

placed on the St. Louis & Keokuk Packet Line, but when it was pressed into the Confederate service, some time after, Mr. Leisner went ashore at St. Louis, and found employment in a number of hotels, among them the Olive Street Hotel, Lindell and Planter's House, which he was obliged to leave on account of sickness. Upon recovering his health he came to Hermann with Charles E. White, who opened the White House. In 1871 he opened a restaurant at Kansas City, which in two years he turned over to a brother, and then, returning to Hermann, took charge of the White House Hotel, as manager, under Charles D. Eitzen, administrator of the estate of Gottlieb Rippstein. This hotel is the leading one of the kind at Hermann. In December, 1876, Mr. Leisner married the widow of Gottlieb Rippstein, former proprietor of the hotel, and has since had active control. Under his management it has acquired an excellent reputation. In 1884 he engaged in the furniture business, under the firm name of Begemann, Leisner & Co., and in 1885 he purchased the entire interest of the concern. In 1883 he was elected to the board of town trustees of Hermann, was re-elected in 1884-85, and served as president. In 1885-86 he was a member of the school board, and, besides, has served as director in the Savings Fund Association, Hermann Savings Bank and the Agricultural Society, and, in fact, is recognized as one of the representative citizens of the county.

William F. Leweke, a native of Lippe-Detmold, Germany, in 1838, and when nine years of age came to this country, where he was reared, and where he has followed the occupation of a farmer. In 1859 he married Miss Louise Meyer,