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FARMERS WORK FOR SWAMP DRAINAGE.

Regard it More Important than Irrigation—Would Add Wealth to East.

In view of the work that is proposed in Cabarrus, the following article from the Washington Herald is of particular interest just now:

The two farmers' unions—the Farmers Educational and Co-operative Union and the American Society of Equity—have united in a campaign to bring about the drainage and reclamation of the swamp lands of the country through Federal aid, a work that will add nearly 80,000,000 acres to the farm section of the country which would be worth from \$3,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000 if reclaimed.

The recent action of the congress of these two organizations in adopting a resolution asking Congress to appropriate \$15,000 for the drainage of swamp lands in Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi and Arkansas is the first step in the campaign. The work, the farmers say, is more important than the Federal government's reclamation project in the semi-arid West.

This movement, long a matter of desultory discussion, has been given added impetus within recent months by the public utterances of B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Company, who estimates that there are 58,000,000 acres of rich land in the Mississippi Valley that can be reclaimed from the swamps at a small cost.

"To drain the valley, to build new railroads, to develop the country, and to enforce our regulative laws," he says, "are more important works than the enactment of new and experimental laws."

"For almost a century our government has looked with indifference at the rich, unused lands of the Southern States, while the British government furnishes its money and credit to aid Egypt to reclaim waste lands in the valley of the Nile, 5,000 miles away."

"The low rich lands of the South have become a matter of importance to the whole country. First, the people need the food, cotton and other products which these low lands will produce in abundance."

"Second, these lands are needed for settlement by the American citizens who are seeking homes in other countries. Sixty thousand or more people moved from the United States into Canada last year. They carried with them \$1,000 each—from \$60,000,000 to \$100,000,000. Our people are leaving thickly settled districts where the price of farm lands is high. This means that our own people are building up an empire belonging to a foreign country at the expense of our own nation."

"These rich Southern lands may be drained at a cost of \$5 an acre, located near the congested centers, and will produce the kind of food that supplies the kitchen of the consuming masses."

"The government is interested in reclamation in the Northwest, but the administration at Washington has become interested in the irrigation projects, because the people of the Northwest became interested in the development of this country and urged their claims."

"There are 76,000,000 acres of swamp land in the United States; 58,000,000 acres of which are in the Southern States—an area greater than the combined area of Kentucky and Tennessee. By reclaiming them we can add at one stroke two big, rich and prosperous States to the Union. This would enable us to make farms quicker than they ever were made in the history of the world."

Some drainage enthusiasts have estimated the cost at much less than \$5 per acre, but at Mr. Yoakum's estimate, the total cost of reclaiming the 76,000,000 acres would be \$380,000,000. This is a little more than three times as much as the government estimates it will cost to reclaim by irrigation, about 3,000,000 acres in the West and Northwest. The estimates for the reclamation work gives the average price of getting water on the semi-arid acres, at about \$30 per acre—or six times what it would cost to drain the swamp lands."

Reclaimed swamp lands are richer than any other kind. They have been fertilized by decaying vegetable matter and deposited silt for ages. They raise abundant. They are worth at least \$50 an acre on the average. Draining the 76,000,000 acres would thus add 3,800,000,000 worth of farm lands to the country's total.

Divided into farms of 100 acres each, the swamp lands would make 760,000 farms. It is estimated that a good farm of this size provides permanent homes for at least seven people, and supports about ten persons. The swamp lands would provide homes for 5,300,000 persons and would support 7,500,000—more than there are in the kingdom of Belgium, one-sixth as many as there are in all of South America; more than twice as many as there are in Switzerland.

Estimating the average value of the

yield per acre, every year at only \$20, these reclaimed lands would raise annually crops worth one and a half billion of dollars—nearly twice the value of the total wheat crop of the entire country.

The government is doing some drainage work in its reclamation projects, but it is incidental to the irrigation work. Under the Congressional law creating the reclamation bureau and defining its scope, it has no right to go outside of irrigation reclamation, although the men who have had charge of the work hope the scope will be extended.

