

BENEFITS OF ONE CITY MANY Consolidation Proves Profitable in Every Case to Suburbs.

WESTPORT, MO., SHOWS BIG GAINS Since Becoming Part of Kansas City Population Has Grown Five Hundred Per Cent and There Are No Bad Effects.

SOUTH OMAHA, Nov. 3.—To the Editor of The Bee: The question of consolidation of Omaha and South Omaha is the most important matter that has come up in South Omaha in years. It has been admitted on all sides that those in favor of annexation have presented many good reasons in favor of the proposition. Before summing up the many advantages that will accrue from consolidation, I wish to call attention to a few of the many misrepresentations made by the opposition. The most of them are not worthy of serious consideration and I feel sure the people most interested will consider their source and govern themselves accordingly. One insinuation has been freely circulated that money is being used in large quantities by the annexationists. I know those favoring annexation have felt from the start they would rather lose out in a clean fight than win in such a campaign as the opposition has made. The little money that has been expended by those favoring the project has been used for strictly legitimate purposes. Only one piece of printed matter has been authorized up to this time and that was a small handbill calling attention to the mass meeting on October 18. From the meager funds available, we have not been able to hire brass bands or orators. I challenge the opposition to show where anyone back of annexation has profited or expects to profit a single dollar more than will hundreds of other property owners and taxpayers. It speaks well for the community that so many public spirited citizens will give freely of their time, energies and means toward furthering the success of a movement which means so much to the growth and development of latent resources.

Real Question at Issue. On the other hand, it can be seen that those actively opposed to consolidation are those holding political offices. These people cannot be blamed in their effort to retain these offices. This matter of consolidation is simply a question of whether the city government is to be run for the benefit of the politicians or the home owners and taxpayers.

One in position to know better has stated that the bonded indebtedness of Omaha was over \$20,000,000. This fact is shown by a certified statement from the city comptroller of Omaha, that the actual bonded indebtedness is only \$2,415,916. This is exclusive of special assessment bonds to the amount of \$147,500, which are not a debt of the city, but bonds for improvements that are to be paid for by property owners and only guaranteed by the city. To offset this bonded debt Omaha has a sewer system worth \$2,600,000, and paved streets, a like sum, to say nothing of 250 miles of sidewalk and many splendid public buildings. The fact is, that the bonded indebtedness, rate of taxation and other important features concerning the two cities are on a par, considering the relative population of the two cities. Anyone trying to convey a different impression makes a deliberate attempt to mislead the people.

Purely Business Matter. This consolidation matter is a purely business matter—whether our property will be worth more in Greater Omaha than in South Omaha; whether we will have more advantages and needed public improvement under one big city government than we have at present.

It is a well-known natural law that like causes produce like effects. The history of consolidation in other cities has proven to be profitable to all concerned. Why not here? These in favor of annexation have meant to present facts and arguments that have undoubtedly shown that the consolidation would be a desirable thing for both cities. Our arguments have either not been answered or replied to with meaningless generalities. As far as myself is concerned I would hardly be in favor of annexation if I thought it was going to depreciate the value of my home or would work disadvantageously to my business interests.

Always Profitable to Both Parties. Consolidation has proved profitable to the suburbs of Kansas City, Duluth, Chicago, St. Louis, Portland, and, in fact, every place where it has taken place. The opposition cannot point to a single instance where consolidation has worked to the detriment of either party to consolidation. I was in Kansas City ten days ago

and spent a couple of hours with three of the old settlers who were residents of Westport at the time of the consolidation with Kansas City. Colonel Hunter, who was city assessor of Westport at the time, was much opposed to the consolidation. Mr. Hunter's opinion now is that consolidation was of undoubted benefit to Westport. He said the population had increased 500 per cent. Former pastures and cornfields are now built up with good homes and business places. Where Westport was a mile square, it is now twelve miles one way and five miles the other. Mr. Hunter said that Westport had been on the down grade ever since the civil war, up to the time of consolidation, but that since the consolidation it had seen a continuous and splendid growth. Mr. Daulton, who was treasurer of Westport for eleven years and later a councilman, said that at the time he was much opposed to annexation. To use his own words, "There were no bad effects of the consolidation; on the other hand, they were all good." He said Westport had obtained better fire and police protection, better gas, electric light, water and sewer facilities. The schools had been much improved; eight ward schools and one high school are there now instead of the one school that was there ten years ago. A fine new high school is now being erected to cost \$250,000.

