

1911

Rumford Mechanics Institute, incorporated 1911,  
Rumford, Maine : building completed October,  
1911 : building dedicated November 9, 1911

Rumford Mechanics Institute

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Rumford Mechanics Institute—Exterior of Building

# RUMFORD MECHANICS INSTITUTE

INCORPORATED, 1911

BUILDING COMPLETED OCTOBER, 1911

BUILDING DEDICATED NOVEMBER 9, 1911

RUMFORD, MAINE





THE UNIVERSITY PRESS, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

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Mr. Hugh J. Chisholm—Founder



## Introductory

**T**HE object for which the Rumford Mechanics Institute has been created is to furnish to the wage earners of Rumford the best quality of physical and mental, social and moral improvement, at the lowest cost, the cultivation of a more intimate acquaintanceship between the employed and the employer.

The founder having made a study of the occupation of the wage earner after working hours, at Rumford and in several other towns similarly situated, and realizing how little entertainment and amusement is offered to him during his leisure time, the question to be solved was how best to establish an institution which would meet the requirements and distribute rational and moral amusement of the best quality and furnish it at the lowest possible cost, so that those who participate should in no way feel that any burden had been placed upon them in exchange for what they were receiving. This object had to be accomplished free from any tinge or connection with charity, and with an absolute equality of each and every member while within the walls and enjoying the benefits of the Institute, in order to retain the self-respect and independence which are so highly prized by the American wage earner, and which are absolute necessities in order to make any institution permanently popular with him. The problem, therefore, which confronted the founder was, how to erect, finance and establish such an institution at Rumford. The Institution must be owned and managed by the

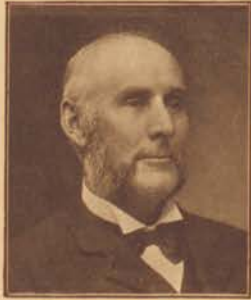
members, and must be without endowment or need of calling upon the members or citizens of the town for money or assistance. Such an institution must have earning powers aside from the assessment placed upon its members, and therefore must have a location in the central business part of the town in order that its stores shall command ready tenants at satisfactory rates. The solution, when found, proved a very simple one. The process of organizing and financing the Institution was practically as follows:

The founder employed the services of a competent attorney to organize an association under the general laws of the State, the Association to be known as The Rumford Mechanics Institute. To this Association he leased for one hundred years land valued at about \$30,000. The sum to be paid as rental is a nominal sum, but the condition accompanying the lease is that the buildings erected thereon shall be forever used for the purposes originally intended. With the lease was an assurance that a mortgage might be placed by the Institute upon the lands leased and the buildings erected for a sufficient sum of money to complete the same. After this mortgage was properly executed and recorded, twenty year five per cent bonds, with a sinking fund of sufficient amount to pay the principal of the bonds at maturity, were issued. Application was made by the Institute to the three large corporations engaged in business in the town of Rumford, to wit, the



International Paper Company, the Continental Paper Bag Company, and the Oxford Paper Company, asking them to guarantee the payment of interest and sinking fund upon these bonds. This request was granted, and these three corporations have guaranteed these securities. With bonds secured in this manner, it was not a difficult matter to find ready purchasers. The whole issue was sold at par, the money to be supplied from time to time as it was required to pay for the building as it was

erected. From the rental of stores and sleeping rooms for club members in the building, under leases covering a period of years, an income is created of an amount very much in excess of the amount required to meet the payment of sinking fund and interest account, so that at the end of twenty years the Institute becomes the owner of the property, free of indebtedness; after which time an increased income will be available for the furthering of the best interests of the Institute.



WALDO PETTENGILL  
PRESIDENT



EDWARD S. KENNARD  
TREASURER



CLEON S. OSGOOD  
VICE-PRESIDENT



L. H. VEILLEUX  
VICE-PRESIDENT



ROBERT BURNSIDE  
VICE-PRESIDENT



H. P. LYON  
VICE-PRESIDENT



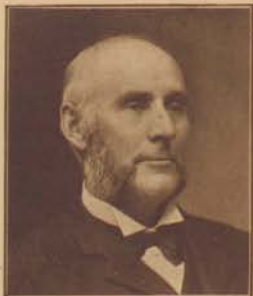
L. W. BLANCHARD  
SECRETARY

GEORGE H. CHABBOTT  
VICE-PRESIDENT



HENRY Q. HAWES  
SUPERINTENDENT

Officers for 1911-1912



WALDO PETTENGILL  
CHAIRMAN



O. J. GONYA



WILLIS J. PIPPERT



GEORGE M. LOCKE



GEORGE MCAULEY



W. L. WESCOTT



R. L. MELCHER



ELISHA PRATT



F. J. LATHAM



CHARLES E. NEFF



CHARLES ISRAELSON

Board of Governors





J. H. HASSETT



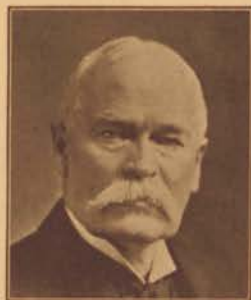
THEODORE HAWLEY



J. W. HARRIS



E. L. LOVEJOY



GEORGE D. BISBEE



KARL BURROUGHS

F. G. WHITNEY



E. J. RODERICK



P. E. McCARTY



W. E. HOWARD

Board of Governors

## Organization

*To George D. Bisbee, a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Oxford and State of Maine:*

The undersigned, John H. Hassett, Elisha Pratt, Edward S. Kennard, Theodore Hawley, George D. Bisbee, Oville J. Gonya, James W. Harris, and E. L. Lovejoy and Waldo Pettengill, all of Rumford in said County, seven or more persons desiring to be incorporated as a Club for the purpose of promoting Mechanic Arts, the diffusion of scientific, mechanical, industrial and other useful knowledge, instruction in architecture, chemistry, the principles of mechanic and other scientific and industrial pursuits, of literary and social intercourse among, and the physical, mental and moral development

of, its members and the construction and maintenance of a Home for any or all of the above purposes, hereby request you to issue your warrant to some one of the persons mentioned in this application, directing him to notify the signers hereof according to law to meet at the time and place to be mentioned in said warrant for the purpose of organizing themselves into a corporation for the objects above named under the provisions of Chapter 57 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, and all acts amendatory thereof or additional thereto.

Dated at Rumford this 23rd day of April, A.D. 1910.

NAMES	RESIDENCES	NAMES	RESIDENCES
JOHN H. HASSETT,	Rumford.	GEORGE D. BISBEE,	Rumford.
WALDO PETTENGILL,	Rumford.	OVILLE J. GONYA,	Rumford.
ELISHA PRATT,	Rumford.	JAMES W. HARRIS,	Rumford.
EDWARD S. KENNARD,	Rumford.	E. L. LOVEJOY,	Rumford.
THEODORE HAWLEY,	Rumford.		

STATE OF MAINE }  
 OXFORD COUNTY } ss.

*To Waldo Pettengill, of Rumford:*

Pursuant to the foregoing application, you are hereby directed to notify the persons named in said application to meet at the office of Bisbee & Parker, Rumford, Me., on Saturday, May 7, 1910, at seven o'clock and thirty minutes in the afternoon, for the purposes mentioned in said application, by reading this warrant in the presence and hearing of each of the per-

sons named in said application, at least fourteen days prior to said 7th day of May, A.D. 1910.

Given under my hand and seal this 23rd day of April, A.D. 1910, at Rumford in said County.

