

SPECIAL Clearance Sale

Commencing Saturday, January 27

Continuing for ten days, we will inaugurate a Clearance Sale of all short lengths in Dress Goods, all kinds of piece goods, all broken lots and left-overs, all kinds of fall and winter goods, consisting of Jackets, Sweaters and Knit Goods, Hosiery and Underwear, Shirt Waists and Wrappers—in fact, goods of all descriptions.

These goods will all be arranged in a special Bargain Department and offered at prices only a small fraction of their real value.

One lot of Ladies' Coats and Jackets, latest style, at **half price.**

One lot of Ladies' Wrappers worth \$1 to \$1.50 at **50c and \$1.00.**

One lot of Ladies' Jackets, formerly sold up to \$15.00, only **\$1.00.**

One lot of Ladies' Belts and Collars, your choice at **10c.**

One lot of knit goods, consisting of Ladies' Sweaters, Golf Gloves, Children's Hoods and Tam O'Shanter's at **less than half price.**

Flannel Gowns and Night Shirts at **less than half price.**

One large lot of Silk Remnants worth up to \$1.50 per yard, only **25c.**

One lot of Boys' and Men's Shirts worth 50 to 75c at **25c.**

A large variety of short lengths in all kinds of Dress Goods at only a small part of their cost.

One lot of Men's Shirts worth \$1.00 at only **50c.**

One lot of Shirt Waists, your choice only **25c.**

Our stock of Spring Goods are arriving daily and you are invited to look them over.

Berkness, Peterson & Co.

a total local rate of 36 1/2 cents; the through rate, however, being 39 cents. To Graceville the through rate is 37 cents. The local rate from Chicago to St. Paul or Minneapolis is 12 1/2 cents for 410 miles, while the local to Graceville is 22 cents per hundred weight for 174 miles. To Moorhead, with the local from Chicago the same as above for the 410 miles, the rate is 27 cents per hundred weight for 232 miles, while the through rate is 42 cents, or 12 1/2 cents more than the combined two local rates.

To Wadena the two local rates are 24 cents, while the through rate from Chicago to Wadena is 39 cents, or 8 1/2 cents more than the combined two local rates. Fergus Falls, paying 12 1/2 cents from Chicago to St. Paul, pays 22 cents from St. Paul to Fergus Falls. It pays a through rate of 39 cents, or 4 1/2 cents more than the total local rate between the two cities. Appleton pays 25 cents for a through rate and paying 12 1/2 cents for 410 miles, pays 20 cents for 144 miles, 2 1/2 cents more for the through rate from Chicago to Appleton than it would pay under the double local rate from Chicago to St. Paul and thence to Appleton.

Practically the same condition applies to Hutchinson, Sacred Heart, Granite Falls, Montevideo and probably a hundred other stations in the state of Minnesota. How many shippers have paid the through rate when, if their interests had been properly conserved and cared for, they would certainly not have paid more than the total of the two local rates. I know personally of instances where shippers who have paid the through rate, after a stubborn contest with the railway and warehouse commission, have finally secured a refund, bringing their freight rates down to the double local charge.

Through Rates Higher Than Combined Local Rates.

This matter of interstate commerce presents a peculiar condition. Why should a man at Fergus Falls pay 22 cents, or nearly twice as much, to have his wife or girls hauled 178 miles from the Twin Cities as the Twin City shipper paid to have it hauled 410 miles to St. Paul or Minneapolis.

We have heard much of the long and the short haul, but under our new system of figures and our present unfavorable system of transportation the railway companies have shown us that the science of railroading is to make a larger charge for a long haul than for two shorter hauls of the same distance. In other words, it now costs more in the cases stated to have a shipment billed directly through from Chicago or Eastern points to a Minnesota destination without a stop than it does to have it billed to St. Paul or Minneapolis, set out there and then rebilled to its destination. It seems to me that there has been a lack of administration upon the part of some of our one. I am credibly informed that the attention of the proper authorities was called to this most appalling condition more than six months ago and yet the published tariff schedules today are no different; and there has been absolutely no change.

It seems to me that the shipper and producer, and the citizen generally, have an interest in the regulation of railway rates and more than ever, from a somewhat limited study of the situation, am I convinced that the only remedy to the citizens of this great state lies in giving the railroad and warehouse commission the unquestioned power to determine, establish and fix the rates of transportation and put the burden of proof to show the unfairness of such a rate upon the power which now controls and establishes the rate. Certainly the Municipal league, gathered as you are from all portions of the state, from Breckenridge and Austin, from Luverne perhaps and Fergus Falls, from Glenwood and from Wabasha, have an interest in this great, living, vital question and that interest combines to impose a duty upon this Municipal league to so exert its influence and to so direct its labor that there shall come, through

your influence exerted upon the legislators or executive bodies, a fair distribution of rates which will not discriminate against individuals or against localities. In the matter of transportation believe it to be a scientific fact that the common carriers of the country do have a right and should have a right to discriminate between commodities, but it should not have the right or the power to discriminate between individuals between localities or between communities.

