

SOME WEAK POINTS

COMMERCIAL CLUBS SOMETIMES MAKE BLUNDERS.

STARTING NEW ENTERPRISES

Bonuses Often Given and Little Benefits Gained by the Towns That Give—Protecting Established Industries.

Within the past few years a commercial club organization fever has taken hold of many towns in the western country. It is a kind of good fever to have, but quite often, like other of the less harmless fevers that afflict physically, passes away and doesn't make much difference with the our general health.

Town-building is much like erecting a good bridge. It is essential that a good foundation be laid. Natural conditions have much to do with it. Cities and towns spring up where there is a good cause for their existence. Artificial means may be employed for "booming" purposes, but unless there be something substantial and lasting, all the booming that can be done will not result in the accomplishment of permanent good. The average rural town receives its principal support from the business given it by the contiguous territory. The trade of a limited section of country will sustain a comparative number of business establishments. If a town possesses natural advantages, location, etc., for certain lines of manufacturing, so much the better. It would be foolish, as have been demonstrated in a number of western towns, to commence the manufacture of cottons, or silks, or furniture, when the raw material must be transported from a great distance, and also the fuel for power.

Still, if a town assume any great proportions, there must be industries to give the people occupation. The judicious investment of capital in canning factories, in paper mills, in glucose works and a few other enterprises, if these enterprises are rightly conducted, might prove a valuable factor in some of the western towns.

When a commercial club is organized, generally efforts are made to secure some industry for the town that will give its people employment and which will bring new residents to the town. Quite often bonuses are offered concerns, which are located in other places to relocate. It has been the general experience of towns which have made efforts along these lines that a concern that asks very much encouragement in the way of ready cash, is hardly worth bothering with and is likely to prove a failure.

Another thing that the average commercial club does not take in consideration is that it is better to build up institutions already located than to encourage new ones of doubtful success. A manufacturing concern is only valuable to the town as a means of placing a greater amount of money in circulation. The greater the payroll, the better for the town. But it matters not how big the amount is that is distributed among workers on a Saturday night, it results in little good to the town if it is sent to some other town for needed supplies.

Commercial club members should keep in mind that it is far better to devise means of keeping money earned by farmers and laborers from being sent to large cities for goods, than it is to have new concerns started. If there be a few hundred dollars a day sent from the place to mail-order houses, it would be far better to prevent this by devising means for having it spent in the town, than to encourage the location of a factory with a payroll of a like amount. It should be the first duty of a commercial organization to protect its home industries, and when strangers see that this is successful they will be more likely to seek the place as suitable for the establishment of some business enterprise.

D. M. CARR.

Home Trade Idea Not New.

Day after day the people are awakening to the fact that the only way the evils of trusts can be combated is by an adherence to the home trade doctrine. It is nothing new. It was the sentiment that prompted the founders of our government to sound the clarion of Liberty from the summit of Bunker Hill. Then, it was the forcing of a people dependent on another government to pay an unjust tribute for necessities of life. Today it is one class of people of a nation, and the greatest nation on earth, to compel the other classes to pay unjust tribute in a commercial way. The wrong was righted by blood in the first case; the wrong can be righted in the present case by the people without resorting to serious trouble, by merely exercising their prerogatives and the means that lie in their power to prevent the concentration of great wealth in the big financial centers by keeping their surplus earnings at home. It is the draining the dollars from the country to the large cities that assist in building up the great combines, the great trusts, which are manipulated to the detriment of the people of the country at large. It does not require special legislation for the farmer to buy flour made in his home mill; to use other products made in his county or state, or to patronize the merchants of his home town.

Value of Good Roads.

Good roads leading to a town indicate the progressiveness of the citizens of the community. Invariably poor roads mean indifference and lack of confidence in the stability of the town.

TO THE FARMER-BOY.

His Chances Are Best in His Home Town Rather Than in the Big City.

