

BOLL WEEVIL WAR

Begins With Big Convention at Shreveport.

GROWERS MEET IN FORCE

Object of Gathering to Devise Stringent Measures to Cut Short Ravages of Dangerous Pest.

After being almost hopelessly deadlocked in a parliamentary tangle over the question of permanent organization, the first session of the national cotton convention at Shreveport, La., finally adjourned to a night session without selecting permanent officers.

More than four hundred delegates, representing every cotton growing state in the south, assembled at the Grand opera house at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon for a four days' meeting, to discuss the boll weevil situation and devise, if possible, ways and means for the eradication or control of the pest.

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SUCCEEDS MARK HANNA.

August Belmont is Elected as President of National Civic Federation at Annual Meeting.

At New York, Thursday night, August Belmont was elected president of the National Civic Federation to succeed the late Senator Marcus A. Hanna. The election took place at the dinner of the national civic federation, which was held at the Park Avenue Hotel.

Samuel Gompers presided, and the speakers were: Archbishop Ireland, August Belmont and John Mitchell. A paper by Andrew Carnegie, who was unable to be present, was read. In it Mr. Carnegie advised employers not to hire new men during a strike, but to wait for the old ones to come back.

Mr. Easley, in his report, said the movements for the organization of the civic federation are making good progress in England, France, Germany and Canada. He believed their success might logically lead to the creation of an international body to improve the condition of wage-earners and their relations with employers and to forward economic education throughout the world.

"Never before," the report says, "have there been so many evidences of the growth of a spirit of broad conservatism on the part of large employers and on the part of organized labor. Its significant and encouraging outlook is welcomed everywhere. Many differ on the details of the work, however."

Alluding to the section of apprentices and efforts to regulate competition, Mr. Easley said: "The eternal presence of these questions so vital to all society and to the progress of civilization, invites the most searching and devoted study. If they are insoluble and irreducible there may be found adjustments that would prove effective so far as they accord with principles. It is for the attainment of these purposes that the department of the industrial economies has been organized."

The newly organized welfare department which deals with the physical comfort, recreation and education of the employees has received enthusiastic support from many employers, according to the report of Chairman H. H. Vreeland, who followed Mr. Easley. Mr. Vreeland said the work was practical as well as altruistic.

A growing appreciation of the trade agreement on the part of both organized employers and wage earners as a practical method of securing and maintaining industrial peace, was reported by Francis L. Robbins, chairman of the department of trade agreements already existing in great national industries, and an extension of their local application. As an evidence of what can be done by this department, Mr. Robbins pointed to the renewal by the organized bituminous mine workers in the four states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, of their agreement with the operators' association to which he referred to as the most important industrial event of the year.

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ALIENS IN MILLS

Germans and Poles Supplant Natives in South Carolina.

EXPERIMENT SUCCESSFUL

Cotton Manufacturers Declare They Cannot Secure Sufficient Home Labor and are Forced to Employ Outsiders.

The introduction of foreign labor into the cotton mills of South Carolina, says a special from Columbia, marks a new era in the cotton manufacturing industry. This departure has been made necessary by the scarcity of mill labor, due to the high price of cotton drawing the present help back to the farms.

An organized movement on the part of the cotton mill interests was begun some time ago and as a result foreign help is being brought to the leading mill centers in the state.

Lewis W. Parker, president of the Olympia, Richland and Granby mills, and of the mills in Greenville, states that he is entirely satisfied with the experiment in Greenville and is of the opinion that eventually foreign labor will be brought to the mills generally throughout the state.

The mill men are delighted with the steadiness and reliability of the new help and the foreigners, many of whom are well educated, seem to be pleased with their new work and surroundings.

It is said that one-third of the spindles are lying idle in the state because of the insufficiency of the supply of labor and it is this condition that has forced the mills to look elsewhere for help.

FOR THE NEGRO PREACHERS.

Sum of \$2,000,000 to Be Raised for Their Education.

