

# U. D. C. DEPARTMENT

LOUISIANA DIVISION.

## ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLE OF MANSFIELD

The following interesting account of the celebration of the anniversary of the battle of Mansfield is copied from the Mansfield Enterprise of April 20. While the battle fought at that place does not rank with the greater battles of the Civil War in which great numbers were engaged, yet for desperate fighting, heroic bravery and tremendous loss of life for the number engaged, no battle of the war, great or small, surpassed it in per centage nor was in any a more decisive victory for the Confederacy than at Mansfield. The Enterprise says:

On Saturday, April 8th, the 56th anniversary of the battle fought at Mansfield, on the 8th of April, 1864, was celebrated by Camp Mouton No. 41, United Confederate Veterans. The first celebration was held in 1869 just four years after the bloody conflict was fought, and for 53 years the veterans have never failed to celebrate the day, until it is now recognized as a fixed practice, and the interest in the event has never diminished, a fact which to a very great extent, is due to the efforts of the Daughters of the Confederacy, whose enthusiasm seems to increase as time passes. As to the old veterans, their spirit is strong but their bodies are weak, and while their enthusiasm for the cause has never diminished, they have accepted the fact, that they are no longer able to bear the fatigue of much activity, and now graciously accept the courtesies, and the honors heaped upon them, by their descendants, the friends of the Lost Cause.

The parish of DeSoto sent more than thirteen hundred men to the Confederate army, but there are now only 62 survivors of the conflict living in the parish, and while practically all of them are members of Camp Mouton only 33 of them are active members, and pay their dues of 50 cents per year, but on the occasion of their annual celebration, there are always a number of visitors from other parishes and states. On Saturday the 8th, the day opened bright and beautiful and the old soldiers began to gather at an early hour. At 11 a. m. they gathered at the junction of Polk and Adams streets, and headed by the Mansfield high school band under the director of Professor Wilcox, they formed in line, and marched to the court house campus, where Mr. Pace, of the Eureka Studio, took a group picture of the procession after which they assembled in the court

room, with Commander J. E. Dillon in the chair, and J. E. Hewitt acting adjutant at the desk. The first business was to register all the old veterans present, whether they were members of Camp Mouton or not. This work was in charge of Miss Viola Cook, acting as assistant adjutant, and while she inscribed the name and was making record of the old soldiers, Miss Ophelia Dillon pinned a ribbon, the Camp colors, on the lapel of the veterans coat.

A regular business meeting was then held, and after an invocation by the Chaplain, Comrade R. M. Farmer, a splendid address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Holcomb, of the First Baptist Church, and the 33 members of the Camp present, paid their dues.

Mr. Farmer, Chairman of the committee, on "Memorials" then presented a paper in memory of Comrade W. P. Hamilton, and it was ordered to be spread on their minutes, and a page was also dedicated for an inscription of a memorial to Comrade A. Champion, and A. Atwood, both of whom had died since the last meeting of the camp.

Mr. Gordon Phipps, representing the Nabors Garage, then notified the Camp, that all the members, as well as their comrades from a distance, had the free use of all the automobiles they might need to carry them to the Cemetery and out to the battle field, and the Camp passed a resolution of thanks to Mr. Nabors for this courteous and gracious consideration, and the Camp adjourned, and the Kate Beard Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy took them in hand, and served one of the most sumptuous banquets ever seen in Mansfield. The every want of the old soldiers were anticipated and complied with.

In the meantime the Nabor's Garage had a line of new Fords drawn up for the accommodation of the old boys. The Rives Motor Co. was also on hand with a dozen big cars for their use, and these two patriotic concerns, had more than ample accommodation for the vast throng, and a gala day procession was formed, and proceeded to the Cemetery, where each of the 300 graves of Confederate soldiers had been decorated with flowers. Arriving at the Cemetery, a short, beautifully impressive service was held at the soldier's monument, Rev. Mr. Holcomb again officiating as speaker. The old soldiers then formed in line, and marched to the plot where 86 unknown Confederate soldiers were buried. These men were

killed on the field, and being unidentified, were buried where they fell. In 1869, when the bodies of the federal soldiers who fell on that field, were taken up and laid at rest in the National Cemetery at Alexandria, La., the citizens of Mansfield with their own hands, removed the 86 bodies all that could be found, and re-entered them in the Mansfield Cemetery and the Cemetery Association, through the efforts of Mrs. W. P. Sample, erected an appropriate marker to designate their resting place.

