

OFFICIAL REPORT

OF

BURNETT COUNTY BOARD OF IMMIGRATION

Concerning the Resources of Burnett County, Wisconsin,

TOGETHER WITH SOME FACTS REGARDING SOME OF THE
PEOPLE WHO RESIDE THEREIN OR ARE FINANCIALLY
INTERESTED IN THE COUNTY.

BURNETT COUNTY STATISTICS.

Population (estimated) 8,500.
Area of County (estimated), 600,000 Acres.
Number of Acres Assessed, 350,550.
Total Assessed Valuation 1902, \$2,324,658.
Real Estate \$1,324,535.
Personal Property, \$500,133.
Total of Taxes Assessed in 1901, \$11,893.11.

1902.
THE JOURNAL PRINT,
GRANTSBURG, WIS.

POLITICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

FREE BOOKS!

The public appropriation for the free distribution of the official report on the resources of Burnett county, Wis., was limited and if you can not get any free books I have some for sale. Having the contracts to print the books I printed several thousand extra and am selling them for 25 cents each. If sent postpaid the price is 30 cents. If you will send me 50 cents and the names and addresses of thirty tenant farmer, whom you have good reason to believe are not subscribers of The Journal of Burnett County, I will send you one of these books and will mail you a copy of The Journal for three months without additional charge (see pages 101 and 102 of the report). Each tenant farmer whose name you send will be sent a free sample copy of The Journal.

Address:

ED L. PEET.

GRANTSBURG, WISCONSIN.

Homestead Relinquishments.

If you want to sell your homestead improvements in Burnett county let me know. State what you have and your price and I will try and find a customer for you.

If you want to buy out some homesteader in Burnett county let me know what you are looking for and what price you are willing to pay and I will see what I can do for you.

Address:

ED L. PEET.

GRANTSBURG, WISCONSIN.

Burnett County Wisconsin

A pamphlet descriptive of Northern
Wisconsin in general and of Bur-
nett County in detail

COMPILED BY ED L. PEET



Hon. Canute Anderson, the first permanent white settler in Burnett county, was born in Norway, April 14, 1830, settled in Burnett county in 1852 and remained as an honored citizen up to the date of his death, July 31, 1893.

ISSUED BY

The Burnett County Board of Immigration

W. E. Armstrong, President
Simon Thoreson, Treasurer
Ed L. Peet, Secretary

GRANTSBURG, BURNETT COUNTY, WISCONSIN

1902

THE JOURNAL OF BURNETT COUNTY PRINT,
GRANTSBURG, WISCONSIN

PREFACE.



Ed L. Peet, Secretary.

WHEN the writer came to Burnett county in 1895 he was much impressed with the fact that nothing was being done to advertise the advantages and resources of the county. At that time he formed a resolution to some day issue a pamphlet that would tell the world all about Burnett county and what it had to offer to those seeking homes in a comparatively new country. At no time during the past seven years has it seemed to be the right time to issue the book. Changes were going on all the time and so many important things were about to happen that we deemed best to put off the work just a little longer. Now, as we look back and see

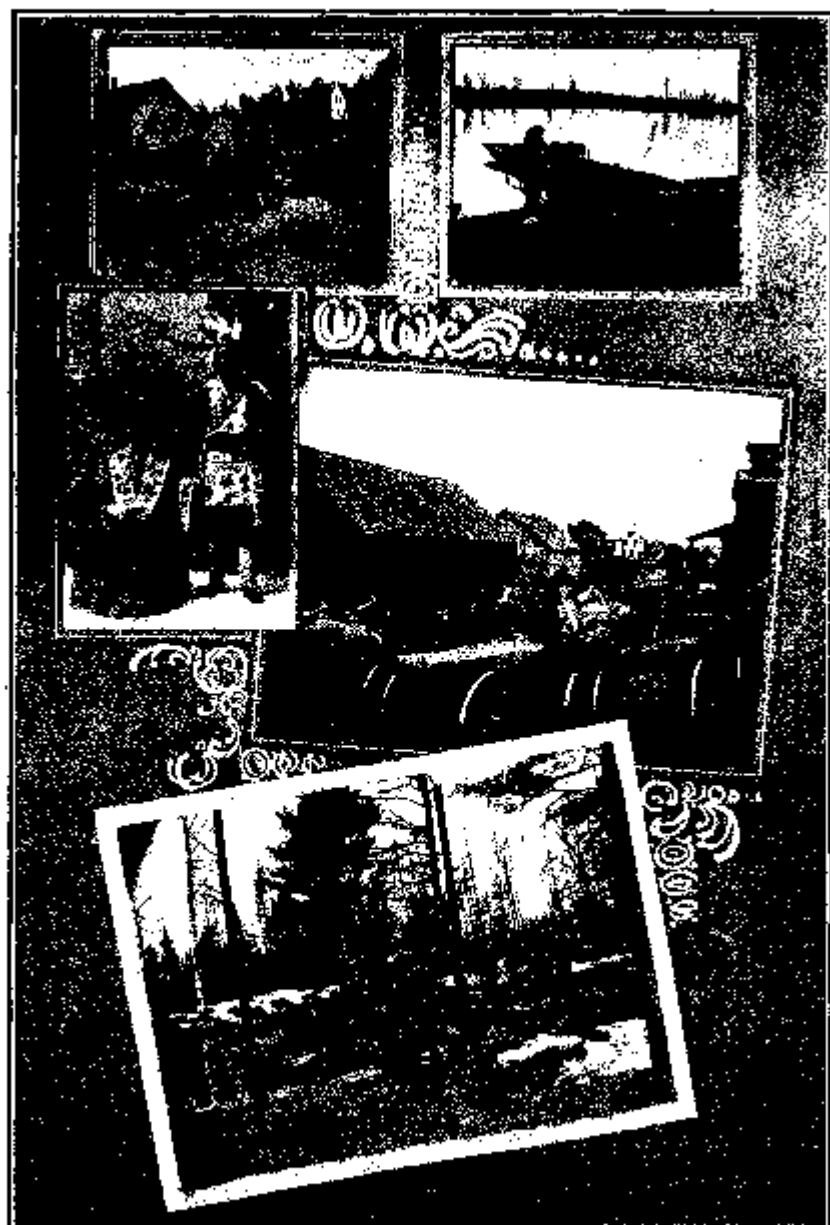
how the country has developed during these seven years the conclusion is reached that the time to do a thing is whenever you can do it. To wait for the best time would be to wait forever. The county is on the eve of the greatest advancement that it has ever made and long before this book reaches the hands of a majority of its readers many things will have happened that will make untrue some of the things which it is now possible to truthfully state. Seven years ago there were in Burnett county 125,000 acres of government land subject to homestead entry. At this date there are about 35,000 acres left and before the end of 1902 is reached there may be nothing but isolated tracts of forty and eighty acres left. We therefore can not truthfully inform the public that there are many free homes to be had in Burnett. Seven years ago there was considerable state land for sale in the county. Two years ago this was all withdrawn from market and at this date is still out of market. By the time this book is ready for distribution this land may be sold or it may be years before it is placed upon the market. Now it is impossible to tell what land will be selling for in Burnett county at the end of this year. There is some land which can be bought for \$2.00 per acre and there is some which is held as high as \$100 per acre. There are many people who expect to see land double in price this

year and others predict still higher prices. One thing is sure and that is that it will not be any cheaper. The general description of the county as written now will remain true so far as the physical conditions are concerned but developments this summer promise to far outstrip any prophecy that at this time would be considered reasonable. To those into whose hands this little pamphlet may fall we would say: "Study it carefully and believe that every statement in it is made with the expectation that if you visit our county to make a home you will find that the truth has been told." Our county is not the only good part of the world but it does contain conditions where the poor man as well as the moderately wealthy man can make a home and not be obliged to go out of the reach of civilization. The man of capital can find many chances for investment and his money will not be sent to the ends of the earth. The only thing which at the present time keeps Burnett county from being supplied with many railroads is the lack of population and this book is issued for the purpose of securing the attention of those who may be induced to move here and thus increase our population. The increase of population will give us the railroads to which we are entitled by reason of our central location and with the coming of these Burnett county will rank among the very first in the Northwest in wealth, culture and happiness. Stranger, you are welcome; come and see what we have to offer. Come while the price is within your reach as tomorrow it may be beyond your purse.

Grantsburg, Wisconsin, March 17, 1902.



FLEMING'S LANDING ON THE ST. CROIX RIVER TWELVE MILES
NORTHEAST OF GRANTSBURG.



STOCK DAY AT GRANTSBURG. CROSSING THE ST. CROIX RIVER.
 ALEX MATRIOS AND WIFE. THE FOREMOST CHIPPEWA CITIZEN.
 UNLOADING POTATOES AT THE STARCH FACTORY AT GRANTSBURG.
 ONE OF THE MANY SMALL SAW MILLS OF BURNETT COUNTY.

CENTRALLY LOCATED.

Had nature been sparing in her gifts and placed nothing within the present borders of Burnett county except soil of the lightest character there would still have been conditions which would eventually have made that part of Wisconsin of much importance.

The one great and most favorable condition is that of location. The importance of this should be fully understood.

At the head of navigation on the Mississippi river have grown up two great cities, the northernmost limits of which reach within forty-five miles of Burnett county. At the head of navigation on the Great Lakes are two other cities which are destined to be the greatest of all cities in the Central west. The southernmost limits of these cities are within thirty-five miles of Burnett county.

An air line drawn between these lake and river cities passes directly

The Unlimited Agricultural Resources of the Entire Northern Part of the State.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

When asked to prepare a paper on the agricultural resources of Northern Wisconsin, it seemed to me I was getting a threadbare subject. A few days later I read in a Milwaukee paper that the lumbermen of Northern Wisconsin were aiding the state to stamp out small-pox by fumigating their camps weekly and that the men were taking frequent baths. I made up my mind that if an editor, one of a class supposed to know everything,

through Grantsburg, the county seat of Burnett county, and the distance is but 125 miles between city limits.

The growth of these cities and the interchange of business will greatly affect all the territory between and that which is along the line of most direct connection must receive the greatest benefit.

In dealing out gifts to Burnett county nature was not sparing in favors and there are few things now found in Northern Wisconsin which are not found in Burnett county in greater or less degree. So true is this that any article descriptive of the northern part of the state must likewise be descriptive of Burnett county.

Among recent papers on this subject is one prepared by Louis K. Wright, of Wausau, and read before the Agricultural Mass Convention recently held at Madison. It is so full of good things that it is worthy of a place in this pamphlet and we reproduce it in full. It clearly sets forth

could stand for "frequent baths" in a lumber camp, I might find farmers who knew but little of the agricultural resources of our northern country.

The southern part of Wisconsin has long been famous as an agricultural country. North of this rich belt, but nearly all in the southern half of the state, a strip of sand land, of varying width, runs east and west across the state. Years ago this was spoken of as Northern Wisconsin, and was looked upon as the beginning of a



STOCK BARN OF SELS PETER MAGNUSON NEAR ALPHA POSTOFFICE.
 GRANTSBURG HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING. COURT HOUSE.
 RESIDENCE OF ANDREW A. ANDERSON, REGISTER OF DEEDS.
 THE RESULT OF AN HOUR'S FISHING IN TRADE LAKE.

poor farming country, which was supposed to grow worse the farther north one went. A few years ago the legislature authorized the preparation of a hand book, setting forth the agricultural conditions of the northern part of the state. This book was prepared under the direction of Prof. Henry, who was one of the first to forcibly call attention to the fine agricultural district north of this sand belt. In a general way this hand book speaks of Northern Wisconsin as lying north of a line drawn east and west from Green Bay to Hudson. No arbitrary boundary can be made, but, generally speaking Northern Wisconsin may be said to embrace all of the original great timber belt of the state.

Prof. Henry, in the book referred to, groups the soil of this section under seven heads. I will class the soil under four heads, identical with the timber growth. A farmer who sees a growing crop can form a good idea of the soil it grows on. In the same way a crop of timber is a sure index to the soil. This should be borne in mind by those buying stump lands.

A great many people have looked upon Northern Wisconsin as originally timbered almost wholly with pine, but a large part of this section of the state was covered with great forests of the finest hardwood, and through a great deal of this hardwood were scattered immense white pine. This hardwood land is the best agricultural land we have and runs largely to a clay soil. It is often stony, generally small surface stone, which can be easily removed.

The finest white pine in the world grew in Michigan and Wisconsin. Great forests of it covered much of the region of which we are speaking. Such pine is never found on poor land. This soil is a mixture of clay and sand. Where hemlock grows with the hardwood, the clay is not so heavy as in the purely hardwood forests and where it is mixed with pine, the soil has more clay than is found where pine grows alone. The two soils blend

into each other, often on the same farm.

This class of lands were covered with Norway and jack pine. Some of this timber was large and the soil it grew on fair; some of it was poor and scrubby, and the timber was like the soil. This land is all of a sandy nature, often with a gravelly sub-soil. Eventually, I think it will nearly all be used for agricultural purposes, but it is the poorest land we have.

The fourth class is our swamp land, where the timber was principally cedar, tamarack, spruce and black ash. Some of the swamps are of considerable extent; others are small, just put in among the high land to make good pasture. The richest land on some of our best farms was of this character, and often nothing was done to reclaim it except to clear off the timber. Nearly all this land is suitable for agricultural purposes.

In the southern part of northern Wisconsin agriculture is no longer an experiment. Homesteaders and settlers have been at work for forty years and in nearly all the counties in this section may be found fine farms and large fields thoroughly stumped. Also in a good many sections the farm buildings will average much better than in southern Wisconsin. In my home county of Marathon in the older towns, I believe there are more modern barns, in proportion to the population, than can be found in any of the old counties of southern Wisconsin. This, no doubt, is because the farmers, having the timber on their land, get the timber sawed out at very little cost, while southern Wisconsin farmers must pay high prices for their lumber. In the southern part of northern Wisconsin, a transformation is going on. Our farmers who used to raise hay and oats for the logging camps, and many of them who used to be half farmer and half logger, are now devoting all their energies to the farm and modern methods are being adopted. They are going into dairying and stock raising and a rumble heap has now a



1. FARM RESIDENCE OF JOHN SWENSON.
2. FARM RESIDENCE OF O. C. FRANSTAD.

3. BURNETT COUNTY FAIR BUILDING.
4. FARM RESIDENCE OF J. JOHNSON.

value in it. Good schools, roads and bridges are now the rule in this section. The climate is also changing; the winters are milder and not so long. Where we used to have at least five months of sleighing, eight weeks of good sleighing is now a fair average. We can raise to advantage almost any crop which can be raised in southern Wisconsin. This section has become much better known during the last few years to farmers in the southern part of this state and the neighboring states of the northwest, and they are now coming in large numbers and establishing good farms in our new north. Forty years ago, when the pioneer farmers were coming north, such conditions in this district would have been considered impossible.

I believe the northern portion of Northern Wisconsin, which today is little more developed agriculturally than the section I have spoken of was forty years ago, has nearly as great a future. There thousands of acres of land await the settler, with timber for their buildings and winter wood on the ground, and markets for their produce at top prices, in the lumber camps, mining towns and lake ports near by. In the winter, hardwood timber, hemlock bark, hemlock and spruce pulp wood, railroad ties and gilling, cedar poles, posts and shingle bolts, which in many places cannot now be profitably handled will furnish work for the settler and his teams for many years to come, making this season the most profitable of the year. And as the land is cleared, the climate and other unfavorable conditions will change as they have in the section first spoken of.

With these general remarks as to what Northern Wisconsin once was and what it is now, we will look more particularly to its agricultural resources.

Among the greatest of these is dairying and stock raising. If any country was ever naturally intended for these purposes, that country is Northern Wisconsin. The first re-

quisite, a good water supply, is there found in abundance. The geological map of the state shows 1240 lakes in this region. There are hundreds of small lakes, not touched by sectional lines, never seen by the government surveyers who platted the country. Almost all these lakes supply creeks and streams which flow to swell the rivers, emptying into the Mississippi and into Lakes Michigan and Superior. Many other small streams originate in swamps and go to the same way while innumerable rivulets start from springs and contribute their portion to make most of Northern Wisconsin a stockman's paradise, so far as water is concerned. Well water is also obtainable at little depth in most sections.

All over this region grasses and clover thrive. To illustrate this, we will first look at places where agricultural pursuits have never been tried. Visit the old lumber camps and logging roads, all over this territory. Along these roads and among the stumps, where the trees were cleared away to keep them from falling on the camps, you will find grasses and clovers, of all varieties, growing up spontaneously. How the seed ever got so distributed is a problem. You can account for it on the tote roads where the lumbermen hauled in their supplies of hay, but it is wonderful the way it has spread over the logging roads and clearings. It seems to follow as naturally as a second growth of timber. A great many lumbermen turn their horses out to pasture along these roads and clearings, after the winter's logs are put in.

Last spring I was in towns 43 and 44, range 2 east, about twenty miles south of Hurley. Here the grass and clover around these clearings were equal to any I have seen in the best parts of Marathon county. There wasn't a farm within ten miles. I was told that Hurley people cut the hay every fall; it was theirs for the cutting. Way up in Douglas county I saw the same conditions last year. For two weeks last July I stopped

with a farmer in Price county, in town 38, range 3 east. He homesteaded there seventeen years ago and for years was the only settler. They were haying while I was there a field of some fifteen acres, which had been seeded twenty years and never been broken, although it had been manured. They got over a ton and a half of hay to the acre. This was hardwood land; no other could stand such treatment. All varieties of clover appear to do equally well up north. With the exception of alfalfa, they certainly do. Alfalfa has not been generally introduced. The first I knew of in my home county was two years ago. A number of farmers grow it now and express themselves as well pleased with it. Clover and grass never winter kill with us, nor does drought effect our pastures and crops as it does the regions further south. There never has been anything approaching a crop failure from this cause. For one thing our rainfall is more evenly distributed and possibly greater, but I believe another cause may be found in the fact that we have a rock bottom in most of this territory, which retains a great deal of moisture which, in a limestone or sandstone country seeps away. Water is reached by digging at from 12 to 20 feet where you strike rock.

Almost everywhere in the hardwood districts the clay loam is underlain with clay beds that extend down to the soft water. These clay beds are not impervious and by capillary attraction water is drawn through them from below and in a measure the plant growth is thus supplied with water during the dry season, hence grazing holds out during the mid-summer season, as it does not in a country where the soil is underlain with gravel bed. It seems to be a generally accepted idea that our pasture season is a good deal shorter than that of southern Wisconsin. I believe this is a mistaken idea, so far as the southern portion of Northern Wisconsin is concerned. There is really very little difference in climate. The at-

mosphere is dryer in winter and the cold and wind are not felt as they are in the more open country south of us. On November 12th last I drove several Fond du Lac and Green Lake county farmers over a part of Marathon county. Everywhere we went they wondered to see the cattle feeding on good pasturage. They had little idea of the country but what surprised them most was the good pasturage. They told me their pastures had given out some time before.

Oats and barley, very necessary crops for a dairy and stock country, are among our best crops. I will speak of them more fully later on. All root crops do well clear to the northern limits of the state. Pumpkins, squashes, and vegetables of that kind are also a sure crop, as are flint and forage corn.

So we have all the essentials for a great dairy country; water in abundance, the best of pasturage and winter feed. During the past six years more and more attention has been paid to dairying and all through our southern district creameries have been put in, many of them on the co-operative plan. All are paying investments and a great source of education to our farmers. Wherever located, they have incited the farmers on to better methods of farming and to an improvement and enlargement of their cattle herds.

To show how the co-operative creameries are working, I have the figures of the amount of butter manufactured in the four months of April, May, June and July, 1900 and 1901, in four Marathon county creameries. For these months, in 1900, 62,501 pounds of butter were manufactured; in 1901 the record was 100,447 pounds. I took these months because they were the only ones for which I had the figures for all these creameries. The first co-operative creamery built in our county was in 1898. We now have about fifteen. At first none of them ran during the winter months; today a number run the year round and the output is continually increas-

ing What is true of Marathon, is true, I understand, of a number of counties in this southern belt. Cheese factories are not so numerous, although a few have already established a name for their products. In 1895 Prof. Henry predicted that Northern Wisconsin would rank as one of the greatest cheese centers in America, if not in the world. He based this prediction largely on the pure cold water supply in which we excel the districts further south, while at the same time we have all the other requirements which they have for a cheese country. He says further "while southern Minnesota, southern Wisconsin, northern Illinois and Iowa, will remain the great centers of butter production for this country, these districts cannot hope to compete with northern Wisconsin in the quality of cheese which may be produced there, for the reason that in this great butter region the summer days are hot and the water which the cows must drink becomes quite warm; these conditions shut this region out forever from entering into serious competition with our new north in the manufacture of cheese of the highest grade." I do not dare set myself up against such high authority as Prof. Henry but from what expert butter buyers tell me about our home butter think we are going to join you southerners and become a part of "the great center of butter production." More of our farmer boys will have to attend the agricultural school at Madison before we can hope to be annexed to this center.

Stock raising for beef requires corn in addition to the crops spoken of as requisite for a dairy country. We have always raised flint corn with success as far back as I can remember, but it is only in recent years that our farmers have realized that they could raise dent corn to advantage. However, for a number of years the successful growers of this product have increased. Three years ago at the state fair I had several varieties of this corn from Marathon county.

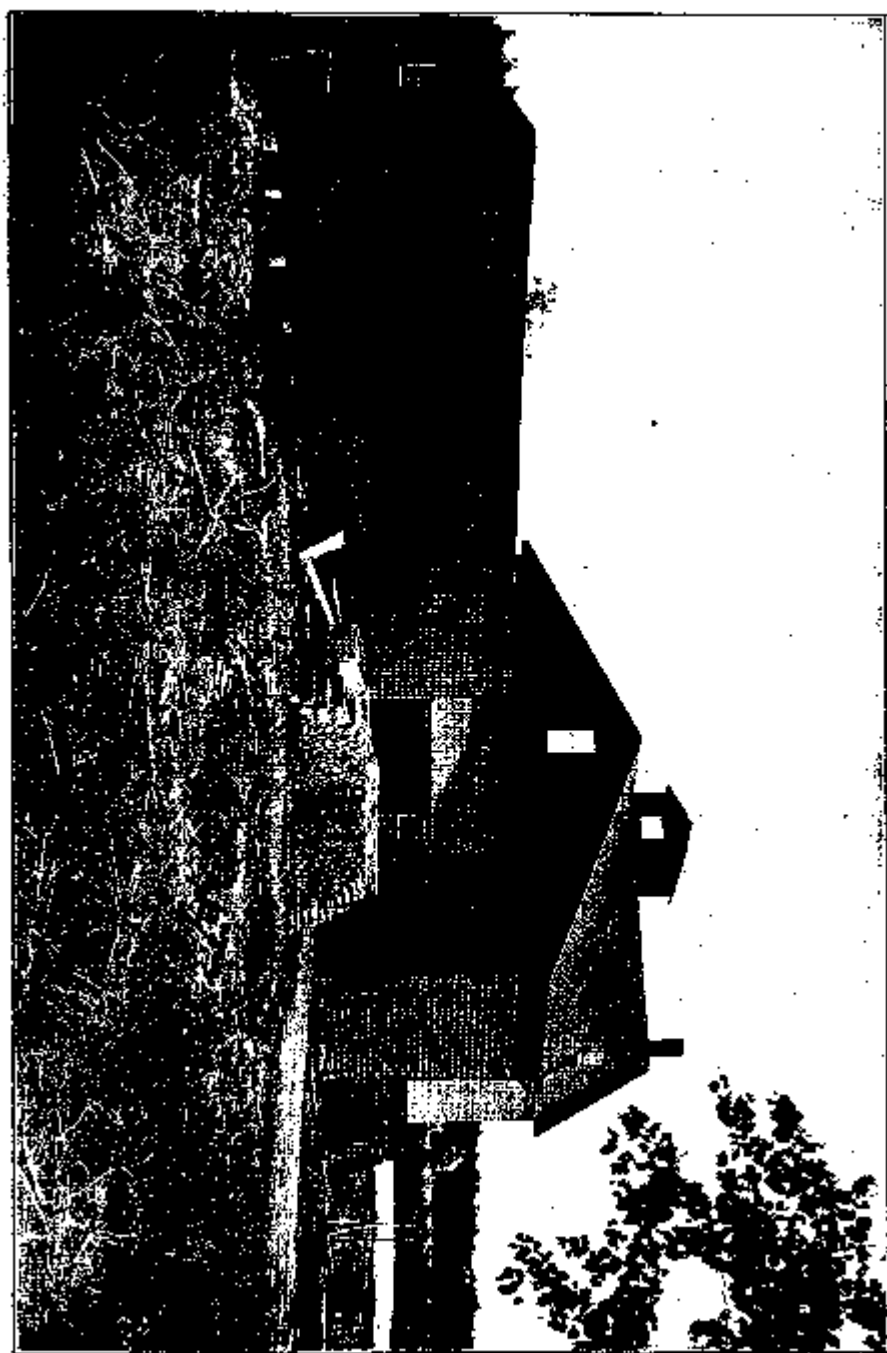
One day I found my wife, who was helping to look after the exhibit, ready to fight with a southern Wisconsin farmer who accused her of packing the caucus, by importing this corn. He said he had been in Northern Wisconsin and they had stumps there as high as the corn stalks were, but he knew they never raised that corn there. Some of this disputed corn came from the farm of W. H. and S. M. Quaw, of Wausau, and they have had good crops off it for the past three years to my knowledge. I have a few ears of this corn grown last year. They planted nineteen acres and harvested over 2000 bushel baskets of ear corn. The land it grew on is the mixed clay and sand soil. An old Milwaukee farmer pacified my wife by telling her that when he came to that county dent corn was considered an impossible crop. The problem seems to be to get the proper varieties and then to stick to them. The southern part of the district I am speaking of is in the same latitude as the great short horn breeding district of Ontario, Canada. I think I am safe in predicting a future beef region here.

My article is lengthening out so I will be brief in considering the question of sheep and swine. Much of our cut over lands are peculiarly adapted to sheep raising and they have already been imported in large numbers. The state agricultural college has been largely instrumental in bringing this matter to the front, and there is no doubt as to a successful result.

The dent corn question has a close relation to the raising of swine, but the possibilities in this line are not to be compared with the dairy, sheep and cattle proposition.

As before stated oats and barley are staples. Forty bushels of oats per acre has been the average in Marathon county the past two years on all classes of farm land, and in counties in the southern belt spoken of, where there are hardwood lands, this average should hold up. I rank barley as almost as profitable a crop as oats, al-

HICKERSON FOLLER VILLA, GRANTSBURG, WISCONSIN.



though not nearly so largely grown, rye ranking next. While some of our farmers raise good crops of wheat I do not believe it a good crop to tie to.

Peas and beans are a good crop, but not largely grown, except for the home market.

Root crops I have already spoken of. Our Northern Wisconsin sweet corn should not be overlooked. It is a well known fact that the farther north sweet corn can be raised the better the flavor is. It is a sure crop and cannery men can get the raw material up north.

Small fruits grow wild all over Northern Wisconsin. When the Michigan and Southern Wisconsin crop of strawberries play out, the people in this southern belt get the fresh berries from our home growers. The supply is increasing, but as yet does not equal the home demand. In a few years you will see the Milwaukee and Chicago markets furnished with Northern Wisconsin strawberries for three weeks after the southern crop is only a preserved memory. Last year at the State Fair my county showed 43 varieties of apples, about 20 of crabs and 11 of plums. While Wisconsin is not an apple state, certain parts of our northern district are going to show as good apple crops as our southern Wisconsin neighbors. We need home grown stock and varieties tried and found proper for our climate. Our best orchards are found where the land has a north slope and the sun cannot start the sap too early. Trees in such orchards do not winter kill. Wood county, which is geographically in the southern half of the state, would protest at being classed anywhere except with Northern Wisconsin. This county furnishes a large part of the Wisconsin cranberry output.

Waupaca and Portage counties make us all think of potatoes. Their potato raising is a business in itself. This crop grows from one end of the state to the other. On some of our lighter soils it is the best crop raised. I have with me some potatoes, grown

by Fred Davis at Mercer, Iron county. He raised 600 bushels on sand land and sold nearly all his crop to lumbermen, who took the potatoes direct from him at an average of 80 cents a bushel. He started to plant May 15th, and was at it a month, working at odd times. The crop was dug in September and October, and he had no trouble with frost.

Perhaps you may think I have pictured the promised land with the exception of the honey, and Northern Wisconsin bees furnish this abundantly from our splendid clover fields and basswood groves. But remember, I started out by calling your attention to the different classes of land and I don't want you to forget the poor lands. There never was a country without some poor lands. To my mind, some of the write ups of Northern Wisconsin hurt the country; some flowery ones I have seen could well be applied to the Garden of Eden. They make one think of the copy-righted wedding notice, where the bride is always "one of our city's handsomest and most accomplished daughters."

If you look at our country from the car windows, remember the railroads generally run along the sandy river bottoms, and where they do run through good land, they have generally set fire to it and left a waste of charred trees, so uninviting that it is usually the last to be settled and cleared up.

A settler should not buy any land without seeing it, or having a trusted person see it for him. There are now no more free homes to be found on our western prairie lands and northern Wisconsin offers the best home the settler can find for the money asked. We are in the same latitude as northern New York, New Hampshire and Vermont. With the exception of beech we have the same timber they had in their forests, but we have not the rough mountainous surface which characterized their timber region.

The farmers of Marathon county,

GRANTSBURG, WIS. LOOKING EASTWARD ON MADISON AVENUE AND NORTH AND SOUTH ON OAK STREET.



who came there with nothing but good health and determination, have \$700,000 on deposit in the Wausau banks. It may seem hard clearing up a timber country, but patient industry is here always well rewarded. In the new north is a diversity of well paid labor for each season of the year and abundance of cheap building material not found in prairie regions. The result is a healthy vigorous people, with good homes and farms rapidly increasing in value, conditions which must produce sturdy, industrious and liberty loving citizens.

State Land in Burnett County.

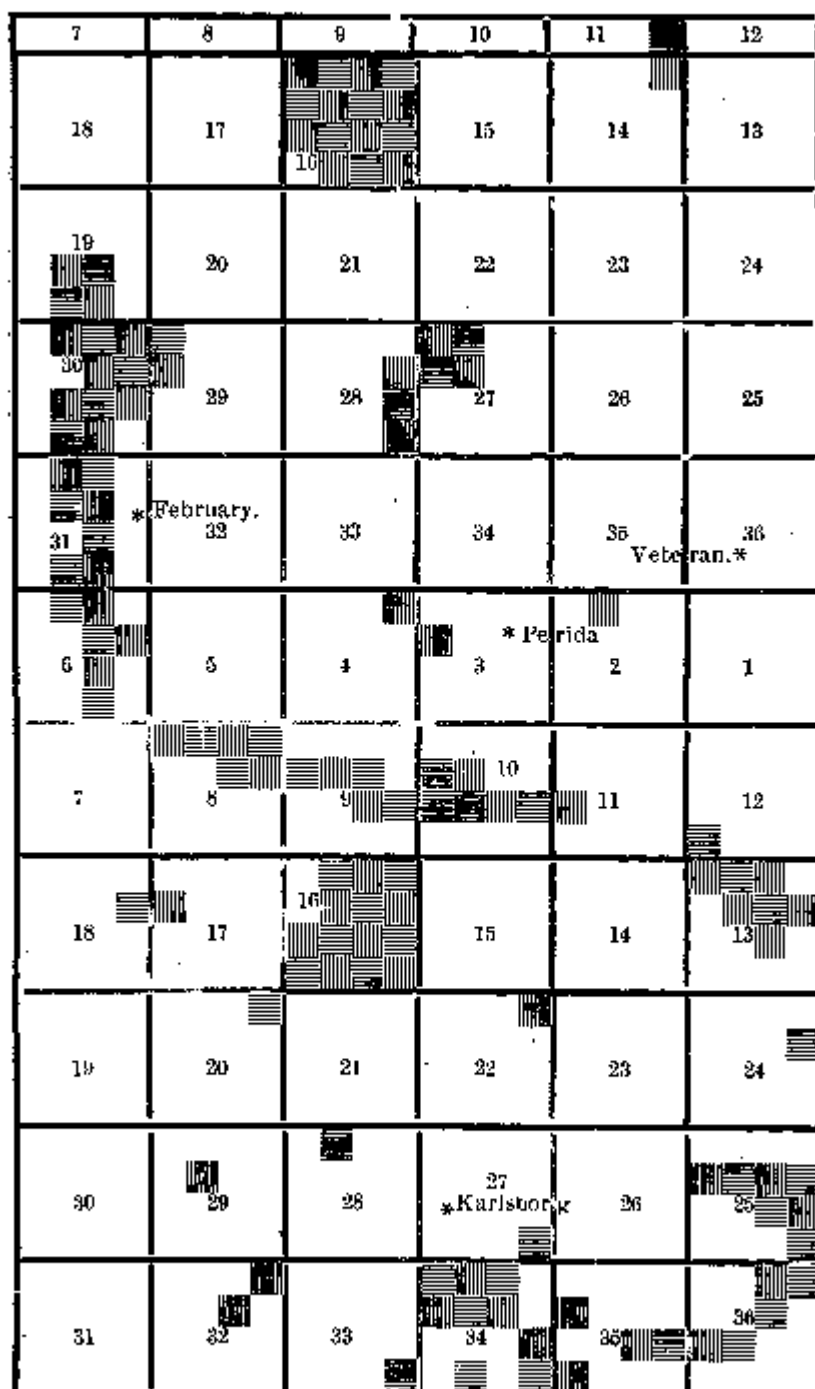
Township	Range	Acres
37	19	1,851.76
37	20	1,935.72
38	14	120.
38	15	1,259.91
38	16	619.78
38	17	326.99
38	18	527.84
38	19	1,340.
39	14	1,546.88
39	15	1,991.94
39	16	937.75
39	17	3,446.95
39	18	1,156.05
39	19	520.
40	14	401.19
40	15	864.12
40	16	1,566.86
40	17	1,869.45
40	18	2,846.09
40	19	177.80
41	14	320.
41	15	977.55
41	16	901.92
41	17	456.21
42	14	939.38
42	15	1,685.96

Total 30,627.70

School lands in section 16, 5,828.24

Swamp lands 24,798.46

The above table shows the amount of land which the state of Wisconsin owns in Burnett County and how it is distributed by townships about the county. The diagram on the opposite page shows how the land is distributed in two townships. At the time of printing this page the state lands are still out of market and no time fixed when they will again be placed on sale.



The shaded portions of the above diagram show the land owned by the State of Wisconsin in township 39, range 17 and township 40 range 17. Clam River enters this part of the county in section 13, town 39, and runs through the state land to the northwest for a distance of ten miles, leaving town 40 in section 19.

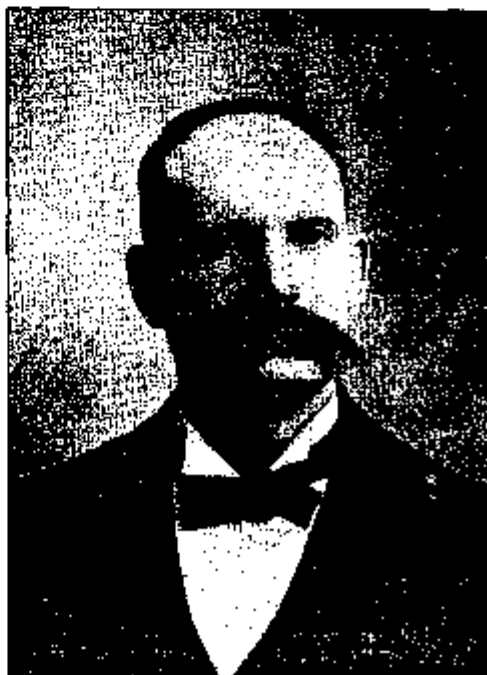
HON. PETER A. ANDERSON.



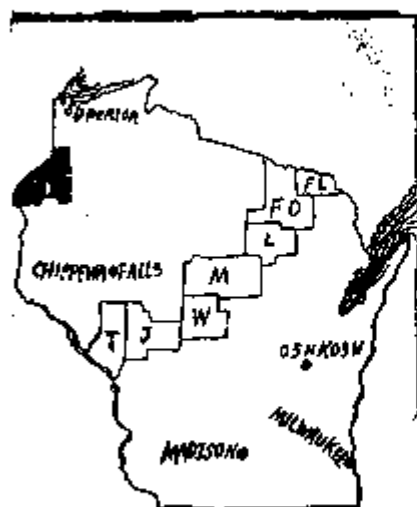
No man living in Burnett county at the present time has been more closely identified with the settlement and advancement of the county than Peter A. Anderson. With a large family he removed from Norway to what was then Polk county and in 1862 settled on a homestead which is now a part of the village of Grantsburg. When Burnett county was organized the governor appointed him to serve as the first chairman of the county board and for many years he held various county, town and village offices. He is nearly eighty years of age, hale and hearty and still active in promoting the best interests of the county. He has been president of the Burnett county fair more than half the time for the past twenty-five years. He has several good farms and village residences and is a living exponent of the fact that an industrious man can become wealthy in Burnett county.

