



THE HISTORY OF MAINE IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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Chapter THIRTY FOUR : Wallace A. Bilodeau- Skowhegan 1959-1961

Our 31st State Deputy, Wallace Alonzo Bilodeau, was born October 28, 1921 at Fairfield, ME. He is the son of Wallace J. Bilodeau and Rosanna Lemlin Bilodeau. He attended Notre Dame de Lourdes parochial school in Skowhegan, Maine and was graduated from Skowhegan High School in 1938.

Following graduation from high school, Brother Bilodeau was employed as secretary to the Skowhegan Board of Education, as a legal stenographer in the law office of Butler & Butler, and as a clerk in the U. S. Navy Yard at Kittery, Maine. He joined the U.S. Navy in May 1942 and served until February 1946 as a signalman on an amphibious transport, taking part in the invasion of North Africa and Sicily. The last two years of his naval service included study at Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania under the V-12 and N.R.O.T.C. programs. Following his discharge he continued his studies at the University of Pennsylvania and was graduated in 1947 with a degree of B.S. in Economics. He secured his legal training at Boston College Law School from which he received his LLB degree in 1949. He was admitted to the bar in September 1949 and immediately became associated in the law firm of Butler & Bilodeau. Later this firm became Butler, Merrill & Bilodeau, at Skowhegan.

He was married on August 18, 1952 to Priscilla Elinor Dionne at Notre Dame de Lourdes Church in Skowhegan. They have four children: John, Ann, Mary and Paul.

At the University of Pennsylvania he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, served on the Houston Hall Student Board of Governors and was elected to the Friars Senior Honor Society. Active in civic affairs, Brother Bilodeau has served as President of the Skowhegan Rotary Club, has been a member of the Board Of Directors of the Skowhegan Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Board of Selectmen of Skowhegan for seven years. In 1952 he was honored by the Skowhegan Junior Chamber of Commerce by being selected as the "Outstanding Young Man of the Year". His other affiliations include the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Somerset County, Maine State, and American Bar Associations.

Brother Bilodeau joined the Knights of Columbus in November 1939. He held the offices of Recorder, Treasurer, Deputy Grand Knight and served two terms as Grand Knight from 1951 to 1953. While serving as Grand Knight of the Somerset Council, he was elected State Advocate at the state council meeting held at Houlton in 1952. He was elected State Deputy in 1959. He is a member of the Somerset Assembly of the Fourth Degree.

During his terms as State Deputy the St. Agnes Council No. 4861 of Pittsfield was formed

FOURTH DEGREE MASTER #10: Robert Ouellette 1955-84 Brunswick

Following his three terms as State Deputy from 1952 to 1955, Robert J. Ouellette was appointed as District Master and served in that office from 1955 to 1984. This was a total of 29 years as District Master of Maine.

STATE CHAPLAIN 1953 TO 1967: Rev. Daniel J. Haggerty

Bishop of the Portland Diocese: Most Rev. Bishop Daniel J. Feeney 1955-69

State Convention for 1959 was held in Rockland on May 23-24, 1959

State Convention for 1960 was held in Poland Spring on June 4-5, 1960

State Convention for 1961 was held in Poland Spring on May 27-28, 1961