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EARLY DRUGDOM

IN MANITOWOC

by EDWARD EHLERT

Editors's Note: This manuscript was originally published in "The Badger Pharmacist", Madison, Wisconsin, in June 1937. This magazine was published by the Wisconsin Chapter of Rho Chi.

Under date of April 9th, 1835, the Green Bay Intelligencer informed its readers that the country north of Milwaukee had been penetrated as far as the Manitowoc river. Anticipating a day of sale, "the Yankees" had "seized upon all the choice and commanding sites and made claims". The readers are also told that "it is probable that a saw mill and other improvements will be commenced this coming summer", presumably at Manitowoc Rapids.

On the sixth of May, President Jackson issued a proclamation for the sale of lands in what is now Manitowoc County, to be held in Green Bay. On August 3rd, the first entries were made by William Jones of Chicago and Louis Fizette of Green Bay at what is the present site of Manitowoc and by Francis Leframbois and William Jourdain at what is now Manitowoc Rapids. Fizette, however, sold to C. P. Arndt, also of Green Bay, soon after.

The Manitowoc Land Company, organized by William Jones and his brother early in 1836, sent a numerous party which arrived May 5th. However, only three remained the next winter. In April, 1837, forty additional settlers arrived.

In the early days the settlement at the Rapids was much larger than at the mouth of the river. Moreover, Two Rivers seemed to have more of a future. After 1845, however, the prospects of Manitowoc brightened. Immigration, retarded by the panic of 1837, was resumed. As to the new settlers, New England lumbermen came first followed by

the influx of Germans. In 1840 the population of the whole county was 240, in 1842, 263, in 1845 about 600. From 1847 the growth and settlement of the county, beyond the few lumbering villages (Manitowoc Rapids, Manitowoc, Two Rivers and Neshota, eight miles from the mouth of the West Twin river) commenced and the change to the agricultural stage began to be apparent, due in large part to the German immigration.

In 1850 Manitowoc County had a population of 3,720, of which 1,378 were of German, 256 of Norwegian, 175 of Irish, 129 of British and 165 of Canadian birth, while there were in all 255 foreigners from other European countries. Of the native born inhabitants, 409 were of Wisconsin and 376 of New York birth while 742 came from other states. These were distributed over the then existing townships as follows:

Centerville	210
Cooperstown	84
Manitowoc	766
Manitowoc Rapids	966
Meeme	210
Newton	522
Two Rivers	924

We are told that Perry Smith brought the first stock of groceries to Manitowoc in 1846. In 1848 Gerhard Kremers² wrote to his uncle in Germany that Manitowoc had about fifty houses and that there were two physicians and one apothecary shop. Plumb informs us that Dr. A. W. Preston came to Manitowoc in 1847 and Dr. Ranche during the "later forties" also that Dr. H. E. Zeilley came during the early fifties and that Dr. John Oswald settled in Two Rivers in 1852.

Beyond the mere names we learn nothing about these medical practitioners at that time.

Fortunately, for the student of early drugdom in Manitowoc, a weekly newspaper, the Manitowoc Herald, was established shortly before village organization was effected March 6, 1851. From the advertisements of its issue of December 28, 1850, we learn that there were two physicians in Manitowoc, viz. Dr. Preston and Dr. Gottfriedz, and one in Manitowoc Rapids, viz. Dr. Zeilley.

Of Dr. Abraham Preston we are told³ that he was the first graduate practitioner, having arrived in 1847, and that he and Dr. Zeilley "were keen rivals". Apparently, medical practice alone did not yield sufficient financial rewards for in 1855 he and Deming advertise themselves in the Wisconsin's Demokrat as "Aerzte, Wundaerzte und Apotheker".⁴ We are also told that he "saw service as army surgeon".⁵

Of his non-professional activities we learn that "The Whig party elected him as its candidate for register of deeds in 1849, in which capacity he served one term of two years... At the next ensuing election he was defeated for the assembly... and again defeated for the state senate as a Republican... in 1858."⁶

Whether he returned to Manitowoc after the war does not become apparent. His name does not appear in the City Directory for 1868-9.

