

**MAIL-ORDER WAYS**

A BAD ADVERTISEMENT FOR CATALOGUE HOUSES.

**AT SCHOOL OF EXPERIENCE**

Sooner or Later It Teaches Every Mail Order Patron the Error of Sending His Money from Home.

The methods of the mail-order houses are their worst advertisement. Sooner or later there will come a time in the experience of every purchaser of their goods when he will wish "he hadn't done it," when he will wish he had spent his money with his home merchants. This is not only because he will see the ruin wrought in his own community by the nefarious practice of sending the money of the community to the city, but also because of the practices of the mail order concerns.

The story in the catalogue sounds well. It sounds like you would get the identical thing you wanted and at a much lower price than you had imagined it could be bought for, and you order it. The purchase arrives and when opened you feel that some mistake has been made, that the concern has sent you the wrong goods; it is not what you ordered.

Ah, but it is! The difference is between the way it actually looks and the way it sounds in the catalogue. You explain that the goods you received is not what you ordered and ask for an accounting, and are told that it is you that is in error, that you got just what you ordered, and when if you are wise you buy of the

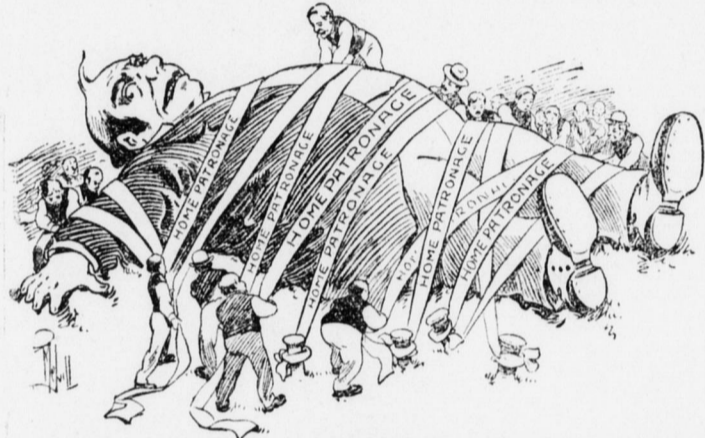
better to call upon our local dealer and look over his stock where we can see the goods before buying. There are then no errors in change or refunds to be bagged over across a 200-mile stretch.

Yes, it is better to trade at home. Our home merchant's guarantee upon an article means something, as he wants our good will. Keeping the money at home benefits home industries and thus, indirectly, us. We cannot expect to sell our products to the local merchant and do our trading in Chicago. It is all one-sided and some time we would have no local merchant to do our buying.

Catalogue houses, I have found from bitter experiences, are tricky. If those who are dealing with them will watch their purchases, they will find it so sooner or later. Our last deal, had it occurred here at home, would have been straightened out in five minutes and without feeling, but with you it takes me all winter to get my money back when the goods are not satisfactory, and even then I get only a credit card which is lost through studied carelessness upon the part of someone in your concern so that I have nothing to show for my claim.

Every man should trade at home if conditions admit of purchasing a good article at reasonable prices. If not, then he had better trade at the next town or city that his money may go to build up the country around him. He sends it to Chicago that it may go into profits of some big mail-order house until there is enough sucker money to build and endow some great charitable institution as a monument to the greatness of the mail-order man and the gullibility of the easy public.

I have already asked that you adjust the matter of our last deal. I want my money returned without further



The one sure method of curbing the mail-order giant is to bind him with the things of home patronage. Are you helping in this work? Are you spending your money at home and helping your town to grow, or are you sending it to the city to swell the fortunes of the mail-order man?

home merchant next time, and know what you get when you pass over the money for it. He may not be able to sell you what you thought you were buying from the mail-order house at the catalogue price, but he can sell you, if he has it, the same goods you get from the mail-order houses at an equal or less price than they ask for it, and what is more, he can sell you what you really want at as reasonable a price as you can get it for elsewhere.

The following letter, written by a Michigan farmer, explains in a clear and unmistakable way the danger of buying of mail-order concerns. It was addressed to one of the largest of this class of institution in this country:

Baldwin, Mich., Jan. 12, 1907.

