

MANAGING A TOWN.

Novel Experiment of an Editor to Improve Conditions.

ACTS AS BUSINESS DICTATOR.

How He Hopes to Make Dexter, Ia., Larger and Better, Increase Its Trade and Double the Profits of Its Merchants—Loafers Cleaned Out.

A town near Des Moines, Ia., has been making a novel experiment. It has been allowing the editor to run things—not the local editor, mind you, but an editor from Des Moines. The editor is not running things in person, but has appointed an assistant who is a thoroughgoing business man. So far the experiment seems to have been a pronounced success. The merchants are making more money, the collections are better, the streets are cleaner and there is improvement in many lines.

The town that is being experimented on is Dexter, which is thirty-five miles from Des Moines and has about 850 inhabitants. The editor is W. J. Pilkington of the Merchants' Trade Journal of Des Moines. His assistant is Guy C. Pogue. Pilkington had a theory that the methods found so successful in the department stores and retail establishments of the large cities could be tried as effectively in the small towns. He told the merchants of Dexter that he could make more money for them, the bankers that he could increase their deposits, and joyously informed the mayor that his government was on the blink and if he—the editor—could do a little governing he would make things hum and add to the population.

To Pilkington's joyous surprise, Dexter took him at his word. The merchants wanted more profits, the bankers were looking for larger deposits, and, as for his honor the mayor, he concluded that if anybody could run that town better than he was doing it the other chap was welcome to the job. That is the kind of a mayor to have. No dog-in-the-manger spirit about him! He was thinking of the good of his town and did not give a hang for his own dignity.

I do not know that mayor's name, and I am sorry, for it ought to be published to the ends of the earth as an example to a lot of officials in other communities who do nothing themselves and let nobody else do anything.

To return to the experiment, Pilkington sent Pogue, and Pogue got busy. The new departure started June 1 and is to run seven months. Mr. Pogue obtained complete reports from each store and bank and began introducing up to date business methods. He took a complete invoice of stock and accounts. He got sales slips at the end of each day so that he knew what every store and every department was doing. He directed the window displays, the arrangement of goods, the prices and the conduct of the clerks. He must be a wonder, for anybody who can regulate the conduct of the average clerk is surely a master of men—and women. Pogue does it, or so it is reported. I am not anxious for his job.

One of the best things the new general manager of Dexter is doing is to write the advertisements for the local papers and to change copy with every issue. Even better, he has graded and cleaned the streets and put down sidewalks. He moved the loafers off the dry goods boxes and moved the boxes to the rear. Again, I do not envy him his job, but once more I must admit that he is a marvelous man. Anybody that can make a loafer move is a benefactor as well as a wonder worker.

Pogue has put in new street lights and caused these and the ones already in existence to burn later at night. He has organized a baseball club and a band. The farmers have awakened to the fact that something is afoot in Dexter, and as they want to find out what it is they are going to Dexter to trade. The merchants are pleased. They call the Pilkington-Pogue idea the booster plan and are rapidly being converted to join the boosters' club. Money is being saved in buying and in bad accounts.

The first month's report showed increases in the lending stores, one establishment running as high as \$775 increase in business and one or two others reaching nearly the \$500 mark. In Dexter, as elsewhere, improvement pays, business methods win, enterprise, cleanliness and printer's ink spell prosperity.

Here is Mr. Pilkington's own statement of his reason for undertaking the novel experiment:

I expect to disprove the theory that a certain kind of business may succeed in one town and fail in another. My contention is that any store with up to date business methods can succeed, no matter where its location is. For this reason I selected Dexter.

On every side there is strong competition, and if I succeed I will have shown to the business men there that I have pulled trade from the territory in which Des Moines and Stuart have been the favorites. It is a small town and is a hotbed for the mail order business, and I feel that I have chosen a town where it will be the hardest kind of work to succeed. Reports so far are very encouraging.

It is a great idea, and everybody will watch with interest the new combination of Pilkington, Pogue, push and pluck. If it succeeds, the editor may be given the job of running other towns. A good many editors might throw up their hands and say it is all they can do to run their papers, but others will be ready to clean the streets, clean out the loafers, get the right sort of publicity and put things on a business basis.

JAMES A. EDGERTON.

EDUCATING MINERS.

Lehigh Company's Experimental School a Success.

