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NUMBER 1

PASSING OF THE BIG FARM.

Intensive Cultivation of the Soil a Growing Tendency.

A complaint comes that the agricultural dopes who have been furnishing the press some of the "most almighty" for the "one-horse farmer." Really, I had not thought much about it, but I guess it is so, for the reason, no doubt, that he needs it most if it is any good, and because I am not such a very big farmer myself.

Big farming is not a thing of the past, but it is passing. Extensive farming means land-skimming, while intensive farming means soil-building; hence the tendency toward smaller farms and better handling. And there are other reasons, not the least of which is the fact that:

Since the Lord ceased making soil, Some thousand years of sweat and toil

Have passed away; but don't forget That he is making people yet. From which it seems there is not ground

Enough, even now, to go around.

The labor question, too, is coming to be against the large farm, upon which labor must be employed; as it appears to be the experience of all employers of farm labor that the situation is becoming more difficult from year to year, owing to increasing unreliability of hands available, to say nothing of trouble to procure labor, good or bad, on any terms.

It seems that a great many would rather suffer want in the cities, than to live well in the country. And even when they starve out and return to the country, they are rarely worth as much as before they moved to town; and this is more particularly true of the younger generation, who come to love better the raucous noises of the city streets, or a jam in the park, than Bob White calling to his mate from the top of the fence; in short, than the wider spaces and sweeter sounds of the God-created country.

Finally, the troubles of the big farmer—loss of labor to the cities, increasing tax discouragement to large land holdings, along with a growing tendency toward encouragement of farm hands and renters to become small farm owners—would appear to indicate that the "little farm well tilled" is to be the big thing in the future, if you will pardon my Irish.

But the large land owner—the big farmer—in his day and time has served and is serving a great purpose, by making the country ready for the small farmer. He is, for instance, the greatest factor in promotion of diversification. Along this line last year, a Texas banker had 500 acres in cotton, 200 acres in corn and 100 acres in oats. This season, he has the whole of the land in wheat, and it is some crop.

Of course, that does not look much like diversification, in so far as he is concerned; but it is an object lesson to the small farmer against too much cotton. Who else is ready to parcel out his land to small farmers, they will know better what it is good for. —R. R. Claridge, Agricultural Agent, T. & P. Ry. Co., Longview, Texas.

PERSONNEL OF CONVENTION.

Lawyers in Majority Among Framers of New Constitution.

Lawyers will dominate the constitutional convention. They now have 51 out of 118 delegates, barely lacking nine of a clear majority. Seven parishes in which there will be second primaries are not taken into this count, and more lawyers will be elected from them.

The following analysis of the personnel of the membership of the convention at this time gives a fair idea of the trend:

Lawyers, 51.
Farmers and business men, 16.
Merchants and planters, 24.
Members of legislature, 22.
State and city officials, 5.
District judges, 7.
District attorneys, 1.
Clerks of court, 2.
Sheriffs, 2.
Physicians, 2.
Editors and publishers, 4.
Bankers, 9.
School teachers, 1.
General contractors, 2.
Sawmill owners, 2.
Former congressmen, 1.

In many instances, members have more than one vocation. For instance, several are both planters and merchants. Others are lawyers and planters. John Marks, for example, Bull Moose nominee in Assumption, is one of the largest sugar planters in that parish and at the same time has a large law practice, both criminal and civil.

In this analysis there are twenty-two members of the present house and senate. In addition there are nine public office holders, seven district judges, district attorneys, sheriffs, etc., who are not included under the caption "office holders."

With the first nominating primary over, greatest interest now centers in whether the convention will be ordered by a vote of the people in the general election, August 31.

Delegates will be elected on that date and the state's electorate will be asked to vote "yes" or "no" on calling the convention.

In this election the Democrats and Bull Moose will meet in the contested parishes in the third district.

Despondency Due to Indigestion.

"About three months ago when I was suffering from indigestion which caused head-ache and dizzy spells and made me feel tired and despondent, I began taking Chamberlain's Tablets," writes Mrs. Geo. H. Macdonald, N. Y. "This medicine proved to be the very thing I needed, as one day's treatment relieved me greatly. I used two bottles of Chamberlain's Tablets and they rid me of this trouble." Obtainable everywhere.

For Sale.

Thoroughbred White Wyandotte cocks, rockers, hens and pullets. Famous Bruce Bros' strain. Prices reasonable. Telephone 164. MRS. G. D. BENTLEY, Donaldsonville, La.

An ad in The Chief will pay.

SUGAR CROP OF 1915.

Increase in Acreage Planted to Beets Indicates Larger Production.

