

# The Ferguson Forum

WE ARE  
AGIN HIGH  
INTEREST



WE ARE  
AGIN HIGH  
TAXES

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## Cotton Root Rot in Texas Said to Be Causing Loss of \$50,000,000 This Year

By VICTOR H. SCHOFFELMAYER  
Agricultural Editor of The Dallas Semi-Weekly Farm News.

Cotton root rot is inflicting a loss of approximately \$50,000,000 on Texas cotton growers this season. Conservative estimates after a survey by scientists show that about 2,800,000 acres out of a total cotton acreage of 19,000,000 in Texas are infested with the disease at present.

Never in the history of Texas has cotton root rot been so widely prevalent nor so destructive.

For Texas as a whole, some 15 per cent of the cotton acreage is in the clutches of the disease, with fields dead or dying wholesale.

The trouble is worst in the black prairie belt of central, north and south Texas where infestations range from 25 to as high as 75 per cent in individual fields. In central Texas at least 30 per cent of the cotton has root rot.

Dr. J. J. Taubenhau, plant pathologist of the Texas Agricultural Experiment station, who has devoted many years to the study of this disease and is the discoverer of the fungus nature (Phymatotrichum omnivorum), which causes it, declares that the situation has gotten out of hand.

Dr. Taubenhau states that in his judgment approximately 25 per cent of the Texas cotton area which is susceptible to root rot is now affected and the disease will continue to spread throughout the fall and winter unless radical measures of eradication are adopted.

Although cotton root rot has taken a heavy toll of Texas cotton for many years only a scant appropriation of some \$400 a year (\$200 from the state and \$200 from the federal government) is available for study of this destructive cotton disease. In spite of limited funds progress has been made in isolating the fungus, leading to control methods, which if generally adopted would tend to reduce the infestation or eradicate it.

Chief of these control measures are crop rotation, discontinuance of raising cotton after cotton, immediate plowing up of the cotton fields as soon after they are picked as possible, exposure of the roots to the action of the sunlight which destroys the fungus, clean culture in all row crops or frequent plowing of infested fields to prevent any tap-rooted weeds such as tie vines, morning glories, sunflowers, blood-weeds, cocklebur and the like living through the winter. All perennial tap-rooted weeds may carry the fungus of root rot.

Some observers state that cotton root rot this year has done as much damage as all the insect pests combined. The fact is that cotton root rot is so serious that it deserves the study of a number of competent scientists unhampered by lack of funds. Dr. Taubenhau believes an appropriation of not less than \$100,000 is needed to do the work properly.

He also states that whereas in the past it was believed the disease was confined to the tight clay lands of Texas it is now positively known that cotton root rot is quite common and equally destructive in the sandy lands of east Texas. It has been recently identified in Smith, Anderson, Cherokee, Gregg and other east Texas counties on the light soils of that region.

Surely the cotton raisers of Texas have enough troubles in trying to make cotton pay without having cotton root rot added to the leaf-worm, the boll weevil, the cotton flea and other pests! If Texas cotton is to be grown at a profit many obvious things will have to be done, but crop rotation is undoubtedly the most important of all methods which will help the farmers.

The excessive wet season of this year, Dr. Taubenhau stated, may have aided the disease in spreading. Root rot is primarily a disease of the limestone soils of Texas and less frequent on lands deficient in lime. The rains perhaps made more natural lime available, thus changing the composition of the soil.

Dr. Taubenhau's observations show that cotton root is more prevalent in the vicinity of weed-infested fence rows and ditches where the fungus lurks.

Root rot may be very bad on virgin lands that have been in prairie for ages. A study of the wild plants shows many to have died from the disease. Other plants, while not killed outright by root rot, are carriers of the fungus and communicate the disease to cotton and other tap-rooted plants.

In all his experience Dr. Taubenhau has never found a cotton plant which was completely resistant to root rot. Some cotton plants may go through the summer showing no signs of the disease, but will die during winter with unmistakable signs of the trouble.

There seems to be a real opportunity for some wide-awake plant breeder to develop a root-rot-resistant cotton, starting with such plants as have developed considerable resistance to the disease. Continued selection might result in a completely resistant plant, which would mean a blessing for the black lands of Texas.

The fungus of root rot can only live on the roots. If it were certain the whole root system of a cotton plant is destroyed by a plowing, control of the root rot would be comparatively simple, but scientific investigation shows that lateral roots extending beneath the soil sometimes ten feet away from the plant do not die promptly and act as dormant cuttings and continue to harbor the live fungus which on contact with other tap-rooted plants is easily distributed.

Furthermore, throughout central and south Texas cotton plants in large numbers go through the winter alive. Eighty per cent of cotton roots in central Texas survive the winter in normal years and fully 100 per cent in south Texas if left undisturbed, while in west Texas the number may be from 15 to 50 per cent on occasion. Also, frequently when cotton plants are plowed and covered over with damp soil they will continue to live and carry the fungus of root rot.

Under existing conditions, Dr. Taubenhau states, where the root

## Gas Tax Submitted To Legislature

The question of levying a state tax of three cents per gallon on sales of gasoline in Texas is now before the special session of the legislature for consideration and action. The governor Tuesday in a message authorized by the terms of her original proclamation calling the legislature in special session laid before the legislature the question of raising additional funds for the support of the free schools of the state through the levy of the tax on gasoline.

In her message the governor urges a "substantial decrease of the present occupation tax levied on automobiles and motor vehicles and the appropriation of the remaining tax to the maintenance and construction of the county roads of each county under the supervision and control of the commissioners' court of each county."

The governor is opposed to any increase in the burden of ad valorem taxation and says: "I do not think ad valorem taxes upon the farms and city and town real estate and personal property of the people should be further increased as this class of property now bears more than its proportionate part of the burdens of taxation and for that reason I urge the tax upon sales of gasoline as a more equitable and uniform distribution of our tax burdens."

"It appears from the records that in the last year the 1-cent tax now levied on gasoline produced in round numbers five and one-third million dollars, and upon this basis, which will increase from time to time, a 3-cent tax would yield \$16,000,000. By appropriating one-fourth of this sum to supplement the available school fund, the per capita apportionment can be increased to \$15 for all scholastics. From this tax there would then be left \$12,000,000, plus federal aid, which would amount to approximately \$5,000,000, or a total of \$17,000,000, for the maintenance and construction of state highways. Then the tax now collected and used by the state highway department could be given to the counties for the upkeep of the county roads and all this can be done without any increase in the present ad valorem rate for these purposes."

"I am sure that the legislature will appreciate the necessity of due and prompt consideration of the matters herein respectfully submitted."

## Bills for \$2,000,000 Deficiencies Passed by Vote of Senators

Austin, Tex., Sept. 22.—Two deficiency appropriation measures totaling \$2,002,243 were passed by the Senate and an emergency and supplemental appropriation measure totalling \$98,039 was introduced and reported favorably by the Finance Committee. Coupled with this activity was the favorable report of the same committee, over the protest of Senator Bledsoe of Lubbock, on the resolution condemning the practice of the executive branch of the state government creating debts to cover government deficiencies in excess of \$200,000.

The emergency and supplemental appropriation measure introduced was on the submission of the Governor and calls for payment of certain accounts as requested by the Comptroller for maintenance accounts. The appropriation would include \$51,673 and \$35,191 for District Attorneys' fees in two items, \$3,000 to pay Mexican war veterans for the current fiscal year, \$54 to pay Special Chief Justice Norman G. Kittrell of the Supreme Court for services in a Woodmen of the World case, \$1,705 for the Confederal of the Girls' Training School and \$800 for the Hospital for the Senile.

The resolution condemning deficiency accounts of the executive was opposed in committee meeting by Senator Bledsoe. Any constitutional provision that the amounts shall not exceed \$200,000 is today meaningless, Senator Bledsoe said, because the Legislature, in making the large appropriations it does, consistently nevertheless, cuts them down so as to leave necessary large amounts to be supplied by the deficiency accounts of the Governor. The constitutional limit stated is too small to cover present-day needs, according to Senator Bledsoe. The committee voted, however, to report favorably on the resolution, there being no minority report.

The resolution, which would be a legislative interpretation of the Constitution, quotes Article 4 of Article 3 of the Constitution, stating: "No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the state, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, and the debt created to supply deficiencies in the revenue shall never exceed in the aggregate at any one time \$200,000."

It continues that the executive department for a number of years "through a construction which is not in keeping with the clear intent and plain meaning of this provision" has been creating debts to supply deficiencies up to \$1,000,000 and more. The committee made plain that the practice has been a growing one and is not a criticism of the present administration.

## Proclamation by Governor on Fire Prevention Shows 284 Lives Lost in Texas

State of Texas, Executive Department, Proclamation: Year by year, the destruction of property by fire in America has been mounting until the total annual loss is now more than \$500,000,000. This means a waste each day of an average of \$1,370,000 of resources which we can ill afford to lose.

But far worse than the destruction of valuable property is the toll of human life through fire. The average number of persons burned to death each day in the United States is stated to be forty-eight.

In our own great State of Texas last year there was more than twenty million dollars worth of property and 284 lives destroyed by fire. A most conservative estimate is that 85 per cent of fires are from preventable causes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Miriam A. Ferguson, Governor of Texas, do hereby designate October 3rd to 9th, 1926 as Fire Prevention Week.

