

THE DIAMOND DRILL

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ALPHA CARNIVAL A BIG SUCCESS

WAS HELD ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE REGARDLESS OF ELEMENTS

SKI RIDING WAS INTERESTING

Much Praise is Given the Promoters of the Affair by All Who Witnessed the Events

The Alpha Mid-Winter Carnival was held last Saturday according to schedule. The people of Alpha were not at all dismayed by the reverse in the weather; a reverse that would have spelled complete defeat for a community not as determined as Alpha.

The weather of Friday was all that could be desired for carnival purposes. During Friday night the wind began to blow hard and before ten o'clock a howling blizzard was raging. It continued all of the night but towards the morning it grew less and gradually died away.

Couldn't Be Interfered With.

The Friday night festivities were carried out with more or less interruption because of the weather but the wind was not of the piercing cold variety and everyone made the best of it.

When Saturday morning opened so bleak, it was thought that the carnival might be postponed but early in the forenoon Prof. Bishop, who was master of ceremonies for the day, telephoned in that the festivities "cannot be interfered with by weather conditions; that many people have come here expecting us to do as we advertised and we intend to keep our word."

That settled matters. Those in Crystal Falls who could make arrangements to get to Alpha started making their preparations. The teams were put at work ploughing out the road and just before noon "Billy" Eldred made a trip to open up the road. Mr. Eldred ran three cars all the afternoon and evening and every horse and cutter that could be got were hired by local people who wanted to visit Alpha.

Mildred Martin Won Skating Contest.

The first real important event of the forenoon was the girl's skating race which was won by Mildred Martin, daughter of Captain and Mrs. Alfred Martin. Miss Mildred had to exert herself but little in earning the title of champion girl skater of Iron county as the two entries against her began to lag early in the race and on the fourth lap one of the girls dropped exhausted on the ice. A heavy head wind was blowing when the race was pulled off and the girls had to work exceptionally hard to combat that agency alone, not to mention the exertion necessary to race.

The entries and prize winners in this event were as follows:

The ski riding contest was the principal event of the day and attracted a large crowd, considering the severe cold that prevailed. The hill was new to the riders and the sport was new to Alpha so that it was viewed with interest by all.

Four professionals entered in the contest, two from Negaunee, Rudy Carlson and Tivo Aho, and Carl Peterson from Ishpeming. A fellow named Nelson was entered also but where he came from was not disclosed.

The professionals didn't exert themselves as they were afraid of the flat landing but in the special standing jump contest there was a partial let-out of energy that carried the boys a pretty fair distance.

In the original contest advertised Rudy Carlson got the first prize making sixty-three feet in the first jump and sixty-four in the succeeding two. Aho won the second jump with jumps of fifty-five, sixty-three and sixty-two feet. Carl Peterson got third money but as he fell in the three jumps there was some dispute between him and Nelson but the judges gave the contest to Peterson. Nelson fell in all of his jumps.

After the professional class ride was over with the management offered a special prize of \$10 and \$5 for the longest standing jump, single try. In this contest Rudy Carlson won the money with a jump of 68-feet.

There were three entries in the amateur contest, Oscar Dahlgren, Joe (Continued on Page Four.)

MAY CLOSE SCHOOLS.

Shortage of Coal Liable to Affect Crystal Falls in Near Future.

Crystal Falls may have to close its schools. The board and other school officials hope to avert such a happening and it is probable that they will succeed but there is no certainty that they will do so for the supply is so limited from all possible sources that it is hard to get relief anywhere.

There is coal enough at the central plant to keep the schools going for about three more weeks. If the weather warms up considerably it may last longer. When that is gone no one knows where more is to come from.

The board contracted for the usual supply from the F. & A. Lumber company and that concern filled its contract. They can get no more coal, not enough to fill what orders they have taken about town.

Mr. Fritzburg of the F. & A. company tells us that they have two carloads of soft coal coming and when that is distributed they will be at the end of their rope so far as present outlook is concerned. They have tried all over and have had all of their orders turned down with the exception of the two cars mentioned.

Crystal Falls is not the only place where the schools are threatened with an enforced closing because of a lack of fuel. In Detroit half of the schools closed last Thursday and in many other places there is liable to be a closing down also.

