

## Houghton Department

TELEPHONE SOUTH 19.

### PROMINENT GRANGE MEMBER OPPOSES THE TONNAGE TAX

Attorney Herbert J. Rushton, One of the Most Ardent Opponents of the Proposed Measure, Speaks at Convention.

One of the active members of the Michigan Grange who opposed the tonnage tax resolution on the floor of the Traverse City Grange State Convention was Attorney Herbert J. Rushton of Escanaba, a Michigan man born on a farm in Washtenaw county, and for years an active worker in Grange circles in the upper peninsula.

Mr. Rushton was drawn into the study of the proposed tonnage tax by nothing else than his own ideas of fair play and his personal observations of the difference between actual mining conditions and the flaring inaccuracies of the statements printed and circulated among members of the Grange. In a contest where defeat was assured in advance, Mr. Rushton advocated a uniform state tax on all property on an equitable ad valorem basis. In the debate at Traverse City he said in part:

Mr. Chairman: This copper and iron tax plan is the product of some scheming politician, who is seeking to make himself solid with the farmers, who knows that the farmers are afflicted with what you might call corporate hydrophobia, and knowing that all he has to do is to shout "Down with the Corporations."

Whether it is right or wrong, he expects you will gather around him like a flock of sheep around a salt pan. Some of you might take offense if you were told that by indulging this resolution you were very close to the line of Socialism, but, in the opinion of many, it is true.

You should remember that at present the mines are assessed under the ad valorem system the same as your farms or any other property. Now, if they are not being assessed high enough, it is the duty of my friend who introduced this resolution or any other citizen of this state, to make a complaint to the State Tax Commission, whose sworn duty is to investigate the same. But, I can say to you on good authority, that there has been no authentic complaint made since the year of 1906, when the State Tax Commission raised the taxes of our northern mines eighty millions (\$80,000,000) dollars.

You should know that out of thirty-seven copper mines operated in the Upper Peninsula during 1908 only seven paid dividends. Some of you, no doubt, are laboring under the impression that all of them are Calumet and Hecla mines, but they are far from it.

I ask you to consider three questions bearing on this tonnage tax resolution:

1. Would this not be double taxation?
2. Would it not be unconstitutional as an attempt to tax interstate commerce?
3. Would it not be class legislation?

There seems no more reason for taxing a pound of copper or iron ore than there is for taxing a unit of any other commodity that comes out of the ground, or that has been manufactured from materials that come out of the ground.

It seems to me that the proposed measure is unjust in that it imposes a tax on energy and enterprise. The mining industries of the north are the market for our agricultural districts. They create big prices for everything we farmers have to sell. Eggs are worth thirty-eight cents and but-ter forty-two cents. In fact everything that the northern farmer produces, brings a high price because of the great demand of the mining countries. So you will readily see how the farmers would be effected if any such socialist resolution as the one introduced should become a law.

Wm. J. Daly has gone to Chicago on a business trip.

Albert Richard has now filed 177 English approvals, beating the record of the Calumet boy who killed 152.

### PEDESTRIAN WHO VISITED IN NOTON REACHES HIS GOAL

Start Cronley, Who Was Houghton Caller Short Time Ago While Walking Around Borders of U. S., Back in Toledo.

The following Toledo dispatch refers to Start Cronley, the pedestrian, who visited Houghton a few weeks ago while on his long walk around the borders of the United States:

After covering the borders of the United States in a little more than two years Start Cronley returned to the home of his mother at Findlay today.

He covered more than 13,000 miles and did it principally for his health, which he says was greatly improved.

Cronley started with one cent, was arrested four times and comes back fairly well to do from work he secured en route.

Cronley followed the lake coast east from Toledo to Maine. From that state he followed the coast around the peninsula of Florida, across Mexico to California up the western coast to Canada, along the border to Mackinac and then to Toledo.

He met 1,321 postmasters and he has their dating stamps.

### IN DRAMATIC PORTRAYALS.

Miss Eulalia Bennett of Houghton Announces Plans for Season.

