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ORVILLE

From: Karen Baumgartner, 165 Wyoming St., Phillips, WI 54555 krbaumga@pctcnet.net
To: Robert Rusch, N8643 CTH C, Rib Lake, WI 54470
Date: March 8, 2002 10864
Re: Documenting businesses of McComb Ave., Rib Lake WI

I read with interest the article in the Taylor County Genealogical Society Newsletter concerning documenting businesses in the Village of Rib Lake.

The enclosed are photocopies of family photos that I own.

My grandfather was Ole A. Peterson. He owned several businesses in Rib Lake between 1908 and 1935. I have a picture of the Creamery he built. It is dated 1917. I believe it to have been in the neighborhood of the Methodist Church.

Another building Ole owned at one time was the Opera House. Ole's son, Orville, remembered practicing basketball and roller-skating in the second floor room. (1920s)

One of the enclosed photocopies is of the Busy Bee Restaurant in the building known as the Opera House on McComb Ave. Oscar H. Peterson was the proprietor and chief cook in the 1920s. Oscar loved plants and always had plenty of them in his places of business. He was deaf. He attended the school for the deaf in Delavan, Wis. The picture of the interior (on the same page) is thought to be one of the rooms in this restaurant. Another photocopy is of an interior of "Oscar's Restaurant". It is not identified as the Busy Bee. I'd be interested in knowing the identities of either of these interior pictures.

Oscar and Ole's sister was Nettie (Peterson) Dodge. She ran a restaurant with Oscar and then on her own. It was known as Ma Dodge's. It was on the corner of McComb and ?Pearl?, kitty corner from the bank. The photocopy of the interior of her restaurant shows up the tin ceiling and walls so well. She was known for her pies, which were displayed near the front door in glass cases on the counter.

I'm sure you have many pictures of the bank. This one was especially clear, that is why I included it.

The picture of Church Street was of interest to me because that is where my Dad lived from 1908 -1928. In 1998 he identified this picture and told me who lived in every house during those years.

If you are interested in scanning the original photos, I am willing to arrange delivery of them to Medford. I hesitate sending photos through the mail as damage so easily occurs.

I regret I was not at home when you called. I work at the Nursing Home from 3:30 - 9:30 PM. I did not receive a message if you left one.



My mother has a picture of the interior of Taylor's Hdw Store on McComb Ave. about 1912. I have a good laser copy of it, but I think the original is in Texas. John Taylor, Herman Batza & Pastor Sydow are in the picture with "stuff" from floor to ceiling.