

THE DE SOTO COUNTY NEWS

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FRANCE.

The European war has called for many expressions of opinion and many changes in views from the beginning until now, as it has progressed, but one thing has remained steadfast and outstanding, and that is the American sympathy for France. That sympathy is of more than a century's standing, and had its origin when France sent a navy and soldiers over to help us win our independence.

It is but natural, then, that Americans should feel solicited for the welfare of France, and should swell with admiration at the splendid fight she is putting up. Many doubted her ability to stand the test at first, but now all doubts have vanished. She grows stronger every day, stronger in trained men, munitions and supplies, and stronger in the knowledge of her own strength, that most essential of all qualities, confidence—confidence born of the knowledge that she has met the German war god, and yet her line remains unbroken, France, the once called nation of flowers and gay life, will come out of the war with a better and stronger race.

WE'RE FOR HETHERINGTOWN.

The Miami Herald resurrects the perennial proposition of a division of the state of Florida. All right, we're right here, ready to be the capital of the new state. This is one of the instances where none can deny we have the logical location.

CONTRASTS.

Perhaps there is no greater contrast in loyalty than those presented by former President Taft and former

President Roosevelt.

Roosevelt quit the presidency after having served what he himself called two full terms. Our custom, founded on the notion of Washington, does not permit a president more than two terms. Taft, betrayed by his friend, and the victim of scheming politicians, was not even permitted the second term usually given to able and successful presidents.

Under the peculiar conditions in which each retired from the presidency, it would be the natural conclusion that Roosevelt would be the one to show broad charity, helpfulness and loyalty, while Taft should have given vent, from time to time, to a very natural feeling of resentment at the treatment accorded him by the people of the country.

Time has shown, however, that it is Taft who has given every evidence of a cheerful, sunny nature, broad in his sympathies and intensely loyal to the country and its president, while Roosevelt has disclosed a soured disposition, critical of what the country has done and is trying to do, and the chief abuser of the president and his policies. That is the difference between the two ex-presidents.

THE TRAITOR.

In the minds of all people, no crime is more despicable than that of treason, and no person is more universally despised of men than the traitor. Men may commit other crimes, seeming more heinous, and more fraught with evil to themselves and to others, and still be pardoned and forgiven by all, but not so with the traitor. He is despised almost equally by his countrymen whom he has betrayed, as by others, even by those who benefit by his treason.

YOUTHFUL UNSELFISHNESS.

He was a good little boy, and very thoughtful. It was during a long spell of dry weather, and he had heard of the great scarcity of water throughout the country. He came to his mother and slipped his hand into hers. "Mamma," he said, "is it true that in some places the little boys and girls have not enough water to drink?"

JOHNNY'S ESSAY ON THE TODE.

Todes is like frogs, but more dignity and, when you come to think of it, frogs is wetter. The warts which todes is noted for can be cured, for they is ersonic, but if I couldn't get wet I'd stay in the house. My grandfather had a tode which somebody had tamed till it was folksk. When its master whistled it would come for flies. They catches 'em with their tung, which is some like a long red worm, but more like linden, only linden haht got gum onto it. The fl will be standin a rubbin its hine legs together and thinkin what a fine fly it is, and the tode a sittin some distance away like it was asleep. While you are seein the fl as plain as you ever see anything, all to once it aint

there. The tode he looks up at you solem, out of his eyes, like he said wats become of that fl? But you kno he et it.—Pasco School News.

UNDIGNIFIED.

Candidates for United States senator, railroad commissioner, etc., are touring the state, stopping at the points advertised in their itinerary, lambasting one another, and disussing one another's "ree-cords." Would it not be a relief if some candidate would set the precedent of going after the office to which he aspires in a dignified way, refraining from all abuse and vilification, ignoring the claims and charges of his antagonists, and confining his speeches to a discussion of the worth-while problems and his ideas looking to their solution? We wonder why some candidate don't try out this plan, and see how it would work.—Lakeland Telegram.

THEIR BEST ARGUMENT.

The world knows no economic waste as woeful as that caused by the liquor traffic. The booze business takes everything from its victims and gives nothing in return. Yet, strange to say, the best argument the whiskey sellers have is that they help to port the state. "What will you do if they cry, 'when you have banished us? We help support the government, and you can't get along without us.' This argument, however, may bet met with the unassailable statement that King Alcohol takes from the state a hundred fold what he gives. He is an expensive nuisance, and almost invariably, he is supported by those who can afford it least.—Missoula (Mont.) Sentinel.

"GOOD FOR NOTHING."

