

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

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OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1908.

\$1 PER YEAR

BUTCHER FEES RAISED A HUNDRED PER CENT

By City Council at Meeting Tuesday Night—Fate of Free Markets in Balance.

NO ACTION ON DRAINAGE

Mayor Disregarded in the Matter—Tax Delinquents Told that Payday Has Come. Free Globes to be Abolished.

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen Tuesday night last was a good panoramic exhibition of a public body floundering in the waters of a money dearth. They want to do all right, but can't. So they just dream of the good things necessary, and build air castles, which are topped over by the stern fact that there's nothing doing in the money line.

The meeting showed another thing—that the abolition of the city market is not as cock sure as it seemed to be before the meeting. Alderman Roos is pat against it, and although Alderman Lewis was not present, it is understood that he is also against it. Aldermen Healey and Dietlein are very much for it, and the fate of the measure hangs on Alderman Danel. His vote Tuesday night, on collateral motions, did not indicate just how he would vote on the final showdown. Danel is boss of the situation. Mayor Halphen favors free markets.

Mr. Roos thinks that a better plan is to raise the rent of stalls, and in pursuance of this idea he put over the plate by a slide a motion that from this date the rental rate be raised 100 per cent, making each of the present occupants of the market pay \$2 a day, instead of \$1, or \$120 per month, a profit of about \$60, instead of an even break, as at present.

This motion was at first defeated, Messrs. Healey and Dietlein voting against it, and Messrs. Roos and Danel for it, and the Mayor casting the deciding vote in the negative. By parliamentary procedure not sanctioned in the United States Congress, Mr. Healey changed his vote from nay to aye. A motion, that a committee of two with the city attorney be instructed to draw up an ordinance having as its object the abolition of the city market, after January 1st, had previously passed, Roos voting nay. Mr. Roos, in urging the passage of his motion raising the rental price of the stalls, confidently predicted that the abolition measure would be defeated on final passage.

Mayor Halphen submitted a report, advocating particularly some step remedial to the present distressing condition of the city's drainage, stressing the necessity of cutting the weeds on the two drainages—Tesson and Pontchartrain. The council only heeded his recommendation to the extent of instructing the attorney to notify the railroads to remove all obstructions to the natural drainage of the city, paying no attention whatever to the weed proposition along the streams mentioned, the most crying outrage of the day, inundating entire sections of the city after every rain. The Mayor not only made the recommendation in his report, but urged the council verbally at the meeting to take immediate action. It didn't go.

Another of the Mayor's recommendations was that the tax collector be instructed to proceed, immediately after the 11th of this month, to advertise for sale all properties on which taxes have not been paid. The 11th is the date upon which the time limit prescribed by the Board at a former meeting expires. The Board acted upon the Mayor's suggestion, only extending the time to the 31st, instead of the 11th. The attorney was instructed to proceed immediately against all delinquents in the payment of sidewalk assessments.

A wise move on the part of the council, which will go far towards ameliorating the stringent monetary condition, was the putting through of a motion authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids for a fiscal agent, which means that the city will go on the fiscal agent system, one that has proven highly satisfactory in the case of the parish of St. Landry.

Notices of two ordinances were given... for the doing away with free Dakot... globes, and the other prob... shooting of air rifles loaded with shot. The first is a step in the direction of putting the electric lights and water plant on a self-sustaining basis, abolishing the exchange system saving the city about \$70 per month. More in line with this is in store, unless other means can be found that will work the same effect. Speaking of the electric lights and waterworks system, it was decided that hereafter the report of the Superintendent shall no

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER STATE.

New Orleans Official Defaults--Brick High School for Gueydan--Negro Enters Caddo Girl's Room, and Meets With Usual Fate--Other News

The contract for a \$25,000 Masonic Building was let at Lake Charles.

Alma Page, 13 years old, was killed by lightning at the New Orleans Water Cure Institute Wednesday.

It is stated that the sugar refinery that was to have been built at Bunkie will be located at Alexandria.

