

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

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OPELOUSAS TO HAVE W. C. WALTERS SOON

Alleged Kidnapper Of Robert Dunbar, To Be Brought To Opelousas For Trial--Not Known When Sheriff Swords Will Leave For Columbia.

W. C. Walters, alleged kidnapper of Bobbie Dunbar, who mysteriously disappeared at Swayze Lake on August 23rd, 1913, when on a fishing trip with his parents, will be brought to Opelousas to stand trial. The Mississippi Supreme Court decided that Walters should be turned over to the Louisiana authorities as soon as they would reach Columbia, and that Walters should come to this city to face the charge of kidnaping, the penalty of which, if found guilty, is death.

The people here are confident that Walters will be dealt with justice and even the tinker's lawyers, Dale and Rawls are of the same opinion. They have resolved to come to Louisiana and defend their client to the very last. They will come to St. Landry with a determination to win their case and the fact that the officials here have such conclusive evidence against Walters will make this case one of the most unique ever recorded in the annals of this state.

The attorneys of the itinerant defended him from the lower court, sometime in last July, before Judge Weatherly, but lost; they appealed to the Supreme Court and were turned down last Monday. Walters will now have to come to Louisiana. It is said that he has refused to apply for a re-hearing and is resigned to his fate.

Just when the authorities here will depart for Mississippi is not known but it is expected that in the next two or three days the sheriff will leave for Columbia.

The news of the decision of the Supreme Court did not come as a surprise to the people of this city and parish, as it was always thought that Walters would be turned over to Louisiana. No excitement was noticeable, but every one seemed to be pleased that the Walters they have heard of so much and the one they have read of in the daily papers for weeks and weeks will be tried right here in Opelousas, the very home of Bobbie Dunbar, whom he is alleged to have kidnapped over a year ago. In a few hours practically the entire parish was acquainted with the decision.

The Dunbar-Walters case is known practically to every living being in the south, but the outcome of the case will be of interest to the entire country and there is no doubt that when the time comes to try the alleged kidnapper the city will be thronged with visitors from every portion of the state. Opelousas will be the scene of one of the most unique cases ever tried in any court in the United States.

Julia Anderson, who came here during the summer, and who at first denied that Bobbie Dunbar was Bruce Anderson, her child afterwards admitting in New Orleans that he was her child, will be here to testify in favor of the itinerant.

It is not known whether Walters will be given a trial as soon as he arrives here, or not, but it is presumed that a special term of the criminal court will be called in order to dispense with the case as soon as possible.

OPELOUSAS NOW ON THE BUILDING BOOM

It Is Rumored That Three Buildings Are Going Up On Landry.

Business prospect for the coming year must be good, for surely no one would venture into building up-to-date and modern brick buildings on the principal street of this city, were it not so.

It is reliably rumored that three brick buildings will be built on Landry street, between Court and Main streets, within the next three or four months. In fact Mrs. C. T. Bienville has purchased a lot from the Opelousas National Bank, directly opposite the building in which she is operating her drugstore, for the purpose of building her store just like she wants it.

Mr. M. Winsberg is dickering with the contractors to construct a brick building on the site now occupied by the building formerly owned by Mrs. Cooke, between Winsberg's clothing store and the St. Landry State Bank. This building will be one of the prettiest of its kind in this section of Louisiana if Mr. Winsberg's plans go through.

It has been consistently rumored that Mrs. Wm. Dejean will construct a building on the site now occupied by the Bienville drugstore, by Bennett's wholesale department. Mr. Bennett, however, denied knowing anything about it, when interviewed during the week by a Clarion representative.

The erection of three pretty and attractive brick buildings on Landry street, almost in touch of each other, will certainly beautify that portion of the city. It means that Opelousas is on the boom and not on the decrease. Unless these business people did not anticipate better days for the old city it is a sure bet that they would not invest so heavily in building.

COL. THOMAS H. LEWIS SUFFERS OPERATION

May Have To Again Experience Knife of Dr. Allen.

Col. Thomas H. Lewis, of this city, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee and father of the Good Government League of Louisiana, is critically ill at the Turo Infirmary, New Orleans, following an operation which he underwent on Monday.

Col. Lewis was brought to New Orleans on Monday by his three sons, Dr. Thomas D. Lewis, J. J. Lewis and John W. Lewis, and immediately upon their arrival at the Turo Infirmary, on Monday evening, the old gentleman underwent a slight operation for an old and chronic trouble from which Colonel Lewis has suffered for years. Dr. Allen performed the operation.

Dr. R. M. Littell, an old friend of the Lewis' and the family physician accompanied the Lewis boys and their father to New Orleans, where he remained until Tuesday.

