURSING SCHOOL

A school was immediately started for the training of nurses. The late Miss Annie Buck was hired as supervisor and performed a much valued service for Houlton and the surrounding towns. The training school was operated for nearly 40 years and it graduated highly trained and well qualified nurses recognized as such throughout New England.

First Town Officers

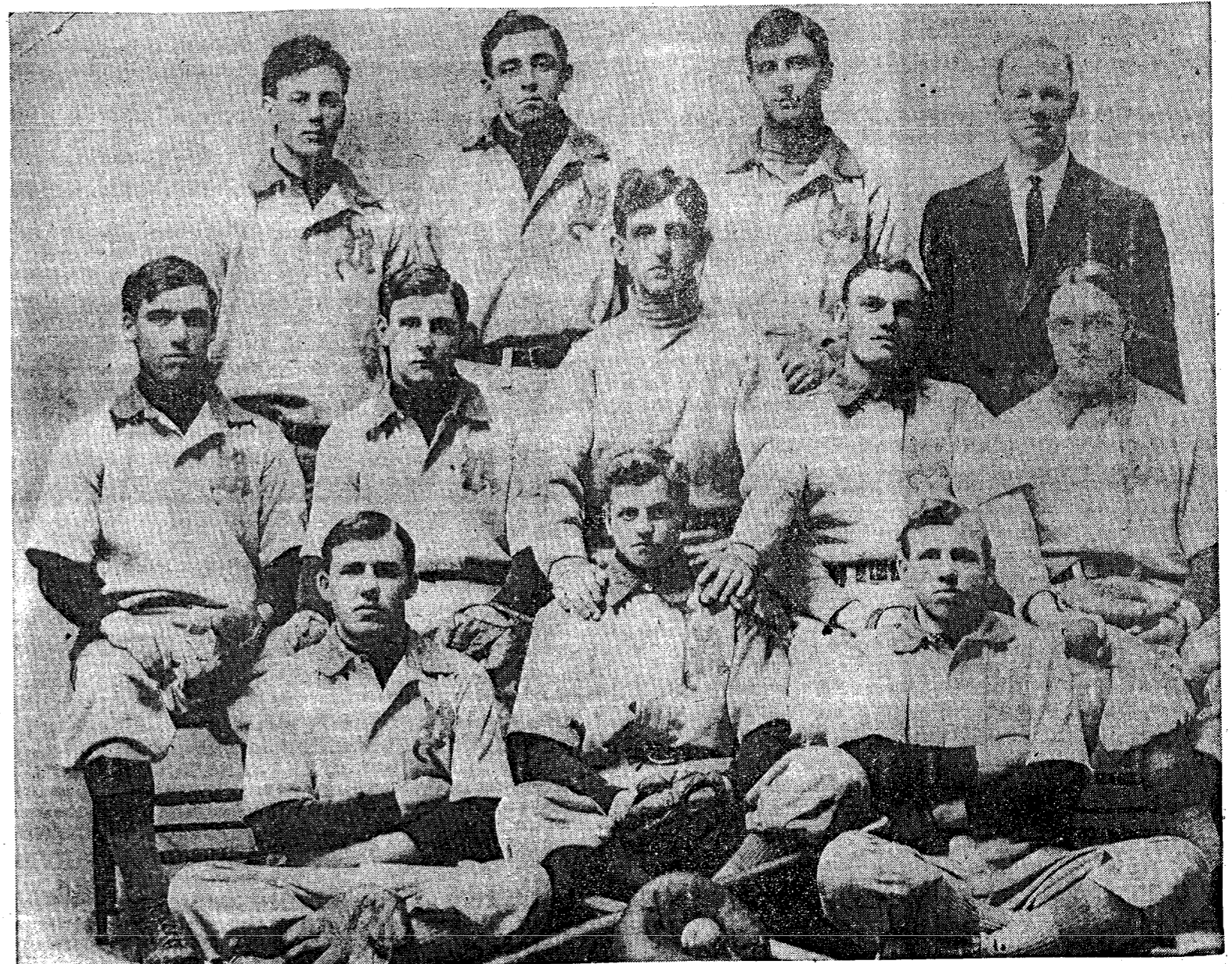
The first town meeting of the citizens of Houlton for the election of town officials was held April 4, 1831, only a short time after its incorporation as a town. James Lauder was elected moderator of the meeting which also chose Eleazer Packard, Luther Pearce and S. Cook as its first board of selectmen. The latter was also named town clerk. Joseph Houlton, Jr., was elected town treasurer and the school committee was made up of S. Cook, Luther Pearce and Joshua Putnam.

when the roof was raised to make the hospital a full three story building. The veranda was also incorporated into the building making it much wider than formerly. It then became a 42 bed hospital.

