

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXXI—NO. 4

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 1920

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

BRADFORD FRAMES A BIG SCHEME FOR RICE IRRIGATION

Noted Engineer Would Draw Waters From Red River

TO ALSO FURNISH POWER, NAVIGATION

Solving Problem of Se- curing Fresh Water For Rice Crop

Welman Bradford, native Louisianian and noted civil engineer, has been active for years in promoting the building of rice irrigation canals, and apparently the favor of benefitting the grower has a firm grip on him and it favorite work.

For some time Mr. Bradford has been working on a scheme to draw the fresh waters of Red River, at a point near Alexandria, south through Evangeline, St. Landry and other parishes in order to assure a permanent and never-failing supply for rice irrigation. His proposition has begun to assume concrete form and he assures the people of this section that while the work is a gigantic task and will require an immense sum of money, he has sufficient capital at command to put through the job.

The plan is a comprehensive one and has been thoroughly thought out and planned. It is estimated that the work will cost thirteen million dollars but, according to Mr. Bradford and others competent to judge the expense will be slight as compared with the perpetual benefits to be derived therefrom. It will insure the success of the rice industry in a large section of the state and stand as an absolute guarantee against crop failure for all time to come.

Under the general plans as outlined and figured out, there will be sufficient water stored in the artificial reservoirs contemplated in the scheme to irrigate about two million acres of rice, or about four times more than the acreage planted at present.

Along the plan for the development of the rice industry, Mr. Bradford also proposes that his immense plant shall furnish not less than fifty-five thousand horse power in electrical energy and later, if found necessary, this could be increased to one hundred thousand horse power.

The scheme is divided, for the sake of convenience, into three units, the first consisting of the control of the Calcasieu river and its water supply and from this unit nearly a half-million acres would be irrigated.

Unit No. Two is to control Lake Cocodrie.

The third unit would be drainage and navigation canal and would permit the holding in reserve of a tremendous supply of water which could be used if the emergency arose.

As with all other gigantic schemes obstacles have and will appear, but under the plans mapped out these obstacles will be eliminated and the canal made a real going concern within five years. One of the obstacles is the Bayou Cocodrie, and it will be necessary to get a congressional act through declaring that stream non-navigable from its headwaters to its connection with Bayou Courtableau, just north of the town of Washington. This should prove an easy matter, for the Cocodrie has not been navigable for many years, and the control of the stream by the federal government has long been recognized as a joke.

According to Mr. Bradford, who takes a rosy view of the rice industry, notwithstanding the present stagnation in the market, this state will sooner or later have to produce practically the entire rice yield of the nation. Other states are finding the growing of the crop impracticable and in this state irrigation from deep wells is proving extremely expensive, as the first cost of these wells is large and it is a settled fact that their active life is only a few years at best.

The plans also contemplate the erection of concrete rice warehouses and also a number of modern mills for the milling of the crop. These warehouses and mills are to be absolutely modern and able to store a crop of rough rice and later put it in merchantable shape.

Mr. Bradford has been at work on the plans for this contemplated enterprise for a number of years, and his thorough knowledge of the rice industry, the successful irrigation of the growing crop and his general ability in the line of engineering makes him one of the best men in the state to line out, construct and develop such a plant as he has in view. The police jury Monday adopted a resolution concerning this scheme, and Clarion read-

CONSECRATION SERVICES AT CHURCH OF EPIPHONY

The Right Reverend David Sessums bishop of Louisiana, made a pastoral visit to the Church of the Epiphony on Sunday, October 31. At the service at 11 o'clock the bishop celebrated the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, at which about fifty parishioners made their communions. The bishop gave a wonderful talk to his people, taking as his subject, the parable Jesus gave of the guest at the marriage feast, who had now wedding garment. It is seldom that our parishioners have the opportunity of hearing a talk of such eloquence, and fatherly advice, as the bishop gave at this time.

The service was especially interesting in that there was consecrated by Bishop Sessums a beautiful solid brass altar cross and a set of linens for the altar service. The cross is a memorial for Mr. and Mrs. Edward Whipple Reynolds, highly respected and beloved members of this parish, and given by their children: Mrs. B. A. Littell, Mrs. M. K. Todd, Mrs. J. A. Hall, Mrs. C. J. James, C. A. L. H., and B. R. Reynolds.

It was especially appropriate that it could be consecrated at this time, as the day was Mrs. Edward W. Reynolds' birthday.

The altar linens, consisting of a linen cloth for the communion table, purificators, and a veil for the chalice were made and given by the girls of the junior auxiliary.

