

THE STAR-PROGRESS

Reaching More Homes Than Any Paper Published in St. Landry

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
Office of Publication—138-140 North Main Street

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Entered at the Postoffice at Opelousas, La., as Second-class Matter
All Checks Should be Made Payable to The Star-Progress.

MOVING THE RICE CROP

There seems to be two conflicting classes among those interested in the rice industry. One blames the stagnation in the market and the lack of a healthy movement of the crop on the rice growers association. They bolster up their claims by stating that the association is attempting to gobble up every branch of the growing, selling of the rough rice, milling and final marketing without reference to the middle man. If this plan was abandoned by the association, they state, rice would begin to move immediately through old-time channels. If there is any real basis for this charge we are unaware of it; but that there is something radically wrong we feel sure.

It is evident that the present demand for the rice is now small as compared with a year ago. Whether the era of high prices last year had a deterring effect on the consumers or not, is difficult to say. Rice as a diet has never been popular in the United States except among a small class of people. A few years ago a spasmodic attempt was made to popularize it in order to place the industry on a safe and a sound basis. Those most interested, however, lost their heads and their judgment when the war brought on the era of high prices and farmers, buyers, and millers immediately began to speculate on still higher prices for the crop. We all realize now that this policy was suicidal but the past can not be recalled in order to rectify errors of judgment and the next best thing is to start over again the lesson of teaching the American people how good and how cheap rice is as a diet. We must forget old jealousies; drop the internal war raging within the ranks of the interests and all get to work to place along side of cotton, sugar, wheat, etc. Nothing else will do, and unless some sensible plan is adopted the rice industry is bound to languish for a long time to come, and Louisiana and a large class of its farmers can not afford to witness any such thing.

ROADS AND DRAINAGE

Recently several parties living in another section of the parish, speaking on the subject of good roads, stated better highways could be provided by securing better drainage and simply keeping the roadbed well graded, and then employing one man to maintain a certain mileage each year at a stipulated price. Graveling roads, they claimed, with the consequent cost of upkeep, was an expensive proposition and that first class dirt road would be suitable to our idea if proper and scientific care was given them after

they were drained and graded. They claimed that owners of horses and other draft animals were constantly under heavy expense to keep them shod when travelling graveled roads. Blacksmiths in a few localities charge one dollar per foot for shoeing such animals.

There may be considerable logic in this statement. It has long been apparent that the parish has been spending an enormous sum of money each twelve months in order to get better roads and as much of the work is done in a slipshod manner the money paid for grading roads is in a way wasted or productive of little results. So little real attention is paid to the matter and manner of drainage that what appears to be splendid work in grading really amounts to very little when rainy weather sets in. Hard-surfaced roads also suffer much from poor drainage, and unless some systematic and efficient plan of disposing of surplus water is devised and put into operation the expenditure of money for graveled roads seems a waste.

There is no question but that we can have better roads in this parish even if not hard-surfaced, if we can establish a better system of drainage, but in some of the sticky or gumbo lands it is doubtful if even scientific grading and drainage will eliminate the evils of bad roads. These soils hold water like a sponge and the least traffic over them when wet cuts them to pieces and make them regular bogholes in a short time. It seems absolutely necessary to hard-surface them in order to guarantee their permanency. On the roads situated in sections where the soil is not of the "gumbo" type well-graded and drained they will serve every purpose required by the travelling public.

THE PARISH JUDGES

Under the plan formulated by the committee of the state bar association the abolishment of justices of the peace is proposed and the substitution thereof of parish judges with practically the same jurisdiction of the justices of the peace. Incumbents of the office of parish judge must be lawyers except in parishes of twenty-five thousand people. This last idea is rather far-fetched, for if a parish judge must be a lawyer in one parish why not require him also to be a lawyer in all parishes?

As the Mansfield Enterprise well states, there is absolutely no necessity for an yman being a lawyer in order to qualify for the position. Few justices of the peace now serving are attorneys, and there should be no change whatever in the qualifications of candidates for the position of par-

ish judge. Under the old regime, when we had parish courts the incumbent of the office was not required to be a lawyer and that phase of the old constitution should be adopted when the new one is devised. As the parish courts are to have about the same jurisdiction as the justice of the peace courts a change as to qualifications of candidates should not be even considered. The main idea is to abolish the cumbersome and expensive justice of the peace system and all that is necessary in the premises is to establish the office of parish judge and let the qualifications for candidates for that position remain as they now are for the office of justice of the peace. There are many men in each parish in the state—men who have had much experience as justices of the peace—who would ably fill the position of parish judge. To shut these men out as prospective candidates because they are not practicing attorneys would be manifestly unfair, and the convention should lend no listening ear to any coterie who back such a proposition.