In 1914 an X-ray was installed which was the forerunner of the modern X-ray equipment the hospital now owns.

Dr. Dickison, foreseeing that team work was necessary for success, organized the hospital into a corporation in 1910. It operated as such until 1936 when it was

One of Ricker's More Famous Baseball Teams of 1910



Front row, left to right, Bill Milliken, Cedric Adams, Ralph Tilley; second row, Alton Titcomb, Sam Fraser, Martin Leighton, Marvin Peaslee, Jap Nickerson. Back row, Jap Haggerty, Frank Baker, Hector Carpenter, Eke Johnson, coach.

A Favorite Haunt of Young Fry Forty Years Ago



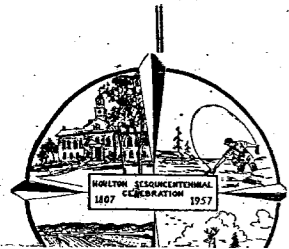
served from December 10, 1921 to May 15, 1923; Verne C. Beverly, who retired last November after serving more than 33 years, from July 1, 1923 to November 30, 1956; and now James A. Robinson, who was appointed on January 16 of this year.

Thanks to the assistance of the Houlton Chamber of Commerce, a separate Extension Service office was established in Houlton during the time Bryce M. Jordan was assistant county agent. Previous to that time, the assistant county agents had worked out of the Presque Isle Extension office and consequently were not as

CONGRATULATIONS HOULTON . . .

on this your
150th
BIRTHDAY

AND TO THE





... AND TO THE
HOULTON PIONEER
TIMES ON YOUR
100 YEARS OF
SERVICE IN
AROOSTOOK COUNTY

The COUNTRY STORE

BANGOR ROAD
HOULTON
Ruth Kirk, Prop.



Congratulations

to

HOULTON

on this your

150th BIRTHDAY

... and to the Houlton
Pioneer Times for your
100 years of service to
Aroostook County.



1807
1957

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

CATALOG ORDER OFFICE

66 Main Street

Phone 2242

HOULTON

New England.

Dr. Dickison was a good hospital manager and under his direction the hospital prospered. His first aim was to see that the patient paid his bill and his fee nearly always came second. Dr. Dickison did not operate the hospital alone but with the counsel and advice of the other doctors who were on the medical staff.

EXPANDED THREE TIMES

Under Dr. Dickison's dynamic direction the hospital was expanded three times, namely in 1912 and 1917 and a major expansion in 1922

such until 1936 when it was changed into a voluntary and charitable corporation. Taxes were then becoming a problem and the \$3 a day charge for a private room and the \$2 a day charge for the wards (which was charged in 1903) had to be doubled.

A CHANGE FORESEEN

After Dr. Dickison retired, due to age, the hospital went in a sideways condition for several years. In 1946, Dr. Gordon N. Johnson, then treasurer, sensed a new trend of hospitals throughout the nation. He realized that hospitals were not only for the doctors but for the community as well and only through community participation in the hospital's affairs would the community be willing to share financial responsibility. Such as that needed to be taken in order to obtain the most up-to-date medical and surgical facilities as well as diagnostic facilities which are constantly and rapidly growing.

A board of trustees composed of laymen was organized in 1946 and its first step was to bring the physical condition of the hospital up-to-date and with the assistance of the entire community, money was generously contributed for a new wing. Oscar P. Benn, the hospital's president, has given unsparingly of his time and experience and has kept the hospital on a "break-even" basis.

ONE MILLION GAINED

Under Mr. Benn's leadership in ten years time the hospital had gained nearly one million dollars in assets. Many large donations have been received and memorials have been made by these generous contributions. Under the will of the late S. L. and Stella K. White a large donation was realized which has mainly made the completion of the new wing possible. Today the hospital has the most up-to-date X-ray equipment that is available and a well-equipped laboratory. Upon completion of the new wing the hospital will have a most modern delivery suite, nursery and maternity rooms.