My boy, the farm is all right. Sometimes you may feel that its environs are too narrow for you, its life too much of a humdrum, and that you would prefer to be one of the residents of the big city or town. There have been hundreds and thousands of others just like you, and with just such ideas. They have started from the farm buoyant with hope, and after years have regretted their youthful resolutions. Others have succeeded; have won laurels in the professional field, in business, in statesmanship; but the few who have succeeded thus are so small in number compared to the army of failures that there is little encouragement for the careful thinker to leave that which promises security from want and independence for a life time. The farmer is surely the most independent of all workers. He is sure to receive a greater reward for his labors, is his own manager, and if he will strive diligently can aspire to a place in the public estimate that few can attain in the large towns.

Of course there are times when you think there is almost an unbearable dullness about existence on the farm. Were you a resident of the city, there would be times when you would long for the quietness and the pleasure that the farm affords. Hours of work may be long riding the plow, or harvesting the grain, but far superior is the work than that the great majority of the city youths are compelled to follow, and how much greater the compensation? How would you like to stand behind the dry-goods or grocery counter from morning to night for the small wages that the city clerk receives? Year after year the laborer lives in cheap boarding houses and rarely save sufficient to engage in business. His is a mere subsistence, and a constant struggle. The best years of life are wasted in making money for others, while the industrious farmer is working for himself, saving money year after year, and when the time for rest comes it enables him to take it.

Cities are overcrowded with clerk help. An advertisement inserted in any daily paper for a clerk to fill any position will bring hundreds of responses. The array of unemployed and those seeking to better their conditions is always large. Of late years a large element of workers from cities are looking toward the farms for employment. They realize that the farm offers more permanency of occupation and greater independence than like efforts in the city can possibly afford. Before you concentrate your attention on employment in city or town, weigh every matter well, and then act according to what reason dictates. You will be very likely to conclude that the farm is a good enough place for you, and that your own little home town is preferable to the over-crowded city. Remember that your greatest interests center in what you call your "home town." Do all you can to assist in its improvement, and make it a better business place.

D. M. CARR.

OPPOSED TO LOCAL PROGRESS.

Journals That Help to Concentrate Business in Large Cities.

There are thousands of so-called agricultural papers published in the United States, all of more or less merit. Yet few are all that they should be. There is an inconsistency about them that invites careful study. While they are supposed to represent the best interests of the great class of workers whom they gain support from in the way of subscriptions, the majority of them apparently work against the progress of farming communities by becoming the mediums, a part of the machinery, which draws from country towns the support which they should have.

It is to be regretted that many of these so-called agricultural papers are merely published for the purpose of circulating the advertisements of concerns which seek to secure trade from residents of farming districts to the detriment of the home towns. These establishments take money from the rural communities to the large financial centers. The thoughtful man or woman can see how injurious it is to the interests of the farmers to take away the surplus earnings which represent the wealth of the community. It requires but little observation and study to understand that to a great extent farm values are dependent upon the importance of the near-by town, and that any system that takes away its business, will result in a decrease of farm values. Such papers as advise the farmers to patronize other than home institutions and which advocate systems that are opposed to the up-building of industries in agricultural districts are not worthy of support.

Education.

Intelligence is the distinguishing mark between the savage and civilized man. Education is one of the greatest of God's blessings, and ignorance a curse. In America there exists no valid reason why every man, woman and child of normal brain should not have an education. There is no phase of life where knowledge is not necessary. In the most progressive communities it is where the superior schools are found. Help along your town and help along education in general. By affording your children a chance for a good education, you offer them riches that cannot be destroyed; it is ready cash in hand, assets that one cannot be robbed of only by act of Providence.

REPUBLICANS WIN BY BIG MAJORITIES

IN PENNSYLVANIA, MASSACHUSETTS AND NEBRASKA.

AND ALSO IN KENTUCKY.

Republican Candidate for Governor of New Jersey Won by 7,000—Democrats Defeated Fusionists in New York City.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, Nov. 6.—John O. Sheatz, of Philadelphia, republican, was elected state treasurer over John G. Harman, of Columbia county, democrat, at Tuesday's election in Pennsylvania by 175,000 plurality. This was the only state office voted for and a light vote was polled in nearly every county. The judicial contests in Luzerne, Northampton and Schuylkill brought out a large vote in those counties. There was virtually little interest in the contests in other counties which elected judges.

