

Historic Lewiston

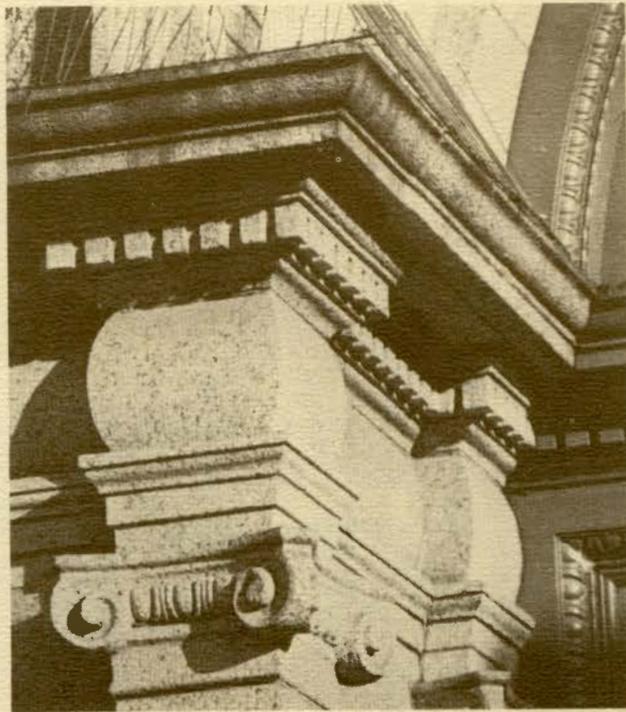
Its
Government

Historic Lewiston

Its Government

by

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Preface

This pamphlet is the third in a series prepared by the Lewiston Historical Commission. The first, *Franco-American Origins*, emphasizes one of Lewiston's outstanding characteristics, its Franco-American heritage. The second, *A Textile City in Transition*, relates the change from an agricultural community to a company mill town and the recent transition to a diversified economy. In all three there is extensive use of unpublished material to which local residents and especially students do not have easy access.

The authors are grateful for the assistance of all members of the Historical Commission who offered information and constructive criticism during the four years of preparation, to the staff of the Lewiston Public Library, to mayors and their relatives who granted interviews and to the Lewiston city government for its financial assistance.

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State of Maine. In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six. ^{Chapter 22.} An Act to establish the divisional line between the towns of Lisbon, Lewiston and Green. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in Legislature assembled, That a line lately surveyed by Joseph Norris, Esquire, as the divisional line between the Plymouth Company and the Pejepscot Proprietors, and a line commencing at the Southwest termination thereof, and running Southwest to Androscoggin river, be, and the same hereby is established, as the true line, dividing the towns of Lisbon and Lewiston, in the county of Lincoln; and that the line as surveyed by the said Norris, shall also be the dividing line, between the towns of Lisbon, in the county of Lincoln, and Green, in the county of Kennebec: Provided, however, that all taxes now assessed on polls and estates, in the several towns above mentioned, shall be levied and collected in the same manner and form, as if this Act had never been passed.

In the House of Representatives, February 2^d, 1826.
This Bill, having had three several readings,
passed to be enacted.

John Ruggles Speaker.

In Senate, February 4, 1826. This Bill, having
had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

Jonas Wheeler, President,

February 6., 1826. Approved.

Abner K. Parrie

Chapter 1

Part I. Town Government

When writing his History of Lewiston published in 1882, J.G. Elder stated: "The municipal history of the plantation of Lewiston is entirely lost." The plantation form was utilized when there were too few people to incorporate as a town. At their annual meetings the residents would elect officers and raise money as in towns, but the assessors served in place of selectmen. No state or county taxes were usually levied.

In 1794 the inhabitants of the plantation petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts to be incorporated as a town and joined with Gore (a piece of land left over from the even division into townships) in Lincoln County. Androscoggin County as we know it today was not created until 1854 when portions of Cumberland, Lincoln, Kennebec, and Oxford were combined. Governor Samuel Adams signed the act of incorporation on February 18, 1795, and the voters met in April and named their first Board of Selectmen.

Under town government there was a large number of officials considering the relatively small population of approximately 7,000 when the following list was published in the Lewiston and Auburn Directory for 1859:

- 3 Selectmen and Assessors
- Town Clerk
- Treasurer
- Collector of Taxes
- Auditor of Accounts
- Supervisor of Schools
- 5 constables

- 3 fence viewers
- 10 surveyors of lumber
- 13 measurers of wood and bark
- 1 culler of staves
- 1 sealer of weights and measures
- 5 tythingmen
- 9 sextons
- 2 hog reaves
- 3 committee on truancy
- 2 nightwatchmen
- 3 police and 7 Sunday police
- 3 health committee

In the period when all of Maine was considering separation from Massachusetts, the inhabitants of Lewiston voted several times:

		for	against
	1797	40	0
	1807	no return received	
May	1816	49	62
Sept.	1816	73	83
	1819	92	36

Thus Lewiston, as the rest of the state, finally swung over to favor separation, which was accomplished in the Missouri Compromise. The passage of a new federal law on coasting trade had convinced them that they would suffer no trade injury by separation from Massachusetts.

FORTIETH LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

No. 23.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
SIXTY-ONE.

AN ACT to incorporate the city of Lewiston.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in Legislature assembled, as follows :*

SECTION 1. The inhabitants of the town of Lewiston,
2 in the county of Androscoggin, shall continue to be a
3 body politic and corporate by the name of the city of
4 Lewiston ; and as such, shall have, exercise and en-
5 joy, all the rights, immunities, powers, privileges and
6 franchises, and be subject to all the duties and obliga-
7 tions now appertaining to, or incumbent upon, said
8 town as a municipal corporation, or appertaining to,
9 or incumbent upon, the inhabitants or selectmen there-

Stevens & Bayward, Printers to the State.

Part II. Early City Government

In the Civil War era, Lewiston decided to ask for incorporation as a city and appealed to the state legislature. The act was approved by Governor Israel Washburn, Jr. on March 15, 1861 and submitted to Lewiston voters in referendum on November 22, when 124 voted yes and only 9 voted no. The voters selected Jacob B. Ham their first mayor on March 16, 1863.

Under city government the executive authority went to two bodies. The Mayor presided over the Board of Aldermen (composed of one from each of seven wards), while the Common Council was composed of three per ward. These two bodies had a veto over each other and served without compensation. All were elected annually on the first Monday of March and then proceeded to name the sub-officers. The work was done by joint standing committees of the Council and Aldermen: Finance, Accounts, Public Property, Highways, Drains and Sewers, Fire Department, Schools, Engrossed Bills and Ordinances, and Printing. Many of the titles of officials were the same as in town government. However, the Selectmen were replaced by Assessors and Overseers of the Poor and the following were added: city physician, engineer and four assistants, poundkeeper (in place of hog reaves), school committee, street commissioner, liquor agent, superintendent of burials, and city solicitor.

A few of the annual salaries are of interest: Mayor, \$200; City Clerk, \$150; Engineer, \$20; School Committee, \$100 each; assessors, physician, overseers of poor and solicitor, \$75 each; treasurer and auditor, \$50 each.

In this period, the meetings were held in rented rooms until a city building was completed in December, 1872. It cost \$234,000 and housed not only the city government but also the municipal courts, the public library, the post office, and a restaurant in the basement. This city hall burned in January, 1890.

Every few years amendments were submitted to the State Legislature for approval since cities in Maine did not enjoy "home rule." For example, the Police Court was replaced by the Municipal Court, the School Board was elected by wards, the Mayor and Aldermen assumed the duties of the Overseers of the Poor, the Board of Public Works was created, the Treasurer could no longer be the Tax Collector and the Common Council was abolished in 1920. A survey of the list of city officials in 1915 shows most of the earlier ones and the addition of a committee on the reduction of the debt, a water commission, a fire commission, an inspector of wires, an inspector of milk and vinegar, and a superintendent of hacks. As living conditions changed in the city, the government tried to adapt and became somewhat unwieldy.

*In the House of Representatives,
March 15/1861. This
bill having had three several
readings passed to
be enacted.*

J. H. Main Speaker

*In Senate March 15/1861.
This bill having had two
several readings passed
to be enacted.*

*J. H. Goddard President
March 15/1861. Approved*

Israel Washburn Jr



Part III. The "New" Charter

The movement to secure a major revision of the charter was initiated by the society called the Vigilants when they formally requested Mayor Donat J. Levesque to name a non-partisan committee to work on the project. The old charter had been revised to the point that it had become a hodge-podge.

Further, during depression days the extent of corruption in the city government made it necessary to seek a solution. For many years there had been growing problems. For some people graft had become an accepted mode of operation and they caused politics to become a dirty word. Control of the Police Commission was taken over by the state. Corrupt practices by the Board of Education led to state supervision in that department also in 1937. Teachers and janitors had been buying their jobs. In a report on November 16, 1938 Albert Moriarty (secretary to the mayor) indicated that in his investigation of the Welfare Department he found that all the city's meat business had been given to one firm which had charged 5 cents a pound more than necessary. Milk accounts were sold to certain dealers for a 2 cent gratuity, and free milk was delivered to the homes of the city officials involved.

Certain provisions of the charter were ignored. The mayor's salary was legally set at \$600 per annum, yet for twenty years he had been paid more. The Mayor and Aldermen were in actuality selected by the party caucuses rather than by the democratic city wide election. The financial plight of the city was serious, there being a \$200,000 deficit. Loans were secured to pay current

expenses, not just in anticipation of taxes. The city had borrowed \$100,000 to pay part of its state tax. The borrowing capacity had been reduced to \$150,00 at the time, but by summer at least \$250,000 would be needed to meet obligations. Three individuals had been jailed for accepting gratuities for votes, and one was in jail for misappropriating federal commodities as well as \$100 of city money.

The charter committee appointed on April 13, 1938 by Mayor Levesque included: Fernand Despins (Chairman), William B. Skelton, Dr. E.N. Giguere, W. Scott Libbey, Roland H. Faucher, Rosario G. Dubois, Frederick A. Hall, Faust D. Couture, and Frank S. Hoy (Secretary). These men had no funds provided and eventually paid all costs from their own pockets. They studied other city charters and model charters and assembled their ideas into a new charter.

The new charter was presented to the Mayor with the unanimous recommendation of the committee on December 14, 1938. On January 3, 1939 the first of many public meetings was held to explain the charter. Eventually it was endorsed officially by the Vigilants, the Lewiston Firemen, the Franco-American Political League, the Cercle Commercial, the Rotary, the Parent-Teachers Association, Le Conseil St. Joseph, the Conseil Gabriel, and five local banks..

Some of the distinctive features of the new charter were as follows:

1 .

The Mayor and Aldermen were to be elected annually (third Monday of February) on a nonpartisan ticket on which their names would appear as a result of a petition process. Election required securing a majority vote; therefore, provision was made for run-offs.

2.

The Mayor would be president of the Board of Aldermen and Chairman of the Board of Finance. He was given the power to appoint all board members without any confirmation. Also, he would appoint the city clerk for a three-year term at \$2,000 and the city counsel for one year for \$1,200. His own salary was set at \$1,200.

3.

The Aldermen were to do those thing required by state statute and receive salaries of \$10 per meeting, but not over \$200 per year.

4.

The creation of a Department of Finance was new. It consisted of five members appointed by the Mayor for five-year rotating terms. Not more than three were to be of the same political party. They would select the controller, treasurer and tax collector, auditor and assessors. They would bond employees as needed and require audits of all departments. Their compensation was set at \$10 per meeting, but not over \$400 per year.

5.

The Board of Education, composed of five members, would continue under the provisions of the Board of Education Act passed by the Legislature in 1937, but was also given playground and recreation supervision.

6.

The Health and Welfare Departments were joined together and given the task of overseeing the poor.

7.

Public Works combined Highway, Water, Lighting, Parks and Public Buildings (except schools, fire department, and city farm).

8.

The Fire Commission of three members also supervised building inspection, building permits, and wiring inspection.

9.

The Police Commission of three members was to continue to be appointed for six-year terms by the Governor and would name constables, dog officers and a sealer of weights and measures. The committee feared that any attempt to treat the selection of this commission like the others would cause the State Legislature to react unfavorably, and thus jeopardize the possibility of acceptance of the total charter.

10.

The Aldermen were required to give advance notice of all meetings related to ordinances. Records were to be open to public inspection. Officials could be removed for cause by a hearing in Superior or Supreme Court.

The new document was submitted by Senator Jean C. Boucher to the State legislature on January 12, 1939 with a request that it be treated as emergency legislation in order that it might be presented to the voters of Lewiston as a referendum in the regular city election in March. At the hearing before the Legislative Committee on February 1, the charter bill was presented by Attorney John D. Clifford, Jr. Delegations from several groups attended and had spokesmen: Vigilants, Cercle Commercial, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Commerce, Parent-Teacher Association, and the Business and Professional Women's Club. There were no opponent groups, and a single individual, the Mayor's secretary, appeared to "defend the good name of the city."

Only one amendment of consequence was made to the charter bill. Senator Boucher asked that all boards and commissions have a majority from the party receiving the plurality of votes in the preceding state election. Finally, on February 21, the bill was signed by Governor Lewis O. Barrows.

Opposition at home gradually appeared; most of it seemed to be politicians stirring up the Franco-American population by claiming that the new charter would take power from them. Its leaders were Mayor Levesque (who

had suddenly changed sides, saying that the charter committee which he appointed had never consulted him), Edmund Lambert and A. F. Martin (the Corporation Counsel). At one point, it became necessary for the charter committee members to disclaim any desire for appointive office. The candidate for mayor in the coming election (Edward Beauchamp) and all eight aldermanic candidates took a neutral position on the charter which led one local clergyman in his sermon to say:

"If a man running for public office is not willing to take a stand on so important a matter as the proposed charter, either he is not intelligent enough to know whether it is good or bad or he has not sufficient courage to tell what he thinks." There often appeared a veiled statement that if the new charter was not accepted there was a great likelihood that a commission of three would be named by the Governor to take over Lewiston government.

The propaganda battle continued at home in preparation for the referendum. The opposition distributed hand bills and bumper stickers with the statement: "Lewiston in this emergency needs your vote. Come to her support on Monday. Liberty-loving people vote "no" on the charter. Bureaucracy or Democracy is the issue in Lewiston." An anti-charter meeting turned into an old fashioned rally where speakers railed against the charter but more particularly against the local newspapers which were pro-charter.

In the mayoralty campaign, Albert Moriarty ran on a "Vigilance" ticket, which caused the Vigilants to complain of missappropriation of their name. Beauchamp was the Democratic caucus choice and had no comment on the charter, while Wilfred Ayotte was an outspoken opponent. Campaign action was spirited on election day, March 6, 1939. This was the last year that literature could be handed out at the polling places as a newly signed law would ban it. In the referendum there were 6229 votes in favor and 4086 in opposition with only two wards (three and seven) in opposition. Beauchamp won a major victory.

Under the terms of the new charter new candidates filed petitions for an election to be held April 10. The mayoralty slate included: Fernand Despins, Registrar of Probate and chairman of the Charter Committee; Jean C. Boucher, a general contractor and State Senator; Dr. Robert J. Wiseman, already a nine term mayor; and Edward Beauchamp, County Attorney and mayor for the shortest term in Lewiston's history--March 20 to May 8. The results necessitated a run-off between Beauchamp and Despins as well as in four wards for alderman. The tally was then 6824 for Despins and 6105 for Beauchamp; among the aldermen only one of the incumbents won office.

Mayor Despins appointed his new boards from all classes: 4 merchants, 2 retired, 2 mill workers, 1

banker, 1 physician, 2 insurance agents, 1 housewife, 1 college professor, 1 office manager, 2 salesmen, 1 railroad agent, and 1 grocer. For the first time the inauguration proceedings were broadcast, and in his speech Despina asked for:

1. perfecting the government under the new charter
2. rendering and receiving honest service
3. effecting economies and
4. a high standard of performance in public office.

Part IV. Attempts to Revise the Charter

This "new" charter has been subject over the years to many amendments by acts of the State Legislature. For instance, election was changed from February to November; the salary of the mayor was increased from \$1500 to \$3500 per year; the mayor became a full member of the Board of Finance; and the fiscal year was changed. Some sections were added such as allotments to police for uniforms, sick leave for police and firemen, and the creation of a Zoning Board and a Planning Board.

Gradually the idea grew that the Commission form of government was inefficient because of its decentraliz- ed nature. Twice there have been unsuccessful attempts to draft a new charter. The first was in 1965 when the proposal was basically to have a city administrator form with a Mayor and Board of Aldermen (two at large) elected for two year terms and an elected School Board. This document was presented to the 1966 session of the State Legislature but met with defeat there.

In 1970 the State Legislature passed a Home Rule Bill. The voters of a city could now make changes without consent of the legislature. In a referendum, Lewiston voters agreed to have a charter commission established to either revise the present charter or write a new one. A commission of six elected and three appointed members prepared a proposal much like the 1966 version, but it too met with defeat in a referendum on October 12, 1971 by a vote of 3193 to 3573.

Alterations in the charter continued, but the need for a full time administrator kept surfacing. Once again the voters agreed to have another charter committee composed of seven elected by ward and three appointed by the Mayor. Under chairman Robert Clifford they prepared a proposal which was submitted to the public in many open hearings. It was adopted in a special election on June 19, 1979 and became effective January 7, 1980.

Part V. The Present system of Government

The city council still consists of the mayor and seven councilors elected by ward for two year terms. The mayor, who may not have more than two successive terms draws a salary of \$3600 while the councilors have \$1800; but future salaries shall be set by the Council. The Council meets at least once a month and the city clerk serves as its secretary.

The big change was the inclusion of a city administrator. He is appointed by the city council on the basis of his executive and administrative qualifications and technical knowledge of municipal management. He shall appoint, without need of confirmation, department heads, officers and employees responsible directly to him. However, financial officers such as the treasurer and tax collector, as well as the city clerk must be confirmed by the Council. He prepares the annual budget and related reports and supervises the administration of all departments and agencies. The mayor and councilors are specifically forbidden to give orders to any city employee. The Council may remove the administrator for just cause and by an established hearing procedure.

Most of the old boards or commissions were abolished, thus giving more policy making power to the mayor and councilors. There is a Personnel Board of five appointed by the mayor for five year terms to advise the city on personnel matters, serve as a civil service commission and serve as an employee hearing appeals board in most cases. Both the Planning Board and the Board of Appeals have seven members appointed by the mayor for five year terms as long as not more than two come from the same ward. They carry out duties set by ordinance.

The School Committee which has been the subject of much debate was finally given seven members appointed by the mayor for five year terms, but one must come from each ward. Since most of the control of schools in Maine comes from the state government this committee is regulated by state law and hires all school employees.

