

The St. Landry Parish Clarion is without doubt one of the best edited and printed weeklies in the whole South.—AMERICAN NEWSPAPER UNION.

THE ST. LANDRY PARISH CLARION.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
The St. Landry Parish is the Official Journal of every public body in the parish: Police Jury, School Board, Levee Board, Municipalities of Opelousas, Port Barre and Melville.

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

VOL. XXII.—NO. 28.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1912.

\$1 PER YEAR

GOOD ROADS CONGRESS A GALLA DAY WILL BE RECORD-SMASHER

New Orleans Making Extensive Preparation for the Reception of the People Attending

GOV. SANDERS IS ACTIVE

And Issues Proclamation Calling Upon Public and Civilian Bodies to Send Delegates to Meeting.

New Orleans, April 25.—The coming annual "Good Roads Congress" which is to be held this year in New Orleans, on May 16th, 17th, and 19th promises to be the largest and most successful gathering that the good roads men have ever had.

Realizing that the betterment of all the highways is absolutely essential to the industrial development of the state and that the movement for good roads is growing with rapid strides in every other state in the Union, Governor Sanders in an endeavor to arouse the citizens of Louisiana to a realization of the importance of this convention has issued a proclamation calling upon the mayors of all the cities, towns and villages, the members of the police juries, farmers organizations, agricultural clubs and commercial bodies to appoint and send out delegates to this Good Roads Congress.

The proclamation also gives a wide open invitation to every citizen in the state who is in sympathy with the good road movement to also attend the meeting as delegates.

Mayor Behrman, upon whose invitation and earnest solicitation the convention was secured for New Orleans, and Louisiana, has appointed and organized a Citizens Committee of 100 on local arrangements, and this body has already commenced an active campaign to secure the presence here of a large number of delegates, and has set the necessary machinery in motion, to present and elaborate program, entertain the visiting delegates, and carefully prepare all the necessary details for making the congress a notable one.

Last year's congress was held at Birmingham at which about 2,000 registered delegates were present. It is expected that at the New Orleans convention, a larger figure of those attending will be reached.

President Arthur C. Jackson, of the National Good Roads Association, is now in the city, cooperating with the local committees and will spend his entire time to the very end of the convention, in arranging details of the program, securing prominent speakers, and aiding in getting a large turnout of delegates from outside of the state.

It is expected that the Frisco Lines "Good Roads Demonstration Train" will be brought to the city for the convention. A part of the program will also provide for trips by the delegates to a number of the model good roads that have been built in New Orleans recently, thereby demonstrating what can be accomplished in this movement.

Birthday Celebration.

Our venerable townsman, Mr. Antoine Christman, celebrated his eighty-third birthday anniversary on last Sunday, the occasion being a family re-union and dinner at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Rosa H. Poulet. Those present were Mr. A. J. Christman, wife and daughter, of Lake Charles; Mrs. A. S. Chappuis and Mrs. P. J. Manouvrier, of Rayne; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Chappuis, of Rayne; Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Christman, and son Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse P. Barnett, Mrs. Fannie C. Bowden, and sons Thos. P. and Robert and daughter Fannie, Mrs. Rosa H. Poulet and son Louis and daughters Min., Helen and Eugenia, of Opelousas.

Mr. Christman, for a man of his advanced years, is still hale and hearty, and the Clarion hopes it will be able to chronicle the recurrence of many more anniversaries of his natal day.

THE SCHOOL MEET ON MAY FOURTH.

Executive Committee Tells Of the Importance of the Occasion, and Asks People to Attend.

On Saturday, May 4th, 1912, the St. Landry Parish High School Rally will be held in Opelousas, La., at the Opelousas High School. The Meet will be both literary and athletic, consisting of contests in declamation, debating, English composition, music, spelling, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and field and track athletics.

These school meets, in which a great many pupils take part, serve as an important school function, in that they create and keep alive school spirit, and we are anxious to have all of the high schools of the parish represented.

We have no rally fund to meet the necessary expenses, and are compelled to rely upon the gate receipts to defray these expenses, therefore, it is urged that the people of Opelousas and vicinity attend, show their interest, and contribute their mite to this worthy form of friendly rivalry among the schools of the parish and held annually in Opelousas.

