

The Lower Coast Gazette.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE LOWER COAST: AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, FISHERIES AND COMMERCE.

VOLUME I.

POINTE-A-LA-HACHE, I.A., SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1909.

NUMBER 20.

DRAINAGE SCHEME ENDORSED

ELECTION AT HOUMA SHOWS PEOPLE APPROVE PLAN TO RECLAIM 20,000 ACRES OF LAND

FOR HANDSOME CITY HALL

Monroe to Erect a Building to Cost \$100,000—Will Enlarge Agricultural Station.

Drainage Plan Carried at Election. Houma.—An election was held in the Prairie Drainage District of the parish of Terrebonne last week for the purpose of voting a drainage tax of 25 cents per acre on all of the land comprised in the district. The board of commissioners of the drainage district met and canvassed the returns, showing that all three propositions submitted to the voters were carried, to-wit: First, to cut and maintain a level drainage canal within the district, to be located between Bayous Terrebonne and Blue, to empty into the Barataria canal at Canal Belanger; second, to impose a special acreage tax of 25 cents per acre for ten years on every acre of land in the district; third, to issue bonds therefor to the amount of \$15,000, bearing 5 per cent interest per annum. An effort will be made to start the dredge at once on the canal. The undertaking will reclaim some 20,000 acres of valuable land, some of which lies immediately north of the town of Houma. Besides putting this land into use at once, the reclaiming of this land will increase the assessment of the parish considerably.

Will Build Handsome City Hall. Monroe.—The city council has decided to begin the construction of the new \$100,000 city hall at once. It is stated that there is money in the treasury to the credit of the improvement fund and with the tax due in the fall work could be begun and continued without the sale of the securities until later if it would be necessary at all. The council authorized the mayor to make the exchange of property agreed on with the parish to secure new quarters for the city court and different city departments, and to advertise for sealed proposals for the construction of the new city hall. Seven brick buildings will have to be torn down, besides several old frame houses. New quarters will have to be secured for the city court, city council and clerical force of the water, light and traction department. Both the parish and city jails will have to be torn down and provision made for the care of the parish and city prisoners. The fire department will also have to be cared for. The council appropriated \$2,500 to aid in the construction of a model road from Monroe to Calhoun.

To Enlarge Agricultural Station. Baton Rouge.—According to a report which the commissioner of agriculture and immigration has made to Governor Sanders on the selection of Crowley as the site for the experiment station, the United States Department of Agriculture, through its bureau of plant industry, is not only going to cooperate with the station in the rice experiment work, but will conduct practically all of its scientific rice investigation for the Southwest at the Crowley station. This work will increase the importance of the station, and give more authority to its experiments.

Desire Change in Freight Rates. New Orleans.—The entire yellow pine lumber schedule of rates in the country west of the Mississippi river is involved in a complaint of excessive rates filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington. The complaint was instituted by the Louisiana Central Lumber Company and 13 other lumber manufacturing concerns in the Southern yellow pine territory, against the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company and 31 other interstate carriers. Reduction of rates on yellow pine from Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and Texas to Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming is demanded on the ground that they are excessive, unreasonable and unjust.

To Belt State With Model Road. Baton Rouge.—It is said to be the aim of Governor Sanders to belt Louisiana with a system of model roads, building a highway on each side of the Mississippi river from New Orleans to Baton Rouge, and at the latter point diverging to Simpsport, Bunkle, Alexandria, Monroe, Ruston, Minden, Shreveport, Mansfield, Many, Leesville to Lake Charles, and thence along the Southern Pacific back to New Orleans.

Fifty-four Members Initiated. Napoleonville.—Hundreds of members from adjoining camps were here several days ago to attend the initiation of 54 candidates by the Woodmen of the World.

To Probe Prohibition Violations. Crowley.—The May term of district court has opened with Judge William Campbell presiding. In his charge Judge Campbell urged an investigation of alleged prohibition violations.

To Relieve Hog Cholera Epidemic.

New Orleans.—Col. Charles Schuler, commissioner of agriculture and immigration, and Dr. W. R. Dodson, director of the state experiment station, recently held a conference and decided that it would be impossible to establish a sanitary live stock experiment station near Shreveport as was requested by J. H. Fallove and Dr. White, but they have decided to give what immediate relief is possible to the live stock raisers of north Louisiana, especially around Shreveport. It is estimated that \$4,000 worth of hogs have been lost during the past several months from hog cholera. Dr. Dodson will write Dr. Conway, director of the Missouri Experiment Station, and secure vaccine points for the vaccination of hogs in their immediate neighborhood, and will secure estimates of the cost of immunization of the hogs in that section of the state that have been exposed. This work, both Colonel Schuler and Dr. Dodson agree, belongs to the State Live Stock Sanitary Board, but that board has no funds with which to work.

