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FEAR CONTROL BY THE CITIES

One Argument Used Against
Reapportionment.

ALWAYS PULL TOGETHER

Work and Vote as a Unit When Measures
Affecting Their Interests
Come Up for Action.

St. Paul, Feb. 27.—It was not anticipated that there would be much difficulty in getting the reapportionment bill through the house, and such proved to be the case. The measure, indeed, while not by any means perfect, is probably as fair to all sections as could be framed. Even its opponents admit that. It was inevitable however, that the representation of the southern part of the state would have to be reduced, and quite as certain that those who were deprived of the representation they now have and those who represent districts which will be wiped out should object. It is not in human nature that anything else could happen.

While no argument was made, or could be made, against this, those who were inclined to oppose the bill because districts were enlarged or representation reduced could be depended upon to find other reasons for their opposition. The one point, therefore, that was insisted upon, and it is not without force, was that in redistricting the state according to its population the representation of the commercial centers would be larger than in the public interest they should be. The force of this argument is made plain by the experience we have already had. While no doubt the representatives of the cities want to be fair and, as a general proposition, give liberal support to measures designed to benefit the state at large, still where the interests of these cities, or their supposed interests, point in one direction and the interests of the country and country towns in another, it is inevitable that city members should be for the city, first, last and all the time. That is what they are sent there for.

In this state the interests of the cities are largely bound up with the interests of corporations and combinations of capital. The railroad policy of the state favors the commercial centers. Commercial and manufacturing organizations naturally support the railroad policy, which they imagine to be to their advantage, regardless of whether it is to the advantage of the rest of the state or not. The brewing and distilling interests are centered in the Twin Cities. The interest of the United States Steel corporation is the interest of Duluth. In those days of combination it is inevitable that these interests should combine to each others' advantage. It is inevitable also that their influence over metropolitan representatives should be overshadowing. It follows that wherever these interests are affected metropolitan representation will combine to support the legislation they favor or to resist the legislation to which they object. Given one-third of the legislature compactly organized for any purpose, and the balance of the legislature without organization, it is inevitable that those interests whose representatives work as one man will be the better served. We all see this danger. No one familiar with legislative proceedings can fail to be impressed by it. It has even with the inadequate representation (based on population) the cities now have, made its effects felt on more than one occasion. It is small wonder that patriotic members of the legislature should contemplate with anxiety the advent of a state of affairs in which metropolitan representation will be materially increased.

All the opposition that was worth speaking about was based on this ground. It was by no means without merit and for that matter without precedent. Mr. Robinson pointed out that it was to prevent the legislature of the United States being merely the servant of the more populous states that provision was made in the United States Constitution that, regardless of population, each state should be entitled to two and only two senators. In like manner the representation of great cities like New York and Chicago is limited in the interest of the rest of the state. There

is force in the argument that we are approaching the time that it is desirable at least to consider the advisability in like manner of limiting the representation of the populous centers of Minnesota. Certainly if the time ever comes when the representation of these cities overshadows the legislature and directs the course of legislation it will be a matter of self-preservation for the rural communities to take steps to prevent such a catastrophe as would result from having the state governed in the interest of its congested centers of population.

Even the most ardent friends of reapportionment recognize this, although they insist that it is the plain duty of the legislature to reapportion the state now, and the only way it can be reapportioned is on the basis of its population. Personally I am inclined to this view. At the same time I agree with Mr. Spooner that the time is ripe for the calling of a constitutional convention to revise that thing of shreds and patches which we know as our state constitution.

It is a peculiar circumstance that the only objection, outside the house and senate membership, publicly made against the reapportionment bill comes from St. Louis county, which is regarded as having been generously dealt with by Mr. Congdon, the author of the bill. The complaint is, and it seems to be justified, that St. Louis county has been gerrymandered with a view to giving advantage to Duluth, of which the range towns have long been jealous. The way Duluth is alleged to hog everything in St. Louis county has given rise to a demand for county division. Indeed the name of Iron county has already been picked out for the northern half of St. Louis. Besides Duluth itself the United States Steel corporation is very much opposed to such a division, which in all probability would mean to it a tonnage tax on iron ore, as in such case Duluth could not share in the local taxation of iron properties.

Otherwise the tonnage tax seems far enough away. It has not been possible at this session to create sentiment in favor of the bill recently introduced for that purpose, members apparently having concluded that the contribution from ore lands is a fair one, and that the objections to legislation of this kind make it impracticable. Whether this is so or not, the prospects of the bill at this session are anything but bright.

