

## BEGIN VALUATION OF RAILROADS

Preliminary Work for Gigantic Task Now Fairly Under Way—Judge Purdy To Have Charge.

### SURVEY ALL LINES IN COUNTRY

More Than Hundred Surveying Parties, Totalling 1,200 Men To Inspect Every Mile of Roadbed

By Congressman Clyde H. Tavenner. Washington, November 13.—That gigantic task—the valuation of the 250,000 miles of railroad in the United States—is now fairly under way. The exact methods to be used in striking the final estimates have not yet been determined upon by the Interstate Commerce Commission, but the preliminary work which must be done in any case has started. Judge Charles A. Prouty, who resigned from the Commission in order to take charge of the great work, is now on the job, and is laying plans which call for the employment of thousands of men and the expenditure of thousands of dollars.

One of the first things to be determined is just exactly what and where the railroad property is. It is a surprising fact that the railroads themselves are unable to furnish this information. In a general way they have inventories of their systems, but few of them are able to show detailed plats of their properties, showing what they own and where it is.

As a result Uncle Sam, under Judge Prouty's direction, is about to send out 150 surveying parties—a total of about 1,200 men—to take the railroad inventory and draw the first detailed railroad map of the United States. These parties will travel in special cars fitted up to be working offices. They will systematically cover the entire country, securing accurate descriptions of every foot of real estate owned by railroads, structures which have been built, and the like. Every foot of the right of way will be inspected by the engineers with these parties with the idea of determining the character of work on the roadbeds.

"This ground-plan survey," said Judge Prouty, "will describe the cuts, fills, grades, etc., giving measurements in detail so that it will be possible to calculate exactly what actually has been done to bring the work to its present status. Bridges so that when the work is done we will be able to tell the physical facts about every mile of road—how much has been made, how much fill, what kind of material has been used, what kind of ballast and how much, and all such physical facts."

Thus when later the Commission is trying to arrive at a correct valuation it need only to turn to its own records to know the character of road that has been built.

Another enormous task which the Commission is preparing to start at once is that of writing the corporate history of every railroad in the United States. This history was expressly authorized by Congress in the enabling act. The search of court, legislative and railroad records will take the investigators back 75 years to the beginnings of railroad building in the United States. The method of financing the first narrow-gauge spurs must be learned, if possible, and the financial history traced all the way up through the consolidation and absorption of railroads into the systems we know today.

To give this work form, Judge Prouty has adopted the expedient of naming a number of specimen railroads of comparatively recent construction and having their histories worked up as models to follow in the work of compiling the facts connected with the larger and older systems. For this purpose the group of models includes the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake, in the far west; the Norfolk & Southern in the east; the Birmingham, Atlanta & Atlantic in the south, and the Kansas City Southern or the Iron Mountain in the middle west.

**TURKEY DINNER MENU**  
Menu for men's Turkey dinner to be given Wednesday evening in the basement of the church, 5:30 to 8. tickets 50 cents.

Roast Young Turkey  
Mothers Dressing  
Cranberry Sauce  
Sweet Citron Pickles  
Waldorf Salad  
Baked Potatoes  
Whipped Rutabagas  
Rolls, Creamery Butter  
Home Made Apple Pie  
American Cream Cheese  
Coffee

Adv.  
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Candidates for the Bemidji  
\* Athletic Club Basketball Team  
\* are requested to report at the  
\* hall this evening for light prac-  
\* tice. Second Team men are also  
\* requested to be present.  
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## HENRY M. PINDELL.

Illinois Editor Offered Post in Russia for Only a Year.



Deeply interested in the revelation that Henry M. Pindell of Peoria, Ill., had been offered a one year term as ambassador to Russia and the statement of Senator James Hamilton Lewis, given on the assurance of the secretary of state, that there would be no work attached to the mission during that year, the administration feeling to it that there will be no treaties to negotiate and no political affairs to bother with, the Russian government has already shown a deep interest in the matter and is making inquiries as to the administration's intentions.

