

COMMERCIAL CLUBS

CAN BE MADE IMPORTANT FACTORS IN TOWN BUILDING.

BEST FIELD FOR THEIR WORK

Their Efforts Should Be Put Forth to Keep the Dollars in the Home Town—Protecting Business Interests.

During the past few years there has been more than ordinary activity in the organization of so-called commercial clubs, business men's leagues and similar associations in the agricultural sections of the country. Some had mushroom growth, and like some flowers, bloomed and blossomed, withered and decayed in an hour. Others struggled along indifferently and succeeded in spending much of the people's money without assisting the town to greatness, while a very few succeeded in doing things that were of benefit to the community.

There is little use in trying to make a suit of clothes for a man out of a pattern of cloth that has only sufficient goods for a child's suit. There is little use in trying to build up a great town in a locality where there is not the material to sustain it, and where there are only resources for the support of a hamlet. Towns of importance exist only where there are certain natural advantages, resources that can be utilized in manufacturing, territory sufficiently large to command extensive trade, or some other favorable condition. In the west manufacturing must be the economy of things be confined to such lines as can be advantageously produced. In manufacturing there are many factors. There must be considered the cost of fuel, the raw material, the labor and highly important are the transportation facilities.

One of the noticeable things about commercial clubs is the optimistic tendencies of their members. Business men of a strictly agricultural town will form an association. Perhaps the leaders are interested in the real estate business. They want the town to boom. Some of them may have a few acres of land worthless unless for a "factory" site. Meetings are held, plans are made for the bringing in of some manufacturing plant that perhaps may give employment to half a dozen or a dozen hands. Correspondence is started with a view of getting some outsider interested. The right man, apparently, makes his appearance. He wants a bonus of a few thousand dollars. His proposition is seriously considered. The subscription paper is passed around, the amount secured, and the real estate man sells his "factory" site at a good price. The factory is started. It runs about a year and there is a vacant factory building for rent, or for sale. How many towns in the southwest have had this experience?

Even had the enterprise been a success, it remains that there is a field more productive of good for the town than the "club" overlooked. Say that a factory be started in a small town. It may give employment to a dozen men. The pay roll amounts to \$30 a day. The output of the concern may reach a total of from \$25,000 to \$35,000 a year. "Every little helps," and all other things in harmony this adds to the importance of the place. But let us do a little "estimating." Suppose that there is about the town a territory of 150 square miles. Suppose that each square mile represents four families—farmers' families. This would make 600 families who should do their trading in the town. The reports of the bureau of statistics of the United States department of labor and commerce, assures us that the average expenditure of the farmer each year for all the supplies he requires in the way of agricultural machinery, carriages, wagons, clothing, and food, is \$627. Careful estimates of the amount of the farmers' trade that goes to the mail-order house and in other ways diverted from his home town, shows that it is more than 25 per cent. of all he spends. Thus we find that from the territory of the town there is annually diverted in trade the nice sum of more than \$79,000. This amount goes from the town, ceases to be a factor in its upbuilding. It means that every day the town loses about \$132 in trade.

Now would it not be much better if the commercial club took up the matter of devising means of protecting the business interests of the enterprises in the mercantile lines already established, than to bring in a new enterprise of uncertain success? Is not the trade of the farmers and the people of the town equally as beneficial as the wages paid to the few men that the factory might employ? Does not \$79,000 in trade more than equal the output and the general accruing to the wealth of the town by the factory? It is evident that there is a wide field for commercial club effort in the keeping in the town the dollars that are earned and devising means of protecting trade.

Courage in Daily Life.

Bravery helps to make a nation safe. A nation of cowards, however prosperous, cannot be a great nation. Men and women who dare fling themselves against great odds for the sake of their convictions; who do not shrink from crying out against any evil that may menace the purity of the government; who will, if need be, sever all political, social and financial ties for love of country—these are the heroes to which a nation resorts in her hour of need.

UNITY OF INTERESTS.

Relationship of Residents of Rural Communities to the Home Town.

