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schools. I can answer the question for you. No one. But how many local boards hold regular and special meets, discuss the qualifications of the teachers, assume the authority of reprimanding them, dismiss them and employ new teachers for another term and then notify the superintendent of their action. The local board has no authority, whatever, to reprimand, to dismiss or to employ teachers. This is the duty of the superintendent.

"Upon the recommendation of the superintendent the parish board shall determine the number of schools to be opened, the location of the school houses, the number of teachers to be employed and their salaries."

I trust that all local school board members will take much pride and interest in looking after the physical conditions and needs of their schools and will not attempt to exercise any authority that does not belong to them.

Yours very truly,
H. B. MESSICK,
Superintendent.

P. S.—I have been asked quite a number of times to write the above article.

TO FIGHT THE BOLL WEEVIL.

The following is submitted by the United States Department of Agriculture:
THE PRODUCTION OF COTTON UNDER BOLL WEEVIL CONDITIONS.

In response to a special circular explaining how to make cotton under boll weevil conditions, the following is submitted as the result of our experience in the cotton States for a number of years.

It is evident that the cotton boll weevil has come to stay; that it will soon spread practically over the entire cotton-producing portions of the United States, and that at present there is no known method of completely destroying it, and consequently it will be a factor in all future cotton production in this country.

Fortunately there are some factors in this apparently hopeless problem which point to results which promise relief. The Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture in its outline of the life history of this pest has brought out among other things the following facts:

- (1) The cotton boll weevil feeds upon nothing but cotton.
- (2) It goes into winter quarters mainly in or near the field of its depositions.
- (3) A comparatively small percentage of the weevils survive the winter and emerge in the spring.
- (4) The overwintered weevil feeds upon the terminal buds of the young cotton plants until the forms or squares develop, then the female deposits her eggs in the squares, exclusively at first, but later may deposit in the immature bolls.
- (5) The life of the adult weevil when supplied with food is about 70 days. If deprived of food it lives only 6 or 7 days, except in hibernation.
- (6) For a period after emergence from winter quarters the weevil is comparatively sluggish and while feeding upon cotton plants it may be picked or poisoned.
- (7) The weevils remain mainly in the field where they locate in the early spring until they become very numerous. Their principal period of migration is in the fall.

Based upon these life habits of the weevil, the Bureau of Plant Industry has planned its fight for the production of cotton, which may be summarized as follows:

- (1) Under boll weevil infestation the fields selected for cultivation should be well drained, because a successful crop will then depend upon the possibility of cultivating them at the proper time. The low, poorly drained lands should be devoted to other crops. They have always been an uncertain factor in cotton production. It is not the intention to state that well-drained alluvial lands should not be planted to cotton.
- (2) The early destruction of the cotton stalks before frost and the burning of all rubbish in and about the infested field are imperative.
- (3) Break the field deep as early in the fall as possible with an implement that does not bring too much of the subsoil to the surface, and occasionally run a harrow over it in the winter, if practicable. Before planting, thoroughly pulverize the soil and make the best seed bed possible.
- (4) Care must be taken to secure seed of an early-maturing variety, and of the highest vitality—not necessarily a small boll variety, for on uplands we have been more successful with some large boll varieties.
- (5) Plant as early as the season will permit in rows somewhat wider apart than under nonboll weevil conditions, but it is better to plant until all danger of frost is past and the soil is warm enough to produce rapid germination and plant growth.
- (6) The use of the section harrow before planting, and after planting, and again just as soon as the plants are well up, is advised.
- (7) Use intensive, shallow cultivation of the crop and never lay by the cotton till picking commences. Late cultivation is very important.
- (8) In case it is evident that a large number of weevils have been overwintered, it is advisable to hand pick or poison the early appearing weevils.
- (9) As soon as the weevil commences to work, as evidenced by the punctured squares, attach a pole or brush to the handles of the cultivator so as to knock the squares off. Most of them will fall of their own accord in a few days after they are punctured.
- (10) Persistently pick up and burn the fallen squares.

