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The St. Tammany Farmer

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subscriber. Help boost the parish.

D. H. MASON, Editor

COVINGTON, LA., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1920.

VOL. 47 No. 3

DAVIS ANSWERS GRANT'S LETTER AS TO POLICY OF ACCEPTING BIDS

Letter To Farmer Gives Mr.
Grant's Views of Com-
mission's Attitude.

MR. DAVIS GIVES REPLY

Question of Actual Saving
to Parish Discussed at
Length By Both.

Sidell, La., Nov. 30, 1920.

Editor St. Tammany Farmer:
Referring to letter of Mr. E. G. Davis and editorial published in St. Tammany Farmer November 27th, 1920, relative to action taken by St. Tammany Parish Board of Police Jury at their meeting November 19th, 1920, authorizing acceptance of "bids for roads A, C and D."

Mr. Davis' letter says:
"At their meeting on November 9th, the Police Jury had before them the Road Commission's recommendation to reject these bids, for which the Commission gave the following reasons. The total lowest bids for the construction of this entire road aggregated \$443,196.27, half of which was to be borne by the parish, and amounted to \$221,598.13. To meet this latter amount the parish has set aside \$171,550, making a deficit of \$50,048.13."

As reply to this statement, I refer to the recommendation of the Good Roads Commission to the Police Jury as published. The reader will find this paragraph:
"We would further advise that we have every reason to believe that if new bids are called for, lower prices will be made. Reductions in costs of construction and materials are being reported, and this does not seem to be the time for rushing into contracts."

That paragraph contains the reasons for the recommendations by the Commission that the bids be rejected. All of the Commission's communication preceding that paragraph was merely a statement of financial conditions.

A request was made by me for account of the Commission that its recommendation to the Police Jury be published as a part of the record of its proceedings at the meeting of November 9th, 1920, and the President of the Police Jury stated that it would be done. Why it was not done, I cannot say. Had it been done as promised, there would have been no occasion for me to publish this record on my own account, and by so doing, disturb the accustomed equilibrium of our Covington friends.

My letter to The St. Tammany Farmer and Sidell Sun dated Nov. 22, 1920, referred only to the record as it stands. The record speaks for itself. Mr. Davis is a party to that record. At the time he signed the recommendations of the Commission to the Police Jury, he was very positive in his statements, as far as I could understand them, that the bids should be rejected for the reason that he believed considerable lower bids could, and would be filed. All the members of the Commission were of that opinion when its recommendation to the Police Jury was written and signed by them, and I believe a majority of the Commission members are still of that opinion, as Mr. Fatheree stated to me unreservedly after the action of the Police Jury at their meeting Nov. 19, 1920, that he had not changed his views at all. Mr. Davis has not mentioned the matter to me since that time, and I did not know that he, as a member of the Commission, felt any differently about the Commission's recommendation, until I read his letter of Nov. 25th.

However, the record as signed by Mr. Davis has been published in The St. Tammany Farmer of November 27th, 1920, and along with it in same issue of The St. Tammany Farmer, goes Mr. Davis' letter and the editorial in that paper, all of which can now be considered by the taxpayers on their merits. I have also received a letter from Mr. Davis under date of Nov. 25, which he is at perfect liberty to publish if he sees fit to do so.

I am dealing with the record and its relation to the resolutions adopted by the Police Jury. Therefore, I have no comment to offer at this time on those portions of Mr. Davis' letter and The St. Tammany Farmer editorials which do not relate to the record. I am not seeking, and do not wish newspaper controversy or notoriety, but will not shrink from public discussion of any matter pertaining to the expenditure of the Good Roads' funds, if, and when, it becomes necessary.

I have not heretofore dodged, and will not in the future try to evade my full share of responsibility for any expenditure from this fund authorized or recommended by the Commission—so long as I remain a member of the Commission. Likewise whenever the Commission in the performance of the trust committed to its keeping is deprived of any votes in the administration of any trust, I will not hesitate to call public attention to the situation. I would be false to the trust, to the Commission and to myself if I permitted either politics, expediency or

THREE COVINGTON BOYS NOW IN THE U. S. NAVY



From left to right—Raymond Trepanier, Will Emerson, Adolph Frederick, Jr. These boys write that they are having a good time and are pleased with their experience in Uncle Sam's Navy.

other condition to deter me. When I find that I cannot accomplish anything in that direction as a member of the Commission, I will then resign and fight to the best of my ability for the protection of the Good Roads' fund as a citizen and taxpayer of St. Tammany parish, and this fight will always be made openly and above board.

Yours truly,
J. D. GRANT.

