

## THE REVEILLE

TELEPHONE NO. 35

THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 1916

M. H. CRISLER

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$2 PER YEAR

Entered at the Postoffice at Port Gibson, Miss., as second-class mail matter

## CORRECTS THE REVEILLE.

The following letter from Prof. T. M. Wade, superintendent of the schools of Tensas parish, and a constant reader of the Reveille, was written prior to the break in the levee which will cause the flooding of his parish. He takes the Reveille to account for its high water statement, which, however, was intended for the Mississippi delta, and was made from reports of others who profess to know more about the river than does the editor of the Reveille. We are glad to publish Prof. Wade's letter, for if our former statement be true as regards the Mississippi side of the river, it was misleading.

St. Joseph, La., Feb. 13, 1916. Editor Reveille:

In your issue of the 10th, under Last Trains Run Today you say, "The river has reached the highest stage on record, with nearly another foot of water in sight. The crest of the river is now an average of about twenty feet above the adjacent country in the levee districts, and a break would be disastrous."

You have made an error in saying the water is about twenty feet above the surrounding country in the levee districts.

The river stands at seven o'clock this morning at Vicksburg 53.8 feet above extreme low water. Bank full stage at this point is 43 feet. Danger line is 45 feet. A stage of 53.8 feet means just 10.8 feet above the bank full river and 8.8 feet above the danger line. From this you will see that the river is just 8.8 feet above, on an average, of the country in this levee district, which extends from the Red river to the Arkansas line, and not twenty feet as you state.

The river at this stage is very dangerous and the people here are making a heroic fight to hold the levee against this unusual stage of the river. If the weather is good they have a good chance of holding these levees against the water. As you know the engineers have contended that the river would scour out the bottom by the unusual rapid current if the levees could be held during one high water period. Up to this time none of the levees on the Mississippi River have given away and the crest of the river is moving down about fifty miles per day. When the levees were down or after a crevasse or two, this crest moved down about 35 miles per day. You will see that velocity of river has increased by holding the levees about 43 per cent. I have never seen the current as rapid as it is now here in front of St. Joseph.

In order to keep the record straight I would thank you to make this correction.

Your Very Truly,  
THOS. M. WADE.

Congressman P. E. Poin has had a change of heart on the question of preparedness. From a bitter opponent of the president's policies, he has become an ardent supporter. He claims to have been converted by the president's speeches. Whether he was influenced to make the change by the announcement that Judge Cutrer would oppose him in the coming primary on an administration platform has not been stated. However, since Mr. Quin's conversion, Judge Cutrer has withdrawn from the race.

Mr. Quin announced his change of views in the following manner: "It is with no feeling of humiliation that I announce a complete change of conviction in regard to preparedness," said Quin. "I am taking this step in the face of serious opposition from my constituents among whom the majority opposes the president's program. I am convinced that I am in a better position to judge the best step to take on this question, and I believe those of my constituents who are opposed to the party plan will change their minds, just as I

have done, when they analyze the various speeches made by the President on his recent tour of the Middle West.

"It is hard for me to decide that the country is in danger. The arguments presented attempting to prove that this country is in no danger of attack sounded reasonable to me. I have gone into them with the greatest of care and even if I had not done so, I am willing to take the word of Mr. Wilson that we are in danger and that we should carry a reasonable amount of national insurance."

We wonder if Mr. Quin is certain that the majority of his constituents oppose preparedness?

The lower house of the legislature repealed the law exempting six per cent money from taxation two weeks ago, but last week that body reconsidered its former action and reinstated the exemption clause. We are convinced that the exemption of six per cent money has done more to help the poorer classes than almost any other legislation. It was contended, when the question was first being discussed, that no six per cent money was being offered. The only reason on the lending money at this rate had not become general was because of the unsettled financial conditions, and the consequent lack of confidence. Even the banks were refusing loans at eight per cent. But now that confidence is returning and business becoming more stable, the law will have its first test.

Secretary of War Garrison has resigned from the cabinet, on the ground that he and the president are not in accord on the question of preparedness. Mr. Garrison believes in radical preparedness—the German type. Mr. Bryan believes in the other extreme. Mr. Wilson strikes a happy medium. It is well that they parted company.

Both branches of the legislature have passed the new liquor law, the most drastic yet passed. It prohibits consumers from receiving more than one quart of liquor at a time and this quantity must not be received at shorter intervals than two weeks apart. The toppers who are in the habit of consuming from one to two gallons per week will find the new law very inconvenient.

