



# New Ulm Review.

VOL. XLIII.

NEW ULM, BROWN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, WEDNESDAY, SEPT., 15, 1920

NUMBER 37

## CITY IS SUED BY WICHERSKI

### FORMER CITY CLERK WANTS SUM OF \$400 RETURNED, WHICH HE PAID.

### LARGE ENGINE WILL NOT BE MOVED FROM OLD PLANT TO NEW BUILDING.

At the regular monthly meeting of the city council, last Tuesday evening, announcement was made by City Attorney Albert Pfander that Ernst Wicherski, a former city clerk, had filed a suit against the city to recover the payment of \$400, which Mr. Wicherski claims is due him from the city. Papers in this litigation were served upon the city by Attorney Albert Pfander of Sleepy Eye, counsel for the plaintiff. The basis for this legal proceeding dates back to the time when Mr. Wicherski was city clerk.

### Will Not Move Engine.

The big Mackintosh-Seymour engine, which has been in service at the present electric light plant for several years past, will not be moved to the new structure, now being erected, as this would entail an expense of approximately \$8,000, which the council desires to save for the city. Instead, connections will be made between the boilers in the new plant and the engine at its present location, and the latter will be operated as auxiliary motive power.

### Reject Application.

The application of the Sinclair Refining Co. for permission to erect oil tanks on the M. & St. L. right-of-way, near Third North street, was rejected, as some of the city fathers were of the opinion that these tanks should be placed in the outskirts of the city. Inasmuch as it is easier by far to prevent the placing of oil tanks where they are not desired, than it is to have them moved later, the council acted wisely in turning down the application.

### Asks for More Hose.

Fire Chief Henry Engel informed the city fathers that some 700 feet of fire hose of the local Fire Department was more or less defective and advised that 500 feet of new hose be purchased. The Fire Department committee of the council, together with Chief Engel, was given full power to act in this matter.

### Attend Fire College.

The request of Secretary Alfred Schroeck of the Fire Department for an appropriation from the council to make it possible for two local fire laddies to attend the State Fire Congress, which is being held at St. Paul this week, was granted. These firemen will have their expenses paid by the city.

### Honorable Discharge Granted.

John Schapekahn, who has been a member of the local Fire Department since 1888, was, at his request, granted an honorable discharge from this organization by the city fathers. Mr. and Mrs. Schapekahn departed for Milwaukee yesterday, to make their future home there.

### Appoint Election Judges.

The council appointed the necessary quota of judges for the November election, as follows: First ward—Councilor Jerry Reardon, Councilor Otto Oswald and Herman Beussmann; Second ward—Councilor Emil Mueller, Councilor Karl H. Aufderheide and Hugo Gebser; Third ward—Councilor William Lieb, Emil Buenger and Charles Brust, Sr.

### Working on Machinery.

J. G. Robertson of St. Paul, who has the contract for installing the machinery in the new power plant, was present at the council session and informed the city fathers that work on this machinery had already been started by the manufacturers. Mr. Robertson assured the council that there would be no delay in completing his contract, provided no unforeseen contingencies arise.

### Last Furniture Bill Paid.

The bill of Langley & Ewart, Minneapolis contractors, in the sum of \$125.78, balance due on their contract for the furniture in the new municipal building, was allowed and ordered paid.

### Monthly Estimates Allowed.

Monthly estimates on various municipal improvements were allowed and ordered paid by the city fathers, as follows:

Estimate No. 1 on the sewer in course of construction on Valley street,

between Center and Fifth South streets, Lars Overn contractor, \$2,907.

Estimate No. 5 on the grading of Front street, between Center and Sixth North streets, Held & Haebler contractors, \$1,571.58.

New power plant equipment, J. G. Robertson contractor, \$1,190.

Plumbing work at the new power plant, Gulden & Vercoe contractors, \$1,804.75.

### MORE DEPREDACTIONS.

No sooner had Ira Koberstein been arrested in connection with the recent robbery of the Standard Store at Sleepy Eye, than more depredations were committed there, according to the Herald-Dispatch. This time Dangers Bros. Poultry and Pet Stock Farm suffered at the hands of ruthless persons. A large number of fine chickens were stolen and the screens on some of the animal cages were cut, thus allowing three fine young foxes to escape. This is the second time that Dangers' farm has been visited by marauders; last spring a large number of rabbits were poisoned. The Sleepy Eye police is grappling with a very serious problem in running down the guilty parties, and it is to be hoped that the arm of the law will succeed.

