

HAL IS AN OILY BOY

W. H. Cooley Heavily Interested in Some Paying Oil Wells

W. H. Cooley is now an oil king and will soon be giving John D. Rockefeller "cards and spades." He, with another party, recently purchased some oil wells from a company, of which he had been superintendent, since which time the purchase has grown in value enormously. The new concern has been offered \$8000 an acre for 80 acres of their holdings, and Hal considers his options worth \$70,000. Mr. Cooley expects to spend Christmas here.

The Los Angeles Herald of Dec. 9, has the following in relation to the purchase:

The Midway Crude Oil company, operating on sections 31, 32 & 34, adjoining the famous section 6 well of the Santa Fe in north Midway, is reported to have sold its property, comprising 190 acres, for \$3,000 an acre. The deal is said to have been consummated yesterday. W. H. Cooley, superintendent for the company, being the purchaser. Just who is associated with Mr. Cooley is not known. The company has one well producing 100 barrels daily and another well which has not yet been finished.

KERICKS TO RETURN

The Kericks, Mrs. Katherine, Henry and Willie, and their families, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller, and the family of John Kerich will return to Minnesota from Los Angeles, Cal., next spring in all probability. This has been California's worst winter in thirty years. At present a heavy snowfall has been experienced as far south as Sacramento. This was accompanied by a heavy frost which killed a large quantity of fruit in the higher altitudes. Rent is very high, \$20 per month for a four-room house being charged, whereas wages for common labor are extremely low, \$1.50 per day.

RE-BRICKING MILL BURNER

Julius Nelson and Chris Knessel commenced the work of re-bricking the big burner of the Pine Tree Lumber company's sawmill the first of the week. About 150,000 brick is necessary for this work and much of the old brick will be used, as it is still in good shape. It is expected that it will take the greater part of the winter to complete the job. The usual amount of repairing on the inside of the sawmill will be done during the course of the winter, and everything put in first-class shape for the opening of the big mill next spring on its night and day run.

NEW WEST SIDE STORE

The West side is soon to have a combination furniture and hardware store. J. Albert Peterson, who last fall came from Spooner and opened a store in Waver, has made arrangements to move his stock of goods to this city. He will locate in the Zeman building and will be open for business next Monday. Mr. Peterson was at one time a cabinet-maker and is well versed in the furniture business. Besides furniture and hardware, Mr. Peterson will also handle a stock of groceries.

TELL THEM ABOUT US

In a letter to the Silver Lake Leader, Frank Krugel of Swan River, shows that he is a sure booster for this county. It is not necessary to go outside of the plain facts in putting before prospective settlers the advantages of farming and dairying here, the raising of clover and potatoes, etc. When writing to your old home paper or one of your friends, tell them of the good things we have to offer those looking for new locations. It will do yourself and the community much good.

LOST TWO BROTHERS IN LAKE STORM

James McLeod of Royalton lost two brothers in the storm which struck the Great Lakes last week and caused such a toll of human lives; at least nothing has been heard of them or the ship they were sailing out of Conneaut since the storm. They are Capt. Robert McLeod and first mate, John McLeod, of the ferry steamer Marquette & Bessemer No. 2.

John Adams of Pierz was operated on at the local hospital for the removal of tubercular glands Wednesday.

An artistic calendar for the coming year is being given out by the Merchants State Bank, and we acknowledge the receipt of one of these with thanks. It is a "beaut."

Judge Shaw on Thursday afternoon united in marriage Eugene L. Gray of Beltrami county and Mrs. Amelia Bachelor of Swanville. They will make their home at Swanville.

Dorothy Burrall, who has been visiting with her grandparents here, returned to Duluth yesterday, accompanied by J. H. Burrall, who will visit his son, Fred, at that place.

The board of regents of the state university on Tuesday selected Prof. A. F. Woods of Washington, D. C., as dean of the agricultural college, vice J. W. Olson, resigned, salary being fixed at \$6,000 per year.

Morris D. Folsom, a brother of Walter Folsom of this city, and well known here, gave two excellent recitals in Minneapolis this week, one Tuesday evening in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. building and one Wednesday evening at the Northwestern Conservatory. Both were well attended.