ANNUAL PERSHING WAY CONVENTION IN RUSTON

New Orleans, Feb. 20.—Plans for the greatest highway meeting ever held in the south are being perfected by the Louisiana Pershing Way association for the annual meeting of this body to be held in Ruston, March 21.

Advices received here by Arthur W. VanPelt, president of the state organization, are to the effect that Ruston is planning a welcome to the delegates that will exemplify to the fullest extent the motto of the highway "The Friendly Way."

Word has been received that Herbert F. McDougal, general secretary and manager of the Pershing Way, will come to Louisiana especially for the meeting at Ruston and will bring with him full evidence of the wonderful development of the highway throughout the north.

Reports received from all parts of Louisiana show splendid work done during the past year toward the completion of the highway. Road issues aggregating more than four billions of dollars were authorized through the efforts of Pershing Way organizations and as the result of Pershing Way activities. Reports on all of the activities of the Pershing Way during the past year will be heard at the convention and plans will be made to continue and broaden these activities during the coming year.

One feature of the convention will be the presence of a number of the most prominent women in Louisiana, who are intensely interested in the Pershing Way and have demonstrated this interest by doing yeoman's work for it. Location of camping sites, the beautification of the highway and the construction of the road links are matters on which women's clubs and organizations as well as individuals, have done splendid work in the past and they now promise still more work along this line.

Louisiana has received much national advertising from her location on the Pershing Way and will receive tremendous benefits from tourist travel when the highway is completed. This is the goal before the State Pershing Way association and will be

the subject of the convention in Ruston. All members of Pershing Way clubs throughout the state are delegates to the Convention and all are urged to be present at the Ruston meeting. Reservations may be made in advance by addressing the Chamber of Commerce, Ruston, Louisiana.

HEALTH RESTORED

"My horse was in such run down condition, I thought he would die. After feeding him Dr. LeGear's Stock Powders, he is as well as ever and is now as good looking a horse as there is in this section."—J. C. Huate, Rockbridge Baths, Va.

Dr. LeGear's Stock Powders build up the body, vitality and muscular energy of your horses and mules, insure more meat with less feed, from your hogs, sheep and cattle and help your cows produce more and richer milk.

Mr. Huate's small expenditure saved him the price of a horse. Dr. LeGear can also help you. For 28 years as a Veterinary Surgeon and Expert Poultry Breeder he has devoted himself to the compounding of remedies for ailments of stock and poultry. Whenever you have an ailment among your stock or poultry get the proper Dr. LeGear Remedy from your Dealer. It must satisfy you, or your money will be refunded.

NOTICE

Anyone who found a watch chain and ladies brooch with my picture in it during the fire at my place last Sunday, will please return and receive reward.

J. J. MISTROT.

Feb 23 21

ELECTION AT EUNICE

In the municipal election held in Eunice on the 15th, A. C. Matt, known to his friends as Chief Matt, led the entire ticket by a strong lead, winning over his opponent for the mayoralship, Geo. Stagg by a vote of 505 to 220.—adv. Feb 23 21.

INFANT NOW PLAYS OPPOSITE CHAPLIN



Charley Chaplin, famous comedian, is back—toting a two-week-old baby. At least, that is his role in his new film production, "The Kid"—his first picture in a year.

Statements to the effect that Egyptian mummies were wrapped in cotton fabrics have been disproved.

School Board Hold Session
The St. Landry parish school board held a regular session at its offices in the local high school building last Monday and the minutes will be published this week in the official journal.

Miss Eda Bailey of New Orleans is spending sometime here as the guest of Mrs. E. P. Veazle and Mrs. P. D. Pavy.

Miss Olympia Dejean of Lafayette spent Friday and Saturday in town visiting relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Dietlein were New Orleans visitors this week. Sam Guidry of Coulee Croche motored to Opelousas on Monday and attended to business.

John Barry, Jr., of Lafayette spent Sunday in Opelousas visiting friends. Misses May Meyer and Ruby Goslin of Lawtell was here Sunday and attended the picture show.

Mrs. Jim Shute of Port Barre spent Monday in town visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. R. O. Marsh of Port Barre was a business visitor here Monday. H. F. Magoon of New Orleans, connected with the state highway department was here on business Monday and Tuesday.

Col. Ike Stagg of Dubuison station Bayou Boeuf, was in Opelousas between trains last Saturday.

A. E. Reswebre, Nick Lahayet and J. A. Burrell, prominent citizens of Port Barre, were in this city on Saturday, looking after public road affairs.

