

FLORIDA RATES ARE REDUCED

Freight on Oranges is Cut Down 4 1-2 Cents a Box

The New York Produce News says that the news that the interstate commerce commission had ordered a substantial reduction in the freight rates on oranges and pineapples shipped all rail from Florida was received with a good deal of pleasure by receivers here. The order for the reduction was the result of the complaint filed by the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Shippers' Protective Association early in the year. In this complaint the association alleged that the rates on Florida oranges to the eastern markets were excessive and did not allow of competition with the California fruit which was hauled a much longer distance at a rate which was relatively lower. The interstate commerce commission, in its decision which was handed down at Washington last Monday held that rates on oranges from Florida to New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia and other points were excessive, and the Atlantic Coast Line, Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio and other roads were ordered to reduce them September 25.

The commission held that the rates from Florida shipping points to the basing points in Florida, which are Jacksonville and Gainesville, were not excessive, but ordered that after September 15 the maximum rate for hauling oranges to New York would be 46c.; to Baltimore, 43c.; to Philadelphia, 44c.; to Boston, 51c. This is a reduction of 4 1-2 cents a box on shipments to the first three cities and 9 cents on shipments to Boston. The commission further held that the rail and water rates were not excessive. This reduction applies to carlot shipments exclusively and receivers say that it will not make a great deal of difference, although they welcome the reduction. About 35 per cent. of the Florida oranges and pineapples are shipped all rail, the balance coming by rail and water. A differential rate of 15 1-2 cents applies between the all rail and water shipments. This makes water shipments 35 cents from Jacksonville. The Clyde line and the Savannah line have had this rate in effect and receivers here say that they will, of course, meet the reduction offered by the commission rather than lose any of the business. There is no question in the minds of the receivers but what the water rate is higher than it should be. Orange boxes take up very little space and 35 cents from Jacksonville is all the traffic will stand. Oranges are brought here from Porto Rico, which is further than Florida, at a rate of 26 1-4 cents a box and there seems no reason why Florida should not get as good, if not a better, rate.

The commission also ordered that rates on vegetables in crates be reduced. The present rail and water rates on vegetables from Florida base points to northwestern cities were found to be excessive and ordered reduced. The question as to whether lower carload rates should be established upon vegetables to the eastern markets was left unsettled. Vegetable rates from Florida to points north of the Ohio river as well as on oranges and pineapples to these points were declared to be reasonable and no reduction ordered.

The commission also decided that the minimum carlot weight on strawberries from Starke and Lawley, Fla., to New York City and other points taking the New York rate should be reduced from the 200 crates a car to 175, and that the rate should not exceed \$1.80 per crate, including refrigeration. The refrigeration charges on fruits and vegetables from Florida the commission decided were not excessive.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE COURTS

Not very long ago a Missouri editor was punished for contempt by the supreme court of this state. He was held to have passed the limit of privilege in commenting on a decision of the court because he impugned the motives of the judges who concurred in the decision. His offense was in no respect different from that of President Roosevelt in the extraordinary attack on the United States circuit court of appeals.

Mr. Roosevelt did not stop with condemnation of the legal conclusions expressed by the court. Even that form of criticism by the president of the United States would be of unquestionable propriety, no matter how tactfully and respectfully the utterance might be phrased. But Mr. Roosevelt chose to direct grave imputations at the members of the court, imputations which directly affect their personal integrity. Has the president of the United States a special privilege to say things for the repetition of which a private citizen may be punished?—St. Louis Republic.

President Garrett of the Seaboard predicts for 1910 the brightest year for business in our country's history. Why wait so long? The abundant crops ought to bring good times right now.

ADVERTISING PAYS

A committee of advertisers in Oklahoma City, who had been selected to act as judges in an advertisement-writing contest, recently awarded the first prize to the following ingenious advertisement in a local newspaper: WANTED—Young man in jail wants out; suggestions solicited that might result in immediate release; wants poet's address that wrote "Stone Walls Do Not a Prison Make Nor Iron Bars a Cage." Address John L. Silber, Kay County Jail, Newkirk, Oklahoma.

The award of the prize occasioned some sensation and letters began pouring in both to the prisoner and to the newspaper from people all over the state wanting to know on what charge the prisoner was confined and whether it was possible to secure his liberty. The newspaper itself took up the case, attorneys were employed to draw up petitions for his pardon, and an investigation which was made disclosed the fact that Silber was in all probability the victim of a judicial error.

