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PERSHING CLUB IS ORGANIZED WITH DIMMICK HEAD

Prominent Shuteston Farmer Chosen Temporary President of Organization

OPELOUSAS TO MAKE FIGHT FOR HIGHWAY

Manager McDougal of Pershing Way Assures City Has Chance to Get on Road

At a representative and enthusiastic meeting of good roads boosters of the first, second and fifth wards, held in the police jury room of the court house on Wednesday morning the St. Landry Pershing Way was organized with a good sized membership.

Frank Dimmick, former president of the parish police jury, and one of the biggest good roads boosters of St. Landry, was chosen the president of the new organization. L. A. Andrepoint, editor of the Star-Progress, was named secretary; Jno. P. Savant of Whiteville was selected first vice president and Leon Wolff of Washington, second vice president, and Dr. C. A. Gardiner of near Sunset, treasurer.

Hon. E. M. Boagni, president of the Evangeline Highway Association, himself an ardent good roads advocate, presided at the meeting and strongly urged the organization of a club that would assure St. Landry the great international highway that will connect New Orleans with Winnipeg, Canada.

It is the belief of the good roads boosters who attended Wednesday morning's meeting, that St. Landry will have no trouble in securing a sufficient membership in the Pershing Way Club to assure for Opelousas and other towns through which the highway will traverse that the officials of the Pershing Highway Association will select the Evangeline Route as the official route for the route for the new international road.

At a meeting of the members of the Pershing Club to be held in this city within the next few days, a board of directors will be selected and a membership committee named. It is hoped that representative taxpayers of Opelousas, Washington, Grand Prairie, Plaisance, Bellevue, Sunset, and Coulee Croche will rally to the call of the membership committee and lend their financial aid and moral support to the greatest movement yet undertaken in this parish.

A thorough canvass of the business people of this city will begin probably next week, when it is hoped to secure the application for membership of every business man and citizen who has the interest of this city at heart, and who would like to see Opelousas placed on the greatest highway running north and south.

Manager McDougal of the Pershing Highway Association, who hails from Cedar Falls, Iowa, was very much pleased with the meeting held on Wednesday morning and paid the gathering a very flattering compliment, when he said that in all his travels between Canada and the Gulf in the interest of the highway project he had never met such an intelligent, well-disposed and enthusiastic set of men. He expressed the opinion that Opelousas and its assistants in the fight for the Pershing Way would not allow the opportunity of securing an international highway slip by, and that on his next visit to St. Landry he hoped that he would be in a position to inform the members of the St. Landry Pershing Club that the directors of the national organization had selected the Evangeline Route.

Delegations from Bankie, Whiteville, Barbeck, Dubuisson, Washington, Sunset, Coulee Croche and Lafayette were present and participated in the general discussion of the Pershing Highway.

POLICE JURY MEETS MONDAY

Parish Lawmakers Will Be in Regular Monthly Session Two Days of Week

The police jury will hold its regular monthly meeting on next Monday and Tuesday. Much interest is shown in the approaching session of the parish lawmakers, as a large number of good roads bonds are to be offered for sale, the bids for which will be opened on Monday. Good roads work will doubtless take up the major portion of the meeting. Among the bonds advertised for sale are those of the Opelousas district. This is a half-million dollar issue, and it is expected to bring a premium, as it is the largest yet offered in St. Landry parish.

YOUNG MEN TO MAKE THE LIST

Committee Selects Two from Each Faction to Get Up the Names of Voters

Reference to the proceedings of the parish democratic executive committee, published elsewhere in this issue of the Star-Progress, will disclose the fact that the body, at its meeting held last Tuesday for accomplishing the important work of selecting the commissioners and clerks and watchers for the January primary, also appointed Oscar Andrepoint and Easton Durio to get up the official list of the voters for each of the twenty-five election precincts of St. Landry parish. These two young men represent the two opposing factions in the parish, and their appointment is a customary one of the committee.

Their work will be somewhat tedious as they have to compare the registration rolls with the poll tax list, for many may be duly registered but not have their poll taxes paid for the years 1918 and 1919, and hence not be qualified to vote.