The budget is prepared by the administrator to be submitted to the Council on December 15. Also a capital program with a five year projection must go to the Council in September. Between January 15 and March 15 final adoption occurs.

There is still a Finance Committee with very much reduced power and a new composition. The president of the Council appoints two councilors and the mayor appoints three voters to fulfill the functions of approving contracts for materials and services secured through bids and also serving as a pension board.

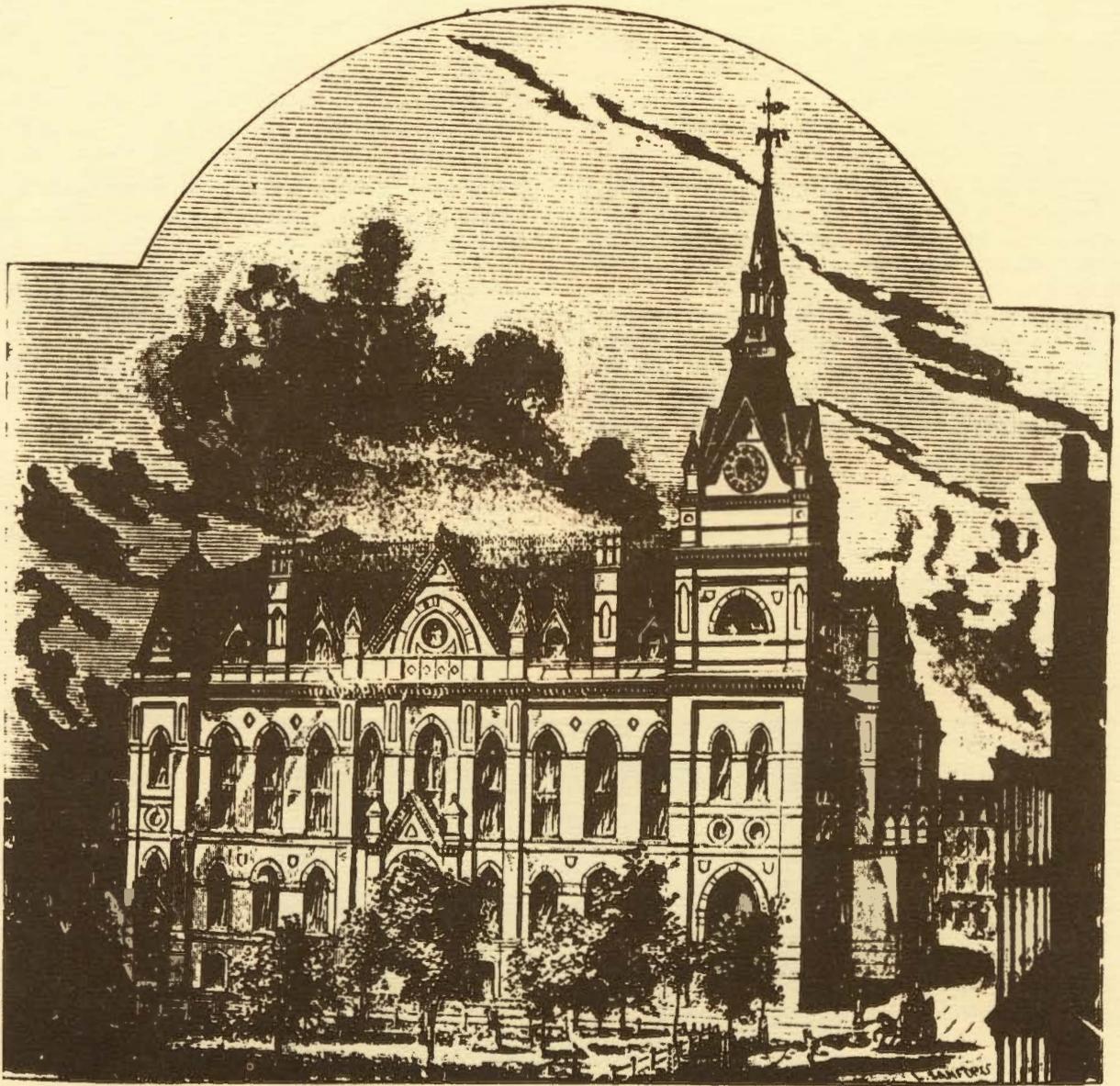
Elections are now held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in odd-numbered years. Nomination is by petition and elections are non-partisan. Office is assumed on the first Monday of January.

Continued need for revision of any system of government became evident in the first month. A Library Board of Trustees had not been included in the new charter because it was assumed by some people, that, having been created especially by terms of the Carnegie

Foundation, it was not abolished. When differing interpretations arose, a compromise was reached and spelled out in an ordinance.

The present mayor Dionne feels that an excellent beginning has been made under the new charter. Department heads and councilors understand well that the mayor and Council handle policy while the administrator handles day by day and long-range implementation. Lewiston should have a more efficient government.





Lewiston's Old City Building.

Chapter 2

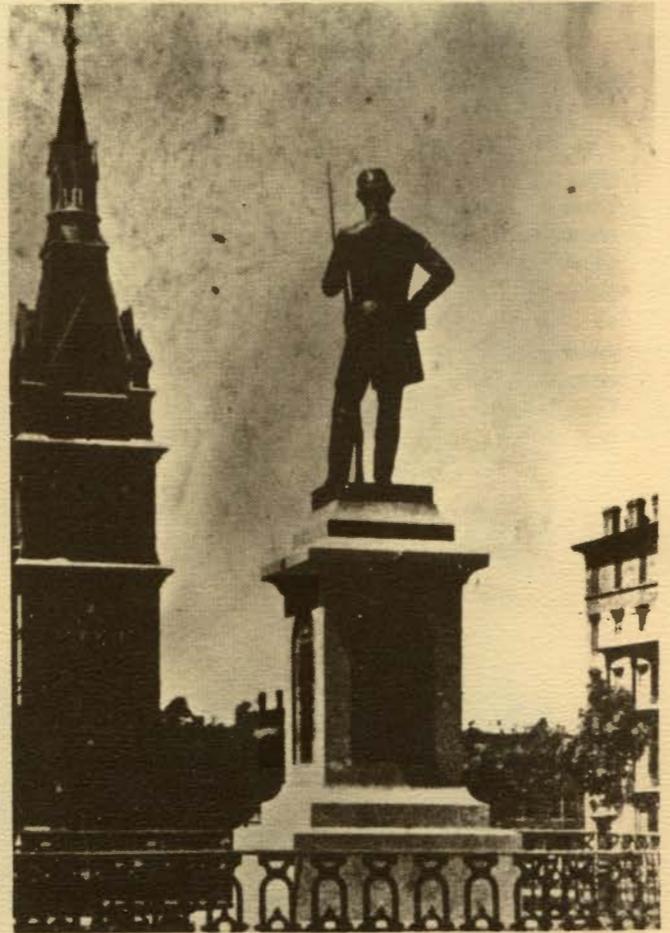
Construction of City Building

In preparation for building proper headquarters the city had purchased a lot of land at Park and Pine Streets. However it used rented rooms on Lisbon Street in Central Block until a fire occurred there in 1870. More land was acquired from Pine to Lisbon Street and in 1871 it was voted to build.

The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1871 with great ceremony. The procession started at 9:30 a.m. but the stone was finally placed at 11:30. Mayor Garcelon was the major speaker. Manderville Ludden read the Declaration of Independence and the Band concluded with playing of Yankee Doodle.

This first city building was made of brick with granite trim in a Gothic style with a mansard roof. A tower on the Pine Street side had a belfry. An idea of the size is provided by these dimensions: 165 feet on Park Street, 180 feet on Pine Street and 40 feet on Lisbon Street. There were 80 rooms and a hall which seated 2,272 people. The post office and library were housed in this building. Although originally the city appropriated \$185,000, the eventual cost was \$200,000.

Completion date was December, 1872; but this fine structure was totally demolished by fire on January 7, 1890. The box of mementoes in the cornerstone was salvaged.



The Tower From the Park

Civil War Monument 1868, The Dewitt House 1861

Immediately plans were started for a new building. The committee, chaired by former Mayor Daniel McGillicuddy visited various city halls in New England to get ideas. They rejected a design by Coombs, a local architect and selected instead the firm of Brigham and Spofford from Boston, with John Spofford doing the actual planning. The construction was handled by three firms: Bearce and Clifford for the foundation, E.S. Libby for the carpenter work and J.P. and James Murphy for the granite. The total cost (including demolition of the old building) totaled \$180,298.40.

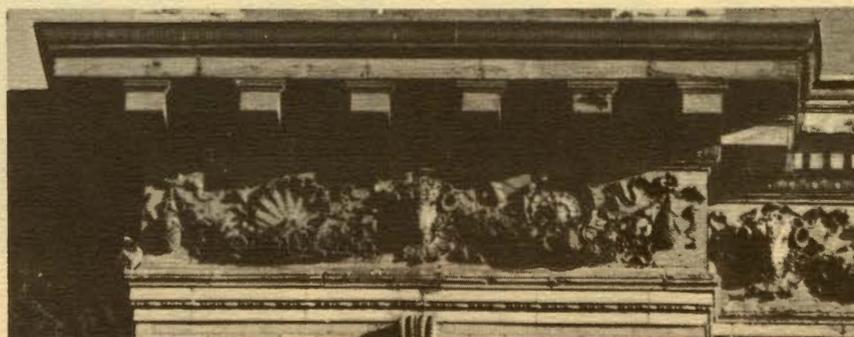
The cornerstone was laid on October 1, 1890. The actual stone is a block 3 feet 5 inches long, 18 inches wide and 1 foot high, but the "ceremonial" stone placed during the ceremonies is an irregular block. A tablet of marble carries the names of the architect, masons, and contractor. The box sealed into the cornerstone contains these among other items: Lewiston city report for 1890, the premium list for the Maine State Fair, a Bates College catalogue, Lewiston Daily Sun, Le Messenger, copy of the Bates Student, a list of water rates, horse car tickets, keys to old city hall, some old coins and several sealed envelopes from local mills. The major speeches were delivered by Mayor McGillicuddy and ex-Governor Garcelon. Again the band played Yankee Doodle as it had at the dedication of the previous city hall.

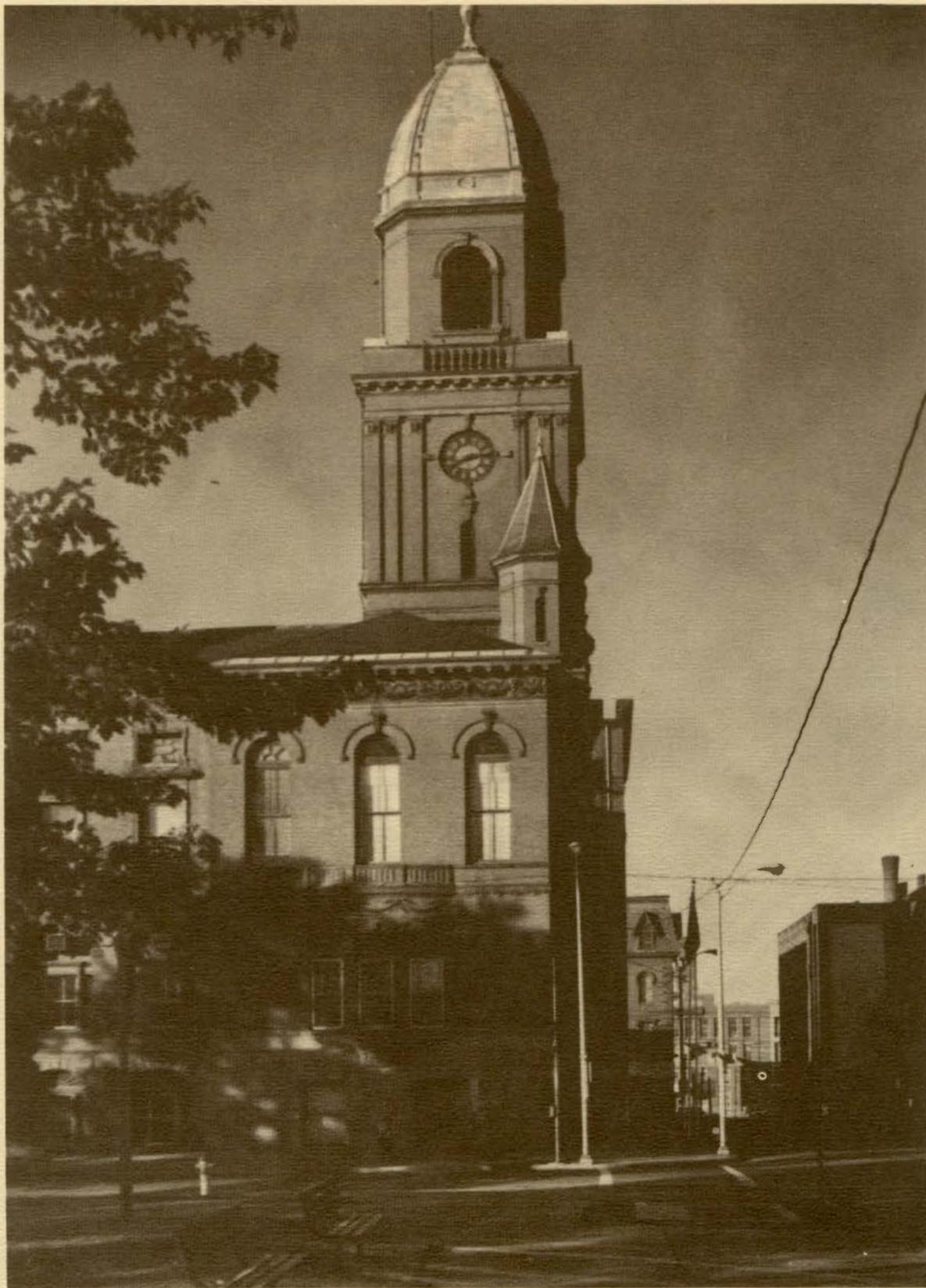
The present building extends 90 feet on Pine Street and 160 feet on Park Street. The original hall on the top floor was 167 by 86 feet with a seating capacity of 1800 on the main floor and 672 in the gallery. The spire is 185 feet, topped by a 17 foot weather vane.

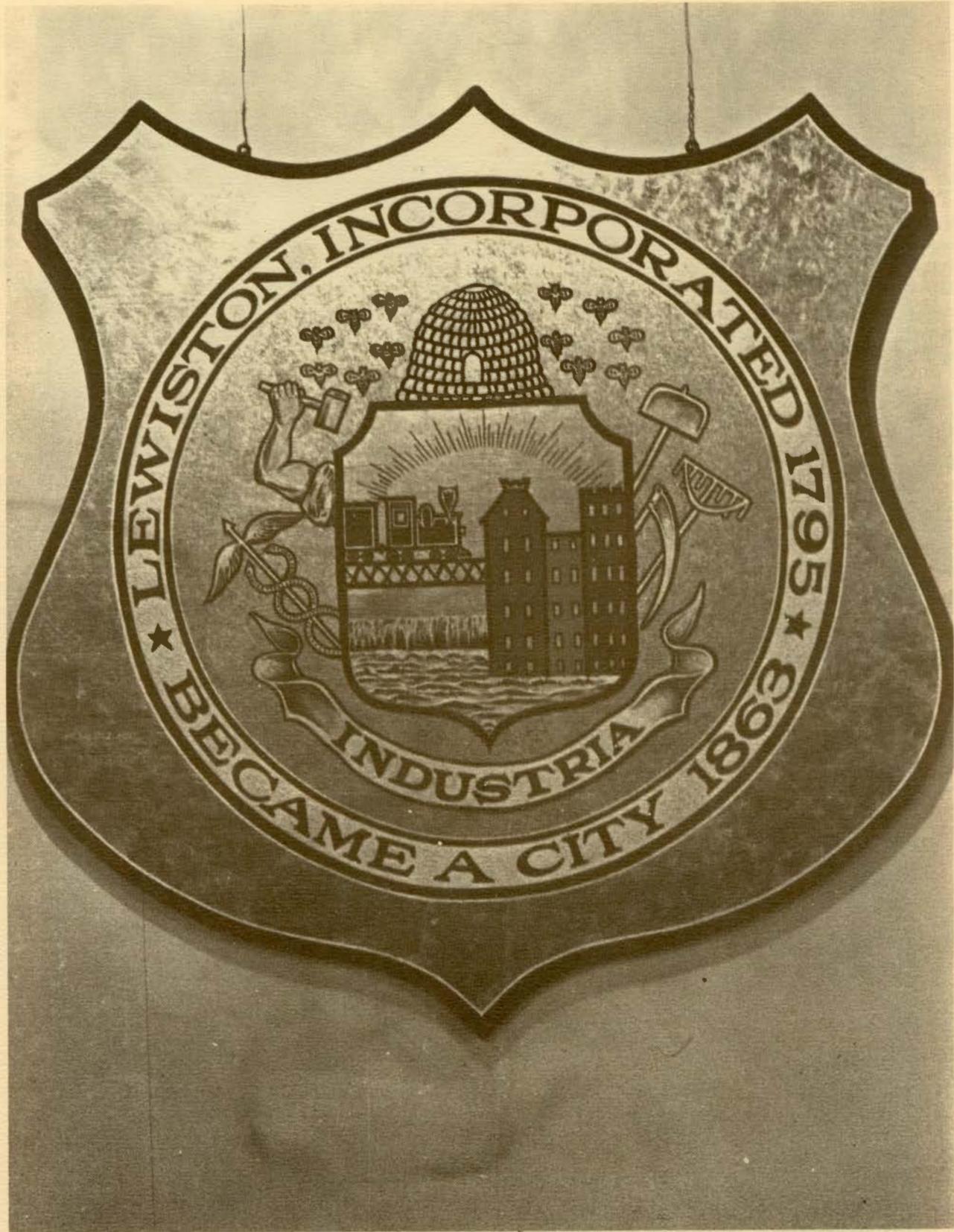
The day before the dedication it seemed improbable that all would be ready. A corps of twenty scrub women from the mills came in and made the whole spotless, so that it could be officially opened at 10 a.m. May 19, 1892. At the dedication exercises the Brigade Band played and Mayor Newell presided and introduced several speakers; among them were ex-Governor Garcelon, Mayor Chadbourne of Biddeford, Frank Noble and Rev. D.V. Gwilym. Father Wallace's words are interesting: "I hope that when you meet here....you will be as harmonious as the tints upon these walls, and will give what the people of Lewiston want, a government creditable to you and promoting the best interests of all."

On Friday evening there was a dedication ball starting with a grand march by two hundred couples. "There was nothing formal or starched about it except it be the immaculate shirt fronts of the gilded youth." The newspaper described in detail the elaborate gowns of many of the ladies.

