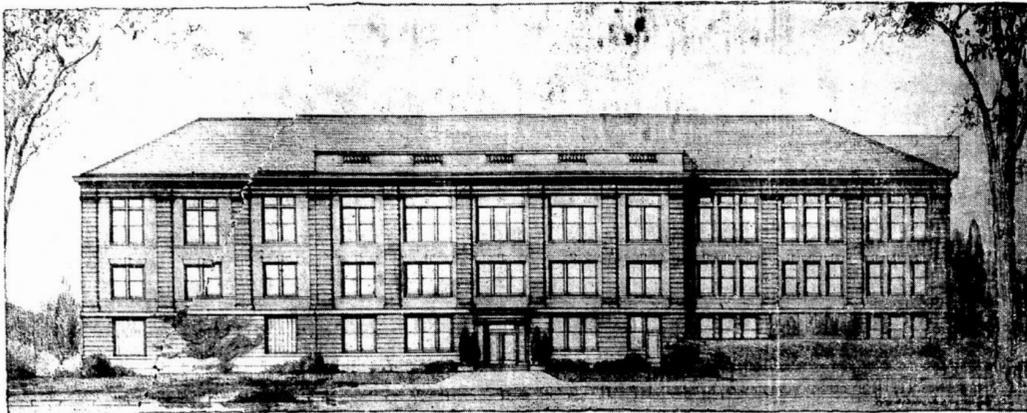


THE PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL BUILDING FOR WILLMAR



From Architect's Drawing Showing Front Elevation on Fourth Street Facing East

The present High School building is the part shown to the right with the retaining wall. The new building will have a length of 150 feet. The part at the south end will be 60x32 feet. The connecting part will be 60x90 feet and there will be a vestibule connecting the building with the Industrial building, 22x18 feet. The Central heating plant will be located where the present heating plant of the Industrial building is located.

AN APPEAL TO THE CITIZENS OF WILLMAR

Board of Education Gives Information Regarding Proposed School Building.

Willmar, Minn., Jan. 23, 1917. To the Legal Voters of Independent School District No. 47 of Kandiyohi County: The Board of Education finds itself in a position where it must lay before the voters of the district the question of voting bonds for the purpose of supplying more room for the schools. This matter of how best to meet the demands for more school room has been a mooted question for several years, and has had the careful attention of the members of the present Board. The plan that we are submitting, thru the newspapers, and in show windows, and by other means, is such as will take care of all present demands of the schools and provide for some growth. It will take care of the crowded condition of the high school and at the same time provide for the necessary room for the overcrowded grades. It will give us a splendid assembly room with capacity for 330 pupils, to be known as the Junior High School. Further, the plan will give an ample number of recitation rooms for all purposes. It will co-ordinate the central group of buildings by providing one Central heating plant, where now we have three plants in operation within 60 feet of distance. It will provide the required fan ventilation in three buildings. It will provide more needed room for the manual training and domestic science departments by removal of the agricultural department to the rooms now occupied by the gymnasium. Again the plans will provide for a new adequate gymnasium, which will not only give the physical activities and athletics of the school the facilities they need but will provide for a fine hall for school and public gatherings.

existing in both grades and high school. Many of your grades exceed the maximum enrollment of forty; the number recommended by the regulations of the high school board. Teachers cannot do the most efficient work with so many pupils in their rooms. Your high school assembly room has a seating capacity for 190 pupils. The present enrollment is 244, with every indication of an increase of about 40 pupils for next year. You are now crowding some high school classes into recitation rooms which are inadequate. You are conducting your Teachers' Training Department in an unventilated attic. It seems to me that the question of additional housing and space is imperative, and requires the consideration of your Board and community. I wish again to call your attention to the regulations of the high school board contemplating the installation of fan ventilation before 1916 in buildings of the central group of buildings for high school aid. May I ask you to advise me as to your policy when you have considered the suggestions given above. I am pleased to state that I find the schools organized, administered, and supervised efficiently. Yours very truly, H. E. FLYNN, Asst. High School Inspector.