Silber, as the facts transpired, is a young man some twenty-two years of age, by occupation a switchman. He desired to try his fortune in the west, and being a member of the Trainmen's Union, which gave him transportation to all points, he left his home in Buffalo, N. Y., and went to Oklahoma in the spring of 1907. He stopped off at Newkirk and was looking over the town, when he was accosted by the town marshal, who demanded to know what he was doing there. Silber, representing the question, replied that it was none of the marshal's business. The official, enraged at this affront, followed Silber for most of the day and finally confronted him just as he was crossing the railroad track near the switch-light, which happened not to be burning.

Silber was at once arrested on the charge of blowing out the switch-light. After seven months' imprisonment, on the advice of acquaintances in Newkirk, he pleaded guilty and accepted a jail sentence rather than run the risk of being sent to the penitentiary when the case came to trial.

Letters were written to the governor by the prosecuting attorney who had been engaged on the case, by the judge of the district court before whom the case was tried and by the county sheriff. The absurdity of the charge became apparent when it was shown that the switch-light which Silber had been accused of blowing out was within a hundred feet of the depot, and that it was broad daylight when the crime was alleged to have been committed.

The petition was conveyed to the governor by Senator Roy E. Stafford of Oklahoma City, and a pardon was granted almost immediately.

Silber proved to be a man of exemplary habits and with a good record, which he could have established on the occasion of the trial but for his reluctance to communicate with his friends.—Harpers' Weekly.

MAKING SUGAR CANE IN THE EVERGLADES

A late special from Miami says: "While the operations are small to what they will be a little later on the Everglades Sugar & Land Company, which proposes gigantic developments of 'glade land' in this part of the county, is now working one hundred men in the vicinity of Fort Lauderdale in preparation to plant and cultivate a large experimental crop of sugar cane.

"The operations at present consist mainly in ditching and diking, and in a general way preparing the land for planting. The work is under the direction of John Bryan, and it is being rushed as rapidly as possible.

"Later the force will be increased and by early fall it is intended to have the most of the projects underway which this company will undertake in the culture of cane for sugar and syrup purposes."

NOT GUILTY OF THE RIGHT THING

It is in no sense a credit to Taft in the eyes of respectable, law-abiding white citizens that he had nothing to do with the Brownsville case. His disclaimer and the frantic efforts of his managers to prove him not guilty of upholding the dignity and honor of the American soldiery ought to have, and doubtless will have, an opposite effect to that intended. If these are one act in the entire presidential career of Roosevelt that calls for the unqualified approval of decent people it is his prompt and effective bouncing of the disorderly negroes who were bringing disgrace upon the uniform of the United States.—Tampa Evening News.

Secretary Taft has been talking into a phonograph. If he could get a dollar a word for such productions as his acceptance speech, he could live on Easy street and play golf to his heart's content, while avoiding the suspense and hardship of a midsummer campaign.

FLORIDA'S NEXT ORANGE CROP

Fruit of Better Quality * Yield Estimated at 3,000,000 Boxes.

The New York Produce News says that already considerable interest is being manifested in the coming Florida orange crop. As a general rule the first of November sees the initial shipments of fruit from that state, although usually very little of it that comes out at that time is really fit for consumption. Last year the fruit suffered from a prolonged drouth, which prevented the proper maturity of the oranges and made practically all of them very poor quality. As a consequence prices were low throughout the season, and all those who dabbled in the crop lost money. Indications are, however, that this season will tell a different story. The crop promises to be not so large but of better quality.

G. R. Croft of Winter Garden was on the market this week. Mr. Croft is a buyer as well as a grower of oranges and has traveled through most of the orange growing sections of the state. He is here to make arrangements for the marketing of his fruit for next season, and is making his headquarters with the E. B. Brackett Co. When asked his opinion on the crop conditions in the state, Mr. Croft said he believed that the early reports of a 4,000,000 box crop would have to be revised. He has observed conditions very carefully and it is his belief that the combined citrus crop of the state will not exceed 3,000,000 boxes. He says, however, the conditions this season have been far more favorable than they were last year. At just about the proper time rain came, which has helped material-

ly. He says that last year the majority of the crop was of the June bloom while this year it is of the April bloom. This he says, insures earlier and better fruit. Mr. Croft says that through the southern part of the state, particularly in the Manatee section, the crop will be short. Around Winter Garden, where he has his grove, there will not be as many oranges as last year, although the quality will be much better. He says that where the increase will come from is in the new groves that are just coming into bearing in the northern part of the state in the section between Winter Garden and Jacksonville. Oranges in this section, he says, are always of better keeping quality than those grown on the hammock lands.

