

# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

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## ST. LANDRY JURORS VOTE TO BUY BOAT

Steps to Be Taken to Ultimately Perfect Mammoth Drainage Project

## NO FIGHT WAGED ON GOURNAY RESOLUTION.

Will Rent Boat to Drainage Districts Thus Reducing Cost of Work and Making District Pay for Boat

The parish has a dredge boat. Many of the foremost citizens of St. Landry claim that in passing Mr. Gournay's resolution, empowering the president of the police jury to purchase the Marlon dredge boat, which is now on the Lestraps plantation, the jurors made a move in the right direction.

It was thought that a stubborn fight would be made by some of the jurors against this resolution, but before the people in the lobby of the police jury room could be given an inkling into the proposed battle, the newly commissioned member, Sam Evans, moved that the jurors go into executive session. Behind closed doors the jurors agreed to purchase this boat, which means a great deal towards the development of this country. Brown, voted for the motion, after the entire proposition was thrashed out in the executive session.

It was known for some time that the police jury would consider the proposal of the Marlon Dredge Boat Co., but the ultimate result could not be figured out although the adherents of the dredge boat proposition did not stand idly by, while the jurors were figuring on the scheme. Every police juror was urged to be present at the meeting Monday afternoon and after discussing the matter over with the majority of the members the supporters of the Gournay resolution felt assured that they would come out victorious.

It is proposed to rent this boat at a very nominal cost to the various districts desirous of dredging bayous. In this manner, it is used that the parish will find it paid for the money expended on this boat, and at the same time the districts will see good substantial drainage at cost never dreamed of in this parish. It is stated that this boat will do drainage work at the rate of about four cents a cubic yard, at twice less than would have to be given a contractor.

The price of the boat was placed at eleven thousand dollar. The parish paying two thousand cash, the rest in three years. By the time the boat is fully paid in the taxpayers of St. Landry will have saved enough from the cost of keeping up poorly drained land to pay for a dozen or more boats of this kind. If the drainage scheme in the various sections of the parish work out successfully it is expected that within the next three or four years St. Landry will be one of the best drained sections of the entire state.

Several districts are now planning to use the boat and it is rumored that during the next twelve months at least two or three districts will vote on the proposition of taxing themselves so as to effect good drainage with the parish dredge boat.

## YOUNG CLARY TO BE TAKEN BACK.

Dr. Buster A. Little and Albert Clary will leave for Crowley this afternoon for the purpose of accompanying young John Clary back to Opelousas. The Clary youth was taken to Crowley several weeks ago, when it developed that the local physician could not relieve him of a sore leg. He was successfully operated on at the Crowley Sanitarium and after being minus six inches of bone off his leg, the popular young school boy will return to his home with the best wishes of his countless friends for a speedy recovery.

## ELKS ELECT HOLLIER HEAD OF ORDER HERE

Mornhinveg, Larcade and Campbell In Their Same Position.

## BILLIES TREAT LADY FRIENDS TO BANQUET.

Elks Home Scene of Jolly Gathering of the Billies and Their Sweethearts for Annual Banquet.

At the last regular meeting of the local lodge B. P. O. E. 1142, the annual election of officers took place, resulting in the election of Fred Hollier, Exalted Ruler. Mr. Hollier has been a member of the Elks for a number of years and his friends honored him with the position of chief executive, because of the interest taken in the lodge, since being a member. Lorenzo Mornhinveg, A. S. J. Campbell and H. D. Larcade, Jr., were once more elected to their positions, which they have been holding with credit a number of years.

Following is the official roster of the Elks for the ensuing year: F. F. Hollier, Exalted Ruler; D. L. Guilbeau, Leading Knight; Louis White, Loyal Knight; F. Cliff, Allen, Lecturing Knight; H. D. Larcade, Jr., Treasurer; L. H. Mornhinveg, Secretary; A. S. J. Campbell, Tiler; Dr. J. A. Shaw, representative to the grand lodge; alternate, L. J. Larcade, 3 year trustee, J. G. Lawler.