On June 7, 1916 Mr. Flynn wrote us as follows: June 5, 1916. Mr. N. S. Swenson, Clerk, Board of Education, Willmar, Minn. Dear Mr. Swenson: May I not hear from you, at your earliest convenience, the action your Board of Education has taken with reference to the recommendations made when I officially inspected your schools, and which I later confirmed in writing? Much of this information is needed in making a report to the State High School Board for the distribution of aid. Yours truly, H. E. FLYNN, Asst. High School Inspector. On June 7, 1916 Mr. Flynn wrote again as follows: June 7, 1916. Mr. N. S. Swenson, Clerk, Board of Education, Willmar, Minn. Dear Mr. Swenson: I am gratified to learn of the prospect of a new high school building for Willmar. Your Board of Education is to be commended. I realize the task which has confronted you. Indeed it will be very satisfactory to install the modern features in the grade buildings when the work is being installed in the new high school building. Yours truly, H. E. FLYNN, Inspector for the State High School Board. (c) We are using an attic room on the third floor of the Central building, which has been condemned by both State and City authorities. (d) We are compelled to have eighty-one (81) pupils in the basement of the public library building, a very unsatisfactory expedient to all concerned. (e) The high school is overcrowded. The assembly room under state rules has a maximum capacity of 170 pupils. Our high school enrollment is now 266. We are using two class rooms for assembly rooms in addition to the high school room. There are no suitable quarters for a number of classes. In this connection, we quote from letters received from the high school inspectors: Mr. N. S. Swenson, Clerk, Board of Education, Willmar, Minn. Dear Mr. Swenson: This letter confirms my conversation with your Board of Education, February 4th. I brought to your attention the overcrowded conditions

1. Is There a Real Need for More School Buildings? (a) There are several grade rooms where the state rule of at least 18 square feet of floor space for each pupil is violated. (b) In nine grade rooms, the number of pupils exceeded forty, the highest number permitted under the State rules. (c) We are using an attic room on the third floor of the Central building, which has been condemned by both State and City authorities. (d) We are compelled to have eighty-one (81) pupils in the basement of the public library building, a very unsatisfactory expedient to all concerned. (e) The high school is overcrowded. The assembly room under state rules has a maximum capacity of 170 pupils. Our high school enrollment is now 266. We are using two class rooms for assembly rooms in addition to the high school room. There are no suitable quarters for a number of classes. In this connection, we quote from letters received from the high school inspectors: Mr. N. S. Swenson, Clerk, Board of Education, Willmar, Minn. Dear Mr. Swenson: This letter confirms my conversation with your Board of Education, February 4th. I brought to your attention the overcrowded conditions

