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MONTHLY MARKETABLE CROPS

Labor's Attitude Toward the Newcomers—Those From the North of Europe Acceptable.

BY WILLIAM E. CURTIS.
Special Correspondence of The Star and the Chicago Record-Herald.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 10, 1908.

When I asked Col. Samuel C. Dunlap, commissioner of immigration for Georgia, what kind of foreigners they are trying to get for their state—farmers, factory hands, homebuyers or general laborers—he replied:

"Georgia is the largest state east of the Mississippi river; it contains 59,400 square miles, or about 3,801,000 acres, and has a population of but 2,500,000. Naturally, we seek the agriculturist who has some capital, no matter how small, to locate and invest in the state for this reason. Georgia contains thirty-one towns and cities of more than 2,500 inhabitants. During the past three or four years these towns and cities have grown and prospered to a point almost beyond belief. One town in the state has increased her population 75 per cent during the last eighteen months. These prosperous conditions have attracted the people from the rural districts because in the factories and on the public works near the towns and cities higher wages could be made and families could take advantage of the excellent school facilities and educate their children while making a good living.

Farm Products in Demand.

"This prosperous condition was brought about largely through the expansion of industrial enterprises during the past half dozen years. As an example, ten years ago Troup county was an agricultural arcadia with a large population engaged exclusively in tilling the soil. Then local capital built the first cotton mill, which grew, and others, and still others, were built. Gradually the rural population moved into Lagrange, the county seat, attracted by high wages and school facilities, and the spaces used for kitchen gardens became sites for the erection of cottages to accommodate the increased population. In three years the cotton manufacturing industry at Lagrange doubled its capacity, and as a result not enough cotton or garden produce is now raised in the country around the little city to supply the local demand. Cotton consumers have to go to other localities for additional supplies, while much of the truck, dairy products and other produce is shipped in. The products of the average small farm hauled by wagon into the average Georgia city always find a good market. Moreover, the average Georgia town, such as I have described, and which is typical of nearly all of them, is a good consumer, with a population made up of the class who have money to buy and who are happy at the opportunity to purchase anything from a carload of cotton to a nickel's worth of turnips.

"Georgia is fortunate, too, in climate and soil. Nearly every crop grown in the temperate zone, from the semi-tropical fruits and vegetables on the coast and sea islands, to the winter grains and hardy apples in the old red hills, can be produced in abundance. Barring rain, of which the average is small, but sufficent to produce the crops of the region, one can work outdoors 365 days in every year, and produce some marketable crop each month. All of this makes for the success of the small farmer located near the town, where a few acres carefully cultivated and properly managed prove profitable to the newcomer, be he native of the United States or from the shores of Europe. He is happier, too, living close to nature, and when a man once gets the red soil of Georgia ground into him he always stays with us. It is not exactly the same elsewhere.

Effect on the Foreigners.

"How much does prohibition affect immigration? Many foreigners will not come to a country where they can't have their wine and beer."

"The Georgia prohibition law is of too recent enactment to indicate just now what its ultimate effect will be upon the immigrant who likes his wine and beer. The several sections of the measure are drastic in the extreme, and it is probable that most of them will be tested in the courts from time to time. The bill is so worded as to permit of very liberal interpretation; it nowhere prescribes the percentage of alcohol a beverage shall contain, but states in general terms beverages 'which if drunk to excess will produce intoxication.' Under the old Georgia local option law 1 per cent of alcohol was the limit. It is a noteworthy fact, in this connection, that of the various peoples we come in contact with only the Americans and English are given to drunkenness, or who are addicted to the strong rums and whiskies, therefore, the Anglo-Saxons will feel the effects of drastic prohibitory laws to a greater extent than will the others who come. Judge Andy Calhoun of the Atlanta city court recently rendered a decision in regard to socalled 'temperance beer,' under which 2 per cent of alcohol is permitted in the soft drinks. This, of course, helps out the Teutonic element very much.

