

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXVI—NO 42.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1916.

\$1.00 PER YEAR

DOPSTERS PREDICT THIBODEAU VICTORY

Committee's Intention to Crush Thibodeaux Utterly Fails

PARISH AND CITY OLIGARCHIES ARE UPSET

Thibodeaux's Circular and Challenge for Joint-Debate Slaggers the Opposition

CHARGE AND CHALLENGE TO CANDIDATE FONTENOT

"Is it not a fact that the law, Sec. 16 of Act 170 of 1898, requires the assessor to personally or by deputy visit the residence or domicile of every taxpayer, whether individual, firm or corporation, and there take their signed and sworn assessment? Have you complied with this law by going out yourself or sending out a single field deputy for this year? Of the scores of newcomers into the parish, how many have you placed on the roll, either as to property, poll or road tax? Does not every dollar thus left off affect injuriously our schools, our roads and the finances of the parish? Have you not in fact for this year copied verbatim the preceding roll, except where the taxpayer took the trouble, which the law does not require of him, to come to your office and make the necessary changes? It has been charged and never been denied, to my knowledge, that if you are elected sheriff you have already selected and agreed with Charles Chachere that he shall retain the position as Chief Criminal Deputy, which he held under the late lamented Marion Swords. Do you consider that Mr. Chachere's record justifies his retention in that position? Is not such parceling and dividing up of the high office of sheriff in advance of the election, again a plain violation of the law on the subject? Now, Mr. Fontenot, you may answer this in writing if you wish, but in addition I invite and challenge you to meet me before the people on Monday night, the 14th, at the Court House Square at Opelousas, and there answer the people who have given you your commission twice, and answer me on all the above points, if you can. You will be given full opportunity and time to explain to the people and the taxpayers of St. Landry, why, if these charges I make are true, you have abused their confidence, violated their letter of the law, and neglected grossly your duties as assessor. For I will at that time repeat openly these same charges."

That Charles Thibodeaux will be elected St. Landry's sheriff on next Tuesday is beyond any question of a doubt, if you are to take what is said by those who are familiar with political conditions in this parish. It is said by those who have been "making the parish" in the interest of Mr. Thibodeaux's candidacy that the country districts will give him a tremendous majority. The people are bent on breaking the parish and city rings who are backing Mr. Fontenot's candidacy; they intend on next Tuesday to show the office-holders that they and not professional politicians control the vote of St. Landry. Men who are old at the game—who have played politics here for years—say that this is the first time in the history of this parish that every office-holder in St. Landry as well as nearly every city official, has supported the same candidate for sheriff. Mr. Thibodeaux says that the people from one end of the parish to the other are indignant at this office-holders' and professional politicians' combination, and that on the 12th of September it will be torn to pieces.

That the executive committee of St. Landry did Mr. Thibodeaux an injustice cannot be denied. Some of the members of that committee are politicians, and those members who are politicians pulled the wool over the eyes of the members who are not politicians by telling them that a long-drawn campaign would hurt business—at least some of the members of that committee gave this as an excuse for their action. But some of those members and not a minority, had an interest in this campaign. Mr. Thibodeaux's friends claim, and knowing that Mr.

Fontenot had a lead of two weeks over Mr. Thibodeaux, tried to crush him by calling an election at an early date.

The city and parish oligarchies are certainly upset. The following is what was said by a member of our famous Hook Worm Club: "It is just like watching a little child chasing bubbles to follow the action of our politicians. Whenever anyone from the country happens along, the way they button-hold him is something amusing. Wherever you look you see office-holders, office-seekers and professional politicians running up one side of the street and down the other in search of votes for their candidate, Fontenot. I do not understand what they mean. They surely should have sense enough to know that the people are not going to stand for such a state of affairs; they should remember that St. Landry is an independent parish, and that the voters are not going to swallow any candidate who is being 'put over' by a combination of office-holders."

Thibodeaux's circular letter and the challenge contained therein seems to have staggered the opposition. They have not up to the time of going to press answered it at all, neither has Mr. Fontenot accepted Mr. Thibodeaux's challenge to appear before the people of this parish in joint-debate on Monday night in Opelousas to explain to them why he had failed to take the assessment, as assessors usually do, as is charged by Mr. Thibodeaux.

