

The St. Tammany Farmer.

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

D. H. MASON, JR., Editor.

COVINGTON, ST TAMMANY PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1908.

VOL. XXXIV NO 17

First Grand Masquerade Ball

—TO BE GIVEN BY—

Bogue Falaya Grove No 21, UAOB

ON

St. Joseph's Night, March 19, 1908

AT

Cantrell's Hall

MUSIC BY BRASS BAND

Refreshments and Supper a la Domergue.

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Votes Will be Posted Daily.

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A DEVASTATING FIRE.

Attempt to Assassinate Chief Shippy, of the Chicago Police.

Nine-Hour Law Goes Into Effect. Other News Items of Interest.

Destructive Fire

Tampa, Fla., March 1.—The entire extreme northeastern section of the city proper was destroyed by fire which broke out at 9 o'clock to-day and raged uninterruptedly for four hours. The area burned covered fifty-five acres, or eighteen and a half city blocks, and 308 buildings were destroyed, with the total loss estimated at \$600,000, and one woman is dead as result of shock.

The burned section included four large and one smaller cigar factories and numerous restaurants, saloons, boarding houses and over two hundred dwellings occupied by cigar makers. The factories burned were M. Stachelberg & Co., loss \$100,000; M. Perez & Co., loss \$50,000; Gonzales, Fisher & Co., loss \$40,000; Esberg, Gunst & Co., branch of Stachelberg, loss \$40,000; Fernandez & Brother, loss \$20,000.

All the factories carried large stocks of tobacco and cigars. The area swept by fire embraced all that portion of the city between Twelfth and Michigan Avenues and Sixteenth and Twentieth Streets. The fire originated in the boarding-house of Antonio Diaz, 1714 Twelfth Avenue, and fanned by a strong wind, spread fan-shaped, defying the efforts of the fire department, which was crippled by very weak water pressure, to check it. Occupants of over 200 dwellings, thrown into a panic, rushed out, attempting to save but little of their belongings. A Cuban woman in a delicate condition dropped dead from shock, her body being rescued from the burning house with difficulty.

In the big factories it was possible only to save most valuable of records, books, etc., and the valuable stock of leaf tobacco and manufactured cigars ready for shipment were left to the mercy of the flames.

Fire Chief Savage was overcome by heat and smoke early in the fire, but recovered later. Citizens volunteered assistance to the fireman, but the spread of the flames was so rapid that little effectual work could be done.

Among buildings, other than factories destroyed were the hotels and cafes of Perez and Castro, and Mexico Caras, six saloons, twelve restaurants and ten boarding-houses. The car barns of the Tampa Electric Company, containing twenty cars, was endangered, and owing to the destruction of trolley wires cars could not be moved. The fire finally burned itself out at the extreme northeastern corner of the city.

Fully half of the people rendered homeless were out of work owing to the dull season in the factories, and their shelter became an immediate problem.

St. Joseph's Convent was opened to them by order of the Jesuit Fathers, and many found lodgings there, while others were accommodated in homes throughout the city. Besides these, thousands of men will be out of work on account of the burning of the factories. The insurance is estimated at not more than half the loss.

At the home of Miguel Rodriguez, a cigar-maker, the corpse of a child in a coffin awaiting funeral services, was cremated.

The State militia was placed on guard to-night in the burned district to prevent depredations.

Nine Hour Law In Force

Washington, March 1.—American railroads have made arrangements to comply with the provisions of the nine-hour law. The operation of the law will mean the employment by railroad companies of several thousand additional operators and the closing of a large number of small stations on the 4th of March. The discontinuance of railway service at many points, it is realized, will induce at least temporary inconvenience to the traveling and shipping public, but in order to reduce operating expenses, which now seems necessary, the operating officials of the railroads believe that this is the only way they possibly can meet the situation with which they are confronted.

