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SAN FRANCISCO WANTS FUNDS

TO HELP IN FIGHTING BUBONIC PLAGUE.

FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Move is on Foot to Establish a National University at Washington. Williams Criticizes Issuance of Bonds by Government.

An Appeal For Funds.

The burden of fighting the bubonic plague has become too heavy for San Francisco to bear unaided and the officials of that city have appealed to Surgeon General Wyman of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service for financial assistance. On the representation of the Surgeon General, the Secretary of the Treasury advised the officials that for the time being the government would assume the cost of the labor and service, while the city must continue to furnish the needed supplies and maintain the necessary plague hospitals. As soon as congress convenes Senator Flint will bring the matter to the attention of congress, and an effort will be made to have funds appropriated to meet the necessary expenses.

San Francisco appropriated \$25,000 to fight the plague and assured the health officials that thereafter they could count on funds to the amount of \$20,000 a month for that purpose. It was then assumed that would prove adequate for all purposes, but, on the contrary, the expenses have increased until recently the cost to the city has been at the rate of \$45,000 a month. It is now estimated that the expenses which the government has agreed to meet will amount to about \$20,000 a month, and that for a time at least the city will be compelled to meet further expenses to the amount of \$25,000.

Up to Nov. 18th there have been eighty-eight cases of plague in San Francisco and fifty-four deaths. The quarantine has been gradually extended up and down the coast. A rigid quarantine is maintained at Seattle and also at Oakland, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, San Pedro and Los Angeles, while it is now proposed to establish a new quarantine station at Monterey. Of course, with the plague present, it is necessary to make inspections far in excess of the actual cases of the disease. For instance during the week ended Nov. 2 forty-five cases were inspected, of which only two proved to be the plague and seventy bodies were examined, of which only four proved to have died from the plague. Moreover, 7,395 premises were inspected because of actual diseases of suspicious deaths.

It is the expectation of the members of the California delegation that when the gravity of the situation is submitted to congress ample funds to combat the disease will be immediately supplied.

Lee Memorial.

President Roosevelt showed his interest in the plans for the Gen. Robert E. Lee memorial by discussing the matter with ex-Gov. D. C. Hayward of South Carolina, who has charge of the funds, and Dr. George H. Denny, president of Washington and Lee University.

The fund has been raised by Confederate societies and by persons interested in perpetuating the memory of Gen. Lee. Many propositions have been urged, among them the erection of a large monument. President Roosevelt suggested that the fund be placed in some Southern university as an endowment, which would effectually and practically serve the purpose of the contributors.

If this suggestion is acted upon, as it is likely to be, it is probable that Washington and Lee will be the university chosen.

Passenger Tickets.

Several months ago an administrative ruling was made by the Interstate Commerce Commission, providing that limited passenger tickets should not be extended, even in case of the illness of a passenger holding such a ticket.

Two or three of the Western lines by advice of their counsel, decided to ignore the ruling of the commission holding that it was unlawful for them to extend the time of such tickets in the event of illness of the holder or other serious emergency.

By a ruling, issued by the commission, the original administrative ruling is superseded. The new rule provides that carriers may extend limited passenger tickets in case of the illness of the passenger holding such ticket.

The State meeting of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union will be held in Jackson January 2nd, 3rd and 4th, just prior to the opening of the legislative session. Something near one thousand delegates will be in attendance on the meeting.

Dry After 1909.

The Alabama legislature passed a bill prohibiting the sale of liquor in that state, effective Jan. 1, 1909.

For Higher Education.

A practical and definite plan for the establishment in Washington of a National University will be brought to the attention of congress this winter. The National Association of State Universities, now meeting here, has appointed a committee to promote the cause of some form of governmental organization for the advancement of higher education. The committee will co-operate with a similar committee appointed by the National Educational Association. It is not expected that a large appropriation for the founding of a National University will be made at the coming session, but the men back of the movement are hopeful that congress will commit the government to the central proposition, and that in a year or two the funds necessary to carry out the plan will be forthcoming. It is proposed that the University of the United States shall be for graduates only, and that no degrees shall be given by it. The central idea of a National University is that it shall be devoted to supplementary research in the state universities and agricultural colleges. Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, United States Commissioner of Education, has suggested that there should be some kind of government and academic organization at Washington for such purposes as the following:

"To deal with international questions of standards and recognition."
"To carry on investigations of national importance, of which the work of the national census, the geological survey, and the Bureau of Standards is illustrative."
"To provide higher instruction in the fine arts."

