

WORKING FOR PUNA GORDA

The annual election of the Board of Trade resulted in the choice of a new president. The vote by which the new officers were elected was very close.

A glance over the accomplishments of the past year shows much effective work done by the Board of Trade under the retiring president, A. F. Dewey; not all possible perhaps, for the opportunities were greater than ever before, but it was work of great value to the community.

The new man is in office, full of enthusiasm. It is up to him to make good and so far he has made a fair start in that direction.

In the list of bureaus announced by Dr. Stone every member has an assignment and is expected to do his share in the committee work. If any members do not perform their portion of the committee labors then they will hardly be entitled to criticize those members who, big enough to place public good before petty personal spites, contribute their

share of time and effort to the end that the city shall come into the position to which it is entitled.

A Board of Trade is a city building body. Ours is formed and working for a bigger, finer Punta Gorda.

Public approbation is never lightly won. Sustained effort is required and this the new president will be able to give if backed by the full membership.

Punta Gorda's time of growth is come. No man of judgement who comes into this city and critically examines it and its tributary territory but feels the thrill of its new life. A substantial community is bound to be developed.

Punta Gorda has special issues at stake in its numerical growth during the coming year and Board of Trade bureaus have been named with these matters in mind. It is truly a critical period in the growth of the city and surrounding territory and only through concerted action in the community can most vital results be secured.

Let every public spirited citizen join the Board of Trade and work for the good of Punta Gorda.

WATCHES THE CLOUDS.

One New Yorker's Easy and Well Paid, but Important, Job.

There is one man in New York who would seem to hold an easy and unique job. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 he puts in his whole time watching for clouds from the top of one of the tallest skyscrapers. He does nothing else, is well paid if he performs his duty vigilantly and has no one to boss or hustle him around—except the clouds. For tools he works with a telescope, and he can smoke, read poetry or do what he pleases, provided he keeps his weather eye keenly peeled for the first sign of a storm cloud sweeping down the Hudson. On that rests his whole job, for should a thunderstorm catch him napping it would mean a serious strain on the leading electric light and power company.

In no other city but New York do conditions make for such a contingency. Owing to the compact construction of the huge blocks of downtown skyscrapers an enormous amount of electric light is suddenly demanded whenever the sky becomes darkened. Thousands of bulbs are simultaneously switched on. At nightfall this need for light is easily calculated, but no certain provision can be made against the sudden overshadow of a storm cloud other than by stationing a lookout man on the top of a skyscraper. Consequently when he sees a cloud sweeping down the Hudson or advancing from any other direction it is his business to watch its approach carefully.

Therein he must use a bit of judgment. If it is likely to sweep clear of the city he need not bother about it. But should he reckon it will pass over Manhattan it is his business to telephone the chief power station a warning that a storm cloud is coming. At once a red light glows in the engine room, and the stokers hustle to shovel coal into the furnaces. Presently the huge generators revolve at greater speed to supply the emergency demand for electricity. Thus when the thousands of lights are switched on downtown few are likely to guess how the sudden call for light has been met.

Meanwhile the cloud watcher is in no fear that a mechanical device will deprive him of his job, for the weather instrument that can record just the direction a cloud will take in sweeping on toward Manhattan is yet in the dim future of invention.—New York Tribune.

horses. Griggs, who understood a little of the patois Spanish they spoke, heard them disputing as to which two should have their horses. One of them, called Jose by the others, seemed to be a leader. He stood aloof from the quarrel about the possession of the animals, sitting on his horse moodily watching the contest. Griggs, taking off his sombrero to this chieftain, politely begged that he might be accorded a few minutes' private conversation with him. Jose, not to be outdone in politeness, took off his own sombrero and, with a bow, replied: "Si, señor." ("Yes, sir.")

The two men rode away for a short distance when Griggs drew rein and said:

"Senor, I have been told that there are some persons in these mountains who make a living by plundering travelers. Will you oblige me by taking care of the valuables for myself and my friend that they may not fall into the hands of these miscreants?"

While speaking he was taking his money from his pockets and his watch from his fob. The bandit took them, bowing low as he was handed each article. When the delivery had been made the two men rode back to the party, and Griggs said in English to Rodman:

"These gentlemen will keep our valuables for the present. Hand over the contents of your pockets."

Having thus robbed himself and his friend, he turned again to the chief.

"I would further ask your protection overnight. Will you allow us to remain in your ranch till tomorrow?"

"Si, señor," replied the chief, doffing his sombrero.

"You have greatly honored me, senor," said Jose when he had made his guests comfortable and set before them a jug of pulque. "May I ask how it is that you have entrusted your valuables to a stranger?"

