

GRAND PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL OPENS ON 8th.

First Week Of School Attended By Marked Success—Literary Society Formed.

On Monday morning Sept. 8th, the Grand Prairie High School began its new session of work with a splendid attendance. The school faculty consisting of nine teachers were present, and the registration of pupils began promptly at nine o'clock.

So large was the attendance that it required some time on the part of the principal and teachers to properly classify all the pupils.

The people of the immediate community feel satisfied over the successful opening week of school work, and all indications are that the coming year work will be the best in the history of the school. The school has this year a very strong corps of teachers, comprising Professor R. C. Childs and eight others.

A literary society was organized, in the school by Prof. Childs, Friday afternoon, Sept. 12th. The society was named the Grand Prairie Literary Society and the entire high school department was enrolled.

The organization of this literary society, the first of its kind since Prof. P. H. Griffith was principal of the school, was received by the pupils with marked eagerness and enthusiasm. Among the officers elected were: Adolph Lafleur, President; Theima Fontenot Secretary and Ferdinand Lafleur, Treasurer.

Prof. Childs made an address to the newly organized society, in which he spoke of the importance and value of the literary society work to the school and to the country boys and girls in after life. He said the future of the country depended upon, and reposed in the coming boys, and girl of the country communities, that greatness could be as easily achieved by a country boy or girl as by their more seemingly, fortunate city cousins; that education was a training for the race of life, and the better trained the country boy or girl was, the more certain and assured was their success. This training, he said, was not, however, to be won by simply resting and waiting, but it was to be won by hard and constant work, by close and assiduous application to school duties, "and," said he in conclusion, "the greatest training agent that ever can possibly be had in the high school is the literary society."

"It will train one to be a better lawyer, a better physician, a better salesman, a better farmer, or a better school teacher than he or she would, otherwise be. I urge upon you, at all times, to devote a large portion of your time to this work. "It will contribute in a marked degree your success in after life, and a failure to properly perform this work, or to engage in it with the proper vim and determination will be a check to your success and future career in life." The first program of the society will be rendered on Friday afternoon, Sept. 19th.

Isidore Isaac's Hard Luck.

It seems as though some people are doomed to run in hard luck at all times. Whether or not Mr. Isidore Isaac broke a looking glass, by admiring himself a little too much, it is hard to discern, but, nevertheless, it is a sure thing that he runs in hard luck. Last season Mr. Isaac felt flush, the consequence of which, he readily purchased an Overland car. No sooner had the car arrived here than the rain set in, and it was several weeks before Mr. Isaac could have the pleasure of trying his car in the streets, though some of his friends say that he would try it out each day, by setting it on jacks and let the engine have vent to its power.

This season Mr. Isaac decided that he would purchase from the Opelousas Motor Car Company a run-about Overland. He did so, the car arriving last week, but to Mr. Isaac's dismay, was unable to try it out for several days.

It is hoped that the next time he purchases a car he will have better luck.

Home Boys Doing Well With Express Company.

There are two home boys employed by the Wells-Fargo Express Company, and these two boys are doing splendidly. Mr. Leon Chachere, who was appointed agent of the company at this point, sometime last month, ably assisted by Raymond Lewis, is working hard to please the public, and thus far, all his endeavors in that direction have been successful.

The Young Jewelry Store Has Fine Display Of New Stock.

The Young Jewelry Store, on Bellevue street, managed by Mr. Clark, received during the week a large stock of cut glass, silver ware, rings and other articles, which aid greatly to the attractive display of goods, which this establishment recently purchased.

The on-rush of business, which means that there will probably be several weddings in this locality within the next few weeks, persuaded Mr. Clark to secure a large stock, and he is now ready to serve his many patrons, who feel inclined to give presents to brides and grooms to-be, as well as for their own use.

A complimentary dance was given at the Knights of Columbus Hall, on last Monday night, by the young ladies of this city, to the College boys, most of whom have already left for their various schools.

Mr. L. Edwards received, during the week, a car load of luscious apples, which he has for sale at the nominal price of \$1.25 per bushel.

Mr. Edwards treated the Clarion force to a basket of this splendid fruit, and to be sure they were immensely enjoyed.