City officials, civic and commercial organizations, school officers and teachers are hereby requested and urged to arrange meetings and exercises for the study of fire prevention problems, and for impressing upon the public the seriousness of the waste caused by fire and the need of the utmost care protecting life and property from danger. Editors and public speakers are requested to call special attention to this subject during that week. Our fire waste is already too large; we cannot permit it to increase. By united effort we can reduce it from year to year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Great Seal of the State this 18th day of August, 1926.

MIRIAM A. FERGUSON,  
Governor of Texas.  
Attest:  
EMMA GRIGSBY MEHARG,  
Secretary of State.

## Jim Reed Displeased With Endorsement by Ku Klux Konvention

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 22.—Senator James A. Reed expresses himself as being displeased with his reported endorsement by Dr. Hiram W. Evans, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, in connection with his presidential boom.

"I have not been notified officially of the endorsement," the Senator said, "but I thought my position on the subject was well known. I was born and reared in the Presbyterian church and have no personal interest in the matter."

"Nevertheless, thirty years ago I denounced religious proscription when A. P. A. was in the floodtide of its agitation. I have never varied from the position I then took."

## Hutchinson Records Moved at Mid-Night to New County Seat

Amarillo, Tex., Sept. 22.—Business of Hutchinson county is now being transacted at the new county seat, Stinnett, following a midnight removal of all books and records of the county from Plemons, following the result of Saturday's election.

When Stinnett was announced winner of the election Saturday, citizens didn't take any chances on any interference with the move. Shortly after midnight Monday morning the records were piled into a truck and transferred from Plemons to Stinnett.

Hutchinson county commissioners met Saturday and issued an order to Sheriff Owenby for the removal and Monday the county business was going ahead in a make-shift courthouse. The vote in Saturday's election was 380 to 158 in favor of the change.

## So-Called Ku Klux Plank In San Antonio Platform Leaves People Guessing

Editor Forum:

Some years ago in the United States house of representatives, after prolonged wrangling and confusion, a member propounded the famous question, "Where are we at?"

At the adjournment of the late democratic state convention delegates were whispering that same inquiry to one another. To answer that question it will be necessary to take our bearings.

It will be remembered that ex-Governor James E. Ferguson in 1921 and 1922 made a vigorous campaign against the Ku Klux Klan, unassisted, except in the Fourteenth congressional district, where it was made the leading issue between the democratic candidates. In that contest the anti-Klan candidate was nominated and was endorsed by the state convention. In that contest the Klan did not do the foolish thing to run one of their own number, but, as on other occasions, they selected a popular democrat.

Failing to get a candidate of their choice in our party, they all voted for the republican candidate in the general election, and elected him, when had they voted for our nominee he would, without doubt, have been elected, and this district would no doubt now be represented by a democrat.

It is well known that the same political treachery was unsuccessfully repeated in the race for governor in 1924.

Our present democratic nominee in the Fourteenth district is persona non grata to the Klan because of his activity against them in the state campaign of 1924, and it may therefore be confidently expected that the Ku Klux will vote for the republican in the general election, as they have heretofore done, notwithstanding the indorsement of our candidates by the state convention.

It is a strange coincidence that our nominee for governor, who made and published pre-convention promises to make at least two speeches for our nominee for congress—one at San Antonio and one at Corpus Christi—since the convention (according to a published statement of one of the local leaders) he says that he will take no active part in the congressional contest in this district, and sees no reason why he should, since it is not his district.

Pre-convention declarations from our nominee and his confidential leader were for an unequivocal denunciation of the Klan by name. From time to time we were promised a red hot declaration against the Klan, and we confidently expected it, but lo! when the mountain labored a mole hill was brought forth. It is in substance the exact counterpart of the declaration of that memorable San Antonio convention which has gone into history as the Ku Klux convention of 1922. The declarations of either of those conventions might well be mistaken for one of those pious and fraudulent statements (for public consumption) by Billy Mayfield in the official organ of the Klan (see the issue of that paper of July 15th, 1922).

It is the hand of Esau, but it is the voice of Jacob. Precisely as in 1922, on the coming of the delegates, busy emissaries hovered about the hotels and convention with a beseeching appeal to refrain from naming the Klan in the platform, "for the sake of harmony." More than a hundred of the leading spirits of the Ku Klux convention of 1922 were present, and exerted a controlling influence in this convention.

Official explainers have given the public lengthy statements on the subject of the failure of the convention to declare against Ku Kluxism by name. One explainer says that the Ku Klux Klan had ceased to function; that they did not take conspicuous part in the convention; and asked for nothing; he therefore declined to dignify a dead issue with notice.

By way of parenthesis, the well-known fact may be stated that they never, as Ku Kluxers, in any state or party, took conspicuous part, or disclosed their presence of their affiliations in Conventions, not even to defend themselves. They are not fools. You may make a political door mat of them, if you please, and they will never complain, if you will but fellowship them and let them name your candidates.

Another explainer says the red hot burning resolutions promised the public by his chief and himself were withdrawn "for the sake of harmony."

Who has placated? A defunct party asking for nothing? Why did we need to surrender a principle for "harmony" in the party when there was no enemy threatening the party except that insidious interloper inside of the organization, then vigorously gnawing at its vitals?

It is difficult to determine whether the explainers were trying to explain or to apologize. One says there was no opposition in the convention to placate or to coddle; the other says he and the chief surrendered (to somebody) for the sake of "harmony." The apologies—or explanations—are conflicting and mutually destructive.

It seems to be the law of Texas politics that "He who fights and runs away will live to fight another day." That may be good politics, but it is a poor principle, and for the 280,000 loyal democrats who voted for the renomination of Governor Miriam A. Ferguson I take the liberty to protest against it.

This declaration about secret societies, in the light of what has happened in Texas politics since 1920, sounds like a homily from the devil on universal salvation.

The spirit that moved in the matter is disclosed, not so much by what the committee said as by what it refused to say.

Recurring to the question "Where are we at?" the answer is plain. We stand where we did when the Ku Klux convention of 1922 adjourned, with the same fight to make against the same compact, oath-bound, secret, alien, political party, within our own organization, and having sufficient numbers and influence to control the selection of our candidates while within the party, but powerless for harm if expelled from it.

In the recent primaries they no doubt selected hundreds of county and district candidates of their choice, defeating loyal democrats.

We had the right to expect the help of the state and county organizations and the candidates of the

party to expel these heretics. No sane man can now hope for such assistance. Loyal democrats must assist themselves again as in 1924.

I think I may safely say for the 280,000 who voted for the renomination of Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, that they recognize Attorney General Moody as their candidate, and will do all in their power to hold up his hands; they do not question his integrity or his democracy, but what they do protest against is the comfort, fellowship and the prestige that the political leaders and the party organization have given to this most offensive enemy that Texas democracy has had to contend with since reconstruction days.

Many thousands of those for whom I speak have, like myself, grown gray in the service of the party, fighting as privates in the rank, without hope or desire for reward, inspired only by a devotion to the old creed of the fathers, held in reverence, second only to the Christian decalogue.

This is to greet that loyal legion of democrats, and beseech them to stand by the colors and renew the fight.

W. B. TEAGARDEN,  
San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 11.

## Roxie Stinson, Once Wife of Jesse Smith Is Bride of Tulsan

Washington Courthouse, Ohio, Sept. 22.—Roxie Stinson, divorced wife of the late Jesse W. Smith, and who gave sensational testimony in the senate hearing during the investigation of the Attorney General's Office under Harry M. Daugherty, was married at Covington, Ky., Sept. 3, to Phillip E. Brast, an oil operator, she announced here on her return from New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Brast will move to Tulsa, Ok. Mrs. Brast, the bride says, is the son of M. E. Brast, wealthy Oklahoma oil man.

(Continued On Page Three)

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## FIRES IN TEXAS TAKE TOLL OF 284 LIVES IN 1925

In connection with the proclamation by Governor Miriam A. Ferguson designating the week October 3-9 as "Fire Prevention Week" in Texas, G. N. Holton, state fire marshal, is sending throughout the state appeals for assistance in educating children and adults in fire prevention. In a letter to the Forum Fire Marshal Holton calls attention to the proclamation of the governor and furnishes for distribution through the press data which he says should arouse greater interest in fire prevention work. He urges that the proclamation be published in full and it appears in another place in the Forum this week.

Fire Marshal Holton in concluding his letter to the Forum says:

"Permit me to thank you for your part in the splendid help and co-operation we have received from the press of the state in our fight against preventable fires that took such a heavy toll in both lives and property in Texas in 1925. The splendid co-operation you have given us has been a wonderful help in wakening the people to the needs and necessity of the co-operation of everyone if we are to reduce our heavy fire losses and will result in great and lasting benefits."

The ghastly toll of 284 human lives sacrificed to the God of Flames in Texas last year should touch the hearts of Texans and arouse, as the marshal suggests, greater interest in stopping this horrible toll due to preventable fires. Eighty-five per cent of the fires reported in the state are classed as preventable and sixty per cent are shown to have originated in the homes of citizens. The people are urged to help reduce the toll of human sacrifice by learning and practicing the simple fire prevention rules for the home which are contained in the pamphlets sent out by the fire marshal's office.

