

LOUISIANA



Pickaninny Jazz Orchestra in New Orleans.

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LOUISIANA has dedicated her new domeless capitol building, a gigantic pile of limestone which rises 33 stories above the streets of Baton Rouge.

Louisiana boasts many modern buildings in her bustling cities, but the fame of the state is not confined to architecture. It is more widely known for its equable climate, its tranquil scenic beauty, and a hospitality which makes the manifold claims of her citizens as to the state's point of excellence seem a bare recital of obvious facts.

It is one of America's leading fur-producing regions, and the source of staggering quantities of shrimps and strawberries, oysters and oranges, sugar and salt, terrapins and fiery tobacco, rice and red snappers, figs and frog's legs, waterfowl and muskrats, timber and turpentine, cucumbers and cattle, sulphur and Spanish moss. Oil and gas flow from its seemingly inexhaustible subterranean chambers.

It boasts the second largest port in the United States—New Orleans—through which pass vast cargoes of foreign commodities, including 23,000,000 bunches of bananas each year, coffee for every third cup consumed in the United States, and mahogany and sisal, to our markets; while all the varied products of farm and factory originating in the lower Mississippi valley begin their sea journey from the city's docks.

Romance of New Orleans.

Many writers agree that New Orleans is one of only three great "story cities" of America. And New Orleans is part and parcel of Louisiana. One needs only to go back to the adventurous times of those daring French pioneers, La Salle, Bienville and Iberville; to the days of those picturesque and honored pirates, the Lafitte Brothers and Dominique You; to quadroon balls, voodoo rites, suicide and dueling oaks, or even to the fantastic revels of this year's Mardi Gras, to find romance here.

Today in Louisiana the visitor encounters romance as readily in any one of the half score 15-to-20-story office buildings of New Orleans as he did formerly in the city's "haunted houses," absinthe bars, or charming patios rich in association with the names of Lafayette, Louis Philippe, Adelina Patti, Jenny Lind, Audubon, Paul Morphy and Lafcadio Hearn.

For decades Louisiana's great sugar mills, set down in the midst of billows of green cane extending to the horizon had unfailingly ground out wealth to the state's sugar barons. Three hundred thousand tons of sugar was not an unusual year's yield from the fecund black soil. But the major romance of Louisiana is to be found not in its cane fields. The progenitor of those fields, and of the entire state, is the Father of Waters.

With its long, tenuous fingers of silt thrust far out into the Gulf of Mexico, the "bird's-foot" delta of the Mississippi is unlike that of any other major river on the globe. Between its fingers or claws are shallow, open bays, and the banks confining the great streams into which the river divides at Head of Passes, 95 miles below New Orleans, are in some places only a few feet in width.

In colonial times, when 10 or 12 feet of water provided ample depth for all caravels of commerce, navigation of the main passes of the Mississippi presented no difficulties, but with the increase in the tonnage and draft of vessels the shallow finger channels were a bar to progress and prosperity.

Making the Delta Navigable.

Ninety years ago the federal government made the first appropriation for deepening these natural channels, and in the course of the next 40 years it succeeded, by means of crude dredging processes, in increasing the depth to from 12 to 20 feet. But when it is recalled that in time of

flood the Mississippi brings down for deposit at its mouth more than 2,000,000 tons of sand a day, one can realize that this was a costly and disheartening battle.

By 1870 vessels had so increased in size and draft that a deeper channel became a crying necessity. A board of eminent engineers, appointed to find a solution of the problem, made exhaustive studies of many important harbor entrances, including the mouths of the Danube, which had been successfully improved by means of contracting jetties similar to those now in use on the Mississippi river. The board finally reported that the use of jetties would be too costly for the improvement of the mouths of the Mississippi and recommended the construction of a ship canal from Fort St. Philip (opposite Fort Jackson) to the Gulf.

At this juncture there appeared before congress an engineering genius who persuaded that body to defer for the time being the digging of the ship canal and permit him, on a basis of "no cure, no pay," to attempt to provide and maintain a deep-water channel in his own way.