NEW YORK.

New York, Nov. 6.—Sufficiently complete returns to make certain the ultimate results show that republican and independence league fusion in New York county was defeated Tuesday by a straight democratic ticket; that the independence league ticket for associate justice of the court of appeals was overwhelmingly beaten by the identical tickets of the republicans and democrats and that there will be slight change in the makeup of the state assembly.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston, Nov. 7.—Politicians throughout the state were much interested Wednesday in examining the returns from the election and considering their bearing on next year's contest. The independence league maintained its place as a political party, while the so-called anti-merger party, by polling a trifling over 3 per cent. of the total vote, also will be in the race next year to hold a convention and to place candidates on the official ballot. The plurality by which Gov. Guild won his re-election, 104,351, is the largest given the successful candidate for governor since 1898.

VIRGINIA.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 6.—The election in Virginia was only for candidates to both branches of the legislature. The democrats will control both houses by the usual majorities. In the eighth congressional district C. C. Carlin, of Alexandria (dem.) was elected to succeed Congressman J. F. Rixey by an overwhelming majority.

NEW JERSEY.

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 7.—Frank S. Katzenbach, Jr., democratic candidate for governor of New Jersey, last night conceded the election of John Franklin Fort, his republican opponent. The latest figures give the state to Judge Fort by about 7,000. This change was brought about by the reduced democratic majority in Hudson county. Tuesday night it was announced that Katzenbach had carried Hudson county by about 15,000. The revised figures as semi-officially computed give Katzenbach only 6,900.

KENTUCKY.

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 6.—Practically complete returns from six counties exclusive of Louisville and Jefferson county, give Wilson, rep., a plurality of 1,000 over Hager, dem., for governor. This is a republican gain of 1,600 for these counties.

Later returns show that Augustus E. Willson, republican candidate for governor, and the entire republican state ticket have been elected.

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence, R. I., Nov. 6.—With 37 of the 157 voting districts in the state to be heard from, Gov. James K. Higgins, the democratic candidate for re-election, is leading his republican opponent, Lieut. Gov. Jackson, by less than 1,000 votes. There are three cities and two large towns to be heard from, and as they are known to be Higgins strongholds, it is thought that the present governor will be re-elected by a plurality of about 1,700.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore, Nov. 7.—Complete returns from this city show that it was carried by Austin L. Crothers, the democratic candidate for governor, by a plurality of 4,341.

Returns from the counties continue to struggle in, but at least a third of them were still missing late last night. From those at hand, however, it was certain that the democrats will easily control the legislature and that Crothers is elected governor.

UTAH.

Salt Lake City, Nov. 6.—Municipal candidates of the American (anti-Mormon party) probably will have the largest plurality ever given in this city. Bransford for mayor will have 7,000 to 10,000 plurality over Plummer, rep., and Morris, dem., whose strength is evenly divided.

NEBRASKA.

Omaha, Nov. 6.—That M. B. Reese, republican, has been elected justice of the supreme court by a majority of 12,000 votes is the indication from returns made unusually late because of wire trouble.

Missing Whalers are Safe.

San Francisco, Cal.—The five whaling vessels of the Pacific coast fleet which were thought to have been caught in the Arctic ice floes and for the safety of which grave fears were entertained, are safe and should arrive here shortly.

Will Issue a New Currency.

New Orleans, La.—The New Orleans Clearing House association has decided to issue asset currency in denominations of \$5, \$10 and \$20. The notes will be received by any bank which holds membership in the association.

STEEL MILLS ARE CLOSING.

MANY PLANTS HAVE SUSPENDED OPERATIONS ENTIRELY.

Coupled with This Movement a Number of Notices of Wage Reductions Have Been Made.

