

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

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OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1907.

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LARGE MEETING AT COULEE CROCHE.

Barbecue, Refreshments and Speeches the Order of the Day.

STATE AND PAROCHIAL POLITICS

Discussed, Garland, Pavy, Martin, Dejean, Guilbeau and Thibodeaux Address the Voters in Behalf of Wilkinson.

A social gathering, ostensibly for the purpose of partaking of a feast of barbecued mutton and beef, but which turned out to be a meeting of considerable political significance, was held in a china grove in Coulee Croche last Sunday, lasting the entire day.

The rendez-vous was at the place of Mr. Laurent Patin, and we are told that some three hundred people, some from Lafayette parish, but in greater part from this parish, were present. The Lafayette people came over to hear State affairs discussed, having had a premonition that there was going to be some politics mixed up with the "social" programme.

Dr. L. A. Guidry, president of the Wilkinson Club of Coulee Croche, acted as toastmaster, or rather chairman, at the speaking, and Messrs. R. Lee Garland, B. H. Pavy, Dudley L. Guilbeau, A. W. Dejean, Chas. Thibodeaux and Dr. G. W. Martin addressed the assembly after dinner.

Mr. Guilbeau confined his remarks to the advocacy of Col. Wilkinson for the Democratic nomination for Governor. He did not touch parochial affairs at all.

Mr. Pavy also advocated the nomination of Col. Wilkinson. He made the first speech touching on parochial affairs, championing the candidacy of Mr. A. W. Dejean for sheriff and Mr. A. H. Mouton for assessor.

Mr. A. W. Dejean, candidate for sheriff of St. Landry, announced his candidacy, promising a faithful performance of the duties of the office to which he aspires, should he be elected.

Dr. G. W. Martin, also candidate for the office of sheriff, spoke principally of the gubernatorial contest, strongly urging the election of Col. Wilkinson. He mentioned that he was a candidate for sheriff, but said that he would speak on that subject at another time.

District Attorney R. Lee Garland eschewed parish politics, confining his address to parochial economics and the candidacy of Col. Wilkinson, his choice for Governor.

Mr. Thibodeaux regretted that he had "talked" his speech in the ears of the voters there before he was called upon to "speechify," and therefore had nothing further to say to them.

All of the addresses were in the French language.

The Church Point brass band furnished music for the occasion, and those from Opelousas who attended express themselves as highly pleased with the meeting, and in debt to the people of Coulee Croche for their hospitality.

IOTA LAND TITLES.

Supreme Court Hands Down Decision Involving Them.

Crowley, June 18.—The decision of the Supreme Court handed down yesterday, involves the title of nearly every piece of real estate inside the corporation of Iota.

The case is that of Adam Doucet et als, vs. Michael Fenelen, in which plaintiff claimed title to a certain parcel of land within the corporation of Iota, held by defendant under color of title.

The value of the property involved may amount to upward of \$200,000. The lower Court had given judgment in favor of the defendants, which was reversed by the higher tribunal in favor of plaintiff.

Bertheaud-Wilson.

Mr. Sam Bertheaud and Miss Besie Wilson were married at the home of the bride's parents, in Opelousas, June 12, 1907, at 8 o'clock.

The contracting parties are both highly esteemed young people of our city, the bride being the daughter of Mr. J. E. Wilson, of the firm of Childs & Wilson, prominent hardware merchants, and the groom, a member of the Opelousas Brick & Tile Works, and a worthy and deserving young man.

Uncle Sam's Savings.

Several days this week were occupied in dressing up the United States Building in Opelousas with new savings, the old ones mentioned by the Clarion some weeks ago having been turned over to the rag man.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

Rayne 3000 Population--Jackson Parish Indict Road Tax Delinquents--Bad Negro Convict Runs Amuck in Lafayette Parish.

The Woodmen of the World of New Iberia will build a lodge hall.

The small parish of Catahoula is assessed at \$6,400,000 this year.

There were only thirty delinquent tax payers in the parish of Vermilion this year.

The farmers' Union of West Carroll will build a 1200 bales capacity warehouse at Forest.

The Signal reports that some of the pumping plants have begun running and furnishing water to the rice farmers.

The Tribune thinks that when the census of Rayne now being taken is completed, that town will show 3000 inhabitants.

The grand jury of Jackson parish returned 460 true bills against persons who failed to pay their per capita road tax for 1906.

Two new wells were brought in at the Jennings oil field last week. The production of the field for May showed a decrease of 40 per cent.

No other cases of small pox have developed in the Lake Charles jail, and it is believed that the disease was nipped in the bud in Calcasieu.

Justin C. Daspit has resigned as Superintendent of public schools of St. Martin parish, and Arthur J. Cormier appointed to succeed him.

A tract of pine-timber land containing 6645 acres, situated on Bayou des Cannes, near Iota, was sold by Adams-Duson Lumber Co. to an Arkansas firm for \$65,000.

The International Loan and Trust Co., formerly known as the New Orleans Debenture Redemption Co., failed last week, inflicting a loss of over \$200,000 on New Orleans investors.

J. C. Abel, a Shreveport alderman, charged the Mayor of that city with unfair dealing in a natural gas franchise, the Mayor called him a liar, and Abel resigned from the council.

The Alexandria Town-Talk is urging the merchants of that city to close at 6:30 p. m., and congratulates a

few of the larger stores who are closing at that hour regardless of an agreement.

New Orleans health officers made an investigation of the ice cream manufacturing plants in New Orleans, and found some in such unsanitary condition that they ordered their closing up.

The city council of Plaquemine, Iberville parish, adopted an amendment to the town charter, changing the terms of office of the mayor, aldermen and marshall from two to four years.

The Supreme Court last Monday denied a new trial to Lee Coleman, who killed Wm. Shoemaker, town marshal of DeQuincy. He will appeal to the Board of Pardons to save him from the execution of the sentence of death.

The Morgan City Review says that the old electric plant of that town consumed fifteen and a half barrels of oil in one night to run its machinery, and that the new plant, 175 horse power engine, gets along on a barrel and a quarter a night of oil.

The numerous killings in Baton Rouge have impelled an out-of-town subscriber to write to the Dailey State as follows: "I have many friends in the capital, and I am afraid if I don't keep up with the killings in that town I may lose track of some of them."

Jean Louis Baptiste, a desperate negro sent up from Acadia parish for burglary, and having 45 years yet to serve, went on a rampage in Lafayette parish last Monday, and shot two officers. He was subsequently captured, after being shot, and returned to the penitentiary.

The Charity Hospital, in New Orleans, has issued its biennial sworn statement showing receipts and disbursements made for the term running from December 1st, 1906 to June 1st, 1907, and shows total receipts to the amount of \$36,540.97 and a total disbursement of \$80,583.87.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

State Association Will Meet In Opelousas.

To be held with the Opelousas Baptist church, beginning Friday night before fifth Sunday in June.

Friday night, 8 p. m., introductory sermon—Rev. E. Stubblefield.

Saturday, 10 a. m.—The relation of church and pastor—C. W. Stumph and W. R. Brown.

The pastor as missionary—J. J. Justice and E. Stubblefield. 11 a. m. preaching—H. B. McFerran.

3:00 to 5:00 p. m., Christian education—E. O. Ware and Bruce Benton.

Religious literature and its value to the Christian—D. F. Lawrence and A. Staggs.

The good which a church derives by giving to missions—H. H. Webb and W. R. Brown.

8:00 p. m., address on New Testament church government—E. O. Ware.

Sunday, 10 a. m.—Sunday school mass meeting.

11:00 a. m.—Lecture by Dr. S. A. Smith, Superintendent Louisiana Anti-Saloon League.

3:00 to 5:00 p. m.—What Louisiana Baptists have accomplished—E. Stubblefield and followed by general discussion.

Why have fifth Sunday meetings?—W. R. Brown and H. B. McFerran.

8:00 p. m.—Preaching by W. N. Johnson, corresponding secretary Louisiana Baptist State Convention.

It is to be hoped that more of our pastors can attend than have been going to our meeting. Let each one consider it his duty to be there, and to help in carrying out the programme.

C. W. STUMPH, Chairman Committee.

ONIONS AND WEEVILS.

Said that Pest Will Not Abide Amidst Odor of Onions.

Major William H. Tunnard, of Irma, Natchitoches parish, is out with the novel suggestion that onion—our common loud smelling onion—is a solution of the boll weevil problem.

He says that experiments by him, first suggested by accident, have demonstrated that the boll weevil will not stay where onions are in the neighborhood. They will even shy a Dago's breath, and the epicure just up from his fillet southe with onions will stampede a cotton patch full of weevils.

The suggestion has the virtue of

being novel if not practical. It is said that if the onions are planted near the cotton, perhaps a row of cotton and a row of onions, it would solve the vexing boll weevil problem, so far as it attacking cotton is concerned.

The onion remedy takes its place with the numerous other remedies suggested for the destruction of the weevil, since the pest's appearance in Louisiana. Paris green, whiskey, coal oil, and now onion—indeed, if the critter can stand this combination it's a daisy and deserves to live.

WELCH'S ROAD.

Police Jury Will be Asked to Order An Election.

A mass-meeting was held at Arnaudville Thursday of this week, for the purpose of organizing to further the interests of the proposed tax for the railroad from New Iberia to Port Barre, projected by F. M. Welch, immigration agent of the Gould system.

We understand that the sentiment in favor of the tax is not unanimous in the third ward of this parish, the ward through which the road will pass and which will be asked to vote the tax. Not enough tax-payers have been found willing to sign the petition to the police jury asking that body to order an election for the tax, and this meeting was to stimulate interest and obtain the lacking names.

The third ward is constituted of the villages of Port Barre, Arnaudville, Leonville and Notleyville.

"The tax will probably carry," remarked a prominent citizen of Arnaudville the other day, "but there is lots of work to be done to accomplish this. There are many opposed to it—in fact it looks to me as if the Arnaudville precinct is very nearly evenly divided on the proposition, and I learn that this is also true of the other precincts in the third ward."

The Louisiana Oyster.

It is said that Louisiana oysters are being shipped to Baltimore and canned and labeled as Baltimore oysters. This should not be permitted. If the oysters are good enough to carry the Baltimore label, they are too good to be sold without the Louisiana label or trade mark. Louisiana is essentially an oyster state and several other kinds of a state. She will get what's coming to her when she labels all her products at home.—Sabine Banner.

GOV. SANDERS TO TOUR ST. LANDRY.

Will Spend Ten Days in the Empire Parish in July.

WANTS TO MEET EVERY VOTER

Washington, Ga. Prairie, V. Platte, Chicot, Ma-mooe, Eunice, Chataignier, Sunset, Leonville, Opelousas, Plag, Pointe and Other Places.

Gov. J. Y. Sanders, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Louisiana, will spend ten days in Empire St. Landry, beginning July 8th.

With him will be Gen. Estopinal, Mr. Sanders' campaign manager, and a gentleman well known in this parish, having appeared on several occasions here. We understand that Gen. Estopinal will speak in the French language, and that several other speakers will accompany the party.

We understand that it is the desire of Mr. Sanders to meet every voter in the parish, if such is possible, and to personally discuss with them the issues of the campaign. It will be seen that his itinerary includes every ward in the parish, and those who desire to see him and hear him will have ample opportunity to do so.

He will arrive at Washington, his first point in this parish, Monday evening, and speak there at 8:30 that night at the opera house. He will spend that night in Washington.

Tuesday, the 9th, he will go to Grand Prairie, about eight miles from Washington, and speak there at the High School building at 11 o'clock. He goes to Ville Platte the same day and speaks at the High School building at 4 p. m.

From Ville Platte he goes to Bayou Chicot, where he will speak at Haas store at 11 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, the 10th, going from there to Mamou and speaking at Red-dell's store at 4 p. m.

On Thursday, the 11th, he speaks at Reed's Hall, in Eunice, at 8:30 p. m. Friday, July 12th, he speaks at Chataignier, at Alex Ardoins, at 2 p. m.

On Saturday, July 13th, he speaks at Sunset, at the High School building, at 3 o'clock.

He will spend Sunday, the 14th, in Opelousas.

On Monday, July 15th, Leonville will be visited, where he will speak at 2 p. m.

At Opelousas he speaks on Monday night, July 15, at 8:30 o'clock, at the courthouse.

He goes to Plaquemine Point and speaks on the morning of the 16th, at 10 o'clock, at Dejean's store. In the evening of the same day, at 4 o'clock, he speaks at Bristol.

On Wednesday, July 17th, he speaks at the Town Hall at Melville at 12:30, and winds up the tour of St. Landry at Morrow, at Town Hall, at 4 p. m.

WEEVILS IN CHICOT.

Pests Thick in Pinoy Woods Section of St. Landry.

Our townsman, Mr. Geo. W. Kelley, brought to the Clarion office last Tuesday a quinine vial full of boll weevils, which he had got at his brother's (Mr. R. R. Kelley) farm near Bayou Chicot, in the northern portion of this parish.

Mr. Kelley tells us that they are numerous in that section, and just waiting for the forms to get ripe for them to feed on. They evidently live on the leaves and the few flowers, as they appear in splendid health and good trim for action.

This is the same section that has been visited for the past two years by the pest, and is the only section where they have appeared in numbers. We hear of them in other sections of the parish, but not in dangerous quantities.

Mr. Kelley expects a total loss of his crop.

Since the above was put in type Mr. Eraste Durio showed us a family of boll weevils, which he had in captivity in a gin bottle. He got them on a farm in Plaquemine Point, and he says they came there in high water, floating on small limbs and other improvised water crafts. The floaters hitched in the tall gull weeds of that country, and the weevils climbed them, where they are now lodged. Mr. Durio thinks that they have too much sense to attack the cotton crop there now, as they know they'd starve to death. They are like the Chicot article, except that they are smaller and blacker, due partly to hardships and short rations during the overflow, we presume.

SWORDS ANNOUNCES FOR SHERIFF.

Charges Opelousas Politicians With Precipitating Campaign--Opposes Organization of Parochial Clubs--Eulogizes Primary Plan and Sec. 5.

Sheriff M. L. Swords has issued the following address to the voters of St. Landry parish:

The campaign is now on in the parish for parochial offices, having been precipitated by the politicians of the City of Opelousas. The desire of the best element of the people throughout the parish for a late campaign has been brushed aside by the politicians of this City in going to the different precincts and organizing Parochial Clubs pledged to vote for certain candidates named in the preamble and resolutions adopted at the several places. This condition of affairs is directly against the spirit of the Primary, Election Law. We may as well have the old convention plan of the past as to have the formation of clubs pledged to the support of any particular parochial candidate. In the formation of Clubs we have the shadow, but not the substance of the Primary Law. Believing in the Primary plan by which the voter expresses his preference directly, I am opposed to the formation of Parochial Clubs whereby the politician strives to concentrate the votes, and then by resolutions impel them to vote under the leadership of the designing politician or have the whole power of the club against those who wish to vote independently of any leadership. Another bad feature of the Club System is that the members of a club could persuade the individual voter to go squarely against his convictions.

As to the gubernatorial contest, not being a candidate myself for that exalted position, I should think that after the different candidates were heard the proper method would be to take the rostrum and proclaim your choice before all the people in the several localities: As to the candidates for Governor, either of the gentlemen running would in my opinion make a good Executive. In passing briefly over the three candidates, I am constrained to believe that each have much merit for praise. General Jastremski deserves much praise for forcing to the front in the last campaign those reform measures that all of us agree should be tried thoroughly before a change is made to some other system. I feel that I would be committing an unpardonable error should I go out of my way to attack a sentiment that lies deep in the hearts of those who actively and heroically followed the waning fortune of the Lost Cause to the end.

Col. T. S. Wilkinson deserves much credit for the very active support he gave to the people of this State in aiding in the overthrow of the carpet-bag government of Louisiana. He ably represented his district in Congress for several terms and was recognized as a man of ability by the National Administration which was evidenced by his appointment as Collector of the Port of New Orleans, a post which he filled ably. He was recognized as an able leader in riding the State of the Louisiana State Lottery Co.

J. Y. Sanders has been actively in politics since he attained his majority, and was elected to the Legislature from St. Mary at the age of twenty-one and continuously thereafter until elected Leut-Governor. In the session of the Legislature of 1900 he was chosen Speaker of the House without a dissenting vote. He was elected to the Constitutional Convention of 1898, and if he accomplished no other purpose, we can never forget the gallant fight he made in the Convention to eliminate the negro vote and to allow every white man to vote who wished to take advantage of Section 5. Day after day he stood in the Convention and with all the power his active brain could command fought, and fought hard and long, until the measure was passed that has given so much relief to Louisiana. To go out and fight him now would be to go back on many good and splendid men who had not the opportunity nor perhaps the means, and besides who could not see in those turbulent times the necessity of an education. Section 5 of 1898 had the same exhilarating effect on the educational problem as did the exemption of railroads from taxation for ten years, in the public improvement that we see on every hand. Neither of these systems should be attacked, and the latter should be extended. I can not go out and ask the voter to go against a man who has done all in his power to give to every white man the right to vote.

I have striven in the above to show clearly that it is up to the candidates to show the people why they are asking their suffrages and I am fully convinced that a man's choice for the State offices should have nothing

to do with his preference for parochial offices. In thus clearly defining my position I am not trimming but simply standing by the spirit of the primary plan.

In announcing myself as a candidate for Sheriff, I am doing so knowing that every effort will be made to defeat me and I will give you some of the methods to be adopted. Some will urge that it is not right to give a man a third term. That cry was not raised in the last campaign in regard to the District Attorney's office and he has been in one term longer than I. There is no danger of the Tax Collectors in the country beating the State and parish, because we have to settle with the State by the 5th of every month, and in my case the parish, levee and special funds go into the fiscal agent bank at 4 o'clock p. m., every day. In fact everything except the fines and costs which are taken out and disbursed to the proper ones, leaving a residue of only a few hundred dollars which is amply covered by Bond.

That I have been a good executive even most of my enemies will admit, as I catch a very great many more than are tried. When I have any one in my power I have to the best of my ability tried to have them treated humanely and gentlemanly, and the fact remains in the handling of the unfortunate insane that since the new jail has been completed, I have had some eight or ten turned out thoroughly cured. The public roads have been made good through my efforts.

I am accused of spending much money, but it is my own and made by more ways than getting it from the Sheriff and Tax-Collector's Office. No one has accused me of being lazy, and if beaten, I shall not shed a tear, but congratulate the winner, and go back to farming as cheerfully as the day I was born. I can not ask the aid of any one I cannot pay. It can be attested that I have put up more money for the upbuilding and advancement of my town and parish than all those running combined, and I do not regret it for I owe much to those who have stood by me in every campaign that I have entered, and if elected I shall show to the people that nothing I have is not at their command. Evil tongues will strike at me secretly, but I am ready for any and all attacks and will make my thrust to the point and without fear or favor. I shall be just as courteous to my opponents in the future as in the past and shall say nothing of them that would cause a heartache or pain. I treat all people alike, whether they are for or against me, before the election, after the election and in fact at all times and places, and I leave my candidacy in their hands and feel assured that they will give me one of the biggest majorities ever given a tried official.

Respectfully,
M. L. SWORDS.

NEW SCHEDULE.
O. Gee to Begin Service to Branch On July 1st.

Considerable delay in steel laying on the Opelousas, Gulf & North-eastern Railroad has been caused by shortage of rails. In fact work was suspended for over two weeks on this account. The work is within a few miles of Rayne now, however, and a new schedule card has just been issued for service to begin on July 1st between Melville and Branch. Branch is about seven miles from Rayne.

Instead of the 5:05 train from Melville stopping at Opelousas, it will continue west, leaving here at 5:35, and making the following stations: Atwood, 5:50; Lewisburg, 6:15; Church Point, 6:40; Branch, 7:05. Next morning it leaves Branch at 7 o'clock, Church Point at 7:25; Lewisburg, at 7:50; Atwood at 8:15 and arrives at Opelousas at 8:30, leaving here at 9 o'clock for Melville on the old schedule.

Charged With Assault.

Deputy Sheriff C. A. Long brought up on the Opelousas, Gulf & North-eastern passenger Tuesday evening a negro named Willis Thomas, charged with criminally assaulting a negroess by name of Leona Dodson, at Melville. Thomas was lodged in the parish jail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

Fine Corn.

Mr. Edmond Deville, living a few miles from Opelousas, has the thanks of the Clarion for a mess of roasted ears.

The ears are large and full, and Mr. Deville will doubtless make a good corn crop.

HIGH GRADE OIL IN ST. LANDRY.

The Longpine Field Turns Out To Be The Genuine Article. May Be

"GREATEST PAYING FIELD IN SOUTH"

Says Mr. E. L. Andrews, Beaumont Oil Expert and Railroad Contractor--Local People Own Land Adjoining Field.

Some weeks ago the Clarion mentioned that a report was current that a discovery had been made which indicated that there was oil in the northern portion of St. Landry, near Longpine, and that Mr. W. H. Ford, of Cheneyville, had procured an option from Mr. Francois Hebert, on whose land the prospects were, and would organize a stock company to develop it.

Now comes a confirmation of the report, to the effect that there is no doubt of the presence of oil there. On last Saturday and Sunday a number of oil experts visited the spot, and the unanimous opinion is that a rich oil field has been discovered, and of a superior quality.

Mr. R. L. Andrews, the well-known railroad contractor and oil expert, who has had large experience in the Beaumont field, is enthused over the prospects. He personally visited the field, spending several days there.

"I can say this much of the field," said Mr. Andrews to a Clarion man, "and that is that the oil is actually seeping up out of the sand at the foot of a hill, not only in one place, but in several places. It is good, 'live' oil, too. I have seen 'dead' oil come out of the ground, but this is the first time I have ever seen the real 'live' oil coming out, and it would not surprise me if St. Landry parish could soon boast of the greatest paying oil field in the South."

He said the oil was of a finer quality than that in any of the fields in the South.

He left for Beaumont, Texas, Monday, and it is presumed that arrangements will at once be made for drilling.

The Hebert track consists of 147 acres, situated in section 22, township 1, east. Mr. Ernest F. Wesche, of New Orleans, owns the next section, and many more thousand acres adjoining. A school section, adjoining the Wesche section, was recently sold at Auditor's Sale, and several Opelousas people, among them Messrs. B. Bennett and F. L. Sandoz, are among the buyers of land in this section.

It has long been held that St. Landry parish topped on an oil lake, and the discovery at Longpine will doubtless stimulate the exploitation of other sections of the parish.

Insurance Decision.

On last Monday the Supreme Court of Louisiana affirmed the judgment of the lower court from this parish, denying C. N. Bertrand, Administrator, the right to collect an insurance policy wherein the answers of the deceased insured were claimed to be in conflict with the health condition of the insured.

Says the decision of the Supreme Court:

"C. Numa Bertrand, Administrator, vs. Franklin Insurance Company of Illinois.—Where in an application for life insurance the assured expressly warrants the truth of the answers made to the medical examiner, and it is further stipulated that the policy shall be avoided if any answer be untrue, the contract is the law of the case and the policy will be declared forfeited where it is alleged and proved that the assured answered untruthfully that she had never had a 'chronic or persistent cough.' Act 52, p. 86 of 1906, is noted as making radical changes in the laws governing life insurance policies made or delivered in this State.

Judgment affirmed."

Prud'homme Rice Crop.

"The rice crop in the Prud'homme City section of this and Acadia parishes is a delight to look upon," remarked Dr. R. B. Chachere, upon returning from a trip through that section last Tuesday. "One farmer there—Mr. Dot Jenkins—who does most of his work himself, has bright prospects of making 8000 sacks of rice. He sold his crop last year at \$4, and there is no reason why he should get less this year—thus making a \$32,000 crop. He makes the oats to feed his mules to work the rice crop himself, making his seed from year to year with which to plant the succeeding crop. He has done this for eighteen years successfully, which demonstrates indisputably that this country can make first-class seed oats."