

ALL OVER LOUISIANA

MONROE MAY GET COMMISSION FORM

PETITION FOR ELECTION WITH REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES FILED.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Monroe.—The advocates of a commission form of government presented a petition to the city council asking for an election to decide whether Monroe will adopt the plan or not.

The petition contained 357 names. The law governing the calling of an election to decide whether or not the plan will be adopted requires the signatures of at least 25 per cent of the qualified voters. The petition contains more than the required number. The petition was referred to Mayor Forayth, with full power to act.

FORM STEAMSHIP COMPANY

New Orleans Men Organize Corporation With \$3,000,000 Capital.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

New Orleans.—With an authorized capital of \$3,000,000 and the election of experienced business men as officers the Central American and Mexican Steamship Company has been launched. The new company will begin operations with New Orleans as its home port, some time in February, when no less than four first-class steamships will be pressed into service. The company will reach for the fruit trade of a half-dozen or more ports of the Central American countries and will extend its business into Mexico, where the officers of the new concern have already secured a number of valuable business connections.

John B. Cefalu, president of the company and one of the most prominent fruit importers of the city, was enthusiastic over the prospects of the new enterprise. He believes that the company will be a winner from the start, and in the course of a few months will be able to hold its own against all rival companies.

The company was chartered with the following officers: John B. Cefalu, president; Ed J. Reiss, vice president; I. Z. Mason, treasurer; A. J. DeWolf, secretary.

The officers are now busily engaged in the selection of an office corps composed of men well versed in the fruit importing business, and steps will be taken at once to secure first-class ships.

John B. Cefalu, president and general manager of the company, is one of the best-posted men in the city concerning conditions in Central America and Mexico.

DAIRYMEN OF STATE MEET

Members of Dixie Association Hear Addresses by Experts.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Baton Rouge.—More than seventy-five of Louisiana's leading dairymen were in the city in attendance at the annual meeting of the Dixie Dairymen's Association at the State University. The dairymen were in session only one day. Talks were made by W. M. Bleeker, of Starkville, Miss., field agent for the Dairy Division, of Washington, D. C., C. L. Dewey, on the benefit of the silo to the dairymen; Prof. Jordan, of the Louisiana State University, on the feeding of dairy cattle; I. S. West, of Hammond, on tick eradication, and C. H. Staples, secretary of the association, on the construction of silos.

Liquor Election Denied.

Lake Charles.—The Calcasieu parish police jury refused to grant an election on the liquor problem, as asked for in a petition by over 1,500 voters. A counter petition had been presented by the prohibitionists. The election will not be called now until some time in January, if at all.

Socialists to Get Money.

Shreveport.—Attorneys for the family of the deceased announce that a compromise has been reached with National Secretary Walter Lanferseik, of the Socialist party, in the controversy over the will of the late Leon F. Chanute, an itinerant Socialist solicitor, who left papers in which he manifested a desire for all his property, worth probably \$8,000, to go to the Socialists. Through the compromise the Socialists will receive about \$1,000.

Homer Wants Agricultural School.

Homer.—The people of this community are making an effort to get the state authorities to locate the agricultural school in Homer. It has been at Arizona, but on account of lack of interest there it has been announced that it will be removed to some other place. A mass meeting has been held here, and the citizens are enthusiastic over the prospect of getting the school here to be maintained in connection with the agricultural and stock fair.

BATON ROUGE TO HAVE FAIR

Plans Made for Mid-Winter Exhibition in January.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Baton Rouge.—Baton Rouge will have a mid-winter fair January 15, 16 and 17, 1914. This was definitely decided upon at a mass meeting in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce after the report of the executive committee was heard.

The executive committee reported that it was necessary that about \$1,650 be guaranteed before further preparation should be made. About one-fifth of this amount was guaranteed at the meeting in \$50 and \$25 subscriptions, and a motion was passed requesting the Chamber of Commerce to head the list with a subscription of \$250. Assurances were given by members of the Chamber of Commerce that this request would be complied with.

WINNERS GO TO WASHINGTON

Representatives of Boys' and Girls' Clubs Visit Capital.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Baton Rouge.—The winners of first prizes in the boys' and girls' clubs of Louisiana left for Washington, where they will be entertained for a week, with the prize winners from the clubs of other states. The Louisiana delegation was in charge of Miss Elizabeth Kelly of the agricultural extension department of the State University.

