

Echo de l'Ouest, 25 March 1885

“Do what you ought to do whatever may happen”

Demeules & Laramee, Proprietors; E.R. Dufresne, Editor

(Minneapolis French Newspaper, Published from 1885 to 1929.)

Translated by Bill Horn, Assisted by Kathy Horan-Grambsch & Jackie Demeules Hofhenke)

[New front page advertisers]

W.F. Scripture. Furniture and home furnishings. Superior quality with prices that defy all competition. M. Frank Thibeault, our Canadian colleague who is experienced, urbane and speaks French. 23 Bridge Square

W. C. Leber. Jeweler and watch specialist. 208 Hennepin Avenue

Bardwell, Robinson and Co. Doors, Frames, Shutters. Factory and Warehouse. 2nd Street and 24th Avenue North. “We invite French-Canadians to patronize our establishment.

[The continuing serial story “The Daughter of Street Hawkers” (not translated)]

Minneapolis

We send today with the present issue of L’Echo de L’Ouest a supplement in English with all the Minnesota law passed at the last session of the Legislature. This is an important document which all readers will without doubt wish to keep.

M. Carrier, distinguished lawyer from Quebec has for several days visited Minneapolis with the intention of establishing himself here. We wish our compatriot the most open and cordial welcome, and the success which his brilliant professional qualifications do not fail to assure him.

M. Edouard Huot, merchant of Polk County, is in this city on commercial business.

We greatly regret to learn that in the recent municipal elections of Dayton, Minnesota, where our nationals are a great majority, none of them were able to win a single office. Our compatriots of Osseo had more luck. They were able to elect M.E. Lefebvre, Treasurer and M. Jos. Saucier, Assessor; we cordially congratulate them.

The condemnation before the criminal court last Friday of the notorious Madame Burner for purveying for vice, has been received by a cry of joy and relief by all the honest population of this city. The process has unveiled a bloody wound: the extraordinary degree of depravation which it has rendered to the morals of our milieu. So we ought to rejoice when our courts of justice curb and condemn vice and crime everywhere it shows its head and separate from society the hideous monsters that corrupt and sully the reputation of our city.

The frequenting of “Roller Rinks” is strongly censured by the ecclesiastique authorities of the diocese, and for cause. The atmosphere of these places of amusement became the rage in Minneapolis since last summer are not always the safest, not nearly, and are even very dangerous for good morals.

The French Canadian public has learned, doubtless with pleasure, that M.R. Lacroix, already with forty-five years experience in the business of dry goods and having all the

qualifications for a sales assistant, affable character, and the proverbial politeness of French-Canadians. Our compatriots are thus happy to find him at the counter of MM. Ingram, Olson & Company, which counts among its personnel one of us, our sympathetic and esteemed M. O. Lancelot.

Injustice Consecrated By Time

How \$50,000,000 is accumulated under the French Reclamations called the "French Spoilage Claims" We read in the Tribune of this city:

"Last January 14 a bill was passed in both chambers of Congress authorizing the payment of what is called "French Spoilage Claims" to those claimants who could provide their case before a court instituted for the purpose in referring to this bill and taking count of the fact that certain citizens of Minneapolis found themselves among those interested. The Tribune printed a resume of the events leading to the claims and their subsequent history.

[The above is explained in a lengthy report from the Minneapolis Tribune. It refers to US claims for recompense from France in connection with American Treaties with France during the Revolutionary War. These presumably would compensate French-Canadians losses to the British government for citizens later migrating to the USA. Congress on several occasions voted to demand the money, but never got anywhere, sometimes being vetoed by the President.]

Municipal Election

As announced last week in our newspaper, the general assembly of Canadians of the 3rd ward took place Monday evening with the purpose of informing themselves and organizing to ensure the nomination of William Bourret, worthy in all regards to receive that honor as candidate for the post of alderman of the ward. But unfortunately, as always, despite their efforts, our compatriots failed in their intention.

That's a most regrettable fact.

Next Friday in the evening there will be another general assembly of Canadians of the same ward in Hunts' Hall, Plymouth Avenue, to plan and discuss the choice of those candidates that our compatriots of the ward ought to support, [Presumably from among those successfully nominated.]

It is the time and the occasion to do an act of patriotism and show their strength and assert their numbers to obtain that to which we have an indubitable right. The other nationalities show us the example in their sphere of action, let's not lag behind.