"The immediate effect of prohibition on the foreigners already in the state has been disastrous. Nearly every family of immigrants living in the country had its own vineyard and made its own light wine and fruit brandies for home consumption; these, of course, will have to be abandoned, which means a direct monetary loss to the owners, and at a time when they were just beginning to feel at home with us. Foreigners who have been in the state long enough, of course, appreciate, just as do the Americans, that prohibitory laws do not, in any sense, actually prohibit. They are only a source of inconvenience. Such men order regularly and receive their supplies from outside the state by express.

"To the Russian, Jews, Bulgarians and Austro-Hungarians the new law means nothing. They are all temperate people unused to the strong 'Scotch' whisky made in New Jersey and the seductive American cocktail. They consume enormous quantities of tea and a non-alcoholic drink which they make themselves from black bean bread, called 'keslie quas,' and appear to enjoy both hugely, though 'keslie quas' to the uninitiated is something 'fierce.' Speaking of tea and the quantity consumed by these immigrants, it is noticeable that since the Georgia prohibition law went into effect that one firm, always alert for business, and understanding the migrations of tea-drinking people better, perhaps, than any other firm in the business, has had its tea advertisements, well printed in Yiddish, displayed in every Atlanta street car.

Attitude of Labor Toward Immigration.

"Are the labor organizations opposed to immigration?" I asked.

"Some of them, yes; in the main, however, the opposition is directed only to Slavs and Iberics. Everybody is willing that English, Irish, Germans and Swedes may come in. Members and officers of labor organizations among the highest class of the skilled trades, composed largely of educated and intelligent men, rather favor the idea. Such men realize from a study of conditions that immigration of the right class is necessary for the proper development of the south, and without common labor of a higher order of intelligence than the negro brings to his task we cannot work out the destiny of this section of the United States."

"What labor organizations have you?"

"We have the American Federation," continued Mr. Dunlap. "It is not very strong, as but one-sixth of the total population of Georgia lives in cities. Atlanta stands first in organization, with Savannah next; then Augusta, Macon and Columbus in the order named. In the cities the organizations have never developed sufficient strength to become a political factor except under conditions when five or more candidates enter the field for the same office."

"Why don't the negroes organize?"

"That question suggests that you are not a southerner, because people who live down here know best that the negroes, through their societies and churches, are stronger and better organized today than any other class throughout the south. They have what may be called an 'unfair' list and can establish a boycott that is effectual. I don't know if this method has ever been applied against firms or manufacturers, but it has been and is applied against individuals and families, and on account of it many of the prominent people of this city are today without competent servants, nor can they secure them until the ban is lifted.

Revenge of the Wash Ladies.

"The story is this: You employ, say, a laundress; she comes early Monday morning for the family washing, returning it late Saturday afternoon or evening. When the articles of clothing show undoubted evidence of having been worn, or some are missing and some are so badly torn as to be worthless, ore are indifferently done, you call attention to it and are met with an impertinent reply. If you dock her for destroyed articles or 'fire' the 'wash lady,' as she styles herself, next day at church service your name is posted with your address and description and you are on the 'unfair' list. It will be impossible for you to obtain negro servants unless you import them from the country until the ban is lifted.

"Here in Atlanta two negro employment agencies operate. They have a regular corps of negro girls, women and men whom they send out fully instructed as to what to do under certain conditions. For example, you need a house girl; she applies, being previously instructed that if she is asked to wait on table, sweep a veranda, a garden walk or sidewalk she is to protest and if it is insisted upon to ask for her wages, quit work and report back to the agency. The result is that where one servant previously did the work in a small family of three or four, two or more servants are now required, and it is the exception where sufficient food is not carried away from the house daily to feed families of three to seven or more. Some of my friends tell me that they have discovered their servants running well-equipped boarding houses out of their pantries.

Col. Hughes' Story.

