

THE FALLS CITY TRIBUNE

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THE PROBLEM OF THE CITY

The curse of the American city has been and still is mal-administration. The American city is known the world over for its utter failure to make good in this particular. The fault lies in the incapacity of the great mass of city officers, and of course really in the conditions by which they are elevated to office.

This has come to such a pass, that decent men regard it as useless to make any effort for the correction of existing abuses, and men of principle and real ability absolutely refuse to be used as stool-pigeons, to be set up only to be knocked down by the ringsters. It amounts to the confession on the part of the better class of citizens, that they are helpless to provide relief, and that conditions, bad as they are, must continue to grow worse.

The real source of the difficulty is to be sought for in the idea that politics are essentially bad and that clean and decent men dare not mix in matters of a political nature for fear of becoming contaminated and corrupted. It is unfortunately true, though not necessarily so, that the average politician is one of a bad lot.

And because of his odious doings he has brought the whole system of municipal politics into disrepute, so that most really desirable and otherwise available men for public office absolutely refuse to submit to the unavailing associations that running for office would necessitate.

This is a sad commentary upon our idea of citizenship and municipal loyalty and duty. Our banks and all other institutions of consequence have sense enough to place their best men in the important offices. And the men thus honored consider it a compliment to be so elevated and recognized. Why should not a city with its larger and more diversified interests require the leadership of its very ablest citizens? The town does need its strongest and best men at the head of its affairs. Good horse-sense demands that only men of character, intelligence and business foresight, ought to be considered for the city's offices.

But good men will not serve. How do you know? Where is there a really capable and conscientious man in Falls City, who, if made to feel by the better class of citizens that they wanted him and that his services and ability were actually needed, would finally refuse? It is true that good men have refused, and others will continue to hesitate. And, why? Chiefly because they are not impressed by the sincerity of their supporters. They realize the uselessness of accepting a nomination if not backed by fighters and voters, and they are unwilling to begin a race, the end of which they already know means only humiliation and defeat.

Falls City can have what she wants. She will get what she goes in for. Cities, like individuals, have their opportunities, and upon their choices and decisions hang the great issues. Falls City has the privilege offered her of stepping up into the line, with the more successful and progressive cities of the state. Will she measure up to her possibilities or will she permit partyism and prejudice to block her advance?

THE CITY WATER.

A strictly desirable water supply is one of the commodities which a city is not always able to obtain. Water is a necessity, and when really good water is not to be had the consumers will find it advisable to content themselves with the next best or rather with the water that is available.

Falls City water as it is at present being served up to the consumers, leaves much to be desired. Nevertheless it must be admitted that this much condemned and so-called "slough water" might be very much worse. It occurs to us in our rather slow way of thinking that we ought not to be ungrateful for the good that comes to us through the use of our city water, while at the same time we may well cast about for ways and means of improving both the source of supply and the water itself.

In spite of its many shortcomings, Falls City water has a variety and dash about it that challenges our admiration. There are occasions when it spurts from

the faucet with all the sparkle and sizzle of a freshly combined glass of bromo-seltzer. Then again it assumes a surface aspect of having been to intimate with the junk man. And at other times one not accustomed to its vagaries might mistake it for the aerated product of an eastern dairy. But when all has been said it remains as a fact to be justly weighed, that while Falls City water is at times hard to stomach, it is not on record that its use has as yet seriously injured anyone. Therefore while it does not appear to be especially palatable, nevertheless, it cannot be shown that it is harmful. It may not be desirable city water, but it is very convenient and immensely superior to none at all.

SLUMS DEGRADE BUSINESS.

The worst enemy of business is the slum. About 85 per cent of the people of this country are classed by the sociological experts as poor or very poor. Whatever tends to increase this sum of poverty strikes in two ways at the heart of business. It interferes with consumption and it interferes with production. Nothing could be worse.

In the last twenty-five years England and Germany have entered upon a desperate duel for the commercial kingdom of the world. At the beginning England was everything in international commerce, and Germany was next to nothing. Now, to speak quite plainly, Germany, fighting with skill and tenacity, is the assured victor in the battle, and England is going down to defeat. How did Germany manage to make such a marvelous showing in this tremendous conflict?

