

# LITTLE FALLS HERALD

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LITTLE FALLS, MORRISON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1922

## CHRISTMAS IN LOCAL CHURCHES

### SPECIAL SERVICES AND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS IN LOCAL HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Special services and programs will be held in the various local churches during Christmas week. The Herald has endeavored to secure the programs for every local church and those available are given herewith:

**Bethel Lutheran**  
Rev. C. E. Sholander  
"Yuletide" Christmas morning at 8 o'clock. Special music. Sunday school Christmas program at 7 o'clock p. m., Christmas Day.

**Church of Our Saviour**  
Rev. Arthur Goodger  
Children's festival with Christmas tree Saturday evening, Dec. 23, 7 o'clock. Midnight service Sunday night at 11:30. Full orchestra and choir, with soloists. Usual morning service on Sunday. No services on Christmas day.

**First Baptist**  
Rev. Gordon Hasselblad  
Sunday school Christmas program Friday evening, Dec. 22, 7:30 o'clock. Usual Sunday services. Services for Christmas Day not yet known.

**First Congregational**  
Rev. A. C. Bacon  
Services Christmas day at 11 a. m. Special music. Theme for sermon "The Religious Meaning of Birth." Christmas party for Sunday school and congregation Friday evening, Dec. 22, in gymnasium. Tree and Santa Claus.

**First English Lutheran**  
Rev. E. S. Estrem  
Services Christmas day at 11 a. m. English and Norwegian sermon. Special music by girls' choir. Sunday school Christmas tree program in evening at 7:45. English services at Randall Sunday at 11 a. m., and at Clough at 3 p. m. Services at Pillsbury Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 11 a. m., and Christmas tree program at 8 p. m.

**Methodist Episcopal**  
Rev. S. S. Farley  
Christmas services Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, special music. Christmas concert by Sunday school Sunday evening at 7:30.

**Our Lady of Lourdes**  
Rev. J. Musial  
Midnight mass and masses at 8 a. m., and 10:30 a. m., Christmas Day. Special music.

**Sacred Heart**  
Rev. J. P. Altendorf  
Midnight mass, English sermon. Mass at 9 a. m. Christmas Day with German sermon and high mass at 10:30 with English sermon. Masses from 7 o'clock a. m., on, between other masses.

**St. Francis Xavier**  
Rev. A. Lamothe  
Midnight mass. Low mass Christmas Day at 8 a. m., and high mass at 10:30 a. m. English sermons.

**Zion Lutheran**  
Rev. W. L. Hass  
On Christmas Eve bilingual (German and English) children's services in Little Falls at 8 o'clock p. m. On Christmas morning (Dec. 25) German and English services in Little Falls at 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock respectively.

**St. Adelbert's**  
Rev. S. Szczymski  
Midnight mass. Low mass at 8 a. m., Christmas Day and high mass at 10:15 a. m.

**St. John's Evangelical**  
Rev. L. Deczloff  
Divine services Dec. 24, at 10:30 a. m. No Sunday school. In the evening at 7:30, Christmas program given by the Sunday school. Recitations, songs, a special sermon for the children, some selections rendered by the church choir, distribution of gifts. The worship on Christmas morning at 10:30 will be in German.

**Scandinavian Mission**  
Rev. G. E. Peterson  
Services Christmas Day at 2:30 p. m. Address by Rev. Karl Soderberg of Sweden.

**BANK ROBBERS SCARED AWAY**  
Hanover, Minn., Dec. 20.—Armed with rifles, pistols and shot guns, virtually every man in Hanover turned out early today to repel four robbers who attempted to raid the Hanover State bank and forced the bandits to flee with their work unfinished.

Hanover is a town of about 300 population about 25 miles northwest of Minneapolis.

William Weimand, a storekeeper near the bank, who was working late on his books, saw the bandits drive up about 2 a. m., and notified Miss Leona Haefner, night telephone operator, who spread the alarm. Soon every available man was hurrying toward the bank.

When the bandits saw they were discovered, they jumped into their automobile and sped out of town, leaving behind them a huge sheet of canvas and two acetylene tanks to be used in opening the vault. A. K. Kerscht, cashier of the bank, said there was about \$10,000 in cash in the institution.