Fifteen clergymen and elders interested in the work of education of the southern negro preachers have given a dinner in New York to Rev. G. S. Miller, superintendent of the John C. Martin fund. This fund, which approximates \$2,000,000, is to be used for educating negro clergymen of all denominations. It is the ultimate intention to bring the work to a focus in a chautauque for southern negroes.

The Rev. Mr. Miller has been organizing Bible institutes for a year. He has completed the work in Arkansas and made a beginning in Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee. "We have 10,000 students now," he said, "and hope to have 30,000 before we are through. The clergymen are eager to learn and they pass the knowledge straight on to their congregations. The people of the south are with us; they approve of this method of uplifting the negro."

"We have had some difficulty with inter-denominational prejudice, but we are getting around to it. It is the greatest work for the negro undertaken since emancipation."

NO VISIT NEXT SPRING.

President Says Some Later Time He Will Make Southern Tour.

A Washington dispatch says: Representative Lester, of Georgia, and R. M. Lerner, representing the Savannah board of trade, extended to the president Thursday, an invitation to visit Savannah on his southern trip next spring. The president informed them that he did not expect to visit Georgia next spring, and that he will make at that time no general tour of the south. He said he expected to go directly to San Antonio, Texas, by way of Louisville. At some time later in his administration, he added, he hoped to visit Georgia and other parts of the south.

Home for Soldiers in Florida.

Senator Tallaferra introduced a bill in the senate Thursday to appropriate \$100,000 to acquire a site and construct a branch home for disabled soldiers, sailors and marines in the state of Florida.

CRUISER USED FOR SMUGGLING.

Large Amount of Dutiable Goods Seized on Board the San Francisco. Customs officers at Old Point Comfort are reported to have seized on board the United States cruiser San Francisco a rich store of smuggled goods, including silks, cigars, China and ostrich feathers.

The value of the goods seized can not be ascertained, the officials declining to discuss the matter further than to admit that the confiscation was made. The seizure was effected just before the San Francisco sailed for Norfolk.

IS RESOLVED ON CRUSADE.

President Will Work to Aid the Interstate Commerce Commission.

A Washington special says: President Roosevelt considered Wednesday with several friends, his recommendation that increased powers be conferred by legislation upon the interstate commerce commission. Those whom he talked were not only members of congress, but even in other walks of life.

VERDICT OF CORONER'S JURY.

Hughes Family Came to Death at Hands of Persons Unknown.

The jury of inquest in the Hughes case assembled at Trenton, S. C., Monday and, after two or three hours of testimony and consideration, returned a verdict that the Hughes family came to death at the hands of persons or persons unknown.

AWFUL VOWS TAKEN.

Mormons Required to Obligate Themselves to Most Revolting Creed. Ceremony Described.

Five witnesses were examined Tuesday by the senate committee on privileges and elections at Washington in the investigation of protests against Senator Reed Smoot retaining his seat in the senate. The first witness J. H. Wallace, of Salt Lake City, described the obligations taken by persons who pass through the endowment house and declared that everyone agrees to submit to mutilation of the person if he or she reveals what takes place during the ceremony. Two members of the faculty of the Brigham Young university testified that they have sustained polygamous relations since the manifesto of 1890, and a teacher in the public schools asserted that the church had religion taught in such schools.

Questioned as to his belief, Mr. Wallace said he never believed fully in the celestial marriages to the dead and four times had stood as proxy for four marriages of living women to dead men. He married his present wife in the temple.

Explaining the marriages in the temple, Wallace said it is necessary to take the endowment before marriage and in this way he had passed through the endowment house twenty times at least.

Wallace was asked to give the oaths taken by those who participated in the ceremony, and this he did, together with a description of the secret signs executed by each person. Nearly all of the obligations were that those who took part would not reveal anything they saw or heard on peril of mutilation of the person and every one who passed the temple, said the witness, was compelled to agree to the conditions laid down by the priests.

The penalties agreed to for violation of these oaths were given by Wallace as follows: That the throat be cut from ear to ear and the tongue be torn out.

