

THE HAYTI HERALD

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HAYTI, MISSOURI.

THAT STOCK LAW.

To put a quietus on some of those old long-tongued gossipers, the kind that are always ready to go off half cocked and talk about things they know nothing about and when they disagree with you start out to injure you in a business way by underhanded methods, let us turn to our issue of APRIL 8, the 8th of this month, if you please, and see what we had to say about it.

Here it is, read it:

"We were a little surprised to learn that a petition for a stock law had been handed in (to the city council) and REGRET THAT THE PARTIES DID NOT WAIT FOR THE NEW BOARD."

Can you read that and understand it?

That is exactly what we said.

What are you going to say now.

It generally pays to know what you are talking about before you talk, and people who are always ready to deride their home paper are very undesirable citizens and will never do the town any good.

Look about you and see what the paper has done for the town in its short life of six months.

Look at the harmony of the people.

Look how, after months of suspension, the board gotten down to work, looking after the interest of the town, collecting taxes, etc.

Look at the new sidewalks and other public improvements.

The ladies of the town organized a Civic League for the upbuilding and advancement of the town.

The public square has been graded. Trees have been planted on the square.

Fencing has been ordered to fence the square.

Everybody is pulling together and working together for a greater and better Hayti.

The Hayti Herald has done more actual good for the town during its six months existence than any one agency has done for the town in five years, and is invariably on the side of right, yet there are a lot of people in the town who are not subscribers and who are secret enemies to it and enemies to the town. We want every business man and every friend to Hayti to come to our office and look over our list of subscribers and know just who they are.

Now, for the stock law. What we said on April 8 shows our spirit of fairness to the people, by desiring a longer time in which to talk matters over and arrive at an intelligent understanding of the question.

We cannot expect too much at once, and ought not to expect to do too much at once.

We must learn that every person has a RIGHT to his OPINION. This right cannot be denied.

Any person has a right to favor or oppose the stock law, just as they have a right to be a Methodist or a Baptist.

Not all of us can have our way, even if we do have our opinion.

In affairs of government the MAJORITY MUST RULE.

If we live under a government we must abide by and be submissive to its laws.

If a majority of the people in Hayti want a stock law let them have it, if they vote for it and put it into effect.

For our part, we favor a stock law, in a mild form.

We favor a stock law that will not molest country stock except where it takes up in the town and refuses to leave.

A stock law should permit town stock to go and return from the range, but require owners to keep it up at night.

Hogs should be prohibited from running at large.

A strict ordinance should be enacted prohibiting watering or feeding stock on the outside, as this acts as a bait to cause them to stop at such places.

Such a law as this, we believe, would be a good compromise and acceptable to all fair-minded people.

But we do not say that the stock law will carry at this election, as the time is so short that a campaign of education cannot be made. On this account, not having time to place the

matter squarely before the people, the Herald cannot consistently make a fight either way, only to express our honest opinion, and if expressing an honest opinion is wrong and we are to be denied this right, we are free to confess that our eleven years citizenship in Hayti has been spent in vain, but we know all the good, progressive, wideawake people who want to see Hayti become a city are with us, and while many of them may feel that it is too early now for a stock law, yet they know it must come, sooner or later, if Hayti ever becomes a city, and if they do not vote for it now it does not mean that they are against it, but simply that they believe the time for it has not come.

All towns of any consequence must have stock laws. A stock law is an absolute necessity in order to have a clean, well-kept, healthy and beautiful town. The towns all around us have stock laws, and every newspaper in Southeast Missouri favors a stock law. But in every town where a stock law is enacted there are a class who fight it. This is to be expected, and if you are opposed to a stock law you have a perfect right to go out and fight it with all your might and main; you would not be honest if you did not fight for your opinion, but if you are a gentleman or a lady and possess self-respect, intelligence and honor, and have a due regard for the feeling, rights, opinions and privileges of others, you will lay down your little hammer, your envy and your spite; you will cast aside ill and personal feeling and allow others the same rights that you, yourself, enjoy.

Vote like you please and do not blame others for doing the same.

CAMPBELL STOCK LAW.

Campbell has a stock law that applies only to hogs, and judging from the following in a recent issue of the Citizen, that paper is not quite satisfied. Here's the gem:

"Have you observed how energetically Old Brindle has been trying to destroy shade trees, evergreens and gardens by poking her long neck over your fence and bending the wire out of shape with her breast? See how nicely she clipped the top off of your neighbor's shade tree just as it had begun to put forth a few delicate leaves? Notice how intelligently she selects the weak places in your garden fence, pushes it over, walks in and devours a row of marrowfats before you can inform her they are your property. Did you cuss old brindle? No, no, the good old prowling rogue is the mother of Mrs. Gotum's babies and if she is not allowed to forage on other peoples property these precious babies will suffer. Besides this, John Hardworker gets buttermilk from Mrs. Gotum, and John is a poor man, unable to own a cow, and his children would also suffer if Old Brindle is deprived of the use of other peoples' gardens, lawns and orchards. Don't treat Old Brindle as you have the hogs, for she is the life, the soul, the marrow and the backbone of every family in town and no town can thrive without her presence on the streets. That's why St. Louis, Kansas City, Joplin, St. Joe and several other towns of the state are in such a bad shape—the cussed old city duds won't let Old Brindle have free use of the streets and other folk's property."

OUR POSITION.

The stock law may be too early, and it may not carry at this election, and we are not making a fight for it, but merely placing this paper fairly on record for civic advancement and improvement. Several people have sought to muzzle us on this question and have threatened to damage us in a business way, and for this very reason, to show the people that this paper is not to be prevented from standing for what it honestly believes to be right, we are forced in protection to our own honor, dignity and good name to show just where we stand. A newspaper that can be bought, bulldozed or bluffed, is not fit to go into the homes of any self-respecting people, and before we would conduct that kind of a paper we would step down and out. Every one agrees that the time is coming when we must have a stock law. It is for the people, and not for us, to say when that time comes. We do not and have never said that time was NOW, but we do say that when the time does come and when the majority of people want it and the majority of them vote for it, then let them have it. It is not for us, but for the PEOPLE to say.

STOCK LAW IN MALDEN.

Malden Merit: The Mayor and Board of Aldermen have mutually agreed not to molest milk cows going to and coming from the pastures in the swamps. However, the cows must be kept up at night. Hogs, goats, horses and other animals will not be permitted to run at large on the streets. We believe this decision of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, to take effect

May 1st, will meet the approbation of all concerned.

It makes us tired to see a lot of men cursing, abusing and lambasting this paper who have never spent a cent with it. When you hear a man saying hard things against the Hayti Herald, kindly ask him if he is a subscriber and if he has a paid receipt, or come to our office and look over our books. Nine out of ten of these loud mouthed people are enemies to the town and to everything in it, and never miss a chance to give it a stab. We have but few of such names on our books, and as fast as we can discover them we will mark off those who have not paid. No good citizen and friend to Hayti will fail to support a Hayti newspaper.

A certain citizen of Hayti who has about 50 head of hogs running at large on our streets, openly confesses that he has fed about 1000 pounds of spoiled meat from the butcher shop, but no corn, during the past winter. How do you like the idea of eating hogmeat fattened this way? This is only one example. There used to be a butcher here who fattened his hogs in a slaughter pen and then killed these for the people to eat. Of course the meat was not good, but the people did not know why. Town-raised hogs are fed very little corn and make very unhealthy meat.

If Hayti had more fool killers and less town killers, it could have a better to chance become a city.

We do not know who gotten up the petition for the stock law.

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