

THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

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PROMOTE THE GROWING OF RICE

During the meeting of the Louisiana Food Preparedness committee here this week, one of the members from west Louisiana stated that a ten per cent increase in the rice acreage is in sight for this season.

This is not enough of an increase. Rice is the greatest cereal crop produced in the south, and the world's greatest food shortage is in production of cereals. Louisiana has enough rice land, suitable for cultivation, levied, within reach of a water supply for irrigation which may be furnished by irrigation plants practically now idle, to increase the production of rice by fifty per cent.

Our farmers know how to grow rice. All they need is the financial backing to produce a crop with the amount of patriotism expressed in the past month by Louisiana men (conservatively estimated at a trillion dollars worth) who can command the cash to help the farmers make a crop, there should be no obstacle in the way.

Doubtless some of the large rice growers are afraid of a large crop of rice, in view of past experiences, and feel it to their interest to produce a smaller crop that will command a high price. This policy will not feed hungry people. Besides, well posted rice men see the assurance of high prices, no matter how large the crop produced. Secretary Eignus of the Southern Rice Growers Association in a special letter to the members, urges the growing of a record breaking crop in this language:

The market will be bare of rice at the opening of the next season, and high prices will rule. The size of the crop will not affect quotations. It will not matter whether we have a yield of eight, nine or ten million bags. The price of wheat and other cereals will maintain the market.

A few mills have offered to contract to pay from \$3.50 to \$4.00 per barrel for fall deliveries of the 1917 crop. Our judgment is that it would be inadvisable to sell your rice at this time. It is very difficult to make deliveries on such contracts. Furthermore there is good reason to believe that better prices than those will be the rule.

This is alike a golden opportunity for both the rice farmer and the Crop Preparedness commission. The advice of the Southern Rice Growers Association for farmers to plant every available acre should be followed to the letter and as much new territory included as can be found adaptable to the crop. At the present time there is no possibility of an overproduction and it will go a long way toward arrying the country through this trying period.

There is hardly any cereal which will keep in all climates so easily as rice and its general introduction now will solve the rice farmers' problem in the future. The scarcity of potatoes and other starch bearing foods has introduced rice into many sections where it was little known before as an every day diet and the more of it is grown and eaten during this short crop period, the more extensive will be its use and the more stable the market for it in the future.

The program of the committee formed to stimulate food production in Louisiana is very good, but much of it is being already taken care of. The garden-and-poultry advice, if indications are worth anything, has been anticipated by the people generally, because food speculators have taught them that they must grow all the food they can. The high price of food has impressed the importance of food economy upon them more forcibly than all the speeches and admonitions of Harry Wilson and his committee and the newspapers could accomplish in a twelve-month. If the committee will concentrate its efforts upon increasing the rice production, it will perform a valuable service, not only to the state and nation, but to one of the state's most promising industries.

A Crystal Springs, Miss., man of fifty claims that he is the father of fifteen sons, all of military age, who are ready to answer the call of their country. Before going too far with this subscription business, we should have a survey of Mississippi made. If families like this are common in Mississippi, that state may desire to fight the war out all by itself.

Nevada holds the high record for recruiting in the regular army. Between April 1 and April 21, her contribution of men equaled 94.4 per cent of her war quota, as figured out by army officers with a taste for figures. Still, if you have ever passed through Nevada, you will not be much surprised.

For some reason, perhaps upon the insistence of the censor, Russia is keeping all of her troubles strictly to herself.

The chief outdoor amusement at Provincetown, Mass., is listening to the "heavy firing off the coast," every evening.

LOUISIANA OPINION.

Our Greatest Task.

Assumption Pioneer: Preparedness means not only getting a big fighting machine in trim, but it comprehends the raising of sufficient food stuff to feed the whole world. We can do it if we only half try.

Modern Soldiers Are "Soft."

Shreveport Journal: Consider the centuries during which the vast majority of Europeans had neither tea nor coffee, and thought themselves lucky to have meat once a day, with bread and cheese as the staples of their other meals. In the brave old days when the Scotch found their principal amusement and business in raiding the English border, a bag of oatmeal was considered ample provender for a trooper. If it was proposed to feed soldiers on oatmeal today there would be a peace movement started that would sweep all the kaisers, czars and junkers into the discard so quickly they would be dizzy for the rest of their days.

Pay no Attention to Lies

Ruston Leader: You may expect to hear and read all kinds of rumors and exaggerations. Do not believe them unless well authenticated and do not help to circulate them without giving the source of your information and your reasons for believing or disbelieving them. Many of them are conceived in the brain of sensationalists or persons who wish to create excitement.

Thibodaux Sounds the Alarm

Thibodaux Commercial Journal: People should be on the alert, watch and consider carefully everyone who endeavors to gain admission into their homes, and their places of business, keep your doors locked. Unless they know whom they admit, and know how well to care and caution should be exercised after they gain admission. While there are considerable exaggerations to spies being seen here, and captured there, we have as foes a people who have proven themselves capable of descending to anything—so that our property, our industries, our homes and even our lives are not safe. We do not know but some germ spreader may rap at our front door in the guise of a solicitor or peddler. Take no chances, admit only known friends and exercise every precaution possible everywhere and all the time.