The bishop hopes to be able to send a resident clergyman to the church very soon, and all the communicants are greatly desirous of having one, as it will mean the resumption of services, of which there have been none since the Rev. Mr. Bullock left to take up work in Lake Charles, La.

TRADE DAY NEXT MONTH TO BE ON NATION'S HOLIDAY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND C. O. F. TO UNITE FOR BIG CELEBRATION THANKSGIVING

Previous to awarding the premiums at Trade Day last Saturday, Secretary Deyo announced that the next trade day will be held in Thanksgiving Day, instead of on the last Saturday in November, as was originally planned. This change is made in order that the attractions offered for that day by the Knights of Columbus may be increased. In making the announcement an outline of the entertainment to be offered by the knights was given.

Free music, free vaudeville and minstrel shows and clowns to keep the children interested will be given from 10 o'clock in the morning throughout the day. The chamber of commerce premiums will be awarded at 11 o'clock and dinner will be served promptly at noon. Gumbo, sandwiches and lunches will be available for those who do not desire to purchase the dinner.

Immediately after the announcement the premiums were awarded as follows:

Pair of registered Poland China pigs to Alfred Thomas.

Pen of White Wyandotte chickens to Mrs. H. N. Daigle.

Army blanket, donated by the Bennett Stores to Louis Owens.

Two gallons of cane syrup to Rene Carriere.

Six brooms to Charles Chachere.

Modern Farming for one year, donated by J. G. Lawler, to Eddie Battin, Box 100, Route 2.

Star-Progress for one year, donated by Nolan & Andrepoint, to E. M. Franz Box 466.

There was a very good crowd on the court house square and an improvement had been made in order that the premiums could be shown to better advantage two of the booths had been enclosed with wire and the pigs and chickens were placed within.

Only one of the pigs which were to be given away had arrived at three o'clock, but the other was delivered at the chamber of commerce office during the afternoon and was given to the proper party later. Only one farmer took advantage of the opportunity to offer animals or produce for sale and he had a pair of first-class pigs, which, it is understood, he had no difficulty in disposing of.

Rabbi Hrold Rhinehart and wife of Baton Rouge were here Thursday and the rabbi held service at the Masonic temple for the Jews of Opelousas. He will come here the first Thursday in each month and hold services.

Theo. Doucet of Grand Prairie, prominent merchant of that section and former member of the police jury was here Wednesday.

Persons are requested to read the proceedings in this issue and get a line on Mr. Bradford's plans for the future success of the rice industry in southwest Louisiana.

NIP AND TUCK IN ST. LANDRY FOR PRESIDENT

Without Missing Precincts Cox Has Carried Parish

HARDING CARRIES THIRTEEN POLLS

Faquetique Votes Solid for Republican Candidates

St. Landry parish came within an ace of dropping into the republican column Tuesday, if it did not do that very thing. Figures for every one of the twenty-five precincts are at hand except for Grand Coteau, Big Cane and Morrow. The figures for the twenty-two reported show that Cox received 944 votes to Harding's 908. The missing precincts would either swell the slight Cox lead or make the election a practical break in St. Landry parish.

The republican candidate carried thirteen precincts of the ones reported, or more than half of the total number. The vote at Opelousas undoubtedly saved the democratic ticket, otherwise the parish would have surely gone republican. Coulee Croche, Leonville and Noteyville in the second and third wards voted heavily republican. Mallet, Plaquemine Point, Eunice and Faquetique, in the sixth ward gave the republican ticket a big lead. Faquetique, with only nineteen votes, cast its entire vote for Harding, giving Cox a goose-egg. Here are the figures for the parish:

	Cox	Harding
Opelousas	354	127
Plaisance	11	57
Bellevue	14	21
Grand Coteau	4	104
Coulee Croche	4	74
Leonville	8	13
Noteyville	1	65
Arnaudville	45	13
Bayou Current	35	3
Melville	12	3
Waxda	12	3
Palmetto	24	7
Big Cane	3	7
Morrow	22	27
Port Barre	12	13
Krotz Springs	12	13
Washington	99	25
Garland	19	1
Whiteville	31	26
Grand Prairie	90	26
Barbreck	6	9
Faquetique	0	19
Mallet	12	47
Plaquemine Point	9	70
Eunice	136	186

MUST SERVE LIFE IN PENITENTIARY

RAILROAD CONDUCTOR CONVICTED BY JURY FRIDAY NIGHT OF LAST WEEK IN RECORD TIME

J. S. Surrency, former freight conductor on the Gulf Coast Lines, was convicted for a life term in the district court Friday night of last week. He shot and wounded Conductor Frank Hadley of the same road in the yards of the company in Opelousas on the night of August 27 last, and was indicted by the grand jury on the charge of "lying in wait and shooting and wounding with a dangerous weapon with intent to murder."