"To train teachers and officers of administration for positions abroad."
"To provide departments as a culmination of the work of our agricultural colleges."
"To train teachers for agricultural and technical education."

"To distribute to qualified institutions in the States the work that must be done to meet new national needs in education and research."

"In short, to be the Federal head of education, science and the arts in this country."

Criticized by Williams.

There is no doubt whatever that Secretary Cortelyou is technically within the law in issuing \$100,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness," said John Sharp Williams, Democratic leader of the house. "Equally, there is no doubt whatever that congress never intended the authority to do this should be exercised at such a time as this."
"Congress left the provision under which Mr. Cortelyou acted on the statute books because about the time of the Spanish war there was vague fear of a war with other powers, and that in such an event greenbacks would go to a discount. Hence the interest bearing certificates were authorized." Mr. Williams made it plain he would oppose any asset currency plan which banks would be likely to regard as acceptable.

Bids Coming In.

Offers continue to reach the treasury department for Panama bonds and one year's certificates in small lots, but the large offers are not expected until just before the date for closing the bids. It is never sealed offers from large banking houses until the last moment. Such houses have two motives for withholding their bids, the desire to act under market conditions at the last possible moment before fixing the rate of their bids, and the desire to prevent any possible leak in the rate which they may have offered.

It is hoped by the administration that the entire policy of hoarding will come to an end when the government receives the large amounts of money which are expected from the sale of Panama bonds and the one year certificates. Arrangements will be made to return as much of this money immediately to the banks as can be spared from the treasury balance.

President's Message.

The president has completed that section of his forthcoming message to congress which will treat of financial matters, including recommendations for legislation and the copy has been sent to the printer. The fact that his ideas have taken definite shape has occasion some surprise as it was supposed that he was still seeking advice about the best remedy for the currency difficulties, and that he would withhold his recommendations until the last moment and then send them to congress in a special message.

Recount Unconstitutional.

The New York court of appeals declared the bill providing for a recount of the vote cast in the New York mayoralty election unconstitutional.

Every man in the state who is eligible to membership should be with the Farmers' Union and Cotton Association in the great work the organizations are endeavoring to accomplish.

FOR GREATER MISSISSIPPI

Devoted to the Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development of the Wonderful Resources of the State. Items of Interest from All Quarters.

By H. E. BLANKSLEE, Jackson, Miss.

The fourth annual State Fair has clearly demonstrated that such an institution will be accorded a hearty endorsement by the people of Mississippi, and that it will be worth millions of dollars in the course of a few years. The problem now is, shall it be continued as a stock company managed by individuals or made a state institution in every sense of the word as are the fairs in a great number of the Southern states. It was not begun as a concern to make money for the stockholders, but experience has proven that in few more years it will be a splendid dividend-paying concern. Then the suggestion comes as to what is best for the future. A fair should not be a money-making institution, the benefits coming the general good to state or community. All profits arising should be returned to exhibitors, the larger the premiums offered, the more varied and better the exhibits. When it is possible to offer \$500 for the best herd of cattle or \$250 for the best mule colt, breeders will be encouraged to get their stock in show shape and attend the fair. When \$500 can be paid for the best one-farm exhibit or county exhibit, the number of exhibitors will be increased many times. Then it is that the fair is a success, demonstrating to our people what can be done and encouraging them to try to do likewise.

These are matters of sufficient importance to demand careful consideration at the hands of Mississippians. The old state is waking up and taking on improved methods in a hurry, our people are doing better year by year and the fairs are doing as much or more to aid this movement than any other one thing. Then be sure that the fairs are properly conducted and made productive of the greatest good.

