

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXXII—NO. 4.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1921.

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

LEAGUE SECRETARY ADDRESSES JURY ON TICK ERADICATION

Vexing Problem Facing St. Landry Cattle Men Will Not Down

PARISH AUTHORITIES SORELY HANDICAPPED

Recognize Necessity of Dipping But Unable to Supply Funds

To get rid of the cattle tick, or not to get rid of it—that is vexing the police jury of this parish. The latter says it has not the necessary money to prosecute the war against the pest, and the cattle men realize that as long as the federal quarantine continues it will be impossible for them to dispose of their stock at advantageous prices. This quarantine is going to continue until such time as dipping is resumed and the tick finally routed. Then the federal government will remove the restrictions and all surplus cattle grown in the parish can be sold in outside markets. Cattle dipping has been in vogue in St. Landry for several years and many thousands of dollars were expended in attempting to get rid of the tick and to no avail. This year, account of a lack of funds, the police jury refrained from again ordering the dipping of stock and so the quarantine continues and to the man who is interested in getting rid of the pest forever the entire sum spent on the war heretofore has been wasted. There has been no lawlessness in St. Landry because of any opposition to the cattle-dipping program heretofore in effect. In other parishes there have been sporadic cases of dynamiting vats and in one or two parishes several arrests have been made in connection with the dynamiting. St. Landry has been singularly devoid of such lawless acts.

The contention has been made often that getting rid of the tick in the big swamp area in the third and fourth police jury wards would be next to an impossibility if not absolutely so. However, this idea has been exploded by men who are experts on the situation and competent to judge of the difficulty facing the cattle grower in those sections of the parish. These experts claim that the cattle tick only attacks cattle and does not bother wild animals, and if the cattle roaming in this great "free range" are regularly dipped the cattle tick will be disposed of as easily as in the open prairies of the parish.

Moreover the assertion is made that nature cleans the big woods of ticks of every kind each year or two by means of the overflow which visits those sections regularly. The ticks are all destroyed by the huge volume of waters that covers the area mentioned and if the cattle are dipped scientifically in accordance with the government regulations the swamp country will no longer be afflicted with the dreaded pest.

The secretary of the Louisiana Tick Eradication League was in Opelousas Monday and Tuesday and on the first named day delivered a forcible and timely address on the subject of tick destruction to the police jury. He stressed several important and convincing facts and showed that unless this country was released from quarantine the growing of cattle had just as well be stopped. Failure to comply with the requirements relative to cattle dipping means the total destruction of the industry in Louisiana, and especially in St. Landry, which is no further ahead in the war on the tick than it was when it started to cross swords with the pest several years ago.

Some sensible suggestions have been made, but all of them will fail of purpose unless there is hearty cooperation of the people of the parish who are interested in the cattle industry and who wish to see it placed on a safe and profitable basis. Much of the opposition to dipping arises from the fact that the parish has been put to large expense in employing inspectors and paying their monthly salaries as well as many bills large and small, for incidental expenses. In this connection it is stated that if there was a concert of action upon the part of the people and a mutual agreement to dip their cattle without being practically driven to do so by the arm of the law the attendant expense and delay would be eliminated at once.

The parish has furnished the dipping vats at great expense and these vats are now permanent and will not have to be constructed again. If, say some, the parish would furnish the chemicals and the cattle men agree to dip without inspectors rounding them up every fourteen days, the de-

RADCLIFFE CHAUTAUQUA WILL BE HERE THREE DAYS SOON

The Radcliffe chautauqua will give a three-day entertainment in Opelousas, beginning Friday, May 20. The program is a splendid one and as the company played a previous engagement in this city its coming is looked forward to with interest by those who enjoyed the high-class entertainment it afforded before.

SATURDAY RALLY OF CLUB MEMBERS BREAKS RECORDS

Large Attendance of Members Assembles at Local High School

SUNSET AGGREGATION WINS MERIT AWARD

Prominent Leaders on Hand And Deliver Addresses At Get-Together

The parish club rally was held in Opelousas last Saturday and is said to have been the best of its kind ever staged in St. Landry. Members of clubs from schools throughout the parish were on hand and assembled at the high school building at 9:30 o'clock in the morning.