The second physician whose advertisement is reproduced is that of Dr. Gottfriedz. Somewhat later he advertises that he has a supply of medicines, also that he will prepare mixtures, apparently others than those prescribed by himself.⁷ In other words, while he did not keep open "shop", his office served a like purpose so far as medicaments were concerned. Although he bears a German name, he reveals himself as a Swede, but

even after he had exchanged his pseudonym for his correct family name, this also is German, though, politically, the bearer if a Swedish refuge. His "Notice to the Public" is herewith reproduced. *Since circumstances have occurred, inducing me to put away the borrowed name by which I have been known till this time, it may be proper now to inform the public regarding the incidents which made me use my former pseudonymous name.*

The effects of the different political opinions which threatened — for some time — the internal peace of my homeland — Sweden — and laid a foundation to the late revolutions there, extended themselves also to me compelling me to leave my home, entirely destitute; yet, to escape it was also necessary for me to use an assumed name. Thus I borrowed the name of F. E. Gottfriedz, from a German acquaintance of mine. As the greatest number of those Norwegians, in whose company I disembarked in America, knew my assumed name only (although they knew me to have another), I was here introduced by the name of Gottfriedz.

Later news from Sweden have further induced me to try to become a citizen of the United States, by which occasion I considered it my duty to resume my right name, thus I will hereby inform the public that I transact — from this day — all business either of an official or private nature, under the name of

C. A. W. T. Wachtmeister.

From a notice pertaining to the Manitowoc Village Lyceum we learn of his activities in this direction.⁸ For a time his card appeared regularly in the weekly issues. However, under date of October 9, 1851, we are informed editorially "The List of Letters for Manitowoc contains the names of two distinguished individuals — F. E. Gottfriedz, and C. A. W. T. Wachtmeister. By a singular coincidence both are exiled counts and are vegetating at the present time, in Waukegan. We tender our sympathies and congratulations to the Waukegan folks — whichever may be most apropos".

As to Dr. Henry E. Zeilley we learn that he was a graduate of Geneva Medical College, class of 1849. He and Dr. Preston are reported to have been keen rivals. He moved to Chilton in 1853 and during the war acted as first assistant surgeon to the Fourteenth Regiment.¹⁰

As already pointed out, village organization was effected May 6, 1851. The city was incorporated March 12, 1870. Also, as previously stated, Gerhard Kremers wrote in 1848 that Manitowoc had two physicians and a drug store. Which of the establishments was designated drug store does not become apparent. The general

stores carrying a supply of medicaments could scarcely have been regarded as such. Possibly a physician's establishment, such as that advertised by Dr. Gottfriedz in 1851 and similar to the one advertised by Dr. Cary in Racine¹¹ in 1842 was in the writer's mind when he informed his relatives and friends left behind as to the conditions of the new settlement.

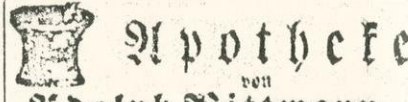
During the period of somewhat less than two decades that Manitowoc flourished under village organization, drug stores in the commonly accepted sense appeared upon the scene. Even the proprietors of general stores seem to have realized that they were scarcely entitled to the title druggist although no legal significance was attached thereto. Thus we read in an advertisement in 1853 including such items as camphor, castor oil, paregoric and laudanum: "No Medicines unsafe for 'a green hand' to deal in will be sold at present or until I obtain a practical druggist to take charge of this department."¹²

The earliest advertisements of "Drugs and Medicines" by proprietors of general stores, are those of Aldrich, Smith and Co. (successors to H.H. Smith), and of Henderson and Hamilton, both of Two Rivers. The former firm states that "stock consists in part of a large lot of Drugs and Medicines, which were purchased of the best houses, and may be relied upon as genuine."¹³ The latter follows almost immediately with the following retort: "Drugs and Medicines for family use which are warranted genuine. Persons wishing articles in this line are aware of the danger of purchasing from those who are totally ignorant of their nature. One of our firm has been engaged for years in the drug trade and customers can rely on receiving a fine article, as well as the worth of their money."¹⁴

About the same time Wm. Hansen advertises under the caption of "Drugs and Medicines": "The subscriber having established himself in the village of Manitowoc for the purpose of doing a general Drug and Medicine business, respectfully requests all those wishing anything in his line to give him a call, confident, that from long experience in this business he will give satisfaction."¹⁵ Though he

apparently wished his place of business to be regarded as a drug store, he advertises stationery, blank books, etc., also groceries. From another ad we learn that he has "Prayer books" for sale.¹⁶ Unfortunately we are unable to learn more about this "druggist". He does not appear to have remained long.