Contract was let for the construction of an \$18,000 High School building at the little town of Gueydan.

Rev. Father Francois Gross, Catholic priest at Moreauville, passed away suddenly of heart failure Sunday last.

The Nutriline Milling Co., of Crowley, has been awarded the contract to furnish the government with grits and meal for four thousand food sufferers.

It is proposed to buy eight mules for the grading of the streets of Crowley, the animals to be sold immediately after the work has been completed.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. will take the million-dollar bond issue of the Maison Blanche, New Orleans, in case the Constitutional Amendment exempting mortgage tax passes.

A lightning rod agent named Homer Dillon and Miss Ella Nason eloped from Crowley last Wednesday, but were arrested at Lafayette and the course of true love suddenly terminated.

The Crowley Signal of Wednesday says that rice men agree that no material damage to the rice crop has yet resulted from the rains, but that

a continuance of a few days longer will prove hurtful to the young rice.

Determined to die, Percy O'Bierne, a traveling man, who had tried to kill himself about a week before by cutting his throat, tore open his wounds in a sanitarium at Lake Charles Sunday, and succumbed to the injuries.

His clothes catching fire from gasoline in a launch in which he and a party of friends were riding on Bayou Plaquemine, James E. Martinez, a prominent young man of that section of the State, sprang into the waters and was drowned.

A negro at Bethany, Caddo parish, was found concealed in a young lady's room, and while being taken to jail in Shreveport he is said to have made an attempt to get away from the officers—anyway he was riddled with bullets.

After shooting the top of the head of John Lowery, superintendent of a creosote mill at Lena, Rapides parish, S. L. Dubos went home to his boarding house, played with a baby a while, then retired to his room and blew out his heart with the other load of the double-barreled shotgun. Both are white.

L. V. Guillotte, Register of Conveyances of Orleans, has resigned his position, and withdrawn from the race for one of the city judgeships, as the result of crooked work being discovered in his office, for which he was indicted by the grand jury in special session. Herman Miester has been appointed to the vacancy.

more be "four-flushed" with the item "Public service, so much." In this way it was made to appear the plant was being run at a profit, when in reality it was running behind every month. It must be said, however, that Superintendent Jones was not to blame for entering this deceptive item every month, as he was instructed to do so by the previous council, and was only following out their order.

The hour of 11:30 having arrived, the council took adjournment, without approving any bills, not even the quarantine bills, and there was some tabasco comments next day on the part of the quarantine guards. But, an alderman, as well as anyone else, must sleep, and 11:30 is high time for the humble cot.

THE ST. LANDRY LUMBER CO. BUYS OUT A. C. SKILES.

By a deal which closed Tuesday the St. Landry Lumber Co. becomes the owner of the A. C. Skiles yards in Opelousas, and there is but one lumber yard now in the city.

The deal includes the yard and office ground of Skiles, as well as all the lumber in the yards.

Stock is now being taken, and the price of course will depend on the inventory.

Mr. Skiles has been here for many years engaged in the lumber business, succeeding White & Skiles, and has made plenty money.

The St. Landry Lumber Co. is comparatively a new concern, started but a few months ago, and the deal of Tuesday would indicate that it has been exceedingly successful. It is composed of B. F. Tucker, of Weanbleau, Missouri; O. L. Gregory, L. L. Danel, Allen T. Sandoz, Hart H. Sandoz, J. B. Sandoz and Pierre Mistrice, and officered by L. L. Danel, President; Allen T. Sandoz, Vice-President; and O. L. Gregory Secretary and Treasurer.

We understand that more stockholders will be taken into the concern.

It will require about ten days to take stock, and when the final transfer is made it is understood that the company will move its office to the present Skiles office.

CROPS OF ST. LANDRY SUFFER FROM WET SPELL

Just what the damage inflicted by the fifteen days of incessant rain on the crops of the parish will be, the farmers themselves are incapable of estimating. No two agree. Some will tell you that the damage to cotton is fifteen per cent, others 25 per

cent, while some go as far as saying that the crop will be a total failure. There is no gainsaying that the damage is great, and that the roseate crop prospects of two weeks ago have assumed a sombre hue. The visible damage is estimated by Mr. John P. Sarant, of Whiteville, a lifelong merchant-farmer, at 15 per cent. That was last Monday. Now what the invisible damage is can not be even guessed at.

