

## OUR WEEKLY COMMENTS

Not only the small boy, but great men too, have their woes. It now appears that there is concerted movement on foot to oust the Carnegie interests completely from the control of big steel. This means that Scotch Andy must see himself overawed by the young men whom he trained up to be masters in the business. Will he like it? Can our Napolian of steel retire to his St. Helena and enjoy the experience?

Old age with its failing strength and facilities was meant to wean men from the activities of life, and prepare them for a quiet and serene departure from the scenes of this life. Just as it is necessary for the youth to break himself into the hardness of toil, so necessary is it for the man grown old in toil to break away from the grind of hard work. And strange though it may appear, it is usually more difficult for the man who has led an active, vigorous life to give it up, than it was difficult to work himself into it. Many a man who is loth to quit finds himself compelled to by circumstances, which he cannot control. It is a kind that intended to cause him to look up and beyond the things temporal for his satisfaction.

A trip through the south side of Falls City will prove an eye opener to any one who will take the necessary pains to cover the ground. However, to the person interested in the Greater Falls City, what he will see, will be far from reassuring. There are scores of buildings being remodeled, enlarged, overhauled, and a number of new structures going up. What is most discouraging is to see the number of low grade buildings being rushed up. Stables are being worked over and made into the semblance of houses, shacks of every conceivable sort have been carted in from "any old place," planted on wobbly foundations, decorated with a few new shingles and boards and are expected to offer prime dwelling places for the eager house seeking rail road men. Fortunately the employees of the round house are not compelled to submit to anything of the kind, and these cheap houses will offer a standing invitation to a loose and vagrant element, that will add nothing to the prosperity of Falls City nor to its greatness.

As for the ticket itself, it is stronger than usual, and indicates some effort on the part of those who manipulated the caucus, to conciliate both factions. If this spirit had carried with reference to each candidate nominated absolutely no fault could be found with the action of the meeting. But it did not prevail, and as a consequence candidates were nominated, for whom a very considerable number of our best citizens will find it absolutely impossible to vote. This is unfortunate in the extreme, and should have been avoided.

The city ticket nominated Wednesday evening cannot fairly be called representative. It is representative only in the sense that it largely represents one faction. Had the caucus been a representative meeting of Falls City, Henry C. Smith would have been over whelmingly nominated. The choice of the people for Falls City was the state previously mentioned, and a bill, put through, by passing the meeting.

The new man, the stranger who comes to Falls City at this time to do business, claims your respect and attention. Don't cold water him, at the time when he most needs your encouragement and support. Deal with him and make him welcome. If Falls City is to grow substantially, she must enlarge her business area and strengthen her corps of men actively engaged in business. Therefore every new tradesman who pitches his tent among us, is an addition to be cherished and made permanent.

It's one thing to yell for a "Greater Falls City" and quite another to so work and live as to make our city truly greater. A town is neither more nor less than are the people who compose it. If the people will mind their ways, enlarge their outlook and extend their activities then and there, only will the city increase and grow. Every man to his duty and the rest will follow of necessity.

Do scientific methods in agriculture pay? For the few remaining doubters, the record kept by F. B. Mumford of the college of agriculture of the university of Missouri is interesting. Reports received by D. Mumford from the outlying experiment station show increased yields of corn, oats and wheat, due to the scientific agricultural methods. At Monroe City, Mo., the increase in wheat has been ten bushels an acre. At Lamar, Mo., the corn yield was increased from twenty to forty-five

bu. an acre. The clover yield in Victoria was increased from one-half a ton an acre to two tons an acre, an increased net profit of six dollars an acre. In Christian county, Missouri the corn yield was increased sixteen and one-half bushels and the clover yield one ton an acre.

The life of a farmer isn't as independent as it is cracked up to be, said farmer happens to be the owner of a "breachy" cow.

Until there is more definite explanation as to how some people make a living, there will remain doubts that the age of miracles has past.

When a man tries to break all speed records in an automobile, he's the one who lives up to that old-fashioned slang wager of betting his neck.

Say what you please about loving your enemies, but the facts are you lose confidence in a man who goes out of his way to compliment his enemies.

An employee, who has held his job down a long time, and keeps his mouth shut, always shares honors with his boss in the public estimation.

Every man dreads ridicule. Every man is a hero after an operation.

A last year's straw hat never gets over it.

Don't talk about trying to do right, but do right.

A boy's idea of a good time is to eat too much.

A man who shaves himself is always boasting of the fact.

When it comes to dividing the blame, we are all Socialists.

There isn't much hope for the drunkard who is proud of it.

Did you ever loaf around home all day without eating too much. Women seem to fuss with other women just for the excitement.

President Diaz of Mexico is making overtures, looking towards an adjustment of the difficulties between the warring factions. Negotiations are now well under way that promise to bring about a speedy finish to the unhappy situation in that unhappy country.

It will be well for the citizens of our city to consider carefully the proposition before us for enlarging our public school room. Some new buildings are absolutely necessary.

Just what, is not so clear. The matter calls for careful investigation and unbiased action on the part of those who will have the planning in charge. It will be necessary to build in a considerable measure for the future. And this is always peculiarly difficult.

Few things would go farther toward the advancing of the interests of Falls City, than the getting closer together of the merchants and business men. The cities in the west that are succeeding largely are the ones, whose business men work shoulder to shoulder for the common good. What we need is closer and more mutual co-operation among the firms most vitally concerned in the city's welfare. It is up to men in competing business to get together. It will pay. Nothing short of a harmonious working together will make it possible for us to reach our aim at this time.

