

# New Ulm Review.

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## Resume Of The Year's Business

COMMENT AND CRITICISM ON BROWN COUNTY EXPENDITURES FOR 1914.

SEVERAL FUNDS CONSIDERABLY OVERDRAWN. MUST RETRENCH SOMEWHERE.

With this issue of the "Review" we publish the County's financial statement and also a list of the personal property taxes which must be paid to County Treasurer Henry J. Berg prior to March 1st. The financial statement is a very very exhaustive one and shows to a cent where the money of the tax-payers went to. It is worthy of the careful perusal of every one interested in the County's finances.

Including a balance on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year, the total receipts for 1914 aggregated the sum of \$425,613.86. As compared with the previous year, this is an increase of \$65,377.86. Besides that, the balance on hand Dec. 31, 1914 is \$23,383.94 less than the balance of the previous year which would indicate that \$88,761.80 more was expended this year than last year.

There has been a marked increase in the moneys disbursed to various funds. There was disbursed to the County Revenue Fund, the sum of \$36,942.64, an increase of \$2,697.62. The County Poor Fund shows an increase of \$3,899.59, disbursed to this fund. The disbursements to the County Road and Bridge Fund leaped from \$13,869.34 to \$36,764.53, an increase of \$22,895.19. There was also a marked increase in the General Town Fund, from \$52,220.68 for 1913 to \$70,799.27 for 1914, a total of \$18,578.59. For the General School Fund there was an increase of \$20,691.52, the year 1914 showing a total of \$133,652.14 as compared with \$112,960.62 for the previous year. The moneys disbursed to the County Ditch Fund were more than double that of last year. In the year 1913 \$19,933.15 were disbursed to this fund as compared with \$40,533.03 for the fiscal year just closed. There were disbursed to the State of Minnesota Fund \$50,863.71 as compared with \$35,917.02 for 1913, an increase of \$14,946.69.

At the end of the fiscal year the Revenue fund was overdrawn to the extent of \$19,724.93. This is an increase of \$6,914.48 over the deficit of the previous year. The County Poor Fund is also overdrawn and here the deficit amounts to \$11,081.43, an increase of \$4,066.23. Another account that is overdrawn is the County Road and Bridge Fund. At the end of the fiscal year 1913 there was a balance on hand of \$1,042.38. This surplus was used up in 1914 and at the end of the year this account was overdrawn to the extent of \$4,570.57. The County Ditch Fund shows the comfortable balance of \$68,614.30 as compared with \$75,932.02, a decrease of \$7,317.72. All the other accounts show small balances.

Of the nearly \$50,000 expended out of the County Revenue Fund \$17,078.55 went for salaries of County officials and \$2,757.63 additional for salary, mileage, and per diem of the County Commissioners. It cost the County \$3,313.06 to grind out justice in the District Court and \$393.29 was paid out for expenses in the several Justice Courts of the County in cases where the fines and costs were not paid by the convicted and in such other cases where the accused was acquitted. The expenses of the Probate Court in insanity cases amounted to \$97.64 and the expenses of the Coroner's office were very light, amounting to only \$196.93.

For books, stationary and office fixtures the sum of \$2,664.01 was expended and the printing and advertising cost the County \$1,866.71. For repairs and other improvements the sum of \$4,757.57 was expended and the electric light, water, fuel and phone rental totalled the sum of \$1,397.76. It cost the County \$16,134.45 or nearly as much as was paid to the County officials, to take care of the poor. Of this amount the expenses at the Poor Farm amounted to \$4,979.98. The sum of \$699.35 was paid for medicines and the physicians of the County drew \$2,594.28 for looking after the physical ills of the County poor. The relief and support of poor, outside of the Poor Farm amounted to \$7,860.84. Of this amount \$360 was allowed for widow's pension. It is a significant fact that Commissioner Erickson of the 2nd district did

not issue one relief order during the entire year. Com. Graff of the 1st issued orders aggregating the sum of \$145. The highest relief was issued in the 3d and 5th districts, respectively \$1,150.65 and \$1,010.00. In the 4th district which includes the city of Sleepy Eye Com. Steinke issued relief orders amounting to \$527.89. Outside of several big amounts that were paid out for bridges, the bulk of the \$36,794.84 of the County Road and Bridge Fund was expended for work done and material furnished on the various state roads in keeping them in repair and in grading them. Bonds to the extent of \$13,000 were paid out of the County Ditch Fund.