This building is one of the significant ones in Lewiston which has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



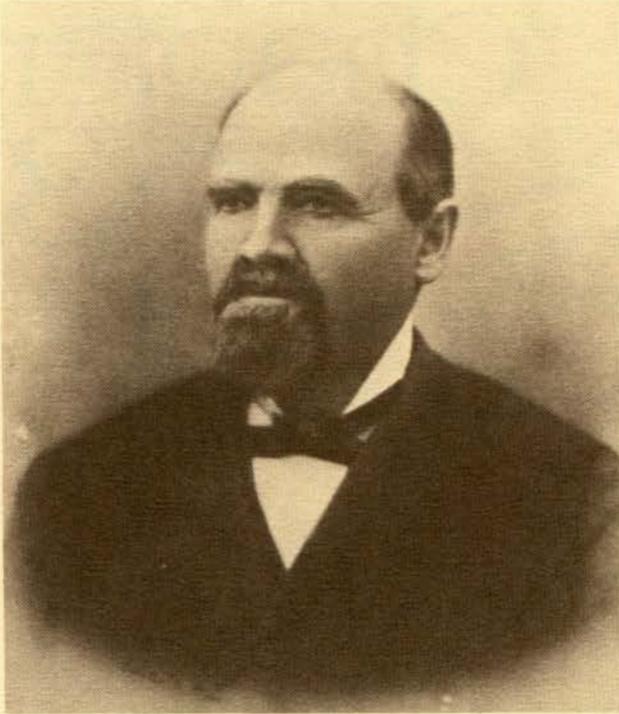




Chapter 3

Mayors of Lewiston

1863-1864	Jacob B. Ham	1913	William H. Hines
1865-1866	William P. Frye	1914	Robert J. Wiseman
1867	George H. Pilsbury	1915-1916	Louis J. Brann
1868-1869	Isaac N. Parker	1917-1920	Charles P. Lemaire
1870	William H. Stevens	1921	William H. Newell
1871	Alonzo Garcelon	1922-1924	Louis J. Brann
1872	David Cowan	1925-1929	Robert J. Wiseman
1873	N.W. Farwell	1930-1931	Harold N. Skelton
1874	H.H. Dickey	1931	Henry N. Paradis
1875-1877	Edmund Russell	1933-1935	Robert J. Wiseman
1878	Jesse S. Lyford	1936-1938	Donat J. Levesque
1879-1880	Joseph H. Day	1939	Edward J. Beauchamp (To May 8)
1881	Manderville T. Ludden	1939-1940	Fernand Despins
1882	David Farrar	1941-1942	Edmond J. Lambert
1883	Alonzo M. Garcelon	1943-1944	Jean Charles Boucher
1884	Nelson Howard	1945-1946	Alton A. Lessard
1885	Charles Walker	1947-1948	Louis P. Gagne
1886	David Cowan	1949-1950	Armand G. Sansoucy
1887	D.J. McGillicuddy	1951	Ernest Malenfant
1888-1889	Horace C. Little	1952-1953	Roland L. Marcotte
1890	D.J. McGillicuddy	1954-1955	Ernest Malenfant
1891-1892	William H. Newell	1956-1957	Georges Rancourt
1893	Seth Chandler	1958-1959	Romeo T. Boisvert
1894-1897	Frank L. Noble (J.H. Callahan acting)	1960-1961	Emile Jacques
1897	Wilbur H. Judkins	1962-1963	Donia J. Girard
1898	William H. Newell	1964	Roland L. Marcotte
1899	George Pottle	1965-1966	Robert L. Couturier
1900-1901	George W. Furbush	1967-1968	William Rocheleau, Jr.
1902	Daniel J. McGillicuddy	1969-1970	John B. Beliveau
1903-1904	William B. Skelton	1971-1972	Robert W. Clifford
1905-1906	William A. Webster	1973-1975	John C. Orestis
1907-1912	Frank A. Morey	1976-1980	Lillian L. Caron
		1980-	Paul Dionne



Jacob Barker Ham 1863 - 1864

Born on March 24, 1824, in Lewiston to Col. Ebenezer and Judith (Barker) Ham, Jacob Ham was the oldest of eleven children. After his education at Lewiston Falls Academy, he engaged in trade, owning a hay and grain store on Main Street.

His wife was Lucinda Golder and their children were Orland S., Eben J., Anna U., and Edmund P. Ham. Their home at first was the red brick house on the corner of Chapel and Lowell Streets. Later they moved to the Farwell area.

His political career began with election to the State Legislature in 1854 and 1856. He was a prominent organizer of the Republican party in Maine. In the period of 1859 - 1862, he was named a Selectman in Lewiston and in 1863 became mayor at a salary of \$200, with a reelection in 1864. He was said to show executive ability, tact, and understanding. The following quotation from his inaugural speech is of interest:

"It is to be regretted that Lisbon Street which in all probability is to be our great central business section and thoroughfare, had not been much wider than it now is; because of the character of our business in which so many people are engaged, there must be a great amount of foot travel as well as continual passing of teams and carriages. Then, too, the day is not far distant when the horse railroad will be one of the great institutions of our city and this street will be one of

the first to be used for this purpose. Indeed, at the present time, hardly sufficient to accommodate the passing throng of pedestrians and they must soon be made wider and more substantial."

Later in his career he was appointed Maine's Commissioner to the New Orleans Exposition and traveled also in nearly every state as well as Mexico, Cuba, and Europe.

This rugged character also had a fine appreciation of the rare and beautiful. He died September 3, 1888.



William Pierce Frye 1865 - 1866

One of our mayors who gained national prominence was William Pierce Frye, a Lewiston native. The son of pioneer settlers John M. and Alice M. Frye, he was born here on September 2, 1831.

Following his education in Lewiston Falls Academy, he graduated from Bowdoin College in 1850 and went to study law with William Pitt Fessenden. After admission to the bar in 1853 he practiced a short time in Rockland and then returned to Lewiston in 1853 as a partner of Thomas Fessenden, later of John B. Cotton and finally with Wallace White, his son-in-law. Much of their business was related to the textile firms.

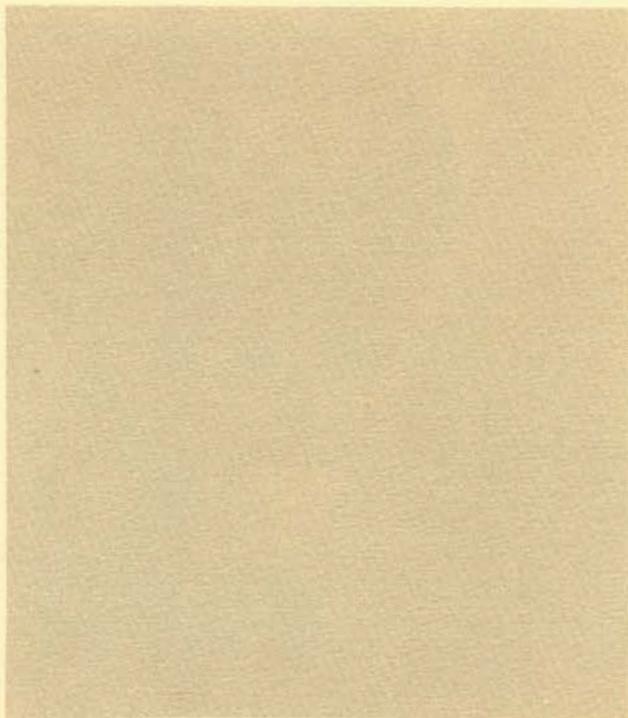
At about the same time he served as mayor, 1866-1867, he was also serving the state in the Legislature in 1861, 1862, 1867 and as Attorney General 1867 - 69. A very active Republican he was elected to Congress in 1871 and when Blaine became Secretary of State he was elected to that seat in the Senate. His special interests were in commerce and fisheries and he gained prominence as a member of the Peace Commission concluding the Spanish American War.

The Frye home was a beautiful structure at the corner of Frye and Main Streets. He had married Caroline Spear in 1853 and they had three daughters Helen Frye White and Alice Frye Briggs and Emma who died at an early age.

In his mayor's address in 1866 he refers to the fact that three schools had just been built for \$3,254 and that

the amount of \$33,000 had been appropriated for a Grammar School, which was named for him. An eloquent plea followed, commending local mills, churches and Bates College for doing their share in making this a beautiful city and urging the city fathers to do their share to hand down to their children "not only a good and useful, but a beautiful thing which shall be a joy forever".

When he died August 8, 1911 a special train brought a delegation from Washington and all business in the city closed for the services. The newspaper account stated: "Neither do we forget that in an age of graft and greed no taint has ever attached to his name and fame and after more than half century of public life he died a comparatively poor man".



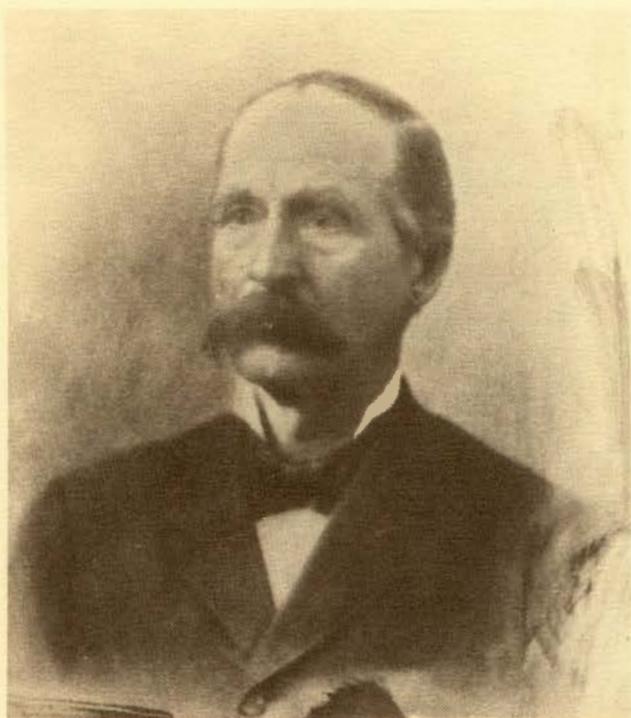
George H. Pilsbury 1867

This man will probably be our "mystery" mayor. A search of the records in the places where he was born, worked and died reveals practically nothing. It has long been noticeable in city hall that his picture is missing from those hanging in the corridor.

George Henry Pilsbury was born in Saco on April 28, 1834 to Samuel and Jane E. Pilsbury. Nothing is known of his education or his family, or what brought him to Lewiston.

He was a city councilman from 1863-1864, an alderman from 1865-1866 and then mayor. In 1872 he was the clerk and paymaster for the Franklin Company with an office in the DeWitt House block. That same year he was a signer of the petition for a charter for the Lewiston and Auburn Railroad. He was the first president of the People's Savings Bank, 1875-1879, and vice president of the Manufacturers' National Bank in 1875. A business block at the corner of Lisbon and Pine Streets bears his name. The last mention of him is in 1877-1878 when he was a member of the Water Commission which put in the Lewiston city water works.

He was a member of the local Masonic Order, but they have no records relating to him. He died in Brooklyn, New York on February 23, 1893.



Isaac N. Parker 1868, 1869

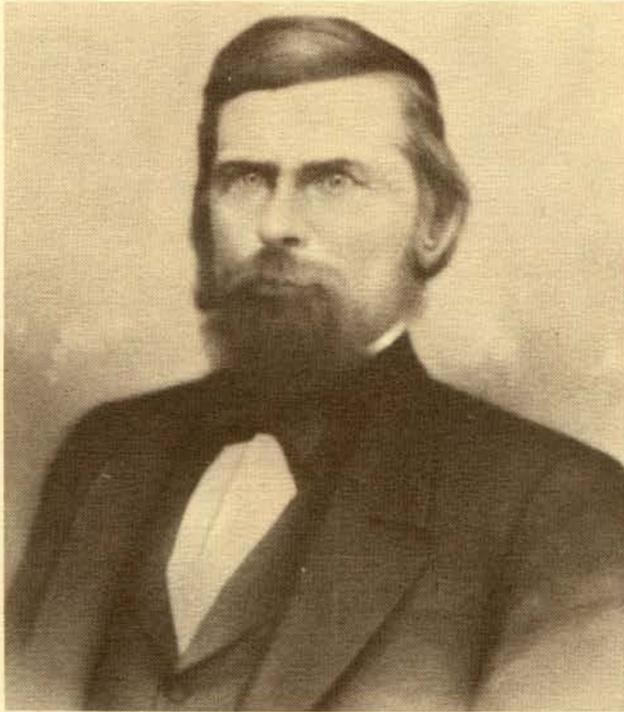
A native of New Hampshire where he was born on June 26, 1818 in Laconia, Isaac Parker was educated in the common schools there. He learned the machinist's trade and practiced it in several textile cities--Chicopee, Springfield, Manchester, New Market and Lowell. It was in Lowell that he started some civic interest as a member of the Common Council.

As the textile mills boomed he came to Lewiston to help start the Bates Mill#2 in operation in 1854 and was an overseer many years.

He was elected to the Board of Selectmen in 1856, 1858, and 1862 and city marshal 1863-64. In the same period he served the county as deputy sheriff two years and sheriff nine years. His election as mayor in 1868 was by a large majority, but the next term was by a light majority. From 1877 until his death July 18, 1881 he was an assessor of taxes.

In 1879 he was elected to the state Legislature and found his seat refused because of some supposed irregularity in reporting by the city. He fought the battle, won and was re-elected for another term.

Although admitted to the bar, he never practiced law much. Instead he engaged in the grocery business at times, and with a son operated a book and stationery business. "In his business transactions he was among the squarest of the square". He was a founder of the First Universalist Society in Lewiston and a member of Ashlar Lodge of Masons. His two sons were F.W. Parker and B.W. Parker.



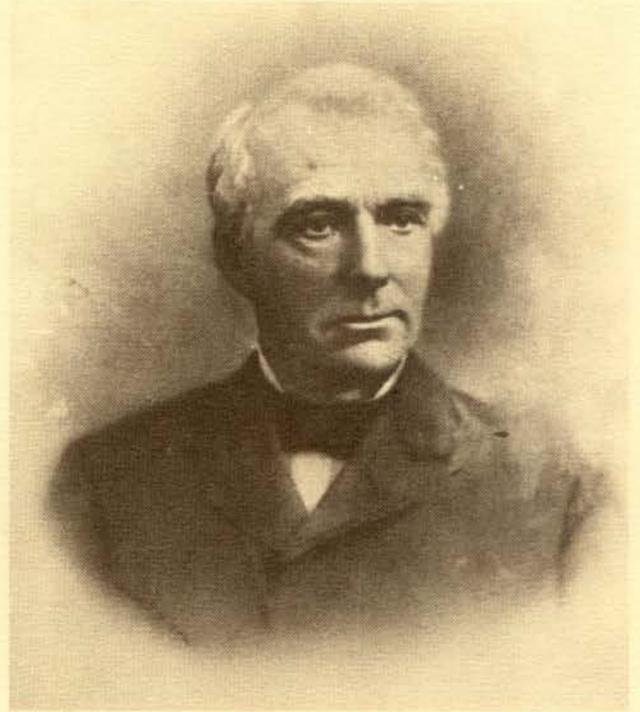
William H. Stevens 1870

Born in West Gardiner in 1818 William Stevens came to Lewiston in 1849 and purchased a home on East Avenue. He married Lydia Putnam of Rumford and had four children, three of whom survived him; Walter, Addie and Etta.

During the gold rush he went to California for four years as a builder and carpenter. After his return to Lewiston in 1855 he served many years in the textile mills as a master mechanic and hydraulic engineer before his death August 20, 1880.

In politics he was an earnest Republican (formerly a Whig). His service to the city started as a member of the Common Council in 1865. He was President of the Water Board during the construction of the Water Works and made the plans for the pumping station. He was influential in bringing about the city's purchases of the lakes from the Franklin Company.

Mr. Stevens was President of the People's Saving Bank and attended the Park Street Methodist Church.



Alonzo Garcelon 1871

A member of one of the most prominent families in the area, Alonzo Garcelon was born in Lewiston May 6, 1813. His father was Colonel William Garcelon and his mother was Mary Davis, (daughter of David Davis).

His education was in several locations- Lewiston public schools, Monmouth Academy, Waterville Academy, Newcastle Academy, and then he graduated from Bowdoin College in 1836. He taught the winter terms in public schools several times during his career. After teaching a year at Alfred Academy he went in to medical training at Dartmouth College and graduated in 1839.

He was a well known, respected physician and surgeon locally and during the Civil War he served as hospital surgeon; but, he took time for governmental service.

In Lewiston he helped establish the Lincoln Mill. Recognizing the desirability of a central highway he laid Sabattus Street, Switzerland Road, College Street, and Lisbon Street. He was instrumental in getting railroad service by having the Grand Trunk built to Danville. He was also president of another railroad from Leeds to Rangeley which was extended in 1861, from Leeds to Brunswick. By providing the capital he convinced his brother-in-law, W. H. Waldron to establish the Lewiston Journal. He also exercised leadership in getting the county of Androscoggin established.

Originally a Whig, he supported the Democrat An-

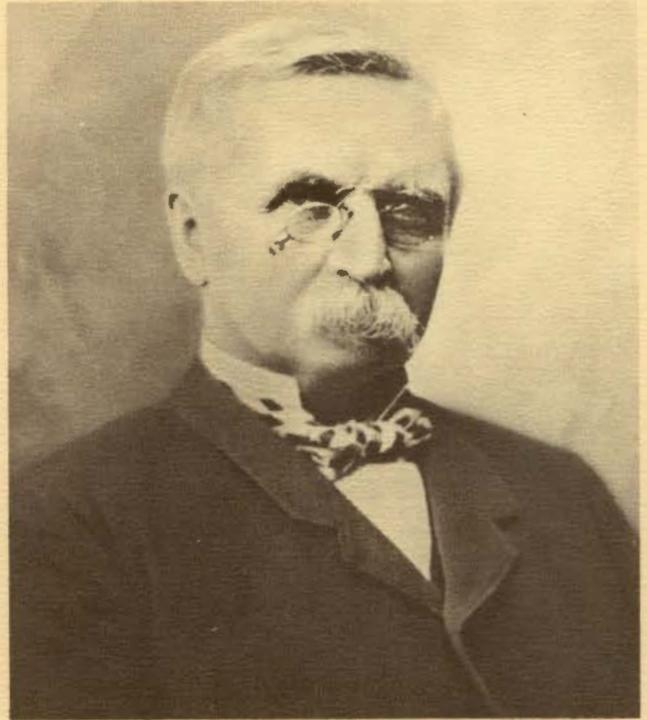
drew Jackson because of his stand on nullification. However, he became a Free Soiler and then a Republican during the Civil War. Opposition to the impeachment of Johnson and to reconstruction policies turned him again to the Democratic party.

