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Armory Petition Is Chloroformed

Fire Fighters Put Quiet on Further City Donations

Typhoid Fever Quite Prevalent. City Water Suspected.

"How many times may a man change his mind?" seemed to be the question before the city council last Monday evening. The big bone of contention was the deferred action on the petition for further funds for the new armory. Petition, counter-petition and protest in which the same names were featured on both sides of the question confused the council till they laid the matter on the table till further light should be shed on the complex problem.

Before the armory fireworks began the meeting was opened with a report from Doctors Schoch and Reineke, stating that New Ulm seems to be threatened with a serious typhoid epidemic. Dr. Reineke, speaking for the Board of Health, requested that proper steps be taken to see if the contagion could be traced to the city water supply. It seems that early last November a test of one of the wells upon which the city depends for its water supply was found to contain typhoid germs and was promptly closed. A later report from a test of the water from this well, dated Jan. 24th indicates that typhoid germs are still present though not in dangerous quantities. It was finally decided to call in the State Board of Health to investigate the situation.

With this matter closed, the armory project was taken up. Captain Albert Steinhauser appeared in behalf of the signers of the protest against any further aid for the armory from the city council. Mr. Steinhauser made it clear at the start that he was friendly to the band but, nevertheless, felt called upon to protest against further aid to the project. He said in part: "You must consider, gentlemen, that the money appropriated for this purpose goes into a state building over which New Ulm will not have the slightest control. The city of New Ulm will have absolutely nothing to show for their money. This certainly is not good business. During the last year the tax rate in New Ulm has been raised twenty per cent. Now \$32,000 has already been raised for the armory and you will find this \$12,000 more than any city outside the Twin Cities has spent on a like project. We are told that this additional expense is needed to house our band. But with only two companies practicing in the building there would seem to be no reason why the band could not find an evening to use the main floor of the building for practicing purposes.

Now New Ulm could use this money to much better advantage for really needed improvements. A mile of concrete road could be constructed; five city blocks might be paved; it would go a long way toward a municipal slaughter house or a heating plant or a gas plant. Finally it might be used to house the fire department that has done so much to protect your property during the last thirty years without receiving the slightest part of the recognition they deserve."

Mr. Henry Engel then warmly championed the cause of the fire department and presented a protest signed by 43 of the 48 members of the fire department against doing any more for the armory until the fire department had been cared for.

Philip Liesch then appeared on behalf of the armory enthusiasts. His remarks on the whole were a rebuttal of the statements presented by Mr. Steinhauser. He submitted that the city has frequently voted funds for projects which offered no immediate returns to the city and nothing had hitherto been said about it. The taxes had been raised, to be sure, but if the town could afford to raise the tax rate by voting \$96,000 for school purposes, the council was certainly justified in voting a sum for the band. The increase in the tax rate was not alarming for it was general throughout the country. The plea of the fire department he designated as a club held over the heads of the council by the opposition. The large armory was needed for public exhibitions such as poultry shows. Finally he presented a counter petition in favor of granting funds for the armory. One fourth of the signatures of his petition he said were those of men who had changed their views from the time they signed the first paper opposing the armory.

Ferdinand Crone then made a formal request for \$3,000 from the council for the project and submitted that the request was not at all out of the way when the concerts given by the band were considered.

Councilor Pfaender then declared that the council had already appropriated \$3,800 for the purpose and that \$3,000 more would mean 50% of the 1914 tax levy. It would be impossible, he declared, to carry on the business of the city for the coming year if such a sum as this was voted.

He favored the building of a city hall in which the band might be allowed to practice rather than an additional gift to the armory project. Alderman Retzlaff then suggested that if it were possible the city council would be glad to help all these worthy projects but in view of the fact that they had spent some eighteen or nineteen thousand on the lighting plant and sixteen and a half thousand on the streets it was clear that they could do nothing for the armory over what had already been done. After considerable more desultory discussion, the matter was laid on the table.

A petition to grade, gravel and boulevard Washington St. between 5th and 7th Streets South was referred to the board of public works.