It is a capital crime in Louisiana and the jury returned a verdict of "guilty as charged, without capital punishment," which means that the court will sentence Surrency to serve a life term at hard labor. The case was a hard fought one, Attorney L. A. Fontenot assisting District Attorney R. Lee Garland in the prosecution, while the defense was ably handled by Attorneys John W. Lewis, D. L. Guilbeau and L. S. Haas. The case was given to the jury at a late hour Friday night, after brilliant arguments by prosecution and defense, and a verdict was rendered within a very short time by the trial jury.

OPELOUSAS LADY IS INJURED IN RAIL WRECK

Mrs. A. A. Anding was brought home Wednesday night from Touros infirmary, New Orleans, where she has been for the last week for treatment for injuries received in a wreck on the Donaldsonville branch of the Texas & Pacific railroad, near Thibodaux, La. She is still quite ill and is confined to her bed at her home on Union street.

Mrs. Anding had been to visit her daughter, Miss Mamie, at the state normal school at Natchitoches, La.,

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FINE AND SIX MONTHS IN JAIL

Gil Vidrine, recently indicted for the selling of liquor without a license, was brought up for trial in the district court Thursday morning. After the evidence was submitted the court found the defendant guilty and sentenced him to pay a fine of five hundred dollars and to serve six months in jail and in default of payment of the fine, six months additional. Defendant was not represented by an attorney. The case will be appealed to the higher court.

REPUBLICANS GET GREAT VOTE IN LOUISIANA STATE

Carry Number Parishes and At Least One Congressional District

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOR HARDING

Harding Receives 18,000 Votes in the City of New Orleans

Louisiana remains in the democratic column but the vote cast for the republican candidates last Tuesday is surprising. Quite a number of parishes gave a majority for Harding and in some the vote was very close. The third congressional district, the heart of the sugar industry in the state, apparently voted republican by a substantial majority. That party had no local candidates up, and the vote for president is only an indication of what might have happened had the republicans thoroughly organized and nominated opposition candidates for congress and local offices in one congressional district and a number of parishes in other districts.

In the city of New Orleans, always staunchly democratic and generally relied upon by party leaders to help out in a tight election, showed a reversal of form Tuesday and cast eighteen thousand votes for Senator Harding and Governor Coolidge. The same spirit that guided the people in a number of rural parishes also seems to have obtained in the state's metropolis. Dissatisfaction with the party in power appears to have been the guiding factor in this sudden change.

Human nature appears to be alike everywhere. The farmers in the rural sections of the state have been dissatisfied for some time with prices and poor marketing conditions for the state's principal crops—cotton, rice and sugar. Labor has been in the same boat and all elements composing the state's population simply thought best to register what they ter a "protest" against policies and methods that, to them, seemed to go back to them by hitting their pocket-books a hard blow.

In the rice growing sections the market for that product has been thoroughly demoralized—in fact, it was only noticeable by its absence. Last season the crop brought a high price. This year there was no demand and the greatest yield of the crop ever produced in Louisiana, went a-begging on every market. This condition threatened a large element with financial destruction, and they blamed the administration for their troubles and at the first opportunity voted for the opposition.

The cotton farmer has also been hard hit—falling prices for staple and seed—and he joined his brother in the rice industry in attempting to overturn existing conditions by voting republican.

The sugar growers, too, have been up in the air at the prospects facing them. Many of this element have always at heart been republican in sentiment and some have in past elections voted republican. The change this time did not disturb any moral sentiment in them and apparently they voted for Harding with good grace and hoped to "bust" the solid south by helping to carry Louisiana for the republican party.

The state, however, remains in the democratic column, though the normal majority has been cut down. Complete returns are not available and it is impossible to give exact figures as to what the democratic majority is, but approximately it is twenty thousand.

Editor L. A. Andrepoint of the Crowley Progress was in Opelousas Tuesday to cast his vote in the election.

who has been suffering from tonsillitis, and from there she was on her way to visit her daughter, Miss Eleanor, who is now teaching at the Bourg high school, near Houma, La.

HARDING WINS PRESIDENCY ON BIG LANDSLIDE

Republican Candidate Elect- ed by Unprecedented Vote

MAKES INROADS ON SOLID SOUTH

All Branches of Govern- ment to be in Republi- can Hands

The election Tuesday was a veritable landslide for the republican candidates for president and vice president, Harding and Coolidge. As a result of the landslide, all branches of the government will, after March 4 next, be in the hands of the republican party, the new senate and house of representatives being republican by large majorities.

