

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXV—NO. 27.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1915.

\$1.00 PER YEAR

DRAINAGE COMMITTEE TO CONFER TUESDAY

Mallet to Be Represented at Important Meeting.

WILL DECIDE ON ONE OR MORE DISTRICTS

Judge Dejean Moves Adjournment of Plaquemine Committee So that Merging of Mallet Be Discussed.

A large delegation of representative men from Plaquemine Point, East and West, Bellevue and Mallet sections of this parish assembled at the offices of Little & Lawler in this city on Monday evening, for the purpose of discussing drainage with the committee from Plaquemine Point appointed by President Frank Dimmick at the April meeting of the police jury.

The initial plan was to organize the Bayou Plaquemine Drainage District, only embracing Plaquemine Point and a portion of Bellevue. The representatives from Mallet were so elated over the probabilities of eventually getting a substantial drainage system that they pleaded with the committee to defer action until they could ascertain from their people whether or not Mallet should join with Plaquemine Point and Bellevue in the formation of one large drainage district, by which means Bayou Bourgeois, Plaquemine and Mallet could be dredged out.

Judge A. W. Dejean of Plaquemine Point approved the plan of the Mallet representatives and moved that the meeting be adjourned and committees from Mallet and Bellevue be appointed for the purpose of discussing the proposition with the Plaquemine Point committee. Judge Dejean's motion was unanimously carried.

The following taxpayers were appointed to serve on the Mallet and Bellevue committees: For Mallet, Theogene Bertrand, N. Bertrand, Arthur Joubert, J. D. Bertrand, Sr., Terance Johnson, Ernest Franc, Fremant Dearbonne, Hildvere Carriere, Dr. Russel Chachere, Allen McCoy, Armas Moreau, Arthur Belard, Edgar P. Pitre, C. I. Bihm, Martin Andrepoint, Jr., Theo. C. Dejean, J. N. Andrepoint, A. E. Lafour, Arthur Prejean, For Bellevue: Josephus Brown, Eugene Richard, Sr., Pierre Cormier, J. B. Childs, Joseph Hidalgo, Ab. Bourleigh, Dr. L. Daly, Lee Wilson, Leon Levergne, Frank Dimmick, R. Lee Mills.

The meeting has been called to meet at the courthouse in this city on next Tuesday evening at one o'clock. It is expected that a large number of interested parties will be present for this all important conference, as the taxpayers are vitally interested in the dredging out of bayous Plaquemine, Mallet and Bourgeois.

Several of the most prominent taxpayers in Mallet claim that it would be best to have two separate and distinct drainage districts, as then Mallet would be sure to receive its portion of its taxes, sufficient to apply to Plaquemine Point; a dredge bayou Mallet. The same applies to Plaquemine Point; a large number of people there think it would be to the advantage of both sections to divide up the district since the board of commissioners would not have the power to prorate the funds. This question however, will prove of great interest at the meeting on next Tuesday, as it is for that purpose that committees have been appointed to meet the Plaquemine Point committee.

Judge Dejean, who is one of the leading taxpayers, as well as one of the most prominent citizens of the southern section of St. Landry, takes a broad view of the situation. He says "Whatever the people of Mallet will decide I am confident will be for the material benefit of both communities. Mallet and Plaquemine are like the same community, with a common cause and both are in dire need of drainage. I am confident that both Mallet and Plaquemine are in favor of voting a drainage tax and for that reason I believe that whether we form one large district or two distinct districts bayous Plaquemine and Mallet will be dredged out before many months."

A GOOD WARNING TO FARMERS

Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration O. E. Bruner, issues the following warning to the cotton farmers:

To the cotton farmers of Louisiana: I hope you will not be deceived by the little rise in cotton. This is generally the case when the time arrives to plant cotton.

We made the largest crop on record in 1914 and have a tremendous surplus now on hand, and just as soon as you have finished planting and your acreage is not materially reduced, the price will be tumbling and will continue to tumble until it strikes perhaps the 5 cents mark.

Don't be deceived, cut your acreage 50 per cent, and plant plenty of food stuffs and raise more cattle, hogs, sheep and mules, and then you can, with certainty, count on fifteen cents cotton.