In the issue for September 11th, 1852, we learn that the copartnership of Case and Clark is about to expire. Naturally the advertisement does not mention the line of goods which they kept in their store. From an entirely different source we learn that they had disposed of their stock to Gerhard Kremers. An inventory prepared by the latter under date of June 28, 1852 reveals not only the kind of goods, but the quantities on hand the wholesale prices which had been paid therefore. This list contains a number of drug items, possibly only one of its kind. Hence a page thereof is herewith reproduced." (See page 3)



Apothek
von
Adolph Witzmann.

Dem ersten Publikum von Manitowoc mache ich hiermit die Anzeige, dass ich die von Herrn W. geerbt hier eingerichtete Apotheke vollständig und selbstständig habe und dieselbe jetzt unter der Leitung des Herrn Dr. Neubach zur vollkommenen Verfertigung der mich beehrten Zuschriften mit Beihilfe der mich Beehrten zu versehen mich bemühen werde. — Unter einem vollkommenen Vorrath von vorräthigen

Medicamenten u. Apothekerwaaren
alte ich noch ein Lager von vorräthigen Cigarren, deutsche, französische und amerikanische Weine, Contobücher aller Art, Schreibpapier, Stahlfedern, Parfüm, Firnis, Seife, Terpentinöl, Toilettengegenstände und Patentmedikamente.

Mit der Versicherung, dass wir jeder Bestellung auf das Pünktlichste nachkommen werden, ersucht um zahlreichen Zuspruch
Manitowoc. Ad. Witzmann.

It will have been noted that some of the prices are recorded in dollars and cents, others in shillings and pence, as was customary during that period and even later.

As became apparent from the advertisement of Henderson and Hamilton of Two Rivers, they wished it to be known that one member of the firm had "been engaged for years in the drug trade." That of Wm. Hansen mentioned drugs first and groceries last. We are prepared therefore, to learn of a "New Drug Store" on Franklin Str. between 8th and 9th streets, viz. that of William Logier.

INVENTORY

3

Amt. brought over		\$414.17
1-14/16 lb. Rhubard	6/-	1.04
1 lb. Arrow Root	30	.30
4-6/16 lb. Gum Arabic	4/-	2.18
3-2/16 lb. Antimon	1/-	.39
4-¼ lb. Aloes	15	.63
9-½ lb. Cream Tartar	23	2.18
7 Boxes Sloan's Ointment	1/-	.87
1 Bottle Pepper Sauce	9	.08
3-¾ Bottle Laudanum	6/-	2.81
5 do. Paregoric	4/-	2.30
1 do. Lithonriptic	6/-	.75
12 do. Castor Oil	11	1.32
¼ lb. Oil Lemon	\$3.00	2.25
½ lb. Oil Peppermint	18/-	1.12
½ lb. Oil Spruce	8/-	.50
1-½ ounce Sulfate de Quinine	\$3.25	4.87
1 Paint Brush	6/-	.75
1-¼ lb. Pure Foundation	6/-	.93
6-½ yds. Irish Linen	3/-	2.43
5-¾ yds. Cambric	2/-	1.43
Amt. Brot. forward		\$443.86

OTHER DRUG ITEMS ARE HEREWITH COPIED.