The boys and girls who won the trips to Washington were the following:

Miss Hazel McDavitt, of Welsh, who won first place in the girls' canning clubs by making more than \$100 net profit from her tomato work last season; L. Z. Wardlow, of Red Oak, Red River parish, La., awarded first place in the corn clubs for growing 148 bushels of corn to the acre, and Obbie Boswick, of Blanchard, La., charter member of the first boys' hog club organized three years ago, who won first prize at the State Fair with his hog exhibits this year.

An elaborate program has been arranged for the club members in Washington, including a visit to the White House and a reception by the secretary of agriculture.

WOMAN TAKES HER OWN LIFE

Mrs. Paul Boagni of Opelousas Kills Self in Home.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Opelousas.—Mrs. Paul Boagni, who was Miss Bessie Clements before her marriage about three years ago, committed suicide by shooting herself with a revolver just above the heart. Death resulted within a few minutes after the shot was fired and before medical assistance could be secured.

Mrs. Boagni had been residing at the home of her grandfather, Thomas H. Lewis, for some time, and it was there that the tragedy occurred. No one but the aged grandmother was in the house at the time.

Mrs. Boagni is survived by her husband and a 2-year-old girl.

FIRE PREVENTION MEETING

State Society Holds Session at Winnfield—Local Department Tested.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Winnfield.—The Louisiana State Society for the Prevention of Fire Waste met here and the meeting was attended by the following inspectors: W. Y. Harper, W. E. Horton, T. A. Addington, T. O. Chauvome and E. W. Carlton. Alonzo Church, vice president of the society; State Fire Marshal C. H. Trousdale and Fire Chief Gibbs inspected the high school building, which, with few exceptions, was found to be in first-class condition.

The fire department was inspected and tested by a false alarm. The firemen ran from the fire station for eight blocks in five minutes from the time the alarm was given. Considering it is a volunteer department, with the members working out in town, Mr. Trousdale said the run was a fast one.

To Protect River Banks.

Plaquemine.—The first of seven big mats to be put down by the United States government to prevent the erosion of the banks above the Plaquemine lock has been sunk. The mat extends 400 feet out into the water and is 150 feet wide. The depth of the water at the end of the mat is 150 feet. The work is in charge of United States Engineer Waddill, and 150 white men are employed.

T. & P. Officials Meet.

Alexandria.—More than a half hundred officials and representatives of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company came here to take part in the freight and passenger traffic conference in the Hotel Bentley. Two separate sessions were held in line with the plan of holding bi-monthly family these conferences have been held here. All parts of the Middle West, North and Southeast were represented at the meeting.

ROADS MUST PUT IN BLOCK SIGNALS

ORDER AFFECTING TWO LINES IS MADE BY RAILWAY COMMISSION.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Baton Rouge.—After a session of two days the Louisiana Commission handed down sixteen orders. The matter of investigating the advisability of a maximum 2 1-2-cent passenger rate was deferred and a circular was issued to the railroads that this case would be taken up December 12.

One of the most important orders issued requires the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad to install and operate block signals between New Orleans and Wilson, La., at the rate of twenty miles a year, and making the same requirement of the Texas and Pacific on their main line between New Orleans and the Louisiana-Texas state line.

RICE IS LOST IN STORM

Thirteen Hundred Sacks Swept From Barge in Vermillion Bay.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Abbeville.—News was received here of the loss of a barge load of 1,300 sacks of rice on Vermillion Bay between the mouth of Schooner Bayou and the Vermillion river. The rice was being towed to Abbeville through the Intercoastal Canal from the lower part of the parish by Captain John Anderson, a local dredge and towboat operator. Rough weather was encountered in the open bay.

This is the first disaster to shipping since the opening of the Intercoastal Canal, a section of which runs across Vermillion and Cote Blanche bays.

LUMBER SHIPPERS JUBILANT

Claim Big Victory in Ruling of Interstate Commerce Commission.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

New Orleans.—The recent ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission, in the matter of lumber rates from Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas to Oklahoma and Missouri is considered a most important one in the southern trade, as it denies the right of a railroad to retain to itself the lumber markets at points on its line for the benefit of producing points it serves on other lines.

The commission decided that the proposed increase in rates on lumber from points on connecting lines of the Santa Fe in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas to Santa Fe destinations in eastern Kansas, extreme western Missouri and northern Oklahoma was not justified.

The proposed cancellation of joint rates on lumber from points on the Cotton Belt to Santa Fe destinations in Missouri, and on cypress and yellow pine from points on the Missouri Pacific to Santa Fe destinations in Oklahoma, were also found not justified.

The victory for the shippers is being hailed with general jubilation in lumber circles in Louisiana.

