

## **Marquette-Welch Building [No. 109 & 107]**

*1874 – Stephen Marquette & Edward N. Welch*

**Welch & Co. Grocery** re-opened before the close of 1874 in No. 107 on the west. Due to health issues, Welch was forced to close the business in 1878, but the building continued to function as a grocery or meat market into the early 1880s. By 1885, William G. Bogert had purchased the building and moved **The Empire Store**, a dry goods business, to this location. It folded after a fire in 1901 and P.C. **Heege's Furniture**, located one door to the east took the opportunity to expand, assuming tenancy of the entire block through 1911. The **Leader Novelty Store**, part of the variety store trend of the early 1900s, then did business here until 1915. A few years

later, the interior was remodeled to accommodate **The Home Bakery**, owned by Louis Fliger, which opened its doors in 1919.

**Marquette Furniture & Undertaking** also re-opened at No. 109 before the end of 1874. Stephen ran into financial difficulties and partnered with his brother, Oliver, who soon became the sole owner. In 1891 when Oliver retired, **Heege & Delany Furniture & Undertaking** moved to this location. P.C. Heege had dabbled in the furniture business for many years and finally made a solid start with Frank Delany as his partner until 1896. Delany sold his interest to Heege who eventually expanded into No. 107 to the west, occupying both floors of the entire block.

In 1911, **Heege's Furniture & Undertaking** moved to larger quarters, making way for

**Ireland's Music Co.** owned by Frank B. Ireland and his talented wife, Lulu, daughter of George Smale. She studied at both the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio and the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, and, for a time, performed with the Smale Sisters. Ireland entered the music business in 1901 in partnership with his father-in-law before establishing his own company. He sold musical instruments and supplies while Lulu provided music lessons. Their successful business continued into the 1930s.