



This is a copy of a picture taken in 1876, and shows the *Ellen Hardy* tied up by the grain elevator. Notations on the back of the original state that this wheat steamer plied between Prairie du Sac and Portage, also Fox River points; that the captain at one time was Alfred Page and the cabin boy,

Harwood V. Page; that the owner of the boat was Miles C. Keyzar. It shows the village of Clifton across the river and the hotel at the end of the bridge, and Kehl's home and vineyard on the hill. Picture courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. John Buehler.

Businesses, Water St. West

Jacob Pluess House

The home and shoe repair shop of Jacob Pluess was located at what is now 415 Water St., next to the B & G Texaco Filling Station. (Mr. Pluess was the grandfather of Chas. Meisser). It was in part of the business section of the village, which included the printing office, a millinery store, a grocery store, another shoe repair shop, the post office, a lumber yard, a paint shop and a feed mill, along with the Briggs Hotel. During the time that Herman Zeitler and later Chas. Colby ran the Banner Mill, they manufactured cement blocks under a shed on the lots south of the house, where the filling station is located now. This land was rented from the Pluess Estate as Mr. Pluess died in 1910. About 1921 or 22, Herman Kindschi bought the house and he also had a shoe repair shop here. Both Mr. Kindschi and Mr. Pluess used the south front room for the shop and the rest of the house for a dwelling.

Sometime after the death of Mr. Pluess, John Reuter lived here during the time he was employed by John Meisser in the mill across the street. The picture shows Mrs. Reuter and children. Loretta, Florence and Ewald.

The filling station on the south lots was built by Charles Gruber and Richard Breunig in 1939.

Briggs House

1885—Estate of James Long

1891—Mrs. E. Long

1902—Brittingham, Hixon Lbr. Co.

1923—Dresen Bros. Lbr. Co.

1947—Sauk Prairie Lbr. Co.

1950—Lloyd Tarnutzer

The lot at 431 Water St. in Block 1 of the Original Plat, on which Tarnutzer's Used Car Lot is located, was the site of the Briggs Hotel. It was a favorite stopping place for many transients, such as raftsmen and salesmen, as well as serving as a boarding house for many local residents. An old directory gives the Briggs House as the address of many of these local single men.

The building was torn down in 1902 and the property was then used as a lumber yard by the listed owners. For the past ten years it has served as a used car lot.

Gasser Building

This building, now owned by Gattshall & Gruber, is over 100 years old. It was built by Henry Glarner who used it as a home and jewelry store. His daughter, Mrs. Anna Gasser Moore, had a millinery store here for nearly fifty years and then it was taken over by her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Glarner Gasser, who conducted a hat and gift shop for a number of years and then it was sold to Gattshall & Gruber.

From 1922 to 1924, Dr. Karnop had his office in that part that had been used as a dwelling by Gassers, where he carried on a general practice. From 1925 to 1933, Dr. Kliese and from 1936 to 1940, Dr. Harris, had their offices here. From 1933 to 1936 and again from 1940 to the time he built the Medical Arts Building, it was used by Dr. Milton Trautmann. Peter H. Meng and later Dean W. Kyle, both optometrists, had had their offices in this building. Dr. Kyle is the present occupant. The south wing is used by Gattshall & Gruber for a furniture display room.

Mrs. Anna Glarner Prader Gasser Moore

Anna Glarner, daughter of Margaret and Henry Glarner, was born in the village of Prairie du Sac Nov. 18, 1858, and died at her home in Prairie du Sac Feb. 4, 1940. She spent all of her 81 years in the community where she was born.

In 1878, she was married to John Prader and lived on a farm about a mile north of the village. In 1887, she was married to Florian Gasser, who was in business in a general store in partnership with J. B. Ragatz and George Kindschi. In 1923, she was married to M. C. Moore, hardware merchant.

She first taught in rural schools for a number of years. In 1883, she started a millinery store in Prairie du Sac, in which business she was engaged for nearly 57 years. In 1933 she celebrated her fiftieth millinery anniversary.

She was very active in all phases of church work, beginning as Sunday School teacher in the Evangelical church located in Middletown, between Sauk City and Prairie du Sac, and continued as teacher for over 50 years. She was instrumental, with Mr. Gasser, in building the new church at Prairie du Sac.



Jacob Pluess House. Picture courtesy of Robert Reuter.



Briggs House.



Anna Glarner Prader Gasser Moore Shop.
Picture courtesy of Wayne Hatz.



