

R-032

History of Utility Companies in Campbellsport Area; The Airline Railroad; Grocery Prices

Entered on computer by Melanie Gildemeister, September 2006

This folder begins with summaries of the History of Campbellsport Electric Light Company, and of Schlaefer Construction Company. These summaries were done by a volunteer. The summaries match Mr. Reese's notes exactly, and therefore the original notes from the above named companies have not been entered here, but all other notes are entered verbatim. There is a great deal of repetition.

HISTORY OF CAMPBELLSPORT'S ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY

Campbellsport's first source of electric energy began when Leo Arimond built a line into Campbellsport from Dundee. The power was from the large dynamo in the present Murphy Grist Mill. Jacob Arimond, Leo's father, owned the mill property and a general store. He came from Germany in 1851 and built all the buildings on the mill property.

- 1900 - The Dundee Electric Light Company was established sometime this year with an office on Lot 2, Block 4, Dundee, by Leo Arimond.
- 1904 - An office was established by Leo Arimond in the Village of Campbellsport, and then started to build the electric line into Campbellsport from Dundee. The Wisconsin Power & Light Company of Milwaukee had an office in the Village of Campbellsport. Leo Arimond supervised the Power & Light Co. plant and line outlay in Campbellsport.
- 1907 - Campbellsport received its first electricity when the Wisconsin Power & Light Co. of Milwaukee built the line in from Dundee, from the water power, out of Long Lake, running the electric dynamo. The H.A. Wrucke home was the first building to be wired for electricity. The building was just west of the old high school.
- 1908 - On June 29, the Campbellsport Electric Light Company purchased two lots- Campbell's Addition - Block 2, Lots 10 -11, from William Sharp, and built an electric power plant which was in operation sometime in the late fall. The present north warehouse of the Elwing Broom Factory was built at this time, with the dimensions of the building 22' wide x 54' long and 18' high. A single Westinghouse dynamo and a single engine were installed along the side of a gasoline engine and became in operation by the early part of September. This

- was Campbellsport's second source of electric energy. The Arimond lines were used and additional lines were built in and around Campbellsport.
- 1910 - After two years of operation, a major breakdown occurred in the drive shaft. The company installed a new shaft and flywheel and purchased a second gasoline engine and installed it on the opposite side of the dynamo for emergency use in case the other engine would wear out. The installation was finished in October. Officers of the company at this time were: Arnold Hood, president; R. Jones, vice-president; James Flood, secretary and treasurer.
- 1914 - Between September 12 and September 20, a major breakdown occurred on the main cog wheel on the gas powered engine, leaving the Village without lights until a new two ton cog wheel was installed.
- 1915 - The first electric flash sign was installed by H.C. Scholler on the Mathias Schlaefer building.
- 1916 - The Campbellsport Power & Light Co. was sold to the Wisconsin Realization Company of Milwaukee on October 26. In a few years it became the Wisconsin Electric Power Company. Leo Arimond became an officer of the company and in 1953 he died, and is buried on the Protestant side of the local Union Cemetery.
- 1917 - The first four electric street lights were installed on March 24. One on Sheboygan Street on the West City limits; one on the corner of Mill Street and Jenny Street, (? By the Convent); one on the corner of Forest Street and Poplar Street; and one on Main Street, between Poplar Street and Elm Street. On May 18, the first electric lights were installed on the Northwestern Railroad Station.
- 1922 - A major sleet storm destroyed about 80% of all the electric and telephone poles in a three or four county wide area. The utility companies hired hundreds of men to rebuild the lines. It took over three months before all the service lines were repaired.
- 1931 - The power station was used until now when the engines and dynamo were taken out of the building by John Behn and Alex Flitter.
 Location: On Railroad Street Northwest of the Amco [sic] Oil Station which is 221 North Railroad. The Campbells – Outlots – Block 2 on Lots 10-11. It is at present the Elwing Broom Factory site.
 John Behn became manager of the Campbellsport Baseball team for a number of years for Frank J. Bauer. Alex Flitter worked for the Wisconsin Power & Light Co. until November of 1967 when he retired. During these years, he was a general repair operator for the company. They were called troubleshooters by the company.

