

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXIX—NO. 40.

OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1919.

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR

GAMBLING GIVEN A DEATH-BLOW IN OPELOUSAS

NEW ORDINANCE CLOSES DOORS OF ALL GAMBLING HOUSES WITHIN CITY LIMITS.

SOCIAL CARD GAMES NOT PROHIBITED

Necessary to Have Permit From the Mayor to Play in Home—Vagrancy Law Will Eventually Put Healthy Idlers to Work.

Gambling rooms in Opelousas are now a thing of the past. The new ordinance adopted at the last meeting of the board of aldermen is working smoothly and without a hitch. Every gambling room in town has closed its door and many of those who played in the past have sought other and greener fields. They can go away with a kind word for Opelousas, for while they were here they gathered a good harvest. But the crop is gathered and the suckers that may spring up later are amply protected by the law.

The local men who played the games were, as a rule, honest and square. The outsiders were more or less tin-horns driven from other towns. They were out for the money and the money they would get in whatever manner they thought was necessary.

After standing for these conditions for three or four months it was decided by the town authorities that the time had arrived to call a halt. The city attorney was instructed to draw two ordinances—one against vagrancy and another against gambling. The ordinances put through the council are comprehensive; are founded on the supreme court decisions and the laws of this state and hold forth no consolation of a contest to defeat their purpose.

Some complaint has been made that the anti-gambling law will prevent the harmless games of euchre and whist. In this ordinance is incorporated a section that provides when any person wishes to have social games of cards at home he can apply to the mayor and get a permit. The intent of this section is to prevent professional gamblers from establishing themselves in the residential section and maintaining a gambling den under the guise and protection of a home. A simple notification by any responsible and law-abiding citizen is all that is necessary and it is not considered that a permit is necessary for each game played—the permit is good until revocation for good cause.

It is reported that a petition is being circulated for signatures to be presented to the city council for a total repeal of both the gambling and vagrancy ordinances. When this petition is put before the council the Clarion will be glad to publish both signatures and petition.

A resolution will be put before the grand jury at its next meeting to prohibit gambling in the parish.

The vagrancy law caused quite a bit of uneasiness among the local members of the Sons of Rest lodge. One or two have gone to work who for many years had no speaking acquaintance with labor. One left for another state, but his brother lodge members claimed that Ordinance No. 1 of 1919 had nothing to do with his trip as he had contemplated moving for many years. This law has not yet begun full operation and the local Sons of Rest lodge may in time have no active membership left.

Continue Vegetable Drying Demonstration

Mrs. Giesen, in charge of the community kitchen, announces that she will continue to give instruction in the drying and canning of vegetables and fruits next Tuesday.

Mrs. Giesen wishes also to announce that she is at the community kitchen throughout the day every Tuesday and will be glad to see any woman or girl interested in her work.

Meets Bill Hart

Manager F. J. Dutton of the Princess theatre paid a business visit to New Orleans this week and had the pleasure of meeting Wm. S. Hart, the famous actor. Mr. Dutton says Mr. Hart off the stage has a very kindly manner and there is nothing in his personality that would suggest a "two gun" man of the rough west.

Mr. Hart and his company are filming a play in the old French quarter of New Orleans.

POLICE JURY HOLDS A SPECIAL SESSION

PASSES BOND ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION CRITICIZING TELEPHONE COMPANY

The police jury met in special adjourned session Tuesday afternoon and passed an ordinance authorizing the president and clerk of the police jury to issue bonds voted at a good roads election held in the First Road District, Fourth Ward, on April 7th, to the amount of \$54,000. This road runs from Port Barre to Klotz Springs.

By holding this adjourned meeting the jury made it possible to put the bonds on the market at an early date and that work now being done on this road might not be interrupted.

At the same meeting a resolution was introduced and adopted censuring the Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Co. for its service in Opelousas and St. Landry parish. A committee was appointed to take the matter up with the State Railroad Commission and try to have improvements made in the service.

School for Threshermen at Crowley June 24 to 27

A school for threshermen will be conducted at Crowley, Louisiana, for four days, June twenty-fourth to twenty-seventh, inclusive, by the department of agronomy, Louisiana State University, assisted by specialists from the U. S. Department of Agriculture and manufacturers of threshing machinery.

