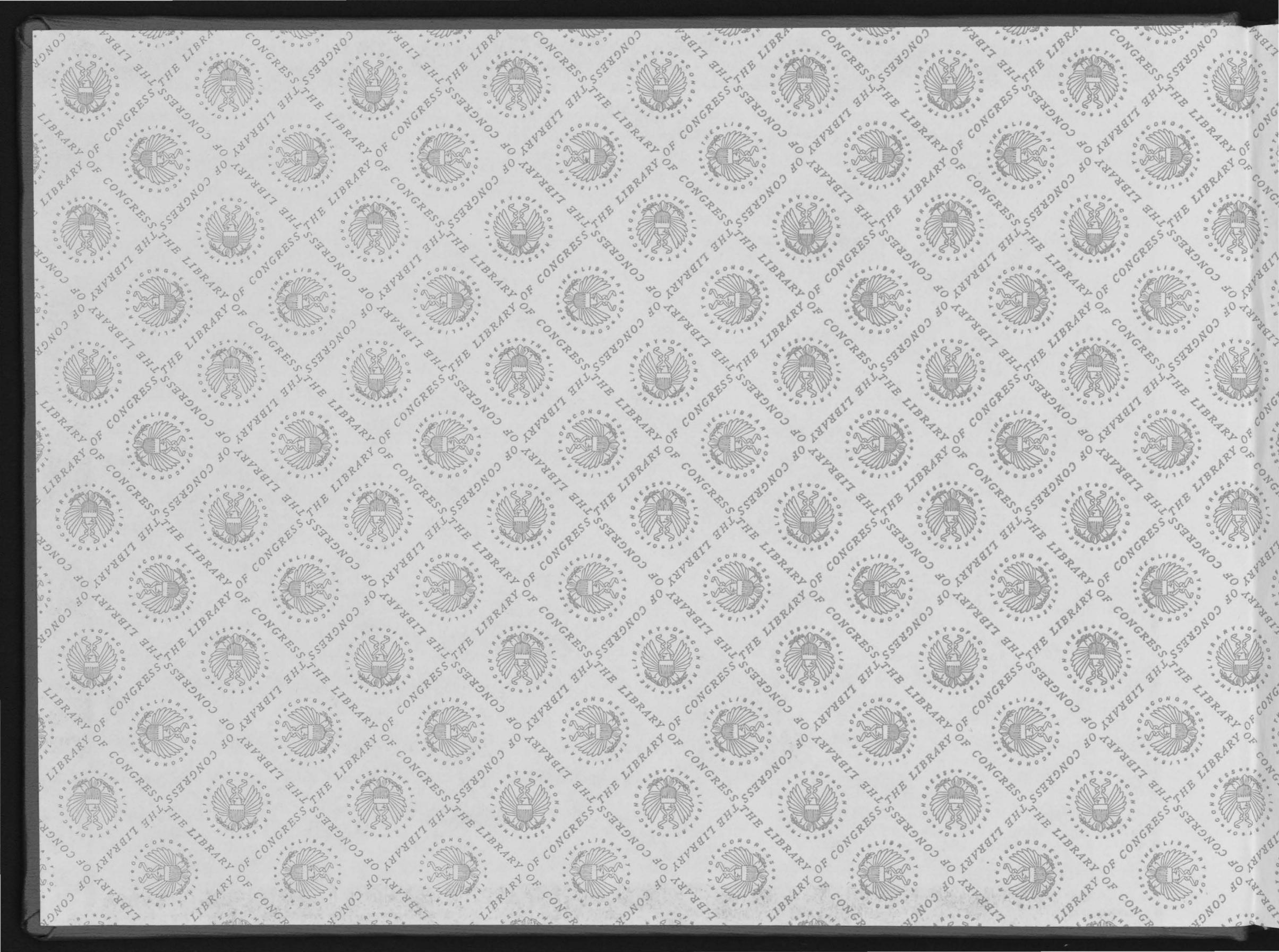
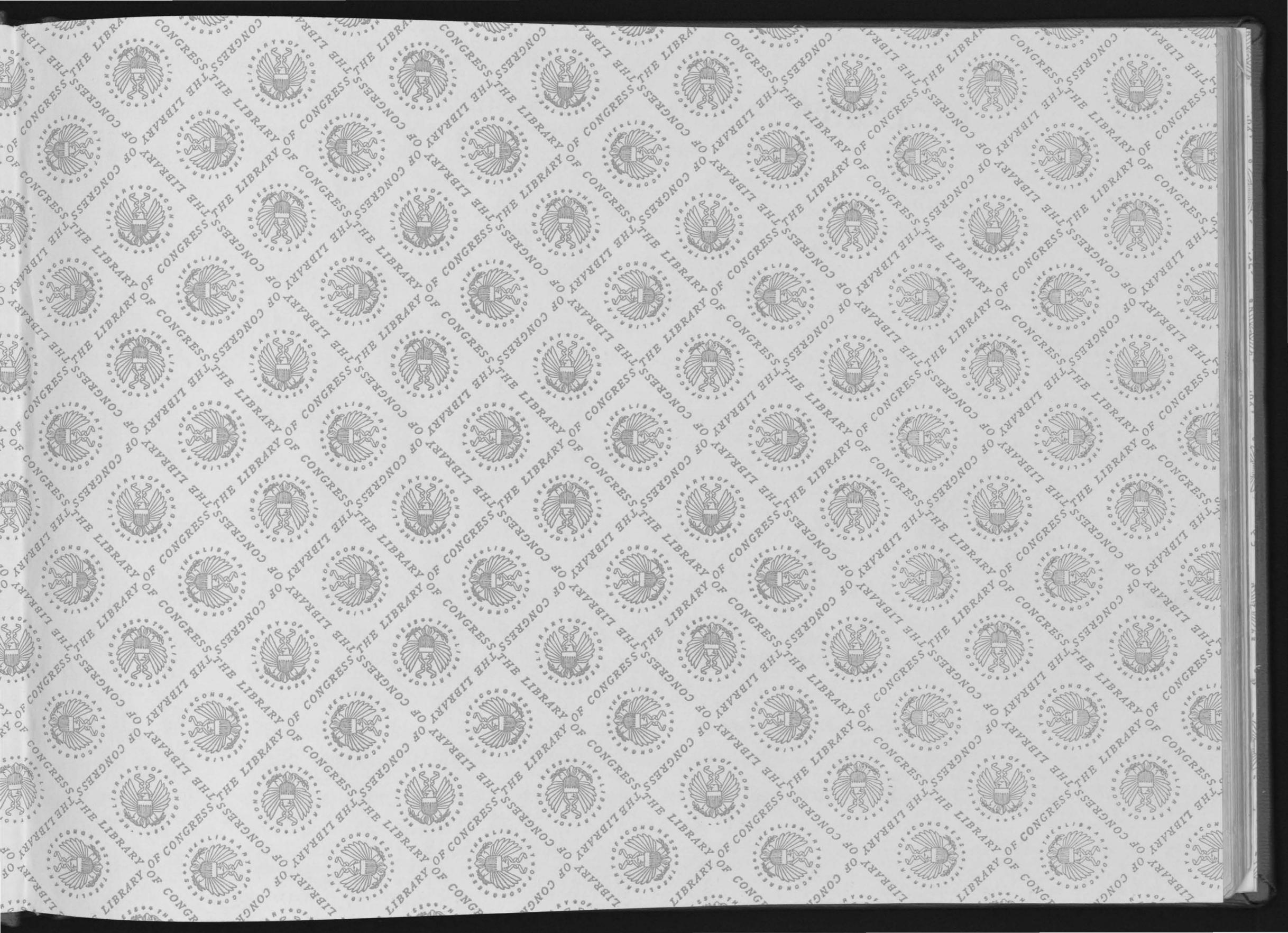


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Lake Charles the Metropolis of Southwest Louisiana

Lake Charles the metropolis of Southwest Louisiana and seat of the empire parish of the state, is a city not only in name, but possesses all those various resources that when fully developed will make her tributary territory an independent empire within itself. The city is so full of historical incidents, and passed through such a phenomenal period of development that it is our intention to deal with them but lightly in this volume and devote the principal pages to relating what has been accomplished and a description of the representative establishments which constitute the city today. Unlike a great many other southern and western cities, Lake Charles has not gone through a boom period, but the city which spans along the shores of the placid Calcasieu and beautiful lake Charles is the result of a gradual, steady growth almost imperceptible to the old inhabitants until visitors come to tell them the results of their many years of ceaseless toil. Her modern buildings and manufacturing enterprises, handsome homes, beautiful streets and cosmopolitan population would lead the ordinary observer to believe that it is a new town sprung up through some sudden stroke of fortune within the past few years. In reality Lake Charles has just passed the half century mark, and the city of today and the phenomenal growth going on at the present time has been the result of a gradual development of her resources and the half has not yet been accomplished.

The first settlers in this section of the country came over from France and pushing on westward from New Orleans the first family, headed by Martin Le Bleu, settled just east of the present town of Lake Charles in about 1770. About the same time Lewis Reon settled on the west bank of the lake. Charles Sallier, a son-in-law of Martin Le Bleu, was the real founder, building his home near the south end of the lake and constituting what is known as the old Barbe place. Part of this humble cottage may still be seen at the present day after a lapse of more than a century. The early settlers were not made up of careless adventurers, but were the flower of an enlightened civilization who had sought refuge from the storm of revolution which was passing over their own beloved France. Many of the nobility came over, but have been practically lost sight of, except in the bosom of their own descendants, who are glad to know that the blood of kings courses through their veins.

The Alabamian and Choctaw Indians who inhabited the country up to that time, peacefully gave way before the onward march of civilization, and gave the early settlers more assistance than trouble. Calcasieu river and parish received their name from the Choctaws. Before Charles Sallier and his little family took up their abode on the banks of lake Charles, there was an Indian village at the south end of the city. From the large number of remains which have been unearthed at that point it is believed that it had been one of their principal places of residence for a number of years, but the legend of its early foundation passed away with the tribe. Bayou Lacasine was named after one of their chiefs who was a great friend of the whites. Further east is the bayou Nezpique named after an Alabamian chief who had been captured by a rival tribe and his nose so mutilated that he always bore the name which it signified.

One of the notorious characters who visited Lake Charles in the early days was Jean Lafitte, the noted smuggler and often accused of piracy. Calcasieu river was one of his favorite retreats and he did a good business in opposition to Uncle Sam. Contraband bayou was named after his exploits, as that was one of his fa-

vorite places for disposing of contraband goods and slaves. Hundreds of holes have been dug along its banks in search of the treasures which he was supposed to have secreted there and the search has been renewed at frequent intervals up to the present day.

About this time the sovereignty of Louisiana had passed from France to the United States, and there arose a dispute between the United States and Spain in regard to the boundary. The former maintained that the Sabine was the true boundary line, while the Spaniards claimed the Calcasieu, or as they called it, Rio Hondo (meaning dark river). To secure the territory, the United States encouraged settlement and a number of families came over from Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, including the Ryans, Perkins, Lyons, Cowards, Iles and a great many others whose descendants are living here today. The government stationed a garrison near the original house erected by Sallier and they remained on the scene until the dispute was finally settled in 1819 when Spain ceded Florida to the United States. The old dispute came up again in 1836 when Texas was battling for independence. The Mexicans came across the border to assert their old claim and the United States authorities built a stone fort near Many which in time had such distinguished men as Jefferson Davis and Grant for commanders.

Jacob Ryan, who had lived in the settlement from childhood, established a small trading store from which time dates the real founding of Lake Charles. At that time Calcasieu was a part of St. Landry parish which extended from its present northern boundary to the Sabine and south to the gulf. By an act of the legislature in 1840, Calcasieu parish was formed, with an area of 6,000 square miles and 2,000 inhabitants, or practically one soul to every 2,000 acres. When the parish was formed there was a ferry and small town a few miles north of the Lake called Marion which was designated as the parish seat. The only town in the parish was Bagdad, near the present town of Westlake and six miles from Marion. Jacob Ryan was mail carrier at that time and frequently agitated the matter of removing the parish seat to the banks of Lake Charles. The worthy citizens of Marion said they did not have any particular use for the honor, but the parish was not able to stand the expense of moving the court house and jail. As that was the only objection and the structure did not contain any marble shafts or frescoed ceilings Jacob Ryan and Samuel Kirby laid off a few ox teams from hauling logs and dragged the temple of justice to its present site on Ryan street.

In 1852 the town was incorporated and called Charleston, which was subsequently changed to Lake Charles. Ryan street, which apparently followed the meanderings of a cow trail, was the principal street, which accounts for the fact that there is not a stake or mark which would indicate from an engineering point of view where the city of Lake Charles is really located. Either the cows which first laid off the town are dead or changed their habits for the succeeding engineers have never been able to do anything further than take up the problem where the cows left off.

In 1855 Daniel Goos came steaming up the Lake, and at the first shot from the 20 pound gun which graced the bow of his vessel every slave within hearing distance took to the woods, to be followed by hogs, dogs and practically everything else possessed of independent locomotion, who evidently believed that Gabriel had recovered his voice and was going to take a hand in the affairs of the frontier

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THE DAILY AMERICAN SOUVENIR EDITION



THE MAJESTIC HOTEL, LAKE CHARLES

village. Up until that time the lumber industry had been carried on by Jacob Ryan and a few others who during favorable weather would cut 500 feet a day. After rolling the logs out of the river they were scalped and laid across a ditch deep enough to permit a man to manipulate one end of a cross-cut saw. By the means drawn the length of the log and followed by the sawyers, a fairly straight line was drawn the length of the log and followed by the sawyers, one on top of the log and the other beneath. The cheap timber looked inviting to Capt. Goos and within sixty days he had dismantled his mill at Ocean Springs and had it running on the banks of Calcasieu river. The mill cut 5,000 feet per day which was considered remarkable in that day and time. Up until that time the inhabitants had depended almost entirely upon agricultural pursuits and stock raising, the cattle being driven overland to New Orleans. The lumber industry began to thrive and within a short time the real settlement of the country began with people from all sections of the country.

Caleb Cuba, an old slave who came over with Captain Goos at that time as engineer, tells an interesting story of how the ship building industry was carried on at that time. After suitable lumber had been procured, a boat from one to two miles in length was built. If any one came along wanting a boat, he was sawed off a chunk the length wanted and the end boxed in, when it was ready to deliver, in the same manner as a house block is chipped off a log in this day and time.

According to Uncle Cuba there were some stirring times during the war, and a Yankee gun boat caught him several miles up the river. He said they believed a Yankee was some sort of a monster with one eye and the majority of them took to the woods. When he saw that they had two eyes placed in the same position as other people he decided to stay with his boat and was rewarded by the Captain inviting him to get supper for the soldiers within about the same length of time it would take him to turn around. Then they were given an hour and thirty minutes in which to get some provisions when they cut the hour off and returned in about thirty minutes with 20 bushels of potatoes and four beeves. Another bunch congregated about the lake to see the new monster which had suddenly made its appearance and were hustled aboard and used as breast works until the gun boat had passed through the timber which skirts the river for several miles below town.

The next exciting scene in the lumber world was when Uncle Sam went into the gressive class of business men who soon began to assert her commercial supremacy. logging business in 1878. Considerable timber land had been taken up but a great many mill men didn't see the necessity of filing on waste land when they could have the logs cut for 20 cents each and dumped into the river without further ceremony. The government insisted that the land be taken up but their letters from Washington did not have as much effect on the logging business as the rise and fall of the river. The next thing heard from them a gun boat appeared in the river and fully seventy-five per cent of the logs in the river were confiscated and the proceeds of the sale went into the public treasury.

The gradual development of the lumber industry followed by the opening up of the rice fields of Southwestern Louisiana brought a tide of immigration in from the north and practically every state in the union. Home seekers, attracted by the mild climate of Southwestern Louisiana and her enormous natural resources, brought a pro-The old wooden stores which lined Ryan street began to give way to modern brick structures; the log cabin passed away in front of the palatial residence; the old brush arbor was torn down to give room for handsome church edifices; the cow trails were obliterated by the surveying corps with steel rails connecting the struggling village with the civilized world and upon the banks of the beautiful Lake Charles arose a city which cannot be surpassed in the world for her climate, intelligent and progressive citizenship, and extent and richness of natural resources which will within another decade make her the second city in the state.

A more ideal or inviting spot could not be found upon which to build a city and her beauty has been greatly enhanced by a happy people who have made a wilderness blossom with the rose and a commercial city rise up to barter the products of an empire. Developments have been made in the last few years with such startling rapidity that they have almost been lost sight of in contemplation of what is in

store for the future. Thousands of acres of her pine forests are yet to hear the first sound of the woodman's ax, and like the cathedrals of old, which they truly resemble, they will fall with the knowledge that other monarchs will rise to take their place. Her petroleum deposits are in their infancy of development. Her sulphur deposits have just recently been developed to a point where they figure in the world's markets and the output is steadily increasing. Her rice industry is in the height of its development. Her general agricultural lands have only within the past few years passed the stage of experiment and are destined to become one of the greatest revenue producers in the state. Railroads have been completed to nearly every section of the country with other branches in course of construction to cover that section of the country not traversed by the trunk lines. The first material assistance has just been rendered by the government to open up a great water way. New manufacturing enterprises have been built to convert the waste of the olden days into marketable products. A constant stream of new capital and energy is flowing into her borders and the next decade promises greater things for Lake Charles than has been accomplished in the half century of her existence just brought to a close.

Population.

There is not a city in the country regardless of size which has a more cosmopolitan population than Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish. The Indians who searched her forests and prairies for wild game before the appearance of the white man have left traces of their blood within her borders, to be followed by the early pioneers from France with their slaves until the 80's, when the tide of immigration brought in to settle up the lands acquired from the government about that time, gave Calcasieu parish and Lake Charles in particular, a representative from almost every section have appreciated the superior advantages of Southwestern Louisiana and have made of the civilized world. Its population is not made up of adventurers but men who it their permanent home, identifying themselves with her interests in every respect and in many instances bringing considerable wealth to develop her natural resources.

Some idea of this particular feature of her citizenship may be gleaned from the fact that at the last city election there were placed in her council members representing the following different localities: Aldermen—One from Ireland, one from Germany, one from Mississippi, two from Kansas, one from Illinois, one from Ohio, one from Pennsylvania; tax collector and city judge both from Michigan, to be kept in good order by a city attorney and mayor from Louisiana. The population of Lake Charles for the past two and one-half decades is as follows:

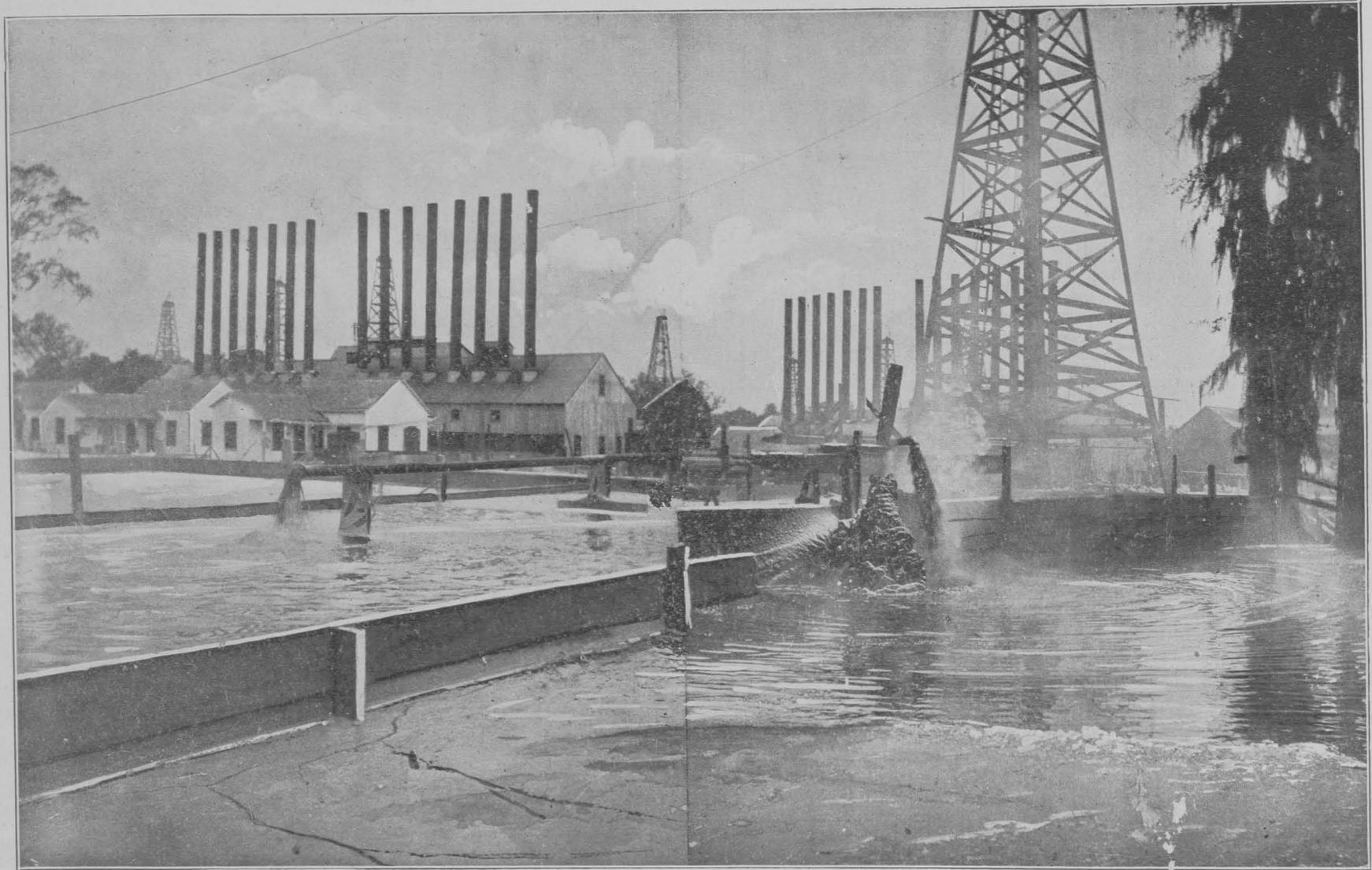
Government Census, 1880	800
Government Census, 1890	3,260
Government Census, 1900	6,814
School Census, 1902	9,875
Estimated, Jan. 1, 1905	15,000

Of the above population, which is believed to be a conservative estimate, there is only about one-sixth colored which is a remarkably small proportion for a southern locality inhabited before the civil war.

Water and Fire Protection.

Lake Charles has an up-to-date water works system which gives the city superior facilities for protection against fire. The city has a fire department that would be an honor to a place twice the size of Lake Charles and they have an enviable record for the masterly manner in which they have spared the city from disastrous conflagrations. The old equipment which was first installed in the early days is still on exhibition and forms an interesting comparison of the developments which have been made in the past few years in fire fighting machines.

The original department consisted of a hand pump bought in 1879 but was manufactured in Massachusetts in the early 60's. The principal movers in the fire department at that time were Adolph Meyer, Captain Ryan, Wm. Meyer, H. C. Gill and other well known citizens who did the fighting with their own hands. In 1883 the



SULPHUR MINES—SHOWING MOLTEN SULPHUR POURING INTO COOLING VAT.

Silsbee No. 1 was bought and christened "Katy Meyer." That was the first engine seen in this section of the state and remained in commission until last year when the paid department was organized.

