



The J.B. Hostetter building after renovations

J.B. Hostetter & Sons receives a face lift

It was fifty years ago, in 1930, that Joseph B. Hostetter started what is today known as J.B. Hostetter and Sons, Inc. We spoke with Joseph's grandson, Jack, who runs the store today, about what plans there are for the future of this Mount Joy business.

"We have re-done the front of the store for various reasons," said Jack, referring to the recent renovations made to the store window. "Our main purpose behind the change is to let people know that this is one big store. With the two buildings, people were often

confused about what really was J.B. Hostetter. The canopy running the length of both buildings unifies the look. We hope it adds a progressive air to the town of Mount Joy.

"We also put in a new window. The main reason for this is saving energy. By

using insulated glass and closing up some of the frontal area, we will certainly save a considerable amount of energy.

"The new window, in the way it is designed, creates better lighting. This is important in serving the public. They want to be able to easily see what you are displaying in a window, and we will be able to do a better job with our changes."

Before Joseph Hostetter planted his business in the older building, it was the home of Brown Brothers, hardware and tinsmith dealers. The late George H. Brown Jr. and his brother Milroy Brown conducted their daily business for many years in Mount Joy before selling to Hostetter.

Bruce Brown, George's son, remembers playing in the snow in front of the building.



In this early photo of West Main Street, Mount Joy, George Brown III plays in the snow in front of what used to be Brown Brothers Hardware. Today J.B. Hostetter and Sons, Inc. makes its home in the same building. The photo was provided by Bruce Brown of Mount Joy.



Joseph B. Hostetter's son Art, right, with his own son Jack, standing in front of the new store window.

Art Hostetter, one of the five sons of Joseph and Jack's father, remembers adding a ten foot addition to the original building in 1937. "Business had grown, and the old building just didn't provide enough room anymore." In 1941 the new building was erected. It serves as the main sales room today. "There was originally a log house standing here," says Art. "It was covered with weather boarding, and no one knew what it really was until we started to tear it down. And there, under the old weather boarding, were the original logs."

Asked about plans for the future, Art and Jack said that they plan to offer the same service that they did in the past; service that has been good to the people of the community.

"People in Mount Joy treat you right as long as that's how you treat them. It's the only way to do business," says Jack.

The Hostetter family has branched out in recent years with Hostetter Hardware. Art's wife and Jack's mother, Clara, runs the hardware business. "It keeps the whole family busy," laughs Jack.

Marietta Council (cont.)

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Martha Breckline has the distinction of being the first woman elected to the Marietta Council. She is the wife of William Breckline and a mother of two. A native of West Virginia, Mrs. Breckline has resided in Marietta for the past 26 years. Her biggest concern is providing more recreation for the young people of the community. She also hopes to conserve taxes by cutting down on the 24 hour police duty now in progress.

Paul Sload, age 55, is retired from Federal Service and is currently a consultant for a Washington based firm. He and his wife, Edith,

are lifetime residents of Marietta and the parents of two sons and one daughter. Mr. Sload intends to use his voting power for the betterment of the community.

Larry Gillham, the junior member of council at age 24, is also a lifetime resident of the borough. He is employed by Snavely Lumber Company and is the father of two. Gillham would "like to see council work more closely as a unit with more action and at a faster pace." In key issues he says he has only the community and its betterment at heart.

Oliver Overlander, the incumbent, has been a resident of Marietta for twelve years. He is beginning his third term—two

elected and one appointed. Overlander worked as a housing inspector. He also worked with the fire department and is self employed as a cabinet maker. Overlander says he will look out for the tax payers money, seeing that it is spent wisely and where it will do the most good.

President Jay Roberts is a lifetime resident of the borough. He has served as chairman of the finance committee on Council. He and his wife Karen are the parents of two. Roberts is employed by Catepillar Inc., York.

In addition to vice-president John Reuter, Harold McKain is the remaining council member.

Jack Horner SHOES

Columbia and Mount Joy

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