The Lower Coast Gazette

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The Lower Coast Gazette Co.

Pointe-a-la-Hache, Louisiana.

—:OFFICIAL ORGAN OF:—
PLAQUEMINES PARISH POLICE JURY,
ENGLISH TURN DRAINAGE DISTRICT,
RIVERE AUX CHENES DRAINAGE DISTRICT,
PLAQUEMINES PARISH ROAD DISTRICT NO. 1,
LAKE BORGNE BASIN LEVEE DISTRICT,
BELLE CHASSE DRAINAGE DISTRICT,

TERMS:—ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1912.

The Rice Harvest in Plaquemines.

THE rice harvest in this parish is now in full swing. The rapid fall in the river cutting off the water supply for irrigation purposes, left a good deal of the rice undeveloped and giving a very poor promise a few weeks ago. The rains, however, that have been prevailing for a month past have benefited these inadequately irrigated fields and more rice will probably be gathered from them than seemed at all possible a month or more ago.

As is usual, the advent of any considerable rice upon the market has a tendency to break down values and those who will harvest their rice and sell it on a glutted market will doubtless find themselves disappointed in the results. In Plaquemines Parish, in former days, it was customary among all the rice planters to put their rice in stacks and let it pass through the sweat incidental to stacking and then later on, whenever it was convenient, to market the rice in the best way possible, but not precipitately, as if selling it off at auction. As our readers know, the very handsome fortune of the Sovoies was made largely by the prudence of Mr. Bernard Savoie in the matter of harvesting and selling his rice. Once in a while he may have found that he could have done better by selling earlier, but, as a rule, his delayed sales seemed to realize him more net money than others got for their rice.

This brings to mind the matter of taking care of rice after its harvest. Mr. Bernard Savoie put his threshed rice in bins, just as is done with wheat, oats, barley and rye in the western states and in that way saved all the wastage from rats cutting the bags, and when the rice was sold it could be qnickly bagged and sent to market.

This is a matter that is impressing itself more and more upon all of our people identified with agriculture, horticulture, truck gardening, and so on, that is, that the marketing of the crop is about as serious a matter as is producing it. To be engaged in many months of hard work, to produce good crops, and then to have them mercilessly slaughtered in a glutted market is a very crushing misfortune and enough to difcourage anyone. Such discouragement has done great harm on the lower coast. It may be that by adequate precautions we can remove these troubles one by one. On the East bank for many years one of the great misfortunes was the somewhat frequent inundation of the rice fields by the autumnal storms. The great back levee there constructed is now doing a great deal of good in the protection of the country, but at the same time the system of outlet gates is defective. These were intended to be automatic and yet are not found to close automatically and cannot be well reached in times of high back water in any way to make them tight. We have been inclined to think that it would be better even now to have a canal on the inside, or field side of the back levee say 30 or 40 feet away from the base of the levee and this canal could carry the inside water to natural outlets, wherein larger flumes, 6, 8 or 10 feet wide could be placed that would allow all of the inside water to go out whenever the outside water was of a lower level than that inside. This is an engineering problem that ought to be very carefully considered and if the present system has any intrinsic fault it would be well for those interested to endeavor to correct tde faults as rapidly as they could, hoping in time, to create a system that shall be just as effective in Louisiana as are the hundreds of drainage districts in Holland and on the east coast of England, where such works have been operating for more than a thousand years. The water in our canals coming from the leakages of the irrigation water, could be pumped back on the front lands again through narrow ditches and used over again for irrigating the rice crop. The lift would be so slight, say only 2 or 3 feet, that with a Menge or Titus pump such water could be availed of whenever the river was low, making river irrigation difficult.

A canal on the field side of the levee and used as a general canal, reaching the necessary outlets is the custom of the world wherever these lowlands are protected by levees, as is done with our present back levee. If some such plan was adopted it would necessarily lead to more careful irrigation and prevent the wastage of water which is now so common that some planters keep their water running through their rice fields continuously, a feature of irrigation that is not considered necessary anywhere else in the rice producing world.

We hesitate about making suggestions to our rice planters who are so thoroughly informed as to their business, who have been engaged in it for many years and are familiar with every phase of it, but we do know that the methods are not those that are used elsewhere and that it is the custom in Holland and in England to have the great catch water canal on the field side of the levee and not on the outside.

The American Corn Crop.

