

The Donaldsonville Chief
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Publishers and Proprietors
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A contemporary comments upon the unusual mortality among wealthy men during the past year. And we're not feeling so very well ourselves.

Gifford Pinchot swears by the great horn spoon there will be no compromise between the Progressives and the Republicans—that the bull moose and the elephant can never graze the political pastures in amity. Wherefore the Democratic donkey brayeth joyously.

The supreme court of the United States has refused to review the cases of the twenty-three members of the national iron-workers organization who were convicted at Indianapolis of complicity in dynamiting outrages and condemned to various terms of imprisonment in the penitentiary.

News comes from the interior of darkest South America that the Roosevelt hunting party lost all their outfit by the capsizing of a boat in the rapids of a Brazilian river. Fortunately the intrepid colonel and all his companions are safe, and it may turn out that he purposely rocked the boat to get a new experience with which to thrill the civilized world at the regular rate of a dollar a word.

Gov. Colquitt of Texas has offered a reward of \$1000 for the return to that state of the five Mexicans suspected of the murder of Clemente Vergara, the American citizen whose body was recently exhumed in Mexico and spirited back across the border. It is said that officials of the state and war departments at Washington are apprehensive that Gov. Colquitt's offer may lead to the kidnaping of Mexicans and thus give rise to embarrassing complications.

The Caldwell Watchman is strutting around and putting on insufferable airs because it has been awarded \$5000 damages. "Not many newspapers can boast of having so much money," says the editor of the Watchman, evidently with the covert purpose of creating the impression that he is one of the favored few who can make such a boast. Just wait till that plaintiff gets judgment—if he ever does, which we doubt—and then tries to collect it!

The St. Tammany Farmer issued an interesting "rally edition" of sixteen pages on March 21 to commemorate the successful rally of the public school children of St. Tammany parish held in Covington. The showing of reading matter, illustrations and advertisements was very creditable, and it was to be regretted that an accident to the Farmer's press prevented some of the pages from presenting the neat typographical appearance their artistic make-up deserved.

District Judge Brunot of Baton Rouge refused the mandamus asked for by former State Bank Examiner Young to prevent the latter's removal from office by Governor Hall. Judge Brunot decided that mandamus would not lie against the governor in such a case, and Mr. Young will start a new proceeding in which the state auditor and state treasurer will be mandated to show cause why they should not issue and pay salary warrants to the deposed examiner.

Teachers' Examinations. The next regular examination of white applicants for certificates of qualification to teach in the public schools of Ascension parish will be held in the office of the superintendent on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 20, 21 and 22, beginning at 10 a. m. each day. All teachers holding second and third-grade certificates that are about to expire, as well as prospective teachers, are required to stand this examination.

Colored applicants for certificates will be examined Thursday and Friday, April 23 and 24. J. L. RUSCA, Supt.
Editor Whidden in New Field. The many friends here of Alfred G. Whidden, who was connected with this paper some years ago, will be interested in the following clipping from the Pine Bluff (Ark.) Morning Graphic of March 22:

"A. G. Whidden, former editor of the 'Texarkanian,' while that paper was owned by the Vallante and up to the time it was sold by them, will arrive in the city tonight, to accept the position of editor of the Graphic, succeeding Victor B. Stewart, who will leave in a few days for Toledo, Ohio. Since leaving Texarkana, Mr. Whidden has been connected with the Beaumont Enterprise, at Beaumont, Texas. He comes to this paper with strong recommendations as a live news man and editorial writer."

Fighting Begun at Tampico. The Mexican rebels have begun operations looking to the capture of the city of Tampico and expect to repeat their proclaimed success at Torreon. There is a strong Federal garrison at Tampico, backed up by two war vessels, and the struggle for possession of the important city promises to be as bloody and hotly contested as that at Torreon. Notwithstanding the circumstantial accounts that have been printed of the victory of Gen. Villa at the latter place, the Huerta government persists in denying that the city was taken or the Federalists defeated in the battle. It is claimed that Gen. Velasco really outwitted and outfought his doughty opponent and that a strong Federal army is being concentrated at and near Torreon for the purpose of crushing the Constitutionalists under Villa.

THE DAM MUST COME OUT. It is not surprising that the chief of the United States army engineers takes the position that unless congress provides at this session for the construction of a lock at the head of Bayou Lafourche, or authorizes the continuance of the dam that now interrupts the navigable connection between the bayou and the Mississippi river, the engineering department of the government will deem it a duty to take action looking to the removal of the dam in the interest of navigation.

