

Polk County Observer

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The way to build up Dallas is to patronize Dallas people.

THE KNOCKER IS IT.

In the last issue of the Sheridan Sun appears a communication, signed by the realty dealers of that city, in which the charge is made that street loafers and knockers were instrumental in discouraging a prospective investor in Sheridan property.

This was unfortunate for Sheridan. Unfortunate for the entire Valley. But such tactics are not confined to the thriving Yamhill county town.

These people infest every community in the valley to a greater or less extent and, according to the measure of their activity and numbers, is the advancement of every community retarded.

When the writer visited this city for the first time contemplating an investment here, he interviewed some of the business men regarding the city and its prospects. He was a stranger in a strange land. He did not take those he talked with into his confidence, and for aught they knew he might have represented capitalists with a fortune to invest.

He spun that sort of a yarn until the newspaper man had accumulated a mighty good dose of blues and about the first thing he wanted to do was to grab a passenger train and get out. If that was the true state of affairs what in tunket was the use of squandering any of his hard earned ducats in a community with fortunately for himself, (and possibly unfortunately for the people), he found others who told a different story, and careful investigation led us to believe that the gloomy individual was a cynic and hadn't told the truth about Dallas and Polk county.

What possible motive could he have had for thus attempting to dis-

courage a possible new citizen? Just this. He cares not a whit for the welfare of others. He is self-centered, and sees no good in anything that does not promise to enrich himself.

How many people have knockers like this man been able to frighten away from Dallas? Nobody knows. Yet, they have done it, and are doing it today. The only way in which their influence can be reduced to the minimum is to get in, boost with greater fervor than ever and kick up so much dust with the progress machine that the tightwads and knockers will be lost in the smoke, and will never be found until the steam roller of enterprise shall have flattened them so completely that they'll either take to their holes or sell out and move away.

There are some citizens that any community can do without, and over whose going, nobody will shed a tear. The knocker is it.

WAS WEST RESPONSIBLE?

The rabid partisans who delight in attacking Governor West on account of his prison policy reached the limit last week when the recent serious outbreak in the California state penitentiary at San Quentin was laid at his door.

The unsoundness of this position, however, is shown when it is recalled that the warden of the Oregon penitentiary has had no trouble of this nature. There must have been some reason for the uprising of the San Quentin prisoners. And the reason is found in the declaration by Chaplain Bauer, of the Oregon penitentiary who has visited the California prison, of the wretched conditions which prevail in that institution.

Outbreaks at San Quentin are by no means infrequent. On the contrary, there have been many within the past few years. There must be something radically wrong with an institution of this kind that can produce a revolt among its inmates frequently. To claim that Governor West is responsible for the outbreaks is the heights of foolishness.

There are many penal institutions in the country where such outbreaks are never heard of. But it is certain that their management is conducted along radically different lines from those which prevail at San Quentin.

Why not take the opposite side of the question and argue that Governor West is responsible for that? Those whose business it is to control the criminals of the penal institutions of the country, men who have studied the question from all standpoints, do not take the position that their predecessors once held. They know that much better results can be accomplished when men are treated as human beings rather than subjected to all sorts of abuse simply because, often, they have been unfortunate enough to commit an error and find themselves, for the first time, behind the walls of a cold and forbidding prison.

Modern thought, however, has sought to overcome the evils of prison life, and it has been shown that penal institutions should be so managed that, if a man be right at heart, his stay, instead of overshadowing his good impulses, will show him the error of his ways, and he will come forth into the free world, endowed with better manhood and citizenship. You cannot beat goodness into a man. Harsh treatment but serves, either to arouse all the bitterness in the human heart, or to kill the prisoner's spirit—the first result is a dangerous individual whose career of crime is bound to be long unless his life shall be spent in prison, and the latter is a wreck drifting helplessly upon life's turbulent sea.

ed, it holds no brief for Governor West but it is a steadfast believer in fair play and good, common "horse sense" and this attack on the governor for the outbreak of prisoners in another state, is neither.

If "the little two-sheet around the corner" felt so inclined it might, at this time enter into a controversy with another publication. It might devote its space in giving to the world what its editor thinks of other editors. But such things lead nowhere and benefit nobody.

One of the brightest and well-edited papers that comes to The Observer's exchange table is the Amity Standard under the management of C. G. LeMasters. It is filled with newsy local matter and its editorials are interesting. The Standard is a credit to Amity and is apparently appreciated by the business men of that town.

For "coughing contemptuously" at a policeman a Portland man was fined \$2. Policeman in the Rose City, it seems, are not to be coughed or sneezed at.

There ought to be a law against "whispering" in Dallas.

Well, thank goodness, it's nearly over.

