

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXXI—NO. 36.

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1921.

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

BIG CLASS RIDES GEAT AT SUNDAY K. C. INITIATION

Several Candidates Failed to Materialize on Account of Illness

LARGE THRONG VIEWS CEREMONIES

Visitors Came From Cities and Towns All Over this Section of State

The long-advertised and much-heralded initiation of the local body of the Knights of Columbus took place last Sunday and was attended by members of the order from cities and towns all over the south half of the state. Many came by train while large numbers came overland in automobiles. Opelousas was crowded from early morning until late at night, with a number of the visitors remaining over for the big dance held on the lower floor of the K. of C. hall when the day's ceremonies and banquet were over.

The class as originally planned was to contain some forty-odd candidates, besides the candidates of the local council, there was to have been quite a number of candidates brought here by councils located in nearby towns. On account of illness or due to other causes beyond the control of missing ones, quite a few of the prospective candidates did not show up and this reduced the size of the class to twenty-eight. This disappointed the old members and especially the committees having the matter of arranging things in charge, but the best was made of the situation and the ones who did appear for initiation were given the work of the order in the usual form, degree teams being on hand to perform said work without hitch.

The candidates and the members marched to the Catholic church where mass was said by the parish priest, and then they marched back to the hall of the order on Main street where everyone was served with a splendid dinner which was in charge of the ladies. This feast was spread in the capacious automobile show-room, of Ose Borden, next door to the K. of C. building, which had been suitably and tastefully arranged for the purpose.

The lodge room of the K. of C. on the upper floor of the big building had been kept cool all the hours of the night before by a half-dozen electric fans that ran continuously. At 10 o'clock in the afternoon the degree work began and was finally completed at 6 o'clock in the afternoon. Following the wind-up of the ceremonies the K. of C. pictures showing the "Pilgrimage to Metz" and also of the rope were shown with a moving picture machine in the lower floor of the building. Then everything was cleared for the dance, splendid music being furnished by a band brought here for that purpose. A large number of couples were on the floor and the festivities lasted until a late hour in the night.

There were visiting members from Abbeville, New Iberia, Lafayette, Rayne, Crowley, Alexandria, Marksville, Cottonport, Church Point, Washington, Ville Platte, Eunice and other points in this part of the state. This is the last initiation of the summer and all activity along that line will be suspended until the cooler weather of the fall arrives.

DRAINAGE BOARD FIXES FOR AN ADDITIONAL BOND ISSUE

The board of commissioners of the Bayou Plaquemine drainage district met at the office of the board's attorney, P. R. Sandoz, Wednesday afternoon, and adopted an ordinance providing for the issuance of an additional twenty-five thousand dollars worth of bonds of the district, the avails of which issue will be used in extending and bettering the wonderful system of gravity drainage in the district. The agricultural lands in the district are among the finest in the state, but in the past, owing to poor natural drainage, producing bumper crops was a matter of chance, with the chances much against the farmer. For if the season was a wet one the lands were drowned out by flood waters and the crops ruined. It required a dry season for the production of a full crop. The drainage system provided is rapidly taking the lands out of the doubtful class and placing them among the sure producers, and therefore adding much to the value.

Miss Jessie Kirby of Port Barre will be the guest of Miss W. D. Lewis for several days.

FINISH TRIMMINGS IN THE BAQUE CASE

ALL EVIDENCE TAKEN AND ARGUMENT OF COUNSEL WILL BE HEARD SHORTLY

The case of Baque versus the city of Opelousas, in which plaintiff claims nineteen thousand dollars damage because of the death of his young son by a live electric wire of the city plant in its final stages, so far as the district court is concerned. All the evidence has been taken and the argument of the counsel for both plaintiff and city will be heard when Judge Pavy returns from holding a criminal term in Ville Platte. After argument court will adjourn for the summer vacation. The case will be appealed to the supreme court, no matter which side wins judgment in the lower court.

