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# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION.

SEE OPELOUSAS GROW  
Official Census, 1900, 2951;  
Local Census, 1905, 3825;  
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. 18.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1909.

\$1 PER YEAR

## TRUCK FARMERS' MEETING THIS MORNING

Association Recently Organized Will Hold General Meeting at 10 This Day, Saturday.

## LET THERE BE A TURNOUT

Interesting Good Speeches Will Be Heard, and Matters of Vital Importance Transacted—At the Courthouse.

Every farmer that has his own and his country's welfare at heart should be found at the courthouse this morning at ten o'clock.

Every business man in the city who must see the necessity of changed agricultural conditions (and all must see it) should be found alongside of the farmer at 10 o'clock this morning at the courthouse.

The meeting this morning is fraught with the most vital importance, because it will see the formal launching of the movement for the emancipation of the farmers and business men from the thralldom of the defunct King Cotton, and the inauguration of the step that has made many countries with less advantages than we prosper and thrive.

The diversification of crops, the establishment of canneries, the shipping of our products, etc., are new to us, and we need education; we need to interchange ideas to arrive at the best means to make the most, ship at the proper time, and get the best price. This can only be done through the agency of a Truck Growers' Association.

A Truck Growers' Association was organized here on the 18th and this meeting to-day is to set it to work. "It is of the utmost importance that you should be organized," said Mr. L. Perrin, Special Field Demonstrator of the U. S. Government, who was in the Clarion office Thursday, "and I regret that I can not be with you Saturday. You have a stupendous work before you, and you need an experienced man here to handle your product—to see to its packing and shipping, and to the prices, and other details. I feel certain that the United States Government would send you a man here that would not only do these things, but would instruct you in the growing and cultivation of the different vegetables. What such a man would cost you, I am not prepared to say, but I would venture to say that he could be secured under the agreement that his personal expenses should be defrayed by you while he is in your midst. I would advise that you look into this phase of the matter."

President Foster, of the St. Landry Cotton Growers' Association, will announce the governing committee of the Association at this meeting, and the Association will get down to work at once.

Let there be a large attendance. To-day, (Saturday), at the courthouse, at 10 o'clock.

## ARMED BAND SHELL A NEGRO'S HOUSE IN C. CROCHE

Wagon Carried Out by Five Whites and Two Negroes, and When the Victim Ran the House Was Riddled with Bullets.

Telephonic advices received at the Sheriff's office Thursday tell of the visit of five white men and two negroes to a negro house on the place of Mrs. Geron Meche, in Coulee Croche, this parish, on Wednesday night, and of the shelling of the house.

The message recites that at 10 o'clock Wednesday night a band of men surrounded Manuel's (the negro in question) house, and called to him to come out, as they had lost their way. When the negro saw that the men were armed, he asked them not to shoot, suiting the action by a severe test of speed in getting away. As the negro ran, the crowd fired on the house, riddling it.

The negro says that there were five white men and two negroes in the crowd.

The Sheriff left Friday to make an investigation, he being absent in Bogalusa at the time the message arrived at his office.

"Buster Brown."

The free exhibition of the real Buster Brown, to be held at the Grand Auditorium, Tuesday, January 2, will commence at 4 o'clock sharp.

A cordial invitation is extended to all women and children to visit the famous chap and his dog Tige. The exhibition is free.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER STATE.

### Heavy Fines for Track Gambiers--Big Oil Suit Decided--Acadia Perplexed Over Prison Condition. Important Agricultural Bulletin Issued.

Great activity in the rice market is reported from the rice belt.

Judge John T. Gilentine, Mayor of Greysdan, died last Monday, aged 44.

Lafayette parish claims the youngest officers in the State. Its parish surveyor is 22 years of age, while its public school superintendent is 23.

Ira De Louch and Mary Lou Madden, pupils of the Homer High School, aged 19 and 16 respectively, eloped last Sunday, and were married.

A movement is on foot to establish in Crowley a corn market for the sale to home consumers of corn raised in that and neighboring parish.

Father Simon, pastor of St. Francis Catholic Church, New Orleans, and his servant, were bitten by a mad dog last Saturday, and are now at the Pasteur Institute.

Bishop Van de Ven, in a sermon at Natchitoches last Sunday criticized such plays as "The Devil" and urged good Catholics to abstain from attending them.

