THE DONALDSONVILLE CHIEF.

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SCHOOL BOARD BIG LOSER IN BANK FAILURE

Members Vote to Apply Their Mileage and Per Diem Toward Making Up Deficiency in Revenues— Supt. Rusca to Forego Appropriation Regularly Allowed Him for Traveling Expenses—Teachers for Coming Session Appointed—Superintendent's Annual Report.

Donaldsonville, La., July 24, 1914.

The board of school directors of Ascension parish met this day in special session, with President W. B. Stuart in the chair and the following members present: Henry Dugas, first ward; E. N. Pugh, third ward; Emile LeBoeuf, fourth ward; J. F. Saxon, fifth ward; Louis Bourgeois, seventh ward; F. Edw. Babin, eighth ward. Absent—George Bergeron, second ward.

The minutes of the last preceding meeting were read, and on motion, duly seconded and adopted, ordered approved with the exception of that portion regarding the budget, which should read: The budget was presented to the board, to be acted upon at the next meeting.

The superintendent reported verbally that the sum of $1500 advanced to the school board by the police jury at its meeting on July 8, to be charged to the public school appropriation for the fiscal year 1914-15, had been deposited in the People's Bank on the morning of July 10, and that of the $1300 worth of checks issued against the deposit, only about $200 worth had reached the bank and been paid when the institution suspended business on July 14. He also reported that there was $1271.71 to the credit of the general fund the day the bank closed, $229.32 to the credit of Galvez school district No. 2, and $6.26 to the credit of Dutchtown school district No. 1. He stated that he had written to all parties in whose favor checks had been drawn, advising that said checks uncollected be returned and that new checks would be issued at some future time when funds would become available and provision be made for an official depository.

The superintendent submitted the following annual report, which was read and received:

To the Honorable President and Members of the Board of School Directors, Parish of Ascension.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor and the pleasure of submitting this, my annual report for the school year beginning July 1, 1913, and ending July 1, 1914.

Date of Opening.

All white schools in the parish opened on the date set by your honorable body, Monday, Sept. 15, 1913.

The colored schools opened in February, as usual.

Length of Session.

During the session of 1912-13, all white schools were operated for nine months, for the first time in the history of the parish, but, in order to carry out this plan, it became necessary to borrow from the police jury out of the funds of 1913-14 the sum of $1467, the extra mill and a quarter budgeted by the police jury providing insufficient revenue to operate the schools for nine months, contrary to our expectations. This consequent shortage in the funds of 1913-14, together with a shortage of over $1000 in the funds received from the state, made it impossible to keep open the country or smaller schools this year longer than seven and one-half months, all four high schools running as usual the full nine months.

I might state here that after several years of study and planning of consolidating and economizing where possible without sacrificing too much in the way of efficiency, I have reached the conclusion that it is impossible to operate our school system for a full nine months' session at an expenditure of less than $40,000. When the happy day comes again to us when we shall have this amount to expend upon our school system, we shall still be operating on from $5000 to $15,000 less money than our neighboring parishes are now expending. Notwithstanding this fact of our small school revenues as compared to the revenues of our sister parishes; notwithstanding the fact that before I took charge of the school system the parish school money was such as to permit yearly expenditures of from $40,000 to $45,000; notwithstanding the further fact that the scope and efficiency of the school work has greatly increased and improved, although the revenues have decreased $5000 to $10,000, we have been able by hard work to secure competent teachers, to keep open the four high schools for nine months each year, and to operate the smaller schools an average of eight and a quarter months for the past four years. I feel that the school directors of this parish may well be proud of what they have accomplished. Certainly no parish can render a better account, nor can any parish show better returns for the amount of money invested in schools.

Commencement Exercises.

The graduating exercises in the four state approved high schools of the parish, located at Dutchtown, Oak Grove, Gonzales and Donaldsonville—these schools so situated as to afford to every boy and girl in the parish the means of obtaining a high school education at a small outlay to each of time or money—were well planned and satisfactorily carried out. The orators on these occasions were Colonel J. W. Nicholson, Dr. D. T. Powers and R. L. Himes of the State University, and Prof. C. C. Henson, president of the Isidore Newman Manual Training School of New Orleans. The thirty-one graduates sent out from these schools this year—twenty young ladies and eleven young men—as well as the graduates sent out in large numbers during the past several years, are a big asset to the parish and justify the expense incurred in maintaining these schools of higher and more efficient training. Not only have these graduates proven themselves young men and women of good character, high ideals, honest and industrious, but they are practically all employed and rendering good service and are in almost every case self sustaining. They are practically all employed and rendering good service and are in almost every case self sustaining. They are splendid assets to their community and parish.

