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Furniture Industry Chooses This Valley

The furniture industry has chosen the Tennessee Valley as a place to grow, according to data from the TVA Division of Forestry Development.

Between 1946 and 1960 the number of furniture plants in the Valley increased from 75 to 118, the TVA tabulations show. Product value jumped from \$69 million to \$115 million a year and is believed to be as high as \$130 million today.

This growth has had a major impact on employment, TVA said. It provided 2,700 new jobs in the region, and furniture plant payrolls jumped from \$20 million to \$35 million a year.

Growth of furniture making in the Tennessee Valley has outstripped the growth rate for the industry as a whole, TVA said. Census data for 1947 and 1953 show "value added by manufacture in the furniture industry increased 112 percent in the valley, 71 percent over the Nation. Increases here also exceeded national furniture industry trends in wages of plants, employment, and output."

Growth has been even faster since 1960, TVA said, with 300 new jobs a year created by the industry in the region—about four times as many new jobs annually as the average for the previous 15 years.

The Valley's abundant supplies of raw material and labor, which represent most of the cost of furniture making, help to account for this rapid growth, TVA said. Despite the rapid use, the Valley's supply of furniture woods increased 20 percent in the last decade. Cherry and walnut are in short supply now, but better fire control and woodland management promise larger future supplies.

With adequate labor and wood supply, increasing supplies of other furniture ingredients, and good location in relation to markets, the Tennessee Valley seems reasonably assured of continuing growth in this industry, TVA said.

The seven Tennessee Valley states and TVA have begun a "Plant Trees Grow Jobs" campaign aimed at reforestation of the region in seven years to build the potential of wood as a raw material for further industrial growth.

Tennessee Valley rainfall and run off were below normal in February, for the third month in a row, TVA said today.

Rainfall over the basin averaged 2.6 inches, compared with a normal 4.2 inches. Heaviest rainfall reports were 5.20 inches at Manchester, Tennessee; 3.97 inches at Beech Grove, Tennessee; 3.96 inches at McGhee, Tennessee; and 3.82 inches at Bellevue, Tennessee.

TVA today announced award of the following contracts: Reynolds Metals Company, Richmond, Virginia, conductor cable for Colbert-Tapeco transmission line, possible maximum \$355,355; manufactured in Listerhill, Alabama; Bush Building Company, Nashville, masonry units and materials for Chemical Engineering Building addition at Muscogee Shools, possible maximum \$160,035; Ashland Oil & Refining Co., Ashland, Kentucky, indefinite quantity term contract for diesel fuel oil, approximate maximum \$215,200; manufacture at Louisville, Kentucky; Automatic Electric Sales Corporation, Northlake, Illinois, automatic telephone equipment for South Nashville Primary Substation, \$52,851; Robbins Machinery Company, Birmingham, rental of rotary drill for Bull Run Steam Plant, \$4,000 a month, option to purchase for possible maximum of \$64,004.

Hearing Is Waived By Woman

Mrs. Louise Fuller, 43, waived preliminary hearing Monday in connection with the fatal shooting of her husband in February.

The Leighton woman admittedly shot and killed Lee Fuller, 49, at shot and killed Lee Fuller, 49, at her home. She said it was self defense.

Mrs. Fuller was represented by Atty. John Clement and did not appear in court. She waived evidence to the next term of the Colbert County Grand Jury, which convenes April 1. The dead man's brother, Frank Fuller of Corpus Christi, Tex., showed out a first degree murder warrant for Mrs. Fuller. She is free under a \$400 bond.

Confusing Signs Cause Many Deaths Each Year

AUBURN — Confusing and inadequate traffic signs, signals and markings are causing, people to be killed on city streets, county roads and state highways.

"This is one of the biggest hazards to safe driving," says Tom Gaillard, an Auburn University specialist in traffic signs and markings.

"In today's high speed and high volume traffic, signs and markings are a means of communicating the facts that may mean life or death on the highways."

"Most drivers can recall at least one occasion when they saw a traffic sign as a result of a near miss or an accident," says the Extension Service staff member. "The signs that aren't seen until they're passed, the signal found behind a car or truck, the camouflaged signs hidden behind masses of foliage or clusters of ornamental lights are a menace."

The National Joint Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the President's Committee for Traffic Safety have come up with some of the following traffic concerns: hazardous road signs; signs Gaillard.