Mrs. Anna Glarner Prader Gasser Moore offered classes in Millinery and sewing. In the front row are Margaret Gasser,

Mrs. Moore,—, and Katie Gasser. Ruth Gasser Hatz is in the back row on the right. Picture courtesy of Wayne Hatz.

She formed classes in millinery and sewing and many young women received such training in her store.

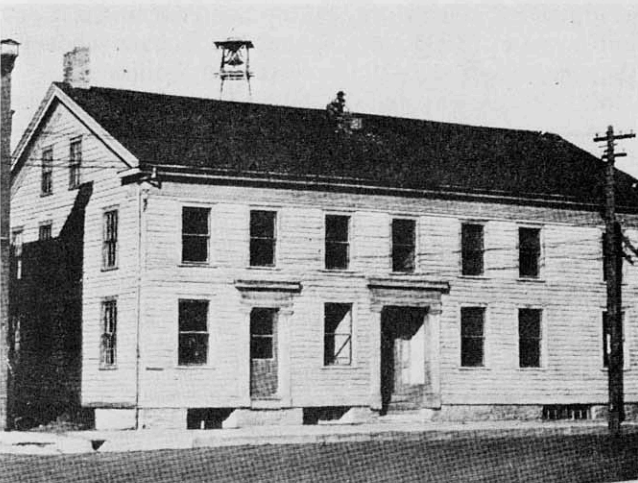
"She was a good Christian mother, a good business woman, a good companion and won the esteem of many friends in business, social and religious circles." (*Sauk County News*)

Furniture Store

The building which houses the furniture store was probably built by D. R. Baxter, who also built the Baxter House, which was located where the village Hall now stands. In 1892 Mr. Baxter sold his furniture business to J. F. Zarwell. Mr. Baxter also had a paint shop which stood directly north of the present store. This was sold to



Klipstein's Furniture Store about 1895. F. C. Klipstein standing in doorway. Signs advertise Wall Paper, Paints, Undertaking Furniture. Two couches and a chair for sidewalk display. The bench may be for sale or for convenience of loafers. Three hitching posts are shown. The large clock on the left advertises Link's Jewelry Store. The upper floor on the left housed Dr. Jacob Senty's Dental Office.



Baxter House, from book by H. E. Cole.

the village to use as a fire station and was moved to the rear of the village lot on Park Avenue. This is the tin-covered building used by the electric department for storage.

A few years later, F. C. Klipstein joined with Mr. Zarwell in a partnership, and in 1898 E. D. Gruber Sr. bought out the Zarwell interest and the firm was then called Klipstein and Gruber. In 1902, E. D. Gruber sold his interest to Herman Klipstein and the firm went by the name of Klipstein Brothers.

At the time of the Klipstein's occupancy, the first floor of the south part was occupied by Link's Jewelry Store. Around 1890 and later, the upper floor of the south part was used as a dentist's office. Drs. Senty, Henry Ragatz, and Walter Schellenberger used the office successively until about 1917, and since that time the entire second floor has been used for furniture display. A directory of 1898-99 shows that G. A. Schrody operated a Jewelry Store on Water St. between Galena and Washington, which must have been in this building.

In 1906, E. D. Gruber and Albert Gruber bought out the Klipstein Brothers. April 18, 1918, E. D. Gruber sold his $\frac{1}{2}$ interest to his brother, Albert Gruber. In 1919 Albert Gruber sold a $\frac{1}{3}$ interest in the business to L. E. Schultz. After Albert Gruber passed away, from injuries received in an auto accident caused by hitting a pig in the road, L. E. Schultz purchased Albert's $\frac{2}{3}$ interest from the estate on Oct. 5, 1928. In April, 1929, L. E. Schultz sold a $\frac{1}{3}$ interest to E. L. Gattshall. In Sept., 1939, L. E. Schultz sold a $\frac{1}{6}$ interest to E. L. Gattshall and a $\frac{1}{2}$ interest to E. D. Gruber when the firm became known as Gattshall and Gruber. In 1958 E. L. Gattshall transferred his interest to his sons, Russell and Donald.

At the present time, Russell and Donald Gattshall are associated with Edward Gruber. (Some of the information is taken from *Saukies*, a pamphlet prepared by a grade school class in 1948.)

Baxter House

The first hotel built was that of Steinmitz and Fief (Fyffe). Travelers stopping there often came from Madison and here boarded a boat for Prairie du Chien or other points along the river.

Soon after the building was completed it was purchased by D. K. Baxter, an early settler. The Baxter House became a famous place of entertainment not only for the traveling public but for grand dancing parties on the upper floor.

