

## SOLDIER BONUS GOES TO VOTE

### PEOPLE OF THE STATE WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE ON IT

### HISTORY OF LOCAL POST

#### First Review of Louis Bowman Post by Post Historian Shows It's a Great Local Influence

The question of Michigan paying its ex-service men a bonus will go to the people for a vote this spring. The legislature has just about concluded arrangements for sending the question to the people.

The proposition is to pay the boys \$15 per month for every month's service. It is proposed to issue bonds to the amount of \$30,000,000 to pay this bonus and the bond issue is the question that the people have to pass upon.

#### Lewis Bowman Post History

During the week the history of Louis Bowman Post No. 87 was compiled by the post historian. Few of our people realize what an agency for good this organization is so to praise all of its activities we publish the history which is as follows:

The Louis Bowman Post, No. 87 of the American Legion at Crystal Falls, Michigan was organized August 18, 1919, and on that date the following officers were elected to hold office for the remainder of the year:

- Commander—A. L. Burridge.
- Vice-Commander—Jay Griffiths.
- Adjutant—Todd Webb.
- Finance Officer—O. M. Olson.
- Historian—Joshua Hoikka.
- Chaplain—John Bauer, Jr.

At the regular annual election in December of the same year the same officers were retained in office for the 1920 term with the single exception of Jay Griffiths, who had moved away during the interim. His successor was Dr. L. E. Bovik. At the election a year later (December 1920) the changes in officers were few.

Norman Olson was chosen Adjutant, replacing Todd Webb; Leo Mroz succeeded John Bauer, Jr. as Chaplain, and John Schemky is the new incumbent of the new office of Sergeant at Arms that was recently created. In January this year A. L. Burridge resigned. His reason for so doing was that he had announced his candidacy for State Highway Commissioner. A law of the American Legion is that no Legion officer may seek or hold a political office. On February 1st, Wm. Lynch was elected to fill the vacancy.

In 1919 the Post had a membership of 165 and in 1920 it numbered 140. This loss is accounted for by members who have moved away, transferring their memberships to other Posts where they are now enrolled.

The members of the Crystal Falls Club generously granted the Post the temporary and free use of their Club rooms, until such a time as the latter shall provide a place of its own. It then hopes to reciprocate and repay the members of the Crystal Falls Club by inviting them to accept the free use of its new quarters. This promise early fulfillment in the erection of the new hotel. For several.

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#### SOME FISH

Osg Bauer, Jake Schmit and Charley Holmes went to Stager lake last Monday and in two hours caught 49 pounds of fish. One of the catch weighed 22 pounds, another 10 pounds, another 5 1/2 pounds another 9 pounds and the other 2 1/2 pounds.

The 22-pounder was exhibited all day Tuesday in front of the Bauer hardware store and great was the discussion as to whether it was a muscalonge or a pickered. Meade LaPlante, John Erickson, John Bauer—a lot of the old fishermen pronounced it a musky but another bunch lead by "Bugs" Wilson says it's a pickered and they have reasons for their claim. Irrespective of what kind of a fish the big fellow was the catch was a remarkable one.

#### FORGOT HIMSELF

Well, sir," said Meade LaPlante to a number of friends in Wilson's barber shop last Monday, "There is some difference between the weather this last day of February and that thirty-five years ago today. "How is it you remember the date so well", asked one of the listeners. "Because I snowshoed through from Florence to Crystal Falls that day," replied Meade. "And a mighty cold day it was, in fact it was the coldest winter I remember of." "How did you go across the Brule", inquired Jake Schmitt. "I waded it", replied Meade. He can't understand yet why the boys laughed.

—Read the Ads—

#### CREATING INTEREST IN BIRDS

##### John Cassidy Is Having His Manual Training Pupils Build Bird Houses

"I think that we ought to give John Cassidy some encouragement in his efforts to get the boys of his classes interested in birds," said W. H. Rezin to a Diamond Drill reporter last Wednesday. "He is having his pupils build a lot of bird houses. Supposing that we drop in after dinner, look them over and tell the people about this very desirable work."

So, shortly after dinner we stopped at the manual training room in the Forest Park building and it did our heart good to see a lot of boys at work on the machines, turning, sawing, planing and doing other manual training work. Several excellently constructed articles of furniture stood about the room in various stages of completion and upon each piece a boy was industriously at work.

Another thing that pleased us was meeting with two Crystal Falls boys holding positions as instructors. John has charge of the work as manual training teacher with Elmer Soderberg assistant. Both are Crystal Falls products, both are showing splendid talents in their chosen line of work.