DAMAGES OF \$5,080

Claimed by Peter Denis of Minneapolis for Assault by Polkin Brothers

Peter Denis of Minneapolis, who was badly hurt last November by being pounded by Thomas, Stephen, Michael and Andrew Polkin of Elm Dale, has instituted a damage suit against them in the sum of \$5,080, \$5,000 to cover injuries and loss of time, and \$80 to cover doctor's bill. Mr. Denis is as yet unable to do any work. It will be remembered that Denis was badly mauled one evening a short time after leaving the home of a young lady he had been calling on, with which lady, it is said, one of the brothers was also smitten.

Thomas Polkin was tried at Royalton Wednesday for assault on Mr. Denis and was found guilty. The case of Stephen was taken up late yesterday afternoon. The other two brothers have not as yet been apprehended. It is understood that Thomas will appeal.

WANTS PAY FOR CONVEYING BODY HOME

John Gwods brought suit against John Setera in Justice Randall's court Monday for \$15, which he claims the defendant offered him on November 10, 1908, if he would take the body of his father-in-law, Anton Wampa, who was at the Simonet morgue, having been killed by the Winnipeg flyer while attempting to cross the railroad tracks on the West side with a team, to his home. Plaintiff further claimed that Setera stated he would pay him \$25 in the event of a collection of damages from the railroad company. Gwods conveyed the body to the Wampa home, but it was claimed that he had not asked for pay for this service until a short time ago. Witnesses testified that Setera had been given money to settle bills contracted for at the time of Wampa's death, but that he had failed to satisfy them. The case was taken under advisement.

J. J. GROSS TO SELL 'LIFE OF GOVERNOR JOHNSON'

J. J. Gross has secured the agency in this county for the sale of the book "The Life of Governor Johnson." He will receive the prospectus next week, and delivery will be made in January or February. The late governor was very popular in this county, as well as throughout the state, and the sale will no doubt be very large. As the life of the governor is a beautiful example for the younger generation to emulate, there should be a copy of this book in every home.

Dr. E. L. Fortier returned Tuesday from Perham, where he assisted in a surgical operation.

John Boock and Lizzie Lubke, both of this county, were married by Judge Shaw Wednesday afternoon.

Carlyle, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Hennen, has recovered from an attack of diphtheria.

DIED.

Charles W. Betts, aged 82 years, died suddenly Tuesday night at about 11 o'clock at his home, 708 First street northeast, cause of death being neuralgia of the heart, with which disease he had been afflicted for some time.

Mr. Betts was in his usual health when he retired for the evening at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday. He ate a hearty supper, read for a while, and complained but slightly of his heart aching. Owing to the condition of his heart he propped himself into a sitting posture with the pillow. He called his daughter, Caroline, who resided with him, at about 9:45 and she sat near him and read. On looking up she noticed that his eyes were twitching but she thought that he was simply getting sleepy. A few minutes later she looked up at him again. His head was drooped, and the pallor of death was on his features. A physician was called, and he pronounced the aged man dead. Deceased had made a trip to town on Monday with no worse effect than making him quite tired.

Charles W. Betts was born at Ballston Centre, Saratoga, N. Y., January 28, 1828, and resided there until the year 1858, when he was married and moved to Litchfield, Mich. In 1868 he moved to Alexandria, Minn., where he opened a loan office. Here he resided nine years, after which he moved to this city, making his home here ever since. His wife died three years ago, since which time Miss Caroline Betts, his daughter, kept house for him.

Deceased is survived by three children: Miles C. Betts of Johnston, N. Y., and S. C. Betts and Miss Caroline Betts of this city; also two brothers and a sister. They are: Morehouse Betts of Boston, Spough, William Betts of Boston Centre, and Miss Ellen Betts of Albany, N. Y. A telegram was sent to the relatives, and Miles C. Betts telegraphed that he was unable to come.

The funeral was held yesterday from the home, Rev. W. H. North officiating.

