

The Lower Coast Gazette

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY The Lower Coast Gazette Co. F. C. MEYERS, President. S. B. MEYERS, Secretary. Pointe-a-la-Hache, Louisiana.

TERMS:—ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE. Entered at the Pointe-a-la-Hache Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1909.

The Passing of the Storm.

With the passing of the great storm of September 20, 1909, news continues to come in of deaths, suffering, destruction of property, of acts of heroism and of brilliant rescues. The daily newspapers have given a full account of all of these and we are taught by the stories that we read of the great amount of latent good that lies in the hearts of the people of our country that develops itself spontaneously, as it were, whenever the emergency demands it.

As already recounted in these columns, at Pointe-a-la-Hache the local community threatened with danger was generally gathered into the courthouse. The women of the community being cared for by Sheriff Meyers at his strongly built residence a short distance below. At Empire Mr. Fred Stockfleth, whose sympathetic benevolence was so wide reaching in 1893, again had his house open to all the distressed and they came to him from far and near and were cared for free of charge.

Now that fine weather has come and that the sun is shining, we are led to wonder what nature means by her frightful treatment of humanity when she assumes these stormy moods. We must submit to the inevitable when it comes, but nevertheless should keep up our courage and be ready to do all that we can to aid each other in these periods of great distress.

The Plaquemines Parish East Bank Back Levee.

While the back levee in this district did not keep out the hurricane waters of 1909, it seems to have materially diminished the force of the tidal wave in a considerable part of the district of which the levee is designed to protect. Few persons have any idea of the occasional stress that is put upon the east bank portion of this parish by these great easterly storms that occasionally befall us.

At the mouth of the river it has been a recognized fact from the beginning that the eastern jetty is the one that has received the brunt of all the storms and has been the most difficult one to maintain, while the jetty on the western side of the river, with only a thousand feet of flowing water between it and the eastern jetty, has been comparatively easy to maintain.

one section, might not inundate all of the rest. All human experience has shown that the best conceived works of man will perish when they come in conflict with some of nature's forces. The dykes of Holland have often given away and even in China, where probably the oldest and most carefully calculated dike and levee system in the world exists, the Hoang Ho, their great Yellow River, or "River of Sorrow," as it is termed because of its having caused so much destruction, has changed its course and point of discharge into the sea every three or four hundred years and vast amounts of property, as well as thousands of human lives have been destroyed when the great breaks in their levee system have occurred.

We shall sincerely hope that the Plaquemines Parish East Bank Levee District will be enabled by its own resources and by the aid of the state to rapidly repair the damage done to the levees by this great storm and to so perfect its system as to enable it to keep out even such waters as were brought in by the hurricane of 1909.

The Rice Propaganda.

Senator Henry L. Gueydan, of Gueydan, La., has been directed by the Rice Association of America, with headquarters at Crowley, La., to undertake actively the dissemination of the merits of rice as a foodstuff. During the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, some seven years ago, such efforts were made and did much good in familiarizing the people of this country with the value of rice as a staple foodstuff.

Over half the people of the earth utilize rice as their staple food and it is produced in larger quantities than wheat and is more nutritious and more readily digestible than any other known cereal. At the prices now prevailing for rice, at least at wholesale, it ought to enter into very general consumption. The difficulty now seems to be that rice, being regarded in the West and North as something of a luxury, sells when handled at retail, for double or tripple its normal price.

There are millions of acres of land in the Southern half of the United States well adapted to the production of rice and if sufficient attention were given to the food value of this cereal, there is scarcely any limit to our possible production.

For these reasons Senator Gueydan is reaching out everywhere among his extensive acquaintance in this and the adjoining states, asking the cooperation of everyone concerned in aiding him in his rice propaganda and it is to be hoped that the press generally will take up the matter and do all it can to aid Senator Gueydan in his praiseworthy enterprise.

Home Grown Tobacco.

The Tobacco Trust is making the tobacco habit quite an expensive luxury and we now revert to the matter from the fact that in our own parish in years gone by it was quite the custom to produce more or less tobacco. Years ago the parish of Natchitoches produced quite a quantity of the famous perique tobacco and in St. James parish more or less is done in perique growing even up to the present time.

Recently in some scientific researches the fact was brought out that a peculiar ferment was produced in tobacco under pressure, a ferment different from that produced without pressure. This is the secret of success in the manufacture of perique tobacco. A screw press bearing down on a mass of tobacco in the process of its curing and manufacture, only has a definite pressure when it is screwed down tight, as the tobacco adjusts itself to the pressure thus exerted upon it the pressure then ceases and it requires constant renewing in order to maintain any given pressure.

