

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXIX—NO. 36.

OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1919.

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR

CON. L. LAZARO WRITES OF HIS EUROPEAN TRIP

TELLS OF THE SIGHTS SEEN ON THE BATTLE FIELDS OF EUROPE.

VISITS POINTS OF INTEREST ON TOUR

Received by King and Queen of the Belgians and the Hero Priest, Cardinal Mercier.

Washington, D. C., May 10, 1919.
Mr. J. P. Troscial, Opelousas, La.

My dear Tros.: We were on such a rush all the time in Europe that I never had the time to write to any one. Today is the first day I have a little time to myself, so will write you these few lines.

My trip to Europe was certainly an interesting trip. I was very fortunate in being able to go across on the Leviathan with the Secretary of the Navy, and coming back on the President's ship, the George Washington, with the Secretary of War. We had a very calm sea, with the exception of a couple of days going, and a storm that lasted one day and one night coming. Contrary to what I expected, I was not seasick at all.

While making the trip there and back on these big trips, which remind one of great big New York hotels, I was impressed with the progress made since the time of Columbus. I pictured his trip across in his little sail ship and our trip on the big Leviathan. To think that you could carry twice as many people as we have living in Opelousas on one boat 3000 miles and back without running short of anything!

We left Brest on the 24th in automobiles and went to Paris. From Paris we visited the battle fields. We spent eight days going over them very carefully with army officers explaining every position. No one can have an idea of these battle fields and what that war was unless he sees everything with his own eyes. No writer can describe them and no photographer can picture them. To think that you can travel for days, and miles and miles, going through villages and towns where in some cases there were as many as fifty and sixty thousands inhabitants before the war and not find a single building standing, not a human being or an animal—nothing but piles of stones and bricks, the earth all torn to pieces and the trees all shot to pieces by shells. But strange to say, on the edge of these battle fields the people are cheerful and working.

Our American boys certainly did their part in this war, and our people should be proud of their record. After we left the battle fields, we returned to Paris, which was our headquarters, and from there we went to Coblenz. I guess your son wrote you about our experience the day we met. I had been looking for him at two different places, as he had been transferred, and had about given up the hope of finding him when on way back going slowly through a little town where there were several hundred soldiers. I recognized him standing at a door. We stopped the machines, met him and introduced him to the other members of the delegation in our machines. While I met a good many of our boys, I regretted very much that I could not see them all. It is difficult for them at home to understand how hard it is to find soldiers over there as they are scattered everywhere and constantly moving toward the seaboard. You can hardly get accommodations on the train and it is impossible to hire a machine to go anywhere. We had to map out a course and the party had to stay together. Otherwise we would have been stranded and no telling when we would have gotten together again.

From Coblenz we returned to Paris. Before leaving Coblenz, I want to tell you my impressions of conditions in that part of Germany. I think the Allies are perfectly right in imposing a rigid penalty upon the Germans, as they are not as poor as they pretend to be. Having had no battles on their own territory, their industries were not interrupted, with the exception of a few where they could not get raw material and on account of shortage of man power. I found a good deal of food there, the people well fed, fat and staid and well dressed. They also have another propaganda, and that is to make the Americans believe that they are very fond of them. They cannot be too nice or do too much for our American soldiers. Of course, their object is to get our sympathies and get out of the peace conference as easy as possible.

We then went to Belgium. There we were received by the King and

Queen, who were very popular with the masses on account of having stayed with their boys in the trenches and taken care of them until the end. The Chamber of Deputies and Senate gave us a reception and banquet in the Chamber of Deputies where Miss Edith Cavell was tried and condemned. The following night we were received by the Minister of Economics and given a dinner at his residence. We were then accompanied by his son to the battle fields at Ypres and surroundings, this son having fought for four years, was thoroughly familiar with every position and gave us a very interesting explanation of the whole thing. The battle field of Ypres is low, full of mud and water, and in open. There is not a house, a tree or an inhabitant left there—nothing but deris, tanks turned over, pits, rifles, helmets, cartridges and uniforms scattered everywhere.

