

Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin County Historian

Vol. XVII

5-9-95

No. 18

A & P STORE — CIRCA 1928



Our thanks goes to Richard C. Bloom for the loan of this wonderful interior photo of an A & P store once located on the east side of Main Street in Albion. The picture was taken sometime between 1927 and 1931 and shows two people in the store. To the left we see Louis R. Bloom, the store manager, and to the right his clerk, Isabel Wright Dahlquist. It is of peculiar note that both Mr. Bloom and Miss Wright are actual cut out photos which have been pasted on to the large store picture.

L.R. Bloom and his family first lived near Gasport, N.Y. where he worked a farm on shares. In 1926 he took training to be an A & P store manager at the Medina A & P and in 1927 moved to Albion where he became the manager of the A & P store which is pictured. In 1931 when the larger A & P store opened on the west side of Main Street, he became its manager. At that time there were three

A & P stores which were operating simultaneously in Albion, the two on Main Street and a third one on the North side of East Bank Street managed by Floyd Harmon.

Looking more closely at the picture, we notice how prices have changed over the last sixty-five years or so. Bread is 8¢, Graham Crackers 25¢ a box, Kellogg's Pep Cereal 12¢ a box, Campbell's Beans 12 cans for a \$1.00, Sardines 2 cans for 25¢, Shrimp 15¢ a can, Salmon 16¢ a can, and Mother's Oats 24¢ a canister to mention just a few visible items here.

In 1934 Louis Bloom and his wife June opened a flower shop at their West Bank Street residence. They operated this business off their glassed-in front porch and living room. In the late 1930's after the A & P store closed on the east side of Main Street, the Blooms moved their flower store there. This store front space is currently occupied by the Clip Joint.