

# The True Democrat.

St. Francisville, West Feliciana Parish La., Saturday, September 25, 1909.

No. 34

**A. VILLERET,**  
Bayou Sara, La.  
Headquarters for Drugs, Patent Medicines, Toilet  
Articles, Stationery, Cigars, Gaudies, Etc.  
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Where Do You Get  
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## Brick For Sale.

We are prepared to furnish a  
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Would be glad to figure with  
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Scientifically distilled; naturally aged; best and saf-  
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Crystal drops from golden grain; pure and mellow, rich and  
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## Feliciana Oil Company,

**B. E. ESKRIDGE, Manager**  
St. Francisville, La.  
Shipping Point - Bayou Sara.

Best Price Paid for  
Cotton Seed.

Hulls and Meal on Sale at  
Lowest Prices.

### A Crisis in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The U. S. Department of Agri-  
culture, Bureau of Entomology  
issues the following bulletin:

The planters of Mississippi  
and Louisiana have conducted a  
credible fight against the weev-  
il during the season. They have  
shown energy and determina-  
tion. As far as means of control  
applicable in the spring and sum-  
mer are concerned, no more  
thorough work could have been  
done. Early planting, the  
use of early maturing varieties,  
square picking, and intensive  
cultivation have been practiced  
intelligently and well. It must  
be admitted that the results, to a  
certain extent, have been dis-  
couraging. The crop may be  
small but this fact itself can now  
be turned decidedly in favor of  
the planter. It gives an oppor-  
tunity for him to complete pick-  
ing at an early date and kill  
hordes of weevils before they  
enter hibernating quarters.

All persons who have investi-  
gated the weevil problem agree  
that the destruction of the weev-  
ils in the fall is a great step in  
comparison with which the  
means that can be practiced  
earlier in the season fall into in-  
significance. In Texas in an ex-  
periment where the plants were  
uprooted and burned in October  
an increased yield the next sea-  
son worth \$14 per acre was  
obtained. Recent important in-  
vestigations in Louisiana have  
shown that the work is of even  
greater importance there than it  
has been found to be the case in  
Texas. The Crop Pest Commis-  
sion of Louisiana has completed  
most valuable experiments in  
Avoyelles Parish. These showed  
that the destruction of the plants  
before October 15th allowed only  
3 per cent of the weevils to pass  
the winter. When the plants  
were destroyed between October  
15th and 27th 15 per cent sur-  
vived, and when destruction was  
delayed to between November 1st  
to 25th nearly a quarter (22 per  
cent) survived. This is a most  
striking example of what can be  
done that comes home with  
special force to the cotton  
planters of the Delta on account  
of the locality in which the work  
done. Mr. Wilmon Newell con-  
cludes from this work as follows:  
"Those who cannot so arrange  
their farm management as to fol-  
low our recommendations (for  
early fall destruction) are simply  
advised not to grow cotton at all  
for unless the weevils are  
destroyed—by destroying the  
cotton plant—early in the fall a  
profitable crop is impossible."  
From unfortunate experience  
this year planters in the Delta  
will now agree that the means of  
control that can be followed dur-  
ing the growing season are not  
sufficient. Something more than  
what can be done in the spring  
and summer is absolutely neces-  
sary. This is the destruction of  
the weevils in the fall when they  
are at the mercy of the planters  
as at no other time.

During the season the steps  
that can be practiced, except  
square picking, do not actually  
destroy the weevil. With that  
exception they simply tend to-  
wards increasing the productiv-  
ness of the plant so that there  
will be a surplus of bolls beyond  
the number that the weevils can  
destroy. On the contrary, the  
early fall destruction of the  
plants kills the weevils. It is the  
only important step that can be  
taken to accomplish this.

The argument is sometimes  
made that in Texas the planters  
do not generally destroy the cot-

ton stalks in the fall and that  
they have continued to raise cot-  
ton. A moment's consideration  
is sufficient to show that this has  
no bearing whatever on the situa-  
tion in the Delta. Texas is  
favored by climatic conditions,  
principally dryness as compared  
to the Delta, which checks the  
weevil. Louisiana and Missis-  
sippi planters could continue to  
raise cotton on their places with-  
out early fall destruction if they  
had the climate of Texas. As a  
matter of fact, however, the dif-  
ference in climate makes it en-  
tirely erroneous to argue that  
what is not done in Texas is not  
necessary in the Delta. The bit-  
ter experience of the season  
showing the weakness in the  
Delta of the steps that succeed  
in Texas is the best refutation of  
the argument. Nothing is more  
certain than that those planters  
who overlook the work against  
the weevil that can be done in the  
fall will find it out of the question  
to continue the production of the  
staple in the future.