Meet begins at 9 A. M., at which time the contest in English, Spelling and Mathematics, and match games will be held. Athletic and field contests will begin at 2 P. M. on the High School Athletic field; and the night contests will begin at 7 P. M., at High School Assembly Hall, and will consist of debates, declamations for boys and girls, music, announcement of the result of the meet, and the awarding of prizes. A gold medal will be given the best athlete, a silver medal the second best athlete, and a bronze medal to the third best athlete. A pennant will be given the school scoring the greatest number of points in the literary events.

Questions for the following contests will be made out by the State Dept. of Education at Baton Rouge, mathematics, composition, spelling, which will not be opened except in the presence of the contestants at the time of the contest. All judges will be selected with the approval of the Executive Committee, which is composed of the principals of all the high schools.

General admission tickets, entitling holder to admission to all contests: Adults 50 cts.; children 25 cts.

Single admission 25 cts.
RALLY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
W. B. Prescott, Chairman.

What the Reunion Will Be.

As a whole, the Reunion of 1912, will be a grand conclave of the several Corps which constituted the Confederate Army. In addition, there will be sessions of the United Confederate Veterans, of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, of the Confederated Women's Memorial Association, and of organizations representative of important Confederate commands.

The Commanding General and the officers of the Veterans' organization will be provided with commodious and conveniently located headquarters. It is urged upon all veterans to report at headquarters immediately upon their arrival in Macon in order that they may register and be assigned to quarters. Those who may desire free accommodations will be supplied with comfortable quarters throughout the Reunion.

A thoroughly trained corps of physicians, surgeons and nurses has been provided and nothing has been left undone that might contribute to the comfort and safety of the gray-clad warriors.

Card of Thanks.

The Daughters of Isabella take this method of expressing their sincere thanks to those who, in response to their recent postal card appeal, have generously contributed \$51.00 to the Catholic Church Bell fund.

The bell weights over 1800 pounds, will cost about \$600.00 and the amount on hand falls short about \$120.00. The bell has been ordered and is on the way. May we hope that those who have not yet responded to our latest appeal and other generous souls will promptly supply the small yet lacking?
DAUGHTER OF ISABELLA.

LEVEES HOLDING OUT; CONDITIONS NOT SAFE

People of Melville Fear Cutting of Levees By Italians on Other Side.—Company C. Still on Guard.

A Resume.

The water situation is practically unchanged, as far as it concerns St. Landry parish.

The danger points, Atchafalaya and Bayou des Glaizes, are well guarded, the Melville point by Company C, of Opelousas, and the Bayou des Glaizes by men sent there by the United States government.

There is no great danger at other places. At Melville "bubbles," indicate that the water is seeping through the levee, and that it would require no great force to break the strong earthwork asunder.

The "goose-necks," a circular auxiliary earthwork built where there are danger points, to note the extent of the encroaching of the "bubbles," are filling apprehensively.

Dr. Clopton, President of the Police Jury, ordered the soldiers disbanded Thursday, on account, he said in his telegram, of "great dissatisfaction." This is not taken to mean exactly that the duty of the soldier boys had not been inefficient, but that the people of Bayou des Glaizes objected to the parish expending its entire flood appropriation to the paying of the guarding on the Melville levees. Clerk Healey had previously telephoned to a majority of the members of the Police Jury, and their consent had been obtained for an appropriation of \$1000 for the maintenance of the soldiers at Melville.

A Little Flurry.

The action of Dr. Clopton, in ordering the removal of the soldiers from the scene of danger, caused a little flurry in Melville and in Opelousas, and was the motor for immediate action. Sheriff Swords, Dr. John A. Haas and Police Juror J. T. St. Cyr immediately left for Melville, where they got in communication with President Richard. Of the levee board, Mayor Williams, of Melville, Dr. Joseph, a staunch fighter, Dr. R. M. Littell, Captain of Company C, and others interested in the heroic battle now being waged at Melville to save the town and a large portion of St. Landry parish.

The Boys About to Go.

Company C had already gathered at the depot Thursday, their camps had been struck, their belongings loaded on the truck at the depot—they were ready to come home, angered at the dispatch disbanding them.

"We are willing to remain here for a few days free of charge," said Capt. Littell, "but in the face of this telegram, we must go home."

