CITIES AND VILLAGES

By Mary Agnes Truttschel

Trading post, sawmill, lumber camp, Indian mission and a wilderness university—these were the various beginnings of the three cities and seven incorporated villages of Outagamie County. Also, the county has the unique ownership of one ward of a fourth city, New London, which lies for the most part in adjoining Waupaca County.

Today, the map shows the cities of Appleton, Kaukauna, Seymour and New London and the village names of Hortonville, Combined Locks, Kimberly, Little Chute, Bear Creek, Shiocton and Black Creek. These were not always their names. The earliest settlers knew the present Combined Locks as Garner’s Landing, Hortonville as Horton’s sawmill and New London as Johnson’s Trading Post. Black Creek was once the village of Middleburg while Bear Creek incorporated as the village of Welcome.

Shiocton was once Jordanville or Jordan’s Landing and Kimberly was known as Smithfield. Little Chute, called La Petite Chute in the old French days, was platted first as the village of Nepomuc. The earlier settlement of Lime Rock on the Seymour-Osborn Township line preceded the present city of Seymour. The original Indian name for Kaukauna was Ogaq-kane or O-gau-gau-Ning, which changed by French usage to Cacalin and Grand Kaukaulin. Actually, the present Kaukauna was once two villages, Kaukauna or Grand Kakalin on the north side of the river and Ledyard on the south. Three separate villages of Appleton, Grand Chute and Lawesburg became the combined village of Appleton.

APPLETON

On the evening of April 14, 1853, the president of the newly formed corporation of the village of Appleton, John F. Johnston, while walking to the Clifton House for the first meeting of the officers and trustees, could have reminisced about people and events which had made possible this occasion.

He and his little family, coming from Menasha in August, 1848, had been the first to make a permanent home within the village limits. It was more than a home, for it also substituted as hotel, hospital, church, Sunday School and post-office. Of course, two years before his
arrival B. B. Murch had settled west of the village site on a farm purchased from the government. Thirteen years before Hippolyte Grignon was welcoming traders and visitors at his trading post home, the "White Heron," located on the river bank.

The Fox River, which meant water-power and a means of transportation, and Lawrence Institute were the magnets that brought settlers into the area. The latter institution, the recipient of a gift of money from Boston's Amos A. Lawrence, received its charter in 1847. The Methodists who managed the Institute had a thriving congregation in early Appleton. However, this religious denomination was no more zealous than the Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Baptists and Roman Catholics who had already established or were in the process of organizing their churches. The village's 1,500 inhabitants were God-fearing and hardworking people, for the most part Yankees.

Men with vision and courage were laying foundations for communities in perhaps 100 or more sites in Wisconsin. Johnston knew well the men who started Appleton, which took its name from Amos Lawrence's father-in-law, Samuel Appleton. There were Reeder Smith and William Sampson, connected with Lawrence Institute and University (1849); Asa Randall, pastor of the Methodist Church; Byron Douglas, the dentist; Samuel Beach, physician; George Myers, lawyer; Daniel Huntley, the schoolmaster; Samuel Ryan, Jr., editor of the Crescent; pioneers J. S. Buck, Robert Bateman, Theodore Conkey and others.

The two Bloods, Henry L. and Colonel James, along with James M. Phinney started the first dry goods store and meat market in the village. New mills were turning our wood products such as shingles, lathes, barrels, rakes, sashes, doors and chairs. A year previous Isaac Beach erected a flour mill. Facts seem to point to wheat becoming the major farm crop in the surrounding country. The same year the Richmond brothers were invest-

ing in a paper mill, a sort of dare-devil scheme. Appleton was prospering with men of good will and capital.

Beyond the handling of organizational problems the trustees transacted little business at that first "Clifton House" gathering. The minutes were transcribed by William Sampson.

"The Trustees elect of the Village of Appleton, Outagamie Co., Wisconsin, also the other officers of the Corporation were duly notified by the President of said Corporation, to meet at the Clifton House, on the evening of the 14th day of April, A.D. 1853, at 7 o'clock.

"According to the notice the following persons were present: John F. Johnston, President, in the Chair; Trustees, Cyrenius E. Bement (or Bennett), Waitt Cross, Geo. Lanphear, and William H. Sampson; Treasurer, James M. Eggleston; Assessor, James Gilmore.

"The President, John F. Johnston, having been duly qualified according to the Statutes of this State, proceeded to administer the following Oath of Office to the Officers elect who were present:

"We, the undersigned, do severally and individually solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, and also discharge the duties of Trustees for said Village of Appleton, to the best of our individual ability."

The oath of office was given to each of the village officers. On motion by William Sampson the board elected James M. Phinney as clerk. Samuel Ryan, Jr., was appointed to head a committee on by-laws.

With this meeting Appleton assumed more than mere official status as a village. The trustees represented three wards of the village; two came from the east section called Lawesburg, two from the central part of the village and two from the section of settled area on the western part of the village, known earlier as Grand Chute.

With the second meeting on May 17, 1853, the City Fathers swung into action with several resolutions and its first city
ordinance. The records show the signature of James M. Phinney, Clerk.

Important among the resolutions was the decision to levy no general tax during the first year with all expenses to come from fines, licenses and permits. Another authorized inquiry into the state of the village cemetery.

The subject matter is the interesting part about Appleton’s very first ordinance, no doubt debated and discussed seriously and passed unanimously that May 17 in 1853. It reads as follows and leaves no doubt as to the village’s Public Problem Number One:

‘Be it ordained by the President and Trustees of the Village of Appleton:

SECTION 1. All Hogs, Pigs or Swine found running at large in the streets, alleys, lanes, public squares or corners within the limits of said Village of Appleton, shall be liable to be distrained by any person, and driven to the Village Pound, and the keeper thereof shall receive and keep the same, until disposed of as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 2. The owner or claimant of every such Hog, Pig or Swine, so impounded as aforesaid, shall pay to the Pound Keeper a fine of Fifty Cents for every such Hog or Pig, and Twenty-five cents for the cost and expense of distraining and taking to the pound, and shall further pay to such Pound Keeper Twenty-Five cents for his fees; And for all necessary keeping during the time, as hereinafter provided, Six cents per head for every twenty-four hours.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the Pound Keeper to provide at his own expense, a suitable place for a Pound, and any person opening or breaking, or who in any other manner shall cause any Hog or Swine so impounded to escape from such Pound, shall pay a fine of Ten Dollars and costs of suit, for each offense.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of such Pound Keeper, when any Hog or Swine so impounded as aforesaid, shall have remained in his custody for the space of twenty-four hours, to advertise the same, in the same manner as Constables are required by law to advertise personal property on execution, and on the day appointed in such advertisement, to sell such Hogs or Swine at Public Auction or Vendue to the highest bidder, and out of the proceeds thereof to pay to each person entitled thereto, the aforesaid sums, and the balance, after retaining his fees for sale, shall be paid into the Village Treasury.

