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Columbus Dispatch

The Columbus Dispatch.

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TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, WEDNESDAY JULY 24, 1907.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

HALF A MILLION IN IMPROVEMENTS

**BUILDINGS AGGREGATING VERY
NEARLY HALF A MILLION
DOLLARS IN COURSE
OF CONSTRUCTION.**

**Columbus is Now Enjoying a Building
Boom and There's Unusual
Activity in the Industrial
Circles Generally.**

Columbus is enjoying a substantial building boom, and structures aggregating nearly half a million of dollars in value are now in immediate prospect. Work on the majority of the buildings is now in progress, and the erection of the postoffice and Southern Railway roundhouse, the two principal structures which are not yet under way, is practically assured.

One of the most important improvements now in progress is the new building which is being erected by the Columbus Insurance & Banking Company on Main street. This is a handsome brick and stone structure, six stories in height, and is being erected at a cost of \$75,000. This will be one of the handsomest buildings in the city, and will be an ornament to the business district. Its erection was necessitated by the ever increasing business of the bank, which made enlarged quarters an absolute necessity, and this argues well for Columbus, as activity in banking circles is a sure indication of a prosperous and enterprising community.

Another improvement which is now under way and which will be quite an addition to the manufacturing enterprises of Columbus is the plant of the Interstate Lumber Company that is now being erected near Lake Park. This company owns hundreds of acres of valuable timber land in East Mississippi and West Alabama, and the timber will be brought here to be worked up. The mill is located on the bank of the Luxapallia river, and the company is constructing an immense lagoon to facilitate the handling of the timber that is rafted down the river. The plant represents an investment of \$100,000. This does not include the timber lands which the company owns throughout territory contiguous to Columbus, but merely the local plant, consisting of the saw mill and appurtenances.

The new edifice to be erected by the congregation of the First Baptist church at the corner of Seventh street and North Second avenue represents an expenditure of \$25,000. The work of tearing down the old structure began several weeks ago, and as soon as it has been completed the contractors will begin excavations for the new structure. The new church will be a very handsome edifice, and will have a spacious auditorium capable of seating 1500 persons. The building alone will cost \$25,000, and \$5,000 will be expended in furnishings, making a total of \$30,000 that will be paid out before the church is complete and ready for occupancy.

The municipal improvements provided for in the recent city bond issue contemplate an outlay of \$60,000. This sum is to be spent in the erection of a new public school building in East Columbus, the installation of a plumbing and heating system at Franklin Academy, in buying new equipment for the fire department, and in extending the water mains. The new school in East Columbus has been completed, work on the plumbing and heating system at Franklin Academy is well under way, and a new hose wagon has been purchased for the fire department. The contract for the extension of the water mains has been awarded, and work will begin at an early date.

Both the Gilmer Hotel and the Stone Hotel are making extended improvements. The Gilmer is being thoroughly overhauled and remodeled at a cost of \$25,000, and when the work is completed will be one of the handsomest hotels in the State. The hotel will be fitted with every modern convenience, including steam heat, hot and cold water in every room, and a telephone system connecting all the sleeping apartments with the office. The improvements at the Stone Hotel, which consist of an annex containing an arcade on the first floor and a number of sleeping apartments on the second floor, are practically completed.

The new corporation which recently acquired control of the electric light plant, gas works and street

car line, is to expend \$10,000 in immediate improvements. This sum will be expended in making a loop around Washington Park, in improving the condition of the track, and in the purchase of new cars. Later on the company will provide for the extension of the line by an additional appropriation.

The two buildings for which contracts have not been awarded, the postoffice and the Southern Railway roundhouse, are sure to be erected. The awarding of the contract for the postoffice has been delayed by the sudden death of Assistant United States District Attorney Buchanan, who had been entrusted with the task of investigating the title to the McQuown property, which was selected as a site for the proposed structure. Congress has made an appropriation for the postoffice, and the building will certainly materialize. The delay in awarding the contract for the Southern roundhouse was occasioned by the fact that none of the bids submitted by the contractors came within the appropriation and it will therefore be necessary to either modify the plans or secure more money for the work. The company has definitely determined to build a roundhouse in this city, and the erection of the building is only a question of a very short time.