"A shiftless and lazy negro always has a ready excuse when called down, imagining that you unhesitatingly believe everything he tells you. Illustrating this Col. Dudley M. Hughes, one of the largest farmers, as well as one of the most prominent citizens of the state, tells a good story. He farms several thousand acres, just as his father did in ante-bellum days. Among the negroes employed on the place was one called Jed, a good farmer with a penchant for visiting regardless of distance and oblivious of time consumed. As Saturdays were observed as half holidays, Jed usually selected that day for his trips, returning before daylight on Monday morning, happy, but worn out, and, of course, totally unfit for work on Mondays. The invariable excuse was that he was sick; and after a rest Jed would show up smiling on Tuesday.

"One Monday Morning Jed's regular excuse was given out; and, accompanied by the old family physician, Col. Hughes paid a visit to Jed, who was sleeping so soundly that it was with considerable difficulty he was aroused. The colonel sympathized with him, telling him he was too valuable a man to be so ill without a doctor to look after him, so he had brought his own family physician to fix him up. The physician carefully examined Jed and held a grave consultation, all of which Jed took very seriously. Finally a thick coating of capsicum colodeon was applied to Jed's tongue and he was told that when it dissolved the doctor would return and make a further examination. As they disappeared from the door of the cabin, Jed anxiously called 'Marse Dud! Marse Dud! Can old Jed have a chaw of 'backer?' The physician cautioned him gravely not to think of such a thing, and cautioned him also not even to take a drink of water until all the medicine had dissolved. If he did it would probably prove serious for him.

"Late during the afternoon Col. Hughes again approached Jed's cabin where the negro, the victim of his imagination, with swollen tongue and bloodshot eyes, the picture of misery, was seated in the doorway. After a few preliminaries the colonel in a grave, serious manner told him that he thought he could have a little water, which he proceeded himself to administer. When asked by Jed to diagnose his case, the colonel made an elaborate explanation of his trouble, telling him that it had been brought on by too severe exercise, and cautioning him against further excess. The one dose was enough. Thereafter Jed was regular at work on Mondays.

"Once, some years ago, we were engaged in operating, under a receivership, one of the smaller railroad lines in the northeastern portion of the state. The section hands were all negroes. Having occasion to reduce the force, one old negro working near headquarters, was 'fired.' It happened to be Saturday afternoon and he appeared at the office door and requested sa pass to be used Sunday morning to go home. To 'jolly' him a little, I asked him if he thought that he was entitled to free transportation; whether if we were using horses instead of a locomotive, he thought it would be a fair proposition to ask me to harness them and carry him to his home.

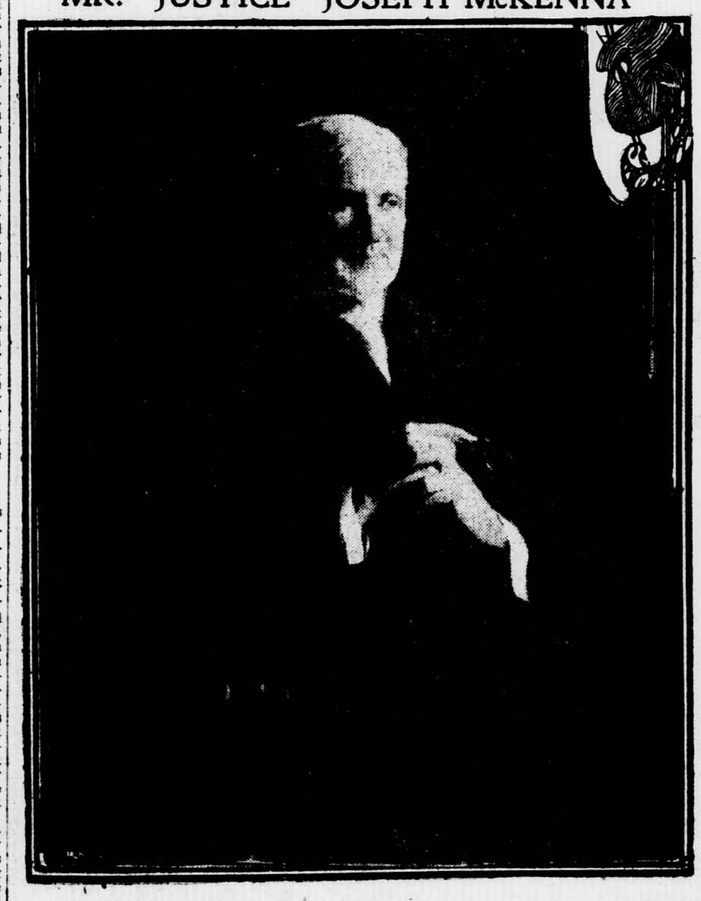
"'No, boss,' he answered, 'but if you was already hitched up an' gwine my way, there ain't no harm in my askin' you to let ole nigger ride, is dey?'