We also went as far as Zeebrugge, the German submarine base that was destroyed by the British had asked for volunteers to do this work, and had trained them secretly for six months of the passage and landed it was one of the most heroic attacks made on the enemy during the war. They sank three vessels right in the mouth of the passage and landed their marines, who ascended the concrete walls of the channel over barbed wires, and, after a hand to hand fight, captured the German machine guns. At the spot where we were there were 800 British marines killed by German machine guns.

From there we visited Dainant. The population of Dainant before the war was 7800. There the Germans killed, without cause, 740 people and deported a large number, of which 1800 are missing so far.

We also visited Louvain, another city where they destroyed many buildings by fire and shell, and killed a good many people. There was also burnt on of the oldest and most famous libraries of Europe.

Then we went to visit the famous old cathedral of Reims, which was bombarded for over four years. They have destroyed everything except the main walls and pillars. Of course, most of the valuable statues and paintings had been removed. I was told that it would be re-built, but that it would take many years to do it.

From there we went to Malines, where we met the popular Cardinal Mercier. He is really the hero of Belgium. He refused to be interned or to leave the country and went freely from place to place under shell fire and kept up the spirit of the Belgian people until the very end. He is very keen intelligence. He gave us a magnificent reception with a luncheon. He is tall, slender, quiet, and has a very I am sending you a picture of our delegation taken with the Cardinal and his assistants. He is very grateful to country, and assured us that he would visit the United States this fall.

We also visited the famous battle field of Waterloo on this trip. Then we returned to Paris. From there we went to Italy.

We spent two days in Italy and were well received by the Italian people. I had the good fortune of meeting a Catholic Army Chaplain there who took us around in his machine. He had spent five years in Rome studying, and kind enough to show us all the historic places of Rome. It attended the Pope's Mass at 7 a. m. on Easter Sunday in his private chapel in the Vatican, and high Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral at 11 a. m. This church was filled, and I was told that it held 50,000 people. It is very interesting to attend Mass there, as there are no pews. When you are not kneeling down, you must stand up. It is so large that people forget themselves and talk, which reminded me sometimes of a political meeting. Of course, the reason for that is that a good of the people are tourists and become interested in different things inside while Mass is being celebrated.

I also visited the catacombs there. Was taken around by a monk who spoke very good English and explained everything to me. Also saw the old Colosseum, which held 50,000 people and where they had their wild beasts and where so many were slaughtered.

From Rome we returned to Paris, and then went into Switzerland. We made the trip from Paris to Marseille and to Nice by rail. There we saw the most beautiful scenery on our entire trip, with the exception of Geneva, which we visited later. We had the Mediterranean Sea on one side and the mountains on the other. From Nice we went to Monte Carlo in machines, taking the seaside route and coming back to Nice through the mountains. From Nice we went to Geneva, where we spent but a short time. The setting for the city of Geneva is the most ideal I have ever seen; it is built on the edge of the most beautiful lake I ever saw, right at the foot of the mountains. This is the city that is so famous for its fine watches and clocks,—but not for its barbers. I assure you. It was there that I got the worst shave I ever had. The barber was a very kind fellow, was extremely polite and spoke good

(Continued on Page Four)

ST. LANDRY PH. FAILS TO MAKE VICTORY QUOTA

WASHINGTON, SUNSET, ARNAUDVILLE AND OPELOUSAS SELL QUOTAS.

LESS THAN \$300,000 OF BONDS ARE SOLD

Some Communities Were Indifferent and Make Little or No Effort to Sell Allotment of Bonds.

The strenuous efforts made by the committee of the Victory Loan Drive in this parish to send St. Landry over the top did not meet with the success that was expected. Some sections of the parish responded nobly, while others failed utterly to do anything in the direction of canvassing or subscribing to the loan. Hence it is that instead of \$756,000.00 worth of bonds being sold in St. Landry, its quota, there were less than \$300,000.00 actually placed. It is a great pity that St. Landry in this last and final war activity has fallen down so miserably, especially in view of the prompt and liberal response which it had so uniformly made in the past to all of the demands upon it. Opelousas, Sunset, Washington and Arnaudville easily went over the top, but many of the other sections of the parish and centers of population subscribed little or nothing to the bond issue. While there was no open opposition to the campaign, there was a well-defined under-current which almost amounted to opposition. Some blamed the government for the low price of cotton, other stood the position that the government was responsible in part for the high cost of living, and these considerations afforded some excuse or palliation for the indifference of a considerable number of our citizens. Of course, only ignorance, selfishness and a lack of patriotism could have suggested any such reasons, but it is usually easy for one seeking to evade the performance of a manifest public duty to find some avenue of escape.

