

THE COMMERCIAL

Marshall & Baird, Union City, Tenn.
Entered at the post office at Union City, Tennessee, as second-class mail matter.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1911

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Sheriff

GLOVER—We have the authority to announce Jim Fite Glover a candidate for sheriff of the County of Obion, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

HICKMAN—We have the authority to announce Jack M. Hickman a candidate for sheriff of the County of Obion, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

BINCH—We have the authority to announce John E. Finch a candidate for sheriff of Obion County, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

For Trustee

SANDERS—We have the authority to announce Johnie Sanders a candidate for the office of Trustee of Obion County, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

The Good Road to the Lake.

The first Monday in March all interested citizens of Obion County are requested to meet at the courthouse at 1:30 p. m. to hear reports, elect a treasurer and transact such other business may come up.

Star of Empire.

The heading of this article had just been written when a Western Union messenger handed us a message from M. Dana Durand, Commissioner of the Census Bureau, that the town population of Union City in 1910 was 4,389. It was right in line with the work we had just started.

This is a gain of 982 persons in ten years, or about twenty-nine per cent.

In the opinion of the writer this gain has been made practically in seven years. From 1890 to 1900 the census figures show that Union City had lost a little in population. The last of the furniture manufacturing, which was the principal and practically the only industry here for many years, began to decline late in the nineties and it was probably about the years 1902 or 1903 that we reached the lowest mark of that period. We are basing this statement upon actual conditions. The same business houses which sold for \$1,400 up to \$4,500, with but little demand, are a ready sale to-day for \$3,500 up to \$8,000, and we have a new building which cannot be bought for \$20,000. Property all over the city has increased in price.

The low prices above did not prevail during the furniture factory period, therefore it was upon the decline of that industry, and the bottom of the decline reached us about the year 1903. The owners of this paper started in business here in 1901, just ten years ago. There was still some furniture made when we came here. There was also a chair factory. In 1903 we saw the last of it, and for a time it seemed that we would never have any more of the manufacturing spirit, but a few years ago the Commercial Club began to wake up and started the cannery, the cotton gin and the grain people began to enlarge their milling plants. Mills and elevators were built until to-day we have the largest grain center in West Tennessee. In the meantime the schools of Union City were growing in standing, in numerical strength and popularity. They have grown to be second to no preparatory schools in the State. A little incident just recently is an example of Union City school standards, when a former pupil won in a spelling contest between the schools of two Illinois counties, one of which has for its metropolis the city of Cairo.

In many respects Union City has grown and spread. In the past three or four years many new and handsome homes have been built in Union City. Our streets have been improved and today Sullivan & Long, of Birmingham, Ala., are plowing through the city with a big steam trencher and putting in the pipes and proper apparatus for a general sewerage system. Among the new residents are some of the most substantial people of the country ranging numbers of miles from Union City. Many of the wealthy farmers have moved here as well as other citizens. The many new homes are occupied and not a house to rent except when a family is ready to move. We are needing more new houses, and now is the time for moneyed men to buy and build. By actual count made by the insurance companies last year Union City had 19 houses more than Dyersburg, the town next in size.

Union City's shipments amount to an approximate of 15,000 full cars yearly. The actual count three years ago was 11,000 cars.

With the impetus already gained the prospects of the future are even far brighter and better. The manufacturing spirit, which was considered a dead letter for some time, is revived. This revival came about in a small and tedious manner, but with the few small industries in operation, a recent enterprise

has materialized, in which a number of the largest capitalists in the city are interested. This enterprise is the Deoxy Duck Company, which has been enlarged to a raincoat factory with a capital stock of \$100,000 and backed by many times that sum. This company is manufacturing a raincoat by a secret process and the product is to be had nowhere else in the country. The company is therefore without competition. The operation and opportunities of this factory were described in last week's paper. There is practically no limit to its future. These goods can be made and sold at a good profit and the field is a new one altogether. The stockholders are enthusiastic without restraint over the possibilities of this factory, and they are encouraged not only from a viewpoint of private interests, but in the fact that Union City is about to be herself again as a manufacturing town.

It is only a part of what the future holds. Contracts are to be let soon for more new business houses and residences. We are to have a new Carnegie library at a cost of \$10,000 in connection with our City School. The \$35,000 sewerage contract is to be completed in six months and in operation soon thereafter. Some of our best citizens are interested in the building of a hard road to Reelfoot Lake and already have liberal subscriptions made to the work. The Obion County Drainage Association is arranging to open up the work of reclaiming the bottom lands which surround Union City and the country roundabout, which alone means an increase in population and agricultural industry tributary to Union City markets. It means millions to the county. All these things are in sight. There is no speculation about them and many more we might name of less importance probably.

