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Devoted to the interests of the Peninsula, the Manufacturing Center of the Northwest

VOL. 4

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NO. 2

AS A STRANGER VIEWS IT

St. Johns---"The Desirable City"---Means all and More Than the Designation Implies

It means all that the appellation "desirable" can convey. And, again, it means more than the qualifying word "desirable" imparts to a casual or even careful reader. The last assertion simply means that the desirability of St. Johns as a home city, as a place of investment or as a place fitted for business ventures, could not be more ideal or perfect; and it means that the word "desirable," though strong in its import, is yet not weighty enough because of the very mightiness of nature's ample provision for the city. All things considered, there could not have been a more propitious spot for the building of a city that was to be clean, wholesome, healthful and fair to look upon.

Such provision by nature itself could only beckon to and induce the best elements in man when he thought of carving out a new habitat. Fair and sweet as is the spot upon which St. Johns is now built, it was even tender and inviting to the first wayfarers that set foot upon its soil. It would seem that such a land and such a place was designed by the Maker of All for a fair city.

From a stranger's viewpoint St. Johns must have been born with strength and endowed with sturdiness from its very infancy, to have grown and forged ahead so, surmounting all obstacles until we see her as she is today. Still strong and vigorous and adding force and character as the days go by, she grows on and on, she and her people, ever reaching out for better things. She and her people, apparently to us, feeling the impulse of all the God-given force, have reached the present perfect state, and still she sits not content, but with new ambition going ahead--improving, bettering and growing nearer to rarer perfection.

Our conclusions are that those conditions have made an ideally perfect residence city, and, as a consequence, a city of undisputed commercial supremacy and prosperity.

Commercially, St. Johns, in our observing opinion, assumes and is entitled to a position more supreme and important than any city of like population and environments in the West. It appears as a fact that more citizens, mechanics, artisans and workmen own their own homes than in any city of like size and close proximity to a large city, in the country. And in such a favored town one but naturally looks to see all other things maintained and supported in a manner commensurate with all other conditions; and right here it is a notable fact that all these necessary prerequisites are well represented.

St. Johns can, beyond all argument, claim supremacy as to manufacturing industries, when its size and age is considered. In all the coast country there is not found its like for natural advantages, thrift and hustle and grand results, all coupled with prudence, generosity and conservatism. With her numerous manufacturing institutions, most of them of considerable magnitude, and several so vast as to be the greatest in their lines in this section. And best of all, one finds the greatest array of happy, healthful and prosperous workmen in the universe. That condition alone will invariably tell of and denote prosperity, for where there are found men who toil and are satisfied with their lot, there will also be found employers who prosper.

In all these great manufacturing and industrial institutions, we have been reliably informed, the output includes commodities used by all mankind, practically. The vast products of these factories and institutions find their field in all the broad world, and there is no country nor zone into which St. Johns products do not find their way, there to perpetuate the name of the city, and give honest and entire satisfaction to those who have purchased her products.

In our "summing up" viewpoint, the greatest reason attributable to St. Johns' most noted advances have been suggested and unitedly plan-

A RAMBLE ABOUT THE TOWN

Ye Editor Visits a Number of the Leading Business Houses of the City and Gathers Some Interesting Information.

Last week we stopped our tale of woe at the fine new office building being erected on Jersey street by Mr. Day, the contract for which was let to Bickford & Tennant, and this week we begin with the fine brick building of W. Jower. This is another case where a citizen of the great Chinese kingdom has done the right thing by this country. Mr. Jower is not only a good tradesman, but a good citizen. He has purchased here a fine lot and erected a good, substantial brick business house, with two rooms below and the upper story fitted up for a lodging house and is now occupied by the Delmonico for that purpose. The north room of the lower floor was recently vacated by Uhlig Bros., who went over to Portland. This room is still vacant, and is, we think, the only vacant business room in the main business section of the city. It is a good room about 25x75 or 80 feet and should have a first class stock of goods in it, as the location between the main business section and the postoffice makes it a fine one for business. In the south room which is of the same size Mr. Jower has a fine stock of general dry goods, gents' furnishings, boots, shoes, clothing, hats, caps, hosiery, suit cases, notions of all kinds, and in fact everything you would expect to find in an establishment of this kind. His stock is not only varied but he has a good supply in all lines and you will never fail to find what will suit you when in want of anything in his lines. The prices, too, are right, which is not to be forgotten. You will find his ad elsewhere in this issue. We are always pleased to note when a citizen of the Flowery Kingdom thus becomes one of our most substantial business adjuncts. It speaks well for his judgment and makes him deserving of the success which seems to be coming to Mr. Jower.