Miss Lida Dowell and A. A. Mendoza, the former being parish demonstration agent and the latter county agricultural agent, worked hard to make the rally a success. It proved to be, and for their efforts in this line they are receiving the commendations of club members, teachers and the general public alike.

When the members of the various clubs assembled at the school building they formed in line and marched in formation through the city, giving yells and singing songs on the court house square. Following this demonstration they marched back to the school building. Speakers who took part in the program staged before the noon hour were: L. W. Wilkinson, district agent; Mrs. Mary B. Geison, formerly home demonstration agent in St. Landry but who is now a district agent of the extension division, Louisiana State University; W. C. Abbott, state boy's and girls' club leader; Mrs. Lula G. Kirk, formerly home demonstration agent of this parish but now acting in the same capacity in the parish of Iberville.

Following the speaking a photograph of the large group of boys and girls and their leaders was taken, after which a picnic lunch, including ice cream, was served to the large assemblage present.

The afternoon session opened with the program made up from the numbers from the different clubs, and all clubs rendered splendid numbers; but the award made by the judges of the contest gave the honors to the club from the Sunset graded school.

The following local leaders were present with their club members; Miss Mamie Meyers, with 100 per cent members in attendance, from Lawtell; Miss Otis Cooke, South Bellevue school, also with 100 per cent of the members in attendance; Miss Odell Brinkhaus of the Sunset graded school; Miss Ruby Kerr of the Eunice high school; Miss Inez Neyland of the Washington high school; Mrs. Ed. Coles of the Leonville school; Mrs. L. A. Morrough of the Arnaudville school; Miss Ella Moreau of the Opelousas high school, and Miss Emily Callet of the Palmetto school.

Following the close of the club exercises a moving picture show concluded the program of the entertainment of the club members for the day.

MISS STOCKTON TO CONTINUE AS PARISH HEALTH NURSE

The police jury Monday decided to continue Miss Dorothy Stockton as public health nurse for St. Landry parish and appropriated money to cover cost of salary and expenses. Miss Stockton has been serving in that capacity for some months and has given satisfaction with her work.

struction of the tick would be a matter of only a short time. But without this mutually arranged program and the absence of a healthy desire to dispose of the tick, any attempt along this line is both useless and impracticable. The police jury, financially speaking, is helpless to remedy the existing situation, and nothing can be done during 1921 unless the cattle raisers themselves take up the matter and dip their stock without reference to the parish putting up the sum of money usually necessary to keep the work going during the dipping season.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS ON HEALTH NURSE QUESTION

If anyone doubts that the police jury of St. Landry, so ably presided over by the eloquent President Dr. Pavy, is a progressive body, they would have their doubts removed by attending the session on Tuesday last when the question of retaining the community nurse came up.

The lobby was filled with some of the leading ladies of town who were enthusiastic in their support of Miss Stockton, the nurse, who for the past four months has performed prodigious

work among the schools, as testified by Professor Prescott, parish superintendent of public education. The question came up on reading a report by Dr. R. M. Littlell, in which he advised against re-employing Miss Stockton. Mr. Walter Brown took the floor in advocacy of her retention. Mr. Brown had already demonstrated his eloquence and ability as a debater in the phone rate fight, both before the police jury and the railroad commission in Baton Rouge. It was no surprise, therefore, to everyone the mastery with which he handled the question at issue. He expressed regret at the absence of Dr. Littlell, as he always liked to look opposition square in the eye. He found it strange that Dr. Littlell, who had been the chief protagonist of Miss Stockton before the jury some months before, when it was a new and untried experiment; that now that it had proved a howling success, as evidenced by the ladies, parents and school authorities, should now, without rhyme or reason, suddenly reverse his

position, when the only present cost involved was a matter of nine hundred dollars, especially when he, in a former report, advocated the selection of a nurse involving an appropriation of some twenty-five hundred dollars, late in October. It was evident, therefore, the doctor was not opposing the principle but an individual who had given eminent satisfaction to parents and school authorities alike.

