The Donaldsonville Chief

VON LOTTEN and G. D. BENTLEY
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1914.

LEVEE BOARD MEETING.

J. F. Wigginton Elected President and Hector Himel Secretary of Lafourche District Organization—Postponed Quarterly Session.

A postponed regular quarterly meeting of the Lafourche Basin Levee Board was held here last Saturday, with the following commissioners present: J. F. Wigginton, Lafourche; Robert C. Martin, Jr., Assumption; F. B. Lemann, Ascension; Clerville Himel, St. James; A. Champaigne, St. John; George Lorio, St. Charles; Charles Viering, Jefferson; R. Perez, Plaquemines. Secretary W. J. McCune, Levee Inspector Hector Himel, and Assistant State Engineer John Klorer were also in attendance. Commissioner T. V. Thaggard of McDonoughville, representing the railroads, was the only absentee.

On motion of Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Viering and unanimously adopted, Commissioner J. F. Wigginton was elected president of the board to succeed E. G. Swartz, who tendered his resignation several months ago. Mr. Wigginton appointed Clerville Himel as chairman of the finance committee to fill the vacancy caused by his elevation to the office of president.

W. J. McCune, who has served as secretary of the board for the last eighteen years, tendered his resignation to take effect April 1, 1914, and it was accepted. Mr. Viering nominated Joseph A. Bourgeois, of Gretna, to succeed Mr. McCune, and Mr. Martin placed in nomination Hector A. Himel, of St. James, at present employed by the board as inspector of levees.

Mr. Perez objected to the removal of the inspector, who is so fully qualified to fill the position, and his advancement to the office of secretary. Mr. Lorio, on the other hand, was of the opinion that each member of the board should attend to the levees in his section of the district, and when the occasion arises, should employ the necessary inspectors to look after the care and safety of the embankments in his jurisdiction and make regular reports of their condition to the president. This plan, he considered, is far better and will yield more satisfactory results than the present method of having one inspector to cover the entire territory.

Roll-call resulted in the election of Mr. Himel as secretary of the board by a vote of six to two, as follows: For Himel—Wigginton, Martin, Lemann, Himel, Champaigne, Lorio. For Bourgeois—Viering, Perez. Mr. Himel will assume the duties of the position April 1, 1914, upon the retirement of Secretary McCune.

The same assessment as levied in 1913 was adopted for the current year.

There being no funds now at the disposal of the board, the president was authorized to make the necessary arrangements with banks, bankers or money lenders to borrow a sum not exceeding $150,000, at 6 per cent interest, which loan will be repaid out of the revenues of 1914.

A report was received from Frank T. Payne, civil engineer and United States deputy surveyor, submitting a plat of township 18, south, range 25 east, southeast district of Louisiana, west of river, comprising the boundary line dividing the property of the Lafourche Basin Levee District from that of the Buras Levee District, which shows 7805.33 acres of land due the Lafourche district. The cost of making the survey and determining the acreage amounts to 8 cents per acre, or $624.42. Hon. Fred. Grace, register of the state land office, who was present, stated that he stands ready to deliver the patents to this acreage upon application of the president of the Lafourche board.

Engineer Klorer presented his report, which among other things showed that the levee machine "Lafourche" has been engaged since Nov. 27 in enlarging the Nine-mile Point levee. During the month of December this machine placed 34,480 cubic yards of completed embankment, and while the exact cost can not be stated at this time, it will fall well below 10 cents per cubic yard, whereas similar work done by contract on an adjacent levee is costing the board 24 cents per cubic yard. Of the state work, the levee now in course of construction in front of the Bayou Lafourche dam at Donaldsonville is fifty per cent completed, leaving about 25,000 cubic yards of earth yet to be placed.

The report submitted to the state supervisor of public accounts for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1913, was read and approved, as follows:

Receipts—Levee tax, $7730.27; acreage tax, $319.29; refund on lumber, $1216.56; refund on warrant, $20; miscellaneous, $47.41; overdraft, $139,988.46. total, $149,321.99.

