

St. Tammany Farmer

D. H. MASON, Editor E. D. KENTZEL, Manager

WHY THE COST OF OUR PUBLIC ROADS HAVE BEEN MORE THAN THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST.

There has been some criticism as to the expenditure of the funds for the building of the public roads of St. Tammany parish. To those unfamiliar with the facts there may seem to be cause for this criticism, and as to the Covington-Franklinton highway, constructed by the State Highway Department, the discrepancy between the estimated cost and the actual cost is certainly remarkably great, being a little over 48 per cent. The original estimate of this road was \$23,506.00. The actual cost was \$34,911.00.

A perusal of the letter below will show that the cost above estimates of the roads built by the road committee, under the supervision of their own engineer, did not average over 13 per cent. While on the face it appears that there should be no cost above the original contract price, it must be taken into consideration that changes sometimes become advisable and that estimates not based on these changes must be changed. For instance, we understand that in some instances the actual line of the road has been changed because of legal obstacles arising after the contract price; also that unforeseen changes must sometimes be made, and that these changes cannot be provided against by any engineer.

But it seems to us that the greatest evidence of good management on the part of the committee is the fact that an experienced body like the State Highway Department has exceeded, by almost four times the percentage of excess cost of our local road committee, that is made up of private citizens with no technical knowledge of engineering or roadbuilding, except such as they gained through their gratuitous service for the benefit of the parish.

The work of the committee is finished. We believe it has performed its duty conscientiously, and it has certainly performed it more economically than the State, which is supposed to be wise to all ins and outs of road building. If there was any way of cheapening the cost of the roads, or if any valuable information was possessed by any one that could have aided the committee, the time to speak of it was at the committee meetings or to some member of the committee at any time. It is too late now to discuss the matter, and it looks like ingratitude to the committee that has given its services free of charge to the public.

On the other hand, if the committee has committed any frauds or illegal acts, these should be specified. We certainly would never defend them. But we do believe the committee has done its best, and by comparing their work with work done in other parishes, we consider that they have done remarkably well.

The letter referred to follows:

Covington, La., Dec. 3, 1915.

Mr. E. J. Domergue, Chairman, Slidell, La.

Dear sir: In accordance with your request that I furnish you with data as to the costs of the public highways constructed under the supervision of this Committee, I beg to submit the approximate costs of the respective highways based on engineer's estimates:

Table with columns: Name of Highway, Actual Cost, Estimate. Rows include Covington-Bogalusa, Pearl River-Slidell, Covington-Ponchatoula, etc.

Total \$32,344.00 \$31,659.00 Less engineer's estimate \$1,685.00 Excess of engineer's estimate \$10,659.00—equal to 13 per cent excess.

You will note that the average excess of cost over engineer's estimates is 13 per cent, and I am giving the same data regarding the Covington-Franklinton Highway constructed by the State Highway Department:

Table with columns: Name of Highway, Actual Cost, Estimate. Rows include Covington-Franklinton, Less engineer's estimate, Excess.

Trusting this is the information you desire, I remain, Yours very truly, ROBT. L. AUBERT, Secretary.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Young, of New Orleans, are spending a while in Covington as the guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rockenschuh.

Prof. C. C. Henson, of the Leadore Newman Training School of New Orleans, was a visitor to Covington from Wednesday to Sunday.

Miss Lorchheim, Miss Johnson, Messrs. W. P. Halsey, J. B. Lindsey, T. A. Magee, H. E. Rester, and Misses Lucy and Winnie Wadsworth, of Bogalusa, motored to Covington, Sunday.

Mr. Frank Comfort, of Slidell, was a Covington visitor, Sunday, the guest of Mr. Clarence Domergue.

Mr. Stockton, of the Mandeville Drug Store, was a Covington visitor Thursday.

Miss Lona Allain left Sunday morning for her home in New Orleans, after a month spent here as the guest of her aunt, Mrs. Virginia Allain, and cousin, Miss Lillie Allain.

Judge Thos. M. Burns was a New Orleans visitor Friday.

Mrs. Ernest Rennie and little daughter have returned from New Orleans where they have been for the past several months.

Miss Ethel Bongere left Thursday morning for New Orleans where she will spend several weeks as the guest of her aunt, Mrs. F. Wharton.

Hon. E. J. Frederick spent Thursday in New Orleans.

Mrs. James Tuttle returned Thursday night from New Orleans, where she has been for some time, and has again taken up her winter quarters at Dr. Geo. R. Tolson's.

