

The St. Tammany Farmer.

"The Blessings of Government, Like the Dew from Heaven, Should Descend Alike Upon the Rich and the Poor."

D. H. MASON, Editor

COVINGTON, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LA., SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1911

VOL XXXVII NO 22

HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY

St. Tammany Parish Celebrates this Event.

Bogue Falaya Park Crowded With Celebrators.

A Monster Cake Distributed Among the Children.

Speaking, Music, Drills and Songs, Entertainment.

The celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of St. Tammany parish, which took place at Bogue Falaya Park last Monday, April 24, 1911, awakened an interest unprecedented in the history of public celebrations in the town to Covington. It is true one hundredth anniversaries do not come every day, but in the present instance the remarkable is not so much in the large number of people that gathered as in the enthusiasm that was manifested and the large number of children that attended from different parts of the parish and from both protestant and catholic schools. There were at least six hundred school children, most of them dressed in white, and those who engaged in the exercises wearing red, white and blue sashes from the shoulder to waist. The sight of this large number of eager children, with the glow of health and life and happiness, could not but be an inspiration of our responsibility for their future and a reminder that the present celebration was an installation of patriotism that would linger with them in after years.

By 2 o'clock, the time for the exercises to begin, the immense pavilion was crowded to its fullest extent and many were unable to get inside. Some sat in carriages outside in an effort to catch the remarks of the speakers on the stage, a difficult thing with all the buzz and flutter of such a large gathering. The band of the St. Joseph's Academy furnished the music for the occasion, which was much enjoyed by everyone. The selections played were: "New York Town," "The Bird," "Massa's in the Cold, Cold Ground," "Daises Wont Tell, Red, White and Blue," "Red Wing, Princeton Quickstep," "Oregon Quickstep." The members of this excellent band are: Father Kales, director; Harold Zenger, F. A. Kerner, George, Father Thomas, piccolo; Father Joseph, baritone; Louis Toups, clarinet; L. Callouet, first alto; L. Aucouin, second alto; M. Hebert, trombone; A. Bernier, bass; O. Lyons, tuba; Ben Mutter, snare drum; B. Didier, bass drum.

The ceremonies were opened by deaf mute pupils of Chinchuba. While some of the Sisters sang "America," the mutes kept time to the music, reciting the lines in the sign language and keeping excellent time. There were about thirty of them, boys and girls. The girls wore uniforms, consisting of blue caps, white waists, red, white and blue belts and red skirts with three white stripes at the bottom, a recitation of a few spoken lines was quite distinctly made by several of the pupils.

The exercises of the pupils from the different schools were conducted on the stage of the pavilion, on which were seated a large number of prominent citizens of St. Tammany parish and some from Washington parish also, as well as the speakers who were to address the gathering. The Chinchuba exercises were first put on because they wished to catch their gear for the Institute, and the speaking was delayed until afterwards. We have not space for the speeches made, for while they were all supposed to be three-minute talks, some of them were much longer. They abounded in patriotic sentiment and historical recital and were all applauded to the echo. The speakers were: Judge Thomas M. Burns, Sheriff T. E. Brewster, District Attorney L. L. Morgan, Hon. Jos. B. Lancaster, Supt. H. B. Messick, Geo. Koepf, Jr., president of the Police Jury, and D. H. Mason, editor of the St. Tammany Farmer.

The following was read by Hon. Jos. B. Lancaster: Chairman, Covington Centennial Celebration: Dear Sir—Although not a resident of Covington, I am a frequent visitor there, so I have written the following poem on the park, and hope you can use it at the celebration:

DEDICATION OF BOGUE FALAYA PARK.

'Tis here one hundred years ago so long,
That Lord and Lady Covington did live,
Where nature filled the air with bird's sweet song,
And beauty did her fair attraction give.
Before the rumbling trains rushed swift and wild,
To break the forests' peaceful silence deep.
These English people sought this climate mild,
A vast estate of grandeur here to keep.
And soon a village by the mangrove grew,
While visitors came here from every side.

Because a charming place was found they knew,
Where peace and health with joy would e'er abide.

Thus as the years rushed down the path of time,
The fame of Covington spread far and wide,
Whose charm is woven in the poet's rhyme,
And redmen's legends are still heard with pride.