Disbursements—Overdraft at beginning of quarter, $106,188.74; permanent work, $13,628.47; levee maintainance, $6678.26; salary of secretary, $450; commissioners' expenses, $231.01; commissioners' per diem, $700; printing and advertising, $56.95; office expenses and rent, $262; assessors' commissions, $1441.01; interest account, $12,025; levee machine "Lafourche," $5127.30; making soundings, $300; inspection trip, $84.45; interest on warrants, $148.80; special fund, $2000. Total, $149,321.99.

The twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Hohensee, of Port Barrow, were christened at the Methodist church last Sunday forenoon during Sunday School, the interesting ceremony being performed by Rev. T. D. Lipscomb. Josephine Marie and Louise Eleonore were the names bestowed upon the little girls, sponsors being Alex. Hohensee, Josephine Gagliano, and Marian and Ella Richard.

PUSHING THE LOCKS CAMPAIGN

The campaign for the substitution of locks for the dam in that now shuts off the connection between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi river is on in earnest, and it is to be hoped there will be no let-up in its prosecution until the too-long-deferred object has been accomplished.

An important public meeting having a direct bearing upon the question was held yesterday in Morgan City. The primary purpose of this gathering was to arouse interest in the water route from Morgan City to Donaldsonville by way of Lake Long, Lake Verret, Cancienne Canal and Bayou Lafourche, and strong resolutions were adopted favoring the removal of the dam and construction of locks to take its place, since the utility and value of the route would depend almost wholly upon the establishment of navigable connection with the Mississippi river.

Delegations of prominent citizens from Ascension and Assumption attended the meeting and took a leading part in promoting its success. This was eminently appropriate and proper, inasmuch as these two parishes have a great interest in the construction of the locks and the recognition of the proposed water route as a section of the great intercoastal canal which is to extend from the Rio Grande to the Mississippi.

The Morgan City Chamber of Commerce, under whose auspices yesterday's meeting was called and held, has exhibited commendable foresight and public spirit in getting behind this movement, and the action taken ought to exercise a beneficial influence in behalf of the bill which Representative Morgan of this district will endeavor to have passed at the present session of congress looking to the immediate restoration of the navigation of Bayou Lafourche by the building of locks at Donaldsonville.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

The Chief is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents.

The Miles Planting Company.

Burnside, La., Jan. 15, 1914.

Editor Chief:

The Donaldsonville Democrat, in one of its recent issues, printed an article which was reproduced in the Times-Democrat of the 7th inst., captioned "Have Corporations Souls?" wherein the writer undertook gratuitously and without warrant to speak in behalf of the employees of the Miles Planting Company, and in their name and behalf attempted to censure and condemn this company for the "course" it has seen proper to pursue in the management of its own private affairs.

As one of the numerous employees of the Miles Planting and Manufacturing Company for the past forty-two years, I feel in justice to the company and its "employees" that something should be said in reply to the article in question

It is a well-known fact that the Miles Company, and also the individual members thereof, have at all times and under most adverse circumstances manifested the greatest solicitude for the welfare and well-being and happiness of all its employees, from the highest to the lowest. This is so well known that it is not a subject for discussion. It is one of the planting interests in this state that never, whatever the conditions might have been, reduced or curtailed the salaries of its employees, nor the privileges enjoyed by them.

Speaking from personal knowledge, this company has made no money since the years 1904 to 1908, inclusive. It has lost heavily, caused by various agencies, and not entirely by the reduction of the tariff on sugar.

In 1909 the result of the storm of that year brought and entailed considerable losses. The freeze of 1911 was so calamitous the losses were computed in the hundreds of thousands of dollars; and again, the flood of 1912 left behind another fearful hole in the resources of the company.

On account of the uncertainty of the future of sugar, coupled with the fact that the sugar trust brought on a crisis in Louisiana two years before sugar is to go on the free list, by fixing the price of sugar on a free list basis, entailing heavy losses for the year 1913, are the reasons of the cessation of the operation of the company.

The filing of the numerous suits by the sugar planters against the sugar trust, asking for the differences between the real value of the product sold to the trust and the sum they were forced to accept, and those above enumerated, are the main causes of the deplorable financial condition of this most worthy concern.