There was much rivalry between the Briggs House and the Baxter House. It was the custom for hotels to meet the trains at Mazomanie and lure travelers to one of the hotels. Baxter had a \$1000 coach, drawn by four horses. Competition was so keen that the price of transportation to or from Mazomanie was only 25 cents.

Mr. Baxter became a good friend of E. Zantow who lived atop the Baraboo Bluffs. Zantow named a part of his land "Baxter's Hollow" in honor of his friend and it still goes by that name today.

Mr. Baxter sold his hotel property to Zantow from whom the village bought the building in 1902 for \$2000. Up to that time the village owned no building for a meeting place, but now it served as a village hall, library and jail.

Giegerichs

The Sauk County News was identified with the Prairie du Sac community for 77 years.

The *News* was established in 1876 by Burnett and Son of Black Earth where the paper was first printed, and by G. W. Ashton of Prairie du Sac. Between 1884 and 1899 publishers of the paper included: Silas W. Corwith, whose office was located where Zick's Bait store is, at 450 Water St. He was followed by Charles E. Whelan, 1885-86. Later about 1907, Hon. C. E. Whelan was National Lecturer for the Modern Woodmen of America. Then followed George L. Conklin, Fred W. Johns, Etta Johns, Browne Brothers and E. J. Browne.

On Aug. 10, 1899, Bert Giegerich and William P. Just bought the paper from E. J. Browne and the partnership continued until 1909 at which time Giegerich became sole owner. When the paper was acquired the office was located on the second floor of the building now occupied by Winiger's Bakery at 575 Water St. From there it was moved to the second floor of Tarnutzer's office building at 634 Water St., then to the building next door south, and then to Steuber's Annex south of the Ford Garage. In 1912, Mr. Giegerich erected the present building on Park Ave. and moved his equipment into it.

In 1953, Mr. Giegerich sold the *Sauk County News* to Leroy Gore who published the weekly paper in Sauk City under the name of the *Sauk Prairie Star*.

In the early days all type was set by hand, but later typesetting machines were used. The hand-fed job press has given way to an automatic press and the slug cutter to an electric saw, along with many other labor-saving machines.

When Mr. Giegerich retired it brought to an end one of the oldest established businesses in the community, dating back to 1876, and it was his boast that the paper never missed an issue when he owned it. And always Mr. Giegerich held the respect and confidence of the citizens. It was his policy not to publish scandalous news nor that which might reflect on the character of any one or cause unnecessary grief. The fact that his publication flourished for over half a century seems to have justified his policy.

After the sale of the newspaper, the business was converted into job printing and office supplies, conducted by Giegerich's sons, Lorin and Robert. In 1959, the sons built an addition in the rear of the present building to make room for their expanding enterprise. Today the Giegerichs are equipped to handle any sort of job printing the customer may want, in addition to having a nearly complete line of office supplies and machines.

Much of the above information was supplied by Mrs. Bert and Lorin Giegerich.

Restaurant Building

1885—Thomas Baker
1887—Christ Obrecht
1895—Ragatz & Gasser
1916—Ragatz & Albertus
1918—Fred Albertus
1920—Guy Albertus
1925—Esther Lehmann
Sylvia Steuber

J. B. Ragatz and Florian Gasser bought this property from Christ Obrecht for their dry goods business. The partnership lasted until the death of Mr. Gasser in 1909, and the enterprise ended with a disastrous fire in 1913.

After the fire, the building was converted into a motion picture theater. An ad in the July 3, 1915, issue of the *Sauk County News* says: "METROPOLITAN THEATER. Two shows every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings. Doors open at 7 P.M. Admission 10 cents. Watch for posters in front of theater."

Following this venture, Guy Albertus ran a restaurant here until he opened one in Reedsburg. Clifford Kaufman bought out Albertus in 1925. To a whole generation of high school pupils the place was known as Cliffie's. It was their favorite meeting place after school and after games in the evening. Cliff received many letters from boys in the service during World War II and after, expressing their appreciation for giving them a place to "hang out" which was clean and respectable. After his death in 1956, the building is still being used for restaurant purposes.

J. B. Ragatz

J. B. Ragatz was a member of one of Sauk County's pioneer families. He was a merchant, the first president of the Peoples State Bank and a village official.

Mr. Ragatz is best remembered for his activities in civic affairs. He represented his district in the Wisconsin State Assembly for one term; he served on the County Board; he was a member of the school board; he served as justice of the peace for many years; he was a member of the village board for twenty years and village clerk from 1922 to 1936. The honest, efficient government that Prairie du Sac had during that period is due in no small part to J. B. Ragatz.

He built the home in which he lived at 575 Broadway in the year 1900. He died at that place in 1936.

