

THIBODEAUX OPENS CAMPAIGN WITH A MONSTER MEETING

Five Hundred People Gather at Grand Prairie Barbecue Wednesday

HY. LASTRAPES, RENE FONTENOT ALSO SPEAK

Crowd Almost One in Accordance Candidates Generous Welcome—Dr. Pavy Flays "Mosquito Fleet" in Fine Address

If there was ever any doubt as to the attitude of the Grand Prairie voters in the fight now being waged for the sheriff's office, it was dispelled Wednesday when 500 people attended the political meeting and big barbecue given there by Theodore Doucet in honor of his friend and favorite, Charley Thibodeaux, St. Landry's next sheriff. If the opposition's claims of strength in other sections of the parish are as wild as they have been with reference to the Grand Prairie poll, their candidate's hopes have gone aglimmering, for one had but to mingle with that vast crowd of more than four hundred voters to learn that Charley Thibodeaux is the favorite, four to one.

Grand Prairie citizens say Wednesday's meeting was the largest held there in years, and they say also that it was four times as large as the meeting of Mr. Thibodeaux's opponent held there a few days ago.

Aicin Vidrine Presides

The meeting was called to order by Marshall Doucet, popular young son of Theodore Doucet. Mr. Aicin Vidrine, venerable and highly respected citizen of this parish, who formerly lived for years at Grand Prairie, was selected as chairman of the meeting but because of the condition of his throat he was unable to make an address and introduce the speakers. Marshall Doucet acted in his stead.

In opening the meeting Mr. Doucet asked of the big crowd careful attention to the candidates and their supporters. He promised those present a fine time after the meeting and the opposition a terrible drubbing at the hands of Grand Prairie voters on January 20.

Dr. Pavy First Speaker

Dr. F. Octave Pavy, the genial and smiling Leonville physician, was the first speaker.

"Twenty three years ago I had the pleasure of visiting Grand Prairie with my lamented father," began Dr. Pavy, "but since then it has never been my privilege to be with you kind folks. In thanking you for this generous invitation, permit me to say that probably I would not be here today if the police jury which has honored me with its presidency, and my brothers and myself had not been dragged into this campaign by a little band which I term the "Mosquito Fleet" which flew out of Opelousas a few days ago and lit here in your midst and proceeded to attack the police jury and the Pavys. They have attacked my brothers and myself for no other reason than that we are exercising our American birth-right of voting for and supporting whomsoever we please.

"Since I have been drawn into this campaign I will tell you why I am aligned with and supporting the candidacy of Charley Thibodeaux for sheriff. As a member of the police jury and as its president I am probably in closer touch with the different departments of our local government than anyone else and I have had the time and the occasion to study the short comings of the men who are presently in charge of the sheriff's office. From those observations I have concluded St. Landry should have a change in that office, for if Mr. Thibodeaux's opponent were the right man for the big job he would have, as chief deputy, so managed the affairs of the office as to make it meet with popular approval. In the absence of the sheriff, his deputies are responsible, and that is why I am a Thibodeaux's man."

Thibodeaux Applauded

Charley Thibodeaux, the veteran, the man long schooled in St. Landry politics, was the next speaker. He showed early in his speech that he had not lost his ability to grip and fix the attention of political gatherings, for he kept his audience in laughter and applause throughout.

"When I become your sheriff—and the people in their might will send me to that office as certainly as I stand here today by the largest majority ever accorded any candidate for sheriff—I promise you a faithful administration of the affairs of that office; I promise you that I will stay there and attend to the duties which you will have imposed on me and that I will enforce the laws as our best people determine they should be.

"I am the candidate of no faction or set of men. Several months ago I took my candidacy to the independent voters of this parish and everywhere I was encouraged by prompt offers of support. Today some of the officeholders are supporting me. Others are opposing me. I suppose all of them are exercising their right to vote as they please.

"I have made no promises of jobs in this campaign. I didn't have to do that. The people have shown their willingness to make me their sheriff, and as a consequence I am bound to no one and when I assume charge of the office I will appoint courteous and painstaking men who will pro-

Stubbs People Pleased as T.-P. Takes Mask Off To Fight In the Open

(DAILY STATES)

The Times-Picayune having failed through its insidious propaganda in its news columns to stay the declining fortunes of John M. Parker has now done what everyone familiar with its policy expected it to do. Today it throws its editorial support of Mr. Parker into the breach in a desperate effort to prevent his defeat.