Army officers are trained to enforce the law and obey orders. Dilly-dallying and evasion of duty have no part in their rule of conduct. Chief Engineer Kingman, in the letter to Secretary R. S. Vickers of the Bayou Lafourche Lock Association published in last week's Chief, sets forth the situation regarding the lock-and-dam proposition in the following clear and concise terms:

"The act of congress authorizing the construction of this lock and the maintenance of the temporary dam, provided that this work must be done prior to January 1, 1910. The joint levee boards failed to construct the lock within the specified time, and the department has refrained from taking action to have the dam removed because it has been believed that all interests could best be served by leaving the dam to remain until such time as the navigation interests could make its removal imperative."

"The river and harbors act of March 4, 1913, calls for an examination and survey of Bayou Lafourche with a view of its further improvement. As a result of this survey the War Department now believes the navigation interests are such that it can no longer withhold action in respect to the removal of the dam. The joint levee boards have therefore been informed that unless congressional authority for the construction of the lock or the continuance of the dam is obtained at the present session of congress, action will have to be instituted with a view to the removal of the temporary dam."

This plain and accurate statement puts the matter up to the levee boards so forcibly that comment is superfluous and the duty of the boards too manifest to need pointing out.

If they have not the means to build the lock and remove the dam, let them "make showing" of the fact to the general government and appeal to congress for aid. This will be eminently more creditable than begging the question and indirectly evading the obligation by asking a further indefinite extension of time with no honest expectation of providing the funds required to accomplish the task of substituting a lock for the dam within the extended period.

An open confession of bankruptcy is better in morals and practice than persistence in making promises and assuming obligations without the ability or intent to redeem them. To the popular slogan "The locks must be built," is now added the declaration of the United States War Department, as voiced by its chief engineer, "The dam must come out." In the shoulders of the Atchafalaya and Lafourche basin levee boards rests the responsibility for the next move toward securing the two things in their proper order—that is, the building of the locks before the dam is taken out.

JUST RESENTMENT. The indignation in New Orleans because of the ignoring of that city in the proposed location of regional banks under the new currency law is very great, but not greater than the discrimination seems to justify. If the law had contemplated only four reserve banks in the whole country, the natural selections would have been New York, Chicago, New Orleans and San Francisco.

If only eight such banks had been designated by the committee charged with the original selection, cities like Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland and St. Louis would naturally call for consideration, but the omission of New Orleans would have been absurd. To leave out New Orleans, then, when the maximum limit of twelve reserve banks is provided for seems too utterly ridiculous for serious defense, and the people of that city—the metropolis of the southern states and the second port of the nation in the extent and value of its combined exports and imports, with greater financial and commercial resources than Atlanta and Dallas put together—have a good right to be mad all round and clear through.

Death of Mrs. F. C. Ewing. Many hearts were saddened by the news of the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Josephine Kittredge Ewing, native of Assumption parish, but for some years past a resident of Sewanee, Tenn., who passed away at 12:20 o'clock p. m. Sunday, March 29, aged seventy-nine years and seven months. Her body was conveyed to Thibodaux Monday afternoon, and following services at St. John's Episcopal church conducted by Rev. A. A. MacKenzie, was tenderly consigned to a resting place in the cemetery nearby. Mrs. Ewing was the widow of the late Dr. F. C. Ewing, of Lafourche parish, and daughter of the late Dr. E. E. Kittredge, one of the pioneer sugar planters of Assumption. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. S. H. Weirlein and Mrs. T. S. Dabney, of New Orleans; three sons, Judge P. K. Ewing, of Houston; Rev. Quincy Ewing, of Napoleonville, and Dr. Fayette Ewing, of St. Louis, and one sister, Mrs. O. C. Race, of Sewanee. The late Mrs. Emma Kittredge Sims, of this city, was a half-sister of the deceased.

Mrs. Ewing was one of earth's noble women, who did life's duties well. So gracious and lovely was her presence so warm and true her nature, that it was necessary to be with her only a little while to feel that you were in the company of a gentleman and one whose every act in life was marked by sincerity of principle and nobleness of purpose. Her good deeds will live long in the memory of those who knew and loved her.

The emphatic and repeated denials by the Huerta government that the Constitutionalists have captured Torreon seem farcical in view of the fact that 800 Spaniards expelled from Torreon by decree of Gen. Villa have crossed the United States border.

AGAIN DODGES THE ISSUE.