Florian Gasser

In 1878, at the age of 17, Florian Gasser entered the employ of Conger Bros. as clerk. In 1888 he entered into partnership with Geo. Kindschi and J. B. Ragatz, who conducted a general mercantile business in the Tabor building until 1895 when he and Mr. Ragatz conducted their dry goods store in the restaurant building.

Mr. Gasser was known and respected as a business man, but more especially as a Sunday School worker. In the latter activity, he was well known throughout the county. It was his ambition of bring about the moral up-building of the community. Mr. Gasser died suddenly in 1909.

The Mockler Building

1885—J. H. Rose
1899—George Mockler
1901—Adam Neu
1903—George Reuter
1910—George Mockler
1913—Fred Schara
1916—George Mockler
1945—Ed Mockler



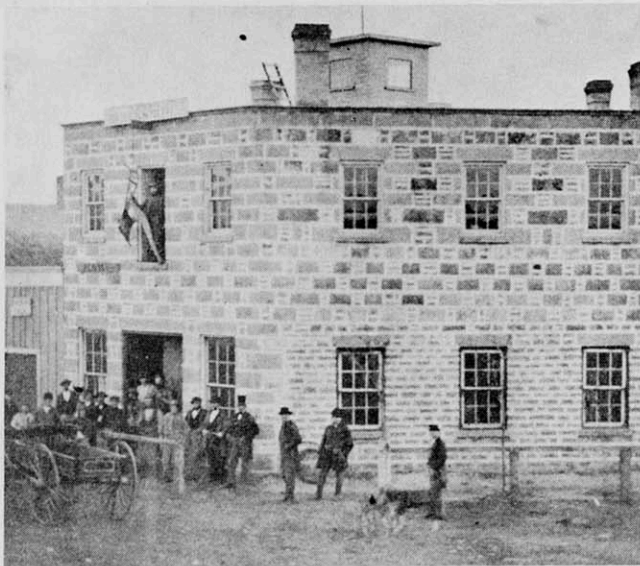
Looking west on Galena St., showing part of the Conger-Schoephorster store on the right, with bales of wire in the triangle. On the left is the Doll Implement shop and next is

the Ragatz & Buehler blacksmith shop. Part of the F. A. Oertel home is shown next to the blacksmith shop. The picture was taken by F. S. Eberhard in 1908.



This is probably the only picture in existence taken from this angle. It is taken from the Doll building at the corner of Park Ave. and Galena St. It shows part of Conger Bros. Dry Goods and Clothing store, and the triangle on which they displayed grinding stones and bales of wire. Across the street, from left to right, part of Fey's saloon with balcony, Cumming's or

Weaver's Drug store with apothecary sign; Dr. C. P. Riley's office; Mockler's saloon; the small annex; the Schneller & Felix store. It is not known why so many buggies were present when the picture was taken. Picture courtesy of Reuben Mueller from Ed Steuber's collection of plates.



The Mockler Building about 1850. Picture courtesy of Mrs. G. V. Accola.

In 1840, William Frink opened the first blacksmith shop at the corner of Galena and Water Sts. His mechanic was a man by the name of Axtell, who repaired plows, chains, etc., or whatever early equipment was used.

Earliest records show that William Hubbard sold this property to Samuel Kelsey in 1844. Mr. Kelsey built the building and used it for a blacksmith and wagon shop. The upper floor was used for storing lumber and other materials and was converted into living quarters when it was purchased by George Mockler.

The property was sold to Christ Obrecht in 1881 and to J. H. Rose in 1885. It is not clear what Obrecht used the property for, but in a 1900 Directory it lists "Frank Simons - Furniture, corner of Galena and Water." That must refer to this building. According to Ed Mockler, J. H. Rose and Matt Jacoby had a grocery store here. From 1899 to about 1920, the above named owners operated saloons in this building.

The post office was located in this property from 1923 to 1943 and as follows:

- 1923-34—Post Office, B. E. McCoy, Postmaster
- 1934-43—Post Office, Albert Ehret, Postmaster
- 1946-50—Oscar Emond Electric Shop
- 1954-56—Alam Garmong Dress Shop
- 1956-58—Mrs. Lawrence Hutter Dress Shop
- 1959-67—Mrs. John Zingg and Mrs. Marvin Lange Dress Shop

Triangle, Water & Galena

The triangle at the intersection of Water and Galena Sts. was always an interesting place. The small one-story addition to Conger's Store once housed a drug store operated by Dr. Wotring, then it was part shoe store and part office for Congers, where H. V. Page kept the books without benefit of adding machine or typewriter. At the triangle, Congers kept large grind stones and bales of wire which the boys liked to climb around on and maybe tip over and roll away on Halloween.