The work of destroying the  
weevils should be done as soon  
as the cotton can be picked.  
Every effort has been made to-  
wards completing picking as  
soon as possible. The one favor-  
able feature of this season is that  
the small size of the crop will en-  
able planters to work more effec-  
tively than in ordinary seasons.  
The average date of the first kill-  
ing frost throughout the north-  
ern half of Mississippi is October  
31st. In the present season it is  
undoubtedly possible for planters  
in the northern half of the state  
to pick out the crop, uproot and  
burn the plants considerably be-  
fore that date. It may not be  
possible in certain situations but  
can undoubtedly be done general-  
ly. In the southern half of Mis-  
sissippi, except the Gulf coast,  
the average date of the first kill-  
ing frost is November 5th. Of  
course, in this part of the state  
picking begins a few days earlier  
so that the planters really have a  
somewhat better opportunity  
than those farther north. In  
Louisiana, the important cotton  
producing parishes, the aver-  
age date of the first killing frost  
is November 15th. Here, speak-  
ing generally, the planters will  
have nearly a month before the  
first killing frost on which they  
fight the weevil most success-  
fully.

In general the planters  
throughout the Delta can destroy  
the stalks this year by the first  
of November. The rule should  
be to do the work as early as pos-  
sible. The sooner it can be done  
the greater will be the benefit.  
It would be better to sacrifice a  
small portion of the crop than to  
delay beyond the date mentioned.  
The cotton on the plants thus  
plowed out or cut down is not  
necessarily lost. In either case  
the stalks must remain for some  
days until they are sufficiently  
dry to burn. This gives consid-  
erable extra time for the pick-  
ing from the stalks of such few  
bolls as open.

Several methods of destroying  
the plants will be found to be  
satisfactory. The principal one  
is uprooting the plants with the  
plow and dragging them into  
windrows to be burned as soon  
as they are sufficiently dry. This  
requires no special implements  
whatever and an amount of labor  
insignificant in comparison with  
the benefit derived. Another  
method is the use of an "A"  
shaped drag with knives attached  
to the sides. This implement  
will cut two rows at a time and  
throw the stalks from two row

into a single windrow. The  
principal points to bear in mind  
are rigidity and strength of  
frame and sharp knives. Where  
the stalks are very large repeated  
sharpening of the knives is re-  
quired.

The sum and substance of all  
that is known about fighting the  
weevils in the Delta is in the  
words kill the insects by destroy-  
ing the plants at the earliest  
practical date in the fall. Dis-  
couragement over the practice of  
other means should not lead  
planters to abandon the method  
that far outweighs all others in  
practical importance.

W. D. HUNTER.

In charge Southern Field Crop  
Insect and Tick Investigations.

### Change in Labor System Needed.

Mer Rouge Democrat.

At present, you say, that land  
values are too low to sell the  
large plantations and cut them  
up into small farms. We would  
not advise any man to give away  
at a sacrifice, the earnings of a  
life-time that were invested in  
lands. But to us, nothing is  
plainer than that something must  
be done by the owners of the  
large plantations to bring reven-  
ues to the plantations that are  
today being operated at a loss.  
The suggestion to plant more  
forage crops, have more lands in  
pasture and raise stock, is cor-  
rect, but, are the owners of large  
tracts of farm lands going to do  
these things? Our own idea is,  
that the people will not do just  
what their judgement teaches  
them they should do. Nor will  
negro labor be the proper labor  
to diversify crops, raise hogs,  
raise cattle, raise mules and  
profitably raise truck for mar-  
ket. The man who will have a  
crop of Irish potatoes, straw-  
berries, melons, or any crop,  
truck, that must be got in mar-  
ket on time and before prices  
break down, would find that one  
negro funeral, a circus or a negro  
murder trial, coming off, just at  
the time when every man, woman  
and child in that section was  
needed to save these crops, would  
cause the loss of the profit of  
that crop for that year. There  
is need for a change of labor as  
well as for a needed change in  
crops. How to bring about these  
needed changes is what concerns  
the owners of large plantations.

