

THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

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FREEDOM OF SPEECH

On principle, The Bee does not agree with the good Baptist brother, who, in the convention Saturday night, when another brother was being reproved for denouncing war too vigorously and painting its horrors with too much fidelity, declared that in times like the present people have no right to say what they think.

Numerous arrests have been made during the past month and numerous fines imposed on persons who indulged in too violent criticism of President Wilson. One of the notable cases was that of Frederick T. Reidt, a veteran who was recently retired from the army after an honorable service of thirty years.

It is not safe to make such remarks, even if the one criticised is not the president or any of his official household. Grant's Pass, Oregon reports the imposition of a fine of ten dollars on a man who denounced Col. Roosevelt as a "false alarm" and cast doubts upon his military genius.

Seriously, we Americans have been in the habit of expressing our opinions a little too freely and indiscriminately. Harsh criticism of officials of the United States in such an emergency as this verges a little on disloyalty. It will not hurt us to learn to curb our tongues, unless an absolute necessity for plain speech arises.

PROBABLY UNFOUNDED

The Lake Providence Banner Democrat is much perturbed over a rumor reaching it that the "Standard Oil and other large interests" domiciled in Shreveport and vicinity are preparing to enter state politics with a view to acquiring control of the Louisiana legislature as far as possible.

The Bee is of the opinion that the Lake Providence editor is borrowing unnecessary trouble. It does not believe that the Standard Oil and the other large interests in the state have any desire to acquire title to the Louisiana legislature, and it does not see how such control could do them any good.

Corporation control of legislatures is a back number. There was a time back during the last century, that corporate interests sometimes tried to exercise supervision of lawmaking bodies; but even then such instances were rare and invariably spelled disaster to the would-be controllers.

Nine times out of ten nowadays, the anti-corporation howl can be traced to some disgruntled down-and-out politician who hopes it will be effective in landing him in office again. If Editor Turner will keep his ear to the ground, he will probably hear that this particular "rumor" originated from the usual source.

On this particular expedition, it is safe to prophesy that General Pershing will have no difficulty in locating the parties he is hunting for. It is comforting to know that New Orleans is reasonably safe from invasion by land, as the foe would be compelled to advance by way of the Kenner road.

Don't forget that the government puts it up to you to register for military service on the fifth of June if you have reached your twenty-first birthday and have not yet reached your thirty first. The government is issuing no special invitations and no reminders. The duty of registering is imposed upon the individual himself, and heavy penalties are provided for any who fail or neglect to present themselves.

One of the European correspondents refers to Mr. Kerensky as the "man of the hour" in Russia. Probably it would be more accurate to describe him as the man of the minute. An hour is a long time for a Russian statesman to last, at this particular period.

If near as much enthusiasm is shown in the country over crop raising as is manifested in the cities over flag raising, the business of eating will proceed as usual this winter.

New Orleans now has every variety of military and aid organization except a Home Guard. It is hard to understand how this has been overlooked.

Along the western front, it is beginning to look like the same old deadlock, with a horrifying increase in the number dead.

LOUISIANA OPINION.

Doing the Every-Day Things

Jena Times: You are perhaps expecting some great and wonderful thing to happen; but you will find that true progress comes from doing faithfully and well the little, everyday things that come to you. Truly great things do not drop into people's lives. They are built up of little things faithfully done.

Why Not "Our Fellow Sufferers?"

Shreveport Journal: It sticks in the throat a little when the average American tries to speak of "our allies." There is still a widespread prejudice against any formal alliance with foreign powers. And in fact, no formal alliance exists. There is a virtual alliance with the entente nations, but it is merely a practical arrangement to facilitate the carrying on of the war.

Boy, Page Dr. Dowling

West Carroll Gazette: When do the City Fathers expect to haul away the pile of cats in front of the Electric Theatre? Are they going to wait until Dr. Dowling gets in behind them?

Force too Much Scattered

Ruston Leader: There are too many auxiliary organizations in every department of church, state and society, especially in the churches. The forces are too much scattered. They need concentrated effort to be more effective. A skirmish line is a good thing in its proper place, but it cannot stand before a solid battle line.

Impatient With Congress

Crowley Signal: The summer, which is the only time when there can be effective movements on the western front, is very short in that latitude. Every moment is priceless. If the mullets in congress keep on this way they will prevent and kind of action by this country until the summer of 1918, and who knows what may happen to us and our allies before that time? Where do we trap all these premium incompetents that we send to congress? Where do they come from? What is the method by which we select the dullest mind and thickest skull in a district or a state to go to Washington and muss up everything with his incurable stupidity?

The Futility of Kicking

St. Helena Echo: No man ever made a dollar by kicking but a football player. No man has ever helped himself up permanently by kicking his neighbor down. Give another a kindly word and give it liberally and gracefully. It won't cost you a penny and remember you may want a good word some day. You may have thousands today and tomorrow be without the price of a shave. Don't be a kicker. It does not pay. You can't afford it.

