



## DEMANDS AN INVESTIGATION

St. Paul News Very Severe in its Attacks on the St. Peter Asylum.

Claims Archie Honeyman Died From Injuries Inflicted by Nurses.

Investigations by Board of Control Have Thus Far Proved a Farce.

St. Paul Daily News: The legislature should investigate at once the stories of brutality in the St. Peter insane hospital.

Let the investigation cover the other state hospitals, too, while the committee is at it.

The explanation of Dr. H. A. Tomlinson, superintendent, of the death of Archibald Honeyman is far from convincing.

The members of the board of control are attempting to create the impression that they have investigated Honeyman's death.

They have not. Not a single member of the board of control even knew that Honeyman was dead until the Daily News laid the facts before them Tuesday.

Even the people who have charge of the records of the hospitals did not know that Honeyman was dead.

That was why an official jauntily informed the Daily News that it was none of Coroner Merritt's business how Honeyman was hurt.

"What has the coroner to do with inmates of the state hospital?"

And he paused for an answer.

The legislative investigation should be his answer, and that investigation should ascertain whether or not the board of control has the right to forbid the coroner the right to hold an autopsy on the body of a patient who dies in one of these institutions.

Coroner George F. Merritt was interviewed by the Daily News at St. Peter.

"The board of control refuses to let me hold an autopsy on the patients who die at the hospital. Where I find evidence of violence, of course, I have the right to step in and investigate anyway."

But the coroner does not hear of the broken ribs and the strangling that the nurses do in their "lack of intelligence," as Dr. Tomlinson calls it.

"I have every confidence in Dr. Tomlinson," says the coroner.

So the superintendent of the hospital puts in his death certificate and the bruised and mangled body goes underground, and the mute evidence of asylum crime is hidden from human eyes forever.

It is time for the legislature to investigate.

Coroner Merritt could not tell the Daily News just when he had been called upon by the hospital officials to assist in an investigation.

But the Daily News' search on the outside disclosed that it was when one woman patient murdered a fellow sufferer.

When the patients are merely strangled with towels, the death is not referred to the coroner for investigation.

And relatives of deceased patients have tried to secure satisfaction—and in vain.

One of these came to St. Paul and presented his request to the board of control—at least to one member of it—Mr. S. W. Leavitt.

This man wanted his brother's corpse examined by three physicians not connected with the St. Peter hospital.

Mr. Leavitt denied this request, he says.

Mr. Leavitt promised him that the board would investigate, but not one word as to the result of that inquiry, if, indeed, any was ever made, has been communicated to the family of the dead man.

Mr. Leavitt says he has no recollection of this incident or the promise, but he has telephoned to Supt. Tomlinson for the records in the case, and says he will furnish them to the Daily News.

How many other mangled victims the St. Peter hospital attendants, in their "lack of intelligence," have sent home to mourning relatives, no one can tell.

Henry Fortier, a young man who has lived in or near St. Peter all his life, and who left the service of the St. Peter hospital last August, is awaiting an opportunity to tell the legislative committee on insane hospitals what he saw of cruelties at the St. Peter hospital.

Fortier's story is one to challenge the most thorough inquiry into the condition which prevails in the wards of the hospital where the officials in charge are not watching.

"A night or two before I left the hospital, Aug. 23," says Fortier, "I visited one of the wards in company with one of the attendants and another young man who was employed at the hospital."

"The attendant told us he would show us how they put the patients to sleep, and when we reached the ward he began his exhibition by cutting two or three of the patients and telling one of them to cuff some of the others."

"One of the patients, who suffered from the assault, excited the guard, who seized a towel, and, twisting it around the patient's neck, strangled him until he was black in the face."

Fortier's story of this brutal attack is corroborated by the young man who was with him, and the attendant whose name is given by Fortier is still in the service of the hospital.

## HEROINE OF WAR WITH SIOUX DIES

Captive of Chief White Lodge Passes Away at Mankato.

Mrs. William Homuth, a woman with a remarkable life history, died at her home in Mankato on Friday of cancer of the liver.

