

City Welcomes Mayor Fritsche

DOCTOR SAYS HE IS VERY GLAD TO BE SAFELY BACK IN AMERICA

REPORTS GERMANY IS MORE THAN READY FOR LONG STRUGGLE.

Hundreds of citizens including the members of the City Council and the Second Regiment Band were at the Northwestern station Friday evening to welcome home Mayor L. A. Fritsche who arrived that evening at 8:50 from a three months' trip abroad. The Mayor was escorted to his home by the band and citizens and Acting Mayor Mueller bade him welcome on behalf of the citizens to which Dr. Fritsche responded in a brief address.

The reception was practically spontaneous, no concerted preparations having been made to welcome the Mayor home, because the actual time of his arrival did not become known until the day before he was to arrive. He was visibly affected when he saw so many people waiting to welcome him and it was made plain to him how highly the people of the city esteem and admire him.

The Mayor left New Ulm a trifle over three months ago for a trip abroad, partly for recreation but mainly for service under the famous surgeons of Germany. Before going to Germany he went to England to attend the International Civic Convention. He stayed in London for a week and then crossed the Channel and set out for Paris. While at Paris Dr. Fritsche and his party consisting of fifteen people were tendered a reception by Ambassador Herrick. This was to be the Ambassador's last reception and some of the foremost French officials were present. Late in the afternoon word was brought to the embassy that Austria had declared war on Serbia. This caused considerable commotion in Paris and for two or three evenings crowds of people numbering from six to eight thousand gathered on the streets shouting: "Down with the War; we want no War." The police were necessary to disperse them.

Immediately after Austria had declared war on Serbia, military operations began in France. The passenger train service became demoralized, because the trains were being used for the mobilization of troops and Dr. Fritsche claims that French troops had actually crossed the border of Belgium before war was declared by the German Emperor. In this connection the Doctor says that the Russians were already massing their troops on the eastern border of Germany and had already begun destroying bridges and villages before Germany declared war. Mayor Fritsche is fully convinced that this war was thrust upon Germany and that it was not of her seeking and he says that for this reason the German people are united as they have never been before and there is absolutely no doubt in the minds of the German people that victory will be theirs.

On account of the warlike attitude things were assuming, Dr. Fritsche and his party thought it advisable to leave France and crossed over to Geneva in Switzerland. Here they learned in the afternoon of August 1st that Germany had declared war against Russia. The three weeks that they stayed in Switzerland were spent mostly at Berne. Here the Doctor had an opportunity to visit the hospitals every day and to witness some very delicate operations performed by Prof. Kocher and son, the most noted surgeons in Switzerland.

Charles Hauser, a brother-in-law of the Doctor, who was with him when he was getting nervous about getting home and finally succeeded in making arrangements to get transportation home via Naples at \$300 per person when the evening before their departure for Italy they received their first letters from Mrs. Leonholdt, formerly Miss Minnie Pfander, informing them that it was safe enough to travel and that they must surely come to Berlin and instead of going to Italy they left for Germany the next morning.

So far as the Doctor could see conditions in Germany were quite normal. There were no war prices on food stuffs, and if it were not for the occasional moving of troops and the arrival of the wounded one would not suspect that war was actually in progress. He said that the people of Germany were going about their business in the usual manner and that even places of amusement had not been shut down.

He stated emphatically that the treatment that the foreigners received at the hands of the Germans was all that could be desired and that the officials of Germany were uniformly courteous to all visitors, especially to Americans. The people on the whole are patriotic and loyal and feel that they are fighting for a just cause.

At the time the Doctor was in Berlin it was reported that there were over 250,000 prisoners in Germany, 200,000 being Russians and the balance were French, British and Belgians. In this connection the Doctor tells a story which he knows to be authentic. Shortly after some Russian prisoners were brought to the prison camp near Halle a lot of straw was brought to the place to be used for bedding. As soon as the straw was brought into the prison sheds the prisoner became frantic, screaming and wailing horribly. Thru an interpreter it was learned that the Russians were afraid that they were to be burned alive and admitted the reason they feared so was because some German prisoners had been wrapped in straw by the Russians and burned alive.

