WOMAN'S ENTERPRISE

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BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1922.

THE NEW COURT HOUSE AND GROUNDS.

Within a very short time the Parish of East Baton Rouge will present to the inspection of its owncitizens and to transcient visitors a court house of magnificent proportions, beauty of design, of roomy and handsomely furnished quarters for officials and for the transaction of legal affairs and dispensation of justice unequaled by any in the state and equaled by few outside the largest cities, and it is to be hoped the grounds upon which it stands will be made to correspond with the building and not permitted to become as untidy and as neglected as has been the case during the last thirty years or more with the same grounds.

The people of East Baton Rouge should be highly gratified and decidedly proud of their magnificent temple of justice and no doubt are, therefore, those in charge of parish affairs should see to it that the surroundings correspond with the building by being converted into "a thing of beauty and joy forever." Imposing public buildings and elegant surrounding are striking evidences of culture and refinement and surely this community is noted in that respect, therefore, let our public places bear evidence of both.

Just as soon as the Court House is turned over by the contractor and the accumulated rubbish removed, an expert landscape gardener should be employed to lay out the grounds so as to vie with Liberty park in appearance, and thereafter, it should have bestowed upon it constant and unremiting attention.

There is but one disagreeable feature connected with the entire plans insofar as Woman's Enterprise is able to observe, and that results from the proximity of the large building on the triangle separating Someroulas from St. Ferdinand street, which cut off the view as one approaches the Court House from the east and south. Were the parish in a financial condition to do so, it would be wise to purchase the triangle, demolish the buildings and convert the place into a garden. Renewal of the buildings would permit a full and unobstructed view from afar of the Court House and square. Whether the Police Jury agrees with us or not, we consider this suggestion eminently wise and timely and present it for further and more mature consideration.

THE SPANISH RECORDS

The Spanish records in the office of the Clerk of Court of this parish are undoubtably of inestimable value from a historical standpoint and should be well cared for and preserved for all time, instead of which, they are in a fair way of decay. To preserve these priceless records of the past, on the completion of the new court house, the Police Jury should make provision for their care instead of their being thrown about and behind later record-books as at present. The cubby hole, by courtesy called a fire-proof vault, is altogether too small to contain all the books and papers deposited therein and the result is that the older books are thrust wherever space is found. Age, moths, neglect and carless handling combined have caused considerable injury to the ancient documents, and if not rescued from present condition, will soon become unreadable and a story from which may be cull a pretty good idea of the habits and customs of the people of an early day, will be lost to students of history as is the story of the inhabitants settled here by the French and English.

There are many descendants of the early settlers, Spanish and others, yet among us, who should take pride in preserving the story of the lives and doings of their ancestors, and who should use such influence as they may be capable of in the direction of the preservation of documents, the loss of which can never be replaced.

The Spanish records do not contain land grants to individuals, but are a mixture of petitions to the Governor, private land and slave sales, criminal proceedings, appointments of aclaldes and civic matters generally.

Elsewhere in this issue of Woman's Enterprise is published a highly interesting and instructive paper by Mr. H. H. Major, read at the meeting of the Historical Society, February 22, 1918.

Women are not qualifying as voters as numerously or as rapidly as was anticipated by the law makers who conferred the privilege upon them and unless there is quite an increase in the number on our registration books they will be but a weak and unimportant factor in nearby elections. Women have not only failed up to this time to register but very many neglected to pay a poll tax to qualify themselves to cast a vote. Are women in earest in desiring the privilege of voting? If so why have so many failed to qualify? Those who intend voting had better move speedily or the office will close to their disadvantage. "Time flies," and law, likeunto time and tide, awaits not the laggard.

Just at present the illicit liquor dealer, like the ground hog, is hidden in his hole, but like the little animal only awaits favorable weather in which to carry on his nefarious trade. He will emerge, however, just as vigilance is relaxed and fines will not deter him as long as the present price of contraband liquor holds up to the present level. A term in the Penitentiary might tame the tiger but anything less drastic will have no more effect than have rain drops on a duck's back.

The advocates of the proposition to turn the management of this city over to one individual have wisely decided to "bide awee" and until our citizens are educated up to a higher degree of civilization when it will be brought forth again. In the meantime it will remain in a state of coma, carefully nursed by loyal and faithful friends but whose tender care will be for naught for even should its life be saved its death at the polls has been decreed. Sine dubio, which in pure American means "sure thing."

COMMUNICATED.

