

The True Democrat
E. and M. E. Robinson, Editors

Official Journal of the Parish of West Feliciana, the Towns of Bayou Sara and St. Francisville, and of the School Board.

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SATURDAY JUNE 28, 1919

LET'S TRY FOR FEDERAL AID

A letter from Hon. Duncan Blue says that he has been delayed in visiting West Feliciana on the matter of road improvement, on account of the many calls to other parts of the state, as there seems to be a general awakening on this all-important subject.

The project of securing federal aid in local road-building is broached in order to get same it will be necessary to show that the road covers a good postal route, serving a maximum of people at a minimum of mileage. To this end, a road could be made as far as Laurel Hill, or state line near by, meeting a similar road from Woodville, another going out to the ninth ward upper Jackson, with return by lower Jackson, and Star Hill road would insure the greatest amount of service; both in the way of mail and traveling facilities.

It may be pointed out by the confirmed pessimist that the federal appropriation for the entire State being only \$700,000, and since so many other parishes are asking for a share, this will mean a very small sum for each. This is true, but as Congressman Sanders has just secured a special appropriation of \$200,000 for Washington parish, it is not impossible that this section could through the congressman's good offices, secure an appropriation also. It is worth trying for, at any rate.

To sit idle, while the rest of the world is moving in this matter, means that we shall be hopelessly behind an eventuality not to be considered.

SPEEDING LAWS

The estimable Police Jury should devote some of its valuable session to tightening up the anti-speeding laws in this parish. Quite a turn or two of the screw would not come amiss, because more than one of our young auto-drivers habitually go over the roads at a speed considerably more than the law approves of, even if it "allows" it. With the roads in their present condition, full of ruts and mounds, this is dangerous not only to the more or less innocent and helpless occupants of the car itself, but to the decidedly innocent and abjectly helpless occupants of vehicles which these fast cars pass. One car passing another with the former going at a forty mile clip has hideous potentialities of harm.

One shudders at what would happen to either, to both, if the fast car skidded suddenly into the other car. Such driving is a public menace.

The fact is that our young people do not mean to be lawless or reckless or a menace to others, but the swing and joy of fast movement gets into the blood, and with the means at hand to accomplish it, they put on speed, unreckoning of the cost. The fact that they have done this many times with no bad results to themselves and others blinds them to the fact of what could happen, and which according to the law of chances is due to happen before a great while.

Thus it becomes our parish fathers should step forward and, as we remarked before, tighten up their auto laws, and regulate enforcement of same, not wait till some casualty has followed laxity of law administration.

The German wife of a certain German citizen, interned during the war, made such a convincing appeal as to secure his release from confinement. Not content with this, she continues her arguments and will soon prove that he was as good an American as most any American.

One boon Congress has granted—repeal of the daylight saving law, and though it does not go into effect until next year, there is meantime all the blessedness of anticipation. This law may have benefited the salaried classes, but to every one else was a nuisance and an abomination.

Chewing the cud of hard and bitter facts, this is the time when every user of a public road—and who, save the bedridden, is not?—should consider the importance of improving the roads.

Having concluded the war abroad, President Wilson is preparing to come home and break up that little war in Congress.

If Germany is indeed finding it hard to secure an official willing to sign the peace terms, it should be remembered that she found it easy to secure officials for her U-boats.

Baton Rouge is making a bid as a summer resort; she has an anti-mosquito campaign on foot.

THE AVERAGE PARENT

New Orleans dancing teachers put the blame for the present style of dancing upon the parents of the dancers. One knows very little of present conditions if he thinks the opinion of the average parent weighs one iota in the scale as regards the conduct of the wilful young person. The latter follows the lead of others in her set and without regard to reason or own decency sometimes adopts anything new. Of course the average parent who supplies the war paint and feathers for those dancers, could regulate the conduct of his daughters, by threatening to withhold these necessary beautifications, but then the average parent is a down-trodden creature and does not realize his powers. Often he is indifferent. Isolated instances there are, where parents assert themselves, but judging by appearances these are discouragingly few.

In this connection and with reference to the dancing controversy that racked La. State University from center to conference it was amusing to observe the naive remarks of The Reveille, the students' journal on the subject saying among other things that going without sleeves to dances was not displeasing to the mothers of the dancers and that should be sufficient. A census of the mothers would have revealed quite different opinions on the part of most of them, except perhaps those mothers who dress that way themselves, and possibly see nothing unseemly in the exposure of their persons and that of their young daughters. If it is done in all civilized society, as The Reveille continues, it is appropos to remind the young editor so also was Germany once regarded as in the front rank of civilized nations.

A returning New Orleans reports the statement that the Germans planted mines in the graves of American soldiers, foreseeing that our soldiers would come upon these death-dealing instruments, while engaged in the holy occupation of searching for their dead. Nothing, absolutely nothing, in heaven or earth seems to have been held sacred by the ruthless, impious huns.