Fast Truck Service Arranged. Denham Springs.—The first large shipment of truck was made from this point last week by the local truck growers. Arrangements have been made with the Illinois Central railroad for the Baton Rouge and Hammond train to take the truck to Hammond, where the fast through vegetable train will be held long enough to get the shipments from this section. This will give the Livingston truck growers the same direct service to Northern markets that is enjoyed by the truckers on the main line, and will be the means of making the truck industry all along the line a paying business.

New Fighting Equipment. Ruston.—Superintendent E. S. Gray is installing \$2,850 worth of new electric appliances in the city power house. These include a 100-kilowatt two-phase Westinghouse alternator and an automatic transformer for a 25-light arc lamp circuit. The new alternator replaces a direct current dynamo, and will be used in connection with a single-phase alternator, which has heretofore been used for the incandescent lights. The additional equipment will provide for the town's needs for the next 15 years.

For Louisiana History Day. New Orleans.—Miss Verona Keener of Lake Charles is interesting the Daughters of the Confederacy and the state officials in a proposition to have a day set aside for the teaching of Louisiana history. It is the plan to have one day devoted by the school children to the history of their town, community, parish and state, just as a day now is devoted to the study of birds and the planting of trees. The proposition has the approval of Governor Sanders and State Superintendent Harlan.

Check Holder Gets Verdict. Mansfield.—The district court has rendered judgment for \$535 in favor of Ella Schwartz of New Orleans against a prominent planter of this parish, based upon checks alleged to have been given by defendant while in such an intoxicated condition that he did not know that he signed them. The case was appealed.

Spend \$500,000 For Improvement. Rochelle.—The saw mill of the Tremont Lumber Company at this place was started recently, and is now in operation on full time in all departments. Over \$500,000 has been spent on this plant since its purchase by the above-named company in 1907.

Will Contest Appraiser's Figures. Baton Rouge.—It is reported that the Pullman Palace Car Company will file a suit against the Louisiana State Board of Appraisers contesting the assessment of the Pullman cars in Louisiana for 1909, which were assessed by the board at \$12,000 a car, an increase over the past year of \$2,000.

STATE BRIEFS. P. P. Van Vleet of Memphis has enjoined the disposing of stock of the Evangeline Oil Company at Lake Charles, claiming the company is being wrecked in the interest of the Standard Oil Company.

Count Louis Skarzynski is in New Orleans studying liquor question on behalf of International League against abuse of alcohol.

Elmore Williams, a negro, convicted in De Soto parish of involuntary manslaughter, was sentenced to one hour in the state penitentiary. It cost \$20 to transport the prisoner, who received \$5 cash, a pair of shoes and a suit of clothing on completing his term.

S. C. Quereau of Gueydan was appointed assistant director of the rice experiment station at Crowley.

J. W. Taylor resigned as head of the public school system at Baton Rouge.

BUSY.



IS THE KILLING-MACHINE INDUSTRY SO ABSORBING THAT HE HAS NO TIME FOR RESCUE WORK?

MORSE IS PENNILESS GOES THROUGH PASS

EVERY VESTIGE OF \$30,000,000 FORTUNE IS GONE.

Says No Member of His Family Has Any Property in Which He Is Interested.

New Orleans.—Charles W. Morse, the former banker, who is now in the Tombs prison, under sentence for violation of the national banking laws, has not a share of stock, a bond or a piece of real estate left of his fortune, which was estimated at \$30,000,000, according to evidence which he gave in supplementary proceedings made public Friday.

Morse was at one time one of the largest holders of securities of the \$60,000,000 Consolidated Steamship Company and controlled three national banks. He testified in the supplementary proceedings that he had given all his property to creditors to secure his debts.

MUST SERVE PENANCE TERMS

Federal Supreme Court Denies Writ in W. S. Harlan Case.

Pensacola, Fla.—Manager W. S. Harlan, of the Jackson Lumber Company, of Lockhart, Ala.; Robert Gallagher, assistant superintendent, and three of the company's foremen will have to serve terms in the Atlanta federal prison, to which they were sentenced in the United States circuit court here three years ago on the charge of conspiracy to commit peonage.

EDITORS BOARD BATTLESHIP

Members of Louisiana Press Association Guests of Mississippi.