The Heaven's smiled with blessed look divine,
And breathed its magic on the many springs,
That bubbled through the verdant woods of pine,
Where health to sickness dire its solace brings.

And now the poor invalid doomed with blight,
Comes to breathe with hope renewed within his breast,
Here soon will glowing health his face delight,
And he does find contentment with sweet rest.

Thus Covington was built beside the stream,
And industry has thrived through all these years,
Where Bogue Falaya flows like some fair dream,
And beauty in her fairest garb appears.

To-day we dedicate this park so green,
Named for the well-loved water by its shore,
May here prosperity be ever seen,
And greenness grow this town forevermore.

The majestic forests rise and bloom around,
While spring her piping notes throws on the air,
To summon and blossom from the ground,
And drive away with smiles all fear or care.

And here shall lovers stroll beside the stream,
While wandering there shady walks along,
Where sunlight through the whisp'ring trees will gleam,
And fill their hearts with some enamored song.

EDWARD J. LINCOLN.
Miss Lucy Carter Mrs. Golden, of Mandeville, and some others took turns at the piano during the different songs and drills.

After the performance the chairs were removed and dancing was enjoyed for the rest of the evening. The monster cake that was advertised as twelve feet in diameter, while it might not have been quite that large, was still large enough to satisfy the six hundred children present and they did not sacrifice their opportunity of getting a piece of it by not being the first to get a share.

The cake was the work of Mr. Franck Boudousouie and was very prettily decorated with natural flowers. It stood in the center of the pavilion, and between it and the seats there was left sufficient space for the manoeuvres of the one hundred school children who took part in the drill that preceded it cutting. The idea originated with Mr. Whitaker Riggs, who is only happy when he has some scheme in view. The cutting of the cake was the individual task of Clerk of Court H. R. Warren, him preferably because he is a big man and the cake-cutting a big job, and—well, you know it's near election time and there was no chance that "Uncle Harry" would miss giving a piece of cake to any child in that six hundred. The cake was unique in construction. In fact, it was not the huge heel cake that it appeared to be, but simply a canvas shell of separate compartments, arranged in huge slices that could be drawn out separately and in which were numerous slices of real cake wrapped in paper souvenir napkins, which told of the occasion in the following words: "One hundredth anniversary of St. Tammany Parish, Bogue Falaya Park, Covington, La., April 24, 1911. 1811-1911."

The one hundred school children of the Covington public school had been carefully prepared in their drill by Mrs. V. Z. Young and Miss Alma Penble, which consisted of three circles, the outer and inner circle moving to the right and the center circle to the left. The children were dressed in white with sashes of red, white and blue, and as they revolved around the huge cake, they held in each hand a hundred lighted candles, the extinction of which was to mark the close of the expiring century, a panorama of kaleidoscopic appearance was presented that made an attractive end to the celebration that will long be remembered, and each child blew out a candle in the position assigned to it in the drill, in the curling smoke of the smouldering wick could be traced the story of the survival of youth and the passing of centuries.

The Women's Progressive Union were active workers in making the affair a success, and notwithstanding the crowd was so dense that only those on the outskirts could make their way to the refreshment stands, they turned in about \$103 in gross receipts for the park fund. Another grand success was scored in the evening, when the comedy, "All Tangled Up," was reproduced, and a record-breaking audience that left none of the 500 chairs vacant greeted the talented little troupe of home actors. "All Tangled Up" is one of the best comedies that has been put on in Covington, and the acting was good all around. The situation is humorous from start to finish and the audience were kept in a good humor from the time the curtain rose until the tangle became untangled. The stage, which was built under the supervision of Mr. Reuhl, is roomy and meets all the requirements of our home talent, and it is hoped that an interest in theatricals may be awakened that will present to the Covington public an opportunity of enjoying such performances.

(Continued on Page 2).

HELD HEARING ON THE ABITA

Colonel Lansing H. Beach Hears Arguments.

Testimony Given in Support of Opening Abita River.

After Breakfast at the New Abita Springs Hotel,

A Largely Attended Hearing Held in Town Hall.