So-called pivotal states, like New York, Ohio and others went republican by tremendous majorities, the women vote swelling the total to unheard of figures. New York, it is estimated, gave Harding a majority of approximately a million, while Illinois, normally republican gave him three-quarters of a million majority and Ohio followed close behind in the mighty avalanche that swept the republicans into power.

It was the same story in the east, the central west and the extreme west, and even in the "solid south" Harding made big inroads into the democratic strongholds. Tennessee cast its electoral vote for him, while Missouri followed suit with seventy-five thousand majority, and even Oklahoma looks as if it, too, voted for him by a small majority and will give him ten electoral votes. Tennessee elected a republican governor and the democratic candidate for Senator in Oklahoma, Congressman Scott Ferris, just slipped in by a narrow margin.

The republican victory was so complete and certain at an early hour Tuesday night that Governor Cox's newspaper, the Dayton (Ohio) Daily News, in issuing an extra edition announced the victory of the governor's opponent, and Cox himself soon wired his congratulations.

Various causes have been given, and no doubt exist, as to the reasons for the great change in the sentiment of the people. Undoubtedly there is a spirit of unrest throughout the nation due to the aftermath following the war. Stagnation in many lines of business, falling prices for farm and other products and dissatisfaction with many phases of the democratic administration's handling of governmental affairs had an effect in turning many voters toward the opposition party as a means of attaining what they thought had been denied them.

The slump in the normal democratic vote in the south is explained by the fall in the price of cotton, sugar and rice and the demoralized condition of the markets for those products. Innumerable farmers and business men have been using a sore spot because of the refusal of the reserve banking system to allow banks to loan money to farmers to hold their crops. Realizing, or thinking, that they had been treated badly by the powers-that-be at Washington, they went to the polls in flocks and voted against their convictions of a life-time. Whether their sudden reversal of sentiment will bring them any future good awaits to be seen.

The democratic party has received an awful jolt, but according to its leaders it has not been jolted out of existence, for in the past it received several such jolts and though its demise was predicted it managed to survive and prove that it was a virile organization in state and national affairs. According to the wiseacres, the democracy will now retire to the shades and meditate and prognosticate and lay plans for a revival within its ranks.

Senator Harding and Governor Coolidge, president-elect and vice president-elect, respectively, will be formally inaugurated March 4, next, at the expiration of President Wilson's term. The new congress will also assume power the same day.

George K. Perrault, law student at the state university, Baton Rouge, was here last Tuesday to cast his vote, returning to his studies Wednesday night.

D. P. Moreau, member of the police jury from the third ward, was here this week to attend a meeting of the jury. Assessor-elect Rene C. Fontenot is preparing to move to his new home on the Washington gravel road.

PARISH ELECTS THREE DELEGATES

L. L. PERRAULT, G. L. DUPRE AND W. J. SANDOZ CHOSEN IN ORDER NAMED

While complete figures for all of the twenty-five election precincts in St. Landry parish are not available, it would appear, however, that the vote for and against the convention was a close one, with a slight majority polled against the call. With the figures from Grand Coteau, Arnaudville, Bayou Current, Big Cane, Morrow, Krotz Springs, Garland, Faquetique, Mallet and Plaquemine Point missing on this important question, the vote recorded and accounted for shows that the parish voted against the holding of the convention. The figures from the missing precincts named might change the result or cut down the already slim majority against the convention.

The three delegates to the convention from this parish will be L. L. Perrault, Gilbert L. Dupre and W. J. Sandoz, all members of the Opelousas bar. Mr. Perrault led the ticket, with Judge Dupre ninety votes behind, and Messrs Sandoz and Boagni ran a neck-and-neck race for third place, the former winning by only sixty votes. Mr. Schell was 261 votes behind Mr. Boagni.

The Figures

Perrault	1572
Dupre	1482
Sandoz	1063
Boagni	1003
Schell	742

Judge Dupre and Mr. Schell are now members of the legislature from St. Landry. The former was a vigorous opponent of the convention call but made the race for delegate and won a seat in the body which will frame the new organic law of the state.

LATER—The convention call was defeated in St. Landry.

MANAGER OF OIL SYNDICATE HERE

MR. DEVINE EXPECTS THAT WORK ON WELL WILL BE RE- COMMENCED SOON

Mr. F. J. Devine of St. Louis, manager of the syndicate which is drilling for oil here, has been in Opelousas for the past few days, straightening out some matters for the company. Mr. Devine stated yesterday that, while work had been temporarily suspended, owing to some unexpected difficulties, drilling would be re-commenced in the near future and that when they began again it would be pushed to completion.

