

McALESTER MESSENGER.

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NO. 51

J. M. LATHIM

THE PEOPLES' STORE

General Headquarters For

Farmers, Miners, Railroaders,--Everybody

WE SELL EVERYTHING

Dry Goods, Groceries, Furniture, Stoves, Hardware, Farming Imple-

ments, Saddles, Harness, Boots and Shoes, Carpets, Mattings, Rugs, Gen-

eral Household Frunishings, Flour, Feed stuffs, Guns, Pistols, Ammuni-

tion, Barb Wire, Poultry and Lawn Wire Fencing, Queensware, Clocks,

Glassware, Cuttlery. In short, we are "The Peoples' People", and carry in our

store and warehouses about everything the people need or want. Our name and

reputation are your guarantees for honest treatment, and our references are

any of the reliable people who have been doing business with us for years.

Furniture and Stoves On Installment Plan.

We have in our store, west side Katy track, a large line of Furniture, Cook

and Heating Stoves to select from. Come, inspect these goods, get prices and

let us sell you what you need on the easy payment plan. Our prices are right.

South Front **J. M. LATHIM.** North Front
Stonewall Avenue Park Avenue

Who's Your Friend.

The mail order house is an abscess on the neck of legitimate business. In other words it is an old sore and the bigger it gets the worse it smells.

No man who owns a home can afford to give aid or comfort to pirates. Pirates tear down and destroy. Home owners want things built up because they are interested in increasing the value of their property, and home values are established and maintained on a basis of the creative energy that develops industries in the vicinity where the land is situated.

There is no creative force in piracy; it produces nothing but cheap machine clerks. Like a great big hawk it soars around in the commercial air ready to pounce down and snatch the bread out of the mouth of legitimate industry.

No mail order house helped to build the little white school house in your district nor turnpike the road past your door. No Mail Order house ever took you by the hand when you were in distress and told you to let that little account go until after harvest next year. No Mail Order house ever sold you an article and then spent every cent of its profit in the community where you and your neighbors could get it all back again. No Mail Order house ever rejoiced with you when you were glad, nor spoke enraging words to you in affliction; nor stood with uncovered heads beside the grave when your loved one died.

No! The Mail Order house is after your money. Every dollar it gets its hands on will be jerked out of your neighborhood forever. The Mail Order house may bear upon its face the semblance of friendship, but no human heart beats under its cloak of hypocrisy. Sentiment is to it unknown.

The whole institution is as cold and bloodless as a corpse.

All Mail Order houses in Christendom would not increase the value of your farm one cent.

They are parasites to whom life is only possible so long as they can suck blood out of communities to the upbuilding of which they contribute nothing. They create no local market for the products you have to sell. They have no property which can be assessed to help bear your burden of taxation. Your local dealer's business is legitimate because its success contributes to the local prosperity of the community that built it up.

Your local dealer stands ready to duplicate every offer set forth in the catalogues of Mail Order Houses and more. If you will put down a spot cash and accept from him a class of goods beyond that of respectable ancestry and upon which no reputable dealer will place his name, he can sell cheap goods, too. If you buy them from him with your eyes shut he can meet the best prices ever offered by a mail order house if you will plunk down the money and accept what he gives you without question and without recourse. And this is nothing more than you have to do when you buy from catalog houses.

Stand by your local dealer as he stands by you with his time, his skill and his money. He helps build up your community and he makes it a better place for you both to live in.

We have received our fresh pickles of all kinds. Try some of those large jars, they are delicious. At Stewart's, So. McAlester, 16.

An exchange is responsible for this: A couple were recently married and the bride invited and old maid aunt to the wedding. The cards were swell affairs and in one corner bore the inscription: "Children not expected to come." After scanning it closely the old lady said: "That's all right, but they will have them just the same."

S. H. Tanner,

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S. H. Tanner

SOUTH McALESTER.

The McAlester Messenger.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1906.

A Faulty Proposition.