The star of empire is coming this way, and no people in the world accept it with greater appreciation. Union City, assuming its station as third in population and size among West Tennessee cities, bids fair to become even larger and greater comparatively. The prospects are indeed flattering.

We have the best people, the best schools and churches, the best water, the best health and the best town on earth.

Mayor J. T. Perkins and Geo. P. Hurt, of Martin, were in the city Tuesday in conference with some of our citizens. The purpose of the visit, as we understand it, was to sound our people with reference to accepting a slice of Weakley County in return for the privilege of a law court. We are to be offered districts two, three, fourteen and that part of Weakley County which includes Martin, with the agreement that we are to favor a law court at Martin. Many of the people of Weakley County are fighting a Weakley County law court, so the people of Martin and other western sections of that county want to be annexed to Obion. Some time ago a conference was held here for the purpose of swapping territory with Weakley, but this is a different matter altogether. The people of Terrell, Martin, Gardner and of Mount Pella, as these gentlemen represent them, want to be annexed to Obion and have a court of their own. No one, as far as we know, discouraged them, and they received a very kind reception.

A meeting is called by the president and secretary of the Commercial Club for all interested citizens in the good roads movement to meet at the City Hall Monday night, Feb. 20, at 7 o'clock to take steps to help push the movement to success.

February 22 is set as the day for solicitors of the good roads fund to the lake to get busy and finish the canvass for cash and work on the widening and grading proposition.

The fishermen of the lake offer a free fish fry, about the first of August or after the completion of the good road from Union City to the lake. Get ready, men, for five thousand of us.

Other districts of the county are catching the fever and may likewise begin to improve and widen the roads.

We have been having good roads talk for twenty-five years, now we are going to put it into execution.

The drag is a great help to the roads. See a sample on the west road by S. R. Bratton's and Jake Caldwell's.

Move back men—make a forty-foot road, and when properly graded you will have a good dirt road.

Work will begin in March on the road to the lake.

That fish fry, free for all, sounds good to us.

Membership Week.

Thirteen years have come and gone since our beloved and immortal leader, Francis Willard, was parted from us and was promoted to higher, nobler service in God's heavenly kingdom. Even yet to those of us who were privileged to know her and who have felt the wondrous inspiration of her presence and her spoken word, there comes such a longing for the touch of her vanished hand, such a hungering for the sound of her voice, which for so long has been still that we cannot restrain the tears which rise in our hearts and gather to our eyes as we think of those days that are no more. Never was there a woman more truly loved, nor was there ever a human being more worthy of the love and devotion she inspired.

Instead of rearing to her memory a costly monument of stone or bronze, her loyal followers thought of a more beautiful way, and through the offerings given on February 17, her heavenly birthday, they are building a living monument, which shall exist in constantly increasing glory and beauty through the ages.

As one has well expressed it: "The outer significance of February 17 and membership week is two-fold an outer and inner." The outer significance must be first of all commemorative. A great life is humanity's best heritage. No other such rich gift can ever be given to the world as that which inheres in the lives and characters of its heroes. Francis E. Willard was such a soul. She lived always upon the heights, because she lived so constantly in the depths of body and soul consecration. All that she had, all that she was, she gave with a royal generosity, a magnificent bounty to her brothers and sisters everywhere. Her mind was stored with the wisdom of the ages; her heart was always on fire with the love of God as manifested to man. Such souls come but rarely to earth. When one is manifested it marks an era in history. Therefore, those who were privileged to know at closest touch this marvelous life, owe it as a sacred duty to their fellowmen that they should pass on its knowledge and inspiration.

If during membership week each comrade of the white ribbon army would seek until she could find even one other who would join hands with us in this great and blessed work what marvelous results in added power and influence would grow out of this consecrated season.

But the inner significance of membership week is far greater, more vital than the outer. What is it to be brought into contact with forces which go to the making up of a great life and character? What was it to come into close touch with Francis Willard when she was with us in the flesh? Did it not inevitably mean a quickening of our spiritual natures, a renewed consecration to all that was highest and best, a new impetus in our work and a new concept of the great heart of God, in which she so constantly and so joyously dwelt? Is she then less a real personality because we no longer clasp her hand and look into her eyes? Would not personal contact with her to-day mean infinitely more than it meant even in those exalted moments, when she seems to us to bring her message straight from within the veil? Why should we feel that such contact is not ours? She is not dead. She is more intensely alive than we ever saw her. As we think of her, can we not feel certain that she thinks of us. Surely she who never forgot a friend or a friend's need has not so soon become oblivious to the needs of her comrades in this great endeavor. No, she remembers, and in some way beyond our understanding we must believe that it is possible for her to reach us in new help and inspiration even as we think of her.

