

# The St. Landry Clarion

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If the above appears on the address of your paper it means that your subscription expires Feb. 1, 1914. Subscriptions are discontinued promptly on date of expiration.

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### THE BARROMEAN.

The Barromean, a college magazine, edited by the students of St. Charles College, made its first appearance during the holidays. The interesting periodical is indeed a source of pride, not only to the student body, but also to the faculty and friends of the venerable old institution. It is, without doubt, one of the finest college magazines ever gotten out by any college or university in the South.

### THE DEMOCRACY.

Now that the Wilson administration has passed the Currency and the tariff Bills, the problem which confronts the Democracy is Rural Credits, and the final breaking up of the Trusts. When this will have been done and the Mexican war brought to a successful end, to which all indications now point, since the Finance Secretary has resigned on account of the Huerta Government being unable to pay off the interest on its bonded debts, the Democracy will have a lease on the political affairs of the United States for the next twenty-five years, at least, and Woodrow Wilson will be proclaimed the greatest of presidents.

### NEW ORLEANS AND DIVORCE.

Gee, whiz, just think of it, New Orleans has a record of one divorce for every four marriages contracted during the year 1913! What a record! Why, Chicago, which place has the honor of being termed "The hell on earth!" had a record of only one divorce to every seven marriages, New York one to every twenty.

New Orleans people had better stick together when they decide to get-together. Perhaps the Crescent City might get the unenviable reputation of Reno, Nevada, since the laws of that state are more severe on the would-be-separators from "bed and board," than heretofore.

It's a good thing that Opelousas and other such peaceful communities can offset the New Orleans record, thereby showing that Louisiana people, in general, are not inclined to divorce.

### WALTERS WILL HAVE FAIR TRIAL.

It is ridiculous on the part of one to even suggest that W. C. Walters, alleged kidnapper of Bobbie Dunbar, should obtain a change of venue. The Clarion feels certain that he will get as fair a trial in Opelousas as he would in the most competent court in the country. The people here are law-abiding citizens and would not take it into their own hands to string up Walters, as people in other sections of the United States might do under the circumstances.

If Walters is guilty of the crime of kidnapping there is but one sentence to be imposed upon him and that is death. If he is not guilty he will certainly not be molested by the citizens of Opelousas.

In justice to the people of Opelousas the Clarion does not see why Walters should not be tried in the very home of Bobbie Dunbar, whom Walters is alleged to have stolen from Swayze lake over a year ago. No one here wants the itinerant's scalp for the fun of it. There are no savages here and Walters will be meted out with justice from the very time the case is begun until the jury will have rendered its verdict.

To work all night for \$4 and run the risk of landing in the penitentiary for a few years is somewhat of a job. But some burglars performed this feat right in the city co-operation last week. They were disappointed at one place and at the other place secured only a few paltry dollars. These men would no doubt do better on a farm, working for the state than looting citizens of Opelousas.

### PARISH HEALTH OFFICERS.

The officers of the parish board of health are to be congratulated for their work throughout the parish, in improving the sanitary condition of St. Landry. At Lewisburg, where there were several cases of small pox recently President Lastrapes immediately attended to these cases and took precautions that the disease should not spread, especially among the school children. During the week nearly all of the school children were vaccinated and now the country around Lewisburg has been assured that there is no longer any danger.

It must be gratifying to the state board of health, especially, to learn that the officers in St. Landry are doing their duty. It is also gratifying to the public that the men connected with the parish board of health are endeavoring to do what is right towards the people of St. Landry.

### SOME SOUTHWESTERN REFLECTIONS.

Too many of us put the emphasis at the wrong point: fritter time and money on things of little value, while the world surges with big things all about us. The test of every project that offers should be its worth-whileness.

That is the test we wish you to apply to the Southwestern Louisiana Louisiana Development Bureau. Do you think it is worth while? The test is simple and unmistakable.

Can thirteen parishes working separately put the power behind any movement that can be placed behind it by thirteen parishes with the strength of all united as one? In the parish of Lafayette a small band of farmers have organized for the purpose of planting each a few acres of Irish potatoes, the aggregate being several acres. They are to plant at the same time, cultivate, harvest and sell their crop together and, by acting in harmony throughout, they expect to command the attention of the buyers and get better prices for their crop than they could hope to get should each farmer proceed "on his own hook." And they will do better.

Conducted on a large scale, with the farmers of the thirteen parishes co-operating along all the agricultural lines including dairying, live stock breeding and boosting roads, drainage, better marketing facilities, better homes, more farms, better agricultural and closer co-operation, the result can scarcely be overstated.