Port Gibson residents do not enjoy the poor mail service which the high water has imposed. We get but one mail a day, and that a very uncertain one. The railroad should give us a morning train from Harrison. It would bring the mail from the north, via Jackson, eight or ten hours earlier than we get it now.

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met in regular session Feb. 7, 1916. Present, Mayor Smith, Aldermen Guthrie, Person, Bailey, Gordon and Jones; absent, Alderman Wharton.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved. H. M. Titche appeared before the board and asked that a reduction of the valuation of the property of A. Titche be made from \$4500 to \$4000 which, on motion, was granted and a warrant allowed Mr. Titche for amount overpaid on said assessment.

A communication from Mrs. Watkins and others asking a reduction of the valuation of the Manse property from \$4000 to \$3000 was read and, on motion, was not agreed to.

On motion, the mayor and clerk were authorized to issue a warrant for \$720 for interest on bonds when coupons are presented.

On motion, J. T. Drake was elected city attorney for the year 1916, at a salary of one hundred dollars per annum.

The action of the mayor and clerk in issuing the following warrants in vacation was approved:

A. J. Rice, same . . . . . \$5.00  
M. H. McLeod, same . . . . . \$5.00  
E. J. Richardson, same . . . . . \$5.00  
Mrs. A. B. Sanders, same . . . . . \$22.22  
Miss Ella Brown, same . . . . . \$10.00  
Miss M. Nason, same . . . . . \$10.00  
Miss M. Neid, same . . . . . \$10.00  
Mrs. J. N. Brasher, same . . . . . \$10.00  
P. G. Bank, bond . . . . . \$20.00  
Interest coupons . . . . . \$432.00  
Ad Willis, work . . . . . \$3.50  
Richard Killian, sustenance . . . . . \$1.00

The treasurer reported as follows:

RECEIPTS:  
Bal. on hand, Jan. 3, 1916 . . . . . \$3,026.14  
General taxes . . . . . \$4,736.50  
Street taxes . . . . . 154.75  
Privilege taxes . . . . . 18.75  
Fines and costs . . . . . 28.90  
Impounding . . . . . 2.00  
Interest on daily balances . . . . . 6.00  
Tuition country children . . . . . 35.38  
W. W. & H. L. colls. . . . . 837.35  
Transfer ards and hydrants . . . . . 299.50  
Transfer coal . . . . . 48.45  
\$9,288.81

EXPENDITURES:  
General fund . . . . . \$1,175.70  
W. W. & H. L. fund . . . . . 1,535.43  
School fund . . . . . 721.80  
Street fund . . . . . 554.60  
Fire fund . . . . . 41.60  
Bond fund . . . . . 432.00  
Sinking fund . . . . . 20.00  
\$3,985.22  
On hand Feb. 7, 1916 . . . . . \$11.48  
W. W. & H. L. fund . . . . . \$272.67  
School fund . . . . . 6.37  
Street fund . . . . . 671.94  
Fire fund . . . . . 516.27  
Bond fund . . . . . 1,312.30  
Sinking fund . . . . . 1,008.81  
\$5,303.59  
\$9,288.81  
R. G. HASTINGS, Treas.

which report was received and filed and ordered spread on the minutes.

The Supt. of the E. L. & W. W. plant reported as follows:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.  
To Collect:  
Lights . . . . . \$616.00  
Water . . . . . 270.70  
Aces . . . . . 185.00  
Hydrants . . . . . 90.00  
Incandescents . . . . . 24.50  
Sale coal . . . . . 27.50  
Total to collect . . . . . \$1,213.70  
Expenses:  
Fuel . . . . . \$430.26  
Salaries . . . . . 350.00  
Lines and mains . . . . . 6.37  
Machinery repairs . . . . . 116.38  
Plant expense . . . . . 20.17  
Building repairs . . . . . 4.35  
Tools . . . . . 3.50  
Office . . . . . 2.00  
Total expense . . . . . \$833.03  
To collect above expense . . . . . \$380.67  
H. D. BROWNLEE, Supt.

which report was received and filed and ordered spread on the minutes.

The marshal reported as follows:

MARSHAL'S REPORT  
General taxes . . . . . \$4736.50  
Fines and costs . . . . . 28.90  
Impounding . . . . . 2.00  
Privilege taxes . . . . . 18.75  
Street taxes . . . . . 133.00  
\$4936.15  
A. A. MADDOX, Marshal.

which report was received and filed and ordered spread on the minutes.