A Critic for Construction

Thibodaux Commercial Journal: If no one cared we would never hear a criticism; any old thing would do. But because some one does care, does possess civic pride, we do occasionally hear a complaint. We do not like to criticize. It is a very unpleasant task at best; but it is criminal to see some things perpetrated upon the town and people, and permit them to go unnoticed, suffer them in silence. Because some one does care, these things are brought to light, unpleasant though they be, when they are justified no harm can possibly be done.

ITEMS OUT OF THE ORDINARY FROM THE DAY'S COURT GRIND

Unless a compromise is effected sooner, the case of Dr. Clarence E. Pierson vs. the Times-Picayune Publishing company will come up for a second trial in the civil district court next Monday. The case, by preference, heads the court docket, and will not go over to the October term, as had been indicated previously.

Dr. Pierson is suing the Times-Picayune Publishing company for \$100,000 damages for alleged libel. On its first trial recently the case was before the court six weeks, with the result that a mistrial was entered when the jury failed to agree. If the case is pushed for trial a second time it is not expected to occupy near as much of the court's time. Eventually the decision will rest with the supreme court. The trial will be held in Judge Food King's section.

SEEK RETURN OF THEIR MONEY

Washington Parish Residents Claim They Were Deceived
Four residents of Washington parish filed suit against the New Orleans Homeite company yesterday for sums aggregating \$775. They allege that they purchased property from the defendant company on the representation of R. L. Sanford, a sales agent, that when they had finished paying for the property the company would buy it back for the purchase price plus a ten per cent profit. It is alleged that there was a clause in the contracts purporting to carry the same agreement, but that upon consulting a lawyer some time afterwards they found that the clause was not binding.

John A. Underwood asks for the return of \$965 paid on five lots in square 798, purchased November 28, 1913; Robert White, \$125 paid on two lots in square 855, purchased May 1, 1914; William A. Chandler, \$470 paid on two lots in square 801; and E. L. Knight, \$125 paid on four lots in square 801. All the property is in the Third district.

COMER TRIAL WAS POSTPONED

Patrolman Charged With Bourgeois Killing Gets Respite
J. C. Comer, a former patrolman, who is under indictment for killing Prof. Sidney Bourgeois in Iberville street last September, was granted a two weeks continuance in the criminal court yesterday morning when his case was called for trial. The attorney representing him stated to the court that he had received his appointment only a few days before, and had no time to prepare the case. Bourgeois was a mathematics professor in a local business college, and was killed by Comer, as the latter alleges, because of annoying a waitress in a restaurant and afterwards assaulting Comer.

COURT BUILDING ENLIVENED BY CLASH

A fist fight between David Brown of Birmingham, whose wife is suing him for divorce, and Edward Kleimert, attorney for Mrs. Brown, enlivened the court routine in the civil clerk's office yesterday noon. Brown has been attempting to obtain a settlement of the divorce proceedings, and it was in this connection that he accosted Kleimert in the clerk's office. Words were succeeded by blows, but the two were separated before any damage was done.

TO FACE CHARGE OF KIDNAPPING MANY FOREIGNERS CAST LOT IN U.S.

Clerks in the United States District court were kept busy yesterday filing an unusually large number of applications for citizenship. Nineteen foreigners applied, ten of them being Italians, as follows: Dominico Matranga, 3301 Eyraud street, Italy; Giuseppe Uddo, 1222 Doratur street, Italy; Alfredo Kallotta, 3909 Iberville street, Italy; Edward Kuberski, 542 St. Peter street, Russia; Girolamo Giovanni, 6242 Laurel street, Italy; Angelo Molito, 1829 Enterpe street, Italy; Nicola Manala, 301 Baronne street, Italy; David Richard Miller, 2725 Louisiana avenue, Hungary; Vincent Vintorella, 1428 Royal street, Italy; John Morovich, Empire postoffice, La. Austria; Samuel Loshtensky, 1820 Terpsichore street; Carl Goetz, 1915 Race street, Germany; Bernard Berger, 1265 North Pierce street, Germany; Frank Favatara, 838 Jefferson street, McDonoghville, La., Italy; Charles Saba, 533 Dumaine street, Turkey; Harry Sawiowski, 624 Euler street, Russia; Thomas Marcolini, 1601 St. Ann street, and Castenzio Loggia, 1900 Delachaise street, Italy.