GEORGE D. BISBEE, [Seal]  
*Justice of the Peace.*

We, the undersigned persons named in the foregoing application and warrant, hereby severally acknowledge service upon us of the foregoing warrant by the reading



of the same in our presence and hearing by the said Waldo Pettengill more than fourteen days prior to the date named in said warrant for the first meeting of the persons applying therefor.

Dated at Rumford this 23rd day of April, A.D. 1910.

J. H. HASSETT,  
WALDO PETTENGILL,  
ELISHA PRATT,  
EDWARD S. KENNARD,  
THEODORE HAWLEY,  
GEORGE D. BISBEE,  
OVILLE J. GONYA,  
JAMES W. HARRIS,  
E. L. LOVEJOY.

A true copy of the original application, warrant and acknowledgment of service.

Attest:

GEORGE D. BISBEE,  
*Clerk of the Meeting.*

Pursuant to the warrant, of which the foregoing is a copy, and the service of the same, in accordance with the acknowledgment of service, of which the foregoing is a copy, the above-named applicants met at the office of Bisbee & Parker, Rumford, Me., on Saturday, May 7th, 1910, at 7.30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Present: Waldo Pettengill, John H. Hassett, Theodore Hawley, Elisha Pratt, Edward S. Kennard, Elmer L. Lovejoy and George D. Bisbee.

Waldo Pettengill was chosen Chairman of the meet-

ing and George D. Bisbee was chosen Clerk of the meeting.

The Clerk of the meeting was duly sworn by Waldo Pettengill, Justice of the Peace.

The application, warrant and acknowledgment of service were then read by the Chairman.

On motion of Mr. John H. Hassett,

*Voted:* To organize as a corporation under the provisions of Chapter 57 of the Revised Statutes, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, and all acts amendatory thereof and additional thereto.

On motion of Theodore Hawley,

*Voted:* That the name of the corporation be "RUMFORD MECHANICS INSTITUTE."

On motion of Mr. Edward S. Kennard,

*Voted:* That the purposes of the corporation be those stated in the original application, viz.:

Of promoting the mechanic arts; the diffusion of scientific, mechanical, industrial and other useful knowledge; instruction in architecture, chemistry, the principles of mechanics, and other scientific and industrial pursuits; of literary and social intercourse among, and the physical, mental and moral development of, its members, and the construction and maintenance of a Home for any and all of the above purposes.

On motion of Mr. Elisha Pratt,

*Voted:* That the Association be located at Rumford in the County of Oxford and State of Maine.

On motion of Mr. Elmer L. Lovejoy,

*Voted:* To adopt the following code of By-laws.



## By-Laws

### ARTICLE I.

#### NAME AND SEAL.

SECTION I. The name of this Corporation shall be "RUMFORD MECHANICS INSTITUTE."

It shall have a corporate seal, bearing the inscription "Rumford Mechanics Institute, organized May, 1910."

### ARTICLE II.

#### OFFICERS.

SECTION I. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Board of Governors, and such other officers as the Board may deem advisable.

### ARTICLE III.

#### PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS.

SECTION I. The President and Vice-Presidents shall perform all the duties usually incident or pertaining to their respective offices, and such other duties not inconsistent with the By-laws as may from time to time be imposed upon them by the Board of Governors.

They shall be elected annually by ballot by the Board of Governors and hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### TREASURER AND SECRETARY.

SECTION I. The Treasurer shall have the custody of all moneys, funds, papers and documents of the Association, except his own bond, which shall be in the custody

of the Secretary. He shall collect all sums due the Association, deposit the same in such banks or trust companies as may from time to time be designated by the Board of Governors to the credit of the Association, by its corporate name, and shall disburse the same under the supervision of the Board of Governors.

The Treasurer, and in his absence or disability such officer or person as may be designated by the Board, is hereby vested with full power to sign all checks, orders and drafts in the name of the Association, but no accounts or indebtedness of the Association shall be paid until the same has been audited and approved in writing by the Finance Committee of the Association.

The Treasurer shall keep accurate books of account of his receipts and disbursements and shall take and keep vouchers for all payments made by him, all of which books and vouchers shall be the property of the Association, and together with all other property of the Association in his custody, shall be subject at any and all times to the inspection of the Board of Governors.

The Treasurer shall make a report of the financial condition of the Association in detail to the Board of Governors annually and at such other times as the Board may desire.

He shall give bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such sureties as the Board of Governors may require, but the premium for such bond shall be paid by the Association.

SECTION 2. The Secretary shall be sworn to the faithful discharge of his duties and shall keep true and accurate records of all the meetings of the Association and Board of Governors, and shall perform such other duties and exercise such other powers as are usually incident to that office and not inconsistent with these By-laws. He shall be the custodian of the seal of the Corporation but shall affix the same only upon direction of the Board of Governors.

SECTION 3. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected annually by the Board of Governors and hold office for one year or until their respective successors are chosen.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

SECTION 1. The Board of Governors shall consist of twenty members of the Association, and of the President, Treasurer and Secretary, who shall be members *ex officio*.

SECTION 2. The twenty members of the Board shall be divided into four classes of five each, and the term of such classes shall end in successive years.

At the organization of the Association twenty members of the Board shall be elected, five to serve for one year, five for two years, five for three years and five for four years, or until the respective annual meetings of the Board of Governors thereafter and the election of their successors. At each annual meeting of the Board thereafter five members of the Board shall be elected, in the place of those whose office expires, to hold office for the full term of four years or until their successors are chosen.

SECTION 3. The regular annual meeting of the Board of Governors shall be held at the Home of the Association on the first Tuesday of May in each year at 8 o'clock in the evening, at which meeting five members of the Board shall be elected in the place of those whose term of office expires and any vacancies then existing in the other classes filled.

They shall also elect a President, five Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary, which officers may or may not be chosen from members of the Board.

SECTION 4. The Board shall hold regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, and special meetings may be called by the President or Secretary, and shall be called by the Secretary upon written request of three members of the Board, but in case of special meetings, notice thereof shall be given by the Secretary to all members of the Board.

At all meetings of the Board a majority thereof shall constitute a quorum, — except meetings held for action upon applications for membership, when five members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 5. The President at each annual meeting of the Board shall appoint as standing committees, a Finance Committee, a House Committee, a Membership Committee and such other committees as the Board may deem advisable.

The President shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the Finance Committee which shall, including the President, consist of three members.

The Board shall define the duties of the several committees.



SECTION 6. Subject to the By-laws, the Board of Governors shall exercise general control and management over all the property and affairs of the Association; shall have power to fill any vacancies in the offices, including vacancies in the Board; shall have power to remove from office by a two-thirds vote, any person holding the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or member of the Board; and shall have power from time to time to make and enforce all rules and regulations pertaining to the Association Home and Association matters not inconsistent with the By-laws.

SECTION 7. The Board of Governors shall have general charge and supervision of all the financial affairs of the Association; shall authorize all purchases and contracts and may authorize the due execution and delivery of all deeds, leases, mortgages, notes, contracts and other agreements and documents pertaining to the affairs of the Association.

No investment or appropriation of the funds of the Association shall be made except by the Board.

#### ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Any male person not less than eighteen years of age, residing in the towns of Rumford or Mexico, is eligible to resident membership, and any male person not less than eighteen years of age, residing in any other place than the towns of Rumford or Mexico, is eligible to non-resident membership in the Association.

