

GOV. RICE WANTS TO SEE OLD STREET NAMES CHANGED

Says No One Cares How Names Originated. Discussions, However, Brings Out Additional Facts.

Hot Springs, Ark., March 26, 1919. Editor, Willmar Tribune. Referring to the editorial in the Tribune of March 19th, relative to the proposed change of names for five of the streets or avenues in Willmar, believe the ground you take in opposition to such a move is highly justifiable. There is certainly no reason for opposing the change from an economic standpoint, as the cost involved in that respect is immaterial and the sentimental part is hardly perceptible. The present names of these avenues of the city have no historic expression or significance, and no one outside of a very few of the pioneers of Willmar knows or cares how or where the names originated. The names that have been suggested in their place represent great men in American history, in our national life, the adoption of which would not only be a fitting tribute to their memory but would also be cherished by the people of our city now and in years to come. I believe some of your statements in connection with the early history of Willmar are somewhat at variance with the facts. Without any attempt at pointing out misstatements, with your permission, I will give a few facts pertinent to the subject as near as my memory serves me. Willmar was platted in the year 1869. It got its name from one Leon Willmar, a native of Belgium. The townsite had not been platted when the late Capt. John Paulson and myself arrived in Willmar for the purpose of engaging in the mercantile business. No lots on which to build had been placed on sale and so we erected a small building on the bank of the lake, directly North of where the Farmers Mercantile Co. is now located, and started in business. A man by the name of Herrick erected a building right east of ours and opened a hotel. This was the first hostelry in Willmar.

E. F. Christlieb, under the direction and supervision of Chief Engineer Morris, laid out and platted the townsite and selected the names for the avenues from the names of the directors and railroad officials of the then St. Paul & Pacific Railway Co. Thus Becker Avenue was named after George L. Becker then president of the road; Benson Avenue was named after Jerrid Benson of Anoka; Litchfield Avenue after William Litchfield, a resident of the state of Connecticut; Trott Avenue after Herman Trott, Land Commissioner of the road. All of these men were directors in the St. Paul & Pacific. Kandyohi and Monongalia Avenues were named after the two counties then comprising what is now Kandiyohi County.

It seems to have been the policy of the Railroad Company to name not only the stations and streets of the towns along the line, but even the locomotives after the men connected with the road. Mr. John Costello, Mr. Rasmus Korthe and Mrs. Brem well remember seeing such names as George L. Becker, Benson, F. R. Delano and William Crooks on the sides of the locomotives as they arrived at the station. There is nothing of a traditional nature, romantic nor sentimental in perpetuating these names of our streets. I am in favor of changing them and urge our City Council will take appropriate action to that end. A. E. RICE.

[Note by Editor—The article in the Tribune commented upon by Gov. Rice has received very much favorable comment. Invariably those who have spoken to the editor about the matter have agreed with what was written and have thanked him for printing it. Of course, opinions differ as to the importance or value of local history. In the main the facts gleaned by the editor from records agree with the recollections of Gov. Rice. Judge Muller tells us that Litchfield was named for Darwin E. Litchfield of Rondout, N. Y., and Benson from a stockholder of the early road who lived at London, England. The fact remains undisturbed by these corrections that the names of the streets represent the early builders of the railroad. They are of one cloth with the name of our city. It would be as sensible to change the name of our town as it would to change the name of the streets. The fact that Geo. L. Becker, the early president of the road, and Herman Trott the treasurer and Land Commissioner, who held almost unlimited powers of attorney, died in moderate circumstances, is to the credit of their manhood and honesty. Had they used their positions of trust for their own aggrandizement and amassed large fortunes they would perhaps have been considered more important by people who measure a man's worth only by the amount of money he may possess. From the question of origin of these names, fifty years of daily association at Willmar have given them a historical, traditional and sentimental value that should not be thrown away without good cause.]

The Engineers.
When the convoy crawls on a long white road,
Straight to the blazing line,
While the drivers nod as they guide their load,
On where the star shells shine,
If a "two-ten" drops with a roaring crash,
The big trucks cease to roll,
And the C. O. growls as he views the smash
And swears at the ten-foot hole!

"Job for the Engineers—
Bring up the working crew,
Shovel and pick will do the trick,
Then we dig the dugout through.
They're on the spot, you bet,
Soon, with a crash of gears,
We're on the way, for here's a job—
Fixed by the Engineers!

When the storm troops wait at the river banks,
And each stone bridge is blown,
And the stream's too deep for the fat old tanks,
And pontoons must be thrown
Where the water boils with the shell shot,
It's "Engineers, 'oot-sweet,"
They will lose one half of the men they've got,
But build that bridge, complete.

"Job for the Engineers—
Never you mind the loss,
Fritz has a hate, but the troops can't wait,
See that they get across,
You won't get no rewards,
Hear any shouts or cheers,
Bring up your moles, for here's a job—
Job for the Engineers!

Oh, they mend the wire where it guards the front;
They dig the dugouts deep,
And to tunnel mines is their steady stunt—
Like moles that get no sleep,
They take their chance where the gas clouds lurk,
And I'll say it appears
That darn small glory and beaucoup work
Comes to the Engineers.

"Job for the Engineers—
Something that 'Can't be done,'"
Nevertheless they'll do it, yes;
That's how they get their fun,
Armed with a kit of tools,
Careless of hopes or fears,
Big jobs or small, you simply call—
Call for the Engineers.