SCHLAEFER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

- 1875 - The Joseph Schlaefer, Sr. Carpenter Shop & Home was located on Block 8, Lot 3, on the Campbell's original plot of Campbellsport. The power for the shop was obtained from the air-motor windmill, which Joseph Schlaefer purchased from Nickolas Michaels.

Mr. Schlaefer made plank stave cisterns for homes for many years during the winter time.

1880-1910 - Joseph Schlaefer, Sr., Contractor – 10 employees.

1910-1943 (July) - Joseph Schlaefer, Sr., Contractor – Highest number of employees is 20.

Buildings constructed by the Schlaefer Construction Firm:

1. Opera House – Joe Weasler did the mason work.
2. Odd Fellows Hall
3. Mike McCullough Store – Carpenter work
4. Ernest Martin Lumber Yard Buildings
5. Campbellsport Mutual Fire Insurance Building
6. Stella Cheese Company Building
7. St. Matthews Church – roof, steeple, and finish work.
8. St. Joseph Convent – Service Building
9. The potato Houses – along the railroad tracks
10. The Mathias Schlaefer Building
11. James P. Gilboy, Undertaker – Building of brick
12. Remodeled the Star Hotel for Michael Thelen
13. The old High School – carpenter work
14. The old School Sisters House – St. Matthews Church
15. The Dr. Philip August Hoffman home
16. Remodeled Ignatius Klotz Garage
17. Remodeled the old St. Matthews School
18. William Kloke Meat Market
19. Kohler's Shoe Shop – part of it
20. Theresa Telephone Company Building
21. Martin Boeckler Hardware Store - carpenter work
22. The Samuel Grossen Cheese Factory on Sheboygan Street
23. St. Matthews new Rectory
24. John Schlaefer Building
25. Jacob Schlaefer Building
26. William Theisen Implement Co.
27. The Kiel Wooden Ware Company Building
28. Saemen, Loeb, & Knickel Store

THERESA UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY

The first company central was established in Block 5, Lot 1 of Campbell's original addition. Its location was 129 South Fond du Lac Avenue. It was the Phillip Guenther home and was used from 1904 to 1919.

In 1904, the Theresa Union Telephone Company built the first line into Campbellsport. The first telephone was installed in Mr. Wrucke's home, on Sheboygan Street.

On October 1, 1919, the old Theresa Union Telephone Co. building was constructed along the south side of the Guenther Store building. The building was built by the Schlaefer Const. Co., at a cost of \$3,000.00.

In December, 1920, the Theresa Union Telephone Co. purchased the East Valley Telephone Co., consisting of 400 patrons.

On March 1, 1927, the Theresa Union Telephone Co. was sold to W.H. Gramb & Assoc., of Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

The company purchased 20 feet of the south ½ of Lot 1, Block 1 of the Campbellsport addition from Knickel & Kranz, for the sum of \$600.00, for the Central building in 1919

The telephone operators and employees were:

Emma Vetch	Walter Glass Sr.
Ann Theisen	Walter Glass Jr.
Lucille Stoffel	Lillian Behnke
Beverly Straw	Valeria Weis Ketter
Bena Campagna (1945, 1 yr)	Helen Halfmann
Ramona Gilboy	Josephine Battaglia
Percy Sackett	Dave Ullrich
Charles Glass	Bobby Heian
Leo Glass	Rhoda Heian
Carol Glass	Paul Miller
Roland Glass	

In December, 1968, the General Telephone Co. of Wisconsin constructed a communication building for telephone service, for \$296,000.00. It is located on Block 8, Lots 13 & 14, of the New Cassel Plot.

H.A. Wrucke was the first home established for telephone service in Campbellsport. It was next to the old Campbellsport High School on the north side of Sheboygan Street. That was sometime in 1904, and Central was then established in the Phillip Guenther Home. Alfred Vande Zande became manager sometime around 1910 and remained so until 1924 when Andrew Sukawaty became manager for 29 years, until 1953.

