

THE ELECTION.

The municipal election last Monday was perhaps the closest ever held in the town of Opelousas. It was a fight from the time the poll opened until it closed, meantime each candidate believing that he had the best of it.

The result was a partial victory for both sides. The Independents elected the Mayor, Marshal and two Aldermen, and the Democrats four Aldermen. The seventh Alderman, Mr. Sandoz, was on both tickets. This gives the Democrats control of the Board, and at the same time of the immense patronage to be given out.

The vote was as follows: S. L. Hebrard (Ind.)... 135 C. J. Thompson (Dem.)... 128 Hebrard's majority, 7, Arthur Dejean (Ind.)... 112 A. D. Harmanson (Ind.)... 48 H. H. Sandoz (Dem.)... 100 Dejean's plurality, 12.

Table with columns for names and vote counts. Includes Aldermen: J. B. Sandoz (both tickets) 148, Dr. C. F. Boagni (Ind.) 145, Dr. J. P. Salzan (Dem.) 134, J. R. Norman (Dem.) 134, H. D. Larcade (Dem.) 132, Robt. Chachere (Dem.) 129, H. E. Estorge (Ind.) 128, Ant. Dietlein (Ind.) 125, Dr. I. E. Shute (Dem.) 121, E. D. Estilette (Ind.) 120, Nathan Roos (Dem.) 118, J. Lassalle (Ind.) 110, Ike Roos (Ind.) 99.

The people of Opelousas have, by their votes, turned the government of Opelousas over to the Democratic party. Upon that party rests the responsibility, and judging from the personnel of the Board, Independents as well as Democrats, the interests of the town will not suffer.

This is the first victory that the Democrats achieved in many years—in fact, if we mistake not, it is the first ticket ever elected on the issue—and the party friends have reason to feel proud. It speaks well for the future; it is the harbinger of a strong, invincible party. The combinations against the Democracy in this fight were many—they had to fight Independents, Democrats, Populists, Republicans and negroes—and to have emerged from the fray with the Board is indeed creditable.

WAR NEWS.

The last reports indicate that war is nearer than at any previous period. Congress is "chewing the bit" to declare war against Spain, and is only being held down by McKinley and his peace-at-any-price friends.

McKinley will send a message to Congress Monday, which, it is believed, will be warlike in nature, and the resolution declaring the independence of Cuba will then be passed.

Friday's dispatches state that "war, in the opinion of the administration, is inevitable; the most optimistic of conservative Senators have abandoned hope of peace."

All Americans are being gotten out of Havana, and Consul General Lee sails to-day for America.

THE CONVENTION.

The Constitutional Convention has got down to work in earnest, but it is believed that it will not

be able to complete its labors in the seventy days limit, and will have to continue work without pay. A bill prohibiting dealing in futures was passed this week. The convention is now engaged in wrangling over the railroad commission bill, and the forces are so evenly divided that the outcome is hard to foretell.

The committee on suffrage recommended an ordinance pertaining to elections, the two most important sections of which are: Sec. 10. The General Assembly shall, at its first session after the adoption of the present Constitution, provide by appropriate legislation for the regulation and conduct of primary election, in which none but duly qualified electors under the Constitution shall participate, and for the punishment of frauds therein.

Sec. 11. All the elections by the people shall be by official ballot, printed and distributed at the expense of the State, and shall have printed thereon and at the head of and immediately preceding the list of candidates of each political party the voter may thereby indicate that his vote is for the entire or straight ticket of the particular party employing the particular device allotted to such political party, and providing that when the voter does not desire to vote an entire or straight party ticket he may vote for candidates of any political party by stamping a blank space to be left opposite the names of each candidate on said official ballot.

Proceedings of Board of School Directors.

Opelousas, April 4, 1898. The Board of School Directors met this day in regular session. Present: A. L. Fontenot, President; J. L. Guilbeau, L. A. Sandoz, Y. Andrepont and Raymond Breaux.

The minutes of last meeting were adopted as read.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, the colored school at Bellevue was reopened for two more months with same teacher.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, the President was allowed further time to report upon certain contracts with the town of Opelousas regarding the donations of land to that town.

