

# ABBEVILLE PROGRESS

VOL. 1.

Devoted to the Interests of Abbeville and Surrounding Community.

NO. 2.

Phone 248.

Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, La., Saturday, April 26, 1913.

\$1 a Year

## PROFESSIONAL CARDS

**Minos T. Gordy,**  
Attorney at Law.  
Phone 34 Office over Bank of Abbeville.

**F. J. Samson,**  
Attorney at Law.  
Notary Public.

**W. B. White,**  
Lawyer.  
North of Court House.

**R. J. Labauve,**  
Attorney at Law.  
Notary in office.

**J. O. Broussard,**  
Attorney at Law.  
Notary and Abstractor in office.

**Kitchell & Bailey,**  
Attorneys at Law.  
Near Court House.

**Walter B. Gordy,**  
Attorneys at Law.  
Notary in office.

**Greene & Greene,**  
Attorneys at Law.  
Notary in office.

**John Nugier,**  
District Attorney and Attorney at Law.  
Notary in office.

**Brave Girl Captured Convict.**  
A girl postal clerk named Meier of Lehtenan, in Baden, Germany, is the heroine of an exciting chase after a convict who escaped while being taken to prison. When the man escaped from his guards, the girl, who is twenty-two years old, seized a stout stick belonging to one of the guards, mounted her bicycle, and followed the man. After a chase of half a mile the man sank to the ground exhausted and surrendered to the girl, who handed him over to the warders.

Our office is located just north of the Veranda Hotel. Look for the red sign "PROGRESS."

## W. C. Entertainment.

One of the most interesting, pleasant and largest gatherings of the season was the meeting Wednesday night of the Magnolia Grove Woodman Circle. The grand guardian, Mrs. A. Smith, accompanied by Mrs. Abbott, both of Algiers, were present at the meeting. The grand guardian addressed the grove in a most instructive and interesting manner. She complimented the officers and members on the splendid work which they are accomplishing.

A large class was introduced into the order. After the session was over a big reception was held. Champagne punch, ice cream and cake was served in abundance. Delightful music was among the features which were enjoyed by all present, and this pleasant evening will long be remembered by all those who were present.

## Aid Society Entertained.

Mrs. E. P. Putnam entertained the Presbyterian Ladies' Aid Society Tuesday afternoon. A two course luncheon as served. Delightful music was rendered by Mrs. Willie Putnam, Mrs. Maxie Sokolowski and Miss Lizzie Nettles. Those present were: mesdames Marion Stebbins, E. M. Stebbins, Frank Stebbins, Roy White, Randle, Trahan R. J. McCom-ki, W. H. Bergin, C. A. Schilling, R. J. LaBauve, J. E. Nettles, M. T. Gordy, W. B. Gordy, Thomas, John Nugier, Sr., Perry LeBlanc, McHenry, Sr., Misses Anna Lou White and Norma Tucker.

Hopeful Hank thinks he has solved the high cost of living problem. He says "After a fellow licks two parcel post stamps in the morning he doesn't hanker for much to eat the rest of the day."  
--Toledo Blade.

## Report From Water and Light Plant

Abbeville, La. April, 14th 1913.  
To the Honorable Mayor and Council, Corporation of Abbeville, La.

Gentlemen: I desire to call your attention, earnestly, to the serious condition that confronts myself and yourselves in the operation of the Water & Lighting system; and to inform yourselves that it is positively necessary, if you wish to continue, uninterrupted, the operation of the system, to make some adequate provision for its needs.

Many times I have been before you for this same purpose, but never have I succeeded in fully securing your attention and interest.

Mr. Wernuth in his audit discovered, and so informed yourselves in his report, that the system was showing a decided loss, which was partially accountable for by the fact that the corporation doesn't fully pay for the service rendered it.

This loss cannot be made up by charging a higher rate to private consumers. Already they complain that the rates are too high, notwithstanding that our rates are in line with New York, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and other large cities. (10c per kilowatt for electric current.)

And there is small chance of securing an increase of business through new subscribers, either residential or business. Look about you and you will discover that practically every business house or residence can that afford it has our service, either water or lights and in most cases both.

As far as business prospects, there are none, at most, only 10 residence prospects. And if they were all secured, with our monthly minimum charge of \$2.50, would only amount to \$25.00 more monthly. Which amount is as nothing when compared to our needs.

As you all know the plant is now nearing seven years of age, an age where deterioration rapidly manifests itself. All mechanical engineers base the life of a plant of this kind at ten years and make provision for a complete renewal within that time.

Considerable machinery repairs are becoming necessary, in fact at the present time we have \$45.80 meter repairs and \$45.00 engine repairs at depot. Many of our poles, crossarms, pins, etc. are badly rotted and need replacing. In fact, some are positively dangerous to life and property.