New Orleans.—Lying serenely at anchor in the great stream whose name it bears, after having journeyed through the passes and up the river without untoward happening, the U. S. battleship Mississippi was boarded and inspected by a throng of interested visitors Friday. Among those who went on the big ship were a hundred or more Louisiana editors. They were passing through New Orleans on the way to their respective homes, after attending the annual meeting of the Louisiana Press Association at Covington, La.

Numerous tenders of hospitality have been extended to the officers and crew of the Mississippi during its stay in this port. The principal feature of entertainment will be a banquet to the officers of several Southern states. Prominent officials of the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Deep Waterway Association are expected to be present.

Improvement in Texas.

Waco, Tex.—Crop prospects have greatly improved during the past ten days. In Central Texas good rains have fallen from Waxahachie south, extending as far as San Antonio, and west to Brownwood. While about two weeks late, cotton is practically all planted, a fair portion up and doing well. South Texas is about three weeks late, and while this section received scattered showers recently, more rain is needed. Southwest, West and Northwest Texas are suffering very much from the drought.

TOBACCO IN TEXAS

PRODUCT OF THE FIRST QUALITY ASSURED.

Experiments Have Shown That the Proper Soil for Growing the Highest Grade Is Found in the State.

After experimenting for several years with cigar leaf tobacco in Texas, growers now believe they have found the proper soil for growing first quality tobacco. Through the courtesy of A. H. Prince, formerly connected with the bureau of plant industry as a tobacco expert, the following account of conditions in the Lone Star state is presented:

The 1908 crop of Texas tobacco proved beyond all possible doubt that the Texas grown product is destined to become one of the principal types of cigar leaf. During recent years the acreage planted in tobacco in Texas has been diminishing, rather than increasing, but during this time new soils were being tried, and the finding of a soil that produces a superior quality of tobacco has resulted in the industry being transferred to a new section of the state.

In east Texas lies what is known as the "red belt," consisting of a strip of land from three to five miles wide and extending some hundred miles or more through the counties of Sabine, San Augustine, Nacogdoches, Cherokee and Anderson. The largest area of this soil is found in San Augustine county. At first sight this land appears identical with some of the red clay soils of the eastern states, but a closer examination shows it to be entirely different in character.

This soil consists of a rich, sandy silt loam, whereas the red clay is stiff in its nature. A peculiar feature of the red lands proper is that, although they lie 150 miles or so from the gulf of Mexico and at an elevation approximating 400 feet above sea level, oyster and other sea shells are found in the deposits of marl which underlie the belt. The geological evidences that this land was at one time submerged are unmistakable.

When it was discovered that this soil was identical with the Cuban tobacco soils experiments were at once begun to determine the character of tobacco leaf it would produce. In 1908 about 200 acres were planted at widely separated points in the belt, and this was the first crop that could be considered of commercial importance. These 1908 crops were a distinct success, the quality of the leaf being excellent, and leaving but little, if any, doubt in the minds of those competent to judge that the product would take well in the tobacco markets.

From 700 to 1,000 pounds per acre were made from the first crop, while in some cases a second, and even a third crop of 500 pounds was secured from suckers. This tobacco sold readily at 15 to 20 cents a pound, bringing the grower from \$100 to \$270 an acre. A good percentage of wrappers possessing a perfect burn and a white ash was selected from these crops.

TO IMPEACH RATE JUDGES

Murphy Incensed Over Telegram From Hagerman.

Washington.—Formal charges of impeachment against Federal Judges Phillips and McPherson, of the western district of Missouri, are to be filed by Representative Murphy, of that state, who made announcement of that fact Thursday.

Incensed over a telegram to Attorney General Wickensham by Frank Hagerman, attorney for eighteen railroads, in which Mr. Hagerman characterized Mr. Murphy's resolution of inquiry into the official conduct of the two judges as "an outrageous tissue of misrepresentation," Mr. Murphy held the attention of the house with a repetition of the charges which he had made in his original resolution.

His colleague, Mr. Rucker, corroborated all that he said in denunciation of the action of the two judges in connection with Missouri's 2-cent passenger rate law and the maximum freight law, and remarked that Judge Phillips ought to have been impeached twenty years ago.

TENNESSEE BOY KIDNAPED.

Lad's Mother Believed to Be Behind Scheme to Get Him.

San Bernardino, Cal.—Kidnaped and furnished with money by an unknown party, young Bryan Alexander, the 12-year-old son of I. J. Alexander, was stolen away from his home near Redlands, and placed aboard the Salt Lake limited, bound for his old home in Morton, Tenn., where the boy's mother resides. Alexander, with his children, came to California for his health. His wife refused to follow, and is believed to have furnished the money to start the lad home.