German authorities, the Mayor says, are very reticent about publishing war news and giving out the movement of troops and for that reason most of the people do not know where their relatives are fighting. In writing to them they simply put the name of the soldier and the Company and Regiment he is with on the envelope and the military authorities see to it that it is forwarded. When speaking about letters the Doctor said that for 36 days he had been without word from home. "You can just about imagine how nervous a person gets to feel about that time and, how anxious he becomes to start for home," he said. In this connection he said that he is quite confident that the British captured quite a little mail destined for Germany and simply dumped it in the English Channel. While in Germany he visited Berlin, Leipzig, Frankfurt on the Oder and some smaller places where he had relatives. While at Frankfurt he visited at the St. Marien Hospital and saw a great number of wounded soldiers and spoke to about 25 of them. The most of them were only slightly wounded. The majority he noticed, were wounded on the left arm and in the legs. Without exception they were waiting for the day to

Continued on page four.

SCHOOL BUILDING WORK PROGRESSES RAPIDLY.

Supt. Hess states that the work on the new schoolhouse is progressing very nicely and that it looks now as tho it would be possible to get the pupils into it shortly after the first of the year. This will be ahead of the time set by the contractors which was March 15th and if it can be done will be a relief to the pupils and teachers who at present are much too crowded, especially at the Washington School. The equipment for the laboratories has been purchased recently and the Board will be very busy from now on getting the furnishings and fittings lined up to be in readiness when the building is delivered by the contractors.

ANOTHER BOOSTER TOUR.

Herman Held who was recently in Mankato brought word that the Blue Earth County Boosters were intending to make an auto tour thru New Ulm to Tracy and inspect the Good Roads work along the way. Mr. Held received further notice Monday of this week that the trip had been postponed to next Tuesday, the 20th, and that then the Blue Earth people would be glad to have any New Ulm autoists who could do so join them on the tour. Nothing definite has been done here in the matter as yet.

MISS WIEGAND UNABLE TO RETURN.

Miss Frieda Wiegand, one of last year's teachers who went to Germany for her summer vacation was expected to arrive here this week to take up her work but instead a message was received from her stating that she was unable to sail as she planned and tendering her resignation. She stated that she and her mother had been advised not to attempt to make the journey home now and as it would be impossible for her to state definitely when she would start she thought best to resign now so that a new teacher could be secured as Miss Antonia Zieher who has been filling Miss Wiegand's place for her during her absence desires to be released as soon as possible. The letter was written on the 19th of September and therefore made a reasonably quick trip considering the conditions prevailing. Miss Wiegand has made numerous friends here who are sorry to learn that she will not be back and who will look with interest for news of her safe return home.

Finance Committee Submits Report On Meyer Shortage

COUNCIL REQUESTS FORMER OFFICIAL TO MAKE IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OF \$25.80 DUE CITY ON UNEXPLAINED ERRORS

MUST UNDERTAKE THE COLLECTION OF \$1,7776.74 WHICH WAS SHORT BILLED TO CUSTOMERS OF CITY

"We recommend that the report of the Chartered Accountants together with this report be filed with the city clerk and that the chairman of the Finance Committee be directed to demand of Mr. Meyer the immediate payment of the sum of \$25.80, being the amount of the second, fourth, fifth and seventh discrepancies above mentioned, and that the Chairman of the Finance Committee further demand of Mr. Meyer that he undertake at once the collection of \$1776.74, being the amount short collected by him for the Cemetery Trust Fund and for city water, as covered by the third and sixth discrepancies above noted, and that the City Treasurer and City Clerk be directed to take immediate steps to collect all outstanding special assessments that are due" is the gist of the written report signed by the finance committee and the city attorney and presented to the city council at the regular meeting last Tuesday evening. This committee has had the report of the expert accountants Marwick, Mitchell, Peat & Company of Minneapolis covering their audit of the books and accounts of the City of New Ulm for two years from March 31, 1912 to March 31, 1914, during which period Albert J. Meyer held the office of city clerk, under consideration and under advisement for over two months.

In concluding their report the finance committee gives it as its opinion that the discrepancies which have been discovered are due to carelessness and bad book-keeping and not to any dishonest intent.