OPELOUSAS AGGREGATION GOES TO BROUSSARD

The local ball club will play the fast Broussard bunch on their own grounds to-morrow. This will make the third game played between Opelousas and Broussard. The first game played was won by the Broussard aggregation, while Opelousas clipped their wings in the second contest. This will be the deciding game.

Both are strong and a good game is expected.

MISS GUSSIE CHRETIN DIES

Miss Gussie Chretien, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jules Chretien, aged 24 years, died at Uralde, Texas, Aug. 3, 1916, and was buried at Grand Coteau, Aug. 5th, 1916. She died as she had lived, a sweet, noble christian girl, cheerful and happy at the hour of death, as she had been during her short life. A pure christian character as hers was, is God's noblest work. Peace to her ashes. Sunset, La., Aug. 10, 1916.

Former Opelousas Resident Dies In New Orleans

Claude M. Pasquier, of New Orleans, one-time resident of Opelousas, died in that city Friday morning. This news was conveyed to Mr. A. S. Brown of this city, half-brother to the deceased. Mr. Pasquier was well-known here, having lived in Opelousas during his youth. He moved to New Orleans about forty years ago, where he has resided up to the time of his death. He was nearly seventy years of age.

LAWN PARTY

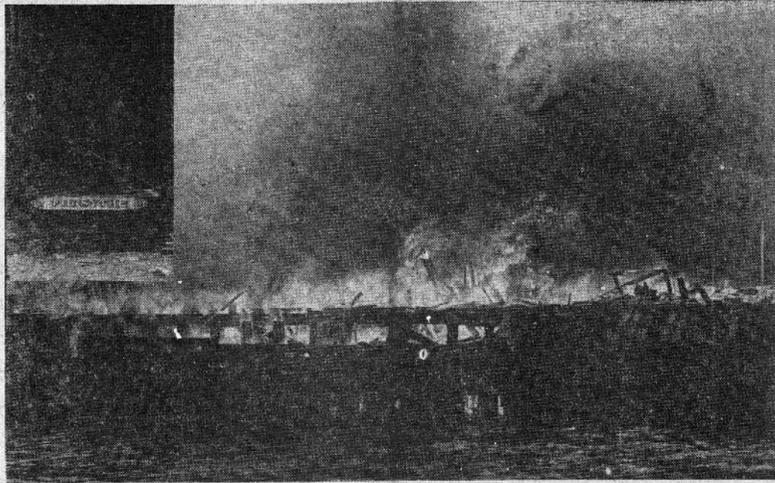
A Lawn Party on the Court House Square will be the attraction Wednesday evening from 6 P. M.

Refreshments will be served by the little folks for the benefit of the Junior Epworth League of the Methodist Church. Come out and bring the children for a frolic.

NEW ARRIVAL

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Stander are congratulating them on the arrival of a new boy at their home on Friday last.

The little new-comer is the third son to be given a welcome by this happy family.



\$20,000,000 EXPLOSION

Photo shows view of fire of docks and cars by explosion of munitions valued at \$7,000,000,000. Total damage to property adjacent to New York over \$20,000,000. Insert: shows New York store window blown out, guarded by soldiers.

Police Jury Proceedings

Opelousas, La., August 7, 1916

The Police Jury convened in regular session this seventh day of August, 1916, with the following members present: Mr. J. T. St. Cyr, President pro tem, presiding; Messrs. Larcade Evans, Mills Dailey, Beaguh, W. F. Brown, Doucet, Martin, McCoy, Babington, Sylvester.

A committee composed of Messrs. Babington and Dailey assisted by the Clerk of this body, were duly appointed to canvass the returns of the election held in the Second Road District of the 4th Police Jury Ward of this parish, held on July 25th, 1916, and in open session the committee did canvass said returns and reported as follows, to-wit:

MELVILLE PRECINCT—
Number of property taxpayers voting in favor of the issuance of bond..... 35
Number of property taxpayers voting against the issuance of bond..... 1
Majority for..... 34
Total valuation of property voted in favor of said proposition..... \$90,220.00
Total valuation of property voted against said proposition..... 1,350.00
Majority in favor..... \$88,870.00

For the levy of a special tax of not more than ten mills:

Number of property taxpayers voting in favor of said proposition..... 34
Number of property taxpayers voting against said proposition..... 1
Majority in favor..... 33
Total valuation of property voted in favor of said proposition..... \$85,400.00
Total valuation of property voted against said proposition..... 1,350.00
Majority in favor..... \$84,050.00

PALMETTO PRECINCT:

Number of property taxpayers voting in favor of the issuance of bonds..... 10
Number of property taxpayers voting against the issuance of bonds..... 1
Majority for..... 9
Total valuation of property voted in favor of said proposition..... \$9,280.00
Total valuation of property voted against said proposition..... \$90.00
Majority in favor..... \$8,890.00

For the levy of a special tax of not more than 10 mills:

Number of property taxpayers voting in favor of said proposition..... 10
Number of property taxpayers voting against said proposition..... 1
Majority in favor..... 9
Total valuation of property voted in favor of said proposition..... \$9,280.00
Total valuation of property voted against said proposition..... \$90.00
Majority in favor..... \$8,890.00

Upon motion of Mr. Beaguh—

The report of committee on the canvass of the returns of said road tax election in the Second Road District of the 4th Police Jury Ward was received and accepted, and an ordinance ordered drafted in accordance therewith, and the promulgation of said election be published according to law. Motion carried.

Mr. Babington offered the following ordinance, and upon being duly

read was adopted unanimously, to-wit:

AN ORDINANCE

To declare and promulgate the result of the special election held in the Second Road District of the Fourth Police Jury Ward of St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, on Tuesday, July 25th, 1916, at which there was submitted to the property taxpayers of said road district a proposition to incur debt and issue bonds, and a proposition to levy a special tax, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and repairing the public roads and bridges of said district; to declare both of said propositions carried, and to direct and authorize the incurring of debt, issuance and sale of bonds, and levying of a special tax, all in accordance with and as authorized at said election.

Whereas, on the 25th day of July, A. D. 1916, a special election was held throughout the Second Road District of the Fourth Police Jury Ward of the Parish of St. Landry, Louisiana, to submit to the property taxpayers of said Road District qualified to vote at such an election, two certain propositions herein-after set out in Section 1 of this ordinance; and

Whereas, said election was duly held, and the returns thereof canvassed by the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Landry on the 7th day of August, 1916, at the time and place previously appointed in a notice published for thirty full days as provided by law; and

Whereas, the results of said election was determined and declared to be that a majority both in number of vote and in valuation of property of the taxpayers who voted at said election, voted in favor of both of the two propositions submitted at said election, and that hereinafter set out, and that said election was therefore favorable to both of said propositions and both of them were carried;

Now Therefore,

Be it Ordained by the Police Jury of the Parish of St. Landry in regular session convened;

Section 1. That the following propositions which were submitted to and voted upon by the property taxpayers of the Second Road District of the Fourth Police Jury Ward of the Parish of St. Landry, at the special election regularly called and held on July 25th, 1916, be and they are hereby declared to have both been favorably voted on and unanimously carried at said election, to-wit:

Proposition 1st, for the Issuance of Bonds:

"Proposition to authorize the Second Road District of the Fourth Police Jury Ward of the Parish of St. Landry, through its governing authority, to incur debt and issue bonds to the amount of Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00), to run for a period of Twenty-three (23) years, bearing interest at the rate of Five per cent. (5) per annum, payable annually; the funds thus derived to be used for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and repairing the public roads and bridges in said Second Road District of the Fourth Police Jury Ward of St. Landry Parish";

Proposition 2nd, for the Levy of a Special Tax of Not More Than 10 Mills.

Proposition as to whether a special tax of not more than ten (10) mills on the dollar per annum, in addition to the vehicle and per capita tax levied under existing ordinances, shall be annually levied on all taxable property in the Second Road District of the Fourth

GRAHAM-JACKSON.

Quite a charming wedding took place on Monday, the 17th, Miss Bessie Lula Jackson, the lovely daughter of T. A. Jackson, Editor of "The Enterprise," of this city, having been united in the holy bonds of wedlock to J. I. Graham, of Blue Springs, Nebraska.