W. W. Johnson, who owns the most valuable property in old Westport. He pays more taxes than any other citizen, but feels he is getting full value received. He said here was not the faintest regret by anybody as a result of the consolidation.

Omaha Taxes Lower. It is claimed that our taxation is lower than in Omaha. According to the levies in both cities this year the taxes in South Omaha, for all purposes are three-fifths of a mill larger than those in Omaha. Had we had the proper levy in South Omaha our taxes would have been at least 2 mills higher than those of Omaha. This is not only my own opinion, but also that of those who have made a study of city finances. An ex-city official, who proved one of the most able and conscientious officials we have ever had, when asked about the matter said that the levy this year is entirely too low, that every fund will be exhausted before the year is out. He said the levy should have been at least 11 mills. The South Omaha levy for 1906 was 7.5 mills. The levy this year is only 8.2 mills. This reduction was made in the face of a certain larger expense and largely decreased receipts. The expenses of the city for the fiscal year ending August 1, 1907, were over \$218,000. It is estimated that the expenses for the present fiscal year will total around \$260,000, or an increase of over \$50,000. The 1907-8 levy produced \$181,400. The 1907-8 levy is estimated to produce only \$185,000, or a decrease of practically \$30,000. For the fiscal year ending August 1, 1907, we collected in scavenger taxes \$25,231.23. These taxes will undoubtedly be light this year, owing to the fact that most of them have been collected—\$45,000 will be a liberal estimate. There is a shortage of at least \$20,000. These figures show that the gross revenue of the city will be around \$70,000 less than were the receipts of the last fiscal year. While our levy this year is only 8.2 as compared with 7.5 mills last year, next year it will be anywhere from 12 to 14 mills to make up. The levy was made small this year for one of two purposes, either to embarrass the question of annexation or for the benefit of the administration of a certain city located not far from South Omaha.

Omaha's Greater Economy. The city government of Omaha has been run on a much more economical basis than the city of South Omaha. This is proven by the following figures taken from the records: In 1900 the per capita expense in South Omaha was \$2.23. In the year 1907 it had steadily increased until the per capita expense was \$3.32. Here is an increase of over 50 per cent in expense for each man, woman and child in South Omaha in 1907 as compared with 1900. Compare these figures with Omaha. In Omaha in 1900 the expense per capita was \$2.09; in 1907 it had decreased to \$1.16. Where the expense per capita in South Omaha increased in seven years over 50 per cent, in Omaha it decreased over 36 per cent.

It must be borne in mind that when the two cities are consolidated everything that is bought in large quantities, hay, grain, cement, and in fact everything that the city uses can be bought in carload lots at bottom prices, meaning a saving all along the line.

Omaha's Interest Rate Lower. The city of South Omaha pays a larger rate of interest on its bonds proportionately than does Omaha. Where our bonds were sold with difficulty at 5 per cent at par, as were the West Q street bonds, recently, Omaha has had no trouble in disposing of theirs at a good premium at 4 1/2 per cent. In fact, the premium was such that it reduced the interest on the bonds to 4.25 per cent. The city of South Omaha was recently informed that hereafter they

would be compelled to pay 6 per cent on their bonds. This matter of interest is in itself a very important matter. By special ordinance the bonds were put into the city charter by the last legislature, a large number of citizens will be deprived of voting at municipal elections unless they have paid some municipal tax in the city during the previous year. The expenses of living and educating one's children are now such that many people have not been able to get ahead, and believe that the man who educates his children and equips them for life's duties and makes them good, law abiding citizens is doing the best for the welfare of the country and should not be deprived of the privilege of participating in his city government because of not being fortunate enough to acquire taxable property.