Reports from the infirmary late this week were that Colonel Lewis has rallied after the operation and that his condition showed noticeable improvement, although it is still very serious. He is not believed to be out of danger.

Hon. John W. Lewis, on his return to this city, was of the opinion that a second and more serious operation would be necessary, and that his aged father would probably again experience the knife on Friday evening.

The many friends of Colonel Lewis in this parish, as well as throughout the state, are in hopes that he will soon recover from his severe illness and enjoy perfect health, once more.

OPELOUSAS BANKS ELECT OFFICERS

No Change Made In Local Banks--Benoit on Board.

At the regular meeting of the stockholders of the St. Landry State Bank, of this city, held at their banking house on Monday, the same directors were re-elected to serve the ensuing year, viz: Dr. J. A. Haas, J. J. Thompson, Jos. M. Boagni, Samuel Haas, and I. M. Lichtenstein.

The same officers were also re-elected as follows: Dr. J. A. Haas, president; J. J. Thompson, vice president; L. T. Castile, cashier; Leopold Simon, A. A. Anding, and H. D. Larcade, Jr., assistant cashiers.

The St. Landry State Bank is one of the strongest banks in Southwest Louisiana, having a capital of \$50,000.00, surplus and undivided profits over \$200,000.00, declared a twenty per cent dividend on January 1st, and has just been awarded the fiscal agency for the Parish of St. Landry, and the St. Landry parish school board for two years.

Five members, constituting the board of directors of the People's State Bank, of this city, where chosen at the annual meeting of the stockholders, last Monday. The board of directors is composed of David Roos, Samuel Haas, Leon S. Haas, J. A. Haas, and Lawrence Larcade.

The officers elected by the board of directors of the People's State Bank to serve for the year are David Roos, president, Samuel Haas, Vice President, Leon S. Haas, 2nd Vice President, Lawrence Larcade, Cashier, N. M. Childs, Assistant Cashier, and Leo Larcade, runner.

The Peoples State Bank declared a dividend of 20 per cent on the first of the year.

The Union Bank & Trust Company, the youngest banking institution in this city, will once more be headed by Dr. Jos. P. Saizan, as president. At the annual meeting of the stockholders, on January 12th, the following were elected on the board of directors: Dr. J. P. Saizan, Oscar Dardeau, G. H. Cretin, Lionel Bienville, P. A. Sandoz, M. L. Swords, L. J. Dossmann, Emar Andrepoint, G. Richard, Wm. J. Sandoz, J. J. Perrodin and Joseph Benoit.

The officers chosen for the ensuing year are J. P. Saizan, president; Oscar Dardeau, 1st vice-president; G. H. Cretin, 2d vice-president; J. J. Perrodin, cashier; W. A. Hays, asst. cashier; Wm. J. Sandoz, trust officer; Homer J. Robin, asst. cashier at the Leonville branch.

Ben Riseman Soon to Start on Annex.

The ten thousand dollar annex to his present store, which Mr. Riseman intends to build, will, in all probabilities be constructed by the beginning of the summer. Mr. Riseman expects to have the contractors busy within the next six or eight weeks on the new building, which will be occupied by the Ladies' Department.

The annex will be a very large one and will make the Riseman building one of the largest establishments in this section of Louisiana.

Misses Mathilde and Gertrude Fux entertained the Kewpie Club Wednesday evening.

The club prize was won by Miss Marie Budd; the guest prize by Miss Lulu Comeau.

A delectable luncheon was served after which succeeded a time of much merriment.

All entertained will bear in mind the most enjoyable evening spent, along with the sweet hospitality that was felt throughout the occasion.

EARLY STRAWBERRIES FOR THIS PARISH

St. Charles College Has Distinction of Raising Finest Ever.

St. Charles College, the famous St. Landry institution situated in Grand Coteau, has the distinction of producing the earliest and finest strawberries ever witnessed in this section of Louisiana, according to several prominent citizens of Opelousas, who are in a position to know whereof they speak.

During the week Rex. Francis X. Twellmeyer, vice president of St. Charles, sent a sample box of these delicious berries to the Clarion, and all of those who had the pleasure of seeing them expressed themselves to the effect that these berries were the largest and finest they had ever seen.

January, it is presumed, is exceedingly early for strawberries in St. Landry, but as Father Twellmeyer speaks, in his letter, it must be nothing out of the ordinary for the Jesuit fathers to raise such fruits. It is the opinion of Father Twellmeyer that within the week the one hundred and fifty students of the College will be treated to "strawberries and cream" which is indeed an appreciative treat for the students, especially at this time of the year.

