

THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

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NO. 5.

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AROUND THE STATE.

Items of Interest Culled From the Louisiana Press.

Louisiana Planters to Manufacture Denatured Alcohol from Molasses Residue—White Man Killed by Negroes at Powhattan.

A shortage of at least 20 per cent is predicted in the Louisiana sugar crop of 1906-07.

The police jury of Pointe Coupee parish increased the retail liquor license from \$100 to \$1000 per annum.

The French government will establish a chamber of commerce at New Orleans for the purpose of facilitating trade.

New Orleans will be placed upon the same basis as New York in the matter of through freight tariffs from the east to Colon, Panama.

The store, stock of merchandise and residence of J. M. Simpson, at Alexandria, were totally destroyed by fire, inflicting a loss of \$2000.

The St. Mary Bank of Franklin liquidated its affairs and retired from business, being succeeded by the St. Mary Bank and Trust Company.

The contract was awarded for the construction of two schoolhouses in the eastern and western limits of the town of New Iberia at a cost of \$22,000.

Approximately 13,000 tons of sulphur were shipped from the port of New Orleans during the past week, all of it being the product of Louisiana mines.

The board of commissioners of the fifth Louisiana levee district has offered a reward of 50 cents for every kingfisher killed on or near the public levees in that district.

The executive committee of the Louisiana crop pest commission removed the quarantine against cotton-seed and cotton-seed hulls shipped from weevil-infested districts.

Prominent sugar planters of this state are behind a movement to establish plants for the manufacture of denatured alcohol from the molasses residuum of sugar refineries.

A. B. Wheeler, of New Orleans, was elected president of the proposed New Orleans, Natchez and Pacific Railway Company, and W. J. Poltevent, also of New Orleans, was chosen vice president.

Z. T. Tinker, president of the Security Brewing Co., announced that a company has been formed for the purpose of establishing at New Orleans an immense denatured alcohol manufactory.

The oil well being bored by the Cuffey Petroleum Company on Oakley plantation, in the parish of Assumption, has reached a depth of 1500 feet. At last reports the drill was working through rock.

The municipal waterworks system at Boyce was tested in the presence of Sol. Bloodworth, secretary of the Louisiana Fire Prevention Bureau, and proved sufficiently adequate to warrant the placing of the town in the third-class list.

Dr. W. H. Dalrymple, head of the department of veterinary science at the Louisiana State University, was requested to officiate as judge of beef cattle at the Kentucky state fair, but, owing to a stress of other duties, was compelled to decline the honor.

Stephen Hart, a well-known citizen of Powhattan, Natchitoches parish, was shot and fatally wounded by Cole and Duncan Howard, negro brothers, because he resented an insult which Cole Howard is alleged to have offered Mrs. Hart. The negroes made their escape, but Duncan Howard and an accomplice, Sam Green, were subsequently arrested and transferred to Shreveport for safekeeping. Mr. Hart died from the effects of his wounds the day after the shooting.

NEW ORLEANS LETTER.

Genesis of the River Shrimp—Drummers' Philosophy—Street Car Transfers.

Opening of the Theatrical Season, Etc.

New Orleans, La., Sept. 5, 1906.

Staff Correspondence of The Chief.

Coming over from Donaldsonville the other day—and incidentally I want to mention that during my recent visit there I was very much impressed with the many improvements which are going on, and the remarkable strides the town seems to be making in every way—I overheard an interesting conversation between some traveling men concerning the origin of that most delectable and daintiest of dainty edibles—the river shrimp. One of the drummers advanced the astonishing information that the river shrimp is not, as considered by many, a species by itself, but is in reality merely an offspring of the common lake shrimp, the river variety deriving its superior delicacy and flavor from propagating in fresh water instead of salt water. The drummer who expounded the original theory confirmed his argument by calling attention to the fact that the river shrimp is found only in Louisiana and Mississippi, and only at places in both these states where the river is directly tributary to the gulf. I had never given the matter any thought at all, and doubtless neither had you, but come to think of it, that theory seems pretty plausible, does it not?

I like to listen to traveling men talk; they are such a well-informed class of men, as a rule, and throw them together for any length of time and the result is likely to be any number of good stories and some dialogue worth listening to. Another of the party of drummers who happened to be on the train the same time I was, idly offered the suggestion that it might be an excellent plan if all the traveling men in the United States combined into a sort of fraternity and every time a member died, each living member would contribute simply a dime towards an insurance to be left to the deceased member's family. That sounded supremely simple and reasonable to me, and I silently wondered why someone else had not thought of so excellent a plan long ago. But instantly another of the party put in his oar: "Considering the many thousands of traveling men in the states and figuring on an average of two deaths a day, that would mean a daily expenditure of 20c." "Well," rejoined the first drummer, "what's twenty cents a day?" "Six dollars a month, seventy-two dollars a year, and one thousand one hundred and forty dollars at the end of twenty years—that's what it is!" said No. 2 heatedly. "Twenty cents a day is a big sum for a poor man, and if the man with sufficient salary to afford it would only put aside that twenty cents a day, he might accumulate his own insurance in time—and collect it without having to die for the privilege, too!"

