

BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE.

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The very prospect of a pipe line from Jennings, La., and intermediate points, to Jefferson County goes in with the signs of the times and shows us how much we could really do in the way of advancement if we only display a bit of energy and get up and get it. A pipe line to a community is worth as much as a railroad is to it when that pipe line brings in the raw product and when it takes out the manufactured product or when it is even shipped out in another way. The thing that does the community good is the stopping of the product in that community and the working it over. This requires labor and when ever nature is nurtured then and when will be prosperous. It must be admitted that the whole people of Texas are careless of their future. There are towns in the north where the natural advantages are not one tenth as great as those here but which advantages are taken care of, pushed and fed in a way that their population is in many cases twice as great as ours. Take the towns out one hundred miles from Chicago. Is there a reader who will contend that with all these advantages standing with its immense value at its very door, rice growing in surprising quantities within a stone's throw five different railroads entering it, such a town would not have 100,000 inhabitants and would be adding new industries to its list daily. There is but one trouble with us here. We know ourselves that we have these immeasurable riches but we do not impress it upon those seeking investments with enough force. In the past our state legislature has passed laws that were detrimental to capital but they have in most cases been wiped off the statute books and today our laws are every bit as inviting to capital as many smaller states with greater propertionate wealth. We cannot be too careful to invite capital. We should not be continually threatening them with tremendous taxation, with prejudiced minds because some of us have not the money that they may have. Trusts may have their faults but it will avail us naught in the end to be continually threatening capital with anti-trust suits merely because big corporations appear to be prosperous.

The Enterprise believes that there is a continual change in sentiment that will show capitalists that they are heartily welcome before many more months have passed. Jefferson county is fortunately not possessed of that inimical capital spirit but has been liberal for some time past and it is pleasing to notice that the rest of Texas is moving our way. The pipe line from Jennings is undoubtedly being constructed by Eastern capital. This shows that the men investing their money are now willing to take off from Louisiana and refine it in Texas, that they are not now fearful lest some Jim Crow county attorney is out of the way spot will spring a sensational suit out merely for the bleeding it might possibly afford him. The people are not willing to persecute and longer. Of course violations of law should not be tolerated no matter who the culprit may be but there has been too much stretching of laws in the past and the fact that the sentiment in that direction is receding means that money will pour into our communities and more labor will be employed, more men find homes, more women will do their shopping in our stores, more children will find comfortable seats in our schools and a more fervent feeling will exist towards all mankind. The signs of the times in these parts are certainly indicative of a prosperity not yet known although we have been in prosperity perhaps already. We will not come that pipe line with open arms and as another enterprise coming to our midst.

The Enterprise cannot refrain from writing just a little bit. This paper supported Judge Taylor from the first, supported Governor Graham during all the campaign was a friend of Hon. M. L. Hineson's term because at being among the Texas counties to originally vote Mr. Hineson to become a candidate for the legislature, it thoroughly sympathized with the cause.

county Democratic ticket and stood in the pale of the "original" in all of these cases. All the candidates supported by the Enterprise have been successful with one exception, all of which leads to this "exulting" frame of mind. The Enterprise regrets that Lee Blanchette is not to be the next comptroller and this fact is the lonely blot upon an otherwise bright and victorious banner. The paper believes, however, that Lee is better off.

The rejoinder of H. B. Betty, Republican candidate for county judge, to the answer of Judge D. P. Wheat appears in this morning's Enterprise. The Enterprise is pleased to give both sides full space in legitimate discussion of this character and while this paper may not be of the same political faith as the candidate, yet he will always find fair treatment here. The reply does not seem to contain much new in that particular issue.

JONES VERSUS HOG.