Miss Margaret Eulalia Bennett of Houghton has sent to many friends here from her professional address in Chicago a pamphlet announcing her plans for the season. She will continue to tour in dramatic portrayals, as an individual entertainer, and announces the following partial list of offerings:

"American Beauties"—Belle Marshall Locke. Scene—An upper apartment.

"Ladybird's Race"—Campbell Rae-Brown. Scene—Racetrack at Sheephead Bay.

"Playing the Society Belle"—Julian Ward. Scene—Drawing room above at a reception.

"River St. Joe"—Ben King. A Michigan Idyl.

"Cherette's Ride"—Ouida. Scene—The Algerian desert.

"Tomorrow at Ten"—Nora Perry. Scene—Summer apartments at Newport.

"An Eastern Symbol"—Nellie McEnry. Scene—In Dixie.

"The Waltz Quadrille"—Ella Wheeler Wilcox. Time—The end of the season.

### CIRCUIT COURT AT L'ANSE.

Judge Streeter Opens January Term There This Morning.

Judge Streeter convened the January term of the Baraga county circuit at L'Anse today. The calendar for the term follows:

Criminal cases—John Platinik, assault with intent to commit the crime of murder.

Issue of fact, trials by jury—Leo Hennes et al. vs. Charles Hebard and Sons, trover; Daniel Hervela vs. John G. Erickson, assumpsit; William Pelkie, Peter Prudhomme, Peter S. King, Louis Beckman, Theophile Richard, Thomas Bond, Edward Ploudre and John Denmore, vs. the Mineral Range railroad company, trespass on the case, separate cases; Paul Ralsanen vs. George Nester et al. assumpsit.

In Chancery—Oscar Johnson et al. vs. William C. Webster et al. bill to remove cloud from title; H. J. Siefert and Peter Kline vs. George O. Robinson and Elissa H. Flynn, bill to quiet title; in the matter of the auditor general's petition for the annual tax sale decree.

There are four applicants for naturalization, Waldemar Tollefson, Christian M. W. Jentoff, P. L. Gustafson, Lars Launkonen.

### MONEY FOR THE INDIANS.

The Indians at Assinins, L'Anse and Baraga are much interested in the fact that more than 7,000 Michigan Indians, or persons of Indian descent, will get a pot of money from Uncle Sam before many weeks. Their names are registered in the Indian office in a monster new roll upon which the finishing touches are being placed. Those who have made their title clear will receive in the aggregate about \$120,000. For every man, woman and infant in Michigan who has a certain connection with the old Ottawa and Chippewa tribe, the United States has approximately \$15. The payment will be made not later than March; possibly a little earlier.

### HOUGHTON VS. MOHAWK AT THE AMPHITHEATRE TONIGHT

The Houghton and Mohawk teams of the copper country amateur hockey league will play tonight at the Amphitheatre. Mohawk leads the league by virtue of beating Laurium in the opening game. Houghton tied with Hancock in the first game, and has, therefore, no percentage, but Houghton is none the less regarded as being the only team in the league which has anything on Mohawk.

The class of hockey in the copper country this winter promises to be high. Mohawk is touted as having an unusually strong team. Houghton relies on the fact that its team is well organized, all of the players holding over from last season. The team showed up well in the exhibition game with the Stars last week and will give Mohawk a cheerful battle to-night.

### UNCLE GETS CHILD.

Disposition of Little Son of Hilda Kostamo is Decided.

An interesting case has been concluded in the probate court, involving the disposition of Edward Kostamo, five years of age. The child is the son of Hilda Kostamo, who is a woman of no character, and he has been the object of a contention between the mother and Charles Peltoniemi. The parties are from Calumet.

The mother gave the child as an infant to Peltoniemi but recently decided that she wanted it to go into the care of her own relatives. She took it from Peltoniemi and gave it to Edward Kostamo, her uncle. He petitioned the probate court for adoption papers and Peltoniemi opposed the petition. The case was heard two weeks ago and Friday the attorneys on both sides appeared before Judge Bentley in the probate court to argue the matter. Judge Bentley, after hearing the arguments, gave the child to Kostamo.