As poll tax payments for voting qualification ceased at midnight last Wednesday, the work of compiling and listing the qualified voters of the parish began only in earnest yesterday, Thursday being a legal holiday.

RECORD ATTAINED IN POLL TAX PAYMENT WITH 4,197

Largest Number of Voters Pay This Tax Since Division of Old St. Landry Parish

SIXTH WARD LEADS WITH OVER THOUSAND

Last Day Rush Sends Amount of Poll Taxes Well Over the Four Thousand Mark

St. Landry will cast a big vote on January 20, if the record of the tax-collector's office and those of the registration office count for anything. With more than five thousand voters and 4,197 poll taxes paid, St. Landry should poll in the neighborhood of four thousand votes on the 20th of this month.

The sixth ward, as in the registration, leads in the payment of poll taxes with 1,024, while the fifth ward, once one of the biggest voting wards of the parish, is the smallest, with 519. The fourth ward, which for years was the smallest ward in St. Landry, and which cast the smallest vote in 1916, jumped from last to third place, with 581. The first ward, with Opelousas, Bellevue and Plaisance as the voting precincts, has second place, with 957 poll taxes. The third ward is fourth, with 577, and the second ward is fifth, with 539 poll taxes paid.

There are a number of voters over the poll tax age, while quite a few have just attained their twenty-first birthday and do not owe poll taxes. These added to the soldiers discharged during 1918 and who owe no poll tax and who only have to show their discharge papers in order to be qualified to vote, will probably send the voting strength of St. Landry a thousand votes. It is therefore natural for one to presume that at least 4,000 votes will be polled on the 20th of this month, when Louisiana will elect its governor and St. Landry chooses its sheriff, clerk of court, assessor, coroner, representatives and other parochial officers from the numerous candidates offering for the places.

Hon. P. R. Sandoz made a flying trip to Baton Rouge last Tuesday evening, returning that night on the limited.

LEON CHACHERE MAKES INVESTMENT

Popular Employee of Bordelon's Garage Purchases Valuable Lot and Improving

Leon Chachere, who recently returned to his native city from Crowley and now employed by Bordelon's Garage, and St. Landry representative of the Rumley Oil-Pull tractors, recently purchased the lot and home formerly occupied by the Dumas family on East Grolee street. This is one of the most valuable pieces of residential property on Grolee street and Mr. Chachere intends to make considerably more valuable by putting up needed improvements.

The old residence is being remodelled, the contractors having begun on the job the early part of the week. When it is completed, Mr. Chachere will be the owner of a very comfortable and pretty bungalow.

FONTENOT TO BEGIN TOUR OF PARISH THIS MORNING

Series of Meetings Opens With Speaking at Plaisance Saturday Morning, 10:30

WILL SPEAK IN THIS CITY ON NEXT TUESDAY

Political Rallies Planned for Every Precinct in Parish for Popular Candidate

Political rallies in the interest of the candidacy of Ariel Fontenot, who is now conceded to be the winning aspirant for the office of sheriff, will be held in every precinct in St. Landry, beginning with Plaisance this morning at 10:30 o'clock, and winding up at Krotz Springs on January 15.

At each of the meetings Mr. Fontenot will appeal for votes in his own behalf, and will be assisted on the stump by many of his friends.

The Opelousas meeting on next Tuesday will most likely be the biggest of all. A string band will be engaged for the evening and one of the biggest political rallies yet pulled off in this city during the present campaign will be held. This will be Mr. Fontenot's first appearance on the stump in this city.

A second rally is planned for Opelousas on Monday night, January 19, the night before the election. Arrangements are under way for this affair, too, which it is said will be a real big political rally.

Mr. Fontenot's friends now feel confident of his election. His strength is growing daily, and by his bold stand he has made friends on every side—so much so, in fact, that his friends would not be surprised to see him carry every ward in the parish, feeling confident that he has the lead in five of them and making strong headway in the other one.

Following is the Fontenot itinerary:

Plaisance, Saturday, January 3, at Vidrine's store, at 10:30 a. m.
Coulee Croche, at Guidry's School, Sunday, January 4, at 10:30 a. m.
Grand Coteau, at Merry Makers' Hall, Sunday, January 4, at 3:30 p. m.

