

THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

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HYSTERICIS IN HIGH PLACES

In the senate the other day, Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi condemned the hysterics of the people over food prices and food shortage, and suggested that the "German corruption fund" may have been used in creating a food scare that resulted in soaring prices.

This is a somewhat remarkable statement and goes to show that the Mississippi senator is afflicted with hysteria himself and should take something for his nerves. It is on a par with his ridiculous declaration on the floor of the senate that there are a million traitors in the United States. The truth is that the food scare was started by high officials of the United States department of agriculture, and even Mr. Williams would hardly claim that the "German corruption fund" could have reached them.

Secretary of Agriculture Houston went rampaging through the north and Assistant Secretary Vrooman took a whirlwind tour of the cotton belt, preaching the urgent need of raising more food. Mr. Vrooman told New Orleans that if the south does not produce its own food supplies this year — and it has never yet done so — its people will starve, because the railroads will not be able to haul us foodstuffs because of traffic congestion.

In the north, conditions are the same. There has been some food hysteria, but government agencies started it. The Kansas City Star reproves one of the alarmists and calms its readers in the following:

The latest form of this more or less hysterical talk comes from George E. Ferrill, connected with the Department of Agriculture, who is quoted as saying that "conditions are appalling," because America has "only enough food to last until next fall."

There is, in fact, nothing "appalling" about this condition. It would be an unusual condition for America to have more than enough food at this time of year to last until after next fall. For ten years past the average available supply of old wheat carried over on July 1 was about 90 million bushels, or about two month's supply.

It is wise to be rational over the present situation, and not become hysterical. That would not help matters even if there were anything to cause one to lose his mental balance.

The winter wheat has made a poor start, but it has done that in former years. Nature has a habit of making up deficiencies in one section by abundance in others. It is easily within the bounds of reasonable expectations for the United States and Canada to raise record crops—in the aggregate of all cereals—this year, and only a climatic calamity such as never before experienced, will bring really serious conditions to the people of the United States.

The American people are level headed and sensible when not thrown off their balance by rant. If the department of agriculture, in "throwing a scare" into the people of this country about food supplies, overplayed its hand, it should not blame the victims of its own exaggerated talk. Senator Williams has no right to say that "German corruption funds" figured in creating a food scare that made prices soar, where prices have soared higher every week for a year without causing commotion.

While it is on the subject, The Bee will say that it regards the report that German submarines sank 400,000 tons of allied shipping in a week as requiring confirmation. If this be treason, make the most of it.

From South Dakota comes the thrilling story of the dismantling of a high power wireless on a German's farm. South Dakota, you know, is an ideal spot to learn military secrets and also from which to transmit them.

The Turks are so desperate for food that they have taken Mush from the Russians.

Did you notice how beautifully Grand Duke Nicolas has effaced himself in these revolutionary times?

LOUISIANA OPINION.

Will Restore Your Mental Poise

Ruston Leader: In the excitement of the moment, don't forget that the preacher will have a few words of cheer for you on Sunday. It costs nothing and is worth much—a "spiritual bargain," as it were.

Make Both Toe the Mark

Shreveport Journal: There are plenty of rich men willing to let the poor do all the fighting. And there are plenty of poor men willing to let the rich do all the paying. Both kinds are "slackers."

Ye Editor's Potato Wisdom

Colfax Chronicle: The editor of the Chronicle has been enjoying a fine supply of vegetables from his garden for the past week, such as Irish potatoes, sweet peas, beets, onions, spinach, mustard, etc. We had our first mess of new potatoes on Saturday, April 21. The potatoes, Triumph variety, were planted on an. 31. For 38 years we have made it a rule to plant potatoes on the 30th or 31st day of January, if the ground was prepared and the weather suitable, or on or before Feb. 15 in any event, and we never failed to make a good crop.

Safe Always to Abuse Congress

Alexandria Town Talk: The supreme court has now happily decided that there is no such crime in the American category as congressional lese-majeste. Congress has no power, express or implied, to punish and criminal comment that falls short of "physical destruction of the right of the house to carry on its proceedings."

Impolite to Contradict a Lady

Assumption Pioneer: According to Mrs. Anna Lee, of the state of Indiana, and who has started a campaign for statutory prohibition of corsets, that of the three evils: corsets, white plague and whisky—the corset is the greatest, coming from a woman therefore we are not going to take issue with her.

Hiding Money from the Germans

Lake Providence Banner Democrat: We understand some colored people have withdrawn the few dollars they had in the banks of Lake Providence and taken it home to bury it in cans in the back lot. These people are most foolish and superstitious kind on the globe, and they ought to know the safest place for their money is in the bank.

Monroe's Turn to Move

Shreveport Journal: The people of Monroe and Ouachita parish are either guilty of the things imputed to them by Judge Dawkins, or they are not guilty. Either justice is a mockery and law a travesty over there, or the well-respected jurist made a terrible blunder in impaling public opinion. A community cannot afford to be charged by one of its honored public servants with abandonment of civic virtue and truculence to degrading politics without taking cognizance of it.

