STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF AUG.G.ERICKSON FOR THE REMOVAL FROM OFFICE OF LOUIS G. VOGEL, COUNTY AUDITOR OF BROWN COUNTY, MINNESOTA.

The above entitled matter came on for hearing before me on August 12, 1920, James H. Hall, Esq., appearing for petitioner, and Alfred W. Mueller, Esq., for respondent. After listening to the arguments of counsel and considering the evidence herein I find that:

1. Louis G. Vogel, respondent, is the County Auditor of Brown County, Minnesota and has held said office for approximately twenty years.

2. August G. Erickson, the petitioner, is the publisher of the Springfield Free Press, an official paper of Brown County. He called at respondent's office on February 12,1920 for the transaction of business and as to what transpired between respondent and petitioner after the conclusion of the basiness there transacted their testimony, which is conflicting, is practically the only testimony. On the charge made the basis of the petition herein, the respondent was on May 25, 1920 tried in the district court of Brown County and acquitted by a jury.

3. While I believe that the respondent should be reprimanded for permitting his office to be the scene of the disturbance complained of, I am not convinced, after a consideration of the whole matter, that the evidence is of a nature to justify such a severe penalty as the permanent removal from office.

> IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereto affixed, this 23d. day of August, (1920,)

> > Governør.

Secretary of State.

