

The Lower Coast Gazette.

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

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VOLUME II.

ALL OVER LOUISIANA

DR. MCKOWEN TRANSFERRED TO BATON ROUGE FOR TRIAL.

Judge Brunot Seeks to Test Legality of One Parish Shifting Expenses Upon Another.

Baton Rouge.—Dr. E. C. McKowen, the Jackson physician charged with the murder of E. K. Jackson, was brought to Baton Rouge by Sheriff Habbes of East Feliciana and placed in the East Baton Rouge jail, under the care of Sheriff Randolph. McKowen's arrival was unexpected. It was not expected that he would be brought here until the last of the week, but Sheriff Habbes decided to get the prisoner in the Baton Rouge jail as soon as possible.

McKowen retained his usual silence, and declined to be interviewed or to have anything to say for publication. He shows somewhat the effects of his long confinement in St. Francisville and Clinton jails, he having been taken to West Feliciana when the crime was first discovered and later transferred to Clinton.

The fact that Dr. McKowen was brought down today and placed in the East Baton Rouge jail does not in any way tend to prove the case. The question will come up when an effort is made to assign the case for hearing.

Dr. McKowen got himself comfortably fixed up at the jail and had a conference lasting for some time with his attorney here, L. D. Beale. Dr. McKowen told Sheriff Randolph that he was not going to give him any trouble.

The complete transcript of the record in the case was also brought down by Sheriff Habbes and filed with Tom E. Mellich, clerk of the East Baton Rouge district court.

Judge Brunot has positively decided that he will decline to try the McKowen case. By thus declining the case Judge Brunot hopes to bring before the supreme court the right of one parish to place upon another the expense of such a trial. The only reason that the case will be declined is to get the expense placed upon East Feliciana. If East Feliciana will agree to meet the expense of the case it will be tried during the April term. The first estimated cost of \$2,000 to try the case now develops to have been a low one. The court officials now figure that it will cost over \$3,000 for the first trial, and if a mistrial should result the cost would run up to about \$5,000 for the two trials. There would be about 150 witnesses, each receiving \$2 and 10 cents for each of the forty miles. The attachments on all these witnesses, living in East and West Feliciana, would have to be served and a special venire drawn, so that the total cost for the first day would be about \$1,500. The court officials do not feel as if this parish can afford the expense, so Judge Brunot has finally decided that he would decline jurisdiction, and in declining would try to make such answer as would secure an expression from the supreme court on whether or not East Baton Rouge had to bear the cost of the trial.

District Attorney Wax says that the parish of East Baton Rouge is not liable for the expense in the McKowen case.

"It is my opinion that the parish of East Baton Rouge is not liable for the expense which will be necessarily attendant upon the trial of the McKowen case, transferred from the parish of East Feliciana by a decree of that court. The law governing changes of venue, unfortunately, is silent on the point of the expense of these trials, but section 148 of the Revised Statutes, under the caption of expenses of criminal prosecutions, states that all expenses incurred in the different parishes of the state by the arrest, confinement, maintenance and prosecution of persons accused or convicted of crimes, their removal to prison, the pay of jurors and witnesses and all expenses whatsoever attending criminal proceedings shall be paid by the respective parishes in which the offense charged may have been committed. While I have the right at this time to state in what parish the offense charged was committed, if at all, we all know that it was not committed in the parish of East Baton Rouge, and we certainly should not be expected to burden ourselves with this large expense. It is probable that steps will be taken to determine this matter with absolute certainty, as we have enough difficulty in meeting our own expenses without assuming the debts and obligations of other parishes."

Interest in Corn Clubs.

Baton Rouge.—Much interest is being taken in the boys' corn club movement, and there will be a large gathering at the Calhoun meeting March 31, when organization will be effected.

Professor T. O. Brown, parish superintendent of education, has taken hold of the matter. The Monroe Progressive League has offered \$100 in gold as premiums.

Work has begun on the rooming house being made out of the old Sugar Theater building.

Will Dedicate Tablet.

Baton Rouge.—On April 7 the Louisiana Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will formally dedicate the tablet which has been placed in the state capital to commemorate the battle of Baton Rouge, fought between the British and American and Spanish forces, and declared to be the only battle of the American revolution fought on Louisiana soil. The Daughters of the American Revolution are outlining an extended program for the dedication of the tablet.

