

## THANKSGIVING DAY

Everyone Should Offer Thanks to God for the Great Blessings Bestowed by Him.

This is Not a Day Set Apart for Gluttonizing but for Thankfulness to Creator.

This is Thanksgiving day and all of us have more than one reason for observing it with due propriety.

When we say due propriety we do not mean, as was customary in the years gone by—to devote the day to gourmandizing and drinking strong liquors. We wish to emphasize the importance of the day from an altogether different point.

Thanksgiving day is no time for kicking over the traces—especially this particular Thanksgiving day. Let the name of the day be symbolic of its realistic significance.

Thanksgiving day—a day in which all should offer thanks to Almighty God for the blessings bestowed upon them. The poorest and the most unfortunate of mankind have at least something to be thankful for, to say nothing of those who loll in the lap of luxury.

This year the European conflict has called many of our young men into service. Americans boys have necessarily been required to assist in subduing the inroads of barbarism and autocracy upon christianity and civilization.

God bless these boys—they have responded to the call. They did not need the whip to line them up—they volunteered. Then let us be thankful for the splendid spirit shown by the sons of freedom.

Again, let us be thankful that we have had an abundant harvest so that we can assist our more unfortunate brothers over there—brothers who have been handicapped in their agricultural pursuits by the bloody feudism of Teutonic invasion.

Let us thank God that our transports have conveyed our troops to Europe without casualty and that the submarine menace has been reduced to a mere bagatelle. Let us thank Him for His protection of our boys in the first-line French trenches, but few of whom have so far succumbed to the enemy attack.

Let us thank Him that we have in President Wilson a man who cannot be coerced into a peace proposition that will permit the kaiser to continue his rule of autocracy and militarism. Let us thank Him that even if the United States has to subdue the German despot singlehanded that aim will be accomplished.

Then, besides thanking him for his blessings let us offer up our prayers for the preservation of the flower of our country—the American soldiers who will bring us victory in the great conflict for setting humanity free from the yoke of slavery and tyranny.

### "The Court of King Cole."

This will constitute a great society event to be given for the benefit of the Red Cross society and will be staged at the armory on Friday and Saturday, December 7 and 8. A big cast of 100 people will participate.

When the curtain rolls up on this local production, theater goers will be surprised to see as beautifully costumed a show as any of the professional productions. From start to finish it will equal the full-fledged professional show.

Mrs. Harriet Purdy Smith, under whose direction the work is progressing, realizes what is wanted by the organization for whom she is working as well as the patrons who pay their money to see a good show, and the result of her efforts will be an able cast from start to finish.

The two Humpty Dumpties, comedians of the piece, will be taken by Messrs. Henry Plaas and Raleigh Herdiska.

Mr. H. A. Garrison plays the juvenile male lead (that of Jack of the Bean stalk fame).

Mr. Mark M. Stroeter has been selected for the King and with his fiddlers three will play no small part under the lime light.

Mr. Lemuel S. Briggs for Sinbad the Sailor, and Dr. Neil A. Stacey and Miss Anita Davis for Jack and Jill. One of the prettiest roles in the piece, that of "Mistress Mary" will be sung by Mrs. S. P. Skahan.

"Little Bo Peep" and Senora falls into the hands of Miss Margarite Byers and Mrs. George Ross, two very capable sopranos. Senor Mora by Mr. Jay Winsor, the Indian Chief and Princess by Mr. Joe Mossman and Miss Ella Stearns, the Minstrel Man

by Mr. K. B. Tarbox. The society stunt, "The Girl from Sherry's," is in the hands of Dr. Stacey and Mrs. S. P. Skahan. The Old Woman in the Shoe by Mrs. George Ross.

One of the musical hits will be a beautiful Indian camp fire scene in which will appear Indian braves and maids in their native costumes.

The way the songs have been arranged is a treat. Many of them have been localized by some local laureate so as to bring out all the events of interest in the district, and every other arrangement has been made to make the play a general success.

