

The Donaldsonville Chief

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SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1914.

The Breaux Bridge Valley of the Teche announces that its issue of June 20 "rounds up one year of existence under the present management." We hope our contemporary will keep on coming round until it gets to be a very Methusalem of rounds.

The enterprising Lake Charles American-Press offers a free trip to the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco next year to every man, woman or child who procures 75 new subscribers to the American-Press at the regular rate of fifty cents per month. Calcasieu parish ought to send a whopping big delegation to the P.-P. E.

The St. Helena Echo, despite its religious training and moral tendencies in other directions, seems possessed of the sinful betting mania to an extravagant degree. It offers to stake three acres of buttermilk against a peck of moonshine that Bert Baer is the richest man in the parish because his wife presented him with a bouncing fine boy.

Shelby Taylor, of Crowley, who is a candidate to succeed himself as member of the state railroad commission from the second district, was looking after his political fences in this neck of the woods on Friday of last week. Opposing Mr. Taylor are Senator A. P. Boyer of Avoyelles, ex-Mayor J. S. Power of New Iberia, James Kelly, railroad conductor of Lafayette, and Allen Jumel, Jr., of Plaquemine.

Mrs. F. Lorio, of Bayou Goula, the venerable mother of Mrs. C. O. Peltier, of this city, was the unfortunate victim of a painful accident on Thursday of last week, when she fell from a raised walk connecting the kitchen of the Peltier premises with the dwelling, breaking her right leg above the knee. Notwithstanding her advanced age, 74 years, the plucky patient is bearing up well under the shock and her complete recovery is hoped for.

Band Concert Aug. 5.
Announcement is made that there will be a concert in City Park by Claiborne Williams' brass band Wednesday evening, Aug. 5, from 6 to 8 o'clock. During the musical refreshments will be sold by the Women's Civic League for the benefit of the fund to continue these delightful entertainments throughout the summer. As a further means of providing the necessary amount, a subscription list will be opened, and will be headed by the Civic League with a contribution of \$5.

Death of Miss Emily Moreau.
Miss Emily Moreau, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Numa Moreau, of this community, died at 9:30 o'clock Tuesday night at the Charity Hospital in New Orleans, in which city she had made her home for some years past. The remains were brought to Donaldsonville Wednesday afternoon and laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery, after services at Ascension church. Deceased is survived by one sister, Mrs. Paul Tassin, of Baton Rouge, and a brother, Clifford Moreau, who is in the employ of the DeQuincy Telephone Company.

Captures Fine Prize.
Paul O. Landry, the courteous and capable young representative of the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pa., with headquarters at Baton Rouge, left last Saturday for a trip to Scranton and New York city, as the guest of his employers. Mr. Landry, who is a Donaldsonville boy, was one of those representatives of the I. C. S. in the New Orleans district, embracing the state of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, who were selected to make this interesting two weeks' journey, with all expenses paid, as a reward for efficient services during the past year. The enviable distinction thus conferred upon him is highly gratifying to his host of friends in this community, who congratulate him upon his success and wish him a continuance thereof in even greater measure during the ensuing twelvemonth.

Boudreaux-Landry.
Ascension church was the scene of a very pretty ceremony at 5:30 o'clock Thursday morning, when Edward Boudreaux and Miss Rena Landry, both of this city, pledged their troth in the holy bonds of wedlock, in the presence of a number of relatives and friends. The lovely bride was given in marriage by her brother, Sam Landry, of Gramercy, and was attended by Miss Maud Landry, Louis Wilbert, of Plaquemine, was the groom's best man. The beautiful service of the Catholic church was impressively performed by Rev. Father Benedict, and at its conclusion the young couple boarded the steamer Virgie en route to New Orleans, where they are enjoying a stay of several days. Upon their return they will go to housekeeping in a cozy cottage in Lessard street.

The fair bride is the daughter of Mrs. John F. Landry, and a most attractive, lovable young woman, with a circle of admiring friends bounded only by the extent of her acquaintance. She has been the efficient assistant postmistress of Donaldsonville for several years, in which capacity she has made a most excellent record and earned for herself the highest confidence and esteem of the patrons of the office.