Mrs. Homuth had a thrilling experience during the Lake Shetek massacre in August, 1862. She was then living with Andrew Koch, her first husband, who was killed on the 20th day of that month.

After her husband had been shot and her home destroyed, Mrs. Koch was compelled by the Indians to get up the oxen and hitch them to a wagon and drive them into the Indian country. In this way she traveled ten days. She was the captive of White Lodge, an ugly chief of one of the upper bands. The old chief threatened to shoot her if she did not drive on, and making a virtue of necessity she reluctantly obeyed.

Soon after she was required to carry the chief's gun. Watching her opportunity she destroyed the explosive quality of the cap and dampened the powder tube, leaving the gun apparently all right. Soon after she again refused to go any further in that direction, and again White Lodge threatened her with death. She bared her bosom and dared him to fire. He aimed his gun at her breast and essayed to fire, but the gun refused to take part in the work of death.

The superstitious savage, supposing that she bore a charmed life, lowered his gun and asked which way she wished to go. She pointed toward the settlements, and in that direction the teams were turned. They reached the neighborhood of the upper agency ten days after leaving Lake Shetek, and about the time of the arrival of the troops under Col. Sibley in the vicinity of Wood Lake and Yellow Medicine.

White Lodge did not like the looks of things around Wood Lake and left, moving off in an opposite direction for greater safety. Mrs. Koch was finally rescued at Camp Release after wading or swimming the Minnesota river ten times in company with a friendly squaw.

Some weeks ago the commercial clubs and business men's organizations in the towns between Mankato and Tracy petitioned the division superintendent for an additional passenger train to run from Tracy to Mankato and return. The railway officials have intimated that they will be unable to consider the request until the legislature has acted upon a number of the bills now pending.

The house training school committee has given the New Ulm representative to understand that it will report the original training school bill providing for the selection of a site by the board of control, with the recommendation that it do pass. All other bills are to be referred back to the house without recommendation of any sort. This decision of the committee will obviate the necessity of sending any delegations from New Ulm until the bill becomes a law. Representative Peterson, however, will push his own measure in the house, confident that the showing he will be able to make in favor of New Ulm will have weight with the board in reaching a final conclusion.

Conductor Thomas Hughes' passenger train might have met with a bad accident about ten days ago, west of this city. The train was west bound, in the morning, and while Mr. Hughes was in the depot here getting his orders the train pulled out without him. The orders that he got were to the effect that he was to wait and pass another train at Essig. When he went out and found his train gone he was astonished but thought that it would surely return in a few minutes. However, after it had been gone sixteen minutes and there was no sign of its returning, he reported the fact to the chief dispatcher. When the train had gone about five miles, the fact that Conductor Hughes was not on was discovered and the train then returned slowly to New Ulm. Just where the blame lies is not known here, as there are conflicting reports, but it is said that a part of the train crew has been laid off.

## JOS. VETTER'S UNTIMELY DEATH

Life of Prominent West Newton Farmer Ended as Result of Accident.

Sunday morning there occurred in West Newton the death of Jos. Vetter, one of the best known and most popular citizens of that township. Death resulted from an accident which occurred while Mr. Vetter was operating a drawing knife on Wednesday, the knife slipping from his hands and striking with great force a hernia in his abdomen.

The deceased was born in Boehnenkirch, Wurtemberg, on the 19th of February, 1854. His parents emigrated to this country when he was a mere infant and settled in Illinois. A couple of years later, in 1856, they found themselves located on a farm in western Nicollet county, where in spite of pioneer hardships they continued to reside and prosper. After raising a family of four children, Mrs. Vetter died in 1889, her husband surviving until 1890.

Young Joseph was industrious and likewise thrifty. In time he acquired much land and was one of the leaders of the community in which he lived. Called upon to fill various official positions in his home township and likewise in the Catholic societies of St. George parish he filled all with strictest integrity and honor. His neighbors appreciated him at his true worth and his family revered him as a faithful friend.

