

OIL LEVEES BREAK, CAUSES BIG LOSS

INDEPENDENT OIL OPERATORS OF PINE ISLAND FIELD LOSE ABOUT 1,000,000 BARRELS.

CAUSED BY HEAVY RAINS

Southwest Louisiana May Be Damaged By Oil Entering Streams and Killing Fish—Depends On the Course Oil Takes.

Shreveport—A dead loss of \$75,000 was estimated by the independent oil operators in the Pine Island field when the tank of the earthen reservoirs caved under the continued rains and sent 1,000,000 barrels of crude oil into the bayous.

Pine Island crude oil is seeping at 75 cents a barrel and the loss falls heavily upon twenty-five independent oil operators. The Standard Oil Company and Texas and Gulf companies have steel reservoirs and are not affected.

The oil from the bursted reservoirs poured into the bayous and thence to the Red river, and that stream already has changed its color from red to blackish. It should be passing down the Mississippi river by New Orleans within a week. Not only is this a great loss to the oil owners but the opinion was expressed here that the oil would probably cause loss to the fish industry, especially in the Atchafalaya river and spreading into the watery regions of Southwest Louisiana.

The damage to Southwest Louisiana depends upon the course the oil will take when it reaches the short stretch known as Old River, which marks the junction of the Red river with the Mississippi river, and which is the head of the Atchafalaya river. One man expressed the opinion that if the oil turned down the Atchafalaya, millions of fish would be killed.

Independent oil producers in the Pine Island field have been handicapped by the refusal of the pipe line companies to take their oil.

The independents have been handicapped by lack of finances and were unable to build steel reservoirs for their oil. With the oil going to waste they made desperate efforts to save it by building levees and in these earthen reservoirs have stored the oil. The continual rains have softened the levees and developed crevasses.

STATE HAPPENINGS.

The department of journalism at L. S. U. is having one of its best summers in this year's session. More students have been enrolled in the advanced reporting classes than during any other summer.

A report from Pointe a la Hache says heavy rains and lack of proper drainage has caused a loss of over 50 per cent to the orange groves by the young fruit dropping from the trees, especially in the mandarin groves.

M. Smead, a large sugar planter of Cades, La., lately purchased a 2,000-acre sugar farm near St. Martinville, La., for \$100,000, on which he will grow rice and sugar.

Stringent ordinance regulating the operation of automobiles adopted by the Commission Council at Monroe requires no person under 17 years old shall operate a car at any time.

Tangipahoa parish is enjoying a great epoch of prosperity as evidenced by the large number of cash hand transfers now being recorded in the clerk's office and the number of mortgages which have been cancelled during the past few months.

Captain Morsey of Baton Rouge recently returned from overseas where he was wounded three times and awarded the D. S. C. by General Pershing and the croix de guerre by the French for heroism in capturing a Hun machine gun nest.

At a meeting of the Donaldsonville Lodge of Elks it was decided to fix October 2 as the date for the grand reception which they propose to sponsor in honor of the victorious home coming of soldiers and sailors who have served in the war.

Owing to the ravages of insects in the Iota district the corn crop is practically a failure. Cotton is damaged at least one-third or more by weeds and grass taking the crop from excessive showers.

The validity of the recent road district law, as far as it applies to incorporated towns, has been attacked in a suit brought by the mayor and aldermen of the town of Abbeville vs. the Third Ward Road District.

East Baton Rouge parish has overwhelmingly voted a \$450,000 bond issue for a new courthouse.

The Spanish Trail road from Jennings to Mermentau is being worked. This road will connect two parishes.

The Rev. Dr. W. R. Bourne of Birmingham Southern University has been named president of Centenary College at Shreveport.

Rev. Louis Witt of Little Rock will deliver a series of three lectures at L. S. U. on Jewish subjects during the summer session.

The Fifth Ward, comprising Mermentau Basin in Acadia parish, has formed a drainage district, with the approval of the police jury.

Louisiana is dipping more cattle for fever ticks than any other state. It is killing ticks at a rate that should practically exterminate the pests this year—giving to Louisiana the world's record for speedy eradication—but for the fact the campaign is being retarded by the failure of public officials in five parishes to enforce the state eradication law.