He became Lewiston's first Democratic mayor in 1871. He had previously served as representative in the state legislature in 1853 and 1857 and in the Senate in 1855. In 1879, he became Governor of Maine as the choice of the Legislature since the popular election did not produce a victor.

His first wife was Ann A. Philpot who had four children: Charles A., Ellen E., Edward L., and Alonzo M., (also to become a mayor). In 1859 he married Olivia N. Speaker who had a daughter Edith.

At age 80 Dr. Garcelon delighted in driving his horses twenty to thirty miles a day.

He died in Medford, Massachusetts, an accidental death on December 8, 1906.



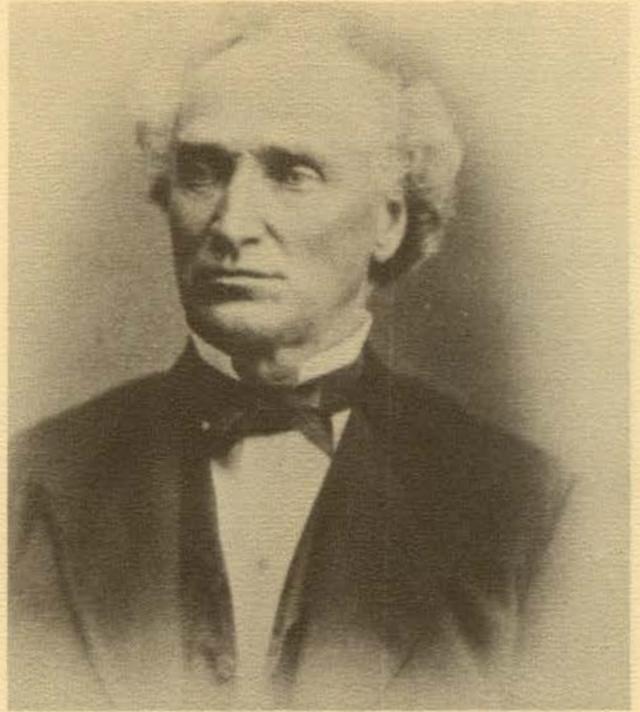
David Cowan 1872, 1886

"A Belgian by birth, a Scotchman by parentage, an American by choice." So he is described in the history of the local Masonic order. His parents lived in Renfrewshire, Scotland, but happened to be in Belgium when he was born on January 1, 1825. His early education was in Belgium which accounts for the fact that he spoke French fluently. They returned to Scotland, but at the age of seventeen he came to Canada to stay with an uncle. For a time he worked in a store and taught school.

In 1856 he came to Lewiston and worked at the dyer's trade, becoming boss dyer in the Bates Mill. Then he became agent for the "Aurora Mills" which later became D. Cowan and Company when he took as a partner George F. Pierce. The Cowan Mill had an excellent reputation for producing men's suitings and continued in business until 1886.

Mr. Cowan married twice and had two children neither of which survived him. He was a charter member of Ashlar Lodge of Masons and later of Rabboni Lodge and had the distinction of being the first 33rd degree Mason locally. Masonic records carry high praise of him.

In his inaugural address of 1872 he said: "With our magnificent water power and other natural advantages continually inviting capital to come and find a safe and profitable investment in our midst, with our present and projected railroad communication to all parts of the country, it requires no prophetic vision to look forward to the time when we shall have a population of 30,000 in-



Nathaniel W. Farwell 1873

habitants.”

Before serving as mayor he had been an Alderman from 1869 to 1871 and served on the construction committee for city building in 1871.

Mr. Cowan was a prominent member of the Pine Street Congregational Church. He was known as a great wit and a diligent reader. His death occurred in Lewiston on April 6, 1887.

Nathaniel W. Farwell's life sounds like a "rags to riches" story. Soon after his birth March 9, 1818 in Plymouth, New York, his mother died and he was sent to his maternal grandparents in Peterborough, New Hampshire. From age thirteen to fifteen he was working in Waltham for two uncles. He then returned to Peterborough and worked summers while attending school winters.

When he was twenty-one he started with the Boston Manufacturing Company in Waltham as a watchman and then in the bleachery until his health failed. Two years on a small farm restored his health and he took a job as a baggagemaster. From 1852 to 1859 he ran the bleaching department of the Great Falls Manufacturing Company in New York and then moved to Lewiston.

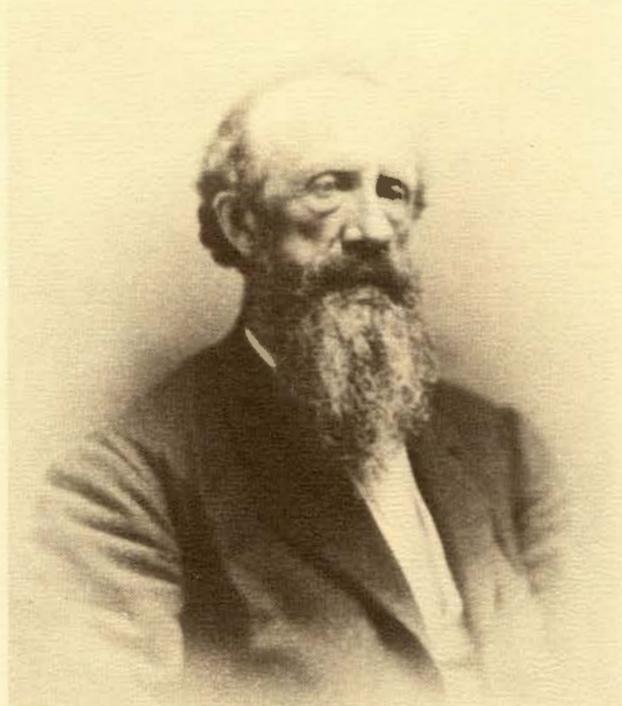
From 1860 to 1870 he leased the Lewiston Bleachery and Dye Works from the Franklin Company at a profitable time during the Civil War. From 1865 to 1879 with his son he operated the Great Falls Bleachery too. In 1867 he bought a woolen mill at Lisbon and installed cotton machinery; the family operated this until 1872. At Lisbon also he built the Farwell mill in 1872. For the period 1870-71 he served as agent of the Franklin Company. His business interests caused him to be instrumental in getting the Lewiston - Auburn Railroad built to Lewiston Junction to connect with the Grand Trunk Railway.

His political interest was initiated by a term in the state legislature 1863-1864. In his inaugural address as

mayor in 1873 he showed concern for the effects of the Panic when he said the city should provide "Those destitute and temporarily out of employment with some occupation upon the city works or otherwise. The benefits of such a policy would be two-fold. Those helped would have an opportunity to earn their own support and thus would feel less like dependence on the city's county."

In 1877 he built and operated with his son the Farwell Bleachery at South Lawrence, Mass. In his later years he lived in the winter in Boston and spent summers at his Lewiston home known as the "Hermitage" on Webster Street. He owned a considerable amount of land in the areas where a street and a school now bear his name. He was director of several businesses such as Continental Mills, Bates Manufacturing Company, Lewiston Machine Company, and the Boston and Maine Railroad.

He married Eliza Fletcher in 1842 and they had two daughters and one son John W. On September 7, 1886 he died in Lewiston, but was buried in Boston. This "Clear-headed sagacious, honest businessman had amassed an immense fortune".



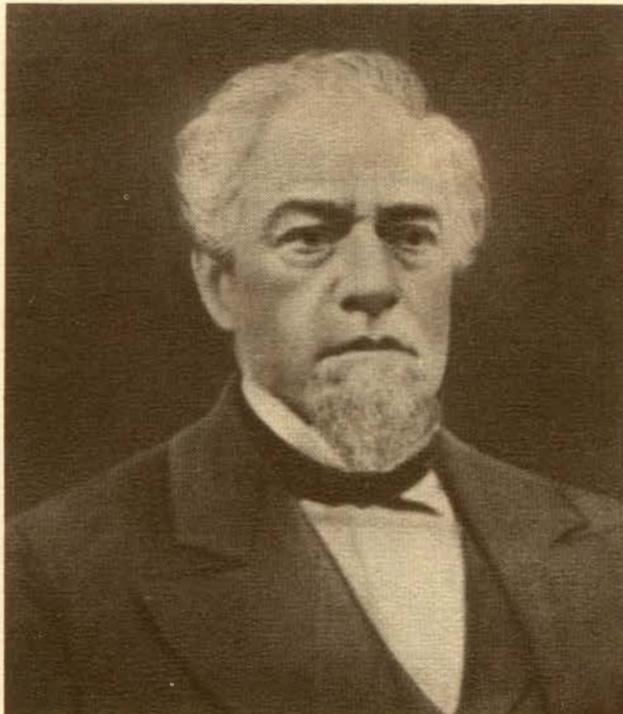
Henry H. Dickey 1874

Another New Hampshire native, H.H. Dickey was born in Amherst May 14, 1816. He started in business in Nashua, moved to Lowell and then to Lewiston in 1854. Here his business was a top-roll coverer with his plant in the basement of the Hill Mill. In 1869 he erected a shop on the river bank and later an establishment by the canal on Main Street. Here he manufactured leather items, especially belting and rolls for the textile machinery.

His first civic interest was as school agent while Lewiston was still a town. Then in 1874 he became mayor and "gave dignity to the office". It is interesting to read the following from his inaugural address: "Having been elected without my consent and against my wishes, I have hesitated to accept the trust. My entire lack of experience in management of city affairs (I never having been present at a meeting of either branch of the city council) added greatly to my disinclination to serve as mayor". This was the end of his participation in government.

His first wife was Frances Huse and later he married Eliza Gurney. He had a son William and three daughters. Mr. Dickey was a retiring man. He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, a corporator of the Lewiston Institution for Savings and a very prominent member of the Masonic Order--the only one in this vicinity with the distinction of the 33rd degree. He became Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Maine, Knights Templar.

He died in Lewiston, May 20, 1884.

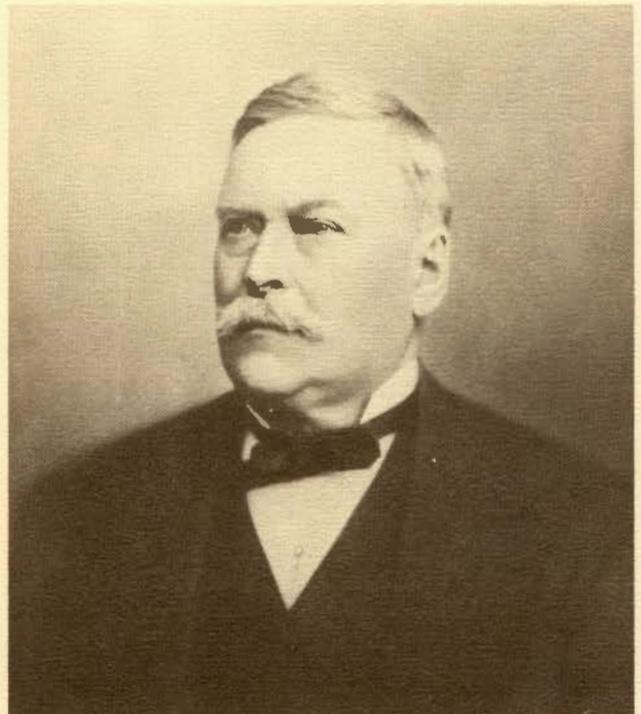


Edmund Russell 1875, 1876, 1877

This mayor was unusual in that he lived in Lewiston a very short time before becoming mayor. The son of James and Prudence Russell, he was born in Temple on November 23, 1824. Until the age of twenty he studied in the common schools and then began the study of medicine with Dr. William Kilburn and at Bowdoin Medical College from which he graduated in 1847. For eight years he practiced in Strong and for fourteen years in Farmington before settling in Lewiston in 1869.

Although a Democrat before the Civil War, he became a Republican and was elected to the Legislature in 1869 and then to the Senate in 1873. Before becoming mayor he served on the Lewiston Common Council. During his administration the municipal water works was commenced.

In 1847 he had married Eunice H. Porter and they had two children, Edmund Jr. and Dana. He died December, 20, 1880.



Jesse S. Lyford 1878

The son of Deacon Joseph and Mary (Stone) Lyford, he was born in East Livermore in 1820. His early career was in teaching in Farmington, Wilton, Boston, Hallowell, and Auburn. Then, for one year, he went West for prospecting. He was associated with a Mr. Blair in the Auburn Dry Goods Company at the corner of Court and Main Streets, but they sold out to Ambrose and Clark. Following the Civil War, he became a seller of horses.

In 1862 President Lincoln appointed him collector of internal revenue for a district which included Androscoggin, Oxford, Sagadahoc, and Franklin counties. He was said to have participated in many sensational captures during the war years. Although a Republican in the 1860's, he changed to the Democratic party in 1870.

He served in the Maine Senate in 1859, 1869, and 1861, and was a delegate to the National conventions in 1872 and 1880. He served two terms as Alderman before becoming mayor when he defeated G.B. Ham and L.H. Spinney, but when he ran the following year he lost to Joseph H. Day. The significant event in his term was the starting of the Lewiston Water Works.

Mr. Lyford was an avid reader in the area of government and economics, and was a great Maine historian.

He married Olive Patten. In his later years, he lived in various boarding houses--the Dewitt, Atwood, Elm and Park houses.

His death occurred August 31, 1895.



Joseph Henry Day 1879-80

The son of Hersey Day, Esq., he was born in 1841 in Lewiston, and was educated in the public schools.

He began his business career in 1861 in partnership with his father and Mr. A.B. Nealey in a grocery and hardware business at 235 Main Street. When the father retired in 1878, Charles Miller became a member of the firm. Four years later the business was divided with Joseph Day taking the hardware department and building a business with a fine reputation.

In 1863 he married Lovonia Gilbert. His second wife was Rebecca R. Hatch whose daughter was Isabella (Mrs. George Whitney).

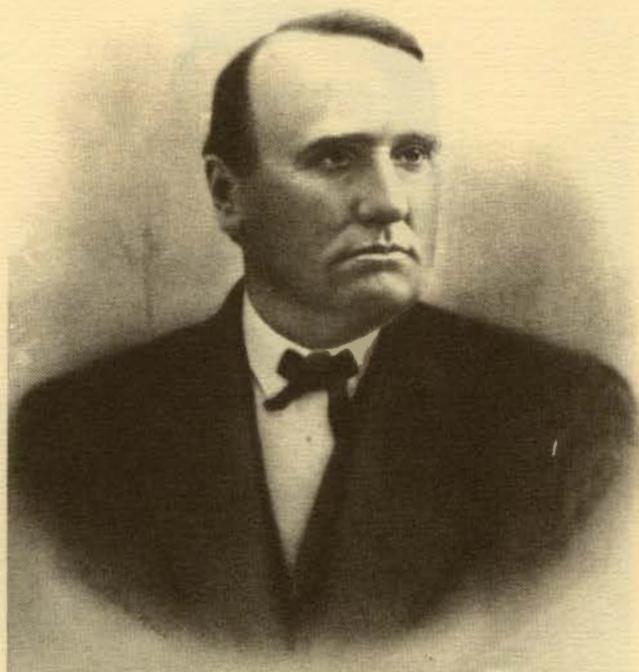
Mr. Day was known as a "Peddler of Republicanism." He served as a member of the Common Council in 1869, 1872, 1873, and alderman in 1878. During his two terms as mayor, he pushed hard to get the water works established and was a member of the first water board. For several years, he took great interest in making it an efficient servant for the people. Another service to the city was a term in the Board of Registration. He was known, too, as a promoter of the fire department and one with an interest in the school committee.

At one time he owned a beautiful and valuable farm in New Gloucester and spent considerable time in conducting it. His home in Lewiston was a handsome brick house on the corner of Frye and Main Streets.

Mr. Day was active in Rabboni Lodge of the Masons,

Odd Fellows, the Golden Cross, and Knights of Honor.

He died in Lewiston August 8, 1898, and his obituary characterized him as an agreeable man with a happy way of making and keeping friends, with a high sense of business honor and integrity, a kindly, generous and thoughtful man.



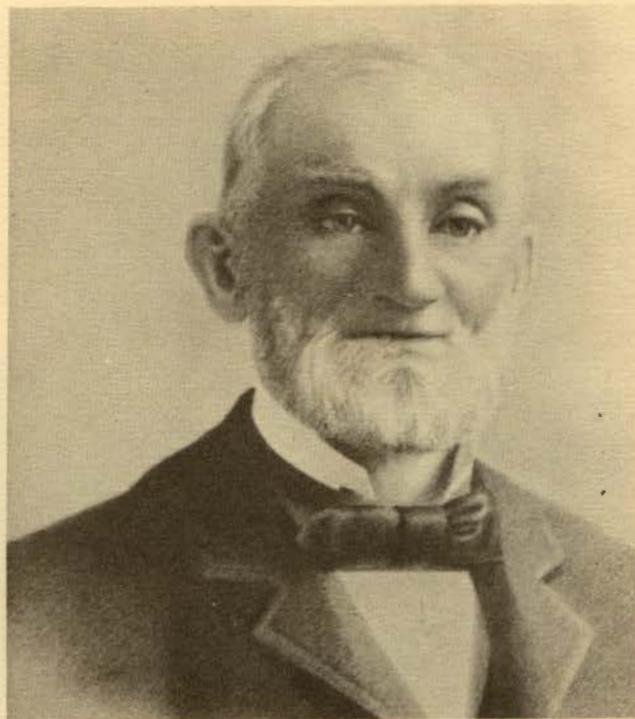
Manderville T. Ludden 1881

Manderville Treat Ludden was born in Canton, Maine, on February 17, 1830. He was educated in the public schools and at Maine Wesleyan Seminary. Then he studied law with the Hon. Timothy Ludden and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1854. He was the first to be admitted to the bar in Androscoggin County when the county was incorporated in 1854.

In 1856 he married Mary E. Jewett. Although he commenced his law practice in Turner, he moved to Lewiston in 1869.

His government service included county attorney (1863-1864) and state senator (1867-1868). In the Lewiston area he was active as city solicitor and a member of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen from 1871 to 1881 when he became mayor.

He died on September 21, 1872 in Lewiston.