### Let Harrimanism End.

New York World.

No railroad president should  
be a Wall street gambler and  
manipulator. His undivided in-  
terest belongs to the public uti-  
lity which he administers.

No railroad should be allowed  
to issue securities for the pur-  
chase of other railroad securities.

No railroad should be per-  
mitted to trade in other railroad  
securities for "investment" pur-  
poses or any other purpose not  
directly connected with its func-  
tions as a common carrier.

The business of a railroad is to  
be a railroad, and not to be a  
stock jobber or a speculator or a  
Wall street syndicate.

These are evils of Harrimanism  
so inimical to the public welfare  
that they should end with his  
life, and President Taft cannot  
afford to ignore them in the  
amendment which he proposes  
next winter to the Interstate  
Commerce law.

Government and public opinion  
alike have trifled long enough  
with railroad lawlessness and  
railroad autocracy.

If you want the best in print-  
ing, send your orders to THE  
TRUE DEMOCRAT.

### Mr. Evans Stops Here.

Mr. J. A. Evans, who has su-  
pervision of farm demonstration  
work in Louisiana, under the di-  
rection of the United States De-  
partment of Agriculture, was in  
St. Francisville, Saturday morn-  
ing, and called on THE TRUE  
DEMOCRAT.

Mr. Evans is just now devoting  
his energies toward impressing  
upon the planters of the cotton  
growing section of Louisiana, the  
necessity of destroying their cot-  
ton stalks as soon as possible.  
This particular year affords a  
better opportunity for gaining an  
advantage by this destruction of  
the stalks than former years, as  
all the cotton will be open so  
much earlier. Mr. Evans argues  
that, as the boll weevil lives only  
upon the leaves and young bolls  
of the cotton plant, if this suste-  
nance be taken from him now,  
the weevils that might survive  
the burning of the stalks will be  
so emaciated that they cannot  
survive the winter. On the other  
hand, if the weevil's food supply  
is not diminished by reduction of  
the stalks, he will live well till  
frost comes, and will go into hi-  
bernation in shape to survive the  
cooler months, and will make an  
appearance early enough, and in  
sufficient numbers to entirely  
destroy next year's cotton crop.

Mr. Evans says that any one  
who desires to raise cotton next  
year cannot afford not to burn  
their stalks, and the sooner the  
better. It is Mr. Evans' candid  
opinion that a good cotton crop  
can be made next year if the  
stalks are destroyed early, and  
if the other directions given by  
the Department of Agriculture  
are carried out.

### Big Meeting at Denham Springs.

A meeting will be held at Den-  
ham Springs, Sept. 30, under the  
auspices of the Denham Springs  
Progressive Union.

At this meeting Livingston  
Parish will renew its fight against  
the State Game Commission.  
The circular announcing the  
meeting says: "There will be an  
address by Judge Thomas H.  
Lewis, of Opelousas, on the State  
Game Commission and other  
matters of public interest. The  
Police Jury of Livingston Parish  
has asked that the game com-  
mission be abolished. Every  
voter in this district should hear  
Judge Lewis tell why it should  
be abolished. This is a live  
wire."

The meeting is to be held  
primarily for the purpose of  
arousing interest in the naviga-  
tion of the Amite River, and Con-  
gressman Wickliffe will discuss  
the probabilities of Congress  
making an appropriation for this  
purpose.

A pretty story is told that in  
leaving his entire estate to his  
wife E. H. Harriman but followed  
the example of his father, the  
Rev. Orlando Harriman, whose  
unique will read: "With this  
ring I thee wed and with all my  
worldly goods I thee endow. In  
the name of the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Ghost. Amen. In  
accordance with this solemn de-  
claration made at the time of our  
marriage, I hereby declare my  
wife sole heir and possessor (in  
case of my death) of all my prop-  
erty, personal and real, and ap-  
point her to be the sole executrix  
of this, my last will and testa-  
ment." This sounds very well,  
but the thought will suggest it-  
self that the Harriman estate es-  
caped the inheritance tax by  
passing to his wife instead of his  
children. The latter were care-  
fully provided for in his life time.