### INSTRUCTION FOR MILITIA.

Capt. Foley of the Houghton Light Infantry has received orders to prepare to enter with his officers upon a course of study in military map reading. Full details have not been received but it is thought the Houghton and Calumet officers will unite in one school of instruction. The course is also to include military hygiene and field service regulations.

### M. C. M. IS FINANCED.

Treasurer Nichols of the Michigan College of Mines, referring to a recent discussion of the finances of the Michigan College of Mines, states that the college is now provided with funds and that the present financial embarrassment of the state will not affect the institution in any way.

### LIBRARY OPENING PROGRAM.

Exercises Appropriate to the Occasion Are to be Arranged.

The new Houghton public library, gift of Andrew Carnegie to the people of Houghton and Portage township, will probably be opened to the public about Jan. 15. Contractor Weber said yesterday that the painting would be completed today. The interior finish is now in place and the only important piece of work left undone is the placing of the cork carpet on the main floor. This will probably consume a week and then will only remain the placing of the books.

The school board is planning some sort of an opening ceremony. The details of this have not been worked out as yet but the program will probably include an address by some prominent local speaker, music and the dedication of the library to the uses of the people of the village and township.

### SUPERVISORS TO MEET.

The regular monthly meeting of the Houghton county board of supervisors will be held Tuesday. Among the matters to be considered by the board are the county road proposition, which has been frequently discussed and the matter of an amendment to the option of Joseph Croze to certain mining lands. Considerable interest is manifested in the latter question as it is possible that the system which has been heretofore in vogue in this county will be altered.

### HOUGHTON CLUB TO MEET.

A meeting of the members of the Houghton club will be held on Friday evening in the Citizens' bank building to its welfare will be discussed. Some time ago, this club was a flourishing organization, and made arrangements for the erection of a fine new club house on Sheldon street. The skeleton framework of this structure had just been started, however, when a slump in the stock market caused the club to go out of business. It is likely that plans will be considered at the meeting Friday evening to resume operations.

### MILITIA AFFAIRS.

Capt. D'Arcy Will be in Houghton on January 29 and 30.

Capt. Martin Foley of the Houghton Light Infantry, has received advice from the state authorities to the effect that three sergeants of the regular army have been detailed to duty with the Michigan National Guard, and that they will visit all of the towns of the state where militia companies are located to conduct schools of instruction. It is expected that they will shortly visit Houghton, as they are known to be headed in this direction.

Word has been received here to the effect that Capt. D'Arcy of the regular army who has been detailed to assist the National Guard will be in Houghton on January 29 and 30 for the purpose of conducting a school of instruction for officers, particularly in the matter of map reading.

### Review of Copper Industry for 1909 New Record for Production of Red Metal Set By Mines of the United States and World.

A new record for the production of copper has been set by the copper mines of the United States, the entire world, in fact, as shown by the figures outputs during the past year, 1909. It has been a big year, in point of production, notwithstanding the fact that low prices have ruled. The production has been away ahead of the consumption of the metal, the hand to mouth policy of the consumers at home and abroad the latter portion of 1908 and early in 1909 helping to keep the selling price down. There were frequent predictions through the year of increased demand and higher prices, but it is only now that the producers begin to feel that the situation is righting itself. The probable regulation of the output of the metal, which will steady the selling price, and the great number of big contracts for electrical work in all lines that will come out during the present year, especially during the second quarter and later, will make 1910 the biggest year in the copper manufacturing industry. The past year has been one of the greatest activity in all camps. Montana, Michigan, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, California—all show increases in their productions during the year just ended. The following comparative table, 1909 partially estimated, is given:

Production, pounds:	1909.	1908.
Arizona	324,031,000	292,802,000
Michigan	238,911,000	222,917,565
Montana	315,839,000	244,446,438
Utah	117,000,000	117,000,000
Nevada	41,893,000	41,893,000
California	65,000,000	65,000,000
Others	65,000,000	65,000,000
Total	1,102,644,000	761,166,000