"That answer drew the transportation."

Northwest Gale on the River.

Capt. Chapman Slye, master of the Washington and Potomac Steamboat Company's steamer Harry Randall, reports the northwest gale on the river Saturday last to have been extremely severe and the worst in many years. The seas caused by the gale were very high on the wide stretch of the Potomac off Colonial Beach and the steamer in crossing from the beach to the Wicomico river rolled considerably, and Capt. Slye thought wise to tie up at Rock point for several hours until the gale moderated before attempting to cross the river to Nomini. No damage was done shipping in the river by the storm, as far as reported. In consequence of the storm and the low water caused by the gale the Randall was several hours late in arriving here Sunday on her regular trip from the lower river. Low water in Mattawoman creek delayed the steamer Estelle Randall yesterday, and she did not reach here on her return trip until after 8 o'clock p.m. Saturday night and Sunday morning the flats were laid bare, the wind blowing hard enough to cause very low water.

MR. JUSTICE JOSEPH McKENNA



From the Painting by Albert Rosenthal, Whose Portraits of the Supreme Court Justices Are on View at the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETS

MEMBER TENDERS RESIGNATION—OFFICIAL REPORTS.

Councilman J. B. Derrick, at a meeting of the town council of Takoma Park, Md., held last evening, tendered his resignation as a member of that body, and it was laid on the table until the May meeting of the council.

In resigning from the council Mr. Derrick took occasion to thank the mayor and council and the citizens of the town for the loyal support he had received and the honors which had been conferred upon him in the past. He said he would maintain an active interest in the affairs of the town where he has made his home and pledged his best efforts and most earnest support in behalf of good citizenship and promotion of the welfare of the town, and concluded by saying that he resigned for purely personal reasons. His retirement was greatly regretted by his fellow members.

The report of the board of assessors was submitted at the meeting and received by the council. The report shows decreases amounting to $800, and increases of $26,495, leaving a net increase of $25,695. The total assessment this year amounts to about $576,000. Last year the total increase amounted to about $25,000. The report stated that inasmuch as it has been the policy of the council to eliminate the assessment of personal property in the levying of taxes the board deemed it unnecessary to revise or consider that feature of the assessment. The board was composed of J. H. Clark, chairman; J. H. Van Houten and Ben G. Davis, town clerk. The council will sit in May as a board of review to hear complaints regarding assessments.

Treasurer's Report.

The report of the town treasurer was submitted and approved. The report showed receipts during the past month as follows: General taxes, $1,406.66; special taxes, cement walks, $460; special taxes, water mains, $45.77; water rents, $86.75; permits, $5; redemption of property, $63.51, making a total of $2,157.69, which, with the balance on hand of $2,901.37, made a grand total of $5,059.06. The expenditures during the same period were as follows: Pumping plant, $95.90; sewerage system, $6.75; street lighting, $20.80; street work, $74.30; general expenses, $8.45; improvement bond, $500; plumbers' deposits refunded, $10; water tappers' fees, $5; salaries, $100.83, making a total of $835.61, leaving a net balance on hand of $4,223.45.

The finance committee submitted bills amounting to $252.66, which were audited and ordered paid.

Town Clerk Davis announced that for the first time in the history of the town no tax sale was held, all taxes having been paid and reported by the treasurer.

A petition was received for a gravel street on Montgomery avenue, between Pine and Hickory avenues. The petition was signed by P. P. Pierce, I. C. Haas, L. C. Thomas, Edgar M. Eshelman, L. M. Mooers, E. S. Case and Samuel Queen. The paper was referred to the street committee for report.