CIVIC FAIR A SUCCESS.

The civic fair held at the Band Auditorium on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of last week, proved to be a great success in every way, except financially. Mr. Frederies, who engineered the scheme of starting a civic fair in Opelousas, showed the merchants of Opelousas a few things in the line of progressiveness. The young people of the city greatly enjoyed the social features of the fair and there is no doubt that should the fair be held semi-annually it would become to be one of the most popular occasions in the city.

One of Opelousas' most progressive merchants in speaking of the fair stated: "I am sorry to say that the merchants of this city did not all take advantage of this opportunity to exhibit their goods at the same time coming in closer touch with the people and the other merchants of Opelousas. I have had great success in exhibiting my goods at the fair, and I am sure that other merchants who patronized the fair had as much success as I."

OPELOUSAS SCHOOL TO RUN FULL TERM

Money Secured from Local Banks and School Will Continue.

MAINTENANCE TAX TO BE VOTED ON TUESDAY.

Thompson Says that Tax is Voted School Here Will No Longer Be Classed A High School.

When it was discovered that the parish school board treasury was depleted and funds for the continuance of the local high school were limited the city council, as is customary, authorized its head, Mayor Edward L. Loeb, to negotiate a loan for sufficient money to operate the high school the remainder of the term. The same bankers who came to the rescue of the Opelousas High School last year were again willing to let Mayor Loeb have the money. The patrons of the Opelousas High School are indebted to Mayor Loeb Dr. J. A. Haas, the St. Landry State Bank and the Opelousas National Bank.

In speaking of the shortage of maintenance funds and of the approaching school tax parish Superintendent Thompson said: "If the taxpayers of Opelousas should vote down this tax the Opelousas High School will no longer be classed as a high school by the state board of education. The city is no longer able to bear the brunt of the attack, and unless the tax is voted next year we will be compelled to close down this school after six months. Opelousas should not let Eunice, Melville and Washington be in the lead in education and that is just what will take place in the event that the taxpayers should turn down our proposition."

The school maintenance tax will come up on next Tuesday.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS SPEND DAY HERE.

Two members of the Louisiana Railroad Commission, with their secretary Mr. Jastrzemski, paid Opelousas a visit on Tuesday and were royally entertained by the citizens of this hospitable city. Commissioners Bridget and Taylor, in company with Superintendent Yoakum of the Frisco, Assistant Superintendent Wilson, A. D. Lightner, G. C. Cary and Mr. Butler made an official inspection of the road in Opelousas.

The commissioners wired Mayor Loeb at ten o'clock that they would arrive here at eleven, by which time automobiles were in waiting at the Frisco depot and a party of citizens took the distinguished visitors for a view of the city, after which they were given an informal reception at the Elks Home.

STATE SOUVENIR SPOONS.

The Clarion state souvenir spoons are being largely sought after by our many readers and a large number of subscribers are taking advantage of this opportunity to secure an assortment of state spoons. Through arrangement with the Jacobs News Depot Co. the Clarion is giving the nicest guaranteed state spoons to each person now subscribing, besides carrying a coupon in each issue of the paper. This coupon when clipped out and sent to Jacobs News Depot with fifteen cents entitles our subscribers to one spoon. This week, however, one coupon entitles the subscribers to two spoons, as the coupon was omitted in last week's issue of the Clarion. Readers can now obtain Georgia, Louisiana and Alabama spoons.

Subscribe to the Clarion to-day and start your collection of state souvenir spoons at once. It is not too late to make a start. One spoon given free for every subscription sent to Jacobs News Depot Co.

PAROCHIAL SCHOOL CELEBRATES JUBILEE

Scholars, Nuns and Priests Gather Under Oaks at Grand Coteau.

BOUQUET PRESENTED MISTRESS GENERAL.

Historical Catholic Parochial School Celebrates Its Twenty-First Year of Its Existence—Fair Successful.