Here is another good story told by the Examiner of Bartlesville: "A little girl recently told her devoted mother that when she gets big enough she is going to marry either a minister or a doctor. On being asked why, she said if she married a doctor she can get well for nothing, and if she marries a minister she can be good for nothing." This little girl should become a doctor of philosophy. Such profound thought is seldom found in female brains.—Oklahoma City Oklahoman.

THE ENGINE WAS MISSING.

The Moline News says this happened to Tom Miller, local chauffeur. A woman hired him to take her out into the country in a motor car. A few miles out Tom alighted from the car and began tinkering with the engine. "What's the matter?" asked the passenger. "The engine is missing," replied the driver. "That's singular," remarked the woman. "It was there all right when we started, wasn't it?"—Kansas City Star.

Notice to Farmers and Truckers.

If any farmer or trucker in DeSoto county wishes to have the county demonstrator give a free canning demonstration at his home, or at the local school house, he may do so by notifying me, or Superintendent J. O. Bickley at his office in the court house, Arcadia, Fla. Please give the date on which you wish to have the demonstration given.

ALLIE STRIBLING, County Agent, Home Demonstration Work, Extension Work in the South, United States Department of Agriculture.

HIS EGO, ETC.

When a New Jersey man was arrested for deserting his wife, he said: "My wife was too affectionate. She was so considerate of me that I had to leave. My ego requires strife to create a perfect happiness." Lots of men will regard that fellow as some darn fool! But there are plenty of women who ought to be able to make life a span of unalloyed happiness if "scrapping" is what he wants.—Iradentown Herald.

AND WHY NOT?

A Kansas printer has notified the merchants of his town that he will soon be in need of a pair of shoes, a new shirt, and a sack of flour, and that he will call for bids on these items, as that is the custom of the merchants when they want four dollars' worth of printing.—From Print.

THE BUSY RECORD.

A Hutchinson woman has just received a letter from a son in Montana, from whom she had not heard in thirty-four years. "This," wrote the son, "is the first chance I've had to write. I've been so busy."—Kansas City Star.

N. B.

A certain candidate for the United States senate is going to be buried so deep after June 6 that he will have to use a periscope to see how it all happened. We are not mentioning any names, but what stands for "take notice."—Macclenny Standard.

CAID HIS FINE CHEERFULLY.

Robust Americanism still survives in spots. A Detroit plumber was invited by a moving picture man to pose in film plays because of his alleged resemblance to Charlie Chaplin. The plumber cheerfully paid the fine which the police court imposed upon him.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Fishing ceases to be fun when you can catch them as the St. Petersburg Independent says was done recently by C. F. Fowler and Marvin Collins. The Independent says these two gentlemen caught 103 king fish that weighed more than 800 pounds. What could a fellow do with 800 pounds of fish? He couldn't wade around with them, nor he couldn't hold up his string when some fellow cries out, "How many yer caught?" The proper way to enjoy fishing is to catch a 4-pound trout every twenty or thirty minutes, just have the strikes far enough apart to spend this period of time in joyful anticipation. The scientific analysis is, say, something like two-thirds anticipation and one-third realization, with about twenty pounds the maximum catch for one person on an average. Should there be four in the party, for one person to catch 80 per cent. of all of them, he can generously throw in one or two nice ones to help the other fellows make up a good mess for the family. This is a pretty ideal idea of enjoyment. This is the way the thing is done on Myakka, Prairie Creek, and Shell Creek, all of which are within one and one-half hour's drive from Arcadia.

Did you see the Florida Grower, the issue of April 29th? This excellent journal contained three full pages boasting Arcadia and DeSoto county. Did you know that this amount of advertising space would have cost you several hundred dollars? In other words, the Grower has voluntarily made this magnificent contribution in behalf of this city and county. These pages contained twenty distinct paragraphs of well written matter about Arcadia and vicinity, and you should read it all. If you are not already a subscriber for this journal, send 5 cents to the Florida Grower, Tampa, Florida, for a sample copy. The Grower has for its motto "The Truth About Florida," and after being a constant reader for more than one and one-half years, we can testify that the paper has lived up to its motto.

The Pensacola Journal has a leading editorial headed "W. V. Knott Should Be Nominated for Governor of Florida." The same day one of our west Florida exchanges had a long double column article giving more than twenty reasons why Mr. Knott should not be nominated. What's a fellow to do who doesn't know Mr. Knott? (one thing is certain; he can not be guided by what the different Florida editors are telling him to do. The election is now only a little more than a month off, and we don't know who should be the next governor of this great state. We do hate to guess at the thing. Can you not help us out a little?)

All eyes are now turned towards Polk county that is shortly to vote on a bond issue for the purpose of building 225 miles of good roads. What you do, good people of Polk, will not only effect you, but will also be an influence for good or bad to your neighbors. Do your full duty. Good roads are an absolute necessity, and positively the only way to have them is by a bond issue. Whatever others may say to you, good roads are the very best of investments and not a cost. The question admits of no argument. "Quit you like men."