The secret of Germany's success is no secret at all to those who know the relative condition of her working population and England's. England has allowed the slum to take care of itself and the slum has turned upon her and eaten out the heart of her strength. The real strength of a nation is not her banks, palaces, rich men, armaments, guns, battle ships, splendors, park lanes, royal state pomp and circumstance; the real strength is her men that work with their hands. That is her only asset worth talking about; her physical condition depends upon their physical condition. England has allowed her working population to deteriorate in slums; Germany has labored to abolish the slum and to rear her working populations in the full measure of health and vigor. When the two working populations clash in the commercial battle, down goes the English line.—Hawatha News-Democrat.

The point made by the "Journal" last week, that the moral standard of labor on the B. & M., is higher than on the M. P., was well taken. It is true that the B. & M. lays greater stress upon the efficiency of its employees and looks more closely after their manner of living and their habits than does the M. P., as a consequence the B. & M. is able to and as everyone knows does give better service than does the M. P. It is only another verification of the truth that morality and efficiency go hand in hand. A clean, sober man, other things being equal, is always more dependable and more capable than the man given to irregularities and an unclean life. This however does not do full justice to the characters of the men employed by the M. P. It must not for a moment be inferred that the M. P. Railroad Co., is indifferent as to the habits of its employees. The writer recalls a particular case which happened in Falls City within the new year. A man in the employ of the M. P. for some twenty five years or more was asked to resign because of his "booze fighting" proclivities and he did resign in preference to being unceremoniously fired. The M. P. has no use for drunks, nor graduates from the Street Corner school.

It appears to us that the Kansas City papers are not telling all they know about the ugly Cudahy-Lillis scrape. They are quite free with such details as offer diversion and excitement for the sensation-loving reader, but that the incident might point a moral does not appear to have occurred to them. Possibly they do not regard it as within their province to preach to their readers. The tendency on the part of newspapers to sink to the level of mere entertainers is constantly growing. These papers no doubt understand their business; in a coarse phrase, "they know on which side their bread is buttered." But is the reading public growing so morbidly curious, that they will no longer abide instruction? Must the newspaper of the day, in order to make dividends, degenerate into a mere sensation monger? Dare it never lift a prophet's voice in behalf of home and purity and justice? Will the Kansas City brethren kindly tell us where there is any difference between the nigger who jostles a school girl, and

the bishop's brother who insinuates himself into another man's bed. The gentleman of color accomplishes his end by physical violence, your gentleman of cloth, achieves the same end by arts too contemptible to mention. What is the difference between the two? And yet the whole city is up in arms against the one, and the other will not be prosecuted.

The Daily Journal is authority for the statement that Prof. Gerano after making his harvest has left town. Accepting the statement as representing the facts, it is only another vindication of the old proverb, "A fool and his money are soon parted." If the professor took any money from Falls City it was not because the people who patronized him had any intelligent interest in the betterment either of their own situation or the conditions that prevail in Falls City. It is only another case of the blind seeking the help of the blind, of moral shirks going to a man whose whole success depends upon his ability to exaggerate and deceive, for relief from the obligations of life. The Tribune turned down the professor's "ad." We did not consider it in keeping with intelligence and decency to boost a profession so entirely based upon deception and misrepresentation as is that of the practicing clairvoyant.

Change is the price we must pay to progress for the privilege of going forward. Changes always come hard, because they hurt. Changes involve the necessity of readjustments. This means inconvenience, struggle and loss. The man in the rut has comparatively easy traveling. But he is limited to his rut. His course is fixed for him. To get out of the rut requires a special effort. It is also likely to severely wrench his machinery. And travel over the unbeaten road beyond the rut may be hazardous. Therefore it challenges men of heroic souls to pioneer—to insurge!