The Clarion regrets profoundly that St. Landry failed to respond to the last call made upon it, but the facts are written in the history of this war and cannot be evaded or extenuated.

Demonstration Agent to Have Assistant

Supt. W. B. Prescott announces that he has been notified by Miss Alice Hickman, state home demonstration agent, that Miss Jennie E. Ford has been appointed to assist Mrs. Mary B. Giesen, parish home demonstration agent, during the rush of the canning season.

Miss Ford assumed her duties yesterday.

Canning Demonstration on Tuesday, May 20th

There will be a demonstration on the canning of beans and vegetable mixtures at the community kitchen, Court street, on Tuesday, May 20, at 3 o'clock.

Both the water bath and steam pressure canners will be used in the demonstrations and the methods explained.

All who are interested are urged to attend.

Protect Tree Wounds With Good Mixture

"The best kind of 'paint' to apply to wounds on trees," says B. Szymoniak, associate horticulturist, Extension Division, Louisiana State University, "is one that disinfects the wounds and furnishes complete protection to the sap wood while the wound is healing and causes least injury to the tissues.

"Such a mixture can be made of the following ingredients: One-third part creosote and two-thirds part coal tar. In applying it care must be taken not to drench the sap wood too heavily. The brush should be saturated just enough to apply the mixture."

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HOLD INITIATION MAY 25

The local council of the Knights of Columbus will hold a big initiation of candidates on Sunday, May 25th.

NEW AUTO FIRM RECEIVES A CARLOAD OF BUICK 6'S

The firm of Sandoz & Cormier, recently organized to handle the Buick line in this territory, have received a car of Buick sixes.

GRAVE OF CAPTAIN FRYATT



This is the grave in Bruges of Captain Fryatt, master of the steamship Brusaes, who was executed by the Germans because he attempted to run a German submarine. The grave was not marked with a cross at first, but after the German evacuation it was marked by the English.

Wants All Auto Owners to Pay Their Auto Tax

The Clarion received this week from Hon. Kemp T. Catlett a letter that he had received from the secretary of state, in which it is urged that all auto owners comply with the law in paying their auto taxes. The letter follows:

Baton Rouge, April 30.

Dear Sir:

The present activity of the people of this state in building good roads should be encouraged in every way possible, and this department respectfully suggests that the local authorities in your parish can materially help the cause by enforcing the penal statutes covering the collection of the auto license tax.

It is, to say the least, unfair to those who pay to permit others to dodge this tax. Failure to pay this tax is declared a misdemeanor under our laws, and all delinquents should be promptly prosecuted, and the fines collected turned into the general fund as provided by law.

In 1916, 17,000 license plates were sold; in 1917, 28,000; in 1918, 39,000; and up to this date in 1919, we have sold 37,000, and before the end of this year, with the co-operation of the local authorities, we should sell 60,000.

In view of the fact that this money, which will probably amount to \$350,000 this year, goes back to the parishes less the operating expenses of the department, which amount is fixed by law, we should all pull together and make all auto owners come across.

JAMES J. BAILEY,
Secretary of State.

PRINCESS MAKES BIG IMPROVEMENT

WILL INSTALL A \$5,000.00 WURLITZER ORCHESTRA ABOUT JUNE 1ST.

The Princess theatre, operated by the Opelousas Motion Picture Co., Inc., has placed an order for a Wurlitzer orchestra which is now en route and will be installed about June 1st.

The instrument is considered the wonder of all mechanical orchestras. It is in three units, having a concert piano with double keyboard, also a pipe organ; the piano has a range of seven and one-third octaves and the pipe organ four and one-half octaves. The cabinet contains the following pipe organ and orchestral effects: Flute, cello, violin, tremulant, piano, mandolin, xylophone, bass drum, snare drum, auto horn, fire gong, bird whistle, patrol whistle, triangle, tambourines, tom-tom, cannon and train effects.

Good music to a moving picture is a close second to the film, and with this in mind the management has ordered the last word in musical instruments for the theatre.

