

# LITTLE FALLS HERALD.

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## The Question of Municipal Ownership.

A great many people in Little Falls do not use light and water because they cannot afford to at present rates. With a substantial reduction in rates the increase in users will of itself mean a great increase in income. Even at present rates, the knowledge that the user is practically paying himself, paying that co-operative concern known as the city, and of which he is a part, would make a great deal of difference to him, as he would get back his share of the profit through the lowering of taxes and through the various ways in which municipal ownership benefits the people. The outlying districts of the city have now no hope of securing proper fire protection. They are far from the nearest main. The city cannot, in its present financial condition, order the company to extend its mains toward those districts, because the expense of the extension, with \$80 per year for each hydrant which would have, according to the contract, to be put in, would be too great. Nor will the company extend its mains, because there would not be adequate returns from a thinly settled district. But under municipal ownership the city would extend mains where they are needed, put in as many or as few hydrants as wanted—and not, as now, be compelled to put in a certain number. At present the outlying districts pay taxes for what they cannot enjoy. The dwellers in the central or business part of the city get some return for the taxes paid for light and water, but the suburban dwellers get nothing. A private concern cannot share other's burdens. It is not in business for that purpose. But under public ownership of public utilities, the thickly settled portions of the city can and will help the thinly settled to secure the benefits of light and water.

One of the advantages of municipal ownership is the uniform rates for light and water. There would then be no case of one man paying more or less for his service than another. That discrepancies exist now anyone may see who studies the list in the custody of the city clerk. We shall give some comparative figures from this list later.

In Bulletin 100 of the eleventh census, the census department comments upon the fact that confidence, good feeling, cheapened service and a realization that the profits go into the public treasury, prompt the people to patronize a public institution more freely than a private one.

"If the people acquire a business that M. now owns, the people will get the profits that M. now gets. It pays men better to pull together than separately or in opposition to each other, and it pays a man better to own a thing himself rather than to have somebody else own it. If a thing is worth owning it is better owned by A and B than by B alone, better at least for A. If B owns the farm or grocery or clothing house, A will pay more for provisions and clothes than if he were partner with B. It is the same with electric light. If A, B, C, etc., are partners with M, O, N, in the electric light works they will be better treated and get their light at less expense than if M, O, N, own the plant by themselves."

Alexandria, Minn., blends light and water accounts. The latest figures we have are for the year ending March 1, 1895. Interest and operating expenses for both departments were \$5,896. The income, aside from taxes, was \$6,052. At current rates the street lighting was worth \$1,000 and the fire plugs \$1,575, so that the total service of

the department represents \$8,627, a profit of \$2,731. The city of Luverne, Minn., made \$520 above all operating and fixed charges, and had 12 street arcs free. Falls City, Neb., made \$650 above all operating and fixed charges and had 150 street lamps free. Rockport, Me., made \$900 above all operating and fixed charges, and had 65 street lamps free. These figures are from municipal light plants. If Little Falls had a municipal light and water plant which was just paying expenses, the city would still be several thousand dollars ahead each year, because its own light and water would be free, and whatever light and water costs now would be the amount of its profit even if the plant only paid expenses. Thus, the city could run behind \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year and be no worse off than now, because that is the present cost of light and water. There is no apprehension of loss, however, as the experience of cities which own their own plants shows the contrary. There is, moreover, the just anticipation of profit to the city, which can be distributed among the people either by reduction of rates or lowering of taxes.

In Swanton, Vt., a 16 candle power incandescent lamp costs 10 to 30 cents per month; in Braintree, Mass., 25 to 45 cents per month; in Clyde, O., 30 to 50 cents; in Indianola, Ia., 30 to 50 cents; in Wilson Junction, Ia., 35 cents; in Fulda, Minn., 25 to 50 cents; in Albany, Mo., 28 to 50 cents; in DeGraff, O., two or more lamps cost 25 cents each; in Newark, Del., one lamp alone costs 50 cents, but where 15 or more are used, they cost for stores 15 cents each, for residences 8 cents each. These are all public plants.

Gilford Nelson, of Randall, wishes the report that he got married recently, denied.

Monday Sept. 19th positively the last day of the Great Eastern Clothing Sale. In the old Court House Building.

Miss Sarah Jansen has notified the board of trustees that she will at the end of this month resign her position and attend college.

