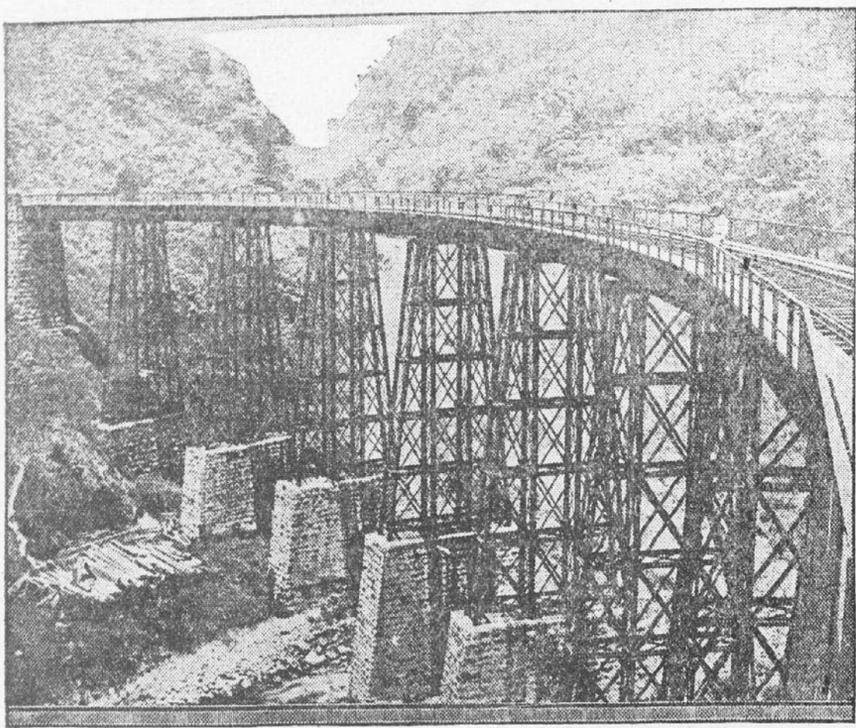
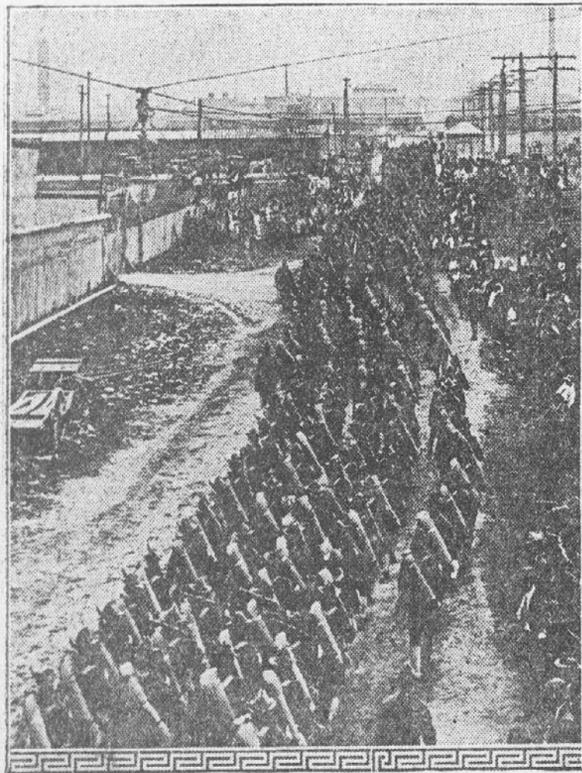