According to the report, the total receipts of the city including a cash balance of \$40,497.77 on hand March 31, 1912 amounted to \$192,096.99 and the disbursements amounted to \$145,349.52 leaving on hand March 31, 1914 a balance of \$46,747.47. The accountants found correct the tax levies amounting to \$32,963.16, the mortgage and moneys and credit taxes in the sum of \$827.88, the liquor licenses amounting to \$26,500, butchers' licenses \$300, dog licenses \$156, sundry licenses \$356.50, justices' fines \$200, constables' fees \$29.45, nomination fees \$80, refund donation from Junior Pioneers \$300, rent of sundry city property \$17, sundry small receipts administration fund \$59.97, sundry small receipts street fund \$134.56, sundry small receipts fire department fund \$11.25, interest on bank deposits \$1,253.29, miscellaneous receipts Park fund \$67.96, sale of cemetery lots \$286, opening and closing graves \$261.50, ornamenting and watering graves \$827.50, interest on cemetery trust fund \$136.50, sundry receipts cemetery fund \$7.00, rental Public landing and city hospital property \$102, interest on city hall fund \$165.28, sundry receipts \$15.15, interest on electric light fund \$1,901.22, electricians' licenses \$40, meters \$983.08, meter repairs \$203.32, miscellaneous receipts and Water Works department \$503.75. The disbursements were found correct with the exception of an overpayment of \$14 to Franz Niemann. This overpayment was returned to the city before the report was filed.

The report refers to some discrepancies and matters not quite clear to the auditors which were satisfactorily explained by Mr. Meyer and need no special reference. The discrepancies, which have not been explained are grouped under the following seven heads embodied in the report of the finance committee:

First discrepancy.—The first discrepancy arises in connection with the collection of special assessments. For the past few years it has been the practice of the board of public works to provide that assessments for street grading, water mains and similar public improvements may, at the option of the property owner, be paid in four or five annual installments with interest on deferred installments at the rate of four per cent per annum. It appears from the accountants' statement that at the end of Mr. Meyer's term of office deferred assessments to the amount of \$1,094.50 were due and uncollected. The investigation of the finance committee shows that little, if any, effort was made by the city treasurer during Mr. Meyer's term of office to collect these assessments and that Mr. Meyer failed to report to the city council the fact that the assessments were not paid and failed to take any steps whatever to have them forwarded to the county auditor for collection with the taxes. The result is that the city has been deprived of the use of this considerable sum of money for a long period of time, and that the work of collecting this money must now be done by the present city clerk. Just what loss, if any, the city will sustain by reason of this matter cannot be stated at this time.

Second discrepancy.—The second discrepancy arises on account of the receipts from city scaling. The stubs of the weigh bill books show that during Mr. Meyer's term of office 4,662 weigh bills were issued. At 10 cents per bill this amounts to \$466.20. The cash receipts from this source as shown by the cash book are \$454.60, a discrepancy of \$11.60. Mr. Meyer has satisfactorily explained a portion of this discrepancy, amounting to 40 cents, leaving \$1.20 for which no explanation is offered. Your committee therefore is of the opinion that Mr. Meyer should be charged with that amount.

Third discrepancy.—The next discrepancy arises in connection with the cemetery trust fund. On March 3, 1892, a resolution was passed by the city council creating a cemetery trust fund. This fund is derived from moneys paid by various persons for the purpose of having their lots in the city cemetery perpetually cared for by the city. The resolution provides that a deposit of \$50 shall be required for lots having two or less graves, and the sum of \$100 for a lot having more than two graves. During Mr. Meyer's term of office he collected \$50 from seven different persons whose lots contained three or more graves, whereas he should have collected \$100 from each of said persons. The total amount short collected by him on this account is \$350. In explanation of this matter Mr. Meyer states that he was not aware of the resolution above referred to and that he assumed that a charge of \$50 was made for each lot, irrespective of the number of graves that it contained. The resolution in question is of record in the city council proceedings; his predecessors in office made their charges in accordance with the resolution; and attention is especially called to this resolution in the cover of the receipt book for payments to this fund. In view of these facts your committee is of the opinion that Mr. Meyer could with reasonable diligence have informed himself of the resolution in question. By reason of his failure to do so the city has lost \$350. We are of the opinion that Mr. Meyer should be required to undertake the collection of this amount if it can be collected, and if not, that he should be required to pay any deficiency into the city treasury.