But when congress finally accepted this "can't lose" proposition of James B. Eads, who had just completed the world-famous steel-arch bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis, the engineer was not permitted to use the Southwest Pass for his experiment, as he had specified. This was the best of the three main passes, and the government was taking no chances with Mr. Eads and his chimerical proposition! If he wanted to lose his own money, he could sink it in South Pass without endangering the then best channel.

The Eads contract called not only for a channel 26 feet deep and 200 feet wide at the bottom, but for maintaining that depth for 20 years.

With tremendous energy and rare organizing ability, the engineer set to work, and in less than five years his jetties and his dredges had done the work. And, furthermore, he maintained the depth for 20 years, that period expiring in 1901. The main responsibility of the engineers today, so far as the mouths of the Mississippi are concerned, is to prevent the river from creating new passes.

Furs From the Marshlands.

It is not only the Mississippi which makes Louisiana "water-minded." The state is threaded and meshed with bayous, lakes and streams, giving it more than 4,790 miles of navigable waters—a total which exceeds by two for one its nearest competitor in the Union, Arkansas.

Naturally, much of the bordering land in the vast delta region is marsh area; but let no casual observer be deceived into imagining that "marsh" in Louisiana means waste or unproductive land. It is these tens of thousands of grass-covered acres which have given the state the unique distinction of being the largest fur-producing commonwealth in the Union. As a matter of fact, not only does Louisiana lead all other states both in the value of its fur crop and in the number of pelts marketed, but last year, and for several years past, it has produced more pelts than the entire Dominion of Canada, generally recognized as one of the world's most important fur-producing countries.

The muskrat is the fur citizen mainstay of the state's pelt wealth. More than 5,000,000 of him were taken during the open season from November 20 to February 5, 1928-29. What with muskrats, opossums, raccoons, minks, skunks, otters, wild cats and foxes, the trappers' sales last year aggregated \$8,500,000.

Journeying by a series of autobus stages from New Orleans to Lake Charles, in the southwest corner of the state, one passes through a section of Louisiana which is redolent of romance. Here lies the Evangeline country, with its many pleasing, if seldom substantiated, stories identifying particular spots with various episodes in the Longfellow epic.

HOOVER OFFERS NEW ARMAMENT CUT PLAN

Would Save Many Billions in Next Ten Years.

Washington.—President Hoover dramatically turned his attack on the depression once more into the international field, proposing to the powers conferring at Geneva a program calling for the most drastic reduction of land, air and naval armaments ever formally advanced.

Striving anew to reduce the "overwhelming burden of armament which now lies upon the toilers of the world," the President sent instructions to Hugh Gibson, ambassador to Belgium and head of the American delegation attending the Geneva arms conference, to propose a plan which would cut world armaments down by nearly one-third.

The President estimated that the program would save the peoples of the world \$10,000,000,000 to \$15,000,000,000 in armaments costs in the next ten years. The savings to the United States, it was calculated, would amount to \$2,000,000,000 in that period.

Immediately, cabled advices, official and unofficial, flowed into Washington describing the reaction to the plan at Geneva and in various European capitals, advance copies having been furnished to the heads of the powers' delegations by Mr. Gibson. These reports ranged from accounts of an apparently hostile attitude on the part of the French, through a cool reception by the British, to ready acquiescence on the part of Italy and Germany. At the same time the President's plan won a general expression of approval among members of congress.

His five-fold program embraces:

Abolishment of tanks, chemical warfare and large mobile guns.

A cut of one-third in the strength of all land armies over and above "the so-called police component."

Abolition of bombing planes and "total prohibition of all bombardment from the air."

Reduction of one-third in the treaty number and tonnage of all battleships.

A cut in the treaty tonnage of aircraft carriers, cruisers and destroyers of one-fourth and of submarines one-third, with all nations limited to not more than 35,000 tons of submersibles each.