(Communicated)

### Mrs. George Ransom.

Mrs. George Ransom passed away on November 21, at Mounds Park sanitarium, St. Paul, whither she had gone to seek the restoration of her health. Even though she was in one of the best sanitariums in the state and was attended by the most skillful physicians and nurses, all human agencies failed to keep her here longer for God wanted her among the redeemed of heaven, freed from her sorrow and pain. In the hospital she was so cheerful that they called her "Sunshine." She wanted to live, which was natural, but was ready to go to her heavenly home.

Mrs. Ransom was born on October 15, 1861, in the town of Princeton, and was married on November 30, 1884, to George Ransom, and they established their home at Amandale, where they lived until 1900, when they came to reside in Mille Lacs county. They returned to Annandale in 1903 and resided there until 1908, when they came back to Princeton township, where Mr. Ransom still lives.

Before Mrs. Ransom assumed the responsibility of a homemaker she had surrendered herself to the Lord and joined the Methodist church, of which she was a faithful and devout member. She was also an active member in the W. C. T. U. Previous to her departure from earth she requested her husband to present each of her nephews and nieces with a new testament as a memento of her love.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:30 o'clock on Sunday by Rev. James A. Geer. These very appropriate hymnal selections were sung by the Methodist quartet. The interment was in Oak Knoll.

Mrs. Ransom is survived by her husband, four brothers and a half-brother, viz., August, Frank, Peter and Otto Henschel and Louis Garrison.

The husband and other relatives take this means of sincerely thanking the friends who so kindly offered their assistance and sympathy in their hour of sorrow.

### Foreston Independent Suspends.

After a six years struggle for existence the Foreston Independent has suspended publication. The field was too limited. The Milaca Times has purchased the Independent's subscription list. Mr. Sheets will move his plant to Clearbrook, Clearwater county, at which place he will continue the publication of the Journal. The Union wishes him success in his new field.

A properly-edited, well-supported prosperous newspaper is a benefit to any community. But a poorly edited hand-to-mouth sheet is a detriment to a town. Fifty per cent of the newspapers published in Minnesota today might suspend publication and the state would be the gainer in every way.

### Worth the Cost of the War.

Here is an extract from President Wilson's speech to the war-savings committee: "I suppose not many fortunate by-products can come out of a war, but if the United States can learn something about saving out of this war it will be worth the cost of the war, I mean the literal cost of it in money and resources. I suppose we have several times over wasted what we are now about to spend. We have not known that there was any limit to our resources; we are now finding out that there may be if we are not careful."

### Both Friend and Foe of Farmer.

Crows do the farmer about as much harm as good, according to the biological survey of the department of agriculture which has completed a monograph on the relation of crows to man. The essential conclusions are that crows are about equally beneficial and injurious, and that they are so wary and sagacious as not to need legal protection. Lack of this, while not endangering the species, will permit farmers to protect their crops or other property whenever necessary.

## CONTRACT AWARDED

C. A. Pogue Company of Grand Rapids Will Construct Forty Miles of the Scenic Highway.

This Road Will Extend From the Sherburne County Line to Onamia, Mille Lacs Co.

The board of county commissioners met on Tuesday and awarded the contract for the actual construction part of the Scenic highway, consisting of 40 miles of state road known as "Minnesota Federal Aid Project No. 3," which will extend from the Sherburne county line to Onamia.

After due consideration the C. A. Pogue company of Grand Rapids, Minn., was awarded the contract at an approximate cost of \$69,000. This company submitted the only bid for completely covering this part of the job, which includes clearing, grubbing, grading, turpiking and offset ditches. There were bidders for sections of this work, but the commissioners decided that a contract from one firm would work out more advantageously, especially when the contract was reasonable.

Mr. Pogue has already begun to gather up a crew of men and expects to do some of the ditching immediately. As far as possible local labor will be employed.

The commissioners have advertised for bids for six bridges, built-in culverts and graving, and will consider such bids on December 18. On January 8 bids for portable culverts, both concrete and metal, will be considered.

Highway Commissioner Babcock, Division Engineer O. L. Kipp, and District Engineer James Gray were present at the letting, and Mr. Kipp gave his personal attention to the drafting of the contract. The believers in and advocates of good roads in the county feel especially grateful to Mr. Babcock for the deep interest he has manifested in this road project; at a great deal of inconvenience and trouble to himself he has in every possible way helped it along. He regards this as one of the most important of the main state highways.

