

Thursday, June 4, 1981

New Blood At The Old Hotel

By Linda Collins

ENOSBURG FALLS — If walls could talk, those at the Quincy Hotel on Depot St. would have some interesting stories to tell after 104 years of business.

Believed to be the longest continually operating hotel in the state, the Quincy was built in 1877 by F. C. Kimball of Enosburg.

It's not uncommon on a Friday night to walk into the packed bar of the hotel and see a variety of age groups and classes of people mixing together. In fact, it is surprising who can be seen here — or some who don't want to be seen there.

The new owners of the historical hotel are Jim and Marta Page of Essex who are brother and sister.

The Pages have made some major changes in the business in the few short months they have owned it.

"We've added a menu with soon specials and serve sandwiches all evening," Marta said. "We have also renovated the kitchen and dining room."

In addition the pair have added more entertainment — different bands, blue grass and jamborees. "We plan to have bands Thursday through Saturday all summer," said the Pages.

Nineteen rooms on the second and third floors of the Quincy are rented out, some by the month and others to truck drivers and local workers. "We even have a pair of sisters who lose up their home in Montgomery and come here for the winter," Page said.

The Pages discovered the hotel when Jim came up to Enosburg to buy a pizza oven. "We were in the market for a business, and we liked it here," he said.

"I came up and took one look at the sign over the bar that said 'no minors, no guns and no knives in this bar' and my spirit of adventure was aroused," Marta said. "We moved up here Monday and were open Tuesday."

Owning the Hotel has had its problems for the young couple, Marta is 29, and Jim is 27. They've had a grease fire, the boiler broke down on New Year's Day, and one sunny day a shower on the 3rd floor clogged and it was pouring on the patrons in the first floor bar.

Although the music has changed and the drinks have fancier names like the Barstool Mountain,, (coffee candy, Jamesons and milk) the basic purpose of the building has not changed in the past 100 years.

It was built by Kimball, who owned it for two years, to accommodate all the traffic between Montreal and Boston. Enosburg was on the railroad line and a frequent stopover for Opera House players. Since the hotel is next to the Opera house and across from the



Jimmy and Marta Page on the commodious front porch of the Hotel Quincy which they recently purchased. Jimmy was reluctant to pose while still in his work clothes, but some sisterly influence prevailed.

depot, it was a convenient place to get dinner and a room for the night.

In 1880 Kimball sold the Quincy to B. H. Dickenson who sold it in 1892 to H. H. Best. Best kept it for three years and sold it to Jennie Kimball. She sold it to W. O. Phelps and L. H. and Lucia Croft in 1911.

In 1922 the Hotel was sold to Robert and Beatrice Gilpin. In 1940 Francis Fox bought the Hotel and then sold it to Floyd Lumnah in 1942.

Lumnah sold to William Wernert in 1946 and he sold it to Ellis Potter in 1957. Potter sold to Marcel Desnoyers who then turned it over to Hector Robert who sold to the Pages.

Both Marta and Jim are involved in community affairs. Jim is a local director of the Jaycees

Marta is an LPN. The Hotel

management is sponsoring a men's softball team.

The pair say they like it in Enosburg and plan to stay.

"We like it better here. People are more friendly," Marta said.

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