"It is not only the honesty apparent in your countenance," replied the engineer, "but I am sure that you have descended from some grandee who was one of the conquerors of Mexico."

"How did you know that, senor?"

"By your noble bearing."

Here was a new sensation for one who had never before been trusted and who, like most other Mexicans, prided himself on having descended from one of the conquerors. He kept the travelers overnight, returned their valuables and the next morning sent them on their journey under an escort.

Drank Hair Tonic; Now Dead.

Hair tonic, which it is said they drank to satisfy a craving for alcohol, caused the death of Charles Harris and Charles Reitze, serving sentences in the Eastern Pennsylvania penitentiary for burglary. Prison officials say the men obtained the liquid from a prison barber on the plea that they wished to "fix up" for some suitors.

Sends Bryan 12-lb. Radish.

Because of the well-known fondness of Secretary of State Bryan for white radishes, a produce firm at Los Angeles mailed him a radish 3 feet and 6 inches long, 30 inches in circumference, and weighing 12 pounds.

Noted Astronomer Dies.

Sir David Gill, one of the foremost astronomers of modern times, died at London, aged 71.

A Display of Confidence

By EVERETT P. CLARKE

There are many unwritten stories about Mexico. Doubtless if an account of the happenings of that country of turmoil could be laid out before the novelist it would afford themes for countless novels of adventure.

At the time President Wilson issued his manifesto of advice for Americans to leave Mexico there were not only a number of foreign residents there, but persons engaged in building railroads, locating mines—in short, developing the country. From comparative peace everything was turned to a show of war. Soldiers rode in the railroad trains to protect them in case of attack, and a detachment of rural guards was located at every station. The Mexicans went armed; therefore foreigners felt constrained to do the same thing, for not to be armed was to be conspicuous.

Edward Griggs, civil engineer, was at this time engaged in locating a railroad. A man who is interested in a purpose is like a gyroscope. Revolving in a certain plane, it is hard to turn him to another plane. Griggs, when President Wilson's advice was promulgated, had nearly finished his work in Mexico and could not tear himself away from it. He strapped a revolver about him, as did the force under his command, and went on with his work. But neither he nor they had any thought of using their weapons. They simply wore them because every one else did.

That Griggs might finish his work he was obliged to go over a certain section of the road that would pass through a mountain range. He was told that the region was infested with bandits who would not hesitate to take everything that belonged to him and if they deemed it necessary would murder him. But he must either abandon his work or go, so he went.

Taking with him a single assistant named Rodman, he started on horseback up the mountain, expecting at every moment to hear an order to stand and deliver his valuables. But the two rode on through the thick tropical foliage that lined the road without hearing anything more terrible than the occasional growl of a wild animal and were lulled to security by the frequent piping of birds. But when nearing the summit the blow fell. Ahead of them they could see a ranch house, and from it emerged four men who had evidently seen them approaching and, mounting horses, made straight for them. They were dressed in the tawdry Mexican costume, and before they reached the two wayfarers the jingle of their spurs and the gawdaw adornments they wore were distinctly visible.

It was evident to Griggs and Rodman from their faces as well as their actions that they belonged to that lawless element of Mexico which in peaceful times may be care kept within the law and in troublous times are ready for plunder. They seemed to be especially interested in the travelers'

THURSDAY NIGHT DANCES AT HOTEL PUNTA GORDA

Manager Ray Payne of Hotel Punta Gorda has very kindly changed the night of the weekly hotel dances from Friday to Thursday night, which will not keep the men in the dancing set from the regular weekly meeting of the Board of Trade.

Any little wound or abrasion of the flesh occurring in cold weather that is not promptly treated becomes a bad sore and is difficult to heal. Apply BAL-LARD'S SNOW-LINIMENT at once when such accidents happen. The wound heals promptly and soon does away with the annoyance of a bandage. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. For sale by all druggists. (Advertisement.)

AN ORDINANCE

Requiring the owners or occupants of property within the limits of the town of Punta Gorda, Florida, to keep their sidewalks, streets, gutters, alleys clean and neat, to fill up pools where water stands, to trim the trees along sidewalks, to keep in repair partition fences and cisterns to screen all uncovered water tanks and to keep down by cutting and removing the same all growth of weeds and other noxious plants on all lots whether occupied or unoccupied.

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Punta Gorda, Florida:

Sec. 1. That it shall be the duty of all owners, lessees, or occupants of lots within the limits of the Town of Punta Gorda to keep their sidewalks, streets, gutters, alleys, cess-pools, and lots clean and neat; that they or either of them shall clean up the sidewalks on the inside line of the gutters on the outside, and the streets and alleys to the center of the same, and all cess-pools and privies shall be cleaned once a week.