5½ lbs. Cloves	28	\$ 1.54
2 lb. Peruvian Bark	4/-	1.00
3 lbs. Gum Myrrh	4/-	1.50
6/16 lbs. Camphor Gum	40	.15
2 lbs. Ginger	7½	.15
3¼ lb. Saltpetre	8	.26
16 lb. Sulphur	5	.80
46 lb. Madder	13	5.98
5¼ lb. Copperes	1¾	.95
15½ lb. Allspice	10½	1.62
40 lb. Pepper	6½	2.60
52 lb. Allum	2¾	1.43
6½ lbs. Epsom Salts	3¾	.24
44 lb. Borax	21	9.24
6 lbs. Nutmegs	1.35	8.10

IN ADDITION, SEVERAL OTHER ITEMS COMMONLY CARRIED IN EARLY DRUG STORES MAY BE LISTED, VIZ.

33 lbs. Venetian Red	2¾	.90
57 lbs. Blk Lead	3½	1.99
67 lbs. Spanish Brown	1½	1.00
13¾ lb. Indigo	9/-	15.47
36 lb. Whiting	1	.36

IT ALSO MAY BE OF INTEREST TO NOTE THE PRICE OF LIQUORS AND WINES AND THE AMOUNTS CARRIED, VIZ.,

20 Gal. Rum	10/-	25.00
20 Gal. Gin	10/-	25.00
25 Gal. Brandy	16/-	50.00
4½ Gal. Madary Wine	11/-	6.19
8 Gal. Port do.	12/-	12.00

FINALLY, THE FOLLOWING ITEM SHOULD BE LISTED FOR THE ARTICLES WERE, NO DOUBT, REQUIRED FOR RETAIL DISTRIBUTION, VIZ.

5 doz. Viols	16C/	.80
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In addition to drugs and medicines, his advertisement mentions "Paints, oil, varnish, alcohol, spirits, turpentine", also "Stationery and Havana segars." He assures the public "that every article sold . . . is of superior quality, and no others will be kept."¹⁸

In this connection it is of interest to note that of a total population of 1466 at the close of 1853 there are 28 merchants and one druggist. The classification of stores lists one "Apothecary shop".¹⁹ Which of the above stores is looked upon as a drug store is not mentioned. Presumably that of Logier. For,

under date of July 4, 1854, we learn from the recently established German newspaper that Ad. Wittmann has taken over the "Apotheke" of W. Logier.²⁰ From the same issue we learn that Adolph Wittmann has turned over the management of the "Deutsches Haus" to the brothers Kalle. As keeper of an inn, he could scarcely qualify as apothecary. Hence he announces that he will operate the drug store under the direction of Dr. Leubner. His announcement is herewith reproduced in the original German:—

Dem geehrten Publikum von Manitowoc

mache ich hiermit die Anzeige, dass ich die von Herrn W. Logier hier eingerichtete Apotheke kaeuflich an mich gebracht habe und dieses Geschaefst unter der Leitung des Herrn Dr. Leubner zur vollkommenen Befriedigung der mich Beehrenden fortzusetzen mich bemuehen werde. — Ausser einem vollkommenen Lager von vorzueglichens.

Medicamenten u. Apothekerwaren halte ich noch ein Lager von vorzueglichen Cigarren, deutsche, franzoesische und amerikanische Weine, Contobuecher aller Art, Schreibpapier, Stahlfedern, Farben, Firniss, Leinoel, Terpentinoel, Toilettengegenstaende, und Patentmedizinen.

Mit der Versicherung, dass wir jeder Bestellung auf das Puenklichste nachkommen werden, ersucht um zahlreichen Zuspruch.

Ad. WITTMANN. 21

Adolph Wittmann was born in Berlin, Germany, March 31, 1825. In 1848 he came to Rapids where he clerked. Soon thereafter he conducted an inn in Manitowoc, also a theater. As already pointed out, he bought Logier's drug store in 1854 which he first conducted under the direction of Dr. Leubner. Later he engaged Edw. Maerklein, who is reported to have been trained as apothecary in Germany. After the war he sold his store to Maerklein and Richter.

