

# The True Northerner.

Volume LVIII, Number 17

PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY MAY 31, 1912.

Whole Number 6708

## MINSTREL DAYS GREAT SUCCESS

Large Crowds in Town  
Both Days to see the  
Parade

## PARADE WAS THE BEST EVER

Nearly every Business Represented.  
Novel Features, School Deserving  
of Much Credit

The big parade last Friday and Saturday was a hummer. The streets were crowded both days with spectators and the appreciation shown by the onlookers was very gratifying. The business of the town was well represented by automobiles and wagons decorated for the occasion and some of the advertising suggestions were very apt and unique in design. The schools were well represented and cost a good deal of time and hard work, and showed a decided interest and progressiveness in the students, each striving to present their respective class in an attractive setting.

The Seniors were represented by three automobiles with a bevy of girls dressed in the class colors, orange and black. They made a fine showing and won many compliments. The Juniors followed with a sail boat with yellow and white trimmings, that was very suggestive of the summer season.

An aeroplane was the creation of the Sophomores, and was very pretty in class colors, green and white. The Freshies were little almond-eyed Japanese girls pouring tea and they made many admirers of the spectators along the street.

The 7th and 8th grades were cowboys and girls on horseback. Little Eva and Uncle Tom rode in a gaudily bedecked carriage followed by a dawg—the kind that the fellers kick around—though he was said to be blooded and we suppose he must have been as he seemed to be in the "original company."

The clowns were there, the back number and his spouse were in it, some of the choicest bits of ferocity direct from the jungle, the great whale, although he did not appear to be dressed with any great success, all of these were hot ones. There was no danger from fire, however, as the pitiful looking fire apparatus manned by the school boys kept an alarm sounding which was a sufficient guarantee of the equipment of the company.

The W. R. C. had a very pretty float, gorgeous with the national colors and very attractive.

Taking the demonstration as a whole, it was up to the usual standard of excellence reached by most enterprises of the kind.

The high school band headed the parade and added much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

## SERMON TO THE BOYS IN BLUE

Rev. A. T. Luther Delivers  
Fine Address at Union  
Service.

The M. E. Church was crowded to its capacity last Sunday morning for the union Memorial service. The Memorial sermon was delivered by the pastor, Rev. A. T. Luther. It was one of the best sermons of a like nature ever delivered in Paw Paw. It was very interesting, instructive and gratifying to not only the veterans in whose honor it was given, but to members of the W. R. C. and the large audience that crowded the church. A very pleasant feature of the service was a tenor solo "I Shall Meet Him Face to Face" sung by Louis Bates. This young man has an exceptionally sweet, clear voice. It is a genuine treat to hear him.

### A SHORT VACATION.

W. J. Warner left Monday for Grand Rapids, where he will be under treatment at a hospital there for a short time. Mrs. Warner is also there and they will take this opportunity of visiting friends in the city. "Wib" is closely confined to business while here and we are hoping to see him much improved by his compulsory vacation.

### GO TO PRESS EARLY.

In order that The True Northerner plant may close, a part of the day at least, on Memorial day, we go to press on Wednesday afternoon this week. We ask the indulgence of our readers for any lack of news that may be apparent on account of the short time for preparation of copy.

## FRUIT PROSPECTS WERE NEVER BETTER

Danger from Frost Now Past. Rains  
Discourage Farmers in the Low  
Lands

The continued heavy rains of the past two weeks has made it rather discouraging for those who are trying to get farm work done on the low lands. It will necessarily make the sowing and planting later than usual. There has been no frost up to date however, and the danger now is practically over. The prospects for a heavy fruit crop were never better, and everybody is looking ahead to the harvest. It is seldom that two heavy grape crops come in succession. It looks now, however, as though the record would be broken and that this year will equal if not exceed last season.

