The Pensacola Journal

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—BY—

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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 2, 1908.

Appropriations for the Pensacola Forts.

There is now pending as items in the sundry civil bill before congress appropriations amounting to $633,870 for improvement of the coast defense at Pensacola. In addition to this, the coast defense board recommends appropriations for $1,231,551 to complete the work necessary to the safety, the modernization, and the equipment of the forts at the entrance of the harbor.

The amount of $633,870 in the civil sundry bill is divided as follows: Barracks and quarters, $48,315; repair and protection of defenses, 566; 455; and submarine mine material, $19,100. This bill is now before congress and should pass at this session.

The amount of $1,231,551, which the coast defense board recommends in addition to the items in the bill is divided as follows: Barracks and quarters, $45,000; guns, carriages and emplacements, $633,000; fire control installation, $323,078; central power plants for existing batteries, $52,277; central power plants for proposed batteries, $14,300; reserve power plants for existing and proposed batteries, $43,896; and searchlights, $95,000.

It is possible that the importance of the appropriations in the civil sundry bill and of the recommendations of the coast defense board for the additional amounts are not appreciated by the general public nor even by the people of Pensacola. But the whole matter is so important that The Journal advises immediate work on the part of our Chamber of Commerce and other influential agencies for the purpose of impressing upon our own delegation in congress and upon the body as a whole the real necessity of the appropriations.

If we are to have coast defenses at all, they should be not only of the most modern design and perfection, but they should be maintained at the acme of efficiency in every respect. It is a waste of money to only half do a thing of this kind. It is like erecting a powerful gun and then failing to furnish powder with which to fire it or men to serve it. The plan should be completed, as designed, or all of the money already put into it is thrown away.

As Pensacola is directly interested in this matter, we urge upon the business men to bring its importance to the attention of our delegation in Washington at once. Pensacola harbor is a point of such strategic importance that its defense should be as perfect as money and modern mechanical and military genius can make it.

Trees Planted Too Close to Sidewalk.

Pensacola is something like 130 years of age. That is, the town, as located on its present site, is at least that old—old enough to have learned by observation, experience, and instruction many of the things that go to make civic progress and perfection.

Pensacola, however, has in many ways failed to profit by her own experience or by the example of others and she is today, in the things referred to, about as far behind the times as she was 130 years ago.

We might refer to the matter of public parks or street paving, but in this case we simply beg to direct attention to the fact that not since since the founding of the city 130 or more years ago has there ever been an official plan or system for tree planting in the streets of the municipality.

People who wanted to plant trees—and many public spirited individuals have done so—have planted them where it suited individual fancy, with the result, that in not a single street of the city will the trees "line up" with any sort of regularity or system. This lack of plan or system is apparent everywhere.

For example, on all of the older residence streets of the city people are having trouble with their sidewalks because the trees are so close to the line that the roots interfere with and ruin the walks. This lack of system not only mars the beauty of the street, but it makes permanent sidewalks impossible and is a continual means of expense to property owners as well as inconvenience and danger to pedestrians.

This would not be so bad if any disposition were manifested for a change, but this year, today, you will find new trees planted all over the city and invariably these trees are not more than from one to two feet from the outer sidewalk line. When the trees are grown, they will cause the same trouble with sidewalks that the older ones are doing now.

The distance from the property line at which trees should be located depends of course on the width of the street and whether it is a business or a residence district street. But on a 70-foot street, trees should be planted not closer than 13 feet to the property line or 7 feet to the outer sidewalk line. That would make the tree 7 feet from the paving curb, or exactly midway in the plot between the outer sidewalk line and the curb line. (We are assuming that the street pavment is 30 feet wide.)

These figures are for a 70-foot street. And yet on East Gadsden street—which is 100 feet wide—trees have this winter been planted within two feet of the sidewalk line when they should have been at least 14 1-2 feet away from the sidewalk.

