

THE COMMERCIAL

Marshall & Baird, Union City, Tenn.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1914.

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Announcement.

For Representative.

McGADIE—We are authorized to announce G. R. McFadyen a candidate for reelection as Representative to the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

The Business Horizon.

Practically all changes come as the result of cause and effect. Those of great magnitude are usually slow and do not follow until the conditions are so that necessity actually compels them. But there is a change in business coming, as we view the forecasts, that might be hurried along to some degree of advantage if those whose interests are likely to be affected will only place themselves in an attitude of self protection. We mean the wholesale and retail merchants whose business are correlated. The wholesale merchant must sell goods so that his customer, the retail merchant, can compete with the mail-order house, and in order to anticipate the change we are driving at, some of the heavy expenses of the traveling men and the methods of selling and handling goods must be curtailed. We wonder that a movement of this kind has not already been made. As much as we dislike to say it the rivalry and competition is growing very keen between the mail-order house and the retail merchant. Many of our own citizens are buying their household supplies of mail-order houses, embracing dry goods, furniture, groceries, etc. In our eager and anxious strife to gain a living we forget the many disadvantages the country merchant must undergo while the government is gradually making it easy for the mail-order house to carry on its commerce. The last annual appropriation just made for the United States Post Office Department is \$300,000,000, and the retail merchant pays his part of this tribute to enable his more favored competitor, the mail-order house, to make inroads on the trade in his territory. The parcel post has caused the express companies to offer the same inducements, and to-day our local merchant is confronted with such a condition as witnessing his own neighbor ordering the necessary supplies of his home from Chicago and other places.

We forget oftentimes that the burden of demands for public subscriptions of every character is made upon our merchants. We forget that they contribute to our schools and our churches; we forget that they extend credit to the more unfortunate and thereby sustain the relation to society of doing the bulk of charity work; we forget that they visit and cheer and sustain us in the hour of sickness and death; we forget that our welfare concerns them; we forget, in some individual instances, that we have accumulated more, much more, of the world's goods than they have, naturally suggesting the fact that our profits in the game of business have been greater than theirs; we forget that they provide a delivery service subject to our beck and call, very often at unseasonable hours; we forget for the time our neighbors, friends and associates around whose fireside we meet and pledge everlasting friendship; we forget our fraternal obligations and associations; we forget our local pride, our local patriotism; we forget that "In unity there is strength—united we stand, divided we fall."

We forget these things in advancing many of our selfish ends. We do not forget intentionally, but unthoughtfully. It is not a theory, but a condition, and therefore we suggest that the time must come when the retail merchant must find supplies at a source where the cost has not driven him out of the field of competitive rivalry not only with merchants of his own locality but with the mail-order houses everywhere. This can be done and we believe it will come sooner or later.

A Good Trustee.

We were invited the other day to examine the Trustee's books, kept by Johnny Sanders and his assistant, Mr. Atkins, and we do not hesitate to say that a great improvement has been made over the old system. In the first place the books are perfectly plain, neat and legible, so simple that every man who can read can understand. The books, upon which the warrants are entered shows, divided into columns, each reference, first the number, and following the amount, to whom issued, date of issuance, what for, everything connected with the history of the warrant, beginning on the left sheet of the book and run out to the other page on a con-

necting line. These are, as stated, in columns, and at the foot of the pages the totals are shown of all amounts in dollars and cents. Each month and each quarter is kept separately, so that an exact statement can be made of any specified period.

The different county funds are kept in the same manner, each on a separate book, viz: County, school, road, bridge and State. Each book is divided into columns after the same general system followed in the warrant book. The revenues from each source are given and from whom and for what collected with dates, etc., complete and divisible each unto itself so that summaries can be easily obtained. A balance is made on each book at the end of every month, so that the exact condition of that department of the county finances can be seen at a glance, and every book is given the same careful and painstaking attention, thus giving a general resume of the whole of the county finances in a nutshell and for any period desired. The books are an example of method, accuracy and neatness. They are easily checked and proved.

