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THE LAFAYETTE GAZETTE.

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NUMBER 30.

Our Ladies' Department
Is complete in every respect.
Up-to-date, stylish and tasty.

We not only have the goods for men folk, but we are exceptionally well equipped in things that ladies wear. Our dry goods and dress goods have been selected with an eye single to the approbation of lady customers. We especially solicit the patronage of the ladies. We have engaged the services of an experienced lady who is in charge of our ladies' department and we have the right kind of goods.

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Mr. Kahn, our manager, has returned from the East where he has bought an immense stock of goods for the fall trade. The time has come when it is absolute folly to go elsewhere to buy your clothes, your hats and your shoes. The

Lafayette Clothing House

makes a specialty of men's furnishings. We know what to buy and we buy with the view of pleasing the men folk. If you want the best that can be had, call on us.

We have the shoes to suit everybody.

MEN'S SHOES:

Leander, \$3; Tulane, \$3.50; Audubon, \$4; Nettleton, \$5 & \$5.50.

A large assortment of Ladies' and Children's shoes. All styles, and grades. If you need a good shoe call on us. We'll suit you.

THE LEADER STORE, PLONSKY BROS., Props.



RAMON'S Chill Tonic
Pepsin
Is Tasteless and Guaranteed to Cure Chills and Fever and all Malarial Troubles.
Does Not Contain Quinine Nor Other Poison. Does Not Injure the Stomach Nor Effect the Hearing.
W. A. McLary & Son, Dime Box, Tex., say: "Ramon's Pepsin Chill Tonic is the best we have ever handled. My son prescribes it in his practice, and says it is the only Chill Tonic which a child can take without injury to the stomach."
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Prompt and careful attention given to all business entrusted to our care.

We solicit a share of the public patronage.

B. FALK, Dealer in.....

General Merchandise,

Will always quote you

The lowest prices and

sell you **The best goods.**

WANTED! MONEY to LOAN!

Bids for racking 150 cane cars as per specifications at the undersigned's office.

Men desiring employment for the coming grinding season may leave their names at the office.

Lafayette Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.

In sums of not less than \$300, and as high as security will justify, at 6 per cent., for not less than 3 nor more than 5 years. For further information apply to Jerome Mouton, at the office of O. Mouton, Lafayette, La.

MR. GIRARD'S SPEECH.

Last Saturday at the political meeting held at Falk's hall Mr. Crow Girard was one of the speakers. His remarks were mostly directed against the gentlemen responsible for the administration of the affairs of this parish.

The Gazette has no complaint to make because Mr. Girard has seen proper to criticize the present administration. In doing that he has merely exercised his right as a citizen and taxpayer of this parish. When public affairs are, in the opinion of any citizen, not administered as they ought to be, it is not only the right of the citizen, but it is his duty to say so and to offer any remedial measures if he should happen to know of any. But with all due respect to the intelligence and honesty of purpose of Mr. Girard, The Gazette thinks that he has been unfair to his criticisms. If allowed to go unrefuted his remarks may reflect unjustly upon some gentlemen who are responsible for the alleged maladministration.

The Gazette is not the champion of the Police Jury, nor does it criticize Mr. Girard's speech in a captious spirit. As a public journal it merely wishes to give credit to whom it is due and to defend public servants against what it considers undeserved censure. In the course of his speech Mr. Girard is reported as having said:

"Here in our own parish, I can call your attention to the condition, as it exists, and it affords us a perfectly fair example of the condition throughout the State of Louisiana. In this parish the present political faction have been in control some twelve years—nearly twelve years. During those twelve years the revenues of the parish have increased from in the neighborhood of \$15,000 per annum to nearly or more than \$25,000 per annum. All that money goes into the hands of the treasurer, and what has been the result? During the eight years that preceded this present regime, under what was then called the McEnery administration. (Use this name only as describing the eight years preceding the last twelve years). During those eight years, fellow-citizens, the administration that then existed, gave you as a public monument the jail that cost over \$12,000—may be \$14,000. During those eight years they gave you the clerk's office that was absolutely necessary and essential to the welfare of the parish. They gave you the iron bridge over the Vermilion bayou, which has stood there since that time, with a very few dollars' worth of repairs. Each of these two last cost the parish \$5000 or \$6000. There were something over \$20,000 or \$25,000 expended during eight years in monuments that stand to-day for the welfare of the people of Lafayette. Since that time—since the inauguration of the twelve years—that the present administration has had control the revenues of the parish have nearly doubled, and yet what has been the result. Can they point a finger to anything that stands as a representative of the portion of any of the money that went into their hands. The public roads are no better now than they were then. The schools are little better, but very little better. And even to-day the parish is in a condition of bankruptcy. It is in debt to-day."