Something nostalgic disappeared when the directors of the Peoples State Bank cleared away this area and put up

the new bank building in 1916. In 1932 this bank merged with the Prairie Sauk Bank and moved to the other bank building. In 1933, Gilbert Schumacher rented the old bank building and operated a drug store and bought the property in 1938. Schumacher's store later was taken over by O. P. Mueller, who came down from Alma during the days of the powder plant. At the present time, it is being used by Van Loenen's Clothing Store.

1933-44—Gilbert Schumacher Drug Store

1944-50—Oliver P. Mueller Drug Store

1950- —Robert Van Loenen Clothing Store

On second floor.

1917-26—Dr. R. A. Schlag, M. D.

1926-41—Dr. R. J. Hudson, M. D.

1941-44—Dr. E. M. Randall, M. D.

1917-46—Dr. T. Henry Ragatz, Dentist

1946-49—Dr. Paul Morgan, Dentist

The upper floor has since been used as an apartment.

Conger Store, Now Schoephorsters

This mercantile business was established in 1863 by three brothers, David S., Wm. F. and John S. Conger, and for many years was conducted under the name of Conger Bros. and Conger Bros. Co., and later as Conger, Grotophorst and Meisser. It continued under that name until 1900 when Chas. Schoephorster became a partner in the business. In 1902, the firm was incorporated under the state laws of Wisconsin as Conger-Grotophorst Co. and it still is an incorporated firm. In 1906 the name was changed to Conger-Schoephorster Co. Wilbert Schoephorster became identified with the firm in 1918. Beginning Jan. 1, 1946, it has operated under the name of Schoephorster's, Inc., as the entire stock was purchased by the Schoephorster family. According to an old picture, thirteen clerks worked in this store at one time.

In 1910, a grocery store was added to the mercantile business and another addition was built in 1916 for a hardware department. In 1954 this latter addition was rented to William Kohlman and is now being used as a self-service grocery store.

According to an account written by Miss Jennie Baker in the *Sauk County News*, Dr. Wotring, a brother-in-law of David Conger, was dissatisfied with the way in which the only drug store in the village was filling his prescriptions and he wanted to start one of his own. Accordingly, David Conger built a one-story addition on the south side of Conger's store, which was used as a drug store for several years. Later this part of the store was used by Conger's as an office and shoe department. The office was then torn down in 1915 to make room for the two-story brick building for the Peoples State Bank. This bank consolidated with the Sauk Bank. Gilbert Schumacher started a drug store here, which later was taken over by O. P. Mueller, who came down from Alma, Wis. during the days of the powder plant. At the present time, it is being used by Van Loenen's Clothing Store.

When Chas. Schoephorster started to work for the Congers in 1890, he had to take care of their horses and milk two cows, in addition to his duties in the store, for which he was paid \$175.00 per year. They also were engaged in the poultry business and kept their live chickens in a little lean-to in the rear of the store until enough chickens had accumulated to crate and haul to the depot



The Conger Store with an addition to the south. This part, a drug store for several years, later became Conger's office

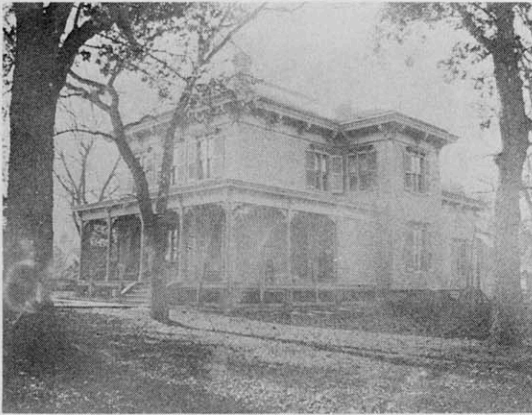
and shoe department. It was torn down in 1915 to make way for the Peoples State Bank.



Charles Schoephorster, Richard Hoppe, and —, in the Conger Store.
Photos courtesy of Elsie H. Schoephorster.



John Wintermantel,—, Lena Wintermantel,—, W. A. Schoephorster, Dorothy Mae Schoephorster, and Ernie Marks in the store.



Home of David Conger. Picture courtesy of Mrs. Alvin Shuknecht.

for shipment to market. They bought wool which they piled up in their warehouse until a buyer came along and bought up the supply. They also dealt in hides and building stones.

