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A RASCALLY JOB.

The sugar manufacturers of the Hawaiian Island are very much in favor of annexation. They want a free market for their sugar. They have maintained a lobby at Washington to promote the annexation scheme, but they are trying to conceal their game by pretending to be prompted by a patriotic feeling. They are very solicitous for the safety of the nation and they advocate annexation because, they say, we must have an island somewhere in the Pacific to use in case of foreign attack. In view of the fact that Uncle Sam has been getting along admirably well all these years without an island, no one, excepting those pecuniarily interested in this scheme, can understand this great necessity for an island which has so suddenly dawned upon the minds of the annexationists.

There is another class of patriots who are howling for annexation. They, too, want an island for Uncle Sam in the event of a foreign war. They have gotten to be so terribly patriotic they are spending large sums of money to convince Congress of the necessity of having the Hawaiian Island. A little investigation has disclosed the information that these rabid annexationists are not in this business either through patriotism or for their health. They hold several millions of Hawaiian bonds, which accounts for their eagerness in this matter. Champ Clark in the course of an able speech, delivered in Congress a few days ago in opposition to annexation, had this to say about this infamous bond speculation:

"Why is this monstrous proposition made? Let us be plain and state the truth though it shame the devil. This crime against free government is to be committed for three reasons:

"Because some \$2,000,000 of Hawaiian bonds have been sold in this country at about 30 cents on the dollar. We are asked to guarantee the payment of \$20,000,000 of these bonds. The moment we annex the islands these bonds will soon disappear and certain favored patriots possessed of inside information will reap a profit of 70 cents for every 30 cents invested, making a total of \$3,500,000—a very comfortable nest egg to have in the family."

The whole thing is a rascally job, without a single redeeming feature. It is a dastardly conspiracy entered into by the sugar millionaires, bond speculators and unscrupulous politicians. But strange to say some Democrats are to be found assisting the Republicans in carrying out this disgraceful job.

THE CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN.

There comes from Washington, on what appears to be pretty reliable authority, a report that the Louisiana appointments will not be made before the next congressional election in November. This has been agreed upon, it appears, to give the sugar planters an opportunity to show their strength. Should they be successful in carrying the third district it is said that they will dictate all Louisiana appointments and that Wimberly will get it in that part of the anatomy where politicians sometimes receive compensation for their work and where the chicken got the ax. From the same source it is learned that the Republicans will nominate Capt. Pharr, who, it is claimed, will poll the full strength of the g. o. p. in the third. The Republicans, that is, those of the Lily White persuasion, will strain every nerve to land the Old Swamper.

Of course, the Republicans will make the campaign on the pretended friendship of that party for the sugar industry. But it will be interesting to know how they will reconcile their professed love for the sugar planter with their avowed intention of annexing and conquering sugar producing countries thereby inflicting a death blow to the sugar industry in the United States. It will not be surprising to see some of the Lily Whites return to their first love, for the most enthusiastic adherent of Republicanism will

concede that the policy of conquest and annexation just inaugurated by the Republican party is not calculated to cheer the heart of the cane-grower. It is not altogether improbable that before the waning of many moons the Democratic party will, by reason of its opposition to the acquisition of new territory, be recognized as the only friend of sugar. It has always been its most sincere and consistent friend, and the day may not be far off when the sugar manufacturers of Louisiana will be forced to this conclusion. Congressman Broussard's speech against the annexation of Hawaii will prove to be splendid campaign literature in the third district. What will a high tariff amount to if more sugar than is necessary for American consumption is imported free? This will be a rather tough nut for the sugar planters to crack.

All indications point to the renomination of Congressman Broussard. With this dashing young leader in the saddle, the Democrats can be expected to march to victory. The young Democracy of the old third will make things decidedly warm for the Republicans and it is safe to say that the fur will fly and the gory locks of the venerable Old Swamper will be found waving in the ambient air on that November morning.

THE NEW SUNDAY LAW.

The Skelly bill, which has passed the lower House of the State Legislature, will, should it go through the Senate and receive the governor's signature, do away with some of the obnoxious features of the Sunday law in New Orleans and Shreveport—the only cities in the State which can show a population of over 20,000 souls.

Under the proposed measure the country parishes will have to endure all the oppressive, absurd and unpopular provisions of the law, while New Orleans and Shreveport will be the only beneficiaries.