It would seem strange to find that our scientists in their research work are thus able to bring out and explain well recognized facts that have not been previously accounted for. The flavor of tobacco depends upon the character of its fermentation as much as does the flavor of

rum upon its fermentation and of butter upon which one of the various ferments has been utilized in securing the ripening of its butter fat, or cream. Scientific research takes old facts and demonstrates their accuracy and thus paves the way for the discovery of new laws, the elaboration of new theories and the demonstration of the accuracy of the theories if the theories be correct.

We must not omit to say that every friend of diversified agriculture in the Parish of Plaquemines should encourage as far as he can the growth of tobacco and of all proper efforts to make it another staple crop for our parish.

The Daily States and the Tariff Rates.

"We desire to state a statement," So states the "Daily States," "Which will rate as a first rate Berating, of those awful tariff rates. Just think of the bitter dose! We must swallow it one gulp; Not one blessed cent reduction On the list for wooden pulp. Now we are going to see to it At the very next election, That only Congressmen are elected Who are pledged against Protection. Here in dear Old Louisiana Our Gaylorious State, The planters will surely love us, Because we advocate That sugar be allowed to come To this country free; This will make the planter prosperous, As no doubt they'll all agree. And in our sister State of Texas, The State of the Lone Star, This writing upon the wall Appears to us from afar; Those Democrats who voted For protection on their hides, Will go down in history As Democratic Snides. In Florida the Flowery State, Nothing else would suit, They insisted on Protection For their citrus fruit; To accomplish which, of course, They made disgraceful trades, This puts them on the list With other renegades. And South Carolina, Democrats, With your success shogotten, With your nefarious trades, For Protection on Sea Island Cotton; Of course, as an additional Excuse, for your swapping vice, You point with swelling pride To The Protection on your rice. And each bright Georgia Statesman, Afraid of being a back number, Was willing to concede most anything, For Protection on their lumber; And into the constituent's eye, They threw a few more cinders By demanding in stentorian tones, Protection for their pindars. And now so states, the statesman Who stationed on the States, "By their own acts they've tripped Themselves, like men on roller skates. For all these Democratic Statesmen Who had Democracy to burr, Have burned it for Protection To get Protection in their turn. Now there's one thing false Democrat We're going to do to you, my hearty, We shall rise up in our mighty wrath, And read you out of the Party," But the Statesman on the States Has heard the mighty roar, Of dissatisfied subscribers, Who were satisfied before. Is the song they sing, Well it's, "I love my Daily States, But Oh Ew Wing."

L'ENVOIE To the Statesman of the States: Upon this subject in the future If you are a wise Democrat, You won't give a thing but silence, And very little of that. By, —Assumption Pioneer.

Dead men tell no tales—and even their epitaphs are not always believed.

The right kind of man doesn't have to spend half his time looking for a job.

The wind frequently turns an umbrella, but a borrower seldom returns it.

If a detective is on your trail you can go down to the ferry and give him the slip.

Even the expressman may at times have some difficulty in expressing himself.

No, Maude, dear, you can't always flatter a sailor by giving him salt water taffy.

In an argument what a woman lacks in logic she more than makes up in tears.

The turning point of many a young fellow's life is when a girl turns him down.

The pawnbroker with whom you intrust your watch is a sort of time-keeper.

Tipping the scales is the only sure means of getting your own weigh in this world.

Life wouldn't be worth living to some people if there was nothing to kick about.

It's strange how many people are ready to come to our assistance when we don't need it.

The harvest season of 1909 brought the usual cry for help from the western farmers. The scarcity of farm laborers has become chronic everywhere, in spite of the fact that every day sees 3,000 immigrants from Europe landed at our gates, though one seldom nowadays finds a "greenhorn" in any farming community, save in the newly settled states. These foreign seekers after fortune in America flock to the manufacturing centers, and to the railways, canals and other public works, which seem to absorb them by the million without producing congestion. In the meantime, the opening up annually of thousands of new homesteads increases the death in the farm labor market. —Farm Journal.

PARISH NEWS.

Pointe-a-la-Hache.

Court convenes Monday with a pretty heavy criminal docket; on Thursday, the sheriff's hotel register showed twenty-one guests in the hotel.

Supt. Edwin C. Kohn returned to Pointe-a-la-Hache after spending some time at the home of his parents, in Algiers.