The next man on the string is A. D. McDonald, the enterprising sash, door and glass man who is now putting the finishing touches to his fine two story brick building. This building is 30x80 feet and will be ready to move into the last of this week or first of next, and Mr. McDonald will have one of the finest business houses in the city. He carries a very large stock of all kinds of house furnishings, not only in the shape of sash, doors and glass, but in all kinds of moldings, porch posts, newel posts, railing, balusters, ornaments, finishing lumber, paints, oils, varnishes, in fact, anything which you may need to finish your domo from cellar to garret. That is not all, Mc is a good fellow to do business with. Always good natured, genial, accommodating and square as a die. There is no need of going out of the city for anything in his line either for prices or quality of goods. When he gets into his new building, too, he will have things so that you can see what he has in stock by walking through his fine big rooms instead of being obliged to go and dig it out of some of his sheds away back where you will get lost before you get out unless he acts as guide. This is what he has been so energetically striving for and we congratulate him upon the near approach of the goal he is aiming at. When this is completed, though, we understand he has in view the enlargement of his place of business by the erection of another building at some later date, both on the south of the present building and on the east, and he has so constructed the present building that this can be readily done without disturbing the symmetry of the present structure.

Across the street from the McDonald block is located the real estate offices of J. E. Colvin and H. Henderson, both in the same building. The latter gentleman is also an abstractor. Either of these gentlemen have a large list of patrons and are doing a successful business. One should not pass them up if there is anything doing in their line, but see them before closing a deal.

The next man on the string is B. F. Clark with his second hand store. Mr. Clark has a fine line of goods, not only second-hand, but first class new goods in all his lines, furniture, stoves, beds and bedding of all kinds, china ware, kitchen utensils and household articles of all kinds. His store is filled to the utmost limit and if his trade keeps on increasing as it has in the past he will be obliged to seek larger quarters. He also carries one of the best sewing machines, the Royal. Do not fail to see it when buying a machine. Mr. Clark's place is the one to visit, when you wish either to dispose of your household goods or purchase a new outfit as well as to add to what you already have.

On Tacoma street will be found the restaurant of Mrs. I. M. Pemberton, one of the best in the city. There the food is of the best and served in the best of style. Mrs. Pemberton is a most successful caterer and as her place is very convenient to the business street of the city we anticipate a most successful business for her.

Just west of her restaurant is located the harness shop of W. E. Swengel. This is the only horse furnishing establishment in the city, but because he has a monopoly of the business here does not make Mr. Swengel come any of Rockefeller's games on his competitors. He does a first class business, makes the best hand made harness, from the best oak tanned leather obtainable, the Rosewood brand bought direct from the tannery at Santa Rosa, Cal. He uses the same leather in all his repair work also. This accounts for the good trade he is working up here, for every customer becomes a good advertiser for his shop. Besides his harness of all kinds from the lightest single driving to the heaviest double draft harness, he carries a fine line of whips which he also purchases from the manufacturers in gross lots, thus cutting out all the middlemen's rakeoff. He also carries a fine line of horse jewelry, blankets, collar pads, ponchos, waterproof expressmen's aprons, or rather expressmen's waterproof aprons, either kind in fact. Feed bags, saddles, bridles, robes, everything in fact that you would look for in a first class horse furnishing establishment. He has also a splendid line of working gloves for the driver of the horses he served.

Across the street from Mr. Swengel's place is the millinery establishment of Mrs. T. R. Anderson, where so many of our sweethearts, both young and old, secure their headgear that sets the masculine heart "a thumpin'" either because the owner of the heart is young and an admirer of the face under the hat, or because he is older and must pungle up the cash for the same. It is a case of palpitation of the cardiacal member of the masculine class of society in either event. Mrs. Anderson is an experienced caterer to the tastes of our pretty girls and keeps a nice line of just what captures them when they call at her millinery parlor.

On the corner of Tacoma and Jersey just opposite our office is located the popular cigar store of E. D. Walker. Here Mr. Walker has one of the very finest lines of cigars and tobaccos in the city, and in addition to these he carries a fine line of candies and fresh fruits of all kinds, both foreign and domestic. There is no better place in the city to call for either of these articles, and Mr. Walker is Johnny on the spot with a cheerful greeting to all when you do call. His ad will be found in the paper elsewhere. As his store is convenient to the car stop he enjoys a very good transient trade besides a full share of the regular trade of the city, for everybody knows him and likes to trade with him.

