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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

(2)

EAST MINNEAPOLIS NEWS

W. R. C. CHRISTMAS PARTY

NEW OFFICERS OF G. A. R. POST JOIN WOMEN AT HOLIDAY SUPPER.

A fair was held by Dudley P. Chase Post Woman's Relief Corps, at K. P. hall, Tuesday afternoon and evening, and the event proved most successful. Flags and buntings decorated the hall attractively and the booths were filled with the fancy and useful articles which the women have made during the year at the thimble bees. In the evening the women served a sumptuous New England supper and there were over two hundred guests during the evening. Dec. 20 a large campfire will be given by the members of Dudley P. Chase corps and Department Commander Harrison White of Luverne, Minn., will be the honor guest of the evening.

The officers of the post are elected for the coming year in the following order: Post commander, A. W. Dean; senior vice commander, J. W. Peaslee; surgeon, George T. Morris; chaplain, C. L. Davis; quartermaster, I. W. Cohen; adjutant, George B. Arnold; officer of the day, S. A. Davis; officer of the guard, M. B. Curtiss. S. A. Davis, M. B. Curtis and Thomas Maher were appointed delegates to the department encampment, which will be held in St. Paul in March.

Mrs. C. De Ette Smith is the president of the Relief Corps; Mrs. Velora West, senior vice president; Mrs. Mary E. Pratt, junior vice president; Mrs. Agnes C. Davis, treasurer; Mrs. Mary E. Cooper, chaplain; Mrs. Sadie Byers, conductress; Mrs. Gertrude Richardson, guide. The delegates who were appointed to the department convention are Mmes. Cone, Church, Valentine, Mead and Taylor.

SUBURB NEEDS A SCHOOL

SMALL CHILDREN MUST STUDY NEARER HOME— FOURTEEN BLOCKS TOO LONG A WALK.

A committee of energetic citizens of Glencar, composed of J. D. Elwell, C. J. Allbright, S. E. Johnson, and H. Wennerstrom, and W. B. Morris, superintendent of Andrew church and Glencar Sunday schools, conferred with the board of education Tuesday afternoon, petitioning the board to install a public school system for the first and second grades at Glencar. The new Glencar chapel will be finished in rough by the Christmas holidays, and the committee proposed to have the rooms used after that for schoolrooms. Mr. Allbright proved to the satisfaction of the board that there are over seventy-five school children in that district, all under 10 years of age, and that nearly all of them have to walk fourteen blocks to the Tuttle school. After the addition to Glencar chapel is built, there will be room for 100 children. Superintendent C. M. Jordan stated that the Tuttle school was crowded to the limit, and that hte plan of the Glencar committee if carried out and approved of by the authorities would greatly relieve the condition. The matter was referred to the building committee of the board, and will be taken up for further consideration at the next meeting.

Tuesday evening, the Glencar Improvement league listened to a report on the proposed incandescent lights for the streets and received the assurance that the lights would be up in about three weeks. The question of securing the removal of questionable advertising boards was also taken up by the meeting, and steps will be taken in regard to it. As it is too late now to do anything in the proposed sewer question on Twenty-fifth avenue SE, the meeting made its plans for an early spring campaign on the sanitary improvement.

New Officers for Court and Council

Itasca council held its annual meeting Tuesday evening and elected the following officers: Regent, Dell Higgins; vice regent, Dr. Wade; past vice regent, G. L. Dingman, secretary, L. M. Sage; collector, E. E. Haw; treasurer, L. J. K. Rutherford; O., Mr. Morrison; chaplin, Charles Mane; guide, Walter Scott; warden, B. Northfield; sentinel, Mr. Williams; representative to the grand lodge, G. L. Dingman; trustee, F. E. Habbo.

The Ladies' Royal court, No. 4, of Itasca council, also elected the officers at their regular meeting Dec. 13, and the following are to serve for the coming year: Mrs. E. E. Haw was elected to represent at the supreme court and Mrs. B. Northfield as alternate; royal princess, Mrs. W. Mitchell; past royal princess, Mrs. Tasker; lady peeress, Mrs. Wade; lady exchequer, Mrs. B. Northfield; lady recorder, Mrs. McCord; lady of ceremonies, Miss Brede; lady councillors, Mmes. Mane and Sherman; royal guardian, Mrs. William White; lady sentinel, Mrs. Gilliam.