Planning for Experimental Work.

Baton Rouge.—Dr. W. R. Dodson, director of the Louisiana state experiment station, is making the plans for the experiment work that is to be done during the coming year at the different stations. At the Calhoun station the experiments in rotation and varieties will be continued. This is the second year that the Calhoun station has been operated, and it has already proved a great help to the rice planters. In Baton Rouge new experiments will be made in the raising of hogs on foreign crops, such as oats in the field and potatoes. The station has just purchased forty-eight head of hogs. At Calhoun different experiments in varieties will be conducted this year. At the sugar station in Amiteville park Dr. Dodson will continue the sugar experiments. The hogs at the Amiteville station were first used at the cotton exposition. They have been condemned, and it will be necessary before next year to place new ones, and possibly new engines. Dr. Dodson is making up his report to the general assembly. He will ask the lawmakers this year for \$7,000 for each of the experiment stations, or \$20,000 for the four stations. Two years ago the general assembly gave \$5,000, but it has not been sufficient to carry out the plans.

Corn Club Rally.

Baton Rouge.—The first boys' corn club rally will be held on March 31 at Calhoun experiment station, and will be addressed by V. L. Roy of Baton Rouge, who has worked up the boys' corn clubs in Louisiana. E. J. Watson, secretary of the North Louisiana Agricultural Society, has issued the call for the meeting as follows:

"The next meeting of the North Louisiana Agricultural Society will be held at the experiment station Thursday, March 31, and at this meeting it is proposed to hold a boys' corn club rally. This meeting is to be a most important one, and will be devoted to the cause of the great movement that is sweeping over the south to interest boys and young people generally in progressive agriculture. Every boys' corn club in North Louisiana is specially invited to send a delegation to this meeting. Professor V. L. Roy, the boys' corn club specialist, will be the leading speaker on this occasion. Professor J. O. Taylor of Bastrop and other speakers will also address the meeting."

Looking After State Lands.

Baton Rouge.—Fred Grace, register of the state land office, has returned to the city from Washington, where he went in the interest of the state lands. Mr. Grace was very successful as a result of his trip, and thinks that the state has a splendid chance to win the Ferry Lake land case of Caldo parish, where some valuable lands in Cadebo parish are being claimed by outside parties. Mr. Grace also looked into the Sabine Island case, and is hopeful of the state still being able to maintain its title to these lands. There is no question about Baton Rouge getting the two federal land offices when they are consolidated and the offices at New Orleans and Natchitoches closed. A great majority of the Louisiana congressmen favor Baton Rouge, and as there seems to be no question about the two offices being closed, it is evident that Baton Rouge will get the records.

D. A. R. Prizes Offered.

Baton Rouge.—Both of the chapters of the Daughters of the Confederacy of Baton Rouge are offering prizes in two university for essays on certain historical subjects. The Pohnau-Waddell chapter has renewed its offer of last year of a prize for the best essay on some subject relating to the Confederacy. The Henry W. Allen chapter has offered a prize for the best essay on some selected subject relating to some phase of southern history. The subject of the Johanna-Waddell prize will be "A Biographical Sketch of Raphael Semmes." Those competing for the Henry W. Allen prize will write upon "The Religious Instruction of the Slaves." A student may compete for one prize only. Those who expect to submit essays in competition for the prizes will do their work under the supervision of one of the professors of history in the university.

Franklinton Gets Funds.

Franklinton.—The Bank of Franklinton, Washington parish, was awarded the contract for the deposit of the funds of the Louisiana state department of agriculture and immigration and the experiment station over the banks of Baton Rouge. The Bank of Franklinton bid 4 1/2 per cent interest on the state funds, while the five banks of Baton Rouge presented one communication to the board, offering 2 per cent interest. The Bank of Franklinton's bid was so much higher than the city banks, and the law on the subject was so plain, that the executive committee of the board unanimously awarded the contract to the Franklinton Bank.

State banks in Louisiana had \$110,268,439 resources March 8, an increase of \$1,500,000 for three months.

Funds Subscribed for Parish Fair.