State Engineer J. W. Monget was in our town for three days this week. The members of the Back Levee Board, accompanied by State Engineer J. W. Monget, made a complete investigation of the amount of damage done to our back levee during the storm.

Mr. Edward Simms was a business visitor in our town Tuesday.

Gus Smith, parish game warden, was in our town Friday.

Hon. Marc Cognevich, assessor passed up this week to New Orleans with his daughter Blanche, accompanied by Miss Coriene Biaggi and Miss Caroline Bonecke, the young ladies were on their way to attend the State Normal at Natchitoches. Mr. Cognevich reports 20 per cent. loss of oranges in his section at Nairn.

Mr. C. T. Deramie, of Violet, St. Bernard parish, was a visitor here yesterday.

Tausch-Brown.

On Saturday, September 25, in the presence of friends and relatives, Miss Nettie Brown and Mr. Charles Tausch, Jr., were united in the holy bonds of wedlock by Rev. W. S. Slack, at the Mount Oliver church, Algiers. Both the bride and groom are prominent young people of Daisy, this parish, and have the best wishes of their many friends for a happy and prosperous voyage on the matrimonial seas.

Dry Schooner.

A two masted schooner was driven in the prairie from the Gulf during the storm of Monday, the 20, in the rear of Henry W. Fox's plantation. The schooner is high and dry, lying about seven hundred yards in the rear of back levee. Preparations are being made to float her by her owners.

Burrwood.

Several families here have moved in the new dwellings.

Geo. W. Delesdernier will move to Burrwood on the 4th of October.

Mrs. G. W. Delesdernier will return home on Oct. 4 from New Orleans and Baton Rouge where she has been for some time.

Mr. Henry Edgcomb of Daisy, will begin work on the new building for the Burrwood store, October 11th. The promising contractors of our parish, Messrs Myers and Delesdernier believe in home labor.

Capt John B. Lindhe has returned from New Orleans where he has been assisting in the designing of one of the most modern dredges of the day.

Capt. Lindhe is having one of the buildings moved from its present location to a site on College ave.

Messrs T. Jones and D. Hartnett will pay a visit to Pilot Town in their fast launch Arcadian on the 2d inst.

Belair.

We see that "Bill Paine" has bought "Doc Seagle's fine saddle horse, "Sir Richard" so when he recovers from his accident he won't have to use either of his "pegs" until tother one is well. God speed Bill and Richard.

Switzer-Perez.

Invitations are out for the marriage of Miss Edwige Perez to Mr. John H. Switzer, on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in New Orleans. After the marriage ceremony a reception will be held at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Menge-Burns.

On Wednesday 22nd ult. Mr. Florence Menge was quietly married to Miss Carrie Burns at the residence of Mrs. Edward Herntz. Many congratulations and good wishes were extended to the happy pair.

Back Levee Inspected.

An inspection of the entire line of back levee was made this week by a party of gentlemen composed of State Engineer Jos. Monget, Sheriff F. C. Meyers, Judge R. E. Hingle, Messrs. E. A. Schayot, John B. Hingle and Alvin Lee, the latter three being respectively, secretary, commissioner and inspector of the back levee Board of Commissioners. The task, which was begun Monday morning and completed Thursday afternoon, was undertaken for the purpose of determining an approximate estimate of the extent of the damage wrought by the recent storm with a view towards an early reconstruction of the levee. The trip was made on foot and in that way every inch of injury carefully observed and noted for future use and reference.

Much credit is due these gentlemen and more particularly State Engineer Monget, for the public spiritedness thus displayed, to say nothing of the tedious work they were called upon to perform in traversing very rough territory, especially in those places where crevasses occurred, or where the levee was badly washed. The inspection demonstrated clearly that nearly all the damage was done in those places where the water washed over the levee's top. More than half of the district was affected in this way. The reason for this is two fold, first, the subsidence of the soil, which placed the levee below grade and secondly, the unprecedented volume of water backed up by the wind. This subsidence is apparently upon lands whose soil structure is of a very inferior nature, that is, composed largely of water and vegetable matter.

