

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

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REV. GRACE TO HEAD ST. CHARLES AGAIN

President of Grand Coteau College Is Retained by Jesuits

FATHER TWELLMAYER IS VICE-PRESIDENT

Very Few Changes Made Among the Faculty of the Historic St. Landry Jesuit Institution

Rev. Father M. A. Grace, for the past three years, president of the historic St. Charles College, has been re-appointed head of the famous Grand Coteau educational institution. Rev. Father F. X. Twellmeyer for several years president of Spring Hill College, Mobile, Ala., is retained as vice-president.

St. Charles College will be ready for the opening of the 1915-1916 session on the first Wednesday of next month, when it is expected that Father Grace and his co-workers will welcome some two hundred Southerners to the historic Jesuit college.

The faculty of St. Charles College, which was announced recently, for the ensuing year, is as follows:

Rev. M. A. Grace, president; Rev. F. X. Twellmeyer, vice-president; Rev. E. Bashr, treasurer; Rev. H. Devine, secretary; Rev. H. Brooks, professor of junior and moderator of the senior literary society; Rev. H. Buckley, who comes from St. John's College, Shreveport, professor of the sophomore class and moderator of the junior literary society; Mr. G. Whipple, professor of freshmen; Mr. J. Ryan, professor of first academic and moderator of the College journal, The Barrorean; Mr. C. Quirk professor of second academic; Rev. H. Devine, professor of metaphysics and ethics; Rev. F. Philippe, professor of physics, chemistry, higher mathematics and director of the wireless station; Mr. J. Doonan, professor of intermediate and prefect of discipline in the senior division; Rev. A. Fox professor of first English and prefect of discipline in the senior study hall; Mr. J. McDonald professor of second English and prefect of discipline in the junior study hall; Mr. J. Johnson professor of third English and prefect of discipline in the junior division; Rev. A. Haby professor of preparatory.

In the parish church, adjoining the college, the pastor, Rev. A. Fontain, and his assistant, Rev. M. Moore will be aided by Rev. L. Pont, S. J., Rev. J. Haggerty, Mr. J. White and Mr. J. McHardy will go to other fields of labor; the first to Tampa, Fla., the second to New Orleans and the third to Montreal, Canada.

SUGGESTS CREMATION OF PROBES' REPORT

Judge Dupre Thinks That Work of Probe Committee Will Be Naught

In a public letter addressed to the Clarion Judge Gilbert L. Dupre severely criticizes the Probe Commission and urges the cremation of that body's report and that the ashes be deposited in the Mississippi river.

Following is the Judge's letter:

Opelousas, La., Aug. 3, '15. To the Editor of the Clarion: The Probe Commission has eaten up the twenty thousand dollars awarded it, not leaving sufficient funds whereby to have its report printed. Under the circumstances, no one is going to obtain the benefit of their luminous conclusions! I suggest that when this report is presented to the legislature, some member of that body will have the courage to move that the report be cremated and the ashes scattered in the Mississippi river.

Such proceedings of that body as appeared in the newspapers, evidenced that their investigations did not develop a single fact not heretofore known, and the chances are

ANOTHER DRAINAGE DISTRICT CREATED

PLAQUEMINE DISTRICT IS FORMED AND COMMISSIONERS TO MEET SOON TO PERFECT PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

The Plaquemine Drainage District is a real thing. For the past year patriotic taxpayers of the Plaquemine and West Bellevue sections have been working with a view of creating a drainage district in that section of the parish southwest of Opelousas. The police jury, on last Monday evening, finally created the district, after considering a petition from a large number of taxpayers of the Plaquemine Drainage District, and elected Eugene Richard, Sr., as commissioner for four years, and P. P. Hidalgo and Z. T. Cary, Jr., for commissioners for two years. The Governor will appoint James O. Chachere and Joseph Boone as the other members of the drainage board.