Ludwig Simonet, of Simonet Bros., was last week elected treasurer of the Retail Furniture Dealers Association, of Minnesota and the Dakotas.

McEwen, the hypnotist, did not get along very well at Morris recently. He was hooted and jeered whenever he appeared on the street.

The state investment board has authorized loans as follows in Morrison county: School district No. 90, \$500; No. 91, \$125; No. 33, \$1,125.

Buy your fall and winter clothing of the Great Eastern Clothing Sale in the Old Court House building, and save money. Monday, Sept. 19th positively the last day of the Sale.

Frank E. Mansfield has been summoned as a grand juror for the term of federal court opening at Fergus Falls, Sept. 27th, and Victor Schaller as a petit juror for the same term.

Morrison county students at the St. Cloud Normal school are Jessie L. Brodhead, Flora I. Joslin, Roy-alton; Sarah Holmes, Grace E. Mahan Little Falls; Rachel A. Kienow, Buckman; Vincent Watzka, Flensburg.

Grey Eagle Cor. Long Prairie Argus: Mr. Tanner, of Little Falls, (believe he is proprietor of a gristmill at that place), has leased a piece of ground joining up to the north side-track near Davidson's elevator. He informed the writer Saturday that he would have a new elevator in running order inside of thirty days. We are glad Mr. Tanner is going to build an elevator here. Competition is the life of trade.

Milaca Times: We note from correspondence in the Little Falls Herald that the Dunkard colony which moved from Goshen to Morrill a year ago are prospering finely since moving to that locality. Already they have organized a half dozen church societies and as many Sunday schools in that corn mummy, and the scrapping over the fine points of their varied beliefs goes merrily on. Each faction has opened special revival services to run by the month, and the wilderness will howl with various interpretations of holy writ. It is not likely that their arguments over the whereabouts of Moses when the lights were extinguished will prove any more effective in clearing up farms at Morrill than it did at Goshen. The one redeeming feature of their religion is the ceremony of washing their feet once a year, and if this practice should become general throughout Morrison county none could say they labored in vain.

Many People Cannot Drink coffee at night. It spoils their sleep. You can drink Graia-O when you please and sleep like a top. For Graia-O does not stimulate; it nourishes, cheers and feeds. Yet it looks and tastes like the best coffee. For nervous persons, young people and children Graia-O is the perfect drink. Made from pure grains. Get a package from your grocer today. Try it in place of coffee. 15 and 25c.

## THE ARCTIC ELDERADO

Letter from George Kiewel, at Dawson City, N. W. T.

### DISTRICT COURT WORK

About Sixty Cases on the Calendar for the September Term.

From a letter received by John R. Kiewel, of Fergus Falls, from his brother, George, at Dawson City, under date of July 20, the following extracts are made:

"Dear Brother: I received your letter at Lake Tagish about six weeks ago, but have not had time to answer it till now. It is quite hard to get time to write when one is wandering around. \*\*\* We crossed the summit in good shape about the 7th of April. That was just after the big snowslide. We put our time in at Lake Linderman until about June 1st, building boats and waiting for the ice to go out. Now Wilson—one of the party—and I are at Dawson looking around, while the rest of the boys are up on Indian river. We will be going up there soon, across country about fifty miles, with a little forty-pound pack on our backs. It will take us about three days to cross over that way, as the trail is hard to get over. Things are not very bright here in Dawson. The people are in an awful state, there being about 12,000 people here, all waiting for something to turn up; and lots of them are selling out and planning to go back as soon as the first boats get up the river. The government here is pretty tough. The miners have asked the government to move the head offices here, as the local men run things in a very poor fashion. A new man hasn't much show just at present, but they are going out fast, and I think there will be a chance to make some money this winter and next summer. The country is not as rich by any means as reported. There is a lot of it on the streams near Dawson, but it was all staked long ago. There are some places up on Indian river which ought to be just as good, and we still think we can get hold of something this winter, one way or another. Business is not very flush here in Dawson, although there is a lot of gold dust floating around, and more or less spent, but there are a lot of men in business here. I have seen a few places that are making money. One is H. Ash's saloon, and it is a mint; it is a big place, and full from morning till night and night till morning, taking in about \$2,000 a day; but the other saloons do not seem to be doing much. \*\*\* The weather is hot. I think it was about 100 in the shade here during the past three days. We generally travel nights and sleep days. We are all in the best health, and you can tell the people that we still think the country is all right, as soon as about one-half of the people go out, which will be this fall."