Trustee Sanders is to be congratulated upon his work, and no little of it is to be credited to Mr. Atkins. They are both qualified and capable office men, and better than all they are most worthy and honorable gentlemen every way.

Cole Younger Here.

Cole Younger, the noted Missouri bandit, appeared here last Monday night at Reynolds Theatre before a small but very much interested audience in an address in which a little personal experience is related and summed up to show what his life has taught him. Mr. Younger was in the Northfield, Minn., prison 24 years and ten months for an attempt to rob a Minnesota Bank. He was sentenced for life, but paroled and finally pardoned through the efforts of his Missouri friends and the people of Minnesota.

First he does not defend his conduct in that affair, but draws a lesson from his life and cautions young men to avoid the dangers that inevitably follow. In prison Mr. Younger devoted his time to study. He learned many things, so he says, among them the philosophy of humankind, the fear of God and respect of law. He said that all law was based on the Ten Commandments, and the absence of law is savagery. There was some sentiment mixed with the stubborn facts of his talk and more than a few lines of verse he had stored away, along with some quotations from the Scriptures and Shakespeare, were repeated to the audience in a very agreeable manner in trying to impress them with the lesson of his life.

From this Mr. Younger related in a brief way in conversational style the important incidents of his experience. He was fifteen when he enlisted in the Confederacy under Hurst. Orders from Federal authorities had been issued to treat the Confederate scouts as outlaws, and this stirred him to retaliate, which he did at the head of a company in a number of fierce encounters. In the meantime his father, who owned a large ranch, had moved to Independence and was operating a livery barn in connection with the mail and stage coach line. Some trouble affecting the mail line caused the senior Mr. Younger to carry the case to Washington and on his way returning he was murdered. Then Cole Younger and his friends sought vengeance upon the men who were guilty of the crime, and modestly he stated that most of them were killed. The war over Mr. Younger settled on his father's farm until his enemies began to operate again, and in each instance he and his brothers were the victors. But Cole Younger desired peace and he and his brothers retreated to Texas and began to operate a ranch. About this time the Iowa bank robbery took place and the Associated Press connected the Youngers with it. They had not been near Iowa and proof of the fact was made but all the newspapers except one or two kept persecuting him. Finally secret-service men were sent to Texas to capture the Youngers. Cole Younger had made up his mind to meet them and plainly set forth the facts, but getting within sight of the Youngers the detectives fled. After a time the bandits were low in finances, and while in this condition they accidentally overheard of the hiding of one hundred thousand dollars in the Minnesota bank. It was then that Cole Younger made up his mind to commit his first robbery in order to recoup his lost fortune and leave the country for South America. The attempt failed as recorded. The Younger boys were crippled in the pursuit and captured. The brothers died in prison and Cole was finally paroled and pardoned.

Get watch prices from Dietzel.

Hon. T. J. Bonner, of Rives, was honored last week by the Masonic fraternity of Tennessee with the highest gift within the lodge in his elevation to the position of Grand Master of the State. There lives not a citizen in the county nor in the State who deserves more at the hands of his people and of his lodge than Major Bonner. His life and his lips have been as clean throughout his honorable career as any man living. His has been a useful citizenship. He has served his people, his church, his schools, his political party—every phase and every avenue of public life in his community and in many ways in the county and State, and his record is as spotless as the driven snow. He has not only served with the highest integrity, but with a singularly remarkable sound judgment and discretion and distinguished ability. The lodge also has reason to acknowledge his splendid character and worth, and upon this rock was built his name in its archives. Every citizen and community in this part of the State congratulates Mr. Bonner in this honor.

A Splendid Record.

Sexton A. Martin very kindly informs us of the fact that he buried one more person last year, whose death occurred outside of the corporate limits, than of those who lived inside. Of the two burials last month neither lived inside the corporate limits of Union City. Mr. Martin is very proud of his record, and it seems to us that educational and industrial enterprises seeking locations should give this matter the greatest consideration. Union City now has all the advantages and comforts of a city, barring the saloons and the lawless conditions that exist in most of the cities. We have a city of churches, schools—the best—sanitary sewerage and surface sanitation, concrete walks complete in all parts of the city, city mail delivery, the purest and best drinking water, a white way and splendid water and light system—all these and we invite and offer inducements to enterprise of every good character.