Mr. Boudreaux is employed as bookkeeper by Joseph T. Caffero, and is a steady, industrious young man, who richly merits the good fortune that has come to him in winning such a charming girl for his life companion and helpmate.

The Chief extends its cordial congratulations to the popular pair, and wishes them uninterrupted happiness and prosperity through a long and blissful wedded life.

THE STATE PROBE COMMISSION.

The probe commission created by resolution of the general assembly with authority to investigate all state boards and offices, and particularly the recent sale of bonds in connection with the state debt funding and the more recent sale of state lands by the Tensas levee board, was chosen on the last day of the session and is constituted as follows:

Member elected by the senate, Senator A. Kent Amacker of East Carroll; members elected by the house, Representatives Jos. E. Generelly of Orleans and Hewitt Bouchaud of Pointe Coupee; member appointed by the lieutenant governor, Senator Leon R. Smith of Caddo; member appointed by the speaker of the house, Representative Duncan Baile of Richland.

The governor's appointees will probably be Senator George Wesley Smith of Richland and Representative L. Austin Fontenot of St. Landry.

The commission will sit during the ensuing year, at such times and places as it may deem proper and necessary, and the result of its labors will be awaited with considerable public interest, but we doubt if the outcome will be prolific of anything near the sensational exposures and factional fireworks a good many politicians are looking and hoping for.

It may be old-fashioned and nobby-pamby-like to say so, but we are prone to believe the state's affairs are being conducted with a very reasonable degree of honesty and efficiency, and that even the much-advertised "Tensas land steal" is going to turn out a comparatively tame and inconsequential mess.

Baker Shop Burned; Another Set on Fire.

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed Sam Schonberg's baker shop in St. Patrick street at 2:30 o'clock Friday morning. An alarm was sounded from box 25 and the fire department responded promptly, but the flames had gained such headway that the building was practically consumed by the time the first stream of water was brought into play. One of the bakers employed in the establishment had been permitted to go home, and the other had left the premises to attend a wake in the neighborhood, the first knowledge that the building was on fire being gained when persons at the wake saw the flames bursting through the walls. This is the second time the Schonberg shop has been wiped out by fire, the prior visitation having occurred Oct. 4, 1912. Insurance of \$1300 on the building and \$400 on the contents was carried in the New Jersey Fire Insurance Company through the Klotz & Dugas Agency of Napoleonville.

At 12:25 o'clock Thursday morning an attempt was made to set fire to the building in Claiborne street occupied by O. J. Solgne's Home Run bakery, but by a fortunate chance the flames were detected and extinguished before much damage had been done. A lean-to shed in the rear of the bakery had been saturated with oil, and other evidences of incendiarism were found.

Ten Miles of Good Roads Completed.

Tuesday afternoon a check for \$16,387 was handed to Messrs. Gailley & Clarke, the contractors who are constructing the gravel roads in the first district of Ascension parish, by Messrs. Adolphe Netter and C. C. Weber, respectively president and secretary of the police jury. The payment represents 80 per cent of the cost of 7.13 miles of completed roads, at a contract price of \$2795 per mile. To date some ten miles of improved highway have been constructed, the finished stretches extending from Donaldsonville to the Assumption line on both sides of Bayou Lafourche, and for two miles along the river road from this city to the Iberville line. If the present good weather continues, it is expected the entire twenty-one miles of hard-surfaced highways in the first district will be completed by Sept. 1.

The work of gravelling Nicholls avenue in Donaldsonville from the railroad avenue pavement to the Bayou Lafourche toll bridge will be started next week. Owing to the heavy traffic over this street, which connects with the river and bayou roads on the east bank of Bayou Lafourche, the gravel will be laid eight inches deep in the center and four inches on each side, and will be 20 feet in width.

Nw Assistant Postmistress.

Miss Maud Landry, one of the efficient and obliging clerks in the local postoffice, has been promoted to the position of assistant postmaster to succeed Miss Rena Landry, who resigned owing to her marriage on Thursday morning to Edward Boudreaux, of this city. Miss Euphemie Guigou, a sister of Postmaster Wilfred Guigou, formerly employed as bookkeeper in the telephone exchange, has been added to the clerical staff to replace Miss Maud Landry as clerk. Miss Lily Weber is retained in the latter capacity, and Miss Lydia Ramirez will continue to serve as auxiliary clerk. Because of an increase in the revenues of the office, the salary of Postmaster Guigou was raised on July 1 from \$2000 to \$2100 per annum, and that of the assistant postmaster from \$900 to \$1000.

