

THE ST. LANDRY CLARION

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

VOLUME XXXI—NO. 48

OPELOUSAS, LA., SATURDAY, SEPT. 24, 1921.

TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

MIDDLE RESULTS AS HIGH COURT RULES AGAINST GODCHAUX

Tribunal Says Nominee is Not Resident of the State and Ineligible

COMMITTEE SELECTS EX-GOV. L. E. HALL

Governor Annuls Special Election on Advice of Attorney General

About the greatest political sensation in the history of the state happened Tuesday as the result of the decision of the supreme court in the case of Hall against Godchaux, wherein the former contested the right of the latter to be a candidate for a position on the bench of the high court to fill the vacancy occasioned by the forthcoming retirement of Chief Justice Frank A. Monroe. The court ruled against Godchaux and partly with Hall, though it decided that the latter was not entitled to the party nomination, thus holding that there had been no actual nomination, putting the matter of selecting a party candidate for the position squarely up to the state central committee of the democratic party.

The decision of the court must have been reached in advance of its rendering for the committee was ready to meet at Baton Rouge and did so immediately, selecting former Governor Luther E. Hall as the party candidate for the place on the supreme bench.

Following quick on the heels of the committee's action came another surprise when Governor Parker, acting on the advice of the attorney general, issued a proclamation annulling the special election called for Tuesday to fill two vacancies on the supreme bench, one on the criminal court of New Orleans and their places.

The entire matter is wrapped up in legal and political verbiage and an ordinary layman can make little of it, except that there will be no election for the Monroe vacancy and that Judge Godchaux has been declared a resident and citizen of another state and therefore ineligible to fill a political position in Louisiana and that Governor Hall has been named by the party committee the nominee for the place.

Judge Monroe took advantage of the law giving him the right to retire on full pay because of his long service on the bench of the supreme court, but in making his intention known to the governor he stated his resignation would go into effect on a stipulated date in October, and under a provision of the new constitution he will have to serve until his successor is elected and qualified. Therefore, making this provision a cue, the attorney general ruled that there was no vacancy and hence an election would be illegal.

The upshot of the matter is that another election will have to be called, at some later date, if Judge Monroe persists in his intention of retiring from the bench of the high court. What effect this will have on the selection by the committee of Judge Hall is for the courts or the committee to decide.

The story of the contest is so recent as to hardly need repeating. In a four-cornered primary held in July Judge Godchaux, formerly a member of the civil court of appeal, won by a safe majority over Judge Hall, J. M. Sperry and Harry Gamble. Judge Hall contested the election on the ground that Godchaux had delinquent his citizenship in Louisiana and was now legally domiciled at Pass Christian, Miss., where he had erected a magnificent residence. Godchaux contended that his legal residence was at the Hotel DeSoto, New Orleans, and on these claims the case went to trial in the civil district court judgment being rendered in favor of Godchaux and against Hall. From this judgment Hall appealed and the supreme court stood three to two and under the constitution it became necessary to call in one judge of the civil court of appeal and one judge of a district court. Judge Porter of Natchitoches and Judge Brunot of Baton Rouge were called in and the judgment handed down Tuesday was rendered by the court with these sitting as members thereof. They decided, however, against Hall's claims and he was the party nominee, hence the action of the state central committee.

Mrs. Lou McKinney and grandson departed for their home in Houston last Saturday, after spending several months here as the guests of Mrs. Henry Lastrapes, Jr. Miss Mildred Whittington, who has been visiting in Lafayette as the guest of Miss Mildred Hopkins, returned home here on last Wednesday.

Mrs. Leo W. Mayer and her charming daughter, Miss Marie Louise, left for their home in New Orleans last Sunday, after spending some time here on a visit to relatives.