The members of the Plaquemine Drainage District board will meet in this city on Wednesday 16th, for the purpose of perfecting organization, after which the question of taxation will be taken up. There are some nineteen hundred acres of land in the new drainage district and it is figured that it will take a ten mill tax for twenty years in order that sufficient money can be gotten to do the work properly.

Several of the most prominent resident taxpayers of the new drainage district are confident that the tax will be carried. One farmer from West Bellevue stated during the week that he considered the tax election a mere formality, as there were very few taxpayers opposing the proposition.

dollars to doughnuts, that not one suggestion made by it is going to be adopted.

What purports to be their recommendation with reference to the District Courts, is a monumental joke. The idea of allowing a District Judge additional pay, traveling expenses and a stenographer, is an insult to the impoverished condition of the state, and a direct slap at those who believe in an economical administration of its affairs.

If the balance of its reports are in keeping with the above recommendation, duly published in your paper, then I repeat what I stated in the beginning, it is fit food for fire, its ashes to rest in the murky waters of the Mississippi.

Yours truly,
GILBERT L. DUPRE.

TO HAVE POLITICAL DOINGS AT CHICOT

Candidates for Governor Will Speak in Evangeline at Big Picnic Aug. 26th.

Bayou Chicot is planning to have one of the biggest political rallies ever staged in Evangeline parish, since that parish was awarded its liberty several years ago. Under the beautiful and historic oaks of Chicot people from the four corners of the state, but especially of St. Landry and Evangeline parishes, will gather to do homage to a real creole picnic and political rally.

Lieutenant Governor Thomas C. Barrett, Evangeline's favorite candidate for Governor, Attorney General Rufus G. Pleasant, avowed contender for the office now held by Luther E. Hall, and Dr. Pierceson, first to announce as a candidate for the governorship, will be the principal speakers at the rally. It is expected that candidates for minor state offices will be on hand, as well as the parochial office-seekers.

Henry Erlich, the old political war horse of Bayou Chicot, has been made chairman of the arrangement committee and it is expected that everything will be arranged just right, so that Chicot will assume a responsible position in the political history soon to be made, during the next state go-round.

The people of the Plaquemine Drainage District like the taxpayers of the Bayou Plaquemine and Mallet Drainage District are direly in need of relief from the floods, which occur frequently during rainy seasons, often times causing the crops to fail completely. In these two districts lie the most fertile and productive lands of the parish; every modern convenience, with the exception of drainage, can, in a measure, be found there.

The increase in property value alone during the first year or two is sufficient to justify the farmers of that section of St. Landry in voting in favor of the tax.

The commissioners of the Plaquemine Drainage District intend to give relief to every taxpayer in the district; an attempt will be made to drain every acre of land in that section, thus assuring the property owners of a splendid investment.

At the meeting of the members of the board of commissioners the question of millage and the length of time of the tax to be voted, as well as the date on which the election will be held, will most likely be decided. Every member of the board is very enthusiastic over the prospect of securing a substantial drainage district for their community and all are bent upon making a strenuous effort to convince the sturdy farmers of Plaquemine Point and West Bellevue that by voting the drainage tax they will make the best and surest investment of their lives.

CAPITAL ROADS WILL BE BUILT BY FISHER

Opelousas Contractor Lands Job in East Baton Rouge With Better Prospects

Elijah Fisher, the local highway contractor, who erected over twenty miles of model roads in this parish during the past year and a half, secured the contract for the construction of several miles of gravel highways in East Baton Rouge parish.

Mr. Fisher shipped three carloads of mules last week, later going to the Capital City himself. Before leaving Opelousas the local contractor expressed the opinion that as soon as he would complete the present job the police jury of East Baton Rouge parish would be ready and willing to award him a still larger contract.

Under difficult and trying conditions Mr. Fisher built over twenty miles of gravel roads in this parish, which are proving satisfactory, even beyond expectation. He will be in a better position to construct model roads in Baton Rouge than he was here in St. Landry, where the gravel had to be hauled long distances.