A study of the threshing question throughout the small grain belt, including the rice belt, of the country has revealed the fact that there is much waste of material and energy in the harvesting of crops, due to lack of efficiency in the machines and on the part of the operators. It is proposed to assemble for use in instruction at this school an ample supply of threshing machinery, both new and old, and devote the four days to instructing those interested in the construction and operation of the machines so as to get the best service from them.

All threshermen in the rice district who feel that they could derive benefit from attending such a meeting are invited to be present. If further information is desired, write to the extension division, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

WOMEN HELD FOR MURDERING BABY

Miss Emella Schexnayder, about sixteen years old, living in the vicinity of Milton, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Cleobule Schexnayder, are in the parish jail held for the murder of an infant baby. The case is most unusual, the authorities saying it is the second of its kind recorded in Lafayette parish in years.

Sheriff Latloais deserves credit for having worked up the case and succeeded in getting all the facts. He is looking for the man responsible for the degradation of the younger Schexnayder girl. He is declared to be a married man.

Sheriff Latloais said he will be charged with violating the state law relative to having carnal knowledge of a female under the age of consent.

As told by Sheriff Latloais to a reporter of the Advertiser, the facts are these: Miss Emella Schexnayder gave birth to an illegitimate child three weeks ago and on the advice of Mrs. Cleobule Schexnayder she struck the child on the head and when the child was half dead she buried it in mud. A woman knowing of her condition, went to the place where Miss Schexnayder had made the grave and exhumed the body. The child lived a few hours and died. When the infant was found, mud was stuffed in its mouth. Sheriff Latloais said neither woman denied that they are guilty of the revolting crime.

Sheriff Latloais and Deputy Sheriff Chargois arrested Miss Schexnayder near Milton Sunday afternoon. They rode many miles to Cow Island, near the seashore in Vermillion parish to get her sister-in-law—Lafayette Advertiser.

Mrs. Ford M. Roberts Dead.

Mrs. Ford M. Roberts, before marriage Miss Julia Anna Clopton, died at her home in Evergreen, near Morrow, Tuesday, after a brief illness. She leaves an infant son and husband, Mrs. Roberts was the daughter of B. N. Clopton and a granddaughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. F. Clopton.

ST. LANDRY PARISH ATTRACTING ATTENTION OF INVESTORS IN OTHER SECTIONS OF COUNTRY

For the past several months the Clarion has been receiving on an average two letters a week from parties in northern and western states asking for some information in regard to the lands and climate of St. Landry parish. The letters show that these people in some way have been informed in a general sense of the wonderful fertility of St. Landry soil and their questions are mainly for some detailed information.

In one letter last week a Kansas man said that he had seen a copy of the Clarion that contained the statements of condition of the local banks. He wrote that considering population and the statements of the banks proved that Opelousas and St. Landry parish was a place where money had been made and that there was no doubt but what it was a place where money could still be made. His inquiry was the price and quantity of land that could be bought.

Another writer wanted information on stock growing and chicken raising. His query was "what can the best land be bought for; I do not want cheap stuff."

The greater portion of these writers show some familiarity with this section, some stating that they had been

told of it and others that they had seen a copy of the Clarion.

While these letters generally contain inquiries about farming propositions, several have been received from business men who wish to engage in mercantile pursuits. One was from Peoria, Ill., and asked about commercial prospects here. This writer stated that he was running a general ladies' and gentlemen's furnishing store, employing 15 salespeople, that he was amply supplied with capital. He asked for information about a suitable building, rents, insurance, etc., and added that he was thinking of selling his present business and then would pay Opelousas a visit and if conditions were half as good as had been reported to him that before many months he would be a permanent resident of this town.

Several other letters have been received for other lines of business such as groceries, hardware, garages and machine shops.

The Clarion takes pleasure in answering these inquiries and is satisfied that if the people of the outside world knew of the opportunities that exist in this town and surrounding country the next census would show a decided gain in St. Landry.

DAIRY CLUBS ORGANIZE TO STIMULATE USE OF MILK

The production and utilization of milk and products are to be given still further stimulus in Louisiana by the organization of dairy clubs among women demonstrators and also among boys and girls, according to plans of the Extension Division, Louisiana State University. Mrs. Virginia Eaton, agent in dairying assisted by the home demonstration agents, is in charge of this work. Members of the dairy clubs are given instruction in the production and handling of milk, the making of butter and cottage cheese, and the general use and marketing of all dairy products.