**NEW U. S. MOVE ON REPARATION**  
London, Dec. 20.—The United States, at the request of a trade commission headed by Wilhelm Cuno, the German chancellor, has begun negotiations with France and England looking to the appointment of a body of American business men for the fixing of a new basis for the payment of war reparations.

In semi-official quarters it was said that England's consent to such a plan had been cabled to Secretary Hughes today, and that the American State department at Washington expected an early reply from France.

Regular meeting of the Edmen lodge tonight at 8 o'clock. Election of officers. Lunch.

## HIGH SCHOOL HAS EXCITING ELECTION

### OFFICERS CHOSEN FOR NEW SCHOOL GOVT.—CARL SALLDEN MAYOR

Carl Sallden, senior, was elected mayor of the new system of self government which is about to be inaugurated at the high school, at a general election held yesterday. The election proved one of the most exciting affairs in the history of the local school and marked the climax of a two weeks' campaign of soap box oratory, etc., by the nominees for the various offices.

With the officers elected the students will now proceed to put into working shape the new system, which is patterned after the municipal form of government.

Mr. Sallden was the Democratic candidate and although the fight was three-cornered he won by a substantial margin, carrying every class. He received 189 votes. Spencer Nelson, Independent candidate, was second in the running for mayor with 113 votes and Eugene LaFond was third with 37. Other officers elected were as follows:

City Clerk—Margaret Richie.  
City Attorney—Harold Pierce.  
City Treasurer—John Schreiber.  
Judge—Gordon Rosenmeier.

Aldermen-at-large—Dorothy Kiewel, Alderman Senior Class—Ethan Brown, Ralph Johnson, Clifford Olson, Florence Ring.

Aldermen Junior Class—Walter Grimes, Frank Kiewel, Floyd Nelson, Leonard Simonet.

Aldermen Sophomore Class—Mary Bacon, Louis Fortier, Charlotte Hall, Arthur Hauser.

Aldermen Freshmen Class—Sophie Guernon, Eugene Keable, Gunnar Norberg, John Tanner.

Miss Ione Crose, defeated candidate for Alderman-at-large, has demanded a recount.

Following is the tabulated vote: Mayor—Carl Sallden, Dem., 189; Spencer Nelson, Ind., 113; Eugene LaFond, Rep., 37.

City Clerk—Margaret Richie, Rep., 183; Henry Gierok, Ind., 159.

City Attorney—Harold Pierce, Rep., 182; William Caldwell, Ind., 159.

City Treasurer—John Schreiber, Dem., 187; Donald Brown, Ind., 158.

Alderman-at-large—Dorothy Kiewel, Rep., 169; Ione Crose, Ind., 167.

Senior Aldermen—Ethan Brown 43, Ralph Johnson 50, Clifford Olson 33, Florence Ring 51, Mercedes Gravel 20.

Junior Aldermen—Walter Grimes 63, Frank Kiewel 77, Floyd Nelson 61, Leonard Simonet 59, Fred Keelick 41, Carl Peterson 40, Calvin Outhout 14.

Sophomore Aldermen—Mary Bacon 54, Louis Fortier 71, Charlotte Hall 43, Arthur Hauser 40, Helma Karhula 39, Ted Doty 34, Harold Spary 25, Stephen Vassly 21, Eileen Kallher 11, Lester LeChapelle 16, Robert Nelson 6.

Freshmen Aldermen—Sophie Guernon 63, Eugene Keable 75, Gunnar Norberg 67, John Tanner 72, Stella Allord 55, Daniel Bastien 51, Elizabeth Cameron 21.

Municipal Judge—Gordon Rosenmeier, unopposed, 340.

**1200 PUPILS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS—GIRLS PREDOMINATE**  
A summary of the enrollment in the local public schools for the last six-week period, made by Supt. Bergquist, shows a total enrollment of 1,200 pupils, of which number 665 were girls and 535 boys. In the high school the girls number 299 with 265 girls and 144 boys.

In the grades there were 402 girls and 371 boys. In percentage the Central school led with 98. The high school and Hawthorne scored 96 per cent and the Columbia and Lincoln 94 per cent. Of the grade schools, the Columbia had the least number of cases of tardiness, 22. There were 11 tardiness cases in the high school.

Miss Katie Smieja, daughter of Peter Smieja of Bellevue, was discharged from St. Gabriel's hospital yesterday. She underwent an operation for appendicitis.

