

# The Rice Belt Journal.

VOLUME V.

WELSH, CALCASIEU PARISH, LOUISIANA, MARCH 3, 1905.

NUMBER 40.

## A NOBBY LINE OF Gents' Shirts and Rubber Boots

Slickers and Umbrellas  
Dry Goods and Notions

— AT —

**PAUL W. DANIELS**  
Staple and Fancy Groceries

Phone - - - - - 28

## Dress GOODS Skirts

I have just received a nice line of Ladies Dress Goods and a fine line of Ready Made Walking Skirts. Also a fine line of Embroideries and Laces.

**J. S. GERSON,** WELSH, LOUISIANA.

### Diversification Means Success.

Some people will persist in plowing while the ground is in an unfit condition, and thus will shorten the crop by shortening the yield. It is too bad that people will ruin an industry by such thoughtless work. It increases the cost of irrigating, and the cost of harvesting and does no good to the man who plants. It seems as if some people court failure for themselves and ruin for those whose land they work.

There are those who say that it does not make any difference to the rice crop how the ground is plowed; but many years experience has taught the writer that ground plowed when it is wet ruins it for rice as well as for anything else. Suppose it is a little later than it was last season, that is no reason that you should prepare the ground in such a manner as to get only half a crop. It is better to have half as much in and have a full crop. A session of the Farmers' Institute was held here; the attendance was fair and much interest was manifested by those present in the discussion of the subject presented by Messrs Adger and Bonner, conductors.

The presentation of the subject of diversified farming especially was very instructive and interesting. Ideas new to most of the hearers were presented and facts showing what had been done in certain lines were presented in such a manner as to leave in the minds of the hearers strong conviction that rice is not the only thing to be produced with profit in this section.

However, these gentlemen gave their experience as it was in a latitude some degrees north of this, and in an alti-

tude very much above our lands.

This is a matter that should be taken into account in experimenting with new crops, or failure will follow and what might be a success turn to a failure.

For rice production we proceed in a manner the opposite to what we do the production of any other crop. We hold the water on, while for other crops the water must be run off quickly, even if artificially irrigated. It is safe to say that we have no drained land in this part of the country. I do not mean land that the water will not run off, but I mean land that is free from "dead" water. We have never put in the ditches that the people of older parts of the country put in, hence our lands cannot be expected to do what drained lands will do.

We shall probably soon begin to drain and put in condition for profitable diversification, and then success will be ours. The old maxim, "There is no excellence without much labor" well applies to our condition. The fellow that is too indolent to dig a ditch will probably go on raising rice, and the other fellow will do something else. "As it was in the beginning is now."—Jas Ellis in Rice Journal.

### Estray Notice.

Taken up on my place at P. W. Daniels first lift about Oct. 1st 1904, a red and white spotted cow about 2 years old, both ears cropped. Owner can have same by proving property, paying cost of keeping and advertising.  
JAMES BORLAND,  
Daniels' Plant.

Fresh groceries, pure groceries at the Welsh Meat Market.

### CALCASIEU GRAND JURY'S REPORT

Examined 102 Cases and Returned 61 True Bills.

The Calcasieu grand jury completed its labor Friday afternoon and made the following report:  
To the Honorable E. D. Miller, Judge of the 15th Judicial District court, in and for the parish of Calcasieu, State of Louisiana:

We, the Grand Jury, empanelled for a period of six months, beginning on the 13th day of February, A. D. 1905, beg leave to submit, nod, our final report for our present session as follows:

We have examined 102 cases for which we have returned 61 true bills and 41 not true bills. No complaints made to us have been ignored. One case where we were unable to secure the presence of a witness, and a few complaints on account of insufficient evidence have been referred to the district attorney for future investigation.

We have examined the poor farm and find same in good condition the inmates therein well provided for and the present system of management satisfactory.

We have examined the jail and find the building in a clean and sanitary condition and the prisoners properly cared for.

As regards the public roads we have a few complaints before us, where canal companies are holding water on same, and obstructing the natural drainage, and we recommend that all road superintendents and overseers be instructed to see that all companies comply with the law by making the necessary provisions for drainage.

We have visited the assessor's office, and we have had access to the roll and find that all erroneous and double assessments are being remedied as soon as called to the attention of the office, and believe that the system adopted by the present assessor will relieve any further inconvenience to the public in this respect.

We have also visited the office of clerk of court, sheriff, treasurer and school superintendent and have found same in good condition.

We have examined the financial condition of the parish, and find that a portion of the public debt has been taken up. We still find a floating indebtedness aggregating some \$40,000 in addition to the deferred payments on the court house building.

We find that the parish is paying 3 per cent. on about \$30,000 of the \$40,000 above referred to, and which is carried by the bank of Lake Charles, while special funds deposited by the treasurer which can not be used in liquidation of this indebtedness, which at times more than aggregate the indebtedness upon which interest is paid, do not receive a corresponding return. Therefore, we recommend that the police jury make arrangements with the banks whereby a reasonable rate of interest be allowed on daily balances to off set this interest account.