Mr. Brown then offered the following resolution:

Whereas, the proposition of public health nursing in the parish of St. Landry has been subject of much discussion throughout the parish of St. Landry in the last thirty days, and Whereas, the facts and petitions submitted to this body shows the proposition to be a most meritorious and humanitarian one, therefore

Be it resolved by the police jury of the parish of St. Landry in regular session convened, that the sum of nine hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated and ordered set aside by the clerk of this body out of the contingent expense fund of 1921 for the continuation of the work of public health nursing for six months more, dating from July 1st to December 31st, 1921.

Be it further resolved, that the president of this body be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to employ the services of Miss Dorothy Stockton as public health nurse for the above mentioned period, she to be solely responsible for the faithful performance of her duties to this body and her work to be carried on under the supervision of the St. Landry parish chapter, the American Red Cross.

On the question being called there was only one negative, Mr. Dupre, who was not opposed to the principle but believed he was voicing the wishes of his ward. Some unkind remarks in the lobby were entirely uncalled for, because Mr. Dupre exhibited great moral courage in opposing a measure that was so extremely popular.

Mr. Thomas McCaffery was supposed to be opposed to the measure but voted for it. Mr. McCaffery is one of the watchdogs of the treasury and objects to any useless expenditure of money; but he is also a warm-hearted Irish-American, and when he learned from the report that the nurse had dug up obscure cases of disease that required operative relief, and that this relief came to many who would be unable to secure it otherwise, he voted yes.

The ladies warmly congratulated Dr. Pavy and Mr. Brown on the happy issue of the discussion.

architecture. The new structure will perhaps be somewhat more striking than the present school, and as such be a little more attractive and pleasing to the eye.

All possible future needs for a building of this kind have been minutely looked after and there will be no mistakes made in the matter of the new school. As stated in previous stories appearing in the Clarion, provision will be made for an indoor playground for use of the children during such weather that it will be impossible for them to be out of doors. This inside playground can be converted into class rooms if in the future the attendance of children warrants such a change.

Mr. Prescott was not positive when the contract would be awarded, as that all depends on circumstances. If the call for bids is submitted in the next issue of this newspaper and runs for, say, eight weeks, the final appearance of the advertisement will be on Saturday, July 2, and the contract therefore can not be awarded before some time in this last named month. Hence, it is extremely doubtful if actual construction work can or will be started before September.

OPELOUSAS GIRL WINS MEDAL AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Clarion notes with pleasure an Opelousas girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Mayer, and granddaughter of Mrs. M. Mayer and a pupil of the Sophie B. Wright high school in New Orleans won the gold medal and a scholarship in the Louisiana State University in a contest with fifty-eight competitors at the Baton Rouge educational rally, in the section of home economics and house furnishing.

The contestants were from all parts of the state. Miss Mayer is to be congratulated on her artistic victory which opens up the possibilities of an artistic career along new and profitable lines.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Melton of Lawtell were here Wednesday night, Mrs. Melton attending the moving picture show.

WILL BUILD COLLEGE WITH LARGE SUM OF THE SEVERANCE TAX

Practically Agreed to Set Aside Six and One-Half Millions of Fund

HALF-MILL TAX ON ALL PROPERTY AFTER 1925

Two Thousand Acres Purchased Near Baton Rouge For the Site

Louisiana is going to have its Greater Agricultural college, and it is going to cost a tremendous sum, but only half of the amount proposed by the governor. The convention has agreed to appropriate six and one-half million dollars of the severance tax for that purpose and beginning with the year 1925 an ad valorem tax of one-half mill on all taxable property in the state will be imposed for a maintenance fund for the college—the governor wanted one mill.

The governor has purchased two thousand acres of land, a mile or two east of Baton Rouge, at a price of one hundred dollars per acre, and on this site the college will be constructed. The street railroad system of the capital city will be extended to the new institution so as to give easy access to the college at all times. Incidentally, according to reports, the present Louisiana State University will be incorporated with the Greater Agricultural College and become a part thereof. The site and buildings of the university, situated within the corporate limits of Baton Rouge, will be abandoned so far as school purposes and may later be sold to private individuals. It would make a splendid site for a new capitol building should the state ever decide to erect a new structure for that purpose.

