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NATIONAL AS WELL AS PERSONAL DUTY

The framing by the senate Tuesday of the largest appropriation ever made by any nation for military purposes, aggregating four billion dollars, should be the signal for increased vigilance over the expenditure of the enormous sums to be collected from the people.

New Orleans people, for instance, who have been consuming their crusts of bread and working up the "left overs," planting gardens and doing many things recommended by the agricultural department as a measure of economy do not understand why the same department is demanding an appropriation of twenty five million dollars for a national food survey.

Some indignation was aroused in one of the large cities recently, because many old but perfectly good tents were being burned by order of the war department. It seemed reasonable to think that the undamaged portions should be made use of, sold or given away, but the officer in charge said that army equipment which has been condemned must be burned or destroyed and must in no case be allowed to reach the hands of civilians, so that when any army property is found in the hands of private individuals, it is apparent that it has been stolen.

Guarding against occasional theft by wholesale destruction of property sounds like opera bouffe, which citizens who are about to be taxed a penny every time one of their children attends the "movies" are hardly in a frame of mind to appreciate.

It would be foolish to expect a war without waste; because war is bound to be a waste of resources, increasing by geometrical progression as it becomes more intensified. Probably the thievery and scandals of the Civil War of fifty years ago will be guarded against, promptly checked and severely punished. Despite the pessimistic view held by many people, public affairs are administered more honestly and efficiently in the United States now than at any previous period of the nation's history.

Great Britain feels that the United States is not unduly severe on the plutocrats in its war revenue taxes. It points out the 16 per cent tax on excess profits as an example of leniency, its own tax being eighty per cent of excess profits. It would certainly seem more equitable to claim a larger share of the extraordinary war profits of industries than to take pennies away from men whose wages are hardly enough to live on without a tax.

The Shreveport Journal says that Miss Margaret Wilson, the daughter of the president, who delivered a lecture there last week, "shipped into town quietly and most tentatively." Evidently the Journal man was disappointed to learn that the daughter of a president doesn't carry a brass band or a ukelele orchestra with her on her travels.

According to a Petrograd dispatch, a mass meeting of thieves was recently held at Rostoff on the Dan, but their object was to secure an opportunity to reform, not to boost the prices of wheat and other foodstuffs a little higher.

There is general indignation against Von Bethmann-Hollweg in Allies circles today because he didn't make a peace offer for them to turn down.

Pictures that might annoy our British allies are now being barred from the "fillum" palaces. The Chicago Daily News is authority for the statement that a permit for the motion picture, "The Spirit of '76," was finally refused by the police department on the ground that scenes portrayed in the film would be offensive to the British. The story deals with some of the unpleasant features of the revolutionary period.

Col. Roosevelt has said that he would go to France even as a second lieutenant, if his division should be accepted for service. Training camp statistics show that there are over 200,000 men in the United States, with the returns still coming in, who have the same heroic deeds.

Two men, one of them seventy years old, and a woman have been arrested in Detroit, on a charge of plotting to send a military expedition against the Dominion of Canada. It is to be hoped that Canada has not been seriously alarmed.

With the farmer boys who have tried one end of it all their lives it is still a question whether the corn rows are preferable to the benches.

LOUISIANA OPINION.

Don't Enslave the Children. Shreveport Journal: Closing schools a week or two early to let children get out doors grow things sounds harmless enough. But it gives the exploiters of childhood a loophole. It gives them a precedent. "You let the children can peaches at home last year; why should they not work for us this year?" This is no argument against gardens, war or peace. But it is a solemn warning not to lose our heads.

Why Louisiana Is Broke. St. Bernard Voice: The fellow who was not paying his just proportion of taxes saw to it that every tax reform proposition was defeated, and he did it by hoodwinking the well-meaning people by masquerading as a champion of their rights. If the editor of The Bee, or anyone else, would scrutinize the assessment rolls of some of the parishes in central and north Louisiana, he would discover the inequality in the assessed valuation as compared with the parishes in this section of the State.

That Premature Joyfest. Crowley Signal: It will be time enough to boast of what we are going to do to the German submarines when we have started to do it.

Why Not General of Agriculture. Alexandria Town Talk: T. R., it appears starting out to recruit one division of volunteers to fight, has raised nine or ten divisions. After all, it would be a mistake to let him go to the front. He ought to be put in charge of the nation's recruiting.