Grand Coteau, La., April 12.—The Parochial School built in 1890 situated a good stone's throw northwest of the Catholic Church nestling beneath spreading oaks and taught by the Ladies of the Sacred Heart convent celebrated its silver jubilee Thursday of last week in an elaborate manner. A good number of old scholars and friends of the school, pupils of the Sacred Heart convent and several of the St. Charles College were present.

The members of the faculty of St. Charles College there on this occasion were: Very Rev. M. A. Grace, S. J., President; Rev. F. X. Twellmeyer, S. J., Vice-President; Rev. H. A. Devine, S. J., Secretary; Rev. E. J. Baehr, Treasurer; Rev. Paul Louvet, S. J., Rev. James Chamard, S. J., Rev. R. M. Brooks, S. J., Rev. Jas. Veau, S. J., and Rev. A. M. Fontan, S. J., Pastor and Rev. J. P. Moore, S. J., Assistant Pastor of the Sacred Heart Church. The following Religious of the Sacred Heart convent were also present: Rev. Mother Fitzwilliam, Superior; Mother T. C. Gough who was at the head of the Parochial School for the first twenty-five years, Mother Perry and Mother Tausin. An interesting program of songs, dialogue and recitations was well carried out. After which two old scholars Miss Genevieve Smith read an address in the name of the old scholars and Miss Leonie Barry presented a beautiful bouquet to Mother O'Connor, the mistress general of the Parochial School in which was a neat collection from the old scholars and Children of Mary amounting to nearly thirty dollars. After this Father Grace delivered a splendid talk in which he thanked the kind Ladies of the Sacred Heart in the name of the priest of the Church and College for the past twenty-five years. He also thanked the pupils for the nice entertainment.

A fair was then held under the beautiful oaks for the benefit of the school. Everything from beginning to end was a success both financially and otherwise. The Parochial School teachers are as follows: Mother O'Connor, mistress general, Mother McHenry and Mother Curbin.

As educators the Religious of the Sacred Heart aim at procuring the harmonious development of both the minds and the hearts of those committed to their care. Convinced that education in its meaning is that moral and mental discipline by which the human faculties are trained and infolded in subordination to a certain definite end, which end is nothing more nor less than the end for which man was created, this system of education is subordinated to that end, and consequently while imparting to their pupils the highest mental culture and the most manly and womanly accomplishments, they spare no effort in forming them to habits of virtue.

The services of the Religious of the Sacred Heart in the cause of Christian education dates its origin from the beginning of the last century when it was founded by Blessed Sophie Barat.

The Sacred Heart Religious first came to Grand Coteau in 1821 when the Smith family offered Mother Duchene the site of the present convent of Grand Coteau on which was to be built an institution for the education of young girls. The offer was accepted and Mother Audi with one companion, repaired to Grand Coteau and founded the new convent. Its early history is one of privation and devotedness, of courage and confidence, of unswerving perseverance. But it has emerged from its trials and its name is identified with the history of education in Louisiana.

Southwestern Reflections

During the first week in April a gentleman brought to the attention of the Southwest Louisiana Development Bureau, a plant which he discovered and requested its classification. The Bureau not being expert in such matters the plant was forwarded to Prof. J. G. Lee, of the S. W. Louisiana Industrial Institute with the request for information regarding its identity.

The plant had, this early in the season, and without any cultivation at all, attained a height of about one foot and was in bloom, the gentleman who brought it in observing that the plant was growing wild in several places in Southwest Louisiana and that live stock went "crazy about it." Dr. Thomas Stark of Thibodeaux corroborated the statement about the fondness of live stock for the plant and said that it thrives in a wild state in many portions of Lafourche parish.

Prof. Lee pronounced it to be hairy vetch, which he said "may be found growing along the tracks of almost every railroad in Louisiana." According to this authority and the fact was borne out by the sample under observation "vetches" winter plants, and reach their maximum development in March and April. It belongs to the leguminous family and is, therefore, a nitrogen gatherer and soil builder, which deserves to be grown more generally in Southwest Louisiana.

According to Prof. Lee they do not do as well as clovers in this section and they need well drained and fairly strong land in order to thrive. He believes the plant should be tried out by our people.