Why the Legislature should be willing to give to the people of the cities a more liberal Sunday law and deny it to the parishes, is pretty hard to say. If the Skelly law is a good thing for the city, it is equally good for the country. The people of Lafayette are no more in favor of the Sunday law than those of New Orleans, and they are entitled to the enjoyment of the same rights.

Mr. Marks' proposition for local option would have given a solution of the whole matter. Those parishes which are opposed to the law are not at all anxious to force it upon others. Mr. Marks desired to give each parish the privilege of deciding the question for itself, and surely no one should object to this.

Under the Skelly bill a citizen of New Orleans and Shreveport will be able to sell a cigar on Sunday without becoming a law breaker, but not so in Lafayette or New Iberia. Here he will be violating a law and will become a criminal. The Orleansian will be able to take beer at the restaurant instead of claret, but the New Iberian or the Baton Rougean will be compelled to drink wine or water with his dinner.

The Skelly law may do a great deal toward relieving New Orleans of the evils resulting from an unpopular law, but it offers no solution of this vexing question to the people of the towns and parishes.

The Washington Post pays Congressman Broussard the following compliment: "Congressman Broussard, of Louisiana, who made his maiden speech in the House, Tuesday evening in opposition to the annexation of Hawaii, scored some strong points, and was the recipient of hearty applause. Mr. Broussard, though a very young man, spoke with the ease and force of a veteran orator, and showed himself master of his subject."

THE NEW BANK.

Another evidence of the progress being made by this town is given in the establishment of the Bank of Lafayette. This year has been a notable one in the history of our town. Already we have had occasion to speak of the building of the refinery and the cotton compress. These two new enterprises marked the advent of a new era in the life of our prosperous little city. Coming as they did upon the heels of two important improvements—the waterworks and electric light plant—they gave a particularly brilliant aspect to the future. During the last few years Lafayette has made rapid strides in the march of progress. It has gone ahead with unusual speed. On every hand can be seen signs of prosperity. New stores, new residences, new industries are springing up everywhere. Our population has gone on steadily increasing until it has reached a point not far from the 5000 mark.

Perhaps the most substantial indication of our advancement is the organization and establishment of the new bank, which will open under most encouraging auspices with a capital stock of \$24,000. It will be a State bank, and will do business under the banking laws of Louisiana. The officers are all well-known and representative citizens who enjoy the confidence of all classes of the community. They are:

Crow Girard, president; Wm. Clegg, vice-president; J. J. Davidson, cashier; Wm. Campbell, attorney; directors: Crow Girard, Wm. Campbell, P. B. Roy, A. Justice, Jules J. Monton, F. N. Gregory, Gus Lacoste, Wm. Clegg, E. G. Voortkaste.

THE CHAUTAUQU.

The seventh annual session of the Louisiana Chautauqua will open at Ruston on July 1, under unusual, bright and promising auspices. It suffices to say that Mrs. Williams, the "mother of Chautauqua," being president, it will continue to uphold the lofty educational ideal with which it was identified from its inception. In the language of its prospectus, "it is needless to dwell upon the aim of the Louisiana Chautauqua or to recount its history. Since the first regular session was held in 1892, it has been steadily gaining in strength and usefulness, increasing its hold upon the people of our State, and making them feel more and more that its work in educational progress is unique, important and worthy of expansion."

To give an idea of the literary feast that awaits the visitor, we will mention a few of the principal features of the program. An address by the president, followed by a moonlight concert; sermon by Bishop Sessums; lecture, Dr. Dixon, president of Sophie Newcomb College; Prof. Gill's lecture on civil government; on July 8 E. Benjamin Andrews, the famous president of Brown University, one of the ripest scholars and most eloquent speakers in America, will deliver an oration on the life and character of Robert E. Lee; literature as history, Prof. Alphonso Smith; on the 14th of July Gen. John B. Gordon of Georgia will deliver his lecture, "The First Days of the Confederacy"; there is only one Gen. Gordon, and comment would be like adorning the lily and painting the rose; the general will deliver his other famous lecture, "The Last Days of the Confederacy." For lack of space we will not give all the program, but we will state that the whole session will be one continuous intellectual treat. The course of instruction will embrace lectures in art, language, grammar, English literature, rhetoric, Latin, Greek, French, history, civil government, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, geography, chemistry, botany, physiology, psychology, school management.