The finance committee reported as follows:

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE  
We beg to advise that we have checked the marshal's books since the date of the last audit, April 7, 1915, and find the following:  
Collections including fines and costs, all taxes, impounding, and a few items from sale of sacks, etc. . . . . \$10,575.68  
Turned over to Treasurer up to Feb. 5, 1916 . . . . . 10,559.68  
Showing a difference of . . . . . \$16.00

We beg to advise that in checking the books we find this short

age to have occurred as follows:  
Amt. of cash received between Jan. 4 to Jan. 7, 1916 . . . . . \$74.50  
Amt. deposited to Marshal's account Jan. 7, 1916 . . . . . 73.50  
Difference . . . . . \$1.00  
Again:  
Amt. of cash received between Jan. 8 to Jan. 12, 1916 . . . . . \$261.63  
Amt. deposited to Marshal's account Jan. 12, 1916 . . . . . 256.63  
Difference . . . . . \$5.00

Making a total shortage between cash received and cash deposited to Marshal's credit \$6.00. This money was collected by either the clerk of the Board or the marshal and the shortage was reported to the Chairman of the Finance Committee by the marshal on Jan. 7, 1916 and Jan. 12, 1916 respectively, on the days they occurred, with request that his books be audited at once.

We find that some requirements provided by the Charter are not complied with, viz: the charging of the marshal with all taxes, etc., and crediting him with them when he makes his final report. We recommend that this be done as the law directs. Again we find that the general fund does not get credit for the work done by the prisoners on the streets or elsewhere. When the prisoners do work for any certain department, that department should be charged with the amount or work done and the General Fund credited with it (as all costs are charged up to General Fund), as it is now it is impossible to tell what the costs of operating the streets, or any other department in which the prisoners work, is.

We recommend that new books be provided the tax collector for impounding, recording street taxes, and privilege taxes and for keeping a list of parties liable for these taxes, as the present books are out of date and it is almost impossible to keep a correct record with them. We also recommend that all the town officials' books be audited at

least once a year by an auditing Co. or an Auditor.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. W. PERSON,  
H. R. GUTHRIE,  
Finance Committee.

which report was, on motion, received and filed and spread on the minutes.

The chairman of the finance committee reported as follows:

ANNUAL STATEMENT—Running Sept. 30, 1915.  
EXPENDITURES  
P. T. Plant—  
Fuel . . . . . \$4196.48  
Lubricating oil and waste . . . . . 118.70  
Building repairs . . . . . 873.03  
Machinery repairs . . . . . 1842.50  
Repairs to lines and mains . . . . . 347.90  
Repairs to tools . . . . . 108.03  
Office expense—sundry supplies . . . . . 105.00  
Insurance . . . . . 53.15  
Interest . . . . . 1575.00  
Salaries . . . . . 3948.45  
Sundry labor . . . . . 4.50  
Water meters . . . . . 21.62  
\$19,741.11  
Street Expenses—  
Expense firemen—fire, hose, etc. . . . . \$1129.99  
Office expense . . . . . 899.10  
Expense—marshal, night watchman, clerk, members of board, etc. . . . . 2440.00  
Mayor's fees . . . . . 162.50  
General expenses (this includes \$324.04 rental of aces and hydrants and \$500.00 interest on school bonds, also water for sprinkling streets) . . . . . 5061.10  
Expense School No. 1 . . . . . 1813.82  
Expense School No. 2 . . . . . 3500.20  
Redemption of bonds . . . . . 20.00  
Loan Warrant, due P. G. Bank . . . . . 1500.00  
\$56,297.80

In addition to the above amount \$1129.99 expended on the streets, there was \$75.00, making total expended on streets \$1904.99. The \$75.00 represent sale of road machine to J. L. Purvis. Mr. Purvis paid for the machine in work done on the streets, and as no warrant was issued, the amount does not appear in the statement in figuring the balance in the bank.