The area planted to sugar beets in the United States for the present year, according to the figures of the Department of Agriculture, is 659,300 acres, and increase of 146,000 acres over 1914 and 79,000 acres more than in 1913. The direct cause of this expansion in acreage is of course the high price of sugar brought about as a result of the lock-out of the export sugar supplies of central Europe due to the war. Assuming the abandonment of 10 per cent of the acreage between now and harvest time, and a yield equal to the average of recent years, the output of sugar should amount to 800,000 short tons or about 715,000 long tons. This would be an increase of 12 per cent over the crop of 1914. Should the exceptionally favorable conditions that attended the growth of last year's crop be repeated, the total yield would be nearly 825,000 long tons, but such conditions are hardly to be expected, and the figures given above may be accepted as a more reasonable estimate at this stage of the season.

The acreage of the principal beet growing states in order of size is given as follows:

Colorado	171,000
Michigan	146,600
California	128,000
Utah	59,400
Idaho	36,500
Ohio	26,500
Other states	91,300

In 1913 the number of beet sugar factories in operation was 71, but following the adoption of the Underwood tariff law, 11 of these were closed down and only 60 factories were operated last year. At the present time it is expected that 66 factories will be run during the present season, this number including one that is being moved from Holly, Colo., to Sheridan, Wyo., and one transferred from Alberta, Canada, to Layton, Utah.

Except for the fact that foreign-grown sugar is to be admitted to the United States free of duty after May 1, 1916, the expansion in the beet sugar industry during the present year is undoubtedly the most important factor in the expansion of the sugar industry. It would have included the building of a number of new factories and the establishment of beet growing in localities where the industry has not previously existed. As it is, however, with the certainty that the growing of sugar beets and the manufacture of beet sugar cannot continue profitably after the temporary conditions brought about by the European war have passed away, capital declined to enter the industry. Factories previously closed down are able to resume operations at relatively little expense, however, and most of the factories that have been continuously in operation have extended the average contract for 1916.

The estimated output of sugar grown in the United States during the season of 1914-15, the greater part of which has now come to market, is a little less than 2,000,000 long tons, made up as follows:

Louisiana and Texas	220,000
Hawaii	565,000
Porto Rico	315,000
Philippines	240,000
U. S. beet industry	645,000

Based upon the acreage planted and the present condition of growing crops, the yield of domestic grown sugar for the season 1915-16 should be considerably in excess of 2,000,000 long tons.

Automobile Repairing.

Frank Medine, the well-known local automobile mechanic, has leased the repair department of the Donaldsonville Garage, in the Lemann Addition, and is prepared to do any kind of work in the line of automobile repairing and renovating, with the positive guarantee that the job will be handled in an expert and entirely satisfactory manner. Mr. Medine has had extensive experience in the field of automobile mechanics, and with the modern equipment at his command is thoroughly qualified to tackle the most difficult job with complete understanding and a full measure of responsibility. He will be found to be most reasonable, and he solicits the patronage of automobile owners with this understanding. Telephone 151.

Walter Cooper, a Natchez levee contractor, was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary for shooting and killing Walter Flowers on Monday, East Carroll parish, La. Mimmie Flowers, the victim, was sentenced to a term of one year as accessory to the killing, while Elmo Ferguson and a negro named Jim Posey, who assisted in burying the body of Flowers under a new levee in course of construction, were let off with parish jail terms of six months and ten days respectively. All the accused pleaded guilty.

The Chief is in receipt of a copy of the catalog and premium list of the Louisiana state fair, for 1915, which will be held at Shreveport Nov. 3-8, inclusive. More than \$15,000 is being offered in cash premiums to the farmers, live stock raisers, poultry breeders, and boys' and girls' clubs of the state, as well as to the ladies in the art, culinary and textile divisions. A copy of the catalog will be mailed free to anyone making application for same by addressing Louis L. Bruce, secretary, Shreveport, P. O. Box 1100, Shreveport, La.

J. P. Mills has resigned as commissioner of public safety for Bogalusa, La., and denies that his action is influenced in any manner by the recent reduction of his salary. He says he can't do justice both to the city's business and his own.

Hubert F. Thomas of Denver, Col., has been appointed by the United States controller of the currency as receiver for the Union National Bank of Monroe, La., which suspended business recently.

CONSUME MORE SALT.

Production of United States for 1914 a Record Breaker.

The salt industry is in some respects unique among the mineral industries. Although most of the metallic and of the other non-metallic industries reflect industrial world conditions and sometimes sharply fluctuate with them, the salt industry, presumably from its intimate association with the food supply of man, forces slowly but steadily ahead, generally keeping pace with the increase in population. There has been a steady downward trend in the cost of this most necessary commodity, owing to the abundant sources of supply and also to the great advances made in the last few decades in methods of manufacture. The widespread distribution of salt, however, has led to great multiplication of manufacturing plants, so that plant capacity has greatly outstripped demand. This has tended to lower prices and to increase greatly efficiency of operation in the plants that have survived the keen competition.

