

MAY NATH XXXI DAYS

The word May means "Spring Time," about this time Spring comes if the weather acts right.

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MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM AS IT WILL BE IN ANDOVER

DESCRIPTIVE OF TRIP TO ISLAND OF CUBA

L. E. Jordan Gives News Readers Interesting Account of His Trip.

We sailed into the harbor of Cristobal, Colon, C. Z., at six a. m. Tuesday, March 10th. Our train was to take us up the Gatun locks and so on to the famous Gaillard Cut, was waiting for us which we soon loaded and started on our journey. There we left the train and took a small steam boat thru the cut then we again boarded the train and arrived at the city of Panama for luncheon at Hotel Tivoli. After lunch we were taken thru the cities of Panama and Balboa, also the old ruined city of Panama, by automobiles. We also visited Balboa Docks where is situated the largest dry dock in the world. After that we visited the old cathedral in which stands the large gold altar overlooked by the English pirates in the 17th century, when they sacked and destroyed the city. Words cannot describe this wonderful part of our cruise. One finds in the Canal Zone of the Isthmus a veritable place of wonders. Nothing short of a visit to the canal will ever suffice to convey an adequate impression of its marvels.

Unless one has studied the map of the Isthmus carefully, he will not be prepared to find the Atlantic end of the Canal farther west than the Pacific end, but so it is by 27 miles. The canal runs from northwest to south east. It is about 50 land miles long. Bounding it on either side is the Canal Zone, a strip of land extending five miles on either side of the waterway, from ocean to ocean, plus the area of Gatun lake. The cities of Colon, on the Atlantic end, and Balboa and Panama on the Pacific end are also in the Canal Zone. The canal was built by forming lakes in valleys on either side of the continental divide, backed up against the mountains which form the divide, and connecting the lake sections with each other by means of the famous Gaillard Cut, and with the sea by sea-level sections. The steps up and down, or from the lakes, are made by locks. The Panama railroad runs the whole length of the canal at some distance in places, but close to the banks most of the way. It crosses necks of Gatun Lake in numerous places on long bridges built from shore to shore, and large stretches of water on either side covering large tracts of timber and vegetation which extends above the water in a great many places. The country which the canal crosses is hilly and even mountainous in places, with a number of small valleys debouching into the Chagres and Rio Grande valleys, on either side of the continental divide. This gives a wide variety of views, combinations of mountains, rivers, lakes and

oceans, set off by abundant tropical foliage.

Thruout, the canal was built to handle the largest ships afloat. The lock chambers are 1,000 feet long by 110 feet wide and from 50 to 81 feet deep. The channel in the cut connecting the Chagres and Rio Grande valleys is 300 feet wide at the narrowest part, with a normal dept of 45 feet, and the rest of the channel is from 500 to 1,000 feet wide.

About 13,000 Americans live in the Canal Zone. This figure includes most of the white canal employees (about 4,500) working along the canal and railroad, at the terminal shops, coaling plants, dry docks, etc. and their families, and about 5,000 persons in the military and naval force, stationed at the canal. About 10,300 colored people live in the zone, the total population including military, being about 23,000 people. The city of Colon with a population of 30,000 is situated in the republic of Panama, adjoining the American village of Cristobal, at the Atlantic entrance to the canal. The city of Panama, capital of the republic, has a population of between 60,000 and 70,000, and is at the Pacific end of the canal.

The inhabitants of these cities are extremely varied. The entire republic has a population of about 350,000, and an area of 32,380 square miles. United States currency is used thruout Panama and the Canal Zone. The currency of Panama has practically disappeared from circulation on account of the value of silver in it. The Isthmus, formerly called "the pest hole of the world," has been made a healthful section under a regime of sanitation. On the Isthmus is continuous summer. The highest shade temperature has been 98 degrees Fahrenheit and the lowest 59 degrees. January and April are the dry season, with very little rain. The rest of the year there is rainfall averaging about forty minutes of the daylight time per day. Spanish is the official language of Panama and visitors who use it find thru it greater intimacy with the people of Panama, but English is well nigh universal in the Canal Zone, is the predominant language in Colon, and readily understood and spoken by the majority of business people in Panama. Now if you are inclined to be a little sporty, you will find anything you want, from a cock roach race to a bull fight, altho did not have time to enter, but saw the bull ring.