The flood instead of interfering with the weevil is actually helping the pest, we are told; but the weather damage will be far greater than that inflicted by the weevil. In the Port Barre section the weevil has been particularly destructive. Mr. Joe Dejean tells us that between the weevil and the weather absolutely no crop will be made there. The weevils are doing great damage in the Barbeck section also, and Mr. Wiltz O'Quinn says that on a ten acre patch of cotton he will hardly make two bales. In Grand Prairie the two evils are also at work, Mr. Theodore Doucet reporting cotton infested with the weevil and shedding fast from the rains. From every section of the parish the reports agree.

Rice has been considerably damaged, and the harvest retarded several weeks.

While corn has been greatly damaged, a bumper crop is expected, and this right now is the rift in the clouds in this section.

Thursday was the only clear day we have had in two weeks, but Friday morning opened with rain, and it is feared that the end is not at hand.

ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT.

St. Landry Parish Coming Right to the Front in the Forward Movement of Education.

At every meeting of the Police Jury there is a petition from citizens of some section of the parish, praying for an election for a special school tax. At the last meeting such a petition from Pine Prairie was acted upon favorably by the parish legislature, and we learn that there is still another to come up at the next meeting.

The last mentioned is from citizens of the Plaquemine Point ward and Southwest Bellevue. They will ask that they be permitted to vote a three-mill tax for five years, the money derived from the tax to be used in remodeling the Dejean school house, and the building of a school house at Lewisburg. We understand that the Gundry school, three quarters of a mile from Lewisburg, will be abolished if the plans carry out, being replaced by the Lewisburg school. These special taxes are highly commendable, and The Clarion is glad to be able to state that in no instance has a proposition of the kind failed to meet the approval of the voters at the polls.

PROF. HARRIS THE NEW STATE SUPT.

Former Principal of the St. Landry High School Appointed to Succeed Aswell.

THE MAN FOR THE PLACE

Gov. Sanders Applauded for Making Such a Wise Selection--Harris Was a Wilkinson Supporter in Primaries.

No appointment ever made by a Chief Executive of a State has met with more popular approbation than that of Prof. Thos. H. Harris to the position of Superintendent of Public Education of the State of Louisiana, which occurred Tuesday last.

The position was made vacant by the election of Superintendent Aswell to the head of the State Normal School at Natchitoches.

The appointment of Professor Harris is particularly gratifying to the people of Opelousas, where he virtually won his spurs as an educator while Principal of the St. Landry High School. He came here from Claiborne parish about 1894, and assumed the Principalship of the St. Landry High School, which he held until about 1900, leaving here to accept a chair on the faculty of the Louisiana State University and A. M. College. His first years in Opelousas marked him as an educator of exceptional ability and force of character, and the succeeding years added to those qualities until he became known as one of the foremost men in the educational field of Louisiana. Strong headed, jealous of his authority and as immovable as a rock when he knows he is right, a few years ago he resigned the principalship of the City High Schools of Baton Rouge because the authorities there reinstated pupils whom he had dismissed for infraction of the school laws, since which time he has been connected with an insurance company in the capacity of State Agent.

His elevation to the high position of State Superintendent was in the nature of a surprise to those who scoffed at the declaration of Gov. Sanders, made during the campaign, that he would be the Governor of the whole people--of the Sanders men, of the Democrats and the Republicans as well. Mr. Harris was a supporter of Mr. Wilkinson during the campaign preceding the primary, and his selection is due solely to the fact that Gov. Sanders considered him the best man for the place, a feature of the appointment flattering both to the Governor and to the new Superintendent.

Prof. Harris married one of Opelousas' most estimable ladies at the time of their union the Widow Wm. Evans.

