# A souvenir of Fond du Lac County, Wis.. [1904?] 

Iron Mountain, Michigan: C. O. Stiles, [1904?]

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## FOND DU LAC AND FOND DU LAC COUNTY, Wis. BY ASHLEY W. PATTOON.



OND DU LAC, situated at the head of Lake Winnebago, the largest fresh water body lying wholly within one state in the union, is a city containing nearly 20,000 inhabitants, according to a recent census. The three words "Fond du Lac" are from the French language, and signify literally, "the bottom of the lake," although the figurative meaning is also "that which is farthest" or "most remote." The south end of Lake Winnebago, as well as the western end of Lake Superior, were always alluded to by traders living at Green Bay, Mackinac, Sault Ste. Marie and Detroit as points in those lakes most distant, and, consequently, the appellation among them was "the Fond du Lac Superior," "the Fond du Lac Winnebago," etc., meaning the further end or extreme from their headquarters. It has nothing to do with the "head of the lake" although this is actually the case in both instances. The first settlement in Fond du Lac county was made by Colwert Pier and his brother, Edward Pier, who left Green Bay in February, 1836, and opened a tavern after completing negotiations with a company which had been organized for the sale of lands. Frenchmen from Canada, however, were early visitors to the place, and frequently visited the head of the lake to trade with the Indians.

As early as the year 1615, Samuel Champlain heard of a tribe of Indians known as the Five Nations who claimed as their hunting grounds, among much other territory, that now included within the boundry lines of Fond du Lac. There was a trading post established in 1787 at the forks of the Fond du Lac river, by Jacob Franks of Green Bay. Trading with the Indians proved a prosperous industry, as it may be called, and prominent citizens of Green Bay were the first to give an impetus to the settlement of Fond du Lac county by forming, in November, 1835, an association organized for the purpose of buying and selling real estate. It was with this company that the Piers made all arrangements to make the head of the lake their home. Records of the olden time are decidedly interesting, and are not without their lessons of instruction. By the light of the past, we can follow the adventuresome and enterprising pioneers through all of the struggles and hardships which they were compelled to endure by the rugged condition of the country. We can see the first sod turned over in preparation for the cultivation of the land by hard manual labor, for the work on the farm was not as easy then as it is now, and through all these ancient records we make our way along to the present. From small beginnings, we come to the mighty achievements of industry and the complex results of daring enterprise. The trials of the pioneer were innumerable, and the cases of actual suffering might fill a volume; but through it all the residents prospered.

Lumbering was the principal industry during the early history of the city, but the thinking men realized what the loss of the forests would mean, and when the railroads penetrated the great timber country in the north they comprehended the situation and devised means to offset the reaction that would naturally follow. The result was that other enterprises in the hands of men of capital and money were established, and these gave remunerative employment to many men during the entire year. Those who saw a brilliant future for Fond du Lac
were not far off in estimating the good points of the city. It is a well known fact that the place has never sought and never experienced a "boom." The growth has been legitimate from the beginning, and of the increased prosperity the end is not yet in sight. Though the city of Fond du Lac has always had an unusual interest, it has now entered upon an era of properity and affords unlimited opportunities to the investor and manufacturer as well. Probably no city in Wisconsin has been better advertised than Fond du Lac, and the establishment of many new industries within the past few years is evidence of the truth of this statement. Business activity has reached the high water mark, and, while real estate values have strengthened, there is nothing to indicate that there will ever be a crash. The business of Fond du Lac is built upon the Gibralter of conservatism, and will endure and prosper for all time. In 1898 the population of the city was scarcely more than 12,000 . The census of 1900 showed that it had increased to over 15,000 , and the progress, which has been made since that time, can be seen in the increase in the number of inhabitants.

With the removal of the Wisconsin Central car shops from Stevens Point and Waukesha, came thousands of people from those cities to make their home in Fond du Lac. The mammoth shops employing 500 men were erected north of the city, and caused a village to spring up like magic. It is called North Fond du Lac under the articles of incorporation, and has a population of over


Taylor Park courtegy of george r. MC intosh 2,000 . The village has excellent drainage, a fine water supply system, fire department, town hall and improved streets. It is connected with the city by the street car line and with Oshkosh by an interurban road, which passes through the heart of the village. The North Fond du Lac churches would be a credit to any city, and for the benefit of the railroad employes a Y.M.C.A. has been established on the Wisconsin Central grounds. There is a grade school, and there is talk now of erecting a High school building. The Chicago of North-Western shops are located at the north end of the village, and, although hundreds of men are employed by the company in the shops and on the road, there is a report that the directors have practically decided to more than double this number by increasing the facilities for locomotive and car repairing in the shops. The Wisconsin Central gives employment to many engine and train men, who reside either in the village or in the city.