The town treasurer was authorized and directed to cancel one of the outstanding improvement bonds of $500, the payment to be accredited to the town's annual proportion of the public improvements for which the bonds were issued. The recommendation was made by the finance committee, composed of Councilmen John Hansen, W. W. Dyar and J. B. Derrick.

General Election.

The council adopted an ordinance calling a general election for Monday, May 4, in the basement of the Presbyterian Chapel, Maple avenue, at which time qualified voters of the town will cast their votes for mayor and three persons as councilmen for a term of two years. The polls will be open at 6 a.m. and will close at 6 p.m. Messrs. J. H. Clark, L. M. Mooers and S. E. McNeil were appointed judges of election.

The town clerk was directed to call a caucus for the election of a mayor and council not later than April 25.

The councilmen whose two-year terms expire on May 4 are John Hansen, J. B. Derrick and L. R. Grabill. The term of Mayor W. G. Platt will also expire on that date. It is understood that he will be a candidate for re-election. Of the councilman Mr. Derrick tendered his resignation last night, and Councilman Hansen, by reason of being a non-resident of Takoma, will not be a candidate for re-election. Councilman Grabill will be a candidate for re-election.

FATAL DOMESTIC QUARREL.

Man Kills Two Men While Protecting Woman From Husband.

CAMPBELL, Mo., April 14.—W. R. Bell is under arrest on the charge of having shot and killed Ephraim Bridgeman and Marion Bridges two miles southwest of here while defending Mrs. Clara Johnson from her husband. Bell was, at his request, taken to Kennett, Mo., for safekeeping. Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Rosa Dawson and fourteen-year-old Sadie Johnson are also under arrest, charged with being accessories before the fact. The charges were made against them, it is said, principally to hold them as witnesses.

The shooting was caused by a quarrel resulting from the domestic difficulties between Mrs. Johnson and her husband, who, she stated, had left her. The tragedy occurred on the Bridges farm, where Bell was employed.

Boat Upset; One Drowned.

NEW YORK, April 14.—A rowboat containing George Johnson, sixty-three years old, a watchman, and three surveyors, all employed by the Jersey Central railroad, was capsized yesterday by the wash of a passing tug off Communipaw. The surveyors grabbed Johnson in the water and tried to swim ashore with him. They were handicapped by their heavy clothes and boots, and were obliged to let go after a long struggle. Johnson's body was not recovered. He lived at 13 Crane street, Elizabeth.

TROUBLE CEASED

WHEN PROPER FOOD WAS FOUND.

Good news benefits both parties—the teller and the one to whom the glad story is told.

A man out in Dakota told another man how he had been set on his feet, as it were, by a good doctor who knew how to treat stomach cases, in a really scientific way—by the use of proper food.

"About five years ago," writes the man, "I was suffering from dyspepsia, gas in the stomach, and I was on the verge of nervous prostration when I met a man who told me how he had been relieved of a similar trouble.

"He had suffered with stomach trouble for years as a result of eating improper food. He was at the time I write doing the work of an ordinary laborer and said he never felt so well.

"His doctor had emptied the stomach and then prescribed nothing but Grape-Nuts, soft boiled eggs and dry toast. He got well under this treatment. I followed his advice and lived on Grape-Nuts with cream, fruit and toast for a month. My trouble ceased almost immediately.

"The strengthening effect on my nerves was so gradual I can't just tell when I began to improve, but in a few weeks I could sit contentedly for hours, whereas before I was restless and nervous. In a month or two I could sleep the moment I lay down.

"When my little boy was a year and a half old he had a bad attack of indigestion while I was away from home. He vomited four days and nights. I had never seen Grape-Nuts recommended for babies, but I decided I would try it. I warmed and softened the food in water that had been boiled, 2 teaspoonfuls water, 3 teaspoonfuls rich milk.

"As his stomach got better I left out the water and used only warm milk. He is now a strong, active child of two years, and eats Grape-Nuts three times a day." "There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.