### DAM AT HANSKA LAKE.

Fred Kuehne has moved his crew of men and equipment from Sleepy Eye to Hanska, to begin work on the big dam to be constructed at the lower end of Hanska Lake. The dam will be 200 feet long and high enough to raise the water in the lake about four feet. This will preserve the lake and protect the fish in it from freezing out during the winter. Numerous dams have been built at that point in years gone by, but none of them have proved permanent, but it is proposed to erect a dam now that will withstand the wear for ages.

## 22,421 PEOPLE IN BROWN COUNTY

### POPULATION OF CITIES AND VILLAGES INCREASED BY 2,095 IN DECADE.

### SLIGHT GAIN IN TOWNSHIPS. SOME SHOW DECLINE IN INHABITANTS.

Figures given out by the Census Bureau at Washington, D. C., relative to the result of the fourteenth decennial census, show that Brown County's population has increased by 2,287, or 11 per cent, during the past ten years. According to the late census, this county had a total of 22,421 inhabitants at the time of enumeration, as against 20,134 in 1910. In view of the steady exodus of young people from the rural districts to the larger cities, as a result of which quite a number of agricultural counties in this and other states show a more or less marked falling off in population, the increase noted in Brown county is very gratifying.

### Cities and Villages Gain.

Every city and village in the county has increased in population since the 1910 census, according to comparative figures contained in the report from Washington, the total gain for all municipalities in the county being 2,095, or approximately 20 per cent. The total population of the cities and villages was 12,219 in 1920 and 10,124 in 1910. New Ulm, the county's metropolis, had 6,745 inhabitants when the enumeration was made, as against 5,648 in 1910. This represents an increase of 18 per cent. The population by wards is: First ward, 2,040; Second ward, 1,930; Third ward, 2,775. In Sleepy Eye the gain was only 202, from 2,247 to 2,449, while Springfield's population increase was more substantial, being 367, from 2,482 to 2,849. Comfrey experienced the greatest percentage of growth of any municipality in the county during the past decade, more than doubling its population, which in 1910 was 238 and in 1920 has increased to 533. The gains in the three other villages of Brown county were as follows: Hanska, 102; Evan, 11, and Cobden, 21.

### Slight Increase in Towns.

The total increase in population of

(Continued on page 8.)

## FINAL GAME WON BY LOCALS

### YOUNG AMERICA DEFEATED AT NORWOOD BY CLOSE MARGIN.

### OVER TWO HUNDRED PEOPLE ACCOMPANIED TEAM LAST SUNDAY.

The New Ulm baseball team put the finishing touches to their season's record, when they defeated the crack Young America nine at the American Legion picnic at Norwood last Sunday. Accompanied by over 200 of the local rooters, the team went to Norwood in a special train and with this support behind them played one of the best games of the season.

### All Salaried Aggregation.

That the locals were forced to play good ball can be judged from the fact that among Young America's nine were the following men: Klein Henry, Chicken, Chell and B. Lawler of Minneapolis and Schroeder, the crack Stillwater first baseman.

New Ulm's lineup consisted of the following men: Born, catcher, Bertsch pitcher, Bunn, first base, Bane, second base, Dies, short, Pederson, third, Robinson, Guentner and Pfeiffer in the outfield. The only errors made by the locals were made by Pederson and were responsible for the lone run made by Young America.

### Bertsch Had Good Control.

"Frosty" Bertsch made his last appearance for New Ulm Sunday and certainly finished his season in good form. Six scattered hits were made off of him while eleven of the opposing batters whiffed the ozone. In the second inning he fanned three men in succession and followed it up with two more in the third and one in the fourth. It was in the fourth inning when several errors allowed Young America to score a run.

New Ulm started the scoring in the first inning. Robinson the first man up singled. Petersen bunted and was safe when the opposing third baseman fumbled the ball. Pfeiffer fouled to the catcher. Born hit to second who threw home catching Robinson who attempted to score. Bunn, the next man up doubled to center scoring Pederson and Born. Dies ended the inning by hitting to third.