## SOUTH TO RECEIVE MILLION IN WAR CLAIMS.

The South will receive over one million dollars from the United States Government in civil war claims. Louisiana claimants many of whom are from St. Landry, will benefit to the extent of \$291,383.

One feature of the passage of the claims bill in the United States Senate is a provision forbidding the collection of more than 20 per cent of the total by the attorney. Imprisonment and a fine of \$1000 is the penalty for violating this provision. Most attorneys are on a 50 per cent basis.

Flack Lemelle, administrator of the estate of Lemelle, \$845.

Mariene Lemelle, administratrix of the estate of Rigobert Lemelle, \$1406.

Rosa Brown, now Mrs. Simon Levy, and Miss May Brown, each \$1725.

the estate of Jean Louis Malveau, \$376.

Alphonse Meullon, \$245.

Jules Malveau, administrator, Marie Josephine La Sasser, administratrix of the estate of Francois Meullon, \$2810.

Aurora Deckerlegan, administrator estate Lucien Melien, \$200-g

## RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

Willow Camp No. 47, W. O. W.

Opelousas, La., Feb. 25, 1915. Whereas, It has pleased the Sovereign Commander of the Universe to remove from the Forest of Woodcraft our esteemed brother chopper, Walton A. Sandoz; and

Whereas, In the death of Sovereign Sandoz, Willow Camp No. 47, W. O. W., has lost one of its oldest and most honored members; his family a kind and devoted husband and father, and the community one of its most exemplary citizens;

Therefore, Be it Resolved, That we tender to the family of our deceased Sovereign our heartfelt sympathy in their hour of sorrow and affliction, and commend them to the care of Him who doeth all things well. May they gain consolation and comfort the blessed assurance that his passage, through the valley of death, is but the entrance of his immortal soul into that life eternal beyond the grave, where peace and happiness reign supreme.

Be it Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Camp; that a copy of same be sent to the family of the deceased, and that they be published in the St. Landry Clarion.

E. LEE GIL,  
H. BODEMULLER,  
LEON S. HAAS,  
Committee.

## COUNTRY RECEIVES SAME AS THE TOWNS

Superintendent Says Board Does Not Discriminate

## TOWNS RAISE MONEY TO OPERATE SCHOOLS.

Mr. Thompson Points to Lack of Co-Operation Between Rural Schools.

Opelousas, La., March 3rd, 1915. Editor St. Landry Clarion: In the last issue of your paper, under the caption Six Months School, while gave expression to some thoughts in this connection which were of some value and worthy of consideration, you spoiled the good effects of those utterances by the statement that the farmer and country patrons of the school were discriminated against in the length of the school session and the distribution of the school funds. At least, this is the unavoidable inference that one would arrive at on the perusal of your article in question. In your editorial the following language is used, in its closing paragraph:

"The farmer is the one suffering and he is the one who pays a large portion of the school tax. Why can't we give them as much schooling as the town fellows? Why dog the farmer all the time, he is the sinew of the country and without him we cannot live. Something must be done to eliminate this disgrace of six months school and should be done immediately."

Now Mr. Editor, if what you assert were true, there would be perhaps, grounds for condemnation of the way that the country people are treated in the distribution of the school funds and the shortness of the school session resulting from this discriminatory method of apportionment, but such is not the case, and the statement is not borne out by the facts in the school records of the parish.

It is solely within the province of the School Board to establish the school, to limit their number, to fix the salaries of the teachers and to elect the teachers, though such teachers as are nominated by the Superintendent are generally but not necessarily elected as the board has a right to reject the nominations.

The amount of money to be spent in the maintenance of the schools is determined by the budget committee of the board after the recommendations of said committee by the School Board.

If you will take the trouble to look over the files of your paper, you will find that the finance or budget committee first made a budget of estimated revenues, which was published in the St. Landry Clarion on last July. You will furthermore find that within ten days after the publication of this budget of estimated revenues the Board was re-convened and adopted a budget of expenditures. Among the items in this budget of expenditures, you will find that the sum of \$49,500.00 was appropriated for the pay of teachers in the public schools of this parish for six months. No discrimination was made in favor of the town schools, but all schools, city or country, white and colored were to have a six months term. It is true that the schools in the town generally have a longer session, but the extension is paid for with money appropriated by the towns for this purpose and does not come from the general school funds of the parish. The same course is open to any country locality which might choose to avail itself of it. This condition of short school terms is likely to endure until the people determine to take some step to remedy it.