Railroad Operators Not of One Mind.

I am satisfied that this view of the situation is entertained by at least some of the railway operators of the country. A year ago at Chicago I addressed similar views to those presented here to a body of men in which there were not less than a score of railway magnates. At the close of the address one railway president in former times, who had concurred in the general proposition of governmental regulation; that the rebate and other evils worked a decided hardship to the railways themselves, these hardships growing out of the severe demands made by large shippers who backed their demands by threats of a discontinuance of business unless they were met.

Remedy is in the Ballot.

If there are abuses of the laws of transportation, if there be discriminations against some localities in favor of others, if individuals suffer that others may be favored, wherein lies the remedy? Certainly proper and complete regulation will afford relief. This can be secured over two routes, namely, proper legislation conferring the right of regulation, and then proper administration of the law. In a village in Southern Minnesota last autumn a great railway genius advised the farmer to elect men to legislative positions who would be true to the agricultural interests. Is not the advice given on that occasion pertinent to this? The remedy for many evils in the ballot, properly and effectively used—not with blindness of party spirit or to promote the interests of individuals, but used with the broader idea of promoting the general welfare and securing a more perfect civilization, based, as it must be, on the principles of justice, equality and fairness.

Accepts Bank Position.

Lewis Dale, formerly salesman at the "Big Store" has accepted a position as assistant cashier of a bank at Nekoma, Cavalier county, N. D., in which his uncle, H. J. Dale, of Renville, is interested as one of the directors. Lewis left on Monday night for Nekoma to assume his new duties.

J. T. Otos has for sale some choice city properties at a bargain. 10t

MEMORIES

that are pleasant should be preserved. In after years you will enjoy the memory of preserved by one of our handsome Photographs.

You know our work for you have seen it in the homes of your friends.

Why not have a dozen—eleven for your friends and one for yourself to look at in after years.

C. A. Baklund
The Photographer
WILLMAR

YEAR WAS PROSPEROUS

Report of Willmar Public Library for Past Year as Submitted at Annual Meeting Held Recently.

To the Honorable Library Board: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to submit the annual report of the Willmar Public Library for the year ending December 31, 1905. That the year has been a prosperous one the following figures will indicate:

The library was open for the circulation of books 309 days, including all holidays except three. The reading rooms were open every Sunday except during August, when the attendance did not warrant it.

The total number of books taken home amounted to 12,112, the circulation in fiction exceeding any other class, though the largest gain was in non-fiction. The adult fiction numbered 6,694 and juvenile fiction 3,419, and the non-fiction amounting to 1,476 adult and 523 juvenile.

The accession list now numbers 1,927 books, of which 215 have been added by purchase during the year. 116 books have been donated to the library. The Seven Day Book plan was adopted the first of the year. This plan enables the people who are desirous of the latest books to get them in a shorter time, as they can only be kept by one person a week. The Pay Shelf system was also adopted in March. There is always great demand for the late fiction, and this plan enables the library to keep these books. In this way the books pay for themselves. This is a very satisfactory plan. The five books that have been circulated the most during the year are "The Lightning Conductor" by C. N. and A. M. Williamson, "Granstark" by G. McCutcheon, "The Main Chance," by Meredith Nicholson, "In Search of the Unknown," by Robert W. Chambers and the "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," by John Fox.

The patronage of the reading room was fair. In the adult room the attendance was 4,610. The first of the year the Sunday evening opening was discontinued owing to lack of patronage. The average Sunday attendance throughout the year was 14, the largest Sunday attendance being 32 on January 29. The Declaration of Independence and the Magna Charta were attractively framed and hung in this room. Recently posters advertising the library were put up in the various public buildings calling attention to the library with a general invitation to come and read.

The magazine rack is full of magazines consisting of Ainslee, Arena, Argosy, Atlantic Monthly, Century, Chautauqua, Christian Science Sentinel (donated), Collier's Weekly, Cosmopolitan, Current Literature, Everybody's, Forum, Harper's Monthly, Harper's Bazaar, Housekeeper, Ladies Home Journal, American Illustrated Magazine, Literary Digest, McClure's, Munsey, Outlook, Pearson's Photo Beacon, Readers Guide to Periodical Literature, Review of Reviews, Saturday Evening Post, Scientific American, Strand's, Success, Woman's Home Companion and The Blue Jacket (donated). The papers consist of The Minneapolis Tribune, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Chicago Inter-Ocean, St. Paul Daily News (donated), Svenska Folkets Tidning (donated).

