

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY – COUNTY GOVERNMENT

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 7 [Thursday, May 9, 1889], page 1, column 6

Mortgage Sale.

The undersigned will sell at auction in front of the engine house, Iron Mountain, Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, a pair of heavy brown horses, harness and wagon. Here is an opportunity to buy a good team for a little money.

WM. O'HARA,
Deputy Sheriff.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 40 [Saturday, September 26, 1891], page 5, column 1

THE postmaster of Iron Mountain has received official notice that the **county of Dickinson has been formed** and that it contains the postoffices [*sic – post offices*] of **Floodwood, Foster City, Granite Bluff, Hardwood, Iron Mountain, Metropolitan, Norway, Quinnesec, Randville, Sagola, Vulcan and Waucedah.**

DICKINSON COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 22 [Thursday, August 22, 1889], page 1, column 4

Circuit Court Jurors.

The following jurors have been drawn to serve at the **September term of circuit court**:

Chas. B. Ingalls, Joseph Rice, Breen; Thos. McKenna, Anton Neudert, Breitung; James Rosseau, Gabriel

Vanderville, Cedarville; Edward Belonger, Henry Weeborg, Ingallston; Frank Wood, Louis Dobeas, Menominee; David Nadeau, Perry Houte, Nadeau; Pat Flannigan, John Perkins, Norway; Peter Wheeler, John Green, Spalding; Paul Brelland, Stephenson; Pascal Perket, 1st ward Menominee; Tim Cole, 2d ward Menominee; Wm. Baker, 3d Ward; Anton Eichert, 4th Ward; Wm. Brunquist, 5th Ward; Robert Nankivel, 3d ward Iron Mountain; Richard White, 4th ward.

DICKINSON COUNTY POOR COMMISSION

The Iron Mountain News, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 4, Number 96 [Saturday, August 2, 1924], page 5, column 3

Norway News

MANY APPLY FOR AID FROM COUNTY

**More Than 12 Meet Poor
Superintendent Here
Yesterday**

Being **superintendent of the poor in Dickinson county** may have its advantageous [*sic – advantages*] but one need only to call at **M.P. Molignoni's** office in Norway on the first of every month to find out that **Sol Beauparlant**, in charge of the poor of this county, has to listen to many and varied **pleas of Norway and Vulcan people who seek relief from the county.**

Yesterday there were more than 12 persons, most of them with big families,

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who asked Mr. Beauparlant for assistance. They sought practically everything from house repairs to school books. But only in rare cases does the county make repairs on homes while school books are entirely out of the question, the superintendent said.

The county furnishes needy families with food, clothing and fuel. Most of the callers yesterday were “regular customers” who were after their monthly allowances.

A Norway woman [who] visited the office yesterday told Mr. Beauparlant that she was “ashamed to ask the county for help.” She said that her family had needed assistance for the last two months but she did not have the courage to ask for it. She has a large family and was badly in need, Mr. Beauparlant said.

The superintendent has regular office hours here on the first of every month to listen to pleas of the poor. During the afternoon he personally investigates each case and makes his decision. Only a few were turned down yesterday.

DICKINSON COUNTY POOR FARM

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 40 [Thursday, February 24, 1910], page 1, column 4

Thomas King, the venerable chief of the former Menominee tribe of Indians, died at his home at **Randville** last Wednesday afternoon, of kidney trouble and the ills attendant upon old age. He was eighty-three years of age, and is survived by a wife and one granddaughter.

Just where Mr. King was born cannot be ascertained, but in his early manhood he was employed by **Col. Boswell** in the **United States mail service between**

Green Bay and Copper Harbor, Mich., making the entire distance on foot.