We have quoted Mr. Girard at length. Wishing to be fair we have given all that he had to say on this subject.

But let us see if he has not overdrawn the picture to suit his case. We fear that his portrayal of the condition under the McEnery administration and of the affairs during the last twelve years is decidedly one-sided. This picture reminds us of the one used by the patent medicine firm to tell the "before and after taking" story. It sings the praises of the remedy, but does scant justice to the patient.

Mr. Girard tells us that the McEnery administration spent \$20,000 or \$25,000 in improvements which stand as monuments, etc. We have ascertained that the jail, the bridge and the clerk's office cost the parish \$21,200, but we do not wish to detract from the gentlemen of that administration and we refer to these matters in order to show that Mr. Girard's comparison is unfair to the present administration. It is not our purpose to revive old things. The McEnery Police Jury did well no doubt, but Mr. Girard did not tell it all. There was another item which escaped his mind. It left an indebtedness of \$3138.32 which had to be paid by its successor, the Police Jury appointed by Gov. Nicholls.

As Mr. Girard says there has been a want of satisfactory improvement in school matters, it may not be amiss to say that during the eight years of its incumbency the

administration of which he so loudly proclaims the virtues, appropriated, as the records show, the magnificent sum of one thousand dollars for the public schools of this parish. Think of it! A little more than one hundred dollars per annum! It could well afford to build the improvements which have been mentioned.

In striking contrast to this shines out in bold relief the \$35,000 given for public education during the twelve years which are included in what may be termed the present regime. The present Police Jury has been particularly solicitous for the progress of the cause of free education as is shown by its liberal appropriations. Those large appropriations toward the maintenance of the schools may account for a portion of that amount whose disposition, Mr. Girard suggests, is "still veiled in mystery."

It is well known that the incoming Police Jury in 1888, in compliance with the imperative demands of the people, opened a large number of roads which were necessitated by the rapid settling up of the parish. A great deal of money was spent to open the roads and to build and maintain the large number of bridges which were required by the new roads. Four thousand three hundred dollars have been expended in repairing the jail. It is true that the revenues of the parish have greatly increased since twelve years ago, but for the same reasons the expenses of the parish have largely augmented. We think that instead of being to their discredit it is to their everlasting fame to be able to say that the Police Juries of the Nicholls and Foster administrations have, notwithstanding the unusual demands that have been made upon them from other quarters, been in a position to give thirty-five thousand dollars to educate the children of the parish.

Under the administration which Mr. Girard recommends to us as an example of economy and good government, parish warrants, jurors' and witnesses' certificates were sold at 50 cents on the dollar and probably for less. That has been stopped.

Now, as to the schools. Mr. Girard says they are very little better than they were twelve years ago. That is surely a palpable error. The schools of this parish have improved very much since 1888. When the Nicholls board was inducted into office there were few if any school-houses in the parish. In the town of Lafayette there was an old barn which had cost \$350. To-day there are school houses in every ward, belonging to the parish and in justice to the teachers we must say that there are some very creditable schools. There is a high school in this town which is progressing nicely and bids fair to become an excellent institution if we help it along and give it our united support. It has just begun a term with an attendance of nearly one hundred and it is under the direction of an able teacher.

In his speech Mr. Girard said: "I would be glad to trace out all the meanderings of the parish money as it goes out of the treasurer's hands. I can easily ascertain where a considerable portion of it goes, but as for the balance it is still veiled in mystery, so far as I have been able to find out."

The Gazette has not always endorsed the acts of the Police Jury, but it has never believed that there was anything mysterious about its disposition of the public funds. Every month the bills approved at the regular meeting are published in the official proceedings in which also appears the report of the treasurer, showing the receipts and money paid during the month. The Jury holds a voucher for every cent expended and any one who desires to see where the money goes can find out by looking at the archives. There is no secret about that.

Mr. Girard has made one concession, however, which is worthy of note. It is this:

"There are some good men among them, as there are in any assembly, but unfortunately for us and unfortunately for them, they stand in a hopeless minority."

The Gazette submits that that estimate is altogether unfair. If permitted we will alter it and will say that the good men in the Police Jury instead of being in a hopeless

minority are in a hopeful majority. And maybe they are all good. Who knows? Are there any better men in this parish than Hon. R. C. Landry, Col. C. C. Brown, Alfred Hebert, Martial Billeaud, Jr., John Whittington, Alonzo Lacey? It is very true Messrs. Avant and Priemeaux have been charged with some irregularities in connection with their official duties, but under our constitution every man is presumed innocent until proven guilty. The Gazette trusts that at the proper time these two members of the Jury will be vindicated. We hope so for their own sake and for the good name of our parish. To be frank The Gazette thinks it would be hard to select a Police Jury that would, as a whole, more unreservedly enjoy the confidence of the people of the parish than do the present members of that body.

