

The Opelousas Courier.

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OPELOUSAS, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, SEPTEMBER 19, 1908.

NO. 11

Once a Week, One Dollar a Year.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS.

Twice a Week, Two Dollars a Year.

PULL ALL TOGETHER

THE PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE INVITES THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND A MEETING SEPTEMBER 23,

WE ON TO ERECT SUGAR REFINERY

Sugar Cane More Profitable Than Cotton, With a Large Refinery Erected Here.

In another column will be found an invitation, issued by the Opelousas Progressive League to the public of this section, to attend a meeting at the courthouse, at 3 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, September 22nd, to be held for the purpose of taking such action as will secure the erection of a central sugar refinery at this place.

Two years ago the Progressive League held a meeting for this purpose, and its president, Dr. A. J. Bercier, set forth in a table address to the farmers that the Commission had reported the appearance of the boll weevil in this State, and that they would unquestionably appear the following year in St. Landry Parish, and that our people should be prepared to meet the dilemma. He told how farmers had been demoralized in Texas, and how farmers were disgusted, and merchants bankrupted. You all see now how true his words were. The proposition was a simple one that something should be done towards preparation for the eradication of crops. This meeting was attended by only a few, the large majority of merchants and farmers manifesting no interest whatever in the matter. It does seem that it takes a dose at the head and an earthquake at the feet to open the eyes of some who seem to be up-to-date farmers, but do not take the trouble to post themselves of what is going on along the line of their life's calling. God knows, cultural literature is cheap enough, and in the farming business different from others—the government furnishes gratis.

The boll weevil is no longer in the aspect, but is with us, with his whole family and all his friends; and some of the same farmers who two years ago scoffed at the truths demonstrated by the experience of Texas, will not let the cotton enough to pad a quilt, and next year will unquestionably be worse, for this country furnishes such excellent places for hibernation, that it is not likely the weevil will give up his comfortable quarters, as long as he finds "pickers" to feed him.

It is up to our people to do something else. Truck raising is at best a doubtful pursuit. A kitchen garden, of course, should be an adjunct to every regulated farm, but it is out of the question for a whole parish to consider raising in growing potatoes, cabbage and tomatoes for a livelihood. Since the boll weevil has put a quietus on the cotton industry in this section, the only crop for our farmers to turn to for a cultural life is cane; and we can grow it profitably when we have a large refinery near at hand, with capacity to handle the cane when it is ready to be processed. A small refinery will not pay, because of the fact that it will prove unable to fulfill its contract when large quantities are made. The larger the refinery, the more profitable has it proven to its owners, and to farmers who depend upon it to market their cane. Some of our refineries have netted their owners as much as 40 per cent, on the original investment.

Every land owner and every merchant should have an interest in this movement, and that they are willing to support the enterprise, and if they do, no one will be experienced in getting the capital interested. Let us all work, so as to be ready for next year, and can't afford to let a little thing like the boll weevil put us out of business.

Remember that "there is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

STRAYED OR STOLEN.

From my pasture at Mansura, during the night of Wednesday, September 2nd, three years old, color, Light Buck, white star in forehead, 15 1/2 inch high, weight about 1,000 pounds, foot under saddle, has fresh cut right over hoof of right hind leg. One cut where collar fits over neck. Gentle, and is a fine riding and driving animal. Has short, and light tail. Reward for any information leading to its recovery.

O. J. CHATELAIN, Mansura, La.

Any one wishing to take stock in the Oil Company can apply to Hon. Thompson President, or Hon. Homer Vice President, or John H. Harrison Secretary and Treasurer, John N. Ogden the Attorney of the company.

FOR SALE. A Mare Mule six years of age, perfectly gentle and a good work mule. Apply to the undersigned. JOHN N. OGDEN. 9-19

A FIENDISH MURDER

YOUNG SYRIAN MYSTERIOUSLY MURDERED IN CROWLEY.

EVIDENCE AGAINST ARMAS WOODS

An Opelousas Negro, Is Now In the Parish Jail.

Mansur Nacer, a young Syrian, who arrived at Crowley on the eighth from New Orleans or some point in Mississippi, was beaten and mangled in a most horrible manner in the store of John Petro, another Syrian, in West Crowley the following afternoon about 4 o'clock, and which resulted in his death near midnight Wednesday night.