Is it worth the while to do these things? Is it worth while to manifest pride? Is it worth while to make this section hum with busy life and throb with potential activities? If you believe this, come and cast your lot with the men who are backing their faith in their home section with their money, their brains, and their active efforts.

Put your enthusiasm and all the power of co-operation effort behind Southwest Louisiana Development Bureau, and we will soon make it the greatest section on this planet.

The editor of the Clarion received a small package from St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, this week, which contained a sample of the strawberries being raised at that place. The berries are without doubt the finest ever seen in this section of Louisiana, and the fact that they have ripened so early in the season goes to show that this parish can raise practically anything worth the trouble at any time of the year.

If the farmers here would devote a little of their time, in the winter months, when the lands lay idle, a great quantity of this food commodity could be used here, without having to import same from other sections of this country, besides several tons could easily be shipped into other states.

Every one here knows that the farm lands in St. Landry bear practically nothing in the winter months, for the simple reason that they are not worked. Various winter plants could be cultivated with success, whilst the farmers are waiting for the time to plant their cotton, corn or rice. Why not try strawberries, for instance, and see if we cannot succeed as well as the Jesuit fathers, at Grand Coteau?

Opelousas has seldom ever been blessed with such good weather as it has been experiencing during the last two weeks. "After rain sunshine," and judging from present conditions the people here would not mind a rain once in a while if they were to be treated with such a galore of "Indian Summer."

Hon. Amos Ponder, of Tangipahoa, is being mentioned by his friends, throughout the state, as a candidate for Governor in 1916. Mr. Ponder was the legal advisor of the Conservation Commission during the term of Governor Jared Sanders, and there is no doubt that the gentleman from Tangipahoa will get a strong backing, in case that he should be a candidate for Governor Hall's place.

The farmers of St. Landry have gone back to tilling the soil and the drawbacks which they experienced during the harvesting season has made them resolve that the earlier they start the better it will be for

them. More precautions will be taken, we are sure, against the inclement weather than last year, and St. Landry farmers will be careful to keep a hold to what they will have in the fields next Fall and not let old Jupiter Pluvius grab it all away, again.

Editor Clarion:

Will you please do me the favor to give space in your paper to the accompanying clipping from The Shreveport Journal which article the said journal had clipped, as you will see, from the National Liquor Dealers' Journal. The admissions therein made are significant and furnish food for reflection.

Yours truly,

P. FOSTER, M. D.

### A TRIAL THAT CANNOT BE POSTPONED.

The National Liquor Dealers' Journal, in a recent leading editorial under the caption "Make Your case ready for Court," had the following:

It is always best for normal people to look at things as they are, reality may be obscured to the sick or feeble-minded in certain circumstances, but deception is a poor evidence of friendship, partisanship with blinded eyes only leads the way to ruin, and self-deception is the worst of all.

Let us look at things as they are and in face of the enemy dare to consider and concede his strength. Knowing his plan of battle we can better arrange our forces for his defeat. Rightly estimating his strength we can better provide to meet it.

The prohibition fight henceforth will be nation-wide; and contemplates writing into the national constitution a prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic beverages. To accomplish this result will require the ratification of thirty-six out of forty-eight states of the Union.

Of these nine are already in line through state prohibition—Maine, Kansas, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia. The last five have been added within a period of six years.

In addition to these there are eighteen states in which a majority of the people live in territory made dry by local option, and in which we may be assured prohibition sentiment predominates.

If the people in these states who are opposed to the liquor traffic demand it, their legislatures will undoubtedly ratify a national amendment.

The most influential argument against prohibition is that it is not effective; that "prohibition don't prohibit."

This is not basic or moral, the fact of failure to enforce is no argument against even the expediency, much less against the moral issue involved.

Ultimately all questions must be settled by moral standards; only in this way can mankind be saved from self-effacement. The liquor traffic cannot save itself by declaring that government is incapable of coping with the problem which it presents; when the people decide that it must go, it will be banished.

We are not discussing the benefit or justice of prohibition; but its possibility, and probability in present circumstances.

To us there is, "the handwriting on the wall," and its interpretation spells doom.

For this the liquor business is to blame, it seems incapable of learning any lesson of advancement, or any motive but profit.

To perpetuate itself, it has formed alliances with the slums that repel all conscientious and patriotic citizens.

It deliberately aids the most corrupt political powers, and backs with all of its resources the most unworthy men, the most corrupt and recreant officials. It does not aid the purification of municipal, state or national administration.