The following are the requirements for membership:

1. Each member shall have active interest in the care and feeding of at least one cow for a period of three months.
2. Each member shall attend club meetings whenever possible.
3. Each member shall at some time take active part in regular club meetings.

VILLE PLATTE MAYOR AFTER LAWBREAKERS

In last week's issue of the Ville Platte Gazette, Mayor Corell gives notice that he intends to have the laws of that town enforced and give the following town ordinances that the officers have been ordered to enforce:

An ordinance prohibiting hogs running at large.

An ordinance prohibiting gambling with cards and similar device.

An ordinance prohibiting crap shooting.

An ordinance regulating the speed of automobiles.

An ordinance against vagrancy.

An ordinance prohibiting the obstruction of drainage streets.

An ordinance regulating the speed of freight and passenger trains.

An ordinance requiring all public places to close at midnight.

An ordinance prohibiting children under sixteen years of age from driving automobiles, unless accompanied by a responsible person.

An ordinance making it a misdemeanor to interfere with an officer or employee of the town when in the discharge of his duty.

All other ordinances such as disturbing the peace, assault and battery, malicious mischief, etc.

Invite Jno. W. Lewis to Make Sociability Tour

Parties having in charge the sociability run over the proposed automobile road from Winniepe, Canada, to New Orleans, have extended an invitation to Mr. Jno. W. Lewis to accompany them as a representative of St. Landry Parish and to make a number of speeches along the route.

Mr. Lewis has not yet definitely accepted the invitation on account of business engagements.

Goes to Oklahoma

Mr. T. Anderson Jackson, formerly connected with the Clarion, left for Oklahoma Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Jackson will probably be gone several weeks.

Those who were crowing recently over the "victory" of Orlando and Sonnie in the Flame matter are now trying to tail their crow off into a squawk of protest.

FEW HEIRS TO THE GRADENIGO MONEY

CLOSER INVESTIGATION ELIMINATES MANY OF THE FONTE-NOT FAMILY

In the issue of the Clarion of last week it was stated that the Dupre and Fontenot families of this parish heirs to the fortune left by archbishop of Venice Italy to his brother, John Gradenigo, who lived and died in this parish the early part of last century. Closer investigation of the family history shows that without the parties are descendants of the following they have no interest in this estate. A short history of this family follows:

John Gradenigo married Marguerite Krebs. To this marriage were born five daughters and four sons. The daughters were Marguerite Gradenigo, who married Etienne Lamourandier, Sr., Louis Gradenigo, who married Louis Carriere, Amice Gradenigo who married Cornelius Voorries, Bridget Gradenigo who married Louis Fontenot, Jr., and Marie Gradenigo who married Nicholas Rousseau.

The sons of John Gradenigo were John Gradenigo, Jr., (the eldest of the family) who went to Italy about 1830 to claim this fortune but never returned. He is thought to have joined Napoleon's army and was killed in battle. The other sons were Augustin Gradenigo who married Elizabeth Clorment. To this marriage was born three daughters and one son, Hilaire, who married Amelia Fuselier, to this marriage was born eleven children; Joseph, who married Amelia Barre, died without issue.

The known descendants now living are of the Hilaire Gradenigo family and are Mrs. Corinne Gradenigo, wife of M. L. Jonathan, and Amelie Gradenigo, wife of Homer Rousseau. These two heirs are of the fourth generation from John Gradenigo, Sr. They now reside in Alexandria.

St. Landry Student at S. L. I. Summer School

From a report received from the registrar at the Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute there are twenty-eight students registered for the summer school. Their names and addresses follow:

Allen, Lena, Opelousas, Boutte, Celeste, Shuteston; Brunson, Hugh, Gordon, Eunice; Callouet, Elva Mary, Port Barre; Callouet, Ida Mary, Port Barre; Cooke, Otis, Opelousas; Dimick, Opie, Shuteston; Ducote, Ethel, Eunice; Durio, Ira, Opelousas; Fontenot, Blaine, Cataro; Fontenot, Edith, Cataro; Fontenot, Vivian, Cataro; Kerr, Ruby, Washington; Latour, Gertrude, Cataro; Laverne, Eva, Celestine, Opelousas; LaFleur, Beatrice, Cataro; Lafleur, Marie, Cataro; Lewis, John W., Opelousas; Lyons, Mrs. Fay, Opelousas; McCartney, Indiana, Elba; Meyers, Maude, Opelousas; Pitre, Elvia, Washington; Quirk, Josie, Washington; Spear, Ethel, Eunice; aVn sickle, Louise, Opelousas; Ware, Marie Louise, Opelousas; Worden, Lillian, Melville; Worden, Lillian, Melville; Worden, Maude, Melville.