The little story below is not one about a hog with two "g's" but the ordinary every day hog that infests smaller cities and which is a burden hard to bear in every town that is just springing from its swaddling clothes. If talking will be beneficial for the disease then Mr. Jones is evidently a most talented medical quality. He has started his treatment with an alpacathic dose and if he can increase its strength then the popular little town of De Ridder ought to appreciate his presence there for he will surely be successful. As little as the reader may think of it this case has not been long on the streets of Beaumont, Houston, Lake Charles and other towns and cities claiming much more lordly distinction than modest De Ridder and the fellow who could risk a wager that he can find the genus pig even now parading in the suburbs of these cities would have a good bet. We ourselves at times need a little of the lambasting that Lake Charles A. A. refers to when he says:

An earnest citizen of De Ridder signing himself C. P. Jones has started a crusade for the abolition of the town hog and breaks the news to the people through the Messenger in the following breezy style: "I have carefully diagnosed the prevailing disease now located in our town and find it to be 'Tumuchicum Hogicum Stinkicum, and the only remedy to administer is a half column dose of 'hot air' to be given each Thursday, and I think by the first of next month this evil will be eradicated from our midst. I feel so elated over it that I have written a poem." The American trusts that Mr. Jones will bombard the De Ridderites with both prose and poetry until the town nuisance is abated. If he reaches the citizens that cleanliness, health, fairness and comfort are quite as important in building up a town as new manufacturing enterprises, he will do De Ridder an invaluable service.

That Texas, and indeed the whole Southland, is attracting attention from our northern and eastern brethren, may be understood better when attention is called to items as are constantly appearing in the metropolitan papers like the following from the Philadelphia Ledger:

Texas looms very large on the southwestern frontier of the United States, not only as the largest of the states in area and the seventh in population, but in respect to some of the picturesque characteristics of its people and customs. It has now put forward a new claim to prominence—that it possesses the largest steam railway mileage, a fact which will surprise those superficial observers who have thought more of the arid plains of the Lone Star state than of her fertile cotton fields and her growing cereals and foreign commerce. If this new claim, made by the Texas railway commission, proves to be correct, for there is some question who has a bit of track built but not yet incorporated should be properly counted, Illinois must yield the place of honor to the statistics of railways to her southern sister. Texas claims 11,522 miles of track as against 11,517 for Illinois, but the 200,000 square miles of area of the former compare with and her increasing population and wealth have long made the greater railway mileage inevitable, and Texas may be destined to take a foremost place in other respects as no very distant day—Philadelphia Ledger.

TIMPSON'S EXAMPLE.

The Center Chamber has taken some Timpson's action the fact of a short sermon that ought to be followed by every community in Texas. No matter how large the city or town, it can hardly expect to have for that all the same level prosperity that will come to be a liberal patronage of home industry in all lines. The Champion of Center says:

can get a valuable lesson and emulate a noble example by sustaining the home cotton seed of mill to the exclusion of any outside concern that might seek to crush it.

The recent local representative Democratic convention was organized precisely like the Houston state convention, the San Antonio state convention and all other Democratic conventions are organized. That being practically the only point upon which the contestants could stand they had no chance. This information is given for the benefit of the afternoon Republican organ.

H. B. BETTY'S REPLY TO JUDGE WHEAT

TO THE CITIZENS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY: County Judge Wheat has published his reply, to my letter addressed to the Citizens of Jefferson County, giving the history of how Judge Wheat lost over \$25,000 in the purchase of the bonds of the County road bonds. My letter, to which Judge Wheat makes an effort to answer, was published in the Beaumont Journal and Beaumont Enterprise on the 12th and 13th of September, respectively.

It will be my endeavor in this article to show the reasons for the sale of the bonds and to show how they were not sold as you would have sold them if they had been your own property. And this based upon all the facts as presented by Judge Wheat in his story as to how he sold said bonds.

By way of digression, permit me to state that Judge Wheat had the kindness to indulge in many things in his letter irrelevant to the issue. He would as readily make any citizen of this County, who have settled here and stayed since the bonds were now established in many of the various enterprises in this City and Jefferson County; who have established and are now building homes in our midst; and who have the same love and patriotism in their breast as our most ardent citizens, for the advantage of the county government in the administration of our local affairs, for the upbuilding of a great city, and for all that stands for the welfare and progress of Jefferson County, as to call them "leeches on this community."

