

# **R-091**

## **History of Elmore – Ashford Station; Dr. Nicholas Senn; The John Senn Farm; Dr. Hausman; Jaeger Home & Appliance; Old Ironsides Corporation**

Entered on computer by Wendy Miller, March, 2007

*Notes: This folder also contained a newspaper article about Old Ironsides Inc., with a picture,(no date). There is also a flyer about Old Ironsides, issued on the occasion of the company's 40 years of existence. These two items are not online. They can be found in hard copy in the comb-bound book which contains the rest of the folder.*

### **Elmore History**

**Ullrich Legler** purchased the SE1/4 of Section 23 from the State of Wisconsin of the Township of Ashford for the sum of \$2,000 and registered on March 12, 1857 in Volume 12, page 193. Part of the land was plated and the original plat had 16 lots. Eight lots were on the North side of Main St. and 8 lots were on the South side of Main St. The German Reformed Church was on the North side of Main St on lot 1 & 2. Legler's addition – Block 1 – had 7 lots and was on the South side of Main St. Legler's addition – Block 2 – had 25 lots on the North side of Main st. and on Legler St. Legler's addition –Block 3 – had 8 lots and was on the South side of Main S. Legler's second addition – Block 1 – of 4 lots was on the North side of Legler St. Legler's second addition - Block 2 – of 9 lots on the North side of Leger St. The public school was on lot 1 of Block 2.

The two lots for the church was purchased from Ullrich Legler on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1867. After the church joined Campbellsport, the church stood vacant for a number of years and later was used for a meeting place for the Town Board of Ashford. The school lot was purchased from Ullrich Legler for the sum of \$5.00 in 1858.

The Elmore Cheese Factory was established by Wenzil Janous on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1897 for the sum of \$1,675 on the ½ acre in the NW1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 23 of the town of Ashford. William Michels, Amil Schneider, C. Struebing operated it at a later date. This land was not plated and was sold to Stella Cheese Co. in 1943.

Mr. Legler built the saw mill in 1857 and the Grist mill in 1861.

The business people of Elmore:

Michael William – Blacksmith – 1866

Andrew Rahner – Post Office & Postmaster – 1874

Frank Kleinhans – Blacksmith – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1877

William Lenling – Merchant & Saloon – 1871 to for 3,750

William Klumb - “ & “ January 6<sup>th</sup> 1890 – V11 – P47

**In 1868 on September 29<sup>th</sup> Andrew Elmore, a retired state legislator, purchased a lot and built his home and called the settlement after his name.**

## **The History of Elmore in Section 23** [See picture, p. 8]

The Postmaster was A. Rohner and the Post Office was called Ashford Station and the 1874 plat reading was the Village of Ashford.

The picture shows the saloon, store, and livery barn of Gustave Schooll.

The picture of the home is of Andrew Elmore, who was a State Senator who retired and built this after purchasing the lot on September 29<sup>th</sup> in 1868 from Ulrich Legler.

In the 1910 plat reading it was still called Ashford Village. Turning right at the tavern and store it is Elmore Main St.

The road going north and south is called Elmore Drive. In 1917, when the Government changed the postal routes it became Elmore.

DISTRICT 5 – The Elmore school land was purchased from Ulrich Legler in 1858 for \$5.00.

The Evangelical Switzer Association Church of Elmore: the land was purchased from Ulrich Legler on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1867 for a church and a livery shed for horse and buggies. They used the church until June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1898, when the association joined the Campbellsport German Evangelical Reformed church, which was built on lot 11 of block 7 of the New Cassel plat, and is where part of the St. Joseph Convent is today.

The Elmore Cemetery is the burial place for the German & Swiss people.

The land was purchased from Heinrich & Theresa Mayer on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1867 for the sum of \$20. It is still being used for a burial plat. It consists of about 1 acre of land and it's locations is in the NE1/4 of the SW ¼ of Section 24 of the Township of Ashford on Century Drive, and on the Roy Backhaus farm.

**The three doctors** that practiced in Ashford Township were:

- Dr Seth G. Pickett, who owned property in section 13 and started on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1863. He also named the town of Ashford.
- Dr. Nicholas Senn practiced from his father's home in Elmore for six years after graduating from Chicago Medical School in 1868. He left for a Milwaukee hospital to become chief surgeon in 1874. His obituary is in the Campbellsport Library and is very interesting.
- Dr. William Hausman started practice on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1874 and built his own home and office after purchasing Lot 3 & 4 of block 1 of Legler's addition on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1877. He went to Medical School with Dr. Nicholas Senn in Chicago.

**Other places of business in Elmore** were:

Michael Williams, first blacksmith in 1866.

Frank Kleinhans purchased the shop from him March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1877. This was on unplatted land.

Frank Keinhans Saloon established where Kayrebas [?spelling] Palace is in 1907.