"Live and let live," is a policy that has come down through the ages and is an expression of the Golden Rule only in different words. There is in-born in man a desire for self-preservation. It is a law of life, and to this desire can be attributed that which is considered selfishness within us. Savage man has little regard for the rights and properties of others. He lacks the sense of equity and justice and is guided solely by the brutal instincts. Intelligent man realizes that all his fellow creatures are entitled to the same rights he would enjoy himself. Therefore where the Christian spirit is found, there can be looked for such equity as gives all an equal chance to gain a livelihood and to enjoy the products of their labor.

There should be the greatest harmony among the citizens of every community. The interest of all the classes comprising a city or a district should be considered identical. It has been noted that the most prosperous towns have been built up by harmonious and united effort of all the people composing it. In these days when there are evils to combat, when oppressive trusts exist that are factors in unequal distribution of wealth, it is all important that the masses in each and every community unite and work in harmony for the protection and betterment of local conditions. It is to be regretted that in many agricultural communities there is a lack of harmony between what is called the business interests and the producers of crops. Different reasons may be advanced for this condition, but the most common cause is a misunderstanding on the part of the citizens as to the relationship that should exist between them. It is wrong for the teachings that go forth that the farmers' interests are different from those of the merchant, or that the merchants' interests differ from farmers' of the community. It is also an erroneous idea that the town is alone for the townspeople and the country districts for the farmer. Is it not true that the merchant is dependent upon the farmer for his support? And it is equally true that the town is an important thing to the farmer. It is a convenience to him and he is as deeply interested in all that pertains to it, to its advancement and the betterment of its public institutions, its streets, its parks and all, as are the people who reside within the town. The merchants should realize how important the farmer is to them, and the farmer should be brought to a realization that the town is for him as well as for those who reside within its limits, and, that the less antagonism between the residents on the farms and the residents of the town the better it will be for the whole community. There is a unity of interests that cannot be ignored, and there is a common field wherein all can work for mutual benefit.

GET-RICH-QUICK GAMES.

Government Investigating the Operators of Bucket Shops That Do Business Through the Mails.

In times of prosperity there are always chances for the grafter. During the past ten years has been the era of the get-rich-quick man. No sooner does one scheme play out than another takes its place. Thanks to the ever diligent postal inspectors, and an unrelenting government, the schemers are not so plentiful as a few years ago. For some years a number of supposed legitimate grain and stock brokers thrived in both eastern and western cities. These were active in soliciting through the mails, and through local offices the business of small investors. The millions of money gained from the unsuspecting people will never be known. In New York, Chicago, St. Louis and other cities large and extensively conducted offices were maintained. Once the government got on the right trail, there were irregularities discovered that resulted in fraud orders being issued against a number of the concerns. The end is not yet, and the work of extermination will be kept up till there is none in operation. Buying stocks in a fair market is a risky business, but when there are schemers to stack the cards against the investor, there is not a ghost of a show. Many a bank clerk and business man can trace his downfall to speculating in the bucket shops.

Deadly Common Plants.

The things that give the most pleasure in life frequently can also cause the greatest pain. Among flowers, for instance, the beautiful snowdrop, the hyacinth, jonquil and narcissus are all poisonous, and to eat the smallest part of the root of either of them would produce fatal results, while the juices of the leaves will cause violent vomiting.

The berries of the yew tree have killed many people, and the opium obtained from poppies has also claimed its victims. Lady's slipper and lily of the valley are both dangerous, and if the blossoms of crocus are chewed they will cause vomiting. Flowers from bulbous roots, however, seem to be the most dangerous, and it might not be out of place to dealers in these to label them with a cross-bone and mark them poison.

Cigarettes and Conscience.

The man who limits himself to cigarettes shows a smallness of mind. He seems smitten with some hidden conscience that feels it is not right to smoke; but he smothers it, and with great bravado determines to be a devil of a dog, and take a cigarette—Grata.

BAD RECORD

Made by Gothamites on Independence Day.

MANY FATALITIES.

The Number of Fires, Arrests and Accidents of Various Kinds was the Largest Ever Known.

New York. — Independence day, ushered in with much noise, went out last night in a blaze of pyrotechnics, the most imposing that New Yorkers have witnessed. A deafening roar maintained throughout the day by the burning of millions of dollars' worth of powder, gave way after nightfall to the exhibitions of fireworks experts who lighted the skies with effects of surpassing beauty.

