

# THE ROYAL ROAD TO FARM-LANDS BEST

## FAR-FAMED MINNESOTA RED RIVER VALLEY

### WARREN'S CHURCHES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

THE early settlers who laid the foundation for the cities and towns, and the development of the virgin soil into prosperous farms some forty years ago, built broader and grander than they knew. They were God-worshipping people, who had come to lay the foundation of a new Empire, in what is now rightly called the far-famed Minnesota Red River Valley. These pioneers of Marshall county took advanced grounds, as it pertained to the religious side of life, and as a result, church spires point to Heaven, all over this rich country. It is then not strange, that in this forward movement, they have produced a pattern for right living that has proven the brightest star in the firmament of city, town and county building for God, home and adopted land. The early pioneers started out right, and the fruits of their labors are now visible on every hand. Here in the City of Warren, there are nine churches, covering as many denominations, with congregations that embrace the whole population, making this one of the cleanest cities morally in the whole State. It is a saloonless city, and what is more, has public sentiment back of it, that makes for law enforcement, where in other communities it has too often become a hiss and a by-word. Under the guidance of the churches, every town in the county will be saloonless under county option that has been passed by a large majority. This is the result of long years of continued efforts along right lines, and this successful termination of these efforts has placed right living above the commercial dollar, and given its citizens a greater measure of individual standing than those living in localities where legalized vice and immorality are present—in the wine cup, that pauperizes the home and fills our alms' houses and insane asylums with derelicts. No one can truthfully deny that the liquor habit is directly responsible for ninety per cent of the criminal classes that swarm our reformatories and penitentiaries. Saloonless territory is where you find large per capita wealth, as represented in the bank deposits of a million dollars, the per capita wealth of the City of Warren being \$595.28; and of Marshall county with bank deposits of over three million dollars, the per capita wealth is \$185.78. It is needless to say that there are no paupers or jobless men as a direct result of the spiritual growth of this community. It has made this rich territory a splendid place for the people in the cities and towns and on the farms to live and do business in, and is the true reason why home-builders of the better class are seeking this Valley to build anew the family tree.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first church organization of the city was that of the Methodist Episcopal in 1879. Their first services were held in the bar-room of what was then known as the Commercial Hotel and from this beginning grew to its present large proportions. Its first house of worship was built and completed in 1883, but since then several additions have been made and today it is one of the most imposing in the city. Among the list of its early pastors are to be found, the Revs. S. Keerfoot, C. B. Brecount, A. E. Flint, T. F. Allen, J. W. Briggs, E. W. Simmons, Dr. Green, I. F. Davidson, S. Z. Kaufman, S. S. Farley, J. M. Brown, Thos. Billing, E. F. Spicer, W. E. Loomis, A. A. Meyers, F. L. Erlougher, Benjamin Donovan, all of whom exerted great influence in the upbuild of the spiritual life of Warren. The present pastor, L. W. Bartholow came here on October 17, 1914, and has rekindled new spiritual life among his congregation, which has a membership of 161, and church property to the value of over \$5,000. Reverend Bartholow was a member of the conference from Iowa and later, Minnesota, where he successfully served for seventeen years.

#### SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This is the most prosperous church organization in Warren. It was founded in 1881. Rev. S. Udden was its first permanent pastor and served from 1884 to 1888. He was followed by N. J. Sture, who served two years, or until 1891. Next came O. S. Werner, 1891 to 1894; A. Bergin, 1894 to 1897; A. Mattson, 1897 to 1903; J. A. Mattson, 1903 to 1905; E. O. Chelgren from 1905 to 1911. Rev. F. N. Anderson, present pastor accepted the call of the Swedish Lutheran church in 1912. Owing to his great ability and piety he has inspired new life into the congregation, which today has a membership of 282. The value of the church property is \$16,000. In 1900 a modern brick structure

was built on the site of the old church, having a seating capacity of 700 including extra chairs. It was through the efforts of the Swedish Lutheran Church organization that the North Star College became a reality and its most zealous supporters, financially, are the members of this congregation.

#### SWEDISH MISSION CHURCH.

One of the oldest congregations is that of the Swedish Mission Church, organized in 1882, and which has a church property valued at \$5,000, with a seating capacity of 300; electrically lighted and hot air heated. The pastor is Rev. A. J. Edvin, who is preaching to a flourishing congregation. The Sunday School is under the direction of Louis Westman, Superintendent, and has an attendance of 65.

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This organization was effected in 1882, starting with eight members, since then increased to 136, with church property valued at \$5,000. The First Pres-

#### SCANDINAVIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL

In 1885 the Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church was organized and its first pastor was Rev. Heg and, but since then he has been followed by Revs. J. Johnson, G. Rynning, J. P. Christiansen, Gustave Kvisgard, the present pastor being K. Winberg, a man of great spiritual attainments, who is doing splendid church work in this chosen field. The church property has a valuation of \$4,000, with a select membership of 75.

