

WARREN SHEAF
JOHN P. MATTSON,
Editor and Prop.

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Official paper of Marshall County.

The potato growers of this section will be glad to learn that the car shortage has been relieved and that there will be sufficient cars obtainable to move the potato crop between now and the first of April. With a large part of the crop left in the ground or frozen because of lack of cars when needed, the farmers of this section of the state are expected to greet the good news with loud applause.—Frazee Free Press.

Announcement is made from educational sources that a bill is to be introduced in the coming legislative session providing for appointment of the County Superintendent of Schools by the Board of County Commissioners instead of electing him as at present. The Leader doubts the wisdom of the effort. Commissioners are not elected for their educational qualifications, but for their ability to manage the business affairs of the county.—Long Prairie Leader.

Greetings to the Sheaf readers for the New Year! Here's hoping that the prospect pleases and the plans hold out. Every new year is "the country beyond." We do not know what views, experiences and opportunities lie before us in the year to come. There will be dark, rugged paths beset with thorns and brambles, trackless forests with wild beasts hovering near, swift rivers to cross and many obstacles to overcome on the way. But hope, the charmer, will beckon us on, keeping constantly before us the grander prospects just ahead and occasionally giving us a glimpse of the delectable smit mountains in the dim distance with the "Celestial City" just beyond. The Sheaf wishes every reader a good climb to the grander view and the clearer light in 1923, and that all their hopes may be realized. May the "country beyond" be a land of dreams come true. Happy New Year!



DECEMBER 28.
Man's Appeal:—O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years.—Habakkuk 3:2.

DECEMBER 29.
Right Reasoning:—Let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.—Isa. 1:18.

DECEMBER 30.
Fruit of the Spirit:—Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.—Gal. 5:22, 23.

DECEMBER 31.
Christian Confidence:—This is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.—1 John 5:14.

MOST IMPORTANT NEWS OF WORLD

Big Happenings of the Week Condensed for Benefit of Busy Readers.

Durango, Colo.—"Golden oysters" have been discovered in the May Day mine in La Plata county, according to reports here.

Chicago—The feasibility of installing radio communication between the rear and head of both freight and passenger trains was discussed at the annual meeting of the telephone and telegraph sections of the American Rail way association.

New York—"The sensational rise in sterling during the last few days indicates that events of far reaching importance are taking place in the international markets," the Wall Street Journal says, commenting on the rise of the British pound to \$4.69—within 47 cents of par.

Sporting
New York—The New York Nationals have announced the release of pitcher Carmen Hill to the Indianapolis club.

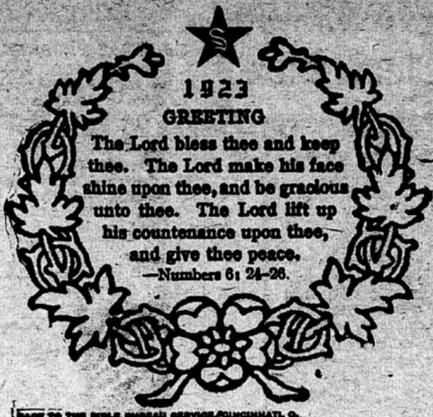
Ironwood, Mich.—Hunting fatalities in the upper peninsula of Michigan this year showed a big decrease compared with last year and the year before.

New York—Ban Johnson, president of the American league, launched an attack on gambling in major league ball parks in the joint major league meeting.

New York—Mike McTigue, Irish middleweight and Joe Beckett have been matched to meet for the British heavyweight title in London on Jan. 25, according to a cable message.

New York—Major league baseball magnates in joint session jammed the brakes on late-season sales and shut checked, for a time at least, the outcry against the "buying of pennants."

Indianapolis, Ind.—Walter Rehg, veteran outfielder for the Indianapolis American association baseball club was traded by the management of the local club for Al Ellis of the Louisville Colonels.



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Customs and Their Origin; Happenings of Long Ago.

All Peoples Have Ways of Amusing Themselves on Special Occasions and at Fixed Seasons.

AN OLD philosopher, who was none the less a philosopher for his constant and close observation of men, remarked that we can best judge men's temperament and ideals by watching them at their work and at their play. A keen observer would have very little difficulty in judging Americans by their work. One such has aptly called this country "The Land of the Strenuous Life." Even our sports partake so much of this strenuousity that the medical profession is beginning to warn us of overindulgence in the more violent forms of athletics.

But all peoples have ways of amusing themselves on special occasions and at fixed seasons after a manner so well established that it has come to be regarded a kind of ritual, says the New York Herald. This has come down to us from the ages when our forebears first pushed their way out of the dry tablelands of civilization. Even the mighty power of the churches has not been able to brush aside some practices that have their roots deep in paganism.

Old Customs That Continue.
Probably after Halloween and Christmas there is no festival of the year so girt about with long-established customs as New Year's day. Among the best known of these are the auguries drawn from what was called the "Candlemas bull." In Scotland and other northern countries the term Candlemas, given to this season of the year, is supposed to have had its origin in religious ceremonies performed by candle light. The candles used were very large and highly ornamented, and were brought in at the midnight hour to the assembled guests, who, since the falling of dusk, had been drinking freely of the wassail bowl. Then, in procession, they marched out into the night, and to their imaginations the passing clouds assumed the shape of a bull. From the rise and fall and general motions of these clouds the seer foretold good or bad weather. Sometimes, too, auguries for the future were gathered from the state of the atmosphere on New Year's Eve, and also from the force and character of the wind.