Omaha's Terminal Tax. It is hard to estimate the revenue that will accrue to the city of Omaha from the terminal tax. It is a certainty that Omaha will receive somewhere around \$100,000 from this tax. South Omaha will receive practically nothing from this source. It would be well for South Omaha to be in a position to share in this terminal tax.

The laboring people will undoubtedly give annexation a large vote. It will mean shorter hours and better pay for many of them. Omaha has the best fire department. Firemen there work only twelve hours whereas our firemen are on duty twenty-four hours. The policemen here work twelve hours, in Omaha they work only eight. The school teachers will receive from \$200 to \$400 more per year and if competent will be put on the permanent list and assured their positions as long as they care to have them.

Conditions Admittedly Ideal. Those opposed to annexation now realize that the conditions are almost ideal for the consolidation of Omaha and South Omaha. The important matter of bonds and taxation are entirely equitable considering the relative population. The "Annexationists" are pleading for delay. The fact is that the act passed by the last legislature was about as good a measure as has been voted by any legislature covering consolidation. It is claimed that the city of South Omaha will be without representation in the Omaha council until the next legislative session. The city council has the power at any time to redivide the city. This could be done the minute consolidation takes effect so that South Omaha will be fully represented from the start.

Omaha men and capital built the stock yards and induced the packing houses to locate in South Omaha. What need now most of all in more Omaha capital to put mills and factories along the excellent trackage in South Omaha. We need more industries here to employ more workmen. More factories mean a larger population and increased property values because of more demand for property. More population means more money to be spent at our stores.

There has been a club formed in Omaha of fifty of the prominent business men there who have already raised a fund of \$200,000 for the special purpose of helping small manufacturing plants that may desire to locate in Omaha. Let's get in and work with Omaha and get our share of these new establishments.

Nowhere in this country does an imaginary line separate two such important cities as here. Annexation is inevitable. Vote "Yes" for it next Tuesday and put things on a settled, solid basis. J. G. KELLY.

Advertisement for Wm. R. P. featuring a large illustration of a man in a suit and hat. Text includes: 'Show the Grocer a penny and say: Wm. R. P. is the Chief of the B.P.T.?' and 'He will hand you a treat for the whole family'. Below the illustration, it says 'Friday the 15th—One Day Only'.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE WORK

Some Features of the Annual Report of Cornell's President.

VIGOROUS SUPPRESSION OF HAZING Judicial and Police Authorities Reaching for Ruffianly Students—Activities of Various Educational Institutions.

President Schurman of Cornell university has just issued his annual report covering the affairs of the college for the year ending September, 1907. The number of students enrolled during the year was 4,225, of whom 3,522 were regularly enrolled and the rest attendants at the summer session and the winter school of agriculture. This is an increase of 1,245 since the century opened, when the total was 2,980.

The dominant note of the report is educational efficiency, with recommendations for improving it, both in the field of liberal culture and pure science, and also in the fields of professional and technical education.

On the subject of liberal education at Cornell, President Schurman points out that the general adoption of the elective system has obscured the idea of what a liberal education is, and expresses the opinion that pending the recovery of an acceptable definition of liberal education, the colleges of America will perform three definite functions.

They will give an education in the liberal arts and the pure sciences to the comparatively small number of men who seek it before entering schools of theology, law, medicine or technology; they will train specialists in language, philosophy, history, economics, politics and physical sciences, most of whom after graduation will devote themselves to teaching or writing; they will give a more general education to men who will afterwards devote themselves to business, journalism and public service.

The president suggests to the faculty the consideration of the value of formulating, with the aid of outside experts in business, journalism, etc., courses to be recommended to undergraduates who look forward to these vocations.

The report recognizes a momentous change, hitherto students upon graduation at the high schools have been admitted to the Cornell courses in law, medicine, civil, mechanical and electrical engineering, and architecture, and upon completion of their professional courses have received the professional degrees. The president is of the opinion that in the near future matriculants at Cornell university shall spend one or more years in the study of languages, literature, history, economics, political science, etc., before admission to any professional course at the university.

Relative to the university's finances, President Schurman says that, excluding the medical college in New York City, the productive funds of the university amounted on August 1, 1907, to \$2,509,915.34. The corresponding figures for August 1, 1906, were \$2,329,254.41.

