

Remember When

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Volume I, Issue V

May 2015

125 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Courier*

May 2, 1890

The steamer Percey Swain, Capt. Richter, came up the river last Friday stopping at the Pork house. The captain is an old friend of Mr. Shank, and has been running the Mississippi from St. Paul to La Crosse. He would like to run this way if he could make it pay.

May 9, 1890

The Center House has been so altered inside as to make a thoroughly new building of it, and is as handsomely filled up as any house outside of the large cities. In fact it is a beauty, and has ample room for all-comers. On next Thursday night a grand banquet will be given by 100 citizens in honor of the opening and its landlord Mr. Frank Gellenbeck.

May 16, 1890

Removed.—H. P. Marx's Jewelry Store to German American Bank Building, three down east of Kohls & Berens. I wish to announce that I have moved my entire store to a larger and more convenient building, where we can show goods and wait on our patrons with comfort and pleasure. My stock is larger and more complete than ever before, call and we will show you what we have, don't ask you to purchase, only pay us a visit in our new place, and tell us what you think of the change. I also wish to state that there is no part of my stock or fixtures for rent in the old stand, as I am completely moved.

H. P. Marx.

May 23, 1890

Mr. Hinds is about to build an addition to the Argus building, in which B. A. Kohler is to have his drug store, and above the Argus office will be located.

May 30, 1890

About eighty people of our city attended the steam-boat excursion on the steamer Percy Swain last Sunday which ran from here to St. Paul and back.

125 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

May 2, 1890

H. H. Strunk & Sons have torn out the back end of the three story part of their store, and will substitute a frame end for the heavy stone wall of the second and third stories, enabling them to dispense with the large posts on the first floor. Four light windows will take the place off the present win-

dows in front and the building otherwise improved in appearance.

May 9, 1890

Thos. Condon is contemplating building a lime kiln on his farm between the railroad and river—probably on the river bank so that lime could be spouted to a barge without any unnecessary handling.

May 16, 1890

The Independent Oil Company is erecting an oil house in Shakopee about one hundred yards west of the depot on the south side of the H. & D. track. The reservoir for the illuminating fluid is one of the flat car tanks which was dismantled and partially sunk in the ground. This tank will be filled from a car tank by means of a siphon. Huth Bros. are agents for the company and in a few days will have a delivery tank of three barrels capacity, with which to supply consumers with oil.

May 23, 1890

Within a few days Henry Hinds will commence the erection of a two-story brick building, with plate glass front, where Peter Daufelt's harness shop now stands, next to the Argus black. The first floor will be leased by B. A. Kohler for a drug store and the rear half of the second floor will be used to enlarge the Argus office. The front half of the second floor will be made into two convenient offices suitable for any professional man.

May 30, 1890

Last Monday morning Casper Schott caught a brook trout at G. Hattenberger's, which weighed one pound and five ounces.

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100 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Tribune*

May 7, 1915

Saw Mill on the Prairie

Last Friday and Saturday passersby along Shakopee Avenue, on the hill south of town, saw a sawmill sawing lumber out of giant logs, on the site of Joseph Spindler's newly purchased chicken ranch just west of the Plumstead homestead. When Mr. Spindler purchased the broad acres for his new venture, there stood along the front of the property on Shakopee Avenue, nine giant cottonwood trees, planted there fully fifty years ago, and these he cut down, sawed into suitable lengths, and then engaged Tony Wessle, of the Wessle & Hesse sawmill in Jackson town, to bring his entire mill to the site and saw the logs into dimension timbers for his new buildings. The nine trees yielded nearly a thousand feet each of fine native Lumber. The *Tribune* man was an interested spectator of the sawing operations, and could not help but admire the clever sawyer, Anton Wessle, and his speedy work in ripping out lumber from such giant logs. The five foot saw, when not big enough to cut thru a log, did its best, and then by an eighth turn of the log it was able to cut thru the remainder and square it up without the loss of a foot of timber. There are tricks in all trades, and Tony has his all down pat. The big carrier moved back and forth swiftly, and a pull on a lever is all that was necessary to bring forth a four by four, or a two by eight, or a two by six, or a floor board, just as the need or the timber called for or allowed. Those who have lived in the timber country are no doubt used to seeing sawmills in operation; but the busy hum of one out on the prairie, heaping up sawdust and big piles of white lumber, was a novelty for the average person hereabouts.

May 14, 1915

Joseph Paron is having a two room addition built to his house south of town. When completed he will again occupy the house. The house south of St. Mark's church vacated by the Paron family has been rented by Registrar R. G. Ballinger.