KANSAS HORRIFIED BY BELGIANS' CIGARETTES

By International News Service: Topeka, Kan., May 22.—Several prominent Kansas clubwomen who have subscribed liberally to the Belgian relief fund are horrified to learn that a large donation has been set aside for cigarettes for the Belgian soldiers. Circulars being distributed throughout the state by the Belgian Relief Association are asking for donations for cigarettes exclusively. Many women who have sought to relieve the starving women and children of the land across the seas were actually active in their campaign during the last legislature against cigarettes. Now, according to the circulars, and even more substantial evidence, many thousands of dollars have been contributed by Americans and even Kansans for the things that are actually against the constitution of this state.

USED 84 DIVISIONS

Paris, May 22.—Some idea of the extent of the German losses in the recent Anglo-French offensive in France may be obtained, according to a semi-official note, from the fact that while on the Verdun front from February, 1916, to February, 1917—one year—Germany put into action fifty-six and one-half divisions, while she put into action eighty-four divisions on the Anglo-French front this year from April 9 to May 11.

REVERSED PLEA TO GUILTY

Walter George Sentenced to Six Month for Dispensing Drugs
Walter George, charged with dispensing drugs, reserved his plea of not guilty in the United States court, and will not go over to the October term, as had been indicated previously.

Mollie Starks, widow of Henry Starks, who belonged to a negro regiment in the United States army, pleaded guilty to a charge of swearing falsely in applying for a pension. John Williams also pleaded not guilty. He is accused of illegally having poisonous drugs in his possession.

A BIGAMOUS MARRIAGE ALLEGED

In a Divorce Suit Instituted by Mrs. Mae E. George
Claiming that her husband has contracted a second and bigamous marriage, Mrs. Mae E. George yesterday filed suit against Charles E. George for divorce. The petition states that they were married in Chicago in 1898, and have a son seventeen years of age. In November, 1912, it is alleged, George married Miss Selma Klein, in Milwaukee. George has been a resident of New Orleans for several years.

Geo. Martin Leaves Property to Wife

The will of the late George Martin, filed for record yesterday, leaves all the property of the deceased to his wife.

New Suits in Civil Court

Following were the suits filed in the civil court yesterday: Irene Stollon vs. Isaac Jacob Parker, divorce; Wm. A. Gaudier vs. N. O. Homesite Co., L.L.C., claim, \$140; John A. Underwood vs. N. O. Homesite Co., L.L.C., claim, \$965; Ed. L. Knight vs. N. O. Homesite Co., L.L.C., claim, \$125; Robert White vs. N. O. Homesite Co., L.L.C., claim, \$125; James Patterson vs. Beth Ella Ruffin, divorce; Mrs. Mae E. George vs. Charles E. George et al., divorce; emancipation of Miss Elsie Marks; succession of Theodore Webster Marks; succession of George Martin; succession of Louis Scherer; possession of table piano; Percy D. Mitchell, claim, \$51,666; succession of Arthur M. At tan, possession; succession of William Ross, Jr.; succession of Giles Bush, possession.

J. PEARCE & SONS

NEW THEATRE FOR J. PEARCE & SONS
Josiah Pearce and Sons, the local amusement magnates, have leased from the Equitable Real Estate company, the Lafayette Theatre in Baginome street near Poydras, and will take charge of the theater for a period of five years on May 28, 1917. Class motion pictures will be shown there by the Pearces, who have made an inimitable success in the motion picture field in New Orleans. The theater is to be operated on a profit sharing basis with the owners.

COCA-COLA CO. WINS FIRST BLOOD

First blood in their fight on the Southern Coke company was drawn yesterday by the Coca Cola company in the United States District court here, when Judge Foster announced he would issue an order restraining the former concern from using the word "Koke," which he considered an infringement on the trade mark rights of the Coca Cola company.

TWO YEARS FOR STAVE DEALERS

Overruling a motion for a new trial, Judge Foster, in the United States District court, yesterday imposed a sentence of two years' imprisonment in the Federal prison at Atlanta on Edward Carriere and Albert LeMore, bankrupt stove dealers, who were found guilty last month of using the mails to defraud. Appeal will be made and the case carried into the higher courts.

ERA CLUB NOW OF VOTING AGE

Celebrated Its 21st Birthday in City Park Last Night
The Era club was twenty-one years old yesterday and last night a gigantic celebration to celebrate the club reaching its majority was held at the Casino, in City Park. One of the largest crowds which has ever attended a similar celebration was on hand.

6,000 MENNONITES TO KNIT FOR SOLDIERS

By International News Service: McPherson, Kan., May 22.—Women of German descent in McPherson county are planning to set a record in making clothing for the jackies of the United States navy. They are among the best knitters in the state, and will turn the heel and foot fast, the trick of which many learned in Germany. There are in this county 6,000 Mennonites. They believe literally in "Thou shalt not kill." They have sent representatives to Washington to ask that they not be required to bear arms. But they want to show loyalty to the government that has given them religious freedom. They will knit with a prayer for "peace on earth." Three churches are heading the movement.

