

The True Democrat.

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ST. FRANCISVILLE, WEST FELICIANA PARISH, LOUISIANA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1916

NO. 32

STATE LOSES MONEY LACK OF GOOD ROADS

Declaring that Louisiana is losing millions of dollars annually because she has so few good roads and suggesting that an extra session of the legislature especially to handle the situation might be advisable, Representative J. W. Alexander of Rapides gave out information during a recent visit to New Orleans which is apt to draw attention from every section of the state.

It was Mr. Alexander that led the spirited good roads fight in the last session of the legislature which all but carried the twenty million dollar good roads bond issue, that lost by but two votes.

"If Louisiana had an adequate system of highways," says Mr. Alexander, "we could count on as much if not more money being left, but unfortunately our highway system is not adequate, the result being that automobilists avoid this state."

"By this I do not mean to say we have no good roads. Far from it. But although we have stretches of good roads there are breaks between that are impassable, especially in the winter time—the very time other conditions are most favorable for bringing down the money-spending auto-tourists from the north and east. There is no reason why fifteen to twenty-five millions of dollars should not come into and be left in Louisiana every year, if we had a comprehensive system of highways."

"This would be over and above the tremendous saving to farmers in hauling their produce to market over good roads, which would, undoubtedly, run into the millions. Many other advantages will accrue to the state from a complete system of highways and I have been thinking that it would really pay the State of Louisiana to have an extra session of the legislature to take up this matter of good roads, and plenty of them, and dispose of it at an early date. We are losing money every year in which we delay. It's bound to come about, the sentiment of the people of the state is overwhelming for good roads and the people should be given what they demand."

Representative Alexander is now on his way to Virginia and New York, making the trip by automobile especially to gain experience and gather information as to good roads and methods of road construction in other states.

THE USUAL EFFECT.

"What is your favorite poem?" asked the literary young woman. "The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck," answered the commonplace young man, "I used to recite it every time father and mother had company?" "And did you recite it with effect?" "Father thought the effect was pretty good. He said he honestly believed it kept us from having so much company."

Show that you have roots in your home parish, by subscribing for your home paper. We will send The Feliciana Record to any away-from-home teacher of student for 65 cents for the school term. Who will head this honor list?

CLEAN UP DAY FOR FAIR GROUNDS

The Fair Association has set Thursday, September 14, as clean-up day for the Fair Grounds. A number of men and teams have been promised for this work. It is expected that quite a number of people and laborers will meet at the Fair Grounds early Thursday morning and clean off the Fair Grounds. There is considerable work to be done to put the grounds in first-class condition, and this method of handling the matter will save the Association considerable money. One reason for the choice of the date was the desire to have the grounds in fine shape for the dance that is to be given on Friday night, Sept. 15. The fences and posts, pens, etc., are to be white-washed and it is expected that the grounds will be much more attractive after this is done.

It is hoped that a number of ladies will be present to help superintend the work and that a number of baskets filled with eatables will be brought along. Everybody interested is invited to be present and participate in the labors of the day.

33 DAYS TILL THE OPENING OF THE WEST FELICIANA FAIR OCT. 12-13-14.

POLICE JURY PROCEEDINGS

St. Francisville, La., Sept. 6, 1916.

Police Jury met in regular session with C. F. Howell, President, and the following members present: H. C. Kaufman, A. S. Brasseaux, S. C. Cobb, W. C. Howell, J. E. Austin, T. J. Bourgeois, T. H. Row, N. H. Barrow, J. F. Murren, S. L. Laverigne.

The following bills approved and ordered paid:

Table listing various bills and amounts, including items like H. H. Connell, vat inspector, R. Veal, care court house, J. M. Dawson, vat account, etc.

ORDINANCE NO. 14. The Police Jury of the Parish of West Feliciana, being in regular session and all members being present, instructed the clerk on the 6th day of September A. D. 1916, upon motion...

WEST FELICIANA GOOD ROADS MOVEMENT ATTRACTS ATTENTION IN BATON ROUGE

(Baton Rouge State-Times.)