Out in Washington and California—in the border between the two states—in the Klamath region—some drainage work has been necessary, in order to perfect the irrigation project. Several thousand acres in the lower Klamath Lake district have been drained by the creation of reservoirs and the construction of irrigation canals. These former swamp lands are being eagerly sought after.

"FLIGHT TO CHICAGO."

New York to Windy City Without a Stop by Airship.

New York Dispatch, 30th. An aeroplane flight from this city to Chicago, with no more stops than trains to change engines, is considered a possibility today in the light of Glenn Curtiss's sensational feat of Sunday.

Curtiss broke all speed records for continuous flying in his performance, averaging 54 4-5 miles an hour for the trip. At one time he attained an elevation which the estimated at 5,000 feet, and on the last lap along the lower Hudson, he flew less than 200 feet above the surface of the river.

Immediately following Curtiss's sensational flight in the smallest machine ever used for such a purpose comes the announcement that the largest aeroplane in the world has been built in the aerodrome of the Aeronautical Society at Mineola, L. I.

Monday the finishing touches were put on the framework and there remains but the installation of the motor, which is on its way from Europe.

Joe Seymour, the veteran racing car driver, and Walter Diefenbach, an expert machinist, have built the machine from their own designs, following closely the best points to be found in the Farnum, Wright and Curtiss types, and they are confident that the flyer will eclipse all records for long distance flights.

When the motor, which is an Isotta aviation engine of 70 horsepower, is installed the aviators expect to be able to lift the weight of seven men.

"I'm going to beat Curtiss," said Seymour today. "We are going after that Albany to New York flight. We have christened our new machine the Lusitania. I believe I'll be able to fly her from here to Chicago without stopping."

Seymour and Diefenbach say that the larger the machine the steadier it will fly, and their opinion has been borne out in all recent tests. They expect to have the Lusitania ready for trial flights this week.

Virginia Negro Goes in Well to Hide From Halley's Comet.

Not feeling altogether certain as to what antics Halley's comet would indulge in on the occasion of its sojourn in the earth's preserves, Robert Stewart, chief cook of the Eagles' Home, in Roanoke, Va., camped in a well several nights at his home in that city last week. The Times says:

By a rope ladder, constructed by him with greatest care and precision he climbed into his hole in the ground. Previously he had discovered the existence of a large and comfortable core like hollow in one side of the well and it was there he ensconced himself while the comet gaily sailed through the skies.

It is presumed that in day time Stewart felt able to take care of himself, having the sun's illumination to guide his footsteps and tell him when to dodge. After dark however, he had no such assuring surroundings and therefore determined to get down into the bowels of the earth where he could have several feet of good solid earth to receive the contact of the visitor before it could reach him. Stewart based his theory on the well-known effect of a cannon ball. If it strikes a man in the open air, it is good bye man; but if it pounds twenty-five feet of rock and dirt before getting near him the chances are in the man's favor. Acting in accordance with this theory Stewart fortified himself in the cave in his well, spending there two or three nights, making himself as comfortable as possible in the chilly atmosphere, and finding consolation in the thought that while his circumstances were not as delightful as those of a nice warm bed and cheery room, he was well concealed from Halley's protegee and prepared to continue his existence in this weary world.

See The Times for Job Printing.

ALL HOPE IN ROOSEVELT.

He Alone, It is Believed, Can Save the Administration.

Washington Dispatch, 31st.

Roosevelt is the one man in the country in whose power it lies to save the Taft administration from the ignominious and humiliating failure that now stares it in the face and blanches the color in the cheeks of its most hardy adherents.

This is the real opinion of Republicans, not alone of the insurgent type, but of the Regular brand as well. Some of the bitterest enemies Roosevelt has in Washington admit that such is the case, and that the injection of his personality into the fall campaign, with the full strength of his personal popularity, which has been tremendously augmented since he left the White House, is the sole and only thing that can pull the Administration out of the muck, prevent a Democratic House at the next session and re-establish the shaken confidence of the people in Taft and his party.

Whether even Roosevelt can accomplish this Herculean task is doubtful. So far have things gone awry, so damning have been the disclosures and so far-reaching the distrust created by the developments of the last few months that many people think "burnt brandy" won't save the situation now.

