

THE OPELOUSAS COURIER.

VOL. 56.

OPELOUSAS, ST. LANDRY PARISH, LOUISIANA, FEBRUARY 20, 1909.

NO. 33

Once a Week.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY OF OPELOUSAS.

One Dollar a Year.

B. DUBUISSON IS STRICKEN

With Appendicitis---Is Taken to City On Special Train.

Mon. E. B. Dubuissou, one of Opelousas' well-known citizens, residing at the St. Landry parish bar, a capital citizen in every way, was stricken with an attack of appendicitis Sunday, and was hurried to New Orleans Thursday to undergo an operation for the removal of the offending intestine.

Mr. Dubuissou was taken to the city on a special train that left Opelousas about noon Thursday, and was brought over the Southern Pacific through the kindness of the local officials, the special train being brought in over that line to Court street crossing, and Mr. Dubuissou was taken aboard there.

Mrs. Dubuissou and Dr. R. M. Bell accompanied the suffering patient upon the trip.

News of the outcome of the operation is anxiously awaited by every citizen of the city.

GRAY VISITS OPELOUSAS.

Rev. John Gray of Alexandria addressed the people of Opelousas at the court house, Saturday, Feb. 13. Dr. A. J. Bercier acted as organist, and delivered a short sermon. He told the people that the best thing for them to do was to plant corn, potatoes, cane and other crops until the boll weevil is completely destroyed.

Rev. Gray agreed with Dr. Bercier in addition to this, Rev. Gray thinks that the raising of crops will be very profitable for the people of Louisiana. Alexandria probably have a packing house, and Rev. Gray was here to get the people interested.

LINGERIE CLUB ENTER-TAINED.

Lingerie club was entertained last Wednesday by Mrs. Firnberg. Delicious refreshments were served, viz, sliced olives, celery, jelly, dressing, coffee, with whipped cream.

First prize, a beautiful set of dishes, was won by Mrs. E. L. Roberts; the second prize, won by Mrs. W. B. Roberts; the third prize, won by Mrs. E. K. Eastham.

Invited guests were Miss Bonham, Mrs. Adolph Jacobs, Miss Adele Platt. All present were pleased by Mrs. Firnberg's hospitality. The Lingerie will next be entertained by Mrs. Mason Mc-

COMMITTEE ON STREETS.

A citizen suggests that the committee on streets to be appointed by the town and discover new streets should be conferred with property owners of the various localities, and periodic reports to the public is invited to attend.

This citizen says that several neighborhoods have been neglected in that respect, and the new streets are opened, and will be the cost.

PROTESTANT CHURCH SERVICES.

R. W. Vaughn of Ruston, field agent for the Methodist church, will preach at the Protestant church in Opelousas tomorrow at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The public is invited to attend. Rev. Turner will hold service at Port Barre at 3 p. m. tomorrow.

TWO TEACHERS NEEDED.

Two teachers are needed for the places for teachers in the Empire parish of St. Landry. Supt. Thompson said Wednesday that he expected to fill the places within a few days.

ALL THINGS NOW READY.

Opelousas' New Hotel Will Be in Use Before Long.

The board of directors of the new Lacombe hotel met Monday afternoon to secure the funds that are needed to complete and furnish the handsome new building that will be such an addition to the commercial importance of the city of Opelousas. It is estimated that it will take about \$6,000 to complete the house ready for occupancy. The question of this additional issuance of bonds, as well as the issue of \$40,000, will be formally ratified at a meeting of the stockholders of the Opelousas Development and Improvement Co., Ltd., called for the office of Littell & Lawler on the 22d of March.

A gentleman, one of the officials of the company, said to a Courier representative a day or two ago that things were now in shape to rush the finishing touches.

NEW CIVIL SUITS FILED.

No. 18604—Selz, Schwab & Co. vs. Stanislas Wyble.
No. 18605—Joseph M. Boagni vs. Alfred J. Dupre.
No. 18606—Opelousas Development and Improvement Co., Ltd. vs. John Adam Budd.
No. 18607—Opelousas Development and Improve Co., Ltd., vs. Edward T. Lewis.
No. 18608—Lewis C. Black vs. Joseph G. Landreseau, fils.
No. 18609—American Machinery and Construction Co. vs. Sunset Cotton Oil Co., Ltd.