On motion of Mr. Andrepont, the following resolution was adopted: Whereas, there is a possibility that the State Institute of Hygiene may meet in Opelousas in May next, affording our people an opportunity of a Normal course in hygiene unparalleled in its advantages.

Resolved, that it is the sense of this Board that the public school teachers should avail themselves of the opportunity of attending said Institute. Resolved further, that permission is hereby granted them so to do without loss of pay for the time so employed.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, the sum of eighty dollars was appropriated to defray expenses of the President and Superintendent to the Superintendents' Convention.

On motion of Mr. Andrepont, the petition of citizens of Mamou was received and filed.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, that the President be authorized to attend to the payment of the premium due on the High School building.

On motion of Mr. Sandoz, the action of the President in sustaining the teacher of the Caney Creek school in expelling an insubordinate pupil of said school, is hereby approved.

On motion of Mr. Andrepont, the

Board adjourned. A. L. FONTENOT, President. J. L. GUILBEAU, Secretary.

Compelled To Decline.

A Frenchman went to an American and said to him:

"What a polar bear do?"

"Why, he sits on the ice."

"Sits on zee ice?"

"Yes," said the American, "there is nothing else to sit on."

"Vell, vat he do, too?"

"What does he also do?"

"Why, he eats fish."

"Eats fish—sits on zee ice and eats fish. Then I not accept."

"You don't accept? What do you mean?"

"Oh, non, non. I does not accept. I was invited to act as polar bear to a funeral."—Bachelor of Arts.

Police Jury Proceedings.

Opelousas, La., April 4, 1898. The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: E. H. McGee, President; Messrs. Fontenot, Durio, Chachere, Guidry, Quebedeau, Haas, Saizan, Manuel, Clopton.

On motion of Mr. Haas—Resolved, That the sum of \$75.00, or as much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated out of the internal improvement funds of the 6th ward, to rebuild the bridge over Cocodrie on road leading from Pine Prairie to Loyd's bridge; provided, that the parish of Rapides will appropriate a like sum to defray half the expense of building said bridge. Contract to be sold to the lowest bidder by a committee of three from the parish of St. Landry and a like committee from the parish of Rapides. Committee from St. Landry composed as follows: W. H. Randolph, Narcisse Johnson and William Carpenter.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—Resolved, That the report of committee appointed to give the Burr does a test trial with view of purchasing same, was received and accepted, and committee discharged.

On motion of Mr. Guidry—The police jury adjourned until 2:30 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The police jury met pursuant to adjournment. Present: E. H. McGee, President; Messrs. Prescott, Fontenot, Durio, Guidry, Quebedeau, Manuel, R. Lafleur and Clopton.

On motion of Mr. R. Lafleur—Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed to examine the statement of and settle with the Washington State Bank, fiscal agent. Chair appointed Messrs. R. Lafleur and W. M. Prescott.

The undersigned committee appointed to settle with the fiscal agent of Saint Landry parish, beg leave to report that we have examined carefully the statements presented to us and find same correct, and request that a warrant be issued to said fiscal agent out of the contingent funds of 1897, for \$320.71, five hundred and twenty and 71/100 dollars, and one against the contingent funds of 1898, for \$57.15, fifty-seven and 15/100 dollars, to cover salary of said bank, from January 17, 1898 to April 3, 1898, for 1897 business, and from February 9 to April 3, 1898, inclusive, for 1898 business.

R. LAFLEUR, WM. M. PRESCOTT, Committee.

On motion of Mr. Durio—Resolved, That the above report be accepted, committee discharged and the sum of \$320.71 be credited to the fiscal agent, covering salary from January 17 to April 3, 1898, inclusive, for 1897 business and the sum of \$57.15 covering salary from February 9 to April 3, 1898, inclusive, for 1898 business.

On motion of Mr. Durio—Resolved, That the petition from citizens and taxpayers of Mallet, praying for a public road, be granted as prayed for, said road to be laid out as follows: From public road beginning at J. D. Bertrand, thence between J. D. Bertrand, Tom Frame and Louis Ledoux, thence between Eugene Bertrand and Ertamon Pitre, thence on the north to meet the road known as the Lacasse road across the woods, thence between Theogene Bertrand and Theogene Bertrand, thence between Theogene Bertrand and Martin Andrepont; thence between Theogene Bertrand and Theogene Bertrand to intersect the Prairie Ronde road at Azenor Durio. The above described road to be laid out without cost to the parish and under the supervision of the following committee: Theogene Bertrand, Ertamon Lafleur and John Derosier.