The old soldiers formed around this most sacred spot, and Rev. Mr. Pearson, of the First Methodist church, standing by the marker, delivered a most thrilling and appropriate talk. It was entirely impromptu, for it was not on the program, and his fitting tribute to those unknown dead, caused every heart present to thrill with emotion.

At the conclusion of these services, it began to threaten rain, and the trip to the battle field was abandoned by all but the most hearty and enthusiastic, and the proceedings were closed, all pronouncing it to have been one of the most successful reunions ever held, in commemoration of one of the most complete and far-reaching victories ever won on American soil.

The most conspicuous feature of the celebration was the old Confederate battle flag, born aloft by Mr. H. W. Hoell, who was flag bearer for the 19th La. Infantry in many bloody fields. However, in the afternoon procession, it was carried by Dr. J. F. O'Leary, of Shreveport, one of the distinguished guests, and his stately form truly made an imposing sight.

The display of war relics in the window of Mr. S. A. Kidd's store was interesting and attracted much attention. An incident of public interest was that in hunting for relics, Mr. Kidd found the large portrait of Gen. Alfred Mouton, that had been presented to Camp Mouton by the general's family when the camp was organized in 1869.

The Camp expressed their thanks to Mr. W. T. Bilbray, our city Marshal, for the splendid manner in which he suppressed the auto speeder along the line of march, as he made it safe for the old fellows.

HENRY WATKINS ALLEN  
CHAPTER, U. D. C.

That Henry Watkins Allen Chapter, U. D. C. is growing rapidly is seen from the fact that 14 certificates of new members have been recently received. Several more are being filed by the Registrar of the Chapter, which will be forwarded to the State

Registrar. The Chapter has now on its rolls 82 active members.

During the past month delegates were sent to the Louisiana Division convention in New Orleans.

A beautiful reception was given to the State President on April 7, which was attended by every veteran in the parish, the Joanna Waddill Chapter, U. D. C., the Auxiliary American Legion and representatives of the Spanish-American War, besides nearly every member of the Chapter was present.

On April 6, the Chapter paid a beautiful floral tribute on the tomb of Governor Henry Watkins Allen, from whom the Chapter took its name.

Miss Mattie B. McGrath represented the Chapter at the unveiling of the Mouton Monument on April 8, having been chairman of the fund for a number of years.

The next event of interest in the Chapter will be the annual picnic to be given the Confederate veterans.

### POSTPONED.

At meeting of the executive committee of the hostess chapters of the Daughters of the Confederacy, held in New Orleans on Saturday morning, it was decided to postpone the state convention which was to have been held on May 2-5, to some future date owing to the river conditions.

Telegrams were sent to every chapter in the state, inquiring if they could attend the convention. With three exceptions all answered that it would be impossible to come under the circumstances.

An elaborate program had been prepared for the convention and the delegates from all over the state regret exceedingly that it had to be postponed.

### FOR THE FLOOD SUFFERERS.

Miss Lise Allain, chairman of the relief work for the flood sufferers of chapter No. 72, U. D. C., has written the following letter to Miss Mattie B. McGrath, President Henry Watkins Allen Chapter:

"As chairman of the relief work for the flood sufferers, we will send you the first box of clothing gathered and I hope to be able to send it to you by the middle of the week. I have not forgotten what you did for me when I was custodian for the soldiers Home during the epidemic of flu, so now I am chairman of this relief committee, will ship you the first box. We have already quite a few things, containing an overcoat, some shoes, big and small.

"Wishing you success in your good work,

Cordially,  
LISE ALLAIN,  
Chairman Relief Work, Flood Sufferers, New Orleans Chapter No. 72, U. D. C."