Lafourche Levee Board Declines to Make Provision for Building Locks or to Admit Inability to Fulfill Obligation.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Lafourche Basin Levee Board was held Wednesday in the local office of the organization, with President J. F. Wigginton, of Lafourche, at his post, and the following commissioners present: R. C. Martin, Jr., Assumption; F. B. Lemann, Ascension; Clerville Himel, St. James; A. Champagne, St. John; George Lorio, St. Charles; Charles Vierling, Jefferson; R. E. Perez, Plaquemines. Commissioner T. V. Thaggard, of McDonoghville, representing the railroads, was the only absentee.

The president stated that the records and accounts of Former Secretary W. J. McCune, who retired April 1, had been examined by the state auditing department and found correct.

A telegram to President Wigginton from Congressman Robert F. Broussard was read, calling attention to the fact that a letter addressed to Secretary R. S. Vickers of the Bayou Lafourche Lock Association by Dan. C. Kingman, chief of engineers of the United States army, contained the statement that unless congressional authority for the construction of the proposed locks in Bayou Lafourche, or the continuance of the dam, which now obstructs the communication between that stream and the Mississippi river, is obtained at the present session of congress, action will be instituted by the War Department with a view to the removal of the temporary dam. Mr. Broussard's telegram goes on to say, "It is imperative that action should be taken by your board. You should solicit the assistance of the Louisiana senators, as the house members, on account of existing legislative situation, with respect to rivers and harbors bill, are unable to do anything in the matter. I will gladly help in every way with a hearing before the senate commerce committee. Communicate with Louisiana senators and wire me what I can do to aid. Am sending a similar message to President V. M. Lefebvre of the Atchafalaya board."

Commissioner Lemann urged that the board make some sort of a proposition to the United States government to build the locks, a portion of the cost to be borne by the joint levee boards and the other by the state. He stated that the board had issued in accordance with the authority vested in the boards by legislative enactment, these certificates to be issued at a time in the future when the boards have in a measure recovered from the financial stringency which now confronts them. Mr. Lemann pointed out the obligation resting upon the boards to build the locks, and asserted that the people of the Lafourche valley were tired of the long delay in securing this much-needed improvement and would vigorously oppose any further extension of the time limit for removing the dam and substituting it with locks.

President Wigginton and Commissioner Himel declared the levee boards would not be in a position to undertake the construction of the locks or to make any appropriation toward the cost of building them for several years to come, unless they could be relieved entirely of the burden of maintaining the levee lines in their respective districts. Mr. Wigginton suggested that perhaps the government might be willing to assume the care and upkeep of the levees while the joint boards centered their resources in building the locks.

After a general discussion of the matter, along the lines that have become so familiar since the recent agitation for the locks was started, Commissioner Perez offered a resolution to the effect that President Wigginton be authorized to act in conjunction with President Lefebvre of the Atchafalaya board and ascertain from the Louisiana senators and congressmen what can be done toward relieving the joint boards of the obligation resting upon them to build the locks, and in the event that congressional aid can not be obtained, to endeavor to secure an extension of time for the removal of the dam. The motion was adopted by a vote of seven yeas to one nay, the only dissenting vote being that of Mr. Lemann who announced that he would steadfastly oppose any action looking to further delay in preparing for the construction of the locks.

The president was authorized to take out an employer's liability policy covering the employees on the dredge Lafourche, and to confer with the Atchafalaya board in regard to taking out a like policy to cover the employees on the dredge Capt. V. M., which is owned jointly by the Atchafalaya and Lafourche boards.

John F. Truxillo, of Belle Alliance, former assessor of Assumption parish, was elected assistant secretary of the board for service in the Donaldsonville office, at a salary of \$75 per month. Mr. Perez thought the assistant secretary should maintain his headquarters at the office in New Orleans, but after some discussion the objection was withdrawn and the president was authorized to engage office help at the New Orleans office at an expense of not more than \$25 per month.

Off for Iowa. A party of twenty-six young men from Donaldsonville and vicinity left here Monday morning for Cherokee, Iowa, where they will enter the employment of the Illinois Central Railroad as members of construction crews. They were: Leopold Jambou, Alexis Jambou, Charles Jambou, Charles Esneault, Oniel Gubard, Claiborne Leroy, Alcide Leroy, Jr., Paul Achee, Paul Dugas, Arthur Cire, Emile St. Martin, Joseph P. Landry, Louis Wunstel, Albert LeBlanc, Jas. E. Trepanier, Edmond Esneault, Camille Esneault, Wallace Simoneaux, Frank Monro, Phillip Truxillo, Alexis Poirier, Felix Hebert, Albert Babay, Alex. Marchand, Severin Brand, Elie Leroy.