A Check to Hazing. Youthful excess of spirits as championed in college hazing, relates the Chicago Tribune, has received a discouraging rebuff in the action of a Kewanee jury which has brought in a verdict of \$479 damages against five young men. Their offense was the hazing of a fellow student by tying him to a tombstone and leaving him in the cemetery until in his fright he pulled the stone over, breaking his leg in the effort. In further rebuke the hazers will be held on a criminal charge, making this one of the most expensive college pranks thus far recorded.

others is much less common than formerly and has been generally handled successfully by the college authorities, but such proceedings as were instituted at Kewanee are likely to prove even more effective in doing away with a custom which has gained in viciousness what it may have lost in frequency.

The recent outbreak at the School of Mines in Rolla, Mo. well justified the attention of the local police, and other occurrences in other college towns have called for more discipline than the college power saw properly to assert. The old saying that boys will be boys loses much of its significance when the boys understand that their ideas of humor do not correspond with the notions entertained by the community, and that college pranks which result in broken bones and destruction of property lead swiftly to a penalty worth considering.

Ferry Normal College. The enrollment at the New York public schools for 1907, is 50 per cent better than last year, the increase necessitating the employment of two new teachers, Prof. F. M. Fazel of Occochee in the commercial department, and Miss Nettie Campbell of Wyoita in the normal department. For the first time in the history of the college a lecture course has been arranged, which is proving popular and helpful.

Educational Notes. A county commissioner from Montana, who at the age of 50 is studying law at Yale, is being aided by his wife, who is studying sociology.

Registration at Columbia has passed the 5,000 mark for the first time in the university's history. The official report of the registrar, which will appear in the general catalogue, shows a total enrollment of 5,120, including the summer session of 1907.

Mr. Louis Madell, lecturer of the University of Chicago, has been invited to lecture for the coming year, has sailed from Paris for America. He will lecture in the United States on historical and scientific subjects at the leading universities and expects to return to Paris in May.

The scarcity of teachers is an persistent difficulty in the New York public schools as is the want of sittings for the children. The city's normal training schools do not do enough young men and women to fill the vacancies occurring annually. Last week there were places for 1,100 additional teachers, and as a result of an examination 500 were appointed.

Ground is being broken for the new physical laboratory at Princeton university. It will be one of the most complete in the country. The building will be located at the bottom of the eastern side of the campus. The building will be a close resemblance to the letter H, affording the greatest amount of light in a minimum space. There will be three stories, comprising 55,000 feet of floor space.

The total number of students registered in the United States at the present date is 45,000. Of these, fifty-five are graduates who have taken their first degree at one or another of twenty-four institutions, including Radcliffe college, and twenty-four are candidates for the A. B. degree, as against twenty-one in 1906. Of the new students, sixty-three are freshmen, and thirty-two have been prepared in public schools.

Felix Hackett, M. A., bachelor of science, and fellow of the Royal College of Ireland, has left Dublin for Baltimore, where he will devote himself to the spectroscopic research at the Johns Hopkins university. When X-rays were discovered Mr. Hackett was the first scientist outside of France to conduct the discovery. He will now devote himself, in conjunction with Prof. Wood of Baltimore, to research in this field.

prefer this method to a rule which would permit the teacher to do the whipping. We have secured the agency for Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup, the new laxative that makes the liver lively, purifies the breath, cures headache and regulates the digestive organs. Cures chronic constipation. Ask us about it. For sale by all drug-gists.

CLOSE CALL FOR AUTO PARTY Failure to Notice Danger Signal Comes Near Landing Them in the River.

A party of automobilists returning to Omaha from Council Bluffs at 6:30 Saturday night was given a thorough scare while crossing the Douglas street bridge. The occupants of the car had been sighted in Council Bluffs and while crossing the bridge, which is undergoing extensive repairs, they failed to notice a red lantern which was placed near the street car tracks. The automobile was going at a fair rate of speed and before the occupants were aware of the fact the machine was bumping along the ties, which were the only obstacles between them and the river, nearly 100 feet below.