They Took His Mind off the Law

Madison Journal: John G. Johnson, a noted lawyer of Philadelphia, died with about \$2,000,000 worth of pictures on hand. He must have been "some lawyer."

No, It Is Not the Farmer

Lafayette Advertiser: The great body of wage earners and salary workers like Sec. Houston find it hard to see justification for the extraordinary exorbitant price of flour, which has almost gone beyond their reach. It is evident that somebody is making tremendous profits and that somebody is not the farmer who raised the wheat. Sec. Houston has asked congress to give his department the right to fix food prices and congress should do it promptly. It is not right that the public should be held up in any such fashion to make millions for the few.

Justice for Women Urged

Franklin Watchman: Why should not a good woman be treated with the same consideration given a good black. They give us life and health and strength; care for us from the time we come into the world until the end of life's journey; we trust them with everything on earth except a voice in the government, and in this respect they are given the same consideration supplied the occupants of Jackson and Pineville. We know of men less capable, but they are citizens, while sensible women are classed as nonentities.

No Bonuses or Substitutes

Alexandria Town Talk: Whatever method of raising troops is decided upon, let's have no "bonuses" of the Civil War sort. This is a democratic war, fought democratically, by a democratic people, in behalf of world-democracy. We want no sordid citizen bribed to do this patriotic duty, and no rich man buying immunity from service.

HEADLINERS IN ROOSEVELT ARMY

New York, April 26.—A Bonaparte may fight again for France, but in an American uniform.

Charles Joseph Bonaparte, grandson of Joseph Bonaparte, King of Westphalia, grandnephew of Napoleon, Emperor of France, and ex-Attorney General of the United States, is one of the men who will go with Theodore Roosevelt if the War Department authorizes the colonel to form a division.

And if the War Department will accept Colonel Roosevelt's offer to lead a division to the European war front here's what the colonel can do:

Have a completely organized division of 23,000 men, including infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, machine gun detachments, and aerial corps, ready for active service within four months.

In addition he has 100,000 reserves waiting to be called for service.

Requisitions are ready for every item of military equipment for the division. These requisitions can be presented to the War Department within two hours after the command is organized.

Most of the men who have volunteered for the colonel's division have had previous military training.

Here are some of the notables who it was learned to-day, are ready to join the colonel's division, besides Mr. Bonaparte:

Senator J. Hamilton Lewis of Illinois; Roy O. Woodruff, Republican Congressman from Michigan; Wisconsin Curtis Farber, explorer; John M. Parker, Louisiana, Bull Moose candidate for Vice President in the last election; Medill McCormick, Congressman from Illinois; Jack Greenway, famous Yale end of years ago; Seth Bullock, Gifford P. Noyes (he is to be a lieutenant colonel); Lieutenant Governor Oglesby, Illinois; Rock Channing, former Rough Rider; Sidney Drew, actor; Judge Alfred Page, New York; Prof. Hiram J. Bingham, Yale; Robert D. Curry, former Governor of Wyoming; Rear Admiral Winslow, U. S. N.; State Senator Hutchinson, Washington; Randolph Hagerman, Denver, and scores of others.

Many men, such as Marcus B. Toney of Nashville, a Confederate veteran, have offered themselves for any service they may perform. No applicants under 25 years of age are accepted for the division. Officers have already been selected, and so great has been the response that the colonel could not only equip a division of twenty-three thousand men, but has enough applicants to make three full army corps. More than twenty-five thousand negroes want to go to the European fighting front with the colonel. Tentative organizations have been filled in several States. Texas and South Dakota and Arizona have complete regiments ready and drilling. Utah and Wyoming have regiments almost ready.

If the War Department will not consider Colonel Roosevelt as commander of the division he would be perfectly satisfied to go as a subordinate officer with General Wood in command. The colonel would be content with command of a brigade. The main thing with the colonel is that he wants to go.

U. S. DAILY WEATHER REPORT

Saturday, April 28, 1917. Forecast till 7 p. m. Friday. For New Orleans and vicinity: Unsettled, warmer, light southerly winds. For Louisiana: Saturday and Sunday, scattered showers; colder in northern portion Sunday.

LOCAL METEOROLOGICAL RECORD

Temperature Record Yesterday's temperature record at New Orleans, as shown by the thermometer of the U. S. Weather Bureau, on the roof of the Postoffice building, was as follows:

Weather Record

Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. 7 a. m. 69, 9 a. m. 75, 11 a. m. 79, 1 p. m. 81, 3 p. m. 81, 5 p. m. 79.

RIVER FORECAST

The Mississippi River, below Vicksburg, and the Atchafalaya will change very little for a few days. Stages of 41.8 feet at Simmesport and 39.5 feet at Melville are indicated by April 28th. The Red River, below Shreveport, and the Ouachita will rise during the next 48 hours.

NEW ORLEANS LUMBERMAN HEADS DEFENSE COUNCIL COMMITTEE



ROBERT H. DOWNMAN.