The severance tax, from which the new college will be erected is collected from the natural resources of the state, such as lumber, salt, oil, sulphur, gas, etc., and was put into effect by the legislature. It is calculated that this tax raises for the state some three millions each year, and if this be correct then the tax for two years will be about ample to erect the new college. Considerable opposition to the devoting this amount of the severance tax, or any part of it, developed in the convention but the steam roller flattened out all such opposition, though the sum finally agreed upon was a compromise, it being impossible to push through the convention the ideas of the governor to devote twelve million dollars to the new college. One element of the delegates—though it was apparently much in the minority—though that the tax should be prorated among the parishes where it was collected. This proposition would have given such parishes as are great producers of lumber, oil, etc., a giant dividend from the state.

SOME MINSTREL SHOW ON MONDAY

SONGS, DANCES, COMEDIANS TO HOLD FORTH IN HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM AT NIGHT

Some of our home talent will be exhibited in minstrel given by the Woman's club, for the purpose of raising a library fund on Monday evening, May 9, at the Opelousas high school auditorium.

It is rumored that one of the principal features will be the Hawaiian dance with all that grace and lure, which fascinates and lures one to those moonlight shores of romance, the Pearl of the Pacific. Several local singers will endeavor also to make the evening a pleasant one.

The chorus girls will be right there and we feel sure that the Zeigfield Follies will be entirely put in the dark by the ingenue, the sport girls, the sophisticated debutantes, the appealing little Flower Girl and the "Wicked Vamp," all of whom will be present.

The darkskin comedians will keep you laughing and a second Pavlova will capture your hearts.

Death of Miss Dejean
Miss Heloise Dejean, daughter of Mrs. Albert W. Dejean, died at the family home near Lewisburg last Sunday evening, aged 13 years, 3 months and 27 days. The funeral was held Monday afternoon at Church Point.

Mr. Guillory of Eunice visited relatives in Opelousas during the week.

Edgar Derousselle, business man of Arnaudville, was in Opelousas the first of the week.

PLAY BALL! THE COMING SLOGAN

LEGION POST IS BACKING THE LOCAL CLUB AND FIRST GAME FIXED FOR SUNDAY

The first game of baseball of the season will be played on the local grounds to-morrow between the Opelousas team and the team from St. Charles college, Grand Coteau. Next Sunday a game will be played with the strong team from Eunice, and the two contests promise to be exciting ones, in view of the fact that the locals have just organized and both the St. Charles and Eunice teams have been engaged in playing for some time.

The collegians have an unusually strong team this season and have been playing winning ball right along, while Eunice has been cleaning up everything in sight, simply romping on their opponents every time they crossed bats. So the Opelousas boys will have something to do in winning from these heretofore invincibles. However, they feel confident and are engaged in practice all the time, perfecting themselves for the contests.

As already announced, Girou park will be placed in first class shape for the season's games and everything will be placed in first class shape for sport successful here. The committee that solicited financial aid from the town people met with unusual success, according to, statements made, and their success means further encouragement to the players.

OPELOUSAS HIGH WILL CLOSE SOON

MORE THAN TWENTY BOYS AND GIRLS TO BE GRADUATED ON TUESDAY, MAY 19

The closing exercises of the Opelousas high school will take place on Thursday, May 19, at which time some twenty odd boys and girls, members of the senior class, will receive their diplomas at the hands of the principal, Mr. Pavy, and members of the splendid faculty of this great institution. Full details as to names of the class, the colors adopted, etc., were not obtainable for this issue of the Clarion but will be published in a later issue.

The junior class will tender an entertainment to the seniors on Friday May 13, and they are positive that because the 13th falls on Friday will mean nothing entirely out of the ordinary, for on this special occasion all superstition as to "unlucky days" coupled with "Friday, the 13th," will be banished among the glooms.

The Opelousas high is just closing one of the most successful sessions in its long history, and both pupils and faculty are to be congratulated on the remarkable record attained by the institution during the session 1920-1921.

AUXILIARY UNIT WILL MEET TODAY

LADIES OF THE LEGION WILL GATHER AT HEADQUARTERS AT 7:30 P. M.