With regard to the reputed wealth of the individual stockholders of the company, this is a mere assumption of the writer of the article, and is not worthy of attention.

In conclusion, I would state that of the many employees of this company there is not a single one, man, woman, or child, who does not feel keenly the losses sustained by the Miles Planting and Manufacturing Company, and who does not know too well what it has done in the past for them, and that if it were possible for it to continue its operations, it would gladly do so for its own profit and for the good, happiness and welfare of its most faithful and appreciative employees.

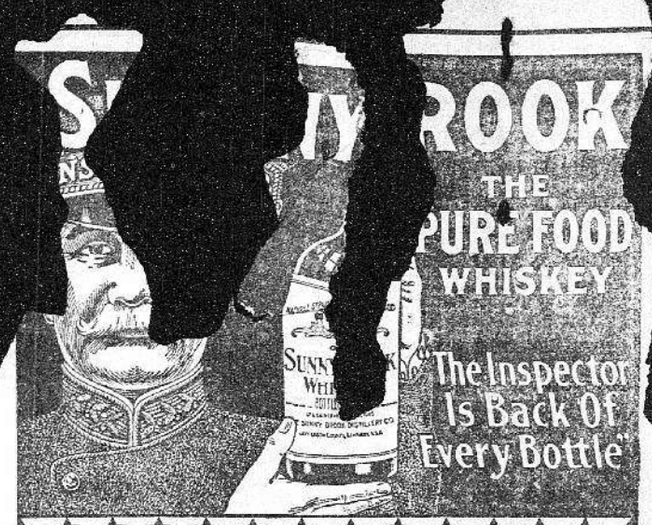
The company always did all in its power to maintain the good will of every one of them, and every one of them knows that if it were within the power of the company, it would be glad to retain them in its employ.

HENRY C. BRAUD.

Every public-spirited citizen of Donaldsonville and vicinity should attend the meeting of the joint organization of the Atchafalaya and Lafourche Levee Boards to be held in this city at 11 o'clock next Monday forenoon, when some action will doubtless be taken with reference to the construction of locks in Bayou Lafourche. Be on hand and show that you are a booster for this important project.

Morgan is a popular name just now. Congressman Morgan is working to get the Donaldsonville locks built, and a Morgan City meeting gives the project a boost.

Vox populi demands that Bayou Lafourche be restored to a navigable stream.



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LOCK BOOSTERS RALLY.

Meeting Held at Morgan City in Interest of Project to Reopen Bayou Lafourche—Advantages of Donaldsonville Route Shown.

By R. S. Vickers.

In order to bring about concerted action on the part of all interested in restoring communication between the Mississippi river and Bayou Lafourche, and showing the advantages of the Donaldsonville route as part of the great Intercoastal Canal connecting the Rio Grande and Mississippi rivers, the Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce arranged a trip that would include representative citizens from the parishes of Ascension, Lafourche and Assumption, to start from Donaldsonville and go over the continuous waterway to Morgan City, there to join other representatives of the parish of St. Mary.

Early Thursday morning the Donaldsonville delegation, composed of Mayor Walter Lemann, Hon. R. N. Sims, Hon. Chas. Maurin, Messrs. J. Rumsey Duke, B. J. Vega, Louis Boston, Lawrence Montero, Edmond Richard, Capt. Al. Whiteman and R. S. Vickers, embarked in launches from the head of Bayou Lafourche, and after being joined at the entrance of Cancienne Canal by the other delegations, arrived at Flat Lake, where they were met by about 50 prominent citizens of Morgan City, who had chartered a steamboat to come out and welcome them. Attached to the side of the launch bearing the Donaldsonville delegation was a large steamer, displaying the slogan, "The locks must be built."