It was at this time that Sheriff Swords, Dr. Haas and Police Juror J. T. St. Cyr arrived, and in a few minutes after their assuring words, telling them that they would be paid regardless of an adverse action of the police jury, the soldier boys were busy pitching their tents, ready for another siege against the yellow terror.

There Would Have Been An Exodus.

Had the Opelousas military Company left Melville, there would have been an exodus of people from that town.

They were frank, these water threatened people, in their expressions of fear at the levees being cut in case of the absence of the soldiers.

Grand Coteau.

Grand Coteau, La., April 24.—A few of Miss Alice Petetin's friends surprised her on last Wednesday evening and were delightfully entertained. Those present were Misses Ethel, Leonie, Marie and Florence Barry, Lellie and Alice Petetin; Messrs. John Skiles, Gordon and Seymour Smith, Lawrence Barry, Hubert Burleigh, Armand and Eugene Petetin.

Mrs. L. B. Arceneau and little daughter, Deota, Mrs. Richard, Miss Lola Barousse of Church Point and Miss Philomena Sibille of Bristol, were visitors here last week.
Mrs. Valer Breaux of Carencro was in town Thursday. Messrs. Lawrence Andrepoint and Ir White of Opelousas were Sunday visitors here.
Mr. Antoine Mouton and family of Dauton visited relatives here this week.
St. Charles College first junior baseball team again defeated the second senior team Sunday. Score 14 to 6.
Mr. V. E. Guilbeau was a visitor to New Iberia this week.
Mr. Lloyd Franques of Church Point was in town Sunday.
Mrs. E. E. Barry and daughter Marie were Opelousas visitors this week.
Dr. T. T. Tarlton was a New Orleans visitor a few days this week.

There are Italians on the Pointe Coupee side of the river. They own truck farms. Some of them are in an ugly mood, and mock the soldiers, when the latter are calling out the posts and conditions. They would not hesitate, according to prevailing opinion there, to sending to ruin the entire town of Melville, and the country affected, just to save a few acres of vegetables.

The militia boys are watching these swarthy fellows, and the first one that tries to cut a levee is liable to have "Nearer My God to Thee," sang over him, if his people are able to pay for music at the church service.

Stout and Determined.

The people of Melville are showing more apprehension than are those of the Bayou des Glaizes section, and with just reason.

There is yet substantial surplus of levees at both places, but the seepage water at Melville, which does not exist along the Bayou des Glaizes section to any alarming extent, is what is striking fear in the hearts of the Melville people.

"We do not know," they will tell you now, when a few days ago they would tell you: "The levees will hold out."

But their determination might save the day, and save Melville. Many families have left the water-threatened town.

Opelousas People Hold Meeting.

Several citizens of Opelousas called a meeting of the citizenry of the town of Opelousas, to be held at the courthouse Friday night, for the purpose of calling the Police Jury together, to aid in the protection of the levees affecting St. Landry parish. The meeting was held at the courthouse, and those present were well-fixed in their determination to help out the distressed people, and it required but a motion, made by Sheriff Swords, for a guarantee of \$2500 to be made, pending the action of the Police Jury, which is to meet Monday in extra session, to the aid of the guarding of the levees, \$1500 to the Melville section and \$1000 to the Bayou des Glaizes section. This appropriation is contingent upon the action of the police jury at next Monday's session—that is, if the police jury makes the appropriation asked for, the signatory citizens of Opelousas will be under no obligation to pay the amounts signed, but if the police jury fails to make the appropriation, in that case the citizens will have to make the amount good.

An adequate committee was appointed to appear before the police jury at its extra session next Monday, and to lay the matter before that body.

Railroad Tracks In Bad Fix.

Both the Frisco and the O. Gee road beds are in dangerous condition. They have to snail along the track, fearful at any moment that a car might career. Monday a caboose of the O. Gee went over on Camp Hamilton plantation, a few miles from Opelousas, on account of the wet condition of the roadbed.

WILL CHEVIS HEADS A GREAT WEEKLY PAPER

"The Country Review" Fills A Gap in Louisiana Journalism; And It Is Well-Filled.

SCOPE OF PAPER SOUTH-WIDE

Brilliant Array of Writers Will Assist Noted Journalist in the Work of Telling the People of Our Country.

