

Mayorality of Town of Covington

To the Citizens of the Town of Covington:

The administration begs to announce in a general way to the public at this time what will be more specifically set forth in practical figures upon the audit of the Town's books at the close of the current year.

The state of progress, which has been made by the municipality towards its reestablishment upon a sound business basis, as well as to note a few of the many important improvements which have been added to the public welfare during the year just elapsed.

The anticipated revenues for the Town of Covington for the year 1918 will be about \$15,000.00.

There was a noticeable reduction this year in the saloon licenses taken out.

There was no increase in the municipal rate of taxation for the present year.

All current expenses of this year will be met within the year.

A deficit of about \$1200.00 from the previous year will be taken care of at the beginning of the second fiscal year of the administration.

There has been retired by a sinking fund approximately \$11,000.00 of the former open indebtedness of the town of which over \$3,000.00 has been paid in cash.

There has been purchased for the town, and for which payment has been provided, \$5,000.00 in shells for street paving purposes.

There has been built or will have been built during the present year fifty additional squares of shell-ed streets. This includes the twenty-four block drive to the Madisonville Road.

There has been provided a fund for concreting the bridges and culverts on the streets crossing the public drain between the School House and the Episcopal Church.

There has also been provided a fund of \$3,000 for the restoration of Bogue Falaya Park Pavilion.

There has been provided a paid Fire Department for fire protection at night. The administration also plans during the coming year to install modern fire fighting equipment operated by motor power in place of the present antiquated apparatus.

It is also pleasing to note that all former places of ill resort have been suppressed since the first of the year.

That the vagrancy laws have been strictly and conscientiously enforced.

It must also be borne in mind that with the decreased purchasing power of the dollar, the price of labor and materials have increased from seventy-five to one hundred per cent, but that the revenues of the town are practically not over ten per cent of those collected during previous years, and the success in meeting financial stringency has only been accomplished by a strict curtailment of all unnecessary improvements, donations, and other expenses, which might be safely eliminated, as well as the strict enforcement of taxes and license collections.

The plans for the rebuilding of the Bogue Falaya Park Pavilion have been received and passed upon by the Council, but owing to the patriotic necessity which demands all labor and materials at present for house building in Covington and the ship building belt, it has been thought wise to defer the execution of these plans until a more favorable time.

Trusting that pending a more detail account of the affairs of the Town of Covington, which may be of interest to its citizens, this announcement will at least serve to convince our people that their public affairs are not only in a flourishing condition but that the officers who have been elected, are exercising their talent and power to the utmost to bring the public life of the Town forward to the highest state of efficiency.

PAUL J. LACROIX,
Mayor.