It is announced that arrangements have been almost completed for the Government to begin work of marking the boundary lines between Louisiana and Mississippi.

A band of gypsies having with them several children, several almost nude, who showed evidences of American parentage, have been arrested in Slidell on the charge of kidnapping.

Sheffield and Frigerio, two race track "bookmakers," were fined \$350 each and sent to jail for seven months for violating the Locke anti race track gambling law at City Park, New Orleans.

## YIELDS OF EARLY VARIETIES OF COTTON.

Crop Pest Commission Issues A Statement, Showing Yield of Different Varieties.

## FOR THE LOUISIANA FARMERS

The Native Seed Falls Far Behind the Less Productive of the Early Cotton.—Tests Made in Two Sections of the State.

The State Crop Pest Commission of Louisiana gave out the following statement regarding its experiments with early varieties of cotton during the 1908 season:

"As the funds of the Crop Pest Commission will probably not permit of publishing in bulletin form the results of all experiments before planting time, it is thought best to furnish the press of the State with figures showing the production of different varieties of cotton in the weevil infested section.

"The quite extensive tests of varieties were made by the commission during 1908, one at Mansura, Avoyelles parish, and the other at Bayou Pierre, Natchitoches parish. The former was on upland soil, the latter on Red River Valley soil. At Mansura the heavy rains which lasted from July 24th to August 5th severely cut down the yield and made conditions extremely favorable for rapid increase of the weevils. Under these trying conditions the different varieties yielded in pounds seed cotton per acre as follows:

Hawkins Early Prolific	563
Toole's Early	453
Rowden	381
Triumph	302
Simpkins	307
King	234
Native	160
On the Red River bottom at Bayou Pierre the yields in pounds of seed cotton per acre were as follows:	
Keno	1061
Hawkins' Early Prolific	911
Seago	773
Improved Peterkin	749
Mebane Triumph	745

## The Krotz Sale.

The excursion over the Frisco road to Krotz Springs next Wednesday will leave the Opelousas depot at 10 o'clock.

The run is short, and the excursionists will arrive at the Springs in ample time.

The hour of ten o'clock was set in order that passengers for the sale coming over the O. Gee and the S. P. might catch the excursion.

Delays are dangerous—Register.

Governor Sanders and his military staff will leave New Orleans March 1 for the inauguration of President Taft. Gen. J. J. Thompson, of St. Landry, will be a member of the party.

An interesting bulletin has been issued by Wilmon Newell, of the State Agricultural Bureau, treating of cotton culture under boll weevil conditions. A copy can be obtained by writing to the Agricultural Bureau, Baton Rouge.

There are twenty-eight prisoners in the Crowley jail, seven of whom are minors, and the authorities are considering the advisability of a parish farm as a means of decreasing the expense incidental on keeping such a large number of prisoners.

Judge O'Neil, of St. Mary parish, in his charge to the Grand Jury took issue with the Attorney General's interpretation of the clause of the Shattuck law which prohibits foreigners from obtaining saloon licenses, holding that the law contains no such prohibition. Representative Sim Shattuck, the author of the bill, contends that Judge O'Neil is wrong, and the Attorney General is right.

Judgment was rendered by the District Court at Lake Charles last Monday against A. K. Riley & Co., of Jennings, in favor of the Higgins Oil Co. for approximately \$12,000, claimed as damages for the failure of defendants to deliver 100,000 barrels of oil contracted for two years ago.

Dispatches say that after the contract was made and partially filled the price of oil rose and deliveries were suspended. Mr. A. K. Riley is field manager of the Plaisance oil field in St. Landry.

## VEAZIE ENDORSED FOR AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO

Eminent Criminal Lawyer is Recommended by the Referees Selected by President Roosevelt to Pass Upon Appointments.

The referees appointed by President Roosevelt to pass upon appointments have selected E. P. Vezzie, Esq., of Opelousas, as Ambassador to Mexico.

Since no Democrat is to be considered in connection with this appointment, the best man has been chosen.

Let the personal friends of Mr. Vezzie, Democrats and Republicans, urge his appointment, and Louisiana will get one of the best plums of the new administration.

## FOR SMALL SUGAR MILLS.

The Blanche Manufacturing Co. Hold An Interesting Meeting—Movement Progressing.