SECTION 2. Any person desiring to become a member, resident or non-resident, of this Association, shall

make application to the Board of Governors. Said application shall be in writing and signed by the applicant, who shall be recommended by at least three members of the Association. Said application shall be filed with the Secretary, who shall immediately refer it to the Committee on Membership. The Committee on Membership shall thereupon carefully investigate into the eligibility to membership of the applicant and if the applicant is unanimously approved by the Committee, a meeting of the Board of Governors shall immediately be held for the purpose of acting upon his application. At said meeting a ballot shall be taken for the election of said applicant to membership and if two-thirds of the ballots cast are in favor of his election, he shall thereupon become a member of the Association, upon complying with Section 3 of this Article of the By-laws.

All proceedings of the Committee on Membership and of the Board of Governors on application for membership shall be secret and no renewed application of a rejected applicant shall be received or considered for a period of at least six months after such rejection.

SECTION 3. All persons admitted to membership in the Association shall sign the By-laws, and after having paid the prescribed admission fees and dues shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership, and shall be subject to all dues, charges and assessments in accordance with the By-laws and to all the other provisions of the By-laws as the same are now or as they may be hereafter amended, until their membership is terminated by death, expulsion or resignation.



Non-resident members shall in all respects be entitled to the same privileges as resident members.

SECTION 4. If any resident member shall cease to reside in the towns of Rumford or Mexico, he may, upon application made within thirty days after such removal, to, and the approval thereof by, the Board of Governors, become a non-resident member, provided all his dues and other charges are paid to the time of such application.

If any non-resident member shall become a resident of the towns of Rumford or Mexico, he shall, upon application made within thirty days after becoming such resident to the Board of Governors, and the approval of the same by the Board, become a resident member and thereafter shall be entitled to all the privileges and subject to all the dues and liabilities of a resident member.

If in either case such person does not make application as herein provided within said thirty days, he shall cease to be a member of the Association.

SECTION 5. Any member of the Association can resign therefrom by a resignation in writing presented to the Board of Governors which is hereby vested with full power to act thereon.

The acceptance of a resignation shall not discharge the member resigning from any indebtedness to the Association, but the Board may by vote cancel such indebtedness.

SECTION 6. Whenever the conduct of any member is at variance with the By-laws or the rules of the Association or the terms of the lease of the premises upon which the Association's Home may be constructed, or is prejudicial in any respect to the good order, welfare or

character of the Association, the Board of Governors may, after reasonable notice and hearing by a majority vote of those present and voting by ballot, expel such member from the Association.

#### ARTICLE VII.

##### MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Meetings of the Association may be called by the President or the Board of Governors at any time and upon application of twenty-five or more members therefor in writing shall be called by the Board within seven days thereafter.

Notice of the meetings of the Association shall be given by the Secretary by posting in the Association's Home notice thereof, stating the time, place and objects of the meeting, twenty-four hours at least before the time of the meeting.

No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Association except such as is specified in the notice thereof and unless there are present at least twenty-five members.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

##### FEEES AND DUES.

SECTION 1. All members elected to this Association shall pay an admission fee of one dollar each and shall pay annually dues of five dollars each, one-half of which shall be due and payable on the first Tuesday of May, which shall be the commencement of the Association year; and the remainder on the first Tuesday of November, each year.

All fees and dues shall be paid in advance.

If six months of the Association year shall have elapsed before the election of a member, the annual dues of such member shall be, for the balance of said Association year, one-half of the regular annual dues; such dues to be payable upon election to membership.

SECTION 2. Any member failing to pay his dues and charges within thirty days after the same become due and payable shall be deemed a delinquent and notice to that effect shall be mailed to him at his last known address by the Treasurer. If at the end of fifteen days from the date of such notice such dues and charges shall remain unpaid, his name and the amount of unpaid dues and charges shall be posted in the Association Home and he shall be notified by the Treasurer that he is liable to expulsion.

At any meeting of the Board of Governors held more than fifteen days after such posting, he may be expelled by the Board of Governors.

SECTION 3. If any person elected to membership shall not, within thirty days after notice of his election mailed to him at the address specified in his application, pay his admission fee and dues, he shall be deemed to have declined to become a member.

#### ARTICLE IX.

##### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

SECTION 1. No member or officer of the Association shall receive any salary or emolument for his services.

SECTION 2. No intoxicating liquors shall be used or drunk, and no game of chance for a wager of any character shall be played in the Association's Home; and, generally, no act or thing shall be committed or done in

the Association Home or on the premises of the Association which may be in contravention to any of the covenants or conditions of the lease of the land upon which the Association's Home may be constructed.

SECTION 3. No member shall give any money or gratuity to any servant or employee of the Association.

#### ARTICLE X.

##### AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 1. The Board of Governors shall arrange for the organization of an Association to be known as the "Rumford Mechanics Institute Auxiliary Association," to be composed of the women of the towns of Rumford or Mexico of not less than eighteen years of age, for the purpose of social and literary intercourse among the members thereof, the instruction of said members in domestic science and other similar pursuits, and the physical, mental and moral development of said members.

After the organization of said Auxiliary Association the Board of Governors shall aid, encourage and advise said Association in the promotion of its objects and purposes and shall arrange for the use by it of such portions of the Association's Home at such times as it may deem advisable.

#### ARTICLE XI.

##### AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. These By-laws may be amended, altered or repealed at any meeting of the Board of Governors by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, providing the proposed amendment has been posted in the Association's Home over the names of at least ten members of the Association at least one month prior to such meeting.



## Rules of the Board of Governors

1. These rules have been adopted by the Board of Governors for the guidance of the Board and its several committees. These rules may be amended, altered, repealed or suspended at any meeting of the Board if two-thirds of the members of the whole Board so vote.

2. At the regular annual meeting of the Board of Governors, the President shall appoint from the members of the Association the following standing committees, viz.:

A Finance Committee of three, of which committee the President shall be *ex officio* a member and Chairman.

A Membership Committee of five.

A House Committee of five.

An Entertainment Committee of five.

A Library Committee of nine.

A Reception Committee of five.

3. The Finance Committee shall have, subject to the supervision of the Board, general charge of the financial affairs of the Association; shall, before payment, audit and approve every account or indebtedness against the Association and shall, annually, and whenever requested by the Board of Governors, audit the accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Board at the meeting next prior to the annual meeting of the Board and at such other times as the Board may require.

4. The Membership Committee shall keep informed through the members of the Association of all new operatives and mechanics moving into the town of

Rumford, and shall immediately solicit such operatives and mechanics, if in their judgment they are eligible to membership in the Association, to become members thereof.

It shall investigate carefully all applications for membership referred to it by the Secretary and shall make a record of their approval or disapproval and report thereon immediately to the Board of Governors.

5. The House Committee shall, subject to the direction of the Board, have general charge and supervision of the Association Home, including the billiard and pool rooms, the bowling alleys, the card rooms, gymnasium and Assembly Hall. It shall make all necessary purchases for the ordinary purposes of the Association and may appoint one of their number for such purpose. It shall collect all charges for the use of the billiard and pool tables, the bowling alleys and cards, and for the use of Assembly Hall when used by other than members of the Association, and account to the Treasurer daily for the receipts therefrom. It may delegate to one of its members or to some other person the duty of making such collections, but always subject to its supervision.

6. The Entertainment Committee shall arrange for and have charge of all entertainments, but shall incur no expenses therefor except as authorized by the Board.