Throughout the entire game the spectators were on the edge of their nerves as both teams had several chances to score during the game.

### Poor Umpiring.

The game was marred by poor umpiring. The umpire, a Norwood man, evidently could not see the ball as he called some very rank decisions on both sides. One decision in particular almost ended the game in a row. This came in the ninth inning. Young America was at bat. The first man was out on a fly to second. The umpire then called the next man out on strikes but the Young America aggregation raised such a rumpus that he changed his decision and walked the batter. This caused a howl on the part of the local team and after arguing for almost half an hour the New Ulm boys finally gave in. As a result the game could have been lost. Henry, the next man up singled. Klein hit to Bertsch who threw to third forcing Chell who had walked. Then came B. Lawler, the man who had made two doubles off of Bertsch during the game. Fortune however was with us for he hit a high fly which was gathered in by Bunn, thus retiring the side.

### Band Accompanied Team.

Without doubt, the main rooters for the New Ulm team was the baseball band. Composed of nine men they not only supported the team, but kept the New Ulm rooters in good cheer and did much to entertain the spectators at the game. While enroute and coming back from Norwood the band played a piece at all the stops and drew forth applause from those who were at the station.

### Good Team Next Year.

Already the fans are beginning to talk about getting a team for next year and if the enthusiasm keeps up New Ulm will have a far better team than they had this year.

P. Isacksen and family of North Star township visited local relatives, Sunday.

## AUDITOR VOGEL ASKS DAMAGES OF ERICKSON

### Sues Springfield Lawyer-Editor for Alleged Malicious Prosecution and Expenses.

The statement in a recent issue of the Review that the final chapter in the Vogel-Erickson controversy had been written, when Governor Burquist refused to remove Brown county's efficient county auditor, seems to have been somewhat premature in view of later developments, for Mr. Vogel has commenced an action against the Springfield lawyer-editor to recover damages aggregating \$2,500 as a result of the fracas in the auditor's office on Lincoln's birthday and subsequent proceedings. The papers in this suit were served upon the defendant by Sheriff W. J. Julius, Thursday.

One of the causes for this legal action, as cited in the complaint, is alleged malicious prosecution, for which Mr. Vogel asks damages in the sum of \$1,000. A like amount is demanded for the proceedings instituted against the plaintiff by Mr. Erickson before the governor, which are claimed to have been of a malicious nature. The third item and final in the list of causes is for \$500 to recompense Mr. Vogel for expenses incurred in defending himself against the Springfield lawyer-editor's charges, including attorney's fees, etc. Mr. Vogel has retained Attorney Alfred W. Mueller of this city as his counsel.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lee, old and respected residents of Lake Hanska township, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on their beautiful farmstead on the shores of Hanska Lake, recently. This worthy couple was married September 3, 1870. Mr. Lee is now 81 years of age, while his faithful helpmate is two years his junior. Mrs. Lee is now deprived of her eyesight, but otherwise both jubilarians are enjoying fairly good health.

## REAL ESTATE TAX UP TEN PER CENT

### EVERY TOWNSHIP IN COUNTY AFFECTED BY INCREASE. NO MUNICIPALITIES.

### APPLIES TO STRUCTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS AS WELL AS TO LANDS.

The farm owners in Brown county will be required to pay considerably more taxes on their property next year than was anticipated by the tax lists of the various township assessors and the changes made by the county board of equalization, according to a communication received by County Auditor Louis G. Vogel from the Minnesota Tax Commission a few days ago.

### Raised Ten Per Cent.

The letter received by the county auditor announces an increase of ten per cent in every township in Brown county, which applies to structures and improvements, as well as to lands. This increase does not affect real estate in the cities and villages of the county, no changes having been made in the assessed valuation of this class of property in these municipalities.

### Based on Sales Data.

The boost of ten per cent in the assessed valuation of real estate in the townships of Brown county is based upon sales data in the hands of the Tax Commission, and also upon a comparison with other counties, according to the communication received by Mr. Vogel. From these facts, the Commission has come to the conclusion that the charge ordered is necessary.