Now, Mr. Editor, I highly appreciate the sentiment expressed by you when you state that something must be done and done at once to relieve this condition, and ask for a man to come forward who can solve the question of maintaining the public schools. I think that the suggestions has already been made, and if it had been adopted last year when it went before the people for ratification, there would not be now any shortage in the needful length of session.

The only solution of the question of a deficiency in the public schools funds lies with the people. All the money given for the maintenance of the public school system comes from the people through some form of taxation, and in order that this system may become more elastic and responsive to the re-

## JUMPS ON RAILROAD FOR DAMMING BAYOU

Catlett Calls Attention of Jurors to Dam on Petit Prairie.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY TOLD TO FILE SUIT

Member from Fourth Ward Scores Texas & Pacific for Disregarding Order of Police Jury.

Police Juror K. T. Catlett of Rosa Station boldly asserted in the police jury room on last Monday evening that the Texas & Pacific railroad had no regard for the police jury or the people of St. Landry parish. "Last year we passed a resolution requesting the Texas & Pacific to remove a dam on the Bayou Petit Prairie, within ninety days, authorizing our district attorney to proceed to sue in the event that the railroad did not obey our bidding. We have waited three months on the railroad and nine months on the district attorney, and nothing has been accomplished in the way of relieving the tax payers in that section of my ward."

Mr. Catlett stated that the Texas & Pacific had placed two culverts in the bayou which would allow 54 square feet of water pass through it, but which was hundred square feet of water. This expected to carry off twenty-one consequence is that the water is backed up for several miles up the bayou, forcing many highlands to go under water.

That Mr. Catlett is determined to go after the railroad company which is so impudent as to disregard the wishes of the police jury as allowing such a dam to remain in one of the most important bayous in the northeastern section of St. Landry, is evident from the manner in which he spoke to the other members of the police jury here last Monday. He has the backing of all of his constituents and it is thought that the district attorney will file suit against the company within the next few days.

## ENTERTAIN IN HONOR OF SON'S BIRTHDAY.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Stelly, popular residents of the western portion of this city, entertained on last Friday evening in honor of their son, Kermit. The occasion proved to be a jolly birthday party, several young friends of Kermit being present to extend their felicitations upon his safe arrival at the age of five years.

live wants of the different communities, the legislature has enacted laws authorizing committees, school districts, etc., to tax themselves specially to certain limits to meet the deficiency and supplement the general school funds to the extent of meeting the educational requirements of such community. Most of the parishes in the state are now experiencing the condition which is confronting us to-day, but many of them have relieved it by voting special taxes for maintenance, equipment etc., and those that failed to do so are the ones that find themselves in the condition that we are placed in to-day. I know that the advocacy of the imposition of a tax for almost any purpose is not popular, but, I think that we should consider the benefit to be derived in connection with the cost, and if we, or the community at large, are to receive rewards entirely incommensurate with the inconvenience of the burden which it imposes, we should heartily consent to assume the burden. Isn't it a matter of mortification to our people to be classed in the statistics of this government as being the least in literacy and the first in lawlessness? Shall we always be contented to occupy this unenviable position, or shall we determine to make the proper efforts and begin right now, to emerge from and do all that we can do as parents and good citizens, to remove this stigma from the fair name of our people and state? I would advise that the good work begin at once and that each and every good citizen put his shoulder to the wheel and never stop pushing until the schools are all put on a self-sustaining and efficient basis.

Yours truly,  
C. J. THOMPSON.

## MEETING DISCUSS DRAINAGE PROJECT

Property-Holders to Draw Up Plans for Tax Campaign.

## TWO DISTRICTS ARE URGED BY SEVERAL.

Survey Will Be Made of Western Section to Ascertain Cost of Dredging Mallet and Plaquemine

There will be held a meeting in this city of property-holders of the first and sixth wards for the purpose of discussing ways and means of arriving at the best possible plan of draining the country lying west of Opelousas.