7. The Library Committee shall have charge of the publications in the reading room and library and shall



procure such publications as it deems advisable. It shall arrange for and have charge of all instructions in the arts and sciences and in industrial pursuits and domestic science which may be authorized by the Board of Governors. It shall arrange for the exclusive use for such portions of the Association home and on such time or times as it may deem advisable, for the purpose of social and literary meetings, instruction in domestic science and other similar pursuits and for the physical, mental and moral development of the members of the Auxiliary Association of this Association. It shall arrange for and have charge of classes of the young men and women of the town of Rumford of not less than thirteen years of age for the purpose of amusement, entertainment and

instruction of the same, mentally, physically and morally as it may deem advisable. It shall endeavor to make all courses of instruction interesting and valuable by the employment of such means as it may deem advisable and shall in no event exceed the appropriation made by the Board of Governors for these purposes.

8. The Reception Committee shall have charge of all formal receptions, introduce new members and visitors and otherwise aid in furthering the social interests of the Association.

9. The secret ballot shall be used in voting upon all applications for membership.

10. All proceedings of the Board shall be conducted in accordance with parliamentary rules and usages.

## House Rules

1. The Institute and its privileges are open to members only, except as hereinafter provided.

2. Unless otherwise ordered by the House Committee, the Institute will be open every week day from 8 A. M. to 11 P. M., and every Sunday from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M.

3. No games of any kind will be allowed on Sunday and the gymnasium will not be open.

4. Smoking will not be permitted on the third floor, except in the suites, nor in the ladies' parlor or the library.

5. All apparel should be hung in the coat-room and not left about on the furniture.

6. The Superintendent shall extend the courtesies of the Institute to non-resident friends of members for a period of two weeks on request of any member. In such cases guest cards shall be issued, but to non-resident visitors only.

7. Any member may place the privileges of the

Institute at the disposal of a non-resident friend for one day only without the formality of card invitation, but he must introduce or register his guest.

8. Members may entertain at the Institute only those of their families too young to be eligible for any class of membership, but no children will be allowed in the building after 6 P. M., unless by special authorization.

9. No one is permitted to exercise on the gymnasium-floor without rubber-soled or special gymnasium shoes.

10. No intoxicating liquors shall be used or drunk and no games of chance for a wager of any character shall be played within the Institute.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Associate members will not be allowed in the Institute after 6 o'clock P. M., except by permission of the House Committee.