May 21, 1915

Ford Car Gets Giddy

Monday afternoon Francis Volkert, assistant in the Notermann meat market, started out in the Notermann Ford touring car to go to the slaughter house, and proceeded out from the alley to Holmes street, and then toward First street. The steering gear seemed to be out of order, and the brakes failed to work, if they were applied, for as the car neared the M. J. Berens & Son's store corner, the car turned sharply to the left, dug up the surface of the road burst a front tire, missed the big ornamental light post by an inch or two, ran over the sidewalk, and straddled the plate glass corner of the building with

the front wheels. The force of the impact pushed in the west side of the building, smashed a \$75 plate glass, and did about \$4 worth of damage to the car, bending the radius rods, and the left front fender. The streets were crowded with autos and foot travelers at the time, and the remarkable gyrations of the car were observed by many people, altho, fortunately nobody was hurt, even the driver did not receive a scratch.

May 28, 1915

Mr. Borst, superintendent of the agricultural department of the famous Shakopee schools will remain here during the summer to assist the farming community in applying scientific methods to farming, stock raising, dairying and fruit growing. He has sold his motorcycle, and will buy a Ford with which to cover his territory, and look after the exhibits for the State and county fairs.

100 Years Ago: From the *Scott County Argus*

May 7, 1915

Schroeder Brick and Lime Manufacturing Co. are building a new patent brick oven with a capacity of 600,000 that will greatly increase the output of the Schroeder yards.

May 14, 1915

Jacob Schmitt is making extensive improvements on the Thos. Durose home on Second street that was lately purchased by him. All of the sheds have been torn away, the house is undergoing repairs inside and out and electric lights and water are being installed. The former grist mill on the premises is being converted into a substantial barn and the buildings will be given a fresh coat of paint. The improvements already completed have made a marked appearance of the place and the value of the property will be greatly increased when the work now under way shall have been finished.

May 21, 1915

Carpets and Rugs Cleaned by the new process

Have your carpets and rugs cleaned by the new process. It is by far the best, most sanitary and gives general satisfaction.

It restores the natural colors and disinfects without injury to the goods in the slightest degree.

Work positively guaranteed.

E. W. Haack

Shakopee

At the Gentgen Barber Shop

May 28, 1915

All business places of Shakopee will close at 11:30 a.m. for the rest of the day, on Decoration Day, Monday, May 31st.

75 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune*

May 2, 1940

Hats off to Shakopee high schools masterful musical organization. Their performance was one of the highlights of the day. And if any high school band in the state has comparable uniforms, we'll crawl through a field of barbed wire, sprinkled with glass splinters, to see 'em. They're a credit to the school and the community.

May 9, 1940

The Shakopee Hospital Remodelling Completed

The Shakopee hospital, a member of the American Hospital Association, has completed the interior redecorating and remodelling of the hospital. The operating room and nursery have been enlarged, bed capacity increased and new equipment has been added, making it one of the most up-to-date institutions of its kind in the Minnesota valley.

The Shakopee hospital will be open to the public all day on Sunday, May 12, and a cordial invitation is extended to all visitors who may desire to inspect its arrangements and new equipment.

May 16, 1940

Sand, Gravel Washing Plant Erected Here

An industry, which its promotors have reason to believe will develop into a sizable business, will soon get under way here. It is a sand, gravel and rock washing plant now under construction on the south bank of the Minnesota river in East Shakopee.

The plant, being erected by Contractors Kreuser and Hennen, is to be owned and operated by J. P. Wermerskirchen and Henry Haas. Sand and rock will come from the Wermerskirchen pit on Shakopee avenue. From there it will go to the plant for washing and stocking.

A massive 3-bin hopper has been erected on the river bank. Water for the washing process is to be pumped from a spring-fed creek at the plant site.

May 23, 1940

Three Panels Of Shakopee Mural In Place On School Library Wall

Three parcels of the mural for the Shakopee high school were installed during the past week. Realization outdoes anticipation; the murals are lovelier than the most hopeful had expected.

Leon Sorkin, the artist who is painting the work, supervised the placing of the canvas on the walls. A preliminary washing was first given to the plaster and then a coat of white lead was carefully laid over the plaster. Finally the painted canvases were raised into position at the top, patted into place, and then rolled out smoothly with a metal roller. The

finished work will form an integral part of the wall.

