

ABSORBED THE ST. LANDRY COMMONER ON JULY 2, 1912.

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

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OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1912.

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MR. DUBUISSON EXPLAINS ADDITIONAL SEWERAGE TAX

Tells Why It Is Necessary, and Why the Tax-Payer Will Not Be Burdened With Extra Cost.

Opelousas, La., Oct. 23, 1912.

To the Editor of the Clarion:

Permit me through the columns of your paper to call to the attention of the property tax-payers of this City the fact that a most important election is to be held in said district on next Wednesday, October 30th, 1912. This election, the details of which are fully stated elsewhere in this issue of the Clarion, is to be held for the purpose of enabling the property tax-payers of said district to decide whether additional bonds to the amount of \$16,000 supported by a tax of one mill on the dollar for 26 years beginning with the year 1913, shall be issued by said district for the purpose of completing, in accordance with the plans and specifications of the engineer employed for the purpose, the system of sewers now in course of construction.

As everybody will remember, about a year ago, the property tax-payers of said district voted a tax of 2-1-2 mills on the dollar for 40 years beginning with the year 1912 and authorized a bond issue of \$40,000 based thereon to build a system of house sewers for said district.

When the schedule of the bonds was made up, it was found that said tax would retire said bonds in principal and interest in 30, instead of 40, years on the assumption that the present assessment would remain stationary for that length of time. Of course, the chances are as 999 to 1 that the assessments of the district will increase rather than decrease. The Board of Sewerage Commissioners, therefore, found no difficulty in making a very satisfactory sale of said bonds on a 30-year schedule of maturities.

Mr. Walter G. Kirkpatrick of Birmingham, Ala., formerly of Jackson, Miss., one of the most renowned engineers in the South specializing in public utilities, was employed to prepare plans and specifications for the system and to supervise its construction. In so far as I am able to judge, the plans and specifications prepared by Mr. Kirkpatrick are admirable. Bids were called for the construction of the system in accordance therewith. There was no lack of bidders, but unfortunately the lowest and best bid called for an expenditure of much more than our \$40,000. One engineer advised us that the lowest bid was a reasonable one. The question which then confronted the board was, shall the engineer's plans be interfered with and the proposed sewer system cut down to meet the revenues in hand or shall the contract be let to build the system in accordance with the plans and the tax-payers be called upon to vote the additional funds required? The latter alternative seemed the much more preferable of the two and was unanimously adopted by the board. I still think that the board acted wisely. In the first place, if any lines of mains had been cut out,

it would have caused a considerable increase in the cost of the property owners along those lines to connect with the system. Therefore, no matter what lines of mains the board might have chosen for elimination, there would have been vigorous and well-founded kicks by the owners of property along such lines over the elimination. In the second place, if any portion of the splendid disposal plant designed by Mr. Kirkpatrick had been left out, the efficiency of the system from a hygienic and sanitary standpoint would have been greatly impaired. And in the last and third place, as almost invariably happens in such cases, the symmetry of the system as a whole would have been marred if not ruined.

We are building, and, if the decision of the property tax-payers, on next Wednesday be favorable, we will complete a first class sewer system. If the decision of the tax-payers should be unfortunately unfavorable, the plans will have to be revised in the midst of construction, the number of mains reduced, the filter beds cut out of the disposal plant and the efficiency of the system as a whole practically ruined.

And yet to obtain a complete system, the tax-bayers are not called upon to assume a much, if any, greater burden than they had set out to bear. The property tax-payers voted a tax of 2-1-2 mills on the dollar for 40 years to build a sewer system. According to the scheme of the Board of Commissioners which the tax-payers are asked to approve next Wednesday, the complete system will be built with a 2-1-2 mill tax for 30 and an additional 1 mill tax for 26 years. Now let us see what is the difference to the tax-payer between a tax of 2-1-2 mills for 40 years and a like tax for 30 years plus a 1 mill tax for 26 years. Under the former, the tax-payers would pay 40 times 2-1-2 or 100 mills. Under the latter, he would pay 30 times 2-1-2 plus 26 times 1 or 101 mills. That is to say, the board, with the tax-payers approval, proposes to give them a first class and complete sewer system at a total cost of 1 mill on the dollar of the assessed value of their property more than they had set out to pay.