Best of all membership week may have for each of us a special significance in bringing us nearer to the great source from which all inspired souls have received their inspiration.

Before woman lies a broad path of progress and incalculable use; since Christ has done so much for her, should she not try to do all she can for him? There are little children she must lead to the mercy seat in prayer and teach such sweet songs of Heaven, that all the noise of earth cannot hush them in their souls. There are churches she may help with her presence, her means and her labor. There are other great moral reforms that her subtle and delicate genius may best guide. There is a world to be saved, and what better missionary to lead it heavenward than woman? When woman is for God the world will be redeemed and not before. Mightiest preacher of the truth is she, fairest apostle of love on earth, treasury of virtues, fountain of affection, exquisitely fitted out to teach the road to heaven.

Sisters, let us enter her found at our post, faithful to our duties.

S. E. W.



When you can't find what you want at any other stores, come to our store. We've got it.

J. A. COBLE & SON

H. T. Robinson & Son's old stand

FIRST STREET UNION CITY

Are you paying too much for your Job Printing? How do you know? Ask The Commercial. Are you getting results from your advertising? The Commercial's books are open to advertisers.

HAVE YOU TRIED JERSEY CREAM FLOUR

Ask Your Grocer for it NONE BETTER

Dahnke-Walker Milling Co.

Ask us for prices when selling your grain.

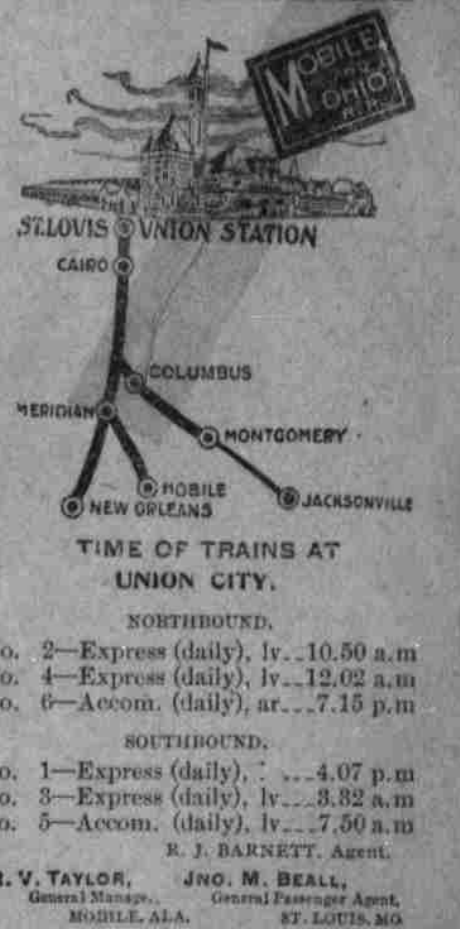
The SAFEST and QUICKEST WAY to TRANSFER MONEY

IS BY

Long Distance Telephone

FOR RATES APPLY TO LOCAL MANAGER

CUMBERLAND TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO. INCORPORATED



Illinois Central RAILROAD.

GIBBS—SOUTHBOUND.
No. 1...78.08 p.m. No. 105...3.40 p.m.
No. 3...15.38 a.m. No. 133...6.51 a.m.
Trains Nos. 105 and 133 are accommodations and stop at Gibbs to receive or discharge passengers.

GIBBS—NORTHBOUND.
No. 2...19.40 a.m. No. 106...12.07 p.m.
No. 4...11.48 p.m. No. 134...8.28 p.m.
*Stop on flag only to receive passengers holding tickets for points north of Carbondale where 2 or 4 stop.

Trains Nos. 134 and 106 are accommodations. Tickets and particulars as to specific fares, limits and rules of your home ticket agent at Gibbs.

F. W. HARLOW, D. P. A., Louisville.
A. J. McDUGALL, D. P. A., New Orleans.
S. G. HATCH, G. P. A., Chicago.
JNO. A. SCOTT, A. G. P. A., Memphis.

N. C. & St. L. TIME TABLE.

Active Union City

EAST BOUND.
No. 55...7.46 a.m. No. 57...3.06 p.m.
No. 58...11.15 p.m.

WEST BOUND.
No. 52...6.44 a.m. No. 54...12.46 p.m.
No. 54...7.52 p.m.