Miss Blanche Landry, formerly stenographer in the office of Whiteman Bros., has succeeded Miss Guigou as bookkeeper at the telephone exchange.

The profound sympathy of a wide circle of friends is extended to J. Arthur Melancon, one of Donaldsonville's well-known citizens, in his bereavement over the loss of his mother, Mrs. A. Melancon, who passed away at her home in New Orleans last Saturday afternoon at the venerable age of 86 years, 7 months and 5 days. Mrs. Melancon was a native of St. James parish, nee Arcelle LeBlanc, and her mortal remains were laid to rest beside those of her husband and other relatives in the Catholic cemetery at Convent, the funeral obsequies being conducted Sunday forenoon after services at St. Michael's church. A brother, Henry LeBlanc, of this city, also mourns the loss of this lamented lady, whose memory will ever be enshrined in the hearts of all who knew her.

The Chief's telephone number is 84. Call us up whenever you have any item of news.

TRIAL OF CASHIER LEBLANC DEFERRED.

Continuance Until Next February Granted in Cases Against Accused Official of People's Bank—James P. Armitage Appointed Liquidator, Vice Dr. John S. Thibaut, Resigned—Supplemental Inventory.

The charges against W. J. LeBlanc, cashier of the defunct People's Bank of Donaldsonville, will not be tried until the next jury term of court to be convened on the fourth Monday of February, a continuance having been granted until that time by Judge Charles T. Wortham. This action was taken in the district court Monday morning after Attorney John Marks, of Napoleonville, had pleaded that counsel for the accused had not had sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the facts of the case or map out a plan of defense. He argued further that it would be unfair to try the accused so soon after the closing of the bank, when the prejudice caused by that fact would prevent a fair weight being given the evidence at the trial. It was also represented that counsel for the defense had professional engagements elsewhere which required their immediate attention, that witnesses from outside the parish could not be secured were the case set for trial at this time, and that a motion for a change of venue is contemplated, but if a continuance were granted the necessity for such motion may not obtain several months hence.

District Attorney Gilbert stated that while he desired to proceed with a hearing of the charges at the earliest possible time, he would not insist on forcing the defense to trial before they are prepared.

Judge Wortham thought the ends of justice would best be served by a reasonable delay, and granted the motion for a continuance.

The argument was preceded by the filing of another information against Mr. LeBlanc by the district attorney, charging the former with making and publishing a false statement of the condition of the bank as of June 30, 1914. Bond was fixed at \$2000 on this charge, and a like amount was required as security on the charge filed last Saturday, accusing Mr. LeBlanc of appropriating \$2000 of the funds of the bank for the use of another party. Louis Rodrigue, of Belle Rose, signed as surety for the full amount.

It was stated by the district attorney that additional charges would be made against Mr. LeBlanc, and an agreement was effected between counsel whereby the continuance granted in the two allegations already ready of record would apply to those yet to be prepared.

Attorney John Marks represented Mr. LeBlanc on Monday's proceedings, and Attorneys Sam LeBlanc, of Napoleonville, and E. J. Vega and C. C. Weber, of this city, will also be associated with counsel for the defense.

On Tuesday morning two more informations were filed against Mr. LeBlanc, in both of which he is charged with creating an indebtedness of the People's Bank knowing the institution to be in failing and insolvent circumstances. It is related that on July 13, 1914, the day before the bank suspended business, Mr. LeBlanc turned over to the Lafourche Mercantile Company of this city two drafts with bills of exchange attached drawn on that concern by George P. Plant Milling Company, and accepted in payment of the drafts the Lafourche Mercantile Company's check on the People's Bank for \$1219.25. Bond was fixed at \$500 on each charge.