Every dictate of good business is so manifest in favor of the proposition which the board submits to the tax-payers that look for an almost, if not altogether, unanimous approval on their part. The good and substantial business men who opposed the original proposition will no doubt perceive that the new scheme is economically and financially a sound one and will give it their cordial support and thus insure its being carried by a practically unanimous vote.

E. B. DUBUISSON,
President of the Board.

How To Get the Best Mules.

There is need for a greater use of draft horses in the South for the production of mules. The draft mule is common in the South; but when his history is up it will be found that he was born in Missouri, Illinois and Indiana; was raised in Kentucky and Tennessee and spent his mature years in the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Light to medium-weight draft mares with plenty of quality produce the highest-priced mules on the market to-day. The light-weight draft mares weighing from 1,400 to 1,600 pounds can be bought for less money on the Northern markets than the heavy trotting or saddle-bred mare. It consequently is a question of economics to use the draft mare with quality to produce our mules. That the draft mare produces the highest type of mules is shown by the fact that nearly all of the high-priced mules on the market are evidently from draft mares. Blue ribbons on mules at the state fairs in the last few

years have always gone to the mules that were out of draft mares. There has been in this respect an entire change from the practice that prevailed a few years ago when ribbons were tied on the light and more or less fine-boned mules.

How To Sow Oats.
Most Southern oats are probably sowed broadcast and plowed or harrowed in. Experience shows that oats sowed with a grain drill do better than those sowed broadcast and plowed or disked under. When the drill can be used, it is better, and if the small farmer cannot afford to buy a drill, then he should combine with one or more other small farmers and thus secure a drill with which to put in his oats. Less seed is required when sowed with the drill, and they are placed at a more uniform depth, so that a better and more uniform stand is obtained. The drill, especially the disk, leaves the plants in a shallow furrow which protects the young plants to some extent against cold and heaving frost.
In the northern half of the

FOR THE LAZARO SUC- CESSION THERE ARE SEVERAL CANDI- DATES.

There is a vacancy for one of the senatorships from this District, caused by the election of Dr. Lazaro to Congress.

Several candidates are mentioned but so far but one has formally announced himself for the succession, and that is Hon. Peyton R. Sandoz.

Other names suggested are Leon Haas, Dudley L. Guilbeau, Dr. J. L. Vidrine and L. Austin Fontenot.

The Governor will have to call an election, and the Senatorial Committee order a primary.

Dossmann--Andrepoint.

On Wednesday, October 23d, at 6:15 o'clock in the morning, at the Catholic church in this city, Miss Rose Andrepoint and Mr. Andrew Dossmann were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, Rev. Father Engberink officiating.

After the ceremony the happy couple left on the 7:15 Frisco for New Orleans, where they will remain for a few days. They will make their home in De Quincy, where Mr. Dossmann has accepted a position in the office of the master of mechanics of the Frisco railroad.

The bride is the charming and accomplished daughter of our manager, Mr. Yves Andrepoint, of this city, and while her many friends wish her much happiness in her new life, they regret to see her leave.
The groom is the son of our president and fellow-townsmen, Mr. L. J. Dossmann. His sterling qualities have won for him scores of friends, who extend their heartiest congratulations to the happy pair.

The Clarion unites with the friends of Mr. and Mrs. Dossmann in wishing them a life of unbounded happiness.

Lassalle--DeBland.

Mr. Elzear Lassalle, cashier of the Port Barre State Bank, and Miss Srelle DeBland, daughter of Mr. Leopold DeBland, a prominent citizen of New Iberia, were married in St. Peter's Catholic church at that place on Wednesday morning, Oct. 23d. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Lassalle left on the Southern Pacific train for a short wedding trip to the New Orleans.

Mr. Lassalle is a nephew of Mr. Joseph Lassalle and a cousin of Post Master G. L. Lassalle, of this city, the latter of whom attended the wedding.
The Clarion extends congratulations.

Cotton Belt, sowing by the open furrow method should be practiced, and it would probably pay wherever oats are sowed in the fall. Winter-killing is one of the disadvantages of fall sowed oats. In fact, the yields are decreased very greatly every year from this cause. Of course oats sowed early enough, on well drained land, and properly put in, are less likely to winter-kill, but in the northern half of the Cotton Belt, oats suffer more or less from winter-killing under the best conditions and we believe it would pay to sow all fall oats by the open-furrow method.