JOHN T. OTOS, ABSTRACTOR AND CONVEYANCER. Abstracts of Title to lands in Kandiyohi County furnished promptly. REAL ESTATE INSURANCE AND STEAMSHIP TICKETS. Office in Bank of Willmar building. Phone 341. WILLMAR, MINN.

and Svenska Amerikaniska Posten (donated), Willmar Republican Gazette, Willmar Tribune and the Willmar Journal, also the Benson Monitor, all donated.

The attendance in the children's room was 5,256. The magazines in their room are the Youth's Companion, The American Boy, Birds and Nature and St. Nicholas. Mr. Bjorsell very kindly made and donated a magazine rack for the children's room, so that their magazines are within easy reach. The children as a rule are very quiet and thoughtful for the rights of others. A new picture will soon be added to the children's room which will make it more attractive and homelike.

The catalog of non-fiction will soon be completed and will prove a valuable feature of the library.

The number of new borrowers registered during the year is 885, making the number of borrowers' cards in force at the end of the year, 1,312.

Various bulletins have been put up during the year, thus aiming to call attention to books on various subjects, a February calendar calling attention to the birthdays of the month and the biographies, also bulletins on Holland, Japan, the best American fiction and in December those books which suggested Christmas presents. The Japanese exhibit of prints held a week during October was quite a success. These Japanese prints were obtained from the Beard Art store in Minneapolis, and were on sale. An admission was charged and tea was served, which added to the sociability. The sum of \$8.50 was cleared, which will go into a picture for the children's room.

In July the Woman's Institute gave a "Flower Show" in the basement, offering prizes for the best varieties and collection of flowers. There was an admission of ten cents charged and ice cream and cake were served. The proceeds were donated to the library, which amounted to \$20.00. It is hoped that these festivals be continued and that the idea of extending the prizes to the children will be carried out, thus creating more interest in flower-gardening.

Several counties have adopted with success the County Extension plan. Judging from the number of requests for books from people living outside of the city this plan ought to be a success in this county. With assistance from the county, libraries could be placed in the larger towns throughout the county and the benefits of the library be accessible to every one.

Respectfully submitted,
EDITH L. FROST.

Telephone Company Meets.

The Willmar Spicer Telephone Co. held its annual meeting on Tuesday afternoon at the residence of O. Sanderson. The company voted to extend their line west through Dove and if possible to effect a connection with the Mamre Telephone company's line at a point near the Thorpe schoolhouse, in Dove. Another extension will probably be built down the east side Eagle Lake and a third branch run up the west side of Lake Ringo to connect with the Lake Andrew line. Such an arrangement if carried out, will get the different neighborhoods well connected. The following officers were elected: President, O. Sanderson; vice president, C. A. Baklund; secretary, O. N. Grue; treasurer, Arne Embertson; Director for 3 years, Sondre Sanderson. The company has \$51.13 in the treasury.—Green Lake Breeze.

After a Consultation.

Dr. L. F. Teigen, formerly of New London, Minn., and now of Minneapolis, is in Washington trying to secure the endorsement of the delegation for a consulship. He has no particular place in view, but is apparently willing to go anywhere the president wants to send him.—Washington Notes in Minneapolis Journal.

One Way Colonist Rates via Chicago Great Western Railway

To points in Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. For full information apply to J. P. Elmer, G. P. A., St. Paul, Minn. 485

We are now prepared to handle poultry and will buy large or small lots, paying the highest cash market price on day of delivery.
JOHN B. AGEN CO. 33t

An Enthusiastic Reception.

