

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION.

"Here Shall The Press The People's Rights Maintain, Unawed by Influence and Unbribed by Gain."

VOL. XV.--NO. 13.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1904.

\$1 PER YEAR

Railroad Carries.

The election for the five mill tax to aid in the construction of the projected Opelousas, Gulf & North-eastern Railroad, held in this, the first ward, last Monday, was a spirited affair, both pros and cons fighting to the bitter end.

The Opelousas poll was the storm center, as both sides knew that the Plaisance and Bellevue polls were going heavily against the proposition, and the supporters of the road knew that they had to pole enough votes here to offset the votes of the two other polls mentioned.

Rain poured down the entire day, and the workers were put to considerable disadvantage, but carriages, hacks, buggies, could be seen going in every direction, bringing voters to the polls and getting proxies of women.

Very few ladies came to the polls in person, on account of the inclement weather. The few patriotic ones that came, however, voted for the tax; those who could not come were represented by proxy, and it can be truthfully said that the ladies saved the day.

The majority in the ward, in number, was 30; in valuation, one hundred and seventy-seven thousand, and three hundred and forty dollars.

In Opelousas the vote was 180 for and 63 against.

In Plaisance 73 against.

In Bellevue 16 against and 2 for.

The opposition to the tax will bring the matter into court, contesting the election on several points, among them being that the commissioners at the Opelousas box were not qualified voters; that the proposition failed to carry for want of receiving a majority of votes and assessed valuation in the ward; and the illegality of some votes in the Opelousas box.

Christmas Tragedy.

Andrew Houlihan, who had been clerking for D. Boas & Son here, was shot and killed by his oldest son, George, on Christmas day.

He had been here about six weeks, and had gone to New Orleans to spend the holidays with his folks.

It appears that it was customary for him to abuse his wife and be generally holterous when in liquor, and of course on Christmas he got drunk.

It was anything for a row, and when he saw a neat dining set in the room, he began abusing his wife for her extravagance. She protested that her son George had bought and paid for it, which statement George substantiated. But this did not satisfy the whiskey-crazed man, and he declared he would break the furniture, and went in the yard and got the ax and came to execute his threat.

The ax was taken away from him by a lady guest, and thrown in the yard. He got it a second time, and, declaring that he would kill the entire family, rushed on his wife. The lady guest again intervened and received an ax blow on the head, which killed her. The infuriated man then started to his wife when his son George, who had come in in the meantime, thinking his mother in imminent danger, fired on his father, inflicting three fatal wounds, causing instant death.

While here but a short while, he had made many friends, and no one suspected that he was of a mean disposition. He was a splendid clerk, and his employers were thoroughly satisfied with his work.

He was an Irishman, forty-three years of age.

Christmas.

Everybody spent Christmas at home Sunday.

Fapa and mama and babies spent the day together, basking in the warmth of God's big round stove.

There was no use for the Yule log—the day was one for outdoor enjoyment—a day for gambol and croquet and football.

There was no attraction for anyone outside of the family circle—everything was closed, and, most happily, the saloons, which accounts for the fact that signs and bridges being intact the next morning.

As New Year will also be on Sunday, the fireside will be made happier and papa will be in fix to hit his mouth center, with the delicious slice of turkey.

Moved To Town.

Mr. Jefferson D. Young, a prominent citizen of Pitreville, has moved to Opelousas, and will make St. Landry's metropolis his permanent home.

We understand that Mr. Young will go into the grocery business here.

The Clarion wishes him abundant success.

To Whom It May Concern.

Notice is hereby given that all claims against the firm of J. K. Sandoz & Bro., are invited to present them for payment, and those owing the firm are also requested to settle their indebtedness at earliest convenience.

J. K. SANDOZ & BRO.,
d24-2t In Liquidation.

The Mount Hope Brick & Tile Works.

Are now prepared to manufacture first class bricks, tiles and bull-nose bricks. We now have new kilns and new machinery, and the clay is absolutely first-class.

If you need bricks of any description, give us a trial and you will be satisfied.

MRS. H. L. BIDSTRAUP,
Washington, La.
April 9, 1y

Short Rations.

The lover of the exhilarating cup will have to do one of two things after January 1st: Increase his income or go on short rations. We understand that from that date the saloon keepers will charge 15 cents a drink, and of course this is above the ordinary worshipper at Bacchus Shrine's means.

This is made necessary by the increase of license, the saloon men not being able to see their way through at 10 cents a drink with a three thousand dollar license.

Public Auction Office.

Major Alfred D. Stewart has retained the building near Chuchere's store, together with the spacious lot of ground, which will use for conducting a general public auction business.

There will be a public auction there every Saturday, at which everything but the Major's wit will be sold—cows, shouates, furniture, horses, merchandise, clothes, real estate, everything in every line.

We wish Major Stewart success in his venture.

Dossmann Appointed.

Yesterday's morning papers announced the appointment of Hon. Laurent J. Dossmann as Assessor for the parish of St. Landry.

Mr. Dossmann was chosen for the office in a Democratic primary election held in this parish, and his appointment was expected, notwithstanding the fact that determined efforts were made to have the Governor ignore the wishes of the people.

Mr. Dossmann is one of the leading Democrats in the parish, fully qualified to fill the office, and the Clarion rejoices in his appointment.

New Year.

To-morrow the bells will ring out the Year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Five, and greet a New Year.

The Clarion wishes everybody a Happy New Year. The old one has treated our section with plenty—our farmers are out of debt, our merchants are on the good side of the ledger; our churches have good flocks; our banks are stable and sound—in fact the "goose hangs high" and the sun shines bright everywhere.

May Nineteen Hundred and Five treat us as well.

The Storm.

A wind storm, which from information, was general throughout the parish, occurred Monday night, and caused considerable damage in some sections.

Mr. Damon Bertrand, policeman from the eighth ward, reports that barns, fences and trees were blown down in the Plaquemine country, and that the cotton remaining in the fields was almost entirely destroyed.

The Plaisance and Grand Prairie sections also suffered severely.

The town of Opelousas had but a light blow, and a few fences were the only victims to the wind.

Our Streets.

The streets of Opelousas would make a Mallet public road blush with shame right now.

Landry, one of the most important streets of the town, is almost impassable near Lassalle & Desmarais' store, near the bridge.

Bellevue street, in front of the Market house, is in as bad a fix.

Tuesday, near Judge Lewis' residence, a flock of geese had a grand time, right in the street. They'd dive down, presumably for crawfish (the latter part we won't vouch for) and almost disappear from view.

Of course this condition is not altogether due to the neglect of the present Street Commissioner. He has not long since assumed office, and we believe has done his best. But, nevertheless, we should have better streets. The natural drainage of the town makes it easy, it seems to us, to have good streets, and where lies the blame, we not know—it's somewhere, and should be remedied.

For Sale or Rent.

A large comfortable home, situated three blocks from railroad depot. Apply to

A. C. SKILES,
d24-4t Office, at Lumber Yard.

LOTS FOR SALE—About three lots in one body, in the Southern portion of town—a first-class investment. It doesn't cost anything to inquire for particulars at the Clarion office.

Police Jury Proceedings.

Opelousas, La., Dec. 27, 1904.

The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment to promulgate the election list on Dec. 27th, with the following members present:

Dr. W. F. Clopton, President; Messrs. Stelly, Lafleur, Halphen, Muller, Bertrand, Guillery, Guillery, Dailey and Savant.

Motion by Mr. Muller—Seconded and carried, the Police Jury adjourned until 12:30 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Dr. W. F. Clopton, President; Messrs. Durio, Stelly, Lafleur, Halphen, Muller, Bertrand, Haas, Guillery, Guillery, Dailey, Savant and Lafleur.

Motion by Mr. Muller—That the ballot boxes containing the votes cast at the special election December 23, 1904, by the voters of the first police jury ward, having been delivered to the Police Jury, it was resolved, that the Jury now proceed to open the ballot boxes and canvass the votes cast at said election, and that Messrs. Muller and Lafleur be appointed to open the boxes and canvass the votes cast at said election, and Messrs. Muller and Lafleur be appointed to keep tallies of the result of the election as to the number of votes cast and the amounts represented by the votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Savant—

Seconded and carried, the Police Jury adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

December 28, 1904.

The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Dr. W. F. Clopton, President; Messrs. Halphen, Bertrand, Guillery, Guillery, Dailey, Savant, Durio, Muller.

Opelousas, La., Dec. 28, 1904.

To the Honorable President and Members of the Police Jury of the parish of St. Landry, La.:

As a property taxpayer and qualified elector of the first police jury ward of the parish of St. Landry, I hereby enter my respectful protest against the counting of any ballots voted by proxy, at the special election held on the 23rd inst., where said proxies were not signed by the voter himself before a notary public, in the presence of the notary public and two competent witnesses. In my opinion votes cast by proxy, not so authenticated, are illegal and should be rejected. Respectfully submitted,

R. MORNHINVEG.

The ballot voted by R. B. Wilkins in the Bellevue box as tutor, was objected to by Thos. H. Lewis, who protested against it being counted on the ground of illegality.

Motion by Mr. Dailey—Seconded and carried, the Police Jury adjourned until 12:30 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The Police Jury met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Dr. W. F. Clopton, President; Messrs. Durio, Stelly, Muller, Bertrand, Guillery, Guillery, Dailey, Savant, Haas, Halphen.

Motion by Mr. Guillery—Duly seconded and carried, that the canvass and count of the votes cast at the special election on December 23rd, 1904, and the proclamation of the result of said election, be announced, as follows:

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by ordinance of the Police Jury of the parish of St. Landry, adopted on the fourteenth day of the month of November, 1904, a special election of the property taxpayers of the first police ward of said parish was ordered to be held on the 23rd day of December, 1904, to decide whether a five mill tax should be levied annually for the period of ten years in said ward under the provisions of Act No. 202 of the Session of 1888 and of Article 207 of the Constitution to aid in the construction of a line of railway projected by the Opelousas Gulf & Northeastern Railway Company, and

Whereas, said election was duly held on the said 23rd day of December, 1904, during the hours and at the place fixed by said ordinance and the body having convened for the purpose of opening, examining and counting the ballots cast at said election and to canvass the returns thereof, all of said ballot boxes where said election was held having been duly returned, together with the returns of said election, duly attested by the Commissioner appointed to hold the same, we the said Police Jury, in open session convened, proceeded to examine, count and canvass said returns, as follows, to-wit:

We first proceeded to open the ballot boxes and canvass the returns of the ballots therein both in number and amount, whereupon, we, the said Police Jury, found as a result of said examination and count that the total number of votes cast for the proposition to levy and collect a five mill tax and that the persons who voted in favor of said proposition represented an aggregate assessed valuation of three hundred and eighty-four and fifty-seven and 50/100 dollars; and we, the said Police Jury, found that one hundred and fifty-one votes were

cast against the proposition to levy said tax and that the voters so voting represented an aggregate assessed valuation of two hundred and six thousand seven hundred and eleven and 60/100 dollars.

And therefore, we, the said Police Jury, and we hereby proclaim that a majority in number and amount of the votes cast at said election (numerical majority thirty-seven votes, and majority in amount of assessed valuation one hundred and seventy-seven thousand three hundred and forty-five and 84/100 dollars) voted in favor of levying a five mill tax on the taxable property within the limits of the first police jury ward of this parish for a period of ten years in aid of the construction of the line of railway projected by the Opelousas Gulf & Northeastern Railway Company.

W. F. CLOPTON, President.
Attest: J. J. HEALEY, Clerk,
Rooms of Police Jury, Parish of St. Landry, Dec. 28, 1904.

Mr. Dailey offered the following ordinance, which was adopted, to-wit:

AN ORDINANCE
An ordinance levying a special tax of five mills annually for the period of ten years upon the taxable property of the First Police Jury Ward of the Parish of St. Landry to aid in the construction of the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern Railroad.

Whereas, at a special election held in the first police jury ward of the parish of St. Landry, on the 23rd day of December, 1904, to take the sense of the property taxpayers and qualified electors in said ward whether a five mill tax should be levied and collected upon the taxable property in said ward to aid in the construction of the line of railway projected by the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern Railway Company, annually for the period of ten years; and

Whereas, at said election a majority of the qualified electors and a majority of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in said ward voted in favor of levying a five mill tax; and

Whereas, under the provisions of Section Five of Act No. 202 of the Act of 1888 it is made the duty of the Police Jury in such cases to immediately pass an ordinance levying such tax; therefore, be it

Enacted by the Police Jury of the parish of St. Landry, in regular session convened: Section 1. That a tax of five mills on the dollar be and the same is hereby levied, on all the taxable property, situated within the First Police Jury Ward of the parish of St. Landry, on which the state levies a tax to be used in aid of the construction of a line of railway projected by the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern Railway Company, for the years 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914, to raise the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars for each of said years, and an aggregate amount for the whole ten years of Seventy Thousand Dollars.

Section 2. Be it further ordained, etc., That said tax shall be annually collected by the qualified electors and a majority of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in said ward voting at said election, voted in favor of the levy of said tax; and

Section 3. Be it further ordained, etc., That the duties of the Secretary of Section Five of Act No. 202 of the Act of 1888 it is made the duty of the Police Jury in such cases to immediately pass an ordinance levying such tax; therefore, be it

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