1920

its preliminary organization meeting. The permanent organization was formed afterward and its first public effort was the city-wide clean-up movement of April 5-17, 1920.

April 14: Eamon DeValera, so-called president of the “Irish Republic” spoke to a packed house at the Duval theatre in an appeal to the American public for recognition of the republic of Ireland.

April-May: Serious congestion in the local freight yards; temporary embargoes inaugurated by the railroad and express companies.

May 28: Sixty clerks in freight offices of East Coast and Atlantic Coast Line railroads strike; they returned to work on June 4.

June 6: Strike of 75 workmen in Murphy Iron Works; spread next day to the Merrill-Stevens Corporation. The demand was for 90 cents an hour and closed shop.

June: City-wide campaign for the extermination of rats as preventive of introduction of bubonic plague prevalent elsewhere. The campaign was carried on until the end of August; no plague rats were found.

September 1: Reorganization of the Jacksonville Community Service upon a permanent basis; Lee Guest, chairman.

September 7: Registration of women entitling them to vote under the suffrage amendment started. Miss Helen Hunt was the first woman to register in Duval County. The registration continued until October 16, and in the 15 city wards 8702 white women and 7309 negro women registered.

October 4: Fire destroyed the main plant of the Wilson & Toomer Fertilizer Co., and seriously damaged the plant of the Mason Forwarding Co., entailing a property loss close to $1,000,000.

November 7: Rev. “Billy” Sunday, the evangelist, opened his revival in Jacksonville. He preached here until December 19th.

November 18-27: Fourth annual State Fair.