HON. CANUTE OLSON.

There is now no white person living in Burnett county who was here when Canute Olson came to the county in 1854. He was then a boy six years of age and came from Norway with his mother to make his home with his mother's brother, Canute Anderson, the founder of Burnett county. At the present time he is engaged in the real estate and farm implement business but the greater part of his life has been given to conducting a general merchandise store. He has held many positions of trust and honor in the county and at the present time is the chairman of the county republican committee. He was postmaster of the first postoffice established in Burnett county, was the first clerk of court and for ten years was county judge. In town and village affairs he has held nearly every office within the gift of his fellow citizens.



General County Information



What the Settler Wants

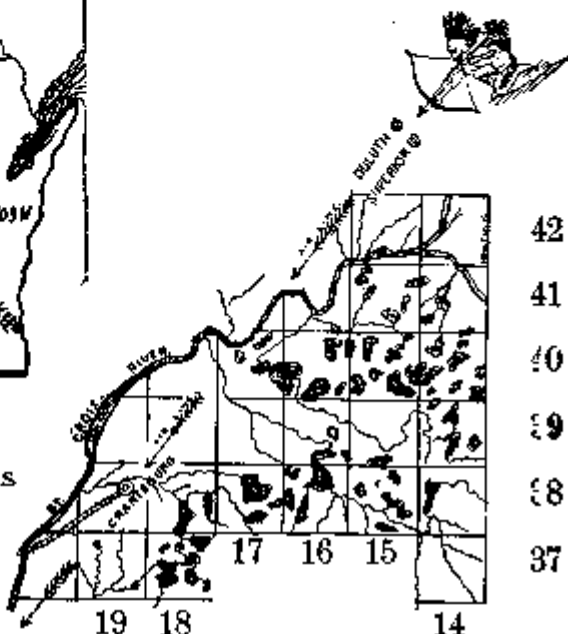
to know.

Climate, Soil.

Markets,

Railroads,

Lakes.



Map of Wisconsin and Burnett county showing the location of the county in the state and the air line between Superior and St. Paul, passing directly through Grantsburg.

The purpose for which this book is published is to attract the attention of farmers of moderate circumstances to the agricultural resources of Burnett county and the opportunity to acquire good farms for a small price. At the present time there are enough merchants and professional men within the county to supply the wants of a much larger population. There are opportunities for manufacturing along many lines but even these opportunities are not likely to be much developed until the population of the county increases considerable. The factories will come afterwards.

Lands are cheap now because of their distance from the railroads. Railroads are few because the population has been such that it was not

profitable to build into unoccupied territory. Conditions are changing and the time is rapidly approaching when more railroads must build into Burnett county, opening to close communication with the outside world a territory now sparsely settled but rich in resources.

In the preparation of this book it has been found impossible to prepare the copy and revise it so that all the subjects treated could be considered under separate headings. As the printers have called for copy it has been prepared, turned over to them and printed a few pages at a time so that the arrangement has not been as systematic as would have been the case had it all been written before a line of it was put in type.



THE VILLAGE OF GRANTSBURG, WIS., FROM THE
NORTH SIDE LOOKING NORTHEAST TOWARDS THE
SCHOOL HOUSE.

In sending it out it is supposed that those who are interested will read every line of it carefully and thus obtain all the information it is possible to give about the county. If you are not a resident of the county and wish to know whether it is a good county to move to, do not write to some one in the county for information until you are satisfied that somewhere in this book the information you are seeking is not given.

WHAT THE SETTLER WANTS

The farmer looking for a new location generally considers that the soil, climate and markets are the most important things for him to know about. Society, schools, churches, taxes, politics, roads, etc., are things which are of secondary importance to the three things first named.

CLIMATE.

People who live in many climates all agree that no climate is without its drawbacks. What suits one person may not suit another and this search for a perfect climate is one of the causes for so much moving on the part of the American people.

Those who have experienced many climates find that what the thermometer says does not always indicate the pleasantness nor the disagreeableness of the weather. The writer has experienced many days in Northern states, when the thermometer indicated below forty and yet not once has he suffered with the cold so

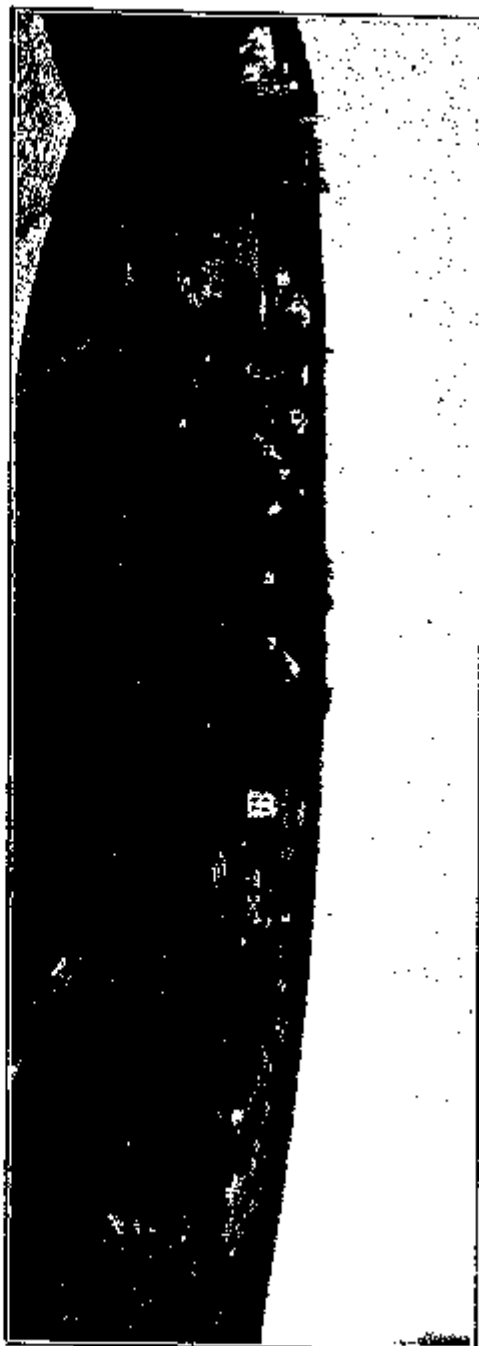
much as in states further south when it was zero weather. The dryness of the atmosphere has much to do with ones being able to enjoy cold weather in Northern Wisconsin and the cheapness of fuel also helps one to appreciate the fact that it does not cost as much to keep warm here as it does in some warmer climates.

We have warm weather; and cold weather, dry weather and wet weather, but we have none of the excessive cold of the frigid zones, none of the oppressive heat of the torrid zones, none of the drouths of the western plains nor any of the wet weather of the coast countries. On the whole the climate is very desirable and is far ahead of the prairie portions of the west, as we do not have the winds which are so disagreeable there both in the spring and fall.

Our winter storms are sometimes bad but they are very mild affairs compared with the prairie blizzards. No person who has ever experienced a prairie blizzard has any fault to find with our winters. Hot, scorching winds are unknown and drouth seldom causes even a partial crop failure in Burnett county.

SOIL.

There is no place in the world where a greater variety of soil can be found than in Burnett county. We have light sandy lands and very heavy clay lands. There are very low swamp lands and high rocky hills. In a general way there is a division of the county so that each part of the county has one character of soil predominating but there is also such a mixture that one can in almost any part of the county find a section where all kinds of soil are to be found close together. In some cases all are found on one forty acre tract, but this condition is quite rare. In the southern part of the county



VILLAGE OF GRANTSBURG LOOKING NORTHWEST
FROM THE TOP OF THE SCHOOL HOUSE.

and extending across the northern part of Polk county there are found high hills



SPIRIT LAKE, TOWN OF TRADE LAKE.

and large rocks in which have been found gold, silver and copper, but as yet nothing that has amounted to much in the way of profitable mining. Around these hills and to the north the land is clay and there is much heavy hardwood timber still standing.

In the northern part of the county and along the western side there is a great deal of sandy land and between the sand and clay portions of the county are found many swamps. The central and eastern portions of the county are quite irregular in the character of the soil. There you find the heavy clay lightly mixed with sand or a sand that is lightly mixed with clay. Some portions have a sand surface with a clay or hardpan subsoil while in the extreme western part of the county water is generally found before you reach clay in going down from the top.

The St. Croix river flows through the two northernmost townships of the county and then for more than fifty miles forms the western boundary of the county. On the eastern side of the river there is a sand strip varying in width from one to ten miles and extending nearly to the head of the river in adjoining counties.

It is this sand strip which is commonly called the "sand barrens" and which gives so many people an impression that our county is a sand county. The one railroad in the county runs through the sand barrens its entire length, a distance of twelve miles and ends at Grantsburg, the county seat, five miles from the St. Croix river and on the edge of the heavy clay hardwood country. A person coming in by rail sees the worst part of the county.

The sand is so spread out over the county that strangers easily form the opinion that the greater part of the county is sandy. Such is not the case. Even old settlers are surprised to find that portions of the county that they have looked upon as "sand barrens" contain much land that has clay enough in the soil to make it much heavier than they have thought. The uses and value of the different kinds of land will be discussed elsewhere and it is sufficient here to say that you may come to Burnett county assured that you will find the kind of soil you want.

At the present time the lands in the hardwood portion of the county sell for the highest price, the meadow lands are next and the sand lands are lowest in price.

MARKETS AND RAILROADS.

Markets are usually determined by the nearness of the settler to a railroad and at the present time but one railroad has been built into the county. This is a branch of the Northern Pacific running from Rush City, Minn., on the Duluth Short Line, eastward to Grantsburg, the county seat of Burnett county. The branch is seventeen miles long with twelve miles of the distance in Burnett county.

The "Soo Line" has a branch extending from Dresser Junction, in Polk county, northeastward to within three miles of Burnett county. The station at the end of this branch is known as Frederic and is eighteen miles southeast of Grantsburg.



WOOD LAKE, SIX MILES SOUTHEAST OF GRANTSBURG.



THE JOURNAL OFFICE CORNER PINE STREET
AND MADISON AVENUE, GRANTSBURG

The Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha R. R. has a line from St. Paul to Duluth passing just east of Burnett county. It runs within two miles of the southeastern corner of the county and is within twelve miles of the northeastern corner.

There is no part of the county that is more than 25 miles away from one of these three railroads and yet the wagon roads are such that the people in the northern part of the county find it more convenient to go to Grantsburg, forty miles away, than to cross the swamps, lakes and rivers that lie between them and the "Omaha" railroad a few miles to the east. Grantsburg is thus the market town for considerable over half of the county at the present time.

The settlement of the county has been in such an increasing ratio that the farmer in the remote parts of the county has found that it was more profitable to sell what he raised to the new settler than to take it many miles to a market no better than he found right at home. Ever since the county was first settled there has been a sufficient number of lumber camps in operation every winter to use all of the products raised by the settlers living more than a dozen miles from the railroads. Up to the present time the farmer who has used a little forethought in selecting the crops best adapted to his local market has found a ready sale for what he has raised and the price has always been good. Last winter the price of potatoes was so high that it paid farmers living thirty miles from the railroad to take this product to the town markets. Ordinarily it has not

paid to raise potatoes so far away except for the home market.

Whatever else may be said about the crops which can be raised in Burnett

county the intending settler should not lose sight of the fact that the cow is the thing which all must tie to for the most practical results. All kinds of stock do well and yet there is nothing so reliable as the cow. Whether the cow farmer works to sell beef, butter or cheese the point is the same. He must plan his crops so that his profit will come through the cow. Should Burnett county always remain isolated from railroads the cow will furnish a condensed product that can be taken a long distance to market at little cost.

The man who settles near the railroads will find a good market for all he raises right from the start, but he who goes way back must plan for future results or a condensed product at the start.

Those who have given the subject careful thought are convinced that some day there will be more railroads in the county than the local people will need, as it is the natural route for future building of the Chicago-St. Paul lines which require an outlet to the head of the lakes. Our market of the future is one that must in the very nature of things be the very best in the Northwest. It is very good now.

THE RIVERS.

The water courses of Burnett county are well worth considering. Burnett county is a land without poor water. It is filled with rivers, creeks, springs and lakes of the purest water ever known. On page 17 of this book is a small map which gives a good idea of the water supply of the county. As previously stated, the St. Croix river forms more than fifty miles of the western boundary of the county. There are six other good sized rivers in the county. Four of these, Namekagon, Yellow, Chippewa and Wood, empty into the



LOOKING WEST ON MADISON AVENUE AND SOUTH ON PINE STREET, FROM THE JOURNAL OFFICE.

St. Croix within the county and all rise in other counties. Totogatic is a branch of the Namekagon. Trade river, although it runs more than fifteen miles within the borders of the county, rises in Polk county and empties into the St. Croix in the county in which it originates.

The Totogatic enters the county six miles south of the northeast corner of the county and empties into the Namekagon five miles above the mouth of the latter. The Totogatic is more than forty miles in length and yet but three miles of the river is in Burnett county.

The Namekagon rises in Bayfield county, follows a winding course through Sawyer and Washburn counties and after flowing more than a hundred miles empties into the St. Croix within five miles of the north line of Burnett county. This river crosses the county line two miles south of where the Totogatic enters the county and is crooked enough to get about ten miles of its waters within the county.

Following the county line southward twelve miles Yellow river is crossed. This stream rises east of Spooner and flows a distance of sixty miles before it reaches the St. Croix river. The mouth is about 15 miles southwest of the Namekagon.

The course of the river is to the northwest until it reaches Yellow lake in the center of the county. It then flows through both Big and Little Yellow lakes and turns to the northeast a distance of eight miles before it enters the St. Croix.

Seventeen miles farther down the St. Croix is the mouth of the Clam river. Twenty miles southeast of its mouth it comes out of Clam lake, a fine sheet of water, four miles in length and a mile wide. Above the lake the river consists of numerous branches some of them more



GRANTSBURG ROLLER MILL AND DAM LOOKING FROM THE WEST.



THE GRANTBURG STARCH FACTORY IN 1893 LOOKING NORTH FROM JOURNAL OFFICE.



SCENE ON CLAM RIVER LOOKING WEST FROM SINCLAIR CROSSING BRIDGE, 17 MILES NORTH OF GRANTSBURG

than thirty miles long. They drain the entire southeastern part of the county and come from the counties of Polk, Barron and Washburn.

The mouth of Wood river is fully twenty miles southwest of the mouth of Clam river. Wood river rises in northern Polk county, flows northwest and then southwest and runs nearly twenty-five miles in the county. Its total length is nearly forty miles.

Twenty miles down the St. Croix from the mouth of Wood river is the mouth of Trade river. This stream has numerous head waters in Polk county and is about thirty-five miles in length. It flows north, east, southeast and south and half the distance is in Burnett county.

The peculiar feature of the streams of this county is that no matter where they may head they all flow towards the center of the county and after passing the center they turn away from each other and empty into

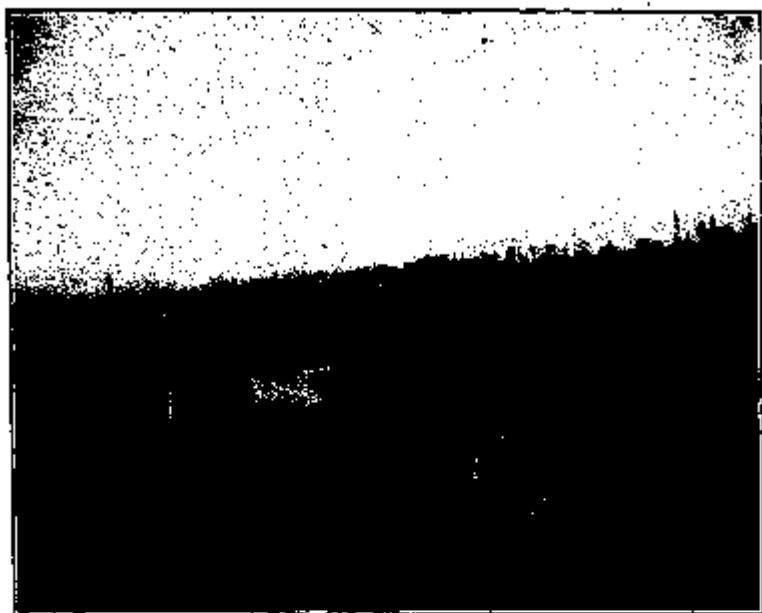
the St. Croix many miles apart. The waters of Wood and Yellow rivers at one place are within ten miles of each other and yet their mouths are forty miles apart.

For more than a dozen miles Clam and Yellow rivers run parallel, the distance apart varying from two to four miles.

AN OLD LAKE BED.

It is easy to believe that nearly all of Burnett county was at one time a great lake, and the swamps, meadows and small lakes that now exist were the bottoms of the "deep holes" and the present streams were channels of great currents flowing through the great lake.

This lake, if it ever existed, must have been drying up for ages by natural processes. Within the memory of the present residents of the county, lakes have changed to marshes, marshes to meadow lands and meadow lands have become good dry plow lands.



SCENE NEAR THE MOUTH OF CLAM RIVER LOOKING UP STREAM FROM AIR LINE SURVEY AND TOWARDS THE RAPIDS.

Man is at work now continuing this drying process and the county is undergoing many changes. There are but few swamps in the county that will not at some time in the future be reclaimed and turned into profitable farm land. What is being done along this line will be touched upon in another part of this book.

LAKES.

Burnett is a county filled with lakes but the distribution is not even. The lakes that at one time were numerous in the western part of the county have dried up and are classed as swamps. But few of these swamps have any timber and are more properly called meadows. Within fifteen miles of the county seat there are more than 15,000 acres of these meadows perfectly free of timber and requiring nothing but ditching to make the whole thing good hay producing land.

That these meadows were at one time lakes is quite certain. There are a number of little lakes scattered

about through these meadows but they are all shallow and when the meadows are properly ditched these lakes will undoubtedly dry up.

A line drawn across the map from the mouth of Yellow river to the mouth of Trade river would so divide the county that practically all the lakes would be east of that line.

The finest lake in the county, if not the finest in the state, is Yellow lake. Its waters are found in eleven different sections, the lake being divided into two parts. The larger body of water is nearly round and about two and a half miles across. It is filled with fish of all kinds, even to the Lake Superior white fish. Should a railroad ever touch Yellow lake there is no reason why it would not become one of the finest summer resorts in the west. Other lakes are Webb, Birch Island, McKenzie, Sand, Big Sand, Devils, Clam, Mudhen, Spirit, Wood and Trade. Besides these are many smaller lakes equal in beauty but not

A FIELD OF CORN AND PUMPKIN.





RESIDENCE OF J. H. JENSEN, REAL ESTATE DEALER, GRANTSBURG, WISCONSIN.

quite so large. The territory between the Yellow and Namekagon rivers is almost a complete network of lakes and directly east of the mouth of Yellow river is a chain of lakes known as Loon Lakes. This chain is connected for many miles by inlets and outlets which with the lakes form what is known as Loon Creek.

There is no uniformity in the lakes with the exception that the water is pure and there are no stagnant ponds in the county. Unfortunately there has been no system pursued in naming the lakes and in some cases the names have been duplicated five or six times. A very large majority of the lakes have portions of the shore line which are free from grass and rushes, forming a fine beach, but occasionally a lake is found which has no good shore line and a large portion of the surface is covered with lily pads, rushes, grass, etc. Nearly all of the lakes are filled with fine fish and into many of the lakes run swift little streams in which the speckled trout is found.

The water supply of the county has much to do with the climate and so marked is the effect of the lakes in the northeastern part of the county that

the "no frost" period is frequently a month longer than at the county seat.

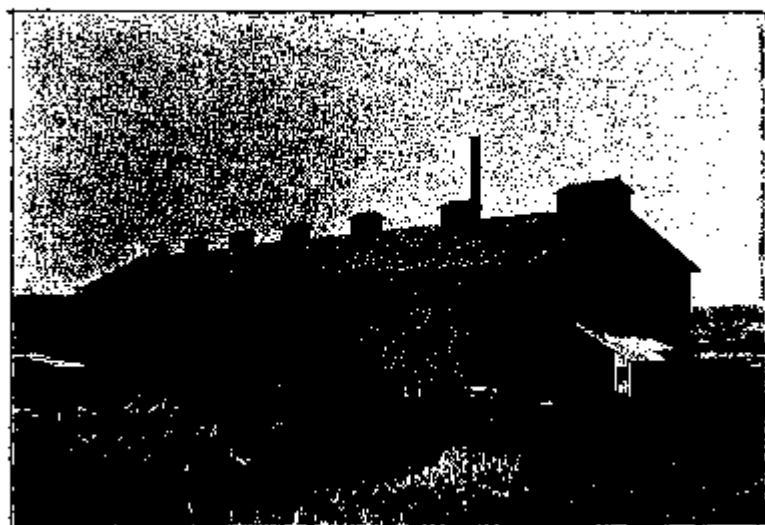
While the lakes add much to the charms of the county they are not without their disadvantages as they increase the distance between points very materially. This is a disadvantage that time will to a large extent overcome. As the county gets closer settled more ditching will be done, more roads and bridges will be built and the distances will be shortened.

MAPS OF THE COUNTY.

For many years it was impossible to get a map showing nothing but Burnett county. State maps showed the county with the rest of the state but failed to give the information which homeseekers desired. There were no details showing roads, small streams, schools, churches, etc. Later a few blue print maps were issued but this supply was soon exhausted. The little map which appears on page 17 of this book was the only map used to advertise the county up to the summer of 1901, when James H. Jensen, of Grantsburg, got out a very complete map in three sizes. One of these, 24x28 inches, sells for fifty cents, and every person who wishes to know the county



A FIELD OF SORGHUM.



FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE STARCH FACTORY, MADISON AVENUE, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

well should invest in one. It will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States or Canada for fifty cents. Address, Secretary of Board of Immigration, Grantsburg, Wis.

The cost of this map makes it impossible to send it out with this book, therefore the little map is inserted and described in such a way that the description may apply to either map. Both maps are numbered down the right hand side to show the number of the townships and across the bottom to show the numbers of the ranges. The ranges run north and south and the townships east and west. To many almost any part of the county is as well known by number as by name. There is, perhaps, but one exception to this rule and that is township 37, range 18, which is the only town in the county which consists of but one congressional township. That is known as Trade Lake and is the name of the town and also of the postoffice in the town. When referred to by number it is spoken of as "Town 37-18."

Each township is six miles wide north and south and each range is six miles wide east and west. Wherever

a township and range cross the territory thus intersected consists of thirty-six sections each a mile square and these thirty-six sections are known as a congressional township. To distinguish them the number of the tier of townships and the number of the row of ranges is both given. Trade Lake is in (37) the township which crosses Burnett county on its southern edge and it is in (18) the fifth row of ranges from the eastern side, hence it takes the number of both, 37-18.

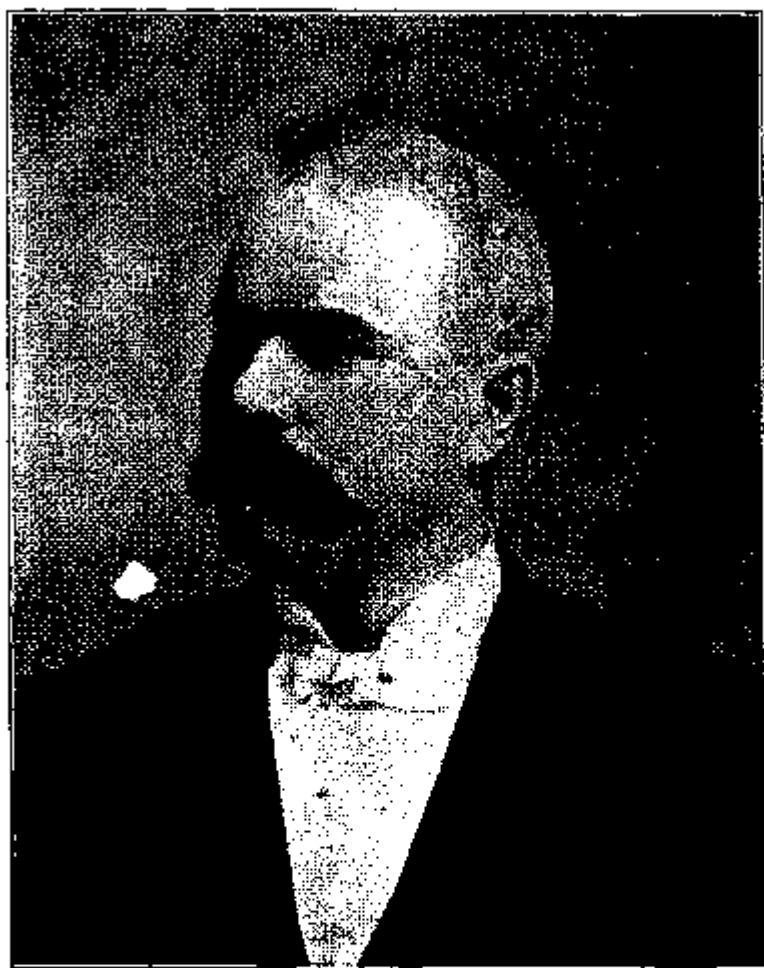
In Burnett county there are twenty full and ten fractional congressional townships. Of the fractional township, four are nearly full size, two are about half size, one contains but a few acres and the other three have but two or three sections.

LAND OFFICES.

That part of the county north of township 40 is in what is known as the Ashland Land Office District. All south of township 41 belongs to the Eau Claire District. All business relating to government lands in the county has to pass through the land office at Ashland or Eau Claire before being sent to Washington. Almost any matter relating to the govern-



A SAMPLE LOT OF BURNETT COUNTY PRODUCTS.



HON. OLE ERICKSON, MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY AND POSTMASTER. GRANTSBURG.

ment lands, especially entries and final proofs, can be handled through the offices of the county judge or clerk of courts at the county seat and seekers after government land in this part of the county are not obliged to go to Ashland or Eau Claire.

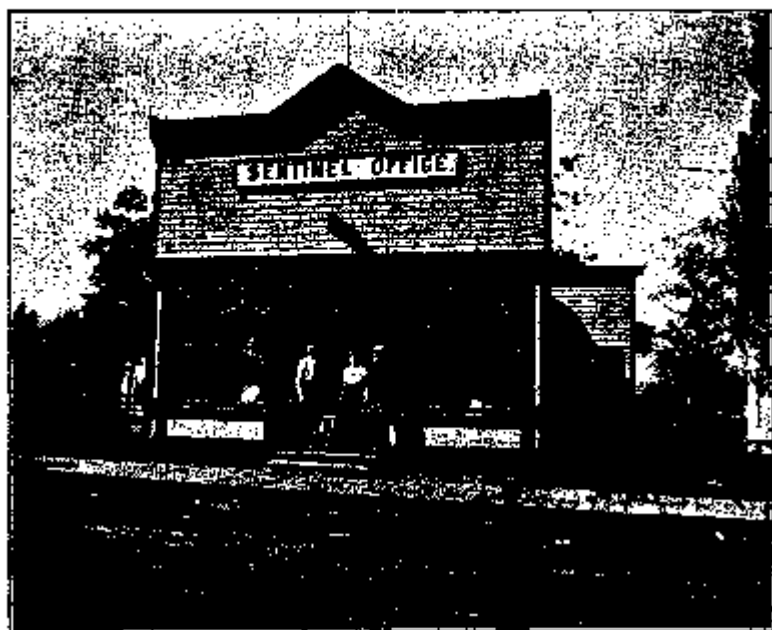
Business relating to state lands is transacted through the State Land Department at Madison. These lands at the present time are withdrawn from market.

The only railroad land in the county is owned by the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railroad. The

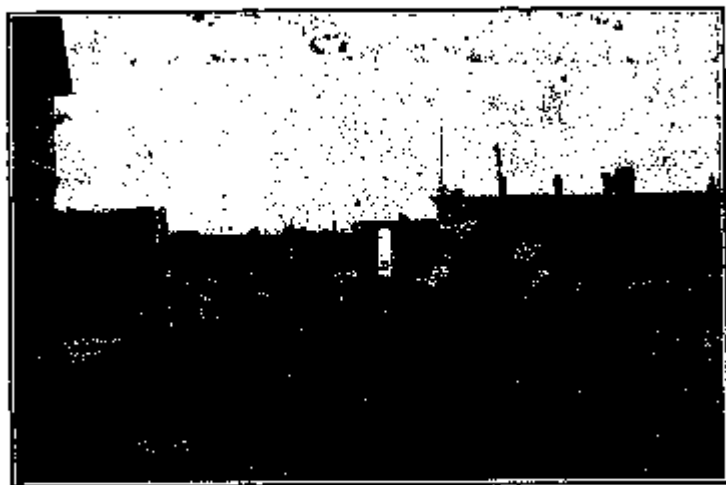
business is handled through G. W. Bell, Land Commissioner, Hudson, Wis.

There is more or less land in the county owned by speculators. Some of this land is for sale and has been listed with real estate dealers. The largest amount of land controlled by one firm is what is known as the "Baker Lands" and these are handled principally through the Cushing Land Agency, of St. Croix Falls, Wis.

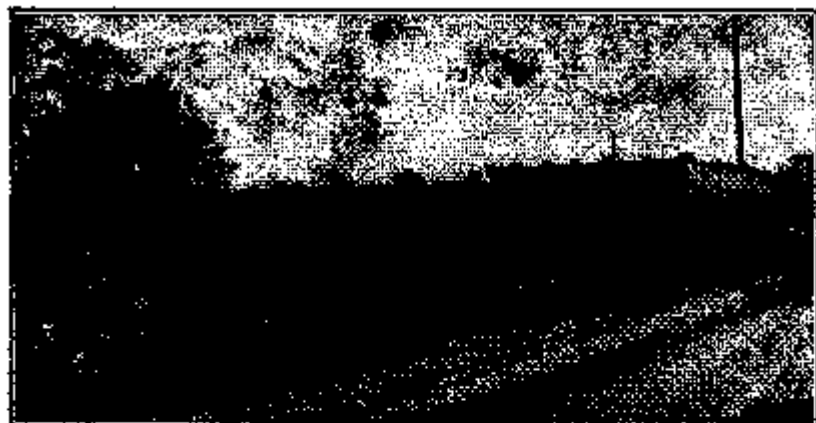
The Secretary of the Board of Immigration at Grantsburg endeavors to keep posted on all the lands of the



OFFICE OF THE BURNETT COUNTY SENTINEL, ON OAK STREET, GRANTSBURG.



VIEW OF OAK STREET LOOKING NORTH FROM THE SENTINEL OFFICE.



GRANTSPURG EXCELSIOR FACTORY

county and aims to supply all inquirers with information when requested but he has no time to answer questions; which are answered in this book. Do not write to him for information until after having carefully read every part of it. He has been a resident of the county for seven years and has made a careful study of the county and yet there are portions of it which he has not visited and can describe in no other way except from hearsay. He has been in every part of the county except the four towns in the extreme northern part of the county, town 41 and 42 ranges 14-15.

A resident of 41-14 has furnished a description of this part of the county and we make room for it here under the heading of

NORTHERN BURNETT.

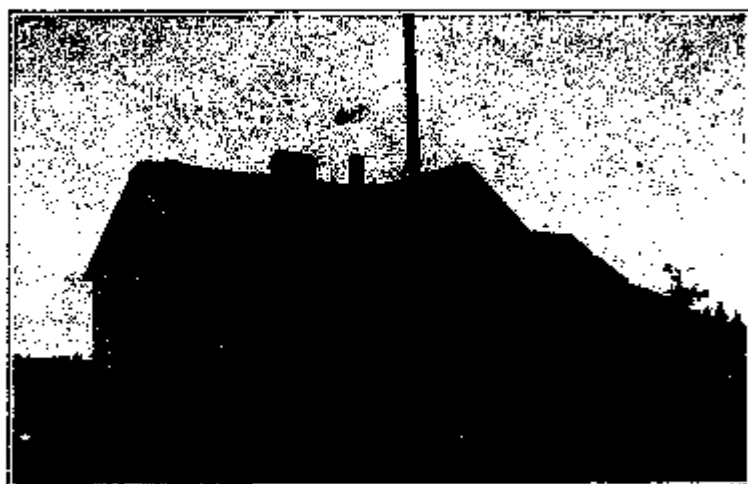
"It is comparatively a short time since the northern tiers of townships in Burnett county attracted the attention of the homeseeker.

"While a few of the oldest settlers have lived in this section of the county four or five years, the largest proportion of them have not been there more than two or three years. Generally these settlers are men of thrift and industry and have set about the task of transforming the wilderness into comfortable homes with inde-

fatigable determination, and where a few years ago there was one unbroken stretch of forest there are now found innumerable fields of corn, oats, potatoes and all kinds of garden vegetables.

"Experiments were made last year by a number of farmers in the locality with peanuts, alfalfa and broomcorn, on a small scale, and the successes attained with each one of these products was such as to induce these farmers to continue the experiments this season on a much larger basis. The outcome of these efforts is being watched with much interest. Should it be found that any one of the above named commodities could be successfully produced in this county it would mark it as destined to soon become one of the most wealthy counties in the northern part of Wisconsin.

"Generally the soil in the northern part of the county is of a sandy nature with a mixture of about thirty per cent clay. The predominant timber found here is jack pine, but in places this is quite heavily interspersed with scrub oak and popple; where the oak and popple abounds there is usually found a subsoil of red clay underlaid with gravel. This subsoil varies in depth from one to four feet from the surface of the ground.



GRANTSBURG CREAMERY

One favorable characteristic of the soil here is that it will stand an unusual amount of dry weather and during the severe dry spells of the past two seasons when crops were suffering for want of moisture on clay soils, they were fresh and green here; during these drouths at no time was the earth dry more than two inches below the surface—proving conclusively that this soil is admirably adapted for retaining moisture. With few exceptions the lands of northern Burnett county are free from stones.

"Lakes of all descriptions abound and the homesteader who has no lake front at his place of residence is out of style here. All these bodies of water (even to the smallest) are alive with fish, affording a source of food supply to the settler during the first year or two of his pioneer life, seldom found in a new country.

"The largest and most notable of the lakes in the northern part of the county are Sand lake, Oak lake, Birch Island lake, Fish lake, Lilly lake, Nicabalen lake, Lost lakes, Frog lake, Bear lake, Webb lake, Sucker lake, Long lake, Twenty-sixth lake, Crooked lake, Loan lake, Staples lake, and even Love lake. Most of these lakes

are without outlets, although a few of the larger ones drain into the Namekagon river. Chief among the last named are the Lost lakes, of which Lilly lake is the first in the chain; this empties into Nicabalen; Nicabalen drains into the first and largest of the Lost lakes, and from this there is a continuous outlet through several smaller lakes into the Namekagon. The fall between the source and outlet of this chain of lakes is sufficient to afford a good drainage and much of the adjacent land which is now too wet to be cultivated, will a few years hence be rich meadows and fields, the fertility of which will be well nigh inexhaustable. Another stretch of country that will become valuable by means of drainage is that lying contiguous to Webb lake. Here, as in the first instance, the fall is ample to drain nearly, if not all, the low lands sufficiently to make them tillable. Further west many of the low and wet lands can be drained into the St. Croix river. A very important factor in connection with the drainage question is that all these lands can be dried up at a very nominal cost.

"In the vicinity of Bear Lake an uplift of black trap rock has been dis-



DOCTORS LAKE CREAMERY

covered, and while it is hard to say what the extent of this ledge may be, the surface indications are that enough granite can be taken out to furnish building material for many years to come. Building rock is also found along the Namakagon river and around many of the lakes.

"Vacant government lands are about a thing of the past in the northern portion of the county, although there are a few choice quarter sections left untaken. These can be located for the new comer by surrounding settlers without much cost as many of these lands have recently been surveyed by the county surveyor. As with the government lands, the railroad lands are nearly all sold, and the intending purchaser of cheap lands should be on the ground at once in order to come in on the home run."

DESCRIBED BY TOWNSHIPS.