A MASS MEETING IS CALLED FOR THE 27th.

Farmers to Discuss Permanent Organization of Parish Fair Association on Saturday 27th.

At a meeting held, recently, by the promoters of the organizing of a permanent Parish Fair Association, it was decided to hold a mass meeting, on Saturday morning, at 10 o'clock, in the courthouse, September 27th. On account of the inclemency of the weather, last week, it was concluded that it were best to postpone this meeting, the success of which means a great deal to the farmers of this section.

All farmers, no matter who they are or where they live, just as long as they reside in this parish, are earnestly urged to be present at this meeting, so that their views can be expressed on the best possible means of going about the perfecting of a Parish Fair Association. Speeches will be made by prominent men of this city, as well as by some of the leading planters of St. Landry, and all who have something to say concerning the good of the organization are requested to be on hand.

A Parish Fair Association means a great deal to this section. By the holding of an annual farm exhibit show, in this city, farmers will become better acquainted with the more modern methods of farming, at the same time derive unbounded benefit from associating with the leading planters of St. Landry. The association will be on the style of a stock company, each share will sell at \$5, so that every farmer in this parish will be able to be a member. This does not mean, however, that one who is not a member will be

barred from placing his products on exhibition, each year, but it is simply for the purpose of assisting the annual fair. It is expected that the Fair Association, if it gets the necessary co-operation at the hand of the farmers, as well as the merchants and business men of this parish, will be on a style with the Shreveport Fair, which is a great success each year, and which brings money to those who own stock in the association. Of course, it cannot be expected that the local association will be as great as the Shreveport Fair from the very start, but it is a certainty that, if the people of St. Landry do what they should, towards the up-building of this parish fair, it will not be long before the St. Landry Parish Fair Association will be as formidable as the north Louisiana Fair.

It is hoped that several hundred people from the country will be in this city on Saturday morning, September 27th, so as to give the proper encouragement to the promoters of the fair association. The men who are working hard to perfect this organization are leaders in the financial, as well as the business world, of this parish. Among them are bankers, lawyers, doctors, farmers and other professional men. With such a bright prospect, it would surely be a disappointment to the entire population of St. Landry, if a permanent fair association could not be formed, and placed on the right footing.

HON. JOHN W. LEWIS POSSIBLE CANDIDATE

As we are about to go to press we hear the news of the possibility of Hon. John W. Lewis entering the race for delegate to the Constitutional Convention from this parish.

Mr. Lewis had not intimated, thus far, that he had any inclination of going to the Convention, and it is said that his friends have been urging him to make the race. Whether or not he will let his name go before the Democratic voters of St. Landry, in the election on the 14th of next month, could not be ascertained in time to go into press in this issue.

Several small robberies occurred this week in different portions of the city.

On Monday night some sneak thief entered the residence of "Uncle" Mel Durio and secured his gold watch, which, he says, he would appreciate very much, if it were returned to him; he would ask no questions.

Another citizen reported the deliberate entrance of his dining room, by a burglar, who helped himself to everything good to eat, which was in sweet remembrances, a loaf of bread.

Lake Charles Chamber of Commerce to Have Exhibit Show.

The Lake Charles Chamber of Commerce will hold a Southwest Louisiana Trade Exhibit in that city, Oct. 23rd-25th., under the auspices of its trade extension committee, and every manufacturer and maker of things useful, ornamental or otherwise, in the thirteen parishes composing the Southwest Louisiana Development Bureau will be asked to participate. The exhibit will be held right in the city, perhaps in the courthouse, and there will be no entrance nor admission fee and the Chamber of Commerce will offer no premiums, though some of the Lake Charles merchants may do so.

It is believed that such an exhibit will have the effect of bringing the local manufacturer and the local consumer closer together, and that the manufacturing idea in general will be stimulated.

While it is true that ours is not a manufacturing section, it is perhaps also true that there is a great deal more manufacturing done throughout Southwest Louisiana than the average citizen is aware of, and that there will be many surprises in store for those who visit the exhibits at Lake Charles.