Ann Theisen became telephone operator for the Theresa Union Telephone Co., until 1947 when Patricia Stoffel became operator.

The Company was closed down February 15, 1956.

In 1953, Kenneth Straw was manager for a few years up until 1963. After 1963, the business was managed from Plymouth, Wisconsin branch. In 1931 (Feb. 1), the Theresa Union Co. was purchased by Midwest Union and had 15 exchanges, and 6,000 telephones in its business. On July 1, 1950, Commonwealth purchased it with 123 exchanges and 80,000 telephones in its corporation.

In 1953, the dial system was installed by General Telephone of Wisconsin, and by 52 acquisitions it had 193 exchanges and 400,000 telephones.

In 1968, General Telephone purchased Lots 13 and 14 of Block 8, of New Castle from Corny Schill, for the new Central dial system. The building is on Lot 13 and the

parking lot is on Lot 14. As of December 19, 1975, the Campbellsport area has 2,076 telephones.

(this small section was added, hand-written in Mr. Reese's script)

Goldenia Schmultz, wife of the founder of the Theresa Union Telephone Co. Christian Schmultz was born in 1860 and died in 1930. He was Secretary and Treasurer and President of the company for many years and his wife was an operator for many years. Heard his wife is buried in the Union Cemetery at Campbellsport.

(Taken from Campbellsport News, October 14, 1976; page 12)

The Theresa Union Telephone Co. also served Campbellsport.

The small concrete block building along side of 109 E. Henni St. in Theresa (plat location Block 13, Lot 1 of Theresa) is the first central location of the Theresa Union Telephone Co. The land purchase of the three lots was made by Christian Schmalz from Joseph Hosp on Sept. 7, 1905. (Warranty deed is recorded in Vol. 137, p.116-159)

Nathan Haessley became the first president of the company and Christian Schmalz was the secretary and treasurer. At this time the company built the facilities before the land was purchased and because the line was built into Campbellsport in 1904. The first lines were built from Theresa to Lomira following the State Highway 175 today. The Kewaskum line followed State Highway 28 into Kewaskum. The Campbellsport line was built off of Highway 28 at St. Kilian which was County Highway W into Campbellsport.

These were the first four exchanges of the company.

At this time they purchased the poles from the small saw mills along the way and poles were of all different kinds of wood.

The Solomen Juneau historical building just south of the Fire Department-Library, Theresa, was the storage place for all the telephone receivers and also the repair shop.

A few years later the Eden line was extended up County Trunk V to make it the fifth exchange of the company.

Theresa Union annual meeting was held Nov. 3, 1926. The following officers were re-elected: Henry McCarty, Pres, Brownsville; Otto Lay, Vice Pres., Kewaskum; Christian Schmalz, Sec., Theresa; Nathan Haessley, Treas., Theresa; Orlo Stephens and Henry Fellenz, Theresa, directors, due to the deaths of Wm. Wedde, Campbellsport; and Andrew Strachota, St. Kilian. Attending from Campbellsport were, John Paas, Henry Powers, Sam Grossen, Frank Becker, and Andrew Sukawaty; Campbellsport manager.

THE THERESA UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY – EXCHANGE NO.1

The research was from abstract reading of the original deed of the telephone company which purchased the whole block south of Henni St. In later years parcels of the land of the block were sold off for home lots. The building just south of the village hall on 175 which is their Historical Site was their repair and storage shop for all the telephones of company.

Alfred Trauba, a son-in-law of Mr. Schmaltz gave the history report of the company.
The actual site of the central office was at 109 Henni St.
The land site was used a number of years before it was deeded by the company.
The present Central site is just southwest of the Rock River bridge on State Highway 175.

The five exchanges in the early years of the company:

Theresa – 1st exchange, sometime before 1904
Lomira – 2nd exchange, 1904-5
Kewaskum – 3rd exchange, 1904-5
Campbellsport – 4th exchange, 1904-5
Eden – 5th exchange, 1905-6

THE DIFFERENT MEETINGS OF THE THERESA UNION COMPANY

The February meeting of the co. in 1915—

They approved of constructing 15 miles of new line.