Sunset, Sunday, January 4, at the Sunset school, at 7 p. m.
Arnaudville, Monday, January 5, at 10:30 a. m.
Leonville, Monday, January 5, at school house, at 7 p. m.

Nottleyville, at school house, Monday, January 5, at 3:30 p. m.
Mallet, at Bertrand's store, Tuesday, January 6, at 10:30 a. m.
Plaquemine Point, at Bourque's store, Tuesday, January 6 at 3:30 p. m.

Opelousas, at court house, Tuesday, January 6, at 7:30 p. m.
Fayetteville, Wednesday, January 7, at 3:30 p. m.
Eunice, at Picou's Hall, Wednesday, January 7, at 3:30 p. m.

Washington, at Plonky's opera house, Thursday, January 8, at 7:30 p. m.
Whiteville, Friday, January 9, at 1 p. m.
Garland, Friday, January 9, at 5 p. m.

Grand Prairie, at Ozeme Fontenot's store, Sunday, at 11:30 a. m.
Morrow, Tuesday, January 13, at 10:30 a. m.
Big Cane, at Gouchaux's store, Tuesday, January 13, at 1:30 p. m.

Palmetto, at Ganson's store, Wednesday, January 14, at 10:30 a. m.
Waxia, at school house, Wednesday, January 14, at 4 p. m.
Krotz Springs, Thursday, January 15, at 7 p. m.

Melville and Bayou Current, Friday, January 16.

NOLAN BUILDING FINE BUNGALOW

Modern and Comfortable Home Being Erected on East Grolee Street for Publisher

W. F. Nolan, one of the publishers of the Star-Progress, like many other citizens of Opelousas who believe that this city holds in store for its people a great future in property investments, has decided to quit renting and to build a comfortable and pretty bungalow. The contract for the Nolan home, which will grace East Grolee street, next to Robert Perkins' residence, was let out last week, and on Monday morning Auguste Amy, well known local contractor, had a crew of men at work breaking ground.

The Nolan home will be one of the prettiest on Grolee street and will be a valuable addition to one of the most desirable residential sections of Opelousas. It will be ready for occupancy in about six or eight weeks.

ACADIA VOTES FOR DRAINAGE

Tax Carried by Big Vote in Bayou Wikoff District, Adjoining St. Landry

The special election held in the Bayou Wikoff Drainage District of the adjoining parish of Acadia, last Tuesday, was carried by a large majority, which assures the further extension of the drainage work now going on in this section of the state.

A special election was to have been held for the same purpose in this district some months ago, all preliminaries to that end having been made; but at the last moment some parties got out an injunction and held up the proposition.

The Bayou Plaquemine district of St. Landry has dredged the bayou out as far as the Acadia parish line and is now engaged in dredging the laterals leading and draining into that water course. This work assures better artificial drainage for the low-lying lands in western St. Landry, and the immense amount of water poured into the bayou would have drowned out the farm lands in the adjoining parish, had not the people there taken time by the forelock and voted a tax to continue the work of dredging the bayou from the St. Landry line on southward.

Their decisive vote Tuesday decides the matter and now within a short time some of the very finest agricultural lands in the entire state, once a risky proposition for farming on account of lack of drainage, will be certain crop producers every year.

TO TOUR PARISH WITH THE MOVIES

Mendoza and Francioni Giving Exhibition of Agriculture to the Club Members

Beginning Monday afternoon, A. A. Mendoza, local federal farm demonstrator, and J. B. Francioni of the extension department of the L. S. U., at Baton Rouge, will tour St. Landry with a movie machine, exhibiting very interesting pictures of modern agriculture. These pictures will be shown at various school houses in the parish absolutely free of cost, and while they are intended mainly for the club boys and girls, as well as school children, the grown-ups are cordially invited to witness these absorbing pictures of present-day, progressive methods of tilling the soil and taking care of livestock.