William Lenling established Store and Salon in 1871 and sold to William Klumb on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, 1890.

The blacksmith shop and store are gone and in its place is the Elmore Heights Mobile Trailer Court established by Clayton & Marie Kohn in 1965.

After a long period of research the early sawmills were established along the creeks and rivers for water because the power was used by a vertical steam piston attached to the saw. It wasn't until in the 1890's that the circular saw was made and the wooden pulleys and water power were established for the enclosed type of water wheel power.

In the 1840's and '50's, when the people settled our state more than half of the land wasn't purchased from the government where the people settled on. In many areas, the

land was used from 6 to 12 years before it was registered at the County Register of Deeds. After the Civil War, hundreds of thousands of acres of land were given to the service men who were in the war.

To find the deeds of the early sawmills of our nation you have to check the patent archives of the Library of Congress at Washington D.C.

Compiled by Roderick J. Reese  
Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 1981

This is only part of the history of the German and Swiss people of Fond du Lac, Washington, and Dodge County of the State of Wisconsin.

**Dr Nicholas Senn, M.D.** graduated from the Chicago Medical College and practiced from his home and office in Elmore for 5 years before going to a Milwaukee hospital.

Dr. William Hausman purchased Nicholas Senns property for the sum of \$1,600 on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 1877 – Vol 77, P531, Dr William Hausman practiced until his death January 12<sup>th</sup> 1902.

Elmore Heights Mobile Trailer Court established by Clayton & Marie Kohn in 1965 with 4 units. In 13 years they have develop it into a 20 unit court with roads. It was sold to Kenneth Reimer of Lomira on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1978. It was sold by Area Moraine Realty of R. R.Campbellsport.

**Dr. Nicholas Senn** was born in Bucks Canton St Gall, Switzerland October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1844.

He was the son of John & Magdalena Senn.

In 1852 he migrated with his parents to America and settled on a farm in Ashford, Township, Wis. The plot reading was the S ½ of the E ½ of the W ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 29. His elementary school was Hillside number 7 in Section 27. The school land was given by a quit clam deed of \$1.00 in 1858. This same year the State legislature passed a law governing school land acquisition of 1 acre to each district. After grade school he walked to Fond du Lac to attend high school and walked back Friday evening until his graduation in 1864. He taught school in Ashford schools for a while and then studied medicine with Dr. Emanuel Munck in Fond du Lac. In 1865 he entered Chicago Medical College and graduated with honors in 1868. In 1869 he married Miss Arelia S. Muchlhauser of LaCross, Wisconsin.

For five years Dr. Senn practiced out of his office in the settlement of Elmore or Ashford Station as it was called by its post office.

In 1874 Dr. Senn moved with his family to Milwaukee and became a staff member of the Milwaukee Hospital. In 1877 he entered a course of post graduate study at the University of Munich, Germany.

In 1878 he visited many other noted European universities and returned in the fall of 1879 to Milwaukee.

In 1844 he moved to Chicago where he was appointed professor if surgery in the college of physicians and Surgeons. In 1888 he was elected professor of principles of surgery and surgical pathology in Rush Medical College.

In 1891 was appointed professor of military surgery at the University of Chicago.

He was also Professor of surgery in the Chicago poly [?] clinic and surgeon in [not readable] of St Josephs Hospital in Chicago. He was appointed surgeon general of Wisconsin by Governor Peck in 1890 and held that position until Governor Attgeld commissioned his surgeon general of the State of Illinois in 1893.

In 1898 he was commissioned Lieutenant colonel and Chief surgeon VSV on May 13<sup>th</sup>, and was assigned to duty with the 6<sup>th</sup> Army Corps at Chickamauga Park, Georgia and had the temporary duty of Leiter General Hospital for about one month.

He was field surgeon pertaining to the expedition of Santiago, and later that year on July 4<sup>th</sup> was assigned to the U.S. Hospital ship relief.

In August of 1898 was relieved from duty in Cuba and proceeded to Montauk Point, Long Island.

In September, 17<sup>th</sup> 1898 was honorable discharged

Dr Senn founded the National Association of Medical Surgeons and was its first President.

He founded the Military surgeons association of the State of Illinois. He was a honary member of the College of physicians in Philadelphia. He was a member of the German Congress of Surgeons. Honary member of the Academy of Medicine of Mexico.

## Dr. Senn

He was a member of the D Hayes Agnew Surgical Society of Philadelphia

The Philadelphia Academy of Surgeons

The National Association of Railway Surgeons

The Ohio State Medical Society.