Only \$33.50 was expended out of the disinfection fund and that went to the city of New Ulm. There was a balance of \$463.50 in that fund on Dec. 31st last. According to the Financial statement the county's assets exceed the liabilities by \$139,049.43. Court House and fixtures are valued at \$53,000, the jail building at \$25,000 and the county poor farm and buildings at \$28,500.

In looking over the statement some things sort of "stick out" and one involuntarily asks himself why the large discrepancies in the compensation for the same kind of work done by different parties. For two days service as a grand juror Ernst Thor received the sum of \$16.20 and Bernhard Esser received for the same service \$6.20. To the uninitiated it may be said that the former had to travel 102 miles to the county seat and return and the latter traveled only 2 miles. The law allows the sum of 10 cents per mile for actual travel. Another instance where there seems to be quite a discrepancy is in the payment of service rendered in making general election returns. Peter Newdahl of Burnstown received \$7.00 for rendering this service and F. W. Renner of Comfrey who lives fully as far away from the County seat received only \$1.20. There are other similar items in the list but no others quite so strong as the example given above.

The report is one of the most complete furnished by any auditor of the State to the residents of the county and Mr. Vogel's work should be appreciated to the extent that all tax-payers give their attention to his statement of what has been done with their money.

### PIPE ORGAN RECITAL VERY FINE.

The pipe organ concert at Dr. M. L. college last Tuesday evening was not so well attended as this splendid program warranted. At that quite a number of those present came from the neighboring towns of Courtland, Nicollet, Sleepy Eye and Springfield. One man from Gibbon walked 18 miles to be able to be present and he says that he was well repaid by this concert. Unless New Ulm people take a greater interest in these concerts given by pipe organ virtuosos, they will simply have to be discontinued here.

Mr. Andrews the organist who played here last week is certainly an artist on the pipe organ. He is a master of the instrument and displayed a wonderful technique. In Passacaglia and Fuge, Marche Funebre et Chante Seraphique, Mendelssohn's 4th Sonata, Haendel's Largo and S. Buck's Finale of the 2nd Sonata he showed his ability to produce the finer shades of tone. The greater part of the program was devoted to more popular music, because that as a rule appeals to the average audience.

The organist made a happy choice in his selection of Gounod's Serenade and Nevins Song of Sorrow. As encore numbers he played a Gavotte, his own improvisation of "Home, Sweet Home" and "Nearer, my God to Thee." The college choruses under the leadership of Prof. Reuter, accompanied by organ and piano, rendered songs from Bach, Brahms, and Fr. Lachner in a very satisfactory manner. Their enunciation was almost perfect and their appearance was very pleasing.

Some of those who attended the concert from outside points were: Rev. Westerkamp, Springfield; Rev. William Albrecht, Sleepy Eye; Rev. and Mrs. J. Dysterheft, and Teacher Keller of Sanborn; Teacher Bussmann of Courtland; Teacher Schroeder of Goodhue; Rev. Koehler of Nicollet and Teacher Hellmann of Nicollet; Rev. Pethke of Marshall and Miss Alma Schweppe of St. James.

### COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING.

The Commercial Club will hold a meeting at the Club Rooms Thursday evening, Feb. 4th. All members urged to be present.

The annual convention of the chief operators of the Tri-State Telephone Company which was held in Mankato last Thursday was attended by the Misses Clara Soukop and Miss Elsa Geske.

## Laborer Loses In Damage Suit

SUPREME COURT REVERSES JUDGMENT ALLOWED BY BROWN CO. JURY.

PROBATE COURT DECISION IS SUSTAINED. HEIR MUST PAY DEBTS.

According to a decision filed by the Supreme Court of the State last Friday, George Johnson of Sleepy Eye will recover nothing from the United Flour Mills Company for injuries received while in their employ during the month of July, 1913. The case was tried in the District Court of Brown County at the May term and the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff assessing his damages for the injuries sustained at \$725.50. The defendant made application to the Court for judgment notwithstanding the verdict which was denied and the case was appealed to the Supreme Court with the result that on Friday that tribunal entered an order reversing the lower Court.