The tour begins at Prairie Ronde Monday afternoon, at 2 o'clock. At 7:30 that night the party will be in Lawtell, Grand Prairie at 2 p. m. Tuesday and Washington the same night, at 7:30 o'clock. Wednesday, Arnaudville will be visited at 2 o'clock p. m. and Leonville at 7:30 o'clock p. m. Morrow on Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock and Port Barre the same night at 7:30. The final trip will be made to Bristol on Friday evening at 2 o'clock, and Sunset the same night at 7:30 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Staggs and children of Dubuisson station, Bayou Boeuf, spent Christmas here as the guests of Mrs. Staggs' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Winfield.

Dr. C. A. Gardiner of Bristol was among the many prominent out-of-town attendants at the highway meeting here last Wednesday morning.

John R. Thistlethwaite and Leon Wolff were among the Washington good roads boosters to attend the meeting of the Evangeline Highway Association at the court house the middle of the week.

WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES

The many friends and acquaintances in this community of Miss Evelina Trichell will be interested to know that she underwent an operation for appendicitis in Shreveport on December 30, and is now doing nicely.

Mr. Atwood Zernott spent several days here as the guest of Mr. W. R. Boudreau, Jr.

Mr. O. C. Rabb has been a recent visitor at the home of Mr. Robert Dunbar.

Mr. J. G. Carriere, Jr., spent last Saturday in Lafayette at the home of his uncle, Mr. J. J. Carriere.

Mr. W. R. Boudreau, Jr., has been in New Orleans for several days of this week.

Mr. Edw. Thistlethwaite, who has been on a visit here of several weeks duration, returned to his home in Sheridan, Indiana, accompanied by his son, J. E. Thistlethwaite.

Mr. Lucius Zernott of New Orleans visited friends in this town for several days this week.

Mr. Bob White and Miss Cora Cordway of Crowley were guests at the home of Miss Lizzie Kilpatrick on Christmas day.

Miss Helen Fux and Miss Vivian

BANK DEPOSITS SHOW HEALTHY INCREASE IN PAST YEAR

Over Four Million Dollars on Deposit in Opelousas Banks on January 1, 1920

MILLION DOLLARS INCREASE IN YEAR

Total Resources of Three Local Banks Jump to \$4,670,983.75 for Another Record

That Opelousas is a prosperous city must be granted if one is to judge by bank resources and money on deposit in the banks of this city.

When it is taken into consideration that a number of banks in the country surrounding Opelousas will be found the record attained by the three local banks is the more stupendous. There are banks in Washington, Eunice, Lawtell, Arnaudville, Melville and Sunset, serving the country districts of St. Landry. Therefore, it must naturally be assumed that the money in the Opelousas banks must be Opelousas money, as the territory outside the city is liberally covered with banking institutions.

The St. Landry Bank and Trust Company still maintains its lead in resources and deposits, with the Planters and the Opelousas National steadily crawling upward. The St. Landry has jumped over the two million mark in resources the Planters over the million and the Opelousas National pressing that mark very closely.

The total deposits of the three banks for 1919 is \$4,073,576.68, as compared with \$3,031,697.99 in the four banks in 1918. Resources compare as \$4,670,983.75 for 1919 as against \$3,857,057.07 in 1918.

Following is the way the banks lined up in 1918:

Deposits:
St. Landry State . . . \$1,084,498.57
Peoples State 651,038.08
Opelousas Nat'l 571,636.73
Planters 724,524.61

Total \$3,031,697.99

Resources:
St. Landry State . . . \$1,400,016.83
Peoples State 714,717.10
Opelousas Nat'l 781,838.30
Planters 920,384.84

Total \$3,857,057.07

This is the way they stand today:

Deposits:
St. Landry \$2,380,642.58
Opelousas Nat'l 731,739.22
Planters 961,194.88

Total \$4,073,576.68

Resources:
St. Landry \$2,605,661.58
Opelousas Nat'l 952,742.34
Planters 1,112,579.83

Total \$4,670,983.75

The St. Landry Bank and Trust Company is a merger of the St. Landry State and the Peoples State banks, which occurred some time in March of last year.

Cain of Opelousas attended the dance here on last Monday night.

Misses Wilmer and Fannie Rembert are visiting in Lake Charles this week.

