

Published Every Afternoon. (Except Sunday.) Office, 112 Front Street.

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Telephones: Editorial and Counting Rooms, Both Phones No. 35. Society Editor, Cumberland No. 429. Home Phone 264.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: (By Carrier.) By the Week 15 cents; By the Month 50 cents

HEARST TELEGRAPH AND CABLE SERVICE received daily, the exclusive franchise for which is owned by the Daily News.

Entered as second-class matter on May 23, 1907, at the postoffice at Hattiesburg, Miss., under the Act of Congress of March 2, 1879.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE NEW COUNTY OF FORREST.

SOUTHERN REPRESENTATIVE For Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma: The Crockett Agency, New Orleans and Dallas.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1908.

Actual Average Circulation 2,785

OUR CANAL.

A French engineer says our Panama canal is a failure. Well, it isn't. It may be that we cannot build a canal over the mountains, because "there are no foundations at Gatun," but that is not final. After trying that more fully, after having seen the full amount of water that can be raised down and run on the canal, the engineers can decide.

Discussing this proposition, the Birmingham Ledger pertinently remarks:

"If we cannot build the locks and dams we have one alternative that doesn't require high engineering skill. We can put Oliver, the builder, down there with a big gang of Alabama negroes and cut that ditch from sea to sea, splitting the mountains. There is no doubt about a sea level canal.

It will cost very little more money and not a great deal more work to cut a canal that there will not be any doubt about. There have always been doubts about the lock canal, notwithstanding Mr. Roosevelt's vehement words. Great engineers do not believe the locks and dams can hold, but there is no doubt about a great big, deep, wide ditch right across the isthmus.

"For this reason we refuse to worry about the canal because it 'keeps bustin' loose.' We always have the alternative of a ditch from 'end to end.'"

THE LAW OF LIABILITY.

The railroad bill of lading is now the main cause of contention between the roads and the shippers. On this subject the New York Journal of Commerce says:

"There seems likely to be a general acquiescence in the adoption of the uniform bill of lading by most of the railroads of the country on the first of November, but the agitation for uniform laws relating to carriers' liability will not cease. The National Industrial Traffic League not long ago declared in favor of what is called the 'clean bill of lading,' and has accepted the railroads' bill under protest. This indicates a disposition to contest its effect, and there will probably be formal complaints from time to time. The so-called 'clean bill' is in effect a receipt for the goods taken by railroads to be transported and delivered, 'in accordance with the provisions of

law, in good order to consignee.' 'This would leave all questions of law or damage or failure to fulfill the carriers' obligations to be determined by the laws defining their liability; but these are state laws and they differ somewhat widely in different states. This would not only make the collection of claims a matter of delay, difficulty and expense, but such bills would be unsatisfactory to most shippers and to all bankers, who are expected to make advances on their security. Bills of lading represent title to an enormous amount of property constantly in transit from place to place to be delivered only on presentation of the bills. One of their most important uses is that of security for advances made by banks in discounting drafts for payment for the goods, and for that they must be negotiable, making the goods deliverable on order to the holders of the bill. The bank must have secure title to the property until the drafts are paid, and be able to take possession of it and sell it if necessary. The question of liability for loss, impairing value or interfering with recovery, became important not only to shippers and consignees but to bankers or anyone to whom title may be transferred."

WHO GOT THE MONEY.

Applying the query: "Who got the money" to the Panama canal purchase brought down upon the head of the New York World owner the direful wrath of Mr. Roosevelt and created a sensation of the first magnitude. The same question applied to other transactions would not create such a stir, but it would be altogether appropriate in a number of instances.

Many political deals are made in which someone gets the money, but the people ask in vain, "who?"

Many valuable franchises are granted by municipal politics in which someone gets the money, but the question "who?" brings forth no answer. Many great combinations of capital and industry stifle competition and choke competitors and the money made thereby does not always go where it is safe to tell, but someone gets the money.

Graft goes on uninterruptedly throughout the length and breadth of the land. It is an evil of the times, begotten by desire for easy money, encouraged by the dishonesty alike of those who have the money and those who wish it, and the people of the rank and file, the fellows who ultimately foot the bills but waste their words and effort when they ask: "Who got the money?"

GULFPORT'S BIG DAY

This is a big day for Gulfport. In fact, it is a big day for all South Mississippi.

At the noon hour, amid the rousing cheers of a great throng of people, the first ship load of cotton left that port for Liverpool.

The harbor at Gulfport is not new. For several years it has been the largest lumber shipping point on the Gulf of Mexico, and the largest vessels afloat have weighed anchor in its harbor.

Excessive freight charges on the railroads have prevented the development of the cotton shipping industry, thus greatly retarding the development of the port and the territory contiguous thereto, embracing the larger portion of South Mississippi.

