

Lake Charles, The City Beautiful and Prosperous

The Official Seat of the Imperial Parish of Calcasieu from which was Carved the Greatest Triumvirate of Producing Parishes in the Peerless Pelican State—A Brief Appreciation of the Most Alluring Attractive City of the Creole Commonwealth.

Calcasieu, of which Lake Charles is the parish seat, has ever been properly known as the Imperial parish of rich and affluent Louisiana. But a short while back it was the mightiest in area, the most mammoth producer, the recognized monarch in resource of all the fair and fertile parishes of the peerless Pelican state. And although within a twelve month she has given from her broad and majestic domain of over two million acres, and given amply and generously, to form the great producing parishes of Jefferson Davis, Beauregard and Allen, she still retains and is freely accorded her proud pseudonym of "Imperial."

Of this princely parish Lake Charles the cultured and beautiful, is the premier city and fitting official seat.

Lake Charles is built on the banks of the beautiful sheet of water of that name where the Calcasieu river widens and expands in its flight southward to the sea. It is the largest and most important city on the Southern Pacific system between New Orleans east and Houston westward. Its strategic commercial advantages being pre-eminently commanding. This fact has been readily recognized by those alert and astute observers of the trend of trade and travel, the railway magnates, and here is clustered a network of railroads, more lines and branches than can be found in any other city between New Orleans and Houston. The main transcontinental line of the Southern Pacific traverses the city and this company also operates the Lake Charles & Northern to DeRidder, and a branch to Lake Arthur; the Iron Mountain caps the city with the St. L. I. M. & S. north to Alexandria, and the Kansas City Southern goes from Lake Charles to the metropolis at the mouth of the Kaw direct as the crow flies, via Shreveport. Six separate lines enter the city, the steel rails of which extend in every cardinal compass, direction and the hoarse whistle of the iron horse is ever to be heard mingling with the hum of machinery wheels, the turmoil of traffic and the other noises of a busy city.

Aside from the shimmering sheen of its alluring lake, Lake Charles has landscape settings of eternal comeliness, in shade embowered sylvan beauty and it was but natural that here should cluster and foregather a population noted for its culture and refinement, as well as its progressiveness. A city's schools and churches are the best indexes of these possessions, and the plethora and quality of these that here abound, which lack of space does not permit of fully recounting, attest the broadness of purview and perspective of the builders of this beautiful city. Nor does the present plenitude retard advancement and farther growth in the regard indicated, as is well attested by the beautiful Baptist church built but a year ago, by the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception now under construction by the Catholic congregation and designed to be one of the most slightly and imposing church edifices of the state and by the stately and handsome first, second and fourth ward and Central school buildings, are erected within the past year.

Its banks best mirror and reflect a community's material prosperity and the unparalleled showing made by the financial institutions of Lake Charles at the close of business June 4th last we do not think can be equaled by any like number of banks in any city of like size in the United States. The resource showing of Calcasieu parish's greatest financial institution and its eight branches and that of its close rival, the oldest bank in Southwest Louisiana, and their respective subsidiary organizations, are alike peerless.

They are as follows:
Calcasieu National Bank \$2,446,398.30
Calcasieu Trust and Savings Bank 3,252,514.81
First National Bank 1,144,403.14
Lake Charles Trust and savings bank 905,524.60

Total \$7,768,840.85
The above record of the respective resources and liabilities of the city's financial institutions is one in which every citizen can take justifiable pride.

That a city the size of Lake

Charles should support two daily newspapers is another criterion attesting alike the intelligence and prosperity of its people. Of these papers the American-Press ranks as one of the great dailies of the state and its mechanical equipment is surpassed only at New Orleans and Shreveport. Its composing room has three Mergenthaler linotype machines and every modern perfected device of printing machinery and its news service and editorial columns are rarely equaled. The officers of the American-Press Co. are: Guy Beatty, Pres.; Wm. E. Krebs, Vice-Pres.; Frank A. Smith, Bus. Mgr.

Mr. Krebs, the editor, is one of the veteran newspaper men of the Southland and wields a powerful and trenchant pen, whilst as an enterprising, up-to-date business manager Mr. Smith sets the pace for all pencil pushers in this neck of the woods.

It should here be said also that the old established Lake Charles Times is a welcome visitor to nearly every Lake Charles household.

Lake Charlesites are essentially cleanly, both in person and in character, and this is well evidenced by the two modern laundry plants that here live and prosper.

The White City Laundry is a model institution of the kind recently installed in the handsome new building elsewhere pictured, is thoroughly equipped with every mechanical device known to the laundry trade and when its artesian well, now being sunk, is completed, will have few, if any peers in the state. Its proprietor is J. F. Hendrix, a thoroughly capable laundry man and a public spirited citizen.

One of the oldest industrial landmarks of Lake Charles is the Lakeside Laundry, which has been successfully operated for 17 years. It ever keeps apace with and abreast of all improvements and the past year has put in the Perfect Collar Moulding machine shown in the accompanying engraving, added \$1,000 worth of new machinery and is about installing a new 25-horse power turbine engine. The Lakeside's proprietor, J. H. Huston, is one of the veteran laundry men of the state and a wholly progressive citizen.

Lake Charles is honeycombed with industrial plants, too numerous to here enumerate, but one, respectively, of its oldest and its latest should receive a word of mention.

The first is the H. E. Buck Brick Mfg. Co., established 20 years ago by the present proprietor and his father, and since successfully conducted.

It is one of the best enterprises of its kind in the state, the contiguous clay being adaptable to the making of a first class, hard, durable building brick, and its product goes all over Southwest Louisiana and Eastern Texas. This company also makes a superior article of drain tile.