Refreshments provided aboard the vessel were partaken of while the remaining distance of five miles to Morgan City was being traversed. In that prosperous and progressive little city a royal reception attended the arrival of the delegations. After being hospitably entertained at the Elks' home, a meeting was held over which Mayor Shannon of Morgan City presided and R. S. Vickers of Donaldsonville acted as secretary. On motion of Capt. John Drackett of Morgan City, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"We, the accredited representatives of the parishes of St. Mary, Assumption, Lafourche and Ascension, in mass meeting assembled in Morgan City this 15th day of January, 1914, recognizing the vital importance of opening up communication between Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi river, and the advantage of this as a part of the Intercoastal Canal route connecting the Rio Grande and Mississippi rivers, do hereby resolve:

"That the joint organization of the Atchafalaya and Lafourche Levee Boards be urged to carry out their clear legal and moral obligations to replace the dam at the head of Bayou Lafourche with a lock, and that appropriation of sufficient funds to commence this work without delay be made at the next meeting of the joint board to be held in Donaldsonville, on January 19; and further, that our representatives and senators in congress be called upon to ask the federal government for an additional appropriation to complete this great undertaking."

After some informal discussion a further set of resolutions, offered by Hon. Walter Lemann, were also unanimously adopted, as follows:

"We, the accredited representatives of the parishes of Assumption, Lafourche, Ascension and St. Mary, in mass meeting assembled in Morgan City on this, the 15th day of January, 1914, do hereby resolve as follows:

"Whereas, the federal government through the War Department, in the year 1902, granted permission to the Atchafalaya-Lafourche Levee Boards to place a temporary dam at the head of Bayou Lafourche, with the definite and distinct understanding that the said dam would be replaced by locks, the construction of which would begin in a period of two years and,

"Whereas, ten years have elapsed since said dam was placed at the head of Bayou Lafourche, and

"Whereas, no steps have been taken towards the construction of locks, therefore be it resolved, upon the Department of the Interior to have the steps taken to construct a lock in Bayou Lafourche at the head of Bayou Lafourche, Mississippi river, and

"Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Hon. Thomas R. Ransdell, Hon. Robert Broussard, Hon. Thomas S. Ward, Secretary of the War Department, and Hon. Lindley M. Garrison, Secretary of the Interior, and

"Be it further resolved that we, the representatives of the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Lafourche and St. Mary, in mass meeting assembled, do hereby pledge our support to the Atchafalaya and Lafourche Levee Boards in the carrying out of the above resolutions."

The meeting send strong delegations to Donaldsonville to appear before the meeting of the joint organization of the Atchafalaya and Lafourche Levee Boards, on Monday, Jan. 19, to present the resolutions passed and to urge immediate action on the part of the levee boards. In favoring this suggestion, Capt. Drackett spoke in glowing terms of the hospitality and many attractive features of Donaldsonville, and of the cordial reception given him on his recent visit to this city. To this Hon. R. N. Sims responded in eloquent words, extending a warm and gracious invitation to all the delegates who should honor the "Lock City" by their presence. A motion was offered and unanimously adopted that all four parishes represented send strong delegations to Donaldsonville on the day mentioned.

The meeting then adjourned sine die, after which, in automobiles provided by the citizens of Morgan City, the visiting delegates were shown over the beautiful little "Island City."

The return trip was then made, the delegations reaching home the same evening, happy from the consciousness of having succeeded even beyond their expectations in uniting and crystalizing the sentiment of this section in favor of replacing without further delay the dam at Donaldsonville with a lock. It was a day pleasantly and profitably spent, and one that will doubtless be productive of vast benefit to this city and section.

Since it has been reported here that Miss Vernon Buquoi, of Donaldsonville, (the first Creole girl to ascend in an aeroplane), decided to kiss the aviator, after she had descended with him from a height of 1500 feet, it is said a number of young men stand willing to take girls sailing in the air. If they should accidentally kill the girls there'll be no kissing coming, but there's nothing like taking a chance.—Thibodaux Comet.

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SYSTEMATIC PLAN

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THE PEOPLES BANK
DONALDSONVILLE, LA.

Church of the Ascension.

Rev. R. H. Prosser left for Pointe Coupee today to officiate at a funeral and will return on the 8:25 o'clock T. and P. train tomorrow forenoon, hence the early morning services at the Church of the Ascension will be pretermitted. Sunday School will be convened at 9:45 a. m., as usual, and regular services will be held at 11 a. m. In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, Rev. Prosser will conduct services in the union chapel at Burnside.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

State of Louisiana—Parish of Ascension—Twenty-Seventh Judicial District Court.

