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# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

OFFICIAL JOURNAL  
The St. Landry Clarion 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."

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OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1913.

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## GRAND JURY IS CALLED TO MEET NEXT MONTH

And A Criminal Jury Term Is Also Ordered to Convene.

## A WEEK FOR PETIT JURY

Small Dockets in Both the Parishes of St. Landry and Evangeline.—Few Murder Cases.

The Grand Jury of the Parish of St. Landry has been called to convene on Monday, March 17, and a Petit Jury, to be drawn at a later day, is to meet on March 31st.

But one week of the petit jury will be held, and then the Court will go to Evangeline, and hold a one week's term there.

The dockets in both parishes are gratifyingly light, according to District Attorney Garland, and he believes that by alternating, better work can be done. There will be few murder cases to come up before the coming term, showing that "peace reigns supreme."

The members of the Grand Jury to meet here on March 17, are: J. A. Guidroz, foreman; Trévillie Meehe, Pat Wolff, Henry Wartelle, Tobe Andrews, D. P. Blacksher, J. T. Dupre, Edwin Stagg, P. A. Sandoz, C. P. Dunbar, Emar Lafleur, Wm. DeValcourt.

## FIREMEN'S BANQUET AN ELEGANT AFFAIR

Supper Given At Durio's Restaurant By The Local Fire Boys A Success In Every Way

Does any one here know what the word perfection means? Well in case you do know the full meaning of this word you know exactly what the banquet given by the firemen of this city was. In fact it was far beyond the meager definition of this word, it was something exquisite and grand. Nothing has been seen to equal this gorgeous affair in years, it even surpasses any banquet that these energetic and heroic men have given in the past, so they all say, and they surely ought to know what they are talking about.

This elaborate supper was given at the Waldorf Restaurant, and engineered by Mr. Adelin Durio, the manager of this popular eating place. The dining room was beautifully decorated for the occasion, United States flags and red, white and blue colors being the feature. Saturday, being George Washington's birthday and the day upon which the firemen, who are also saviors, always give their installation supper, the flags were most appropriate, besides the colors of our nation presenting a most picturesque appearance to the spacious hall.

There was a Cicero, a Demosthenes, a Webster, a Bryan and also a Chauncey Dupuy present, besides many other orators of fame, who with their silvery tongues, audibly spoke words of praise about the Fire Department. There was no suffragettes there, but some of the modest ladies, also rose and expressed their views about these noble men of Opelousas who are always willing to risk their lives fighting ravaging and racing flames, in order to save the properties of our citizens, and these ladies were not militant, like some are in England, but simply bashful and timid with a few appropriate words toasted the firemen.

A string band furnished music all during the feast and their partiotic strains lent greatly to the success of the affair.

The Fire Company is composed of volunteers, who are willing to work strenuously at any time that they are called upon, without any compensation whatsoever. One of the members of the Company, in his after dinner speech, said that there was approximately only eighteen members, at present, when there should be at least a hundred. This is indeed a truthful and most convincing fact, since Opelousas has over a hundred young men, who could easily be members and work not only for their people, but perchance sometime their own homes may catch on fire and they would have to work for themselves. It is evident that more men ought to join this organization.

Why don't YOU young man become a member? You would then be of service to your native town. Those who were present and participated in the banquet were: Mayor Leob and wife; Hon. R. Lee Garland and wife; Hon. John W. Lewis and wife; Dr. Shaw and wife; W. A. Hays and wife; A. S. J. Campell and wife; J. Morgan Sandoz and wife; Goldman Lassalle and wife; Ludovic Fontenot and wife; Clarence Reynolds and wife; Misses Sarah Hays of Woodville, Miss. and Clothie Lassalle; Messrs. A. S. Brown, Sr., Des Mizzi, Adelin Durio, Dr. Pulford; Moon Rills, Freeman Burr, Ernest Richards, W. H. Paschal and Lawrence A. Andrepoint.

