

GALVESTON EXTENDS COMMERCIAL SCOPE

Tremendous Volume of Business Flows Over Wharves.

GRAIN, OIL BEING SHIPPED

Although Cotton Has Made Port Famous, Texas City Now Is Talking Other Lines.

BY RICHARD SPILLANE

(Copyright, 1921, by the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Published by Arrangement.) GALVESTON, Tex., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—Considering its size, Galveston is one of the most remarkable cities of the world. In population it has only 49,000 or 45,000, yet over its wharves and piers there flows a tremendous volume of commerce. In the last fiscal year, this aggregated \$550,032,222 in exports and \$26,566,409 of imports, or a total of about \$576,598,631 for every man, woman and child in the city.

Its province has widened greatly. Once it boasted only of being the world's greatest cotton port. It still retains that position, but now it asks consideration as the world's greatest grain port, and it hopes to be the greatest oil port, too. There never was and probably there never will be much of a general industrial establishment in Galveston. Physical conditions do not warrant it. The city is at the eastern end of Galveston island—a sand spit two miles off the mainland. Equinoctial storms have done serious damage several times, particularly in 1906, but the raising of the city level together with the building of a seawall, are believed to have put it beyond danger in that regard.

Island Long and Narrow.

The island is long and narrow. From the eastern end and also from Bolivar point the government has built jetties five miles out into the gulf. The tide has scoured out the bar that once impeded shipping and now the deepest draft vessels of the world can enter at low tide. To the north of Galveston is a broad bay with plenty of deep water, and immediately opposite and close to Galveston in this bay is Pelican island, once a marsh but now built to a fair height. On Pelican island ship repair yards, storage warehouses and other port adjuncts have sprouted in number. For several miles along the bay front Galveston is lined with great piers and wharves, grain elevators, coal elevators, mammoth oil stations and refineries, cotton compresses, etc. There is a great amount of mechanical freight handling equipment. Some of the piers and wharves are double decked. In few ports is freight handled more expeditiously and economically. Practically all the switching operations are under the control of the Galveston Wharf company, which controls nearly all the water frontage except that used by the Southern Pacific railroad and the government.

There hardly is another port in the world where a vessel can get such quick dispatch as at Galveston. Within an hour or so of leaving her berth she can be out in the gulf. This fact, together with the location of Galveston to the great cotton growing area of the southwest and to the grain belt west of the Mississippi gives advantages to the port that weigh largely in bulk movement.

Steamship Lines Many.

Nearly 50 steamship lines have regular sailings to and from Galveston and eight oil companies have tankers in service bringing oil from Mexico, or taking out oil that has been produced from the many oil fields of the Lone Star state. Cotton exports depend wholly on the size of the Texas and Oklahoma crops. In one year the port handled more than 4,000,000 bales, which would mean one-quarter of the largest crop ever grown in this country. As a general thing from 25 to 30 per cent of the total American crop goes via Galveston, principally to Europe.

Last year Galveston handled \$6,322,182 bushels of grain for export with Texas City, her sub-port in the calculation. This year that total has been exceeded by 11,000,000 bushels or more.

The youngest child or the youngest children are always the handsomest. That explains perhaps why Galveston talks most of grain and oil, and her newer exports and imports are not so much of cotton, which probably brings more revenue to her directly and indirectly and which costs money in every sense and at every stage of its marketing. All the ports along the gulf have a share in the oil trade. Probably that is because the fields in the southwest and particularly in the western gulf area are so many. Galveston gets its full share. She also shares in the sulphur shipments from the Brazos country, the lumber cut of the Neches and Sabine and Red river valleys, while there also is a growing import business principally of sugar from Cuba, coffee from Brazil and Central America, print paper from Germany, sisal from Yucatan, ramie from the Philippines, etc. Commerce is large, most of it being handled by the Mallory and Morgan lines. This amounts to some millions of tons a year.

Decline Hits Port.

The decline in ocean traffic has affected Galveston, as it has other ports, but there are signs of improvement. Whether it is due to the cotton movement or the grain exports, or betterment in other lines, is not plain, but new agencies for shipping concerns are being established and there is a general air of optimism.

One had feature in connection with the port is the labor situation. For many years the line of cleavage between the blacks and the whites was wide. A few shipping concerns employed negroes and the others whites. The negroes worked for less wages than the whites. There was little or no strife between them.