W. T. Tourtilotte of this city has been advised of the death of his brother, V. Tourtilotte of Burlington, Wash., which occurred in Alaska, whether he had gone on business relative to some mines. Mr. Tourtilotte resided here some years ago, but of late years was in the contracting business at Burlington, Wash. He was forty-eight years of age, and is survived by a wife and three children. Particulars of his death have not been received by relatives here.

BASKET BALL TONIGHT

Business College and Pierz Teams to Play the First Game of Season

The Success basket ball team of the Little Falls Business college will play its first game of the season this evening, when it meets the Pierz quint on the local floor. While from a smaller place, the Pierz aggregation is reported to be a fast one and capable of giving the local boys a tussle for the laurels of victory. A month's practice has put them in excellent trim, and as they defeated the "All Stars" of this city last season, they are hoping for greater honors, and will go into the game with zest.

The Success team has not had a full week's practice, and the number of those trying out for positions has not been large up to this time, but it is expected that before the season is very far advanced a quint of championship size will be turned out with the material which is being trained by Coach Wetzel. Tonight's game will demonstrate what the boys can do with but a few days' practice, and show what the possibilities are for equaling the record made by last season's quint.

Coach Wetzel states that the probable lineup of the local five will be as follows for the Pierz game, which will take place at 8:15 at the Germania hall: Hall and Gannon, forwards; Great and Diederich, guards; and McGonagle or Brannen, center.

All should come out and root for the home team.

The team will play the big Bemidji basket ball team some time next month at Bemidji, and a game with the St. Cloud Normal the latter part of January at St. Cloud.

The new suits ordered for the team have not arrived as yet, being delayed by the Switchmen's strike.

HOSPITAL NOTES.

Paul Felix of Belle Prairie, who was receiving medical treatment, returned home Wednesday.

Eddie Nelson, son of Oscar Nelson of Green Prairie, underwent an operation for a ruptured appendix Sunday afternoon. The boy is doing quite well.

Frank Baker of Pierz entered the hospital Saturday for medical treatment.

Miss Olive Gendreau, daughter of Paul Gendreau, living east of the city, underwent an operation for the removal of one of her tonsils yesterday.

Dr. J. H. Newman who recently underwent an operation, left the hospital Wednesday.

SMITH FOUND GUILTY

Jury Returns a Verdict of First Degree in Led-beter Case

Mankato, Minn., Dec. 16.—The jury in the case of Frank Smith, charged with the murder of H. J. Ledbeter, a well-known farmer of this county, which retired at 12:30 p. m. Tuesday, arrived at a verdict at 4:45 p. m. yesterday. It was sent back because it had interlined a request for leniency on the face of the verdict and when this was corrected it was sent back a second time to rectify a technical error in the verdict. The jury returned finally at 5:15 p. m. and rendered a verdict of murder in the first degree, as charged in the indictment, and also filed a recommendation for leniency.

None of the members had heard of Smith's criminal record as related by Sheriff Devine of Logan county, Illinois, and Deputy Warden Dowell, Chester, Ill., penitentiary, and expressed gratification that their judgment was sustained by developments outside the trial.

The trial of Mrs. Grace Ledbeter began yesterday afternoon two hours after the jury retired in the Smith case. This had not been expected by the state, which had made arrangements to take the case up Dec. 27. The defense insisted on an immediate trial, however, and the court so ordered.

See our 12c special mixed candy. —Sylvester & Nichols.

Jacob Grest was selected to replace Edward Berg as captain of the business college basket ball team at a meeting held Monday evening.

A fine line of real hand-painted china. It's the Sauter line. —Spirits J. Vassaly, Diamond Sign Jeweler.

Frank Renick has been elected Esteemed Loyal Knight of the local lodge of Elks vice F. L. Harrigan, who has moved to St. Cloud.

Mike Kowalsak has disposed of his interest in the saloon conducted by himself and Kalusa on Broadway east to Martin Lasky, and will henceforth do farming.

Drew Amo writes from Des Moines, Iowa, at which place he is attending the Highland Park college, that he is playing a guard position on the college basket ball quint.