The loss of life through fires in Texas in 1925 included twelve babies under one year of age; thirty-eight from one to two years old; 53 from two to five; eighteen from five to ten; 34 from ten to twenty; 60 from twenty to thirty-five; 21 from thirty-five to fifty; 23 from fifty to sixty-five; twelve from 65 to 80; six from 80 to 100 and seven of unknown age.

Just think of 83 lives of little children from less than one year to five years old being lost in this holocaust with 85 per cent of the fires in which they were killed preventable. It is a contemplation that should shock every heart and stir every inspiration of helpfulness to prevent a repetition of such horrors.

That fire prevention efforts are getting results and gaining ground is shown in an article in the bulletin issued by the state fire marshal in answer to the criticism that fire losses in dollars and cents are increasing year by year in spite of the efforts of insurance companies and fire prevention organizations to curb the loss. The article referred to says:

"It would be a severe indictment of the intelligence of the American people if it could be said that they had paid no attention to all the effort exerted in their behalf to secure their co-operation in reducing fire losses.

"But such is not the case. Even though it is true that in dollars and cents aggregate fire losses increase year by year, it is also true that values of burnable property are increasing proportionately much faster than increase in fire losses.

"That people are beginning to appreciate and head campaigns in interest of fire prevention is evidenced by modern building laws which require slow burning, or so-called fire-proof construction. For some time there will remain the menace of fire traps filled with contents especially subject to quick construction by fire."

## PURL PRAISES SEARCH AND SEIZURE LAW

Texas sheriffs and constables and other peace officers who are clamoring against the search and seizure law and demanding its repeal have answered their own arguments and proved the wisdom of retaining this law upon the statute books is the opinion given through the public press by Representative Purl of Dallas after a survey conducted by him into the workings of the law.

Representative Purl said that his investigation showed that in more than 50 counties the sheriffs have captured more stills, more liquor, and made more arrests on liquor charges since the law went into effect than in the same length of time preceding its enactment.

The law forbids search of premises without a warrant, and provides stiff penalties for the officer who makes a search without having obtained a warrant. The law has been construed to extend to the person or automobile of a suspect.

Repeal of the search and seizure law would subject any home in Texas to invasion by any officer merely on his own whim, in the opinion of Representative Purl, and lay any individual open to affront or mistreatment on the grudge or prejudice of any officer without any safeguard whatever being left for the individual against search "on suspicion."

The law does not interfere with arrests for major crimes and under restricted circumstances, without a warrant. Mr. Purl pointed out.

The search and seizure law is one of the items of "Fergusonism" against which Dan Moody made war in his campaign and yet it is thus highly endorsed by one his strongest klansmen supporters. The sheriffs of Texas through their action in state convention are on record as opposing this law and asking its repeal. There is no handicap in the provisions of this law that prevents effective work by capable officers.

The association of county judges and commissioners of Northeast Texas have endorsed another item of "Fergusonism" in adopting resolutions at their convention in favor of a three-cent tax on gasoline. Really, it looks as if "Fergusonism" is appreciated by the people of Texas.

Read the governor's proclamation designating "Fire Prevention Week" in Texas.

Now the big Texas dailies have opened war upon the proposal to increase the tax on gasoline. Each has heard "His Master's Voice."

You will need the Forum more than ever with the approaching convening of a new legislature and formulation of new policies for state government in Texas.

The Forum gives you the truth about state affairs and tells you about news happenings of general interest that the big papers keep from you. You get the news in the Forum. Read it!

The Northeast Texas County Judges and Commissioners' Association recently held its convention at Gilmer where a discussion of tax measures resulted in the adoption of a resolution declaring in favor of the levy of a tax of three cents a gallon and retention of the greater part of the registration fees for automobiles by the counties in which the vehicles are registered. This association embraces the county judges and commissioners of seventeen counties and every county was represented at the convention. The three-cent gasoline tax is "Fergusonism" and it seems that the county judges and commissioners of seventeen northeast Texas counties favor "Fergusonism" to that extent. And there are others!

## STINGING REBUKE FOR SELF-CENTERED CRITIC

The editorial writers of the Dallas Morning News have undertaken to find all manner of fault with the Ferguson administration and to censure without judgment or calm reflection things of which they know naught or less. In this indiscriminate crusade of calumny and sensure the News has in its editorial columns undertaken to wage war upon the two appointees of Governor Ferguson on the state highway board an duo assume that because Dan Moody received a large majority of votes cast in the recent primary elections therefore all appointees of Governor Ferguson, regardless of merit, qualification or public interest must be rejected and the way left open for appointment by the new governor of men who will be dominated by Moody, while the News at the same time raves because of its narrow, perverted and poisoned judgment, appointees of the governor may be dominated by the Fergusonists.

Such a reflection is unworthy a publication which assumes to speak for a great people and Senator J. Roy Hardin tells the News so in "thoughts that breathe and words that burn." In a communication addressed to the News on the subject of the appointments to the highway commission Senator Hardin writes:

"In opposing the confirmation of Highway Commissioners Hal Moseley and John Cage The News seems to forget the underlying purpose of having the senate of Texas approve appointees to public office. The News speaks of the sovereign will of the people and would have us believe that because Mr. Moody defeated Governor Ferguson the appointees of the governor should be rejected in order that Mr. Moody might fill their places. The sovereign will of the people has been expressed as to Mr. Moody and Governor Ferguson, but not as to Mr. Moseley and Mr. Cage.

"It is not the duty of the senate to interpret the will of the people; it is its duty to pass upon the qualifications of those appointees made by the governor of our state. The senate is a continuing body and was made so for the express purpose of steadying the course of our state government against the shifting winds of politics. The duties of the highway commissioners are determined by law, and not by the wishes of the governor; if Mr. Moseley and Mr. Cage are incompetent or inefficient in the discharge of their duties, then they should be rejected, and the senate will reject them on the submission of such proof. But they should be permitted to stand on their own merits as public servants, and it would be an enormous offense against the cause of good government to strike them down because of the criticism that has been directed against their predecessors. Mr. Moody did not win his nomination on the shortcomings of Mr. Moseley and Mr. Cage and his victory can not be construed as a mandate for their rejection.

"One of Mr. Moody's principal contentions in the campaign was that the commission had been dominated by the governor, but if we are to reject the governor's appointees and permit them to be replaced by those selected by Mr. Moody that very condition would be made possible in the next administration. The highway commission is supposed to be independent of the governor, and the purpose of the legislature in giving to its members a six-year term was to prevent the very condition to which Mr. Moody has objected. The senate is not, or should not be, concerned with the question of whether these appointees are acceptable to Mr. Moody. It is the duty of the governor to make these appointments, it is the duty of the senate to act upon them, and the senate should know no ground for rejection except disqualification for the places they hold. That has been and is the policy of the present senate with respect to other appointees and should be adhered to with respect to Moseley and Cage. It should never be the policy of any senate to reject an appointee merely because he was on the losing side in the past election. Such a policy would be a revision to the old spoils system of politics that has been the curse of American public service and which the lawmakers of Texas, in providing for long terms of office, have sought to avoid and eliminate.

"Mr. Moseley and Mr. Cage accepted their appointments under the most trying conditions ever confronting a department of our state government. They have brought order out of chaos and today the highway department is functioning as efficiently as any other department. It is the logical and natural order of things as established under our system of government that they should be confirmed, unless specific charges against them are presented and proved. Any other view would be so narrow as to lose sight of the broad policy of the state in giving to the commissioners a six-year term."

"State Senator, District No. 6.  
"Kaufman, Texas."

## THE PSALMS AS POETRY

(From the New York World)

It is said that a modern writer, J. M. Powis Smith by name, has retranslated the Psalms and published them as poetry. Since when have the Psalms been regarded as anything but poetry? They are not only poetry, they are perhaps the most eloquent poetry that has ever been written. For example, there is the most celebrated Psalm of them all, the Twenty-third. Glance at it and see whether it needs retouching:

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

One grows a little dizzy reading the voluptuous verbiage of this; there are places where one's comprehension of the sense lags far behind one's enchantment with pure beauty. Furthermore, it conforms to Poe's dictum that the ideal in any art, and especially poetry, has been attained when you cannot alter any part of it without detracting from the whole. Reading Mr. Smith's version, we find it very pretty; but then also we find a gilded lily very pretty, although not so pretty as an ungilded lily.

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When hate rules reason flees and there is abundant evidence of hate in certain activities of the enemies of the Fergusonists.

Advertisements in the Forum's Classified department always get results. Our advertisers say so and they pay the bills for the ads.

"Fergusonism" as represented by a three-cent tax on gasoline has been approved by the county judges and commissioners of seventeen counties of northeast Texas.

Those who are clamoring for increased appropriations for the public schools of Texas have the way opened for the gratification of their desire. The message of the governor asks the legislature to provide the funds. Will that body do so?

The Brenham Banner-Press, the live wire newspaper of Washington county, September 8, issued a special edition which it called "More Crops on Less Acres Edition," and it was a splendid and instructive publication. The Banner-Press contained articles from well known and highly respected and creditable authorities on all kinds of crops, marketing systems, control of crop pests, value of rotation, etc. There were articles on improved seed, fertilizers, cotton growing, truck gardening, hog raising and household economies that made the paper one worthy of preservation and reference.