"The citizens of Louisiana paid for fire insurance in 1918 over \$2,000,000 in excess of that which was necessary to indemnify them for their losses, pay the expenses of the companies in the transacting of their business and to pay a reasonable underwriting profit," says State Fire Marshal W. M. Campbell in the fourteenth annual report.

The new fire truck bought by Monroe some time ago with refunds on the fire insurance premiums, has arrived, giving Monroe three motor-driven trucks and enabling the establishment of an additional fire station in the city which is expected to aid in the fight for lower insurance rates.

Tangled up with the gears of a runaway mule, Clemmie Olice of Crowley was dragged on his back two miles along the hard bed of the gravel road leading east from Mermentau. His cheek bone was smashed from a kick by the mule, and great patches of flesh were torn off his body by the gravel bed of the highway.

Reports from Abbeville say the continuation of showery weather assures the certainty of the rice crop, although it has, by interfering with planting, caused an appreciative decrease in acreage. The cotton farmers are not jubilant over their prospects, as the plant is small and much of it badly in the grass.

The attacks on the dancing situation at L. S. U. by T. H. Harris, state superintendent of education, was praised by Dr. C. A. Battle in a sermon at the First Methodist Church of Baton Rouge. The minister upheld Mr. Harris in everything except in the belief that dancing can be regulated.

F. M. Baque, parish agent, with P. V. Moulton, secretary of the Lafayette Parish Fair Association, a branch of the Association of Commerce, will make a tour of the parishes of Acadia, Iberia, St. Martin, Vermillion and St. Landry to stir up interest in the district fair.

A movement to organize the business interests of the United States solidly behind Congressman J. Y. Sanders' bill for the establishment of free port zones on the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts has been launched at a nation-wide meeting held in New York.

The carload shipments from the country from March 11 to May 26, inclusive totalled 4,249 as follows: Louisiana, 682; Florida, 21; Alabama, 221; North Carolina, 427; Arkansas, 910; West Tennessee, 735; all others, 1,235.

The prospects for anything like an average cotton crop in the Columbia section is undoubtedly the poorest the farmers have ever known at this season of the year.

Word has been received from the congressional delegation at Washington that efforts will be made to prevent the imposing of a high duty on potash.

The attendance of the State Normal Summer School continues to increase daily. The total enrollment is now well above 1,050, which is an increase over last summer.

With Grand Chancellor Charley Hawkins of New Orleans, Deputy Grand Chancellor J. W. Compton of Shreveport and Grand Prelate C. E. Faulk of Monroe, the Monroe degree team, Knights of Pythias, installed a new Knights of Pythias lodge at Standard.

Upon a recent visit to different points in Louisiana by a representative of the Department of Entomology, it was found that the rough-headed cornstalk borer was doing much damage to the corn and cane and in some instances had attacked cotton.

A refund of \$10,000 for erroneous charges on coal shipments to Baton Rouge shippers may result from the recent decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission Mr. McAdoo's General Order No. 28 was misinterpreted by carriers north of the Ohio river.

The citizens of Morse, La., and vicinity are expediting the building of a gravel road from Midland to the parish line of Vermillion, a distance of about eight miles.

Mrs. Channing Telfair is the first Monroe woman to take a ride in an airplane, making the trip over the city in a government plane.

Twenty-nine musicians have enrolled in the reorganized Lafayette Concert and under the auspices of the Association of Commerce.

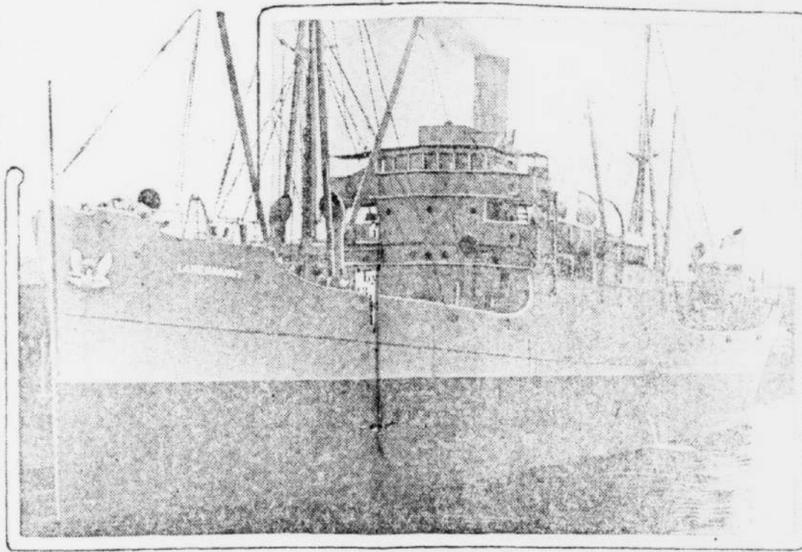
The early rice crops of Iota section are most promising and furnish with ample sweet water to promote growth and early maturity.