Mr. Devine compared the situation here at present with the Burk-Burnett field just before it was brought in. He said that he understood there are several syndicates which have acquired acreage in the immediate vicinity of Opelousas and that it was his belief other wells would be started in the near future.

Owing to the temporary suspension of drilling the syndicate is under an expense of over \$2,000 per month here, as they must pay for the machinery and the time of the driller, even though they are idle. It is expected that it will not be over a month before work will be again started.

WOMEN VOTE FOR FIRST TIME HERE

FAIR SEX TAKE VERY LITTLE INTEREST IN NATIONAL ELECTION AND FEW VOTE

For the first time in the history of Louisiana women cast their ballots in a general election last Tuesday. There were only about two hundred and fifty registered in the parish and some seventy odd voted at the Opelousas precinct. A number who had registered did not appear at the polls, evidently taking very little interest in the election held that day.

Being new to the game, they had to receive in some instances instructions how to mark their ballots. A few, along with some of their brothers, evidently stamped their tickets wrong, as quite a number of spoiled ballots appeared at the count.

Entertains Eight o'Clock Follies

Miss Nathalie Haas entertained the Eight O'Clock Follies at her home on Thursday evening at "500." The home was beautifully decorated in a combination of red and green interspersed with cut flowers and ferns.

Miss Lena Loeb won the ladies' first prize and Billy Jordan the gentleman's first prize. The guest's prize went to I. Cohen and the booby prize to Leonce Roos. Fifteen couples enjoyed the evening and the delicious refreshments which were served.

BY PEOPLE'S VOTE LOUISIANA IS TO FRAME NEW LAW

City Majority Carries Call of Convention Over Country

DELEGATES ELECTED TO THE BIG POW-WOW

Under Legislative Act, Gov- ernor Names Dozen of Members

The mooted question of a constitutional convention or not went up before the electorate of Louisiana last Tuesday and won out, the rural sections voting, apparently, against with a heavy majority favoring the call was piled up in New Orleans, the vote there being the deciding factor in the big contest.

A number of rural parishes also favored the call, while in others the majority was averse and in others the voters divided in their sentiments respecting the advisability of holding a convention under the terms of the legislative act.

The convention will be held in Baton Rouge next spring and of the number of delegates seated twelve are to be appointees of the governor—a new principle that is without a precedent. The governor has already announced eight of the personal of his appointees and of that number two are women. It was generally understood that the governor would appoint a number of the living ex-governors, but if he entertained any such notion it passed from his mind, for among the eight names he has already given out not one is an ex-governor.

The convention will be limited, in the scope of its duties, by the legislative act, in that it can not move the capitol from Baton Rouge, nor interfere with terms of office of the present officeholders; or in any manner mix-up with existing debt.

The fight for and against the convention was mainly centered on the provision of the act which states that the constitution should not be referred to the people. The opponents of the idea were vigorous in their denunciation of what they termed the "undemocratic" proceeding of not putting up the convention's work for approval or rejection to the people. Fighting along this line they brought forth many reasons why the convention should not be held. Several of the main reasons mentioned was the appointing of delegates by the governor; the high cost the work would entail; and the danger of "Parkerizing" the state with an organic law framed in accordance with the ideas of the executive.

Apparently these reasons in opposition fell on deaf ears, for the call has carried and the convention held on the rate specified in the legislative act. The cost of holding the convention is estimated at two hundred thousand dollars. The present constitution was framed in 1898 and later redrafted in respect to a few of its features, this latter convention being held in 1913. A call for another convention was voted down in 1916. The present organic instrument has had tacked on to it innumerable amendments, some being voted on at every November election. Seven such amendments were voted on at the election last Tuesday, their fate at this time not being known. This patchwork law furnished ample argument in favor of a new constitution and the proponents of the idea used it with much effect.

SNEAK THIEF ROBS PASSENGER DEPOT

CULPRIT GETS \$114 AT GULF COAST LINES STATION LAST TUESDAY NIGHT

One sneak thief, said to be a negro, put one over on a railroad company last Tuesday night when the cash drawer of the Gulf Coast Lines passenger station in this city was robbed of \$114.

The ticket agent, John Clary, had left the office a minute in order to post on the bulletin board the lateness of one of the fast trains. He left the office open and it is presumed that the moment he left the building the negro thief ran in, grabbed the coin and escaped. The police officers were notified and immediately got on his trail, but not having any description of him they failed to run him to earth. The audacity of the robbery accounts for the luck of the culprits in making his grab and then escaping.