There is no better way to impart information about the county than to describe it by townships. The home-seeker after reading the descriptions can pick out the part of the county which he most cares to examine and do his investigating quickly and economically.

TOWNSHIP 42-14.

This is a full township in the ex-

treme northeastern part of the county, has the least actual residents in it and the most railroad land for sale. There is some vacant government land and about 1,000 acres of land owned by the state. The St. Croix, Namekagon and Totogatic rivers are found in this town and along the St. Croix bottoms there is much swamp land. The soil is lighter in character than the next town to the west. The lakes are all small and few in number and on the east side of the St. Croix the streams are all short. On the west side of the St. Croix there are two large creeks, more lakes and more clay and stone. Douglas county lies just north of this township with Washburn county on the east. West of it is

TOWNSHIP 42-15.

And the two form the northern boundary of the county. The west line of 42-15 is also the state and county line. The most important streams in 42-15 are Chases Brook and Upper Tamarac Creek which have been important lumbering streams. There are a number of other good creeks and many swamps as well as hills. Big Island is in this town. At the present time there is considerable interest aroused in copper discoveries here but accu-



FALUN CREAMERY

ate information about what has been found is hard to obtain. Very large stories have been told of the great wealth already discovered and it is not improbable that this corner of the country may develop into a great mining district. The soil here is pretty good in places and many homesteads have been taken but it is not possible to get any figures regarding the population of this township or of the one to the east. It is safe to say that they are the least developed along agricultural lines of any towns in the county. The St. Croix river crosses the southern tier of sections of 42-15 and at the southwest corner of the town begins to form the county and state line. Right here on the Wisconsin side is found a few acres of

TOWNSHIP 42-16

But so little of this township is in this state that few people in the county know that any of it is on the east side of the river.

TOWNSHIP 43-14

Contains Webb Lake as its one important point known to the old time lumberman. It is one of the large lakes of the county. The Namekagon river runs across the northeast corner of the town and McDowell postoffice is in the southeastern corner. A

school house is located near this postoffice.

TOWNSHIP 43-15

Is the next to the west. This also has a postoffice. It is known as Swiss. Many new settlers have moved into this town within two years. At this point is located the finest herd of blooded cattle in the county. They are of the Brown Swiss breed and it is from this herd that the postoffice derives its name. A school house is located near the postoffice within a mile of the St. Croix river. Loon creek and Loon Lakes are also in this town as well as in

TOWNSHIP 43-16

The next township to the west. This is a fractional township containing over twenty sections and near the center is the mouth of Yellow river which receives the waters of Loon creek but a few rods above where it discharges its waters into the St. Croix. About a mile above this point on the St. Croix is an Indian village which is the home of Alex Matrois whose picture is found on page 4 of this book. These Indians are quite civilized, have a school and church and many of them are citizens and very industrious. They are considered among the best hands which can



WOOD RIVER CREAMERY.

be secured for driving logs and are good men in the woods. There are two very fine water powers here. That on Loon creek has sufficient fall to be classed as an actual waterfall while that on Yellow river comes under the head of rapids. There is considerable land here owned by speculators but on the west side of Yellow river are a number of farmers, some of them having taken homesteads there within two or three years. The Glendenning brothers have been located in this town a number of years as farmers and lumbermen and the crops which they have raised furnish ample proof that the soil is very productive.

TOWNSHIP 41-17.

Is the next one to the west. All but about 2,000 acres of this town is on the Minnesota side of the river. It contains a number of new settlers who have been there long enough to know that food crops can be raised. This completes the list of towns which are located in the Ashland Land Office District. The line between towns 40 and 41 is what is known to surveyors as a correction line and the sections north of this line are in this case three-quarters of a mile further west

than the same numbered sections south of the line.

TOWNSHIP 40-14

In this town are no rivers and few creeks but there are many fine lakes and a large number of swamps which can be drained to advantage. McKenzie and Birch Island Lakes are the largest bodies of water found here. Birch Island is an established post-office and the postoffice department has authorized the establishment of another to be known as Gaslyn. Some very well-to-do farmers live in this town and some parts of it has a very heavy clay sub-soil. No finer corn has ever been raised in the corn states than has been grown right in this town. A school house is one of the substantial improvements and one of the largest sawmills in the county is located on Lake Gaslyn near the southern edge. There is very little government, railroad or state land left and the residents are not offering any land for sale at low prices. The nearest railroad station is Spooner on the Omaha road and it is an easy matter to make a trip to town and back the same day.



A JACK PINE FOREST

TOWNSHIP 40-15

This is also a town without a river but Loon creek touches the northern edge of it. Sand Lake is the largest lake and it is a magnificent sheet of water. There are two school houses, a sawmill and pretty good roads. The southwestern corner has the heaviest land but there is not a settler in the town who is not ready to swear that the soil on his farm will raise crops good enough for anyone. A large majority of the residents of this town have been long enough on their claims to secure title to the same and there are several good farms for sale. There is very little state, railroad or government land in the town.

TOWNSHIP 40-16

In this town the extremes meet. There is no finer land in Wisconsin than the greater part of the southern half of this town and there are a few forties in the northern half that will never be very valuable. By contrast

they are quite poor. On the whole this town will average above almost any town in the county. The post-offices are Oakland and Orange and there are several good school houses. Yellow lake is in the southwest corner, Devils lake is on the south side and Loon Lakes are found in the northern part. There are many other fine lakes. Yellow river touches the southwest corner and flows through four sections in the northwestern part. The early settlers have been in this town for fifteen years. There is no railroad land in this town. There is some government land which is mostly sandy but there is a little clay land which can be entered although it is more hilly than some people care to farm. Orange postoffice is the distributing point for six other postoffices and there must be more than 100 patrons of the office. There is considerable hardwood land in the southern



A HUNTING PARTY AT YELLOW LAKE.

part of the town and take it all in all it is a pretty hard town to beat. Farms that are offered for sale are held as high as \$8 and \$10 per acre with the value of improvements added.

TOWNSHIP 40-17.

The central portion of this township is very high and quite sandy. It is crossed by two "tote" roads that run through the poorest part of the township and have been used for forty years by lumbermen going to their camps from the railroads. The large majority of people who traveled these roads for years have always said this was one of the poorest spots in America and would not be settled in a thousand years. They knew nothing of the desirable lands just "off the road," and judged the unseen by the seen.

The St. Croix river forms over half the northern boundary line, Clam river runs along the western edge for three miles and Yellow Lake and Yellow river furnish a magnificent water supply in the eastern part of the town. Bluff and Bass lakes, Doty Brook and a number of un-named

spring brooks in different parts add to the attractiveness of the township.

On page 27 is a partial description of Yellow Lake and on pages 42 and 43 are two pictures of the same lake. The main lake covers about 1,000 acres in the southeastern corner in sections 25 and 26. Little Yellow Lake covers about 500 acres in sections 23, 24, 25 and 26. Yellow River flows through both lakes. The picture on page 42 shows the little lake in the middle foreground with the larger lake in the distance, looking through the opening between the lakes. The scene on page 43 is along the shore near Veteran postoffice.

These pictures with the hunting party on this page give a good idea of the growth of trees and other vegetation along the shore. In this part of the township there are some very fine hardwood trees and considerable clay and swamp land. In 1887 Capt. D. W. Fox located in this town on the shore of the lake. At that time the only other settlement in the town was in the northwest corner in section 6. The St. John lumber camp and stop-



LITTLE YELLOW LAKE LOOKING TOWARDS BIG YELLOW LAKE.

pling place was located there where one of the "tote roads" crossed the St. Croix river. The only other settler in this town for many years was David Sinclair in section 19. A part of the buildings he occupied are shown in the picture on page 26. The large pine tree seen in the center of that picture stands near the west line of the township.

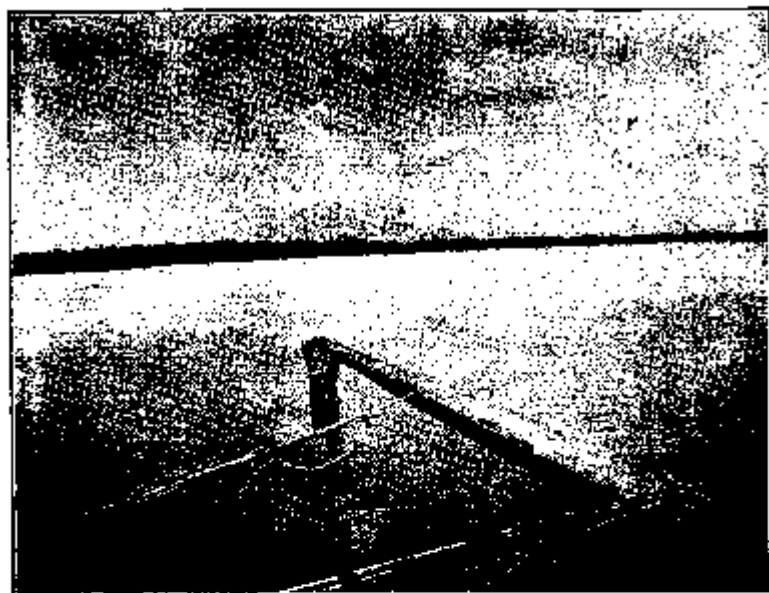
Up to June, 1900, there were but five families living in that part of the township north of the southern tier of sections. The diagram shown on page 44 shows the amount of government land there subject to entry at that time. The diagram on page 45 shows what was still vacant just two years later and a comparison will give a good idea of how rapidly the town has been settled.

The rush for filings in this town began in the early spring of 1901 when several women who had been brought up in the sandiest part of Minnesota and were not afraid of light soil came over to see what the country was like. They were so well pleased that they filed, went home, did missionary work

and sent others to take up land in the same town. Within six months twenty women from Minnesota secured homesteads and they are now getting settled in their new homes. These women are all single. Some of them are widows with families but the majority of them are Minnesota school teachers. These are less than half of those who have taken claims there during the past year and before this book has found its way into general circulation the remaining land will have been taken.

The new settlers are opening up their farms and have already made a good showing. There is some deeded land in the town for sale and nearly 2,000 acres of state land yet to be offered.

Veteran postoffice has been established several years and two other offices are about to be located. There is some clay land and considerable meadow. The majority of the township is sandy but quite level. The Milwaukee air line survey touches the northwest part and the old Burlington survey runs through the eastern part.



YELLOW LAKE FROM WEST SHORE.

The prospect for a railroad through here some day is good.

TOWNSHIP 41-18.

About half of this township is in Minnesota, the St. Croix river forming the division line across the entire town. One-third of the part that is in Wisconsin is a big swamp along the river and the rest is level sand land reaching almost down to the Big Meadows farther south. Up to 1901 there were no settlers in this town except a few families in the extreme southwestern part. The entire remaining portion of the town was either government or swamp land, part of the latter being owned by speculators. Now there is not over 600 acres left in the town subject to homestead entry, 25 filings having been made since 1900. Two postoffices are about to be established here and a store and school will be in operation in the near future.

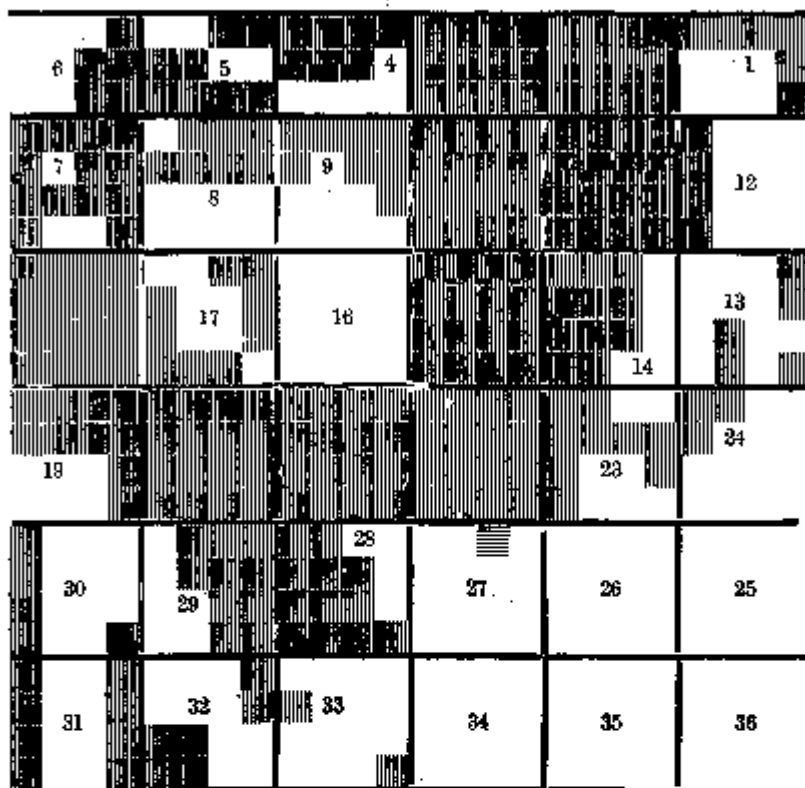
The large swamp along the river is filled with many kinds of small timber which may in time have a value. The greater part of this is owned by the state and when it will be offered for

sale can only be guessed at. The swamp is filled with some very fine springs which keep the ground wet and no doubt when they are brought under control the swamp may be dried out and cultivated.

The Air Line survey runs through this town and should the road ever be built this swamp could be utilized for the cultivation of celery and in time rival the celery fields of any part of the world. At the present time the swamp is looked upon as almost worthless but it contains possibilities which capital may develop into great wealth.

Town 40, ranges 17 and 18, are the youngest towns in the county so far as settlement is concerned, and have been taken up by a class of people who are determined to see what hard work, brains and money can accomplish in the development of a great variety of conditions.

The Clam river near the St. Clair bridge furnishes a splendid chance for the development of electric power when a use is found for it. There is a fine rapids below the Sinclair bridge



THE SHADED PORTION REPRESENTS GOVERNMENT LAND IN TOWNSHIP 40, RANGE 17, SUBJECT TO HOMESTEAD ENTRY IN JULY, 1900.

with several chances to put in dams and get a good head. At the bridge it would be possible to put in a twenty foot dam and the reservoir above would be several miles in extent. An electric line built on the Air Line survey would pass close enough to this point to utilize the power as a feeder. Nearly three miles of Clam river is found in 40-18.

TOWNSHIP 40-18.

Less than 1,000 acres of this township is on the Wisconsin side of the St. Croix. The Wisconsin part is all found in sections 25, 35 and 36. It extends from what is known as Norway Point to the head of the rapids and the character of the land is upland sand and river bottom.

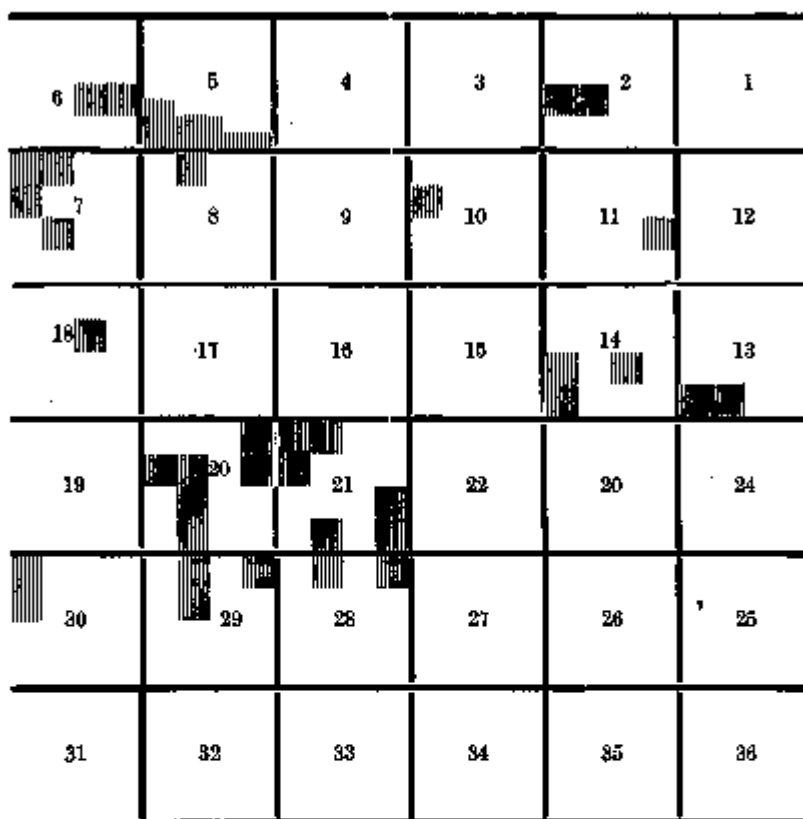
TOWNSHIP 39-14.

This township is the northern one of the three that form the town of Rusk. The Yellow river crosses the

entire town east and west and the northern half is well supplied with lakes the largest and most important one being Rice lake. Aaron postoffice is located in the southern part on section 34 and there is a good school house a half mile north. The soil in this town is on the whole very good, no better farms being found anywhere than in the southern part. The northern part is more newly settled and does not show up to as good an advantage.

TOWNSHIP 39-15.

Half of this township is in the town of LaFollette and half in Meenon. The Yellow river crosses it from east to west and can be followed nearly a dozen miles in the township, the course being first southwest and then northwest. Big Sand lake, a magnificent sheet of water, is found in the southern part of the town surrounded



THE SHADED PORTION REPRESENTS GOVERNMENT LAND IN TOWNSHIP 40, RANGE 17, SUBJECT TO HOMESTEAD ENTRY IN JUNE, 1902.

by others smaller lakes. Dongola post-office is located in section 8, near the northwest corner. There is a school house about a mile south of the post-office. There is practically no government land left in this township but there is over 2,000 acres of withdrawn state land. In both 39-14 and 39-15 there is some railroad land for sale as well as wild and improved farms now owned by individuals. The soil is much alike in both towns the better part in 39-15 being found in the north-western part.

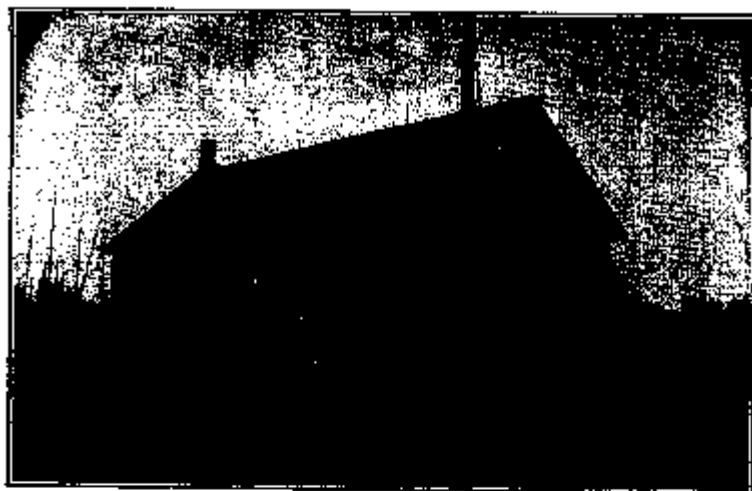
TOWNSHIP 39-16.

Burnett county is so irregularly shaped that it would take a skilled mathematician to figure out exactly where the exact geographical center is located. Whether you figure by distance or by area the center is always located in or near 39-16, anywhere

from 15 to 25 miles northeast of the present county seat. Ten years ago there was hardly a settler in this town. Seven years ago the first store was started. Six years ago a school house was built and the first postoffice was established.

Now there are three stores, three postoffices, two school houses, a church, a creamery (see page 46), a sawmill and many fine farms. Although classed as a sand township there is no part of the county that shows up a more uniform subsoil and raises any better crops.

Both Yellow and Clam rivers flow through this town from east to west and it is in this town that they come the closest together. Clam lake is in the southeastern part, Yellow lake touches the northwest corner; Devils lake is on the north line and Bass and



WEBSTER CREAMERY.

Pickeral lakes are on the east side between the rivers. Webster postoffice, creamery and store are in section 9, near the northwestern part; Kruger is in 21 near the center and April (a newly established office) is in 33 near the south line. Webster and Kruger receive daily mail. Several railroads have been surveyed through this township and when one is built and the full agricultural resources developed no town in the county will stand ahead of this one in farming wealth.

TOWNSHIP #3-17.

This township is without lakes yet it contains many meadows that at one time undoubtedly were lakes. Clam river crosses it from east to west and Black Brook crosses the southeastern part, flowing northwest into Clam river. Karlsborg postoffice and school house are located near the south line in section 27 and Perida postoffice and school house are in the northern part in section 3. The third school house will be built in the near future, on the west side.

The northern part of this township is more sandy than the southern which is largely meadow. There is more state land in this than in any other township in the county the exact lo-

cation of it being shown on page 15 of this book.

Wild land in the southwestern part of the town has sold as high as \$15.00 per acre while in the northwestern corner there was at the same time vacant government land. This indicates that there is a difference in the value of the different parts of the town. A portion of the Big Meadows is located in this town.

TOWNSHIP #3-18.

This town contains the greater part of the Big Meadows. A more detailed description of them appears farther on in the book with appropriate illustrations. They were one time extensive cranberry marshes but the vines were destroyed by fire and the control of the water supply not being good the industry died out and the lands were sold for taxes. Now they are being ditched and turned into good farms.

Although this township contains twenty dollar an acre land there is at this date, June 10, 1902, no part of the county where there is to be found so much government land in a body as in the northern part around the head of the Big Meadows. It is practically devoid of timber except small oak trees and underbrush but will make



WEBSTER POSTOFFICE ROBERT MAGNUSON & COMPANY'S STORE.

good farms, easily cleared and the new settler can get plenty of fuel and building timber from their neighbors. The swampy land surrounding it has made it difficult to reach and would-be homesteaders have passed it by without looking at it much until now. It is being taken up quite rapidly.

TOWNSHIP 26.4.

This township is on the western side of the county opposite the mouths of Snake and Kettle rivers, two important Minnesota streams emptying into the St. Croix river. About one-fourth of this township is on the Minnesota side.

With the exception of where the Big Meadows touch it on the east and the southeastern corner this is an exclusive upland township. There is some bottom land along the St. Croix river. Almost anywhere you dig you will find water within six or eight feet of the surface and the farmers who give some thought to their work, plant crops and handle them so that a large benefit is derived from the water so near the top.

Exdall postoffice is located in the southern part on section 12. Near there is also a church and school

house. In section 28 there is another school house.

Along the western boundary of this township in a distance of about six miles the St. Croix river has a fall of fifty feet making one of the finest water powers in the northwest. It is being carefully surveyed by a wealthy corporation and it is supposed that the men who are interested intend to develop it for electrical power, utilizing it for an electric railway between St. Paul and Superior.

At the foot of the rapids, near the southwest corner of the township is a partially developed copper mine which has also shown indications of silver. At the present time it is flooded with water and the corporation interested in the water power has an option on the mine and power which does not expire until 1903. This option prevents the owners from going ahead with the work and it may be many months before the actual value of the mine will be known.

TOWNSHIP 28.14.

This is the central part of the town of Rusk and is a comparatively old settled portion of the county. Although it has but one postoffice,



TRADE RIVER CREAMERY.

Doran, it has three school houses within its boundary lines and two other joint districts.

It is well watered with numerous small streams and has several little lakes. Within a few months many of the older settlers here have been selling out to well-to-do farmers from the prairie states and have in many cases removed to the more remote parts of Burnett County. Nearly half of the new settlers in township 40-18 have come from this part of the county. There are many very excellent and well developed farms here. The Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad runs within six miles of this township and the settlers do practically all of their trading in Shell Lake in Washburn County.

TOWNSHIP 28-15.

This, with a half township north and a half township on the west, forms the youngest town government in the county. It is known as LaFollette, being the second town in the county to be named after the man who was governor of the state when the town was organized.

It has two postoffices, Coomer in the southwestern part and Hertel in the northeastern. June, in the northern part, is at the present time dis-

continued because no one could be found willing to act as postmaster.

There are three school houses and several saw mills. It is crossed by several branches of Clam river and is well supplied with lakes, the principal ones being Pokegama, Big Sand, Viola, Warner's and Spencer. In this town a large majority of the settlers are American born, of American born parents. Some of the settlers have lived there for many years. They early discovered a few sections in the southern part that were much better than the surrounding country for farming and they went in there and began work when lumbering on the adjoining lands was the only industry thought worth following. They have always had a good home market and have done well.

Later day settlers have now taken up the lands from which the pine was cut so long ago and within a few months the railroad company has closed out the greater part of its lands to prairie farmers who are moving in with more capital than any of the early settlers ever dreamed would be brought into the entire county. This town will be one of the best in the county as it has all the natural resources.



ALSTAD CREAMERY

It has one industry the successful development of which will mean much to all this part of the state. If it proves to be all that its projectors hope for it, other parts of the county will also take it up and try it. The raising of cultivated cranberries is referred to.

S. H. Waterman & Son, of Cumberland, have spent much money here in getting started and when the whole work is completed will have over 100 acres under cultivation. The average profit per acre from a perfect cranberry marsh is more than \$200 per year and has been known to run as high as \$1,000. It takes about five years to get an acre into bearing and the cost is about the price of one good crop, therefore men without capital can not engage in the business.

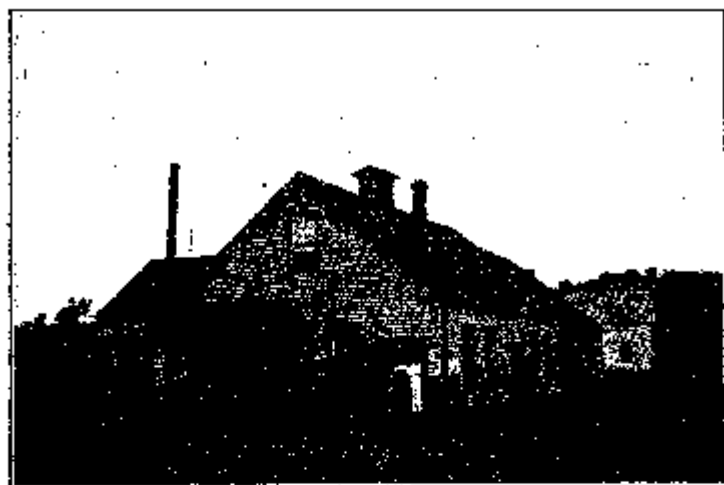
They have dammed Pokegama creek and raised the water in Pokegama lake several feet, thus forming a fine reservoir. Between the lake and Clam river they have cleared and set out to cranberries an old tamarack swamp and spent thousands of dollars getting the ground in shape. Their first planting is about coming into bear-

ing and from this it soon it will be possible to tell something about the success which they looked for. Visitors to the county should make an effort to see this enterprise and estimate how great a benefit other similar enterprises would be to the county. All that is lacking to get capital in here for that kind of work is an intelligent understanding of what may be accomplished and confidence in the results.

It is confidentially expected by many of the residents of this township that the "Sea Line" will build through their town in the near future and if it does LaFollette will certainly boom in fine shape as it is all right naturally.

TOWNSHIP 28-16.

The eastern half of this township is in the town of LaFollette and the western half is a part of the town of Wood Lake. The main body of Clam Lake is in the eastern half and touches eight different sections in the northern part. Two forks of the Clam river are found in the southeastern part. Near the center of the township is Long Lake. Elbow Lake is in the



TRADE LAKE CREAMERY

southwestern corner. Doctor's Lake and Crooked Lake are in the northwestern part. Clear and Little Sand Lakes are also good sized bodies of water near the center. Besides there are several other small lakes and streams which go to make this a well watered township.

Three good school houses are located in this township and May postoffice is on the eastern shore of Clam Lake. Several railroad lines have been surveyed to cross this township and the southwest corner is within six miles of the new town of Frederic on the "Soo Line."

Like all other parts of the county this township is "spotted" in the character of the soil. It contains some of the finest farming land in the county and some of the poorest, but on the whole it ranks up among the very best and its central location is destined to make it a very important town when the country is fully developed.

An old "tope road" crosses the town diagonally from the northwest to the southeast, following the sand ridges and those who have followed this have a very poor impression of the locality and are not aware that a few rods away from the road it is possible to

turn up clay with the plow. There are clover fields in this town that are equal to anything grown anywhere.

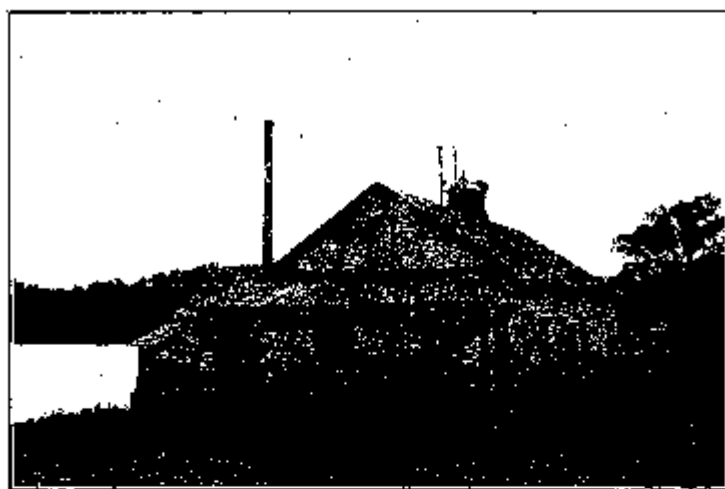
On the first of August 1902, there was less than 300 acres of vacant government land left in the township. The lands owned by the state do not amount to one section and the railroad company has sold nearly all its holdings here. There are a number of partly improved farms for sale and the prices are reasonable, but on the whole the residents of the township do not care to dispose of their property as they are satisfied that they can not get equally as good farms elsewhere without paying what is here considered as fancy prices.

TOWNSHIP 38-17.

This is the central township of the town of Wood Lake. It has two creameries, Falun and Doctor's Lake; two postoffices, Falun and Stren, and several churches and school houses.

Diamond and Mud Hen Lakes are located near the center and the latter is one of the best lakes for fish in the county. The Wood Lake town hall is located between these lakes.

Black Brook and the North Fork of Wood River have their heads in this township and Wood River crosses the southwestern part. The greater part



ATLAS CREAMERY

of this town is heavy clay soil covered with a good growth of hardwood and there are many well developed farms. At Falun postoffice on the western edge there is a small woolen factory, a carding mill, a tannery, a creamery, two stores, churches, a school house, a number of nice residences and other little business enterprises that go to make up a small village. There were three descriptions of vacant government land left in this township when this was written. The state owns about half a section, the railroad company none and prices range from \$5.00 to \$40.00 an acre according to quality and improvements. There are some very fine meadow lands in the northwestern part.

TOWNSHIP 33-18.

Sections one, two and three of this township are a part of the township of Marshland, the western half of the township is in the town of Grantsburg and the remaining fifteen sections are a part of the town of Wood Lake.

Frya postoffice is located in Marshland and Wood Lake and Alpha postoffices are in Wood Lake. Wood and Little Wood are the only lakes of importance in the township and they are in the southeastern part. North

Fork and Wood rivers are the principal streams.

The northeastern part has several thousand acres of magnificent meadows and the southern part is all heavy hardwood clay land. In the northwestern part there is some sand land. There is also a little along the Wood River. Here in many cases the clay and sand is so nicely divided as to make farms combining all the advantages of the two kinds of soil with fine meadows. Farmers who keep stock, patronize the creameries and raise potatoes are growing rich. The character of their buildings can be seen by referring to the pictures on pages six and eight.

There are five school houses and several churches in this township. A store at Alpha postoffice and one at Frya do a good business. There is a water power saw and grist mill at Wood Lake postoffice and a steam saw mill in the northwestern part. The farmers are all prosperous and contented.

Wood River flows through Wood Lake which is a very pretty body of water. This lake is the nearest one of any size to the village of Grantsburg and is well patronized by pleasure seekers during the summer



WEST SWEDEN CREAMERY

months. A picture of it can be seen on page 21.

The state owns about a section of land in this township and there are one or two vacant forties of government land. There is no railroad land and but little belonging to speculators.

TOWNSHIP 28-N.

In this township is located the village of Grantsburg. The village includes all of section 14, the north half of section 23, four forties along the east side of section 15 and an eighty in section 22 making 1,200 acres inside the limits. The business portion is situated near the center of section 14. The balance of the township is a part of the town of Grantsburg, a separate corporation from the village of Grantsburg, consisting of nearly four townships.

The township in which the village is located is crossed by the Wood River which has as one of its branches Hay Creek, the principal outlet to the Big Meadows. Another small stream touches this township in the south-eastern corner. It is known as Canute Brook and its waters are known to possess high medicinal properties. Several people who have gone to the famous mineral springs at West Baden have also used this water for

the same diseases and found the action the same. A careful analysis of this water might bring results which would warrant capital in taking hold and developing an institution fully equal to any of the famous health resorts.

The eastern half of this township south of Wood River is the most wealthy part of the county. The soil is heavy clay and the tame grasses grown here are the finest in the world. The timber is heavy hardwood.

People coming into the village on the train pass through the worst part of the sand barrens and as a rule have a very poor impression of the county, but when they drive south from the village a few miles they are charmed with what they see.

"The Quarter Line" is the name by which the southern end of Pine street is known and this runs straight south from the village depot three and a half miles through as fine a country as there is in the northwest. Near the southern end of this road, two miles from the village limits, is located Branstad post office, a store, blacksmith shop, Grantsburg creamery, town hall and a school house.

In the northeast and southwest corners of this township are some very



L. C. BRUES, PRINCIPAL OWNER OF THE BIG MEADOWS

fine meadows. The St. Croix River touches the northwestern corner and forms the state line for over two miles thus bringing the village limits within three miles of Minnesota. The actual distance from the business portion of the village to the St. Croix River is but five miles by section lines.

The northern and western parts of this township are very sandy and the population is light owing to the fact that the land has been for many years in the possession of speculators. The few settlers who do live there and give attention to their work meet with excellent success and at this writing it would be difficult to find finer gardens than those now to be seen on the "sand barrens."

Speculation in these lands on the part of the city land sharks has given a bad name to this and the town southwest of it and many people in the city have been induced to trade

encumbered city property for a Wisconsin farm hoping to get out of debt. They have in many cases made the trade without seeing the farm and upon arrival here have been so disappointed that they have sold out at any figure or abandoned the property solely to those who speculate in tax titles.

The two kinds of soil found in this township and the great difference in the prices is a matter which should be well understood by parties who invest in land near Grantsburg or they are likely to not get their money's worth in the trade. You can buy the sand lands here for one quarter of the price you will be asked by the city land sharks, therefore you should investigate personally before closing a deal.

TOWNSHIP 33-20

The St. Croix River flows through this township from northeast to southwest dividing it so that over two-



WINTER SCENE ON THE BIG MEADOWS

thirds of the township is on the Minnesota side. Wood River runs into the St. Croix in section 24 and part of Fish Lake is in section 36.

There is a school house in this township and some meadow land. The railroad runs through two sections. There are a few settlers living there who are doing well.

TOWNSHIP 33-14

This is the southern township in the town of Rusk. It contains the Timberland postoffice, three school houses, a few small lakes, two forks of Clam River and many springs and small streams. The southeastern corner is within two miles of Barronett station on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad and it is in this township that there has been the greatest advance in the price of land during the past two years. Many new settlers have moved in and fine farms are being opened up rapidly. It is so far from the county seat that

all its business except official is conducted outside of the county and its inhabitants are almost strangers to the great majority of the rest of the county. It is a good township and will stand close investigation.

Directly west is Polk county for a distance of eighteen miles. Early legislation deprived Burnett of three townships which should by rights be a part of this county. On page 17 is a map of the county and the space below the map occupied by the figures 15, 16 and 17 shows the lost territory.

TOWNSHIP 33-18

This township is the only one in the county organized into a corporation without including more territory than six miles square. It is known as Trade Lake, getting its name from the beautiful lake southwest of the center.

With the exception of a few acres along the west side the entire township is clay and more or less rolling.



A WINTER SCENE ON THE BIG MEADOWS

It is the most densely populated part of the county outside of the village of Grantsburg. The 1900 census gave the town a population of 1,174. The farms are all small, well improved and few are for sale. The inhabitants are nearly all Swedish but with the exception of a few of the very oldest people are thoroughly Americanized and up to date.

Trade, Spirit, Bass, Pine, Round and Rice Lakes furnish a fine opportunity for boating and fishing and Trade River following a winding course among the hills adds much to the picturesqueness of the scenery. In the southern part are hills which are almost mountains and contain mineral which may some day be profitably worked. Several shafts have been sunk and good veins of copper struck but as yet there has been nothing taken out which would pay for working up.

