

# The Opelousas Courier.

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## GOOD ADVICE IN GOLDEN WORDS

### DR. LAZARO'S ADDRESS AT GRAND PRAIRIE

### ADVICE BY SENATORIAL CANDIDATE

### Strong Plea to Farmers to Diversify Their Crops—Advocates Education of Children—There Are Many Factors to Accomplish Desired Results.

Dr. L. Lazaro, the only St. Landry candidate for the Senate and whose election is therefore a foregone conclusion, recently made a public address to his friends and neighbors out in Grand Prairie. This address was replete with sound, hard, common sense, and was clothed in words so simple that all his hearers could understand. The Farmers' Union, to which it was addressed, should have it printed in circular form and sent broadcast all over the country. The following extracts from it will show that the doctor is not only a man of ability, a clear thinker and a good reasoner, but one who is desirous of bettering the condition of his neighbors and fellow-men. Let these extracts, at least, be placed in the hands of every farmer in the parish, or read and explained to those who cannot read or who cannot understand the English language.

Among the "golden words" uttered by the doctor are the following:

I take the broad position that every interest in the South should be interested in maintaining a fair price—to do this, you must stand upon the bed-rock of sound business principles and you must outline the most reasonable policy for your members to follow. To my mind the way is clear and the course of duty distinct. You must learn to look out for yourselves and mix mind with muscle—you must understand that while the country is spending millions on agricultural colleges, experiment farms and in distributing pamphlets, yet, the large mass of farmers remains unaffected by new discoveries and that if you wish to compete successfully with scientifically trained farmers, you must learn the fundamental principles of the nature of the soil and conditions of vegetable life. You must learn that if you wish your farm to feed you, you must feed your farm.

It is absolutely necessary for you to give more attention to drainage and fertilization. Above all, you must diversify your crops—raise more corn, hay, peas, potatoes, sugar-cane and all other foods that you need, and then all the cotton you can. A small reduction in the acreage of cotton will mean better cultivation and as much cotton. You must study and experiment with cultural methods of dealing with the boll weevil problem. An abundance of food products upon your little farm will mean hogs, cows, horses, sheep and mules. The only reason why you are not better off than you are today is because you are spending all your cotton for meat, syrup, corn, mules and mules and things you could use yourselves. Stop the current of gold which flows continuously to other sections for these things, and in ten years you will be the most independent people on the face of the earth—in other words, your motto be "sell more and buy less."

Reduce as much as possible the old edit system which has been so long one of the unfortunate legacies of the Civil War. Under our present system of buying from strangers all those things which could grow at home, when fall comes, we owe all our cotton, and if the condition of the market is such that we decide to hold, we are in duty bound to borrow money to settle our business, because farmers must pay the merchant before the merchant can pay the bank or the city. The manufacturers, knowing that their time is limited, say, we will run from door to door, or in other words, we will wait; they are bound to sell. My friends, if you diversify your crops, live at home and reduce your credit, the day will come when you will owe only a cent of your cotton, and then you will be

in a better position to study the market and sell accordingly.

I wish to call your attention to the necessity of education, the greatest problem of the age that can interest the human mind. Education must be the foundation of this and of every other organization—it will contribute to the progress of its members, it will increase the efficiency of its members, their earning power, enlarge their capabilities, and therefore, their independence. A great writer once said: "The man whose mental discipline is such that he can easily adjust himself to any occupation which offers an opening has a great advantage over one who has nothing but muscle to offer." Education also enables a man to present with intelligence his claims for proper treatment. In any group of men who have a grievance to state, the man who can state the grievance clearly and forcibly naturally becomes the leader. Education furnishes the companionship of books to raise the standard of social intercourse. Years ago the country was new and open, and life was so easy that our fathers and grandfathers did not realize the necessity of it, but today all is changed; the country is being developed and the whistle of the locomotive is heard in every direction, electricity and steam have obliterated space, strangers are coming in, and, my friends, if you wish your children to compete with their children, you must prepare them; therefore, send your children to school—don't confuse the temporary with the permanent effect. Sometimes we meet with men who argue against the economic advantage of education on the ground that the child is taken away from paying work while he is in the schoolhouse; tell these men that the training acquired in the school-room is an investment that cannot be measured by coins; call their attention to all the schools provided today at public expense and to the many places where education is compulsory, and ask them if it does not prove that education is a necessity; explain to them that the anti-child labor laws rest upon the theory that the future advantage of education to the child and to the country more than offsets any temporary advantage that could come to the child, the home or the country from employment that would keep the child from school. Remember, too, that you cannot depend upon the school only, but if you wish to educate the whole child, I mean, physically, mentally and intellectually, if you wish to get near to the ideal, you must engage all the agencies that may be and should be employed to that end. Who, then, are responsible for the education of your children? There are at least five factors—the home, the church, the school, civil society and the State. Before the child is of age to go to school, he spends all of his time at home, and while he goes to school he spends most of his time with you; therefore, your responsibility is from birth to manhood. It is your duty to keep watch and start your child right—it is at this age that the child is soft and forms good or bad habits. You need the church to help you—life and property are safer where churches exist, and, therefore, every man living in a community owes something for the support of these institutions. The necessity of religious culture is universal in man, and without it no education is complete. To the teacher belongs the same responsibility as to the parent, besides the technical and professional sides of the educational work. There must be confidence and co-operation of school officers and patrons. The teachers must possess the requisite qualifications, and then your duty is to assist the children and the teacher, have pleasant and comfortable school-rooms and attractive surroundings. Society must do its share too—the moral tone of a community is a very important agency in education; the standard of moral thinking and moral living must be high. The State's duty is well recognized here; it must license teachers, furnish support for schools, and supervise the work of the school by passing and enforcing just laws, by inspiring respect for its authority, by demanding honesty and faithfulness of its officials, by proper economies in its expenditures the State teaches valuable lessons to the young. Strict integrity in our public affairs as in our private, the faithful and honest discharge of duty, the enactment and enforcement of wise laws, and obedience to the law are the duties that the State owes itself to insure its perpetuity and to educate its young.