Considerable mystery as yet attaches to the fatal assault as to its perpetrator and his purpose, but the assumption is that the assailant was a strange negro and that he was bent on robbery. The Crowley Signal of the 12th contains the following:

The mysterious negro who is known to have been in the store of the Syrian Petro last Wednesday afternoon, when the brutal murder of the young Syrian Mansur Nacer was committed, has been captured and is now in the parish jail. He was captured early this morning at Gradeney's Island, about six miles from Opelousas, by Deputy Sheriffs Lastie Broussard and Wille Higginbotham, who had been prominent in working up the case against the negro.

The negro's name is Armas Woods. He belongs in Opelousas and his general description answers that of the negro who was seen in the Syrian's store on the afternoon of the crime. Further evidence against Woods has developed. The negro Albert Scott, who lived in a room in the Syrian's house with his wife, has been found. Scott says that on Wednesday afternoon about 4:30 he left the Syrian's house and the negro Woods was then in the store. Less than an hour later Scott passed Woods near the high school building, hurrying out of town.

When first taken Woods denied that he had been in Crowley for three weeks. Afterwards he said that he had been in Crowley lately and left here Wednesday afternoon.

Woods is known to have spent \$9 for cloths at Eunice and to have lost about \$20 in a crap game at Opelousas. He had no money on him when captured. The sheriff's office deserves great credit for the capture of Woods. In the case the sheriff's department and the Crowley police worked together and both departments deserve great credit. Deputies Broussard and Higginbotham deserve particular mention for efficient work.

The evidence is strong against the negro Woods. There is no doubt that he was the negro who was in the Syrian's store. He acknowledged that much, but insists that he left before the crime was committed. There is ample evidence that he was in the store long after he said he left it.

The police are in possession of considerable evidence which it is not deemed wise to make public at this time, but sensational developments may be expected. It now appears certain that the butcher or butchers of young Nacer are certain to be convicted. The negro may not be the only one to stretch hemp.

NOTICE.

To whom it may concern: I hereby give notice that I am applying for a pardon. DORRIS JENNINGS. Opelousas, La., Sept. 19, 1908—1m.

A FISHING PARTY.

A party of about twelve left our city last Tuesday over the O. G. regular train to spend the day fishing at Darbonne. The fishing was good and the catch plentiful. The party was chaperoned (?) by the genial and popular superintendent of the O. G. R. R., Harry Flanders, which insured success.

After spending the day enjoying themselves eating perch and trout (and drinking spring water) the party returned on a special train leaving Darbonne at about 8:30 p. m. and reaching Opelousas at about 9:30. The party consisted of Superintendent Flanders, Jno. W. Lewis, Be R. Christman, P. R. Sandoz, C. F. Baily, H. D. Littell, Allen T. Sandoz, Wilson and George Goodloe, Harry Williams and two cooks, with Johnny Morning, chef de cuisine.

WANTED TO PURCHASE FOR CASH A COTTON PLANTATION.

State explicitly location also number of acres open, cultivated, swamp, clear, wooded, etc. Quantity of lint cotton per acre last season planted and what year, who is now running place and best cash price for the same. Address P. O. Box 1557, New Orleans, La. Sept. 19—3t.

FOR SALE. A Mare Mule six years of age, perfectly gentle and a good work mule. Apply to the undersigned. JOHN N. OGDEN. 9-19

THE AEROPLANE A SUCCESS

INVENTOR WRIGHT'S MACHINE HAS MADE A WORLD'S RECORD

HOPED TO MEET TESTS OF THE GOVERNMENT

Positive of More Startling Results With the Great Invention.

There now appears to be no doubt that the Wright aeroplane, which is now being experimented with at Fort Myer, near Washington, will meet all tests and be accepted by the Government. Yesterday Mr. Orville Wright, the inventor of the aeroplane, made two flights, both of which established new world records for duration of flight and speed. The first flight during the forenoon lasted a trifle more than 57 minutes, during which time the machine traveled fifty-eight times around the entire circuit of the parade grounds, a distance of something less than a mile for each circuit.

Encouraged by the fact that he had broken all records and had closely approached one of the principal conditions of the Government's acceptance of his machine, Mr. Wright made a second flight in the late afternoon of yesterday remaining in the air 62 minutes, and attained an even greater speed than the Government tests will call for. The aeroplane attained an altitude of 150 feet at times during this second flight, and started and landed without hitch or accident of any kind, indicating that perfect control has been acquired over the machine.

This second flight not only breaks all previous world records for aeroplane flights, but has actually doubled the record established on Sunday last by M. De Lagrange in France, who made a flight of 31 minutes. This achievement of the French aviator set all Europe agog, but the fact that the achievement has been so soon eclipsed by an American inventor should be a source of a good deal of enthusiasm on this side of the Atlantic.