The College has a large garden, in which all the vegetables and fruits consumed--which is indeed a great amount--by the college boys and the fathers are raised, each year. It attracts the attention of the visitors to the historic old place, which attraction is only exceeded by the picturesque, grounds and handsome buildings.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lafleur of Chataignier spent Monday with Mrs. Willie Ardoin.

ARMAS DURIO DEAD

After Illness of Sometime, He Expired on Thursday.

Mr. Armas Durio, for several years city electrician, died on Thursday evening at about three o'clock, after an illness of a few weeks. Mr. Durio, son of "Uncle Mel" Durio of this city, was well-known in St. Landry and his ability as an electrician was recognized by the best electricians in Southwest Louisiana. He was 46 years of age.

Mr. Durio had been ill for quite awhile, suffering from an attack of pneumonia. Though he was at the point of death for several days his relatives and friends had hopes that he was better; in fact he had the appearance of regaining health, but a relapse evidently set in Thursday and Mr. Durio expired.

The funeral took place from the residence of the deceased and interment was made in the public cemetery on Friday evening. The ceremonies were conducted by the Masons of this city, with whom Mr. Durio was connected for several years.

The deceased leaves a wife, several children and hosts of friends to mourn his departure.

Boys Arrested For Driving Spikes.

Sheriff Swords and Deputy-Sheriff Plais Horn jailed six boys on Monday. The youngsters are charged with driving spikes on the O'Gee railroad at a point on the Splane place, near this city. Three of the boys named Gauthreaux are white, whilst the other three, named Chaplaine, are negroes.

Dr. R. M. Littell returned from New Orleans Wednesday.

MERCANTILE TO BE IN NEW QUARTERS

Reported Mr. Isaac Will Christen Building With A Dance.

The Opelousas Mercantile Company will soon move into its new and attractive quarters on Main and North streets, is the hope of its popular manager, Mr. Ike Roos. On account of delayed material the contractors could not finish the modern and up-to-date brick establishment, which is almost completed, by the first of the year, as was at first anticipated.

It will not be many days before the floor of the building will have been completed and it is said that the owner of the building, Mr. Isador Isaac, is preparing to give his many friends in this city a splendid dance. His friends say that he is already in communication with a duck firm, near here, to supply him with fifty wild ducks for the occasion. The dance no doubt will be a great success, as the hall will be a large one, the floor suited for the occasion, and the band will be on hand.

It is expected that Mr. Isaac will issue invitations for the dance within the next week or two days.

Coming back to the building it must be said that it will be one of the prettiest store buildings in Opelousas. Its solid glass front will make it one of the most attractive places on Main street. Mr. Ike Roos will be pleased to meet his hundreds of old patrons, as well as new ones, when he will have established himself in his new quarters.

Mr. A. J. Deville went to Alexandria on a flying visit to relatives this week.

4,353 POLL TAXES ST. LANDRY'S RECORD

First and Sixth Wards Have Half Of The Entire Parish.

The poll taxes collected for 1913 amounted to 4,353. Out of this amount there are 3,452 whites who paid their poll taxes, the rest being negroes.

The Sixth Ward, which in former days was the big eighth, is once more in the lead, in white poll taxes alone, whilst the First Ward, in which Opelousas is situated topples the list with whites and blacks combined with 1121 against 1053 in the Sixth Ward.

The poll taxes, throughout the parish exceed the amount paid during the year 1912. In Opelousas, it is said that never before did the citizens take such an interest in paying their poll taxes, as they did this year. This is attributed to the fact that next month a municipal election will be held, when a mayor, five members of the board of aldermen and a city marshal will be chosen. A great deal of interest is being manifested in the coming election, the consequence of which the people here paid more attention to the poll taxes than ever before.

By wards the poll taxes paid by whites, only, are as follows:

First Ward	826
Second "	495
Third "	436
Fourth "	315
Fifth "	516
Sixth "	828

Hon. T. H. Lewis who left for New Orleans on Monday, has been successfully operated upon. He however awaits there a second operation of a more serious nature. Mr. John W. Lewis, accompanying his wife, will leave Friday to join him.

DR. DOWLING GUEST OF PARISH MEDICOS

Annual Meeting of Parish Medical Society Brought to A Happy End with A Gorgeous Banquet.

The St. Landry Medical Society met at the Courthouse on January 15th, President Adams in the chair, Secretary Lafleur at his post and the following members present: Drs. Gardiner, Tarlton, R. M. and B. A. Littell, Saizan, Hollman, Foster, Fred Vidrine, Stubbs, Guillory and others.

Dr. E. M. Ellis, of Crowley, an honored invited guest read an elaborate paper on the medical and surgical treatment of appendicitis, its diagnosis, etc. This paper was discussed by Drs. Gardiner, R. M. Littell, Brown, Foster and Lafleur.