The hearing given to the proposed opening of the Abita River, to give navigation through the Bogue Falaya and Tchoufunctua rivers to the lake, was held at the town hall at Abita Springs last Saturday. Colonel Beach was met at the morning train and received by a large delegation of citizens, who conducted him to the New Abita Hotel, where all sat down to an excellent breakfast, which was well served and tempting to the appetite, which was further encouraged by several kinds of very good wine. Colonel Beach was accompanied by his clerk, Mr. Chas. Waite. After coffee and cigars had been enjoyed, the party repaired to a meeting, where citizens had gathered to take part in the hearing. There were present at the breakfast, beside Colonel Beach and Mr. Waite, Mayor Mutt, Councilmen L. C. Heintz, J. L. Clairain, Geo. S. Strain, Joseph Rauch, Clerk A. O. Pons, J. H. Buss, Charles Biggio, L. Darring, Hon. Jos. B. Lancaster, G. C. Alexius, A. C. Alexius, D. H. Mason, L. J. Hennessey, A. L. Bear. The meeting was called to order by Judge A. O. Pons, who introduced Colonel Beach and stated the object of the meeting. Colonel Beach stated that in order to justify the opening of a river the government would require a report showing that the advantages gained must be commensurate with the cost, a relative benefit to the community. That in estimating these advantages only actual facts must be considered, and that he would like to have such testimony as would show the amount of business now done on the river, the amount and kind of business and industry that would result from the improvement and any facts and figures in proof.

The following statement, prepared by a committee appointed for that purpose, was handed to Colonel Beach:

Question: What is the kind, and amount of commerce, at present, upon the Abita River?
Answer: Bricks, logs and lumber; 5,000,000 bricks.

Question: Logs, moved from where to where and amount?
Answer: Logs from Abita Bridge to various points.

Question: Sawed lumber?
Answer: None at present.

Question: Cotton?
Answer: None at present.

Question: Sugar-cane and cane products?
Answer: None.

Question: Other foreign products?
Answer: None.

Question: Any other freight?
Answer: General merchandise from New Orleans to Abita.

Question: Did any boats run on the bayou carrying freight and passengers in 1910, if so, their names and sizes?
Answer: Six boats: Eureka, Abita, three barges belonging to Jahncke's Navigation Company, and schooner Anita D. Schooners have a tonnage of 60 tons, barges about 300 tons. We also have the Steamer Josie, which has a tonnage of 100 tons.

Question: What are the names and population of the towns or villages situated on the bayou?
Answer: Alexandria, 200; Mathiesville, 200; Claiborne, 300; Abita Springs, 565, with 2,500 in the surrounding country district.

Question: What is the extent of rural district tributary to the bayou and its population?
Answer: About 200 square miles.

Question: What transportation lines now serve the people of these towns and this district?
Answer: The N. O. G. N. R. R. Company.

Give the freight received or shipped over any of these lines at any point. Name articles, quantity, value in dollars and directions of movement, whether in or out?
Answer: The value of logs, lumber, piling, cross-ties and other wood products is now \$500,000.00, with an approximate freight value of \$30,000.00, and general merchandise imported from New Orleans and other points \$12,000.00 in freight value.

Question: What is the character of improvement desired for the river?
Answer: Dredging, clearing out logs and snags, and to make the stream navigable to Abita Springs.

Question: Between what points would this improvement be made?
Answer: Between the towns of Abita Springs and Bogue Falaya.

Question: Will this improvement increase the movement of any freight named in answer to question one; if so, how and to what extent?
Answer: 1,000 per cent.

Question: Will it increase the number of vessels on the river?
Answer: Yes.

Question: Will it divert to the

water-way any of the freight now carried by the lines named in answer to question eleven, if so, how and to what extent?
Answer: 75 per cent of the lumber industries (export) and 75 per cent of severance tax.

Question: What are the freight rates now on the principal articles of commerce in this locality?
Answer: They are in excess at least 200 per cent over the water rates.

Question: What effect, if any, will the desired improvements have on these rates?
Answer: Reducing them.

Question: Will the improvement develop any new industries or establish any new factories?
Answer: It will facilitate the truck farming, dairy product, poultry, clay industries, cattle and wood product, and naval stores; a special mention will provide cheap transportation for pine knots, fat pine charcoal and other by-products.

