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OPELOUSAS VOTERS CONFRONTED BY A STRANGE SITUATION

Special Session Legislature May Have to Make Provision

DELAY OF PRIMARY SEEMS SOLE SOLUTION

No Qualified Electors For Primary After First of January

The newspapers of this city have printed some facts and given some advice relative to voters of Opelousas registering in time for the municipal primary to be held approximately on next January 20. The papers have shown how a new registration begins January 1, 1922; how the law states the registration books must close thirty days before the date of such election, and other interesting facts in connection with the primary to nominate officers for the city.

It is reported that Baton Rouge is facing the same problem that confronts Opelousas and that it is creating some interest in the capital city and some of the wise ones there are looking around for a means to cure the singular situation.

It appears that if the election is held at the usual time the same will have to be held with the registration taken in 1920. However, a singular and interesting sidelight is thrown on this by the statement of a well-known gentleman who is thoroughly conversant with the election laws and suffrage requirements of the state.

Commenting Sunday on this matter he said that as a matter of fact and of law there could be no legal election held in this city or in Baton Rouge next January, because of the fact that there will be no duly registered voters. All speculations on the use of the 1920 registration to the contrary. He based his assertion and opinion on the fact that the constitutional convention provided for an entirely new registration beginning January 1, 1922. Hence, with the beginning of the new year the 1921 registration will be null and of no effect. Therefore, as the books must close thirty days before an election, it is patent that, so far as Opelousas voters are concerned, there can be no registration for them during the entire month of January, this based on the fact that the municipal primary is delayed from about the 25th instant until some day in February.

Under the conditions existing there are only two simple solutions to the problem. One is that the primary (usually held in January) be delayed until some time in February. The other, that the legislature, at its special session to be held in September next, pass some suitable legislation which will remedy the puzzling situation.

In the meantime, however, it would not be amiss to remind the voters, especially the women who were enfranchised last year, that they will have to pay the poll tax. The women will have to pay the tax of 1920 and 1921 in order to vote next year. We believe the constitutional convention also inserted a provision in the suffrage article of the new law whereby those men voters who failed to pay their 1920 poll tax and would be disfranchised for any election to be held in 1922 can pay that tax any time during 1921 and thus restate themselves as voters. Of course they would also have to pay the 1921 poll tax at the usual time in order to be qualified voters of state, parish and city. This is worth looking into and voters should get busy at once as delay, we are reminded, is always dangerous.

START UP DREDGE ON WORK IN WEEK

CANAL COMPANY ABOUT READY TO RESUME CLEANING OPERATIONS IN BAYOU TECHE

The Atchafalaya-Teche-Vermillion canal company will resume next week the dredging work on the Bayou Teche from Port Barre south to the canal below Breaux Bridge. One side of the Teche was dredged a year or so ago and the new work entails dredging the opposite side. The railroad trestles of both the New Iberia and Northern and the Gulf Coast Lines will have to be torn loose in order that the dredge can pass. This same thing happened when the original work started, and while the Gulf Coast trestle was out the trains of that system detoured over the O'Gea tracks from Port Barre to Opelousas.

Quite a number of wealthy Louisiana men are interested in the canal project, including A. Kaplan, capitalist J. R. Hunter of Crowley, owner of the big Hunter irrigation canal system; and L. O. Broussard of Abbeville, the last named being president of the concern. Mr. Kaplan was a recent visitor to Opelousas and Port Barre and while here stated that he considered his expenditure on the enterprise a good one that he would not take five times its cost for his interest in the big concern.

Fresh water from the Courtaubieu the Cocodrie and the Boeuf are fed into the Teche at Port Barre and this supply of water assures a rice crop in the lower parishes without running the risk of salt water backing in from the gulf during periods of drouth.

MOURET HANDLES DRAINAGE WORK

ALDERMAN AT-LARE SUPERINTENDS THE CLEANING OUT OF BIG CANAL IN CITY LIMITS

The thorough cleaning of a big canal in the western half of the city was a part of the drainage program outlined by the city administration. This canal starts at or near the ice factory and runs parallel with the Texas and Pacific tracks south, and in the Pavy addition it assumes the proportions of a natural water course, emptying into a creek southwest of the city, near the property of Jos. M. Boagnil. This canal is a very necessary adjunct to the drainage of the western part of town and as it had become somewhat choked up with the accumulation of years the cleaning thereof became necessary at once.