Speaking of the sheriff's office, Mr. Girard says:

"The sheriff gets a salary of \$2300 fixed and established. He gets paid for the feeding of prisoners and so far as my observation goes, that amounts to something like \$200 a month or more, or nearly \$2500 a year, together with the expenses of the jail, quilts, blankets, and what-not which runs it up to nearly \$5000.00. His commission on collections of taxes runs up from \$1200.00 to \$1500.00. The commission on licenses must be something in the neighborhood of \$500.00. And here is \$7000.00 per annum that goes into the sheriff's office and jail. It is not to be wondered at then that there is no money."

As the exact size of the sheriff's salary has never worried us we do not know how large it is. We have always considered that officer to be a sensible man and as he is not posing as a philanthropist just now we have no doubt that he receives what the law accords him. If he were an angel or a saint he might donate his salary to the State, but as we have not the remotest suspicion that he is either, we presume that he takes "what the law allows."

But Mr. Girard's figures are misleading. We do not believe they are intentionally so, but they are, nevertheless. According to his figures the sheriff's office and jail cost the parish \$7000. But it should not escape anyone's mind that out of this amount the sheriff must feed the prisoners; that he must pay a man to attend to the jail; that he must engage the services of a competent and reliable collector to whom he pays a handsome salary; that he must have the assistance of several deputies; that he must run down criminals; that he must bear the expenses of conveying prisoners to Baton Rouge; that he must take interdicted persons to the asylum and that there are innumerable other demands made upon his exchequer that he is compelled to meet in the conduct of his office.

The Gazette submits the foregoing remarks with no other purpose in view than to bring out the facts. There is no desire on the part of this paper to be unfair to anyone. We believe Mr. Girard has erred in his speech at Falk's hall and we have endeavored to point out his errors in an unbiased manner. We believe that our contentions stand the searchlight of a free and open discussion and we offer our columns to Mr. Girard or to any other reputable citizen who wishes to combat anything that we have said.

Moss Pharmacy is the place to buy high school books, pencils, tablets, etc.

Young Rean, of Acadia parish, who was accused of undue intimacy with a member of the opposite sex, was not tried for the offense. An understanding was had between the accused and the relatives of the aggrieved person and instead of facing a jury of his peers on a serious charge with a possibility of being confronted by an enforced service to the commonwealth, the young man pleaded to the soft impeachment and wisely chose the primrose path of dalliance. They were joined in wedlock by the judge in the presence of the habitues of the court who bestowed upon them their blessings accompanied by the wish that they will gently sail on the troublous sea of matrimony, hoping that their bark will be fanned ashore by the breeze of congeniality and love, despite the fact that the voyage was perhaps a little inauspiciously begun.

MEETING

At Falk's Hall—Speakers Attempt to Arraign the Administrations, State and Parish.

The first political meeting of the campaign was held at Falk's Hall last Saturday. It was composed of the opponents of the present State and parish administrations. Mr. Albert Guidry was elected president of the meeting and Mr. R. W. Elliot secretary. The following vice-presidents were elected: Jean Hebert, Alcide Justice, Ernest Bernard, Jean Simon, A. A. Labbe, Dr. J. P. Francez, Dolze Broussard and Jules Meaux. Messrs. Labbe, Bernard and Justice were not present.

Resolutions were submitted by Mr. Crow Girard. They embodied a petition to the regular executive committee presided over by Mr. Hahn, and to the irregular committee of which Mr. Cochran is chairman. Both bodies are petitioned to order a "white primary" to nominate a Democratic ticket.

Mr. Girard was the first speaker. Elsewhere we have a more extended notice of his speech.

Mr. Louis Stelly was the next speaker. His remarks were directed principally against the election law.

Mr. R. W. Elliott was the third and last speaker. His speech was in line with the utterances of the speakers who preceded him.

Messrs. Louis Stelly, W. B. Torian and R. W. Elliott were appointed to present the petition to the committees.

Messrs. Crow Girard, W. W. Lessly and C. C. Brown were appointed to confer with Acadia relative to a judicial ticket. By motion of Mr. Girard Mr. Alb. Guidry was made chairman of both committees.