The improvements noted above represent an expenditure of about \$375,000, and with the dwelling houses, stores, cottages and other smaller buildings now in process of construction here, it is safe to say that building operations representing an expenditure of half a million dollars are in progress. There is great activity in realty circles, as well as in building operations, and Columbus real estate is daily increasing in value.

The Columbus Theater.

Local amusement lovers have for several months past been concerned regarding the prospect for theatrical attractions next season, as it was generally known that the owners of the Columbus Theater, our only playhouse, had not been leased. They will be glad to learn, therefore, that arrangements whereby the house will be conducted on an up-to-date plan and will play first-class attractions have been consummated. Mr. James Newby, Jr., has taken charge of the house, and will act as manager during the coming season.

The uncertainty regarding the management of the house naturally retarded the bookings, but Mr. Newby has entered into correspondence with Klaw & Erlanger, and will do his best to induce them to send to Columbus a strong line of attractions, and in addition to the bookings that he obtains from them will make an effort to secure a good line of repertoire shows and other independent attractions.

Some minor improvements will be made this summer, and it is the intention of the owners next year to completely overhaul and remodel the building, transforming it into a modern theater.

The Stone Annex Completed.

The new annex to the Stone Hotel has been completed, and the furniture is now being installed. The second story of the annex is devoted exclusively to sleeping apartments, while the ground floor is to be fitted up as an arcade. In this arcade there will be six attractive sample rooms for use of commercial travelers who patronize the hotel. These sample rooms will be located in the rear of the arcade, and in front there will be a barber shop, a news stand, a soda fountain and a cafe, the latter being run in connection with the hotel. The arcade is being handsomely fitted up, and will be quite an addition to the attractiveness of South Market street, on which thoroughfare it is located.

Messrs. J. T. W. Hairston, Jr., and J. S. Billups, Jr., have purchased from the Columbus Insurance and Banking Company the plantation in the Trinity neighborhood, known as the "Deering Place." This is one of the largest plantations in this section, containing 1330 acres of land. Real estate in and around Columbus is rapidly increasing in value, and there is a good demand for both city and suburban property.

Chancellor A. A. Kincannon returned Thursday from Oxford, where he had been on business. Mr. Kincannon was called to Asheville, N. C., by the announcement that his friend, Mr. Harper, was dying and he hurried to his bedside.

GENERAL FRIDGE NOW HAS CHARGE

**ADJUTANT OF NATIONAL GUARD
ARRIVED LAST WEEK AND
IS AT WORK AT THE
CAMP GROUNDS.**

**General Fridge and Major Nail Are
Now in Camp at Washington
Park, and Will Remain
Until the Conclusion.**

Adjutant General Arthur Fridge and Major E. W. Nail, of the Mississippi National Guard, arrived in the city last Wednesday night, and on Thursday morning began the work of preparing the grounds for the annual encampment of the State troops that begins Tuesday, August 6th, and continues ten days.

Gen. Fridge and Maj. Nail are now in camp at Washington Park, where the military headquarters are to be located, and the work of preparing for the reception of the soldiers is now in progress. The first thing to be undertaken on Thursday morning was the erection of the tall flag pole which is to mark camp headquarters. This flag pole is one hundred and six feet in height, and was presented to the local committee by Mr. R. E. Cheatham, Jr., of this city. The raising of the flag pole was superintended by Mr. E. H. Reeves, the efficient manager of the local exchange of the Sutherland Telephone Company, and the military men are very grateful to Mr. Reeves for the valuable assistance which he rendered.

Mr. C. L. Wood has been employed to make a survey of the grounds for the purpose of laying off the company streets and determining the locations of the bath houses, tents and other equipment necessary to camp life.