If we consider that the average earning capacity of the boy or girl who completes his or her education with the grammar school is from $20 to $40 per month, I believe it is safe to say the average earning capacity of the student who graduates from the high school is from $40 to $100 per month. In fact, the large per cent of one hundred odd graduates who have been turned out from our parish high schools during the past few years are married or employed, and those who are employed are earning from $40 to $100 per month. Running roughly over the list I find that graduates of our high schools are earning from $13,000 to $15,000 per year, and that most of this money is placed in circulation in this parish.

Teaching Corps.

Sixty-nine white teachers have been employed this session, and while among the number several might have been stronger and better teachers, still not one has been a failure. On the whole they have been above the average in scholarship, teaching ability and school spirit. They are registered as follows: Number holding diplomas from State University, male 2, female 1; Tulane University, male 1; colleges and universities in other states, female 2; State Normal School graduates, male 2, female 14; New Orleans Normal, female 1; Normals in other states, female 1; first-grade certificate by examination, male 6, female 19; special first-grade certificate, female 1, male 1; second-grade certificate, male 3, female 11; third-grade certificate, male 1, female 8.

Teachers' Institutes.

On Sept. 13 a joint teachers' institute composed of all the teachers engaged to serve the parish was convened in Donaldsonville. This meeting was held just previous to the opening of the schools and for the purpose of becoming acquainted with one another and with school conditions and requirements.

Three other institutes were held during the session in the New River section and three in Donaldsonville. All these meetings were well attended and the teachers seemed eager at all times to do their part on the program and otherwise assist in making the meetings not only profitable but enjoyable. Dr. Powers and Dr. Coffey of the State University were present at two of the meetings and addressed the teachers. At Oak Grove and Dutchtown dinners were served by the girls of the domestic science departments of those schools, assisted by the teacher and some of the ladies of the community.

During the parish fair a special institute composed of all the parish teachers was held in Donaldsonville. This meeting was held on a Friday and the schools ordered closed and the teachers required to attend. The idea was to give the teachers an opportunity to meet with teachers from the surrounding parishes, to listen to addresses from State Superintendent Harris, Prof. E. S. Richardson, State Institute Conductor C. A. Ives, and Supt. Sam. Alleman of Assumption parish, also to visit the fair. The meeting was both profitable and enjoyable, and the results justify the repetition of this plan for another year.

Course of Study.

The agricultural work done in connection with regular school work at Oak Grove, Calbasse, Donaldsonville, Sacremento and Johnson has been productive of much good. At Calbasse the pprincipal taught the use of cold frames and hot beds, co-operated with pupils and patrons in home garden work, and distributed several thousand plants, such as egg plants, tomatoes, etc.

A good school garden was made at Johnson, Donaldsonville and Sacremento schools, and a garden started at Smoke Bend school.

The commercial work, bookkeeping typewriting, stenography, commercial law, etc., continues to be popular, especially with the boys. Sewing and cooking have met with favor beyond our expectations and the girls regard this course as their best. Not only are the girls taught how to prepare various dishes and to make new ones, but they are taught the relative value of foods, how to economize, how to keep accounts, how to prepare and serve the table, how to manage the household and how to arrange and make the home more comfortable and inviting as well as attractive. In the sewing work, they are taught the different stitches, hand sewing, the use of the machines, cutting patterns, fitting, etc. It is interesting to observe that the entire costumes worn by the graduates at Dutchtown were made by the individuals of the class under the supervision of the teacher, and at a very small cost.

I am strongly of the opinion that this work should be offered the coming year in the Donaldsonville High School, should the funds permit.

Athletic and Literary Contests.

Our high schools were poorly represented at the high school contests in Baton Rouge this year, much to our discredit and to the injury of our schools. There is no reason why, among the splendid student body of these institutions, sufficient material should not be found as in the past who will be willing to make the effort to compete against other schools and thus keep alive school interest and school spirit. In school business, as in other business, "Competition is the life of trade." The only way we can keep up the standard of highest efficiency in work and in enthusiasm, in school loyalty and school spirit, is to measure our ability with that of others and catch the enthusiasm and spirit and determination that comes from such contact. There is but one best way to judge what we are accomplishing, and that is true alike of student and teacher as it is true of all, and that is by measuring what we are accomplishing with what others are accomplishing in the same line of endeavor, and this we cannot do by staying at home, so to speak.