The Messenger has been taking lay-off on the annexation question for several weeks and in the meantime has been observing the campaign tactics of the annexationists. We have looked in vain for one line of reasonable argument advanced by them showing wherein McAlester would be advantaged by annexation at this time. They have utterly failed to make good on any point, and though they have by the aid of a faculty writer for the South McAlester Capital pleaded their cause and expounded annexation doctrine daily for the past several weeks, they have failed to score once, and their cause is manifestly weaker now with right-thinking people than in the beginning. This does not necessarily prove that all annexationists are weak minded or wrong at heart, but it does prove that their cause is without merit and that at least some of them as many have done before and will do hereafter, permitted themselves to be allured by a carefully prepared and temptingly presented "gold brick" scheme. The whole annexation scheme at this time is faulty from stem to stern, and it is hard to say which is the weakest point. If the development of the two towns were such as to make the union mutually advantageous, the present terms upon which annexation is proposed might be alright for McAlester, provided there were no long holes left for the escaping of these obligations or promises made by South McAlester to McAlester. But it is there are no binding clauses whatever to secure these promises, and it is simply amazing that a set of men could be found in the council of any town in this enlightened age and country who are so child-like and simple in understanding as to seriously consider a proposition presented in such unbusiness-like and glaringly defective form. Surely not one of the annexation gentlemen of the council is so lacking in business perception as to be deluded into transferring his own private business affairs in such a slipshod manner. The provisions of this so-called contract, or, more correctly speaking, gold brick scheme, are published in full in today's Messenger, and we invite any citizen of McAlester to get up a contract in a similar loose form or manner and try at any bank or trust company to negotiate a loan on it and see for himself how quickly he will be turned down on the proposition. These annexation gentlemen of the council have been elected by the voters of McAlester to take charge of a public trust and for them to be more slack in guarding this public trust or interests of the people than they would be in guarding their own private or individual interests stamps upon them the mark of unfaithful and unworthy servants. They should not allow themselves to be influenced by any pressure that will draw them away from their duty to the public trust that has been confided to their keeping. They have no moral right to accept a long shot or hazardous and

unbusiness-like proposition for the people and when they permit themselves to be influenced to do so they are simply playing with fire, and when they go before the people in an election they will receive a rebuke that will serve as a lasting warning to them and their successors in office.

It is the duty of the anti-annexationists to administer such a defeat to the annexationists that they will not recover from soon. The annexationists have forced the issue and the anti should not only defeat them now, good and strong, but should keep them defeated hereafter by nominating a straight anti-annexation ticket for each office of the town every year. The annexationists having thrown down the gauntlet and forced the issue the anti will certainly pick it up and give them such a defeat as they will not soon forget.

It is the talk of some of the annexationists that people who are not property owners should not be allowed to vote in this election. However, the law does not say anything of the kind, so the annexationists if they could would create a property qualification and by that course of reasoning disfranchise the poor man. This same policy, carried a little further would regulate the number of votes a man is entitled to by the amount of property he owned, and anybody who would advocate the taking of the first step in that direction should be "sat upon" as antagonistic to American institutions and dangerous to the liberties of the people. Vote against annexation if for no other reason than to rebuke this talk advocated by some of the members of that party. The laborers or poor men have built up this town, and drive them away and there would not be enough business left to flag a bread-wagon. The anti-annexationists are not afraid to trust the poorest there to vote in this election and they insist upon the fullest protection to every American citizen, and qualified voter of the town in the casting of his ballot for or against annexation just as he may see his interests and may desire.

J. L. Harris, principal of McAlester's public schools, says there is plenty of room for the handling of all the scholars who have applied for admission, both of town and those living outside. He also says that the buildings are comfortable both for the teachers and pupils, and that they are much better than some houses he went to school in when a boy in Indiana.

J. R. Hurley, a member of the school board and one of our most "frankankerous" annexation friends, stated to a Messenger representative that so far our public school facilities are not over-taxed, and says that no applicants for admittance to the school have been turned away. That we are not only caring for all the scholastic population of the town, but all outsiders are being admitted and cared for.

We believe that a comparison of the school facilities of this town and South McAlester will show that our present educational advantages are superior to those of South McAlester. We believe that anybody who will look into the situation will admit this, and we think that our annexation friends are hard up for an issue when they have to resort to such methods as knocking on our schools in order to make votes.

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- Third, to keep in advance in its styles. And they effect this combination successfully.

FOR SALE BY

WEIMER'S SOUTH
McALESTER.

Don't Hurry.

Boys, don't be in a hurry to marry any time before you reach thirty-five is soon enough because at that age you ought to have plenty of time to sap your young manhood and be in a pretty fair condition to devote the frazzled end of your life to domestic bliss. By that time you should be able to make a very tractable patient for some fresh young girl to take care of and make a living for and also be in splendid physical condition to transmit the taint of your early debauch-

ery to any unfortunate additional brand to the family tree. Then in after years it ought to be a pleasure to sit under your wife's own vine and fig tree and watch your diseased and bleary-eyed serofutous offspring creeping around like crippled kangaroos, bearing upon the withered bodies the unmistakable car-marks of inherited vice. Yes, boys, have a good time while you are young and the old man is footing the bill. Don't be in a hurry to marry for the longer you put it off the better for the girl.

FURNITURE!

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Have the most complete line of Furniture and House Furnishings in the Indian Territory. Big Special Prices on Gasoline Stoves, Mattings, Carpets, Rugs, Pictures, etc. Nice presents with cash purchases; When in need of anything in our line don't fail to see us. We are never without bargains for you.

Landes, McLure & Co

South McAlester.