CROWLEY'S MAYOR VISITS US.

Candidate for Railroad Commissioner Thinks He Stands Prime Chance of Winning.

Hon. Shelby Taylor, candidate for Railroad Commissioner from the Second Railway Commission District, was a visitor to Opelousas Friday of last week, and left Saturday with Sheriff Swords for Avoyelles parish, where they made several speeches in advocacy of Mr. Taylor's candidacy.

Mr. Taylor is Mayor of our sister city of Crowley, now serving his second term as such. He was elected in a hot fight his first term, his opponent being one of Acadia's most popular men, Judge Raymond T. Clark. The second term he was elected without opposition, an unmistakable testimonial to his worth and ability to manage the affairs of a prosperous and enterprising city like Crowley. He is said to possess superb administrative ability, is positive in handling official affairs, and is a hustler, and his friends are confident that he is just the right material for the office of Railroad Commissioner.

Mr. Taylor says he has met with much encouragement, and feels that his chances of winning are excellent.

Lightning Strikes Jail.

Saturday evening last, during the downpour of rain and the electrical storm, the jail was struck by a bolt which twisted one of the chandeliers on the second floor and shattered all the globes on it. Where the bolt entered is a mystery, unless it is that it followed the electric light wires.

Jailer Swords was in his room on the lower floor, and distinctly felt the shock and heard the crash. The chandelier is an ornamental brass concern, and the way it is twisted is interesting to see. None of the prisoners were hurt.

THE POLK COMMITTEE HITS BACK AT DUPRE.

Campaign Committee of Rapides Candidate for Congress Insists That A Congressman Should Not Be Mixed Up With "The Interests."

Alexandria, La., Aug. 1, 1908.

Editor St. Landry Clarion:

Sir.—In your issue of last week you publish an article signed by Judge Gilbert L. Dupre, in which he takes the Polk Campaign Committee to task for the publication of an article headed "Who Does the Congressman from this District Represent, the People or the Standard Oil Co.?" and sets forth at considerable length his reasons for supporting Mr. Pujo in his race for Congress.

Recently there appeared in the Lake Charles American an interview originally published in the Beaumont Enterprise with Major S. Arthur Knapp in which are set forth practically the same reasons why the people of the 7th Congressional District should return Mr. Pujo in the September primaries.

That such identical doctrines should emanate from two such sources is not at all surprising, when the political records of the gentlemen in question are considered. We find on the one hand Judge Gilbert L. Dupre the Republican candidate for Congress from this District and the opponent of the man whose cause he now so forcibly advocates, and on the other Major S. A. Knapp, a long avowed Republican, an appointee in the Bureau of Plant Industry from Mr. Pujo's own parish, and probably upon his advice, or at least with his consent and approbation.

Arguments from these sources at once bring forth the question whether the Democratic voters of the District are to take their Democracy from the avowed enemies of their party, or are to view the issues of the campaign themselves or be guided by the example and reasoning of men who have ever clung to the party of the white people in times of stress, and whose faith has never been open to question.

Again, Judge Dupre argues that it is eminently proper for an attorney to represent a corporation as his client. We neither deny nor attempt to deny the correctness of this conclusion insofar as it applies to an attorney, who is engaged solely in private practice, and when he flouts a long list of prominent attorneys whom he declares to be the representatives of corporations before the courts, he neglects to mention, either willfully or because of oversight, the fact that not a SINGLE ONE of those he mentions is holder of public office or an aspirant therefor.

When he mentions such names as E. B. Dubuison of Opelousas, White, Thornton & Holloman & Blackman & Overton of Alexandria, D. L. Caffery of St. Mary, E. H. Farrar of New Orleans, and others, he defeats his own argument, for with such a brilliant array of legal talent in the District and the parishes adjacent thereto it seems scarcely reasonable to assume that a powerful and wealthy corporation, able to command the services of the best, would consent to pay heavy retainers to a firm the head of which is compelled to spend at least half of his time far away from the scene of his client's interests, instead of employing men of equal ability who are always at hand.