## POST OFFICE CONTEST OVER

Appointment of F. N.  
Wakeman Confirmed  
by Senate May 23

The Congressional record of May 23rd, contains a record of the confirmation of the appointment of F. N. Wakeman as post master at Paw Paw and ends the post office contest. There were three candidates for the place, R. W. Broughton, B. F. Warner, the present incumbent, and F. N. Wakeman. Mr. Warner however, circulated no petition, but relied upon the theory that competent postmasters would be retained. Congressman Hamilton held the contest open until May 7th, that all candidates might complete their canvass, then made recommendation in accordance with the evident wishes of a majority of the patrons of the office as expressed in the petitions. As already stated the appointment was confirmed on May 23, the date of expiration of Mr. Warner's commission.

Bangs F. Warner has been post master at Paw Paw for something over 12 years. During this time the volume of business in the office has increased from year to year, and the service has been eminently satisfactory to the patrons of the office. He will retire with the best wishes of a host of friends.

It is not definitely known when the change will take place from the old to the new. Bonds must be executed and accepted, then commission will be issued and the change take place.

## PLAN ANOTHER JUICE FACTORY

Proposition Should Appeal  
to Business Men of  
Paw Paw.

There was held Monday afternoon in the offices of Decker & Bailey a very enthusiastic meeting of grape growers, business men and some outside parties from Chicago and elsewhere to form plans for the erection of a modern grape juice plant at Paw Paw, and it was the sense of those present that such a business was warranted from the standpoint of a fruit grower and also from the standpoint of an investor. From facts brought forth by well informed parties, it was shown that a handsome profit can be made to stockholders in such a concern, and that even at high priced grapes, such results are obtainable without raising the price of the juice. A Mr. B. E. Tilden of Chicago, who has been investigating the industry in New York state as well as Michigan has taken the initiative in this movement through Decker & Bailey, and if the enthusiasm manifested by the grape growers is any criterion there will surely be another good grape juice factory in operation this fall. Mr. Tilden has agreed to head the list of stockholders with \$5,000 in case a substantial amount of around \$20,000 can be raised for the erection of a plant, others signified their willingness to take \$1,000; it is proposed that the fruit growers take stock payable in grapes at \$20 per ton, and also give a bonus of grapes to the proposed factory along the same line that has been done to the Armour plant at Mattawan, and which has proven so decidedly satisfactory to the grape growers in that vicinity, inasmuch as they were preferred customers of the plant, and got more for their grapes than the growers who did not so contribute. One good feature of

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## LETTERS FROM OLD RESIDENTS FOR OUR "HOME COMING" EDITION

Every citizen of Paw Paw cannot but remember with satisfaction the pleasant reunions that were held here a few years ago—the home-coming of Van Buren's children who have wandered away from their birthplace and taken up their residence among new faces and new friends. The home-coming is a thing of the past here, but the Chautauqua in a way has taken its place. The True Northerner has undertaken to inaugurate a plan whereby the wanderers may congregate in the minds of their friends in the old home haunts—in the same place and at the same time.

It is our intention to publish during Chautauqua week what may be termed a "home-coming" edition of The True Northerner. The idea is to publish a letter from each former resident of Paw Paw or Van Buren county who may care to respond, the writer to tell of his present whereabouts, his material condition, the general welfare of his family, etc., in short, just such a letter as might be written to an intimate friend. In this manner, while not being able to meet face to face, the old-timers of the county may again be brought together and learn of the happenings of the friends and acquaintances of days gone by.

It is to be hoped that there will be a generous response to this invitation and that at least 200 letters may be published in this "home-coming" edition. We cordially invite all subscribers to write to their friends and call their attention to what is wanted, and urge them to send their letters, that their old friends may hear from them once more.

### ALUMNI NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that Alumni dues for the Paw Paw high school are now due and should be paid to the secretary, Miss Mary Shaefer or to Mrs. Mabel Warner at Post office at once. Sale of tickets for the annual banquet which occurs June 14, will close June 13.

