

## **A Tour of Main Street: #3700 – Clark and Salyerd - Part 2** By Gordon Youngman and Aaron Fernaays

*Editor's Note: Our tour continues, spotlighting the stores and homes located on the east side of Main Street. The building at #3700 was the site of many businesses and eventually became Walworth Hardware. Part 2 features ownership by Charles Clark and Irvin and Anna Salyerds. Thank you to Gordon Youngman and his grandson, Aaron Fernaays, for sharing their memories and for the time they spent researching and documenting the information about the stores located at 3698 and 3700 Main Street.*



**Left:** Early 1900's: Main Street. Note the gas pump in front of the store to the right and the buggy by the store on the left. In 1972 owners Gordon and Katie Youngman connected these two stores and renamed them Walworth Hardware. WHS file photo

### **The following are excerpts from information documented by Gordon in March 2000:**

On April 21, 1915, the Baker sons sold the business to Charles W. Clark; this also included the home next door. Charles and Mary Clark continued with the business until 1925. However, they were more into the dry goods and groceries as the hardware in the K.O.T.M. building next door was in business at that time.

Sometime in the early 20's the Clarks started to have some financial problems and on April 8, 1925, the property was sold to Irvin and Anna Salyerds. The Salyerds lived in the house north of the store.

Before Irvin came to Walworth he was the first president of the Rochester Motion Picture Exhibitors League. Motion Picture World magazine, dated May 22, 1920, carried an article about him when he was lobbying in Albany for the showing of Sunday movies. It stated that "Little Napoleon" (as he was referred to by his associates) did more than any single person to get the Sunday movie law passed. Irvin died May 18, 1955.

The first I remember of the store was when my mother would send my brother Bill and me to Salyerd's to buy Japanese Tea Girl green tea, as none of the other stores sold that brand. Prior to 1925 an addition had been built on the north side of the building to accommodate the Post Office. After the Salyerds went out of the grocery business, the Post Office was moved to the front of the building. There had been an open stairway a few feet into the store from the front door where one could go to the upper level. I believe it was moved to the back when the Post Office was put up front. On December 4, 1944, Joe Finley purchased the store and the Post Office was moved to Buckley's store to the south.