## "STRUTTING HIS STUFF"

Hiram W. Evans, imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, re-elected by the klonvocation recently held in Washington, was given vociferous approval by that body to continue to "strut his stuff." This "strutting" includes permission to continue at the expense of the klan and the aliens, who are naturalized at so much head, cash, to occupy bridal suits in the most expensive hotels of the country, ride in the most expensive automobiles and sail the seas over in a yacht furnished and maintained by the klan.

Of course royalty, as represented by the title "Emperor" bestowed by his subjects upon their ruler is entitled to travel in luxury and exclusiveness and it will be remembered that on one occasion the imperial wizard is said to have had his negro valet travel in a lower Pullman berth while an aged white woman, unable to obtain a lower was forced to climb into an upper. That also is an example of the "stuff" he is given authority to continue "strutting."

## DEMOCRATS OUTSPOKEN IN CONNECTICUT

The democrats of Connecticut in state convention have openly proclaimed against the eighteenth amendment to the federal constitution and pledged the "Nutmeg State" democrats to work for its elimination. But while they favor the elimination of the amendment they are firm and emphatic in demanding its enforcement while it remains a part of the organic law of the nation.

The resolution by which the state convention of Connecticut democrats pledged themselves to work for the elimination of the eighteenth amendment was adopted by unanimous vote September 16 just before the convention adjourned. The resolution makes it plain that the Connecticut democracy is against the return of the saloon and takes the ground that the amendment is an invasion of the personal liberty of the citizen and has "no place in the framework of our government."

The resolution as adopted at New Haven September 16 reads as follows:

"The Eighteenth amendment, while legally incorporated in the Federal Constitution, has no place in the framework of our government. It is an indefensible curtailment of personal liberty. We believe that it should be repealed and we pledge ourselves and our candidates for public office to unceasingly labor to this end. In taking this unequivocal stand we do not countenance non-enforcement. While prohibition is the law, it is the duty of our government to enforce it. Respect for law is liberty. We oppose the return of the saloon."

## THE CHEMIST AS A MIRACLE WORKER

(From the New York World)

Members of the American Chemical Society meeting in Philadelphia have a right to predict marvelous changes in the immediate future, for they have accomplished them in the recent past. Dr. Irving Langmuir prophesies a new "age of alloys" ushered in by the atomic hydrogen flame; Dr. James I. Norris outdoes Jules Verne by his vision of a world in which toil has been banished and the whole social system revolutionized by the unlocking of atomic energy. Some dreams of chemists, such as Berthelot's, of the era when nearly all foods would be produced synthetically, may remain dreams; but the incredible of today is the commonplace of tomorrow.

It is almost impossible for the town dweller now to imagine a society without coal-tar dyes and synthetic perfumes; without celluloid, bakelite, pyralite and other synthetic plastics; without acetylene, thermite and carborundum; without calcium, magnesium and aluminum, virtually unknown as metals before the electric furnace; without molybdenum steel or tungsten filaments. Most of these are part of our daily life. We see the dam at Muscle Shoals born of the process of making ammonium nitrate; we find chemists as important as Generals in waging war, and as capitalists in carrying on many a business. Yet all this is the accomplishment of the last two generations. It was little more than a half-century ago that German chemists discovered how to make Turkey red from coal tar, that Alfred Nobel demonstrated the use of dynamite in Central Park, and that the Carnegie and Midvale steel interests began the first timid use of chemical experts. From these beginnings chemistry has come to dominate much of modern life.

H. G. Wells in his story of "The World Set Free" imagined the transformations that might be effected if man once brought such atomic forces under his command that a few ounces of any material would drive a liner around the world. This is romance; but it is hardly more wonderful than the realities that chemistry has actually achieved.

When you put an ad in the Forum more than 100,000 persons read it.

Texas faces the probability of making a good cotton crop despite the ravages of pests.

Prevent fires and stop the horrible slaughter of hundreds of human beings every year in Texas.

Keep your subscription to the Forum up and you will know what the politicians of the state are doing and trying to do.

It looks as if the national democracy will have a look-nix next campaign when time comes to elect another president.

Remember you can get the Forum until October 1, 1927 for a single dollar and you are sure to get your money's worth in a single issue.

In spite of a federal crop estimate showing a short cotton crop prices have slumped and nobody seems to know just why. There is a reason and Wall Street knows it.

Road bond validation legislation in both branches of the Texas legislature has made good progress and nearly all the required measures have been prepared and passed either in upper or lower house and soon all will be ready for the governor's consideration.

More than a million and a quarter of Texas children are now attending school. If the Star-Telegram has its say they will not attend for a long period because the Star-Telegram says the interest of the motorist is superior to that of the child and the motorist must not be taxed to give the child an education.

There is corroboration of the charge by Governor Ferguson that the big dailies and the oil interests were in league to defeat the three-cent gasoline tax in the simultaneous appearance in two or more of the papers of editorials opposing the proposed tax. These editorials made their appearance as the special session of the legislature got under way.

That was a careful man, when he laid down to take a nap in a San Antonio street, placed a red light at his head. He had been imbibing the kind of stuff that made him see red and he didn't want to be disturbed in his dreams. He was actuated by the idea of "safety first" and when a kind-hearted policeman escorted him to a cell in the city jail he gave voice to his feelings by saying "I'm safe now."

The San Benito Light expresses its sentiments about a certain type of politician in vigorous words thus: "The blablah type of politician is a nuisance always and particularly a nuisance when uncovering of scandal gives him a chance to blab." That's rather severe upon some of the statesmen in the Moody camp recently prominent in squawking for investigations.

## Lufkin Legislator Reads Klan Letter to House Members

Austin, Texas, Sept. 22.—An unsigned letter received by Representative J. W. Laird of Lufkin, declaring that the "Ku Klux Klan will get you in the next election" created a stir in the House last week when it was read to the members on Mr. Laird's point of personal privilege.

The letter was dated San Antonio, and the envelope bore a San Antonio postmark. The letter and envelope were both written in long-hand. Mr. Laird told the House he would reply in person if he could, but that the letter was anonymous. He said he was ready for any fight the klan desired to start.

The letter follows: "News dispatches from Austin have it that you intend to submit a bill in the special session, directed at the klan, requiring all candidates to tell under oath their secret society affiliations. If I were you, I would merely have them state whether they are 'Pro-Catholic.' That is the issue before the American people today. Your attempt to embarrass the klan has already failed. The klan is here to stay, and they will get you in the next election. I am one of the 'monkey-faced Bupids' and 'klansmen' that spanked the Fergusonists with the fiery cross. Long live Protestantism and the K. K. K."

Governor Ferguson has virtually agreed to submit later in the session the bill by Representative Laird which the governor proposes to require all candidates for state, county or district offices to certify, under oath the names of every secret order or organization of which they may be members, before being permitted to have their names placed on the official ballot.

Representative Laird said that he has been practically assured by the governor that the measure would be submitted after the validation bills have been disposed of. The finishing touches on the bill are now being placed by the lawmaker from Lufkin.

It is openly admitted by Laird that the bill is aimed at the klan. "If members of that organization want to run for office," said Mr. Laird "the world should know it and fail to go to state when they have their names placed on the ticket, would subject such candidates to a heavy penalty. Besides, if a candidate should make a false affidavit, he would be barred from having his name on the ticket."

## Texas Corn Crop Is Biggest Made In 4 Years Records Show

Houston, Tex., Sept. 22.—The largest corn crop in Texas since 1922 is forecast in the September crop report, issued Wednesday by H. H. Schutz, government statistician here, who figures a prospect for 107,564,400 bushels, which compares with the 114,530,000 bushel banner crop four years ago.

He repeats the declaration in his previous cotton report that indications are for a 5,000,000-bale crop, or 49,000 bales more than in 1924 and 835,000 bales more than in 1925. Generally speaking, however, the report declares, conditions have not been altogether favorable for crops in Texas. Some sections have suffered from too much rain and others from high temperatures and a lack of moisture. "However," the report adds, "with the exception of cotton, the principal crops have shown satisfactory progress."

The seeming contradiction showing a high cotton yield and relatively poor condition is explained by the larger cotton acreage this year than in the two previous years. Prospects for grain sorghums in Texas indicate a total production of 51,852,000 bushels or almost double last year's crop.

A resume of other crops in the state indicate that most Texas farms will have a surplus of hay; sweet potato yields will probably go to 8,979,000 bushels; cotton crop was 6,182,000 last year; peanuts may yield 49,984,000 pounds as compared with 35,855,000 in 1925; rice promises a production of 6,067,000 bushels or slightly more than last year and pecans on the basis of 17,000,000 pounds for a full crop, indicate a production of 10,000,000 pounds for the season.

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### Bills to Tax Gasoline As Advised by Governor Are Offered by House Members

Austin, Tex., Sept. 22.—Revenue-producing measures, increasing the gasoline tax from 1c to 3c a gallon and reducing the motor car registration fees, in line with the governor's message delivered to the legislature Tuesday were introduced in the house a few minutes after the document from the executive office was read.