The officers elected were:

Phillip Guenther – President, Campbellsport
Charles Krahn – Vice President, Kewaskum
Nathan Haessley – Treasurer, Theresa
Christian Schmaltz – Secretary/Manager, Theresa

THE LOMIRA EXCHANGE OF THE COMPANY (NUMBER 2)

The Lomira exchange came from Theresa along Highway 175 and the first Central was established in Dr Dreisel's home and office at 833 Main St. sometime in 1904. The home and Central office burned down sometime in the 20's and was rebuilt larger for the central office.

Two employees of the Central were:

Mary Keifer
Roy Krueger

At a later time the extensions were built out of Lomira in a northwestern route through Brownsville to Oakfield following 175 to 49 west to Double Y north into Oakfield and then County Y to Lamartine and Woodhull into State Highway 23 west to Rosendale and to West Rosendale and then north on County Trunk M to Pickett. This was the major accomplishment of the Theresa Union Telephone Company.

The present Central at Lomira is at 723 South Avenue.

THE KEWASKUM EXCHANGE (NUMBER 3)

The first central was in John Marx home and Grocery Store.
The location: 143 Main St. and the equipment was installed sometime in 1905 and 1905.
Location—

The Theresa Union Telephone Co. purchased and built the second Central location on Lot 23, Block 30 of the Village of Kewaskum on August 8, 1919. The address was on 230 Main St.

The plug contact system was used until 1962 when the dial system was installed.
In the early years the first two telephones installed were in the Rosenheimer Store and Dr. William Hausman Office and home.

The second Central lot is registered in Vol. 85, p. 251 of Washington County deeds.

The first Central is located on Lot 43 [sic] Block 20 of the Village of Kewaskum plat.

The line was built into Kewaskum from Highway 175 east on Highway 28 into Kewaskum.

Kewaskum Central Exchange Operators, Maintenance, and Managers:

Managers- John Marx, Walter Schaefer, Andrew Sukawaty

Sazetta Schaefer	Mary Ann McCorkle- Tulsa, OK
Frances Koener	Violet Otlo – Marsfield exchange
Angeline Koener	Betty Pete-
Merian Schaefer	Mrs. Ebon Heimermann
Marvin Martin	Mrs. Charence Bingen
Gladys Clark	Loretta Staegen – Theresa exchange
Mrs. Augusta Clark	Dorothy Gavronski – Seymour
Theresa Raether	Exchange
Regina Koener	Dorothy Heuser
Elizabeth Mueller	Jurldine Kaniess
Margorie Thill	Lillian Justman
Mrs Aloysies Runte	Laura Justman
Virginia Haack	Joan Herriges
Ruth Edwards	Evelyn Joyce Gruber
Irine Kaniess	Priscilla Franzen
Celesta Kaerble 1946-1952	Marian Kral
Kathryn Herzog	Layetta Krautkramer of Adell 52-62
Mrs. Herbert Backaus	Evelyn Staege – Beechwood
Mrs. Lucille Rossow	Darlene Grieschow
Mrs. Ella Eberle	Sharon Klein
Mrs. Erma Peaney – from Mapleton, WI	Mrs. Jeanette Gracinski
Lucy Sanders – from Mapleton, WI	Mrs. Elizabeth Perkins – nite
	Mrs. Lidia Eichstedt – nite

Mrs. Linda Ponath – nite

Mrs. Clifford Pierce – nite

Mr. Kathrys [sic] Herzog was a Milwaukee exchange operator before coming to Kewaskum. She left again for the Milwaukee office of the General Telephone Co. a short time later.

Mrs. Herbert Backaus filled in for Mrs. Herzog during the day and then moved out of the Kewaskum Area.

Lucille took the Chief Operator position until the dial system started in operation on Nov. 1, 1962 at Kewaskum.

Mary Lou Foerster -1960-1962

Darlene Prost – 1960-1962

Was transferred to the Plymouth Office after the dial system was established at Kewaskum.