That the breast be cut asunder and the heart and vitals be torn from the body.

That the body be cut asunder at the middle and the bowels cut out.

That if demanded we will give all we possess to the support of the church.

The next obligation was one of chastity, in which the obligator agreed not to cohabit with any person not given him or her by the priests.

"Another obligation was one that we would never cease to implore high heaven to avenge the blood of the prophets upon the nations of the earth or the inhabitants of the earth, I don't just remember which," said the witness.

"This was followed by a quotation from the Scripture, I think, Revelations 6:9, 'The souls of those slain cried aloud on the altars for vengeance.'"

GREAT BLAZE IN MINNEAPOLIS.

Mammoth Stores Gutted, Entailing Loss of \$6,000,000 and Three Lives.

Three men killed—two firemen and one citizen—the latter by a live wire, and from six to eight million dollars worth of property destroyed is the result of a conflagration, the worst in the history of Minneapolis, which began at 10 o'clock Tuesday night. The flames were confined to three buildings, two of which are gutted, and the third, the Powers Department Store, the largest in the city, destroyed by water and fire to the extent of one or two million dollars.

Because of the dense smoke it was impossible to get access to the burning buildings, the heat being so intense, despite the zero weather prevailing.

The fire started in the photograph supply house of O. H. Peck & Co., on Fifth street and First avenue, south, and was soon beyond control, being communicated to adjoining buildings in a remarkably short time. The firemen were forced to abandon the doomed structures and turn their attention to saving adjacent property.

LOW RATE FOR MUNGER BALE.

Georgia Commission Passes on Cotton Compressed by New System.

The Georgia railroad commission Thursday after hearing further the petition of J. S. Cowart, of Arlington, for a rate on Munger bales, granted the request and passed an order requiring the railroads to transport bales compressed by the new system at 6 cents per hundred or 30 cents a bale less than is charged for uncompressed bales.

This rate applies only from Arlington to Savannah and Brunswick.

MOTION TO QUASH DENIED.

Trial of White Woman and Negro at Jacksonville, Fla., Set for Jan. 9.

Judge Call, in the circuit court at Jacksonville, Fla., Thursday morning denied the motion to quash the indictment against Nellie Parker, white, and Jake Bradford, a negro, for the killing of John Plummer, husband of the accused woman. The defendants were arraigned and pleaded not guilty. The trial was set for the 9th of January.

Taft's Report Received.

His Negotiations With Panama Fully Approved By President.

The report of Secretary Taft, special envoy of the United States to Panama, of his negotiations with that government, was received in Washington Saturday. After careful consideration the president gave his entire approval of the same and has advised Secretary Taft by cable to this effect.

EXTERMINATE PEST

Is Injunction Issued to Planters of the South

BY COTTON CONVENTION

Growers Must Get Together to Combat Spread of Dreaded Weevil. Call for Great Gathering.

After passing resolutions commending the aid of the government experts in their efforts to exterminate the boll weevil, and urging the farmers of the infected districts in Texas and Louisiana to burn all cotton stalks in the early fall, the national convention adjourned at Shreveport, La., late Wednesday afternoon.

The resolutions feature what are generally recognized to be the most successful methods of combatting the pest.

Prior to the adoption of the resolutions, a spirited fight was precipitated on the floor of the convention by the proffering of a majority and minority report. The bone of contention was a plank inserted by a Georgia delegate to the effect that the only way to destroy and prevent the spread of the boll weevil is to prevent the planting of any cotton within the infected sections of Texas, or any other state or territory, wherein infected lands exist, for the period of one year.

The minority report agreed to all recommendations of the majority, except the plank outlined above, which was finally voted down.

The resolutions of the convention in part, follows: "That we extend our sincere thanks to the department of agriculture of the United States for the timely assistance it has afforded in an effort to overcome the cotton boll weevil."

"That we thank the department of entomology, headed by Dr. W. D. Hunter which has accomplished excellent results in educating the people regarding the nature and habits of the boll weevil conceived plans and work of experimentation along the line."