In 1904 the city council formed a paid fire department with five members and a chief. Two new combination hose and chemical wagons were purchased and placed in commission. The fire alarm system was brought up to date, and is one of the most perfect and satisfactory in the state. Two brick stations have just recently been completed for the care of the firemen and apparatus. Our present chief, Mr. R. J. Gunn, has been fighting fires in Lake Charles since 1884, and has been chief of the department since that time. He was one of the original members of the old Pelican Hook and Ladder company which was composed of sixty of the most prominent citizens of the city. He has handled the department in an admirable manner.

Taxable Values.

The greatest evidence which can be presented of the progress of any country is the increase of their taxable values, for that does not represent inflated conditions, but on the other hand are generally about one-third to two-thirds of what the property would bring on the market. To illustrate the growth of Calcasieu parish for the past twenty-five years, the following figures are taken from the assessor's rolls.

1884	\$ 2,750,500
1889	4,300,330
1894	7,283,475
1899	16,378,540

From the above it will be seen that the taxable values have increased in the past twenty-five years more than 600 per cent. The table shows that about the same percentage of increase is recorded for each period and that the growth has been steady and permanent.

Banking Facilities.

What blood is to the human system banking facilities are to trade and commerce. All the argument in the world does not speak as strongly of the commercial importance of a city as the condition of her banking institutions. Lake Charles has three national banks with a combined capital of \$300,000.00 and the city is willing to rest her claims as a growing commercial metropolis upon their condition. Her combined deposits for the years mentioned were as follows:

1889	\$ 94,400
1893	250,000
1898	400,000
1900	825,000
1903	1,750,000
1905	2,034,693

In addition to their capital stock of \$300,000, the national banks of Lake Charles have a combined surplus and undivided profit fund of \$252,096.82. Nothing better could be said of the soundness of the institutions or the character of the men at their head than the figures given above. Two of them have been designated as United States depositories, and they have always stood by any legitimate enterprise that had for its object the advancement and uplifting of Lake Charles and Southwest Louisiana.

Postal Receipts.

1897	\$ 9,500
1898	10,000
1900	13,500
1901	16,000
1902	18,000
1903	21,998
1904	22,870

Schools and Churches.

Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish have one of the best systems of public schools in the state and while there has been a great many improvements made in the past few years, others are being actively urged to give the rising generation advantages which cannot be surpassed outside of the national universities which are supported by bequests. The city of Lake Charles has one high school, four ward schools, Catholic school for both boys and girls, German Lutheran schools and a business college. The public schools have a total enrollment of 1,900 pupils, of whom over 1,400 are in the white schools.

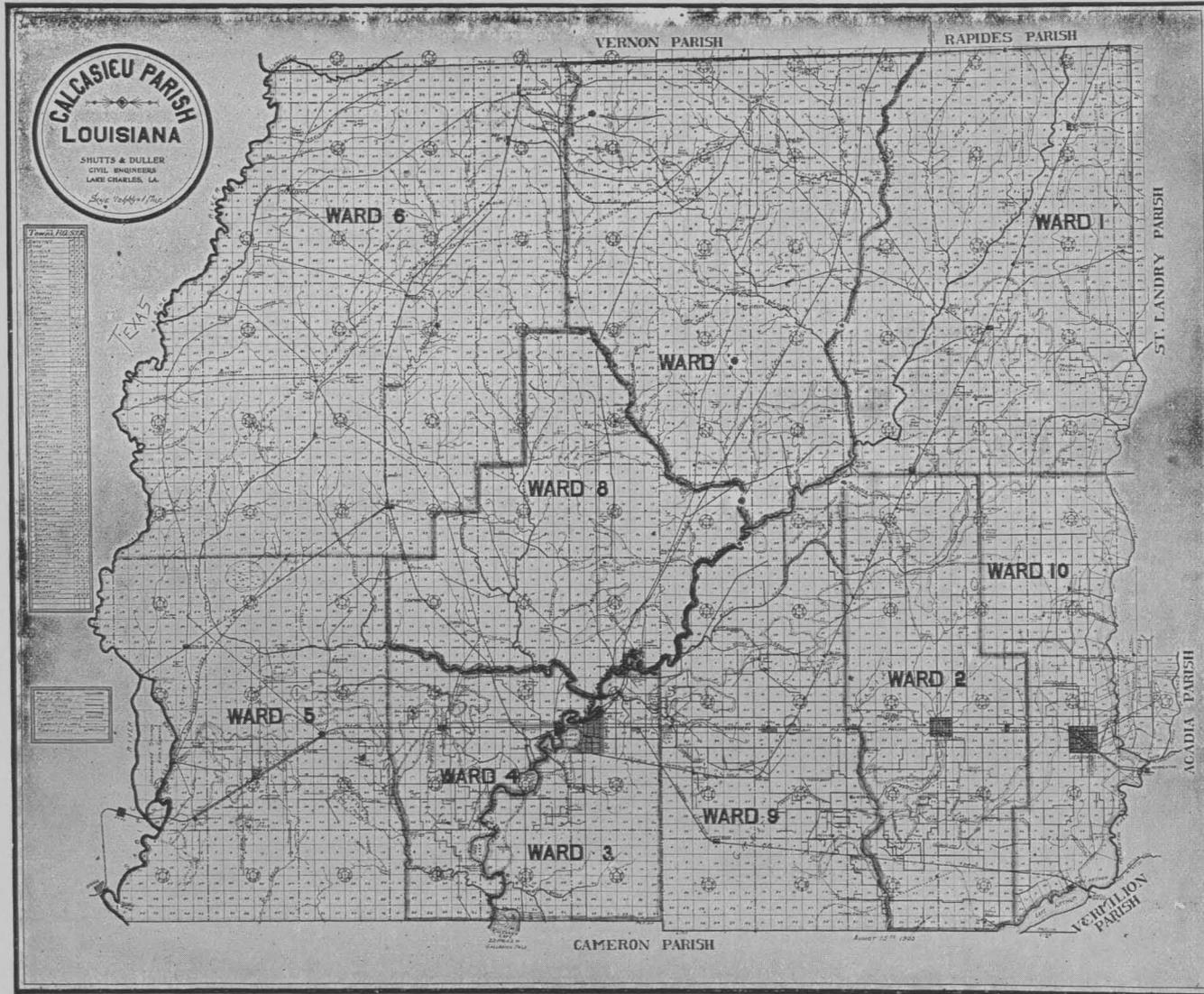
During the past two years great improvements have been made in the buildings and furnishings, each ward school receiving general repairing and additional room to accommodate the increase in the scholastic population. The three story building which was formerly the Lake Charles college was acquired by the school board by purchase and converted into a high school. The already strong faculty has been increased by new material and the city has added materially to the financial support by increasing their appropriation within a few years from \$7,500.00 to \$14,000.00. The state gives a per capita of \$1.25 to which must be added all poll taxes and a share of all fines assessed in the district court, making a total for the present year of about \$20,000.00.

The laws of Louisiana place the schools of each parish in the hands of a board whose will is supreme and they are not bound to consult anyone in regard to the employment of the teacher or disposition of the fund allotted to any locality. The Calcasieu board have remedied this defect by appointing a local board of directors for Lake Charles and other important towns who are empowered to employ teachers acceptable to the community and dispense the funds in accordance with wishes of those most directly interested. Particular care has been taken in the selection of the faculty and they are all men and women of extensive learning and possess that rare ability of being able to impart it to others. The youths of Lake Charles have no reason to go beyond the corporate limits of the city to fit themselves for every walk of life outside of the professions.

During the year just passed, the public schools have enjoyed a greater growth than in the five years preceeding, which is due partly to a great increase in population and partly to increased interest in the schools. Until two years ago, the schools never had general supervision. The work was taken up at that time by John McNeese, parish superintendent. At the beginning of the present school year, Prof. L. L. Squires, principal of the high school, was invested with the power to act as city superintendent and the good results of the policy were so manifest that it is probable the schools next year will have a city superintendent with duties belonging exclusively to that office. The new plan of supervision has kept the work uniform in the different city schools. The faculty of each school hold monthly meetings to talk over and arrange the work of the various grades, and the principals of the various schools also meet regularly each month and frequently between times. Each ward school is visited monthly and the grades examined, the latest teaching methods are being employed and a constant improvement in the school work is going on.

The city has an excellent colored school, presided over by Prof. J. S. Jones, one of the foremost colored instructors in the state, and the colored children have just as good an education given them as they desire. The colored people have shown good interest in their school and contribute liberally to supplement the public fund furnished.

Very few cities in the state of its size can excel Lake Charles in the number of handsome church edifices or the intellectuality of its pastorate. Among the denominations represented, several of which have more than one place of worship, may be found Baptist, Methodist, Methodist South, Presbyterian, Christian, Congregational, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Catholic, Jewish and Salvation Army. They have the usual number of auxiliaries for both young and old and work as one mighty whole in the upbuilding and preservation of the morals of the city.



Practically all of the leading fraternal organizations are represented in Lake Charles and have a large, representative membership. Both the Masons and Elks own their own property and contemplate the erection of buildings in the near future.

Public Buildings.

Both city and parish are well supplied with public buildings for the transaction of their official business and the accommodation of her courts. The parish court house which was remodeled only a few years ago at a cost of \$52,000 is the prettiest and most expensive public building in Southwest Louisiana. It is constructed of brick and cement after the Grecian style of architecture with well furnished offices for all the various departments of parish government and the courts.

The city hall, which is one of the prettiest and most attractive buildings in the city, is a two story building constructed of pressed brick at a cost of \$20,000.

The Carnegie library, which is a result of the combined work of that philanthropist and the citizens of Lake Charles, is another attractive public building and is the pride of intellectual Lake Charles. The land was donated by the North American Land and Timber company on which Mr. Carnegie erected a \$10,000 brick building. The citizens within a short time subscribed \$6,000 for the initial supply of literature which has been increased from time to time.

The Louisiana Baptist Orphanage was completed two years ago at a cost of between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The funds have already been raised for the construction of a city sanitarium, the building alone to cost not less than \$15,000. Lake Charles has recently been designated as a place for holding United States court which will eventually mean a Federal building. To the above must be added fire stations, churches, etc., which are treated in separate articles.

Rail and Water Transportation.

From time immemorial transportation has been one of the most important factors in the building of great cities and the development of their natural resources. Indeed, some of the largest cities in the world are sustained upon commerce and the artificial production which it generates. From the time that Southwestern Louisiana was first inhabited by white men the Calcasieu river has been a means of transportation and in the old days it was no uncommon sight to see from fifteen to twenty-five schooners tied up along the wharves of Lake Charles. The products of the lumber mills were transported to Texas and Mexican points, bringing back to the early settlers their necessary supplies. While the railroads have in recent years been performing this office there is still a large number of vessels engaged in the lumber trade, making Galveston, Corpus Christi and other coast points extending to Central America. Steamboat accommodations can be had from Lake Charles every second day to the Gulf, which gives mail, passenger and freight service to all the towns along the Calcasieu river south of Lake Charles. A larger and faster boat is being built at the present time which may give daily service later.

Lake Charles first experienced the advantages of a railroad twenty-four years ago when the gap was filled in and the Southern Pacific completed from New Orleans to Houston. That gave the frontier trading point trunk line connections with the East and West, and with the opening up of a new outlet for her lumber and agricultural products, she began to show some signs of becoming the commercial city she is today.

The St. Louis Watkins & Gulf, which stands as a monument to the energy and progressiveness of J. B. Watkins, gives an air line to Alexandria, a distance of 95 miles, connecting with the Texas and Pacific and Iron Mountain trunk lines. The Watkins route opens up one of the richest timber and agricultural regions in the world, and throws through Lake Charles a tonnage which is within itself large enough to support a city. It has been practically confirmed in railway circles that the Goulds have already acquired the Watkins route and will bring that system directly into Lake Charles. From here it is probable that they will build on to the Gulf at Sabine and also at Galveston, paralleling the Southern Pacific as far as Beaumont and then by way of the Gulf and Interstate. It is a well known fact that the Interstate has

purchased land and is building terminals and docks at Bolivar Point far beyond the needs of a road ten times its length and the connection of the Gould properties would only require the filling of a gap 60 miles in length.

The Kansas City Southern was completed into Lake Charles in 1898, giving an air line to Kansas City and another connection with Beaumont and Port Arthur.

The Louisiana Western completed in 1904 a thirty-five mile branch to Lake Arthur, which probably before the close of another year will become the main line of the Southern Pacific. A similar branch near Abbeville to Gueydan leaves a gap of only thirty miles yet to build. The Southern Pacific has had engineers in the field locating the line and when it is completed will shorten the distance between Lake Charles and New Orleans 15 miles and the same benefits will accrue to the entire system. The branch to Lake Arthur has been laid with heavy steel, perfect road bed and permanent improvements throughout which indicates that the company will make the change at an early date.

The most important railroad development for Lake Charles and Southwestern Louisiana promised for the near future is another branch of the Southern Pacific from Lake Charles to Shreveport. This line will pass through the heart of the richest lumber belt in the United States. The distance between the Kansas City Southern and Watkins roads is fifty miles and embraces thousands of acres of virgin pine lumber which has never heard the sound of the woodman's ax. Three surveying corps are now in the field and it is expected that the line will be run as near as possible on a dividing line between the two roads already in operation. Lake Charles receives yearly thousands of dollars worth of trade from this section, the inhabitants coming as far as fifty miles with their ox teams for camp supplies. With the advent of the new road it will greatly stimulate trade with this section and give the Lake Charles lumber mills a log supply for generations to come.

Calcasieu Parish.

Calcasieu parish is the largest in the state of Louisiana and also contains the largest number of varied resources. With an area larger than the state of Delaware she produces practically every variety of raw material known, with the exception of some of the minerals, but to offset this has some of her own not produced at any other point in the United States.

Its formation embraces prairie, pine hills, pine flat, coast marsh, alluvial and wooded swamp lands. It is drained by the bayou Nezpique and the Sabine, Mermentau and Calcasieu rivers, giving a bountiful supply of fresh pure water for irrigation purposes as well as being a means of drainage and transportation. The agricultural crops consist principally of rice, sugar, cotton, corn, hay, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, peas and garden truck of every description. Among the fruits oranges, grapes, peaches, pears, plums, guava, pomegranates, prunes and figs grow in abundance and would bring a great revenue if cultivated more extensively for commercial purposes.

The timber resources, which are covered more fully in a separate article, include long leaf yellow pine, oak, elm, sugarwood, cottonwood, willow, locust and persimmon. Minerals—Petroleum and sulphur. Game abounds in her forests and swamps and no where in the state can the hunter find a more inviting paradise. While the larger game has been giving way before the march of civilization, they may still be found in her reserved forests. They include deer, fox, coon, bear, rabbit, squirrel, snipe, becasine, partridge, rice birds, plover, robin, wild duck and geese, woodcock, pheasant and papabot. Her lakes and streams are filled with fish, bass, trout and carp being found in abundance.

The assessor's rolls for 1904 give the following classification of her resources:

Acres open land	1,200,000
Acres timber land	1,160,700

In cultivation 1904—

Rice, 42,000 acres, produced 500,400 barrels.

Hay, 25,150 acres, produced 128,268 bales.



LOGGING SCENE NEAR LAKE CHARLES

Oats, 8,000 acres, produced 7,259 bushels.
 Corn, 10,000 acres, produced 200,425 bushels.
 Potatoes, 7,500 acres, produced 175,625 bushels.
 Cotton, 3,000 acres, produced 2,000 bales.
 Cane, 400 acres, produced 95 hogsheads sugar.
 Sorghum, 100 acres, produced 300 barrels molasses.

Acres of land in meadow and pasturage	26,128
Acres in cultivation	114,700
Acres uncultivated	2,160,900

Live Stock:

Horses and mules	90,240
Cattle	50,725
Sheep	85,620
Hogs	30,250

As has often been stated before live stock was the first and is still one of the largest industries in the parish, but what we wish to call special attention to in the above statistics is the large number of sheep and hogs which are making their owners independent fortunes. No better land could be found anywhere for their successful raising, and there are still large tracts of it open waiting for thrifty farmers and stock raisers. The wool industry is a great money producer, and the mild climate and freedom from destructive animals in Calcasieu parish practically dispenses with all care and attention to sheep until the time of shearing.

Mineral Resources.

The mineral resources of Southwestern Louisiana are unsurpassed in their richness by any section of the United States. While the unprecedented discoveries of petroleum deposits in Louisiana and Texas during the past four years have startled the world and witnessed the transfer of fortunes with a rapidity almost unknown in modern times, there is today in Calcasieu parish, a mine practically unknown to the world, and while its present revenue, if unveiled, would startle a Rockefeller (if he were not interested) it will be several generations before its extent is known.

Sulphur.

The workings of nature in distributing her blessings over the face of the earth are mysterious, but even the most casual observer can understand how the acorn falling in fertile soil produced the massive oak; how the agriculturist converts waste lands into waving fields of grain; how the ingenuity of man has converted these things into millions of forms to supply the wants of a people, but the concentrated wealth in the bowels of the earth passeth all understanding and every decade brings something more startling than the one before.

Men just now entering manhood can remember the time when the world's supply of sulphur was obtained from the mines in Sicily and that syndicate had a monopoly on an article indispensable as a chemical and used for a great many other purposes of more or less importance. The first indication that what is now Calcasieu parish contained mineral deposits, while only traditional, was discovered by the early settlers in their pursuit of game. Tales are still told of how Bruin in the vicinity of Lake Charles always presented an oily appearance as if he had just emerged from some mysterious toilet room; and how when followed to his "grease pot" the seepage of petroleum and gas was discovered near where the sulphur mines are now located. A French company was the first to make an effort to reach the sulphur deposits which were known to exist and the story of lost hopes, unrewarded labors and broken fortunes while battling against the death dealing gasses and quicksands would make an interesting volume.

After Bruin had given the settlers the benefit of his geological researches, several attempts were made to reach the head of the petroleum supply, but in those days the primitive tools could accomplish very little and only succeeded in producing enough oil to supply the inhabitants with enough for lubricating and medical

purposes. The civil war suddenly put a stop to all further operations until 1868 when a well was sunk to a depth of 418 feet and a good flow of oil was struck. In anchoring the casing the sulphur deposits were discovered and subsequent developments revealed a stratum of almost pure sulphur from 125 to 250 feet in depth. The sulphur being of greater value than oil everything else was given up in devising some way to raise it to the surface. A shaft 20 feet square with wood curbing was sunk to a depth of 90 feet but there the quicksand made its appearance and it was abandoned. In 1870 a French company took hold of the proposition and made an effort to overcome the difficulties by using steel rings instead of wood for curbing. At the cost of a private fortune they brought over from France 122 steel rings 12 feet in diameter and five wide, each weighing seven and three-quarter tons. They were landed at Moss Bluff, seven miles below the mine and rolled overland by means of a specially constructed road. After successfully sinking 38 of these rings making a total depth of 190 feet, the quicksand and foul gasses made further operations impossible. For years salt had been successfully mined by being dissolved in water, the brine pumped to the surface where it was again reduced to a solid form by evaporation. About this time the Union Sulphur Company took charge of the proposition, and Mr. Herman Frasch, stockholder of the company, conceived the idea of forcing the sulphur to the surface in a liquid form. Sulphur could not be dissolved in the same manner as salt but Mr. Frasch conceived the idea that if the water was heated to a high temperature the same agency could be used. A battery of boilers was installed and after pumping water heated to 350 degrees into the well for about ten days the yellowish liquid began to appear on the surface and the greatest sulphur mine in the world was opened up. After being raised to the surface the sulphur is turned into the cooling vats where it is allowed to cool when it is ready for the market. The sulphur as it comes from the well is of 99 per cent purity, and outside of medical purposes rarely needs refining. While the operations around Sulphur are screened from publicity, it is known to be one of the richest sulphur mines in the world. The sulphur has a market value of over \$20.00 per ton.

Petroleum.

Following the oil discovery at Beaumont, January 10, 1901, land in Calcasieu parish, just across the Texas line, quickly doubled in value and like adventurers from a frontier camp the "wildcatter" began a systematic search for the hidden wealth. In the early stage of developments Welsh proved to be the most inviting field and a number of wells were sunk in that section. Oil was plentiful but like all new fields there arose difficulties in drilling, which can only be overcome by experience and years of labor. It took nine years of ceaseless toil and the expenditure of thousands of dollars to reach the oil stratum on Spindletop and today wells are sunk to that depth in fifteen days. Vinton was another very important point with great promise, but presented practically the same difficulties. In drilling, a loose, round gravel was encountered, which ran in as fast as it could be drilled out, and it seemed impossible to pump in enough clay to form a wall. Sulphur and Hackberry also presented promising fields, and holes have been sunk in practically every section of Calcasieu and adjoining parishes. There has been at least \$1,000,000 spent in developing the mineral resources of the parish in search of petroleum alone, which shows the progressiveness and unbounded faith of the citizens and oil companies in general in her mineral resources and their determination to have them developed. Mr. J. B. Watkins sunk three wells east and south of the city, the greatest depth reached being 2600 feet. The Orleans well, on bayou Guy, was sunk 1600 feet and abandoned. The original well of the Louisiana and Texas Oil company at Hoo-Hoo park was abandoned between 1200 and 1300 feet. Among the other wells drilled in the parish were: Guffey well on English bayou, northeast of Lake Charles; Bayou Serpent Oil and Mineral company, two on bayou Serpent; four wells at Hackberry, near the Cameron line.

Altogether there were five wells put down at Vinton. The most promising oil field in the parish at the present time is at Welsh. The Terry well which was but recently brought in on the Wood farm demonstrated beyond all doubt that the



CANE FIELD SHOWING THE MATURING CROP

field will be a good producer and it can be mined successfully. The well is flowing at the present time and should make one of the best pumps in the entire oil belt. When it is considered that Jennings and a number of other fields have found their greatest production at the second or lower stratum it is very probable that Welsh will have her period of gushers and become an important factor in the petroleum world. Other wells are being put down and within another twelve-months interesting development will be made in determining the capacity of the wells and the extent of the field.

Jennings is the greatest oil field yet discovered in Louisiana and has an average daily production of about 35,000 barrels, chiefly from flowing wells. The Jennings field is located in Acadia parish, just across the line from Calcasieu. It was one of the first fields developed of any importance after the Spindletop strike in 1901, and has passed through two stages. The first wells brought in were of an average depth of from 1200 to 1300 feet, and after gushing for a few months dropped down to pumps. While the production was very satisfactory adventurous drillers continued their search to the hidden depths below and at about 1800 feet a deposit was encountered even greater than the original discoveries. Within a few weeks the production suddenly jumped to 70,000 barrels a day and is still the greatest producing field in the south.