On motion of Mr. Guidry—The following road overseer's were appointed for the 2nd ward: John Guidry, from Sunset to Grand Coteau, thence to McPherson's west line.

Francis Michon, from Grand Coteau to Bourbeux bridge, instead of J. J. Barry, resigned.

Joe Higginbotham, from Acadia parish line to Jules Miller.

On motion of Mr. Manuel—Resolved, That the sum of \$75.00 be appropriated out of the contingent funds of 1898, for the purpose of having retranscribed the record book of brands of St. Landry parish, and said amount to be paid when work is completed and colated and approved by the committee appointed by the police jury of the parish of Lafayette; said committee consisting of Judge G. Debatillon, E. G. Voehles and R. C. Landry, President of Police Jury of Lafayette parish.

Mr. R. Lafleur in the chair.

On motion of Mr. McGee—Resolved, That the petition from citizens of Plaquemine Ridge, asking for a committee to be appointed to ascertain the probable cost of draining a flat or bottom that overflows the public road leading from the corner of the Latroye place, Dr. Chachere and Coburn places, be received and accepted and the following committee appointed as above, and

to report at next regular meeting: Thomas Bihm, J. B. McClelland, Joseph Anselm, M. G. Wilkins and Charles J. Coburn.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—Resolved, That the tax-collector be and is hereby instructed to refund to Rideau Bros., parish taxes on one hundred acres of land, erroneously assessed.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—Resolved, That the petition from citizens of Waxia praying for a public road from the Bolner place to the public road on bayou Waxia, be received, and the following committee appointed to lay out said road and report at the next regular meeting: Committee: H. B. Taylor, W. A. Taylor and L. Bihm.

The petition tabled at last meeting from Edw. Dejean, a resident of Mamou, was taken up and read.

On motion of Mr. Manuel—Resolved, That the petition of Mr. Edw. Dejean, a resident of Mamou, praying for a change of road, be granted as prayed for; and said change to be made as follows: Beginning at the public road from Fruges' bridge to Nezplique bridge, running south a distance of four acres, thence running west six acres, thence north to the old public road. The above changes to be made without any cost to the parish, and to be received by the road overseer before the closing of the old road.

Mr. McGee in the chair.

On motion of Mr. Manuel—Resolved, That the petition from citizens of Mamou praying for changes in public road which leads from Edw. Dejean to Nezplique woods, be tabled until next regular meeting.

On motion of Mr. Guidry—Resolved, That the following report be received and accepted, and ordered spread upon the minutes: Carencro, La., Feb. 12, 1898. To the Honorable President and Members of the Police Jury:

Your committee appointed, composed of Ovide Guidry and others, to lay out a public road starting from public road on bayou Carencro, running west, intersecting public road, have this day appeared before me, and I have put them under oath according to section 4 of our ordinances.

Signed: J. B. CLAY, Justice of the Peace. Coulee Croche, Feb. 12, 1898.

To the Honorable President and Members of the Police Jury: We, your committee, appointed to lay out a public road from public road on bayou Carencro, running west intersecting public road, after having been put under oath by John Clay, Justice of the Peace of the 5th ward, according to section four of your ordinance. We have proceeded to lay out the road as follows: From public road on bayou Carencro, between Alcide Guidry and Ovide Guidry, (17 1/2) seventeen and a half feet each; between Arthur Guidry and Ovide Guidry, (17 1/2) seventeen and a half feet each; between Therese Guidry and Ovide Guidry, (17 1/2) seventeen and a half feet each; between Jefferson Miller and Ovide Guidry, (17 1/2) seventeen and a half feet each; between Martial Hebert and Ovide Guidry, (17 1/2) seventeen and a half feet each; between Martial Hebert, 5 arpents long, donated to the parish of St. Landry.

Respectfully submitted, OVIDE GUIDRY, Chairman; AGUS X ROYAS, ECEUS X BEGNAUX.