The situation is bad all over and the only solution of it seems to be an embargo upon all traffic excepting fuel and food, unless, of course, the weather moderates so that the car-ferris can be operated again.

GETTING THE PIGGERS.

Sheriff Wilson gathered in several blind piggers during the week among them John Veronie of the Dunn mine at whose place was found a five gallon keg of whiskey, two bottles of beer, one-half barrel of beer.

Veronie was taken to the jail and Pete Jonni and John Dufanski were taken along as witnesses. He was arraigned before Judge Davison and bound over to the circuit court as he is an old offender.

At the home of Sam Belongo a half-barrel of beer was found. This place is a candy store. Sam was brought to town and arraigned before Judge Davison but as he is a new man in the business he was let go on probation with the charge hanging over him.

BUY ANOTHER THAWER.

A special meeting of the council was held on Thursday evening for the purpose of talking over the thawing out of water pipes about the city.

Supt. Sanders represented that another thawing outfit could be used to advantage and asked for authority to get the same. The council told him to get it as quickly as possible and get it working.

"CAPTAIN RACKET."

Everything portends to a most successful issue of the program entitled "Capt. Racket" that will be presented Monday Night, Feb. 26th, under the auspices of the Eastern Star Chapter.

Miss Robards, who is directing the work, expresses herself highly pleased with the rendition of the cast, each member being up to the standard in their own particular line. Great care has been taken in the selecting of material and with the detail of costume. The entire affair promises to be a most artistic entertainment that Crystal Falls can well be proud of—even to the tiny little Sea-Shore Nymphs adorned in a color scheme of pale blue bathing suits—when tripping to the melody of "The Beautiful Blue Danube" as they appear in maze of the Terpsichorean Revel, proving a joy and a delight.

Judging from the advance sale of tickets a big house is assured.

Reserved Seats are 50c, the remaining seats 35c. Only two prices, 35c and 50c, for a high-class show.

Monday, Feb. 26th, at City Hall Auditorium.

ED. L. PARMENTER DEAD.

Edward L. Parmenter, Jr., for many years county superintendent of schools of Dickinson county and well known in Crystal Falls, died at Battle Creek last Tuesday. Mr. Parmenter was in the sanitarium at Battle Creek for treatment at the time of his death, going there from Ripon, Wis., where he was engaged in business.

MICHIGAN G. O. P. BACKS WILSON

RESOLUTIONS IN CONVENTION APPROVE PRESIDENT'S STAND

THE UPPER PEN. LOSES OUT

Neither Vandenberg Nor McCormick Given Any Attention by L. P. Delegates

"We approve of the declaration of our temporary chairman that the Republican party is not an organization of obstruction nor of opposition. In all the line of its history it has affirmed and enacted and accomplished. At this time of national stress and of deepest concern, we are not less persuaded than on any former day in the value of Republican policy and of our party's principles. But, we recognize also the higher call of country and the larger demand for unity in purpose and in expression on the part of all our people. We, therefore, pledge to the president of the United States and to its congress, prompt and loyal acceptance of every national mandate intended to establish the rights of our people and the position of our country. There will be no wavering or hesitation on the part of the men of today who have upon their lips the names of Lincoln and Grant and Garfield and McKinley, as interpreters of American obligation and American duty, in responding to the wishes of our nation's rulers and in upholding their decrees and their desires before the nations of the world.

Republican State Ticket.

Justices of the Supreme Court—John W. Stone, Marquette; Frank C. Kuhn, Detroit.

Regents of the University of Michigan—W. L. Clements, Bay City; James O. Murfin, Detroit.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction—Fred L. Keeler, Lansing.

State Board of Education—Thomas W. Nadal, Olivet.

State Board of Agriculture—Jason W. Woodman, Paw Paw; John W. Beaumont, Detroit.

State Highway Commissioner—Frank F. Rogers, Lansing.

All the nomination were for a second term except that of James O. Murfin, for regent, which is a first-term selection to succeed Harry C. Bulkley, of Detroit, who was not a candidate for another term.

Michigan republicans are no obstructionists. As may be seen from the resolutions above, the G. O. P. stands squarely behind the president in his effort to uphold the dignity of the nation.