However, in spite of the small representation at Baton Rouge, Dutchtown High School captured the gold medal for cooking, with Oak Grove a close second, winning the silver medal. Oak Grove again came in for the silver loving cup for best corn judging.

An athletic and literary contest, participated in by the Johnson, Lake and Galvez schools, was held at Hobart just before the end of the session. There were contests in running, jumping, vaulting, shot throwing, spelling, arithmetic, singing and reciting. Much rivalry in all the contests was displayed, the student body of each school being present and cheering their representatives on to victory. The honors of the day were about equally divided. As a result of these contests harder and better work will be done the coming year, the attendance will be more regular, a greater loyalty to and a greater love for the schools will be much in evidence. We need to make school life more attractive.

Building and Equipment.

During this school year the new building at Dutchtown was completed at a cost to the taxpayers and subscribers of about $4000. The furniture and blackboards were supplied by the school board. In all, about $600 has been expended in furnishing buildings.

Libraries.

Several schools, principally Gonzales, Dutchtown, Oak Grove and Donaldsonville, together with smaller schools, have raised funds for libraries. In each case, Donaldsonville excepted, the board duplicated the amounts raised.

Parish Club Work.

The parish school pig, corn, canning and poultry clubs continue to form part of our school work and there seems to be no abatement in the interest displayed by the members.

The fair and contests at Dutchtown last fall brought out about forty exhibits of corn, about sixteen exhibits of hogs, about ten exhibits of poultry, and about six or eight exhibits of canned and preserved goods. There were also a few exhibits of hand work. About $150 was awarded in premiums, $50 of which was donated by the school board, $25 by the police jury, and the balance subscribed by different firms or individuals in cash or in premums. A large crowd of people were present from many sections of the parish. Several state officials were present and addressed the club members and visitors.

On this same occasion the new school building was dedicated with appropriate and impressive ceremonies.

Spelling Contest.

The spelling contest held in all the schools for the second time showed remarkable improvement over last year. The results were extremely gratifying and are just another evidence of what can be accomplished when we have a definite aim before us. The results of the contest were published in the Donaldsonville Chief.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I beg to state that during the school year just ended, as in the past, every effort has been made by the board as well as by myself to obtain satisfactory results in all that pertains to the school work of the parish. I feel that except for the shortage in school funds and the handicap which this has placed upon the board, the work has been done as well and as satisfactorily as it was perhaps possible to have done it.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. RUSCA, Supt.

On motion of Mr. Babin, seconded by Mr. Saxon, the budget as prepared for the school year 1914-15 was approved and adopted, roll-call resulting as follows: Yeas—Dugas, Pugh, LeBoeuf, Saxon, Stuart, Bourgeois, Babin; absent—Bergeron.

On motion of Mr. Saxon, seconded by Mr. Dugas and adopted, the following teachers were elected for the coming session:

Donaldsonville High School—C. H. Miller, principal; Misses Elizabeth Bott, Clara Stuart, Lucy LeBlanc, Virgie Garrot, Dorothy Hays, Isabel Folse, Freda Singer, Jeanne Landry, Annie Laurie Pujos, Dora Kaffie. Teacher of commercial department to be supplied.

Dutchtown High School—L. J. Babin, principal; Misses Lois Haymaker, Dora Dey, Olive Howard, Nettie Bonicard, Lea Blouin, Celine Babin.

Oak Grove Agricultural High School—L. S. Bolin, principal; W. M. Babin, principal agricultural department; Misses Esther Smith, Carrie Cooper, Josephine Devall, Fannie Cushman, Anna LeBlanc.

Gonzales High School—Charles Broussard, principal; J. C. Blanchard, Misses Ida Kline, Bertha Michel, Geneva Chambers, Edith Morgan, Mamie Walker, Rena Bertin.

Calbasse—Principal to be selected; Milton Braud, Miss Josephine Gonzales.

Sacremento—Adner Lafleur, principal; Misses Azellia Brasset, Louise Bergeron.