Continental Savings Loan and Building Assn vs J W Wright et al. Jayne & Heilwell; L, B & L; J H R.

Thomas Mfg Co vs T J Mathieson. J H R; F W L.

Cornish, Curtis & Green Co vs J H Russell. E J Cannon; L, B & L.

Francis Rogers vs P H and Mary Gross. L, B & L and Calhoun & Bennett; G W Stewart.

Anna Johnson vs A B Johnson. E S S; L, B & L.

O W Sylvester vs A Child et al. J H R for plaintiff.

Wm Renick vs Barney Gross. J H R; F W L.

R Neill vs Miss & Rum River Boom Co. J H R; J B Atwater and L, B & L.

Fred Kowitz vs Fred and Wilhelmina Zeng. J H R; J A Senn.

Alex Riendeau vs Augusta Perkins et al. J H R for plaintiff.

Oscar Hallam as receiver vs Kate G Wright et al. A Tighe; L, B & L.

Mrs Louis Steltner vs S C Vagaly. F W L; J H R.

Matt Ruff vs P W Blake and H A Rider. L, B & L; F W L.

J I Case Imp Co vs P Lauerman and M Maurin. L, B & L; F W L.

Jos Paquin vs L F Imp Co and Miss Boom Co. J H R; J B A and L, B & L.

C D Auyer vs H A Rider. L, B & L; F W L.

CRIMINAL APPEAL CASES. State vs Saml Mills. F W L; E P A—2 cases.

State vs Walter Jackson. F W L; L, B & L.

Village of Royalton vs N Rassier—2 cases.

City of Little Falls vs G Wilson. E P A; L, B & L.

State of M Christenson. F W L; L, B & L.

State vs C H Robbins. F W L; L, B & L.

Harriet McNeal vs H A Rider et al. G W Stewart; J H R.

Robt Lutes vs H A Rider et al. G W S; J H R.

Mpls Brewing Co vs Della Schwanke et al. Cobb & Wheelwright; D Trettel.

APPEAL CASES. Dr O Bertram vs Wm Vick. J H R; E S S.

Herman Metzki vs A M Sturm. F W Lyon.

A Ousdahl vs Nels Akersen. E P Adams for deff.

Annie Eckman vs Anna B Johnson. E S S; L, B & L.

Kerrich & Moeglein vs Julius Newman. E P A; J H R.

W S Conran vs Swanke & Clavin. E P A; F W L.

NEW CASES. Jos Otremba vs Supervisors of Town of Agram. L, B & L; F W L.

J H Rhodes vs C B Buckman. Calhoun & Bennett; G H Reynolds. L, B & L.

Sophia Tramal vs Joseph Nowatny. E S S; F W L.

First Natl Bank of Pipestone, vs Mark Murphy, F E Cawley and C E Hyde. L, B & L and F L James; Wright & Matchan.

E S Barnes vs E F Shaw et al. Penny & McMillan; L, B & L.

Eveline Hall vs Wm Hall. E S S; L, B & L.

Louis Wimmer vs Mary Wimmer. E S S; L, B & L.

Wm Vick vs Otto Bertram. E S S; J H R.

O K Oliaker vs Jos Kobetich. L, B & L; E P A.

Raphael Veith vs Henry Gaernt. E S S; L, B & L.

Frances Lutes vs C W Bouck, I W Bouck and Jas Lonsdale. G W Stewart; J H R.

Swan Akerson vs Nels Olson. E S S; L, B & L.

Singer Mfg Co vs G F Moeglein, M J Bracke and J A Olson. L, B & L; E P A.

Moses Lafont vs N P Ry Co. L, B & L; L T Chamberlain and J H Mitchell Jr.

A K Hall vs L F Imp Co and Miss & Rum River Boom Co. J H R; L, B & L and J B Atwater.

Continental Savings Loan and Building Assn vs J W Wright et al. Jayne & Heilwell; L, B & L; J H R.

Thomas Mfg Co vs T J Mathieson. J H R; F W L.

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J I Case Imp Co vs P Lauerman and M Maurin. L, B & L; F W L.

Jos Paquin vs L F Imp Co and Miss Boom Co. J H R; J B A and L, B & L.

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State vs Walter Jackson. F W L; L, B & L.

Village of Royalton vs N Rassier—2 cases.

City of Little Falls vs G Wilson. E P A; L, B & L.

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