Hunters After Foreign Game

L. S. Gillette of Fifth street SE, John F. Wilcox of Sixth street SE; F. W. Clifford and John Birkholz of the Lake Emily Gun club, have gone on a shooting trip to Arkansas, the Indian territory and other points to hunt for quail and wild turkey. After spending some time there they will go as far as the Gulf of Mexico. John H. Rich of Red Wing and Joe Clifford of Grand Forks, N. D., have joined them on the trip. The club is one of the smaller clubs and has been in existence for about a year with its pretty clubhouse on the shore of Lake Emily in the northern part of the state. Its other members are George M. Gillette, E. Mapes, F. C. Todd, J. L. Record, A. C. Paul, S. W. Rankin.

If in a Hurry—Telephone the East Minneapolis Livery for a carriage.

SOME OF THE MEN WHO FATHERED THE GROWTH OF EAST MINNEAPOLIS

Christmas in Minneapolis fifty years ago was not quite as elaborate an affair as it is nowadays, and the early settlers remember distinctly that there were times when East Minneapolis was nothing but a pretty woodland scene, with small frame stores and with but just a small colony of pioneer settlers to celebrate Yuletide. For some time business men held undisputed monopoly in East Minneapolis, then came a change and the west end of the city became a rival in popularity. Thru the constant efforts of the more progressive business men, who would not allow trade to slip away from their hands, East Minneapolis has held her own, and of late business is coming back and is constantly increasing. There is more activity in building, new stores are constantly put up, dwellinghouses are built southeast and northeast of the river and everything which prophesies progress and prosperity is here. "Business is coming back to this side of the river," said one of the leading merchants, and so it is. With the continual growth of the university district and its ever-increasing population, and with the many municipal improvements, business is bound to be good, and in trading and business circles the outlook for the year of 1905 is considered the very best. Of the prominent men who have lived in East Minneapolis, none is, perhaps, better known than J. H. Chase and Gotlieb Schober. Mr. Chase has resided for nearly fifty years in Southeast Minneapolis, while the Schober family has been one of the most prominent residing in Northeast Minneapolis.

Gotlieb Schober is president of the Phoenix flourmill, and came to New York in 1854, and on Feb. 28, 1905, he will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his arrival in the United States. May 7 of the new year will mark the fiftieth year of his residence in the state of Minnesota. It took Gotlieb Schober seventy days to make the trip, coming across the Atlantic on a sailing vessel; while he still clings with great affection to the "fatherland," he declares that it will take a great many more days than seventy to ever make him leave it. When he arrived in St. Anthony he remained but a short time. Three times he left for other fields, but every time, like the proverbial cat "he came back." From St. Anthony Mr. Schober went to Maple Grove, where he took up a claim, remaining there until 1860. Waconia, Carver county, was the next place chosen by him. A miller by trade, he followed that line of business in Waconia for one year, and in 1861 he returned to St. Anthony; for three years he worked in St. Anthony with the milling firm of Morrison & Prescott. He then went to Sparta, Wis., working in one of the mills, but in 1865 he wended his way back to St. Anthony. Mr. Schober and Carl Stamwitz went into partnership at that time and bought the St. Anthony mill of Thomas Noble. In 1870 the two bought a half interest in the then well-known People's mill, and in 1872 the second half interest in the mill was bought by the firm of Stamwitz & Schober.

[illegible] SE.
An East Side Pioneer, Who Has Lived to See a Great City Spring Up.

GOTLIEB SCHOBER,
President Phoenix Mill Co., a Prominent East Side Manufacturing Firm.