No. 18610—Augusta Sugar Co., Ltd., vs. Hamilton Lesseps et al.
No. 18611—Dr. Armand Lafleur vs. Mamie Fontenot, wife.
No. 18612—Wm. Cha. Perreault vs. Raoul J. Richard.
No. 18613—H. & C. Newman Otd., vs. Geo. L. Roger, individually and as administrator, etc.
No. 18614—H. & C. Newman Otd., vs. Geo. L. Roger, individually and as administrator, etc.
No. 18615—H. & C. Newman, Ltd., vs. Geo. L. Roger.
No. 18616—Estroge Drug Co. vs. Edgar J. Toups.
No. 18617—St. Landry State Bank vs. S. H. Nigh, absentee, R. Sandoz, curator ad hoc.
No. 18618—Asa Herbert Shreve Co. vs. Stanislas Wyble.

Suit No. 18610 is a most important one, involving the control of the Augusta sugar refinery, located at Barbreck. Mr. Lesseps, the defendant in the suit, according to the declaration of the plaintiffs, has been acting as secretary of the company against the wishes of the stockholders, as expressed at a meeting held on the 1st of February, and it is to dethrone Mr. Lesseps that the suit is brought.

SPECIAL THROUGH COACHES.

The O., G. & N. E. will run a special coach over its line from Crowley to Melville, and then over the Texas & Pacific to New Orleans, without change, on Sunday and Monday, to accommodate the carnival traffic. The road gives its patrons from Opelousas the option of a ticket good for return until March 1st at \$4.80, or good for return until March 15th, for \$5.80. Carnival travel is unusually heavy this year, and the Oh Gee is prepared to give its patrons service equal to the best.

A LIVELY ELECTION CONTEST.

Jennings will have rival candidates for city officials. One ticket, known at the "Citizens' Ticket," is headed by Geo. Hathaway, with the following for aldermen: Brown Funk, H. H. Hoag, B. A. Richhart, D. C. Ritchie and S. A. Sutter. Judson Harris is the candidate for marshal on this ticket. The other ticket is known as the "Independent Ticket," and its candidates are V. M. Twitchell for mayor, Ursin Daigle, D. C. Ritchie, C. H. Durha, J. C. Lang and Brown Funk for aldermen. Dave Mahaffy is this ticket's candidate for marshal.

If the weather permits, the first service will be held in the new Catholic church on Palm Sunday, according to Rev. Father Engberink's statement. The dedication service will be between Easter Sunday and the first of May.

ANTI-PARISH DIVISION

Gets an Inning at Court House Monday Night---Much Enthusiasm.

The anti-parish division meeting at the court house Monday night was not largely attended, the unusually severe weather keeping many at home who otherwise would have been present. However, enthusiasm was not lacking and the several speakers were roundly applauded as they landed telling blows upon the divisionists.

Perrodin's band was present, rendering several selections in the court house lobby and between the speeches in the court room.

Several ladies graced the occasion with their presence and entered heartily into the spirit that prevailed.

Judge Gilbert L. Dupre chairman of the campaign committee of fifteen presided at the meeting also making the first speech. The chairman paid his respects to Editor Bailey and the Evangeline Banner and the respects were not very flattering. The Banner had something to say about the judge in its last issue and it was this that brought forth the scathing.

During his address the judge pleaded for the unity of the people of Opelousas. He said just a little unity had landed H. E. Estorge on the board of equalization, had put L. J. Dossmann at the head of the oyster commission and had elected J. J. Bailey lieutenant-governor though he had not been able to enter upon the duties of that office. He emphasized the fact that a little more of the same kind of unity would settle beyond recall this question of parish division. The judge said the burden of division would fall upon the farming class and that he wanted the farmers to succeed because upon them rested the success of all business men and enterprises. Railroads now reach every section of St. Landry and there was no reason in putting forth the argument of distance any longer.

Lower Mamou, Eunice and Faquetique were hanging in the balance, said the speaker who quoted Dr. Chachere of Basile as saying that with the railroads at their doors the people of his section would much rather go to Opelousas than to Ville Platte or Mamou.

The speaker showed a map marking the division line and quoted R. L. Garland, one of the divisionists, as saying that the proposed line was infamous, and that because of it Plaquemine Point and Mallet would cast a solid vote against division. In closing the speaker said that the people of Pine Prairie were being deluded into thinking they had a chance at the parish seat and that some of the people of that section were going about with maps in their pockets showing that Pine Prairie was the geographical center of the proposed parish of Evangeline.

This was being given to the sixth ward voters as a sop to secure their votes in the election and for that purpose only. The speaker said as a last word that Opelousas never has gotten the officials of St. Landry parish. They have invariably come from the country sections of the parish therefore Opelousas could not be accused of a desire to retain the hold upon the offices.

