

COPIED ARTICLES FROM THE *BELLEVILLE RECORDER*

Thursday, October 15, 1936:

Zweifel Factory is Damaged by Fire

The Zweifel cheese factory west of town was badly damaged by fire Saturday afternoon at 5:00. No estimate could be given on the loss.

A telephone call to Belleville handled by Mrs. Roy Hoover brought the Belleville fireman and neighbors, who soon had the blaze under control.

The fire was not discovered until after it had a good start, according to Mrs. Hosea Sandridge. Then action was imperative.

"I shutter to think of what might have happened if there was a slip in calling and getting help," Mrs. Katie Zweifel said. "The way the telephone operator put through the call and the promptness of the Belleville firemen was remarkable. There were three haystacks about 75 feet from the cheese factory. Nearby were the farm buildings, but the firemen kept the hay from igniting and thereby prevented a great lose."

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Thursday, October 22, 1936:

Hosea Sandridge is Forman on Job at Zweifel Factory

Hosea Sandridge was a busy man when the Rambler (roving reporter) caught up with him last Thursday at the Zweifel cheese factory.

A week ago Saturday the place was badly damaged by fire but Mr. Sandridge said thoughtful neighbors and friends had been there and cleaned up most of the debris before I came on the scene.

The living quarters were being rebuilt when I arrived. The packing and making rooms will be entirely new, Mr. Sandridge said. Most of the making equipment was saved from the fire, but nearly all the small tools were lost. In addition to replacing these, several new testing instruments will be bought.

"Milk is now being taken to the Central factory," said Mr. Sandridge, "but if the weather stays with us, we will be ready for business next Saturday or Sunday."

While Mr. Sandridge is the boss on the job he has a capable assistant in charge of the carpenters in the person of Oswald Altman of New Glarus. Others on the job were Paul Schneider, P. J. Altman, Henry Hefty, Ernest Arn, Walter Zweifel, Henry Babler, Gilbert Disch, Sam Zimmerman, Jr. and Paul Milz.

The men in the neighborhood weren't the only ones who came to put a shoulder to the wheel after the fire. There was washing and ironing to do, cooking, baking, milk cans to wash and a thousand and one other duties around the house---duties that men never see but take lots of woman's time. Mrs. Katie Zweifel and her daughter Mrs. Hosea Sandridge, met me at the door. They said Mrs. Howard Sandridge, Mrs. Paul Milz, Mrs. Fred Zimmerman and several other women had been there to lend what assistance they could.

The Milz family was making a temporary home with the Zweifels, but Mrs. Milz and sons, Paul, Jr. and Frankie had gone to visit her parents at Monroe.

There was one man in the house---and he looked me over without saying a word as I made notes and ate limburger cheese and pie crust cookies. He was James Howard (Jimmy) Sandridge, Jr., three and one-half months old.

Mrs. Zweifel recalled that two of the carpenters were no strangers at her place. In 1925 Mr. Altman had the contract for building the fine 10-room brick home for the late Jacob Zweifel. Henry Hefty, also of New Glarus, was with him. The home is modern throughout---from the hot water heating unit in the basement to the finished attic rooms. Running water is furnished for the home by an electric pump. All modern electrical conveniences are there. The cheese factory is also run by electricity.

There are forty-nine Holsteins on this 300 acre farm.

As I chewed on and on with my cheese and cookies, Mrs. Sandridge gave me some figures on the rising price of cheese. In 1931 the price was 8¢ a pound. In 1934 it went to 11½¢, 1935 saw it at 13½¢, and this year the market is 16½¢. So I ate all I could, lest the cheese take another rise in price and I would be unable to enjoy it.

At the Wisconsin State Fair this year limburger cheese from this factory, made by Paul Milz took first place. Most of the limburger factories in the state are in the southern section and to Mr. Milz goes the credit for bringing the state award to this community.