The injuries for which plaintiff brought suit were suffered by him on or about July 18th, 1913 while in the employ of the United Flour Mills Company. In his complaint he states that while he was engaged in taking sacks from a belt elevator, a sack of grain was in some manner dislodged from this elevator when about forty feet from the floor and in its downward descent struck plaintiff on the head and neck. He further says that the shock was such a severe one that Johnson was thrown backward against a scale and to the floor and that by reason thereof he was severely injured and bruised and that he sustained permanent injuries to the spinal cord, bones and cartilages. Johnson was confined to his bed 10 days and for four weeks was unable to leave the house. At the time of the trial he was still unable to perform manual labor.

The jury felt that the milling company had been negligent and should pay plaintiff for the injuries received and awarded him \$725.50. This the milling company will not have to pay now. The syllabus of the Supreme Court reads as follows:

"Evidence in an action to recover damages for injuries alleged to have been caused by defendant's failure to furnish plaintiff, its servant, with a safe place to work and proper appliances, and its unsafe methods of work, whereby a bag of oats fell on plaintiff while he was unloading an elevator, held conclusively to establish the defense of assumption of risk.

Order reversed, with directions to enter judgment for defendant."

Last Thursday Judge Olsen filed a decision sustaining the Probate Court in its construction of the will of Charles Feirer, deceased. According to the will of said deceased the entire personal property and a 160 acre farm was bequeathed to Joseph Feirer, a nephew. At the time of his death, Charles Feirer, also had a 1-7 interest in a 60 acre tract. No disposition of this interest was made by will and nowhere in the will was mention made of the six brothers and sisters of the deceased. Debts to the amount of about \$2400 were filed against the estate of said Charles Feirer, deceased, and on the theory that the personal property went to him absolutely Joseph Feirer, the nephew and also executor of the estate made application to the Probate Court, for license to sell the deceased's 1-7 interest in the 60 acre tract for the payment of the debts of the deceased. Judge Ross held that the personal property even if bequeathed in its entirety to the nephew, should first be used for the payment of the debts, before any of the real estate could be sold for that purpose. In this contention and in this construction of the will, Judge Ross is sustained by the District Court in the order made and filed by Judge Olsen last Thursday.

The local Christian Endeavor Society will celebrate next Sunday, Feb. 7th, the thirty-fifth national birthday of Christian Endeavor. Mr. Harold Layns State President of the Minnesota C. E. Union will be here and speak in the Congregational Church both morning and evening. Special music has been arranged for this Sunday. Miss Frances Krook, Ed. Stoll and others will sing in the evening. In the morning the Church Choir will sing. The evening meeting will be a union meeting, and Rev. C. Hohn will also speak at this time.

## County Hospital Again Discussed

PROSPECTS FOR TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM SEEM TO GROW BETTER.

CHAIRMAN POLKOW OF OPINION THAT STATE SHOULD DO THIS WORK.

At the next meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County the question of joining with seven other Counties to build a joint sanatorium at Mankato will be submitted to the County Board of Brown County. This was decided at a meeting of the Chairman of the County Boards of Brown, Blue Earth, Nicollet, Watonwan, Waseca, Le Sueur, Martin, Faribault and Martin Counties held at Mankato last Friday. This meeting was held pursuant to an agreement made at a meeting previously held when this matter was talked over quite fully. At the Friday meeting Chairman Herman Polkow represented Brown County.

Altho no definite action was taken and none of the representatives positively pledged the support of their respective counties to this proposition, yet everybody felt after the meeting was over that the prospects for success are brighter than ever before.

J. B. Summers of Nicollet County stated that the Commissioners of his County are unanimously in favor of a joint sanatorium. Mr. Polkow of this County stated that if the other Counties go into it, he felt quite confident that Brown County would also follow suit, but he at the same time expressed the opinion that the State ought to take care of its tuberculosis patients, since it is taking care of its insane patients and in his opinion there is no reason why they should take care of the tubercular patients also. The Chairman of Watonwan County said that in his County the sentiment in favor of a joint tuberculosis sanatorium is on the increase. Some of the other Chairman did not express themselves so positively but on the whole the sentiment seemed more favorable than it was at the previous meeting.

Dr. Robinson Bosworth of St. Paul, Secretary of the state tuberculosis commission who was present went into the details of the cost of construction and maintaining a tuberculosis sanatorium. In his opinion if all the 8 counties unite in building a sanatorium, it would cost approximately 40 cents per capita for the erection of the institution and about a fifth or sixth of that amount for maintenance. Dr. Bosworth stated that the deaths in the 8 counties average a total of 115 for the past three years and that on this basis it would not be advisable to erect a sanatorium with a capacity of less than 144 beds. The probable cost per patient per day, he thought would be about \$1.50.