C. W. MENEILLEY,
A Well-Known Merchant on Fourteenth Avenue SE.

The Phoenix mill was built in 1875 with five runs of stone and in 1880 the mill was remodelled on the plan of the roller mill system, in 1893 the articles of incorporation of the Phoenix Mill Company, with Gotlieb Schober as president, were filed. In 1895 the mill was again rebuilt, entirely new machinery was put in with a capacity of 500 barrels per day, which has been increased to 700 barrels. The general office of the company was moved in 1899 to the Godfrey block, corner of Third street and Fourth avenue SE. Thirty men are steadily employed in the mill. The greater part of the output is used for the home demand, altho regular shipments are made to New York, New England, Pennsylvania and other states all over the country. Holland, Germany and England are also supplied regularly from the Phoenix mill. The firm is one of the oldest in the city, and Mr. Schober has been with the firm since 1865. The mill is one of the best-equipped in the country and the famous Phoenix flour finds a ready market in two worlds.

A Southeast Minneapolis Pioneer.

Josiah H. Chase claims Minnesota his home since 1856, for it was during that year that he came to Olmsted county, Minnesota. He took up a claim of 160 acres in Mower county and in August in 1856 he moved into St. Anthony, which is now Minneapolis. Mr. Chase is a native of Kingston, N. H., and was born in that eastern city on Sept. 30, 1830. He spent several years in Boston before coming to Minnesota, and acquired a thoro knowledge of the dry goods trade, working in one of the most up-to-date clothing stores. It was while in Boston that the emigration fever for the western states took hold of the young clerk and he started out for Minnesota in the fifties. In the spring following his arrival he purchased, in company with S. A. Lewis, a stock of boots and shoes, and for several months the two men operated a shoe shop. A few months later the firm added to their already fine stock, an additional stock of general merchandise. After two years Mr. Chase bought out his partner and continued alone in business. In 1861 he gave up the dry goods business department but continued to deal in shoes and ready-made clothing. A disastrous fire ruined his business, burnt out his entire stock, and forced him to look for new quarters. He immediately located on Main street and in 1873 he erected the business building on the corner of Second street and Central avenue, which he has occupied since that time; and where now the well-known firm of J. H. Chase & Son does a splendid business in men's and boys' furnishing goods. Mr. Chase is the oldest clothing dealer in the city, and has gone thru the different stages of the development of the East Side. His home is on University avenue, beautifully located, and facing the University campus. He is nearing the fiftieth year of his residence in Minnesota and has full claim to the title of being a pioneer resident.

Pushed Growth of Fourteenth Av SE.

C. W. Meneilley, the Fourteenth avenue SE merchant, has been on a perfect zig-zag trail on that handsome business street, for ever since he opened his first store, he has been on a constant move from corner to corner, until now he is finally settled in the Meneilley block, the choicest business corner on Fourth street and Fourteenth avenue SE. Mr. Meneilley opened the first grocery store on Fourteenth avenue in 1886. His place, like the other four places, was small and unpretentious, for at that time the population around Fourteenth avenue was not so numerous as to warrant very many or very large stores. Of the four stores, only Meneilley's is in existence now; J. P. Gilmore's drugstore, D. F. Felt's meat market and another grocery firm were all in a row. The Meneilley enterprise must have been the most successful one, as it has outlived all the others. Mr. Meneilley's first store was at 407 Fourteenth avenue SE; from 407 he moved to 403. That location did not prove suitable. Business increased and demanded a larger store, but there was no other building for the purpose, and so the firm of Meneilley had to be satisfied to enlarge its store. In 1889 Mr. Meneilley once more caught the improvement fever and moved from the location he then occupied to 419 Fourteenth avenue SE. He remained there until about two years ago, when he built the handsome large block on Fourteenth avenue and Fourth street.