SECTION 5. It shall be the duty of said Pound Keeper to pay all fines paid to him, by the owners or claimants of any Hogs or Swine impounded as aforesaid, to the Village Treasurer, within ten days after receiving the same, under a penalty of ten dollars and costs of suit.

SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall take effect from and after the twenty-fifth of May, 1853.’

Ordinances and laws are exact and revealing sources of the history of a community. ‘Ordinance Number 4’ explains the trustees’ attitude on the questions of temperance, crime and public health. According to records this ordinance was passed May 31, 1853.

‘Be it ordained by the President and Trustees of the Village of Appleton:

SECTION 1. That if any person shall be found intoxicated within the limits of the Corporation of the Village of Appleton, he shall on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than one dollar nor more than five dollars, and costs of suit; or, in case of the non-payment thereof, by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten days, at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction of the offence.

SECTION 2. That if any person shall, at any time disturb the peace of said Village, by tumultuous or offensive carriage, or by fighting, wrangling, or threatening, every such person or persons so offending shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than two nor more than ten dollars and costs of suit, at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction of the offence; or in
highways of said Village, to the danger of the inhabitants or wayfaring persons who may be traveling upon, crossing over, or walking, riding or driving thereupon, shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than three nor more than fifty dollars, and costs of suit, or by imprisonment for not less than three nor more than fifteen days, at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction of the offence.

Section 4. That if any person shall deposit any stable manure, dung, straw, offal, dead animals or fish, or other nuisance, in any of the streets, lanes, alleys, or highways of this Village he or she shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of one dollar for each and every offence, and costs of suit, and one additional dollar for each twenty-four hours he or she shall suffer it to remain after being notified so to remove the same by the Marshal or other officer of the Corporation: And in case of the non-payment of said fine, the person or persons so offending to stand committed to Jail for the space of not less than one nor more than three days.

Section 5. That if any person or persons

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Robert L. Roemer, Mayor of Appleton since 1946.
shall intentionally obliterate, deface, tear down, or destroy, in whole or in part, any sign, handbill, show bill, publication, or other advertisement or notification set up or posted in any public place within the Corporate limits of the Village of Appleton, for the information of the inhabitants thereof, he, she or they shall each be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than ten dollars, and costs of suit; and in case of the non-payment thereof, by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten days, at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction of the offence.

Section 6. If any person shall post up, paste, or tack up any sign, handbill, show-bill, publication, or other advertisement or notification whatever upon any house or other buildings within this Corporation without the consent of the owner or occupant thereof, he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding three dollars for each offence, together with the costs of suit; and in case of the non-payment thereof, by imprisonment not exceeding three days.

Section 7. That in all cases of fine or imprisonment under this Ordinance, the President may remit the same upon the affidavit of a Physician that the health of the person convicted will not admit of imprisonment; or upon the oath of the prisoner that he or she has a family dependant upon him or her for their daily support.

Section 8. This Ordinance shall go into effect from and after the 15th day of June, A.D., 1853."

The village grew. Within a few years emigration included a generous sprinkling of Europeans. Economic prosperity didn't seep away. If men didn't work in business or the mills they tilled the soil or worked on the river improvements. As soon as built, homes were occupied.

By 1857, with a population of 2,000 the village put on "long pants" and on May 2 of that year incorporated as the city of Appleton. Amos Storey, the city's first mayor, succeeded Village President, J. S. Buck. Johnston, Rolla A. Law and Buck were the three presidents of the village.


John Goodland, Jr., has an outstanding record of public service. He has served the city of Appleton for 33 of its 95 years of corporate existence. He represented Appleton as its head for 22 years, four years as a commissioner under the commission form of government, and 18 years as its mayor. He was the city's mayor for 16 consecutive years from 1930 until 1946 and served 11 consecutive years in the office of Treasurer from 1900 until 1911, the year he became a commissioner.

With the exception of the years be-
between 1911 and 1918 the aldermanic form of government has prevailed. The men who managed the city's affairs during the Commission years included J. V. Canavan, John Goodland, Jr., E. Schueller, H. R. Tuttrup, A. Knuppel, A. Gerlach and John Faville.

The growth of Appleton's population has been steady. Census reports reveal 2,345 persons for 1860; 4,318 in 1870; 11,869 in 1890; 16,773 in 1910; 25,267 in 1930; 32,000 (estimated) 1948.

Despite four major wars of national and international scale and several economic depressions the city has led a comparatively peaceful and prosperous existence. Fire and storm occurred from either natural or political causes. The early days witnessed complete destruction by fire of not a few churches, hotels, mills and business establishments. Political discord centered about such things as tax assessment rates, the change from a district to a union school system, sites of and expenditures on public buildings. The longest battle of them all was the 31 year discussion over service and ownership of the city water system. Not until 1911 when water facilities became a public utility was the populace confident enough to consume faucet water for drinking.

New ideas in communication, transportation and the production of electric power have never lacked adherents in Appleton as the utilities section in the chapter on industrial progress shows.

Today diversified industry as well as the paper and its related industries employs some 5,000 persons with a payroll averaging more than $10,000,000. The city has 430 retail firms and 59 wholesale companies, the former alone employing more than 1,700 persons with an annual business exceeding $24,000,000. Real estate and personal property assessment has a valuation of $64,180,600 as compared to the $455,800 valuation in 1857.

The social status and level of the city's populace is middle and upper middle class with its politics being predominantly conservative Republican. As foreigners came to the village and city they became a part of the community and one evidence of their assimilation is that the Volksfreund, once an important German publication, is no longer being published. Improvements come as the result of hardheaded, evolutionary processes.

John F. Johnston, rapping for order at his session with the village trustees, would hardly have imagined such a product as has sprung from the pattern he and his fellow pioneers staked out.

KAUKAUNA

"In its original primeval state, Kaukauna was a place of entrancing beauty. The gentle, sloping, wooded hills abounded in game of all kinds, deer, bear, quail and partridge, while along the banks of the Fox River the extremely fertile soil produced wild grapevines and apple trees in luxurious growth.

The Fox River, flowing unobstructed by dams from Lake Winnebago to Green Bay, furnished free access from lake to river and then back to lake again for fish in great numbers and variety, while upon the surface of the water, clouds of ducks, geese and swan found a resting place."