The citizens promised Gen. Fridge to furnish the soldiers an adequate supply of pure water, and it was the intention of the local committee to lay a pipe line direct to the camp from a point on College street between Nineteenth and Twentieth streets, to which the city mains are to be extended. The extension of these mains has been delayed, however, and it may be necessary to carry the water from some other adjacent point. There is a bored well at Washington Park, and Luxapallia creek is nearby, but the military officials want shower baths for the soldiers, and in order to install the necessary equipment it will be necessary to secure connection with the city water mains.

The bids for the supplies were opened yesterday, but there were so many of these bids that it will require a great deal of time to go over them all, and as Gen. Fridge is anxious to award the contract for all supplies to the lowest bidder he has decided to postpone action in the matter until Monday.

Union for Local Machinists.

Mr. Frank Dillard, who is well known in this city as a skilled machinist, informed a reporter of this paper that the machinists of this city expect to organize a union the early part of the coming week. There are quite a number of machinists in the city, and as they all intend joining the union the organization will start out with a good membership, and will no doubt be kept in a flourishing condition. Grand Master Mechanic W. D. Drake, of Washington, D. C., is expected to arrive in the city on Tuesday, and will organize the union and install officers.

The Cotton Market.

The cotton market was dull and inactive yesterday. At the close of business yesterday afternoon New York spots were quoted at 12.95, October futures in New York at 11.71, New Orleans spots at 12 13-16, and October futures in New Orleans at 12.05. In the local market middling was quoted at 12 1/2.

Encampment Visitors.

If you are prepared to take encampment visitors, write at once to I. H. Sykes, secretary of the Progressive Union, stating how many you can accommodate, whether gentlemen or ladies, or both; whether lodging or board and lodging, and rates. 7-21-2w

Mr. J. S. B. Thompson, who for some time past has been general agent of the Southern Railway, has been appointed assistant to President Finlay. Mr. Thompson is well known in Columbus, and his friends here congratulate him upon his promotion.

MANY CHANGES ARE BEING MADE

**WHEN TEAM APPEARS HERE TO-
MORROW MANY CHANGES
WILL BE OBSERVED
IN THE LINE-UP.**

**In Order to Maintain Discipline Man-
ager Kunkle Has Been Com-
pelled to Suspend Several
Recalcitrant Players.**

There seems to be discord in the ranks of the Columbus baseball team, and in order to maintain discipline Manager Kunkle has been compelled to suspend and fine several players. St. John has been fined and temporarily suspended, and Paulig has been benched indefinitely. It seems that both Paulig and St. John have been playing indifferently, and it is claimed that the loss of several games is traceable to costly errors on the part of these two players. Campbell has also been laid off on account of indifferent playing. Campbell is the first baseman, who was secured from Webb City in exchange for "Red" Wright, and when he first came he showed up in fine shape, but soon became careless in his work, and his suspension followed.

Andrews, the outfielder and change catcher, has been traded to Meridian for Marshall. Andrews is a good player and a hard worker, but in its present condition the team needs a man for the outfield alone, and Marshall can perform acceptable work in this position, while his salary is considerably less than that paid Andrews. Marshall will play the field continuously, and Harlow, one of the new men recently signed by Kunkle, will serve as change catcher. Gregory, another new man, is playing second base, and Huber is once more at short.

In its present disorganized and disrupted condition, the team is steadily losing. Thursday's game in Mobile was lost to the home team by a score of seven to three, and the Oystermen won Friday's contest by a score of four to nothing.

The concluding game of the Mobile series was played yesterday afternoon, and was won by the Oystermen by a score of four to one. Bishop pitched for the Columbians and Boyd pitched for Mobile. The Columbus team will return home today, opening a series of three games with Gulfport on Lake Park diamond tomorrow afternoon.

Mrs. Boyd Entertains.

Mrs. Geo. W. Boyd very delightfully entertained a large company of ladies at "Cradland," her country home in the Dunbar neighborhood, last Friday afternoon, in honor of Mrs. J. Milton Malroy, of Savannah, Ga.; Mrs. Joseph Sparks, of Jackson, Ala.; Mrs. Joseph Harper of Clemson College, S. C., and Mrs. Wm. Scherffus of Lexington, Ky. The guests were entertained on the wide verandas which encircle the handsome Boyd home, and delicious punch was served by Mrs. Bessie Brown, Miss Clara Weaver and Miss Mary Halbert. During the afternoon several vocal selections were charmingly rendered by Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Carddock Boyd.

