

The St. Tammany Farmer.

"The Blessings of Government, Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor."

W. G. KENTZEL, Editor.

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On the Western coast of the United States, at Monterey, Cal., Mrs. Fish keeps the lamps lighted in the Point Pinos lighthouse. On the Eastern coast, at South Portland, Me., Mrs. Gordan earns her living by working as a deep-sea diver. Sprinkled over the country between these two women are thousands of other members of the female sex who deserve to be enrolled as auxiliaries to Mr. Kipling's corps of "Unafraid Gentlemen." And then, from the woman in Utah, who is Sheriff and hangs murderers, to the woman in Chicago, who bosses a gang of Italian street cleaners, he tells of the roll of women engaged in strenuous occupations in the United States. Wherever man has tried to wrest a living from unwilling nature, there woman has also left the impress of her daring exploits.

The Political Circus.

Now comes the summer of sweet contentment (still some fortnights off) when the politician will dip port himself for the amusement of the Louisiana populace, painting the lily of his reputation, perfuming the rose of his good deeds, and telling all men whereon the fate of the commonwealth depends.

Through the wind and bluster of March, the showers and sunshine of April, the drowsy warmth of June and July, the gold-robed splendors of September and October, the candidate will go up and down the land showing himself to friends and enemies, telling his worth and merit to ears that will twitch with sensations of amusement, or satisfaction or dismay to hear the truth so fearfully handled.

In the cold and rain of next December, the frost and mud of January, the would-be State—or parish official will carry his ambition—bringing out beyond the primaries a gratified desire.

The general public will get lots of amusement; lots of instruction; lots of knowledge of the frailty of human nature.

It will learn nice, pleasant things about its State government; things it never dreamed before.

Chastened by its errors in the past and quickened by the waves of deeper interest in things political, it will, without fail, winnow out the seekers after office until those with high purpose and honest records, clean hands and clear brains, will surely be the victors in the contest at the polls.

Louisiana's electorate has never gone to the polls so well equipped for expressing its preferences as it will go in January of 1908. Candidates had best remember that before they unfurl their banners to the wind.—Daily States.

New Orleans Naval Station.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The naval appropriation bill which was reported to the House carries a total of \$210,105 for the New Orleans Naval Station. The estimates submitted by the various commanders have been considerably reduced by the Secretary of the Navy, but it may be said of New Orleans that the total amount to be appropriated is relatively greater than that for any other station. There remains an unexpended balance from last year, which, with the money carried in the new bill, will be ample to continue the work that already is under way. General Meyer, who has been looking after this section of the bill, saw to it that nothing of importance was omitted, and when the improvements already provided for are further advanced, he will have other projects he will present to make the station one of the foremost in the country. The items provided for are as follows: Civil establishments, \$7,805; improvement of the water front, continued, \$25,000; continued levy improvements and grading, \$25,000; extension of the electric light and power plant, \$50,000; railroad system, \$5,000; drainage, continued, \$10,000; central heating plant, \$18,000; paving, \$10,000; quarters for Commandant, \$12,000; fitting up yard buildings, \$4,300; dispensary building, \$9,000; additional for construction plant, \$16,000; office building for steam engineering, \$35,000. Total, \$223,105.

Thaw Trial On Its Way.

Additional Panel of 100 Talesmen Ordered.

Will Not Plead Emotional Insanity.

PUBLIC LAND FRAUDS.

Report of State Board of Agriculture.

Other News of Interest to Our Readers.

The Thaw Trial.

New York Jan. 28.—One more juryman was added this morning to the panel which is to try Harry K. Thaw for the killing of Stanford White, making eight in all thus far selected. The rapid manner in which the talesmen, one after another, offered valid excuses to the Court, or declared that their opinions in the case were so firmly fixed as not to permit of a change, caused District Attorney Jerome to fear an exhaustion of the special panel before the jury was completed, orders were sent from the courtroom summoning an additional panel of 100 talesmen.

All the members of the Thaw family were in court to day, with the exception of Josiah Thaw, a brother of the accused.

Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw came into the courtroom early, arriving nearly half an hour before the morning session was scheduled to begin. She was accompanied by Miss May McKenzie, who remains her constant companion.

There was a vacant seat at Thaw's counsel table to day—the one usually occupied by Mr. Delphis M. Delmas, the California attorney. It was stated that Mr. Delmas was confined to his apartments by a severe cold.

Mr. Delmas, when asked to outline his defense, said:

"It would hardly be professional to disclose our case. You may say, however, that it will come strictly within the statutes of New York. There is no higher law in this State, and all this talk about the unwritten law is bosh. Nor can I see the efficacy of a plea of emotional insanity. There is really no such thing. A man may be temporarily insane; but that is quite another matter."

Continued on Fourth Page.

Public Land Frauds.