In the imagination of most primitive peoples, especially those of the North, who were forced to battle against the elements of nature for life and sustenance, the eyes of great feasts were considered occasions when the spirits of good and evil were in deadly conflict. The moment of midnight on New Year's Eve was always considered a time of special activity for the spirits of evil. In order to overcome them holler and more powerful influences had to be invoked. The evil spirits, or geni, as can be gathered from the Icelandic and Anglo-Saxon folklore, and even from words in their dialect, could be overcome by an appeal to the good genii, the hoghmen, or hillmen.

Probably imported from Italy was the superstition that on New Year's Eve the "evil eye" was all the more malignant. Then, too, there was a widespread practice of the "setting of mete or drynke by nights on the benches to fede Allholde or Goblyn." In some of the dialogues of the famous medieval morality play, "Dives and Pauper," we find mention of this and many other New Year's customs intended to counteract the activities of the forces of evil.

Christmas Cheer Continued.
Perhaps what contributed most to this general fear of sinister influences was the deep drinking among the people, which continued almost uninterruptedly from Christmas until New Year's day. Up to the Ninth century, except in the Syrian and Coptic churches, New Year's was not celebrated as a special feast day, but was looked upon as merely the octave of Christmas. Therefore the Christmas cheer was continued, throughout the entire octave without abatement. It flickered up for the last time on New Year's day, as is clear from the one hundred and ninety-eighth sermon of Augustine, bishop of Hippo.

In England on New Year's Eve the young women went about carrying the "wassail bowl" and singing from door to door certain verses—a custom which had much in common with the hogmanay practice in Scotland. But

plint, the strange brew which in that country was carried about in the streets at midnight, was composed of ale, spirits, sugar, nutmeg or cinnamon. It was a powerful potion, the effects of which were almost immediately evident. Ritson in a collection of ancient songs gives us a few sung to the quaffings of this "prince of liquors, old or new." One such is:

A jolly wassel bowl,
A wassel of good ale,
Well fare the butler's soul,
That setteth this to sale;
Out jolly wassel!

Notwithstanding the opposition which it has met since the year 1811, when many abuses were discovered in the practice, the custom of hurrying first across the threshold of his sweetheart has been practiced by many a young lad in Anglo-Saxon countries. The young lady listened attentively from the time the midnight bells ceased to ring to catch the first footfall on the floor.

The welfare of the family, particularly the frater portion of it, was supposed to depend upon the character of the first comer after the midnight hour had sounded. Great care was taken to exclude all improper persons, especially as the midnight intruder enjoyed the privilege of imprinting a "hearty kiss" on the lips of the expectant lassie.

Bestowing Gifts.
The custom of bestowing gifts has become so inextricably linked with the New Year's day is still called the Jour d'Estrennes. This custom seems to have had its rise in the conduct of the nobles of the late Middle ages, who were in the habit of bestowing gifts upon their sovereign. Naturally the ruler, not wishing to remain under obligations to them, returned the gift in a princely fashion. In England, however, especially in the time of Queen Elizabeth, this custom became so burdensome that it occasioned general protest among the nobles. "Good Queen Bess" was not slow to indicate just what kind of gifts she expected, or rather exacted. She let it be known also what consequences would follow the withholding of the jewels and the silks which she looked for at the hands of her subjects. She was so niggardly in her own gifts that we can understand how the custom fell into disuse and in the time of George IV was abandoned.

The giving of gifts was also very common among the people. On Christmas, and often on St. Stephen's day, employers, parents and masters presented Christmas boxes to their dependents. It was a form of Christmas charity. On New Year's day, however, gifts were exchanged, between friends and acquaintances as a sign of good will. This custom, perhaps, had its origin in the box which was taken aboard every vessel that sailed out of port during the octave of Christmas and which was not to be opened until the return of the vessel. Contributions were to be dropped into this box, large or small, according as the day had been propitious or otherwise. The person to whom the contents of the box were given was supposed to have a mass said for the mariners who had made the gift. Hence the name of "Christmas boxes," which were given up to and including New Year's day. Each one of these days became known as "boxing day."

JANUARY FIRST DRAWS NEAR.

The light and airy manner
He had some weeks ago
Has passed from him completely.
His heart is filled with woe,
For that day is approaching
He great dreads to see,
When Friend wife will remind him
Of promises that he
Has made—those resolutions
That will be hard to keep,
Requiring such an effort,
'Twould make an angel weep.

Dr. Spofford
Optometrist

will be at Hotel Warren, Warren, Jan. 15, and at Hotel Alvarado, Alvarado, Jan. 16.

ADDITIONAL WANTS ADS.
(Too late to classify)

FOR SALE—Choice high grade bull calves, 15-16 pure, sired by one of the best bulls in Minnesota. Veal price, act quick if you want one. M. L. Warner, Warren, Route 4.