In Mr. Meneilley the University district has one of the most progressive business men, and one who is constantly interested in the promotion of interests of that locality. At the time he commenced business there, the outlook was far from encouraging. People had become accustomed to go across the river for everything good in the grocery line. But Mr. Meneilley, after discovering that the sale of pecks of potatoes, laundry soap and kerosene oil was not sufficient to build up his business, set to work and furnished the best to his customers. The effect was quite magic. Fair housekeepers after a short time were perfectly willing to be weaned from the stores across the river, the cooks found the place delightful to trade, for the best in every line and always attentive and courteous treatment worked wonders, and today Mr. Meneilley holds a complete monopoly and is king in his district. The store is one of the finest arranged and is kept immaculately clean. Mr. Meneilley himself keeps his eyes on the smallest detail pertaining to the merchandise. From nine to fourteen men are employed off and on, as the season demands. The groceries, fancy stuff and greengoods are all kept in separate cases prettily arranged in the store. The store proper is 44 by 55 feet and has 60 feet of plate glass front windows. Mr. Meneilley was instrumental in the movement for the paving of Fourteenth avenue SE, and matters demanding the generous support of citizens interested in furthering the municipal interests are always generously supported by him.

TALK OF IMPROVEMENTS

NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS LEAGUE CALLS ANNUAL MEETING EARLY IN JANUARY.

Preparations for the spring campaign of improving Northeast Minneapolis are about to be made. The annual meeting of the Northeast Minneapolis Improvement league has been called for Tuesday, Jan. 3, and will be held in the Sunday school rooms of the Loyalty Baptist church at 8 o'clock. Men who have lived in the vicinity of Northeast Minneapolis for many years and who have the growth and improvement of that section of the city at heart, are at present at the head of the league, and the election of officers will undoubtedly result in the re-election of many. At the meeting a program of music will intersperse the discussions of importance as to the future needs of Northeast Minneapolis, and several prominent speakers will be invited to be present to talk.

The present officers of the league are: President, Dr. C. A. Kelsey; vice president, G. T. Kletzen; secretary and treasurer, Dan C. Brown, who was recently appointed controller of the treasury; the executive committee, M. B. Lloyd, Aaron Carlson, E. M. Anderson, G. Larson, B. B. Utter, H. Hendrickson and J. W. Larson.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE EAST SIDE CHURCHES

Congregational.

COMO AVENUE.

Prelude, "Christmas Pastorale," Merkel, Mrs. Pearl Fritz Pettis, organist.
Anthem, "Be Not Afraid," Addison Andrews, the choir, Mrs. Edna Pettis Hewitt, Miss Jewel Wolfgang, sopranos; Miss Bertha Kamara, Mrs. A. C. Booth, altos; Clarance MacDonald, James Furber, tenors; F. G. Pettis, Percy Long, basses.
Trio, ladies' voices, "Listen," J. Weise; Hughes.
Solo, "Christmas Song," with violin obligato, Adams.
Anthem, "Calm on the Listening Ear," Ashford.
Offertory, two violins, "Andante."
Soprano solo, Mrs. Melva Kamrar Furber.
Postlude, "March Pontificale," J. Lemmeur.

FIRST.

Morning services
Cantata, "Message of the Star," Woodman, sung by a double quartet; soloists, Mrs. Weisboon soprano, Miss Schacht alto, Mr. Weisboon basso, Trafford Jayne tenor.
Solo selections by the church quartet.

OPEN DOOR.

Musical program morning and evening, the full choir; solos, Dr. J. G. Annand; Miss Eva O'Brien, organist.

Episcopal.

HOLY TRINITY.

Christmas Day service at 10:30 o'clock. Musical program by the vested choir of forty-five men and boys, O. B. Bass, organist and choirmaster. Processional hymn, "O, Come, All Ye Faithful"; "Choral Service," Tallis; "Venite and Gloria," Robinson; "Te Deum in E Flat," Paul More; "Benedictus," from service in E flat, Woodward; "Gloria in Excelsis," twelfth mass, Mozart; "Kyrie," Winter; "Gloria Tibi," Monk; hymn, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," Mendelssohn; ascription, "Thou Art Worthy, O Lord, to Receive Glory," Gilbert; offertorium, "The Hymn of the Angels," J. E. West; presentation, "Holy Offerings, Rich and Rare," Redhead; recessional hymn, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," Willis.

Baptists.

OLIVET.