Written at Camp St. Sulpire, France, March 9, 1919.
Pvt. Geo. B. Gunderson,
Co. A, 32nd Engineers,
American Ex. Forces, France.

MOTHERS.
Should see that the whole family take at least one or 4 doses of a purifying, system cleaning medicine this spring. Now is the time. The family will be healthier, happier, and get along better if the blood is given a thorough purifying, stomach and bowels cleaning, and the germs of winter, accumulated in the system, driven away. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea is one of the very best and surest Spring medicines to take. Get it and see the difference in the whole family. Their color will be better, they'll feel fine and be happy. Carlson Bros., Druggists.—Adv.

FOR SALE.
Two acres of nice hardwood timber land. Five miles from city on lake shore. Liberty Bonds accepted at full value.—G. A. Erickson, Metropolitan Building.—Adv.

HAWICK
Hawick, March 31.—Mrs. H. A. Hanson and daughter went to Minneapolis Saturday where they will visit a week with Anna and Sophia who are employed at that place.
Mrs. John Iverson and daughters Mary and Laura visited at the Anton Emhauf home Saturday evening.
Emil Jacobson received the message the first of the week that his father had been killed that morning by an ugly bull. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson left the following day to attend the funeral.
Neils Olson and Jermis Hood were Paynesville callers Tuesday.

Mrs. W. H. Jones returned Friday from New Ellington.
Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Norris and sons spent Monday evening at the Lester Blakely home.
Mrs. Conrad P. Winther of Paynesville, visited with Mrs. L. A. Reamer the last of the week.
Mr. and Mrs. Karl J. Thorson received the message the first of last week that Mrs. Thorson's brother John Larson of Courtney, N. Dak. had passed away. Mr. and Mrs. Thorson left the same day for that place to attend the funeral. The deceased had suffered a stroke of paralysis about four years ago and had been speechless for the past year but was able to be around

until last fall. He leaves his wife and children and many relatives and friends.
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Sanburn who have been visiting with the A. F. Hall family, left Monday for their home.
Mr. Sanburn is one of those brave soldiers who has just returned from the front over in France. In the forenoon before he left for home he gave an interesting talk to the pupils in Dist. No. 1, which gave them an idea of some of the fierce battles and hardships our boys had to encounter over there and will be long remembered by the pupils. He also had with him some German relics which were also interesting.

The Charley Johns family are on the sick list. Mrs. Johns is suffering from a gathering in her head caused by a bad tooth while the little children are suffering from a severe attack of the grippe.
Oscar Thorson was a business caller in Willmar Monday.
Mr. and Mrs. Anton Emhauf and Frances Lindrud were business callers in Willmar from Monday to Wednesday.
Mrs. W. J. Pelkey is reported to have been sick the past week.
Martin Parsons spent Sunday at the Iverson home.
The Farmers Shipping Association shipped a carload of mixed stock to

St. Paul last Tuesday. A. B. Norris went with the car.
Little Vivian Norris was sick the middle of the week with a bad cold.
Notice to Chicken Owners.
From April 1st to November 1st all chickens within City Limits must be kept fenced in accordance to the city ordinance.
A. P. Bergeson,
Chief of Police.

NOTICE—DUMPING.
In the future no dumping of paper or rubbish on Second Street will be permitted. All such rubbish must be taken across to the "dump" on the north side of the Lake.
A. P. Bergeson,
Chief of Police.

NOTICE TO PARTIES WANTING TO SELL LAND
I am now listing farms to be sold by the Farm Owners' Co-operative Selling Association of Spitzer, Minn., and would like to hear from all who want to sell their farms. Join us and help sell your own farm and avoid paying excessive commission. Call on or write to M. D. Crommett, Spitzer, Minn.
Persons owing C. E. Nelson, Shoeman, may pay to Spitzer.—Adv.

SPRING DRESS UP



STYLE HEADQUARTERS Where Society Brand Clothes are sold

Spring's "Snappiest" Clothes for Men

THE Young Man likes snap and style and attractive patterns. He prefers tailoring of a snug character in models that are slim and smart. Young men find in our store the immediate fulfillment of their needs. The older men will also find smart, nobby suits, in styles and fabrics that will please. Prices from \$20 to \$45.

Perfection Clothes The kind real boys wear



You'll find these boys' clothes in many fine attractive models; sufficient in variety to suit every taste and fit all figures. If you like to select from the best you will come in today and bring that boy along to insure correct fitting.

Prices \$8 to \$18

Spring Hats
A becoming top-off with your new spring suit is a hat to fit your head, become your face and please your pocket.

Prices \$3.50 to \$6.00

WITH the coming of spring, nature changes her garb, trees bud, mother earth comes forth with her coat of green. All nature has a touch of newness.

DRESS UP, be in line with nature.

Weyman-Elkjer Co. MEN'S AND BOY'S OUTFITTERS

Dress Up

In Our Spring Furnishings MEN'S NEW SPRING SHIRTS

Crisp new fabrics for spring, 1919. Conservative patterns and patterns with much color. We have them in madras, percale, silks and fibre silks. Prices to suit everybody.

NECKWEAR

We are showing a beautiful assortment of Neckwear, rich heavy silks in all the new shades and colorings.

Men's Fine Shoes

You'll never make a better investment in shoes than when you buy a pair of Florsheim's. You get quality that serves long and well. You get style, individuality and comfort.

©A.D.&C