Rev. Hughes thought that a sanatorium of this kind should be easy of access to the friends of the patients and for that reason suggested that Mankato be selected on account of its being the largest railroad center in southern Minnesota.

Another meeting will be held April 2nd at which the several counties will be represented by their entire boards. Dr. Schmitt who presided at the meeting expressed himself as very well satisfied with the progress that had been made and suggested that each member present take along a copy of the following resolutions which were adopted by the delegates present:

"It is hereby proposed by the following counties of the State of Minnesota, to-wit: That a joint sanatorium for care and treatment of tuberculosis cases, be established, constructed and maintained and equipped and that a necessary site therefor be acquired, and that said sanatorium be established, built, equipped and maintained by said counties acting jointly as a group of counties as provided by and under and pursuant to Chapter 500 of the Laws of Minnesota for the year 1913, provided that the proportionate amount of the necessary cost to each of said respective counties shall not exceed such sum as may be raised by a tax levy of not to exceed one mill on the dollar of the taxable property of each of said respective counties, and to that end each of said counties proposes to immediately create a 'sanatorium fund,' to appoint the necessary members of a county sanatorium commission, to appropriate its proportionate share of the cost of site and erection, establishment and equipment of said sanatorium, the

total amount to be paid by said counties jointly, for the site, erection and equipment, not to exceed the sum of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars, and an equal amount to be paid by the state; the proportionate amount to be appropriated by each of said respective counties for the cost of site, erection, equipment and maintenance for ensuing year, to be fixed by said sanatorium commission as provided by said Chapter 500 of said laws of 1913, and especially Section 4 thereof, and the location of said sanatorium to be fixed by said county sanatorium commission with the approval of the advisory commission of the Minnesota sanatorium for consumptives, as provided in Section 2 of said law, and to pay over to the state treasurer the moneys collected for the cost of site, erection and equipment of such sanatorium.

"The board of county commissioners of each of said counties proposes to immediately adopt the necessary resolutions empowering and binding said counties to do the things hereby proposed and such other things as may be necessary to carry out the intention hereby expressed, and to make possible the procurement of said site, the erection, equipment and maintenance of said sanatorium."

### REPAIRS FOR HERMAN'S MONUMENT.

Chas. Hauenstein and John Hetlinger represented Denkmal Lodge No. 21 of the Order of Sons of Hermann at the annual convention of the Grand Lodge of this Order held at St. Paul on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. The strength of the Order in this State according to the reports of the officers is a trifle over 3800 active members. During the past year \$132,000 was paid out for death benefits, 132 members having died. The salary of the Grand Secretary was raised from \$75 a month to \$125 a month, but, hereafter he will have to devote his entire time to the welfare of the Order. A lengthy discussion ensued over the repairs necessary on the Hermann's Monument in this city. It was finally decided to carry out the repairs as recommended by the committee half of the expense to be borne by the Grand Lodge and the other half by the Supreme Lodge. The assemblage was addressed by the German and the Austro-Hungarian Consuls. Among the Grand Lodge officers was a former New Ulmite, Dr. G. Fischer, who was elected Grand Vice President.

### BATTALION INSPECTIONS.

Pursuant to orders issued by Col. John Buschers, Major O. Quane of St. Peter who commands the third battalion of the regiment will make inspections of the companies of his battalion on the following dates: Company K, St. Peter, Capt. Frank Magner, Feb. 15; Company L, Redwood Falls, Capt. C. F. Gales, Feb. 18; Hospital corps, Amboy, Capt. L. H. Merrill, Feb. 23rd; Company M, Madison, Capt. M. Alfred Larson, Feb. 25th; and Company I, Owatonna, Capt. M. J. Brown, March 2nd. The inspection is held at this time to prepare the companies for the annual visit of the federal inspecting officer.

Pursuant to this order Major Albert Pfaender will make the inspection of the companies of his battalion as follows: Co. "E," Fairmont, Capt. Chute, Feb. 22nd; Co. "F," Worthington, Capt. Smith, Feb. 23rd; Co. "G," Austin, Capt. Cook, Feb. 15th; Co. "H," Mankato, Capt. Scott, March 1st; Headquarters Co., New Ulm, Capt. Vogel, Feb. 17th; Machine Gun Co., New Ulm, Capt. Juni, Feb. 17th. Co. "A" will be inspected by Major Mollison of Faribault, Feb. 24th.

