

# THE TENSAS GAZETTE

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## Youthful Criminal Moral Health of Children Needs Guarding

By MRS. W. J. YOUNG, Galveston, Texas

**W**HAT shall we do with the youthful criminal? That is a problem that requires serious thought. Some of the greatest intellects have pondered over that momentous question, and yet all reforms bearing on the subject are still in an experimental stage. To prevent and protect our children from becoming youthful offenders should be our first endeavor.

Modern municipal hygiene does not attempt to stop the ravages of disease by merely treating those afflicted. The purity of the water supply, the sanitary regulations governing dwellings and buildings, the efficiency and completeness of the sewer system, etc., are given the required attention. Time, thought and money are expended judiciously to protect our physical well being. Protection is the watchword in the municipal department safeguarding our health.

The moral health of our children needs to be guarded and fortified. If we can check or reduce the number of wayward youths the problem will be partially solved.

Many parents feed, clothe and send their children to school, but forget to instill into the plastic minds of their offspring the love of truth, honesty and consideration for the rights of others. Character building in the home is essential to good morals. Parents should co-operate with school teachers and religious instructors in the training of children. "The high instincts of reason, of conscience, of love, of religion—how beautiful and grand they are in the young heart!"

Undoubtedly heredity plays an important part in the character of a child. I firmly believe that good and worthy examples, the proper environment and a moral and religious training exert a powerful influence in controlling and eradicating hereditary evil tendencies.

Give youthful offenders a chance? Why, of course. Teach them the means to earn an honest living, then give them work and put enough in their pay envelopes to enable them to live respectably. Lack of employment and insufficient wages produce a harvest of criminals.

The wonder is that we have not a larger crop of young lawbreakers. What chance have children of tender years working long hours in mills, mines and factories? Stunted bodies and minds are not productive of strong moral characters. Men waxing rich on the profits derived from child labor not only dwarf the minds and bodies of the poor, unfortunate children in their employ, but they kill their souls as well. Give youth the best chance by abolishing conditions that produce youthful criminals.

Boys and girls who stray from the straight and narrow path should not be herded with older and more hardened criminals. A little more classification in jail and a little less out of jail might be beneficial to humanity. Confirmed law breakers are professors of crime, and all professors, whether good or evil, take pleasure in instructing the young. Minor offenders should not be treated like seasoned jailbirds. There are many pitfalls for the unwary, and a step downward often means a toboggan slide to the gutter. You, on the height, throw out the life line; there is always a chance that it may be grasped.

Publicity should not be given to the petty crimes of first offenders. It does not help the youth to retain or regain his self-respect, and self-respect, if not wholly destroyed, leads to reformation.

There has been general regret on the part of the more enlightened members of the community regarding the unfortunate display attending the departure of a recently married couple on their wedding journey. Could not a campaign be instituted to inform backward intellects unable to distinguish between fun and decency?

It might be well to impress on those "not yet under the yoke" that one of the first duties of a husband is to shield his wife, not alone from insult, but from annoyance and humiliation.

Even the uncultured might understand that fair play hardly permits the opposition of half a dozen against the necessity of one.

The majority of human beings, who have succeeded in emerging from barbarism, find no special pleasure, either, in the anger of a man or the tears of a girl. One is tempted to reverse the judgment of that wise and witty handbill, and agree with New England's great educator, Dr. Elliott, when he observed that bachelors were a mischievous and disorderly class and a detriment to society.

A more charitable view, however, might suggest that, in the parting episode of the handcuffs the "beloved friends" bestowed a girl with which they had become profitably familiar. It is devoutly to be wished that people may not judge the bride and bridegroom by the company they kept, for they certainly proved their desire to escape it, and to depart unheralded and untormented upon the "deep, dark and troublesome sea of matrimony."

Why do not more city girls become the wives of western farmers? The reason is that a city girl who is willing to work at stenography or bookkeeping or any other honest employment is too self-respecting to pick up with a western man whom she knows nothing about and to cross the country to be inspected before marriage, even though the westerner is generally willing to send money for the girl to come out till he gets a look at her.

We know he is simply longing for her, as some kind of girl is necessary to preside over his shack and keep the cows and chickens from roaming too far from home. She can help remove the litter from in front of the only door when it becomes too cluttered up, cook for the men on the ranch and mend and wash for them.

True, there is not much housework to be done, as there are generally two rooms in the shack and all the boasted fresh air they can enjoy in the winter months is that which comes through the cracks in the walls. Take it from one who knows—"Far-off hills look green." This western ranch luxury is largely a myth and a self-respecting girl should think too highly of her life to run after a man.

**City Girls as Wives of Western Farmers**

By IDA ROE, Omaha, Neb.