Mr. Davis to Mr. Grant.
Covington, La., Nov. 25, 1920.
Mr. J. D. Grant, Sidell, La.

Dear Mr. Grant:—Mr. Mason, editor of The St. Tammany Farmer, has shown me your letter to his paper, in which you make the following statement: "I want the people of the parish to know that the St. Tammany Parish Good Roads Commission, of which I am a member, did not approve the acceptance of these bids, but on the contrary, recommended their rejection."

As this statement does not express my attitude in the matter, I am writing a letter to The Farmer explaining my views on the subject. When the Road Commission recommended to the Police Jury that the bids on Sections A, C and D be rejected, there was no alternative for them, as the deficit of fifty thousand dollars could not be made up by us or the Police Jury. But, when Mr. Buie comes along and offers to make up \$42,000 of the deficit, and the contractors offer to reduce their bids \$8,000, surely the Commission could not consistently insist that their recommendation of two weeks previous be followed. If the Commission has the interest of the people at heart, and it is their desire to secure as much roads as possible for the parish as speedily as possible, they could not recommend the rejection of the bids, as matters now stand; and while I have not suggested such an idea in my letter to The Farmer, I conscientiously believe the Commission should be disqualified if it stood in the way of letting these contracts.

Very truly yours,
E. G. DAVIS.

Mr. Grant to Mr. Davis.
Sidell, La., Nov. 30, 1920.
Mr. E. G. Davis, Covington, La.

Dear Mr. Davis:—I acknowledge receipt of your letter Nov. 20th relative to bids recently considered by the Police Jury for construction of roads A, C and D.

I regret that I must differ with you, but as we seem so far apart in our ideas as to this matter, it is not likely we can ever reconcile our respective views. In the first place, I cannot subscribe to your statement about Mr. Buie's part in the matter. He did not, in my opinion, "make up \$42,000.00." He merely indicated how that amount could be obtained by taking \$10,000 belonging to the state road fund, and then adding to it \$32,000 to be taken from funds already allotted to other parish roads, thus permitting the making of contracts at what seemed to me to be unreasonably high prices.

I am not clear as to the meaning of the last paragraph of your letter. If you mean that it is the desire of the people to get roads built speedily regardless of expense, then, possibly your viewpoint might be justified. On the other hand, if you mean that it is the desire of the members of the Good Roads Commission to build roads speedily regardless of cost, then, in my opinion, the members of the Commission have not "the interest of the people at heart," if they recommend the expenditure of the taxpayers' money on contracts made at prices higher than the lowest obtainable—even if a little farther delay is caused by efforts in the way of re-advertising) to get lower bids.

I have always felt, and still feel, that the members of the Good Roads Commission in handling this fund (which the taxpayers probably thought was placed in their keeping), should be guided in their actions by the same general business principles that they would observe if they were spending their own money in their own interest. I grant that you have a perfect right to your own views, and I will not undertake to change them. After all is said with respect to this particular matter, the fact remains that acceptance of these bids was authorized at prices much higher than was necessary, and that there was plenty of time in which to re-advertise and get new bids. These

WHY FORESTRY IS IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IN THIS SECTION

Great Southern Lumber Co.
Conducting Campaign
of Education.

WASTE LANDS CAN EARN MONEY

Paper Pulp Can Be Grown
On Lands Not Put In
Cultivation.

(By The Great Southern Lumber Co.
Bogalusa, La.)

The Great Southern Lumber Company has been studying the question of forestry for four or five years. Several times within that period Mr. M. L. Alexander, Commissioner of Conservation of this State has prevailed on us to send representatives to Urania, Louisiana, to observe the work in reforestation and conservation of young trees carried on by Mr. Henry E. Hardner, under the supervision of the Forestry Division of this Department. We had, of course, learned something from Mr. Hardner's advanced ideas concerning the utilization of cut-over pine lands for reforestation. We have visited Mr. Hardner's place more than once during the last year or two and largely due to what we have learned from these demonstrations, have arrived at some definite conclusions, and adopted certain policies which we think are workable and permanent. These, we are now practicing on our own lands.

Soed Trees.
A few years ago we left standing, as we thought, suitable old trees to be used for seed. Experience has taught that these large trees are not successful. Nearly all of them have either died or blown down. The cause of death in some cases being electric storms, but principally, no doubt, it has been due to a beetle, which was pointed out to us by Mr. Craghead, Entomologist, in the service of the United States Government. Subsequently we have relied on the small trees left behind the logging crews to supply seed in the future. A great many of these small trees, especially when the land was cut over in the hot summer months, have died from the same cause. The cutting away of the other timber, and many times bruises incident to the logging operation, sufficiently weakened the trees left standing rendering them susceptible to the attack of this particular kind of beetle.