The Sky Is the Only Limit. Lake Providence Banner Democrat: We read daily the dispatches from Washington stating that the high prices for foodstuffs, shoes and the thousands of other things are unwarranted, but at the same time prices go on climbing and the high point has not been reached.

The "Great I Am" Citizenship. Thibodaux Commercial Journal: There are some of our citizens who bubble over with enthusiasm. They want to be the whole cheese, if any one else gets any credit, attention or honor, they get surly, they pout, they lose interest and even try to put sticks in the wheel. This is to be regretted and should be corrected. No man can monopolize any one thing more than he can the earth, the air, or the sun. The man who denies any public move his full cooperation is a laggard, he is a sore on the public progress, a cancer on its advancement. He should be shown up in his true colors. The sooner realization dawns upon such the better for himself, the better for the community.

Send Him in Interest of Peace. Madison Journal: It now remains to be seen whether Roosevelt will make more racket and trouble at home than he would have made at the front.

Well, we can't blame the Russians for doing so much talking and so little war making. It has been a long time since they dared to indulge in conversation.

BITTEN BY DOG, SEEKS DAMAGES

Claiming that he had been bitten in the left thigh by a vicious collie dog belonging to the defendant, Christian Roesch, deliverer of ice, has entered suit against Mrs. Viola Schein of 1117 St. Mary street for \$85,000 damages. He asserts that he was ill a month from acute erysipelas, and that his nervous system was badly shattered as a result of the encounter with the canine.

On January 11, according to Roesch, he entered Mrs. Schein's yard with ice after having been assured by a housemaid that the collie was securely tied. A moment later the dog dashed out of the house and affixed his signature to the ice-man's leg before the latter could escape. Roesch claims that he has to enter many houses where dogs are kept, and that the occurrence of last January has shaken his nerves and made him a prey to daily apprehensions while on his rounds.

The will of the late Marie Rica, filed in the civil court yesterday, leaves the property of the deceased to James Lewis, Jr. Mrs. Rica had no relatives. The request, it is stated, is made in recognition of the many acts of kindness accorded her by Lewis.

An inventory of the estate of the late Victor Vignes, filed yesterday, shows property valued at \$7,070. The inventory was made by William Holmes and Charles J. Jackson, appraisers, with Frank B. Twomey and Joseph L. Weiss, witnesses, and F. J. Dreyfous, notary public.

Property in the two squares bounded by Ninth, Harmony, Laurel and Chippewa streets is affected by foreclosure proceedings for a debt of \$6,500 brought against Paul Lagasse by the Security Building and Loan company.

H. B. Bradford, furniture dealer, has brought suit against the Illinois Central railroad for \$1,722 which he claims is due for a carload of furniture almost totally damaged in transit.

The following cases were filed yesterday: Henry Eiberman vs. Catherine Wagner, divorce; Harco Film Co., Inc. vs. Burbank Products Co. of America, Inc., account \$180; Christian Roesch vs. Mrs. Viola Schein, damages, \$85,000; John Deere Plow Co. vs. John G. Taylor, note, \$192.49; Succession of The late Louis Buzen, possession; Succession of John B. Hildebrand, trusteeship; Security Building and Loan Association vs. Paul Lagasse, executory process, \$6,500; H. B. Bradford vs. Illinois Central Railroad, claim, \$1,722.56; Laeroux A. Landry vs. Clarence LeBlanc, divorce; Succession of Mrs. Marie Landry; Succession of Jules Dufrey vs. Antonio Puccio, note, \$500; Carroll W. Allen vs. Roy Brooks, claim, \$150.

UNPLEASANTNESS ALL AROUND. Patron and Saloon Keeper Both Under Charges. Alleged to have struck a man and created a disturbance in the saloon of Constance Greco, 1041 Canal street, shortly before 3 o'clock yesterday morning, Maximillo Gueing, 1303 North Rampart street, was arrested by Patrolman Claudis Meyers, of the Third precinct station. Police said an affidavit would be made against Greco for abusing Patrolman Meyer over the telephone.

Gueing told the police the trouble in the saloon resulted from refusal on the part of an unknown man to pay for drinks he ordered. While Gueing was being booked at the station, it is charged, Greco telephoned to find out about the case and made uncomplimentary remarks about Patrolman Meyer.

