

JOB PRINTING
 IN ALL ITS BRANCHES
 EXECUTED AT THE
 COURIER OFFICE.

The Opelousas Courier.

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ESTABLISHED 1852.

THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA.

\$2.00 PER ANNUM

VOL. 53. OPELOUSAS, PARISH OF ST. LANDRY, LA., APRIL 7, 1906. NO. 31

Opelousas Courier.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY BY
LEONCE SANDOZ.
 TWO DOLLARS A YEAR IN ADVANCE.
 \$1.00 for Six Months.

Ollie King, a white man, was arrested here last Wednesday charged with carrying concealed weapons, and is also being held for the authorities of Jefferson county, Texas, where he is wanted on a charge of assault with intent to murder.

We had the pleasure of a call from Mr. W. G. T. Carver, representing the New Orleans Daily Item, who is soliciting subscriptions for that paper and collecting data for an extensive write-up of Opelousas and St. Landry parish.

That beautiful plot of land known as the Sunny-Side Race Track has been subdivided into town lots and put on the market by Mr. Jno. P. Boagni, as will be seen by the advertisement on our fourth page. Read it, and see him for further particulars.

The remains of Mrs. Fannie P. Cook, who died in Beaumont, Tex., last Tuesday, were brought here Wednesday for interment. Deceased was eighty-six years of age, and was the widow of the late Dr. Thomas A. Cook, of Washington, La.

Major B. B. Gordon, chief engineer of the Colorado Southern railroad, arrived here last Tuesday, and will remain here for some time in order to testify in the various expropriation suits filed by his company against citizens of this town and parish.

A small blaze at the residence of Police Juror Mel Durio last Tuesday, caused by a defective kitchen fan, resulted in the calling out of the fire department. While the fire boys responded to the call with all promptness, the flames were extinguished before their arrival at the house.

The trial of the expropriation suit filed by the Colorado Southern railroad against E. M. Boagni was taken up in the district court Wednesday. Mr. Boagni is claiming \$22,604 for the right of way across his Belmont plantation, and damages, while the plaintiff company offers \$1,050 for the property taken.

According to the report of the People's State Bank just made to the State Examiner, which will be found in to-day's COURIER, this institution continues to hold its own in public favor, and shows a gratifying increase in its business, due to the wise and conservative policy of its officers—not omitting its general and experienced cashier.

Littell & Lawler, our bustling local real estate dealers, this week sold to L. C. Black, of Cincinnati, 10,000 acres of hardwood timber lands situated in the northern part of this parish, the consideration being \$60,000 cash. The lands sold belonged principally to the Union Irrigation Company of this parish and to local people.

A small cabin in the Boagni quarters in South Railroad avenue was destroyed by fire last Thursday night about nine o'clock. The building was occupied by a colored professor, who was absent from home at the time, and the origin of the fire is not known. The alarm was rung in too late for the fire department to reach the scene in time to save anything.

Copies of the new health ordinance adopted by the board of aldermen of this town are being circulated about the streets as a forewarning to the residents to get their premises in order for the approaching summer. The ordinance becomes effective on the 16th inst., and requires the screening of cisterns, drainage of cess-pools and other sanitary precautions.

Miss Edith and Master Frank Prest, both of Hammond, Ind., are here visiting Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Voorhies. Master Frank is a brother of Mrs. Voorhies and intends to make Opelousas his future home. Miss Edith is Mrs. Voorhies' cousin and will probably remain here several weeks. This is the first visit of these young people to Opelousas, and they express themselves as being highly delighted with our town. We wish them a happy stay in our midst.

The report of the St. Landry State Bank furnished to the State Examiner at the close of business March 29, 1906, which is published elsewhere in to-day's COURIER, shows the steady increase and popularity of that excellent bank. The figures show: Capital stock paid in, \$50,000.00; surplus, \$70,000.00; undivided profits, \$29,720.08; unpaid dividends, \$130.00; and deposits, \$341,383.66. Compared with the statement of March, 1905, this shows an increase of over \$50,000.00 for the year.