The wedding had a slightavor of romance to it: may it add an extra sparkle to the champagne of the nuptial cup; may it overflow as bright and sparkling a promise as the rainbow that spanned the heavens with its smile upon the bridal pair upon the joy ride at late evening after the downpour in which the bride was surprised off in the wedding having taken place a little unexpectedly, the groom having stolen an evening off from the garage, borrowing an automobile from it, came in the pouring rain, surprising his bride elect, eating watermelon at her bosom friend's, and commanded them to get ready for the joyful event slightly precipitated.

It took three automobiles to get the wedding party off—one getting bogged in the front yard whence the party started, the second brought by the obliging and affable "Bud" Haas, managing officary of the happy occasion, giving up its heart pulse temporarily, run out of business probably by the heart beats of the bridal pair, going into a state of syncope, lodging by the side of the first; Mr. Haas bringing a third car, however, the party finally got off reaching the desired goal the Methodist parsonage, at about six P. M., the Rev. Harper of that church officiating.

As the Bible mentions both three and seven as lucky numbers, and as God spanned the heavens after the dark period of deluge with the rainbow of promise, those symbols having predominated upon the occasion, as it took three starts for the party to get off—the happy event took place upon the 7th, and there were seven at the marriage rite.

After the ceremony was concluded, a joy ride was taken to our sister town of Washington, and it was indeed a JOY RIDE, as there would have to be some champagne sparkle where the Hon. "Budd" Haas is.

Upon the return from the ride, a delicious supper was enjoyed by the party at Durio's; and that the supper was all that could be desired it is needless to say, as none would question the culinary efficiency of the SUPERVISOR and CHEFS of that restaurant. That the toasts BUMPED and quaffed upon the occasion may be fulfilled with full measure is the sincere and ardent wish of all of the friends of the happy pair.

FOR SALE Furniture and piano, all in good condition. Reason for selling, party moving out of town. Mrs. Cara Breaux.

Proceedings of the 16th Judicial Democratic Committee

Ville Plate, La., July 31st, 1916.
The 16th Judicial Democratic Executive Committee of the Parishes of St. Landry and Evangeline, met this day at Ville Platte, and on roll call the following members answered as present: R. L. Dossman, Chairman, Joseph A. Hardey, proxy to R. L. Dossman, R. C. Fontenot, proxy to R. L. Derouen, J. P. Trosclair, proxy to R. L. Derouen, A. W. Dejean, proxy to J. R. Pavy, David Meche, proxy to J. R. Pavy, Absent: Edgar Lafleur and Tilder Guilbeau; Quorum Present.

Motion offered by R. L. Derouen, duly seconded and carried as follows, to-wit:

Be it resolved by the Democratic Executive Committee of the 16th Judicial District of the State of Louisiana, in regular session convened, that;

Whereas, the Hon. B. H. Pavy and Peyton R. Sandoz have filed with this committee notification of their intention to become candidates for the office of Judge of the 16th Judicial District of the State of Louisiana at the Democratic Primary Election to be held on September 12th, 1916, and

Whereas both have qualified themselves to become candidates at the said primary election; Therefore, be it resolved that the Hon. B. H. Pavy and Hon. Peyton Sandoz, are hereby declared eligible to become candidates for the office of Judge of the 16th Judicial District of Louisiana, at the Democratic Primary Election to be held on September 12th, 1916, to select the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office of Judge of said district; And, Whereas, Hon. R. Lee Garland and Hon. Jno. W. Lewis, have filed with this committee notification of their intention to become candidates for the office of District Attorney of the 16th Judicial District of Louisiana at the Democratic Primary Election to be held on September 12th, 1916, to select the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office of District Attorney of said District. Be it further resolved; That the Chairman and Secretary of this Committee certify to the Secretary of the State the name of B. H. Pavy and Peyton R. Sandoz, candidates for the office of Judge, and the name of R. Lee Garland and Jno. W. Lewis, candidates for the office of District Attorney of the 16th Judicial District of Louisiana, eligible to become candidates at the Primary Election to be held on the 12th of September 1916, to select the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office of District Attorney of said District. Be it further resolved; That Clement Smith, C. L. Hayes, Jr., A. W. Dejean, C. M. Thompson and R. C. Fontenot be and are hereby declared the nominees as Committeemen for the 16th Judicial District of Louisiana, for the Parish of St. Landry; and that Sydney Fontenot, Adraide Veillon and R. L. Dossman be and are hereby declared the Democratic nominees for the 16th Judicial District of Louisiana, for the Parish of Evangeline.