CITY POWER PLANT IS NOW IN FIRST CLASS CONDITION

Chief Engineer Miller Has Building as Clean as Pin and Place Looks Like Parlor

A reporter visited the municipal plant Wednesday afternoon. Only Engineer Miller and his assistant, Lawrence Fux, was on hand and apparently there wasn't much to keep them busy for the big engine was running without any watching and three pumps were busily engaged in furnishing water to the big tank as well as to the oil mill which had run out and had called for a supply.

The interior of the plant presents a remarkable appearance as compared with its appearance of former years. It looks as clean as the proverbial new pin, the floor as bright and as dustless as a well-kept parlor and the machinery and switchboard as bright as if just shipped from the factory. It really is a delightful place to live in, and even the exhaust of the big motors being imperceptible. Everything about the place looks inviting and there is nothing repellent or repugnant about the building or machinery. No greasy stuff sticking about to soil one's clothes and a workman could remain in a "Bled" shirt a day without danger of soiling it.

Engineer Miller, following the days of toil and stress when the new plant was being put in, seized an odd moment to construct a fountain without the building. He utilized the base of the foundation once occupied by an old steam engine. The improvised fountain embellished with electric lights and there are different varieties of flowers growing in the earth that surrounds the fountain's basin. The fountain has been named in honor of the late superintendent Walter E. Aymond who was electrocuted last fall while attending to his duties as chief.

All in all, the Opelousas electric plant is something to be proud of and Mr. Miller says he is determined to keep it up to its present high state.

LOCAL BUYERS ARE PAYING BIG PRICE FOR COTTON SEED

Thirty-five Dollars Per Ton or Slightly Less for Small Quantities of Product

There has been quite a bulge in the local market for cottonseed as compared with the price paid for that product with the beginning of the ginning season. Just a few weeks ago the twenty-two dollar mark was reached, since which time competition has grown so strong that this week at least one local firm was offering and paying as much as thirty-five dollars per ton in carload quantities and slightly less than figure for small quantities. Along with this they were paying local buyers scattered throughout this part of the state a commission for buying the seed and also paying the freight charges.

The price paid for seed when the season began was about seventeen dollars per ton and there has been a steady advance ever since. It is claimed that the quality of the seed grown in this territory is not as good as that of the seed grown in portions of Mississippi, north Texas and Oklahoma, in that the amount of oil is not as large and there is considerable more moisture in the product of the fields. However, this claim is hardly justified this year as we have been experiencing the driest season on record and the cotton buyers claim that the staple and sample of all cotton is the best they have ever seen in this country, due in great measure to the dryness and the splendid manner in which the crop has been harvested and handled.

RISEMAN AND TANKEL ADD NEW MAN TO FORCE

Business must be picking up considerably with the firm of Riseman & Tankel, popular Landry street merchants. This week they added to their working force of clerks Mr. E. E. Chauvin, late of the Aherts Dry Goods company of Morgan City, La. Mr. Chauvin has had ample experience in this line of business and he will be pleased to attend to the wants of the large number of patrons of the Riseman & Tankel store. He knows how and it will be his great pleasure to serve you right. Call and meet him.

POLICE JURY GETS FAVORABLE ACTION ON EAST-WEST ROAD

Port Barre-Lawtell Highway to Be Reconstructed by Supervisors

CONNECTING ROADS IN DISTRICT MAY BE CUT

Sufficient Funds on Hand to Complete Program, it is Thought

The special meeting of the police jury held last Monday developed several sensational turns. It was rumored, long before President Pavy called the meeting to order, that the main feature of the session would be a full airing of the program of the board of supervisors of the eleventh road district and their evident intention of constructing several lateral roads connecting with the Pershing highway, as well as a gravel road through Prairie Ronde and another road leading from Opelousas to the ward line and eventually leading to Church Point, and the board's supposed intention of ignoring the important road from this city to Port Barre and west towards Lawtell.