### NEW ICE WAGON.

The Paw Paw Ice and Fuel Co. have a brand new ice wagon. It is made especially for the business and will be a great convenience over the one used in the past. The company is now prepared to take care of ice customers in any number.

### EVERYBODY HAPPY

Mrs. G. W. Lee (now Grandma Lee if you please) has returned from Detroit. She reports the grandson and his mother doing nicely, and the father could not be better. About the proudest one in the bunch however, is Grandma Lee. Wells says the boy is simply a wonder.

### WILL LECTURE SUNDAY.

Rev. Oscar A. Ederly of St. Louis, Mo., will lecture on the philosophy of Spiritualism in O'Dell (Grange) hall, Paw Paw, Sunday, June 2, at 2:30 and 6:30 p. m. He will be followed with messages by Mrs. Ederly. All are cordially invited to attend.

## LAWRENCE MAN CELEBRATES HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY

On May 16th John M. Ridlon of Lawrence, Michigan, finished his ninety-ninth year. For many years Mr. Ridlon has been a loyal member of the Congregational church and is now Deacon Emeritus of that body. Wishing to show their appreciation, the Congregational Guild assisted by Mr. Ridlon's daughter, Mrs. Hess, planned to celebrate the occasion, by giving him a surprise. Mrs. Ridlon was let into the secret, but Mr. Ridlon was completely surprised when friends, neighbors and old comrades came pouring in Thursday evening, congratulating him and extending kindly greetings. Mrs. Rogers of Kalamazoo came down for the evening and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harvey drove over from Paw Paw to assist in this most happy occasion.

After the people were all assembled and the greetings over, Mrs. Hess rapped for attention. One of the Guild ladies asked Mr. Ridlon to be seated in a large chair in the center of the assembly, and then read to him the following poem:

TO MR. RIDLON ON HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.

Just ninety years ago today,  
A mother's fond heart beat  
With love and joy when first she clasped  
Her babe so dear and sweet.

She looked far down the coming years  
With hope and visions bright,  
And saw her babe, a sturdy lad,  
Develop strength and might.

She saw him grow to man's estate,  
So stalwart and so strong,  
A man, whose power should ever be,  
For right and not for wrong.

She prayed the Heavenly Father's care  
To safeguard him through life,  
To keep him pure, to keep him true  
And strong to meet all strife.

Since that far day long years have  
Rolled,

Her vision now is true,  
We see in noble life fulfilled  
What came before her view.

From blessed realms above she sees  
A life serene and blest,  
Well filled with noble deeds, and now  
Enjoying well earned rest.

In time of strife, you ably helped  
The Union, strong, to wield,  
In peace, your quiet, Christian life  
Your country still upheld.

Devoted husband, father kind,  
A friend and neighbor true,  
God's greatest work, an honest man,  
We honor, now in you.

Congratulations, well deserved,  
We bring to you, to tonight,  
May peace and happiness be yours,  
And all your days be bright.

And may you be upheld by faith,  
And cheered by tenderest love,  
Till you receive your victor's crown  
In mansions up above.

At the close of this, Mrs. Butterfield stepped forward with a large bunch of beautiful carnations, which she presented in most charming manner, in behalf of the Guild.

Edward Harvey spoke of Mr. Ridlon's long life, and fine ancestry, reaching back to the Norseland Vikings.

He traced the contemporaneous history of our country, side by side with Mr. Ridlon's history, and spoke of the marvellous benefit to the world, of such men as Mr. Ridlon. He closed his delightful remarks with an apt story, leaving everyone wishing he would talk longer. Rev. Hart followed with appropriate words. He mentioned the rewards of the righteous man, to which Mr. Ridlon is so richly entitled, and of the joy of long life when lived in such worthy manner.