Mr. John L. Haller returned Thursday night from New Orleans.

Mrs. Jay Oldstein has returned to New Orleans, after several weeks spent here as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Maseman.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Maseman and little daughter have returned from New Orleans, where they went to spend Thanksgiving.

Messrs. Emile Frederick, Ned Barfinger, Leon Beaucoudray, A. R. Smith and D. H. Weaver made up a hunting party last week that went to Lake Maurepas and Tangipahoa river. They report good luck, and brought back with them a fine deer, lots of ducks, squirrels, rabbits, etc.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Frederick entertained informally Tuesday night at several games of "Pit," in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Saults.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyacinth Abadie, of New Orleans, spent last Sunday in Covington, guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Abadie.

BIRTHS.

To Mrs. Henry Rockenschuh, on Thursday, December 3, 1915, a boy.

To Mrs. E. Brunet, on Thursday, December 3, 1915, a boy.

To Mrs. Milton Keen, on Nov. 23, 1915, a boy.

The following clipping from a Meridian paper will be a pleasant surprise to the many friends of Frank Kentzel in Covington. The wedding takes place December 13:

"Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Douglas announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Lucy to Mr. Frank H. Kentzel, the wedding to occur the latter part of December. No cards.

This announcement will be received with the greatest interest by the many friends of Miss Douglas and Mr. Kentzel.

Miss Douglas is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas of Asylum Heights. She is beloved by all who know her and is especially popular, being a prominent worker in the Highland Baptist church. Mr. Kentzel, formerly of Covington, La., has resided in Meridian for five years. He is a popular employee of Three-foot Brothers and Company, and enjoys the esteem and confidence of his associates in the business and social world."

Misses Bell Will Esterline, Misses Bertha and Gladys Bell will entertain Friday evening complimentary to Miss Douglas and Mr. Kentzel, who will wed in December.

Among those who went to Bogalusa last Sunday to attend the K. of C. celebration were Messrs. B. B. Warren, A. J. Planche, H. J. Osterdorf, Lillie Hawkins, Miss Jessie Evans, Miss Louise Cases, Mrs. Quitman Kohne, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Aubert, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Smith, Messrs. Karl and Holgar Kohne, Felix Limongi, C. C. Kornfeld, Jas. Connaughton, and several others.

Miss Gabrielle Boudoussque spent Thursday in New Orleans.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. MacLeod, Mr. Fred Owens and Dr. Lewis Christian, wife and child, of New Orleans Marine Hospital, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Nilson for the past week.

Master Cullen Nilson, accompanied by his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. MacLeod, left for their home in New Orleans, Sunday, on their yacht "Go See," and expect to be gone for several weeks.

Miss Minko, eldest daughter of Mrs. Chas. Minko, living at Waldheim, had her collar bone broken this week during a game of basketball in the Garden District. Miss Minko is 14 years of age and is quite athletic. She suffered a like injury some time ago by being thrown from a horse. Miss Minko was brought to Covington and had the broken bone set by Dr. Helms.

The Court of Appeals was in session in Covington this week.



A column appointed to be read at the weekly councils of the sect. ".....The Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do."—Matt. xxiii, 2-3.

(By Adrian D. Schwartz.)

THE PHARISEE'S WEEKLY DISCOURSE.

That Thing They Call "Politics"—Another 'Small Nuisance in Jefferson

Jefferson parish has been enjoying this week that form of government which for the past eighteen months has prevailed principally in Europe. "Proclamations," "Bulletins," "Orders from the Front" seemed to have supplanted the ordinary run of civil affairs in that vicinity. The governor of the state has ordered out the troops and the parish seat has become a military camp. We, in St. Tammany, while neighbors in some degree to the "Free State of Jefferson," are not, geographically speaking, close enough to hang over the back fence and learn the more intimate features of the quarrel. There seems to be some doubt as to whether Mr. Hall has not resorted to an arbitrary use of executive power to pay back a political score. On the other hand, there is no escaping the fact that the complaints concerning the defective conditions in politics in Jefferson have been such as to convince most citizens that remedies of some sort should be applied, and drastic ones at that, if necessary. Oligarchy, nepotism, and partisan rule are always disagreeable factors when introduced for lengthy periods in democratic communities. The proximity of Jefferson to New Orleans in such a manner, as to be only an extension of the metropolis, causes conditions prevailing there to take on a degree of importance which would likely be ignored in more remote sections. "Barroom politics," gambling, graft, prostitution, ganacraft, if they are flourishing in any degree such as they have been reputed, without interference by the civil authorities, will perhaps merit all of the strong measures taken by the executive to suppress them. We like to be sure, however, that the move is a sincere one, and not mere political clap-net. We want something more than a demonstration this time. With the strong arm at his command, the governor ought to have little trouble in laying hold of the alleged culprits quickly and dispose of this military business in short order.