A petition of F. J. Arndt to be permitted to erect an electric sign at the entrance of the Gem Theatre was granted and the council adjourned.

New Ulm's Water Mill

New Ulm has numerous institutions whose history when told fairly outlines the history of the city, so linked is it with events that took place here from year to year. One such institution is the picturesque Cottonwood Mill, located some two miles from the heart of town, which has gone steadily on its way thru nearly forty years of activity, grinding away pleasantly among its beautiful surroundings of woods and river. It was built by men well known in the old days, men who took an active part in the history making of the city and has been managed always by the same people. It has been improved and made to conform steadily with advancing conditions in milling and has a steady trade among people of New Ulm who know the worth of its products. Its financial statement would look funny if placed by the side of that of the Eagle Roller Mills but its history is none the less interesting than that of its large sister industries.

In the spring of 1879 the first spadeful of earth was dug to start the foundation for the mill and by hard work, under the superintendency of Julius Schramm, now deceased, father of our present Register of Deeds, surmounting difficulties of all descriptions, on the first day of September of that year the subject of this sketch was so far completed as to turn out the first flour.

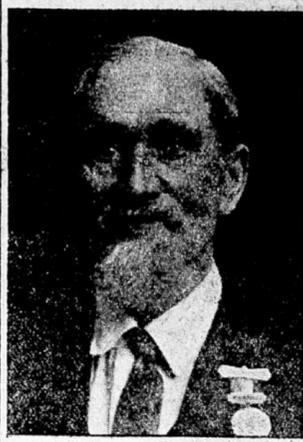
It certainly was with feelings of pleasure and pride that William Frank and John Bentzin who had associated themselves under the firm name of Frank & Bentzin saw their efforts crowned with success, and it was fine music to their ears, the purring of cog-wheels and the rhythmic rumbling of the millstones which only a miller who has been thru the old school can appreciate. And millers of the old school they were, these two veteran millers of New Ulm. The history of their association thru forty long years in their chosen work is an example of steadfast friendship and fidelity that has a touch of the David and Jonathan in it.

Having been schoolmates in the old country and, as life goes, they drifted apart after their school days were over and entered into life's school which rules with a hard hand. Coincidentally both happened to be apprenticed to the milling trade. Being a miller's apprentice in those days did not only consist of being from 15 to 18 years of age, wearing a white cap tilted to one ear and having some dust on his clothes, a flour stick showing conspicuously in his pocket, smoking a cigarette and asserting in a loud voice how much more he knows of the trade than his superiors and that he is grossly underpaid. It was hard work then for many a day from before sunrise till after dark, obeying orders from any one older than himself for the term of three years, working for only his board. Apprentices of today will say to this "I would not have stood for that, I would 'a' quit!" But times were different then. An apprentice that "threw up a job" was not considered worth his hire and nobody wanted him and he thus lost all respectable standing in the community.

Both Frank and Bentzin stood the hard work well and it made them short and stocky as you see them on the streets today or in their homes, still straight and strong in spite of their 75 odd years. After 3 years of apprenticeship they were initiated as full-fledged millers in what is called a "Zunft", a kind of association of operative millers.

William Frank came to this country first and to New Ulm in 1856, working in the old Globe, or Cincinnati, Mill as it was called, until the same burned down and then, in 1874, he started to work in the City Mills, the present Cereal Mill of the New Ulm Roller

Mr. and Mrs. John Krueger Celebrate Golden Wedding



Photos by Gastler.

At the Frieden's Church last Sunday was solemnized for a second time the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Krueger, exactly fifty years after the first plighting of their troth. Rev. Mayer of the Frieden's Church performed the ceremony after the regular Sunday service was over.

After the renewing of their pledges the bride and groom of fifty years standing returned home where a reception was tendered to upward of fifty friends and relatives. Many out of town guests were present including Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Krueger and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Krueger of Comfrey, Mrs. H. Dahl of Searles, Mr. and Mrs. Werneke and Mrs. Max Rohy of St. Paul and August Krueger of Minot, S. D.