THE MOMENTOUS DECISION. The decision by Judge Clifford in the case of the officers and directors of the Business Men's Racing Association, who were tried last week on a charge of violating the Locke horse race law, is expected to be rendered today. Upon the decision hangs the fate of racing in New Orleans as conducted at the Fair Grounds by the association.

MAYOR BEHRMAN WILL SPEAK. New Orleans will have another flag raising exercise at the New Orleans day nursery tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. The public is invited. Benjamin Beckman donated the flag. Speeches will be made by Mayor Behrman and Mr. Beckman.

NOON MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S. In commemoration of the Feast of the Ascension, four masses will be held in St. Patrick's Church today. Father Carra, pastor of the church, says that he has arranged this service of masses so that everyone will have an opportunity to attend. The masses will be at 6 o'clock in the morning, 7:30, 10:30 and at noon.

CAR SHORTAGE AND FREIGHT RATES

The pooling of freight cars or the forming of an association to have charge of the car situation were the two principal suggestions made yesterday by Southern express men who gathered here for their annual convention.

A report was made on the proposed fifteen per cent increase of rates by R. H. Downman, chairman of the lumber committee, who has just recently returned from Washington. He declared that such an increase would put many of the smaller mills out of business.

President Willard opened the convention with his annual address and touched upon the striking days of the past which confronted the lumber interests of the south. Receipts for the year totaled \$115,331 and expenditures \$118,453, leaving a balance of \$8,021, according to the report of the treasurer.

CHARLOTTE WALKER HAS HAD MANY SUCCESSES

Charlotte Walker, who is to appear at the Grand theatre beginning today and showing the balance of the week in Patten's "Mary Lassar's School," has an immense following throughout the country. She has been starred on the stage in "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," "Just a Woman," and other plays written by her husband, Eugene Walter, author of "The Eastward Way." She has also been starred in a number of motion pictures which have increased her popularity.

EXAMINATION IS STRENUOUS

Many Would-Be Officers Weeded Out at Ft. Roots. The physical examination at Fort Logan H. Roots is exceedingly strenuous, according to Sgt. Siffert, who was one of the 100 or more men from New Orleans who were rejected. In speaking of the camp he declared that the men were usually well trained and all were as well taken care of as if they were officers in the regular army.

He declared that when the men were to undergo their physical examination they were required to strip and then entered the hospital tent where first they were weighed. If they came up to the required weight they next were examined by a physician as to the condition of their teeth, eyes and ears. Failure on any one of these examinations would mean the rejection of the candidate. Even after the candidate passed the physical examination he was subject to dismissal if he violated any of the rules of camp. There is no guard house in camp and the honor system prevails throughout.

MANIFESTED IMPATIENCE

Mrs. Agnes Caper, a widow, 2612 St. Thomas street, attempted suicide yesterday by taking poison. She was taken to the Charity hospital and is not in a serious condition. Relatives told the police sickness of long-standing prompted her act. She is living with her sister at the St. Thomas street address.

SENDS HIS REGRETS TO MAYOR

M. Viviani Wires Mayor on Behalf of French Commission. Regrets at being unable to visit New Orleans while in this country and expressions of a fraternal feeling are contained in a telegram from Minister Viviani on behalf of the French Commission sent yesterday to Mayor Behrman. The telegram follows: "Mayor and Municipality, New Orleans: We had cherished the hope of being able to visit your beautiful city so dear to our hearts. Abandoning with regret this hope, detained by works for a common cause, convey to the press, through your citizens, to the press, our expression of regret and fraternal salutation. VIVIANI."

SEAMAN'S COAT RIFLED

Another coat containing valuables was stolen yesterday. This time Yehnar Percy, Finnish sea man aboard the steamship Alabama, moored at Jackson street, and the loss, besides the coat, is a \$5 bill and a \$70 United States postal order. Percy suspects a negro of whom he gave a meagre description. The post office was notified to be on the lookout for anyone trying to cash the order.

THIEVES GET A LONG START

Forcing open a rear door, thieves some time between May 5 and yesterday morning entered the building of the Orleans Mattress Works, 512 Conti street, and made off with 12 bolts of mattress ticking valued at \$82.75. The theft was not discovered until yesterday when an employe went into the rear of the store room. Police have no clue as to the identity of the robbers.