The material prosperity of the city of Fond du Lac is due in many respects to its varied industries, which
give work for thousands of men. As a railroad center it would be difficult to find a point, which offers superior facilities for shipping the products of the manufacturing plants. Five branches of the North-Western road center in Fond du Lac, the trains for the north and south on the main line making splendid connections with those for the east and west. The company's division point for the southern branch is located at North Fond du Lac. The Wisconsin Central connects Fond du Lac with many other important cities in Wisconsin as well as Illinois and Minnesota. The Chicago, Milwaukee \& St. Paul has a branch running from Iron Ridge, on the main line of the Northern Division, to Fond du Lac, and the Eastern Wisconsin Railway \& Light Company operates an electric line to Oshkosh as well as an excellent street car system. Other companies have already been organized to construct interborough roads between Madison and Fond du Lac and from the last named city to Manitowoc. Both, it is expected, will be in operation soon.

Many of the industrial enterprises have been conducted for half a century, remaining in the hands of the families of the original owners from generation to generation. The products of several of the plants are not only shipped all over this continent but find a market in Europe and other places as remote. Among the manufacturing concerns may be mentioned the American Chemical Company, Badger Sewing Company, Boex-Holman Candy Company, Bechaud Brewing Company, Bowen Manufacturing Company, Badger Envelope Company, Fond du Lac Awning \& Tent Company, Fond du Lac Canning Company, Fond du Lac Cement Brick Manufacturing Company, Fond du Lac Implement Company, Fond du Lac Malt \& Grain Company, Fond du Lac Shirt \& Overall Company, Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company, Gurney Refrigerator Company, Harrison Postal Bag Rack Company, Helmer Milling Company, Huber \& Fuhrman Drug Mills, Moore \& Galloway Lumber Company, Fred Rueping Leather Company, O. C. Steenberg Company, B. F. \& H. L. Sweet Company, Winnebago Furniture Mfg. Company, Wisconsin Mirror Plate Company, M. D. Wells


Winnebago Park
COMTESY OF MRS P, REE/ES

Shoe Company, Sessions Ice Cream Company, Wisconsin Box \& Envelope Company and Sanders Brothers' Brewing Company, which cover the manufacture of chemicals, wearing apparel, candy, refrigerators, envelopes and boxes, blankets, awnings, tents, canned goods, building materials, farm implements, malt, all kinds of furniture, postal bag racks for government use, flour, drugs, lumber, lath, sash, doors, blinds, leather, wagons, mirror plates, boots and shoes, ice cream and brewery products. The names of several of these have been added to the list of Fond du Lac's industries during the past few years. In In addition to these there are many other smaller establishments. There are two daily papers, the Daily Reporter, published by the Reporter Printing Company, and the Daily Commonwealth, published by the P. B. Haber Printing Company, one weekly, the North Fond du Lac Times, published by the Bulletin Printing Company, and one German paper, the Nordwestlicher Courier and Daheim of which William F. Weber is the publisher.

Through the generosity of Andrew Carnegie, a handsome new library building costing $\$ 43,000$ has been erected on Sheboygan street, the site being conveniently located. The free public library, which is equally accessible to the workingman and to the children of the poor as to the rich, was founded 22 years ago, and now contains over 20,000 volumes, being one of the largest in Wisconsin. The Elks' Clubhouse, a handsome threestory structure, occupies a site near the library, and is a model home for the members of that order. St. Agnes'
hospital and St. Mary's Sanitarium


A Harbor on the East Shore of Lake Winnebago courtesy of H. W. voeith are institutions, which have become widely known among those who are seeking health, and St. Agnes' Convent, which is situated near the hospital, is the home of the Sisters of that name. Fond du Lac is a city of churches, the various Catholic societies as well as the leading Protestant denominations having beautiful houses of worship. It is the home of the Diocese of Fond du Lac and of Bishop Grafton through whose generosity the Parish House, Grafton Hall, the Choir School and the Motherhouse of the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity have been added to St. Paul's Cathedral. The Cathedral has been elaborately decorated with the works of the old masters and contains a single piece of statuary, St. Margeret of Antioch, valued at
$\$ 6,000$. The other churches are St. Mary's, St. Joseph's, St. Louis', St. Patrick's, the Congregational, Presbyterian, Division Street M. E. Church, Cotton Street M. E. Church, Salem Evangelical, the First Baptist Church, Friedens Kirche, Immanuel's and the People's Church. In hotels Fond du Lac is favored. The Palmer House ranks with the best hostelries in the state, while the Plum, the Windsor, the Forest Avenue and the Lewis and half a score of others are well known to the traveling public.