THE American corn crop, a product of about 107 million acres of land, was expected to have exceeded 3,000 millions of bushels, but the droughts recently prevailing in the central and western states have cut the quantity down very considerably and the present estimated yield is placed a little under 2400 millions of bushels, against 3125 millions of bushels last year. The average crop yield was placed at 25 bushels and rated in condition on August 1st at 75.8 per cent as compared with 80 per cent at the same date last year, and as compared with 86.9 per a month ago. The drought has been most disastrous in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Our readers identified with the sugar industry are familiar with the fact that these occasional droughts in the western states, reaching all the way to the Rocky Mountains at times, interfere very seriously with Indian corn. This led at an early date to the planting of immense quantities of sorghum in Kansas, that being a plant which more deeply rooted itself and seems to require less moisture for its complete development. The success of sorghum in Kansas gave an impetus to the sorghum sugar experimentation in the early days before the final success of the beet sugar manufacture was demonstrated

The production of oats on 38 million acres was reported for condition on August 1st at 73.7 per cent, as against 90.3 a year ago and as against 76.3 on July 1, 1913. With oats culture less widely spread than corn, the great injury resulting from drought is not so keenly felt. The ten year average is a yield of 29.7 bushels to the acre. The expected yield this year is 26.8 as against a yield last year of 37.4. The estimated shortage of oats this year as compared to last is placed at 390 millions of bushels. The oats crop of the country is estimated at 1,028 millions of bushels this year, as against 1,418 millions of bushels last year.

Additional Honors for Captain Ben Michell.

IT was only recently that we recorded in these columns the fact that Capt. Ben Michell had been appointed by the governor as chairman of the Branch Pilots' Examining Committee, Capt. Charles Post having also been appointed by the governor at that time as a member of the committee, and now we learn by the press dispatches that Capt. Ben Michell has been chosen as the president of the National Association of Bar Pilots, the highest honor that could be conferred upon any of their members by this great body of earnest, intelligent and brave sailors who protect the commerce of the country by safely guiding the great ships of the world coming into our country's harbors.

This is a splendid tribute to the ability of Capt. Ben Michell. It comes to him as the result of many years of duty and general success in all of his undertakings and of a kindly spirit that leads everyone who meets him to believe that he means exactly what he says at all times.

As to what this will mean to Capt. Michell, as to whether or not the additional duties thus thrown upon him will demand any considerable part of his time, we are not advised. Any way, we congratulate Capt. Michell upon these new honors so fairly earned by his intelligent efforts, his capacity for administration, and his high personal character.

Foreign Immigration.

THERE has been of late a growing prejudice against foreign immigration, although more than three-quarters of the families in the United States can now trace their ancestry back to foreign immigrants and to those who seeking their fortunes in this new world, came to it with practically no capital, their fortune and their future lying in their willingness to work.

In this connection some interesting points come to us from Texas where, according to the U. S. Census reports we learn that 58 per cent of the foreign born citizens of that state now own their own homea. This is an extraordinary statement, but is borne out by the facts and figures and these facts and figures have made Texas the grand empire state that it now is.

The world is just discovering that Louisiana, the state in the alluvial sections of the Mississippi Valley, the Holland of the new world, is offering to the outside world lands of unparalleled excellence and these at low prices. Immigrants from Europe and from the other states of the federal union will always find a welcome in Louisiana and opportunities here for the acquisition of wealth greater we believe than they can find in any other state in the federal union.

Progress of the Shell Road.

MR. Garsaud, the shell roan contractor, is now apparently pressing his work on the road with great earnestness and there are hopes of its early completion. While scarcely any of the road is yet entirely completed in accordance with the specifications, about one half of the distance is reasonably near completion, that is from the upper line of the parish to the Belair quarters. From there down the road has a great deal of work done upon it, but it is not yet sufficiently completed so be open to automobile traffic.

We hear from scores of parties that they are looking forward with great interest to the road opening through to Pointe a la Hache and to the use of the great new fishing grounds that will be reached by the Mevers Canal, which now gives easy access to fishing grounds superior, we think, to any other like area in Louisiana.

Apart from the fishing and hunting now made available by the Mevers Canal, the Country Club some two or three miles above Pointe a la Hache has also [illegible] canal for the use of its members which, however, we presume will only reach to the back levee, some three quarters of a mile from the river. Some inquiry for country property along the Lower Coast is developing because of the building of the shell road and we think that we shall have a fine lot of surburban residences lining the road from Carnaervon to Pointe a la Hache within the next few years.

Notice.

Office of Board of Commissioners.
Venice Drainage District.
Venice, La., August 2, 1913.