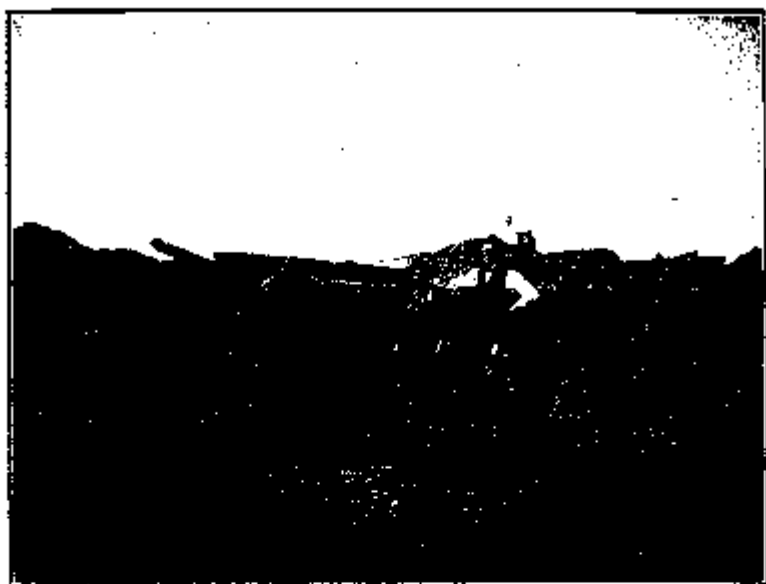
The town contains five stores, five

churches, four schools, houses, two dist mills, several saw mills, a creamery and a postoffice. These are not all located at one place or they would form a strong business center.

If this town was reached directly by a railroad from the large cities it would be well patronized as a summer resort, as it contains many conditions that would attract people seeking rest and pleasure. It is an excellent farming district. The people are all industrious, intelligent and many of them are highly cultured.

TOWNSHIP 37-19.

With the exception of a small territory in the northeastern part this township is without surface clay. The meadow lands amount to more than 7,000 acres situated mostly in the northern and western part of the township. The balance of the township is "sand barrens" on which there is this year growing the finest crops ever seen in the state of Wisconsin.



DITCH BUILDING ON THE BIG MEADOWS.

Trade River crosses the southern part of the township, Canute Brook, named after Canute Anderson, the first white settler in the county, drains the improved meadows in the northeastern part and Logging Creek heads in the big tamarack swamp near the northern center, both creeks running south into Trade River.

Trade River postoffice is located in section 36 and Alstad is in section 18. At the latter place a new creamery and store have recently been established while at the former there are two stores, a creamery and a mill. There are three school houses and three churches in the township and many prosperous farmers.

There is over 1,800 acres of land in this township owned by the state. A large portion of it is covered with tamarack trees which if cut up for fuel will go far towards paying the expense of bringing the land into a state of cultivation. They form part of the 7,000 acres of meadow land. When fully developed they will add much to the annual income of the county. At the present time there is

no high priced land in the township but the developments being made by the settlers, who are mostly people of very limited means, will soon bring this portion of the county into prominence as a locality where farming is easy and profitable.

TOWNSHIP 37-20

This township is in the extreme southwestern corner of the county and in general character is very much like 37-19. The St. Croix River cuts off the western tier of sections and part of the next tier. The meadow lands are along the eastern and northern sides and the railroad runs along the north side.

Randall postoffice is at the railroad station in the northwestern corner. There is a church and school house. The population is very small. There is considerable vacant government land in the township and the state owns nearly 2,000 acres.

In the extreme northeastern corner is Fish Lake, a very shallow body of water located in four townships. It could be easily drained at a slight expense and would make fine meadow



BLUE JOINT IN ITS NATURAL GROWTH AFTER LANDS ARE DRAINED.

lands of all the surrounding swamps. The bottom which is now floating mud would settle and in time could be farmed with very profitable results. This township is so close to the railroad that the shipping facilities are good and if it should fill up with a class of people who understand sand farming they would do well raising potatoes on a large scale.

It is but a few miles from the main line of the Northern Pacific which is easily reached by the ferry shown in the picture on page 4. There is probably no part of the county where land is any cheaper than in this town and yet no one is advised to settle there unless such settler is determined to study the conditions surrounding sand farming. The man who goes at it right and works intelligently can soon make a good home here for a very little money and not be more than fifty miles from the capitol of Minnesota.

ADVICE.

The best advice the writer of this book can give anyone is to not attempt to move a family to any place among strangers if the head of the family is

unable to make a living where he now is. Cheap land is not the only thing needed to bring prosperity to the home seeker. There must be a disposition to work and physical ability to match the disposition. The "he'r do well" is not wanted in Burnett county any more than where he is now located.

The man who through unfortunate circumstances has lost his property and wants to start again generally is a man of push and energy and is likely to succeed in making a living wherever he may go.

The man who is out of means is better off to stay where he is for there he has some friends who know him. In sickness and adversity he is not at the mercy of strangers or upon the clemency of a town that knows him not. Ordinarily a man can get enough ahead at his home to provide for his family during a short absence and still have enough to pay his way into a new country and get a start all alone or find out that the experiment is a failure. There are many people who have landed in Burnett county with large families and not had enough



ERBES' STEAM BALING OUTFIT AT WORK.

money to keep them from want for a week and yet they have in most cases thrived and prospered. Such people as a rule, are not the class of settlers which are being sought by the publication of this book. Those who can help themselves from the start are the folks who are wanted in Burnett county. The natural local conditions will do the rest for them.

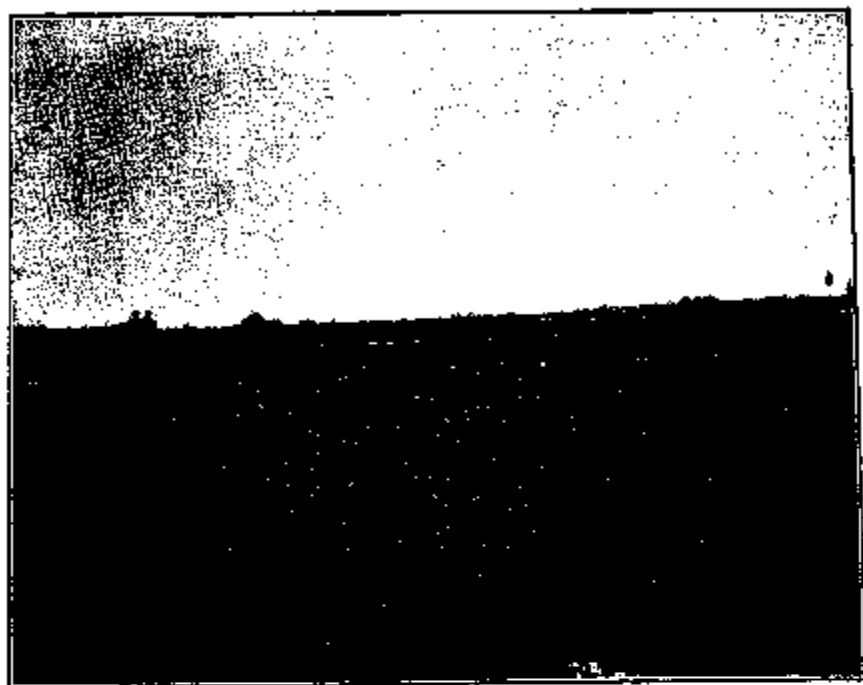
MORE ABOUT THE SOIL.

People who are accustomed to a black soil and nothing else will have great difficulty in believing that crops will grow on land of any other color. There is some black land in Burnett county but the majority of the soil is light in color. The poorest land in the county is a coarse black sand but this is found in limited quantities and in very few places. There is both red and yellow clay and red and yellow sand. There is practically no white sand in the county.

There are no places where the rich black loam is found just the same as it is in the western prairie districts and yet our light colored soils are as productive as the prairie soils. The black soil of Burnett county is invariably found in the heavy timber districts and is composed chiefly of decayed leaves and other vegetation. All such land is held at a good price and is generally "not for sale."

There are people in this county who are ready to declare that they would not take a sand farm as a gift and there are also others who prefer the sand to the clay.

If you are coming to this county with plenty of money and want to engage in stock farming you are making a safe investment to buy clay land and go into the raising of clover and other tame grasses. You will then have a farm which will always be saleable, as everyone knows that clay



STUBBLE FIELD ON BIG MEADOWS.

holds all that you put on it and what it increases in value is not lost by a few years of neglect.

On the other hand, no matter how well you may build up a sand farm it takes but a slight neglect to start it "running down hill" and it is then hard property to sell.

Sand land is easily worked and in spite of a general opinion to the contrary it stands drouth better than clay. You may select a sandy spot in the driest time and heap up a pile of sand that you are sure does not contain a drop of moisture; let that sand stand over night and without dew or rain on it it will become damp by reason of the moisture it will take up from the wet ground under it. Keep sand land loose and well stirred and crops will live through the hardest drouth ever known in Wisconsin. It also responds to rain more readily than clay as it drinks up more of the moisture which falls upon it.

The majority of sand land lacks humus or vegetable matter and this must be supplied by turning under green crops occasionally to build it up. Care should be taken to raise crops that will shade the ground or can be cultivated during the hottest and driest weather. More crops are burned up by the hot sun because the farmer did not know how to protect them than are lost in any other way on the sand.

There is much to learn in the cultivating of sand land and one of the most important things is to give the land an occasional rest. Sand land will always be cheap as compared with clay and yet it will stand the highest culture. Farm it well and farm fewer acres than you would of clay and you will make money. Scatter your energies over a large number of acres and fail to study the conditions and you will do well if you do not land in the poor house.



F. G. DAHLBERG, COUNTY JUDGE.

Eminent geologists have carefully examined the country known as the sand barrens and in all cases their opinions have been that in western Burnett county there is a bed of clay underneath the sand which prevents the rain from going down very far into the ground. This forms a great underground lake which receives the water when the rain fall is heavy and gives it back to the surface by capillary attraction whenever there is sufficient dryness at the top to call for it. Stirring the surface helps to bring the moisture up, hence cultivated crops do better in a dry time than small grain.

There are many places in the county where this under ground lake is within a few feet of the surface and there are very few places where it is more

than twenty feet through the sand to water.

Where the water is near the surface there grows grass that makes fine hay. Where the water is nearly level with the top of the ground there is generally a growth of wire grass which is profitable to cut and market as it is extensively used in the manufacture of carpets, matting and a number of articles which are having a fine sale.

Draining the land and cutting the wire grass brings in a fine growth of red top which makes excellent hay. Hence it is possible to turn the sand barren lakes into good farm land as they are all shallow and so situated that they can be drained. This is more particularly true of the western part of the county than any other part.

There are very few places in the western part of the county where there is a hard subsoil between the sand and the underground lake. It is sand all the way down to water. There are a number of tracts where fire has run over the land and burned out the top soil so badly that it has to be renewed. This is easily done by protecting it from other fires and giving the grass and weeds a chance to start.

Three years ago in township 40-18 the fire had done so much damage that it did not seem possible the soil could ever be made to produce anything. Today that land is all taken up, grass and weeds are growing thick and tall and the crops are making a fine showing. A few years of intelligent cultivation and that town will be as productive as any in the county.

The writer has always had a great

deal to say in favor of sand lands because he was brought up in the sand and knows what can be done by those who go at it right.

Everyone knows that clay land is more valuable than sand and that it is not necessary to speak at length in the praise of clay. There are very few people who know what it is possible to do with sand therefore it is necessary to go more into details on that subject.

The average reader of this book is looking for very cheap lands. The man who sells his farm in Illinois or Iowa for \$100 an acre and comes to Burnett county will consider the clay farms he finds here for sale at from twenty to fifty dollars as something very cheap while others will come here and think that five dollars an acre is high priced. It is therefore important to make this difference in price and

character of soil perfectly plain. If the exact truth is not told about the soil the homeseeker will come here and be disappointed. He must understand that low priced lands are not natural garden spots like the western prairies were when they were settled, but that in many cases he must not only make a farm out of the cheap lands but he must also keep it made after he has got it.

He must raise the kind of crop best suited to his location and improve his rights as a citizen by assisting others to make the market grow better and more diversified every year.

The clay farmer can bend his energies towards the production of grass and milk more profitably than can the sand farmer unless the latter gives his attention to a greater variety of products which



W. E. ARMSTRONG, COUNTY CLERK.

will feed stock and produce milk and meat. The stock farmer is not hampered by distance from market as is the vegetable raiser. The former can take his product to market in a condensed form while the latter can not.

The territory near Grantsburg is profitable to the potato raiser. Not only is there a shipping market but there are two starch factories to help give price to potatoes. These factories have been built because the supply of potatoes demanded something of the kind. The sand grown potatoes are the best in the world. Other vegetables do equally as well and yet the present market for them is not so good. The building of a canning factory, a pickle works or a beet sugar factory would make it possible for hundreds of farmers to engage in more extensive vegetable culture and these factories will come as soon as the people are here



THOMAS TOLLEFSON,
COUNTY TREASURER.



SIMON OLSON, SHERIFF

to engage in the raising of the stuff the factories would consume.

The sand lands near Grantsburg are very cheap and if they are planted to the right kinds of vegetables they will pay many fold for the labor bestowed upon them. We therefore feel justified in asking every person who reads this book to investigate and see what can be done on our very poorest lands. If you are not satisfied you will not have to leave Burnett county because there is no land that you will call good, for there is every kind of soil known to the farmer of the temperate zone. Simply keep looking and you will find a farm exactly to your liking.

Before passing from this subject it is important to call attention to a difference between the lands of the central part of the county and the western part. A casual examination of the surface would lead

many people to say that the land was the same but such is not the case. The central and eastern sand lands have a subsoil nearer the surface and between the sand and the water. In some cases this subsoil is not more than a thin crust and yet it is so hard that a pick is required to break it and it is absolutely water tight. Often this layer is found just above, or forming a part of, the claybed underneath and in some cases it is entirely missing, but it is safe to say that it affects fully one third of the entire county and prevents the leaching of the top soil wherever it is found. It is generally close to the surface and where it is found the distance is farther to water than in the western part of the county.

THE PRICE OF LAND.

It is impossible to give a scale of prices for land because not only do the actual values differ, but there is a great difference in the condi-



NEWTON HICKERSON.

CLERK OF COURT.

tions. Men constantly change their minds and a farm that to-day may be bought for one price may be way above or below to-morrow.

So long as there is an acre of government land to be homesteaded so long will all land in that vicinity be low in price. The land seeker who industriously hunts for it may be able to find here and there a forty acre tract which he can buy for from fifty to \$100 a forty. But he will find more land no better in quality which will cost him four or five dollars an acre. At the rate prices are advancing it will be but a short time when five and ten dollars will be the minimum price. The minimum price of railroad lands has advanced during this year three times and at this date, August 1st, is four dollars an acre with a prospect



A. J. MYRLAND, DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

of several more advances before the year is over.

Burnett county, like every other place, has many restless people who think they can see somewhere a chance to better themselves by moving and these people will in many cases sell their partly improved homesteads for less than their improvements are worth. Those chances have to be looked for and any persons who have a little money to use can safely move to the county, secure a temporary location by renting a farm or otherwise employing themselves, and watch for such swaps. There are homesteads to be contested with a sure chance of winning and others where the chance is doubtful but the claimant can be bought off for a small consideration. When these conditions have all been wiped out land prices will settle down to a definite basis and be somewhat uniform.

At the present time there is no



ANDREW A. ANDERSON.

REGISTER OF DEEDS, one in the county (engaged exclusively in the real estate business. Those who have farms for sale have other business and elsewhere in this book will be found some statements in regard to those who have lands for sale.

In a general way it is safe to say that if you are offered clay or meadow lands for ten dollars an acre unimproved it is a bargain worth investigating. Some wild meadow lands are worth more and some less than ten dollars but natural grass land is a good investment almost anywhere at that price.

SWAMPS.

The word swamp conveys to the mind of people living farther south a place wherein are found the germs of many diseases and the homes of all manner of poisonous and leathsome reptiles. Such persons can see but little beauty and profit in a swamp.

Northern Wisconsin swamps are



A. C. WEBSTER, COUNTY SURVEYOR.

something entirely different. They are health giving instead of health destroying and it is seldom that a snake is seen in or near them. In Burnett county a poisonous snake is unknown and even the harmless varieties are not seen often enough to make their presence in the county worth mentioning.

Our swamps are of many kinds but they can be divided into two classes. They are either formed by the drying up of lake beds and are free from timber or they are filled with timber and are kept wet by springs or the overflow from rivers.

Some of the lakebed swamps are filled with rushes, lilies and soft mud at all times of the year and others are so dry that teams can drive over them except in the wettest weather.

There are swamps along some of the rivers that are so low that they are never dry enough to get into even on foot and could be reclaimed



MRS. FAYS WILLIAMS,

COUNTY SUP'T. OF SCHOOLS.

In no other way except by the building of high dykes to prevent overflow.

The wood found in the swamps is of many varieties and includes tamarack, balsam, spruce, ash, birch and many others as well as a wonderful variety of small underbrush and vines. This no doubt can be worked up into something that will bring money when the proper outlet is provided. Now, much of it is too remote from market to make it profitable to handle.

Nearly all the swamps can be utilized for the benefit of man in some way some day and nine-tenths of the acreage can be drained and the land made into tilled farms. This will take money and time but when the land is reclaimed it will be the richest kind of farm land and very valuable property.

The young man who gets hold of a nice piece of swamp land with some dry land near it and combines



A. G. PETERSON, SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSORS.



SIMON THORESON, VILLAGE OF GRANTSBURG, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

his energies to develop both will have a magnificent farm by the time he reaches middle age. Sand lands and swamp lands make a fine combination and there are a good many sandy vacant fortyes of government land to be had near the state fortyes now out of market. Homesteaders who locate near state land can afford to pay more for the state land when it is put upon the market than speculators can and it is quite safe to locate in that way and figure upon eventually getting possession of the lands now withdrawn from market.]

Hundreds of the swamps of the county furnish the conditions needed for the successful cultivation of celery and there are many that will prove just right for raising cranberries. Cranberries now grow wild in many of

the swamps and are a good crop when the frosts do not kill the blossoms.

SMALL FRUITS.

There is a good opening for several persons to engage in the raising of small fruits for the purpose of supplying the local trade around Grantsburg and a very large number could find profitable employment raising berries for shipment. Quite a number of our farmers have successfully grown excellent crops of strawberries and what they have had to sell found customers faster than they could bring the berries to town.

Strawberries do well on sand and \$100 will buy enough land close to Grantsburg on which to raise hundreds of bushels of berries. Other berries do well and there is no limit to the work which can be done

along this line. Should a large number of persons engage in the business it would be an easy matter to secure the erection of a canning factory and a very large product handled.

There are hundreds of people barely making a living in the cities who would be better off out in the country and to such people there is a good opening in Burnett county, if they can give their time and attention to raising small fruits, etc. There are several tracts of sand land near the county seat which can be bought very reasonable and all on time to those who will put up some good buildings, therefore, it will not take a great amount of capital to start in the business of raising small fruit.

TIMBER.

To the land seeker who comes from the prairie states Burnett county will appear to be well supplied with timber, but the man whose life has been spent in the



AUGUST CASSEL, CHAIRMAN.

WOOD LAKE.

woods will call it anything but a timber country.

Fifty years ago this county was covered with a great deal of heavy timber the greater part of it being pine. The southern part was rock maple and other valuable hardwoods. Twenty years ago it was given out that lumbering was about a thing of the past as in those days a lumberman would not look at a log which at the present time is called large. The demand for lumber has kept increasing until the large saw mills are ready to take a log which will square four inches at the top and the trees have kept on growing until the saplings which were early passed over as underbrush are now "giants of the forest" and are cut down, rolled into the river and driven to the saw mills below in almost as great numbers as at any time in the past.

The time has arrived when this practice should be stopped and all



OLE MATTSO, CHAIRMAN, TRADE LAKE.

trees cut down should be worked into lumber and used right at home. The indications are that another year there will be more lumber shipped into the county than there will be logs driven out. There are many little saw mills about the county and yet they have not cut enough lumber this year to supply the demand at home. Some of the settlers who are situated so they can are holding some standing pine and in years to come will have lumber enough to do a lot of building. In spite of the scarcity of lumber the settlers go on putting up log buildings and no one complains that there is not plenty of timber for such purposes.

New settlers coming into the county may have some difficulty getting all the lumber they want the first year but it is an easy matter to arrange for a small mill to locate in

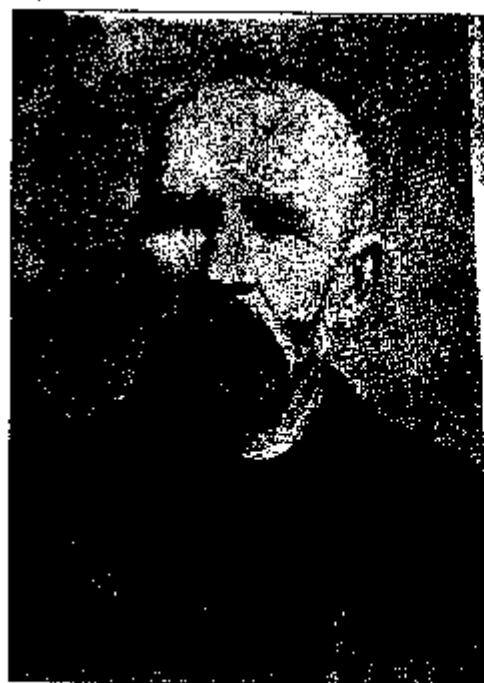


A. DAHLSTROM, CHAIRMAN OF TOWN OF RUSK.

any neighborhood and saw up a supply, if logs are cut and hauled together for such a purpose. Compared with prairie countries lumber is cheap but it is advancing in price and there is not a possibility of a great supply of high grade lumber being manufactured in the county in the future.

In some parts of the county there is an abundance of hardwood both for fuel and building but where the lands are cheap the timber is largely jack pine. Jack pine is excellent fuel being much harder than white or Norway pine and is now considered by lumbermen as worth cutting for dimension stuff and even boards. When every jack pine tree has been cut down and all the jack pine underbrush has been destroyed the country will be better off, as this timber affords a better breeding place for flies and mosquitoes than do the deciduous trees.

New settlers who come from the prairie states may think that their days of tree planting are over but such is not the case. There is room



E. BLARQUIST, CHAIRMAN TOWN MARSHLAND.

for a large amount of intelligent forest culture in this timber country.

There is still a great deal of fuel in the county to be cut for export but most of it is not profitable to handle on account of its distance from the railroads. There is a great deal of "dead and down" timber scattered all over the county and in the present generation or the next there will be no scarcity of fuel for local consumption.

The writer is constantly in receipt of letters asking for chances to take up claims with heavy timber or from people who want to engage in the saw mill business or other manufacturing enterprises which will require the use of a large amount of standing trees. Burnett county has room for just such people but what they want in the way of timber is not to be picked up for a song. Expert lumbermen have been looking this county



J. D. HUNTER, CHAIRMAN OF LA FOLLETTE
over for the past fifty years and anything in the way of "snags" is picked up whenever it is offered.

The person who comes to this county expecting to get a claim to be used for any other purpose than agricultural will have to look long before he finds it. There are a few such chances but the day of lumbering is passing away and agriculturists are the ones who can in the future make money by locating in Burnett county.

The scarcity of timber from the lumberman's standpoint and an over supply from the standpoint of the tiler of the soil are one and the same thing. It is just this condition that is now turning the attention of farmers to Burnett county as a place in which to make a home and is also letting much of the land out of the grip of lumbermen who have had no use for new settlers in the county.



J. H. JENSEN, REAL ESTATE DEALER

GAME.

One of the questions asked by many intending settlers is: "What kind of game do you have?"

Believing that a farmer is worth more to the county than a hunter, the writer invariably answers: "More than there ought to be."

The game laws of Wisconsin are made in the interest of the sportsman and not for the protection of the settler's rights. If strictly lived up to the game would be of little use to the settlers as it would all be taken during the open season by those who hunt for the love of hunting, whereas the game should be caught and used for the support of those who are trying to make a living on the frontier. The opinion of the writer is that the sooner the game is killed off and got out of the way the better it will be for the agricultural interests.



TOMAS THORSEN, CHAIRMAN TOWN GRANTSBURG.

Deer, bears, wolves, foxes, badgers, coons, woodchucks, porcupines, partridges, pheasants, prairie chickens, cranes, ducks, geese and many other wild beasts and birds are found and the settler who enjoys the sport of hunting and trapping finds enough of that kind of work to entertain himself whenever he is so minded.

Fish of many varieties are found in the lakes and streams and there are a number of places where it will be possible to develop very fine artificial trout streams and ponds.

HOMESTEADS.

On the second page of this book the statement is made that, at the date given, there was 35,000 acres of government land in the county. At the date of printing this page, five months later, the amount of vacant land has been reduced fully one-half and what is left is badly scattered so that for several parties to locate close together some of the party



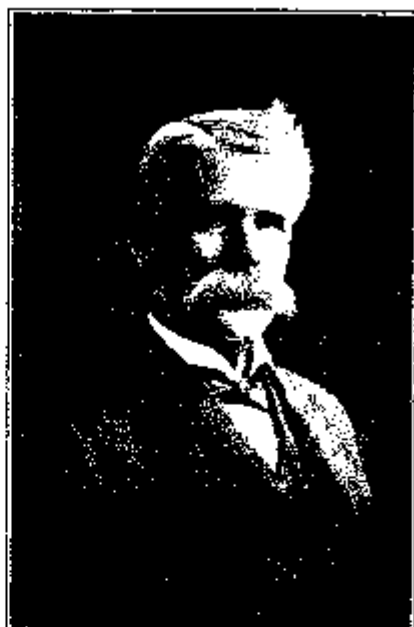
A. M. ANDERSON, DEPUT SHERIFF AND SERGEANT AT ARMS STATE ASSEMBLY

will have to buy out improvements of others who have proceeded in their settlement.

The following is a brief condensation of the homestead law:

Any head of a family or person who has arrived at the age of 21 years and is a citizen of the United States, or has filed his declaration of intention to become such, and who is not the owner of more than 160 acres of land, is entitled to enter one-quarter section (160 acres) or less quantity of unappropriated public land under the homestead laws. The applicant must make affidavit that he is entitled to the privileges of the homestead act, and that the entry is made for his exclusive use and benefit, and for actual settlement and cultivation.

Any unmarried woman of age, can enjoy the benefits of the homestead law. If she marries before she has acquired title, and continues her residence on her claim, she can proceed to prove up at the proper time, the same as if she had remained single, but husband and wife cannot secure separate tracts by maintaining separ-



MAJOR J. S. BAKER, MANAGER
CUSHING LAND AGENCY. (See page 13)
ute residences at the same time. All the sons and daughters of a family, who are of age, are entitled to take up land.

The right of homestead may be initiated either (1) by entry at the United States land office, or (2) by making an actual settlement upon the land. If the former method is adopted, the entryman has six months within which to make a settlement, and establish his residence upon the land. If the latter, the settler has three months within which to make his entry.

Within six months from date of entry the settler must take up his residence upon the land and cultivate the same for five years. At the expiration of this period, or within two years thereafter, proof of residence and cultivation must be established by two witnesses. Final proof cannot be made until the expiration of five years from date of entry, and must be made within seven years. After the expiration of fourteen months



W. F. STEVE,
PRINCIPAL GRANT-RENO HIGH SCHOOL.

from the date of entry the law allows the homesteader to secure title to the tract, if so desired, by paying for it at the legal rate, \$1.25 per acre, or \$2.50 if within railway land grant limits, and making proof of settlement, residence and cultivation for that period. The law allows only one homestead privilege to one person, and does not recognize the sale of a claim before final proof is made.

All business relating to homesteads in Burnett county can be transacted at Grantsburg without a personal trip to the land office. (See pages 31 and 32.) An additional fee of one dollar is paid to the local officials for making out the papers in a homestead entry. The fees sent to the United States land office are \$11.00 for 160 acres, \$7.00 for 80 acres and \$6.00 for 40 acres.

At the time of making final proof there are expenses about equal to the expenses at the time of entry.

Parties who buy the improvements of those who have already taken claims do not get any benefit of the time which the first settler has lived



ROBERT MAGNUSON,
POSTMASTER AT WEBSTER, WIS.

on the land. All business necessary to be done in the sale of a claim can be done at Grantsburg.

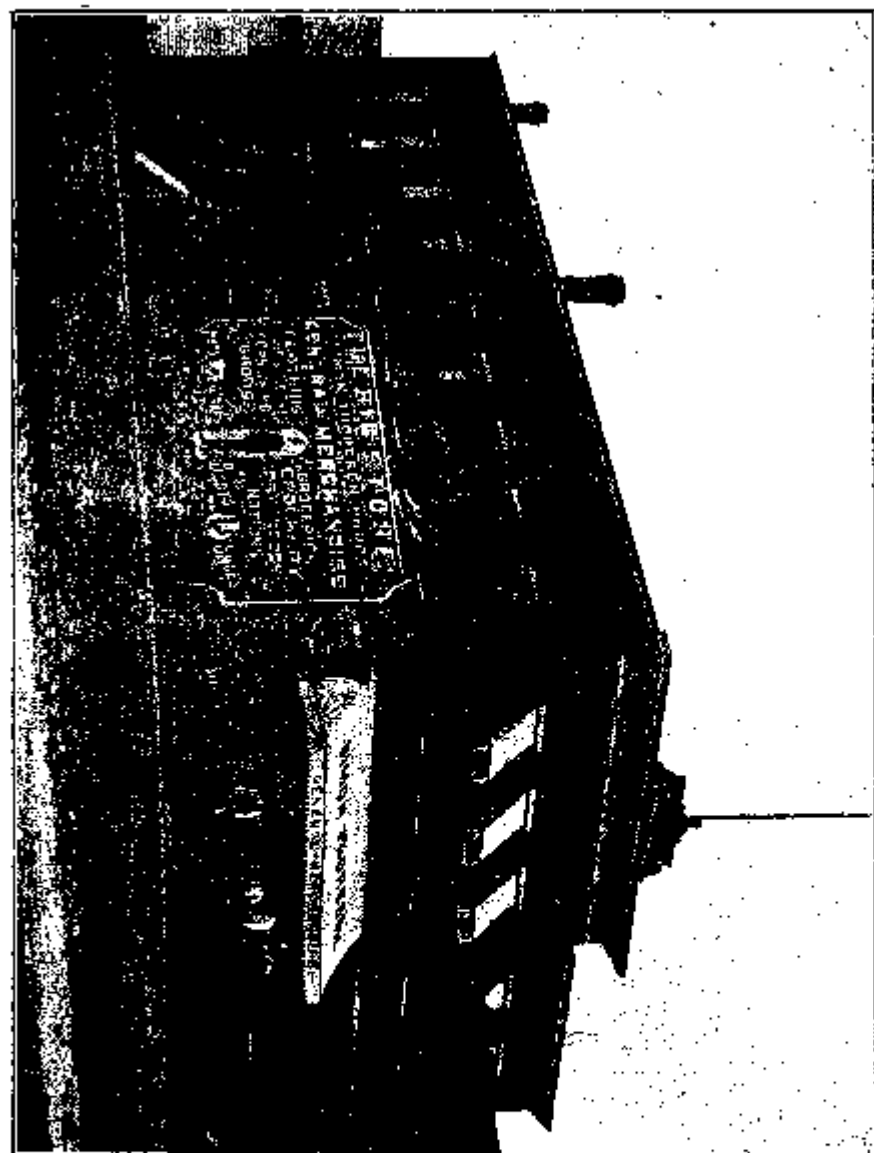
In employing a locator to find a claim for you the price he will charge will depend largely upon circumstances and will average about \$25.00.

You can avoid this expense by going out and looking up the lands and lines by yourself but you lose the benefit of a large amount of information which the locator has acquired by reason of having frequently passed over the land before.

If you are prepared to pay a trifle more than the value of actual improvements and can afford to look around for a few weeks you will no doubt be perfectly safe to come on and make investigations without writing to any one here for further particulars. This statement will probably hold good for a year or two more, perhaps longer.



NOBLE WILSON,
GRANTSBURG LOCATOR AND CRUISER.



SOUTHEAST CORNER PINE STREET AND MADISON AVENUE. GRANTSBURG POST OFFICE AT RIGHT OF STORE

FINANCIALLY PROSPEROUS.

In looking around for a home one wants to take into consideration the debts of the community into which he is about to move. If the town or county debt is large, taxes must be high. If the debt is small there must be a very large credit of improve-

ments or the tax will be small. No county in all the northwest has been managed so conservatively as Burnett. County salaries are all small and outside of the running expenses from year to year but little money has been expended. At one time the county was bonded to aid in building a rail-



road from Rush City to Grantsburg. Those bonds were all paid off several years ago and the road was actually built and is in operation. This is a condition which some other counties can not truthfully boast about.

On page six the central picture represents the court house and yard. Since that was taken work has been begun on a new jail and sheriff's residence. The building is nearing completion, is made of brick and stone and is costing about \$6,600. To put up this building it was thought best to bond the county for \$8,000, and that is the entire debt of the county except the current expenses. There is enough money on hand now to meet all bills and turn over to the sinking fund a nice sum at the close of the year.

It is a significant fact that when

people in this county go in debt some resident of the county is the person who loans the money or furnishes the goods and there is almost no money leaves the county in the shape of interest to eastern capitalist. Nearly all business enterprises are owned and operated by actual residents of the county and this contributes to the prosperity of the county as a whole. New settlers find that they are coming into a county out of debt and this is an advantage which all practical people will appreciate.

When the county wanted to sell its bonds last spring the sale was advertised in leading financial papers and bids were received from many places. The best bid was from a home institution and the bonds were sold to the

FIRST BANK OF GRANTSBURG.

This is an institution which is a credit to the county.



A. Z. DREW, PRESIDENT FIRST BANK OF GRANTSBURG.

Official bank examiners who visit the place when duty calls them this way are always loud in their praise of this bank. It is the only bank in the county and a majority of its stock is held by actual residents of the village in which it is located.

It was organized as a private bank on Feb. 8, 1896, and opened up for business the first of the following March. On July 1st, 1901, it was incorporated as a state bank. There has been little change in the officers from the start. There have been occasional changes in some of the stockholders, one or two changes in vice president and in the board of directors and no change in president and cashier.

A. Z. Drew is president, A. P. Nelson, cashier, and Simon Thoreson, vice president. These three with Wm. Anderson and J. A. Hickerson form the present board of directors. Ole Anderson, Andrew Peterson, G. R. Wedin and Th. Olsen are the other stockholders. LeRoy Roberts is bookkeeper and assistant cashier.

The capital stock of the bank is \$25,000, the surplus \$4,000, the total deposits at this time are \$180,000, making the total assets \$217,000, which is a good showing for a young financial institution in a backwoods town.

The company of course owns its own building and this can be seen in the pictures shown on pages 14, 34 and 74. In the picture on page 73 a portion of



A. P. NELSON, CASHIER FIRST BANK OF GRANTSBURG

the north wall is seen next to the postoffice. It is not a pretentious building but it is practical and is well adapted to the business transacted within its walls. It was the first brick building erected in the county.

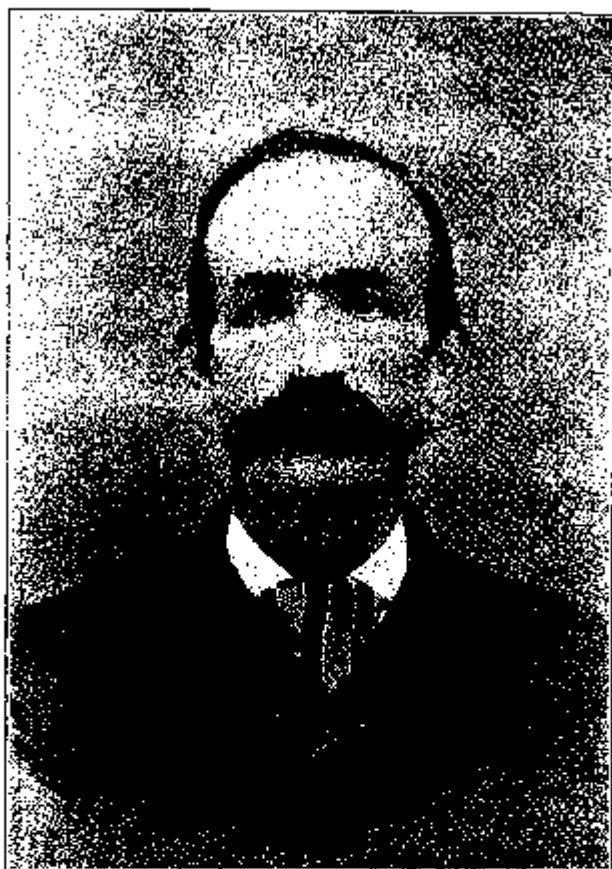
The average person coming to Burnett county and wanting to know something about the bank, cares only about whether it is a safe place to leave what little money he may not be wanting to use at once. Bank examiners say that it is one of the best managed banks in the state and all unite in the statement that it is as sound as a bank possibly can be. Its loan department is managed conservatively. About one-third of the loans are on real estate and the remainder is on short time paper. It has not met with a serious loss in any way since it was organized. The bank does a large local insurance business also.