BIG STORM MISSED ST. LANDRY, BUT RAIN AIDS CROPS

Heavy Downpour Wednesday Night and Cool Wave Follows Texas Blow

ALL CROPS THRIVE WITH THE MOISTURE

Rice Man Says Crop Was Never Better and Harvest Starts Soon

The weather bureau sent out a warning notice Tuesday and Wednesday about a storm moving toward the Texas coast. Several Louisiana parishes were also included in the warning and their residents advised to "take to cover."

The storm hit Texas all right but somehow it failed to materialize in Louisiana to any appreciable extent though weather conditions underwent a big change Wednesday and Thursday. There were scattered showers Wednesday followed by a heavy downpour that night and Thursday the skies were overcast and a high wind was blowing that caused the temperature to fall rapidly as the summer heat disappeared under the breath of the western storm, only the tail-end of which was felt here. Crops suffered no damage and the big rain broke the drought and aided the growing corn, cotton, sugarcane, potatoes, pastures, hay meadows and every thing in the line of vegetation.

Crops have improved rapidly the past few weeks and farmers have assumed a more cheerful feeling since things began to "look up." Cotton is well cultivated and is making fair progress and the growers are expecting a fair yield this fall. Corn is good and the harvest will be a bountiful one, even though some of the older planting was materially injured by drought. The acreage is so large that the total yield will mount up into high figures. Sugar cane was never better according to those who know. The stand is excellent and it has stood the dry weather remarkably well.

According to a well known and thoroughly informed rice man, the rice crop is the finest ever known. The past few days he was through the Eunice territory and said that he never saw a finer prospect for a big crop. He remarked, in speaking of the rain Wednesday, that the so-called "providence" rice, planted on a gamble with the weather, was now safe and would no doubt produce as much, or almost as much, as that rice which was irrigated by artificial methods.

He stated, further, that he had seen some fields around Eunice which were really remarkable and some of which had already begun to show signs of heading. He predicted that the harvest would begin earlier this year than ever known before. The crop had been made cheaper than for several years past and as the market had begun to assume a healthier tone he felt sure that the producers would realize better net returns than for a year or so past, all things being considered. Rice, he thought, would get back on its feet very quickly—much quicker than anyone ever dreamed of; and by harvest time of 1922 the industry would once more be thoroughly stabilized in Louisiana and Texas.

Farmers of this territory planned to plant a big acreage in sweet potatoes this year. Their hopes rose high the early part of June when the showers came but as these last did not continue long and drought followed they began to experience some disappointment over prospects. However, with the rain of Wednesday they have been enabled to resume the delayed work of setting out potato vines and while

JORDAN SAYS HE WILL BE ON JOB WITHIN FEW DAYS

Victorious Superintendent in Light Plant Squabble Won't Resign

PROPOSES KEEPING PLANT TO STANDARD

As Soon as Judgment Becomes Final Will Resume His Work

George C. Jordan, deposed as superintendent of the city electric light plant some months ago and who won out in an appeal to the state supreme court, stated Tuesday that as soon as the decree of the high tribunal becomes final—ten days from its handing down being required—he will resume his work as formerly.

It was rumored that Mr. Jordan would resign, thus leaving the way clear for the council to choose his successor; but when this rumor was mentioned to him he scoffed at the idea and said there wasn't anything to the matter. He assured the public that he never entertained such an idea and was going to see the thing through to the end.

Speaking of his future administration of the plant, he said that he proposed to operate it on a business-like basis and to that end would propose the establishment of a sinking fund from the net profits of the plant each month to guard against a shortage of funds should repairs for the plant be required in the future. Such a plan, he said, was entirely in keeping with modern practices and was only sound judgment in being prepared to meet all contingencies which might arise.

As to the physical condition of the plant, he said there was none better among the smaller cities of Louisiana and in this connection he paid a high compliment to the mechanical ability of Engineer Miller who has been head of the plant since Mr. Jordan stepped out some four months ago. Mr. Miller's training as an engineer and mechanic and his wide experience in following his trade and profession have eminently fitted him to operate and care for the five big engines that furnish motive power for the electric generators and for the further purpose of pumping water for city use.

