

# THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

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OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1915.

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## GIL DUPRE FIRST

### TO ANNOUNCE

St. Landry Representative Wants to Go to Constitutional Convention

## DUBUISSON AND LEWIS

### PROMINENTLY MENTIONED

St. Landry Is Entitled to Three Delegates to the Approaching Constitutional Conventional

Hon. Gilbert L. Dupre, who has been ably representing St. Landry in the Lower House of the General Assembly of Louisiana for the past two years, has the distinction of being the first to announce his candidacy for delegate to the constitutional convention which will convene in New Orleans on September 15th.

Judge Dupre, while he opposed the bill, is very anxious to go to the convention, in the event that the people of Louisiana approve the measure, in order to fight against increased taxation and several other measures of great concern to the people of this state, in general and St. Landry in particular.

Hon. Edward B. Dubuisson and Hon. John W. Lewis, who were opposing candidates for the same honor two years ago, have been prominently mentioned as candidates and it is expected that they will announce their candidacies within the next few days.

A cry has been heard throughout the parish in disapproval of a contest and many of the most influential politicians and citizens of St. Landry have been arguing against this particular contest.

Judge Dupre's able and forceful announcement will be found in another column of this paper. The voting public would do well to read this communication as the able St. Landry representative sets forth in very clear language what he will endeavor to accomplish in the event that the people of St. Landry should send him as one of their delegates to the constitutional convention which will convene in New Orleans during the month of September.

## CHICOT NOTES

The crops in this section of the parish are fine; the first cotton bloom of the season was brought in during the week by John Forman from Dr. R. Lee Hawkins' place. The many friends of the Haas family in Chicot deeply regret to learn of the death of Charlie Haas of Bunkie. Words of sympathy from here have been sent to Col. Sam Haas, aged father of the deceased, and the Haas family.

H. L. Erlich went to Alexandria Wednesday to meet his daughter, Martha, who was returning from a visit to her sister, Mrs. E. S. Tatman at Mansfield.

In the last edition of the Clarion it was stated that Col. Sam Haas visited Opelousas and returned via Eunice to witness the ball game. This was an error and should have read Col. Sam Thomas.

Wanted: Candidates to the constitutional convention from Evangeline. We understand that St. Landry will have the field covered with candidates.

Henry Griffith has announced his candidacy for the police jury from this ward. Mr. Griffith is a young and progressive farmer. We now have three candidates. Judge Singleton and T. J. Walker, the present incumbent, being the other two.

Should favorable weather continue this section will harvest the largest corn crop it has made in several years.

Opelousas has the right material to send to the constitutional convention and any of the mentioned candidates would make splendid representatives, that is to say the following whose names have drifted down in Chicot: Hon. Edward Dubuisson, Judge E. T. Lewis, Hon. John W. Lewis, Senator Haas, Judge Gilbert L. Dupre and Hon. L. Austin Fontenot.

Chicot was exceedingly disappointed in learning that the baseball club had been disorganized, but we are glad to learn that the club has been re-organized with Charlie Dejean and Austin Perkins at its head.

## MISS BROWN WEDS FRANCONI

One of the most interesting weddings to take place in this city for several months was that of Miss May Brown, eldest daughter of Chief Brown of the Fire Department, and J. B. Francioni, formerly of Lakeville, but lately of Baton Rouge, which was performed by Father John Engberink on Wednesday morning at 7:30 o'clock. The ceremony was performed at the Catholic Church before intimate friends and near relatives, invitations having been sent only to those close to the Brown and Francioni families.

The bride is one of Opelousas' fairest daughters, who during her girlhood days numbered countless friends here. Miss Brown was graduated from the St. Landry High School. The groom is known to the people of this city, having for two or three seasons been one of the mainstays of the Opelousas baseball club. He is a graduate of Louisiana State University, where he was recognized as a splendid fellow and a popular student. He is presently in the service of the state government, being with the Louisiana Experiment Station.

Miss Louise Comeau served as maid-of-honor, with S. A. Hasley, of Baton Rouge, as best man.

After the ceremony the bridal couple left for the Gulf Coast, where they will spend a short honeymoon, after which they will go to Baton Rouge, to take up their permanent residence.

## IN MEMORY OF MRS. MARIA D'AVY LAVERGNE

Our ranks are broken; the angel of Death has come with silent tread, and reaching out his icy fingers, clasped the hand of our sister, and led her away to meet her God.

She died after a long illness, at the family residence, on Thursday, June 10th, 1915, at the age of 67 years, 9 months and 27 days.

She was the wife of Mr. Michel Lavergne, and the mother of several children, some of whom are still living.