District Attorney Gilbert stated Thursday morning that he would not enter any more charges against the accused cashier until the next term of court. He will make out the informations covering the various infractions of the banking laws with which Mr. LeBlanc is charged, all based on the transaction enumerated in the report from Assistant Examiner Thompson to Attorney General Pleasant, and will deposit them with the clerk of court, to be presented at the next jury term of the judicial body. Six more charges may be added to the four already entered against Mr. LeBlanc.

New Liquidator Named.

Dr. John S. Thibaut, vice president and cashier of the Bank of Ascension, who was appointed by Examiner Young to liquidate the affairs of the People's Bank, tendered his resignation Monday, and Jas. P. Armitage, a prominent local business man, was named to succeed him. Mr. Armitage was one of the largest stockholders of the defunct bank, owning 41 shares, and was a member of the board of directors of the institution, having also served on the discount committee.

Supplemental Inventory.

Assistant Examiner Henry N. Thompson completed his investigation into the affairs of the bank on Wednesday, when he filed a supplemental inventory showing additional assets as found after the compilation of the original inventory, and which do not appear on the books of the bank at the close of business on July 14. The amounts, totaling \$1474.04, are as follows: Cash items found in bank, not shown on books—14 coupons American Cities Railway Company's bonds, at \$25 each, \$350; 5 coupons New Orleans Railway and Light Company's bonds, at \$22.50 each, \$112.50; 4 coupons American Cities Railway Company's bonds, three at \$2.50 and one at \$25, \$32.50; one coupon Birmingham Railway Light and Power Company's bonds, \$30. Overdraft—Telesphore Rodrigue, savings account, shown on books but not carried as asset of bank, \$49.04.

Mr. Rodrigue Makes Statement.

E. J. Rodrigue, survivor of customs of the port of New Orleans, whose name was mentioned in the

affidavit filed last Saturday against Cashier LeBlanc of the People's Bank, arrived here from New Orleans Saturday afternoon and explained his connection with the transaction.

Mr. Rodrigue is one of the grandchildren of Telesphore Rodrigue, a wealthy planter of upper Assumption parish, and he says the New Orleans bank exchange for \$2000, which Cashier LeBlanc remitted to him on April 17 last represented a gift of that amount made to him by his grandfather as a New Year's token. It is the elder Mr. Rodrigue's custom to present each of his children or their direct descendants with a substantial sum of money during the holiday season, and as young Mr. Rodrigue's father is no longer living, this donation has always reverted to him. He declares he has never known or heard about the trouble of the People's Bank or been a beneficiary of any accommodation whatsoever from that institution.

Upon returning to New Orleans Sunday night, Mr. Rodrigue gave out the following statement:

"I left New Orleans Saturday at 12:30 p. m. over the Texas and Pacific Railroad for Paincourtville, not having heard a word to the effect that my name had entered into the affairs of the People's Bank. When I reached Donaldsonville I learned from my friends about the trouble. It appears that March 16, 1914, my grandfather, Telesphore Rodrigue, sent a check for \$2000 to the People's Bank at Donaldsonville, with instructions that the amount be remitted to me as a New Year's present. About a month later I called to see my grandfather and he asked me if I was surprised to receive this amount from him. I assured him I had received no amount whatever from him this year. The next day he sent a messenger to the People's Bank, and the result was that in due course of mail I received a New Orleans exchange draft for \$2000 from the People's Bank.

"I was never in the People's Bank until last Saturday, and never had a business transaction with them of any kind save and excepting the receipt of the above check and others of a similar nature from my grandfather. The bank examiner informed me before I left Donaldsonville today that my grandfather's check had turned up, carried as a cash item. His report, I understand, exonerates me of any and all blame in the matter. I regret this unenviable publicity very much, but I am sure the public in general, and my friends in particular, will appreciate that I have been the innocent victim of circumstances over which I had absolutely no control."

Echo of Former Bank Crash.

District Attorney Philip Gilbert filed an information in the district court Monday morning charging W. D. Park, cashier of the defunct Bank of Donaldsonville, with creating an indebtedness knowing the bank was insolvent and in failing circumstances. The transaction on which the allegation is founded took place Nov. 21, 1913, the day the Bank of Donaldsonville closed its doors. L. B. Mattingly, local agent of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, presented to Cashier Park on that date a check for \$800 drawn on the Bank of Donaldsonville, and received in exchange a draft on the Ibernia Bank & Trust Company of New Orleans, payment of which was refused when the exchange was presented, the Bank of Donaldsonville having in the meantime suspended business.