The two bills were presented by Representative F. A. Dale of Bonham, one of the Ferguson spokesmen, and were signed by eleven other members, including Wallace of Freestone county, Wallace of Panola county, Lottin, McFarlane, McDonald, Simpson, Sanford, Acker, Poage, Brown and Moore.

The provisions of the proposed law, fixing the registration fees, are as follows: "Passenger Vehicles.—The annual registration fee of a motorcycle shall be \$5. The annual fee for registration of a passenger motor vehicle shall be based on the weight of the vehicle, as follows: Fee per 100 pounds of fraction thereof, weight of vehicle in pounds:

"Class 1, 1,000 to 2,000, 20c; class 2, 2,001 to 3,500, 25c; class 3, 3,501 to 4,500, 30c; class 4, 4,501 and up, 40c. "Trucks.—For each motor vehicle designed or used for the transportation of property, the annual license fee shall be based on the gross weight of the vehicle, including the body plus its net carrying capacity and the tire equipment, as follows: "Fee per 100 pounds or fraction thereof of the carrying capacity, plus the weight of the vehicle, if equipped with pneumatic tires, as follows for gross weight in pounds:

### Toothpicks Made In Winter Because Sap In Wood Is Frozen

Wassau, Wis., Sept. 22.—Toothpicks, however lowly they may be, are holding their place in the mouths of the people, and they are one of the few manufactured products that are the same the world over.

Thirty billion, the season product of a specialized industry, are produced annually in the United States, H. E. Smith, official of a toothpick manufacturing firm here, estimates.

The modern American toothpick, made of white birch, flat and bevel pointed, and the world's standard, came into the market about thirty years ago, he explained.

"Prior to that time," he said, "there was the gold plated, everlasting toothpick of grandfather's day,—as much a part of his personal equipment as the key to his watch; a little later we had the very insubstantial quill pick, and after that the rough, unsatisfactory slivers made in Japan.

"The bulk of the world's supply of toothpicks is produced in six principal factories in the United States; four of them are in Maine, in the cities of Guilford, Dixfield, Phillips and Strong; one is in Wassau, and one in Cloquet, Minnesota."

Toothpicks are not a by-product of some other industry, but many other commercial articles are made of toothpicks. The toothpick takes the choicest part of a white birch log, and what is left is converted into other things.

The manufacturing process is carried on only in the cold months of the year. The ideal season for making toothpicks is said by manufacturers to be from December 1 to April 15. The reason is that in cold weather the sap in the log remains frozen. As soon as warm weather sets in the sap begins to stir and stains the wood a tobacco brown.

To the toothpick manufacturer a white birch log is composed of three parts: the bark, which goes for fuel, the "white sap," which is the cream of the log for toothpicks, and the "red heart," which is made up into the by-products.

The log, which is anywhere from 6 to 16 feet in length, is cut into 2 foot bolts, which are shaved of their bark to a cylindrical form. Next the

### Cotton Root Rot Is Causing Crop Loss Over Fifty Million

(Continued from Page One)

answer to cotton root rot, but good for the whole farming system of Texas. There is too much land in cotton each year. There is no sense to this system and it will lead to poverty in the end.

Despite the fact that evidence points to Texas root rot as being indigenous to this state, there is a tendency to confuse it with other diseases, such as cotton blight, alkali disease, cotton wilt and lightning injury. With reference to alkali injury cotton and other plants including weeds, will rarely grow in such an area, while in a root rot area corn and other cereals will grow perfectly and cotton will generally reach maturity before the disease takes its toll.

Cotton wilt is confined largely to the sandy soils and sandy loams of East Texas as contrasted with the Texas root rot, which is mostly found in the black waxy and compact soils. A still further difference between these two diseases is that cotton wilt attacks both the root, stem and even leaves of the plant while root rot is a disease of the roots.

"Every owner of a passenger motor vehicle operating for hire in this state shall pay at the time for paying other registration fees, to the county tax collector to be deposited by him in the same manner as registration fees herebefore mentioned, for the use of the county for road and bridge purposes, and to be placed in the county road and bridge fund, a registration fee in addition to the registration fee based on the weight of the vehicle, of \$4 for each passenger such vehicle will seat. Any owner of such a vehicle who shall fail or refuse to comply with this article shall be fined not more than \$200."

The control of root rot may develop along three lines, which include the development of resistant varieties of cotton, the probable use of sulphur on sandy soils, and the use of fungicides combined with a rotation of crops.

Of these three means the latter method is recommended as the most feasible.

Dr. Taubenhaus' bulletin says: "It becomes, therefore, clear that the first step in the control of root rot is the selection of resistant varieties of cotton. A one-year rotation which may be used after the field is cleared of root rot is the planting of wheat, corn or grain sorghum in the fall or oats in the spring and the turning under of all stubble after the crop has been harvested. Frequent cultivation must be given to destroy all weed vegetation.

Another rotation which may be used is: First year, cotton; second year, corn, wide rows, clean cultivate until harvesting; harvest early, plow under stubble deep, keep clean fallow, plant wheat or oats in the fall; third year, wheat or oats harvested, stubble worked in deep, keep clean fallow in summer, fall and winter months; fourth year, cotton, use 100 to 300 pounds of cottonseed meal per acre, plant in wide rows, clean cultivate until the last picking, then destroy the cotton plants; follow by clean fallow during the fall and winter months.

Where a rotation is desired with legumes guar is recommended as a species of legume which is highly resistant to Texas root rot. Highly resistant truck crops such as cabbage, spinach or onions may be used in the Rio Grande Valley where wheat and oats do not thrive.

A more drastic method may be applied in dealing with a badly infested field and that is to leave the land fallow the first year instead of devoting the infested land to some grain immediately after the cotton crop. The land is kept fallow one year in which the soil is persistently worked and cultivated to keep down all possible growth. The loss in crop during the fallow year will be more than compensated in the increase of cotton the next year.

**Come to Lubbock, Texas**  
The Hub of the Plains.  
Good schools, good land, good water, good health.  
Fine climate, fine crops, cheap land—cash or terms.  
Write or see—  
**C. C. McCarty**  
The Land and Loan Man  
P. O. Box 1345, Lubbock, Tex.

## Home Seekers Attention

Live Oak county is one of the undeveloped and undiscovered counties of Texas. There are 800,000 acres of virgin land in this county that will in a very few years come under the plow. This land is as good as the best in Texas and the seasons are as dependable.

If you want to buy a home that is already cleared and ready for the plow, with a new house, new barn and new well write me at Austin. I will sell you such a place for one eighth down, the balance in ten years divided into easy yearly payments. I represent the owner who has about eight of these farms left running from 110 to 140 acre tracts. The land is in four miles of the county seat and close to good school and good road.

Write me today how much money you have to invest and I will arrange to show you the land. Price \$85.00 to \$100.00 an acre.

**JAS. E. FERGUSON**  
Austin, Texas

### ORGAN SOLOIST AT STATE FAIR



**RALPH EMERSON**  
Ralph, Walden Emerson is a lineal descendant of a distinguished forbear. He will be heard in popular free recitals on the great Auditorium organ during the State Fair of Texas, Dallas, Oct. 9-24.

### Shacks Abandoned as Class Rooms at Texas University This Year

Austin, Tex., Sept. 21.—For the first time in many years there will be no recitation classes held in wooden shacks at the University of Texas, according to an announcement from the office of E. J. Matthews, registrar. Only the laboratories and a few offices will be housed in the shacks this fall, it is said. This has been made possible by the opening of Garrison hall, the political science building which has been rushed to completion for the opening of the fall session. The structure contains 26 class rooms, the smallest accommodating 32 students, a lecture room seating 200 persons, and 35 offices. The total seating capacity of Garrison hall is 1,474, or more than any other building of the University campus, it is stated.

### Two Men Burn to Death As Plane Taking Off to Cross Atlantic Bursts in Flames

Westbury, N. Y., Sept. 21.—Two men lost their lives early today when the trans-Atlantic airplane of Captain Rene Fonck crashed in flames in an attempt to take off on a 3,600-mile non-stop flight to Paris.

They were Charles Clavier, French radio operator, and Jacob Islamoff, Russian mechanic. They were trapped in the closed cabin of the huge three-motored biplane.

Captain Fonck, the French ace, in command of the flight, and Lieutenant Lawrence W. Curtin, U. S. N., American alternate pilot, leaped to safety before the plane burst into flames.

An attempt was made to take off last Thursday but had to be postponed because of a gasoline leakage discovered at the last minute. Afterward Parisian friends of Captain Fonck urged him to make the flight for the honor of France, even at the risk of death.

The crash was caused by the buckling of a wheel on an extra landing gear that was to have been dropped into the ocean as soon as the plane got under way.

"I knew the wheel had crashed," said Fonck, "but could neither stop nor rise."

The plane burst into flames an instant after the two pilots leaped from it. Heavy clouds of black smoke rolled upward. An airplane circling overhead sounded a fire siren and telephone calls brought the Westbury fire department within ten minutes. They used small fire extinguishers on the flames but these were futile. There was no water available in the middle of the field and firemen said it would have been useless in fighting a gasoline fire. There were 2,300 gallons of gasoline in the tanks.

The plane weighed more than 23,000 pounds loaded at the take-off. There was a lowhanging mist and a light north wind.