## ORPHANS TO GET CHRISTMAS TREAT

### CITIZENS WILL MAKE USUAL DISTRIBUTION OF GOODIES

Orphans at St. Otto's orphanage in this city will be given the usual Christmas treat by the citizens of Little Falls on Christmas Day. J. M. Totten and John Wetzel, who have charge of this, collected a nice sum from local business and professional people to give the children a Merry Christmas.

A program will be held at the orphanage on Christmas Day at 3 p. m., at which the goodies will be distributed. The Sisters in charge at the orphanage are preparing a program for the occasion and a talk will be given by some citizen. The program is public and all who wish are invited to attend. This will probably be the last opportunity for the people of Little Falls to give these children a Christmas treat as the orphanage will probably be transferred to St. Cloud the coming year.

Homes of the poor of the city will also be remembered on Christmas Day. The Elks lodge, Women's Guild and Civic league all plan to bring Christmas cheer into the homes of the needy.

**FORMER LITTLE FALLS RESIDENT DIED IN MINNEAPOLIS**  
Mrs. Eugene Cota of Minneapolis, a former resident of Little Falls, died Tuesday at her home in Minneapolis, according to word received here. No particulars were given. The remains will be shipped here today and the funeral will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock from the Church of Our Saviour.

Mrs. Cota was well known to the older residents of Little Falls. The family were early settlers in Little Falls township and later lived in this city. They moved to Minneapolis a number of years ago.

## PREVENT SPREAD OF TUBERCULOSIS

### HANDLING IN STOCKYARDS CATTLE THAT HAVE REACTED TO TUBERCULIN TEST

South St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 21, 1922.—The following statement has been issued by Dr. M. O. Anderson, inspector in charge, U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry here regarding the handling in public stock yards of tubercular cattle:

"As a safeguard against the further spread of tuberculosis among cattle it has been decided by state and federal authorities that more restrictive measures are necessary in the handling of these cattle when they arrive at public markets for slaughter.

"Beginning January 1st, 1923, certain pens in the South St. Paul stock yards will be set aside for holding these cattle exclusively.

"They will be driven direct from the unloading chutes to these pens and will be sold and driven to the scales from there. As it is very important not only to the state and federal inspectors at the stockyards, but to the owner that they be properly identified when they arrive at the market, it is requested that in order that identification may be made without chances of mistake that when reactors are loaded in a car with other cattle that the reactors be partitioned off in one end. This is especially necessary for cattle that arrive at the stockyards during the night when other means of identification are hard to see.

"The importance of identification of these animals is particularly important to the owner, inasmuch as if identification can not be made he loses his chance of receiving indemnity for the cattle.

"This method of handling reactors at markets will undoubtedly assist in the better disposition of this class of cattle, and reduce the spread of tuberculosis to a minimum. Measures of this kind are being taken at all other public markets.

"As owners of cattle are vitally interested in the eradication of tuberculosis their co-operation and assistance is requested in the enforcement of this program."

Mrs. S. C. Vasaly returned yesterday from Lowell, Mass., where she was called on account of the illness of her mother, Mrs. Cecile Fortier. She left her mother showing improvement in her condition.

Stoll's Colts got revenge Wednesday evening, defeating the Berg team by a margin of 7 points in a horseshoe pitching contest. This makes it a game each and the teams will play the rubber next Wednesday evening.

day afternoon of last week at 5 o'clock from hemorrhage due to gastric ulcers. Mrs. Karpinski had been ill for about a month. She was 54 years old.

Mrs. Karpinski was born in Germany. She came to Little Falls with her parents thirty-five years ago and has resided in the county continually ever since. Surviving are her husband and nine children. She also leaves several brothers and sisters. Mrs. Michael Grzeza and Mrs. Alex Artowski of this city are sisters and Frank Drosky of East Grand Forks is a brother.

The funeral was held from Sacred Heart church, Flensburg, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. Rev. Henkoski officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

The 11-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Whippert, who died Monday morning at 11 o'clock from pneumonia. The remains were brought to Little Falls and the funeral was held from the E. Stieglitz home Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment was in Oakland cemetery.

Mrs. Paul Karpinski of Flensburg died at St. Gabriel's hospital Thursday.

## HOGS HOLD FIRM CATTLE WEAKER

### LOWER TENDENCY IN THE CATTLE TRADE—LAMBS SHOW BREAK OF ABOUT 75c

(By U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Minnesota Department of Agriculture.)