We are now nearing the first port on the shore of the mainland of South America called Cartagena, the city of gold, which I will tell you more about later. With nothing but praise and a longing to stay and enjoy the beautiful sunshine of this delightful climate longer, I will close and go on deck and watch the black boys dive for coins.

Former Illinois Governor, Now Farmer, Explodes Bomb in Ranks of Capital and Subsidized Press

Says Either Through Ignorance or Design Entire Farm Problem is Misrepresented. Truth is, Bankruptcy Has Increased 500% and No Relief in Sight. How the Metropolitan Press and Magazines Have Based Prosperity Stories on False Index Figures in Cotton and Corn. There is a Remedy.

Written Specially for Andover News
By EDWARD PERCY HOWARD
Thru Autocaster Service.

Bearding the financial lion to his den, Ex-Gov. Frank O. Lowden, rich farmer of Illinois, who declined to run for Vice-Presidency on the Coolidge ticket, recently invaded the big city of New York, and made a few pat statements, relative to the situation of the farmer in this country, that made the city folks forget the care-are determined to exploit the farmer, then the city folks will have to pay the price.

The former governor literally tore the hide off the metropolitan newspapers, explaining in moderate but clearly understandable language that either thru ignorance or design the entire farm problem is misrepresented in the great metropolitan centers.

"Our agriculture is decaying," said Gov. Lowden. "Farm bankruptcies in recent years have increased more than six hundred percent. According to the Department of Agriculture the farmer could have obtained a larger income since 1920 if he had hired himself as a farm hand."

The former governor said that in considerable portions of the country farms cannot be sold today for the value of the improvements the farmers have installed. The new fence has gone, he said. Old barns, old fences, old houses going to ruin for lack of paint are to be found on every hand. "And yet, despite these facts, which are gathered from the records," he said, "there has been a persistent effort, during all these years of farm distress to minimize the seriousness of the agricultural situation."

Interviews from prominent financiers, articles in magazines—one going so far I recall, as to characterize the agricultural depression as a myth—have appeared with astonishing regularity during all this time, denying there has been a serious situation on the farm, or announcing confidently that the farmer's troubles were over and that his future was assured."

False Facts
The manner in which the city public is misled by the city newspapers was brought clearly to the front.

"If the price of some major farm product, as cotton, for instance, goes up, as it did the year before last on account of the ravages of the boll weevil," Governor Lowden explained, "that abnormally high price has been employed to reconstruct the modern magical index number so as to show the purchasing power of the farmer has been restored." And this, despite the fact that during this very time, yield was so low outside the two states of North Carolina and Texas that the cotton farmers of the south found themselves in as desperate a situation as they ever faced."

Before he finished, Governor Lowden rather wondered, if even so the boll weevil is not the farmer's friend, if the drought should not be welcomed in place of the rain drop. Index number, he declared, are totally misleading when applied to agriculture. "Whatever may be the popular opinion in the cities," he said, "the ablest farm economist generally agree that the farm situation is desperate. It will take 20 years to adjust the difference between what the farmer has to pay for what he buys and what he gets for what he sells if nothing is consciously done to relieve the situation. At the end of that time, they tell us, there will be another maladjustment of prices, but this time in favor of the farmer, with a great and unwholesome increase in the cost of living to the so-called consuming classes, with its attendant distress."

Next, Mr. Lowden dissected the felicitous reasoning of the city folks, it comes to judging the farm problem from their economic standards. According to the classical economists of a century ago, he explained—and our political economy today is based largely on the teachings—the competitive principle is the all powerful and controlling factor in the business world. They deducted from this the "iron law of wages" under which wages never could rise above the point of bare subsistence. Under the law, labor was doomed

Tells Farm Truths



Former Gov. Frank O. Lowden

forever to a life little above that of the beasts of the field.