The meeting which was called for last Friday evening at Dr. S. H. Fortier's office for the purpose of organizing an indoor basket ball team to represent the East side fell through.

STRIKE IS STILL ON

Shipping Conditions Have Improved, But are Far From Normal

This week of the Switchmen's strike has found local railroad conditions slowly but steadily improving. The passenger trains are running closer to schedule time, and a couple west-bound trains pass through daily, bringing from one to three carloads of merchandise each day. The east-bound freight trains are not very regular however. From two to three hundred cars, both loaded and empty, are held up on the old main line tracks, and very little is being done in the matter of putting these in motion.

It is stated that freight of all kinds is now being accepted for shipment at the local station, perishable goods being accepted the first of the week for the first time since the strike went into effect; and that all L. C. L. business is moving first rate.

Local coal dealers have received four carloads of coal since the strike commenced, one on Saturday and three on Monday, and one from another firm which expects a car of soft coal in a day or two. It can be seen that there will be no danger of a fuel famine during the present strike, as besides this the farmers are hauling in from thirty to forty cords of wood per day at present.

The local flour mills are having as heavy receipts of wheat as at any time this year, and shipments are being made quite regularly, these west-bound going through all right, but those east-bound being subject to considerable delay at the Minnesota transfer.

At the Pine Tree company mill the supply of cars is very irregular, one day getting all they need, but the next very few.

A local hardware man stated that while he was receiving considerable freight, a few days ago he wished to ship a stove to a party at Kelliber on the Minnesota & International branch of the Northern Pacific, but it was not accepted at the local freight house. He was told that he would be apprised when it could be accepted but that freight was not to be accepted for points on the M. & I. at present. He had not been notified up to late yesterday.

A convention of all the railway organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor will be held in St. Paul tomorrow to consider the Switchmen's strike, and among the possibilities is that a general strike will be called in case the matter is not settled.

FOURNIER ACQUITTED

But Accused Man is Rearrested on Indictment for Killing Girl

Brainerd, Minn., Dec. 15.—Paul Fournier was acquitted of the murder of N. O. Dahl this morning, the jury having been out since yesterday afternoon.

Fournier was immediately rearrested on the charge of murdering the daughter, Agot Dahl. He will be taken back to Bemidji this afternoon to await trial, having been previously indicted on that charge.

The jury came to an agreement at 2:30 this morning out did not report till court opened.

ELECT OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected at a meeting of the A. F. & A. M. Wednesday evening:

Worshipful Master—Harry Meyers.
Senior Warden—Aug. Christensen.
Junior Warden—Harry Stillwell.
Treasurer—Frank Renick.
Secretary—Neil Woodworth.

The appointive officers will be appointed at the first meeting in January.

At a meeting of the Royal Neighbors Monday evening the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Orator—Mrs. C. H. Brown.
Vice Orator—Mrs. John Cairns.
Past Orator—Mrs. Frank Renick.
Recorder—Mrs. Lon Harrison.
Receiver—Miss Laura Gorman.
Chancellor—Mrs. G. H. Enka.
Marsh—Mrs. Margaret O'Neill.
Inside Guard—Mrs. Garvia.
Outside Guard—Mrs. Baldwin.
Physician—Dr. E. E. Hall.
Managers—Mrs. Lillie Renee and J. W. Crossfield.

At a meeting of lodge No. 18, K. O. T. M., Tuesday evening officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

Commander—David Averill.
Lieutenant Commander—Erick Peterson.
Sergeant—Frank Moore.
Recorder—George L. Gerrits.
Chaplain—E. L. Johnson.
First Master of Guards—Herman Detloff.
Second Master of Guards—J. C. Smart.
Master at Arms—John Halseth.
Picket—W. J. Girock.
Sentinel—Howard Hoyoy.
Executive Committee—Geo. L. Gerrits, E. L. Johnson, Herman Detloff.

A smoker was indulged in after the business meeting.