A civil suit was instituted against Mr. Park by the railway company to recover the amount involved, and judgment in favor of plaintiff was awarded by Judge Wortham in the local district court some weeks ago. Since the suspension of the Bank of Donaldsonville Mr. Park has been located in Port Worth, Texas, where he is residing with his brother, Rev. Edward F. Park, a Catholic priest in charge of St. Mary's Church in that city.

Bond was originally fixed at \$5000 on the charge entered by the district attorney, but later this amount was reduced to \$3000 by Judge Wortham, on application of counsel for the accused. Mr. Park was notified by telegraph of the proceedings against him, and he arrived here Thursday afternoon and furnished bond, Dr. W. M. McCalliard signing as surety for \$1000 of the amount and Jas. Von Lotten for \$2000. Mr. Park's case will not come up for trial until the next jury term of court.

Judge and Mrs. Louis Molere, of Port Barrow, have welcomed into their home a sweet little daughter, who arrived at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday morning and is being showered with attentions by relatives and friends of the family. The Chief extends congratulations anent the happy event.

GOING AFTER NEW BLOOD.

Four Parishes Form Union to Invite Settlers and Industrial Opportunity Seekers—Active Work to be Started at Once.

By H. J. SEIBERT, in New Orleans Times-Picayune.

South Louisiana has proven her prowess at diversification. She is now ready to take up immigration, and will score equal success.

Leading planters and other landholders of the parishes of Ascension, Assumption, Iberville and St. James met at Donaldsonville yesterday to establish the plan on a permanent basis and start to work. E. P. Gueymard, immigration agent of the Texas & Pacific, who has been preaching the propaganda of expert new blood for fertile old acres, witnessed the first culmination of the campaign he has waged for months. The fight so far outlined is one of advertising and publicity. Fully five thousand dollars will be raised as a fund, some of the members coming hand in hand upon filing the treasury in advance of any demand. Members will list as much land as they are willing to dispose of, and each acre will be equally assessed. Not only will literature be prepared, but it will be placed directly in the hands of farmers and industrial opportunity seekers. When interest has been created, and inquiries begun, the proper selling agency will be devised and organized. The union of exploitation will assure fair prices and fair treatment to the immigrant invited. And the member will benefit by securing the right kind of settlers for his land at less cost than possible in case of individual negotiation.

Walter Godchaux Leads.

L. M. Soniat president, but insisted that the burden of leadership be placed upon younger shoulders. Walter Godchaux, whose immigration views, published in the Times-Picayune, created much favorable comment, was induced to assume the presidency, and has been assured of enough following to justify the prediction of success. St. James was not strongly represented, but several of her leaders have joined the society and the parish will contribute her full share. Next Friday Mr. Gueymard, Mr. Vickers, and two volunteers from each of the other parishes will tour that section and obtain more than enough signatures. At the same time St. James will be invited to send a strong delegation to a rally at Donaldsonville next Sunday morning, when the charter will be formally completed and the cause championed by explained and effort systematized.

Officers Elected.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Walter Godchaux; vice president, Walter Lemann; treasurer, L. M. Soniat; secretary, R. S. Vickers.

Directors—Assumption, Walter Godchaux, Sam Kessler, Joseph M. Foise, Leo Canienne; Ascension, A. I. Picard, Walter Lemann, A. Bloomestiel, Evan J. McCall; Iberville, G. R. Murrell, J. W. Supple, J. T. Guyton, L. M. Soniat.

St. James was given until the completion of her membership list to select her four directors.

These were the concrete results of the day which crowned several months of agitation by Messrs. Gueymard, Vickers, Lemann and others. The discussion preceding developed the desire to proceed without more delay.

New Spirit Strong.