"That we desire these departments to continue their work in the infected districts, as well as to closely watch other sections which might be come endangered by the boll weevil; and that we invoke a continuance of the national aid whenever and wherever it may be needed."

"That we heartily approve the methods already employed as being both scientific and practical, and that we emphasize the idea of thorough preparation of the cotton lands, a reduction of acreage, the rotation of crops and the intensive cultivation, with most vigorous efforts to secure early maturing cotton for all the boll weevil districts."

"That the cotton planters throughout the infected districts are hereby urged to co-operate with the general government in the plans for overcoming this devastating pest."

It was also resolved: "That it is the sense of this convention that the legislatures of the cotton states be memorialized to enact stringent laws for the protection of all insectivorous birds, their eggs and young."

"Whereas, The pernicious idea that the boll weevil is not an unmixable evil, in that its ravages must of necessity result in diminishing the quantity of cotton harvested, raise the price of the staple, and that, therefore, its propagation should be encouraged by the farmers, is daily gaining ground in many sections, particularly during seasons of depression in prices, either through ignorance or the criminal selfishness which would strike down an industry, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention endorses and recommends for adoption by the legislatures of the cotton states, a law relative to the importation of the boll weevil in any of its stages of growth."

A KINDNESS THAT PAID.

Hotel Clerk Gets \$10,000 for Once Assisting an Aged Stranger.

Houston Bond, a clerk in a leading hotel of Nashville, Tenn., received a certified check Tuesday morning from Evansville, Ind., for \$10,000. Four years ago an old gentleman fell on the sidewalk in front of the hotel and severely injured himself. Mr. Bond went to his assistance, lifted him from the ground and cared for him until he had recovered. The check was the sequel. Mr. Bond would not disclose the name of the man who sent the check.

LUNATIC RUNS AMUCK.

Young Man in Birmingham Uses Pistol With Doubly Fatal Effect.

Monroe Wells, aged 22, of North Birmingham, Ala., Tuesday morning secured a pistol and fired at his mother, the bullet narrowly missing her. Miss Addie Beale, an aunt, rushed to the rescue, when the young man shot her in the neck, inflicting a fatal wound. He then turned the weapon upon himself and blew out his own brains.

PRESIDENT AT PRAYER MEETING

Makes Short Address to Congregation and Holds Reception.

President Roosevelt attended the prayer meeting at the Grace Reformed church, in Washington, of which he is a member, Thursday night, and made a short address to the large congregation and held an informal reception, shaking hands with all the members of the church and Sunday school present.

MOVE TO HOLD COTTON.

Delegates to Boll Weevil Convention in Shreveport Will Also Fight Wall Street Bears.

The Georgia, South Carolina and Texas delegates in attendance upon the Boll Weevil Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana, conferred together Monday morning with a view to organization in furtherance of a plan to hold cotton until prices return to the normal, that is 10 cents. It was arranged to bring the subject and plan to the entire body of the delegates and secure adoption.

Delegates report that 75 per cent of the farmers who have cotton on hand are in condition to hold indefinitely for 10 cents, and will do so. The belief is general that the glimmer's report will show a crop not exceeding eleven and a half million bales. The estimate by the government statistician is regarded as nothing more than a guess, and is regarded as absolutely groundless.

It is understood that southern bankers generally will cheerfully aid the farmers to hold by advancing, if desired, \$30 per bale.

The consensus of opinion is that farmers are more ready than heretofore to stand together and to make sacrifices if necessary to defeat the schemes of the bears who are seeking to despoil them. Most experienced farmers declare that ordinarily the cost of production of a pound of cotton is 7 cents, with higher prices for farming implements, etc., actual cost is 8 cents, and the producer is clearly entitled to 2 cents a pound for his labor, etc. Farmers have never shown themselves more in earnest or more determined to stand to their interest than now. They can thwart them. All they have to do is to stand firm and united.

South Carolina farmers have an inspector at work in each county now collecting crop information that will be reliable and of great value to producers. In Texas the merchants who make advances will require diversification of crops and smaller cotton acreage next year.

