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The St. Tammany Farmer.

WATCH ST. TAMMANY PARISH GROW

D. H. MASON, Editor

COVINGTON, ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LA. SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1915.

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DISTRICT ATTORNEY BROCK CHARGES W. B. LANCASTER WITH AN ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT HIM BY CIRCULAR

BREEZY DISCUSSION IN TOWN COUNCIL ON PROPOSITION TO REDUCE ALL THE SALARIES

The closing scene of the town council meeting, Tuesday evening, was rather spicy. When the routine business was over, the mayor asked if there was any other business before the meeting Judge Smith, who was in the audience, remarked: "Yes, going to cut down the salaries."

Marshal Schultz was perfectly willing to continue his duties in this connection, as he had previously done, at his present salary. Alderman Smith said that when that motion was made he was under the impression that Mr. Schultz would not perform these duties without increased pay.

Says He Wrote Lancaster that if He Would Testify Before the Grand Jury as to Violations of Liquor Laws He Would See that the Cases Were Prosecuted, but that Notwithstanding Lancaster Had Promised to do This He Had Not Done So, but Had Mailed His Circulars to Citizens in Dry Home Town.

Franklinton, La., Aug. 2, 1915. The circular, which I enclose, and which I desire you to publish, while addressed primarily to the citizens of St. Tammany parish, has been mailed broadcast to the citizens and voters of Washington Parish, with the evident intention of destroying the public confidence in my efficiency and attention to the duties of the office which I hold as public prosecutor of the Twenty-sixth judicial district of Louisiana.

Whether this circular was actuated by motives of patriotism and a sincere desire to see the laws of the state upheld, or whether it was actuated by personal malice or for political reasons, I leave the public to judge from the following statement of facts: The gentleman whose name appears at the bottom of the circular, Mr. W. B. Lancaster, is a resident of the City of New Orleans, the circulars were mailed from New Orleans, they were mailed to the citizens of Washington Parish, who could have no possible interest in the administration of the local law in the Town of Mandeville, which is in St. Tammany Parish, Washington being a prohibition parish and a large portion of St. Tammany being wet, including the Town of Mandeville, where the complaint is laid.

If the gentleman would imply, by mailing these circulars to the citizens of Washington Parish, that the citizens of St. Tammany Parish are incapable of managing their own internal affairs, then I think that he should have made his appeal for assistance, if such it is, in a different way, and the people of St. Tammany Parish would doubtless have appreciated Mr. Lancaster's solicitude for their welfare a great deal more if he had confined his circulars to the radius of the parish affected, which, to say the least, would have come nearer proving his sincerity.

Under date of May 7, 1915, received by me in due course of mail, is the following letter: "New Orleans, La., May 7, 1915. 'Hon. J. Vol Brock, District Attorney of St. Tammany, Louisiana. 'Dear Sir: This is to advise you that a license to operate a bar on the beach at Mandeville, between Gerard and Lafayette streets, has been illegally granted to Bechac & Murnier by the Mayor and Town Council of Mandeville. 'I say illegally, because Bechac & Murnier failed to have a majority of property holders, within 300 feet, sign the petition for said barroom, necessitated by law. 'Are you going to allow this barroom to be run in open violation of the law? Furthermore, I will also invite you to come down to Mandeville any Sunday and see the barrooms there openly violate the Sunday law, the Gay-Shattuck law and the gambling law. 'Very truly yours, 'W. B. LANCASTER.' To this communication I replied on May 11, 1915, as follows: 'Franklinton, La., May 11, 1915. 'Mr. W. B. Lancaster, 'New Orleans, La. 'My Dear Sir: Your letter of May 7 has been received. I note what you have to say in regard to