The plant, said the superintendent, is rapidly emerging from its former tangled condition. Necessarily, during the course of repairs and rehabilitation, a great amount of junk, material, etc., was accumulated and it was practically impossible to keep the building in first-class order. There is no further excuse for this material condition, said Mr. Jordan, and he proposed that the plant be rapidly cleared of such junk and the interior placed in such a condition "that a man could work around the machinery without soiling his clothes on dirty machinery." He remarked that he had seen plants where the engineer and other employees worked with white collars on and never experienced the occasion when they had to get into old clothes in order to protect their "Sunday-go-to-rings." This, then, is the mark he has set in his effort to place the plant on a better basis when it comes to cleanliness and sanitation and make it a pleasant place rather than one of drudgery for the several men who toil there through the hours of darkness and light in order that the patrons can enjoy that modern luxury, electricity, for light and for power at all hours of the twenty-four, day after day, week following week, year in and year out.

Mr. Jordan's good intention to place the plant in such a condition is to be commended and the people will hail with delight his announcement to that effect and sincerely hope that he will be able to make his intentions and promises good.

YOUNG OPELOUSAS SPORTS TO WITNESS BIG CONTEST

Opelousas will be represented at the ringside in New Jersey when Jack Dempsey, fistic champion of the world, and Georges Carpentier, French champion, meet on July 4. Frank Dittlein, Jr., and Jeff Hawkins, two enthusiastic fans on the fight game, left here a day or so ago to join the New Orleans delegation that will go to the scene of the great contest in the Mosquito State, and they are enthusiastic about seeing the greatest fistic battle ever staged in the history of the sport.

With the acreage may be somewhat curtailed over old plans, the 1921 crop promises to eclipse all previous yields.

NECESSARY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN PRIMARY

City Voters, Men and Women, Must Get to Take Part in Municipal Contest

The convention provided for a new registration beginning January 1, 1922. The city primary will take place about January 20, 1922. The existing law provides that registration books be closed thirty days before an election. Therefore, Opelousas voters, both men and women who wish to participate in the city primary in January, 1922, will have to register in 1921—this year—in order to be qualified. They can't put the matter off until the new registration opens in January of that year for the books will be closed so far as the city is concerned. Incidentally, the question of women paying the poll tax was also settled by the convention. Women who were of voting age in 1920 when the suffrage amendment went into effect, will have to pay the 1920 poll tax this year, as well as that of 1921 in order to vote in 1922. Let them take that fact under serious consideration, as well as the matter of registration. Very few Opelousas women have registered so far, though six months of the year are gone. Let them, as well as the delinquent males, get busy, for even the male who failed to pay his 1920 poll tax can pay it now and thus reinstate himself as a qualified voter—provided, he also registers. It is time to get busy, NOW!

Baptist Minister Returns

Pastor D. R. Prevote has returned from Lafayette where he held a very successful revival meeting, and will occupy the First Baptist pulpit at both services Sunday. A large crowd is expected.

The morning theme will be "What Shall we do with our Schools?" The evening theme will be "Making the Best of a Bad Situation."

LANDMARKS DROP UNDER THE AXE

"SQUIRREL" MAKES HEADWAY AND LOTS OF FUSSES AS HE FELLS BIG TREES

Two giant oaks, diseased and a menace to life and property are going down, piecemeal, under the skillful axe and saw of "Squirrel," expert negro. The trees are the twin oaks located in front of the law office of City Attorney Peyton R. Sandoz and within a stone's throw of the Clarion office. The property on which the trees are growing belongs to J. Terrence Dupre, and some time ago the city authorities, noting their dangerous condition, notified Mr. Dupre they would have to be removed.

Destroying trees of such size and located near buildings, electric and telephone wires, etc., is no easy job as each limb has to be cut and let down by rope attached to block and tackle. "Squirrel," the old dinky having the work in charge, is so adept at this fine art, however, and he mounted the big trees, saw in hand, and made quick work of the numerous limbs, but incidentally, he also made miserable his helpers on the ground below, for while he is small of stature and ancient in point of years, he can handle his tongue like the proverbial steamboat captain and he uses his tongue as rapidly as he wields the saw.