Mr. Croft says that around Winter Garden is one of the greatest cucumber sections in the state. He says the shipments from that station alone last season amounted to over 100,000 packages. There are about 150 acres in cucumbers. The land there is very rich and produces three crops annually. The growers first put in lettuce, follow with cucumbers and then turn the land over to hay. He says that Florida growers are realizing more than ever the advantage of irrigating, having learned sad lessons in the last two years of drouth and that quite a number of paints are being put up in the different sections which he visited. He believes that the time will come in the near future when drouth will not be able to so seriously affect the crops as it has done in the past.

THAT EXTRA SESSION

"The governor will call an extra session of the legislature," "The governor will not call an extra session," say the newspapers of the state.

Meanwhile the governor is sitting tight to his bicycle saddle and saying nothing.

Claude L'Engle says the extra session ought to be called, because the money in the general fund is about exhausted and there are dollars in other funds that only the legislature itself can transfer to the general fund.

The governor says not a word.

T. J. Appleyard says there will be no extra session, because if one is held the senate will be compelled to pass upon the appointment of W. H. Milton as United States senator, and T. J. opines that no extra session will be held.

Meanwhile the governor is not talking, but Appleyard seems to be in the majority.—Miami News-Record.

J. E. ALEXANDER FOR THE SPEAKERSHIP

If popularity is any test as to whom should be speaker of the next house, J. E. Alexander of Volusia is the man. He was the only one elected in the first primary as one of the senatorial delegates to Denver. He was also the only one of five candidates in Volusia county as member of the next legislature elected in the same primary. Mr. Alexander is eminently qualified to fill the responsible place. He is well posted in parliamentary tactics, of ready perception and affluent in all the usages pertaining to deliberative assemblages. The selection of Mr. Alexander as speaker of the lower house in the next legislature will add to the brilliant galaxy of former speakers, a Dougherty, a Jennings and a Gilchrist among them.—DeLand News.

There does not seem to be much animation thrown into the political debates up to the present moment on the part of any of the candidates. Taft almost completely fails to stir up any enthusiasm and Bryan far less than he did in his memorable 1896 campaign.

"Down with the weeds—We want no jungles in Pensacola."—Pensacola Journal. A growing weed does not decay. It is the decaying weed that throws off poisonous odors and is a menace to health. If the weeds are cut down they should be burned up. Let them grow rather than decay.

That was a very handsome reply of Governor Johnson of Minnesota to the letter of the democratic committee inviting him to make some speeches during the campaign. He said he would be at liberty by September 1st and was entirely at the disposal of the committee.—Tampa Times.

A pet cat in Atlanta, and another one in New York, seized with rabies, bit their owners. Mrs. Baldwin, the New York lady owner who was bitten, died in eight hours after undergoing the most excruciating torture.

Mr. Taft's letter meets the approval of all the president—the same as if he had written it himself.

A CORKING TIME

(Written for the Ocala Enanner.)

Oh, I've had a perfectly corking time, And I think I have done the thing up prime;

I've bottled up business snug and tight;

I've bottled prosperity out of sight;

I've bottled the courts as far as I could;

I've bottled employers for their own good;

I've bottled up labor of ev'ry grade;

I've bottled contentment and bottled trade;

I've bottled the land of the erstwhile free;

And if I had time I'd bottle the sea;

I've bottled all wealth—for wealth is a crime—

Oh, I've had a perfectly corking time, THE BOTTLE IMP.

AS YOU SEE IT

"Business poor," said the beggar.

Said the undertaker, "It's dead."

"Falling off," said the riding-school teacher.

The druggist—"Oh, vial," he said.

"It's all write with me," said the author.

"Picking up," said the man on the dump.

"My business is sound," quoth the bandsman.

Said the athlete, "I'm kept on the jump."

The butler declared it was "corking."

The parson—"It's good," said he.

"I'll make both ends meat," said the butcher.

The tailor replied, "It suits me."

