

Took Trail Through Forest On Way To School In Merrill

By Dr. H. E. Kleinschmidt

502 East Second Street

My parents, Carl Kleinschmidt and Johanna Klenbaum Kleinschmidt, came to Corning at the time of the Civil War. They moved to the town of Scott a little later and I was born there in 1875.

There were eleven in the family and each of the ten boys had a sister. She is Mrs. Ottilie Broetzman, who lives on Sixth street. The boys are Albert, now in Merrill, though a resident of Scott most of his life; and William, John, Robert and Herman, who live on farms in the town of Scott; and myself. The other four boys, Fred, Louis, Carl and Julius, have passed on. My father built a sawmill on Devil's Creek and I attended parochial school in Jenny. Though the winters were severe enough, one would not notice the cold or snow so much while walking through the forest to school. Not, at least, until we reached the edge of the woods at the boom shanty, then located at the present site of the Co-op filling station west on Highway 64.

Some of my fellow pupils at school were Fred Runge, John Rehfeld, Carl Höll, Bill Runge and Bill Eggers.

Dad also did logging and supplied piling, boom sticks and rocks for the piers in the river, for the boom company.

While in Des Moines, Iowa, I took employment with Ringling's circus and was in the horse department of "The Big Show" for a while. This great circus had about 1,200 employees and in moving from one place to another would occupy four train sections of 25 cars each. Fourteen cars were needed for the 550 horses.

On my return to Merrill I worked for Leeb & Mammel, horse dealers. Louis Fried was their manager.

I was married in Merrill on June 22, 1911 to Annie Freeman. Her folks came here in 1882 and her father, Adam Freeman, was a carpenter.

Following my marriage my wife and I lived on a farm in South Dakota for three years at the end of which time we went to Chicago, where I entered the Chicago Veterinary College.

Upon my graduation in 1918 I started veterinary practice here and have been following this profession continuously since that time.

In earlier days I had three horses which I used in making my calls to Doering, Hamburg, Irma, etc. I would use a team of horses and if on my return from one trip I had another call, I would use the single horse, while the team rested in preparation for the next call.

Little Ditty

The boys on the West Side used to sing this little ditty:

"Standing on the corner and doing no harm, along comes Salscheider and grabs you by the arm."

Adam Salscheider, the policeman to whom the boys dedicated their song, kept things pretty well under control.

One of the chief sources of amusement in Jenny in the early days was provided by the Dramatic Club, formed in 1875.



The three original Peterman brothers, founders of Peterman Bros. Co. Top, William; center, Albert; bottom, Robert.

The first presentation of Jenny's Dramatic Society was "Ten Nights in a Barroom." It was given in Osborn's Hall. This later became the Berard Opera House.

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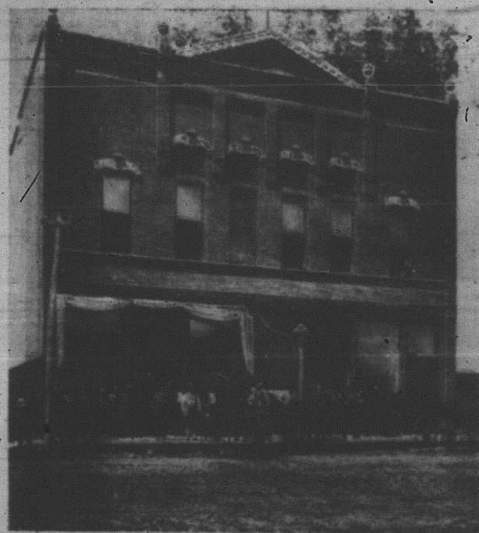
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The old Berard Opera House, destroyed by fire in 1925.