

The Farmer is issued this week on Thursday, although it is dated Saturday, in order that the force may take a little needed rest and enjoy the holidays. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

A MAP OF THE TOWN.

Frequently information is desired by outside parties as to Covington's advantages and the opportunities offered for investment. To satisfy such inquiries requires a great deal of thought and a great deal of writing, and to meet the contingency it has been decided to publish a map of Covington giving railroad and waterway facilities, etc. Five thousand copies of this map will be gotten out by the Sanford Map Co., at a cost of \$175.00. This map, supplemented by a pamphlet giving views of Covington, with a description of its natural advantages and healthfulness, and detailed information as to soil, climate, vacant lands in and surrounding it and their cost and the opportunity for engaging in industries, with such other information as may be considered desirable, will be a paying investment for the town.

THE ALARM OF FIRE.

Between 10 and 11 o'clock Saturday night a false alarm of fire was sent in, presumably Claiborne Cottage being on fire, and citizens as well as the Fire Department turned out and rushed to the scene. Whistles blew and alarms sounded, and everyone rushed blindly on, without being able to discern fire in any direction. In fact, there was no fire, not even in the kitchen stove, the very hottest thing about it being the expletives of the homeward bound and disgusted fire-hunters. It developed later that some mischievous youngsters had turned in an alarm and caused all the trouble.

There is no call that stirs the people to quicker action or causes greater alarm than the cry of "fire!" It is a signal for the marshaling of every force and the abandonment of every occupation. It is a serious shock to the ill in bed, attended often with fatal consequences. Therefore, the deliberate turning in of a false alarm becomes more than a misdemeanor—it is criminal.

Let us hope that there will be no recurrence of this act, and if there should be that the culprit will be fittingly punished.

THAT BOARD OF HEALTH RESOLUTION.

Some time ago there was a resolution passed by the Board of Health of Covington looking to a proper record of vital statistics. The following editorial, from the Times-Democrat of December 22, is an excellent reminder that we should see to the enforcement of the law. Physicians are among the most intelligent class in any community and should, by example and by their aid in the observance and enforcement of laws coming within their immediate influence, extend their usefulness as far as it is possible to do so. They fully comprehend the importance of vital statistics and the necessity for having an accurate record kept. Yet by their co-operation alone it is possible for births and deaths to be recorded, and we hope soon to see such a record established in the offices of the Clerk of Court and Town Secretary in Covington.

"VITAL STATISTICS."

"Attention has in the past been rather frequently called to the lack of accurate and complete data regarding births and deaths in Louisiana. The importance of an official and trustworthy compilation of vital statistics was long since admitted, and in 1900 the Louisiana Legislature passed an act requiring all physicians and midwives throughout the State, the parish of Orleans excepted, to file with the health officers of their respective parishes quarterly records of the births and deaths occurring in their practice. The parish officers in their turn are required to make quarterly report to the State Health Board. The penalty for violation of the law is fixed at \$50 fine or not more than sixty days imprisonment, or both, for each offense committed.

"In nearly every State in the Union laws of about the same import and effect have been passed. The compilation of vital statistics is required, we believe, by most civilized countries. The importance of such records is obvious. Yet it is understood that the enforcement of the Louisiana statute is made difficult by the indifference or neglect of certain among the classes to whom its mandate is directed. There is even said to be a disposition in some quarters to regard it as imposing a burden upon physicians and midwives for which they ought to be compensated. This last contention will hardly be raised, we dare say, by any considerable number of practicing physicians, and it may be dismissed at once as not worth consideration. Nor can ignorance of the law be longer pleaded in defense of such physicians or midwives as may, through carelessness or indifference, subject themselves to its penalties.

"The present State Health Board has sent out to every physician and midwife of record as practicing in the State, supplies of blanks, for individual reports. Provision is made

for the separate return of statistics for the larger towns which may, for their own use and benefit, desire such compilations. In order to make the statistics as complete as possible, physicians are requested, though not required by law, to make report of births or deaths within their knowledge, where no physician or midwife has been in attendance. Those reporting are also requested to give color and sex, so that the white and the negro statistics for the States and parishes may be separately compiled.

"All of this information is highly valuable. It is such as the State has a right to require, and no more than is required as a matter of course in other States. The uses to which such compilations are put, their advantage to Louisiana, have been frequently explained. The vast majority of physicians, we have no doubt, will readily co-operate with the State Board in its efforts to enforce the law and to make the health records of Louisiana as complete and as accurate as those of other States. For those who refuse or neglect to comply with this very reasonable requirement there seems to be no valid excuse. The determination of the State Board to enforce the statute will be very generally approved."

After the commissioners get through asking the steel experts questions, perhaps they will be able to find someone who can give them facts and figures.