THE EAST VALLEY TELEPHONE EXTENSION EXCHANGE

From Kewaskum it followed County Trunk S through New Fane to Highway triple G and then North to August Bartell Sr. farm home which was established in his home at that time.

From Campbellsport it followed Highway 67 to Double S and then through New Prospect to triple G and south to August Bartell home.

The location is the Bar N Annex Restaurant and tavern R.R. 2 Campbellsport, WI
Lazetta Krautkramer – operator

KEWASKUM TELEPHONE EXCHANGE REPORT BY: CELESTA KOERBLE 1946-1952

The first Central was in the John Marx Home & Store by the Northwestern Railroad tracks on 143 Main St. and the equipment was installed sometime in 1904. The Theresa Union Telephone Co. purchased and built the second Central on Lot 23 of Block 30 of the Village of Kewaskum on August 8, 1919. The location was on 230 Main St. In the early years the first two telephones installed were in the Rosenheimer Store & Dr. William Hausman home and office.

The second central office lot is registered in Vol. 85 p.251 of Washington County deeds. The first Central was located on Lot 1B in Block 20 of the Village of Kewaskum plat. The line was built North on 175 and then east of Highway 28 into Kewaskum.

Many of these people worked in other exchanges of the company.

Managers:

John Marx, Walter Schaefer, Andrew Sukawaty

Operators:

Lazetta Schaeffer
Francis Koener
Angeline Koener
Merian Schaeffer
Marvin Martin
Gladys Clark
Agatha Clark
Theresa Ralther
Regina Koener
Elizabeth Mueller
Margorie Thill
Aloysies Runte
Virginia Haack
Ruth Edwards
Ireine Kaniess
Katherine Herzog
Mrs. Herbert Backaus
Mrs. Lucille Rossow
Mrs. Ella Eberle
Erma Peavey – Mapleton, WI
Lucy Sanders – Mapleton, WI
Betty Pete

Mrs. Elbon Heimermann
Mrs. Charles Bingen
Mary Ann McCorkle – Tulsa, OK
Violet Otto – Marshfield, WI
Loretta Steage – Theresa, WI
Dorothy Govronski – Seymour, WI
Dorothy Heuser
Geraldine Kaniess
Lillian Justman
Laura Justman
Evelyn Joyce Gruber
Priscilla Franzen
Marian Kral
Lazetta Krautkramer – Adell 52-62
Evelyn Staeger – Beechwood
Darlene Grieschow
Sharon Klein
Mrs. Jeanette Gracinski
Mrs. Elizabeth Perkins – nite
Mrs. Lidia Eichstedt – nite
Mrs Linda Ponath – nite
Mrs. Clifford Pierce – nite

Mrs. Herzog was a Milwaukee exchange operator before coming to Kewaskum for just a few months. Mrs. Herbert Backus took Mrs. Herzog's position until they moved to Long Lake Cottage.

Mrs. Lucille Rossow took Mr. Herbert Backaus position on days until the dial system was put in operation on November 1, 1962 at Kewaskum.

Mary Lou Foerster & Darlene Prost were transferred to the Plymouth office after the dial system was put in.

THERESA UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY 5TH EXCHANGE TO EDEN:

The line to Eden from Campbellsport was built along County Trunk V north out of Campbellsport to Eden's first Central Office. Eden Central office was on the William Timblin farm home for many years.

Mrs. Florence Hoff was an operator and lives on Highway 45 on the east side of the road just past the ball park.