THIEVES STILL BUSY IN THE CITY

More robberies were reported to the police yesterday and every effort is being made by Superintendent Reynolds to capture the culprits. Up to last night on arrests had been made, owing to the fact that the thefts took place late Thursday night or early yesterday morning, while the city slept, identity of the thieves in most instances is not known.

The biggest case reported yesterday was the theft of between \$400 and \$500 from a safe in the office of the Coca Cola Company at Calabone and Canal streets. Entrance was gained in an unknown manner and the safe was opened by someone apparently familiar with the combination, as there were no marks on it.

F. A. Davis, a shipping clerk and cashier, told Corporal Bengert, of the fourth precinct station, that he was positive he locked the safe Thursday night. The Coca Cola Company has no night watchman, according to the police.

Guy D'Amico, proprietor of a saloon and grocery at 1401 Teche street, Algiers, reported his place was broken into and robbed of money and jewelry amounting to \$146.

Police are looking for a negro cook suspected of having stolen jewelry and articles worth \$15 from the residence of Mrs. Ben Cohn, 1810 Marango street. Mrs. Cohn said the negro disappeared suddenly and a little later the loss was discovered.

Mrs. William Mitchell, 6030 Bern-jamin, who claims money, jewelry and household articles amounting to \$101 were systematically taken from her former home at 2200 State street, between March 1 and March 15 last did not report the case until yesterday afternoon. She suspects no one.

Discovery was made yesterday by Ernest Herford, whose place of business is at 325 St. Charles street, that his property at 1735 Jackson avenue, vacant at present, had been robbed of piping, fiddling wail brackets, chandeliers and various other articles all valued at \$31.

Two saloon keepers and a negro bartender were arrested yesterday afternoon by Patrolman Wals, and Dunn, of the Sixth precinct station, for alleged violations of the Gay-Shattuck law. The accused are Angelo Pizzo, 628 Washington avenue, and his bartender, John White, negro, and Matthew J. Ryan, 3001 Chippewa street.

CHARGE MADE BY MOTHER

Lloyd Neguelousa, 14, 1033 Louisiana street, the boy who was in the room with Louis Gravois, 17, 3007 Dauphine street, a Washington Artillery recruit, when the latter was shot and fatally wounded Tuesday, yesterday was placed under \$500 bond in the Juvenile Court by Judge Wilson.

The boy's arrest resulted from a statement made to the police by Mrs. Gravois, the dead youth's mother. She said that just before the funeral Lloyd Neguelousa told her he accidentally shot her son. When questioned by Judge Wilson, however, the boy adhered to his first statement that Gravois was handling the gun and accidentally shot himself.

Captain Dunn, of the fire department, Neguelousa's grandfather, signed his bond.

THE "MASQUE OF LIFE" IS ABSOLUTELY DIFFERENT

"The Masque of Life," which plays at the Diamond theatre this week, is a film so absolutely different from those common to America, that it is hard to class it as any one particular variety of production. Most people would call it a spectacle because of the tremendousness of its scenes, and the obvious way in which excitement is created by the very magnitude of the situations.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM WORKERS

The joint legislative committee on Reform in Legislative Procedure will meet next Thursday at the office of Senator E. M. Stafford in the Hennen building, to map out its work, to be submitted to the next general assembly. Senator Stafford will probably be chosen as chairman.

STATE LEAGUE OF HOMESTEAD MEN

Members of the annual convention of the Louisiana Homestead League met at the Grunewald hotel yesterday for a two days' session. The meeting was notable for the lack of oratory and the manifest intention of the association founders to get down to business promptly.

The convention then settled down to business. President Ricks, in delivering his report, dealt with the splendid work the league had accomplished during the year and in conclusion said that he hoped every other year would bring about even more success than the last.

An elaborate report was delivered by Emile A. Wagner, of New Orleans, secretary of the league. The financial condition of the organization was then outlined by John A. Davilla, its treasurer.

In the afternoon addresses were made by Leon Sugar, of Lake Charles, and Joseph S. Loeb and A. D. Danziger, of New Orleans; R. N. Sims, examiner of state banks, who discussed his findings in the homestead field. Mr. Sims' paper proved interesting to every one of the delegates, and concerned the homestead and its obligations.

One of the features of the luncheon given by the Loan Building and Homestead Associations to the members of the Louisiana league was the singing at the opening of "America," and at the close of the "Star Spangled Banner," this having been arranged at the suggestion of Mr. W. O. Hart, vice president of the Security Building and Loan Association, and through William Pfaff, chairman of the committee of arrangements. Cards containing the words of the songs were given to each one entering so that all might join in the singing.

CROWDS ATTRACTED DAILY

To the Beautiful Photodrama, "Joan the Woman"

Drawn by the beauty, the magnitude, the irresistible charm of the photodramatic production, "Joan the Woman" the crowds in attendance upon the exhibition of the great picture at the Tulane theater are constantly increasing. "Joan the Woman" is especially a motion picture. It makes no pretense at being anything else and it is not compelled to take advantage of any subterfuge to gain distinction or to fully impress the public that it is one of the greatest productions that has yet been thrown upon the screen.