The Lutheran Free church congregation, and many of its friends in the city, were present in a body in the church parlors to surprise the new pastor, M. B. Michaelson, and wife last Wednesday evening. The worthy pastor and his wife were entirely ignorant of what was in store for them. The pastor had an appointment with the church choir that evening, and when he entered the church basement with his choir music under his arm he was greeted by the smiles from a sea of faces and was given a round of applause from the gathered multitude which filled every available space. A committee was promptly sent after Mrs. Michaelson, and after her arrival, Erick Holt, who had acted as temporary chairman, was succeeded by T. O. Gilbert, who became the spokesman of those assembled in stating the objects of the gathering. This he did in a graceful manner. As an earnest of the kind wishes of those assembled the spokesman presented the pastor and wife with two sacks of money, "one large one from the young people and one still larger from the grown people." The sacks were said to contain about \$200.00. The pastor responded to the remarks of Mr. Gilbert. Rev. Michaelson said that this was the largest "choir" he had ever met with in his experience. On coming towards the church he had seen some figures hurrying on ahead of him with packages under their arms and he had asked himself "are we now to have coffee again?" Casting a significant glance at the kitchen he said, "and I wouldn't wonder if we will have coffee before we get through." "Willmar is certainly a coffee town," the speaker observed. Lapsing into a more serious vein, he spoke feelingly of the manner he had been welcomed to Willmar, and he hoped to be able to prove worthy of the confidence and esteem shown him by his parishioners and friends. An excellent musical program was then rendered. The church choir sang several selections, Thora Rohrt, a student of the Seminary, rendered a piccolo solo, John Otos gave a cornet solo, and little Misses Ethel Govig and Borghild Sand played a piano duet, all of which were enthusiastically applauded. Coffee and cake were then served to all those present, and after a good social session the assemblage dispersed to the various homes of those participating. Rev. Michaelson has in an unusual degree won the personal esteem and regard of his congregation, a fact of which the gathering last Wednesday night abundantly testifies.

The special meetings continue this week also with meeting every evening. This evening the young people will meet, as it was deemed wise on this occasion to change about. Friday evening is otherwise their regular time for meeting.

Tomorrow evening the Sunday School teachers will meet. Friday afternoon the Ladies Aid society meets at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Swan Anderson on 4th street, near the High School. The devotional will begin at 2:30 o'clock.

Friday evening, 7:30 o'clock the regular monthly business meeting of the congregation will be held in the church.

Sunday morning the Sunday School meets at the regular hour.

There will, however, be no other service in the morning. In the evening devotional exercises will be held. The young people will have charge of the singing.

Wednesday evening of next week the young people will give an oyster supper in the church parlors.

Home-seekers' Excursions via the Chicago Great Western Railway

To points in Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mexico, New Mexico, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Only one fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip. Tickets on sale first and third Tuesdays of each month until April 17. For further information apply to J. P. Elmer, G. P. A., St. Paul, Minn. 483

To the Farmers.

When you are in town we want you to come down to the Big Elevator and see what we have to sell in Wood, Coal, Ground Feed, etc. Also remember that we pay highest price for all kinds of grain.
MINN. & WESTERN GRAIN CO. C. S. HARRIS, Agt. 29t

Gleaned from Our Exchanges

Renville has voted to incorporate as a city. The proposition to adopt a city charter was carried by a vote of 114 to 41.

The citizens of Belgrade have made a modest start for a public library without the assistance of Carnegie, the owner of the mortgage on the United States steel trust.

The Brooten Telephone company has been incorporated with a capital of \$10,000. It owns several exchanges in Stearns county and will build more.

Miss Bessie Skimland of Belgrade had a bad fall down a flight of stairs one day last week which resulted in a badly wrenched shoulder and hip. The results were found not to be quite as bad as feared at first, as she recovered in a few days from her accident.

Clara Torkelson, 21 years old, a daughter of Torkel Torkelson of Big Grove township in Stearns Co., died on Sunday, Jan. 14, 1906, a victim of the "white plague," consumption. She was a graduate of the Willmar Seminary, and had taught several terms of public school.

The Bird Island creamery burned to the ground Sunday before last. It will probably be rebuilt in the spring. It beats all how easily creameries burn in that section of the country. It is but a few years since the Lake

The Silent Sale

We will offer for sale on the 27th, 29th, 30th 27 FUR COATS Give your common sense bid and the coat is yours.

You will not feel the cold in 30 below zero in one of these coats. Your health is worth more than your money.

The RODLUN Shoe and Clothing Co.

Out of 97 Caps usually sold at from 50c to \$1.50 take one for 39c

We also have about 75 OVERCOATS You can make your selections at less than first cost.

That ought to be satisfactory. Do not stand back; come.

UNDERWEAR

We have a large assortment and will be glad to show them and the price will not hang on a high pole.

OVERSHOES

The RODLUN Shoe and Clothing Co.

GROCERIES

We sell in dollar jobs:
30 bars Rose Queen \$1.00
5 1/2 lb. Pkgs. Soap Powder 1.00
18 lb. Rice 1.00
8 cans Tomatoes 1.00
19 cans Corn 1.00
32 lb. Oat Flakes 1.00
18 lb. Gr. Sugar 1.00
6 lb. best Santos Coffee 1.00
30 lb. Navy Beans 1.00

You are welcome to any of these bargains and many more like them.

The RODLUN Shoe and Clothing Co.