So far as the Stubbs people are concerned we are sure they will welcome this eleventh-hour confession. Now that our neighbor is to fight out in the open rather than from ambush, the public will no longer be deceived by its Parker propaganda published under the guise of its non-partisanship.

In presenting its Walker forecast The Times-Picayune made claim to its own neutrality and said Mr. Walker had gone forth as a disinterested observer to make a survey of the situation from a neutral standpoint.

We pointed out that Mr. Walker was a dyed-in-the-wool partisan of Mr. Parker and an irreconcilable opponent of Mayor Behrman and the city organization and that it was impossible for him to be impartial in any case in which his prejudices were aroused—as they had NOT been when he made his prophecy in the utterly one-sided Pleasant-Barret contest.

Moreover we showed that Mr. Walker's trip over the State was so brief that he actually visited less than a fifth of the parishes and that most of his investigation was made from the window of a Pullman car.

Therefore, we said that his forecast was utterly untrustworthy and merely a part of the Parker propaganda—of no more value than if it had been written by that accomplished political Munchausen, the Hon. Harry Gamble.

Now that The Times-Picayune has confirmed the suspicion which its columns have held out throughout the campaign that it is now and has always been for Mr. Parker, and against Col. Stubbs it is only running true to form.

It fought Gov. Foster in 1896 and wanted to go behind the returns in the interest of Capt. Pharr behind whom had been arrayed the solid negro vote of the State.

It supported Gen. Jastremski against Gov. Blanchard in 1904 and was overwhelmingly defeated.

It supported Mr. Wilkinson against Gov. Sanders in 1908 and was overwhelmingly defeated.

In 1916 when Mr. Parker was running on the Republican-Progressive ticket it gave him its ardent and enthusiastic support and filled its columns with headlines and news articles and editorials all indicating that Mr. Parker was to be elected.

AND MR. PARKER WAS BURIED BENEATH AN AVALANCHE OF DEMOCRATIC VOTERS. HE WOUND UP THE CAMPAIGN 32,000 BEHIND THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE.

erly discharge the responsibilities placed upon them.

Mr. Thibodeaux promised that during the time for collection of taxes the working hours of the sheriff's office would be lengthened so that the country people would be able to pay their taxes without making two or three trips to Opelousas to do so. He says the doors of his office will not be closed until a reasonable time if people are waiting outside to pay their taxes.

Lastrapes Makes Fine Talk

Henry Lastrapes, clerk of court, spoke next in his own behalf.

"Eight years ago, my friends and fellow-citizens, you elected me to the office which I now hold. Four years later you sent me back without opposition. I promised you then that if elected I would give you a clean, honest and faithful administration of the affairs of that office. Upon the record I have made during those eight years I am willing to stand or fall today.

"My distinguished opponent is a fine young man. He deserves as much consideration at your hands as I do. I have done my duty as I saw it, regardless of consequences, and upon the manner in which I have handled the office in the past, I submit my claims for re-election."

"Black" at Home

The next speaker was Rene C. Fontenot, candidate for assessor. He did not speak long. He uttered only a few words. In the home of his people, in the land where he was born and reared, among the people who know him best he needed make no address at all, he said, and from the cheering which greeted him he was right.

Judge Pavy Next

Judge Pavy spoke next in support of the candidacies of Charley Thibodeaux, Henry Lastrapes and Rene Fontenot.

"You need not an orator as your assessor," he said, "what you want is a plain man possessed of common sense, one who knows whether an acre of land is worth \$40 or \$100 and can write it down on the roll according to its real value."

Mr. Lastrapes' official record needs no praise from anyone, Judge Pavy said.

"The people know how he has conducted that office and they are going to reward him with re-election."

Judge Pavy appealed to the Grand Prairie voters to aid in the election of Charley Thibodeaux who will work in unity with other officers in the enforcement of the law.

W. C. Beall, of Garland, Tom McCaffery, of Washington, and Brown Walters of Grand Prairie, candidates for the police jury from the fifth ward made short talks to the crowd and promised their people a progressive administration of their affairs.