We understand that the board of public works has, or will shortly, recommend to the council an ordinance governing this matter of tree planting. This is good as far as it goes. The council, however, we presume will wait until tree planting for this year is done before passing the ordinance. That has been the usual order of procedure in the past and it would be almost too much to hope that the order is to be reversed now.

Jordan, of the Punta Gorda Herald, is one man who refuses to be lined up with the Anti-Bryan crowd. He says:

The esteemed Fort Pierce Tribune errs in classing the Punta Gorda Herald with those Florida newspapers which are opposing the nomination for president of William Jennings Bryan. The Herald has been for Bryan ever since its editor heard him speak at St. Louis four years ago. The Tampa Times, which never forget sanything, will verify this claim.

No Need For a State Convention.

Several of our contemporaries—and they do not all belong to the same wing of the party—have been discussing with approval the advisability of holding a state convention in Florida for the purpose of electing delegates to the national convention and for formulating and adopting a state platform.

We do not agree with our contemporaries either on the delegate or the platform proposition. The people can choose their delegates by direct vote much easier and much more satisfactorily than delegates can be elected by means of a convention.

Every argument against the convention system is as applicable to the selection of delegates as to the selection of any other party candidate or representative. And, conversely, every argument in favor of direct primary elections is as applicable to the election of delegates as it is to the election of any other party candidate or representaive.

Our able contemporary, the Tampa Tribune, wants a convention, but the Tribune, if we remember correctly, has always been a convention advocate and it is therefore not strange to find it still holding out for as much of the convention custom and practice as it is possible to induce the party to accept.

The Tribune argues that Florida democrats should by resolution, adopted by a convention, insist upon certain things in the next national platform. But can't the Florida delegates elected by the people direct, when they get to Denver insist upon the provisions that Florida democrats want with as much ease and directness as they could if they were elected by a state convention and circumscribed by a convention resolution? Let every man who is a candidate for national delegate state where he stands on the important issues of the day and let the voters determine for themselves whether that man's policy suits them or not.

Suppose, for example, that Governor Broward were a candidate for national delegate. Everyone knows where Governor Broward stands on the various important public issues of today and those who do not know can easily find out. Governor Broward would probably be opposed by some one who opposes the things that Broward stands for. Will it not be an easy matter for the people, through direct primary vote, to take their choice between Broward and what he stands for, and the other man and what he stands for?

There will be no trouble about ascertaining the people's choice or about the people enforcing their choice when it comes to electing delegates by the primary. The rule with conventions is that the people are usualy denied their choice, and, whether they are or not, they have no means whatever of enforcing it.

A Just Tribute to Ben Commons.

The following extract from a prominent labor publication ought to go far to silence those who fatuously denounce all labor leaders as "agitators," and all high officers of trades unionism as "disturbers." In this connection, by the way, it is of interest that Ben Commons has, throughout his progressive successes as president of the New Orleans local and International Second Vice President, remained an actual worker as a motorman in New Orleans. The affection in which he is now held by the corporation as well as the union in New Orleans is in striking contrast with the villification heaped on him when he led the men in their first approximately successful strike in that city, and his calmness and dignity in winning the respect and confidence of the employers had not a little to do with their final sensible and just recognition of the union as such.

The article referred to is as follows:

Ben Commons, friend of the laboring man, has added another star to his already dazzling crown of glory, in preventing a most disastrous street car strike in Pensacola. Cool headed, far-sighted, and in every way capable of holding the position of a leader of organized labor, this New Orleans man made his appearance in Pensacola when matters had assumed a most formidable aspect. The local Electric Company was paying no attention to the demands made by the empoyes, who in turn were growing desperate and embittered by the length of time represented by the trouble. Everyone expected trouble and plenty of it.