A. OF C. CHOOSES 11 DIRECTORS

Election of eleven directors, discussion of the plan to raise the war tax revenue, and a discussion of the resumption of traffic on the Mississippi marked last night's annual meeting of the Association of Commissioners in the auditorium of the association.

All of the nominees of the nominating committee for the directorate were elected without opposition. Ben Thomas presided and after explaining the meeting to order explained its object. Directors were then elected and G. A. Foyard, chairman of the civic bureau, speaking for L. C. Simon, who was ill, explained the war revenue measure as seen by the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Following his address, Walker, general manager of the association, told of his trip to St. Louis, where he attended the meeting of the Conference for the Resumption of Traffic on the Mississippi River. He urged the members to get behind the movement and help New Orleans claim its own as a world's port.

The eleven directors elected last night were: M. A. Aarnich, R. H. Downman, A. T. Dussanour, E. W. Ryan, Theodore Greenwood, Neal M. Leahy, P. S. Morris, Arthur D. Parker, Ave Rosencorn, P. H. Sanders and Pearl Wright.

CAPABILITIES OF CUT-OVER LANDS

Continued From Page One. acres of cut-over lands in Louisiana which have generally been considered almost worthless. Therefore, such work as that the Houston brothers in demonstrating the value of such land for agricultural purposes is of the utmost importance.

John Marshall, secretary for Governor Pleasant, presented the reports of the governor at having been unable to attend. Senator E. M. Stafford referred to the many miles of good roads constructed by the Houston brothers, and emphasized the importance of good roads to the farmer. He predicted that the \$20,000,000 bond issue, rejected by the last legislature for lack of time to consider it, would be reintroduced and passed.

Various phases of farm work and the importance of farming were touched on aptly by Harry Gaudin, C. C. Gaspard, Dr. Merrick Saunders, Justin E. Demichaud, and Floyd Hodge. Mr. Gaspard explained the necessity for clearing the way for the farm loan bank in Louisiana and urged those present to use their influence with the governor to have a special session of the legislature called. Hurton Smith responded to the address on behalf of W. L. Houston, host for the occasion.

After the report the visitors were taken over the farm of 820 acres in automobiles and shown the high-grade stock recently acquired by the Houstons. In 1915 the farm, with the exception of eighteen acres, was covered with pine timber. Last year the tract produced 3,200 bushels of oats, 6,000 bushels of corn, 180 tons of hogshead, \$1,200 worth of hogsheads, 10,000 bushels of sweet potatoes, 1,000 bushels of Irish potatoes, 28 tons of alfalfa hay, 325 tons of wild hay, \$267 worth of rice and \$150 worth of velvet beans. Altogether the farm produced products valued at \$25,957. The cost of production, including interest on the investment, was \$12,022, leaving a clear profit of \$13,935.

The Houstons came to the South from Minnesota more than a dozen years ago and acquired large timber holdings north of Lake Pontchartrain. Most of this timber has now been cut off, leaving the Houstons with 75,000 acres of land to be cleared and placed under cultivation. The undertaking is immense in scope, but it is the hope of Louisiana that she has men of the caliber of the Houstons to place the vacant acres under cultivation.

Those making the trip were: J. D. Kouss, Justin E. Demichaud, Roden Doucas, Jesse Bony, Allen Dussanour, H. M. Young, H. J. Seiforth, Merrick Saunders, M. L. Alexander, Vigilant General C. C. McGee, John Marshall, W. W. Thomas, Sammie E. Toufan, Floyd Hodge, A. W. Bee Don, Walter Dalzell, Bernard L. Krebs, Edward Murphy, Roy Aymond, Misses Ethel and Constance Alexander, Mr and Mrs. E. O. Wild, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gaudin, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Thomas, Senator and Mrs. E. M. Stafford, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Gaspard, Mr. and Mrs. Nat Bond, Mrs. A. Y. Malone and Mrs. Fieth Hunter.

ST. VINCENT CIRCLE MEETINGS

The meeting of St. Vincent's Sewing Circle will be held at the residence of Mrs. George Denegre, 3105 Prystiana, this afternoon at 3 o'clock. The meeting of the Junior guild will be held at 4 o'clock the same afternoon at Mrs. Denegre's home.