Mr. Vetter was married in 1880 to Paulina Fesenmaier, whom he leaves a sorrowing widow. Twelve children were born to them and of these ten are still alive. They are Bernhart, Frank, John, Alex, George, Otilia, Kunigunda, Mrs. George Walter, Mrs. Charles Kuttner and Mrs. Frank Eckert. All, with the exception of Mrs. Kuttner, were present at his bedside when he passed away.

The funeral was held yesterday from the Catholic church in St. George.

## ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL

Such is the Position Awarded to the Faithful McCleary.

Official announcement was made last Wednesday by Postmaster General Cortelyou of the resignation of Second Assistant Postmaster General Shallenberger of Pennsylvania, President Roosevelt has accepted the resignation, but with the understanding that it is not to take effect for several weeks.

Congressman James T. McCleary of Minnesota, who retires as the representative of the Second district at the conclusion of the present session, will succeed him. Official announcement of the appointment of Mr. McCleary was made at the same time that the resignation of Shallenberger was given to the public, the president tendering the position to the famous stand-patter on the recommendation of Postmaster General Cortelyou.

## PETERSON WINS THE PLUM

President Appoints Him Postmaster on Anniversary of His Wedding Day.

Opposition in the Form of Letters to the Department Proved of No Avail.

Legislators, by a Rising Vote, Congratulate Their Fellow Member.

The fight over the New Ulm postmasterhip is a thing of the past.

On the 27th of February, the wedding anniversary of Representative S. D. Peterson, the president sent his name to the senate as the successor of Lewis B. Krook. Confirmation followed the next day and Mr. Peterson was notified by wire of his good fortune.

He was attending to his duties in the house at the time and immediately upon receipt of the news Representative Hugo of Duluth offered the following resolution:

"Whereas, it has come to our knowledge that the president of the United States has again demonstrated his extraordinary good judgment by the selection of our brother member, S. D. Peterson, to be postmaster of the city of New Ulm, and

"Whereas, Mr. Peterson has served almost continuously in the Minnesota legislature for the past twenty years and has always given a good account of himself, being found on the right side of all important questions,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we, this body, congratulate him upon the appointment, and the city of New Ulm on its good fortune, forecasting for him a long and successful career in the new position which he has been called to fill."

The resolution was adopted by a rising vote of 118 to 1, Mr. Peterson being the only one to vote in the negative.

In New Ulm the appointment was received with expressions of approval and regret.

Many of our citizens had hoped that Krook's admirable record in the office would result in his being given another term, while still others were pronounced in their opposition to Peterson from personal reasons. It is understood that some unusually bitter and condemnatory letters were dispatched to the postoffice department in Washington with a view of holding up any action favorable to Peterson, but it is now evident they were given but little consideration. McCleary had his way and in rewarding a faithful lieutenant has rendered Peterson's friends jubilant.

Mr. Peterson will now be required to give a bond in the sum of \$20,000 and it will probably be two or three weeks before he enters upon the performance of his new duties.

The appointee refuses to divulge who will be named as assistant further than to say that it will be someone who has had experience in the office.

## BILL TO ABOLISH PRIVATE BANKS

Senate Judiciary Committee Holds It to be Unconstitutional.

"Unconstitutional" was the report of the senate judiciary committee on Representative Adams' bill to abolish private banks.

In its title the bill pretends to regulate certain banks, but the judiciary committee thinks it in reality abolishes private banks.

The committee reports that under the police powers of the state it is not competent for the state to prohibit the citizens from carrying on any trade, occupation or business that is not offensive to the community or injurious to society. The business of banking is recognized as a legitimate business, and the state may regulate but not prohibit it.

The new Farmer's Elevator Co. will incorporate with a capital of \$25,000 and build an elevator with a capacity of 40,000 bushels. William Gluth is president of the new enterprise, Robert Altman vice president, P. P. Manderfeld secretary and Andrew Backer treasurer. The board of directors is composed of Henry Mueller, and Edward Reinhart of Courtland, Robert Newton, William Gluth and Andrew Backer of Milford, Thomas Stadick and Henry Manderfeld of Sigel and P. P. Manderfeld and Martin Schnobrich of Cottonwood. Gluth, Manderfeld and Backer, of the directorate, constitute a special committee to select a site.