The disposition on the part of corporations to employ in their legal department men who have been elected to high legislative positions is within itself a significant fact, and the truth of the contention that they are not employed solely on account of their legal ability is amply proved by a study of the personnel of our present Congress, and the fact that most of its members are allied with the corporate interests of the country in some capacity and are also members of the party notoriously friendly with what is commonly known as the "interests."

This fact alone carries with it indisputable conviction.

Again, in nulling the record of Mr. Pujo in Congress Judge Dupre exerts the force of his ability in showing the Congressman's vote on anti railway measures. He calls attention to the Rate Bill but neglects to mention the fact that that bill was in no sense detrimental to the railroads and did in fact relieve them of an onerous burden in the matter of passes, but at the same time permits issuance of passes to RAILROAD ATTORNEYS.

It is not the desire or intention of this committee to cast any slurs upon Mr. Pujo personally or upon his ability as a lawyer, and did he not attempt to represent a corporation whose interests are inimical to those of his constituents, the ethical correctness of his position could not be questioned. But the divine rubric: "No man can serve two masters," is

not to be idly set aside by any purely human and sophistical reasoning.

The public record of any man is open to question when he offers himself as a candidate and it is most emphatically not low personality to attack that public record or indict his connections with interests opposed.

The fundamental law recognizes the fact that any attempt to represent opposing parties is unethical, and so able a jurist as Judge Dupre must know how small a chance an attorney in ordinary practice would have to escape disbarment and the ruin of his professional reputation did he attempt between individuals or even corporations of private or semi-public nature what is openly done between the corporations and the people by attorneys elected to legislative positions. Such attorneys may be and doubtless are honest according to their own lights in many instances, but beyond their individual conceptions of right and wrong stands the words of Divine wisdom "NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS."

Respectfully,
POLK CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

VOTE SIXTEEN YEARS AGO.

When Two Candidates, Now Before the People of the Parish, Ran for District Judge.

It will be possibly be interesting to many readers of the Clarion to retrospect a bit in the political history of the parish in view of the fact that two gentlemen are now opposing each other for an office for which they both ran sixteen years ago.

Of course the result at the election of 1892, when Judge Perrault defeated Judge Lewis for Judge, is no criterion of the present race, and the table is given for what it is worth:

Precincts	Lewis	Perrault
Opelousas	370	587
Washington	100	507
Waxia	45	174
Palmetto	60	102
Melville	50	57
Atchafalaya	108	11
Big Cane	180	161
Morrow	59	66
Whiteville	159	127
Lower Bayou Boeuf	51	15
Plaisance at Evans	37	192
Plaisance at Vidrine	78	24
Graff Prairie at Vidrine	38	158
Grand Prairie at Des-hotels	55	118
Ville Platte	116	286
Bayou Chicot	66	95
Lake Cove	26	10
Dossmann	52	29
Beaver	33	23
Upper Mamou	155	99
Point Grand Louis	111	103
Lower Mamou	181	86
Faquetique	109	128
Chataignier	127	76
Mallet	128	206
Plaquemine Point	126	90
Coulee Croche	160	113
Grand Coteau	315	145
Bellevue	151	85
Leonville	294	132
Notleyville	159	37
Plaisance at Joubert	25	26
Pine Prairie	68	01
	3741	4063

Perrault's majority, 322.

A total of 7804 votes was polled at that election, when the vote on September 1st will hardly reach 4000. The negroes voted in 1892, which accounts for the large vote cast.

NEGRO STONES EXCURSION.

And When Arrested Next Day Enters Plea of Guilty and is Out on Bond.

As the excursion train was leaving Opelousas Sunday night, and as it reached a point near Jacobs' warehouse, a brick or rock was hurled at it and Deputy Sheriff Cleophas Richard, of Acadia, struck in the breast, nearly knocking him down. The officer was on the platform, with two prisoners, and thinking perhaps it was an attempt to liberate his charge, he opened fire at the man who had thrown the brick. He shot three times, but without result.