Both President Pavy and W. F. Brown had made a vigorous fight for the Port Barre road, long before there was any move towards incorporating this road as link in a trans-state highway, as developed at the recent meeting held in this city of delegates from cities and towns all along the proposed east-and-west highway traversing the state from Bogalusa on the east, through Baton Rouge, Opelousas, Eunice and Kinder to DeQuincy.

There was some volcanic oratory at the meeting and the audience jammed the jury room and hung in the windows from the outside when the road proposition came up. There was talk backwards and forwards and the quick firing of question and answer as opposing factions arrayed themselves against each other. President Pavy was the central figure of the meeting and his speech proved beyond a doubt that he had not only the subject matter well in hand but that he is gifted with a full supply of oratory.

However, all threatening clouds finally blew away and it became apparent that there would be no clash on the question of roads or road programs. The board of supervisors of the district agreed to take up the Port Barre and Lawtell road projects and submit to the police jury, at its October session, the map, profiles and surveys of the highway and that immediate action will be taken towards the early constructing of this important link of the east-and-west highway.

If necessary in order to have the required funds for this project, the several lateral roads already planned will be shortened, but it is not thought that this action will be necessary because estimates on the construction of these laterals is well under what it was thought it would cost to build them, and it is felt certain that there will be enough money at hand to build the main and lateral roads without the reduction of mileage of the laterals.

LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HELD INTERESTING MEETING SUNDAY CHOSE FIELDS AS HEAD

The members of Opelousas council of the Knights of Columbus held a regular meeting at their hall on Main street last Sunday and besides the transacting routine business selected officers to serve the council for the ensuing term. On a spread of the ballot the following were chosen to handle the order's affairs: M. A. Fields grand knight; A. A. Mendoza, deputy grand knight; Y. Andrepoint, financial secretary; P. D. Pavy, chancellor, Louis Guidry, recording secretary; Albert St. Cyr, wardens; George Going, advocate; L. A. Dominique, inner guard; L. F. Lassalle, outer guard; C. W. Roy, L. Blenvenu and James O. Chachere, trustees.

OPELOUSEANS ATTEND OPENING OF LAFAYETTE HIPPODROME

The following from this city motored to Lafayette last Wednesday night to attend the opening of the Hippodrome in that city: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Larcade, Jr., Mrs. Frances Briggs, Mrs. Anna Pharris, Misses Rosalie Roos, Della and Lena Bourdier, Helen Harmanson, and Ed Estorder.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL WELCOME PROBE

New York, Sept. 20.—The Knights of Columbus are ready for investigation by any lawfully constituted authority, Supreme Secretary William J. McGinley declared today in a statement dealing with adoption by the City Council of Atlanta, Ga., of resolutions calling on newspapers investigating alleged un-American institutions to include the Knights of Columbus. "Any man," said Mr. McGinley, "who states that the Knights of Columbus is unpatriotic and un-American must have been emulating Rip Van Winkle during the war. To base a demand for investigation on the bogus oath attributed to the Knights of Columbus indicates the intelligence of the men voting for it.

"Our record is not only an open book but a book written in plain English so that all may understand. We have no esoteric language with queer combinations of consonants to mystify anybody."

STATE TAX SALES START HERE TODAY

PROPERTY DELINQUENT FOR 1920 WILL BE OFFERED AT PUBLIC OUTCRY BY SHERIFF

The sheriff will start, at 11 o'clock this morning, selling the property of delinquent tax debtors of this parish for 1920 taxes, the publication of the list of said property having been made six consecutive weeks, as required by law.

Since the first publication of the delinquent list quite a number have come forward and settled with the tax collector and their property will not be put on sale. Those who settled up were required to pay the usual interest penalty as well as the costs incurred by the sheriff for official notification as well as the cost of publication. The ones who were unfortunate enough not to be financially able to settle will have one year in which to redeem their property by paying the taxes, costs and added interest penalties.