Railway Building in 1913.

In a summary of railroad construction in the United States during the year 1913, as compiled by the Railway Age Gazette, shows a total of 8,071 miles of new first track. This mileage is approximately the same as that of 1912 and that of 1911.

The Gazette figures show that new mileage was reported in 1913 by 238 companies in forty-seven States. No new mileage was added in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware or Alaska. Montana led in new construction with 875 miles. Texas was second with 356 miles. Other States in which more than 100 miles of new line were completed are: Washington, 209 miles; California, 164 miles; North Dakota, 152 miles; Arkansas, 139 miles; Oregon, 123 miles; Illinois, 114 miles; Tennessee, 111 miles; Florida, 105 miles; Michigan, 104 miles; and North Carolina, 104 miles.

Kentucky's mileage of new first track for 1913 was 48.34 miles, compared with 119.63 in 1912. In addition there was reported 43-12 miles of second track, compared with 93.70 miles of such track in 1912. This represents double track work by the Louisville & Nashville and by the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific. All the new construction was in Eastern Kentucky.

Most of the railway construction of 1913 was in the South and in the Far West. Illinois and Michigan were the only States north of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi River in which more than 100 miles of new line was built. Less than 1,000 miles of new road was built east of the Mississippi River in 1913, and of this more than 654 miles was south of the Ohio River. All of the States in which no new mileage was built are along the Atlantic seaboard north of the Potomac River. On the other hand, more than 1,166 miles of new road was built west of Denver.

The Railway Age Gazette says the outlook is not promising for a busy year in 1914, as only one or two large contracts have been let since July 1. "The small amount of new lines now under construction indicates that the mileage built in 1914 will show a further decrease, unless conditions change radically in the spring."

Kentucky's prospects for 1914 would seem to be for an amount of construction equal to that of 1913. The Clinchfield is building to the Elkhorn coal fields, as is the Norfolk & Western, and some other extensions seem within the range of probability.—Courier-Journal.

All of the marines from the United States battle ship South Carolina were landed at Port au Prince, Haiti, to reinforce the bluejackets from the cruiser Montana, guarding foreign interests.

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Death of Frank Dibrell.

Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 1.—Frank Dibrell, former comptroller of Tennessee and former president of the Hermitage National Bank of this city, died at his home here at 12 o'clock to-day of gallstones. Mr. Dibrell had taken a bath at 5 o'clock this morning and coming from the bathroom told his wife he was very sick. A physician was summoned and Mr. Dibrell was relieved. A little later in the day, however, he was again taken very ill, and died in a short time. He had not been in good health for several months.

Mr. Dibrell was a son of Gen. George G. Dibrell, C. S. A., and was born at Sparta, Tenn. He was in his fifty-sixth year and had long been prominent in the politics of Tennessee, retiring from the comptroller's office last year after one of the bitterest fights upon him ever made upon any public officer in the State. Deceased was extremely popular, especially with old Confederate soldiers. He was an ardent Democrat.

A wife, two married and two single daughters, two sons, one of them in the United States navy, and several brothers survive him. Rhea Dibrell, of Memphis, a son, died last year in Texas, where he had gone for his health.

Since retiring from office Mr. Dibrell had not been actively engaged in business.

The funeral and interment will be at Sparta to-morrow afternoon at 8 o'clock.

Nine less cattle, seven less sheep and three less hogs per 100 people are in the United States than in 1910, the Agricultural Department reports.

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

Arrive Union City.

EAST BOUND

No. 55...7.55 a.m. No. 3...8.06 p.m.
No. 53...11.15 p.m.

WEST BOUND.

No. 52...6.10 a.m. No. 4...12.50 p.m.
No. 54...7.52 p.m.

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