Question: Would the improvement of the stream work a disadvantage to any interest of parties, if so, to whom and how?
Answer: None that we are aware of.

Question: If there are any products within your knowledge bearing on the proposed improvement, it is requested that they be stated?
Answer: In the opinion of the committee appointed to investigate the opening of the Abita River, the opening of the river to schooners, barges, tugs and small steamers of all kinds will give tremendous impetus to existing traffic and will open up trade now lying dormant awaiting cheap transportation. Land lying along the banks of the river is of a reasonable price and there is enough timbered land adjoining the river to justify the erection of a large saw mill, box factory. Fat pine in stumps and other forms that cannot be shipped with a profit over the cost of getting them to market, are being watered here or the products shipped by water to other points. The amount of fallen timber that could be cut into cord wood and shipped (that is now going to waste) is enormous. One of the greatest benefits to be obtained by opening the river would be in drainage; flats that are now subject to overflow forming some of the richest land in this section would be available for trucking; damage to stock which amounts to thousands of dollars in the sheep industry alone, would be saved. Pairs to fences, roads washed out, and traffic stopped would justify the expense if that were the only benefit. Abita Springs is widely known as a health resort and during the summer months a floating population of extra hundreds, who are constantly traveling the road. Mr. Herman Schultz, police juror for the Third Ward, is also much interested, and if the people show that they are in earnest in the matter and are willing to do something more than talk, he will see that the parish does its share.

We understand that interested parties who realize the value such a road would be to the people of Covington and Abita Springs will take the matter in hand, and that Mr. Schultz will be aided in carrying out the project.

BUSH NOTES.

Services were held at the First Methodist Church, Sunday, conducted by Rev. Henry of New Orleans, and Rev. N. E. Alford, pastor of this church.

Mrs. S. D. Crawford is visiting her daughter, Mrs. B. B. Garrison.

Mrs. E. A. Crawford and son, of Talahack, were Bush visitors, Sunday.

We regret to hear of the illness of Grandma Purvis, and hope to hear of her recovery, soon.

J. O. Leonard is home for a few days.

McCrory Bros. keep the town lively with the loading of lumber cars.

A petition is out for the establishing of a new postoffice at Bush Station.

Miss Edna Crawford has returned to her home in Pearl River, La.

School continues to improve, and every one is well pleased with the teacher.

J. O. Gresham, of Tylertown, Miss., was a visitor to Bush for a few days.

Great progress is being made in the Sunday school of the Methodist Church.

Mr. L. M. Crawford was in Bush, Sunday.

Mr. Warren Evans and Miss Nina Grantham, of Bush, were married on Sunday, last, and have our best wishes and congratulations.

Miss Renie Ott, of Clifton, was the guest of Miss Grace Thorn, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Emile Talley was a visitor to Covington, Friday.

We are glad to know that Mrs. J. M. Eridges is improving in health, and hope to see her home soon.

Miss F. Dickey has been checked as agent at Bush, La. DOT.

The Sound Sleep of Good Health.
Can not be over estimated and should be prevented, it is a menace to health. J. L. Southern, Eau Claire, Wis., says: "I have been unable to sleep soundly nights, because of pains across my back and soreness of my kidneys. My appetite to be very poor and my general condition was much run down. I have been taking Foley Kidney Pills but a short time and now sleep as sound as a rock, my general condition is greatly improved, and I know that Foley Kidney Pills have cured me." Sold by Theo. Strain & Son.

An old-time woodsman and seemed less inconvenienced than some who were accustomed to that kind of travel. The trip back from Covington, where the Colonel went to inspect some of the dredging work that was being done in the Tchoufunctua river, was made in automobiles, and the Colonel took the train at Abita Springs.

Colonel Beach went the hearts of the Abita people while he was here, and whether he makes a favorable report or not, they will always feel that he is a square, upright gentleman. While he prefers a glass of pure spring water to something stronger, he was so thoroughly democratic and congenial that our people will look forward with pleasure to the time when he may come back and make a tour of inspection of our country by that slow but sure and satisfactory means—a mule and buggy.

SHELL ROAD TO ABITA

A Much Discussed Subject of Great Interest.

Property Holders Willing to Contribute in Proportion

To Value of Property Along the Road to be Shelled.