## RIVER SITUATION AT MELVILLE NOT SERIOUS

There is No Fear For Levee at Melville, But Latanier Is Thought to Be In Danger.—Special Train To the Scene.

The high water situation at Melville is not thought to be very serious at present, but if the water continues to rise there is liable to be some danger at that place. The citizens of that town are not alarmed over the present condition, but they entertain fears for Latanier, a little town below Melville. The levees on the West side are not so encouraging.

During a rain storm early Monday morning the water was flowing over the levees near Latanier, not very far from the Frisco crossing, and had it not been for the watchful eyes of Captain Hood and hard work by his convict camp, ably assisted by employees of the Frisco company and free labor camps, it might have resulted in the levee giving away at that point.

However, it is reported that the river has not been on a raise there lately, if anything it has been on the stand, and this allows the people of that country ample time to breathe and be on the lookout.

A party of men from Opelousas, composed of: Judge B. H. Pavy, District Attorney R. Lee Garland; Hon. Henry Estorge, Dr. Theogene Chachere, James Chachere, George Vidrine, Lee Gil, Harry Flanders, Richard Hollier, Charles Chachere, E. P. Veazie and Lawrence A. Andrepoint, went to Melville to consult with the Progressive League of that town what steps to pursue in order to give immediate relief to danger zone.

A resolution demanding that the Governor and chief engineer of this state come at once to Melville to inspect the Alabama Bayou dike was offered and unanimously adopted. This resolution, offered by Mr. Veazie, was: "Resolved, that the Governor of this State and Chief Engineer Kerr be requested to come at once, within the next twenty-four hours, to meet a committee of citizens from Melville and vicinage, with a view of examining the present stage of the high water from Melville to the dike across Alabama Bayou and to ascertain the cause of the present high water stage of the river between these points and give such relief as may be necessary." This resolution was wired to the Governor at once, but it has not been learned as yet what steps they have taken.

There is a sediment being formed in the river between Melville and Alabama Bayou on account of the current not being strong enough to wash it away, and the channel, which was once very deep is rapidly being clogged. It is said that before the Alabama Bayou was dammed there was a swifter current and the river was considerably deeper.

The people in Melville itself are not afraid of the situation

but there must be immediate relief extended to the section a few miles below the town, as the water is rising at present over one foot higher than the highest stage during the terrible high water of 1912.

Mr. Garland expressed his views on the removing of the Alabama Bayou dike to the effect that no relief could be expected from the state authorities, and that if the people of Melville would press their cause before the war department at Washington and show that navigation is being interfered with, it would be their only hope of being assisted in some way of getting rid of the greater bulk of the water now in the Atchafalaya river.

It was also discussed at this meeting that, if it was decided that the removing of the dike could not be done immediately, some suitable substitution be made, as the settlers in that surrounding vicinity are beginning to worry, less it should turn out like last year, since the state engineers were sent to Latanier to investigate matters during the month of April and pronounced the levee safe and sound, when in reality the thing was already doomed and did give away the following morning.

With the opening of Alabama Bayou, it is alleged by old and experienced river men, that one-third of the water which remains in the Atchafalaya would flow through that bayou and there would never be any fear of having another overflow like the one we experienced last year.

Mayor Williams is Optimistic. Mayor Lester J. Williams, of Melville, seems to think that there is no particular danger for Melville; he gave out the following statement:

"I consider the levees on the west side in good shape, both above and below Melville. The site of the old crevasse about six miles below here is holding splendidly. On the east side of the Atchafalaya the situation is not so bright, although state engineers feel assured of holding the levees. The danger point in this system extends about a mile above the Frisco crossing near Latanier.

"Captain Hood's convict camp and railroad employees of the Frisco together with several free labor camps are working strenuously to keep the levee above the water mark, and now the situation at present is better than any time during the week. With the river on the stand the situation has decidedly improved."

The river at Odenburg and Simsport is considered not at all serious. The new levee holding firmly and the water stage from seven to eight lower than last year during the flood.