"They now see that the 'iron law of wages' has gone into the discard," said Gov. Lowden. "Former President Hadley of Yale, one of the most foremost economists of his time, says: 'Those of us who were brought up on the old fashioned text books of political economy can hardly conceive how small a part of the prices or wages or rents of the world have actually been determined by competition!' We are coming to learn that unrestricted competition is not clothed with all the virtues it is once thought to possess. Unrestricted competition is a form of warfare. Whether among the nations of the world for larger armaments or among the producers of

useful commodities, it has been found to entail losses to society far beyond the benefits it has conferred."

High Prices, No Crops.

Illustrating his point, Gov. Lowden called attention to the recent statement issued by the Dept. of Agriculture on the estimated value of farm crops for last year which was heralded in the cities as another proof that the farmer had come into his own, for it was found that the total value of farm crops for the year was three quarters of a billion dollars in excess of the value of the crops the year before. —Welcome news—but the corn crop was 20 per cent smaller than the crop of the preceding year. The total value however, exceeded that of the preceding year by two hundred million dollars. The quality of the crop was far below that of the preceding year.

"And yet under a marketing system, which it is claimed is one of the most noteworthy achievements of this commercial age, the smaller crop of inferior corn was worth more in the market than the large and superior crop of the year before."

Then Gov. Lowden proceeded to show how the farmer is caught on the horns of his marketing dilemma.

"The cause of this lesser and inferior crop was a cold, wet summer he said. "It was a summer disastrous for corn, but very favorable for the growth of grasses. There was, therefore, an increase in the production of milk with the result that something like a hundred million pounds more of butter was produced in 1924 than in the year before. This way only five per cent of the total annual production of butter, but it created a surplus of two and a half per cent, and this resulted in a decrease in the price of butter from 20 to 25 per cent. And the price of butter let it be remembered largely controls the price of all dairy products."

Same Juggling in Cotton

"Last summer the cotton crop, particularly in the southwest, was suffering severely for lack of rain. And then one day the heavens opened and the rain descended. As a result, the government which before had estimated the crop at twelve million, four hundred thousand bales, increased the estimate to 13 million bales. This was an increase of less than five per cent in the yield. And yet, because of this estimated increase, the price declined in the market 20 per cent. This meant that the total crop of the larger estimate was worth less in the market by three hundred million dollars than the crop by the lesser estimate."

"Now there is no music sweeter to my ears than the patter of rain drops upon the roof breaking a drought in the summer time, and yet, to save my life, I cannot tell whether that rain is a sweet and fragrant bearer of a benefit—or bankrupts. When the hot summer winds scorch the fields I do not know whether to pray for rain or

THE CURE

Here is Governor Lowden's cure for the existing ills of agriculture:

"Farmers co-operative marketing associations—there is no other way out. I can foresee the day, I think, when everything produced upon the farm will be marketed by the farmers themselves thru an organization of their own creation. I like to think of the time when the representatives of all these great farmers' organizations shall meet in a congress once a year and shall there work out a program for the future, just as others in industries now meet annually for the purpose of forming an intelligent and co-operative program for the year."

"At such a meeting, if it shall appear that one branch of agriculture is expanding more rapidly than conditions warrant, steps will be taken to restore the balance as between that and the other activities of the farm."

"In this way we shall achieve a balanced agriculture. Even more desirable, however, we shall restore the proper balance between agriculture—the greatest of all industries in this organized world in which we find ourselves. There can be no enduring prosperity unless all the principal industries which go to make up the commercial world, keeping step with one another, shall march abreast."

THE AMERICAN LEGION IS TAKING CHARGE

Usual Services at Hillside Cemetery and at the Auditorium.

Memorial Day will be observed in Andover this year as usual. It occurs two weeks from tomorrow, Saturday, May 30th.