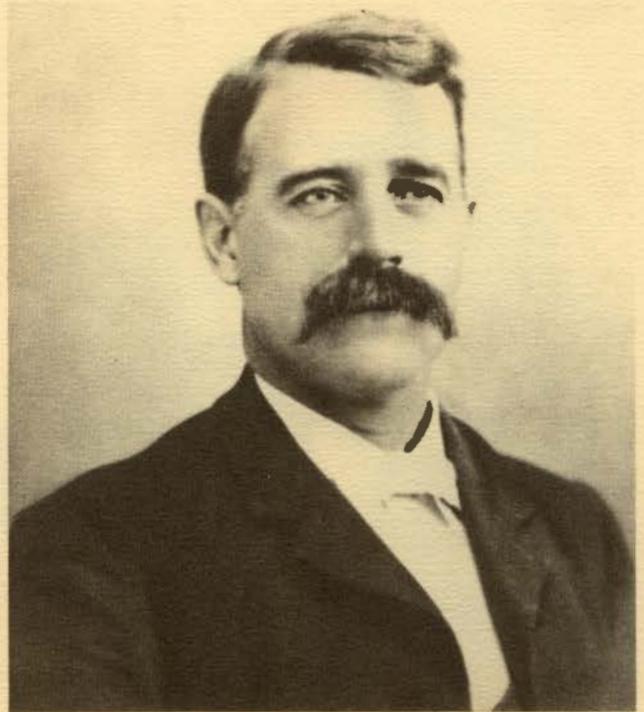
David Farrar 1882

The son of James and Emily (Hamilton) Farrar, he was born on April 5, 1825, in Lisbon. His first job was in Topsham with Major Patten, a well known lumberman. For two years, he worked at the Institute for the Blind in Boston, but returned to Topsham to work in Major Perkins' Mill. For a year, he was in the millinery business in Saco, and then operated a millinery and jewelry business in Lewiston from 1852 to 1858.

His wife was Lucy W. Purinton whom he married in 1850 and their children were; Florence E., Ella J. (Ricker), Clarence D., Grace H. (Whitmarsh), Alice E., Fred and Ernest H. Farrar.

In politics Mr. Farrar was a Republican, but "never an offensive partisan". He served as a selectman, collector of taxes, town treasurer, and was one of the petitioners for the incorporation of Lewiston as a city. In the early years of the city, he served a total of 21 years as Treasurer and Tax Collector. As Treasurer, he was determined to pay the city's share of \$300,000 for the construction of the Grand Trunk Railroad out to Lewiston Junction. Although the local mill owners opposed and secured an injunction to stop payment by a bond issue, he outwitted them and accomplished it by raking up all the spare cash in the treasury.

He was elected Mayor in 1882 and his term was said to be marked by "economy and good work". He had one



Alonzo Marston Garcelon 1883

Son of an earlier mayor and governor, Alonzo Garcelon and Annie Waldron Garcelon, he was born in Lewiston, November 12, 1851. His early education was in Lewiston, concluding with graduation from Bates College in 1872.

His medical training was secured at Columbia University, from which he graduated in 1876 and from McGill University. He opened his medical practice in Lewiston in 1878.

Mr. Garcelon had a long term (20 years) on the Lewiston Board of Education. After serving as mayor he continued his public service by three terms in the Maine House and two terms in the Senate (1907 and 1915).

His wife was Jennie M. Skelton whom he married in 1877 and their children were Alonzo, William, Harold and Louis.

In line with his professional interest he was one of the organizers of St. Mary's Hospital.

His death occurred in Lewiston on January 14, 1935.

term in the state legislature in 1872.

Mr. Farrar was a great reader, a lover of the outdoor life, and essentially a farmer turned businessman. He retired to his home on the Farrar homestead on East Avenue and died December 11, 1907.



Nelson Howard 1884

Nelson Howard, son of Seth and Rachel Howard was born in Philipps in 1839. Although he came to Lewiston to attend Maine State Seminary (a predecessor of Bates College) he left to enlist in the Civil War.

He served three years in the 13th Maine Regiment and ten months in the 30th Regiment. Then he returned to Lewiston, married Emma Wood in 1866 and they had one son, Nelson W. Howard.

For twenty one years he operated a lumber business and then turned to the concrete and gravel roof business from which he retired in 1907.

He served his state as a representative in 1872 and 1884 and then as aide-de-camp to Governor Dingley and as state liquor agent four years. He was the first commander of the Knox Post (G.A.R.) and was State Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic and had the title of Colonel.

He died on April 23, 1909.



Charles Walker 1885

Born on September 16, 1837, in Rumford, Charles Walker was the son of Timothy and Luna (Abbott) Walker. He spent his youth in that town and then moved to Lewiston with the family. They lived in a quaint house on Spring Street.

Although he studied law, he never practiced. He served his country during the Civil War. At one time he was in the business with J.B. Ham, but for the most part held government positions. A staunch Democrat, he was chosen three times as City Treasurer and served in the State Legislature. He became mayor in 1885 and after that served as postmaster eight years by appointment from President Cleveland.

He appears to have had ample wealth. His hobbies were hunting, fishing, and recounting the early history of Maine.

His wife was Augusta Patience Hall of Paris and they had an adopted son, Robert. Mr. Walker died on June 7, 1898. His obituary included the comment: "He was a square businessman and held in high esteem by men of both parties in the city of his adoption."



Daniel J. McGillicuddy 1887, 1890, 1902

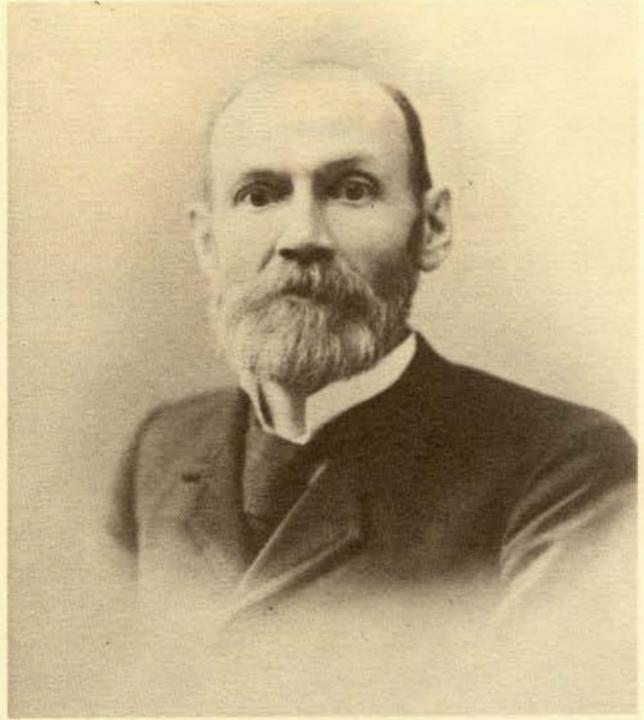
Another mayor who gained national prominence was Daniel G. McGillicuddy born to John B. and Ellen Byrnes McGillicuddy in Lewiston on August 27, 1859. After graduation from Bowdoin College in 1881 he studied law in the office of Frye, Cotton and White and was admitted to the bar in 1883. He opened law practice in Lewiston under the firm name of McGillicuddy and Morey.

Previous to serving as mayor in 1887 and 1890 he had served on the local school board in 1881 and as a state legislator in 1884 and 1885. During his term as mayor the municipal electric lighting plant was instituted and the new city building was constructed.

An ardent Democrat, he was elected to the 62nd Congress and became known as an eloquent orator. He was proud to have drafted the first Workmen's Compensation Act. He always championed the rights of the working man, as he had in the state legislature when he authored a law limiting working days to 10 hours.

His wife was Minnie M. Sprague.

He died in Lewiston July 31, 1936.



Horace C. Little 1888, 1889

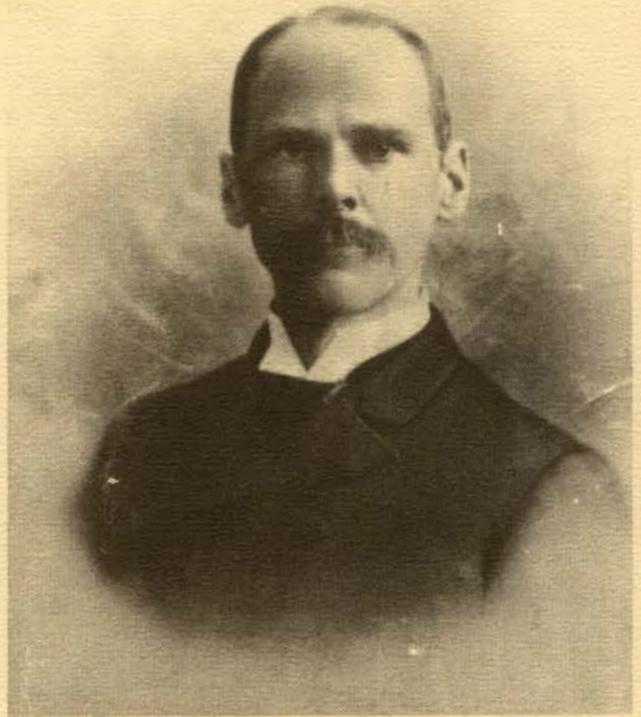
On January 14, 1840, Horace Little was born in Auburn. His father was Joseph Little and his great grandfather was Colonel Moses Little, a Revolutionary War leader of the minute men.

Mr. Little married Rosa J. Roak in 1860, and they had five children; Nellie R. (Mrs. Charles Clarke), Nancy B. (Mrs. S. G. Bonney), Lottie B. (Mrs. E. W. Emery), Lucie and Jacob.

Before the Civil War he was a newspaper editor in Portland working with James G. Blaine. During the Civil War, he was a captain of a regiment, but also owner of the *Bridgton Reporter*. After the war he went into the hardware business in the firm, Owen & Little (later to become Hall & Knight). He was one of the builders of Lyceum Hall Block. Later in the insurance business, he was associated with William Chamberlain and his son Jacob. From 1878 to 1888 he was Postmaster and established a delivery system. As an auditor, he served the Franklin Company, Lincoln Mills, and Continental Mills.

A staunch Republican--he was elected in 1880, defeating D. J. McGillicuddy by 189 votes and again defeating William H. Newell by 700 votes in 1889, but then declined renomination.

Mr. Little retired in 1892. He was a member of the Red Order of Lewiston, Commander K. T., and of the Consistory of the Ancient and Accepted Order of Scot-



tish Rites. At the time of his death, March 14, 1896, the obituary called him "eminently companionable, a social and generous great toiler, a hale-fellow well met and truly generous".

William H. Newell 1891, 1892, 1898, 1921

William H. Newell was born in Durham, April 16, 1864, the son of a farmer, William and Susannah (Weeks) Newell. His early education in the public schools there was followed by attendance at Farmington Normal School from which he graduated in 1872 and also Kents Hill Seminary with graduation in 1876.

While serving as principal of Brunswick Grammar School from 1876-1882, he studied law under Weston Thompson and was admitted to the bar in 1878. In partnership with Daniel McGillicuddy and Hercules Belleau, he opened a law office in Lewiston in 1882. Later he was a partner of Wilbur Judkins and then of W. B. Skelton, until his retirement in 1928. He specialized in riparian rights during the development of water power in Lewiston.

His marriage to Ida Plummer of Lisbon was on September 10, 1883, and their children were; Gladys (Mrs. Daniel Drummond), Dorothy (Mrs. Roscoe Halliday), and Augusta.

In politics he was a Democrat all his life, although his father had been a Whig and a Republican. In 1890 he served as city solicitor and then was elected mayor four times. The last two terms, he ran on a ticket promising to straighten out the city's finances and correct the tax structure.

His service to the county was as county attorney in 1892 to 1894, and Judge of Probate from 1905 to 1913

and again 1919 to 1923.

Among his other community activities, he was President of the Manufacturers National Bank for 20 years, Vice-President of the Androscoggin and Kennebec Street Railway, a director of the Central Maine Railroad and of the Androscoggin Water Power Company. He was a member of the Kora Shrine, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the American Bankers Association, and an active supporter of the Pine Street Congregational Church. Both he and Mrs. Newell were trustees of Kents Hill Seminary.

His death was in Lewiston in 1933.



Seth Chandler 1893

Born in Skowhegan, May 3, 1838, Seth Chandler was the son of Seth and Lydia (Banks) Chandler. His family moved to Lewiston when he was twelve years old.

When he was eighteen he travelled to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. When the Civil War broke out, he enlisted and served with the second Massachusetts Cavalry in 25 engagements.

Upon his return to Lewiston, he worked at the Bates Mill. Then, in 1875, he took over management of the Bates Remnant Store. In 1887, in partnership with H. O. Cutler, they bought the store from the Bates Manufacturing Company.

His wife was Ella Cutler whom he married in 1869, and they had one son, Louis. He had an interest in music, evidenced by playing solo-alto horn in Johnson's Band and singing in many musical societies. He held membership in Rabboni Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, Kora Temple, Odd Fellows, Grand Army of the Republic, and Knights of Pythias.

In Lewiston, he served as a member of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen. He was elected Mayor in 1893 in a hot campaign with four wards opposing him. He also served as County Commissioner from 1890 until his death on January 13, 1903.



Frank L. Noble 1894, 1895, 1896. 1897.

Frank Noble came from Fairfield where he was born on July 22, 1865 to Eleazar R. and Harriett Lamb Noble. After attending Nichols Latin School and graduating from Bates College in 1874 he studied law in Portland and was admitted to the bar in 1878.

After a short stay in Minneapolis he returned to Lewiston in 1881 and set up law practice with successive partners James Nash, J.A. Merrill, and Ralph Crockett.

His service to the city began as a member of the Common Council in 1884-85 and he had four terms as mayor. An active Republican he was elected to the state legislature in 1887, 1891, 1893, and 1896.

Some quotations from his inaugural address indicate the problems of the times which were nationwide: "There are two evils lurking in municipal government which challenge attention and condemnation. One is the growing indifference and inattention of members of the city council to performance of their public duties. The second crying evil of the day is the desire of members of the city council to participate in contracts entered into by our government. By contrast the credit of our city is today sound and we can command the loan of money at as low a rate as any municipality in New England."

In March 1896 both bridges over the Androscoggin went out in a freshet. The new South bridge was built at a cost of \$23,551 (later it too went out); while the North Bridge was constructed by the Youngstown Co. at a cost of \$91,479 and is still in use.

Mr. Noble was a member of the Odd Fellows, Freemasons and Knights of Pythias. In 1882 he married Clara Spofford. They had no children. He died March 28, 1897 only four weeks after his fourth reelection. He was the first mayor to die in service.



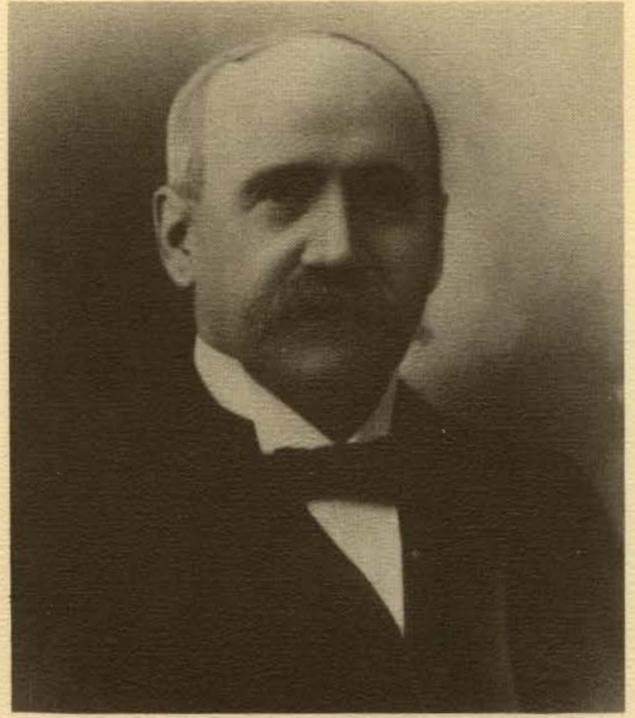
Wilbur H. Judkins 1897

Like several other mayors Wilbur Judkins was attracted to Lewiston by Bates College. He had been born May 19, 1858 in Monmouth to John G. and Aurelia Judkins. His early education was at Monmouth Academy and Coburn Classical Institute and he finished Bates in 1880 and went to read law in the office of the Hon. A.M. Spear. He taught school some at Lisbon Falls and Litchfield and after admission to the Androscoggin Bar in 1883 set up practice in Lewiston in partnership with William Newell.

Before serving as mayor in 1897 he had been city solicitor from 1886 to 1888. Other government service was on the local School Board, as County Attorney 1894-98 and on the Military Exemption Board during World War I.

His wife was Nellie Jones whom he married in 1886; their only child was Florence. Mr. Judkins was a member of the Baptist Church, an Overseer and Fellow of Bates College, a Mason and an Odd Fellow.

His death occurred April 5, 1934.



George Pottle 1899

The youngest of fourteen children, George Pottle was born in Salem, Mass., January 6, 1848. He came to Lewiston in 1866 and worked for W.K. Hilton in the grocery business. Later, he founded the grocery firm of Pottle and Hoyt, which later became Pottle and Cloutier.

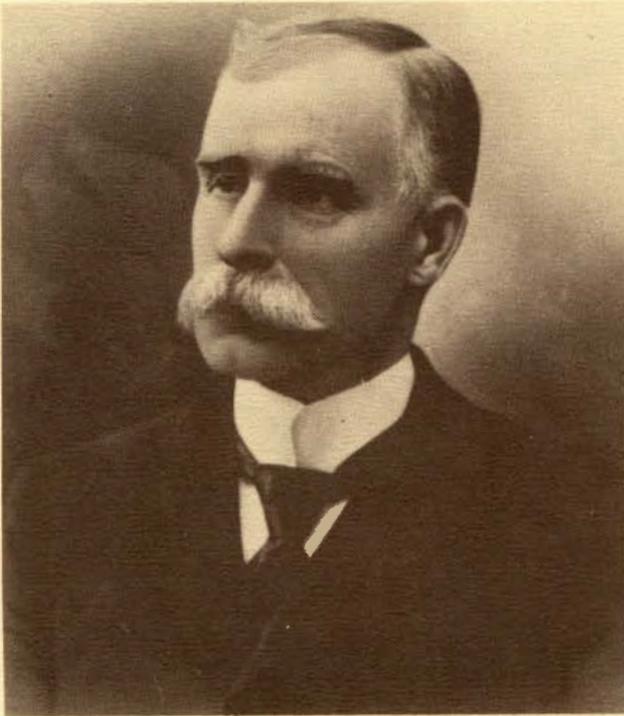
He married Judith Ham in 1877 and they had four children of whom only one, Philip, survived him. They resided at 51 Howe Street.

A life long Democrat, he served the city as Councilman, Assessor, Auditor, Purchasing Agent, member of the Board of Registration and of the Water Commission. He became mayor in 1899; the notable event in his term was the extension of the city water system to Lake Auburn.

The county also benefitted from his service of six years in the County Commission and two years on the Court House Committee.

As a member of the Board of State Assessors from 1893-1911, he became known as one of the best informed men in the state on matters of taxation. He was a fine public speaker, very persistent and powerful in debate, but also a considerate, gentle and courteous character.