The city has stable monetary institutions, three national banks, one savings bank and several loan associations, meeting all the requirements in this line. The electric car line connects parks, hotels, boat landings as well as the business places, the theater and other public buildings. The government has appropriated $\$ 65,000$ for a federal building, and the site on which it will soon be erected has already been purchased. As far as educational facilities are concerned, Fond du Lac possesses an enviable reputation. Over $\$ 150,000$ has been invested in sites and buildings, and at the High School a manual training department is maintained with work for the boys' and girls' classes. The departments are under the direction of the most competent instructors, and conducted in a way that would reflect credit upon any city in the country. In point of health, it is but a matter of course in Fond du Lac. The deep artesian wells give an unlimited supply of water, which ranks high from a medicinal standpoint, and renders excellent fire protection together with a department maintained by the city. The place offers a constant suggestion and provocation to invalids to brace up and get well, and is especially attractive to tourists. Winnebago Lake, fringed by pleasant groves and numerous parks, reclines its head in Fond du Lac county, the city lying as its crown. It abounds in black bass, pickerel, pike, sturgeon and quantities of other varieties, and the angler will find Fond du Lac an ideal spot, for the size of the catch is merely in proportion to the effort put forth. The lake is a favorable stretch of water for rowing and sailing, good boats and launches being ready for the visitor at all times. It has a sandy bottom, and the shores are dotted with places for the bathers, while near the city those, who have a more exhilarating taste for the water, have ready access to the trapeze and


The Ledge
chutes. There are about twenty small lakes and ponds in the county, the most beautiful of which is Lake de Neveu, situated in a valley entirely surrounded by forests, about three miles from the city. On all sides are bold shores, and its waters are deep, clear and cold, although not unfavorable for bathing. It abounds in fish, and has several large summer cottages, numerous fine boats, and in the summer the shores are lined with the tents of campers. There are several beautiful homes where the tourist may find accom-


A Few Hours of Black Bass Fishing on the East Shore of Lake Winnebago. modations for any length of time, and links where the golfer will find a place to seek his favorite pastime. The Ledge, as it is popularly known, is an abrupt outcropping of the limestone crust, which extends from the northeast to the southwest across the country. It is remarkable for the large number of clear, cold springs which gush from its clefts from summit to base. The brooks from these springs give abundant water to the fields below, and several of them are alive with trout and other fish. At Taycheedah and Lakewood Beach, only a fifteen minutes' drive from the city, are summer resorts which are laid out and maintained with an eye to the artistic effect and comfort, and if seen they cannot but be admired. There are numerous drives in various parts of the county, which inspire the visitor with the thought that God's hand is indeed wonderful to have shaped the odd and grotesque cliffs on the ledge east of the city and at the Byron camp grounds, about eight miles south. The Alpine enthusiast will find labyrinths of paths and rugged cliffs to explore, and but a short distance southeast of Taycheedah are the remains of an old brewery, a natural cave extending for hundreds of feet beneath the very road traversed by many teams daily.

Winnebago Park, located ten miles from the city, is one of Nature's most beautiful spots. A summer resort without the handsome scenery is an "Othello" without the Desdomona, and Winnebago Park could not be made more attractive by a corps of eastern landscape artists. It is noted for the mammoth oaks and elms, which stand majestic on the high banks of the lake. Elegant cottages owned by Fond du Lac people add to the beauty of the place, and through the efforts of the members of the association a spacious harbor has been constructed at the north end which gives shelter to the largest steamer on the lake in event of storms and provides a landing place for the scores of smaller craft. Lakeside and Taylor's, the two city parks, are popular places for those living in the city to spend their leisure hours in the summer, and for those who cannot afford an outing elsewhere.

## RIPON, WIS.

"A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid," and Ripon, the little "gem" city of Wisconsin, certainly has not hid her light under a bushel.

The history of this small world is unique, and of more than local interest, for three widely recorded historical events, of intense dramatic interest, the birth of the Republican Party, the experiment of the Wisconsin Phalanx, and the "Booth War," are indissolubly linked to the name of this "loveliest village of the plain, where health and plenty cheer(ed) the laboring swain."

In the beautiful valley of Ceresco, which now constitutes the western part of Ripon, the Ulopian schemes of Charles Fourier, destined as 'was thought to bring Paradise back to earth, were attempted in 1844 by the famous Wisconsin Phalanx. From nineteen charter members, the little community increased to some two hundred, and prospered to such an extent that it has gone down in history as the most successful of all the Fourierite experiments, but the principles upheld were too ideal for practical everyday life, and in 1850 the Phalanx formally and amicably disbanded.