A. Laurent Lacombe was a business visitor to New Orleans this past week. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Larcade, Jr., spent several days in New Orleans last week mingling pleasure with business.

J. Stander returned home this week after doing his spring shopping in New York City.

Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Guidry of Coulee Croche motored to town on Friday and took in the picture show.

The many friends of Mrs. W. D. Lewis will be glad to hear she is improving after a severe illness lasting several weeks.

Chas. F. Bailey of Baton Rouge spent the week-end here with relatives and friends.

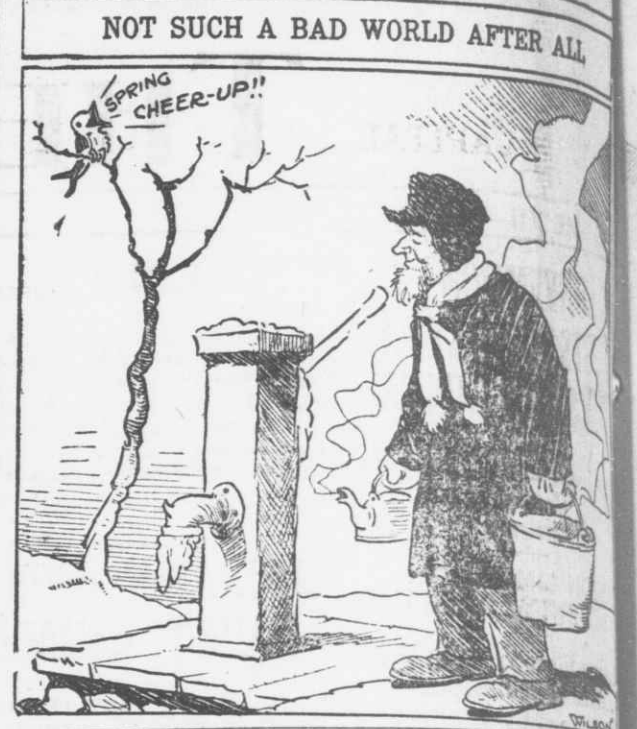
Police Juror R. Lee Mills of Lower Bellevue was in Opelousas on Monday morning.

Judge A. M. Hollier, formerly of Opelousas but late of Elton, is now at the home of his brother, A. L. Hollier in this city. He has just returned from the hospital in New Orleans where he underwent a surgical operation. Mrs. Hollier and other members of his family are with him.

666 has more imitations than any other Chill and Fever Tonic on the market, but no one wants imitations. They are dangerous things in the medicine line. adv.

We are proud of the confidence doctors, druggists and the public have in 666 Chill and Fever Tonic.—adv.

First cotton seed were planted in Virginia, at Jamestown, in 1607. Cotton was introduced into all the southern colonies by the first settlers.



World production of cotton for factory consumption in 1919 was 1,100,000 bales greater than the amount consumed.

There is now enough cotton in the world, unspun, to last nearly years.

Married, at the home of the bride in Garland, La., on last Wednesday, Mr. J. B. Duncan of Lafayette and Miss Kate Roberts of Garland.

LUMBER

Has Taken a Drop.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS AND BUY NOW.

YOU are going to build so
Call and let us figure with you. Our motto is:
SERVICE

Our Prices are Right. Call and let us Convince you.

St. Landry Lumber Comp'y, Ltd.

We have on Sale this week—Jersey and Crepe de Chene Teddies, Vests and Bloomers, \$6.00 to \$10.00 values—
\$2.24, \$2.98 and \$3.45

Prices Smashed to Smithereens Cost Cut in Two

HATS
The spring Stetsons are here in all the new shapes and colors, special for this sale \$6.95, Tax extra



New arrival of Spring dresses in the new taffeta, georgette and crepe de chene.

Prices from \$19.95 to \$24.95
Just received a full line of new Oxford pumps and two eyelet pumps

in all leathers, prices ranging from \$2.95 to \$8.95

We have a full line of Buster Brown Hosiery for Ladies and Children.

The last word to our Men Customers



Army shoes, Munson last, soft tip, solid as a rock and just as lasting. \$7.50 Value - - \$3.95

Good grade percale negligee shirts with and without collar, \$2.50 Value, now \$1.19

\$5.00 Values Texas buckskin pants, neat grey stripes, now \$2.98

Heavy Khaki unionall \$4.50 values, now \$2.75

During this sale all prices are strictly cash. Please do not ask for credit. We are taking tremendous losses to raise cash.

THE BENNETT STORES, INC.

The Name is the Guarantee

MAIL ORDERS—will be filled promptly when cash accompanies order. Any articles not satisfactory may be returned and money will be refunded.