## ORGANIZE AT BASS LAKE

Boys and Girls Form Club—To Study Farming and Domestic Science, Meetings Monthly

### 14 ENROLL—OFFICERS NAMED

Fourteen boys and girls of Bass Lake have organized a club which will be known as the Bass Lake Boys and Girls Club. The purpose of the organization is to give the girls training in cooking and other work along domestic science lines, while the boys will study and talk farming.

The first meeting of the club, at which officers were elected, was held November 6. Those who will hold official positions during the first year are the following, Edna Kelsner, president; Nettie Batdorf, vice president; Cora Wheeler, secretary; Vivian Neff treasurer.

The chief object of the club is to create and promote an interest in farm life.

Each member will be required to take part in a garden contest next summer. At each meeting two members of the club are appointed to prepare a program for the following session. Following each meeting refreshments are to be served.

According to W. B. Stewart, superintendent of schools in Beltrami county, this is the first club of its kind in the county.

Those who comprise the club are: Cora Wheeler, Nora Wheeler, Elmer Irish, Edna Kelsner, Vivian Neff, Lawrence Neff, Mildred Neff, Nettie Batdorf, Nellie Batdorf, Margaret Batdorf, Marion Batdorf, Mary Cherrier, Clifford Cherrier, Vernon Gary.

## FROST OPENS GROCERY

Former Nary Man Remodels Store on America Avenue

G. W. Frost has opened a grocery store on the corner of America Avenue and Seventh street which promises to be a popular one with school students and the residents of that section of the city. Mr. Frost has purchased a complete line of school supplies, groceries, candy and tobaccos and is now prepared to handle the trade which he believes will be given him by his friends. The store building was formerly occupied by B. O. Todd but has been remodeled since the closing of this store. Hardwood floors and new fixtures have been installed and the store now ranks among the neatest in the city.

## BIG SUPPER WEDNESDAY.

Business Men of City To Serve at Presbyterian Turkey "Feed."

They have arrived. The turkeys for the Presbyterian church dinner. This dinner is an annual affair and will be given in the basement of the church a week from last night. Prominent business men of the city will cook the meal and serve it. The dining room will be open from 5:30 to 8. The impression that women are not to be invited to the dinner is a false one.

## KING EXPLAINS STATE'S FAILURE

Development Association Head Makes Clear Conditions Relative to Swamp Lands Allotments

### "WANT WHAT IS COMING TO US"

Says That Together With Mackenzie He Will Go Ahead Along Line Indicated in Protest.

While in Grand Rapids yesterday C. M. King, president of the Northern Minnesota Development association and also head of the Itasca county board of commissioners, he was asked about the step taken by himself and Secretary Mackenzie, who is now in Bemidji, as to the failure of the state to live up to its agreement with the federal government in the swamp land allotments. Mr. King said there was considerable misunderstanding concerning the motives of the inquiry.

"We do not want land nor money that do not rightfully belong to northern Minnesota," he said. "The idea of this action is not to deprive the state of the lands still to be patented to it, but simply to force some improvements on the lands already in the state's possession. I intend to use every power at my disposal to obtain for northern Minnesota what fairly belongs to that section. At the Bemidji meeting of the Northern Minnesota Development association the matter of the protest of Mr. Mackenzie and myself will be taken up, and the action taken at that time will voice the sentiment of the people of this section of the state. If the delegates at that meeting wish to forfeit the rights to which this section is entitled, no further action will be taken by either Mr. Mackenzie or myself, but if they sanction our course, we shall certainly go ahead along the lines indicated in our protest."

## CUPID'S COURT

Popular Markham Hotel Manager Married Last Evening

A pretty wedding was solemnized at the Ditty home last evening at four o'clock, when Miss Marjory Ditty became the bride of Oliver Neilson, Rev. Charles Gilman of the Methodist church officiating. Miss Jennie Ditty a sister of the bride was bridesmaid and Archie Ditty, the bride's brother, attended the groom. The bride wore a gown of cream brocade silk and carried pink roses, and the bridesmaid wore pale blue brocade silk. A wedding dinner was served to the immediate relatives after the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Neilson left on the noon train today for Duluth, where they will spend a few days before returning to Bemidji where they will make their future home. Until recently Miss Ditty was connected with the Northwestern telephone exchange. Mr. Neilson is the popular manager of the Markham hotel.