Just north of this office is the expert whisker shop of Mansfield & Kaemlein, with Rev. Dr. Smith doing business between them. We will guarantee they can break off or drive in the most stubborn hirsute appendage that ever adorned the phiz of a section boss and do it in record time, leaving the surface as smooth as a baby's foot. Then, too, they are a liberal lot of fellows, and if they happen to amputate a square foot or so of the cuticle from your features, they never charge extra for it like any other surgeon. They just put on some dope that makes you think an aqua fortis bottle has broken on your jaw and makes you just set up and say things while the boys laugh. They are a jovial lot and you will miss it if you do not patronize their surgery once in a while, or twice.

ned; but above all, the good fellowship and the feeling of responsibility to one another, developed by a harmonious pull, have been largely responsible for the spirit in St. Johns, so admired and envied by her sister cities, which has culminated in the making of St. Johns "The Desirable City."

The possibilities of St. Johns are yet a mere dream of her citizens. And right here is where her people are sadly in the past--not in full realization of the future of her vast and sure-to-come glorious commercial supremacy. It is at this time beyond the most sanguine expectation and comprehension of her citizens. The great natural advantages and grand possibilities are such that they are far above and beyond the thinking men of the day; and not until several years shall have passed will her citizens come to a full realization of the actual state of affairs in store for them through the development of her wonderful resources which at this time lies dormant.

This is your humble stranger's conclusion after a careful analysis of commercial and other things in general, and of the many opportunities for St. Johns investors after a residence and travel of several years on the western frontier.

"Tea Aye Jay".
Bring in your job printing.

MONTHLY SCHOOL REPORT

Detailed Statement Concerning the St. Johns Schools that Should Prove of interest.

The following are the reports of the public schools of St. Johns for the month ending November 8, 1907.

HIGH SCHOOL.	
Number of days taught during month	19.5
Whole number of days attendance	2451
Whole number of days absence	93.5
Whole number of times late	28
Number of pupils neither absent nor late	66
Average number of pupils belonging	130.4
Average daily attendance	125.6
Per cent of attendance	96.3
Number of visits by parents	6
Number of visits by members of schoolboard	2
Number of pupils remaining last month, girls 61, boys 63	124
Total enrollment this month girls 68, boys 73	141
Increase in enrollment, girls 7, boys 10	17
Net drop in enrollment, girls 3, boys 5	8
Drop in enrollment, girls 4, boys 5	9
Remaining, girls 65, boys 68	133

CLARA A. BOSS, Principal.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.	
Number of days taught during month	20
Whole number of days attendance	9996 1-2
Whole number of days absence	384 1-2
Whole number of times late	20
Number of pupils neither absent nor late	329
Average number of pupils belonging	518.6
Average daily attendance	499.3
Per cent of attendance	96.2
Number of visits by parents	39
Number of visits by schoolboard	1
Total remaining last month, girls 264, boys 250	514
Total enrollment this month girls 298, boys 300	598
Increase in enrollment girls 54, boys 30	84
Dropped from roll girls 36, boys 40	76
Net increase	8
Remaining girls 262, boys 260	522

W. C. ALDERSON, Principal.

It is gratifying to note that there is an increase also in the number of parents who visited the schools. Last month's report showed a total number of visits by parents as 36, while this report shows that 41 parents visited the schools. The fathers and mothers of our pupils should certainly take enough interest to visit the school occupied by their children. Of course, as remarked by a parent: "We have the utmost confidence in the ability and faithfulness of our teachers and do not need to visit the schools." While this is true, and so far as the teacher's fidelity and ability is concerned, it might make but little difference, but it will create a deeper interest on the part of the pupil, a more harmonious and effective co-operation between the instructor and parent, and effect more rapid advancement of the pupil and thus increase the efficiency of the schools. This is not guesswork on our part. We have observed this very effect upon different schools, and our statement will be, we think, substantiated by every instructor of experience. We would therefore urge our parents to visit the schools, become intimately acquainted with the teachers and their methods. We are sure the instructors and the parents will become warm friends as a result, and all friction between the two classes as to methods of work will be removed. We expect to visit one or more rooms of the schools each week for the benefit of our readers, and incidentally for the benefit of the schools, for we sincerely believe that the greater interest we shall be able to create among the patrons of the schools the better it will be for the schools and the pupils therein.

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