The De Soto County News.

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PHONE 17.

"Yellow Jack" is even yellower than yellow journalism.

The "health certificate" is the most important document that the traveler carries with him these anxious days.

A sudden drop in prices did not cause the collapse of that big department store on Tuesday.

Kill every mosquito you see. At least pull his stinging apparatus out of business.

Tampa only had that lone case of yellow fever to demonstrate the fact that she could have anything that any outsider city could.

The Tampa Tribune announces that Barney Oldfield had a "close shave." We may next expect to hear that Hyde, of the Equitable, had a shampoo.

St. Augustine is to have electric street cars. By the shades of Ponce De Leon and De Soto, the next thing we may expect is that De Soto County is to have a new court house.

The Government has now taken charge of the yellow fever situation in New Orleans, and with ample funds, the best medical talent and an army of workers, the physician in charge will, it is hoped, make short work of stamping out the plague.

De Soto County is getting ready for the orange harvest of 1905-1906. Packing houses are being put in condition, packers are being built and an immense number of boxes manufactured. The season promises to be a busy one.

What Arcadia needs most, are more up-to-date brick buildings. Those that she now has are a credit to South Florida and should inspire her citizens with the feeling that solidly constructed building, both for the purposes of residence and trade, are necessary for her permanent upbuilding. Let us have more brick and stone structures.

Possible candidates for gubernatorial honors are being suggested all over the State. To our mind however, General Gilchrist is the most popular and by far the most possible of any named so far. South Florida would support him almost to a man and we believe that the General is also strong in the northern part of the State.

The winter visitor to Florida comes here because this State possesses a warm and delightful winter climate. He does not know what he misses by leaving for our summers are equally delightful and a great deal cooler than are the summers in States many miles to the north of us.

A certain well known travelling man for a Jacksonville house, who was as bald as the proverbial billiard ball, informed the editor of the News some time ago that he had tried everything, from the vacuum treatment to hair oil to restore his hair, but without success. We suggested that a small quantity of De Soto's fertile soil, mixed with a little water and applied with a soft brush, might give the desired result. Our suggestion was acted upon, and we are surprised to note that the gentleman's cranium is now adorned with a thick growth of seedling orange trees.

A SUGGESTION.

Tampa evidently intends to make the "amende honorable" for any real or fancied wrong that she has done De Soto County. The Tribune announces that "Gilchrist Day" will be a feature of the fair, and Mr. Gordon Keller, one of Tampa's foremost citizens and

that the General will be requested to formally open it. The News suggests that "Gilchristia" be a suitable name for the street of attractions and that De Soto County send an attraction worthy of herself to adorn it.

GOOD ROADS.

Nothing would add so much to property values or settle up the thousands of acres of fine land in this county that are now for the greater part inaccessible, than the opening up of good roads and their maintenance by the county. The products of the soil could be quickly rushed to market and distances between farm and shipping point greatly lessened thereby. People who come down here to settle take the matter of quick travel to steam transportation into serious consideration, and indeed it is an item that weighs heavily vith them when the purchase of a farm site or home is being contemplated.

SOAP TREES AND ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

Professor Moulie, of Jacksonville, informs the editor of the news that money sufficient to pay for fertilizer and all other costs of orange culture is annually wasted by the orange growers of the State of Florida. He claims that a ready market can be found for them at ten cents per pound and that the proceeds of the sale of the blossoms will be ample to pay all other expenses. Ten cents per pound may sound like a small price, but in France only eight is paid and nearly every blossom is utilized. They are used to manufacture fine perfumery, and the Professor says that he hopes to live to see the day when Florida will claim perfumery manufacture as one of her great industries. At the present time he is trying to interest the department of agriculture and would like to start a school of instruction somewhere in the Florida orange belt. According to Prof. Moulie, taking the blossoms from the trees will do them no injury whatever, as the trees are simply shaken gently, allowing the blossoms to fall into a cloth spread below, just as they are about ready to fall. The idea seems to be worth some study and investigation. In speaking about the soap tree, the professor says that he is busily engaged in sending out seed to those who desire them. He expects to see the manufacture of soap from the vegetable product a State institution within a few years. He says that the soap tree requires no fertilizer whatever or any care after it is planted, and that the income from one acre planted in soap trees will approximate five hundred dollars.

WHEREIN THE PRESIDENT IS DOUBTED.