### Clifford-Cook

Miss Josephine M. Cook and Walter H. Clifford were united in marriage by Father Philippe, last evening at 7:30. Miss Marie Prokop was bridesmaid and Nicholas Burns attended the groom.

## FINDS CONDITIONS GOOD

Crookston Game Warden Reports That Big Game Is Plentiful Around Kelliher And Violations Are Few

### IS ASSISTING WARDEN BAILEY

Game Warden Munch of Crookston was a Bemidji visitor yesterday, being enroute to his home from Kelliher where he had spent a day looking up evidence in several cases where the game laws of the state had been violated.

Mr. Munch was called here to assist Inspector Bailey in looking up several cases. He reports that he has never known game to be so plentiful as this fall. In telling of his trip to Kelliher the warden said:

"Hunters can be found on every acre around Kelliher, and I was surprised to see the number of deer I did in one day. The hunters have surely selected an ideal hunting ground. I am glad to be able to say that the conditions there, as I found them are fine. There is practically no violation of the game laws, and the settlers seem to be working in cooperation with the commission."

Warden Munch has been in the service of the game and fish commission for some time, and according to the last biennial report of the commission ranks high as an official.

## HOME TALENT SCORES

Farcical Comedy Entitled "District School" Nets Large Sum for Swedish Lutheran Church.

### CRACK JOKES ON BUSINESS MEN

Playing to a packed house the young people of this city who presented the home talent production, "The District School," proved themselves masters at representing mischievous school children and many times throughout the evening the play was delayed by the applause of the audience. Jokes, witticisms and humorous incidents in which prominent residents of this city were involved, were the hits of the evening.

Nineteen people took part in the two-act farcical comedy which was undoubtedly one of the most successful home talents presented in the city during the past year. Over 200 people witnessed the performance and the entire proceeds netted nearly \$85. The proceeds will be used for the Swedish Lutheran Church fund. Mrs. George Berglund had charge of the entertainment which was given by the Bemidji Dramatic Club. The cast of characters was as follows:

Teacher.....Alden Remfrey  
John Jacob Astor.....Richard Bodeen  
Patience Puddifoot.....Alice Gorans  
Ben Butler.....Dick Fenton  
Tooty Prooty.....Esther Tenstrom  
Cornelia Vanderbilt.....  
.....Mrs. G. C. Berglund  
Peruna Jones.....Zena Bell  
Jim Blaine.....Max Bell  
Christopher Columbus.....  
.....George Berglund  
Jeremiah Quackenbush.....  
.....Miss Nolesen  
Flossy Barnum.....Esther Bodeen  
Buster Brown.....Alex Cameron  
Mamie Webster.....Esther Funkley  
Lydia Pinkham.....Ina Robertson  
Liza Ann Snodgrass.....Miss Price  
Samantha Small.....Hulda Ekwall  
Mehitable Honswoggle.....  
.....Fern Robertson  
Brigham Young.....Charley Paul

Woods Store Opened Monday  
Mrs. E. L. Woods has moved into the new store building on the corner of America Avenue and Ninth Street which she recently purchased and opened the new quarters to the trade last Monday. New stock has been purchased and together with the new fixtures and other improvements the store is now classed among the most up-to-date in the city.

## REMODELS BARBER SHOP

Ray Dennis Installs Hydraulic Chairs And New Fixtures  
Ray Dennis, proprietor of the barber shop in the Northern National Bank Building has just completed the remodeling of his shop, and it now compares with any of the modern tonorial establishments in Northern Minnesota. Besides installing new fixtures throughout the shop, Mr. Dennis has placed four Congress hydraulic chairs, the best that can be obtained. The bath rooms which are operated in connection with the barber shop have also been remodeled.

### NEW CLOTHIER FOR BEMIDJI.

Philip Gill left last evening for St. Paul, having been notified of the birth of a son. Mrs. Gill has been in St. Paul for several weeks.