But, it was to see the bird houses that we went there so John piloted us into the room where the completed work is kept and there we beheld a collection of bird houses numbering about 100, many of them unique to a degree. Almost all of these bird homes had been built by youngsters in the lower grades. A great deal of the work had been done at home and one could see in each piece some element that spoke of the boys' environment. For example, some tastily constructed "log" houses, the ends neatly notched, the miniature logs trimmed to place and chinked as exactly as are the well known cedar houses of the Finnish people. We were told that these boys lived on a certain location where some excellent examples of that kind of work can be seen. Other constructions by boys living on some of the outlying farms were almost exact replicas of a barn or shed on the farm.

We learned from Mr. Cassidy that over 100 bird houses will be put up in the school park. The cement working class will, as soon as weather conditions allow, start upon a couple of cement bird baths in the Forest Park school yard.

With 100 bird houses set up for occupancy this spring there will be considerable attention to bird life by our boys and that's a spirit that we want to cultivate. A boy that loves and cares for birds seldom goes wrong. May Mr. Cassidy have much success in his efforts to get the boys under him interested in our birds.

—Read the Ads—

#### DR. DARLING'S FUNERAL

The remains of Dr. A. M. Darling, whose death at St. Petersburg, Fla. was noted in last week's issue, arrived on Sunday morning. A delegation from the local Masonic lodge met the party at Channing and escorted the remains to the city where they were placed in the Masonic hall at which place they were viewed by hundreds of the friends of the deceased.

On Monday the remains were taken to the home and preparations made for the funeral which occurred at 2:00 o'clock p. m. Monday. Crystal Falls lodge of Masons had charge of the funeral and a very large number of the members turned out to pay their last respects.

The funeral ceremony was held at the home and the remains were escorted by a large concourse of lodge members and friends in autos and sleighs to the local cemetery where they were laid at rest in the Darling lot.

In respect to the deceased all places of business closed during the time of the funeral.

Those present at the funeral from outside of the county were Dr. Linderman, Hiwaukie; Mrs. Lin Ross, Chicago, Mr. LaSage, Fox Lake, Wis.

Many messages of condolence were received during the week, one from a former room mate of the deceased reading as follows:

"Word of Dr. Darling's death comes with sad surprise. Many a life has been spared to survive his through his skillful service. Mrs. Handy and I join with the people of our old home in mourning his death and extending to the bereaved widow and daughter heartfelt sympathy.

SHERMAN T. HANDY."

Some items regarding Dr. Darling's early life not obtainable for our article last week have been furnished us for this issue. Dr. Darling was born August 2, 1862 at Fox Lake, Wis. He went through the grammar school there and then to Downer College from which he graduated. He taught school for two years and in 1888 entered medical school. He was graduated from Keokuk, Iowa, medical college in 1892 and came immediately to Crystal Falls.

—Read the Ads—

## CONTEST FOR TWO OFFICES

### CITY ELECTION WILL BE MORE THAN A FORMALITY THIS YEAR

### CANDIDATES GETTING READY

#### To Lay Their Cases Before The Voters of The City For Mayor And Justice of The Peace

The entry of Axel Axelsson into the mayoralty contest last week made certain that the mayor's office will not go begging. During the week a petition is said to have been circulated asking that Charles Neugebauer be selected to the office of Justice of the Peace. Hon. C. T. Roberts had already circulated a petition for this office so that if the Neugebauer petition goes in it will make a contest for the only two offices on the list that are open.

Mr. Gaffney tells a reporter for The Diamond Drill that he is going to make an active canvass when the time comes to start out. It is a little early yet as it is a couple of weeks until the primary comes along.

Mr. Axelsson has not started out on a personal canvass yet but undoubtedly will do so in good time.

The interest seems to center more about the disposition of the candidates to make changes or no changes at the city hall. Mr. Gaffney being accepted as the candidate whose intentions are to make extensive changes, among them the appointing to office of soldiers, while Mr. Axelsson is being accepted as the candidate whose intentions are to make little or no change in the present condition of affairs.

From remarks heard about the city it is quite certain that there is going to be more pep to the campaign than appears now upon the surface. There is a very evident demand among the people of the city for a change at the city hall. It has been growing for two years and it is this element of our people who are most outspoken for Mr. Gaffney.

At the same time there is quite an element of our people who believe that things have been going on as well as can be expected and these people are just as outspoken in defense of present conditions. Upon the size of these two elements depends the outcome of the election. Of course there are some interests lined up on both sides for primarily selfish motives, some who expect that Mr. Gaffney will do things that will be of direct benefit to them or to their business or business interests; then there are others who look upon Mr. Axelsson with the same selfish view—expect that his election means a financial gain to them or to their business or to business with which they are associated.