The machine was stopped, after twenty-five yards of the tie road had been traversed, near the edge of an open space sufficient to let the machine and its occupants through, and the party carefully alighted. The automobile was the property of G. L. Felton of Farnell, Mo., and with him were: H. H. Garver, Grant City, Mo.; F. Cunningham, St. Louis, and William Korling, 702 South Seventeenth street, Felton, who was driving the machine at the time.

Cured of Bright's Disease. Mr. Robert O. Burke, Elmore, N. Y., writes: "Before I started to use Foley's Kidney Cure I had to get up from twelve to twenty times a night, and I was all bloated up with dropsy and my eyesight was so impaired I could scarcely see one of my family across the room. I had given up hope of living, when a friend recommended Foley's Kidney Cure. One 50-cent bottle worked wonders and before I had taken the third bottle the dropsy had gone, as well as all other symptoms of Bright's disease." For sale by all druggists.

Ever swap houses. Your location just suits the other fellow, and the other fellow's location may just suit you. If you want to make a swap—if you want to find out how numerous the other fellow is—explain your situation through The Bee and you will find out something that will be pretty sure to happen.

Prevented With Fear. Dr. King's New Discovery will cure thumps. Guaranteed. 50 cents and \$1.00. For sale by Beaton Drug Co.

Announcements, wedding stationery and calling cards, blank book and machine binding. Phone Doug. 104. A. I. Root, Inc.

Advertisement for Old Crow Rye. Features a bottle of Old Crow Rye and text: 'OLD CROW RYE. REAL WHISKEY AND "THE BEST." BOTTLED IN BOND PURITY—AGE—STRENGTH. Look for the word "RYE" in red on label. Distillery: Woodford Co., Ky. Distributors: Riley Bros. Co., Omaha. Schools AND Colleges. LINCOLN BUSINESS COLLEGE. A practical, up-to-date school which was established nearly twenty-five years ago. Courses: Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Telegraphy, Penmanship and Preparatory. Catalogue No. 10 free.

Advertisement for Bel Evue College and Wayne Normal School. Bel Evue College: Classical, scientific, philosophical courses. Wayne Normal School: Established 1891. Has the following well organized courses: Preparatory, Commercial, Teachers' and Typewriting, Life Certificate, Review, Has a strong student body, a strong faculty and best of accommodations. Buildings and Five Dormitories. A postal will bring you our catalogue. Bel Evue College, Bellevue, Neb. Wayne Normal School, Wayne, Nebraska.

Advertisement for Republican State and County Ticket. Lists names for various offices: For Supreme Judge—M. B. REESE. For University Regent—CHARLES B. ANDERSON. For University Regent—GEORGE COUPLAND. For Railway Commissioner—HENRY T. CLARKE, JR. For Judges District Court—GEORGE A. DAY, LEE ESTELLE, HOWARD KENNEDY, WILLIAM A. REDICK, WILLIS G. SEARS, A. L. SUTTON, ALEXANDER C. TROUP. For State Representative—SAMUEL G. HOFF. For Clerk District Court—ROBERT SMITH. For County Sheriff—E. F. BRAILEY. For County Judge—CHARLES LESLIE. For County Clerk—D. M. HAVERLY. For County Treasurer—FRANK A. FURAY. For County Assessor—W. G. SERIVER. For County Superintendent of Public Instruction—W. A. YODER. For County Coroner—H. B. DAVIS. For County Surveyor—HERMAN REAL. For County Comptroller—EMMETT G. SOLOMON. For County Commissioner, 2d Com. Dist.—FRED BRUNING. For County Commissioner, 4th Com. Dist.—P. J. TRAINOR. For Police Magistrate, City of Omaha—BRYCE CRAWFORD. WE APPEAL TO YOU FOR YOUR VOTE. VOTE BEFORE GOING TO WORK IF POSSIBLE. POLLS OPEN FROM 8 O'CLOCK A. M. TO 8 P. M. Douglas County Republican Central Com. C. H. T. NIEPEN, Secretary. MYRON L. LEARNED, Chairman.