

BEMIDJI DAILY PIONEER

VOLUME XII. NO. 230

BEMIDJI, MINN., MONDAY EVENING, SEPT. 29, 1919

Weather—Hotel Markham: Storm brewing in direction of winds.

45c PER MONTH

"LIQUOR VIOLATIONS DEPLORABLE"

GUILTY DRAW JAIL SENTENCE AND FINES FOR LAW VIOLATION

Heavy Penalties Imposed Upon Gamblers and Illegal Booze Sellers by Stanton

UNLESS FINES PAID LONGER TERMS ADDED

Convictions Secured Against Lawless Element, Permitted to Run Wide Open

The following is a brief summary of the district court criminal convictions and pleas of "guilty" under prosecution of County Attorney Torrance, and what they "drew" from District Court Judge Stanton.

The fines and costs in the entire list of convictions amounted to \$4,546.51.

While the grand jury was in session and before indictment Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Miller pleaded "guilty" to the charge of selling liquor and each was fined \$100 and 30 days in jail, and if fine not paid 60 days more.

Charles Gentile, found guilty of assault in the second degree of stabbing a man on July Fourth. Sentence, from one to five years in the penitentiary.

Frank Dewey, found guilty of keeping a place where liquor was kept for sale. Sentence, 90 days in county jail, \$100 fine and costs of \$57.60.

John Slow, found guilty of keeping a gambling outfit and under another charge of selling intoxicating liquor at the Park hotel building. For the first offense he drew 6 months in jail, \$200 fine, costs of \$116 and in default of paying the cash, an extra 60 days. For the second offense he drew 60 days, \$100 fine, costs of \$50.90, and in default 30 additional days. The latter sentence to begin after the 6 months period expires.

James Kelly got all that his friend John Slow received, with the exception of the cost item, which was \$11.12 cents more.

William Young of Baudette, who was found guilty of keeping a "wet" place in the Baudette hotel, got his "medicine" of 60 days in jail, a fine of \$100, costs of \$204.10 and in default 30 additional days.

Joseph Thibault of Baudette, found guilty of running opposition to William Young in keeping a "wet" joint, drew the same concoction in the same size dose as did Young.

Elmer E. Moorhead also of Baudette was found guilty of running in competition to Young and Thibault a "soft wet" place, when in reality the jury found that the place wasn't so "soft." He was given the same prescription to take as his townsman.

"Spide" Not Optimistic.

Frank Gagnon, better known as "Spide," a man quite familiar to most everybody, stated through his attorney that he was waiting for the Fergus Falls term of court to open, when he expected a "package" from that august body. Judge Stanton thought he'd investigate the request for stay of sentence and asked "Spide" to come up and listen to him Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. Mr. Gagnon was found guilty of keeping a place where liquor was kept for sale.

Thomas Bowe, who pleaded guilty to keeping a gambling device, was asked by the court to be ready for his sentence Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Mrs. Charles Sears and her husband pleaded guilty of running the "Old Stockholm" in a decidedly "wet" manner. Charles got 30 days and \$100, and his wife will "get hers" next Wednesday.

Frank North was given a 30-day ticket to the county jail, and fine of \$50, and costs of \$55.80. In case of default an additional 30 days.

Clarence LaValley was given board and room at the sheriff's quarters and ordered to pay a \$100 fine, and costs of \$101. In default of coming across with the cash he gets 30 days more in the county jail.

John Dewey, whose home is in Crookston, and who pleaded guilty to selling booze in his son's "joint," was invited to remain in Bemidji for 60 days, pay a fine of \$100 and costs

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Judge Stanton Flays City Authorities

COUNTY ATTORNEY AND DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



GRAHAM M. TORRANCE.

County attorney of Beltrami county who, alone, prosecuted and secured convictions of a long list of "booze" sellers and gamblers.

PRESIDENT PASSES RESTLESS NIGHT. REPORTS PHYSICIAN

Not Able to Attend Any Sessions of Conference Set for October 6

By Hugh Ballew.
(United Press Correspondent.)
Washington, Sept. 29.—"President Wilson had a restless night, but is sleeping this morning," Dr. Grayson, the president's personal physician, said today.