Will C. Chevis, noted writer, perhaps more conversant with the conditions and possibilities of Louisiana, than any other man in the State, by reason of intelligent observation, and of his connection with the fight of New Orleans for the Panama Exposition, is the moving spirit and head of a newspaper that is destined to do great things for this country.

Mr. Chevis, in his prospectus, says:

"On Friday, April 26, 1912, the first edition of The Country Review will be issued from the Ramires-Jones press, Baton Rouge, La. This is designed to be a weekly publication, reflecting the progress of the Southwest and especially of Louisiana, and striving by every legitimate means to promote the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the people.

"The eyes of the world are presently turned toward the great valley of the Mississippi, which is the granary, the packing house and the clothing emporium of the Western Continent. Especially does the prospective early completion of the Panama Canal cause the great gateway to the Valley, New Orleans, to loom large in the world's vision.

"There are no agricultural lands on this hemisphere that are comparable to much of the presently unoccupied lands in Louisiana, while all the States of the Southwest present opportunities to the homeseeker, the merchant, the manufacturer and the financier which cannot be duplicated elsewhere in the United States.

"In this section the present is the age of agricultural development and the man who by his labor, brains and capital feeds and clothes the world, constructs and operates its industrial machinery and causes the wheels of progress to turn, is the man of the hour. It is also an era of education, special and general, for the South has problems peculiar to herself, in sociology, in ethnology, in political economy and in industrial science, which she is solving along lines that are destined to give to mankind the last word in more than one branch of human knowledge.

"For fifty years, as a result of economic handicaps, the South has lagged behind in the march of advancing education. Today the schoolmaster is abroad throughout the land and a rejuvenated people, proud in the strength of their matchless resources, intellectual and material, are pressing towards the head of the column in all that makes for commercial, industrial and civic excellence.

"It will be the pleasure of The Country Review to keep closely in touch with this forward movement in the quickening life of the South, to contribute its humble part towards the encouragement of all that tends to the elevation of the moral and intellectual standards of the people, to the dignifying and ennobling of the citizen, to fostering her industries, to encouraging immigration—especially of our own brethren from the West, North and from Canada—and to making the American home the citadel of virtue, of patriotism and of national power.

"It presumes to advance its claim to a place in every home in the Southwest and in many homes in other portions of the country, for the subscription has been made.
(Continued on page 4)

FEDERAL AID TO RESCUE OF PORT BARRE AND ARNAUDVILLE.

Some days ago, John W. Lewis, of this city, having received information from several gentlemen in touch with the flood situation in the Port Barre and Arnaudville sections, to the effect that there were many persons rendered destitute by the waters from the break on the west bank of the Atchafalaya, promptly and effectively took the matter up with Congressmen Pujo and Broussard.

Just as we go to press, Mr. Lewis received the following telegram from Congressman Pujo:

"Adjutant General advises me that he has instructed Major Normoyle, having jurisdiction in district where Port Barre is located, to make immediate investigation, and render such assistance as condition calls for."

To this telegram Mr. Lewis replied:

"Many thanks for your prompt action. Our people will appreciate your services in this regard to them. Hon. Placide Robin is the Mayor of Port Barre."

Earlier telegraphic correspondence, which Mr. Lewis had with Messrs. Broussard and Pujo, is as follows:

Mr. Pujo's first telegram to Mr. Lewis:

"Your telegram about flood situation received. Will take up matter with department and advise fully later on."

Mr. Broussard's prompt action is shown by the following response to Mr. Lewis:

"Called this morning on Gen. Wood, Chief of Staff. He repeated substance of your message to Major Normoyle, in charge of relief work, and ordered him to send army engineer to your section to investigate conditions. Several days ago, Gen. Wood wired Major Normoyle to consult with Wade Martin at Arnaudville, regarding conditions in that section. When you see party whom Major Normoyle sends, have him call on Martin, when he goes to Arnaudville. Command me if I can serve further."

"BRICK" MEDICIS PROVIDES FOR HIS FINANCIAL REST.

Our former fellow townsman, M. A. Medicis, alias Brick, was in town the latter part of last week and the beginning of the present one, shaking hands with his numerous friends and having a good time generally.

He stated to a reporter of this paper he had made his will and therein gave explicit directions as to his obsequies. In the event his mother survived him, she was to have exclusive control of the funeral arrangements. In the event of her death, his friend Judge Dupre, was to look after this.