Since this company was formed they have endeavored to improve the Princess in every respect and in addition to this instrument they have installed in the past a first class heating system, a giant typhoon cooling system costing \$1,500, a \$2,500 gold-fibre screen that portrays every expression and has proven, after many tests, that it does not harm the eyesight.

The management of the Princess theatre and their employes have been untiring in their efforts to give the people of Opelousas a first-class moving picture house, clean shows and courteous treatment.

HIGH SCHOOL GIVES DIPLOMAS TO 25 STUDENTS

GRADUATING CLASS OF 1919 COMPOSED OF 22 GIRLS AND THREE BOYS.

COLONEL STUBBS DELIVERS ADDRESS

Commencement Program Contains Pleasing Musical Selection—Medals and Honors Awarded.

The commencement exercises of the Opelousas high school which took place on Monday afternoon was one of the most brilliant school functions ever witnessed in this section of the state. There were twenty-five graduates and a more beautiful, cultured and attractive bevy of young ladies, and sturdy and handsome young men, never graced a high school rostrum. The program was elaborate and entertaining and the faculty and students deserve untold praise for the success of the occasion.

The first number on the program was a minuet, most beautiful in appearance and most skillful in execution. Much credit for this number is due Miss Marguerite Sanders.

Miss Dailey executed a piano solo with charm and grace and evident technique.

Then followed the graduate's march with Miss Bee Crawford at the piano. It was one of the most entertaining numbers on the program. The graduates in beautiful costumes marched with their charming ushers from the rear of the auditorium to the stage.

On the left aisle came Miss Edna Lewis, Miss Mamie Anding, Miss Francis Staggs, Miss Lillie Belle Bode-muller, Miss Lena Loeb, Miss Helen Clopton, Miss Ruth Evans, Miss Mildred Whittington, Miss Marie Troscial, Miss Majorie Chachere, Miss Sydalise Burr. Ushers for the graduates were Miss Queente Guilbeau, Miss Cecil Boagni, Miss Lucile Staggs, Miss Grace Smith, Miss Nathalie Haas, Miss Evelyn Lewis, Miss Anna Belle Richard, Miss Geraldine Brown, Miss Aline Castille, Miss Lucille Troscial, Miss Barbara Lacombe.

On the right aisle came Miss Inez Durio, Miss Ethel Dejean, Miss Margaret Firnberg, Miss Loretta Lynch, Miss Marie Louise Ware, Miss Celeste Boutte, Miss Eleanor Anding, Miss Maude Myers, Miss Mae Pulford, Miss Edna Riseman and Miss Lena Allen. These graduates were attended by Miss Vita Guilbeau, Miss Josie Guilbeau, Miss Alberta Wright, Miss Alberta Wright, Miss Francis King, Miss Xine Dupre, Miss Helen Fox, Miss Mabel Lacombe, Miss Mary Hollier, Miss Rose Curtis, Miss Irma May Roos, Miss Lena Bourdier.

The ushers carried handsome baskets of flowers which were presented to their respective graduates when they took their places on the rostrum. We would not undertake to describe the graduates. They were demure and at once sad and radiant in their triumph, after long years of honest application and study.

Mr. E. M. Boagni in glowing language then presented the orator of the occasion, Col. Frank P. Stubbs, Jr., who delighted a large and intelligent audience with a resume of his experiences at home and abroad while an officer in the late war. Col. Stubbs made a most pleasing impression on the hearers and his discourse was thoroughly appreciated by all.

The next number was a song by Mrs. W. T. Stewart whose charming voice always delights an Opelousas audience. Mrs. Stewart sang a song appropriate to the occasion and received much merited applause.

Miss Loretta Lynch, the valedictorian of the class, delivered a most pleasing and sensible valedictory. Miss Lynch was the recipient of many congratulations upon the honor accorded her and the splendid manner in which she fulfilled her function.

No less enjoyed than the other numbers was a song by Miss Carpenter. Her voice was full of timbre and melody and was accorded the reception her splendid talent and charming personality justly merit.

Mr. J. A. Durio, a member of the school board, who was to deliver the medals and scholarships was absent on account of illness, but Principal Charles Perrault filled the vacancy and made some very striking and apostrophe remarks to the pupils and of the school.