Elise Memorial—Misses Alma Klos, Aimee Maurin.

Smoke Bend—Remi Lavigne, Miss Adele Michel.

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FAKE CURES FOR BOLL WEEVIL.

Special Preparations for Destroying Insect Absolutely Without Value —Use of Compound to Produce Repellent Scent Waste of Effort.

By E. S. TUCKER, Associate Entomologist, Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, Baton Rouge, La.

Every once in a while a claim gains currency through newspapers and even banking and mercantile channels of publicity that a special preparation has been found which after being applied upon cotton plants will protect or save the crop from ravages of the boll weevil. Despite all that has been said or proved by state and government investigators to show the fallacy of such methods of treatment, many planters waste their time and money trying out some kind of compound. Letters can be produced by the dozen which were written by these growers stating that they failed to obtain the least benefit from use of the substances.

That firms or members of a business concern should be deceived into advocating or practically indorsing the assertions of irresponsible experimenters or parties in the face of expert testimony is nothing less than culpable indiscretion. If the advice of state and government specialists is to be disregarded, these officers must then take steps to expose the fakes and frauds whenever they come to notice.

An idea which has been advanced to the effect that oil-soaked gunny sacks or cloths when dragged over cotton plants during cultivation of fields is sufficient to leave an odor, especially if strong smelling substances like tar and moth balls have been combined with the oil, and thus be effective enough to repel the weevil from one plowing to the next, can have no merit in fact. Examination will reveal as many weevils on cotton so treated from the day following the application as before it, while conditions are otherwise the same.

The use of compounds for the purpose of producing a lasting repellent scent on plants is futile. The impossibility of obtaining by such measures effective immunty of the live growth to infestation by pests is too evident. Whatever odor is given off by the preparation must be speedily dispelled in the air and can have no chance to act materially upon insects.

All substances which produce repellent scents or even killing fumers active upon insects are only serviceable when used in enclosed spaces. None can be safely or feasibly applied on exposed plant growth to drive and keep away pests. Owing to the bracts which nature provides for covering the cotton forms, no practical way whatever of reaching or dislodging the weevils hiding under the enclosures can be devised.

In speaking of sprays, poisons and fumigants or smokes, W. D. Hunter has made some convincing statements of which the following may be quoted from Farmers' Bulletin 344, U. S. Department of Agriculture: "An insuperable difficulty that these special preparations have encountered is the impracticability of the application in the field. Hundreds of known substances will kill the weevil when brought in contact with it. The difficulty is to apply them in an economical way in the field."

A final word of advice by the same authority deserves to be impressed upon cotton planters: "Do not go to the expense of buying special preparations for destroying the weevil. Disappointment and loss are certain to follow."

Death of S. Tobias.

After an illness of many months, S. Tobias, an honored citizen of the community, died at his home in North street Wednesday evening, July 22, 1914, at 8:45 o'clock.

Mr. Tobias was born in Donaldsonville Dec. 28, 1858, but had been a resident of Baton Rouge for a number of years and was until his last illness one of the most prominent and influential business men of the community. He was of a quiet and dignified personality, charitable and kind. He was a most devoted husband, father and son, fulfilling his duties faithfully and conscientiously to his town as a citizen and in his home life. He was a member of Baton Rouge Lodge 490, B. P. O. E., Capital City Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Abraham Geiger Lodge, I. O. B. B., Myrtle Camp No. 30, W. O. W., and Highland City Lodge No. 2662, Knights of Honor.

Mr. Tobias is survived by his devoted wife, four daughters, Mrs. Emanuel F. Dreyfous of Memphis, Misses Bertha, Sylvia and Goldie Tobias, one sister, Mrs. Edward Schloss, of this city, and one brother, Jasmin Tobias of Donaldsonville, a number of nieces and nephews, family connections and friends.

The funeral took place Thursday evening from his late residence in North street and was largely attended by friends and relatives from far and near, including a delegation from the fraternal orders of which he was a popular member.

Interment was made in the Jewish cemetery.—Baton Rouge State-Times.

Banking Safety Wanted.

Since the failure of the People's Bank of Donaldsonville was inevitable, it would have been well had it happened a few weeks earlier. It would have given strength to some measure for the guaranty of bank deposits. It always takes a forcible object lesson to get action on matters of this kind.