#### THE GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This organization dates from 1911 and the church services were conducted in the Norwegian Lutheran Synod Church under the pastorship of Rev. W. Bramscher, down to this spring, when he accepted the call to a new field of labor. His successor is Rev. H. F. Brauer, who has recently arrived in the city, to serve the congregation here and also a German Lutheran congregation at Radium.

### WARREN'S MANY FLOURISHING FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

THE City of Warren is widely known for its fraternal organizations, which have won her an enviable position among the secret and benevolent societies of the state. Among the leaders in these societies we shall mention the following:

The Masonic and Knights of Pythias Lodge Rooms, are located in the Taralseth block, and are equal in furnishings and equipment to many of the lodges in the metropolitan cities. The lodge rooms occupy spacious quarters, which are furnished in fumed oak and mahogany, leather-upholstered divans line both sides of the lodge room, while the drapery and furnishings are very elaborate. Then there are the reception, smoking, coat, hat and wardrobe rooms, with furnishings in keeping with the lodge room.

#### Warren's Masonic Lodge, No. 150.

This is one of the leading lodges of the A. F. & A. M. of this section of the Minnesota Red River Valley, and, it is needless to say, that its members are drawn from the highest walks of life. Regular meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The officers are as follows: D. Farrell Worshipful Master; A. A. Harris, Senior Warden; R. B. Taralseth, Junior Warden; H. L. Wood, Treasurer; W. N. Powell, Secretary; J. A. Black, Senior Deacon; F. C. Bakke, Junior Deacon; A. A. Ecklund, F. Crummy, Stewards; W. F. Powell, Tyler.

#### Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 171.

This lodge is in a very flourishing condition and has ninety-five members, meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in their own hall. The officers are: A. T. Listug, Chancellor Commander; F. C. Bakke, Vice-chancellor; C. A. Nelson, Prelate; R. E. Thomas, Keeper of Records and Seals; O. H. Taralseth, Master of the Exchequer; Frank Crummy, Master-at-arms; C. W. Erickson, Master-of-work; W. Van Pelt, Inner Guard; A. Golden, outer guard. This lodge has a membership of 100.

#### Order of Eastern Star, Warren Chapter No. 116.

This is one of the most enthusiastic lodges in the city and has a large and growing membership. The officers are: Mrs. Lulu Mathwig, Worthy Matron; A. T. Listug, Worthy Patron; Mrs. Bertha Eckstrom, Associate Matron; Mrs. Anna Farrel, Secretary; Mrs. Grace C. Powell, Treasurer; Miss Bessie L. Mapps, Conductress; Miss Nora A. Bakke, Associate Conductress; Mrs. Mary Wallace, Chaplain; Mrs. Helen Montgomery, Marshall; Mrs. Della Tullar, Organist; Mrs. Agnes Campion, Ada; Mrs. Marion R. Mapps, Ruth; Miss Minnie M. Tullar, Esther; Mrs. Jeannette Sampson, Martha; Mrs. Carrie Eneix, Electa; Mrs. Ruth A. Shaw, Warden; John W. Mapps, Sentinel.

#### Modern Woodmen of America, Warren Camp No. 2318.

This organization in the past has been one of the most popular fraternal societies. Warren camp No. 2318 has been one of the most progressive, having a spacious Woodmen building, for lodge purposes, size 42x100 feet, built of cream brick, with stone trimmings, electrically lighted and steam heated, at a cost of \$15,000. The present membership is 122. The camp meets on the first Tuesday of each month. The officers are: C. E. Lundquist, Venerable Counsel; C. A. Nelson, Banker; W. N. Powell, Clerk; D. Farrell, H. L. Wood and A. N. Eckstrom, Managers; Dr. G. S. Wattam, Physician.

#### Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

Homestead Lodge No. 1862, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, has a membership of 75 and meets in the Oddfellow's hall on the second Thursday in each month. The officers are: C. E. Allen, Foreman; M. L. Larson, Master of Ceremonies; Hans Urtes, Correspondent; A. V. Lindberg, Overseer; Annie Allen, Chaplain; Emma Allen, Rowena; Ahaliba Edwards, Rebecca; E. Nelson, Watchman; Wm. Allen, Sentinel.