The welcome home celebration for the Baton Rouge men who served in the war, scheduled for July 4, has been postponed until the day of the dedication of Victory Park.

Monthly pig club contests, as a means of keeping up interest in club work, are conducted by J. L. Fletcher, assistant agent in Union parish.

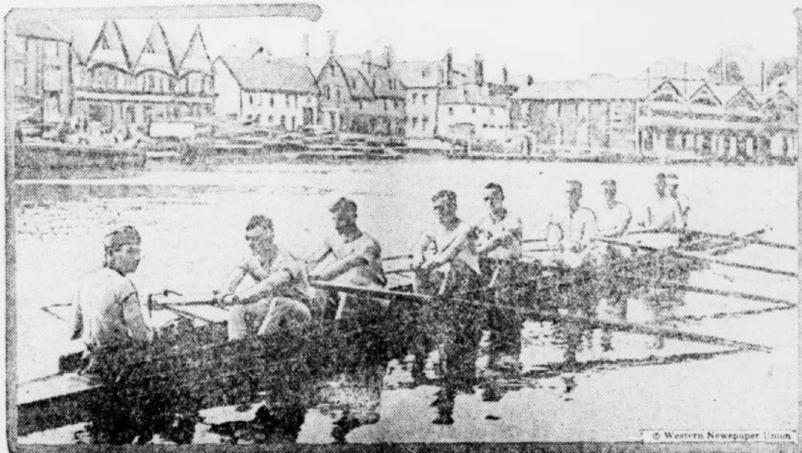
A parish-wide good road tax was voted at St. Martinville and was overwhelmingly carried.

FIRST CHICAGO-TO-LIVERPOOL STEAMSHIP



This is the 4,000-ton steel steamship Lake Granby which has just sailed from Chicago for Liverpool with a cargo of provisions. It is the first Chicago vessel to make the trip.

UNITED STATES ARMY OARSMEN AT PRACTICE



The second crew of the United States army, composed of men of the American expeditionary forces in England, practicing at Henley.

WHEN GENERAL PERSHING SMILES



Rare indeed are the pictures which portray as well as this the smile of Gen. John J. Pershing, commander in chief of the American expeditionary forces in France. It was taken at the Pavillon Horloge, Paris.

DR. PESSOA GREETED IN WASHINGTON



This photograph shows the arrival of Dr. Epitacio Pessoa, president-elect of Brazil, at the Union station, Washington. With him is Frank L. Polk, acting secretary of state, and back of them are naval aids and marines. The party was escorted by marines and a detachment of cavalry.

TAKEN FROM EXCHANGES

One of the richest iron ore deposits in the world is in the Rajara hills, India.

A rubber washbasin folds into a package which may be carried in the vest pocket.

Gasoline production in the United States has increased from 35,000,000 to 70,000,000 barrels a year since 1914. A successful experiment in peanut cultivation on the Euphrates river in Mesopotamia has been accomplished.

According to Secretary Lane of the department of the interior there are 7,000,000 persons ten years of age or older in this country who can neither read nor write English.

The Eskimo is the name of a magazine published at Nome, Alaska, for the Eskimos of Uncle Sam's settlements. It prints many "cold facts" about the people of the far North.

The Cape-to-Cairo railway in Africa when completed will be 7,074 miles in length, the longest single line of railway in the world, it is asserted.

HEROIC OFFER IS REWARDED



"Blind Charley" Garner, a newsman of San Diego, Cal., who offered his life's blood in a transfusion to save the life of wealthy John H. Kennedy of Gunnison, Cal. Kennedy died, but before he had made Garner his beneficiary to the extent of \$15,000. Garner lost his sight in a mine explosion some years ago.