Opelousas Can Secure Memento of Old Maine

The Clarion has received a copy of letter written to Congressna nLazaro by Secretary of Navy Daniels in which is given the information that any town may secure a relic of the old battleship Maine upon the payment of the freight charges to its destination.

Application blanks will be furnished by the secretary of the navy to any town or village that wishes to purchase one of these markers.

NEW WATER BICYCLES ADD TO JOY OF BATHERS

A water bicycle that imitates the submarine, in that it operates almost entirely submerged, has appeared in the east in time to contribute a new pleasure to the bathing beach season, and is described and illustrated in the July issue of Popular Mechanics Magazine. Only the rider's head and shoulders appear above the water, the machine being buoyed up by two air floats, of 8 to 10-gal capacity, placed, breast high at front and back. The cycle's immunity to rough seas promises usefulness for beach rescue work.

J. W. Fontenot and wife, J. E. Cassidy, Arthur Landy, F. W. Milliken, J. P. Wykoff, Clem Anderson, Mitt Wilkins, Attorney Guadin, Gus and Ferdie Fontenot of Crowley, Henry Bosley of Egan, P. J. and E. Broussard of Lafayette, Robert and Fred Fontenot of Grand Prairie attended the funeral of John Fontenot.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following licenses have been issued in the past week:

Willie Launey and Miss Agnes Watson.

Joseph Esprit and Stella Guidry, colored.

Dave Kimbell and Miss Leona Savage.

Carl Mendoza and Miss May E. Miller.

Horace Miller and Miss Beulah Roy.

Erteman Lafleur and Mazie T. Arnaud.

Manuel Biggers and Rosa Conway.

Lots of men who have traces of greatness in their make up spoil everything by kicking over the traces.

COWS STILL TREATED FOR HOLLOW HORN

A boy came into the office this week with request that his father's hogs be treated and also that E. R. Shannou, assistant agent in Ouachita parish. When questioned he said that the cow had been down for 24 hours, had had a calf three days before that "We bored holes in her horns with a gimlet, which seemed to ease her some." Of course, milk fever was the natural conclusion, so a local veterinarian was called and we started for the place at once. The cow had a clear case of milk fever and apparently was completely paralyzed. She responded to the air treatment at once, but died of mechanical pneumonia two days later. I tried to impress upon the people the necessity of immediate treatment of any sick animal, using the present case as a good example, and left them with much less faith in treatment for "hollow horn."

CLUBS WILL HOLD A 3-DAY SHORT COURSE

HOME AND STATE AGENTS WILL HOLD FARM DEMONSTRATION JUNE 25, 26 AND 27

Miss Giesen, home demonstrator for the parish, announces that commencing, June 25 she will hold a three-day short course in teaching and lecturing on general farm topics, vegetable gardening, canning and drying vegetables, poultry raising and home economics.

Three of the most deserving members from each of the fifteen clubs in the parish will be selected to attend this short course and they in turn will carry the work home to their clubs.

Mrs. Giesen has not yet completed her program for the course but will have it in readiness for publication in the Clarion next week.

There will be one or more representatives from the state office who will assist in the work.

Commencement Exercises at St. Charles College

The Clarion has received from the faculty of St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, a kind invitation to the commencement exercises at that old and worthy institution.

Commencement exercises will be held at the college Wednesday, June 18, at 9:30 a. m. and the address to the graduates will be delivered by Mr. John Prescott.

Alumni day, Sunday, June 15, will begin with a solemn high mass at 11 a. m., sung by the boys' choir and solemn benediction and to deem after the high mass. The baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by the Very Rev. W. J. Teurlings, rector of St. John's cathedral, Lafayette, after this mass. An alumni meeting and banquet will be held in the afternoon.