Mansfield.—It is now practically a settled fact that the De Soto Parish Fair Association will be organized. The matter is in the hands of a committee of nine, three of whom were appointed by the Farmers' Union of the parish, three by the town of Mansfield and three by the town of Grand Cane. A mass meeting was held March 24. The association will be chartered and the capital of the company will be \$5,000, about \$1,500 of which has been subscribed by the citizens of Mansfield.

14 DIE IN CHICAGO FIRE

VICTIMS CAUGHT LIKE RATS ON UPPER FLOORS.

Young Clerk Causes Fire Filling Cigar Lighter with Benzine; Explosion Is the Result.

Chicago.—Search of the wreckage for the remaining bodies of those who lost their lives in the Fish Furniture Company fire horror here Friday was discontinued in the afternoon, owing to danger from tottering walls, but not until after twelve of the dead had been recovered and eleven of those identified.

Leo Stoeckel, a clerk of the Fish Furniture Company, who by accident is said to have started the fire, told his story to Fire Attorney Frank Hogan. He appeared heartbroken and told his story with difficulty.

"About 8:45 o'clock this morning," Stoeckel said, "Mr. Mitchell, who is a member of the firm, gave me three packs of cigar lighters and told me to go to the finishing room on the fourth floor and fill them with benzine. I had filled two of the lighters out of the five-gallon can and was working on the third when there was an explosion. A sheet of flame almost blinded me and I remember only dimly what happened after that. I did not fully regain my senses until I had reached the street."

The spread of the flames throughout the upper floors was almost instantaneous. The girls, which they rushed to the stairways, found escape there cut off. Turning quickly to the front of the building, the young women smashed the glass in the street looking through the haze of flames, smoke and spray could be seen dimly the faces of the girls framed in the windows above.

Then suddenly one of the girls stepped to the window ledge, her face a picture of terror, and screamed for help. Her shrieks came piercingly clear above the turmoil below, which suddenly turned to silence as the young form poised and then sprang to the street below.

She fell on the awning over the front entrance to the store, where she lay unconscious until Dr. William A. Kinsey, crawling out on the canopy, lifted her up. The girl was taken at once to a hospital, only a few blocks away, but died soon afterward. The girl's name was Emma Liebenstein.

Soon after Miss Liebenstein's desperate leap, a crash as if of doors falling was heard, and the faces at the window disappeared.

Dr. Kinsey, in describing his experience, said:

"I was nearly when the fire started, and when I reached the scene the sight made my hair stand on end. The floors of the building were a mass of flames and smoke was rolling in clouds out of the windows. I cried, 'Something must be done, something must be done,' but like many others, I was so stricken by the sight of the faces half revealed in the sixth story windows that I could scarcely move."

MAY TEST PURE FOOD ACT

Believed Texas Case Will Go to Highest Court.

Fort Worth, Tex.—A case of unusual interest to the public was decided in the United States district court at Fort Worth Friday under the pure food and drug act.

A shipment of 48,000,000 cans of tomatoes was impounded and proceeded against, when only a small percentage of them was claimed by the government to be unfit for food.

The court held that the entire shipment was subject to condemnation, but entered judgment directing the marshal to destroy the defective cans and deliver the remainder to the owner, holding him responsible for all costs of the proceedings, and he further held that no testimony could be admitted to show that the goods had been packed with the greatest care and in absolute compliance with the pure food act and delivered under a guaranty, under which defective cans were not sold, nor could the further fact that the damage resulted in transportation be considered.

Alleged Embezzler to Wed.

Cambridge, Mass.—Despite the fact that he will probably be tried within a month on the charge of embezzling \$250,000 from the National City Bank of Cambridge, George W. Coleman admitted that he had taken out a marriage license and will be married "on some day this week." The woman Coleman expects to marry is given in the Globe as Miss May Hightower, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Hightower of Kansas City, Mo.

Would Fix Time Limit.

Washington.—Amendments to the statehood bill were reported to the senate Friday from the committee on territories by Chairman Beveridge. They provide, among other things, that the elections for the ratifications of the constitutions of the proposed new states shall be held not earlier than sixty days nor later than ninety days after the adjournment of the constitutional conventions.

Turpentine for Mites.

