

HOW LONG ARE WE TO WAIT?

Those who read the letter of Mr. F. A. W. Davis, from Indianapolis, in last week's issue of the Farmer, must have noted that the impression made on him is in accord with the picture we have drawn of ourselves on more than one occasion, when destruction was imminent and narrowly averted. While he speaks encouragingly of the rapid growth of Covington, he does not fail to note that we are deficient in public enterprise. We have many times called attention to this fact in these columns, and the lack of interest in public affairs is a remarkable incidence, considering the individual enterprise of some of our citizens and the business capacity exhibited in private interests.

There is no diversity of opinion as to the need of a system of waterworks and fire protection, and succeeding each conflagration there is a panicky disposition to hustle matters to a finish that dies out as soon as the wind lays and revives with recurrent danger, when the blowing of whistles and the firing of guns arouse us to a consciousness that we are still unprotected.

Is it not unreasonably foolish to thus trust to luck? The placid indifference of immature childhood is out of place in a thrifty, growing community that is inviting settlement, investment of capital and pleasure seekers from other cities.

There is a distinction to be made between improvident expenditures and absolute necessities, and where the exigencies of the case require it, there should be no hesitancy in shouldering the responsibility. The same business principles which apply to the affairs of a private concern should apply to the affairs of a municipality. Having decided that fire protection is needed, the next step is to devise ways and means to acquire it. To acknowledge that we are unequal to the task is an admission that we are unfit to occupy the position we claim we are entitled to. If there is no other way of getting absolute necessities, then let us issue long term bonds, and let the future generation help to pay for benefits in which they share. It is better to pay the interest on these bonds than to have flames eat up many times the interest in property, besides the danger to life.

No one can deny that we are constantly menaced by this danger. Then why wait until we are driven to desperation by another fire, perhaps destroying our new business blocks and the handsome new bank building. Insurance rates are exorbitant and would-be builders are timid about erecting buildings to make bonfires. It is time to consider these matters, and the people should demand that something be done.

AS TO DAIRY INTERESTS.

For the information of our foreign subscribers who are interested in Hammond we will state that between 1800 and 1900 gallons of milk are shipped to New Orleans from here each day.—Hammond Sun.

This item is in itself a lecture that should make our people get wise to the fact that they are not taking advantage of opportunities that are offered in our own parish for the building up of the dairy industry.

According to the report of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Baton Rouge on dairying herds at Hammond and their milk production, the stock available for dairying in this parish are better producers than those of Hammond. As to the yield of butter fat, we are not in a position to make a positive statement, but believe there would be no material difference. As for pasturage, we have equal facilities, and there is no apparent reason why the profits of this business should be lost to the parish.

The problem of feeding can be solved by the introduction of silos, and the profits from waste products fed to porkers would in a short time pay for these silos. If all fertilizing material is properly saved and applied to the soil, one acre of ground will produce ensilage enough to feed two head of stock; besides, the trucking business can be engaged in also under much more favorable conditions than when few cattle are kept. The cry for pasturage will no longer be heard when the people wake up to the fact that silos and soiling furnish nutritious green food the year round on one tenth of the ground.

THE STOCK LAW.

There seems to be some misunderstanding as to the object of a stock law and its effect upon those who desire to keep a cow or two for family use. There is no desire to place any more restriction upon milk stock than is absolutely necessary to prevent stock from having a free run of the streets. There is no attempt made to abridge the privileges of owners further than to compel them to keep the cattle off the streets, except at such times when it becomes necessary to drive them to and from home. This is a very reasonable requirement, and some who opposed a stock law under the impression that it would deprive them of the right to keep a cow within the town limits, have withdrawn their objection and assert their approval instead.

The feeling that this law is a necessity has taken possession of the people, and the general

feeling now in the community is that the sooner we enact a stock law the better. It is all coming about just as we predicted.

PROHIBITION WITHOUT EFFECT.

The practical side of the prohibition question is pushed aside by some well-meaning but ill-advised people who claim that as alcohol is a poison no beverage containing alcohol should be sold—that we have no more right to sell it than we have to sell poison, and the question of expediency should not be entertained.

Unfortunately we live in a world where people are imperfect, and any attempt at perfection must necessarily be of gradual growth. Meantime, in our imperfect state, while we must be governed by laws, those laws, in order to be effective, must be admittedly good and just laws in the judgment of the people who are to be governed by them. As a matter of social ethics or religious injunction it must rest with the conscience of the individual, and his subjection can only be brought about by moral training or religious influences. In a law of government, policy must receive consideration. The question proper is one of material benefits, ethical improvement being delegated to the influence of education. The separation of Church and State was a matter of policy, and has proved its wisdom. Education and gradual restriction is the only feasible plan of overcoming the habit. If as a nation we were addicted to the use of morphine or opium to the same extent as we are to alcoholic drink, it would not be expedient nor sensible to attempt to wipe out the custom by prohibitive enactment. The uselessness of attempting to force a community against its will to adopt customs or enforce laws that are viewed with disfavour by them, particularly when it comes to matters of habit in diet or drink, is so evident that we cannot understand why the effort should be made. If it were possible to enforce such laws, in accordance with the adage that the quickest way to kill a bad law is to enforce it, it might be well to try it; but evidently those districts which appear to be most in need of the law are the hardest to make accept it. The people of New Roads, La., after a year's trial of prohibition have passed the following resolutions:

Whereas, We have had prohibition for over a year, and blind tigers have had a free hand for the entire time; we, therefore, do not know whether prohibition is a good law in this community or not, as there is as much liquor now being sold as when the license was in vogue, to say nothing of the financial loss to the parish; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the undersigned citizens of the First Ward of the Parish of Point Coupee, and also of the Parish of Avoyelles, here assembled, do pledge our support and our assistance to every legal and honorable means to put down blind tigers in this ward, and give prohibition a fair trial. We further pledge ourselves to try and secure evidence against the parties who are conducting such places and to furnish the courts with such evidence and to aid the court officials in every way we can in the performance of their duty in the matter. We further ask the assistance and co-operation of the citizens of our neighboring parishes, Avoyelles and St. Landry; and be it further

Resolved, That we deplore and denounce such a state of affairs, which holds us in the light of ridicule and disgust to our neighboring wards and parishes; be it further

Resolved, That we send a copy of these resolutions, together with a letter of warning, to all parties suspected of running blind tigers, demanding that they respect the wishes of the people, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent the parish paper, with a request to publish.

If such a state of affairs exists where a majority of the people favor the law, what may be expected when legislative enactment forces the law upon an unwilling community?

OUR NEW REPRESENTAIVES

At the opening session of the State Legislature next Monday, St. Tammany parish will be represented by our newly-elected representative, Mr. Lewis L. Morgan. As a lawyer, Mr. Morgan has been unusually successful, the firm of which he is a member (Miller & Morgan) being a very busy one, handling all the legal matter they can attend to, and he goes to the legislature with the full confidence of the people in his ability to represent them with credit. Mr. Morgan is a native of the parish, familiar with the sentiments of its people and progressive in his views, and we predict for him a career full of achievement.

Mr. J. S. Settoon, from the Nineteenth Senatorial District, has represented his district for some time, and is well-known to the people as a capable and influential member.

Mr. Watson is a new Senator from this district, but he takes with him a record for energetic perseverance and ability that marks him as an able and useful member, fully capable of looking after the interests of his State and district.

Altogether, we have every reason to be proud of our representation in the legislature.

SOCIETY NOTES.

BY OUR SOCIETY EDITOR, MATRONITA.

Why will boys—must boys—be cruel? Is it because there is the inherent savage in them, or is it because mothers do not think it as necessary to teach their boys the quality of mercy as they do their children of the gentler sex? If so, it seems a grievous wrong to allow cruelty to mar an otherwise manly little chap, and to exert its corroding influence over a truly fine nature. Not long since the writer witnessed a painful scene, and one which must have had as bad an effect upon the actors as it did upon their audience,

had the former recognized the cruelty and wrong. Three well-grown lads, armed with nigger shooters" and bird shot, walked along idly, wantonly shooting at mocking birds, blue birds, and any other of our songsters, seemingly without a pang, without a scruple as to whether they maimed or killed the poor little unoffending and defenseless things.

Little cared they that the stinging shot broke the mother bird's wing, thus rendering her helpless and suffering, and leaving her birdlings to starve! Finding it impossible to look quietly at this unnecessary and one-sided warfare, I took poor birdie's part, and after a short talk with the boys was gratified to see each "nigger shooter" quietly slipped into already bulging pockets. Not fifty paces had been covered ere a yelp rent the quiet peace of the wood, and turning I saw that a little dog, trotting contentedly along, had been shot and hurt by one of the three repentant (?) lads. Now, tell me—why?

Mrs. Adolph Meneuet and little son leave on Saturday for a visit to Napoleonville and Thibodaux. Mrs. Meneuet will be accompanied by her mother, Mrs. B. F. Carmouche, both of whom will be much missed by their many friends in Covington.

Senator and Mrs. S. D. McEnery, their daughter, Mrs. Warren Parks, and niece, Miss Trierson, left for New Orleans Saturday, after a visit of two weeks in Covington, guests at the hospitable "Oaks"

The Friday afternoon Euchre Club was entertained by Mrs. Theriot on Friday last. Miss Theriot carried off the first prize, Miss Magee the second, Miss L. Magee the consolation, and Miss Wallace Poole won the lone hand prize.

The ladies will next meet at the residence of Mrs. H. H. Smith, guests of Mrs. Logan Belknap. Troop C went to Mandeville on Sunday to drill. The day was a pleasant one and the soldier boys report "a good time."

Miss Evelyn Jaufroid has returned from New Orleans, after a pleasant visit of two weeks.

The Five Hundred Club were compelled to postpone their meeting until the coming Tuesday, on account of the severe storm.

The high winds which have alarmed us so frequently of late have fortunately not wrought much damage; but with the late horrible disaster of Purvis, Amite and the cyclone-swept country adjoining these illfated towns, no wonder we grow uneasy when the gale bends and sways the lofty pines in such fury, and dashes the rain against our creaking houses and rattling windows. Cyclone cellars would not be amiss.