The Gazette thinks that the opposition have made a weak start—weak numerically and otherwise. We believe that they have utterly failed to show why they should be entrusted with the affairs of the parish, and in our humble opinion they have not advanced a single reason why those in power should be ousted. Intelligent voters will not be influenced by such an array of glittering generalities and will refuse to be frightened by imaginary evils conjured up for the occasion.

The Office Boy Wants to Know. Who will be governor of this State.

If there are not many Dreyfuses besides the French captain. If Mr. Falk's Democratic rooster wanted to applaud the speakers or if he wanted to remind them that the lusty chanticleer is the Democratic emblem.

Why some Republicans have suddenly become so solicitous for the welfare of the Democratic party as to recommend white primaries to select Democratic candidates. If any one has kept a record of the number of political caucuses held by the reformers.

If it would not be well to know the number merely as an historical fact. If the Republicans of this parish are going to nominate a ticket. If it would not have been advisable to have postponed the campaign until after the special tax election.

If it is not time to do away with quarantines. If science is not sufficiently advanced to give the yellow fever microbe a square fight and to make it seek its hole.

If Candidate Denegre has had enough time to find out how he stands on the money question.

If it is not a humiliating fact that Louisiana was not represented at either the Chicago or St. Louis anti-trust conventions.

If our statesmen are afraid to make known their views on this all-absorbing issue.

How many citizens of this town have read Bryan's speech on the trusts.

How many among our local statesmen know that Bryan did make a speech on the subject of trusts.

If any one is waiting on the result of the New Orleans election to tumble from the political

District Court.

Judge Debaillon and District Attorney Gordy have been dealing out justice during the week with their usual activity. Mr. Gordy has secured a conviction in every case tried except the one in which he requested the jury to return a verdict of acquittal. The following cases were disposed of:

Batmas Valentin pleaded guilty to a charge of assault and battery. Arnaud Francois, assault with intent to murder, pleaded guilty.

Jules Figaro, larceny, declined the services of an attorney, pleaded his own defense and was convicted. Jean Baptiste Grant, larceny, defended by counsel appointed by the court, was convicted.

Wm. Hane was arraigned on a charge of forgery and his case was fixed for Sept. 29. Owing to quarantine regulations witnesses who live in New Orleans will not be able to appear at the trial and the case will have to be continued. Jules George, carrying concealed weapon, pleaded guilty.

In the case of Tommie Galopy for carrying concealed weapon a nolle pro was entered. Tommie Galopy pleaded guilty to a charge of stabbing with intent to commit murder.

Maxime Foote pleaded guilty to a charge of trespass. Lume Victor, carrying concealed weapon, plea of guilty entered.

Case of Paul William shooting with intent to kill was fixed for 29th inst. Etienne Simon, burglary, convicted.

Andre Louis, assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to murder, convicted. Villier Simon, burglary, convicted.

Wm. Green, Jr., pleaded guilty to a charge of larceny. Wm. Babi, violating labor contract, convicted.

Joe Sythes, larceny, acquitted at the request of the district attorney.

Moss Pharmacy is the place to buy Roger, Gallet, Bourgeois, Lubin, or Laells extracts, toilet waters and soaps.

FOR RENT—A dwelling house in about the center of the corporation of Lafayette. Apply to Mrs. C. P. Alpha.

The ladies of Lafayette are reminded that Mrs. Jeannard has received a fine line of millinery.

Mrs. C. Gardebled and daughter, Miss Madeleine, of Bay St. Louis, Miss., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Gardebled.

Moss Pharmacy is the place to get just what you want. If we haven't it we will order it for you.

Beautiful millinery at Mrs. Jeannard's.

Mr. David Pelletier, the well-known salesman who has been in the employ of the Tennant-Stribling Company, has severed his connection with that firm and in the future he will represent the popular establishment of Wortheimer-Swartz Company, known far and wide as the handlers of the celebrated "Clover Brand Shoe." Mr. Pelletier will shortly call upon his customers with a most complete line of samples. The Wortheimer-Swartz Company sells only the very best shoes made and dealers who handle superior brands of footwear will do well to look at Mr. Pelletier's samples.

Mrs. C. Jeannard has received a nice line of seasonable goods. She invites the ladies of Lafayette to visit her store.

Dr. Blunt, the most powerful autocrat in the United States, spent several hours in Lafayette Thursday. The doctor was looking into quarantine matters.

"They are just too lovely" is what the ladies say of our wash-stand sets. No trouble to show goods at *Moss & Co's*.

Fashionable and stylish millinery at Mrs. Jeannard's.

Don't wait until it is too cold to replace those broken window panes. Leave your orders at *Moss & Co*.