In addition to these another crew numbering twenty-six, from points along Bayou Lafourche, departed Sunday morning for Waterloo, Iowa, and all told something like 200 young men of this section will go to that state to work for the Illinois Central line. They have a six months' contract, and transportation both ways is furnished.

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COMMERCIAL MEETING.

Progressing for Big Held in Donaldsonville—Gov. Hall

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held Tuesday night to discuss the progress of arrangements for the big mass meeting which is proposed to hold in this city Sunday, April 19, for the purpose of launching an organization to promote the bringing in of desirable immigrants to this section of the state. It was decided to hold a preliminary meeting at the Chamber of Commerce headquarters next Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, to be attended by two or three representatives from each of the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Iberville and St. James, with a view to formulating some concrete plan of action for organizing the immigration association to be submitted to the general meeting scheduled for the 19th inst.

Invitations to attend the latter gathering and deliver addresses have been accepted by Governor Hall, Justin P. Donchaud, secretary of the immigration division of the State Board of Agriculture and Immigration; Dr. W. R. Dodson, director of the Louisiana state experiment stations; R. R. Claridge, agricultural agent of the Texas and Pacific Railroad; E. P. Gueymard, of the immigration department of the T. & P., and President M. L. Alexander of the State Conservation Commission. Each of the speakers will be limited to 15-minute talks except Governor Hall, to whom will be allotted as much time as he requires.

The meeting will be held in two sections, one to convene at 11 o'clock a. m. and the other at 3 p. m. The latter will be held in the auditorium of the high school building, and will consist of an illustrated lecture on "The Resources of Louisiana" by President Alexander of the Conservation Commission.

It is planned to have a racing match at A. M. Van Eary in the afternoon and perhaps a baseball game and other amusements may be arranged. Reduced rates to this city will be offered from all points on the T. & P. Railroad, and a very large attendance is expected from the surrounding parishes, as the meeting will be widely advertised and emphasis laid on the importance of forming an active, permanent association with the object of encouraging the immigration of a desirable class of small farmers, by convincing them of the superiority of our soil and climate and the unsurpassed advantages offered to settlers.

After disposing of the plans for the immigration meet the Chamber of Commerce proceeded to the transaction of other business, including the adoption of a resolution denouncing the unwarranted discrimination against New Orleans in the matter of locating a new levee law, and pledging assistance to the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce in the fight being waged by that organization to secure recognition and justice for Crescent City.

District Court. Session of district court was opened Tuesday forenoon, with Judge Charles T. Wortham on the bench. In the suit of E. N. Pugh vs. Joseph Webre Co., Ltd., Theodore Gerbois receiver, the rule taken by Victor Loisel, trustee in bankruptcy of the Webre Company, was dismissed at his cost and his demands denied, reserving to said trustee all the residuary interest the bankrupt had in the property under seizure and the proceeds thereof. Messrs. E. N. Pugh, Walter Lemann and Henry L. Himel, of Convent, appeared in behalf of the plaintiff, and W. B. LeBourgeois, of Convent, represented Mr. Loisel. Counsel for the latter applied for and was granted an appeal to the supreme court, suspensive and devolutive, returnable May 1.

Other business transacted Tuesday was as follows: Barton & Barton vs. Adam Plaisance; dismissed at plaintiffs' cost, a compromise having been reached between the parties. J. P. Hudson & Sons vs. Succession of R. McCall; exception discontinued; default entered. Toppino, Seidenbach & Larose vs. John Nargassans; fixed for May 4. M. A. Brewerton et al. vs. Jos. H. Brewerton; default entered. In the suit of E. N. Pugh et al. vs. A. Falsetta et al., involving the internal affairs of the local Italian benevolent society, was taken up for trial and occupied the attention of the court throughout the day, being continued until this morning when adjournment was taken Thursday afternoon.

FURTHER DELAY OPPOSED.

Congress to be Asked Not to Grant Extension of Time for Removal of Bayou Lafourche Dam—Conference in Washington.

Announcement having been made that the Atchafalaya levee board has appointed a committee composed of President V. M. Lefebvre, Commissioner J. A. Humphreys and Assistant State Engineer Joseph W. Monget to go to Washington and confer with the senate committee on commerce relative to securing an extension of the time which the joint organization of the Atchafalaya and Lafourche levee boards was given to build locks in Bayou Lafourche or remove the dam across that stream, a movement has been set on foot by Secretary R. S. Vickers of the Bayou Lafourche Lock Association to have that body represented at the conference between the levee board and senatorial committees.