The objection to the method is that the one-row planter is slow and leaves the land in a rough condition. The first objection can be avoided by using a two-row planter, which is now made, and the other objection is overcome by spring harrowing. The seed are put in the bottom of a furrow of considerable depth and covered very shallow. The furrow protects the plants from frost and the dirt fall down from the sides of the furrows and prevents the heaving of the plants out of the ground. It has been demonstrated that there is no winter severe enough to kill oats sowed in this way and they yield as much or more, even, when rows are 16 inches apart.

Mr. E. H. Farar, one of the biggest corporation lawyers in the country, made the statement in an address at the courthouse in Opelousas that St. Landry parish would gain by the proposed segregation act.

Assessor Fontenot went over the figures Tuesday last, as far as they concern St. Landry. He had his figures revised by two expert accountants. The figures show a loss of \$17,280.80!
The details will appear next week.

THE UNION BANK AND TRUST CO. OPENS BRANCH OFFICE

In keeping with its progressive policy the Union Bank and Trust Co., has opened a branch office in the prosperous village of Leonville, beginning business on the 15th, inst. Mr. George Vidrine, assistant cashier of the parent bank, and Dr. G. Richard, as local director, are in charge of the office, and report satisfactory business. This affords the Leonville people the same banking facilities enjoyed by other towns in the parish and should merit their cordial support.

The Fall Weed Crop.

On most farms at this season weeds of many kinds are blooming and ripening seed. They are to be found in the pastures, in the odd corners of cultivated fields, along creeks and fences and ditch banks and terraces, in the garden and the early truck patches perhaps. To allow all these weeds to mature means that there will be the same abundant supply next year, and to allow them to die and dry up standing means that their one value, their ability to add to the humus content of the soil, will largely be lost.

One of the jobs demanding special attention just now is the cutting down of all these intruders. They should have been cut before seed began to form, of course; but better late than never. It will pay to cut them any time before frost rather than to leave them standing.

In the pastures and wherever it can be used the mowing machine is the best weed destroyer. A good mowing machine properly used can do a lot to add to the fertility of the soil. Whenever there is a little time it should be put to work, and it will pay to make a little extra effort to keep it going. Fewer weeds next year, better crops, better land, and a more attractive farm will be the result.

In many cases, however, it will be necessary to depend upon other means—the scythe, the hoe, etc. This is more strenuous work and much slower than if done with a mower, but it should not on that account be neglected. Clean fence-rows and ditch banks not fully add to the looks of the farm but also to its profits. Even if it is too late to prevent those big weeds in the barn-yard and about the garden fence from re-seeding themselves, it is better to have them lying on the ground and beginning to decay than to have them standing up, stark and imprudent through half the winter advertising the fact that at this place lives a farmer who raises crops of weeds and then lets them go to waste.

Teachers' Institute.

The monthly institute of the public school teachers of the parish was held in the St. Landry High School last Saturday and was well-attended, one hundred and twelve teachers being present.

A special feature of the meeting was an interesting talk on educational matters by Prof. J. C. Brown, State Rural School Inspector.

These meetings are productive of much good affording, as they do, opportunities for an interchange of ideas and the discussion of timely educational topics, and should be well-attended always by the teachers whose interests they are intended to foster.

The next institute will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23d.

LOCALS.

The young ladies were hostess at a dance given Friday night, at the Firemen's hall. The hall was filled to its capacity, and such a jolly crowd! The string band opened the dance with the "Nothing Waltz," originated by the mighty Toby. Those who were there were: Nita Velin, Lucille Castille, Patrick Thompson, Mathilde and Gertrude Fux, Virginia, Marie and Anna Budd, Leonie Mistic, Gladys Swords, Eleanor Boagni, Ora and Pearl Walker, Rowena Whitley, Ezel Strange, Marie Meginley, May Weir, Rita Desmaris, Rase Walior, Rose Chachere, Mrs. J. Harris.

Messrs. Jack Perrault, Arthur Velin, Chas. Sandoz, Kavanau Stagg, Howard Voorhies, Robert Firnberg, Sidney and John Brown, Harold Lastrapes, Paul Mizzi, Ix Fruge, Grover Whitley, George Guitreau, Oscar Mistic, Carol Moanhniveg, Will Stewart, Josie Chachere, Riddiman, Stanley, Kimball, Moreau, Cavalier, McHenry, J. Dejean, H. Larcade.