These rates have recently been equalized in the courts and the railroads have submitted under protest.

The News believes that this marks a new and prosperous era for Gulfport and that it will aid materially in developing the latent resources of the Hattiesburg district.

The Christmas number of the Yazoo City Herald, consisting of thirty-six pages, is before us, and a better edition has never appeared from the office of a Mississippi weekly. Editor J. G. McGuire should be proud of his achievement and the good people of

Yazoo City should not be slow to show their appreciation of such enterprise.

The Bay St. Louis Echo has been enlarged to a seven-column eight-page paper and is one of the handsomest and most readable weeklies that reaches this office. Editor Moreau has recently installed a Mergenthaler typesetting machine, and has one of the best equipped offices in the state.

Some of our esteemed exchanges are devoting time and space to analyzing the returns of the recent unfortunate presidential landslide, but what's the use?

It is said that there were old fiddlers and ragtime tunes in China a million years ago. But that was before the empire entered upon its period of disintegration.

Every man who is in business ought to have the moral courage to go broke, if necessary.

Let us hope that the weather man will smile again before Christmas.

Will Santa Claus balk at the sheath stocking?

A HOLIDAY INNOVATION.

The Saturday Evening Post publishes the following interesting and valuable story:

"A traveling salesman had an only son with whom he had been liberal in the matter of spending money, and rather thoughtless. The boy began developing extravagant habits, and had no appreciation of the value of money. So the father made it a rule that all the spending money he got in future must be earned. The boy's mother was made the employer, and a regular schedule of prices for definite chores was drawn up—two cents a basket for splitting kindling, five cents an hour for hoeing garden, five cents a hundred for collecting potato bugs.

"This reformed the boy in one way, for it made him ambitious. He got out of bed early in the morning to earn money. There was always a big pile of kindling on hand, and he kept an eye open for odd jobs of all kinds.

"But the reason he worked for money was that he might buy more or less useless things that he had bought under the old arrangement. So a saving plan was added to the earning plan.

"The boy was permitted to spend one-quarter of all the money he made in his own way, without supervision. Another quarter went into a small home bank, to be deposited in a savings account at interest. The remaining fifty per cent of his earnings was kept back by his father, half to be invested in books and half in tools and toys.

"Before anything was bought out of this final fund, however, father and son had a conference and agreement on articles to be purchased or books selected. Thus the fund went chiefly to the purchase of educational toys, such as a printing-press, a scroll-saw, a camera. No anticipation of payments was permitted, nor any transfer of money from one fund to another to hurry the consummation of a purchase. In that way the fact that there was a surplus on hand did not kill the incentive to work for an object."

It is the special business of our savings department to take care of savings and earnings of this nature and while being cared for they will be earning interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum.

On making the first deposit of one dollar we furnish you with a small private bank to take home with you.

You could not select a Christmas present for any member of the family that would be more useful and more productive of happiness than this. We shall be glad to explain more fully if you will call.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, Hattiesburg, Miss.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, ss.

Lucas County. Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, County and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Cramps

Thousands of ladies suffer agonies every month. If you do, stop and think. Is it natural? Emphatically and positively—NO! Then make up your mind to prevent or cure this needless suffering!

TAKE CARDUI

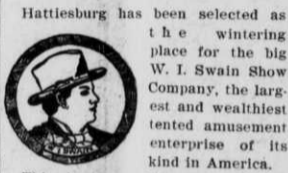
It Will Help You

"I suffered 9 years" writes Mrs. Sarah J. Hoskins, of Cary, Ky. "I had female trouble and would nearly cramp to death. My back and side would nearly kill me with pain. I tried everything to get relief, but failed, and at last began to take Cardui. Now I can do my housework with ease and I give Cardui the praise for the health I enjoy." Try.

AT ALL DRUG STORES

GREAT SWAIN SHOW WILL WINTER HERE

Hattiesburg Has Been Selected As Permanent Winter Headquarters For Enterprise.



Hattiesburg has been selected as the wintering place for the big W. I. Swain Show Company, the largest and wealthiest tented amusement enterprise of its kind in America.

This show opened its season in Hattiesburg last spring and Mr. Swain was so well pleased with the city at that time that he has been debating for many weeks as to whether to winter here or to return to New Orleans, where his winter headquarters have been previously located.

He finally decided on Hattiesburg, he says, for two reasons—the healthfulness of the city and the splendid facilities for repairing and rebuilding cars.

The show closed its season at Laurel Saturday, when the forty or more employees were paid off and left for their homes in various parts of

the country to spend the holidays. Mr. Swain came on to Hattiesburg with his four special cars to make final arrangements for the winter and to close a contract with a local foundry for putting his equipment in shape for the new season. His private car and the company sleeping car will be rebuilt and repainted.