**Tuesday's Closing**  
Cattle 3,700. Killing classes steady to weak, stockers and feeders steady to 25c lower. Calves 3,500. Mostly 25c lower. Best lights largely \$7.75 and \$8.00. Hogs 21,000. Bulk good hogs steady at \$8.00, packing sows even, \$7.00 to \$7.40. Sheep 1,800. Lambs 25c lower, bulk \$13.75, sheep steady.

South St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 19, 1922: Present tendency in cattle prices is downward in spite of lighter receipts here and elsewhere. Longed steers and yearlings of good and choice quality are still quotable from \$9.00 to around \$12.00, but only a few individuals of this kind are being marketed. Shortfed steers of a medium grade have sold in load lots during the past week's trade from \$7.25 to \$8.50, with bulk of steers and yearlings here being of a common grade now selling from \$7.00 down to \$5.50 or somewhat less.

Bulk of the fat stock is selling from \$3.25 to \$5.00 with a limited number of the better fed offerings on up to \$7.00 or higher. Canners and cutters are going from \$2.25 to \$3.25, mostly \$2.50 to \$3.00. Bologna bulls are bringing \$3.25 to \$4.25, the bulk \$3.50 to \$4.00.

Best light vealers sold today largely at \$7.75 and \$8.00, with seconds largely \$5.50 and winners \$3.00.

A few stockers and feeders on the fat cattle order are finding a country outlet from \$6.50 to \$7.00, with cattle in strictly stocker, and feeder flesh selling from \$3.50 to \$6.50 or steady to 25c lower than last week.

The hog market is holding firm despite the heavy receipts, bulk of good butcher and bacon hogs cashing at \$8.00 today, packing sows \$7.00 to \$7.50 or fully steady with a week ago. Lamb prices mostly \$8.25 to \$8.40.

Prices have been discounted 75c the past week, bulk of the fat natives cashing at \$13.75 today, culls and common lambs mostly \$6.00 to \$11.00. Sheep are about steady, lightweight fed ewes going at \$7.00 to \$7.25, bulk handweight natives \$6.50 to \$6.75; heavy largely \$5.00.

**DR. BROWN ON COMMONWEALTH FUND COMMITTEE**  
According to the St. Cloud Times of Tuesday Dr. J. C. Brown, president of the St. Cloud Teachers' College, has had conferred upon him the appointment as representative of the normal schools and state teachers' colleges of the United States on the Education Committee of the Commonwealth Fund.

This is a distinct honor of the highest rank since the Commonwealth Fund is the most largely endowed philanthropic organization in this country. Other prominent men on this committee are President Coffman of the Minnesota state university; President Charters of the Carnegie Institute of Technology; Superintendent Gwinn of the city schools of New Orleans and William Wood, state commissioner of education of California.

**P. O. SERVICE CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Christmas Day, Dec. 25, being observed as a holiday, the local postoffice service will be as follows:—One delivery by the city carriers. Regular delivery by the rural carriers.

The general delivery window will be open one hour from 8:00 o'clock a. m., until 9:00 o'clock a. m., for general delivery, mail and sale of stamps only. No money order, registry or postal savings business transacted.

Miss Kathryn Christen, teacher of piano, entertained her pupils at a Christmas party Wednesday evening. First they attended the movies and then they were entertained at the studio, games furnishing the amusement. A lunch was served. The studio was decorated appropriate to the season.

Bernard M. Baruch, New York financier, suggested to the convention the formation of a national wide banking structure, patterned after the Federal Reserve system, but designed to primarily serve agriculture, that would give adequate service to farmers.

The convention pledged itself to help editors obtain relief from the burden of the present marketing program.

When the convention opened, there were two schools of thought, one which held that marketing should be the major theme of the organization in the future, as in the past, and the other that educational research activities should be stressed. Before the convention was two days the marketing theme was far in the majority and soon passed resolutions which placed the farm bureau more than ever at the head of the co-operative selling effort in this country.

The convention time and again expressed itself as determined to obtain relief for farmers, who find themselves confronted with the fact that their dollars worth are only 62 cents, while those of other industries are worth 100 cents.