The Aroostook General Hospital enjoys having the only physiotherapy department east of Bangor. Miss Helen Turney, R.N., has been superintendent of the hospital for the past ten years and under her guidance the hospital has a well organized, competent and courteous corps of nurses and aides.

FREE BED ASSOCIATION

The late Mrs. W. C. Donnell founded, many years ago, the auxiliary known as the Free Bed



This was Millar's candy store always richly permeated with the heavenly smell of fresh roasted peanuts, the nose tickling aroma of candy being made, all mixed with the scents of coffee and spices. The ice cream counter in the rear sold the biggest ice cream cones in town, and put a cherry on top in addition. John Millar himself stands in the aisle and at his right is Rose Campbell, now Mrs. Burns McIntyre, who was employed there for many years.

Agriculture Has Had A Very Strong Influence on The Economy of Houlton

By John W. Manchester
Associate Extension Editor

University of Maine

Agriculture has had a vital and influential impact on Houlton and its growth during the 100 years since the founding of what is now the Houlton Pioneer

Association and under the capable leadership of the late Mrs. Charles P. Barnes, this association became an invaluable asset to the hospital because, through its most willing members, many thousands of dollars worth of new equipment has gone into the hospital.

A man who has contributed most generously and has made the present delivery suite possible is a beloved physician of the entire southern Aroostook county, Dr. P. L. B. Ebbett. Dr. Ebbett was for many years, after the retirement of Dr. Dickison, the head of the hospital and to him the community owes a debt of gratitude.

Today the Aroostook General Hospital has a payroll of over \$75,000 and will handle over \$175,000 in operation for the year 1957 thus playing an important role in the business of the community as well as taking care of the sick.

Southern Aroostook has been, and still is, basically an agricultural area.

As a result, farming in this area has moulded and shaped the development of Houlton and the surrounding towns. Various other agricultural industries have played a part, but potatoes have emerged as by far the most important. The economy of Houlton thrives in direct proportion to the potato marketing season. A good year means good business in both sales and services, while a poor season results in a drop in sales and services and in a lessened ability by folks to pay their bills.

HEALTHY INDUSTRY

This means that the good health of the potato industry is vital to everyone in the Houlton area. Other agricultural enterprises of importance here include forestry, dairying, oats, sheep, beef, peas, snap beans, hay and poultry, among others.

Recognizing the need for agricultural information in Southern Aroostook County, the Extension Service of the University of Maine has served the area from county offices since May 1, 1917. At that time, John L. Scribner, a graduate of the University of Maine, was employed as the first county agent

in Aroostook. He had offices in Presque Isle and served Aroostook County for nearly four years. John H. Philbrick was acting county agent for more than eight months in 1921.

COUNTY AGENTS

Other Aroostook county agents of the Extension Service have been Edward W. Morton, who

and consequently were not as easily available to farm people.

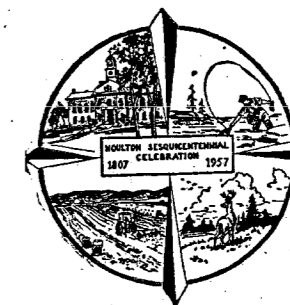
Previous assistant county agents working out of Presque Isle were John H. Philbrick, 1917 to 1923; Harry E. Bickford, who filled in for seven months in 1921; Clinton E. Small, 1923 to 1927; Robert A. Ttate, 1927 to 1929; and Richard C. Dolloff, 1929 to 1936. Dolloff is now county agent leader for the Extension Service, with headquarters at the University of Maine in Orono.

SEPARATE OFFICE

Bryce Jordan served Southern Aroostook as assistant county agent from March 16, 1936 to July 31, 1944. As mentioned, it was during that time that a separate Extension office was established in Houlton to serve the entire Southern Aroostook area—a large territory in itself.

Paul N. Mosher, now Extension Service crops specialist who is the potato growing authority for Maine, worked as assistant county agent in Southern Aroostook from August 16, 1944 to April 21, 1947. Paul had his headquarters in Houlton throughout his tenure as did Clement S. Dunning, who succeeded him July 1, 1947. Dunning served Southern Aroostook for about ten years, leaving this spring to become county

BEST WISHES HOULTON . . .



ON THIS YOUR
150th
BIRTHDAY

... and to the Houlton
Pioneer Times on your
100 Years of Service in
Aroostook County.

Rogerson Memorial Co.
51 BANGOR STREET HOULTON