The resolutions were adopted at the spring convention of the party, held at Detroit last Tuesday and attended by over 1,000 republican leaders from all parts of Michigan.

Nominated Present Incumbents.

The convention was strikingly harmonious and the slogan "Re-nominate 'em all" soon spilled oil over what little expense of troubled waters there was. Only in one case was there a change for a new official and that was when J. O. Murfin of Detroit was chosen regent of the university because the present incumbent, H. C. Buckley of Detroit, didn't want the office any longer.

One vote was taken by the convention on the office of member of the board of education. Three candidates were in for the position, Thomas W. Nadal, the present incumbent, T. E. Johnson of Coldwater and M. A. Freeland of Grand Rapids. On the first ballot neither candidate had a majority as Wayne divided its vote equally. On the second ballot Wayne gave Nadal 206 votes and Johnson 190. Before the votes were totaled Mr. Johnson moved to make the nomination of Nadal unanimous and it carried with a whoop.

Vandenberg Withdrew from Race.

The scrap over the support of the upper peninsula between Frank Vandenberg of Marquette and George (Continued on Page Four.)

INTERESTING CONTESTS.

Dog Derby and Skating Races Were Highly Enjoyed By All.

The annual dog derby was run again this year on Superior avenue and it was a much better contest than the last one as the boys brought out a new lot of dogs that were fairly well trained.

Three heats were run, the feature of which was the winning of a place in the money list by a little Scotch terrier that was about as big as a good sized tom cat.

The winners of the dog derby were as follows:

Vanner Johnson, 1st; John Slavic, 2nd; Rob Sanders, 3rd.

The Girls skating race was another victory for Mildred Martin. She had easy sailing, the contest resolving itself into one for second money. The skaters and places are:

Mildred Martin, 1st prize; Rosie Schmid, 2nd and Marble Bie 3rd.

In the boys' free-for-all skating race Charlie Guenther demonstrated that he has a shade the best in a ten lap race. He was passed on the start but soon caught up and passed his competitors and was never headed after that.

The contestants and places were as follows:

Chas. Guenther, 1st prize; Willis Bregger, 2nd prize, Yalmer Carlson was third when he quit, Arvid Kuller was next with two laps and Leslie Rogers stopped before he made the first lap.

NO JUDICIAL PRIMARY.

The supreme court has relieved Iron county of the expense of the judicial primary. In a decision handed down last Monday the highest tribunal of the state holds that in districts where there is no opposition a primary need not be held and a certificate of nomination can be issued to the one candidate.

There is no opposition to Judge Flannigan and this condition exists in several other circuits. In all cases where there is no opposing candidate the counties will be relieved of the expense of a primary.

SPUDS BUT 11 PER CENT SHORT.

Government statistics issued during the week show that the world's potato crop is only 14 per cent short of a normal crop. Frequently in former years the potato crop has been as short as it is today and there was not the spectacular rise in prices that has occurred this year.

The reason for the exorbitantly high value of potatoes this year may be ascribed more to a lack of transportation facilities and to speculation than to a real lack of supply. There are a lot of potatoes in the country in the hands of farmers who are holding for very high prices. The shortage has been so widely advertised that farmers are worked into a great case of expectancy that may spell loss to them unless they use a little judgment. Already some new potatoes are appearing in the city markets from the south and in another month there will be a fair supply open from that source that can be sold at a profit in competition with old potatoes at \$2.00 per bushel.

Minnesota has many potatoes held by farmers who will put them on the market as soon as the weather will admit of the root cellars being opened.

LUMBER OUTPUT INCREASED.

Incomplete reports received from the sawmills of the country indicate a probable lumber production in the United States approximately 11.2 per cent greater in 1916 than in 1915, according to an announcement made by the Forest Service. This estimate is based on preliminary figures compiled in connection with the collection of sawmill statistics in cooperation with the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association. About 35,000 sawmills are on the mailing list of the Forest Service offices in the Western States. Of the mills in the eastern part of the country, approximately 65 per cent had reported up to February 15.

For the United States as a whole the increase in production as shown is 11.2 per cent. For the Eastern States alone the increase was 7.9 per cent, and for the other States shows the increase was 16.7 per cent.

Carl Vechel, of Larch, is handling the operator's work at the North-Western station while Mr. Roschon is away.