This element should be discarded on both sides for they are primarily selfish. The public has no interest in private business ventures one way or the other. We need all kinds and classes of business that are legitimate, the more business we have in every line the better, but every business should be made to stand upon its own footing, the success or failure of the business enterprise accruing entirely to those who run it and who profit or lose by its success or failure.

The public's business is the satisfactory handling of the city's affairs and that only.

Most of the voters of Crystal Falls are intelligent and it is not probable that these schemes of individuals will have much influence on the general voting public.

Justice is important.

The contest for justice of the peace is one that will undoubtedly arouse a great deal of attention before it is decided. Mr. Roberts has never been adequately rewarded by Crystal Falls for the many things he did for this place in the early days when he was prosperous and a power in the peninsula. The selection of Crystal Falls as the county seat of this county was due to the work of Mr. Roberts as much as to anyone in the world. In those days he was prosperous and he spent his money freely for the good of his town. Reverses came to him in the panic of 1893 from which he has never fully recovered. He has never complained but struggled along, paid his way and did a good turn for his neighbors when he could do so. At his advanced age in life he is now where Crystal Falls, if it will, can do a little to say that it remembers and is grateful to him for the things he did for her in his prosperity. That's the entire story of the justice contest. So far as ability is concerned there is no difference, either one can fill the office creditably.

The primary will occur March 21. All of the women of the city will have an opportunity to register their choice at that time and it is expected that a large woman vote will be in evidence.

—Read the Ads—

#### DR. DILLER ASSAULTED

##### Two Men Plan Robbery and Mistake Dr. Diller For Their Victim

As Dr. Diller was passing a bay window projecting from the side of Steven Reynolds' home on Crystal Avenue last Saturday night about 8:30 two men who were hidden in the recess formed by the window stepped out, one of them striking the doctor on the head with a club that he held in his hand. The blow felled Dr. Diller to the ground but didn't put him entirely out. As he fell the other man grabbed the small case that the doctor carried and both ran down the alley back of the house to the St. Paul track and were lost sight of.

—Read the Ads—

## MORE MINES CLOSE DOWN

### BIG BENJAL MINE CLOSES AND FOGARTY ON HALF TIME

### WARNER TO SINK SHAFT ONLY

#### Announcement of a Cut in Steel Prices About May 1st Was Made By Corporation Interest

More iron mines have closed in Iron county. The Bengal mine of the Pickands-Mather Co. has gone down entirely and the Fogarty has been placed upon half time. News of this change came to Crystal Falls Tuesday when men who had been laid off at the two properties came here seeking work.

The Bengal is next to the Caspian in size. The Caspian, also the property of the Pickands-Mather company, has been closed since last fall when it shut down to allow of the shaft being repaired and a new head frame erected. Since that time the lull in ore mining came on and the mine has not resumed production although shaft sinking and other development work is being prosecuted in a small way.

The Bengal employs about 300 men, most of whom will be entirely out of work as there is no place for them at the other mines.

The Fogarty was started up after the Caspian shut down for the purpose of keeping at work a number of men from the Caspian. There were about 150 men at work and we understand that the force will be reduced to about 75.

#### Warner Lets Out 100.

The Warner mine has stopped all production and will confine the work at that property to the sinking of the new shaft. This work is being pushed and will take care of quite a crew but the best that the local management can figure out is that at least 100 men will be made idle by the change.

The new shaft is being sunk and raised. From surface a gang is pushing down to meet another gang raising up from the first level and on every level below gangs of miners are raising up to the level above so that it is expected that a record will be made in the placing of this new shaft in commission.

So far, no orders have been received for curtailment at the Amasa-Porter mine which is being worked with two crews at capacity.

The general steel markets are very unsettled. Late last week the controller of the management of the U. S. Steel Corporation, charging that body with contributing to the unsettled condition of the nation by persisting in holding up the prices of steel while all other products are sagging. The result of this was an unauthorized statement, claiming to be made by authority, advising that a reduction of steel prices will be made about May 1. This is understood to mean that it will be made in the near future as independent manufacturers have cut deeply in the present schedule and the steel business is getting more and more unsettled every day.

Most forecasters believe that a decided reduction in steel prices by the corporation—one to within ten per cent of pre-war prices—will go a very long way towards clearing up the situation and getting business out of the dumps.