LOST OR STOLEN—Brindle English Terrier bull dog—Disappeared Dec. 23. Reward offered. Finder please notify Sheaf office No. 132.

All wise people use the Sheaf as their advertising medium.

THE CHURCHES

First Methodist Church
E. E. Williams, Pastor.
Sunday School, 11:45.
New Year's Service, 10:30.
Epworth League, 8:45.
Evening worship, 7:30.
Theme: Mysticism in Religion, "All's well that ends well."
Let us end the year with a full attendance at all the services next Sunday.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
A. T. TOLLEVS, Pastor.
Song Services Sunday evening at 7:45.
Services in the Norse language with Holy Communion on New Year's Day at 11 A. M.
Sunday School every Sunday 11-12.
The Ladies' Aid meets on Thursday afternoon of this week. Kindly bring your Mission boxes. Chicken supper will be served from 4:45 and on.

Scandinavian Methodist Church
K. WINBERG, Pastor.
Next Sunday morning services at 10:45, evening services at 7:30.
Services New Year's Day evening at 7:30.

Catholic Church
P. LYONS, Pastor.
Services at Warren first and third Sundays of each month. Services at Oslo second and fourth Sundays of each month. Mass at 10 in each place. Services at Warren every Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

Swedish Mission Church
THEO. CLEMENS, Pastor.
Central Park Ave. and Division St. Residence, 14 Ingolf Ave.
Thursday, 7:30—Prayer meeting.
Sunday, the last day of the year—10:30 A. M.—Mr. Willie Peterson and Mr. Geo. Westberg, students of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, will preach. Special singing.
11:45—Sunday school.
9:30 P. M.—Watch Night service.

The Young Peoples' Society has arranged for a good program with several speakers and special music. You can't afford to miss it.
The church will have its annual business meeting on Monday, Jan. 1st, at 1:30 and the Young Peoples' Society will have its annual business meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 2, at 8 P. M.

Swedish Lutheran Church
S. W. SWENSON, Pastor.
Warren: The Men's Society will meet at North Star College Thursday at 8 P. M. Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Quist will entertain.

Sunday, Dec. 31. No Sunday school. The choir members will meet at the church at 7:45 P. M. In the evening at 8:45 the New Year's Vigil will be observed. The Young Peoples' Society will give a program from 8:45 to 10:15, 10:15 to 11:45 refreshments, 11:45 to 12 devotion. Service New Year's Day 8 P. M.
Vega: Dec. 31, service 11 A. M. New Year's Vigil at 8:30 P. M. The Young Peoples' Society will give a program and refreshments will be served.

All are welcome to work and worship with us.

When You Are Constipated.
To insure a healthy action of the bowels and correct disorders of the liver, take two of Chamberlain's Tablets immediately after supper. They will not only cause a gentle movement of the bowels, without unpleasant effects, but banish that dull, stupid feeling, that often accompanies constipation.—Warren Pharmacy.

Use monogram stationery for your correspondence. The Sheaf can print neat monograms of any initials. Call and see samples.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS OF THE MARSHALL COUNTY FAIR ASSN.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Marshall County Agricultural Association will be held at the Commercial Club rooms in the City of Warren on Friday evening, Dec. 29th, 1922, at eight o'clock. Election of directors and annual reports. All stockholders are requested to be present.

DR. E. T. FRANK,
Secretary.

Dec. 20-Jan. 3
NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Shareholders of the Warren National Bank of Warren, Minn., will be held at its banking house between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. on Tuesday, Jan. 9th, 1923.

Directors for the ensuing year will be elected and such other business as may properly come before the meeting will be transacted.

Aug. A. Johnson, Cashier.

Dec. 20-Jan. 3

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Marshall County Skandinaviske Mutual Fire Insurance Company will be held in Warren, Marshall County, Minn., on the 29th day of January, 1923, for the purpose of electing two Directors, and to transact any other business that may come before the said meeting. It is also up to the policyholders at this meeting to vote on the question, whether or not, other nationalities than the Scandinavians, shall be allowed to join this Company.

It takes a majority vote of two-thirds of the members present, to amend the by-laws.
Dated this 14th day of December, 1922.

A. Bergstrom, President,
Nels Skaug, Secretary.

Dec. 20-27 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Warren Farmers' Co-operative Shipping Assn. will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1923, at the Commercial Club rooms at Warren at 2 P. M. for the purpose of electing Directors and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

A. C. Knudsen, Secretary.



With grateful appreciation of the liberal support and patronage of our many friends and customers during the year just closed, we wish to express our sincere desire that each and all of them may enjoy an exceedingly prosperous and

Happy New Year

Gunnar Swedberg
Tailor

Happy New Year

May you and yours enjoy a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Warren Furniture Co.

Resolve!

To—start the new year right by placing all your spare dollars in our hands for safe-keeping in either a

Savings Account
Checking Account
A Safety Deposit Box
or for
Safe Investment

We are already serving many, many satisfied patrons. Will you not join our ranks this year? We extend to you our hand of welcome and assure you of the most prompt and courteous service.

Call on us to-day.

The Warren National Bank
Warren, Minnesota