The council last night awarded the sprinkling contract to Wm. Huevelmann.

Ten members of the High School basketball team will go to St. James Friday evening to play a game with the high school team of that city. On Saturday evening they will line up against the Windom aggregation.

Conductor Burns, in charge of a way freight, was seriously injured at Springfield Monday, having been pinched between two cars while the train was switching in the yards. He is suffering from internal injuries but hopes for his recovery are entertained. His home is at Winona.

## CAN'T KEEP AWAY FROM TROUBLE

Peter Hein, Well-Known Here, Held to Grand Jury on Awful Charge.

Peter Hein, a piano agent who lived at Mankato for a time and used to make frequent trips to New Ulm, has been held to the grand jury at Emmetsburg, Iowa, on a charge of criminally assaulting a twelve year old girl.

Hein has a reputation for getting into trouble along these lines. On May 14, 1903, he was arrested at La Crosse on complaint of Mrs. Gina Kokkan, who charged him with criminally assaulting her while on one of his visits at her home on business in connection with his piano-soliciting. The case was tried, but the prisoner was discharged for lack of evidence.

Shortly after this affair, Hein left La Crosse, going to Austin. He was not there long, it is said, before he was again in trouble, and from there he went to Mankato. While in that city Hein managed to keep out of trouble—so far as courts and officers were concerned, although there were rumors of affairs in which he figured as one of the principals.

Later Hein located at Madison, S. D., where he was arrested on the charge of making an indecent assault on a half-witted girl, the daughter of a farmer. He was tried and convicted, but afterwards released on a technicality.

## CONTEST OVER NEW SCHOOL SITE

Two Petitions Will be Presented to the Board of Education.

The school board at its next meeting will have to deal with two petitions bearing on the selection of a site for the new South Side primary.

The first petition to be circulated asks that the proposed building be located on the South Market, a public tract of land on State street about two blocks south of the residence of W. T. Eckstein. The petitioners set forth that this site will never be required for the purposes for which it was intended—a public market—and can therefore easily be secured for school purposes without cost. The Minnesota street site, it is contended, is not large enough for suitable play grounds, even should the board acquire the additional property on which it has an option, whereas the site on State street is ample. Moreover, the money necessary to secure the extra lots on Minnesota street would more than pay for water and sewer connections with a building located on South Market.

Central location with regard to the population naturally supplying the pupils for the proposed school is also strongly urged as an additional argument in favor of the State street site.

The other petition, likewise numerously signed, favors building on the grounds now covered by the present primary building, claiming that the other proposed site is too "isolated" and not sufficiently convenient to most of the patrons of the school. This argument might apply now, but it is met by the other petitioners with a query as to how it will be a few years hence.

As for the board it is quite evident that the Minnesota street location is the favored one.

The Commercial Health Association has received 150 new applications since the first of the year—a phenomenal growth indeed. A. J. Alwin, the secretary, has resigned his position as traveling salesman and will devote his entire time and energies to booming the association.

## GORDON HATS

GORDON Hats have put an end to Man's greatest extravagance. The old \$5 hat habit has been cured. Gordon Hats at \$3 are the equal in style and quality of any \$5 hat made. The name Gordon in a hat is all the guarantee you need. It is a name that requires no argument in its defense. All the new Gordon Shapes and colors shown at our store in your own town.

## Gordon Gloves

THERE'S all the difference in the cut of a glove as there is in the cut of a coat. Gordon Gloves (aside from strength and comfort) have a cut that makes you proud of them. Gordon Gloves for men, Gordon Gloves for women (manoish too) \$1.50 are the best Gloves we know about. That's why we sell them.

## Free-Free-Free

A beautiful Watch guaranteed to keep time Stem Winder and Setter. Or a good Air-rifle given away with All Our Boys and Children Suits that sell for \$5 or more.

## CRONE BROS.

## OCHS BROS.

Twenty-five large cases of new spring goods have arrived at Ochs Bros., The Bee Hive. Don't fail to call and see them.

The Bee Hive