School Head Resigns.

Edgard.—At a meeting of the school board of St. John the Baptist parish, Superintendent J. H. Dupuy presented his resignation, to take effect January 20. Mr. Dupuy has accepted a position in the Department of Public Education at Baton Rouge to do research work.

Hammond to Vote on Bond Issue.

Hammond.—At the monthly meeting of the Commission Council an election was called on the proposed bond issue of \$90,000 for public improvements, to be divided as follows: New high school buildings, \$50,000; water works extension, \$16,000; sewerage, \$16,000; new town hall and fire-fighting apparatus, \$8,000.

Plaquemine Plans Sewer System.

Plaquemine.—At a meeting of the mayor and city council the question of a new water works and sewer plant for the town was taken up. C. A. Rees, consulting engineer of Shreveport, discussed the matter. The question is being advocated, and if proper arrangements for floating the bond issue can be made these improvements will be put in.

Held for Slaying Father-in-Law.

Alexandria.—The grand jury found a true bill for murder against Leonidas Wemple, charged with killing J. H. Phillips, his father-in-law, at Cheneyville, on November 12. The grand jury was called in special session by Judge Blackman to investigate this case.

Plaquemine.—Andrew H. Gray, Jr.

fell out of bed and dislocated his hip. He was taken to New Orleans for treatment.

DEATH LIST AND PROPERTY LOSS GROWS IN FLOODED DISTRICTS

MORE THAN 150 PERSONS HAVE PERISHED IN BRAZOS-COLORADO RIVERS FLOOD.

PROPERTY LOSS NEAR \$10,000,000

Many Homes Being Devastated Daily, and Incidents Marked With Heroism Make Records as Texas' Worst Flood Grows.

From Hempstead, where a score of persons were drowned Monday, down through Bryan, where more than 1,500 suffering country folks are being succored, to Victoria, where 800 men are toiling to save the canal levee, the Brazos-Colorado floods are now exerting their final utmost to heighten the misery they have already inflicted upon thousands.

The property loss will be well over \$10,000,000.

Where a few days ago the only consideration was for live stock and feed stuff, now the clutching fear of hunger and freezing and the dread of disease occupy the frantic minds of people who are hemmed on knolls, lodged in trees and huddled in gin-houses.

Monday night brought the known death list up to 150 with rumors and reports of far greater numbers of fatalities. The 30-mile stretch of levee country in the neighborhood is the center of the greatest losses, both to life and property. There the greatest need for supplies, tents, blankets, shoes and clothing appears. And in view of this want the cities and towns of Texas are pouring, as from a horn of plenty, carloads of the things that are precious now.

Following is a list of the known dead brought down to the present:

Bryan—Eleven unidentified negroes and two Mexican children; R. H. Cavitt, A. J. Robbins, Clifton Ellsea, Albert Worley, Henry Berger and 20 negroes.

Bastrop—Tom Haden.

La Grange—Two unidentified Mexicans, three unidentified negroes.

Hearne—Thirteen dead, including four children of Enoch Alexanders.

Giles Junction—Six unidentified negroes, two Mexican children and one negro with wife and three children.

Hungerford—Jack Battle, Haywood Cooper, Ella Digs, Harrison Montgomery.

San Felipe—One unidentified negro.

Bloomington—Felice Salazar.

Hempstead—Fred Long and family, two men named Overcham and families, George Burton and family, George Glover and Emile Glover, Lee Bates and two daughters, Sam and Jim Williams, Archie Manning and family, baby of John McCordy, small son of John Toney and George Watkins.

Belton, Mrs. W. C. Polk and four children.

San Antonio, John Gohnso.

Valley Junction, H. Martin, general manager I. and G. N.

Brownwood, Hearne Layton.

Grand Prairie, one unidentified white man.

Highbank, Anderson Stewart, wife and four children.

Dallas, J. P. Manley, B. F. Lacey, Jake Wood, R. Burke.

Merkle, L. L. Burns, Western Union lineman.

Calvert, three unidentified negroes.

Caldwell, three unidentified negroes.

C. McDonald, J. W. Baker, Pedro Hernandez.

Marlin, Anderson Stewart, wife and four children; Joe Cooper, Fred Cooper.

Waco, A. N. Beirman, J. W. Ray, Columbus, one unidentified negro.

Lockhart, Mammy Bright, Haywood Cooper, Ella Biggs.

San Felipe, one unidentified negro and two white men.

The list of the reported dead follows:

Eloise—Unidentified negro, wife and four children.