During the hearing of applications for an extension of the nine-hour law by the Interstate Commerce Commission some astonishing statements were made by the operating officials of important railroads. A good many lines, owing to the reduction in their revenues and to their inability to command the cash necessary to meet their pay-rolls, have been forced, during the past four months, almost to the point of asking for receivers. In the opinion of railroad officials,

expressed at the hearing under oath, and in private conversations, this condition does not seem to have been due to the enforcement of regulative laws or to the incapacity of railway management. Most of the railroad officials attribute the difficulty to the unfortunate banking situation which developed last September. The railroads did not feel the stringency in money until about the 1st of November. In fact, the month of October was one of the best in the history of business of American railroad.

One railroad official ventures the statement that in the country to-day there are 400,000 idle freight cars, and one line, which is instanced, was declared to be hauling empty cars backward and forward because it had not yard room or sidings to accommodate them.

Not a single official of a single railway line, who appeared before the Commissioner, has expressed the belief that the present industrial depression would be lasting. In the testimony of nearly every witness before the Commission there was a note of confidence because all of them practically believe that the stringency in the money market, from which the country has suffered, is not due to fundamental causes. They point out that the crops last year were good, that prices were excellent, that industrial enterprises throughout the country were flourishing. It was merely the inability to command ready cash and the hoarding of money by panic-stricken individuals, which produced so suddenly the remarkable depression from which all have suffered. They practically uniformly express confidence that the return of prosperity will be almost as sudden as the coming adversity, and in their arguments as to the enforcement of the nine-hour law, they pointed out to the Commission that such a return of prosperity might embarrass them in complying with the law because it would render it difficult to command the services of competent operators in sufficient numbers to meet the needs of prosperous conditions.

Attempted Assassination

Chicago, March 2.—Chief of Police George M. Shippy, his son Harry, and his driver, James Foley, were wounded by Lazarus Averbuch, an anarchist, who attempted to assassinate the police official in the hall of the latter's residence, 31 Lincoln Court, shortly after 9 o'clock this morning. The desperate struggle, in which Mrs. Shippy and her daughter, Georgette, joined, was terminated when the Chief drew his own revolver and killed his assailant.

The attack is believed to have been the result of a conspiracy to harm officials who have been active in suppressing manifestations of anarchy in this community. Other city officials are said to have been threatened, and a policeman who recognized the corpse of the man who invaded Shippy's home as that of a person who regularly attended anarchists' meetings, asserted that the man was chosen by the anarchists to do away with not only the Chief of Police, but Mayor E. Busse as well. The ramifications of the plot are said to extend to other cities, and to be closely connected with the killing of Rev. Leo Heinrichs, a Roman Catholic priest, who was shot down at the altar of his church in Denver.

Henry Shippy was shot through the breast twice and was perhaps fatally wounded. His father was stabbed in the arm, while Foley received a bullet in the wrist. Mrs. Shippy was kicked by the desperado, but her hurts are slight.

Harry Shippy was the most severely hurt of those injured in to-day's affray. Although the bullet from the assassin's revolver passed completely through his body, just above the heart, it is said to-night that his chances for recovery were favorable.

His father was stabbed in the arm. Chicago, March 3.—That Lazarus Averbuch, in attempting to assassinate Chief of Police Shippy, carried out a commissioner entrusted to him by a group of Chicago anarchists was declared by Assistant Chief of Police Schuetler to-night to have been proven beyond a doubt. The discovery was made just as the police were about to accept the theory that the young anarchist acted upon his own impulse and that the attempt was not the result of a conspiracy.

The group of anarchists also plotted, according to information in the hands of the authorities, to assassinate Mayor Busse and Capt. P. D. O'Brien of the detective bureau. The principals in the plot have not yet been discovered, but it was stated that Averbuch was picked to execute the order of death at a meeting of anarchists

Continued on fourth page.

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FALL COUGHS

Damp weather and sudden changes in temperature this month start many a cough and cold. Tolson & Schonberg's SYRUP OF TAR checks the coughing, heals the soreness and drives out the cold. It is the best family cough remedy—pleasant, safe and quickly effective. Fine for children. Money back if not satisfied. Price, 25 cents.

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