Washington, Jan. 26.—President Roosevelt has determined to put an end, if possible, to frauds in the acquisition of public lands by individuals and corporations. He has directed that hereafter no patent shall be issued for public land until an examination of the ground shall have been made by an authorized officer of the Government. The President's order is in the form of a letter to Secretary Hitchcock, and under its provisions orders are being sent out to day by the officials of the Land Office. Following is the text of President Roosevelt's letter:

The Secretary of the Interior: Sir.—To prevent the fraud now practiced in the acquisition of public lands in the United States, I have to direct that hereafter no final certificate, patent or other evidence of title shall be issued under the public land laws until an actual examination has been made on the ground by an authorized agent of the Government; but the following shall be exempted from the force of this order:

1. "All claims which have heretofore been examined on the ground by an authorized officer of the Government, whose report is found satisfactory.

2. All claims where heretofore an officer of the Government, other than officers authorized to take

final proof, shall have been present at the taking of final proof to cross-examine the claimant and witnesses, if such proof is found satisfactory.

3. All claims where claimant's compliance with the law has been established by contest or other regular adverse proceedings.

4. Entries which may have been confirmed by virtue of any act of Congress.

5. Selections and entries in which no residence or improvement is required by law, when the lands embraced therein are, strictly speaking, in agricultural districts, or when the character has been fixed by investigation and classification made in accordance with law.

6. Cases of reissuance of patents because of some clerical error occurring in the patent heretofore issued.

7. All Indian allotments which have been regularly approved in accordance with instructions of the Secretary of the Interior.

"You will issue all necessary instructions to carry this into effect. This order is in lieu of my order of Dec. 13, 1906.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Report of State Board of Agriculture and Immigration.

The annual crop report of the State Board of Agriculture and Immigration places the total number of bales of cotton raised in Louisiana this past season at 840,000, against a crop of 719,000 for the year previous. The number of hogheads of sugar raised, according to this report, is 325,654; the number of barrels of molasses and syrup is 337,909. The summary of the report given out by the Board is as follows:

The State Board of Agriculture and Immigration, in submitting its annual statistical and crop report for the year 1906, is gratified to state that marked improvement over the previous year shows itself along almost all lines of industry.

For some unaccountable reason five assessors have failed to make their report.

The cotton crop, estimating the few parishes failing to report as equal in yield to their neighbors, we place at about 840,000 bales.

Forty parishes report an acreage in sugar cane, but only fourteen give the yield in sugar, while thirty-five make reports of molasses and syrup at 337,909 barrels.

The corn crop is about 17,800,000 bushels, at least five millions more than in 1905.

Rice, too, is looming up above the previous year's figures by five or six million pounds, and we place the crop at 193,550,000 pounds.

The sweet potato crop we place at about 2,186,910 bushels.

Then we had 24,315 acres of Irish potatoes, yielding from ten to 200 bushels per acre, an average yield of about fifty bushels per acre.

There were also 57,063 acres in oats and 25,499 acres in vegetables.

The general health of the stock throughout the State has been good. Lafayette and Plaquemines have reported some cholera. St. Helena cholera, among the hogs, and a few diseases in some of the parishes, but nothing of an alarming nature. This is considered a good showing, as the fifty parishes reporting place a valuation of \$19,401,490 upon their live stock. The parish of Orleans is not included in the report.

In cultivation during the past season, 4,888,117 acres; in timber land in Louisiana, 13,293,124; in marsh and meadow, 5,256,130 acres.

The total amount of capital invested in industries is placed at \$18,925,428.

The total number of irrigation plants is 168, with a value of \$2,975,500, with a total mileage of 1,208.

The total number of cotton gins is placed at 1,509, and they are valued at \$5,110,804.

The total number of rice mills in Louisiana is placed at thirty-four, and they are valued at \$143,500.

Total number of cotton seed oil mills in Louisiana is placed at forty-five, and their value is estimated at \$3,144,320.

The total cotton acreage this year was 1,870,686.

The total corn acreage is placed at 1,509,125.

The total acreage in sugar cane during the past season is placed at 844,821.

The total rice acreage for the year is placed at 250,010.

Terrible Mine Disaster.

Three Hundred Men are Killed in Explosion.

Rescuers at Work Recovering Bodies.

HIGH WATER COMING.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson Refuses Pension.

A Meteor Causes an Explosion of Dynamite.

Terrible Mine Disaster.

Saarbrueck, Prussia, Jan. 28.—A fire damp explosion occurred this morning in the Redden coal mine, at St. Johann ou-Saar, opposite Saarbrueck, and caused the loss of from 150 to 200 lives. The Redden mine is owned by the Prussian Government. In a second explosion in the mine, many of the rescuers were killed. Over 300 met death in the two explosions.

Up to 6 o'clock this morning, sixty seven bodies had been brought to the surface, and fifty six corpses were known to be still under ground. Only fifty five men up to the present time have been brought out, and of these the doctors say at least thirty five will surely die.

After the rescuers had reached daylight, according to one version, a second terrific detonation was heard underground; but according to another report many of the rescuers were still below when the second explosion was heard, and it is estimated that the casualty list from the two explosions reaches a total of 300 men.

High Water Coming.