These are the words of Dr. H. B. Tanner, Kaukauna's doctor-historian who wrote many articles and collected many papers and letters on its early history during his life in Kaukauna. The word, Kaukauna, is a unique name. The bureau of Ethnology in Washington defined it as a Menominee Indian word, Ogaq-Kane, meaning the place of the pike. Other authorities give it the Indian spelling of the word, O-Gau-Gau-Ning. This has the various meanings, stopping place of the pickerel, pickerel fishing grounds or eddies where the fish stop. Whatever its exact meaning or spelling, Kaukauna was a favorite place of the Indians who lived there for more than a hundred years. They followed the hunt in the winters and cultivated their corn and fished at O-Gau-Gau-Ning during the summertime.
KAUKAUNA OFFICIALS

Seated, left to right: Henry Schmidt, Assessor; Mike Gerharz, Sr., Alderman; Joseph Bayorgeon, Mayor; Ed. Ryan, Alderman; J. A. Mertes, Alderman. Standing: Raymond DeBruin, Alderman; George Luebke, Alderman; Ray Nagel, Alderman; Karl Marzab, Clerk; Bert Roberts, Alderman; Donald Kenney, Alderman; Fred Ludke, Alderman; Otto Hass, Alderman; N. M. Haupt, Treasurer. Absent: H. F. McAndrews, City Attorney.

Through French usage during the years of the French regime in Wisconsin the Indian name became distorted. Historical references show innumerable variations of spelling such as Cacalin, Kakalin, Kockaloo, Cacolin and Kaukaulin. In March, 1851, the Township of Grand Kaukaulin was changed officially to Kaukauna by act of the state legislature and by virtue of this act the village settled down to the same spelling.

Although the city dates its incorporation from 1885, in settlement it is the oldest in the county. It was here that fur trader Dominique Ducharme, the county’s first known settler, paid two barrels of rum to the Indians for 1,280 acres of the present city in 1793. It was here that Augustin Grignon and other later French fur traders came to settle with their families, followed by outstanding pioneer citizens like George W. Lawe. Their stories have been told in the chapters on pioneers. The third post office in Wisconsin was established at Kaukauna in 1829 with Ebenezer Childs as its postmaster. One of the oldest pioneer homes in the state stands as a historic landmark in Kaukauna, the Grignon home, now a county museum.

Starting with the Ducharme-Grignon trading post, Augustin Grignon built in 1816 a grist mill, the first to be operated by water power in the state. A sawmill, also water operated, followed the grist mill.

Government policy and action had a great effect on the earliest growth of the little settlement on the Fox River. In 1822 the coming of the Stockbridge and other eastern Indians to the south side of the river stimulated the business activity of the village and made a market for the products of the mills and stores. Other sawmills were built on the south side of the river during this period. Business was brisk until the Indians were compelled to move in 1832.

Then, with the signing of the Treaty of the Cedars at Cedar Point in 1836, a land boom started. As soon as the land was surveyed and placed on sale through the land office at Green Bay, settlers began coming to the Kaukauna region to take up their claims.

Congress in 1846 granted further land along the river to assist the proposed Fox River canal project. This was the year that A. C. Black arrived in Kaukauna and bought 1,800 acres of land for $1.25 per acre in gold. Members of the Black family still live in the city and some of the west side streets are named for the family.

With the building of the canals Kaukauna had a third “boom” period, but
the promised prosperity never came to the village since the waterway proved of little permanent value to the growth of the town. Active canal workers left when their work was completed and many of the empty buildings of the village were sold to farmers who moved them away over the snow to place them on farms for barns and homes.

However, the canal project in 1851 served its purpose in keeping Kaukauna more active than its rival city of Springville across the river. Kaukauna was platted by George W. Lawe in 1851, who placed it on record October 20. Springville, platted and recorded in November of the same year on Alexander Grignon’s land at Sulphur Spring, was situated at the transfer point for merchandise coming by boat from Green Bay on its way to Neenah by team. Although several houses and a hotel were erected, the Springville promoters found their village short-lived. They could not compete with the activity of Kaukauna where many stores, dwellings and a school were built for the canal workers.

In the early sixties Kaukauna was at a standstill with little progress. The coming of the Chicago and North Western Railroad helped keep the place alive. By 1870, however, several important factories were doing business including the Nichols and Company stave factory, the grist mill run by John Stovekin, the Deidrich saw mill and the Reuter spoke factory.

John Stovekin became an important business leader in these years. He built the first paper mill in 1873 and 1874, which was later acquired by Colonel H. A. Frambach. By 1875 this mill manufactured three tons of straw paper a day. Stovekin also had a thriving sawmill operating in 1875 and he started a new flouring mill in 1878, his earlier mill having burned in 1871.

The Bank of Kaukauna was founded in 1878 and in 1893 it incorporated as a state bank with Peter Reuter as its first president. The present Farmers and Merchants Bank incorporated as a state bank, May, 1911, with John Schmidt as its first president. This bank absorbed the interests of the former First National Bank there.

In a sense, modern Kaukauna dates its progress from 1880 with the development of its great waterpower and the location of the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western Railway shops on the south side of the river. The Lake Shore and Western had come to the Kaukauna area in the early seventies. In 1880 the Kaukauna Water Power Company, having acquired land on the south side, constructed the canal there and platted the village of Ledyard. In connection with this activity the railway moved its shops from Manitowoc to Ledyard and thus, a new village began to grow.

Within four years the population of Ledyard was 934. On June 20, 1884, the village petitioned for a charter. Although Ledyard held an election of officers, appointed committees, adopted a seal, granted licenses and ordered vaccination for schoolchildren, the incorporated village, as such, never materialized. Opposition to the incorporation came from many residents in the area who favored instead the organization of Ledyard and Kaukauna as a common city. Up to this time Kaukauna was an unincorporated village, a part of the township. In common agreement the two villages became the city of Kaukauna by act of the state legislature on March 25, 1885.

The common council met for the first time at Duggan’s hall on April 14, 1885, under the direction of Mayor H. A. Frambach. The first aldermen, two from each of the five wards, included the names of Steele, Vandenbergh, Sullivan, Langlois, Mitchell, Walker, Kribs, Beck, McCarty and Jansen. The city’s first officers were: Col. Frambach, Mayor; F. M. Charlesworth, Clerk; Peter Nettekoven, Treasurer; J. S. Filler, Assessor; G. H. Dawson, City Attorney.

Highlights of these vigorous years of the eighties and nineties include the
interests of the Meade-Edward water power, the building of the Hewitt canal, and the paper mills that sprang up because of these power developments. Some of these mills were the Badger Paper Company, the Outagamie mill, the Krause Fibre mill, the Ruse Paper Company and the Shartle Paper Company. Thilmany Pulp and Paper Company started in the old Otis and Doane Fibre mill.

Electric lights, a newspaper, excitement over coal beds and gas wells on farms in the vicinity, the founding of a Y.M.C.A., the building of churches and schools, a police system, the famous Driving Park Association with its exciting days of horse-racing, old Eden and Columbia parks and excursions on paddle-wheelers all had their part in the growth and color of Kaukauna before the beginning of the new century.

From a trading post the city grew to the name of “Lion of the Fox.” Today, this first settled town in Outagamie County and one of the oldest towns in Wisconsin, claims the name, “The Electric City,” by virtue of its waterpower and municipally owned hydro-electric power plant.

