

The True Democrat.

VOL. XXIV

ST. FRANCISVILLE, WEST FELICIANA PARISH, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1916

NO. 48

George Rettig

The Grocer

Wishes You a Happy New Year.

WOODLAWN FARM

J. B. McGEHEE (1836-1913)

We stand upon the threshold of a new year, to bring, we trust, harder work than ever with its attendant mauling. But thus compelling our faithful fields to unlock their stores to us and to those dependent, to furnish cheer for the guest within our gates and help for our less fortunate brother, we shall find as always the complete satisfaction that CREATION is perfect and EARTH an admirable home.

Our best wishes to every sentient being!

SUCCESS LIES IN MUTUAL SERVICE.

J. S. McGEHEE - - - - - Laurel Hill, La.



TEST YOUR OWN EYES

With this MACHINE EYE TESTER (patent applied for), which has a complete assortment of all the different strength lenses mounted in a revolving wheel, you can, by actual trial yourself, select a pair of reading glasses that will give you perfect comfort and satisfaction.

We can furnish any style frame you may select, at low prices.

You need a pair of glasses now. Come in at once and let us demonstrate this new practical Machine Eye Tester.

Mumford's Royal Pharmacy
ST. FRANCISVILLE, LA

THE FORD TRACTOR

I have the agency for the Ford Tractor and will have a demonstrator here soon. The Ford will deliver 16 h. p. at the belt and 8 h. p. at the drawbar. It will do the work on your farm that six or eight horses could ordinarily do. It pulls plows, drills, discs, seeders, mowers, spreaders, harrows, or any farm implement of similar nature. It can be used for pulling graders for road work, hauling logs, pulling stumps, or hauling heavily-loaded wagons. It will pull two 14-inch plows in ordinary soil and three under favorable conditions.

PRICE—\$350. FULLY EQUIPPED. F. O. S. FACTORY.
CHEAPER THAN TWO MULES.

Chas. Weydert, St. Francisville, Louisiana.....

GOOD CORN WANTED

I am in the market for good slip shucked Corn in the ear, at any station on the L. R. & N., or Y. & M. V., within this Parish.

F. S. PERCY, Plettenberg, La.

LAST CALL TO PAY YOUR POLL TAX

LA. DAIRYMEN TO MEET AT NORWOOD

A meeting of the Louisiana Dairymen's Association will be held at Norwood on the afternoon and evening of Jan. 11. This is a state association and the people of this section should come to the front and extend a hearty welcome to visitors from other parts of the state. All who are interested in the dairy business are urged to attend. The program follows:

Afternoon Session, 1:30 O'clock.

"Why the Pure-bred Sire."—G. E. Nesom, Supt. Live Stock Extension, Louisiana State University.

"Why Louisiana Farmers Should Keep Dairy Cows."—Geo. Villere, President Cloverlands Dairy Co., New Orleans, La.

"How to Get Started in the Dairy Business."—I. S. West, President Louisiana Dairymen's Association.

Discussion—Open to All. Short Business Session. Luncheon.

Evening Session, 7 O'clock.

Illustrated Lecture.—J. P. LaMaster, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Brookhaven, Miss.

"What Dairying has done for some Mississippi Communities."—L. A. Higgins, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Starkville, Miss.

"The Progress of Dairying in Louisiana."—C. H. Staples, U. S. Department of Agriculture, La. State University.

"Cooperation in Dairying."—Turner Wright, Live Stock Extension Service, Louisiana State University. Adjournment, 9 o'clock.

PREVENTING CRIMINALS.

Ten years ago in Chicago three youths were hanged. They were the famous "car barn bandits." All under 21—mere boys—but the state took their lives as penalty for the trail of crime they had blazed.

The execution over, a little careworn woman came down the steps of the county jail. She was Mrs. Sophie Van Dine, mother of Harvey Van Dine, one of the bandits.

As she reached the sidewalk she said: "My boy didn't have a chance. Work forced me to leave him alone most of the day. Disease and bad surroundings made a criminal of him. It's now over; but I am going to devote the rest of my life to saving other boys."