A dollar contributed to the democratic campaign fund by every democrat in Florida able to separate himself from that amount would be an evidence of enthusiasm. Send along your dollars, tainted or otherwise, to this office and the same will be forwarded to headquarters and no questions asked.

John D. Rockefeller has sent his check for one thousand dollars to the Atlanta chamber of commerce as a starter for the "Uncle Remus" monument to be erected in memory of Joel Chandler Harris.

Mr. Harriman says that neither Taft nor Bryan are a menace to the railroads. Indeed, it may be said that either Taft or Bryan are less a menace than Hisgen, Watson, Debs, etc., etc.

Mr. Harriman has given an order to the United States steel corporation for 28,000 tons of standard rails for his Mexican railway lines for immediate delivery. All signs point to a return of prosperity.

Count Zoppelin of Germany, who had the misfortune to have his wonderful airship wrecked, is promised by the patriotic German people one million dollars to have it rebuilt.

Rev. Claude W. Duke, of the First Baptist church of Tampa, who recently made a tour of the "Holy Land," is giving his congregation the benefit of his travels in a series of lectures.

Hearst and Graves are very omnious sounds for new party leaders.

THE GOVERNOR WRATHY

Governor Broward was in Jacksonville Saturday, and in an interview with a reporter of the Jacksonville Metropolis, fired the following broadside at the Tampa Tribune:

"Following its usual custom of misrepresenting and vilifying me upon any and all occasions, the Tampa Morning Tribune, from which I neither expect nor desire fair treatment, has recently used considerable space in referring to the actions of a man named McLain, or McLean, who, while on a train, and alleged to be intoxicated, arrested a party in one county for some alleged offense and took him to Hillsborough county to have him incarcerated. The arrested party could not, of course, be jailed in Hillsborough county for an offense alleged to have been committed in another county.

"The Tribune, displaying the usual lack of information, declares that this man McLain was a state detective, and heaps coals of fire upon my long-suffering head because I appointed him to the position. I have known only a few people by the name given, and have never appointed such a man as a state detective. The only man employed in this capacity is Charles Eaton, and he is enough for the entire state. I am glad, however, that the incident gave the Tribune an opportunity of continuing its campaign of misrepresentation against me, for such misrepresentations seem to be the principal stock in trade of this corporation newspaper. Statements published about me are just as reliable as the general run of news in that paper."

The Metropolis reporter says that the governor was asked for a statement on the subject of calling an extra session of the legislature, but was non-committal on the subject. He stated that all matters pertaining to his plan for colonizing and growing sugar cane on 30,000 acres of land in the Everglades was progressing in a manner most satisfactory, and it is probable that further interesting developments may be given out for publication shortly.

From the way Governor Broward pays his respects to the Tampa Tribune he would no doubt like to live in a state where there are no newspapers, yet notwithstanding which the newspapers have been most kind to him, and it is to them he is largely indebted for the reputation he enjoys.

BOY INVENTS AN AIRSHIP

Inventors of aeroplanes, airships and flying machines will have to reckon with a serious competitor in Willie Holt, of 1644 St. Mary's avenue, Brooklyn.

Willie is 17 years old. He lives with his father, mother and five little brothers, all of whom are inclined mechanically. His father is a first class mechanic, and Willie takes after his "dad." He got his father to build him a workshop, and with the help of his little brothers started to build a flying machine.

He got his brother to let him have a small alcohol engine that was used to run a toy stone crusher, and, taking some tin, sticks of wood, and fans, he commenced to build his machine.

For many weeks he worked. All the disappointments of an inventor were his. Sleepless nights and anxious days he spent, until at last, yesterday afternoon, Willie determined to give his machine a trial. He took it out into the back yard, placed the body of the machine on a box, and with the rest of the family watching from the windows, started it going.

With a whirr the machine was off. Willie, amazed at his success, stood speechless, the spectators applauded, and all of a sudden something happened.

Willie had neglected to straighten the rudder of the machine, and, rising from the box to the height of the boy's head, the airship made a turn about the yard, came back like a boomerang to where Willie stood gaping and bumped into him.

The youth dropped like one shot, while the airship, after making a few more turns, descended gracefully to the ground beside the young inventor.—New York World.