Fourth discrepancy.—This discrepancy is in connection with the collection for electric light service and amounts to \$7.85. It is made up partly of errors in footings, partly in computing bills for light erroneously and partly to entering items in the register for less than the amount billed. In the absence of any explanation concerning these items they should be charged to Mr. Meyer.

Fifth discrepancy.—This discrepancy is in connection with the collection for city water and amounts to \$2.75. It is partly due to the entry of items in the register for less than the amount billed, partly due to Mr. Meyer's failure to enter bills at all in the register, and partly to errors in footings. No satisfactory explanation has been given concerning these matters and the items should therefore be charged to Mr. Meyer.

Sixth discrepancy.—The sixth discrepancy arises in connection with the city water accounts. It appears that during his term of office Mr. Meyer short-billed a large number of water accounts owing to the fact that he allowed accounts to run several months before billing them and then billed them

on the sliding scale as though the accounts had run for one month only. The monthly sliding scale charges are as follows:

First 3,000 gals. 4c per 100 gals.
Next 1,000 gals. 3 1-2 c per 100 gals.
Next 1,000 gals. 3c per 100 gals.
Next 1,000 gals. 2 1-2 c per 100 gals.
Next 2,000 gals. 2c per 100 gals.
Next 4,000 gals. 1 1-2 c per 100 gals.
All over 12,000 gals., 1c per 100 gals.

The amount short billed as computed by the accountants and by other accountants employed by the city council is \$1,426.74, a detailed statement of which is on file in the city clerk's office. It is apparent from an examination of this matter that the error in billing out these accounts is due to carelessness and not to any intention on Mr. Meyer's part to favor anyone or to defraud the city. Inasmuch, however, as the city has lost the above mentioned sum by reason of his carelessness, your committee is of the opinion that Mr. Meyer should be required to undertake the collection of the amounts short-billed by him, and if not collectible, that he should be charged up with any deficiency.

Seventh discrepancy.—This discrepancy is in connection with a bill of Franz Niemann, dated May 4, 1912. The bill is for \$17.25. Through an error the amount payable was entered on the back of the bill as \$31.25 and the city's order drawn for that amount. The overpayment of this bill was doubtless due to an error, but as Mr. Meyer was responsible for the over-payment, we are of opinion that he should be required to refund the amount overpaid and that he should be charged with \$14.00 on this matter.

SUMMARY OF DISCREPANCIES.

First discrepancy, special assessment account	\$1,094.50
Second discrepancy, scaling account	1.20
Third discrepancy, cemetery trust fund account	350.00
Fourth discrepancy, electric light account	7.85
Fifth discrepancy, water works account	2.75
Sixth discrepancy, water account short-billed	1,426.74
Seventh discrepancy, error in Franz Niemann bill	14.00
Total	\$2,897.04

Continued on last page.

"PIONEER DAY" CELEBRATION A SUCCESS

Fifty-one of the old folks accepted the invitation of the Junior Pioneers and attended the banquet at Turner Hall last Wednesday evening given to commemorate the 6th anniversary of the arrival of the first settlers who founded New Ulm. The old folks assembled in the lounging room of Turner Hall shortly after four o'clock and spent an hour or more in social converse talking about old times and greeting people that they had not seen for months or years.

The guests were received by a committee consisting of Mrs. Ida Bobieter, Mrs. James Dougher, Mrs. L. B. Krook, Mrs. L. G. Bell, Mrs. L. G. Vogel, Miss Tillie Heymann, Miss Ida Heers and Miss Lulu Doehne. Between five and six o'clock, the pioneers and Junior Pioneers went into the auditorium where they were given an opportunity to see some motion pictures. It was the intention of the committee to give the old folks scenes from Germany or some war pictures and they had given such orders, but apparently these could not be obtained and a comedy sketch finally was secured.