Some chief gripes of drivers are too many signs in one place, poor lighting information on one sign, poorly maintained signs, non-functioning signals, invisible road markings, contradictory signs which sometimes have arrows pointing in two different directions, hastily conceived signs erected during construction, and stop signs that end up on the side of the street in one place and overhead on the next.

These committees estimate that before the end of the 1960s, motorists will be traveling one trillion miles a year. Because there will be no significant change in street and highway building to handle this added volume, existing facilities must be made more efficient.

The primary reason for confusing road signs is money. The secondary one is the lack of knowledge on the part of both officials and citizens.

Southern Bell Reports Record Spending For Improvements

Southern Bell Telephone Company, this week reported a record-breaking expenditure of \$347 million in 1962 for expanded and improved facilities in the nine-state region it serves. Highest previous expenditure was \$320 million in 1960.

In the firm's 1962 annual report, President Ben D. Gilmer revealed that the company's growth continued to be faster than the national rate of telephone growth, as it has been for the past 10 years.

"We have confidence in the region and the people in it," said Mr. Gilmer. Evidence of this was the expenditure of \$247 million in 1962.

"This in itself was a tremendous stimulant to the region's economy, as was our \$350 million payroll and the \$224 million in tax payments which helped to support schools, building programs, national defense, and other government services," said Mr. Gilmer.

In addition to the \$224 million in tax payments by the Company, Southern Bell customers paid \$82 million a record figure, in 1962 in federal excise taxes on telephone service. Telephone service remains the only household utility with such a tax, the report stated, despite efforts to repeal a part or all of the federal excise tax.

Total taxes from telephone service in 1962 averaged \$3.28 per telephone per month.

Southern Bell, with 64,000 employees, serves Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. In addition to (exchange), the company serves 92 other exchanges in Alabama.

Colbert Lists Surplus Food Distribution

Surplus food will be distributed in Colbert County as follows:

Tuesday, March 19 — Tusculumbia and Brick; Thursday, March 21 — White Oak; Friday, March 22 — Littleville and LaGrange. New applications will be taken at the courthouse March 29. A verified statement of all income except those receiving a check from the Department of Pensions and Security will be required at time of sign up. W. O. Taylor, supervisor, said.

EDITORIAL GRIST

BRAKES ON NEGRO PROGRESS

The Negro race is the most race-conscious group in the United States. It is injuring its present progress and warping its ideals and aspirations for the future by being so race conscious, and by the very pronunciation of utterance of the word Negro and by trying to make the rest of the world believe that there are no black skins as well as white skins.

The little tail of racial pomposity and sensitivity is wagging the big dog that is the white population of this country, or at least trying to. Two recent instances bear out this point and make the National Negro race, through it self-announced spokesman, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, look childish and a pretty sorry excuse for a racial leader.

In Buffalo, New York, the Quaker Oats people set up a restaurant or eating place of some sort which they called "Aunt Jemima's Kitchen," and which was to specialize in the pancakes (also called buttermakes or flapjacks) made from the company's packaged mix bearing the likeness of the colored "mammy."

The second indignity came on agonized screams from the NAACP that went the heavens over Buffalo "Degrading to the Negro race" was one word. The Negro organization, through its trumpet-mouth publicists, cried out that the very sight of Aunt Jemima cooking cakes would demean and degrade every Negro from Old Black Joe and Uncle Remus down to Sonny Liston. Negro children yet unborn would suffer from such reflection on their ancestry.

The second puerile ruckus burst forth in the town of White-water, Mich., where the Junior Chamber of Commerce planned to put on a Southern-style Negro minstrel with all the traditional trappings that everyone, white and black in this part of the country seems to enjoy so far as we can see. The state president of the NAACP rose up in wrath over what he seemed to think was utter sacrilege and slander in "Whether he had ever seen a minstrel with its end, inter-cultur, singers and dancers, songs and jokes and the affective feeling for the Negro race that always seems to hang over one, we do not know. We doubt that he has ever been close to one.

The big trouble in this case is that Negro leaders seem to have no sense of humor. In all right, they do seem to think to laugh out loud at critics of ignorant and such characters as Snuffy Smith, the Donahatch, and such birds as Rescoe Sweeney. It is all right to see such twisted-up men and women as those that appear regularly through the Little Orphan Annie and the Dick Tracy series. They are just white people, and white people, being in the majority count for nothing, or so it goes.