While it is too late to do this now the Southwest Louisiana farmer should bear the fact in mind and next Autumn carry out Prof. Lee's suggestion by a good acreage in vetches and the clovers.

It is quite apparent that a forage crop that matures in March or of which cattle and horses are so fond must be valuable for winter pasture, while the fact that it belongs to the soil-reviving family of legumes, makes it most valuable as a winter cover crop and a restorer of soil fertility. Let us add this valuable legume to the many varieties of forage crops which already make Southwest Louisiana the ideal section of the United States for the profitable production of live stock. Please remember this.

"Let us forget," let us repeat the entreaty, don't let late season or anything else induce you to plant your seed this Spring on badly prepared land. Better plant fewer acres and put it in the ground in perfect condition. At any rate, intensive farming costs less and it gives far greater net profit than can be earned by the extensive method.

Drainage is also a vital matter and it behooves every farmer to look carefully after this point until the time shall have come when Southwest Louisiana shall have a general drainage system which shall serve every portion of her territory. That's one of the main reasons why this Bureau insists that every worth while man should take part in its "Prosperity Campaign" and pull together in building up our section.

If we want all these things together with good roads, good schools and everything else that goes to build up a country's prosperity this is the way to do it. We must work together, for we can't accomplish the end working single-handed each for himself.

Have you become a "Prosperity Campaigner?" If not, why not?

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY.

Confederate Memorial April 6th, was fittingly observed by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Veterans, convent and public school children assembled at the two cemeteries, where two soul-stirring and patriotic sermons were delivered first at the Catholic cemetery by Rev. Father John Engerink and at the Protestant cemetery by Rev. C. B. Tomp.

The ceremony of placing flowers and sounding of the last bugle over the soldiers' graves ended Memorial Day in Opelousas.

The members of Gordon Chapter extend their most grateful thanks to Mrs. Brown and her two lovely daughters and Mr. Howard Voorhies for furnishing the music for the occasion and also to Drs. J. P. Saizan and J. A. Haas and Sheriff Swords for the use of their cars, which were appreciated by the veterans and daughters. The same appreciative thanks are extended to each and every one who helped to celebrate this our feast of remembrance of our Confederate dead.

MRS. C. P. RICHARD,
Pres. Gordon Chapter.
MRS. A. V. ALLEN, Sec.

CHAEPER RATES IN VIEW FOR ST. LANDRY

Southwest Louisiana Men Demand Same Rates as Baton Rouge.

MERCHANTS WILL SAVE IS MR. LOEB'S CLAIM.

Opelousas Alone Will Save \$12,000 Annually if Citizens Win Case Against Interstate Commission.

If Mayor Loeb of this city, and other prominent men of Southwest Louisiana, representing the principal places in Southwest Louisiana, succeed in convincing the Interstate Commerce Commission that St. Landry and other parishes should be given the advantage of freights, now enjoyed by Baton Rouge and Alexandria.

The merchants of Opelousas alone will save over \$12,000 in freight annually.

On last Wednesday Mayor Loeb, representing Opelousas, met and conferred with several representatives from Southwest Louisiana towns, at Baton Rouge; an interview was held with Assistant Attorney General Barrow with a view of taking necessary steps before the Interstate Commerce Commission to procure equal freight rates with Alexandria and Baton Rouge, for Southwest Louisiana merchants.

When interviewed on Thursday morning Mayor Loeb stated: "This action is made necessary from the fact that sometime ago the Interstate Commerce Commission granted the railroad companies the right to increase rates into Opelousas and surrounding towns. This increase was opposed by this section through the state Commission but the increase was granted by the Interstate Commission, reserving to these Southwest Louisiana towns the right to show that they are entitled to the Baton Rouge combination or water rate. Several towns were represented at Baton Rouge and necessary action will be taken to raise funds to get together the data showing how unjust and discriminatory these rates are."

"While in Mr. Barrow's office I was shown telegrams and letters from different towns assuring us of their willingness to co-operate in this movement. If successful, it will mean a saving to the Opelousas merchants alone of about \$12,000 annually."

Mayor Loeb besides acting as a representative of Opelousas, went also as representative for the Progressive League, as Mr. L. H. Morhineg, the president and live-wire of the league was unable to attend.