Southern Pine Is O. K.

for Making Paper Pulp

Savannah, Ga.—One of the greatest commercial opportunities ever opened in the South—discovery that white paper can be made from virtually all its pine forests—was announced here.

White paper chemical pulp, made for the first time from long leaf and loblolly pines, 80 per cent of the South's pine forests, was prepared for exhibition to a meeting of the Georgia Forestry association at Rome.

The discovery, heretofore a closely guarded secret, was made within the last month at Georgia's experimental paper mill here. The mill is supported by grants from the state legislature and operated by the research division of the Georgia department of forestry and geological development.

The new method of making paper was announced by the director of research, Dr. Charles H. Herty of New York, former president of the American Chemical society. The process is a development of his discovery two years ago that, contrary to a 50-year-old belief of both scientists and paper experts, white paper and newsprint can be made from slash pine.

Ex-Chief of Police Is

Held in Extortion Plot

Wilmington, N. C.—Authorities seeking a possible link with the kidnap murder of the Lindbergh infant investigated a plot to extort \$25,000 from Mrs. Jesse Kenan Wise, wealthy society woman of Wilmington, and Northampton, Mass.

Former Police Chief John J. Furlong, Sr., was arrested and placed under \$5,000 bond when implicated by six negroes who received a package supposedly containing the money. One of the extortion notes contained an allusion to the fate of the Lindbergh baby, police said.

Detroit Chiefs End

Cruise; Rum Seized!

Detroit.—Seventy-two quarts of whiskey were seized from between 35 and 40 members of the Detroit board of commerce as they returned from their annual lake cruise, customs officials reported.

Customs men boarded the boat at the dock and carefully inspected the baggage of each returning member. All liquor seized was thrown into the Detroit river. No one was held. The usual \$5 a quart penalty was not invoked.

SENATOR BORAH



Senator W. E. Borah of Idaho announced in the senate that he would not support President Hoover in the campaign because of the Republican platform, especially the prohibition plank.

TWO RICH SISTERS MURDERED IN IOWA

Shot to Death and Their Home Set Afire.

Knoxville, Iowa.—The charred bodies of Misses Letitia and Jennie Keefer, elderly spinsters, who were reputed to be wealthy, were discovered in their farm house near Knoxville.

Four empty rifle shells near the bodies indicated that the women, who were between sixty and seventy years old, had been shot to death. The killer or killers, in the opinion of investigators, set fire to the house after the shooting.

The flames partly consumed the bodies and burned a hole in the floor of the dining room. One of the bodies had dropped into the basement.

Emmet Hollingshead, a neighbor, who had been told to go to the spinsters' place to work, discovered the bodies when he arrived soon after daylight. Unable to get a reply to his call at the door, he broke into the house.

Sheriff Ira Ward, summoned by Hollingshead, questioned other neighbors and learned of the report that the Keefer sisters had kept a large sum of money hidden on the farm. He expressed the opinion that robbery was the motive for the double murder.

The fire did no damage to other parts of the house and this led to a theory that the bodies and the dining room floor had been soaked with kerosene or gasoline before being touched off.

The only suspect so far are two negroes, who were seen on the right of way of the Rock Island railroad, which passes through the sisters' farm.

Extortionists Confess

Flogging Their Victim

Pontiac, Mich.—Three men and a woman are under arrest accused of whipping Ray S. Myers, thirty-nine, of Keego Harbor, Mich., while he was strapped to a post in the woman's home.

The four, Daniel Marsh, his wife, Edna, and two brothers, Dell and Lloyd Monroe, have confessed, according to the police.

Myers reported the whipping, police said, after he was released on promises to pay \$4,000 to the Marshes. He said the woman and three men took turns with the whip. Physicians reported his back showed marks of a severe beating.

