

## The Bemidji Pioneer.

KAISER & GREELEY, Publishers

Entered in the postoffice at Bemidji as second-class matter.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

Official County and City Paper.

### NO WIDE TIRES.

IN THE YEAR 1889 some wise guy in the Indiana legislature succeeded in getting passed a law prohibiting the hauling over turnpike and gravel roads, in stormy or wet weather, loads of more than 2,000 pounds in narrow-tired wagons, or more than 2,500 pounds in broad-tired ones. The Indiana supreme court promptly declared the act void for uncertainty, because it failed to provide a standard of comparison by which broad or narrow tires may be determined.

The attention of Governor Van Sant is respectfully called to this Indiana law. He should at once secure the passage of such a law by the Minnesota legislature, and should follow it up by an immediate suit in equity in the supreme court of the state to restrain all teamsters in the state from overloading at this peculiar season of the year. The law might also provide that no "big" man should drive a team of "big" horses with a "big" wagon. And, also, that all large freight cars be prohibited; all this under a penalty of imprisonment or fine of \$5,000.

The list of "big" things that might be prohibited by such a law, and thus debarred from doing business in the State of Minnesota, is enormous. If the supreme court could be induced to sustain such a law, it would be far better than an infusion of the weak tea of the Anti-Trust law of Congress, for it would cut closer to the bone, and all sorts and conditions of men and corporations. It would, besides, be much more definite and certain than the Sherman law itself, which contains nothing half so definite as the words "narrow," "wide," "big" or "little."

The Sherman law prohibits any persons or corporations from "combining to control any part of the trade and commerce" of the several states or "with foreign nations." That is, no fellow shall grow bigger than he is now. Nor shall he help others to grow larger. Perhaps "large" is a better word than "big." No person shall combine with any other person to grow "large," at least sufficiently large to control any of the avenues of commercial intercourse. Not any number of the avenues, but any avenue, or any part of one.

No one person and his associates should build "large" elevators in Minneapolis or Duluth. Let him go to Superior and build, where the bay front is so wide that he could not possibly "control" any part of the trade and commerce coming through that port, no matter how many large elevators and docks he might build. He could, of course, only "share" the business over there, the Wisconsin governor not being so punctilious about words, while in Minnesota such operations would be denounced as "controlling" it.

The fact of the matter is, the governor of Minnesota has made a donkey of the republican party of the state, has done so with his eyes wide open; has openly employed the attorney of one railroad corporation to fight the battle of the state against another railroad, and been licked ridiculously in the highest court in the land; and has now begged the Attorney-General of the United States to save his bacon by making himself ridiculous also,—for there can be but one ridiculous result to the whole ridiculous business of trying to stem the flood of American growth by wild and indefinite and senseless cries against "big" things.

### JACOBSON'S TONNAGE TAX.

"JAKE" performed an acrobatic feat in the house of representatives, when he persuaded that body to adopt his tax provision levying a tax of 5 cents a gross ton on the iron ore output of St. Louis county, instead of leaving the matter for the local communities to assess and tax. He ought now, as Bob Dunn says, provide a similar state tax on all pine saw-logs cut in Northern Minnesota, of say 15 cents per thousand feet, log measure, and that the lands now covered with standing pine should only be assessed the same as other adjacent unimproved lands. That would turn all pine land taxes into the state treasury, and keep it out of the hands of the local township and school boards. We expect to hear that T. B. Walker and the rest of the Minneapolis gang have raised a fund with which to support Jacobson. Of course it would be unconstitutional, but that would make no difference to the Minneapolis gang, who are the loudest squealers and the quietest eaters in the state of Minnesota.

Prince Henry, of royal blood, is visiting this country, and now imperialism will be the issue in the next campaign. For a nation born in democracy and bred with a contempt for kings, Henry has been treated real neighborly. From the gushing sentiment of the press, we would imagine that the sun of liberty stands still on the hills of the capitol, while the moon of equality is stuck fast in Milwaukee's valley of Ajalon. But it is all a circus, and America, "the heir of all the ages and foremost in the files of time," is playing the part of a humbug host.

Ezra Valentine at present seems to have the center of the stage of popularity with the newspaper congressmen-makers of this district. He certainly has friends everywhere, in the prairie stretch or the pine belt.

Senator Nelson has secured a favorable report on an appropriation of \$50,000 for the surveying of the unsurveyed public lands in Minnesota. Beltrami is interested in this jackpot.

The best cure for cough is Dr. W. Barker's Cough, Catarrh, Consumption Remedy. At F. A. Mayo's drug store.

## Help... Nature

Babies and children need proper food, rarely ever medicine. If they do not thrive on their food something is wrong. They need a little help to get their digestive machinery working properly.

**SCOTT'S EMULSION OF PURE COD LIVER OIL WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES OF LIME & SODA**

will generally correct this difficulty.

If you will put from one-fourth to half a teaspoonful in baby's bottle three or four times a day you will soon see a marked improvement. For larger children, from half to a teaspoonful, according to age, dissolved in their milk, if you so desire, will very soon show its great nourishing power. If the mother's milk does not nourish the baby, she needs the emulsion. It will show an effect at once both upon mother and child.

See and get it at all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York

### LIES AND SLANDER.

THE NEEDS for and wisdom of building a court house for this county are so strong and conclusive that there is no legitimate argument to be given against it. Out of the eleven newspapers in the county, only two have had the folly to offer advice against the bonding question. And their position is so weak that they must bolster up their argument with lies and slander.