the granting of a permit by the Town Council of the Town of Mandeville to Bechac & Murnier to operate a saloon without their having a majority of the signatures of the bond fid property holders within 300 feet of the proposed location. 'As to whether or not I will allow this barroom to be run in open violation of the law, will say that this is not in the province of my office. There is no criminal statute involved. It is true that if this permit was given, as you say, it was illegally done, but the criminal court is not your remedy, but the civil court instead. You will find this by reading Section 8 of Act 176, of 1898. 'As to your invitation to come to Mandeville any Sunday and see the barrooms there openly violate the Sunday law, the Gay-Shattuck law and the gambling laws, I think you ask too much. As you know, this is entirely out of my line of duties. The district attorney's office was never intended to be detective office and none of my predecessors used it as such, besides, if it were, you know that it would be a physical impossibility for any one to go all over the district and ferret out the numerous violations of the law. The law makers knew this when they provided for sheriffs, constables, town marshals, justices of the peace and the grand jury. These are the officials whose duty it is to bring the law violators to the courts, and then it is the district attorney's duty to present the State's side of the case to the court, and this, I flatter myself to say, I have done as faithfully as I know how.

'As far as my knowledge goes there has been a single affidavit made against any of these saloons, neither has there been a single complaint made, before the grand jury. The foreman of the present grand jury lives in or near Mandeville and he seems to be a very upright and conscientious man, and I believe, if the matter is brought before him and the proper proof furnished that he will see that the parties are haled before the court, and I assure you that if they are they will never go unpunished because of any neglect on my part. 'You have your own officers, locally, whose duty it is to clean up these violators, and don't you think it unfair, personally and otherwise, to ask me to take the place and perform the duties that the law delegates to others? 'The saloon men of St. Tammany were all billed once since I have been in office, and not one of them escaped, and if they are billed again, or any one of them, I, as your district attorney, will do my duty. 'Your brother has to do with the appointing of the foreman of the grand jury, as well as the jury commissioners who select the grand jury, and I am sure he wants the law enforced, and if you will meet me, the Judge and I, at Covington during the June term of court, we will see if there isn't some way that these law violators can be rounded up. If you desire, I will have you and such other witnesses as you may name, summoned before the grand jury at their next meeting. 'With kindest personal regards, I am, 'Yours very truly, 'J. VOL BROCK.' A few days after the date of this letter I had another from Mr. Lancaster, in which he stated that he

would get up the evidence and furnish me with a list of the witnesses in order that the matter might be placed before the grand jury. This he failed to do, and did not appear at the June term of court, as requested. 'I had thought the incident closed, as I did not hear from Mr. Lancaster any further, nor did I receive any complaint from any other source regarding conditions at Mandeville until I received one of the circular letters which was mailed in New Orleans, La., on July 30, 1915. 'I make this statement in justification of myself and that the people may be fully informed of the facts complained of in the circular letter. 'I am now, and always have been since taking the oath of district attorney, ready and willing to do my full duty in upholding the law and punishing the violators. 'Respectfully yours, 'J. VOL BROCK, District Attorney of the Twenty-sixth Judicial District of Louisiana. 'The Circular. 'Mandeville, La., July, 1915. To the Citizens of St. Tammany Parish. Gentlemen: 'Whisky interests are openly violating the laws in St. Tammany parish and going unpunished. 'What influence a keeping our district attorney from doing his sworn duty in upholding the majesty of our laws by placing such matters before our grand jury and having punished the violators of our laws without fear and favor. 'Read the following, taken from the Times-Picayune Sunday, June 6, 1915: 'Law Enforcement in Mandeville. 'New Orleans, May 29, 1915. To the Editor of the Times-Picayune: 'Why do people want prohibition? I notice there has been quite a lot of trouble to keep this question out of the Constitutional Convention. Are not the liquor interests in their disregard of our laws, fast driving the people to prohibition? 'Take for instance the condition existing in our pretty little seashore town, Mandeville, where barrooms are run wide open on Sunday, the Gay-Shattuck and gambling laws openly violated, and a barroom allowed to open and run without even the formality of getting the majority of property owners' signatures within 300 feet of said barroom; all in open disregard of our laws. Is it not these things that keep the liquor question agitated and forcing our country to the adoption of prohibition? 'You are cordially invited to send one of your reporters to Mandeville any Sunday and see for yourself the open violation of the law there. While the free state of Jefferson, and the free state of St. Bernard have been closed down, the free state of Mandeville, St. Tammany parish, is wide open. 'ST. TAMMANY. 'Law abiding citizens of St. Tammany parish, will not the state of lawlessness soon lead to more serious lawlessness and should not something be done at once in this matter or shall we wait for arson and murder to follow before we become aroused to the seriousness of the situation. Write or better still, see your district attorney and ask him what he intends to do in this matter. 'Very truly yours, 'W. B. LANCASTER.