Skating Party Wednesday Night.

The Columbus Riflemen will give a skating party on Wednesday night at the Galey Rollaway Rink, at which time there will be interesting features offered. Electric fans have been installed for the occasion, and the rink will be cool for both skaters and spectators. The rink will be opened at eight o'clock and closed at ten thirty. The price of admission will be 25 cents, with the privilege of skating, and 10 cents for spectators. No doubt a large attendance will make this benefit entertainment a success.

Austin-Kramer.

Mr. F. E. Austin and Miss Eugenia Kramer were married at the home of the bride in Magnolia, Miss., last Wednesday. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. X. Austin of this city, and was for several years employed as a compositor in local newspaper offices. He is now living in Magnolia, being connected with the Magnolia Gazette.

Miss Ora Peoples, of Milane, Tex., and Miss Xie Needham, of Georgetown, Tex., are in the city visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Eggleston, Jr.

Miss Mary Callaway Dead.

Macon, Miss., July 19.—Miss Mary J. Callaway, the most distinguished woman educator of Mississippi, died here today at the home of her nephew, Walter E. Stokes. Miss Callaway began her career as a teacher when only fourteen years old in a country school in Noxubee county; later she taught in Tibbee, Verona and Columbus. In 1876 she founded the Callaway Institute in Macon, which ranked as one of the best schools for girls in the State. When the Industrial Institute and College at Columbus was established, she was elected to the chair of mathematics. Later, for several years, she was the executive head of the institution, which position she filled with distinguished success, at the same time performing all her professional duties. President Cleveland appointed her on the board of lady managers of the Chicago exposition.

Miss Callaway was a hard student all her life and a learned woman, as well as one possessing great executive ability. Up to her death, her former students in great numbers continued to write her for her wise counsel and kindly sympathy. She led a life of singular usefulness and devotion to duty in all life's phases. The last few years of her life she was a helpless invalid. A large concourse attended her funeral.

Death of Mrs. M. J. DuBose.

Mrs. M. J. DuBose, the venerable mother of Mrs. L. M. Lipscomb, died at the home of her son-in-law, Rev. L. M. Lipscomb, No. 924 North Third avenue, at one o'clock Saturday afternoon. Mrs. DuBose, who at the time of her death was sixty-seven years of age, was a lady of splendid character, and had borne the pain and suffering incidental to a long illness with Christian-like fortitude. Although Mrs. DuBose had been a resident of Columbus for only a short time, her kindly disposition had endeared her to all with whom she had come in contact, and she had numerous friends who sincerely regret her death and who sympathize with the family in their great sorrow.

The body was taken to the old home of the deceased at Greensboro, Ala., for interment, and the funeral will occur there at ten o'clock this morning.

Dance at Lake Park.

Quite a number of young people enjoyed a delightful dance at Lake Park last Thursday night. The dance was led by Mr. Hunter Walker and Miss Lucile Reeves, and among those participating were Misses Sue Lee Welr, Aliene Beussick, Gladys Hirschman, Vesta Wood, Ida Mitchell, Miriam Wilkinson, Nettie Harrison, Carolyn Hamilton, Anne Smith Rosalie Rhett, Sue Poote, Mary Moore, and Messrs. Charley Moore, T. J. Cady, Earl Richards, Perry Craddock, Willie Bryant, J. Albert Hirschman, Eugene Beard, Franklin Brown, W. W. Westmoreland, Jr., Harris Craddock, Wythe Rhett, Bob Hairston, Ellis Rhett; chaperones, Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, Mrs. I. H. Sykes, Mrs. J. T. Hairston, Mrs. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston J. Bland of Waco, formerly of Orange, stopped over in Orange some few days ago en route for Columbus, Miss., which is to be their home. After a few days pleasantly spent in Orange, heartily greeted by numerous friends, Mr. Bland resumed his journey to Columbus. Mrs. Bland remained for a few days longer and took her departure Saturday morning. Mrs. Bland was accompanied by her sister, Miss Minnie Edens of Columbus, Miss., who having been on an extended visit to Memphis, Tenn., Waco, Marlin, Rosebud and other Texas points, joined Mrs. Bland here Friday morning. Mrs. Bland and Miss Edens formerly resided in Orange, and being naturally possessed of many sweet charms consequently took their departure on Saturday morning amid numerous sincere regrets from their many friends here that they could not be prevailed on to remain longer in Orange.—Orange correspondence in Houston Post.