His death occurred on June 4, 1928 in Lewiston.



George W. Furbush 1900-1901

On December 1, 1842, George Washington Furbush was born to Washington and Mehitabel (Colby) Furbush in the town of Dresden.

He started his adult life as a carpenter, and then conducted a livery stable on Park near Pine Street. He always kept a few horses for hire and had many boarders. Eventually he turned to real estate and was considered to be the best judge of real estate values in the county. As well as looking after his own considerable holdings, he managed the property of N.J. Farwell and Arthur Sands.

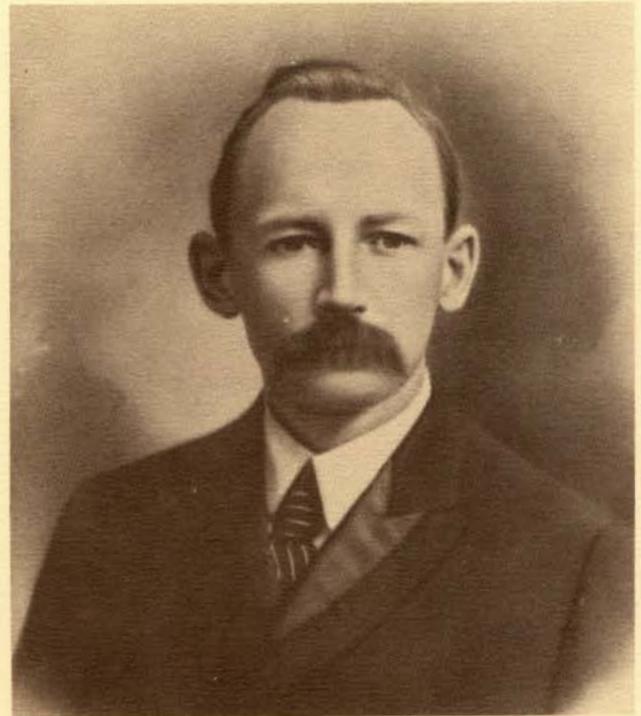
He married Josephine A. Leavitt in August, 1873. They had three daughters: Edith, Mabel (Mrs. E.B. Call) and Maude, (Mrs. W.W. Bolster).

He was characterized as one who was always on the lookout for a nimble dollar, hardworking, silent, using old fashioned Yankee frugality and thrift, and not an orator; but, "if his dander was up, he could say a few things."

In politics he was known as a pronounced Republican. He served on the City Council and Board of Aldermen and represented the city in the state legislature. He was known as a good mayor; during his term Jordan School was built.

Among other civic responsibilities, he served on the Board of Trade, the Board of Directors, and Building Committee of the C.M.G. Hospital, and as President and Trustee of the Androscoggin County Savings Bank.

His death occurred in April 18, 1924.



William Bertram Skelton 1903-1904

On August 9, 1873, he was born in Bowdoin to Thomas and Mary (Halbrook) Skelton. After graduating from Bowdoinham High School, he attended Nichols Latin School in Lewiston, and Bates College from which he received an AB degree in 1892.

He read law in the office of Newell and Judkins in Lewiston and was admitted to the Androscoggin Bar on October, 1893. From 1894 to 1914 he was a member of the law firm of Newell and Skelton, but retired to become a member of the Maine Public Utilities Commission. However, he resumed practice in 1919 in the firm of White, Carter, and Skelton. From 1922 to 1927 he practiced alone until his son Harold formed a partnership. In 1931 John J. Mahon joined the firm, and after his death Frederick Taintor came in. He closed general law practice in 1942 when he became president of the Central Maine Power Company.

His activity in politics occupied only a few years. From 1901 to 1905 he served as County Attorney and his two terms as mayor were 1903 and 1904. He had the distinction of swearing in his own son, Harold, twenty-five years later. Later he served the state as Bank Commissioner from 1906-1911.

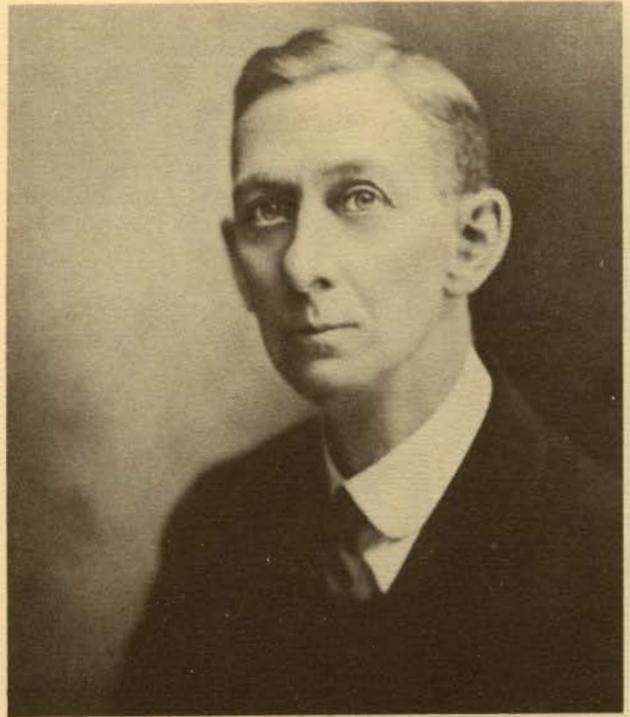
Mr. Skelton served many corporations in this area, holding at various times the presidency of the First National Bank and of the Androscoggin County Savings Bank and Lewiston Loan and Building Association. He also served the Lewiston Gas Light Company, Central Maine Power, New England Public Service Company;

others on whose boards he served were the Boston and Maine Railroad, Maine Central Railroad, Union Water Power Company, Androscoggin Mill, Bates Manufacturing Company, Hill Manufacturing, Edwards Manufacturing Company, York Manufacturing Company, Maine Seaboard Paper Company.

Local community agencies received the benefit of his sound advice. He was a trustee of Bates College and of the Central Maine General Hospital, President of the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce, and held offices in the Federated Church.

Mr. Skelton's wife was Florence L. Larrabee of Auburn, and they had six children: William L., Harold, Thomas R., Florence (Mrs. Stuart Edgerley), John K., and Ruth (Mrs. William J. Hartley).

He lived until February 1, 1964



William E. Webster 1905-1906

William Webster was born in Lewiston, May 30, 1861, and was educated in Lewiston public schools.

His wife was Jennie McKenney and they had three daughters and one son: Mrs. Ira Hall, Miss Ethel, Mrs. Lee Harrison, and Charles D. Their home was at 29 Davis Street.

His employment in 1888 was with the grocery firm of Blake, Spear and Co. which later became Spear and Webster and eventually Webster and Pooler.

A Democrat in politics, he served as city Treasurer in 1899 and again in 1902 before becoming mayor for two terms.

Among his community interests were the Masons, the Odd Fellows, and the Calvary Methodist Church. His death was on January 2, 1929.



Frank A. Morey 1907-1912

Frank Andrew Morey was born in Keeseville, N.Y., on March 11, 1863, son of Andrew Morey.

After being educated at Keeseville Academy, he entered Bates College and worked his way through by "cavassing" work and teaching school. He received an AB degree in 1885 and had the highest standing in modern language. He was also elected to PBK.

He returned to Keeseville to study law with a Mr. Hewitt and after admission to the bar in 1887 continued to practice there for two years. In 1891 he returned to Lewiston and soon became the law partner of Daniel J. McGillicuddy. He retained the same office over 42 years.

He entered politics by serving as city solicitor two years. In the state legislature, he served in the House three times (being Speaker in 1911) and in the Senate once (1913-15). He sponsored an amendment to the Australian ballot which required that all referenda be submitted to the people on a separate ballot. Mr. Morey served four terms as county attorney. A staunch Democrat, he became mayor in 1907 and held office six consecutive terms--a record equalled by only one other mayor.

Although he was not a joiner of fraternities and clubs, he had a great interest in Bates College which he served as an Overseer from 1923 on. He was a Life member of the Boston Marine Society. He enjoyed traveling and paid visits to the British Parliament and French legislature.

Mr. Morey married Maude Douglas in June, 1889 and had a daughter, Ruth (Mrs. Frank Coffin), who too became a trustee of Bates College and a grandson, Frank M. Coffin, Jr., Judge of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

He died in 1933 in New York while returning from a trip.



William H. Hines 1913

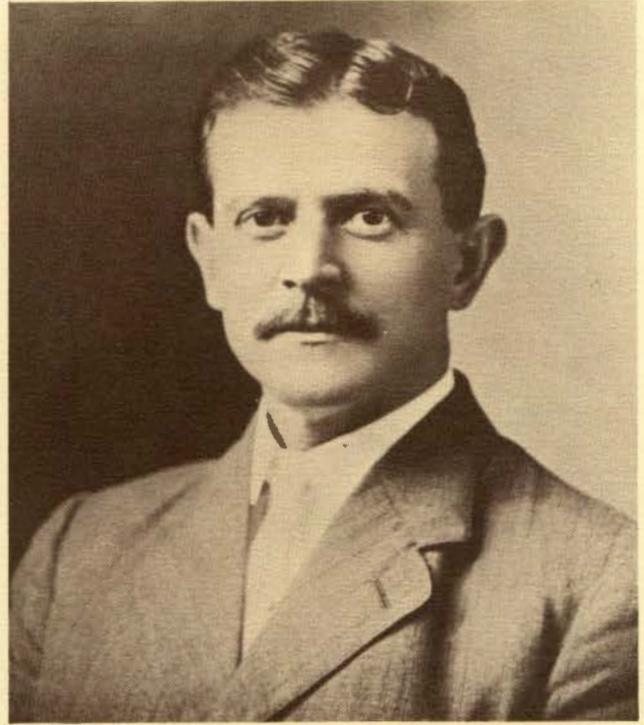
Another Lewiston native, William Hines was born in 1880 to Henry and Margaret (Hannafin) Hines. After his education in the Lewiston public schools, he attended Georgetown University, Columbia University, and then graduated in 1906 from Boston University Law School.

His wife was Laura Aurore Bontin (married in 1935), and their children were Henry and Margaret (Mrs. John Flaherty). They resided on Pine Street.

His first public service was as City Solicitor, then as a representative in the state legislature in 1909. He served as county attorney before becoming mayor in 1913.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Church, the Elks, and the Bar Association.

On February 20, 1952, he died in Lewiston.



Robert J. Wiseman 1914, 1925-29, 1933-35

A native of Stanfold, Quebec, he was born June 26, 1871 to George A. and Ann Thomas Wiseman. He came to Lewiston in 1873 but went to live with a sister in 1875 and then returned to Lewiston.

For two years he was employed in a dry goods store, then he changed to a drug store from 1887 to 1893 when he purchased three buildings on Cedar Street to conduct both a grocery and drug store.

In 1894 he married Rose Cyr and they had five children, Robert Jr., Philip, Armand J., Albert F., and Priscilla (Mrs. Royal Dam). In 1899 he gave up his business, took a college preparatory course at Nichols Latin School and entered Bowdoin College Medical School from which he graduated with high honors in 1903. That year he opened his practice at Lincoln and Chestnut Streets in connection with the Globe Drug Store. In his spare time he studied pharmacy and became a registered druggist in 1904.

He entered the Lewiston governmental scene in 1908 as a member of the School Board. Then in 1910 he was elected to the Board of Aldermen. He ran for Mayor in 1911 and 1913 and gathered a large number of votes, but in 1914 was finally elected by a large majority, becoming the first Franco-Canadian to serve as mayor of the city. Ill health and the pressure of his practice kept him from running the next year.

The year 1921 found him again on the Board of Aldermen and he returned to the mayor's post from

1925-29 and from 1933-35. His administration adhered strictly to economy. Mr. Wiseman had numerous other interests. He became proprietor of the Priscilla Theater in 1920. He was a member of the Independent Order of Foresters, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Institute of Jacques Cartier, St. John Baptist, and served as medical examiner for several others.

Mr. Wiseman's home was at 81 Pine Street. He was known in the city as a genial man and a good speaker. He died in Lewiston on November 20, 1942.



Louis Jefferson Brann
1915, 1916, 1922, 1923, 1924

Our second mayor to become governor, Louis J. Brann was a native of Madison where he was born on July 8, 1875 to Charles V. and Nancy Lancaster Brann. After being educated in Gardiner schools he went to the University of Maine and graduated in 1898. After the study of law he opened his practice in Lewiston in 1902 in the firm of Brann and Isaacson where he was noted as a trial lawyer.

His service to the city began as a city solicitor 1906-08, tax collector 1908, and county register of probate in 1909-13 and municipal judge 1913-15. This last position he resigned because the Attorney General of the State contended that there was a conflict. Although he was elected five times to the position of mayor, it was interrupted by serving in the state legislature in 1917.

As mayor he established a municipal coal yard and an investigation of the gas company which brought about reduced rates. A public swimming pool and playground for children was created and municipal concerts inaugurated. The Lewiston Armory was constructed.

Although originally a Republican he was an enthusiastic Democrat and the first Democratic governor of Maine after the Civil War. His election was hailed by the National Democratic Party. During and after his terms as Governor, 1932-36, he was referred to as Maine's Greatest Salesman. He tried twice unsuccessfully to



Charles Philip Lemaire 1917-1920

Mr. Lemaire was born in Lewiston November 11, 1886, the son of William and Mathilde (Leclair) Lemaire. He was educated in Lewiston public schools and in evening courses at Bliss College.

He entered Lewiston politics at the early age of 18 when he became assistant City Clerk. During the years 1910 to 1917, he was the City Clerk.

In 1917, he was elected mayor and served four terms. These were the War years and the city became involved in the fuel and ice business in an effort to hold prices down. Following the mayoralty, he was clerk of the Water Board for a short time and then a member of the Highway Commission.

After completing his term as mayor, he went into the insurance business from 1921 to 1932. At this time, he married Clair Fortier, and they had two children: Yvette (Mrs. Bertrand Lavoie), and Raymond C. Lemaire.

In 1933, he became acting postmaster and in 1934 was given the permanent appointment which he held until his retirement in 1956.

He was a member of St. Peter and St. Paul Church, the Holy Name Society, the Knights of Columbus, Les Artisans, Canado-Americaine, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. His death occurred in Lewiston on January 18, 1974.

unseat Senator Wallace White.

His wife was Martha Cobb (1902) and there were four children: Donald L., Marjorie, Dorothy L., and Nancy E. Following his term as governor he practiced law as an associate of Governor Ely of Massachusetts and also in Washington. In 1943 he moved to Falmouth Foreside where he died February 3, 1948.



Harold Newell Skelton 1930, 1931

Mr. Skelton was born in Lewiston on January 1, 1889 to William B. and Florence (Larrabee) Skelton. He was educated at Jordan High School, Bowdoin College, Bentley School of Accounting and Boston University Law School. After his admission to the bar he joined his father's law firm in 1927.

His political activity was brief, but effective. He had been the Alderman from Ward 2, but when Rodolphe Hamel, the proposed candidate for mayor on the Republican-Citizen slate died unexpectedly, Mr. Skelton was drafted by a group anxious to find a man free from the domination of factions. His victory in 1930 elated the Republicans.

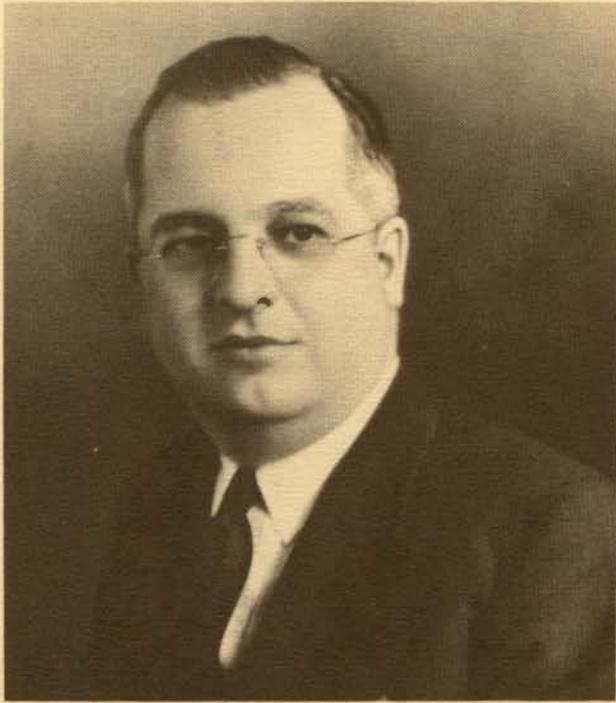
"In 1903 voters placed William B. Skelton, Republican, in city hall. Since then there has been a continuous Democratic freshet on the Androscoggin until Monday last, when Harold N. Skelton, Republican, repeated his father's victory winning the election exactly as the senior Skelton did, at the age of thirty-one years."

He campaigned with major promises all of which were carried out. An eight month probe of city business by the State Auditor revealed no manipulation of funds, but wasteful, costly procedures. A lengthy delay (since 1927) in building a new high school came to an end with the requested resignation of the committee members and the appointment of a new group who succeeded in get-

ting the building completed in a record breaking eleven months at a cost of \$540,000.

In 1931 after a recount Mr. Skelton was declared the victor over Louis J. Brann by 104 votes. Later he served the City on the Finance Commission from 1941 to 1951.

Mr. Skelton married Agnes E. Kelley and they had four children, William B.II, Jane (Mrs. Fred Taintor) Harold S., and Mary L., (Mrs. Philip Ames). He was a member of the Masonic Bodies, of the Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce. He died in Lewiston August 21, 1975.



Henry N. Paradis 1932

The family of Henry Paradis moved from his birthplace in Tingwick, Quebec when he was only a year old, going to Kennebunk and then to Lewiston. He was born June 17, 1888 to Joseph and Anna (Lajoie) Paradis. In Lewiston he was educated in the common schools and at Bliss Business College.

For a time he managed the Bergeron Brick Company. In 1933 in partnership with Roland Faucher he opened a clothing business at the corner of Lisbon and Chestnut Streets. Later Gerard Leblanc became the partner. Then in 1936 he opened a wholesale beer beverage company of which he was president at the time of his death.

In 1930 he started his interest in politics, running for alderman. Then in 1932 he campaigned successfully for mayor against Thomas White. This was in the height of the depression. Newspaper reports indicate a series of more or less voluntary pay cuts, first the tax assessors, then teachers, public works, water employees and finally the police and fire departments. There was much wrangling about the dropping of about 350 people from the voting lists because they received aid from the poor department. When the banks closed in March 1933 the city issued script-called Treasury Warrants-which the receivers of city checks could get in exchange for the checks and then utilize locally for payment of bills.

After his term as mayor Mr. Paradis did serve a five year term on the Board of Finance 1939-1944.

