

Stuemke Went Into Business At Age of 16

At the age of sixteen years H. A. Stuemke and his 19-year-old brother, William, started their own grocery store, thereby becoming among the youngest men ever to set up for themselves in Merrill.

Young though he was, Mr. Stuemke, who now owns the Merrill Elevator company, already had three years of experience in grocery stores at that time, 1903. He had served his apprenticeship under George Rothlisberg. The original Stuemke Bros. grocery was at the corner of Prospect street and Grand Avenue in the building now occupied by the Styza Clothing shop. Eleven years later they moved to West Main street into the building where Klepke's grocery is now located.

In the meantime, W. R. Bryan had founded the Merrill Elevator in 1890. It was the pioneer grain, flour, and feed station in this territory. About the only machinery was a stone grinder. Mr. Bryan sold flour and feed to farmers and ground grain during the winter, and in the summer he shipped in fruit. For a time practically all the fruit sold in Merrill came through him. A business hustler, he also sold buggies, harness, and many other items.

In 1909 Mr. Bryan sold out to the Thomas Produce company, and the business changed hands several times between then and 1923, when Mr. Stuemke left his grocery store and bought controlling interest in it from Leo Gensman. In 1927 he bought the interest of Joe West and other stockholders and became the sole owner.

The business has expanded steadily under his management. In 1928 he installed a new 40 horse power attrition mill capable of grinding five tons of corn an hour. In 1930 a modern 10-inch cup elevator was installed, making it possible to unload a car of corn in three hours. The same year he acquired a mixer to make dairy feed.

The Merrill Flour and Feed store was acquired in 1925. A branch was started at Tomahawk, and the business now has retail sales outlets at Doering, Gleason and Bloomville.

The Merrill elevator company caters mostly to farmers, selling everything they need to feed dairy stock, sow crops, or plant fields. It also buys hay and grains, grinds grain, and prepares feed.

The confidence of farmers in the firm has been demonstrated by its growth for thirty-nine years. Mr. Stuemke, mindful of the reputation of Merrill's oldest business of the kind, has maintained this confidence with a consistent policy of honest dealing, low prices, and a capable understanding of farmers' needs.



J. A. EMERICH, head of the Emerich Mercantile Company, and the Merrill Woodenware Company, and interested in several other going concerns, has also served the public by way of official positions. Anything that is for the general benefit of Merrill, is all right with "Joe."

Canning Firm Prosperous in Fifteenth Year

A somewhat brief delineation of the activities of the Lincoln Canning company, located in this city, develops the apparent fact, that notwithstanding the generally unsatisfactory business conditions, this company is experiencing one of its most satisfactory and prosperous years.

The first inception of a like industry for this city is placed to the credit of the late Geo. A. Foster, who, up to the time of his demise, was the cashier of the Citizens' National Bank, and a progressive promoter of the upbuilding of the city.

As stated to the Herald representative, Mr. Foster, in company with H. H. Heineman, supported by other interested citizens, journeyed to Columbus, to consult H. E. Babbitt, whose reputation as a "canner" had become known hereabouts, with a desire to secure his services and interest in the promotion of a canning factory for Merrill.

The proposition was eventually made so promising to Mr. Babbitt, that he consented, and the organization of the Lincoln Canning Company was effected during January, of 1920, with Mr. Foster as its first president, with J. N. Cotter, vice president, and H. E. Babbitt, secretary and treasurer. Upon the death of Mr. Foster, John O'Day was chosen president.

A lamentable fact in connection with the officials of this company is, that later three of them, O'Day, Cotter and Babbitt, all died within the space of fifteen months.

The present officers of the company are: George B. Shafer, president; H. H. Heineman, vice president; John Brandt, secretary and manager; W. J. Riedner, assistant secretary and sales manager; H. P. Load, factory superintendent.

Walsh Performed First Operation For Appendicitis

The late Dr. C. C. Walsh was the first surgeon to operate for appendicitis in Merrill. If our memory serves us right, the operation was made on a woman in the Sixth ward.

The operation was successful and the lady may be alive today. Operations for appendicitis are only about 45 years old. Before that, people suffering from appendicitis, died from inflammation of the stomach.

Operations for appendicitis had been known a year or two when Dr. Walsh performed this operation. He was fresh from college and knew the new tricks in surgery.

Selover Began Sales Stable 25 Years Ago

J. L. Selover started his sales stable about 25 years ago, after having been a salesman of machinery for some time. He opened the stable on Merrill street next to what was then Goetch's livery stable.

Not long afterwards, Mr. Se

lover moved to the Saeger barn on Genesee street, and then came to his present location on Park street some twenty years ago.

At present Mr. Selover owns several farms, on which he keeps much of his stock. He handles horses, cattle, and other livestock. Mr. Selover has two fine herds of Brown Swiss and Holsteins.

Throughout his experience in the sales stable Mr. Selover has tried to improve the quality of Lincoln county herds by distributing high class sires to the farmers of this locality. It is apparent that the cattle in this region are improving annually, and a contrast with the

herds of only a few years back shows great improvement. Lincoln county is now becoming noted for its Brown Swiss cattle.

Mr. Selover reports that it is his observation that business is now definitely on the up-swing. Farmers are restocking their pastures and barns and are buying not only more stock but better stock. As the farmers build up, so Lincoln county builds up. In the past month Mr. Selover says, he has sold more horses than he sold in all of 1932. All this points to more money already going to the farmers and still more to come in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS

PLEASE ASK FOR OUR BRANDS BY NAME

ALASKAS:	SWEETS:
"Good Dish"	"Best Served"
"Lincoln"	"Merrill"
"Take More"	"Sweet Pod"
and "Good Dish Beets"	

LINCOLN CANNING CO.



Horses...

Business is picking up. It looks like the depression is over. I have sold more horses in the last thirty days than I did in the whole last year of the Hoover administration. The profits haven't been so large but we're able to do business, thanks to Franklin D. Roosevelt.

J. L. SELOVER

LINCOLN MILL

Congratulates

THE
Daily Herald
on their
25th
Anniversary

We are proud to say that we too are 25 years old—in Serving customers with quality flour and feed, at fair prices.

We Also Celebrate...

39 years of Service to the Farmer and Merchants of this community.

We Buy the Farmer's Hay, Oats, Barley, Wheat, Rye and Potatoes and pay cash.

We Sell the Farmer everything he needs for his Cows, Horses, Hogs, Sheep, and Poultry and Seed for his Acres.

The Farmer is our main customer, and naturally we try to serve him well.

We have had 39 Years of Experience.

MERRILL ELEVATOR CO.

Merrill & Tomahawk