PALMETTO NOTES.

Palmetto, April 13.—The weather is fine here now, but we are in dire need of a good rain, as there is a large acreage of ground broken up, more than for the past six years, and indication points to a bumper corn crop in this section of the parish.

The moss factory here is presently running at full force with a large supply of moss and Palmetto has once more assumed a busy aspect.

An entertainment was given at the school house on last Tuesday evening by Rev. Father Roy for the benefit of the proposed new Catholic church, Misses Idea, Hudspeith and Hawkins deserve much praise for having successfully drilled the school children in their recitations and songs. Father Roy, as a photographer, made a hit, when he displayed an array of beautiful pictures. C. Meyers is a splendid floor manager and we would recommend him for any entertainment. Judging from the manner in which the refreshments were sold we would pronounce Mesdames Isacson, Anderson and Fitzmaurice as excellent saleswomen.

Mr. A. Laza accidentally shot himself on Saturday morning.

Dr. A. D. Hawkins was a business visitor to New Orleans last week, returning on Sunday.

Charley Joseph was a visitor to our parish capital, Opelousas, on last Saturday.

Miss Bidstrup, of Washington, is visiting her sister Mrs. Anderson, this week.

Mr. Roberts of Forkney's Ferry was transacting business here yesterday.

NO TRUE BILLS REPORTED.

On account of a typographical error in last week's issue of the Clarion the no true bills reported by the Grand Jury were made to read true bills. The following no true bills were reported:

Oscar Stanley and Moses Brown, hunting out of season; Arthur Senegal, carrying concealed weapons; Mrs. Etienne Veillon, slander; Darious Fruge, attempt to murder; Mrs. Stephen Thibodeaux, slander; Bud Godfrey, Murder.

BOY SCOUTS.

The boys met on Friday, April 9th, at their meeting room in the old high school and there was a large number of scouts present.

During the meeting the boys planned a cross-country run for that night; they met on the courthouse square for the start, the run being to Washington and back, covering a distance of twelve miles.

One of the members who attracted much attention was our little scout Joe Eastham, who kept the pace set by the leader from start to finish; this boy deserves much credit for sticking as he was in fast company. All the scouts showed up very well considering that this was our first cross-country run.

The boys were put through their usual drills and all worked hard that evening. During the meeting the scouts were presented with some delicious kisses by Miss Winfield. We need not tell how they were enjoyed.

Visitors are always invited to come out and boost up a good thing and also encourage the boys. CLUB REPORTER.

YOUNG IS LOSER IN EXAMINERSHIP FIGHT

R. N. Sims Is Declared State Bank Examiner by High Court.

LONG DISPUTED CASE IS FINALLY SETTLED.

Court Holds that Governor Has Right to Fill Vacancy in Constitutional Office During Leg. Recess.

The case of R. N. Sims, and the State of Louisiana Versus Wm. Young, has at last been decided, the Supreme Court having been handed down its decision through Judge O'Neil at New Orleans on last Monday, deciding against Young, erstwhile state bank examiner and holding that the Governor of this state has the power of filling vacancies occurring in constitutional offices during legislative recess.

Mr. Sims, who for many years was a prominent banker of Donaldsonville has been declared the bank examiner of Louisiana, and Mr. Young has been compelled to pay all court costs.

The dispute of the state bank examinership has been in existence for nearly two years. Gov. Hall having at first demanded Mr. Young's resignation, which Mr. Young refused to give, whereupon Gov. Hall appointed Mr. Sims, who was ousted by the Baton Rouge district court on the grounds that Mr. Young's term had not expired. As soon as Examiner Young's term had expired Gov. Hall re-appointed Mr. Sims, but Examiner Young would not give up the office, whereupon suit was brought against him, a decision being given in favor of Mr. Sims on last Monday.

MISSIONARY NOTES BY THE SOCIETY.

Who owns the wool?