The Blanche Manufacturing Company, an institution organized some weeks ago in Opelousas, is making good headway, and it is proposed to have in a going concern in a few days.

The company was organized for the purpose of erecting, in various portions of this parish, sugar mills of limited capacity, with a larger central mill at Opelousas, for the manufacture of cane into syrup in order to facilitate its shipping to refineries.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the office of Messrs. Littell & Lawler last Tuesday, and it was reported that \$6000 had been subscribed. It requires \$10,000 paid in before the concern can start business, but the promoters are not fearful that this amount will not be subscribed within a few days.

These mills will greatly promote the raising of sugar cane in this parish, and thereby aid in the fight against the boll weevil.

## A Good Idea.

If the example set by Dr. C. F. Boagni and Mr. Mason McBride in planting trees along the sidewalk fronting their properties on Landry was followed by more of our citizens, instead of cutting stately trees as many are wont to do, there would be no danger of Opelousas ever losing its renown for pretty trees.

These gentlemen have planted a row of trees extending two blocks, a block and a half by Dr. Boagni, and a half block by Mr. McBride. The trees are of the Oriental Sycamore variety, said to be very beautiful.

Delays are dangerous—Register.

## "YOU MUST ENFORCE YOUR OWN LAWS"

United District Judge So Informs Local Authorities Regarding Prohibition Law. Uncle Sam

## IN BUSINESS FOR REVENUE

Province of U. S. Court is to Collect Internal Revenue License and Not to Prosecute Violations of State Prohibition Law.

"Before we go into the trial of these cases," incidentally remarked Judge Alex. Roarman, while sitting at a term of the United District Court here last Monday, and when violators of the prohibition law of this parish were brought before him, "I want to tell the local State and parish authorities that they can not use this court in the enforcement of their prohibition laws. They voted this law, and they must take care of violators of its provisions. The United States Courts will only take care of United States business, and in this case that is confined to seeing that the internal revenue license is paid before a person sells liquor. So far will this court go, and no further."

His Honor also delivered himself of a humorous but emphatic tirade leveled at the "shams" being sold under various names, but all calculated to dodge the paying of internal revenue. Picking up a bottle of a species of "near beer," which had been introduced as evidence by one of the accused, he remarked: "Now, this is a sham and a fake on the face of the label, and a person who will use such a label is guilty with very little evidence necessary to convict him of not only selling liquor without a revenue license, but of faking—also an offense."

United States District Court met here Monday morning, and adjourned the same evening, after disposing of six blind tiger cases and one civil case.

In the blind tiger cases two were tried, one of whom was acquitted and the other convicted. Mana, a Syrian from Melville, was acquitted, and John Humphreys, a negro, also of Melville, was convicted. In the latter case an appeal was asked for, and the appeal went over until the May term of court.

Jules Ferrini, George Verga, Chas. Napoli and Joe Lashute, all Melville Syrians, plead guilty, but a motion for a new trial went over until next term of court.

Paul Attell, also Syrian, and also from Melville, was not tried.

All of the above are blind tiger cases from Melville.

The only civil case tried was that of the Bell Co. vs. The Board of School Directors of St. Landry parish. This is a case resulting from the refusal of the school board which went into office in 1904 to take maps of Louisiana ordered during the term of the board which retired in 1904. The amount is \$2400. The case was taken under advisement.

## A LECTURE ON PORK PACKERY ON SATURDAY, THE 6TH.

Rev. John Gray, of Alexandria, will speak at the courthouse, in Opelousas, at three o'clock Saturday, February 6, on pork packeries and the pork business in general.

Mr. Gray is the special emissary of the Alexandria Progressive League, and has been touring the neighboring parishes urging the raising of hogs to be consumed by a pork factory to be erected at Alexandria.

The question of hog raising at this time is of supreme moment to every farmer living within a radius of a hundred miles from Alexandria, and having rail communication with that city. The citizens there have bestowed themselves, and it is almost an assured fact that a pork factory will be established there that will furnish a market for all the hogs raised in the next few years. Then of course the hog supply will increase, and more packeries will be established, doubtless one in Opelousas, and perhaps Crowley. Baton Rouge is also talking pork packery.

With a ready market for hogs, the farmers of this section must realize the boon it will be to them.

Mr. Gray is a fluent, interesting, well-posted speaker, and there should be a large crowd to greet him next Saturday, the 6th.