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## LEGISLATURE ACTION TO GAGE ROAD WORK

### OFFICIAL ASSESSMENTS PROPOSALS WILL BENEFIT EVERY SECTION OF TRUNK SYSTEM

Improvements during 1923 and 1924 on all state trunk highways—so-called Babcock roads—will depend largely upon the next legislature on recommendations by the state highway department for first issues of state trunk highway bonds.

Presenting the important fact, John H. Mullen, assistant commissioner and chief highway engineer, said that only by issuing bonds can the state make greatly needed improvements; stop waste of funds for maintenance; give immediate benefits in proportion to funds used; speed up the highway program to keep among the good roads states.

"The highway bond proposals are for the advantage of all parts of the state," said Mr. Mullen. "They will provide not only for permanent improvements on heavy traffic routes but equally for far more extensive grading and graveling work covering big mileages of light-traffic sections. Otherwise the latter class of work must wait under the policy of using funds to best serve the largest numbers of highway users."

"There is no magic in road building," said Mr. Mullen. "Reasonable amount must be forthcoming to carry on the necessary work. Results thus far have come from low prices, economical administration and so forth, but have been governed primarily by the funds available. The highway department is recommending highway bond issues because they fit into the general scheme and will insure greater fairness and satisfaction."

Mr. Mullen predicted that the public through its senators and representatives will put through the legislative program and that far-reaching results will follow to prove the wisdom of such favorable action.

## MARKETING FIRST IN BUREAU'S PLAN

### NATIONAL CONVENTION OUTLINES WORK OF MOVEMENT DURING COMING YEAR

Energetic prosecution of a national co-operative marketing program will be the watch-word in the Farm Bureau movement in 1923. This was determined at the annual convention held at Chicago, Dec. 11 to 14. O. E. Bradford was unanimously elected president and J. H. Howard, who held that office since the national organization was formed three years ago, was re-elected.

Placed before the convention the Minnesota Farm Bureau more than elected a member of the national executive committee. With him serving from the Mid-west states will be Howard Leonard of Illinois and W. H. Settle of Indiana. There are nine more other sections on the board. W. H. Walker of California was named vice president.

Bradford has been president of the Ohio federation for several years and has been a moving spirit behind the commodity marketing movement in that state, where a large number of farmer-owned selling agencies have been organized under Farm Bureau leadership.

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## DELECTO ICE CREAM BUSINESS SOLD

### TO KIEWEL COMPANY—SYLVESTER-NICHOLS COMPANY WILL INCREASE CANDY OUTPUT

Delecto ice cream and dairy products are no longer on the market, as the result of a deal just closed whereby the Kiewel Associated Products Company of this city purchased the ice cream manufacturing equipment, business and good will from the Sylvester-Nichols Company. The new owners have already taken over the business and the equipment has been moved to their plant on Seventh street northeast.

Simultaneous with the sale of its ice cream business and equipment the Sylvester-Nichols Company discontinued the butter manufacturing and dairy products business and the creamery and pasteurizing equipment is now for sale.

For the time being the change at the Sylvester-Nichols factory necessitates reduction of the force there, but the company will commence at once to increase the capacity of the candy manufacturing plant so that in time they will employ at least five people more than they did before selling the ice cream business.

The room in the Sylvester-Nichols factory that was occupied by the ice cream and dairy products machinery will be taken up for additional candy manufacturing equipment. Just what improvements will be made depends on business conditions but it is the intention of the company to get additional machinery, so as to permit manufacture of candies on a much larger scale, thus enabling them to sell to jobbers as well as to dealers. According to the owners the field of candy manufacturing as far as sale to the jobbers is concerned is as large for them as for any other candy manufacturer, being practically unlimited.

On the other hand in the ice cream business the field is limited and there is no room for two factories in Little Falls. Shipping costs have increased to such an extent that as a result there is an ice cream factory in nearly every town of any size.

At present the Sylvester-Nichols company manufactures bulk chocolates, high grade package candies, candy bars, hard candies and a few penny goods. A good deal of the work is now done by hand but the company will put in a chocolate dipping machine, a cutting machine for caramels, etc., a drop frame machine for lemon drops, etc., and others. For some time the company has done the great deal of jobbing and it is not their intention to entirely discontinue this but the aim will be to greatly increase the output of the manufacturing plant so as to be able to compete with other large candy factories in the Northwest.