The evening was closed by a serenade by the Second Regiment Band.

Mr. Krueger was born in Deutsch-Ruden, Kreis Wirsitz, Regierungsbezirk Bromberg, Province of Posen, Germany, June 19, 1837 and came to America with his parents in 1856 landing in New Ulm July 2nd of that year. He immediately took up farming in the Town of Milford and was following this vocation when the Indians attacked New Ulm in 1862. He was one of the defenders and

Millplant, which had been built by Subilla, Roos, Bellm and Henschel. Here he found himself again working with his old schoolmate, John Bentzin, who had come to this country in 1870 and had gone to work in the Chicago Mills, later known as the present Eagle Roller Mill. In 1874 Bentzin also went to work at the City Mills in 1874 and together the two comrades worked there until they began to want to have a mill of their own and they hit on the idea of building a custom mill on the Cottonwood, which they did in 1879.

A business is as a man's life. There are times when one feels fine and everything moves along like a song. Then come times of depression and things go wrong. So it was in the history of the little enterprise. In 1881 the Cottonwood made its high water record, 22 feet above normal, setting the mill under water nearly to the first floor. In 1882 the mill was rebuilt on the roller principle and in 1889 on account of the unreliability of the Cottonwood for water power it was necessary to install a steam plant.

The years rolled by until 1893 when the two schoolmates on Christmas Eve decided to dissolve partnership after twenty years of working side by side. Mr. Frank retired to take life more easy, selling out his interest in the business to Mr. Bentzin. In 1895 the latter had the mill entirely remodeled to the modern way of manufacturing

served in the Brown County Militia for three months. In the fall of the same year he enlisted in the Mounted Rangers as a member of Capt. Nix's Co. and served in this company for 13 months. He also served in the Civil War as a member of Co. "A" of the 11th Minnesota during the fall of 1864 and until July 17, 1865.

Mrs. Krueger whose maiden name was Barbara Lenartz was born in Forrest Township, Wisconsin October 29, 1844. When 10 years old, the family moved to Scott County. She met her husband in St. Paul and in that city they were united in marriage January 25, 1864. They immediately came to New Ulm and took up farming on their homestead on the Sleepy Eye road about 6 miles from New Ulm. Here they lived and toiled until 19 years ago when they removed to New Ulm where they have since resided. Both of the jubilarians are in the best of health. A family picture was taken Monday of the jubilarians and all of their children.

Seven children and four grandchildren are living to congratulate the parents. The children are Mrs. Henry Jennings, Mrs. Henry Uhlhorn, Mrs. Theodore Johnson, Kathryn, George, August and Fred Krueger.

and the present brand of "Bentzin's Best" was established. Additions to the building as well as to the line of machinery have been made from time to time to keep the product abreast of the times. It has always been the aim and pride of the proprietors to turn out a clean, pure article, unadulterated mechanically or artificially, as good as the best that can be made from the grain grown in this vicinity and incorporated in the finished product which goes under the name of "Bentzin's Best" for the wheat flour and "Bentzin's German Rye Flour" for the rye product. The latter is still made in the old style on mill stones as is done in the old country. This gives the flour and the bread made of it that fine nutty flavor and smell which makes it a favorite with all lovers of the old fashioned rye bread.

Mr. Bentzin carried on the business with the aid of his two sons, William and Charles, until last year when the name was changed to "John Bentzin Milling Co." and Mr. Bentzin retired from active milling work and moved to town after nearly 35 years as an operative miller on the Cottonwood. Here again shows the old comradeship of Bentzin and Frank. The former built himself a home on South State Street by the side of that of the latter and there they live as neighbors and enjoy talking over the good old by-gone days, hard-working days tho

they were. Mr. Bentzin still takes an active interest in the business, being the senior and advisory partner of the firm and any favors shown the mill are as heartily appreciated by him as by his sons. At present the milling and business end are superintended by William and Charles looks after the mechanical and engineering work. These two with the assistance of Dietrich Koester who takes care of the city delivery and an extra hired man constitute the working force of this mill having a capacity of 50 barrels.