Governors Room





Loungin' Room



Lounging Room



Ladies Parlor





Card Room



Writing Room

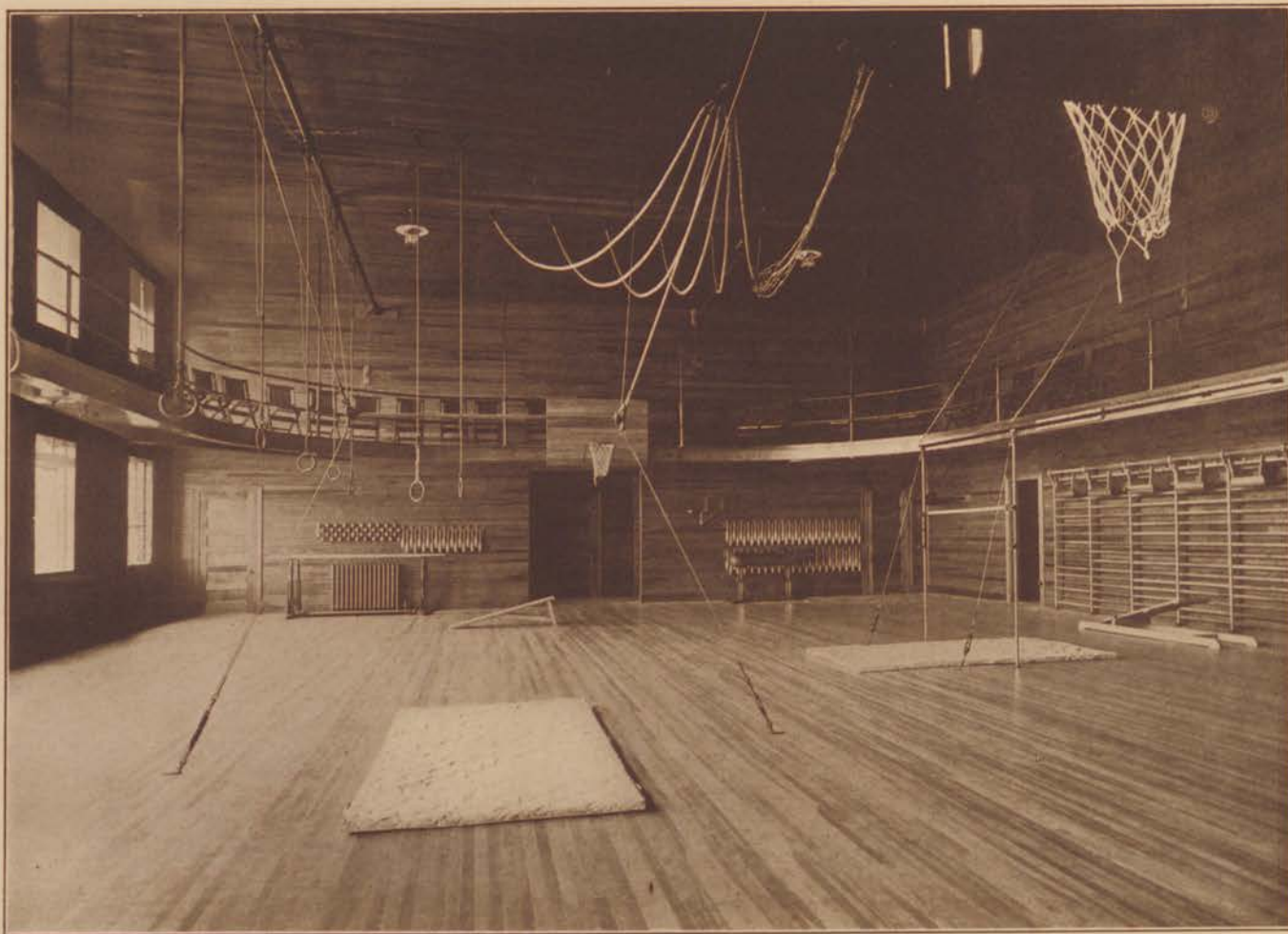


Lecture Room





Class Room



Gymnasium



Bowling Alleys





Billiard Room



Library and Reading Room

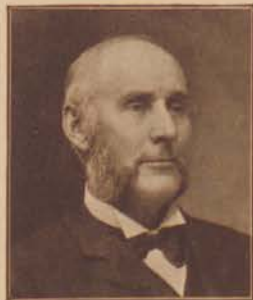


Sleeping Room





Sitting Room



WALDO PETTENGILL  
CHAIRMAN



ELISHA PRATT



ELMER L. LOVEJOY

Finance Committee



CLEON S. OSGOOD  
CHAIRMAN



HERBERT P. LYON

GEORGE H. CHABBOTT



LEWIS H. VEILLEUX



ROBERT BURNSIDE

Membership Committee





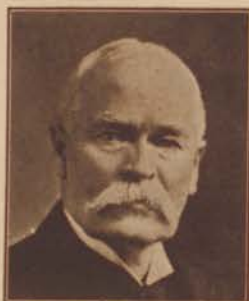
JOHN H. HASSETT  
CHAIRMAN



THEODORE HAWLEY



JAMES W. HARRIS



GEORGE D. BISBEE



EDWARD S. KENNARD

House Committee



HENRY Q. HAWES  
CHAIRMAN



MARTIN J. GRIFFIN



ELMER L. LOVEJOY



P. E. McCARTY



CHARLES L. BROWN

Entertainment Committee



JOHN H. METCALF  
CHAIRMAN



ELLIOTT W. HOWE



ROBLEY H. MORRISON



MAYNOR W. LANE



CHARLES L. BROWN

Reception Committee





HENRY Q. HAWES  
CHAIRMAN



DANIEL McMASTER



JAMES A. HASSETT



LEOPOLD SCHONAUER



VICTOR A. BINFORD



ABEL M. HAMBLET

REV. AMBROSE J. BARRY



FREDERIC O. EATON



JOHN GREENE

Library Committee



JAMES W. HARRIS



F. J. LATHAM



JOHN H. HASSETT



THEODORE HAWLEY



O. J. GONYA



CHARLES ISRAELSON



ELMER L. LOVEJOY



WILLIAM R. MILLER  
ARCHITECT



RAYMOND J. MAYO  
ARCHITECT

Building Committee



ELLIOTT W. HOWE



JAMES W. HARRIS



ELMER L. LOVEJOY



THEODORE HAWLEY



JOHN H. HASSETT

Furniture Committee





F. J. LATHAM



P. E. McCARTY



L. H. VEILLEUX

Renting Committee



P. E. McCARTY



HERBERT P. LYON



CHARLES E. NEFF



W. L. WESCOTT



CHARLES ISRAELSON



W. E. HOWARD

Fair Committee



WALDO PETTENGILL  
CHAIRMAN



HENRY Q. HAWES  
SECRETARY



JOHN H. HASSETT



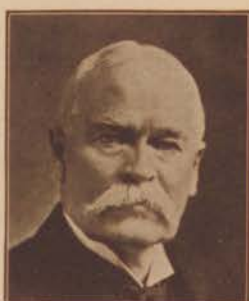
THEODORE HAWLEY



JAMES W. HARRIS



EDWARD S. KENNARD



GEORGE D. BISBEE



ELMER L. LOVEJOY



CHARLES ISRAELSON



O. J. GONYA



L. W. BLANCHARD



CLEON S. OSGOOD



P. E. McCARTY



MARTIN L. GRIFFIN



CHARLES L. BROWN

Dedication Committee



## Dedication

*(From the Portland Daily Press, November 10, 1911)*

Once more has Rumford proved a pioneer. Today the Rumford Mechanics Institute was formally dedicated, and by the exercises held an institution was opened that is unique in the State of Maine and probably in the country.

It is something new in the social and industrial life of a community, something that has been long needed and has now been secured through the far-sightedness, generosity and appreciation of conditions by Hon. Hugh J. Chisholm and the other men who have done so much for Rumford Falls.

The new enterprise was financed by the Oxford Paper Co., International Paper Co. and Continental Paper Bag Co. The officials of these corporations realized that something should be done for the men and women of Rumford who have had no place outside of their homes in which they might pass their leisure hours. And so the Rumford Mechanics Institute has been erected, and it is sure to meet the need of the people and to fulfil the purposes for which it was intended.

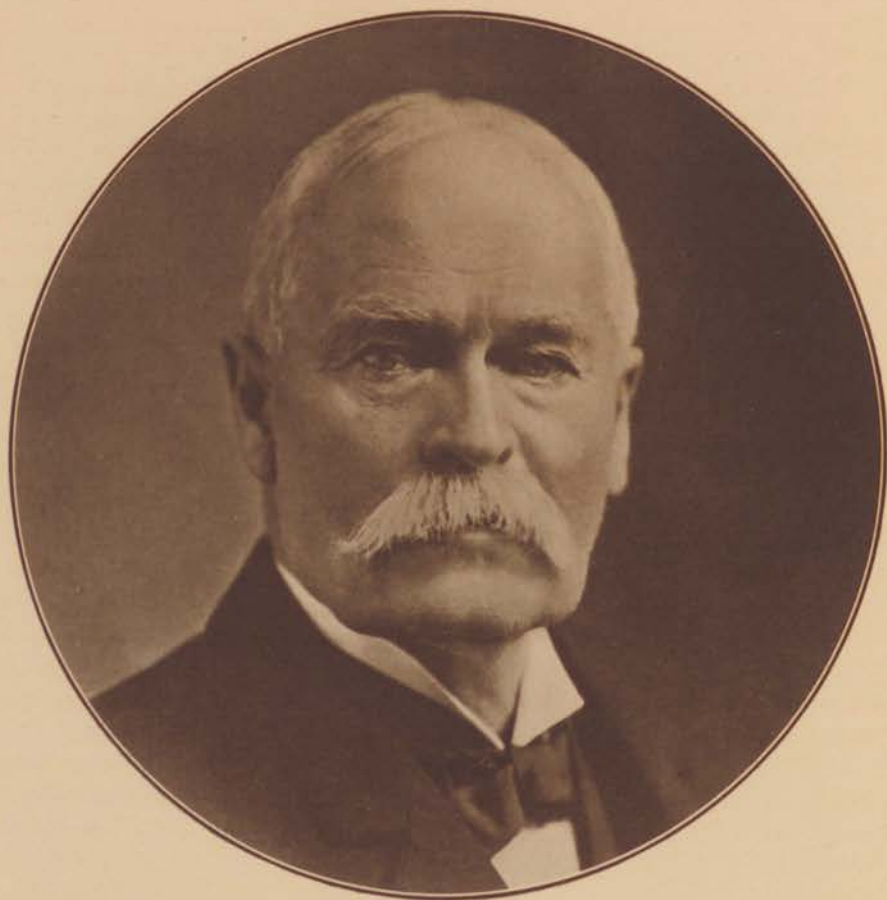
Today was a notable day for Rumford. It was almost as notable as the time when Mr. Chisholm first realized the possibilities of the great water power there and set out to found the town that has grown to hold such a prominent place in the life of Maine and of the country in general.

In the dedication of the Institute today, the town entered upon a new chapter in its history, one that will deal more intimately with the social and industrial life of the people. That such a distinguished gathering was present today and took part in the exercises was convincing evidence of the interest taken in the new enterprise. Not only were there financiers in the party, but there were statesmen, business men and representatives from many walks of life. Visitors from all parts of Maine were there as well as from New York, from which city came the heads of the various corporations interested.

The people of Rumford turned out in large numbers to attend the exercises, and the hall in the new institute was so crowded that the people extended into the corridors and occupied every inch of standing room.

In its purposes and in its appointments, the Rumford Mechanics Institute leaves nothing to be desired. The building is at the corner of Exchange and Congress streets and is a truly magnificent affair. Four stories in height, 125 feet long on Congress street and 80 feet deep, it is a structure that cannot fail to attract attention. The front is particularly imposing with its spacious gallery on the second floor and tall well-formed pillars.

But it is the interior of the structure that excites



Hon. George D. Bisbee



the most admiration. An inspection of the structure shows that not a foot of space has been neglected, for every nook and corner has been utilized to some desirable purpose. In the building are facilities for play and instruction. Here men and women may improve their mind as well as their body, for the appointments of the building have been designed with an equal regard for both.

\* In the basement are found five well-equipped bowling alleys so arranged that not only the bowlers but the spectators may enjoy the sport.