Gentlemen: I have your favor of recent date, and also your catalogues and accompanying circulars offering premiums for distribution of the same among my friends. I have no doubt that, as you say, I will thereby confer a great favor upon you, but I am compelled to take issue with you on the statement that I will also confer a favor upon my friends.

In my dealings with you, extending over some time past, I have received no favors from you—I paid for all I got, and the length of time I traded with you, instead of establishing friendly relations and gaining me additional favor as it would in a home store, gave you the opinion that, unlike a new customer, to whom you give your very best, so they will come again, I was a steady comer and any old thing would do for me.

Our last deal opened my eyes and convinced me of your policy. Your catalogues offer some apparently great bargains. But let us draw up our chairs and see if there are not a few things very essential to the rural citizen that are not mentioned within its voluminous bulk.

For instance, there is no reference to paying cash or exchanging goods for wheat, oats, corn, beans, butter, eggs and hay.

How much will you pay for cattle, sheep and hogs, f. o. b., at Baldwin? How much will you pay to support the Lake county schools and educate our children? How much for improving our roads and bridges? For supporting the poor? For the general public expense?

On what page do you offer to contribute money to the support of our churches?

What line of credit will you extend to me when my money is low because of sickness, or poor crops? What do you provide in the way of entertainment for the public and in the way of providing those things that make a town desirable and thus keep up the value of my property?

As a matter of fact, do you do anything to help local? or do you merely take the money out of a community, returning nothing whatever, beyond the value of the goods bought? Thinking it over carefully, I believe it is

dickering and unless I get it I shall certainly get its equivalent in advertising you and your methods among the people of Lake county.

Awaiting your reply, I am,

Yours truly,

CARL SCHULTZ.

Wolf Lake, Michigan. P. O. Baldwin, Mich.

Can you, Mr. Purchaser, not profit by the experience of others and turn your money into home channels by trading with home merchants where you will get a dollar's worth for a dollar, or must you follow the mail-order man's lead to trouble for yourself and destruction for your community? Do not wait for that evil day when you have learned wisdom in the expensive school of personal experience, but profit by that purchased by others. You will find it far cheaper and more satisfactory in the end.

**A Turkish Health Report.**

The French government, wishing to obtain definite statistics on points relating to certain Turkish provinces recently sent blanks with questions relating to certain Turkish provinces, to be answered to the Provincial governors. The replies received from the Pasha of Damascus are worth quoting:

Question. What is the death rate in your province?

Answer. In Damascus it is the will of Allah that all should die. Some die young and some die old.

Q. What is the annual number of births?

A. God alone can say—I do not know, and hesitate to inquire.

Q. Are the supplies of water sufficient and of good quality?

A. From the remotest period no one has died in Damascus of thirst.

General remarks as to the local sanitation: Man should not bother himself or his brother with questions that concern only God.

**A Squelcher.**

"I gave that odious Mrs. Dough-purse something to think of this afternoon," says Mrs. Bankfull to her husband, who was amusing himself by tossing \$20 gold pieces into the artificial lake in the drawing room for the pleasure of hearing the gold pieces plunk as they sunk.

"Whajja say to her?" asked Mr. Bankfull, rolling himself a cigarette in a hundred-dollar bill.

"She was boasting about the solid-gold radiators they are having put into their new house, and I told her we thought steam heat was so old-fashioned that we were going to heat our house with radium hereafter."—Judge.

**Minister Discovers Comet.**

Ministerial duties do not prevent the Rev. Joel H. Metcalf, of Taunton, Mass., from pursuing astronomical investigations. His study of the stars has resulted in the discovery of a new comet, which is now being closely observed by astronomers throughout the world. It has been named Metcalf's comet.

**THE FLOODS.****Rivers at Pittsburg are Rapidly Receding.****TRAFFIC RESUMES.****Damage to Property in Pittsburg District Is Very Large—Wheeling Entirely Cut Off.**

Pittsburg, Pa.—With the rapid receding of waters in the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers which is taking place here, conditions are fast assuming normal proportions and the greatest flood in the history of the city is at an end. At nightfall Friday the approaches to the bridges were clear of water and several hours later street car service in the flood districts was resumed. Thousands of suburbanites who have been stranded in this city since early Thursday were able to reach their homes, while the downtown section, which has been crowded with sightseers since the sudden rise of water, is almost deserted. The only apparent indication of the flood in the downtown section are many pipes across the sidewalks through which water is being pumped from submerged basements.