But Ben Commons knew the situation in the finances of the country, he knew that owing to present conditions, severe hardships would be incurred by the step, and a bad matter made infinitely worse at a time when little was to be gained and a great deal to be lost. Then he did a clever thing. He appealed to the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, and petitioned that body to appoint itself as an arbitrary board in order that an understanding might be effected, which was accordingly done.

In fact, the hand of Ben Commons was seen throughout the entire proceeding, and the street car men of Pensacola, both employers and employes, have much to be thankful for in the influence which was brought to bear by a labor leader who is neither sensational in his methods, inflammatory in his course, nor prompted by the least possible desire to create a friction at any time.

Pensacola's Brilliant Future

NO. 1.

By CONDICT PACKARD

Civic pride is stirred in Pensacola in a manner unknown 20, or even 10, years ago.

Until quite recently it has seemed enough to know that the city was one of the oldest—if not the most ancient—of the early Spanish settlements; that it had a fine harbor, and deep water over the bar. These, with an annual attempt to hold a Mardi Gras festival, comprised the bulk of publicity which the city knew.

That Pensacola would quite naturally enter the lists for being a City Beautiful had scarcely been considered. The location was here; the Bay existed; the deep water over the bar was unique below Hampton Roads. Why, pray, should not these suffice?

So the years fled and Opportunity waited patiently.

Came whispers of an event of world-wide importance, a severing of two continents and the establishment of a waterway where no water ran before. A way which will divert Trade, deflect Commerce, affect Traffic and Barter among civilized mankind.

The Panama Canal was discussed and considered.

The Panama Canal was decided upon.

The Panama Canal was begun.

The great work now approaches completion; less than four years will witness the completion of this most remarkable event in the history of the race. Great ships will cut across a continent, and the way to the Indies, dreamed of for centuries, be opened.

That this will amount to a seismic disturbance in the world's commerce is becoming faintly understood. As the date for the opening more nearly approaches, this Modern Fact will become better announced. The people, the Nation, the World, will swiftly recognize what this change in the water-ways of the oceans will mean to trade.

In this pending revolution some one of the Gulf Coast cities will achieve the most remarkable growth and development of all. It will be the aim of these papers to swiftly discuss what are believed to be pertinent reasons why the city of Pensacola is certain to attain the largest percentage of this growth and to count the most largely, in what is to come.

It is not proposed to extensively discuss the need for added railroads nor the many remarkable advantages accruing from the great harbor which the city faces, and the deep channel of entrance, as these matters will, it is believed, largely care for themslves. Beside, they have been liberally exploited.

One requires neither to be a prophet nor the son of a prophet to discover that this revolution must pertinently affect the entire Coast littoral.

All of the cities which line this coast will realize advantage from this coming commercial uprising.

This opening of the continent of South America to the eager traders of the United States must inevitably thrust the hand of Yankee commerce deep into the wants and needs of all that land, the Western portion of which will thus be brought into direct touch with this country in a manner now difficult to comprehend.

When Columbus came a-sailing into the waters of the West Indies, there existed along the Western part of South America, one of the most wonderful, if not the most wonderful, civilizations this world has ever known. Chili and Peru then fairly wallowed in the precious metals, and such prodigious quantities of these as were disclosed have never since been equalled. A unique, and high, civilization there existed, and the resources of that part of the Southern continent revealed that which it is still capable of exhibiting.

The Panama Canal will introduce us among this people and bring about a volume of trade almost beyond imagination. This, aside from both the going and coming traffic with the wide world, and the more direct access to the teeming millions of Asia, that opulent Orient, for the trade of which man has striven and fought for ages.

The manufacturing possibilities lurking in the skill and brawn that Individual Freedom has produced will here find new field for effort, and the steam roads running North and South and the great waterways, will be taxed far beyond present ability to move these products from the shops and factories above the Ohio river. As this stream constantly widens, and deepens, and flows more swiftly, these hives of production and skilfull making will gradually move Southward, and thus serve to still further increase the demands on the coming great ports of the Gulf Coast.