Impress upon your children the dignity of work, whether it is done by the hands or the mind. Try to stop this drift toward the crowded city, and encourage your children to stay on the farm; to do this, give them better social opportunities, build better homes, better churches, better schools and better roads. Have rural free delivery and the telephone; have libraries in your schools, assembly halls and social organizations. Encourage

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## WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES OF WEEK

### PLAN FOR PUTTING MONEY IN CIRCULATION.

### CORTLEYOU'S IDEA OF MONEY RELIEF

### Much Speculation By Outsiders As to Why Secretary Taft Visited Berlin—Arctic Explorer in Washington—Other Items of Interest to the Public.

Secretary Cortleyou's plan for relieving the financial stringency and putting more money into circulation seems to be meeting with success, and is receiving the support and co-operation of the banks. This plan was announced only in the middle of the week. The government has made all the deposits of cash in the national banks that it is felt safe for the Treasury to make at this time, and as there is more money needed to carry on the business of the country, the Secretary of the Treasury urged that the national banks should issue additional note circulation up to the limit allowed them by the present law. Hardly any of the banks have availed themselves of this privilege to the full extent, and some not at all. The note issue has to be based on government bonds deposited with the Treasury Department. Many of the banks have bonds of this character deposited as security for deposits of government funds, but for such deposits the Treasury will take approved railroad and municipal bonds, so that by shifting the government bonds over as security for note circulation, the banks could all issue more money and help the cash situation considerably. There is now in the Treasury about \$167,000,000 worth of bank notes that could be thus issued. The total amount of money that could be put into circulation by this means would be nearer \$300,000,000.

In the first forty-eight hours after the suggestion had been made to the banks, there were responses of a favorable tenor, pledging note issues all the way from \$2,000 up to \$2,000,000. It is said that one bank in New York alone could issue if it wished \$10,000,000 of note circulation. With this additional money out, the cash tension would be relieved, and there would be much more money available for crop movement, and this in turn would bring more money from abroad, increasing our foreign trade balance and easing foreign exchange.

The Treasury Department is decidedly pleased with the foreign gold outlook as it is. There has been a total of \$23,000,000 in gold engaged abroad, and the trade balance with Europe will increase when the wheat and cotton crops move abroad. Governor Frantz of Oklahoma had a talk with the Secretary of the Treasury while he was here this week, and he says that there is a million-bale crop of cotton to be moved from Oklahoma beside about 35,000,000 bushels of wheat. The flurry in New York did not, of course, affect the material prosperity of that part of the country, but, like so many other agricultural sections, the scarcity of ready money and the contraction of credit clogged the wheels of commerce just when they should have been moving the most rapidly.

There is a good deal of quiet speculation outside the inner official circle in Washington as to the meaning of Secretary Taft's changes of plan with regard to his visit to Berlin. He is making the grand tour with a vengeance, and, being an American Cabinet officer, when he calls at a foreign capital and sees the sovereign, it is a little difficult to make it appear that the call is purely personal instead of official. So long as he was in the Philippines he was there in his official capacity. But when he got outside of American territory, it was advisable for his visit to have a more personal and less official character. His original program called for his trip to Berlin while the Kaiser was out of the country, and it is understood that Emperor William himself sent him a personal invitation to delay his visit till he, the Emperor, had returned. Secretary Taft was going to do this, and had

even notified the War Department of his intention when a long cable correspondence ensued between him and the President, the result of which has been that he will visit Berlin while Emperor William is still absent. It is believed that the talk of a close understanding with Germany has been displeasing to the Administration, and that it is still this talk that the program of Secretary Taft's visit has been set forward rather than back so that there will be no appearance of his meeting Emperor William for an official conference.