(a) A Junior High School, to include the seventh and eighth grades of the Lafayette and Central buildings, and the Freshman class of the present high school, thus relieving overcrowded conditions both in the Ward and Central Grade schools and in the High School. (b) It will provide twelve recitation rooms, for which now halls and opera house must be hired. (c) It will provide for a central heating plant for the entire central group of buildings with smoke consumers, and provide the required fan ventilation in three buildings. (d) It will provide twelve recitation rooms, besides six cloak rooms, offices, book room, and necessary hallways and toilets. (e) It will co-ordinate and modernize our high school buildings to make them compare favorably with those of other cities of the size of Willmar and even many towns of smaller size, which now have better facilities. 5. Is the Junior High School a Desirable Plan? (a) It is the general trend of education throughout the United States. (b) There are a large number of Junior High schools in Minnesota. (c) It has the approval of the State Department of Education, the State High School Inspector, and the State Superintendent of Public Buildings. 6. If This Building is Built, Will New Ward Buildings Have to be Provided? (a) Not now, and probably not for a number of years. This will depend upon the rapidity of the growth of our city. 7. Has the School Board Given This Matter Careful Thought? (a) The Board voted to inaugurate this movement on the first Monday in March of last year. (b) Since that time, the Board has had the matter under careful consideration. (c) Several architects have been consulted and Tyrle & Chapman, architects of Minneapolis, were engaged last June. (d) Since that time they have been studying our needs and working out plans. (e) This firm of architects is considered the equal to any in the country by those best able to judge. (f) The State Department of Education and the State Superintendent of School Buildings have approved these plans. 8. How Much Money is Asked For? (a) \$95,000.00. 9. Will This Amount Be Sufficient to Complete the Building? (a) The estimate was made by the architects and has been checked by Mr. Bjorsell, a contractor who is a member of the School Board, and also by Jens Olsen and John Skoolheim, contractors of our city. (b) Using the figured cost per pupil of buildings erected recently at other points, would indicate that this amount will be needed to meet our needs. 10. Can the Bonds be Sold? (a) The bonds would run to the State of Minnesota, at 4 per cent interest. (b) The assessed valuation of the district is \$1,668,527 and the legal limit of bonds, 15 per cent, is \$249,579. The present bonded debt of the district is \$68,500. The bonded debt of the city, less sinking fund, is \$40,000. The interest charge for the new bonds asked for would amount to \$3,000 per year. This would make an additional tax of 2.35 mills on our present valuation. If your present taxes are \$5.00 the increase would be 12c. If your present taxes are \$10.00 the increase would be 24 cents. 11. What Was the Total Expense of Running the Schools During the Past Year? \$39,398.70. 12. How Much of This is Contributed by the State? 1. Apportionment, about \$7,000.00 2. High School Aid, 1,500.00 3. Agriculture, 1,000.00 4. Manual Training, 600.00 5. Domestic Science, 600.00 6. Normal Training, 1,200.00 Total \$12,200.00 13. Can the State Force This District to Build a New Building? (a) The State has the right to withhold the Special State Aid, and probably the apportionment from a school district neglecting to maintain proper school facilities. (b) The State has withheld aid from a number of districts in the state, and has notified others that aid would be withheld unless given conditions were improved within a certain time. (c) You will note in Inspector Flynn's letters that we have been notified that more school room is needed, and that he must know what we are planning to do in order to determine regarding State Aid. 14. What is the Average Cost Per Pupil in the Willmar Schools and the State? (a) The average rate in the state as reported to the Governor, Dec. 1, 1914, the annual cost per pupil during apportionment in high schools was \$41.00. At this rate, the cost of running the schools at Willmar that year would have been \$45,995, while in fact they were \$31,725.22. This shows that Willmar costs below the average. 15. Are Taxes for School Purposes High or Low in Comparison With Other Districts? (a) The last report of the State High School Inspector that we have shows that the average special school taxes in high school districts in Minnesota in 1914, was 22.46 mills while in our Willmar district that year the rate was 17.3 mills. The following shows how the rate ran in other Minnesota towns: 1. Akeley . . . . . 22 2. Benson . . . . . 23.4 3. Black Duck . . . . . 52 4. Cass Lake . . . . . 52 5. East Grand Forks . . . . . 48.7 6. Hinckley . . . . . 39 7. Lakefield . . . . . 41 8. Kasota . . . . . 30 9. Madison . . . . . 33 10. Maple Lake . . . . . 32 11. Milaca . . . . . 37 12. Pine Island . . . . . 46.7 13. Royalton . . . . . 41.6 14. Staples . . . . . 41.6 15. Walker . . . . . 43.2 16. Windom . . . . . 33 17. Litchfield . . . . . 23.5 18. Morris . . . . . 22 19. Granite Falls . . . . . 24 Our special school tax at Willmar this year is 15.3 mills. We ask of you, men and women of Willmar, to carefully consider this matter, and suspend judgment until you have investigated the matter thoroughly; after you have arrived at the favorable conclusion that we are confident you will, THAT YOU PERMIT NO OTHER ENGAGEMENT TO KEEP YOU FROM COMING TO THE SPECIAL SCHOOL MEETING AT THE HIGH SCHOOL ROOM ON FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9TH AT ANY TIME BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8 TO 9, AND CAST YOUR BALLOT IN FAVOR OF THE NECESSARY BOND ISSUE. Respectfully submitted, VICTOR E. LAWSON, S. B. QVALE, C. B. CARLSON, N. S. SWENSON, ANDREW BJORSELL, O. K. SEVERINSON, Members Board of Education.