A MODEL NEWSPAPER AND MAN

In announcing the ninety-fifth birthday of the Woodville Republican, last week, personal illness stayed the hand of the writer before any enlargement of the pleasing subject could be made. What we should like to have said is that the present day status of The Republican is in no wise surpassed by its creditable past, that retaining the old name, which first meant what is now comprehended in the term, Democrat, the Republican remains a bulwark for the Democratic party of the Bayou State. Brilliant editors and true it may have had in the past, but none more worthy, of higher principle and right living than its present editor, Robert Lewis. If we wished a living example of the simile, "straight as a string," we should adduce Robert Lewis. Indeed, he is straighter than a string, because a string can warp and twist, but our friend is straighter than that. We have never known him to deviate from what is right, honorable, and generous. Under his management, the old paper is constantly growing. May it grow greater and greater as the years roll by.

EXCESS OF PROFANITY

War is said always to provoke a more general use of profanity, and the latest war has certainly had that effect. The word which formerly was referred to in print delicately as h-l, or which was merely inferred as rhyming with well and tell, is now boldly printed in full, and pronounced roundly with no circumlocution or evasion by military men and civilians alike. Indeed one hears it on the lips of ladies.

The joke that only the Y. M. C. A. men swear has some point, when one observes that so restrained and careful a writer as Margaret Deland reports a Y. M. C. A. secretary as talking about "the damn huns." The latter expletive is another that has come out into the open, no longer partially concealed by its primal and final letters since the war.

Is all this for the better? Those who hold with the words of Jesus, "Swear not at all," will agree that it is not well, but those who have gone through the fiery furnace of war, or have only looked on at the ordeal and who have found the refinements of speech inadequate for what was endured or seen, will contend that the strong words are a very natural human expression. Let us hope that with the occasion they will gradually fall again into disuse, even as a college girl's naughty "damn it" is abashed when no one seems to notice it.

HOT WELL SURE ENOUGH

Formal opening off the political campaign in Louisiana will take place at Hot Well, near Boyce, Rapides parish, July 4, when all of the candidates for governor are expected to appear on the same rostrum, outline their platforms and tell the people of the state for what they stand. Invitations have been extended to the six gubernatorial candidates, and it is considered practically certain all of them will participate in the first real political rally of the campaign.

This is what may be called fitting the place to the occasion and people. But Hot Air would have been a better name.

An armed peace is the best one can hope for.

ALWAYS PERFIDIOUS

In scuttling the German fleet, the German admiral in charge ran true to form. He did what might fairly have been expected of him, and it is surprising that by the terms of the armistice, the fleet was not left in safer, more honorable hands. But it is difficult for entirely honorable people to forecast all that a dastardly foe can do. The incident reveals the usual twist in the moral reasoning of the Germanic mind. At the time of the abject surrender of the fleet, without firing a shot, it was freely said by British naval officers that they could never have brought in their ships in that manner, that on the way, some accident would have happened to each particular ship.

No doubt his criticism reached the ears of the German navy. So its officers planned what they considered fine and heroic. They scuttled their respective ships, not realizing that there is a decided difference between their acts and the hinted as possible British action in the first situation. In the earlier case, the ships had not been surrendered, and in a sense were still German property; later, they had been surrendered and were the property of the Allies, although still in the custody and therefore under the guardianship of their original commanders. Destruction of the ships was therefore an act of war, robbery, and to complete the climax, treachery of the deepest dye. But no doubt that curiously working German mind sees in the event a vindication of imperial honor.

At least it is an exemplification of that honor. And it seems singularly appropriate that the German flag should wave over such perfidy.

Gov. Pleasant is being roundly abused because he will not call an extra session for the Pine Island people. Gov. Pleasant smiles and says nothing. When one reflects that the Governor is himself a Caddoan and naturally sympathetic with his parish and people, his stand is the more significant, and will not be laid at the door of venality either.

Elizabeth Frazer, says in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post that the benevolent organizations cease their activities in France by July, as the plain people will have been set upon their feet by that time. But lest these organizations sigh for more worlds to succor, she points to Rumania and Serbia, and she might have added, Poland.

Whether or no there is any connection between the matter and the early departure of John Barleycorn, it is true that a larger number of drunken men are seen than formerly. But oh, the eye of suspicion which such cases will meet with shortly.

Archbishop Shaw advises his clergy and people to pray for good weather, an example which might well be followed by all Christians for if there ever was an occasion for special prayer this is it.

Senator Williamson says that New Orleans has insufficient cotton warehouses, and some one else says that she has a gift for starting things but not finishing them. New Orleans should heed these well meant jibes.

That Germany will sign the peace treaty seems assured, but what of it? It is a mere scrap of paper unless the other nations of the world stand guard to see that it is kept inviolate.

No one's absent friend will be welcomed back more warmly than the little bright red messenger, the two cent stamp, July 1, as a carrier for first class mail.

As for ourselves, our mind is still open to argument on the Pine Island matter. We wish to be sure of all the facts first—the true facts as some people say.