The most diligent search for petroleum in Calcasieu parish has been in the vicinity of Sulphur Mine. Petroleum, sulphur and gas have been in evidence in that vicinity for several decades, and what would be termed in the northern states as good producers have existed since 1870. In those days the fortune hunters were in search of sulphur, and oil was considered as only a menace to their operations. After the Lucas gusher electrified the world, a number of rigs were started in this section, and drilling is being vigorously prosecuted up to the present day. Practically all the old abandoned holes and shafts at Sulphur stand filled with seepage oil, and it is only a matter of time until the fountain head of this source will be discovered. In this respect Sulphur resembles Sour Lake, which was a producing field several years before Spindletop was discovered, and abandoned because they could find nothing better than seepage oil. It remained in this condition for more than a year after Spindletop was discovered, but was finally brought around and made one of the largest fields in the Texas-Louisiana territory. There has been a ring of wells put down in the vicinity of Sulphur, with varying success; some of them capped and believed by people who are in a position to know, to be good producers in the gusher class if only given an opportunity to assert themselves. The Forward Reduction company, before going into the hands of a receiver, completed four wells in this territory, three north and one south of Sulphur Mine. They are securely capped, and the result of their researches are unknown to the world. The Dirigo Oil company put down two wells a few feet east of the mines, which are in the same condition as the Forward. The Wisconsin-Louisiana Oil company put down two wells, one northwest of Escoubas ferry, and another along the same line at Radium. The Louisiana Oil and Land company succeeded in reaching a depth of 2200 feet at Edgewood, and encountered fine indications. They expect to put down another well in the same vicinity in the near future. The Pelican Oil and Pipe Line company bored south of Sulphur, and M. Feitel in a southwesterly direction, without success. A New York company put down a hole south of Sulphur to a depth of 800 feet.

Lumber.

While others have been built up and flourished, Lake Charles may properly credit her existence for many years to the lumber industry, which is still one of her main supports. The fortunes that have been made out of the timber forests of Southwestern Louisiana are almost without parallel in the development of the south. Unlike hidden mineral deposits, which are an unknown quantity until the last particle is mined, the majestic pine forests stood out in full view of a fortune-seeking world for generations before capital and the frontiersman joined hands in opening up one of the largest forests of high grade building material known to the civilized world. Like

all other industries it has had its battles, and often the very end of its existence was predicted, but today it stands out more majestically than ever before, and is one of the greatest industries of not only Louisiana, but the entire southland. Now, nearly half a century after it was first predicted that her forests would be devastated in a decade, thousands of acres are still standing and are yet to hear the first sound of the woodman's ax.

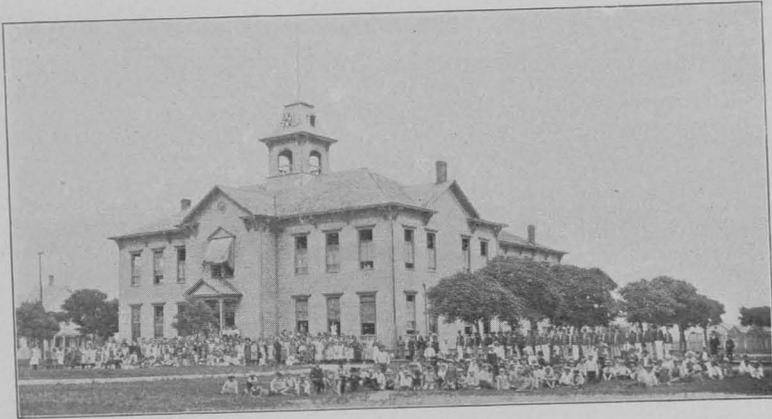
The development of the lumber industry of Southwestern Louisiana dates back just one-half century, when Captain Daniel Goos erected on Calcasieu river the first saw mill west of New Orleans, in 1855. This was followed by several other mills, but in those days the primitive methods employed did not enable them to produce any great amount of lumber, but it found a ready local market. They worked diligently for the improvement of their plants and the introduction of long leaf yellow pine into the gulf coast markets, when their efforts were suddenly checked by the civil war, which put a stop to all industries in the south, particularly those which had not laid aside their swaddling clothes.

After lying dormant during that trying period, its tired and penniless founders retraced their steps to the wasted scene of their many years of frontier life, and once more began the task of opening up the rich timber forests. In the late 60's Captain W. H. Norris came to Lake Charles, anchoring his schooner, which was the only means of transportation at that time, at the head of the lake. He had purchased a modern saw mill, for those days, and decided to locate near where the present city of Lake Charles now stands. Captain Norris was met by an old lumberman, who welcomed him and his new outfit as only frontiersmen can, but after complimenting him on the fine mill he had, sadly remarked that it would only be a few years before all the timber would be cut out. At that time there were three mills around Lake Charles, and twelve on the Calcasieu river, but their combined output was not equal to one of the second class mills of the present day.

That was forty years ago, and the prophet has long since passed to his reward, but if he could be brought back today and see the modern mills surrounding Lake Charles and dotted throughout the timber belt; thousands of acres of long leaf yellow pine standing in the same virgin purity as when it first met his gaze in the 60's, he would pass it up as the well posted lumberman does today: "I don't know." Captain Norris, one of the oldest and best posted lumbermen in the Louisiana-Texas belt, when approached on the subject of future supplies of raw material, merely relates the incident mentioned above and allows the questioner to draw his own conclusions.

The lumber industry expanded rapidly after the war, and an extensive trade was built up with practically all the coastwise points, from New Orleans to Tampico. At one time there were probably fifty schooners in the trade, which constituted the only means of reaching the market. It received its first impetus for larger and better mills and a more extended market in 1882, when the Bradley-Ramsay Lumber company, composed of Michigan capitalists, put in improved machinery, to be followed by several others. About the same time the Southern Pacific railroad was completed through Lake Charles and opened up a large area of inland territory which was entirely without timber supply. The railroad construction which followed called for millions of feet of lumber, and the industry grew with leaps and bounds. Even with that advantage it was not always smooth sailing, and there was still a large amount of pioneer work to do in gaining a ready and extensive market.

The Michigan and Wisconsin white pine forests were at their height of popularity at that time, and the public had learned to believe that white pine was about the only thing fit for building material, and the mill men still found themselves confined to the trade which had been created by necessity. The Bradley-Ramsay company, who were familiar with the northern and central markets, began a systematic course of advertising, and went so far as to send sample cars of lumber to the leading retail centers. It was not long before the superiority of Calcasieu long leaf yellow pine was proven to be unequalled for strength and durability for ordinary lumber purposes as well as heavy construction.



CENTRAL SCHOOL BUILDING



CARNEGIE LIBRARY



CITY HALL-LAKE CHARLES

Its second period and greatest development might be dated back ten years ago, when the Louisiana-Texas mills received more than the lion's share of the lumber trade of the south and east. About this time the export business was placed on a firm footing, and today about six million feet are exported monthly from the vicinity of Lake Charles alone. Foreign nations are using it extensively for battle ship and coastwise defense construction, which calls for the best material the market affords, regardless of price. From the early 90's the price of yellow pine lumber has increased more than 200 per cent, and lands accordingly. In the early days pine lands could be purchased at from \$1.25 to \$2.25 per acre, and such land is now held at \$30 per acre, with none on the market. All the companies organized as far back as ten years ago have extensive pine land holdings, which as a rule are kept intact, the mills buying from the logging companies and leased lands. Some extensive fortunes have been made off of the pine lands by men who never owned a mill or felled a tree, often several parties making enough to spend the rest of their lives in comfort and ease off of the same tract by owning it at different periods. Usually when a man can double his money on an investment he turns it loose, and as the Calcasieu pine lands have doubled in price many times, there was money in it for all; but the greatest gainer is the one who holds it today.

The completion of the Watkins road in 1893 opened up a large timber belt, and there are fully a dozen modern saw mills located along that line. The Kansas City Southern drove through the heart of the pine belt, and an extensive milling industry has been built up along that line. These new roads not only brought the unbroken forests in closer touch with the mills, but opened up a large market for the finished product.

Another great development which has been made in the lumber industry during the past few years has been the improved means employed for getting the logs to the mills. In the early days the mills depended entirely upon timber that could be secured along the streams and floated down the Calcasieu river to their destination. There was a limit to that supply, however, and they were soon forced to pull away from the streams to the higher ground, where timber grew in more abundance. This necessitated the sawing of the logs into short lengths, so that they could be hauled or drawn to the streams by ox teams. This was not only expensive, but the mill men still had to depend upon the will of the river for their logging supply, and at unfavorable seasons they were often closed down. During low water the timber could not be floated, and when the rise did come it was frequently so great that a large amount of timber floated off through the swamps and was lost.

To overcome this difficulty and place the mills on an independent basis tram roads were built into the forests and the logs delivered to the mills by rail. The first tram roads were those of the Edgewood Land and Logging company, which extended from Westlake to near DeQuincey, which is now a part of the Kansas City Southern, and the Bradley-Ramsay tram, which extends from a point four miles up the river due north for a distance of forty miles. The next advance was the steam loader and skidder, which yanks the logs for a half mile on each side of the track and loads them on the cars ready for delivery.

While the lumber industry in Southwestern Louisiana has been confined principally to pine, there are several other varieties of timber, which, while not as extensive, are equally valuable. From the early days the manufacture of cypress shingles has been an important industry, and there is a mill building now eighteen miles east of Lake Charles, which will manufacture cypress lumber. Among the hard woods, ash, sweet gum, water oak and poplar grow in abundance along the rivers and swamps. Arrangements have already been made for the construction of one hard wood mill near Lake Charles, and it is likely that it will be followed by several others.

As stated before, all the principal mills own extensive stumpage, which they are keeping in reserve, and the first cutting will be sufficient to keep them running for twenty-five years to come. Care is being exercised in preserving the forests, rarely anything being cut under ten inches, and eight inches constituting the minimum. When the last landmark is felled these will in turn become monarchs, and it will be up to some other generation to predict the end of the lumber industry.

Rice Industry.

The most extensive agricultural crop grown on the gulf coast from New Orleans to Mexico is rice. Fifteen years ago the industry had begun to break away from the banks of the Mississippi and started west. Its progress was rather slow, however, and like all new countries it was freely predicted that each succeeding parish was not adapted to the pearly cereal. In 1892 the Lake Charles Rice Milling company was formed and the largest mill in the world erected at Lake Charles. It caused considerable comment in rice circles to see a modern mill going up in a locality considered out of the rice belt. The company was formed by Mr. Gustave A. Jahn, one of the oldest rice men in the country, with a view, he stated, of erecting a mill in the center of the industry. At that time there was not enough rice raised west of the mill to keep it running a week, but it was built just the same.

Canals began to creep across the Calcasieu line, and soon it was demonstrated that no where in the world was it surpassed for growing rice. In the higher lands along the line of the Southern Pacific a never-failing supply of artesian water was found, and demonstrated that practically every foot of her prairie lands were adapted to rice. Canals began to radiate out in every direction from her fresh water lakes and streams; the industry passed over the line into Texas, and after the lapse of ten years Mr. Jahn's prediction became true, and Lake Charles is the geographical center of the rice belt.

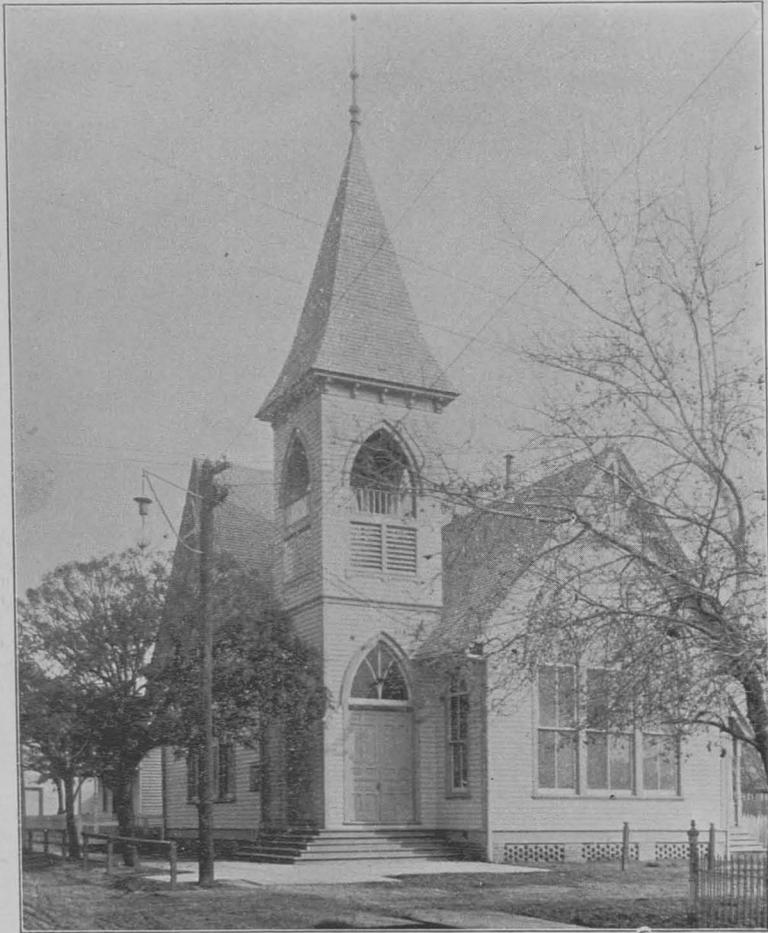
The capitalists of Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish have risen manfully to meet the situation, and in addition to combining their capital for the purpose of affording canal facilities, have built additional mills with the latest improved machinery and facilities for handling the crop economically and to the greatest advantage to the farmer. They are large buyers and also do toll milling, as the producer may elect. Rice is one of the most profitable crops grown, and the cheap lands which abound in this section furnish the homeseeker a golden opportunity to become independent of the landlord and leave a heritage for the coming generation. The success with which the pearly cereal produced in this section is being introduced in the foreign markets precludes the possibility of an over production, and there will always be a demand for the production of every available acre of rice land in the United States.

One of the most important features of rice culture is that with the modern system of canals practically every possibility of a failure is eliminated, on new land as well as that which has been in cultivation for years. While the rice industry has attained wonderful proportions, it is yet in its infancy, and each year sees new canals springing out of the fresh water streams and modern mills erected throughout the rice belt to take care of the production. The consumption of the United States is increasing rapidly, with a large export business being built up with Cuba, South America and the European countries.

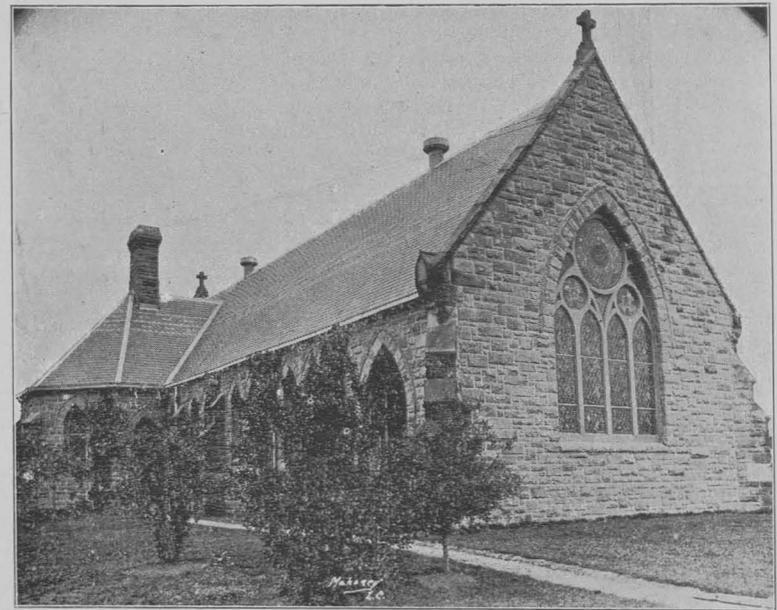
Deep Water.

That Lake Charles is destined to become a future deep water port is not only considered among the possibilities, but work is already being done which will eventually accomplish that purpose. Like her sister cities in Texas, Beaumont and Orange, Lake Charles is only separated from deep water in the gulf by the spreading of the river, which forms shallow lakes, preventing the river from cutting its own channel. In the old days the channel at the mouth of the Calcasieu river maintained an average depth of from ten to twelve feet, and an extensive schooner trade was built up with Mexico and gulf coast points. In 1886 the severe storm and tidal wave which swept over the gulf, assisted by the seepage from the Mississippi river, filled up the channel until it had only three feet at mean low tide. Twelve years ago an appropriation of \$100,000 was received from the Federal government, but this was not much more than was necessary to keep the pass open. With this small amount, however, the east jetty was completed and work begun on the west, when the appropriation was exhausted.

At the last session of the national legislature, Congressman A. P. Pujo interested himself in the work, and an appropriation of \$125,000 was secured to continue it. During these four years of idleness by the government nature took up the work and with



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST



EPISCOPAL CHURCH

the protection of the jetty, the river current had cleaned out the channel to a depth almost as great as it had ever possessed before. The appropriation now available will extend the west jetty and put the east jetty in perfect repair, which will eventually mean deep water for Cameron, one of the safest land-locked harbors in the world. The river at this point has a depth of sixty feet and the size of vessels admitted will depend only upon what the government does in removing the sand bar at the mouth of the river.

North of Cameron the river spreads out for eighteen miles, forming Calcasieu lake, which is the only obstacle in the way of deep water at Lake Charles. It has a natural channel, however, of from six to ten feet. An appropriation has already been secured for a preliminary survey, and the work of bringing deep water to Lake Charles will follow right along after the completion of the jetties. The Calcasieu river has a depth of from forty to one hundred feet, and is navigable for more than one hundred miles north of Lake Charles.

There are few cities in the United States which produce such an enormous amount of tonnage, especially for export, as Lake Charles and the tributary territory. Approximately five million feet of lumber alone are shipped from her mills monthly, which would more than justify the appropriations made up to the present time. Deep water would save the long haul by rail now necessary, and its completion would see the export trade double and treble the first month.

Surrounding and to the north of Lake Charles stands the largest body of virgin pine in the United States, and even with the disadvantages surrounding the industry at the present time it is shipped to practically every civilized country on the globe. In addition to the lumber industry, Lake Charles has one of the most productive sulphur mines in the world. Petroleum will come only second to lumber in tonnage, and probably surpass it. To this must be added the cotton, rice and wool industries of no mean proportions and high export value.

Congressman Pujo is doing some valuable work in calling Federal attention to the necessity of improving Calcasieu Pass, and with the effective assistance given him by the entire southern delegation it is almost an assured fact that before the present appropriation is exhausted the merits of the project will be sufficiently realized to complete the work. Its benefits are not confined to Southwestern Louisiana alone, but will give a near-by deep sea outlet to all that vast productive territory from the rich wheat fields of Kansas and Nebraska to the gulf. It will not only be the nearest but the nearest possible port to Kansas City which is reached by a direct air line. Congressman Pujo is receiving the united support of the entire citizenship of Southwestern Louisiana, and is paving the way for additional appropriations from the next congress.

In this age of progress commercial organizations have proven to be the most valuable institutions for the advancement of the commercial and manufacturing interests that any city can possess. Their real value, however, depends largely upon the men who are placed at their head. Lake Charles has been particularly fortunate in this respect, and the Board of Trade, under the guidance of President H. B. Milligan has been the most important factor in building up a greater Lake Charles.

Mr. Milligan came to Lake Charles from the state of Kansas some fifteen years ago, and was one of the first of the great tide of immigration which started from the central northern states about that time. He had no sooner located than he offered his time and means to the upbuilding of Southwestern Louisiana, and the great work which he has accomplished is known to every man, woman and child in the parish. He has been tireless in his work for the interest of the city, and has given the encouragement

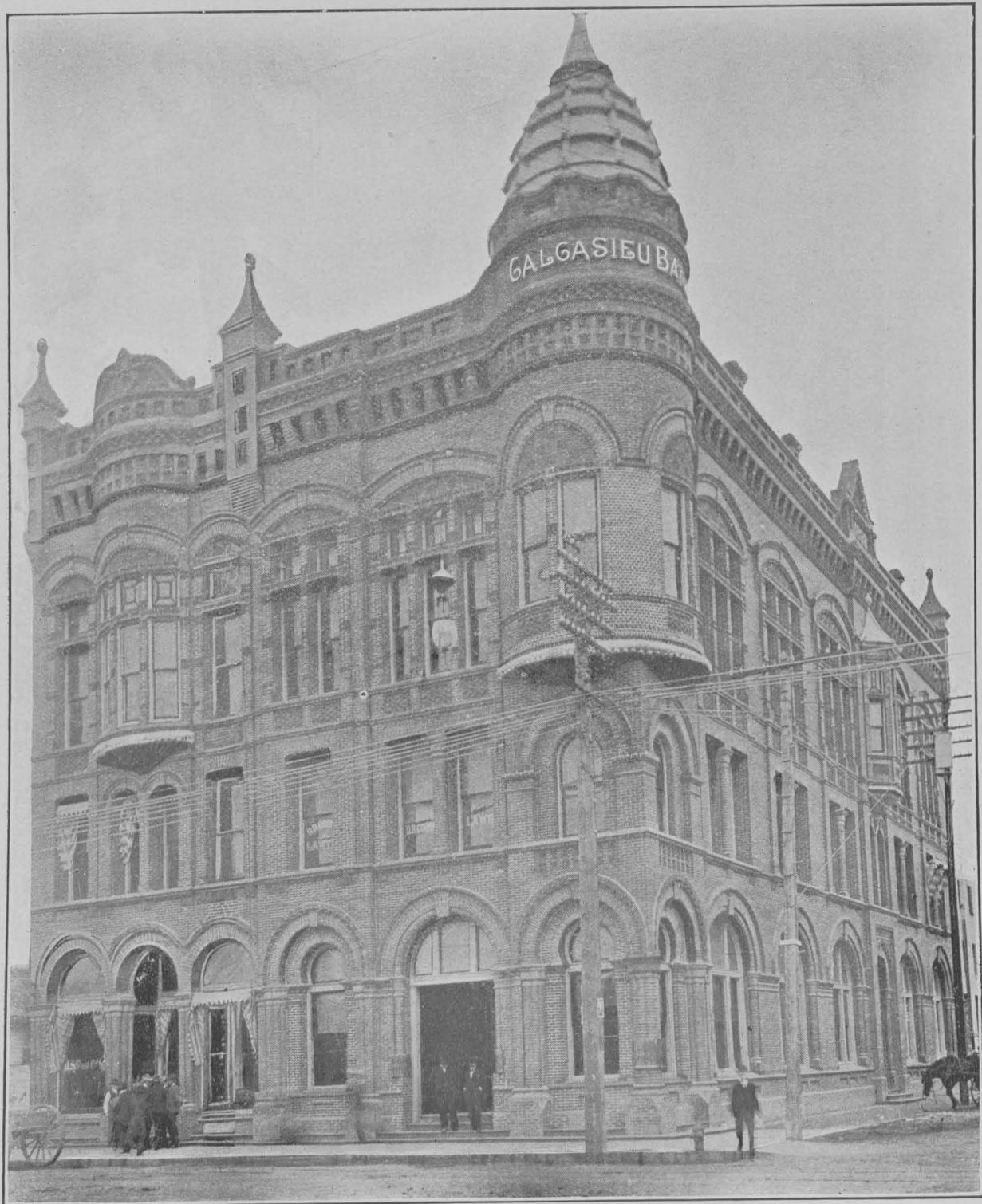


H. B. MILLIGAN.

and support of the Board of Trade to every legitimate enterprise which desired to locate in Lake Charles. Going further, he has made the advantages of Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish known to a great many of them who were not familiar with the matchless resources of Southwestern Louisiana, and some of our most flourishing institutions owe their existence to his unselfish work in this capacity. No better compliment could be paid the man than that the business men of Lake Charles and the citizens in general have placed him at the head of all their work for the advancement of the city and parish. Mr. Milligan is also a large property holder in both the city and parish, which he has improved in the same manner as he has asked others to do in his work as president of the Board of Trade. Lake Charles does not claim a more valuable citizen, and it gives us pleasure in this edition to pay tribute to one who has been so earnest and unselfish in the advancement of the city and parish.