This battle against the weevil is in two divisions:
The first division of the work consists in reducing the number of weevils just as much as possible so that a crop can be made.

The second division is to push the cotton plant to maturity as fast as possible and by extra cultivation and fertilization cause it to put on more forms or squares than it can mature, so that what the weevil takes is only a surplus—of no consideration in making the crop.

The burning of the stalks is very destructive to the weevils in the field, but its value depends considerably on the way it is done. It must be done early and before frost. Demonstrations have been made showing that it caused the destruction of as many as 97 per cent of the weevils if done early and properly, but if delayed it might allow as many as 45 per cent to escape.

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CUMBERLAND TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO., INC

Dr. Sullivan, of the New Orleans Dental Parlors, was a Covington visitor Convention week.

It is rumored that Mr. Marvin Poole is thinking of again making his home in Covington.

During the Firemen's Convention Mrs. A. Fahrman and Miss Fannie Crosby, of Goodbee, were visitors at the home of Mrs. Preston Burns.

Marshal White, of Slidell, passed through Covington this week on his way to the State penitentiary with a supposed escaped negro convict.

Mrs. I. A. Alfonso leaves this morning for Pass Christian to visit her niece, Mrs. R. A. Strong, previous to her departure for Europe.

Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Strong will leave on the 8th inst. for an extended tour through Europe.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Smith and daughter, Edith, of Galveston, Tex., are here on a visit to relatives.

Mr. Frank Smith, of Little Rock, Ark., was in Covington this week to attend the funeral of his grandfather, Mr. J. M. Abney.

Bogue Falaya Grove No. 21, U. A. O. D., will give a banquet at Labat's Hotel, at Abita Springs, Sunday, June 4, in honor of the grand officers from New Orleans, who will install the officers elect of that grove.

The waste basket that has been placed by the Progressive Union in front of the postoffice shows, by the quantity of paper that is usually in it, that it is keeping a lot of trash off the street. Everybody should use it when occasion requires and help to keep the town looking neat and clean.

Mr. A. A. Cooley left at the Farmer office some very handsome samples of the White Star potato, grown at his place. We have had numerous kinds of potatoes brought to the office this year, all showing a successful growth. St. Tammany can grow any of them to perfection.

Miss Florence Bush, of St. James, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Addison and family.

Miss Carrie McMillan and mother, of New Orleans, are spending awhile at Grahams, Military Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Barrere visited their parents the past week.

Hon. Paul Gardner, Mayor of Slidell, and Messrs. Fred Salmen, Archie Everitt and Jas. Currie, of Slidell, arrived here Saturday evening in Mr. Salmen's automobile and remained here till Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Richard left Thursday afternoon for Portland, Oregon, where they will make their future home.

Mr. Chumay Burnette, of Cincinnati, Ohio, left this week for his home after a pleasant stay here with his friend, Mr. John Haller.

Messrs. M. Simmons and F. Bachman who are attending the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge, and Miller King arrived this week to spend their vacation with home folks.

The New Southern Hotel did a rushing business during convention week. This resort is gaining rapidly in public favor, and as the hot weather has put in an early appearance, it may be expected that it will soon be crowded with guests seeking the comforts and healthfulness which it offers.

MILITARY ROAD NOTES.

The guests at Edgar Cottage are: Mrs. L. E. Guedry and daughter, Louise, of Dallas, Tex.; Miss Cora Brimmer, of New Orleans, and Mrs. Joe F. Zaeringer, of New Orleans.

Messrs. J. Allen and P. E. Guedry spent Wednesday at Edgar Cottage.

Miss M. Vojoin is the guest of Mrs. H. Christenberry.

Mr. Haggel spent Sunday at his home on Military Road.

Mr. and Mrs. John Badon, Creoles, of Bayou LaCambre, enjoy the distinction being the parents of triplets, three boys, which are about a month old and doing well. They were previously blessed with twins.