W. J. Sandoz was the next speaker. In a brief pithy talk he gave the following reasons why

he was opposed to the dismemberment of the parish: 1st—That the majority of the people in the proposed new parish objected to its formation; 2d—That it would increase taxation to all in both the old and new parishes; 3d—That it would destroy the sovereignty of the empire parish of St. Landry and create two pigmy parishes of no importance; 4th—That the plan was objectionable from a patriotic standpoint. No Texan wants to divide Texas and no citizen of the United States wants to divide that glorious country, either should a citizen of St. Landry think for a moment of slicing off a portion of that parish; 5th—That it would destroy not only the political importance of St. Landry, but would also affect its prestige as one of the most populous and important parishes of the whole state. Mr. Sandoz's address was well received and full of argument.

Sheriff Swords was the next speaker, and he entered upon his subject with his usual vim, and soon had his audience applauding nearly every statement. The sheriff handled the subject without gloves, and piled up arguments after argument, giving facts and figures, some of which are given elsewhere in this issue. He howed where the payment of poll taxes had been neglected, having the information regarding the several wards at his tongue's end. He stated it as a fact that the people of Evangeline would vote against the new parish, just as sure as the election day came around. He had a few words to say about those that favored division because of the prospects of political offices and told of Paulin Fontenot's vote against the railroad assessment act that causes the parish to lose \$10,000 per year. He discussed the parish seat matter, saying Ville Platte could not get it and Pine Erarie could not get it, all because they could get enough votes. He said the registrar was not doing his full duty in the present registration, and proved his statement. As a parting shot, he said that Opelousas should get awake, shake off its lethargy and do its best.

Hon. Thos. H. Lewis, Sr., was the last speaker. He said the battle was not yet fought or the victory won. These were yet in the future, and that the people should not be deceived by false hopes or a feeling of the safety of their question to an extent of failure to do what they could to stifle the movement for division. The taxpayers of the mother parish are the smaller ones, while those of the proposed parish are the larger ones, the holders of large tracts of timber. Consequently, the blow would be a very serious one to the smaller taxpayers. Mr. Lewis said victory could be won, that the voters of both the old and the proposed new parish were open to conviction, persuasion and reason, that the damage to Opelousas resulting from the formation of a new parish would be incurable, and that disloyalty to his mind, savored of treason. This speech was one of the best of the meeting, though coming at the last when the audience was getting tired and restless, received splendid attention.

PRIMARY AT WASHINGTON.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The municipal primary passed off yesterday without an incident. The contest was warm for the mayoralty; the issue was morality, resulting in a moral victory. The ticket nominated is as follows: For mayor G. H. Hanley; for marshal, Chas. Gibson; for aldermen, Webb Quirk, Oscar Melancon, Wm. Elton, F. T. Boudreau and Thos. M. Caffrey.

A SLIGHT BLAZE.

A good deal of excitement was created here last Monday morning about 10:30 o'clock by a slight fire at the candy stand of A. D. Theodore. The fire was caused from a defective flue. The building was not damaged very much, but the loss of Mr. Theodore's, consisting of candies, extracts, show-cases, etc., was considerable. Neither party, the owner of the building nor Mr. Theodore, carried insurance.

HUNTING A MAN.

J. J. Bailey is not Chasing the Political Rainbow Just Now.

The Daily Signal of Tuesday is authority for the following conversation:

"Are you going to run for Mr. Pujo's seat?" Jim Bailey was asked as he stepped off the Oh Gee train Monday night.

"I suppose you mean I am going to run for Mr. Pujo's seat in the event he is elevated to the federal bench," was the reply.

"In the first place, Mr. Pujo has not been named by the president to succeed Judge Boardman, and in the next place I am so busy trying to find an experienced rice farmer to take charge of my plantation on the Mississippi that I have little time to waste on other matters.

"I see Crowley is growing as usual," added the Opelousas man, smiling the smile he wears when the inquisitive sovereign gets to inquiring as to his "platform." Mr. Bailey is here on private business, and will remain a couple of days.

LAID TO REST.

B. A. Guidry Followed to His Grave by Many Sorrowing Friends.

Benjamin A. Guidry, familiarly known as "Coon" Guidry, died Friday night at 9:10 o'clock, at the residence of his brother, I. R. Guidry, in Opelousas. The funeral services were held at his late home and the public cemetery, Rev. W. R. Brown, pastor of the Baptist church, officiating.

Mr. Guidry was one of the leading Masons and Redmen of this parish, and was buried with Masonic honors. The pallbearers were Messrs. T. H. McKinney, G. T. Edwards, J. E. Allen, James Sanders, G. E. Harrison and I. L. Holland.