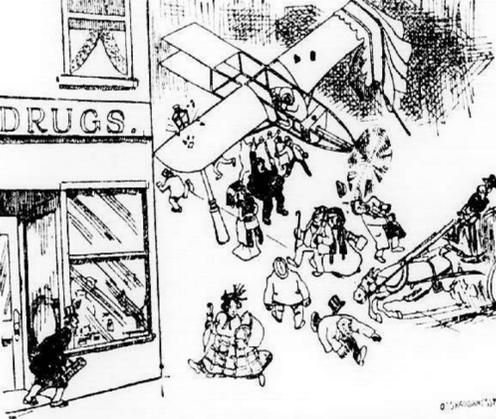
Turpentine is much better than kerosene to kill mites. Boiling water will kill all it touches. It is difficult to find them all. They hide in cracks in the boarding overhead and even between the shingles.

Profit in Grain Feed.

A pound of gain can be made on a young chicken with four to 4 1/2 pounds of grain. From 13 to 26 weeks old it takes 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 pounds of grain, which proves that poultry can be grown as cheaply as pork.

A POSSIBILITY OF THE FUTURE

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DEALS DEATH ON TRAIN ROASTS UNCLE JOSEPH

CONDUCTOR INTERCEDES—GETS A BULLET THROUGH HEART.

Driven from Coach, Still Shooting After Being Shot in Face with Riot Gun.

Wilmington, Del.—An exciting battle in which three men were killed, occurred on a Baltimore & Ohio railroad train this afternoon. The fight began at Newark, Del., and ended in this city. Several persons were wounded in the affray.

The triple tragedy was the result of an altercation between Bethea, who was a passenger, and Williams, the porter in the Pullman parlor car.

Betha shoots Porter. Bethea, who had been drinking heavily, shot the porter through the heart, killing him instantly. When Conductor Wellman saw the porter fall he ran to the scene to restrain the passenger, who still held the revolver in his hand. Bethea fired a second shot into the negro's body. Then without a word Bethea shot Wellman through the heart.

The conductor fell dead in his tracks. Before the passengers could interfere the double murderer barricaded himself in the toilet room of the Pullman car and threatened to kill the first person who approached. Meanwhile the train reached Wilmington. When it came into the station a hazy call was sent to the police station. A squad of patrolmen, reinforced by park guards and a posse of citizens and trawmen, ran to the scene.

Opens Fire on Police. Bethea is believed to have had at least 100 rounds of ammunition, for he succeeded in holding the posse at bay and also held up the train from 5:17 until 6:33. During this time many shots were fired on both sides, until finally all the windows of the car were riddled.

When the battle had lasted about an hour, the police realized they would be unable to drive the man from cover. A call was sent to a local fire company. The firemen responded with their engine. Attaching a high pressure hose to a fire plug, and with the firemen carried behind trucks and boards, a stream of water was played upon the windows of the toilet room.

The desperado fired a number of shots at the firemen, but they were not injured. Subsequently Bethea, drenched with water, staggered to the platform and the police once more called upon him to surrender. His reply was several shots in quick order from his revolver.

Driven from Car.

Police Captain Evans fired a load of shot into Bethea's face. Notwithstanding this injury, he kept on blazing away. Patrolman Boughman opened fire with a pistol and struck Bethea in the right arm. The desperado man tried to fire again, but Sergeant Kelder sent in a shot and he fell dead.

While it was believed by some of the passengers who fled when the train reached Wilmington that the desperado was insane, other passengers said he appeared to be sane, with the exception that he had been drinking.

FAIRBANKSWELCOMED HOME

Former Vice President and His Wife Are Given a Big Reception.

Indianapolis, Ind.—All Indiana joined Thursday in welcoming home former Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks and Mrs. Fairbanks. The distinguished couple arrived in the afternoon from their "round-the-world" trip, and were greeted by the cheers of their friends and admirers from all parts of the state. All the mayors of Indiana cities had been asked to send representatives, and most of them had complied. The school children of this city also participated in the exercises. Only two speeches were made, the address of welcome by Gov. Thomas R. Marshall and the response by Mr. Fairbanks.

Culberson Breaks Down.

