

THE HAYTI HERALD

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THE SAGE OF PEA RIDGE.

So far, but one criticism has been offered to Hayti on account of the killing near town the other day, and the man who offered this criticism not only tried to besmirch the name of Hayti as a city, but his remarks about the editor of the Hayti Herald were not only uncalled for, but ungentlemanly and entirely lacking in journalistic courtesy and common sense.

At first we thought we would go after this pin-headed gossiping and learn him a lesson, but on second thought, his remarks are so lowdown and ill-considered that we cannot do so and adhere to decency and self-respect, and we will not even defend our columns with a mention of his name.

It is our opinion that people of his class have no moral right to thrust themselves upon the public by entering the newspaper business, as their doing so can only tend to cultivate discord and lower their community in the estimation of the outside world.

We believe that each sensible and experienced newspaper man is trying to do the best he can, considering the conditions under which he must labor, and that his efforts are for harmony and unity among his fellow man, but now and then the undesirable get in our ranks and must be weeded out.

Following our old custom that when one of our exchanges is guilty of conduct unbecoming a member of the family circle, to mark that name from our exchange list, this man will have one less visitor to treat with discourtesy, and his measly little old sheet will be marked refused at this post-office.

In the 31 weeks life of the Hayti Herald we believe we have won the good will of all our neighbors, and as we said in the beginning, we are not here for quarrels and spats, and all personal matters will be settled out of print.

A SENSIBLE VIEW

Many homicides occur in Pemiscot county. It would not be far from the truth to say that more murders are committed in that county than in any other four counties in this section of the state. This is unfortunate, but it is the result of local conditions. The permanent citizenship of Pemiscot county are as civilized and as law-abiding as are citizens anywhere, but there are a number of public works in the timber of the bottoms which employ vast numbers of transient people, and there is a large negro population, and it is among these two classes that most of the crimes occur. Hardly a week passes that the papers do not chronicle a murder or two in Pemiscot county. The Hayti Herald of last week says: "Tuesday afternoon, while engaged in a game of cards at Erwin's mill, just out of the corporate limits of the city, Chas. Elliston shot and killed Trot Morris, and dangerously wounded Jim Dillingham." Scott County Democrat.

We do not admit that the above is altogether correct as to the number of murders in Pemiscot county, but the causes leading to these murders and standard of permanent citizenship is very truly stated. We do not believe there are any better citizens in any county in Missouri, and they keenly deplore some of the conditions with which they have to contend, but these conditions are gradually growing better.

In the special election last week Geo. Dorris was elected as alderman from the second ward, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of H. A. Dortch.

Last week the Portageville Critic reported a murder—one of those unavoidable affairs that every town regrets and is ashamed of. Surely this will make the sage of Pea Ridge surge against his swaddling clothes and shut both eyes and ball.

Ben Adams has sold the Cape Girardeau Democrat, and hereafter the paper will be democratic in politics. Ben Adams is one of the pioneer newspaper men in Southeast Missouri, and old age and declining health required him to retire from the business.

It was not generally known at the time the legislature adjourned that the enabling act to the initiative had been passed, but it was, and the initiative is now operative. Of course every one knows that this means a vote on statewide prohibition next year.

The editor of the Hayti Herald says he will come to Portageville July

3rd and help us celebrate. If we will see that he gets a seat at the barbecue table and the Episco will furnish transportation. You will not have to depend on the cold charity of the Episco to get here. The Critic will look after that and have a reserved seat for you at the banquet table." Portageville Critic.

Now say, which gate do we go in: with Bill LeL— and wink, or around on the other side where a man must walk a narrow plank that's hard to "roon" when you're top heavy.

Every newspaper in Southeast Missouri should from this time on do its best to condemn and rid the country of that class of sheets that never have anything good to say of neighboring towns and counties. Our country is all the same and what hurts or helps one part of it has the same effect on the other. By a united effort and continual praise of the good we can not only make matters better at home, but cause the outside world to think better of us. Is it the wrong idea to think that you can build up your own town or county by pulling your neighboring towns and counties down.

Five killings are to the credit of Hayti. One was justifiable homicide, one was by an officer of the law, one was for robbery and the principals were hobs, and two were killed the other day, about a mile from town, at a saw mill, for which we take credit, though truthfully speaking, the last two should not be charged to the town list, and three killings would be the correct number. How does this compare with other towns about us? There is not a more penurious law respecting city anywhere, and those Southeast Missouri editors who are forever trying to besmirch Southeast Missouri towns should be invited to move on.

The policy of the Hayti Herald in public affairs should not be mistaken for a selfish one, nor to "line up" with any city administration, past, present or future, and our remarks about the city's affairs must not be construed as personal, or as conveying ill will. This paper is for all the people of Hayti, and not for any particular set. We are absolutely free and independent, and are guided by what occurs to us to be right, and in public matters we must treat friend and foe alike. If we can be of any help to the new board we will gladly do our level best. We will gladly give them credit for all the good they do, and as they are human and liable to err, we will also tell them of their mistakes, and in this latter connection, it must be understood that our motive is for the general good and to keep everyone watchful. We want to see the new board lay aside personal feeling and put a plaster over old sores. Our people should get together in harmony, and it is in the power of the new board to do much for harmony and good feeling. Of course there are some things they may not like. It takes time and patience, and as much feeling as possible should be avoided. Of course every one cannot have their way, neither can all people see things in the same light. For this reason public officials have much to contend with, but so long as they are guided by a strict sense of duty in their acts and criticisms are fair and honest, no ill will should be occasioned. At any rate, it shall be our intention, if we criticize, to do so for the general good of the people and to assist in a better adjustment of the of the city's affairs.

Notice for Sealed Bids.

Sealed bids will be received until noon, May 29, for erecting a one room school house in District 1-18 and 19, R. 12 and 13. Plans and specifications may be seen at the Bank of Hayti. Successful bidder to furnish good bond. W. E. Gotcher, Pres., Hayti, Mo. Sterling H. McCarty, Attorney.

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