Mrs. Lavergne was a member of Gordon Chapter U. D. C., No. 1470; and it is with sadness that we chronicle her death. It was not my privilege to know Mrs. Lavergne personally, but I hear only good words spoken of her on every side. We, the members of the Gordon Chapter, U. D. C., wish to extend the hand of sympathy to the bereaved ones of our deceased sister. We beseech them to look beyond the grave, to our heavenly Father, who doeth all things well, for those who love Him. He is the great Comforter. When we reach the great beyond we hope to find our sister there, rejoicing and singing praises to the great God of Love.

No more good-byes up there, no more parting no more sickness, no more death; but Everlasting Life with our blessed Savior.

May peace be her portion.  
Done by order of Gordon Chapter, U. D. C., No. 1470.

CARRIE M. YOUNG, Historian.

## TEXAS & PACIFIC MONTHLY

In the June issue of the Texas & Pacific Monthly, a magazine devoted for the exclusive advertisement of the agricultural country traversed by the transcontinental railway, Opelousas and St. Landry are given full justice in an article written by W. Jordan, agent of the Texas & Pacific at this point. Several cuts of the most interesting places and buildings in this city are shown to advantage in the magazine, as well as the photos of Mayor Loeb and L. H. Mornhinveg, the hustling head of the Opelousas Progressive League.

The article, so well gotten up by the intelligent Opelousas Texas & Pacific agent, is composed of continuous praises for this city and parish, and there is no doubt that it will be a great incentive to immigrants, desirous of locating in this neighborhood. Mr. Jordan and the Texas & Pacific are both to be highly complimented for the splendid "send off" given this city.

## BIENVENUE-THOMPSON ENGAGEMENT

The engagement of Miss Pattie Thompson to Mr. George Bienvenue, the wedding to take place on June 30th, was announced recently. Miss Thompson is the charming young daughter of Mrs. Charlie Thompson, while the groom-to-be is the well known assistant cashier of the Union Bank & Trust Co. of this city.

## TWO MISSES TO GRADUATE AT CONVENT

The annual commencement exercises of the convent of the Sisters Marianites of the Holy Cross, of this city, will begin on Monday night, for which night a very interesting program has been arranged. "Dr. Cure All" and "Falsely Accused" will be presented by the younger students of the convent. The pupils have been working to present these two little plays without a flaw, when the people of this city will gather in the convent auditorium on Monday night to witness the performances.

On Wednesday night the graduation exercises will be held, at which Hon. Edward L. Loeb and R. Lee Garland will be the principal orators. The convent will graduate two young ladies, Misses Mabel Hollier and Alma Durand.

The following will be Wednesday night's program: Duet, Misses M. Mistic and H. Pickett; Congratulations, Rev. Father Engberink; Salutatory, Miss Mabel Hollier; Instrumental Solo, Miss Alma Durand; Address, Hon. E. Loeb; Vocal Solo, Miss Lucy Crouchet; Valetictory, Miss Alma Durand; Response, Miss Frances Badd; Address, Hon. L. Garland; Awarding of medals and diplomas by Rev. Father Engberink.

## IN MEMORIAM

Death, the grim reaper who spares none, has entered our midst, and cut down in the flower of his youth, Albert Lee Maginnis, son of Mrs. Elhel Maginnis and grand son of Mrs. Ernest McKinney of this city.

The whole community is in sorrow at the sudden death of this noble boy. At school on Thursday morning—out with his playmates the same afternoon—and at half past ten that night, his pure spirit had passed to the great beyond—in spite of all that loving hearts could do! Truly the ways of Providence are vision!

It seems strange that this boy whose life was an inspiration and whose uplifting influence was shown in a marked degree upon those boys who were daily associated with him, should be taken away, leaving despair and anguish in those loving hearts that cherished him so fondly. But Death loves a shining mark.

Where's he sees a smile too bright, Or heart too pure for taint and vice, He bears it to that world of light, To dwell in Paradise.

Albert, or "Abadie" as his friends affectionately called him, was one of the noblest and brightest boys in our school and community. As a child he entered the St. Landry High School, and, day by day, the expanding of his young life was a joy to those who knew and loved him. Intelligent beyond his tender years—always taking highest rank in his class—always exempt from all examinations—honest, upright, courteous, but modest and lovable with it all, no wonder he was the favorite of all.

The love and esteem in which he was held was evidenced at his funeral, which took place from the residence of his uncle, Hon. Henry Lastrapes, Jr., by the profusion of beautiful flowers brought by loving hands.

His school-mates and his Sunday School mates attended in a body—the boy-scouts who acted as pallbearers and the entire community followed him to the Episcopal Church and from there to the Protestant Cemetery, where after the solemn burial service he was laid to rest.