Dr. R. M. Littell moved that the incoming president, Dr. Brown, appoint a committee on sanitarium, making the startling announcement that thirty thousand dollars left the parish last year that might have been retained here, if a properly equipped and conducted sanitarium had been established in Opelousas; the sanitarium proposition was discussed by all the doctors present, especially by Dr. Ellis, who had great experience in their management.

The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas a suit for damages has been instituted against a distinguished surgeon from our neighboring town of Crowley, whose ability can be vouched for by every member of this Society.

"Resolved, That without any intention of prejudicing this case that the St. Landry Medical Society extends to him its sympathy with an expression of confidence in the belief that he will be entirely vindicated by the courts."

Dr. Fred J. Mayer, president of the state medical society, and Dr. Oscar Dowling, president of the state board of health, were present. Dr. Mayer participated in the discussions; made a plea for better medical organization and outlined the program for the next state meeting in April, declaring that it would be a red letter meeting; that already

they are assured of the presence of Dr. Marvin L. Graves, president of the Texas medical society who will deliver the oration on medicine and Dr. Fischer, Cincinnati, one of the ablest of the western medicos.

At 7:30 the court house was filled by an appreciative audience. Dr. Dowling delivered a masterly address, on state medicine, which was intently listened to, and for which he was accorded a rising vote of thanks.

Dr. Mayer who was billed for an address said that in view of the lateness of the hour and the fact that there was to be an important committee meeting at the Lacombe, wherein ladies would be accorded a vote that he would forego the opportunity of speaking so as to reach the next number on the program, a very able paper by Dr. Paul Foster, on the family physician and his relation to the public, which the doctor handled in his usual chaste and classic style.

The committee meeting at the Lacombe turned out to be a gorgeous banquet of forty covers, as "Mine Host" Cretin outdid himself; the decorations and the flowers were so superb that Dr. Dowling expressed a wish for a flash light photograph. But it was found that the brilliance of the ladies' eyes constricted the calcium lights and it was impossible to obtain the desired chromo.

Dr. Mayer was elected toastmaster and by 11:30 o'clock had extracted a toast from a score of speakers, male and female, medical and lay, including the guests of honor, Drs. Dowling and Ellis, the outgoing president and the incoming one, Dr. Brown and the latter's eloquent and witty wife, Dr. M. L. Swords, Drs. Schell of the Canal and Tom McCaffery of Washington, B. C. The banquet adjourned at a late hour, immensely pleased at the success of the evening. Opelousas' sister town, Washington should be congratulated upon capturing the medical honors.

C. L. HAYES TO SERVE AS MARSHAL

Mr. Hayes Has No Opposition in Race for Re-election.

City tax collector and city marshal Clarence L. Hayes will have an easy time to be re-elected marshal of this city for the seventh consecutive time. He has no opposition, thus far, and there is very little chance that any one will go into the race against the city marshal.

Mr. Hayes has been in city politics for over twelve years and each time he went before the public for the office of marshal was elected by very flattering votes. He is the only member of the present city administration who has been connected with the city affairs for twelve years, and he is the only one who has what one would call a "cinch" for re-election.

Citizens of Opelousas know Mr. Hayes as one of the most accommodating and reliable officials in the city. He is always ready to render a service to any one, no matter if it is to a political enemy. Always polite and full of energy Mr. Hayes has been found in the course of twelve years the hardest man to defeat in Opelousas. His would-be political enemies have given up the battle and Mr. Hayes is a sure winner in the February election.

RUDOLPH BODEMULLER DEPARTS FOR SPAIN

Will Be Connected With The Pearson Engineering Corporation.

Mr. H. R. Bodemuller, after an extended visit of three months to his parents and friends at his old home, left on Thursday morning for New York City, from whence he will sail on the 20th, for Barcelona, Spain, where he will be employed in electrical construction work for the Pearson Engineering Corporation of New York City. Mr. Bodemuller spent nearly three years in Mexico, the greater portion of which was at Necaxa, in the employ of the Mexican Light and Power Co., at their hydro-electric plant, one of the largest power plants in the world. This plant is owned by the Pearson Engineering Corporation, and the work he will be engaged in at Barcelona will be the construction of a similar plant.

Mr. Bodemuller wishes to thank his old friends and acquaintances, as well as the many new ones he made while here, for the numerous courtesies and evidences of appreciation bestowed upon him. While he leaves on a business mission, he considers it also as another step towards the fulfillment of a long-cherished ambition to "see something of the world."

The Clarion joins his many friends in wishing him bon voyage on his trip across the "big pond."