#### Warren's Vasa Order, Lodge No. 316.

This is one of the most recently organized lodges of the city and yet has a large and enthusiastic membership. It meets on the second and third Wednesdays of each month in the Oddfellow's hall. The officers are: L. M. Olson, president; Axel J. Nordstrom, vice-president; Julius Nyquist, secretary; Justice Carlson, financial secretary; John Dagoberg, treasurer; Fred Swanson, chaplain; Ole E. Anderson, master-of-ceremonies; Henry Johnson, inside guard and Hilmer Johnson, outside guard.

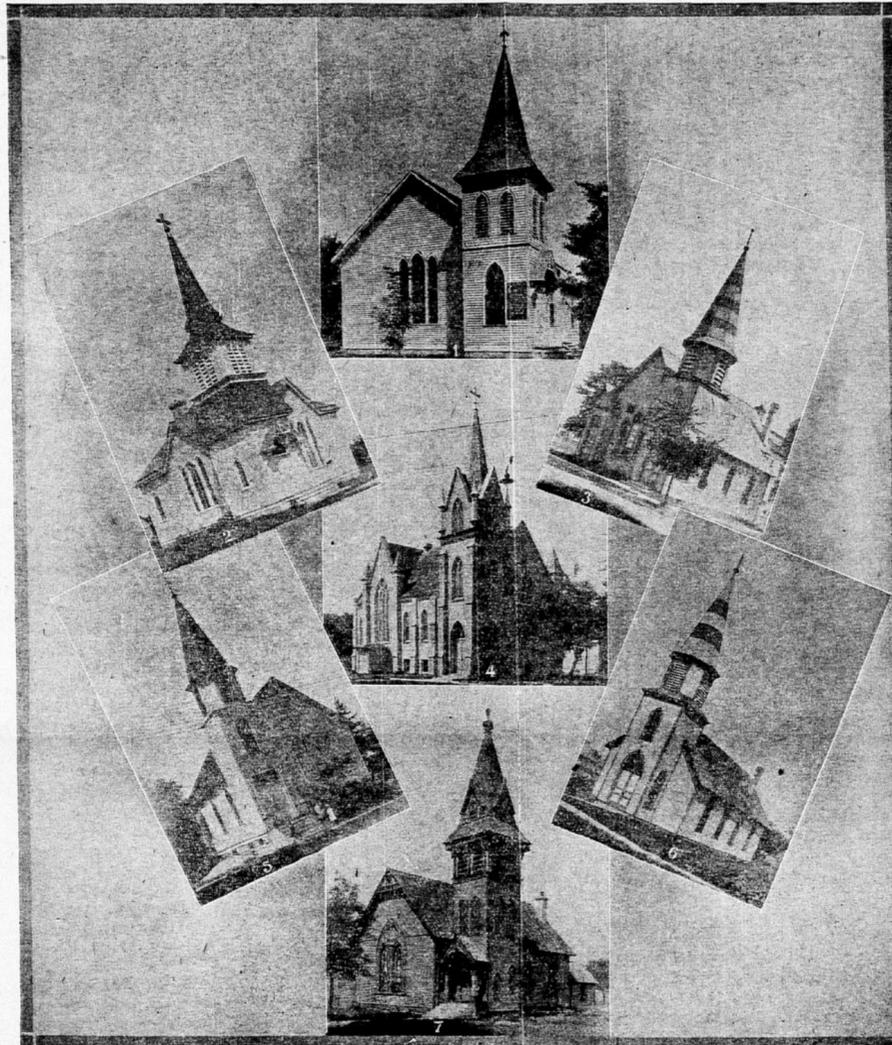
#### Independent Order of Odd Fellows,

#### Friendship Lodge, No. 227.

This lodge was organized on May 21, 1895, and is one of the oldest orders in Warren, and from a small membership has grown and flourished, until today it has a total of seventy-four. Odd Fellows hall occupies the entire second floor of the Golden block for lodge purposes, is substantially furnished, making them a splendid home, not only for their own lodge, but the Rebeccas, the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and Vasa Order, which hold their regular meetings here. The officers of Friendship lodge No. 227 are: David Johnson, Noble Grand; Clarence Schultz, Vice-grand; Julius Nyquist, Recording Secretary; Aug. A. Johnson, Financial Secretary; W. H. Dixon, Treasurer; Jalmar Skoglund, Warden; Ole E. Anderson, Conductor; E. O. Natwick, Inside Guardian; Wm. C. Miller Outside Guardian; A. L. Robinson, Chaplain; Wm. Juring, Right Supporter Noble Grand; Geo. S. Znerold, Left Supporter Noble Grand; W. H. Dixon, Right Supporter Vice-Grand; Carl Ranum, Left Supporter Vice-Grand; Herman Amundson, Right Scene Supporter; Carl J. Johnson, Left Scene Supporter.