A strictly Northern-oriented newspaper, The Milwaukee Journal, said editorially, in speaking of the furor over the minstrel: "There is a difference between prejudice against dark skin and pretense that skin color variations don't exist. The presence of Negroes is a fact of American life, and their distinctive traits need not be forbidden subjects of good natured joking any more than those of Scottish or Baptist, or Texan. A black face minstrel show could be done offensively, but none who have ever seen an inflamed prejudice or was cruel or contemptuous or derogatory. Surely the NAACP has bigger and better business to do than to be trigger happy at such innocuous targets." We say "Amen" to that sharply put observation. The Negro race, with its traditions, customs, foibles, eccentricities, and its many good points, is a fact and an equality of American life. Aunt Jemima and Old Black Joe and Uncle Remus are beloved parts of our traditions and will stay that way.—The Anderson (S. C.) Independent.

ALL THINGS TO TAX MEN

Walter Lippmann, in a recent column concerning the hard sledding that the Administration's tax program is meeting in Congress, makes a point of deep significance.

He writes: "In an effort to please everybody a little, very few are left who are pleased very much. It is a program to cut taxes and at the same time to raise them. It is a program to cut taxes and the people to follow him in two opposite directions as once before."

The country is baffled by it. Instead of focusing public attention on the vital need to stimulate the economy, each taxpayer has been invited to see whether he will lose more by the tax reforms than he will gain by the tax reductions."

In other words, the program is designed to be all things to all men, and that never works. Mr. Lippmann's case is supported by the mountains of evidence. For instance, such diverse groups as the friends, Grover C. Hall, Jr., and "Cash" Stanley, remain as editors of the Advertiser and Journal. Both Mr. Hall and Mr. Stanley are vigorous writers and always state their positions on all questions. It is gratifying to note also that Mr. Walls will make no drastic changes in the policies of these newspapers. They will remain independent in thought and action.

Congratulations to Mr. Walls and his entire staff of capable newspaper men and women.

Few Changes Made In Individual Returns

George D. Patterson, District Director of Internal Revenue Service, announced this week that a few minor changes have been made in the format of the Individual Income Tax Return.

In addition to the standard options of cash or applying the refund to next year's tax, taxpayers will have the opportunity of taking their returns in Series E Savings Bonds.

If you file a separate return and the other spouse has no income and is supported by you, simply check the box "Married Filing Joint Return." But if you are filing separate returns and the other spouse does have an income, check the box "Married Filing Separate Return" and write before filing that you and the other spouse do. Do as he or she is directed. If you wish your ice trays with warm, soapy water often, it will help the ice cubes to slip out easily. The center will be crisp and flaky in the center if you roll the dough between sheets and fold it over before cutting. Then when the biscuits are baked, they will split open.

Mauldin Reappointed To Agricultural Unit

Ed F. Mauldin of Leighton has been reappointed by President Kennedy to the National Agricultural Advisory Commission.

Mauldin was notified of his appointment in a telegram from the State.

"I have named your commission by appointing you a member of the National Agricultural Advisory Commission," Kennedy said in his telegram. "You will give me a great deal of pleasure to do this, and I want at the same time to send you this message to tell you how delighted I am that you are going to be able to serve."

Mauldin, a delegate to the 1960 Democratic National Convention, participated in drafting the party's farm program at that time.

The commission to which he was named is made up of 25 members, and not more than 15 members can belong to any one political party.

The commission is charged with reviewing the policies and administrative farm programs within the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture and to advise the President and Secretary in regard to such programs.

The next meeting of the commission is scheduled for April 13 in Washington, D. C.

Questions And Answers About Social Security

Q. I'm 63 and have been disabled for several months. I have never applied for social security benefits. I worked steady in a factory for the last 15 years until I was disabled.

A. Can I get my social security now or must I wait until I'm 65? You can get your full benefit payments now if your disability is severe enough. Come in to the social security office right away. If you can't come, have someone do it for you. We will also talk to you about reduced retirement benefits.

Q. My husband and I have been married a year. He gets his social security retirement check. I understand I can get social security wife's benefits. I am 63. What do I need to do to get any particular papers I will need?

A. You should come in and claim wife's benefits at the social security office. When you and your husband come to the office, bring along proof of your age, a copy of your marriage certificate, and your social security card if you have one. If you will bring these records with you when you apply, it will speed up the payment of your first check. Even if you don't have these papers and can't get them quickly, don't wait to claim your benefits as a wife.

Q. I am a widow and will be 62 in a few months. When my husband died two years ago, I was paid a lump-sum death payment. They told me then that I could start collecting a regular benefit check each month when I reached 62. What will I need to do to get these benefits started?