Mr. J. L. Beatty, one of the efficient members of the Columbus fire department, is taking his vacation, which he is spending with relatives in Birmingham.

Dr. Walton Green, of Aberdeen, was a visitor to Columbus on Thursday last.

Miss Addie Locke, who has been spending the past six weeks with relatives in Louisiana, has returned to the city.

RAILROADS ALWAYS BRING PROSPERITY

**CITIES WITH EXTENSIVE RAIL-
ROAD CONNECTIONS ARE
ALWAYS PROSPEROUS
AND LIVING EASY.**

**Property Holders Are Not Burdened
by the Bonds that Are Issued,
But Tax Rate is Lessened
by Valuation Increase.**

On the first of August the citizens of Columbus will be given the privilege of voting upon the issuance of bonds in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, or as great a portion thereof as may be necessary to secure right of way into and through the city and proper depot facilities for the Columbus, Memphis & Pensacola Railroad, and people who have the best interests of the city at heart are very anxious to see the bonds voted. They know that railroads always carry progress and prosperity in their wake and feel convinced that an independent line is the one thing absolutely necessary to insure the future of Columbus as a great commercial center.

Probably every man, woman and child in Columbus would like to see the city secure an additional railroad, and the only opposition to the issuance of the bonds comes from over-conservative property holders, who claim that to meet the interest on these bonds and eventually to pay off the principal that it will be necessary for the City Council to raise the rate of taxation, but this is not the case. During the past twenty years the city has issued bonds not only for railroads, but for many municipal improvements, but notwithstanding this fact the tax rate has steadily decreased. In 1887 the tax levy was eighteen mills, while at the present time it is only ten mills, showing a decrease of nearly one hundred per cent. in twenty years. During these twenty years the assessed valuation has grown even more rapidly than the rate of taxation has diminished. In 1887 the total assessed valuation was \$1,784,490, while for the year 1907 it is \$3,731,043, showing an increase of more than one hundred per cent. during the last twenty years. This shows that the railroads have not been a burden, but that on the other hand they have boosted things up, and have caused property to increase so rapidly in value that the ad valorem tax has steadily decreased.

The railroads have not only helped to reduce our taxes, but have rendered substantial aid in increasing our population. The Dispatch learns on good authority that up to the time of the building of the Southern Railroad there were only four railroad employees with families who lived in Columbus. Now there are more than four hundred men employed in the different branches of the railway service who live here and who maintain homes. Many of these men own the houses in which they live, and practically all of them are good citizens. They earn good wages and spend money freely. They help to maintain our churches, schools and public institutions of every character, and are among the most desirable citizens that we have.

By reducing freight rates on coal the railroads have saved the people of this city hundreds of thousands of dollars. Before Columbus secured direct rail connection with the Alabama coal fields our citizens were compelled to pay from seven to ten dollars per ton for coal, which now costs from three to four dollars, and these railroads have opened up vast forests which induced a number of hardwood manufacturing enterprises to locate in our midst.

The building of the Columbus, Memphis & Pensacola Railroad will not only open up the fertile Tombigbee valley and make Columbus the basis for supplies and for the sale of its agricultural products, but will give us direct connection with two trunk lines at Aberdeen. This will give us practically three competing lines, and the saving on freight in a single year will amount to almost enough to pay the entire bond issue.

A Small Blaze.

The fire department was called out yesterday morning by a blaze at the residence of Mr. T. O. Burris on South Market street. The firemen responded promptly, and by very efficient work extinguished the blaze which at one time threatened to destroy Mr. Burris' handsome home.