The island between the old Ledyard and Kaukauna, now called the north and south side, serves as a civic center for nearly 8,000 people. Its government has been administered from its municipal building since 1912; its library, auditorium, high school and other buildings are located there. Two modern bridges connect the miles of paved streets, the names of which alone are lasting reminders of Kaukauna’s past 150 years of community life.

SEYMOUR

Once the scene of lumber activity, today Seymour is an attractive and active little city surrounded by prosperous farms. Like the township, the city was named for Horatio Seymour, extensive landowner in the region who lived in New York State.

The log cabin home of the Munger family was the first house built on the present site of the city even before the first lumber camp was started there. The story of these pioneers is told in the Appleton Post Crescent of July, 1923, when Gary Munger, the last of the original nine Munger settlers, reminisced about his family’s arrival.

He was a youngster when the Munger caravan brought 24 head of cattle, three teams of horses, four yoke of oxen and their household goods from Dane County. They arrived in what is now the city of Seymour on March 3, 1860. Among the menfolk in the family, representing three generations, were S. W. Munger, the grandfather, and his half brother, Willis Munger; D. H. Munger, the son, and young Gary, the grandson.

This little group traveled by way of Appleton to Sagola (Freedom) over a road that had been blazed and brushed through dense timberland. Since only an Indian trail led from Sagola to their destination, the Mungers employed Oneida Indians to cut a road for them.

When they arrived, roving bands of Indians already were camped on their property, preparing for their annual sugar-making. Each spring the Indians came there among the maple timber to camp. When they accumulated their year’s supply of sugar, they stored their equipment on the grounds and left for other haunts. According to pioneer Gary the Indians had to be told to move on through interpreters.

The breaking of camp was a great spectacle. On the backs of ponies the Indians loaded their tepees, blankets, tepee poles and sugar making outfits. Particularly bulky articles, he remembered, were the matting used for the tepee walls and the birch bark troughs.

The Mungers settled the land on both sides of what is now the main street of Seymour, hiring Indians to clear 20 acres that first spring for the sowing of wheat. The grandfather purchased some of the land for several of his children.

The same year, John O’Shea started his lumber camp back of the present fair
grounds taking out only clear pine in the winter of 1860 and 1861. John and William Grignon logged on the Comee eighty; Riggs and Reynolds had their camp within the present city limits and after two winters they offered the land for sale for the price of the deed. D. H. Munger and Tom Shepherd occupied the O'Shea shanties in 1862 and 1863. Many other loggers came and went in these early years. All the logs cut by these camps were run out Black Creek to the Shioc and Wolf rivers down to the lake. During the height of the lumbering season every year, the river was full of logs from the "break up" of the ice until the following September.

In 1868 there were but two log cabins where Seymour now stands but by 1872 the population had increased to include the homes of Henry Robbins, W. B. O'Haring, the station master, Daniel Munger, Aunt Sally Munger, Willis Munger, Dr. Strong, Elke, Roloff, the hotel of Otto Broehmer and the store of David Dix. The little settlement of Lime Rock, its post office name, was located along the south line of the township and it was here that the first schoolhouse was built, as well as the first church, blacksmith shop, mill and post office. When the railroad came through the town, it began to carry the mails regularly and the post office was moved to Seymour station and placed in the store of David Dix.

The little village began to grow rapidly about this time and "building bees" were a common sight in those days. Hammel and Company built its stave factory, George Anderson started his sawmill about 1868. Oscar Conklin built a mill in 1870 which changed hands several times and the Whitney mill was built in 1871. Around these mills were the houses and stores of the settlers who came mostly from Ohio, New York and New England. Philip Muehl started his furniture store in 1867. Much of the land of the present city was owned by the Munger and Muehl families whose descendants are still active in business and farming in the community. This, then, was the nucleus of the city of Seymour.

The planing mill of Frederick Piehl in 1885 has grown into the Miller-Piehl Company, a prosperous lumber and fuel business of today. The first circulating library was opened by Fred Rex in his general store in 1878. Banking history began in 1887 with William Michelsteder's private bank, which was organized as the Seymour State Bank in 1903. The First National Bank of Seymour was organized in 1892 with James H. Taylor, Green Bay, its first president.

Only seven years after the building of the railroad the city of Seymour was incorporated on April 5, 1879, with a population of 900 persons. T. J. St. Louis was
the first mayor of the city and B. F. Strong, J. Brinkman and August Volk, the first aldermen. Other officers included: C. E. McIntosh, Supervisor; M. D. Newald, City Clerk; Thomas H. Mitchell, Treasurer; Dana Dix, Marshal; H. Monroeback, Constable; A. M. Anderson, Police Justice; George Downer, Street Commissioner; Sam Howard, Justice of Peace.

When the timber began to disappear in the area, the population of the city dropped sharply from more than 1,000 to 700 people. About 1900 Seymour had the distinction of being the smallest incorporated city in the United States. The last census shows a population of 1,365.

NEW LONDON

New London, incorporated as a city on March 7, 1877, is divided by the boundary line between Waupaca and Outagamie counties. Five-sixths of its people reside on the Waupaca County side with its third ward in Outagamie County.

In its earliest days, New London was known as Johnson’s Trading Post and in

By 1857 New London had so increased in business importance that it contained nearly 800 inhabitants and some 200 buildings.

The city was named through an Outagamie County pioneer, the Rev. Reeder Smith of Appleton, who owned most of the land which now forms the south side. The village was called New London to honor Smith’s father, who came from New London, Connecticut.

The prime events of 1854 were the establishment of a post office, the building of a first steam saw mill by Doty and Smith and the conducting of the first religious services. Glove Hall was a popular place, serving for public worship, lyceums, political assemblages, shows and traveling concerts. In 1857 postal authorities established a daily mail service. The pioneer period of its history concluded with the fifties although 20 years were to elapse before cityhood was realized.

During the seventies New London developed into a city in name and fact.

1853, Lucius Taft and Ira Millard purchased the claims of the half-breed Johnson. Ira Brown, subsequently of Northport, located on an adjoining claim. These, then, may be considered the first settlers of the present city.

Communication by telegraph was established, a volunteer fire department was organized and Bingham and Perrin opened a private bank. The general movement forward, all along the line, culminated in 1877, when New London was granted a
municipal charter. It was after this year that the city grew so that its one ward is now in Outagamie County. Ten years ago a movement started to place all of New London in Outagamie County and again, last year a committee was appointed to work on the plan. Nothing has materialized since it is not likely the voters of Waupaca County would consent to give up the income derived from New London.

Four schools, two parochial and two public, constituted the school system of the city until 1932 when the high school was built. The McKinley school on the north side of the river was built in 1871. The public library originated in 1895 with a Carnegie Library being built in 1915. The City Hall, completed in 1896, is now occupied by various municipal departments including the fire, police and postal services. The Bank of New London, originally a private bank, organized in 1872. In 1876 it reorganized as a state bank. The other two banks, the Farmers State Bank (1912) and the First National Bank consolidated under the head of the First State Bank.