Be it further resolved that when this committee adjourns it adjourns to meet again at Opelousas, La., on the 22d day of August 1916, at 12 M. for the purpose of selecting the Commissioners and Clerks to hold said Primary Election.

RENE L. DOSSMAN, Chairman.
Attest:
R. L. DEROUEN, Sec. Pro. Tem.

Civil Service Examination.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces that on August 26th, 1916, at Opelousas, La., an open competitive examination will be held for the position of clerk and city carrier in the Opelousas post office. For application blank and copy of the board of the United States Civil Service at Opelousas, La.

TO RE-OPEN MASON'S DRUG STORE

Mr. Landry of Donaldsonville will re-open the popular Mason's Drug Store. Mr. Landry is now in the city and will open up the new establishment at once. He is a registered pharmacist and informs the Clarion that he will give special attention to the prescription department.

CANDIDATE FONTENOT DODGES THE ISSUE

Issues Circular, But Fails to Answer Thibodeaux's Charges

CHARLES THIBODEAUX MAKES COUNTER-CHARGES

Plays Fontenot for His Failure to Follow the Law As Assessor

(AN OPEN-LETTER.)

To Mr. Darius M. Fontenot:

You have issued a circular full of spleen and bitterness, without ever attempting to answer a single charge which I and the newspapers of this parish have made against your official conduct. YOUR ANSWER IS VIRTUALLY AN ADMISSION OF GUILT. My circular was couched in respectful and courteous language, but yours is full of epithets and is an attempt to SHIFT THE ISSUE. BUT YOU CAN'T DODGE; YOU CAN'T SHIFT; THE PEOPLE DEMAND AN ANSWER AND YOU MUST GIVE IT.

Am I a traudeur when I state a fact which you admit under your own signature?

FIRST—That you never even attempted to follow the plain letter of the law; that you never even made any assessment at all for 1916.

THIS YOU ADMIT, BUT CLAIM NO HARM WAS DONE THEREBY. YOU CONFESS, AND THEN SEEK TO AVOID!

SECOND—That you have already parcelled out the sheriff's office between your political supporters and that Mr. Charles Chachere will be your chief deputy. YOU DO NOT DENY THESE CHARGES. THEY MUST BE TRUE, Mr. Fontenot, and you know yourself you are violating the law in so doing. YOU ARE THEREFORE GUILTY AGAIN.

You have asked me certain questions. I shall be more frank and fair than you have been. I give YOU AND THE PEOPLE the following answers:

FIRST—No, I do not claim the leadership of any faction. I am simply an humble citizen asking all the people for support, and I promise ALL THE PEOPLE to give them a CLEAN, HONEST AND COURAGEOUS administration. NO CLIQUE OR COURT HOUSE RING MADE ME A CANDIDATE, AND IF ELECTED I SHALL OWE MY RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PEOPLE.

THIRD—After the election for sheriff when Sheriff Swords defeated me I was down and out financially. The campaign had been a bitter and costly one, but THE FIRST MAN TO TAKE MY HAND AND OFFER ASSISTANCE WAS SHERIFF SWORDS. When he did this my heart grew warm toward him and I swore I would never oppose him again. He helped me afterwards and I DID NOT FORGET HIS KINDNESS. YOU DID, FOR HE MADE YOU POLITICALLY AND AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY YOU STABBED HIM IN THE BACK POLITICALLY. I CLAIM FOR MYSELF AT LEAST THE VIRTUE OF GRATITUDE—YOU CAN NOT.

THIRD—Yes, with the help of Sheriff Swords and other friends I was appointed agent in this district for the conservation commission and I HAVE TRIED TO EARN MY SALARY—WHICH IS MORE THAN YOU HAVE DONE AS ASSESSOR—and I leave it to the people to say whether I should have accepted an appointment, which was sure to go to someone else if I did not accept it. WILL YOU TURN DOWN AN APPOINTMENT AFTER YOUR DEFEAT?

FOURTH—I was Parish Treasurer for a time, many years ago, and I have never heard ANYONE COMPLAIN OF THE MANNER IN WHICH MY OFFICE WAS RUN! I accounted for every dollar, every cent, that came into my hands and got my quits from the Police Jury. Be plain, Mr. Fontenot, if you can't

Continued on page six.