STRATEGIC POINT ON VERA CRUZ RAILWAY



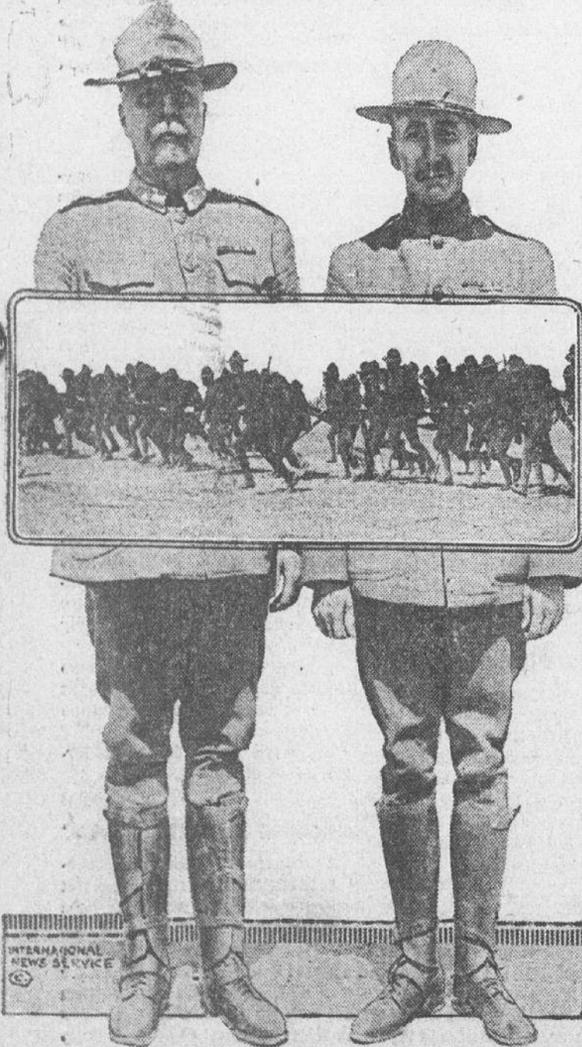
This is one of the two bridges on the line of the railway from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, the control of which means much to the success of the American troops. The bridges are only a few miles from Vera Cruz, and their destruction would seriously hamper the movement toward the capital.

FIFTH BRIGADE EMBARKS AT GALVESTON



The Fifth brigade, U. S. A., under command of Brig. Gen. Fred Funston, on its way to the transports at the Galveston docks, where it embarked for Vera Cruz. In the brigade are about 4,700 officers and men, comprising the Fourth, Seventh, Nineteenth and Twenty-eighth infantry, the Sixth cavalry, one battery of the Fourth field artillery, a company of engineers, a company of the signal corps and an ambulance corps.

BORDER COMMANDERS AND TROOPS



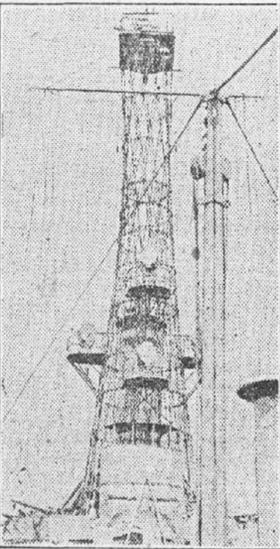
Colonel Loughborough (left) and Colonel Perkins (right), of the Twentieth United States infantry, now on the Mexican border, and some of their troops in action.

GENERAL FRED FUNSTON



Brig. Gen. Fred Funston is in command of the Fifth brigade, United States army, which went from Galveston to Vera Cruz to carry on the work begun by the men of the fleet.

FIRE CONTROL MAST



The lattice work mast of an American battleship, from the top of which the fire of the guns is controlled.

MESSAGE FROM THE BRIDGE



These sailors are sending a message from the bridge of a battleship by what is known as the Ardols system of signaling.

LOUISIANA LOSES FIGHT FOR CANAL

SUPREME COURT GIVES CARONDELET CANAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY A VICTORY.

Washington.—If Louisiana wants the Carondelet Canal and Navigation Company's property, it will have to buy it at the value set upon it by a board of three experts, as provided in the act of 1858. The United States Supreme Court reversed the Supreme Court of Louisiana in the matter.

To do so it went to the French version of the act of 1858 to find the antecedent for a vagrant "it" in the fourth section, even as Judge Monroe did, and came to the conclusion that the word refers to the canal company and not to the railroad authorized by the act, but which was never built.