It would be interesting to know how many children have been placed in school due to the operations of the local option compulsory attendance act passed by the last legislature. Very few, indeed, if any, and one school year completed since the law became operative. The law is giving results just as rapidly as we expected. The local option feature is a mistake. Repeat it, pass a state-wide act, and the first school year after its passage will show several thousand children in school who are not now attending, though of the required age.

There is in Polk county a man who pays an annual tax of \$2,000, and this man is enthusiastically for the big bond issue for which an election has been called this month. There was a man in Pinellas county who paid an annual tax of just \$1.04. This man held up the bond issue of that county by injunction after having been voted by the people. Which of these two will be "greater in the kingdom of heaven?" "By their deeds ye shall know them."

When it was decided to hold the convention in the high school auditorium, many thought it impracticable, as the convention would interfere with the school, and the noise from the pupils would disturb the convention. What do you say about it now? Did you ever see better order prevail anywhere? Isn't the Arcadia school a marvel in its discipline? Aren't you glad you live in Arcadia with such school privileges? You're not; then may the Lord help your poor ignorant soul! You are too green to know when you are well off!

The Bushnell Times says that twenty-one thousand, ninety-eight crates of cucumbers have been shipped from that point this season. The prices are still good, readily selling for \$3.75 per crate.

We felicitate and congratulate our esteemed contemporary, the Arcadia Enterprise, in the splendid four-section, thirty-two page special edition issued this week in honor of the Florida State Horticultural Society in session here. This paper was edited entirely by the ladies of Arcadia, and is known as the "Arcadia Civic League Edition," and is a credit to their efforts, while at the same time is a compliment to the management of the Enterprise in conceiving and carrying out such a laudable undertaking.

The Arcadia Commercial Club is the liveliest of live bodies. The club meets only once a month, but if you should stay around Secretary Gardner's office while you would think that some committee is always in session. It is not an infrequent thing for one committee to file out while another is filing in. Every member has something to do, and from what we can observe, each one is finding time to do it.

The Bartow Courier-Informant publishes a good part of the commencement address delivered by Captain George M. Lynch, of this city, before the graduating class of twenty splendid young people of the Bartow public schools. The informant says, "The address was a splendid one, and the remarks of the speaker were frequently applauded."

Hugo, a circus giant, died in New York City April 3rd, from pneumonia. He was eight feet, four inches high, weighed 536 pounds, and was forty-seven years old. Moral: Circus managers, move all your giants to Florida, and let them stay until May 15th, if you don't want them die of pneumonia, and thus deprive you of one of your great sources of revenue.

The Plant City strawberry crop this season yielded 1,655,000 quarts, and sold for \$230,000. Nearly one-fourth million dollars for strawberries grown in one community is not a bad showing, is it? That means about \$57 for each man, woman and child residing in that city.

When we view the attitude of Washington both as to Mexico and Germany, it looks as if the administration is saying, "Gentlemen, we have been fooled over these questions long enough, and if you don't want to get hurt you'd better behave."

One Dade county planter, Thomas J. Peters, raised fifty million tomatoes (266 car loads) this season, for which he received more than one-quarter million dollars (\$253,000).

According to the Fort Myers Press, the first car load of melons has been shipped, and they were large ones, many weighing more than thirty pounds.

GROWERS, DO NOT FAIL TO READ THE ARTICLE FOUND IN THE COLUMNS OF THIS PAPER ON THE CURE OF "FOOT ROT" BY DR. T. G. JULIAN, A PROMINENT GROWER OF CLEARWATER.

In another column of this issue of the News will be found the announcement of Mr. John S. Edwards, of Lakeland, as a candidate for circuit judge of this, the tenth judicial circuit.

PROFITS ARE DOUBLED.

Standard Oil Co.'s 1915 Net Earnings Are \$15,761,663.

New York, May 3.—Profits of the Standard Oil Company of New York for 1915, were more than double those of the preceding year, according to an annual statement issued today.

Net earnings of \$15,761,663 show an increase of \$8,025,744, the surplus increasing from \$1,736,000 to \$9,761,663, and the total surplus from \$16,701,591 to \$26,463,254. The total surplus is now more than one-third of the company's entire capitalization.

OWENS.

The Owens Packing Company is doing a rushing business, working at night until 10 o'clock.

Mrs. Stapleton has purchased a new Ford car and sold the old one.

Mr. J. F. Thigpin and family, accompanied by Mr. J. G. Newsome and family of Arcadia, spent the day Sunday at Sarasota with Mr. Newsome's sister, Mrs. J. H. Tucker.