Matter to be Taken Up and Put Through if Possible.

For some time past the question of shelling the public road from Covington to Abita Springs has been under discussion. There does not seem to be any dissenting from the opinion that the shelling of this road would be a paying proposition for every property holder on it, and that as a mere business venture it would bring good returns for the outlay. A few individuals have interested themselves in the matter so far as to secure some subscriptions, but there has been no organized and systematic plan worked out for its accomplishment. As a popular idea, the undertaking seems on the face of it to have every appearance of a successful venture. Marshal Oalman, of Abita Springs, who has interviewed a good many citizens of that town who have secured some subscriptions. The town of Abita would no doubt contribute, among its citizens, quite a helpful sum, and Covington citizens ought also be willing to stand their share of expense, especially owners of automobiles and carriages who are constantly traveling the road. Mr. Herman Schultz, police juror for the Third Ward, is also much interested, and if the people show that they are in earnest in the matter and are willing to do something more than talk, he will see that the parish does its share.

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LOADED PISTOL IN PRESENCE OF GIRL: THREATENED HER.

Young Bogalusan Complains to Police Against Spaniard.

Patrolman Raggie told an interesting story while testifying in the Second Recorders Court Tuesday against a Spaniard named Joseph Rocha. He arrested Rocha on a complaint of a young lady named Kate Sullivan, and locked him up for disturbing the peace. On the charge he was fined \$5 or thirty days by Assistant Recorder Crimen.

Patrolman Raggie said: "I was in company with Patrolman Puga at the Terminal Depot Monday evening, and upon the arrival of the 6:10 train a very pretty young woman, apparently about twenty-two years of age, approached me in an excited and nervous condition.

"She gave her name as Kate Sullivan, and said that she came from Bogalusa, where she boarded the train, and was on her way to Slidell, La., where she intended getting off, but was prevented by Rocha, who threatened her life.

"It appears that Rocha, who had been working with Miss Sullivan in a restaurant, boarded the train, and took a seat beside her, when Rocha drew a revolver and began loading it in the presence of Miss Sullivan and other persons in the coach.

He then asked her where she was going, and she told him to Slidell, when she protested and declared that unless she came to New Orleans and married him that he would kill her.

"She told me," continued the officer, "that she was too much afraid to get off the train at Slidell, and that her baggage had been left, as she checked it for that station before boarding the train at Bogalusa, and showed the two checks.

"The woman further declared that a young man on the train who overheard the threats of Rocha volunteered to escort her from the train, but that she was afraid to accept, as Rocha had declared that if she accepted he would kill her."

The woman was taken into custody by a member of the Travelers Aid Society and the man was taken in custody by the police. It is understood that she was returned to Slidell Monday night.—Daily States.

ST. TAMMANY NOTES.

School closed here Friday, and a very interesting program was rendered Friday night. Superintendent H. B. Messick and Mr. Jos. B. Lancaster made interesting talks on education. Our principal, Miss Roberts, will spend awhile with her people before returning to her home in Gloster, Miss.

Miss Rosa Crawford, our popular assistant teacher, left Saturday for her home in Pearl River. She will be greatly missed in the Sunday school and social circles.

Misses Viola and Josie Keller and Mr. W. H. Gardner, of Slidell, attended the school closing here Friday night.

Miss Lorena Ezell is spending this week in Slidell, as the guest of the Messick Kellers.

Messrs. T. P. and H. Crawford and Miss Alma Crawford, of Pearl River, spent a few days here this week.

Mr. H. Keller, of Slidell, was a business visitor here Friday.

Your tongue is coated.
Your breath is foul.
Headaches come and go.
These symptoms show that your stomach is the trouble. To remove the cause is the first thing, and Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets will do that. Easy to take and most effective. Sold by all druggists.

ABITA SPRINGS NOTES.

Mr. C. Henry and baby and Miss J. Abadie were Covington visitors on Monday.

The Messes Strain and Comeaux, of Covington, spent Sunday evening in Abita.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rausch and children and Mrs. P. E. Wagner were Covington visitors on Sunday.

Mrs. Clement and Mrs. Barthe, of New Orleans, are spending some time here.

Mr. and Mrs. Duquesne and children, of New Orleans, were Sunday guests of relatives.