Congers also owned a branch store at Denzer and in 1894, Schoephorster was sent out to manage that and stayed there for six years before coming back to the main store, where he has been ever since. This year marks his 70th anniversary as a merchant in the same store, which probably sets some sort of record.

Conger Brothers

The following information was furnished by Miss Alice Conger:

David Conger came west in the early 1860s and settled in Prairie du Sac where he and three of his sons, John Sidney, William Frame and David Seabury, started the Conger store about 1863. David, the father, probably built the Conger store which originally consisted of only the part facing Water St. David died Feb. 6, 1873.

David S. remained in Prairie du Sac and ran the store. He lived at 729 Water St.

William F. had interests in the store. He engaged in the general mercantile business and dealt in wool, until 1898. He was elected to the State Senate in 1894. He lived at 285 Broadway. This house directly faced Third Street and it is said that he built the house there to enable him to see what was going on up town.

John S. was one of the firm but moved away. He lived at 741 Water St. He sold the property to Wm. C. Cook and when Cook moved to Texas in 1913, it was bought by Christ Ploetz.

Hotel and Tavern

1885—Alex McGinnis	1908—S. D. Perkins
1892—Fred Jacobi	1912—John E. Witwen
1896—Keller & Thaelke	1922—Ceclia Ditsch
1900—Mary Schultz	1941—Henry J. Ditsch
1906—Adam Neu	1945—J. P. West
1912—John Ziemke	1951—Alfred Erickson
1936—Frank Reuter	& Truman Dunlap
1940—Simon Specht	1953—John Beinvoegel
1953—Gabriel Lichty	
1953—Floyd & Philip Lauver	

In the minutes that give the account of the incorporation of the Village of Prairie du Sac in 1885, it states that the election on this question was held in the feed store of Alex McGinnis. He owned lots 2 & 4, Block 6, of the Original Plat. This property was split in the year 1908, as you can see from the list of owners.

The record is not clear when Mr. McGinnis gave up the feed business, but from 1892 on, this property has been used for tavern and hotel operations. In 1908, the hotel business was entirely separate from the tavern and was first run by S. D. Perkins. It was called the Commercial Hotel and included a dining room, kitchen and lobby with sleeping rooms upstairs. From 1911 to 1916 it was operated by Mr. & Mrs. George Curtis, 1916-19 by Hugo Schultz, 1919-22 by George Clark, followed by Mrs. Ditsch. Mr. Clark had managed a hotel in Macon, Missouri, and brought back with him a colored cook, Robert Smith. When Clark sold the business to the Ditsches, it was made a part of the contract that Smith should always have a job and a home in connection with the hotel. Smith served as cook for many years. He died Jan. 2, 1959. He was the only colored man in the community who made this his permanent home.

Henry J. Ditsch started the Twin Arch Tavern in 1941.

Twin Arch Tavern operators:

1941-44	Henry J. Ditsch
1944-45	Ed Baumgarth
1945-46	Pliny W. Hall
1946-47	Laufenberg & Kelly
1948-50	Raymond Ring
1950-53	Alfred Erickson

When John Beinvoegel became owner of the property he completely remodeled and modernized it, and called it Tally Ho. He divided it into two parts, with the tavern on the north and a lunch counter and dining room in the other part.

The Grill

The earliest record shows that this building was owned and operated by J. J. Ochsner for use first as headquarters for the buying and selling of furs and then as a variety store. It was taken over by Otto Gasner in 1912, who also had a variety store. In later years it has been used as a restaurant operated by the people listed below. It was bought by Roy Peterson in 1958.

Operators of the Prairie Grill

N. H. Hiddessen,	1925
L. J. Brownrigg,	1926-37
Dave Stillman,	1937-45
Wm. H. McFadden,	1945
Lillian Nightingale,	1945
Clifford Silvest,	1945
Kenneth Carstens,	1946
Gastrow & Ruck,	1947
George Johnson,	1948
Clarence Page,	1948
Andrew Gruber,	1949
Lilah Hosig,	1949
James Paris,	1949-52
Mrs. Wm. Mudgett,	1953
George Nussbaum,	1953-54
Mrs. Lena Soelle,	1955—

Peterson's Barber Shop

Lots 5, 6 and 7, Block 6, of the Original Plat were all owned by J. J. Ochsner in 1885. The building which is now owned and used by Roy Peterson as a barber shop was built in 1886 by the Dresen Lbr. Co. It was originally used as a photo gallery by Albert Giegerich, a half brother of Bert Giegerich and later by G. A. Lindsey and by Roy Anderson, both for the same purpose. At that time the building was set back about 25 ft. from the sidewalk. It remained a photo studio until about 1918 and has been used as a barber shop since that time, first by Leslie Saubert and then by George Steckenbauer until taken over by Roy Peterson in 1928 and he has operated it since that time.

