Ottelien Shoes

August Ottelien was born in Hanover, Germany in 1862. He came to the United States in 1880 and settled in Manitowoc. He came to Reedsville about 1890 and began the shoe business in the building next to the present shoe store. The present building was purchased in 1902.

All shoes were handmade in the early years of this century. Even after the retirement of August Ottelien in 1928, many customers came to have shoes "handmade" and Grandpa Ottelien had to come down to the store to make them.

Art Ottelien bought the business in 1928 and operated it under the name of "Art's Shoes." After Art died in 1968, his wife Marie took over the business until 1971. Now the proprietor is Marie's sister Helen Wachal. The name remains Art's Shoes.


Pautz Hardware

E. W. Pautz came from Waupaca in 1899. He and his wife opened a hardware store in the Shimon building. They bought a home on the site of James Phillips' residence. The home was moved back and on this location Pautz built his store in 1903. At first it was just a sheet metal business. Later they were in the hardware and plumbing lines, too. Some of the early employees were Fred Reinert and August F. Rusch.

This business made milk cans by hand for cheese factories both locally and in northern Wisconsin, to which they were sent by express.

Much of the work was in putting on tin roofs.

E. W. Pautz died in 1926. Then the store was operated by Earl Pautz and Harry Krueger.

January 31, 1939 Mrs. E. W. Pautz sold the business to Earl H. and Hilda Pautz. They in turn sold it to Matthias L. and Edna G. VanLannen in 1944. The next owners were Clarence J. and Margaret VanLannen.