That the hope of the President to go before the country at the close of this session with "a record of accomplishment" will not materialize is growing more and more certain. The Taft legislative program is upset. It was not well conceived and the auspices under which it was presented to Congress engendered suspicions that have increased as time went along. Today, with the hot weather at hand and everybody anxious to adjourn, not a single one of the Taft bills has become a law.

Even should every bill urged by Taft go through, which is now practically impossible, it would not materially change the outlook for the fall campaign. Everybody recognizes that the tariff as it relates to the high cost of living, will be one of the overwhelming issues in this fight, and the Republicans are on the defensive. Hence the loud demand for Roosevelt upon the part of some of the men who are anything but Roosevelt men at heart.

Escape Was Miraculous.

Engineer J. C. Small and Fireman T. C. Johnson, who were injured in the wreck of northbound passenger train, No. 36 at Sycamore, Va., Monday afternoon, were Tuesday taken to their homes in Spencer, where they are nursing their bruises. Both men were badly used up in the wreck and their escape from instant death is miraculous. The locomotive while running at high speed turned turtle, the tender was thrown entirely over the engine, one car landed on top of the locomotive, a baggage car stood alongside the cab and other cars were torn to pieces and piled in a great mass about the boiler. Engineer Small was found fastened between parts of the cab and Fireman Johnson was covered up in coal and debris.

That none of the crew nor passengers was killed is regarded by railroad men of wide experience as marvelous. The cause of the wreck has not yet been determined.

Near Beer Joint in Monroe Pulls Up Stakes.

Monroe Journal.

Mr. G. S. Fort, proprietor of the near beer saloon that he has been running in Monroe for several weeks, Monday pulled up stakes and left. His license expired Tuesday and it has been pretty well understood for some time that he would not attempt a renewal. The whole gist of the matter is that a near beer saloon can't sell unlawful drinks here and there is no money in the straight goods. Hence Mr. Fort pulls up his old bar "fixins" and carries them back to Wadesboro. And Monroe is ready for the next man who wants to tackle the job.

Charlotte's Population Near 35,000.

Charlotte News. The population of Charlotte, by the census just completed will be officially recorded and announced as between 34,000 and 35,000.

The News is not at liberty to say how it knows this, but that is not the point. It knows—that is all sufficient. Many have been the guesses and surmises as to the census, and it will interest not only Charlotte and Mecklenburg but all the state.

The last official census gives Charlotte a total of 18,091. The last census—just compiled—giving 35,000 put the Queen City ahead of any city in the State.

Mrs. Grover Cleveland, with her children, the Misses Esther, Frances Grover and Marion, and son, Richard Folsom, returned from a sojourn of eight months at Lausanne, on Lake Geneva, on the George Washington, which reached New York Sunday. They went away on September 25.

COTTON TAKES GREAT SLUMP.

Sensational Break in the New York Market Tuesday.

New York Dispatch, 31st.

There was a sensational break in the New York cotton market today, with trading more active and excited than at any time since the series of drastic declines which carried prices down about 3 cents a pound last January. It was the last day of trading in May contracts, business in that delivery ending at mid-day.

During the morning the bull leaders made some showing of supporting the market by bidding for large blocks of May delivery, but as soon as May contracts were out of the way there was a rush for selling orders from all directions, under which July deliveries melted away to 14.18, or 74 points under the closing figures of last week and 161 points under the high level of the season, which was made last December.

The New York market for spot cotton suffered even more severely than did futures. The price of middling cotton was marked down 80 points, or about \$4 per bale, and, presuming that the control of the local stock, amounting to 240,000 bales, still rests with the bull leaders, who are credited with having taken up another 39,000 bales today, the loss on the spot cotton alone, as measured by tonight's price, would be in the neighborhood of \$960,000, while it is estimated that at least 300,000 bales of long contracts were liquidated during the day.

With today ends one of the most sensational months in the history of the New York cotton market so far as deliveries of actual cotton are concerned.

Mr. Mix at the Mardi Gras at the Theatorium.