The Union congratulates the county commissioners over the letting of the contract, and we hope that the bridges and culverts and graving contracts will be let on equally advantageous terms to the county on the 18th day of next month.

### Must Secure Licenses.

A federal license is now required in the United States for the legal possession of explosives, any person having explosives and not holding a license therefor being subject to a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for one year.

Only citizens of the United States and friendly countries may obtain licenses. The purchaser of dynamite must state definitely what the explosive is to be used for when obtaining his license, and will be held accountable for its use as stated and the return of that may be left.

With the strict enforcement of this law the federal authorities hope to prevent explosives falling into the hands of evilly disposed persons, and to put a stop to all further dynamite plots.

The director of the federal bureau of mines has appointed Clerk of Court Garrison a licensing officer for Mille Lacs county. Licenses to handle explosives can be obtained for the sum of 25 cents, and applicants have to appear in person and be identified.

### Ireland and Prussian Promises.

Hereunder is the manifesto of the United Irish league of Lowell, Mass.:

As loyal American citizens we are most deeply interested in the cause for which the United States has entered the war, we are utterly and irrevocably opposed to any policy that might injure the United States or her Allies by giving aid or comfort to the enemy, and thereby prolonging the war.

As for any promises of independence for Ireland coming from Germany, with all our souls we denounce them as hypocritical and insincere, but equally to be spurned if they were sincere.

Never in her history has Ireland been arrayed against human freedom, and she would be unworthy of freedom if she lined up with the modern Attila.

Germany is trying to make a catspaw of Ireland, and unfortunately some Irishman are helping her horde of paid agents in that direction.

In commenting thereon the Minneapolis Journal of November 26 had this to say:

That hits the nail squarely on the

head. It is difficult to see how any intelligent man, with the history of Prussian duplicity, bad faith and treachery before him, could possibly suppose that Prussian promises about a free Ireland are worthy of the slightest consideration. The Prussians will promise anything, since they never bother about keeping their promises.

Potsdam is simply trying to make a catspaw of the Irish in precisely the same way it has striven for years to foment trouble and dissension in countries all over the world. That is the Prussian diplomacy. It is expressed in the Latin maxim, "Divide et impera"—divide and rule.

But the sound sense of the Irish people will save them, whatever the hot-heads may do. They have only to agree among themselves on what they want to get it from the British parliament. America is here to help Ireland to this end.

### The Y. M. C. A. Drive in County.

It was expected that Mille Lacs county would raise \$3,000 for the Y. M. C. A. fund. The actual amount contributed is \$2,765.25. E. L. McMillan is chairman and S. S. Peterson treasurer of the county organization. Committees were appointed in each town and village to solicit funds, and the chairman of each town or village committee together with the amount raised is given below:

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Bogus Brook—C. L. Jump           | \$209.25   |
| Borgholm—Carl Ekdahl             | 22.50      |
| Dalby—Frank Robinson             | 67.50      |
| East Side—Peter Schlin           | 51.50      |
| Foreston Village—C. E. Gilbert   | 30.00      |
| Greenbush—Nels Robideau          | 57.00      |
| Hayland—C. W. Wills              | 57.00      |
| Kathio—E. E. Dinwiddie           | 146.50     |
| Isle Village—Chas. Malone        | 120.20     |
| Isle Harbor—Nils B. Berg         | 114.50     |
| Milo—John J. Axell               | 355.50     |
| Milaca—Carl O. Anderson          | 216.25     |
| Milaca Village—J. A. Allen       | 404.30     |
| Mudgett—F. A. Maynard            | 11.75      |
| Onamia Village—F. R. Burrell     | 80.00      |
| Onamia Town—G. H. Carr           | 14.00      |
| Page—Thure Lindberg              | 57.75      |
| Princeton Town—August F. Meyer   | 740.75     |
| Princeton Village—E. L. McMillan | 31.50      |
| South Harbor—F. H. Mann          | 31.50      |
| Wahkon—N. J. Ordeson             | 40.50      |
| Total                            | \$2,765.25 |

The towns of Princeton and Greenbush returned nothing. Milo was the banner town. The sparsely settled towns in the north end of the county did remarkably well, especially the town of Kathio and the enterprising little village of Isle. The largest individual subscriptions were \$25.00 and there were ten or a dozen of them in the village of Princeton. All things considered the showing for the county as a whole is fairly good. The Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus are doing a great work for our soldier boys at home and abroad, and those who contribute to either of these organizations can rest assured that the money will be well and wisely expended.