Why? Because it has to ask immunity for its own lawlessness.

That this condition is inherently and inevitably necessary we do not believe, but it has come to be a fact, and the public which is to pass on the matter in its final analysis, believe anything bad that anybody can tell it of the liquor business.

Why? Let the leaders of the trade answer.

Other lines of trade may be as bad or even worse, but it is not so plainly in evidence.

The case of the liquor traffic is called for adjudication by the American people and must be ready for trial.

Other cases may be called later but the one before the court cannot be postponed, but as in the past, the men most concerned are playing for postponement, not for acquittal. Is it because they fear the weakness of their defense that they fear to go on trial?

Looking the facts in the face is best.

There are billions of property involved, and an industry of great employing and tax-paying ability; but when the people decide that the truth is being told about the alcoholic liquor trade, the money value will not count, for conscience aroused puts the value of a man above all other things.

The writer believes that prohibition is theoretically wrong, but he knows that theories however well substantiated, may be overthrown by conditions, as has often been done in the world's history.

In this country we have recently swept aside one of the fundamental theories of the framers of our constitution in going from representative to direct government, we are on the verge of universal instead of male suffrage, and there is a spirit abroad which reckles little of tradition, of precedent, or of vested rights; and of liberty used licentiously and destructively it will work short shift.

Prepare the defense, friends, make your case ready for the court, the trial cannot be postponed.

### The Mayor in a Plittable Attitude.

Opelousas, Jan. 14, 1914.

Mr. Editor:

What purports to be an "answer" to the charges which I made in your paper of the 3d instant against Mayor Loeb and which is signed by him but evidently written by somebody else, appears in your last issue. It is certainly a very queer, a very singular "answer", inasmuch as it does not refer to or attempt to deny a SINGLE ONE of the damning charges I clearly and specifically made against him. He dodges every one of them; but he takes up nearly one and a half columns of your paper in an attempt to show that my criticism of his official record was prompted solely by my resentment toward him (growing out of a matter which he should blush to even mention)—apparently thinking, poor fellow, that if he could establish that silly claim all of his hideous public record would thereby be wiped out!

But it is not Mr. Sandoz, the private citizen, who stands arraigned at the bar of public opinion. He is not on trial. It is Mayor Loeb, the public official. And I do not propose to allow him to dodge the scathing indictment I have leveled at him and follow him in the discussion of private matters; although I am sorely tempted to expose seriatim the unfair and untruthful statements, the offensive personalities and contemptible insinuations with which this so-called "answer" bristles. One, however, I cannot pass over in silence, and that is the transparently false and insincere statements intended to make people believe that I used a NOM DE PLUME in order to conceal my identity, when everybody in the community knew as soon as they set eyes on it that it was I who had written it—knew it because of my long record of protest against misgovernment and misrule. As a matter of fact, my name was signed on the last page, as an evidence of good faith, and all Loeb's silly twaddle about "unclanking" the author is therefore the veriest rot.

But whether Mr. Sandoz had a just claim against the city for land, for an equal amount of which it had just paid other citizens over \$600, is not the question. The question is, is Loeb, the public official, guilty of the charges I made against him? Did he not, as a candidate for Alderman, in 1910, declaim against the excessive cost of the city government and the largely inflated salaries? Did he not, as Alderman, in May, 1910, vote to fix the Mayor's salary at \$600 and then, a few days after, have the minutes corrected to show that \$400 was the figure he had voted for? Did he not then vote to fix the salary of the Street Commissioner at \$600? Did he not, in 1912, when a candidate for Mayor, again declare his platform to be retrenchment in our excessively costly system and that the Mayor's salary should not exceed \$400 nor the Street Commissioner's \$300? Yes, emphatically yes. And as soon as he took his seat as Mayor, in 1912, and his salary was raised to \$750 and the Street Commissioner's to \$900, did he again raise his voice in protest, did he again burden the minutes with "explanations," "vetoes" and oily asseverations that he was "representing the people and not candidates"?

Ah, no. The reform idol had feet of clay, and at the sight of the flesh pots it fell shattered to the ground!

Such, fellow-citizens, is Loeb's official record. Can it be more fitly characterized than as one of "flagrant and atrocious turpitude"? Can any self-respecting man among you afford to endorse by your vote such a record? Can any rich man, whose interests are bound up in this community, afford to let the news go out that we have chosen such a man as our chief official? Can any poor man, whose sole jewels are his children, those precious offshoots of his being into whose minds he hopes to instill high ideals or at least the principles of common honesty and right living, afford to let

them look upon the spectacle of such a man, though caught red-handed with the spoils of a shamefully tortuous course in his possession, getting away triumphantly with the same, and going unrebuked and unpunished? I do hope not.

