

*Blair*

WHY, THE BEST TOWN ON EARTH?

It is now about twenty ~~five~~ yaers ago that the editor of The Hustler ,while studying as to what would be a good slogan for his town,almost as if by inspiration the phrase,~~of~~ "THE BEST TOWN ON EARTH," as applied to the city of his adoption, fixed its impress ~~it~~ ~~in~~ so indelibly in his mind that it has never been eradicated.

When that bantling came before the public,unannounced,it at first met with a very cold reception.It was only by careful~~ly~~ and skillful attention,given by its "daddy",that it managed to get through its ~~it~~ first years of existence.The old grouches made all kinds of spert,the the wise shook their heads,while the thoughtless stuck out their toungues and said the child would never live.

But it did live and thrived and is still growing and getting more lusty every day of its life.There is now scarcely a man,woman or child of any race or color in the growing city that has not taken up the slogan.People from a distance who have heard the slogan,come to verify its truth and as the Queen of Sheba said to Solomon when she had<sup>been</sup> shown all the sights of the city,exclaimed: "Not the half had been told of ~~of~~ its glory."

If the Missourian should come ~~and want to be shown,~~ to our thriving city and want "to be shown," it would become necessary to give him such an answer as would satisfy his curiosity.Why is Madisonville The Best town On Earth? We should be able to "give a reason for the faith<sup>that is</sup> in us." Here are a few of the reasons,with perhaps many others just as good and potent.

In the first place the town is near the center of the best County in the ~~best~~ state and the best state in the Union.

Its railroad facilities make the town accessable from North, South,East and West as the L.&N R.R.and the Illinious Central with their main lines run through the city.

One of the very best things about the whole thing is that we have a citizenry that is the equal of any other town of its size in Kentucky or elsewhere. The business men of the town, whether merchants, Grocery men, druggists or any other calling or profession are men of a high order of <sup>integrity and</sup> morality, the great majority of them being consistent members of some one or other of our churches.

It is a very unusual thing to hear one of our citizen swear or use language that is unbecoming a gentleman. Our churches are well sustained, and have large memberships. The new Methodist Church which will cost something like <sup>\$100</sup> \$99,000 and will soon be completed <sup>would</sup> ~~will~~ be a credit to any city in the state.

We have one of the finest systems of public schools it is possible to make at the present time. The schools are for both white and colored.

The Cumberland telephone company has just completed the installment of a common battery system at a cost of more than \$100,000. *Every employe of this concern is a first class member or woman*

*#* There are four banking houses in Madisonville. It would be a difficult matter to determine which one of the four is the better. These banks have resources of something near \$5,000,000.

Madisonville has a fire department that has but few equals in the state. ~~No home ever burns~~

*is* Madisonville has a fire department that is the pride of the city. No home ever burns to the ground if that gang of fire-fighters ~~are~~ notified in time. Either night or day, when the alarm is given, the boys are up and ready for the fray.

salesman or dealer of any kind in the town, who has ever been accused of short weighing or cheating in his dealings with the public. "Honesty is the best policy," is the pass word amongst all.

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Almost every fraternal organization in existence in this section of the universe has <sup>a chapter with large membership.</sup> ~~an existence~~. Among these organizations there exists the greatest harmony.

Another most excellent point in our favor is that there are no schisms or divisions, such as cliques and self assumed <sup>self</sup> and asserted leaders who are a disgrace to any community. Factions are not tolerated

So far as is known to the writer, there is not a merchant, a salesman or dealer of any kind in the town who has ever been accused of short weighing or cheating in his dealings with the public. "Honesty is the best policy," is the pass word amongst all.

While we have a number of citizens who are well fixed so far as money is concerned, yet we have none of the idle rich. There are no retired bankers or merchants. All work. With our mines and other industries every man who wants a job can get it, provided he is seeking employment.

Madisonville is one of the most democratic little cities in the world. It is character and not money that gives position here. The banker and the miner, the merchant and the laborer meet on terms of equality. Rich and poor occupy seats together in church and council.

With the improvement and enlargement of the water works, we have an abundant supply for all purposes. The lighting of the town by electricity, which is used for many purposes is first class.

Dozier & Holeman have two theaters, the Garrick and the Cameo, two houses of entertainment that are complete in every respect. We have as good shows in these homes as can be found in any of the larger cities of the state.

There is one newspaper, <sup>Evening</sup> The Daily Messenger, successor to The Hustler, with its Semi-weekly, <sup>the</sup> The Hustler, <sup>that</sup> has a large, satisfactory and growing circulation. This prints the news of the day. There are two printing job shops, well equipped for any and all work in that line. Each of these is prepared to handle any kind of job printing that one could wish have done.

Our City officers, from Mayor J. D. Sory down to the street cleaner, are all men who look well to the interest of the town. The police department, with Chief of Police to <sup>R. B. Halson</sup> J. W. Bringhurst, at its head, is a terror to evil doers. Each and every member of the force is on his job.

Madisonville is one corporation that is out of debt and has money in its treasury for future contingences. The new year has started in with a balance in favor of the city of \$10,000. There is however for the school district a school bond issue the interest and redemption fund is being cared for.

There is not a town and County in the state where there is better law enforcement than in Madisonville and Hopkins County. Violators of law rarely ever escape punishment at the hands of the officials. "Let no guilty man escape," is the motto of all.

Perhaps more credit is due to the present status and forward growth and popularity of the town, to The Kiwans Club and The Chamber of Commerce, two organizations of only a few years growth, than <sup>or all</sup> any other organization. The members are thoroughly unselfish, wide-awake and looking out for the best there is for their town.

The foregoing are a few of the many reasons why when speaking of Madisonville, the people name it "THE BEST TOWN ON EARTH." An-<sup>added</sup> other fitting slogan would be, "A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE IN."