A man of considerable ability came down from the north and interested himself in the labor question. He succeeded not only in getting the blacks and whites to join forces in union labor matters, but politically, and before the contented gentlemen who had been directing the municipal affairs of the city appreciated what he was doing he built up a local Tammany and had a labor government installed. There were some bitter strikes and for a time the city was under martial law. Incidentally, some of the high heads among the old guard—staid citizens of high reputation—talked to some of the labor agitators and the agitator promptly showed them up as tax dodgers of long standing and they couldn't disprove his statements.

Mark is Overcast.

In this the new order did well, but in other respects he overcast the mark. The negro labor leaders are said to dominate in the councils of Galveston's labor and to have made themselves so offensive as to estrange

the whites. If there has not been an absolute break, the prospects are that it will come soon, and there are predictions that with it there will be a physical clash between the two labor elements. Incidentally, it is predicted that the present is the last labor government Galveston is likely to have for a long time if the sober, sensible citizens see to it that they vote on election day, and not forget it has been the custom of a great many of them.

General business is good in Galveston. The city has not the great international trade it commanded in the days when Galveston financed the Texas cotton crop, but it has a share of it. Also it still has a tremendous banking power in the southwest. Once the city ranked as seventh in wealth per capita in the United States. It is not so high in the list today, but it has many millionaires.

Labor is back on the job now, pending arbitration of the wage question. As in other centers, labor seems reluctant to accept lower pay, but those who are best informed say it will have to bear its share of readjustment in Galveston or there will be no work for it to do. Incidentally, the labor government is making a face of the prohibition law.

1925 PLANS DISCUSSED

MOST SPEAKERS AT CLUB FAVOR EXPOSITION.

State's Overhead Burden to Be Lightened by Greater Population, Says Truman Butler.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—With Truman Butler, member of the state executive committee in charge of bringing to maturity final plans for the proposed 1925 exposition, the Tuesday Lunch club yesterday devoted the full time of the meeting to the fair.

Except for two speakers, S. J. Moore, cashier of the First National bank and Rev. W. H. Boddy, pastor of Riverside community church, responses were in favor of the exposition.

Mr. Moore stated that he felt that the trend of immigration was westward and that Oregon will eventually get a great increase in population without the fair. He stated that he was strongly influenced by the opposition of many prominent Portland men who were heavy taxpayers, and declared that he had not yet been thoroughly convinced of the need of the exposition.

Mr. Boddy's expression was in no wise an opposition. He merely asked if it had been the experience of states, where great expositions had been held, to show an early resultant increase in population. He said he felt that the proponents should show that good results were obtained.

Mr. Butler likened Oregon to a manufacturing plant which has a certain fixed overhead expense. He stated that this overhead had reached a point of crisis, and that those proposing the fair felt that the only hope would be to increase production by increasing population. With an area greater than seven principal eastern states, he said, Oregon has fewer people than the city of Cleveland.

Others who spoke on the fair were C. H. Vaughan, Judge Glanville, Dr. E. D. Kanaga and Leslie Butler.

Herder Barely Escapes in Fight With Two Bears.

Second Animal Makes Rush After the First Is Wounded and Man Flee.

GOLDENDALE, Wash., Oct. 19.—Fighting bear was a side line that camp tenders and herders with flocks of range sheep in the high mountains during the last summer had to take up, according to William Holdaway, packer in charge of a band of sheep belonging to Fred Billington of Sunnyside, Wash., that were summered in the Niggehead range, near the head of Lewis river and in the wild country in the divide between Mount Adams and Mount Rainier. While passing through Goldendale yesterday with his flock on the way to winter quarters Mr. Holdaway related a desperate encounter he had with two bears last summer.

Mr. Holdaway said that one evening he noticed that the sheep in the band on the side farthest from the camp were moving around. Suspecting that some animal was bothering the band, he picked up his rifle and sauntered over to investigate. As he neared that point he stepped upon a large rock to look around and was confronted by a large black bear that had been hidden on the other side of the boulder. Firing point blank, he shot the bear through the jaw, but did not inflict a mortal wound. The wounded animal started to climb up the rock after him. Just as Holdaway was preparing to fire again a loud growl behind him announced that another large cinnamon bear was making a dash out of the brush and toward the boulder upon which he was standing. While his attention was attracted by the second bear the first had climbed up the rock and Holdaway turned around just in time to dodge a blow from a paw of the enraged bear. He then jumped off the rock and made a dash for camp to get the assistance of his herder. When they went back both animals had disappeared. The following day they tracked the wounded bear and killed the animal, but the cinnamon bear could not be found.