Briggs-Kerr Wedding

Mr. Arthur B. Briggs and Miss Ruth Kerr were quietly married here on Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock, at the home of the bride's father, Mr. L. Kerr. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Harper of Opelousas. The bride and groom left the same day for Merryville, La., where they will make their home. With them goes the good wishes of their many friends here for their future health, happiness and prosperity.

Mrs. Gus A. Baillio and family returned to their home in Basile, La., on Tuesday, after spending the holidays here at the home of Mr. G. R. Baillio.

Miss Vera Zernott and Master Billie Zernott of New Orleans have been guests for several days at the home of Mrs. Otto Anderson.

Mr. Kirtley Boudreau spent several days of this week in Lafayette at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Lee Rheil.

Master Joseph Rheil has been in town for several days as the guest of friends.

Miss Ellen Boudreau, after spending the holiday season with her folks here, has returned to her work at the Charity Hospital in New Orleans, La.

Mr. Frank Lalanne, who has been employed by the Thistlethwaite Lumber Company of this place, has returned to his home in New Orleans.

Mr. and Mrs. Jae Bloch and daughter, Miss Sybil, have been in New Orleans for several days of this week, and from there they will go to Houma, La., where they will be

BIG STORE IS UNDER WAY

Work Started on Brick Building for Christman-Riseman Company

Work started the first of the present week laying brick on the new building which will be the home of the recently organized Christman-Riseman Company. An immense amount of brick, sand and other material has already been placed on the ground and workmen have been busy the past few days in digging the trenches for the wall foundations. Manager George Pulford, who is superintending the erection of the new building, stated that it would be several months before the building would be ready for delivery to the owners as workmen were hard to secure, and this alone would make the job ahead a slow proposition. The building, as already stated in these columns, will be one hundred and fifty feet deep by about fifty wide and two stories high. The big sheetiron warehouse in the rear has already been constructed and quite a lot of furniture, etc., stored therein.

LARGE BOND ISSUE TO BE VOTED ON JANUARY 12

Bayou Boeuf and Waxia Drainage District Will Issue Largest Amount of Bonds

MILLAGE AND ACREAGE TAX PROPOSED FOR WORK

Prominent Taxpayers Predict Overwhelming Victory for Better Drainage There

On January 12 the taxpayers of the Bayou Boeuf and Waxia Drainage District will vote on the largest drainage bond issue yet undertaken in St. Landry parish. It is proposed to vote a millage tax for the issuance of \$200,000 worth of bonds and an acreage tax of 16 cents per acre for \$150,000.

Prominent land owners and taxpayers of the district assert that the tax will be overwhelmingly carried at the coming election.

For the past few months the lands in the district have suffered heavily from the lack of drainage. It is said that a large portion of these lands are under water at the present time, and in some instances the public highways are completely covered with rain water and rendered practically impassable, save in boats.

The drainage district covers a large area of ground, taking in Rosa, Whiteville, Garland, Beggs, in fact, covering that section of St. Landry lying between Washington and Morrow. It is proposed to dredge Bayou Waxia, Cow bayou, Little Waxia and the laterals of these streams. In fact, it is said that every stream in the district needing dredging will be attended to and the landowners are assured of a practically perfect system of scientific gravity drainage.

The district is sorely in need of this contemplated drainage. Land values have been kept at a low ebb on account of the lack of proper artificial drainage, and it is consequently argued that if the tax is carried and the drainage system in mind perfected, the lands of the Bayou Boeuf and Waxia sections, long recognized as the most fertile in St. Landry, will once more command the prices they should by demanding the biggest price per acre of any lands in Southwest Louisiana.

There is no fear of the defeat of the proposed tax, according to the best posted men. A large majority of the property owners of the district are in favor of the drainage system, and it is understood that a practically unanimous vote will be cast in favor of the two bond propositions on Monday, January 12.

guests for a while at the home of Mr. Bloch's sister, Mrs. Wiley Thistlethwaite.

The home of Mr. R. L. Thompson was the scene of a good bit of excitement and a very small fire, about 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. It was indeed gratifying to see the quick response that the local volunteer fire fighters gave to the alarm. The damages amounted only to a small hole being burnt in the kitchen roof.