Close to the brick plant is the Beadle Broom Factory, established two years ago, of which G. M. Beadle is proprietor and which has been phenomenally successful. Its main business is the making of splendid brooms but it also manufactures corn meal, flour and chops, and machinery is now in transit to shell the corn of surrounding farmers and do various utilitarian things.

Last but not least Lake Charles has several excellent printing establishments, the premier par excellence in the Guttenburg art being the Jones Printing Co., as is abundantly shown by the peerless press and other work done by it on this Special Edition of the RICE BELT JOURNAL.

The following are wholly responsible corporations, firms and individuals of Lake Charles for Jefferson Davis parish citizens to transact business with:

- Calcasieu Savings Bank and Trust Company.
- First National Bank.
- Lake Charles Savings Bank and Trust Company.
- Lake Charles Carriage and Implement Company.
- H. E. Buck Brick Mfg. Co.
- Beadle Broom Factory.
- Smith Music Store.
- Mayo-Knapp Abstract Co.
- White City Laundry.
- Lake Charles Planing Mill Co.
- Lake Charles Business College.
- London Woolen Mills.
- Lakeside Laundry.
- Martin's Human Hair Emporium.
- Coca Cola Bottling Co.

E. E. Barnett, photographer.
E. W. Phillips, architect.
Lake Charles Hotel.

Reliable Business and Professional Men

A. N. PIERCE, M. D.

HOMEOPATH

Specialty:—Diseases of Women. Electricity Used in the Treating of Above Diseases.

Lake Charles, - - Louisiana

Dr. H. R. HITCHINS

DENTIST

Office hours 8 to 12 a.m., 1:30 to 5 p. m. Over Western Union Telegraph office, Ryan Street.

Phone 185

Lake Charles, - - Louisiana

Pujo, Moss & Williamson

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Lake Charles, - - Louisiana

Hollins Jewelry Store

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELERS



Watches, Clocks, Diamonds, Silverware, Cutlery, Spectacles

All Parcels Post, Express or Transit Charges Paid.

J. S. Thomson Coleman Greenwood L. E. Stanley
Secretary-Treasurer

Thomson, Stanley & Co., Ltd.
PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

Bath Tubs, Toilets, Sinks, Lavatories, Motors, Fans, Mazda and Gem Lamps, Plumbing and Wiring Contractors, General Repairing, Guns, Locks, Keys.

Phone 1019 Lake Charles, La. 617 Ryan St.

Coco Cola Bottling Company
T. L. Freeman, Manager

ONE of the most hopeful signs of these modern times which the pessimist delights to term degenerate but which to the optimist is opulent in improvement and opportunity is the increasing demand for improved sanitary measures in all material mundane matters. The purveyor of any product must well attest its purity or go without patrons. A splendid object of the very best obtainable in sanitary and purity processes is afforded in the modern bottling plant of the Coco Cola Bottling Co., of Lake Charles. Every one of the thousands of bottles that leaves it daily is priorly thoroughly sterilized in hot caustic soda, are then put through two separate cleansing washing process and finally, are subjected to a rigid examination under a strong electric light to see if any foreign substance or impurity has by any chance found its way under the glass covering. In inspection of its through system gives one greater confidence in and adds a keen relish to the Coco Cola, Celery Tonic, Ginger Ale, California Ciders and other soft drinks which the company bottles. The officers of the company are men of large experience in this line and are as follows: President, A. B. Freeman, New Orleans; Vice-President, Crawford Johnson, Birmingham; Sec-Treas., Mgr., T. L. Freeman, Lake Charles.

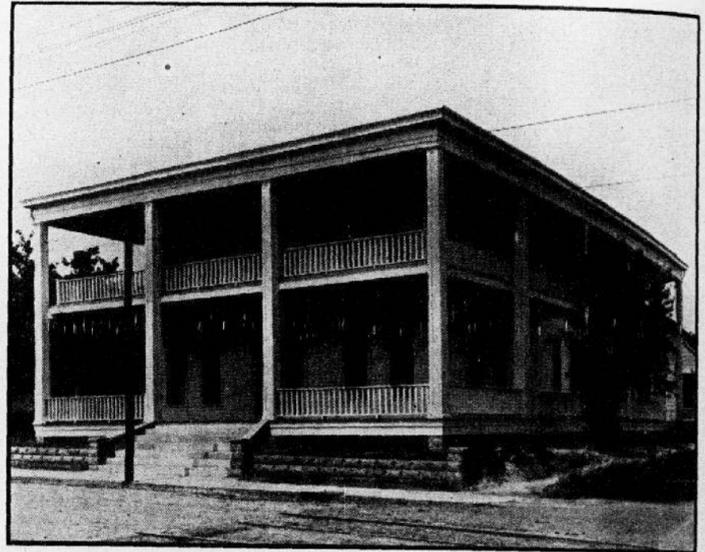
Lime, Cement, Sand, Plaster, Fire Brick, Clay, Rough, Dressed Lumber, Shingle, R...

H. E. Buck Brick Manufacturing Co.

Manufacturers of

Brick and Tile--Dealers in Building Material

Long Distance Phone 149. Office and Plant, Hodges and 12th St. Lake Charles.



The New and Beautiful Lake Charles Hotel, Property of Mrs. Ida Dartez

PIANOS AND PLAY PIANOS



Talking Machines on Easy Payments

Write for Catalog and Prices

628 Ryan Street SMITH'S MUSIC STORE Lake Charles, La.

Shoes and Trunks

of the

BETTER KIND

at

Ferren's
THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES

Lake Charles, - - - Louisiana



WIDTHS AA to EE

BEADLE BROOM FACTORY

Manufacturers and Wholesalers of
HIGH GRADE BROOMS

G. M. Beadle, Prop., Lake Charles.