

Table with 2 columns: Month, Price. Rows for 1, 3, 6, 12 months.

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A POLITICAL NECESSITY.

Events very often make issues in politics, and the political leader is always looking ahead to make issues or to anticipate and forestall them.

With the rapid organization of colossal trusts, and the combination of these into still more colossal organizations, additional interest was given to the tariff question, enough to again make it a leading if not the leading issue in the next campaign.

His admirers give him credit for statesmanship, and while he is as much entitled to credit for statesmanship as any one in his party he is a politician before a statesman, and a better politician than statesman.

That was not true, but a mere apology for not doing sooner what they did at last when public pressure became so strong that it could no longer be withstood.

As countries are generally captivated by victories that add to their prestige or power or territorial domain they feel that their expansion policy will be sustained and are apprehensive only on the trust question, which carries with it the tariff question, as it bears on the trusts, if it go no further.

SPYING OUT THE LAND.

It has been pretty generally known that many valuable minerals are found in Cuba, but Mr. Charles Willis Hayes, of the U. S. Geological Survey, who at the request of Governor-General Wood, has been exploring the island, says no one who has not made a personal observation has any conception of the extent, variety and abundance of the minerals found there.

He made, with two assistants of the department to which he belongs, an exploration of several provinces and the Isle of Pines. He found iron, manganese, copper, asphaltum and marble. The iron ore deposits he pronounces even more extensive than those in Pennsylvania, comparing favorably with the Lake Superior deposits.

But he seems to have come to the conclusion that this might bring him and his party into conflict with the trusts, which in the past have given such effective support to the party and to him, and therefore has reconsidered the reduction recommendation and hedged on reciprocity, a fake of the first magnitude, a political dodge pure and simple.

Mark Hanna, who stands close enough to Mr. McKinley to cast a shadow over him, has given him away on the tariff reduction, and foreshadowed the course of the administration will be when in speaking of the Babcock movement he said it was not "worthy of serious consideration."

ASIATIC COTTON.

A dispatch published several days ago stated that Japanese cotton spinners who had been buying nearly all their cotton in this country, were now buying most of it in India, mixing it with American cotton, which is of a better quality.

It seems that in ordinary times imported cotton—whether American or Indian—is sold to Russian spinners on credit terms, while trans-Caspian cotton must be paid for promptly.

There are some white "Red Men" in this country, but a traveller in Peru was surprised by suddenly running up with a tribe of white Indians. He says they are strikingly handsome, too, while most of the other kind of Indians are strikingly the reverse.

THE OUTLOOK FOR RICE.

The Prospect Promising and Encouraging for the Grower.

Since rice within the last few years has made such wonderful strides throughout the South generally, and has now become one of the staple crops of this country, the country at large has considerable interest in the outlook.

The profitable prices realized by the producer and the miller, for two seasons past, have led to the introduction of additional irrigating plants, as well as new mills, etc.

Realizing that such an increased production, necessitated an immediate step has been taken on these lines, for it is generally believed that if the public generally, by the consumption of rice as a part of their diet, could be brought to use it, the success of this country depends.

"The river crop," as it is known in Louisiana, or viz: those lands confined to a narrow strip along the Mississippi river and Bayou, is generally well watered, and the season thus far has been favorable, the river having been high enough to afford ample irrigation, and the crops are now well advanced.

The sprouted rice has a great setback; the cold nights and north winds, in many sections having almost killed the crop, and instead of that uniform and healthy growth which at this season of the year resembles a beautiful lawn, much of the rice is parched and yellow.

The crop in South Carolina, on the whole, favorable; considerable idle lands have this season been taken in, and while no great increased acreage is assured, yet with favorable seasons, the present "stand" would warrant expectations of "a better than an average crop."

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TRUCK FAIR FAILED.

It Will Not be Held the Last of This Month for Various Reasons.

GROWERS WERE TOO BUSY.

To Arrange Creditable Exhibition So Early Secretary Bruner Says It Does Not Preclude Possibility of Event Next Year—Letter Mailed.

The proposed truck and fruit fair for Charlotte, May 22nd and 23rd, and Raleigh on the following couple of days, has been abandoned at the last moment by Secretary T. K. Bruner, of the Agricultural Department, who first announced the movement, as printed in these columns a few days ago.

"The proposed Truck and Fruit Fair to be held at Charlotte and Raleigh next week, has been abandoned, this action being imperative by reason of the failure of the growers to respond with the necessary funds for the entertainment of the visitors.

"Thanking you for the interest you have personally manifested in this matter, I am, Sir, very truly, Yours very truly, T. K. BRUNER, Secretary."

THE NEGRO WHO SHOT MR. CHAS. RICHTER.

Arrested Yesterday Afternoon. Chief of Police Furlong yesterday afternoon received a telegram from Sheriff Thos. S. Burch, of Florence, S. C., stating that he had arrested John Everett, the obstreperous negro who shot and painfully wounded Mr. Chas. Richter in his store in "Brooklyn" several weeks ago, and for the capture of whom Mr. Richter offered \$25 reward.

Chief Furlong telegraphed Sheriff Burch last night if he was sure of his man and received the gratifying intelligence that the negro had confessed. An officer will be sent for Everett to-day.

THE WOMAN IN THE CASE.

Coroner's Inquiry into the Mysterious Murder in Washington, D. C. by Telegram to the Morning Star. WASHINGTON, May 18.—The coroner's inquiry into the mysterious murder of the young census clerk, James Seymour Ayres, Jr., at the Kenmore Hotel last Wednesday morning, was begun to-day. The first forty minutes were given to a careful inspection by the jury of the scene of the crime.

WRIGHTSVILLE FIRE.

Ocean View Hotel, Bath Houses, One Cottage and a Vacant Store Destroyed.

WILL BE REBUILT AT ONCE.

Losses Will Aggregate Between \$10,000 and \$15,000 With About Three-fourths Insurance—Other Hotels Were Saved—A Special Train.

Wrightsville Beach was visited by a destructive fire at 8 o'clock last night which caused a loss of upwards of \$15,000, about three-fourths covered by insurance.

The fire originated from an unknown source in the Ocean View Hotel, belonging to the Ocean View Company, S. A. Schloss, president, and principal stockholder, and this building with Mr. Schloss' "VanAmringe" cottage, two bath houses and the "Sanders" store on the west side of the railroad are a complete loss, together with their contents.

George Ellerbe, a colored man, went upon the roof of the "Russell" cottage, owned jointly by Messrs. E. R. Stone, W. A. Rourke and Capt. W. A. Sanders, and saved it after heroic efforts, falling exhausted when the fire had been controlled. This morning he was in a serious condition from over-exertion.

The loss in the Ocean View building is about \$7,000, with insurance as follows: Walker Taylor, \$3,000; Willard & Giles, \$1,000, and J. H. Bostwick & Son, \$1,000. The "Sanders" store, valued at about \$500 was insured with Willard and Giles for \$200. The bath houses, valued at about \$200 were insured with J. VanB. Metts for \$250. The cottage owned by Mr. Schloss is valued at \$1,200 with about three-fourths insurance. The loss on Mrs. Mayo's furniture etc., is about \$1,000 with small insurance.

All the property is, of course, situated at the extreme southern end of the beach and the club houses, other cottages, pavilions, new Seashore Hotel, and other resorts of the kind, are intact.

CONDITIONS IN JACKSONVILLE.

Sickness in the Burnt District Increasing. Laborers at Saw Mills Demanding Higher Wages. By Telegram to the Morning Star. JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 18.—The executive committee of the Jacksonville Relief Association held its usual meeting this morning and discussed many matters of importance which related to the relief of the fire victims.