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FAIR TREATMENT FOR PRODUCERS

URGED BY BEHRMAN AT FOOD COMMISSION MEETING.

WARD MEETINGS TO BE HELD

Work of Stimulating Production of Foodstuffs Here Is Well Under Way.

The Orleans parish food commission must see to it that the producers of food get a square deal, if the campaign to increase production is to succeed. This statement was made by Mayor Martin Behrman at a meeting of the commission in the mayor's parlor at the City Hall Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Mayor Behrman stated that he had been informed that food prices varied in different localities, and declared that the man who produces foodstuffs is not getting the proper returns. The matter must be looked into, he asserted, and the commission must assure fair treatment for the property, and vice-president of the commission, reported that some requests had been received from public and private institutions for city teams, with which to break new ground, and that all these requests had been complied with. However, there are quite a number of these institutions which have not availed themselves of the opportunity of having their land plowed and harrowed.

Miss Levy was absent when the fire broke out. Boys playing in the street set off a fire which spread to the rear and an investigation revealed that a shed was aflame. A fireman was on duty, but the fire broke out before he could reach the shed and gear portions of the houses.

Residues Miss Levy's residence, dwellings affected were as follows: Mrs. A. Latorre, 729 Dauphine street; Mrs. Estelle Maguire, 731 Dauphine street; Mrs. Victoria Fichet, 917 Orleans street; Mrs. Lena Jolie, 927 Orleans street; Mrs. Nettie Ecker, 927 Orleans street; Mrs. Anna Frank, 916 St. Ann street; Charles Abadie, 929 St. Ann street, and Miss Minnie Senegat, 914 St. Ann street.

may have a definite plan on which to work Mayor Behrman, its chairman, has announced a committee of three to prepare a detailed plan of action. This committee is composed of Stanley Morse, chairman; E. O. Wild and H. M. Shilstone.

Ward organization will be effected shortly at a series of meetings to be held in the different wards. These meetings will be called by Harry S. Armstrong, general superintendent of the work of the commission. At the ward meetings chairman will be selected, and additional members for the ward secured in order to increase the effectiveness of the campaign.

FIRE THREATENS AN ENTIRE BLOCK

BUT FIVE ENGINES SQUELCH THE BLAZE.

LOSS WON'T EXCEED \$2,000

It Was 'Moving Day' In Downtown Block Last Night While The Excitement Lasted.

Fire originating through an unknown cause in the rear of the residence of Miss May Levy, 918 St. Ann street, last night at 10 o'clock spread to eight adjoining dwellings, resulting in a total loss estimated at \$2,000. Some of the buildings were badly damaged and the greater part of the loss is covered by insurance.

For awhile the whole block bounded by St. Ann, Dauphine, Orleans and Burgundy streets was threatened with destruction. Five powerful engines soon smothered the blaze, but not before most of the buildings in the block had moved at least part of their furniture out on the sidewalk. Not a breath of wind was stirring, or the damage would have been much greater.

Ward 3.—Mrs. Lelia Righter, 129 South Cordeiro. Ward 4.—Mrs. W. A. Porteous, 841 West End Boulevard. Ward 5.—Mrs. E. R. Fisk, 23 Morrison Boulevard. Ward 6.—Dr. H. A. Cahen, 1023 North Rampart. Ward 7.—Mr. J. T. Young, 1418 Vera.

Ward 8.—Mrs. J. E. Bellwinkle, 416 Jonquil. Ward 9.—Mrs. C. M. Enstie, 1220 Leveche Street. Ward 10.—Mrs. D. L. Watson, second and Camp Streets. Ward 11.—Mrs. C. J. Altman, 423 St. Charles Street. Ward 12.—Mrs. George C. McFadyen, 518 Froebel Street. Ward 13.—Mrs. Y. K. Irion, 321 Alys Street. Ward 14.—Mrs. J. E. Hookins, 321 Alys Street. Ward 15.—Mrs. Ralph Michol, 157 Walnut. Ward 16.—Mrs. Wilson McMahon, 806 Sycamore Street.

FATE OF RACING HANGS IN BALANCE

TRIAL OF OFFICIALS OF B. M. R. A. CLOSED YESTERDAY

JUDGES' DECISION RESERVED

Summary of Arguments of Attorneys — Defense Cites Letters of Locke and Luzenberg

Trial of officials and directors of the Business Men's Racing Association came to an end in the criminal district court yesterday afternoon and in a few days Judges Chretien and Baker will announce a decision which will kill or uphold racing in New Orleans as conducted by the B. M. R. A. The defense closed its case about 11 o'clock and the State immediately began arguments.