General Manager S. D. Warriner of the Lehigh Valley Coal company of Wilkesbarre, Pa., says that the experimental school for miners, established just a year ago by the company at Lost Creek, has been so successful that the company is preparing to open schools in other places. The school was established by the Lehigh Valley Coal company for the benefit of all classes of its employees, from foreman down to doorboys and slate pickers. There are hundreds of these employees who have had the ambition, but not the means, to acquire the training of a mining engineer. For them a course at college is out of the question. The new school, with a regular instructor and with the aid of a correspondence course, is designed to take the place so far as possible of a college training.

It is in line with the scheme recommended by the committee of foreign experts who came to this country last year to study conditions in the mines. A building formerly used for offices was converted into a schoolhouse. Desks and chairs were put in, maps and pictures were hung on the walls, and periodicals devoted to mining subjects were subscribed for. The total number of mine workers enrolled was divided into two sections, each of which met at stated times in the evenings. In addition to the instructor employed by the company, several mining experts came to the school upon invitation and delivered lectures.

A strict record of the performances in the school is kept and is forwarded every month to the general manager of the company. In this way the management is enabled to know which of its employees deserve promotion. The man who shows the most zeal and ability in the school is most apt to win his way to a position of responsibility.

It is probable that the success of the Lost Creek school will lead to the establishment elsewhere of other institutions of the same kind. In his official report the chief of the Pennsylvania department of mines says that a large proportion of fatalities are due to the ignorance or carelessness of mine workers. Education is held to be the surest preventive of accidents of that kind.

NEW YORK SWEATSHOPS.

Evil of Long Standing Has Been Practically Wiped Out.

Daniel O'Leary, superintendent of factory licenses in the state department of labor for the city of New York, made a gratifying showing respecting the sweatshop question at the recent Rochester convention of the International Association of Factory Inspectors. Mr. O'Leary characterized the "sweater" as he who overworks and underpays his employees, leading to overcrowded workshops and living apartments, to the "piece and team" system, to generally unhealthful conditions and finally to exhaustion of mind and body.

The sweatshop evil began in 1870 and continued without effective opposition for upward of thirty years, though in 1882 the legislature prohibited the manufacture of cigars in living rooms, and in 1892 an attempt was made to regulate tenement house work on certain other manufactures. These laws, however, only touched the outer edge of the abuses, and it was not until 1899 that a comprehensive measure, of which Mr. O'Leary was the author, passed the legislature and became law. Since that period the measure has been amended and strengthened, and under and by means of it Superintendent O'Leary is able to say that there are practically no sweatshops in the greater city at this time.

Finances of the Printers.

Secretary-Treasurer J. W. Hays of the International Typographical union in his annual report says that the total expenditures during the year ended May 31, 1909, were \$458,061.73 and that a balance of \$258,728.47 was left in the treasury. It shows that the number of burial benefits paid during the year was 509, representing \$38,175. This was a smaller number of burial benefits than for any preceding year since 1903 and was twenty-nine less than in 1908. It shows that the average number of members in good standing during the year was 41,921 and the average membership for the last three months 47,174. In regard to the old age pension, the report shows total expenditures of \$69,550.35 and a balance on hand in the fund May 31 of \$150,707.17. The average earnings per year per member were \$897.

Carpenters and Joiners.

Permanent headquarters have been opened by the United States district committee of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners in New York.

In forty-nine years the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners has disbursed \$16,396,820 in benefits of various kinds. Of that sum \$5,960,715 was paid to unemployed members, \$4,329,015 to sick members, \$424,775 to members who suffered from accidental injuries incurred while at work, \$765,140 in funeral benefits, \$1,841,205 in strike benefits and \$2,199,505 to old age pensioners. There are 2,717 members on the pension list, 84, or 30 per cent, of that number being over seventy years of age. The organization has a total membership of 61,220, of whom 5,073 are affiliated with the United States district.

THE FASCINATION OF FORBIDDEN FRUIT.

By HENRY S. SPICER.
(Copyright, 1909, by American Press Association.)

Being junior member of the firm of Bunker & Co. of New York, whose business involved some correspondence with olive oil merchants in Italy, I concluded to learn the Italian language in order to be able to write those in their own tongue from whom we bought oil. I inquired of a friend for a teacher. He told me that he could recommend one, a young woman, a native of Italy, but there must be one condition attached to her giving me lessons—I must promise not to make love to her. Somewhat surprised that such a promise should be exacted, I asked a reason for it, but received no satisfactory reply. As I had no intention of making love to any one, I readily agreed to the terms. It is only too true, however, that such a promise was very inconsiderate on my part, for several episodes in the past had demonstrated my extreme susceptibility to the Goddess Love and her subtleties. But my word had been given and in all the verities I was placed upon my honor.