In 1904 a lightning plant was erected; in 1915 a waterworks system; in 1930 the Public Museum housing the Carr Library was built adjoining the public library. Among the manufacturing companies that brought progress to the city and are still in operation are the Hatten Lumber Company, the Borden Company, Edison Wood Products and Hamilton and Sons Canning Company.

New London has six churches, Catholic, Congregational, Lutheran, Seven Day Adventist, Methodist, Episcopal.

In 1900 the census showed a population of 2,742 for that year; in 1910, 3,383; 1920, 4,667. Today the present area of the city comprises five square miles with a population, according to the 1940 census, of 4,825.

KIMBERLY

The area of land on which Kimberly is located has a very interesting history. In 1820 the United States Government sent a commissioner to the Fox River Valley to learn whether sites could be found for several tribes of Christian Indians from New York State.

This resulted in a series of Indian migrations from 1822 to 1834. First came the Oneida, then the Stockbridge and Brothertown Indians. They settled at various points along the Fox River from what is now Kaukauna to De Pere. It is recorded that in 1830 a second group of Oneida arrived and settled some miles farther up the river. In the early summer of 1832, a Rev. John Clark was sent from New York; he brought with him a Mohawk speaker to Smithfield, where a 24 by 30 foot building was dedicated and an Indian child, the son of John and Mary Smith, was baptized.

This Smithfield is what is now the Kimberly area. Valley government surveys show that buildings and clearings were located on a bluff on the opposite side of the river from where the Treaty of the Cedars was signed. The approximate spot is on land owned by the Kimberly-Clark Corporation, on the northeast end of what is now the temporary baseball field. A stone marker has been placed there with its bronze tablet reading as follows:
"On this ground, then called Smithfield, the first Methodist Episcopal Church between Lake Michigan and the Pacific Ocean was dedicated on Sunday, September 16, 1832, as the house of worship and and a school for Oneida Indians." These Indians subsequently moved to other areas.

Records of government land grants appeared in 1837. From this time on this locality was a farming area until 1888, when Kimberly-Clark bought the land and in 1889 built a paper and pulp mill. It remained a part of the Town of Buchanan until the village was incorporated in 1910 at which time the population of the village was 613.

The first village president was Dr. C. G. Maes, who served in the office until 1919. The other first village officers were Victor Viaene, Clerk; James Kraun, Treasurer; Jacob Verboten, Assessor; John J. Fox, Marshal; S. R. Stilp, Supervisor; George Roschek and Jacob Williams, Justices; W. W. Johnson, Fred Kroenka, Anton Bos, Walter Vanden Elsen, John Guilfoil, and Charles Werth, Trustees.

With the exception of William Lemmel and Henry Stuyvenberg, who were elected to replace Guilford or Guilfoil and Werth, the same officers were re-elected in 1911.

The village has increased in size until today it is about one square mile in area. The bridge which crosses the river was constructed in 1912 and the first streets were paved in 1914. The municipal water works system was installed in 1924 with a softener plant added in 1947. Fire protection started from a small two-wheel, man drawn cart and has developed into the present, well-trained volunteer fire department.

The first board meetings were held in the dining hall located on land south of the mill boiler house. Later, the group met in a small village hall and today the modern village hall is used. This hall, built in 1931, houses all the necessary village activities.

**LITTLE CHUTE**

The village of Little Chute originally was called by its French name, "la Petite Chute," because of its location at the
smaller of the two waterfalls in the Fox River. It was here that the Dutch priest, the Rev. Theodore J. Van den Broek, came in 1835 to build a church mission among the Indians on the same land to which he brought his fellow Hollanders in 1848 to found the present, thriving community.

Father Van den Broek came to America in 1832 with six other priests and spent his first two years in Ohio and Michigan. In 1834 he was transferred to Green Bay to work among the Indians. It was while he was stationed in Green Bay that he became interested in the Menominee living at the "little waterfall" on the Fox River. He traveled this region extensively, for his missionary work took him among all the Indians in the region. When other priests were sent to replace him in December, 1835, he immediately set out for la Petite Chute.

An Indian-built bark wigwam, 15 feet long and six feet high, served as church, school and living quarters for many months. He was administering to the Indians in this rustic home when the next white settlers, Ephraim St. Louis and his family, arrived in the area. The Grignon family, long established at the Kaukauna portage, were among his earliest friends and supporters. A letter written to them shortly after his arrival at la Petite Chute tells of his work at the mission.

"Perhaps you have already heard that I had a great deal of difficulty in coming here, because I left too late, for the reason that those who had promised to carry my luggage did not come because it was very cold that day.

"I was therefore obliged to remain for the night seven miles from the mission; and the next day we went four miles astray, on account of which we reached here four hours after noon. Not finding anything in the house, I immediately sent someone to your Aunt, to ask some assistance, which she did not delay to send us; and since that time we have no lack of food; we have everything in abundance—bread and butter, fresh meats, potatoes, etc. As soon as the savages at the Butte (Butte des Morts) heard that I had arrived they sent me Marie Anne, daughter of the Little Wolf, who is a very capable woman, and she does my cooking very well. I had been obliged usually to do my own cooking . . . Behold me then, well settled!"

The story goes that this same Marie Anne was responsible for getting the Indians to build the bark wigwam for the priest.

"I have given lodging, for five days to about 40 savages; I fed them, and all were entirely satisfied . . .
“I teach the savages every day, and I have children who have already, in eight days, perfectly learned the alphabet. I have instructed both adults and children, and have appointed those who best understand to teach to others the examples I have given them.”

Within a year, with the help of his parishioners, Father Van den Broek built the first St. John Church, a log structure, 22 feet wide, 30 feet long, with a roof of bark. The altar for this church, parts of which are still in existence, was hand carved of the white pine of the area by Antoine Mosseau (Manseau) and his son-in-law, Ephraim St. Louis. The work of the priest, no longer a young man, was difficult. He served as teacher, doctor and priest not only to his Indian people but to the increasing number of white settlers. His knowledge and work is expressed in one of his letters.

“My labor is incredibly great; Sunday forenoon I preach in French, English and German, in the afternoon in the Indian language. Moreover, I have school every day, besides visiting the sick and making numberless journeys to distant missions. Nevertheless I am in good health and everything through God’s help is easy, although I am in my 60th year.”

When the Menominee Indians were moved to a reservation on Lake Poygan in 1843 the priest continued his church work among the Catholic settlers in the wilderness.

In 1847, leaving his parish in the hands of Father D’Arco, he returned to Holland to settle his family estate. This trip resulted in the real settlement of his village. While there, he talked with enthusiasm about the freedom and riches of his adopted home and persuaded a large number of Catholic Hollanders to return with him.