### Hearing May Be Had.

"The Commission feels that these changes are conservative and has directed me to say to you that they will stand, unless it can be clearly shown that a mistake has been made," writes Secretary N. A. Nelson of the Tax Commission. "If a hearing is desired, let us know within ten days, and a date of hearing will be set, which will probably be after September 15. The Commission is now working on the personal property abstracts and hopes to be able to advise you of any changes at an early date."

Miss Rose Lipp left Saturday for Belview, Minn., where she will teach during the coming school year.

## "BURIED" LETTER IS RESURRECTED

### DOCUMENT BRANDS AS FALSE "LEGAL" OPPOSITION TO GERMAN STUDY.

### NO EXISTING LAW FORBIDS INSTRUCTION IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE HERE.

If you had insisted that white was black, and had been so persistent in this claim that you had convinced others that your contention was correct, and finally, when it came to the supreme test, the high state authorities that you had relied upon to assist you in your attempt to convince more people of the truth of your contention—that white was black—had openly confessed with regret, of course, that your claim was fallacious—well, how would you feel about it?

### We Can't Explain It.

We have never been in such a predicament and so it is impossible for us to describe the feelings of a person who is situated in an unpleasant dilemma of this kind. Still there are a few people in New Ulm who would be able to give a very vivid description of how it feels to be made the tools of others for the express purpose of pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for them. We have special reference to those who so ardently, but none the less erroneously, put forth the claim that compulsory instruction in a foreign language including Germany was contrary to state law and would bring dire consequences upon the heads of the members of the local board of education were they to pass a resolution of such purport.

### A Resurrected Letter.

In last week's issue of the Review, we referred to a letter, written by P. C. Tanning, deputy commissioner of education of Minnesota, to former Superintendent Arnold Gloor, the present head of the local public schools, inadvertently read at a special meeting of the board of education, Saturday evening, September 4. It has been our good fortune to secure a copy of this document for publication. This letter has never been made public, and but for its accidental resurrection from the archives at the high school building and the insistent demands made by a representative of the Review that the public, here and elsewhere, be given an opportunity to learn its contents and pass judgment accordingly, no one, not even members of the board of education, might ever have enjoyed reading it. The Review representative was not satisfied merely to have heard the letter read, but insisted that inasmuch as it is a public document, every taxpayer in the local school district is entitled to know its contents. Our arguments were successful and so we are able to give our readers a verbatim copy of the letter. Here it is:

### Contents of Letter.

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
James M. McConnell, Commissioner.  
P. C. Tanning, Deputy.  
Saint Paul, April 12, 1920.  
Supt. H. C. Hess,  
New Ulm, Minnesota.  
Dear Mr. Hess:

I have yours of the 8th, setting forth the action taken by your board in restoring compulsory instruction in German in grades six, seven and eight.

There is nothing in the state laws or in the rules of the State Board forbidding instruction in a foreign language in the elementary grades. Reference to foreign language instruction in public schools is found in two places in the school laws; Section 165 and Section 260 in the 1919 edition of the school laws.

You will notice that both of these permit instruction in a foreign language. In Section 260 you will note the expression: "A foreign language may be taught when such language is an elective or a prescribed subject of the curriculum, but not to exceed one hour in each day."

This would indicate that the school board may make a foreign language a prescribed subject, which ordinarily would be interpreted to mean a subject that every child in the grade specified could be required to take.

An effort was made in the last legislative session to prohibit the teaching of a foreign language in the grades be-

low the high school, but nothing came of it.

I am sorry that I cannot give you a more encouraging report.  
Sincerely yours,  
(Signed) P. C. TANNING,  
Deputy Commissioner of Education.  
TMF

### Discouraging, Indeed!

No wonder Deputy Commissioner Tanning expressed regret in his letter that he was not able to give Superintendent Hess "a more encouraging report" for the benefit of those who opposed the re-instatement of German instruction in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of our public schools, but Mr. Tanning, unlike the attorney general's office, is frank to state that white is not black, even though to say so would please certain people here and elsewhere. Was it Mr. Tanning's frankness that caused his letter to be "buried" in the high school archives without even giving members of the local board of education an opportunity to peruse it? Had this document been made public at the time it was received about five months ago, it would have served to clear the atmosphere of obnoxious stench, it would have saved the German-haters here and elsewhere much agony and the lying Twin City press would have been compelled to seek other sources for their objects of vituperation. It was the transmission of the news of the school board's action via the "grapevine cable" between New Ulm and the Twin Cities which caused the upheaval that the publication of this letter will do a great deal toward subduing.