Quite a party of Covington ladies spent Sunday in Amite. Among them was Mrs. J. Stern, who took to the sufferers \$268.30, collected by her in Covington for the needy of the stricken city.

Miss Marie Augustin, of New Orleans, is sojourning in Covington, a guest at the "Oaks."

Miss Augustin's fame as a distinguished educator has long since slipped past the portals of her own town and country, and is recognized in all educational circles of great cities. Miss Augustin has come to our pineland in search of rest from her arduous work at the H. Sophie Newcomb College, and we trust she may find renewed strength and health in our good fresh air.

The May party for the benefit of the M. C. B. Library, that was to have been at the residence of Mrs. J. B. Lancaster, on Wednesday afternoon, for the little folks of Covington, has been again postponed, on account of the inclement weather.

Miss Higgins, of New Orleans, is the guest of Miss Laura Weiss.

Mrs. C. G. DeRussy and family have come to Covington for the summer months, and have located on Twenty-first Avenue.

The Embroidery Club was entertained pleasantly by Mrs. Matthews, in twenty-third Avenue. Mrs. Matthews recited charmingly to the assembled ladies. Those present were: Mesdames N. G. Pearsall, L. L. Morgan, A. J. Nelson, Wm. N. Bodebender, C. Marvin Poole, Charles Weiss, and Miss O'Donnel.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. A. J. Nelson.

To the keen regret of all, Dr. C. Z. Williams is still confined to the house by the effects of his recent serious accident. Dr. Williams is missed socially and professionally, and we hope soon to see him again among us. Mrs. Williams has also been a "shut-in," and she has been sincerely missed by her many friends.

Miss Etta Engleman left for New Orleans Saturday, to be gone for some time. The Matrons' Euchre Club was delightfully entertained by Mrs. Preston Herndon, at the parlors of the Southern Hotel. Mrs. Herndon offered lovely prizes, which were won as follows: First prize, Mrs. C. Marvin Poole; second, Miss Sweeney; consolation, Mrs. Sam Copp.

The ladies present were: Mesdames Preston Herndon, L. L. Morgan, R. G. Hadden, B. B. Warren, H. H. Smith, Logan Belknap, Sam Copp, Laura Weiss, George Sears, A. J. Nelson, N. Sweeney, Wm. N. Bodebender, C. Marvin Poole, Wallace Poole, A. C. Gribble and Miss Olive Hewitt.

Mrs. Alfred Raymond and little daughter are visiting the Misses Patterson, in Twenty-third Avenue.

Rev. A. Kaub, of Abita, was in Covington Wednesday to meet his mother, who had just returned from a week's visit to Hammond.

Miss Galatas Givens, of Mandeville, is the guest of Miss Annie Smith.

The dance to have been given on Friday night has been postponed, on account of the May Fair to be given that night at Cantrelle's Hall.

What an ideal summer resort Covington would be, if there were only a stock law, a water wagon, and immunity from mosquitoes.

The acquisition of these three benefits should not seem beyond the pale of all possibility—still it does appear to be a Utopian dream, too good to be true. Heigho!

Miss Olive Freret, of New Orleans, was a guest on Sunday of Mrs. F. A. W. Davis.

The Ladies' Exchange, at the M. C. B. Hall, is prospering, and everyone is delighted with its success.

Miss Olive Hewitt, of New Orleans, has been pending the winter and spring in Covington, and is stopping with Miss Katie McDougall, in Louisiana street.

FREE

BARBECUE!!

AND

FREE EXCURSION

TO THE

New Town of CORBIN, Louisiana

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1908

Corbin, La., is situated in Livingston Parish, 22 miles from Baton Rouge, on the Baton Rouge and Hammond Railroad. This is destined to be one of the best towns in this section, as it is surrounded by the most fertile lands to be found in the United States. Now the B. R., H. and E. R. R. is in operation, there is no question but that the manufacturing plants will locate at this new town, as hard and soft timber is to be found in great quantities.

FORTUNES HAVE BEEN MADE IN TOWN LOTS

in Louisiana, and this is your opportunity of getting in on the ground floor in a town that is now in its infancy and where values will double within twelve months.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF

Business and Residence Lots

WILL BE SOLD

At AUCTION, RAIN OR SHINE

WITHOUT RESERVE OR LIMIT

Thursday, May 14, 1908,

AT 10:30 A. M.

The Highest Bidder Gets the Plums. The TERMS ARE EASY. One-Third Cash on the Grounds, as soon as the sale is made; balance in 3, 6, 9, 12 and 18 months. Deferred payments draw interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum.

ONE LOT GIVEN AWAY

on grounds sale-day. Everybody that attends participates in the giving away of this lot WHETHER YOU BID, BUY OR NOT.

FREE TRAIN

MILL LAEVE COVINGTON

7:30 A. M.

ALL TRAINS RETURN THE SAME AFTERNOON

Everybody Will Be at Corbin

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1908

Join the Crowd and Have a Pleasant Time at Our Expense.

For Free Transportation and Other Particulars,

Write to or See

A. HARRIS,

MAYER HOTEL

BATON ROUGE.