Paul Fontana
Vs. No. 2148
Andrew Foret

BY VIRTUE OF and in obedience to an order of seizure and sale, issued by the above named court in the above entitled and numbered cause, and to me directed, I have seized and taken into my possession, and will offer for sale at public auction to the last and highest bidder, according to law, at the principal front door of the courthouse of the parish of Ascension, in the town of Donaldsonville, on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1914,

at 11 o'clock a. m., the following described property, to-wit:

A certain lot of ground, with all buildings and improvements thereon, and all rights, ways and privileges thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, situated in the third ward of the city of Donaldsonville, parish of Ascension, state of Louisiana, in the square bounded by Williams or St. Michael street, St. Vincent street, St. Elizabeth or Division street, and St. Patrick street, designated on the plan drawn by P. A. D'Hemicourt, surveyor, under date of December 29, 1891, as lot No. 9, according to which said plan said lot measures as follows: Sixty-two and two-tenths feet front on St. Vincent street, by a depth of one hundred and ninety-eight and four-tenths feet, between parallel lines, and bounded as follows: On the north side by lot No. 8, on the south side by lot No.—, and in the rear by the Protestant Cemetery. Being the same property acquired by the said Andrew Leonie Foret, by inheritance, from the late Fanny Harris, as per judgment of the Honorable the Twenty-Seventh Judicial District Court, dated and signed on the 6th day of January, 1913, in the matter of the Succession of Fanny Harris, No. 733 of the docket of said court, putting the said Andrew Leonie Foret in possession of said property.

Terms and conditions—Cash in United States currency.

E. C. HANSON,
Sheriff, Parish of Ascension.
Donaldsonville, La., Jan. 17, 1914.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

State of [illegible]a—Parish of A[illegible]
sion—[illegible] Seventh [illegible]
[illegible]t Court.

Anais [illegible]dow E. [illegible]
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Are the kind with which to do successful cooking. The housewife calls it "bad luck" when things are not up to standard, although she has done all in her power to make it just right. This "bad luck" may mean poor material and not a poor cook. Much depends upon the grocer. If you want uniform GOOD SUCCESS IN COOKING buy dependable groceries from

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parish of Ascension, in the town of Donaldsonville, on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1914,

at 11 o'clock a. m., the following described property, to-wit:

A certain sugar plantation, situated in [illegible] parish of Ascension, in this [illegible] on the right bank of the Mis[illegible]pi river, at about one league [illegible]e the town of Donaldsonville, and [illegible]posed of the following tracts of [illegible]d, to-wit:

[illegible]irst. A certain tract of land [illegible]asuring five arpents and twenty-[illegible]e toises front on said Mississippi [illegible]ver, more or less, and eighty ar[illegible]ents in depth, bounded above by [illegible]nds formerly belonging to Trasi[illegible]ond Landry, now to the Miles Plant[illegible]g and Manufacturing Co., and below [illegible]y the tract of land hereinafter de[illegible]cribed.

Second. A certain tract of land [illegible]bout one league above the en[illegible] Bayou Lafou[illegible]asur[illegible]pents and [illegible]ise[illegible] or less, by sixty-seven arpents in depth (including the first and second concession). The lines opening so as to give to the said tract six hundred and eighteen superficial ar[illegible]pents, bounded above by the tract of land above described, and below by lands of McCall Bros., and

Third. A certain tract of land d[illegible]scribed as the north half of secti[illegible] seven, fourteen east, containing [illegible] hundred and eighty-three and 33 [illegible] (283.33) acres.

Together with all the rights, w[illegible] servitudes, privileges and advanta[illegible] belonging to said plantation, and [illegible] the buildings and improvements [illegible] on and appurtenances there[illegible] gether with the mules, stock[illegible]ing implements and utensils [illegible] to and forming part of said [illegible]tion.

Terms and conditi[illegible] United States currenc[illegible]

E. C[illegible]
Sheriff, Parish [illegible]
D[illegible]ville, La.