In pursuing this discussion it will not be necessary to decry nor belittle other ports in order to sustain the just claims of Pensacola. There is plenty and enough for all, and that which comes to this fair city will come, it is believed, because of certain natural and geographical facts, facts which are beyond dispute, and of which the logical results are plainly in sight.

For civic betterments have their unqualified effect on the people of the community so favored. One improvement paves the way for another; one step forward more clearly defines the ease with which succeeding upward steps as are to be taken.

In Pensacola this spirit is now in the air; already the preliminary steps have been taken, and lines are partially formed for the "forward march" presently to become so general.

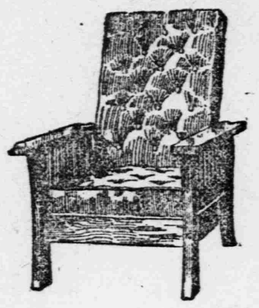
He were a bold man indeed who, in 1900, had predicted that this year of grace 1908 would witness such splendid beginnings, for they are but mere beginnings, for Pensacola as the artistic and attractive white marble home of the First National Bank; the solid Blount building of concrete-steel construction; the Thiesen building; the new 10-story American National Bank building; the handsome new home of the Osceola Club; the new City Hall; the absorption of the water works by the city; the sturdy beginning of a complete sewer system, and the general paving of the business streets, to say naught of the numerous costly homes which now adorn both the beautiful Bay Shore and the several residence parts of the city.

These are facts, known of all men; other equally as important facts are here for the seeing, and while it is not anticipated that aught of discovery will be offered in what is to be presented in these articles, it is hoped that it will be possible to mass and present some of the more potent facts which, by right, should be set forth about this ancient and charming city, in order that he who reads may more readily command them for discussion.

Furniture for the Home and Office.

Never before during the many years of the existence of this firm has our varied stock of Furniture and House Furnishings been so complete. We bought heavily, and bright, new and modern goods are arriving daily to gladden the hearts of Pensacola people. We have our first floor, second floor and warehouse packed, and our dignified installment business makes it easy for anyone to furnish his home. We offer below a few suggestions, but we are offering bargain prices on everything in our big store.

Morris Chairs



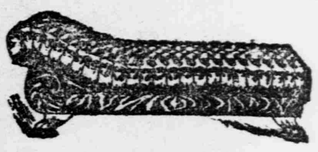
Prices run from

$20 and up.

The Morris Chair is here to stay. No home will be without it after once it has had a place there. Our Morris Chairs are bought from the most reliable manufacturers in America, and the line embraces many new and unique designs. They are strong and durable.

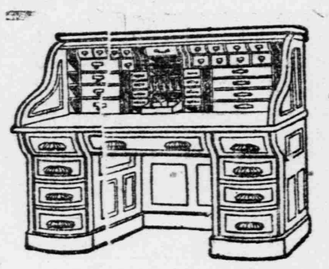
Willow Parlor Suites.

These come in three, five or seven pieces. They are substantially made and very pretty. When these become soiled they do not have to be sent to the upholsterer. All that is necessary is a paint brush and a can of varnish, stain, enamel or Jap-a-Lac. The price is as low as $25 a suite.



LOUNGES.

The Lounge is not only ornamental in the refined home, but it is a very useful piece of Furniture, to say the least. There is always a place in which it "just fits," and yet it may be pulled around anywhere—near the fireplace, the window, the gas jet, or anywhere. Price—$25.00 and up.



OFFICE FURNITURE.

Let us furnish your office. It makes no difference what you like, we have it. Roll top desks and flat top desks, all sizes and finishes. Then we have office chairs, bookkeepers' desks, stools, rugs, matting; besides we are agents for Werneicke sectional book cases. We furnish estimates on complete outfits for office.

China Cabinets.

This store is just a little overcrowded on China Cabinets, and while we have some that we fear will be too expensive to carry in stock and for this reason we're offering some great bargains in China closets. Big assortment to select from. Prices range from

$25 up.