At 9 o'clock last night the rivers had fallen almost eight feet. At that hour the stage was 29 feet and dropping a half foot an hour.

Immediately following the subsiding of the water the task of computing and repairing the damage was begun. A majority of the employees of the large manufacturing establishments who were temporarily thrown out of employment are endeavoring to put the plants in working order and it is said that by Sunday all these establishments will resume operations.

Ten square miles were inundated. The loss in dollars will probably never be known, but the actual loss will probably not exceed \$1,000,000.

The probabilities are that the Belasco, Gayety, Alvin and Bijou theatres will be open to the public this evening. A large force of men are repairing the electric plants damaged by the water in the basements of the playhouses.

Reports from all parts of western Pennsylvania are that the flood has subsided and efforts are being made to clear up the wreckage.

Railroad service which was demoralized by the high water is rapidly resuming.

Wheeling, W. Va.—The crest of the flood passed this city at 9 p. m. The water reached a stage of almost 50 feet and then began to recede at the rate of one inch an hour.

The city and surrounding towns on both sides of the river are completely cut off from the world by rail and steamer. Every foot of Wheeling Island is submerged and 7,000 residents have been driven to upper floors. It is estimated that 5,000 homes are flooded, affecting 25,000 people. The property loss will reach \$500,000. One fatality is reported, that of a Wheeling Island resident, who is missing and was last seen Thursday night in a skiff.

Boatmen are charging extortionate prices for rescuing marooned residents. All newspapers have temporarily suspended publication because the plants have been submerged.

During Friday a score or more of houses passed down the river, including two-story dwellings and a school house, the latter with the stars and stripes bravely floating from its little flagstaff.

**An Exclusion Edict Is Issued.**

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt has issued an order directing that Japanese or Korean laborers who have received passports to go to Mexico, Canada or Hawaii and to come therefrom be refused permission to enter the continental territory of the United States. This is practically the final chapter, except so far as the question may be taken up in treaty negotiations with Japan, in the issue growing out of the action of the San Francisco authorities in prohibiting Japanese school children attending the schools set aside for the whites.

**Stock Market Recovers from Panic.**

New York.—An unusual scene was enacted on Friday on the floor of the stock exchange just after the market had closed strong and buoyant, in sharp contrast to the demoralization of Thursday. Brokers gathered around the trading posts and cheered loudly in demonstration of their relief at the change in speculative sentiment. Congratulations were exchanged all around the room on the fact that the members of the exchange had successfully passed through the severe decline in prices of the past two weeks.

**Jap Children Enter Frisco School.**

San Francisco, Cal.—Nine Japanese girls who had applied for admission to the Redding primary school were admitted Thursday after an examination as to their knowledge of the English language.

**Killed His Sweetheart and Himself.**

New Orleans, La.—Accosting Miss Ducez Dobson, his 17-year-old sweetheart, on the main street of Pointe la Hache, La., Whitney Mollere, a young planter, asked her to marry him. Upon being refused Mollere shot and killed the girl and himself.

**Street Railroaders' Strike Ends.**

Louisville, Ky.—The 800 striking union employes of the Louisville Railway Co., last night accepted terms agreed on by their executive committee and the company.

**A MID-WINTER VERDICT.**

"Bright Sunshine All Winter," Is What a Western Canada Lady Says.

Maldstone, Sask., Canada, Feb. 4, 1907.

C. J. Broughton, Esq., Canadian Government Agent, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Being so well pleased with Canada we wish my father and brother to come here. Will you please send them reading matter on Canada.

We have been here nearly a year and are delighted with this country. We have lived in Illinois, Iowa, and Michigan and we find Canada away ahead of any of them. We have had bright sunshine all winter so far, only two nice, easy snow storms. If it was not all right you know I would not want my father and brother to come here, but we think it is grand.

Yours truly,

(Signed) MRS. ED. TROUPE.