As an example of what a small farmer can do in Mississippi, the Hazlehurst Courier notes that Silas James living three miles from town made this year with only two small boys for help, nine bales of cotton averaging 530 pounds to the bale which brought him \$548.555 and seed \$65, totaling \$613.55. Besides this amount of cotton Mr. James raised enough corn to do him, plenty of potatoes, peanuts, molasses, meat and lard. If there is a state anywhere that can offer a man more than this, where is it? Why go west looking for something better when we have the best the sun shines on right here at home? We need in Mississippi an organization to keep our young men here more than one to bring them here from other less-favored states. The best in many of the newer states were recruited right here, and that because effort was made to exploit the advantages of those states. Keep our people here by proving to them that Mississippi offers more than any other state under the sun and it can be done.

It is especially gratifying to receive letters from friends over the state giving their experience in handling various farm products, and especially so when it is some product that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has been giving special attention. A great deal has been said of the effort to can syrup made from sugar cane and the success that has attended the effort. Last year some attention was paid the putting up of sorghum and report in this work made through these columns. A recent letter, extracts from which follows, goes to show what Mr. W. Jenner Brown of Water Valley has done and is encouraging in deed.

"This year I have made and sold two hundred gallons of syrup at 50 cents per gallon. I could easily have sold 500 gallons by the present date, Nov. 13th, if I had had it. By this time last year I had sold all of my syrup, four hundred gallons at 40 cents per gallon, and believe that I could easily have sold one thousand gallons before the crop this year was ready to make and am confident that if I had it, I could sell one thousand gallons more before the next crop is ready for use. I find a better sale for sorghum syrup every year, though as yet I have only sold the syrup at my home town, Coffeeville, and to the people in the adjoining neighborhood. I found as ready sale this year for syrup at fifty cents per gallon as I did two years ago at thirty cents and last year at forty cents, these being the prices I asked and obtained the last three years respectively. There seems to be an increasing demand for

the pure country made sorghum in preference to the manufactured stuff that is put on the market under the various names. As to the putting up of syrup in cans as you suggest, I have never put up any yet in that way. I use jugs, one gallon preferably, but I some times use two and three gallon jugs. The smaller jugs are easier handled and are not as easily broken as the larger ones and the most of my customers would rather have the syrup in the smaller jugs because they can use the syrup before it can undergo any change. My reason for using jugs in preference to cans is, that I can get them very much cheaper than cans and by exercising a small amount of care the jugs are seldom broken. Very probably you will wonder why, if I can get good prices and find ready sale for it, I do not raise more of the syrup. It was not until last year that I began to realize the profit in syrup making and this year on account of the weather early in the spring and the drought later, at least eight per cent of my crop was unfit for making and was cut for hay. My intention is to raise one thousand or probably fifteen hundred gallons next year and I am expecting to find a sale for all or the most of it at home or at my nearest town. Where one will make good syrup and live up to a guarantee to make good in cash any that is not good and does not stay good, he will find no trouble whatever in selling sorghum syrup when there is a demand for syrup of any kind."

This letter from Mr. Brown should be worth one hundred thousand dollars to the people of North Mississippi during the year 1908. If two hundred farmers in the forty counties interested, or only five to the county would make one thousand gallons of sorghum syrup and handle it properly, it would mean just one hundred thousand dollars saved at home that now goes out of the state for glucose compounds in the guise of syrups and molasses. What would this mean to the farmer? Figure it out for yourself. It is just such movements as this that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce desires to help along. Every aid possible will be given such undertakings and the people are urged to call on the Commissioner without hesitation when service can be rendered. Keep our money at home by raising what we need here and financial flurries will trouble us but little. Let's hear from others along this line.

The demonstration of road building machinery at the State Fair on the 8th and 9th was attended by about 150 members of the various boards of supervisors throughout the state. The amount of machinery on hand was not as large as expected, but was very comprehensive in the main. The smaller machines attracted the larger amount of attention, although there were those who held to the larger ones and more than one traction engine for road building purposes was contracted for. The success of the movement encourages the writer to try again next year and plans are now being formulated for the meeting. It is in this manner that those interested in improving the public roads can get together and exchange experiences, learn what others are doing and what the manufacturers of machinery have to offer. In a multitude of counsel there is wisdom, etc.

The Toesin says that the burned roads just North of Indianola is an unqualified success and the prediction is freely made that it is the road for the Delta and all sections where there is gumbo and buckshot and wood is available for the burning. The United States Department of Agriculture is doing a splendid work in exploiting this and other methods of road building in Mississippi.