According to Fred Wintermantel, Dr. A. Fisher, a veterinarian, had his office in this building. He was married to the oldest daughter of Rev. John Thilke (discrised at the end of this book) and lived in the house east of Thilke's.

Steuber's Watch Shop

1885—J. J. Ochsner

1912—Otto Gasner

1956—Roy Peterson

This property at 639 Water St. was originally owned by J. J. Ochsner. The earliest information available indicates

that Albert H. (Tud) Tarnutzer ran a shoe store on this location in a small frame building. About 1902, Samuel Schreiber leased the building from Mr. Ochsner and conducted a shoe store and repair shop, in which he used the old fashioned cobbler's bench, no longer seen around here.

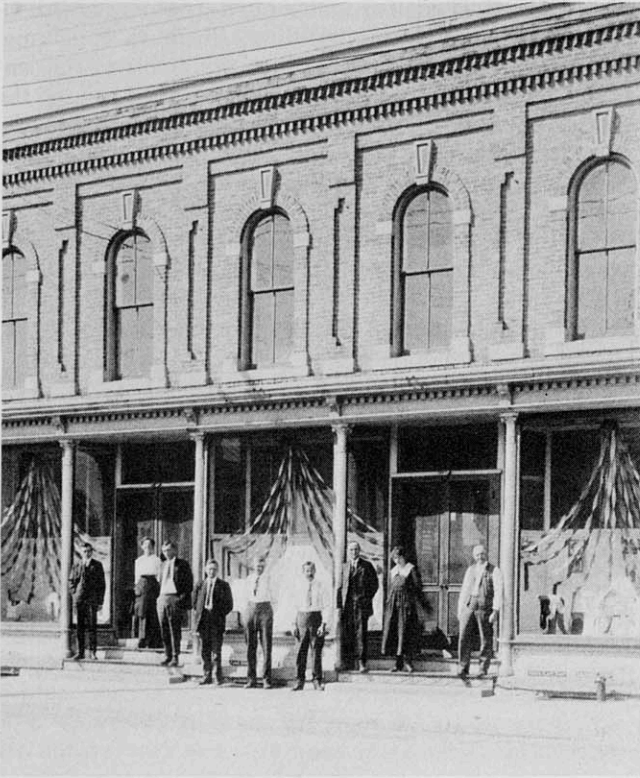
In 1911, Mr. Schreiber with D. D. McPherson moved the building to the rear of the lot and built the present one, and continued with the shoe business. Mr. McPerson withdrew from the partnership about 1915 and Mr. Schreiber continued until 1930 when he was bought out by Emil Morter, who continued on this location until 1933 when he moved into the Moore building.

Partial list of occupants:

Samuel Schreiber Shoe Store,	1902-11
Schreiber & McPerson Shoe Store;	1911-15
Samuel Schreiber Shoe Store,	1915-30
Emil Morter Shoe Store,	1930-33
Badger Variety Store,	1939
Sam Chesley Print Shop,	1940
Rodney Caflisch Dry Cleaning,	1941-42
Edwin Ploenske Dry Cleaning,	1942-43
Raymond Steuber Jewelry Store,	1943-52
John Fisher Jewelry Store,	1952-56
Raymond Steuber Jewelry Store,	1956-



Otto Gasner operated a news stand and variety store.



Conger-Schoephorster store, about 1917. From left to right: W. A. Schoephorster, Miss Anna Schwanke, George Wintermantel, Richard Hoppe, William Bonham, John Wintermantel, Charles Schoephorster, Miss Louise Conger, and H. V. Page. Picture courtesy of Elsie H. Schoephorster.



Hatz's Store and Hall, about 1905, advertising a 15-day mill outlet sale. From left to right, John Schreiber, —, Hazel Hatz, Esther Hatz, Erna Ragatz, Dorothy Hatz, Jacob Hatz, —, Ella Buehler, Olga Wegner, Gertrude Ragatz, Lena Hatz, Vivian Reynolds, Richard Hoppe and Ralph Steffins. Picture courtesy of O. H. Cramer.

Eberhart Building

1885—J. J. Ochsner
 1902—F. S. Eberhart
 1945—Orville Olcott

The lot on which this building stands was originally owned by J. J. Ochsner. In 1902, F. S. Eberhart built the present building for use as a jewelry store, with living quarters on the second floor. Besides operating this store, Mr. Eberhart took many pictures of scenes around this area. You will find his name on many post cards still sold.