All producing companies will be able to manufacture the metal at a fair profit to their stockholders if the metal prices remain stable between 14 and 15 cents per pound. Most of the companies now operating made good profits during the past year, but the money invested is worthy of even greater returns. There was some slight curtailment of production in the Arizona and Montana camps during the past year, but it had little effect. The Calumet and Hecla curtailed production but slightly. Other Lake Superior properties, excepting Tamarack, show increases in their production for the year. (The companies do not like to cut the production, for curtailment is costly. The need of regulation of production is felt, however, and it seems the only possible way to right the situation. For years the selling price of metal has been excessively high or excessively low. Copper is one of the great necessities of the business world and as such a more stable value should be maintained. The talk of a merger of the great copper interests to regulate the industry came up a few weeks ago but will very likely result in the organization of an advisory council among the producers, and not a consolidation. The same effects could be arrived at and there would be no danger of the organization of a big monopoly or trust in restraint of trade. None of the Lake Superior companies are expected to join this council or merger, whichever it may be, but they stand favorably to it and will benefit the same as will the companies affiliated.

The work of the Copper Producers' association the past year threw much valuable light on the copper situation, especially as regards production and consumption. The first idea gained by the public in regard to the Producer's association seemed to be that it was to regulate the production of metal and thus maintain a more stable selling price, but this is left to the probable producers' council or merger.

The consumers, in general, do not seem to have any fear of the merging of the great copper companies. They would sooner pay a fair stated price for the metal at all times than an excessively high price at one time and an excessively low one again. They feel that they will be protected and demand this protection of regulation. There may be and probably will be one or two smaller mergers among some of the large producers, for matters seem to be shaping towards this end at present, but they will not conflict in any way with the anti-trust legislation.

One of the features of the market dealings in coppers during the past year was the operating of a greatly increased number of small investors, who displaced the speculators to a great extent. Then, too, in almost all of the higher priced issues and the standard issues were split up among a larger number of investors than during any former year. During the year the low grade western properties began to loom up strongly as a big factor in the production of copper and they show promise that they will assume an even more important position. Their shares, therefore, came into great demand.

Throughout the early part of the year and up till about July there was not manifested a very optimistic feeling regarding the immediate future of the copper manufacturing industry. In July, however, things seemed to brighten up perceptibly, but it was not until November and December that any material relief was felt. Now there is a boom in practically every copper issue in the market and some of the bad are benefitting with the good. Many stocks are quoted in the market for greatly more than their true value, while others are quoted for less than what they really are worth. There is certain to be a reaction after this little boom, but it will probably merely steady the market and will not be of any great duration or serious consequences.

With better metal prices practically assured and with these prices maintained at a stable level, as they undoubtedly will be during the coming year, there is every reason to believe that the market for copper issues will continue in a healthful state and that the copper manufacturing industry will enter—be about to enter, in fact—an "era of sanity" never before enjoyed. Matters have been and are tending in this direction.

As to the copper properties. In all districts, especially in the Lake Superior camp, in Montana and Arizona, and in Utah and Nevada, all the producing companies are in excellent shape—most of them can greatly increase their outputs at any time. All, almost without exception, show encouraging promise underground and their finances are in the best of shape. The men are contented, are excellent workers and good live-ers.

During 1909 a large number of new flotations appeared, especially in the Lake Superior country, and all of them in this district have excellent prospects. Within the next five years it seems almost certain a round dozen new producers will be brought forward. Several others, now well advanced in the development stage, such as Lake Hancock, Superior and the like in Michigan, and Superior and Boston, Arizona Commercial, Inspiration and others in the southwest, will enter the ranks of the producers. The production of copper next year will likely be considerably larger than during 1909 but will not be what the mines are capable of. Slight curtailment of production in the Butte district will likely continue the first half of the year, probably not longer, for the metal situation certainly will have been righted before July 1. The copper producing industry is in better shape now than it has been for two to three years past and it is steadily improving. The average cost of producing copper the past year has been

### EAST HOUGHTON SKI CLUB.

First Meeting Was Held Yesterday and Was Well Attended.