The program ended with a presentation of the diplomas and certificates by Superintendent Prescott in a short speech full of pith and eloquence; and thus concluded one of the most delightful and best conducted affairs

ever staged by the Opelousas high school.

But a mention of the commencement exercises would not be complete without some reference to the substantial entertainment furnished the graduates and officials of the school as well as the visitors, by Miss Gertrude Sandoz, teacher of domestic science. For the occasion the domestic science room was elaborately decorated with flowers, and delicious punch and other refreshments were served.

Medals and Honors Awarded Students.

The Thomas H. Lewis medal for English, eleventh year work, was presented to Miss Margaret Firnberg.

The Clarion medal for plain geometry was presented to Isaac Hawkins.

The Littell medal for the best three-year average was presented to Miss Lillie Belle Bodemuller.

The Interstate Bank and Trust Co. medal for the best essay on vital statistics was presented to Isaac Hawkins.

The scholarship to the Louisiana State University for the highest average, eleventh year, was presented to Miss Loretta Lynch.

The scholarship to the Lafayette Industrial Institute was presented to Miss Edna Lewis.

Spelling Certificates.

After the closing exercises the following pupils, numbering 109, were given their spelling certificates for making 100 per cent in the spelling contest. Those in group one were as follows:

Marian Lauman, Johnnie Wilson, Lucile Guidry, Willie Littell, Charley Terriena, Elder Sylvester, Sidney Chachere, Edgar Hidalgo, Helen Vall, Walter Castille, L. A. Castille, L. A. Mouret, Syble Hollier, Melvin Del Buono, Sam Columbo, Annie Fazzino, Dominique Motise, Josephine Dubuisson, Vernon Fontenot, Lee Lavergne, Frank Drago, Herbert Amy, Mary Bernard, Julia Ducharme, Rose D. Bernard, Alma Chachere, Viola Boudier, Thelma Chachere, Adela Durio, Helen Gariand, Ophelia Vall, Theresa Fazio, Mary Ella Collins, Frederick Dupre, Gertrude Hinton, Emily Roy, Alvin Phillips, Harold Guilbeau, Yetta Presburg, Elmira Devellier, Nozzy Roberts, Duth Devellier, Louise Pavy, Pauline Lupo, Havlin Haw, Rena Pire, Mary Haw, Anthony Chachere and Willie Boutte.

Group Two—Agnes Roy, William M. Prescott, Helen Lynch, Herschell McLeod, Richard Morhinveg, Florence Attaway, Ramle Stelly, Charley Walker, Kenneth Furio, Ivan Holman, George D. Wright, Bonnie Kerr, Annie Kerr, Annie L. Fennel, Norma Pitre, Clara Fuseller, David Blacksher, Julius Winsberg, Noah Guidry, Genevieve Guilbeau, Leon Haas, Mary Tulaque.

Group Three—Rose Curstly, Odile Lalonde, Barbara Lacombe, Edna Lewis, Lillie Belle Bodemuller, Mae Pulford, Margaret Firnberg, Martha Mistrick, Alberta Wright, Xine Dupre, Loretta Lynch, Francis Staggs, Eleanor Anding, Isaac Hawkins, Louise Wright, Lena Allen, Majorie Chachere, Sydalise Burr, Mamie Anding, Lena Loeb, Jennie Matise, Lucille Kerr, Mildred Whittington, Ethel Dejean, Ruth Evans, Edna Riseman.

Robert B. Wilkins Dies in New Orleans

Robert B. Wilkins, a prominent planter of the Belevue section, died in New Orleans Saturday, May 10th. His remains were shipped here and buried in the family burial ground.

He married Miss Pointer, who preceded him to the grave some years ago, and from this union there were born two children, the late Mrs. Felix Dejauche and Perry Wilkins.

He died as he lived, full of honor and of years. With most men, as they become aged the sink into obscurity. Their race being run they spend the remainder of their existence in peace and quiet, free from the maddening crowd.

With the lamented dead it was otherwise. He never grew old. His powers to think and work were as masterful at death as at any time during his busy and eventful career. He was always eager for the fray.

Marriage License Record.

Stanislaus Richard and Miss Leah Fontenot.

Joseph Austin Lavergne and Edna Boudreau.