1909-35—F. S. Eberhart
 1939—N. Y. Coffee Shop
 1940—Sam Chesley Print Shop
 1941-45—Jack Wedlake Variety Store
 1946-48—Clarence Sipple Variety Store
 1949—A. H. Koten
 1949-56—Henry Schroeder Variety Store
 1956—Orville Olcott Variety Store

Hatz's Hall Koltes Building

Jacob Hatz operated a mercantile store in what was later known as the Moore building on the east side of Water Street. He had visions of greater business if he were in a larger establishment and accordingly had George A. Baldwin put up the well-constructed, two-story building with full basement known as Hatz's Hall.

The upper floor of the hall was used as an opera house and public meeting place. Neither the school nor the churches had recreational facilities in their buildings and this was the favorite place for social gatherings for both. Here they played "Drop the Handkerschief," "Last Couple Out," "Captain Jinks" and games of similar nature. Class plays were given here and it was in this hall that Commencement exercises were held. On the walls of the stage you can see the names of the class plays for the various years along with the names of the play casts.

It was in this hall that the "Birth of a Nation," the great Civil War classic of silent movie days, was shown. It carried its own orchestra. Here the High School oratorical contests were held. A public meeting was called to be held here to discuss the issue of building a new high school. Mr. Babington, who was then principal, presented the affirmative arguments and he was opposed by E. D. Perkins, who led the opposition. The meeting voted overwhelmingly in favor of the new building.

Valentine Accola was taken in as partner and Hatz & Accola operated a general store on the first floor. Later Mr. Accola sold his share to Mr. Hatz and at his death it was operated by his daughter, Miss Dorothy Hatz. From 1939 to 1947, Marachowskis of Portage had a grocery store in this building. In 1947, Harry Koltes of Waunakee purchased the building and since that time it has been used as a hardware store.

According to George V. Accola, Jacob Hatz, Jacob F. Hatz and Valentine Accola were partners in the store in

the early 1890s. When Jacob F. Hatz died in 1895, J. L. P. Accola was taken into the store. An old picture shows six men clerking in this store at one time. In addition to the above, they included Matt Jacoby, Wm. Rischmueller, and John Weirick.

Prairie du Sac Feed & Coal Co.

The land on which this building is located was originally owned by William Simon, whose name is given to one of the sub-divisions. It was successively sold to the following: Thomas Baker, Samuel Basinger, James Alben, Jeremiah Keysar, Lavallette Tabor, Archibald Moore, Isaac F. Smith and Amos Farr. In 1879, E. J. Farr bought the property and owned it until 1908 when he sold it to Wm. C. Cook. During the time that Farr owned it, it was used as a barn and for storage, then as a creamery operated by Bickford and Lamson. A. M. Bickford, grandfather of Melvin Bickford, and his partner operated this business for eleven years. M. A. Reynolds was the buttermaker. In 1893, a poultry company, of which Farr was a member, took over the building for dressing and packing poultry for shipment. In 1898, Mr. Farr bought out the hardware store of J. A. Moore and conducted a hardware store for about ten years.

In 1908, this property was sold to Wm. C. Cook, who operated a feed business. He in turn sold it to the Prairie

du Sac Farmers Produce Co., in 1912. Leonard Ploetz was the President of this company and James R. Carpenter, the Treasurer. In 1921, this company sold to Nelson Ploetz and Andrew G. Accola. Ploetz sold his interest to A. G. Accola in 1923, who sold the business to E. J. and Conrad Schoephorster in 1924. In 1925, E. J. Schoephorster sold his half interest to Andrew Accola, who in turn sold his interest to Conrad Schoephorster in 1932, when Conrad took his son Raymond into partnership and since that time it has been operated as the Prairie du Sac Feed & Coal Co.



Prairie du Sac Feed & Coal Co. New building on the site is now the home of Schwartz Insurance Agency.



Picture taken in 1908 shows a corner of J. J. Ochsner's Variety Store, the Commercial House, Adam Neu's saloon, Conger's Store and the annex built for Dr. Wotring's Drug Store. The empty space at the triangle always displayed bales of wire. Here a bandstand would be erected for band concerts on Saturday nights.

In the second block is the Baxter Hotel where the Village Hall and Library now stands. The first building in the second

block was then owned and operated as a saloon by George Reuter. The sign above the large window advertizes Bachelor cigars and the one attached to the corner is a beer sign. In the road and in front of the large window is the old town pump, since replaced by a drinking fountain.

There appears to be an early electric arc street lamp hanging above the intersection. Picture by F. S. Eberhart.