The question is one which each of us can ask to advantage. Christ is the Shepherd, and we as Christian people, are the sheep. One would think that the owner of the sheep would own the wool. In the March Missionary Voice we read that there were \$24,000 less in 1914 than the previous year given to missions. This deficit shows something wrong somewhere for are we not the sheep? Another question is "Who is getting this wool? If we do not let God have it we are cheating Him of His own."

"The mightiest controversy of the age is over wool." The triumphant march of God's army is slowed up waiting for us to settle the wool question. If God's sheep were properly sheared, they would abound in health, and countless missionaries could be sent as torch-bearers to every benighted region of the world.

VESPER SERVICES SUNDAY

Divine services at 11 a. m., at the Presbyterian church, from 5 to 6 there will be a special vesper services.

Our 7:30 service will be supplemented by this vesper service. Please note the change of hour. C. B. TOMB.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS HIGHLY ENTERTAINED

Texas & Pacific Men Given Taste of Opelousas Hospitality.

COURTBOULLON SERVED AT PRETTY ELKS HOME

Successful Get-To-Gether Meeting at Which Dr. Mayer Presided Held at Elks Home Thursday.

One of the most successful and jolliest get-together meetings ever held in Louisiana, between citizens and railroad officials, took place at the Elks Home in this city on last Thursday night. The official family of the Texas & Pacific railroad, successors of the late O. G. & N. E. Tausin, general superintendent of Dallas; N. M. Leach, general traffic manager, New Orleans; L. N. Griffin, general freight agent, Dallas; H. W. Bechtell, division freight agent, New Orleans; J. D. Webb, traveling freight agent; J. L. Thatcher, secretary to general superintendent, Dallas and F. Adams, division engineer, Alexandria, spent Thursday in this city. The party was royally entertained at the Elks Home, where some thirty citizens gathered to give these railroad officials a taste of real Southern hospitality. Fish courtbouillon, a la galore, was served, interspersed with wine and fried fish, and jolly good heart-to-heart talks.

Dr. Fred. J. Mayer, pronounced by the railroad officials, as the best locomotive ever seen, presided. In his eloquent and jovial talk Dr. Mayer praised the surrounding country for its beauty, its fertility and wonderful undeveloped resources. He pointed out that with the co-operation of the Texas & Pacific St. Landry could be developed into the best agricultural country in the Union. Mayor Loeb welcomed the officials to the city, after which Hon. John W. Lewis addressed words of welcome for the parish. Those present were reminded of the sacrifices made by the brave and gallant "Father of the Opelousas Gulf & Northeastern Railway" the late Thomas H. Lewis.

J. E. Tussig, I. N. Griffin, H. W. Bechtell, J. D. Webb and F. Adams, of the "Working Department" of the Texas & Pacific spoke on the lines of co-operation between the railroad and its patrons, while N. M. Leach, popular and jovial superintendent of the "Ornamental Department" kept the banqueteers laughing for several minutes, with many of his "railroad jokes." Several citizens of Opelousas were called upon to assure the railroad officials that St. Landry would heartily co-operate with the T. & P. railroad and that both would derive untold benefits by working in harmony with one another.

Thanks were extended to the officials for having retained Messrs. Flanders and Jordan in Opelousas, where these two gentlemen have become real citizens.

The banquet broke up at about eleven o'clock, the officials having enjoyed to their hearts' content the hospitality of Opelousas and those present being satisfied that the Texas & Pacific will always remember old St. Landry.

Before the O'Gee was taken over by the Texas and Pacific there existed a two-line rate to points on the Texas & Pacific, now that the O'Gee is the property of the Texas & Pacific the merchants of St. Landry and Acadia will be saved thousands of dollars annually on freight due to the fact that only one-line rates are now in force.

TO THE BOYS OF OPELOUSAS.

We would like to arrange a game on our own grounds, with any boys' team in Opelousas averaging about 16 years.

For particulars address EUGENE FIELDS, Mgr. St. Charles College Junior Team, Grand Coteau, La.

We know that the boys of Opelousas are full of the baseball spirit, and that several nines could be formed to meet our open challenge.

Trusting that we will hear in the near future from one or more teams, and assuring you that you will enjoy the visit, I am

Yours truly, EUGENE FIELDS, Mgr. St. Charles College Junior Team.