An hour earlier Carl F. Scory, chairman of the contest committee of the national aeronautical association, had sealed the gasoline tank and the barograph as a check at the end of

the flight whether the plane had taken on more fuel or landed during the voyage.

Approximately 1,000 persons had gathered to watch the start of what was to have been an epic voyage. When the plane crashed the crowd rushed forward, but could not get within fifty yards of the plane.

The grass was burned back for fifty feet around it. Women screamed and fainted, and one soldier, said to have been shell-shocked, went into hysterics.

The fire raged for more than an hour afterward and it was impossible

### Youth Shoots Self After Chum Killed in Auto Accident

Fort Stockton, Tex., Sept. 20.—Don Sanders of St. Paul, Min., 24, accompanied by D. V. Brown, 25, of Day, N. D., drove their motor car against an elevated pipe in an oil field near here Monday, breaking Sanders' neck. Death was instantaneous. Brown, overcome with grief, shot and killed himself after the accident. The boys were buddies.

### ONLY \$25.00 Rich Man's Corn Harvester—Poor Man's Price

When you can buy a Corn Harvester for only \$25.00 Thousands of Farmers using them in every state in the Union. Why not you? One horse to pull it, one man to run it, with grand success. Harvester handles tall or short corn, kafir or cane. It cuts one row as fast as a horse can walk or trot. Self gathering. Has a bundle tying attachment. If you want to save time, men and money, write The Ziegler Harvester Co., Dept. A, Salina, Kans., for catalog showing pictures of harvester at work in the corn field. Harvester is shipped by express or freight. This is a thoroughly reliable company in business for over 30 years.

### Chicago Policemen Ordered to Thin Out Ranks of Gangsters

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 18.—"Shoot to kill" orders were issued by Mayor Dever today when he heard reports that two rival bootlegging gangs were preparing to fight with guns for control of the illicit liquor traffic in Chicago. The heads of the police department were told to exterminate the gunmen, gangsters, bandits and other outlaws, "to shoot first and show no quarter."

**40th Annual State Fair of Texas DALLAS OCT 9-21 1926**  
IN THE AUDITORIUM

**THE SHOW PLACE OF THE SOUTHWEST**

- Texas Talent Triumphant
- Superb Agricultural Show
- Livestock Exhibit Supreme
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**DOG SHOW—AUTO CLASSIC**

- Wonder Woman's Division
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**FOOTBALL—R. O. T. C. HORSE SHOW**

**"PRINCESS FLAVIA"**  
Spectacular Shubert Musical Success  
THAVIUS BAND AND OPERA COMPANY  
More Free Attractions—Low Rail Rates

## THE KATY IS YOUR RAILROAD

# Railroad's Remarkable Freight Record

**THE** improvement of railway freight service is the most important change directly affecting all industry and commerce that has occurred in the United States since the World War. Business is now conducted free from the dangers of car shortage and transportation congestion during periods of peak traffic movement, thus insuring it against costly traffic delays.

Improved freight service is saving the country millions of dollars annually—the benefits of which are shared by both consumer and producer. Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover has estimated that each of the periodic transportation shortages, the last of which occurred in 1922, "caused a loss to the American people of a billion dollars."

Commerce and industry are now so adjusted to new ways of doing business, possible only with present railroad service, that recurrence of the old conditions of periodic congestion would bring in its wake commercial calamity which might entail prolonged industrial depression. In every line of industry the drives for quick turnover, liquid capital and increased production not only have been made possible by improved and expedited freight service, but have been more than matched by the record of the railways for quick freight transit.

American railroads in 1925 handled the largest number of loaded freight cars of any year in their history, with almost complete freedom from car shortage, congestion and delay. Thus far in 1926, they have loaded and handled an average of almost one million freight cars each week. This tremendous traffic volume, necessitating the special training and systematic organization of thousands of employes, as well as the highest degree of efficiency in railroad operation, makes the performance indeed remarkable.

The Katy—the pioneer railroad in its distinctive territory, and the only line serving all the more important centers in Oklahoma and Texas through both Kansas City and St. Louis—has loaded and handled 120 per cent more cars of wheat, from its local stations since June 1, when the 1926 crop began to move, than it did in the same period last year. No shortage of cars to accommodate the requirements of the farmers in moving their 1926 crops to market has yet been experienced, nor does such shortage threaten. Your cooperation and support is solicited in maintaining conditions under which the railroads may continue to contribute steadily to the advancement of the country's commercial and industrial interests.

**MKT**  
Missouri-Kansas-Texas Lines

**KATY FREIGHT RECORDS**  
The Katy is particularly proud of this record it has made in fast freight service. From the standpoint of regularity and dependability, it will not be excelled. In 1924, 96.7% of all scheduled merchandise cars operated by the Katy arrived at destination on time. In 1925, the on-time arrivals of scheduled merchandise cars reached 98.1%. For the first seven months of 1926, on-time arrivals totaled 98.5%.

**TO AND FROM THE GREAT SOUTHWEST**

Bandits Escape by Strewing Big Nails in Front of Posse

Columbus, Wis., Sept. 21.—By scattering flattened roofing nails on the road, five men who held up the First National bank here, managed to escape in an old touring car with more than \$500,000 in currency and securities.

Pursuers who set out in high-powered automobiles soon after the robbery late yesterday were halted by punctured tires. Trail of the bandits was strewn with the nails for several miles.

Authorities and posse sought the quintet in southern Wisconsin counties today.

FOR OVER 200 YEARS

haarlem oil has been a world-wide remedy for kidney, liver and bladder disorders, rheumatism, lumbago and uric acid conditions.



correct internal troubles, stimulate vital organs. Three sizes. All druggists. Insist on the original genuine Gold Medal.

LAND

COME TO ORANGE GROVE

the growing agricultural section of Jim Wells Co., I have several acres in farms, well improved, also good raw agricultural land priced right, real money makers. Come and buy now. The New Harbor at Corpus Christi, the Highway Railroad building into the Valley are only a few reasons why these are money makers. Write, come and see.

A. H. EHLERS, "The Land Man"

Orange Grove, Texas.

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2c per word each insertion. Minimum charge 50c.

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HONEY—Guaranteed, pure extracted, light color, from horsechestnut. Six 10-pound pails \$7.25, 2 60-pound cans \$14. Amber color from huckleberry, 6 10-pound pails \$6.25, 2 60-pound cans \$11.50. F. O. B. New Uhm. Sample 10c. A. L. Krueger, New Uhm, Texas.

HONEY—New crop, light color, extracted; two 60-pound containers, \$12.50; six 10-pound, \$7.00; twelve 5-pounds, \$7.50. J. S. Henkhaus, Woodboro, Tex. 9-18-3

NEW CROP Black-eyed and Cream Peas \$5 per 100. Write for prices on peanuts and peans later. Missouri Strain "Gold Bond" White Plymouth Rock Cockerels \$2 each. These chickens will please the hard to please. Money returned if not satisfied. T. I. Fitzgerald, De Leon, Texas. 9-23-3

BABY CHICKS—Hatching every week in the year. I am the only POULTRYMAN in the SOUTH that ever went to ENGLAND for POULTRY. In 1923, I returned with the LARGEST SHIPMENT of ENGLISH WHITE LEGHORNS ever brought to AMERICA. I also have the AMERICAN UTILITY and SHOW LEGHORNS. Have COCKERELS to mate to your flock that will improve the LAYING QUALITY of your STRAIN. These COCKERELS are from eggs produced by my own hens and raised by me. The sisters, (pens and pullets) these COCKERELS are my laying stock. Write for catalogue and prices. THE ORIGINAL OLDEST JOHNSON POULTRY RANCH IN TEXAS. Wolfe City, Texas. 9-31

FRUIT BOOK FREE—I would like for all the readers of the Forum who are interested in fruit to have my new catalog. It tells the best varieties for Texas also the best way to grow an orchard. Send for it. J. E. Fitzgerald, Stephenville, Tex. 9-23-5

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Potash Tests Out in West Texas Reveal Deposits of Vast Area and High Value

Austin, Tex., Sept. 22.—What is believed to be the world's greatest deposit of potash has been discovered in West Texas. Belief in the West Texas discovery is backed by diamond core-drill test borings made, and the report thereon by Dr. E. P. Schoch, director of the industrial chemistry experiment station, University of Texas, which says in part:

"You and your associates are to be congratulated on revealing the first commercially important deposit of potash salts in the United States. Without considering any other deposits likely to be found further down, I do not hesitate to say that you have a commercially valuable deposit in your five-foot layer, and this layer is appreciably amplified by the next higher three-foot layer, which can also be mined."

The report was made to M. Agress, Tom G. Leachman, J. N. Stier and Neth Leachman of Dallas, officers and directors of the Standard Potash Company, upon whose holdings, comprising about seventy square miles in South Midland county, the test-borings were carried out at an expense of more than \$100,000.

Mr. Agress is president of the concern, while Mr. Stier and T. C. Leachman are trustees for the holding of the two blocks of land controlled and are responsible for the financing of the entire enterprise. Neth Leachman, a Dallas attorney, has charge of the company's legal affairs. Mr. Stier was first to become interested and his faith in the enterprise influenced his associates.