The ruling spirit is that the boll weevil shall be killed and the bears put to flight.

The feeling, which has ripened into a conviction, is that if there is a 12,000,000-bale crop, every pound is worth 10 cents. It is further proposed that arrangements be made next year that cotton obligations be payable in January instead of October and November. These are matters that will be perfected in detail.

BOMBARDMENT CONTINUES.

Jap Guns From 203-Meter Hill Wrecking Buildings in Port Arthur.

Dispatches received in Tokio Monday from the Japanese army besieging Port Arthur report that the interior of the fortress was bombarded with heavy guns Sunday. The battle ship Poltava, the transport Amur and the wireless telegraph station at the foot of Golden hill, were damaged and the arsenal set on fire.

The commander of the Japanese land battery, reporting Monday, says: "Four Russian battle ships, two cruisers, one gunboat and one torpedo destroyer, lying in Port Arthur, are completely disabled. There is no further necessity for bombarding the Russian naval force."

"Are now engaged in shelling the town of Port Arthur, which is being heavily damaged."

WESTERN UNION LOSES.

Railroads Have Right to Remove Poles Says Hight Court Decision.

The supreme court of the United States Monday, decided the case of the Western Union Telegraph Company vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, involving the right of the railroad company to remove the telegraph poles from its right of way in favor of the railroad company.

In the decision the court held that the congressional act of 1866, which controlled in the case, does not grant eminent domain to telegraph companies over the private property of railroads.

COTTON SLUMP CLOSES BANK.

Institution at Wrightsville, Ga., Falls to Weather the Decline.

The Citizens' bank of Wrightsville, Ga., has suspended business. J. E. Linder, the owner of the bank, attributes his misfortune to the heavy decline in cotton, having on hand something like 2,000 bales at high prices.

Since the announcement of his suspension he has paid his depositors \$10,000, having on hand \$53,000 in deposits at the close of business last Thursday.

It is the general opinion that he will pay all creditors in full.

DOXOLOGY NOT CUT OUT.

Statement Made by Chicago University Officials Corrects Error.

The statement that the doxology had been displaced at the University of Chicago and that instead of "Old Hundred" "Alma Mater" be sung at the close of the junior college chapel service, was a mistake. The doxology never was sung at the close of the service, but at the beginning, where it continues to be sung.

SLAYER OF PLEHVE SENTENCED.

Russian Anarchists Get Long Terms for Murder of Minister of Interior.

At St. Petersburg, Tuesday, Sasonoff, who threw the bomb which killed Minister of the Interior von Plehve on July 23 and Sikoritsky, his accomplice in the crime, were found guilty by the court of appeals. The former was sentenced to imprisonment for life with hard labor, and the latter to twenty years.

IMPEACH SWAYNE

The House Favors Deposing Florida Federal Jurist.

VOTE IS OVERWHELMING

Must Go Before Bar of Senate to Answer for High Crimes Which Have Been Charged Against Him.

A Washington special says: Sitting as a grand jury, the house of representatives Tuesday, with almost full membership, and after more than five hours' discussion to the exclusion of all other business, adopted a resolution providing for the impeachment of Judge Charles Swayne, of the northern district of Florida, for "high crimes and misdemeanors."

The case against the respondent was clearly set out by Mr. Palmer, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the subcommittee, which heard the evidence in the case. He carefully dissected the evidence bearing on each of the specifications, and said that if it were found that Judge Swayne had done well, he should be vindicated, but if he had done ill, he should be sent to trial, "where his excuse and apologies may not receive consideration." He was followed by Messrs. Clayton, of Alabama; Powers, of Massachusetts; Henry, of Texas, and Lamar, of Florida, each of whom in most vigorous terms advocated impeachment. Messrs. Gilbert, of California, and Littlefield, of Maine, in speeches opposed their colleagues on all the specifications except one as to the account rendered for traveling expenses.

Throughout the session intense interest was shown by members. Following the adoption of