The Blackduck American states that the pine owners do not pay the larger share of Beltrami county taxes. Anyone who has stayed over night in this county knows that statement is false. A glance at the treasurer's books will show that ten leading lumber firms last year paid sixty per cent of the taxes, not to mention the dozens of smaller pine owners.

Then the Shevlin Advocate devotes four columns to abuse of Bemidji and its friends, and winds up with a cry of boodlesism. Listen to this:

"If Bonds should carry and the new court house and jail should be built under the direction and management of a county board and contractors who handled the funds in the same manner that board and contractors used the funds put into their hands with which to build the jail three years ago, about how much would a board of honest appraisers find the new buildings worth when completed? Probably \$15,000 or \$20,000."

Can this be called argument? Let us see. The commissioners into whose hands this fund will be placed are J. W. Johnson, Ed Gallagher, F. O. Sibley, John McDougald and Wes Wright. Can the Shevlin people say aught against the honesty of the first three? We guess not, as they placed the three upon their petition to be named as commissioners of their new county. Even the bond opponents at Blackduck will take oath that McDougald is incorruptible. And Wes Wright, even if he does live in hated Bemidji, has acquaintances all over the county who know that a dishonest thought never enters his head.

THE PIONEER starts out on its seventh volume this week. But we are so busy doing job work and setting legals that we have neither time nor space to indulge in the usual birthday salutations.

### Backwoods Sketches...

BY A. M. GREELEY

#### A Decisive Move.

"Great battles are won by a decisive move in the right direction at the right moment,"—a saying of Napoleon on which Gene Rickford had learned when a boy. And now Gene and Ted Moore are rival generals, laying siege to the heart of a fair backwoods damsel. The siege requires strategy, for fair Edith treats both warriors with provoking neutrality. The persistent cannonade of both gives her no armistice in which to cultivate a preference for either.

This is the situation, when Gene, walking into Slabtown from his nearby claim, beholds his rival entering the pest house on the edge of town. Upon the door is the familiar sign of "Smallpox." A frightened idea flutters into Gene's brain, and with its wings brushes the cobwebs from the school-day motto hung upon memory's walls, "Great battles are won by a decisive move."

In a flash he draws the iron clasp over the staple outside the door, and Ted is a prisoner of war. Gene finds a five dollar note in his pocket and a health officer in the village marshal, which combination speedily makes Ted a prisoner in quarantine.

"It'll be ten days at least afore he can squirm out there," Gene chuckles, "and if I cannot make Edith show her hand in that time, I'm no good."

His next decisive move is towards Edith's home. The new Stockholm hotel is to be opened with a "grand ball," and he asks her company.

"Oh, sure! I would like to go with you—but I promised Ted only yesterday."

Usually such information produces a mental oath, but to-day Gene smiles benevolently.

"But you can't go with him this trip, for he's doing time in the pest house."

"What! Has he come down with the Smallpox?"

"No, jest exposed; but he's billed

for some time in the scale shack." "Funny how this Smallpox keeps a-running. Man was brought in last night from a lumber camp, and now poor Ted'll get it."

He didn't like the sympathy in her tone, but as she promised to change partners for the dance, Gene goes away hopeful of a speedy victory.

But, alas! When he calls a few hours later, not surrender, but defiance, plainly marks her attitude towards him. In his short absence, her heart has felt that one great throbbing that batters down the thin wall between affection and love.

"Gene," she says frankly, "I've made up my mind to marry Ted if he comes out of the pest house alive. I've just found out that he is a real hero, a good, big-hearted hero. I've heard all about the pest house affair."

Oh, Gene! Do not look so guilty; she suspects not your duplicity—she knows not all, or she could not call Ted a hero. And do not lose faith in your motto—Great battles ARE won by decisive moves, unless decided by accident. It was an accident that took Ted to the pest house this morning—he went to steal an axe from a deserted building. As soon as he discovered that the building contained a patient, the "big-hearted-hero" rushed for the door, but someone—he knew not who—had locked the door. No, Gene, neither you nor Edith know all, but she thinks she does, which settles your fate. Her heart is speaking now:

"I told you of a man being brought from the camp last night. He was deadly sick, and was put in there with no one to tend him. As soon as Ted heard of it, he must have rushed there to nurse him. Brave, true Teddy! The sick man, I've just heard, is my brother Bill."

#### Surgeon's Knife Not Needed.

Surgery is no longer necessary to cure piles. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cures such cases at once, removing the necessity for dangerous, painful and expensive operations. For scalds, cuts, burns, wounds, bruises, sores and skin diseases it is unequalled. Beware of counterfeits. F. A. Mayo.

#### For the Complexion.

The complexion always suffers from biliousness or constipation. Unless the bowels are kept open the impurities from the body appear in the form of unsightly eruptions. DeWitt's Little Early Risers keep the liver and bowels in healthy condition and remove the cause of such troubles. C. E. Hooper, Albany, Ga., says: "I took DeWitt's Little Early Risers for biliousness. They were just what I needed. I am feeling better now than in years." Never gripe or distress. safe, thorough and gentle. The very best pills. F. A. Mayo.

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"After using a few bottles of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure my wife received perfect and permanent relief from a severe and chronic case of stomach trouble," says J. K. Holly, real estate, insurance and loan agent, of Macomb, Ill. Before using Kodol Dyspepsia Cure she could not eat an ordinary meal without intense suffering. She is now entirely cured. Several physicians and many remedies had failed to give relief. "You don't have to diet. Eat any good food you want, but don't overload the stomach. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure will always digest it for you. F. A. Mayo."

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