Another Government test which will be required on the official acceptance trials is the carrying in the air of two occupants of the aeroplane. After his second successful flight of yesterday Mr. Wright invited Lieutenant Lahm, of the Signal Corps of the Army, who had had considerable experience as an aeronaut, to accompany him on a short flight. This time the machine stayed in the air six minutes, and appeared to work as easily with two men as it did with but a single occupant.

Yesterday's achievements indicate that the Wright aeroplane will easily meet all the requirements of the Government, and that a practical flying machine, independent of the gas bag, has been secured. This is something of an achievement, and is of much more importance than the success of the Zeppelin airship or the Baldwin dirigible balloon. If these results can be achieved with a comparatively crude machine it is evident that even more startling results can be accomplished with a more scientifically constructed and larger machine. The problem of aerial flight by heavier than air machines is now seen to depend solely on the reliability and power of the engine used to revolve the propellers, with a reliable engine and a sufficient supply of gasoline there should be no limit to the possible flight except the capacity of the machine to carry fuel.

While both dirigible balloons and aeroplanes promise to have their advantages, the aeroplane undoubtedly holds out greater expectations as an instrument for warlike purposes. It can move more rapidly than the balloon and is less vulnerable. Whether it will do any better than the gas balloon in contrary winds remains to be seen, but certainly it can do no worse.

It is certainly a matter of pardonable pride that an American inventor has achieved the distinction of having produced the most successful and practicable flying machine.—Picayune.

JAIL DELIVERY.

Three Bad Eggs Escape.

On Thursday night, or early Friday morning, three prisoners confined in our Parish Jail made their escape by breaking through the roof of the prison and letting themselves down on the outside by means of a rope constructed from a canvas hammock. They are J. H. Ward and Jack Marshall, accused of burglary, and Gordon serving a six months term, also for burglary, all white, and all three of very bad reputation. It was about 1 o'clock in the morning when the escape was discovered and search immediately instituted.

NOTICE.

By special request of representative farmers of St. Landry Parish a mass meeting is called by the Progressive League to take place at the Court House on Tuesday the 22nd at 3 o'clock p. m. to take steps towards erecting a sugar refinery here. All interested are invited and expected. A. J. BERCIER, Pres. E. J. SULLIVAN, Secy.

W. B. MARSTON IS HOPEFUL

HE SPEAKS TO THE FARMERS OF DIVERSIFICATION.

HE PLAINLY SHOWS TO US

What May Be Accomplished as an Offset to Cotton and the Boll Weevil.

It is pleasing to note that B. W. Marston, Jr. of Red River, is a hopeful man. Deploring the uncontrollable losses sustained by farmers and planters along the Red river valley, as a practical man he suggests diversification in this wise:

First—Cotton itself. Now I want to tell a little secret to the Red river planters. Haven't you noticed that there are spots on your place where the cotton grows off quickest, matures soonest and seems to make a crop ahead of the weevils? Some say that it is where the oak trees grew before the land was cleared. Every plantation on the river has some of this character of land, that has something in its soil that makes cotton. Plant this land in cotton and no other.

Second—Sugar cane will grow here, and as good as in the lower end of the State, but on account of our shorter season in which to harvest, only one-third of our land could be applied to this crop, and a central refinery will have to be erected to care for the grinding of it, which will require a concert of action to organize such a movement.

Third—I cleared \$50 per acre on white black-eyed peas last year, and I believe a pea or bean crop planted so as to come on in our dry falls will pay.

Fourth—I believe oats planted in the fall will make heavy oats and can be threshed out and sold as they do in the West, and then raise a pea crop on the same land.

Fifth—Corn on our richest and best lands will pay. Five years from now we will pay, and then will ask why didn't the good Lord send the boll weevil sooner. I believe that a meeting of the planters of North Louisiana, and the merchants and business men, ought to be held and good would come of a thorough discussion of this question.

And B. W. Marston Jr., is right.

TO MY FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

I thank each and every one of you for your unselfish and loyal support of my candidacy for re-election to Congress. Yours sincerely, A. P. PUJO.

ROOMS WANTED.

Wanted two rooms and a kitchen for light house keeping by young couple. Address B care of Opelousas Courier. Sept. 19, 1908.

Letter to D. Roos & Son.

Opelousas, La.

Dear Sirs: Our proposition is simply this: If Devoe doesn't take less gallons for a job, no pay. Yours truly, F. W. DEVOE & CO. P. S. J. B. SANDOZ sells our paint.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED.

The Courier would like to have a correspondent in every community in the parish. You can help your community as well as your parish paper by letting the public know what is going on in your locality. The Courier is strictly a home paper and would like to print as much of the local news as possible.