Calcasieu National Bank

Lake Charles, Louisiana



Capital Stock, \$150,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$150,000.00

The Calcasieu National Bank

In referring to the growth and prosperity of any city or country the greatest evidence that can be submitted is the condition of her banking institutions. The Calcasieu National Bank, of Lake Charles, began business January 23, 1892, and a comparative statement very fittingly illustrates the progress made by Lake Charles in that length of time, and also reflects the highest credit upon the soundness and conservatism of that institution. Their deposits since that time, taking intervals of three years, were as follows:

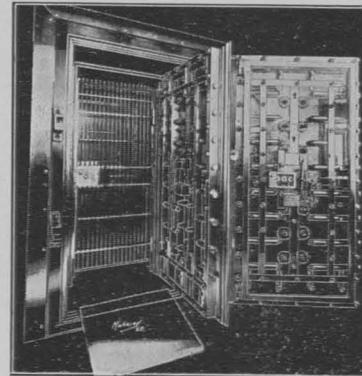
EVIDENCE OF GROWTH AND PROSPERITY

May 1, 1892.....	\$ 33,780 65
May 1, 1895.....	87,468 23
May 1, 1899.....	278,203.53
May 1, 1902.....	1,003,840 10
March 15, 1905.....	1,207,738 29

The Calcasieu National Bank was first capitalized for \$100,000, but it soon proved too small to accommodate their rapidly increasing line of customers, and three years ago was increased to \$150,000. They also added a savings department, which has become very popular and has had a wonderful effect in stimulating the small wage earners to contract the habit of saving and placing something each month out on interest. By accepting deposits from one dollar upwards, even the smallest wage earners and those just entering life are given an opportunity to lay aside something for the future in an institution of unquestionable soundness. In 1902 the Calcasieu National Bank was designated as a United States depository, and on May 15 of that year the United States treasurer placed on deposit \$50,000.00, which is a recognition from the government of the able, sound and conservative manner in which its affairs are conducted. Their

statement to the comptroller, March 14, 1905, was as follows:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$1,193,279 98
Stocks, securities, etc.....	5,492 00
Overdrafts.....	11,601 66
U. S. bonds.....	90,000 00
Premiums on U. S. bonds.....	3,500 00
Banking house furniture and fixtures.....	50,000 00
Other real estate owned.....	6,375 15
Five per cent redemption fund.....	2,000 00
Cash and sight exchange.....	274,851 26
Total.....	\$1,638,086 05



LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock.....	\$ 150,000 00
Surplus.....	100,000 00
Undivided profits.....	53,482 76
Reserved for taxes.....	2,000 00
Circulation.....	58,100 00
Dividends unpaid.....	65 00
Rediscounts.....	66,700 00
Deposits.....	1,207,738 29
Total.....	\$1,638,086 05

From the above statement it will be seen that the bank has an aggregate surplus and undivided profit fund in excess of their capitalization. In equipment the Calcasieu

National Bank is one of the most perfect and modern in the state. Their three-story brick building has just recently been remodeled and their banking room furnished in mahogany and oak with every convenience for the different officials and employees. One of the most important features of the modern bank and one that ranks only second to the officials at the head of the institution is its protection against fire and burglary. In this respect the Calcasieu National Bank has provided protection which can not be surpassed in the state and only equaled in the city of New Orleans. The new burglary and fire proof vault which was installed while re-

modeling the banking floor contains all the protective strength and appliances known in modern times. The vault proper is constructed of fire brick with sufficient strength and thickness to withstand the severest test. The inside of the vault is lined with a solid steel cage built of armor plate one and one-half inches in thickness. This as well as the outside entrance is protected by a time lock door, the two weighing 18,000 pounds, but by the perfect manner in which they were manufactured and installed can be opened and closed with

the ease of an ordinary door. During banking hours the vault is closed by a Grille door which gives a view of all that is going on on the inside and an alarm bell indicates to the cashier and all employees of the bank when any one enters. The first floor of the vault is arranged for the daily use of the bank in filing away their books and papers and safety deposit boxes for the protection of their customers. In addition to the vault mentioned above they have a patent manganese steel safe for the safety of their funds against any daylight attack during the hours that the vault door stands open. The second floor is used for filing old records, books, papers, etc., which are not in daily use but are protected practically in the same manner against loss.

A separate department has also been handsomely furnished and given over to a competent assistant for the accommodation of their lady customers.

The officers and directors of the Calcasieu National Bank, who are among the most successful business men and financiers in this section of the state are:

J. A. Bel, president J. A. Bel Lumber Company, limited, Lake Charles.

Lewis S. Clarke, capitalist and sugar planter, Patterson, La.

H. C. Drew, Choupique Rice Plantation and State Senator, Lake Charles.

George Horridge, president Farmer's National Bank, Vinton, Iowa.

D. R. Swift, president Lake Charles Carriage and Implement Co., and Swift-Kirkwood Co.

Wm. H. Ramsay, president Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company, Lake Charles.

M. J. Rosteet, retired, Lake Charles.

J. G. Powell, owner of the Powell lumber mills, Lake Charles.

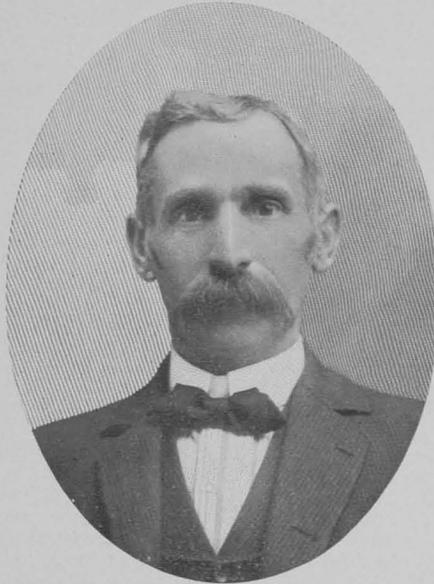
Frank Roberts, cashier, Lake Charles.

Officers: H. C. Drew, president; Geo. Horridge, vice-president; J. A. Bel, vice-president; Frank Roberts, cashier; E. N. Hazzard, assistant cashier; Ladies Department—Miss Gertrude Beardsley.

First National Bank

ESTABLISHED 1889

Lake Charles, La.



L. Kaufman, Vice-President



Capt. Geo. Lock, President



J. N. Prater, Director

Oldest Bank in Southwest
Louisiana

Special Department for Savings
Deposits

The banks of Lake Charles can not be overestimated in their importance and what they have done in adding to the growth and prosperity in every line of business and promoting its welfare in every way. The financial institutions of Lake Charles are noted for their stability and no better illustration of this fact could be given than the First National Bank, which was organ-

ized in November, 1889. At this time the city of Lake Charles was little more than a struggling village. Her lumber interests were already being developed and the agricultural interests showed some future promise and with a keen insight into the future the early capitalists who dominate the institution at the present time, established the first national bank in Southwest

Louisiana, and the healthy condition of the institution at the present time, is a tribute to the integrity and business ability of the men who have been in control of its affairs.

The First National Bank is one of the nine institutions in the state on the "Roll of Honor" and takes seventh place among that number. In explanation, the Roll of

Honor is a table prepared by the New York Financier from statements made by the Comptroller of Currency and includes all National banks which have a surplus and undivided profit fund equal to or in excess of their capital stock. Out of the 5,042 banks in operation only 684 are entitled to a place in this list, and being listed in the order of their percentage, the First National



Hon. A. P. Pujo, Director

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock	\$ 50,000 00
Surplus	50,000 00
Undivided profits, net.....	31,246 91
Circulation	11,900 00
Rediscounts	30,397 51
Deposits	482,874 95
Total	\$706,419 37



N. E. North, Cashier

in a number of other leading enterprises in the city. He has been active in the development of the resources of Calcasieu parish and is regarded as one of her most prominent and successful citizens. He is ably assisted by Vice-President L. Kaufman, who is a retired capitalist, but still active in all matters pertaining to the welfare of Lake Charles. Hon. A. P. Pujo, director, is one of the most prominent attorneys in this section of the state and is largely interested in financial enterprises, the first and the present representative in Congress for the district. Mr. J. N. Prater, director, is president of the Loyd-Prater Grocery company, one of the largest establishments of its kind in the city and which

The affairs of the bank are looked after by N. E. North, who is cashier of the institution, and it might be added one of the most successful young bankers in the state today. Mr. North's first experience in banking was in Vassar, Michigan, where he received valuable training. Later he was with the Bay City Bank, of Bay City, Mich., several years before coming to Lake Charles. This was reinforced by five years as assistant cashier of the First National before assuming the responsibilities of cashier in 1901. He was with the Lock-Moore company for some time and afterwards went into the insurance business on his own account. His 15 years residence in Lake Charles has familiarized him with values in this section which is a very important matter in handling the affairs of a bank.

W. H. Simmons, assistant cashier, is a native of Texas, has practically been in the banking business all of his life, first training under his father who was cashier of the First National Bank at Rusk, Texas; afterward with Commercial National Bank of Houston, Texas.



W. H. Simmons, Asst. Cashier

is numbered 204. This is a remarkable showing for any institution, no matter where located, in the same number of years. The stockholders in this creditable institution have since its organization had their original investment more than returned in the way of dividends and at the same time saw their investment increase over one hundred per cent in value. Their last report to the comptroller, made March, 1905, is particularly gratifying and shows deposits to the amount of \$482,874.95. This statement shows conclusively that the First National Bank is sound financial'y and that its affairs are looked after by shrewd and able financiers:

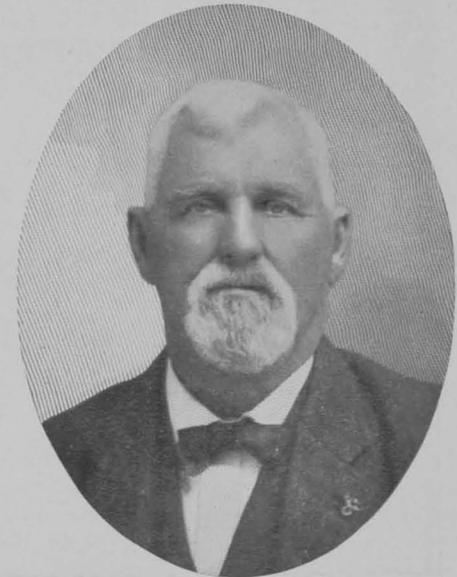
RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$546,776 56
Stocks, securities, etc....	1,813 25
Overdrafts	1,201 57—\$549,791 38
U. S. bonds and premiums	12,500 00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	23,500 00
5 per cent redemption fund	625 00
Cash and sight exchange	118,862 74
Other real estate.....	1,140 25
Total	\$706,419 37

The First National Bank has one of the most handsome buildings in the city and it is carried on their books at \$23,500. It is constructed of pressed brick and Ovicletic limestone, with marble front. The floor is laid with mosaic tile and the interior handsome'y finished. The furniture is of oak and is considered one of the prettiest sets of banking fixtures in the state.

This institution is officered by some of the most successful financiers in the state of Louisiana and are well known in financial and business circles.

Mr. George Lock, president of the institution, is president of the firm of Lock, Moore & Co., and is also largely interested

has been very successful. Mr. R. H. Nason, another member of the directory, is a retired capitalist, who has made a signal success in all of his business ventures. He is also director in Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Co, and Lake Charles Chemical Co.



R. H. Nason, Director

The Lake Charles National Bank

Capital Stock, \$100,000.00

Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$16,000.00



THE STONE BANK—ERECTED 1903

There is no better index to the prosperity of any community than the condition of her banks. Through them the commerce of the nation is transacted and the statement from any particular locality tells in plain language what that section is doing in the development of her resources. The condition of the banks at Lake Charles is one in which the whole of Southwest Louisiana may feel a just pride, and it reflects a great deal of credit on the men who have had her financial interests in charge. The successful bank of today



WM. A. GUILLMET
CASHIER

must be one that is liberal in the advancement of her young industries, and at the same time conservative in handling the funds entrusted to its keeping. Such an institution is the Lake Charles National Bank. It was chartered February 10, 1902, but a glance at their last statement to the



Main Lobby Showing Side Entrance

INTERIOR VIEW LAKE CHARLES NATIONAL BANK

Industrial Room and Library

comptroller, made March 14, 1905, would indicate that it was one of the old financial institutions. It follows:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....	\$280,299 67
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured..	651 99
U. S. bonds and premiums.....	101,500 00
Bonds, securities, etc.....	4,250 00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	37,569 06
Cash on hand and due from banks and United States treasury.....	96,177 42
Total	\$520,448 14

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock	\$100,000 00
Undivided profits	16,368 15
Circulation	60,000 00
Deposits	344,079 99
Total	\$526,448 14

The Lake Charles National Bank owns its own building, which is a handsome two-

story structure at the corner of Ryan and Broad streets. It is constructed of blue Bedford stone from Indiana, and is one of the most handsome structures in this section of the state. Its beauty is further enhanced by a mirror faced granite shaft at the corner of the two streets and marking the principal entrance. It is one of the most conveniently arranged banking houses in the state, the entire lower floor being devoted to that purpose.

The officers and directory of the Lake Charles National Bank contains one of the most representative lists of successful business men and capitalists that it would be possible to secure. They are men who have made a success in private life and the same talents that put them to the front as individuals is being combined to make the Lake Charles National a success and they have accomplished that purpose. The officers are: H. C. Gill, pres-

ident; Chas. S. Ramsay, vice-president; W. A. Guillemet, cashier, together with Sam Park, Rudolph Krause, E. D. Miller, W. P. Weber, C. D. Moss, J. G. Powell and J. S. Crowell forming the board of directors.

Mr. Gill, the president, is an old time lumberman, a business from which he retired, later serving the parish for fourteen years as district clerk of this district and made an efficient officer. He is largely interested in real estate in this parish, and is one of the most popular and progressive citizens in the city.

Mr. Chas. S. Ramsay, vice-president, is a member of the Bradley-Ramsay Company, and is largely interested in timber lands.

The cashier's chair is occupied by Mr. Wm. A. Guillemet who is regarded as one of the most successful bankers in the state and the success he has made with the assistance of the president and board of di-

rectors would justify that assertion. Mr. Guillemet is well known in banking circles throughout the state for his knowledge of its various branches and familiarity with the securities throughout this section.

Mr. J. G. Powell, director, is owner of the Powell Lumber mills and also recognized in other leading financial institutions. He is one of the pioneer lumbermen of this section and owns one of the most modern mills in the timber belt.

Mr. Rudolph Krause, director, is connected with the Perkins-Miller Lumber company; J. S. Crowell, is of the Crowell-Spencer Lumber company; Sam Park is president of the Industrial Lumber company, and a trict judge of this district; W. P. Weber is of the Kelly-Weber Grocery company; prominent capitalist; E. D. Miller is dis-C. D. Moss is of the prominent law firm of Pujo & Moss.

Anything pertaining toward a history of the operations of this company would be nothing more or less than a history of the yellow pine industry in Southwest Louisiana from 1880—its infancy. Probably no other concern has done so much toward the development of this great industry and it is pleasing to note that they have reaped some of the profits that invariably follow the development of great natural resources.

The members of the firm who, with one exception, were largely interested in the lumber business in Michigan with headquarters at Saginaw, first began the purchase of long leaf yellow pine stumpage back in 1880 and followed up their timber investments with a saw mill which was one of the first modern plants to be erected in the state. Yellow pine was not so well known then as it is today and many hardships had to be gone through with before it attained just recognition in the markets of the world. Louisiana and Texas were just entering on the development period and the interior trade was not very large. It was the beginning of the great railroad building period, however, and new avenues were opened up into the interior annually. The Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company was in position to furnish the new villages with building material and soon a large trade was built up with Texas and adjoining states. The railroads themselves called for a large amount of building material of special grades and they made a specialty of furnishing this class of trade. Their large timber holdings comprising about 150,000 acres furnished them an unlimited supply of high grade timber and they have been one of the most important factors in giving long leaf yellow pine its great popularity in railroad construction today. The superiority of the Calcasieu product has also been recognized by the government, and it is being extensively used in the construction of battle ships, coast defenses, and all classes of work where heavy timbers of the highest perfection are required. The government is noted for the rigid manner in which they inspect every article intended for the public service, especially when it comes to material to be used in the construction of battleships and permanent coastwise improvements, but in none are they more exacting than in that of lumber. The unhesitating manner in which they bid on contracts of this kind, the amount of material they have furnished in the past and satis-

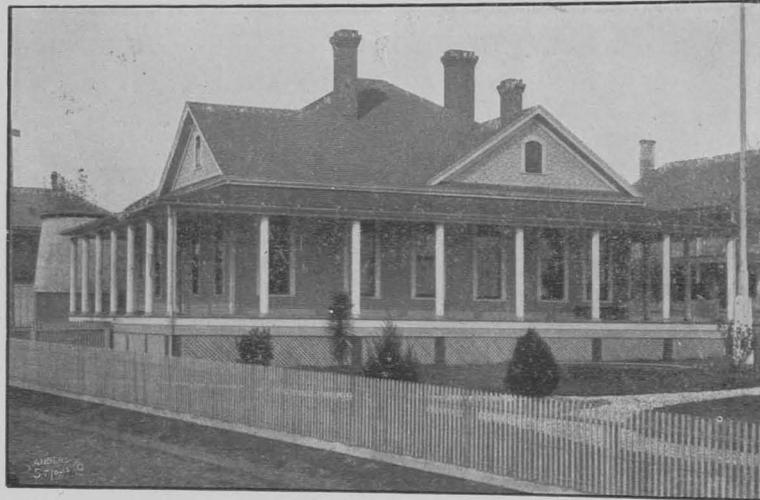
faction they have given the government, is one of the strongest illustrations of the superior equipment of the mills of the Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company and the magnificent timber supply they possess. During recent years there has been a well organized effort made to introduce long leaf yellow pine into foreign ports and today there are millions of feet shipped annually to European ports, Mexico and South America. Its popularity in these countries has been on the increase and has become to be an important branch of the lumber industry and calling for more extensive equipments.

The Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company's mills are located on the Calcasieu river

and are among the largest and most modern plants in the entire timber belt. The Michigan mill, two miles from the business district of the city, was constructed ten years ago, and by the addition of new machinery and constant improvement it is as perfect and complete as if finished yesterday.

The Mt. Hope mill is situated one mile further down the river, and is complete in every respect, the two having a combined capacity of 200,000 feet per day. Their planing mill is located just above the main mill and is one of the largest and most complete planing mills in the yellow pine belt. Their facilities for handling timber from the

Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Co.



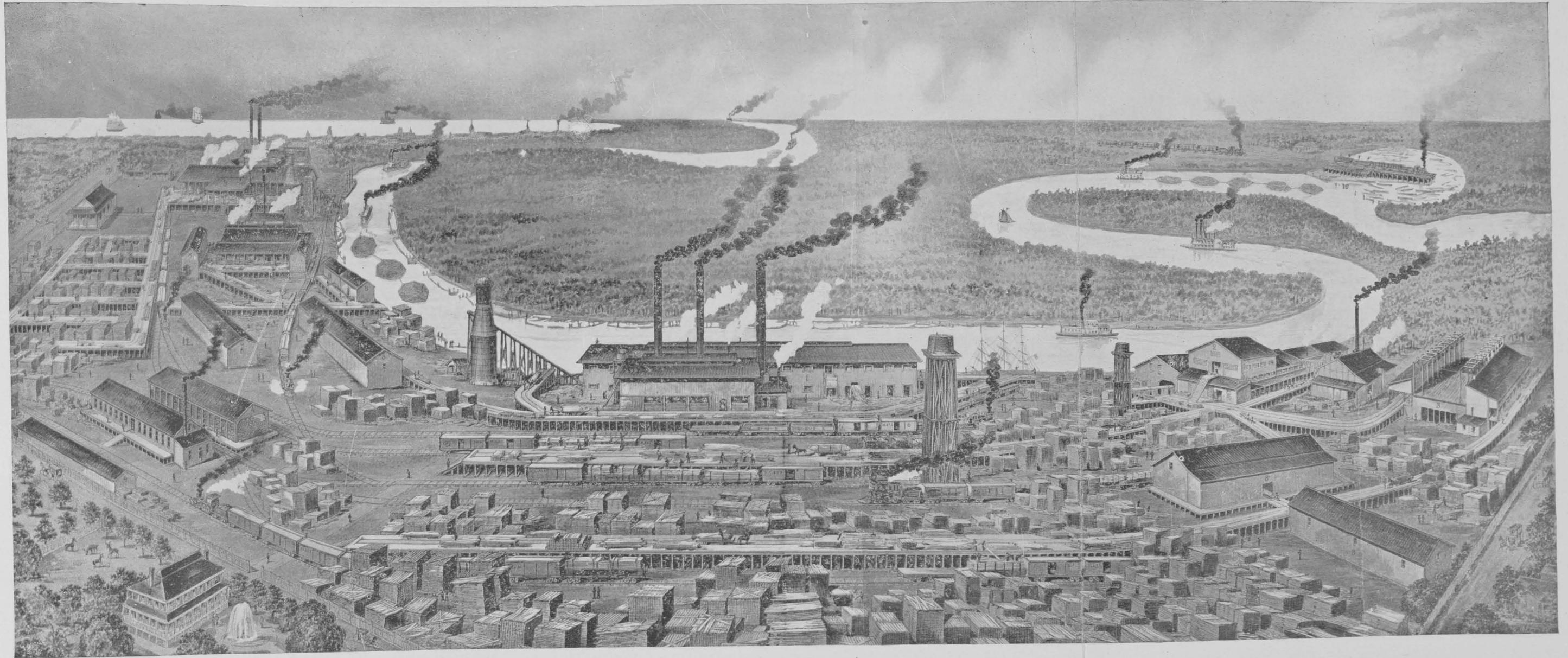
GENERAL OFFICES

time the log leaves the river until the timber is dressed and loaded into the car is ideal and reduces operating expenses to the minimum. The location of the mills on the bank of the Calcasieu river gives them the best and most economical logging facilities to be had in the south. What was left undone by nature has been perfected by the building of innumerable switches and roadways. Their mills and yards cover a tract of one hundred acres and they carry an average stock of ten million feet. In addition to this their supply of logs is equal to the capacity of the mills and they are in position to manufacture anything known to the yellow pine trade on short notice.