### Creole Dressing

Mushroom's en Casserole  
Petits Pois Asparagus Tips  
Cold Roast

Cold Slaw Potato Salad  
Ambrosia

Cakes Coffee Cigars

Hon. R. Lee Garland, our distinguished and popular District Attorney, was toast-master and acted his role splendidly. In a lengthy talk to the firemen he spoke of their efficiency and praised the particular members of the Fire Company of to-day for their unswerving faithfulness to this order.

The officers for the ensuing year who were installed prior to the banquet are: Des Mizzi, President; A. S. Brown Foreman, Adelin Durio, 1st Assistant Foreman; W. A. Hays, 2nd Assistant Foreman; B. A. Littell, Secretary, G. L. Lassalle, Treasurer, C. A. Reynolds, Steward and Donald Brown, Mascot.

The Sponsors are: Misses May Brown and Lou Comeau, and Mrs. A. S. J. Campbell.

This banquet was given out of the fund of the fines and most positively not out of the money, which has been donated to them by some of the generous citizens of Opelousas for the purpose of entertaining the visiting firemen in July.

The menu was as follows:  
Menu  
Celery Olives Pickles  
Wine Beer  
Oyster Cocktail  
Red Snapper Mayonaise Sauce  
Turkey Cranberry Sauce

## PENNSYLVANIA PARTY PLEASSED WITH COUNTRY

Thirteen Sturdy Germans Visit St. Landry Parish.

## INTERESTED IN SCHELL CANAL

Enthusiasm Prevails in Their View of This Magnificent Country of Plenty.

"Your country is a field of plenty, and a garden of beauty, and an open gate to great prosperity. We will work with you to make it great."

Thus spoke Mr. Jacob Chouder, a member of a party of thirteen Pennsylvanians who were in St. Landry parish for a few days this week.

They were mostly German born, and accumulated a competence by hard labor and frugal living—that is, living at home, raising things for sale, and eating so much of those things out of that "sassa patch, and goat farm, and poultry yard, and swine herd, and dairy, as was necessary for the "house."

These Pennsylvanians were here principally to look into the Schell Canal, many of their neighbors having already invested in the project.

They expressed themselves as charmed with the possibilities of the gigantic canal, and will take stock in it.

Mr. J. O. Chachere drove them about the country, as also did Dr. A. J. Bercier, and these visitors have gone back home to praise the praises of St. Landry Parish.

The Union Irrigation Company has already thousands of acres along the canal, and it is believed that this last party of thirteen have an eye on purchases on their own account.

## FATHER MARING LEAVES GRAND COTEAU

Father Grace Will Succeed Him.—Regret and Gladness Intermix.

Grand Coteau, La., Feb. 26.—It was announced at St. Charles College Monday that the Very Reverend Father H. S. Maring, S. J., who for the past five and a half years has so ably presided over the Jesuit College here as its President has been transferred to Shreveport where he will occupy the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the Jesuit College there. And that the Reverend M. A. Grace, S. J., Vice-President, a native Louisianian, born and reared at Plaquemine, Iberville Parish, would succeed him. This news came from the General at Rome, Italy, in the beginning of the week. Father Maring closed up his affairs here on Monday and will leave for Shreveport Thursday of this week.

While all here were glad to learn that Father Grace was appointed to succeed Father Maring, there was unfeigned sorrow at the news that Father Maring had been transferred.

Father Maring as President and Father Grace as Vice-President occupied these positions with the exception of two years, when Father Fields was Vice-President, since the erection of the new College. They have done immense good to the institution.

Father Maring was Secretary of the College here for a few years and then became its President for three years up to 1901; then his service here was interrupted for six years while President of the Immaculate College at New Orleans. He was sent back in the summer of 1907, with Father Grace, however, and the people rejoiced. They arrived here a few weeks after the burning of the old College, and had the ruins taken down and at once proceeded to lay plans for a greater and grander College which through their hard labor have succeeded. The College has nearly one hundred and twenty-five students, and will celebrate its diamond jubilee in June. Archbishop Blenk and Governor Hall will be present.