Those desiring to be represented at the Southwest Louisiana Trade Exhibit should communicate with the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, at Lake Charles, La.

Master James Saizan left last week for Jefferson College, Convent, La., where he entered the well-known school, for the session.

MR. BRADFORD THOMPSON GOES TO GULFPORT AS PROFESSOR.

Mr. Bradford Thomson the young and energetic son of Superintendent of Parish Public Schools, C. J. Thompson, left last Saturday for Gulfport, Miss., where he went to enter the Gulfport Military Academy, as Secretary to the President of that well-known institution, and at the same time being a professor of elementary subjects.

Young Thompson was a student at the Louisiana State University, at Baton Rouge, last session, and did splendid work. He was offered this position by the Military Academy and immediately seized the opportunity of being thrown in contact with some of the eminent scholars of Mississippi, the consequence of which he has now cast his lot in the Mississippi town.

His many friends here feel assured that he will succeed, and their best wishes of success go out to him.

S. W. L. DEVELOPEMENT BUREAU DOING FINE

Boosters Association Is Certain To Succeed—Doing Great Work.

The newly organized Southwest Louisiana Development Bureau, which is domiciled in city of Lafayette, has already begun to work on the right road for the benefit of the people in the thirteen parishes, which comprise Southwest Louisiana.

The bureau was organized for the purpose of aiding the farmers especially of this section. It is not a money making thing, but it needs money to carry on the business which it does, which business is principally the advertising of Southwest Louisiana and getting in closer touch with the markets of the world. It is striving to get for the farmers, of Southwest Louisiana, exactly what the prosperous farmers in the north and west are getting. High prices for their goods, fair rates at the hands of the railroads, and an assurance of a ready market at all times, are the things which this bureau is working on at present, and it is not surprising to state, that it has been meeting with a great deal of success all along the line.

St. Landry parish has only five members in the Bureau, at present, but it is hoped that within the next few months it will have five hundred. The fees are only ten dollars a year; this is a very small amount, when one takes into consideration the many advantages he will derive by being a member of the bureau. One of the advantages of being a member is that, when one is in the market for a certain thing, if he notifies the bureau of this fact he will be kept posted on prices and those who will sell him this product directly and frequently, and vice versa.

If one is a large corn, or hay raiser, all he has to do is to notify the bureau that he has corn or hay for sale and he will soon find a purchaser.

It is hoped that the people of St. Landry will soon realize the importance of the Southwest Louisiana Development Bureau, and, that they will do all in their power to promote its interest.

MR. FOX PLEADS FOR UNITY ON LEVEES

In Louisiana And Other States Mr. Fox Says Ransdell-Humphreys Bill Only Salvation.

John A. Fox, Secretary-manager of the Mississippi River Levee Association, is meeting with unusual success in his campaign in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Missouri in the interest of levees and the Ransdell-Humphreys bill which provides \$60,000,000 for the completion of levees from Cairo, Ill., to the gulf. Mr. Fox will spend practically the remainder of this month in addressing levee mass meetings. By the time the Ransdell-Humphreys bill is voted on at the coming session of Congress, the people of the four states principally affected will be united in their plea for its passage.

In the past few weeks Mr. Fox has addressed mass meetings at Donaldsonville and Lake Providence, La., Greenville and Clarksdale, Miss., Blytheville, Osceola, and Wilson, Ark., and Caruthersville, Mo. At each of these places Mr. Fox found the sentiment the same,—intense interest in the levee measure and its fate and a determined spirit to work in its behalf. At each city a large crowd attended the meeting. At Caruthersville September 1st., the property holders of Pemiscot county met to reorganize the St. Francis levee district in Missouri. The meeting was perhaps the largest of its kind ever held in the county. After the tentative re-organization had been agreed upon, Mr. Fox addressed the big audience on the levee proposition and what the Mississippi River Levee Association was doing, to help the levee bill to success. He pleaded for united action on the part of the people in behalf of urging the bill before the national legislators was unusual in its unanimity and intensity.