Judge Pinney then gave a talk on good character and spoke of Mr. Ridlon as an example, worthy all respect. Then the man, whom the occasion honored, rose and with all the ease and composure of a man in the prime of middle life, spoke. As he stood there with his fine fresh countenance just flushed a little with emotion, his snow white hair, his mind and voice clear and his eye bright, he was a picture to be long remembered. He said he tho't perhaps a little of his history might be as interesting as anything he could say, and gave a brief review of his life.

Born in Maine, he was drafted when 16 years of age into an army raised in anticipation of war between Maine and New Brunswick. But his mother objected on account of his being too young and as he quaintly put it, "I didn't go and there wasn't any war." When he reached manhood, he decided that a young man had better opportunities in the west, so he traveled westward. He visited Washington and other important cities, being three months on the way, and finally locating at Oshkosh, Wis., on the extreme frontier. Here he remained seven years, and here he married his good wife with whom he has lived so happily for sixty years. He then came to Van Buren county and settled in Paw Paw where he lived till the Civil war broke out, when he went into the fray and ably served his country through the war. After the war was over he came to Lawrence and built the fine large, double house in which he and his daughter's family both live. He closed with an allusion to the happier home above, to which he and his wife hoped to go and where he hoped to meet all of his friends.

The Guild then served ice cream and cake and all enjoyed a social time. As the friends separated many were the wishes that Mr. Ridlon might live to celebrate his 100th anniversary.

## BOY BADLY INJURED BY 12 POUND SHOT

Emerson Shepard Has Chin Broken  
in Practice on High School Athletic  
Field

Emerson Shepard, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Shepard, living near Paw Paw, was very seriously injured on the school grounds last Friday. He came in contact with a 12 pound shot that some boys were exercising with and was badly hurt about the face. His lower jaw-bone was broken. Dr. Maxwell was called and was assisted by Dr. Hoyt in making the little boy as comfortable as possible. Dr. Lanphear was also called at once and found it necessary to make a plate to hold the bone securely. One tooth was broken and one was loosened. The condition of his mouth makes it difficult for him to be properly nourished, but his physician is hopeful to bring him out with as little disfigurement as possible. The family live on the Robert McWilliams farm south west of the village.

## GLEANERS PLAN GREAT MEETING

County Federation Will  
Meet at Lawrence  
June Fourth.

The Van Buren County Federation of Gleaners will be held this year in the town hall at Lawrence, Tuesday, June 4. The committee on arrangements have made extensive preparations and it is confidently expected that the meeting this year will surpass all previous efforts.

The business session will be held at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon. The program will commence at 1:30 p. m. and all Gleaners are cordially invited to this meeting. Following is the program:

Instrumental music—Mrs. Maud Lyle, Decatur.

Paper on Spraying—Carl Buskirk Paw Paw.

Followed by discussion.

Violin duet, Misses Gertrude Jackson and Olive Geddes, Paw Paw.

Address on Co-operation—Geo. B. Hudson of Gleaner Headquarters, Detroit.

Vocal music—Miss Olive Loveland.

Fifteen minute discussion on Women Franchise, led by Grace McAllister, Decatur.

Fifteen minute discussion on economies, led by Minnie Colburn, Lawrence.

Reading—Miss Dorothy Glover of Chicago.

Instrumental music—Mrs. Maud Lyle, Decatur.

Baby show.

All ladies are invited to bring articles for display, for Ladies' Arbor Circle. Such as fancy work, baked goods, work savers, anything.

## CHAPTER MASONS GO TO LAWRENCE

Sister Chapter Host to  
Several Chapters Tues-  
day Night.

Paw Paw Chapter No. 34, R. A. M., has been invited to be the guests of the Lawrence chapter next Tuesday evening, June 4. Lawrence will be the hosts on that occasion to the chapters from Paw Paw, South Haven and Bangor. It is expected that a large number of the Paw Paw companions will journey to Lawrence for this event. Lawrence has an enviable reputation as Masonic host, and it is always a pleasure to accept an invitation to that place.