A number of friends were entertained by the Misses Curran and Anderson, teachers in the local public schools, at the home of Mrs. J. B. Connel Tuesday evening. Miss Curran will not teach here after the holidays.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

Schools Close Today for Two Weeks - Exercises This Afternoon

With today's sessions, the first half of the school year for the local schools is completed, and the Christmas vacation of two weeks commences. The first half of the school year has been a very successful one. Each of the grades of the different schools of the city will either have a Christmas program of its own or take part in one given by another grade this afternoon. The pupils have been rehearsing for these programs and playlets and promise to give excellent programs.

The Seventh and Eighth grades of Lincoln school gave a fine program at the school last night, which was well attended. The Eighth grade of the Columbia school gives a play this afternoon, and the Sophomore Literary club of the High school will give a program and farce during the last two sessions of school this afternoon.

Some of the lower grades will have Christmas trees in connection with their programs.

During the Christmas vacation the schools will be given a general cleaning-up, and some repairing will be done.

Practically all the teachers will spend the holidays at their homes.

Miss Curran, who was substituting for Miss Lewis, will teach in Perham when the schools open for the second half of the term, and Miss Lewis will resume her class here.

SHOP EARLY.

The last week before Christmas will be occasioned with the usual business rush, and in order to give all a chance to do their Christmas buying the stores will be open every evening, commencing Monday. Glance over the columns of this paper and make yourself acquainted with the large assortment of goods, toys, etc. that go to make handsome Christmas presents for every member of the family, relatives and friends. All holiday goods have been received by the local merchants, and exceptionally fine stocks of holiday goods are being shown at the business houses, whose ads appear in this issue of the Herald.

Do your shopping during the next few days and save yourself much worry, as also for the patient clerks, who will bear the brunt of the holiday rush.

CHRISTMAS TREE PARTY.

A novel Christmas-tree party was given at the P. F. Hoeh home Wednesday night, at which fourteen or fifteen young men and young ladies were in attendance. The gifts were novel in every respect, and were confined to the value of not to exceed five cents each. The guests assembled at the Christmas-tree, from which about seventy-five strings led to every part of the house, from the attic to the cellar, and in one or two instances to the shed. Each guest chose a string and followed it to wherever it led to and got the present at the other end of it. It is stated that one got a bottle with a nipple, another a baby's teething-ring, and others gifts more or less along these lines.

TO OPEN ROLLER RINK.

Clare McPherson has rented the vacant store room in the Realty Improvement company's block, fronting First street and will open up a roller rink there this winter. He expects to have everything in readiness to open up Tuesday evening, and in all probability will engage a three or four-piece orchestra for the opening evening. Mr. McPherson has purchased the roller skates used last year at the roller rink conducted by Arthur Reynolds, sixty pairs in all. The rink will be open every evening.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Heroux, Sunday, Dec. 12, a daughter.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Joe Houle of Belle Prairie, Monday, Dec. 13, a daughter.

Born—To Dr. and Mrs. S. H. Fortier, Wednesday, Dec. 15, a daughter.

The Ladies Aid of the Norwegian Lutheran church met with Mrs. T. O. Berg Wednesday.

John Smith has accepted a position as switchman with the local crew vice Ed. Fraser resigned.

Miss Anna Rothwell is assisting in the Barney Burton Dry Goods store during the holiday business.

J. E. Hildebrand, who moved to St. Paul some time ago to make his home there, has returned to Ft. Ripley.

Joe Anderson of Rte No. 1 was in the city Tuesday and ordered The Herald sent to his address. He says the Herald listens like the best paper in the county.

A dance will be given this evening at the Elks hall to the members of the 1909 high school football squad, their ladies, and their parents, by Joseph Diederich, Clifton Roberts and Charles Huff.

John Schaefer of Pierz was in the city Wednesday enroute to St. Paul, from where he will ship a stool bakery to Pierz, at which place he will soon open a bakery shop. He will also handle a line of groceries.

Chas. Van Hercke made a shipment of clover seed from Pierz Monday, at which place he paid out \$2,700 for the seed at an average of \$7.40 per bushel. This was the clean-up of the clover seed in the vicinity of Pierz and Buckman towns.