Today you can find her working in one of Chicago's municipal hospitals—in the ward for defectives. They call it the "horror" ward. Working among babies and children whose minds are diseased or deformed, because they were born with diseased, deformed bodies. Innocent victims of poverty, disease, vice.

As their bodies heal and grow strong Mrs. Van Dine works that their minds may also heal and grow strong; that they may grow up healthy, normal humans, instead of criminals and murderers.

BOARD OF HEALTH ALMANAC.

An attractive almanac full of health information and health maxims is being distributed by the State Board of Health. In addition to the calendar pages usual in such publications there is a page each month on the disease which in this climate often makes its appearance at that time.

Rural sanitation, milk, and other special subjects are treated in a popular style and the services offered the people by the State Board of Health are briefly enumerated.

The almanac is free for the asking and the Board will be glad to forward on request one or more copies.

OSCAR DOWLING, President,
New Orleans, La.

CANDIDATE PARKER'S PLANS.

(Bastrop Enterprise.)

Both in his speech here and that delivered in Monroe, Jno. M. Parker announced a unique plan for curing democratic mistakes.

That is, he proposes to make up a set of good laws and send out copies to every reader in Louisiana, and ask the citizens to tell their representatives to follow his plans, and repeal laws that he thinks detrimental and pass the new ones prescribed by him.

That is simple enough all right, but Mr. Parker might do well to get Gov. Hall's advice first as to practicability.

If the legislature does not happen to be like "Thompson's colt" it will probably be like "Roxy's ram," i. e., have a head of its own.

MR. PARKER'S POLITICS

(New Orleans States.)

Nor is it true that he has been a Democrat nationally and locally up to his alliance with the Progressive party three years ago.

In 1896 Mr. Parker was bitterly opposed to Gov. Foster and we have heard it said without vouching for it he was among the several thousand Citizens' Leaguers who voted for John N. Pharr, the Republican candidate.

In the city campaign of 1899 he could not make up his mind whether to support the Regular Democrats or Jacksonians and wound up by proposing a ticket partly ring and partly reform.

In 1904, in one of the most exciting municipal elections we ever had, he was a squawman. He shouted on the street corners for the "ring" and could not vote for Roosevelt, Republican, his choice for President, because he had not paid his poll taxes.

In 1908 he voted an open Republican ticket for William H. Taft.

In 1912 he quit the Louisiana Democracy, denounced both State and National Democracy, joined the Progressive party and cast his vote for Roosevelt.

Mr. Parker is, therefore, not a Democrat at all, regular or independent.

"I am a Progressive," he wrote on September, "and running on a Progressive platform."

There is no longer a Progressive party in the nation. A Progressive and a Republican now are one and the same thing.

No man can honestly vote for John M. Parker unless he goes out of the Democratic party to do so.

LOUISIANA POLITICAL PRIMER

As Used in the Pleasant School of Politics.

Question—Why should Col. R. G. Pleasant be given the Democratic nomination for governor?

Answer—His Democratic opponent is an opportunist.

Q.—What special qualifications does Col. Pleasant possess for the office?

A.—On July 30 last, Tom Barret wrote a letter to Warren Thomas telling him he was than a parish unit advocate.

Q.—What reforms does Col. Pleasant promise the people in return for their support?

A.—Tom Barret can't carry Cheneyville.

Q.—Where does Col. Pleasant stand on the liquor question?

A.—Guess again.

Q.—Is the New Orleans ring supporting Col. Pleasant because, as Mayor Behrman says, it wants to play safe on the liquor issue?

A.—Tom Barret didn't have appendicitis. The doctors were bluffing.

Q.—What has become of Col. Pleasant's platform of principles?

A.—Tom Barret voted a secret ballot in the Caddo prohibition election. Never mind about the persons who saw the ballot. We can produce thousands who didn't see it.

Q.—How do you explain the attitude of the saloon interest with respect to the candidacy of Col. Pleasant?

A.—Eons ago, Tom Barret had his picture in a labor paper that said he was a local optionist. It was a rank picture.