STUDEBAKERS SELL FAST DESPITE MONEY SCARCITY

Osie Bordegn, local agent for the Studebaker automobiles, left for New Orleans last week and returned here Sunday with two of the touring cars of that popular make which he sold to Dr. Charles F. Boagnil of Opelousas and Leon Wolff of Washington. Dr. Boagnil has owned several Studebakers and says they are the best buy on the automobile market today, in the same price class.

FISHING AND GLYCERINE FAILS TO SAVE OIL WELL

Drillers at the test well at Pine Prairie tried fishing to get out broken tools and then later used a shot of nitro glycerine without favorable results, and the test was abandoned at a depth of approximately one thousand feet. The derrick and rig will be skidded over and a new test started at once. A second drilling rig is on the ground and work will start promptly on another test well. Both are located not far from the old field.

LAZARO, AS USUAL, SHOWS HE'S FRIEND OF THE FARMERS

Seventh District Representative Fires Some Astounding Facts

AGRICULTURE BASIS OF ALL PROSPERITY

Full Text of Speech Delivered in Congress Last Wednesday

Congressman Lazaro again took up the battle he is waging for the farmers of the country, in a speech he delivered in the house of representatives last Thursday. The text of the speech follows:

Mr. Chairman, I want to speak today on what I consider the most vital problem confronting not only the American people but the world—agriculture.

The American farmer produced his last crops under the most expensive conditions and at the greatest cost, but has been obliged to dispose of them at deflated prices and has sustained to date a loss of about \$7,000,000,000.

It was the sudden drop in the price of agricultural products below the cost of production that started the paralysis in business, and until we again place agriculture on a normal foundation employment and prosperity will not come back. I propose to discuss during my time some of the factors that we must consider in connection with this important problem.

Mr. Chairman, it is indeed strange that in a country like ours, which is fundamentally agricultural, that there should be so much misunderstanding between representatives on this floor. For instance, a few weeks ago, during the debate on the farmer's emergency tariff bill, when members representing agricultural sections were asking for protection for agricultural products in proportion to the protection accorded to manufactured products, we were charged by Mr. Walsh, of Massachusetts, with being sectional and with advocating class legislation. He said that for one did not propose to stand for it, when 40 factories were idle in the district which he represents.

Mr. Reavis of Nebraska reminded him of the fact that his factories were idle and his people unemployed because the agricultural products of the farmers were selling below the cost of production and their purchasing power was destroyed.

It was very evident during that debate that party lines were not as rigid as they used to be. For instance, we saw able democratic leaders standing upon this floor asking for the same protection in proportion for agricultural products as that given to manufactured products. We saw old republican protectionists, like Mr. Luce of Massachusetts, oppose protection for agricultural products. That was not strange, because for years those belonging to his school were taught that protection was for manufactured products only. And we of the south permitted our products to go on the free list, with the result that we sold what we produced on a free market and bought what we needed on a protected market. This is not strange, either, when we take into consideration the fact that the manufacturers have been organized in the past, while farmers were not organized.

During the hearings on the tariff bill we had a remarkable exhibition. A soap manufacturer appeared before the committee to oppose a tariff on oil and advocat a tariff on soap. When pressed by the committee he admitted that he wanted to buy foreign oil cheap to make soap to sell in America. Some one remarked, jokingly, that if he got just dues his soap would be placed on the free list and oil on the protected list.

I mention these cases merely to show how unfair it is to consider such big questions in a sectional way, and how necessary it is to understand one another if we are to solve such questions in the right way.

The last war has demonstrated to all the necessity of our country having its own vital industries at home and of not depending on foreign countries in time of emergency. For instance, our cotton producers of the south lost millions of dollars in the beginning of the war because we had no merchant marine of our own to carry our surplus cotton to the markets of the world.

The last year has also demonstrated another fact, and that is that the tariff can no longer be considered a partisan question. It is an economic question. (Continued on page 4)

ORDINANCE FIXES WAY OF DISCHARGE

CITY COUNCIL, IN SPECIAL SESSION FRIDAY, ADOPTS SUTIALBE CITY LAW

* There was a special meeting of the city council held last Friday morning on call of the mayor for the purpose of passing on an ordinance entitled "An ordinance providing for the trial and dismissal of municipal officers and employees and defining who are officers and employees within the intentment of this ordinance, amending provisions hereof."