When the trial was resumed yesterday morning, counsel for the defense introduced in evidence an interview with Leon Locke, author of the famous Locke law, which appeared in the New Orleans Item on May 28, 1916. The defense attempted to show the court through the introduction of the Locke law that the law was not to kill racing altogether, but instead had for its purpose the abolition of the professional bookmaker, who seldom, if at all, lost any money in betting against the public.

In arguing for the State Assistant District Attorney Henriques drew a verbal picture of the old and new systems of race horse betting at the local track. He declared the present system a sham of the old and branded it as a clumsy scheme to evade the law. The stockholders who held the money and wrote on the checkbooks simply performed the functions of the bookmaker's cashier and ticket writer, Mr. Henriques argued.

"The lawyer was the bookmaker, and the man who stood at his elbow, making the memorandum every time the lawyer placed a bet, was the sheet-writer," the prosecutor said. So substantially, the betting system prevalent last season was the same as the old book-making system, except that it was more impersonal. The old system was a household bookkeeping system, and this plan is what you might call a loose-leaf system."

Testimony of all witnesses except Captain Duhamel, of the Pinkerton Detective Agency, who was detailed at the race track and testified during the trial that he saw no violations, was analyzed by Attorney Henriques. Referring to Duhamel, Henriques said he did not believe anything the detective said.

SHIPPERS MUST USE THE RIVER

WOULD RELIEVE STRAIN ON THE RAILROADS.

ORLEANIANS ON COMMITTEES

Walter Parker, Of Commerce Association, Advises Home Office of Progress of St. Louis Conference

The conference for the resumption of river traffic on the Mississippi now meeting in St. Louis and which a large delegation of New Orleans men is attending, is urging all shippers to use water traffic as far as possible and thus relieve the strain on railroad transportation. Walter Parker, general manager of the Association of Commerce, has telegraphed his association asking that the utmost publicity in the Mississippi Valley be extended to this request. He sent this telegram to the association:

"Ernest Lee Jalmeke, president, Association of Commerce, New Orleans: "General Wm. M. Black, Chief of

to Mississippi valley engineers in commerce from Secretary of War Baker:

"It is essential that chambers of commerce urge all shippers in valley to use river craft for transportation whenever possible in order to relieve strain on railroad equipment. By urging shippers to do this, chambers of commerce will be rendering best of cooperation to government as a war measure."

"Peace announced generally. "WALTER PARKER." Among the New Orleans delegation assigned to various committees at the conference are the following: Jeff D. Hardin, New Orleans representative Board of Trade, resolution committee; Walter Parker, secretary Amalgamation and River Orleans Board of Trade, chairman committee of transportation.

On the committee are: Jackson, Johnson, Stix, Ballard, Simmons, Teasdale of St. Louis, T. S. Cunningham, R. S. Clero, vice-president Board of Trade; Malloy, Torrey, Sherwood of Memphis, Hanson of East St. Louis, J. Cooper of St. Paul, Minn.

M. J. Sanders, president Board of Trade, was unanimously elected general Assembly brands as detrimental to the economical development of the state. Is this the reason why women and children were barred from the palm garden by the Association's rules?

"I tell you, your honors, and you and all men, broad-minded men, will agree, that gambling which is so offensive to decency as to exclude women and children should be just as offensive with respect to men."

Judge Marr also dwelt on the \$10 fee charged for admittance to "club seats" at the palm garden, which are located at a point where patrons are able to get an excellent view of the whole track.

"And can the Business Men's Racing Association expect to make this court believe that these tickets were not sold to lawyers who visited the track for the sole purpose of betting against the public?" Judge Marr continued.

PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IS OVERTHROWN BY RUSSIANS

Council of Workmen and Soldiers is Victorious After Internal Strife Lasting Over Two Months—Coalition Cabinet Has Been Formed

By International News Service. Stockholm, May 9.—The provisional government of Russia, established after the March revolution, has collapsed according to word from Petrograd. The council of working men and soldiers thus emerges from a two months struggle during which it first hampered, then openly fought, and finally controlled the provisional government. The formation of a coalition government is announced by the government today. Future developments are problematical.

By International News Service. Amsterdam, April 9.—Chancellor von Bethmann Hoffweg will reply to peace interpellations in the reichstag Monday, according to a Berlin dispatch. Other reports said the Central Powers were about to make a new peace offer.