Several of the heavy limbs got the best of the man on the ground holding the rope and fell on the office of Attorney Sandoz with some damages resulting therefrom.

The two trees are nearly a century old, as some citizens who have reached the three score and ten mark state the trees were there as far back as they can recall. Their removal ends the existence of a notable landmark but it was necessary because of their condition.

K. OF C. TEAM WILL PLAY RAYNE LEGION TEAM SUNDAY

Hand bills have been issued and circulated announcing a game of ball tomorrow at Rayne between the American Legion team of that town and the Knights of Columbus team of Opelousas, the contest to be called at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Price of admission, 20 and 35 cents.

Mrs. L. W. Moriarty and baby of Alexandria are spending some time here as guests of her sister, Mrs. J. P. Barnett, and other relatives.

AN IMPOSING ARRAY OF FUN PRODUCES AT EUNICE JULY 4

Neighboring Town Preparing on Big Scale of Big Celebration

PROGRAM UNDER THE AMERICAN LEGION

Parade, Oratory, Ball Game, Races and Dance Among The Amusements

On July Fourth Eunice is going to be the mecca of thousands from St. Landry and adjoining parishes who will journey to the western St. Landry metropolis, via train and automobile, to witness the great blow-out that has been arranged by the local post of the American Legion, assisted by patriotic citizens and business men of the town. Many Opelousans have laid plans to attend and those who remain at home that day are due to see the parish seat almost deserted.

The main feature of the event, according to the view of the ball fans, is the contest arranged for that day between the teams from Opelousas and Eunice, old but friendly rivals in the game. The Eunice fans have already given notice that their team will be prepared and are crowing over the probable—they say absolute—victory of the Euniceites over the Opelousas "Invincibles." The game alone will prove sufficient attraction to draw hundreds from this city who would not otherwise go that day.

Then there is going to be a big parade—what celebration of this type would be perfect without such a feature? All the automobiles in the line will be appropriately decorated for that particular occasion, and as the Euniceites know how to arrange things to the queen's taste, it is certain that there will be nothing disappointing with the parade itself.

Oratory? Of course. The Fourth can not be celebrated without some kind of patriotic speeches and the Eunice folks wouldn't think of asking their friends and neighbors to go there and join with them in celebrating this great day without prancing out their orators and letting them orate on fitting subject suitable for the occasion. If we recall correctly, there are several budding followers of the great Demosthenes living in that growing, thriving burg on the western prairies and they surely won't miss the chance to let their silvered tongues wag for the edification of their hundreds of hearers, and we at a distance feel sure that the committees having the arrangements in charge won't pass up any of the fluent speakers residing among them.

The horse races and other races are strong attractions for a large element of the population and when that part of the program is pulled off, there will be a huge throng at the track to witness the performance of the various horses and entries in the main races. Excitement of various kinds due to prevail as the favorite gains or loses in the contest against time and distance. The "Sport of Kings" will draw as large a following as any other event on the program, and the Eunice folks assure the race fans a full measure of pleasure along that particular line.

Eunice has one of the best moving picture shows in the state among the smaller towns and the management of the Electric theatre announce a special program for the occasion, the show starting promptly at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and running continually until the day's events are brought to a fitting close.

"On the with the dance!" The casual reader can guess very accurately beforehand that there will be some dance, too. The jazziest kind of jazz music, furnished by a well-trained band, will give inspiration for the followers of old dame Terpsichore, and the Euniceites are getting the floor of the dance hall well waxed for the occasion and, like Byron's ringing words in describing the dance in "Belgium's fair capital" at the ball on the night before the battle of Waterloo, "joy will be unconfined."

In the brief space of a newspaper story, and that, too, writing off-hand it would be impossible to photograph the fun, frolic and pleasure due to those who attend the Eunice celebration on the Fourth; but we have taken a shot at it and hope it will prove even greater.