**High Prices Paid for Pets.**

A spinster with money to burn recently paid \$5,000 for a bulldog. A man in Massachusetts has just bought a cow for \$8,000. Walter Garvey has a hog for which he refused a cash offer of \$4,000. James Keene refused \$200,000 for Sysonby, a race horse. There are several roosters of fashionable blood priced as high as \$800 each. You can buy a fine lion for \$300 and a tiger for \$700. By and by we shall have a craze for breeding fishes, and a fine male salmon, educated to pond life, might be worth \$1,000. The \$8,000 cow has one calf a year, worth \$4,000. The female salmon may become the mother of 300,000 little fellows in the same time, worth in the aggregate, possibly, as much as the calf.—N. Y. Press.

**CASE OF ECZEMA IN SOUTH.**

Suffered Three Years—Hands and Eyes Most Affected—Now Well and Is Grateful to Cuticura.

"My wife was taken badly with eczema for three years, and she employed a doctor with no effect at all until she employed Cuticura Soap and Ointment. One of her hands and her left eye were badly affected, and when she would stop using Cuticura Soap and Ointment the eczema came back, but very slightly; but it did her a sight of good. Then we complied with the instructions in using the entire set of Cuticura Remedies and my wife is entirely recovered. She thanks Cuticura very much and will recommend it highly in our locality and in every nook and corner of our parish. God bless you for the sake of suffering humanity. I. M. Robert, Hydropolis, La., Jan. 5 and Sept. 1, 1906."

**Korean Women Advance.**

The Korean Ladies' club held a meeting a short time ago at which it was suggested that changes should be attempted in the dress of the Korean women, that the matter of education should be held in abeyance for a time, but that special efforts should be made along the line of life insurance, so as to protect the interests of women in case of the death of the husband.—Korean Daily News.

Affection consists not in use of carefully prepared utterances.

**PE-RU-NA**  
FOR  
**CATARRH**  
OF THE  
**HEAD,**  
**THROAT,**  
**LUNGS,**  
**STOMACH**  
**KIDNEYS**  
**BLADDER**  
AND  
**FEMALE ORGANS.**

W. A. Mitchell, dealer in general merchandise, Martin, Ga., writes: "My wife lost in weight from 130 to 68 pounds. We saw she could not live long. She was a skeleton, so we consulted an old physician. He told her to try Peruna. "She gradually commenced improving and getting a little strength. She now weighs 106 pounds. She is gaining every day, and does her own housework and cooking."

**Balcom & Lloyd.**

WE have the best stocked general store in the county and if you are looking for reliable goods at reasonable prices, we are ready to serve you with the best to be found. Our reputation for trustworthy goods and fair dealing is too well known to sell any but high grade goods.

Our stock of Queensware and Chinaware is selected with great care and we have some of the most handsome dishes ever shown in this section, both in imported and domestic makes. We invite you to visit us and look our goods over.

**Balcom & Lloyd.**

LOOK ELSEWHERE BUT DON'T FORGET THESE PRICES AND FACTS AT

**LaBAR'S**

We carry in stock the largest line of Carpets, Linoleums and Mattings of all kinds ever brought to this town. Also a big line of samples.

A very large line of Lace Curtains that cannot be matched anywhere for the price.

Art Squares and Rugs of all sizes and kind, from the cheapest to the best.

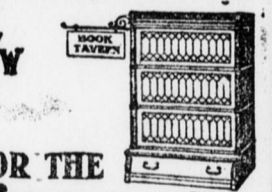
Dining Chairs, Rockers and High Chairs.

A large and elegant line of Tufted and

Drop-head Couches. Beauties and at bargain prices.

\$30 Bedroom Suits, solid oak at..... \$25  
\$28 Bedroom Suits, solid oak at..... \$21  
\$25 Bed room Suits, solid oak at..... \$20

A large line of Dressers from \$8 up.



FOR THE COMFORTABLE LODGING

of fine books in a choice library select the Ideal pattern of Globe-Wernicke "Elastic" Bookcase. Furnished with bevel French plate or leaded glass doors.

FOR SALE BY

GEO. J. LaBAR,

Sole Agent for Cameron County.

The finest line of Sewing Machines on the market, the "DOMESTIC" and "ELDRIDGE." All drop-heads and warranted.

A fine line of Dishes, common grade and China, in sets and by the piece.

As I keep a full line of everything that goes to make up a good Furniture store, it is useless to enumerate them all.

Please call and see for yourself that I am telling you the truth, and if you don't buy, there is no harm done, as it is no trouble to show goods.

**GEO. J. LaBAR.**  
**UNDERTAKING.**