Miss (or, rather, Signorina) Aboni turned out to be a teacher in the New York public schools. She was about twenty-five years old, with the dark hair and eyes prevalent among her countrymen and, unlike most Italian women, possessed a very sweet voice. No language is musical when rapidly spoken and in a rough voice, but as Miss Aboni spoke Italian to me slowly and softly it was very melodious.

Now, I verily believe that if it had not been for the promise I had made I might have taken lessons of Miss Aboni for an indefinite time without danger to my bachelorhood. I should not have thought of making love to her. But all the while she was instructing me my mind, instead of being on the Italian language, was on the question, "Why has I pledged not to make love to my teacher?" That we wish to do what we are forbidden to do is a curious psychological condition for which I cannot account. I can more readily understand why one should dislike to do what he is compelled to do, and yet this condition is by no means so universal as the other. However this may be, I was soon seized with an uncontrollable desire to make love to my teacher. I resisted till I had been some time under her tutelage, then made a break.

The pain expressed in her face told me that I had in some way hurt her, and a sudden sensation of shame told me that I had dishonored myself. I stammered an apology, promising not to break my word again, a condition like that laid down by the poet when he says it is "weakness to be wroth with weakness." The poor girl could only accept the apology and hope that I would be stronger in future.

But I was tempering with a passion, and the passions usually master conscience. The only safe way out of the matter was to acknowledge myself beaten in the first encounter and avoid a second by ceasing to take lessons of Miss Aboni. This course occurred to me, but I persuaded myself that it would be more manly to conquer myself than to ingloriously run away. I continued to receive instruction, but there had come a feeling of constraint between me and my teacher. I went on conquering myself, as I persuaded myself I was doing, listening to the melodious Italian sentences as they glided from my teacher's lips. Then, too, we frequently read from the same book, and this compelled us to sit side by side, a dangerous position for those who are forbidden to be lovers.

One day while thus looking over the same page I suddenly found my hand resting on my teacher's waist. I can only assert that I did not put it there; it put itself there. Then another unfortunate circumstance led to a fatal step. Feeling a tress softly graze my cheek, with my hand—the hand not on her waist—I turned her face to mine and kissed her on the lips.

I shall never forget the shudder that passed over her frame. I knew at once that I had done something terrible. But terrible things cannot usually be undone. Whatever it was, it must stand. One thing was certain—I had given my word and broken it.

"I am beneath contempt," I cried. "No, I have made a mistake."

"What mistake?"

"Instead of exacting a promise I should have taken you into my confidence. But you were a stranger to me, and if you told—"

"Well, if I told, what then?"

"I would lose my position; we would starve."

"We? Who are we?"

"I and my husband. Married women are not permitted to teach in the public schools of New York. My marriage has been kept a secret."

The announcement that she was a wife fell like a load on my heart. What had started in a desire to break in upon forbidden ground had resulted in a passionate love.

The husband of her who passed under her maiden name was an invalid and supported by his wife. I did not see her after the denouncement for three years. Then, learning of her husband's death, I renewed the acquaintance, not for the purpose of taking lessons, but to offer her my heart and hand, an offer which was accepted.

Notwithstanding that I would not now exchange my wife for a throne, I still maintain that she would not now be my wife had I not given a promise not to make love to her.

THE DRESSING TABLE.

New Appointments For This Necessary Piece of Furniture.

There is an old time charm about sweet lavender that appeals to the woman of refinement, and one of the prettiest novelties of the season is a bag of lavender to hang in the clothes press or tuck in the chiffonier drawer. Pongee silk is utilized successfully for such bags, the original of the accompanying sketch being of natural colored pongee with design of lavender blossoms.

Sanitary brushes, as they are called, represent the latest addition to the boudoir collection, the most approved being fashioned from celluloid. The backs are perforated to permit the free circulation of air and drainage of the bristles. Another new contrivance for the toilet table is a hollow comb by means of which the tonic now considered so essential for the health of the



DRESSING TABLE APPOINTMENTS.

hair may be satisfactorily applied to the scalp. A special brush for keeping the eyebrows in good condition has also been added to the list.

As a substitute for the glass or metal holder for talcum powder which has been in vogue for some time past there now appears a silver stand in filigree design in which the original box may be placed. This is likely to prove as satisfactory an arrangement as transferring the contents of the tin powder box to a bottle of crystal or silver. The remaining article here illustrated is a wicker hanger.