The Board of Commissioners for the Venice Drainage District offers for sale, Fifty-nine Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars ($59,500.00) of its five per cent, forty year, (40) Drainage Bonds, issued in accordance with Article 281 of the Constitution of Louisiana and Act 317 of 1910 of the Louisiana Legislature as amended. This Drainage District is situated on the West bank of the Mississippi River, in the heart of the orange district of the Lower Coast and the lands furnish an excellent security for the bond issue.

Bids will be received up to and will be open at Venice, Louisiana, on Saturday September 6, 1913, at twelve o'clock mid-day. Such portion of these bonds will be sold, as the needs of the Board, determined by its contracts, require, and the Board reserves the right to make delivery of the bonds as the work progresses and the financial needs of the board require funds. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

For further information address,

AUGUSTIN A. BURAS,
President.

Notice.

Office Board of Commissioners.
Venice Drainage District.
Venice, La., August 2, 1913.

Sealed proposals will be received at this office up to eleven o'clock a. m. Saturday, August 23rd, for the following work for improving drainage, to be done in accordance with plans and specifications prescribed by the Board of State Engineers of Louisiana, viz:

1st. To furnish the necessary drainage plant for the District.

2nd. To construct a canal approximately eight miles long, from the lower to the upper end of the district, placing the earth on the west bank of the canal, leaving a berm of thirty feet.

3rd. Furnishing the necessary dredge boat, suitable for the construction of the said canal and resulting levee.

For further information, blank forms for making proposals, etc., apply to the Board of State Engineers at New Orleans, La., or to the undersigned.

Deposit required of Five Hundred Dollars, with each bid. Bond required will be 50 per cent of the contract price.

AUGUSTIN A. BURAS,
President.

The State of Louisiana, Parish of Plaquemines.

Stella Plantation Co., vs The Stella Planting & Manufacturing Co. No. 1062. Twenty-Ninth Judicial District Court.

By virtue of an inobedience to an order of seizure and sale to me directed by the Honorable the Twenty-Ninth Judicial District Court in and for the Parish of Plaquemines, dated the 9th day of August 1913 in the above entitled cause, I have seized and will proceed to sell at public auction, at the courthouse at Pointe a la Hache on Saturday the 20th day of the month of September 1913 at 11 o'clock, a. m. the following described property, to wit:

"A certain tract of land or sugar plantation" and all buildings and improvements thereon, the machinery, steam mills, sugar making apurtenances thereof, and steam pumps, boilers, etc., and the rights, ways, privileges, servitudes and advantages thereunto appertaining and belonging, known as the "Stella Plantation," situated lying and being in the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana, at a distance of about twenty-one miles below the City of New Orleans, Louisiana, and having and measuring Thirty nine (39) arpents more or less front on the Mississippi River, by Forty (40) arpents in depth according to the title of former owners; and only thirty-eight arpents twenty three toises and four feet and nine inches according to the figurative plan of A. D'Hemecourt, Surveyor, dated 10th day of June 1873, deposited in the office of T. Seghen late Notary in the City of New Orleans, in Plan Book No. 59, and registered in the Land Office of this state on the 20th day of the same month and year, which said plantation contains about sixteen hundred superficial acres of land, more or less and is bounded above by the Scarsdale Plantation, and below by the plantation formerly known as the Delery Plantation and now the Mary Plantation, and being on the left descending bank of the Mississippi River.

Together with all horses, mules and other work animals, wagons, carts, vehicles and implements attached to said plantation.

Being the same property which the said Stella Planting and Manufacturing Company had acquired from Walter L. Saxon and James B. Sinnot, as per act of sale passed before Lyle Saxon Notary Public in the City of New Orleans, La., on the 16th day of June 1908, and which is registered in C. O. B. 41 No. 280 folio 1294 of the Records of the Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana, and which was registered in said parish on the 20th day of June 1908, A. D.

Seized in the above suit: Terms of sale: Cash.

FRANK C. MEVERS,
Sheriff of the Parish of Plaquemines

OFFICIAL REGISTER.
PARISH OFFICERS.