Misses Hinda and Hannah Klaus were in New Orleans for a few days this week. The latter went there for medical treatment of a minor nature.

Misses Erma Schell and Carrye Klaus have returned to their studies at L. S. U., after spending the holidays with their respective families here.

Dr. and Mrs. S. C. Holloman of Alexandria have been the guests at the home of Mr. T. C. Q. McCaffery

DISTRICTS MAY BE CONSOLIDATED ON NEXT MONDAY

Committee Appointed to Suggest Best Plan to Bring on Unity of Road Work

ELECTION MAY BE CALLED TO VOTE TAX

Evangeline Highway Association Recommends Road Tax on New Assessment

An old sore has been re-opened—that is, part of it has, anyway, for the Evangeline Highway Association, at a special meeting held in the police jury room of the court house, on Wednesday morning, recommended the consolidation of the road districts in the first, second and fifth wards, in order to assure the bonding of sufficient funds to erect a model highway from the Avoyelles to the Lafayette parish lines.

President Boagni of the Evangeline Highway Association named the following committee: Frank Dimmick, chairman; L. A. Andrepoint, secretary; E. B. Dubuisson, Jno. P. Savant, J. E. Beal, Leon Wolff, Jno. R. Thistlethwaite, Fred Martin, E. M. Boagni, E. L. Loeb, W. J. Boudreau and Dr. C. A. Gardiner. The committee is composed of men from every section of the four districts included, and it is believed that this committee can arrive at a proper solution of the proposition, thereby assuring the final settlement of a very important and grave question.

Mr. Dimmick has called his committee to meet on Monday morning, in order to go over the situation and arrive at some plan to ask the police jury to consolidate the districts and to appoint one board of supervisors, giving representation to every section of the proposed new district. It is believed that this committee will suggest the ordering of a special election to vote a bond issue on the present assessment, thereby giving the district the benefit of the higher assessment.

It is argued that by a new election additional funds can be realized; that the smaller districts, by merging with the Opelousas-Washington district, would be the beneficiaries, and sufficient funds would be available to construct a model road from Eola to the Carencro bridge, according to state specifications and thereby give St. Landry its link of the Evangeline and Pershing Highways.

Should an election be held and the tax not carry, the bond issues already voted would not be annulled, but would still be in force. There is no chance, therefore, of the good roads boosters losing anything by this process.

Prominent taxpayers who attended Wednesday morning's meeting expressed the opinion that a consolidation of the districts in the first, second and fifth wards was the most logical thing to do, if St. Landry cared to be on one of the big international highways. It is generally believed that the tax would carry by an overwhelming majority, should the police jury decide to consolidate the several districts and call the election in the proposed big district. Members of the police jury in attendance at the meeting said that they favored the merging of the districts and would recommend the adoption of an ordinance effecting the unification of the good roads work of the first, second and fifth wards.

Miss Des Jackson was a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. L. B. Ewell, the early part of the week.

Mr. C. P. Hellin left Wednesday morning for a short vacation to be spent in Napoleonville, La., his home town.

Mr. C. H. L. Gibson has returned to his work in Lake Charles, after spending a week with his folks here.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Leon Dupre of Opelousas accompanied their daughter, Miss Xine Dupre, to the dance here on last Monday night.

Mr. T. B. Wayne of L. S. U. has been the guest of his mother, Mrs. S. T. Wayne, during the holidays.

The younger set enjoyed a very delightful party on the night of December 30, at the home of Mr. Paul Pitre. Dancing and games of different kinds furnished the pleasure, seekers all the fun they wanted and later during the evening, refreshments were served, consisting of assorted cakes and punch. Those present were: Misses Vera Zernott, Mary Baillio, Mary Anderson, Doris Plonky, Cora Baillio, Lela Boudreau, Rose Pitre and Florence Ortego, and Messrs. Kirtley Boudreau, Mordecai Plonky, Lawrence Thistlethwaite, Archie Quirk, Edgar Muller, Robert Alexander, Albert Richard, Ira Muller, L. C. Q. McCaffery and Matt Pitre.