

GENESEO'S NOVEL HOME TRADE PLAN

Bringing People to Town Was the Object Sought.

HOW THE METHOD WORKED.

Local Interest in Business Stimulated by Monthly Public Auctions—Special Attractions Offered to Farming Folk, Given to Each Merchant Small.

The life of Genesee is much like that of other rural western New York towns; and it was decided to see if something could be done to develop more local interest in trade. A number of the merchants of Genesee decided to combine and form a business men's association to advertise the town and help the community, says the New England Homeleader.

A large number of the men decided that the thing to do was to arrange some method for bringing the people to town. It was decided, therefore, to try holding a *free* auction each month. Any farmer could send in anything he desired to sell and the business men would advertise it, catalogue it, pay for an auctioneer to sell it and turn over the proceeds without any expense to the farmer.

At this time the different merchants arranged special prices on certain lines of goods—time: Seven cases of soap for 25 cents or fifteen pounds of sugar for \$1. One enterprising jeweler on the first public auction day sold 500 solid silver thimbles at 17 cents each.

The public auctions kept the farmers busy—horses, cows, tools and farm products attracted several hundred men. People who would not come to town for any reason came on market day, and those who did not come to purchase came to discuss things and see what was going on.

The first market day was a decided success. The cost to the merchants was made up by a levy of \$1 each on the members of the association. It has since been decided that they will contribute \$1 each month and try the system for a year. The second auction was held under unfavorable climatic conditions, but was extremely profitable to the merchants, and some \$2,000 worth of farm stock was sold, nearly double that sold at the first auction.

At the third auction it was decided to add a new feature. Three weeks before the event notices were sent to all the county papers that a seed distribution bureau would be established by the association. A committee outlined the following plan: All farmers having farm seeds for sale anywhere in the vicinity were invited to send samples with the amounts they wished to sell and the price. In the case of seed corn they could bring ten ears or half a peck shelled, half a peck of oats or beans and ten potatoes; also samples of grass, clovers and alfalfa seeds.

First, second and third prize cards were awarded in each class, the judging being done by Dr. Gilbert, of the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca. The fact of placing samples in competition added interest.

Since the auction was not to be until after dinner the morning was devoted to an institute, Dr. Gilbert giving an address on the importance of good seed. This allowed time to discuss the samples shown and to give detail methods for their improvement. The exhibit and address were held in the village hall. On a bulletin board were posted the names of all people having produce to sell and of any person who wanted to buy, and the committee sought to bring the parties together.

In order that the farmers might see whether their soil maps were similar a soil map of Livingston county was hung in the room, an advance copy having just been received from the United States department of agriculture.

A Flower at Rent.

A dispatch from Flint, Mich., reports that the local school board has secured a ninety-nine year lease of a site for a new school building at the rate of one dollar a year. The man who offered to rent the land on these terms is something of a poet, and the board in accepting the offer has entered into his spirit and determined, it is said, to make every year a ceremonial payment of the rent. It is a pity that when sites are given as they so often are, the generous donors do not exact some such rental as this, that will require a touch at least of beauty in the school yard. The requirement of a bunch of roses or some other chosen flower which may be grown on the premises under the children's care would infuse a new, a much needed and delightful element into school life.

Some Men's Advertising.

Once there was a man who advertised. He inserted in the local paper a one inch card, which read: "James Jones Grocer. I edit the trade of the People, 4011 Woodward St." This man paid 90 cents for this ad, for one month. No one told him that he traded with him because he advertised, and he told the editor his paper was no good as a trade paper and to pay money for advertising was a waste. One year later the sheriff closed him out, and the man has never advertised since. Those who would advertise take warning.

VALUE OF PLAYGROUNDS.

How They Help in Making Children Good Citizens.

Children, as well as their elders, help in making better citizens, by keeping their native surroundings clean and neat, by refraining from littering roads and paths on the streets and in many other similar ways. But we cannot say that a great deal depends on the character and training of children.

Better pens minded and carefully trained penitentiaries usually prove the best town improvement workers, and according thereto can be done to benefit their health and morale should be encouraged.

Farmers and gardeners playgrounds have been devised as far west as Oregon, and in the Los Angeles Times George E. Beckner tells of failure of the benefits children have derived from playgrounds in Los Angeles.