* * *

The Donaldsonville bank failure affords another instance of the folly of the state bank examiner in not closing this bank last October when it was apparent that the bank was involved and the cashier had resorted to some questionable transactions. When a bank once begins in that course, the sooner it is closed the better—St. Francisville True-Democrat.

FROM SUGAR TO SHOATS.

A Hog Raising Lesson from Ascension Parish—How One Far-Seeing Planter is Solving New Problems in the Sugar Belt.

By D. N. BARROW, in Progressive Farmer.

It is a far cry from selling a thousand pounds of sugar to disposing of a boar pig, and one would think that the man who heretofore has been occupied in the successful operation of a sugar house grinding a thousand tons of cane a day would find very little interest in seeing that a three-week-old pig was properly fed. And yet those are the things that just now are very much occupying the time and attention of the proprietor of one of Louisiana's finest sugar plantations. A few years ago Evan McCall would have thought it an insult that he should be expected to spend his time in the latter occupation, and that the land of Evan Hall plantation was too valuable to be devoted to the raising of pigs; but he has now not only been converted but realizes that such an occupation is eminently fitting for the soil and the proprietor of such property.

Having decided that money could be made from pigs, Mr. McCall's next step was to decide what sort of pigs he wanted to raise. He comes from pedigreed stock himself, so it was but natural that he should show a decided aversion to scrubs of any kind, and one is not surprised to learn that when he went into the market to purchase his foundation stock he had eyes for none but the aristocrats of the breed. There are Duroc-Jerseys of all kinds to be had—some for a mere song and some for what used to be considered a king's ransom. But it mattered not how high the price, Mr. McCall was convinced that the only right way to start was with the best blood obtainable, so nothing would satisfy him but the purest Defender blood to be had.

Foundation of Herd.

So 25 of the best sows that he could find and a direct descendant of Defender as a herd boar was the foundation of his herd. Starting with these in the early part of the year, he has already sold 182 pigs at prices with which any one should be satisfied. The balance of the 205 pigs that have been farrowed on his place have gone the way of the unfortunate from one cause or another. Mr. McCall is very rigid in his selection of the breeding stock that he sells, and yet the small number of culls indicated by these figures speaks volumes, not only for the quality of the foundation stock, but as well for the care and attention that he has bestowed upon them, and is a strong supporting argument for the position Mr. McCall takes when he says that he prefers a moderately prolific breeder to one that will cover the earth with a shower of pigs and then half of them turn out to be runts because the mother was unable to furnish them enough milk in the early stages of their life.

Mr. McCall, while a believer in blood, is equally wide-awake to the fact that the "corn crib constitutes one-half the breed." Yet this is not strictly the correct way of putting his belief. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that proper feeding is the foundation; for while corn forms a part of his ration it is a long way from being his sole dependence, and he recognizes the fact that if you want to build bone and muscle you must feed the things that will supply the material from which these are manufactured. So each pig is fed upon a carefully compounded ration consisting of corn, shorts, wheat bran and tankage. There is also mixed with these a due proportion of copperas, charcoal and sulphur. This food is made into a slop several hours in advance of feeding time, so that it can be thoroughly swelled before being eaten by the pigs.

Balancing His Feed.

There is no doubt that Mr. McCall has balanced his feeds with great nicety, and the effect of this careful feeding is fully attested by the splendid lot of pigs we saw in his pens. Even in little three-weeks' olds it was evidenced in the splendid hams and broad shoulders that are such an essential part of a good hog. Another evidence of the care and attention they were receiving was the small number of runts to be seen. In fact out of something over a hundred pigs, varying in age from a few to a hundred days, we really saw only one or two that might be classed as such.

When success is so apparent it is usually useless to make suggestions that one would think would be an improvement; nevertheless we are of the opinion we would make some slight changes in the feed. It will be noticed that in addition to the substances containing the nutrients Mr. McCall also mixes with his feed certain substances that are intended as correctives, preventives of worms and disease. In this way each animal is obliged to take daily a certain quantity of these materials, whether he needs it or not. While the materials are more or less harmless, even when eaten in excess, yet we doubt whether the taking into the stomach of these drugs when not needed is advisable. We know that Mr. McCall will find it cheaper, and we suspect better, if, instead of mixing these correctives with the feed, he will place them where the pigs can have free access to them. If this is done the pigs will help themselves when the correctives are needed and, we are rather inclined to believe, will really eat more of the other foods and derive greater benefits therefrom.