Daily Lessons From the Talmud.

To borrow is human; to forget to return is even more so. The fact that you have never failed is no sign that you are not a failure.

A secret that you can't tell is like having money you can't spend. Whenever a man mysteriously disappears, say the French, it is either to get away with a woman, or from one. Where innocence is bliss, it is folly to be wise.

WANTED—A city alderman. Married man preferred; no engaged ones need apply. Town of Covington, La.

Hotel Guest: Mr. Manager, this towel is not clean. Manager: That's strange, two dozen parties have used that piece of linen already and you are the first to complain.

Christmas is coming on rapidly, dear readers, but we doubt whether all of this much talked of currency reform and tariff legislation will assist us materially in meeting the demands of the season.

South Carolina went "dry." What is left for the governor of the Old North State to say?

According to the funeral sermons we have heard preached, and the obituaries recorded, we believe there are few mansions "to let" in heav'n any longer.

A woman from Mississippi sued her husband for divorce on the ground that he had refused her support for ten years. Now, she is probably correct. No husband ought to be that selfish.

We are trying this on our new typewriter, and incidentally, wish to call our readers' attention to several typographical errors in one or two recent issues. Nat says it was our fault. Well, we are not linotypists, and Nat is a union man, so we let it go at that.

Sam was stow the oils dickshunree. Enway same has bin misting come Tuesday. From correspondents received this week, we believe we know his it is, as the writer's orthograph is unusually correct. Sed-puram can save himself much annoyance eyther by returning us the book or price thereof before next Saturday's issue.

We think one of the greatest hardships on the poor is to have rain on Christmas Eve.

There was a time when Myrtina appealed to us through such symbols as the Lily, the rose and other perishable species of plant life. Now she seems to be plainly a hardy "blooming" perennial, for which we are very thankful. We have always dreaded getting to be an old man with a young wife.

CHASTINE OF THE ISLAND.

The lips of the languid island, Hold forgotten loves of the sea; But this island forgot keeps a fisher-girl's lot, With the tale of brave Antoine Le Gris.

The moon was a crescent ember Alike at the door of the west, A cold ember of light on the floor of the night, Drawing close to the sea's waiting breast.

The small stars died out together, In the path of the dawn's highway; And the dawn on the hair of fair Chastine Le Gris Panned the warm airs up from the Bay.

The rough airs blowing her round feet, That dimpled the soft, lonely sand, Brought a finger of sail from the skies asture-pale, And a cry from the girl on the strand.

"My mother, he comes, O my lover, "The Peachflower" comes back today! He has pearls for my throat, a ball for my goat, And three colors of silk from Cathay!

"Oh, I remember him, mother,— The word that he left in my ear: The long, long desire of that word, which was fire; That my girl's heart has kept for a year!

"Brown as these stones in the noon-sun, His lips that took mine like a rose: The beryl of sadness quivered like madness From the depths of his eyes' hidden close."

"Bold were his arms when he held me, And the wonderful vows he told; Stronger than treasure his love did outmeasure All that princes shall buy with their gold.

Then down through the sand and the heather, She danced to a place on the shore, Where the sprays of the swells tossed their tiny pink shells, And the sea-pigeons scatter and soar.

Nearer the sails struggled shoreward, As the sun came out of the deep, Piercing their flight with its dolors of light, And a vision the girl dared not keep.

She stared at the bright golden locket That heaved with hot throbs at her heart; She knelt on the shore as a strange sailor bore To the mooring and leaped from his boat.

The sunrise fell on his feather, And beat on his great chain of gold: His long outlaws swung like a gallant's, and hung With a bundle of silks that was old.

He sprang from the waters beside her, He reached for a kiss on her hair; But her tears they were hushed with a soul that was crushed: Her white lips were numb with despair.

He spoke in a whisper of rain, He laughed with a tear in his eye:—"Our bold, tawny captain, a white sail Men want in Under the King's honest skies.

"But The Peachflower" sails back today With a bundle of silks, which were new; Some pearls and a bell, for a girl he loved well, And a message, I wish were untrue.