The people of Grand Coteau and St. Landry Parish owe a debt of gratitude to Father Maring and Father Grace for keeping the College here. For at one time it was thought that the

## IS THIS PARISH TO SECURE GOOD ROADS?

Sanders and Atkinson to Preach Sermon on Better Highways at Meeting of the Police Jury On Next Monday.

On the third of this month, next Monday, ex-Governor J. Y. Sanders will meet the Police Jury of this parish for the purpose of telling them how St. Landry can secure good roads, and these worthy members of our Police Jury, it is expected, will take heed of his weighty words and do all in their power to better our thoroughfares.

Good roads is fast coming to be an essential element to the upbuilding of a place, and we citizens of St. Landry, who love our parish and city with a patriotic heart, should make it as pleasant for the notable person who will take time and energies to help us get better roads, as we possibly can. No parish in Louisiana should be in the lead of the once "Empire Parish of the State," and it is up to our people to attribute that name once more to St. Landry. By securing good roads and better modes of bringing our products to market is one of the best methods of making our country progress, and with progressive-ness comes enterprises and with enterprises settlers follow.

In the space of a few years we St. Landrians, who are proud of our Parish and are ready to defend her against any one, and who should not let a few paltry dollars stand in the way of developing our surrounding country, will see St. Landry the most progressive parish in Louisiana.

Honorable J. Y. Sanders, who is an authority on good roads, is of the opinion that there is nothing better for a community than better highways, upon which our farmers, the backbone of our city, can travel at all times of the year, no matter how the weather is, and under any circumstances whatsoever. He has devoted a considerable portion of his time for the last few years to make the people of Louisiana, the state he loves so well, realize that an altogether new state can be made of the one we have now, a state which would attract wealthy capitalists and one which could be made "a garden of Eden."

All who have the interest of this community at heart should attend the meeting at the Police Jury room, March the 3rd. Those who are strictly opposed to good roads and who think that these improvements would be a burden to the tax-payers are especially asked, to be present. There will be no political discussion, so anyone no matter of his political affiliation or religious belief, can go to see and hear for himself, and

cause that the College remained in Grand Coteau, and was sorry to see him leave. Father Maring and Father Grace loved each other very much; having lived together for several years.

Shreveport is to be congratulated to have Father Maring as one of the faculty of their College.

Father Grace, the new President is a brother of Fred Grace, Registrar of the State Land Office, and Joseph A. Grace, Clerk of Court of Iberville Parish.

J. J. Henderson, of Washington was here on Wednesday.

Adam Tate of Washington, spent a few hours in this city on Saturday.

H. D. Larcade, Jr., spent a day in Baton Rouge last week.

Mrs. R. M. Littell left Monday to visit friends and relatives in New Orleans.

Mr. H. R. Thompson was a visitor to New Orleans this week.

Mrs. Willie T. Stewart motored to Sunset on Thursday to see her mother, Mrs. Mattie Fielder.

Mr. Alex. R. Chisolm, of Lake Charles, was here during the week.

Mr. T. P. Bowden, former Alderman of the Fourth Ward of this City but now of Alexandria, was in Opelousas, Sunday on a visit to his parents.

Mrs. Geo. B. Cooke, of Beaumont, Texas, is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Littell.

decide for himself what he thinks is best for the welfare of this parish.

Chief Engineer Atkinson will also be present and it is expected that he, too, will make an interesting talk. This prominent man, with the well-known ex-Governor, should certainly draw a big crowd. He will, no doubt, say what the best course of pursuing this delicate subject is, by what manner we could start and what roads would be more beneficial as well as the cheapest manner of construction.