An expert observer says Germany has no idea of paying the indemnity. It does take an expert to know that she will not if she can help it.

The liquor men depend upon Wilson to recall the war prohibition measure, and so give six months respite. Great is Wilson.

For our part we have never understood what Great Britain wants with Ireland any how.

It is announced that owing to the rains never has pasturage been so good as this year. This means another advance in the price of milk—New Orleans States.

TRUISMS.

If we were all as clever as some people think they are, how clever we would be!

But of all the tiresome creatures on earth, the worst is, the man who is afraid of expressing an honest opinion for fear of hurting business.

People, who always think what they have is better than any one else's, enjoy a satisfaction that no one on earth can take away.

A small estate recently divided at law brought \$18.00 to each heir. The legal proceedings could not have been avoided had the final division been 18 cents. As Puck puts it: "What fools we mortals be!"

Garage, when pronounced to rhyme with carriage, as is done in the West, loses all of its elegant flavor, but with a rich, mellow French accent the name glorifies the old horse barn.

Nothing vexes a housewife like a fly behind her screens. It is not simply because the fly is there, but its daring to pass beyond the boundaries she has set.

It is History, that when unadorned is adorned the most.

Cake is not sweet if you've been eating honey. Hence these truisms are not bright if you are naturally dull.

"Governor Pleasant is being earnestly besieged to call an extra session of the Legislature to relieve the independent oil men in Pine Island by declaring the pipe line of the Standard Oil Company a common carrier."—Exchange.

If this is the primary purpose of the proposed call of an extraordinary session of the Legislature, we are of the opinion that there will be no special session, as we can hardly imagine Governor Pleasant making himself responsible for the waste of public money in a cause that would not be sustained by any court of justice.

The pipe line is not a public carrier and cannot be classed as such, but is private property, pure and simple, built and laid for by the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana, a Louisiana corporation, as an adjunct of convenience to their business and to their business absolutely. Never a pint of oil other than owned by them has ever passed through the pipes.—Gulf States Farmer.

IF ANYONE HAS—

- Died
- Married
- Left town
- Embezzled
- Had a fire
- Been arrested
- Come to town
- Bought a home
- Had an accident
- Been seriously ill
- Committed murder

That's news. The chances are we know it already, but might not, and any how will appreciate your telling us.

LITTLE ADS.

NOTICE

We are now prepared to charge batteries. FELICIANA MOTOR CO.

WANTED TO PURCHASE—About three hundred acres grazing land on gravel road in the parishes of East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana or West Feliciana. Must be cheap. State location, formation and price, cash or terms. GEO. W. DELESDERNIER, Pilot Town, La.

FOR SALE—Sweet potatoe draws at Two dollars per thousand. J. M. BOOKTER, Box 222, St. Francisville, La.

FOR SALE—Profitable cotton ginning business with well-equipped gin, three 70-saw Gulleys, located on fine business corner in good town, East Baton Rouge Parish, La. Ginned 700 bales last year. Has done good business for past 20 years. Owner retiring. Price \$5000. Write or wire BACON & JOHNS, Baton Rouge, La.

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN—One Dark Brown Mare Mule, about 15 hands high. Good condition. Branded "B" on left jaw. Last heard from about June 1, 1919 near T. C. McKowen's Place. Reward for information leading to recovery. Notify LOUIS PERKINS #7-19-2t D. M. PIPES, Jackson, La.

FOR SALE—A Cable piano, out of tune but otherwise in fair order. Two small tables, one second hand armoire in good condition. MRS. M. E. ROBINSON.

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DALLAS, TEXAS

State of Louisiana, Parish of West Feliciana, Twenty-fourth Judicial District Court.

M. & E. Wolf vs. Adine Carey Smith, et als.

No. 1168

By virtue of a Writ of Seizure and Sale, directed to the Sheriff of the Parish of West Feliciana, in the above entitled and numbered cause, by the Hon. 24th Judicial District Court, I have seized and will offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder at the front door of the Court House in the town of St. Francisville, La. at the hour of eleven o'clock A. M. on

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1919.

The following immovable property of defendants, A certain piece or parcel of land with all the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in the Tenth Ward of the Parish of West Feliciana, Louisiana, containing sixty-five (65) acres, more or less, bounded on the North and East by Tunica Road; South by Maxwell and West by A. F. Barrow.

Terms of sale cash with benefit of appraisement. J. H. CLACK, Sheriff.

Succession of Frank P. Row, Deceased

State of Louisiana, Parish of West Feliciana, Twenty-fourth Judicial District Court.

Notice of Application for Letters of Administration

Notice is hereby given to all whom it doth or may concern, to show cause within ten days from the present notification, if any they have or can, why the application of Thomas H. Row, praying for Letters of Administration on the Succession of Frank P. Row, deceased should not be granted.

Witness the Honorable Charles Kilbourne, Judge of the 24th Judicial District of Louisiana, this 19th day of June 1919.

E. S. MUSE,
Clerk of said Court.

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