The Louisiana Division, U. D. C., mourn with Mrs. J. S. Allison, of Benton, La., honorary historian of the state in the sad loss she has sustained in the death of her son Dr. Hugh H. Allison, which occurred in Albuquerque, N. M., where he had been since the close of the World War, having contracted tuberculosis during service. His funeral took place on Thursday, at his old home in Benton, the American Legion having charge of the services at the grave. The deceased leaves his aged parents, sisters and brothers and a widow and two twin boys 11 months old.

### GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL FOR BATON ROUGE

First Meeting Enthusiastic; Permanent Organization May 10.

In the Istrouma hotel, April 21, at a meeting of a group of enthusiastic women interested in the formation of a Girl Scout council for Baton Rouge, it was decided to go into formal organization May 10.

On this occasion fine talks were made by Miss Florence Smith, physical training director of L. S. U., and

Capt. H. E. Steele, scout executive for the Boy Scouts.

Mrs. L. U. Babin was made temporary chairman and Mes. Hy. Jastremski, Chas. Duchien and Miss F. Smith were named on a committee to present rules and regulations and a working plan for the use of the council. Mrs. Clifford King has charge of the membership and will secure members to the council of girls would be scouts, or friends among other women or older girls interested.

The meeting for the permanent organization May 10 will take place at 10:30 in the morning at the home of Mrs. A. F. Prescott, 739 North street.

The officers will consist of a president, three vice presidents and a treasurer. These with three others from the council will constitute the executive committee. Other committees whose personnel will be arranged May 10 are: committee on finance; troop organization; camping; publicity; civic service; scout leaders; training and instruction; court of honor.

This movement started among the girls themselves. Already there are about sixty who would be Girl Scouts. They have several patrols preparing for their "tenderfoot" examinations. With Miss Judith McGregor as Captain and an unusually large number of fine girls to be leaders the success of Girl Scouts is assured and the council through which interested women work, must be just as good.

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And your chin is hanging low,  
When your waist line's disappearing  
And your gait's becoming slow;  
It's time to do some thinking  
In a calm and sober way;  
For you're getting fat—yes, dearie,  
Getting fat—perhaps pass'e.

Now when a woman's mirror  
Shows she's getting fat,  
Something will be doing—  
And mighty quick at hat.

When a woman's really worried  
It's of very little use  
To try to keep her happy  
When she's trying to reduce;  
For every friend's advising  
In a most amusing strain  
Some new and wondrous system  
That'll get her thin again.

But when she's tried their methods  
And yet she stouter grows,  
It's no funny situation,  
As every woman knows.

So we're coming to the rescue  
Of that fat and overweight,  
Whose hip line keeps enlarging  
And whose corset strings grow taut  
If they'll only wear a MODART  
For just a little while,  
They'll all turn into marvels  
Of attractive grace and style.

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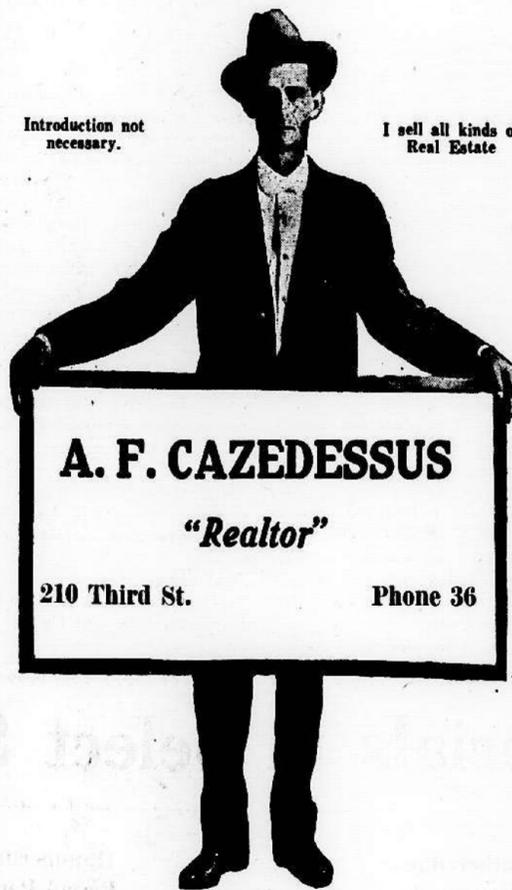
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