Monday Sam James, a young negro about town who frequently gets into trouble, was arrested, and when arraigned before City Judge Kerr entered a plea of guilty, saying that a boy on the platform spat at him, and he "chucked" the brick at him. As Judge Kerr is without power to impose a fine, he placed Sam under a \$150 bond to appear for sentence before the District Court.

STATE FARMERS HOLD BIG ANNUAL MEETING

At Which R. Lee Mills of St. Landry is Elected Vice-President of State Organization.

BEST MEETING EVER HELD

In the History of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union--Adjourned July 29th--Next Meeting May Be in Opelousas

At the annual meeting of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union held at Winnfield on July 28 and 29 St. Landry was honored by the election of Mr. R. Lee Mills, of Bellevue, as Vice-President of the State organization. Mr. Mills is President of the St. Landry branch of the Union, and a tireless worker for the order.

The other officers elected were: President, J. E. Bullard, Belmont; Secretary-Treasurer, J. N. Deloach, Winnfield; Chaplain, J. A. Ambrose, Ruston; Conductor, S. B. David, Baton Rouge; Doorkeeper, G. W. Smith, Washington; Executive Committee, F. N. McCollier, Many, Chairman; C. R. Kelley, Dubrach, Secretary; N. A. Culbertson, Bienville; W. S. Jones, Jackson; J. M. Davis, Acadia. Delegates to National Convention, J. F. Arceneaux, Ascension; J. W. Boyette, Jr., Winnfield; Miss Louise Whately, Catahoula.

Eighty-three delegates represented thirty-three parishes, and the meeting was the best held in the history of the organization, and the hospitality of the people of Winnfield is the talk of the delegates. The freedom of the city was extended the visitors by Mayor J. D. Page, in a warm-hearted speech, seconded by another like speech by Hon. R. W. Oglesby, in behalf of the Progressive League of Winnfield.

Among the many inspiring speeches was one by S. C. Barrett, National President of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union, whose presence was much enjoyed by the farmer delegates, and the twelve hundred farmers who attended the meetings. It is the prevailing opinion that the next State meeting will be held somewhere in Southwest Louisiana, and we are informed by Mr. A. Lamur, who was a delegate from this parish, that Opelousas has a good chance to get it. The Progressive League of Opelousas should make a note of this.

POLK SPEAKS AND WILL SPEAK

Candidate for Congress Filling Engagements in St. Landry--His Second Trip.

Hon. Wm. Polk, candidate for Congress from this, the Seventh, Congressional District, began his second itinerary of St. Landry yesterday, speaking at Eunice. To-day he speaks at Pine Prairie, Sunday at Ville Platte in the morning and at Grand Prairie in the evening, and Monday at Washington in the afternoon and in the evening at Opelousas. District Attorney Hunter of Rapides will speak here with him Monday evening. He will have French speakers accompanying him on the country trip.

Monday last the candidate went to Leonville with the intention of addressing a meeting there, but the downpour of rain that day prevented a consummation of his plans, but he met a number of people there, and had a heart to heart talk with them.

Mr. Polk made a novel trip to Church Point on Sunday last, where a meeting was held. The rains made a vehicle trip impracticable, and as he could catch no train that would land him at the spot in time, he resorted to a special of his own, in the shape of a hand-car with four strapping negroes as motor power. He got the car here, and went over the O. Gee tracks, accompanied by his handy man, Jack Auslet. The trip was uneventful, and he made the meeting-place in good time. Saturday of last week he spoke in Sunset, St. Landry parish, where a good crowd of voters were present. "I feel highly encouraged by my trip in St. Landry," said Mr. Polk.

The Races.

The excursion and races last Sunday were both shilly attended on account of the inclement weather. At the races the feature of the day was the race between Walter Dillon, Mr. Remi Wallior's splendid 3-year-old, and March McEwen, a horse from Cortland, Ala. The Opelousas horse won in two straight half-mile heats, in 1:16 and 1:14.

At the time of going to press Friday evening at 2 o'clock the sun was shining, promising an end to the spell.