## APPEALS LAND CASE.

A. F. Anderson Would Have Department of Interior Reverse Decision.

A. F. Anderson has appealed the decision made by the Cass Lake land office several weeks ago when it decided that C. G. Johnson of Shooks was entitled to a homestead located near that place, and which has been contested by Anderson. The land office granted a stay of thirty days in which an appeal to the Department of Interior could be taken.

## CHARTER ELECTION INTEREST LACKING

Residents of Bemidji Fail To Show Interest In Comming Commission Form Plan Special Election

### VOTE IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS

Registration Day Comes Next Tuesday—No Mass Meeting Has Yet Been Arranged For

With the special election called for a week from next Tuesday for the purpose of voting on the proposed new charter, interest among the voters of the city seems to be entirely lacking. While talk of the charter is often heard, on one seems to be earnestly advocating its passage.

Many business men of the city are plain in saying that they are against the adoption of the charter, giving as their reasons, in most cases, the clause in regard to franchises, and that dealing with the duties of the mayor. The claim is made that after two years, the charter does not provide for a mayor, while others insist that the new commissioner elected in two years for the three year term will step into the shoes of the out going mayor.

The talk which was common several weeks ago when it was suggested that a mass meeting be called at which the charter be discussed, its weak points, as well as its strong ones being brought to the attention of the citizens of the city, seems to have been entirely forgotten.

A canvass of the council shows that a majority are against the charter as it now stands.

Registration day comes on next Tuesday, and a week later the special election. If the charter should carry, the three commissioners which are provided for will be elected next February.

## ICE SKATING POPULAR

Lake Irving In Good Condition For Out Door Sports

Ice skating is now proving the chief attraction for the young people of the city. Last evening Lake Irving was covered with Bemidji people, old and young, who were taking advantage of the excellent weather and the smooth ice which is now at its best. The lake is now frozen all of the way across and is perfectly safe for skaters for several hundred yards from shore. The ice is several inches thick and is in better condition for skating than it has been for several years. There is no snow and as the weather is not cold, skaters are not forced to dress in heavy wraps to enjoy an evening on skates.

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## FRANK F. FLETCHER.

In Charge of United States Fleet Near Mexican Waters.



Developments in the Mexican situation have come thick and fast. Wilson's desire to lift the embargo on arms and allow the followers of Carranza to be supplied with guns from the United States was looked on as the last step before actual intervention. It is said that the administration favors Carranza for president and is inclined to recognize a government if he would form one. If intervention should take place, or if Mexican ports should be closed, Admiral Frank F. Fletcher of the United States navy would be the man in command. He now commands the fleet that is either in or near Mexican waters.

## WERE HERE AFTER THIEF

Lengby Man Assisted By Local Authorities Find Former Hired Man Believed To Be Guilty.

### OFFICER TAKES HIM BACK

With the aid of Chief of Police George Lane and Officer Tetrie, S. W. Cartwright of Lengby, Minnesota, succeeded in arresting Ed Flynn who he charges with breaking into his home at Lengby yesterday morning and stealing a revolver, suit of clothes, rifle and cash. Flynn was formerly employed as handy man about the Cartwright residence but left yesterday morning shortly after the robbery was committed. Chief of Police Chris Holt of Fosston arrived on the noon train and took Flynn back this afternoon. It is believed that he will admit his guilt at the hearing. None of the stolen articles were found upon his person but Cartwright claims to have enough substantial evidence to prove his guilt.

## BURIED AT WILTON

Body of Christianson Baby Killed By Bullet Brought From St Paul

The fifteen month old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Christianson of St. Paul, who died following being shot by a bullet from a 22 rifle, was buried at Wilton this afternoon, Rev. S. E. P. White officiating. Death resulted three days after the baby had been taken from a hospital. The child had been shot by its five year old brother. It was believed to have fully recovered when death came.