His wife was Adrienne Janelle whom he married on

June 8, 1925 and they had two children, Joan P. and Henry Jr. He had many civic interests; among them were Director of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Manufacturers National Bank, of the YMCA, and of St. Mary's Hospital Drive. He was a member of the Elks, the United Commercial Travelers, the Kiwanis, the Musical Literary Club, the Vigilants, Le Montagnard, and of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Parish and many of its related church organizations. He died in Lewiston on May 5, 1954.



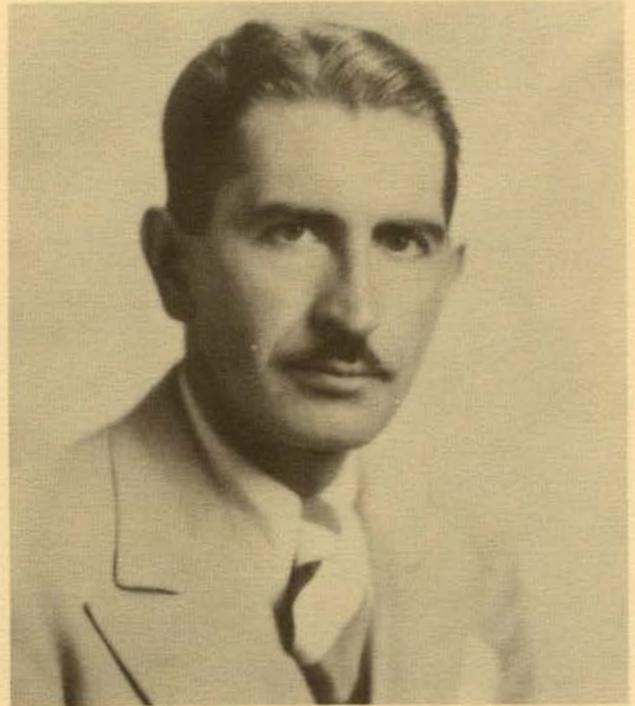
Donat J. Levesque 1936, 1937, 1938

The son of Stanislas and Alvina Chenard Levesque, he was born on July 14, 1886 in Lewiston. After graduating from Lewiston High School he studied book-keeping at Levis College in Quebec.

He married Mae Comeau in 1914 and had five sons, Phillipe, Roger, Oscar, Denis and Robert. Most of his life he operated a grocery store on Shawmut Street.

Besides serving as mayor he was a member of the School Committee for fourteen years. At the time of his death September 7, 1951 he was serving his third four year term as Register of Probate for the county.

Mr. Levesque was a member of St. Peter's and St. Paul's Parish, of the Holy Name Society and the Assumption Society.

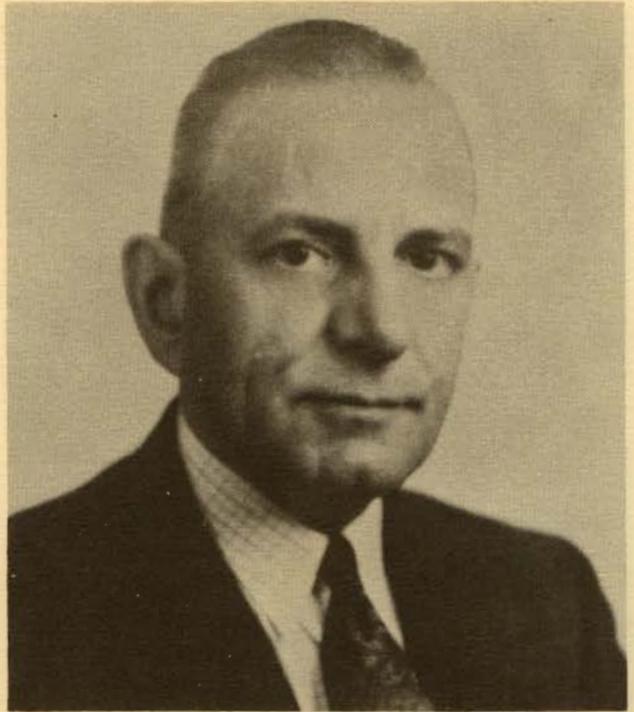


Edward J. Beauchamp 1939

Due to the adoption of a new city charter and unusual timing of elections Mr. Beauchamp served the shortest term of any mayor in our city. He was born in Chicopee Falls, Mass., July 13, 1909 to Dr. Joseph O. and Mina Deslongchamps Beauchamp. After being educated in local schools there he went to Assumption College and then transferred to Catholic University in Washington from which he received a BA degree in 1930. From National University he received a Bachelor of Law degree in 1932 and then a Masters in Law from Boston University in 1936.

Immediately thereafter he came to Lewiston and was associated with the law office of Harold Redding and was admitted to the bar in 1936. He promptly entered the political arena by winning the election as county attorney in 1938. In 1939 he won a hotly contested Democratic caucus for nomination as mayor. Then in March he ran in the last partisan election in the city against two others and won by a large plurality. This was the same day that the city adopted the new charter which required another election in April. In this election he ran against two others but in the run-off Fernand Despins won by a small majority.

Mr. Beauchamp married Gaetane Ladouceur of Lewiston in 1937 and they have a daughter Michele. He has been a member of the Elks, Cercle Canadiaen, Union St. Jean Baptiste, Le Montagnard, St. Peter and



Fernand Despins 1939, 1940

St. Paul Church and the various Bar Associations.

During World War I he served in the army. In 1948-1950 he was again county attorney and since then has engaged in private law practice.

This mayor was chairman of a group of dedicated citizens who wrote the charter under which Lewiston functioned a long time. Fernand Despins was born on July 11, 1895 in Lewiston, son of Napoleon and Cesarine (Giguere) Despins. He was educated in the public schools of Lewiston, at St. Charles Seminary in Sherbrooke (Quebec), at Bates College and Boston University Law School.

During World War I he served in the Quartermaster Corps. After that he practiced law in Lewiston, combining it with related law activities. During the 1930's he was county Register of Probate; from 1940 to 1950 he was city Corporation Counsel; from 1956 to 1960 he was Judge of the Municipal Court and for one year, 1955, was on the Lewiston Finance Board.

When the government of Lewiston had fallen into disrepute in the 1930's he chaired a committee which gave careful consideration to the problems and produced a new charter which the State Legislature approved. Although no one on that committee intended to run for mayor, it was felt by many that it would be desirable to get the new charter off to a good start by having one of the makers serve, which he did. For the first time inauguration proceedings were broadcast in Lewiston.

Mr. Despin married Leontine Brochu in 1941 and they adopted one daughter Rachel. He served in many community organizations--the American Legion, the Elks, Musical-Literary, president of Kiwanis, director of



Edmond J. Lambert 1941-1942

the First Auburn Trust Company and the Auburn Savings and Loan, the Orpheon Society, Les Vigilants and the Chamber of Commerce.

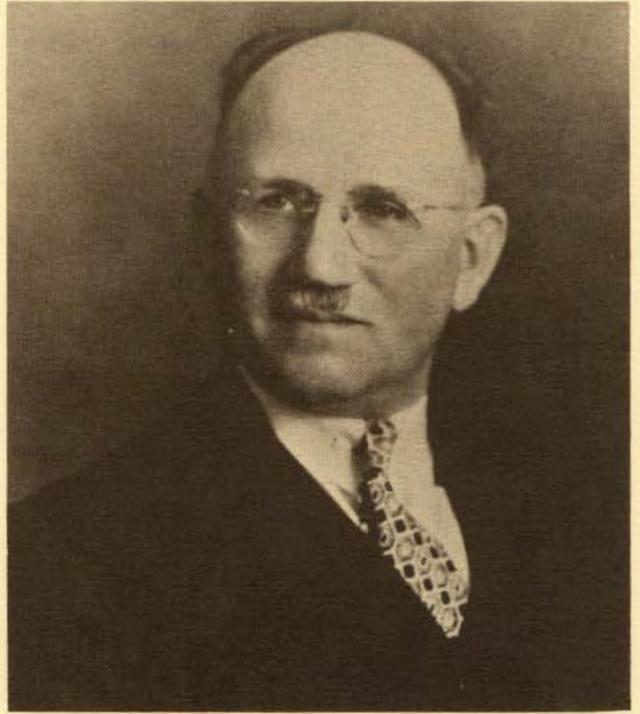
He was specially well known for his service to French and Catholic societies--Survivance Francaise, Holy Name of Jesus Society, Marchands De Bonheur, Union St. Jean Baptiste, Institute Jacques Cartier, Les Artisans. For his dedication he received an honorary degree from the University of Montreal and a medal from the French government. He died in Lewiston January 17, 1967.

A life long resident of Lewiston, Edmond Lambert was born here on December 7, 1904, the son of Edgar T. and Alice (Tourigny) Lambert. Following graduation from Lewiston High School, he entered upon a variety of occupations. He was a professional boxer using the name of Kid Lee. He was also a proof reader and a telegraph editor for the *Lewiston Daily Sun* and a reporter for the *Old Portland News*.

In December 1928, he married Mary Annette Fournier. They had two children, Paul and Anita. During the depression days he worked at pick and shovel jobs for governmental agencies. For a few years he operated a clothing store on Lisbon Street and later a gasoline station on Main Street.

His political career began as deputy tax collector. In 1938 he was first elected to the House of Representatives; in 1941 he took leave of absence to run for mayor. In the 1942 election for mayor he was unopposed. While in the legislature, he sought a solution to the pollution problem on the Androscoggin River. Governor Sewall appointed him to a committee to study river pollution state-wide.

Following his term as mayor he became our first Civil Defense Director in 1941. His election to the office of County Commissioner was in 1942. Simultaneously, he served Lewiston on the Public Works Board and then became assistant director of the Public Works Department, where he handled waste removal and snow removal. During the war years he served on the Atlantic



Jean Charles Boucher 1943-1944

Born In Riviere-Ouelle in Canada, on June 30, 1894, Jean Charles Boucher was the son of Etienne and Josephine (Dionne) Boucher. He was educated in the public and parochial schools and at Bliss College in Lewiston.

Mr. Boucher was a very successful general building contractor. In 1921 he married Carmelle Grenier. Their children were: Carmelle (Mrs. Jeffrey Brickates), Jacqueline P., Gisele, Monique (Mrs. Frances McAvoy), and Helene (Mrs. Leonel L'Heureux).

As so many other mayors of Lewiston, he served in the State Legislature; two terms were in the House from 1934-1938 and eleven in the Senate from 1938-1960, where he became minority leader. In the same period, he was an Alderman from Lewiston--Ward seven--for four years and served on the Board of Finance. During his terms as mayor, one of the major issues was the bussing of parochial school pupils.

On the county level, he was the strong man in the picture when the Democrats wrested control of the county government from the Republicans, and he founded the Androscoggin County Democratic Candidates Committee.

Mr. Boucher was very active in local organizations of a non-political nature. He held membership in the Elks, Le Montagnard, Jacques Cartier Institute, the Lions, Union Saint Jean-Baptiste, Artisans, Assumption Society, and the Musical Literary. He was the first president of

Oil Commission, concerned with gasoline and oil rationing on the eastern seaboard.

Mr. Lambert was a member of the Holy Rosary Parish of Sabattus, the Lewiston Lodge of Elks, the Musical Literary Club, and Le Montagnard. He died December 18, 1952.



Alton A. Lessard 1945, 1946

the Holy Family Credit Union and the Society of Defenders of the Holy Name of Jesus at St. Peter's and St. Paul's parish.

Considered a talented actor, he won many first prizes in speaking contests. He was a founder and president of the League of French Language Societies of Lewiston from 1907 to 1922, vice president of Canada-American Vigilants. He served as president of the Committee in charge of the second Congress of the Franco-American Orientation Committee in 1951 at which time the New England Federation of Franco-American Women was founded. The Societe du Bon Parler Francais De Montreal decorated him and gave him the title of Knight.

Mr. Boucher died in Lewiston on March 24, 1960.

A Rumford native, Alton Adolor Lessard was born August 2, 1909 to Philip and Josephine Paradis Lessard. He attended Rumford schools and then went to Georgetown University and Law School from which he received his degree in 1931.

Following admission to the bar in 1931 he practiced law in Lewiston as a partner of Louis J. Brann and later with his son-in-law John Kivus.

His service to the community began as Corporation Counsel from 1932 to 1934 and Judge of the Municipal Court, 1934-1928, and Judge of Probate Court from 1940 to 1944 as well as on the Board of Education. He was elected mayor in 1945 without any run-off election in spite of having five opponents. The war years posed problems of shortages of materials.

Next he was appointed U.S. District Attorney for the period 1947 to 1958. He returned to private law practice and was a State Senator from 1958 to 1964. Then he was appointed a Judge of the Superior Court system in 1964 where he served until his retirement in August 1975, but continued in private law practice in Portland.

His wife was Atala Lamar whom he married in 1931 and they have two daughters, Jeannine and Mary Atala. He moved to Falmouth where he died June 3, 1976.

He held membership in the Grange, the Elks, the Musical-Literary Club, the Kiwanis and the Knights of Columbus.



Louis Philippe Gagne 1947, 1948

Born April 16, 1900 in Quebec, Louis Gagne had worked five years for a Quebec Daily paper before coming to Lewiston in 1922. He was the son of Elphege and Georgianna Gagne.

For twenty five years he worked in the editorial department of Le Messenger Publishing Company and until his death continued to work part time there.

His political career started in 1928 as a ward clerk, followed by two terms on the school board and then two terms on the City Council in the 1940's. During World War II he served in a division of the local Selective Service Board.

His wife was Ernestine Hamann and they had seven children--Julienne, Yvette, Cecile, Marguerite, Louis Philippe Jr., Andre and Denise.

After 1944 he was a sales representative for Artistic Memorial Studios. He was vitally concerned with the French Canadian societies. He founded Le Montagnard Snowshoe Club, was the first president of the American Snowshoe Union, belonged to Societe d'Assumption, Union St. Jean Baptiste, Association Canada-Americaine and the Musical Literary Club.

His continual interest in the city was shown by his founding the Vigilants, a group of men who evidenced concern over city government. Quite regularly he was heard in a commentary over a local radio station.

Mr. Gagne died in Lewiston January 13, 1964.



Armand Gerard Sansoucy 1949

Armand Sansoucy was born in Auburn on January 7, 1910 to Napoleon Joseph and Lauza Baron Sansoucy. After his graduation from Jordan High School and Bentley School of Accounting (1932) he married Venise Leblanc in Rumford in 1934. They have one daughter, Claire Louise Bilodeau.

Beginning in 1937 he was employed for several years by Personal Finance Corporation before turning to public office. In 1945 he served as Alderman, and in 1949 he campaigned against six candidates for Mayor, winning in a run off election against Ernest Malenfant. During his term the city built Montello Heights Reservoir, the swimming pool in the city park, and the Lisbon Street fire station. Other projects had to await more funds.

As a registered public accountant, he returned to city service as auditor from 1953 to 1964 and then went to state service, first as auditor from 1965-1969 and then as business administrator and auditor for the Maine Liquor Commission from 1969 until his retirement in 1974.

Mr. Sansoucy is a member of the Musical Literary Club, the Elks and the Credit Union supervisory committee, and has enjoyed hobbies of fishing, boating, and music.



Ernest Malenfant 1951, 1954, 1955

Another native of Canada was Ernest Malenfant, born on November 18, 1889 in St. Paul de la Croix, Quebec to Bonaventure and Adele (Dube) Malenfant. He attended elementary schools there and later in Lewiston attended adult evening school. His employment was with the Maine Central Railroad from age 16 until retirement in 1960.

Besides serving his city as mayor he had been an Alderman from Ward III for 9 years between 1940 and 1951 and a State Legislator for 8 years between 1947 and 1960. He was a member of organizations such as Institute Jacques Cartier, LePasse Temps, Ligue Politique Franco-American, Cercle Lacordaire, the Webber Avenue Club and the Auburn Social Club.

He died in Lewiston February 5, 1977;



Roland Louis Marcotte 1952, 1953, 1964

Another Lewiston native born on March 25, 1918, Mr. Marcotte was the son of Jean Baptiste and Regina (Deshaies) Marcotte.

Following his education at Lewiston High School, he went to work in 1936 for Liggett's Drugstore and Standard Brands. During the war years--1941-1945-- he was a pilot in the Air Force. Next he returned to Standard Brands for two years, then went to New England Telephone and Telegraph for two years. Since 1949, he has been an automobile dealer.

His family includes his wife, Eileen Hopkins, whom he married June 20, 1942, and three children: Roland, Mary, and Brian.

His political career began with the position of Alderman in 1950. In his first campaign for the mayoralty he lost, but in 1952, defeated the incumbent Ernest Malenfant. He won reelection in 1953 and returned to the office again in 1964.

During his term, he started putting the construction of roads out to bids by private firms and also inaugurated the Industrial Development Department in 1953. One aspiration about which he talked to many groups was the eventual combining of services by the Lewiston and Auburn governments. After moving to Auburn, he finished his active career in politics.



Georges J. Rancourt 1956-1957

Georges J. Rancourt was born in Lewiston on November 6, 1901, to Marcellin and Georgianna (Rioux) Rancourt.

For many years, he served as a custodian for the Lewiston Schools, for a time as a deputy sheriff and later was employed by the city as a welfare investigator.

He began his political career in 1935 by serving on the School Board. After his term as mayor, he was elected a state representative and at the same time was on the Lewiston Police Commission. Another service to the city was on the Finance Board and he also served the County as a Commissioner.

Another great interest of Mr. Rancourt was fostering the Credit Union idea. Besides his local work, he served as state president of the league and represented Maine at many national conventions.

His death occurred in Lewiston on December 5, 1973.



Romeo T. Boisvert 1958, 1959

From his birthplace of St. Adrien in Quebec, Romeo Boisvert came as a boy to Lewiston and attended St. Peter's School. Like many French Canadian boys he was sent back to St. Joseph's Preparatory School in Quebec. He was born November 15, 1916 to Theophile and Beatrice Phenix Boisvert.

After taking a course in journalism in the Newspaper Institute of America he served from 1955 to 1966 as a manager and editor of Le Messenger Publishing Co.

Lewiston voters chose him as mayor without the necessity of any run-off elections. During his terms there was launched the first comprehensive planning for land use, community facilities, capital improvements and urban renewal. The one way street system was inaugurated to solve traffic problems. The coming of Raytheon Company began the diversification of industrial development. A decision was made to build Montello Junior High School and the Hart Brook sewer project. Public transportation faced a crisis when the Lewiston Auburn Transit Company went out of business, but Hudson Bus Lines replaced it.

After his term as mayor he served ten years in the State Senate-1961 to 1971-and since that day has been Chairman of the Board of Registration of Voters in Lewiston until retirement. During the period of 1967-1971 he was also an insurance agent.