The citizen's Bank of Louisiana has finally been reimbursed in the sum of \$215,820.80 unjustly covered into the Federal Treasury by Ben Butler. This is a long delayed act of justice. There would never have been any opposition to this restitution, had it not been a Southern war claim, but the unanimity with which it was favored on this occasion shows that the feeling for the South is becoming warmer, and that every effort is being made to conciliate her and to establish closer and more friendly relations. We are glad to see it, and we would welcome the time when the line of demarkation between North and South will be only geographical, without further meaning.

Covington Society Notes.

BY OUR SOCIETY EDITOR.

Miss Mary Goodale, of New Orleans is spending awhile at the home of Mrs. Loyd Posey.

Mr. Warren Smith, who has been attending school at Lafayette, La., returned home Saturday for the Christmas holidays.

Quite an enjoyable evening was spent in dancing on Friday last, when the Dixon Cadets entertained their friends in the large gymnasium. Among those present, besides the Dixon Cadets, were: Misses A. Delcroix, Ethel Bougerie, Adele Peroncel, Lou Lyon, Marion Guyol, May Poole, A. Boudousquie, Leo Guyol, Lucille Delcroix, Nellie Price and Messrs. John Dierdorf, Bert Hadden, Oliver Hebert, Claud Champagne, Horace and Carl Bougerie, Francis Fitzsimmons, and A. Davenport, also Mr. and Mrs. Fred Heintz, Mr. and Mrs. Clay Hebert, and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Dixon.

Mr. W. E. Jones, of New Orleans, and Mr. R. Y. Mills, of Chutun, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Davis.

Mr. Will Painting, of Hammond, La., was the guest Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Smith.

Walter Miltenberger is spending a few days in New Orleans, a guest of friends.

Mr. Jacob Seiler was a visitor to New Orleans and Hammond last week.

Mr. Miller King arrived home last Sunday from Columbus where he has been at school during the past term. He will spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, at their pretty home in Clairborne.

Dr. and Mrs. Peyroux left Wednesday for Bay St. Louis to spend the yuletide with Mrs. Peyroux's parents at their home. Dr. Peyroux's little son, Nolan accompanied them.

Mrs. Sidney Anderson spent Friday and Saturday last in New Orleans.

Mrs. S. V. Kentzel was a New Orleans visitor Monday.

Dr. Dixie Foster was a week end guest at River Inn.

Mrs. Fred Roehl spent Thursday in New Orleans.

Prof. Elmer Lyon spent a few days of the latter part of the week in Baton Rouge attending the convention of the State High School Principals.

Miss Lucille Roy left Saturday for home near Opelousas. She has been the guest of her aunt, Miss Wartelle, for some time, and her sweet face and voice will be missed greatly.

Rev. Blanton, wife and baby arrived Saturday from New Orleans, to reside in Covington. Mr. Blanton has been a missionary in Cuba for the past two years, and at the last conference was given Covington as his new field. He has taken the Rev. Harrison's place.

Rev. Harrison and family, accompanied by Mrs. Harrison's sister, Miss Eloise Schroeder, left Friday for their new home in Donaldsonville, where Rev. Harrison has charge of the Methodist church.

Messrs. E. D. Keitzel and A. A. Parker spent Sunday in Baton Rouge.

Miss Lucy Wadsworth and sister Minnie left Wednesday morning to spend the Christmas holidays in Columbia, Miss., guests of Mrs. A. Quinn.

Mr. Paul Thornbridge, of Franklinton, was a guest at Riverside Inn last week.

Mr. Achille Landry and little son Archille spent Saturday and Sunday at the Landry home on Old Landing road.

The Matron's Afternoon Euchre Club met Monday at the home of Mrs. J. B. Lancaster, with Mrs. Robt. Aubert as hostess. Mrs. L. Morgan won the first prize, a linen crown-work scarf, Mrs. Preston Herndon, the second, a linen drawn-work scarf, while Mrs. Ernest Wailes won the consolation, one-half dozen small cake plates. Mrs. Albert Smith entertains the club next on New Year's Eve.

The Five Hundred Olub met Thursday afternoon as the guest of Mrs. Ernest Wales. Mrs. Marvin Poole won the first prize, a magazine stand, Mrs. Sidney Prague, the second, one-half dozen Japanese saucers, and Mrs. Albert Smith won the consolation.

Mrs. B. B. Warren entertains the club next Tuesday.

Mr. Albert Trepagnier, of New Orleans, spent Sunday in Covington, the guest of Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Warren.

Mrs. Edward Terrebomme, of New Orleans, spent Monday in Covington, the guest of her sister, Mrs. Fontaine Poole. Mr. and Mrs. Terrebomme are to spend the winter in Abita Springs, guests at the Terrebomme Cottage.

Mr. Julian Smith spent Sunday evening in New Orleans, guest of the Linton family.