A WILD WEST SHOW.

Will be one of the Features of the Fair at Crowley.

Nothing but bad weather can prevent the 1908 Acadia Parish Fair at Crowley from being a success. As the Fair comes off the 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of October, the weather ought to be fine. In addition to there being many entries in all the racing events, and more coming in all the time, a big Wild West Show has been engaged to entertain the crowds, a free exhibition being given each day in front of the grand stand. The stock agricultural exhibits will be complete and it is hoped every one in this section of the State will assist in making this great educator a winner. Any information will be cheerfully given by the secretary, J. W. Cheny, Crowley, La., and he will mail you a catalogue free upon request.

We publish an announcement of that excellent institution, the State Normal School of Natchitoches. The President, J. B. Aswell, in writing to the editor of the Courier, says: "My ambition is to make the Normal School as good as it can be made and to open its doors to every worthy youth in Louisiana, who is interested in the business of teaching. I want to make it unnecessary and undesirable to send out of Louisiana to fill any good school position."

One more New Orleans official gone wrong—this time to the extent of \$30,000. Rahl for the ward bosses and ring rule!

BRYAN AND KERN CLUB

WAS ORGANIZED LAST FRIDAY EVENING, AND

A LARGE NUMBER WERE PRESENT

Officers Were Elected and Resolutions Adopted.

The undersigned voters of Opelousas desiring to respond to the request of the National Democratic Committee and of Mr. Bryan himself, as well as that of Mr. Robert Ewing, member of the Democratic Executive Committee of Louisiana hereby invite all supporters of the National Democratic ticket to meet at the Courthouse on Friday the eleventh day of September, 1908, at 8 o'clock p. m., to organize a precinct Bryan and Kern Club.

P. R. Sandoz, A. L. Andrus, E. S. Kerr, John H. Harman, Henry Lastrapes, Jr., A. I. Castille, Ludovice Fontenot, Plaise Horn, D. M. Fontenot, Carlton Ogden, C. F. Baily, H. Lacombe, W. G. Williams, R. B. Christman, C. A. Tatman, Nick Dupre, Lucien Fontenot, H. D. Littell, Sidney Dejean, Alex. Mair, Jr., Jno. W. Lewis, A. D. Stewart, Eddie Harman, Wm. A. C. Robertson, M. W. Swords, L. L. Perrault, H. G. Lewis, P. Hosselin, A. J. T. Littell, Arthur Ventre, Raymond Breaux, Frank DelBuono, Chas. Ventre, Geo. Bourdier, F. S. Robert, A. A. Crouchet, A. J. Pries, T. O. Todd, C. B. Chachere, Felix Chachere, Robert E. Perkins, W. R. Lacombe, A. F. C. Garland.

Pursuant to the above call issued Thursday, the 10th inst., a large number of the Democratic voters met at the Courthouse the following evening and organized the First Precinct Bryan and Kern Club. The meeting was called to order by Hon. Thos. H. Lewis, who in a brief address explained its objects and paid a high tribute to the Democratic Standard Bearer and the admirable platform of the Democratic party in the present campaign; showing that the prospects for Democratic victory next November are brighter than at any time for over a quarter of a century; calling attention to the many dissensions among the Republicans and on the other hand the harmonious condition among the Democrats; the fact that a large portion of the laboring element which has heretofore been voting the Republican ticket, has become disgusted with the false promises of that party and will cast their vote in November next for Bryan and Kern.

Short addresses were also made by Jno. W. Lewis, Esq., and others, after which a permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, Hon. Peyton R. Sandoz; Vice-President, 1st ward, Judge E. S. Kerr; Arthur Gosselin; 2d ward, L. L. Dane; 3d ward, Dr. A. J. Bercier; 4th ward, E. L. Loeb; at large, Phil. Hidalgo, J. T. St. Cyr, Secretary, C. F. Carriere, J. T. St. Cyr, Secretary, C. F. Baily; Treasurer, Jno. H. Harmanson.

Hon. Peyton R. Sandoz thanked the Club for the honor conferred upon him in a neat little speech and promised his best efforts to further the interests of the party and to work for the success of Bryan and Kern in November with the assurance that the Peerless one would be a sure winner this time.

The following resolution was read and adopted: Whereas, the Democratic National Convention has again selected as the standard bearer of the united Democracy that tried and peerless representative of all the people, Hon. William Jennings Bryan, and as his running mate a Democrat only second to him in fealty and devotion to the party and the people, the Hon. John W. Kern, and

Whereas, it behooves every democrat whether he be from the solid South, the debatable West or the doubtful North to contribute his mite and encouragement to the cause that must and will triumph in the approaching election, therefore,

Be it resolved, That we democrats of the first precinct, first ward of St. Landry parish, hereby organize ourselves into a Bryan-Kern Club, and pledge our earnest political and financial support to our standard bearers.