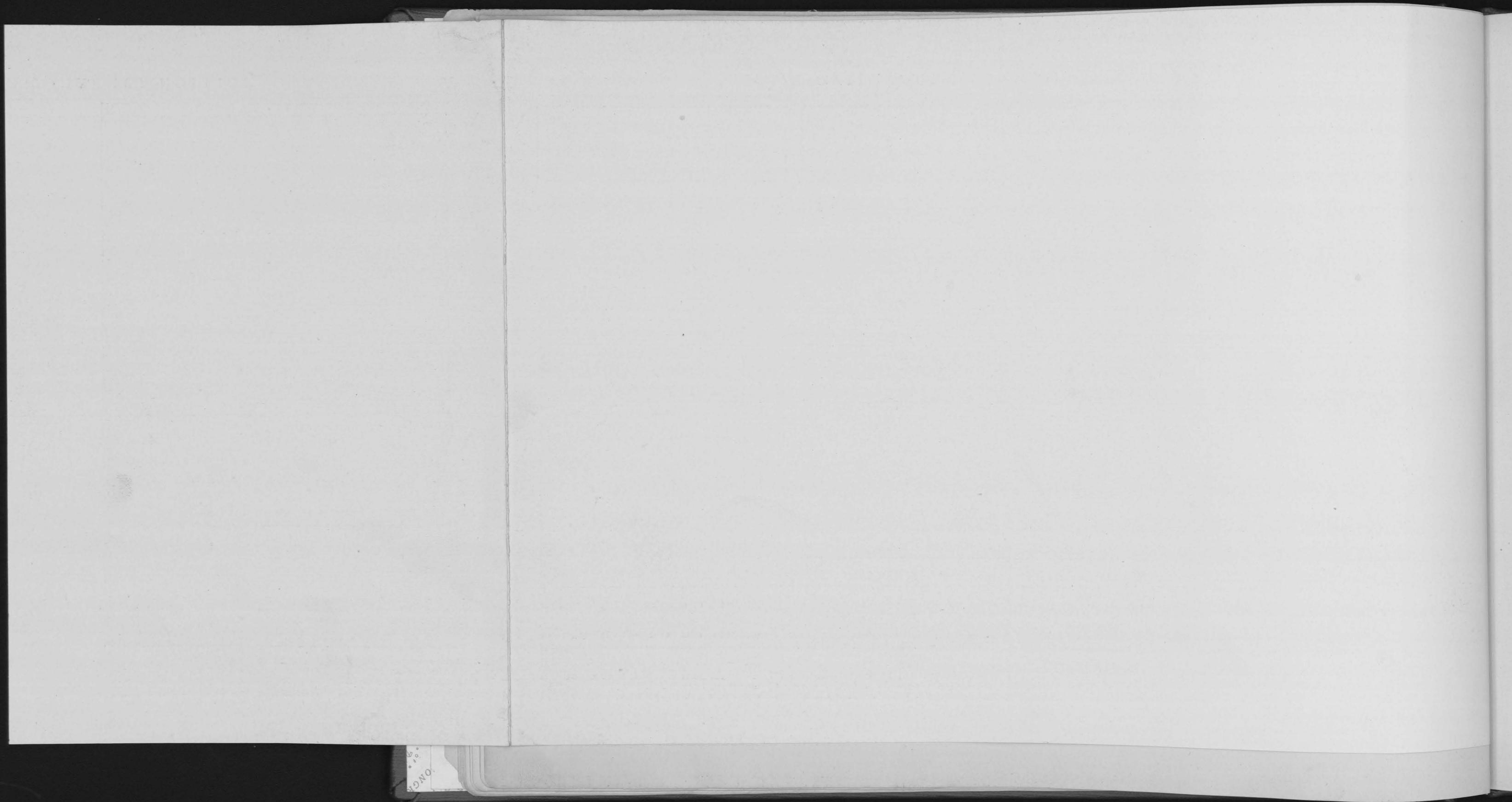
With one exception the men who founded the Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company still dominate its affairs, and have been successively returned to the directorate from its inception. At the last election, held March 18, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Wm. E. Ramsay, president; C. W. Penoyer, vice-president, and C. S. Ramsay, secretary and treasurer. Directors: Wm. E. Ramsay, Benton Hanchett, C. W. Penoyer, Cnas. S. Ramsay, and R. H. Nason.

They are all pioneer lumbermen and have done more to develop the lumber industry of the state of Louisiana than any other association within her borders. Like all pioneers their works have brought other development along and the industrial life and wealth of Calcasieu parish today can almost directly be traced to what was done in 1880 to develop her almost unlimited natural resources.

The company has recently taken another step in the direction of making them the largest and most complete lumber manufacturing company in the south by purchasing the entire logging equipment of the firm of Loxley & Martin, who have had their logging contract for a number of years. The deal which has just recently been closed calls for their entire river equipment, machine shops, cars, shops, tugs, barges and all other equipment pertaining to the logging business. This will not only place them in position to handle their own logs but do considerable business for other people. The company is also erecting four new dry kilns which will materially increase their capacity for producing seasoned lumber on short notice.



Bird's-eye View of the Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Co. Annual Output, 60,000,000 Feet of Lumber



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Lake Charles Chemical Co.



There was a time in the history of Lake Charles when the lumber industry constituted her sole manufacturing enterprise and not a few predicted that it would be the extent of it. While many other things have followed and assumed large proportions, no one at that time had the remotest idea of what the lumber industry itself would lead up to. Logging was followed by saw mills, planers, sash and door factories, foundry supply houses, a desirable citizenship to conduct these enterprises but still the end was not in sight. It has always been a lamentable sight to the eastern lumberman to see the amount of waste destroyed from the saw mills in the south and any effort to correct this abuse is second in importance only to the industry itself, and is, indeed, a part of it. The Bradley-Ramsay Lumber company was among the first to begin the manufacture of lumber on anything like a modern scale, and they have also been first in its protection by securing every marketable by-product of the tree through the Lake Charles Chemical company. It is something entirely new in the Texas and Louisiana timber belt and its importance can be but little better estimated than the lumber industry twenty-five years ago. There are very few, if any lumbermen in this section today who would believe that there is \$25.00 of marketable material in every cord of the stumps, and slabs not reckoned in the buying and selling of timber.

The Lake Charles Chemical Company was incorporated in 1904 for \$50,000 and completed their plant on the banks of Calcasieu river in February of this year. The capital stock of the company, however, does not represent the cost of the plant as they have expended about \$65,000 in bringing it up to its present stage of perfection.

While it is distinct in every particular the officers of the Lake Charles Chemical Company are practically the same as the Bradley-Ramsay Lumber Company, as follows: Wm. E. Ramsay, president; Benton Hanchett, vice-president; C. W. Penoyer, secretary and treasurer, and W. B. Harper, superintendent of the plant. The officers are prominently identified with the industrial development of Lake Charles and Mr. Harper is an expert in this line of chemistry, having had extensive experience in Massachusetts and Mississippi in the same kind of work.

The plant began operation on February 3, and is conceded to be practically the finest and best equipped steam pressure process and dry distillation plant in the entire lumber belt. The gentlemen back of the enterprise are not in the habit of doing things by halves and no amount of expense has been spared in securing the most effective machinery and appliances to reduce the cost of production to a minimum. The process by which turpentine

is taken from pine is by steam pressure similar to the method used in creosoting and is condensed by means of a coil condenser. The oil and water come together, the separation being an easy matter, as the oil rises to the top. After the turpentine is drawn off the wood is further heated without the use of steam and produces tar and charcoal. A non-condensable gas is formed during the latter process which poses is composed of stumps and refuse

The material used for distillation purposes is composed of stumps and refuse from the Bradley-Ramsay mills which are located on either side of the plant. They are carried by barge to a wharf which has been erected to receive them and handled by a steam crane. A small mill has been built on the wharf which cuts the material up into short lengths and then delivered by an endless chain into a steel bucket which is also operated by a crane and dumped into the car. They have a tremendous steam ax for working up the stumps and blocks. After being loaded the car is then taken along an elevated track to a battery of horizontal retorts with removable heads. The cars then run into the cylindrical retort and after being closed tightly are ready for the first process which produces the turpentine. A fire is started underneath the retort until steam temperature is reached. Steam is then turned on and the oil is drawn off through the copper coil condensers. There

are six of these retorts with a capacity of three cords each. They are equipped with pyrometers, regulating heat and steam gauges for regulating the pressure. Just opposite the distilling retorts there is another battery of equal number built on a lighter scale for the purpose of cooling the charcoal after it has been withdrawn.

It is probably one of the most complete plants of its kind ever constructed and is supplied with independent water, electric light and fire service. The floors are of cement and everything from foundation to roof is of the most substantial form. At some distance from the main plant a large warehouse has been constructed for receiving the product. There is also a large steel tank with a capacity of 40,000 gallons.

It is expected that the plant, when in full operation, will consume twenty cords of wood per day. Of course there is a great deal of variation in the amount of oil secured from a cord, it depending upon the amount of heart or fat in the raw material.

The Lake Charles Chemical company is now in full operation and is a monument to the integrity and energy of its founders, not only for the far reaching effect it will have in building a greater Lake Charles, but in setting the example to make the best of our resources and secure their greatest value for the benefit of mankind.

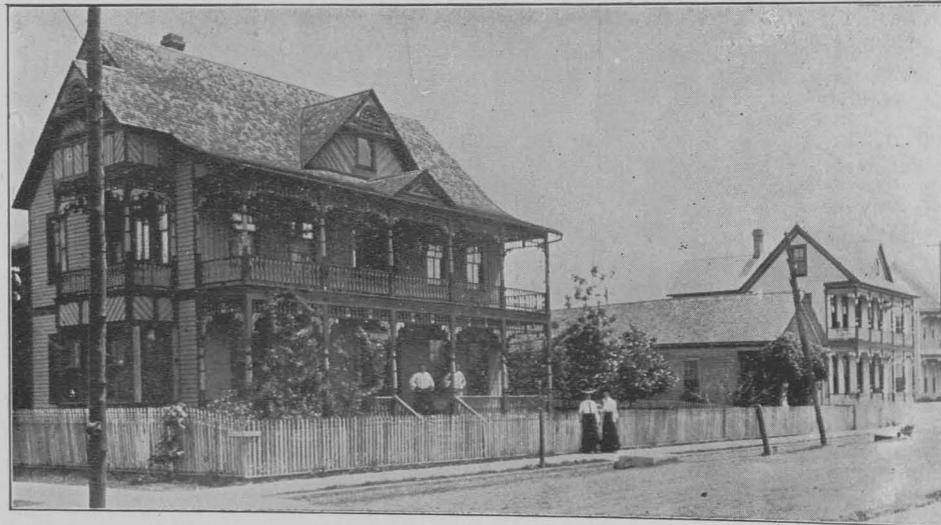
J. G. POWELL

Anything pertaining to a history of Lake Charles, Calcasieu parish, or Southwestern Louisiana would not be complete without a resume of the lumber interests. In fact, its initial prosperity and greatest support today would be overlooked entirely. This is no less true of the men who made it, for without the master minds, business energy and capital they put into the then unknown forests, their wealth and useful-

when the town was in its infancy and no one ever dreamed that the lumber industry would take on the proportions it is enjoying at the present time. He embarked in the lumber business at that time and has been one of the most prominent figures in its development as well as that of Lake Charles. He now owns one of the most complete mills in the timber belt with a capacity of 60,000 feet per day.

with all the railroads leading into the city, and lumber can be loaded to any point at the mill. Mr. Powell is also owner of one steamboat for transporting lumber to the pass for export and coastwise shipments. He has a complete stock of all grades on hand; in fact the fifteen acres of mill and yard site is a mass of rough and dressed lumber from the famous Calcasieu long leaf yellow pine forests, which

largely interested in pine lands and owns a ten year supply with his mill running to its full capacity. He is also a large purchaser of logs that naturally seek a market at Lake Charles and a great deal of his own timber is being held in reserve. His logging facilities are complete in every respect, being equipped with steel trams and modern loaders and skidders. Mr. Powell is also director and one of the



J. G. POWELL'S RESIDENCE AND RENT HOUSES

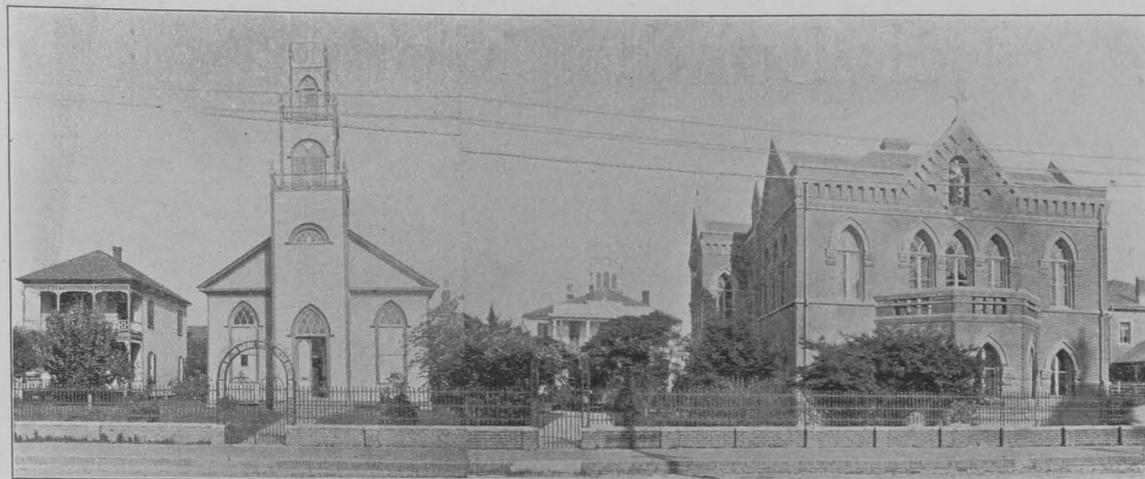
ness would still be unknown to the world. While recording these facts with the pen and camera it is a pleasure to know that so many of the men who overcame the apparently unsurmountable obstacles twenty years ago have reaped a just reward from their labors and are still active in directing its continued development. Mr. J. G. Powell came to Lake Charles some twenty-two years ago

He also has a modern planing mill for working up the finer grades, with a capacity of 40,000 feet a day. The firm name was formerly Drew & Powell, but Mr. Drew disposed of his interest to Mr. Powell several years ago and he is now the sole owner. The mill is located on the Calcasieu river, in the northern part of the city, where the logs are floated down from the pine forests to the mill. He has rail connections

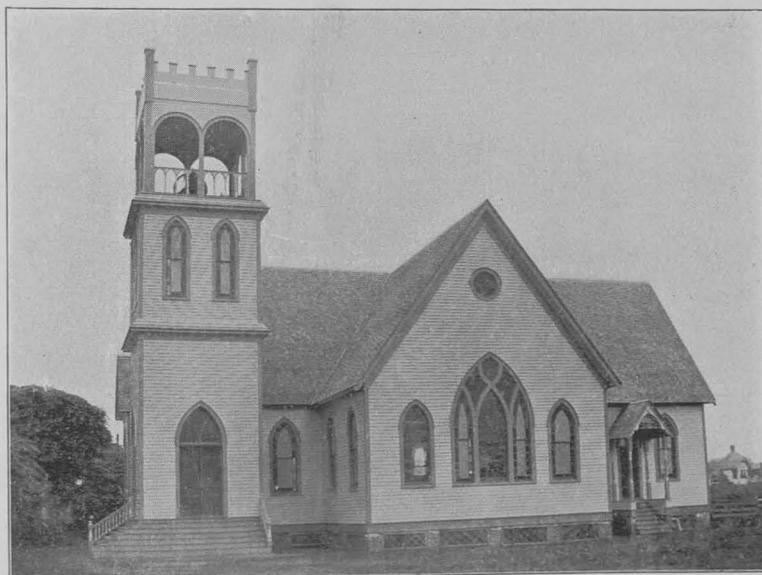
can not be surpassed in beauty and strength anywhere in the world.

It might not be out of place to add that the original mill owned by Drew & Powell was located on the same site as the present mill and was destroyed by fire several years ago. It was at that time that Mr. Powell purchased the entire interests of the firm and the present mill was built under his sole ownership. Mr. Powell is

largest stockholders in the Calcasieu National bank and takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the advancement of his adopted home, both socially and commercially. Although he has been in the harness for a great many years, he is still active in the management of his various interests and Lake Charles does not claim a more accomplished or successful business man.



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

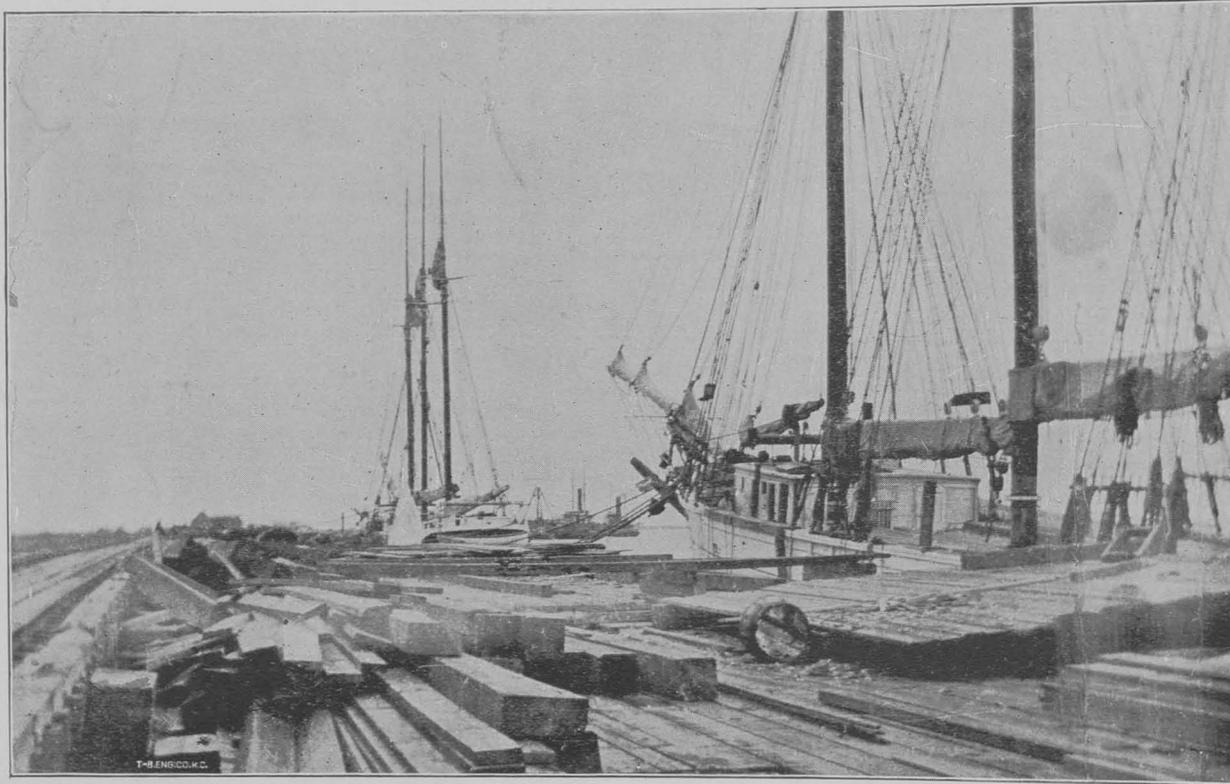


SOUTH M. E. CHURCH



SIMPSON M. E. CHURCH

J. A. Bel Lumber Company, Ltd.



LOADING SCHOONERS WITH LUMBER

While Lake Charles has many reasons to be proud of the fact that she is the greatest lumber manufacturing point in the Texas-Louisiana timber belt, she can take just as much pride in the character of her mills and the men who have made the industry a success and developed it upon

its present high plane. In bringing these conditions about it has required the combined efforts of an army of men experienced in every phase of the lumber business, ample capital and above all an unlimited amount of that push and energy which is necessary in the development of any

new industry or country. No better illustration of the successful combination of all these essential points could be found than in the J. A. Bel Lumber company. In point of equipment it can not be surpassed in the entire timber belt.

The J. A. Bel Lumber company is one of

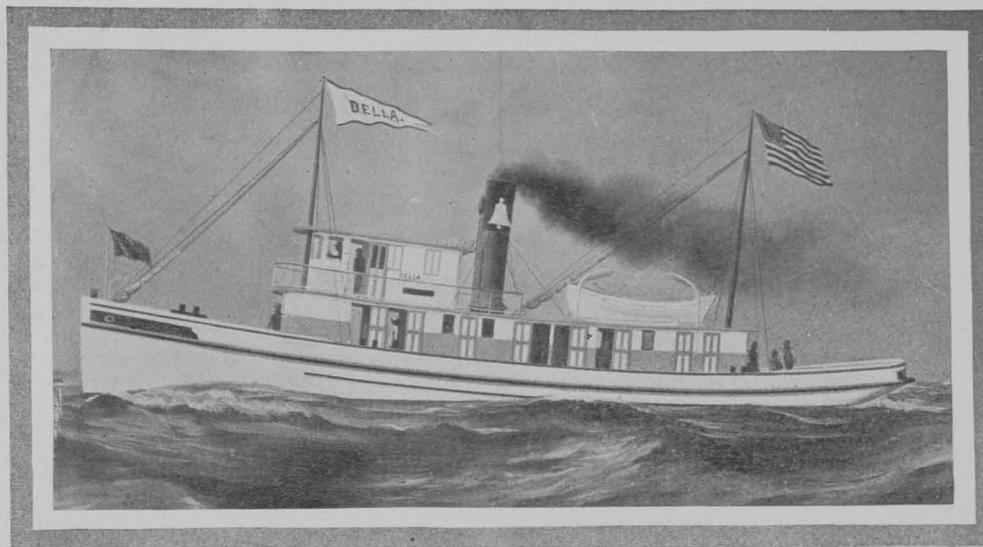
the pioneer mills in this section of the state, the plant being located on the banks of Lake Charles, in the northern limits of the city. The mill, which is after the circular pattern, has a capacity of of 85,000 feet daily, making an annual cut of about 30,000,000. It is also fully equipped with planing mills.

dry kilns and all necessary adjuncts to manufacture every class of lumber possible to secure from a yellow pine log. While there have been some improvements in saw milling machinery since the J. A. Bel Lumber company started into business, they can all be found in their plants, as they have not hesitated to expand or make further improvements when it was possible to increase their ability to manufacture the best grades of lumber and

of 60,000 logs at one time. They also have their own wharfage and dock room for export business and the accommodation of their own boats engaged in towing lumber barges to deep water and assisting in the logging down Calcasieu river. This has also been developed into quite a ship building yard and a number of the strongest and most substantial craft engaged in the coast trade today were turned out from their ways. The superior class of

railroad timbers of extra size and lengths and do a large business with the principal system of the south and west. Their product is very popular with the exporters, which is one of the best recommendations a lumber company can have. Altogether the J. A. Bel Lumber company employs about 300 men at their mills and logging camps, and have been an important factor in making Lake Charles the city she is today. The officers of the company are:

more competent or successful lumberman in the state today. His experience served him well in taking charge of an extensive concern, and no better compliment could be paid the man than to call attention to the long and successful career of the company. He is largely interested in several other leading institutions in the city, and has been an earnest worker in the upbuilding of Calcasieu parish. One of the most notable and un-



SEAGOING TUG DELLA



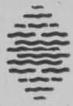
handle it economically. They also operate their own electric light plant and water works. Hydrants are placed at all convenient points and danger from fire is reduced to a minimum.