Such is also the condition of our wires. Many of them are positively bare of insulation and many are rapidly losing their insulation. This condition is both dangerous and expensive. Expensive because much of the current that costs so much to generate is lost by dissipating into the surrounding air.

Dangerous because they will either come into direct contact with some one through breakage, or with some tree, building or telephone wire that will come into contact with some person, causing either a terrible shock or perhaps death.

Again they may whip together in some wind and permit a heavy charge of electricity to enter some building and either cause the burning out of lamp and fuses or cause fire.

All of which creates discontent with our customer, through interrupted service or bad lighting, either dim lights or jumping lights alternately dim and bright.

But aside from the expensive upkeep of the poles, lines, machinery, water mains, etc., the cost of actual operation is far in excess of our monthly revenues.

Our average monthly expenses are as follows: Fuel \$417.00, Salaries \$260.00, Lubricants \$10.00, Packings, etc., \$6.00, Office supplies, phone, etc., \$6.00, water mains including flushing \$5.75, a total of \$704.75 monthly. Our average monthly receipts are \$650.00.

Our average monthly receipts are \$650.00.

Therefore the loss in operation alone is manifest. Where then is the money for repairs and maintenance to come from?

Our cost of producing current is 8 1/8 cents per kilowatt. Our cost of pumping

water is 14 3/4 cents per thousand gallons.

Our charge under the \$2.50 monthly minimum is 10 cents per kilowatt, although much is sold at much lower than that. Thus proving an entire loss. Our water is sold at the same ratio.

We supply the municipality with over \$325.00 service monthly and receive only \$50.00. Showing a loss to the system in this particular instance of \$275.00 monthly.

It is easy to see that if we received that amount and added it to the other revenue it would never be necessary for the municipality to pay for instance, painting of tower and tank, etc. All of which payments will not average over \$400.00 per year. Just a bit over what one month's service is worth.

See how the private consumers could be benefitted, see how the system could be maintained.

The difference between now received \$600.00 per year and \$3,900.00 we should receive would permit a lower rate to private consumers and a better equipped system. We are now at that place. Right where it is necessary for you gentlemen to do something, because I cannot, I am at the end of my resources. My fuel oil contract expires tomorrow, the 15th, and the price of oil is advanced.

I am now paying \$1.09 per barrel of 42 gallons delivered and am asked at the end of my contract to pay \$1.35 f.o.b. Jennings. The freight on a barrel of oil is 21 cents. That would place this oil here at \$1.56 per barrel, which at our present rate of consumption, would cost us \$4.90 more per night or \$147.00 more per month. With our present revenues it will be impossible to continue operation.

Besides I am having difficulties with the oil people, due to my inability to live up to my contract to pay for all oil bought the previous month by the 10th of the succeeding month.

It is utterly impossible to get all my collections in by that time, and nearly every month I am compelled to carry a hundred or more dollars over into the next month, thereby making me short in my payments to the oil people.

I am at present \$514.62 behind including \$418.12 due for March.

Many months I am unable to pay for the oil in full because I am compelled to pay for supplies, repairs, meters, etc. Sometimes it is necessary for me to advance money from my private resources to enable us to continue operations.

So here you have a plain statement of facts, we are at the turning of the ways and it is up to yourselves.

I have to sign another contract for oil and the company wants something definite and satisfactory. They have been very considerate toward me, otherwise we would not have operated as long we have.

It may be necessary for yourselves to borrow money and place in a fund just for this plant. (For it's money we must have) otherwise you may be compelled to take the steps Crowley is contemplating. Of selling or turning loose her plant.

Something has to be done and done quick, more so in view of the fact the people are demanding and expecting a fan service for this summer.

To operate this service would prove even a greater loss and the municipality should provide to make good that loss.

This condition is not due to lack of business during the period of my incumbency. For your auditor's report shows that I have increased the revenues of this plant \$ in 53 months from the time that I assumed charge in Aug. 1908, until Dec. 1912, a monthly average gain of \$

Notwithstanding that I had serious competition with gasoline lighting, which was installed just prior to my assumption of management. During this time I have lowered the rates on water and lights and improved the system.

You will therefore admit that it has required nerve, close attention to detail and careful management to continue the operation of a system for 5 years, practically, that has been losing money every month.

The Corporation has been forced to come forward at different times and help out, it is true, but never to the full amount that it rightfully owes the system.

The failure of Municipal operation of public service systems is due to the fact that no disposition is shown nor provision made to pay for the service secured for its own use. The contention being "That it belongs to the town, why should we pay?"

Somebody must pay, and if the rates to private consumers is high enough to balance this loss, then you either lose consumers or cannot gain new ones.