We have now adopted a method of clearing all the slash from around the small trees left standing and in addition we are entering the forest in advance of the cutting, locating our seed trees in schools or clusters, painting a ring around them. Instructions are given to the men to leave the seed trees thus selected untouched. This is being done on the theory that natural reforestation or reforestation by natural seeding methods will be far more economical than by artificial plantings.

Artificial Seeding.
Experimentally, we have fenced 800 acres of denuded area near Bogalusa, non-agricultural lands, most of which we have plowed in rows eight feet wide running East and West; from four to six furrows plowed to each row. This, we are planting to slash and loblolly. We believe that within fifteen years cuttings can be made on this planted plowed area for pulp wood.

We have collected some four or five hundred pounds of loblolly seed which we are now sowing on the plowed area. At the suggestion of Mr. Austin Cary, and taking advantage of this year's wonderful seed crop, we have collected three thousand pounds of long leaf pine seed. We expect to scatter these long leaf pine seed on non-agricultural areas of denuded land where Mr. Forbes, State Forester, thinks there is not sufficient seed trees left to warrant a hope of natural reproduction.

Our Purchasing Department has been requested to secure prices on wire fencing. As soon as we can secure this, five thousand acres more land will be fenced and where this year's seed fall did not properly seed the ground we will do artificial seeding.

Land Classification.
The Great Southern Lumber Company has applied to the Federal Government for technical men to make a geological survey of their lands in order to have the record of experts as to its merits for farming and reforestation. We propose to see such as should be used for agricultural purposes and use for reforestation the rest of it.

Fire Control.
We think that the annual grass fires is the greatest enemy to the rapid reproduction in pine trees. The cut-over areas are more apt to burn over than timbered lands. The Forestry Division of the Conservation Department of our state government has during the past three or four years, accomplished a great deal of good in the State, including this section, through its patrolmen, who have created no small interest thruout the region, on the part of resident farmers, in trying to control and prevent the woods grass fires. Availing ourselves of the growing sentiment thus created, we have

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CAR-LOAD SHIPMENTS OF SWEET POTATOES.

Mr. E. F. Webb, of the Consumers' Economy, Covington, has just shipped a car load of sweet potatoes, made up by St. Tammany farmers, and will shortly ship several more car loads. The car was sold for cash and shipped to New Orleans. The price was 75 cents per bushel.

SOUTHERN DAIRY MAN INTO NEW FIELD



Professor W. W. Fitzpatrick, professor of dairying at Clemson College, South Carolina, is newly appointed to mid-western territory with headquarters in Ohio in the extension service of the American Guernsey Association.

each, which shall be paid for in cash when subscribed, or by the purchase of property, or given for labor performed or to be performed, as the Board may elect, all of which shall be common stock.

That this corporation shall be a going concern when Three Hundred and sixty-seven (367) shares of the capital stock is subscribed and actually paid for. All shares shall be full paid and non-assessable, which capital stock may be increased to a sum not to exceed Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000) Dollars, at the pleasure of the Board of Directors, in which event, during the period between the call for the meeting for such increase and the meeting, the persons holding stock at the time shall have the right to take shares of the additional or increased stock, proportionate to the number of shares owned by them, and any shares not taken at the expiration of said period may be disposed of by the Board of Directors for the benefit of the corporation, at not less than their par value. No transfer of stock shall be made unless tendered to the remaining stockholders, who shall have fifteen (15) days in which to purchase the same, and all transfers to be binding upon the corporation, and shall be recorded upon its books.

ARTICLE V.
All of the corporate powers of this corporation and the management and control of its affairs shall be vested in and exercised by a Board of Directors, composed of not less than three or more than five stockholders, a two-thirds majority of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the corporation. The Directors shall be elected annually by ballot by the stockholders on the first Monday of January of each year. Each stockholder shall be entitled in person or by proxy to a vote for every share owned by him, and all elections shall be held under such rules and regulations as may be determined by the Board of Directors; the Directors thus elected shall continue in office for one year, or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. No failure to elect shall be regarded as a forfeiture of this charter; any vacancy occurring in said Board shall be filled by the remaining Directors for the unexpired term.

The Board of Directors, shall, at its first meeting after its election, nominate out of its number a President, a Vice-President and a Secretary-Treasurer; said Board shall have the right to appoint and discharge its officers.

Rev. Menard Doswell, Jr., Rector, of St. George's Church, New Orleans, will conduct a mission at Christ's Episcopal Church, Sunday evening, December 5, and Monday and Tuesday evening at 7:45 o'clock. A large congregation is urgently requested to attend.