It is to be deplored that a city like New Orleans should be so sadly behind the times in the matter of general street car transfer. Nearly every other large city, and many of lesser size and importance as well, enjoy perfect and thorough systems of transfer which the New Orleans Railways Company would do well to emulate. Even Quebec, the picturesque Canadian city which is so delightfully old-fashioned in every other respect, I found exceptionally long on transfers, and any point in the city can be reached for a single fare. The few transfers that the New Orleans cars do have are positive travesties. For instance, to reach Esplanade Avenue for one fare from up town, one must transfer at Canal street, from the Peters Avenue line to the Villiers and from thence to the Esplanade belt. Mind you, one must deliberately let an Esplanade car go by and enter a Villiers car before he is entitled to an Esplanade transfer. Was ever anything more stupid or wasteful than this greater waste of time and energy for no reason at all? It would be a mighty good thing if the up-town lines should issue transfers for the downtown lines and vice versa, and surely benefits would be bound to accrue to the Railways Company as well as the city and people by the adoption of such a course. I hope the Railways Company reads this and thinks it over.

Three of the theatres are open—the Tulane, Crescent and Greenwall—and the Lyric's doors will be ajar next Monday night. West End is yet in full blast and will be safe to maintain its present popularity as long as the warm weather continues. The popular Orpheum, the most successful vaudeville theatre ever conducted in New Orleans, is to "get into the game" on the 17th inst. and will be sure to be rung down at West End the night before the Orpheum's curtain is rung up. Tom Winston, whom everybody likes, is to have the management of the Orpheum this season, and John Chaffee will be his right-hand man. John's official title will be press agent, but his sphere of usefulness will comprise any old thing necessary to be done anywhere and at any time to promote the interests of the favorite playhouse and keep the managerial machinery running smoothly.

The roller skating fever shows no signs of abatement. On the contrary, the epidemic seems on the increase, if that be possible. The new rink at City Park is to be ready by the beginning of October, and will give the prevalent sport still greater impetus, particularly in the down-town districts. E. B.

THE WORLD'S NEWS.

Flashes of the Telegraph Wires From Near and Far.

Paul O. Stensland, Fugitive Bank President, Arrested in Morocco—American Army Transport Wrecked—Famine Threatened in Ireland.

Serious strike riots occurred in the mining regions of Hungary.

The Soufriere volcano on the island of St. Vincent is in eruption.

The French army maneuvers were abandoned on account of the heat.

An independent telephone company is being organized at Natchez, Miss.

Owing to poor crops, partial famine threatens the small farmers of Ireland.

Boston financiers are preparing to test the legality of the rate regulation measure.

The National Irrigation Congress held its fourteenth annual session at Boise, Idaho.

Lady Campbell-Bannerman, wife of the British premier, died at Marienbad, Bohemia.

Mormons have purchased another tract of land in Mexico for colonization purposes.

The federal government will establish pure food laboratories at New Orleans and other ports.

Hon. Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, left Washington yesterday for a tour of the south.

The annual convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association was held at Indianapolis, Ind.

Warehouses for the storage of cotton are being erected at numerous points throughout the south.

A Galveston fishing schooner was seized by Mexican authorities while lying becalmed near Progreso.

Labor Day occurred last Monday and was observed by organized labor in every portion of the country.

The Illinois Central Railroad inaugurated a through freight service from Chicago, Ill., to Jacksonville, Fla.

The reciprocal tariff schedule between the United States and Spain went into effect last Saturday, the 1st inst.

The New York grand jury reported that it could not find sufficient evidence on which to indict the alleged ice trust.

The son of Crown Prince Frederick Wilhelm, of Germany, was baptized at Potsdam in the presence of the royal family.

Missouri's secretary of state refused to permit the Armour Packing Company and other concerns to file "modified" anti-trust affidavits.

Herman Oelrichs, New York manager of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, died at sea while returning from a trip to Europe.

The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business Sept. 1, 1906, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$870,368,383.

Judge Alton B. Parker was elected president of the American Bar Association at the annual convention of that organization held recently in St. Paul, Minn.

Arizona rangers raided a Mexican revolutionary establishment near Douglas, Ariz., and seized a quantity of weapons and considerable printed matter.

Property and crops in the vicinity of Puebla and Durango, Mexico, have been damaged by incessant floods and rains to the extent of approximately \$500,000.

The United States army transport Sheridan ran aground on the southwestern extremity of the island of Oahu, in the Pacific ocean, and may prove a total loss.

Roy King, a negro, was run over and killed by a switch engine at Mobile, Ala., while trying to escape from another negro who was pursuing him with a brick.

The directors of the Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia, Pa., which recently failed for a large amount, will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Paul O. Stensland, the absconding president of the Milwaukee Avenue State Bank, of Chicago, was arrested at Tangier, Morocco, and will be brought back to the United States for trial.