Our B. Y. P. U. was well represented Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Norwood and Mrs. Harris attended the union meeting at Shady Grove.

Misses Luella and Lella Simmons spent the day with Miss Mable Blackburn Sunday.

Miss Maude Brewer spent the week-end with her parents.

Several of the Owens young people attended a picnic on Horse Creek last Friday.

The chicken roast that was to have been given last Friday night at Mr. Barrows', was postponed until next Wednesday night.

The regular May Sunday school picnic will be at the Bee Gum lakes next Saturday.

The Owens Sunday school is getting along fine, and invites all to attend.

GARDNER

Friends of Mrs. L. M. Huffbauer will regret to hear of her death, which occurred in Alderson, W. Va., the 21st of April. The family were former residents of Gardner, and only left here a few weeks ago, thinking the change and sight of parents and other relatives would prove beneficial to Mrs. Huffbauer. She leaves a devoted husband and several small children, who will sadly miss her. Many Gardner friends deeply sympathize with the bereaved family.

Hetnie Henwood was the victim of a snake bite while hunting near his home east of here. Owing to the quick and skillful treatment of Dr. Coker, Mr. Henwood has recovered satisfactorily to be again at work.

The Peace River Association met at Shady Grove last week. Those from here made the trip in autos, and were Mr. Seely, Rev. Barber, Rev. Moran, Mrs. Wilson and T. O. Baldwin and family.

Rev. Cole and wife, Mr. Goff and Mrs. Wilson were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McRae.

Mrs. Harry Voss and little daughter have returned from a visit to relatives at Lily.

Mrs. R. A. Roberts and boys visited at the home of Captain Boggs last week.

Miss Kate Williams has returned from a visit to relatives at Brownville. She was accompanied home by Miss Davis and Mr. Montgomery, who were her week-end guests.

Miss Naomi Wilson visited Brownville friends last week.

David Poucher, of Wauchula, was the guest of friends here Thursday night.

W. M. Middlebrook spent Wednesday in Bartow.

Mr. and Mrs. Vick left Tuesday for their home in Boston, Mass. Mr. Vick has been at the home of Dr. Coker for the past ten days, where he received medical treatment. Mr. Vick arrived Friday night to accompany his wife to their Boston home, where they will spend the summer.

Mrs. Silas Coker and Miss Evelyn Eison, of Limestone, spent Tuesday with friends here.

T. E. Fielder and family motored to Arcadia Saturday and spend the day.

Mercer-Williams.

A marriage of much interest to every one was that of Miss Lonnie Mercer and Mr. Frank Williams, of Lakeland, which took place May 1st. The young couple motored to Gardner and were married by C. P. Haltsfield in the presence of Miss Lella Mercer and Mr. Alton Williams. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mercer, prominent people of the Sweetwater section. She was beautifully attired in white. The groom wore the conventional black. Mr. Williams is in the turpentine industry, and is to be congratulated upon his choice. The popularity of the young couple is attested by the showers of rice, congratulations, etc., poured upon them by many friends after the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Williams left immediately for Sweetwater, where they will make their future home.

PALMDALE

Mr. W. W. Marquis, of Kansas City, Mo., arrived here last week of important business.

April 26, 1916, will be long remembered as a red letter day for Palmdale, as that day the A. C. L. surveyors set the railroad grade stakes through the Palmdale tract.

J. C. Dazey and wife were registered at the Palmdale Wednesday.

The following gentlemen were registered at the Palmdale Wednesday: G. M. Langston, founder of DeSoto City; J. R. McNeal, Jacksonville; D. H. McMillin, Jacksonville; A. Sessions, Bonifay, Fla.; J. A. Corbett, Orlando, and J. K. McMillin, Jacksonville.

Messrs. J. R. Doty, E. Carlton, F. L. Soules and Lewis Fraser autored up from LaBelle Wednesday to visit the surveyors, who were camped here in Riverview Park.

Mr. G. Barton Hall, of Hall City, was in Palmdale Wednesday, coming over in his big car.

Miss Elsie Blair returned Tuesday from LaBelle, where she had been attending high school.

Mall Carrier H. L. DeLaney was accompanied to LaBelle Thursday by his wife and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Kimpson.

L. Ross and wife, accompanied by W. W. Marquis, autored to Arcadia on business Saturday.

Mr. S. Peregrine autored to LaBelle Sunday to attend church services.

Mr. Juddie Waldron and Miss Edible Whidden, of Lakeport, were united in marriage Sunday evening by H. L. DeLaney, notary public.

Mr. W. M. Wisner and family were accompanied to LaBelle Tuesday for an extended visit to their former home in Reddington, Nebraska. D. M. Bullard autored to Lakeland on business Tuesday.