

TENSAS GAZETTE.

HUGH TULLIS, EDITOR.

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THE COTTON CROP.

Week's Statement of Secretary Hester of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange.

New Orleans, Dec. 29.—Secretary Hester's weekly New Orleans Cotton Exchange statement shows an increase in the movement of cotton brought into sight over both last year and year before, the increase being in round figures 107,000 bales, or forty nine per cent. over last season, and 42,000 or 15 per cent. over 1891.

For the first 29 days of December, the movement has been 319,000 ahead of last season, and 15,000 ahead of the same time in 1891. This brings the total excess for the 120 days from Sept. 1st to Dec. 29th, inclusive, 612,000 over the corresponding 120 days of last year, and reduces the deficiency compared with the same 120 days of 1891 to 962,000.

The amount brought into sight for the week ending today was 324,421, against 217,714 for the corresponding seven days last year and 282,162 year before, while the aggregates for the first 29 days of December are 1,561,422 against 1,242,216 and 1,544,071.

The total marketed from September 1st to date is 5,365,192 against 4,724,250 and 6,328,303 for last year and the year before respectively.

From this time on last year, the amount of cotton brought into sight was 1,975,116 bales, and year before last 2,207,076. In other words after this date last year 29.49 100 per cent. of the crop was marketed, and the season before last 29.69 100 per cent.

Mr. W. H. Shields, Secretary of the Fifth Louisiana Levee District, this week informed us that, owing to the bids made by the levee contractors, Capt. Townsend, who is in charge of the Levee District embracing Vicksburg and the lower end of Arkansas, will have sufficient funds to make a high water fight if same becomes necessary. It is to be sincerely hoped that there will be no need of an expenditure of money this way next year, but if such becomes necessary we should feel truly thankful that the means are at hand wherewith we can cope with the waters of the great and only Mississippi.—Commercial Herald.

BATON ROUGE NOTES.

Constitutional Committee to Meet Soon.

Special to the Times-Democrat.

Baton Rouge, Dec. 27.—The assembling of the next public body in which all of the people of the State have interest is the meeting of the Constitutional Commission, which will take place at the Capitol Wednesday, Jan. 3 next. It will be remembered that it met and organized in July, when Hon. Alfred D. Land, of Caddo, was made chairman, and Hon. Charles Kubanic, of East Feliciana, secretary. It was understood at the time that the members would each carefully read and study the present organic law and be able to prepare or suggest necessary amendments thereto, and that the commission would meet here on the date named and go regularly into work in continuous sessions.

The commission is composed as follows: Hon. Hiram R. Lott, of West Carroll, and Charles Gantheaux, of the Second District of Orleans on the part of the Senate; Hon. Alfred D. Land, of Caddo; Hon. Charles Kibbourne, of East Feliciana, and Hon. J. T. M. Hancock, of Jackson parish, on the part of the House of Representatives, and Judge T. C. W. Ellis, of New Orleans, and Hon. Fred L. Gates, of Iberia, appointed by the Governor at large.

CALL FOR A CAUCUS.

Special to the Times-Democrat.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The fact that the tariff bill is to be called up immediately after the reassembling of Congress will not prevent a caucus from being held. The ways and means committee would prefer that there should be no caucus, but outside of the committee the desire for a caucus, in the nature of a conference, is spreading and the petition now bears the signature of fifty-five Democrats. All of the fifty-five Democrats do not take the ground that they will vote against the bill unless it is changed to suit themselves. On the contrary, the weakness of their opposition lies in the fact that most of them admit that they will probably vote for the passage of the bill just as reported from the committee, if they cannot do better.

The call for a caucus has been drawn up and will probably be issued within a day or two. The first days of the general debate in the House will be occupied by such members of the ways and means committee as desired to address the House, and the discussion will probably be allowed to run on for two weeks before the stage of consideration and amendment, by paragraphs, will be reached. Speaker Crisp has expressed the opinion that the bill should be passed by the 25th of January, and that it will pass essentially as reported by the committee, with, perhaps, a few minor amendments. He thinks the bill is as perfect a tariff for revenue only as could be drawn without destroying industries which Congress does not intend to destroy. There are a few clauses, perhaps, which might be pointed out as not strictly in accord with the Chicago platform, but the whole tenor of the bill is consistent with that platform.

WANTED FOR CATTLE STEALING.

A visitor from Jefferson county pointed out, yesterday morning, to Policeman Grant, a negro man who, he said, was wanted at Rodney for cattle stealing. Grant promptly arrested the negro and the Rodney authorities were wined the fact of his capture. Later in the afternoon a message was received from Mayor Robb, of Rodney, that his city marshal would leave at once to get the prisoner. The negro is named Joe Blue. He is said to have made a business of rounding up Jefferson county cattle and running them over into Louisiana.—Commercial Herald.

A dispatch from Paris to the St. James' Gazette says that the wine growers in the South of France are so overstocked with their produce that they offer wine at one penny a quart, but fail to obtain that price. The splendid vintage has made wine a drug in the market. New casks cost more than the wine needed to fill them. The dispatch adds that 3000 wine growers in the Montpelier district are preparing a protest against merchants supplying the wine shops of Paris with manufactured wines when the genuine article is so cheap.

THE GRAND OLD MAN.

Gladstone Celebrating His Eighty-fourth Birthday by Working.

London, Dec. 29.—The Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone, who was born Dec. 29, 1809, is celebrating his birthday to-day by working hard in his study. During the afternoon he is going to the House of Commons and in every other way he is rigorously attending to the duties of his position.