Mr. and Mrs. Mix arrive in New Orleans—locate at a fashionable hotel. Mix is impressed with the fair Elaine, just arriving. Cafe de tour is suggested. Her appetite and familiarity with the refreshment list causes Mix to check up his cash account. He finally resorts to the office clerk, in an effort to raise more money on his check. He does so, returns to find the fair Elaine has departed on the arm of a handsome man. Mix repairs to the hotel and met by his wife. She upbraids him, locks his clothes up and turns the key in the door. He escapes, repairs to the costumers and encounters a strenuous evening, full of ludicrous situations. Intended for laughing purposes only.

Will Ross Escapes from Charlotte Hospital.

Will Ross, the negro who was shot through the body last Thursday by two constables, and who was thought to be mortally wounded, escaped from the hospital in Charlotte, where he was being treated, Tuesday morning and has not been captured. It is believed to have had outside aid, as he was so weak he could not travel alone.

He was shot when an attempt was made to arrest him for attempt to assault Miss Troy Bailes, a white girl, at Fort Mill.

To Teach at Converse Next Year.

Miss Margaret Wodhouse returned yesterday from Converse College at Spartanburg, from which she has just graduated with honors. Miss Woodhouse made especially high marks in mathematics, and so signal are her acquirements in that branch that she has been employed as assistant teacher of mathematics, her work to begin at the opening of the next session.

The 18-year-old crippled son of Anderson Deaton, of Montgomery county, was drowned Monday in the pond of the Troy Electric Power Company on Little River, six miles south of Troy, while attempting to swim to a small row boat on the opposite side of the river.

STRENGTH



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CONCORD NATIONAL BANK
Capital \$100,000 Surplus \$30,000

RAT POISON IN COFFEE POT.

Detective Says Negress Admitted Attempt to Kill Family.

That Nannie Clarkson, the negro servant arrested Saturday morning after the family of Mrs. Florence D. Barrow, of Washington, D. C., had become seriously ill from rat poison mixed in coffee, has confessed that she attempted to take three lives is the statement made by Detective Sergeant Fred Cornwell.

He says the woman admitted her guilt when he examined her at the House of Detention. Until then she had been emphatic in her denials that she knew anything of the presence of the poison in the coffee.

According to the police, Nannie says she "doctored" the beverage Friday night after a trip to the Barrow home, where she formerly worked until discharged when several articles were found missing. She called to demand some wages which had been retained by Mrs. Barrow, and when Miss Florence Barrow went upstairs after the woman had demanded the money and had made a hostile demonstration the negress found the rat poison and dumped it into the coffee. Detective Cornwell declares that she said she was sorry afterward but was afraid to warn the family.

The next morning Miss Florence Barrow was taken suddenly ill. Mrs.

Barrow's daughter, Miss Florence, soon showed similar symptoms. Dr. Sampel Adams, of Dupont Circle, diagnosed the case as poison, and before the three patients were out of danger the services of specialists were required.

Detective Cornwell says Nannie showed little emotion and talked in a matter of fact tone about the case. She said, according to the detective, that the Barrows had accused her of taking articles from the house and that she "just nacherally got mad."

The Chinese Boycott.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce in San Francisco, because of race discrimination, urges its correspondents in the Flowery Kingdom to boycott American goods. Once before such a boycott was declared but given up—briefly, because it proved to be not good business.

A Chinese boycott is certainly regrettable, but a greater national calamity could be imagined. Each inhabitant of China buys from us less than 4 1-2 cents worth of goods annually. Each inhabitant of Germany buys \$3.52 worth; each inhabitant of Great Britain \$12.23 worth.

So splendid are the trade returns we fight by hostile tariff, so petty those we pursue by costly warlike experiments in the Philippines "outside the Constitution!"

BOYS' PANTS!

We have just received a Big Shipment of

Boys Knee Pants

Knickerbocker and Bloomer, in a variety of grays, browns, serges, etc. Prices

50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

Sizes 4-17.

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WITH A GOODLY sum to your credit is the best friend in time of need, sickness or opportunity—no other friend will so quickly respond with the required cash.

The Cabarrus Savings with Capital, Surplus and Profits amounting to

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