LIGHTNING DOES DAMAGE

Telephone Poles in Eola Hills Struck by Friday's Storm; Physician With Auto Hustles for Cover.

The thunder shower that prevailed here Friday morning was heavy in the Eastern portion of the county where it is reported that the lightning struck in several places raising havoc with telephone poles and trees.

Dr. A. B. Starbuck who was traversing the Eola hills in his automobile encountered the thunder shower and putting on all speed run for cover. He says he "didn't know what would happen to his machine with the lightning playing promiscuously that way," so he proceeded to get out of the trouble zone.

GYPSY BAND VISITS CITY

Fortune Telling Chief Occupation of Restless Nomads. "Tell your fortune, lady? I can tell you anything you want to know, past, present or future, only fifty cents, lady." Thus pleaded a starchy eyed, dusky gypsy girl-woman of each passer by or at the individual homes which it happened to strike her fancy to visit while in the city.

Wild touselled headed children, sun browned, raven haired women and girls and fierce looking, unkempt, yet withal picturesque men, constituted the band of Romanyites that made Dallas their headquarters Monday.

"Tommy, don't you dare stick your head out of this house until I tell you that you may. There's those awful gypsies and they'll get you just sure, if you do," admonished Mrs. Smythe excitedly to her young son who was playing blissfully in the front yard all unconscious of the impending danger of being kidnapped from under the very nose of his fond parent.

Is there one of us who has not been warned many times in the same manner, warned to beware of being kidnapped by a race of people who are not really bad, but of a roving disposition.

They are a weird sort of people distinguished from their fellow beings by not only their personal appearance but in their mode of living, which is half civilized, half savage. They appear to be destitute of religion, but traces of various forms of paganism are found in their language and customs.



Watch Our 98 Cent Window

We will keep it full of bargains for the next few days

A few more days of our sale on

WHITE HAND BAGS

And the Bargains will be gone

DON'T WAIT

and let your neighbor tell you of the BARGAINS that she found at the

BIG WHITE SALE

at the

BIG STORE

Every day sees some Bargain Line closed out COME EARLY!



Last week we sold every Blue Serge Suit we had in the store

A Few Bargains Left In MIXED GREY

AND TANS

Any suit or coat in the store at only

\$10.00

Dress Skirts This Week At

One-Half Price

The Hot Days are coming and you need just what we have on sale at Bargain Prices. Don't wait and be disappointed.

Dallas Mercantile Co.

about two miles today," she offered in answer to a query, "and the poor youngun's about all in."

They have wonderful tales to tell about blue rivers and flowers, gold mines and beautiful women who live in "their country" (how proudly they say it)—"Romany."

Well-Known Farmer Slightly Injured in Saturday Accident. David Nightingale, the well-known farmer living north of the city was slightly injured in a highly exciting runaway in North Dallas Saturday morning.

SCALP IS CUT IN RUNAWAY

How's This. We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

No Danger. In taking Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey for coughs and colds, it contains no habit producing drugs.

Legal blanks for sale at this office.

Card of Thanks. We wish to thank through The Observer the kind friends who ministered to us in our recent affliction and for the large donation of flowers.

Call for Warrants. Notice is hereby given that all Polk county warrants presented and endorsed "Not paid for want of funds" will be paid upon presentation at my office.

Helped to Keep Down Expenses. Mrs. J. E. Henry, Akron, Mich., tells how she did so. "I was bothered with my kidneys and had to go nearly double. I tried a sample of Foley Kidney Pills and they did me so much good that I bought a bottle, and feel that they saved me a big doctor's bill."

The city of Benton has purchased a new safe for the purpose of keeping valuable municipal documents.

Mrs. M. A. McLaughlin, 512 Jay St., LaCrosse, Wis., writes that she suffered all kinds of pains in her back and hips on account of kidney trouble and rheumatism.

A Eugene banker paid \$40 for a crate of prize winning strawberries.

How's This. We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Legal blanks for sale at this office.

We sell the

Best in Harness

Everything in That Line Here. Single and Double, Driving or Working

All the Newest Improvements. Ask to see the latest

Tubular Hames

Agents for Sharkey Fish-Key Collars

MOHAIR ROBES

Special Sale on Sweat Pads---Now 35c

Crider's Gen. Store

Trespass notices, weather proof for sale at The Observer Job office

Dallas Wood Yards, Kaplan Coal and Wood; 16 inch and 4-foot wood delivered to any part of the city promptly on telephone call Office 324; residence 562. W. L. BARBER, Dealer



THESE'S STRENGTH IN "OREGON'S BEST" FLOUR as well as fine flavor and economy. It contains all the nutritious parts of the best wheat, none of the worthless. Bread baked with it is especially good for children.