Autoist Drowns in Flood;

Others in His Car Saved

Trenton, Neb.—One man drowned and merchandise, crops and live stock suffered thousands of dollars damage in a flood caused by a cloudburst, which struck Trenton. Frank Wyss, thirty-five, drowned when he attempted to swim from his marooned car to a nearby farmhouse. The other occupants of the car, for whom Wyss attempted to seek aid, clambered on the machine's top and waited until the water subsided.

Canadian Vessel and Rum

Cargo Freed by U. S. Court

New London, Conn.—The British registered vessel Cadet of Weymouth, Nova Scotia, seized by the coast guard last January, left for St. Pierre with its cargo at 1,100 sacks of liquor. The vessel was freed by a federal court order contending that the government failed to show the Cadet was seized within the 12-mile limit.

DAIRY FACTS

PROFIT FROM USE OF BETTER BULLS

Also From Elimination of Unprofitable Cows.

(Colorado College Extension Service.)

Colorado dairymen are now receiving an added income of \$1,750,000 annually as the result of an average increased production of 30 pounds of butterfat per cow over five years ago.

This increase is the direct and indirect result of improved dairy practices, and dairy herd-improvement work by farmers and dairymen throughout the state. Only persistent effort in furthering better dairy practices through cow-testing associations and the selection of bulls for herd sires from cows of known high production could accomplish these results.

Not more dairy cattle, but the elimination of unprofitable cows, and a further increase in butterfat production per cow should be the immediate objectives of Colorado dairymen.

This increase in production can be traced in large measure to the cooperative efforts of members of herd-improvement associations in culling out low-producing cows, in making available registered bulls from tested dams and sires, and to better feeding methods used in a large number of herds.

The widespread use of better bulls has probably had more influence on this increased production per cow than any other factor. By careful selection of herd sires Colorado dairymen can do much toward increasing this production which should be much higher to assure a profit to the average dairyman in the state. It is the herd that produces more than the average that shows a profit.

For the dairyman who intends to continue milking cows, it will pay to invest in a good bull calf for his future herd sire now while prices are exceptionally low.

Alfalfa Hay and Silage

Keep Down Dairy Costs

Plenty of alfalfa hay and good silage gives ample feed-insurance to the dairy farmer. Even without grain he can keep down dairy costs with these two feeds. Numerous tests show this to be true. Many cows have kept butterfat production above the pound-a-day mark on this ration in carefully conducted experiments. Of course adding concentrates will give a slightly higher production and perhaps a bit less costly one. But a well-filled silo and the high-up mow of good alfalfa keep worry from the farmer even if his grain bins go empty—he can go on producing milk and keep his cows fit just the same. The reason so many farmers do not have these inexpensive but nutritious feeds to carry them over the lean spots before grass is ready in spring and also during the dry spells of summer, is because they have failed to plan far enough ahead. And this is the time of year that such planning must be done. First of all, plenty of corn and alfalfa must be grown to provide this feed insurance.—Nebraska Farmer.

Test for Abortion

The way to determine whether a herd of cows is infected with abortion (Bang disease) is to have them tested by a competent veterinarian. Where a cow retains the afterbirth after calving, she should be regarded as suspicious. The greatest spreader of this disease is the aborting cow, at the time of and for a short period following the abortion, states Dr. Robert Graham, University of Illinois veterinarian. Infected cows at the time of normal calving are also dangerous as spreaders of the infection. As with tuberculosis, healthy herds are more profitable than infected herds and owners who have reason to believe that such infection may exist in the herd should have them tested.—Prairie Farmer.

Vitamins in Milks

Comparisons of Jersey and Friesian milks with goat milk made in the United States showed that in nutritive properties, including vitamin content, no one milk showed marked superiority over the other two. Jersey milk was found to contain somewhat more vitamin A and goat milk contained more of vitamins B and C. The vitamin C content of all three milks, produced in both winter and summer, was found to be low. The vitamin D content of all three milks was approximately the same. Goat and Friesian milks were found to be somewhat similar in content of protein, fat and total nutrients, and Jersey milk was higher than either in these constituents.