Miss J. Darring spent from Sunday to Wednesday as the guest of her sister, Mrs. Chas. Biggio.

O. Sizeler, of New Orleans, spent Sunday here with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Massie, of New Orleans, spent Sunday here with relatives.

Mr. George Welsh has returned to New Orleans, after a stay of several days, the guest of relatives.

Mr. F. Brinker, of New Orleans, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. Taylor, last week.

Miss V. Rousseau has returned to her home in Abita, after spending several days in Covington.

After several weeks spent here, Miss Claire Walters, has returned to Algiers.

Mrs. Murray has returned from Crescent City.

Mrs. Ed. Bajajou and children are guests of Mrs. J. S. Hauser.

Miss M. Cahill spent Monday in Covington with friends.

Mrs. Chas. Biggio and sister, Miss J. Darring, were Covington visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. J. Enas and daughter, Miss Lenora, of Algiers, are spending a few weeks here as the guests of Mrs. Chas. Hauser.

Mr. F. Schmidt and daughters, Myrtle and Loretta, were visitors to Abita on Sunday evening.

Safe Medicine for Children.
Foley's Honey and Tar Compound is a safe and effective medicine for children, as it does not contain opiates or harmful drugs. The genuine Foley's Honey and Tar Compound is in a yellow package. Sold by Theo. Strain & Son.

HAD RIGHT TO ISSUE BONDS

Attorney General Guion Declares Town of Slidell

Was Acting Within the Law in Issue of School Bonds.

Parish Superintendent Custodian of School Funds.

Tax Levy Be Extended to Take Effect in Future.

The following communication from Attorney General Guion gives an opinion of much discussed questions in regard to the Slidell issue of bonds for school purposes. According to this decision, in case Covington wished to extend or increase its present tax levy for a further issue of bonds it could do so. As the present school building has been regarded by some as unfit for completion, and as even some architects have sustained this view, it may be found necessary that some such step be taken before we can have a school house:

"New Orleans, La., April 25, 1911. Hon. L. L. Morgan, District Attorney, Covington, La.

"Dear Sir—I have your letter of 19th instant, enclosing me one to you from Mr. H. B. Messick, superintendent of public schools of St. Tammany Parish, which you have asked me to answer, and which is compliance with your request. I now do.

On examining his letter to you I find that, in 1905, the town council of Slidell ordered an election to be held to vote on the question of levying a special tax for the purpose of building a school house in that town; that in February, 1911, the council of Slidell ordered another election, for the purpose of voting on the question of a bond issue in order to build the school house just referred to, and, because the school board of St. Tammany Parish has never created any school district, known as the Slidell School District, Mr. Messick wishes to know:

"First, if the town of Slidell is a school district by virtue of its incorporation.

"Second, whose duty it is to sell the school bonds referred to.

"Third, whose duty it is to accept the plans and specifications for the school building, as well as to let the contract for building the same, and to supervise the construction thereof, where, as in the present instance, the site upon which said house is to be built belongs to the parish school board.

"Fourth, with whom the proceeds to be derived from the sale of these bonds should be deposited, and if the same may be otherwise lawfully deposited; and

"Fifth, whether the levy of the special tax referred to may be extended for a longer period than the present levy, so as to begin the collection of same five or six years."

"Answering these questions in the order asked, I beg to say:

First, if the question asked is as to whether the town of Slidell had the authority to levy a special tax.

"First, if the question asked is as to whether the town of Slidell had the authority to levy a special tax for the purpose of building a school house in that municipality, I do not hesitate to say that it had such authority, and, in that sense, that a municipality might be designated as a school district.

"Second, that town had also the right, under the provisions of Act No. 84 of 1906, to fund into bonds the proceeds of the special taxes thus voted, and, necessarily, to sell these bonds in order to reach the proceeds derived from the sale.

"Third, by section 8 of Act No. 214 of 1902, as amended by Act No. 167 of 1904, it is the duty of the Parish Board of School Directors of St. Tammany Parish to accept the plans and specifications, to let the contract and to supervise the construction of the building where the site upon which said house is to be built belongs to the parish school board.

"Fourth, as section 65 of Act No. 214 of 1902 provides that the parish treasurer of each parish, except in