God help the stricken young mother and sorrowing friends in this their hour of anguish. May the Divine Healer comfort them with the knowledge that, tho' he is no longer with us in the body, he will live in our hearts until we meet in that world beyond the grave. "There is no death! An angel form Walks o'er the earth with silent tread;

He bears our best loved things away, And then we call them 'dead.' He leaves our hearts all desolate, He plucks our fairest, sweetest flowers, Transplanted into bliss they now Adorn immortal bowers. And ever near us, though unseen, The dear immortal spirits tread; For all the boundless universe Is life—there are no dead." A FRIEND.

## INFANT DIES

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Pitre of this city died Monday morning, after a long illness, at the age of 5 months. Little Uval had been in bad health for some time, but the news of his death was a great shock to the many friends of the family. Interment took place at the Catholic Church on Tuesday morning.

## RE-ORGANIZED CLUB TO TACKLE EUNICE

Dejean Heads Team Composed Largely of Opelousas Players

## SOME IMPORTANT GAMES HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED

Fans Aroused Over Disbandment of Local Amateur Team Cause Re-Organization on Permanent Basis

Eunice vs. Opelousas to-morrow afternoon! Think of it fans! Doesn't it sound familiar?

The Opelousas baseball club, after disbanding on account of the resignation of Manager Loeb has been re-organized on a safer and more permanent basis, with Charlie Dejean as captain and acting manager, while Austin Perkins, popular tioshier of the Planters National Bank will act as treasurer and dispense of all bills. The first game under the new management is scheduled to take place at Comeau's park to-morrow afternoon, when Eunice will be tackled by the locals.

The Opelousas club is now composed of practically home players, only three outsiders being used. Reiza, the peppery short-stop, Boudreaux, who is considered one of the best fielding third-basemen in the South, and Barrow, who has been doing splendid work behind the bat for Opelousas, will continue playing for the locals, while the familiar faces of Tohe Velin, Charlie Thompson, Charlie Dejean, Leo Dejean, John Brown and a few other good local amateur ball players will be seen at Comeau's park, Sunday evening.

The heavy expenses under which the Opelousas team has been operating for the past two months will be practically eliminated, as hired players will be scarce articles on the local diamond.

It is expected that the team which will represent Opelousas in the baseball world henceforth will be equally as good as the one which threw up the game at Eunice last Sunday. There is no doubt in the minds of the local fans that several of the Opelousas boys, who did not play on the local team this season, are as good amateur players as can be found anywhere in the state. A large crowd is expected to witness to-morrow's game.

## URGES CONVENTION

### FIX INTEREST RATE

Hon. Dudley Guilbeau Sets Forth Reason for Financial Depression

Opelousas, La., June 14, 1915.

To the St. Landry Clarion: The people of this Parish and of this State, have an opportunity seldom ever presented to a people.

A Constitutional Convention is about to be held, the work of which shall be non-effective unless approved by the people.

Representation in this Convention is the same as that under which is composed the Lower House of our Legislature.

Accordingly, this parish is entitled to three delegates. I am not, nor shall I become, a candidate as one of such delegates. There is, however, a question which, in my opinion, is of prime importance, and upon which we should have the expression of prospective candidates. It is the question of "interest charges," the heaviest burden that the people, not only of this parish, but of the entire State, are made to bear. I believe that the rate of interest should be limited to a certain per centum per annum, and that the provision to that effect should be made binding by a penalty for its violation.

The use of money originated merely as a representative of value and medium of exchange. Interest on money originates as a penalty for the non-payment of an obligation when due. Primarily therefore, money was prized as a representative of value and medium of exchange, but the moment interest on money begins, it is prized, not as a medium of exchange and a representative of value, but as a "maker of money."

Under these circumstances, those who have money, including our Banking institutions, creatures of the law, soulless and heartless,—very naturally hoard money in order, by way of interest charges, to make more "money." We hear a good deal about "the tightness of

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION NEXT WEEK

The parish Sunday School Convention will convene in this city next Wednesday morning at the Methodist Church. The convention will be of two days' duration and it is expected that a large crowd of interested workers for the Sunday Schools will participate in the convention.

State Secretary Van Carter will be present, as well as several other prominent Sunday School workers. All Protestant pastors have been invited to attend the convention, while the public in general has also been asked to take part in the meetings.

The local members of the St. Landry Sunday School Association have been working diligently for the past several weeks to make the convention a marked success.

