



Ruey Ford, M. D.

stands at 220 E. Main Street.

Dr. William H. Marshall and Dr. J.H. Charters were in the area for only two or three years between 1900 and 1905. Dr. Charters had his office above what is now Nelson's Rexall Pharmacy. In 1906, William G. Young, M.D. replaced Dr. Charters in this office and remained for about five years.

George D. Richards, M.D. came to Gaylord in about 1905. He left about 1918 to go to Pinconning, Michigan. Harry Wilson Knapp, M.D. moved from Johannesburg to Gaylord in about 1910. He left for Flint approximately five years later. Fred L. Bright, M.D. was here about 1917, also. He practiced in Johannesburg for a while and then returned to Gaylord.

In 1918, the first epidemic of Spanish Influenza took a heavy toll in many areas. The death rate in Otsego County was kept to a minimum through the dedicated skill of Dr. David E. Winer; sadly, however, his own wife succumbed to the disease.

Another doctor in the Gaylord area in 1918 was Dr. G.L. Cornell, formerly of Lewiston. He remained in Gaylord until 1930 when he moved to Rudyard in the Upper Peninsula.

Dr. Gordon McKillop, originally from Wolverine, studied at the University of Michigan Medical School and graduated from the University of Western Ontario in Ontario, Canada, in 1924. He moved to Gaylord in 1927, and was married in 1929. Mrs. Michaelyn McKillop was a graduate nurse and worked with her husband.

In the home which Dr. James Fox built on Main and Oak Streets, Dr. Gordon McKillop opened the hospital which served the community until 1936. It was Gaylord's second hospital, but the first where major surgery was performed. This twelve bed hospital had its own x-ray and small laboratory facilities. On occasion, Dr. Archibald J. McKillop would come from Wolverine

to help his son at the hospital. From 1929 to 1931, Dr. Irving Solowicz, originally from Illinois, helped Dr. Gordon McKillop at the hospital. When Dr. Archibald J. McKillop died in 1931, Dr. Solowicz moved to Wolverine to continue the practice.

Dr. Floyd G. Rifenberg came from Mancelona in the early 1930's and practiced, in his office above what is Guggisberg's Clothing Store, until his death in November, 1937.

To take over Dr. Rifenberg's practice, Richard D. Peckham, M.D., a 1935 Graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School, moved to Gaylord from Alba. He established his office at 126 E. Main Street.

Throughout Gaylord's history, there have been only two or three osteopaths. Roy Harvey, D.O., practiced from his office in his home. He was highly thought of. After leaving Gaylord to practice in Midland, he became one of the top men in his field in the state of Michigan.

Gaylord was without a hospital from 1936 until 1951 when the Otsego County Memorial Hospital opened. During those years many of the doctors sent their patients to Grayling. Dr. Peckham and Mr. Frank Shipp were instrumental in building community interest in the need for a hospital in Gaylord.

When the thirty-four bed Otsego County Memorial Hospital opened in 1951, Dr. McKillop was Chief of Staff. Dr. Peckham and Robert S. Libke, M.D. were the only other physicians on the staff.

Dr. Libke, originally from Gaylord, received his M.D. degree from Wayne State Medical School, served in the army, practiced for about one year in Ubly, Michigan, then returned to Gaylord to practice general medicine in 1949. Dr. Richard G. Barstow moved to Gaylord to practice medicine, opening his office in 1952. Robert E. Rice, M.D. located in the area for a short time during 1955 and 1956 but did not serve on



E. L. Ford, M. D.