The spirit is now strong in favor of setting aside portions of the large estates for intelligent and industrious farmers to aid in the development in which the south Louisiana planters are making remarkable progress. A few years ago none of these lands were for sale. Even those who have discarded and decreased sugar cane culture have pluckily displayed ability to make good in other lines. Hog raising has already been brought to a higher efficiency than in other sections, breeding horses and cattle has had a satisfactory start, seed corn for other parishes have been produced, and corn grown equal to that of any of the neighboring states. The men who have proved themselves feel sure that the old order will never be restored, and are furthering the immigration movement so as to realize best under the changed conditions. The right sort of farmers and citizens will be sought, their welfare furthered, their interests protected, and even their ironments so guided that the settlers will be content upon the land and be of greater value to the section in every way.

"The co-operative spirit," said one of the speakers, "will not only make this movement a success, but will lead to bigger things."

That seemed to be the sentiment actuating each of the men connected with the immigration enterprise.

Plans Ahead.

Photographs and facts are already being prepared, and before the end of the year farmers throughout the middle west will hear the story and see the pictured evidence of fertility and fortune. The slides will be shown at county fairs, and even the largest centers of population will not be overlooked in the appeal of the country that can deliver so well.

The organization will have about seventy-five members in the four parishes, and these control land conservatively estimated at a quarter of a million acres, so that this south Louisiana venture is an affair of magnitude and significance.

Death of Sylvan Tobias.

The many friends here of Sylvan Tobias, formerly a resident of this community, but for a number of years past a leading citizen of Baton Rouge, were deeply grieved to learn of his death, which occurred at his home in the capital city Wednesday night. Mr. Tobias was 56 years of age, and was a member of the Elks, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, and Woodmen of the World. He is survived by his wife, four daughters, Misses Bertha, Sylvia and Goldie Tobias and Mrs. Edward Schloss, and a brother, Jas. Min Tobias, of Donaldsonville. The funeral took place Thursday afternoon and was largely attended, many relatives and friends gathering from far and near to attend the last sad rites and pay a fitting tribute of respect to his memory, which will long be cherished. Since sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure

The only Baking Powder made from Royal Grape Cream of Tartar NO ALUM, NO LIME PHOSPHATE

GO WHERE YOU PLEASE— EAT WHAT YOU PLEASE.

That is what you can do if you take Dodson's Liver Tone. Many people know the danger of calomel, yet they take it because they know of nothing better. Other people are not afraid of calomel, because they do not understand what a dangerous drug it is. Because it has never hurt them, they believe it never will. No one needs to take dangerous calomel (which is just another form of mercury).

The X-Ray Pharmacy sells Dodson's Liver Tone for fifty cents a bottle and guarantees that it takes the place of calomel.

Dodson's Liver Tone is a pleasant-tasting vegetable remedy that lives up the liver without causing any restriction of habit or diet. It has none of the many bad after-effects of calomel and is safe for children as well as grown-ups.

You don't run a single risk when you try Dodson's Liver Tone, because if you aren't entirely satisfied all you need to do is go right back to where you bought it and have your money cheerfully refunded to you with a smile. Isn't that fair?

Mrs. S. T. Baird passed through town during the week on route to her home in Batroun from a visit to relatives in Baton Rouge, and during her brief stay here was entertained at the hospitable home of Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Prosser.

HANAN SHOES

The New English Last

This new English last was first produced by HANAN for their London and Paris stores. It was such a decided success that they introduced it in America, and today it is one of the big selling new styles in all the larger cities.



B. Lemann & Brother

Donaldsonville, Louisiana

Late Season Sale of CHOICE GOODS

We wish to announce that throughout this month goods in all departments will be offered at special reduced prices. This is done on account of the present dull times and the advanced season, there being a lot of goods we don't want to carry over until next season. It will be worth while to visit our store and take advantage of the extraordinary low prices on seasonable goods.

Adolphe Netter's Department Store

When You Want WOOD Buy the Very Best

WE sell the kind that gives satisfaction every time—HARD ASH WOOD, cut especially for us from the hardwood lands. This wood gives a hotter fire than the river wood which you have been accustomed to buying, and one cord will out burn two cords of the former. Let us sell you a cord just to convince you that we are not over-estimating the value of our wood. Cut to stove and other lengths and sold in any quantity. Orders through phone 7 will receive prompt attention.

E. C. Wathen Donaldsonville, La.

Read your home paper.