Only members of the president's family are permitted to see him and all engagements have been cancelled. In all probability he will not be able to attend any of the sessions of the round table conference set for October 6.

LARGE NUMBER OF DELEGATES PROMISED

A great deal of interest is manifest in the meeting of delegates of fraternal organizations and local unions tomorrow night at the Moose headquarters in the rooms of the Bemidji association and indications are there will be a large turnout.

Judge Stanton is scheduled to make the address of the evening and there will be several other talks by those interested in forming a central unit of all delegates from the various organizations in the city, to better conditions in every manner possible.

COUNCIL SEES BUSY TIME THIS EVENING

The regular meeting of the city council will be held this evening and some matters of much interest are scheduled to come before the session. It is broadly hinted that some resignations of high officials may be asked for on the part of the council members.

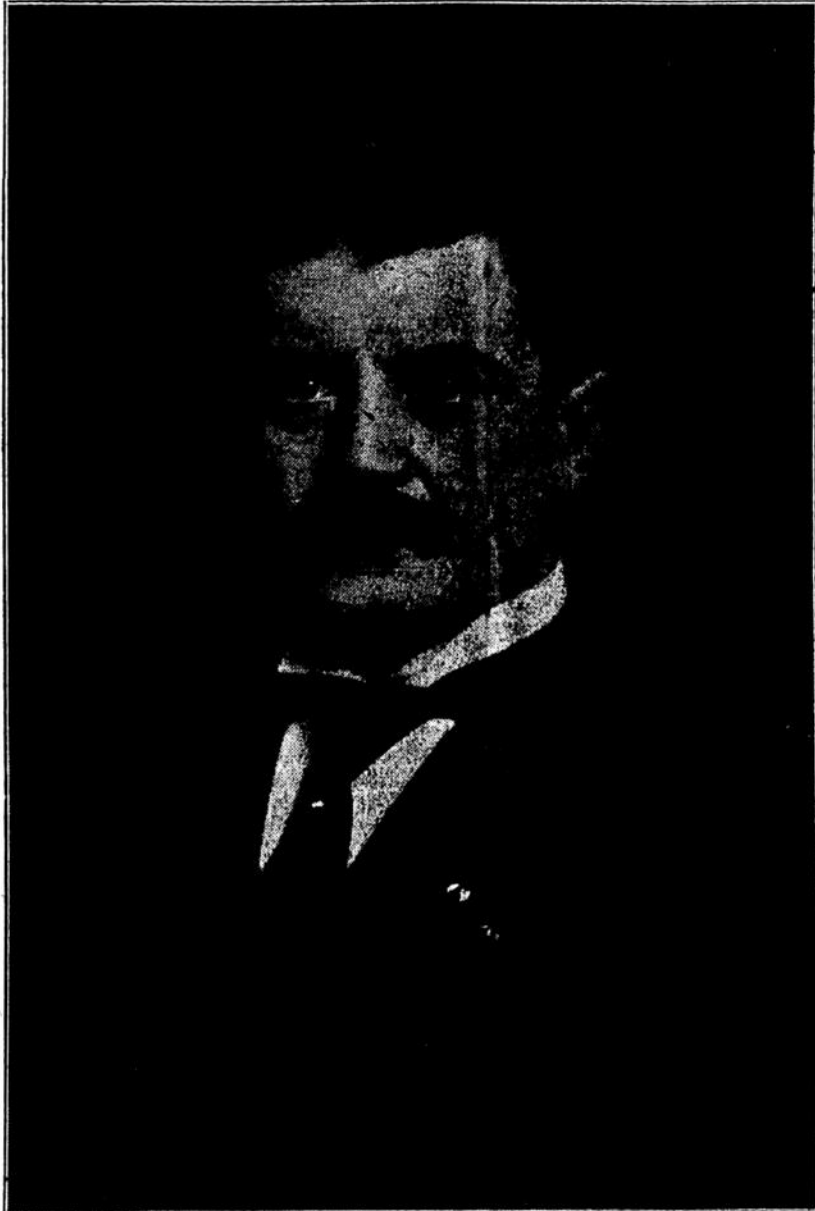
FRENCH FARM SOLD FOR SIXTEEN THOUSAND

E. J. Willits, city real estate dealer, reports the sale of the "Jim" French farm in the western section of the city for \$16,000. The sale was made last week to Barnie Willits, a brother of the real estate dealer.