Mr. Guidry was born at Plaquemine Ridge, but moved from that place when quite a boy to Opelousas, where he had lived ever since. The deceased leaves three brothers and one sister—I. R. Guidry, Treville Guidry, Frank Guidry and Mrs. Theogene Chachere. He was a man with many friends.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL.

Louisianians Will Travel to Washington on Special Train.

A special train carrying the governor and staff to the presidential inauguration at Washington, D. C., will leave New Orleans about nine o'clock on the evening of March 1st, via the Louisville & Nashville route, and returning, will arrive in New Orleans about the morning of March 8th.

The round trip fare, including ticket, sleeper and lodging on sleepers while in Washington, will be about \$33.60 for each passenger. This does not, of course, include meals.

A cordial invitation is extended to any of the governor's friends who may care to go with him, and the ladies especially are invited. A number have already consented to go.

SAW MILL FOR EUNICE.

Eunice, Feb. 15.—The Newell Lumber Company, Ltd., held its annual election last week, the following board of directors being chosen: C. H. Newell, C. H. Washburn, George R. Bruner, C. W. Niebuss and R. Lee Bass. The company hopes to build a mill at Eunice soon with a capacity of 65,000 feet daily. They now have timber sufficient to run such a mill for six or eight years, near Eunice, and are about closing a contract for another large tract of timber in the vicinity.

GOES TO CHICAGO MEETING.

Paish Supt. of Education C. J. Thompson left yesterday morning for New Orleans, where he will join other parish superintendents of the southern portion of the state and journey to Chicago, where they will attend the sessions of the department of superintendents of the National Educational association, which convenes in the city by the lake next Tuesday. The sessions continue for three days, though Mr. Thompson will be absent for about ten days.

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER LEAVES.

Her Leaving the Climax of a Series of Events During Week.

The whole of the Opelousas high school and a goodly portion of the citizens of the city have been wrought up over an event, or rather a series of events, that have taken place at the school during the past week, commencing last Thursday.

The outcome of the matter is that Miss Kate E. Perkins is not one of the teaching faculty, and her scholars are having an enforced vacation, a substitute teacher not having been found as yet. Supt. Thompson, however, is now in New Orleans, and expects to locate a teacher within a few days; then young America must come back to school and get busy with their books again.

Miss Perkins' punishment of one of her pupils caused the trouble to start, and her refusal to abate the punishment caused her dismissal as teacher. Supt. Thompson, in discussing the matter Wednesday, said that the whole question was one of discipline, and that he did not know of the trouble until it had reached what he termed a beligerent stage. At that time the only thing he could do was to try to get Miss Perkins to abate the punishment inflicted. This Miss Perkins refused to do, and she was asked to vacate her position.

Public sympathy is very largely with Miss Perkins, who is conceded by Supt. Thompson to be a splendid teacher, but a pretty strict disciplinarian. Her ability as a teacher has not for a moment been in question.

When asked for a statement for publication, Miss Perkins declined to give one at this stage of the matter. There is some talk of a suit on the part of Miss Perkins for salary. This is not stated for a fact, and may be only street talk.

One thing is certain, and that is that the incident has not had a good effect upon the school, and is to be deplored in every way.

Miss Perkins' home is in Delta, La. She will go home immediately, but will visit friends in Opelousas for several days.

LAFOLETTE WINS.

Holds Up Appropriation Bill in U. S. Senate---Resists Autocracy.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 18.—There was an interesting episode in the senate last Friday, when LaFollette of Wisconsin standing alone held up the United States senate and prevented the consideration of the naval appropriation bill, forcing an adjournment until Monday, involving a loss of two days' time notwithstanding the fact that but fifteen legislative days of the short session remain. He and Senator Hale of Maine had a tilt, in which LaFollette proved himself a more than equal debater and a master of sarcasm. It is well understood that Mr. LaFollette and a number of senators younger in service, if not in years, are determined to resist the autocracy of Aldrich, Hale and Gallinger, which has long ruled the senate. In the debate, Mr. LaFollette said:

"I have had the hardihood not only to doubt the divine perfection of the present arrangement, but to almost believe the business of the senate could be distributed among its ninety-two members, instead of being taken care of by less than one-third of this body."

SKATING AT THE FRISCO.

Mr. Smith, agent of the Frisco lines, is entertained on moonlight evenings by a number of young folks, who enjoy skating on the paved walks around the depot. On some evenings there are many as twenty.