By International News Service. London, May 9.—Canadians are gradually winning back Fresnoy. Terrific German counter attacks apparently have been repulsed everywhere. Fresh German reserves are being thrown into action and the artillery concentration increases. Some experts believe that Hindenberg is receiving reinforcements from the Russian front and is preparing for an attempt to drive the Germans from back along the entire western front.

By International News Service. Buenos Ayres, May 9.—Unofficial advisers from Rome say that a vigorous propaganda is on foot for a separate peace between Italy and the Central Powers.

By International News Service. London, May 9.—The submarine toll last week was the lowest recorded in over a month. Twenty-four ships of more than 1600 tons, and twenty-two under 1600 tons were sunk. Sixteen fishing vessels sunk make a total of 62 ships of all descriptions.

By International News Service. Washington, D. C., May 9.—Sir Dudley De Chair, naval expert of the British mission, stated at a reception tendered by the navy league tonight that the German submarine warfare will bring the allies to a disastrous food shortage unless some crushing blow is immediately delivered.

By International News Service. Copenhagen, via London, May 9.—The Berlin Tageblatt says a bill will be introduced in the reichstag within a few weeks for a new war loan.

The conclusion of the sixth German war loan was announced April 27. According to statistics compiled by the United States federal reserve board, Germany's war loans up to December 31 last aggregated \$11,226,000,000.

JOFFRE GETS A BIG RECEPTION

By International News Service. New York, May 9.—Like the roar of a million voices greeted General Joffre and Vice-Premier Viviani, of France, who arrived here late this evening.

It was plain the hero of the Marne had endeared himself in the hearts of Americans. Down town New York was a mass of humanity. Every window was filled with sightseers, hands waved welcome and the tricolor and Stars and Stripes were intertwined.

"Joffre, Joffre" cried the crowd. The famous general stood in his automobile and saluted. At the City Hall 4,000 school girls in white, bearing the British, French and American flags were ranged before a pyramid of boy scouts.

When the party arrived and were greeted at the steps by Mayor Mitchel, the band played the Marseillaise. The mayor welcomed the guests with glowing words of love and devotion to France.

BANDITS TAKE \$5,700; THREE ARE ARRESTED. By International News Service. Chicago, May 9.—The police arrested three negro bandits who robbed employees of the Illinois Tool Works, of \$5,700 stolen, the police recovered all but \$50.

NO BIDDERS FOR SCHOOL DEPOSITS

Apparently no bank in New Orleans cares to be fiscal agent for the Orleans parish school board within the scope provided by law. Yesterday at noon the board was prepared to let the fiscal agency contract, but no bids had been received at that time. The matter will be taken up at a meeting of the school board Friday night, according to Secretary E. A. Williams, and the board will endeavor to make financial arrangements then.

At present the Whitney Central National bank is depository for the school funds by virtue of a special arrangement entered into some time ago. The board has endeavored to several years to comply with the law regarding the appointment of a fiscal agent under sealed bids, but owing to the fact that it is a borrower much more than a depositor it has never succeeded in obtaining a bid. Having complied with the school law by advertising for bids, the board can now go ahead and make such arrangements as are necessary for handling the school funds.

CLAIMS MISTAKEN IDENTITY. Edward Bremer, accused of an attack on his wife, from whom he is separated, gave bond yesterday for his appearance. He claims that it is a case of mistaken identity and that he was at no time in the vicinity where it is alleged the assault took place.

ELECT OFFICERS AND END MEETING

The thirty-fifth annual Pharmaceutical convention which was in session in New Orleans Tuesday and Wednesday is at an end. Election of officers and the devotion of the afternoon to a luncheon as guests of Sharp and Dolme, 516 Camp street and eight sewing tours marked the closing hours of the convention.

Officers elected follow: Eugene H. Daste, New Orleans, president; John R. Taylor, New Iberia, first vice president; Dr. George S. Brown, New Orleans, treasurer; George W. McDuff, New Orleans, secretary re-elected. Practically the entire morning session was devoted to a discussion of the Stevens-Ashurst bill which would standardize prices of advertised articles.

BRAZIL IS URGED TO GET IN WAR GAME

By International News Service. Washington, May 9.—Following conference between Arthur Balfour, of the British mission, and Ambassador of Brazil, it became known in diplomatic circles that the allies are anxious to have Brazil declare war on Germany. Relations have already been broken. A war declaration would mean foodstuffs and ships for the allies, and Brazil's influence on other South American countries.