Perhaps no measure has ever gone before the national legislators for passage so important to the nation and so fully endorsed by the people as the Ransdell-Humphreys bill. When it is voted upon at the December session the voice of the third estate in the affairs of the United States government will be heard at its fullest. 30,000,000 people in this section of the country alone will await the fate of the measure with the same expectancy as they would feel if a proposed law affecting their very fireside was up for passage.

The Mississippi River Levee Association is interested in having the people importune every congressman and senator to vote for the bill. It is their desire to have an organized and united appeal to come from this section

The First Boy.

A fine son, Charles John Ellis, arrived last Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin R. Ellis, who are now occupying the Jenung residence. Mr. Ellis, connected with the Southern Cypress Association, has been making his headquarters in Opelousas for some time, but is from Buffalo, New York. His wife, formerly Miss Mel Robertson of New Orleans, is a sister of W. A. Robertson of this city. Notwithstanding the fact that this combination Yankee-Confederate baby was born on the 14th. of September, a big Louisiana reconstruction day, he was named for his Northern grandfather, Dr. C. J. Ellis, of Buffalo.

The fond father, "Big Ben" as his friends call him, is very proud to exhibit his son as the first boy in the eight grandchildren so far born in the Robertson family.

Messrs. Octave Castille and Lawrence Sandoz left Wednesday for Baton Rouge, where they will enter L. S. U.

TAX-PAYERS PETITION PAVING OF LANDRY

Property Owners Ask the City Fathers to Pave Landry Street With Tioga Gravel.

All but one tax-payer, on Landry street, from Main to the railroad crossing of the Southern Pacific Company, have signed a petition, during the week, which was circulated by Aldermen Shaw and Dunbar, and now the City Fathers are busy devising the means of satisfying the want of the progressive property-owners, of Landry street. It is expected that it will not be long before everything will be in readiness to go ahead and pave this, one of the principal streets, of this city with Tioga Gravel.

The people in this city have realized the importance of having better streets, than they have been enjoying, here of late, and being convinced that several thousands of dollars are lost, on account of the bad conditions of the streets in Opelousas, during the rainy season, they have decided that it is best to sacrifice a few paltry dollars, in order to secure better and more substantial streets, over which people coming into town, to transact their business can travel, at any and all times of the year, no matter the condition of the weather. People living in the country will go to the place to which they can have better access, when the roads are full of holes, and Opelousas being bless-

ed with numerous mud-holes every winter, they certainly will avoid this city, if it is possible for them to go elsewhere.

Aldermen Shaw and Dunbar went around to every man or woman who owned property on Landry street and presented them with a petition asking the Board of Aldermen to pave that street. They met with success at the hand of every tax-payer, on that street, with the sole exception of one.

It is only a matter of time, now, in the paving of Landry street, and it is expected that the tax-payers on Main street and others of the most important streets, will follow the example of the Landry street people.

Opelousas needs several miles of good streets, to which end the city has bonded out \$36,000. The tax-payers are requested to pay two-thirds of construction, whilst the city will do its share by paying the remaining one-third and the intersections. The estimated cost would be 75 cents per front foot. A man owning property, with a front of 30 feet, would only have to pay something like \$22.50 to have a paved street in front of his place of business. Is there any thing cheaper, and, at the same time, a better investment?

MR. PITRE TO MOVE IN THE COUNTRY.

On Monday Mr. Lawrence Pitre purchased the small place of Mr. G. E. Harrison, situated about two miles from the city, on the Washington road.

Mr. Pitre will shortly move into the comfortable home, on his new place, whilst Mr. Harrison, manager of the Cumberland Telephone Company, in this city, will move back to Opelousas.

The place, it is said, is one of the finest in this section, having been "modernized" by Mr. Harrison.

Big Circus Coming.

It's great to be a kid once more, and hear the Lions growl and roar, and see the bears and feed the monks and sprinkle peanuts on the trunks of elephants all in a row that keep a-swinging to and fro; it's grand you know to be a kid and see that big Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus Show.

It's great to sit and watch the clowns perform their funny ups and downs, and see them laugh and hear them chaff until you split your sides in half; and watch those blokes play wicked jokes upon some unsuspecting mokes, as fat and thin they amble in, to make you squeal and smile and grin.