The diamond core-drill test results in bringing to the earth's surface a full core of its lower reaches, showing distinctly every stratum and formation through which the drill passes. Only by obtaining cores can positive information be had as to what the strata below the earth's surface actually contain. Every indication is and every test applied proves that the drill was sunk through approximately the center of a vast deposit.

The field has not been fully defined, but on the basis of what authorities have cited, some idea of the possibilities may be had. Dr. O. S. Smith, director of the United States Geological survey, has estimated the value of a square mile, with a deposit five feet thick and a potash content of 11.21 per cent, at \$160,000,000.

Dr. Schoch's report on the Texas discovery says: "I find you have the following deposits of potash minerals down to a depth of 2,111 feet. At — feet, a one-foot bed of polyhalite with 8 per cent of potassium oxide; at — feet, a one-foot bed of polyhalite with 12.12 per cent of potassium oxide; at — feet, a three-foot bed of polyhalite with 13.13 per cent of potassium oxide; at — feet, a layer of pure polyhalite at least five feet thick. The core of this was obtained in a broken condition, but a careful reassembling of the pieces showed that a layer of at least five feet is present, with approximately 16 per cent of potassium oxide."

The report also states: "Right below the three-foot bed there is a layer ten feet thick of rock salt with pieces of potash mineral scattered through it, making the potash content of this ten-foot layer somewhat more than 2 per cent of potassium oxide. If this were concentrated, it would equal somewhat more than one foot of polyhalite. "Before encountering any of the above layers of polyhalite we noticed that the circulating water was unduly enriched in potassium salt, up to 1 per cent of potassium. During this time no core was obtained and we had evidently encountered here a layer of clay or soft shale with a considerable amount of very soluble potassium salt—perhaps potassium chloride—in it. The geological evidence found in your cores, as well as that obtained from a comparative study of all wells in this neighborhood, indicates that the layers around your well are unbroken and have at most only a gentle, continuous slope, hence the potash layers revealed are likely to be quite extensive."

The blank spaces appearing in place of the number of feet mentioned in Dr. Schoch's report are inserted because officers of the company owning the deposit do not care to release that information at this time.

On the basis of Dr. Smith's estimate that a five-foot deposit of 11.21 potassium oxide over a square mile would be worth \$160,000,000, the deposit under the properties in Midland county has a potential value of \$2,200,000,000. And the test hasn't been completed yet. The drill still has nearly 400 feet to go.

Ever since 1917, when the world realized that it was wholly dependent on Germany for its potash supplies, scientists, students and technicians, with a large percentage of the press, have been bending every effort and turning every thought to the possible discovery of another source of supply. Attention was turned to Texas, and particularly West Texas, because of indications found in oil well drillings and also because the geological formation of the country here and the theory that it had been a part of a prehistoric perman sea.

But the showings obtained from oil wells are far from positive. Dr. Schoch explains why oil well boring are deceptive.

"The occurrence of fragments of potash mineral as obtained from material ground out by oil well drills and brought to the surface by the ball, even when these fragments are found in relatively large proportion to the material brought up—do not necessarily indicate the presence of commercially valuable beds of potash mineral," he says, "because the mineral frequently occurs dispersed so extensively among worthless minerals, particularly common salt, as to make the mixture unprofitable to mine. "For instance, in the coring done by this company a ten-foot layer was found containing only 10 per cent of

polyhalite and this layer is too poor to be mined profitably. In Germany, as far as we know, all layers containing polyhalite are too poor in potash to be mined. Thus it is seen that the data obtained from oil well drillings may be misleading and only core drilling can be depended on. This method, however, is very difficult and costly and even if frequently fails to produce a core at the critical moment.

"Coupled with this is the general observation that potash deposits are of small rather than large extent. The condition prevailing at the time the salts were deposited naturally govern the relative extent of a layer. In the area explored by this company all indications are that there was a quiescent condition, which allowed all substances to be deposited uniformly over a relatively wide area, so that the layers penetrated by the drill and revealed by the cores will probably extend for several miles around. It is unwarranted, however, to conclude that it extends as much as twenty or thirty miles."

Inspired of Effort. Dr. J. A. Udden, director of the bureau of economic geology of the University of Texas, has held forth on the belief that potash in commercial quantities was present in West Texas and it is to him that Dr. Schoch gives credit for initiating the search which has resulted in the discovery.

"Dr. Udden was impressed by the similarity of formations in Western Texas with those contiguous to the German potash deposits," Dr. Schoch says. "His indications here are of immense deposits of salt, the result of the evaporation of a prehistoric sea cut off from the rest of the ocean, just as was the case in Germany. This Texas sea covered the larger part of the Panhandle and what was formerly called the 'Llano Estacado,' or staked plain.

"In 1912 when Swensen & Sons undertook to drill a deep water well near Spur in Dickens county, Dr. Udden asked for permission to examine borings. These he studied with the greatest patience and thoroughness. He found small specks of rose-colored salts, which, when picked out, proved to be potash mineral. This confirmed him in the belief that potash in commercially valuable deposits must occur somewhere in the area covered by this sea.

"It is due to his scientific attitude and untiring activity that the work was then taken up systematically. The bureau of economic geology of the University of Texas, initiated the effort. Later, on invitation of Dr. Udden, the United States Geological survey joined forces and these two institutions have continued the search since with the utmost ability. Naturally, however, the larger part of the work has been done by the federal agency, as university funds available for this purpose have been very small.

"In addition to Dr. Udden, the men who have worked so untiringly to the end of the accomplishment now announced include Dr. H. E. Sellards, associate director of the bureau of economic geology, University of Texas; Dr. David White, chief geologist, United States Geological survey; Dr. O. S. Smith, director of the United States Geological survey; Professor George Steiger, chief chemist of the same bureau, and H. S. Gale and H. V. Hoots, geologists on the staff of the survey."

Mr. Agress has made an exhaustive study of the potash deposits of eastern Europe and since 1917 has devoted practically his entire time and energy to the effort of locating probable American deposits of importance. After several years of study and investigation, following up every report on wells that were drilled in West Texas wherein potash showings appeared and correlating the stratigraphy of the West Texas potash region, he selected a certain area in which he felt that if it were drilled by proper methods and under proper supervision the valuable mineral would be found.

Accordingly he selected a tract six miles wide and three miles long and located the test in the center of the section.

The potassium oxide content of the Midland county test, as shown by the report of Dr. Schoch, is the highest of any potash mineral found in the United States.

After the test well was three-quarters drilled the cores indicated the desired direction in which to extend the area in order to cover the main level of the potash basin. Additional leases were obtained and the company's holdings now consist of approximately seventy square miles.

Hollywood Turns Out to Kiss Mabel After Her Marriage Friday

Hollywood, Calif., Sept. 18.—Mrs. Lew Cody, nee Mabel Normand screen tomboy, was reported on the verge of a "kiss collapse" here last night following the announcement of her romantic marriage to the film idol which took place at Ventura shortly before dawn. The news of her wedding had preceded her when she slipped into the studio where she was working, and she was besieged by a host of friends who insisted upon kissing the bride. A studio official who surreptitiously clicked off the number of osculations, including his own, said that Mabel had registered more real close ups than could possibly be portrayed in 10 reels of clinking.

Suit for Rich Oil Field Is Filed by State's Attorneys

Austin, Tex., Sept. 21.—Suit was filed Tuesday by Texas University and the State for the recovery of almost the entire Reagan county oil field, for the appointment also of receivers for the operating companies, for the forfeiture of all leases held by the defendants, for the forfeiture of permits to operate in Texas and for damages aggregating \$2,750,000. The case is styled the State of Texas vs. Reagan County Purchasing Company, Inc., et al, and was brought in the Fifty-Third District Court of Travis County, Judge George Calhoun. The defendants named are the "Texon Oil and Land Company, Group No. 1 Oil Corporation, Group No. 2, Oil Corporation, Big Lake Oil Company, the Reagan County Purchasing Company, Inc., Humble Oil and Refining Company, and the Humble Pipe Line Company. The petition declares that the suit was brought for the benefit of the University and State of Texas.

The sum of \$500,000 is asked of the companies, with 6 per cent alleged to be due under the leases, and \$2,250,000 damages because of the differences "between the actual amount of the production of oil and that shown by their reports."

Saner & Saner of Dallas, attorneys for the University, signed the petition with Attorney General Dan Moody.

The defendants have control of practically the entire oil field in Reagan county, located on University lands.

This is declared to be one of the most sensational suits brought by Attorney General Moody. If the suit is won the highly valuable oil producing lands, now the largest field in Texas, would come on the market for resale and would bring the University a huge sum.

It is alleged in the petition that the defendants are "affiliated" and "are interdependently connected and interested in the production and marketing of oil, gas and petroleum from the University of Texas lands." The stock ownership of each of the concerns is cited to support this contention. It is claimed that the Texas Corporation of Delaware chartered Texon Corporation; that the Delaware Corporation owns more than 1,236 shares of a total of 2,048 shares of the Group No. 1 company, more than 287,449 of the 488,000 shares of the Group No. 2 company and 40 per cent of its subsidiary group No. 1 owns one-fourth of the stock of the Big Lake Company; that the Reagan County Purchasing Company is owned and controlled as follows: The Marland Company owns 51 per cent of its capital stock and the remaining 49 per cent is owned by Texas Groups 1 and 2 and the Big Lake Company; that approximately 98 per cent of all the oil produced from the lands has been sold to the Humble or the Marland, and that oil consigned to the Marland is paid for by the Humble.