The full membership of the board of aldermen was present when the mayor called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock in the morning. The ordinance was introduced by Alderman Stelly, and its adoption moved by him. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dejean and the yeas and nays were ordered on final passage, all members voting for its adoption but Mr. Clark of the fourth ward.

The ordinance prescribes the method of trial of officers and employees of the municipality. Charges must be preferred against such officer or employee by either the mayor or some member of the board of aldermen, and notice of such charges must be made to the officer or employee "at least five days before the date set for the formal trial." Only a majority of the members of the board are required to discharge the officer or employee on a vote on the charge at the trial called, and if only four members of the board are present and the vote stands two to two the mayor is given the right to cast the deciding vote in dissolving the tie. It is provided that at least four members of the board shall be present when such trials are held and provision is also made to enforce the attendance of any member of the board who absents himself from such meeting, the penalty for which is trial in the city court and on conviction the imposing of a fine of not exceeding \$25 for failure to attend the meeting. This latter of course if the absent member has not sufficient excuse for non-attendance.

SECOND WEEK OF TERM IS WELL UNDER WAY

Judge Pavy is holding a term of criminal court in Evangeline, this being the last week of the term. There were three convictions had last week—two white men and one negro, all three cases being tried on the charge of killing. The judge and the district attorney have been going from Opelousas to the Evangeline capital daily in an automobile. When the term ends Saturday there will be a few days of civil court held in Opelousas, after which the tribunal will recess for the summer vacation.

Prominent Farmer Dead

Mr. J. W. Boering, aged 73, a native of Alabama but residing in lower Bellevue for many years, died last Friday morning at 9:15 o'clock, following a protracted illness. He is survived by his widow and four daughters and one son, namely, Mrs. James Montgomery of Lafayette, Mrs. E. V. Chauvin of Lafayette, Miss Anna Boering of Bellevue, Mrs. R. Lee Wilson of Bellevue, and Dr. Clarence Boering of Breaux Bridge.

Notes From Southwestern Institute

Great interest at Southwestern Institute has been developed in the series of lectures now going on by Dr. F. B. Dresslar, professor of health education in Peabody college, and Dr. Alexander Johnson of Atlanta, expert in Asthenology. This word means the study of dependent, defective, and deficient persons. Dr. Johnson, as a field agent of the southern Red Cross, has been presenting in a series of lectures the whole story of public care of the poor, the infirm, the aged, the feeble-minded, insane, blind, deaf, cripple, wayward, criminal, and other unfortunate. Prof. Dresslar has given expert information on school planning, building, sanitation, and all manner of health considerations in connection with schools. Conferences have been held with parish superintendents, principals of high schools, and advanced students of school administration. Both Dr. Johnson and Dr. Dresslar have made public addresses besides in Lafayette, at the churches, and before the Rotary club.

Jno. W. Lewis, Jr., spent last Saturday in Lafayette as the guest of friends.

NEW ROADS COMES SEES, PLAYS, BUT FAILS TO CONQUER

Pointe Coupe Team Stacks Up Well as Players of Great Game

HAD OPELOUSAS GOING STRONG

Neck and Neck for Time and Took Eleven Innings to Decide Victor

In point of size New Roads is not much of a town, but that it has some ball players was thoroughly evidenced by the game fight their team put up here last Sunday against the Opelousas team on the latter's home grounds. It required eleven long, grilling innings to decide the winner in the game, and Opelousas won, the score being three to two.

The visitors came by train over the Gulf Coast Lines, arriving here at 1:09 o'clock in the afternoon. They motored from their home town to Lottie where they boarded the train for Opelousas. On the return journey they went by the eastbound fast night train, arrangements having been made for the train to stop at the little village of Lottie to let them off.

The attendance at the Sunday game was not as large as formerly, that being accounted for by the fact that one of the local teams had gone to Rayne to play a game and many of the fans had journeyed to the Acadia town to hawl and root for them. They many thought the New Roads team was "small potatoes" and deemed it useless to go and witness another fiasco like the game played with Rayne a few Sundays ago. They missed seeing, however, one of the best games ever played here, and the visitors proved conclusively they knew how to handle the bat and hit and throw the ball. Here is the box score of the game:

Opelousas	AB	R	H	P	O	A	E
Lemmons, 3b	4	1	2	0	1	1	
Comeaux, ss	5	0	2	1	2	3	
Brown, 2b	5	0	0	4	5	0	
Platte, c	5	0	0	7	3	0	
Olivier, p	5	1	1	0	6	0	
Clary, b	5	0	0	16	0	0	
Lewis, cf	5	0	2	1	0	0	
Richard, cf	3	1	0	1	0	0	
Baxley, rf	4	0	2	0	0	0	
Totals	41	3	7	33	13	4	