Early settlers remember him as owner of a **trading post on the Menominee river at a point now known as the New York Farm**, a few miles from Vulcan. He **sold the trading post in 1869 to Eli Wright and removed to Badwater**, five miles north of Iron Mountain, and **kept a half-way house at a point where the old State road crossed the Menominee river**, and in 1879, when the right of way was being cleared between Florence and Iron River, he **kept [a] boarding camp near the present site of Saunders**. A few years later he **moved to what is now Randville and kept another boarding-house [sic – boarding house] during the time that the Milwaukee & Northern railroad was being extended from Iron Mountain to Champion**. After the road was completed he remained at Randville, keeping occasional travelers and carrying passengers from Randville to Metropolitan, until ill-health and old age compelled him to give up work, when he sold his hotel and retired to his farm a short distance from Randville, where he spent the last two years of his life.

In business matters Mr. King was shrewd at driving a bargain, but always upright and trustworthy in his dealings.

The remains were brought to Iron Mountain last Friday and funeral services held at St. Mary's church with interment at Park Cemetery [*Cemetery Park*].

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 37 [Thursday, February 3, 1910], page 1, column 2

Deal Pending.

A deal is now pending – maybe closed in a few days – for the **sale of the New York Farm in Norway township to**

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William J. Turner, of Vulcan. The farm is the property of the **Menominee River Lumber Co.** and was developed under the direction of the late **Jesse Spalding**, the Chicago millionaire, who spent his summers at the farm. **The farm is one of the largest in the upper peninsula and is splendidly equipped with buildings including a first-class creamery. It contains over seven hundred acres, two hundred and fifty of which are ready for cultivation.**

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 38 [Thursday, February 10, 1910], page 1, column 2

Farm Deal Closed.

The Press learns that the deal for the famous **New York Farm of the Menominee River Lumber company** was closed last Friday and that **William J. Turner** will soon be in possession. The farm is located on the Sturgeon river in the township of Norway. It contains over seven hundred acres of splendid farming lands[,] nearly, *[sic]* three hundred of which are ready for the plow. **There are many buildings, including a large residence for the superintendent, several cottages for the help, a creamery and many barns, shops and storehouse *[sic – storehouses]*.** The Press understands that the consideration was about \$15,000. At that price Mr. Turner secured a great bargain. It is the understanding of the writer that **Mr. Turner intends engaging in the cattle and sheep business on an extensive scale.** The farm is well located for the ranching business and under Mr. Turner's energetic management the venture is certain to prove successful.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14,

Number 43 [Thursday, March 17, 1910], page 1, column 6

A Poor Farm.

The board of supervisors at to-day's *[sic – today's]* session may arrive at a definite conclusion relative to the purchase of a poor farm. Yesterday, **Supervisors Stevenson, Forrell, Davidson, Cristanelli and Thompson** made a visit of inspection to the **New York Farm in Norway township.** **W.J. Turner**, who recently purchased the farm from the **Menominee River Lumber company**, has made the board a tender for a portion of his holdings at a reasonable price. **The tender includes the large farm house, which contains fully thirty rooms, and would be well adapted for a home for the indigent.**

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 44 [Thursday, March 24, 1910], page 1, column 5

BUY A LARGE FARM

SUPERVISORS HAVE AUTHORIZED PURCHASE OF 115 ACRES.

Farm Fully Equipped With the Needed Buildings; Believed Institu- tion Economical Move.

As was intimated in the last issue of The Press, the board of supervisors, at their meeting last Thursday, instructed the board of poor commissioners to close a deal with **William J. Turner** for the purchase of a portion of the **New York Farm** for a county

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farm. The tract to be acquired by the county contains, approximately, **115 acres of cleared land. Included in the deal is a farm house large enough to accommodate forty people, several barns, numerous warehouses, roothouse with basement, an excellent creamery and a large orchard.**

The lands are beautifully located along the Sturgeon river. The consideration named is \$12,000. The buildings are said to have cost nearly double this sum.

According to figures compiled by **Supervisor Thompson**, and presented to the board in a separate report, the purchase of the farm will result in saving the city a large sum of money each year. The cost for the support of the poor in Dickinson county each year now exceeds the large sum of \$25,000. If this amount can be reduced a third, or a half, as Mr. Thompson's figures would indicate, the farm will soon pay for itself.