It's fine to sit and watch the rings, that hold so many, many things, with horses here and horses there; and pretty girls with golden curls performing scary mid-air whirls, and drivers bold in cars of gold, that race as in the days of old; and monkeys that will ride astride of ponies that are true and tried and throw a ball, but never fail; its mighty hard to watch it all.

It's great to see the big circus parade, and swallow circus lemonade, and see the lights and wonder sights, and pretty girls in spangled tights; and feast your gaze upon the blaze that the tent displays. Oh, once a year, its grand you know, to see the circus show.

After unbosoming of the above the circus man intimated that Carl Hagenbeck and Great Wallace Shows combined would arrive in Opelousas Tuesday, Sept. 30, aboard three special trains. Two performances will be given, at 2 and 8 p. m. The doors to the zoological paradise will be opened an hour earlier. A two mile long street parade will leave the show grounds at ten o'clock.

of the country. It is in this interest that the levee mass meetings are being held.

The people who are leading the fight for levees request that the citizens of the Southern States join in the campaign for this measure.

MELVILLE CITIZENS ALL OPTIMISTIC

St. Landry Town Is On The Boom And Doing A Large Business

The little town of Melville, situated on the banks of the picturesque Atchafalaya River, is on the boom, and a spirit of optimism prevails among the inhabitants of the once flooded town.

Houses for rent are at a premium and the leading citizens of Melville feel confident that their town will keep booming up as fast as it has been doing, in the last few weeks. Dr. Joseph, a prominent physician, at that place, as well as the young and popular Mayor, Dr. Lester J. Williams, are among the most optimistic. In fact, when interviewed by a Clarion representative during the week, both of these men were so jubilant over the present condition of their town that they spoke with a heart as light as those of little tots, who have just been granted a favor by their parents.

It is not only talk with the people of Melville, but there is a good deal of action, and decisive action with them. They are booming up their town with the proper spirit, by putting down public, as well as private, improvements.

Among the most important improvements is the laying of a mile and a half of cement sidewalks, which goes to show that though Melville is not as large as some of the towns of St. Landry, the larger places have nothing on it, when it comes to progressiveness.

The High School under the principleship of Professor Stoker a L. S. U. graduate, has been prospering rapidly since its opening day, two weeks ago. The teachers are working harmoniously and the enrollment is larger at present, than ever before, being over two hundred. People living in the surrounding country began pouring into the town in order to send their children to that school, until several families had to return to their farms and employ private tutors, as there were no houses to rent.

The town has a payroll of over \$5000 a month; the Standard Oil Company is laying down pipes at that point, the levee contractors are busy building and repairing several million feet of levees, on both sides of the Atchafalaya, United States Engineers are also in Melville, all of which lend considerably to the business of the town.

The many business houses, from the Clarion representative's view point, seem to be doing splendidly. He had occasion to saunter into one of the first-class drug stores, whilst in that progressive little city, and noticed the great business carried on by Dr. Williams' drug store.

The pride of this establishment is the modern and up-to-date soda water fountain, which was recently purchased and which will vie, with the best in the state, outside of New Orleans. His efficient druggist, Dr. Chisolm, is a most accommodating person and aids greatly to the popularity of that drug store.

The hotels in town are all crowded and one has, literally speaking, to wait for his turn at the table.

The assessment of Melville has been increased, in the last year, from \$80,000 to \$175,000. The election to vote a tax for the purpose of putting up a water work and electric plant was carried, and it is expected that it will not be long before that town will be illuminated and the citizens furnished with good water.

The Texas and Pacific bridge, which spans the Atchafalaya at that point, is being raised above the high water mark. This is a great engineering feat, as the work is carried on, whilst traffic is not interfered with.

With the spirit of optimism, which now exists in Melville, that progressive town promises to be one of the principal towns in old St. Landry, and the floods of 1912 have not impeded the progress of its industrious citizens. They have conquered the "hard times" and encouraged by the fairly good crops, especially the large yield of cotton, surrounding the town, Melville is no longer in the back ground.

Mr. Moise Lafleur and Mrs. (Dr.) Lafleur were visitors to this city on Tuesday.

Messrs. George Vidrine and George Bourdier were in Melville during the week.