Magistrates and Constables.  
First Ward—Magistrate, M. W. Bland, Point Pleasant; constable, Louis Buckner, Newellton; constable, L. K. Fultz, Newellton.  
Second Ward—Magistrate, E. P. Newell, St. Joseph; constable, John K. Smith, St. Joseph.  
Third Ward—Magistrate, B. Y. Berry, Delta Bridge; constable, \_\_\_\_\_  
Fourth Ward—Magistrate, D. H. O'Kelley, Ashwood; constable, \_\_\_\_\_  
Fifth Ward—Magistrate, J. H. Seaman, Waterproof; constable, John D. Shelton, Waterproof.  
Sixth Ward—Magistrate, E. D. Coleman; constable, \_\_\_\_\_

Members Parish Democratic Executive Committee.  
First Ward—R. W. Newell, Newellton; F. L. Guthrie, Notnac P. O.  
Second Ward—Louis Buckner, Newellton; R. Y. Newell, Newellton.  
Third Ward—A. E. Green, St. Joseph; Louis Buckner Jr., St. Joseph.  
Fourth Ward—R. B. Lynch, New Light; P. C. Smith, Delta Bridge.  
Fifth Ward—D. H. O'Kelley, Ashwood; B. F. McVay, Ashwood.  
Sixth Ward—G. C. Goldman, Goldinan P. O.; Allan Shelton, Waterproof.  
Seventh Ward—D. F. Miller, Goldinan; E. D. Coleman, Highland.  
At Large—Joseph Curry, St. Joseph; W. M. Davidson, St. Joseph; John Hughes, St. Joseph; Dr. K. R. McMillan, Point Pleasant; John Murdock, Newellton.

District Court.  
District Judge—Vidalia.  
District Attorney—Abner E. Green, St. Joseph.  
Terms of Court—The terms of the District Court in the parish of Tensas are hereby fixed as follows, to-wit:  
Jury Terms—Third Mondays in April and October.  
Civil Terms—Third Mondays in January, February, March, May, June, July, November and December.

Town of St. Joseph.  
Mayor—W. M. Davidson.  
Clerk—Abner E. Green.  
Town Treasurer—R. H. Whitney.  
Aldermen—Joseph Curry, B. F. Young, Louis Buckner Jr., Oscar Levy, E. J. Walton.  
Board meets first Tuesday in each month at office of the mayor.

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## TENSAS PARISH DIRECTORY.

Sheriff—John Hughes.  
Clerk of Court—Joseph Curry.  
Assessor—A. Bondurant.  
Treasurer—W. M. Davidson.  
Parish Surveyor—John Johnson.  
Game Warden—Charles Johnston.  
Coroner—Dr. J. G. Lilly.  
Health Officer—Dr. L. A. Murdock.  
Members House Representatives—John Murdock and S. W. Martien.

Members Police Jury.  
First Ward—F. L. Guthrie, Notnac P. O.  
Second Ward—John D. Fultz, Newellton.  
Third Ward—F. H. Curry, St. Joseph.  
Fourth Ward—Robert B. Lynch, New Light.  
Fifth Ward—B. F. McVay, Ashwood.  
Sixth Ward—Louis T. Hunter, Waterproof.  
Seventh Ward—Wm. A. Register, Clayton P. O.  
Clerk—R. H. Whitney, St. Joseph.  
The Police Jury for Tensas parish meets first Monday in March, June, July, October and December, at St. Joseph, at 12 o'clock m.

School Board.  
First Ward—M. W. Bland, Point Pleasant.  
Second Ward—Robert Y. Newell, Newellton.  
Third Ward—W. J. Steen, St. Joseph.  
Fourth Ward—P. C. Smith, Delta Bridge.  
Fifth Ward—J. C. Ellis.  
Sixth Ward—W. D. A. Gorton, Waterproof.  
Seventh Ward—D. F. Miller, Goldinan P. O.  
Secretary School Board and Superintendent Education—Thomas M. Wade, Newellton.

Religious Notices.  
Rev. P. H. Fontaine, pastor M. E. church, holds services at Wesley chapel on morning and afternoon of first Sunday, and at the Union church, St. Joseph, on the night of the first Sunday and morning and night of the third Sunday.  
Rev. Father Degnan of Vidalia says mass at the Catholic chapel, St. Joseph, once a month, following announcement.

Synopsis of Game Laws—Open Season.  
1. Doves—From September 1 to March 1.  
2. Wood or Summer Ducks—September 1 to March 1.  
3. Teal Ducks—September 15 to April 1.  
4. River Ducks—October 1 to March 15.  
5. Coots or Peule D'eau—October 1 to March 15.  
6. Geese or Brant—October 1 to March 15.  
7. Snipe—September 15 to April 1.  
8. Turkey (cocks only)—November 1 to April 15.  
9. Quail—November 15 to March 15.  
10. Robins—November 15 to March 15.  
11. Deer (bucks only)—October 1 to January 1.

Limit of Bags in a Day:  
25 ducks.  
15 of all other game birds.  
2 bucks, and not more than five in a season.

F. & A. M.  
Masonic lodge meets at Newellton first Wednesday.  
Masonic lodge meets at St. Joseph on second Tuesday.

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Gents' Vests ..... .25 to .50  
Gents' Overcoats ..... .75 to 1.50  
Ladies' Suits ..... 1.00 to 2.00  
Ladies' Coats ..... .50 to .75  
Ladies' Skirts ..... .75 to 1.25  
Ladies' Waists ..... .50 to 1.00

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Gents' Suits ..... \$ .50 to \$ .75  
Gents' Pants ..... .25  
Gents' Coats ..... .25  
Gents' Vests ..... .25  
Gents' Overcoats ..... .50 to .75  
Ladies' Suits ..... .50 to .75  
Ladies' Skirts ..... .25 to .50  
Ladies' Coats ..... .25 to .50  
Ladies' Waists ..... .25

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