Austin—Three unidentified men.

Highbank—Wilson Maxwell.

Waco—Unidentified Mexican woman and child; Elgio Comacho.

Caldwell—Seven negroes, three Mexicans reported drowned.

Millican—Five negroes, one Mexican.

Bryan—No estimate.

Wellborn—Unidentified white man, wife and two children.

Hearne—Two persons, Dr. Matier.

Temple—One unidentified man.

Richmond—Three unidentified persons.

La Grange—One unidentified person.

Victoria—Two unidentified persons.

Wharton—Six unidentified persons.

Brookshire—Twenty-five reported drowned, unconfirmed.

Hempstead—Twenty persons reported to have drowned.

Sunnyside—Ed Green, Dr. Marshall, Harris Bailey, Dr. Johnson, Belle Ward, three unidentified white men.

Estimate total dead, twenty-five.

To the reports from Bryan that 10,900 people were marooned within the territory of three counties must be added the news of dozens of drownings in the neighborhood of Sunnyside and Brookshire in Waller County before one can begin to appreciate the awful results of the Central Texas flood.

Bodies Found Lashed to Tree.

Bryan, Tex.—Having given up their lives in an effort to save others, the bodies of three men, frozen to death, were found lashed to a tree in the Brazos bottom near Bryan Monday, while a fourth hero was taken from the same tree with life almost extinct. The men had entered the swollen stream Saturday afternoon in an effort to rescue the flood victims and within an hour their skiff was overturned and they were forced to take refuge in the tree. Becoming numb with the cold, they lashed themselves to limbs, and in this position they were found Monday, having died at intervals of several hours, according to the survivor. Two were but little more than boys, both away from home and friends. The men are:

Howard A. Cavitt, aged 33, an automobile dealer.

A. J. Robbins, 22, a jewelry clerk.

Clifton Ellsey, 23, a merchant.

Red Cross Relief Accepted.

Austin, Tex.—As flood conditions continue to prove more serious, Governor Colquitt Monday accepted the offer of the American Red Cross Society to contribute \$1,000 to a fund for caring for the flood sufferers. The governor wired to that effect from Fort Worth to Private Secretary Bowman. The governor also telegraphed that he would leave for Austin as soon as railroad service had been restored.

Smallpox Appears.

Bryan, Tex.—With a cold wintry blast blowing down on thousands of half-starved flood victims the situation has assumed a dreadful aspect.

The cold weather which has followed the four days of hunger can not but result in the death of a large number of persons.

The report of three cases of smallpox in one of the rescue camps has added the fear of a general spread of the pestilence.

Humble Oil Wells Covered.

The water has not yet reached the Markham oil fields, although the wells near Humble are reported to be under water.

In this oil field two drillers were found sitting in the rigging of a derrick, where they had been since Friday noon.

The Santa Fe bridge at Thompson Switch, thought to be in danger several times, is reported to be safe.

The entire business section of Wharton is under water.

A Hard Blow to Railroads.

That some of the railroads of Texas will ask bonds at the hands of the railroad commission to cover flood repairs is expected. What the commission's policy will be is not known at this time, as the matter has not been formally discussed by the commissioners, though the subject has been given attention.

It is known that the railroads have suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars of loss in the washing away of bridges, miles of tracks and embankments. This is particularly true along the Brazos and its tributaries, but is a condition more or less in many parts of the state.

It is going to require well into the millions to replace the bridges, track and embankments, and the money must come from somewhere. The only recourse of the railroads is to ask the commission for bonds, and they probably expect liberal treatment and fair valuations for bonding purposes.

The commission well realizes that the railroads have lost and are losing in the current floods more than they have ever before lost in any calamitous condition in this state. Because of that realization they expect the railroads to ask for bonds.

The railroads will require some time to make repairs and rehabilitate their lines, hence the possible amount of bond applications can not be estimated at this time.

Vice President Martin Drowns.

Hearne, Tex.—Henry Martin, vice president and general manager of the International and Great Northern railway, was drowned Friday in the swollen waters of the Little Brazos river, when a rowboat in which he was riding capsized. The accident occurred in the middle of a channel in which there were no trees to which he could cling. For thirty minutes after the accident Mr. Martin and three young men whom he had engaged to row him across the Little Brazos clinging to the upturned boat with tenacity.

Mr. Martin began to tire and the men, William Russell, Tony Jorney and John G. Smythe, assisted him for several minutes. Then Mr. Martin was said to suddenly lose his grasp on the boat and to momentarily sink. When one of the young men again started to his assistance, Mr. Martin said: "Save yourselves, boys; don't bother with me," and sank again.