Viewed from its brighter side, the holiday was truly glorious. A smiling sun and moderate temperature brought tens of thousands to the beaches, the parks and amusement resorts and everywhere there was noise and fun making.

In the background the police and hospital surgeons went grimly about their work of removing the dead and ministering to the wounded. Last night the police were reckoning the cost in casualties of the day's celebration. At a late hour the list was not complete, but it was known that this celebration had cost seven lives, that a half dozen persons were dying and that hundreds of others were being treated at the hospitals for injuries ranging from slight burns, with the possibility of tetanus developments, to bullet wounds and lost limbs. Of the dead three died in premature celebrations.

At midnight the police figures showed the following totals:

Dead, 7.
Probably fatally injured, 6.
Hospital cases 423, not including dispensary cases.
Fires, 1,116.
Arrests for carrying weapons, 423.
These totals probably constitute records. Compared with last year there were yesterday twice as many fires, though with smaller losses, 100 more accidents and about 100 more arrests.

HE JUST WALKED AWAY.

An American Millionaire Escapes from the Custody of a Canadian Sheriff.

Toronto, Ont.—Herman Bartels, the millionaire brewer of Syracuse, N. Y., who has been fighting extradition to the United States on a charge of perjury, escaped from custody in Osgood hall and is still at large. The hearing came up before Judge Wells at Welland and an order for extradition was granted. On habeas corpus the order was appealed to the higher court and the matter came up Thursday before Justice Riddell at Osgood Hall. Bartels, in custody of Sheriff Smith, of Welland, and an American detective, had been an interested auditor of the proceedings. While the sheriff was otherwise engaged for a moment, Bartels slipped quietly away.

As soon as the escape was noticed the sheriff gave the alarm. Every corridor and corner was searched. Not a spot in the hall escaped scrutiny. But Bartels was not found.

Two Fighters Were Drowned.

Utica, N. Y.—While celebrating the Fourth at Yorkville, a number of Poles began fighting, with the result that two are dead. The fight started in a saloon and the men were ejected by the proprietor. Hostilities were resumed on the canal bank, where two of the party, Joseph Geskoski and Joseph Szezelk, aged 23 and 24 respectively, were knocked into the water and drowned. Another of the fighters, Tony Milnoski, was thrown into the canal, but was saved and is suffering from serious knife wounds. The police arrested 12 men.

Shortage Puzzles Officials.

Boston, Mass.—It became known Thursday that \$3,000 disappeared in some mysterious manner from the United States sub-treasury here early in June. The shortage was discovered by the treasury officials in Washington in checking up a package of \$370,000 in bills sent from Boston on June 7. One of the puzzling features of the case is the small size of the amount taken.

Two Killed, Five Injured.

Cedar Rapids, Ia.—Two men were killed and five injured Thursday by an explosion of giant powder. The seven men with others were riding to a picnic up the river and had four pounds of the explosive in the boat, to be used in celebrating the Fourth. One of those killed threw a cigarette on the top of the can containing the powder, the explosion following instantly.

Storms Killed 15 People.

St. Paul, Minn.—It is believed at least 15 lives were lost in the storms which swept over western Wisconsin Wednesday night. Numerous other persons were injured and much damage to farm property and dwellings is reported.

Burns Defeats Squires.

San Francisco, Cal.—Bill Squires, the much heralded champion of Australia, succumbed to the blow of a Canadian fist at Colma on Thursday after he had been in the ring two minutes with Tommy Burns.

WAS HUNTED DOWN.

SEARCH FOR JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER ENDS AT PITTSFIELD, MASS.

A Deputy United States Marshal Succeeds in Serving a Subpoena Calling the Oil King to Appear in Court.

Pittsfield, Mass.—After a search lasting nearly two weeks, in which representatives of the United States marshals of Chicago, Cleveland, New York and Boston have been endeavoring to serve upon John D. Rockefeller, head of the Standard Oil Co., a subpoena issued by Judge Landis, of the federal court at Chicago, Mr. Rockefeller was located in this city Wednesday and personal service made upon him by Deputy United States Marshal Charles L. Frink, of North Adams.