Mrs. Albert Tate, acting secretary of Woman's Auxiliary unit No. 45 of the American Legion, has issued a call for a meeting of the members of the unit to be held at the Legion headquarters on Main street at 7:30 o'clock this afternoon.

The call states: "To facilitate matters in making the post permanent, bring to the meeting or mail to me before Saturday, the following information written on a slip of paper, with your name and address: 'First—Name of person upon whom application depends.

"Second—Name of post and number to which such person is at present in good standing."

CHAUTAUQUA MAN SAYS OUTLOOK FINE

Mr. C. A. Brown, a representative of the Radcliffe chautauqua, which will be here May 20, 21 and 22, was in Opelousas yesterday and stated that the outlook for a successful presentation in this city was never good and was very enthusiastic over the prospects.

The chautauqua is not only up to standard of former years, but somewhat ahead of the standard set by it in previous seasons.

Joseph Bordeion, well known St. Landry farmer and business man, was recently operated on at the Opelousas sanitarium and is reported doing nicely.

FEDERAL JUDGE SAYS OPELOUSAS CAN'T INTERFERE

Telephone Company Wins In Its Injunction Suit Against This City

RAIL BODY TO HAVE THE FINAL SAY SO

Subscribers Must Pay Increased Rate Until Commission Decides

Opelousas, represented by its mayor and board of aldermen, has lost the first stages of the legal contest with the Cumberland telephone company. Judge Foster of the federal court at New Orleans decided Tuesday that this city can not interfere with the telephone company in collecting the increased rate granted by the railroad commission of Louisiana in February and which went into effect March 1.

This status will continue, according to the court's ruling, until the railroad commission passes final judgment on the case, a rehearing on which was granted some time ago, four months time being granted the protestors in which to gather and present evidence why the higher rate should be rescinded and the service furnished by the company placed back on the old basis. Decision by the commission favoring the protesting patrons will automatically dissolve the ruling of Judge Foster, the court says.

This restraining order issued against the city of Opelousas automatically estops the city or its officials in taking further action in the premises, unless the case is taken over Judge Foster's ruling to a higher federal court, and to do so will entail considerable expense and unless the Opelousas patrons of the telephone company contribute to such a prospective fund the case will naturally rest until such time as the commission makes its final decision as to the imposing and collecting of the higher rate for phone service. So far no steps have been taken in the way of securing contributions to such a proposed fund and until some such move is made the city will be powerless to fight the telephone company on the matter of rates.

The injunction granted against Opelousas in this case also covers every municipality in the state, except New Orleans, and it is believed that it, too, will also meet with the same fate as has Opelousas. It will be recalled that New Orleans and Opelousas took the initial steps to fight the higher rates imposed by the order of the railroad commission, and as soon as the company saw that it was in for a good hot contest it marshalled forth a strong array of legal talent and started injunction proceedings against the municipalities restraining them in any way interfering with it collecting the higher rates granted by the commission.

The probable outcome of the controversy and contest can not now be prophesied. Everything depends on the decision of the rail board and as that is fully four months off there is no probable relief for the subscribers to the service while this decision is pending. They will either have to pay the higher rate or discontinue the service if they wish to escape the higher cost of telephone use in the cities, towns and villages where an exchange is maintained by the company. Perhaps if the commission reverses itself and orders the old rate reinstated within four months the patrons may stand a chance of getting their over-charge refunded by the company. We said maybe, for many people believe that even if the commission back-tracks on this proposition the company will hold on to the twenty and twenty-five per cent extra it collected from patrons during the tenure of the higher rate and refuse positively to make the refund.

DANCE AT K. OF C. HOME ON NEXT WEDNESDAY EVE

There will be a dance given at the Knights of Columbus home on Main street next Wednesday night, according to announcement made. The dance will begin at 8 o'clock and the Banner band will furnish the music for the occasion. The price of admission will be \$2 and ladies will be admitted free. It is proposed that this dance shall be one of the social events of the present season and a large attendance is expected.

Hon. James O. Chachere is up and about town again after undergoing a surgical operation at the local sanitarium.