Wittmann appears to have played a prominent role, not only among the Germans, in Manitowoc. His management of a theater has already been alluded to. He was sought as a public speaker. During the war he was active in recruiting, but did not himself enlist until near the close of the conflict. Having disposed of his drug store, he engaged in other merchandising and manufacturing, but suffered great loss through fire in 1875. In 1881 he established the Manitowoc Post and appears to have played a role in the German Editorial Association of Wisconsin. He died in 1897.

In 1849 he married Anna Christina Heinemann of Chicago. She became known as a writer of German poetry. A son, A.R.W., practices medicine in Merrill. A brother, August Wittmann, conducted a school in Manitowoc during the fifties.

Within a year, we find the advertisement of a genuine German "Apotheker", possibly the first in the state, on the corner of Ninth Str. and Washington St. Before coming to Manitowoc, he had been affiliated with the practice of pharmacy for seventeen years and had studied pharmacy at the University of Jena. In other words, he seems to have passed the German "Staatsexamen" and to have qualified as "Apotheker". In his advertisement he states that his pharmaceutical ware has been imported in large part from Germany and that he has made the preparations himself. The announcement is unique and is herewith reproduced:

Diese deutsche Apotheke ist ganz neu und vollstaendig eingerichtet, so dass allen Anforderungen Genuege geleistet werden kann, Die Waaren sind zum grossen Theil von Deutschland importirt und die Praeparate von dem Unterzeichneten selbst angefertigt.

DIE QUALIFICATION

des Unterzeichneten als Apotheker ist dem Publikum genug bekannt, da derselbe fruher in Deutschland schon 17 Jahre Apotheker

gewesen und Pharmazie an der Universitaet von Jean studirt hat.

Indem schliesslich der Unterzeichnete fuer das bisher geschenkte Vertrauen seinen Dank ausspricht, bittet er zugleich um das ferne Wohlwollen des Publikums, under der Versicherung dass die Recepte Aeusserst billig und prompt gefertigt werden.²³

However, no matter what his qualifications, Manitowoc in 1855 was not large enough to support a "deutsche Apotheke". Shortly after

Neue Handlung
von
W. Hemleben.
Ecke der Neunten u. Washington-
Strasse.
Derselbe empfiehlt dem Publikum sein voll-
ständiges Assortiment von
**Groceries, Provisions, Essen-
waaren, Tabak u. s. w.**
Durch gute Waaren und Billigkeit werde ich
das mir zu schenkende Vertrauen zu rechtfertigen
suchen.
Schmeln und alle Landesprodukte werden
asern als Abluma angenommen.

the first announcement, we find a second under the caption of "Neue Handlung", i.e. general store.²⁴ A few months later he advertises, paints, varnish oils, turpentine oil, perfumes, patent medicines, genuine German and French wines, and rheumatic chains.²⁵ Even before that time he had tried his luck at the manufacture of liqueurs and conducting a restaurant.²⁶ Apparently, he did not remain very long. Requests for information brought no response from descendents. Having learned that he had moved to Dubuque, Iowa, the Reference Librarian, Elsie Datisman, supplied the information gleaned from the City Directory that between 1873 and 1876 William Hemleben was listed as taxidermist and in 1877 as peddler. Thus ended the career of the first Wisconsin German "Apotheker" in "Dollaria".

The same year brings us the advertisement of a drug store operated by two physicians, Preston and Deming. That they should have run an advertisement in a German paper was due, no doubt, to the large number of Germans both in the village and the surrounding country.²⁷

"Dr. Abram W. Preston", we are told,²⁸ had the distinction of being the first graduate practitioner" also that he arrived in 1847. "The Whig party elected him as its candidate for register of deeds in 1849. . . . At the next ensuing election he was defeated for the assembly . . . and