Last Saturday evening took place the Republican caucus to elect delegates to the convention held yesterday at Market Hall to make the choice of candidates for alderman and administrative officers: we have remarked with pleasure that several of us have been elected delegates among others M. Louis Laramee, Zepherin Demeules and T. F. Riviere in their respective wards.

At yesterday's Republican convention the following were chosen:

For city Treasurer - E. H. Moulton; for alderman - 1st ward, H. E. Blaisdell; 3rd ward - C.H. Woods; 5th ward - Thomas Downs; 6th ward - Lars Swenson; 5th ward, short term, Phineas Phelps; 8th ward, long term, George W. Cooley; 8th ward, short term. E. C. Babb.

Musical Soiree

The grand musicals and dramatic soiree given last Thursday by the French Canadian ladies at Market Hall, was a true success from the artistic point of view, if one can say, unfortunately

the auditorium was short on attendance. That was due, in some measure, to an organizing done in haste, and also, let's say in all frankness, the public impression that the amateurs involved were not strong enough for their program. But, we must say hastily that the impression was wrong and furthermore fanciful, for the young novices all acquitted their roles and tasks with a high degree of perfection and the anticipation of the less trusting was agreeably mistaken. We offer as proof that the applause and cheers that saluted each of the artists when they left the stage after playing a role or executing a part.

Mademoiselles McDonald and E. Blais with their pure fresh voices full of melody and richness of tone, charmed and enlivened the listeners in the song "I am a Merry Ginger" and the ballad "Jeanne d'Arc".

The piece "Madelaine, Orphan of the Pyrenees" was a wild success; and those who came to the event with a preconceived idea of indulging in melancholy and being in the doldrums, had cause to brighten up at all costs. All the actresses rendered their parts in superior fashion. Mademoiselle L. Bessette, especially, playing Mathurine the farmer's wife had an irresistible effect.

The tableau of the Four Seasons, burned by the fire of Bengal, and that of Jeanne d'Arc on the pyre, could not have been represented more naturally and with more perfection.

In total, the soiree was as charming as could be and we congratulate the artists who provided so delicious a time.

The participants: Misses H. Hall, M. Lavigne, McDonald, B. Dufresne, G. Kady, A Marchand, M. Bessette, A. Blais, A. Cyrien, M.L. Florant, E. Blais, L. Bessette, and G. Kady.

The telegraph brings the rumor this morning that the Metis and Indians of North West Canada are in full insurrection under the command of [Louis] Riel.

[Translator's note: Louis Riel (1844-1885), famous French/Irish-Indian, i.e. Metis, succeeded his father as an acknowledged leader of dissident Metis in the Northwest Territories over home-rule issues, especially the fear that Metis land rights and titles would be lost through incorporation into the Dominion. This last rebellion ended with Riel's capture and execution.]

Musical Soiree in St Paul

The musical and dramatic soiree given last Thursday by the French Canadian artists of the neighboring city for the benefit of St Vincent de Paul is marked as a good and great success. We are happy to say, at the same time deploring, the hall was too small by half to accommodate the crowd that appeared at the doors.

Artists in the musical program were: Mde Bastien Muckey and the ladies Olivier, Mde Demeules, Jr. and Miss E. Demeules and Misses E. Langevin and Emma Pepin.

Miss Bussy Leclair recited a poem about Vincent de Paul.

The actors for the comedy "Country Aunt" were Misses E. Demeules, Ida Dufresne, E. St. Aubin, A. Chanson, S. Demeules, L'Evequ and Gervais. Those in the farce in one act "L'Avocat Patelin" were E. Greget, A. Martin, Z. Quesnel, T.O. Dufresne, LaBelle and Berthiaume.

.Obituary

Madam Mathilde Tremblay, wife of Honore Robert, of Osseo, died 10 March at the age of 53, embraced by all the success of the religion which she had faithfully followed all her life, following an illness of six weeks. She left to weep over her passing a husband and three mourning children among whom we count Madam G. C. Delauriers of that city. Madam Robert was the aunt of Madams Alfred Menard and Z. Demeules of Minneapolis.

The mass was chanted by Rev. Father Decker. Madam Robert was universally esteemed and cherished in the parish for beautiful feminine qualities of wife and Christian mother. May she repose in peace. We offer the family our profound regret and sincere condolences.
[A good example of how things were written at the time]