TRIPOLIS, Jan. 22.—Services at eleven o'clock next Sunday. The Y. P. S. meets Friday evening. Refreshments will be served by Anna and Tilda Johnson. All are welcome. Axel Pearson returned to Litchfield last Saturday after a three weeks' stay at the Andrew Redy home. William Pearson of Willmar visited over Sunday at the Theodore Mattson home. No services were conducted last Sunday on account of the snow storm. Mrs. Elmer P. Johnson and children visited over Sunday at the Carl Klint home. Ferdinand Larson returned home from Minneapolis Saturday evening. Myrtle Cronquist left for Willmar Thursday, to finish her course in dressmaking at Miss Allen's parlors. Nels Anderson of Atwater was here Wednesday to attend the church council meeting. Mr. Anderson was again elected treasurer to serve another year. Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Cronquist left for Litchfield Saturday for a visit over Sunday at the latter's home. Stella Berg, who attends the Seminary at Willmar, spent Sunday at her home. The Right Idea in Shoes we have. That is, Shoes that are comfortable, sensible, stylish, well-made, good-fitting and long-wearing. If you need footwear of any kind, come here first and we will gladly show you our stock and fit you to Weum Clothing Co. Willmar, Minn.

SPICER-ON-GREEN-LAKE. Spicer-on-Green Lake, Jan. 23.—Milton Courtright of Luton, Ia., was a guest of friends at Spicer a few days last week. Mrs. Chas. Sullivan and little son came over from Willmar Saturday for a visit at the Sullivan home. J. B. Glarum, who has been employed at Winnipeg, Man., for the past several months, arrived home last Wednesday. Miss Betty Johnson went to Willmar Friday for a few days' visit with friends. Miss Stella Holt visited her sister and cousin at Willmar a couple of days the past week. Miss Mabel Thorvig left Wednesday for Kandiyohi to assist her sister, Mrs. E. L. Quam. L. H. Mardin of Morse, Sask., arrived here Wednesday and visited his sister, Cressie at the W. C. Hendrickson home until Thursday. A deal was made last week whereby Wm. Olson and son sold the James Wilson residence in this village to Mr. Hinkel, who recently sold their hotel at New London. Mr. and Mrs. Hinkel and daughter moved down here the first part of last week and will occupy the Ole Johnson residence until their home is vacated. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and family expect to leave in the spring for Thief River Falls, where they have a farm. Rev. C. Sullivan, who underwent a serious illness at Minneapolis some time ago, has recovered nicely and arrived home the latter part of the week. Wm. Nelson, H. O. Thorvig and Milton Courtright left from here Thursday evening on a business trip to the cities. Oscar Johnson returned Friday from a visit at Willmar. Miss Hansine Johanson came out from Willmar Friday for a few days' visit at her home. Peter Bonde of Willmar was at Spicer on business Saturday. The Second Annual banquet of the Spicer Commercial club took place last Saturday evening at the M. W. A. hall. About one hundred guests were present at the event. At 7:30 a delicious four course dinner was served. The tables were tastefully decorated with ferns and the center pieces consisted of potted plants and candles. The place cards attached to carnations were presented to each guest with compliments from the Green Star Bank. The hall was decorated with pink and white streamers. After the dinner a program was rendered, consisting of several musical numbers, a reading by Miss Nellie Holt, a talk by E. B. Haller and O. A. Orest, the president of the Commercial Club gave a few remarks, after which the guests departed for their homes, having enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Miss Stella Holt departed Tuesday for Harlem, Montana, where she has a position as bookkeeper in one of the stores at that place. Mrs. Clark of Irving is at present a guest at the Osmund Sorenson home. Miss Rose Johnson arrived from Willmar Monday for a visit with her mother. Stewart Johnson and a Mr. Tait of Willmar were guests at the Thomas Nelson home the latter part of the week. Miss Esther Johnson, who attends the Willmar Seminary visited at her home in Irving from Saturday until Monday.

