

The Lower Coast Gazette

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28 1914.

Orange Day in New Orleans.

ORANGE Day, with the consent and approval of the governor, was celebrated in New Orleans under his proclamation on Thursday, November 19. Very many handsomely decorated automobiles lined up in the orange procession and thousands of oranges were given away to the multitudes who lined the streets throughout the procession's route.

The motive in having Orange Day in New Orleans was to attract the attention of our people to the fact that this great crop sought for the world over, can be successfully produced in Louisiana and under modern conditions can be produced here with considerably greater safety than in any of the rest of the mainland orange producing parts of the federal union.

The occasional freezes, say once in ten or fifteen years, that freeze the leaves off the trees and cause the loss of a single crop and perhaps freeze all of the new growth off the trees, can be avoided so far as the danger is concerned by hilling up the trees in December, above the point at which the graft or bud has been inserted on the sour stock. With this hilling up above the point named should some extraordinary freeze come, and they come at rare intervals, then the loss of the leaves or the loss of the leaves and the new wood will do but little harm and interrupt the growing of the crops for but one year.

The gradual development of these improved methods of culture has required a vast amount of experimentation and in this a number of our leading orange growers have shown their wisdom and their improved methods and have taught all the orange growers of the country how to protect themselves in times of danger.

One of the problems of the present time is that of the presence of the white fly, which leaves a dark colored deposit on the leaves of the orange trees and gives them a darkish or blackish look and is a matter of severe injury so far as the final crop is concerned. The citrus canker, against which recent provision has been made, is another pest that our planters are on the qui vive to avoid and the efforts that have been made to destroy all infected trees bids fair to keep our state free of that pest, although it will require the constant vigilance of our inspectors such as has already been inaugurated.

Hundreds of orange growers are now entering into the business and we shall surely have some very large orange crops within a few years. This will bring up the whole matter of distribution and it will have to be studied by our orange men if they desire to avoid the glutting of the market which is one of the greatest dangers that could now befall this crop.

Of course oranges can be kept in cold storage, but apart from that, the evidence of glutting the market demands comparative uniformity in the oranges that are shipped and orange growers should learn all of the ins and outs of the market as rapidly as practicable. A uniform size in each box is one of the necessities of the case and very large oranges are not much sought for, as there are so few of them in a box and very small oranges, unless they are mandarins or tangerines are not very salable, so the happy medium is the one to be reached and the experienced orange growers know about where that lies.

The general care of orange orchards will have to be studied and it will be wise not to make any attempt to raise hay crops in the orange orchard nor to have any cattle pasturing in them, as the harm that they will do to the orchard trees is very great. Many years ago we were taught that the best thing to do with an orange orchard was to let it alone but now the orange growers of Florida have taught us that the ground should be entirely free of grass and weeds and have, if anything grows thereon, it should be leguminous plants, the cow pea for instance, and this with its large leaves shading the ground will keep down the grass and at the same time introduce nitrogen into the soil. Some of our orange growers are planting truck garden crops in between the rows of trees. The very considerable fertilization that the orange trees get in this way will probably be full compensation for any damage that they may do to the land. This problem, however, is still something of an open one. All of these propositions must be considered by our orange growers and we have many of them on the Lower Coast who have been engaged in the business for a life time and whose experience will be of immense value to these who are just now going into the industry. It will be wise for the new men to confer with these older growers and thus to avoid mistakes that might otherwise be made.

Citrus Fruit Prospects.

Requests for monthly reports on prospects for growing citrus fruits in countries bordering on the Mediterranean have recently been forwarded, through the courtesy of the Department of State, to United States consuls in the respective producing districts. Returns on

conditions etc., August 1 have been received from consuls stationed at Barcelona and Valencia, Spain; Athens, Greece; Constantinople and Saloniki, Turkey in Europe; Aleppo, Turkey in Asia; and Algiers, Algeria.

Spain.—The United States consul at Valencia, reporting on conditions in that consular district, where most of the Spanish oranges are grown, states that a large crop of oranges of good quality is now anticipated, although no attempt is made to estimate the quantity. Meteorological conditions have been generally favorable, and should they continue so during August and September the yield will probably constitute a record. Mandarins are in the same category as oranges, with an equally favorable outlook as regards the size and quality of the crop. The cultivation of lemons is of very minor importance. Limes, citrons, pomelos, and cedrats are not cultivated in this district.

Consul General Carl Bailey Hurst, Barcelona, reports the condition of oranges, lemons, and citrons in that consular district as excellent. Limes, pomelos, mandarins, and cedrats are not grown. The orange picking season is December to April; lemons and citrons, January to April.

The principal orange-producing and orange exporting country bordering on the Mediterranean is Spain. The Spanish groves are located almost exclusively in Provinces of the eastern coast, chiefly in Valencia and Castellon. In these two Provinces were growing in 1910 over 87,000 acres of this fruit; whereas in all the other Provinces a total of only 30,000 were reported, the total for Spain being 117,000 acres. The orange crop in 1910 was 876,000 short tons. Lemon culture is, on the contrary, not an industry of great importance in Spain. The total area of lemon trees in 1910 was 6,000 acres and the crop amounted to 70,000 short tons.

Portugal.—In Portugal no periodical reports on the area and condition of citrus fruit are published. The latest official figures on production relate only to 1909; as furnished by Consul Will W. Lowrie, Lisbon, they are as follows, and refer to the number of fruit: Oranges 214,800,000; tangerines, 30,090,000; lemons, 15,390,000; and cedrats, 318,000.