The daily product of the mill consists of 20 barrels of wheat flour, 10 barrels of rye flour, 10 barrels of cereals consisting of graham, rye and corn meal, buckwheat flour, breakfast food, farina and whole wheat. The mill also grinds 200 sacks of feed in a day of twelve hours. This report may look small in comparison with the great plants of our city which is a milling center but, as Mr. Wm. Bentzin jokingly remarked, "Our mill has capacity enough to supply the largest family with the staff of life." If you doubt it, let them show you, whether your family is large or small.

Sick Man Dies On Train

Dr. F. H. Aldrich of Belview, Coroner of Redwood County, found himself in quite a dilemma when he was called to Walnut Grove in his official capacity to view the remains of Ole Sather of Brickeridge, Minn. Upon his arrival there he learned that the man had died on train No. 503 between New Ulm and Sleepy Eye in the day coach and that the deceased had been carried to Walnut Grove, where the deceased had friends and relatives. Dr. Aldrich was advised by Albert Emerson, Co. Atty. of Redwood County, that he might write out a death certificate which he did, giving heart lesion as the cause of death. Coroner Aldrich immediately wrote to Dr. Reineke setting forth what had been done and suggested that if he had overstepped his bounds and his disposition of the case was not satisfactory, that Coroner Reineke could conduct an investigation and dispose of the matter to suit himself. It is needless to say that Dr. Reineke fully approved of the way Dr. Aldrich handled the matter.

It appears from Dr. Aldrich's communication that Mr. Sather had been suffering for some time with valvular heart disease and asthma and to obtain relief went to the notorious Dr. John Till at New Richmond, Wis. for treatment. He was assured that he could be cured in a very short time. Instead of improving after one of the Till plasters had been put on his back, he grew rapidly worse and in a few days was unable to walk. He could not eat or sleep and insisted that he be taken to his children at Walnut Grove. He was carried to the train and transferred in St. Paul to the Dakota Express in the same manner. In the meantime he was rapidly sinking and died between New Ulm and Sleepy Eye Sunday afternoon while sitting in the day coach.

On Jan. 17th an alternative motion for judgment notwithstanding the verdict or for a new trial in re Thomas Anderson vs. St. John's Hospital Assn. was heard before Judge Olsen and on Jan. 22nd he filed his order denying both motions. The case will undoubtedly be appealed to the Supreme Court. It involves \$932 90, the amount of the verdict returned in favor of the plaintiff at the last term of court. Mr. Anderson had paid the hospital the sum of \$1000 for which they agreed to take care of him the remainder of his life. After being in the hospital for some months, he left and demanded a return of his money, less reasonable sum for his care while he was an inmate. By their verdict, the jury said that he was entitled to a return of \$932 90 of the \$1000 paid in.

Consumer Pays Higher Freight

Cashman Bill Raises Rates Generally For New Ulm.

Stone Companies Say Freight on Carload is \$5.00 Higher.

When the Cashman Freight Tariff Bill went into effect a short time ago it aroused a storm of mixed commendation and protest that left the average person a good bit in doubt as to whether the bill is a good, bad or indifferent measure. The bill, in brief, insists that all Minnesota Railroads must have a standard schedule of tariff of freight rates for all their intra-state business. That is, the railroad must have a fixed rate of charges for shipping to all points of equal distance.

The purpose of the bill is to do away with discriminating rates between different points. It is a well known fact that rates to the cities were considerably lower than to a point equally distant but away from the cities. It was to check this evil that the Cashman bill was introduced.

What the effect upon general intra-state trade will be is uncertain as yet for the law has not been in force long enough to have had a fair trial. But the effect upon New Ulm shipping would seem to be injurious rather than helpful. The bulk of our shipping is confined to the products of the flour mills and the output of the stone companies.

