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# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION.

SEE OPELOUSAS GROW  
Official Census, 1900, 2951;  
Local Census, 1905, 3826;  
Local Census, 1906, 501;  
ESTIMATED CENSUS, 1910, 10,000

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

VOL. XVIII.—NO. 10.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1907.

\$1 PER YEAR

## SENTENCE DAY IN DISTRICT COURT

Judge Lewis Says Saloon Men Feeding Fire that Will Consume Them.

## DIVES AND LAW VIOLATION

Light On Violators of Sunday Law and Slot Machine Law, Requesting Promise that in Future Statutes Will Be Observed.

His Honor, Judge E. T. Lewis, in passing sentence last Monday on the eight men who recently entered the plea of guilty to indictments found against them by the Grand Jury for violating the Sunday Law and the law prohibiting the operation of slot machines for money or representative of money, struck the key-note of the situation when he said that the saloon men were themselves bringing about prohibition by their disregard for the law in the conduct of their establishments. He called attention to other instances where the saloon men in general brought discredit upon their business and inflamed public sentiment. He named as one of them the gathering in front of saloons of shift-negros and the blockading of sidewalks by them. His Honor said that the town authorities were partly responsible for the latter condition by the lax manner in which the vagrancy law was enforced. In referring to the playing of slot machines, he said that some parish officials could take a share of the blame, as they themselves engaged in the game and hereby set an example. His Honor said that he was himself opposed to summary legislation, but that the time had come when something must be done—the moral sense of the people had been aroused by these violations of the law attributable to the saloons, and unless the evils were overthrown, the wave of prohibition would sweep the country.

His Honor expressed regret at being placed in the position of thus speaking of this fellow-citizen, and said that it was no desire on his part to humiliate them, but that the laws were on the statute books and must be enforced. He said he called the attention of the Grand Jury to the evils mentioned, because he had received complaints that justified him in doing so. He would be comparatively light on them this time, on condition that they promise him that they would in future obey the laws of their country in the conduct of their places of business. He then imposed the following fines:

Willie Ardoin, permitting slot machine to be operated in his house, \$50 and costs. Same as to J. A. Budd and Leon Pitre.

Armand Coriel, violating Sunday Law and permitting slot machine to be operated in his house, \$50 and costs for each offense, or a total of \$100 and costs. Same as to Anastas Guillory, Gus. Fusilier and Paul Castenado.

Chas. Sens, the owner of the machines operated in the different saloons, was fined \$100 each on two counts, or a total fine of \$200 and costs.

The prisoners up for sentence for felonies were all negroes—fourteen of them. Sentence on them was passed as follows:

Harrison Roy, manslaughter and recommended to the extreme mercy of the court, three years in State penitentiary. He is a Washington negro, and a petition asking for clemency was presented to the court from the people of that town.

Anthony Key, manslaughter five years penitentiary.

Ford Freeman and Eraste Jacques, manslaughter—the killing of a negro on the Ville Platte-Opelousas road. Jacques ten years, and Freeman five years.

Oneziphor Sinet, who was convicted of murder, having shot at an adversary and killed a woman, was sentenced to natural life in the State penitentiary.

Marshall Pitre, entering dwelling house with felonious intent, five years penitentiary.

Essex Bowel, burglary, two years penitentiary. This is a one-eyed young darkey who entered the district attorney's store and stole a pair of shoes. "I jest wanted a pair of shoes, that's all, Judge," he frankly answered His Honor when the usual question was put to him as to why he had violated the law.

Jules Doucet, a "Reube" little darkey with abbreviated pants, bullet head and a foot like a ham, got two years penitentiary for entering a dwelling house with felonious intent.

Isaac Johnson, burglary, said he was guilty, hailed from Natchez, Miss., and was a railroad nigger, and got four years in the pen.

Alcee Jacques, who, besides being an imbecile, stammers and is cock-eyed, got one year in the penitentiary

## NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

Catholic Priest Cremated in College Fire--Big Prices Being Paid for Anse La Butte Lands--Other News.

Frosts throughout the sugar belt will greatly aid the crop operations. The parish convicts of Natchitoches parish are leased for \$5 a month each.