Be Ready for New Tasks. Some men run into hobbies. At these they excel. Given a new task they fail. Your old hobby would not have you develop your hobby less, but he would have you develop the other side of your nature more.

Iceland During the War. Iceland had to close agreements with the allies giving them first right to purchase all products at a fixed price, and in return was able to obtain most of its necessities direct from America. During the war Icelandic ships have sailed regularly between Reykjavik and New York.

Uncle Eben. "Some people dat gits high up in public attention," said Uncle Eben, "is like de lady on top of de gold ball in de circus chariot. Dey has de envy an' admiration of de audience, but dey ain' takin' no personal comfort what-ever."

Old Stuff. "Let me carve the words 'I love you' on one of these forest monarchs. Which tree would you suggest?" "A chestnut," replied the nonchalant girl.

Money for France, Italy and Rumania. Washington—Credits announced Friday by the treasury included \$50,000,000 to France, \$19,999,999 to Italy and \$5,999,999 to Rumania.

286,000 Pounds of Wool Sold. Ballinger, Tex.—The wool growers of the county received about \$150,000 for 286,000 pounds of wool which was sold at the warehouse Friday. The price paid ranged from 44c to 58c per pound.

GERMANS PUT SIGNATURES TO THE PEACE TREATY

Germans Sign Treaty in Hall Where in 1871 They Humiliated France.

Versailles—Germany and the allied and associated powers, signed the peace treaty here, Saturday, on the same imperial hall where the Germans humiliated the French, so indignantly forty-eight years ago.

This formally ended the world war, which lasted just thirty-seven days less than two years.

Saturday, the day of peace, is the fifth anniversary of the murder of Archduke Francis Ferdinand at Sarajevo.

The ceremony of signing the peace treaty was held in the grand hall of the Chamber of Deputies at 2 1/2 o'clock. The signing began when 19 Germans, Mussler and Johannes Bell, the German plenipotentiaries, signed their names. Herr Mussler signed at 2:12 o'clock and Herr Bell at 2:13 o'clock. President Wilson, first of the allied plenipotentiaries, signed a minute later. At 2:43 o'clock the momentous session was concluded.

All the diplomats and members of their parties wore conventional civilian clothes. There were few of the fanciful uniforms in the great hall, covered with the Franco-German peace treaty of 1871. There were present today grizzled French veterans of the Franco-Prussian war. They recalled the Prussian guardroom of the previous ceremony and the Frenchmen today watched the ceremony with grim satisfaction.

The conditions of 1871 were exactly reversed. Today the disciples of Bismarck sat in the seats of the lonely white marble statue of Clemenceau, Guisard of War, looked on.

Three incidents were emphasized by the solemnity with which the ceremony was conducted. The first of these was the failure of the Chinese delegation to sign. The second was the protest submitted by General Jan Christian Smuts, who declared the peace unsatisfactory.

The third, unknown to the general public, came from the Germans. When the program for the ceremony was drawn to the German delegation Herr von Hainhausen of the German delegation went to Colonel Henri, French liaison officer, and protested. He said:

"We can not admit that the German delegates should enter the hall by a different door than the entente delegates; nor that military honors should be withheld. Had we known there would be such arrangements before, the delegates would not have come."

After a conference with the French foreign ministry it was decided, as a compromise, to render military honors to the Germans left. Otherwise the program was not changed.

Shoe Leather Going Higher. New York—Still higher prices for shoes were forecast in a statement issued Saturday by the Tanners' Council of the United States after a meeting here. Responsibility was placed by Fred A. Vogel, president of the council, at the door of the "good old rule of supply and demand." Not only is there a large demand for leather in this country, but European nations are "anxious buyers," it was said.

Hollweg Assumes All Blame. Berlin—Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg, former German chancellor, has formally asked the allied and associated powers to place him on trial instead of the former emperor. The former chancellor says that he assumes responsibility for the acts of Germany during his period of office and places himself at the disposal of the allies.

Crown Prince Did Not Escape. The Hague—Frederick William Hohenzollern, the former crown prince, whose escape from Holland to Germany had been reported, is still at his residence on the island of Wieringen, in the Zuysse Zee, it was officially announced at the Hague Saturday.