RECEIPTS  
Light . . . . . \$3106.58  
Water . . . . . 2785.22  
Aces and hydrants (rental paid by town for street lights and fire hydrants, also includes water for sprinkling streets) . . . . . 3824.04  
Fines . . . . . 39.50  
Sale small supplies, plant . . . . . 2.00  
\$10,888.35  
General taxes . . . . . \$4047.14  
Street taxes . . . . . 605.40  
Road taxes, county . . . . . 497.80  
Poll taxes . . . . . 924.85  
Privilege taxes . . . . . 450.06  
Taxes—State dist. school fund . . . . . 1962.00  
Fines and costs . . . . . 343.50  
Impounding . . . . . 46.88  
Tuition country children . . . . . 94.53  
Part payment on piano, school . . . . . 5.00  
Amt. borrowed P. G. Bank loan warrant due Jan. 1, 1916 . . . . . 500.00  
\$16,070.58

Amount in bank October 1, 1914 . . . . . \$3738.93

Less expenditures . . . . . \$2939.40

Amount in bank Oct. 1, 1915 . . . . . \$799.53

Bank's balance . . . . . \$1410.11

Less outstanding warrants:

No. 256 . . . . . \$30

No. 1355 . . . . . 50

No. 1987 . . . . . 1.50

Balance . . . . . \$1407.61

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT—Running September 30, 1915.

ASSETS

E. L. & W. W. Plant . . . . . \$4045.33

Stock of supplies . . . . . 321.33

H. D. Brownlee . . . . . 8.25

Stable and street account . . . . . \$498.15

Port Gibson Bank . . . . . 1407.61

\$6,280.67

LIABILITIES

Bond issues . . . . . \$12100.00

Loan warrant to Port Gibson . . . . . 512.11

Profit and loss account to Oct. 1, 1914 . . . . . 11575.89

\$13,787.90

Loss for fiscal year . . . . . \$597.33

This loss is composed of the following:

Loss plant . . . . . \$993.27

Profit town proper . . . . . 395.94

Net loss . . . . . \$597.33

Only one bond of \$2000 was redeemed during the past fiscal year. No bonds mature in 1916, of any consequence, but in 1917 bonds to the amount of several thousand dollars mature and some preparation should be made for their redemption.

which report was, on motion, received and filed and ordered spread on the minutes.

The Co. Supt. of Education reported which report was, on motion, received and filed.

The chief of the fire department reported one fire and one alarm during January and gave list of names of firemen which was allowed.

On motion, ordered that all taxes not paid on or before March 1, 1916, shall be charged with damages and advertised and sold for taxes.

The disposition of street prisoners was referred to the street committee with power to act.

C. H. Phillips was elected night policeman for the year, or such portion as his services may be satisfactory, at the salary of \$50 per month.

Ordered, that when requisition is made for a light at any certain point in town, that the request shall be referred to the street committee as to whether a light is needed or not at that special point, and if they decide a light is needed then the street committee shall make requisition on the electric light committee for a light, and if the electric light committee thinks that the street committee is making requisition for too many lights then the matter shall be referred to the mayor and board for final settlement.

Ordered that the following bills be allowed:

L. A. Smith, mayor . . . . . \$7.50  
Port Gibson Bank, rent . . . . . 12.50  
A. A. Maddox, salary . . . . . 75.00  
C. H. Phillips, salary . . . . . 50.00  
T. M. Rea, salary . . . . . 40.00  
H. R. Guthrie, salary . . . . . 5.00  
C. A. Gordon, salary . . . . . 5.00

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T. T. Bailey, salary . . . . .	5.00
Miss M. B. Gordon, rent . . . . .	5.00
J. L. Brown, winding clock . . . . .	4.58
H. A. Marshalk, salary . . . . .	10.00
S. J. Russell, salary . . . . .	12.00
Jan. Welborne, salary . . . . .	13.50
Alonso Ward, salary . . . . .	22.00
Leon Somers, same . . . . .	13.50
H. D. Brownlee, salary . . . . .	2.50
Tom Butler, salary . . . . .	40.00
N. E. Hawes, salary . . . . .	45.00
Randall Watkins, " . . . . .	35.00
Thos Jackson, " . . . . .	30.00
W. W. & H. L. Plant, aces, etc. . . . .	299.50
Southern Coal Co., coal . . . . .	47.50
Interstate Electric Co., sundries . . . . .	84.71
Woodward Wight Co., bale waste . . . . .	12.47
John H. McGowan & Co., sundries . . . . .	85.76
A. L. Ide & Sons, sundries . . . . .	5.03
McCord Mfg. Co., postage . . . . .	15.16
B. J. Robinson, sundries . . . . .	12.93
S. Bernheimer & Sons, oats . . . . .	13.35
T. B. Helm, work . . . . .	2.75
Rock's Department Store, sundries . . . . .	1.60
H. M. Titche, tax refund . . . . .	5.00
Firmen . . . . .	50.50

The Board then adjourned.

THOS. M. REA, Clerk.

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