Beginning last Sunday, milk prices raised one cent a pint in New Orleans.

Protestant churches in New Orleans are praying for the reform of the city.

W. B. Thompson was elected President of the Cotton Exchange at New Orleans.

The influx of beggars and tramps into New Orleans is declared to be greater this year than ever before.

Ruffin Rair, plantation overseer, was cremated in a residence fire near Plaquemine last Saturday.

A prohibition election will be held in Caddo parish at the same time with the general election in April.

The Board of Health of New Orleans will prosecute parents who send children to school with scarlet fever.

The Executive Committee of the Louisiana Teachers' Association will meet in Baton Rouge on December 14.

A crusade against the New Orleans race tracks, and Sunday racing particularly, has been inaugurated at that city.

Ed. Doran was fined \$100 for selling whiskey without a license, and \$100 for violating the Sunday Law, in Alexandria.

Vandals scratched several squares of Canal street show windows in New Orleans, inflicting a loss of several thousand dollars.

W. B. Farrar, manager of the F. V. Fowler Commission Company, was arrested in Shreveport on the charge of embezzling \$40,000.

A. F. Johnson, manager of the Penamich Lumber Co. at Hamburg, was accidentally shot and killed by friend while on a hunt.

The following were nominated by mass-meeting as officers for the municipality of Bunkie: For Mayor, A. P. Taliaferro; for aldermen, E. H. Taliaferro, A. B. West, W. D. Haas, C. J. Pope and H. E. Owen.

For aiding two other negroes steal cotton seed and rice. The darkey is clearly irresponsible, and this fact was attested by two gentlemen in the audience who know him, but the Judge said he had no discretion in the matter.

Marius Toussaint, horse stealing, got four years. He denied stealing the blue mare which was found in his possession, and said that he had entered the plea of guilty because he knew the witnesses were against him.

Peter Clements, assault with intent to rape, was sent to the pen for five years.

Harry Henry and Elie Bordelon, made a mistake on hog-killing day and slaughtered the hog of another, and each got six months.

George Johnson, carrying concealed weapon, \$100 and costs or 30 days.

Three young men, Ambrose Attalis, Amalea Manuel and Willis Manuel, had entered a plea of guilty to carrying concealed weapon and violating act 31 of 1886 (hoodlum act), but when they faced His Honor for sentence they were innocent of the latter charge, although guilty of c. c. w. They were fined \$25 and costs for hoodlumism, and \$100 and costs for carrying concealed weapon, each.

Gerazime Lancios, white, an unfortunate cripple and hunchback, had entered a plea of guilty to selling liquor without a license. He explained that he couldn't work, and rather than beg he had concluded that the law might overlook his trespasses upon her majesty. He said he had been advised by friends to adopt this means of gaining a livelihood, and had listened to his supposed friends.

"But where are they to-day, that I am in trouble?" He was fined \$100 or thirty days, and had concluded to spend the time in jail, when friends came to his rescue and paid him out.

### Mill Wages Cut.

The Colfax Chronicle says that at a meeting of the stockholders of the Big Pine Lumber Co. it was decided to cut the wages of all employees the sum of 12 1/2 per cent. The cut extends from the office employees all the way down the line. This action was taken rather than to run on shorter time or discharge a part of the force on account of the prevailing depression in business. The mill of this strong company will be run on full time, and the same force retained as heretofore, with the uniform reduction in wages above specified.

Chairman Atchison has announced that the Jastremski Campaign Committee will keep out of the campaign, leaving the supporters to act as individuals.

An investigating committee reported that the five-cent picture theatres in New Orleans contained many death traps in the way of ventilation and fire escapes.

A barge containing 5000 gallons of oil for the Evangeline Oil Co. was destroyed in Bayou Plaquemine, with an attendant loss of \$14,000, on Monday last.

Father Joseph Buck was cremated in a fire that destroyed St. Joseph's College at Covington last Saturday night. The property loss is \$50,000, with little insurance.

The town of Morgan City is reported full of tramps and beggars, and several robberies have occurred there lately. The Mayor has taken active steps to abate the nuisance.

A dispatch from Arcadia, Bienville parish, says that the ladies of the Civic League of that town have so far expended more than \$400 in beautifying the public park, and intend to make it one of the prettiest in the State.

Forty cases of small pox were reported to the DeSoto Board of Health as existing at a saw mill near Mansfield. It is said that there have recently been over a hundred cases among the four hundred employees of one mill, and not a single death.

A Lafayette special reports that Ex-Sheriff Ike Broussard, of Lafayette, this week sold two acres in the Anse La Butte oil field for \$10,000, and a 25 per cent royalty on the oil produced; and that ex-State Treasurer A. V. Fournet sold one acre in the same locality for \$10,000 and 25 per cent royalty.

The boll weevil exterminator which a Caddo negro named Woods claims had been revealed to him in a dream, has been, as was expected, proven to be a fake. Letters from planters in the section in which the negro lives say that his (the negro's) crops were even below the average crops of his neighbors.

### EXCURSION TO CROWLEY ON NEXT SATURDAY, THE 14TH

Wallior Goes Over With Bunch of Opelousas Horses to Make Track Record for Sister City.

Mr. E. K. Wallior, the well-known Opelousas horseman, informs us that on next Saturday, the 14th, he is going to Crowley with a bunch of horses, among which will be "Daniel J." the horse that is expected to establish a track record for the Crowley track.

An excursion over the O. Gee from Opelousas to Crowley is on the program. It will leave here at 9:30 a. m. and return the same day, leaving Crowley at 7 o'clock.

There will be four races there on that day—the exhibition race in which "Daniel" is expected to perform the wonder of the day; a 2:35 pace; a free-for-all and a gentlemen's roadster race.

Mr. Wallior will bring along his string of hores, consisting of Daniel J., Tennessee Hal, Grand Chief, Eulalie, Mamie R. and Hal Gratan. The latter is a fast one just added to his bunch, owned by J. W. Seltzer, of Shreveport. On Wednesday of last week he won a \$2000 purse in Beaumont, under the management of Mr. Wallior. Hal Gratan and Daniel J. returned this week from a Texas campaign.

### LIKES ST. LANDRY SOIL.

Kentuckian Who Lived Here A Few Months Finds No Land to Compare With Ours.

Mr. Riley Whitfield, who lived in St. Landry a few months, coming here from Kentucky, but who recently went to Texas on a prospecting trip, writes from Terrell, that State: "I have been here one week, and find Texas a great State, but have seen no lands yet to compare with the fertile soil of old St. Landry. I find the people here, as a rule, sociable and hospitable—very few negroes here. Business is dull, but improving. Many people leaving here and going to New Mexico, West Texas and Oklahoma. From what I can see and learn this is not a good section for general farming, but an ideal place for my business, i. e., truck growing, poultry and fruit. Will give the Clarion a "write-up" of this country later."

### Pennsylvania Weather.

The Latitz (Pa.) Times, published at the home of many of the stockholders of the St. Landry Union Rice & Irrigating Co., tells us of Pennsylvania weather as follows:

"On Saturday and Sunday we were given our first sample of real winter weather. The rain of Saturday continued throughout the night, and on Sunday morning snow began falling intermingled with rain at times. It continued so throughout the day making walking very unpleasant. Monday's sun soon melted the snow and slush. A lively snow began about 5:30 on Tuesday morning and continuing for an hour soon covered everything with a coat of white. After a short time the sun had melted the fall and roads are muddy as a consequence."

## LOCAL KNIGHTS VISIT THE LAKE CITY

Thirty-Eight New Members Initiated in Calcasieu Council by Opelousas Degree Team.

### INITIATE HERE ON DEC. 15

Louisiana Divided Into Three Districts, With "Opelousas District" As One of Them—Lake Charles Decorate for Visitors.

Thirty-four zealous Knights of Columbus boarded a special train of the Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern railroad Sunday morning at 4 o'clock, caught the Oriole train of the Southern Pacific at Crowley the same morning, and arrived in Lake Charles in due time to participate in the initiatory ceremonies of Calcasieu Lodge which took place in that city on that day.

The Knights leaving here were all members of the Opelousas council, and hailed from Opelousas, Washington, and other points in the parish.

Thirty-eight were initiated in Calcasieu Council that day, and the Opelousas Degree Team put on their work for the first time since the State was divided into three districts and Opelousas made one of the three. There originally was but one district in Louisiana—the District of Orleans—but the District of Opelousas and the District of Alexandria was recently added. The Opelousas team was warmly congratulated upon the excellence and beauty of the degree work put on by them at Lake Charles Sunday, they exemplifying the first and second degrees, while the Vicksburg team exemplified the third.

The city of Lake Charles was gaily decorated with the colors of the order, and the local Knights wax enthusiastic in describing their reception by the men and women of the Lake City. The street parade, participated in by 240 Knights, of which 150 of them were visitors, was a feature of the day, and the banquet and smoker were exceedingly delightful. At the banquet toasts were made by State Deputy Geo. W. Young, District Deputy W. J. Sandow, Rev. Jiamona, and others. Father Jiamona welcomed the Knights to the city, and spoke enthusiastically and impressively upon the objects of the fraternal order, comparing it with the undertaking in the middle ages of Godfrey of Bullion in the first crusade for the purpose of maintaining the supremacy of the Christian religion against the infidels of the East. To-day, discoursed the Reverend gentleman, the Knights of Columbus are doing what the Crusaders did in bygone days—inculcating and maintaining the principles of Christianity against an enemy worse than Godfrey had to contend against, because the age in which we live is more advanced in intelligence and our enemies consequently more insidious and more difficult to guard against and control. It is this work which lies before the Knights of Columbus, and it is gratifying to know that the work is progressing so well.

The local Knights returned to Opelousas on a special train of the O'Gee, arriving here at 4:15 Monday morning. On Sunday, the 15th of this month, 40 new members will be initiated in Opelousas, new members of the local council. Excursions will be run into the city from all points, and invitations have been extended to all the councils of the State, and it is expected that a large attendance will mark the day. The Opelousas degree team will put on the first and second degrees, and the Chicago team the third.

### ELKS MOURN FOR BELOVED DEAD

Beautiful and Impressive Memorial Service of Opelousas Lodge No. 1048, D. P. O. E.

### FOR THE ABSENT BROTHER

"The Faults of Our Brothers We Write Upon the Sands, Their Virtues Upon the Tablets of Love and Memory."

The Memorial Service of Opelousas Lodge No. 1048, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, held at Elk Hall last Sunday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, was inspiringly beautiful and grand.

It was the day upon which Elks throughout the country pay ceremonial tribute to their dead, the day upon which they meet in sombre conclave and give outward evidence that the relations of life are not destroyed by death. It is a custom prompted by human instinct as well as by religious and fraternal ritual and faith; the pomp and pageantry of martial array, the swelling funeral dirge, and the parting volley over the dead soldier carry with them the love of the comrade, not only for his memory, but for him personally in the new existence he has assumed. The high pealing notes of the anthem and the lofty eloquence of the orator over the honored remains of the dead are not inspired by the cold clay there lying in state, nor alone by the memories of glorious earthly achievements, but in far higher degree by the feeling that the great liberated soul still lives and may be known by us again in the future.

The Elks last Sunday had but one

## SURVEY FOR ROAD TO THE NORTHWEST

Geo. A. Clark and Engineering Crew Will Enter the Field Next Monday--Will Make Opelousas Headquarters.

Mr. Geo. A. Clark and his chief engineer arrived in Opelousas Wednesday at noon, and his surveying crew followed later in the evening. The latter consists of about eighteen men and several teams. The surveying paraphernalia was shipped from the field of the Eunice, Lafayette & Abbeville Railroad the same day, and will arrive here to-day. The crew will enter the field next Monday, December 9.

This means that a deal has been closed between the Southern Louisiana & New Orleans Railroad Co., of Opelousas, and Mr. Geo. A. Clark, President of the Southern Construction Co., railroad builders, by which the latter is to survey a line from Opelousas to Oakdale, La., via Plaquemine and Ville Platte, gather statistics of possible freight and passenger traffic, cost of construction of the road, etc., in consideration of the sum of eight thousand dollars to be paid by the people of Opelousas and intermediate points between here and Oakdale. Armed with this information, Mr. Clark is to seek to finance a railroad from Opelousas to Oakdale.

On Friday night the citizens who had taken an active interest in the building of the Opelousas-Oakdale road and whose determination to consummate the project if there was any way to do it never flagged despite chilly co-operation on the part of many who should have been in the vanguard, met at Littell & Lawler's office, in response to an urgently worded call by President Swords, of the Opelousas Progressive League, and it was at this meeting that it was proposed to communicate with Mr. Clark and make him a proposition to the effect that the two thousand and odd dollars gathered would be made available to him for immediate use and the balance of the \$8000 necessary gotten up while the work progressed. Mr. Clark, realizing that really the people of Opelousas had had comparatively little time in which to raise such a large sum, and having implicit faith in the ability of the workers to raise the entire amount in time, immediately accepted the proposition, and so notified the people here.

The Clarion is sanguine that there will be little trouble experienced in realizing the entire amount in ample time. The need for the road is so manifest, and the proposition of Mr. Clark backed by his assurance that he can finance it, so palpably feasible and fair, that our people will fain embrace the golden opportunity to

retrieve the loss of the western trade, already so much felt—and particularly when it is specifically stipulated that in the event the road is financed, Mr. Clark pledges himself to so arrange the matter with the financiers that the stock given out to the subscribers here will be bought up by them, and thus every cent reimbursed.

Of course it is understood that Ville Platte is to put in at least \$1000, and perhaps \$1500. That town has already subscribed \$500, and has expressed its willingness to double that—and it may be necessary for her to triple it. The original \$500 of Ville Platte is included in the \$2000 guaranteed Mr. Clark as the initial payment of the \$8000.

Mr. Clark is to be paid the initial \$2000 on beginning the work Monday. Another \$2000 is to be paid him fifteen days from that date, and the balance when the work is completed. It must be borne in mind that there is to be no delay in this matter. In other words, our citizens must see that the payments are met as they fall due.

Mr. Clark was seen by a Clarion representative Wednesday evening, just as he had come into his hotel after a drive over the city and outskirts with a view of locating a starting point for the survey. He is going into matter with unconcealed delight and enthusiasm, as he feels that the survey of this route means that the road is assured. He expects to get through with the field work in about ninety days or less, but it will take him sometime more in which to do the office work—that is, put the statistics in tangible and presentable shape for the financiers. It is said that the line between here and Oakdale presents no engineering difficulties whatever.

The engineering crew will work from Opelousas, with headquarters in the Landan Building.

The Southern Development Co., which has undertaken this work, is a corporation formed by Mr. Clark for purpose of building and promoting railroads in the Southern States. Mr. Clark was vice-president and general-manager for the Frisco lines, and under his supervision the Colorado Southern, New Orleans & Pacific was built. While connected with that road he was brought in contact with the possibilities for railroad construction in this Southern section, and when the road was completed he resigned from the Frisco and organized this company. There is not the least doubt but that he is already in touch with capital to build the Opelousas-Oakdale road.

## THE BIG CANAL NEAR REALIZATION

Letter From Promoter Schell Announces that All's Well With the Mammoth Project.

### READY FOR NEXT YEAR'S CROP

Five Car-Loads of Excavating Machinery On Sidetrack in Opelousas, Some at Washington, and Last to be Shipped in Jan.

A letter received from Mr. J. Franklin Schell, promoter and general manager of the Union Irrigation Company, the company that is to revolutionize the rice industry in Southwest Louisiana by building a mammoth canal through St. Landry and into Acadia parish, brings the cheerful news that it will only be a short time now until he gets here, that the work on the machinery is progressing satisfactorily, and that a large enough force will be employed to complete the canal in time for next year's crop.

Five car-loads of machinery are now on the sidetrack in Opelousas, where they have been for the past few weeks, and the machinery for the pumping plant is on the sidetrack at Washington. The rest of the machinery, which is now being manufactured, will be shipped on the first of January, the letter announces.

It is evident that the financial troubles of the country had something to do with the little delay occasioned. The scheme is such a gigantic one that it is hardly reasonable that a man of even Mr. Schell's steel heart would have commenced actual building when everything was practically tied up. He does not say that this is the cause of the slight delay, but it is evident to those knowing the condition of the country that it had something to do with it. He evidently waited for the financial skies to clear some before plunging headlong into construction, and his letter says "Financial matters up in this part of the country (Pennsylvania) are beginning to look better, and we are informed that the banks will begin to pay currency next week, which will be very advantageous to us as well as to all other business." It must be borne in mind that the crises struck the financial centers with more crushing force than it did the agricultural sections of the country.

Mr. Schell advises that the main buildings on the Bidstrup place—owned by the company—be vacated for the people who will be employed to work on the canal.

It is expected that when the work commences it will be rushed to completion with speed.

## AFTER OIL NEAR CARENGRO.

Crowley People Want Lease on Property Near St. Landry-Lafayette Boundary Line.

News comes from Lafayette that Crowley oil men are making an effort to get leases on property on which there is oil indication about four miles east of Carengro, belonging to F. E. Broussard, Ralph Voorhies, Numa Breaux and others.

Mr. Voorhies stated to the Lafayette Advertiser that there are fine indications of oil on his land in the shape of gas.

Oil prospectors since the development of the Anse La Butte field are exploring much of the country in that vicinity and for miles distant.

silent throng, and the voice of the absent Brother did not answer to his name, and the "Not Here" called out by Acting Esquire Harvey, there was scarcely a dry eye in the assembly.

The aged father and mother, the brothers and sisters of the beloved dead Elk were ranged on seats of honor, and their anguish was heart-crushing in the extreme.

The musical program was not rendered, which doubtless robbed the occasion of much of its beauty and solemnity. Mrs. J. H. Walker graciously accompanied the order on the piano.

The officers of the Elk Lodge who took part in the beautiful ceremonies were: Phil L. Asher, Exalted Ruler; Laurent J. Dossmann, Esteemed Leading Knight; J. Raoul Pavy, Esteemed Royal Knight; L. Austin Fontenot, Esteemed Lecturing Knight; L. H. Mornhinweg, Secretary; J. Adam Budd, Treasurer; Fred Hollier, Tyler; Leon S. Haas, Chaplain; Dr. J. B. Harvey, acting Esquire; Andrew Moresi, In-ner Guard. The membership attendance was large.

dead to mourn, but one for whom the Esquire had to answer "Not Here" when the roll call was made. But that one absent seat was the occasion for genuine grief, not only by his living brother Elks, but by the audience present, all of whom knew and loved Jonas Jacobs, whose lamp burneth not. Hot tears dimmed the eyes of women and men, as the orators of the day spoke truthful words of eulogy. That venerable law, conserved by the enlightened sentiment of ages, which forbids that evil shall be spoken of the dead, is ennobling charity, God-like and beautiful, even in its blindness; but it is far more God-like and beautiful to live a life which requires neither the embellishing touch of charity to guild its virtues, nor the shroud and coffin to conceal its deformities—a life which may be eulogized, not simply because it is ended, but because it was worthily spent.

The general memorial address was to have been delivered by Lieut-Governor J. Y. Sanders, who is an Elk, but on Friday a telegram was received by the Committee that on account of the funeral of Gen. Jastremski Saturday he could not fill the engagement. His place on the program was taken by Judge W. C. Perrault, who acquitted himself in a masterly manner.

District Attorney R. Lee Garland delivered a special memorial oration on "Our Absent Brother." He was eloquent and touching. He had travelled the paths of childhood, of school days and of manhood with Jones Jacobs, and he was well qualified to speak of his dead friend.

Rev. W. R. Brown, of the Baptist Church, opened the session with prayers, and in his usual forceful and eloquent manner, beseeched Heavenly blessing upon the occasion and merciful consideration of the dead.

The recitation of Thanatopsis by Exalted Ruler Phil L. Asher was a beautiful piece of elocution.

"Roll Call and Eleven O'clock Scene," by the Lodge, was tearfully majestic, and when the last stroke of the clock had pealed out upon the

silent throng, and the voice of the absent Brother did not answer to his name, and the "Not Here" called out by Acting Esquire Harvey, there was scarcely a dry eye in the assembly.

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The memorial committee was composed of Phil L. Asher, chairman; Dr. R. M. Littell, L. H. Mornhinweg and L. A. Fontenot.