One of the interesting guests of Washington this week has been Capt. Roald Amundsen, the Arctic explorer and the man who definitely located the magnetic pole. He has been a guest at the Cosmos Club, that resort of government and other scientists. He is going to make another trip to the north, hoping to either make a new "farthest north" or to reach the pole itself. The novel feature of his coming trip is that he is going to employ polar bears for his sledge journey. He has several teams of these animals already in training, and says that they will solve the problem of the polar journey. It certainly appears on the face of it as though they might, since each of them has the pulling power of ten horses, and they live by preference in the Arctic and are used to the cold and privation of the far north. Captain Amundsen says that they can be broken to harness quite as well as dogs, and it is on this theory that he is proceeding with his strange teams. There only remains the question whether it may not prove a repetition of the old Limerick:

"There was a young girl of the Niger,  
Who went for a ride on a tiger.  
They returned from the ride with the  
Lady inside,  
And a smile on the face of the tiger."

The first fruits of the army test ride are becoming manifest in that twelve officers who are admittedly sound in head, but possibly not so in wind and limb, have been ordered before a retiring board. The move marks a new departure in the army. Heretofore it has not been the custom to subject officers over the rank of captain to a physical examination for promotion, and there are a large number of officers who are good technical men and who have not any manifest physical defect who probably could not stand the fifteen-mile horseback ride that a number of the officers have recently undergone. In fact, it is said that if the new system is kept in force, it will mean the elimination from the active list of fully ten per cent of the officers who come up for promotion. It will strike some of the old established desk men in the War Department, men who never expected to see an examining board again till they were ready to go on the retired list voluntarily. It is creating a great deal of apprehension among all the officers who have reached middle age. Of course, there is a great deal of fault found among the men who are the victims of the new order, but it will make far more rapid promotion and is accordingly welcomed by the younger men.

## ACADIA FAIR A GRAND SUCCESS

### EXCELLENT SHOWING MADE BY ST. LANDRY HORSES.

Exposition Largely Attended and Was a Grand Success in Entirety.

Many of our citizens have visited the Acadia Parish Fair at Crowley during the week, and all speak in the highest terms of the great success, both in attendance and in exhibits.

The agricultural, live stock, mechanical and ladies' departments were all highly praised for exceptional good taste in arrangement and the superiority of articles exhibited.

The horse races were said to be very good indeed—and it is here that St. Landry shone the brightest. Dr. Chas. F. Boagni's fine racer, Berntha Moore, won first money in all races which she was entered. Other animals made good showing for St. Landry, many of them carrying good prizes to their owners.

We are glad to state in this connection that the little city of Crowley is still climbing upward and upward. The rice crop was good and the market price was equally well pleasing. So, it is but natural that merchant and planter greet each other with a feeling of buoyancy and confidence, even though the bottom drops from the national treasury.

## PRESS COMMENTS ON PROCLAMATION

### GOV. BLANCHARD'S PROCLAMATION AIRED.

### COST OF SESSION IS BUT A TRIFLE

### Well-Aired Subject as to Whether or Not the Governor Overstepped His Bounds—Call for Meeting of Legislature Is Not Well Received By All.

LAFORCHE COMET

Governor Blanchard has issued a proclamation calling an extra session of the State Legislature.

The call specifies the consideration of eleven objects, including, among others, the readjusting of excessive fees and salaries of existing offices, decreasing the cost of collecting revenues of the State and of assessing property for taxation, the abolition of unnecessary offices and consolidating others, and directing that the public funds be deposited in solvent banks offering the highest rate of interest. These are the most important matters recommended by the Governor to the consideration of the Legislature, and every one of them will be found in the platform of General Jastremski, issued and published long before the other candidates for Governor had been heard from.

It is true that the other candidates afterward fell in line and endorsed these measures, so clearly enunciated by General Jastremski, just as other candidates four years ago were compelled to accept the views of the General on the primary question and the curtailment of gubernatorial patronage.

But there is one measure for which General Jastremski stands which the Governor seems to have overlooked and which he does not include in the objects set forth in his call for an extra session of the Legislature. We refer to the extraordinary powers now lodged in the Railroad Commission.

Governor Blanchard in issuing his call must have overlooked the fact that the Railroad Commission of this State has under our present Constitution more power than the General Assembly itself. Art. 288 of the Constitution provides that "UPON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Commission the Legislature may add to or enlarge the powers and duties of the Commissioners or confer other powers and duties upon them."