A number of minor changes have been made in the game and fish laws in bills which have passed the house. The beginning of the bass season has been advanced from June 1 to June 16. A change is made in the closed season for fur bearing animals. Instead of two deer as formerly it is proposed that in the future a hunter may only kill one.

An effort to secure an advance in the salary of the state treasurer has been opposed by the committee of the house. The salary is now \$3,500. An increase of \$1,500 a year is asked for. The trouble about this salary business is that the salaries of officers created in recent years have been planned on a more liberal scale than those of the offices which have been in existence a longer time. Thus, for instance, we have the bank examiner getting more than the public examiner and the salary of both exceeding that of state treasurer—a manifest impropriety. The officers first mentioned also get more than the state superintendent of public instruction, who also remains at \$3,500.

It is interesting to compare these salaries with the remuneration received by the governor's private secretary. The salary of the private secretary is fixed at \$1,500, but he is permitted to pocket, in addition, fees estimated by the state auditor to amount to \$6,000 a year. The scandalous custom has grown up of giving to this official the fees, among others, paid by notaries public, which the original design was to have turned into the state treasury. This seems to be a case in which reform is demanded quite as much as in the office of oil inspector.

The appointment of a committee to investigate the state drainage board, or rather its engineer, which has hung fire for a long time, has at last been made and the muckraking will begin. The investigators on the part of the house are Robertson of Argyle, Moriarty of Belle Plaine, Fowler of Minneapolis and Crane of Grand Meadow. The senate also has appointed a committee to find out what's wrong. Its members are Works, Murray and Swanson.

The immigration board is not to escape either, it appears. Representative Cal Stone of St. Paul wants the commissioner to furnish the names of the men his advertising has brought into the state—a manifest absurdity. Behind this move are understood to be certain St. Paul publicists, anxious



The Credit System.

who have never been quite satisfied that they were not allowed to share in the state's appropriation for advertising purposes.

The senate has defeated the much discussed Cashman distance tariff bill, the final vote being 29 for and 32 against it. The opinions of Attorney General Simpson, ex-Attorney General Young and former Justice T. D. O'Brien that the passage of the bill would wipe out the work done by the state in the commodity rate cases were used with telling effect. But for these opinions the result might have been different.

Liberal pruning will have to be done this year to keep the expenditures within the anticipated revenues. Applications are already in, according to Mr. Spooner, for something like \$21,000,000, which is in excess of that made two years ago. Of the demands made \$5,500,000 are for university purposes.

JOHN LAWSON.

CROP IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL

Three-Coach-Train will be in New Ulm Friday, March 3. Able Speakers will Address the Public.

Forty Minutes at Northwestern Depot.

Posters are out announcing the arrival of a special train which will be here in New Ulm next Friday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:00. Agents of the Minnesota Agricultural school are on this train who will talk on agricultural subjects and explain in a forty minute address how \$5 per acre may be added to the income of Minnesota farms.

The farmers and business men are requested to be on hand to get the information that they can afterwards pass on to those who do not attend.

The train will be in Esig Friday afternoon from 1:20 to 2:00. The addresses will be held from the coaches at or near the Northwestern depot.

Seeing the Truth.

Some day there will be neither optimists nor pessimists, and that is doubtless what the prophet means when he says the mist will yet cease to obscure the truth.—Puck.

NEW ULM HIGH LOSES TO ASCENSIONS

Boys Fight Hard but are Outclassed. Score 53—22.

With almost a hundred staunch and loyal New Ulm supporters, rejoicing at some of the brilliant flashes of the New Ulm team and bemoaning the laxity of the play at times, the New Ulm H. S. team went down to defeat against the Ascensions of Minneapolis at the Ascension hall last Friday night. New Ulm played hard thruout the game but the boys seemed unable to get together, some of them being plainly bewildered.

Blume served the first goal of the evening after about a minute of play but the Ascensions took the lead soon and kept it until the end. The New Ulm boys could not break up the various Ascension combinations with any degree of consistency.

Antony and Groebner struggled valiantly, guarding their men as closely as possible, but could not prevent the City players from piling up their score. Blume was the only New Ulm boy to find the basket consistently, Backer and Amann being decidedly out of form in this respect. Blume, however, failed to follow his opponent, who secured 7 baskets and aided in numerous others. Both Amann and Backer played hard but were covered most of the time.