BABY GIVES FIRE ALARM

Mother Awakened in Time to Save Children From Flames.

ECHO, Or., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—Awakened by the crying of her baby to find the room a veritable inferno of dancing tongues of fire was the experience of Mrs. Fred Markham of Echo, Monday night. Fearing the whole ceiling was about to fall from the burning mass she awoke all around, she snatched up the baby and taking her 3-year-old child by the hand broke her way through a window. Clad in their nightclothes the trio went to the nearest neighbor, Sylvester Mikessela.

Mr. Mikessela ran three blocks to town to give the alarm as the population of the town were in the city hall enjoying a show, but the volunteer fire department made record time and came too late. The little home lay in ruins and nothing was saved. Neighbors are providing the family with the necessities of life.

Telephone Company Elects.

RIDGEFIELD, Wash., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—The La Center-View Telephone company Saturday held its annual stockholders' meeting and election of officers and directors. Milton L. Bradway was re-elected president. Ernest J. Hawkins vice-president. Jerry D. Rindan secretary and Charles A. Button treasurer. Thomas W. Finnegan, Frank D. Hobert and George Lawton trustees. The financial condition is the best in the history of the concern and the physical line is in first-class shape. During

Merchants to Hold Institute.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—Meetings which will be in the nature of a combined merchants' and

housewives' educational institute are being planned for the different towns of the county. They will be under the auspices of the Washington State Retailers' association. The men's schedule calls for meetings Wednesday evening, October 26, at Elma and Montsano; at Aberdeen and Hoquiam Thursday and Friday evenings, October 27 and 28, and women's meetings Friday afternoon.

MASONIC CLUB FORMED

Square and Compass Charter for Idaho University Requested.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—Masons expect to enroll 150 members in the Square and Compass club, a Masonic organization just organized on the university campus. Colonel Edward R. Christman, commandant of the university cadets, is one of the leading boosters of the club. The Masonic club soon will make application for a charter to the na-

about 24 Mosier and Hood River folk who watched the steam roller smooth out the last truckload of "hot stuff." A joint celebration of Mosier and Hood River people is planned early after apple harvest work is over. The plan of the Kern Construction company, paving contractors, will be removed at once to Shedd's for Pacific highway paving.

MOSIER STRETCH PAVED

Hard-Surface Now Links Town With Hood River.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—The last foot of pavement between here and Mosier was placed on the Columbia river highway today, linking the town of Mosier and the apple district to the east of here with continuous pavement from Astoria. No celebration marked the event other than a slight demonstration on the part of members of the crews and

tional headquarters of the Square and Compass club at Lexington, Va. Squares and Compass clubs were started at Washington and Lee university in 1917, and now have organizations at Columbia university, Colgate university, Lawrence university of New York, Louisiana State university, University of Kansas, North Carolina State college, Washington and Lee university and others, a total of 12 chapters. Both students and faculty members are eligible for membership.

SCRUB STOCK TO BE REPLACED.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—"Scrub" dairy stock will be taken as first payment on thoroughbred sires at an auction sale to be held at Satsop early in the new year.

The State Holstein-Friesian association, according to announcement made at a meeting of the Grays Harbor county association. The sale will be staged as part of the state association programme to improve the dairy herds of Washington. Long time will

be given on balances above the value of the scrub sires turned in.

Location of Son Sought.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—Unable to obtain delivery of a telegram, George Stuhart, friend of the family, telephoned from Walla Walla to a local newspaper today in an effort to locate John Herbert, 26, whose father, George Herbert, was reported dying.

Long-Bell Employs More Men.

KELSO, Wash., Oct. 19.—(Special.)—The Long-Bell Lumber company put

nearly 100 men to work in land clearing operations and at cutting wood on their property south of town this week. They expect to maintain a large crew at that work all winter. The wood cutters are employed on the basis of the amount they cut, netting good wages.

Don't forget the Public Auction

Sale of the new town of Port Olympic lots, October 27, 1921, 1 P. M. sharp.

Tacoma Theater, Tacoma, Wash.



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