The first panel, installed on the west wall depicts T. A. Holmes laying out the townsite of Shakopee. The figure of Mr. Holmes is a portrait. In the background is the Manaige home. The second panel portrays the covered wagon period; and the third, the coming of education, government and religion to Shakopee, with a final scene at the wharf where a river steamer is being unloaded.

The artist, originally assigned to the mural was Armand Arndt. After eight months of study and research Mr. Arndt designed the panels, and executed the cartoons. He was then called to South Dakota as art instructor in the public schools. Mr. Sorkin, a fellow student of Mr. Arndt, was chosen to complete the work. Mr. Larkin, especially interested in portraiture, is believed to be an excellent choice for finishing the murals since there are to be some twenty portraits of Shakopee's historic characters in the completed work.

The east wall is yet to be painted. Since some research is to be done for these panels, it is estimated that it will be at least six months before the mural is complete and the history of Shakopee will live in glowing colors on the library walls to be conned by all those proud of the deeds that have produced a typical American community.

May 30, 1940

Big Game Hunting Film To Be Shown Wednesday

Dr. Vernon Smith's now famous big game hunting movies are to be shown in the Shakopee high school auditorium under the auspices of the Shakopee Civic and Commerce association at eight o'clock Wednesday night, May 29.

Showing ducks, geese and other favorite game in their natural state the pictures, taken in the Canadian rockies and other spots, are said to be the best of their kind ever produced.

There will be no admission charge, sponsors said, and everyone is welcome.

50 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

May 6, 1965

Home Ec Style Show, Shakopee High Highlight, To Be Next Thursday

The Junior and Senior Home Economics department of the Shakopee Public school are now preparing a Spring Style show to be presented next Thursday, May 13, at 1:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Eighth, ninth, eleventh and twelfth grade home economics students will participate.

Featured will be sportswear, dresses and suits and coats made by the girls in the clothing construction classes. Miss Sandra McNellis is the instructor of senior high home eco-

nomics and Mrs. Jane Rockwell, junior high.

The public is invited to attend and there will be no admission fee. Refreshments will be served. A music group, under the direction of Mrs. Gladys Gustafson of the high school faculty, will sing...

May 13, 1965

Rips Up Lawn After Across Town Police Chase

Two juveniles, age 15 and 16, from Shakopee, following theft of an auto from a Shakopee firm's car lot and another, age 17, following a 60 mile per hour chase through the residential district of Shakopee, were turned over to juvenile authorities after apprehension by Shakopee Police.

Picked up following a stop sign violation at 10:50 p.m. in Chaska were the 15 and 16-year-olds who had taken a 1965 Chevrolet from Malkerson's on East First at 10 p.m. Friday, April 30. They were held for auto theft.

Apprehended after the chase at 1:13 p.m. Saturday, May 1, was the 17-year-old who had taken his father's car without permission and ended up crashing into a stop sign after missing the nearby corner and ripping up the lawn of the residence of John Starr, 706 East Seventh.

Shakopee Policeman John DuBois began the chase at Second and Holmes, up to Seventh, west on Seventh for a block. He then continued following after the youth made a "U" turn to start east on Seventh as he sped 60 miles per hour across town to Seventh and Market to then speed north on Market.

It is estimated damage to the stop sign was \$50 and there was considerable damage to the Starr's lawn.

The youth was charged with unauthorized use of a vehicle, stop sign violation, reckless driving and failure to stop for an emergency vehicle.

He had two passengers who "bailed out" on the "U" turn on Seventh Street.

May 20, 1965

Rahr Malting Co. Expansion Told

Rahr Malting Co. this week announced expansion activity to include the firm's present property that included the former Shakopee Foundry. The announcement states:

"Recently Rahr Malting Co. announced the purchase of land adjoining its property and lying along the railroad tracks directly south of its plant. This purchase included the old Shakopee Foundry. These buildings are now being cleared of Foundry machinery and equipment. Most of the Foundry buildings will be razed, but the west end will be converted to warehouse space which will also be suitable for light industrial use. As previously announced the land is being held for possible future plant expansion or other business purposes.

"Some weeks ago the Company dismantled one of its storage warehouses. At a new location Shakopee General

Construction, Inc. is now building a shop addition, which will replace the dismantled warehouse.

"A new kiln will be constructed in the space available between the two malthouses fronting on Highway 169. This building will be erected by McKenzie-Hauge-Gilles Co. who built the original Shakopee plant and all additions. It will incorporate new features and advancements made in modern malthouse kiln design to improve plant efficiency and operational flexibility. Completion is scheduled within ten months of starting date.