The man with plenty of hog and hoinny is in a splendid condition to hold his cotton until the bears have all busted and gone up the flume, which they will do unless some of the people turn loose a goodly quantity pretty soon. Fortification for such a campaign as we are up against now is necessary to make it absolutely successful.

No Mississippi banks have as yet capitulated to the financial flurry that is doing so much in places. A good showing indeed.

Gratefully Received.

Advices received at Washington show that the government's financial policy was received with gratification all over the country.

Wishes Known.

President Roosevelt has let it be known that he does not want any Republican office-holders sent as delegates to the Republican National Convention.

Paramount to All Other Labor Questions.

Norfolk, Va.—The American Federation of Labor has declared a universal eight-hour day paramount to all questions, even to an increase in wages—"except in such trades and callings where the earnings are so meagre as to make it difficult to maintain a fair standard of living" called for a campaign of education and organization among all affiliated organizations that will aid in bringing about the desired end.

The Federation, determining that it would be impossible to secure a universal eight-hour day by any sudden or radical concerted step, issued a call for the accumulation by all tradesmen of a sufficient fund to make them fully prepared for the fight, "when opportunity will favor the most immediate success with the least degree of suffering and privation."

Declaring the time not ripe for a universal union label, the convention declared "the present system of craft labels as best calculated to serve the purpose for which the union label is designed."

Henry T. Crosby is Dead.

Greenville, Miss.—After lingering eighteen hours in a semi-comatose state from a stroke of apoplexy, Mr. H. T. Crosby, editor and proprietor of the Greenville Morning and Weekly Times, died at his residence in this city.

Nearly two months ago he started the Greenville Morning Times, and it is thought that the extra work and strain in publishing the daily paper brought on the attack that proved so fatal. Aside from his success in the newspaper work, Mr. Crosby was a man who made friends and stood by them. He often put himself out to do a favor, and no one came to him for succor but who helped to the best of his means and ability. He was a member of the Elks' lodge, Red Men, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World.

Nearly \$200,000.

Baton Rouge, La.—Between \$150,000 and \$200,000 per year will be saved the state of Louisiana by reforms in tax collecting instituted by the present extra session of the Louisiana legislature. This was made evident when the various factions of the legislature left town for a two day's rest, after having settled their disputes in joint committee conferences.

Next week will be devoted to formally turning into laws the reforms worked out in committee. The legislature will grant \$15,000 and has appointed a commission for an investigation of port conditions at New Orleans, which is expected to result in disclosures and reforms important to a large section of the South.

Applies For \$5,000,000.

Philadelphia.—A man who gave his name as F. M. Bell, and his address as 910 Chestnut street, made application to the sub-treasury for \$5,000,000 of the new government 3 per cent certificates. He made the application in writing and left the sub-treasury without further disclosing his identity. The New York Life Insurance Co., has an office at the address given and it was learned there that Mr. Bell had not given permission to have his mail sent to that office. It was admitted that he was known to the office force but information as to whether he was connected with the insurance company or was setting for the company, in applying for the certificates was refused.

Monument to President Davis.

The New Orleans Picayune says: Mrs. General Behan has just returned from a convention of the Daughters at Norfolk, Va., bringing the pleasing intelligence that the convention, voted to appropriate a sum of money, say, about one thousand dollars, remaining from the construction of the Richmond monument to Jefferson Davis, to the monument that is to be reared in this, our southern metropolis. It should be remembered that the centennial birthday of President Davis will occur on June 3, 1908, next year, and it is the earnest desire of the ladies who have the undertaking in hand to be able to lay the cornerstone on that day.

To Keep Money in New York.

Eastern financiers are asking for assurances that money will be kept on deposit in New York banks before they subscribe for the new government bonds. Secretary Cortelyou declines to commit himself. In the meantime subscriptions are pouring into the treasury from other sections of the country.

Passes Away.

Memphis, Tenn.—Mrs. Amelia Walton Alcorn, widow of former Governor J. L. Alcorn of Mississippi, died at the home of relatives here after an illness of a week. Mrs. Alcorn was in her eighty-eighth year.

Seven men were killed and thirteen injured by a boiler explosion in the plant of the John T. Roper Lumber company at Gilmerston, Va.

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