ENGLISH NOTE CONCEDES NOTHING IN ITS REPLY U. S. COMMUNICATION WILLING TO SUBMIT TO ARBITRATION

States, as Germany Did, that Chanced Conditions of Warfare Require a New Application of Principle of International Law.

Washington, Aug. 3. — Great Britain's reply to the latest American representations against international interference with neutral commerce, made public tonight, reject entirely that the orders in council are illegal and justifies the British course as wholly within international law. "Unsustainable either in point of law or upon principles of equity,"

without every effort to avoid embarrassing neutrals, and observes that American statistics show that any loss in trade with Germany and Austria has been more than overbalanced by the increase of other industrial activities due to the war. Adapts Old Principles. In the general reply to the American representations against the orders in council, Sir Edward Grey, the foreign minister, addressing Ambassador Page, begins by expressing the hope that he may convince the administration in Washington "that the measures we have announced are not only reasonable and necessary in themselves, but constitute no more than an adaptation of the old principles of blockade to the peculiar circumstances with which we are confronted."

"I need scarcely dwell," wrote Sir Edward, "on the obligations incumbent upon the Allies to take every step in their power to overcome their common enemy in view of the shocking violation of the recognized rules and principles of civilized warfare of which he has been guilty during the present struggle." Sir Edward then refers to alleged atrocities in Belgium, poisoning of wells in German Southwest Africa, use of poisonous gases against the Allied troops in Flanders and finally the sinking of the Lusitania, to show "how indispensable it is that we should have unassisted no justifiable method of defending ourselves." "Defence Allied Blockade." Coming down to the question of the note, Sir Edward says: "In the various notes which I have

following letter, which explains matters: "Washington, July 29, 1915. 'Postmaster, Covington, La. 'In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, your attention is directed to paragraph 1 of section 322, Postal Laws and Regulations, which is a part of the Act of Congress approved August 24, 1912, and in view of which the department must discontinue service at the general delivery of a second-class post office on Sunday, even though this service be rendered by the postmaster himself. 'F. E. FRASIER, 'Acting First Assistant.' 'The note reiterates that Great Britain will continue to apply the orders complained of, although not

Proceedings of Covington Town Council Tuesday, August 3.

Covington, La., Aug. 3, 1915. The town council met in regular session on the above date. Present: P. J. Lacroix, mayor; D. I. Addison, M. P. Planche, J. E. Nilson, D. J. Sanders, A. R. Smith, Emile Frederick. Absent: None. On motion the minutes of June 2 were adopted as read. On motion of D. T. Addison, seconded by D. W. Sanders, the minutes of June 25 were adopted as read. On motion of A. R. Smith, seconded by J. E. Nilson, the minutes of July 16 were adopted as read. The secretary submitted his report for the months of June and July, as follows: Covington, La., June 30, 1915. To the Mayor and Councilmen of the Town of Covington, La. Gentlemen: I respectfully submit the following as my report of receipts and disbursements for the month ending June 30th:

Table with columns for Receipts and Disbursements. Receipts include April 16, April 22, April 29, May 6, May 13, May 20, May 27, June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25, and June 30. Disbursements include To amount in Covington B. & T. Co. March 31, To warrants paid from April 1 to June 1, 1915, and To amount in Covington Bank & Trust Co. June 30.

Receipts. April 16, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 206.90 April 22, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 164.80 April 29, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 62.89 May 6, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 361.35 May 13, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 199.95 May 20, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 141.03 May 27, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 159.00 June 4, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 302.28 June 11, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 150.75 June 18, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 622.25 June 25, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 227.45 June 30, deposited in Covington B. & T. Co. 213.60 Total \$2,812.24 To amount in Covington B. & T. Co. March 31 148.40 Total \$2,960.64 Disbursements. To warrants paid from April 1 to June 1, 1915 \$2,737.47 To amount in Covington Bank & Trust Co. June 30 223.17 Total \$2,960.64 Respectfully, V. Z. YOUNG, Treasurer. On motion treasurer's report was received and referred to finance committee. Moved by D. I. Addison, seconded by M. P. Planche, that a committee be appointed to make up the license roll. On motion, seconded and carried, the finance committee was appointed. The following resolution was of:

Meeting of Association of Commerce. Covington, La., August 2, 1915. The regular monthly meeting of the entire membership took place on the above date, with Messrs. J. H. Warner, president; H. E. Ellis, E. G. Davis, E. L. Jones, Jacob Seiler, L. M. Bourgeois, E. J. Domergue, John Haller, W. D. Molloy, H. A. Mackie, M. Neilsen, Dr. Stevenson, R. L. Aubert, J. R. Barrios, present. The minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with. The secretary read a correspondence from the officials in Washington with reference to obtaining data and information, with regards to the free mail delivery. The communication was referred to the committee. Mr. E. G. Davis and Mr. E. J. Domergue were appointed an additional committee to serve with Mr. H. E. Ellis, L. M. Bourgeois and E. L. Jones, to work in conjunction with Postmaster Seiler and Hon. L. L. Morgan in regard to establishing routes and other matters, in connection with the free mail delivery system. Mr. E. G. Davis reported that himself and Mr. E. J. Domergue had been to Hammond and investigated the water works plant in that town. Mr. Davis explained that the Hammond system was put up at an approximate cost of \$48,000, which would be about in line with the system that would be required in Covington. It was suggested that the committee invite Mr. E. J. Frederick and Mr. H. K. Barrow to confer with them with a view to obtaining further data. Mrs. B. B. Warren and Mrs. J. C. Burns were present at the meeting for the purpose of getting information as to the progress on the water works proposition. Mr. M. Neilsen and Dr. Stevenson on the publicity committee, showed several photographs taken from different places, illustrating some very interesting views and possibilities of Covington, these photographs to be printed in a prospectus now being gotten up. The committee was instructed to get bids for the printing of five or ten thousand copies. Mr. M. Neilsen reported in regard to the box factory, that he had met Mr. Schmuck and that he mentioned to him that he was still trying to raise his pro rata of the capital stock required to put up the factory. It was moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to investigate the possibility of constructing bath houses at Sulphur Springs Addition. Messrs. H. E. Ellis, E. G. Davis, R. L. Aubert and E. J. Domergue were appointed. A committee was appointed to appear before the City Council with a view of making arrangements for the city to sprinkle the streets on Wednesdays and Sundays. Dr. Stevenson, W. D. Malloy, R. L. Aubert and E. J. Domergue were appointed. There being no further business the meeting adjourned. J. H. WARNER, President. J. R. BARRIOS, Secretary-Treasurer. BASEBALL. Notwithstanding Covington has an excellent ball team, and they have

Don't Miss "Her Life for His," on August 20th. Don't let this pass. Wait for it—the event of the season—a grand benefit for the M. C. B. Library on the evening of August 20th at the park pavilion. This should appeal and meet with the approbation of every citizen of Covington, as the cause is an excellent one, and hesitancy to extend a helping hand to so worthy and instructive a purpose should not be in evidence. On the occasion a dramatic treat is in store for the patrons. The play selected is a strong comedy drama in four acts entitled "Her Life for His," a play abounding in comedy-exciting situations and a laugh every minute. It is realistic and true to life. So in I herewith submit my report for the quarter ending June 30, 1915:

Table with columns for Receipts and Disbursements. Receipts include Licenses, Taxes, Cemetery lots, Fines, N. O. G. N. for lights, Dog tax, and Cost tax notices. Disbursements include Deposited in Covington Bank & Trust Co. and On motion secretary's reports were received and referred to finance committee. The treasurer submitted his report for the quarter ending June 30, 1915, as follows: Covington, La., June 30, 1915. To the Honorable Mayor and Council, Town of Covington. I herewith submit my report for the quarter ending June 30, 1915:

lost game after game without any apparent reason other than hard luck, and this hard luck added another to their list of defeats, on Sunday last, when the Covington Grocery & Grain boys, under their newly appointed and able captain, A. J. Park, journeyed to Ponchatoula, with a crowd of enthusiastic Covington admirers accompanying them in autos. It was a slugging contest, and resulted in a score of 10 to 7, in favor of Ponchatoula. "Doc" Young was not up to his usual form in pitching and added to the chances of defeat by a poorly executed play in the first inning. The fast fielding of Sidney Frederick, the snappy work of "Red" Dolan at second, the batting of Anderson, Brewster and Lacroix, the latter making three singles, were features of the game. Tucker, of the Ponchatoula, at first, played a strong game. The batteries were Covington—"Doc" Young and Anderson. Ponchatoula—Alford and Simons. Hits off Young, 8; hits off Alford, 8. Ladies' Auxiliary Entertainment. The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church will give an entertainment at the Park Pavilion, Aug. 31. Pantomimes of "Old Black Joe," "That Sweetheart of Mine," and "Quarrel of the Flowers," "Uncle Ben," etc., will be featured. Many beautiful children and some good grown ups will take part. Keep the date open.

Abita Town Council Provides for School. The Abita town council has shown its progressiveness by leading assistance to the Abita school, at its meeting last Tuesday, there being present, Mayor Bordes, Emile Burkentock, Henry Strubbe, Philip Burdean and George Strain. The council agreed to provide funds for meeting the expenses of the first two months of the term. In order to insure protection from the distressing situations that have hitherto occurred in the matter of school obligations, two mills have been set aside, from the general fund for school purposes. The public generally will appreciate this progressive and patriotic action of the council, and the parents of the children who will be benefited thereby should show their appreciation by watching over the home studies of the children and encouraging good conduct at school. Much of the success of the school depends upon the interest taken in it by the patrons.

St. Tammany Good Roads Get Praise. Dr. J. K. Griffin, of Slidell, who left last week for Baton Rouge, has traveled through a number of the parishes of the State and has had the opportunity of inspecting many of the good roads. In a communication to a friend he says: "St. Tammany has every parish bested on good roads, except a small portion of East Baton Rouge. Have been through St. Helena, Tangipahoa (north and south), East Baton Rouge, all of East Feliciana and a small portion of West Feliciana. You can't get away from actual facts. People who travel know the good roads, and St. Tammany parish is bound to attract attention through her good roads system."

Sunday Postal Service Will Not Be Given Covington. Against the Law

Several weeks ago Postmaster Seiler wrote to the postal department at Washington, D. C., requesting to be permitted to give a mail service at the Covington post office on Sundays. This service was to be given without extra pay, was only made possible by the clerks of the office consenting to serve this extra time on Sundays free of charge. This offer was greatly appreciated by the public. It seems, however, that it is against the rules of the department to grant this privilege to second-class offices. Our only way to secure it is by becoming a first-class office. Postmaster Seiler has received the

following letter, which explains matters: "Washington, July 29, 1915. 'Postmaster, Covington, La. 'In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, your attention is directed to paragraph 1 of section 322, Postal Laws and Regulations, which is a part of the Act of Congress approved August 24, 1912, and in view of which the department must discontinue service at the general delivery of a second-class post office on Sunday, even though this service be rendered by the postmaster himself. 'F. E. FRASIER, 'Acting First Assistant.'

Dr. Ney Arrived Safely in Paris.

Mrs. Dr. Ney has received several cable messages from the doctor since he left for the scene of war in Europe to take up hospital practice in the American Hospital, his reputation as a surgeon having caused a demand for his services. Last week Mrs. Ney received a cablegram stating that the doctor had arrived in Paris and was preparing to go on duty. The doctor's numerous friends here, in and out of the profession, will be delighted to learn that he arrived safely.

Laborde May Recover. Edmund Laborde, who was recently the victim of accidental discharge of a shotgun, has been lying for 30 days between life and death in the hospital in New Orleans. His condition at this time gives promise that his life may be saved, but he will never have the complete use of the wounded leg.

Covington to Play Franklinton Sunday

The Covington Grocery and Grains and the Franklinton baseball clubs will play at the St. Paul grounds in Covington Sunday (tomorrow) at 3 p. m. Admission will be 25 and 10 cents, the proceeds to go to the public school. Jitters will run from Hebert's drug store to the grounds at a charge of 10 cents.

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