This means that the Legislature cannot pass any legislation whatever relative to the powers and duties of the Commission unless and until the Commission itself consents to the passage of such legislation.

The Legislature may pass laws affecting the Supreme and other courts, and all other State officers, but the Railroad Commissioners are sacred and supreme, and the Legislature is prohibited by the Constitution from passing any laws relative to their powers and duties, unless the Commissioners themselves see fit to graciously extend their permission. In other words, the three men composing the Railroad Commission have more power than the Legislature itself, and their duties cannot be increased or diminished without their special permission and consent.

General Jastremski favors the amending of this article of the Constitution by taking this extraordinary power from the Commissioners and permitting the Legislature of this State to have something to say as to powers and duties of three men composing the Railroad Commission.

We grant that the special objects for which the extra session of the Legislature has been called are important, but it strikes us that the Constitutional amendment proposed by General Jastremski, relative to the powers and duties of the Railroad Commission, is of equal, if not greater, importance than the legislation recommended, but, as we have already stated, this matter must have been overlooked by the Governor.

Had the Governor included this important subject in his call, we would feel disposed to approve his course, but it

would seem he has omitted the most important matter and only included matters that might well await the regular session of the Legislature, which is only a few months off.

ST. MARY RECORD

Gov. Blanchard says: "Make Good." This State has been treated to the sweetest and choicest promise morsels, once every four years, for the last two decades. On each treating occasion, the fellow who was most prodigal in promises, was the successful one in the treating contest.

During these last four refreshment seasons, the taxpayer has had the bills charged to him, and each was larger than the one preceding.

Throughout the whole twenty years which have elapsed between the four seasons, political conditions have been going from bad to worse.

If one-half the promises of this period had been faithfully kept, political life in Louisiana would now be a continuous idyllic earthly elysium.

The three candidates for Governor, now before the people, have promised all the people could desire, all the soul could pant for.

These are all pre-election promises, not actual post-election offerings. Judging from the past, the people have learned to expect nothing, AFTER the election.

But now comes a strong man with past-election offerings. Now is the time to make good. This State has a full Legislative force in reserve. Over six months intervene between the closing of the present Legislature and the opening of its successor. If the State needs reforms, it needs them now. We have the means through which to get these reforms, and in the name of the grand sovereign old commonwealth of Louisiana, let us have them.

Lieut.-Gov. Sanders is the chief prodigal in the present contest. He has proclaimed from the stump that he has done much, and that he will do more. Now is the time for Mr. Sanders to make good. Kick the seventeen Lieutenant-Governors in Orleans, out of the political cook-shop, and place the offices spoiled and outraged by them, into the hands of two or three clean business men. This will be glory enough for one bob-tailed session under the boasted Napoleonic leadership of the poor boy candidate from St. Mary. True, it will only remove from under him his political props, but he will have a greater and more illuminating glory and honor achieved, than the empty honor of the Governorship can afford, he will have the everlasting gratitude of the people of Louisiana, and may he, some day, he will be Governor.

MANSFIELD JOURNAL

From the standpoint of the professional politician, the action of Governor Blanchard may be inexpedient, probably unwise, but the Journal commends him for it. Heretofore we have not been in accord with the Governor, but we are with him in this matter, and we feel sure a great majority of our people agree with us. The fee system should go. The taxpayer should no longer be burdened with taxes to enrich officeholders. Let this class be paid good salaries, then let the fees go into the State treasury. The State is heavily in debt, and taxation is about as high as the taxpayers can stand.

The Governor may be "playing politics," but if he is, we fail to see that he has acted in a way to injure either of the candidates for Governor, as all of them stand for the reforms suggested by him. If they are honest with the people, they cannot object to being placed on record before the primary on the questions that will go before the Legislature. The Legislature will have an opportunity to improve greatly the political conditions in Louisiana, and it is to be hoped that body will do its full duty.

REUNICE GALL

Governor Blanchard's call for a special session of the Legislature seems to have played the devil in camp with certain politicians, Pujol, etc., etc., but Governor Blanchard knows just what the people of Louisiana want, and the people will stand by him. We are indeed sorry for the few bosses to see their game "nipped in the bud," and would set up the beer could we hear the gang talk this matter over. This is only the beginning, gents—just wait and take your medicine like men.

NATCHITOCHESES TIMES

Governor Blanchard has taken the wind out of many political sails by a call for an extra session of the Legislature for the purpose of reducing official fees and perquisites of office. All officers are to be put on a salary basis. Other measures are mentioned in the call for the extra session, but the regulation of the fee system is the main issue.

We deem this move a wise one. On every hand there is a clamor for a reduction of the pay to be received by the

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