New Roads	AB	R	H	P	O	A	E
Bonds, 3b	5	0	0	2	2	6	
E. Lacour, rf	5	0	3	1	0	0	
R. Lacour, 2b	5	1	1	1	3	0	
Abbot, 1b	5	0	1	0	0	1	
Rollie, c	5	1	2	15	0	0	
Rogers, p	5	0	0	0	0	0	
Brady, cf	5	0	0	0	0	0	
Hebert, ss	4	0	1	0	2	0	
Tejeune, lf	4	0	1	3	0	1	
Totals	43	2	9	31	7	2	

Summary—Two base hits, Rollie, R. Lacour, Olivier. Struck out, by Olivier 7; by Rogers, 15. Left on bases, Opelousas 9; New Roads 12. Hit by pitcher, by Rogers, 1 (Richard). Bases on balls, off Rogers, 2. Stolen bases, Lewis 2. Time 2 hours, 15 minutes. Umpires, Smith and Thompson.

Opelousas will meet its old rivals next Sunday here and again the following day at Eunice. Two games played, one each day, ought to settle the matter which is the strongest team. Three games have been heretofore played between the two teams—one at Eunice, two here. In the first game, played at Opelousas, Eunice won. But that was just after the organization of the local team and they hadn't felt out the weak spots and strengthened the line-up. The second game was played at Eunice and the locals put it all over the Eunices. Then Eunice came here and got another drubbing. They are such game sports, however, that they are not convinced yet that they are out-classed and propose to get the scalps of the Opelousas bunch if it takes all summer to do so.

Eunice has been playing some pretty good ball of late. They have beat Crowley in one or two games; they cleaned out Alexandria and some time ago they shut out Welch. Recently they were beaten by Bunkie. They have a good team and are going to put up a good stiff fight next Sunday, and the fans can rely that when the two teams face each other at Eunice on July Fourth the Eunices are going to play the best ball they know how.

Marksville and Lake Charles played a series the latter part of last week at Lake Charles. The first two games Lake Charles won, but Sunday Marksville shut out Lake Charles 4 to 0. The Lake City team is due to come here the latter part of July for a series of three games with Opelousas. They trimmed the locals at Lake

JUDGE DOSSMANN SERIOUSLY ILL

FORMER ST. LANDRIAN FOR MEDICAL SANITARIUM FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

The many friends of Judge L. J. Dossmann, both in St. Landry and Evangeline parishes, will regret to learn of his serious illness in the Opelousas sanitarium. Judge Dossmann now lives at Fardoche, Pointe Coupee parish where he is managing a large farm. He was taken ill recently and came to Opelousas for treatment. The physicians in charge were undecided whether to perform a surgical operation or not.

The judge is a man of splendid physique and heretofore has been one of the most robust men in this part of the state. It is hoped that his former magnificent health and physical strength will aid him in the contest with disease and that in a short time he will be out again.

FALLING TREE HURTS PAVING

SLIGHT DAMAGE TO BLOCK AND CONCRETE WHEN GIANT OAK TOPPLES OVER

Both big oak trees that stood at the corner of Bellevue and Market streets, just outside the door of Lawyer Sandoz's office are no more. They fell under the axe and saw last Friday the only damage was to the wood block pavement on Bellevue street and that damage is slight and will cost little to repair. The first tree did the work, a big limb penetrating the pavement and driving blocks and concrete base into the earth. The second tree was thrown across the first and hence did no damage, though it narrowly missed the water plug on the south side of the corner.

The two big trees have been converted into a fine lot of cord wood, producing many cords of fuel. The many broken telephone wires and the few damaged electric light wires have been repaired and all that remains to remind one that two monsters stood are the giant stumps that will remain for years unless dug out of the soil that has supported them for generations.

A newspaper man talked with "Squirrel," the old negro that successfully topped the trees before the great trunks were cut down. The old fellow stated he was seventy-six years of age, but he doesn't look it, though he is dried up as a crackling after the fat is fried out. He certainly is entitled to his nickname for he can skin up a tree without spurs or any assistance, and laughingly told the newspaper man all he needed was his skinny black claws and agile legs. Age hasn't affected his climbing abilities the least. He was born in Wilkinson county, Miss., and was owned by the famous McGehee family, many of the descendants of which still reside in that part of the state as well as in Louisiana. "Squirrel" migrated to Opelousas nearly a half-century ago and has resided here ever since, and he firmly believes he will climb trees for a long time to come.