The Glasgow Academy of Medicine

The Manila Medical Society

Imporial Royal Medical Society of Vienna, Austria

A member of the Harr?an Society of London

A member of the American Surgical Association

“ “ “ “ Medical “ and was president in 1897

The British Medical Association

Royal Medical Society of Bud-Pest

Norwegian Medical Society

Swedish “ “

Illinois State “ “

Chicago “ “ Was President a number of years

Brainard “ “

Verlin Deutscher Aertze of Milwaukee

Japanese Red Cross Society

Dr. Senn served as a delegate to the International Medical Congress in Berlin, Moscow, Madrid and Lisbon. His two sons became doctors and there names were Emanuel John Sinn & William Nicholas Senn the second.

## Dr. Nicholas Senn

Eminent surgeon, was born in Buchs, Switzerland, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1844

When a mere child he came to America with his parents and settled on a farm near Campbellsport, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin.

After receiving a rural school education from school number 7, Hillside school in Section 33 and was purchased from Johannes Senn Jr in 1858 by a quit claim deed of \$ 1.00. This public school is still intact on Rolling Drive just south of County Trunk highway W. The farm was in Section 29 of the Town of Ashford. He entered Fond du Lac High School, but did not complete the course.

The old residents of the Campbellsport neighborhood still tell how the ambitious youth walked the sixteen or seventeen miles to the Fond du Lac school each Monday morning and returned in the same manner Friday evening.

With the required preparatory education he entered the Chicago Medical College from which he was graduated and followed this with a Course in the University of Munich. Returning in 1868 Doctor Senn became a house physician in the Cook County Hospital from 1868 – 1869. From 1869 to 1893 he practiced medicine in Wisconsin. During a few years he was surgeon-general of the State of Wisconsin.

In 1893 Doctor Senn located permanently in Chicago where he rose rapidly to eminence in his profession. He was the attending surgeon of the Presbyterian Hospital, and surgeon in Chief of the St. Joseph Hospital. In 1898 he was appointed Chief Surgeon of the Sixth Army Corps with the rank of Lieutenant, Colonel, and Chief of Staff in the field.

While still practicing in Wisconsin as well as after he located in Chicago, Doctor Senn held a number of professorships, professor of surgery at the College of Physicians and Surgeon in Chicago, from 1884 to 1890, and after 1890 professor of practical and clinical surgery at Rush Medical College. He was also professor of surgery at Chicago Poly clinic and lecturer of military surgery at Chicago University.

Doctor Senn wrote a number of books on surgical practice which are considered authorities on the subjects treated.

It was Dr.Senn who discovered or greatly improved the use of sutures in abdominal surgery.

He died in Chicago Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1908

*[The following is exactly as Mr. Reese documented it.]*

In the summer wild berries and garden vegetables. In the fall black walnuts, hickory nuts, hazel nuts. In the winter many different kinds of apples. In the winter wild game

1860 Census John Senn – Farm Sold Sept 9, 1865 for sum \$2,750 Log House

90 Bu – wheat	2 ton of hay
50 “ corn	\$12 animals slaughtered
20 “ oats	
20 “ potatoes	
40 lbs. butter	
20 lbs. maple syrup	

1 milk cow

2 oxen

2 heifers

6 pigs

This was the father of Dr. Nicholas Senn

**Dr. Nicholas William Hausman M.D. of Elmore, Wisconsin**

He was born in Buffalo, N.Y. Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1854; he was educated in the public schools of St Louis, Mo. Began the study of medicine in 1869, with Dr. Nicalaus Senn of Elmore at the Chicago Medical College, and graduated as physician & surgeon on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1874. He practiced from his home from the Elmore settlement after purchasing lot 3 7 4 of Leglers Block – 1 addition land built his office and home on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1877. He became president of the Rock River Medical Society, which he joined in March 1874, and has been an active member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society since June of 1878.

He was a member of the Kewaskum Lodge, No. 101. – I.O.O.F

He married Miss Charlotte Fleischman of Ashford in August of 1874 and they were members of the Reformed Church of Elmore. They had three children: Edward Nickalaus, Elizabeth A, William P. In political life he was a Republican.

Dr. William Hausman B – Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 1854 D – Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 1902

Charlotte “ B – Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1855 D – May 1<sup>st</sup> 1927

Cemetery - The German Evangelical Reformed of Elmore

*[The following appears to be a copy of a newspaper article]*

Dr. N. E. Hausman, Physician and Surgeon Here Over 40 Years Dies

Heart Ailment Fatal to Eminent Doctor; Active in Medical, Fraternal and Political Circles. He was Prominently Known in County and State.

The village lost another of its most influential citizens and widely known professional man in the county and state when Dr. N. Edw. Hausmann, prominent physician and surgeon, who practiced medicine here the past 42 years, passed suddenly at 5 p.m. Monday, September 13, at his home of a heart attack. He had been troubled with a heart ailment the past three years, during which time he was in failing health. Dr. Hausmann reached the age of 68 years.