The effect of the bill on the local milling industries would seem to be very slight. Both the Eagle Mills and the New Ulm Roller Mills "mill in transit." That is, the wheat when being shipped to New Ulm is billed to Chicago or to some point outside the state. It is then stopped at New Ulm long enough to be converted into flour and feed and then passes on to its destination. Thus it comes under the head of inter-state commerce and the Cashman law does not apply. Mr. Beecher of the Eagle Company, declares that so far as they are concerned the law has no bearing on the and little, if any, effect. Mr. August Dahl of the New Ulm Roller Mill Co., thinks the millers will not be affected unless the bill should be interpreted in such a way as to take away the milling in transit privilege, which seems improbable.

It is the stone companies which seem to be hit the hardest by the new regulation. The Twin Cities are the logical market for the crushed stone and practically all the stone quarried by the local companies is transported thither by the M. & St. L. railroad. Under the old rate the shippers enjoyed a commodity rate of 3 1/2 cents per hundred pounds to the cities, altho the rates to other points equally distant were higher. Under the new regulation the commodity rate on crushed stone is four cents and the St. Louis has met this rate. This means an additional cost of between 13 and 15 cents on every cubic yard of crushed stone shipped to the cities from New Ulm. To be sure the rate is from 3 to 7 of a cent lower to other points but as the bulk of the shipping is to Minneapolis and St. Paul it is easy to see that the result of the law on the stone companies is anything but desirable.

Mr. Robert Scherer of the Minn. Flint Rock Co., in discussing the matter, says: "The law is a bad thing for us. It makes no difference in our inter-state rates but it raises our rates to the Cities from .5 to .7 of a cent. This means a total of \$5 to \$7 per carload and, of course, it mounts up in the aggregate."

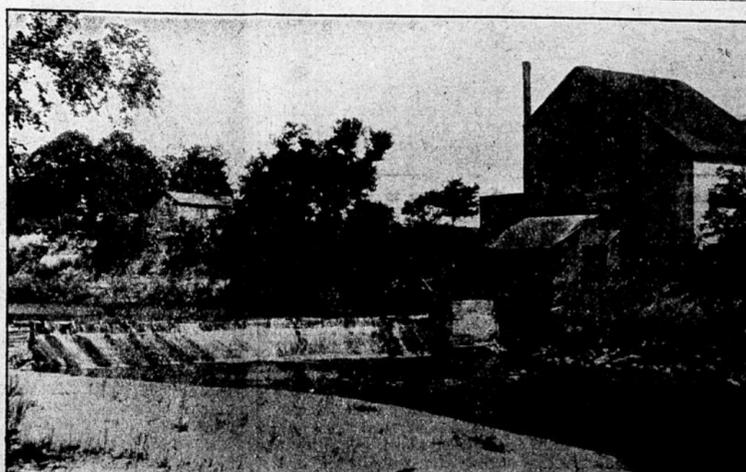
Mr. Herman Held expresses himself as dissatisfied with the new rates. "The old rates of 3.6 cents per 100 lbs. per 100 miles is now raised to 4 cents and our haul between New Ulm and the cities averages half a cent higher per hundred weight. This additional charge must fall upon the consumer and necessitates a raise of about 18 cents per cubic yard on crushed stone, a sudden jump of 12%. The law certainly fails to give relief in our business, at least."

From all this, it would seem that the Cashman law is not much of a help in New Ulm at least. It is thought, however, that the rates on general merchandise will be lowered slightly thruout the state.

Tax Collections.

County Treasurer Henry J. Berg has prepared his itinerary for collecting personal property taxes as follows:

- Sleepy Eye, Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 9th and 10th at the State Bank.
- Cobden, Wednesday Feb. 11th, at the State Bank.
- Evan, Friday, Feb. 13th, at the State Bank.
- Essig, Saturday, Feb. 14th at the State Bank.
- Springfield, Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 16th and 17th at the State Bank.
- Comfrey, Wednesday, Feb. 18th, at First State Bank.
- Hanska, Friday, Feb. 20th, at Security State Bank.



The Picturesque Cottonwood Roller Mills