He huris at me in his letter insidiously, and in a most unbecoming and ungentlemanly manner, and charges in a grade of abuse and vituperation not warranted by facts. Yet these unwarranted attacks are not the issues that confront us, and I would be doing that which is unbecoming in a gentleman and beneath the dignity of a county judge, if I was to stoop so low as to dignify notice these vile charges, or to submit to the public statements that cannot be verified and absolutely proven by incontrovertible facts.

I will admit for the sake of the people that I did not know the date of the sale of the bonds in his letter as to how he sold the said bonds, is true. But I will take the liberty to attempt to show you that the said bonds were not made as a private individual would sell his own property, and if I fail in this you are more diligent should a servant of the people, entrusted with the finances of his County, be in the exercise of his duty in selling County Bonds to their greatest advantage.

In beginning, I desire to call attention to the facts that the order authorizing Judge Wheat to sell said bonds recite that: "It is further ordered that the County Judge be authorized to take charge of said bonds pending their investigation by the Attorney General and when approved by the Attorney General to sell their said bonds and receive for the County the proceeds thereof." Notice the fact that after the bonds are approved and when were the sales made?

According to Judge Wheat's letter the \$120,000 5 per cent Jefferson County Road Bond was sold to "Shook & Co." June 16, 1902. Permit me to state that the minutes of the Commissioner's Court read Floyd Shook instead of "Shook & Co." and that the order authorizing Judge Wheat to sell said bonds recite that the name of Floyd Shook. That Judge Wheat left for Austin June 17, 1902 and that the bonds were approved by the Attorney General and registered by the Comptroller on the 18th day of June, 1902.

The Commissioner's Minutes show that the bonds were sold to Floyd Shook for \$120,000, and the accrued interest amounting to \$11,165.53.

Judge Wheat states in his letter that he delivered the bonds to "Shook & Co." on the 16th day of June, 1902, for which Shook & Co. paid Jefferson County in St. Louis exchange. And on the same day Shook & Co. sold the bonds to the State Board of Education for \$129,815.50. A difference of \$7,298.57, representing a profit to Shook & Co. of nearly investing one dollar in the enterprise.

These bonds were sold two days before they were approved by the Attorney General and thereby placed beyond the reach of the money market for the next two days, before they had a legal existence. If this were a legal transaction, I fail to understand the meaning of the expression.

Where does Judge Wheat show in his letter any effort that would constitute due diligence in selling these bonds to the best advantage? He recites being at Austin prior to the sale of these bonds in Floyd Shook and he states no date and I am at loss to know the exact time that he made an effort to sell the bonds to the Board of Education. It was at least some time before the bonds were approved by the Attorney General and the date of payment at Austin later than the date should be sold until approved by the Attorney General. The bonds not being approved had no legal existence but had only a speculative value until they were approved by the Attorney General. If the Attorney General had approved the bonds, would Floyd Shook have paid Jefferson County the contract price?

The bonds were dated Oct. 10, 1902. They were approved by the Attorney General and registered by the Comptroller Nov. 14, 1902. That on the same date Judge Wheat appeared at Austin and thereupon Floyd Shook, from the state in his letter what prior arrangements he made with Floyd Shook to have him meet him at Austin. Judge Wheat at the outbreak of the same date sold the bonds to "Shook & Co." for their par value and accrued interest by placing the bonds in escrow with the Austin National Bank at Austin for Shook & Co., with a contract giving Shook & Co. a ten days option with thirty days in which to pay for the bonds.

And this was all done before the ink was hardly dry in approving said bonds by the Attorney General.

What effect does Judge Wheat show in his letter that he made to sell said bonds to the highest bidder after they were approved?