Preston & Deming.
Arzte, Wundärzte und Apotheker.
und
Pächter in
Farben, Del, Parfümerien u. s. w.
Nord-Gette
Manitowoc Wisconsin.
Die Unterzeichneten haben ein Com-
paniegeschäft gebildet und das früher
von Dr. P. D. Smith als Store be-
nannte Lokal zu einer Apotheke einge-
richtet, woselbst sie ein großes Lager von
Drugs, Medicinen
und
Gauch Artikel
besitzen, welches sie hiermit dem Pub-
likum offeriren
Die Anfertigung von Medicinen nach
Rezepten wird sorgfältig ausgeführt
und billigt berechnet.
Patent Medicinen
sind in großer Auswahl vorhanden.
Dieselben werden ebenfalls als Arzte
praktiziren und pünktlich bei allen
ihnen übergebener Krankheitsfällen
aufwarten.
Da beide Theilhaber Jünglinge ei-
ner in bedeutenden Aufsteigenden me-
dizinischen Fakultät sind so halten sie
sich für befähigt, den Anforderungen
ihrea Patienten genügen.
Um Anspruch in ihrer Apotheke er-
suchen freundlichst
[26]
A. W. Preston W. B. Deming

again defeated for the state senate as a Republican . . . in 1858. He was greatly beloved on account of his untiring labors during the two disastrous cholera epidemics in 1850 and 1854." Drs. Zeilley and Preston are reported to have been "keen rivals". He is said to have seen service as army surgeon during the war.²⁹

Of Deming it has been impossible to learn anything thus far.

From 1868 we have City Directories to assist us. The first one for the years 1868-9 mentions but two druggists in the classified list and but two physicians. Unfortunately, these lists are incomplete and had to be supplemented by a detailed study of the alphabetical list of names. The drug stores listed are those of O.R. Bacon and Co. on 8th between York and Buffalo Streets, and T. and J. Robinson on York Str. between 7th and 8th streets. From the alphabetical list we also learn that Ernst Leubner is a druggist who resides on Marshall, cor. Main. Also that Otto Leubner is a clerk. The latter is also listed as

Otto Luebner. In addition we learn that O.H. Martin is with O.R. Bacon and Co. Also that August M. Richter, a druggist, resides on 8th Str., cor. Madison.

About Bacon we learn but little from printed sources. His name having appeared in the first City Directory for 1868-9, it reappeared in the directories for 1875-6 and 1880. The two county histories do not mention his name. Fortunately, we learn more about him from Mr. Oscar Alter, a retired druggist, at present Secretary of the Eastern Wisconsin Trustees Company, who served his apprenticeship with Bacon.

According to Mr. Alter, the firm of Bacon, Martin and Easton was established in 1865. The senior partner was a graduate of a medical college in Vermont, but never practiced medicine. He came to Manitowoc in 1860 where he taught school. He is said to have been a very religious man and would not permit anything to be sold on Sunday except medicine. In 1882 he sold his store to Oscar A. Alter, his former apprentice.

Of the third member of the firm, we learn from Goodspeed* that "Dr. D. J. Easton came in 1857. He had been a tailor in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. and even continued tailoring for some time in Manitowoc. At first practicing as a homeopathist, he later wished to be classed a regular. He was a great advertiser. One of his prescriptions became very popular as a nostrum. A silent partner in the drug firm of Bacon, Tombs and Company, he wrote his prescriptions in cipher. To put a stop to this, Thomas Robinson of the firm of T. and J. Robinson, had himself elected to the Legislature in 1866 and secured the passage of a law making it compulsory for doctors to write all prescriptions in either Latin or English. He died in 1880."

Concerning the two Robinsons, we are at present restricted in our information to the city directories and newspaper advertisements. The firm's name having appeared for the first time in 1868-9, it reappeared in those of 1875-6 and 1880, but not in that of 1884. In connection with the brief biographical sketch of Dr. Eaton, we learned that Mr. Thomas Robinson was elected to the Legislature in 1866 and secured the passage of a bill effecting

medico-pharmaceutical practice. Mr. Emil Baensch, who has cooperated with the writer in a most generous fashion in the preparation of this account of early drugdom in Manitowoc, has promised to ascertain more about the family history of the Robinsons. There was a Robinson, a druggist, in Green Bay. Frederick Robinson of Kenosha played an important part in early state legislation pertaining to pharmacy.