Special Christmas musical service, given by a double quartet. Mrs. Larson and Miss Bowler, sopranos; Misses Soares and Smith, altos; Messrs. Quackenbush and Bowler, tenors; Messrs. Hartson and Young, bassos. N. P. Stewart, organist and director.
Anthem, "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart," Whitby.
Anthem, "Hallelujah, Fairest Morning," Pontius.
Duet, soprano and alto, "The Lord Is My Shepherd," Smart. (Paraphrase of the Twenty-second Psalm.)
Anthem, "Te Deum in C," Custance.
Sermon, Rev. Frank Cooper.

LOYALTY.

Sermon by the pastor, "When the Fullness of Time Came, God Sent Forth His Son."
Anthem, "Rise Ye, Jehovah" (Marcg Pontifical), Gounod.
"Royal the Song," C. Harold Lowden.
"Jesus Is Born," Herbert J. Lacey.
"Good News," Lacey.
"When Summer Flowers Sleep" (primary department), W. S. Post.
"A Dream of Paradise," Hamilton Gray, Miss Dorothy Douglas.
"Christmas Song," Adolph Adam, Miss Susan Shield.
Trombone solo, R. S. G. Cleaveland.

Lutheran.

SWEDISH EVANGELICAL EMMANUEL.

Christmas morning service at 5 o'clock.
Organ solo, "Preludium," Schubert, Axel Wallin.
Song, "The Greetings by the Angels," O. H. Gabriel, the choir, soloists, Miss Anna Carlson and C. A. Berg.
Sermon by Rev. O. A. Nelson.
Song, "Praise Glory in the Highest," R. Larson, the choir, soloists, A. Rydberg, Miss Anna Carlson and C. A. Berg.
Organ solo, "Gloria from Twelfth Mass," Mozart, Axel Wallin, organist.
"Glorie to God," the choir.

ST. JOHN'S GERMAN LUTHERAN.

Christmas Day services at 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Hallelujah, choir of ten voices; soloist Miss Clara Kriedman; R. Heideman, organist.
Sermon, "Christ, the New-Born Babe," Rev. P. C. Dowidat.
Children's service at 5 o'clock p.m.
Recitative, solos and songs; soloists, Lilli Miller and Lizzie Radtke.
Organ prelude, "Golden Hours," Karl Marts, Miss Clara Zell.
Services Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

NORTHEAST MINNEAPOLIS SWEDISH MISSION.

Services will be held at the church at 5 o'clock a.m. and at 7:30 o'clock p.m. Christmas Day.
Rev. C. Y. Bowman will preach.
The choir and a male quartet, directed by the organist, J. Burns, will sing at both services.

Special Christmas Rates to Eastern Canada.
Via Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic Railway.

From Duluth to

London, Ont., and return	$17.10
Woodstock, Ont., and return	17.95
Owen Sound, Ont., and return	18.00
Collingwood, Ont., and return	18.00
Toronto, Ont., and return	18.00
Kingston, Ont., and return	22.00
Prescott, Ont., and return	22.00
Ottawa, Ont., and return	22.00
Montreal, Que., and return	22.50
Quebec, Que., and return	26.00
St. John, N. B., and return	33.50

Proportionate rates to intermediate points in Canada. Tickets on sale Dec. 14, 15, 16 and 17. Final return limit, Jan. 10, 1905.
Mart Adson, General Agent,
430 Spalding Hotel Block, Duluth, Minn.

Holiday Excursion Rates

To eastern and Canadian points via Chicago Great Western Railway. Tickets on sale to Dec. 22. Good returning Jan. 12. For further information apply to R. H. Heard, Gen'l Agent, corner Nicollet avenue and 5th St. Minneapolis.

Social Affairs

Mrs. Ralph Parker was given a charming surprise party at her new home on Sixth avenue and Seventh street SE. Mrs. Parker has just moved into the new house and twelve of her East Side friends contrived a plate shower as a surprise for her. Cards were played during the afternoon and refreshments were served.

Miss Laura E. Klein is the guest of Mrs. George A. Rose at her home on Ninth avenue SE. Miss Klein came from Mankato to spend a week before the Christmas holidays, and during her visit Mrs. Rose will entertain at several informal theater parties for her.