Since leaving Hattiesburg last spring Mr. Swain says that the show has traveled 4,000 miles of railroad, and the season has been the most successful in its history. In Tennessee and Kentucky the show was featured as the night attraction at the great state fairs, furnishing the music during the day and playing to packed tents at nights.

It is Mr. Swain's intention to greatly enlarge the show for next season. The members of the company will return to Hattiesburg early in February for rehearsal. They will remain here until early spring, when the new season begins.

Mr. W. I. Swain, the head of the show, is a Kentuckian and leaves tomorrow for that state to spend the holidays. He is a successful live stock breeder and has large interests in his native state. Personally, he is a pleasant and affable gentleman. For many years his company played the best opera houses, but the theatre trust became distasteful to him and he decided to provide his own theatre. The gigantic tented amusement enterprise which has resulted is a splendid testimonial to his business ability and thorough knowledge of the show business.

Hattiesburg will profit largely by the location of the winter headquarters of the show, and our citizens will doubtless make it to Mr. Swain's interest to return each winter.

STORES TO CLOSE FOR THE HOLIDAY

We, the undersigned business men of Hattiesburg, agree to close our places of business from December 24 at 12 p. m. and to remain closed until Monday, December 28:

- Southern Grocery Company. W. E. Laird. McDaniel Brothers. The Divison Company. O'Ferral Bros. E. C. Neely Company. Central Hardware Company. D. C. Beauchamp. Abney Furniture Company. Haisfield. J. E. Herman. T. A. Hightower. J. W. Pool. The Jones Company. Hawkins & Co. Hawkins Hardware Company. Calhoun's Bankrupt Store. Hattiesburg Furniture Company. W. L. Logan & Co. John A. McLeod Company. N. B. Blount. J. S. Turner & Co. Moore Bros. Grocery Company. Hattiesburg Grocery Company. Joe Shelby. Deas & Duke. H. H. Graham Jewelry Company. S. & H. Katz. H. S. Lilius. Conner Shoe Company. S. L. Helledberg. Cotten & Woodruff. S. H. Coplon.

WANTED TO RENT—SMALL BARN. Suitable for two horses and the storing of show paraphernalia for two months.

W. I. SWAIN. Private care Inverness near Hattiesburg hotel.

A Great Reduction

We have cut our prices almost in

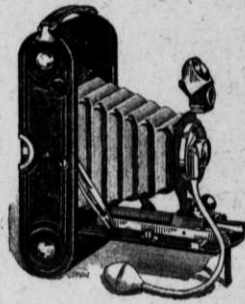
1/2

on all our fancy China and Cut Glass. You should see the bargains.

THEY MUST BE SOLD

Hawkins Hardware Co.

KODAKS



Solves the Christmas Problem

So simple that even in the hands of the novice they make good pictures, so perfect in equipment that they fulfill the requirements of the experts—such are

Folding Pocket Kodaks

- No. 1 for pictures 1 1/4 x 3 1/4 inches \$10.00
No. 1A for pictures 2 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches 12.00
No. 1A Special for pictures 2 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches 15.00
No. 3 for pictures 3 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches 17.50
No. 3A for pictures 3 1/4 x 5 1/2 inches 20.00
No. 4 for pictures 4 x 5 inches 20.00

Kodaks \$5.00 to \$35.00. Brownie Cameras \$1.00 \$9.00

The Owl Drug Store

It Will Pay You to See Rubenstein

Before buying Dry Goods of any kind. We have special Christmas Goods, and can sell you Shoes, Dry Goods, Ready-to-Wear Clothing, Notions, etc., cheaper than you can buy the same goods elsewhere, thereby saving you money and at the same time giving you just what you want. We can sell cheaper than other stores because we buy cheaper. We have three large stores and buy in large quantities and of course get the biggest discounts. We get bargains and you get the benefit of them.

We have Ladies' Ready-to-Wear, Stylish Hats and Tailored Waists to close out at special reductions. . . .

FREE! FREE!

Beautiful Leather Couch to be given away at the Casino Theatre Christmas night. This couch can be seen at Haisfield Furniture store where it is on display in the window. Attend the Casino and you stand a chance to get this beautiful and valuable couch. For further particulars see our circulars.

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK

The Casino will be open daily at 1 p. m., with extra good attractions and new songs each day.

5c SAME PRICE 5c

RUBENSTEIN BROS.

128 Mobile Street. Home Phone 492

When You Want Anything Try a News Want Ad

Advertisement for First National Bank of Commerce, Hattiesburg, Miss. Includes text: 'OPEN AN ACCOUNT IN OUR SAVINGS DEPARTMENT INTEREST PAID ON "BALANCES"'. Also features a map of the state of Mississippi with the bank's location marked.