MARSTON & QUINA,

Phone 149. 108 South Palafox Street.

POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

Trammell's Record.

Park Trammel, of Lakeland, former president of the senate, and one of South Florida's most prominent young attorneys, has announced his candidacy for attorney-general. Mr. Trammell made a record in the senate of which he has a just cause to feel proud. He is an attorney of ability, and would fill the office to which he aspires with credit. He will be opposed by the present attorney-general, W. H. Ellis, and it is needless to say that the campaign will be an interesting one.—Manatee Record.

Lamar on East Coast.

The Record was honored Tuesday afternoon with a visit by Congressman W. B. Lamar, of Monticello, West Florida's able statesman in the house of representatives at Washington. Congressman Lamar is now a candidate for election to the United States senate and will go before the electors for that honor in this year's primary. His excellent record is too well known to need any special mention; friends throughout Florida he numbers by hundreds. He and his charming wife thoroughly enjoyed their stay in the Ancient City, and are now visiting friends at Palm Beach. Mr. Lamar is planning a spirited campaign later on when the date of the first primary is decided, and will make another visit to St. Augustine in the interest of his canvass.—St. Augustine Record.

Beard At Live Oak.

Next Mr. Beard was announced. The gentleman from Pensacola was suffering from a very severe sore throat, and stated that he could speak for only a few minutes. He talked about half an hour, creating the first real enthusiasm of the day in explaining the grounds on which he hoped to test the validity of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution of the United Staes. Announced that he would favor a law prohibiting the shipment of liquor to a dry state. He desires also further restriction of corporations by congress. With a statement that he could talk no longer, Mr. Beard closed, having made a very favorable impression on the audience. Mr. Beard is a very eloquent, forceful speaker, and his address showed that he understood his subjects thoroughly. He will gain many supporters and will be much stronger at the wind-up than many are willing to admit.—Mayo Free Press.

For Wilson for Governor.

Hon. C. L. Wilson, one of the brainy lawyers of West Florida, is a candidate for state's attorney in the first circuit in place of Walter Kehoe, who will go to congress. We would rather support him for governor than any other candidate we know of right now.—Calhoun Democrat.

Subscribe for The Journal.

BAY MINETTE.

Special to The Journal.

Bay Minette, Ala., Feb. 1.—Farmers throughout the county are now busy getting in the first crop of Irish potaoes. Alhough the ground is very wet the acreage now being planted is exceedingly large, and will exceed the planting of any former years.

The negro, A. D. Murray, who escaped from the jail here last Tuesday night, has been captured again and is safely lodged in jail once more. From what he had at the time it is more than possible that he also robbed the store of Nelson Franklin & Co. on the night he made his escape. There may have been others interested in the crime with him but it is now believed that he acted lone-handed and had no accomplices.

Yesterday from 4 o'clock p. m. to 6, the doors of the Palmetto Club were thrown open to the public. The occasion was one of inspection, and the general public was invited to inspect the rooms and the library of the club. The young men who have been back of this movement had also prepared a very fine program for the entertainment of the club's friends tonight at the court house.

NO. 9007.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Office of Comptroller of Currency,
Washington, D. C., Jan. 29, 1908.

Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that

"The Peoples National Bank of Pensacola"

in the City of Pensacola,

in the county of Escambia, and the state of Florida, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence business of banking;

Now, therefore, I, William B. Ridgely, Comptroller of Currency, do hereby certify that

"The Peoples National Bank of Pensacola"

in the City of Pensacola, in the County of Escambia and State of Florida, is authorized to commence business of Banking as provided in Section Fifty-one Hundred and Sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

Conversion of the People's Bank of Pensacola.

In testimony whereof witness my hand and seal of office this twenty-ninth day of January, 1908.

(SEAL.) WM. B. RIDGELY,
Comptroller of Currency.