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In such places as this a recurrence of this trouble can be avoided in the future by building a levee of considerably higher grade than in other places, where conditions are more favorable. Another feature which contributed largely to disintegration, was the absence of grass or plant life on the levee. It might be well, therefore for the Board to invest in wholesale Bermuda grass planting along the entire line. There were all told some ten drain boxes washed out, nearly all of which were recently constructed, the surrounding earth thereto having easily yielded to the force of wind and wave by reason of its fresh structure. While Mr. Monget would say nothing officially as to a general estimate of the work he thought would be required, he nevertheless kindly furnished us with his valued notes which are herein below published and which will no doubt interest all who are interested in the future of the back levee. Due to the peculiar nature of the damage, it will be a difficult matter to estimate the percentage of the levee which it will be necessary to reconstruct, but it is safe to say that it will cost nothing less than \$50,000 to repair the levee and in most places heighten it, say two to three feet above its present grade. Following are the notes furnished us by State Engineer Monget showing the extent of loss sustained: Harlem to lower line of Union, levee intact. Lower line of Union to L. Cazalas, 5 per cent. wash. L. Cazalas to Mrs. E. Cornin, levee intact. Mrs. E. Cornin to Pierre Dragon, 5 per cent. wash. Pierre Dragon to widow Sal. Hingle, 10 per cent. wash. Widow Sal. Hingle to Collin Chanove 25 per cent., small crevasse. Collin Chanove to P. Gravolet, 5 per cent. wash. P. Gravolet to A. U. Sordelet, numerous crevasses, 25 per cent. A. U. Sordelet to Haspell and Davis, 25 per cent. B Savoie, 300 feet washed nearly away, 75 per cent. B. Savoie to Haspell & Davis, 50 per cent., small crevasse. Hapel & Davis to widow J. Richarme 20 per cent. Widow J. Richarme, box washed out 20 feet wide. Widow J. Richarme to St. Thomas Church, light wash. Church to C. V. Thibout, 10 per cent. C. V. Thibout to Mrs. S. Carlo, 50 per cent. Mrs. S. Carlo to F. C. Meyers, half crevasse, 50 per cent. Drain box washed out at Felix Hingle, 30 feet wide. F. C. Meyers to Dudley Morlier, 5 per cent. Dudley Morlier to Oscar Aroyo, 15 per cent., small crevasse. Drain box washed out on Oscar Aroyo 20 feet wide. Oscar Aroyo to H. Martin, light wash. H. Martin to J. Cosse, 25 per cent. Drain box washed out at H. Martins. J. Cosse drain box washed out. B. Savoie, lower place, 25 per cent. Haspell and Davis, very light. Crevasses between Haspell & Davis and Steven Bartigne, 30 feet wide. Stevens Bartigne to widow J. Martin 5 per cent. Drain box at A. Martins washed out. Widow J. Martin to Leo Martin, no wash. Hingle and Meyers drain box washed out, 30 feet wide. Martin Brothers, 50 per cent. Haspell & Davis to Jos. Cosse Crevasse 20 feet wide. Jos. Cosse, drain box washed out, 25 per cent. Leo Martin to Haspell and Davis, small crevasse, wash, 50 per cent. Schayot and Martin drain box washed out, 25 feet wide. Schayot and Martin to Grand Bayou, small crevasse, 50 per cent. Grand Bayou to F. C. Meyers, 10 per cent. F. C. Meyers 400 feet of small crevasse, 50 per cent. Drain box washed out at F. C. Meyers. F. C. Meyers to lower line of Bohemia, no wash. Lower line of Bohemia to center, widow Jennie Burton, no wash. Centre of widow J. Burton to Wm. Cannon, 5 per cent. Wm. Cannon 200 ft to small crevasse, 50 per cent. Drain box washed out at Haspell and Davis. Chas. Fox to James Pinaud, numerous small crevasses, drain box washed out, 30 per cent. James Pinaud to Edward Sims, 30 per cent. Edward Sims by Henry Hineks, numerous crevasses, 50 per cent. Henry Hineks to J. & A. Pinaud, 30 per cent. J. & A. Pinaud to center of M. Waltzer 5 per cent. From center of M. Waltzer to Haspell & Davis very slight wash. Haspell & Davis to R. Waltzer 30 per cent. From R. Waltzer to Joseph David Co., Ltd., no wash. Joseph David Co., Ltd., to Nestor Canal, 15 per cent. Nestor Canal to Henry Taylor no wash. Henry Taylor to John Bowers 5 per cent. Louis Zetwerk, crevasse 100 feet wide. Jos. Bowers to G. Cannon 25 per cent. G. Cannon, ground washed 2 feet below grade 200 feet wide. G. Cannon to M. Metrich 10 per cent. Matrich Bayou, crevasse 200 feet wide, 2 feet below grade. From Matrich Bayou to Nestor Canal 15 per cent.

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