Editor Woman's Enterprise:

Please give me a little space in your columns to discuss a matter that affects every man, woman and child in the city generally and many men, women and children in the city specifically. I refer to the matter of permanent paving of East Boulevard from Government Street to the city limits and possibly the re-paving of that part of East Boulevard between Government and North Boulevard so as to make it continuous from the Union Station down to the Greater Agricultural College. Now, perhaps on prima facie examination the "gentle reader" will form the impression that this movement is due to the fact that I am myself a resident of that thoroughfare, and I want to say at the beginning, that I, individually expect to enjoy the privileges of the improvement and that I am willing to pay my share of the cost. I want to plead guilty of egotism to the extent that as a citizen of Baton Rouge with lifelong residence in this city and in that particular portion of the city, having seen its expansion and growth, I am vitally interested in the promotion of the progress and prosperity of that section on a par with that of other sections of the city without favor and discrimination. I have no apologies for this civic pride and interest, and on the contrary I wish that the same sentiment would permeate our entire population to the advancement of our community interests. It is for this very reason that I have taken some interest in the movement as will be seen from the following.

At a meeting of a few residents and tax-payers of that section of the city held some two Sundays ago, the twelve or fifteen men present discussed the conditions which had existed during the spell of bad weather in the first portion of the year. It was found that during the existence of bad spells, it is impossible for medical assistance to be given those afflicted with disease or sudden indispositions by reason of the impossibility to reach them. It is a well known fact that can be corroborated by any practicing physician that it is the custom during those periods to leave the cars on Government Street and when entering that portion of the city lying south of Government, well described as "No Man's Land" to leave Hope behind, all they who enter there. The Chief of the Fire Department will corroborate the fact that the operation of fire apparatus south of Government Street during bad spells is not to be thought of or attempted and the same applies to garbage wagons, and every other form of vehicular transportation. Car traffic is impeded by the impossibility of the embarkation or debarkation of passengers or by the stalling of vehicles on the car track. Nothing short of an aeroplane could be used as a method of transportation in this section under those conditions. If one will consult the more recently issued maps of Baton Rouge, you will be surprised to see that the one half of the city that appears to be laid off in lots, that is that portion of the city with a continuity of contour, lies below Government Street. This will be greatly accentuated when the Greater Agricultural College makes the lower sections of the city, the residence section, the boarding house section, the fraternity house section, the homes for young men and young women attending the college from elsewhere in the state, country and the entire world.

Many millions of dollars' worth of public money expended in making this place of which all can realize the importance and magnitude, will necessarily draw development but so far only the far-sighted real estate people have formed an appreciation of the coming events casting their shadows before.

If one consults the map it will be seen that St. Ferdinand is the only street going south of Government and that after that, St. Charles, Royal and St. Napoleon are obstructed by the grounds of the State School for the Deaf and Dumb and end at Asia Street. St. Joseph which is entirely in a natural depression and the basin of the Corporation Canal is not susceptible to being made in a permanent highway except at tremendous cost. The same applies to St. Maximillian, also a hard street to grade and having no practical value as a thoroughfare. East Boulevard, the counterpart of North and South Boulevards in width and susceptibility to development offers the only practical field for improvement, as beyond that there is no through street on account of the State School for the Blind and adjacent property, until Fannie Street is reached and this is merely an alley of no practical value. After Fannie Street the next available artery to the south is the Perkins Road and then comes Roseland Terrace and the residents of that "strictly white" neighborhood speak in no flattering terms of the streets on which all traffic from Government St. southward must pass and when this street is impassable the entire southern section of the city is isolated to the extent that were it in the jungles of Africa, it could not possibly be more unapproachable. Look at the map, "gentle reader," and then look at the streets, and then try to imagine the plight of some ten thousand people or more. most of whom are within the city limits and pay city taxes, who are doomed to let their dear ones die without medical aid, to sit by the muddy roadside and see all their earthly possessions go up in smoke and flame, without the possibility of fire protection, who have to accumulate their garbage for days to the threat of health conditions of the neighborhood, who have not the privilegese of transportation by the expressman, the baker, the butcher, the vegetable man, and the various forms of transportation common to the upkeep of commercial and community life. They cannot operate the automobiles that they have bought and paid for and cannot board the street cars under certain conditions. They cannot send their children to school, they cannot reach their places of worship, they cannot bury their dead, and are deprived of all the rights granted them by the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Lousiana. They have to do without everything necessary to make life worth living, and yet they must PAY, pay taxes for parks and playgrounds which they cannot reach, for roads and highways that run out of the city to here and there and they cannot get out of their front gate or tend to their business as they see fit. And yet people wonder how Anarchy breeds and exists. Is it not a travesty on our Democratic form of government that gives to one and denies to the other? Is it fair, just and reasonable that one should get bread and the other stones? Were it only that the stones were in the form of paving blocks and the exchange might be fairer. What do they get when they complain? A promise that some day there may be a bond issue voted and they may get relief, (after they are dead).

The officials are full of figures and of good intentions but Hell is paved with good intentions and that part of the city is apparently paved with bad ones.