"You are the maiden, Chastine Le Gris,— The love of bold Antoine Le Gris They hanged him, my dear, at a far English pier, On a charge of high piracy."

FIGURES THAT MEAN SOMETHING

An unbroken record of successful banking for over seventeen years suggests Character.

Aggregate deposits of over four hundred thousand dollars, some of them on our books since the bank opened for business in eighteen ninety eight, is the result of Service.

A Capital and Surplus equipment of one hundred thousand dollars, with total resources of six hundred thousand dollars, indicates Strength.

A PROSPEROUS BANK IS A SAFE BANK COVINGTON BANK & TRUST COMPANY St. Tammany's Big Bank

McCormack's Grocery

Pure Maple Syrup, 50c bottles. Maple and Cane Syrup, 30c per bottle. Two cans Desert Peaches for 35c. Two large cans Hominy for 15c. Spanish Pimentos, 2 cans for 25c. Graham Flour, 5 pounds for 25c. Dill Pickles, 30c dozen. Develed Crab Meat, 10c can. Fresh line of Fruit Cake ingredients. Quality, weight and measure guaranteed. Best Mince Meat, 15c pound. 7 bars Lenox Soap for 25c. Fresh line cakes just received.

The Midnight Cry of Fire!



The CLANG of the Engine! The SHOUTS of Firemen! The HOOF BEATS of Horses! The CRACKLING of Flames! The SMASHING of Glass! The CRASH of Timbers! The SWISH of Water!

All Are Terrifying, BUT NOT So Heart-rending As The Thought That The Home Was Not Insured!

It Costs Little, See To It! NILSON-FREDERICK CO. LTD., Covington La.

STOP THAT COUGH with SCHONBERG'S COUGH SYRUP 25c a Bottle

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Schonberg's Pharmacy

Southern Hotel Building

It has been repeatedly reported to me that I have only temporarily resigned from the St. Tammany Banking Co. & Savings Bank for the purpose of actively supporting Mr. A. J. Planche's candidacy for the Democratic nomination as sheriff of St. Tammany parish, and that after the primary election is held I will again take up by duties as cashier of the St. Tammany Banking Co. & Savings Bank. This statement is untrue and absolutely without foundation, and is evidently circulated for the purpose of clouding the issues in the present campaign. I severed my connection with the St. Tammany Banking Co. & Savings Bank as I was under strong personal obligations to my friend, Mr. A. J. Planche, and I found that in justice to the bank as well as Mr. Planche, I could not actively support him while holding the position of cashier of the St. Tammany Banking Co. & Savings Bank. E. V. RICHARD.

PROPER TREATMENT FOR MILLOUSINESS.

For a long time Miss Lula Skelton, Churchville, N. Y., was bilious and had sick headaches and jissy spells. Chamberlain's Tablets were the only thing that gave her permanent relief. Obtainable everywhere.

SCHOOL NOTES.

You do not need to put your ear to the ground to hear the latest and best news in Abita Springs. Abita has determined to have a new school building. The old one has served its purpose, but it is out of date, and the town council, Mothers' Club, Ladies' Aid, etc., are all working for the new school. The present plan is to vote a special tax for bond issue for this purpose, but not to have any bond matters until after the Motor Car tax shall have terminated. Supt. Lyon outlined the method at the school entertainment and every one applauded to the echo. The Garden District has determined on the site for the new school building in the 11th District. It will be in the center of the District. Dutch Brothers have donated two acres, A. Lenei three acres and Mrs. Minko five acres. This is a public spirit that deserves the thanks of the community.

Neuhauser Brothers Ltd. Slidell La.

St. Tammany's Big Retail Store Sells Direct to the Consumer at Lower Prices

Distributors of Hercules, Dynamite, Banner Buggies, Pittsburg Perfect Fencing

CHRISTMAS BARGAIN SALE Dec. 4 to 24

At this establishment a sale means a real sale, where you get a bargain for your money. Ladies goods offer especially inviting opportunities.

E. M. LeBlanc Columbia Street, Covington

enland, it is recorded that a noted "In an early chronicle of New Z Le Gris, after causing the passengers French pirate of the name Apoline re, provided for the rescue of a beau-of a certain vessel to be sent ashore as a lover, bringing her rightful child, whom he afterwards was known to her through his successors. His identity only became we of Le Gris' capture and execution in adventure, who brought the re

SCHOOL LEAGUE MEETING. There will be a meeting of the School League Monday, December 6, at 3:30 p. m. MRS. J. C. BURNE, President.