Mrs. Frank Palgrave, who on Aug. 21 murdered her husband and three children at Biggott, Ark., committed suicide by hanging herself with a sheet in the state insane asylum at Little Rock.

Justice Stafford of the supreme court of the District of Columbia ruled that labor unions have a legal right to request their friends and sympathizers to withhold patronage from a non-union tradesman.

The Philippine currency system is causing the federal government much trouble. The rise in silver has upset all calculations, and, as a result, it will be necessary to recoin the silver pesos used in the islands.

The manager of a Birmingham, Ala., brokerage concern was bound over to the federal grand jury on a charge of abetting the embezzlement of \$100,000 by the paying teller of the First National Bank of that city.

THE UNIVERSITY CONTROVERSY.

Interesting Article by Dr. B. A. Colomb, Relative to the Late Unpleasantness Between the State's Leading Educational Institutions.

The following letter from Dr. B. A. Colomb, of Union, relative to the controversy over the question of state aid for Tulane University, appeared in a recent issue of the New Orleans Times-Democrat:

"Cul Bono? What useful purpose can the dispute between the Louisiana State University and Tulane University possibly serve, in so far as the people of Louisiana are concerned? This question must have frequently suggested itself to those who have followed the controversy, and it is the citizens of this state who are most vitally interested. During the twenty-two years that the two universities have existed under present conditions, both have made wonderful progress, according to their own accounts, and the facts warrant this assertion. Why not therefore adopt the Republican slogan, which is sound doctrine when true, and 'let well enough alone?' There is not the slightest reason to doubt that both universities will continue to advance, and will make as much progress in the future as they have done in the past, if not more, under the same conditions that have obtained ever since the University of Louisiana became the Tulane University of Louisiana.

"The people of this state are not so much interested in the standing of one university, in comparison with the other, as in the efficiency of both as schools for their children, and what ever injures either impairs this efficiency, and does harm to the cause of public education as a whole. From the initial skirmish, during the last session of the legislature, the Louisiana State University emerges with her appropriation cut down more than one-half, while Tulane fails to get any allowance and loses the efficient president of her governing board. This is pretty good for a beginning. As an aftermath of the controversy, I would call upon to defray the expense of a technical opinion upon the legality of the Baronne street lease, which may involve the university in a further legal controversy, with additional cost.

"Suppose the appropriation committee had allowed Tulane a small stipend as finally demanded, just so the question of state support could have been tested in the courts, what then? Louisiana State University and Tulane would now be engaged in a legal contest that would be dragged along in the courts for years, and their energies and their funds, seriously impaired their work and left never-ending animosities. And who would have to pay the penalties? Why, the people of Louisiana, of course—their two principal schools being crippled and their expenses increased. And this is what the legislature was asked to do. The lawyers' fees assessed to Tulane alone would have amounted to more than the appropriation asked for, to say nothing of the injury done. Every possible defect, apparent or not, in the law's provisions, would have been extensively ventilated, to the great detriment of both.

"And suppose this case had reached the courts, and been subject to the lawyers' fees, out of which grow the lawyers' fees, what then? It would have gone from one court to another, as all other cases go, until, under some pretext, it could have been taken to the supreme court of the United States, and the decisions pro and con from below sat upon in final judgment. Whatever opinion Justice White might have expressed or not expressed upon this question, it is only reasonable to infer that the decision of this court would be largely influenced by him, as he was a party to and is conversant with all the facts connected with the separation of Tulane University from the State of Louisiana. The decision, even by the supreme court of the United States, unless that decision had eliminated Tulane absolutely from state support, the controversy precipitated between these two universities would have been a serious cause of strife, coming forward whenever the issue met. Her recognition as a state institution would have simply put Tulane on the same plane with the others, and made her claim co-equal, so she would have become a biennial applicant at the public crib, along with the rest. That Tulane could ever expect any substantial yearly revenue from the state, even as a state institution, is not likely, for three principal reasons: (1) Her large endowment fund would be a disadvantageous asset, giving the other state institutions precedence. (2) The expenses of the University, like those of the government, will always tend to outrun the revenues, no matter how large these may be. (3) If Louisiana State University were called upon to fight for an appropriation, at each session of the legislature, she would prepare to do so effectually, and Tulane must remember that the vote was two to one when the last show-down came at Baton Rouge.

"Again, there are influential enemies of public education in this state, as in every other, who make the most of any occurrence that might tend to shake the public confidence in this form of instruction. Our people are just now interesting themselves, and spending their money freely, in the effort to improve their public school system, and can not but look with disfavor upon any educational controversy that would tend to interfere with the present encouraging conditions. If Tulane would use the energy and intellectual force in the judicious management of the funds she now has, and for the acquisition of additional endowments, that she will expend in the effort to become a ward of the state, to say nothing of the money and cost and the possibility of ultimate failure, she will preserve her own best interests, do no harm to any kindred institution, advance the cause of public education and earn the good will and cordial support of the people throughout the state of Louisiana."