The True Democrat.

ELRIE ROBINSON MRS. MAY E. ROBINSON (Editors.

Official Journal of the Parish of West Feli ciana, the Towns of Bayou Sara and St. Fran eisville, and of the School Board.

We also own and publish Slaughter Enter rise, a weekly newspaper for the town of Slaughter, La. Advertisers will do well to ge joint rates for both papers.

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Saturday, March 13, 1909.

PUSH THE GOOD ROADS QUES-TION.

The good people along the road between Wilhelm and Pinckney ville, in the seventh and eighth wards of this parish, are very anxious to secure the establishment of rural free delivery of mail along this route. But at the outset, they are confronted with the obstacle of bad roads, and no proper provision for the improvement of them, and these facts, the government will not

Good roads are required as a sine qua non to rural free deliv ery. They must be.

The above mentioned section of country is probably the most cut-off in the parish from daily communication with the world, hence it is a logical point at which the rural free delivery system may begin.

And since no beginning can be made without good roads, we urge upon the Police Jury to take up the question of good roads in earnest, and no better beginning can be made than one which will introduce the blessings of R. F. D. into the parish.

Too long has this question been trifled with under an inadequate labor. A secret of civil engineering, drainage, which takes the to men, who make no pretense of appeal to the jury, whom we knowing anything on the sab ject, beyond what observation peal to "the best blood of the and buyer, that is, when the and experience, both negligently South" which is "best" by clean conned, have taught them.

The Governor has intimated that he intends giving the people the benefit of expert knowledge Police Jurors need not merely tive spirit, but since they are should go to work for results at murder. once. And if rural free delivthe good roads.

THE COOPER CASE.

continues the choicest news of be understood at least. The peo the daily press. The taking of ple are paralyzed, are intimidat testimony having been concluded by an all-powerful fear, that ed, the speeches of the defense action on their part, would be up the greater part of the week. dire vengeance. The local press Rouge, which in itself is a suspi

state making a speech full of ar- portunity, but is blinded by pru- dell's splendid record in Conan embezzler and a railroad lobbyist, and said that the killing of Carmack was a deliberate assaseloquence and the vigor and in ferreting the assassin, or assuccinctuess with which he presented the case commands admiration. We wish all of our better, that we had the facilities for giving them out.

in effect that the unwritten law ods of vengeance.

be applied to editors, who defamed public men, since the latter had no recourse in law against men without property. Waxing warmer he said that the streets of Nashville had before this "run red with the blood of men who improperly used other men's names in public prints." The gist of his statement all rests in the work "improperly," and yet Gen. Mecks himself admitted that the Carmack editorials did not justify the murder. Inci dentally it shows how hard this lawyer for the defense was put to it to find arguments. He has not endeared himself to the newspaper men by his unfortunate remark for he becomes a target for criticism from Maine to Alaska; and he did not help his case surely, for even the nonnewspaper reading jury must see that if public men's names and reputations were not touched upon by the press that misrule would soon rnn riot.

But an even more remarkable statement was that made by Gen. Meeks when he said, "You are not trying common thieves or murderers now, gentlemen; you are trying men who come from as fine stock as ever human flesh was made of-the best people of the South." Thus he voices an idea, all too prevalent, that birth and position can protect a man from the punishment of his crimes; that aristocracy is im mune from answering for its misdeeds. Such ideas continued through a long train of years brought about the fearful retributions of the French Revolution; it held up the head of Henry VIII of England in haughty it laid low upon the block the head of Charles I. Even in re publican America, wherever the system. Too long has it been feeling has obtained, it has causleft to unpaid, unwilling service. ed many miscarriages of justice Too long has it been left to un- for which future generations may scientific overseers and ignorant yet suffer. Law is perfect only when justice is blindfolded. Gen. Meeks does no service to the progress of humanity when he careful study of trained minds to advances such an outworn and discover, is left for the most part pernicious theory. It will not judge are indifferent to the claims of long descent. Nor will it apliving and high thought.

WHY THIS APATHY?