Dr. and Mrs. Harry M. Loughridge gave an informal dinner last night at their home on Park avenue for Mrs. Florence Lane Knoblauch, whose marriage to Hubert J. Nice of St. Paul takes place at the East Side home of Mrs. Knoblauch's parents next Wednesday.

The Young Ladies Sodality of St. Anthony church gave a very delightful evening at home at the residence of Mrs. C. E. Fenton on Monroe street NE, Tuesday evening, entertaining about seventy-five guests at a program of music, including vocal and instrumental solos and readings. At the close refreshments were served.

Mrs. G. M. Gillette of Tenth avenue SE is planning to entertain during the Christmas holidays for the young people who are to come home from college for the vacation. Miss Grace Gillette will come home from Wells, Saturday, and definite plans for a Christmas party will then be made.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Louis Glueck has returned from a several weeks' trip in Chicago and St. Louis, where he attended the exposition.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Scandret have gone to southern California, after visiting their son and daughter at their home on Adams street for several weeks.

Miss Anna L. Stromberg has gone to Toronto, Can., to spend the Christmas holidays with relatives. She will return to her home in Northeast Minneapolis Jan. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Barrows of Fourth street SE are at the Salisburys until their departure for a sojourn either in California or in the south.

A. D. Robbins and family of Robbinsdale have taken the F. C. Barrows house on Fourth street SE and will occupy it today.

Christmas Display.—Glessner & Washburn, Central avenue, will show everything pertaining to housekeeping and furnishings and show beautiful Christmas gifts.

Recognized as Leaders.—In the wholesale lumber business is the firm of Webster & Whipple.

Spring Graduation Plans

The Minneapolis Business college will close for one week's Christmas vacation Friday afternoon, Jan. 2 the new term will commence and already 300 students have enrolled, this is a large addition to the class which numbers already 260. The close of the term will be the occasion of very elaborate graduation exercises early in March. Messrs. Boyce and Rugg will have one of the theaters for the event and a number of prominent educational speakers will be on the program of addresses to be given at the exercises.

What Better—To drink than the brew from Gluek's Brewing company?

Do You Like Ices?—Try them from the Ives Ice Cream company.

JOIN WINNIPEG JUNKET

A number of well-known Minneapolis business men will leave Friday night with the real estate board for Winnipeg. In the party will be W. B. Boardman, Fred B. Chute and Fred E. Barney. All three represent the interests of three leading East Minneapolis firms. Mr. Boardman is one of the members of the firm of P. D. McMillan & Co.; Mr. Chute is with Chute Brothers Real Estate Co., and Mr. Barney is one of the Barney Real Estate & Insurance Co. The Winnipeg real estate men will entertain the visitors from St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth, and a pleasant time is expected. Two days will be spent in Winnipeg.

Easily Acquired.—Plain Roman heavy solid gold cuff links, $3.50, with no charges for engraving monograms. It's almost like finding gold on the street, so cheap. Charles Olson & Co., 215 Central avenue.

VETERAN FIGHTERS OF FIRES

CAPTAIN GEORGE MARDEN,
Captain Engine Company No. 12, Minneapolis Fire Department.

GEORGE F. WILSON,
A Veteran Minneapolis Fireman, Long Stationed on the East Side.

W. M. TREAGER,
A Veteran East Side Fireman; on Duty at Station C.

H. H. THOMPSON,
Captain Engine Company 15, and an East Side Veteran.

S. B. WILSON,
Station A, Minneapolis Fire Department.

East Minneapolis is fortunate to be under the protection of six splendidly equipped fire stations, and the praise of the men who have risked their lives over and over again to protect lives and property from the ravages of flames cannot be sung too often. The close vicinity of the milling districts, large lumber yards and factories make it absolutely imperative that the best means of combatting with fire should be at hand. It is a relief to know that the men in charge of the companies have stood the test and have gained thru almost a life service experiences to cope with almost any calamity. There is a pension fund for all firemen who have been in the service for twenty years and over, and who have reached the age of 50 years. While not all are 50 years old, there are a great number who are nearing the twenty years' service limit, or who have already passed it. The six enginehouses of the East department of the city are on Main street and Thirteenth avenue NE, station 2; on Seventh street SE and Eighth avenue, station 9; on Prince street, one block off Central avenue, station 11; on Jackson street and Summer street, station 15, and on University avenue and Oak street, station 19. All of the enginehouses are modern in equipments, and everybody familiar with the workings of a fire engine appreciates the fact that it takes less than one minute for chemicals, hook and ladder, horses and men to make an exit from the enginehouses.