Remember your plant is antiquated, expensive to operate, and rapidly depreciating and your manager is doing all within his power to operate it satisfactorily and economically. But the burden is a heavy one and he asks some relief.

That can be secured in two ways: Install a cheaper and more satisfactory system or pay for the entire amount of service rendered.

Thanking you for your attention and trusting that you will see justice in my complaint I beg to subscribe myself yours respectfully,

A. G. NAUCK,  
Manager Water & Light Plant.

## City Council

### Met Monday

Abbeville, La. April 21, 1913.

The council of the town of Abbeville met this date in the council chamber with the mayor presiding and the following gentlemen answering to their names: R. P. Nelson, W. S. Hayes, J. C. Broussard and F. L. Melebeck.

The call was read as follows:  
Abbeville, La. April 21, 1913.  
To Hon. J. Canille Broussard, F. L. Melebeck, W. S. Hayes, and R. P. Nelson, councilmen, corporation of Abbeville, La.

Gentlemen: Please to take notice, that by virtue of the law in me vested, I do hereby call a special meeting of the city council to meet at the office of the mayor, at five o'clock P. M. this day for the purpose of taking up and considering the following propositions, to wit:

1st. To pass proper resolutions authorizing the city attorney to take up the matter of bringing actions against the various property owners encroaching or trespassing on the sidewalks or streets within the corporate limits of the town of Abbeville and particularly to authorize the city attorney to bring proper actions against Harry Squires and Mrs. T. E. Ellis.

2nd. To pass a resolution donating to the parish of Vermilion the sum of three hundred eighty-eight and no 100 Dollars for the purpose of expropriating and paying for a certain road on the west side of the Vermilion River.

3rd. To appoint a committee to look into the matter of purchasing an engine and generator for the Water & Light Plant.

4th. To consider all matters that may come up at a regular meeting.

Witness my hand, officially, at Abbeville, La. on this 21st, day of April, 1913.  
Adolph Brasseurux.  
Mayor of Abbeville.

Service of the foregoing call is hereby accepted and citation thereof waived, this 21st day of April, 1913.  
(Signed)  
F. L. Melebeck,  
J. C. Broussard,  
W. S. Hayes,  
R. P. Nelson.

Board of Aldermen, Abbeville, La.  
On motion Dr. R. P. Nelson, seconded by W. S. Hayes that the sum of three hundred eighty-eight and no 100 Dollars be and is hereby appropriated to the parish of Vermilion for the purpose of expropriating and paying for certain lands for widening of the road on the west side of the Vermilion River from the Railroad Crossing, near the Vermilion Sugar Plant to the north corner of the W. B. White property. All voted Yea. Adopted unanimously.

On motion W. S. Hayes, seconded by J. C. Broussard, resolved that the city attorney is hereby instructed, authorized and empowered to take proper steps to bring action against the various property owners encroaching or trespassing on the sidewalks or streets within the corporate limits of the town of Abbeville, and particularly to bring action against Harry Squires and Mrs. T. E. Ellis.

That the City Clerk be and he is hereby instructed to mail a copy of this resolution to Harry Squires, Mrs. T. E. Ellis and the city attorney. All voting yea, unanimously adopted.

On motion F. L. Melebeck, seconded by W. S. Hayes that a committee of three be appointed by the mayor to look into the matter of purchasing an engine and generator for the Water & Light Plant, and make written report back to this council of their findings and recommendations. Unanimously adopted, all voting yea.

Committee named by Mayor Brasseurux: L. Abadie, A. G. Nauck, Dr. R. P. Nelson. on motion duly put and carried the council then adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday evening, April 22nd, 1913.  
Adolph Brasseurux,  
Mayor.  
J. T. Eooks,  
Secretary.

For the canning of figs, peaches and pickles: White Crown Jar Seals, clean and sanitary, fits any Mason jar, at Immerglucks.

The Afternoon Card Club met Saturday evening with Mrs. Richard Dalton as hostess. The first prize was won by Mrs. Willie Putnam; second by Mrs. Leo Simon, and the guest prize was won by Mrs. Felix J. Samson.

Those present were: mesdames John Ewell, H. A. Eldredge, Perry LeBlanc, Willie Putnam, Clay Summers, Maxie Sokolowski, E. L. Terrier, Marion Young, Leo Simon, Raoul Chauvier, Samson Chatvin, Richard Dalton, Misses Maude Eldredge, Lizzie Nettles; guests: mesdames Robert Putnam, L. J. Broussard, Dave Silverman, Felix Samson, Harold Eldredge, Misses Bessie Flemming, Louise Estorge, and Miss Capron.

We will accept chickens and eggs or corn in payment for your subscription.