Occupying the same building is another company, the Grantsburg Loan, Title and Realty Co. The stockholders in the bank are all stockholders in the realty company. The business is separate and distinct and yet the character of the business is such that the inside work of the realty company is done by the same help employed by the bank.

Thor. C. Farman, of Falen postoffice, is a stockholder in the realty company and does a large amount of the outside hustling.

The business of this company is to buy and sell real estate, chiefly that of Burnett county, loan money and examine titles. Having an abundance of capital to work with it will be able to make deals which other real estate dealers cannot touch.

This company has been in existence but a short time. It was organized in May, 1902, and has already sold sev-



WM. ANDERSON, PRESIDENT GRANTSBURG LOAN, TITLE AND REALTY COMPANY. Several thousand acres. It has been instrumental in bringing into the county as land seekers more than fifty men and when it gets down to business in earnest will be a powerful leverage in the immigration business.

Wm. Anderson is president, A. P. Nelson, secretary and treasurer and Th. Olsen, Ole Anderson and Andrew Peterson are the other directors.

A little personal mention about the head officials of these two companies may not be amiss.

A. Z. Drew, the president of the bank, is the only nonresident stockholder. He is professor of mathematics at Hamline University located between St. Paul and Minneapolis and is the sole owner of the bank of

Hamline. He is also president of the Central Farm Investment Co., of St. Paul. He is a native of the state of New Hampshire and has been a resident of Hamline since 1886. He regularly spends a portion of his summer vacation in Grantsburg, usually taking the place of Cashier Nelson when the latter takes a vacation. His one regret in life is that circumstances have so shaped themselves that he is not yet a permanent resident of Burnett county.

A. P. Nelson, cashier of the bank and secretary and treasurer of the realty company, has had almost sole control and management of both companies since their start. His work in connection with the bank has attracted

ted the attention of outside financial men and he was recently offered the position of treasurer and manager of the real estate loan department of one of the largest trust companies in the state of Minnesota. This offer was very complimentary to the bank as well as to Mr. Nelson personally. He has also been made a director in the North American Casualty Company, of Minneapolis, all of which goes to show that he is recognized by outside parties as a capable man and proves that the bank is well managed. At home he is a member of the village council and fire department, president of the Business Men's Association, secretary and treasurer of the Hickerson Roller Mill Co., treasurer of the Farmer's Store Co., superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school, financial agent of the same church and in many other ways is identified with the business and social life of the village and county. His ability as an orator is such that on nearly all public occasions he is sought to fill the important places in the program. He was not born to wealth but has scraped together a few dollars by hard work and close application to business. He was born of Swedish parents in Douglas county, Minn., in



MARTIN GISHOLD.

1872. He has accomplished much for a young man, having taught school for five years, taken a four year high school course and a four year university course and still found time to spend over eleven years working in a bank. He was for two years clerk and book-keeper in the Douglas Coun-

GUY TYLER, BUTTERMAKER,
GRANTSBURG CREAMERY.FRED OLSON, BUTTERMAKER,
WEBSTER CREAMERY

ty Bank at Alexandria, Minn., four years cashier of the Bank of Hamline and six years cashier of the First Bank of Grantsburg. Mr. Nelson is so well fitted to the position which he holds that no one need hesitate about applying to him personally for all kinds of information about the lands of the county. As secretary of the realty company he is in a position to



DR. M. L. ROBEY, GRANTSBURG.

handle both the buying and selling of land to the very best advantage.

Wm. Anderson, president of the Grantsburg Loan, Title and Realty Co., is one of the early settlers of the county. In the early days he lumbered along the Burnett county streams and by judicious investments laid the foundation for a moderate fortune. The raise of the price of land coupled with good business judgment has put him in possession of considerable property. He is one of the owners of the Hickerson Roller Mill, a partner in the furniture store of Anderson & Gudmanson and a heavy

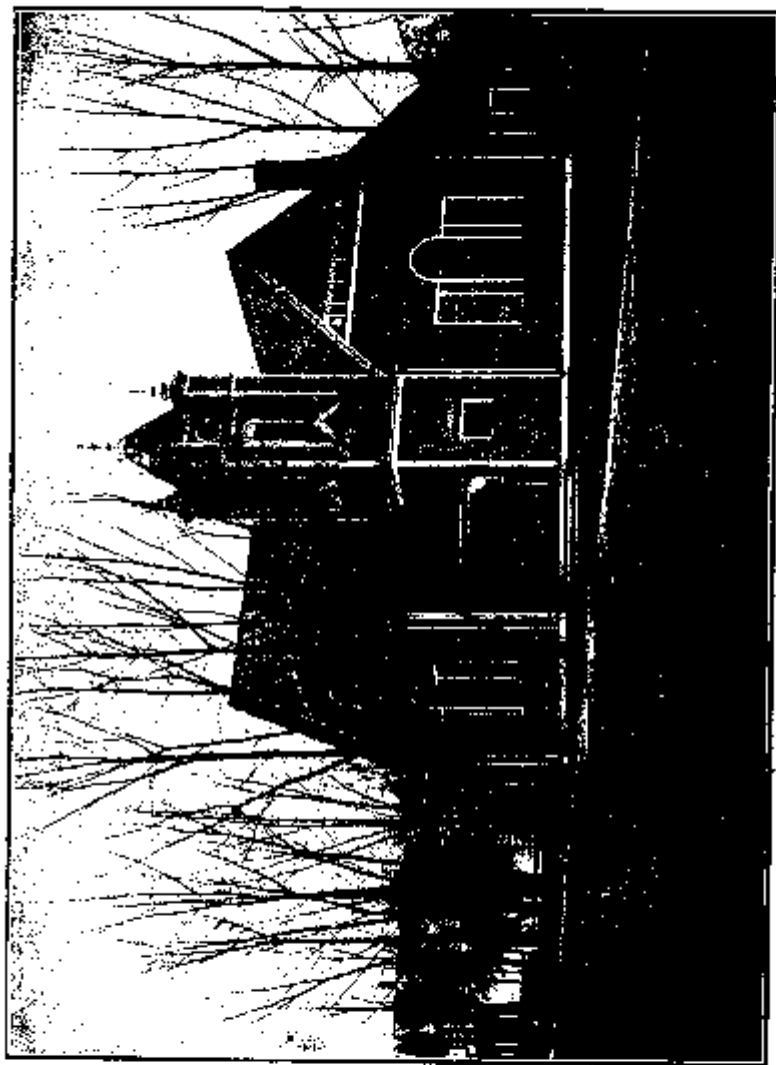


DR. P. BAKKE, GRANTSBURG.

stockholder in the co-operative starch factory. He owns several store buildings and other property in the village of Grantsburg and a large number of wild and improved farms throughout the county. He is as well posted on land values as any man in the county and is particularly well fitted to be at the head of this land company.



CAPT. F. D. RICE, GRANTSBURG, WIS.



CENTRAL M. E. CHURCH, GRANTSBURG, THE FIRST CHURCH IN THE COUNTY ORGANIZED ON AN ENGLISH SPEAKING BASIS.

CHURCHES.

Every community is affected by the churches in it and every person moving to a new country naturally wants to know something about what is furnished in the way of religious advantages. In Burnett county there are more church organizations or societies than there are buildings. In the newer parts of the county the services are mostly conducted in the English language, but in the older settlements nearly all services are held in the

Scandinavian languages. There are no statistics to be obtained in regard to the different denominations and any figures that could be given would be largely guess work. It is sufficient to say that any person coming to Burnett county who does not find church relations in harmony with his beliefs will be very hard to suit. Services are held in more than a dozen good church buildings and in perhaps twice as many school houses, private houses and halls. A complete review of the churches of the county will be impos-

able in this book and the information given will relate largely to such church people and church buildings as appear in the pictures in the book.

No matter what may be ones religious belief, even though it takes the form of infidelity, there yet remains a firm opinion that churches make for good more than they do for evil and that a community that lacks in religious sentiment is not a good place in which to bring up a family. Burnett county is much ahead of many new counties in this respect.

This book being published in the English language will naturally be read by many who will ask what is being done in religious work in the English language in the county. They will be more interested in that than in the Scandinavian churches.

There are a number of clergymen living on farms in different parts of the county who occasionally hold ser-



REV. T. O. KNUDSON, PASTOR CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH, GRANTSBURG.

vices and they look largely after the work outside of the village. Ministers from the outside visit the county frequently and in Grantsburg there is always a resident clergyman who preaches in the English language.

On page 80 is a fine cut of the M. E. church in Grantsburg. This building was erected in 1898 and the last dollar of indebtedness was wiped out in August, 1902. At the time this is being written Rev. T. O. Knudson is the pastor but it is expected there will be a change made at the annual conference now about to be held.

For a number of years Grantsburg was a part of a circuit which extended into Folk county and services were held in Grantsburg about twice a month. The young people growing up lost much of their interest in the services held in the language of their parents and the demand for an English service every Sunday soon became so strong that the Methodist denomination sought to supply the want. Their success has been wonderful and the



MRS. TENA N. DAVIDSON, EX-SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND PROMINENT CHURCH WORKER.

handsome church shown in the picture is the result. A strong society has been organized and the present officials are as follows: Trustees, A. P. Nelson, L. C. Erbe, C. E. Davidson, Mrs. Tena Davidson and A. Gudmanson. Stewards, A. P. Nelson, Mrs. A. P. Nelson, Mrs. Tena Davidson, Mrs. M. E. Doty and Miss Josie Olson.

The building was erected at a time when material was cheaper than at present and the actual cost was but \$2,500. The seating capacity is 400, the ceiling is made of steel and is richly frescoed and the building is divided into three rooms. The main auditorium and the lecture room can be thrown into one large room by means of folding doors and the study being close to the pulpit can also be used as seating room in case the church is overcrowded.

When the church was dedicated it was announced that it would be open at all times for the use of other denominations when needed and was to be in a general way a people's church instead of a denominational affair.



PERSWEN THORESON, GRANTSBURG,
WISCONSIN.



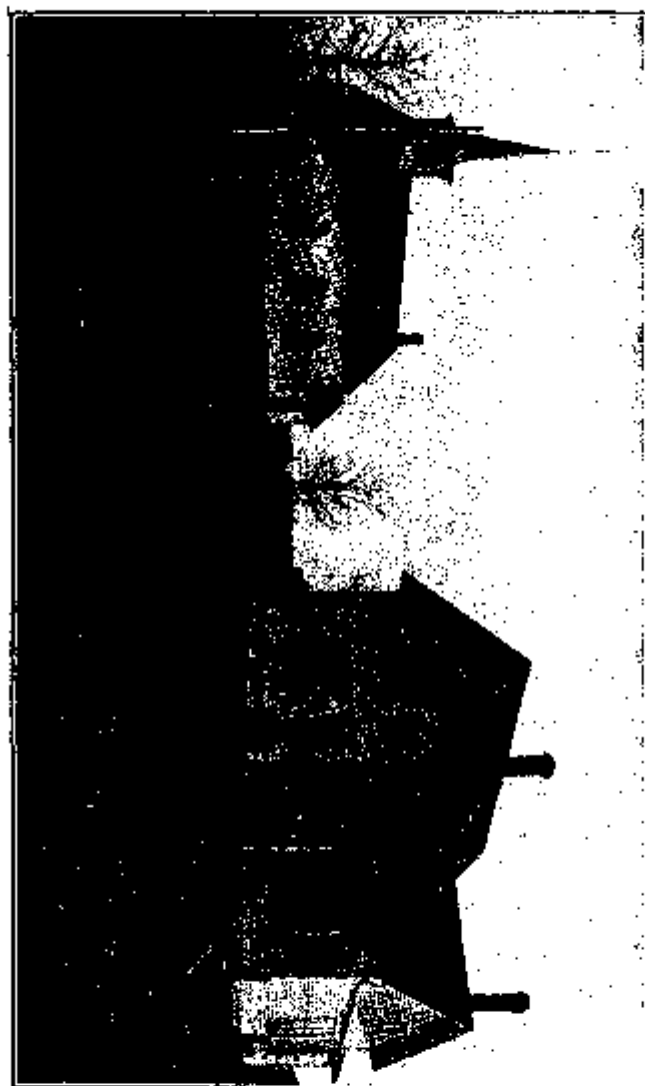
A. GUDMANSON, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

As a result nearly all funerals are held there and lectures and concerts are frequently held.

Nearly every citizen in the place has contributed financially to the building of the church and while many are entitled to great credit for what they have done no person has done so much as A. P. Nelson (see page 76). He has been the financial agent and to his management is due the success of the enterprise. Much credit is due to Mrs. Davidson as she was the pioneer member who pushed things along when the work was in its infancy and made it possible for others to do so much. The membership is small but the attendance is large and the institution is a great credit to the village and county.

Just when the first church organization was formed in Burnett county is difficult to tell but the writer has as yet to find anything going farther back than the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church of Wood river. A fine picture of their church and parsonage appears on page 83. These buildings are located about a mile south of the business portion of the

WOOD LIVER NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE.



Village of Grantsburg, just inside of the village limits.

The pastor at the present time is Rev. E. I. Synnes, who has been located there about four years. He also preaches at several other places in the county and has a very strong following. The majority of the Norwegian Lutherans of the village are connected with his church.

This society was organized in 1865.

Not many of the old pioneers are left. A picture of one of the founders of the church appears on page 82 and we are indebted to him (Herswen Thoresen) for most of the statistics of the society as he has kept the records from the start. The first services were held in a log school house and a minister came twice a year from Rush River to officiate. At that time it was a part of the St. Paul charge.



REV. A. O. ENGBLOM, PASTOR SWEDISH BAPTIST CHURCH, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

In 1870 a constitution was formally adopted and forty families were connected with the church. In 1871 the church building was started. The next year there came a division which resulted in the establishment of several other societies and it took some time for the Wood River society to regain its original membership.

In 1882 they had grown so much that it was found possible to support a resident pastor. About 1890 the church was fully completed and a parsonage built. It is now one of the strongest churches in the county and has been instrumental in accomplishing a lot of good. The location is in the richest farming district in the county, near where the first settlers in the county settled, and it is undoubtedly the mother church of the county.

Burnett county is young compared with the counties in the southern part of the state and yet it has a few "first

things." One of these is the first Swedish Baptist church ever built in the state. That building still stands as part of the Wood River Baptist church, a picture of which is shown on page 86. It is the little building in the rear and was originally erected about a mile south of its present location. It was built in the fall of 1869.

There is no part of Wisconsin where the Swedish Baptist church is so strong as in Burnett county. They have five church buildings and six resident preachers. Rev. F. O. Carlson is the district missionary, Rev. A. O. Engblom is pastor of the Grantsburg and Wood River churches, Rev. P. E. Swansson preaches in Wood Lake church and Rev. C. A. Berg has charge of the work at Trade Lake. Rev. E. W. Erickson is a retired minister living in Grantsburg and Rev. L. Lindholm is also temporarily retired and living on a farm near Kruger



SWEDISH BAPTIST CHURCH GRANTSBURG, WIS.

postoffice. The churches are located as follows: One in the village, one (The Wood River Church) three miles east, the Grettum or Prairie church five miles south of Grantsburg, the Wood Lake church ten miles east of town and the church at Four Corners, Trade Lake.

The men who settled where the first church was built walked from Chicago to Wood river in the winter of 1869 and secured homesteads. The first meeting for the purpose of organization was held at Trade Lake in July, 1869, and John Ring was the first preacher.

Rev. E. W. Erickson, who was the first pastor of the society after the church was built, is still a resident of Grantsburg and frequently preaches in the different churches of the county.

Rev. F. O. Carlson, district missionary, came to Grantsburg in April, 1891, and has charge of all the new work in Burnett, Polk and St. Croix counties. He has about twenty-five places where he preaches and he is the man who looks up the new settler and

invites him to the nearest place where he preaches. He holds services in many of the school houses of the county.

Rev. C. A. Berg, who preaches at Trade Lake, has been a resident of the county but a few months, and Rev. A. O. Engblom, the resident pastor at Grantsburg, came to the work in 1901.

Rev. P. E. Swanstrom lives on a farm east of Grantsburg and has been preaching in the county over thirty years. He is still a young man. Rev. L. Lindholm is a new-comer, not having been identified with the work in the county, and is here for the purpose of bringing up his children on a farm.

The society as a whole is in a prosperous condition. The membership in the entire county is about 225. Persons of this faith who come to this county will find themselves among warm hearted people who will extend a cordial welcome.

The pictures of the churches and ministers of this denomination appearing in this book were recently

used in a book published in Minneapolis giving a complete history of the Swedish Baptist Church in Wisconsin. Extra copies of it are to be had.

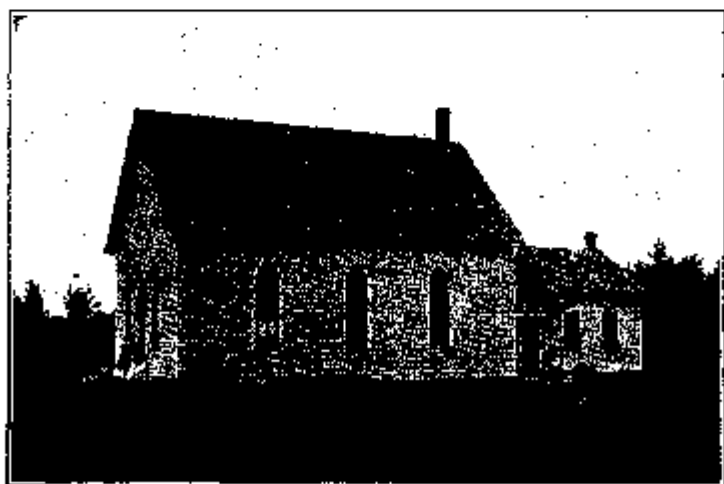
The Norwegian Lutherans have four churches besides the one shown on page 83. One at Aftad and another at Webster are a part of the work in charge of Rev. E. I. Synnes. The other two are of different branches of the Lutheran church. The one located near Brantstad postoffice and known as St. Olaf's (see page 88) is what is known as the conference church and the one in the village is a part of the Hauge branch of the Lutheran denomination. At the date of this writing both of these churches are without a regular pastor. Rev. H. L. Urness (see page 88), who has been serving both congregations, has been obliged to seek a rest on account of failing health. It is probable that he will not resume the work and a new pastor may be selected before this book reaches the public.

The Swedish Lutherans have four churches in the county. The strongest of these is the one at Trade Lake in charge of Rev. A. Hult. The other



REV. P. E. SWANSTROM, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

three are located at Grantsburg, Wood River and Falun. No regular pastor is employed at these churches and the work is largely in the hands of stu-



WOOD RIVER SWEDISH BAPTIST CHURCH

dents who come from seminaries during vacations.

The Norwegian Methodists have a very nice little church in the village and the present pastor is Rev. O.O. Christensen. He also preaches at Fish Lake, Braustad and at several points around Yellow Lake. The membership in the county is about 30.

The Swedish Methodists have one resident clergyman in the county. Rev. A. Anderson, of Trade Lake. They have a nice church there and the pastor preaches in other parts of the county occasionally. He has a number of members at Wood Lake.

The Swedish congregationalists have churches at Grantsburg, Ekdall, Freya, Falun and Trade Lake. Rev. J. P. Johnson (see page 92) and Rev. F. G. Hagquist are the resident ministers. The former resides at Grantsburg and the latter at Falun.

The church at Grantsburg was organized in 1865 and has twelve members. It has had seven different ministers. The building is on



REV. F. O. CARLSON, BAPTIST DISTRICT MISSIONARY.



TRADE LAKE SWEDISH BAPTIST CHURCH.

the north side of the village and is the only village church located on that side of the river.

Mr. Johnson also preaches at Ek-dall. The society there was organized in 1897. They bought a church from the Swedish Methodists and moved it to its present location.

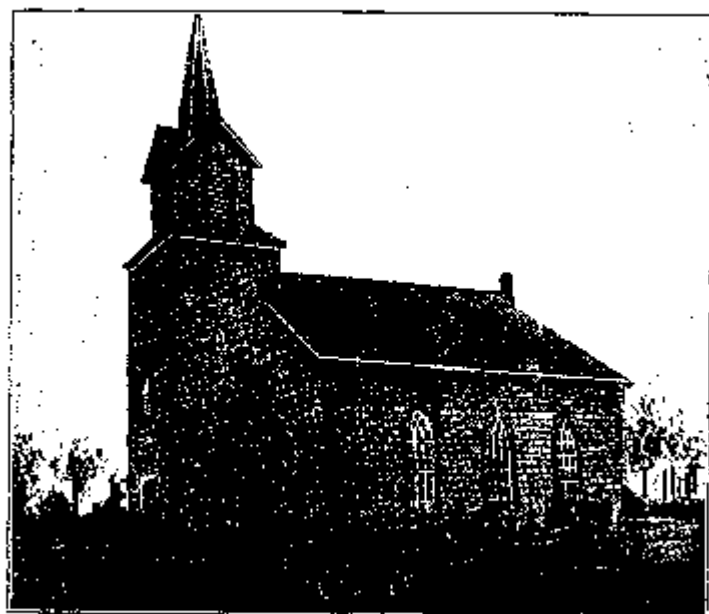
The church at Trade Lake was dedicated on June 10, 1900, and Mr. Johnson is the only pastor they have had, although other ministers have frequently preached there. The building will seat 300 people and is located three miles northwest of Trade Lake postoffice and eight miles south-east of Grantsburg. There is but a small debt yet to pay on the church.

There are many independent religious societies of different names, most of them being classed as mission churches. One of these is commonly known as John Forsberg's church as he conducts in it a very large Sunday school. It is located on the bluff near Trade Lake postoffice. Mr. Forsberg for many years has run a stage between Grantsburg and Trade Lake and is one of the best known men in



REV. H. L. FURNESS, FORMER PASTOR
ST. OLAF'S NORWEGIAN LUTH-
ERAN CHURCH.

the county. On page 89 is a picture of his Sunday school. It also shows his residence. Forsberg's annual summer picnic and his Christmas exercises are two events of the year



ST. OLAF'S NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANSTAD, WIS.

looked forward to by many in the county as the great things of the year.

In almost every neighborhood in the county there is some good man or woman who is ever on the alert to improve the moral and religious welfare of the community and there is no part of the county that is without church privileges of some kind.

The writer of this book has made an effort to secure pictures and information about every church in the county and many people who promised to secure the desired things have failed. It is no fault of the writer if those whose churches are not most fully represented have failed to make it possible to give them as much space as the others receive.

SCHOOLS.

There are about fifty school houses in Burnett county. A careful reading of this book from page 27 to page 57 will give a very good idea of how and where the various buildings are located.

The best school building in the county is the Grantsburg high school shown on page six. It is a state high school and is a credit to the town. W. F. Steve (see page 71) is now in his fourth year as principal. Three other teachers are employed and arrangements are being made for the addition of two more rooms in the near future.

By the time this book is in the hands of its readers another high school will probably be in operation in the northern part of the county. It will be in the backwoods near Webake and the children will be taken to and from school at public expense. It is an experiment that will be watched with much interest and if successful other parts of the



JOHN FORSBERG'S SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC,
TRADE LAKE.

county are likely to adopt similar measures.

For a new country Burnett county is well supplied with schools and the teachers are as a rule thoroughly competent. No one need feel that in moving to Burnett they are condemning their children to a life of ignorance for educational matters are well looked after.

CREAMERIES.

One of the most important factors in the development of the county is the creameries. There was not a single creamery in the county in 1895. Seven years later there are eight in the county and four just over the lines in adjoining counties.

Those in Burnett county are all on the co-operative plan and the share are almost exclusively owned by the patrons.

The first one to begin business



MISS AGNESSULLIVAN, GRANTS-
BURG, A POPULAR BURNETT
COUNTY TEACHER.



ANDREW (PINE LAKE) PETERSON, TRADE
LAKE, FIRST CREAMERY PRESIDENT.

was the Trade Lake creamery (see page 50). This started up on May 6, 1896, and up to July 1st, 1902, had received 8,546,130 pounds of milk and made 392,447 pounds of butter. The society had sold between those dates \$79,867.17 worth of butter. After paying all expenses for over six years there has been divided among the patrons the nice sum of \$11,309.32. The value of the society property is about \$3,000. The building is located in almost the exact center of the town of Trade Lake. Andrew Anderson No. 3, the Trade Lake postmaster, is the secretary and treasurer and much of the success of the enterprise is due to his careful management of affairs.

The Wood River Creamery (see page 39) was the second to start. It began business June 9, 1896, and up to August 1, 1902, had sold 488,2304 pounds of butter, receiving for the same \$101,352 57. During that time



H. HASSWELL NADIO, M. D., GRANTSBURG.

the price has ranged from 14 cents in May, 1897, to 32 cents in April, 1902.

As will be seen by the following table there has been a steady increase both in the amount of butter made and in the money received for the same.

YEAR.	POUNDS.	AMOUNT.
1896-7.....	77,565	\$ 13,401.29
1898.....	65,902½	12,709.23
1899.....	78,040½	16,223.59
1900.....	88,492½	19,655.40
1901.....	100,658	22,983.09
1902.....	71,578	16,909.97
Total:	488,236½	\$101,352.57

The statement above includes in the first figures one year and seven months in 1896 and 1897 while the last figures are for seven months of 1902. If the

remaining five months of 1902 show up as well as the first seven the receipts for the year will go above \$20,000 and the monthly average will be close to \$2,500 as against about \$700 when the creamery was getting started.

Since this creamery was put in operation both the Faun and Grantsburg creameries have started up and taken away considerable patronage and yet it has increased in business more than 300 per cent. It is impossible to tell exactly how many cows are milked to supply any of the creameries but a close count on this one shows between 330 and 340. This makes an average sale of butter for each cow of about \$1.50 a month or a net return to the patron of about one dollar per cow per week.

The president of this company is John Swenson and a picture of his farm residence is seen on page 8. He has fine barns, a nice lot of stock and he owes his prosperity largely to milk and potatoes.

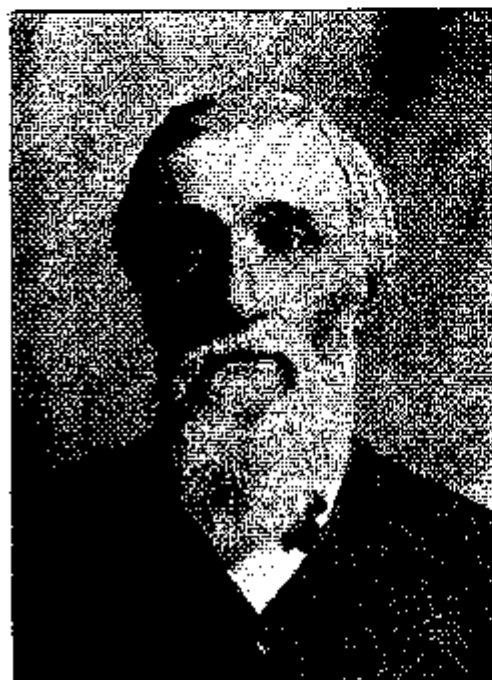
August Cassel (see page 87) is the secretary and treasurer. Farther on in this book there will be more said about Mr. Cassel.

On page 46 is a picture of the Webster Creamery. The association which owns this was organized February 1, 1901, by George C. Rice, who is the president at the present time. E. H. Eversen is secretary.

This is one of the new creameries of the county and is built where the majority of the land five years ago was either vacant government land or the settlers were just moving onto it. The amount of butter made is not as much as the other creameries but it is increasing and the Association is meeting all its bills, satisfying its patrons and is nearly out of debt.



REV. J. P. JOHNSON, PASTOR GRANTSBURG SW. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.



CAPT. D. W. FORD, VETERAN, WIS., PIONEER SETTLER ON YELLOW LAKE.

A description of this building will serve as information in regard to all the creameries as they are few and the machinery is modern. The building is 24x56, the plant is run by a 15 horse power engine and a 20 horse power boiler. The water is of the purest and is drawn from the ground by a Moore steam pump. The milk is received in a room ten feet square and is weighed in a 50 gallon can. It is then conveyed to a 500 gallon receiving vat and from there is pumped with a sanitary pump into a tubular heater at the rate of 6,000 pounds per hour. The cream is separated by an Alpha No. 1 Separator that has a capacity of 2,500 pounds per hour and is run into a 300 gallon Boyd ripening vat. A No. 6 Fargo combined churn having a capacity of 650 pounds of butter does the churning. The skim milk is weighed on the latest up-to-date self-weigher.

On page 78 is a picture of Fred Olson, the buttermaker at this

creamery. He was born at Chester, Dodge Co., Wis., in 1877, but has been a resident of Burnett county for a number of years. He is a graduate of the Minnesota State Dairy school. His papers are first class. He is an up-to-date butter maker and is very neat and tidy in his work. Much of the success of the Webster creamery is due to the interest he has taken in its advancement.

On page 36 is a rear view of the Grantsburg Creamery. This building is located 2½ miles south of the village, at Branstad postoffice. This creamery started up May 13, 1897, and has had a very prosperous career. F. O. Olson is president and Levi Anderson secretary.

This creamery has one of the best records of any creamery in the county. It has handled 2,200,000 pounds of milk in one year and made 109,000 pounds of butter from that milk. It has about 100 patrons. Last year the patrons averaged about \$175 each after paying dividends, repairs and running expenses.

On page 78 is a picture of Guy Tyler,



ANDREW PETERSON, OF J. E. PETERSON & SON, GRANTSBURG

the butter maker. Mr. Tyler was born at Millville, Grant Co., Wis., Sept. 1, 1878, and was raised on a farm until he was 21. He learned the creamery business in Iowa county and finished with a course in the Wisconsin Dairy school. He made application for his present position through the state university and began work a little over two years ago. For about a year of that time he has done the work alone and has proven himself so capable and efficient that the management has raised his salary higher than has ever been paid to any other employe of the creamery.

On June 7, 1899, the shipment of butter from Grantsburg to New York City was 12,250 pounds. This was the product of one weeks run of the creameries and contained the first butter made by the Falun creamery. A picture of this creamery is to be found on page 38. This was the fourth creamery to be built in the county and is still fourth in the amount of butter made. It is less than three miles from the Wood River creamery and has a smaller territory in which



CHARLES BERGFALK, CLERK OF THE TOWN OF MARSHLAND.

to secure milk. The farmers are increasing their herds of cows and the business is growing at the butter factory. Ed. C. Johnson, the Palau postmaster, is secretary and treasurer.

July 12, 1899, the Trade River creamery, (see page 48) began shipping. This is located near the south line of the county about ten miles direct south of the county seat.

The creamery pictured on page 37 and known as Doctor's Lake joined the ranks of shippers on August 9, 1899, and on that date sent 480 pounds of butter to New York City. Since then it has run its product up to more



M. COBDEN, MERCHANT,
GRANTSBURG.

than 1,000 pounds for a week. It is located near Siren postoffice and its business manager is Daniel Johnson, the Siren postmaster. This factory is in a locality not closely settled and has a limited number of patrons. The outlook for many more cows in the future is very promising.

The building of these three creameries in 1899 doubled the number in the county. No new creameries were built the next year. In 1901 the Webster creamery was started and about the same time one was started at Clam Falls, over the line in Polk



THOS. H. WILLIAMS, STATION AGENT,
GRANTSBURG.

county. The latter furnished an outlet for the milk in the southern part of town of La Follette the same as did one in Barronett. Barron Co., for the milk in the town of Rusk.

In the spring of 1902 the Alstad Creamery (see page 49) was built and made its first shipment on June 18th. This creamery is located six miles south and four miles west of the county seat and in the vicinity of several thousand acres of undeveloped mead-



OLE C. BRANSTAD, ANDERSONVILLE
REBEL PRISON SURVIVOR.



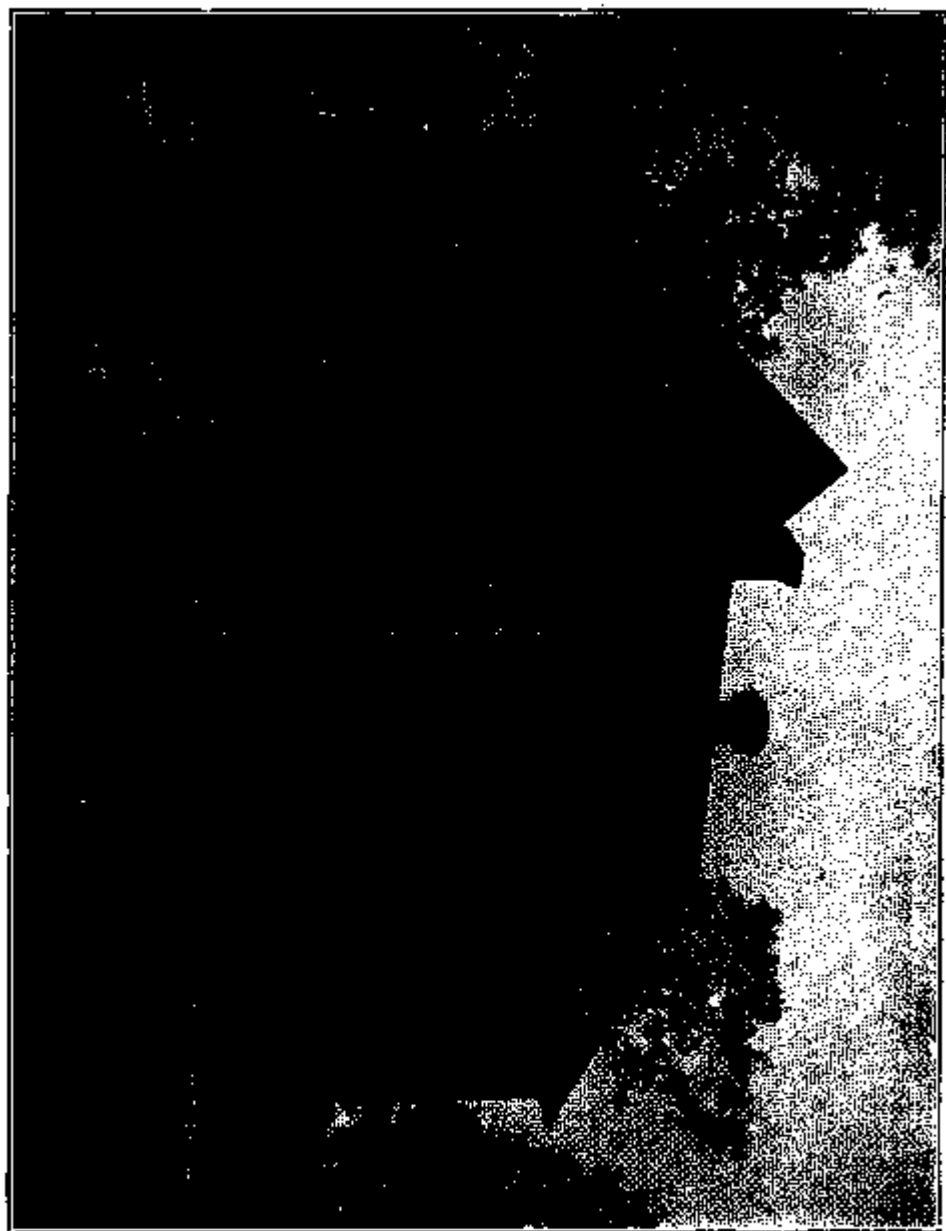
GUST ANDERSON, GRANTSBURG POLICEMAN, HEIGHT SEVEN FEET.

A. L. EVANS, JOURNAL REPORTER, GRANTSBURG, HEIGHT FIVE FEET SIX INCHES.

ows and tamarack swamps and no doubt has a very brilliant future before it. It is directly on the "Air Line" railroad survey between St. Paul and Superior. Ole Bye is the secretary and manager of the creamery.