In response to a resolution offered inviting all those present who desired to become members of the Club, the following came forward and signed the list as such: C. J. Thompson, Leonce Sandoz, A. D. Stewart, A. E. Vidrine, M. L. Fontenot, Allen T. Sandoz, W. D. Lewis, T. F. McKinney, E. T. Lewis, J. F. Dezauche, J. T. Littell, W. J. Sandoz, Nicholls Dupre, L. Fontenot, H. D. Littell, J. A. Haas, J. G. Lawler, P. Hosselin, J. W. Lewis, Alex. Mair, Jr.

FARMERS' UNION MET AT FT. WORTH

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THEIR MEETING HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN OUT

A LOWER PRICE FOR COTTON

Is Generally Conceded. Mississippi Bankers' Ass'n., Will Advance Sixty per Cent On Warehouse Receipts.

Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 4.—The members of the National Farmers' Union, who are privy to the plans of that organization in regard to the price to be demanded for cotton which was agreed upon at the closing session last night, are as close mouthed as clams. Not one word authoritative or otherwise, nor a single hint as to the price agreed upon has been permitted to escape. Such secrecy where so many are in possession of it tends to demonstrate the earnestness of the farmers in the fight they are making. It has been learned however, from a source generally conceded to be reliable, that a sliding price has been agreed upon.

The plan for marketing the crop confirms the appointment of a commission of twelve, one from each of the cotton raising states, with officers in Memphis to deal directly with the spinner at home and abroad. J. E. Montgomery of Tennessee is president and J. G. Eubanks of Georgia is general manager of this commission. This body is to have the handling of cotton in union warehouses and expects to deal in large lots directly with the consumer, eliminating entirely the middle man. For instance, should a lot of 50,000 or 100,000 bales be sold, the order will be apportioned among the warehouses of the various states in proportion to the amount of cotton held in warehouses. All the business in the selling agent will be transacted from the Memphis office.

It developed today that the Mississippi Bankers' Association has agreed to advance sixty per cent on cotton warehouse receipts and it is hoped to extend this arrangement to the other states, thus rendering warehouse certificates negotiable. It also developed today that important resolutions were passed during the closing hours of the convention. One of them recites the plan of Postmaster General Meyer for a parcel post, unqualifiedly endorses his position and asks Congress to enact the necessary legislation to give it effect.

Another resolution recommends the use of cotton bagging in place of jute and sisal wherever possible, with a view to creating a further demand for cotton.

A third resolution follows in part: "Resolved That the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America, representing over 2,000,000 farmers, hereby adopts the immigration resolutions passed last January at the annual rally in Memphis, calling for Federal and State legislation abolishing immigration bureaus and substantially excluding the peasants from Southeast Europe and of Asia from our shores."

The importance of this resolution lies in the fact that it indicates a fixed purpose to diminish the quantity of cotton raised in this country.

L. A. Sandoz, Plais Horn, Frank Robert, A. J. Cornier, Thos. H. Lewis, A. J. Bercier, Chas. Lafleur, M. Halphen.

On motion of Mr. Lewis every member was invited to purchase a Bryan and Kern button and that the same be worn by such member as evidence of his membership.

On motion the following committee of three was solicited to collect \$1 subscriptions and solicit further membership: J. F. Dezauche, T. F. McKinney and Plais Horn.

The Club then adjourned to Friday evening, Sept. 18th at 8 o'clock.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Louisiana State Normal School runs twelve months in the year. The annual sessions are divided into three terms of four months each. The next term opens on Thursday, October 1st. New boarding accommodations for 200 more young women have been provided, and special provisions are being made to increase the number of men in the Normal School to meet the growing demand in Louisiana for men in the teaching business.

Many improvements are being made, the faculty has been enlarged, and the course of study is being advanced. The average cost of attendance for a term of 16 weeks is \$61.50. Write for catalogue. J. B. ASWELL, President, Natchitoches, La.

A SURE-ENOUGH KNOCKER.

J. C. Goodwin, of Reidsville, N. C., says: "Bucklen's Arnica Salve is a sure-enough knocker for ulcers. A bad one came on my leg last summer, but that wonderful salve knocked it out in a few rounds. Not even a scar remained." Guaranteed for piles, sores, burns etc. 25c. at all druggists.