The first floor is rented to the merchants of Rumford, and some of the finest stores in the town are to be found here. Many apartments are to be seen on the second floor. Most prominent of these is the lounging room, where the exercises of today were held. This is beautifully furnished in Mission style. An especially valuable article in this room is a life-sized bust of Hugh J. Chisholm in Carrara marble done by Peter Pidi of New York. It is remarkably well executed. On the walls of the lounging room are the names of all the most famous inventors. In addition to this spacious apartment, there is a large parlor for women on the second floor. Other rooms are a library, smoking and card

room, room for the governors of the institute and an excellently appointed and well-lighted billiard-room.

On the third floor, the most prominent room is that occupied by a gymnasium which is thoroughly well fitted with all kinds of apparatus and a running track. Other rooms on this floor are a lecture and assembly hall and a classroom where students will study. Shower baths are also found on this floor.

On both the third and fourth floors are spacious suites of three rooms. There are 12 suites in all, and each suite consists of a sitting-room, bedroom and toilet. These suites are to be rented to desirable young men. The heat, laundry and lights are provided.

#### THE EXERCISES

Long before the time set for the dedication of the new institute, the magnificent lounging room was crowded. Operatives and firemen were in the gathering, while the townspeople of both sexes were represented in large numbers.

Hon. George D. Bisbee, long recognized as one of the leading citizens of Rumford Falls, presided at the meeting. Prayer was offered by the Rev. H. W. Hanson of the Baptist church.





Judge Matthew McCarthy

## Remarks by Judge McCarthy

*Ladies and Gentlemen, Mr. Chisholm and Distinguished Guests:*

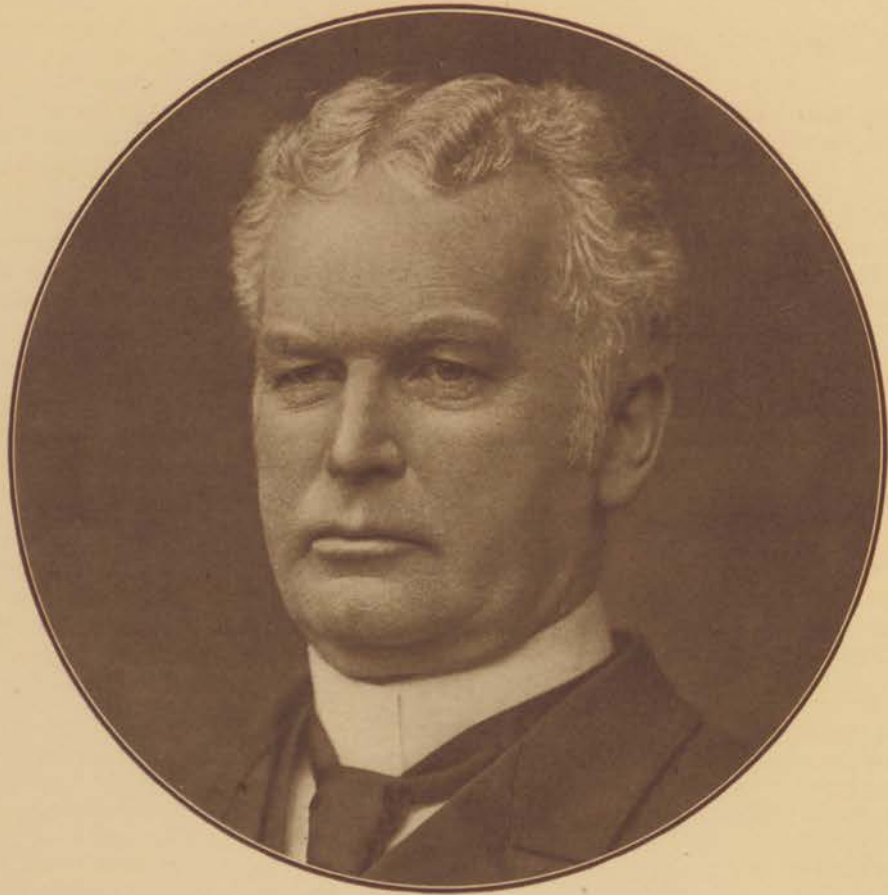
These dedicatory exercises, the formal turning over to its rightful beneficiaries of this magnificent building with all its facilities for physical, social and intellectual benefits, is a time of signal rejoicing to the people of this vicinity. Subject as we have been in being recipients of many favors, fortunately, the habit of receiving and enjoying has not dimmed within us a true sense of appreciation of this last and crowning achievement in the interest of the people of Rumford.

This Institute is the direct result of the recognition of a few fundamental facts in our social and industrial life. Man is a social being, he requires rest, play and wholesome recreation, as he requires air and sunshine, and while he plays he should not be surrounded by pitfalls of vice and immorality. To remove these dangers for the men who are employed in our large and thriving industrial establishments, by inviting means of wholesome recreation amidst proper environment, is one of the objects of this Institution. If its members are interested in physical exercises, they have access to the splendidly equipped gymnasium above; if they find pleasure in billiards, pool or bowling, facilities have been furnished for such; if they are interested in acquisition of knowledge, or find enjoyment in wholesome reading, the reading room and lecture features of the Institution supply their need. The value of such opportunities to the moral and intellectual welfare of those who directly participate, and to the general well-being of the community at large, cannot be over-estimated.

One of the chief reasons for the unnatural, and to some extent unnecessary, hostility on the part of men

toward their corporate employers and the lack of sympathy and proper consideration on the part of the employer towards his employees, which is sometimes evident, is because of the want of appreciation of the true relations which should exist between one and the other; and any movement which has for one of its objects the bringing together of these two great forces in our industrial life, under conditions of perfect equality, should and does receive the unstinted support of every man who appreciates the value of mutual good feeling and fellowship between the different classes of our citizens. This fact is well exemplified by the presence of the distinguished men, eminent in their chosen field, who have dignified these exercises by their presence and who vie with one another in paying homage to the purposes of this Institution.

Distinguished visitors: The citizens of Rumford welcome your presence to these exercises and believe that your words of advice and encouragement will give an impetus to the advance movement which has been undertaken toward the amelioration of the condition of our laboring men and women and the bringing about of mutual feeling of fellowship and good-will between employer and employee. We believe that this Institution is a forerunner to the establishment of similar ones in other industrial centers in our state and country, which will mean more, in my opinion, in bringing about a conciliatory spirit between employer and employee than all the laws that our legislatures can enact. We believe that this Institution will be such a blessing to this community in the enhancing of the social, moral and intellectual life of our citizens, that it will be a source of perpetual consolation to him whose mind conceived the idea and whose generous heart made this Institution possible.