### LAKE PROPERTY SOLD.

Mrs. Caroline Edgar Wallace of Lake Cora has sold two cottages and four lots at that popular summer resort to Chicago parties who will make their homes there. Mrs. Wallace, who has spent her summers for some years past at Lake Cora, will remain in Chicago for the present. Downing's agency was the firm through which the deal was consummated.

### NOW HAS FLOWING WELL.

Fred Woodman now has on his farm a 50 foot flowing well of pure sparkling water which is a great satisfaction to the owner thereof. It throws a 1/2 inch stream three feet high. It is a most uncommon thing and Mr. Woodman counts himself lucky to possess it. Henry Holt was instrumental in procuring this splendid well.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO CHAUTAUQUA

Tentative Plans Indicate  
the Best one of All is  
Yet to Come

## SCHOOL CONTEST A FEATURE

Cash Prizes to be Awarded for Dec-  
lamatory Contest. Many Extra  
Features This Year

Henry Shaefer, local manager of the Paw Paw Chautauqua, is now busily engaged outlining plans and details for the big event this year. As announced last week, the dates this year are August 17 to 25 inclusive. Mr. Holladay of the Midland Bureau, was in Paw Paw for a few hours last week, and was very enthusiastic in regard to the excellence of the program which he will soon be ready to announce for Paw Paw this year.

In addition to the regular program prepared by the Midland Bureau, the local management will inaugurate several features which should add greatly to the popularity of these annual events. One of the specials as announced by Mr. Shaefer, will be a Declamatory contest. Each high school of the county is invited to select a representative from the school for the contest, the date of which will be announced later. Competent and impartial judges will be selected, and three cash prizes will be awarded. The winner of the contest will receive \$15, second \$10, third \$5. Prizes of this size should be an incentive for each school to send its best speaker, and an entertainment of this character should be interesting to patrons of the Chautauqua. Commissioner of Schools V. R. Hungerford is taking an active interest in this feature of the contest, and all inquiries relative to the same should be addressed to him.

Another extra feature of the week as announced by the local manager will be "Educational Day." Noted educators will be on the program for this day as an extra feature. It is probable that the "Educational Program" will be on some forenoon, and that it will be a free attraction.

Other features of the week, will be announced from time to time, and it is to be hoped that the citizens of Paw Paw and vicinity will put their shoulders to the wheel this year as in the past and make the Chautauqua the success it should be. Probably not another town the size of Paw Paw in the entire state has made a success of the Chautauqua. Whether or not it is to be continued here, depends entirely upon the efforts of the citizens. Probably there is nothing that could be procured for the same effort, that would be as beneficial from a cultural and educational point of view as the Chautauqua. We cannot afford to give it up. Let's all get busy.

## ANOTHER BIRD MAN LOST LIFE

Son-in-law of Paw Paw  
Man Killed at Dayton,  
Ohio.

The Minneapolis Journal of May 21 gave an account of the tragic death of Frederick Southard of Minneapolis at Dayton, Ohio, recently. He was an aeroplane enthusiast and had gone from his home to Dayton to take a course of instruction in aviation of the Wright Bros., preparatory to perfecting plans for an aeroplane manufacturing plant, to be established in the west. He was utterly without fear and trusted too much to his own skill, although advised by the instructors against ascending alone. This was his first and last attempt to manage the machine alone.

The machine was a \$7,000 plane that he had purchased a short time ago. Mrs. Southard is a Paw Paw girl who was married here nine years ago. Her father is J. A. White, whose home is about five miles north of the village and who has just returned from Minneapolis. The remains of Mr. Southard were brought to Gobleville, his old home, for burial.

### NOW CITIZENS OF U. S.

Tuesday was Naturalization day in the circuit court, and the following gentlemen were made full fledged citizens of the United States: Karl Frederick, Edward Ottoman and Otto Frank Beck of South Haven, Solomon Schopk of Decatur, Horace Wright of Lawrence and Jere Fred of Waverly.