

Haps
Morans
Jentsch

KLEAN KLOSE SHOP

In the early 1920's, a young man and his wife opened a clothes cleaning shop in Manning. They did not think that Manning would be able to support the business so they offered it for sale. George J. and his wife, Ida M. Dethlefs, bought the business very near the location on Main and Fifth Street where they eventually settled in 1943. This was named Klean Klose Shop. The original equipment was located in a small building behind the shop because of the hazards of gasoline. The equipment consisted of a washer that would hold a couple of men's suits and four or five trousers with just enough gasoline to cover, and an extractor that would spin out excess gasoline. The garments were placed on an ordinary clothes line to dry and then pressed with an iron similar to a steam iron.

At this time prices were 40 cents for trousers, \$1.00 for suits, and 85 cents for a dress. Cleaning fluid was 25 cents a gallon. A press machine was added which made a much nicer looking product.

Shortly thereafter, a cleaning machine that integrated the washer and extractor and that utilized a new cleaning fluid was installed inside the shop. This piece of equipment, along with a tumbler to dry and deodorize clothes and an air cabinet to hang finer garments for drying and deodorizing, modernized the business.

Along with the cleaning of clothes, Ida did all kinds of mending and altering.

Several other cleaning establishments started over the years, but none were as successful as the Klean Klose Shop was for over 50 years.

cleaners-

1931 The Klean Klose Shop now nicely located in its new quarters on Main Street and Fifth Streets, is ever ready to do your work of cleaning and pressing at reasonable prices. This establishment is worthy of recognition during these ~~times~~ times of depression, because it does a lot of saving money for its patrons. It turns old shabby looking clothes into practically new garments, that is, you can't tell the difference when they are returned to you. Their modern, up-to-date equipment works wonders in the line of cleaning and pressing. This is a business that requires experience, because many a delicate piece of goods is brought in to be given the once over that would otherwise not be able to stand the strain. The utmost care is used in the handling of all fabrics and best satisfaction guaranteed. Mr. George J. Dethlefs, owner and manager of this establishment, is an expert in his business, and in order to become more efficient he attends the annual cleaners meetings at which a course of instruction is given to its members by experts. He has nine years of experience during which time he has worked up a wonderful business and people will do well in selecting his establishment for their cleaning and pressing work.

CHANGE IN STYLES, FABRICS, METHODS?

ad in 1956-We've come a long way since 1921; have replaced the old equipment, added new, kept up with the technical advances in the dry cleaning business and completely modernized our plant. pictured:
Kenneth Dethlefs, Marie Rostermundt, Mrs. George Dethlefs, George Dethlefs

- 1899-Chinese laundry, north side of German Savings bank, used to take their white stiff collars to him. But on collars; first they had
(1895) (1895)
celluloid collars and then had linen. (Charley Gruhn, Herb Hinze and
(1890)
Ed Stuhr interview)

Klean Klose Shop (continued)

A son, Kenneth worked with his parents and took over in 1959. Long time employees were Marvin Sander and Marie Rostermundt Nulle. After the death of George, ^y in 1969, Kenneth and his mother, Ida, operated the shop until 1977 when it was sold and eventually demolished for use as a used car lot by Fischer Bros. Chevrolet.

1931 business directory

CRYSTAL THEATRE

All talking pictures. From leading producing companies.

George Dethlefs Sr. J.F. Dethlefs

403 Main Street Phone 68

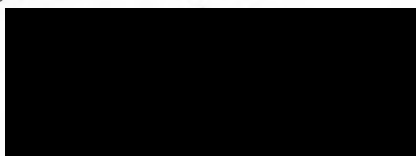
prices: Sunday matinee, adults 35 cents, children 15 cents, nights 50 and 15 ce

1912--good sized crowd enjoys wrestling at crystal theatre

1956: picture of Fred Dethlefs at the door of the Crystal, with the 1913

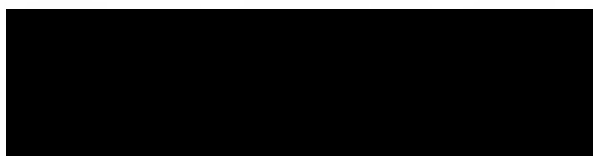
California rodeo advertised.