Kansas Wheat Crop Shows Increase. Topeka, Kan.—The Kansas winter wheat crop now being harvested was estimated at 229,217,000 bushels in the monthly report issued Friday by J. C. Mohler, secretary of the state board of agriculture. This is an increase of more than 11,000,000 bushels over Mohler's May report.

Texas Troops Reach Boston. Boston, Mass.—The battleship Minnesota arrived Sunday from St. Nazaire today with 2,932 troops, including headquarters, ordnance and sanitary detachments and several companies of the 115th Engineers and a number of casual companies.

Texas Gave 161,065 Men to Service. Washington—Texas contributed a total of 161,065 men to the military service, or 4.29 per cent of the total army in the recent war, according to figures just made public by the war department in its review of the war activities. Texas was fifth among the states, the states ranking it being New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Ohio. In the order named, and under which rating Texas far outdid her proportion of population, according to the last census.

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With scores of new forest fires originating in Western Montana on an electric storm Friday night, the situation in the timberlands in that district, particularly the Flathead forest, is described as "exceedingly critical" by forest reserve officers.

We are informed by an American diplomat that Austria quit because it was a physical impossibility for her to continue the war. He might also have added that Austria quit because she had ceased to exist.

What could be a more sincere compliment than the anxiety of some of those little European states to have the United States as their mandatory?

The Kaiser is to be haled before a Belgian bar, but will not be permitted to say what he will have.

NEWS HAPPENINGS

WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED THIS WEEK THE WORLD OVER.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Short Mentioning of Interesting Happenings From Day to Day Throughout the World.

WASHINGTON NEWS

The United States' last administration went out of existence Monday night as a result of having its hands upon which to operate. The breach of the agreement to withdraw troops along the Mexican border, and in order to make sure the supply of 100,000 rifles, machine guns and machine pistols, and other military equipment, which were made available to the United States army, was not interrupted, the United States government has decided to continue the supply of these arms and munitions for the next six months.

The department of justice will take no action pending decision in present litigation against persons manufacturing and selling beer or wine containing 2 1/2 per cent or less alcohol content. This announcement was made Monday by Attorney General Palmer.

As wartime prohibition took effect Monday the department of justice announced that its agents throughout the country would not attempt to stop the sale of 2 1/2 per cent beer.

Repeal of the postal zone system for newspapers and periodicals is proposed in a bill by Representative Mondell of Wyoming, the republican leader. Under the measure second class mail would be the flat rate in force before the war revenue bill of 1917 was passed.

Provision for vigorous steps by the federal government against bomb throwers and other incendiaries and radicals, declared by government of fields to be plotting overthrow of the government, and spending \$2,999,999 monthly to that end, were made in the sundry civil appropriation bill as reported Thursday to the senate.

A bill to abolish all federal subsidies and transfer their duties to federal reserve banks was introduced Thursday by Representative Hill, republican of New York.

Carrying approximately \$44,999,999, an increase of more than \$4,000,000 over the house total, the naval appropriation bill passed the senate Thursday.

Secretary Baker said Thursday he had not been advised from Paris as to the size of the American army which is to be maintained for the time being in Germany. The fact that the Fourth and Fifth divisions of regulars were definitely slated for return in June until the crisis of the peace, because the cancellation of these plans, is cited as evidence that the American forces will not be larger than three divisions, or about 129,000.

The death rate for continental United States during 1917 was 14.2 per 1,000 population, as shown by figures announced by the census bureau. The total number of deaths was 1,068,932, nearly one-third being due to three causes, heart disease, pneumonia and tuberculosis. This report is not from all sections of the country, as it only embraces twenty-seven states, the District of Columbia, and forty-three cities in nonregistration states, or a population of about 75,000,000.

STATE AND DOMESTIC NEWS. The first bale of 1919 cotton sold Monday at the Houston (Texas) Cotton Exchange and brought \$1.89. The bale weighed 471 pounds, was of middle class and was grown by Salvador Cardenas, one the Uchola ranch, eight miles north of Edinburg, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Recommending that the legislature amend the law to assist the state in enforcing its rights to compel compliance with its lease, contract and option to buy the Blue Ridge (Texas) farm, the joint house and senate investigation committee made its report Tuesday. The report expresses the opinion that the state is "under no legal or moral obligation whatever to respect the attempted release, executed in a manner not contemplated by law and under circumstances which are doubtful, if not questionable."

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