In a characteristic interview on his return from Europe the other day Mr. Henry Watterson of the Louisville Courier-Journal, in speaking of President Roosevelt, said:

"I have never doubted the President's personal cleanliness, nor his personal courage, nor his great ability. What I have doubted and do doubt is his willingness to go to the dead line. He is too much of a party man, too much of a practictl politician. I have been fighting on the dead line all my life, and maybe I am exacting. At all events, I wish him well and shall engage in no factious opposition on the lines he has laid down as the corporations. They must be made to obey the law."

The President on several occasions has approached the dead line, but he hasn't gone to it in matters in which his party or his friends were concerned. He had on excellent chance to go to it in the case of Mr. Paul Morton, former Secretary of the Navy. In his anti-railroad programme he announced his determination to prosecute railroad officials as well as railroad corporation who violated the anti-trust law. When it came to prosecuting Mr. Morton, who had confessed that while he was an official of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway he had authorized the granting of rebates, contrary to the law, the President hesitated to go to the death line. In fact, he changed his policy and announced that he proposed to prosecute the corporations and not the officials.

And the case of Mr. Loomis furnishes another instance when he declined to go to the dead line. It was admitted in the opinion which practically dismissed Mr. Brown from the diplomatic service that Mr. Loomis had been indiscreet when he was minister to Venezuela. But Mr. Loomis was First Assistant Secretary of State, and so he was let down easy by being sent to France as the government's representative to receive the remains of John Paul Jones.

Previous Naval Explosions.

During the last decade there have been at least two-score serious explosions of various kinds on board the vessels of the United States navy. They have included explosions of boilers, explosions of steam pipes, blowing out of cylinder heads, premature discharge of heavy guns, accidental discharge of powder, flashing of breech caps in the closing of the breech, and a dozen other mishaps peculiar to conditions on ship-board.

The greatest catastropee—which of course cannot be classed as an accident—in the annals of the reorganized White Squadron was the blowing up of the Maine, in the harbor of Havana on the night of February 15, 1898. The battleship was blown up by a Spanish mine The blowing up of the Maine did much to hasten hostilities between the United States and Spain.

A serious accident was that which occurred on the battleship Missouri April 13, 1904. When off Pensacola, under command of William S. Cowles, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, 2,000 pounds of powder were accidently ignited in the after turrent sheltering a 12 inch gun.

Five officers who were in the turrent were killed. Twenty-four enlisted men were also killed. Among the deaths was that of Lieutenant John P. V. Gridley, son of Capt. Chas. Vernon Gridley, who commanded the Olympia flagship in the battle of Manila bay. The quick flooding of the magazine rooms near the turrent prevented further fatalities.

On December 15, 1904, the Massachusetts lost three of her crew when a gasket blew off a boiler and filled the fireroom with steam. This ocerred when the battleship was at the League Island navy yard.

The Massachusetts had an even worse misfortune the year preceeding. When off Culebra Island, on Jan. 16, 1903, the accidental discharge of a percussion primer while the gun breech was still open resulted to the killing of six men. This accident like most of those of a similar character, occurred in one of the turrents. The officer in charge of the gun was unhurt, but the gun crew of nine men was blown in every direction. Only three of the number survived their injuries.

The Iowa when off Pensacola on April 9, 1903, suffered a serious accident. The port 12-inch gun in the forward turrent burst. Three sections of the gun each weighing a ton crashed through the mess room, killing three and injuring five. This accident was caused by an explosion of a shell midway of the gun.

Twelve days later the Iowa again met with misfortune. One of the steam pipes in her boiler room burst. The steering gear was torn away, and for the time being the battleship was helpless.

The Kearsarge, namesake of the victor of the Cherbough fight of July 19, 1864, had not been off the stocks long before she met with a accident or rather, in the first instance, got herself in trouble with the authorities of Newport. A shell went hurling from a gun in her fighting top on July 24, 1901, which clipped a huge tree, and then knocked off a section of the stone slab from the New ort city hall. The responsibility for this remarkable accident was never clearly established.

On February 3, 1902, the Navy Department received a cablegram from Rear Admiral Higginson, commander of the North Atlantic squadron, that five men had been killed by the bursting of a gun on board the Kearsarge. The battleship was then in West Indian waters.