Mr. N. G. Pearsall has resigned as manager of the N. O. G. N. and has accepted the management of the Louisiana Division of the Texas and Pacific.

CHRISTIA-LOUSTAUNAU.

Mr. Jean Baptiste Christia and Miss Julia Loustaunau, of Paris, France, were married Thursday, June 1, 1911, 5:30 o'clock a. m., at St. Peter's Church, Rev. Jos. Koegerl, officiating. The attendants were Mr. Pierre Labouette and Miss Madeleine Planché. The newly wedded couple left on the Friday morning train for New Orleans, where they will spend their honeymoon.

DIED.

ABNEY—In Claiborne, La., May 28, 1911, Jesse M. Abney, 76 years, 6 months and 21 days of age, a native of Hines County, Miss. The funeral took place from the Methodist Church Wednesday at 3 o'clock p. m., the body having been embalmed by the Poole Embalming Establishment to await the arrival of relatives. Rev. A. A. Bernard preached the funeral service.

The pall bearers were: Emile Frederick, L. L. Morgan, H. J. Smith, S. D. Bulloch, J. E. Smith, Fritz Zorn.

Interment was made in the Covington Cemetery.

OBITUARY.

Jesse M. Abney was born in Hines County, Miss., November 7, 1834, one of nine children, son of Robert R. Abney and Mary A. Roberts, who were natives of Tennessee and Mississippi respectively, who were of Welsh and German extraction, respectively. Jesse M. Abney was educated in the common schools of Jasper County, Miss., and at Oak Bowery High School, taught for some time and then engaged in merchandising.

In 1861 he enlisted in Company F, 12th Mississippi Cavalry, and served until the close of the war, when he returned to Jasper County, Miss., and that fall moved to Marion County, Miss., where he embarked in the stock business. He married Miss Sarah Crosby, daughter of John and Nancy Crosby, January 18, 1862, in Jasper County, Miss., who died on August 24, 1890. Ten children were born to them.

He moved to St. Tammany Parish, La., December, 1876, and moved to his Claiborne home about the year 1880, where he died May 28, 1911, from where he was buried May 30, 1911.

Deceased leaves three daughters and two sons, as follows: Mrs. Mary C. Evans, wife of T. M. Evans, of Gulfport, Miss.; Mrs. Elizabeth C. Wallis, wife of D. C. Wallis, of Folsom, La., and Miss Myrtina C. Abney, of Claiborne; Robt. C. Abney and Stephen C. Abney, of Abita Springs, La. During his active life he served a term of eight years each on the Police Jury and as a member of the parish school board. He also held the position of parish treasurer of St. Tammany parish for a term of four years. He joined the Masons while a young man and was an active member for many years. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was converted early in life, and was an active member for more than sixty years.

OF INTEREST TO SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS.

Covington, La., May 24, 1911.
Editor St. Tammany Farmer:
Covington, La.

Dear Sir—Will you kindly allow me space to speak a few words to the local school board members of this parish relative to their duties. They seemed to be wholly uninformed as to what their duties are. They seem to think that they have the right to elect teachers, dismiss them and to reprimand them at their will. To all local school board members who think that such are your duties, the sooner that you are informed that school laws of Louisiana give you absolutely no authority at all whatever, the better it will be for you, for the school of which you are a patron and for the parish school board and the parish superintendent. Below I give you the law relative to the duties of local or auxiliary school board members:

"Each parish board is authorized to appoint, at its discretion, auxiliary visiting trustees for each ward or school district, or in the parish; such trustees shall make quarterly reports to the parish board of the actual condition of the schools and shall make such suggestions in all matters relating to the schools they have in charge as trustees. The members of the parish board shall visit and examine the schools in the several school districts of the parish from time to time, and they shall meet and advise with the trustees when occasion requires, if auxiliary trustees be appointed by the parish board."

Right here I want to ask how many local boards make quarterly reports to the parish board of the actual conditions and needs of their