Instructions are free of charge.

It should be remembered that Ruston is a health resort with medicinal springs. Rates for board are very reasonable and specially so for teachers, who are offered every inducement. Why go North when right at home we have a delightful summer resort, with pleasure and instruction galore?

Baseball.

On the 2d, 3d and 4th of July the people of Lafayette will have an opportunity of seeing one of the most hotly contested series of baseball ever played upon a diamond in this State. The White Caps of Alexandria will, on these dates, try conclusions with the Lafayette team. The Alexandrians are said to be among the very best players in the Southern States, while the Lafayette boys are conceded the first and foremost ballplayers that can be found this side of Mason and Dixon's line. With such superior forces pitted against each other it is to exaggeration to say the game will be intensely interesting to lovers of this sport. It is for the people of Lafayette to say if they want a first-class team. If they do, they should encourage the sport by seeing the games which will be played here during the first days of the next month. If the team receives enough popular support several good games will take place here this season. Without any support the club can not be sustained.

To Build a Church.

The lady members of the Episcopal church in Lafayette met this week and decided to raise the funds necessary to build a church. Already quite a handsome amount has been donated and the ladies have met with much encouragement. They have agreed to give a number of fairs the first of which will take place next Thursday evening at the home of Dr. N. P. Moss, where refreshments and cakes will be served at very reasonable rates.

The ladies of the Episcopal church should be assisted in their laudable efforts to secure for themselves a place of worship. A town can give no better evidence of its progressiveness than by contributing liberally toward the building and maintenance of churches. If those denominations which already have their churches will extend to the ladies of the Episcopal church the support to which they are entitled, it will not be long before they will have succeeded in raising enough money to build their church.

The attention of George Angell, of the Boston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is respectfully called to the fact that the Spaniards are eating poor, inflexible mules at Manila. Were General Sherman living he would no doubt say "that war is hell on the mules."

Fourth of July Celebration.

In order to raise enough money to build a tower and buy an alarm bell the firemen of the three companies will give a celebration on the Fourth of July.

Mr. A. M. Martin has offered the use of his beautiful grove, and the celebration will take place there. A very interesting program has been prepared and all kinds of refreshments will be sold. There will be a flag-raising, a national drill under the direction of Prof. Greig, and patriotic speeches. Hon. Laurent Dupre and A. C. Allen have been invited to speak. A firemen's parade, starting at the court-house at 5 o'clock, will pass through the principal streets of the town.

A Sure Thing for You.

A transaction in which you cannot lose is a sure thing. Illnesses, sick headache, furred tongue, fever, piles and a thousand other ills are caused by constipation and sluggish liver. Cassell's Candy Cathartic, the wonderful new liver stimulant and intestinal tonic, are by all druggists, guaranteed to cure or money refunded. C. C. C. are a sure thing. Try a box today. 15c, 25c, 50c. Sample and booklet free.

Notice to Volunteers!

All those who have made arrangements to join Col. T. D. Boyd's regiment and others who wish to go to the front immediately will call at The Gazette office as soon as possible. Important news has been received and all those interested are requested to call immediately.

Gov. Bob Taylor's Tribute to Senator Harris.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen—I come to drop a flower of love and reverence on the grave of Isham G. Harris in the name of the State which he served so long and so well. If all the noble deeds he has done for his country and his fellow-men were flowers I could gather a million roses from the hearts of Tennesseans to-night. Whatever else may be said of him, he was an honest man. His heart was the temple of truth and his lips were its oracles. He loved his native land, and loyalty to the public duty was his creed. He lived a long and stormy life; he died a hero.

The summons came to him in the triumphant hour of the State, when the centennial bells were ringing out the old century and ringing in the new. In the glorious noontide of Tennessee's joyful jubilee, when the trumpets of peace were pouring out the soul of music on the summer air, he heard the solemn call of another trumpet, which drowned all the melodies of this world. He saw the shadow of an invisible wing sweep across his pillow, a pallor came over his face, his heart forgot to beat; there was only a gasp, a sigh, a whispered "I am tired," and tired eyelids were drawn like purple curtains over tired eyes; tired lips were closed forever; tired hands were folded on a motionless breast. The mystery of life was veiled in the mystery of death.

