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COLUMBUS B. SMITH, Editor.

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THE NEW ENTERPRISE,
Madison, Florida.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1909.

One hundred and sixty thousand pounds of fine wrapper tobacco went up in smoke at Quincy last Friday night. The loss amounts to about \$175,000. Tough on the owners of the leaf but then that is what the tobacco was made for—to burn, and now the whole world may be assured that Gadsden county tobacco WILL BURN.

The Quincy Moon has gone out of business, permanently, the plant and good will having been taken over by the Gadsden County Times of which R. E. L. McFarlin is the new editor and proprietor. The Moon existed precariously since its beginning, and we are not surprised that it was finally forced to close out. To the Gadsden County Times and its new and owner we extend our very best wishes.

The county jail at Monticello was destroyed by fire last week. It was on a par with the court house of the same county—about seventy-five years behind times. Now that Jefferson has let a contract for a new and modern court house the old jail would have been even more conspicuous for its antediluvian appearance. A good fire properly located sometimes proves a blessing in disguise. Jefferson will of course, have to build a new jail, and we are of the opinion that it will be as modern and attractive as the new court house.

Brother Wilson of the Fort Pierce Tribune has evidently run up against something not very pleasing and he comes back upon somebody or something in this most truthful and virorous style. He says in his last issue: "A newspaper, if it has any brains, conscience and muscle back of it, must continually decide between doing its duty and injuring its pocket. In any position but that of editor the public is able to separate the individual from the collective citizen. But if an editor does not please them it is at his pockets they aim. Thus it is the newspapers learn who their friends are. The man who reads a newspaper and admires it all the year round, yet gives his business support to some other concern, is not a friend to the former newspaper. Admiration alone will not run a newspaper. There are too many men who expect an editor to slave in defence of their pet notions and hobbies, advocate their views against the strongest opposition and coolly withhold their business support, by which alone a country newspaper can live. Talk about a paper having a public duty to perform and an editor having to work for his principle is cheap when others stand back and extend a lukewarm neutrality."

A TYPE WE NEED NOW.

Where are the strong men of the past generation who took the lead in the community life of the South; who were wise in counsel, prompt in decision and courageous in action; whose voices were not silenced by timidity, policy or expediency in those constantly recurring issues between right and wrong in every city, town, village and rural neighborhood? They were positive men, of force and decision of character. They were deeply grounded in the religion of the Ten Commandments. They believed in strong, effective government in the family, the community and the State. They believed in the enforcement of law. There was iron in their blood, and they insisted on penalties for wrongdoing and in prompt obedience to the voice of justly authority.

Such men made that priceless force, now so lamentably scarce—public sentiment, brave, clean, righteous public sentiment that was the very moral lifeblood of the community—for under the inflection of their high examples other men, lacking the qualities of leadership, were not afraid to speak out when speech out when speech was needed in denunciation of evil and evil doers, and thus public sentiment was crystallized and made a mighty force for good. Such men were positive, frank and fearless, stern apostles of law and order and morality who would make no compromise with vice or crime, but were always tolerant of the rights of others and held to no iron code or creed to restrict freedom of opinion and its decent expression. One such man in a town was a steady tonic, a source of moral health and strength and courage to all the rest, and around him in every public emergency, large or small, the better elements rallied, sure that he would take the right side and confident in his leadership.

But where is that type of the Old South now? Has it disappeared in the timidity and greed of commercialism? Has it flowered and gone to seed? Never did we need such men more, and if we have ceased to produce them there must be something fatally defective in system that falls at so vital a point. Here is a paragraph on this line taken from a late exchange:

"No community can flourish unless it has its proper quota of positive men who are wisely affirmative and who cheer and energize by their speech and action. They are a bracing tonic to the business and social atmosphere. The negative man, on the contrary, depresses, and so far as his influence goes he serves to check the spirit of enterprise and thereby works against the progress of the place in which he dwells."—Live Oak Democrat.

Among the various features of special interest connected with the Ponce de Leon celebration to be given in St. Augustine on March 31 and April 1 and 2, will be Pain's fireworks display on the last evening of the celebration. The committee in charge has gone to great expense to secure a pyrotechnic display that will be entirely out of the ordinary. Immediately after this display will come an attack on old Fort Marion by the Indians, Spaniards, French and British and the defence of the fort by the United States regular troops.



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The modern housewife realizes that there is no more sanitary way of cleaning house than by using paints and varnishes on the floors, woodwork, porches, cupboards, baseboards, screens, stove pipes, etc. She has, however, been rather unfamiliar with the best way to finish each of these surfaces. For her convenience in purchasing and using, The Sherwin-Williams Company have included their line of old established household products under a new name.

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Tharin & Leslie.

MADISON, FLORIDA

Then there will be a grand illuminated launch parade on the bay in front of the city. The entire city will be brilliantly illuminated for this occasion and there is no doubt that many thousands of visitors will be in attendance.

SLY EDITOR SMITH.

The Starke Telegraph says that thirty liens were filed for record in one week in the clerk's office, averaging \$40 each, given by citizens of Bradford county to a lightning rod agent. These liens are blanket affairs which will enable the company to sell all a man's possessions. One man who was too poor to put a chimney to his house had it covered with lightning rods. Levy county farmers are warned to look out for the lightning rod agent. He's a smooth article.—Bronson Times-Democrat.

We might extend the same warning to Madison county farmers if it were necessary, but our farmers in this county are too wise to be taken in by any such fakirs.—Madison New Enterprise.

A sly way Editor Smith has of putting his readers next on the lightning rod proposition. What has become of all those Madison county people who a few years ago bought rights to sell patent rights in a washing machine?—Starke Telegraph.

We pass it up, brother Matthews. We support that they have the "rights" yet. But if you would have accurate information on the subject inquire of Fred Sheffer, now a resident of your city. "He probably knows."

The true old soldier despises the misapplication of military titles and General E. M. Law of the Bartow Courtes-Infantry—who was a sure-enough soldier, justly and honorably entitled to his military appellation—waxes righteously indignant as follows: "In the noted Cooper-Carmack trial, which is now drawing to a close in Nashville, GENERAL Meeks, one of the

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counsel for the defence, announced his belief that it is the proper thing to shoot down an editor for any distasteful criticism of politicians or other public characters. The doughty GENERAL seems to ignore the fact that most editors can, on occasion, handle a gun about as well as political bummers like his clients, the Coopers, or shyster lawyers like himself. We never heard of the GENERAL during the war. He is no doubt some tinhorn affair who never smelt gunpowder or 'heard a cap pop' in his life. Such blatherskites are always careful to indulge their bloodthirsty heroics under the protection of

the court, and if confronted with the business end of a gun would afford a fine opportunity to any one who could get near enough to him to play marbles on his coat tail.

With 8,500,000 feet of mahogany handled through Pensacola during 1908 that port stands second in the importing of that wood in the United States. New York stands first with 12,000,000 feet.

The State pension board, through its secretary, Miss Jefferson Bell, is writing to the various camps of Confederate veterans in the state to find out what amendments, if any, the veterans would suggest to the present state pension law.