After accepting service, Mr. Rockefeller explained that he had not been endeavoring to dodge service, but that he did not know exactly what was wanted of him.

Early in the day Deputy Marshals Frink and James Ruhl, the latter of the Boston office, visited Taconic farm, but Parmelee Prentice told them that his father-in-law was not there. The officers professed to be satisfied with the statement and departed, remarking that they had no search warrant which would permit them to go through the house.

Deputy Ruhl boarded the train for Boston and Frink went to his home in North Adams, about 25 miles from this city. Later Frink decided to pay another visit to the farm and he returned to Pittsfield and drove out there in the afternoon. He proceeded through the wooded driveway into the open space in front of the house and recognized Mr. Rockefeller sitting on the piazza. The deputy passed the subpoena to the oil man, explaining at the same time that Mr. Rockefeller's presence in the federal court at Chicago on July 6 was demanded.

Mr. Rockefeller accepted service with a smile, shook hands with the deputy and expressed pleasure at meeting him. He invited the officer to sit on the piazza and rest, which invitation was accepted. Mr. Rockefeller referred to the newspaper stories that have been printed about him recently and ridiculed the idea that he had been surrounded by armed guards, or that the Taconic farm estate had been equipped with a searchlight.

The federal court in Chicago desires Mr. Rockefeller's presence so that he can be interrogated regarding the affairs of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, against which proceedings have been instituted by the authorities.

SOLDIERS RIOTED.

Militiamen from Kentucky and South Carolina Ran Amuck at the Jamestown Exposition.

Norfolk, Va.—Five hundred soldiers of the Second South Carolina Norfolk, Va., July 4.—Five hundred soldiers of the Second South Carolina and First Kentucky regiments in camp at the Jamestown exposition grounds last night ran amuck there, interfered with concessionaires, attempted to take possession of several shows on "the Warpath" and when the Powhattan guards intervened a riot followed, several men being injured.

The injured include: Joseph Brasher, Company G, Kentucky regiment, probable fracture of skull from blow with blackjack; Powhattan Guard Preas, elbow cut, fingers of right hand dislocated and face beaten; Capt. Carpenter, of Powhattan guard, struck in the breast with stone. Adjutant Garwood, Guard Kennedy and several others suffered slight wounds.

Earlier in the night some of the soldiers who had been drinking became disorderly and were repeatedly cautioned by the guards. Later, when their number had increased to about 300, they threw aside all restraint and proceeded to do the Warpath, ignoring doorkeepers, refusing to pay admission fees and refusing to leave the buildings when ordered out. The Temple of Mirth, Beauty Show and Streets of Cairo were the principal sufferers. At the last named place 15 Powhattan guards attempted to restore order, but were forced to use their sabres to beat the men back. Capt. Carpenter and Adjutant Garwood at the head of the guards succeeded in ejecting the men, but the soldiers soon returned. Their number had been increased to 500. They again attempted to take charge of the shows, refusing to be disciplined.

C. C. Hastings, of Company H, Kentucky, and J. Tompkins, of Company D, South Carolina, were arrested as the ringleaders of the rioting. The arrests caused a demonstration and with drawn sabres the guards were forced to fight their way through the massed soldiers to the guard camp. The soldiers hurled rocks into the enclosure. Capt. Carpenter and Adjutant Garwood were struck. Guard Preas, who saw the man who threw the rock that hit Carpenter, arrested the assailant, whose infuriated friends attacked Preas, beat him and rescued his prisoner. The rescue was not effected, however, until after the prisoner, Brasher, had been blackjacked by the guard.

Bank Teller Steals \$96,000.
New York.—A reward of \$2,500 was offered Wednesday by a surety company for the capture of Chester B. Runyan, paying teller of the Windsor Trust Co., who, it is charged, on Saturday walked out of the trust company's office with \$96,317 of the bank's money stuffed in his dress suit case.

Race with Train Ended in Death.
Potoskey, Mich.—W. W. Johnson, a wealthy lumber man, was killed Wednesday while racing a train with his automobile.

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