Mr Gladstone is receiving many telegrams of congratulations from all parts of the country.

Washington, Dec. 27.—When the majority of the members of the ways and means committee come together again it is said that a decision will be reached as to what kind of an income tax will be agreed upon. Probably the other matters pending before the committee and largely dependent upon the proposition will also be agreed upon, or at least prepared for adjustment. The committee will have to decide upon the reports submitted by the subcommittee on internal revenue, one by Messrs. McMillan and Bryan in favor of a tax on all incomes, including individuals, and the other by Mr. Montgomery in favor of the tax on corporate investments. Until this is decided there will be nothing done about the rate of tax, although it is proposed by the McMillan-Bryan plan to make a 2 per cent upon incomes of 4000 a year and upward, yielding an estimated revenue of \$30,000,000. There is yet some disagreement over the rate of tax to be levied on inheritance, but the differences are not such as cannot be easily adjusted. The inheritance tax will be extended only to personal property, as it has been found impracticable to have real estate included. A revenue of \$10,000,000 it is estimated, will be derived from this source. The tax of a \$1.50 per thousand on cigars and 6 cents a pack on playing cards, it is thought will yield \$5,000,000, in all \$15,000,000, which several members of the committee think is all that is to be provided for by legislation at present.

There was some talk that during the holidays the Democrats opposed to the bill would organize to secure its defeat, but it does not now look as if anything would come of it. Several members are found who declare that they will not vote for the bill unless it is amended, but there are those who really believe that the bill cannot be defeated in the House, though they are confident that it will not go through the Senate. It does not look now as if the effort to defeat the bill in the House would have much strength.

The manufacturers, with the aid of the Republican press, are busily engaged in working up the tariff-sense, and the shrieks of fear that are being uttered and the terrible predictions of forthcoming disaster would be alarming if they were not ridiculous. A woolen mill owner declares that a number of men in his line of industry have told him that they would remove their plants to Berlin in the event that the Wilson bill becomes a law. If these manufacturers desire to expatriate themselves to a country which admits wool free of duty no objections should be offered, but one thing is certain, and that is if they establish woolen mills in Berlin they will not be permitted to rob German consumers as they have done their own people. But of course all this talk about taking their mills out of the country is mere bluff, and has no more effect on Congress than pouring water on a duck's back. Mr. Carnegie, for instance, sent an agent to Washington the other day to inform the President that if the Wilson bill was passed it would be impossible for him to make the armor plates for the new warships. President Cleveland, it is stated, smiled at the story and expressed regret at the inability of Mr. Carnegie to carry out his contracts under a revised tariff, and in a gentle manner intimated that if Mr. Carnegie could not do the work there would be no trouble in finding some one to take it off his hands. The bluffers and the scare-makers have in their desperation begun to cut such queer capers that the country is laughing at them. The real dance will commence, however, when the House sends the bill to the Senate.—States.

CONVICTED.

Mayor Carter Harrison's Murderer Will Haug.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Judge Brentano's charge to the jury in the Prendergast trial was a lengthy one. During the course of it he said that if the jury believed beyond a reasonable doubt that the prisoner was capable of choosing to commit or not to commit the act, he should be found guilty, even though they believed he was not at the time perfectly sane. Sanity is an ingredient of crime, the court continued, and if the jury entertained a reasonable doubt of the prisoner's sanity he should be acquitted.

The court then instructed the jury as to the various forms of verdicts and the twelve men filed out to decide the fate of the prisoner.

PRENDERGAST CONVICTED.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The verdict is hanging in the Prendergast case, so the State's attorney says, at 3:20 p. m., but the news is not fully confirmed.

The verdict produced a profound sensation in the court room.

Prendergast was brought into court and heard his doom. He was apparently almost paralyzed with fear and stood dazed and pale until a bailiff led him to a chair.

Zola has this to say of the Anarchists: "For most of these men life has been full of difficulties and bitterness. No doubt they have sufficiently struggled, but the energy is not so common. Per the idea of suicide haunted them and they did not want to die until they had avenged themselves on that society which they make responsible for their misery. To tell the truth, I think all the means tried insufficient to stop the rising tide of Anarchist doctrines. What, I am asked, will be a preventive? Well, I who have fought for Positivism, after thirty years of struggling find that my convictions have been shaken. Religious faith would prevent the propagation of such theories, but has it not almost disappeared nowadays? Who is to give us a new ideal?"

NOVEL SUIT BY A CITIZEN OF THIS COUNTY.

The following from yesterday's Vicksburg Commercial-Herald will be of interest: "Mr. W. L. Jackson, of Adams county, by his attorney, Mr. Wade R. Young, of this city, is about to sue the United States in the Court of Claims to recover compensation for his crops and lands and other property, destroyed by the overflows of the past four years, on the ground that the effect of the government works for the improvement of the river has been to cause an increased flood level of at least four feet and to subject to annual overflow his lands which would otherwise have been exempt, and that such flooding of his land is taking within the meaning of the constitutional provision, that private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation, and imposes on the United States an implied obligation to make compensation. It is intended to prosecute a test case to the Supreme Court to compel the United States either to protect the lands from overflow or to pay their value, and all having similar interests can have the benefit of the suit by contributing fifty dollars each to the payment of the costs. All claims not put to suit will be barred by the limitation provided in the act of Congress. We shall watch this suit with great interest, for there are numbers in the same fix as Mr. Jackson."—Natchez Democrat.