The committee, composed of Dr. Paul Foster and President Frank Dimmick, of the police jury, appointed to confer with police jurors of Acadia, recommended the formation of two separate drainage districts, so that the property draining in either bayou Mallet or bayou Plaquemine can be thoroughly drained. In this manner it is argued sufficient funds can be raised to dredge not only these two important bayous but all laterals leading to them.

The people west of Opelousas have been clamoring for drainage for some time and it is expected that if the tax proposition is put to them so that it can be agreeable to all concerned there will be practically no opposition to the measure.

It is understood that Acadia residents, near the parish line, are very anxious, also, to have a perfect drainage system. The Acadia police jury will therefore create a drainage district so that the good work can be continued down the line.

It will take sometime before the question of levying a tax can be placed before the people of the first and sixth wards, as a comprehensive survey of both districts will be required, so as to ascertain the approximate cost of the dredging of the bayous and laterals.

The meeting will be held in Opelousas, at which time it is expected that plans for the levying of sufficient money to use the parish dredge boat in that section will be arrived at. On this meeting no doubt, lies the success of the proposed tax election.

## BABIES AND MOTHERS

Babbies are bubbles God blows from the bloom

That grows in a garden of dainty perfume!

They flutter a moment then fall in a nest

Some mother has made in the deeps of her breast.

They cling and she clasps them, and that is the way

They like to remain and she likes them to stay,

Till far off in summers our eyes may not see,

They burst into manhood and dream they are free!

—Baltimore Sun.

## DR. SHAW GOING TO TEXAS

Dr. J. Shaw a prominent dentist, who has been residing in Opelousas for the last several years, has been compelled to leave Opelousas for his health, and will locate in Waco, Texas.

It will be remembered that Dr. Shaw was the one who gave the present mayor of the city, Edward L. Loeb, such a close race in the municipal election two years ago. The close race made by Dr. Shaw proves conclusively his popularity in this city.

The many friends of the promising young dentist wish him and his pretty wife God-speed.

## HOME GROWN HOG

Mr. Alexandre Stelly, a citizen of Notleyville and a progressive farmer has been raising hogs for the year which are the pride of his neighborhood. Last week Mr. Stelly killed a hog which tipped the scale to the tune of 875 pounds, netting 576 pounds and giving 45 gallons of lard. This hog is of the Polan China type and was four years old. Mr. Stelly raised this hog and claims that it cost him very little to make him produce so much fat and flesh.

## JURY URGE LAWLER FOR STATE POSITION

Resolution Supporting Opelousas Man for Agricultural Com.

## BRUNER WILL HAVE A STRONG OPPONENT.

Friends of Mr. Lawler Throughout the State Are Encouraging Him to Make the Race.

Immediately following the adjournment of the police jury of the Parish of St. Landry Tuesday, the members held an informal and purely non-official meeting and unanimously passed the following resolution:

Whereas, our fellow-citizen, Jos. G. Lawler, is being urged by a number of his friends to become a candidate for Commissioner of agriculture and immigration, his ability and wide acquaintanceship with the needs of the State of Louisiana will fit him to fill this position.

Therefore, be it resolved, That this informal meeting of the undersigned hereby urge the said Lawler to announce his candidacy for the said position, and should he do so we take this means of commending him to the agricultural and business of the State.

Be it further resolved, That in our opinion, his experience as a practical farmer, his thorough knowledge of the resources and needs of the state and his known honesty and integrity pre-eminently qualify him to fill this important position.

Mr. Lawler has been mentioned as a probable candidate against E. O. Bruner and from indications over the state it is probable that the Opelousas man will announce his candidacy for Commissioner of Agriculture. His friends throughout the state are besieging him with letters, demanding that he make the race.

It is stated that St. Landry will line up practically solid behind the candidacy of Mr. Lawler, as this parish is very anxious to have one of its citizens in the chair, which means much to the agricultural development of this state.