The principal producing Provinces are Lisboa, Santarem, and Porto. The three provinces in 1909 produced 115,000,000 oranges, almost 21,000,000 tangerines, almost 7,000,000 lemons, and 128,000 cedrats. The fruit is grown quite generally, however, throughout the Republic.

Greece.—Respecting the area, production, etc., of citrus fruit in Greece, writes Consul General Alexander W. Waddell, "No Government estimates are obtainable." It is a little early," he continues, "to make definite predictions respecting oranges, lemons and mandarins the only citrus fruit grown in this district, but present indications are for a fair crop, that of oranges perhaps 20 per cent ahead of last year.

Turkey.—The United States consuls at Constantinople and Saloniki, Turkey, report citrus fruits not grown for commercial purposes in their districts.

In the Aleppo district, Syria, Consul J. B. Jackson reports the production of citrus fruits as not extensive, in fact there is none whatever for export.

Algeria.—The number of citrus trees in Algeria in 1912, as returned by the Algerian Bureau of Agriculture, were as follows: Oranges, 783,341 bearing trees and 106,490 non-bearing; lemons, 138,439 bearing and 20,202 non-bearing; mandarins, 451,783 bearing and 84,155 non-bearing trees. Exports of oranges from Algeria were 4,347 short tons in 1912 and 6,223 in 1913, while exports of mandarins amounted to 9,728 short tons in 1912 and 7,442 in 1913.

Oranges and mandarins in Algeria are picked from November to May, lemons all the year round. "A considerable portion of the citrus trees in Algeria," states Consul Dean B. Mason, Algiers, "are planted in gardens, fields, etc., among other trees and crops, so that accurate statistics of the area would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to secure; the data as to the number of trees, therefore, afford more accurate information as to the extent of citrus fruit cultivation. No statistics are kept as to the production, or as to the condition, of growing citrus fruits.

United States.—In the United States the condition of oranges on October 1 is estimated to be 11.1 per cent higher than a year ago, and 2.2 per cent higher than the 10-year average condition on October 1. The condition of lemons is estimated to be 36.9 per cent higher than a year ago and 2.3 per cent higher than the 10-year average condition.

The Exposition Officials at San Francisco have accepted plans and specifications for the Louisiana building and work will commence just as soon as the contract can be let. The first five thousand allotment of medallions has been received and is being distributed among the different banks over the state, who have offered to dispose of them. Every citizen who is patriotic enough to invest one dollar in this great advertising campaign for Louisiana will purchase one of these medallions and preserve it as a badge of patriotic citizenship. The women of the state have been asked to take charge of this campaign for selling medallions. Committees are now being formed for this work and it is expected that every patriotic woman in the state will be willing to help. This is Louisiana's one great opportunity to advertise her wonderful resources to America and every Louisianian should make it his individual business to see that Louisiana takes proper advantage of it. A second class exhibit would be of less than no value. The exhibitors at the Louisiana state fair at Shreveport were very generous with the Commission; furnishing two carloads of agricultural exhibits. These exhibits have been shipped to New Orleans and are now being

gotten in shape for shipment to California. Other exhibits are being sent in every day and it is expected that by January first this will be one of the most complete exhibits ever shipped from this state.

Editor Gazette:

In its last issue the Plaquemines Protector, under signature of its editor, publishes a double-column canard challenging my statement that the Protector had wilfully altered one of my communications sent to that newspaper. The editor kindly invites me, or my friends, to call at his office, or home, for the purpose of refuting my statement.

If in his generous offer, he had been fair enough to promise to disclose the authorship of the "Citizen" letters at this proposed interview, which I have earnestly asked, his invitation might have been accepted. I have already challenged "Citizen" to come out in the open in order that I might show to the people of this parish his motives for attacking me in such unjust manner. The latest canard of the "Protector" is merely an attempt to muddy the issue and to allow "Citizen" an opportunity to slip out of it, thereby evading a fair discussion of this controversy he has begun with me.

The bias, the manner and style, of the editor's card with its flaring headline, with nothing lacking, except probably the presentation of a small American flag to its readers, show plainly that it is a lame defense of "Citizen," all of which prompts me in the statement that "Citizen" is very closely connected with the "Protector," and I challenge bona-fide proof to the contrary. If such be the case, the "Protector" has flagrantly violated the ethics of respectable journalism.

I have shown the injustice of the attack upon the selection of the jury commission made by the "Citizen" letter. Since that time I have found the records of the jury commission during the tenure of the late Judge Livaudais, which will show a few interesting facts sustaining my position, if "Citizen" desires. If he desires it, let him, or the "Protector" disclose his identity.

Until this shall have been done, I have no admission, or denial, to make to the "Protector" regarding my statement that my letter was altered in its publication by that newspaper, regardless of the editor's proud boast of "his red, American blood," which no one seems to have questioned but himself. In other words, I wish to be as fair to the "Protector" in this controversy as it is willing to treat me fairly.

Yours truly, R. EMMET HINGLE.

Notice for a Barroom and Retail Liquor Business Permit.

I hereby give notice that I am applying to the Police Jury of this Parish for a permit to operate a white barroom and retail liquor business at and on the property of Dr. B. Lavigne, at Home Place, La.

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