The good roads movement is spreading, and we note with interest that West Feliciana has under consideration the voting of a bond issue of \$200,000 for the purpose of building model highways.

West Feliciana could not make an investment that would bring larger returns.

Sections of East Baton Rouge have tried the good roads plan, and proved, to their entire satisfaction, the value of model graveled highways.

Those farmers who have a model highway running in front of their places, over which they can travel at any season of the year, would not give the road up for twice its cost. They are accustomed now to being able to travel about at any season, in automobile, buggy or wagon, and would not, for any consideration, go back to the old system of roads, which bottled them up on their farms for at least three months of each year.

FAIR ASSOCIATION'S MONTHLY MEETING

The widespread interest in the Parish Fair was demonstrated by the large number of ladies and gentlemen who attended the regular monthly meeting of the Fair Association at St. Francisville on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

The number of ladies attending was so large that the office of the parish superintendent was crowded, hence the ladies adjourned to the court room upstairs.

The gentlemen met in the superintendent's office. The meeting was called to order by President Edward Butler.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

Action on the matter of securing a band for the Fair was deferred to a later date.

Messrs. Wood and Crump were appointed on a committee to draw up suitable resolutions of respect for Miss Zelle Lawason, Mrs. O. Lejeune and Mr. L. N. Brueggerhoff.

Mr. Mackie was appointed to act as manager of the commissary department of the Fair, to have full charge of purchases for lunch stands and cold drink stands.

The following committeemen were appointed to have charge of the barbecued meats department: Messrs. B. I. Barrow, F. M. Hamilton, Bat Haralson, and Dr. Burekhalter.

Secretary was instructed to reply favorably to proposition of Mr. A. E. Cobb, who proposes to hold an auction sale of pure-bred cattle at the Parish Fair.

Mr. Matthews asked for premiums to be given for best decorated automobiles. Association decided to award \$5.00 as first premium and \$2.50 as second premium. The parade is to start at Wolf's corner at 10:30 a. m. and proceed to the Fair Grounds.

Thursday, Sept. 14, was set as clean-up day at the Fair Grounds. Teams and men were promised by a number of those present. It is intended to meet at the Fair Grounds early Thursday morning and clean up the grounds. It is hoped that the ladies interested in the Fair will arrange to serve coffee to the laborers and a lunch.

Moved, seconded and carried, that the President and Secretary be authorized to borrow from the Bank of Commerce the sum of \$250.00 to be used in paying the pressing bills of the Association; 60 days time.

The Secretary was instructed to order sufficient badges for the officers, judges, etc.

There being no further business, the Association adjourned to meet at the Fair Grounds on September 14.

ANIMALS CLEAR UP WASTE VEGETATION.

Sheep are the sworn enemies of weeds. They clear up waste vegetation and turn it into mutton. By eating down and trampling the weeds on the fields and along the fences, they destroy many insects which harbor in the weeds. If the sheep merely pay for the extra grain given them, it is profitable to keep them as scavengers and insecticides.

Weather Forecast Oct. 12-13-14 Fair.

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

St. Francisville, La., Sept. 5, 1916.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen held this day, the following members were present: A. E. Briant, Mayor, L. W. Rogers, Jas. Kilbourne, Max Mann and George Rettig, Board of Aldermen. Absent: Rudolph Yunkes.

Minutes of last regular and adjourned meetings read and adopted.

Mayor and Marshal reported 6 cases. Engineer's report read and ordered filed.

Bids for the construction of three protection levees for lower St. Francisville were opened. F. O. Hamilton bid \$1.46 per cubic yard, H. H. Shackelford & Co. bid \$2.70 per cubic yard.

Motion made, seconded and carried, that a committee of two be appointed to confer with the like committee from the Board of Aldermen of Bayou Sara, to draw up a water and light contract. Committee: L. W. Rogers, Jas. H. Kilbourne.