SVEA. Svea, Jan. 22.—Services next Sunday at 10:30 o'clock by Rev. Sorenson. Mrs. P. N. Olson visited with Rev. and Mrs. Sorenson last Saturday afternoon. The coffee social at P. A. Johnson's was well attended. About seventeen dollars was realized. Mrs. J. R. Swenson was elected secretary for the coming year. Sigrid Skoog and Franklin Johnson visited at Ernest Swenson's last Saturday afternoon. Miss Olga Westerberg spent Saturday and Sunday at her parental home. Miss Ellen Nordstrom spent the week end at the Chas. Isaacson home near Priam. Miss Phemia Johnson left for Willmar last Saturday where she will be employed. SOUTHEAST FAHLUN. Southeast Fahlan, Jan. 22.—Only 58 days until spring. Mrs. M. Mathiason visited in Atwater on Thursday. She caught about two hundred rats in less than two weeks. Last Sunday, a young man from Lake Lillian was marooned on Happy Hill on account of the snow storm. Quite a big crowd attended the Oystre supper at the Lutheran church. Ed and Sadie Larson left for Atwater on Saturday. From that place, Sadie left for Benson for a week's visit. Wedding bells have been ringing here recently. Elmer Johnson had a surveyor from Willmar here the past week to survey his land. Richard Bomsta assisted. Antonsen and a team of hay from the Mathias Johnson place in Lake Elizabeth the other day. Emil Hansson purchased a valuable bull from N. E. Nelson the other day. Ray Smith of Atwater was seen here Wednesday. Alfred Anderson and Emil Hansson shipped two bulls to South St. Paul on Tuesday. News was received here the week telling of the death of Mrs. H. Haroldson, formerly of Atwater, and very well known here. She has been suffering from pneumonia for a week at a hospital in Minneapolis. She died Monday morning, Jan. 22. She leaves to mourn her death, her children, Bro. Engbrigt Johnson and Stromme Johnson, and Mrs. John Vick of Minneapolis. Richard Fredholm of Svea was here repairing telephones on Monday. William Gabrielson, the local blacksmith and machinist, expects to erect a garage and blacksmith shop the coming spring, so he will be able to handle motor work. He will also install a gasoline filling station, one turning lathe for extra fine work. The building will be 24x40 feet with a porch on the front.

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Official Show Roultry Association Kandiyohi County Poultry Exhibition. Poultry Show Willmar Opens Jan. 31 CONTINUES FEB. 1, 2, 3 At HANDY-LEWIS GARAGE Cor. Litchfield and Sixth. Liberal Prizes to Exhibitors will Bring Unprecedented Showing. Large, Pleasant and Comfortable Show Room. MUSIC EVERY AFTERNOON AND EVENING. ADMISSION FREE. Everybody urged to come out and see the birds and learn about them from the exhibitors.

EARLY PLANNING OF IMPROVEMENTS IS POPULAR THIS YEAR. Last year considerable winter planning of spring building was done. And so far this winter a great deal more is being done. Everyone seems to realize that Spring this year will be a very busy time and that every detail that can be attended to now should be cared for while time is cheap. For that reason, Standard Lumber Co. Service is in growing demand because it relieves prospective builders of homes and barns from so much detail. Our plans are modern, accurate and practical. Standard figures are always close and satisfactory. We ask you to come to us for ideas, information and figures as well as plans and material. We guarantee satisfaction in every detail including price. JOHN L. GRUE WILLMAR MANAGER STANDARD LUMBER CO.