Impeding Progress.

Opelousas is just now emerging from the shades of obscurity, where she has lain dormant, with blissful and shameless serenity, for a hundred years or more. She is beginning to cast off her slovenliness and to step to the forefront with a stride and demeanor that betoken the invigorating pulse-beat of a new life. From an apathetic old burg she is becoming transformed into a vivacious little city, and where she has gazed with appalling indifference upon the rapid strides of progress of her sister towns of southwest Louisiana, she now seeks with commendable alacrity to equal or excel. But to what is due this great awakening—this sudden change from a state of coma to a state of unequaled activity? From whence this mighty inspiration to do something, to be something? We believe the secret lies mostly in the advent of the new railroads seeking entrance here, and which alone can do more for our salvation and upbuilding than all the clamor of a century if we still remained isolated from the outside world. Why, then, is it that some of our citizens of both town and parish are impeding progress, unconsciously perhaps, by asking exorbitant prices for the rights of way of these railroads over their property and checkmating the construction of the very avenues through which and over which we hope to reach the goal of substantial existence, and toward which most of us seem to have set our minds and hearts? Why figure out fake values and imaginary damages when, as a matter of fact, except in a few exceptional cases, the building of a railroad over one's property actually benefits the owner and enhances the value of his place instead of causing damage or deterioration?

Our citizens should not take a narrow and selfish view of this matter. It is one which vitally affects our welfare and cannot be gauged from the standpoint of self-interest. Sacrifices will be required, and ought to be made, on the broad ground of yielding personal convenience to the public good, and instead of commanding unreasonable compensation for the use of their property by the railroads, our citizens should, at most, ask only such remuneration as the value of the property taken and damage inflicted justify. In many instances our citizens could well afford to donate to the railroad companies such land as is necessary for their use, and we are glad to say some have done so, but, on the other hand, there appears to be a disposition on the part of a few to "hold up" these enterprises out of motives of pure selfishness and greed. This is lamentable; such a spirit should not be evinced by any citizen of any community, much less here where we are now holding ourselves out as anxious and willing to help and foster all works of public improvement and utility, and are proclaiming to the world our progressiveness and enterprise.

We do not wish to be understood as censuring those who are honest in their demands against the new railroads; we know full well that some of these claims are meritorious and the injury and damage done genuine, but in many instances it is a clear case of "hold up," and it is to the latter that we refer.

Still Here.

Dr. M. V. Smith, Dental Specialist, has extended his stay in Opelousas for another week, until April 16th. The Doctor is anxious to have those wanting work done this year arrange for an examination at once. Engagements can be made by phone. Dr. Smith has made annual visits to Opelousas for four years. He gives his patients conscientious attention, and is glad to make his work and word good. The Doctor works for white people only.

The police jury, at its session this week, authorized the issuance of a warrant on the parish treasurer for \$12,000 for school purposes, being the amount carried on this year's budget for account of the parish public schools. This is two thousand dollars more than last year's appropriation, and is the largest amount ever allotted to the school fund by the police jury of this parish in any one year.

Mr. R. L. Thompson, Agent, informs us that he will sell round trip tickets to New Orleans, on account of the United Confederate Veterans' Reunion, at \$3.35 from Opelousas; tickets on sale April 23d and 24th, good to return until May 7th.

Read the advertisements.

The Old Buildings Belonging to the Opelousas National Bank

situated on their property at the corner of Main and Landry streets, were sold at public auction Wednesday and brought \$150. The larger building facing Main street was bought by Ventre & Pulford, contractors, for \$100, while the smaller structure, adjoining the main building on the west was sold to Judge W. C. Perrault for \$50. The cistern on this property was also auctioned off and sold to Judge Perrault for \$10. Under the terms of sale, these buildings will have to be removed from the premises within fifteen days, at the expiration of which time the bank will commence work on its handsome new two-story terra cotta structure.