The score at the end of the first half was 29 to 15. The Ascensions added 24 points in the last period while New Ulm could only acquire 7 more. It was no disgrace for New Ulm to lose such a game for the Ascensions team is considered one of the best in the Northwest, not having been defeated for several years. At times New Ulm brought joy to the hearts of their followers by bracing and outplaying their opponents but they could not keep it up. The teams will meet on the local floor in the near future.

Lineup:
N. U. H. S. Ascensions.
Blume J. Barry
Amann L. F. A. Barry
Backer C. Von
Groebner R. G. Collins
Antony L. G. Riley
Substitute—Donahue for A. Barry.
Field goals: Blume 5, Backer 3,

Another Victory for Browns.

Last Friday evening the B. B. C. basket ball team added another victory to their already long list of victories by defeating the St. Peter H. S. at the Armory, by a score of 33 to 24. It was a closer game than the score would indicate, as the first half ended 13 to 10 in favor of B. B. C. In the second half the B. B. C's got their team work into play, and aided by a couple of sensational goals by Swift Berg, slowly forged ahead of their opponents and were never in danger after that. Fritsche, Schaefer and Berg played the best game for Browns', especially the latter, he counted five field goals and also threw five fouls out of six chances. For St. Peter Mead and Nelson played the best game, the former counting two pretty goals in the first half.

Following is the lineup and the score:

B. B. C.	St. Peter H. S.
Fritsche	C. Johnson
Berg (Capt.)	R. F. Danielson
Bolstad	Neuman L. F. Nelson
Martin	L. G. Engesser
Schaefer	R. G. Mead

Goals from fields: Berg 5, Fritsche 3, Bolstad 1, Martin 3, Schaefer 1, Neumann 1, Mead 2, Engesser 2, Johnson 2, Nelson 4 and Danielson 1. Goals from fouls: Berg 5, Mead 2. Referee, McHale and Johnson; umpire, Johnson and McHale; time keeper, W. Lindemann.

Independents Win Game.

Last Wednesday the Independent B. B. Team of this city journeyed to Lamberton and there defeated the team of that place by a score of 25 to 10. It was a rough and hard game, as the first half ended the score was 7 to 2 in favor of New Ulm. In the second half New Ulm got started and were never headed, although with only 10 minutes to play the score stood 9 to 6 in favor of the Independents, here Ed. Berg got started and counted 5 field goals and the game was as good as won. Fritsche and Berg Bros. played the best game for New Ulm, and Lohrke starred for Lamberton.

Following is the line-up:

Independents	Lamberton
Fritsche	C. Ferring
H. Berg	L. F. Koenig
E. Berg	R. F. Lohrke
Neumann	L. G. Fredrickson
Schaefer	R. G. Wheeler

Goals from field: Fritsche 5, E. Berg 5, H. Berg 1, Neumann 1, Lohrke 3, Clausen 1. Goals from fouls: H. Berg 1, Clausen 2.

OTTOMEYER

HAS just received a large shipment of spring goods for the "Ready to Wear Dept." Everything right up to date in styles, and prices that are right.

COATS

Everything in the latest mixtures and in plain materials. New shades of tan and gray mixtures, the new mustard shade, and staple blues and blacks. A full line in the latest models.

"Stouts" in odd sizes, in black and blue; Serge coats in blue, tan, black and olive, with Moire collars and cuffs; swell coats in novelties. Prices in above lines range from \$12.50 to \$27.50. Call and select before the best are taken.

SUITS

New and Nifty tells the story of our suit line. If you are thinking of investing in a new suit call and see them. We feel sure you will not find a nicer line to select from this side of the Twin Cities.

DRESSES

Our new dresses are here—a full range of materials, colors and styles to choose from.

Dresses in fine ginghams, and the lighter weight Egyptian Tissues, nicely tailored and prettily trimmed with lace or embroidery, and folds of goods, high or low neck; long or short sleeves; suitable for home, street, school and office wear, in prices from \$4.50 to \$9.00.

Lingerie dresses in white and in colors, plain and dressy, ranging in prices from simple dresses at \$4.25 to beautiful Frenchy gowns at \$23.00.

A fine line of childrens dresses in colors and in white, sizes from 2 to 6 years, in prices from 25c to 98c. From 6 to 16 years, in prices from 49c to \$2.50.

Our new gowns are beautiful and very reasonable. In fact we have JUST WHAT YOU WANT. Please call and verify the statement.