Memorial Day
Saturday morning a committee will visit the outlying district cemeteries and decorate the graves of deceased soldiers and sailors.

The Line of March
The line of march forms at G. A. R. Hall at 1:30 as follows: Colors and Color Guard. I. O. O. F. Band.

Firing Squad.
Edward Seaman Post, G. A. R. in automobiles.

Women's Relief Corps in automobiles.
Ex-service men in uniform.
Five and Drum Corps.
Sons of Veterans.
Andover Hook & Ladder Company.
School Children.
Citizens.

Line of March: Up Main street to Elm, up Elm to Church, out Church to Greenwood, down Greenwood to Main, up Main to Hill, up Hill to cemetery.

The Program
2:00 G. A. R. Services at Hillside Cemetery.

2:30 Line reforms and returns to Auditorium.

Selection
Prayer: Rev. C. C. Conrad
Song selection by male quartette, Rev. MacDougald, Rev. Conrad, Dr. Storer and Mr. Millsbaugh.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Miss Mary McFetridge.
Reading Roll of Honor, of Edward Seaman Post, G. A. R., No. 481.

Song selection, male quartet.
Address, Attorney Ward Hopkins of Cuba.

All members of the American Legion and all ex-service men are earnestly requested to be present in uniform, at G. A. R. Hall at 1:15, Memorial Day, to take part in the parade and program of the day.

Miss Perrine Dies

Miss Mabelle Jeanne Perrine died suddenly, May 7th, at the Oswego hospital, after a brief illness.

Miss Perrine will be remembered by Andover people as the young lady who staged the musical comedy "On Deck," at the Auditorium in February. She was putting on a play at Mexico, N. Y., when taken suddenly ill.

In company with friends she motored to Andover the Sunday previous. While here she spoke of suffering with pain in her side.

The remains were taken to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Perrine at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, where the funeral was held Tuesday afternoon.

To remove grease stains from wall paper, crush magnesia carbonate and apply it to the spots. In 24 hours the stains are gone.

To thank the Almighty for the unbroken drought.

"Something is wrong with our methods of marketing when the aggregate money value of a larger crop of prime necessity is smaller than the value of a smaller crop."

Francis Barrie Gets 20 Years at Auburn

Wife-Slayer Was Allowed to Plead Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and Judge Brown Pronounced Sentence at Once

It only took ten minutes to try Francis Barrie at Belmont, Monday, on a charge of murder, second degree.

The term of court was an adjourned term of supreme court, with Judge Charles H. Brown, presiding. It was adjourned especially for the trial of Barrie, who had been indicted by a grand jury on a charge of murder in the first degree, when it was charged that he shot and killed his wife, Annabelle Barrie on Sunday, March 29th.

A few jurors from the former court had promised to return for duty and an extra panel of 100 jurymen had been drawn, from which a jury of 12 was to be selected. Attorney Ernest Hornburg, of Wells-Ville, who was appointed by the court to defend Barrie, addressed the court and asked the privilege to withdraw the plea of murder in the first degree and stated his client would plead guilty to murder in the second degree. The plea was accepted by the court and District Attorney Walter N. Benwick and the prisoner was brought before the court, where Judge Brown sentenced

Barrie to Auburn State prison for an indeterminate length.

The minimum time of imprisonment is 20 years and the maximum is life.

Barrie is a young man, 23 years of age, a hard working and industrious mechanic, living at Ceres and working in the Pennsylvania railroad shops at Olean. Up to the time of the unfortunate shooting affair, Barrie bore a good record, was an honest, upright worker and spoken of highly by all who were associated with him.

Family troubles which finally led to a partial separation from his wife, and the alleged infidelity of the woman, finally goaded Barrie until his mind was affected, and when on Sunday the woman refused to return to his home, he shot and killed her. Barrie walked away from the scene of the murder and was on his way to Portville to give himself up, making no attempt to escape when he realized what he had done. He has been a model prisoner at the Belmont jail since the time of the shooting and deeply regrets the terrible fatality which will forever cloud his life.

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