Armand Deshotels and Joyce Doucet.

Alcide Cortez and Anna Prudhomme.

Arisen Richard and Clara Duwell.

Clark Adds New Line.

John W. Clark, jeweler, has added a line of talking machines to his complete line of jewelry. The make of this machine is the "Manophone" and is remarkable in its reproduction of the human voice.

AGRICULTURAL CLUBS HOLD A BIG RALLY DAY

FIFTEEN COMMUNITIES ARE REPRESENTED BY 225 CLUB MEMBERS.

ENJOY PICNIC ON COURT SQUARE

Topics of Interest Discussed by Visiting Agents—The Next Rally Will Take Place in June.

The rally of the Agricultural Clubs held Thursday was a complete success, there being more than 225 children in attendance, representing fifteen communities.

Mrs. Giesen has been untiring in her efforts to interest the young people of this parish in the way of improvement in agricultural work. A day has been set aside annually for a parish rally as an incentive to the children for a reward of their good work during the year.

The following program was rendered during the course of the day's entertainment:

Opening prayer, Rev. Fr. Colliard. Address of welcome, Mayor Halphen.

Response, Miss Margaret Firnberg, third-year canning club girl.

Song, by the Washington club. Address, E. A. Richardson, Walter Castille, L. A. Castille, L. A. Mouret, Syble Hollier, Melvin Del Buono, Sam Columbo, Annie Fazzino, Dominique Motise, Josephine Dubuisson, Vernon Fontenot, Lee Lavergne, Frank Drago, Herbert Amy, Mary Bernard, Julia Ducharme, Rose D. Bernard, Alma Chachere, Viola Boudier, Thelma Chachere, Adela Durio, Helen Gariand, Ophelia Vall, Theresa Fazio, Mary Ella Collins, Frederick Dupre, Gertrude Hinton, Emily Roy, Alvin Phillips, Harold Guilbeau, Yetta Presburg, Elmira Devellier, Nozzy Roberts, Duth Devellier, Louise Pavy, Pauline Lupo, Havlin Haw, Rena Pire, Mary Haw, Anthony Chachere and Willie Boutte.

Roll call and response, by every club member with songs and yells. Pictures of clubs taken.

Dinner was served in picnic fashion on the court house lawn.

The canning club girls of South Bellevue executed a beautiful May Pole dance and song which was enjoyed by all.

In the afternoon a treat of ice cream and cake was served to all the guests at the municipal kitchen, after which all the crowd took in the picture show.

Among those who attended the rally were Mrs. Laura Lake Irlie, district agent; Mrs. Jennie Joell, assistant home demonstration agent of St. Landry parish; Dabadie and wife, farm demonstration agent of Evangeline parish; Mr. and Mrs. Guidroz, junior club agents of Lafayette parish; Mr. Origo, superintendent of Evangeline parish, helped to make the day a success.

Mrs. Giesen announces that the next group meeting of her club members will be held in Opelousas during the latter part of June.

Daughters of Isabella Hold Initiate Big Class at Eunice

On Sunday the Daughters of Isabella of Eunice initiated a class of fifteen members which added to their already large membership places the Eunice court in a position to compare very favorably with the Baton Rouge court. The Eunice court has been organized only five years and steadily gains membership.

A big banquet was held immediately after the initiation.

Mrs. A. A. Anding of Opelousas was one of the out-of-town guests attending.

Mrs. Chachere Improving.

The Clarion is pleased to announce that reports from the Touro infirmary indicate that Mrs. Robert Chachere, a much-esteemed and beloved lady of this city, is recovering from her severe illness, and it is expected she will shortly return home to her family and friends.

George Batcheller Dead.

George Batcheller, a resident of this section of the country for the past twenty years, engaged in farming, and the brother of Norman Batcheller, died Wednesday morning at 9:35 on the John Marsh farm near this city.

Funeral service were held at the farm Thursday morning at 10:30 and interment was made in the Crowley cemetery—Crowley Signal.

George Batcheller was a brother of Willis E. Batcheller of Opelousas. Mr. Batcheller was unable to attend his brother's funeral on account of the illness of his wife.

Earl White, one of our bright young men, was seen shaking hands with friends. He has just arrived from overseas service and is looking fine and robust.