WHAT WOMEN INVENT.

Five Safety Razors Among the Things to Be Exhibited in London.

What was the inspiration of the five Englishwomen who during the last year felt that their inventive powers were put to their best use in inventing safety razors? At all events, five such appliances will be exhibited in the forthcoming London exhibition of inventions by women. The inventive spirit of Englishwomen seems well developed. There are on an average every year about 1,500 new contrivances patented. The greater number of these are, naturally enough, intended for the use of their own sex, although there are such occasional exceptions.

Other recent forms of their inventive skill when it soared far beyond the needs of mere women were shown in an automobile, a steam engine and a flying machine. Of sterner stuff than most of their sex even in this country of militant suffragettes were the inventors who applied to patent their methods of strengthening the sides of ships in their powers of resistance and the new kind of invisible shield to be worn in war. Yet these superwomen were rare among the whole number, most of whom devoted themselves to such characteristic inventions as new kinds of hats for women and children, a method of washing furs, an apparatus to kill chickens painlessly, new fangled clothes for dogs and similar evolutions of feminine necessities. This exhibition is a contrast to that which will soon be opened in Paris, dedicated to proving the social misery of women through their legal and social inferiority to man. It is prophesied that the most stubborn opponent of woman suffrage will be convinced by this eloquent collection of documents, pictures and other evidence.

Furniture News.

To give the desired "old" look to a new finish has been found for furniture. This is nothing more or less than rubbed off edges. In heavy fumed oak the rungs and arms of chairs, the corners of sideboards, all little protuberances that would naturally have met the most wear in real antique furniture, have been treated—possibly with sandpaper—so that the lighter ground wood shows through irregularly. Inlay is a feature of much of the new furniture. Strips of satin wood in mahogany, fanciful designs in colored wood, mother of pearl, etc., and even that imitation of inlay gained by painting or stenciling some glaring flowers or vines on the surface, in the manner of bedroom sets of old, are seen on some of the handsomest pieces for use in every part of the house—drawing room, dining room, bedroom, boudoir.

Atwater Street Assessment

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to Ordinance 129 and 130, passed by the common council of the city of Bandon, Coos county, Oregon, providing for the improvement of Atwater street in the City of Bandon, Oregon, that assessments have been levied upon the following property, as the owners thereof, in amounts as follows, to-wit:

Commercial Addition	
Blk 3, lot 10	Rosa Company, \$162 30
Woodland Addition	
Blk 4, lot 8	Kime Estate, \$213 20
" " 10	Yang Estate, 213 20
" " 11	Kime Estate, 223 30
" " 5	10 Rosa, 92 99
" " 11	Rosa, 93 40
" " 12	Rosa, 94 35
" " 5	13 Rosa, 94 60
" " 6	14 Rosa, 95 60
" " 5	Bandon Mfg Co., 114 40
" " 6	Bandon Mfg Co., 106 30
" " 7	Bandon Mfg Co., 94 20
" " 8	Bandon Mfg Co., 102 25
Unplatted lots	Bandon Mfg Co., 185 95

Ferry Creek Addition

Blk 2, lot 7 J J O'Neil, \$163 30

Woolen Mill Addition

Blk 7, lot 1 Strang, \$163 30

" " 3 Strang, 55 80

" " 4 Strang, 55 80

Woodland Addition

Blk 7, lot 1 Scadding, \$ 86 60

" " 2 Scadding, 86 60

" " 3 Scadding, 102 75

" " 4 Scadding, 118 90

" " 1 W Galber, 100 65

" " 2 W F Disher, 95 00

" " 3 D M Charleston, 91 75

" " 4 Mary A Lowe, 94 20

" " 5 Mae Walker, 93 38

" " 6 Bedillion, 97 42

" " 7 Haberly, 105 50

" " 1 Mary Walker, 100 35

" " 2 Mary Walker, 92 50

" " 3 Mary Walker, 88 50

" " 4 Frank Lowe, 84 40

" " 5 Frank Lowe, 76 30

" " 6 W E Ellis, 76 30

" " 7 A Ellington, 64 70

30 feet C Ellington, 48 50

100 feet Shields & Kennedy, 161 70

This notice is published October 7th, 1909, first time, and last time upon October 21st, 1909, and each and all of the above assessments are due and payable to the Treasurer of the City of Bandon on or before November 11, 1909, and if such assessments be not paid as directed, then the council of the City of Bandon is empowered to issue writs of execution authorizing and directing the sale of each of said lots or tracts, in the manner that delinquent taxes are collected.