## In Memory of Mother

Like a beautiful dove, she has flown,  
to the great beyond to join her Maker  
and other loved ones, who were waiting  
with out-stretched arms to greet her  
Oh, God! how we loved her; she was so  
pure and noble—how often has her  
gentle voice healed the heart that asked  
with pain—she was always ready to  
help those who needed her.

O Lord, have mercy upon us Give  
us more strength to bear our loss, we  
who are now suffering—for she is a  
jewel in heaven.

What a dear patient sufferer she  
was—not a murmur did she ever give—  
but always had that same sweet smile  
and word for us all.

She is at rest.

Beautiful toiler, thy work all done,  
Beautiful soul into glory gone,  
Beautiful life with the crown now won,  
God giveth thee rest.

Rest from all sorrows and watching and  
fears;

Rest from all possible sighing and  
tears;

Rest through God's endless wonderful  
years,

At home with the blest.

Beautiful spirit, free from all stain,  
Ours the heartache, the sorrow and  
pain,

Thine is the glory, and infinite gain.  
Thy slumber is sweet,  
Peace on the brow, and the eyelids so  
calm,

Peace in the heart, neath the white  
folded palms;

Peace dropping down, like a wonderful  
lalm,

From the heart to the feet.

"It was so sudden," our white lips said;  
How we will miss her—our beautiful  
dead;

Who takes the place of the precious one  
fled?

But God knoweth best.

We know He watches the sparrows that  
fall;

Hears the sad cry of the grieved  
hearts that call—  
Friends—husband—children,  
He loveth them all.

## CATHOLICS TO PLAN CHURCH COMPLETION

Mass Meeting to Be Held March 4th to Raise Additional Funds.

## EDIFICE NUMBERED AMONG STATE'S BEST.

All White Catholics Requested to Meet at Knight's of Columbus Hall on Sunday, March 14th.

The Committee invited to meet last Sunday afternoon to discuss the ways and means for providing the necessary funds to complete the interior of the Catholic Church here, took up the subject earnestly, discussing several plans for raising funds. The consensus of opinion was that if the congregation would work harmoniously that the desired result could be accomplished with facility and without much delay. All agreed that the interior of the church should be plastered and a heating apparatus installed as soon as possible and pledged themselves to do this most necessary work.

Rev. Engberink, the pastor, was present and expressed his grateful appreciation of the efforts so far made in this direction and stated that he fully approved the idea of completing the interior of the Church. He said he had not pressed the matter upon the congregation before because of the fact that financial conditions had not been as favorable as could be desired but he believed the time had come to make a start in the accomplishment of this much needed improvement of the Church. He referred in glowing terms to the work already accomplished by the ladies of the Altar Society, and said that at the rate that fund was growing the altars would be installed in about thirty months. He said he would be delighted to see the Church plastered by the necessary funds to pay or the altars had been provided.

The meeting decided that before adopting any particular plan for raising the required amount to complete the interior of the Church that the whole subject should be taken up at a general meeting of all the white Catholic men of the congregation. That meeting was fixed for Sunday afternoon, March 14th, at 4 o'clock, and it was decided to hold the meeting at the Knights of Columbus, Home It participate in this meeting and aid in his important work. It is desired that a large number join that a plan can be adopted which will insure that the funds can be raised within a short time, and that this can be accomplished without being burdensome to anyone.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE ORGANIZED.

The Opelousas School Improvement Association was permanently organized on last Friday night at 8 o'clock, with Dr. R. M. Littell as president; Mrs. Harvey, vice-president; Dr. A. J. Perrault, secretary and Will T. Stewart, Treasurer. A governing board was provided for, to consist of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and the principal of the Opelousas High School. A committee on charter and by-laws was provided for, with Hon. J. W. Lewis, as chairman, who is to select two assistants. There will also be a committee on membership to be composed of eight ladies and four men.

The association promises to be a success if as much enthusiasm is aroused over the permanent organization as was taken in the temporary association. Prominent citizens have taken active part in organizing this association, which will be the strong arm of the local public school and which will no doubt assist the faculty materially in providing comfort for the pupils.

A meeting of the association will be called within the next few days as soon as the committee on charter and by-laws will be ready to make its report.