On page 52 is a picture of the West Sweden creamery. This is just over the line in Polk county. It was not a co-operative creamery until a few

years ago. The original start was made before any of the creameries of Burnett county were built and did not receive a very liberal patronage until it came directly into the hands of the farmers as owners. Since then it has been very prosperous. A great deal of the butter manufactured has been sold direct to consumers and yet during 1900 the shipments to New York City exceeded 33,000 pounds.



COUNTY JAIL AND SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE. (SEE PAGE 74.)

Another Polk county creamery (Atlas) is shown on page 51. This is just half a mile south of the Burnett county line and nearly half of the milk used comes from Burnett county.

This is one of the largest creameries in this part of the state, the shipments for several years having exceeded the largest creamery in Burnett county about ten per cent.

In 1896 a plan was developed whereby a refrigerator car was started from Grantsburg every Wednesday direct for New York City. This was loaded with nothing but creamery butter and was well filled before it reached St. Paul. It always reached New York in time for the Monday morning markets and Burnett county butter always brought a cent above the market price. Up to a year ago all the creameries pictured in this book shipped by this car, but when the "Soo Line" opened its Frederic branch Atlas and West Sweden changed to that road. Eight creameries still ship by the way of Grantsburg and the through car still runs.

For six months previous to September, 1902, six of the creameries shipped the following number of 60 pounds tubs: Grantsburg, 1013; Wood River, 888; Trade Lake 761; Falun, 819; Trade River, 237, and Doctor's Lake, 233. During the latter half of that time



E. A. DURKEE, PERIDA, WIS. BUILDER OF COUNTY JAIL AND SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE. (SEE PAGE 96.)

Webster shipped 86 tubs and in two months Alstad shipped 93 tubs. The total butter shipments for six months ran close to a quarter of a million pounds and distributed among the farmers of the county about \$75,000 or an average of about \$400 each day.

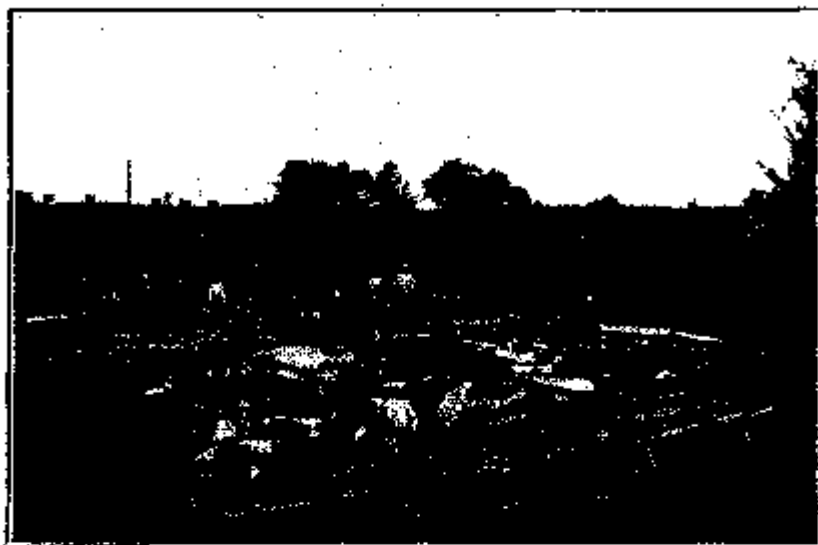
With the butter business but in its infancy it does not take any great stretch of imagination to look into the future and see a million dollars worth of butter made in this county in a year as the field is wide in which to yet build creameries, and all of the present creameries can handle many more pounds of milk.

In a dozen different localities new creameries are being projected and all that is required to insure their building is the coming in of a few more settlers with a few more cows and a man or two of push to turn the talk into actual results. If there was not another thing to recommend Burnett



P. B. PETERSON, FURNITURE AND BUILDING MATERIAL DEALER, GRANTSBURG. (SEE PAGE 112.)

[Correction Note: The statement on page 96 that Ole Rye is secretary and manager of the Alstad creamery is an error. He is one of the directors and was one of the prime movers in getting the creamery established. The secretary is Albert Glaser and the president is Thomas Suller.]



MARTIN GISWOLD'S CATTLE IN GRANTSBURG STOCK YARDS.

county to the intending settler the butter business alone would make it a rich community. We have the grass and water to make the milk. This is clearly proven by the creameries now in successful operation.

GRASSES.

The highest scientific agricultural authority says that in no place in the world is there any better grass for butter and cheese making than in Northern Wisconsin. It is conceded that where tame grasses are abundant it is better to make cheese than butter, consequently that pushes the butter making out into the newer counties where wild grass is more plenty than tame.

In Burnett county the farmers have been raising but little tame grass until within a few years and on the sand lands there has been but little experimenting. On the clay lands are many fine fields of clover and the farmers are just beginning to realize that clover is a profitable crop. There has been practically no clover raised for seed and this branch of farming needs a few experienced farmers to push it along.

Some clover has been raised successfully on sand land but it has not been well tested as yet.

The common quack grass has been found to thrive on sand lands but this is so hard to destroy that land once seeded to it will probably never be used for general farming. Agricultural college professors advise against sowing this grass as they are satisfied that there are better grasses yet to be proven.

The writer of this book has experimented with other grasses on a small scale and if the same success is met with on a larger scale there is no question that there are certain grasses that will turn the dryest sand barrens into good pasture. With good pasture for stock the price of the land must go up and there will be no waste land in the county.

There is a grass imported from Russia that has been tried in this county and has thrived under very adverse circumstances. The first year it does nothing but root, and to those not familiar with it it is very discouraging, as the top growth is but a few inches. The next year it makes good pasture and hay and in the third



JOHN CARLSON'S STORE AND RESIDENCE, TRADE LAKE.

year it grows most luxuriantly. It is not killed out by drought and stands the trampling of stock very well. A sample of this grass can be seen growing around THE JOURNAL office in Grantsburg and there are a number of small fields started in several parts of the county.

There is a good opportunity for men of capital to buy up the cheap sand lands, sow them to this grass, turn the sand barrens into green fields and cover them with stock. When the scheme has been proven successful the lands will sell at a good profit and will increase in richness instead of run out. Many thousands of acres can thus be brought into successful cultivation, the projectors will make money and become public benefactors.

Some of these sand lands can be bought as low as from three to five dollars an acre, be made to pay in crops the cost of getting them seeded to this Russian grass and finally sell for several times the original cost. This is a project worthy of consideration by men of means.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

The Burnett County Agricultural society has held twenty-five annual

fairs and is in a flourishing condition. The society owns twenty acres of land half a mile south of the business portion of the village of Grantsburg, has a good fair house, a race track, grand stand and other buildings. The annual exhibit is good. The fair is usually held on the fourth week in September.

The Grantsburg Market Day Association holds monthly Market Days at the county seat on the third Saturday of each month and some very good displays of stock and farm produce are frequently made.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

In the village of Grantsburg there are three insurance agents representing standard fire insurance companies but these agents seek no business outside of the village. The outside business is handled among the farmers by two mutual companies.

The Trade Lake Town Fire Insurance Company is the older company and has been doing business for a number of years. It is a very strong company and operates chiefly through the western and southern part of the county. Andrew Anderson, of Trade Lake, is the secretary.

The Farmers Mutual Insurance Co.,



AUGUST EYNELL AND WIFE, GRANTSBURG.

of Rusk and LaFollette, is a new company. J. A. Schoonover, of May post-office, is the secretary. This company has a good start. At present the greater part of its business is in the northern and eastern part of the county.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

There are many people who will be interested to know that there are numerous fraternal organizations in the county. The village of Grantsburg boasts of ten. In the rest of the county but one society has succeeded in getting lodges established. The M. W. A. has camps at Trade Lake, Webster, Orange, May, Hertel and Grantsburg in the county and at Wolf Creek, Atlas and Cham Falls just over the line in Polk county. The Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Honor, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the

World, Good Templars, Juvenile Temple, Royal Neighbors, Daughters of Rebekah and Eastern Star all have organizations in the village of Grantsburg and there are no finer halls anywhere in the northwest than the two that are known as the Masons' and Odd Fellows' halls.

POLITICALLY.

So far as party politics are concerned here is but one party organization in the county. In 1900 there were 1,388 votes cast for presidential candidates and of these Wm. McKinley received 1,112.

This is sufficient proof that the county is strongly republican. Six years ago the democrats held a convention but made no nominations for county offices. That year the peoples party had a county ticket in the field



C. J. JACOBSON AND WIFE, WOOD LAKE.

and again in 1898. Since then there have been no party nominations except by the republicans. There are usually enough independent candidates to arouse an interest in election and get the voters out.

The county is divided into seven towns and one village and a supervisor from each of these forms the county board. The village is Grantsburg and one of the towns is also known as Grantsburg but they are two separate corporations. The other towns are Trade Lake, Wood Lake, Marshland, Meenon, Rusk and LaFollette. It is expected that the town of Meenon will in the near future be divided into three towns and this will give a county board of ten members. These are all chosen at the spring election and party politics has no voice in their selection.

POPULATION.

The 1900 census gave the total population of the county as 7,478. This was divided as follows: Grantsburg town 1,088, Grantsburg village 612, Marshland 768, Meenon 1,252, Rusk 630, Trade Lake 1,174 and Wood Lake 1,414. It is estimated that at the present time the population is nearly 10,000.

BOARD OF IMMIGRATION.

Up to a few years ago but little was done to attract the settlers to this county. The interests of the lumbermen and others were in an opposite direction and more was done to keep settlers out than was done to bring them in. In 1895 there was a general awakening all over the state to the possibilities of farming in Northern Wisconsin and immigration conventions were held in many parts of the state. Such a convention was held in Grantsburg and attracted so much attention through the daily press that the county got a good advertising. About that time a board of immigration was formed and has been maintained in some way ever since.

From time to time the county appropriated small sums of money and this was invested by the board most economically in incidental expenses. What was left was spent for photographs and the making of cuts until a large collection of the latter was secured. A year ago the county appropriated a sum about equal to the total of what had been appropriated before and the secretary of the immigration board was instructed to make the best use of it he could. He started this

book in February, used all the money the county had put up and then invested four or five times as much of his own funds in the effort to make it as complete as possible. He printed nearly ten times as many copies as the board had expected him to do and is depending upon the sale of a large number of these to reimburse him for his outlay.

In preparing the copy he has sought to answer every question about the county which has been asked him during the past seven years and as the book has grown from month to month the questions have been piling up until there seems to be no limit.

Prospective settlers are inquisitive people and want to know much. The only way they can know all there is to be known about the county is to read this book carefully and then subscribe for one of the local papers in the county. There are two, mention of which is made elsewhere in this book. The Sentinel is published by Ahlstrom & Myrland and The Journal by Ed L. Peet, the writer of this book. Either paper will send a free sample copy if



P. D. HICKERSON, LIVERYMAN
GRANTSBURG.

applied for. Both offices are located in Grantsburg. The Sentinel building is shown on page 34 and The Journal building on page 22. Subscribers who seek information not contained in this book will have many of their questions answered in the columns of the local papers if they will request it.

This book being the work of the board of Immigration appointed by the county is official. No doubt it will be preserved by many for a long time and used for reference. It can in no sense be complete as changes are going on too rapidly to make what is told today exactly true tomorrow. The first 16 pages of the book were printed over seven months before this page was written and some time must elapse ere the last page will be printed. Before writing the last pages of the book some reference must be made to

THE PICTURES IN THE BOOK.

The reason for using so many pictures is that they add to the attractiveness of the work. Many persons will buy and circulate a book of this kind if it is well illustrated when



THOSTEN OLSON, MERCHANT,
GRANTSBURG.



A. E. NELSON, MERCHANT, GRANTSBURG.

they would not send out the mere statements of what the county is like. Many of those whose pictures appear in the book have purchased in advance several dollars worth of the books and will assist in the distribution. Not all of the prominent people of the county are represented as it has been impossible to get their photographs. The buildings and scenes pictured are but a hint of what is in the county. There are thousands of things which ought to appear in the book but are left out because the pictures could not be had in time.

Many intending settlers will be a long time making up their mind to move to Burnett county and this book will assist them in becoming acquainted with some of the people in it. It is for that reason so many portraits are used. The reader is introduced to the people in advance. The book is in no sense a history of the county but is simply a help to intending settlers. Naturally in the reference to the people pictured in it some history will be told. The most historical picture in it is the one which appears on the title page. It represents Canute Anderson,

THE FOUNDER OF BURNETT COUNTY.

Canute Anderson was born in Nor-

way in 1830. When 21 years old he came to America and began as a river man on the Mississippi. He soon worked his way to the head of navigation and when winter came hired out at Osceola to go into the woods for the winter. The camp was near the St. Croix river north of where Grantsburg now stands.

He concluded that he would settle near there and in 1852 secured land south of there and became an actual resident. From that day to the time of his death in 1893 he was ever active in promoting the welfare of the county and was instrumental in getting many people to settle in the county. As postmaster, county clerk, assemblyman, store keeper, hotel keeper and farmer he was first in the county and also held nearly every office in the county. Many of his descendants and other relatives are still residents of the county.

COUNTY OFFICERS.

On pages 60 to 70 are pictures of the county officers. Pages 103-8 are being printed as election is in progress and five of the court house officials are



ISAAC L. BURCH, LUMBERMAN AND CRUISER.

candidates without opposition to succeed themselves. Two are by law prohibited from succeeding themselves, one has an opponent, one is an appointed officer, the county board members are elected in the spring and the county judge has over three years yet to serve before his term expires.

F. G. Dahlberg, whose picture appears on page 60, is the present county judge. He was born in Sweden in 1857, came to America when he was ten years old and has "made his own way in the world" since he was fourteen. He has been railroad contractor, farmer, public official and implement dealer with success. His home has been Minneapolis one year, Trade Lake thirty-five years and at the present time, although holding a county office and selling farm machinery at the county seat, his residence is Trade Lake. His family consists of a wife and eight daughters. In spite of the dignity of his office his friends call him "Gust" and he is known as a great hustler both in business and politics. Since taking the office of county judge last January he has given considerable attention to public



CHARLES ELG, OF JOHN ELG & SONS,
MERCHANTS, GRANTSBURG.

land matters and has located a large number of settlers on homesteads. He takes to politics like a duck to water and it is seldom that the faction he is with does not come out on top. He is well posted on land matters and is a good man to go to for information.

W. E. Armstrong, county clerk, is also probate register or deputy judge and president of the board of immigration. He is serving his first term as clerk and is a candidate for reelection without opposition. He has been a resident of the county for fourteen years and is a native of Illinois. He took a homestead in what is now the town of Rusk. While living there he was for a number of years town clerk and also served as chairman of the town board. His official duties require him to live in Grantsburg but he has a farm in the town of LaFollette to which he may retire when he gets tired of public life. He is the first American born of American parents who has held the office of county clerk in Burnett county for many years. His picture appears on page 61.

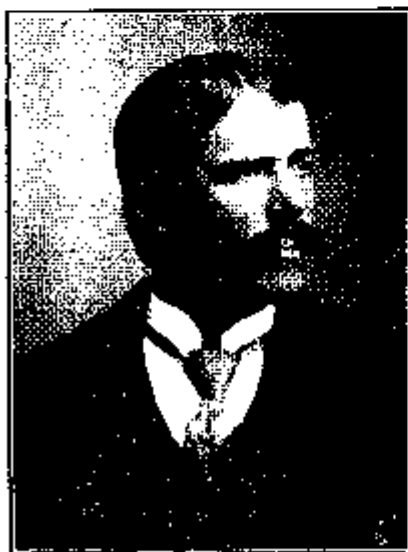


REV. C. O. CHRISTIANSON, PASTOR NOR-
WEGIAN METHODIST CHURCH,
GRANTSBURG.

Page 62 shows the faces of Burnett county's treasurer and sheriff. Treasurer Tollefson is now serving his eighth year in that office and before becoming treasurer was sheriff. In Wisconsin a treasurer can serve but two terms in succession and he will therefore go out of office next January.

Sheriff Olson has long been a resident of the county and is one of its most enthusiastic sportsmen. One of his hunting parties is represented on page 41. There is so little to do in the office of sheriff in this county that Mr. Olson devotes most of his time to work on the road as traveling salesman for a wholesale house, leaving a deputy to look after what may show up outside of court weeks. The sheriff serves but one term and Mr. Olson will have a successor next year.

The pictures on page 63 represent the clerk of court and the district attorney. Clerk Hickerson has held his office nearly sixteen years and during that time has written more applications for homesteads than any other clerk of court in Northern Wisconsin. He has been a resident of the county



P. C. ANDERSON, BARBER.
GRANTSBURG.



NORDAL C. UNSEITH, DRUGGIST, OPTICIAN AND JEWELER, GRANTSBURG.

almost from its infancy and knows every part of it well. He is again a candidate and has no opposition.

Mr. Myrland has been a resident of the county nearly six years and has held the office of district attorney four years. He is a candidate for re-election without opposition. He is chairman of the republican county committee. Before engaging in the practice of law he was principal of several high schools in the southern part of the state. He is a native of Norway. In addition to his law practice he is one of the editors of the Burnett County Sentinel and half owner of the same.

Page 64 shows the register of deeds and county surveyor. "Little Andrew" as Mr. Anderson is best known is perhaps the most popular man in the county. For sixteen years he has recorded the deeds of this county and seldom has any opposition when he runs for any office. He is again the party nominee without opposition and will be re-elected. He is always seeking to do for others and never to do others. This gives him a very large circle of admirers who are always

ready to give him anything he wants politically. He is one of the partners in the store of Anderson & Son. For many years he has been village clerk and also the secretary of the Burnett County Agricultural Society.

Surveyor Webster is comparatively a new man in Burnett county, having lived here but five years, but he knows the ground like a book, having surveyed in every town. During this time he has won a very enviable reputation in his business and it is generally believed that "if Webster can not find the witness trees and the corner it is no use for anyone else to look." His home is in the town of Meenon and his postoffice address is Dongola. His wife was recently appointed postmistress there and the office will soon be moved to his farm in section 20, 39-15. He is thoroughly posted in all land matters and any business entrusted to him will receive prompt and reliable attention. He formerly lived in Dunn county, this state, and in South Dakota.

Page 65 contains the portraits of Mrs. Fay S. Williams, county superintendent of schools, and Andrew G. Peterson, county supervisor of assessments.



J. A. LARSON, OF LARSON BROS.,
MERCHANTS, GRANTSBURG.



EDDIE LARSON, OF LARSON BROS.,
MERCHANTS GRANTSBURG.

Mrs. Williams was born at Oshkosh, Wis., where she lived until she was married and removed to South Dakota. She taught school there several years and in 1889 removed to Burnett county. She was superintendent in 1895-1896, 1901-1902 and is an independent candidate for re-election.

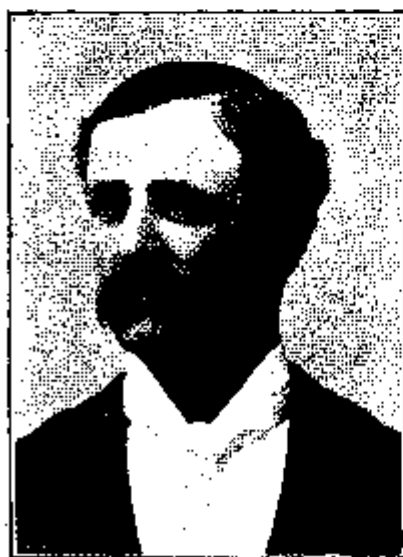
The office of supervisor of assessments was created by the legislature and Andrew G. Peterson, of Wood Lake, was selected by the county board to fill the place. He has served Burnett county one term as sheriff and has taken an active part in local politics since 1896. He was born in Sweden in 1863, came to Minnesota in 1868 and to Burnett county in 1872. Burnett county has never had a better official than Mr. Peterson has been.

Simon Thoreson, whose picture appears on page 66, is best known in the county as proprietor of "The Big Store" (see page 73). He is chairman of the county board, representing the village, and is member of assembly-elect. He is treasurer of the board of immigration and is connected with almost every public enterprise in the county. He was born in Norway in 1849 and came to what is now Burnett county

ty in 1861. He has been a prominent figure in local politics for many years. He will represent Burnett and Polk counties in the Wisconsin legislature this winter. No other candidate was nominated against him.

Page 67 contains pictures of two more members of the county board, both of whom at this time are candidates for other county offices. August Cassel is the republican nominee for county treasurer and Ole Mattson is running independent for sheriff.

August Cassel was born in Sweden in 1848 and has been a resident of Burnett county for 32 years. He has been clerk of one school district twenty years, member of the county board fifteen years, sheriff five years and has held other town offices a number of years. For six years he has been secretary of the Wood River Creamery (see page 92), treasurer of Trade Lake Insurance Co. (see page 93) two years and president of the Farmers' Starch Co., (see page 31) two years. New settlers will find him a good man to apply to for information about the county. His present postoffice address is Wood Lake.



IRA C. JONES, OF THE TERRA COTTA BRICK CO., GRANTSBURG.



DAVID LARSON, OF LARSON BROS., MERCHANTS, GRANTSBURG.

Ole Mattson lives near the south line of the county, the postoffice where he gets his mail is Atlas, just over the line in Polk county. He has been identified with the town management of Trade Lake for a number of years and was at one time under sheriff. He is a farmer and runs a saw mill. He was born in Sweden forty-four years ago and has been a resident of Trade Lake for thirty-three years.

On page 68 are pictures of the members of the county board from the towns of Marshland and Rusk.

Peter Klarquist, chairman of the town of Marshland, was born in Sweden sixty-five years ago, was educated for the ministry but has given his attention to farming for many years. He is one of the best orators in the county but he no longer preaches. There are lots of people who do not like him but they all recognize his value as a town official and even his worst enemies vote for him. He has done a great deal for the benefit of the town of Marshland and has raised one of the best families in the county.

Close statistics in regard to Andrew Dahlstrom are lacking. He is post

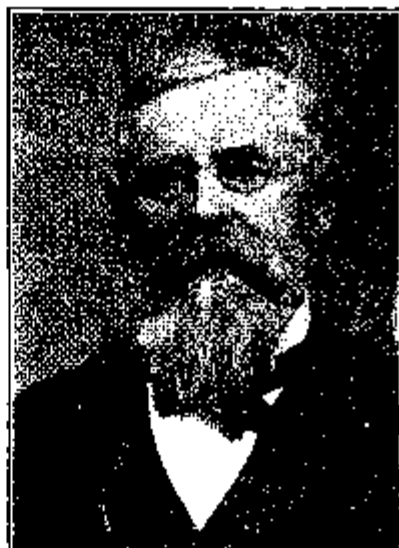
master at Doran, chairman of the Bask town board and ex-county surveyor. He is a level headed business man and farmer and a citizen to whom new comers can tie to their advantage.

J. D. Hunter, whose picture appears on page 89, is chairman of the town of La Follette. He is fifty-three years old, has been a resident of the county sixteen years and of the state forty-eight years. He was for many years a resident of Pierce county. He lives on section 32, township 38, range 15, and gets his mail at Clam Falls. He says that since coming to Burnett county he has made dollars where he made cents before.

Tobias Thoreson, whose picture appears on page 70, is a brother of Simon Thoreson and the representative in the county board from the town of Grantsburg. He is fifty-eight years old and has lived in Burnett county forty years. He was born in Norway. He resides on the place which his father homesteaded nearly forty years ago and lives within a mile of the



JOHN FORSBERG, SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AND STAGE PROPRIETOR, TRADE LAKE. (SEE PAGES 88 AND 89.)



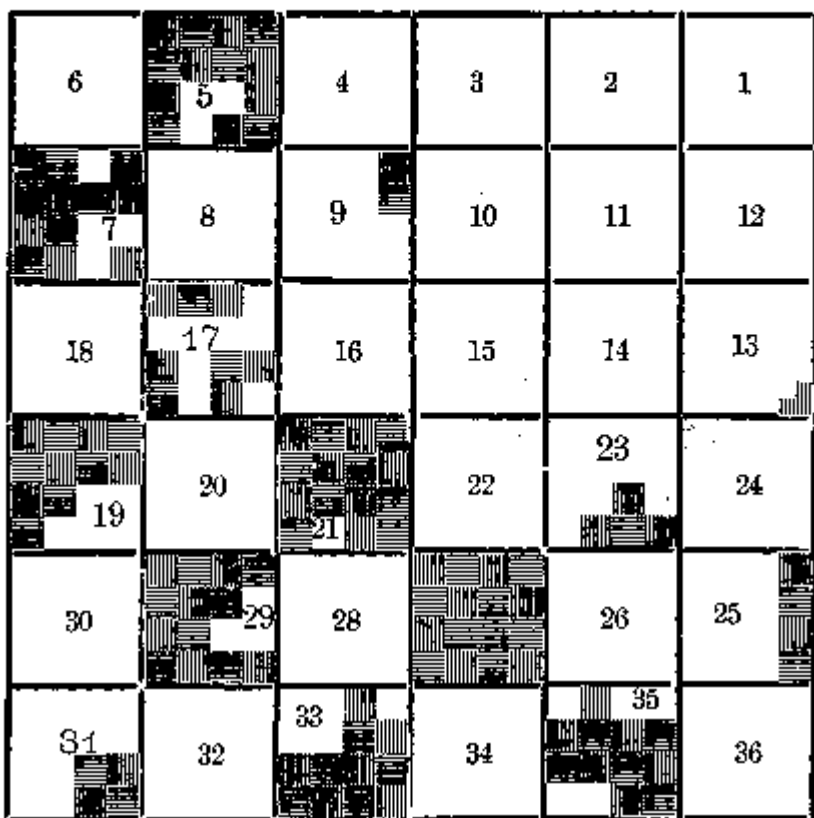
JOHN O. AKERLIND, RETIRED FARMER, TRADE LAKE.

village limits. He has served as sheriff two years and for seven years has been a member of the town board. He has been in the county board four terms. He is the republican nominee for sheriff.

On the same page is a picture of A. M. Anderson, who by being deputy sheriff is one of the county officers. He was sergeant-at-arms of the assembly in the last state legislature and is serving his first term as president of the Burnett County Agricultural Society. He was born in Norway in 1866 and has lived in Grantsburg since 1879. He was in the railroad business for eight years and for six years was editor of the Burnett County Sentinel. He is a man of considerable property and his business at the present time is of a speculative nature.

We have been unable to get a photograph of R. J. Hallberg, the chairman of the town of Meenon, but with the one exception all the officers of the county are pictured in this book.

On page 33 is a fine picture of Hon. Ole Erickson. He was born in Sweden in 1844, came to America in 1878, set-



THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 42, RANGE 14, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 87.

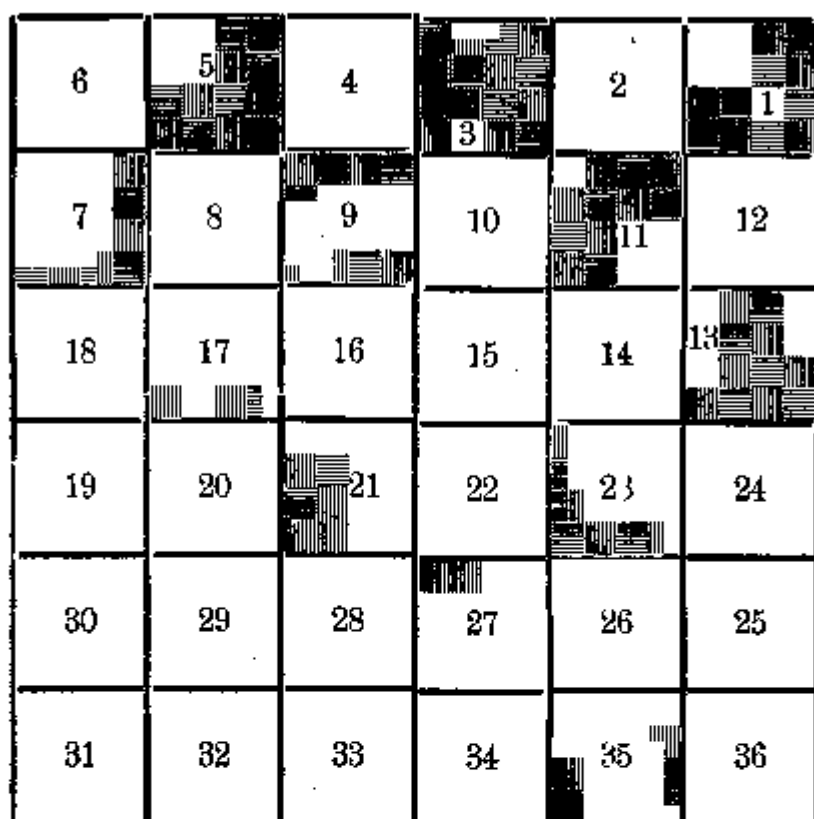
tled in Burnett county in 1891 and has taken an active interest in local and state politics for a number of years. He has been farmer, lumberman, clerk, merchant and county officer. His term as member of the legislature will not expire until 1903 and he is now post-master.

PICTURES OF OTHER PEOPLE.

On page 69 is a portrait of James H. Jensen and on page 29 is his residence. He was born in Burnett county of Norwegian parents, in 1864. Up to the age of seventeen he was a farmer. After that he clerked in stores until 1891 when he became county clerk and served six years. After that he engaged in the real estate business, bought a section of land just over the county line in Barron county and be-

came proprietor of the townsite of Barronett. He is now engaged in real estate deals in many parts of the state but his home is in Grantsburg.

On page 53 is a cut of the heaviest individual land owner of any of the residents of the county. Mr. Erbes came to this county from Iowa in the spring of 1899 and bought 11,000 acres of meadow land. He has since added to his holdings until he now has about 15,000 acres, having in the meantime drained and sold several thousand acres of his original purchase. His scheme is to ditch and put under cultivation all of his meadows and resell in small farms to those who will become residents of the county. While he has considerable capital at his disposal he has found the work could be more economically handled by a larger



THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 41, RANGE 14, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 38.

capital and he has not pushed the work as rapidly as was at first hoped. At the present time negotiations are being conducted that will bring all of his holdings into the hands of small farmers and will add much to the population of the county. This "Big Meadow" scheme is worthy of the closest investigation on the part of those who wish to engage in stock farming. His address is Grantsburg, Wis., and he will gladly give all inquirers such information as they desire. He is by trade a carriage maker.

On page 71 is a fine picture of Major J. S. Baker. He is there referred to as manager of the Cushing Land Agency whereas he is president and his son H. D. Baker is manager. Major Baker has a military record

which alone would make an interesting book. He has been the most extensive owner of real estate of anyone who has ever invested in the county and there are few abstracts ever made out for Burnett real estate that do not contain his name or one of the land companies he has been interested in. He still owns several thousand acres in the county.

The other picture on page 71 is that of W. F. Steve, principal of the Grantsburg high school. He has been in charge of this school since the fall of 1896 and has brought it up to a high standard. His wife is also a teacher in the same building and has done much to build up the school. He was born at Verona, Wis., Feb. 20, 1874. He moved with his parents at the age

32	33	34	35	36	
6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIPS 40 AND 41, RANGE 15, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGES 38 AND 40.

of four to Middleton where he worked on the farm and went to school up to 1893. He then took the full four years course at the Plattville Normal school, graduating in the spring of 1897. He was principal of the graded school in Verona for one year and then came to Grantsburg. He has shown his faith in Burnett county by making several investments in land that have brought him good returns.

On page 93 is a picture of Charles Bergfalk, clerk of the town of Marshland. He was born in Sweden, Jan. 24, 1874, and came to America in 1895. He attended school in the old country and at Rush City, Minn., that being

where his parents settled. He afterwards lived in St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth and followed railroad work. For six years he was motor-man on the Duluth street railway. Failing in health he came to Burnett county in 1898 and took up a homestead in sections 28 and 32, town 40-17. In the spring of 1901 he was elected town clerk and is now serving his second term. He is located on the summit of what is known as the "Big Ridge" and has a farm largely clay. He has prospered financially and is again a well man. Independent of what he has made in the raise in value of his land he has made more in

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 40, RANGE 14, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 39.

Burnett county than he could possibly have done at his railroad work. He is a thoroughly competent official, a pusher and is ever ready to aid new settlers in locating. His postoffice address is Perida, Wis.

The other picture on page 98 is Andrew Peterson who, with his father, Peter Erick Peterson, (see page 97) forms the firm of P. E. Peterson & Son. Both members of the firm were born in Sweden, the father in 1842 and the son, June 18, 1866. They came to America in 1872 and settled in Boston where for two years the father worked at his trade of cabinet making. They then moved to Trade Lake, Wis., arriving there with just about the same amount of money they had when they reached Boston. In

1875 they moved up to Grantsburg. At that time the father's capital consisted of a growing family, a kit of tools, some household furniture and enough lumber to make a few articles of furniture. He opened a shop, made a bureau and sold it to get capital to make two more. The story of his struggle to get along is very interesting and shows that pluck and economy will win. The son was taken into partnership about fifteen years ago and they branched out into nearly every line of business. They ran flour mills, farms, stores, boarding house, dealt in real estate, etc., etc., etc., and today there is no firm in the county any better fixed than they are. Furniture, wood, building material and real estate are the principal things they handle at the present time.



G. W. BELL

On this page appears a picture of G. W. Bell, Land Commissioner for the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway. Mr. Bell has been instrumental in selling over 50,000 acres of railroad land in Burnett county since he assumed the duties of commissioner. At the present time the company has less than 20,000 acres left. This is all located in the eastern half of the county in ten different townships. Diagrams showing the location of these lands are printed in this book on pages 109 to 117. Under each diagram is given the number of the page on which will be

found a description of that township. A careful reading of the entire book will give a good idea of the character of the railroad land in each township.

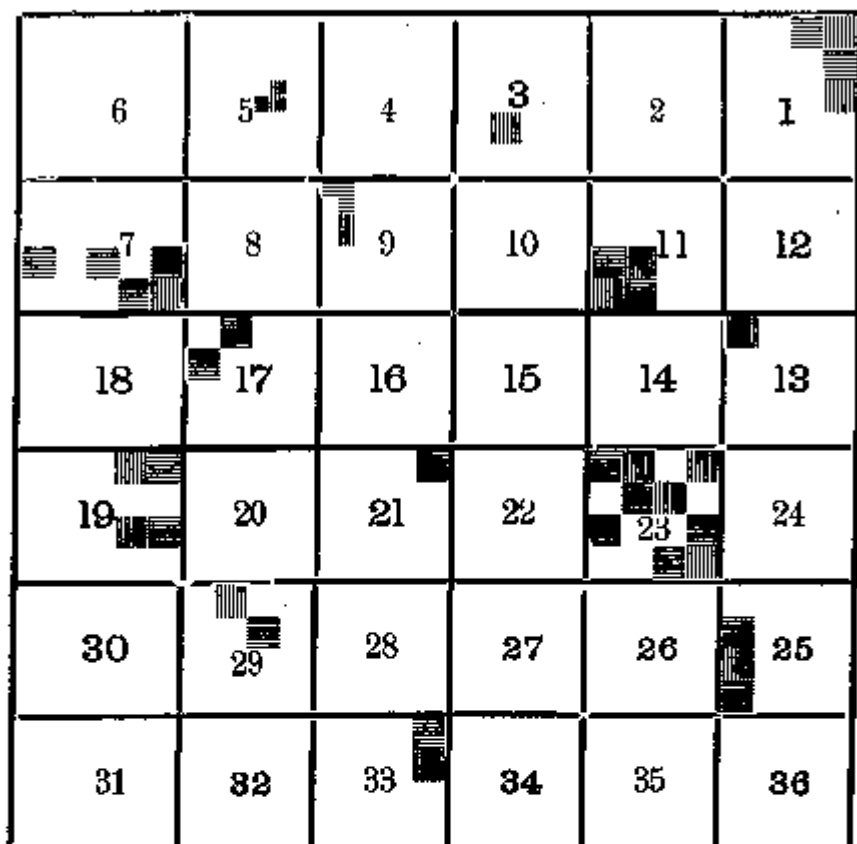
For a long time the railroad lands of Burnett county were held at a uniform price of \$2.50 per acre but during the past two years they have been steadily advancing until some of them are now held as high as \$8.00. The minimum price is \$4.00 and any of the lands owned by the company will be sold on time. The terms are one-fifth down and the balance in four annual payments with a low rate of interest. The greater part of the lands in the county are offered at \$4.00 per acre.