Dr. Bruns' letter, reproduced on this question of civil engineer. in another column from a daily the milliner's hats, cannot exing, by sending out the trained paper, incidentally conveys a pect the milliner to patronize men in the state's service, but startling bit of information, and him. The merchant who has his this work, of necessity will pro- that is, that though the assassins printing done away from home. ceed slowly with an extent of in Tangipahoa, who carried their or who fails to support the home sixty parishes to cover. The damnable hatred into the murder paper, has no argument coming of unoffending women, is still at for a lack of reciprocity there. await this assistance in a recep. large, the Chief Executive of the State has offered no reward for men of intelligence and energy their apprehension for this foul

As we observed last week, it is ery, is really wanted, produce not surprising, although hardly commendatory, that the press and people of Tangipalica are not so active as would be desirable, The Cooper case at Nashville in this matter. Their apathy can

But why should not the ordinary routine, when murder has the line of his personal achieve sination. His speech seemed to been committed, be followed at ments. Of late he has been menmake the most noticeable effect the State House? If the answer tioned frequently as logically in on the jury, while that of the be, that no reward offered would line for the United States Senyoung attorney for the state, bring results, it is no reason for ate, and it is is there that his ad-Gen. Garner, has aroused the the stoppage, and is only another mirers wish to see him some greatest interest in general. His plea for extraordinary methods day. punishment.

readers could read the verbatim junketings are over, let the pow-senatorship. Once governor, Mr. reports of all these speeches, or ers that be set the machinery to Ransdell might chance upon the work which will remove from our same fate that retired the Hon. fair state's escutcheon, the bloody N. C. Blanchard to private life, Gen. Meeks for the defense blot that Tangipahoa puts on it. when he had hoped to wear the has gained by his speech less Surely the whole state cannot be toga of a senator. An executive the natural gas situation in vafavorable comment, especially terrorized by a handful of mur- officer must antagonize many, rious States would be made by outside of Nashville, by two re- derers, unworthy to breathe the where a legislative one need not. markable positions he took with free air of Louisiana and whose We should counsel Mr. Ransdell fore action would be taken on regard to the case. The one was souls are as craven as their meth- to beware of the Greeks bearing

FOR AND AGAINT BUYING AT HOME.

The buy at-home plea is so obrious it its advantages for the general good that it is amazing to have an intelligent person argue against it. It is so plain that the money spent at home has increased capacity for benefiting the community as many times as it is spent at home. The person with an atom of local pride will ony at home, even if the price be a little in excess of what may be asked elsewhere. How else is the home merchant to live?

The home merchants are of necessity public-spirited to a degree. They are arked to concontribute to every charity, to every church or school enterprise, to every scheme for private or public good, and business policy makes them respond more or less liberally, according to their disposition or means. But they respond. A tax is assessed upon them and though they are privileged to decide the amount, something must be paid. And yet all too frequently, the persons, who have benefited by this liberality send their orders to Pears, Sawbuck & Co. or some such place, counting it as a privilge to pay expressage and to forfeit the non-examination of goods beforehand. Every one to his taste to be sure, but it does not say much for a man's judgment or home loyalty when he prefers to get the same goods from a distance because of a slight difference in price.

Not to be too sweeping in strictures upon away-from-home buying it may be well to note insolence and pride of power but that there are circumstances, which justify the mail order;

1st. Of course when the anticle wanted cannot be procured at home in proper quality, or at

2nd. When there is too great a difference in price. In these days, a hundred per cent profit is obsolete, and the buyer should not be expected to pay it.

3rd. When there is an absence of reciprocity between merchant merchant does not give that support to the customer's business that he expects the customer to give him. To illustrate: the merchant, whose wife does not buy

The main fact is however, that the seller, whether printer or merchant, must keep his methods, and his stock up to date to meet modern requirements in order to keep trade at home. Otherwise it will pass like the rushing winds, he knows not

GREEKS BEARING GIFTS.

A boom is now started to make the Hon. Jas. L. Ransdell candidate for governor next time. It and of the prosecution have taken followed by an immediate and seems to proceed from Baton Capt. Fitzhugh opened for the is silent. It does not see its op- cious circumstance. Mr. Ransgument and strong with invec-dential motives. It is inglorious gress as representative from the tive. He denounced Cooper as but true to average human na- Fourth District, certainly entitles him to promotion when he wants it, but it should proceed along

The present boom seems to be sassins, and accomplishing their inspired by the fact that some one is exceedingly anxious to As Dr. Bruns suggests, the keep off all trespassers fram the gifts.

PUNISH THE MURDERERS.