The police jury of Ascension has been asked to appropriate a sufficient sum to defray the expenses of a representative from this city to Washington and return, and it is likely some of the other parishes that will be benefited by the restoration of navigable connection between the Mississippi river and Bayou Lafourche will also send delegates to the conference, which will be held in Washington at 10 o'clock next Wednesday morning.

Having waited twelve years for the levee boards to fulfill their obligation to construct the locks, without anything definite having been accomplished in all that period toward securing the much-needed improvement, the people of this section feel that the granting of additional time to the boards for the removal of the dam would simply mean an indefinite postponement of the whole matter. Vigorous opposition will be waged, therefore, to an extension of time longer than until the next session of congress, when a concerted and supreme effort will be made either to secure from congress an appropriation to build the locks, or to compel the levee boards through the War Department to begin immediate construction.

Hundreds of emphatic telegrams to this end have been despatched to Senators Thornton and Pansell and Congressman Broussard and Morgan by leading citizens, at the instance of the Bayou Lafourche Lock Association, and every influence that can be brought to bear will be exerted to block further dilly-dallying on the part of the levee boards and force them to build the locks or appeal to the United States government to relieve them of the obligation.

On behalf of the Ascension parish police jury, President Adolphe Netter telegraphed the Louisiana senators and the third and sixth district congressmen as follows: "Ten years' delay on part of levee boards, with no evidence of disposition to fulfill their obligation to construct locks, proves granting them further extension of time means indefinite postponement. We therefore urge you in name of long suffering people to have justice done us and oppose determinedly extension being granted." Mayor Walter Lemann of Donaldsonville sent the following message: "We depend on you to oppose vigorously any postponement of construction of locks. Over twelve years have elapsed since dam was placed in bayou. Extension of time to levee boards means indefinite postponement. Urge you to secure an appropriation in pending rivers and harbors bill. No one wants dam out till locks are built, but justice and interests of this section demand locks immediately."

The Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce telegraphed Congressman Morgan to this effect: "Your campaign pledges and your recent promises to our people demand your determined opposition to granting the levee boards another extension of time for building the locks. We look to you either to secure through our senators an appropriation or compel the levee boards through the War Department to begin immediate construction."

Messrs. Lemann and Vickers wired this appeal to their personal friend, Congressman Garland Dupre: "In the name of a people that has suffered untold loss for twelve years through the closing of their main artery of commerce, we appeal to you to co-operate with our representatives and senators to secure us relief through an appropriation for immediate construction of locks at the head of Bayou Lafourche."

The front of John Oubre's popular tonorial establishment in Railroad avenue has been brightened with a coat of white paint, and preparations are being made to similarly embellish the front of Montero & Brande's Opera Cafe. Seal your troubles and worries in a box and come to see "Sam," (John Pfister) a mischievous darkey boy, who will make you forget you ever had troubles.

Evan J. McCall
Evan Hall Plantation
McCALL, LA.
Image of a plantation scene with a large house and trees.

Duroc-Jersey Hogs

I beg to inform my friends and the public in general, that I have just returned from Versailles, Ky., where I attended the McKee Bros' sale of celebrated Duroc-Jersey hogs raised by them and bred to the acknowledged king of the breed, "Defender No. 25, 893." The reputation of this magnificent sire is known to all breeders of Duroc-Jersey hogs. The McKee Bros., at their beautiful farm near Versailles, had an offering of 69 gilts from such well-known stock as Defender, Pride's Golden, Proud Tippy Superba and High Chief Colonel, all registered prize winners. Out of this lot I purchased 23 yearlings, all to farrow within the next 30 days, from which I will be ready to offer gilts during the month of June. Pedigree will be furnished with each gilt and recorded with the American Duroc-Jersey Swine Association of Chicago, Ill. Gilts will also be inoculated against cholera by serum, as the best authorities do not advise the use of virus. Prospective buyers are cordially invited to call and see these hogs.

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One single-story building and lot situated at the corner of Chelminches street and Nicholls avenue, being the property formerly belonging to David Israel.
One square of ground situated in Port Barrow, being the property formerly belonging to Cecilien Esneault.
One tract of land, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, consisting of sawmill, planing mill, etc., situated in Faubourg la Pipe, formerly belonging to Esneault & Boston, and known as the "Picaune" sawmill property.
One lot of ground situated in the town of Donaldsonville in the square bounded by Division street, Railroad avenue, Albert street and Lessard street, said lot fronting on Railroad avenue, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, consisting of foundry, machinery, etc.
One undivided half interest in lots and building situated in the town of Donaldsonville, in Mississippi street, known as the "Vega" building.
For further particulars, apply to
JOHN S. THIBAUT, Special Agent
Bank of Donaldsonville in Liquidation

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