"The company is also making certain in-plant changes for disposition of its cooling and processing waters. Under study by the legislature now is the problem of sewage disposal in the Twin Cities, suburbs, and surrounding area. Important decisions to be made are the classification of the Minnesota River and setting standards for it. When these new regulations are issued, needed guidelines will be available, and the Company can then proceed further with that project.

"The Rahr Malting Co. first broke ground in Shakopee almost 30 years ago. Through periodic improvements and additions it has demonstrated its faith in the Shakopee community, and by this new program, its faith in Shakopee's future."

May 27, 1965

Sunday Feature On Photographer Lebens

A pictorial feature on Shakopee photographer, LeRoy Lebens, is to appear in the Minneapolis Tribune's Picture Sunday magazine, this Sunday, May 30.

The feature, headed "Brides Look Lovelier Outdoors," includes photos of brides that Lebens has taken in front of a waterfall, mill pond and at Memorial Park, east edge of Shakopee. One of the brides pictured is Mrs. Jim Wells of Cologne.

L. L. Cavanaugh, public service director of The Tribune, in making the announcement this week said that the Sunday magazine is especially edited and designed for Upper Midwest readers and appears each week with The Minneapolis Tribune.

25 Years Ago: From the *Shakopee Valley News*

May 3, 1990

Measles case confirmed; booster shots recommended

A measles case involving a Shakopee High School senior student was confirmed Wednesday morning, and officials from the Minnesota Department of Health have suggested that all students at the high school receive a measles booster shot.

High school Principal James Murphy said Wednesday that high school students, as well as ninth-graders who participate

in activities at the high school, on Friday will receive parental permission slips for a booster inoculation.

Inoculations would be given next week at the school. Shots likely would be free or provided for a nominal fee, with the vaccine supplied by the state Department of Health.

Murphy said it is also recommended by health authorities that teachers born after 1957 be inoculated.

Maggie Arko, a school nurse, recommended that all parents closely observe their children for signs of measles. Children will develop a rash that begins on the face, and later spreads to other portions of the body. Children may appear to have a cold, with a fever and red eyes.

If measles is suspected, parents should seek immediate medical attention, and if the disease is confirmed, report it to the child's school, said Arko.

May 10, 1990

Tsumura breaks ground for \$20 million Shakopee facility

Colorful Japanese flags symbolizing the return of spring, the season of newness, greeted guests to the groundbreaking for Tsumura International Inc.'s new FMG division facility in Shakopee last week.

The elaborate ceremony, which included corporate officials from Japan, and state and local officials as well as several Twin Cities media representatives, was held May 2 at 1000 Valley Park Drive...

May 17, 1990

Highway corridors is meeting topic

A study of options on traffic corridors leading south from the proposed Bloomington Ferry Bridge and the Shakopee Bypass will be presented to the Scott County Board next Tuesday.

The study was conducted by Strgar-Roscoe-Fausch Inc. of Plymouth, the county's design consultants for the Bloomington Ferry Bridge project.

Residents living along Scott County Road 18 have protested the county's plan to upgrade County Road 18 into a four-lane urban roadway to handle the large volumes of traffic heading south off the bridge and bypass. The residents have suggested that the County Board consider routing southerly traffic on other highways, such as Highway 13 or County Road 83.

May 24, 1990

Anderson voted Region 2AA coach of the year by peers

Shakopee High School boys basketball coach John Anderson has been named Coach of the Year in Region 2AA.

Anderson, who also won the honor in 1985-86, guided

the Indians to a 15-7 record last season. In what was to be a rebuilding year, the Indians finished third in the Missota Conference and advanced to the region semifinals.

Anderson said he was somewhat surprised by the award, which is voted by the 13 region coaches.

"You would expect a team that usually wins the region for their coach to win," said Anderson, referring to Chaska Hawks coach Denny Welter.

But the fact that the Indians led the Missota for much of the season with just one returning letterman gave Anderson the nod. "I suppose that had something to do with it," said Anderson.

Anderson will receive his award at a state coaches' clinic in the fall.

May 31, 1990

Youths learn about hunting, fishing

More than 40 youths and their parents recently attended a fishing and hunting clinic sponsored by the Shakopee Jaycees.

The seminar included topics such as fishing equipment, bait, hunting ethics and dog training. Discussions were led by members of the Scott County 4-H Club, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer Scott Carlson, and other volunteers from the Shakopee area. According to event organizers, the seminar was conducted to encourage youth to become interested in outdoor activities and learn more about their specific areas of interest.



Third floor of the Argus building in December 1923. The Argus building was located on the corner of First Avenue and Lewis Street.

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