### What's the Difference

We would like to have some of the "wise ones" tell us the difference between a "prescribed" study, such as Deputy Commissioner Tanning refers to in his letter to former Superintendent Hess, and "compulsory" instruction. There may be hairline distinction between these two expressions, and, if so, the columns of the Review are open to anyone desiring to enunciate this distinction.

### Resume of Hunting Laws.

Believing that many of our readers will be interested in reading a brief resume of the hunting laws of Minnesota, we publish a summary herewith:

### Open Season for Game.

Moose and deer from Nov. 15 to Dec. 5, both dates inclusive. Ducks, geese, coots gallinules, jacksnipe and yellowlegs, Sept. 16 to Dec. 31. Quail, Oct. 15 to Nov. 30. Doves Sept. 16 to Oct. 1. Woodcock, Oct. 1 to Nov. 30. Partridge or ruffed grouse, Oct. 15 to Nov. 30. Ralls, Sept. 16 to Nov. 30. Martin, fisher, mink, muskrat, Dec. 1 to March 31. Gray, black or fox squirrels, snowshoe rabbit, racoon, Oct. 15 to March 1.

There is no open season this year on elk, caribou, otter, plover, prairie chicken, shiptail grouse, wood duck, harmless birds, swan, cranes, curlew grebes, nor Chinese ringneck pheasants. Injurious birds may be killed at any time, such as blackbirds, crows, English sparrow, hawks and owls.

### Bag Limits.

The bag limits are restricted to one deer or moose. On ducks 15 per day, 45 in possession. Geese 5 per day, 5 in possession. Other waterfowl 15 per day, 45 in possession of any or all combined of which not more than 5 shall be geese. Quail 10 per day, 20 in possession, season limit 30. Dove and woodcock, 5 per day, season limit 30. Ruffed grouse, 5 per day, 20 in possession, season limit 30.

Sale of game is prohibited at all times except as to fur-bearing animals.

### License Provisions.

For residents of state—Small game license \$1, which is required of all persons over 14 years of age, except of resident hunting on home farm. Large game license \$1, required of everybody; no exceptions. Sold by county auditors only.

Licenses for non-residents—small game, \$15; large game, \$50. Trapping licenses sold to residents only, \$1. Hunting licenses must be carried on the person and exhibited on request.

### Unlawful Practices.

Shooting game from motor vehicles or power boats is prohibited. It is also unlawful to shoot or spear muskrats, to hunt big game with dogs, to take game birds or animals (except fur-bearing animals) otherwise than with gun discharged from the shoulder to hunt in game refuges, to use nets, traps or similar devices in hunting migratory birds earlier than a half hour before sunrise or after sunset. It is unlawful to hunt squirrels within the corporate limits of any city or village or within one quarter mile thereof. It is prohibited to take waterfowl with a rifle. It is unlawful to take muskrat in any manner except by trapping, and the houses of muskrat, mink or beaver must not be injured or destroyed. Persons must not hunt on the land of another after being notified not to do so.

(Continued on page 3.)

## OVER 400 GAME LICENSES ISSUED

### COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE KEPT BUSY MAKING OUT HUNTING PERMITS.

### NIMRODS PREPARING FOR BIG DRIVE UPON WILD FOWL ON THE MORROW.

County Auditor Louis G. Vogel's office has resembled a busy bee hive during the past few weeks, due to the big onrush of mighty nimrods in search of the necessary hunting licenses, in anticipation of the opening of the gunning season tomorrow morning.

### Over 400 Licenses.

Up to Monday afternoon no less than 435 small game permits were issued to Brown county hunters, among them being two members of the gentle sex, a clergyman and several doctors. The complete list of names is appended below.

For weeks past the mighty nimrods of New Ulm and vicinity have been making plans and preparations for the opening of the hunting season tomorrow (Thursday) morning. Hunting dogs have been "limbered up," guns, boats and other equipment for the big drive on wild fowl are being put in the pink of condition and many a hunter will hie himself to the favorite haunts of small game sometime today, in order to be ready for action at sunrise tomorrow morning.

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(Continued on Supplement.)