## Has Gone Home.

Miss Florence Price, a very charming young lady, after spending two months in Opelousas visiting Mrs. F. C. Tubbs, her sister, left for her home in New Orleans last week.

## TRANSFERRED TO THE BOARD OF ENGINEERS

Project for Opening of St. Landry Streams No Longer Before Rivers and Harbors Com.

## MR. PUJO WANTS DATA

And Citizens Interested Insist Upon Mr. John W. Lewis Going Before the Board—Large Appropriations Prohibited.

Mr. John W. Lewis, junior member of the firm of Lewis & Lewis, in receipt of two letters from Congressman A. P. Pujo, one informing him that his presence was not required in Washington in the interest of Mr. Pujo's bills looking to the opening of the several streams in this parish, and the other informing him that the matter has been transferred from the Rivers and Harbors Committee to the Board of Engineers.

Mr. Lewis is also in receipt of telephonic communications from the people in this parish interested, urging him to go, and it is probable that he will leave within the next few days for the Capital, armed with such data, maps and profiles as may be needed to demonstrate the feasibility and necessity for the work.

It will be remembered that some time ago the police jury made an appropriation for the survey of the streams, and the making of maps, etc., and that in pursuance thereof Surveyor Robert put together in presentable shape much data on this line.

The Board of Engineers is the authority to recommend to the Rivers and Harbors Committee the practicability and advisability of such work, and all depends upon the recommendations of the Board.

Mr. Pujo, as will be noticed by the following communication, is hopeful that large appropriations will be made by the coming Congress for rivers and harbors work, and he is anxious to get all the available facts before the Board of Engineers in order to get favorable recommendations.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 21, 1909.  
"John W. Lewis, Esq., Opelousas, La. Friend Lewis.—For your information, I enclose the following bills for estimates and surveys, which I have introduced.

"There will be no general Rivers and Harbors Bill at this session of Congress, the Committee having so voted three or four days ago.

"A Bill will, however, be reported by the Committee, carrying an appropriation of ten millions of dollars, approximately, for maintenance and surveys.

"It is the consensus of opinion, that when Congress convenes next winter, a very large appropriation will be made, and projects of sufficient commercial importance will be provided for.

"With best wishes, and highest personal regards, I have the honor to remain,  
Sincerely yours,  
"A. P. PUJO."

The three bills introduced by Mr. Pujo, referred to in his letter, are:

A BILL  
For the survey of Bayou Courtableau, Louisiana.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a survey of Bayou Courtableau, in Louisiana, be made from its mouth to the confluence of Bayou Cocodrie and Bayou Boeuf, with a view to removing snags and obstructions therefrom and improving the navigation thereof to a depth of ten feet, or less, if the same will suffice in the judgment of the Engineer Department.

A BILL  
For the survey of Bayou Cocodrie, La.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a survey of Bayou Cocodrie be made from its mouth to the head of navigation, with a view to removing snags and obstructions therefrom, to a depth of ten feet or less, if the same will suffice, in the judgment of the Engineer Department.

A BILL  
For the survey of Bayou Boeuf, La.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a survey of Bayou Boeuf, in Louisiana, be made from its mouth to where it intersects with Bayou Robert, with a view to removing snags and obstructions therefrom, and improving the navigation thereof, to a depth of ten feet or less, if the same will suffice in the judgment of the Engineer Department.

Be an American citizen. Register now.

## REGISTRAR MUST GO TO EVERY PRECINCT.

Governor Sanders So Instructs Registrar Lastrapes, of St. Landry Parish.

## MOOTED QUESTION SETTLED

The Registrar Was Uncertain as to His Duties, and the Matter Was Put Up to the State Authorities.

The mooted question which has been disturbing the minds of the divisionists and of Registrar Lastrapes for some weeks past has been settled by Governor Sanders ordering the Registrar to visit the various precincts in the parish for the purpose of registering voters for the election for division, to be held in April.

It will be remembered that Registrar Lastrapes, some weeks ago, announced in an interview with the Clarion that he was willing to go to every precinct in the parish, if the registration laws did not contravene such action and if the divisionists, or those interested, defrayed his expenses. Subsequently it was discovered that the law was so ambiguous on the right of the registrar to leave the courthouse except preceding a primary election or general election that an interpretation from the judicial department of the State was deemed advisable, and after a conference between a committee of the divisionists and the registrar, it was decided to leave the entire subject matter to the Attorney-General.