According to the State Supreme Court, that "it" referred to the railroad, and, under that construction, the canal company was entitled only to compensation for the railroad.

This decision of the Supreme Court, announced by Associate Justice McKenna, disposes of the whole matter, except the small piece of ground taken by the New Orleans Terminal Company, and for which an award of \$3,000 was made on expropriation proceedings. Inasmuch as the State Supreme Court itself reserved the question as to who owned that piece of land, it could not be disposed of in the Federal court.

The United States Supreme Court disposed of every question raised by Attorney General Pleasant in favor of E. H. Farrar and Benjamin Waldo, attorneys for the canal company. It held that the decision of the state court was a finality, and therefore the appeal was properly before the United States court, and that the act of 1906 impaired the obligation of the contract entered into by and between the state and the various companies which went bankrupt between the first legislation, in 1805, and the final legislation, in 1858, under which the canal was finally built.

It is a sweeping victory for the canal company. The part of the act of 1906, "repealing all laws or parts of laws in conflict" with itself, the Supreme Court holds, was in itself an impairment of the contract made by the various acts under which the canal company constructed the waterway known as the Carondelet Canal, Old Basin and Bayou St. John.

Oil Corporation Election.

Crowley, La.—The annual stockholders' meeting of the Crowley Oil and Mineral Company elected the following board of directors: J. Frankel, P. S. Lovell, H. M. Bone, P. L. Lawrence, W. L. Trimble, Thomas R. Smith, W. E. Lawson, F. R. Martin, John Green, A. Jumonville and W. J. Carmouche. The Crowley Oil and Mineral Company is operating in the Evangeline oil fields in Arcadia parish and has large holdings in the Edgerly, Pine Prairie and other fields on Louisiana. The company was organized in 1901, capitalized at \$200,000 and has paid \$1,100,000 in dividends. The directors elected the following officers: J. Frankel, president; P. S. Lovell, vice president; P. L. Lawrence, treasurer, and H. M. Bone, secretary.

Welch is Raising Less Rice.

Welch, La.—Indications are that the rice acreage in this community will be decreased by at least 25 per cent, to be planted in corn, sweet potatoes, sugar cane and cotton. It was claimed that this is not a land that would grow cotton profitably, but experiments carried out two years in succession by P. J. Nukel, one of the most extensive and prosperous farmers of this section, have proven that it will grow and produce abundantly, and besides the boll weevil is not present as the cotton belt is some distance from here.

Lockport Elects Officials.

Lockport, La.—At an election C. M. Hargis was re-elected mayor and Joseph O. Toups, W. R. Pennington and S. C. Frost, councilmen. Mr. Frost is the only new member of the council.

Sentenced on Murder Charge.

St. Martinville.—Judge Simon passed sentence in the following murder cases: Lewis Postern, life; Johnnie Postern, life; Herman Postern, twenty years; Walter Wilson, twenty years.

Attempted Murder of Contractor.

Port Allen.—"Fesser" Holmes, a negro of Chipley, Fla., attempted the murder of Don B. Hearin, a prominent Baton Rouge levee contractor, at the latter's camp at Belledale, eight miles north of here. A posse of Port Allen citizens headed by Deputy Sheriff Thibodeaux, started in pursuit, and captured Holmes and a negro named "Babe" Collins, who is supposed to have been implicated in the shooting. The pair were lodged in the parish jail.

TO PROBE LITTLE VERDICT

Specific Instructions Given Grand Jury at Shreveport by Judge Bell.

Shreveport, La.—Judge T. F. Bell specially charged the grand jury, which met after a recess of several weeks, to investigate fully the verdict of acquittal in the case of Hervey S. Little and wife, accused of the murder of J. J. Van Cleave.

"You will investigate the conduct of the Little case, recently tried," said Judge Bell, "and if you find there were any violations of the law in that connection it will be your duty to return indictments. It is due to the men who served you on the jury that this should be done, and if there was anything wrong those responsible should be pointed out, in order that the others may be freed of the cloud that has rested upon them."