Born Aug. 11, 1875, at Elmore, Dr. Hausmann moved to this village with his parents when a boy. He attended Mission House College at Franklin, near Plymouth and was a graduate of the Rush Medial School in Chicago. He interned under Professor Senn at St. Joseph's Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Hausmann practiced in Chicago for a short time before returning to Kewaskum in 1901 when his father, the late Dr. William Hausmann, was taken sick and he was called home. He practiced medicine in this village ever since. Because of his illness he had eased up some in recent years but was active until the time of his death, having served some of his patients on the day he died.

Active in fraternal, medical and political circles, Dr. Hausmann was a member of the Masonic lodge, F. & A. M 118 of West Bend; Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Fond du Lac; the American Medical Association; Wisconsin State Medical Association, and the Washington Country Medical Association. He served as secretary and treasurer of the Brainard Society of Wisconsin. In 1940 he was a Dewey delegate to the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia. He was one of the honorary colonels appointed by Governor Julius P. Heil during his administration several years ago.

Dr. Hausmann was married to the former Miss Maude Harmes in Chicago in 1901. His widow survives, along with one daughter, Maude (Mrs. Hughes Brewster) of Palo Alto California, who has been visiting with her folks here for several weeks. He is survived further by a son-in-law, two grandsons, Keith and Terry Brewster; a sister, Elizabeth (Mrs. August C. Backus) of Milwaukee; and two brothers, Dr. William Hausmann of West Bend and Dr. Gustave Hausmann of Waupun.

The body lay in state at Miller's Funeral Home, where hundreds of relatives, friends, associates and former patients of Dr. Hausmann viewed the remains. Funeral services were conducted at the funeral home at 2 pm. Thursday, Sept. 16. The Rev. R. G. Peck, Pastor of the Peace Evangelical and Reformed Church officiating. The Masonic order had charge of the rites at the grave. Burial was made in Washington County Memorial Park, West Bend. The floral offering was large and beautiful.

Six members of the Masonic lodge acted as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Doctors Henry E. and David J. Twohig of Fond du Lac, Leo Hoffman and Gregory Hoffman of Campbellsport.

Dr. N. E. Hausmann not only served his fellow men and patients well during life, but was also devoted to his family. He was a remarkable physician and surgeon and through all the years enjoyed a vast practice. Today there are many of his patients in this community whose life and health were saved through his skill and knowledge. The number of births and operations at which he administered in his forty some years of practice runs into the thousands. His position in life was well filled with accomplishment and benefit to humanity. His associates, co-workers and friends will feel his loss and are deeply touched with sorrow over his death. We join with them in extending heartfelt sympathy to the survivors.

## **The Jaeger Home Appliance Shop & Home**

Owned by Jerome & Ann Crowell Jaeger

The original tract of land was  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre and lies in the south SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 10 of the Township of Ashford.

It was purchased from William and Helen Mauch Jaeger in [*not filled in*]

He built the house in 1930 and garage in 1929 on the property and because of his ulcer problem started selling lighting plants to people for electricity on the farms and homes and later added wind chargers and appliances to his business.

He moved to Wausau on August 1<sup>st</sup> in 1937 and then came back and established his business at the present site about June 1<sup>st</sup> 1939.

Jerome operated the business and added some additions to the building during his time of operation.

He died in 1962 and about one year later Leland & Geraldine Niemuth, on May 31<sup>st</sup>, purchased the battery plant from Ann M Jaeger in 1963.

In the last 22 years they have expanded their business by using the **Old Ironsides Battery** name. They have built a major addition on to the existing plant which is 100 x 120 ft. This was done in 1984 & 5. They copyrighted the Old Ironsides name in 1983. The business was incorporated on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1974.

The officers of the Old Ironsides Corporation are:

Geraldine Niemuth – Pres.

Leland Niemuth - V. Pres.

Eunice Beitsch - Sec.

Geraldine Niemuth – Treas.

Eugene Jaeger - General Maintenance

Dennis Gudex - Supervisor

James Medinger - Agent & Sales Manager

The new Old Ironsides addition has all the latest production equipment, and also a large area for storing the batteries after manufacturing.

This is an all electric heating and power plant.

The large transformer is installed on the northwest corner of the new plant.

The new office, toilets, lunch room, and transformer controls are built in the west side of the new plant. The loading dock is built in the northeast side of the new plant. The plant is built with open steel frame roof with the insulation beneath it. This gives the power suction unit to handle the acid fumes with ease. The rest of the building is all of 12" concrete block which makes the building fire proof and safe for manufacture.

*[Mr. Reese wrote the caption across the top of this newspaper picture of Elmore. It reads: The settlement of Legerville {should be Leglerville} platted by Ulrich Legler – registered March 12, 1857. Cost \$2000. He established mill, dam, and pond. Also the sawmill and grist mill. A cheese factory was developed sometime in the 1880's. {The date, 1880s's, is difficult to read. It appears to be 18806.} The writing across the bottom reads: St. Scene Elmore, Wis.]*