ST. CECELIA'S CHOIR ENTERTAINS.
Saturday, Nov. 27th, the members of St. Cecilia's Choir entertained at a social at St. Scholastica's Academy. Rev. Father John M. Burger, Rev. Mother Prioress and the teachers of the community honored the choir members by their presence. Delicious refreshments were served after which the young people enjoyed a musical program.

HAZEL WARREN,
Secretary.
MUST PAY POLL TAX.
All poll taxes must be paid by December 31, 1920, otherwise you will not be able to vote. Pending a decision on the matter, women will be on the safe side by paying their poll tax, as in default they also may not be able to vote.

WALTER GALATAS,
Ex-Officio Tax Collector.
Lawrence Frederick has passed an examination before the State Board entitling him to act as an assistant pharmacist.

A. C. SYSTEM TO BE PUT IN BY ST. TAMMANY ICE & MFG. COMPANY

Purchase of the Mandeville
Light and Power Plant
Extends Service.

MADISONVILLE ALSO
TO BE PUT ON LINE

New Covington First In Improved Service. Old Covington to Follow

Public utilities were of such importance and value that the government recognized the necessity of aiding them in every way possible during the war, when they were under great expense without the opportunity for increased earnings. Every city and every town capitalizes its public service. It is one of the things that no town can be without and be prosperous and successful. Good lights, good streets and good waterworks go hand in hand with good churches and good schools in forming the social attitude that is attractive to strangers and investors of capital.

In view of this it will be learned with pleasure that the St. Tammany Ice & Manufacturing Company is preparing to largely extend its service and the efficiency of its service. This news comes as a sequel to the purchase of the Mandeville Light & Power Plant by this company.

Probably some of us were shocked when we were informed at a recent chautauqua entertainment that Covington was one of the six cities that still had the direct electric system. Perhaps some of us did not understand just what this meant as far as the service was concerned; but any how it put us with the minority and we did not like being there. But it really means opportunity for developing a service far in excess of what we now have, and it means the ability to extend the service to other towns in the parish at rates that could not otherwise pay the expense of the extra investment.

Both Mr. Frederick and Mr. Planché are looking forward to a much larger and more satisfactory development of the business. They have recently contracted for furnishing lights and power to St. Joseph's Abbey at Ramsay, and have some other contracts under consideration. Mandeville will be lighted by this company and it is understood that Madisonville also will be on this line. This is made possible by putting in the A. C. system. New Covington will be on the new system and the system will be extended to all of Covington as soon as practicable.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.
We do not realize how seldom golden weddings are celebrated, until we attempt to get wall cards or cards of congratulation for presentation on this occasion. Mr. and Mrs. John Hartley, of Covington, celebrated their fiftieth anniversary Friday night, November 26, 1920, at their home amidst the gathering of the family and friends. The solemnity was conducted by their pastor, Rev. O. W. Luecke, of Abita Springs Lutheran Church, and all joined in congratulating the happy couple and wishing them many more years together. Mr. and Mrs. Hartley are old residents of Covington, and expect to spend the remainder of their days at their home.

Thanks to St. Rita for favor granted. Any one who is in need always pray to her. A. R. C.

FOR SALE—Stove wood and knots. Best quality, quantity limited, order at once. Also grindstone, bone grinder, oil and coal stoves. Dr. Stevenson. d4

The School Improvement League will meet Monday at 3 p. m. at the school auditorium. All members are urged to be present.

ST. TAMMANY NOTES.
Quite a crowd of girls and boys visited Miss Ruth Gooding last Sunday afternoon.

Miss Jennie Fogg has been visiting in Ramsay for some time. Mr. R. W. Stimpson, of New Orleans, was a visitor to his daughter, Mrs. Henry Smith, Sunday.

A Box Party will be given at the Peace Grove School, Saturday, Dec. 4 (tonight), for the benefit of the church. All are invited.

Mr. B. Keller, of Bogalusa, was a visitor here recently. Mrs. Keller was a recent visitor to her son, Mr. Perry Keller.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS
LOST—Light brown dog named "Brownie." Reward if returned to Mrs. Hattier, Claiborne. d4

STRAYED OR STOLEN—From Sun, a red mare mule, weighs about 900 or 1000 pounds, about 12 years old, no marks or brands. Reward for information leading to recovery. Notify John H. Wood, Sun, La. d4

WANTED—People to know that I have for sale at my farm in Covington A-1 home-made cane syrup, absolutely pure and wholesome. \$1 per gallon at the farm. J. H. Warner, 21st Avenue. d4f