On motion of Mr. Guidry—Resolved, That the above report be accepted, committee discharged, and the road declared a public road as above described, and the assessed damages ordered credited to the parties named as above detailed.

On motion of Mr. Quebedeau—Resolved, That the following report be accepted, spread upon the minutes and committee discharged: Eunice, La., April 2, 1898. To the Honorable President and Members of the Police Jury, Parish of St. Landry:

We, the undersigned committee, appointed by your Honorable Body to examine the Hardesty Road and Levee machine, respectfully represent that, we have examined the working of the said machine, which work demonstrated that it is a practical machine for grading roads and building levees.

Respectfully, W. E. JELKS, OLIBE MANUEL, E. H. MCGEE, Committee.

On motion of Mr. Haas—Resolved, That an appropriation of \$65.00 be made out of the internal improvement funds of 6th ward, to rebuild bridge over Boggy Bayou and Carr Bayou, on road from Pine Prairie, intersecting Science Hill road to Glemora. Contract to be let out to the lowest bidder, and the contractor to be allowed to use any of the old lumber which may be sound, and to be accepted by the following committee, when completed: Louis Johnson, Frank McNichols, C. W. Pritchett, Bernard Henry and Madison McGee.

On motion of Mr. Haas—Resolved, That the sum of \$80 be appropriated out of the funds of 6th ward, to build two bridges on road from Griffin's bridge to Avoyelles line, and contract to be let out to the lowest bidder by the following committee: Geo. W. Sadler, W. B. Stewart and Monroe Wolf.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—The police jury adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow morning, April 5, 1898.

The police jury met pursuant to adjournment. Present: E. H. McGee, President; Messrs. Fontenot, Chachere, Guidry, Quebedeau, Manuel, R. Lafleur, Dr. W. F. Clopton, Haas, Dr. Saizan, Prescott and Durio.

On motion of Mr. Fontenot—Resolved, That the following road overseers be appointed for the 5th ward, namely: Theodore Doucet instead of John C. Whiffey, from Ozamo Fontenot's store to Cyrille Sollean.

Edward Ortega instead of Cleophas Tate, from Conway's upper line to Cocodrie bridge.

Ambrose Deville, from Armand Bri-guac's gin to Garland's saw mill. On motion of Mr. Fontenot—Resolved, that Michel Theodore be placed as the indigent list.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—The following road overseers were appointed for the 4th ward: Preston Reynolds, from Bailey's Bridge to Sacket Landing.

J. O. Leblanc, from Sacket landing to Chey's line.

R. C. Morrow, from Redland to parish line, via Morrow.

H. N. Oden, from Bayou Current to Faulkner's ferry.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—Resolved, That Messrs. E. W. Sylvester, Horace Andrus and Wesley Budden be appointed a committee for the purpose of re-establishing the public road from Beggs to bayou Waxia; and said committee is also authorized to have removed any and all obstructions from public road, including fences, etc.

On motion of Mr. R. Lafleur—Resolved, that the tax-collector be and is hereby authorized to reimburse to Mr. Francois J. Dossman the sum of \$1.05 collected through erroneous assessment.

On motion of Mr. Quebedeau—A. D. Meyer was appointed road overseer, instead of Alexis Moraux, Jr., from Coulon Carriere to Antoine Lancelos' land.

On motion of Mr. Chachere—Thos. Atkinson was appointed road overseer from lower line of Clarissa plantation to the upper line. Capille Paillet, from Wyle bridge to upper line of Clarissa plantation.

On motion of Mr. McGee—The following road overseers were appointed for the 8th ward, namely: Pierre Cormier, from Brooks' gully to parish line.

C. D. Verret, from Mose Dorsey's gin to Verret's at main road.

M. G. Wilkins, from John Boudreau to parish line.

Belle Godeau, from southeast corner of I. R. Guidry to Mallet public road.

Belle Godeau, from Martin's pasture to Victoria Lemelle.

C. J. Coburn, from southeast corner of I. R. Guidry to Boudreau's bridge.

Theusmas Young, from T. Johnson to Coulee-Tete-de-Vache, instead of Lucius Young.

David Smith, from Read's bridge to T. W. Young's northeast corner, instead of Lorenzo Young.