DALLAS MINISTER HEADS BAPTISTS

Dr. J. B. Gambrell, of Dallas, Texas, is the new president of the Baptist convention which opened in New Orleans yesterday. His election was by acclamation on the second ballot after there had been about two hours' speechmaking in favor of the various candidates. He will succeed to the office formerly held by Rev. Lansing Burrows, of Americus, Ga.

Dr. Gambrell is seventy-eight years old, a retired minister, editor and educator. Among those mentioned for this office were Dr. J. T. Henderson, Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. W. W. Lanham, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. J. B. Gambrell, of Dallas; Dr. S. P. Brooks, of Waco, Texas; and Dr. John E. White, of Abbeville, S. C.

Former Governor Heard was introduced while the first ballot was being counted and delivered the address of welcome. He represented Governor Pleasant, Mayor Behrman and the Baptist churches of New Orleans. The response was made by Dr. Presley Blake, of Birmingham.

Report was made by O. J. Sandlings, secretary of the convention that the approximate attendance was 6,158. During the afternoon session H. C. Moore and O. E. Gregory were selected secretaries. The vice-presidents elected at this time were J. B. Mell, Augusta, Ga.; W. W. Landrum, Louisville, Ky.; J. P. Henderson, Lexington, Ky.; and F. T. Brooks, Waco, Texas.

Report of the teachers' training department showed that 29,734 diplomas had been granted since this department's organization. The fiscal Sunday school enrollment is 1,784,992. The report also showed that it would cost \$69,000 more to purchase the Sunday school literature this year than it did last year.

A \$100,580 debt had been liquidated during the year according to the report of Foreign Missions Board. The board has 507 American missionaries in foreign fields and 899 native workers. In addition to eighteen hospitals, fifteen dispensaries, the board has 474 schools in the annual session was preached last night by Dr. C. W. Duke, of Tampa, Fla.

OBSERVE ASCENSION DAY

Knights Templar to Attend Annunciation Church in a Body. Knights Templar of New Orleans and members of both Independent Friends No. 1 and Jacques de Molay No. 2 today will celebrate Ascension Day. One of the big events of the day will be the celebration at Annunciation Church, Race and Camp streets, at 8 o'clock tonight. Special music will be had and an address by Rev. Clarence Wyatt Bispain will be made. The Knights have extended the public an invitation to attend these services.

At 7 o'clock the Templars, headed by a brass band will march to the church. The officers of the command are: Jacques de Molay, No. 1, C. P. Eiberman, eminent commander; Sam Stone, Jr., generalissimo; Leon S. Hozbach, captain general; Berney G. Frank, senior warden; William T. Gowan, junior warden; Joseph Dem, treasurer; John B. Parker, recorder; John L. Avariston, standard bearer; Charles A. Lamberton, Jr., sword bearer; William Dalton, warden; Henry Lusse, sentinel; Erskine W. Fisher, captain of the guard and organist; Thomas P. Wilson, first guard; Henry L. Hoehn, second guard; John H. B. King, third guard.

Jacques de Molay, No. 2, A. R. Soifers, eminent commander; Joseph B. Deissler, generalissimo; William C. Weicht, captain general; Rodney D. Adams, standard; Phil G. Hicks, senior warden; J. E. Cross, junior warden; R. E. Spangenberg, treasurer; W. M. Borch, recorder; A. J. Nadeau, standard bearer; W. B. Summers, sword bearer; E. W. Tate, warden; Henry Lusse, sentinel; A. W. Skardon, organist; J. W. Huggett, Charles A. Gumbo and Thomas W. Campbell, guards.

SUSPENDED PENDING TRIAL

Woman Accuses Supernumerary of Wrecking Her Happy Domicile. Supernumerary Patrolman George Moisant, of the Tenth precinct station, who is alleged to have played havoc with furniture and other articles in the house of Jessie Coleman, 1530 Conti street, early yesterday morning, has been suspended from the force by Superintendent Reynolds, pending trial for unbecoming conduct.

Attracted by cries of "police," Patrolman Twilbeck, of the Fourth precinct, ran into the Coleman woman's house and found her tussling with Moisant, the police report says. The furniture was wrecked and clothes strewn over the floor. In the night court Moisant was fined \$10 or 30 days on a charge of disturbing the peace. The woman was discharged.