Smoke the "Blue Ribbon" Cigar

GREGG'S Celebrated Coffees

Grand prize and highest award on its drinking merit, at St. Louis World's Fair. This is higher than the Gold Medal.

GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER.

Palace Grocery Co.

FLOUR AND FEED

Exchanged for wheat at our elevators in Willmar, Penock and Priam, and at Sanderson & Son's, Kandiyohi.

For Every Bushel of No. 1 Wheat We Give

30 lbs. of Pinney's Best, 8 lbs. Bran, 4 lbs. Shorts; or 32 lbs. of Kneaded, 8 lbs. Bran, 4 lbs. Shorts; or 33 lbs. of Pinney's Best, no bran or shorts; or 35 lbs. of Kneaded, no bran or shorts. 2 lbs. Flour less for No. 2 and 4 lbs. Flour less for No. 3.

Every sack of PINNEY'S BEST FLOUR is guaranteed. It is the purest, it is the best, and COSTS NO MORE THAN OTHERS.

For sale at the stores.

NEW LONDON MILLING CO.

Lillian creamery burned and the one in Winfield township.

Hans Holm, who tends bar for Erick Erickson, was shot by Peter J. Johnson at Lowry a week ago Monday in the saloon. The victim will probably not die from the wound, but Pope county has to prosecute the assailant for assault with intent to kill. And the pity of it, that such people as the names would indicate them to be will persist in disgracing themselves by such business.

Morris Times, one of the best edited papers on our exchange list, suspended publication last week. The town could or would not support three good papers.

The Litchfield Carnegie library drew \$995 from taxation from the city, paid out \$183 62 for heat, \$120 for janitor, \$100 for insurance, \$395 for salaries, \$224.93 for books, \$37.30 for periodicals, besides other expenditures for incidentals, and closed the year with \$571.05 on hand. They did not receive any aid from the county for buying all the latest novels, but they used those they have to good advantage, for the total number of loans of books for home use during the year amounts to 11,586.

Henderson people are projecting an electric line to connect the town with other points in Sibley county. It is said to be a precautionary measure to enable the town to keep the county seat.

Pickering fishing through the ice is the popular amusement at present and about every man who can get away from his business is finding his way to Koronis or Rice lake.—Paynesville Press.

While carrying a log of wood across Crow River on the ice, P. Dahlin, a former resident near Kokato, slipped and fell, striking on his head and fracturing his skull. Death resulted soon after.—Litchfield Review.

P. O. Noland, of Pillsbury, arrived home Tuesday from Willmar, where

he had been for a week's visit with his daughter, Mrs. Joe Nelson.... B. G. Corvell, a member of the Kerkhoven I. O. O. F. lodge, is again a candidate for State Grand Master this year and the prospect of his being elected is very good.... M. Irgens has employed an experienced buttermaker, in the person of Martin Sorenson, of Fenton, Iowa, to assist with the work at the creamery.—Kerkhoven Banner.

The congregation of the Dutch Reformed church have presented their organist, John Pfeiffer, [with a new suit of clothes as a New Year's present.... Joe Sluka is one of the famous hunters of this season having milk and 350 muskrat hides. We are jealous, Joe, but hope to get even with you next winter.—Roseland Cor., Danube Herald.

Renville Star-Farmer: A colored gentleman named W. J. Johnson, whose home was in Ohio but who had been out west some months, died on the train between Minneapolis Falls and Sacred Heart Friday, Jan. 12, 1906, of Willmar, spent several days last week visiting at the homes of H. J. and J. H. Dale. He took the train for the cities Monday afternoon.... Renville adopted a city charter Jan. 16, by a vote of 114 to 41. The form of government will be changed to a city in March.

Grove City Times: Peter Skoglund, who moved from here to Harrisburg, Minn., about a year ago, has sold his farm there, and bought the farm of Martin Nelson in Swede Grove town, and will move on the same. Miss Cora Rigg went to Willmar Saturday evening, where she will visit for some time.

Golden State Limited

Elimating every phase of modern train service.

One hour and a half quicker than ever before between the Great Lakes and Pacific Ocean.

Chicago and Kansas City to Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Francisco.

Leaves Chicago, La Salle Station, daily at 9.00 p. m.; leaves Kansas City, Union Station, at 9.50 a. m.; arrive Los Angeles in early afternoon of third day out.

Runs via El Paso Short Line—the Southern Route—line of lowest altitudes, through New Mexico and Arizona.

Let us send you a beautifully illustrated booklet about the Limited and other Rock Island service to Summer-land.

Ask also for 64-page "Golden State" book, illustrated in colors.

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