In previous years there has been considerable speculation in the way of buying in certain pieces of property. Most of the property so purchased has been redeemed by the original owners while the speculators eventually secured an unquestioned title to other pieces. Whether there will be much bidding by speculators this year is not known just now. The sale will continue from day to day until the entire list is disposed of by the sheriff.

PHONE TRUST LOOMS AS GIANT CONCERN IN UNITED STATES

Wall Street Paper Says it is One of the Greatest Corporations in This Nation

The Cumberland telephone and its parent organization, the American Telephone and Telegraph company, can not set up the cry of poverty and a loss of money in operation of the business, in view of the statement published Thursday over a New York date line, giving the substance of an article that appeared in a financial publication of that city.

The parent company has in cash and United States government treasury certificates the modest sum of sixty million dollars.

The company continued to earn, says the dispatch, at a rate that will mean undivided profits for the year of over twelve million dollars, or nearly thirty per cent in excess of the dividend requirements. This does not include the undivided earnings that are left in the treasury of subsidiary companies and in which the parent company has a very large equity.

Concluding the New York publication says that business is ever on the increase and that the demand for telephones is greater than ever known before in the history of the industry.

These figures should cause the people of Louisiana to resolve to fight harder against the demands of more pay made by the Cumberland company, a child of the parent organization. The Cumberland has been crying poverty in bolstering its demands for greater revenue, yet it was conclusively shown that its earnings in this state are, comparatively speaking, in excess of its earnings in other southern states where it operates. In Tennessee it received a black-eye in its fight for higher rates. Can we expect a similar decision in Louisiana?

Miss Sylvia Durio and Mr. Albert Clary, Jr., motored to Port Barre last Wednesday night.

TWO LOCAL HORSES WIN VICTORIES AT ABBEVILLE SUNDAY

Reviving of Great Sport Indicated by Races to be Held Here Sunday

TRACK IS CLEANED UP, GREAT SPORT ASSURED

Jim Healey and Remi Wallior Busy with Details of Tomorrow's Meeting

Harness racing, long ago kicked in to the discard in this section, is about to be revived, and plans are under way to make it a permanent sport in Opelousas.

Races are advertised for the local track tomorrow, the speedway having been given a thorough overhauling and placed in first-class shape again for the big event. The work has been in charge of Remi Wallior and Jim Healey, both enthusiastic horsemen, and they have arranged a program which ought to prove of interest to lovers of the sport.

Circulars have been printed and scattered broadcast announcing the program of the races, and these circulars have caused considerable interest among the horse-racing fraternity of this and adjoining parishes. Besides the local people who will be on hand to witness the races, many others will journey from Lafayette, Abbeville and other cities and towns in southwest Louisiana.

There will be two races for the day as follows:

First Race, mile heats, best three out of five, purse of \$300. The entries are Bertram McKinney, owned by Claude Broussard of Abbeville and driven by O. J. Stokes; General Adolphean; Lou Advice, owned and driven by Simon Larcade of Lafayette; and Little Bobby Dillon, owned and driven by Remi Wallior of Opelousas.

Second race, mile heats, best three in five, for a purse of \$200. The entries are Argot King, owned by Claude Broussard of Abbeville and driven by O. J. Stokes; General Advice, owned by Dr. Ben Guilbeart of Sunset, La., and driven by Jim Healey.

These two latter went a six-beat race on the Conque race track near Lafayette, on September 11, which was won by King. The three entries in the first race are said to be among the real harness champions of the south and, says the circular, the public can expect some high-class racing tomorrow. The races will start at 2 o'clock sharp, and there will be no dilly-dallying.

Last Sunday the local horsemen, Wallior and Healey, accompanied by a number of enthusiastic followers of the sport, went to Abbeville, and in two exciting races with Bobbie Dillon and General Advice they won out and walked off with the coin.

The first race at Abbeville was for a purse of \$300, the entries being Bobbie Dillon, owned and driven by Remi Wallior; Lou Advice, owned and driven by J. D. Larcade; Bertram McKinney, driven by O. J. Stokes. Dillon General Advice, time 2:24 1-4.