Mr. Hugh J. Chisholm



## Remarks by Mr. Chisholm

In presenting Mr. Chisholm to the meeting Mr. Bisbee introduced him as "the founder of this institution and of Rumford Falls." Mr. Chisholm spoke briefly. After thanking the committee and citizens for so well carrying out his ideas he said:

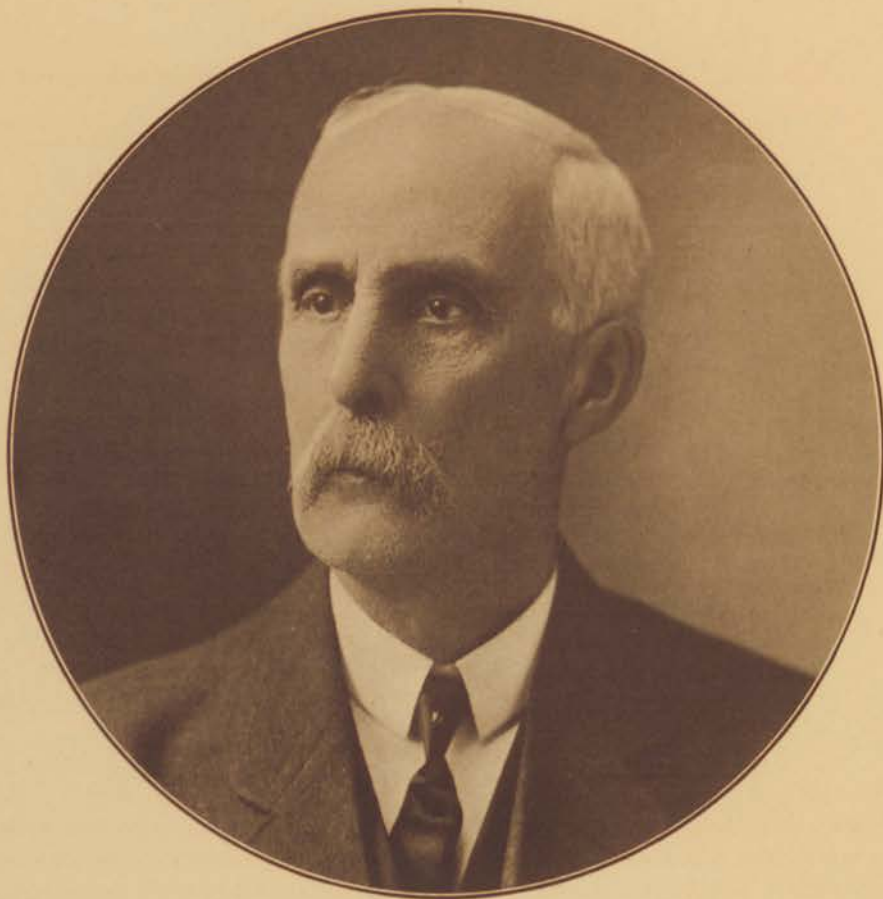
"The Rumford Mechanics Institute is now a reality. The object for which it was created is the distribution of the best quality of physical and mental development, social and moral improvement, the cultivation of an equality of more intimate relationship and acquaintanceship between the employed and the employer, and in conjunction the furnishing of rational pleasure, recreation and amusement at the smallest cost, under the best conditions.

"It is an institution absolutely free from any charitable assistance, placing all members on an equality and thereby creating a fellowship of self-respect that must produce beneficial results to all its members as well as to the town of Rumford, and in the production of those results it will prove an institution that we can well be proud of, and one that I expect

will be a standard for the other towns of the State to copy."

In conclusion Mr. Chisholm extended thanks to the various corporations for the manner in which they had responded and made the new building possible. He said that he was now started on the closing chapter of his business career in Rumford, and the continuation of his work had now to pass to other hands. He bespoke for his son who was to succeed him in his business interests in Rumford the same loyal support and kind treatment that had always been accorded him. He said that it was his earnest hope that his son's management would be such that it would merit his (Mr. Chisholm's) confidence and esteem in him.

He earnestly urged the business men of Rumford and her citizens to guard and protect in every way possible the great business corporations which are now established in the town, and see that every encouragement is given them to extend their establishments and give employment to additional employees and still further contribute to the prosperity of the town.



Hon. John P. Swasey



## Remarks by Mr. Swasey

The man behind this great work, the mind that conceived the development of Rumford Falls, is the subject given me today. We who have lived in the vicinity of this great waterfall all our lives and have frequently stood on the table rock at the head of the falls where the swift foaming waters rush through the rock-ribbed channel and over the precipice, have perhaps realized something of the great power going to waste. But it was reserved for this man, our friend here, to see in undimmed perspective and clear outlines not only Rumford Falls as you see it today, but perhaps all that it is possible for it to become. We who have seen the picture of twenty years ago, only a few quiet farmhouses and primitive mills standing on the little canal near the summit of the hill, going to decay, can perhaps better appreciate the marvelous change that has taken place here than the stranger within our gates. Look back to that picture of twenty years ago and then look upon these great mills, these churches, school buildings and business blocks all constructed within that short time, and then remember that for all this we are indebted to one man more than all others, the founder of this institute. Through the foresight of this master mind all the industrial and business life of the town has been provided for, all the needs of the educational and religious circles have been met in the laying out of the

streets and the apportionment of the lots for school-houses and churches.

For years the founder of this institute has been my close friend and through all those years Rumford has been his first thought. His heart and purpose and all his plans centered here, and in recent years when important questions were being considered at Washington, involving as they did the growth and development of Rumford Falls, he has been gravely concerned for its future life and prosperity. It is of vital importance to him that this place shall grow and flourish and become a monument of which he can be justly proud.

He has realized that the social life of any town and community is of the greatest importance. The very foundation of success depends upon the social environment of any place, and so this magnificent building was conceived and made possible in order that the men of the mills, when relieved from their labors, might have a place of recreation and amusement where they could congregate free of all evil temptations, where there is no caste and no class.

May the name of the founder of this Institute live always in the hearts of all loyal Rumford people, rich and poor alike, and may this town and this Institute flourish and prosper even beyond his fond expectations, to the uplift of the people and the glory of the benefactor.





President William DeWitt Hyde

## Remarks by President Hyde

If Jesus, with that clear eye which saw through the simple life of the farmers and fishermen of Galilee, could look on our complex industrial life today, I think I know one text which he would add to the Gospel. It would be this: "Industry is made for man; not man for industry." At any rate that is the truth for which this Rumford Mechanics Institute stands. It means that plant, product and profits are not everything; that the worker is more than his work; that the man is more than a hand; that a corporation has obligations beyond the payment of wages to its employees; and that the true success of an industrial enterprise is to be measured not alone in the dividends paid to the stockholders; but also in the life and health, the intelligence and happiness, of the men in its employ.

Those of us who are mere thinkers and writers and speakers have been thinking this in our studies, teaching it to our classes, writing it in our books, for a good many years. But it has been reserved for Mr. Chisholm and his associates in these three companies to think that thought in the brick and mortar; write that sentiment on the floors and walls; and proclaim that Gospel from the housetop of this splendid building where all the world can see and hear and admire.

Industry is made for man, and in dedicating this Rumford Mechanics Institute we dedicate it to the men of Rumford who are engaged in the paper industry.

What then is man? What are the essentials of that manhood which this Institute is built to serve? Man, like this building, should have four sides, and stand four-square. Not to mention home and church, which today we may take for granted, these four sides are mutual good will; wholesome recreation; fellowship with comrades; and citizenship in the outside world. If you leave either one of these four sides out of a man, you leave him dwarfed, stunted, undeveloped, open to the ravages of wind and weather and wild beasts. To these four sides of the developed man then we dedicate the four walls of the Rumford Mechanics Institute.

#### GOOD WILL IN WORK

First: we dedicate it to good will in work. While this building is a gift, it is not a charity. It is given not to men in general; but to the men who work in the paper industry, in grateful recognition of the value of their work, and a desire to promote their welfare. The planning, construction and financing of this building express the interest Mr. Chisholm and his associates in the International Paper Company, the Oxford Paper Company and the Continental Paper Bag Company take in the men in their employ; and you who use and enjoy it I am sure will find springing up in you a sense of partnership in these industrial enterprises, a loyalty to your employers, a devotion to the peace and prosperity of the town. First, then, we dedicate this Institute to the mutual good will of employers and employees.