The location of the mill is an ideal one, giving both water and rail transportation from their immense yards. The lake gives ample room for a boom of almost any size and they have taken advantage of this fact by arranging for the accommodation

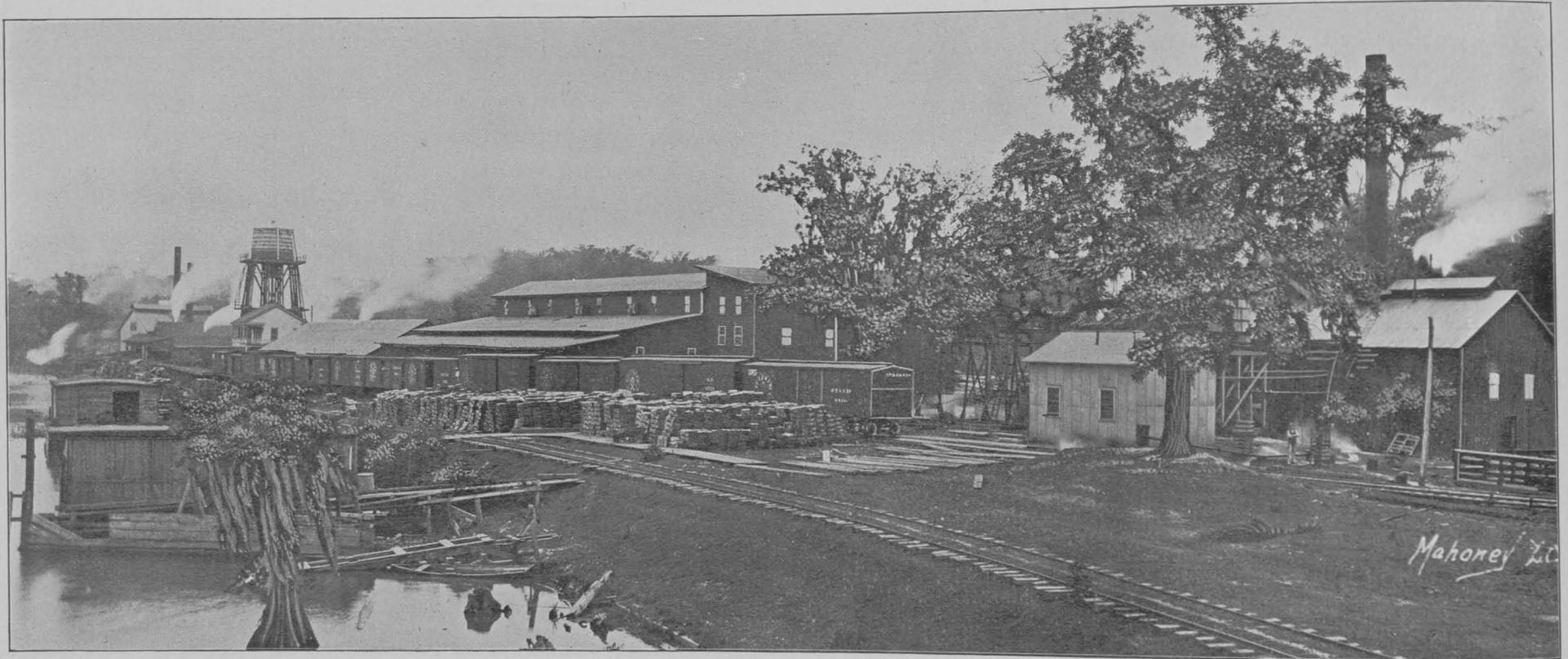
timber they manufacture has been largely responsible for the popularity of Lake Charles as a ship building point. The company owns 30,000 acres of virgin pine, which gives them one of the largest and most magnificent supplies of timber in the state. A large portion of it has never heard the ring of the woodman's ax and they are enabled to secure just as fine timber as the day when the mill was first erected. They have made a specialty of

J. A. Bel, president and manager; W. S. Goos, vice-president; W. W. Flanders, secretary and treasurer; W. G. Moeling, assistant secretary and treasurer. Mr. J. A. Bel, the organizer of the company and its present president and general manager, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and has been engaged in the lumber and timber business from boyhood. He has passed over a quarter of a century in this line of business, and there is not a

selfish services he rendered the city and parish was the effective work done in securing government aid in improving Calcasieu Pass. It was an uphill business to secure Federal recognition for new Southwestern Louisiana, but he kept at work with that intelligent persistence which has characterized all of his labors, whether for the public or the direction of his private affairs, until success crowned his efforts.



Perkins & Miller Lumber Company, Ltd.



VIEW OF MILL FROM RIVER FRONT

The Perkins & Miller Lumber company is one of the pioneer lumber manufacturing institutions of Calcasieu parish, and also one of the largest within her borders today. The business was first started by Mr. A. J. Perkins, a pioneer lumberman, in 1873. Later, Charles Miller became associated

with Mr. Perkins when the company was incorporated, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The mill has been improved from time to time until it is now one of the most complete lumber manufacturing plants in the entire south. They have a saw milling capaci-

ty of 100,000 feet daily, the planing mills for different purposes being capable of working up 125,000 feet daily. Their extensive dry kilns turn out 50,000 feet of seasoned lumber daily.

The Perkins & Miller plant occupies an ideal location on the west bank of the

lake for receiving the timber from the forests, and also its distribution to the markets of the world by both rail and water. The river at this point is about forty feet deep, which gives them excellent wharfage room for their tugs and barges, which carry their finished product

to deep water at Calcasieu Pass, and schooners, which constantly ply between their plant and the coast lumber markets of Texas and Mexico. It also furnishes a location for a safe and commodious boom, which they have taken advantage of by constructing one of the largest in the entire timber belt. Their rail connections are equally satisfactory for reaching the interior markets of the south and west.

Another extensive feature of the Perkins & Miller Company is their large mercantile store, which has grown from a small commissary in the woods, to one of the larger, if not the largest, general merchandise establishments in Southwest Louisiana. When Mr. Perkins first constructed his mill on Calcasieu river, a small commissary was started to enable his employes to secure the necessaries of life, without being forced to lose time coming to Lake Charles at frequent intervals. Very little was thought of the matter, only as one of convenience, and its steady growth to its present proportions has been almost as surprising to the owners as to the casual observer. The main building where the sales rooms are located, is a two-story structure 40x100 feet, giving them a floor space of 10,000 square feet. In addition to this, they have separate warehouses for feed, groceries, hardware, hay and hides, aggregating a total of 22,000 square feet. It would be surprising to one not familiar with the surroundings, to know that such an extensive mercantile establishment existed in a town the size of Westlake, but not to those familiar with the geography of Calcasieu parish. While the trade among their own employes is large, they also constitute the supply depot for nearly half of Calcasieu parish, running from Calcasieu river to the Sabine river on the west. There is a constant stream of heavy freight wagons pouring in from the timber forests to the north and west to receive their monthly supplies and nowhere in the state can they find a more complete and extensive stock to select from.

There has recently been a change in the ownership of the stock in the Perkins & Miller company, which will mean still greater things in the future than has been accomplished in the past. The two original owners, Messrs. Perkins & Miller have long since passed to their reward, and for many years the entire plant was under the management of Mr. Rudolph Krause, treasurer of the company, and W. H. Man-

agan, secretary. Mr. Krause looked after the financial end of the concern, while the sales department was entrusted to the care of Mr. Managan. They continued so until one year ago when they decided to take a vacation, and their respective offices were filled by Messrs. Munday and Green. During the past month Messrs.

the transfer of the stock will mean no more than giving them a greater scope in which to exercise their well known talents. Mr. Krause has been managing the financial end of the company for several years, with the exception of the time mentioned, and it is largely due to his ability as a financier that the company

not a lumber manufacturing plant in the entire south, which has been more ably conducted than the Perkins & Miller mills under their direction. They are both large realty holders and have done some valuable work, in exploiting the mineral resources of Calcasieu parish. Mr. Arthur Wachsen has had charge of their mercan-

THE
BIG
STORE
ON
THE
WEST
SIDE



W. H. Managan, Rudolph Krause and Arthur Wachsen purchased 99 per cent of the stock, and are now practically sole owners of the company. The sale included their entire saw milling plant, logging equipment, 5,000,000 feet of lumber in stock, and a timber supply sufficient to last for the next twenty years. These gentlemen have been so closely identified with the success of the company in the past, that

is in its present prosperous condition. While the prosperity of the concern has been uninterrupted, it was due to the master minds guarding its interests and directing its every move. Mr. Managan has had charge of the sales department for the same length of time and has proven himself to be one of the most successful lumbermen in the entire southern timber belt. It can safely be said that there is

tile establishment for a number of years, and his success in that department is fully explained by the reference to its growth and extent as mentioned above. He is an accomplished business man, and has made a department very little thought of in the beginning, one of the most valuable assets of the company. He will retain the same department under the new ownership, of which he is one.

Lake Charles Ice, Light and Water Works Co.

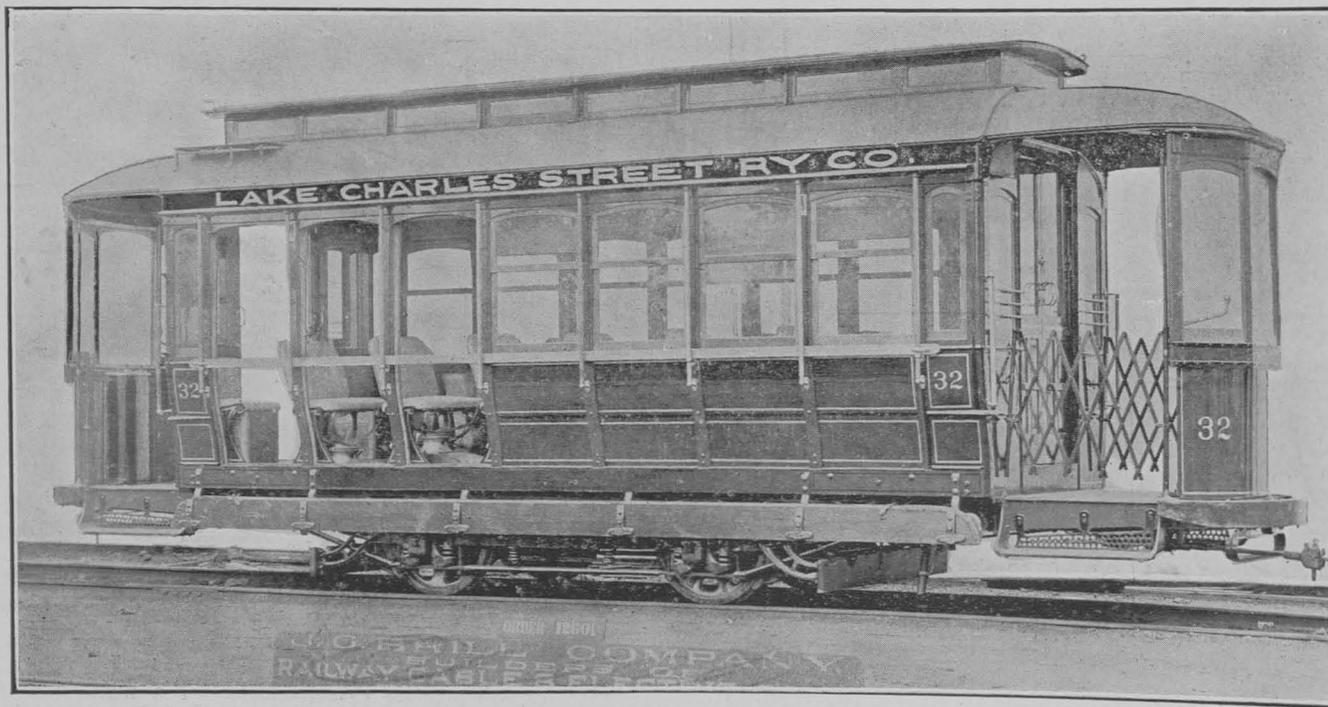
About the first question a prospector or home seeker asks when looking for a new location is the condition of the public utilities, and their condition has more influence upon the upbuilding of a town or retarding its progress as the case might be than all other agencies combined. The lack of building or mercantile accommo-

stumbling blocks for the progress of any community is created. In this respect Lake Charles was particularly fortunate in having those matters taken over in their infancy by men with whom progressiveness was second nature and they have made it a point to keep the city's public utilities just a little ahead of her needs.

the city water of unsurpassed purity for all purposes. The mains are of 12, 10, 8, and 6 inches in diameter, reaching practically over the entire city and sufficient pressure is maintained at all times for first class fire protection. The standpipe, located at the foot of Ryan street, is 16 feet in diameter and 110 feet in height, which

as the needs of the city require, until now it is the largest and most complete plant in Southwest Louisiana. The purity of the water used in the manufacture of their ice produces a product unsurpassed anywhere and they enjoy a thriving business with the towns tributary to Lake Charles.

The officers of the Lake Charles Ice, Light and Water Works company are J. A. Landry, president; T. J. Bird, vice-president; D. J. Landry, treasurer; and P. O. Moss, secretary. The most important piece of work they are doing at the present time, and one which will put Lake Charles far ahead of all cities in the state of her size, is the construction of a modern electric street railway. For a number of years the street car service in Lake Charles has been restricted to mule cars which it is needless to say was not entirely satisfactory. Mr. Landry went about this work with the same earnestness and foresight which has characterized his efforts in giving the city modern electric light, water and ice service and before another six months has passed an electric line will have been completed reaching all the principal residence and business districts of the city as well as its suburbs. While a great many have advanced the theory that Lake Charles was yet young for an electric street railway, Mr. Landry has exercised the same faith in the future greatness of the city as he did fifteen years ago and proposes to keep the public utilities up to a point where they will be a beacon light to the future growth of the city. The track will be laid with sixty pound six foot rails, which have already been purchased and in every respect the system will be first class. Modern cars have been contracted for and they will be here as soon as the track and motive power is ready for them. Mr. Landry has worked on the theory that if the patronage at the present time is not sufficient to justify a company on an independent basis it will only mean an increase in their present electric power and that Lake Charles shall have first class street car ser-



ditions can be supplied by themselves, but not so with ice, light or water, especially the latter, as the successful operation of industries of that kind can only be done by the expenditure of large capital and if they do not deem it necessary to meet the wants of the people it is very hard for it to be remedied and one of the greatest

The Lake Charles Ice, Light and Water Works company is the outgrowth of the firm of J. A. Landry & Company, which was organized in 1890 for the purpose of supplying the city with water and fire protection and the building of a local ice factory. The water supply for the system is obtained from artesian wells which gives

gives a good pressure at all times, whether the pumps are in operation or not. One year after Mr. Landry took charge of the system in 1890, an ice factory of five ton capacity was built, which formed the nucleus for the magnificent 100 ton plant they have at the present time. New and heavier machinery was added from time to time

Lake Charles Ice, Light and Water Works Co.

vice now and it will still be here when the city reaches that point where it will become a valuable piece of property.

Mr. Landry has occupied a unique position in the development and uplifting of Lake Charles and his services have only been limited by the wants of the city. Born in West Baton Rouge in 1859 and left fatherless at the age of 15, what he was to become in the world depended entirely upon his own pluck and energy. He found employ in the store of Moss & Reddick in this city and after remaining with them and C. P. Hampton and W. L. Hutchins successively until he reached manhood he engaged in partnership with Dr. J. C. Munday in the drug business. He studied medicine in the meantime for the next two years, when he was appointed deputy sheriff and tax collector. He served in this capacity for two years and then went into the employ of A. J. Perkins at Westlake, then Perkins & Miller of the same place. By close attention to business his worth was soon recognized until he was advanced



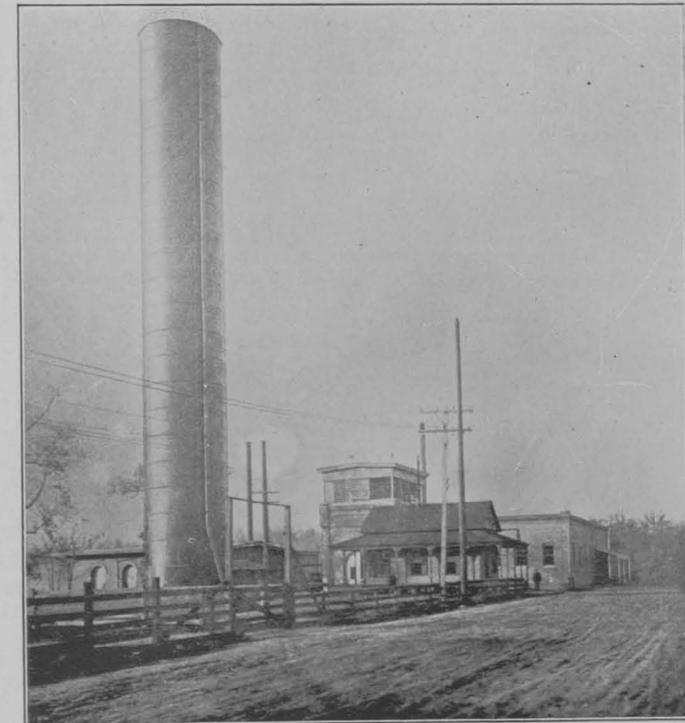
to the management of the mill and finally became a partner in the business. He severed connection with the company to take charge of the water works in 1890 and the history of his operations since that time is one of Lake Charles itself.

Equally interested with Mr. Landry in the development of the public utilities of Lake Charles and bringing them up to their present stage of perfection has been Mr. Thompson J. Bird, vice-president of the Lake Charles Ice, Light and Water Works Company, and president of the Street Railway company; D. J. Landry, treasurer of the Ice, Light and Water Works Company, and vice-president of the Street Railway Company; and Paul O. Moss, secretary of both companies.

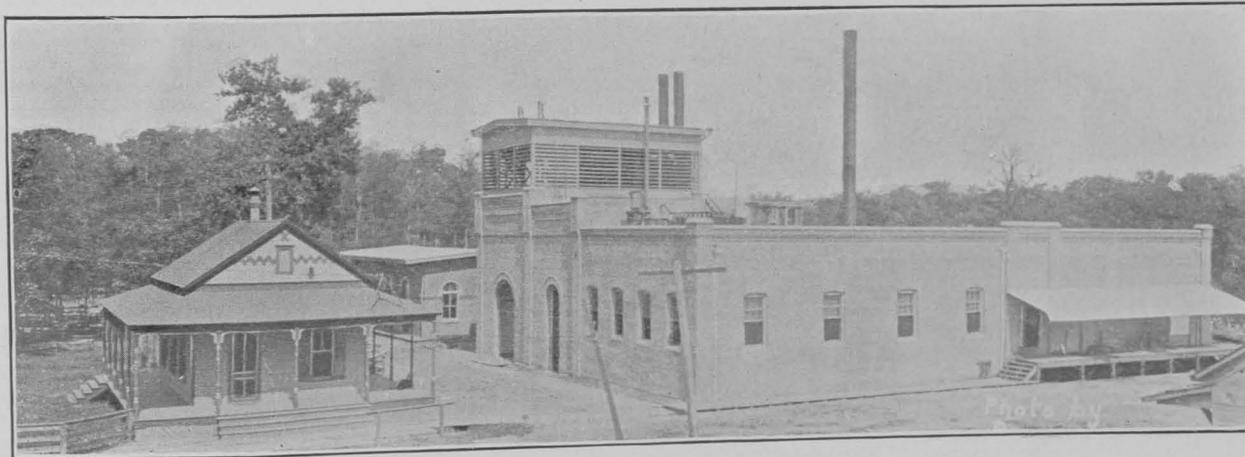
They have been indefatigable in their work for giving Lake Charles her present highly satisfactory water and light service and bringing to the city a modern electric street railway system. The city of Lake Charles does not possess more faithful workers for her advancement.



OLD ICE FACTORY



STAND PIPE

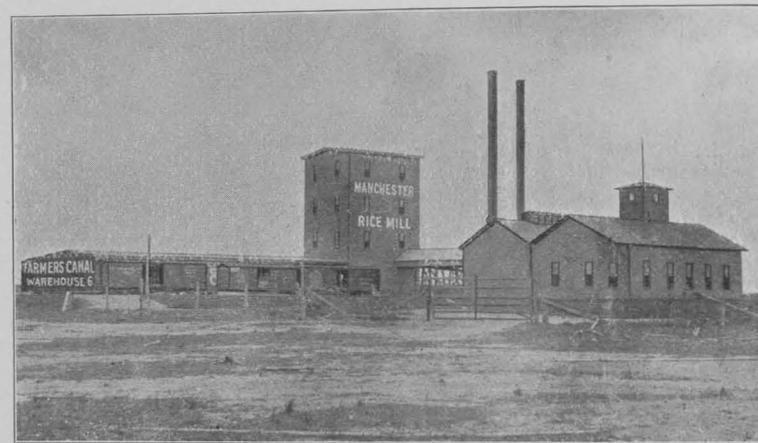


OFFICE, NEW ICE FACTORY AND POWER HOUSE

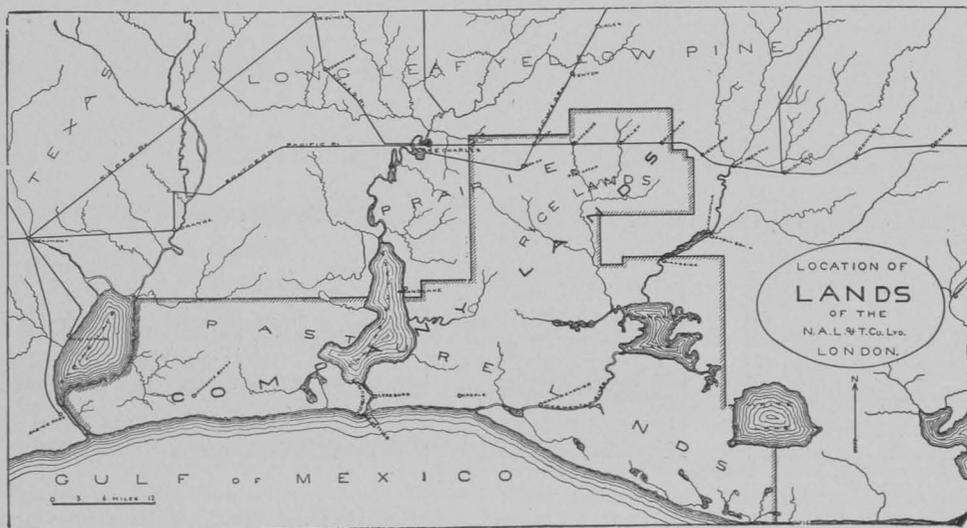
North American Land and Timber Co. Ltd.

The North American Land and Timber Company is an English concern with main offices at London, England, but they have been as important in the development of Southwestern Louisiana as the pioneers who came from the United Kingdom in the 16th century were to the north and east. The company was organized in 1882 with the intention of investing in the pine forests of Calcasieu and adjoining parishes. At that time the government had placed several thousand acres of land on the market and instead of investing in timber lands they purchased prairie and marsh land, considered at that time worthless for anything except range. They acquired 900,000 acres and immediately began their plan of improvement, which has added so much wealth to this section of the state. In disposing of large tracts to settlers it is the usual policy of companies to induce the settlers to locate and the development of the country is then left with them. Dissatisfactions follow through ignorance of

the new country and developments are usually delayed until overrun by the encroachment of an increasing population in the adjoining districts. With the North American Land and Timber company it has been just the reverse and the settler is given improved land on which crops have already been grown. They first develop the land, demonstrate what it will do, drain and irrigate it so crops can be grown the first year and then offer the immigrant a home, not as a pioneer in some unknown region but an improved farm in the midst of civilization. Their lands extend for one hundred miles along the Gulf of Mexico, from the Sabine river on the east to White Lake on the west. While the majority of the marsh lands are leased out for pasturage, they are rapidly being drained and will soon be green with fields. They are being drained by dredging and the use of motor pumps, three of which are in operation at the present time and are giving complete satisfaction. Fifteen hundred acres



MANCHESTER RICE MILL



were drained and put in cultivation last year.