The second race was for a purse of \$200, and the entries were General Advice driven by Jim Healey; Argot King, driven by O. J. Stokes. Won by General Advice, time 2:24 1-4.

Wallior, Healey and Stokes are seasoned horsemen and have been owning, training and driving harness horses for many years, both on local tracks and throughout the south and southwest. They play the game good and clean and the public is assured that they will spend a splendid and exciting time witnessing some of the best races pulled off in this city in many years.

Refreshments of all kinds will be sold on the grounds at reasonable prices and the price of admission has been fixed at the low figure of fifty cents.

Ira Guidry, the popular young clerk at Jacobs News Depot Co., will depart tomorrow (Sunday) for the little city of Eunice where he will transact business.

Mesdames Hafner of Greenville, Miss., and Fries of Birmingham, Ala. are visiting their sister, Mrs. Adolphe Jacobs, and are being highly entertained during their stay here.

J. A. Mistrot left on Thursday for El Dorado, Arkansas, where he has accepted a position with the Houston Oil company. John Fakouri, popular Landry street tailor, returned this week from a brief business trip to New Orleans. Felix Richard attended to business in the neighboring city of Lafayette on last Wednesday.

COTTON PILES UP PRESS RUNS NIGHTS

LARGE RECEIPTS SIMPLY SWAMP LOCAL INSTITUTION, FORCING OPERATION AT NIGHT

The Opelousas compress was forced to operate all night Tuesday, owing to the large daily receipts of cotton and the press' inability to keep the platforms from getting congested. Hundreds of bales are received at the press daily, either by wagon or shipped in by freight train, and the capacity of the plant has been much less than the daily receipts of both sources.

The management thought it wise Tuesday to keep the outfit running during the dark hours in a race to keep up with the receipts. The dry weather of the past month or two has enabled farmers to get their cotton picked in record time and gins have been forced to operate daily trying to keep things going on their end of the line.

LOCAL MOVIE SHOW BOOKS BIG PICTURE FOR NEXT FRIDAY

"Man, Woman, Marriage," Spectacular Film Drama, to Be Shown at Popular Prices

"Man, Woman, Marriage," the twelve-reel Allen Hollubar spectacle, featuring Dorothy Phillips, will be shown at the Princess theatre on next Friday, September 30.

Without a single doubt this is the most pretentious production that the moving picture public has had a chance to witness in the past ten years. Fifteen thousand people are used in some of the bigger scenes; twenty-five hundred horses are flashed upon the screen at one time; one solid year of work was required to make the production, at an estimated cost of one million dollars.

Director Hollubar has dedicated the picture to the rights of woman and it tells an inspiring story of women throughout the ages. "Man, Woman, Marriage" shall go down in the cinema world and in your memory as an everlasting tribute to glorious womanhood, the mother of the world.

"The Birth of a Nation," in its original form as produced by David Wark Griffith, is another attraction soon to be announced by the management of the Princess theatre, presented as a special road attraction and with a full orchestra, playing the original score. "The Birth of a Nation" will undoubtedly attract large numbers of local movie fans. Watch for the date of its appearance.

SCHELL BILL WINS IN FIGHT FOR THREE COMMISSIONER PLAN

Highway Committee of House Votes 8 to 3 Against the Sanders Plan for One-man Control

Thursday night the highway committee of the house of representatives voted eight to three against the one-man plan for the control of the state highways, two members of the committee being absent.

This is a substantial victory for Representative Schell and Senator Dowling, who have sponsored the plan proposing a commission consisting of three men to handle the building of the state's good road system, as opposed to the plan by ex-Governor Sanders, who would have had a director general of the road work. The Schell plan also gives official names to the highways traversing the state, while Sanders opposed these official designations in the legislative statute passed on the subject.

