

The Palace Meat Company

In connection with the meat trade of our city prominent mention must be given to the reputable establishment of the Palace Meat Company, proprietors of the Star Market, located at 122 South Central Avenue and the Palace Market, 322 South Central Avenue, of which Albert and William Wenzel are the proprietors.

They began business 15 years ago, and have through enterprise and honorable methods, succeeded in gaining a very large and appreciative patronage. The markets are most complete and are fitted up attractively. They carry at all times a large stock of fresh, salt and smoked meats, making their own sausages and smoking their own hams and bacon. They also kill most of their own stock.

Messrs. Wenzel are practical and efficient in every detail of the business, and their stock is always fresh, and kept in such a condition as will demand and retain that class of customers who believe that the best meats are always the cheapest.

They cater to the best families in the city, and always give prompt attention to all orders. They also do quite an extensive wholesale business for which they operate a gasoline car for making deliveries. The markets are strictly sanitary and modern throughout, while the service is all one could desire.

These gentlemen are thorough business men who have gained for themselves a large and increasing patronage through their conscientious and honorable methods of doing business (Marshfield Times, April 19, 1916).

The Recorder

**Pioneer Meat Market*

**Shop Locations Traded*

**Later Developments*

Bringing back memories of our childhood was yesterday's announcement of the observance planned for next Tuesday by the firm of Carl Wenzel & Son to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Wenzel Meat Market in Marshfield. And our recollections go back farther than that. We remember when the first "butcher shop" was established in the building which has been a Wenzel market since April 15, 1902, and which was erected by Anton Bast immediately after the fire in 1887. For the first few years it served as a millinery and dressmaking shop, but since 1895, when F. J. Deckert, now residing in Fresno, Calif., returned to Marshfield, it has been in use as a retail market...

...The Bauer brothers, who came here in 1887 and had their first shop on Depot street, later moved to the building on the south half of the lot now occupied by the Central State Bank. Here the younger brother, Fred, entered into partnership with W. J. Ladewig after the retirement of Herman, and here the firm of Wenzel & Wenzel opened their business in Marshfield on Oct. 16, 1901. Less than three months after the brothers re-



STAR MEAT MARKET.
CENTRAL AVE. AND TRD. ST.
H. C. LENZLAL.
—§ DEALER IN §—
FRESH AND SALT MEATS.
[Cut or in Bulk]
**Fish, Butter and Eggs. Sausage of
all kinds made a specialty.**

sumed their partnership in the meat business by purchasing the Kirschner business, these items appeared in the April 17 issue of the News: "Wenzel & Wenzel have exchanged locations with Bauer Bros. and are now located in their own home. They are here to stay and have purchased the building from F. J. Deckert...Wenzel & Wenzel have purchased the F. J. Deckert building, long used as a meat market and of late occupied by Bauer Bros., for a consideration of \$4,500. Monday night after business hours the two meat firms exchanged locations and opened up for business as usual on Tuesday morning."

Fifty years ago this week, on Oct. 10, readers of the News were informed: "William Wenzel and his uncle, Albert Wenzel of Colby, will move their families here about the 15th inst. The former will live in the Maloney residence on Central avenue and the later on Fifth street in the house soon to be vacated by Ben Bonnett and family. William Wenzel was employed here at one time as sausage maker for Bauer & Ladewig and is considered to have few equals in his specialty in the state. Messrs. Wenzel will take possession of the W. J. Ladewig on Oct. 21st and the firm name will be Wenzel & Wenzel."

The next week's News, dated Oct. 17, had two items about the newest business arrivals in Marshfield. One said, "Wenzel & Wenzel, who recently purchased the W. J. Ladewig meat market, took possession of the business yesterday morning instead of the 21st inst., as was originally agreed upon." The other carried a similar statement, and then added information that the new proprietors are meat dealers of many years experience, and will conduct the business in a first-class manner in every respect." With two efficient meatcutters and sausage makers—both trained through the apprentice and journeyman system in their native land, Germany—the new business venture proved successful from the beginning. Eventually the three sons of Albert Wenzel—Carl, Rudolph, and Albert—became apprentices in the shop, and like their father and cousin, attained skill in the trade which was a tradition in the family. Albert Sr. having learned it from his father. And now another generation is represented by Carl's son, Robert.

William Wenzel withdrew from the partnership in the summer of 1908, to set up his own shop, the Eagle Meat Market, in what had formerly been the Anton Veit market, on Central avenue south of Ninth street, and also established a shop at Edgar, which he disposed of several months later, In March, 1909, he purchased what was known as the Huebl block, at 322 S. Central avenue, and established the Palace Meat Market. Apparently the partnership with his uncle was resumed, for an advertisement in the Marshfield Times of Dec. 21, 1910, bears the signature Palace Meat Market and Star Meat Market, under the management of William Wenzel, Albert Wenzel and Gustave Lindemann. In 1917 the Palace Market was sold by William Wenzel to Mike Miedancy of Wausau and Andrew Mess and Mr. Wenzel devoted his time for the next few years to overlooking after his farming interests. From 1919 to 1920 the family lived at Medford.

Returning to Marshfield, William Wenzel re-entered the retail meat business in partnership with J. J. Regenfuss, and in 1924 the firm moved into its own building on the east side of Central avenue, opposite the former Palace Market. Two years later Mr. Wenzel again retired from the retail business, but continued his cattle-buying project, assisted by his oldest son, Harry.

After the death of his father, which occurred Oct. 20, 1942, at the family home, 897 S. Vine street, Harry took over this line of work, specializing in veal shipments, and later establishing the sausage manufacturing plant which he and his sons, Harry Jr, and William, operate on the Wenzel farm south of the city. Of the four adults who came here 50 years ago from Colby, Mrs. William Wenzel is the only survivor. The death of Albert Wenzel Sr. occurred April 30, 1942, and Mrs. Wenzel died April 1, 1945. Their survivors include the three sons, the youngest of whom now lives in Wausau, and the three daughters, Mrs. Ted (Anna) Wenzel) and Elizabeth, Marshfield, and Mrs. Van H. (Clara) Kahl, Winona, Minn. The William Wenzel family includes, in addition to Harry, two other sons, William of Chicago and Victor of Marshfield.
(from the Marshfield News Herald, October 13, 1951)

If you have any additional information (including pictures) regarding this business or location, we would really appreciate you contacting us and sharing. We will add information whenever possible.

For questions, or for sharing additional information, please contact us at schnitz1@charter.net. Please include what story the information relates to. Attach your text information in the form of a word document, please no PDF's. Photos should preferably be in jpeg format.

For additional stories on the historical sights and businesses of Marshfield, visit our website at: <http://www.marshfieldgenealogy.com/OR-Codes-of-Historical-Marshfield.html>.