By resolution the law and order mass meeting held in March referred the whole Little question to the Grand Jury.

Bunkie Physician Named Mayor.

Bunkie.—The municipal election held in the town of Bunkie for mayor, marshal and councilmen resulted as follows: For mayor, Dr. E. S. Matthews 60, W. O. Pearce 52; for marshal E. E. Worthy 68, E. E. Babalias 45; for five councilmen, L. S. Johnson 83, H. E. Wesson 83, A. C. Simmons 78, T. M. Mathews 76, C. J. Pope 74, W. C. Townsend 62 and A. B. West 50. The Mayor-elect is a prominent physician of this town, and with his progressive ideas the towns will continue to prosper.

Young Boys Organize Company.

New Orleans.—Patriotism and the war spirit have spread to the Young Men's Christian Association, and Tuesday night the members of the senior gymnasium class organized a company to volunteer for service in Mexico should war between that country and this be declared. The company is about 60 strong, and has as its captain C. C. Hard, physical director, and E. C. Roberts is first lieutenant, and C. J. Briant is second lieutenant. The members of the company are all young and strong of constitution.

White Castle Elects H. S. Batt.

White Castle.—White Castle's bitter political contest terminated in the election of H. S. Batt as mayor, over the incumbent, Gus Weil, by a majority of three votes. Mayor Weil has made one of the most progressive administrations this city has ever had, and some regret is expressed that he was not continued in office. Mr. Batt is a successful merchant long identified with the city's progress. The following councilmen were elected: Lee Josephs, Luke Babin, George Adams, El Tarbo and H. Copet.

Killed by Log Train.

Alexandria.—Mayo Lacroix, an employee of the J. F. Ball Lumber Company at Pollock, was run over and killed by a log train. Eight loaded cars passed over and mangled his body. Lacroix was forty-five years old, and is survived by his widow and nine children. He was member of the Masonic fraternity, Odd Fellows and Woodmen of the World.

Funeral of a Beloved Rector.

New Iberia.—The remains of Rev. C. C. Cramer, rector for over 20 years of the Episcopal church of this city, and later rector of the Episcopal church of Marshall, Tex., whose death occurred in Franklin, La., Sunday night at the home of his son, Wilbur, were brought here by special train. Funeral services were held at the Episcopal church, conducted by Rev. R. R. Diggs, assisted by Bishop Sessums, Revs. Roland Hale of Franklin, Tucker of Houma and Henry C. Duncan of Alexandria.

Towboat Sank Near Donaldsonville.

Donaldsonville.—The Standard Oil Company's sternwheel towboat Paddock sank at her landing on Bayou Lafourche, opposite the Donaldsonville Rice Mill, Sunday afternoon. A New Orleans diver arrived to make an examination of the hull. The water where the boat went down is about five or six feet deep.

Bank Will Contest Awards.

Baton Rouge.—Joseph Gottlieb, vice president of the Louisiana National Bank, whose bid of 4.11 per cent for the state funds allotted to the Sixth Congressional District was rejected by the Board of Liquidation for the syndicate bid of 3 1/2 per cent, said his bank was preparing to contest in the courts the award to the syndicate.

Iota Elects Officers.

Crowley, La.—The election at Iota resulted in the choice of S. B. Andrus mayor and Lewis Bernard, George D. Wright and D. I. Fisher as councilmen. The only contest was between John Sittig and James Bihm for marshal, the former being elected by one vote.

Mrs. E. L. Villere, Lafayette, La. Lafayette, La.—Mrs. Edmond L. Villere, nee Elina Abadie, died here at the age of fifty-five years. She is survived by her husband, a number of sons and daughters and a brother.

HIGHWAY BIDS ARE OPENED UP

CONTRACTS ARE BENEFIT FOR ROADS IN BOSSIER PARISH.