At Tuesday's session of the police jury an appropriation was made to cover the unpaid claims against the parish for the years 1903 and 1904, this back indebtedness amounting in the aggregate to about \$5,000. The jury also authorized its president to contract with the Western Union Telegraph Company for the installation of a signal time service in the courthouse and clerk's office. The clocks used in this service are run by electricity and are regulated to the second daily at 11 a. m. The innovation will prove quite a convenience to the court officials and the public generally.

A. P. Ledoux, a well-known young merchant of this town, died at his residence here in West Landry street last Monday morning at half-past nine o'clock, and was buried Tuesday morning at ten o'clock in the Catholic cemetery here. Deceased was thirty years of age, and died from pneumonia after an illness of only eight days. The death of Mr. Ledoux is a severe blow to his family and is generally regretted by the community. He was an upright, industrious and honorable man and citizen, the kind that this community can ill afford to lose.

Some people find it strange that the hello girls of the local office of the Cumberland Telephone Company are sometimes out of humor, but when we consider the vast number of calls that these three young ladies have to answer daily, it is not surprising that they occasionally become ruffled. For instance, last Tuesday 7,971 calls were answered by central, and our local manager informs us that the average daily number of calls is but little less than the above number. What would happen if three men were at the switch board doing this work?

J. M. Lee, general agent for the Southern Pacific Company, was in town several days this week attending to business in connection with the acquisition of rights of way through this parish for the Lafayette branch of that road running from the latter town to Baton Rouge. Major Lee stated that the contract for the building of this line would be let in a few days and that work on same would be rushed with all speed. The Lafayette branch will traverse the Port Barre section of this parish, running thence to Palmetto or Rose, and on to the state capital.

The expropriation suit of the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern railroad against Mrs. Ida V. Pavy, of this town, which had been on trial in the district court here since last Friday, was decided late Tuesday afternoon by the jury, they awarding her \$1,500 for the right of way and damages. The amount claimed by defendant was in excess of \$9,000, while the plaintiff company was offering \$100 per acre for the six acres of land used by it as a right of way.

A negro named Bud Williams, working with the construction corps of the Colorado Southern railroad at their camp near Port Barre, was brought to his home here Saturday in a precarious condition. Williams was caught beneath a falling tree, which was being cut on the railroad company's right of way, and had an arm and leg broken and probably suffered internal injuries.

The question of building a city hall is again being agitated, and it is probable that some action will be taken in the matter either by the present board of aldermen or the incoming administration. The present cramped-quarters of the city officials in the courthouse have long since proven inadequate, and the necessity for a city hall is daily becoming more apparent.

When you need groceries ring up Allen T. Sandoz & Bro.

Joseph Confesses.

Theophile Joseph, brother of the negro, Theophile Joseph, who is charged with having shot Deputy Sheriff Tolliver near Palmetto about three weeks ago, came here Saturday and made a voluntary sworn statement before Justice of the Peace Kerr, to the effect that the assailant of Tolliver was none other than his brother, Theophile. He stated that the negroes, Edward Newell and Milton Dicks, who are in jail here with his brother, and also charged with the offence, are innocent and were nowhere in the vicinity of the crime at the time it was committed. Joseph said that he could assign no motive for his brother's attack upon Mr. Tolliver; that they were walking along the railroad when they met the officer; that the latter told them "Good evening, boys," and his brother pulled his pistol and fired without a word. He stated further that Tolliver fired twice at them after he had fallen, but that neither he nor his brother was wounded. After the shooting, Joseph promised his brother that he would not reveal anything he knew about the occurrence, but now finding that two innocent men are held for the offence, he declared that his conscience hurt him and he desired to tell the truth. Theophile Joseph, upon being informed Sunday morning of his brother's sworn statement, admitted that he was the guilty party, but gave no reason for committing the deed. The negro, Edward Newell, who, when arrested, stated to the officers that it was Milton Dicks who did the shooting, and that he was with Dicks at the time, now says that he did not tell the truth then because parties in Palmetto had insisted upon a statement from him, and knowing that Dicks was suspected as being the guilty party, he fabricated an account of the affair implicating Dicks, believing that bodily harm would come to him if he protested his innocence or claimed ignorance.