New York City.—The Iron Age says: It is amazing how swiftly the iron trade is adjusting itself to the conditions created by the happenings in the money market. Plants are shutting down right and left, or are reducing output as the result of a consensus of opinion among makers that such is the soundest course. There seems no disposition to keep running full by attempting to seize the work at the sacrifice of prices, nor any desire, even where money conditions permit of it, to pile up stocks. A large number of furnaces have shut down or are about to do so, coke ovens and steel plants have been stopped partially or wholly and rolling mills are reduced output.

Coupled with this movement there are appearing in increasing number notices of reduction in wages, ranging from 5 to 10 per cent., and it seems probable that this action will be quite general.

On the whole, the iron trade is in excellent shape. It has been working toward an expected relaxation ever since spring, and it is only the suddenness of developments in the money markets which has been somewhat disconcerting. There have been very few commitments, outside of coke and ore, beyond the current year and there is therefore no dangerous load anywhere suspended above the markets. The general decision to contract operations promptly removes the danger that stocks may pile up in the near future.

MONEY TO MOVE CROPS.

Treasury Department and New York Banks Will Send it Northwest.

New York City.—Now that the monetary strain has been lessened locally, the New York banks began preparations Wednesday to ship all available currency to the northwest to aid the movement of crops. While there is no concerted action among the city's banking institutions to meet the demands for currency now being made by banks in the crop country, the individual banks will send all funds that can possibly be spared for the purpose.

The Chase national bank and the First national bank have commenced to ship daily sums ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 to banks along the route of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads. James J. Hill held a conference here with officers of the Chase national bank and other institutions, at which he asked that the northwest be given all possible assistance to move the crops.

The bringing in of gold from abroad has already proved helpful in expediting the movement of currency to western wheat fields. The premium for currency became lower Wednesday and this enabled several banks to ship larger amounts of currency than would have otherwise proved possible to their correspondents west of the Mississippi river. The amount of the government deposits directed by Secretary Cortelyou to be placed in St. Paul and Minneapolis is \$3,000,000, and this sum will be forwarded from Washington.

FIVE MEN KILLED.

Boiler of an Engine in an Iron Works at Steubenville, O., Exploded.

Steubenville, O.—By the explosion last night of a dinkey engine boiler at the La Belle iron works here, five men were killed, three perhaps fatally injured and a portion of the open hearth plant directly opposite the explosion was wrecked. The dead:

Harry Andrews, engineer, aged 22 years.
Charles Reed, aged 22, engineer.
William Smith, aged 40.
Daniel O'Brien, aged 30.
William Scott, aged 35.
The injured: William Carnahan, James Sanders, James Edwards.
All the victims lived in this city.

Receivers for a Steel Company.

Buffalo, N. Y.—Judge Hazel on Wednesday appointed as receivers for the New York State Steel Co. Spencer Kellogg, George Urban and Adolph Rebadow. A statement was given out which says: "Owing to the severe stringency now existing in the business world it has been deemed best to have a temporary receiver appointed for the New York State Steel Co. The company is perfectly solvent." The company was organized by Spencer Kellogg three years ago. The total capital stock was \$2,500,000. A large tract of land was secured and a rolling mill built and operated. Blast furnaces are now under construction.

Actor Hitchcock Appears in Court.

New York City.—Raymond Hitchcock, the actor who disappeared several days ago after he had been indicted on charges preferred by several young girls, appeared at the criminal court building Wednesday and went to the office of the district attorney. Hitchcock was arraigned upon only one of the six indictments against him, to which he pleaded not guilty. Bail was furnished. Hitchcock was paroled in custody of his counsel upon the other five indictments. Counsel for Hitchcock said the actor had not been out of New York since his disappearance.

Four Killed in a Collision.

Antonio, Col.—Four Japanese laborers were killed and several other Japanese and one white brakeman were injured in a collision Wednesday between a freight train and a work train on the Denver & Rio Grande railway 25 miles south of here.

A Distressing Accident.

Decatur, Ill.—Michael H. Godfrey, a young switchman, was killed here Wednesday by a Vandallia railway locomotive which his father was running. Young Godfrey's foot had caught in a split switch.

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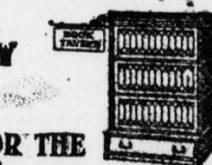
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