A letter from Governor Sanders, received yesterday, orders the Registrar to make the rounds of the parish, and Mr. Lastrapes will prepare his itinerary the coming week.

As the registration must close thirty days before the election, people living in reach of the courthouse must realize the necessity of registering during the next week, as after that time it will be difficult to do so, when the registrar will spend most of his time at other precincts. This is a complete new registration, and every voter must register.

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Be an American citizen. Register now.

## COUNCIL WILL ORDER BOND ISSUE ELECTION

Board of Aldermen, in Special Session, Adopts Report of Committee.

## \$67,000 ASKED TAXPAYERS

This to be Distributed as Follows: Power Plant \$3500; Waterworks Extension \$5000; Primary School \$21,200; Fire Alarm \$6000; Total \$67,200.

The Board of Aldermen, sitting as a committee of the whole, in a special session last Friday evening, agreed to submit to the people of Opelousas the question as to whether or not they are willing to levy a special tax of three mills for twenty years against the taxable property of the city of Opelousas, for the following purposes and the following amounts:

Waterworks and Electric Lights Plant, \$35,000.  
Extension of Waterworks and Lights, \$5,000.  
Primary School, \$21,200.  
Fire Alarm System, \$6,000.  
Total \$67,200.

The City Attorney will prepare the necessary ordinances, and the Board at its next meeting will order the election to take place at an early date.

It was deemed the policy of wisdom to ask the people only for those utilities which are absolutely necessary, items the establishment of which can brook no delay. The matter of sewerage, drainage and pavement was discussed, but the gentlemen of the council agreed that it was not advisable to submit these to the people at this time; that such a course might endanger the passage of the measures which were imperative to the life of the city.

There should be no opposition to this special tax. The tax-payer who will vote against any one of these projects will not only be voting against his town, but against himself as well.

He will be voting against the education of his children and his neighbors' children.

He will be voting against the protection from fire of his own home and the homes of his neighbors.

He will be voting for the abandonment of an electric light and water plant that has cost him and his fellow tax-payers much money and time in obtaining, or the selling of the plant to a private corporation that will load him and his fellow-taxpayers down with exorbitant charges for water and light, far in excess of the paltry three mills tax he might pay for the bond issue.

He will be voting to deprive his fellow tax-payers living on the outskirts from enjoying the privileges enjoyed by their more fortunate brothers who have electric lights and waterworks, notwithstanding that all paid taxes alike.

The citizens of the city of Opelousas should show a unanimity in voting for these necessary improvements that the echo will be heard throughout the land.

The thundering majority given the bond issue should be so overwhelming that our children will in future years look back with gratitude and pleasure at the action of their parents who made the small sacrifice of three mills on the dollar to arm them for the world's battle; that the widow as well as the rich man when her or his house is saved from destruction by fire through the protection of a modern fire-fighting system, will offer thanks to the whole town for having voted the tax that made such possible; that the housewife and the business man will look at the bright burning light in the home and in the business place, and remember the voters of Opelousas; that the inhabitant of the outskirts when he sees himself enjoying the same privileges as the man of the busy street will look with kindness to all the voters; and that the whole country will look with admiration upon "Opelousas Beautiful."

## "Dreamland."

Perhaps never in the history of Opelousas has a moving picture show scored such success both in public estimation and from a financial standpoint as has "Dreamland," the show holding forth on Main street.

It has been in Opelousas for several months, and attendance and interest at and in its performances have not waned a bit.

"Dreamland" never disappoints its audiences with makeshifts. Its repertoire of films seems to be unlimited, and its machine never out of order.

This is the third of these establishments to open in Opelousas since the saloons were closed on the 1st.

Services at the Episcopal Church Sunday, January 31st, at 11 o'clock. Holy Communion and Service. Sunday School at 9:30. Strangers always welcome.

Another "Near Beer" Stand.

Mr. Remi Wallor has leased the building on the corner of Landry and Market, formerly occupied by LaSalle & Desmarais as a saloon, where he will open a "soft drink" establishment, including "near beer."

This is the third of these establishments to open in Opelousas since the saloons were closed on the 1st.

Don't delay Registering.