Drs. R. M. Littell and W. R. Lastrapes, candidates for coroner, were in attendance at the meeting. D. P. Moreau, popular young police juror elected from the third ward, also was in attendance. Mr. Moreau is an enthusiastic Thibodeaux supporter and says his candidate will "mop up" in his section of the parish. He was overjoyed at the size and enthusiasm

LOCAL BANKS SHOW HEALTHY GROWTH AND CONDITIONS

Deposits in Each Institution A Great Deal Larger Than Last Year's

PROSPERITY OF PARISH REFLECTED

St. Landry Leads Deposits With \$2,380,642.52—Planters Next With \$961,194.88—Opelousas National \$731,739.22

The prosperity of St. Landry Parish can be reflected in no better manner than by the conditions of its banks, and a glance at the annual and semi-annual statements of the three Opelousas institutions, as published elsewhere in the Clarion, will reveal not only a marvelous growth and increase of business in them but a sound and healthy condition of affairs generally in this community.

The St. Landry Bank and Trust Co., the oldest of the three, the product of the merging of the St. Landry State and Peoples (State, leads with total resources of \$2,605,666.58—an increase of more than a half million dollars over the total resources at this time last year. Deposits at the St. Landry have now risen to \$2,380,642 when the combined deposits of the two banks last year were approximately \$1,700,000. It has declared a dividend of \$25,000 or 20 per cent on its capital stock of \$125,000 and has a surplus and undivided profits of \$75,000, with loans and discounts of nearly two million.

As a reward for faithful service, the St. Landry presented each of its employees with a nice bonus at the end of the year's business. L. J. Larcade, the affable cashier, was a little modest and wouldn't state how much, but the Clarion has it from him that each was an amount greatly in excess of that which Opelousas folks usually get for a Christmas present.

Planters Grows

The resources of the Planters Bank and Trust Co. are now a quarter of a million dollars in excess of those last year. It has declared a dividend of \$4,000 and has a surplus and undivided profits of \$45,000. Its deposits are now \$961,194.88 as compared with \$724,000 last year. The Planters now carries \$62,000 worth of Liberty Bonds and other U. S. Bonds.

In recognition of the loyal services rendered by its employees the Planters gave each a fine Christmas present.

National Grows Steadily

The Opelousas National—the only national bank in this parish—as a New Year present to its stockholders declared a semi-annual dividend of \$4,000—8 per cent on its capital stock of \$50,000. At its last meeting the board of directors of that institution increased the surplus from \$50,000 to \$100,000, which now gives it a surplus and undivided profits of \$115,209.12—an increase in this item of \$10,000 over last year's. Its deposits have increased from \$571,836.73 last year to \$731,739.22 this year and its loans and discounts by over two hundred thousand dollars.

As a reward for their loyal and efficient aid in the progress and advancement of the Opelousas National its employees were remembered with fine bonuses as Christmas presents.

The officers, directors and stockholders of the banks of this city are to be congratulated upon the sound and healthy condition of those institutions. Their statements show that not only have the interests of the institutions been conserved but the general welfare of the people has been of prime consideration with them.

LOCAL RED CROSS HAS FEW UNCLAIMED CHECKS

Opelousas Red Cross has unclaimed checks for the following:

- Arsene Lagrande Arnaud.
- Ed Lovined.
- Orelia Deville.
- Harriett Hudson.
- Lezette Rideau.
- Luberta Irvin.
- Liza Young.
- Mary Rene.
- Mary Guidry.
- Alvy Lubou Frage.

DUNBAR CLOSE SEVERAL BIG DEALS LAST FEW DAYS

The real estate agency of C. P. Dunbar and Brother closed several big deals during the last few days, among the number being the sale of city and country property. Twenty-eight hundred acres of timber land situated at Barbrecq, the property of Scott Brothers, was sold by them to the Thistlethwaite Lumber Co. for \$21,000.

They sold also the home of Yves An-dreop on Grolee Street to Edmond C. Quirk for \$6,500.00.

DIED

A telephone message was received on the night of December 25th announcing the death of Mr. Wm. Carter at his home in Sibley, La., on December 25th, 1919. Deceased is the father of Mrs. Chris Johnson and Mrs. Visca J. Delarue of our city—Eunice New Era.