Sec. 2. That it shall be the duty of all owners or occupants of lots within the town of Punta Gorda, upon which pools of water are, or are likely to be, to fill them up; to prevent or remove any accumulation of trash, filth, or other matter on or within their premises, and the streets adjacent, which may cause disease, or affect the health of the town; to trim all trees standing or growing along the fence lines and over-hanging the sidewalks to a height of seven feet; to cover all open water tanks, cisterns, cans, rain water barrels, and so forth with mosquito and insect proof screens, and to keep down by cutting and removing the same all excessive growth of weeds and other noxious plants by shrubs on their lots or premises, whether such lots be occupied or unoccupied.

Sec. 3. That all persons failing to perform the duties imposed by sections 1 and 2 hereof shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment at labor on the streets or other public works in the town not to exceed a term of sixty days, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the mayor.

Sec. 4. That Section 162 of the Revised Ordinances of the town of Punta Gorda, and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. That this ordinance shall take effect and become operative ten days after its legal publication.

Passed in adjourned session of the council of Punta Gorda, Florida, this 23rd day of Dec., 1913. Attest: N.C. Hewitt, President pro tem of the council. P. O. Gautier, Clerk. Approved this 24th day of December, 1913. Geo. S. Stone, Acting Mayor.

Stop Giving Your Money Away

We Give You Value Received, or All It is Worth, in the Following:

If you want Groceries, Feed, Wagons, Harness, Stoves, Fertilizers, Tinware, Enamel ware, Crockery, Hoes, Rakes, Shovels, Axes, Guns and Ammunition—

Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes, and So Forth

A FULL STOCK OF ALL

A man, woman or child would need in Florida. If you purchase before giving us a chance, you do us as well as yourself an injustice. We buy in large quantities in order we may be able to give you best prices. Everything sells under an absolute

Guarantee

JAS. S. GOFF

Operating Four Stores

Punta Gorda, Fla.

FIRST-CLASS CROCERIES

Fresh Meats, Canned Goods, and Stuffs

FAIR PRICES—COURTEOUS TREATMENT

The store in the sheet iron building on Olympia avenue

Convenient to Solana and East Punta Gorda

J. W. Davis, Prop.

ALASKAN RAILROAD.

President Ordered to Spend \$40,000,000 in Territory.

By a vote of 46 to 16, the senate passed the Alaska railway bill, directing the president to purchase or construct 1,000 miles of railroad in Alaska at a cost not to exceed \$40,000,000.

Fifteen republicans and Senator Poindexter, progressive, voted for the bill. Senators Bacon, Hoke Smith and Williams, democrats, voted against it.

The bill places upon the president responsibility for the selection of the route from tidewater to the interior of Alaska, and the construction, equipment and operation or leasing of such lines, as he may construct or buy, to constitute this route. The broadest powers are conferred upon the president in carrying out his duties.

An Ideal Woman's Laxative

Who wants to take salts, or castor oil, when there is nothing better than Dr. King's New Life Pills for all bowel troubles. They act gently and naturally on stomach and liver, stimulate and regulate your bowels and tone up the entire system. Price 25c. At all Druggists. H. E. Bucklen & Co., Philadelphia or St. Louis.

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The ART Store

Mrs. Stella B. McLane, Manager At Residence on CROSS STREET FULL LINE OF ART SUPPLIES, NOTIONS, STAMPED LINENS, AND NEEDLE WORK OF ALL KINDS.

Pillow Tops

INSTRUCTION IN NEEDLE WORK GIVEN AT REASONABLE RATES BY THE LESSON OR FOR THE COURSE.

Patronage of all ladies solicited

The Place To Eat

WHERE YOU CAN GET WHAT YOU WANT, THE WAY YOU WANT IT, ON SHORT NOTICE.

QUICK LUNCH OUR SPECIALTY; AND YOU CAN FEEL AT HOME, FOR YOU ARE SUBJECT TO NO UNNECESSARY CONVENTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

New York Cafe

E. GREEN, Mgr. King Street - Punta Gorda, Fla.

Reward

Will pay five dollars for a live rattle snake, not less than three feet long.

Two dollars fifty cents for a black snake, not less than three feet long.

Two dollars fifty cents for a king snake, not less than three feet long.

Two dollars fifty cents for a cotton mouth moccasin, not less than three feet long.

All snakes to be delivered in good condition, in separate boxes.

I want the snakes for a scientific demonstration. Deliver snakes to Mr. Kinsel, Taxidermist.

Dr. Geo. S. Stone

Punta Gorda

Florida