The purchase of the Sylvester-Nichols ice cream plant by the Kiewel Associated Products Company gives that concern one of the biggest plants of its kind in the state. The Kiewel company also does jobbing in candies, etc., and they expect to handle the Sylvester-Nichols line when that concern goes on a manufacturing basis.

**FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD LENGTHENS FARM CREDITS**  
Washington, Dec. 20.—Bankers' acceptances of six months maturity, drawn by growers of staple agricultural products or co-operative marketing associations, are eligible for purchase or rediscount by Federal Reserve banks under a rule promulgated today by the Federal Reserve board as a start in the direction of longer farm credits for agriculture.

Officials declared the decision, which makes the agricultural paper eligible for rediscount for six months, instead of three, "should be of material assistance to co-operative marketing associations in financing the orderly marketing of crops."

**LOCAL BOY CITY EDITOR OF DULUTH DAILY**  
Friends here are pleased to learn that Ralph Raymond, son of G. C. Raymond of this city, who has been a reporter on the Duluth News-Tribune for the last two years, has been promoted to the position of city editor of that paper. Mr. Raymond got his start in the reporting game in Little Falls, being reporter of the Herald for about a year. From here he went to Aberdeen, S. D., where he was with a daily for some time and gained considerable experience.

**HEARING ON FINAL DESIGNATION OF TRUNK HIGHWAY**  
State Highway Commissioner Babcock will hold a public hearing at the court house here on Wednesday, Dec. 27, regarding the final location of Trunk Highway No. 2 between Motley and Flitger. At present the road in Morrison county, between these two villages is designated as a temporary trunk highway and it is desired to have this designation made permanent. All who are interested should attend this hearing.

Henry, 12-year-old son of Mrs. May Walters of Swan River, is seriously ill with kidney complications and peritonitis following influenza.

**Marriage Licenses**  
Only one marriage license was issued this week, to Otto Johnson, Jr., and Miss Ethel Anderson.

den imposed on them by the present excessive second class postage rates. Continuation of the war, and the common rust bearing barley, the European corn borer and bovine tuberculosis was used.

Frank O. Lowden, former governor of Illinois, told the delegates that only better marketing would save the thousands of good farmers, farming good land as well as they could, who have been unable to make both ends meet.

Official reports showed that while the organization has been going through the setting process during the last year, its cash receipts had been 20 per cent more than in 1921.

During the convention, women delegates held several sessions, at which home economics problems were considered.

The convention, admittedly the most important gathering of farmers in the history of the Farm Bureau, was held to clarify the atmosphere of conflicting opinions as to remedial steps to be applied to the marketing situation, and to outline an aggressive campaign to be followed in 1923.

**Born**  
HERRON—To Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Herron of Belle Prairie, Thursday, Dec. 21, a son.

MORIN—To Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morin of this city, Thursday, Dec. 21, a son, at St. Gabriel's hospital.

VACHON—To Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Vachon, of St. Paul, formerly of Little Falls, Saturday, Dec. 9, a daughter.

NEWMAN—To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Newman of Minneapolis, Tuesday, Dec. 12, a son. Mrs. Newman was before her marriage Miss Helen Mobbie of Little Falls.

**Married**  
Otto Johnson, Jr., and Miss Ethel Anderson, both of Uppsala, were united in marriage by G. W. Kemp, Judge of probate, at his office in the court house Monday afternoon.

## BLAZE DAMAGES KIEWEL BLOCK

### FIRE IN BASEMENT OF COMMERCIAL STATE BANK NIPPED, AVOIDING BIG LOSS

The Commercial State bank, Little Falls Water Power Company office and household goods of several families occupying flats in the Kiewel block on Broadway east suffered considerable smoke damage as the result of a fire early yesterday morning in the basement under the bank.

As near as can be learned the fire started in a box of waste paper in the basement of the Commercial State bank, but the cause of the blaze is unknown. The fire was discovered simultaneously by an operator at the telephone exchange and by Mrs. Kate Wright, who occupies one of the flats. The telephone operator was warned when the insulation on the telephone wires in the basement burned off, thus causing the operation of the flash signal on the telephone switchboard. Answering the signal the operator failed to get a reply and suspecting that something was wrong she notified the night patrolman. In the meantime Mrs. Wright was awakened by the presence of smoke and she called William Batters, fire chief, who occupies a flat in the same building.

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