## ANDREPONT CANDIDATE FOR LEGISLATURE

Edgar Andrepoint, for several years a merchant of Prairie Ronde, has unofficially announced his candidacy for the Lower House of the General Assembly of Louisiana. Mr. Andrepoint is well known throughout the parish and his friends feel confident that he will make a splendid race. Thus far only one has officially announced for the legislature from this parish, that being Hon. J. M. Sanders. Judge Dupre and Austin Fontenot are expected to make the race also.

St. Landry is entitled to three representatives in the Lower House.

"The scarcity of money," the "scarcity of money." The trouble is, not that there is not plenty of money in this section and in this State, but, that it is of benefit to those who control the money to make it "tight" and "scarce." The "tighter the market" and the "scarcer" money appears to be, the greater the rate of interest the people in general must pay.

Our State is rich, beyond the dreams of avarice, in natural, but undeveloped resources; and this immediate section is equal in that respect to any other portion.

There is money too, in this State, and in this parish, but it finds a bigger and quicker return in dividends on Bank stock, than in draining lands and building factories. All the money in this State might as well be at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico, as to be in the Banks, if it cannot be had at a reasonable rate of interest to develop the country. Let me give you a concrete example. A few years ago, there were three Banks, and some four or five individuals lending money on a large scale, and no factory other than the sugar factory and cotton seed oil mill, in this City—a community with a population, at that time, of a little less than five thousand people. There were Banks in every other town and village in the parish.

Eunice had two, Washington two, Sunset one, Port Barre one, Meville one and Arnaudville one. Yet, two other banks were organized, in the face of this condition. The sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars was subscribed and paid in as capital stock of these two new Banking institutions. The sugar factory went to the wall for the lack of a few hundred dollars.

Did anyone find rates of interest lowered after these two Banks began business? Did the organization of these two institutions add anything to the general wealth and welfare of this community? What would have been the result if the money forming this bank stock had been put into, say, the sugar factory and three or four other industrial plants?

So long as interest charges are not reasonably regulated, just so long will money be unavailable for the development of agricultural and industrial enterprises.

I would therefore propose that there be written, under the heading of "General Provisions" in the new Constitution, an article to this effect: Article —. The conventional rate of interest is hereby limited to five per centum per annum. Any violation of this provision, directly or indirectly, shall work a forfeiture of the principal obligation, either as a defense to a suit thereon, or at the suit of the borrower, or any other person having knowledge of the violation.

I am not attacking any person or set of persons or Banking institutions. I am inveighing against a prevailing system which I believe to be at the bottom of much of the distress and suffering in evidence among the people. I would therefore ask for space in your column to the end that the question submitted may be discussed both by the people and by such as desire to become delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

Yours truly,  
DUDLEY L. GUILBEAU.

## JUDGE DUPRE'S PLATFORM

Opelousas, La., June 14, 1915. To the voters of the parish of St. Landry:

I am a candidate for delegate to the Constitutional Convention, subject to the action of the Democratic party.

If elected, I will oppose any measure having in view:

Any increase in our present rate of taxation.

The creation of any additional offices.

Any increase of salary.

I will favor any measure abolishing any useless office, or insecure. Decreasing the number of District Judges.

Giving relief to the Supreme Court. The delayed justice litigants now obtain at the hands of this tribunal, amounts to a denial of justice.

I believe that every office-holder should be sufficiently paid. Some of our state officials, however, are overpaid. This is due to the appropriations annually provided for in aid of the offices they hold.

Every dollar that the state can spare, should be spent in educating its children. The rural schools should be preferred over colleges and universities. Both should be generously provided for.

The "Thin line in gray" should be adequately pensioned.

Under no circumstances will I vote to additionally tax our people. Equalize the assessments if you will, provided this can be arrived at without additionally burdening the farmers of this state and small taxpayers who have reached the limit.

If all property in this state is assessed at fifty per cent of its actual value, it will yield sufficient revenue to meet all expenses of the state economically administered.

The universal depression now prevailing demands an economical administration of the peoples' money.

If you are willing to select me as one of the three delegates this parish is entitled to, I promise to serve you well and faithfully along the above lines.

I don't propose to dodge any issue. The people have a right to know how I stand and how I am going to vote upon any question affecting their interests.

If I have omitted to touch upon any point in dispute, do not hesitate to question me.

Yours for a square deal,  
GILBERT L. DUPRE.

## YOUNG CHICKEN THIEF SHOT

A young negro by the name of Babe Johnson, a habitual and notorious chicken thief, almost got his lamps blown out on last Sunday night, when he happened to be perambulating around the chicken house of Mary O'Connor, colored, on the north of the O'Gee track.

