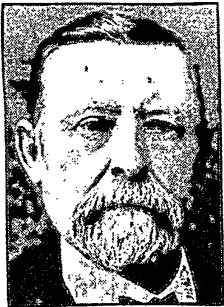


# OLD SETTLERS BANQUET; EARLY DAYS RECALLED



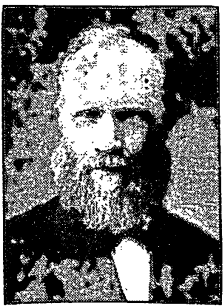
Alex Schuets, of Duluth, Vice President



August Zachau, of Superior, Treasurer.



Bert N. Wheeler, of Duluth, Secretary.



Andrew Soderland, of Superior, President.

**Pioneers Gather in Hotel Superior, Elect Officers, Make Merry,  
and Establish a Fund to Provide for Indigent Members.  
Memory of Those Who Have Passed Away Is Toasted.**

Memories of the early days, when Superior was but little more than an Indian camping ground and Duluth had not been thought of, were revived around the banquet boards at Hotel Superior, yesterday afternoon, by 150 members of the Old Settlers' association of Superior and Duluth. The regular business meeting, with the reading of reports and the annual election had been disposed of first, and when the men and women who gave the head of the lakes cities their start sat down to the table, they were prepared to fully appreciate the social side of the gathering. Biographical and historical sketches, interspersed with music, closed the program of the day.

#### New Officers Named.

Andrew Soderland, of Central park, Superior, who came to this city on the ill-fated steamer Lady Elgin in May, 1857, was upon the recommendation of the nominating committee unanimously elected president of the organization. The other officers elected follow: Vice-president, Alexander Schuets, Duluth; secretary, Bert N. Wheeler, Duluth; treasurer, August Zachau, Superior.

Mr. Schuets came to the head of the lakes in 1869, and Mr. Zachau reached Superior in 1854. Mr. Wheeler was born in Oneota, Duluth, his father having walked up from St. Paul early in 1855 to make his home at the head of the lakes.

A diversion was created at the opening of the meeting by the unexpected nomination of Ole Swenson of Superior, for president and his election by unanimous vote. Mr. Swenson was upon his feet immediately after he was chosen and vehemently protested that he would not have the office, that the members should get someone else "who would do better," and he stuck to it. The nominating committee, which had been making up a list of candidates while this was going on, then brought in their recommendations as above. This committee was composed of Col. Hiram Hayes, C. J. Rakowsky and Nick Young.

#### Establish Relief Fund.

The inauguration of a relief fund, which will be devoted to needy members of the association who may be in want or those families may need aid because of death, was a development of the meeting which seemed to strike a popular chord in the hearts of those present. C. J. Rakowsky, in a brief speech, urged the need of such a fund and suggested that steps in that direction be taken. When he had concluded, J. J. Hibbard endorsed the recommendation and expressed a belief that it should be started at once, himself opening the subscription list with a dollar contribution. At that the other members crowded about Secretary McCormick and President Napoleon Merritt, putting down silver and bills until approximately \$50 had been actually paid in.

Upon the motion of Alfred Merritt, a committee composed of Charles J. Rakowsky, J. J. Hibbard and John A. Bardon was chosen to have charge of investigation of cases where relief may be thought necessary and to expend the fund by drawing through the treasurer of the association.

#### Mrs. Saxton Greeting.

A letter of greeting from Mrs. Horace Saxton of Duluth, was read, in which she sent her regrets at her inability to be present, and wishing the members success and a pleasant gathering. Mrs. Saxton is now 92 years

of age, and at one time she resided in Superior.

Secretary McCormick reported that all bills had been paid and that there still remained \$4.62 in the treasury.

New members were voted into the association on recommendation of the membership committee made up of R. S. Monger, J. J. Hibbard and B. N. Wheeler as follows:

L. R. Bondy, Saphira Miller, Simon Clark, Alfred Jacques, P. R. Haley, George W. Strayer, L. E. Prachey, Alfred M. Brindos, Charles Wickstrom, W. B. Perry, W. A. Wagner, J. B. Collins, Charles Anderson, Matt Haug, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Dear, Mrs. Emma Curnburn, Dan Donaghy, Carl Zachau, M. Shanahan, J. A. Palmer, M. F. Kalmbach, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rankin, John H. Hatch, Peter Lemieux, Victor Rakowsky and William F. Meinhardt.

#### Merritt As Toastmaster.

At the banquet, which was served in the large dining room of the hotel, retiring president, Napoleon Merritt, acted as toastmaster. Harry Ashton of Superior, a son of Washington Ashton, who edited one of the first papers published here, presented a sketch of the improvement in methods of transportation between the Twin Cities and the head of the lakes from dog sledges in the early days down to the present express train service. The paper was exhaustive and was heard with interest. C. J. Rakowsky read an interesting paper on the Duluth pioneers who have recently passed away, and Harry Ashton read a paper prepared by James Bardon on those who have died in Superior since the last meeting, mention being made of Mrs. Philomena Morissette, Charles Cadotte, James Wright and James Ritchie.

Frank King sang two numbers, one as an encore, with the piano accompaniment of Prof. Wills. Following the reading of a biographical sketch of Mrs. Mary Decker by B. N. Wheeler, the meeting was brought to a conclusion.