CONVICTED BOOTLEGGERS VENT SPLEEN ON JURORS

According to some of the jurors, who sat on the juries of the bootleggers and gamblers, are "getting theirs" handed to them by some of the aggrieved convicted offenders.

The jurors who rendered their verdicts of guilt are to be strongly commended by the decent people of the city of Bemidji and Beltrami county.



JUDGE C. W. STANTON

Who forcibly expressed his opinion of wide-open lawlessness in Bemidji and county, from district court bench.

Omaha Mayor Strung By Enraged Mob

(By United Press.)
Omaha, Neb., Sept. 29.—Martial law was declared today in Omaha after a night of rioting. Sixteen hundred soldiers patrolled the streets, machine guns were mounted in the vicinity of the court house and in the negro districts. Mobs have dispersed and the situation appears under control of the soldiers. All summed up, the results of eighteen hours under riot rule in Omaha, following the identification of William Brown, negro, by Agnes Loebeck, age 19 years, as the man who assaulted her and was lynched and his body burned.

Francis Clancey was shot through and killed when the police fired on the mob attacking the county building. Fifty-six others were wounded. Mayor Edward P. Smith is in a serious condition at the hospital suffering from injuries inflicted by the mob when it attempted to hang him for refusing to deliver the negro.

Douglas county's court house, newly built at a cost of \$1,500,000, is in ruins from fire. Mayor Smith narrowly escaped the wrath of the mob when he defended the negro while thousands were clamoring for the accused at the county building doors. Mayor Smith appeared with a revolver and urged the crowd to dis-

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PUNCH BOARDS ARE ORDERED OUT! MERCY

Punch boards and slot machines were all ordered out of business today around stores of the business district, according to some of the proprietors of stores and business places, and compliance was willingly met.

When the notice was served there were several quiet smiles.

BETHLEHEM WORKERS REFUSE TO ANSWER SUMMONS TO STRIKE

Thousands Remain at Plants, More Return; Thousands Disobey Order

(By United Press.)
South Bethlehem, Pa., Sept. 29.—Less than 20 per cent of workers in the Bethlehem steel mills here were striking today, police stated.

HUNDREDS GO BACK TO WORK.
Steelton, Pa., Sept. 29.—Hundreds of steel strikers reported for work in the Bethlehem plant here, despite strike orders, reported the police today.

BETHLEHEM REFUSES STRIKE.
Baltimore, Md., Sept. 29.—Over 6,000 steel workers at the Bethlehem Sparrows Point plant refused to strike today.

POINTS 'OTHER WOMAN' THEN DROPS LIFELESS

(By United Press.)
Milwaukee, Sept. 29.—An unidentified well dressed woman dropped dead of heart failure here last night, just after she pointed out to a policeman that her husband was walking with another woman.

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS WILL MEET TOMORROW

R. L. Given, president of the Bemidji Association, has called a meeting of the board of directors of the organization for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning at the Association rooms.

There are several matters of importance to be brought before the board for consideration and it is urged that all members be present.

SAYS THEY CONDONE WIDE OPEN BOOZE SELLING AND WINK AT LAW VIOLATIONS

In sentencing the large grist of convicted liquor and gambling violators in the district court Saturday afternoon, Judge C. W. Stanton took the opportunity to flay the police force and the executive authorities of the city of Bemidji. He asserted that in all the cases no hand of the police was seen in any manner whatsoever, and that city executives condoned the practices for which the accused were convicted. In detail, Judge Stanton thus rendered his views:

JUDGE STANTON EXPRESSES SELF.

"The Court is very grateful to counsel for such information as has been communicated to the Court. The time of the Court has been occupied for more than a week in the trial of these cases and close attention has been given to the testimony. From that testimony I have formed very definite ideas, in some respect, with reference to the duty of the Court now in imposing sentence.