The O'Connor woman had been missing chickens each night, so she decided to be on the watch out Saturday night. In the stillness of the night, when the young negro buck thought that he was probably the only one in Opelousas still in the land of the wide-awake, he stole around the chicken house and instead of getting his booty, received a load of shot in his side. He was brought to jail, but taken out a few days ago in order that his parents could take care of him. It was thought that he would die, but now it appears that he will live to learn Saturday night's lesson by heart.

## NATIVE OPELOUSEAN DIES IN NEW JERSEY

Andre F. Halphen, a native of Opelousas, but for several years past a prominent importer of artistic millinery at Atlantic City, N. J., died in Atlantic City on June the 10th after an illness of short duration. Mr. Halphen was operated on twice, the second operation causing a hemorrhage, which killed him.

The deceased was a son of Michael Halphen of New Orleans and Fanelie Lastrapes of this parish; at the time of his death he was 42 years, 8 months and 3 days old. He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Mamie Case, three sons, George B. Marshall, and Andre F. Jr., two brothers, Michael, present commissioner of public works of this city, and the first mayor of the city of Opelousas, and four years vice-president of the St. Landry police jury, Louis, employed by Dardeau & Castille, in this city, two sisters, Mrs. Geo. Van Horn, Richmond, Va. and Mrs. Fernand Halphen, of New Orleans.

## HIGH SCHOOL CLOSSES SUCCESSFUL SESSION

Class of 1915 One of Largest in the History of Opelousas

THIRTEEN WILL RECEIVE DIPLOMAS TUESDAY NIGHT

Operatta Witnessed by Large Crowd on Friday Night at High School Auditorium

The Opelousas High School closed a most successful session on Friday afternoon, when the six hundred and fifty pupils of the school, gleefully ran home to announce that summer vacation had at last arrived.

On Friday night an operatta was given by the members of the lower grades, several hundred friends and patrons of the school being in attendance for the creditable performance.

On next Tuesday night the official closing of the school will take place when the graduation exercises will be held at the high school auditorium. The class of 1915 is one of the largest in the history of the school, eight young ladies and five young men, composing the enrollment of the class.

The graduating exercises of the Opelousas high school are always looked forward to with a great deal of interest by the patrons of the school, and incidentally a large crowd is generally on hand for the interesting exercises.

Prof. Prescott is exceedingly pleased with the workings of the school during the past nine months and is living in hopes that some way will be devised in order to raise the necessary funds for the operation of the local high school the required length of time.

The following program will be rendered on Tuesday night: March, Miss Breitung; Salutatory, Miss Velma Walker; Class History, Mr. Edward Estorge; Chorus; Class Prophet, Mr. Lionel Castille; Con-Address to Graduates, Mr. A. C. Ives, State High School Inspector; Music, Miss Breitung; Awarding of Medals, Mr. L. L. Poyrault; Presentation of diplomas, Supt. C. J. Thompson.

The graduation class is composed of the following: Misses Elizabeth Cooke, Naomi Burr, Myrtle Durio, Velma Walker, Etta Obyrle, Ruth Thompson, Corinne Troscian, Gertrude Sanders; Messrs. Edward H. Estorge, Preston J. Wyble, Lionel Castille, A. Campbell Jones, Howard Voorhies.

## IN MEMORIAM BY THE BOY SCOUTS

Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from amongst us our esteemed Brother and fellow-member, Albert Lee McGinnis, who died June 10th, 1915, and

Whereas, The life that made our association with him pleasant is at an end, and the gates of death is closed upon our further intercourse, and

Whereas, By his many ennobling traits of character he has endeared himself to us, and in his career has left an example to his friends and fellow-members; and

Whereas, Those rarely qualifications which he possessed, influenced us in a desire to testify to an appreciation of his life amongst us; Be it therefore,

Resolved That in the death of Albert Lee McGinnis, who was a member of Opelousas Troop No. 15129, Boy Scouts of America, we sincerely deplore the loss of one to whom we had become affectionately attached by long association and by relations which were never marred by the least occurrence of an unfriendly act;

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the relatives of the deceased, and that the same be attached to and become a part of the minutes of the organization.

C. B. TOME, Scout Master.  
A. J. PERRAULT, Asst. Scout Master.  
RAYMOND McBRIDE,  
CLINTON MORNHINVEG,  
LEO L. LALEUR,  
TOM FIRNBERG,  
Committee.

Hon. W. J. Sandoz returned on Thursday from Biloxi, Miss., where he spent several days with his family on the Gulf Coast. Mrs. Sandoz and two children, Lawrence and Miss Hilda, will remain on the Coast during the summer while Mr. Sandoz will go back and forth from Opelousas to Biloxi.