Charles L. Voorhies, popular traveling salesman of this city, motored to Vermillion parish yesterday morning on a business trip.

Steve Durand has returned from Hot Wells, Rapides parish, where he spent some time.

DRILLERS MAKE ANOTHER TRIAL

PINE PRAIRIE TEST RUINED BY TOOLS LOST IN HOLE—FISHING JOB PROVES FAILURE

The test well at Pine Prairie has been abandoned at about one thousand feet, according to reports reaching Opelousas this week. Recently there was a blow-out caused by a gas pocket, then followed the loss of drilling tools in the bottom of the hole, and it was impossible to fish the stuff from the bottom. A broken pipe was gotten out but the balance of the junk refused to be hooked. Abandonment of the test was decided on and the derrick will be skidded over a few feet and another test drilled.

It is stated by parties who were on the scene recently that a second derrick is about to be erected and another rig started on a test, the material for the derrick already being on the ground.

Development at Pine Prairie is being watched by several Opelousans who have land holdings in the vicinity of the field and also in the neighborhood of the present tests being made by the big English syndicate.

SUGAR AND COTTON ARE SOME ACROBATS

TUMBLING UP AND THEN MOSTLY DOWN SEEMS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF STAPLES

Both cotton and sugar, two of Louisiana's great staples, have been pulling off some strange tricks of late on the exchanges of the country. Cotton has redeemed itself to a certain extent though its tendency seems to misbehave. So far as sugar is concerned, a year ago it was a real king, while today it has joined its brother in taking the toboggan at every chance and on any kind of an excuse.

A week ago cotton dropped about sixty points, practically three dollars per bale, but since that time it has weakly recovered some of its loss, though the market does not appear any too healthy from the producer's standpoint, and further declines are looming up in the offing.

Sugar's main stunt has been to keep on tumbling and it hasn't attempted to fool the people with any half-sick weakly rise. A year ago it was worth around twenty-five cents per pound at retail, and lately it dropped to less than five and one-half cents wholesale on the New York exchange. All this indicates low prices for both staples of the 1921 crop, and the cotton and cane farmers of the state will have to guide themselves accordingly.

NEW STUDEBAKER SELLS RAPIDLY

AGENT BORDELON, DISPOSES OF TWO MORE SPECIAL SIXES DURING WEEK

Ose Borden, local agent of the Studebaker automobile, is ranked among the best salesmen in Louisiana, but he modestly disclaims using any special effort in disposing of cars he handles, claiming that it is the merit of the Studebakers themselves which do the selling.

It is well known that there has been a decided slump in the sale of all makes of cars the past six months, but despite that fact Ose has been selling new cars right along, without any special effort. Recently he disposed of a big Six roadster to Sheriff Thibodeaux; then a special six touring car to Attorney P. R. Sandoz; a similar car to Cashier Kelley Andrus of the Parish Bank, and this week he sold two similar machines to Dr. Chas. F. Boagni of Opelousas and Leon Wolff of Washington.

In connection with the sale of a Studebaker to Dr. Boagni it is recalled that the doctor has owned quite a number of cars during the past several years, and it is interesting to note that everyone was a Studebaker. He traded in a car of that make on the recent sale. He believes in this make of automobile and is certain that it is a splendid buy at the reasonable price.

News was received in Opelousas Thursday that Jim White of Crowley had been operated on for appendicitis at the sanitarium in his home town. He has many relatives and friends here and visits this city often.

Dr. Frank Reiger and wife arrived in Opelousas on Thursday to make final preparations to move to Scotland, La.

JINX HITS LOCALS DROP THREE GAMES TO LAKE CHARLES

Outplayed the Enemy But Tide of Fortune Seemed Turned Other Way

PERSONNEL STACKS UP STRONGER THAN RIVAL

Score: First, 3 to 2; Second, 5 to 2; Third, 7 to 6 Favor Lake City

The Opelousas team returned from Lake Charles yesterday morning, whipped but not vanquished, and determined to retrieve their losses to the Lake Charles team at some time in the not distant future.