Washington, Jan. 28.—The Weather Bureau to-night issued the following flood bulletin:

The Ohio River at Cairo has begun to fall, the gauge to night reading 50 2 feet, a fall of .1 since Sunday night.

The stage at Memphis to night was 36 0. rise of 1 foot since Sunday night.

Helen, 45 3; Arkansas City, 49 feet; Greenville, 45 5, a rise of .3 at each point during the last twenty-four hours; Vicksburg 46 feet, a rise of .1; Natchez, 41 9, a rise of .2; Baton Rouge, 32.6, a rise of .1, and New Orleans, 17.8 and stationary.

Refuses a Pension.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 26.—The Senate of North Carolina received to-day a letter from Mrs. "Stonewall" Jackson declining to accept a pension of \$100 a month, provided under a resolution introduced a few days ago.

"I most welcomingly appreciate this patriotic and loyal tribute to the name of my hero husband," she says, "but I do not feel that I would be justified in accepting it. I am informed that the laws of North Carolina limit all pensions to those who have not \$500 of personal property, and as I do not come under this law, I respectfully request that the bill be withdrawn."

Mrs. Jackson suggests that the proposed pension in her behalf be appropriated for the relief of destitute widows of Confederate veterans.

As it was the desire of Mrs. Jackson, the bill calling for the pension was withdrawn from the calendar.

Did the Meteor Do It?

Terre Haute Ind., Jan. 25.—That a meteor set off a car of powder and caused the disaster to Big Four accommodation train No. 3, at Sanford, Ind., on last Saturday night, is the assertion of R. E. Brown, of Edgar county, Ill. Brown lives on Rural route No. 1, out of Paris. He stated that

the night of the disaster and at the time of the explosion a large meteor passed over his place. It appeared like a great ball of fire, he said, and made a noise like a strong wind. The meteor, he said, was moving in the direction of Sanford, Ind., and left a trail of sparks. Almost immediately after its appearance he heard the explosion of the car of powder.

Other people living in the vicinity of Vermillion, Ill., and Sanford, Ind., to day stated that they saw the meteor also.

Were Messages Delivered.

An interesting rule, the issuance of which will come up at the next session of the Louisiana Railroad Commission, will be that requiring the telegraph companies doing business in the State to report back to the office from which a message had been sent whether or not service was had on the message.

Under this rule, the telegraph office receiving the message will be required to report to the offices from which the message originated whether or not it was delivered.

If this rule is established, a party sending a message will be able to ascertain from the office whether or not the message had been delivered.

The establishment of this rule, it is argued, would prevent the failure to deliver a message, and would give a person an opportunity to get in communication by some other means.

To Property-Owners of the Ozone Belt.

Our printed list will be on the press in a few days. If you have any improved or unimproved property for sale, send us description, with price, at once.

WHITE & KELLER, Real Estate Brokers

Ordinance

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Covington, in legal session convened, that in accordance with the vote of the majority of taxpayers of the said Town of Covington, Louisiana, in number and in value, held according to law on October 15, 1906, a special tax of four (4) mills on the dollar annually, for a period of ten (10) years, be and the same is hereby levied upon all taxable property in the said Town of Covington, Louisiana, for the purpose of erecting, constructing and maintaining a public school house or school houses, and for other school purposes; the said tax to be paid over as collected from year to year to the Board of School Directors in and for the Parish of St. Tammany, Louisiana.

Sec. 2. Be it further ordained, etc., That said special tax of four (4) mills shall be extended on the tax rolls for 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916, and collected for those years.

Sec. 3. Be it further ordained, etc., That this ordinance take effect from and after its passage, and shall remain in force until said tax for ten (10) years, aforesaid, is paid over to said Board of School Directors for St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

Adopted December 8, 1906.

C. Z. WILLIAMS, Mayor.

W. G. KENTZEL, Secretary. d28-07

LICENSE ORDINANCE.

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Covington, Louisiana, in legal session convened, that a license tax be and is hereby levied for the year 1907 upon each person, corporation, firm or association pursuing any occupation, trade, business or calling in the Town of Covington, which is subject to State license.

Sec. 2. Be it further ordained, etc., That the amount of license due from this town for each trade, occupation, business or calling carried on or conducted in this town, subject to a license, is hereby fixed at the same as is now levied and collected by the State for such trade, occupation, business or calling within the corporate limits of this town, except the liquor license, which shall be \$200 for the year 1907.

Sec. 3. Be it further ordained, etc., That the license tax due this town shall be and is hereby due and collectible at the same time and in the same manner as license due the State; and in the event the same are not paid when due, it is ordered that the Tax Collector report the same to the Town Attorney, who is hereby authorized and instructed to forthwith institute legal proceedings to enforce payment of same.

Adopted December 31, 1906.

C. Z. WILLIAMS, Mayor.

W. G. KENTZEL, Secretary.

Dr. H. E. Gautreaux,

Physician and Surgeon,

Formerly Assistant Surgeon of the Touro Infirmary, of New Orleans, has located his office with Dr. A. C. Gribble, opposite Trullay & Orbanek's Drug Store

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