The other day President Taft made the statement that he saw no reason why a question of national honor could not be settled by arbitration. He added that it would have a good effect for the United States to negotiate with some other nation an agreement to submit all differences of whatever nature by arbitration. Under any arbitration treaty now in existence or proposed, questions of "national honor" are exempted. This means that nations will arbitrate as far as they want to, and then fall back on war for their "national honor." Mr. Taft would abolish this exception, and agree with some other nation that force should in no case be resorted to. No war could then occur except as one of the agreeing powers violate its solemn agreement.

There is a limit to everything. And Falls City real estate men and property owners will find that the load will and forbearance of the railroad people has its limitations. In the first place the railroad people were promptly ignored, and not until they began to crowd our city beyond its capacity to accommodate them that any active steps were taken to provide for them. Now, that they are here, rents, the prices of homes and building lots have been increased to an almost prohibitive extent. And worse still, a lot of inferior buildings are being hastily rushed up, on the presumption that

anything, just so that it looks like a home will do. It is a serious mistake and will be sure to react to future damage of our city, if it is persisted in.

Farmers are taking to the fields this fine weather. The open winter has enabled them to do a large part of their spring plowing. The cool, crisp weather makes it pleasant to put out door work with vigor. If the weather continues favorable the fields will be ready for seeding at an early date. The wheat is in fine condition and promises a big yield. It is too cold for the fruit to develop, which is most desirable. All in all the farmers' prospects this spring are unusually bright.

Trading was presumably reduced, the margin between raw material and finished product doubled.

In truth it would be a most difficult matter to find a monopoly or near monopoly that has generously given the public the benefit of its monopoly advantages. Some have wisely refrained from increasing prices, taking only the gains made through the economies possible where competition is wanting, but most, as the trend of prices during the last fifteen years suggests, have increased profits from both directions. With one hand they have pocketed the savings of combination, with the other higher prices made possible by the relief from competition.

### TRUSTS AND PRICES

As a result of the government prosecution of the "electric lamp trust" a cut of 33 1/3 per cent in prices of electric light bulbs is to be made, it is reported. Once again we are reminded of the promises, now more than ten years old, that combinations would reduce the wastes of competition is wanting, but most, as benefit in the form of lower prices. The electric light combination has not seemed to operate in that way.

In tomorrow's issue The Tribune will begin the publication of a series of articles by Supt. H. S. Wood dealing with the public school problem now before Falls City. Supt. Wood has investigated conditions thoroughly and has his matter well in hand. Patrons of the school and citizens generally will find these articles of interest and concern to them.

### NEW MARVELS OF DISEASE PREVENTION

The arrival of the Greek steamer Patris infected with spinal meningitis which killed six persons on the voyage over, finds New York ready to check new cases with a specific curative serum. Five years ago this would not have been the case. The cure has been developed in New York within time by Dr. Flexner and his staff.

The death of John Rockefeller McCormick by meningitis in 1901, at the age of 4 years, led to this discovery by the action of the child's grandfather in endowing the Rockefeller Institute for the work which has now been crowned with success. Mr. Rockefeller's wish that other little boys might not die as his grandson had died added another to the marvels of preventive medicine.

### DEMANDS OF INSURRECTORS

If the rebel forces stand out for a concession to their original demand that President Diaz declare his seat vacant and submit to a re-election, an early termination of hostilities may not be looked for, but some of their demands do not appear unreasonable, and at least one, that affecting land distribution, seems already to have been favorably considered by the chief executive.

These are the terms laid down by the insurrection leaders:

Abolition of the re-election of president.

Election of the governors in a state instead of by a federal appointment.

Curtailment of the powers of the jefe politicos, or mayors of cities, and provision for their selection by popular vote instead of by appointment by the governor of a state.

Reforms of the land laws so that plantations now as extensive as from 1,000,000 to 10,000,000 acres may be divided and distributed, or sold in small lots to the people.

Free ballots in all elections and preservation of individual rights under the constitution.

Extension of the school system.

When the sugar trust was formed the margin between raw and refined sugar promptly widened from a half cent to a whole cent. The cost of refining, under competitive condition was about a half cent. Under competition only a narrow margin of profit was made. Competition eliminated, though the cost of refining and

the public benefit why shouldn't the travail of the present insurrection go out for the business that the nation a new republic may be born which in time will become a mighty empire, the renaissance of the Aztec Montezuma, revivified and strengthened by modern civilization.

A health crank is as much of a nuisance as any other kind of a crank.

When a bad man turns good suddenly it is a sure sign he is frightened.

Of course you work hard occasionally, but do you keep everlasting at it?

It is hard for a base ball fan to understand why anyone wants to go fishing.

A good deal of bile is gotten rid of by abusing hotels. They never fight back.

Every pretty girl frequently remarks that she would like to change her looks.

The average woman's idea of economy is to have her husband spend less money.

When a man says he is willing to meet you half way he is figuring upon the best of the bargain.

Too many men turn down the real opportunities, and hang on to what are merely slim chances.

About the only time a man has a desire to be a woman is when he wants to scream and cry.

There is a good deal of talk about henpecked husbands, but did you ever really know of one.

You may have observed that the man with a fool idea gets a lot of encouragement from his friends.

You may have observed that the ties of friendship slip a good deal when you begin pulling on them.

When a man says he is trying to avoid trouble, it generally means that he is trying to get out of trouble.

So many people know how to keep hotel and run newspapers that the wonder is there are so many poor ones.

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