Hargis' Sorrows Increase.

Lexington, Ky.—Sorrows are coming in battalions upon the house of Hargis. Beach Hargis was sentenced to life imprisonment last week at Irvine for the murder of his father, Judge James Hargis, and now comes the threatened derangement of Ensign Edward G. Hargis, of the United States navy, who has been at the home in this city of his father, former Senator Alexander H. Hargis, on sick leave, but is now with relatives at Jackson, the seat of all the family's troubles.

BOOKKEEPING ON THE FARM.

Agriculturist Should Know Cost of Production and Profit on Everything He Raises.

To be up to date the farmer must plan ahead. If he is wise he will open an account in his ledger for every crop he raises, including horses, cows, sheep, swine and poultry. He will have a system of bookkeeping that will show him at the end of the year which crop paid a profit and which created a loss.

It will be a great satisfaction to know how the potato, the onion, the general garden, the hay and the straw crops paid. His ledger will show how many days his teams worked, crediting them with such amounts as he would have had to pay had he hired teams to do the work. Against this will be the price of feed. There need be no item for labor in attending to the horses, as the manure and the use of the animals for pleasure drives will offset that.

The income from the cows and the sheep, the swine and the poultry would have to be the cost of feed. The writer knows of a progressive farmer who follows that system year after year, says a correspondent of the Oklahoma Farmer. His daughter keeps the books. He reports each night the sales, the purchase, the hours the teams were at work, etc., and thus is he able to keep a record of his doings and knows exactly what each crop means to him.

Beginning the new year, the farmer should lay out his plans for the spring operations, the size of the vegetable garden, the varieties to grow, the increase of the small fruit plots and the additional trees to the orchard, the changes and the repairs that should be made to the barn and other buildings, not forgetting improvements on the old homestead.

There are a hundred and one matters that can be planned for 1909's operations, and no better use could be made of one's evenings than to map out all these matters.

The latest catalogues of reliable seeds, nursery and implement houses can be secured, and profitable time may be spent in carefully looking them over. Lists of seeds, trees, tools, etc., should be got and ordered before the general rush in the spring. This will avoid delays, errors, and vexations generally.

The farmer is a business man and each year the farm is becoming more important to the welfare of the country. The farmer is no longer the subject of ridiculous cartoon, but the emblem of prosperity in all the high-class publications. The whole world looks to the sturdy tiller of the soil for the means of maintaining prosperity in the land.

The Little Pigs.

The little pigs should be encouraged to eat as early an age as possible. The dividing of farrowing pens, so that the pigs can have access to a shallow trough away from the sow, is of great value. Keep everything scrupulously clean, or serious digestive troubles will likely result.

Feed only in limited quantities, and allow no old feed to remain in the trough from one feeding to the next. If the little pigs and the sow are confined inside all the time a few sows and roots will greatly benefit them if given every two or three days.

Young pigs fed in this manner will not fall away in condition when they are separated from their dams. In fact, they will practically wean themselves by the time they are eight or ten weeks of age.

Abundant exercise and frequent feeding are essential to the best growth and development of the young pigs. By the time they are ready to wean some kind of forage crops or pasture should be available for them.

The gains made upon pasture and green forage crops are not rapid, but are very economical; and the pigs' digestive powers are greatly enlarged and their bone and muscle are better developed by the time their fattening period arrives. A good variety of forage crops and pasture is necessary to provide plenty of grazing during the season.

Alfalfa, clover, oats, peas, rape and rye may be profitably utilized as pasture and forage crops for pigs. Land that is utilized for hog pasture will gain rapidly in fertility, and will be in excellent condition to produce large crops of roots for winter feeding.

Seed Breeding.

The profits from any crop are largely dependent upon the reliability of the seed from which the crop is grown, says R. N. Blinn, of the Colorado Agricultural college. A mixture in the variety, or a poor quality in the seed of some crops may be a very serious injury; but with a special crop, like cantaloupes, that has market demands to meet, the use of poor seed may mean the total loss of a season's work. On several occasions in the early days of the cantaloupe industry at Rocky Ford, when the growers depended upon the seedsmen for their seed, entire fields were worthless on account of mixtures and unmarketable types.

Cows that are to calve in winter or early spring should have about six quarts of some vegetable every day for two weeks before calving. If this course is pursued there will be no milk fever nor any of the other many troubles incident to calving time.

There is always a market for the chicken from the time it is a month and a half old till it is ready to die a natural death.

RACE SUICIDE CHARGED

ONE BIRTH DURING YEAR IN CLUB OF 400.

Women Deny That Their Club Work Distracted From the Life of Home.