Nothing worth while was ever achieved without a struggle. Every advance has been made at the point of the sword. Falls City is no exception. If we would have better government, and enjoy relief from existing abuses, we must fight for the changes. And not in any halting, time-serving way; but keep eternally at it and all along the line. It is no disgrace to be beaten, but it may be a crime to submit. It is not right

that we supinely yield the field to the enemy this spring. We cannot afford to indifferently surrender the ground already won by hardest campaigning. We must maintain our organization intact and keep our people interested and active. The brethren who advise against contesting the field this spring will do well to revise their manual of tactics. We must meet the issue. We must fight to the finish. The right will win in the end. Line up, brethren, line up! Our cause is right and for the right a man can suffer.

If, as now seems probable, Lincoln will assist in retiring Mr. Burkett from the public service, what is the matter with drafting Chief Justice M. B. Reese to represent the state in the great office of senator? He could ill be spared from the Supreme bench where he has so ably and justly served his people and state in other years and is still doing so, but we know of no good reason why his great abilities may not be utilized, to the manifest advantage of the country, in a wider field of usefulness. Nebraska, like other states, is entitled to be represented in the highest deliberative body of the nation by her very best talent, and Judge Reese stands among the very first. He is an old fashioned republican, strong in the faith of its founders—himself being one of them—and too great to consent to injustice in any shape, either in the framing of the laws or their enforcement. We nominate Judge Reese for senator.

It has been openly declared in Falls City that the cause for the general lack of interest this spring on the part of the Christian people, is because several denominations are interested in building. We sincerely trust that the insinuation is utterly unfounded. Nevertheless, we recall the prophets warning—"The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked." How easy for self interest to squelch one's zeal for common good. What if it should appear that the present lukewarm condition was only a mild form of building graft?

—Something new, Favorite Pruning Saw. Trim your trees from the ground. Six reasons why it is the best in the market. Write J. A. Schroer & Co., Fruit Packers and dealers for circulars and prices, St. Joseph, Mo. 10-5t.

The great Baking Powder of the country—used in millions of homes—never failed

No Alum Fifty Years the Standard No Lime Phosphate

DR. PRICE'S
 CREAM
 Baking Powder

Received the highest award at Chicago World's Fair

THIS AND THAT

WHERE one man gets rich through hazardous speculation, a hundred get poor.

WHERE one man stays poor through the slow methods of saving, a hundred get rich.

The wise man saves a part of his earnings and places his money in the bank to use when needed. Start an account now no matter how small or how large; it will get bigger after while.

Falls City State Bank

GOOD NEWS TO ALL

New Shoe Store

NOW READY FOR BUSINESS

We take pleasure in announcing to the people of Falls City and vicinity the formal opening date of the new Shoe Store—

Saturday, March 19th

at 8:00 o'clock a. m. On that day and at that hour we will swing open the doors for your inspection of the finest, most complete and UP-TO-THE-HOUR SHOE ESTABLISHMENT IN THIS SECTION.

No such shoe stock; no such shoe values; no such assortment ever before found lodgment in this town at the low prices at which we are going to sell them. Our intention is to get the confidence of the people. We would rather gain the confidence of ten persons a day than to make fifty sales by employing methods that would destroy the customers' confidence in us.

One customer satisfied is of greatest value to us, and we want the good-will of the people. We will study your requirements and try in every way to meet them. No doubt there is room for one more shoe store in Falls City, and we have decided to take advantage of this opportunity. Being a tanner by trade, we went through the shoe factories and selected the leather and had shoes made in accordance with own specifications. A showing in our window of distinctive patterns and lasts forms a display that will more than meet your expectations.

Shoes for everybody in any step of life. If you fail to see our snappy styles before doing your shoe purchasing, you will do yourself an injustice. Our stock embraces almost every conceivable style and you may be sure of being up to the last minute in style if you buy shoes at the Home Shoe Store.

Remember, that we guarantee all our SHOES, AND MAKE ONE PRICE TO ALL. A CHILD CAN BUY HERE WITH PERFECT SAFETY.

Special Offer
 As a special offer for our Opening Week, to start the ball rolling, we will make a
25c Reduction
 ON EVERY PAIR OF SHOES FROM \$1.50 UP—for opening week only.

Home Shoe Store

3 Doors S. Richardson Co. Bank FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA