

EVANGELINE WILL GO TO VOTE OF PEOPLE

House Unanimously Passes the Fontenot Bill, Which Embodies "Compromise Lines."

ELECTION NEXT APRIL

It is Believed that Measure Will Have No Trouble Going Through the Senate—The "Compromise Line."

The question of the division of St. Landry will be put to the voters of the parish at an election to be held on the second Tuesday of April, 1909, and the question of the parish seat of the new parish of Evangeline, if division carries, will be left to the voters of the new parish at an election to be held on the second Tuesday of November, 1909.

There does not appear to be ground to believe that anything will happen to shoo the measure in the General Assembly. The bill was passed by the Lower House by a unanimous vote Wednesday, and by this time has been reported to the Senate by the Senate Committee, favorably, and there does not seem to be any doubt of the Senate passing the measure. Senator Lazaro Thursday withdrew his bill from the Senate files, for the reason that it is similar to the Fontenot bill which passed the House, and the latter bill will be acted on by the Senate.

The dividing lines of the parishes of St. Landry and Evangeline, as embodied in the Fontenot, or "compromise" bill, are as follows: Starting south at the Acadia line on range line between 2 and 3 east, running north until said line strikes Bayou Grand Louis, then following Bayou Grand Louis to where Bayou Petit Passe intersects said Bayou Grand Louis, then due north to Bayou Cocodrie, following Bayou Cocodrie in a northwesterly direction to said range line again, then due north to the Avoyelles line.

The new, or "compromise line," takes more territory from the old parish on the north, but gives it more on the south, than was the case under the original "crooked line," but in the aggregate the old parish loses territory by the "compromise line." The new line puts Eunice twelve miles within the new parish, instead of six, as in the "crooked line." It puts the greater part of the Mallet and Plaquemine Point sections in the new parish, which were all left in the old by the "crooked line." The line passes two miles nearer Ville Platte, or five miles from that point. Old Grand Prairie, a part of which was in the new parish under the "crooked line," is now all in the old parish.

TRAGEDY AT CHURCH POINT.

Town Marshal Shoots Six Holes in Body of Gab Thibodaux, While Attempting His Arrest.

Immediately after High Mass last Sunday T. O. Guidry, town Marshal of Church Point, shot and seriously wounded Gabriel Thibodaux, shooting six holes into his body. Guidry surrendered to a deputy sheriff, and was brought to jail at Crowley.

The affray occurred as church was dismissing, but it is said that it is the result of an old grudge between the men. Our information is that Thibodaux set about creating a disturbance, with the intention of embarrassing the marshal into a difficulty. The officer was prompt in placing the offender under arrest, when a third party interceded in behalf of Thibodaux. While the officer was engaged with the intruder, Thibodaux pulled his pistol and attempted to fire. The officer drew his pistol and the fusillade began. Thibodaux's gun was found to have two cartridges discharged, while Guidry emptied the six chambers of his gun, every shot taking effect—two in the chest, one in the right arm and three in the legs.

Thibodaux is said to be in a dangerous condition, and will probably succumb to the wounds. Guidry was admitted to bail in the sum of \$7000.

Taken to the Penitentiary.

Sheriff M. L. Swords left Wednesday morning for Baton Rouge, bringing with him Doris Jennings, white, convicted of burglary and sentenced to seven months in the penitentiary. The crime of which he was convicted is breaking the store of Mr. J. B. Sandoz, in Opelousas, and stealing therefrom two shotguns.

A commission passed on his sanity recently, and declared him sane.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER STATE.

House and Indian Family Caved in Red River--Tax Rate of Calcasieu Lowered--Large Land Purchase in Avoyelles.

Assessments in Lafayette parish are expected to show an increase of \$250,000.

An auxiliary of the Louisiana Anti-Tuberculosis League was formed at Alexandria.

An oil well will be drilled at Ile Maronne, in Vermilion parish, by Jennings and Beaumont oil men.

Dr. W. D. Haas' home in Bunkie was entered by thieves on last Saturday night and robbed of \$225.

The Calcasieu police jury at its last meeting made another reduction in parish taxation, reducing it from 8 to 6 mills.

Leo M. Favrot, of East Baton Rouge parish, has been appointed Superintendent of Public Schools of St. Martin parish.

Accidentally falling from a third story window while asleep, a fifteen-year-old deaf and dumb boy was killed at the Jackson Institute.

Amputation of the arm of B. L. Coles, a laborer in the Mamou oil field, was made necessary by blood poison setting in as a result of charbon.

Deputy Sheriff Curley Hebert Monday last arrested a white man by the name of W. A. Phillips, at Cheneyville, charged with counterfeiting.

The Gulf Coast Baseball League, composed of Alexandria, Crowley, Lake Charles, Morgan City, Orange and Beaumont, has disbanded, on account of lack of support.

The State Catholic Federation held a successful meeting in New Orleans this week. Legislation against race track gambling and divorce was urged. Chas. I. Denechand was elected President of the Federation.

Another artesian well has been brought in for Alexandria, which will be used for the city's waterworks plant. The well is 1080 feet deep and has a natural flow of from 200,000 to 250,000 gallons in twenty-four hours.

The receiver for the Morning World Publishing Co. has been authorized to

sue the stockholders of the company who have not paid up, it being found that the assets, exclusive of unpaid stock, is insufficient to meet the liabilities.

An Indian was arrested while walking the river front at Alexandria, and when questioned by the city judge explained that he was looking for his house, which had caved into the Red River, together with his wife and three children.

There was sent to a prominent smelter at Beaumont, Texas, recently 100 pounds of ore taken from the old abandoned Spanish mines in Sabine parish, and telegraphic reports claim that from the 100 pounds of ore was run 1 1/2 ounces of pure gold and 30 ounces of silver, which is equal to \$650 a ton.

At a municipal election held at Marksville Saturday, W. F. Covillion was elected Mayor, and P. N. Coullon, J. W. Laborde, Jules F. Moreau, E. Michel and A. Gosselin aldermen. C. U. Lafrague was the opposing candidate for Mayor, and A. T. Barbin, T. D. Fields, L. Molener and E. B. Worthy were the other candidates for aldermen.

A suit calling in question the constitutionality of the act which makes the Superintendent of Public Education the treasurer of the school funds was tried in Iberia parish this week. Whatever the outcome of the suit is, it is certain that the Supreme Court will be called upon to pass upon the finding. (The Iberia court has decided the case in favor of the Superintendent.)

At a forced sale of the property of the Avoyelles Company and Louisiana Construction Company, Pennsylvania capitalists became the owners of 104,000 acres of heavily timbered land near Marksville, the purchase price being \$250,000. It is understood that the purchasers intend erecting in the near future large manufacturing plants near Marksville, to take off the timber on these lands.

STRETCH OF SCHELL CANAL WILL BE READY FOR SPRING

"We have two miles of our main canal, which is 250 feet wide, ready for use; we shall have five miles ready by next spring, with ten miles of the Opelousas lateral which is 150 feet wide, ready to deliver water for the crop of 1909; our engines and pumps are ready to install and we expect to water next year from 20,000 to 25,000 acres of rice."

This is the statement of J. Franklin Schell, the originator of the great Schell Canal project and the founder of the Union Irrigation Company of St. Landry parish, to the Crowley Signal. This great project has been in existence for about seven years and now seems on the fair road to

being brought to a successful conclusion. The plan includes a canal 250 feet in width from a point on the Courtableau near Washington running through the parish of St. Landry, a distance of about forty miles, with laterals running in a southerly direction past Opelousas and into Lafayette parish; through St. Landry and Acadia parishes to the prairies near Crowley and Rayne.

The water will come from Bayou Courtableau, which is a tributary, through the Atchafalaya, with the Mississippi. The water is unfailing and the lift is between fifty-five and sixty feet. The country through which the canal will pass is very rich in cotton, rice and corn.

FUNDS FOR OPELOUSAS' COURTHOUSE SQUARE.

There is no point in Opelousas so prominent as the Court House Square. Every business or social visitor, every attendant on the United States or District Court, every patron of the hotel, has this central square before him and from it gets much of his impressions of Opelousas. It lies with the people of Opelousas whether such visitors shall be impressed with its beauty and neatness, or astonished that the people of the City of Opelousas leave neglected a place so well adapted by nature to form a beautiful and refreshing ornament and resting place for her people, her children, and her visitors.

The ladies of the Civic League have undertaken the work of cleaning and beautifying the Court House Square, grading it to the new walks, filling unsightly places, and particularly of keeping the grass neatly cut with a mower. This work is now going on and the Court House Square Committee of the Civic League wants contributions to pay for the work now being done under Mr. Durio's direction, and to provide a fund to maintain the square in good condition in the future. The town cannot pay for this work and has given only Mr. Durio's services to supervise the work, the Square Committee of the Civic League having promised to get funds to pay for the labor employed. The Civic

League has already purchased a horse power lawn mower for mowing the grass on this square and other public grounds, but will need money to keep up the good work.

Subscriptions already received are acknowledged below, and all future subscriptions as paid will be acknowledged through these columns. Checks for subscriptions should be mailed to Mrs. W. A. Robertson, Chairman Square Committee, P. O. Box 352.

Subscribed and paid in:

Jos. M. Boagni	\$ 5 00
W. A. Robertson	2 50
E. B. Dubuisson	5 00
Ike Roos	5 00
P. J. Lefebvre	1 00
Littell & Lawler	5 00
M. Halphen	5 00
B. A. Guidry	50
Harry G. Williams	50
Yves Andrepoint	5 00
Jno. W. Lewis	5 00
C. H. Masters	1 00
A. L. Lacombe	2 50
W. J. Sandoz	1 00
E. D. Estilette	1 00
	\$45 00

"Handkerchief Bazaar."

The ladies of the Methodist Church have in store an enjoyable evening for those who will attend the "Handkerchief Bazaar," at the Methodist Church Lawn, on next Tuesday, the 16th.

The proceeds of the Bazaar will go to the parsonage fund. Refreshments will be served, and a cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS OF PARISH FARMERS

Members of Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Unions Billed for Busy Times.

BIG GUNS WILL BE HERE

Meeting of locals at Prairie Ronde School House on June 25th, and Big Meeting Probable in Opelousas July 16.

It is probable that there will be a general meeting of the St. Landry Educational and Co-operative Union held in Opelousas on Thursday, July 16th, at which members from all the unions in the parish will be present. It is certain that the meeting will be held, and that it will be held at the parish capital is almost as equally certain.

Mr. R. Lee Mills, parish President of the organization, is in favor of holding the big meeting in Opelousas, on account of the many advantages such a procedure would afford, on account of railroad facilities. The latter is much to be considered, because there will probably be distinguished dignitaries of the order in attendance upon the meeting, and it would be a hardship on them to have to come here by train and then drive out in the country, where the meeting held outside of this city.

The regular meeting of the parish Locals will be held at Prairie Ronde, in the school house, on Thursday, June 25th, and it is desired that a full representation be present. At that meeting parish officers will be elected, as well as delegates to the State Convention at Winfield chosen. The Winfield convention will be held on the last Monday of July.

Mr. Lee is now in Winfield, where he went to attend a meeting of the State Executive Committee, of which he is a member, and upon his return he will possibly be prepared to announce the meeting place of the parish unions.

Mr. J. E. Bullard, State President, will address the meeting of the Locals at Prairie Ronde on the 25th, and will probably be in Opelousas for the general meeting to be held on July 16th.

MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARS.

Civil Engineer Early Missing from His Home at Lafayette--Recently Married.

Lafayette dispatches convey the intelligence that Mr. C. S. P. Early, civil engineer, has disappeared from his home in Lafayette, having left Monday morning, since which time no trace of him has been received.

Early is a well-known in Opelousas, being the supervising engineer of the Bayou Mallet and Plaquemine Drainage Canal, a drainage system now under construction near Opelousas.

He recently married Miss Luna Fitch, at Opelousas, and his wife, who is at Lafayette, is reported very ill from the shock of his disappearance.

Early is a Mason of high standing, and is reported to be a wealthy man, although he left home without any money.

"Dry" and "Wet."

Mr. Laurent Domengeaux and Mr. Savoie, both residents of Coulee Croche, and living but a mile-and-a-half apart, were in Opelousas Tuesday evening.

"We are having too much rain around home," said Mr. Domengeaux, "and unless there is a cessation the crops will suffer much. We have been having rain two or more days every week."

And Mr. Savoie, who, as we have said, lives a mile-and-a-half from Mr. Domengeaux, said: "The drought in my immediate neighborhood is getting serious, and unless we have rain in the next few days it will go hard with us. We have had no rain for some time."

And both gentlemen were telling the truth. One was having too much rain, and his near neighbor was verging on a disastrous drought.

Lina Comes Back.

Wm. Lina, well known here, having run a barber shop for many years when Opelousas was not what she is now, has concluded to cast his lot with New Opelousas.

He is just waiting for the Dejean brick building, on Landry street, to be completed, and he will occupy the west end as a barber shop.

Lina has been in Crowley since his departure from here, where he has experienced a varied career, finishing up in the political arena, where he happened to get on the wrong side after a few brilliant successes.

We wish him well in the old town.

ORGANIZATION OF NEW BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

City Fathers Elect Officers for Term, and Raise Salary of Mayor Halphen from \$480 to \$1000 A Year.

The new city administration was inducted into office Tuesday, when the officers nominated in January and elected in April received their commissions and qualified, and that night elected the elective officers.

As completed the roster of officers is as follows:

Mayor, Michel Halphen.
Mayor Pro Tempore, Isaac Roos.
Chief of Police and Collector, C. L. Haas.
City Clerk, Chas. F. Bailey.
Treasurer, J. J. Perrodin.
City Attorney, Payton R. Sandoz.
Street Commissioner, D. Durio.
City Physician, Dr. L. E. Shute.
Superintendent Waterworks and Electric Lights Plant (holds over until September), A. C. Jones.
Police force, H. G. Williams, special police; Geo. Goodloe and Plais Horn, night officers.
Janitor, C. Mornhinveg.
Judge City Court, Ennis S. Kerr.
Constable City Court, I. Ronsean Guidry.

The commissions for the new officers arrived on Tuesday morning's train, directed to Mayor Halphen, and the Mayor and Aldermen immediately qualified and the Mayor issued a call for a meeting for organization that night at 8 o'clock.

The Mayor's office was well filled with interested office seekers and spectators when the hour of 8 arrived. There were many lightning rods directed councilwise, and the candidates were there in person to urge their claim and fitness to the various positions, some armed with petitions signed by "citizen taxpayers" of the city.

The job which excited the most admiration on the part of applicants was that of constable to the city judge, which pays \$800 a year besides the "extras."

Accompanying some of the applications were offers to do the work at bargain house rates, but these seemed to strike no responsive chord in the breasts of the city fathers. One diplomatic alderman did pick one of these petitions from the table, after it had been read by the clerk, looked at it with strained interest, rolled his eyes to the ceiling, blinked three times, brought his chin down with feeling into the V formed by his index finger and thumb, and the paroxysm was over and all danger passed.

The fact of the matter was that the meeting of the Board that night was a formal affair, as the jig was up before the shades of night had settled upon the city, a caucus having apportioned the spoils early in the evening. The caucus was held at the office of Mr. Ike Roos, and there all differences and preferences had been weighed and sorted, and all there was to do that night was to confirm the selections of the caucus. The petitions were not presented to the caucus, and their reading to the council was not calculated to change the situation. In fact most of the officers had been elected when the clerk thought of the communications and applications, and the council rescinded the elections so that they might be read, and then proceeded to make the same elections just as if nothing had happened. The methods of selecting the officers was perfectly regular and proper, and are in line with usual procedures in matters of this kind. The officers selected are good and capable men, and that is sufficient.

Upon assuming his duties Mayor Halphen arose and addressed the spectators and aldermen, saying that he felt that a few words from him upon the occasion would be meet and following a custom.

After prefixing his remarks by saying that under our organic law it became the duty of the people, at stated periods, to select from among their fellowmen officers to manage public affairs, he said he was not unmindful of the onerous and responsible duties which devolved upon him as the head of the municipality of this city. He expressed his deep sense of appreciation of the confidence the people manifested in him by selecting him to the position, and assured them that he would do everything in his power to merit that confidence. "But," said His Honor, "no man can expect to accomplish much without the hearty and active co-operation of the people, the whole people, and to them I must look for the success or failure of my administration. I will do my best, having at all times the welfare, happiness and betterment of the municipality and its people; how well they will do their part in assisting me remains with them to decide." Mr. Halphen's remarks were received with applause.

The clerk then stated the object of

the meeting, and the Board proceeded to business.

Mr. J. J. Healey nominated Mr. Isaac Roos for Mayor Pro Tem. Unanimously elected.

Mr. John W. Lewis nominated Mr. Chas. F. Bailey for Clerk and Collector of Waterworks and Electric Light Plant. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Lewis nominated Mr. C. L. Hayes at Tax Collector. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Roos nominated Mr. D. Durio as Street Commissioner. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Lewis nominated Mr. Peyton R. Sandoz as City Attorney. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Dietlein nominated Dr. L. E. Shute as City Physician. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Roos nominated H. G. Williams, Plais Horn and Geo. Goodloe as Police Officers. Unanimously elected.

Mr. Lewis nominated Mr. C. Mornhinveg as Market House Janitor.

It was here that an application from Mr. Jules Sittig for Janitor was read, which prompted Mr. Lewis to ask if there were no other communications and applications bearing on other offices. The clerk replied that there were, but he (the clerk) had understood that everything had been settled and it was therefore useless to read the applications. The Board called for all applications and communications on the subject of all officers, and a motion by Mr. Healey that the election of all officers, where there was more than one application, made that night, be rescinded, was carried.

Communications from Messrs. B. H. Harman and Chas. Carson, offering to accept the positions of night police at a salary of \$50 per month, were read; and also one from Mr. Willie Prud'homme for a position on the police force at \$50 per month.

The council then confirmed the appointments of Messrs. Williams, Horn and Goodloe on the police force, and elected Mr. C. Mornhinveg as Janitor. Three applications for the position of constable to the city court were presented, viz: I. R. Guidry, C. A. Reynolds and H. A. Dominique.

Mr. Guidry, the caucus choice, was unanimously elected.

The following standing committees were then selected:

Purchasing Committee.—J. J. Healey, to act with the Mayor and Superintendent of W. W. & E. L.

Finance Committee.—Dietlein and Healey, to act with the Mayor.

Mr. Roos moved that the salary of the Mayor be fixed at \$1000, which was unanimously adopted. Mr. Lewis, in voting for the measure, explained that at a previous meeting he had voted against a similar motion, for the reason that he realized that the city was facing a serious financial problem; but that on further consideration he was forced to admit the total inadequateness of the present salary of the Mayor, and thought that he was justly entitled to \$1000 per year.

The Board then adjourned till the 23d instant, when the bonds of the new officials will be received.

THE NEW GRAND JURY.

Twenty Names Selected by Jury Commission from Which to Select Inquisitive Body.

The Jury Commission of St. Landry met at the clerk's office Monday last and selected the venire of the grand and petit juries. The petit jury will be found in another column. The names of the gentlemen from whose number the Grand Jury will be selected follows:

J. B. Childs, Plaquemine Point; Chas. Duplissy, Lake Cove; E. M. Boagni, Opelousas; C. P. Richard, Opelousas; Geo. Cailloet, Opelousas; H. D. Courtney, Chicot; Edgar T. Dupre, Plaisance; J. F. Vidrine, Plaisance; H. E. Estorge, Opelousas; Hyp. Meche, Grand Coteau; Cleophas Dooet, Grand Prairie; E. L. Loeb, Opelousas; Alex. Mair, Opelousas; D. L. Fontenot, Ville Platte; Robert Lafleur, Eunice; J. A. Budd, Opelousas; Ernest Miller, Eunice; O. E. Guillory, Ville Platte; Sam Thomas, Chicot; A. J. Howell, Lompine.

School Board Change.

Prof. Wilfred Boudreau has been appointed member of the School Board from the second ward, vice J. L. Guilbeau, resigned. He received his commission Thursday.

Prof. Boudreau is an experienced school man, and will fill the position with distinction.

NO PAY FOR JURORS IN EXPROPRIATION

Supreme Court Decides Mooted Point, Reversing Former Decree in Same Matter.

REMEDIAL BILL PROPOSED

Jury Fees in Expropriation Cases Have Cost St. Landry Parish Many Thousand Dollars, but Will No More.

By the decision of the Supreme Court, rendered Monday last in the case of Opelousas, Gulf & Northeastern vs. St. Landry Cotton Oil Co., jurors in expropriation suits will henceforth get no compensation for their services.

Chief Justice Breau in the decision says "There is no statute relating to fees for jurors in expropriation."

This decision was obtained through the efforts of the Parish of St. Landry, through its attorney, Hon. E. B. Dubuisson, to disburden itself of the heavy expense entailed in trying expropriation suits. Many of these suits were tried in the court in this parish, and the costs have aggregated a large sum, which was saddled on the parish. Mr. Dubuisson for the parish endeavored to have the parties cast in the suit pay jurors' fees, which contention was disallowed by the district court. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, and that tribunal maintained the judgment of the lower court. The parish asked for a rehearing, and upon rehearing the Supreme Court reversed itself and decided that neither the parties cast in the suit nor the parish were to be held for jurors' fees.

The court says that there is a difference between costs in civil cases and jury fees in expropriation suits, but that the parish is a third party.

We understand that Mr. Dubuisson has prepared a bill looking to remedying this apparent defect in the law which does not allow any fees to jurors serving in expropriation suits. While Mr. Dubuisson properly thought that this enormous expense should not be put on the parish, it does not seem fair that jurors should be forced to give their time for nothing.

SALE OF SCHOOL LANDS.

Bayou Jack Section Brings \$4,910.75 at Public Sale, by Out-of-State Purchasers.

School Section 16 in Township 3, South of Range 5 East, was sold at public auction at the Court House door on Saturday, the 6th inst., as previously advertised in these columns, by A. Laurent Stagg, Parish Treasurer.

The land, which is located on Bayou Jack, was put up for sale in four lots of 160.22 acres each, being the regular quarter-sections of the section.

The land was appraised at \$6 per acre by M. L. Swords, Elijah Fisher and Henry Lastrapes, Jr., selected by the Clerk of Court and the Treasurer. After rather slow bidding, principally made up of raises of 5c per acre, the following adjudications were made:

The N. W. 1/4 of Section to Eli E. Winch, of Marshfield, Wisconsin, for \$7.85 per acre, making a total of \$1,257.73.

The S. E. 1/4 of Section to same party at \$7.75 per acre, making \$1,241.71.

The N. E. 1/4 to W. E. Caldwell Co. of Louisville, Kentucky, at \$7 per acre, making \$1,121.54.

The S. W. 1/4 to same company at \$8.05 per acre, making \$1,289.77.

Total realized for the entire section \$4,910.75. Both parties paid the full amount of their adjudications in cash, it being optional with the purchasers to pay one-tenth cash and balance in nine annual payments with eight per cent interest, or the entire amount of adjudication in cash.

The W. E. Caldwell Co. is a well-known lumber concern of Louisville, and was represented at the sale by Mr. J. B. Crawford.

Mr. Eli E. Winch, of Marshfield, Wis., is President of the Marshfield State Company, and was represented by Dr. H. B. Wren, of Collierville, Tenn.

Visit Brother.

A Baton Rouge special to the Times-Democrat, dated June 9th, says:

One of the few rays of sunshine which occasionally beam upon the devoted head of the Speaker of the House of Representatives to-day shed its radiance on Speaker Dupre, who was surprised by a visit from his sisters, the Misses Belle and Cleveland Dupre. The ladies were warmly welcomed in the junior chamber, and watched the proceedings with interest during the early afternoon.