Prof. W. A. Dixon, wife and little daughter, Perrine Carson, are to leave Friday for New Orleans, to spend the holidays with Prof. and Mrs. B. V. B. Dixon.

Messrs. Charley and Richard Dutsch were guests of relatives Sunday.

The Young Ladies' Afternoon Euchre Club met Wednesday as guests of Miss Zene Planche, at the home of her aunt, in 23d Avenue. The first prize was won by Miss Susie Bokenfohr; second by Miss A. Boudousquie, third, Miss A. Sweeney; consolation, Miss B. Theriot and the booby, Miss E. Richard.

Mrs. Christopher and daughter, Lola, spent Monday and Tuesday in New Orleans.

Mrs. Ruth Stockton was a week-end visitor to friends in Covington.

Mrs. Kent and daughter, Miss Hilda, left Wednesday to spend the holidays with friends in New Orleans.

Mr. Neil Sweeney, Jr., who is attending St. Joseph's College, in New Orleans, is now in Covington to spend the holidays with his parents.

Mrs. Malcolm White, of Breaux Bridge, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. White.

Mrs. Duncan and daughters, Misses Fay and Dorothy, spent Sunday in Covington.

Mr. Victor Picou, of Bogalusa, spent Sunday here, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Claverie.

Mrs. Bonabel, of New Orleans, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Boudousquie.

Mr. Milton Sewall and Mr. Harper spent Sunday at the home of Dr. H. E. Gautreaux.

Mr. R. White, of Bogalusa, spent Friday in Covington.

Nick Plecia went to the Crescent City on a business trip Wednesday December 16, on his little launch, and returned Thursday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Smith returned from their trip to Denver, Col., last Sunday. Mr. Smith has been greatly benefited by the change.

Miss Rubie Smith, who has been attending Whitworth College is home for the holidays.

Messrs. Christ. Dutch, a student of the Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Warren Smith, of Southwestern Industrial Institute, at Lafayette and Frank Kentzel, of Louisiana Industrial Institute, Ruston, La., are home for the holidays.

Mr. Percy Theriot, who is taking a course in pharmacy, in New Orleans, is home to spend Christmas.

Remember that your poll tax must be paid before the 1st day of January.

There was ice and frost Wednesday morning.

Business in Covington has been very good this week.

The town taxes will be delinquent on Dec. 31, 1908, and after that date will draw interest. Better pay up and avoid cost.

The Commission authorized to name the parish registrars of voters has been called by Governor Sanders to meet on December 29. The Commission is composed of Governor Sanders, Secretary of State Michel and Attorney General Guion. It will meet in Baton Rouge.

We call the attention of our readers to the card of W. J. Smith, civil engineer, on the local page. Mr. Smith is a graduate of the State University in civil engineering, is thoroughly capable and is a native of St. Tammany parish. Any work you may have in his line will receive prompt attention and will be well done.

Our Gent's Neckwear Department is complete with all the new shapes and styles for good dressers. J. STERN & SON.

The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia has found the officials of the American Federation of Labor guilty of contempt and sentenced them as follows: Samuel Gompers, President, twelve months in jail; John Mitchell, Vice President, nine months, and Frank Morrison, Secretary, six months.

Last Wednesday the Grand Jury in New Orleans brought in indictments for manslaughter against N. G. Peersall, Henry Slegler, A. E. Hudson, W. A. Blackburn, A. B. Keys, S. E. Flanagan and J. O. Armstrong.

They also condemned the action of the Northeastern in not providing immediate relief for the injured and suffering passengers of the wrecked train. Bonds were fixed at \$1,000.

Owing to serious illness in the church and Sunday School, the Christmas entertainment arranged by the Presbyterian Sunday School has been given up. An informal celebration will take place on Saturday, December 26, in the afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30. Children and teachers are requested to assemble in the church yard if the weather is favorable, otherwise in the manse.

Dinner at the Southern.

The Southern Hotel has prepared an excellent Christmas dinner for the very reasonable sum of one dollar. This dinner will be served at 5 o'clock p. m., and the patrons of this popular hotel will find excellent service either for individuals, families or parties. Following is the menu:

DINNER. Olives. Lettuce. Celery. Turtle Soup. Red Fish. Courtbouillon. Roast Suckling Pig. Roast Turkey. Cranberry Sauce. Mashed Potatoes. Preen Peas. Asparagus. Mince Pie. Demi Tasse. White Wine. Claret Wine.

Abita News and Society Notes.

BY OUR ABITA CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. S. Smith and daughter were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Henry, on Sunday.

Mrs. Frank Norman and sister, Miss Esther Combel, spent Saturday evening in Abita.

Mrs. Chas. Biggio and little son, Alvin, are spending some time in the Crescent City.

Mr. Chas. Meyer visited Abita on Thursday.

Mr. John J. Marshall Jr., spent Sunday in Abita with friends.