"The playground cannot be regarded as an instrument in improving the life of the community," says James Schreiber, a glove manufacturer, "by friend, a glove manufacturer, was about to locate a building in a large city where he had become cramped for room through increased business. He told me he desired to locate in a small town not too far from the city, a place in which his expert workers would be happy to stay after he got them there."

"Why don't you try Newtown?" I suggested.

"Newtown?" he cried as he threw his hands up in horror. "Newtown? Why, my dear man, I want to keep as far away from Newtown as possible."

"Not Newtown up to the mountains?" I queried.

"Too, just the place," he answered.

"I've had enough of Newtown to want to build my factory elsewhere."

"Why are you so set against Newtown? Surely, as its name implies and as you know, if you have ever been there, it is one of the prettiest towns this side of the Alleghenies and would be an ideal place for your business. Its shipping facilities are superb."

"I agree with you there," said my manufacturer friend, "but since an ex-

PLAYGROUND RACE.

From the American City, New York:

streets of boys and girls and furnish them with a place to spend their leisure hours. The lessons learned here do more toward making good citizens than any number of lectures on books can do. These lessons of law and order are implanted in the boy long before he plays. They become a part of him, and he retains the true essential idea of good citizenship. An incident that happened in Los Angeles will show the efficiency of the playground in taking the boys off the streets. In a certain part of this city it had been the custom of the police department to put on two extra officers when the summer vacation of the schools began. This was necessary because it did not take long for the children to get into mischief. The year that the playground was opened the force of officers was increased, as usual, but, much to the surprise of the police, they were not needed and were reduced in less than two weeks. This was made possible by the playground. The children went there instead of loafing around the streets and getting into trouble."

"NOTHING TO DO."

Dull Times Not Discouraging to the Man Who Keeps Himself Busy.

Nothing wins so well as constant work. Often we hear a merchant complaining about dull times. Perhaps his neighbor is doing a rushing business, for the simple reason that his neighbor keeps busy. If customers are not coming in rapidly as we might wish the busy man takes time to get busier and devise some new scheme to bring business to the store.

Perhaps he loses himself in rearranging his goods in attractive manner on the shelves and in the showcases. If he finds some of the clerks who are complaining of the being dull, he immediately gets those clerks busy getting out old goods, arranging them in a manner that he can carry on a cleaning up sale to advantage.

There is always lots of work to do. How many times do we find merchants who complain of dullness sitting inside and vainly endeavoring to look through windows covered with dust and dirt? How many times do we see the man who says there is nothing to do but to go home? The older people had

written to have the playgrounds opened for the children.

Don't you forget it—if you have any business to look after you have something to keep you busy all the time. Something like keeping busy about the stores. It is sure to pay in the end. Even the novice can keep busy reading some good trade paper and posting up on commercial ideas and make a winning thereby.

No Longer an "Eyegore."

Columbus, Ind., became metropolis in a twinkling when Mayor Charles S. Barnard turned on the water in the fountain that graces the center of the new City park and Louis J. Bechtle, president of the Commercial club, turned on the colored electric lights in the fountain. Hundreds of people after the formal opening of the park. The new park is situated where the vacant city square owned by the Pennington family used to be. A year ago it was an eyesore to the city. Now it is graded, flowers bloomed in the beds last summer, there is a big fountain, playing in the middle, festoon lights are placed along the main walk, lights mark the entrance and the city trees are growing rapidly for the new season. The park was furnished by public subscription, and C. J. Hirsch, chief engineer at the waterworks, gave the fountain.

Billboards and Landscape Views.

In many eastern cities and towns there is just now an increasing activity of the crusade against billboards and signs, to say, many of these signs on the part of the cities and towns are directed against the billboards in the country along the roadside where they mar or hide beautiful natural landscapes. Increased travel through the medium of the automobile and suburban trolley lines is largely responsible for this increased activity against an inexcusable evil.

SAFE HIGHWAYS AS ADVERTISERS

Neat, Unobstructed Roads Impress Visiting Autolists.

KEEP LIVE STOCK CORRALLED.

Manufacturers Wish to Build in Newtown, but Meet With Accident.

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PITHY PRESCRIPTIONS BY THE BUSINESS DOCTOR.

The Doctor with Something to Say is Worth a Doctor's Keep.

—W. C. Fischer, Jr.