We further find that there is no record kept in the treasurer's office of the indebtedness incurred on account of English bayou bridge, and recommend that the police jury furnish the parish treasurer with full data of all outstanding obligations of which he is not in possession in order that a correct record can be kept of same.

We find that the court house building is kept in repair, but would recommend that a suitable lavatory be set aside for the convenience of ladies in attendance.

We find in some instances that officers of the lower courts have accepted cash bonds, insufficient for payment of expenses incurred in securing the attendance of the accused, and we would recommend that their attention be called to this error.

In view of the current criticism in regard to expenditures of school funds, we would recommend that the parish school board be required to publish their report in detail.

In conclusion we wish to express our appreciation to all the officers for courtesies and favors extended us during our session.

Respectfully submitted,  
RUDOLPH KRAUSE, Foreman,  
Attest: PHILIP COVERDALE, Clerk.

### Estray Notice.

There estrayed to my farm 3 1/2 miles southwest of Roanoke, about two weeks ago a red creole cow. The animal became fresh shortly after arriving on my place. Owner may have same by calling, properly proving ownership, paying cost of keeping and advertising.  
M. L. BOWERS,  
Roanoke, La.

### PLACES OF CONFIDENCE IN RICE BELT

Mortgage Company Considers Risks on Rice Land Exceptionally Good.

Evan J. Rees, representative of a large Mortgage Company in Memphis, and who has been doing business in this section for some time past, says that notwithstanding the present depression the rice belt is considered by his company one of the best risks in the country. While in Crowley he said to the Signal: "It would take me a long time to tell you in detail, but I can sum it up in a few words: We are increasing our business here.

"You can best appreciate what I mean by this when I tell you that we aim to do business only in sections where we think future prosperity is assured. We are satisfied about the rice belt. We can't figure out how you can lose, and consequently we don't see how we can lose. Rice is low in price, but we were doing business in Illinois when corn was at fifteen and corn lands were as low as forty dollars an acre. Now corn is around forty and can't look at corn land for less than a hundred dollars an acre, and it sells for as high as a hundred and fifty. We confidently expect history to repeat itself in the rice belt.

"Why shouldn't it? In the rice belt a farmer can set aside an acre of ground for vegetables and keep his family off the proceeds. He can support his family with smaller effort here than in any country with which I am acquainted. In the neighborhood of Kaplan, in Vermilion parish, I have seen 300 acres of good cotton in one patch, and right here at Crowley I have seen nearly as large a patch that looked good for a bale to the acre. I know a farmer near Welsh who recently marketed a number of hogs that dressed over 500 pounds each. At Jennings Father Cary is going into livestock, and many of his neighbors are raising cattle and poultry. In Acadia you are diversifying. You are learning to live at home. It is this kind of a country that cannot fail to be prosperous.

"One thing you need to learn. You want to quit howling about hard times. The rice belt knows nothing about hard times. The outside world knows nothing about hard times here except as you tell them. Keep your nerve up and don't forsake rice. Plant enough other stuff to live on and raise stock and poultry, but stick to your rice, and you can't lose."

### Oil Field News Notes.

Welsh oil field never appeared more gloomy than at present. Only two companies are pumping, the Hill Top Company of New Orleans, and the local Welsh Oil Company. Both these companies are, however, steady producers, the Welsh company having pumped right along day and night for the past three years, and the Hill Top Company has an equally fine record though not as old a concern.

The trouble here is a lack of shipping facilities owing to poor pipe line service, hence there has been quite an accumulation of oil on the field. The low price of all crude oils retards more active development here, and the only well drilling now is for the Higgins Oil and Fuel Company of Texas. Their well is down something over one thousand feet, and is southwest of the Welsh proven oil field about a half a mile. This location is considered reasonably sure for oil, being on the Wood farm. The other wildcat well on the Romero farm, some three and a half miles northwest of this oil field, is down about two thousand feet and it is reported to be so far a salt water proposition, though the syndicate drilling the well have ordered a screen and appear to have confidence that the hole will yet be an oil well.

C. R. Switzer and his crew on this well are local men of experience on the Welsh field, while the Higgins Oil and Fuel Company have a crew from their Texas oil fields under Jesse Lincoln, an old oil well driller, also from Texas.

The Hill Top Oil Company yesterday shipped a car of oil to New Orleans to be used for lubricating purposes. An order for another car load has been received, but it is not known when a car can be furnished with which to ship the order.

S. A. Knapp, president of the Rice Association of America, has announced that he will hold a series of meetings in the rice belt for the purpose of instructing farmers in truck growing and in poultry raising by the Knapp cultured system. He will hold his first meeting in Crowley on Wednesday, March 8, and subsequent meetings will be held at various points from New Orleans to Brownsville.

## Dry Goods, Clothing

And

## Staple and Fancy Groceries.

## MARTIN BROS.

WELSH, LA.

### PEACE DISTURBED AT BELL CITY.

Boy's Whipping Causes Threats of Arrests and Vacant Professorship.