The locals went over Tuesday and played three games on the enemy's grounds, losing all three by the scores of 3 to 2, 5 to 2 and 7 to 6. It was admitted and the box scores show, that the Opelousas stacked up as a much better team than their opponents. Luck had turned the scales against them, and besides they were playing on enemy grounds and had a hostile aggregation to fans to contend with, and all such little things weigh heavy in the final round up.

The box score for the Tuesday game follows:

Opelousas	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.E.
Lemons, 3b	4	0	0	0	1
Comeaux, ss	4	0	2	1	3
Smith, 1st	4	0	1	2	0
Platte, c	4	0	0	4	0
Olivier, rf	3	1	0	4	1
Brown, 2b	4	1	1	3	0
Clary, 1b	3	0	1	7	0
Littell, cf	2	0	0	2	0
Richard, cf	1	0	1	0	1
Cavet, p	4	0	1	1	4

Totals	33	2	7	24	10
Lake Charles	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.E.
Herrera, 2b	4	0	1	4	1
Weight, ss	3	0	1	2	1
Strain, 3b	3	0	1	3	0
Querry, 1b	3	1	1	3	0
Duncan, cf	3	1	2	3	0
Hymel, rf	4	1	0	0	0
Reynolds, lf	4	0	2	2	0
Barger, c	4	0	1	2	0
Lyons, p	3	0	2	0	1
Taylor, p	3	0	2	0	1
Lyons, p	0	0	0	0	0

Totals 32 3 11 27 11 2

Score by innings:
Opelousas 000 200 000-2
Lake Charles 000 001 02x-3
Summary: Two-base hit—Querry. Sacrifice hits—Duncan, Hymel. Base on balls—Ose Cavet, 2; off Taylor, 1. Struck out—By Cavet, 2; by Taylor, 2. Double plays—Brown to Comeaux to Clary. Time—1 hour and 40 minutes. Umpire—Johnson.

Score of second game, Wednesday

Opelousas	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.E.
Lemons, 3b	5	0	2	1	1
Comeaux, ss	5	0	1	3	1
Smith, cf	3	0	0	4	0
Cavet, cf	4	0	1	1	0
Platte, c	4	1	3	2	1
Olivier, rf	4	1	2	1	0
Brown, 2b	4	0	3	5	1
Clary, 1b	3	0	0	7	0
Cerniglia, p	3	0	0	2	1

Totals 36 2 12 24 6 3

*Batted for Cerniglia in seventh.

Lake Charles	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.E.
Herrera, 2b	4	1	2	3	3
Wiegant, ss	2	1	2	4	0
Strain, 3b	4	0	1	0	0
Querry, 1b	4	1	1	1	0
Duncan, cf	2	0	2	2	0
Reynolds, lf	3	0	0	2	0
Lyons, rf	3	1	0	0	0
Barger, c	3	0	1	8	1
Hymel, p	3	1	0	4	0

Totals 28 5 7 27 15 1

By Innings—
Opelousas 020 000 000-3
Lake Charles 000 220 10x-3
Summary—Two-base hits, Brown. Wiegant, Hymel. Sacrifice hits, Herrera, Wiegant, 2. Strain, Lyons, Double plays, Strain to Herrera to Querry; Wiegant to Herrera to Querry. Base on balls, by Cerniglia 5; by Hymel 1. Hit by pitched ball, by Hymel 1. Struck out, by Cerniglia 2, by Hymel 5. Passed ball, Platte. Umpire Johnson and Thompson. Time 1:35.

This (Friday) morning we were unable to secure the box score of the Thursday game or the total by innings, the result being 7 to 6 in favor of Lake Charles.

W. F. Nolan spent a day and night in Crowley the first of the week on a business mission.

Mrs. W. J. Healey and little son of New Orleans are in Opelousas on a visit to relatives.

Dr. Fred J. Mayer spent a day in Lafayette this week attending to business affairs.