SOME HEAVY DRINKING DOWN ABBEVILLE WAY

The Abbeville Meridional gives an account of how some of her citizens avoid the 48-hour drought from Saturday night to Monday morning in that vicinity:

"One Abbeville lady was overheard to remark to another dame: 'I should say my husband is not a hard drinker. The idea! Why, drinking is the easiest thing he does. Dry Sundays don't bother him any. He comes in with such a load on Saturday nights that he is unconscious until Monday!'"

WEALTH OF GOLD IN SIBERIA MINERALS OF ALL KINDS

An inscrutable dispensation seems to have placed the greatest mineral wealth in those lands least able to develop it, says Popular Mechanics Magazine in its July issue. Siberia is a case in point. The eastern half of that vast domain is exceedingly rich in mineral deposits, which run the gamut from gold, silver and precious stones to graphite and salt. In the Ussuri region, north of Vladivostok, gold is found everywhere, and only lack of enterprise and facilities prevents extensive development. There is, indeed, more or less gold in practically every Siberian province.

Opelousas Men Visit Baton Rouge.

District Attorney Lee Garland, Austin Fontenot, Ben Christian, Foster Budd, J. A. Budd, Tansas Manual, Tobe Andrus and J. J. Lewis of Eunice made a business trip to Baton Rouge on Tuesday.

Will Go to Hot Springs.

John E. Boagni, son of Mrs. Mattye Shute Boagni, student at L. S. U., is spending a part of his vacation here with relatives, before he leaves to meet his mother at Colorado Springs.

DIFFICULTY AT THE LOCAL POWER PLANT ADJUSTED

EMPLOYEES AT ELECTRIC PLANT THREATEN TO STRIKE WEDNESDAY.

CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE EFFECTS AGREEMENT

Committee Appointed to Investigate Working Conditions and Wages at Other Plants and Formulate New Scale for Local Men.

Through the efforts of a citizen's committee, composed of Messrs. E. M. Boagni, Robert Sandoz and Dr. J. A. Haas, a strike of the employees at the municipal electric light and water plant was averted last Thursday.

The trouble came about when a committee appointed by the town council at its last regular meeting summoned to the town hall employees of the power plant and attempted to question the men regarding conditions at the plant. The men refused to testify, stating that they objected to being asked to give information at a private session of the committee. The men also presented a demand for an increase in pay and shorter hours, coupled with the warning that if these demands were not granted they would resign within 24 hours.

A special meeting of the council was called and held at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning and a citizen's committee, composed of Messrs. Sandoz, Boagni and Dr. Haas appointed and given authority to arbitrate all the questions in dispute between the municipal light plant employees.

This committee reached an understanding with the men in which they were to remain at work until conditions and wages at other similar plants could be investigated and plans made for a final adjustment of the controversy. This was readily agreed to by the men.

A second special meeting of the council was held Wednesday night and the citizen committee's report was received and their recommendations approved.

The full official proceedings of these meetings will be found on page 4 of this issue.

Crowley Citizen Laid To Rest in Opelousas

John Fontenot, a resident of this city and well known in all community work for the good of the city and parish, passed away Sunday at the sanitarium where he had been for the past several days.

The deceased passed away at the age of 50 years, 11 months and 3 days. He was the brother of Gus E. Fontenot, parish clerk. Several other brothers at St. Landry parish survive him.

Three sons, Clarence, now in the army of occupation, Henry of the Iota bank, and Benton, a younger son and one daughter, who married Lieutenant P. J. Broussard.

The remains were escorted to the 8:15 train, which will bear the deceased to the city of Opelousas, where burial will take place. Members of the Knights of Columbus, council 1318, will officiate at the funeral.—Crowley Signal.

CRESWELL BUYS DEITLEIN HOME

F. J. Deitlein this week sold his old home on South Court street to J. H. Creswell. The consideration is reported to have been \$5,000.

Mr. Deitlein has moved to the residence that he purchased some time ago from Mrs. Leonce Sandoz on Main street. Mr. and Mrs. Creswell will make their home in their recent purchase.

A LONG SENTENCE FOR CHICKEN THIEVES

Henry Lewis and Richard Gilyard, negroes, convicted of stealing chickens, were tried before Judge Land at Shreveport, convicted and sentenced to hard labor in the state penitentiary, their terms being from eight to twelve years. If they had stolen some United States bond or other valuables, they probably would have been assigned to life terms. Judge Land may have experienced the loss of some chickens and therefore he has not been inclined to temper justice with mercy.