Believes in Cleanliness.

Mr. McCall shows in his every arrangement that he is a firm believer in the adage that "cleanliness is next to Godliness" in the pig as well as in man, and seldom

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IMMIGRATION ORGANIZATION COMPLETED.

Constitution and By-Laws Adopted, and St. James Parish Directors Named—Campaign of Publicity and Information to be Launched at Once—General Development of Four-Parish Section Contemplated.

By HERMAN J. SEIFERTH, in New Orleans Times-Picayune.

The inter-parish immigration movement received more impetus at a meeting held at Donaldsonville Sunday morning. The lessons the plan is learning and teaching are of interest all over the state that is now in determined pursuit of population and prosperity.

The parish of St. James, for which Ascension, Assumption and Iberville were waiting, was represented this time. Dr. Numa Himel, Vic Loisel and Clark Lebermuth were on hand with assurances that the parish was in hearty accord and co-operation.

President Walter Godchaux, in calling the meeting to order, urged co-operative energy. There is a great work to be performed for the general welfare, and the large response was proof that there were people in all the parishes willing to work together. The purpose is to foster more immigration to this section of the country, and the fostering of the general development of the section. The first work needed is at home, to banish any spirit of gloom or discouragement. The people must first build self-confidence, and it would be a mistake to invite others to come down here until the people prove their faith in themselves and their own.

St. James Names Directors.

The constitution and by-laws outlined at the last meeting were formally adopted, and the directorate completed by the election of the four from St. James parish, as follows: F. Reynaud, Charles T. Schexnaydre, Clark Lebermuth and Leonard Waguespack.

The needed documents were drawn up by Walter Lemann, the able committee of one, and the changes made were very slight, although there was much discussion that proved of value.

One of the innovations decided upon was to open all meetings of directors to the entire membership, and to hold meetings in each of the component parishes in turn. Some special features will be arranged for each meeting, and the first of the series of gatherings was fixed for next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at St. James. It was agreed to begin business as soon as $3000 was subscribed, a legal phrase for a feat accomplished, and Treasurer L. M. Soniat reported the first call for thirty per cent of the stock being fast answered. A committee of three from each parish, with Mr. Soniat as the general chairman, will complete the canvass.

There was a suggestion to add other purposes to the name, but it was concluded that the main title includes development and betterment, all of which is vital before new settlers fill the land, so that the name "stands pat" as the South Louisiana Immigration Association.

A Selling Question.

The most interesting interchange resulted over a motion to appoint four land owners to act as valuation committee for the lands that would be listed. This brought up the entire aim of the organization.

Mr. Loisel argued for an expert selling agent, who would deal with prospective purchasers who come to look at the lands, to which attention would be attracted through the central advertising bureau. He did not mean a real estate agent or a middleman, but an expert, who would be employed by the general body.

Messrs. Godchaux, Guyton, Murrell, Evan McCall and others claimed that this would be foreign to the scope of the body, which was interested only for publicity and promotion. The inquirer attracted would find each owner's list and description of property in the central office, and when the homeseekers wished to make an inspection the planter could be communicated with, and then the latter could handle the investigation his own way. If any planter thought he required a special agent he could employ one, but the association itself was not in the land game. The association simply advertised the four parishes, gave information, inspired confidence by guaranteeing fair dealing and the character of the membership and the land.

E. P. Gueymard of the Texas and Pacific, father of the organization, told how a similar campaign had operated in Montana, in which no land sellers had been employed, owner and farmer being merely brought together and left to talk their own deals.

Farmers Prefer Farmer.

It was found that farmers preferred to deal with farmers direct. The first step was the publicity and information bureau, and the pamphlet exploiting the four fertile parishes. A committee of four to prepare this pamphlet was an immediate result, Iberville naming Geo. R. Murrell, the other parishes each to pick a member.

Mr. Lebermuth offered as a solution for the main question that each parish name a member of the land committee, who will list all the lands for that parish, and to whom all inquiries regarding his parish will be referred. Each parish can then deal with the prospector in its own way. It was finally decided, however, that there was so much to say upon each side of the question, it was better to take no action for the present, giving each subscriber further opportunity for study.

Secretary R. S. Vickers was instructed to provide parish and New Orleans papers with news of progress.