This was the finest bond Jefferson County ever issued. It was for \$100,000 and was to run for forty years, with an option for the County to redeem at any period after twenty years. And these bonds were sold to Floyd Shook for their par value of \$100,000 and its accrued interest amounting to \$7,500 a few hours after they had been given a legal existence. The same Judge Floyd Shook sold to the State Board of Education on Jan. 6, 1904, not two months later, for \$118,178.34. A net profit to Floyd Shook of over Twenty Five Thousand dollars.

If the State Board of Education did not have the money on the 14th day of November, 1902, it is a matter of common knowledge that the said board is always in the market for such high class county bonds and would have paid a good premium and would have been two months out a premium of over fifteen thousand dollars to Floyd Shook for bonds. A matter that County Judge Wheat could have easily determined by proper inquiry. Even this I know, notwithstanding Judge Wheat would intimate to you that I do not know what he is situated.

Shook & Co. want to state what they would have done if they had not been the privilege of having an option for \$100,000 of Jefferson County bonds at their par value for ten days with the privilege of paying for the same in thirty days. It is not to be supposed that they would have been so very much deterred upon "Shook & Co." at the expense of Jefferson County?

What business man acting in Judge Wheat's place would have tied up \$100,000 6 per cent bonds, to run for forty years, ready to be sold after twenty years, that were bound to bring a very large premium in the money markets of the world, in an option for ten days with the privilege of thirty days to pay for said bonds without any security or consideration being given or paid by "Floyd Shook & Co."?

And all this was done by Judge Wheat within a few hours after the bonds were approved by the Attorney General, giving them the legal right to exist.

In conclusion, I beg of the reader to judge would you have sold these bonds, if they were your own property, with an option for ten days to the man who would have been bound to give you a very large premium in the money markets of the world, in an option for ten days with the privilege of thirty days to pay for said bonds without any security or consideration being given or paid by "Floyd Shook & Co."?

Very respectfully submitted, H. B. Betty.

Related Weddings.

The love of independence and the desire and pleasure of to-day make men and women more anxious to marry before they are past five and twenty. It is a letter that there should be that disinclination, for our modern day fit a woman better to marry late than early.—Lady Jeanie in London Opinion.

A New York Salad Abroad.

This summer there is even rather a set against the use of the smart dinner of those who are past five and twenty. It is a letter that there should be that disinclination, for our modern day fit a woman better to marry late than early.—Lady Jeanie in London Opinion.

One Man's Opinion.

Once upon a time there was a man who freely expressed his opinion of a neighbor whom he felt had greatly wronged him. He told his friends that this neighbor was not only a liar but was a thief, because he had stolen an evening occasion and had been guilty of substituting funds that had been intrusted to his care.

Fall and Winter Men's Wear Exhibit. We request the pleasure of your presence at our up-to-date display of exclusive styles in Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing, Furnishings, Hats and Shoes. The exhibit is most authoritative, and embraces the smartest and most correct styles for the new season. If you desire your apparel to be distinctive and original, up-to-date in style, tailoring and fit, by all means see this exhibit. To try on one of our Suits is the test we ask you to apply to our clothing. It is a fair test to us and a satisfactory one for you. We sell only clothes that FIT, WEAR and SATISFY. Our Showing of Schloss Bros. & Co.'s Hand-Tailored Clothing is now complete. When we mention the name of Schloss you know what high quality you are getting. We wish to take this means of thanking you for your liberal patronage and solicit your continued trade. By paying strict attention to your wants, we have learned your preferences, and if you will pay us a call, you will learn how well we have chosen for you, and how moderately we have made the prices. A Hearty Welcome Awaits You. Nathan's

CHARM OF VICTORIA FALLS.

Visitor Shows in What Way They Surpass Those of Niagara.