PRIMARY BALLOT IS ALL READY

CLERK GRIBBLE HAD THEM PREPARED DURING THE WEEK

ONE NAME ON DEM. BALLOT

Contests on Treas. and Alderman in Third Ward Mark the Only Contests by Republicans

City Clerk Gribble received from the printer during the week the ballots for the city primary which will occur this year on the 7th of March.

Owing to the absent voters' law ballots for all primaries and elections must be issued earlier than formerly so that the clerk of the election district may be able to send the ballots to any absent voter and get it back in time for election.

The Republican Ticket.

The primary law makes it necessary that the contest shall be held under the party auspices and for that reason there appears a republican and a democratic ticket. The republican ticket is as follows:

City Ticket.

For Mayor—Robert Munns.

For Clerk—William J. Gribble.

For Treasurer—Clyde Henry.

For Justice of the Peace—Joseph Cheney.

For Supervisor—William H. Morrison.

For Alderman—Thomas Penglass.

For Constable—Charles Dove.

For Supervisor—Josiah S. Jacka.

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TONNAGE TAX FIGHT.

Contest in Minnesota Legislature is Now on in Earnest.

The fight for and against a tonnage tax of 2-cents per ton on iron ore proposed by a bill entered in the Minnesota legislature is on in earnest and a bitter fight is being waged by partisans of both sides.

In the fight that is being waged the same arguments that have been used in Michigan are put forward and the arguments are pretty near those that we have been used to hear for these many years.

The fight that has been on between factions in the iron districts of Minnesota is reflected in this tonnage tax contest.

ANNOUNCEMENT PARTY.

Engagement of Miss Leela Henry and Dr. Bovik Announced Saturday.

Miss Ethelyn Henry entertained twelve of her girl friends last Saturday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Henry in Maple Grove. The room was tastefully decorated in pink and green and a four course dinner was served at six o'clock.

At this dinner the engagement of her sister, Miss Leela Henry, to Dr. L. E. Bovik was announced.

ITALIANS TO MEET HERE.

Annual Convention of Italian Societies Will Be Held in July.

Crystal Falls is to entertain the Citizen's Italian League next July. This city was selected as the meeting place for 1917 at the meeting held at Hancock last year. No arrangements have been made by the local committee yet but it is thought that those interested will soon commence making the necessary arrangements.

The delegates that represented Crystal Falls at the meeting last year were Peter Bivalacqua and Autillo Camilli. These gentlemen assured the members of the League last summer that Crystal Falls would give them royal entertainment and it will soon be up to the people of the city irrespective of nationality to redeem those pledges.

SUED MACKINAW COUNTY.

D. F. Boyle & Co., Local Contractors, Claim County Owes Them.

A suit against Mackinaw county was filed by D. F. Boyle & Co., through their attorneys, Moriarty & Dwyer, last week. The local firm claims that Mackinaw county owes them the sum of \$12,000.00 for extra work done upon some of the roads of the county.

The suit was filed in Mackinaw county and will be tried in that county some time during the year.

HEARING ON COMPENSATION BILL.

The labor committees of the senate and house will hold a public hearing at the senate chamber the evening of Wednesday, February 28th, on Senator Martin's workmen's compensation bill. The hearing is granted at the request of the Michigan Manufacturers' Association and a large and representative attendance is assured from all the industrial centers of the state.

Compared to the present Michigan compensation law, which is regarded as one of the most liberal in the United States both as to benefits and pay periods, the Martin bill in brief provides: reduces the waiting period from two weeks to one week; increases free medical service from three to fifteen weeks; increases the weekly compensation from 50 per cent to 65 2-3 per cent; increases the minimum weekly compensation to \$5 and the maximum compensation from \$10 to \$15 per week; all specific indemnities are increased 33 1-3 per cent; six forms of injury not now included in the act are added and call for the two-thirds wage compensation for periods ranging from fifty to two hundred weeks. Based on the latest available figures from the State Industrial Accident Board, the Martin bill will increase the compensation expense to Michigan manufacturers and employers upwards of one million dollars annually.

Sheriff Wilson went to Sidnaw yesterday to get a fellow who jumped a board bill at one of the local boarding houses.

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