SPECIAL NOTICE

I BEG to notify the insuring public that I have taken on the adjustment of losses for the assured, and business entrusted to my care will receive prompt attention.

FIGALLO'S 52 YEARS LIFE Best Italian Restaurant in City. 722 IBERVILLE ST. Anthony Guiffria, Prop.

TO PREVENT RUSSIA'S SEPARATE PEACE

Washington, May 4.—The President and cabinet this afternoon planned to immediately put the whole force of the government at work to preclude the possibility of Russia declaring a separate peace.

GERMAN GOLD

New York, May 4.—Ernest Bohm, the star government witness in the trial of Franz Rintellin, et al., members of the "Laborers National Peace Council," testified that German gold paid the expenses of the "Great labor mass meeting" at Carnegie hall in June, 1916, at which William Jennings Bryan was the principal speaker. The meeting was a thunderous demand that the United States keep out of the European war, just after the Lusitania was sunk.

TRIAL OF RACING CASE IN PROGRESS

Continued from Page One came volunteer committeemen to watch the Palm Garden and prevent unlawful betting. Mr. Eddy said, "Frequently in directors' meetings members would urge each other to go to the track to watch the betting and to nab the first man who seemed to be violating the law."

William M. Railey was the second witness. Under cross-examination by Col. Sullivan he admitted having made individual bets at the track and had no objection to this method. He testified that on January 10 he was sent by the Citizens' League to see how betting was being conducted at the Fair Grounds. On this occasion John E. Lansing and W. R. Veale accompanied him.

Col. Sullivan asked the witness if he had seen violations of the law at the track prior to that date and the answer was in the affirmative. "Then why did you not report them to the police?" the defense lawyer asked.

"Well, because I saw no use in doing so, I had no faith in the police."

The question and answer, however were stricken from the record on instance of District Attorney Luzenberg.

Mr. Railey also described the system of placing bets as he saw it and told of his observations. Walter R. Veale, who was to be the state's main witness, gave testimony that strengthened the case for the defense.

Veale was a stakeholder at the Fair Grounds and the Citizens' League had expected to prove through him that the Locke law was being violated there.

"Under this system of individual betting with stakeholders, witness declared, it is impossible to average. You can make bets under this system but you can't tell what you stand to lose. Averaging is the basis of bookmaking and under this system you can't average."

LOCAL METEOROLOGICAL RECORD

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

Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. 7 a.m. 74, 9 a.m. 77, 11 a.m. 80, 1 p.m. 83, 3 p.m. 80, 5 p.m. 79, 7 p.m. 81, 9 p.m. 81

Weather Record

The following is the weather data for May 4, 1917, at New Orleans: 7 a.m. 2 p.m. 7 p.m. Temperature ... 74 ... 77 Rel. Humidity ... 92 ... 82 Wind ... SW ... SE Weather ... Sprinkling ... Clear

RIVER FORECAST

The Mississippi River, below Vicksburg, will fall slowly passing below flood stage, 47 feet, at Natchez, about May 8th; below the Red River the Mississippi and the Atchafalaya will change very little or will fall slowly. The Red River, below Shreveport, will rise and the Ouachita will not change much during the next 48 hours.

WHY NOT BANANAS? THEY ARE CHEAP

Crawford H. Ellis, vice president of the United Fruit Company, thinks that in the search for cheap and wholesome food the toothsome banana should not be overlooked, especially in New Orleans, the banana clearing house of the country. "Bananas," said Mr. Ellis, "are little higher than they were in 1916 and prices are on a parity with those prevailing the year before. They have not advanced, despite the radical increase in the price of other foodstuffs."

Mr. Ellis's view is sustained by the Boston News Bureau, which recently said:

"Approximately 116,000,000 bananas, or over 38,000,000 pounds of pure and nutritious food are now being brought into the United States every week. Bananas are not only palatable, but their great food value has long since been established. In speaking of bananas, Mayor Mitchell's committee on food supply stated that bananas contain most of the nourishment that meat does. According to leading authorities, bananas are many times more nutritious than potatoes. Albuminates are present in bananas almost in the same proportions that they are in milk. Bananas retail today at 25 cents a dozen, and have increased less in cost than any other food product. This is most important to the poor of the country, as bananas have admittedly become for them a staple article of food."

WALKED IN FRONT OF AUTO

Walking into the path of an automobile driven by Joseph Doyle, 1025 Lyca street, and owned by Arthur Hill, 734 St. Charles street, Joseph Rohr, 15, 730 Foucher street, was knocked down and seriously injured Thursday afternoon at Foucher and Laurel streets. He was able to walk home where a doctor treated him and pronounced his condition not serious. The accident was reported to the police yesterday.

U. S. DAILY WEATHER REPORT

Saturday, May 5, 1917. Forecast till 7 p. m. Saturday. For New Orleans and vicinity: Fair, light northerly wind. For Louisiana: Saturday, fair; Sunday, cloudy.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC LINES \$19.30 GALVESTON And Return On Sale May 7-8. Limit May 12. \$20.40 DALLAS And Return On Sale May 10, 13, 14. Limit May 19. Through Sleepers to Galveston and Dallas. CITY TICKET OFFICE, Phone Main 1027