#### No Changes Here

In the mean time no changes are reported for Crystal Falls. The indications at the McKinnney Steel company's mines are that things are on the up-grade. Considerable work about the engine house and the machinery at the Odgers that was postponed last fall is to be gone ahead with. The Bristol change has been discontinued and work at the Hollister Mining company's properties is looking a little better, if anything, than it was two weeks ago.

#### —Read the Ads—

Jalmar Johnson was chosen supervisor of Bates township at the primary held last Tuesday. He beat Adolph Foreberg. Johnson is new man for Bates township.

—Read the Ads—

#### St. Patrick's Day Entertainment

The Choir of the Guardian Angel Church, assisted by best local talent, are rehearsing "The Gypsy Rose" a romantic musical comedy in 3 acts by May Dodge and John Wilson. There will also be selections of vocal and instrumental music and oration appropriate to St. Patrick's Day. The entertainment will take place in City Hall Auditorium on Thursday, March 17th. Program will appear in the next issue of The Diamond Drill.

—Read the Ads—

#### HERBERTS' GREATER MINSTRELS

For the amusing loving public there is a treat in store, that is a novelty, due to the fact that the entire performance is given by genuine negro talent and of the very highest order of excellence. This organization is composed of the pick of the colored vaudeville, circus, chatauqua, musical comedy and minstrel performers, all corralled under the banner of what is known as "Herberts' Greater Minstrels." This show is announced for 1 performance, on Thursday, March 10 at the City Hall Auditorium. Is it not evident to you that there is originality, comedy and music in the negro race, given to them by nature, and for many decades copied by the adherents of the burnt cork and floated by the many white minstrel companies, amateur and professional. That they are full of merriment, hilarity and tuneful music is an admitted fact. Singing and dancing is characteristic of the negro race and is hard to imitate. These qualities in the performance makes a combination that will produce a old time musical show that is dear to all and one that has all the alluring qualities of a sure fire production, arranged for the purpose of dethroning gloom. Its dominant key note is laughter, and the elimination of Mr. Grouch from your system is its aim. All the favorite funsters have been secured to instill happiness and pleasure to the throngs that greet this company nightly. A special feature will be the great Adams in a free exhibition on the streets in conjunction with the street parade and concert at noon on the day of the show. Reserved seats can be secured in advance either by phone, letter or in person at Mroz' Jewelry store. Be sure and get yours and not be sorry afterwards.

—Read the Ads—

#### SAYS IT'S WONDERFUL SERVICE

A traveling man handed in the following which we respectfully refer to Jim Peebles for solution in connection with the 45 mile per hour train service between Iron River and Channing.

Editor Diamond Drill:

The slow train through Arkansas has lost its title to the St. Paul train between Iron River and Crystal Falls. This claim can be vouched for by several passengers, all of whom paid first class passage last week Thursday.

The train left Iron River at 11:06 o'clock a. m., Thursday Feb. 24 and arrived in Crystal Falls at 5:00 o'clock p. m., a distance of 17 miles on an average speed of 2 1/2 miles per hour.

Some of the passengers were commercial salesmen under very heavy expense and every day lost is a big factor to them.

Had the passengers been informed that the train gives the service it does they wouldn't have tried to make the trip upon it. They were given the impression by the agent at Iron River that they could get to Crystal Falls by at least 2:00 o'clock p. m. This would allow them to visit the trade at the Falls and get out on the Northwestern.

Who is to blame, the St. Paul road or the crew? Should the railroad accept passengers on a train of this kind and charge them first class fare? Is it possible that the St. Paul officials do not know how long it takes this train to make the trip between the two towns?

(Signed by seven representatives of mercantile houses)

—Read the Ads—

#### MOONSHINING ON THE DECLINE

Moonshining as a business is just now in the dumps. Reason, hard times. These half-time pay days are not conducive to moonshine drinking and as a result it is said that shine is a drug on the market.

From runners connected by the grape vine route with the shiners we learn that there is a rush to get out from under just now, there being quite an accumulation in the shine warehouses.

As a result the fires are being quenched under the stills and the shiners are going rabbit hunting—there's more money in it.

If these hard times keep up for a year with a medium activity in evidence on the part of our officers, moonshining as a business will be a lost art. There will for many years be the small fry distillation for private use but with the disappearance of the \$15 per quart price the great interest in the business ceases.

—Read the Ads—

#### VOTE FOR

### C. T. Roberts

She be the man for the Poor Peep.

#### For Justice of the Peace

—Read the Ads—

#### READ THE DIAMOND DRILL