After being taken up section by section, a motion was made by Jas. Kilbourne and seconded by Rettig, that the following ordinance be adopted as a whole:

AN ORDINANCE

To control and regulate the use and speed of automobiles and motor vehicles.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Francisville, Louisiana, that no person driving or in charge of an automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle on any street, avenue, public highway in the Town of St. Francisville, Louisiana, shall drive or operate the same at any speed at any time greater than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic and use of the streets and other highway and condition of such other street or highway, or at a rate of speed such as to endanger the life or limb of any person, and in no event anywhere at any time at a speed exceeding fifteen miles an hour.

Any person driving or in charge of an automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle upon approaching a crossing on intersection of streets or highways and in traversing a crossing or intersection of streets or highways shall drive at a speed less than above specified and not greater than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic and use of such intersecting streets and highways.

Section 2. Every automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle shall be provided with a suitable bell, horn or other signal which shall produce a sound unusually loud, annoying or of a distressing nature, and shall be equipped with good and efficient brakes. Every such vehicle shall have exhibited during the period from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise one or more lamps showing white lights visible within a reasonable distance from the direction toward which such vehicle is proceeding and red light visible from the reverse direction.

Section 3. Any person operating or in control or in charge of any automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle, shall on request or on signal by putting up the hand, from the driver or driving a restive horse or other draught or domestic animal, bring such vehicle immediately to a stop, and if traveling in an opposite direction remain from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise one or more lamps showing white lights visible within a reasonable distance from the direction toward which such vehicle is proceeding and red light visible from the reverse direction.

Section 4. Every automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle using gasoline or other explosive mixture as a motive power shall stop engine while such automobile, motor vehicle or motor cycle is standing unoccupied upon any street, avenue, public place or public highway within the Town of St. Francisville, Louisiana.

Section 5. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars and not more than one hundred dollars and costs, and in default of payment of fine and costs shall be sentenced to serve not less than five nor more than one hundred days in jail subject to work on the public streets of the town as provided by law, and shall be liable to further punishment by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that all ordinances or parts of ordinances contrary to or in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

Motion Rogers, seconded Rettig, that the following salaries, bills, etc., be paid: M. B. Osborne, salary \$100.00; R. W. Anderson, salary \$100.00; Jas. Butler, salary \$100.00; G. L. Plettinger, salary \$60.00; G. S. Davidson, salary \$55.00; Q. S. Davidson, fees \$5.00; A. E. Briant, fees and pauper \$14.50; R. W. Toppel, special police \$2.00; Doherty Hardware Co., fire clay \$2.00; Woodard Wight & Co., bale waste \$18.13; Standard Oil Company, oils \$56.92; M. & E. Wolf, oats \$18.00.

The Times-Picayune advertisement for bids on levee \$2.50; Geo. Rettig, salt \$1.15; Rudolph Yunkes, supplies and labor \$2.50; The Barber Asphalt Co., asphalt \$26.50.

Appropriated to road contingent fund, \$75.00; to plant fund, \$275.00.

Motion J. H. Kilbourne seconded Max Mann, that the rate of taxation for the year 1916 shall be 4 mills. Carried.

Motion Max Mann, seconded Kilbourne, that bid of F. O. Hamilton for the construction of levees (as per the blue prints and specifications on file in Clerk's Office) of 25 1/4 cents per cubic yard be accepted, and the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the contract. Carried.

Motion made, seconded and carried, that the following salaries, bills, etc., be paid: M. B. Osborne, salary \$100.00; R. W. Anderson, salary \$100.00; Jas. Butler, salary \$100.00; G. L. Plettinger, salary \$60.00; G. S. Davidson, salary \$55.00; Q. S. Davidson, fees \$5.00; A. E. Briant, fees and pauper \$14.50; R. W. Toppel, special police \$2.00; Doherty Hardware Co., fire clay \$2.00; Woodard Wight & Co., bale waste \$18.13; Standard Oil Company, oils \$56.92; M. & E. Wolf, oats \$18.00.