An accident occurred to the submarine boat Fulton off Lewis, Del., on April 29, 1902, when she was endeavoring to make Delaware Breakwater. It was an accident that is rare so far as the United States naval records go. The accumulation of gas in the storage batteries shattered the inside of the little craft. She was only partly submerged at the time. A dozen men were hurt by flying fragments. Cool work on the part of the crew prevented fatalities.

Another of the "wasp division" of the navy, the Ericsson, met with a mishap off New London in July, 1895. A number of her crew died from their injuries.

On July 1, 1897, at the Brooklyn navy yard, an accident to the Puritant developed that her boilers were unfitted in every way. It was shown that the boilers had been used for 25 years and that their use was a constant menace to the officers and crew. The slight explosion which showed the startling state of things caused the boiler to completely collapse. As the Puritan was about to put to sea, there was great indignation among those who would have had to sail on the vessel.

Appeal to the People of Florida.

The Florida Historical Society which was organized Nov. 28th, 1903, has recently been incorporated under the laws of this State. Its objects are as follows:" The collection, arrangement and preservation of all material pertaining to the history of, or in any manner illustrative of Florida, including books, pamphlets, documents, diaries, documents, manuscripts, newspapers, notes, letters, speeches, maps, portraits, photographs or other likenesses of men and women prominent in Florida history, pictorial illustrations of Florida scenery, buildings, establishments, institutions, monuments, relics and products. Also relics of every kind, whether historical or pre-historical, fossils, geological specimens and everything in any manner illustrative of Florida.

The provision for membership is All Persons of Good Character upon approval of the Board of Directors. The dues are five dollars per annum.

The Society has been given the use of a large and commodious room in the Jacksonville Public Library (which is fire proof) for the reception and safe keeping of all of its collections and property and in which to carry on its work which has now been actively entered upon.

The cost of furniture, cases, files, etc., together with the necessary clerical assistance, will approximate $1,000 for this year.

Failing to secure aid from the last legislature, the Society must depend upon the dues of its members to meet its expenses.

Every intelligent person who has any State pride must realize and feel the value and far-reaching importance of the work in which the Society is engaged.

We appeal to all such for aid and encouragement. Send us your application for membership with a check for $5 to Rev. V. M. Shields, Treasurer, for one year's dues. But whether you apply for membership or not, send us books, pamphlets, papers, pictures, maps, relics, articles from Indian mounds, fossils, biographicol or historical sketches and incidents and printed matter, historical or descriptive, having any bearing upon Florida.

Send to Florida Historical Society, Public Library, Jacksonville, Florida.

If the people of Florida will contribute what they reasonably can we will soon have a collection of priceless value.

THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
GEO. R. FAIRBANKS, President.
GEO. W. WILSON, Secretary.

Summer Tourist Rates via Atlantic Coast Line.

If you contemplate visiting summer resorts see ticket agents of the Atlantic Coast Line and get all information with reference to rates, routes, schedules and Pullman service. Summer tourist rates are now in effect to all the principal resorts throughout the country, with return limit Oct. 31st. Rates have been announced to all springs and mountain and seashore resorts.

For the first time tickets are on sale to resorts in New England territory.

W. J. CRAIG, Gen'l Pass. Agt.
Wilmington, N. C
J. S. HARTSELL, D. P. A.,
J. W. CARR, T. P. A.
Tampa, Fla.

Excursion to St. Augustine Cancelled.

In view of the order of Dr. J. Y. Porter, State Health Officer of Florida, directing railroads not to operate excursions between points in the State of Florida until further advised, the Atlantic Coast Line announces that it will cancel the excursion that it has advertised for St. Augustine, August 8th.

Should Dr. Porter withdraw this order, it is probable that this excursion will be arranged for a later date.

J. S. HARTSELL,
Div. Pass. Agt.
Tampa, Fla.

Notice.

We desire to call the attention of the orange growers and farmers of DeSoto county to the fact that we have placed our agency in the hand of Mr. E. F Childers, who will take pleasure in supplying all your wants.

We wish to express our thanks for your liberal patronage in the past and we hope that you will still continue to give us your order.

Ideal fertilizers are just what their name implaces. They are the "Ideal" for the orango growers, they are the "Ideal for the gardners and farmers, and will give you full value for your money.

"Wouldst have abundant crops reward thy toil
And fill thy barns, O tiller of thy soil?
Then ever keep in mind this maxim true,
Feed well the land, and 'twill in turn feed you."

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