The banquet was served in the gym of Turner Hall by the Ladies of the New Ulm Turnverein. It was a delicious repast and well served. The menu consisted of baked ham, potato salad, sliced tomatoes, veal loaf with tomato sauce, mashed potatoes, coffee, rolls, cake and ice cream. The banquet hall was very prettily decorated. In the end of the room a bank of dahlias had been erected and above them and along the wall were a large number of richly colored autumn leaves and a card bearing the inscription "Welcome".

The music during the banquet was rendered by Capt. Hofmeister and children. Vocal numbers by Miss Frances Krook who sang twice and by a trio consisting of Mrs. W. G. Alwin, Mrs. L. G. Bell and Mrs. Herman Hein who also rendered two German songs varied the program pleasantly. All of the musical numbers were roundly applauded. In the absence of William Pfander, Jr. who was unavoidably absent, Albert Steinhauser acted as toastmaster. He read the names of the 33 who constituted the vanguard of the Chicago Landverein and then introduced Peter Mack, the only survivor of the three still remaining who was able to be present at the banquet. Mr. Mack briefly sketched the trip of the party from Chicago, Elgin and Galena, Ill., to Milford where they first halted and their spending the

Continued on page three.

Company Ready For Operation

NOVELTY ELECTRIC PEOPLE EXPECT TO BEGIN WORK THIS WEEK

MACHINERY ALL IN PLACE WILL START WITH FIFTEEN EMPLOYEES

"We will start work on October 15th with 15 employes, men, boys, and girls, and in 6 months we expect to increase the number of the employes of the Novelty Electrical Company to 40" was the information offered by Carl Jaeger when asked by a Review reporter yesterday about how soon the company expected to commence the manufacture of batteries. For the past ten days a force of men has been kept busy installing the machinery in the former Star Hall and everything is practically in readiness to start things going.

In addition to the Star Hall the company has leased a portion of the space below the stage of the Opera House and has inclosed it. In this space two mixers have been installed and considerable of the mixing work will be done there. It will also afford the necessary storage room. Without this additional space the daily output would have been limited to 2000 batteries per day, but now it is confidently hoped to bring it up to 3000 per day.

The place already looks businesslike. There is a large office desk there and also a safe to store the company's books and wealth. The machinery is run by a 3 horse power electric motor. Most of the machines are lined up against the southwest side of the building and can be put into operation by the one motor. There is also a motor of the same capacity under the stage which furnishes the power to turn the two mixers.

The first machine to attract attention is the zinc cutting machine. This is used for cutting the zinc the required width for the cylinders for the batteries. This is to be used, however, only in case of emergency as the company expects to purchase all the zinc already cut from a factory in Minneapolis. There is also a turning lathe which is to be used for repairing the machinery of the plant and is not used in the actual manufacture of the dry cell batteries. This holds good also of the drill press which is used for boring holes thru iron and is to be used mainly for keeping the machinery of the plant in repair.

After the zinc has been cut to the desired width it is passed along to the soldering table in the rear of the building. Here are three large size soldering cylinders for the 6, 7 and 8 size batteries and a large iron which has four smaller soldering cylinders attached. There are three stamping machines to cut the different size bottoms for the three sizes of batteries. Then there is the crimping machine which crimps the bottom on the cylinder and does it in a very artistic way. There is also a grinding and polishing machine to polish the novelties. The machine for polishing the larger batteries has not arrived but will be here soon.

The plant is supplied with two mixers in the building, one for mixing electrolite and the other is the acid mixer used for mixing magnesia and graphite. The paper and zinc bottoms used for insulation purposes are made with dies and

Continued on page three.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Some of our citizens were horrified one day last week to see a farmer bringing several head of cattle to town, probably to the butcher, and one of them was tied so short that as the animal walked along the hind wheel of the wagon constantly passed over one of its feet which was maimed and bleeding. The poor creature was suffering greatly from it so that it could scarcely move along. We have not heard that any one protested but certainly any one witnessing such a sight should feel it a duty to see that such cruelty to dumb animals is quickly ended. There are regulations governing the treatment of animals and any one, man or woman, has a right to appeal to them if the offender will not listen to reason.

ANOTHER MOVING DAY.

Pfander and Flor have moved their law offices in to the Olsen Block. Their quarters in the Ottomeyer Block had grown too small for their accommodation and could not be enlarged so they found it necessary to make the change.