The first great development work of the North American Land and Timber company was demonstrating that the high prairie lands along the Southern Pacific could be successfully irrigated. Experts had frequently said that it would not be practicable to attempt a canal through that section and doubted its adaptability for rice growing even should it be attempted. Fortunately the company was not giving opinions but developing the country and went right along laying out canals, erecting huge pumping plants and turning the sod for a rice crop. The Farmers canal was built and the first year's crop demonstrated the practicability of the proposition. The second year saw the laterals extending out in every direction, the main canal creep out through the vacant prairie for 36 miles until today they irrigate over 10,000 acres. The canal is supplied with four pumping stations to make the lifts conform with the rising nature of the ground

and altogether it is one of the most complete systems in the entire belt. The company cultivates about one thousand acres on this canal and the balance is cultivated by tenants or land owners who take their water from the company canal. This was followed by the Keystone, Klondike, Southwestern and other plantations until Calcasieu parish became one of the greatest rice districts in the state. They sold nearly all of the rice plantations to the south of Welsh to Jennings. Nearly all the farms irrigated by deep wells on each side of the Southern Pacific track passed through their hands and it is largely through their efforts that they are settled and yielding their quota to the wealth of the world today. Altogether they have sold something over 150,000 acres to northern settlers who are on the land today and have added several thousands to the population of the parish and hundreds of thousands to her wealth. Work is under way at the present time draining, dredg-

ing, levying and irrigating 4,000 acres just north of Sweet Lake which will in turn be used as a reservoir for fresh water.

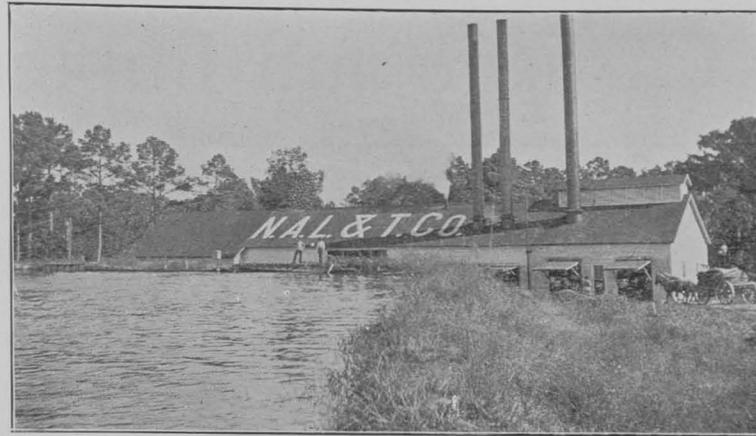
As stated above the North American Land and Timber company first develop the lands before inviting settlers, but they do still more—they develop the country and do everything within their power to make the settlers contented and prosperous after they have located here. Public roads have been laid out through the parish, graded and put in good condition entirely at their own expense. Four thousand dollars were spent last year in this work. They have also assisted liberally in building school houses throughout the parish and take the lead in advancing the interests and comfort of the settlers in every way. They have started two townsites, Manchester and Holmwood, both destined to become important commercial points. At the former place they have erected a rice mill with a capacity of 350 barrels daily, with ample warehouse room in different sections of the rice belt to take care of the production of their tenants. Holmwood will be the headquarters for showing home seekers over the parish, as it is nearer the lands than any other point on the road. They have erected an elegant hotel at this point for their accommodation, and school houses and other public buildings to be added as the population increases. They have been progressive in all things

and have not only settled up the vacant lands that a few years ago were considered worthless but have added the comfort and advantages which would make the people happy and contented and make of them permanent citizens.

The North American Land & Timber company have handsome offices in the Calcasieu National Bank building in charge of competent men who are carrying on the great development work in the same man-

ner as it has been done for the past twenty-three years. The officers of the company are: W. S. B. McLaren, president; J. W. Chalkley, secretary; and Russell Scott, J. H. Roberts, M. P. J. Holdsworth and H. G. Aggs, directors. Mr. J. B. Watkins was the first manager of the company and continued in that capacity up until 1896 when he was succeeded by the late A. V. Eastman. Mr. Eastman was an accomplished business man and during his administration, which

lasted until his death, March 15th of this year, the company prospered beyond all expectations and it proved to be an eventful period in the history of the development of Southwestern Louisiana. During that time he disposed of over 100,000 acres to actual settlers. He has been succeeded in that office by Mr. H. G. Chalkley, who has been superintendent of the company for the past nine years. Mr. Chalkley is a native of England but has been a resident of this country for the past twelve years. He was formerly with the Watkins railroad, which he left to assume the superintendency of the entire development work of the North American Land and Timber company nine years ago. A great part of the canal and drainage work has been done under his direct supervision and it is largely due to his personal efforts that they have proven to be so successful. He combines business talent and experience in this work and the great work inaugurated by his predecessors will be continued along the same lines as they have in the past. There is no disputing the fact that they are the greatest benefactors Southwestern Louisiana has ever possessed, not only for what they have done in the past, but what they are doing at the present time and have planned for the future. Their work for the advancement of the country has been unselfish and every laudable enterprise has received their unqualified support both in time and means.

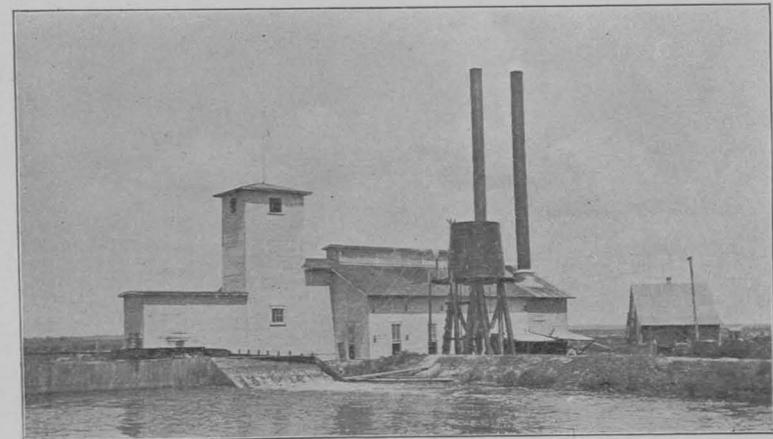


FIRST LIFT—FARMERS' CANAL



SECOND LIFT—FARMERS' CANAL

PUMPING
STATIONS
OF THE
NORTH
AMERICAN
LAND
AND TIMBER
CO. LTD.



THIRD LIFT—FARMERS' CANAL

Lake Charles Carriage and Implement Co. Ltd.



The Lake Charles Carriage and Implement company, is an establishment in which all Southwest Louisiana may feel a just pride, one that is not surpassed in volume of business outside of New Orleans. The Lake Charles Carriage and Implement company, is the outgrowth of the firm of George & Swift, which was es-

tablished nearly twenty years ago. It was organized under its present name, with a capital stock of \$50,000 eleven years ago, taking over the business of the former concern, and with additional capital materially widening its scope and usefulness to the agricultural interests of Southwest Louisiana and Southeast Texas. The offi-

cers of the company at the present time are: D. R. Swift, president; H. W. Lanz, vice-president, and W. E. Patterson, secretary-treasurer.

The Lake Charles Carriage and Implement company are wholesale and retail dealers in all kinds of farm implements, buggies, carriages and wagons. It is the

only exclusive establishment of its kind in the state, with the exception of the branches it established several years ago, and has come to be recognized as one of the largest implement houses in the south, which sells direct to the planter. They handle threshers, engines and boilers, and have placed them on the prin-

cial rice plantations throughout the rice belt. They have exercised the same care in selecting every line of goods handled, and represent some of the best known and most reliable factories in the United States. The wisdom of this course has made itself manifest in many ways, and resulted in a gradual increase in their business from year to year. As it was their purpose to handle everything needed by the agriculturist, they have added a harness and saddlery manufacturing department, and it has grown to be one of the most important branches of their business. With the latest improved machinery, and competent workmen, their saddle and harness department has established a reputation of its own, and is one

of the most extensive in this section of the state.

Soon after the incorporation of the Lake Charles Carriage and Implement company, they established branches at the principal distributing points in Louisiana and Texas tributary to Lake Charles, but after the parent concern had reached its present magnitude they were disposed of; the directors, however, retaining an interest in the firms created by this change. Their block at the corner of Ryan and Mill streets. Their sales room is a handsome two-story structure in keeping with the progress of the city.

Mr. D. R. Swift, the president of the company, is a prominent local capitalist, and is also president of the Swift-Caffall

Carriage Company of Beaumont, Texas, the Swift-Kirkwood Transfer Company, Limited, and a director in the Calcasieu National Bank.

The active management of the business devolves upon Mr. W. E. Patterson, the secretary of the company, who is one of the best known machinery men in the south. Mr. Patterson traveled for years for the Deering Harvester company, until 1898, when he became identified with the present company. Later he organized the Crowley Carriage and Implement company, of which he assumed the active management, and continued so until 1902, when he disposed of his interest and returned to Lake Charles to assume his present duties. Mr. Patterson is an active and en-

ergetic worker for the advancement and upbuilding of Lake Charles and Southwest Louisiana. His popularity and the esteem in which he is held by all those with whom he comes in contact was aptly illustrated by the fact, that while living in North Dakota, he held the office of county treasurer, register of deeds and state bank examiner. During his short residence in Crowley he served as alderman.

Mr. Patterson was the citizens' candidate for mayor during the recent city election, and was defeated only by the narrow margin of 12 votes. He emerged from the contest with a host of new friends and admirers for the progressive and upright manner in which he dealt with all questions conducive to the city's prosperity.



LAKE CHARLES HIGH SCHOOL



MAIN BUILDING OF BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

J. S. Smith Music Store



INTERIOR VIEW

Smith's Music Store, of which Mr. J. Singer Smith is the proprietor, is located at 716 Ryan street, phone 300, and was established in February, 1898. Mr. Smith came to Lake Charles from Poplarville, Mississippi. He was manager of Cramer's book store for two years, and then went into the sewing machine business, acting as agent for one of the leading makes. He was extremely successful in this line, and accumulating a goodly capital, he embarked into business for himself, choosing that of pianos, organs, sheet music, etc., and also retaining his agency for the

Singer Sewing machines. Mr. Smith is prospering to an unusual degree, accounted for by reason of the fact that he is a most pleasant and courteous gentleman, energetic, and makes prices that cannot be beaten. He handles the leading makes of pianos, including the famous Chickering, Behr Brothers, Haines, Pease, Mathushek, Kimball, Everett, Harvard, Beasins and others; also a large line of organs. He constantly supplies his customers with the latest up-to-date sheet music, and his place is a rendezvous for the musically inclined. Mr. Smith is always glad to welcome visitors.

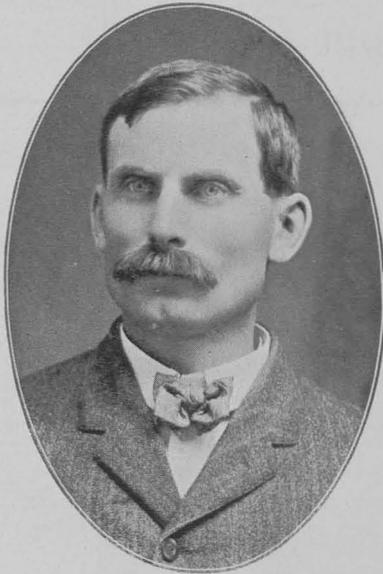
The Oppenheimer Cut Price Store



INTERIOR VIEW

The development of Lake Charles, commercially, could not be better reflected than through the magnificent establishment of Mrs. R. Oppenheimer. Mrs. Oppenheimer started into business in this city sixteen years ago with a small dry goods store on Railroad avenue. The town was small at that time and so were the business houses. That did not keep her from keeping a complete stock, and a first-class grade of goods; and the growth of the establishment has been even more rapid than that of the city itself. One year ago Mrs. Oppenheimer found her quarters entirely too small for her large stock and growing business, and moved up-town where more commodious and centrally located quarters could be secured for the convenience of her patrons from over the entire city and par-

ish. Elegant store rooms were secured at 705 Ryan street, which are now replete with a full stock of dry goods, notions, ladies' wearing apparel, boots, shoes, hats, clothing, etc. The show windows are tastefully filled with fancy articles and clothing of every description. Mrs. Oppenheimer is a striking example of what a woman can do in business when possessed of that energy and foresight necessary to win success in any line. Her store is one of the largest in the city, and receives a flattering patronage from the citizens of Lake Charles and surrounding towns and rural districts. The business is under the management of Mr. I. H. Davis, who is one of the most accomplished dry goods men in the south, and has contributed largely toward the popularity and success of the concern.



R. G. MAGINNIS

If you were to walk up to any one of the fine buildings which are in course of construction at the present time or been completed in the last few years and ask for the contractor you would, with hardly an exception, be referred to the offices of Maginnis & Reimers, contractors and builders. This firm has been in the contracting business in this city for the past three years but that in no wise represents their experience in this line of business. Probably the prettiest piece of work they are engaged in at the present time and the largest one ever attempted in this section of the state is the new Majestic Hotel being constructed on Pujo street. In secur-

ish synagogue, two buildings for Von Phul & Gordon, two for L. Kaufman, Hollins & Rigmaiden, interior remodeling of the Calcasieu National Bank, High School building at Welsh, as well as a number of other buildings and residences in this city and surrounding towns.

Mr. R. G. Maginnis, the senior member of the firm, first began contracting in Iowa several years ago and has been through a rigid school of experience. Wishing for a broader field he cast his lot in Lake Charles and since that time has executed some of the most difficult jobs in this section of the state.

Mr. H. G. Reimers is a native of Lake



H. G. REIMERS



MAGINNIS
AND
REIMERS





MAGINNIS RESIDENCE

ing this contract they had to compete with several outside firms from the larger cities, and had to compete with many large contractors but they secured the job. While the building of such a magnificent structure had never been attempted in this section of the state it was only necessary to have the plans submitted to demonstrate that there were contractors in Lake Charles fully competent to do the work. They are also constructing a handsome office building for Von Phul & Gordon, which will be one of the finest buildings of its size in the city. Among the buildings erected by this well known firm might be mentioned two Bolton buildings, Jew-

Charles and has grown up in the business. His father was a contractor before him and young Reimers was educated in the business from his boyhood. He soon succeeded to his father's business and three years ago formed the present partnership. They are both well experienced in all classes of building work and carry a large supply of builders' material in stock. Their offices are conveniently located on Pujo street, between Ryan and Front, giving them ample storage room in the rear for material. The office is in charge of Mr. J. T. Kimbrough, an accomplished business man who attends to the books and acts as paymaster.



REIMERS RESIDENCE

H. W. Miller Grocery Co. Ltd.



INTERIOR VIEW

The H. W. Miller Grocery Company has been an incorporated body since June of last year and has grown to large proportions in that time, constantly extending its line of patrons until it enjoys one of the largest businesses among the retail grocery establishments in the city. The business was established two years ago by Mr. Miller and has enjoyed a complimentary patronage since that time. In June of last year it was incorporated with the following officers: H. W. Miller, president; T. F. Elston, vice-president; and E. A. Lyons, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Miller has been in the grocery business in Lake Charles for the past nine years and is perfectly familiar with the trade. Mr. Elston, who does the buying for the concern, was in the grocery business on Railroad avenue until he went into the present company, and there is not a more popular

or better posted groceryman in the city. Mr. Lyons was with the Loree Grocery store for several years and is a practical man of ripe experience in the business. All three members of the firm devote their entire time to the business and see to it personally that their patrons get the best possible grade of goods and prompt attention. They handle everything in the grocery line, also fresh vegetables, fruits, nuts, etc. They take particular pride in their chinaware department and it is one of the largest and most carefully selected stocks in the city. A phone call to either 589 or 703 will get the same service as if you were there to make your purchases in person. During the past ten months the business of the company has been trebled which tells its own story about the capability of the men behind the business and the service they give the public.

Mayo-Knapp Abstract Co. Ltd.



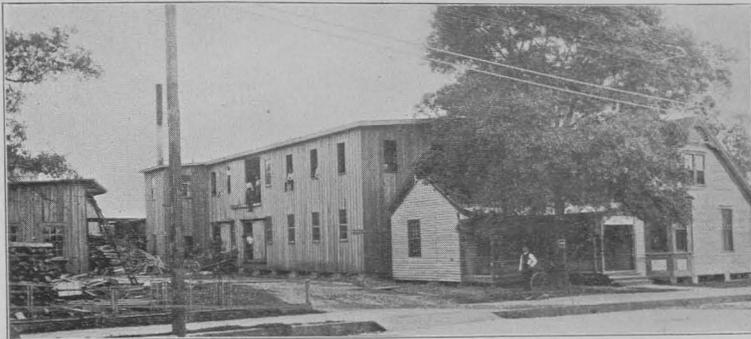
THE DISPUTED TITLE

The Mayo-Knapp Abstract Company, Limited, is the oldest abstract office in Calcasieu parish, and probably the most complete and extensively patronized. It was established in 1887 by A. M. Mayo, and in April, 1903, incorporated under the above styled name by A. M. Mayo and S. Arthur Knapp. They have complete abstracts, records, plats, original entries of all the records in Calcasieu parish relating to real estate. It is probably one of the most complete abstract offices in the state and their records are kept up with the daily files in the clerk's office. There are two very essential features in abstract work that this office takes particular pride

in adhering to. They are: Correctness and neatness.

Mr. Knapp is connected with the Calcasieu National bank, of this city, and the active management of the abstract company falls upon the shoulders of Mr. A. M. Mayo, who has been in the abstract business in this parish for the past eighteen years and is familiar with all matters relating to Calcasieu realty. He is well known by all those who have ever had any occasion to look up the records of lands in this parish and is enjoying the confidence and esteem of them all. Their offices are located in the Von Phul & Gordon building where they have fire proof vaults for the protection of their records.

G. MUTERSBAUGH



MUTERSBAUGH PLANING MILL



MUTERSBAUGH RESIDENCE

Within the limits of Lake Charles there is not a more successful institution than the Lake Charles Planing Mills. The plant was established in 1889 as the Mutersbaugh Planing Mills, by Mr. G. Mutersbaugh, and the history of their operations is one of continued success. Mr. Mutersbaugh is proprietor of the plant at the present time, the only change being made was that of the style of the firm.

Mr. Mutersbaugh is a manufacturer of fine office and store fixtures, counters, show cases, store fronts, window and door frames, stairs, sash, doors, blinds, interior finish, cisterns, mantels and practically everything that comes under the head of fancy wood work used for interior finishing from window to bank fixtures. When he first began business in Lake Charles it was rather in a small way, but the ability and energy were there in abundance and it was not long before it became one of the largest planing mills in the city. Mr. Mutersbaugh had years of experience in this class of business and the growth of the plant was as rapid as the work was successful. Additions have been made from time to time in both machinery and



G. MUTERSBAUGH

space and the last year has seen the plant nearly doubled in size and capacity. It is well equipped with planers, laths, bands, cut-off and resaws of the most modern pattern. Some of the most beautiful interior work and fixtures in the city were turned out by this well known establishment and the same might be said of many of the surrounding towns. Mr. Mutersbaugh was one of the pioneer planing mill men in this section of the state and he has made it a point to cover all Southwest Louisiana. The native timber of this section of the country will bear a beautiful finish when in the hands of artistic workmen and is becoming more popular every day. Lake Charles is to be congratulated on having an establishment that keeps her natural resources in Lake Charles until they are finished and ready for the market, and it is by the help of such enterprising citizens as Mr. Mutersbaugh that cities are built. It is a conceded fact that the city receives double the profits and benefits from her lumber production when they are manufactured into useful articles than where it is shipped to other points as it comes from the mill.

Loree's Grocery Store



INTERIOR VIEW

Mr. C. L. Loree, one of the leading grocers in this section of the state, carries one of the largest and most comprehensive stocks of any dealer in the city, and does both a wholesale and retail business of great magnitude, both branches being extremely well patronized and giving universal satisfaction to all. His large establishment is located at 210 Pujoe street, phone 68, and is equipped with every facility for the quick handling of the interests of its many customers to the very best advantage possible.

The present style of the firm, C. L. Loree, is successor to the firm name of Loree & Loree, this partnership passing out of existence four years since. The house is firmly and well established in public favor and patronage, possesses superior merit

and accords its patrons the most reasonable terms and extremely courteous attention. Its methods are entirely business-like, commendable and systematic, and challenges the admiration of the commercial world for conservative and conscientious dealings. Mr. Loree, the proprietor, is a highly esteemed gentleman of most excellent habits and stands high in every department of the city's life. His interest in municipal affairs and the great pride he takes in civic improvements make him indeed a valuable asset in reckoning the city's important commercial standing. He is prominently identified with all moves that will augment the welfare of Lake Charles and he always lends his aid and counsel in all matters affecting the growth and prosperity of his home city.

Thad Mayo

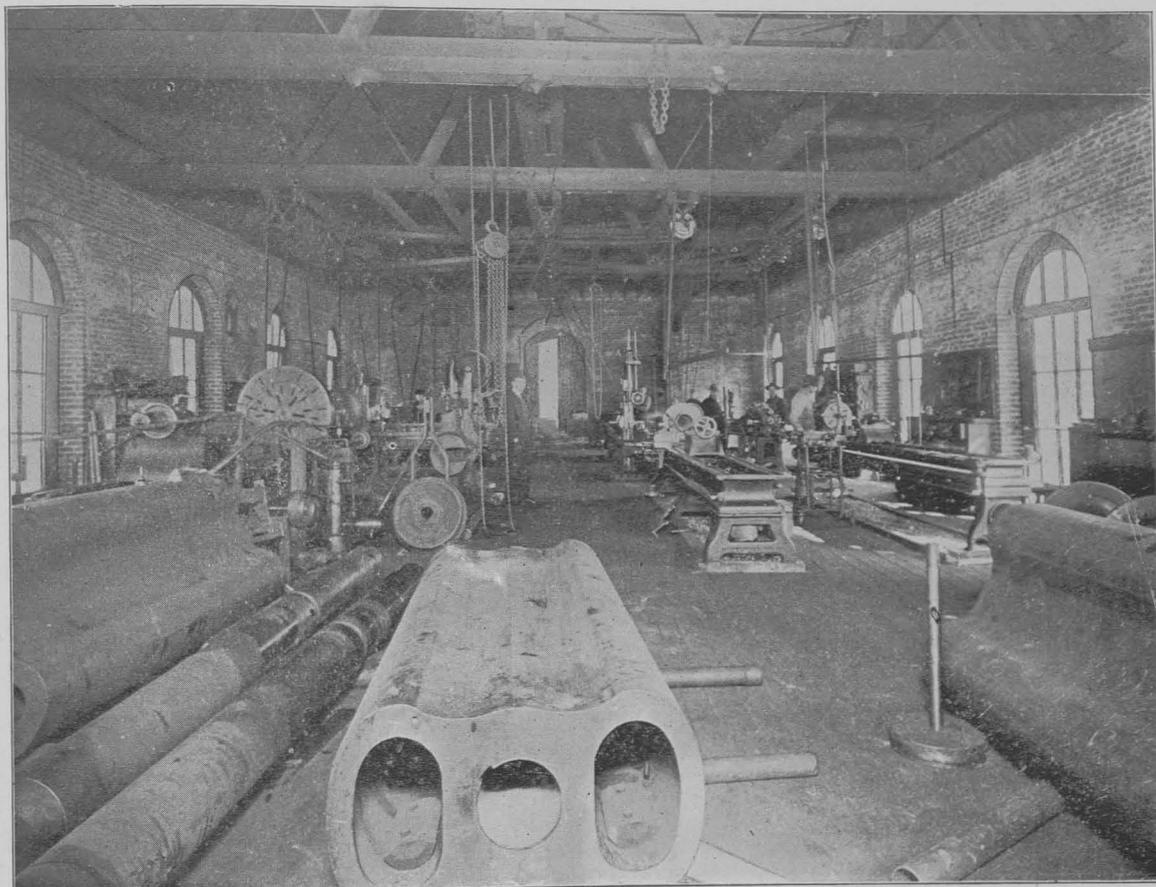


The abstract offices of Thad Mayo are located at the corner of Ryan and North Court streets, and are among the largest and most complete in the parish. They have complete abstracts of all records filed in the clerk's office, relative to real estate transactions, from the time the parish was first organized, and are in position to furnish neat and complete abstracts on short notice. Clients can rest assured that anything in the abstract line, bearing the signature of Mr. Mayo, is complete and up to date. The office has been established since 1892, and his work is well known to every

real estate dealer and property owner in the parish.