The salt production of the United States in 1914 was the greatest yet recorded, according to W. C. Phalen, of the United States Geological Survey, namely, 34,804,683 barrels of 280 pounds each, or 4,872,656 short tons, valued at \$1,271,358. Compared with the production of 1913, which was the largest previously recorded, there was an increase in production of 405,385 barrels and of \$148,219 in value.

The domestic marketed production of salt in 1914 was 34,804,683 barrels and the imports were 934,819 barrels, the sum of the two quantities being 35,739,502 barrels. This figure, however, does not represent the quantity consumed, for there were exported 587,818 barrels, leaving for home use 35,151,684 barrels, an increase of 1,48,857 barrels over the consumption of 1913. The imports declined 171,147 barrels, compared with 1913, but the exports increased 55,753 barrels. The imported salt constituted only 2.7 per cent of the domestic consumption.

Salt occurs naturally in two distinct ways, as the solid or crystalline form, or as a dissolved mineral in brines or bitters. It is prepared for market by simply mining, crushing, and cleaning the rock salt, or by evaporation, which may be either natural, as when the sun's heat is utilized, or artificial, when steam or direct heat is applied.

LOUISIANA'S OPPORTUNITY.

New Constitution Should be a Model for Other Commonwealths.

The subjoined editorial, which is attracting much favorable attention to Louisiana, was printed in the July 17 edition of the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle, the world's leading newspaper authority on finance and commerce:

"The people of Louisiana want to develop their important resources of soil, of minerals, of forests and of navigable waterways, and the people of New Orleans want to develop commerce the 'valley way.' So they have called a constitutional convention for the purpose of adopting a modern code of fundamental law with which to replace their present lengthy and inelastic constitution, which has had to be patched by amendment over and over again during the last few years.

"New Orleans is now constructing a complete system of co-ordinative river-rail-ocean terminal and warehouse facilities, and plans to open a great industrial navigation canal through the city to connect the Mississippi river with an arm of the Gulf in the rear. A million dollars is soon to be spent on a modern vocational trade school. A splendid system of modern sewerage, drainage and pure water supply has just about been completed. The entire city is now being rat-proofed as a permanent safeguard against a recurrence of bubonic plague. Reclamation of the fertile but wet alluvial lands all around New Orleans is making progress and many orange groves and farms now stand where marshes stood before."

"It is quite natural, therefore, that the people of New Orleans and Louisiana should not be content to linger live under a constitution which, because of its restrictive character, checks their development. Louisiana possesses great natural wealth and New Orleans holds a strategic position commercially. A sane, sound and liberal constitution under which to work and develop would undoubtedly help state and city in many ways.

"Louisiana has in this constitutional convention a singular opportunity to show how successfully a democratic unit of government may deal effectively with a rather remarkable situation.

"Properly drafted, the new constitution, framed to meet the needs of the new life opening before Louisiana, might well serve as a model for other commonwealths."

New Faculty for S. J. C. I.

Brother Theodosius, the zealous and well-liked principal of St. Joseph's Commercial Institute, returned Monday evening from Bay St. Louis, Miss., where he presided at the annual retreat of members of the Sacred Heart order, which was held at St. Stanislaus College. He reports that, apart from himself, an entirely new faculty has been assigned to St. Joseph's Institute for the coming session, the corps of teachers being composed of Brothers Columban and Gerard, formerly of Baton Rouge; Brother Ernest, of Mobile; Brother Alphonsus, of Indianapolis, and an instructor to be sent here from New York. Brothers Gerard and Ernest arrived Monday evening with Brother Theodosius, and the other members of the faculty will reach here within the next two weeks. School work will be resumed at St. Joseph's Institute Monday, Sept. 6.

It is estimated that Louisiana's 1914 lespedeza crop yielded 72,734 tons of hay and 64,670 bushels of seed, approximating \$1,103,135 in value; and areas in lespedeza are constantly increasing.

BIG RALLY PLANNED.

Campaign for Rural Progress to be Launched at State Fair.

A great rally of the executive and parish committee members of the Rural Progress Conference of Louisiana is planned to be held during the state fair in Shreveport next fall to initiate the campaign for rural progress in Louisiana.

The first conference held in Baton Rouge May 26-27, attended by 125 delegates from all parts of the state, and a meeting of an executive committee in New Orleans on July 14. This committee worked on details for the parish rural progress committees. These will number between 17 to 21 members according to the population of the parish, making a total fighting force for rural progress of 1200 or more selected and enthusiastic workers throughout the state.