I write this in your journal for the reason that I hope that the women, fresh and hardy with the vigor of their new found liberties, armed with the strength of the franchise, will with the hands that have ministered to mankind for all the time of history and through the aeons of human existence, the reproducers of the race, the softer sex that is more persistent and more eventually powerful than the male, will turn their hands toward this relief. They cannot spread gravel nor lay cobble stones but they can cast their ballots with those hands guided by clearsighted intellects unclouded by the customs that have made men slaves unto themselves and to political customs, and just as the women of France tore down the Bastille with their hands, they will remove the obstacles that stand between them and what they rightfully want and what they eventually are going to get. Perhaps that through that great Emancipation Proclamation that was born when they eliminated the word "male" from the fanchise qualification clause of the Constitution it may occur that the erstwhile nonenities may become the real forces to guide the destinities of our nation and of our communities. The former slaves may yet be the masters of the situation and when their clear vision of things as they are, their perspicacious reasoning of what should be has asserted itself in tangible form, we may all yet bless the day when they came unto their own. Women of Baton Rouge, no matter where you may live or have interests, come to the rescue of this forgotten and forsaken section of your city, and with your sense of justice and your feeling of humanity to all those that suffer, lend a hand to correct and intolerable situation existing in what we term OUR city and community.

Mr. Commissioner, if a bond issue is the only solution to the perplexing question, then for heaven's sake hurry up and call an election for the authorizing of the issue. To the men and women of Baton Rouge, I say, if a bond election is called, then in the name of humanity, vote for it. We are grasping at straws in our extremity and having been down twice we are going down for the third. Please hasten to our relief and lend us a helping hand. Come to our rescue are we perish.

J. ST. CLAIR FAVROT.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY OF US.

Cape Giradeau, Mo.:

"I subscribed to the Woman's Enterprise because the woman's cause in Louisiana is the nearest interest to my heart apart from family matters."

Colonel Boyd, president L. S. U., says that he "wants a file of the Woman's Enterprise" kept in the Hill Memorial Library, as a matter of history, which will be very valuable in after years."

Monroe, La.:

"Enclosed another subscription to the Woman's Enterprise. We think it a wonderful paper and look forward eagerly to its coming every month."

From New Roads:

"I enclose check for $1.00 to cover my subscription to the Wioman's Enterprise" for one year.

"I sincerely hope that the 'Enterprise' may prove to be a success, in every respect and an instrument for the accomplishment of much good in the community and in the state, all of which I feel sure it will be under the management of so able and public spirited a journalist."

From One of Our Home People:

"Enclose subscription to 'Woman's Enterprise.' It is one of the neatest, brightest and newsiest papers I have ever seen. We are all proud of it because it is our very own. We predict for it a wonderful future, being under the supervision of such a wonderful leader, one who has the walfare of the city and community at heart, and one who is so capable of doing things."

EXCURSION STEAMER CAPITOL

Henry Watkins Allen Chapter, U. D. C., has made a contract with the steamer "Capitol" for a moonlight excursion on May 16th. This will be the only trip out of Baton Rouge this season, and will be entirely under the management of the Daughters of the Confederacy. These trips on the Capitol are eagerly looked forward to by the people of Baton Rouge so many having enjoyed these excursions in the past few years.

Vandemark's Folly

By HERBERT QUICK

Read this great American novel—the most talked of book of the day.

Other new books now on sale are:

SUCCESS
Samuel Hopkins Adams

THE BELOVED WOMAN
Kathleen Norris

SLEEPING FIRES
Gertrude Atherton

BRASS
Charles G. Norris

HEAD OF THE HOUSE OF COOMBE
Frances Hodgson Burnett

TO HIM THAT HATH
Ralph Connor

THE SETTLING OF THE SAGE
Hal Evarls

IF WINTER COMES
A. S. W. Hutchinson

TO THE LAST MAN
Zane Grey

Southern Stationery Store

PHONE 848

Statement of the Financial Condition of the

Citizens Loan Corporation

of Baton Rouge, at the close of business January 31, 1922, as shown by the audit of C. G. ROBINSON & CO., Public Accountants and Auditors.

RESOURCES

Loans secured by mortgage on automobiles	$132,811.28
Loans secured by endorsement and collateral	20,363.93
Furniture and fixtures	1,800.00
Cash on hand and in banks	7,120.38
	$162,095.59

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	$100,000.00
Surplus and undivided profits	12,701.72
Reserve for insurance	3,558.87
Bills payable	45,835.00
	$162,095.59
Total net worth	$112,701.72

14% IN DIVIDENDS PAID SINCE OPENING IN MAY, 1920.

Citizens Loan Corporation

BATON ROUGE, LA.

OFFICERS

A. A. WREN, President — DR. S. D. PORTER, Vice president

T. J. SINGLETARY, Secretary-Treasurer

DIRECTORS

FRED BECKER, H. PAYNE BREAZEALE, C. M. BROOKS, C. J. BROWN, E. F. FLEMING, JR., R. H. GEARHART, B. E. PERKINS, DR. S. D. PORTER, LEP SOMMERS, MRS. T. P. SINGLETARY, R. E. STEARNS, A. A. WREN, A. T. PRESCOTT, J. Y. SANDERS, JR.