The young men state that apparently Mr. Martin's clothing caught on a wire fence when he sank a second time.

2,600 Convicts Moved.

Houston, Tex.—Twenty-six hundred state convicts, domiciled on seven state farms in the Brazos bottoms, have been moved to prairie camps and all are reported safe. Everything movable on the plantations, too, has been taken along, and from reports received in Houston there is no loss of life among the convicts and the loss of stock will be small it is believed. At Imperial camp the only persons remaining were the camp physician and his wife.

MILLIONS FOR RIVERS

CHIEF ENGINEER OF ARMY RECOMMENDATIONS

Texas Fares Well, as More Than \$10,000,000 Is Recommended for Texas Projects, Etc.

Washington.—More than \$10,000,000 for the Mississippi river, \$3,000,000 for the Ohio river, \$3,000,000 for Texas projects, \$2,000,000 for the Missouri river, \$2,000,000 for the Colorado river and \$1,000,000 for the Delaware river are the amounts considered necessary by the chief of engineers of the army for the improvement and maintenance of those great waterways during the fiscal year of 1914.

In submitting to the secretary of war his report, made public by the chief of engineers, makes estimates aggregating \$41,481,966, applied to 261 river and harbor projects during the year ending June 30, 1915. This is \$9,534,964 less than amount appropriated by Congress for river and harbor works for the year of 1914.

Estimates of amounts needed for fortifications in the United States aggregate \$1,035,000 and in the possessions \$922,500.

The estimates in detail are: Mississippi River—Southwest \$400,000; head of passes, to Ohio including expenses of Mississippi river commission, \$6,000,000; Ohio and Missouri rivers, \$1,000,000; between Missouri river and St. Paul, \$170,000; between Mississippi and Leech rivers, \$1,500,000; between Brainerd and Rapids, Minn., \$8,000.

Ohio River—For continuing construction of locks and dams at Pittsburg, \$3,887,000; for new construction of locks and dams at low Pittsburg, \$5,000,000; open channel work, \$350,900.

Missouri River—Kansas City, \$2,000,000; Kansas City, \$150,000; Sioux City, \$150,000; Sioux Falls, \$150,000; Omaha, \$150,000; Gasconade river, \$150,000.

Columbia River—Improvements between \$1,000,000; improvements between land, \$300,000; at Cascade, \$1,000,000; at Three-Mile Rapids, \$425,000; Columbia and Snake rivers, \$1,000,000; Willamette river above Portland, \$1,000,000; Clatskanie river, \$1,000,000.

Texas—Galveston channel, \$1,000,000; channel from Galveston harbor to city, \$900,000; channel to Bolivar, \$25,000; Houston ship canal, \$400,000; West Galveston channel, etc., \$25,000; Galveston Brazos river canal, \$15,000; Brazos river to Matagorda bay, \$1,000,000; channel, Aransas Pass to Cavallo, \$30,000; river section to toria, \$15,000; Turtle Cove channel between Aransas Pass and Christy, \$85,000; Brazos river to \$25,000; Velasco to Old Washington, \$25,000; Old Washington to Washington locks and dams No. 1 and 2, \$200,000; channel, Pass Cavallo, \$5,000; Port Lavaca, \$5,000; Port Aransas, \$800,000; channel, Port Aransas, \$800,000; channel, Port Aransas, \$800,000; sections A and C, \$300,000; section B, \$43,500; Sabine Pass to Port Arthur canal, \$500,000; Ity river, open channel work, \$1,000,000; lock and dam No. 7, \$15,000; cane shoals lock and dam, \$1,000; White Rock shoals lock and dam, \$1,000; Cypress bayou, \$5,000; Bayou from Fulton, Ark., to Denton, \$1,000.

Arkansas—Red river, below \$100,000; Ouachita and Black rivers, \$100,000; Arkansas and Louisiana, \$100,000; Ouachita river above Camden to Delphia, \$2,500; Saline river, \$1,000; Bayou Bartholomew, etc., \$1,000; Yazoo river, etc., \$100,000; White river, \$164,700; White river, \$164,700; Cache river, \$3,000; Black and Cache rivers, \$3,150; St. Francis, \$1,000; L'Anguille rivers, \$6,000.

Louisiana—Bayou Teche, \$1,000,000; Bayou Vermillion and Mermentau, \$12,000; water bypass, \$12,000; Bayou Teche, \$25,000; Johnsons bayou, \$5,000.