COTTON PICKING IS BEGUN IN EARNEST

Gins Are Repaired to Take Care of the Cotton Which Is Now Being Harvested

Cotton picking in old St. Landry, the queen cotton parish of Louisiana, has been started in earnest, according to reports drifting into the city. The first cotton to open in the parish was reported to be at Dubuison, where W. E. Bacon, a prominent planter had cotton ready to pick the middle of July.

In Plaisance, it is said, the farmers began harvesting a bumper cotton crop and it will not be many days before cotton gins in that section will be humming. Prairie Ronde and other places, also, where it was possible to plant a little early, cotton is opening rapidly.

Prospects of a good crop, after the bad start the farmers had early in the season, are considered excellent. St. Landry will harvest its share of the Louisiana cotton cotton production.

VICTORY PREDICTED BY CONVENTIONISTS

New Orleans to Give Plan A Majority Estimated at 15,000

ST. LANDRY PARISH FAVORS CONVENTION

Holding of Constitutional Convention Is Now Considered An Assured Certainty by Those For and Against Plan

The holding of the constitutional convention in New Orleans next month is now an almost certainty, according to predictions being made, not only by those favoring the plan but also by many of those who are opposing the project.

The New Orleans Times-Picayune estimates the majority for the convention to be delivered by Louisiana's first city at 15,000. The country, it is understood, will be evenly divided, although it is thought, several of the largerishes will vote a substantial majority for the convention, on August 31.

The future of Louisiana for the next twenty-five years hinges on the question of a constitutional convention. The objections to the holding of the convention are either personal or political, while all sane arguments are in favor of the convention.

Louisiana, as has been pointed out repeatedly, is badly in need of having its organic laws revised. No man with any knowledge of the legal needs of this state can argue against the convention, save from a political motive.

North Louisiana is expected to be divided on the convention due probably to the fact that two of the most prominent North Louisiana voters are candidates for governor and who are opposed also as to the convention. Ruffin Pleasant is making a fight against the convention, as he did before the special session of the legislature while Thomas C. Barrett and his forces are working to deliver the majority of votes on the side of the convention. Rapides parish will go heavily in favor of the convention, because Alexandrian is determined to make a fight for the state capital.

St. Landry, according to reliable information, will line up in the "for" column, although there is some opposition at Eunice, due in all probability to the division on the governorship question. In Opelousas Barrett men as well as Pleasant followers will vote in favor of the convention; the majority of voters here will not allow their factional feelings dictate to them when it comes to vote on the convention proposition.

With Calcasieu also favoring the plan the country parishes will make a good showing in favor of the convention, while New Orleans will be delivering a heavy majority for it.

The elected delegates feel certain that they will meet in New Orleans in September to debate over the needs of Louisiana. This is a practical certainty.

DUNBAR MIXES WITH ALEXANDRIA VOTERS

Candidate for Registrar of the Land Office Makes Political Tour

Percy Dunbar, candidate for the office of Registrar of the State Land Office, made a political tour of Rapides parish and other points during the past week. Mr. Dunbar was in Alexandria during the convention of the Louisiana Farmers' Union and met with encouragement among many he interviewed.

Mr. Dunbar has been kept busy during the past few weeks going to various cities of the state in the interest of his candidacy. There are several contesting for the office which Mr. Dunbar is seeking, those most prominently mentioned besides Mr. Dunbar being Fred J. Grace, present incumbent, and H. J. Lea, clerk of court of West Feliciana.

FAIR ASSOCIATION FINALLY ORGANIZED

STOCKHOLDERS MEET AND ELECT A BOARD OF NINE DIRECTORS—OFFICERS TO BE CHOSEN SATURDAY EVENING

The St. Landry Farmers Fair Association has finally been permanently organized, with the capital stock fixed at one thousand dollars. The organization of the fair association took place in the police jury room on Wednesday morning, several stockholders evincing considerable interest in the organization.