In 1939 he married Cecile Doucette; they have two



Emile Joseph Jacques 1960, 1961

daughters, Therese (Shipps) and Lorette (Smith).

He has always taken a prominent part in French societies. For twenty four years he was Vice President of the International La Societe d'Assumption, has been a president of Les Vigilants and of the Unite Franco-Americaine.

His death occurred on November 26, 1981.

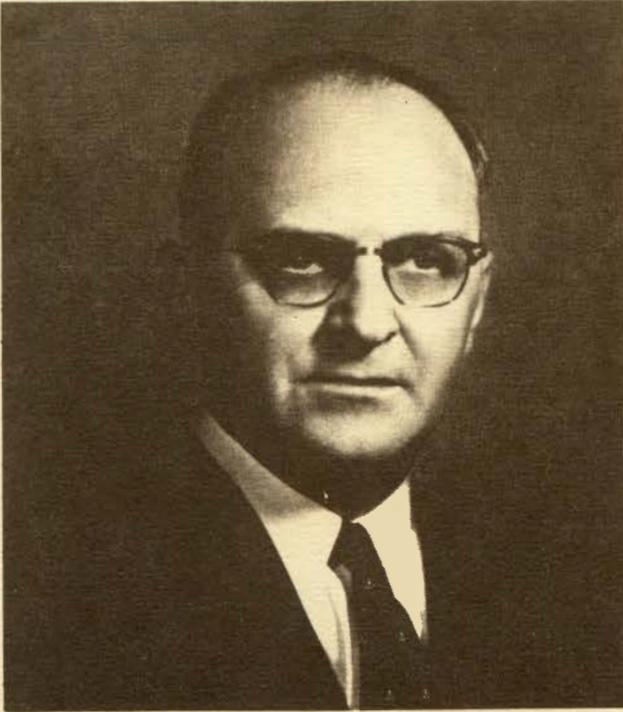
Emile Jacques, son of Ovide and Forestine Hemond Jacques, was born in Lewiston on February 2, 1925. After his education at St. Mary's Parochial School and Roberts Business School in Lewiston, he earned a diploma from the New York Institute of Criminology.

From 1945 to 1952 he was co-owner of the National Candy Company. From then to the present he has been self-employed as a television technician. He pursued the sideline career of a professional motorcycle racer from 1940 to 1955.

At the present time he has served a total of fourteen years as Alderman beginning in 1954; part of this time was before and part following his term as mayor. Concurrently he has served as a state representative for eight years beginning in 1954, but the time was broken by a six year term in the Senate from 1962 to 1968.

During his two terms as mayor he managed to keep the tax rate level, formed the Youth Commission and the Urban Renewal Commission. This was the time also of the 100th anniversary of the city with an appropriate celebration. It was a difficult time due to the closing of the Continental Mill, which threw hundreds out of work.

Mr. Jacques married Mildred Clark in 1954 and they have three children: David, Diane and James. He is a member of the American Legion Post 22, Le Montagnard and the Knights of Columbus.



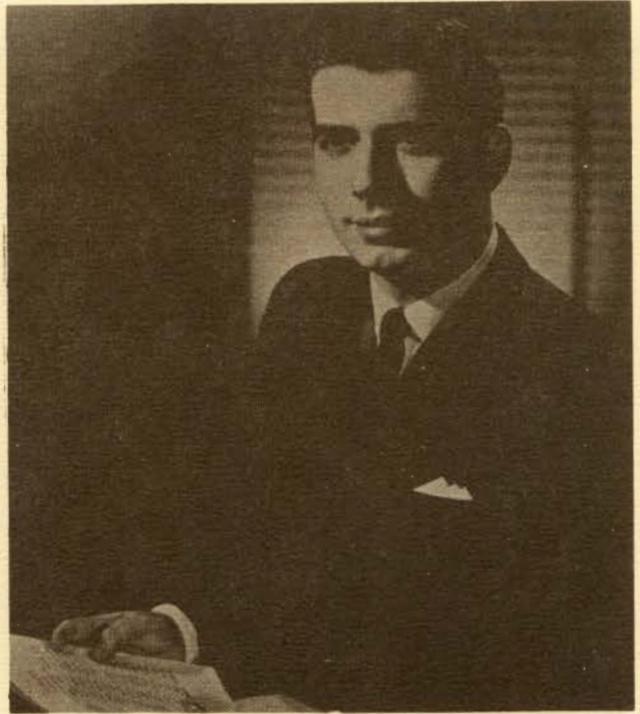
Donia J. Girard 1962, 1963

Donia J. Girard was born at Lake Megantic, Canada on October 18, 1908, the son of Jacques and Marie Louise L'Heureux Girard. When he was about the age of seven the family moved to Maine where he was educated.

For almost forty years Mr. Girard was self employed, operating an independent grocery business. In 1929 he married Laurence Poulin and they had one son Donia Jr. After the death of Laurence he married Beatrice Goulet Larocque.

Just before becoming mayor he served three years on the city Health and Welfare Commission. During his two years as Mayor the new Montello School was accepted and opened. The Lincoln Street Fire Station was built, the Urban Renewal Authority was named and plans were made for Blake Street Towers housing for the elderly. The first Civil Defense headquarters for the city was located in the city library.

A life long Democrat, he was elected in 1965 and 1967 to the State Senate and then for a six year term to the Androscoggin County Commission before retiring in 1975.

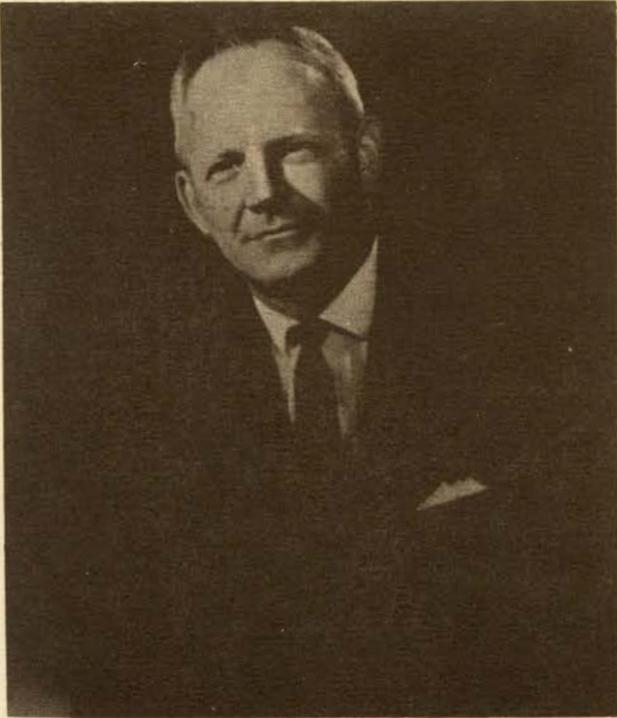


Robert L. Couturier 1965, 1966

Probably he will go down in history as our youngest mayor. Robert Couturier is the son of Lorenzo R. and Germaine Therriault Couturier and was born in Lewiston on July 11, 1940. Educated first at St. Peter's School and St. Dominic's High School, he graduated from Bates College in 1963 and then from the University of Maine Law School in 1970.

In the interim he served two terms as mayor. He felt that he was trying to bring the government closer to the people. Although no brand new projects were initiated, several were completed during his term and an attempt was made to bring a completely new city charter to the community.

Mr. Couturier married Rose B. Belanger in 1966. He is a member of Les Vigilants and a founder of the Richelieu International. Since his admission to the County Bar in 1970 he has practiced law in the city.



William Rocheleau 1967, 1968

The son of William and Aurore (Doyon) Rocheleau, he was born May 31, 1925 in Lewiston. Before he could graduate from high school, World War II had broken out and he went into military service in the navy and earned his high school diploma through USAFI. After the war he enrolled at Portland Junior College and then at the University of Maine-Orono where he studied city administration and graduated in 1951.

He returned to active military duty during the Korean War. Upon returning home he went to work for the Alonzo Conant law firm in 1951. He was encouraged to go to law school; after attending Boston University Law School one year he transferred to the University of Maine Law School. When he passed the bar exam in 1960 he went back to the Conant law firm until Mr. Conant's death and since then had practiced alone until Paul C. Fournier became an associate.

His wife is Lyse Roberge R.N. of Montreal and his children are Diane, Michelle, William and Robert. In past years he has been active in the Elks, the Vigilants, the Musical Literary Club, and the Maine Nordiques.

His service to the city of Lewiston began with an appointment as Corporation Counsel during Mayor Couturier's term. As Mayor he felt that one of his best contributions was spending time to hear and solve little problems of the average citizen who felt that government was something far removed. He was disillusioned with the handling of controversial personnel matters in the news media.

Since serving as mayor he has been a member of the Committee on Reorganization of State Government under Governor Curtis and most recently chaired the Building Committee for the new Lewiston High School.



John Beliveau 1969, 1970

The mayor who created the Historical Commission which produced this book is John B. Beliveau who was born in Lewiston on February 17, 1937 to Dr. Bertrand A. and Mary Twomey Beliveau. He attended schools in Lewiston preparatory to earning his A.B. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1959, a Masters degree in Business Administration from New York University School of Business and finally in 1964 a Doctor of Laws Degree from Georgetown University.

He has continually practiced law, currently in the firm of Marshall, Raymond, Beliveau and Dionne. In 1963 he married Mary Dolan and their children are Julie Mary, John Jr. and Katherine Ann..

Besides his association with the various legal associations, he has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Board of Directors of St. Andre's Home, of the United Way and the Diocesan Finance Council. He is an active Democratic Party State Committeeman.

In the political arena he has served as assistant and county attorney as well as mayor. It was unusual to be unopposed in both elections. One innovation during his mayoralty was the formation of a Finance Study Committee to establish a five year capital expenditure program as a basis for sensible budgeting. In the interest of good budgeting also the Public Works Department was given a lump sum with the right to determine priorities and avoid pork barreling. A decision was reached after long debate on the location of the third bridge across the Androscoggin.

Several labor problems made his term difficult, involving pay disputes with teachers and Public Works. One unique problem was the lighted crosses on top of the Fire Station during Christmas. After a battle with the Civil Liberties Union they were restored.



Robert W. Clifford 1971, 1972

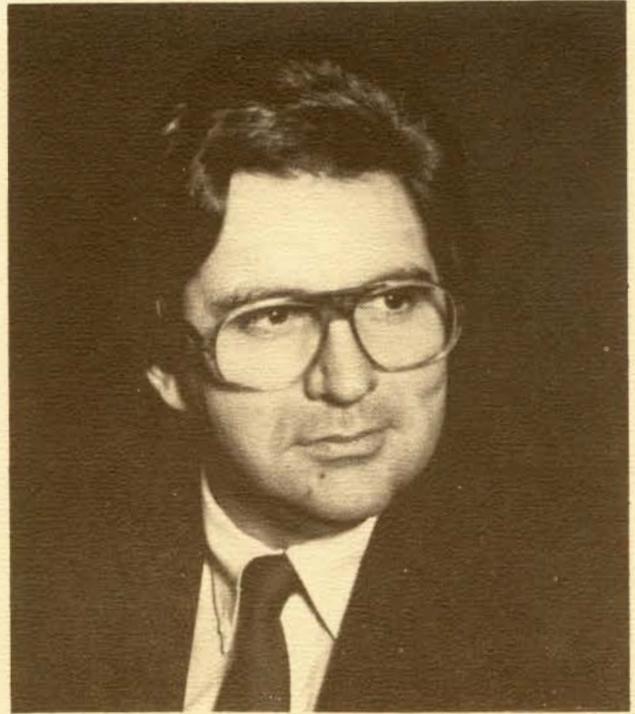
Robert W. Clifford is the son of William H. and Alice Sughrue Clifford. He was born in Lewiston, May 2, 1937 and educated in the local schools, graduating from Lewiston High School in 1955. Following graduation from Bowdoin College in 1959 he earned a law degree from Boston College Law School in 1962.

Immediately thereafter he entered the practice of law in Lewiston with his family's law firm and continues in it. His wife is Clementina whom he married in 1964 and their two sons are Laurence and Matthew.

Prior to his terms as mayor Mr. Clifford served on the City Council from 1968 to 1970 and was its president in 1969. After his term he served as a State Senator from 1973 to 1976.

He was the first non Franco-American since 1931 to win the mayor's seat. During his terms there was the initiation of significant amounts of low and moderate income housing, the initiation of comprehensive city planning, and some zoning revision. Through referendum the voters approved the change of the election date and a two year term for mayor. The voters however rejected by a narrow margin a proposed new charter for the city which would have provided for a city manager form.

Mr. Clifford is a past president of the Kiwanis Club.



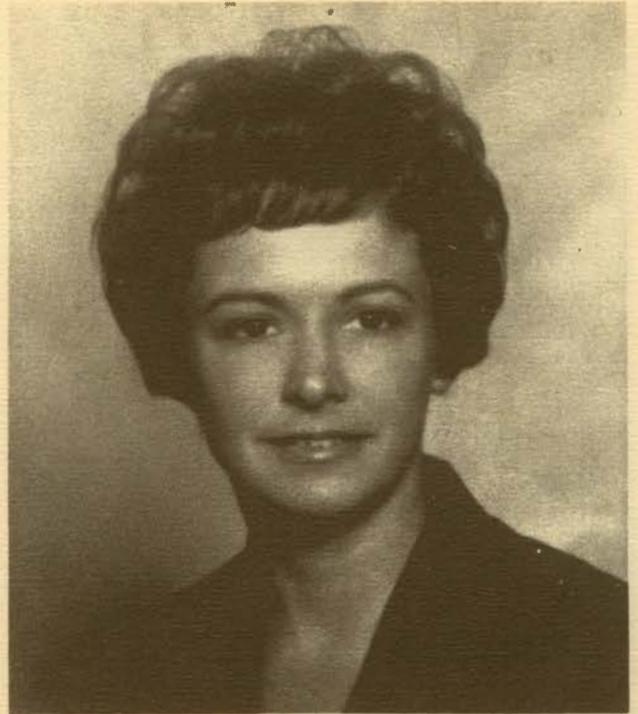
John C. Orestis 1973, 1974, 1975

John Orestis was the first mayor to serve under the new charter provision for a two year term. He is a Lewiston native, born March 8, 1945 to Christos and Cecile Langelier Orestis. After graduation from Lewiston High School and Georgetown University he completed legal training at American University in 1968. Immediately he entered into law practice in which he now continues in partnership with Peter Garcia.

He served as a state representative in the 105th Legislature and as Lewiston Corporation Counsel and as a staff aide to Senator Muskie before becoming mayor. In 1972 there was a three way race for mayor which he won and thus held the last one year term. In 1974 he was unopposed, securing the first two year term.

His municipal interests have caused him to be very active in the National League of Cities. Also he has served as President of the Maine Municipal Association. Twice he participated in White House conferences on city problems.

During his terms as mayor there were many varied accomplishments. The Multi-Purpose Center opened, federal funding was received to keep the local bus service operating; 150 units of low income housing were completed; the new waste water treatment plant started operation; a separate Department of Recreation was created; the first Cultural Affairs Coordinator was ap-



Lillian L. Caron 1976-1979

pointed and the new Comprehensive High School opened.

Besides many memberships in law related associations, he is a corporator of People's Savings Bank and the Central Maine General Hospital. His wife is Kelsey whom he married in 1965 and their children are Christos III, Stephanos and Kelsey Anne.

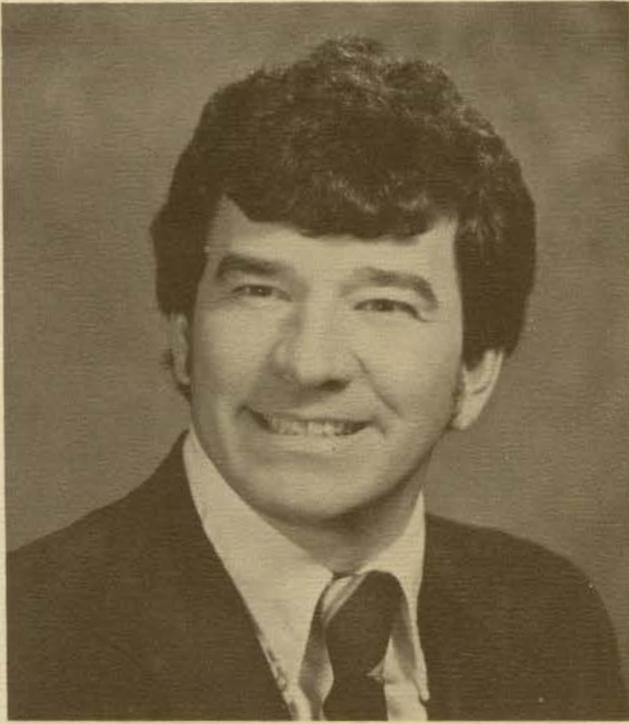
The first woman to serve as mayor, Lillian Caron was born May 31, 1931 in Durham, Maine to Gustave and Lottie Tardiff. After public education in Auburn and Portland schools, she attended the Norwich, Connecticut Free Academy from which she graduated in 1949. Since that time she has taken diverse workshop courses such as Communication Skills, Sign Language, and Human Relations.

Her work experience included Quality Control Assistant, Optical Laboratory Technician, Administrative Assistant of the Occupational Training Center and the Task Force on Human Needs. Her entry into politics was as an Alderman from Ward 7 from 1972 to 1976 when she ran for mayor against three men and won the run-off election.

As mayor she tried to secure action through coordination which an era of federal grants has necessitated particularly. A large grant from Urban Development enabled the city to create a new image in Downtown Lewiston.

Besides service to the city she had appointments by the Governor to the Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Maine Law Enforcement Assistance Agency, Maine Advisory Council on Vocational Education and the Commission on Maine's Future.

In 1950 she married Eddie Caron and has three daughters and one son; Lottie (Wyman), Victor, Jane (Letourneau) and Theresa.



Paul R. Dionne 1980

Paul Dionne had the privilege of being the first mayor under the newest charter and the responsibility for making the new system work with an administrator.

Like many other mayors he has a background in the legal profession. After graduating from Lewiston High School in 1960 he continued at Kents Hill Preparatory School before attending Providence College from which he graduated in 1965. His education was interrupted by military service from September 1966 to September 1968, as a first lieutenant in the army during the Vietnam War. Then he entered the University of Maine School of Law, earning a degree in 1972.

In the meantime he married Diane LeBlanc in 1970 and they have two daughters, Melodie and Michelle.

Since 1972 he has been a member of the law firm of Marshall, Raymond, Beliveau, Dionne and Bonneau. In civic affairs he has been Assistant District Attorney for Androscoggin County, Corporation Counsel for Lewiston in 1975 and a Finance Board Member, 1977-1978.