Jules Bellard, from Thibodeau's bridge to parish line, near Prud'homme City; Alibe Guillery, from Johnny Fruges'

bridge to Theophile Vidrine, thence to ward line near Don Louis Young.

Vaimont P. Duplechain, from P. M. H. McGee's northeast corner to Johnny Fruges' bridge, instead of Bazile Rougeau.

On motion of Mr. R. Lafleur—Resolved, That Hon. Samuel Haas be appointed a commissioner to represent this parish, in the assessment of railroad, telegraph and telephone property, in accordance with Act No. 92 of 1888.

On motion of Mr. R. Lafleur—Resolved, That the following road overseers be appointed for the fifth ward: Bernard Ray, from upper line of Shuff's land to Fisher's bridge.

J. T. St. Cyr, from Shuff's upper line to Port Barre.

Jas. Kelley, from parish line of Avoyelles, east side of Bayou Boeuf to Barbreck bridge.

Chas. O'Quinn, west side of Bayou Boeuf, from Avoyelles line to Barbreck.

Jas. H. Baldrige, from Barbreck bridge to Whiteville bridge, east side of Bayou Boeuf.

Marcellus Stagg, west side of Bayou Boeuf, from Barbreck bridge to Whiteville bridge.

Dr. H. C. Milburn, from Whiteville bridge to Burleigh bridge, east side of Bayou Boeuf.

R. L. Stagg, from Whiteville bridge to Burleigh bridge, west side of Bayou Boeuf.

W. J. Young, from Burleigh bridge to Garland's bridge, east side of Bayou Boeuf.

Reeves, from Burleigh bridge to Garland bridge, west side of Bayou Boeuf.

Pierre Guillery, instead of Francois Guillery, from Taylor's bridge to ward line.

E. C. Quirk, from Beggs to Washington.

Horace Andrus, from Beggs to Waxia bridge.

On motion of Mr. Fontenot—Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the election claims of last election and to report at once to this body as to the disposal of same. Chair appointed Messrs. Fontenot, R. Lafleur and J. J. Thompson, Treasurer.

On motion of Dr. Clopton—Resolved, That the report of committee appointed to sell contract to build bridge across Waxia slough at the Dunbar place, be received and accepted, committee discharged, and the sum of one hundred dollars, ordered credited to

Jonas W. Bailey, out of the internal improvement funds of the 4th ward.

On motion of Mr. R. Lafleur—Resolved, That the sum of \$75.00 be appropriated out of the internal improvement funds of the 5th ward, to build one bridge and two culverts on A. D. Havard's front; and also, that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated out of the same fund to repair bridges on the road leading from the Catholic church to Waxia; said work to be done under the supervision of Messrs. W. J. Young, Jno. E. Bacon and R. Lafleur.

On motion of Mr. Manuel—Resolved, That the petition from citizens of Mamou and Faquetoulay, praying for a change of road which leads from Theophile Vidrine to Frederick's crossing, be tabled until next regular meeting.

On motion of Mr. Durio—Arestide Sebastian was appointed road overseer from Friolet's bridge to Ville Platte and Washington roads.

On motion of Mr. Chachere—Resolved, That Messrs. Wm. Dejean, Jos. Hidalgo and Lucius David, be appointed a committee to investigate and cause to be opened, if in their opinion it is necessary, the levee on public road on south line of Nicholas Gallion's lands.

On motion of Mr. Guidry—Resolved, That the petition from Mr. Armand Castille, praying for a change of public road, be taken up and granted as prayed for; provided, however, that the said change be made according to section 6 of the road ordinances.

On motion of Mr. Durio—Resolved, That a committee of five, composed of D. Durio, Jean F. Jean, Edmond F. Dejean, Francois David and R. M. Milled, be appointed to examine Plaquemine gully from Jean F. Jean to parish line, and to report at next regular meeting as to the complaints made regarding obstructions existing to said gully and causing overflows on public road.

On motion of Mr. Chachere—Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the chair for the purpose of having repaired the roof on the parish prison. Chair appointed Messrs. Chachere, J. J. Thompson and C. F. Burr.

On motion of Dr. J. P. Saizan—Whereas, a subscription to the amount of \$500 having been obtained from the citizens of the 1st ward for the purpose of aiding the improvements of the public road; and

[Continued on Third Page]

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