DUBARRY AT THE MILO

First Play in a Couple of Years to be Put on Saturday Night

The management of the Milo theatre is certainly to be congratulated on their fruitful efforts to give the public first-class vaudeville and moving pictures; as also in the dramatic line. A large number of people have been attending the attractions each evening, and their appreciation of the vaudeville presented has been freely expressed during the past week.

The first drama to be presented in the enlarged theatre will be put on the stage tomorrow evening, when DuBarry, Mrs. Leslie Carter's greatest success, will be played. Sam Spedden presents Claire Paige in this great play. This is the first high-class drama to be presented in this city for the past couple years, during which time the people of this city who wished to see plays were forced to journey to Hoylton, Brainerd or St. Cloud. The local theatre, as now enlarged, gives ample stage room and auditorium for the presentation of any of the plays that stop at the above named places, and the Milo management has entered a circuit which will furnish it with high-class plays once or twice a month, according to what the people of this city want.

All the theatre-goers should attend the presentation of DuBarry, and thus assure the success of the first show put on at the Milo. It is guaranteed that the play will be appreciated by the audience.

BIJOU CHANGES HANDS.

The Bijou theatre, which has been run by Koop & Hoffman during the past couple years, was disposed of Tuesday afternoon to Leo Roble and Frank Kopacz, and in turn by these gentlemen Wednesday to Hugo Peterson.

The Bijou has been quite successful, the moving pictures and vaudeville being excellent. Mr. Hoffman will leave for Chicago shortly.

The theatre is to be closed for a few days. It was at first thought that it would be removed to Perham by the new proprietor, but it will most likely reopen here in a few days.

W. H. Gran arrived Wednesday from Hallock, Minn., where was engaged on the Hallock News staff, for a visit with his family.

Marriage licenses issued: John Joyce and Edna Riley; John Boock and Lizzie Lubke; Eugene L. Gray and Amelia Baebeler.

The election of officers of the local lodge of pochohtas, which was to have been held Wednesday evening, has been postponed two weeks.

James G. Joslin of Melby, N. D., is visiting with Mrs. Harriet Joslin. He will go from here to Richland Centre, Wis., for a visit with relatives.

Rev. L. C. McBride, pastor of the local Presbyterian church, went to Ft. Ripley Wednesday, where he assisted Evangelist Findley in conducting services.

St. Cloud is in high spirits over the contemplated locating of a large factory at that point. The concern needs a building 50x150, three-stories high, to house the plant.

A party was given by Miss Kathryn Kerman at her home at 107 1st street for a number of her friends. The time was pleasantly passed in games of various kinds, and refreshments were served.

COME AND GONE

Chas. Huff returned Tuesday morning from a visit in Minneapolis.

Mrs. John Siemers of Swanville arrived Wednesday for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Gerrits.

B. J. Hinkle made a business visit to Minneapolis Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Martin visited in Minneapolis Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Martin visited in Minneapolis Wednesday.

Nels Peterson made a business trip to Ft. Ripley Wednesday.

Miss Mary Herrick, who was visiting in Minneapolis, returned Wednesday.

Mrs. Elizabeth Steele and daughter, Laura, went to Minneapolis Wednesday, where they will make their future home.

Mrs. J. Kukinaki, who was visiting in Minneapolis, returned Wednesday.

Dr. J. G. Millsap, who was on a business visit to Minneapolis, returned Tuesday evening.

Frank Kiewel went to Park Rapids Wednesday on a business visit.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Ruth visited in the twin cities a short time this week.

Jud. Mayrand returned to Cloquet to saw in the mill at that place, after a short visit with relatives here.

Mrs. Charles J. Janson and son of Walker visited here a few days this week, enroute home from a visit in the southern part of the state.

F. Vincent, the local hieaman of the Northwestern Telephone company, went to Hawley Wednesday to repair some of the company's lines at that place.

John Vertin made a business trip to St. Paul yesterday.

S. Troby was a business visitor in Brainerd yesterday.

C. E. Buckman returned from a visit in the twin cities Wednesday evening.

Andrew Johnson went to St. Cloud yesterday on a business visit.

Frank Rasmussen came down from Gray Eagle yesterday on a business visit.