Dr. Henry Dickson Bruns, of New Orleans, always in the lead in what tends to the best in human thought and action, has written a stirring communication to the daily press on the Tangipahoa matter. He says most forcefully:

'Now that Mardi Gras is over and Mr. Taft has passed from us into the Presidency, might it not be permissible to ask what the law officers, the Executive and the people of Louisiana intend to do about the murder of the man long ago waylaid and shot to death in the neighboring parish of Tangipahoa?

"According to our latest inforvictim, was still at large and no extraordinary efforts were being made to capture him; the executive had offered no reward for his CEMETERY FENCES and apprehension in the name of the MEMORIAL CROSSES. State. Yet this was a deed that would have disgraced a community of Sioux. A being who could take from the arms of its mother an infant, and laying it by the side of the road, return and shoot her to death with a shotgun at close range, is unspeakable. Even the language of Shakespeare and Milton falls impotent. Are our people lauding prosperity, rejoicing in wealth and aggrandizement, absorbed by business and the pursuit of pleasure, about to pass on, demanding no vengeance for the deep damnation of their taking

The court in Scotland that gave the children in cross divorce suits to the father, instead of the mother, illustrates the usual attitude to male and female virtue. How can a guilty father be more fitted for the care of the children than a guilty mother? True justice would have given them to neither.

At Washington, Taft came in like a lion. Roosevelt went out like a lamb.

Boston calls Dr. Edward Everett Hale the "chaperon of the Senate."

Alice Notes.

J. S. Griffin went to St. Francisville last Thursday.

her parents last week.

Mr. Garner Smith and family spent last Sunday with Mrs. R.

Miss Maggie Smith has accepted a position at the Asylum. Miss Sallie Fleming spent

Sunday at Mr. Steven Smith's. We are having cloudy weather this week, cloudy and warm.

The trees are budding very

Mrs. Mary C. Lee is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Andrew Morris.

Mrs. John Newton and baby spent Sunday with her parents SERVIA.

Wayside News.

Mrs. L. E. Beckham is at her daughter's, Mrs. A. J. Cox, nursing her son, Wilbur, and grandson, Clarence Leon, who are quite ill.

Mr and Mrs. J. A. Thoms visited Norwood Saturday.

Misses Florence and Carrie Smith and Messrs Jack Gore and Palmer Smith visited Jackson on Sunday.

Mrs. N. A. Palmer visited her brother, L. S. Beckham, on Mon-

The young men of the neigh borhood engaged in a rabbit chase Saturday evening without guns. It was amusing to see 'Jack," the greyhound, pick up the rabbit.

Farmers are busy planting corn, increasing the acreage from fifty to seventy-five per

It was said investigations into local commercial exchanges bethe ordinance now pending in New Orleans.

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Pecan Planting.

J. M. St. Paul, of Port Hudson has sold to the Southern Nut Nursury Company, of Kansas City, Mo., his Holloway place which will be laid out in ten-acre lots and planted in pecan trees at once. This company has options on several other adjoining places, but may not purchase any more till next fall. It owns several pecan groves between here and Miss Irene Ryder went to visit | Shreveport and near Lafayette, also one at Ocean Springs, Miss. and wants about 10,000 acres in this section. This new industry here will help to solve the boll weevil problem, which has paralyzed the farming interests. The Holloway place contains about 600 acres and it will be planted about fourteen trees to the acre. There is many a non-profitable piece of land that could be made valuable property by conversion into a pecan grove.

Notice.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The People's Bank of St. Francisville, La., for the purpose of electing eleven directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the office of the Bank on Wednesday afternoon, April 7, 1909 at four o'clock. K. C. SMITH,

Cashier.

Notice.

Visitors to God's Acre at Lo cust Grove plantation, will please in future spare tombs and shrubbery. Among the latter a century plant bears the sign manual of parties, whose idle scribbling can only be effaced by pruning and disfiguring said plant, designed for ornament, not as a register for visitors.

Nannie Davis Smith.



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> E. C. D. Marshall, GENERAL PASSENGER AGENT, Shreveport, La.

Bank of West Felician Located at St. Francisville, La., Paris Feliciana

Report furnished to the State Ex State Banks by the above Bank

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Bills Payable Total State of Louisiana Parish of West Feliciana. L S. McC. Lawrason, President, Matthews, Cashier of the above as do solemnly swear that the above is true, to the best of my knowled

lief. Subscribed and sworn to be 11th day of Mar. 1909.

Deputy Clerk and Ex-officio St. Francisville, West Felicians