Washington.—Senator Charles A. Culberson, until the present session minority leader of the senate, is at Danville, N. Y., in a sanitarium, suffering from nervous breakdown. Those interested in his recovery have kept his whereabouts secret, that he may not be troubled with letters or telegrams. Every effort is being made to keep his official cares from him. His associates here are very anxious about him. Early in the winter he went to Atlantic City, where he remained until very recently.

Gave Cotton Seed Luncheon.

Washington.—Representative Beall of Texas was host at an informal luncheon today in honor of the members of the house committee on agriculture and the menu consisted exclusively of biscuit, fruit cake and cookies made from cottonseed meal which had been sent to Mr. Beall by J. W. Allison, president of the oil mill at Ennis, Tex. It is the consensus of opinion among the members of the committee that wheat flour now has a worthy rival in cottonseed meal in its refined state as a palatable article of food.

Alter Cotton Seed Oil Rate.

Washington.—Senator Taylor of Tennessee appealed in vain to Secretary Knox in behalf of the cottonseed oil interests with reference to the adjustment of tariff rates with France. Under the terms of the tariff cottonseed oil is admitted into France free of duty, but a heavy tariff is imposed on cottonseed oil. It is said that the oil manufactured from American seed, admitted duty free, can be made in France and shipped back to this country and sold at a profit in competition with American made oil.

COUNCILMEN CONFESS

GO BEFORE CRIMINAL JUDGE AND TAKE "IMMUNITY BATH"

Those Who Do Not Make Their "Confession" Will Be Prosecuted by District Attorney.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Thirty present and former members of the school and union committees under indictment on a charge of bribery and too many with suspended sentences, and held in \$500 bonds upon their confession of sharing in a pool of \$100,000 to influence the votes of the municipal bodies, is the result of the first day's probe of the grand jury, following the sensational confession of Capt. John Klein, former member of councils.

All day long Judge R. S. Fraser sat as a committing magistrate in the criminal court room and his desk became "a throne of grace" to the many councilmen under suspicion who swarmed before the judge to be "washed of their sins." On one floor of the court building the grand jury would hear the conscience-stricken councilmen, who would then go before Judge Fraser and take the immunity bath, offered by the district attorney.

Up to the adjournment of court for the day ten had confessed their guilt. In most instances the amount of money they confessed to accepting as a bribe was not over \$100. One man got \$500 and another \$200, while others got but \$50.

The greatest surprise of the day came late in the afternoon when Dr. W. H. Webber, member of school council, appeared before Judge Fraser and made a confession almost as startling as that of Klein. Dr. Webber told of receiving \$10,000 in a shoe box. This, he said, he gave to Klein for members of common council, while he kept \$1,000 to "fix" members of the upper branch.

Later, according to Webber, it was found necessary to secure more votes and more money was raised and when this was divided it was found that the additional councilmen's share was but \$81.10.

WOMEN WOULD RUN CHURCH

Skirt Contingent Demands Equal Rights in M. E. Church.

Atlanta, Ga.—The women of the Southern Methodist Church are preparing for the battle in the coming quadrennial conference at Asheville, N. C., for a recognition of their rights in the church. They are demanding the same rights granted the laymen in the councils of the church, and their organization is confident that their demands will be granted. Meantime, the women are taking no chances, but are conducting an active propaganda through the pulpit, the press and by letters. Several prominent ministers have declared in their favor and are preaching in the same strain.

NO PENSION FOR THEODORE

Allowances Voted to Mesdames Cleveland and Harrison.

Washington.—The senate committee on pensions Monday agreed to report favorably bills to grant pensions of \$5,000 a year to Frances Folsom Cleveland, widow of ex-President Grover Cleveland, and Mary Ford Harrison, widow of ex-President Benjamin Harrison. The committee declined to report a bill to place ex-President Roosevelt on the retired list as commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and give him \$10,000 a year for the remainder of his life.

This bill does not mention Mr. Roosevelt by name, but applied to "ex-presidents of the United States."

SUES MINISTERS FOR LIBEL

Candidate Denies He Used Beer to Secure Votes.