This notice is published under and by direction of the common council of the City of Bandon, Dated October 7th, 1909.

C. R. WADE,
City Recorder.

Notice of Street Assessment

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to Ordinances Number 120 and 139 duly and regularly passed by the common council of the City of Bandon, Coos county, Oregon, providing for the improvement of North Columbia avenue, that assessments have, by such ordinances, been levied upon the following described property, for the purpose of improving said avenue, and giving credit to certain property owners for improvements already made, there remains assessment due upon such lots and against such owners, and in such amounts as follows, to-wit:

Lot 1, blk 1, Eamce L Jamison,	\$103 30
" " " " " " " " " "	103 30
" " " " " " " " " "	103 30
" " " " " " " " " "	103 30
" " " " " " " " " "	8 30
" " " " " " " " " "	8 30
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" " " " " " " " " "	103 30
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" " " " " " " " " "	8 30
" " " " " " " " " "	8 30
" " " " " " " " " "	11 30

This notice is published for ten days, the first upon Thursday, October 7, 1909, and the last upon Thursday, the 21st day of October, 1909, and notice is hereby further given that the above sums are due and payable on or before the 11th day of November, 1909, and that unless such assessments above levied be paid on or before the 11th day of November, the law confers upon the council the right to cause writs of execution to be issued against such property, and the same sold in the manner provided for as for the collection of delinquent taxes.

Dated at Bandon, Oregon, Oct. 7, 1909.

C. R. WADE,
City Recorder.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Roseburg, Ore.,
September 11, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that Thomas B. Wheeler, of Bandon, Oregon, who, on November 29, 1907, made Homestead Application, No. 14721, Serial No. 04389, for ac 1-4 of sw 1-4, s 1-2 of se 1-4, and sw 1-4 of se 1-4, section 33, township 29 south, range 14 west, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final Commutation proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before G. T. Treadgold, U. S. Commissioner, at Bandon, Oregon, on the 27th day of October, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses:
Robert Walker, of Bandon, Oregon.
Edwin L. Strader, of " "
E. L. Spaulding, of " "
Kenneth Perkins, of " "

BENJAMIN L. EDDY,
(Not coal land) Register.

Notice of Sale of Tide Lands

Notice is hereby given that the State Land Board of the State of Oregon, will sell to the highest bidder, at its office in the Capitol building at Salem, Oregon, on December 14, 1909, at 10:00 a. m., of said day, all the state's interest in the tide and overflow lands hereinafter described, giving however, to the owner or owners of any lands abutting or fronting on such tide and overflow lands, the preference right to purchase said tide and overflow lands at the highest price offered, providing such offer is made in good faith, and also providing that the land will not be sold nor any offer therefor accepted for less than \$5.00 per acre the Board reserving the right to reject any and all bids.

Said lands are situated in Coos county, Oregon, and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the meander line of the Coquille river at the northwest corner of lot 6, which said point is 1320 feet east and 965 feet north from corners sections 17, 18, 19 and 20, running thence along meander line as follows, to-wit:

S 84° e 130 feet.
S 74° 45' e 492 feet.
North 70 feet to low water line.
N 75° 15' w 257 feet along low water line.
N 73° 10' w 252 feet.
N 80° w 137 feet.

S 100 feet to place of beginning, containing 131 acres, being tide land fronting on west half of lot 6, sec 17, T. 28, S. R. 14 W. of W. M.

Applications and bids should be addressed to G. G. Brown, Clerk State Land Board, Salem, Oregon, and marked "Application and bid to purchase tide lands."

G. G. BROWN,
Clerk State Land Board.
39-10
Dated this Sept. 28, 1909.

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Coos Co. Nursery

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The Weekly Blade is distinctly a family newspaper. The one object of its publishers has always been to make it fit for the American home, for the fireside and of interest to every member of the family. To fulfill this purpose it is kept clean and wholesome. The news of the world is handled in a comprehensive manner, and the various departments of The Blade are edited with painstaking care. The Household page is a delight to women and children, current affairs are treated editorially without prejudice; the serial stories are selected with the idea of pleasing the greatest number of fiction lovers; the Question Bureau is a scrap-book of information; the Farmstead columns are conducted with the purpose of giving the patrons a medium for the exchange of ideas and information on farm topics. No department is neglected, but every feature is taken care of with the idea of making The Blade worth many times the price of subscription—\$1.00 a year. Sample copies mailed free. Address, THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.