

## FLORIDA TOPICS

Short Items from all Sections of the State

J. M. Martinez, one of Tampa's most prominent cigar manufacturers, who came to that city over twenty-six years ago, died at his home there Sunday, aged fifty-seven years.

Senators F. M. Hudson, of Miami, and Don C. McMullen, of Tampa; W. H. Milton, of Marianna, Park Trammell, of Lakeland, and Cromwell Gibbons, of Jacksonville, will probably be candidates for Governor next year, with the possibility of T. A. Jennings, of Pensacola, also entering the race.

The three-day automobile race meet to be held under the auspices of the Jacksonville Motor Club on the Atlantic Pablo Beach, starting March 27 promises to be a great success. All of the leading American cars will compete. That the mile record established by Oldfield will be broken is the general hope. The ocean washed course is ideal for exceptional speed.

The Florida State Sunday School Association will hold its annual convention in Tallahassee, March 28-30. Many prominent men of Florida will participate in this annual event as well as many noted Sunday Schools experts from various points in the United States. Hon. Albert W. Gilchrist will deliver the address of welcome and Dr. Lincoln Hulley, president of Stetson University, will respond.

Rev. John A. Wray, of Miami, suggests that instead of building a \$50,000 marble shaft in Jacksonville to the memory of ex-Governor Napoleon B. Broward that a living active working monument be perpetuated by putting the \$50,000 in a bank and use the interest in educating worthy young men. Long after the marble had crumbled into dust, long after a name had become only a word on the page of dusty history, the endowment would still be doing its beneficent work.

Let Florida's legislature do as has just been done in Alabama as a means of regulating and controlling the sale of liquor in the wet counties—put a \$3,000 license upon the saloon. It would drive many of the low dens out of business. Wish the Florida legislature would make the license \$5,000, giving the wet counties and cities the same privilege. It is a law that would tend to improve the saloon business in this state, if such a thing is possible. It is the most degrading institution ever fastened upon the people of any state.

Cigar shipments from Tampa for the week ending Saturday amounted to 5,970,000, this being a decrease of 510,000 cigars over the week previous, but the week previous was an unusually good one, having reached the mark of 6,480,000 and been the highest single week shipment since December, 1909, or the banner record week for a period of fourteen months. All the factories are rushed with orders. They are way behind with the filling of these and there is not a manufacturer in the city but that is very anxious to procure the services of cigarmakers who can do work on the high class goods.

The Rockledge-Cocoa Yacht Club will give a series of motor boat races on March 22-23, offering the following cups as prizes. Merchants Cup, New Rockledge Hotel Cup, Hotel Indian River Cup, Geo. Gingras Cup, Merritt Island Cup. The officers and friends of the yacht club are going to make these two days very attractive to boat lovers and public co-operation is asked for. The occasion will be the most important event ever held on Indian River. Messrs. J. A. Fiske and Will Hicks are working hard for the success of the affair. Boats from all points on the river will enter the races and many of the fast racers in the annual races at Palm Beach will be there for the occasion.

The National Guard of Florida is to participate, to some extent, in the so styled "army maneuvers" which are just commencing along the southern border of Texas. In the administrative office of the Florida Military Department, at the State Arsenal in St. Augustine there is much activity putting into effect the plan of the War Department for having officers of the organized militia of this State participate in these maneuvers. The information given out is that the War Department, through the Chief of the Division of Militia Affairs, has invited the State authorities to suggest the names of a limited number of officers of the National Guard of Florida who could be detailed to report immediately at the nearest of the army camps now being established in Texas. The officers so detailed to go there for the purpose of observation and instruction in connection with the maneuvers which are to be undertaken.

There are 93 Confederate veterans in Walton county now on the State pension roll who draw a check every three months for \$25, which makes a total of \$1,200 a year paid to the veterans of that county for their services in the Civil War.

T. Picton Warlow, of Orlando, has been chosen by the Orange County Democratic Executive committee for recommendation to Governor Gilchrist for appointment to the place made vacant by the death of Judge J. D. Beggs of the County Criminal Court.

Capt. Geo. J. Mercier, one of the best known of the old timers on the Indians river and on the East Coast, died at the Friendly Hospital, Miami, Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. He was 65 years old and had been in failing health for over three years. Death was caused by paralysis.

A Bradentown farmer advertised for a wife and received two hundred answers. After shifting the 200 offers down to six, he has started out for a personal inspection of the six. Of course the applicants for marriage are all from out of the state and doubtless their desire to live in Florida causes them to be willing to accept any kind of an old widower for a hubby.

Rear Admiral Hutch I. Cone, chief of bureau of steam engineering, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., will address the Navy League convention at Los Angeles and will be in a position to advise the west coast delegates of the attitude of the Navy Department toward naval questions involving the Pacific coast. He goes with the full approval of the naval authorities as one qualified to speak with authority of the department. Admiral Cone is a Florida Cracker.

Some idea may be gained of the enormous amounts expended by the three candidates for United States senator in the recent special primary election which was called to select a candidate to fill the office vacated by Senator James P. Taliaferro, by affidavits filed by the candidates with the secretary of State. The total amount spent as certified to the secretary of State by the three candidates was \$59,359.52; Blount having the largest amount, \$24,077.11, Bryan \$18,034.94, and Stockton, \$16,113.03.

The Hotel Haleyon, at Miami, has again been sold at auction, and this time was knocked down to Mrs. M. E. March, who has been successfully operating the place under lease, for \$91,200. The price is about \$7,000 more than was bid for the hotel last summer, the sale at that time having been declared defaulted and a resale ordered. The hotel is a splendid piece of property, and probably worth a great deal more than the price paid. The price realized at the auction last week indicates the upward movement of real estate in Miami, and the purchase by Mrs. March suggests that improvements will be made and the place continued as a prominent resort hotel.

At a meeting of the Daytona Board of Trade held Wednesday evening it was brought out that representatives of the Atlantic Coast Line have recently been in Daytona investigating the proposition of building a branch line from Daytona to DeLand to connect with the main line through the State at the county seat junction. It is understood the proposition looks encouraging to the A. C. L. representatives and to make it still more encouraging and show that such a line would be appreciated by the people in that city and vicinity an action was taken by the Board of Trade by which a committee was appointed to draft a set of resolutions inviting the directors of the road to build a line from Daytona to DeLand.

The intelligent white women of enlightened Florida, many of whom are taxpayers, are today not allowed equal political rights with the negro. The negro can vote in the general elections, but the white woman cannot. Will this humiliating condition be longer permitted to exist? or will the voters of Florida bestir themselves and demand a Constitutional Amendment for equal suffrage in the next session of the Legislature, in April? We are not arguing for the disfranchisement of the black man, but we contend that the political standard for woman in Florida should be raised to the point where she is accorded at least as much political rights as the negro in this glorious representative(?) government. Several States have already adopted equal suffrage with great success, and in several more the question will be voted upon within the coming year. In a number

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of other states women are allowed to vote in school elections. Will Florida be the last one to join the procession?—Estero Eagle.

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