The founder of Ripon proper was Capt. Mapes, a rough and ready, but sagacious and enterprising pioneer. Coming in 1845 with some other explorers, he was struck with the beauty and the possibilities of the virgin prairie, now the very heart of Ripon, which lay above and to the east of the lovely Ceresco Valley. With characteristic energy, he straightway proceeded to make his dreams real and abiding. And it is interesting to note that Ripon today is largely what Capt. Mapes hoped and planned and prophesied that it would be. With unusual breadth of vision, he reserved land on the highest eminence and in the most central and beautiful part of the town, for a college, believing that the "Almighty Builder had crowned this spot for a public edifice, a city of light set on a hill." And Ripon College has fully justified this expectation, for she has radiated light to every state of the Union, and to some of the remote corners of the earth, and made the name of "Ripon" a household word, through her many distinguished sons and daughters.

For a small city Ripon has sent forth an unusual number of judges, senators,

missionaries, ministers, reformers, capitalists, professional men and women, and other well-known 'people of importance.'

Through Major Bovay, a pioneer citizen, she became the birthplace of the Republican Party, March 20, 1854, ante dating by three or four months, the Jackson, Michigan, Convention, when the name Republican was formally adopted July 6th, 1854. Through him also, she loudly proclaimed her anti-slavery opinions, and protected Sherman M. Booth, in the famous "Booth War," of 1860.

Not only by the children she has sent forth and by the deeds of some of her distinguished citizens is Ripon known far and wide, but by many excellent lines of goods manufactured within her borders. The Ripon Knitting Works and the Bouton \& Germain Glove Factory sell their hosiery, leather gloves and mittens, from Maine to Alaska, having literally a thriving trade from ocean to ocean. The Heath \& Butzke wagons and vehicles of all kinds are eagerly sought for and bought in the northern states from Michigan to the Dakotas. The Hienz Pickle Co., of worldwide fame, have a station here. Flour mills, a box factory, creameries, foundries, machine shops, harness shops and a brewery indicate the diversity of the enterprises carried on. The rich prairie soil is a veritable "Garden of Eden" for productiveness, and the berry, cucumber, and beet industries thrive accordingly. Florists and green-grocers have all they can do to supply the demand and there is abundant room for more such enter-


The Birthplace of the Republican Party PHOTO BY F. A. PRESTON prises.

In 1858, Ripon was duly incorporated as a city, and ever since has been steadily, but surely growing, the latest statistics according her a population of nearer five than four thousand. Many of her citizens are wealthy, having accumulated their wealth right here, the large majority are prosperous and well-to-do, while poverty stricken folks are so hard to find that charity itself has frequently to go begging at Thanksgiving and Christmas times.

Four excellent hostelries, of which Hotel Englebright is the finest in the state outside of the large cities, tempt the traveller to prolong his stay. The excellent educational advantages, afforded by college and public schools have already drawn many desirable families to the city. A new Carnegie Library will soon add its attractions in drawing more. A large Music Club, a civic advancement association, and several ladies' clubs, are expanding the ideals of the citizens along higher lines of art, literature, beauty and progress.

The large number of octogenarians, for the most part active and well-preserved, are living witnesses of the healthfulness of the city as a place of residence. Indeed no more bracing and delightful climate than that of central Wisconsin can be found anywhere. One can breathe deeper and see farther in this ozone it seems than in less favored spots.

The purity of the water supply is a large factor in the maintenance of public health, and not even Waukesha can boast of purer, sweeter water. The situation of the city at the crest of the water-shed, which sends its waters to the Atlantic and to the Gulf of Mexico simultaneously, insures perfect drainage, supplemented by a large and efficient sewer system, with a scientific provision for sewerage disposal. Epidemics of disease are unknown in the history of the city.

Like its prototype, Ripon, England, with its parklike appearance, magnificent trees, and close-clift flower decked lawns, it is pre-eminently a city of homes, where a love of the beautiful is inculcated and fostered. To the ladies of Ripon belong the credit of preserving to the city some of its loveliest features, notably South Woods Park, hereafter to be known as the Annie Storr Woods, a noble park in the suburbs of the town, where birds and squirrels and children and flowers and wild woody things hold high carnival.

The surrounding country is noted for its good roads and beautiful scenery. The far famed and beautiful summer resort, Green Lake, is within easy driving distance. Mystic Lovers' Glen or Mitchell's Glen, as it is now known, the "Archaean Heights" of Pair Bluff, first of the land to lift its shoulder above the fathomless sea that covered all the United States, save the little V-wedge of Northern Wisconsin and Michigan, Arcade Glen, a bit of Vermont, Bulin, ancient seat of the Mascoutins, where Nicolet, venturesome coureur de bois, so grandly and pompously landed that golden October day, in far away 1634, all these and more make Ripon and Green Lake summer resorts of unusual and varied attraction.