BUNKIE BALL TEAM GETS GOAT OF EUNICE OUTFIT

That strong aggregation of ball players known as the Eunice club went to Bunkie last Thursday and pulled off a fast and interesting game with the team of the Avoyelles town, losing by the score of 2 to 0. According to reports, the game was one of best ever played in Bunkie, and while Eunice lost it put up a strong contest and showed that its team was some playing outfit.

Eunice comes to Opelousas next Sunday, July 3, and the following day the Opelousas team will go to Eunice and play a return game. There is due a big celebration in Eunice that day and a large crowd of people from near-by towns and parishes is expected and the gate receipts—always an interesting factor in ball games—will total quite large. Opelousas is going to send a large delegation of fans over to Eunice to root for the home club.

City Council Meets Tuesday

The regular July meeting of the Opelousas city council will be held next Tuesday night, the 5th instant. The general public thinks there will be some interesting "doings" at the meeting and the council chamber will undoubtedly be crowded with citizens.

SPECIAL MASTER HEARS EVIDENCE IN EUNICE CASE

Lessee of Light Plant and Town's Officials Get Into Court

ALL EVIDENCE HEARD ARGUMENTS FOLLOW

Judgment in Case Will Be Handed Down by Judge G. W. Jack

The town of Eunice, acting through its mayor and board of aldermen, took over the light and water plant of that town recently, the same having been operated by Morgan Co., who claim to have leased the utility from the town's former administration. Lessees Morgan & Co., resenting the action of the town, went to the federal court for redress. The case was heard this past week by Judge E. T. Lewis, who had been appointed master in the matter by Judge G. W. Jack. Several days were consumed in the transcribed arguments will be made taking of evidence and as soon it is by counsel, after which the recommendations of the special master will be submitted to Judge Jack who will render judgment. As summarized, the facts in the case appear as follows:

Morgan & Co., a corporation chartered under the laws of the state of Delaware, claiming to be the assignees of M. B. Morgan, sue to enjoin the town of Eunice from interfering with the exercise of the company's franchise claimed to have been granted to M. B. Morgan by said town of Eunice to operate waterworks and electric light plant. The suit is brought in the equity side of the federal court, Judge E. T. Lewis having been appointed special master by Federal Judge Jack, to hear evidence and report his findings to the court.

Complainants contend that they are being deprived of their property without due process of law; that it is sought to divest them of vested rights all in violation of the contract clause of the federal constitution.

Defendants contend that the board of aldermen of Eunice was without right to contract for the maintenance of its waterworks and light plant without first having the contract submitted to the voters of the town as required by its charter, and is, hence "ultra vires" and of no effect. That the sale of the electric light lines and equipment was illegal, null and void as being in violation of the state constitution and unauthorized by the charter of the town.

The case will be argued as soon as the testimony is transcribed. Complainant is represented by Garner & Flauche and John W. Lewis. Defendant municipality is represented by Peyton R. Sandoz and Sandoz & Sandoz.

K. OF C. TEAM AND RAYNE TIE

THIRTEEN GRILLING INNINGS AND SCORE STACKED UP 5 TO 5

The Knights of Columbus team of Opelousas boarded a big truck Sunday afternoon and journeyed to Rayne to play a game of baseball with the team of that town. The truck was filled with players and rooters and when they departed for the Acadia town, thirty miles away, they felt cocksure they would return with Rayne's scalp hanging to their belts. They had practiced almost daily for the contest and knew they were going to play some ball. In this they made good, but Rayne also played some ball, and after thirteen grilling innings had been played the game had to be called on account of darkness, the score standing a tie—5 to 5. The players returned to Opelousas that night, thoroughly tired out but satisfied they and their opponents had played a fine game of the great American sport.

Blood Poison Fatal to Youth

Little Goldman Thibodeaux, aged about six years, died at the Opelousas sanitarium last Sunday morning from blood poisoning. The little fellow was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Thibodeaux, residing near the Acadia parish line below Lewisburg. He stuck a nail in his foot sometime ago and complications having set in it was decided to bring him to Opelousas for medical treatment. The remains were interred Monday at the family burial grounds in the Church Point Catholic cemetery.