A. You will need to make a claim for your widow's benefits. To be sure your claim is not delayed, bring your marriage certificate with you when you are ready to claim your benefits. If you do not have your marriage certificate, you can get a certified copy of it from the court house where your marriage license was issued. Bring your birth or baptismal certificate if you have one. If you don't, bring other evidence of your age. If you were married during your school years (or before), an old family Bible, or other personal papers can be used.

Q. I hired a maid a few months ago to clean up my apartment on Saturdays. I pay her \$5.00 each Saturday for this work. Since she only works one day a week, I haven't asked for her social security number, or turned in anything for her. Is that required in a case of this kind, or is it optional?

A. It's required, not optional. Whenever a household worker is paid \$50 or more cash wages in a calendar quarter, these wages must be reported for social security purposes to the Internal Revenue Service. I'm sending you a copy of our Leaflet 21. It gives more information on this.

Pork chops won't become hard on the outside if they're soaked in milk before frying or broiling.

A sound and stable agriculture is one of America's greatest sources of strength.

Alabama Industry Moves Forward

Alabama's manufacturing industry has moved forward in the past five years, a 1961 Survey of Manufacturers report just released by the Bureau of the Census shows.

The report credits plants in the State with the production of \$1,941,000 worth of goods in 1961, valued at manufacturers' basis, a 10 percent rise over the \$1,750,000 worth produced in 1958 when the last regular Census of Manufacturers was taken.

In the process, 227,237 manufacturing employees were employed in 1961, receiving annual wages and salaries approximating \$988,647,000.

Primary metals continued to be Alabama's most important industry from a value standpoint in 1961, the output of that product being estimated by the Census Bureau at \$450,002,000. Others, in order of importance, were textile mill products, \$213,057,000; food and kindred products, \$177,612,000; chemical and allied products, \$167,186,000; paper and allied products, \$138,920,000; apparel and related products, \$128,825,000; fabricated metal products, \$115,325,000; and other products, \$103,017,000, all listed in the valuation category of "line figures."

Plant owners and operators continued to manifest confidence in Alabama's future as a manufacturing center by putting \$168,254,000 into operations in 1961, which was an increase of 122 percent since 1956, an analysis of the Census Bureau report revealed.

Forty-five percent of the goods produced in the State in 1961 came from plants located in the metropolitan areas of Birmingham, Gadsden, and Mobile, which turned out \$870,136,000 worth, broken down as follows—Birmingham, \$562,620,000; Gadsden, \$131,925,000; and Mobile, \$145,190,000.

"100 Years Ago"

One hundred years ago this week, the first Alabama infantry was among about 7,000 Confederate troops at Port Hudson on the Mississippi—some 25 miles above Baton Rouge. For seven weeks these troops kept 40,000 Federals busy and away from Vicksburg, which was also under siege. General Franklin Gardner, about 100 miles away, ordered the Confederate command—Federal General Nathaniel Banks to surrender on May 26, 1863. He refused. On June 7, 1863, the Confederates were ordered by Federal General Nathaniel Banks to surrender on June 7, 1863. He refused. On July 9, 1863, after the capitulation of Vicksburg on July 4.

The First Alabama was organized under an act of the Alabama Legislature in 1862. The enlistment of troops for 12 months. They first saw action at Pensacola, where they were transferred to the army of the Confederate States. Being the oldest regiment in the Confederate service, it was first called on to fight in the war. Seven of its companies did so.

Ordered to Tennessee, the regiment 1000 strong reached Island Number Ten, March 12, 1862. In the severe conflict there all but a remnant of the regiment were captured. Carried off to the north, they were exchanged in September, 1862, and rendezvoused at Jackson, Mississippi, having lost 150 by death in prison, and 150 by casualties since and during the siege of Island Ten. They were ordered to Fort Fisher, N. Carolina. Captured, after losing 150 killed and wounded, the privates were paroled on the field, but their officers sent north to prison where they remained until the end of the war.

The privates were exchanged in the Mississippi, 610 strong. The regiment took part in the battle of Atlanta. It fought at Kennesaw Mountain and lost considerably at Peach Tree Creek. In the terrible assault on the enemy's lines at Atlanta, July 28, 1864, the regiment won fresh renown, but lost half its force in killed and wounded. It fought with Hood in Tennessee, was transferred to North Carolina, and surrendered (about 1000 men) with Joe Johnston at Goldsboro. Brewer says that "hundreds of 3,000 names were on its rolls at different times during the war." Alabama has reason to be proud of this regiment.