SAN DIEGO

SODA WORKS

By Mike Bryant

an Diego Soda Works opened for business in 1887. Gustav H. Gaedke and A. Seifke were the owners. At that time, the bottling plant was located on L Street. In 1888, Seifke left the business and Gaedke became the sole proprietor and moved the business to 424 Logan Avenue. Gaedke was no stranger to the bottling business having spent ten years prior to opening the San Diego plant working in the various branches of the soda business. Born in 1841 in Germany, Gaedke's family would immigrate to the United States and he would become an American citizen in 1879. In 1885, the Sante Fe Railroad was completed to San Diego

(Image) Circa 1908. Gustav H. Gaedke in Black Suit & Henry on Wagon? 450 Logan Ave

and with that came a multitude of people. San Diego was booming and Gaedke decided to use all the bottling skills he had learned to open his own soda works.

He began by manufacturing sodas, sarsaparilla,ginger ale, champagne cider, iron water and mineral water at his Logan Avenue plant. In 1914, Gaedke sold his business to Caleb W. Hoopes who moved the plant to 1848 Logan Avenue. In 1916, Gustav Gaedke bought back the business and again became the proprietor of San Diego Soda Works. He kept the plant at 1848 Logan Avenue. The soda works then expanded its product line to include

-- SSAN DIEGO SODA WORKS ---

G. GAEDRE & CO. PROPRIETORS

Manufacturers of Soda, Sarsaparilla, Ginger Ale, Champagne Cider, Cider in Kegs, Sarsaparilla and Iron Water, and Mineral Water

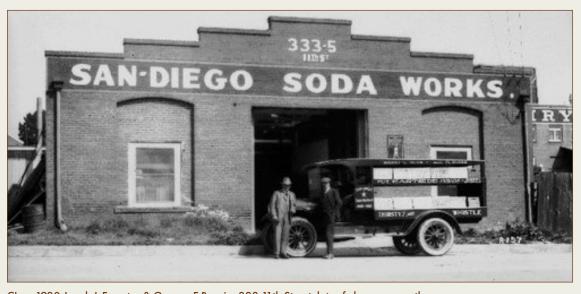
L STREET, BEIWEEN 220 & 23a, SAN DIECO, CAL.

1887 Newspaper Ad, L Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets





Circa 1910 photo with Gustave and Henry Gaedke standing proudly in the doorway



CIrca 1920 Jacob L Foerster & George F Boerig, 333 11th Street, lots of changes over the years

Bludwine, Cherry Cheer, Apple Cider, Orange Cider and seltzers in siphon bottles. Also sold were different kinds of syrups and they would become one of the first bottlers of 7-Up in San Diego.

One of the first employees of the soda works was Gaedke's nephew, also named Gustav H. Gaedke but who went by Henry. Henry was a delivery driver and he died after a long illness in 1917. The death hit the elder Gaedke hard and by 1920, nearing 80 years of age, he decided to sell the business for good. The new proprietors were Jacob L. Foerster and George F. Boehrig. The business was then moved to 333 11th Street.

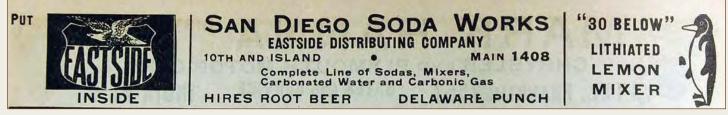
According to Peck & Audie Markota, their book



Seltzer Water offered by the Soda Works



Here are just a few of the different colors and styles of the San Diego Soda Works bottles

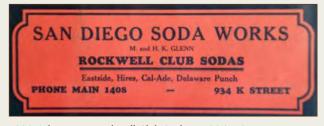


1937 advertisement for 10th and Island streets, now offering Delaware Punch and Hires Root Beer

DATE	LOCATION	PROPRIETORS
1887	L St Btw 22nd & 23rd St	G. Gaedke/A. Seifke
1888	424 Logan Ave	Gustav Gaedke
1908	450 Logan Ave	Gustav Gaedke
1914	1848 Logan Ave	Caleb Hoopes
1916	1848 Logan Ave	Gustav Gaedke
1920	333 11th St	Jacob Foerster/George Boehrig
1922	333 11th St	Edwin A. Corwin
1926	934 K St	Edwin A. Corwin
1929	934 K St	Myra & Harold Glenn
1932	934 K St	Milton C. Anthony
1935	10th & Island St	Milton C. Anthony
1937	10th & Island St	Herbert W. Hurd/Alan T. Baum
1942	1057 14th St	Herbert W. Hurd/Alan T. Baum
1947	40 20th St	Herbert W. Hurd/Alan T. Baum
1962	Out of Business	Herbert W. Hurd/Alan T. Baum

San Diego Soda Works Locations & Proprietors 1887—1962

California Hutchinson Type Soda Bottles, notes that Gustav H. Gaedke, just two months shy of his 82nd birthday, fell and fractured his skull. He passed away on April 29, 1922. Both Gaedkes are buried in Greenwood Cemetery.



1929 Advertising Rockwell Club Sodas at 934 K Street

San Diego Soda Works would relocate and was owned by many different proprietors over the ensuing years. In 1947, Herbert W. Hurd and Alan T. Baum moved it to its final location, 40 20th Street. By 1962, small bottling operations couldn't compete with the likes of Coca-Cola and Pepsi, and San Diego Soda Works went out of business for good.

For us San Diego bottle collectors, the 75 years the business was in operation left us a legacy of highly desirable and sought after bottles which are a highlight of many a great collection.