L. M. Soniat called attention to the Times-Picayune's Washington dispatches regarding the desperate situation of the rivers and harbors bill, and urged a strong telegram to the Louisiana delegation to make strenuous efforts to avert a congressional calamity. Messrs. Soniat, Loisel and J. T. Guyton prepared the message for the association.

Upon Mr. Lemann's motion E. P. Gueymard was elected chief booster and general utility man "at any salary which the Texas & Pacific would see fit to pay him." The association also subscribed to all the farm journals whose editors made the recent trip through Louisiana.

Mr. Guyton's motion to appoint delegates to act with the sugar planters in seeking reduced assessment before the State Board of Equalization prevailed, and those sent were: Walter Lemann, Ascension; C. T. Schexnaydre, St. James; J. T. Guyton, Iberville, and A. E. Winkler, Assumption. They were instructed to go into Tuesday night's caucus at Baton Rouge in order to agree upon a uniform course.

Citrus Industry Urged.

C. D. Otis of Lake Charles, a noted fruit grower, was a guest speaker. He agreed with President Godchaux as to the important prerequisite of self-confidence, and said the section must have something beside sugar to show invited farmers when they come down here to see. The northern farmers were afraid of sugar cane. He advised planting citrus groves, for the finest oranges in the world can be grown all over Louisiana. The fruit commission men who met in New Orleans several years ago admitted as much. He was not a planter, only a "one-horse fellow," but he had forty orange trees at Lake Charles. These yielded him a crop of $7.50 each. So that he sold $300 of Satsumas off of two-fifths of an acre. It was hard to find a better crop.

Asked about grape fruit Mr. Otis said it depended upon the lowest temperature. Some he had raised had stood 18 degrees at Lake Charles. It depended also upon the condition of each tree.

Mr. Murrell was a witness for Iberville, where he had raised fine grape fruit from seedlings planted eight years ago, which had been loaded down with delicious fruit for four years. He was going to extend his orchard considerably.

S. G. Tetwiler, well-known farm editor, who has made a special study of the citrus industry, added some interesting climatic facts and statistics, and affirmed that the Donaldsonville district was as safe as Florida and California for the production of oranges and kindred fruit.

At the dinner at the Hotel Donaldson, which followed the meeting, the really good and true story of Victor Loisel's dairy developed in order to detract from his argument that a selling agent would be superior to direct disposal by the planter himself. Loisel, on the other hand, insists that the story, which he did not deny, only strengthens his plea.

Loisel's Dairy Deal.

Mr. Loisel was a planter in St. James before he became United States marshall under Taft, and he was still a planter when Taft went under. Loisel was a wise planter and foresaw the day of diversification, for there might come a time when he could not live on cane alone. So he embarked in cattle as a side line, and decided that to succeed he must have silos. He built two, though he knew that some of his neighbors suspected his sanity, for the silos were the first in that stretch of land. But he narrowly escaped confinement when he cut up his corn crop to put into his silos, still more so because the cutting and filling were done during a rainy spell.

Meantime George A. Villere, the New Orleans milk expert, had been arguing with him to go into dairying. He did not take kindly to the advice, even when given the name of a Mississippi milkman who might make a trade. It was some time later before Mr. Loisel gave even grudging consent to parley. The stranger was A. W. Halbert of Starkville, and he came to the city to talk it over. Mr. Loisel laid off a day to lead Mr. Halbert to St. James. Then Mr. Halbert asked when he could move in.

"Move in where?" asked Mr. Loisel in astonishment.

"Why, on your plantation."

"But I haven't even fixed a price or named a condition,"—with great astonishment.

"Make any terms you like. This is the place for me."

"I'm not ready; I don't even know if I want to sell; I'll let you hear from me."

"When?"

"In three or four days."

Leased by Wire.

Halbert hied home, and Loisel postponed the selling idea indefinitely. On the fifth day Loisel received a telegram. It was from Halbert. He had failed to hear from Loisel, and reminded the latter of his promise.

Loisel became the cruel landlord. He wrote terms which he thought would settle Halbert, and even then he added that the terms were tentative. Loisel posted the letter and dropped the matter again.

About as soon as a reply could be rushed, Halbert was in Loisel's office.

"I'm coming to sign up," he said. I've accepted your terms."

"I didn't make any terms," grumbled Loisel, somewhat dazed. Truth

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