Do not tell your business stories or jokes. What you can save and the other man doesn't know is your best asset.

Do not be angry that which somebody else will do for you business.

Some merchant somewhere some time may have taken advantage of all of his competitors for increasing his business, but not you!

Better early and well yourself than late and keep others waiting.

A valuable man is one who always knows what to do next.

No man need be going to ring when time wastes the hour of opportunity. Fate never yet failed to turn down the man who waited for something to turn up.

ATTRACTING CUSTOMERS.

Merchants Should Insist on Neat Appearance of Their Clerks.

The clerk cannot be too neat in his appearance—that is, he should dress with common sense and not reach the degree of absurdity by overdressing.

There is nothing more disgusting to the patron of a grocery store than to see some slovenly clerk with dirty hands and soiled clothes handling the foodstuffs which the customer desires to buy. It has been known that such news on the part of the clerk has driven customers from the store. It is just as easy to keep clean as it is to be dirty, and cleanliness always pays.

You can never tell where whatever you find a clerk who is "down at the bone" in appearance that he is a nonprogressive kind of fellow and not likely to make great headway. It is not a sign of economy, because an economical man is generally neat in appearance, though his clothes may not be of the costliest.

Take at the dry goods counter. There is no use of being a dandy; neither is there any excuse for one being dressed like a hobo. In fact, the large department stores in the greater cities of the country demand neatness on the part of the employees, and even failure to have shoes properly shined or wearing of dirty linen is enough for a reprimand, and a few remarks on account of this neglect of personal dress mean discharge.

Cleanliness is not alone "next to godliness," but in case of the clerk often it means success.

CLEANUPS.

Value of Recognizing the Work of Children in This Line.

Easthampton, Mass., started a cleanup movement in April, and though the lead was taken by the Village Improvement Society, the young people were very active. They organized a Junior Village Improvement Society and were so efficient in the campaign for a cleaner town that when the day for carting away the rubbish came they found that the older people had remembered them by marking the carters on the houses with "June V. L. S." The materials for loading the carts and wagons came from cellars, back yards, gardens and vacant lots. The hauling ran into a second day.

The changed appearance of things was so much appreciated that an occasional Saturday during the summer was devoted to keeping the appearance of the town up to the top notch. Children are very effective in work of this kind, and they learn not only to clean up, but to scatter less rubbish for future cleanups. Gradually, too, they are able to teach their elders with the educational process, and finally things are kept where they belong and carried away at convenient intervals, thus giving the town a permanent holiday garnish.

Roadside Improvement.

A strictly rural community, having no park and yet desiring to embellish the fair earth in its neighborhood, may take charge of a mile or more of one or more roads running through the district. Let them be kept clean from fence to fence, beginning with the first meeting with the road.

When the ground has been several times wet and the surface agitated sufficiently to generate and then kill all wild weeds, sow flower seeds of various kinds in zones. No grand sight could be created than such a stretch of road in early spring, when the flowers are all in bloom.

Civic Improvement Trip.

The state department of agriculture in Texas recently secured the services of D. H. Hemensley, Massachusetts man who has become an authority on school gardens, for an educational campaign of a month or more. Mr. Hemensley traveled from town to town, speaking on school gardens, the home beautiful and civic improvement.

For the most part his lectures were illustrated. The interesting feature of the news is that this missionary journey was taken under the auspices of a state department.

Judged by Appearances.

When we meet a man whose face looks frank and whose talk is fair and a woman whose talk is frank and whose face is fair we are attracted to them. It is the same with stores. We like frankness and fairness on the face of them. The world, you and I as well as the rest, is prone to judge by appearances.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, the subscriber, to all persons, firms and corporations, to present the same to the First National Bank of Prineville, Oregon, with the amount due, on or before the 1st day of April, 1911.

John H. Hodson, Trustee, 121 Main Street, Prineville, Oregon.

ANNE A. LEVY, Trustee, 121 Main Street, Prineville, Oregon.

Administrator of Estate of Fletcher J. Lovell, 121 Main Street, Prineville, Oregon.

H. L. M. Baldwin, Trustee, 121 Main Street, Prineville, Oregon.

Notice is hereby given that the First National Bank of Prineville, Oregon, will close its doors at 12 o'clock noon on the 1st day of April, 1911.

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