### Gets Big Deer

Ed. Millette returned to Bemidji yesterday from Shovel lake, near Federal Dam, bringing with him a 275 pound doe which he shot yesterday. Mr. Millette holds the honor of bringing the second deer of the season to Bemidji, and also has the honor of bagging the largest antlered prize brought here. H. C. Baer shot a deer near Kelliher yesterday.

### Add Team To Business

Because of the increased amount of business the Smith-Robinson Lumber company has found it necessary to add another team to its delivery service.

## BEMIDJI BOY GETS LIGHT SENTENCE

Clayton Collard Must Spend Ten Days In County Jail For Crime To Which He Confessed

### WILL RETURN HERE TONIGHT

William Short of Kelliher, Fined \$100 and Given 60 Day Jail Sentence on Obscene Letter Charge

Clayton Collard, the eighteen year old Bemidji youth, who several months ago confessed to have taken money from registered letters, was yesterday sentenced to serve ten days in the Beltrami county jail for the crime.

Young Collard was employed as a postoffice messenger at the time the money was taken, and the evidence pointed to the guilt of Edmond Gould a clerk, who was arrested and his connections with the office severed. For several weeks Gould was held for the crime, until a confession was made by Collard.

### Always Good Boy

Collard was immediately taken to Fergus Falls, to await action of the Federal court. While no definite news of the sentence of the boy as yet been received in Bemidji, it is generally believed that the lightness of it is due directly to the fact that the youth has always been regarded as a straight and upright boy, no stain having ever before having been thrown upon his character.

It is understood that with his mother, he will return to Bemidji this evening. He will not be accompanied by a guard.

### Short Fined

Another Beltrami county man who was dealt with by the Federal court was William Short of Kelliher, who was fined \$100 and given a sentence of 60 days in the county jail for having sent obscene literature through the mails. He pleaded guilty.

Bemidji lawyers present at the Federal term were T. C. Bailey and Judge H. A. Simons, United States Commissioner.

## TELLS OF LIQUOR LAWS

Rankin Outlines Bill For Remedy of Present Evils

In his lecture last evening, the second of four in a series relative to the liquor laws of the country, A. C. Rankin, evangelist, told of the manner in which the laws are framed and of how they are enforced, the legislation being caused by different ideas than those which enforce them. Mr. Rankin said that as long as the city cannot be trusted in forming its own liquor laws it cannot be trusted to enforce those made by the legislatures of the country. He then told of a bill which would do away with the present evils and outlined it. Mr. Rankin will deliver his third lecture of the series this evening and will bring the campaign to an end tomorrow.

## STEAMER IS HEAVILY FINED

Spanish Vessel Violated Law Relating to Lifeboats.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Determined to enforce the United States navigation laws relative to safety appliances the department of commerce has approved a fine of \$1,000 against the Spanish steamer Montevideo for not carrying sufficient lifeboats.

The steamer sailed from San Juan last August with 768 passengers, many of whom were children, and only twelve lifeboats. The government would not take into consideration three canvas boats which the owners claimed made the lifesaving apparatus sufficient.

The fine is the heaviest ever imposed by the United States.

## SPENCER STRIKES LAWYER

Alleged Murderer Objects to Delay In Completing Jury.

Chicago, Nov. 13.—Henry Spencer, alleged murderer of Mrs. Mildred Allison-Rexroat, grew more violent in the courtroom at Wheaton, striking his Attorney, Anton Zeman, twice in the face.

Zeman was examining the last man needed to fill the jury box when Spencer exclaimed, "Aw, cut it out; I'll accept him."

Zeman warned his client to be quiet, at which the latter attacked him.

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\* ADDITIONAL LOCALS \*  
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There will be services in the Congregational church at Nymore Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.  
Mrs. Sherman Berg left this morning for her home in Minneapolis after spending several days in Bemidji as the guest of her mother, Mrs. Neal.  
Mrs. I. W. Rathbun arrived in the city Wednesday from Seattle, Washington, where she has been visiting. She came here on account of the serious illness of her brother, W. C. Titus, who was operated Monday. Mr. Titus is getting along as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

## SCOOP THE CUB REPORTER

## Scoop Is Not Looking For Professional Services

## By "HOP"