The method of organization brings together and seeks to co-ordinate the machinery of all the commercial organizations in Louisiana, that of all the parish fairs, the agricultural and domestic science schools, the federal farm demonstration service, the banks and those who are interested in agricultural development, and all the agricultural organizations of the state.

"This movement has the emphatic endorsement of my department," said Mason Snowden, state agent of the Farmers' Co-operative Demonstration Work. "The Department of Agriculture has authorized me to help in every possible way."

Each parish committee will be composed of the following members: Executive members—The president of the police jury, president of the school board, superintendent of education, secretary of the parish fair association, president and secretary of the local commercial organization, president and secretary of the Farmers' Union local in parishes where there are such locals, parish farm demonstration agents in parishes where there are such agents. Selected members—Presidents or cashiers of parish banks, not to exceed three in number, to be appointed on the recommendation of the Farmers' Association; in parishes where there are no Farmers' Union local, one man to be named by the executive committee of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and one woman in the country to be selected by the secretary of the State Farmers' Union.

The work of these committees as outlined in the conference in Baton Rouge will be as follows: (a) To make a business study of the needs of the rural schools, the agricultural facilities and courses at the institutions of higher learning, the state experiment stations, and the other agencies of the state and the nation working for rural progress; to organize local sentiment for completely adequate support of all these agencies and for more general utilization of their facilities by the farming class; (b) to make a determined effort to have business men from the country to be selected by a sub-committee of the executive committee; three to five business men from the town to be selected by a sub-committee of the state executive committee; one woman in each parish to be named by the executive committee of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and one woman in the country to be selected by the secretary of the State Farmers' Union.

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AUTO RUN FROM BATON ROUGE.

Tourists to Pass Through This City En Route to New Orleans.

An automobile tour from Baton Rouge to New Orleans and return, via the west bank of the river going down and the east side coming back, will be run Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 4 and 5, under the auspices of the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce. It will be a trade extension and good roads boosting trip, and at the same time will afford an opportunity to see a beautiful section of Louisiana under delightful conditions.

The tourists will begin crossing the river at Baton Rouge on the 5 o'clock trip of the ferry Saturday morning, Sept. 4, and will be started in sections from Port Allen at intervals of two minutes apart. A short stop will be made at Plaquemine.

Breakfast will be served at the Hotel Duval in this city, beginning at 8:30 a. m. Rooms at the hotel for the convenience of the members of the party will be provided.

Leaving Donaldsonville at 9:15 a. m., a run will be made to Napoleonville down the east side of Bayou Lafourche, returning on the west side, with a 30-minute stop in the Assumption metropolis.

Cars will leave Donaldsonville for New Orleans at about 11:30 a. m., and will make short stops at St. James, Vacherie, Edgar and Hahnville, arriving at Gretna at about 4 p. m. A committee of the New Orleans Automobile Association will meet the tourists at several points at New Orleans and will escort them to the Monteleone Hotel, where an informal reception will be held.

The return trip will be made Sunday, Sept. 5, starting from the DeSoto Hotel in New Orleans at 11 a. m. The route will follow the east bank of the river to the Geismar lane, thence across country to the model road extending from Hope Villa to Baton Rouge.

A trip over the first lap of the tour was made recently by a scout car, owned and piloted by W. M. Barrow, chairman of the special committee in charge of the arrangements for the run. Other members of the committee who went along were President Payne, Executive Secretary G. A. Wierman and L. H. Grandjean.

Leaving Baton Rouge on the 6 o'clock ferry, the party arrived at Donaldsonville in two hours and 22 minutes from the ferry landing on the Port Allen side. Following breakfast here, the run to Napoleonville was made in 40 minutes along the east side of the bayou. After a 20-minute stop, 35 minutes sufficed to find the auto on the ferry at Donaldsonville. Leaving the ferry at 11:18 at Darrow, on the east side of the river, and proceeding via Geismar, Dutchtown and the Manchac bridge, the auto turned into the model road at 12:40, and reached the city limits of Baton Rouge 27 minutes later, at 1:07 p. m.

Distance, 117.4 miles to city limits. Running time, 5 hours and 26 minutes. Gasoline consumed, seven gallons. Average distance per gallon of gasoline, 16.77 miles. Average time made, 21.6 miles per hour. Highest speed indicated at any time, 29 miles. Slowest speed at any time for a mile continuously, 10 miles.

The log of the trip shows some interesting statistics, as follows: Pavement traveled, 2.4 miles; oiled gravel road, 7 miles; unimproved gravel, 55.8 miles; dirt road that was good or better than good, 27.3 miles; dirt road that was less than fair or only fair, 24.9 miles.