Saturday's L. C. American: The Bell City college is just now undergoing a period of interneine disturbance, and quite a number of those interested are in Lake Charles today. Prof. H. A. Wood, an instructor in the college, and a small boy named Adam Minard, whose parents live somewhere up on the Mermentau, are the pivots around which public interest in Bell City is circling, and it is stated that the board of directors of Bell City college has taken Prof. Wood's official scalp as a teacher in the college.

Prof. Dan Hayes is president of the board, and is in Lake Charles today with quite a number of others, all of whom are interested in the case. According to the story an 11-year-old boy, Adam Minard, has been living with his grandmother, who was keeping house for Professor Wood. The lad was attending school.

On several different occasions Mr. Wood missed some money and blamed the boy for the loss. A few days ago, it is alleged, he took the lad out onto the college grounds after night and gave him a most severe whipping.

Some of the Bell City people were under the impression that Prof. Wood used undue force and industry in the performance of this operation, and wanted the professor arrested. So the whole party came up on the Lacasine branch this morning. In response to a telegram Sheriff Reid and Deputy Huskey met the train with the intention of arresting Prof. Wood, but when the party arrived no one seemed to care to swear out a warrant, and the matter flashed in the pan, and warrant remains unsworn out.

### Lost.

A note in my favor due December 1st, 1904, made by J. N. C. Hatfield, payable at Welsh National Bank. All parties are warned from negotiating for same as payment has been stopped.  
T. H. WALTON.

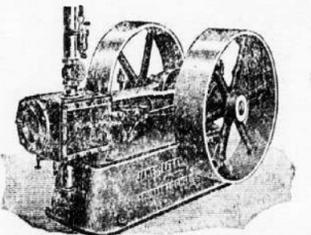
### Annual Rice Association Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Rice Association of America was held in Crowley Thursday of last week, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and for the transaction of other business of the association. The directors of the association, most of whom were present, are as follows: S. A. Knapp, president, Lake Charles; S. Lock Breaux, first vice president, New Orleans; M. Abbott, second vice president, Crowley; J. R. Westmoreland, third vice president, Eagle Lake, Tex.; J. E. Broussard, fourth vice president, Beaumont; A. B. Allison, secretary, Crowley; Hon. H. C. Drew, treasurer, Lake Charles; H. L. Gueydan, Gueydan; J. W. Leach, El Campo; John Green, Crowley; Edward Marchesseau, Abbeville; C. J. Bier, Crowley; A. P. Borden, Pierce; J. B. Foley, Crowley; H. E. Heald, Welsh; E. C. McMurty, Jennings; B. L. Vinyard, Houston; George Sears, Rayne; R. N. Sims, Donaldsonville; C. E. Lackland, Houston; Henry Kahn, New Orleans; W. E. Bradley, Port Arthur; W. P. H. McFaddin, Beaumont; W. K. Morrow, Houston; Bernard Brown, El Campo; W. B. Dunlan, Beaumont; Paul F. Pritchard, El Campo; Col. T. J. Anderson, Houston; Henry Rugeley, Bay City; Phil. Hoelzel, Port Arthur.

Mayor Chappius delivered an address of welcome which was responded to by S. Lock Breaux. routine business was disposed of and several addresses delivered on topics relating to the rice industry. Mrs. Knapp made a talk on the value of rice flour and Mr. Breaux insisted that present freight rates on rice were too high and appealed to the association to make an effort to reduce same.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Dr. S. A. Knapp, Lake Charles, La.; vice president, S. Locke Breaux, New Orleans; second vice president, W. P. H. McFaddin, Beaumont, Tex.; secretary, Frank Randolph, Crowley; treasurer, H. C. Drew, Lake Charles. Executive committee—J. E. Broussard, Beaumont; H. C. Drew, Lake Charles; John Green, C. T. Bier, M. Abbot, Crowley.

## RICE PLANTERS



AS IT IS NOW THE TIME OF YEAR that you will have to commence to get your pumping plant in readiness for operation by having your engine, boiler and pumps repaired or rebuilt, so we ask you to bring them in to us, as we have a complete machine shop at your disposal, equipped with all modern tools which are operated by finished mechanics. We also have in connection with our shop a MILL SUPPLY department, where we carry a complete line of all kinds and sizes of brass and I. B. valves, cast and malleable iron fittings, lubricators, injectors, steam gauges, syphons, lace leather, black and galvanized pipe, lubricating oils, in fact we can cater to all your needs in this line.

Some of our specialties are manufacturing SMOKE STACKS and breechings, water and oil well supplies, pipe cutting and threading to sketch, repairing and rebuilding engines, boilers, pumps, and in fact any and everything that pertains to an up-to-date machine and well works business.

**Armstrong Machine & Well Works Co**  
LIMITED

.... It will soon be time to ....

## PLANT THAT GARDEN

Remember that we can furnish you with

Garden Rakes, Hoes, Spades, Hand Cultivators, Etc.

**The Morse Hardware Co., Limited.**

Dealers in Shelf and Heavy Hardware, Queensware, Panis and Oils.