Now, Mr. Editor, I hope you will find room this week for the article I left at your office last week, in which I made a correction in my previous article and stated EN PASSANT that I and others proposed in future issues of your paper to show the emptiness of the claims of Loeb and his friends to his boasted business abilities. I authorize you to affix my name to it; though, as I have already explained, that is unnecessary.

That article, together with this, should not occupy much more than a column if set in solid brief, and if you decide to use that type I shall not complain.

L. A. SANDOZ.

(Advertisement)

### A Correction.

Opelousas, La., Jan. 7, 1914. Mr. Editor: In the communication that you kindly published last week, in which I attempted to show that Loeb is not a fit man for mayor, the following paragraph which contains a grave error, appears:

Four years ago, when Loeb began to take interest in municipal affairs, he was emphatic in his demand for a reduction of salaries and a decrease in the still excessive cost of our city government. He then announced for Mayor and was elected. At the first meeting of the new Board, in May, 1910, the Mayor's salary, which four years before had been boosted to one thousand dollars, was unanimously fixed at six hundred. The salary of the Street Commissioner, which had been boosted to the same outrageous figure, was fixed at \$65 per month despite a substitute offered by Loeb that it be fixed at \$50. The Clerk's salary was fixed at \$900, despite a substitute offered by Loeb that it be fixed at \$600. So that, in some degree, he was carrying out some of his campaign promises, although the Marshal's \$720 salary and excessive fees as well as other abuses, were not touched.

The error consists in the statement: "He then announced for Mayor and was elected." It should have read: "He then announced for Alderman."

The error was mine, however—a mere oversight—as you strictly followed the copy. But everybody knows that Loeb was elected Mayor only once—in 1912, not 1910. It was not therefore as Mayor that he made the record briefly outlined in the paragraph quoted above, but as Alderman. In 1910, when he was Alderman, he seemed to think that \$600—even \$400—for the Mayor and \$600—even \$300—for the Street Commissioner was enough. In 1912, when he became Mayor, that official's salary went up to \$750 and the Street Commissioner's to \$900, and nobody's salary, as far as I know, went down. The people can form their own conclusions—and see for themselves now brazenly they have been buncoed.

As to Loeb's business abilities, which he has so loudly boasted of, I (and others) propose to show in future issues how hollow, false and empty are his claims in that respect.

L. A. SANDOZ.

### We Are Judged by Our Schools

That a community is judged by its schools and school houses is shown by the following from the Country Review. The better the schools, the more favorable the impression made upon the outside world.

The Country Review says:

"It hasn't been so very long since a distinguished public lecturer, passing through Louisiana, observed that a sad condition of the public morals was bespoken where a people were content to have their prisons represent a better type of architecture than their school houses. At one time that came pretty nearly picturing the situation existing in many sections of the South. Here and there it may be true still, but to the credit of the people be it said that the

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description fits but few town in Louisiana to-day.

"With the voting down in 1904, of the proposition to authorize an interest-bearing bonded debt of one million dollars to run for fifty years, to be devoted to the construction of public school buildings, and era of school building began and has never lagged. By their action in voting down the long State debt the people indicated their wise conclusion that educational provisions that do not come directly from the people and are not backed up by them in each separate community, is not the vital kind; that the best way, and the only way, to induce the people of a community to become interested in proper school buildings is to put upon them the responsibility and expense of building them and, in part at least, of maintaining them."

### Special Song Service at Presbyterian Church

There will be preaching at the Presbyterian Church the third Sabbath, Jan. 18th, at 11 o'clock, and at 7:30 that evening there will be a special song service. This will be an especially interesting service for quite a number of the best singers of Opelousas are arranging this programme and it is Pastor Tomb's desire that all the people of Opelousas attend this service.

The program is as follows: Anthem, Mozart. Numbers from the different church choirs.

Solo, "I Come to Thee," Miss Richard.

Duet, "Abide with Me," Mrs. Jordan and Miss Meginley.

Solo, "My Redeemer and My Lord," Mrs. Stewart.

Solo, "So I Can Wait," Miss Meginley.

Solo, Selected, Mrs. Nolan. Accompanists: Mrs. Dejean, Messrs. White, Bercier and Sandoz.

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# PATENTS

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