Q.—Can you tell us something about the candidacy of Colonel Pleasant from the standpoint of his fitness?

A.—Tom Barret never saw the day he could carry Caddo parish over Ruff Pleasant.

Q.—Do you approve of Gov. Hall's position with reference to lawlessness in Jefferson parish?

A.—The question of good roads is one to which I have, for years, been giving studious and unremitting attention.

Q.—Do you approve of Col. Pleasant's picture and appeal for votes being posted in gambling dives of Jefferson?

A.—Go to h—l.

Q.—Was Col. Pleasant's candidacy in response to a popular demand?

A.—Talk about majorities! Every man in north, central and south Louisiana will vote for Pleasant, Arkansas, Texas and Mississippi are simply wild to get in the Pleasant band-wagon.

Q.—Can't you tell us why Mr. Pleasant would make a good governor?

A.—Docs. Turner and Munday were without authority to endorse Tom Barret. Col. Price showed 'em.

Class is dismissed.

What a glorious thing it would be if 1916 could find this town without a knocker, and with every one a booster. And it could, if YOU would—Mansfield Enterprise.

STATE CAMPAIGN IN LAST STAGES

New Orleans, La., Dec. 31.—Political activities of the gubernatorial candidates were interrupted but slightly by the Christmas holidays, and the aspirants for the Democratic nomination went at it hammer and tongs again bright and early Monday morning of this week. Lieutenant Governor T. C. Barret spent the first half of the week in the eighth district, speaking in Vernon and Sabine parishes, while Col. Pleasant, accompanied by L. E. Thomas and J. Y. Sanders, toured Washington parish again, making a dozen speeches in two days.

Barret campaign speakers will follow the Pleasant orators into Washington parish the last of this week. S. A. Montgomery and James Wilkinson will speak at Bogalusa, Angie, Varnado, Hackley and Franklinton; also at Talisheek, the home of Warran Thomas, in St. Tammany parish, where they started out Thursday morning. Saturday night these speakers will go to Amite, in Tangipahoa.

Beginning January 3d, several parties of Barret campaigners will take the stump in this section of the state. Donelson Caffery and Robert B. Butler will speak at Morgan City, Franklin, White Castle and Plaquemine. Mr. Caffery and James Wilkinson will speak at Houma, Thibodaux, Napoleonville and Donaldsonville. Mr. Wilkinson and M. D. Dimitry will speak at Convent, Lutecher, Garyville, Edgard, Hahnville and Des Allemands. S. A. Montgomery next week will go to Winn and Grant parishes, where he is to speak with North Louisiana assistants for four days.

Indications are that Lieutenant Governor Barret and L. Austin Fontenot will put in the final week of the campaign in the city of New Orleans, and go to their homes at Shreveport and Opelousas for the final day of the campaign, Monday, Jan. 24.

The Barret headquarters sent out over the state this week a piece of literature which absolutely convicts Col. Pleasant of double-dealing in regard to the prohibition question. It consists of a fac simile of a card issued last July, when the constitutional convention fight was in progress, bearing the photograph of Col. Pleasant in the center, with the legend: "Local Self-Government the Foundation of True Democracy." It also contained the phrases: "Baton Rouge for Baton Rouge," "Shreveport for Shreveport," etc., being a plain argument in favor of segregation of cities from the parishes on the liquor question, and permitting the large cities of the state to return to the open saloon in spite of country majorities. Col. Pleasant has never publicly denied authorship of these cards, so far as known, nor has he denounced the men who circulated them in wet territory in his behalf. When it is remembered that Col. Pleasant poses as a life-long prohibitionist, this card is a poser.

"THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE POLLS IS NO PLACE FOR A CULTURED WOMAN"

(W. W. E. in New York Tribune.)

I entered the dirty, grey granite building between a barber shop and an undertaker's. The air had died long ago and in its place were the mingled scents of cigars, pipes and ink.

Men were inside—most of them standing. Some talked and smoked quietly. The word "damn" was used twice. A few were writing at small, shelf-like tables at the side of the room. Several useful cuspidors were scattered over an unclean floor.