"I believe that the time has arrived in Beltrami county when every resident of the county should be made to understand that prosecutions for violations of the liquor law are not mere farces and that a man who willfully violates the liquor laws, as well as any other criminal law in this state, should, when convicted, expect to stand adequate punishment. Many requests have been made by counsel for leniency which I do not feel inclined to consider favorably. Some of them I am impressed with and will endeavor to give proper consideration when imposing sentence.

IMPRESSED DURING TRIALS.

"I have been impressed during the trial of these cases and by the investigations which I have been able to make on my own account that there is in this county, particularly in the village of Baudette and in this city, a disregard for the law with reference to liquor violations particularly, that is deplorable and I believe that it is the duty of one who is presiding as a judge of the district court when it becomes his disagreeable duty to impose sentence upon those violators, to impose sentence that will, perhaps, lead to reformation on the part of the offenders and will tend to deter others from like or similar offenses.

POLICE FORCE NO HELP.

"I have been unable to escape being impressed during these trials with the fact that none of these charges have been made by the police authorities of the village or the city in which the offenses took place. Not one of these cases from Baudette and not one of them from the city of Bemidji originated with the police force, nor has their prosecution been aided in any way by those departments, so far as I know.

"In this city there have been twenty-three indictments at this term for violations of the liquor law. There have been ten others, making thirty-three in the county. Those twenty-three indictments from this city were against fifteen separate persons, some of them having drawn more than one indictment. Three of these defendants stood trial and were convicted; ten of them have entered pleas of guilty; one of them, a woman, has pleaded guilty and sentence has been deferred until next Wednesday.

"Another one, a woman, is at present, in the hospital in this city and that case has been continued to the next general term of court. "Besides, these indictments, there have been four indictments returned for gambling in this city. Each of these four persons is confessedly guilty and has entered pleas accordingly.

AUTHORITIES FAVORABLE.

"From the testimony which I have listened to day after day and the information which I have been able to get through other sources, I am convinced that this city, the city of Bemidji, is at the present time infested with a very large number of flagrant law violators, not all of whom have been indicted, and that they are being permitted by the authorities of this city to continue in the violations of the law to the great discredit of this city and community, and I think that it is time that vigorous steps should be taken to stop such law violations and to impress those who are gaining a livelihood by unlawful and vicious methods with the fact that Bemidji will not tolerate such law violations longer.

NEED BETTER POLICE.

"And I want to say that it is my opinion that if, in order to do this, in order to stop these flagrant law violations, a more adequate, or perhaps more efficient, police force is required it should by all means be insisted that such be provided. This city cannot afford to imperil its reputation by permitting existing conditions to continue and I want to say now that I believe that those in authority in this city, either the mayor or members of the council or members of the police force, can get information which they should have, if they have not that information already from other sources, from a conference with court officials who know something of what has been revealed by the trials that have taken place here the last few days, and I do not exempt myself from that list and I will be pleased to give any such officer all the information that I have, and I believe that it would be valuable information to them if it is their sincere desire to correct conditions in this city.

Now, in imposing the sentences which I am required to impose at this time, I want to say that I hope that the sentences that I will impose will have good reformatory effect and I hope further that they will tend to deter others from now on from such violations of law as we are now dealing with.

KELLEY FIRST CALLED.

"James Kelley, will you please come up this way. Mr. Kelley, I have listened to the statements of your counsel and I have, of course, listened to the evidence in the trial of the case upon which you stood trial, that of violating the liquor laws of this city. I heard your testimony and that of others. I have sought information, as your counsel has. I asked your counsel to advise me of all information he could get with reference to you, which he has done, and has made the statement to me which you have heard in that regard. I have much other information. I must say, though, that I have not been able to get information through parties whom I have had interview the police department of this city with references to you. I have not been able to get much from that source, but the fact that I have not been able to get it is not convincing to me that the other information I have is not true.

CITY CAN'T AFFORD THEM.

"I think that this city cannot afford to have such people as John Slow, your partner, and yourself engaged in the business in which you have been engaged here, that it cannot afford to tolerate you at all and in imposing the sentence that I shall impose, I am doing so, for one reason, with the idea that there will be quite a little period from now on when you will not have an opportunity to build another table and continue in your business."