The next important step is to secure a first-class farmer to manage the institution. Under such management, the farm can do much good in the way of advancing and advertising the agricultural possibilities of Dickinson county.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 5 [Thursday, June 23, 1910], page 1, column 1

Poor Farm Supt.

Joseph Tauscheck, of this city, was appointed **superintendent of the recently purchased county farm** at a late meeting of the board or poor commissioners. Mr. T. is a practically [*sic – practical*] farmer and a good manager. It is certain that he will conduct the institution in a manner that will prove satisfactory to all concerned.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 32 [Thursday, December 29, 1910], page 1, column 4

A Poor Commission.

S. Mortensen was elected superintendent of the poor for the Iron Mountain district to succeed **J.R. Holfeltz** by the supervisors in session last Thursday. Mr. Mortensen will serve from January 1st to October 1st. **The county board will ask the incoming legislature for a law creating a new county poor commission along the same lines as the county road commission.** The proposed board will consist of three members to be elected by the supervisors and will serve without compensation. The poor commission will have power to elect a superintendent and this superintendent will be in charge of the poor farm and will issue all orders for aid subject to the approval of the poor commission. The superintendent will devote all his time to the work and will be paid a salary in keeping with the importance of the position.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 21, Number 43 [Thursday, March 8, 1917], page 1, column 3

COUNTY FARM FIRE

**FOUR BUILDINGS BURNED –
\$15,000 LOSS, \$9,000
INSURANCE.**

**Main Building, Hospital, Ice House
and Root House and Most of
Contents Go Up In Smoke.**

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Fire, which is supposed to have started from a defective chimney in the kitchen of the main building at the county poor farm last Friday about noon, caused the **destruction of the main building, hospital, ice house and root house, entailing a loss to Dickinson county of probably \$15,000**, with \$9,800 insurance carried in the Commercial Bank and J. McLaughlin agencies.

There being no supply of water, the hydrant having frozen, a **bucket brigade** was pressed into service; little could be done, and the only thing saved was a small amount of furniture. The inmates were taken out safely, and later taken to Norway, where they were cared for at the old and new Penn hospitals.

A meeting of the **Poor Commissioners and Supervisors** was held and it was decided to lease for one year the premises owned by **J.W. Corwin**, on Vulcan street, Iron Mountain, pending a decision as to the rebuilding of the buildings destroyed at the farm. This building is expected to be ready for occupancy to-morrow [*sic – tomorrow*] when the transfers of the inmates will be made at that time [*sic*].

The present Dickinson county poor farm was originally owned by the Menominee River Lumber company, and the main building was built by them about twenty years ago while they were logging across the river in Wisconsin to house the camp foreman, Frank Juno. Considerable land was cleared and put in cultivation, and the farm was named the New York Farm. It became quite a dairy farm, upwards of two hundred high-class cows being milked and the butter and cream selling at a big premium throughout this state and Wisconsin. Later the farm was divided and sold to W.J. Turner and the Penn Iron Mining company, who afterward

sold it to Dickinson county for a poor farm.

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 24 [Thursday, October 28, 1920], page 1, column 6

Community Board.

Following are the members of the **Dickinson county branch of the Michigan Community Commission. Dr. C.W. Walker, F.C. Cole, Frank B. Sweeney, Mrs. Gustave F. Gensch and Mrs. Morgan Leonard, of Iron Mountain; Mrs. Henry F. Newkirk, of Norway; Mrs. Wade Siebenthal, of Vulcan [*sic – Vulcan*] and R.W. Pierce, Jr., of Foster City.** A meeting of the members will be held this afternoon for the purpose of organizing and planning a program of activities. The board of supervisors recently agreed to finance the organization to the extent of \$2,000. This money will be employed for **social work among the young people.**