The East Houghton Ski club enjoyed its first ski run yesterday afternoon, and the event was very much enjoyed. James C. Healy, who owns a farm a short distance from Houghton, upon which is situated a very suitable bungalow, has kindly offered the use of this house to the members of the club, and the offer has been accepted. It is proposed to make the farm the headquarters of the club. The building will be heated, and will be made the objective point of the runs which are conducted each Sunday.

The meeting yesterday was to a large extent informal, and nothing definite will be done until the return of W. G. Rice.

### NOTON BREVET.

Postmaster O. H. Mueller of Rockland received a very acceptable and appropriate Christmas gift, in the form of a telegram announcing that his re-appointment as postmaster has been confirmed by the senate.

Tim Holland, driver for the village fire department, has invented a machine for sprinkling sand on sidewalks during the winter. It is pulled by a horse and is operated by a toothed wheel which agitates a screen containing the sand. It is a most ingenious machine and is entirely practicable.

The case of Isaac Niemi against August Nyassi, in which the former sued Nyassi to recover \$25 which he claimed he had left with Nyassi for safe keeping has been decided in Justice Brand's court. The court held there was no cause for action. It is believed a criminal proceeding will follow.

Charles and Richard Edwards, who have been visiting their parents, Mr.

## Meeting Emergencies



For the chilly mornings and evenings of early Fall and Spring or the more bitter days of Winter in the house, in the bungalow, in any place where heat is needed in a hurry, the

## PERFECTION Oil Heater

(Equipped with Smokeless Device)

fully meets the emergency—never smokes—never goes wrong—in a class all by itself.

Infinite pains have been taken to make it perfect.

### Automatic Smokeless Device

Turn the wick high or low there's no smell—the automatic smokeless device prevents it—no smoke either—just a steady glowing heat.

Requires little care—burns nine hours—indicator on brass foot shows contents at a glance. The ONE PERFECT Oil Heater. Various styles and finishes.

Every Dealer Everywhere. If Not at Yours, Write for Descriptive Circular to the Nearest Agency of the

### STANDARD OIL COMPANY

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figured at 10 1/2 cents to 10 3/4. The average selling price for Lake copper was 13.38 cents per pound, as compared with 13.28 for 1908. For electrolytic the average selling price was 13.15, compared with 13.2 during the previous year.

In the Lake Superior district the biggest increase in production was shown by Osceola, with close to 4,500,000 pounds more than was produced during 1908. Ahmeek produced over 3,500,000 pounds more copper during 1909 than the previous year. Calumet and Hecla showed a decrease of 2,100,000 pounds in the Calumet mines but the big company's share in the increase from its holdings will offset this loss. Superior, the Calumet and Hecla's newest producer, will be one of its big assets. Superior began producing in March and turned out more than 1,500,000 pounds of copper during the year. Tamarack showed a decrease of more than 2,400,000 pounds for the year.

The Lake Superior production by mines, with increase or decrease, compared with the 1908 production, follows, the total showing the greatest amount of copper the district has ever turned out in one year:

Mine	Production for 1909 in pounds	Increase over 1908
Alouez	4,173,358	1,126,907
Trumountain	6,074,620	49,712
Quincy	22,420,400	1,820,039
Ile Royale	5,753,509	2,741,845
Mohawk	10,939,480	692,519
Centennial	2,777,631	581,254
Franklin	3,779,900	76,479
Victoria	1,640,100	350,000
Mass	1,949,000	182,070
Michigan	2,243,200	736,006
C and H	80,425,250	*2,124,540
Wolverine	9,689,820	333,697
Superior	1,557,310	3,666,594
Ahmeek	9,946,835	1,586,707
Champion	19,373,500	2,310,946
Battle	20,035,800	*2,460,591
Tamarack	10,345,321	*2,460,591
Osceola	25,735,321	4,484,527