Theophile Joseph was arrested as a suspect because he could not give a satisfactory account of his whereabouts on the night the crime was committed, and for the further reason that he bears a strong resemblance to Milton Dicks, the negro Tolliver thought did the shooting, and might easily be taken for Dicks in the night time. It is now believed that the blood marks near the scene of shooting, at first supposed to have been evidence of the correctness of Tolliver's belief that he had wounded one of his assailants, was blood from the latter's own wound.

To Sheriff Swords is due the credit for ferreting out Joseph as the guilty person, he having contended all along that the latter was the right man, and subsequent events have proven him to be correct.

Since the above was put in type, Theophile Joseph has repudiated his former confession, and now asserts that his brother's statement is false, and that he is entirely innocent of having shot Mr. Tolliver.

Letter to G. A. Creswell.

OPELOUSAS.
 Dear Sir: Here's a 15-year yarn; you like yarns, don't you? It comes from Odell Hardware Co., Greensboro, N. C.

Mr R G Glenn's house in that town was painted Devoo about 15 years ago, and next, this year. A house, next-door, was painted about the same time with another paint, supposed to be good. This house was painted again about 5 years ago with still another paint, that professes to be extraordinary.

Glenn's house, before it was painted just now, was in as good condition as that one. Devoo 15 years; the other 5 years—guess that's about how to put it.

But this extraordinary paint is a bluff; Devoo is the paint.
 Yours truly
 F W Devoo & Co
 P. S. J B Sandoz sells our paint.

E. F. Presley, Veterinary Surgeon. Diseases of all animals scientifically treated; lameness from any cause; dentistry a specialty. Office at R. E. Brower & Co.'s Stable. Consultation free. Charges reasonable.

Ladies, have you seen that stock of beautiful new millinery goods just received by Miss D. Lafond? If not, go and see it at once. All the latest styles, colors and shapes of hats and bonnets, etc.

Large comfortable offices to rent at reasonable rates in the Landau Building. Apply to JOHN W. LEWIS, Lessee.

The St. Landry State Bank

OF OPELOUSAS, LA.
 Report Furnished to the State Examiner of State Banks by the above Bank at the close of business on March 29, 1906.

RESOURCES		
Demand loans	\$ 17,961.69	
Loans secured by Mortgage	162,017.42	
Other Loans and Discounts	132,669.69	\$312,648.80
Overdrafts secured	1,696.89	
Overdrafts unsecured	752.69	
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures	8,800.00	
Other Real Estate owned	150.00	
Due from Banks and Bankers	73,405.59	
Checks and other cash items	3,079.72	
Gold Coin	6,468.90	
Silver, Nickel and Copper Coin	10,395.82	
National Bank Notes and all issues of the U. S. Government	17,444.00	
		110,794.03
		\$434,842.41
LIABILITIES		
Capital Stock, paid in	\$ 50,000.00	
Surplus	70,000.00	
Undivided Profits, less expenses and taxes paid	29,720.08	\$149,720.08
Dividends unpaid		130.00
Individual Deposits not bearing interest		284,992.33
		\$434,842.41

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
 PARISH OF ST. LANDRY,
 I, J. A. HAAS, President, and I, JONAS JACOBS, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 5th day of April, 1906.
 L. T. CASTILLE, Notary Public.

The Peoples State Bank

OF OPELOUSAS, LA.
 Report Furnished to the State Examiner of State Banks by the Above Bank for the Quarter Ending in March, at the Close of Business on March 29, 1906.