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Motion J. H. Kilbourne seconded Max Mann, that the rate of taxation for the year 1916 shall be 4 mills. Carried. Motion Max Mann, seconded Kilbourne, that bid of F. O. Hamilton for the construction of levees (as per the blue prints and specifications on file in Clerk's Office) of 25 1/4 cents per cubic yard be accepted, and the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the contract. Carried. Motion made, seconded and carried, that

SWISS SYSTEM OF MILITARY TRAINING

(The Spokane Spokesman-Review.)

The threefold strength of the Swiss system of obligatory military training is that it provides adequate defense, that it increases the individual's efficiency beyond its cost, and that it does not cultivate a militaristic spirit in the nation.

To give it further light on the system the Senate committee on military affairs called as a witness Dr. Theodore Christen of Cincinnati, a former captain in the Swiss citizen army.

"What, if any, effect does it have upon the efficiency of the man in industrial and commercial life?" asked Senator Beckham.

"I think, senator, it has a good effect," answered Dr. Christen. "A man in the army gets his rating. An army, if it amounts to anything, is a training school for the individual. If he makes good it is acknowledged; if he does not make good he shows it. If he does not make good in the army his rating in civilian life is inferior considerably."

"Does this system interfere much with industrial life injuriously?" asked Chairman Chamberlain; "that is, does it take men out of the business and industrial life and interfere with business?"

"No, senator, it does not. The fact that the original training service of 67 days is in one year—that is, the 20th year—and that thereafter the man has for about seven years only 12 days, lessens what might be an interference."

"It takes him out of industrial life, really, at a time before he begins?"

"Yes; before he begins; that is, he knows years before that he has to put aside 67 days in that year, and all the arrangements are made. He is not very far advanced at 20 in any pursuit. If the man is an employe, many employes pay them part of their wages. All employes keep their places open. There is really no hardship, and it does not disturb in any way the industrial fabric of the country."

Dr. Christen is especially capable of comparing the Swiss compulsory system with our American plan of a volunteer militia, for he holds an honorable discharge from the Ohio national guard.

"I entered that some years ago to see what it amounts to," he said. "I have seen what it amounts to after having been a Swiss officer. While the spirit is very good—I want to speak highly of it—it is inadequate."

"It provides for inadequate training, for absolutely no reserve. These units are practically in the air; they are not attached to any division; they are not attached to any army corps; they never see the man who would eventually lead the whole body of them. They have a great many other intrinsic weaknesses which can not be eliminated by the volunteer system. The volunteer system, unfortunately, has inherent weaknesses to which I will not refer."

FAIR CITIZENS HOLD A FAIR MEETING

An interesting meeting of the ladies interested in the fair was held Wednesday, Mrs. O. D. Brooks in the chair, Mrs. Ben Leopold, secretary. Others present were Miss Edith Bickham, Mrs. H. Daniel, Mrs. E. I. Daniel, Mrs. J. I. Daniel, Mrs. R. E. Crump, Mrs. Gordon Davidson, Mrs. A. W. Skardon, Mrs. S. Powell, Mrs. B. I. Barrow, Mrs. Mackie, Mrs. J. G. Perkins, Mrs. Austin Daniel, Mrs. Chas. Barrow, Mrs. M. O. Daniel, Miss Hilda Simmons, Mrs. J. L. Golsan, Mrs. Willis Daniel, Miss Delia Maryman.

Two letters were read from the State Board of Health saying that there would, in the circumstances, be no danger from poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) in holding a baby show. Only one day of the fair will be devoted to the better babies contest.

Mrs. J. R. Matthews was appointed chairman of Floral Committee, vice Miss Zelle Lawason, deceased, Mrs. E. Levert was named on Art Committee vice the late Mrs. O. Lejeune.

Much interest was shown, and good reports were made. Concerning the benefit dance, September 15, donations of refreshments are solicited, either of sandwiches or ingredients for fruit punch.

Meeting adjourned till Oct. 4. MRS. B. LEOPOLD, Sec.