He desired no orthodox services. He wanted all his friends to attend. A brass band to head the procession, playing, not a funeral march, but "Old Black Joe," "My Old Kentucky Home," "Auld Lang Syne," and similar songs of by gone days.

He selected East Lynne as the place of burial, and a huge pecan tree as the spot whereby to mark his grave.

Judge Dupre was approached by the reporter who inquired of him if he possessed such a document. He admitted he had it and added: "If I am allowed to survive the testator, I shall see to it that his last wishes are carried out to the letter. I will bury him as directed. With flowers and music, followed by his legion of friends, we will lower him into mother earth, there to take his chances with the countless dead gone before. Upon his tombstone will be inscribed these simple words: 'Here lies one who enjoyed life to its fullest extent, and when dying beheld the star of hope, which bravely bore him on to the undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveler returns. Peace to his ashes.'"

TELLS OF GREAT POSSIBILITIES OF STATE OF LOUISIANA

Mr. Ezekiel Mixer, Farmer and Travler, Writes Lucidly on Conditions Of To-Day.

Rosa, La., April 24.—A fairer heritage could not be desired than a mode home on Louisiana soil. And Louisiana is now offering through her planters in alluvial districts some of her finest land at the astonishingly low figure of from \$25.00 to \$75.00 per acre.

And these lands grow cotton, corn, rice and sugar cane to as high a degree of perfection as can be attained in any part of the land, and the truck farmer, fruit-grower and stock-raiser scores with them successes which surprise even the most sanguine. And she is offering through her planters in the hilly sections of the country some of her best uplands, at from \$5.00 to \$20.00 per acre.

Leaving out of consideration entirely her wealth of forests, mineral, fisheries and oil industries which are today attracting the attention of the world, she offers to the tiller of the soil inducements which would fire the ambition of any man in the land, who wishes to acquire a model home and lay by a competence.

Should the boll weevil continue his sojourn with us for a number of years to come, and sugar be placed upon the free list, Louisiana would still be able to offer to the homeseeker advantages unsurpassed by any State in the Union. The entire State from the Arkansas line to the Gulf can be converted into a great garden which will grow fruits and truck farm products, in endless variety to a high standard of perfection.

In North Louisiana there is a vast area which will grow peach to as great perfection as the famous peachbelt of East Texas.

In Northwest Louisiana there are hundreds of thousands of acres upon which wild grape flourishes and produces a fruit of very superior quality, which bespeaks the fact that this section could be converted into one of the greatest vineyards in all of the land.

Down in the fruit and truck belts of Southeast Louisiana, it does not require the experience or skill of a Peter Henderson, or a Burbank, to make a net profit, of from \$50.00 to \$200.00 per acre per annum, upon cucumbers, cabbage, Irish potatoes and a long list of other vegetables, and men of but limited experience have repeatedly made from \$50.00 to \$250.00 per acre per annum on strawberries.

Louisiana will grow as great a variety of cheap foods for the horse, the cow, the sheep and the goat, as any State in the Union. The members of the boys' corn clubs of the Southern States have proven that corn can be grown here with as great yield and as cheaply as in the famous corn belt of the West, and in addition we can grow the velvet bean, the artichoke, Kaf. corn, alfalfa, millet barley, Lespedeza and a great variety of other clovers, to a high degree of perfection.

And Southwest Louisiana is the home of as great variety of small fruit, as can be grown anywhere on the face of the globe, and is as fair a field as the truck farmer can find, and is now offering superior inducements, since a great network of canals have been built including the great Schell canal, by which millions of acres can be irrigated, at will.

And as soon as the world knows of the splendid advantages which this section offers, truck farmers, fruit growers and stock raisers will pour in here as they did into the fruit and truck belts of California, and the price of lands will soar skyward, and this section will enjoy an era of prosperity which will equal the most extravagant dreams of the wildest enthusiast.

EZEKIEL MIXER.

Card of Thanks.

Lewisburg, La., April 24.—On behalf of the Lewisburg Baseball Club, I beg to tender thanks to all those who so kindly attended the ball given by them last Monday night, for the benefit of their club.
Respectfully,
CHARLES BOURQUE, JR.,
Secretary and Treasurer.