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For some time the Coca Cola company has been warring on the Koke company in the United States courts throughout the country. At present a similar suit is being waged in the United States Court of Appeals in Colorado.

Judge Foster said he did not see fit to render a decision, although he has reached one, in view of the case before the Colorado court. Therefore, he decided to issue an injunction against the Southern Koke company until it has been decided whether it has a right to use that trade mark.

IN QUARTERMASTER'S CORPS

Attache of Board of Trade Passed Examination

The United States government has accepted the services of another New Orleans business man, Clifford Abbo, formerly connected with the Board of Trade as a tax expert, yesterday successfully passed an examination which will entitle him to the rank of a sergeant in the quartermaster's corps.

It will be his duty while with the army to inspect the hay which the government has contracted for. It will serve during the war and afterwards will be placed on the reserve list until his four year enlistment has expired.

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Besides an elaborate program of special music, a program consisting of many features was given. The club was founded in 1896.

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CARING FOR THE DESTITUTE

Over 3,000 Homes Destroyed in Atlanta Fire
Atlanta, Ga., May 22.—Atlanta went actively to work today to care for the destitute from three thousand homes destroyed in the fire that raged yesterday afternoon throughout seventy-five blocks and was only stopped when the dynamiting of beautiful homes in Ponce de Leon avenue left a barren waste before the advancing flames. The property loss is estimated at \$3,000,000 by Mayor Cantelero, who declared that this estimate was a conservative one. Other estimates ran as high as \$5,000,000.

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FAIR WEATHER PROMISED

Summer Attire May be Worn With Impunity Tomorrow
A though a cloudy sky seemed to assure wet weather, no rain fell yesterday. The weather bureau, in its forecast Monday, which held out until 7 o'clock last night, said showers were probable. Owners of shimmering new straw hats and resplendent summer attire are happy again. The forecast for New Orleans up to 7 p. m. today contains some cheerful news, for fair weather is promised, with light to moderate north winds.

TWO YEARS FOR STAVE DEALERS

Overruling a motion for a new trial, Judge Foster, in the United States District court, yesterday imposed a sentence of two years' imprisonment in the Federal prison at Atlanta on Edward Carriere and Albert LeMore, bankrupt stove dealers, who were found guilty last month of using the mails to defraud. Appeal will be made and the case carried into the higher courts.

LeMore and Carriere are alleged to have used the United States mails in connection with a gigantic stove swindle. The government charges them with having procured nearly three million dollars by means of non-existent bill of lading.

In passing sentence, Judge Foster said it was not necessary for him to lecture men of their standing, and that under the parole law it was possible for them to be released from prison in about eight months. The defense filed motion for a new trial last week, the hearing being continued to yesterday morning when two witnesses were put on the stand again by order of the court. They were Guy Harris and Robert Lambert, whose testimony during the trial dealt with office routine.

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RENECKY WAS HIGH MAN

Second Series of Cockeyed Hat Tournament Held Last Night
The second series of the Cockeyed Hat tournament of the Young Men's association for class A was held last night. J. E. Renecky was high man with a score of 97. The results last night follow: J. Lambert, 90, 21, 49, 73; J. Melcher, 29, 28, 28, 85; M. C. O'Donnell, 20, 18, 32, 80; J. C. Minto, 27, 24, 21, 74; A. O. Casso, 20, 27, 24, 71; J. E. Renecky, 33, 29, 37, 97; Theodore Daval, 35, 21, 15, 72; L. Brantley, 16, 17, 15, 48; M. O'Brien, 25, 35, 27, 86; and L. Boldwin, 31, 32, 39, 96.

LOCAL METEOROLOGICAL RECORD

Temperature Record
Yesterday's temperature record at New Orleans, as shown by the thermometer of the U. S. Weather Bureau, on the roof of the Postoffice building, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. Rows include 7 a. m., 9 a. m., 11 a. m., 4 p. m., 3 p. m., 5 p. m.

U. S. DAILY WEATHER REPORT

Wednesday, May 23, 1917.
Forecast for Wednesday: For New Orleans and vicinity: Wednesday, fair; light southerly winds.
For Louisiana: Wednesday and Thursday, fair.

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Table with 2 columns: Time and Temperature. Rows include 7 a. m., 9 a. m., 11 a. m., 4 p. m., 3 p. m., 5 p. m.

WEATHER RECORD

The following is the weather data for May 22, 1917, at New Orleans:
7 a. m. 2 p. m. 7 p. m.
Temperature 75 81 81
Rel. Humidity 88 53 70
Wind SW SW SW
Rain Trace .00
Weather Clear Clear

RIVER FORECAST

The Mississippi River, below Vicksburg, and the Atchafalaya will fall slowly. The Red River, below Shreveport, and the Ouachita will fall during the next 48 hours.