Mr. J. A. Alpuente visited Abita last week on business.

Mr. C. Carvalho was numbered among the Abita visitors last week.

Miss J. Abadie spent Saturday with her sister, Mr. C. Henry.

Master C. Schmidt spent Saturday and Sunday home, with his father and sisters.

Mrs. Detroit spent Sunday in Abita with her sister Mrs. Iper.

Miss E. Thompson is among the New Orleans visitors this week.

Mr. John F. Rausch spent two days in the gay old Crescent City.

Mrs. J. Benson, formerly an Abita resident, visited her old home Sunday.

Master Andrew Schmalz, after being away quite a while at College in New Orleans, visited his parents and friends on Sunday.

Mrs. H. Welsh and a number of friends spent Sunday in Abita.

Mr. H. J. Ledoux took a flying trip to Abita on business.

Mr. E. J. Larkin was among the Abita visitors on Sunday.

Miss Celestine Biggio has arrived from St. Sholastica's Academy to spend the holidays with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Terrebomme are spending the holidays with relatives.

Mr. Chas. W. Schmidt spent Friday of last week, in New Orleans.

Mr. Schrieber left Sunday to spend a few days in New Orleans.

Mr. Thomas Cahill, son and daughter, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Strain on Sunday.

Mr. E. J. Domergue, Jr., and family passed through Abita Sunday evening.

Miss Yvonne Guinault, a student of S. S. A., spent Saturday and Sunday with her mother.

Mr. H. O. Ness entertained some of her friends at an ice cream party Tuesday.

Mr. John Wust is erecting a beautiful home in Abita.

Mr. J. Kreher, after spending a while in New Orleans, has returned.

Miss Gertrude Lenoard left for New Orleans to spend awhile with friends.

Miss Gordon, after spending awhile at the Oaks, has returned.

Mrs. Dr. Damaree and little daughter Daisy spent Sunday and Monday in the Crescent City.

Miss Annie Mutti returned Monday from New Orleans, where she had been with her little cousin Lilian, who is quite ill.

Mr. J. L. Reed and little son Lee are visiting in the Crescent City.

Mrs. L. C. Heintz and little daughter left Monday for the Crescent City.

Mr. John Lemon, who has been employed at the railroad depot, left last Saturday to accept a position with the Southern Express Co.

"Queen Quality" provides a shoe for every occasion, a style for every taste, a fit for every foot. No other shoe is made in such variety. See our styles. J. STERN & SON, Sole Agents.

Dr. J. L. Watkins, of the City Drugstore, has just received a handsome lot of Holiday goods. Be sure and see his stock before purchasing elsewhere.

COURT ITEMS.

District Court was in session Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week, with Judge T. M. Burns on the bench and District Attorney L. L. Morgan at his post. The following cases were disposed of:

State vs Alex Harold, breaking and entering, 10 years.

Cls. Hammond, disturbing the peace, \$25 and 10 days in jail.

Martin Smith, drunk, \$25.

THE FIRST PRINCIPLE Of the Salaried Man Should Be TO SAVE.

It is possible that luck may play an important part in the quick making of fortunes, but it has nothing to do with fortunes accumulated from the savings of labor. A bank account, however, will be of assistance and the young man or woman who will take this method of saving from his or her salary will eventually reach the desired goal. This bank welcomes the accounts of those people who are working on salary and have a desire to save a part of it.

St. Tammany Banking Co. and Savings Bank COVINGTON - MANDEVILLE.

TRUNKS TRUNKS Just received a new line of Trunks and Cook Stoves LOOKS WELL. SEE MY LINE OF COOK STOVES BEFORE PURCHASING BAKES WELL. IF YOU WANT TO SAVE MONEY WEARS WELL.

BEST STOVE FOR THE MONEY Lawrence M. Bourgeois Furniture and Household Goods Phone 8 New Hampshire and Lockwood Streets COVINGTON - LA.

DON'T FORGET THAT Fisher & Choppin ARE STILL SELLING OUT Just Opened Up \$1200 Worth Of Men's and Boy's Suits and Overcoats Which we are selling at prices never before heard of in the history of Covington. Come early and get fitted before all are gone. We are going out of business and these goods must be sold. We can save you BIG MONEY. Call and be convinced.

E. D. ABADIE DEALER IN FINE COFFEES That's All Phone 104. COVINGTON, La.

Pay your Pole Tax. Notice to Taxpayer. Remember that if your Pole Tax is not paid by December 31, 1908, you will not be able to vote at the next election. There is but a little time left in which to pay your taxes before they become delinquent. After Dec. 31, 1908, there will be a penalty of 2 per cent a month on all unpaid taxes. Pay now and avoid the rush. Do your Christmas shopping at Champagne's Drug Store and help your boy or girl win one of the handsome prizes they are offering.