President of the Police Jury.
J. B. Fasterling, Buras P. O.
Secretary of the Police Jury,
Perez, Concession P. O.
Parish Treasurer,
Joseph Savoie, Nero P. O.
Sheriff.
Frank C. Mevers, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
Coroner.
Dr. H. L. Ballowe, Buras P. O.
Assessor.
Marc Cognevich, Nairn P. O.
Clerk of Court,
Ernest Alberti, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
Member of the General Assembly.
Simon Leopold, Phenix P. O.
Police Jurors.
1st Ward—I. S. Lathrop, Eng. Turn P. O.
2nd Ward—Adrien Leopold, Phenix P. O.
3rd Ward—E. A. Schayot, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
4th Ward—Thomas Brophy, Neptune P. O.
5th Ward—Jos. Bernard, Venice P. O.
6th Ward—C. Grabert, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
7th Ward—.....
8th Ward—Dave Withan, Diamond P. O.
9th Ward—Dr. G. A. B. Hays, Happy Jack P. O.
10th Ward—J. B. Fasterling, Buras P. O.
Parish Board of Public Education,
President—J. C. Darmas, Buras P. O.
Secretary and Parish Superintendent of Public Education,
Edward C. Kohn, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
Members,
1st Ward—Jos. H. Meyer, Dalcour P. O.
2nd Ward—Wm. Dymond, Belair P. O.
3rd Ward—Jno. B. Hingle, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
4th Ward—G. W. Delesdernier, Pilot Town
5th Ward—Miegs Childress, Triumph P. O.
6th Ward—Elvi Giordano, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
7th Ward—Frank Giordano, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
8th Ward—W. W. Lemon, Junior P. O.
9th Ward—Benj. Ballay.
10th Ward—F. C. D'Armas, Buras P. O.

LOCAL JUDICIARY.
Justices of the Peace.
1st Ward—E. J. Rodriguez, Jr.
2nd Ward—Hy. Meyer, Bertrandville.
Adrien Leopold, Phenix P. O.
3rd Ward—L .T. Fontenelle, Pointe-a-la-Hache P. O.
4th Ward—Geo. W. Delesdernier, Pilot Town.
W. P. Simmons, Port Eads.
5th Ward—Ernest Fellon, Venice.
6th Ward—C. R. Sarpy, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
7th Ward—Clem L'Artigue, Naomi P. O.
8th Ward—F. R. Grimshaw, Diamond P. O.
9th Ward—M. A. Lyons, Home Place P. O.
10th Ward—Clovis Hingle.
Constables.
1st Ward—A. M. Miller, Dalcour P. O.
2nd Ward—John Grabb, Jr., Bertrandville P. O.
Felix Lafrance, Phenix P. O.
3rd Ward—Ernest Dodson.
4th Ward—James Kiger.
John Zettwock.
5th Ward—Ere Jago, Venice P. O.
6th Ward—Aug. E. Sarpy.
7th Ward—Clement L'Artigue, Jr., Naomi P. O.
8th Ward—Thos. Nolan, Jr., Diamond P. O.
9th Ward—Emile Martin.
10th Ward—Philip Cognevich.

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Secretary—Jos. Savoie, Nero P. O.
Members.
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D. Lasua.
2nd Ward—S. Leopold, Phenix P. O.
Hy. Meyer, Bertrandville.
3rd Ward—Joseph Savoie, Nero P. O.
Joseph Cosse, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
4th Ward—F. Lobrano, Pilot Town P. O.
B. J. Williams, Pilot Town P. O.
5th Ward—Jos. Bernard, Venice P. O.
Augustin A. Buras, Venice P. O.
6th Ward—C. Grabert, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
C. R. Sarpy, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
7th Ward—R. E. Perez, Jesuits' Bend P. O.
Geo. Fried, Myrtle Grove P. O.
8th Ward—D. W. Bieber, Junior P. O.
Jno. McCormick, Myrtle Grove P. O.
9th Ward—Geo. Abadie, Home Place P. O.
Geo. Treadaway, Potash P. O.
10th Ward—J. B. Fasterling, Buras P. O.
M. Cognevich, Nairn P. O.
Members at Large.
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John Dymond, Jr., Empire P. O.
Capt. B. Michell, Pilo tTown.
Judge R. E. Hingle, Pointe-a-la-Hache.
John Dymond, Belair.

MEMBER STATE CENTRAL DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
Capt. B. Michell, Pilot Town.

TWENTY-NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.
District Judge.
R. Emmet Hingle, Pointe-a-la-Hache.

FOURTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT.
Two Senators.
J. V. Guillotte, New Orleans.
John Dymond, Belair.

CONGRESSMAN FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.
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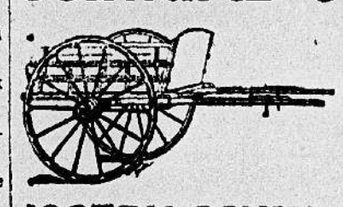

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