Dan B. Smith, representing the Nutriline Feed Co. of Crowley, La., was a business visitor here last Friday. Although some years have slipped by since Dan and the writer were neighbors in Crowley, he has lost none of his "talking" qualities, and his romantic yarns are just as entertaining as ever, you can't possibly feel tired or lonesome when Dan's around. The Nutriline people have selected the right man to represent them.

Henry Larcade, Jr., assistant cashier of the St. Landry State Bank, has recently purchased a lot of ground west of the Opelousas National Bank, and will at once begin the erection of a brick business building thereon, which, when completed, will be transferred to our popular Landry street grocer Mr. Albert Clayr, who is making this improvement to accommodate the demands of his growing trade and to obtain a more attractive and better arrayed store.

The site is just across the street from his present location and well-situated. We are pleased to note this evidence of well-mentioned success.

The courthouse square which had been looked upon as the "beauty spot" of our city until the grass took possession of it, has been undergoing a thorough cleaning up under the skillful hands of Mr. L. Noel, who was employed by the Police Jury at its last meeting for that purpose. It is once more assuming its former lovely appearance, since the "whiskers" have been trimmed off, and now look like a park instead of a hay patch.

After an illness of about a week, with fever and cold, Joseph Bordenis again up and looking after business.

The old Thompson residence, on the corner of Bellevue and Liberty streets, has been demolished and in its stead a handsome modern residence is being erected by Rev. J. B. Brock. Contractor Taumon is doing the work.

R. Mornhniveg and son, the Main street jewelers, have had their show windows lowered and improved to better facilitate the display of their up-to-date stock of goods. Always progressive, they never lose an opportunity to further their business interest and prestige as wide-awake citizens.

Steam was raised in the boilers of the Opelousas Sugar Co., on Monday for a preliminary test of the machinery. With the exception of a few small leaks in the piping, everything was in good shape for steady operation which will begin about the last of November.

In another column of this issue will be found the charter of the Opelousas Horse and Mule Co. Ltd., composed of several gentlemen strongly identified with the business life of the city. The purposes of the company are detailed in the charter. We wish the enterprise success.

Street Commissioner Halphen is doing good work on some of the streets which have been torn up by the sewerage-ditching machine. Some of these streets are full of bumps which make traffic very inconvenient, and the timely work of the Commissioner is to be commended.

Mayor Robin, of Port Barre, was a visitor to Opelousas between trains on Tuesday.

Mr. Vincent W. Boagni, of Kansas City, was in this city looking after his business interests here.

THE KNIGHTS OF CO- LUMBUS ELECT OFFICERS.

The following officers have been elected for the ensuing term by Opelousas Council, No. 1178, Knights of Columbus:

Lionel Bienvenu, past grand knight; John M. Prescott, grand knight; Leopold Simon, deputy grand knight; A. L. Andrus, chancellor; M. A. Fields, financial secretary; W. J. Sandoz, recorder; H. D. Larcade, Jr., treasurer; George Going, warden; Abraham Boudreau, advocate; Dr. J. P. Saizan, lecturer; L. A. Dominique, inside guard; T. L. Eyers, outside guard; L. T. Castille, trustee; Rev. J. Engberink, chaplain.

The Council voted to hold an initiation in the third degree on the 24th day of November.

POSTMASTER LASSALLE BUSY WITH CONVEN- TION MATTERS

Postmaster Lassalle has been very busy this week with correspondence relating to the annual convention of the State Association of Presidential Postmasters which will take place at Lake Charles on Monday and Tuesday, the 28th and 29th.

The attendance promises to be large, and as the problems which vex the average postmaster are numerous and many-sided, no doubt the meeting will prove interesting, especially as some of the "big guns" of the postal service will be in attendance.

Congressman-elect Lazaro, of Grand Prairie, was shaking hands with friends here on Tuesday.

Dr. G. Richard, of Leonville, was here on Tuesday.

Mr. A. J. Moreau, of Cottonport, Avoyelles parish, is one of the recent additions to our city's growing population.