These Dutch who came in 1848 and other families who arrived soon afterwards formed the nucleus of the present village of Little Chute. It was about this time that Van den Broek, St. Louis and M. L. Martin platted the little village which was given the Indian name of Nepomuc. Father Van den Broek did not live long after his village was started and his Indian name for the village fell into disuse after his death in 1851.

The village grew as a part of Kaukauna Township. In 1851 the telegraph line from Milwaukee to Green Bay went through Little Chute past the house of Arnold Verstegen. The following year plans were made for the locks in the Fox River and for the paving of the road through Little Chute with planks.

Peter Maas was Little Chute’s earliest politician, the postoffice was established in 1854 and he was appointed the first postmaster. In 1862 a flour mill, operated by water power and not by windmill as would have been the case back in Holland, was built by John and Arnold Verstegen. This mill was the oldest landmark in the village until several years ago when it burned. A bridge across the Fox River was built by the Verstegens in the early sixties.

Fifty-one years after its settlement Little Chute was incorporated as a village on March 8, 1899. John A. Kilsdonk was its first President; John De Bruin, Clerk; John Lamers, Treasurer; H. J. Mollen, Herman Verstegen, Henry Weyenberg, George Vandenberg, James Gerrits and John Molitor, Trustees.

In 1902 Little Chute became the focal point of the new Township of Vanden Broek, named in honor of its founder-priest. Today the village consists of about 700 families and is still centered around the church. The property of the church includes St. John Church, a rectory, a Sisters’ home and a large school containing eight grades and four years of high school.

St. John Church celebrated its centennial year in 1936. The village marked its first hundred years in June, 1948, with special religious and festive ceremonies.

HORTONVILLE

Hortonville dates its origin from the earliest settlement of the Township of
Hortonia. Both were named for the same man, Connecticut born Alonzo E. Horton, who also was the first settler. The first industry, hotel, school, churches and even the earliest roads centered in the little settlement on Black Otter Creek.

"Father" Horton, as he was called, founded Hortonville in 1848 when he came to claim the land he had bought for 70 cents an acre on soldier land warrants he procured at the end of the Mexican War. Actually, Horton only stayed in his platted settlement until 1850, when he caught the gold fever and headed for the west. It was there in the late sixties that he founded the great coast city of San Diego, California.

The first thing Horton did when he came to his land, then a part of Brown County, was to build a dam across the creek. His saw mill went up next, on the present site of the Joseph Klein residence, and the first wood was sawed on August 3, 1849. The village plat was laid out around this saw mill and to encourage settlement he gave away much of the land and offered lumber from his mill at half price to build homes. Soon enough, the land was cleared and settlement begun, so he named the place Hortonville.

When he left for the west, Horton sold his land for 15 dollars an acre. He was even more successful in his new venture, amassing a fortune in the speculation of gold dust. This founder returned to Hortonville only once, long after the village had prospered and the railroad had been built. Norman Nash, the first village postmaster, was the only one of the original settlers still alive.

Nash also owned a large amount of land at Hortonville, which he deeded to the city shortly before his death in 1888 for use as a cemetery and fair grounds. The latter is now Commercial Club Park.

Cyrus Weir and the Irish Mc Comb brothers, Matthew and Ira, arrived the same year that Nash did, 1849. Weir was the first storekeeper of the village and his store was located on the corner of Mills and Bath streets. The Mc Combs came directly from Ireland and the story goes that Matthew built a rude shanty that had at first only blue sky for a roof. He purchased the first lumber sawed at Horton's new mill and used it to roof his home.

Ira Hersey and Daniel Briggs built the first grist mill about 1854. The first road in the area was built from planks all the way from Appleton to Hortonville. Reeder
Smith, Appleton, was the man behind this early road that later became a gravel highway. The names of Oliver Poole, Mathias Klein, Casper Tillson, Gustave Briggs and Jacob Steffen are identified with the early progress of the little village. James and John McMurdoo came here from Scotland in 1851 to become leaders in the community. John McMurdoo served the village as postmaster for some 10 years.

With this nucleus of settlers within the space of a few years and the generosity of Horton, the village thrived from its beginning. A crude school and the first church, Baptist in denomination, were both built before 1850.

In 1873 the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western Company built the first railroad through the village. The line was purchased by the Chicago Northwestern Railroad about 12 years later.

For many years there was agitation in the village for incorporation but it was not until 1894 that the locality reached the required population of 360 persons per square mile. On October 27 the incorporation was achieved with Louis Jacquot elected the first village president. The other officers for that first year included: F. M. Torrey, Clerk; Charles Collar, Treasurer; H. T. Hunt, Assessor; Robert McMurdoo, Supervisor; Jacob Miller, Marshal; J. V. Hardacker, Constable; S. C. Torrey, Police Justice; M. Ritger, O. M. Poole, D. Hodgins, A. Graef, H. Diestler and Frank Schmidt, Trustees.

The following year, 1895, the Bank of Hortonville incorporated; today it is a branch of the Appleton State Bank.

Hermon T. Buck, an early settler in Dale, moved to Hortonville in 1870 where he engaged in mercantile business. His brother, Charles, later became his partner in the business.

With the new century came new manufacturing and business establishments. In about 1912 the Hortonville Rural Fire Department was organized and through its efficient organization and work it became nationally known. As a matter of fact, this fire department developed a method of cooperation with affiliated members in the surrounding area that is used today as a model in rural districts throughout the nation.

Some of the business firms established between 1900 and 1920 include the Hortonville Brewing Company, the Peter Olk Elevator, the Hortonville Canning Company, Buchman Milling Company, Hortonville Auto Company, Otis Brothers Garage, Dabereiner Hardware Company, the Farmers and Merchants Bank and the Platten Produce Company. Other outstanding businesses of today are the Fox Valley Canning Company, the Hortonville Manufacturing Company, the R. E. Schwebs Produce, Hodgins Quarry and the McKeever Lumber Companies.

From this small community around one sawmill Hortonville has grown to a village of some 1,050 inhabitants.

BEAR CREEK

Bear Creek started out as a lumber camp back in 1850 when the state of Wisconsin was but two years old. In those years the only inhabitants of the great wilderness area were Menominee Indians who lived in crude shacks and wigwams along the banks of the Embarrass River.

Like many a pioneer town it went through the stages of Indian campsite, logging point and trading center until today it is an important business center for a rich farming community.

Enterprising lumberman Welcome Hyde became the founder of the village when he located his lumber camp on the bank of the river and cut the first road into the area. Within a short time other families began building homes nearby and many of these earliest settlers found employment in many lumber camps that came into the territory. There was no village in the whole township area of the present Deer Creek until the railroad was built in 1880. About this time F. M. Hyde built a store at what became Bear Creek
station. Truman brothers built a second general merchandising store after Hyde, a depot was built and a postoffice started. Before very long the station became a settlement of considerable importance in this lumbering area.