### SPRINGFIELD NEEDS LIGHT

At a recent meeting of the village council of Springfield the bids of the A. C. Ochs Brick and Tile Company and of R. F. Werhland to furnish electric current for the village were both rejected. The former offered to supply 2300 volts three phase alternating current 24 hours service at the following prices: 4.5 cents for 5 years, 4.3 cents for 7 years, 4 cents for 10 or 15 years. The latter submitted the following bid: 2200 volts, three phase alternating current for 5 years at 4 1-2 cents per kw., for the following 5 years at 4 1-4 cents and the following 5 years at 4 cents.

A remonstrance bearing 54 signatures, the signers objecting to placing the lighting service in the hands of any private person, firm or corporation, was presented at the council meeting when this matter was up for discussion. With the rejection of both bids the neighboring village will worry along with the present plant which is said to be inadequate for the growing needs of the city.

## Wreck and Fire Feature Week

NEITHER SO SERIOUS AS MIGHT HAVE EASILY BEEN THE CASE

N. W. ENGINES TRY CONCLUSIONS. EARLY BLAZE AT NEW RESTAURANT

Saturday morning the hill engine of the Northwestern Road tried a stunt that is not often accomplished successfully, that of trying to occupy a space already pretty full of engine. The hill engine is in the hospital badly banged up as a result of its endeavor and the switch engine which was occupying the space which the other invaded is also in the hospital keeping its fellow sufferer company.

The hill engine is the extra engine kept at the Northwestern yards to assist heavy trains in making the upgrade just north of the city. It had been on such an errand Saturday morning and was returning when it got into mischief. The other engine, No. 530, is the regular switch engine and was busy on the Eagle Mill tracks in the north end of the yards. Engineer Lehnart was in charge of it and he had just brought his iron steed to a stop when out of the cloud of steam and flying snow came the hill engine, at yard speed. It was too late to avoid a collision and the two engines came together with a crash that stood each of them on their haunches. They dropped back to the tracks, neither one being derailed but both badly smashed. Engineer Siebert who was in charge of the attacking forces said that there was so much steam in the frosty air that he could not see the other engine until right upon it. The fireman was the only one hurt to speak of and he has some bad bruises. Both of the engineers are new men in the New Ulm yards. They are all very fortunate that worse did not follow the crash.

At five o'clock Monday morning while the wind was blowing fiercely the city whistle shrieked out its warning to the people that one of the citizens was in danger of losing his property by way of the fire route. The call came from the Kalos Lunch room on South Minnesota Street in the building recently remodelled by John C. Siebenbrunner.

The cook had opened up for the day's work and had the gas heater going under the water tank near the partition that separates the eating room from the kitchen. Some articles hanging on the partition caught fire and the man to be sure of saving the place turned in an alarm altho it turned out that a couple of chemicals could take care of the blaze. The fire department made a quick run to the place but found that chemicals had been brought from Graff's Livery Barn and subdued the fire so that no water was necessary to speak of. The upper rooms were filled with smoke but by quickly opening the vents no great damage was done by it.

Insurance adjusters placed the loss on the building at \$300 and it was estimated that a similar amount would cover Mr. Kalos' loss on his furnishings and supplies. His restaurant was closed up pending the arrival of the adjusters and arrangements were at once made to repair and get things in shape to start again within a couple of weeks.

Mr. Kalos only recently came here from Mankato and New Ulm people are sorry to see him have this bad luck.

### LUTHERAN MAENNERCHOR WILL CELEBRATE.

At the annual meeting of the male chorus of the Lutheran Church the following officers were elected: Pres., Fred Oswald; Vice President, Fred Radtke; Secy., Emil Hempel; Treas., William Muesing; Sr. Director, Prof. Adolph Reim; Ass't, F. W. Blauert. It was decided to celebrate the anniversary of the society on the evening of February 16th in an appropriate manner. Two committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Otto Tappe, Fr. Sannwald and Fr. Radtke will look after the refreshments and Fred Oswald, Martin Burk and H. A. Vogel will prepare a program of entertainment. The executive committee consists of William Stelljes, Martin and Cornelius Burk. An effort will be made to increase the membership of active singers to 50.