Miss Julia Duson after spending a week with relatives in Opelousas left on Tuesday to spend the rest of her vacation at her home with Dr. and Mrs. Octave Pavy of Leonville.

Who Are The Real Farmers of The State

In a Parker advertisement appears a statement to the effect that John M. Parker is a real farmer, and not one of the kind that farms the farmers.

The reference to Parker being a farmer is so absurd that it has become one of the jokes of the campaign. In fact the idea and the simple form of expression employed to catch the farmer vote, is enough to make a school boy or tyro in politics, laugh.

The author of the extravagant and in some respects silly letter published and sent out as an advertisement, is not posted, concerning the views of what those who are responsible for Parker's candidacy, said about his farming operations four years ago.

Everybody that is posted about John M. Parker knows that as Gov. Pleasant said, he has a princely plantation in East Carroll parish, which we understand he inherited from his father. And by the way, Mr. Parker named a station on his plantation, Roosevelt, after his patron saint, the great social and political leveler between the white and negro races. He farms this plantation, so the governor says, from the

New Orleans cotton exchange, and doubtless is always present on the board to fix prices to suit his sales.

However, the Guardian-Journal has never impugned Mr. Parker's integrity in dealing with the farmers, although Governor Pleasant actually charged him with misappropriating a pound of cotton out of every bale the farmers shipped him.

"We note too, that this letter says, 'Parker is shrewd, brave and cool.' The meaning is not entirely clear. No doubt he is shrewd, and Parker says, that as blood is thicker than water, he attended a ring convention in New Orleans, a few years ago, when his brother Porter Parker was nominated district attorney. Perhaps John M. Parker thought his brother might not be given the machine support without his presence, and being 'brave and cool' as the advertisement says, he was there.

But the idea of a real farmer, having his office in the cotton exchange, so as to farm in East Carroll parish, is something we cannot exactly comprehend.—Guardian-Journal.

REGISTRATION FOR COMMISSIONERS, CLERKS SELECTED SINCE ITS DIVISION BY EXECUTIVE COM.

Fifty Three Hundred Names Are Enroled Up to Last Day, December 20

OPELOUSAS LEADS PRECINCTS WITH 911

Sixth Ward Largest With 1320—More Than 4000 Poll Taxes Paid—Vote at Primary Expected To be Large

The registration for St. Landry is the largest in the history of the parish since it was divided ten years ago. Five thousand three hundred names have been enrolled by Henry Lastrapes, Clerk of Court and ex-officio registrar of voters.

The registration by precincts and wards is as follows:

First Ward	
Opelousas	911
Bellevue	87
Plaisance	214
Total for ward	1212
Second Ward	
Coulee Croche	382
Grand Coteau	335
Total for ward	717
Third Ward	
Leonville	365
Arnaudville	280
Notleyville	66
Total for ward	707
Fourth Ward	
Krotz Springs	47
Bayou Current	48
Morrow	63
Melville	175
Big Cane	82
Port Barre	191
Waxla	48
Palmetto	91
Total for ward	745
Fifth Ward	
Washington	364
Grand Prairie	313
Whiteville	95
Barbreck	38
Garland	44
Total for ward	844
Sixth Ward	
Eunice	757
Plaquemine Point	268
Mallett	268
Faquetique	43
Total for parish	5555
Less stricken off	175
Net total	5380
The number of poll taxes paid up to December 31, the last was 4187.	
The vote at the primary on January 20 is expected to be unusually heavy with good weather prevailing. The number of ballots cast will probably exceed 4000.	

MORNHNIVG-WEIR

The marriage of Miss Hazel Mornhnivg, one of Opelousas most charming girls, and Mr. Harvey J. Weir, of Dallas, Texas, was quietly celebrated Monday noon at the Catholic Presbytery.

Immediately afterwards, the couple left for their home in Dallas.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Remi Mornhnivg of this city and is highly esteemed for her many lovable traits.

The groom is connected with a large cotton oil company as a buyer of cotton seed and made headquarters at Opelousas for several years. The Clarion extends its warmest congratulations to this splendid couple and wishes them a long life of happiness.