Captain William Treager of the hook and ladder company No. 2, has been in the service of the Minneapolis fire department for nineteen years and another year's service will entitle him to the pension as far as time is concerned, altho he will not reach the required golden age of 50 for another few years. He joined the volunteer fire department in 1876, he was with the call department when it was organized, and in 1886 he was promoted to be captain and assigned to duty with truck 2. During his long service with the department, Captain Treager has had numerous calls to show what courage and pluck means in a calamity. Captain Treager reports an increase in the fires on the east side of the city. Last year there were 136 fires and up to the present time the company has been called out to 181 fires. There are twenty-two men in the company. Captain Hamilton, who, with his company, occupies the quarters on Prince street, has been with engine company No. 11 since 1887. He is another of the old timers, having been in the service since 1885, when he was first appointed by Chief Stetson. Next year he will also celebrate his twentieth anniversary as a fire-fighter.

Captain Sidney B. Wilson has been in the business since he was a lad of scarcely twenty years. During his early days he changed about from the fire department to a grocery store, but the call to join the ranks of the brave could not be resisted, and in 1877 he was appointed driver of hose cart No. 1. For two years there was a break in his career and in September, 1885, he reentered the department. In 1889 he was made captain of engine company No. 15; in 1892 he was transferred to chemical No. 1 as captain, and in 1895 he was again transferred as captain to company No. 15, and he is now with engine company No. 9. He is one of the oldest firemen now stationed on the East Side.

Captain George F. Wilson, who is now in command of the engine company N. 9, has been with the fire department since 1887; for five years he was ladderman with truck 2, later he was assigned to truck 4. This was followed by promotion as lieutenant of engine company No. 9, and when Chief Canterbury came into office he was made captain of No. 9.

A familiar figure to the residents of East Minneapolis, by reason of his long connection with the fire department, is Captain Henry H. Thompson of engine company No. 15. He joined the department in 1882, served at chemical engine No. 1 under Captain Henry Williams. He was lieutenant of hose company No. 13, became captain of chemical No. 5 in 1888. From engine company No. 13 he was transferred to chemical No. 1, and he has now been with engine company No. 15 for over five years.

Captain George Marden is a Minnesota boy by birth and was born in St. Anthony forty-five years ago. He was appointed to the department in 1885 and has a record of having been away from the department all those years only five months, and then owing to injuries received in fires. He commenced duty with engine company No. 9; for eighteen months he served with engine company No. 11, and was then transferred back to No. 9. For six weeks he served with No. 7; in 1895 he was transferred to company No. 15 as captain, and he has now been with that company for ten years.

Captain Edward Thielen of Engine Company No. 2, is another Minnesota boy, whose life so far has been spent in the employ of the fire departments. He is one of the younger captains, but has been with the department since 1873, when he entered as a torch boy and served until March, '78. In 1888 he entered the pay department under Chief Stetson, in '92 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant of Hose Company No. 3 and was later transferred to Chemical No. 1. He was later made lieutenant of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, from there he advanced to the position of lieutenant of Hook and Ladder No. 2 and he is now captain of Engine Company No. 2. He is the only one out of three men who escaped with his life at the falling in of the wall at the McDonald block fire in '95. He is the son of Captain Thielen, one of the old pioneer firemen who was engaged in the dangerous profession for over thirty-three years.

The benefit which is to be given at the Metropolitan theater for the coming week is for the purpose of increasing the relief fund which entitles firemen who have been twenty years in service and who are over 50 years old, to draw a small pension. At the present time the fund is barely large enough to fill the present needs. During the past months considerable amounts have been paid out to firemen injured and to orphans and widows of firemen, all of which has been a heavy drain on the fund.