No longer isolated, Ripon, the little prairie city, by means of the iron tenacles of two great and through railways, reaches out in many directions. The Chicago, Milwaukee \& St. Paul and the Chicago \& North-Western, each with several trains, make is possible to get in and out of the city at almost any time of day. A new prospective air-line, putting her on a through trunk line, will soon make her the Mecca of the traveling public. Four rural free delivery routes give a large tributary population. A fine system of waterworks, which defied even so cold a winter as that of 1903-04, gas and electric lights, paved streets, numerous enterprising, wide-awake business firms, many churches, efficient dental and medical service, two banks, two express offices, and everything else in generous proportion, make Ripon eminently an up-to-date city, and a most desirable one for residence.

Once, long, long ago, the merry and ever facetious "drummer" called Ripon the "Sleeping Beauty," but since the Fairy


The Campus at Ripon College

Prince of Progress has touched and kissed her into life, she is wide awake, and has pushed steadily forward into new and fresher fields and extended her influence.
"Over the hills and far away,
Beyond their utmost purple rim,
Beyond the night, across the day, Thro' all the world."

## WAUPUN, Wis.

Waupun, "The Prison City," is a city of 4,000 inhabitants and located on a beautiful table land which gives it a dry and healthful climate. Its geographial location is on the boundry line between Fond du Lac and Dodge Counties, but by the postal authorities accorded to the latter. It derives its name as 'The Prison City' from the fact that the Wisconsin state penitentiary is located here. This institution, the largest of its kind in the state, covers an area of 168 acres, consists of many finely constructed buildings and has every modern improvement that a prison should have. The city itself is beautifully laid out and has many fine public and private buildings which are a credit to its business men. Among these may be mentioned a fine public library, public schools, eleven churches, good hotels and numerous private homes. The residence portion of town may well be likened unto a large park, as its streets are lined with shade trees and each person seems to take a personal pride in the general appearance of his property. It also has a well equipped water works system, sewerage system, and electric lighting plant.

But little can be said of a beautiful city unless accompanied by some form of stable support and this is represented here by several large and modern factorics. As such we may name the J. S. Morris Carriage Co., manufacturers of high grade vehicles, the Althouse-Wheeler Co., windmills and pumps, Markle Harris \& Co. and Zoellner Bros. \& Hall, flour mills. Schaler-Hartgerink Co., manufacturers of umbrellas, Olson \& Nelson, plows; a new shoe factory now being built and many smaller factories which cover a large field. These all give employment to and support a great many and put the town on a stable basis. It is located on the C., M. \& St. P. Ry. and is only three miles from Chester on the C. \& N. W. Ry. which really gives it shipping facilities on two roads. To the business man as well as the lover of a quiet, pleasant home Waupun has everything to offer.

panoramic view of fond du lac, wis.
Taken from Fourth Street Light Tower by C. E. Keller. Negative owned by C. E. Rogers.


Fond du Lac County Court House.




W ashington School. photo by C. chadbourne.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.


PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.





WHERE FOND DU LAC PEOPLE WORSHIP.
St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
St. Patrick's Catholic Church.


WHERE FOND DU LAC PEOPLE WORSHIP.
First Presbyterian Church


IWHERE FOND DU LAC PEOPLE WORSHIP.


Sheboygan Street, Looking East.
Main Street, Looking South from Forest Avenue.
Main Street, Looking South from Forest Avenue.






REPRESENTATIVE HOMES OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.


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REPRESENTATIVE HOMES OF FOND DU LAC, WIS.


REPRESENTATIVE HOMES OF FOND DU LAC, WIS. Residence o 0 Bishop Grafton and Convent of the Holy Nativity.


The Bowen Manufacturing Co., Refrigerators.


The Gurney Refrigerator Co.


THE M. D. WELLS SHOE FACTORY.


THE WINNEBAGO FURNITURE CO.


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O. C. Steenberg Co., Sash, Doors and Blinds.





West College.
Bartlett Cottage.

VIEWS OF RIPON COLLEGE, RIPON, WIS. Elisha D. Smith Dormitory


The Wisconsin State Penitentiary, Waupun, Wis.


Lakeside Park.



VIEWS OF GREEN LAKE.

The N!ght Wind.
A Rocky Shore


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[^0]:    Helmer Milling Co., Elevator and Mill