THE AIRLINE RAILROAD OF CAMPBELLSPORT

It was established when Stuart Campbell purchased the land from Henry B. Martin which was the NE1/4 of section 13 of the Town of Ashford, for the sum of \$10,000. The transaction took place on September 12, 1873. Recorded V.51 p.217

Mr. Campbell gave 10 acres for the railroad right of way and the rest of the land was platted by Jacob Haessly, who was the county surveyor at this time. After it was platted in 1874, Mr. Jacob Haessly named it Campbellsport. After a few years, the railroad name was changed to Chicago-Northwestern Railroad Company, by the Chicago Corporation interests. The employees of the railroad from September 15, 1873 who were depot agents, are as follows:

Frank M. Johnson	22 years – 1873-1895
Ervin F. Raethke	1910-1935 Location- 133 Cherry St.
A.J. Paul	15 years – 1895-1910
Walter R. Bassett	1935-1945
Michael Egan	1925-1930 (from Milwaukee)
Edward Conrow	1940-1949
Harold Degner	1950-present depot agent at West Bend

P. Parquet was the last agent until the depot was moved out in 1968 to the Breseman farm by the Clarence Hubregtze Moving Co. of Ossburg, Wisconsin.

Comments: Between 1910-1950 there were two agents working because of the large amount of farm products shipped out. The main products were: potatoes, sugar beets, cattle, sheep, chickens, and cheese. The trucking industry gradually took over the transportation in the 1950's.

The regular employees of the railroad (and their living quarters) were:

George Klotz – Railroad Mailclerk – 256 E Main
Edward Baumhardt – flagman and baggageman – 154 Martin St.
Reinhold Weber – signalman – 132 Martin St.
Charles Cole – signalman – Pesch dentist location of home
Carl Beck – depot operator and baggageman – rented at hotel
Charles Haushalter – section foreman – 122 Meyer Ave.
William Edwards – 213 N Helena
Hugo Steinacker – 158 Martin St.
Peter Ketter – 213 N Helena
William Wegner
Ervin Matthies – RR1 on Highway V North
Henry Wegner – Mrs. Chester Gillard 521 Forest St.
Austin Sackett – Mrs. Alice Urban 146 Barton Rd.
Mathias Serwe – 130 West Sheboygan St
Leo Kaehne – 522 East Main St.

An early employee of the company, Patrick J. Flynn, celebrated his 50 years with the Chicago-Northwestern Railroad on May 18, 1917.

At one time there was a coal and concrete yard directly east of the depot for the New Castle mills and operated by William Prehm and Son. John H. Reysen developed this when the railroad came through Campbellsport in 1874.

(Mr. Reese's notes, continued on a separate page, follow)

The cars toward the right are for shipping. The first is for freight, and the second is for shipping farm animals. The coal car which was open on top is not shown.

The building on the background of the railroad cars is the coal storage building which was built by John D. Reysen in 1875 for the New Cassel Mills of the Mill Place. The mill property owners used it until the boiler exploded in 1911 and then the building was sold to Brittingham & Hixon. The building at some time later was moved and is standing to the extreme south by the side tracks in the Brittingham & Hixon yard.

Struck by Lightning -

The first depot was destroyed by fire after it was only used a few months. They built a small shack for the agent until the new depot was built.

The second depot was destroyed by fire from an oil tanker which caught on fire on the side track in the summer of 1933.

Just in front of the depot is your telegraph signal of red and green which was manually controlled and gave the engineer of the locomotive a stop or go by signal. The telegraph poles and the roof outlay for protecting the mail bags from the rain by the people.

The lookout shack was built on the side of the tracks about 30' high for controlling the road cross signals, which was up to the signalman of the railroad.

Real Estate:

The land for the Airline Railroad was first owned by Napoleon Crownhart in 1846 then to his brother Charles Crownhart in 1848, then to Dr. Seth Pickett. The last ½ of the NE ¼ of section 13- 25 acres, March 20, 1863.

Joel McSchacher, 6 acres of Northeast ¼ , July 4, 1864

Henry B. Martin purchased the East ½ of the last ½ of the NE ¼ , April 23, 1862

Orin L. Helmer – W ½ of the NE ¼ of section 13, March 23, 1863

Henry B. Martin purchased all the land of ¼ section 13 of Ashford township by 1870 and then in 1873 Stuart Campbell purchased the land from him for the Airline Railroad right of way and platted the Village of Campbellsport at the same time.

The cost of the land was \$10,000 and was recorded on September 12, 1873. V.51 p.217

The railroad was platted by the company surveyors.