\*Decreases.  
Production (pounds) by months in Lake Superior district:

Alouez—Jan., 350,000; Feb., 325,000; March, 341,400; April, 373,320; May, 322,400; June, 332,000; July, 414,000; Aug., 374,400; Sept., 355,652; Oct., 314,230; Nov., 345,956; Dec., 342,000. Total, 4,173,358; 1908 total, 3,047,051; increase, 1,126,907.
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Trumountain—Jan., 478,040; Feb., 506,160; March, 495,200; April, 561,220; May, 528,000; June, 431,000; July, 575,500; Aug., 590,000; Sept., 480,500; Oct., 491,000; Nov., 502,900; Dec., 495,000. Total, 6,074,620; 1908 total, 6,034,908; increase, 49,712.

Quincy—Jan., 1,519,000; Feb., 1,714,000; March, 1,830,800; April, 1,829,000; May, 1,829,000; June, 1,891,000; July, 1,897,200; Aug., 1,903,400; Sept., 1,922,000; Oct., 1,925,000; Nov., 1,900,000; Dec., 1,850,000. Total, 22,420,400; 1908 total, 20,600,361; increase, 1,820,039.

Ile Royale—Jan., 340,000; Feb., 340,000; March, 385,785; April, 372,757; May, 468,432; June, 478,118; July, 480,000; Aug., 525,975; Sept., 616,559; Oct., 604,773; Nov., 629,210; Dec., 615,000. Total, 5,753,509; 1908 total, 3,011,664; increase, 2,741,845.

Mohawk—Jan., 885,500; Feb., 850,000; March, 898,900; April, 876,500; May, 851,400; June, 1,034,000; July, 1,060,000; Aug., 1,000,000; Sept., 905,400; Oct., 947,800; Nov., 900,900; Dec., 905,000. Total, 10,939,480; 1908 total, 10,295,881; increase, 692,519.

Centennial—Jan., 241,000; Feb., 242,500; March, 292,500; April, 264,500; May, 234,000; June, 236,000; July, 210,000; Aug., 245,700; Sept., 186,945; Oct., 199,096; Nov., 214,290; Dec., 210,500. Total, 2,777,631; 1908 total, 2,196,377; increase, 581,254.

Tamarack—Jan., 1,100,000; Feb., 1,100,000; March, 1,285,276; April, 1,247,797; May, 1,234,829; June, 1,116,286; July, 1,054,000; Aug., 928,422; Sept., 803,175; Oct., 1,013,935; Nov., 1,232,715; Dec., 1,230,000. Total, 10,345,321; 1908 total, 12,806,127; decrease, 2,460,806.

Osceola—Jan., 2,004,000; Feb., 2,000,000; March, 2,368,969; April, 2,094,075; May, 2,049,766; June, 2,392,497; July, 2,278,000; Aug., 2,151,544; Sept., 2,038,300; Oct., 2,347,760; Nov., 2,050,110; Dec., 2,150,000. Total, 25,735,321; 1908 total, 21,250,794; increase, 4,484,527.

Franklin—Jan., 210,420; Feb., 203,000; March, 241,200; April, 200,000; May, 218,400; June, 196,000; July, 200,000; Aug., 139,200; Sept., 152,000; Oct., 127,200; Nov., 88,800; Dec., 95,000. Total, 2,779,900; 1908 total, 3,703,421; increase, 76,479.

Victoria—Jan., 120,000; Feb., 116,000; March, 116,000; April, 123,500; May, 130,000; June, 132,000; July, 132,000; Aug., 136,500; Sept., 156,250; Oct., 162,250; Nov., 152,100; Dec., 150,000. Total, 1,640,100; 1908 total, 1,290,040; increase, 350,060.

Mass—Jan., 154,000; Feb., 147,000; March, 149,000; April, 163,000; May, 171,000; June, 156,000; July, 182,000; Aug., 18