In 1885 the land west of the station was platted for Welcome Hyde and was named Bear Creek. Trowbridge's sawmill was built nearby, later converted into a shingle factory which was destroyed by fire. Raesler and Hyde also built a sawmill which fire destroyed. The little village began to grow around the early sawmills and other stores and industries centered in the village. Charcoal kilns were established just west of the village to convert refuse timber, consequently starting a new industry.

Catastrophe hit the prospering village in 1902 when fire wiped out three-fourths of its area. This fire, still referred to by old timers as "the big fire," was really the main reason behind the move to incorporate the village that same year. One of the first steps taken by the first village fathers was to provide as much fire fighting equipment the finances of the village could stand. Within two months the village had a hand power engine with 500 feet of hose and a large cistern reservoir. By the following year the village had replaced the old Town Hall with a substantial, brick building to house the fire fighting apparatus on the ground floor.

When the village incorporated it was named Welcome in honor of its first settler but within a few years the name was changed back to Bear Creek because of the confusion resulting from the village and railroad station having different names.

The first officers of the village, elected on August 16, 1902, were Fred Reinke, President; C. G. Ballhorn, Clerk; Robert Larsen, Treasurer; A. J. Canaday, Henry Russ, Henry Leque, James Dempsey, M. F. Clark and Gust Naze, Trustees.

L. J. Rebman, present President of the village has held that office for the past 20 years.

Through the years, the population of Bear Creek has remained about the same with the population of 337 persons in 1902 when the village was incorporated, 341 in 1910 and 409 in the last census of 1940. There are a number of retired people who have made Bear Creek their home and since World War II many veterans have returned to live there. Many of the residents of the village commute to jobs in Clintonville, New London, Appleton and other nearby cities.

The canning of sauerkraut and pickles is the main industry in the village, where the Flanagan Bros. Inc. opened their plant in 1916. The Flanagan Milling Company has been in business for 30 years.
The Citizens State Bank opened for business September 6, 1904 with W. R. Roberts as its first President.

Today Bear Creek village retains its small town feeling, unhurried and peaceful, with quiet streams and open fields not far from its "Main Street" of the usual stores and businesses of a small community that serves a great surrounding dairy and farming area.

SHIOCTON

Indian trade and later a flourishing lumber industry combined to make Jordan's Landing or Jordanville on the Wolf River grow into a settlement that today is known as Shiocton.

A far-sighted Yankee surveyor by the name of Woodford Dominicus Jordan was the founder of the village. Born in Raymond, now Casco, Maine, the son of the English-born Rev. Robert Jordan, the young, unmarried surveyor came to De Pere in 1846. That same summer he ventured on a surveying expedition to the wooded and wild region of the Wolf River that is now Bovina Township.

Near the present site of Shiocton Jordan found a trader, Ben Harman, engaged in business with the Menominee Indians who had a village to the north on the Wolf River. With an eye to business, Jordan saw the future of the area with its "tote road" from Bruce's Mill (Stephensville), its promise of active river traffic and trading possibilities. So, in 1850, he returned with Randall Johnson with whom he bought 640 acres of forest including the present site of Shiocton. Locating on section 29 of his property, he built the first house which formed the nucleus of the little settlement called Jordan's Landing or Jordanville for several years.

On his arrival, Jordan bought out Trader Harmon and set up shop for both the neighboring Indians and settlers who were beginning to come into the wilderness. He no doubt built a sawmill early because at the time of his marriage in 1851 to Mary Elizabeth Manning of Oshkosh, Jordan was "engaged in merchandising and milling operations." Later he purchased the interest of his partner and in 1857 surveyed and platted the village of Shiocton.

Jordan became a leading citizen of the prospering village, dealing in real estate and lumber in later years.

When the Township of Bovina was created in 1853 Jordan's Landing had a rival in the settlement of Shiocton a few miles to the north. This place, known as the upper settlement was in constant rivalry with Jordan's Landing, the lower settlement. It is believed that the founders of each were intent on building the main village of the township. The animosity between the two places grew so great that the Town of Bovina nearly was divided because of it. However, hopes for a village at the upper settlement disappeared when the dam at Shiocton mill washed out and the mill was abandoned.

Shiocton was named for one of the greatest of Menominee war chiefs and according to material in the Wisconsin Historical Collection the village was called by its present name as early as 1856. Some eight or 10 buildings and 10 families comprised the village in that year while 40 families lived within a two-mile area around it. The Lily Dale, a dugout canoe made and owned by Daniel Morris, carried supplies between New London and Shiocton. This boat could make the 25-mile trip in two days and usually made two trips a week. It was 65 feet long with a set of four oars, requiring four rowers and one steersman to navigate it. On occasion, this boat carried some 30,000 shingles in one trip. The steam boat, Outagamie, made irregular trips to Shawano to further the Indian trade. Steamboats were being built at the mouth of the Shio as early as 1856.

Shiocton's first postoffice was established in 1855 and, according to pioneer D. M. Torrey, the first mail carriers between Stephensville and Shiocton were volunteers who were sworn in before starting each trip. When a regular carrier's
route was extended to the village it became a part of the mail service from Appleton to the towns of Shawano County by way of Greenville, Hortonia, Ellington and Bovina.

By the spring of 1862, the little village was prospering under the impetus of the great lumbering industry which hit its peak in the seventies. The firm of Morse and Jordan in that year averaged daily 12,000 feet of sawed lumber and employed 20 men. Common lumber at that time sold at six dollars per thousand with clear lumber bringing nine dollars per thousand.

Within 10 years the village sprang into sudden importance for two reasons. It was the principal distributing point for the great Wolf pineries and the Green Bay and Pepin Railroad built its line through the village in the early seventies. Millions of feet of white pine and hardwoods were being logged out of the surrounding woodland by large and small lumbering interests which located logging camps there.

Shiocton in 1870 and 1871 had five stores and three hotels. Within a few years other businesses built there including a hub and spoke factory, a planing mill, a handle factory and one of the largest lumber firms in northern Wisconsin, Willy, Greene and Bertschy. The general store and trading post of J. and L. Fisher operated a large merchandising business including immense quantities of furs which they packed and sold. In 1877, Charles Fantl or Fautt, a butcher in the village, made a specialty of packing and preparing meat for the lumbermen and river drivers.

The progress of the village came to a standstill when the lumber industry moved out of the county. The district turned to farming which formed the basis of a new and more permanent growth of both the township and village.

In 1896 W. D. Boynton started a tree and plant nursery which was taken over later by Norman G. Williams. At the turn of the century Shiocton had a re-
newal of activity when the near-by swamp area became the "garden of Wisconsin." Through the swamp drainage project that received widespread publicity and attention, men like C. A. Kerr, Washburn and Lonkey began experimenting with vegetable growing and storage which led to the present extensive cultivation of these crops together with small fruit and orchard culture. Today this area supplies every year tons of vegetables to the market and canning factories and the Shiocton Kraut Factory is one of the largest in the United States.