From the advertisement of Adolph Wittmann we have already learned that, when he took over the store of Logier, he announced that he would conduct it under the direction of Dr. Leubner. Neither of the two local histories gives us any information. The City Directory for 1868-9 does not mention him in the classified list as druggist, but the alphabetical list of residents gives his name, Ernst Leubner, as druggist, residing on Marshall cr. of Main Str., but no store location. The Directory for 1875-6 lists him as druggist with store at 8th south of Quay Str. In the 1880 Directory his name is replaced by that of Adolph Liebig and Co., 120 South Eighth Str. It also lists Otto Leubner as clerk.

According to Mr. Alter, Dr. Leubner and his son Otto were established before 1870. After his son's death about 1874, he was assisted by his daughter Mary. He died in the later seventies, his store being sold to Liebig and Stock.

Of O. H. Martin, whose name also appears as druggist with O. R. Bacon & Co. in the first City Directory, viz. that of 1868-9, we likewise learn nothing from the county histories. His name does not reappear in subsequent issues of the Directory. According to Mr. Alter, he had been a medical student.

A. M. Richter came to Manitowoc county when twenty-eight years of age from Saxony where he had been a school teacher. At first he farmed in Newton township, from 1860 to 1866 he taught school in Manitowoc, then entered the drug business with E. Maercklin whose interest he purchased in 1868. In 1873 he sold his drugstore to become city clerk, also county clerk. In 1875 he engaged in the manufacture of vinegar.

The only new name which appears in the City Directory for

1875-6 is that of F. C. Buerstatte, Cor. 8th and Jay Sts. At that time Manitowoc had five drug stores and seven physicians.

Frederick C. Buerstatte was born September 12th, 1846 in Elberfeld, Germany, the son of Henry M. and Maria (Meister) Buerstatte. His parents came to Manitowoc county in 1850. Early in 1864, when not yet eighteen years of age, he enlisted. He participated in Sherman's march to the sea. Having been wounded twice, he was discharged July 20, 1865.

Being incapacitated for the trade of wagon maker, he studied first at Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, then in Baldwin University, Ohio, graduating in pharmacy with the degree of Bachelor of Medicine in 1871. In the fall of the same year he went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he managed a pharmacy owned by a physician. In 1872 he returned to Manitowoc and, on March 16th of that year opened his store there.

Following his death in 1916, his sons, Richard T. and Charles, bought out the interest of the other heirs and incorporated under the name of F. C. Buerstatte Company. A few years ago they were joined by Richard T. Buerstatte, Jr.

Since the passage of the Pharmacy Act of 1882, all pharmaceutical practitioners, with the exception of apprentices, had to be registered. Hence we have the official records since that date. The list, however, may not be complete for the simple reason that the Board of Pharmacy did not publish lists of registered pharmacists for the years 1917 to 1923 incl. 1925 to 1928 incl. and from 1930 to date. In other words, while for the years 1882 to 1916 incl. the names of registered pharmacists were published, since 1917 such lists were issued only for 1924 and 1929.

1. Plumb, A history of Manitowoc Co.
2. In possession of the writer.
3. Goodspeed's Hist. of Manitowoc Co. I, p. 195
4. Wisconsin's Demokrat, May 17, 1855, p. 2, col. 2.
5. Goodspeed, l.c. p. 202
6. Ibid. p. 195
7. Manitowoc Co. Herald, Apr. 5, 1851, p. 3, col. 2
8. Ibid. Jan. 4, 1851, p. 2, col. 6.
9. do. Oct. 9, 1851, p. 2, col. 3
10. Goodspeed, l.c. p. 197.
11. Badger Pharmacist, June, 1936, p. 4
12. Manitowoc Co. Herald, Jan. 15, 1853, p. 3, col. 2
13. Ibid. Oct. 9, 1851, p. 3, col. 1.
14. do. Oct. 16, 1851, p. 2, col. 5
15. do. Oct. 21, 1851, p. 2, col. 5.
16. do. Oct. 23, 1852, p. 4, col. 5.
17. From the inventory in possession of the writer.
18. Manitowoc Co. Herald, Sept. 24, 1853, p. 2 col. 6
19. Ibid. Dec. 31, 1853, p. 2, col. 1.
20. Wisconsin's Demokrat, July 4, 1854, p. 3, col. 5.
21. Ibid. p. 3, col. 1.
22. Other details concerning the subject of this brief sketch may be had from Goodspeed's History of Manitowoc Co. vol. 2, p. 391, with portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Wittmann opposite p. 391; also R.G. Plumb, A History of Manitowoc Co. Additional data were obtained from Manitowoc newspapers as indicated and from Dr. A. R. Wittman of Merrill, Wis.
23. Wisconsin's Demokrat, Feb. 15, 1855, p. 2, col. 5
24. Ibid. Mch. 1, 1855, p. 3 col. 5.
25. do. Aug. 21, 1855, p. 2, col. 1
26. do. Dec. 16, 1843, p. 2 col. 4
27. Wisconsin's Demokrat, May 17, 1855, p. 2, col. 2
28. Goodspeed's Hist. of Manitowoc Co. I, p. 195.
29. Ibid. pp. 195, 197, and 202.