#### Bethany Rebecca Lodge, No. 158.

The officers of the Rebeccas are: Mrs. Ollie Miller, Noble Grand; Mrs. Blanche Thorson, Vice-Grand; Mrs. Cora Robinson, Recording Secretary; Miss Josephine Dixon, Treasurer; Miss Jessie Porteous, Warden; Mrs. Hilda Natwick, Conductor; Mrs. Lizzie Sinclair, Inside Guardian; P. J. Holan, Outside Guardian; Mrs. Bessie McGillion, Chaplain; E. T. Frank, Right Supporter Noble Grand; Mrs. Luna Tripp, Left Supporter Noble Grand; Mrs. Margaret Ayres, Right Supporter Vice-Grand; Mrs. Cora Robinson, Left Supporter Vice-Grand.



#### WARREN'S CHURCHES

- 1.—Swedish Mission.
- 2.—Norwegian Lutheran.
- 3.—First Presbyterian.
- 4.—Swedish Lutheran.
- 5.—Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal.
- 6.—United Lutheran.
- 7.—Methodist Episcopal.

byterian Church is a leader in spiritual affairs and for this reason always has full congregations. There has been a long line of pastors, the first being Rev. J. M. Shell, who laid the foundation for the permanent organization, and then was followed by Revs. H. M. Dyckman, Augustus Carver, Dr. McAltoner, John MacArthur, John Fraser, C. D. Darling, D. A. Fahl, F. M. Clark, Ralph Fulton, Grant S. Stroh, M. M. Maxwell. Rev. David Sampson is the present pastor, who has gone out into the highways and byways and gathered into the fold its present large congregation. As a sermonizer, he has won wide distinction and has brought his fellow men to a better understanding of the value of things spiritual, which have been so helpful in all the walks of every-day life in this community.

#### THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The United Lutheran Church was organized in 1885 and its first pastor was Rev. A. C. Anderson, who was shortly followed by Rev. Halvor Roalkvam, who succeeded in arousing a new spirit of activity among its handfull of members and was thus enabled to complete the church edifice. The United Lutheran Church has had the following pastors: Revs. J. A. Urness, Skunes, N. Kile, C. J. Nolstad and today has Rev. N. G. W. Knudsen as pastor. The United Lutheran Church has a membership of 141, and church property valued at over \$5,000. The growth of this congregation has just begun for under the spiritual guidance of the Rev. Knudsen it has greatly increased its vigor in everything pertaining to the religious side of life.

#### NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN SYNOD CHURCH.

This is one of the more recent church organizations, having been established in 1901. Its first pastor was the Rev. A. G. Quammen, who laid the foundation for its permanency. In 1905 Rev. A. Salvesson received the call, and he was succeeded by the following workers in the church vineyard: Revs. A. Amdalsrud, T. L. Rosholdt, E. Hanson, S. H. Aarnes and P. F. Kjolraug, who served until this spring, when he left to accept another charge. Rev. Storaasli, a former missionary to China, has lately accepted the call to the pastorate of the church. The church property is valued at \$4,500.

#### SAINTS' PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH.

A successful movement was inaugurated in 1914 to build a Catholic church at Warren by the Rt. Rev. Timothy Corbett, Bishop of the See of Crookston, deputizing Father Joseph Fraling, pastor of St. Stephen's parish, of Stephen, this county, who succeeded in interesting some thirty families within a radius of six miles of Warren and as a result, Saints' Peter and Paul church is now in process of construction, size 32x60, with full basement, eight foot ceiling. The church will be finished with an eighty-five foot steeple bearing aloft the ensign of the Cross. Saints' Peter and Paul Catholic church will cost with furnishings \$5,000. The building plans have been so drawn as to provide for enlargement in the future, without destroying the symmetry of the building. The building site comprises three lots size 150 feet front by 140 feet deep, the gift of Attorney Julius J. Olson of this city. The contract for the church was let to the Northern Construction Co., and Joseph C. Lutz, a noted architect of Thief River Falls, drew the plans. The church will be dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Corbett, in September. A resident parish priest will be appointed just as soon as a residence can be provided. This is only a beginning, as many of the faithful members of the Church of Rome, owing to lack of a house worship, have wandered away, becoming careless of their religious duties, but who will naturally drift back to the faith of their fathers. This, with the new settlers constantly coming in, should make Saints' Peter and Paul parish a growing one.

It will be seen from the above short synopsis that Warren is well provided with Evangelical churches and that their growth has been steady and progressive, keeping pace with the ever-increasing population in the city and country tributary thereto, that makes up the church-going population. These churches are doing a grand work for the rising generation, especially in their Sunday School work, while one of the leading social features is the church concerts and Sunday School picnics, to say nothing of the guild work of the ladies' in the various congregations.



Saints' Peter and Paul Catholic Church.