The company does not employ local agents to receive money and receipt for it but all over the county are men who are familiar with the land and who go out for the company to show lands. They are not authorized to make sales but many of them do make sales, receive money at purchaser's risk and close up the transaction as the agent of the purchaser and not of the company. It is a perfectly safe way to buy the land and yet the purchaser will be wise in making such payment to do it by draft payable to G. W. Bell, Land Commissioner, Hudson, Wis. If for any reason the land cannot be secured the money will be returned and no loss sustained. For all information not contained in this book apply by letter or in person to G. W. Bell, Hudson, Wis.

The policy of the land department is to deal as liberally as possible with the actual settler. The man who makes his first payment and then liberally improves

		14	13
	23		24
		26	25
		35	36
		2	1
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13
21	22	23	24
28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34
		35	36

THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIPS 33 AND 39, RANGE 16, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGES 45 AND 49.



THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 38, RANGE 15, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 48.

his land will, in case he runs short of money, find it much easier to get an extension of time than will the man who buys the land for purely speculative purposes.

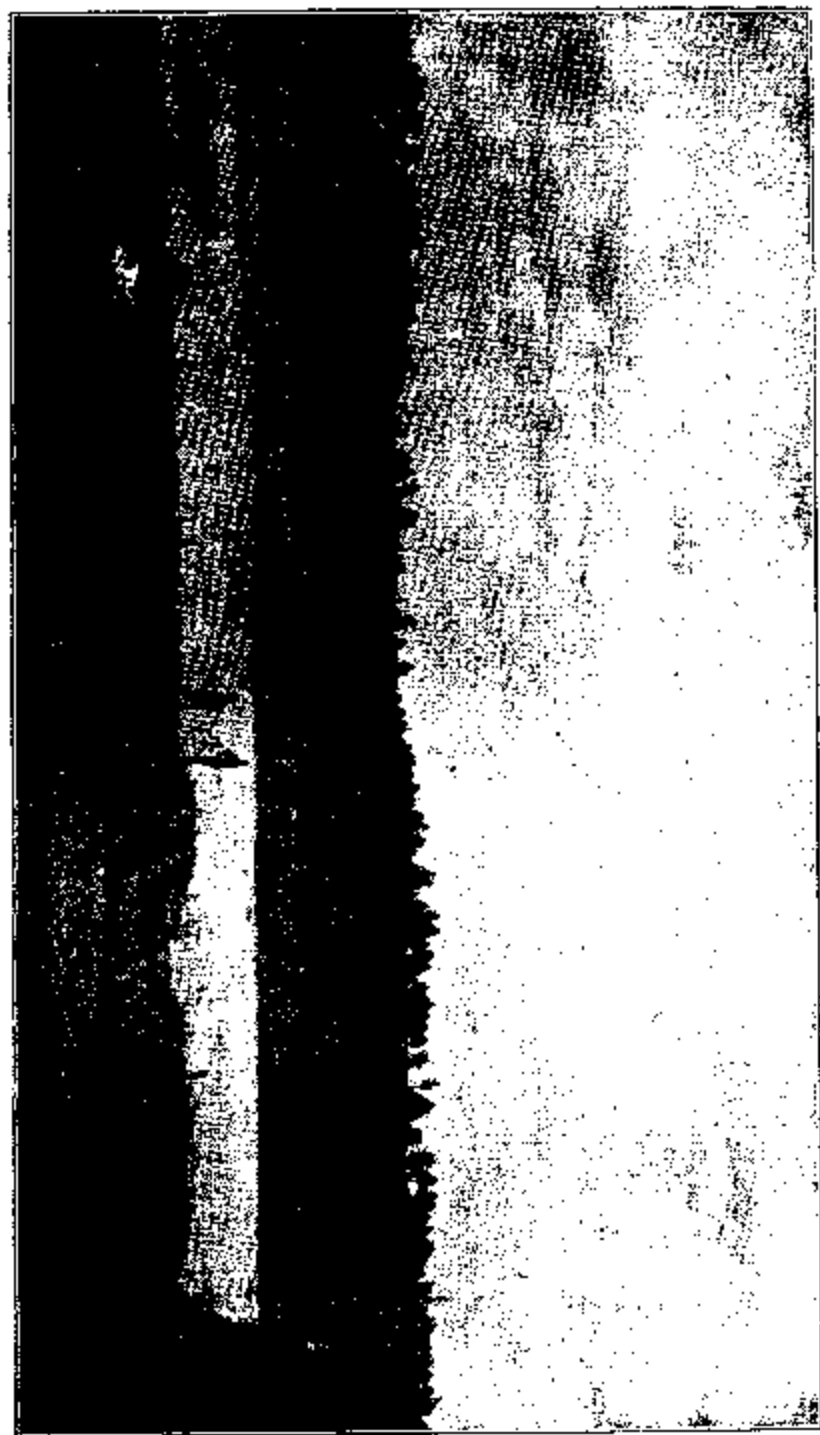
Owing to the close proximity of these lands to large business centers, such as St. Paul, Minneapolis, Stillwater, Eau Claire, Superior, Duluth, Ashland, Milwaukee, and Chicago, all being within a few hours' travel by rail, a ready market with good prices is assured. Aside from the soil, one of the most important questions to be considered by a farmer in locating his home is a market.

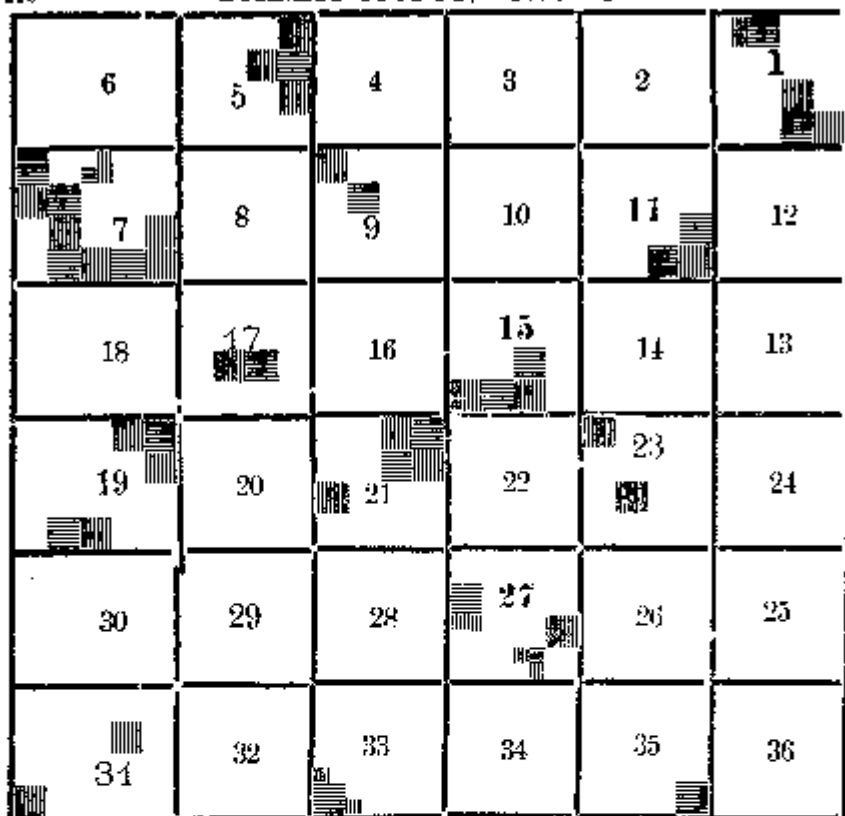
That these lands are not out of civilization is evinced by the fact that the Duluth Fast Mail makes the run from Chicago to Spooner in ten hours and thirty minutes and the Twilight Limited runs from St. Paul to Spooner in two hours and fifty-seven minutes. Spooner is but seven miles from

the Burnett county line and there is not an acre of "Omaha" land in Burnett county that is more than thirty-five miles from Spooner or twenty from a railroad. Much of the land is inside of fifteen miles from some railroad station and all of it is close to market as compared with lands farther west which sell for much higher prices.

The Northwestern road is the shortest road to Chicago and it has close connections with all eastern fast freight lines, making it of great benefit to those who engage in the creamery business. Burnett county is destined to be a great dairy county and in the territory in which the "Omaha" has railroad lands for sale there will be room for a great many cheese factories and creameries and these will all be located handy to ship over this fast road to the eastern markets. Although the road does not

PART OF WATERMAN'S CRANBERRY MARSH, SECTION 16, TOWN 39, RANGE 15. SEE PAGE 49.





THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIP 39, RANGE 15, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 44.

touch Burnett county it is a very important element in the development of the county and those who seek homes here should make a special effort to investigate everything it has to offer.

This company, which is a part of the Chicago & Northwestern system, makes rates over their own lines from points in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wyoming and both North and South Dakota, as well as over connecting lines to all parts of the United States and Canada.

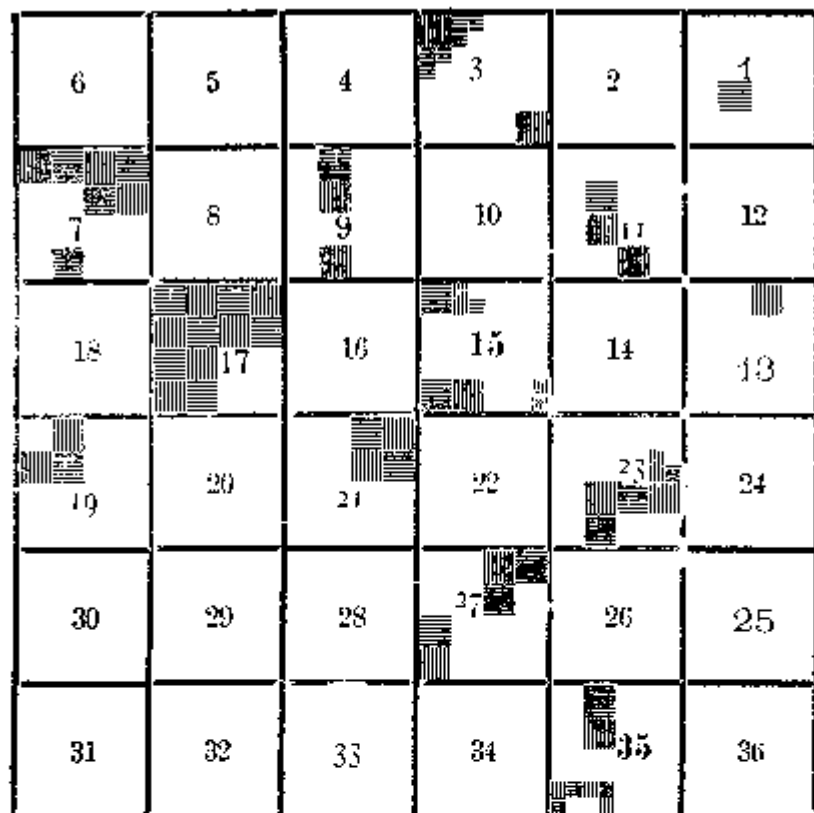
The passenger and freight departments of the road recognize the importance of settling up the country tributary to their lines and make many inducements to landseekers and actual settlers.

For information regarding passenger rates write to T. W. Teasdale, Gen'l Passenger Agt., St. Paul, Minn.

That portion of the county in which the railroad lands are located is par-



G. L. MILLER. (See page 118.)



THE SHADED PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE DIAGRAM SHOW LANDS IN TOWNSHIPS 39, RANGE 14, FOR SALE BY THE CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & OMAHA RAILWAY. SEE PAGE 44.

ticularly fortunate in the class of people who have already located or made investments there. Men of good education, some of them professional men, have located permanently. Others have investments that bring them here frequently and are looking forward to the time when they can become permanent residents of what they consider is the most delightful place they have ever known.

On the shores of Lake Gaslyn, which is located in the towns of Rusk and Meenon, is what is in the future to be known as "The Lakeside Stock Farm." This is the property of G. L. Miller and his son Geo. E. Miller. A new postoffice known as Gaslyn has been located here and the younger man has been appointed postmaster. He will engage extensively in the breeding of stock. His picture appears on this page. He is a graduate of one of the best high schools in the state but he has a natural liking for the farm and being a young man with



GEO. E. MILLER.



G. L. JONES, WEBLAKE, WIS.

the best of habits, will prove a substantial addition to Burnett county.

G. L. Miller is an attorney at law whose home at present is in Prairie du Chein, Crawford Co., Wis. He has spent a great deal of time in Burnett

CHAS. MARSH, POSTMASTER AT
WEBLAKE (See page 122.)

county where he has made a number of investments and where he expects to soon be located permanently. He is a firm friend of Burnett county and has great faith in the future possibilities of it, especially for dairying and stock raising. His portrait appears on page 116.

G. L. Jones, whose picture appears on this page, lives on section 18, town 41-14. Mr. Jones was born in Cassville, Grant Co., Wis., in 1834, and moved to Menomonie, Dunn county, in 1852. In 1863 he went to Texas with five other young men. At the breaking out of the civil war his companions entered the rebel army but he made his escape to the north leaving several hundred dollars worth of property which he lost. He enlisted as a private in the union army, served three years and was mustered out an orderly sergeant. He survives eleven



F. R. RUTH, WEBLAKE. (See page 119.)

relatives who served in the union army. After the war he located at Bloomer, Chippewa Co., Wis., and carried on a blacksmith and wagon shop until 1889 when his health failed and he engaged in newspaper work. He owned and edited newspapers in Bloomer, Chippewa Falls and Shell Lake, this state, and always retained his individuality, without bowing to party, church, rings or bossism. It is his especial pride that during his twenty years as a newspaper man he never did any saloon advertising and never voted for saloon licenses. He sold his paper at Shell Lake over two years ago and moved onto a homestead in Burnett county. One son, John E. Jones, is



OSCAR JOHNSON (TAILOR) AND FAMILY, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

not yet weaned from newspaper life. He is editor of the Washburn Times and also postmaster at that place. Another son, E. Jas. Jones, has abandoned his trade as a printer for the delights of homesteading adjoining his father's place. A daughter, Miss Melissa, is one of the popular teachers of the county. A step-daughter, Mrs. Amy Huth, lives a few miles east of him, and with his children thus close around him he is spending the happiest days of his life. He has great faith in the future of Burnett county and is ever ready to help the homeseeker secure a place to his liking. His postoffice address is Weblake, Burnett county, Wis. He has an excellent opportunity to engage in the raising of cranberries and at the present time the spring brooks on his farm are filled with hundreds of speckled trout. The visitor who stops there, for a few hours, wonders how any man can live in a great city after having seen how Jones and his family enjoy the pleasures of backwoods life.

Another newspaper man who is homesteading in the northern part of Burnett county is F. R. Huth, whose picture appears on page 118. He was born in Wis-



MRS. M. E. DOTY, GRANTSBURG, WIS.



REV. F. W. COURT, PASTOR CENTRAL
METHODIST CHURCH, GRANTSBURG.



REV. L. G. HELGUND MERCHANT,
ALPHA, WIS.

consin in the town of Bloomer, Chippewa county, in 1867. That was more backwoods-like then than is any part of the state today. His parents came from Germany the same year he was born and so few were American neighbors that young Huth was ten years old before he could talk English. He was then considered old enough to go the long distance required to attend school. He soon mastered the country school and then the town graded school. After that he finished up with the high school in Chippewa Falls and became a school teacher. In 1885 he began to learn the printer's trade on the Chippewa Falls Workman and went from there to the Independent. He then spent six years



E. E. JENSEN, OF LUTHER & JENSEN,
HARDWARE MERCHANTS,
GRANTSBURG.



DAVID G. ANDERSON, HARNESS
MAKER, GRANTSBURG.



RESIDENCE OF J. A. DICKERSON, GRANTSBURG.

in the towns of Moorhead, Minn., and Fargo, N. D. He worked on nearly all the papers there and finally became half owner and business manager of the Fargo Daily Commonwealth. While in that city he was a member of the Business Men's Union and of the North Dakota Editorial Association, being one of the executive committee. In 1885 he was married to Miss Amy Taylor, of Edgerton, Wis., and in 1896 he sold out his newspaper interests and removed to San Bernardino, Cal. During the three years spent there he divided his time between fruit raising and newspaper work and in 1899 returned to Chippewa county ex-



OLE ANDERSON, GRANTSBURG.



J. A. DICKERSON, GRANTSBURG.



M. HAMMARSTROM AND WIFE, OF ARMSTRONG & HAMMARSTROM, SAW MILL OPERATORS, GRANTSBURG.

pecting to go back to his first occupation of farming. A trip into Northern Burnett county convinced him that he had found what he long had sought and he fled on a homestead in section 24, town 41-14. It borders on the shores of Lost Lake and is known as "The Pines." He has opened up quite a farm and still found time to occasionally work at his trade. At the present time he is employed in **THIS JOURNAL** office at Grantsburg but his home is on his homestead and his address is Weblake, Wis. During the short time he has been a resident of the county he has taken an active interest in the affairs of his town and county and has made a wide acquaintance. He is a member of the republican assembly committee of Burnett and Polk counties. He has great faith in the place he has

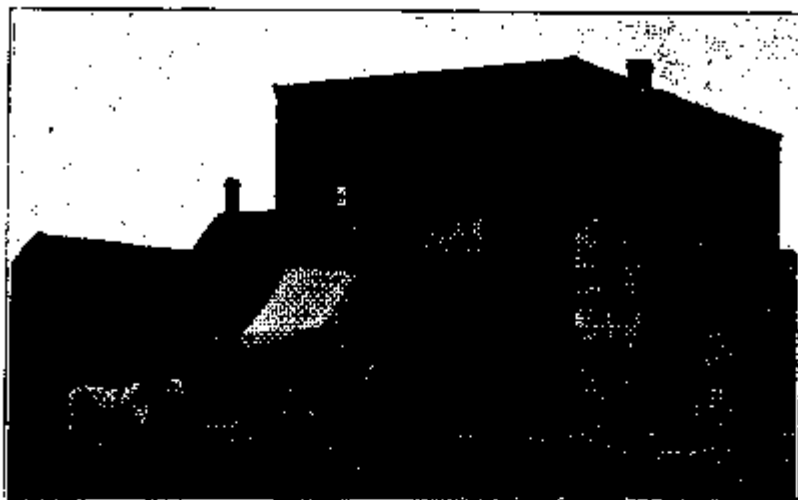
selected as his home and is satisfied that in all the places he has visited there are no such advantages, everything considered, as are to be found in Burnett county. There may be places where single advantages are greater but for combined advantages he thinks there is no equal.

Charles Marsh, the Weblake postmaster, whose picture appears on page 118, was born at Ono, Pierce Co., Wis., March 27, 1868. Ten years later he moved to Barron county where he lived about twenty years. In October, 1890, he took a homestead in Burnett county. In June, 1902, he opened a general store in section 28, township 41-14, and is doing a good business. He buys all kinds of farm produce and keeps an extensive line of goods to supply the wants of the settlers. He keeps well posted on all land matters and is ever ready to impart that information to others. He is both farmer and carpenter and is a good man for the county.

One of the most enterprising business men of the northern part of the county is Robert Magnuson whose portrait appears on page 72 and whose store is pictured on page 47. He was born on March



WARREN ARMSTRONG, GRANTSBURG.



CARL LINDEN'S BUILDINGS, GRANTSBURG.

16, 1875, on his father's homestead half a mile north of the Grantsburg postoffice in what is now known as the old Buttrick building. Later the family removed to near what is now Alpha postoffice. In August, 1890, he began clerking for P. E. Peterson & Son and two years later went to work for Simon Thoreson. He worked in the "Big Store" for five and a half years and then opened a store out in the woods twenty-two miles northeast of Grantsburg. His partner in the enterprise is Simon Thoreson. For five years the store has thrived and branched out until the stock is nearly as large as the parent store in Grantsburg. Robert took a homestead where the store stands and in 1899 was married to Miss Annie Olson, of Karlsborg, Wis. He was one of the prime movers in getting a creamery established and this summer he was instrumental in opening a fine blacksmith shop. A church and school house are near and so important has become the point that a rival store has just started up to get its share of the trade that comes to the thriving place known as Webster.

On page 72 is a portrait of Noble Wilson, a man whose occupation makes him useful to homeseekers. He is proprietor of the Wilson House, a moderate priced hotel in Grantsburg, and also locates people on land. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1849 and came to Osceola, Wis., in 1861. Since then he has cruised the woods of the St. Croix valley continuously and knows it well both in Wisconsin and Minnesota. His services can be obtained by writing some time in advance to Grantsburg. He was one of the state land appraisers this summer.

The engraving company who made the majority of the cuts used in this book have said that they never had a better lot of photographs than the ones furnished them by the Burnett County Board of Immigration. Nearly all of these were made in Grantsburg by a former resident, D. Stadin, now located at Cambridge, Minn., and G. Willard Shear, who runs the gallery in Grantsburg.



CARL LINDEN (HOMESTEADER).



GRANTSBURG'S SILVER CORNET BAND

Mr. G. Willard Shear, whose picture appears on this page, has a record as an artist and professional photographer which places him among those of highest rank in his profession. Twenty-eight years ago he began under the highest masters of the art in the city of Adrian, Mich., in the days of the old wet-plate process when to be a proficient workman one had to know a great deal about chemistry and human anatomy. After completing his photographic course he took up portrait painting under the best masters of the art in Detroit, Mich. Since then he has had an extensive and noted experience as an artist of high ability. For fifteen years he was official photographer for the Florida Division of the Louisville and Nashville R. R. Co., photographing over nearly every portion of the state in a private car of the company. At the same time he was professor of the School of Photography in the Florida Chautauqua at De Funiak Springs, Fla. He was engaged by the president of the Florida Chautauqua Association to photograph both banks of the Hudson river in solid panorama from New York City to Albany, a distance of 170 miles, in one continuous view. This was the most difficult and skillful piece of work in panoramic photography ever before accomplished by any artist in this country. The work was for a New York publishing company and required over one thousand 8x10 negatives and four months work to make them. Mr. Shear has had over twenty-five years practical experience in the first ranks of photo-



G. WILLARD SHEAR, ARTIST.

graphy, has made it the deep study of his life and is so roughly up-to-date in his line. He is competent to hold the best positions in the larger cities, but the condition of his health requires him to keep as much as possible in the country air. After a four year's search for health in the Carolinas and Virginia he decided to try the rigorous climate of the north and came to Burnett county as an experiment. He finds this place the best of all and has settled in Grantsburg to stay and serve the public with the best of up-to-date work in his line. He is a member of the Northwestern Photographers association which keeps its members well informed on everything of interest to his profession.

The picture on page 95 shows that there are some large people in the county. The Grantsburg village marshal is probably the largest policeman in the world. He is seven feet tall and weighs 310 pounds. Every inch and every ounce is good solid stuff and he is not a man to be trifled with. He was born in Sweden in 1872 and has been in America ten years. He lived in Nebraska two years and then came to Burnett county where he worked as a farmer and woodsman in the town of Wood Lake. He then spent two years at West Superior. He now holds the position of marshal and street commissioner and is one of Grantsburg's best citizens. He is averse to publicity and has refused many flattering offers to travel with show.



DR. C. L. JOHNSON, GRANTSBURG.

The smaller man is A. L. Evans. He was born in Ponda, Iowa, in 1877 and lived there until he came to Burnett county to take a position in The Journal office, in 1899. The next year he took a homestead near the mouth of Clam river and divides his time between farming and newspaper work.

The pictures of August and Anna Christina Bynell appear on page 100. The former is sixty-seven years of age and the latter sixty-two. She is his second wife and they have been married thirty years. Mr. Bynell was born near Jonkoping, Sweden, and was a wagon maker in the old country. When he came to America in 1869 he worked in the twin cities and on the railroad between Woonsocket and Pine City. That same year he moved over into Wisconsin and put up a building on Wood River where Grantsburg now stands. There was one white man living near him. This man was a Mr. Peck who was county treasurer. Bynell's building was used as a residence and blacksmith shop and subsequently by many other enterprises. It was a very busy place. By his first wife he had one daughter who died in Sweden. The mother died in summer of 1870. By his second wife he has two sons and two daughters. One girl died. For over thirty years he has continuously run a blacksmith shop in Grantsburg with the exception of one summer when he built four miles of railroad north of Hayward, one summer as blacksmith in the erection of the Pillsbury mill at Minneapolis.



M. D. LONERGAN, OF LONERGAN & BORGAN, DRUGGISTS, GRANTSBURG.

and three winters when he jogged. He has an inventive turn of mind and has taken out several patents. A combination knife is one but the most important is a very convenient device for the tying of cattle. This he manufactures in Grantsburg and sells all over the world. He sends circulars describing it to those who make inquiry and in this way does considerable to advertise the county. His address is Grantsburg. He has recently taken a homestead northwest of the village near the St. Croix river and will open a farm there. He expects to sell enough state rights in his patents before long to avoid hard work in the future and there would be a good opening for some young worker in iron to buy him out and manufacture the cattle ties here at home.

Isaac L. Butch (see page 103) was forty years old last July and has lived thirty years in Burnett county. He was born of Swedish parents at Brocton, N. Y., and from there his parents moved to Corry, Penn., Moline, Ill., High Forest and Center City, Minn., finally settling in West Marshland, Burnett county. His father was a Swedish Methodist minister and did a lot of missionary work along both religious and immigration lines. Isaac has worked in this county as farmer, surveyor, locator, cruiser and logger. At present he is log buyer for a Minnesota firm and his duties take him to many parts of the United States. He spent one summer in Indian Territory as



OSCAR J. THORSEN (BUTTER MAKER),
ALPHA P. O., WOOD RIVER CREAMERY.

United States land appraiser and was state land appraiser in this county this summer. He has taken an active interest in local politics for a number of years.

On page 91 is a portrait of the man who put up the building shown on page 96. E. A. Durkee was born in Nova Scotia in 1863, moved to Minneapolis in 1882 and came to Burnett county in 1896. He took a homestead near what is now Perida postoffice and has opened quite a farm for a man whose occupation is strictly something else. He has about fifteen acres under cultivation with a fine lot of young fruit which is doing well. He is a contractor and builder and is away from home much of the time leaving his family on the claim to run the farm. He has recently formed a partnership with Charles Hendrickson of the same place and intends to have an office at the county seat and do all kinds of building. He has an extensive experience as foreman on some very prominent buildings in Minneapolis, notably the Phoenix and McCormick buildings that cost many thousands of dollars. He was foreman for Leck & Prince of Minneapolis for a number of years and also had charge of the work of putting up about 100 factories and other buildings at St. Louis Park just west of Minneapolis. The sheriff's residence and jail is his best advertisement in this county for future consideration.



HARRY BACKMARK, ALSTAD CREAM-
ERY BUTTER MAKER.

Page 102 shows the face of Thosten Olsen, one of the heavy property owners of the village. He was born in Norway in 1841, came to Chicago in 1867, a year later went to Minnesota and lived in Winona one year, St. Peter a year and a half and in St. Paul about seven years. He was a shoemaker and for five years was cutter for the St. Paul firm of Forepaugh & Tarbox. Breaking down in health he sought relief in the Wisconsin pines by settling in Grantsburg in 1879. In 1881 he started a drug store which he conducted until he sold out in 1899. He passed the examination and received his papers as a pharmacist in 1886. He was practically the first druggist in the county. For ten years he has been the local weather observer. He has served on the village council, school board and the county fair board. He regained his health a few years after coming to Grantsburg and was strong and sound until he met with an accident that caused him to go out of business and rest. He is again in better health and keeps a stock of groceries. He also deals in residence and business village property and farms and farm lands, both selling and renting.

John O. Akerling, whose picture appears on page 108, was born eighty years ago last August in Sweden and is still a strong healthy man. He is by trade a brick mason but has been farming in Burnett county for over thirty years. He lives on the same place which he homesteaded at Trade Lake in the spring of



CHARLES ANDERSON, (KING CARL)
TRADE LAKE, WIS.

1868. He has had twelve children and one of his sons has been sheriff of Burnett county. He was one of the founders of the Baptist church at Trade Lake and is one of the most highly respected citizens of that part of the county.

Perry D. Hickerson (see page 102) was born in Blanchard, Putnam Co., Ohio, Dec. 14, 1838, and first made his appearance in Burnett county when not seventeen years old. In 1859 he became a permanent settler by living with his brother Nimrod (since dead) on Wood River west of the present village of Grantsburg. In 1862 he enlisted and served three years in the Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war he took a homestead joining the present village on the southwest. On the first day of February, 1866, he married a daughter of Peter Anderson (see page 16). In 1883 he built the Merchants hotel and ran that for about seventeen years when he sold out and engaged in the livery business. He has raised a large family of boys and girls, some of whom are filling responsible positions in widely separated parts of the United States.

On page 94 is a portrait of Ole O. Branstad, who has a history of great length. He is sixty-three years old and was born in Norway. As a sailor he traveled all over the world and as a soldier in the civil war of the United States he experienced nineteen months of the horrors of rebel prisons, one year



JOHN HILLSTRAND, FREYA, WIS.



MRS. IDA NICHOLS (POSTMISTRESS) FRANK NICHOLS, JR. (MERCHANT) PEET, WIS.

being spent in that worst of all southern prisons, Andersonville. He came to Burnett county in 1868 and bought the land which he now occupies as a farm. The second picture from the top on page 8 is his farm residence two miles south of the county seat. Mr. Branstad has filled the office of register of deeds and county treasurer to the satisfaction of his constituents for several terms.

When page 94 was printed the statement was made under the cut of T. H. Williams that he was station agent. Since then he has resigned that position after filling it to the satisfaction of everyone for over twelve years. He was born in Ohio in 1864. At the age of nine he began work as a coal miner in that state and learned what he thought was hard work. Deprived of the advantages of school it was some time before he could get into other work but success crowned his efforts and he acquired an education from books and experience. He came to Grantsburg at the age of twenty six a full fledged opera-

tor and station agent and saw the business at the depot grow from less than one man could handle easily to much more than three men could do. When it became harder work than coal mining he quit to get a rest and no longer works both night and day. He is a gentleman of leisure now but it is said he will soon become a Grantsburg merchant as he possesses the qualifications and the wherewithal.

On page 94 is a picture of Mendel Caddon, who opened a clothing store in Grantsburg, April 10, 1902. Although he is a new comer in the county he has built up a good trade and those who were prejudiced against him on the start are finding out that he is a good business man and all right socially. He is a German Jew and was born in Poland in 1874. He came to America in 1899 and for seven years clerked in St. Paul stores. He then engaged in business for himself at Zumbro Falls, Minn., and five years later removed to Grantsburg. Being a new comer himself he is anxious to meet all the new settlers and there-

fore invites strangers coming to the county seeking homes to come in and see him. His store building is seen in the upper left hand corners of the pictures on pages 4 and 23.

On the opposite page (128) is a picture of Frank Nichols, jr., with his wife and little daughter, Julia Bernice. In the spring of 1903 Mr. Nichols took a homestead in town 40-18, built a house in the southeast corner of section 26 and opened a small store there in the following October. The writer of this book owns some land in the same section and when Mrs. Nichols was appointed postmistress for a new office to be located at their home they honored him by calling the new post-office Peet. Between Clam river, St. Croix river and the Big Meadows is a triangular tract of land containing about 15,000 acres. One third of this is low wet land, some of it being an almost impenetrable swamp. The rest is sandy upland. On the edges of the swamps are some of the finest springs in the county and along the Clam river are banks of clay suitable for the making of the finest paving brick. The swamps contain the fuel with which to burn the brick and all that is lacking is the plant and transportation to get the product to market. The Air Line Railroad survey runs through this tract and it is exactly half way between St. Paul and Superior. On Clam river there is a waterpower strong enough to operate an electric railroad across the entire county. The pictures on pages 26 and 27 show the head and foot of this rapids and show some of the clay banks. This portion of the county has been classed as the poorest part of the county simply because its natural advantages and central location were not considered and yet it may develop into a very prosperous locality. It is not improbable that Mr. Nichols has chosen wisely in settling there. Mr. Nichols was born in Cresco, Iowa, Jan. 18, 1880, came to the town of Ruak, Burnett county, with his parents when eleven years old, was married to Miss Ida M. Charboneau, of Shell Lake, July 4, 1900. She was born at Wagon Landing, Polk Co., Wis., Oct. 26, 1881. Previous to her marriage she was a school teacher. Mr. Nichols' parents live with him on his homestead.

Burnett county is not perfect in climate therefore a few doctors are struggling to make a living. Several others have tried it and left because people would not get sick fast enough. The average throughout the United States is one physician for each 200

of population but in Burnett county there is one for about every 1,300. At the present time there are seven in the county. Dr. Tauson and Dr. Bark reside at Trade Lake and Dr. Akers is a homesteader in the town of Meanon. His postoffice address is Orange. Portraits of the four others appear in this book.

Dr. M. L. Robey (see page 79) was born in Romney, Hampshire Co., West Virginia, March 12, 1855, and received his medical education in Chicago at Rush Medical College. In 1886 his parents moved to River Falls, Wis., at which place he lived until he came to Grantsburg in March, 1884. He has left the county once tempted by a better financial outlook but his love for this part of Wisconsin has brought him back and he says he intends to let nothing tempt him away again.

Dr. C. L. Johnson (see page 125) is another physician who prefers Burnett county over other places he has tried and is back in Grantsburg because he likes the place and the people in it. He was born in Sweden in 1868 where he first studied for the ministry but changed his profession and graduated from Upsala (Sweden) University as a physician. He was married in Minneapolis in 1894 and came to Grantsburg in 1895. During the twelve years he has been in America he has been assistant physician to a German physician in Chicago, had charge of a mining hospital at Iron Mountain, Mich., and has practiced at Lindstrom and Minneapolis in Minnesota and at Stockholm and Grantsburg in Wisconsin.

Dr. Peter Bakke (see page 79) was born in Norway, April 2, 1865, and came with his parents to Minneapolis, Minn., in 1887. He lived there until he graduated from the medical department of the Minnesota State University and went to Duluth in 1890 to practice medicine. In June, 1898, he removed to Grantsburg and has enjoyed a good practice ever since. He is licensed to practice in both Minnesota and Wisconsin. He is a member of the Wisconsin League of Medical Licentiate, the St. Louis County Medical Society and the Minnesota State Medical Society. He is local surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railway Co., and is medical examiner for both The New York Life and Mutual Insurance Companies. He is chairman of the board of health for the town and village of Grantsburg, is a member of the village council and was recently elected coroner of Burnett county.

Dr. Nadig (see page 91) is a native of Allentown, Penna., and came to Grantsburg Sept. 13, 1901. He is a registered pharmacist in Wisconsin and was in the drug business in Philadelphia and Allentown for five years. He has practiced medicine in Andover, Maine; Berea, Ohio; Two Rivers, Wis., and in Grantsburg. He has taken the full hospital course and graduated from the Philadelphia Lying-in-Charity College Hospital, and The Chicago Homeopathic Medical College. He also attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the Hahnemann Medical College and the Jefferson Medical College and has taken the students course in the Cook Co. (Ill.) Hospital. He is well pleased with Burnett county with the exception that it is too healthful for a physician to grow rich.

[That Burnett county is not quarrelsome is evinced by the fact that but two lawyers are practicing in the county and both of these take up side lines. The circuit court sessions seldom exceed a day and but two sessions are held each year. Juries are usually drawn and discharged without having a case to hear. One of the attorneys is mentioned on page 105 and pictured on page 63.

The other is Stephen F. Grover, whose picture appears on this page. He was born in Menomonie, Wis., Feb. 13 1868. His first work was as clerk in a store but he abandoned this for the study of law, graduating from

the law department of the Wisconsin State University in 1891. In 1892 he came to Grantsburg, opened a law office and has prospered well ever since. He has served three terms as district attorney and since 1897 has been local attorney for the St. Paul & Duluth and the Northern Pacific Railways. Land business occupies as much of his time as law and he represents a number of fire and life insurance companies. With land of his own for sale and much more listed with him he is prepared to suit almost any farm hunter who may come along.

On page 82 are pictures of two of the early settlers of the county, both of whom have held county offices and had much to do with the early development of the county. Both men are mentioned in the church articles on pages 82 and 83, and both are of Norwegian birth.

Berswen Thoreson was an early settler in the county and was one of the county officers appointed by the governor when the county was organized. Several of his children are residents of the county, one daughter is the wife of J. H. Jensen (see page 109) and another married S. E. Jensen (see page 139). At one time he thought there was a better place than Burnett county and removed to the Pacific coast. That he came back and still lives here although he has considerable property in the west is good evidence that he prefers Burnett county.

Adolph Gudmanson was born in Norway in 1854, came to Burnett county in 1868 and with his parents settled on a farm two miles south of Grantsburg. He was clerk of the town of Grantsburg and [also county clerk. For several years he has been in the mercantile business and for four years has been a partner in the firm of Anderson & Gudmanson, furniture dealers. He is now village treasurer.