### Bright Wits in Crime.

Automobile stealing, it appears, has been advanced to a place among the polite professions in the world of crime. Merely to step into another man's car and drive away with it, taking all the chances, has now become an anachronism and crudeness. It is no longer done in the best grand larceny circles. The genteel purloiner now sizes up skillfully the vehicle he wants, as to cylinders, horsepower and other points of technical interest, files his ownership papers, takes out his license and, if stopped by the police, produces indignation and the official documents.

It has long been a matter of note that the safe robber of highest degree and the counterfeiter of fullest accomplishment bring to their purposes talents which would serve them in legitimate application exceptionally well. Ranking below these operators in genius, the new motor car thief displays yet an acumen and a smoothness in business execution which should make him as a straight man of affairs generally valuable.

All these performers, refusing to work honestly for sure and sufficient compensation, work much harder for the uncertain returns and ever present perils of crookedness. They make manifest a curious paradox of crime. They are not explained wholly by theories of a stunted spirit of adventure and a higher temperamental love for the risks of the game. Perhaps the law, to meet them effectively, should hold them to punitive account in measures proportioned less to arbitrary degrees of crime than to proved wastes of natural gifts.—New York World.

### Federal Potato Estimate.

The 1917 potato crop is estimated at 453,000,000 bushels, or half again as much as last year. More than 750,000 cars will be needed to handle the crop.

## MEETS TRAGIC, END

Andrew Mattson of Blue Hill is Instantly Crushed to Death While Operating Ditching Machine.

Young Man Slips From Beam and His Clothing Becomes Entangled in a Swiftly Revolving Shaft.

Andrew Mattson, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Mattson of Blue Hill, was on Monday instantaneously deprived of life while operating a ditching machine.

It appears that about 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the day named young Mattson was walking across the beam of the ditching machine while it was in operation when he slipped and fell over the shaft. His clothing became entangled in the rapidly revolving machinery and he was instantly crushed to death.

His skull was badly fractured, the right leg broken in two places, the left leg and right arm fractured, and the body badly bruised.

Andrew Mattson was 22 years of age and an industrious young man who was highly respected by his neighbors. It is to be regretted that he was cut down in his youth by so tragic an event, but all that the good friends of the family can offer to them is their sincere sympathy in the hour of their sorrow.

The unfortunate young man is survived by his father, mother, one brother and three sisters.

Funeral services will be held this afternoon from the family home and the interment will be in the Blue Hill cemetery. Rev. C. Larson will officiate at the obsequies.

### German Schools in Minnesota.

The following editorial from the Minneapolis Journal is self explanatory:

The Public Safety commission reports that more than ten thousand Minnesota children are now receiving instruction in two hundred private schools where no other language than German is used.

This is a condition that should not be permitted to continue another day. These future citizens are being deprived of the Americanizing influence of school life to which they are entitled, and which it is important to the state that they should have.

They are being reared in a foreign atmosphere, and the almost insuperable barrier of an enemy language is being interposed between them and the attainment of a broad and intelligent Americanism. Though living in America, and owing to America the liberties and opportunities they and their parents freely enjoy, they are encouraged to remain German in thought, character and spirit.

It is doubtless due to an alien education of this sort that there is so much indurated bigotry and persistent misunderstanding of the great questions of the day in certain Minnesota communities largely settled by those of German origin.

The failure of some of those who have come from Germany to absorb a staunch Americanism is understandable in view of their education in the thought and principles of the autocracy that rules their fatherland. But the second generation is different. There is no excuse for an educational particularism that keeps it ignorant of the American language, of the American institutions, and of the American spirit.

This war has demonstrated that there must be an end of little Germanisms—or little European countries of any sort—in this country. The melting pot must function. The school must do its appointed work of laying the foundations broad and deep for a sound and loyal citizenship.