What is life? What is death? To-day we hear a bird singing in the tree top; they tell us that is life. To-morrow the bird lies cold and stiff at the foot of the tree. It will sing its song no more. They tell us that is death. A babe is born into the world. It opens its glad eyes to the light of day and smiles in the face of its loving mother. They tell us that is life. The child wanders from the cradle into the sweet fairyland of youth and dreams among its flowers. But soon youth wakes into manhood and his soul is afire with ambition. He rushes in the struggles of real life and wins his way from the log cabin to the gubernatorial chair. The lightning bolts of war; the live thunder begin to fall around him, but he stands like a lion at his post, and when the dreadful shock at Shiloh comes, where the flower of Tennessee are rushing to glory and the grave, through the rifted smoke I see him kneeling on the bloody field with the peerless Albert Sidney Johnston dying in his arms.

At last his flag goes down in blood and tears. He is exiled from his country, but the clouds soon clear away and he returns in triumph, to be clothed by the people with greater power than ever before, and to sit like an uncrowned king in the highest council of the nation, until his raven locks turn white as snow.

But the scene shifts again, and as we are called from our revelry to stand around the coffin of our matchless Senator, there are tear stains on the cheeks of merriment, and mourning muffles mirth. They tell us that is death!

The song of the bird is the soul of melody, and the laughter of the child is the melody of the soul. The joys of youth are the blossoms of hope; manhood gathers the golden fruits. But death robs the bird of its song and steals laughter from the lips of childhood. Death plucks the blossoms of youth and turns

the golden fruits of manhood to ashes on the lips of age.

Poor bird, is there no brighter clime, where thy sweet spirit shall sing forever in the tree of life? Poor child, is there no better world,

where, thy soul shall wake and smile in the face of God? Poor old tired man, is it all of life to live? Is it all of death to die? Is there not a heaven where thy tottering age shall find immortal youth and where immortal life shall glorify thy face? It must be so; it must be so.

A solemn murmur in the soul Tells of a world to be, As travelers hear the billows roll Before they reach the sea. There must be a God. We look up through the telescope into the blue infinite and catch glimpses of his glory. We see millions of suns flaming like archangels on the frontier of stellar space. And still beyond we see on ten thousand fields of light crowns and shields, of spiral wreaths of stars, islands and continents of suns floating on boundless opel seas. And are there no worlds like ours wheeling around those suns? Are there no eyes but ours to see those floods of light? Are there no sails on those far away summer seas? No wings to cleave that crystal air?

Surely there cannot be a universe of suns without a universe of worlds, and reason teaches us that there cannot be a universe of worlds destitute of life.

We turn from the telescope and look down through the microscope and it reveals in a single drop of water a tiny world teeming with animal life, with forms as perfect as the human body, yet invisible to the naked eye. It can not be denied that some power beyond this world created them. We know that some power beyond this world created us. We know that they must perish and that we must die, and we know that the power which created them and us and the stars above us lives on forever.

Therefore, somewhere beyond this world there is infinite power and eternal life. Let us hope that Christ, who whispered "Peace" to the troubled waters of Galilee, has whispered "Peace" to the troubled soul of our departed Senator, and that his tired eyes have opened to the light of a blissful immortality.

The Breaux Bridge Road.

The Lafayette Compress Company and the People's Cotton Oil Company, appreciating the importance of a good road between this town and Breaux Bridge, have each offered to subscribe one hundred dollars toward that end. Several citizens of this town have expressed a willingness to add their names to the list and subscribe liberally. With private subscriptions amounting to about \$500, a partly appropriation of \$100 and the cooperation of the St. Martin Police Jury, it is believed that this road can be put in good condition.

Now that Lafayette has superior advantages to offer as a wagon market for cotton, the necessity of good roads should not be lost sight of. It will not do to have a ruddy and competitive market without good roads, over which the farmers can haul their cotton to town.

Manager Corouat, of the Compress Company, and Mr. D. Schwartz, the book-keeper, have been pretty busy arranging all the preliminaries for the coming cotton season. The company will have its own telephone line from here to Washington with offices at Monton Switch, Carenero, Sanset and Opelousas. The large amount of business which it expects to do throughout that section has made this line necessary. The office of the company in the Lacoste building being fitted up and will soon be in first class shape.