The following biographies were taken from supplement to the Manitowoc Pilot published in 1896.

**J. E. Barnstein,
Drugs**

This is one of the most reliable drug stores in the city and its proprietor is exceptionally well qualified to run it. He has been engaged in this class of business for thirteen years, which experience has been augmented by a medical course in the Milwaukee Medical School, from which he graduates next March. Mr. Barnstein is an enterprising man and accomplished chemist who has a complete knowledge of the qualities and virtues of drugs. In short this is an excellent drug store, first-class in every respect and well worthy of the patronage of the public. The stock carried is of the choicest nature and includes all of the many articles found in stores of this kind.

**F. C. Buerstatte, M.B.
Drugs**

To retain one's hold on trade for twenty-three years demonstrates confidence on the part of the purchasing public. This is the length of time the above gentleman has been in business here. His store is one of the largest and best in the city and has a trade second to none. Everything common to the drug trade is in his stock and prescriptions receive careful consideration. The doctor has been a resident of this city about all his life and has done his full share towards promoting her prosperity. He is now a member of the city board and belongs to several organizations such as K. of P., I.O.O.F. and G.A.R. His right to belong to the latter was earned by two years' active service during the war in the 26th Wisconsin. He is one of our best informed citizens and his business ability and integrity of character have won the respect and confidence of the people of his town and county.

**Oscar A. Alter,
Druggist**

Of the several successful young business men of the city, we can think of none who have been more clearly identified with Manitowoc and her welfare than Mr. Alter. There is scarcely any move undertaken here of a social or industrial nature but what he takes an active part. He is now secretary of the Building and Loan Association, treasurer of the Fair association, director of the Manitowoc Seating Co., clerk of the School Board and has been alderman and supervisor, each three

terms. He also belongs to the leading fraternal organizations. He has been in the drug business since 1882, and conducts one of the leading stores of the kind here. As such we need not refer to it in detail. Its stock is in keeping with the high reputation it bears and the various departments are carefully provided for such as the prescription and others. His station here among his fellow men is a prominent and influential one.

**C. A. Groffman,
Druggist**

Mr. Groffman brings to bear in the conduct of this business a long practical experience which now extends back some twelve years. His stock is complete in every respect, comprising everything in the line of drugs and medicines, proprietary remedies, also toilet articles and perfumery in great abundance. His trade is a permanent one, and in the matter of physicians' prescriptions, the greatest care is given to their accurate compounding. Mr. Groffman has now been established

about a year and a half and has developed a business interest alike successful and creditable. He is a native of Manitowoc and a leading member of the K. of P.

**Dr. Emil Stock,
Drugs**

Dr. Stock is one of the best posted druggists we have in this city, and one of the most observing. He keeps himself informed on all advances made in his profession, a knowledge which is a valuable adjunct to the success of the druggist. He has now been in this trade here for the past sixteen years and has become known as a careful compounder of prescriptions and a valuable druggist. The doctor is a gentleman of dignified bearing whose social qualities have made him a general favorite. He is one of the city's well known vocalists and has done much to encourage and stimulate the success of the singing organizations here. He is one of the best known members of the singing society.

**MANITOWOC COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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