The Bank of Shiocton started as a private business and in its second year, 1906, incorporated as a state bank. G. A. Zuehlke, Appleton, was its first president. In 1933 the bank became a branch of the Appleton State Bank.

Shiocton incorporated as a village on January 27, 1903. The first officers, according to one source, were F. H. Washburn, President; F. H. Colburn, Clerk; Nick Freeman, Treasurer; Eben E. Rexford, James Johnson, R. D. Fisher, F. Terrill, Trustees. Another source lists the trustees as M. M. Terrill, Johnson, Fisher, H. S. Rexford, G. H. Lonkey and R. J. Bauman.

BLACK CREEK

The Village of Black Creek started out as Middleburg, platted by its first settler, T. J. Burdick, whose land extended north from the present Breitenbach’s Corners to Elm Street. This was the land to which Burdick brought his family in 1868 after purchasing it with the bounty money his wife had saved and he had received for enlisting in the Army.

Actually, the village itself sprang into existence as a result of the building of the Green Bay and Lake Pepin Railroad through the township. As soon as the railroad was completed mills were built to manufacture lumber in great quantities, stores were started and a post office established. Since both the station and post office were named Black Creek, the village took this same name instead of Burdick’s original, Middleburg.

Dietzler and Knoll built a store and hotel in 1871 at the railroad crossing and Henry Peters started another store in the building owned by Henry Herman. Henry and Nicholas Herman bought five acres of the Middleburg plat from Burdick and in 1872 built the first saw mill in the village where they did custom sawing and barrel making.

Other early storekeepers were the Strassburger Brothers, Shaw and Charles Naglestock. Andrew Herman was the first postmaster of the village.

In the great fire of 1871 that raged through the woods of Black Creek Township the village settlers turned out in force to fight it. All the buildings in the village were saved but the ties on the railroad grades were burned. The smoke was so dense it was impossible to see across the road at times.

During the years of 1874, 1875 and 1876 the village grew rapidly. A. J. Hunter built a blacksmith shop on the corner of Main and Elm streets, G. Webpher built a shoe shop with a hall on the second floor which was used for public worship by different church denominations. The Letter and Appleton grist mill was built in 1875 and F. W. Fairchild’s broom handle factory went up east of the depot. Peter Komp was one of the old pioneers who built a harness shop.

The village soon outgrew its original plat and the property of T. J. Batley was added to the village. There were three other additions to the village known as the Elliot, A. Rideout and Clark additions, all of which gave the village 200 acres of platted area before 1875.

According to the Appleton Post, Black Creek in 1877 did an annual business of $61,500. Among the leading businessmen of that year were J. Mueller, the cabinet-maker; R. A. Loope, the village’s first doctor and drugstore owner; G. Horning, storekeeper; J. Lelage, storekeeper and blacksmith; A. E. Burdick, blacksmith
and wagon maker; H. Peters, who ran a stable. H. Knoll had a stable and ice house, F. Helger had a granary and workshop, Letter and Appleton employed 10 hands, Randall Johnson had an extensive lumber business.

Fairchild owned a planing mill in connection with his earlier broom handle factory. G. H. James was a druggist, J. Priebe and J. Breitenbach ran a blacksmith and wagon shop, J. Schlegel dealt in stoves and general hardware, F. Ingleking in furniture and the Naglestock store was one of the largest in the northern part of the county. Busy at their shoemaking trade were G. Webther and H. Jarelow. D. H. Hammond and C. C. Cordes were hotelkeepers. Peter Ryser, well known business man, built his hotel in 1889.

The Hagen brothers, blacksmith Herman and wagon maker Charles, came to Black Creek in 1882 with a threshing outfit. Herman organized a farm implement business; Charles started a small planing and feed grinding business as well as a box factory and lumber yard. It was Charles who became prominent in the village and was the first president of the village. He also served as clerk for four terms, justice of the peace for four years and was a member of the State Legislature from 1904 to 1906.

About 1894, a Mr. Grandy started the first creamery and from this small beginning Black Creek has become one of the leading dairy towns for its size in the state with a cheese and butter factory and a large condensery.

The Black Creek Bank organized on December 23, 1903, with William Strassburger as its first president. The village incorporated in 1904 with the following officers being elected: C. J. Hagen, President; Ernst Bergman, Supervisor; F. D. Weisenberger, Clerk; J. N. Blick, Treasurer; Garrell Smith, Constable; John Kessler, Assessor; John Priebe, Marshal; Aaron Shaw, Street Commissioner; T. J. Schumacker and Silas Pierce, Justices of Peace; Peter Ryser, J. Schneider, G. Shaw, John Herman, Julius Breitenbach and J. A. Koehler, Trustees.

**COMBINED LOCKS**

Although Garner's Landing on the little bay at the present Combined Locks was a landmark on the Fox River earlier than 1840 the land on the nearby bluff did not develop into a village until many, many years later.

Today the village with its present population of 625 is the youngest in the county, dating its incorporation from 1920.
It was here, on the hill, that Roland Garner or Gardner, according to the records of Alexander Grignon, farmed in the eighteen thirties at the time the French from Canada, Joseph Lamure, the Beau- lieaus and Porliers, were established on homesteads in the present Town of Buchanan.

It was here in 1842 that 10 families of Germans and three unmarried men came as a group to settle farm homesteads in the area. These people included the families of John J. Dietzler, Peter Dietrick, Jacob Pauly, Michael Klein, John P. Heinz, P. H. Rausch, J. P. Schumaker, Frevel, John Kloefer, Anton Heuser and the three young men, Mathias Klein, John and Jacob Snyder.

In the years that followed the Dutch, Irish and more German settlers came to the township. Abstract records show that large landowners like Joshua Hathaway, David Whitney, Morgan Martin and John Meade had purchased land in this vicinity with no intention of becoming settlers.

It is interesting to note that several of the old homes in the township are in the Combined Locks area. The Christian Hartjes brick house, built in 1867, and part of the Jacob Jansen house, built in 1874, are still standing. The Burghuise home, now the Combined Locks Farm House, was built in 1864. Three years later the larger part of the house was added with its gable end holding the stone on which is inscribed in Dutch, "May God be the Leader of this house and all who dwell therein: J. G. Burghuise and wife, Johanna Welhaus, 1867."

The only industry of the village, the Combined Locks Paper Company, was started in 1889. A post office soon followed and the farm settlement began to take shape as a village.

In April, 1920, a group of villagers petitioned for incorporation under the name of Combined Locks. The following August a meeting of electors of the territory was called to determine whether they favored or rejected the proposed incorporation. Of the 56 ballots cast, only two were against the move. The incorporation papers were filed with the Department of State on August 5, 1920, and the first village board meeting was held September 8, 1920, at the schoolhouse.

The first village election chose E. J. Ryan as president. The original signers of the petition for incorporation were Herman Janssen, John Van Cuyke, Theodore Van Cuyke, Henry Maas and Nicholas Lom.