Mr. Moreau besides pursuing the study of law is also engaged in the collection department of our prosperous young attorney, Mr. W. J. Sandoz.

Rev. G. A. Morgan, who is in charge of the Washington, Garland and Chicot circuit, is now also supplying the Opelousas church since the departure of Rev. I. T. Reams, and has moved with his accomplished wife into the parsonage here. We welcome them among our midst.

The writer is in receipt of a letter from Rev. I. T. Reams, who left here with his family for Medford, Oregon, about three weeks ago, in quest of health, stating that they find the climate of the great Northwest most delightful, and conditions in relation to the cost of living and employment very satisfactory—prices being very reasonable and wages good.

Mr. L. W. Childs and family are also in Medford, having left a week later.

The circus will be here Thursday and the interest of the little folks is on the wire-edge in keen anticipation of the wonderful sights that they are going to behold on that day of days. Somehow, when we hear the band play and watch the big parade, the memories of our boyhood days come trooping back and for the nonce we are once more a boy. Of course, we are going to the show not because we care about it any more; but "just to take the children."

Rev. H. O. White, one of the veterans of the Louisiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, died at Charleville, La., on Oct. 17th, at a ripe old age, being about 70 years old, or thereabout. He was an active minister for about fifty years and was the pastor in charge of the above place when sickness and death overtook him. He was an earnest, sincere and zealous worker, and had held important positions in the church organization.

He was a brother of our venerable townsman Mrs. M. M. Hayes, and an uncle of Mrs. F. L. Chachere and Mrs. D. C. Rose.

Mr. A. A. Crouchet has moved from the round stable into the building on Mr. R. Chachere's lot across the street, which has been repaired and enlarged to accommodate the business.

SHERIFF REID SPEAKS OF JUDGE AMEND- MENT.

October 16th, 1912.
M. L. Swords, Esq., Sheriff.

Opelousas, La.
Dear Sir:
I am very much interested in the constitutional amendment to be voted on in the November election, giving to the Fifteenth Judicial District composed of the parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, Beauregard, Jefferson Davis and Allen, an additional Judge, and I would very much appreciate your active support in favor of the amendment.

As the law now stands, we have but one judge, who must divide his time among the five parishes, and in so doing he cannot give to the business the attention it should have notwithstanding his diligent efforts to that end. Civil business has vastly increased, and we are sorry to say, the criminal business tends in the same direction. Two judges will have all they can do in the district.

Unless the amendment carries, our judges will have to hold ten separate terms of court and empanel nine grand juries per year.

We do not feel that we are making an unreasonable request in asking the voters of the State to favorably consider this amendment.

Our district pays to the State, taxes on an assessed valuation of more than forty million dollars. As the law now stands, the State, other than the city of New Orleans, is divided into thirty districts with thirty-two judges therein embracing sixty-three parishes. This makes an average of two parishes to the judge. No district in the State, except ours, has more than three parishes. The approximate assessment of those sixty-three parishes is \$300,000,000.00, which, you see, makes an average of \$10,000,000.00 assessment to each Judicial District. We would therefore, under this ratio be entitled to four judges instead of one.

The real reason, however, on which I ask your co-operation, is based upon what I consider the absolute necessities of the district.

May I count on your valuable assistance?

Yours very truly,
H. A. REID.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Allen, on Monday, Oct. 21, a girl. That accounts for that unusually broad smile on Cliff's genial countenance the past week. Congratulations.
To Judge and Mrs. E. S. Kerr, on Sunday, Oct. 20th, a girl. Under circumstances of this nature, it is perfectly natural that the Judge's judicial poise should have become relaxed. Who could blame him for that broad smile he has been wearing all the week?

The force in the tax-collector's office was augmented last Thursday morning by the arrival of a little deputy-collector at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Andrus. "Kelly" announced it over the telephone and when we heard him say "It's a boy" we knew just how happy he was and of course we felt like smiling too—and we did.

REFINERY TO BEGIN GRINDING NEXT MONDAY.

Opelousas Institution Is Ready For Operation.

The Opelousas Refinery is now ready for business, and will begin operation on next Monday. The cane crop is short this season, due to unfavorable weather, but it is believed that the Opelousas concern will get sufficient cane to run this season, because of the fact it is the only refinery in this immediate section.