## New Orleans Letter.

Here's to the bride-to-be,  
Smiling, bright and fair;  
Here's to those who would like to be,  
Wondering when and where.

Mrs. F. A. Godechaux had as her guests recently Misses Roberta Young and Pauline Mizzi.

Mr. W. B. Uley left for Tennessee to attend the funeral of his mother.

Miss Idolie Trahan attended the teachers convention held here last week.

The Seminole Manufacturing Co. has been recently organized for the purpose of manufacturing chemicals, with the following officers: Needham Powell, president; Joseph Bayle, Jr., vice president; Richard Dozier, secretary, and W. P. Legendre, treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Godechaux, and Frank Godechaux, Jr., left Thursday for Abbeville.

While passing through New Orleans on their wedding tour, Mr. and Mrs. Hollier were royally banqueted by Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Meyers.

We are pleased to note that Mrs. Robert Stauffer has improved wonderfully in her health and was able to leave for her home Sunday. It is stated that she is on the road to rapid recovery.

New Orleans Dock Board has the entire river front at Canal street covered with multiple sheet pile driver for handling steel piling for levee protection work. These appliances are ingeniously constructed in batteries of five to a section to facilitate the rapidity of action in case of emergency.

The Queen and Crescent skyscraper at Camp and Natchez street, a most modern fire proof, steel framed, down to date construction is towering above the twelve story mark, and will be one of the show places of modern New Orleans.

With the opening of the lake resorts all eyes are turned to the Southern Yacht Club's new racing machine, the sloop "Massachusetts" designed to make the "Sewanaka" a back number, but "we don't know."

The entire population anxiously awaits the opening of the Spanish Fort in May.

Robert Stauffer, of Abbeville, was a business visitor to the city last week.

The Pelican base ball team of the Southern League, is making rapid strides toward the bottom of the column.

Abbeville boys as Soule's college have a yearning for Young's Coulee.

Editor Holland, of the Greensburg Echo, is greatly disturbed in mind over the fact that tight lacing of corsets is cutting short the lives of the fairer sex. Listen to the St. Helener editor.

"Wearing corsets should be done away with, and if the girls can't live without being squeezed we believe there are a few men left who are patriotic enough to sacrifice themselves. As old as we are we'd be willing to devote a couple or three hours a day, gratis, as a corset substitute rather than to see the girls dying in that manner. Office hours, any old time."



**A Contented Trio.**  
Dad is telling mamma and the baby about his new summer suit that he bought from Billy, the tailor, and how nice it fits.

I can do the same for you.

**Billy, the Tailor**  
Phone 254. State St.

If you are using our bread, then you have just cause to enjoy your meals.  
**Peerless Bakery.**

**D. FREDERICK**  
who conducts the  
**Meat Market**  
Opposite Stauffer-Godechaux Store  
Always has fresh Beef, Pork, Veal, Mutton and Sausage.  
Open from 4 a. m. to 8 p. m.  
Free Delivery. Phone 69.

**Feray's Restaurant**  
is the place to give your orders for....  
**Special Suppers**  
For any number of reasons.

**Big Ben**  
Should be in every farmer's home.

See him in our window next time you come to town. Hear him greet you "Good Morning." He is well worth meeting indeed.

Big Ben is a truth telling and reliable alarm clock.  
**\$2.50**  
**Vermilion Jewelry Co.**  
J. A. LeBlanc, Mgr.

I am prepared to do all kinds of work in the tin line. Gutting, Cisterns, Roofing. Tin and Galvanized Shingles. Up to date Sanitary Plumbing.  
**A. C. Escudier.**  
Next to Ewell's Big Barn.  
Phone 237. State St.

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Start today. Open a bank account with the  
**Peoples Bank & Trust Co.**  
Deposits from \$1 up accepted.

**J. K. Lambe**  
Will make your sign,  
Paint your house, carriage or auto.  
Decorate your home with wall paper, calsimo or sanitas and, guarantee satisfaction.  
**Ask Anybody**

## Summer Buggies and Runabouts

### Harness and Lap Dusters

## J. A. Summers

## SANITARY



**Roach Fly Insect**

**PROOF**

Price \$1.25.

FOR SALE BY  
**Geo. A. Comfort**

**COFFEE MILL** Write for descriptive circular. Phone 93.

## Refrigerators at Cost

To make room for our new refrigerators we are offering our last year's stock of these good absolutely at cost.

Remember these boxes are in first class condition and we will not hold this offer open longer than until we get our new goods in, so come at once to be sure and get the benefit of the special prices.

**Abbeville Furniture Company**  
Phone 183. State St.

**GOOD OLD F.W. HARPER WHISKEY**

**Famous The World Over**  
For its exquisite flavor. The choice of all men who know good whiskey.

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J. O. LFGE  
C. F. GRIMMER