Stuart Campbell had the county surveyor Jacob Haessly, who had a large farm in section 23 which was the NW ¼ consisting of 160 acres, do the surveying. Jacob Haessly named Campbellsport for Mr. Campbell after he finished the job of surveying.

Jacob surveyed most of the roads in the Township of Ashford and Auburn in the early years.

Research:

Dr. Seth Pickett was the earliest acting Doctor in the town of Ashford. In 1849, by his action in the State Legislature, the town was named Ashford. This was because a

great many ash trees were cut and burned and the ashes were used for fertilizer. In the later years, Dr. Pickett practiced in the Oakfield and Byron areas. Dr. Seth E. Pickett was the fourth acting Post Master in the Crouchville area.

Napoleon Crownhart was a real estate man from Fond du Lac. After selling his real estate he went back to Fond du Lac.

Charles Crownhart purchased the S ½ of the SW ¼ of section 6 of the Town of Auburn on March 14, 1848 for the sum of \$200.00. Recorded in Vol. F p. 409

Charles also purchased from Roswell Hill the W ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 7 of the Township of Auburn on October 11, 1847 for the sum of \$200.00. Recorded Vol. H p. 551.

Charles purchased from Abrahams Owens the SE ¼ of section 12 of the Town of Ashford on January 15, 1847 for the sum of \$200.00. It was first registered on Sept. 24, 1850.

Charles purchased from Roswell Hill the W ½ of the SW ¼ of section 7 of the Township of Auburn for the sum of \$100.00 on April 16, 1847. Recorded Vol. C p. 258. This parcel of land is where the business property was. It was called Crownhart Corners.

Charles purchased from Napoleon Crownhart the southwest 55 acres of the South ½ of the NE ¼ of section 13 of the Town of Ashford for the sum of \$500.00 on the 8th of March, 1862.

Mr. Crownhart had a store and saloon on a road corner of one of these parcels of land and became the first Postmaster of our area.

In 1845-46, Ludin Crouch received the mail in his sawmill and took it to his poncherian [sic] log home for distribution. This 10 acre was called the Mill Places.

The Serf Weiss & Orin L. Helmer Store and Hall and Warehouse-

The lots were purchased from John Henry Inbush on Sept. 25, 1960 and built on lots 15 & 16 of Block 8 of New Cassel Plat. Mr. Inbush was Mr. Crouch's real estate broker from Milwaukee. The Orin Helmer hall, which was built earlier on lot 15 towards the back, was the meeting place for the school and the Baptist Church services, before the Baptist Church was built. In 1870, Orin Helmer retired from the general store business.

GROCERY PRICES, 1952 & 1981

Grocery Prices of February 1952

Oranges – \$0.35/ dozen
Carrots – 3 bunches / \$0.21
Head Lettuce – 2 / \$0.15
Tomatoes – 1 lb / \$0.19
Coffee – 1 lb / \$0.77
Tuna – 4 cans / \$1.00
Grapefruit – 10 / \$1.00
Sugar – 10 lbs / \$0.97

Salmon – 16 oz. / \$0.39
Seedless Raisins – 2 lbs / \$0.35
Brown Sugar – 1 lb / \$0.12
Veal Chops – 1 lb / \$0.69
Beef Steak – 1 lb / \$0.83
Roast – 1 lb / \$0.65
Pork Sausage – 1 lb / \$0.49

Grocery Prices of December 1981

Oranges - \$1.39 / dozen
Carrots - \$0.29 / bunch
Lettuce - \$0.85 / head
Tomatoes - \$0.45 / lb
Coffee - \$1.95 / lb
Tuna - \$1.25
Grapefruit – 8 / \$1.00
Sugar – 10 lbs / \$2.79

Salmon - \$2.38 (pink)
Seedless Raisins - \$1.38 / lb
Brown Sugar – 2 lbs / \$0.74
Veal Chops - \$4.40 / lb
Beef Steak - \$3.60 / lb
Chuck Roast - \$1.79 / lb
Pork Sausage - \$1.98 / lb