Chicago. To three of the large fashionable women's clubs of Chicago the stork in the past year has paid one visit, and only one.

The West End Women's Club, with a membership of 500, boasts of only one "club baby" for the year, and the same is true of the Chicago Culture Club, with 350 members, and the Social Economics Club, whose members number 125.

This startling commentary on the birth rate among fashionable women was disclosed following the receipt of a dispatch from Omaha stating that of the 400 members of the Omaha Woman's Club, only one had become a mother during the last year. The secretary reported at the annual meeting that Mrs. David E. McCully, a former officer of the organization, had given birth to a boy since the meeting a year previous, and that he was the first and only club child of the year.

CUTS OFF ARM, SAVES FATHER

Georgia Girl Will Get Carnegie Medal for Heroism.

Bowdon, Ga.—Fifteen-year-old Mamie Price, who lives near here, will be presented with a Carnegie hero medal. The home of her father was wrecked by the storm and all the inmates except the girl were buried in the ruins. She procured an ax and guided by the groans of the victims, proceeded to cut them out of the debris. Her mother died before she could be released, but the girl rescued her baby brother alive and unharmed. Her father was caught under the heavy timbers and his left arm was mangled. The girl cut away as many of the timbers as possible, but could not release the arm.

The father, however, decided that the arm would have to be amputated anyhow, and at his command, the girl brought the ax down on the mangled member, thus releasing Mr. Price. There aided by her father, she made a rude tourniquet that stopped the loss of blood while she went for help.

LOOKING FOR POT OF GOLD

Population of Layton, Ky., Expect Treasure to Be Dug Up.

Cincinnati.—The work of excavating for the structure of St. Francis Church, in Dayton, Ky., a suburb, is being watched by a large portion of the population of the town, who expect the workmen engaged in the excavating may dig up a pot of gold which tradition says has lain buried under that site since the raid of Gen. John Hunt Morgan and his band of Confederates near the close of the Civil war.

The property formerly belonged to the late Matthew McArthur, a noted Southern sympathizer. The old homestead was famous as an underground station for Confederate refugees. As the story goes, there was a subterranean passage leading from the house, and it is here—the passage having long since been filled up—that the treasure is supposed to be.

The money was left there, it is said, by a Confederate spy by the name of Caldwell, who had been sent North to pay the troops of Gen. Morgan, then in this vicinity. He stopped at the McArthur residence, and his presence being discovered, he secreted the gold, said to amount to several thousand dollars, and escaped, intending to join Gen. Morgan, but later being killed in Tennessee about the same time.

15,000 ABOARD BATTLESHIP

Big Fighting Machine Was Sunday Attraction in New Orleans.

New Orleans.—It was demonstrated Sunday that the big battleship Mississippi can accommodate five thousand visitors at once and not be overcrowded. The junkie who stood at the gang plank all Sunday with an automatic recording machine in his hand, registering every soul who came on board, swears that there were that many on board at one several times during the day. When night fell and there came a lull in the huge stream of gaily dressed and smilingly perspiring people, the register had clicked over fifteen thousand times.

It was a patriotic and happy throng, too. Every man, woman and child in it seemed to feel not only a pride in the grim machine of death and destruction, but a sense of part ownership in the craft as well. All the gun decks and even the turrets were open to the callers, the only parts of the ship not available to visitors being the state rooms and quarters below.

To Punish Husband.

Louisville, Ky.—Mrs. Perry Campbell, wife of the erring shepherd of the flock at Stamping Ground, Ky., who was arrested in St. Louis with Josie Hosely, one of his choir singers, announced that her husband's former congregation had raised money for her aid. She will rent and keep a rooming house for her own maintenance. "I have decided on a fit punishment for my husband," said Mrs. Campbell. "He wants me to secure a divorce, but I shall refuse. He must remain in his present relation to me."

EDUCATION OF VALUE.

The school garden has no equal as an aid to nature study. It brings the child in close touch with nature and nature's laws. It can be used in correlation with all other branches taught in the school room. The practice in measuring and marking out the garden, systematically planting the seed, teaches the child to put into actual practice the mathematics he has learned in the school room. Much language can be taken up in connection with it, as can also writing, painting, drawing and geography. In many instances the products of the school gardens are taken to market and sold and the money deposited in the bank, thus giving the pupils some idea of everyday business methods.

For the Head of the Herd.

Whatever the character of a dairy herd there should be a thoroughbred sire at the head of it, and he should be of the dairy and not of the beef type. Once in a while you may run across a "dual purpose" cow, but nature does not provide dual-purpose bulls.

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