The first board of directors of the association to serve until the first Monday in January is composed of the following: Dr. R. M. Littell, Dr. J. C. A. Haas, R. Lee Mills, Dr. C. A. Gardiner, Edgar T. Dupre, P. P. Hidalgo, L. W. Lyman, John Thistlewaite and Edgar Andrepoint. The directors will meet here on Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock for the purpose of electing the officers of the association and adopt plans and specifications for the holding of the first annual parish fair of the St. Landry Farmers Fair Association.

The association has already been assured of considerably over one thousand dollars, about six hundred dollars having been subscribed in stocks, while the state, city and parish appropriations will amount to \$750. Several of the leading merchants and business men, as well as four of the local banks, have not yet subscribed to the fair association but it is understood that be-

tween these at least five hundred dollars will be secured.

It is not known where the fair will be held this Fall; some of the stockholders favor the Wallor race track, while there are some who would want the fair to take place at Comeau's park and still there are several who think that the old St. Landry High School grounds and building would be suitable for the fair. In all probabilities it will be held on the school grounds, as it is understood that a majority of the directors favor that place, provided that races are not made part of the program for the rapidly approaching fair.

There will be amusements on the grounds, in order that funds can be realized to place the fair association on a permanent and paying basis. A game of football between St. Charles and Lafayette or another strong eleven will be one of the chief attractions.

During the three days of the parish fair there will be something doing the entire time. The Farmers Union, on account of which organization the parish fair question was revived, will likely hold a mammoth rally, when it is expected to bring some five thousand visitors to Opelousas.

JURORS RECOMMEND LOWER ASSESSMENTS

Assessor Fontenot Suggests Lower Assessments for Levee Districts

ESTORGE WILL PLEAD BEFORE EQUALIZERS

Section Effected by the Floods Will Pay Less Taxes if This Proposition Meets With Success at Hands of Equalizers

The police jury went on record last Tuesday as favoring the reduction of assessments, as recommended by Assessor D. M. Fontenot, of \$2 per acre on all assessed open land lying in the Levee Districts of the parish.

The taxpayers in these districts have been hard hit during the overflows of recent years, as well as by the invasion of the boll weevil, and have been suffering under the burden of heavy taxation, for sometime. They appealed to the officials and were heard, resulting in the police jury and the assessor recommending to the State Board of Equalizers the reduction in assessment of \$2 per acre.

Mr. Fontenot personally interviewed the members of the Board of Equalizers and made a strong appeal for the proposed reduction, which would be a source of great relief to the taxpayers of the effected districts.

Hon. Henry Estorge, member of the board from this district, has assured the interested parties that he would take up their fight with his colleagues; he is confident of being victorious.

Following is the letter written to the Board of Equalizers by Mr. Fontenot and the resolution, offered by Dr. Pavy and Mr. W. F. Brown, which was unanimously adopted: Opelousas, La., Aug. 2, '15. To the Hon. Pres. and Members Board of Equalizers, Baton Rouge, La. Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith a copy of the resolution and recommendation of the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Landry in reference to the reduction of assessment on open land lying in the Levee Districts. I desire to likewise add my appro-

val of the same, feeling that these people are justly entitled to the relief asked for, for the reason that the conditions in these districts are deplorable and surely warrant immediate action by your Honorable Board.

Hoping that you will give this matter serious consideration, I have the honor to remain,

Very truly yours,
D. M. FONTENOT,
Assessor Parish of St. Landry, Louisiana.

Motion offered jointly by Dr. Pavy and Messrs. W. F. Brown and K. T. Cattlett.

Whereas the Assessor of the parish of St. Landry appeared before this body in person and made the statement that he would willingly recommend to the Board of Equalizers to make a reduction of \$2.00 per acre on all the assessed open land lying in the Levee district in the parish; and whereas, it is the sense of this body that same would be a relief to the people in the affected districts; therefore,

Be it resolved, that this body earnestly request the said Board of Equalization to make the said reduction; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be handed to the parish assessor, and one be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Equalization. Carried unanimously.

