

Does This Community Need An Auction And Clearing House?

After a careful study of the supply and demand for second hand or used articles in this community, as indicated by the past two year's advertisements in the News' "Wanted and For Sale" columns and from the activities attending every public auction in this section, the editor has come to the conclusion that there is an opening in Estacada, as the trading center of this district, for a so-called "Clearing House."

With this idea in view, the editor (R. M. Standish) is contemplating the opening up of such a business with headquarters in the big store building adjoining the News' office.

But whether the contemplated plans will materialize depends to a large extent on the attitude of the public towards such an enterprise, as shown in the response to this appeal for information.

The intention is to offer a convenient clearing house for the sale or trade of the hundreds and thousands of dollars worth of second hand articles; now stored about every house, attic, barn and granary, such as implements, furniture, ranges, stoves, farm and household goods or parts of same, which are no longer of use or much value to the owner, but which can be sold to someone who needs them.

The Clearing House would act as the display or sales-room for such goods, the owners bringing in their articles, setting an equitable price on same, the Clearing House to charge a reasonable percentage for negotiating the sales.

This Clearing House would allow of the attractive display of hundreds of articles, from a second hand wringer to a plow, harrow or bedstead, with price tags attached; meaning the resurrection and converting into money of hundreds of articles now dust and cob-web covered and of little or no value to the owners.

The editor is not anticipating making any fortune from the establishment of such a business, but after talking with several of the local merchants and farmers, it seems a feasible and legitimate business and a needed adjunct to the commercial life of this district and in no ways competing against any of the present forms of merchandizing.

It is also planned to hold monthly or quarterly public auctions, when horses, cows, sheep, pigs or second hand articles may be put up for sale, under conditions similar to any such affair.

The News will, if plans materialize, carry a space devoted entirely to this Clearing House, showing a printed list of articles for sale and also containing a list of articles wanted. In this way, the question of supply and demand can be handled and the buyer and the goods brought together.

As it now stands, the average public auction in this country draws a crowd, with the public usually bidding in everything offered, from broken harness to single-trees, washing machines, bee-hives etc.

As a result of our "For Sale" advertisements, this office often receives inquiries asking where the advertiser lives and in many

instances the distance to be travelled by the prospective buyer ruins all chances of a sale. This Clearing House will do away with any such obstacles.

First of all, this office wishes to find out about how much of such second hand material is on hand in this community, so as to plan and advertise accordingly.

We also wish to ascertain the attitude of the people as to the demand for such a Clearing House.

You can help in this matter and get the benefit of the free advertising of your goods, if you will make out a list at once of such second hand articles as are now stored about your home place and which you want to sell. No matter whether you only have one good wheel from a farm wagon or a no-longer-occupied baby buggy, someone in this community has the other three wheels of a wagon and wants your one and there is always a fluctuating market for baby buggies. And it is just as important that we be advised of what you may want in these lines, whether a used stove or range, a washing machine or a slightly dented milk can.

The response to this statement of conditions and this appeal to the public for a few preliminary figures and lists of articles, will govern whether or not the Clearing House idea is a feasible one - the editor believes so, do you? So please let him know what you think of it right now.