Washington, April 27.—To facilitate the operations between the government and the producers of lumber, the council of national defense has appointed a sub-committee of 11 on lumber and forest products, with R. H. Downman, of New Orleans, president of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, as chairman.

Bernard M. Baruch, chairman of the advisory commission's committee on raw materials, in making the appointments, said he believed the personnel was such as to insure a high degree of efficiency in meeting the lumber needs of the government. Mr. Downman and several other committee members are to maintain a permanent organization in Washington.

Other members of the committee are: D. O. Anderson, Marion, S. C.; Henry S. Graves, chief forester, United States forest service; Chas. S. Keith, Kansas City, Mo., president of the Southern Pine association, and W. H. Sullivan, Bogalusa, La.

ROBERT'S TASTE OF MILITARY LIFE

The life of a soldier no longer appeals to Robert, Jr., 15, 309 Nashville avenue. For two weeks Robert went up against grim reality and knows how it feels sometimes when one is a warrior.

Nobody was around yesterday when Robert discovered a 38-caliber revolver in an armor at his home. He had seen the gallant boys in khaki as they rode past on their useful legs and thought he would imagine himself one for a while, at least.

Robert took the gun out, jabbed it under his belt and strode about like a regular soldier. Then, as an imaginary enemy appeared in the doorway, Robert's right hand flew to his trusty revolver, as it happens in the thrilling Wild West stories of '39.

Then something happened. There was a flash and a loud report. The smell of powder pervaded the room and Robert's left leg began to sting. The bullet merely grazed his leg. A doctor was called in and pronounced the wound slight.

BACK TO PRIVATE LIFE

Senators Borah and Fall Will Retire From Public Activities.

Washington, April 27.—Two United States senators today announced they would retire to private life at the expiration of their term. Following such an announcement by Senator Borah, of Idaho, early today, Senator Fall, of New Mexico, tonight stated on the floor of the Senate that he would return to private life after March 3, 1919. Both said they are retiring because of business reasons. Senator Fall is a millionaire cattleman.

DANCING AT THE SECOND GRAND ANNUAL FESTIVAL GIVEN BY Elm Camp No. 632, W. O. W. For the Benefit of the Widows and Orphans Fund. SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1917 SOUTHERN PARK ADMISSION 25 CENTS.

NOMINATED FOR DIRECTORS

The Association of Commerce on May 16 will elect twenty-two directors for the ensuing year. The following eleven have been nominated by a committee of which Frank Dameron is chairman: M. A. Aldrich, R. H. Downman, A. T. Dusenbury, F. W. Evans, Thood re Grunewald, N. M. Leach, P. S. Morris, A. D. Parker, P. H. Sanders, Abe Rosenberg and Pearl Wright.

The remainder are to be nominated by members of the association ten days before the election.

HELD UP AND ROBBED

BY SOLDIERS, DARCEY SAYS Steve Darcey, 1306 Front street, reported to the police last night that he was held up and robbed of \$30 and a \$100 watch fob by two soldiers at Bienville and Front streets.

"I was on my way home from work," Darcey declared. "As I reached Front and Bienville streets two soldiers stepped from behind a box car. One grabbed me by the throat and I was thrown to the ground. While he held me down, the other went through my pockets. Then they kicked me and ran away in the darkness."

FAMILY QUARREL ON STREET

Charges of disturbing the peace and assault and battery were made in the first recorder and city criminal courts yesterday against Alex I. Fazen, 1220 Eighth street, who is alleged to have attacked his wife on the street at Antoine and Constance streets Thursday evening. They have been separated for some time. She lives at 3638 Constance street and is 23 years old.

The neighborhood was thrown into great excitement. Mrs. Fazen ran up the street screaming that she was being killed. Fazen, however, denies having attacked her. He said he merely approached his wife to settle some domestic affairs.

CHARGED WITH TAKING BETS

Stanley Muntz, 8215 Plum street, proprietor of a cigar stand at 322 Magazine street, was arrested at his place of business yesterday by Corporal Smith and Patrolman Kaufman on a charge of taking bets on race horses. The policemen say they saw a man, whose name is unknown, place bets with Muntz, but tore up the paper as they approached. The bets were gathered and are being held as evidence.

ATTORNEY AND JUDGE CLASH

The tedium of the Pierson libel suit trial was broken yesterday morning, Judge King refusing to sit on the bench while Attorney Ben Waldo read a deposition. Mr. Waldo turned the case over to his associate, Attorney Lembe, and left the court room, after which the trial proceeded. Both Judge King and Attorney Waldo made statements which went to show that the clash was the outcome of previous disagreements.

HELD ON POOLROOM CHARGE

Arthur Brown, accused of operating a racing pool in the rear of his billiard hall in St. Charles street, was held to the Criminal District Court by Judge Fisher yesterday. He was arrested in consequence of a police raid Feb. 8.

\$1.00 BATON ROUGE TOUS LES DIMANCHES Via EDENBORN LINE Louisiana Railway & Nav. Co. Depart de la Nouvelle Orleans, 6:55 A. M. Gare Terminus, rue Canal Bureau des billets en ville 709 rue Gravier

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