Attest: J. J. HEALEY, Clerk.

WASHINGTON MOURNS DEATH OF PIONEER

Captain Thomas C. Gibbens, aged 83 years, 7 months and 21 days, one of the best known old residents of Washington, and a pioneer settler of the Courtableau town, died on last Wednesday night, after an illness of short duration.

Capt. Gibbens was known to practically every person in the parish, during steamboat days on the Courtableau bayou, being one of the foremost figures in business circles when Washington was the most important shipping point in Southwest Louisiana.

The death of Captain Gibbens places Washington in a mournful state, for everybody loved and respected that old gentleman, who has been called by the Grim Reaper.

The Washington State Bank, of which Capt. Gibbens was a heavy stockholder, closed its doors on Thursday, in honor of the venerable old gentleman.

Funeral services were conducted from his residence at noon, with Masonic rites, and 3:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon, with Masonic rites and interment was made in Cedar View Cemetery. A large number of friends and acquaintances of the Gibbens family attended the funeral.

DR. LAZARO RETURNS FROM PANAMA EXPO.

Seventh District Congressman Enjoys Tour of Western Country

AMERICANS STANDING BY THE PRESIDENT

St. Landry Statesman Finds That the Western People Are Upholding President Wilson On Foreign Policy

Dr. Ladislav Lazaro, Seventh Louisiana District Representative, returned from a tour of western states, on Wednesday afternoon, accompanied by his charming young daughter, Miss Eloise, after a most enjoyable stay in Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. On their way back to Louisiana Congressman Lazaro and Miss Eloise stopped off at St. Louis, where they viewed the Missouri metropolis.

St. Landry's distinguished son reports that he finds the people in the west strongly upholding President Wilson's foreign policy; the Americans, irrespective of party affiliations, have explicit confidence in America's chief executive, and feel assured that President Wilson will not plunge us into war until he has exhausted every avenue of escape.

In a statement issued upon his return to Opelousas Dr. Lazaro said:

"I first attended the Elks' convention in Los Angeles, which was a very big success. The attendance was large and everybody had a most delightful time in the beautiful Pacific Coast city. After the adjournment of the convention my daughter and I attended the San Diego and San Francisco expositions.

"The San Diego exposition is on a small scale, but the people of San Diego deserve a great deal of praise for having made such a splendid showing on their own initiative.

"While the war interfered to some extent with the San Francisco exposition it was quite a success. Some of the foreign nations are not officially represented but they have splendid exhibits.

"There are eleven main exhibit palaces, containing examples of resources and achievements along all lines of human endeavor.

"I am sorry that our state has not a building of its own but our exhibits in the agricultural building does credit to Louisiana. All the products of our state are seen there by visitors from everywhere and I think that the people in charge of the exhibits deserve praise for having made such a good showing with such a small appropriation.

"Of foreign nations, Canada in my opinion, has the finest collection and the best arranged building on the ground. I had read of Japan's progress but had no idea that Japan was so up-to-date. Their exhibits are wonderful.

"California is a great state and is developing rapidly. The people there are courteous and hospitable; the climate is delightful. I think their most valuable asset, however, is their spirit of co-operation. There are no pessimists there, all Californians are boosters. If the people of Louisiana, with her unlimited resources, would work together, it would be a question of a very short time, when our state would blossom like a rose.

"The people all along the way are backing the president in his dealings with foreign countries. The consensus of opinion is that there has been no cause for war thus far and that Mr. Wilson will keep us out of war."

NOTICE

There will be divine services at the Church of the Epiphany (Episcopal) Tuesday, August 10th, 1915, at 7:30 P. M. Holy communion the next (Wednesday) morning at 7:30 o'clock.