A policeman sauntered in—and out. Having identified myself I was given a blank form to be filled out by one of the officials. I retired with the sheet to the privacy of one of the shelf-like desks and wrote upon it.

Sealing it, I dropped it in the slit of the official box.

Having thus mailed my money order, I left the postoffice.

ANOTHER POINTED QUERY.

(Abbeville Meridional.)

If the ward bosses were an evil power and the foes of good government in July they are equally so in December, for we have nowhere read of their conversion. If their support of Gov. Hall was a menace to the state why should their alliance with Pleasant be holy and virtuous?

Let your opinion of this town be like the busy bee: Let it improve each shining minute.

THOMAS APPROVES

(Lake Charles American-Press.)

Only one voice has been raised so far in the state in favor of the dishonest distribution of state school funds, whereby eight parishes of the state receive for school purposes more money than they pay in for all purposes, forty-seven receive more school money than they pay into the state, and nine parishes, including Calcasieu, receive for schools \$314,128.10 and pay into the state treasury \$1,666,632.55. That voice belongs to Lee Emmet Thomas of Shreveport.

Mr. Thomas evidently does not know by what system this dishonest distribution of school funds is effected, but he is "fer" it, anyway, for he said recently in an interview in the Baton Rouge Chronicle:

"This talk of granting school appropriations according to the educable children in each parish is all wrong. Some parishes may have little wealth and a great many children. I am a heavy tax payer and have no children to send to school, but do not object to my school taxes for keeping up schools where children are to be educated. If some of these parishes received large appropriations it was because they were entitled to them."

Just what the Hon. Lee Emmet is talking about nobody knows but himself. As a matter of fact, the school funds are now distributed according to the educable children in each parish—that is, the total number of school age—and it is under this plan that the present robbery is carried out.

The injustice of the system lies in distributing the money according to the number of children entitled to an education, whereas it should be apportioned proportionately to the number receiving an education. Parishes in the state are drawing more money for educational purposes than Calcasieu, in which the great majority of the educable children are negroes. The money thus obtained by them is not being used to educate negroes, but is applied to the white schools for the purpose of relieving the parish taxpayers of local taxation for schools.

Is it right and just that Calcasieu, which spends \$100,000 or more of its own money on its schools, should be taxed for a contribution of \$20,000 by the state so that the people of the negro parishes may make the state pay all the school expenses of those parishes?

Nobody would say so except Lee Emmet Thomas. Statesman Thomas evidently thinks that his stand will gain him friends in the fifty-five delinquent parishes. We think he is mistaken. We do not believe that one of them would willingly become a parasite upon its sister parishes. Statesman Thomas will likely find himself very lonesome in his endorsement of the robbery of the people of one parish for the benefit of the tax dodgers in another parish.

MILITARY TRAINING IN HIGH SCHOOLS.

(Crowley Signal.)

Rockford, Ill., has taken a referendum vote of its citizens on the question of giving military instruction in the city high school. The principal submitted these questions to the parents of the high school boys:

1. Do you favor military training for your sons?

2. Do you favor making military training compulsory at least one year of the high school course?

3. Will you furnish him with a uniform costing not to exceed \$10 provided the school furnishes instruction and the remainder of the paraphernalia?

Of the 340 parents who replied, a majority of nearly two to one answered the first favorably; there was a slight negative majority for the second and a large majority against the third. Perhaps this vote, taken in a typical middle western community, may be regarded as fairly typical of the American opinion. If so, it appears that most American parents would like their sons to have military training, but don't want it to be compulsory, and don't want to be put to any extra expense for it. It would be interesting to know whether this community agrees with the Rockford verdict.

"I told you last Sabbath, children," said the Sunday-school teacher, "that you should all try to make some one happy during the week. How many of you have?"

"I did," answered the boy promptly. "That's nice, Johnny. What did you do?"

"I went to see my aunt, and she's always happy when I go home again." —Boston Transcript.

Give your job and your town your best efforts.