The former governor spoke before the committee, urging the approval of the bills drawn by him and introduced by members of senate and house, but though the committee listened respectfully to his earnest and eloquent pleas they voted favorably on the opposing plan.

The bills will go to the house and be placed on the calendar to come up in due time for final passage. Whether the proponents of the Schell scheme can get sufficient votes to pass the bills through both houses is a question yet to be determined.

Mr. E. Gonsoulin and daughters, Misses Lucy and Louise, motored to Lafayette one day this week and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Crouchet.

Mrs. J. W. Help of Lafayette spent the day in this city on last Wednesday as the guest of relatives and friends. Jules Clements, Jr., and Steve Guchereau of Lafayette spent the day here Sunday as the guests of relatives.

COMPROMISE FAILS HIGHWAY SNARL IS STILL MUDDLED UP

Schell Refuses to Abandon Bills Without Putting Before Assembly

SANDERS DISCLAIMS POLITICAL AMBITION

Former Governor States He Only Wants to Aid Louisiana Road System

It's a fight to a finish! The public hearing held at Baton Rouge Tuesday night on the question of highway bills and measures effecting the construction of a system of good roads through the state on a compromise plan came to naught, neither side being willing to give way to the other, and so the diametrically opposite views of the two factions will run the legislative gauntlet on the long roll call.

Representative Schell, who has drawn several bills relating to the personnel of the highway commission and other things refused flatly to enter into any compromise until his bills made the usual legislative course. He stands pat on the three-man commission and won't budge an inch until this question is disposed of. He was backed up by a large delegation of representative people from cities and towns all along the route of the east-and-west highway, plans for the building of which were laid at the big meeting held here some time ago, which meeting endorsed the Schell bills and especially the one relating to the three-man commission.

Governor Sanders delivered a forceful speech at the hearing, occupying the time of the hearing one hour. He disclaimed any political ambition, thus refuting the charge that he was ambitious to be appointed the road commissioner under the one-man plan fostered and backed by the state administration. He admitted having assisted in drawing up the bills under this scheme of road building but said that his intentions were simply to lend all assistance possible towards giving the state a modern system of roads.

Mr. Schell, in discounting and refusing to enter into any compromise which would shove his bills into the background, said that he insisted on the three-man plan as well as the legislative writing in the statute books a map of the proposed highways of the state. These are the two essential features of the Schell bills and these features were endorsed at the Opelousas meeting. Minor changes might be necessary in some of the proposed roads in order to meet local conditions, but as generally lined out the highway map covers the entire state and would serve every community and link up every court house town, either with a main highway or a connecting link to one or more main roads.

Col. Arthur T. Prescott of Baton Rouge, who so ably presided over the Opelousas meeting, acted as chairman of the public hearing held at Baton Rouge, and introduced the different speakers who addressed the gathering.

Senator T. L. Dowling is backing the Schell bills in the upper branch of the legislature and he and the St. Landry representative are waging a vigorous fight in order to insure their passage through both houses. Against them they have the power of the state administration which is backing the bills drawn by ex-Governor Sanders and introduced in the legislature by different members. Whether Mr. Schell and Senator Dowling can marshal sufficient strength on roll call to insure their final passage, is an unknown question just now.

PELLERIN'S DRUG STORE HANDLES MUCH BUSINESS

One of the new advertisers in this week's Clarion is the Pellerin Drug Store, located in the Veazie building, corner Landry and Market streets. Mr. Pellerin recently moved here from Sunset where he was in business for the past five years. He considers this a larger field and intends to cater to his patrons in the most modern way possible. Since opening he has done a fine business and is abundantly satisfied with his present success and is looking forward to a much larger patronage. His advertisement will offer, each week, some popular special, the one this week being the well known Wampole's Cod Liver Oil, a regular dollar seller, now going for eighty-five cents. Customers will find Mr. Pellerin a pleasing and ever obliging gentleman who is ready to attend to their slightest wants.