Broadway Favorites In "Princess Flavia" at the State Fair

Howard Marsh and Evelyn Herbert, Broadway favorites, are to head the company of 200 which the Messrs. Shubert will send from New York by special train to present their most imposing operetta, "Princess Flavia," at the State Fair of Texas, Dallas, Oct. 2-24. A musical dramatization of Anthony Hope's "Prisoner of Zenda," the most popular romantic novel of all ages, "Princess Flavia," will be given in the Auditorium each evening throughout the state fair at 8:15, with matinee at 2:30 on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Hope's swashbuckling tale of love and intrigue in the mythical kingdom of "Ruritania," has been rendered in entrancing operetta by Harry B. Smith, and the glorious music by Sigmund Romberg, composed of the "Students Prince" scores. Romberg will personally direct the opening performance, Saturday night, Oct. 9, and his presence will mean the outstanding event in the theatrical and musical history of the Southwest.

Howard Marsh, of commanding height and stalwart form, sang the part of "The Prince" in the original "Students Prince" company, in which he made a distinct and lasting impression. He is endowed with a pleasing personality, marked by a distinctive and a most appealing voice. Miss Herbert created the part of "The Princess" in the original Broadway offering of "Princess Flavia." She is highly attractive, with a most winning stage presence, possesses a melodious, well-trained and distinctive voice, and has a particular gift for personable appearance in the gorgeous costumes she is called upon to wear.

Firebugs Trapped by Sleuth in Uniform of American Soldier

Fort Sill, Okla., Sept. 21.—Having masqueraded as a soldier to investigate the numerous fires which in two years have consumed millions of dollars worth of government property at the army post here, a government agent resumed civil life again today, his job completed.

In the guardhouse, partly as a result of his efforts, were locked eighteen soldiers, some of them members of the post fire and military police departments, charged with incendiarism, which they started for excitement. Officers allege some of them have confessed.

A month ago, the operative whose name is withheld, donned olive drab, sat at mess, drilled, did kitchen police duty and with his ears open manifested willingness to hear about the fires. Army officers expressed belief that the most sinister fire ring ever existing in a military camp has been broken. For two years, warehouses, hay stacks, and barracks have been consumed, the damage being estimated in the millions of dollars.

Every Demand for Potash Can Be Supplied by Texas Says Report of Geologist

Austin, Tex., Sept. 22.—University of Texas lands in West Texas can produce enough potash to supply the needs of the United States, which use about 225,000 tons of potassium oxide a year, E. H. Sellards, university geologist, declared in a report made to the board of regents following a survey of the potash industry in Europe. "The potash requirements of the United States at present are about 225,000 tons potassium oxide per annum valued at \$14,000,000," Mr. Sellards reported. "In contrast to these requirements potash production in the United States from all miscellaneous sources amounts to about 20,000 to 25,000 tons. The annual importation is about 200,000 tons, valued at about \$13,500,000."

Land in Potash Region. The University of Texas owns 2,080,000 acres of land in the potash region, and it is believed probable that considerable potash underlies the land.

"Extensive mining of potash minerals is carried on now only in Germany and France, although one mine is operating in Poland and in Spain production on a commercial basis has been initiated during the past year."

"The purpose of my observations made in Europe was to compare conditions of occurrence of production in these countries with the known occurrences in Texas to serve as a basis for subsequent further study of the Texas deposits.

Fields Are Compared. "There is a close relationship in the manner of occurrence of the potash in Europe, especially of Germany, with that of Texas. The German potash is found associated with salt beds occupying the site of a former extensive sea, the salt having been deposited as a result of the drying up of this sea during Permian time. In Europe, especially in Germany, German salt sea, a large similar sea existed in western Texas and adjacent regions, which, through desiccation likewise formed extensive salt beds, and in these salt beds potash has been found. In parts of the German region the potash occurs in relatively undisturbed stratified formations. In Texas the potash is found in stratified deposits which have undergone no great disturbance. Under the North German plains the salt and with it the associated potash occurs in salt domes. In the Gulf coast of Texas there are likewise salt domes in one of which a trace of potash has been found. The potash of France, Poland and Spain is likewise associated with salt. The relation between the manner of occurrence of salt beds of Germany and of Texas is such as to indicate the probability of beds of potash of commercial value in Texas. The French deposits lie in strata that are but slightly folded, while the Spanish potash is found in salt domes.

"The German potash industry is at the present time carrying an excessive investment charge. This is due to the fact that in the course of the development of the potash industry in Germany a total of more than 200 mining plants have been established. With the governmental regulation of the industry it is found that the world supply of potash can be most economically obtained by operating no more than about one-third of the plants. For this reason the German government has provided for the voluntary or involuntary closing of two-thirds of the mining plants. To each plant there is allowed under governmental control, a given quota of production. If the plant is closed down the production quota may be taken over by another plant of the same company or may be sold. The plants closed

have for the most part done so voluntarily, the sale value of the quota equalizing the profit obtainable by operating. In this way 60 or 70 operating plants are now carrying the investment load of more than 200 plants.

Method of Mining. "The method of mining potash in Europe is universally by shaft, driveway and dry mining. The depths from which production is obtained varies from 1,000 to 3,000 feet. In the Texas regions similar depths of salt beds and similar mining conditions may be expected. Galleries and rooms excavated in mining are subsequently filled by the waste products of the mine in order to prevent caving. In the construction of chambers, as a rule, pillars of potash are left as supports. However, in the French mines all of the potash is removed, the space being filled as the mining proceeds.

"The manufacturing processes are simple. To a limited extent the higher grade minerals including kainite and a part of the sylvite are merely ground and shipped without further treatment. The greater part of the minerals mined, however, go through a manufacturing process. "In general this process depends upon the fact that the potash minerals are more soluble in hot water and less in cold water than are the associated minerals, particularly salt. Accordingly the mineral, after being taken from the mine and crushed, is treated for a short time with hot water, temperature about 100 centigrade, which takes the potash mineral into solution. Afterwards the water is allowed to stand and upon becoming cold, the potash minerals are dropped out of solution. Hot salty water is used, thus reducing the amount of salt taken into solution. The same water is used over and over again.

"Potash is an essential ingredient of fertilizers and necessarily will be more and more used as the new and virgin soils are depleted. At the present time the world requirements of potassium in the form of fertilizer are about 1,000,000 tons annually, so Mr. Sellards believes, supply the United States.

Fat Girls in Africa Bring Parents Best Price From Suitors. (From the Milwaukee Journal.) Girls, if you are fat, go to Angola, the Portuguese name for Portuguese West Africa. W. H. Anderson, Seventh Day Adventist missionary from the heart of Africa, says that the fatter a maiden is the more beautiful she is considered by the natives. "When a girl gets to the marriageable age, seventeen, she is put in a pen and fattened," Mr. Anderson said. "She may be kept penned up and starved with food for nine or eighteen months. The fatter she is the better price she brings to her father when she is sold. For a beauty who has been fattened so she can hardly waddle when released from the pen, one must pay twenty head of cattle, but the maiden refuses to achieve obesity, she commands the paltry price of ten head. "It's a great disgrace not to marry, so if a girl stays skinny in spite of all efforts, you can purchase her at a bargain. The greatest disgrace is not to have children and childless men are grounds for divorce in Angola. "I found among these native tribes a remarkable code of justice," Mr. Anderson said. "They were practicing Mosaic law which had somehow been carried into Africa long centuries before white men ever penetrated the Dark Continent."

Man Wins First Prize in Sewing Contest at Hardeman County Fair

Quannah, Sept. 22.—A man winning first prize with a handmade smoking jacket contest in the women's building exhibit at the Hardeman County Fair just closed, was one of the unusual incidents of the 1925 fair.

Floyd Snyder, owner of the Snyder Produce company of Quannah, exhibited a smoking jacket which he made out of ribbons in which cigars had been wrapped, while in France during the war. These ribbons were about six inches long, about an inch wide, all yellow, with names of the cigars and the manufacturers printed on them in black. No two of the ribbons were alike.

They were fast stitched together with pale blue thread, and the evenness of the stitches made many women spectators blush at their inability to do needlework. The garment was lined with blue silk, Snyder stated he had worn the garment many times.

New Town in Valley On Southern Pacific Given Name of Elsa

Mercedes, Tex., Sept. 22.—New railroad lines in the lower Rio Grande valley are resulting in the creation of many new towns, the latest of which is to be called Elsa and to be located on the Southern Pacific between Edinburg and Harlingen in Hidalgo county.

The new townsite, which is owned by the American Rio Grande Land and Irrigation company here, is being laid out under the supervision of E. A. Wood of Dallas, city planning engineer. The government already has approved the town for a postoffice, the Southwestern Bell Telephone company has made application for a franchise for service, the Southern Pacific has prepared plans for a Spanish-type brick depot and a bank is being organized.

Paved highways are to meet in the center of the new town under the Hidalgo county paving plans for which bonds were voted last year.

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JIM FERGUSON The Editor