### The Old Style and the New.

"The right honorable gentleman is indebted to his memory for his jests, and to his imagination for the facts."—Sheridan.

"England expects every man to do his duty."—Lord Nelson.

"The attacks on me make me feel as if I were crossing the channel in a storm on a small destroyer."—Lloyd George.

"We expect every tank to do its damndest."—General Byng (with a bang).

### Ought to Become a Benedict.

W. W. Shulean, the popular banker of Isanti, was a visitor in our city Saturday afternoon of last week. When he arrived home he had a large sign, "Just Married," pinned on his car. He knew nothing of it and when his friends congratulated him, wishing

him a long and happy married life and wished to know whom the lucky one could be, he was bewildered, almost believing he had been married and knew nothing of it. It was all cleared, however, when he discovered the tag on his automobile. This tag had been on the auto of a bridal party which had been in Cambridge at the time he had been in town.—Cambridge North Star.

### Articles Shipped by Red Cross.

The list which follows gives the number of finished articles shipped from the headquarters here in Princeton of the Mille Lacs county chapter of the Red Cross society since its establishment the latter part of August.

The auxiliaries at Milaca and Onamia send their articles here where they are packed and sent to the headquarters of the northern division in Minneapolis. There they are again repacked and sent to the points where they are most needed.

An auxiliary has been established at Foreston and there will undoubtedly soon be contributions from that place as the women are always eager to get to work.

This list of finished articles is surely a very creditable one and shows the results of many hours of toil and application on the part of the women and girls of our county.

Too much praise cannot be given to the self-sacrificing women who have charge of the work rooms. As the work is under government control a great deal of responsibility rests upon them, and they put in many hours of the week besides those actually devoted to the time the work rooms are open to the public. The faithful ones who are in charge of our local room here have given almost their entire time to the work during the past three months.

Anybody familiar with the cost of material has only to glance over this list to see that it also represents a good-sized expenditure of money.

Each branch raises the money to pay for the material used in the articles it sends out and it keeps the committees busy devising ways and means of raising money.

Are you "doing your bit" by contributing whenever you can?

This is a good showing for a chapter just getting started, but we must make the showing better and better for the demand for everything grows more urgent as the awful war progresses, and surely we, staying comfortably at home, cannot be happy unless we are striving our utmost to do all we can to make life more bearable for the brave boys who have gone to fight our battles for us.

Join the Red Cross now and do everything in your power to support it if you are not already doing so. The articles furnished:

Hospital supplies—Princeton sent 6 hotwater bottle covers, 12 wash cloths, 32 shoulder wraps, 41 pajama suits, 24 pair bed socks, 50 bed shirts, 18 pair leggings; Onamia, 18 shoulder wraps, 24 pajama suits, 42 pair bed socks, 12 bed shirts; Milaca, 13 shoulder wraps, 22 pajama suits, 36 pair bed socks, 18 bed shirts, 11 pair leggings.

Knitted articles—Princeton sent 55 mufflers, 87 pair socks, 103 pair wristlets, 93 sweaters, 17 helmets; Onamia, 7 mufflers, 15 pair socks, 1 pair wristlets, 5 sweaters, 2 helmets; Milaca, 32 mufflers, 64 pair socks, 26 pair wristlets, 64 sweaters, 1 helmet.

### Princeton Potato Market.

This week not much can be said of the potato market here. "Dead flat" covers the situation. A load now and then has been brought to market during the week, but many of the buyers have temporarily closed their warehouses.

While the same range of prices prevails as quoted by us last week, the outside demand amounts to practically nothing and buyers tell us that there is no apparent relief in sight.

The majority of the farmers have stored their potatoes in their cellars and are in no hurry to release them.

Three cars constituted the week's shipments.

### Liberty Loan Literature.

Copies of the Liberty Loan Source Book, Liberty Loan Primers, and other Liberty Loan literature can be obtained upon request from the chairmen of the liberty loan committees of the various federal reserve districts or from the federal reserve banks.

### As to Drafted Men.

Provost Marshal General Crowder has issued orders that after December 15 no draft registrant will be permitted to enlist. All those enlisting before this date will be exempt from the draft.