New Orleans.—The highway department of the Board of State Engineers received and opened bids Monday for the construction of the following named highways located in Bossier parish:

Shreveport-Homer Highway—J. N. George & Sons, Shreveport, \$25,212.50; Worthington Construction Company, Brookhaven, Miss., \$32,339.25; A. E. Perry Company, Mobile, Ala., \$27,094; Wetzel & Co., Danville, Ill., \$28,885; and F. C. Barbour, Shreveport, \$35,402.

Bossier City-Benton Highway—J. N. George & Sons, Shreveport, \$42,865; Healy Construction Company, Meridian, Miss., \$39,792; Wetzel & Co., Danville, Ill., \$44,010; S. A. Gano, Jackson, Miss., \$39,700; Worthington Construction Company, Brookhaven, Miss., \$45,902; and H. J. Bonnabel, New Orleans, \$44,050.

Bossier City-Ninotch Highway—Worthington Construction Company, Brookhaven, Miss., \$88,219; Wetzel & Co., Danville, Ill., \$79,420; S. A. Perry & Co., Mobile, Ala., \$80,969.

All bids submitted for the construction of the Shreveport-Homer highway were rejected. This project will be re-advertised and bids will be opened May 18.

The contract for the construction of the Bossier City-Benton highway was awarded to S. A. Gano of Jackson, Miss. Contract for the construction of the Bossier City-Ninotch highway was awarded to Wetzel & Co., of Danville, Ill.

J. C. Logan and J. D. McDade of McDade, La., represented Bossier parish police jury at the opening of bids. Judge J. C. Pugh, Shreveport; W. H. Hodges, Jr., Elm Grove, La.; J. P. Allen, Shreveport, and W. A. Caplis, Elm Grove, were also present at the opening of bids.

Sued Railway for \$10,000.

New Orleans.—Manuel Blanco bought suit for \$10,000 damages against the New Orleans Railway and Light Company in the Civil District Court Monday. The plaintiff recites in his petition that while hurrying around the rear of a stationary car, February 19, 1914, at Canal and Priener streets, to get in position to hail and board another car approaching from an opposite direction, he was struck by a Spanish Fort train, with such force that he was "propelled through the air a distance of forty feet." No bell or waving signal and in violation of the city ordinance requiring an approaching car to stop thirty feet from one stationary on a parallel track, are assigned as grounds of gross negligence and the cause of the plaintiff's permanent injuries.

Store Is Closed at Welch.

Welch, La.—The Southern Mercantile Company, Ltd., has closed its doors, and ceased its operations with the close of last week. This company was organized eight years ago by R. M. Gray, who has always acted as general manager, and was enjoying a very profitable business until March 26, 1910, when a fire which swept the entire business district, destroyed its building and stock, valued at \$18,000, with only a few hundred dollars of insurance. The company built an up-to-date brick building in the fall of 1910, and resumed business in a prosperous manner until last fall, when the crops were ruined by rains for three months.

Yeggmen at Shreveport.

Shreveport.—Amateur yeggmen last week made an unsuccessful attempt to open the safe in the office of the Grand opera house in Texas street. The safe, which held \$600, was badly battered, but was not entered. A bit of crude burglar's tools was found in the office the following morning.

Postal Receipts at Lake Charles.

Lake Charles.—The postoffice receipts at Lake Charles for the fiscal year ending April 1 totaled \$43,390.94, an increase over the previous year of \$2,976.28. The total amount of money handled was \$815,256.89. The parcels handled during the first fifteen days of April were 3,340 received and 2,752 sent out.

Plantations Are Foreclosed.

Vidalia, La.—Two plantations in Concordia parish were sold at public sale by Sheriff E. P. Campbell, at Vidalia, to satisfy mortgages. Roseland plantation, comprising about 2,670 acres, situated about 25 miles south of Vidalia, and on the river side of the levee, on which there was a mortgage of \$23,000 in favor of R. T. Clark, was purchased under the foreclosure for \$15,000. This property was sold at private sale by Mr. Clark to Francis I. Galbraith, of Sunman, Ind.