How the Victoria Falls impress a visitor is recorded in Miss C. W. Mackintosh's Journal of a recent tour in South Africa. Miss Mackintosh says: "We perceived no hint of the falls, only seeing before us a screen of rocky-based, bright green forest, apparently closing in the river, like a lake. Ten minutes' walk brought us to the camp, on a cliff which literally overhung the gorge, and we saw the tumbling Pot at our feet. The walls of the chasm, 400 feet high, were spanned by a rainbow. The charm of these falls lies not so the one over-whelming crash as at Niagara, but in the cumulative effect of various glimpses, the matchless beauty of the surroundings and the strangeness of the whole setting, but chiefly in the columns of spray, called the 'tumbling smoke' and in the ever-changing rainbows. The mile-wide river suddenly drops into a yawning crack in the ground, stretching right across the stream at right angles to the banks, a foaming trough, quite narrow, of which the walls rise 400 feet above the surface of the water."

SMOKING IN ST. PAUL'S.

Complaint Made That Visitors to Sacred Fane Have Indulged. Who would have thought that it would ever become necessary to forbid smoking in St. Paul's cathedral which always with Westminster abate the distinction of being the most hallowed and sacred fane in England? Yet it has. Notice "Smoking strictly forbidden" were recently posted up at over St. Paul's, among the tombs of the mighty dead. One notice has even been placed near the altar.

Bank of France Dividend.

The Bank of France has paid its dividend for the first six months of the year 67 francs 70 centimes gross, and 65 francs net, the same as distributed in the first half of 1902.

SHARKS AT CAPE POINT.

Sea Monsters in Numbers Around the Cape of Good Hope. Cape Point, which terminates the mighty headland known as the Cape of Good Hope, consists of a towering promontory of sandstone, which rises from the sea to an altitude of 840 feet. At the base of this stands a big solitary column which is known as Vasco da Gama's pillar. The light house which here illuminates the meeting place of the Atlantic and Indian oceans is one of the most important and most useful of its kind. It is visible from a distance of thirty-six miles. The cliff scenery is wild and sublime, the rocks are magnificent and the far-reaching sea, with the surf breaking on the iron-bound coast, is impressive. In the water directly beneath the cliff sharks are abundant. A traveler, describing the scene, says that on the occasion of his visit to numerous were the well-looking men who that the staff to be disengaged the cliff was most impressive. A city and a fact into view at this point would mean that the unfortunate would be torn, probably from limb to limb by the voracious beast.

Her Dav.

She worried over little work. From which he laughing turned; She snatched "neath the little bow" Which left her unbecomingly; She borrowed little trouble when; She hid none of her own; He smiled, as he the way with men And let her fret alone.

To Protect Mexican Birds.

Efforts are being made in Mexico to have a law passed for the protection of birds that are useful to agriculturists, and of game birds at certain seasons.

Doctor Leaves Snug Fortune.

Dr. Samuel Snugg, author of "Self Help" and other works, left an estate which has just been valued at \$33,420.

Wed in Grandmother's Dress.

Miss Mabel Arthur, who married Mr. Ian Finlay of the Scots Greys, wore a wedding dress, composed entirely of ragged old Brussels lace, which was worn by the bridegroom's great-grandmother at her own wedding 102 years ago.

Value of Laughter.

If we realized the power of good cheer and the habit of laughter to retard the progress of age and to stay the hand which writes the wrinkles of care and anxiety on the face, we should have discovered the fabled fountain of youth—the elixir of life.

Too Truthful Youngster.

In a city public school, Miss H—, who is somewhat beyond her teens, was exercising a class of small boys in spelling and defining. The word "bedlamite" was correctly spelled, but one after another failed to give its meaning. Miss H—, becoming impatient and wishing to help them by a suggestion, asked in a vexed tone: "What am I now?" A youngster instantly replied: "Pardon me, an old man."

K. C. S. Ry. Texarkana & Fort Smith Ry. World's Fair Route ...60... ST. LOUIS Through Sleepers Without Change via. Shreveport and Cotton Belt Route. ...Dining Car Service... This Train Leaves 7:45 A. M. Daily Arriving in St. Louis Next Morning. Double Daily Service to Kansas City. Through Buffet Sleepers C. F. SWINDELL, Gen'l. Pass. Agt. R. A. MORRIS, City Pass. & Ticket Agt.