The second need of man is wholesome recreation. While in a large way we can and ought to take an interest in our work, yet since the invention of machinery and the organization of industry on a large scale, a great deal of every man's work is monotonous drudgery. The end is too remote, the process too mechanical, to give the pleasure that comes from seeing the close connection between means and ends, effort and reward. Now recreation or play brings these two things close together. The end may be trivial and intrinsically worthless; but at any rate it is close at hand, and directly and obviously connected with our efforts to secure it. Hence we can put our whole selves into play as we cannot into most kinds of mechanical work. In a good game we are intent on the end sought at every moment and incidentally we get that heightening of respiration, circulation, nutrition and elimination which we call health; and that glow of eager pursuit of an end within reach which we call pleasure. The leading authority on play, Dr. Luther Gulick, defines it as "The

spontaneous enlistment of the entire personality in the pursuit of a coveted end." No man can be a healthy, happy man in the best sense of the word without the occasional enlistment of his whole personality in the pursuit of some of these ends. Besides increasing health and happiness it adds to power of work and length of life. This side of man is amply provided for in the Rumford Mechanics Institute; and we dedicate it to healthy, happy, power-increasing, life-prolonging recreation.

The third side of man is good fellowship. A Latin proverb tells us, "Unus homo, nullus homo," "One man *alone* is no man at all." What we are and what we are worth depends on our relations to others; the friends we have, the time we spend and the interests we share with them. This natural craving for fellowship on free and easy terms, much more than the craving for liquor, gives the saloon its hold. A building like this where good fellowship can be had without liquor is the best possible ally to temperance. Inhibition, which removes the necessity for the saloon, is much more effective than prohibition. If we had an institute like this in every manufacturing center, the temperance question, though it would not be entirely solved, would be greatly helped toward solution. We dedicate this building, then, to good fellowship amid elevating surroundings, and to the inhibition of those tendencies to gambling, drunkenness and debauchery which spring up and flourish wherever some adequate provision for good fellowship is lacking.

The fourth wall of the building, the fourth side of man, is citizenship in the outside world through the spoken word and the printed page. The lecture room and the reading room stand for men who shall know what has been said and done in the past; what is going on around them in the present; and who can take an intelligent part in the formation of that public opinion which determines what the future shall be. We dedicate this building to such reading, study and discussion as shall make its members intelligent, effective, influential, public-spirited citizens of town, state and nation.

Such are the four sides of man, to which we dedicate today the four walls of this building. With gratitude to the generous founder and the associated supporting corporations, with congratulations to the men who are to enjoy its liberal privileges, we dedicate it to the principle: Industry is made for man; that man may stand, like its own substantial walls, four-square in mutual good will, wholesome recreation, hearty good fellowship, and enlightened citizenship.





Judge William L. Putnam



## Remarks by Judge Putnam

In opening his remarks, Judge Putnam said no more beautiful spot could be found than Rumford Falls. He spoke feelingly of the natural beauties of the locality. He spoke reminiscently of Mr. Chisholm.

"In my long and active life," said Judge Putnam, "I have had many friends, from the man who cleans the streets with a hoe and touches his hat to me as I pass, to the President of the United States. I know only the heart and character of my friends, my mind is

never affected by questions of rank, and I wish to speak without exaggeration; but never have I known a man whom I have loved more than this man here," pointing to Mr. Chisholm.

Judge Putnam then spoke entertainingly of his personal relations with Mr. Chisholm, and in conclusion said: "Mr. Chisholm had seen with prophetic vision this whole development from the beginning. This Institute is the crowning feature of Rumford Falls."



Rt. Rev. Robert Codman

## Remarks by Bishop Codman

In opening, Bishop Codman said that he wished to bring up three pictures: first, that of the old Anglo-Saxon landlord, before whom his tenants were obliged to kneel in humble homage; second, that of the rich man in medieval Europe, who rode along in his carriage, distributing coins to the poor, who were willing to scramble after his bounty; and third, that of the ordinary hand-shake between man and man. The first two pictures are certainly not American. In this country no man humbles himself before another, nor will a true American be humbled by receiving gifts from the rich, simply because they are rich. The last picture, the ordinary hand-shake, is thoroughly American. Here men meet as equals. The poor man shakes hands with the rich man without any humiliation, and many a man has been lifted up and made a better man by the hearty hand-shake of his brother. It is this last

picture for which the Rumford Mechanics Institute stands. Here owners, citizens, clerks and mill-hands shall meet "on the square."

Here the hand of Mr. Hugh Chisholm is extended to all the residents of Rumford. It is through hand-shakes that we learn to know the hearts of each other, and all the good citizens of Rumford, all who work in the city and in the mills, should know better the heart of Mr. Chisholm, and understand his interest in their welfare. They know his power, and they know his ability, but when they know his heart they will learn something worth knowing.

Here the hand of Mr. Chisholm's son is extended to every one. Mr. Chisholm has made a great gift in enabling you to have this institution, but a far greater gift, infinitely more valuable and helpful, is the son, who is growing up to take Mr. Chisholm's place.





Hon. Payson Smith

## Remarks by Mr. Smith

I am very glad to be present on this occasion and to have a part in these dedicatory exercises, because I believe I see in them the opening of new opportunities not only for this town, but for other communities of our State. This institute, I believe, is to take an important place among the educational institutions of this community.

It is a mistake to regard education as a process that is carried on solely through the institution we call the school or to look upon it as one confined to the period of youth. The children of this community are today being educated in a multitude of ways. They are being educated by the school, the church, the library, the home; they are being educated by the games they play, by the tasks they do, by the associations of the street. Every hour of every day the child is being educated either to good or bad purposes by these experiences of his daily life.

Neither is this process to stop with the end of childhood. The adult portion of this community, while not undergoing so rapid change and development, is nevertheless constantly being educated by all the forces with which their daily lives bring them in contact.

The Rumford Mechanics Institute is to supplement in an important manner the other educational institutions and forces of this community. It is to make for a richer social life, for a more fraternal spirit, for a better understanding between men, for a finer sense of social opportunity and social obligations.

We may see in this occasion the evidence of that new ideal which pervades our modern education. No longer do we regard it as the sole or even the chief function of education to promote intellectual culture. Less and less do we look on it as the means by which

the individual by sharpened wits or shrewdness of mental power is to climb to a position of personal prominence and influence.

Education today is seeking to point the way to service. It does not lead to the avoidance of work, it would rather enable one to find his work and to do that work well after it has been found.

All our educational institutions are aiming more to give expression to the social conscience. They seek to impart social intelligence, that knowledge of the world and its needs that men and women must have if the problems that press upon us are to be wisely solved; they aim to create that social responsibility which shall make the individual ready to discharge his own obligations to the social body of which he is a member, and, most of all, they are endeavoring to make every member of society equal to efficient service in the great army of the common good.

For all of this work for this community all the institutions are enlisted. Filling a place of special significance the Rumford Mechanics Institute is to play no small part in helping to forward those larger objects of education.

Not alone to this people who live here is this Institute to render a service. Everywhere there is pressing need for larger social life, for better understanding among men, for the outlook that comprehends more than the round of daily tasks. In the years to come, as the influence of the Institute shall extend and its purposes meet recognition elsewhere, Rumford will again have proven herself, as she has done before, a pioneer of progress among the towns of our beloved commonwealth.