THE WEATHER AT SIXES AND SEVENS

It is rather puzzling to read of great flood damages in some sections of the country and drouths and widespread woods and prairie fires in others. The weather seems to be out of joint. For instance, the rainfall at Jacksonville was fifty per cent. more than normal for the months of July, while at Tampa it was only about one-third the average. It is time to pass a vote of want of confidence in the weather and let it resign.—Tampa Times.

"Roosevelt takes the Brownsville blame," says the Pensacola Journal and other newspapers. We don't look at it that way. We think the president is entitled to all praise and no blame at all for his part in that affair.

IT MAY BE THE "SPIRIT TREE"

An Interesting Sub-Marine Plant is Given the Mayor of Tampa

Visitors to Mayor Wing's office during the past few days have been interested in a very curious marine growth which occupies a prominent position on the upper ledge of the mayor's desk. The thing is a curiosity in its way, having a base of fine coral, covering a space about equal to a square foot. On one side of this growth of coral are attached two specimens of sheep's wool sponge, which has grown to the rock. But the most curious thing about the object is a tree-like growth which shoots up from the center of the coral base to a height of about 18 inches. This object is a marine plant, with a trunk like a tree, symmetrical in its proportions and with numerous branches reaching in every direction. The plant is black and looks like a tree that had been blasted by some poisonous exhalation.

The branches are very long and reach upward and outward, then droop until they touch the coral base, reminding one of the mythical "spirit tree" of the Polynesians, which, according to tradition, grows somewhere in the interior of the larger islands. This tree has a series of branches, covered with flowers, which invite the travelers' admiration, and as the unwary victim approaches they are discovered to be tentacles which reach downward and draw him into their horrible grasp. Once thus caught, no man has ever escaped the crushing power of those alleged horrible freaks of nature, say the natives.

The onlooker, familiar with the tale of this mythical tree cannot help wondering if the plant, which once grew on a coral reef at the bottom of the gulf and now ornaments the desk of the mayor of Tampa, is some miniature of a marine monstrosity with habits like those of the "spirit tree."

The curiosity was presented to Mayor Wing by Chairman James Etzler of the police committee.—Tampa Times.

A METEOR EXPLODED

The St. Augustine Record says that Mr. Robert W. Oliver, at Colee, clears up the dispute as to where the big meteor fell some evenings ago. Mr. Oliver, with his wife and another person, was sitting on the front porch of their home, which faces the St. Johns river, and saw the meteor very clearly and at close range. Mr. Oliver states that it did not fall to the earth, but exploded when about one mile above the surface of the St. Johns river.

He estimates that it was but a few hundred yards distant from his house to the west. "The light was so brilliant," continued Mr. Oliver, "that a pin could have been distinguished plainly. The explosion was terrific, being louder than the detonation of a cannon of large size." Mr. Oliver admits that he and his companions were somewhat startled and frightened and jumped from their chairs, expecting the fiery missile to drop in the front yard.

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS

The regular uniform state examination for teachers will be held in Ocala commencing on Tuesday at 9 o'clock, on September 8, 1908.

All white applicants will meet in the Ocala High School building and colored applicants will meet in Howard Academy building.

Each teacher will supply his or herself with pen, ink and either legal or foolscap paper.

One dollar will be charged, according to law, each applicant, to defray the expenses of the examination. W. D. CARN, Supt. Pub. Instruction.

While the Florida shippers did not get everything they asked for in the recent case placed before the interstate commerce commission, they secured some concessions which will be of material assistance in profitably marketing the coming fall and winter crops of fruits and vegetables.—New York Packer.

What has become of all those suits that Governor Broward was going to bring against the newspapers that opposed him in the June and July primaries? Was the threat made simply for the suppression of free speech?

HANDY MOTH PAPER

A moth destroyer and disinfectant. Placed under carpets, or in the folds of furs and clothing, it drives away moth and worry. Twelve sheets in a packet, carriage prepaid, 10 cents; six packets, 50 cents, if druggist does not have it.

Madigan Powder Works, Selection 808 Clarksville, Iowa.

FOR SALE—420 acres hammock and pine land, 1 3-4 miles from station. Also about 200 acres of improved pine land, with a good mercantile business. Reason for selling: Unable to attend to it. Inquire J. M. Liddell, Santos, Fla. 7-3-4*

We will sell you a first class razor for \$2.50, and guarantee it to be first class. Use it for thirty days, and if you are not satisfied, return it and get your money back. The Corner Drug Store. 7-24-tfw.