Butler, Pa.—Rev. Claudius Freeman, pastor of the Lutheran church, claims that six local ministers recently charged that a "candidate for school director" shipped to Mrs. Pa., the day before the election, a barrel of beer for the purpose of influencing votes. Freeman declares that he was the candidate meant, and today he had warrants issued charging criminal libel against the six ministers.

Dynamite Replaces Plow.

Spartanburg, S. C.—J. H. Caldwell, a farmer near here, broke up an acre of land with six charges of dynamite, the explosive being used instead of the plow. Mr. Caldwell claims that blasting land with dynamite is the best method for subsiding and that it can be done more cheaply than by manual labor.

Alter Cotton Seed Oil Rate.

Washington.—Senator Taylor of Tennessee appealed in vain to Secretary Knox in behalf of the cottonseed oil interests with reference to the adjustment of tariff rates with France. Under the terms of the tariff cottonseed oil is admitted into France free of duty, but a heavy tariff is imposed on cottonseed oil. It is said that the oil manufactured from American seed, admitted duty free, can be made in France and shipped back to this country and sold at a profit in competition with American made oil.

GIVES DIVORCE FEE

John Jacob Astor, Freed. Spends \$25,000 on Friends.

Multi-Millionaire Follows Smart Set Custom of Celebrating Severance of Marital Ties in a Lavish Manner.

New York.—The smart thing to do nowadays when you get a divorce is to celebrate it with a dinner, theater party, supper, give presents to your friends and if you are a multi-millionaire spend \$25,000 on the entertainment. Of course if you can't spend \$25,000 spend \$25, \$250 or two bits.

Col. John Jacob Astor set a merry party recently in this city. The colonel's entertainment cost \$25,000. It was a good thing for it put money into circulation and that's what we need in this country. When a multi-millionaire turns loose \$18,000 for favors it means that some poor workman had something to do. Astor can afford such things, so what's the difficulty?

The Astor entertainment marked the end of the granting of the final decree of divorce obtained by Mrs. Astor.

There were 150 guests. Under the old regime the two Astor houses, with a connection of one door between them, were the scene of the party.

In the simple matter of expense, simple at least to Col. Astor, the night's entertainment challenged attention. There have been several more expensive affairs in New York. The Astor evening was made a matter of seeming simplicity. There were no flamboyant decorations. Nothing but 140 dozen roses and a few incidental palms and ferns. Simplicity also ruled in the matter of the favors and the fact that they cost \$18,000 and the entire evening's pleasure probably cost more than \$25,000 was a mere incident.

The entire house was at the disposal of the guests, who wandered at will through the conservatory, the art gallery, the broad hallways and corridors, where a buffet lunch was waiting at every hand, and in which three



them, often have greeted more than 600 guests, but 150 appears to be the new number.

It was not until about midnight that the guests began to gasp with astonishment. Then the cotillon began and the favors appeared. The most costly of these were the French parasols presented to the women. They had been made to order and were hand carved upon the finest of woods, with long handles and of silk of every color.

Guests never estimate the cost of such trifles, but a few outsiders valued the parasols at \$50 each.

Both men and women were provided with pompadour ribbon scarfs and sashes trimmed with gold and silver, and as quickly as they were wound about the shoulders of the dancers about the ballroom became a kaleidoscope of color at \$15 per color.

Brass bells were among the favors given the men and they were kept ringing merrily so that at times the orchestra had difficulty in letting it be known that they still were at work. The Gardenia bougainvillees given the men were artificial, but they were performed in a manner to put nature to the test to keep even.

The director's mirrors that were among the favors for the women were two feet in length, the handles of satinwood, and with 75 of them flashing back the lights of the ballroom from all angles they provided a figure of dazzling brilliancy.

If there were men present who never smoked a pipe they must have been tempted by the splendid combination of briar, gold and amber presented to them, with gold matchboxes and a gift flashlight to complete the outfit. Those who insist upon nothing but cigars were delighted with a novel gift—cigar lighter.

One of the last favors provided the men with bronze desk rulers and paper weights as a possible reminder that there might be work to do at some future time, while at the same time the women received bridge scores as a possible reminder that they cannot win in all the time.

Supper time found all the large tables used for dinner gone and in their stead were dozens of little tables scattered about the ballroom, with waiters ready to inform guests that a breakfast would be served later, if desired.