SUSPEND CLASS WORK FOR PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS

St. Charles College Closes With Interesting Entertainment

FOOTBALL NIGHT GREAT SUCCESS

Students Celebrate With a Variety of Events—Captain Smith Re-Elected Head of Football Squad

Grand-Coteau, La., Dec. 30.—On Saturday, December 20, St. Charles College closed class work for two weeks in order to enable the students of the college to be at home during all the Christmas holidays. Quite a number of entertaining events were carried through by the students on the few days previous to their departure and these were attended with such success that the week was unanimously declared by the students to have been the most memorable closing week the college has had for years.

Senior night, was as usual, the first of the entertainments scheduled. A magnificent banquet was spread for the members of the class of '20 in the large library of the college department. The entire class were present in dress uniform. A number of faculty members were guests of the class at the banquet. Quite a number of interesting speeches were made by class members and by some of the faculty.

Football night followed close on Senior Night, and proved to be undoubtedly the most successful night of its kind that the college has ever had. Fourteen football "Cs" were awarded that night by the St. Charles College Athletic Association, with the Rev. E. A. Diebold, S. J., president of the college, presiding at the formal distribution of the letters. The entire students body attended the distribution exercises which were held in the college auditorium.

In the early evening the football squad together with Mr. Roy, Athletic Director, and Coach Fagan, assembled in the library of the college department for a supper spread in honor of the occasion. Lesley Gardner, Football Manager, president and John Younger was toastmaster.

In the midst of the justification nearly all of the players were called upon for speeches on various subjects and kept the gathering in a fit of laughter for almost two hours. Lesley Gardner and Edward Dubuisson, cheer leader, won frequent and hearty applause during their respective speeches in which they reviewed aspects of the season and predicted the achievements of the football team in the 1920 season. Coach Fagan, in his address, recalled the good work of individual players as he announced the names of the men who were to receive their letters and told the particular reasons why the association was to award letters to these men. Captain Smith, in the name of the team, responded to the various addresses that had been made and stated in no unmistakable terms the attitude of the team regarding the next season of football. The election of football captain for the 1920 season then followed with the result that Ewell Smith was re-elected to the position that he had so successfully filled during the past season. In a few closing remarks Mr. Roy congratulated Captain Smith on his re-election and commented in general on the spirit that had animated the players during the entire season. He referred to the relations of St. Charles College with various other colleges of the state who were their fellow members in the Louisiana Inter-collegiate Athletic Association and strongly urged a "get together" spirit in their dealing with these colleges so as to make the Inter-Collegiate Association (Continued on page 5)

Farmers' Taxes Up; Corporations' Down

The following letter was published in the Bossier Banner not long since, and presents the question of taxation as brought about by the Thomas-Pleasant Board of Affairs so forcibly that we reproduce it and commend its careful perusal to all those who are contemplating voting for Parker.

"Having been born and reared in Bossier parish, and having served for sixteen years as a member of the police jury, I desire to express some views on the political situation which, I believe, my long experience and intimate knowledge of the affairs of the parish will warrant.

An examination of the tax roll of Bossier parish reveals the fact that during 1917 the individual property owners of the parish paid over \$18,000 more taxes than they paid over 1916. It also shows that the corporations of the parish paid during the same year more than \$11,000 less in taxes than they paid during 1916.

This situation was brought about by the Pleasant-Thomas Board of Affairs, and it is only reasonable to suppose that this condition will be perpetuated if John M. Parker is elected Governor of Louisiana. It is well remembered that Mr. Parker refused to

become a candidate for governor, notwithstanding he was importuned to do so by his personal and political friends until he was given the support of the State Ring headed by the governor, which support carries with it the various boards with their enormous influence. It is well known that the present governor has held up appointments until he could get Mr. Parker's consent to make the appointment—notably the appointment of a sheriff for East Carroll parish. It is also well known that the governor has ruthlessly discharged hundreds of men in New Orleans because they dared to have a choice as to whom they should vote for.

It is not reasonable therefore to suppose that, with the harmony now prevailing between the governor and the man who is trying to become governor, the same system now in vogue will be continued if Mr. Parker is elected. Can we, the taxpayers of Bossier parish, afford to have the present burdensome system of taxation continue? Can we not better afford to seek a change in the system by putting an end to the Pleasant-Parker-Thomas-Sullivan and Company administration?

Respectfully,
J. T. McDADE,
McDade, La., Nov. 29th, 1919.