Mrs. Lucy Voss
(Helen) -



5¢ Admission

Bought, ran for 10 years so
Typic 1912-13 — closed
smaller
than Crystal



weekends
Bruta Wagon

at her times
player piano
trap drums connected

to it
Special on Sunday nite for
Pete Stahl
first show

In the year of 1924 Mr & Mrs Geo
Bethlefs took over the cleaning shop. a young
man & his wife started up just the year before
(learned from man in Cydauk)
they didn't think the town was large enough
to make it worth while, Well we didn't know
enough about the cleaning business, but we were
anxious to learn our equipment wasn't much, a small
washer that held a couple ^{men's} suits & 4 or 5 trs the washer
was then filled with gasoline enough to cover garments
then turned by hand like you would a washing machine
then put into an extractor that spun around to
take out the excess gasoline, then hung out on an
ordinary clothes line to dry. Then we ironed them with
a sort of steam iron but it wasn't long after that we
invested in a press machine which made things look
nicer after a good pressing then along came a cleaning
machine a washer and extractor that we could install inside
our shop, a new kind of cleaning fluid was on the market
and from then on we ~~done~~ ^{done} our cleaning in doors.
We also invested in a tumbler that would heat up and dry
and deodorize the clothes, also a cabinet that we hung dresses
and finer garments to blow dry to keep the wrinkles out.
We done all kinds of mending and altering along with the cleaning
different cleaning shops popped up over the years but we
were the only one that held on over 50 years
Kenneth our son took over in the year 1959
George passed away in the year 1969 from then on we

building
next to
corner

1943
doughnut
corner

Kenneth and his mother staid with it until in
1977 we put everything up for sale and cleared out
now the building is demolished and ~~the~~ the space
is used by the ~~Chico~~ Fischer Bros to display their
used cars the ~~Chico~~ Chevrolet Motors

Prices when we first started way back there in the 20's
were such as 40cts for the 1.00 to 1.25 for a suit
dresses 85 to 1.00 etc cleaning fluid was around
25 to 35 a gal

Crystal T

Herman Pakde had

fashion shows spring & fall

Attlefs bought Lync from
Thomson's

The Crystal Theater began in 1912 under the management of George Dethlefs, Jr and his son Fred. In the same year they purchased the Lyric Theater which was located across the street and where Bob Kuhl eventually had a restaurant and later was part of the site for the Manning Plaza. After one year the Dethlefs closed the Lyric which was ~~a~~ smaller than the Crystal. The ~~remaining~~ other theater at that time was the Colonial. Henry Thompson, who played in a pit orchestra before coming to Manning, and his son operated the Colonial until about 1919. It was located where Savings and Loan is presently. This theater used sidewalk sandwich-boards and mannequins ^{of movie characters} provided by movie companies as part of their ^{gaudy} promotional schemes.

The Crystal survived the early years and remodeled several times. A sloping floor was installed so all patrons could see. After years of hawth using a ladder ^{to climb to a loft and the ticket booth} to operate the projectors, stairways, enclosed projector area and a balcony were added. At the rear of the

building was extended about 50 ft.
~~to accommodate more patrons~~

The theater provided other entertainment
beside movies and was considered
a social and educational contribution
to the young and old of the community.
In an excerpt from a 1912 newspaper
article, a "good sized crowd enjoys
wrestling at ~~the~~ Crystal Theater." Vaudeville
type shows and educational matinees
for school children as well as spring
and fall fashion shows staged by
Herman Fahde helped fill the bill.

Before talking pictures, patrons had to
read the words appearing on the
screen. A player-piano and, sometimes
attached trap-drum set, provided music.
On weekends, however, Bonita Hagedorn
might provide ~~to~~ live piano music.
On for the first show on Sunday
evenings Pete Luhl and his orchestra ^(?)
would play. This was considered
a rehearsal for Pete and his gang.

~~In 1923~~ About 1923, Joe Esycheck
began working at the Crystal. One
of his jobs was sweeping up and
how he hated the "bushels of
peanut shells on the floor."

During the first years,
~~there~~

→ Emil and George Dethlefs along ~~over the years~~ with ^{a few} many other operators, cranked the projectors by hand.

About 1930 the first "talking" movies came to Manning. Emil was in charge of synchronizing the large platter (record) with the film. At this time the American Legion moved from the upstairs rooms of the Crystal so the patrons would not be disturbed by their noise.

At this time the screen was no longer manable, so the use of the stage was discontinued. It took only a few years before the sound was on the film. Joe Eychek operated the projector for years ^{along} with many others, good and bad.

The Crystal remained active under the management of Fred until his death in _____.

— Le Baggis of Chicago attempted to continue providing movies to the people of Manning, but after several years ^{during the 1960s} the theater closed and the building is now ^{the} ^{southern} part of the First National Bank.