[On page 90 is a picture of a man who has been ever ready to help along Burnett county and many good things have been accomplished by reason of his push and energy. Andrew Peterson was born in Sweden and after living a few years in Chicago he came to Trade Lake in 1869 and settled on the shores of Pine Lake. He has held nearly every office in his town, and has served many terms as member of the county board and was one of the hardest pushers in getting creameries started in Burnett county. Every man who counts Pine Lake Peterson among his acquaintances is that much richer.



S. F. GROVER, ATTORNEY, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

On this page is a picture of Congressman John J. Jenkins, of Chippewa Falls, Wis. Mr. Jenkins represents the district in which Burnett county is located and he has done much for the county. Three years ago when a strong effort was made to withdraw all the homestead lands in the state from entry and sell them at a very much advanced price, the point was raised that this would be detrimental to the rapid settlement of Burnett county and Mr. Jenkins was appealed to to prevent the passage of the bill in congress. The obnoxious measure was endorsed by the Wisconsin legislature, strongly fought for by the entire state administration and was passed by the United States Senate but was killed in the House of Representatives by Mr. Jenkins. While the matter was being fought out about 60,000 acres of government land were homesteaded in Burnett county and several hundred families added to the population. Had this land been sold as the promoters of the bill contemplated, more than a quarter of a million dollars would have been sent out of the county, the land would have gone into the hands of speculators and the settlement of the county would have been materially retarded. That strangers may know these facts Mr. Jenkins picture has been placed in this book and the story re-told.

Miss Agnes Sullivan, whose picture appears on page 90, was the winner of a prize which The Journal of Burnett county gave in the fall of 1900. The subscribers of that paper voted to Miss Sullivan the head prize which was a free trip to Niagara Falls and back. She is as popular among the children and their parents as with The Journal subscribers and is a very successful teacher.

David O. Anderson, whose picture is on page 120, was born near the village of Grantsburg in 1872. He learned the trade of shoemaking from his father and also became a harness-maker. His shop is in the Ludden building shown on page 123. He has



HON. JOHN J. JENKINS, M. C., ELEVENTH WISCONSIN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

been in business in Grantsburg since 1894. The growth of the country requires something more elaborate than his present shop and he is looking for someone to put in some capital as a partner. There is a good opening for someone.

On page 103 is a picture of Alfred E. Nelson. Since that page was printed Mr. Nelson has been elected county treasurer for the term beginning Jan. 5, 1903, and is closing out his business as a merchant. Sweden was his birthplace, the date was May 17, and he came to America in 1862. In Minnesota he lived at Marine and Cambridge and came to Grantsburg in 1891 with Ole Erickson (page 33). They bought out the Hickerson stock of goods and conducted a general store. In 1894 he bought out his partner and has run the store alone since then. By the time this book is well circulated Mr. Nelson will be found in the court house ever ready to inform the stranger all that he may wish to know about the county.



HON. JAMES H. AGEN, STATE COMMANDER, G. A. R.

Among those who have done much for the development of Northern Wisconsin none are more deserving of credit than Hon. James H. Agen, of West Superior. Many times Mr. Agen has done things of especial benefit to Burnett county and he is now earnestly striving to fill the territory between Burnett county and Superior with settlers. When this is done it will contribute much toward the development of Burnett county. If Burnett county cannot get all the people who move into Northern Wisconsin the next best thing is to have them move into Douglas county, and there is no better man for them to consult than "Farmer Agen." This book is not large enough to tell the story of his life and it is sufficient to say that he is the greatest hustler in the north and is a real estate dealer whose office is located at 601 Tower Avenue, West Superior, Wis.

Peter C. Anderson (see page 105) is the youngest son of Peter A. Anderson (see page 18). He was born and brought up on his father's farm within the limits of the village of Grantsburg. He spent four years clerking in a store in Idaho but has returned to Grantsburg and opened a barber shop, being satisfied that Burnett county is good enough for him.

N. C. Unseth (see page 105) has been a Grantsburg business man for nearly five years. Mr. Unseth was born at Westby, Wis., has lived at Hayward and West Superior in Wisconsin and at Duluth and Winona, Minn., and is a graduate of the Illinois College of Pharmacy and the Winona Watch-making School. He holds Wisconsin License Certificate No. 2064 and Illinois No. 9087. He runs a fine drug store, keeps a nice line of jewelry and repairs all kinds of time pieces. His optical department is quite complete.

One of the oldest mercantile buildings in Grantsburg is seen at the extreme right in the picture on page 14. It is occupied at the present time by what is known as "The New Store," run by the Larson boys, whose pictures appear on pages 106 and 107. These three brothers were born on their father's farm just east of the village. Eddie is thirty years old, J. A. or "Fred" is twenty-eight and David is twenty-six. Eddie has spent about half of his life as clerk or proprietor in general merchandise stores and his brothers were farmers and lumbermen until joining him in this venture in April 1901. They have built up a fine business and are great pushers. They also have a branch store at Falun, eight miles east of Grantsburg, and in addition to their inside sales of general merchandise, handle farm machinery, logs, ties, wood, etc. The outside work falls to David; Eddie is manager, book-keeper, buyer and advertising man, while Fred fits into all the places very nicely. The boys have built up a fine business and their store is a credit to the county.

The building occupied by Larson Brothers is known as the Hickerson Block and was first occupied by the men whose pictures appear on page 121. They opened a general store there in 1879 under the firm name of Hickerson & Anderson. They are both retired business men now, having done well in business and are both heavy stockholders in the bank, roller mill and starch factory. They are brothers-in-law, Mrs. Hickerson being Ole Anderson's sister.

Joel A. Hickerson is one of nine brothers, five of whom settled in Wisconsin and four in Burnett county. The other three are mentioned on pages 105 and 127. "Joe" was born in Ohio less than seventy years ago and came to Burnett county in 1861. He took a pre-emption and while building his house left it unfinished with the tools inside and enlisted. After he was gone his neighbors fixed the building up for a school house and in it was taught the first school of white children in the county. Upon his return from the army he homesteaded the same claim and it is now one of the finest farms in the county. It is now owned and occupied by Andrew Skop just southwest of the county seat. After proving up he moved to Wood River and with his brother put in a saw mill which was the first one in the county to cut logs with a circular saw. They sawed the lumber to build the "Hickerson Block" which for fifteen years he occupied as a store. He still maintains an office in the corner of the building next to the bank. There were four houses in the county when he came to Burnett and at that time he never dreamed that the country would ever be a farming locality. He recently remarked that if anyone had told him forty years ago that this locality would ever reach the state of agricultural development it has now attained he would have thought such a prophet a fit subject for a lunatic asylum. To prophesy now that every foot of the poorest soil in the "sand barrens" will some day be brought up to a high state of cultivation and families will average more than one to each forty acre tract he considers would be no such "wild dream" as has actually developed under his observation. His opinion of Burnett county has undergone great changes and the last few years he has changed from a doubter to an enthusiastic believer in a great future for this part of the Northwest.

His partner, Ole Anderson, has experienced a similar change of opinion and has been quite a factor in producing such a change in the minds of many of the old settlers. This has been brought about through the encouragement he gave towards a change in the methods of farming. At one time the farming in this county was almost ruined by chintz bugs and it was thought that to engage in potato raising and starch making would build it up. The effort to build a starch factory would have fallen through had he not come to the rescue and taken the stock necessary to insure

the building of the first factory. This gave an impetus to potato raising which has brought thousands of dollars to the pockets of the farmers. He is manager of the starch factory shown on pages 1 and 25. His knowledge of the profits to be derived from potato raising is such that he now advises intending settlers to go onto the sand lands and raise potatoes; whereas at one time he considered such a move almost suicidal. He was born in Norway in 1853 and came to America in 1882. His father died on the ocean coming over and his mother reached St. Croix Falls with a large family of little children which it required hard hustling to clothe and feed. For three years Ole was away from his mother at Deer Park but after that he lived at the Falls until the family moved to Burnett county and he began farming close by Grantsburg in 1889. In 1879 he engaged in the mercantile business and from that became starch factory manager. For a number of years he was half-owner of the Burnett County Sentinel. He has a beautiful home, a fine family and is one of the "best fixed" men in the county. He is a member of the village council and has served several terms.

On page 104 is a picture of Charles Elg, who with his brother Theodore O. and their father form the firm of John Elg & Sons, general merchants, Grantsburg. John Elg was born in Sweden but has been a resident of America 27 years. Charles was born in Chicago Feb. 15, 1875. The family came to Burnett county in 1878 and settled on a farm just south of the village limits. The father also opened a blacksmith shop in the village. Having had a year's experience in the mercantile business in Chicago he decided to start a store for his sons. He opened the store in 1895 opposite where the Central Methodist church now stands, and after a few years returned to the farm leaving the store for the boys to run. Charles has charge of the inside work and Theodore the outside. They buy a large amount of farm produce, principally potatoes, and sell agricultural implements in addition to general merchandise.

Edwin Anderson, whose picture appears on this page is the youngest merchant in the county. With his father, Andrew A. Anderson, (see pages 64 and 105) and his sister, Miss Hilma, a very neat general merchandise store is conducted on the hill near the court house. Edwin is not yet seventeen years old but he has been in business nearly three years, two



EDWIN ANDERSON, MERCHANT.
GRANTSBURG, WIS.

years of that time having been spent as clerk for Elg & Sons. He was born at Trade Lake and has been in charge of "Little Andrew's Store" since it opened in April 1902.

Since page 81 was printed, there have been changes in the Methodist church at Grantsburg and Rev. T. O. Knudson is now located at South Superior.

On the same page is a picture of Mrs. Tena Davidson, who for many years was superintendent of schools for Burnett county. She is now located at Kingsbury, California, and no doubt will willingly impart information to people there concerning the advantages Burnett county has over the Pacific coast.

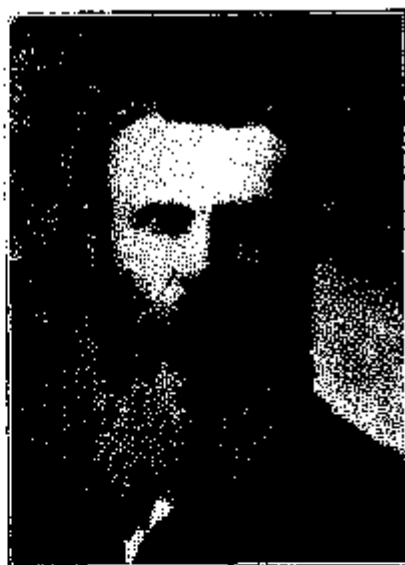
The present pastor of the Central Methodist church in Grantsburg is Rev. F. W. Court, whose picture appears on page 120. He was born in Glenmore, Brown county, Wis., June 3, 1875. In 1892 his parents removed to Waupaca, where he attended school until he graduated with honors from the Waupaca High School in 1897. The next three years were spent at Lawrence University as a student and the next two at Osceola, Wis., as pastor of the M. E. church of that place. He entered the West Wisconsin Conference in the fall of 1901 and in September, 1902, was appointed pastor of the Grantsburg church. During the short time he has been there he has shown himself to be a worker, a man of much ability and a preacher of

more than usual eloquence and power. Although he is a young man, Burnett county is honored by having him as one of her citizens.

On the same page (120) is the portrait of a clergyman, Rev. L. G. Helund, who has become a merchant at Alpha, five miles east of Grantsburg. He was born in Sweden and came to America when about thirty years old, having previously worked as a traveling missionary for the Baptist church three years. From 1882 to 1885 he preached in Wilkin and Otter Tail counties, Minn., and in Dakota. After that for two years he was pastor of the Baptist churches at Wood River and Trade Lake. In the spring of 1887 he bought a small farm on the shores of Trade Lake and was a farmer for thirteen years. He then opened a store at Wood Lake and afterwards removed it to his present location. He is an upright christian whose word is as good as an oath and is still active in church work. He has read the Bible more than 100 times and realizes that, in the words of Holy Writ, laborers in the mission field are few. He would be better satisfied in following church work more closely, but like many others, he cannot always fully direct his own course. One reason why he does not seek a pastorate is that he loves Burnett county too well to leave it.

Rev. C. O. Christensen is mentioned on page 87 and his picture appears on page 104. He was born in Norway in 1850 and came to America in 1883. For seven years he was a local preacher in Chicago. He was ordained in 1891 by Bishop Merrill and preached in La Crosse, Deer Park, Eau Claire and Westby, Wis. He came to Grantsburg in 1895 as pastor of the Norwegian Methodist church and is now serving on his fourth year. He has recently taken a homestead in section 17, town 40-16 on which he expects to settle in the near future and continue preaching at near by points.

On this page is a picture of Rev. E. W. Erickson, a retired Baptist minister, living in Grantsburg. He was one of the original organizers of the Swedish Baptist church in Burnett county (see pages 84 and 85). He was born in Sweden June 6, 1843, and moved from there to Wood River in 1869. After preaching there four years he moved to Fish Lake, Minn., thence to Boone county, Iowa, and back to Isanti Co., Minn. In April, 1902, he moved back to Grantsburg and built a very neat residence on the hill southeast of the excelsior factory. He was postmaster



REV. E. W. ERICKSON, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

at Pine Brook, Minn., for several years. He is also a farmer, carpenter, and blacksmith, and does much to push along the spirit of progress and morality.

On page 136 is a picture of Rev. Joseph J. Pickle who probably has married more couples and preached more funeral sermons than any dozen other ministers in Northern Wisconsin. He was born in Ohio, and in his youth was a detective, traveling salesman and veterinary surgeon. More than 25 years ago he came to Burnett county on account of his wife's health, and being a fluent speaker and an ardent church member, he soon found himself talking religion publicly whenever occasion offered. He was requested by a Methodist presiding elder to take charge of a circuit and soon became a full fledged Methodist clergyman. His occupation has been farming but he has had regular appointments at Wolf Creek, St. Croix Falls, Rock Creek and Lorasoe and was the pioneer Methodist minister at Grantsburg. He owns a very fine small farm in the town of Trade Lake and the picture on page six shows an hour's fishing within ten rods of his front door. He is fond of hunting and fishing and counts his friends by the hundreds. It is seldom that a week goes by in which he does not officiate at more than one wedding or

funeral. His farm is as near ideal in natural conveniences as could possibly be and is a great place for young folks to go visiting. It borders on two lakes and in his front yard is a fountain well.

On page 89 and 104 are pictures of John Persberg, who is also mentioned on page 88. He was born in Sweden in 1840, came to Chicago in 1867 and has lived in Trade Lake for 33 years. For sixteen years he has conducted a Sunday school in the Mission church and for eleven years has driven the Trade Lake stage.

On page 101 is a picture of C. J. Jacobson and wife, of Wood Lake. With his father he came to that part of the county direct from Sweden in May, 1869. After his father had filed on a homestead in August, 1869, they had just ten dollars left and from that modest beginning they branched out into milling and farming. They built a saw mill on Wood River in 1872, made it better year by year and after it was destroyed by fire in 1900, rebuilt it and added a grist mill, both of the enterprises being in operation today. Mr. Jacobson was born in Sweden, Dec. 28, 1848, and on June 23, 1874, was married to Miss Anna B. Asp, who was born in Sweden, June 22, 1850. Miss Asp came to America in 1868 and worked at Hudson and St. Paul. They were married at a Methodist camp meeting held where the Norwegian Methodist church now stands in Graustburg. Ten clergymen and over one thousand people were present at the wedding. They have two children who have been given a good education. Miss Clara is an efficient teacher and Carl Alfred has taught successfully, traveled through several European countries as salesman and is to graduate from Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., next year. The Jacobson home is situated on the shores of Big Wood Lake and is a delightful place to visit. The change from 1869 to 1902 is remarkable and shows what any young couple who will come to Burnett county determined to work can accomplish. The chances are as good if not better than they were a third of a century ago.

On page 127 are two pictures taken in Sweden. Both men have changed much since the pictures were made.

Chas. A. Anderson was born in Ljusnarberg, Sweden, March 18, 1836. At the present time his hair and whiskers are long and white and when away from home he takes lots of pleasure in informing the children that he is the original and only "San-



REV. J. J. PICFLE, TRADE LAKE, WIS.

ta Claus." He came to America in July, 1865, and after spending three years at Peshtigo, Wis., moved to Burnett county and took as a homestead the farm on which he resides today at Four Corners, Trade Lake. There was one white man in that part of the county at the time, but no white woman. Anderson brought along quite a number of relatives and friends and twice afterwards went to Sweden and brought back a ship load of his countrymen. It is said that he brought over the nicest lot of immigrants that ever crossed the ocean and these are the people who have built up that part of the state and made it so delightful a place to live and visit. He is known to all the old settlers as "King Carl" and Burnett County owes much to him for what he has done to change it from a wilderness to a garden spot.

John Hillstrand was born in Sweden, Nov. 2, 1855, and came to America at the age of thirty. He took a homestead in the town of Marshland and has prospered. He was a member of the town board for five years, serving two years as chairman. He has also served as school clerk, constable and justice of the peace. He is a man of very independent ideas and is a sound reasoner. He has taken an active part in developing the county. Having two farms he wants to sell one and invites people to write to him at Freya, Wis.

On this page is a portrait of Peter Adolph Anderson, better known as "Little Pete." He is the senior member of the general merchandise firm of Anderson & Gislewold. The junior member, Martin Gislewold, is pictured on page 78. Anderson was born at Osceola, Wis., in 1867 and Gislewold was born in Norway in 1862. The latter came to America in 1882 and tried Iowa, Dakota and Minnesota before coming to Burnett county in 1892. "Little Pete's" parents moved to Burnett county while he was a boy and lived near or in the village until he was 16 years of age. About that time he began as cook in the woods and followed that occupation for six years. He then opened a store at Blanding, ten miles east of Grantsburg and in 1895 formed a partnership with Gislewold in Grantsburg. They have a branch store in the Indian country in Minnesota and another at Alstad, and do a large business. Gislewold is a partner in several other enterprises and is the heaviest cattle buyer and shipper in the county.



PETER ADOLPH ANDERSON, OF ANDERSON & GISEWOLD, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

Page 123 has two pictures which are an object lesson when they are understood. Carl Linden was born in Sweden in 1878 and came to America in 1898. He reached Minnesota forty dollars in debt and in 18 months had saved \$300. He came to Burnett county in 1899 and took a homestead five miles north of Grantsburg. He made a few judicious investments of small sums and last spring concentrated his savings and put up a building near the village depot. He bought another building adjoining and now has real estate in the village worth \$3,000 besides his homestead. He is not over \$1,000 in debt. He speaks English fluently and his career is something which is not often duplicated in twice as many years as he has spent in America. His buildings bring him in nearly forty dollars in rent each month.

Mrs. M. E. Doty, whose picture appears on page 119, is one of the pioneers of northern Burnett. She was born in Vermont in April, 1832. With her husband she first settled at Taylors Falls, Minn., in 1863. They moved to the south line of Burnett county in 1865 and in 1871 went up to the Big Meadows and started a hotel for the passing lumbermen. Since the death of her husband she has lived in Grantsburg. She has seen this county in all stages of development and it has been her observation that at all times the man who was willing to work has prospered. She

has six children living in this and other western states.

Page 119 shows that families are raised as well as vegetables, grain, stock and timber, in Burnett county. Oscar Johnson was born on the island of Gotland, Sweden, 1846 and came to America in 1869. A number of his wife's relatives having settled in Burnett county and having told him that it was a good place he decided to try it and has lived in Grantsburg for twenty years following his trade as tailor. His children all have a taste for business and his oldest son, Henry, was engaged in the livery business with his own teams at the age of fourteen.

On page 138 is a family group the head of which is one of our village farmers. The head of the family is F. O. Olson, president of the Grantsburg creamery (see page 83). He was born in Sweden, Jan. 24, 1849, and settled in Chicago in 1869 where he followed his trade as shoemaker. He was soon advanced to an important position as salesman. The great fire caused him to seek a new location. He tried Lake City and Minneapolis, Minn., and in 1871 came to Grantsburg. His father took a homestead inside of the present village limits and this is now the home of F. O. or "Oscar" as he is best known. At



FAMILY OF F. O. OLSON, PRESIDENT OF GRANTSBURG CREAMERY.

first he clerked in the stores of Canute Anderson and W. H. Peck but gradually drifted more into farming and selling farm machinery. He was an active promoter of the Grantsburg creamery, one of its first directors and has been its president since the first year. It has been his ambition to make this the largest creamery in the county and it has prospered under his administration. The business for the last year is more than \$6,000 ahead of any previous year.

He was married in 1874. His oldest son, D. O., is station agent at Scanlon, Minn. Two daughters are dress-makers and the rest of the family follow farming, the management of the farm falling largely to "Emil", the tallest one of the family. Mr. Olson has filled many important town, village and county offices. He was school clerk for 18 years and is now police justice, court commissioner and assessor. He was the first supervisor from the village and was chair-

man of the county board when the county had some very serious legal complications to handle. He was treasurer of the town of Grantsburg when that town comprised over half the county and the treasurer had to give bonds for \$12,000.

Since page 108 was printed a picture of H. J. Halberg has been secured and appears on this page. He was born in Norway in 1860, came to America in 1867 and lived in Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, Wis., until 1897 when he removed to Burnett county. He was elected chairman of the town of Meenon in April, 1902, and has made a good member of the county board.

Supplementary to the information about Andrew Dahlstrom which is to be found on page 108 is the fact that he was born in Sweden, July 2, 1859, came to America in 1868 and settled in Washington Co., Minn., afterwards removing to Black Brook, Polk Co., Wis., thence to Shell Lake and in 1895 to Burnett county. In addition to occupations already mentioned he is a carpenter and a contractor.

Since page 122 was printed the firm of Armstrong & Hammerstrom has been dissolved. Mr. Hammerstrom retiring from the business. Martin Hammerstrom was born in Stöde, Socken Medelpad, Forgelers Sweden, April 14, 1841. He was married to Anna Martha Erickson in Sweden, Dec. 7, 1865. Their pictures appear on page 122. He came to Burnett county in June, 1882, direct from Sweden and settled in Trade Lake. After farming for five years he moved to Minnesota, thence to West Superior and back to Burnett county, being gone five years. He has lived in Wood Lake, Falun and West Sweden where he ran planing mills. He started a mill in Grantsburg in June, 1900, and has lived at the county seat ever since. His plans for the future are not determined.

Warren Armstrong whose picture appears on page 122, is but 33 years of age and yet he has seen nearly all the world and is satisfied with Burnett county. The thing which has amazed him most is that the people of Burnett have not made of the county the use which they could and he is inclined to believe that real farmers have been scarce. He is of English and Swedish parentage and was born on the Pacific ocean on his father's vessel. His mother died before the voyage was finished. His father was drowned three years later. Up to the age of ten he lived with his mother's people



H. J. HALBERG, CHAIRMAN OF THE TOWN OF MEENON.

in Sweden and then became a sailor. After quitting the sea he lived in Canada and in many of the states, on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and learned several trades. He is a boiler maker, a machinist, an engineer, a carpenter and a miller. He came to Grantsburg in 1899 to work in the flour mill. Afterwards he clerked for Luther & Jensen and then bought an interest in Hammerstrom's mill. In November, 1902, he formed the Grantsburg Lumber Co., which consists of W. E. Armstrong, A. W. Luther and S. E. Jensen. They are about to enlarge the plant and will do custom sawing and planing and will manufacture almost everything needed in building a house.

S. E. Jensen of the firm of Luther & Jensen and of the Grantsburg Lumber Co., is pictured on page 120. He is of Norwegian descent and was born in Iowa, April 29, 1856. He has resided in Burnett county over 25 years. A portion of his boyhood was spent in Minnesota. He worked in the Wisconsin pines for several years and then clerked for Simon Thoreson at Grantsburg three years and for Canute Olson four years. In 1893 he started a hardware store with A. W. Luther as a partner. Their stock at that time involved about \$1,000 and now counts up close to \$10,000. They have been obliged to sell a great many goods in order to build up a business and if there had been no resources in

the county they could not have thrived. What they have done ought to convince the most skeptical that there is something going up in the 'backwoods of Wisconsin.

On page 79 is a picture of Samuel B. Rice. He was born in Ohio 75 years ago and lived in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois before coming to this county in 1863. The little building opposite The JOURNAL office, shown on page 23, is his office. Since that photograph was taken he has built a large feed barn near it and does a thriving business, taking care of farmers' teams. In 1861 he enlisted in the First Battalion Yates' Sharpshooters, an Illinois regiment, was wounded, came home and raised a company of which he was to be captain, but his health did not permit him to go back. For 22 years he lived on a homestead in the southern part of Burnett county, but sold out and came to Grantsburg in 1888 and engaged in the livery business.

M. D. Lonergan, whose picture appears on page 125, was born at White Bear, Minn., in 1874 and has followed the drug business over half his life. He is registered by examination in both Wisconsin and Minnesota and has held positions as a pharmacist in Grantsburg, Rhineland, Green Bay and Antigo, Wis., and also in St. Paul. He has been a resident of Grantsburg nearly seven years and for the past four years has been either manager or proprietor of the store now occupied by the firm of Lonergan & Borgan, dealers in drugs and jewelry. They also have a branch store in Luck, Polk county. His partner is a dentist and the management falls almost entirely upon Mr. Lonergan. They do a fine business and have things right up to-date.

Ira C. Jones (see page 107) is a resident of Minneapolis but has spent much of his time during the past year in Grantsburg developing the brick-making qualities of Burnett county clay. In partnership with the S. D. Morrison Building Material Co., of Minneapolis he has opened a brick yard and burned one kiln of brick which came out fully up to their expectations. If they carry out their plans they will put in a plant in the near future which will turn out common brick, pressed brick, paving brick, drain tile, clay shingles, telephone conduits and a number of other products. The help required will add much to the population of the village and the development of the clay promises to do much for the county. Mr. Jones was born in Dakota Co., Minn.



HERBERT AHLSTROM, SENTINEL EDITOR, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

in 1850, and followed farming up to the age of 21 when he went to Minneapolis and engaged in business meeting with good success. He may be counted among the fixtures of Grantsburg. He has demonstrated that the clay of Burnett county is a valuable thing and where accessible can be profitably worked.

Herbert Ahlstrom, senior editor of the Burnett County Sentinel, was born in Grantsburg, May 15, 1877. After attending the village schools he clerked in his father's store for a time and then taught school. In January 1897, he entered the Sentinel office as an apprentice. Sometime later he became foreman. In March 1899 he bought Ole Anderson's interest in the paper and in April, 1901 he bought out his partner and afterwards sold a half interest to his present partner, A. J. Myriand (see page 105). He has had practical control of the paper for about four years.

On page 141 is the picture of Miss Mabel Ahlstrom, a young lady who during the past few months has achieved almost national fame owing to the peculiar circumstances under which she won her election to the office of superintendent of Burnett county schools. She was the regular nominee at the republican county convention winning without opposition. Later the present incumbent came out as an independent candidate and in the complications which fol-

lowed an injunction was granted which prevented the printing of Miss Ahlstrom's name on the official ballot. This necessitated the writing of her name by all who wished to vote for her and when the returns came in it was found she had received 85 per cent of the total vote cast in the county. This illustrates the fact that the voters of Burnett county are intelligent enough to vote just as they please even though they have to handle as complicated a ballot as the laws of Wisconsin requires. She was born in Burnett county and is just about old enough to be eligible to the office. She graduated from the Grantsburg and Minneapolis high schools and has taught successfully in both country and village schools. At the time the injunction was served she had not taken the state examination which the law required and had not received a superintendent's certificate.

To close this book without mention of Capt. D. W. Fox (see page 92) would be like playing Hamlet with Hamlet left out. About fifteen years ago he came to Burnett county prospecting for coal and was so well pleased with Yellow Lake that he located there and soon gathered around him his family. He was born in Somerset Co., Penna., Feb. 3, 1826, and has since lived in several parts of Penna., Illinois and Iowa. By profession he is a civil engineer and during the Civil War was attached to the staff of Gen. Sexton. His war record is good and



MISS MABEL C. AHLSTROM, COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS—
ELBERT, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

would alone make a volume as large as this book. Several years after becoming a resident of the county he took an active interest in local matters and represented his town in the county board. What he don't know about the fish in Yellow Lake and other things in that part of the county is not worth knowing. His postoffice address is Veteran and he can give prospective settlers many good points about locating. A G. A. R. Post just organized at Grantsburg has honored him with its highest office.

Peter Lidbom, pictured on this page, in 1885 cleared the land where the artist stood when he took the picture shown on page 23. The four-
 nal building was first located on that corner. When Lidbom started to build a shop there the street shown to the left was not opened and to the east was a forest of pine. He is now located opposite the postoffice where he runs a barber shop, a shoe shop, a harness shop and a bath room and is one of the greatest workers in the village. He was born in Sweden in 1864, came to America in 1880 after having started to learn three trades in the old country. His parents settled in Polk county but young Peter soon came up into Burnett county where he worked in the woods, drove logs and farmed until he concluded to work at his trades. He started in business in Grantsburg in 1884 and has lived there ever since.



PETER LIDBOM, BARBER AND HAIR-
DRESSMAKER, GRANTSBURG.

M. J. Kalmen, whose picture appears on this page, is one of the most expert wood workers in the county. He is a living exponent of the healthfulness of Burnett county. After being told that his days were practically numbered and having tried both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts as places of residence, he found in Burnett county a climate which enabled him to gain in strength and continue his work as a carpenter. He was born in Sweden in 1856 and came to America at the age of 25. When eleven years old he began shop work in Sweden and followed the same work in America in New York City, Brooklyn and Peekskill, N. Y., Minneapolis and St. Paul, in Minnesota, and in Seattle, Wash. In the latter city he was foreman of a sash and door factory. He is now manager and operator of the Farmer's starch factory at Grantsburg the plans for which he drew and the machinery of which he set up except the steam plant. He came to Grantsburg in 1893 and since then has bought and sold a number of farms. At the present time he is living two miles east of Falun on the shores of Mudhen Lake. In the village he has built the Central Methodist church (page 80), J. H. Jensen's residence (page 29), the Farmer's starch factory (page 31), Th. Olsen's block, G. R. Wedin's and Simon Thoreson's residences and has done a great variety of other carpenter work. He finds that the decreased cost of living makes wages here practically as high as fifty cents more per day in other places where he has worked and this coupled with the climate makes him contented to remain in Burnett county.

On page 143 is a picture of Lars Gisswold and wife. Mr. Gisswold enjoys the distinction of being the first person to attempt to start a creamery in the county and the building which he erected for this has been changed into a dwelling and is now occupied by his nephew, Martin Gisswold. It is the two story structure shown in the picture on page 22. Owing to the scarcity of cows he did not make a



M. J. KALMEN CARPENTER, GRANTSBURG, WIS.

success and gave up the scheme more than a dozen years ago. He is a watchmaker and has worked at his trade over sixty years, being still at work although over eighty years old.

On page 126 is a picture of Oscar J. Thorsen, who enjoys the distinction of having made the creamery butter which took first premium at the Northern Wisconsin State Fair in 1898. At that time he was working at the Grantsburg creamery but is now employed at the Wood River creamery. He was born in Sweden in 1874, came to Wood Lake, Burnett county, in 1887 and began work as a buttermaker in the Wood River creamery in 1896. He has attended the state dairy school at Madison, Wis., and is an expert buttermaker. He has worked in Deerwood and Ham Lake creameries in Minnesota.

Another buttermaker's face is shown on page 126. Harry Backmark was born at Atlas, Polk county, Wis., in 1863, and learned the buttermaking business in that county. He afterwards attended the Minnesota State Dairy College and has had charge of the buttermaking at Aftad (see page 94) since the creamery was



LARS GISWOLD AND WIFE. SEE OPPOSITE PAGE.

started and the manager says that he is an up-to-date buttermaker and has given excellent satisfaction, being capable and efficient. If he remains at this creamery a few years great things are to be expected of him as the location is naturally adapted to stock, there being plenty of hay and good pasture. White clover, blue grass, redtop, and brome grass are indigenous to the soil, the water is cool and abundant and being directly on the "Air Line" survey there is a good prospect that he will have a chance to show what he can do in the way of making lots of good butter.

All of the industries of Burnett county have not been mentioned in detail. Among these is the Excelsior factory (see page 35). This transforms popple and basswood into material used in making mattresses for packing glass ware and for many

other purposes. It furnishes a good market for lots of wood and has materially advanced the price of this class of timber.

The Hickerson Roller Mill (see pages 12 and 24) is a profitable thing for its owners and manufactures a fine grade of flour. It has a capacity of 125 barrels a day and the manager, C. A. Greene, says that if any one wants to know anything about how the county is developing he knows of no better test than to investigate the increase of business at this mill. Any person visiting Burnett county with a view to investing will find it a profitable use of his time to call on the managers of these two enterprises and see what figure they cut in showing what is in the county.

On page two is a portrait of Ed L. Peet, editor of *THE JOURNAL* of Burnett county. He established this

paper in 1895 and has conducted it as a local paper and an immigration paper. Much of the increase of population in the county is due to the work done with this paper. The editor was born at Oneota, Minn., on the shores of Lake Superior, and after having lived in seven states and territories finally settled down within a hundred miles of his birthplace, satisfied that there is no better place for any man to live in than Burnett county.

CONCLUSION.

As this book draws to a close the writer realizes that many things have not been said that will be of interest to home seekers. The biographical sketches and portraits which fill more than one-third of the book ought to convince the homeseeker that Burnett county has within its borders many people who will make good neighbors. Those whose pictures appear in the book have lent their aid to the preparation of the book and by so doing have shown that there are people of enterprise in the county. When the preface was written last March the statement was made that there were about 35,000 acres of government land left in the county. The Secretary of the Interior's last report says that on July 1, 1902, there were 139,244 acres vacant in Wisconsin. Estimates from Ashland and Eau Claire land offices December 1, say about 45,000 acres in former district and 35,000 in latter. In Burnett county there are about 18,000 acres left

Of this 6,000 is in the Ashland district and 12,000 in the Eau Claire district.

Less than ten weeks ago there was but one telephone in Grantsburg, now there are two exchanges in the village with about 75 'phones and lines are being pushed to all parts of the county. During the past summer there has been a marked increase in business over the county, many new settlers have come in and the indications are that during the coming year land values will materially advance and those who wish to get a cheap home in a rapidly growing country should make a move in the right direction very soon.

If you have picked this book up and carelessly turned its leaves over without reading in detail, you have missed many of the points you should know. Your duty now is to go back to the beginning, read it over carefully and then make up your mind whether there is any other place better suited to your wants than is Burnett county. When you have reached this conclusion, mail the book to some friend you would like to have join you in establishing a home in the midway district between the four greatest cities of the Northwest and then send thirty cents to the Secretary of Board of Immigration, Grantsburg, Wisconsin, with the request that you be sent another copy and you will help along the work which is being pushed to make Burnett county the garden spot of the New North. [Dec. 10, 1902.]

THE END



Railroad Lands

Special attention is called to the lands of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway Company, diagrams of which are found on Pages 109 to 117. The policy of the company will be liberal to actual settlers on these lands. Sales will be made when desired on terms of one-fifth cash, balance to be paid in four annual installments with interest on the deferred payments at the rate of seven per-cent per annum, if payments are made promptly when due. The Company gives its customers the privilege of paying deferred payments on land contracts at any time and only charges interest from the contract to the date of payment.

For several years past, the Traffic Department of the Company has authorized reduced rates to land-seekers to stations in Wisconsin near which the land is located. These rates, however, are subject to change at any time without notice.

Very low rates are also made on settlers' effects or emigrants' movables and reduced rates will be made for families of settlers on application to the General Passenger Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

Parties desiring cheap farming lands that will rapidly increase in value when improved, should look over these diagrams and make an early selection.

Send all applications to G. W. Bell, Land Commissioner, Hudson, Wisconsin.

G. W. Bell, Land Commissioner,
HUDSON, WISCONSIN.

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Choice Land, Quick Sales, Easy Terms, Our Motto.

We buy and sell.

If looking for land for a home, see us first. If wishing to sell, list with us.

We have bought and sold thousands of acres this last summer and have thousands of more acres on hand.

For abstracting or investment, banking, or any information as to Burnett and Polk Counties, write A. P. NELSON, Grantsburg, Wisconsin.

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WM. ANDERSON, Pres. A. P. NELSON, Sec'y and Treas.

ANDREW PETERSON, Vice Pres.

Office with First Bank of Grantsburg.

Read carefully pages 74 to 79 for a more detailed statement of our business.