Now that the good weather is setting in, is no objection to good roads, since travel on most of the roads throughout the country will be available; people forget the disagreeable dust, which makes travelling more of a labor than pleasure, and which is as unpleasant almost as the thousands of mud-holes that we have had during the winter months. When our roads are not ankle deep of mud, we have as much dust; the only way to eliminate both of these offensive pests is to have gravel or paved roads. Will this parish get these? It is left solely to the will of the people, whether or not St. Landry will be numbered amongst the many other parishes, which are issuing bonds, in order to give their farmers, as well as the city people, better highways and streets. Is St. Landry going to take a back seat? It has never done that before and there is, most assuredly, no reason why it ought to be one of the tail-enders this far in the race. The people of this parish have never willed that they should leave other places lead them, on the contrary, they have always been leaders, and St. Landry is looked upon as one of the most powerful parishes in the state. Why should it lose this reputation?

Mr. Sanders has always been the friend of St. Landry and there is no need to suspect that he is coming here for any particular or political reason of his own. Even though he expected to benefit out of the many sermons he has preached on the subject of good roads, since he is doing good to our city and parish, his words should be weighed and well thought of, and his views on good roads given all the consideration that they so splendidly deserve.

Leave politics alone and think of your roads is the desire of the members of the Police Jury. There is more for you in good roads than in politics.

Several years ago the young boys and girls of Opelousas threw away their skates with disgust and had firmly made up their minds never to ride on any of them thereafter. But such is not the case now, as every evening one can see several young couples performing "stunts" and fancy glides on skates on the outskirts of the city. It seems as though this popular sport is again coming into prominence among the younger set in Opelousas.

Besides skating on the streets the lovers of this sport have an opportunity to go to a rink, as Mr. Leonce Roos has only recently opened up one on Main street, next to the Mercantile's warehouse, where there have been large attendance each night.

The municipal officers, however, especially lay stress on the fact that there is no skating to be done on the sidewalks, within the business district, where it could interfere in any manner with the passers-by. There has not been any breach of this rule, as yet, and little trouble is expected from the skaters.

## THE ELKS FEAST ON FINE TURKEY SUPPER

Local "Billies" Have A Good Time at Home Lodge.

## IT IS AN ANNUAL AFFAIR

One Hundred and Ten Portions of Birds Served to Those Present.

Fifty "Billies," their wives and sweethearts, feasted at Elks' Hall last Tuesday evening, the occasion being the annual bird supper given by that order.

One hundred and ten "portions" of birds, all killed by Elks, were served—and this was supplemented by turkey, salads, dressing, radishes, and other nice things to eat.

A business session was held preceding the supper, at which routine business was transacted.

That routine business was hurried through. The appetizing aroma of the viands was an impelling power to adjourn which could not be resisted.

On next Tuesday the annual election of officers will be held.

## GEORGIAN SAYS OPELOUSAS MOST HOSPITABLE PLACE

Travelled for Years Over the South—Thinks no Spot in Dixie Like Our City.

In Georgia, down by the Swannee River where the cotton blossoms grow, banjoes ring, and dorkies sing "Old Black Joe," there lives a young man, a pure Georgian by nature, a Frenchman by nationality, and an estimable young gentleman by precept. This young man has traveled all through our glorious Dixie, and has been in every nook and corner of nearly all the States, but he hands it to Opelousas for being the most hospitable place of all the places that he has visited. This young man is named W. A. Paschal, and has made a number of friends here who will never forget him. Being treated so elegantly by the people of Opelousas he, on his part, will never forget the many genial and ever jovial citizens of our city.

Georgia is a grand old state alright, but when it comes to the grandest there are none to compare with Louisiana, to the opinion of not only this one drummer, but of all the drummers that come to this State; now, about the cities in Louisiana most people say that Opelousas is the most hospitable of all; of course that is there opinion; ours would perhaps be more than that, but we refrain from saying anything about it, as we might displease some other enterprising cities.

## SKATING GETTING TO BE A POPULAR SPORT

Several years ago the young boys and girls of Opelousas threw away their skates with disgust and had firmly made up their minds never to ride on any of them thereafter. But such is not the case now, as every evening one can see several young couples performing "stunts" and fancy glides on skates on the outskirts of the city. It seems as though this popular sport is again coming into prominence among the younger set in Opelousas.

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