RESOURCES:		
Demand Loans	\$ 13,537.84	
Loans secured by Mortgage	24,408.99	
Other Loans and Discounts	144,510.35	
Overdrafts secured	4,014.30	
Overdrafts unsecured	371.65	
		\$186,843.13
Other Bonds, Stocks, Securities, etc.	7,050.00	
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures	1,729.50	
Other Real Estate owned	100.00	
Due from Banks and Bankers	\$ 88,687.16	
Checks and other Cash Items	5,606.22	
Gold Coin	7,666.00	
Silver, Nickel and Copper Coin	15,030.37	
National Bank Notes and all issues of the U. S. Government	22,883.00	
		\$139,872.75
		\$335,595.38
LIABILITIES:		
Capital Stock, paid in	\$ 16,300.00	
Surplus	6,000.00	
Undivided Profits, less expenses taxes and dividends paid	35,300.22	
Dividends unpaid	3,750.00	
Individual deposits not bearing interest	\$255,879.47	
Certificates of deposit not bearing interest	1,085.25	
Amount due to persons not included in the foregoing	17,280.44	\$274,245.16
		\$335,595.38

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
 PARISH OF ST. LANDRY,
 I, DAVID ROOS, President, and I, J. J. PERRODIN, Cashier of the above-named Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 J. J. PERRODIN, Cashier.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 5th day of April, 1906.
 JOHN H. HARMANSON, Notary Public.

Ventre & Pulford, local contractors, were awarded the contract Tuesday afternoon for the construction of the new building to be erected by the Opelousas National Bank on their property at the corner of Main and Landry streets. There were five other bidders for the job, and the building was remarkably close. The contract was let for \$20,400. The building will be a two-story brick structure with terra cotta trimmings, the lower floor to be used by the bank, and the second story as offices. Work will commence at once.

Last Tuesday, in the district court here, on motion of E. B. Duboisson, counsel for the defendant company, an appeal to the supreme court was granted in the case of the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern Railroad Company versus Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Railroad and Steamship Co. This is the expropriation suit tried last week, in which the defendant company was awarded \$250 by the jury for the right of way across its track, and for which they asked something in excess of \$40,000.

Work was commenced Saturday clearing the site for a new three-story brick building to be erected by J. B. Sandoz at the corner of Main and Grolee streets. The building will be up to date in every respect and will be used as a furniture and hardware store. Jaek has about exhausted all the available space in the vicinity of his stores by spreading outward, and has now concluded to spread upward.

A freak chicken was brought to town Saturday by Pierre Woods, a resident of the Coulee Marc neighborhood. The chicken had two distinctly formed bodies and four legs, but only one head, and was hatched in Mr. Woods' farm yard last week. The little chick appeared to be strong and healthy when brought here, but died a few days later.

The Opelousas National Bank
 Opelousas, La.,
 Began Business October 1st, 1903.

Extracts from Semi-Annual Statements

<p>Dec. 31, 1905. Capital..... \$50,000.00 Surplus and Profits \$118,874.17 Deposits..... \$128,874.17</p>	<p>Dec. 31, 1904. Capital..... \$50,000.00 Surplus and Profits \$7,575.11 Deposits..... \$133,435.53</p>
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December 30th, 1905.
 Capital..... \$50,000.00
 Surplus and Profits..... \$12,324.68
 Deposits..... \$241,383.66

Accounts Solicited.

E. B. DUBOISSON..... President
 J. B. SANDOZ..... Vice-President
 A. LEON DUPEE..... Cashier
 J. A. PERKINS..... Assistant Cashier

St. Landry State Bank,
 OPELOUSAS, LA.

Capital, Surplus & Undivided Profits
\$130,000.00.

AMPLE RESOURCES,
 PROMPT AND COURTEOUS SERVICE.
 ACCOUNTS SOLICITED.

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES FOR RENT.

For Rent—The building on Main street lately occupied by "Neg" as a restaurant and ice cream saloon. Apply at this office.

The Frances cigar is the best on the market at the price—sold by Allen T. Sandoz & Bro.

Tangerines, Mandarines, fresh tomatoes and all the rare domestic and imported fruits and vegetables, also groceries, etc. at Garbo and LaNasa's stores on Main street, near COURIER office and adjoining P. A. Sandoz's store.