Mr. Mayo is one of the most prominent citizens of the parish, and for four consecutive terms was returned to the office of clerk by his fellow citizens. He made a conscientious and painstaking official, and left the office in 1892 on his own account (declining to run again), with honor to himself and the citizens who had placed him there. He is an extensive property owner, both in the city and parish, and has been identified with the development of Calcasieu parish from the time it was a wilderness.

The Reiser Machine Shops



INTERIOR
VIEW
OF
THE
REISER
MACHINE
SHOPS

Lake Charles fortunately occupies an exceptionally advantageous location for the economical conduct of great manufacturing enterprises, and although there are several foundries in Lake Charles and this section of the state, there are none so large or so well-known as the Reiser Machine shops. The shops have been located in this vicinity for the past sixteen years and are known over a large section of both Texas and

Louisiana for their superior work and their ability to construct and repair the most difficult machinery. The founder of the plant, Mr. C. E. Reiser, started in the machine and foundry business in the state of Wisconsin forty years ago, but on account of failing health decided to come south, and erected a plant at Westlake in 1889. He was very successful at that place, but Lake Charles had experienced a more rapid

growth, and six years later he moved his shops to this place. To accommodate the rapidly increasing business he erected an extensive brick building on Pine street, with all modern improvements. Four years ago its lamented founder passed away, and since that time the business has been conducted by his four sons, H., C., J., Ed, and Teddy Reiser. H. Reiser holds the office of president, C. Reiser, secretary and treas-

urer and J. Reiser vice president. They are all expert machinists and immediately after finishing their education were apprenticed in the shop. In fact they do not know the day of their apprenticeship, as the machinery and foundry business has been second nature with them from infancy. They all understand the business thoroughly, and either one is fully competent to take charge of the plant in the absence of the others.

The Reiser Machine Shops are probably the best equipped between New Orleans and Houston and have turned out some castings which would be difficult for the latter place to handle. They make a specialty of mill, locomotive, marine and irrigation work, and an establishment of that kind is almost indispensable in a locality which has so many varied industries as Lake Charles. The enormous pumps used at the large stations throughout the rice belt make it necessary to have special machinery for their prompt and satisfactory repair, and they have made this class of work a specialty. Their foundry department is equally as well equipped, and they are one among the few in the south, outside of the larger cities, which makes solid or free from flaws brass castings. Their boiler making department is one of the best in the south, and all work is done with pneumatic tools, which not only insures a better job, but a much more prompt delivery. The ordinary boiler job, which would require from eight to ten days to complete, is turned out of their shop in three days and ready for delivery. This is particularly valuable in locomotive work, which requires prompt delivery and a neat job. Their shop is well equipped with all kinds of modern machinery, and there is no job too large or complicated for them to handle. None but expert workmen are employed in all departments, and who have had long experience in the class of work most common in this section of the country.

The Messrs. Reiser own a beautiful home on Pine street, near the foundry, and have labored honestly and faithfully for the upbuilding of the manufacturing interests of Lake Charles, and are always ready to increase their equipment in keeping with the progress of the city.

Eddy Bros. Dry Goods Co. Ltd.



EDDY BROS. STORE

When one visits the tremendous dry goods emporium of the Eddy Brothers Dry Goods Company Ltd., they do so with the satisfaction of knowing that a better shopping center could not be found anywhere in this section, nor could more complete satisfaction be obtained even to the most minute detail; for here is to be found one of the most complete and unexhaustible supplies of dry goods, carpets, matting, ladies' wearables, etc., to be seen anywhere, arranged in a most tasteful and attractive manner and priced at such terms that the wise housewife and patron is always assured of obtaining that which is the best for the least money, and more of it than most anywhere else; and the beauty of it all is that everything being under one roof for the complete furnishing of the home and the rulers thereof—the ladies—the utmost convenience is afforded.

The Eddy Brothers Dry Goods Company, Ltd., backed by a tremendous capital and long experience, places before the public

one of the best equipped establishments of its kind the writer has ever seen. The splendid method of handling the throngs, the well arranged system, the splendid force of efficient salesmen and salesladies and the altogether comprehensive stock of seasonable and stylish merchandise all combine to make this one of the greatest and grandest shopping places in Louisiana. This is the largest mail order house in Southwest Louisiana, and occupies two floors, with a combined floor space of 12,000 feet.

The firm is composed of Messrs. H. G. Eddy, president and secretary; and J. C. Eddy, vice president and treasurer. The store is located at Nos. 902-904 Ryan street and has phone 150. They occupy their own building, a handsome brick structure, 40x110 feet, two stories high, filled to repletion with high-class goods. These gentlemen have been identified with Lake Charles' interests for ten years, and always take an active part in all matters tending to help the growth and welfare of the city.

Williams & Prater



INTERIOR VIEW

Messrs. Williams & Prater, who conduct one of the largest grocery establishments in Lake Charles, are gentlemen of well-known ability, enterprise and progressiveness. Their large, commodious, handsomely stocked and well arranged store, located at 906 Ryan street, in the Eddy Brothers building, phone 779, is indeed a busy place; for these gentlemen are doing a tremendous business and making a complete success of the undertaking.

Mr. Williams, the senior member of the firm, was formerly connected with the Kelly-Weber wholesale grocery company, and his experience covers every branch and embraces a long period; he is thoroughly conversant with every detail, and understands the needs of the kitchen like a

charm. He and his associate, Mr. Prater, are most diligent in their efforts to place before the public one of the most complete and freshest stocks of groceries in the city, and well are they succeeding, for since the incipency of their business, only a short time ago, they have established a large and growing trade, and are receiving encomiums from the good housewives of every section of the city, by reason of their promptness in filling orders, the quality of the goods furnished and the prices asked. They are able to make prices as low as the lowest and this fact, coupled with the great popularity of both members of the firm, has been the means of such an excellent start being made, and it is a foregone conclusion that success will crown their every effort.

Francis Chavanne

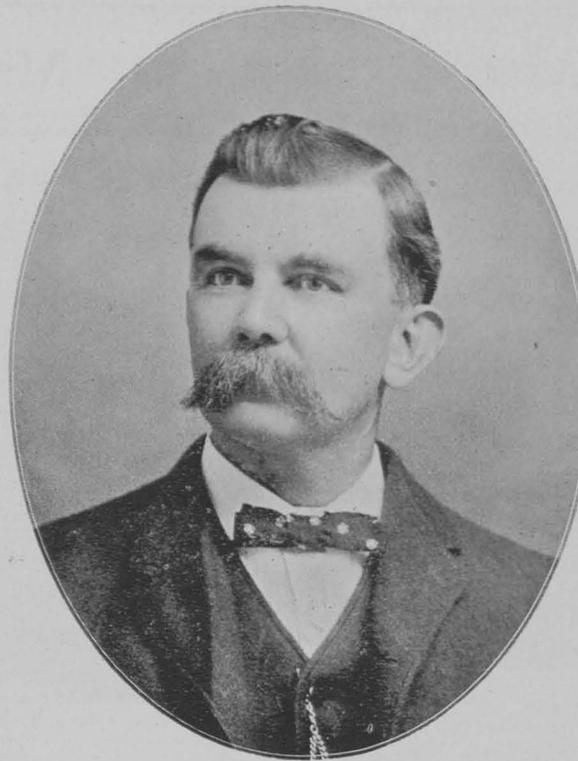


Mr. Francis Chavanne, the subject of this sketch, is one of Lake Charles' most prominent and successful real estate men and property owners. Mr. Chavanne was born in Orange, Texas, in 1861, his parents moving to Calcasieu parish when he was six years of age. He has lived in Lake Charles since May, 1875. Since that time he has made this city his home and has been through all her trials and vicissitudes from a struggling village to the queen city of Southwestern Louisiana. For several years he was in the bakery business which he disposed of to enter the mercantile establishment left by the Chavanne estate. That was disposed of six years ago and he has spent his time since then in placing the advantages of Lake Charles and Southwestern Louisiana before the world. Not only that, but he has practiced what he preached and invested heavily in both city and country property, among which is some of the most desirable property in the city today.

Mr. Chavanne does a general real estate, rental and abstract business, with offices in the Haskell building, 919 Ryan street, in the center of the business district of the city. He has made a specialty of city property, and has an extensive list of business and residence property, factory sites and acreage in all parts of the parish. He negotiates loans, pays taxes for non-residents and looks after property for parties residing in other sections. Mr. Chavanne is



Abstracts



CHAVANNE RESIDENCE

Real Estate



known to practically every resident of the parish and has done some valuable work in bringing desirable settlers to this section. He has unbounded confidence in the coming greatness of Southwestern Louisiana and has invested heavily in the same property that he recommends to others.

Mr. Chavanne is very prominent in fraternal circles and is a member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, of the Texas Consistory No. 1, of Galveston; Lake Charles Lodge No. 165 A. F. & A. M. and Lake Chapter No. 147 R. A. M.

Mr. Chavanne has not only made money for himself in the real estate business but for others who have followed his advice in making their investments in this section of the country. Some of the property that he offered for investment a few years ago has doubled in value since that time and he has the same opportunities to offer today. He is the largest taxpayer of any individual real estate agent in Calcasieu parish, and is one of the best posted men on realty values in the state. He has a beautiful home at the corner of 11th and Hodges street, which occupies an entire block. Mr. Chavanne is a firm believer in beautifying the city and his home is a forest of beautiful shade trees and shrubbery. He is one of our most earnest advocates and hardest workers for a beautiful Lake Charles, better streets and side walks and the fostering of our industries.



Rentals

Kaufman Mercantile Co. Ltd.



STORE CORNER RYAN AND BROAD STREETS

The Kaufman Mercantile Company is one of the largest, if not the largest, dry goods establishment in Southwestern Louisiana, both in size and volume of trade handled annually. The business was established a number of years ago when the city of Lake Charles was in its infancy, and it has had a steady and substantial growth up until this day. When Mr. Kaufman retired from active business three years ago the business was taken over by the Kaufman Mercantile Company, Limited, with D. Levy, president; Jake Simon, vice-president, and A. W. Mayer, secretary and treasurer. With ample capital they materially enlarged the business and placed the store on the department plan, which is the most satisfactory and successful way of retailing merchandise. The departments which cover every line in the dry goods and clothing business, are all well stocked with new goods each season, selected in person from the markets of the East. They handle some of the finest products from the domestic and foreign mills and carry an

exceptionally large selection of ladies' goods. Their ready to wear department is one of the largest and most complete west of New Orleans. The same might be said of every department in the store and care is taken to keep them that way at all seasons of the year. Lake Charles has probably never seen such a brilliant and complete display of goods as they have on exhibition this season and their handsome plate glass show windows are good criterions of what is "correct."

The members of the firm are all old experienced dry goods men and devote their personal attention to the business. They are familiar with the wants of the people of this section of the state and have goods in abundance to supply them. They have been an important factor in making Lake Charles the retail center for this section of the state and have done valuable work in convincing the citizens of the surrounding towns and country that they could receive just as good goods and values in Lake Charles as in New Orleans.

MacLeod & Woolman



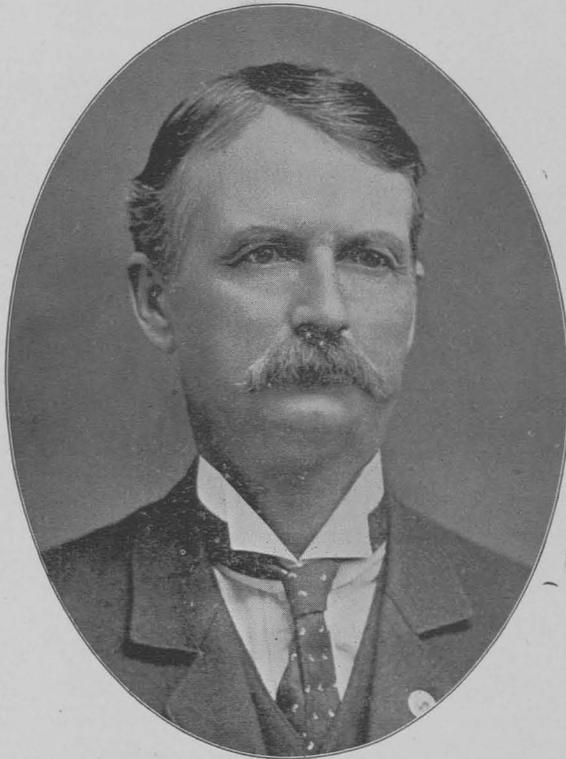
INTERIOR VIEW

One of the largest and most attractive retail establishments in Lake Charles is that of MacLeod & Woolman, in the Von Phul & Gordon building. In their establishment can be found everything that even the most exacting connoisseur might wish for the table. This firm has made a specialty of fancy groceries and carry a full stock of the most tempting delicacies for the table that the market affords. While the establishment has been in existence under the present firm name only since the first of the year, the owners are well known to the people of Lake Charles and began business with one of the largest and best selected stocks in Southwestern Louisiana. Both members of the firm were well experienced in the grocery business and required no introduction to the people of Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish. One of the most attractive features of this well known establishment is the interior arrange-

ment, which in perfection and attractiveness can not be excelled any where in the state. The beautiful fixtures enable them to show off their unusually large stock of good things to eat in the most attractive manner possible. Particular care is taken in regard to sanitation, which is very essential in a first class grocery store and in this manner their stocks are always kept fresh and pure. They also carry a general line of feedstuffs and grain. Their free delivery wagons reach every section of the city and its suburbs, and a phone call for 57 will get your groceries there in time for the day's meal.

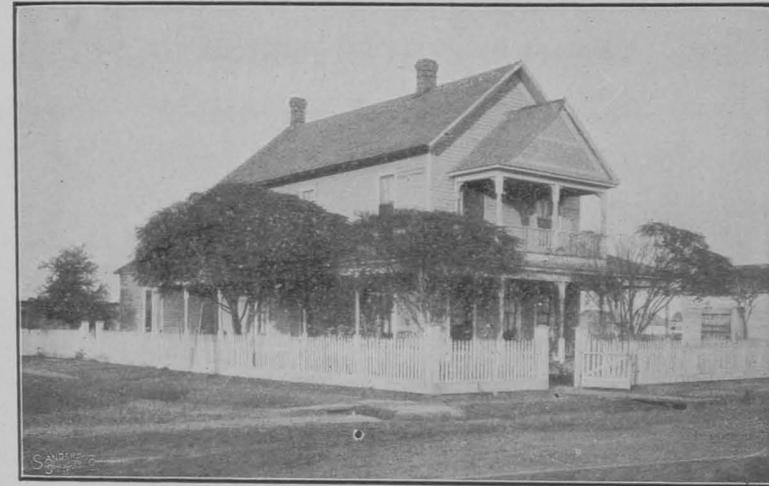
The firm is composed of Mr. A. R. MacLeod and Geo. H. Woolman, both accomplished business men who have been successful in all their undertakings. They have combined experience with ability and the large patronage accorded the firm speaks more forcibly than mere words of how the establishment is conducted.

D. M. Foster



In no line of business does it require such an extensive knowledge of the country, its surroundings and resources as that of real estate. In all lines of business it is necessary for the man who has something to sell to know more about it than the purchaser to interest him, and it is more particularly true of real estate. Calcasieu parish has more diversified resources than a great many of the northern states and for that reason it makes it particularly more necessary in this section than in any other. Major D. M. Foster, the subject of

this sketch, is probably as well acquainted with the lands and resources of Louisiana as any man in the state, and his extensive dealings in all classes, from vast timber tracts to city lots, has given him an unusually extensive knowledge of their adaptability and values for different purposes. Mr. Foster is a native of Maine and saw the first glimpse of southern sunshine through the clouds of battle in the memorable conflict between the states. He fought through many battles which have become immortal in the pages of history, and was mustered out at the close of the conflict at New Or-



FOSTER RESIDENCE

leans. He decided to make his home in the South, first settling at that place, but in 1869 came to Lake Charles and has been prominently identified with her development since that time. Major Foster first engaged in the lumber business and was eminently successful in that, besides gaining complete knowledge of the vast pine forests to the north, which has proven to be very important to him in conducting his business of today. During the administration of President Harrison he served as postmaster of Lake Charles and discharged the duties of that office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. After his term expired he engaged in the real estate business

and since that time has been the direct cause of the development of thousands of acres of timber and farming lands. His extensive knowledge of the lands in Calcasieu parish has eminently fitted him for the real estate business and it was a fortunate day for the parish when he decided to embark in that class of business. Mr. Foster has probably one of the largest lists of valuable properties in the state and pays special attention to timber and large tracts. He is one of our most highly respected citizens and has taken an active interest in the development of the natural resources of Lake Charles, Calcasieu parish and Southwestern Louisiana.

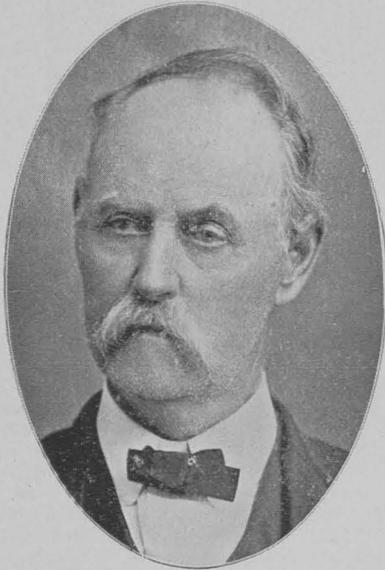
GEORGE BAKER.

George Baker, the old-time saloon man and caterer to the public wants in the drink line, is successor to the firm of Baker & Perkins, and is located at 603 Ryan street, phone 377, with a complete and comprehensive stock of the most excellent grade of whiskies, wines, brandies, cigars, etc., all the leading brands being included therein, and gives him the means of supplying a tremendous patronage with

everything desired in his line. Mr. Baker is known throughout the length and breadth of this section of the state, and his friends are legion, remaining loyal to him and according him a patronage which is most gratifying and speaks in the highest terms of the excellent service rendered by Mr. Baker and his polite and efficient assistants. A feeling of good cheer always pervades throughout this establishment, and every one is made to feel that degree of welcome so characteristic of this courteous gentleman.

The White Furniture Co. Ltd.

P. Shropulus



W. T. WHITE



J. L. WHITE

The growing importance of Lake Charles as a supply depot has attracted a great many merchants to the city who are taking active interest in her welfare and are doing their part toward maintaining her supremacy in Southwestern Louisiana by offering extra inducements for the citizens of this section of the state to do their trading in this city, and none have been more active in this work than The White Furniture Company.

The Messrs. White, who are the proprietors of this company, came to Lake Charles from McComb City, Mississippi, where they had been engaged in the same line of business for a number of years. With ample capital at their command they began business with a complete stock of furniture, rugs, matting and stoves, and asked the pa-

tronage of the people of this section on the merit of their goods and the prices asked. This is the most successful plan in any class of business and the flattering patronage they are receiving today illustrates that it has again proven true. Their stock is complete in every detail and they have something to meet the wants of all classes of people. They furnish everything from kitchen to parlor and have as fine furniture right here in Lake Charles to do it with as can be found anywhere in the state. Their salesrooms are located at 726 Ryan street and they have on exhibition a beautiful display of fine furniture, matting, carpets and stoves. If you are furnishing a new home, they will lay the carpets and have the furniture placed by the time you are ready for it.



INTERIOR VIEW

From what might have been termed a cold drink stand sixteen years ago, Mr. P. Shropulus has built up the largest confectionery and ice cream parlor in Southwestern Louisiana. His place is located on Ryan street, in the center of the business district and convenient to all residence portions of the city. It is one of the neatest and most attractive places in Lake Charles, and the fixtures and the manner it is conducted is a credit to the city. One of the most popular features of the establishment is their large and well furnished ice cream parlor for ladies and gentlemen. It is the largest in this section of the state and is a popular retreat for the elite of the city during the summer months,

when cold refreshments are so much appreciated. The confection department is no less attractive and inviting, and their handsome marble soda fountain is one of the finest to be seen anywhere in the state. The best mixers that can be procured are engaged to serve the public, which is largely responsible for its great popularity among the young and old alike. He handles an extensive line of fine candies, including Whitman's, Hauley's, Guenther's and several other well known makes, which are received fresh every day. Mr. Shropulus is a successful business man, and the establishment he conducts today would do credit to a city twice the size of Lake Charles.

Kelly, Weber & Co. Ltd.

The wholesale and retail grocery firm of Kelly, Weber & Company, Limited, is one of the largest between Houston and New Orleans, and it has certainly done more than any other one establishment in making Lake Charles the wholesale center it is today. The firm is composed of D. A. Kelly, president; W. P. Weber, vice-president and manager; Geo. M. King, treasurer, and Leon Locke, secretary.

This company was formed about nine years ago, originally as a retail store, and soon began a wholesale business and that department showed such growth that in November, 1903, it was made a separate and distinct business.

The trade is looked after by a corps of efficient salesmen, who are thoroughly familiar with the grocery business in all its branches. They are distributors for Armour & Co., Dunwoody's flour and many other well known staples. They have large warehouses located on Front and Division streets and on Ann street, with

Train of 24 cars consigned to this firm, the only solid train shipped to one firm in Lake Charles



private switching connections with all railroads leading into the city.

Everything is bought in car lots, and their superior facilities for handling goods enables them to place them in the hands of the retailer at a minimum cost.

Mr. D. A. Kelly, the president, is a practical lumber man, and is in charge of the outside interests as well as of his own large timber interests.

Mr. W. P. Weber has charge of the buying department, which is one of the most essential features in making a wholesale house a success. He takes an active in-

terest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the city, is a director in the Lake Charles National Bank, and is known as a man who never "overlooks a bet."

Mr. George M. King has charge of the office, and the receipt and filling of orders comes under his supervision. Mr. King has been prominent in Lake Charles business circles and takes an active interest in its social and fraternal life. He is one of the most thorough, competent and conservative business men in the city.

The retail department of this business is operated separately, and has just closed

one of the most prosperous years in its history. This is under the management of the secretary, Mr. Leon Locke.

The "faculty" of the two departments is as follows:

Wholesale Department—W. P. Weber, G. M. King, W. D. Graham, A. L. Gayle, G. M. King, Jr., Mrs. Anna Breucher, Miss Sidney Chester, H. M. West, A. B. Cropper.

Retail Department—Leon Locke, B. H. Harmon, Miss Bertha Canton, W. W. Cockrell, S. Leslie Wetherill, Isaac R. Price, Will J. Gayle, Jr., Robert Waring, John P. Jansen.



D. A. KELLY



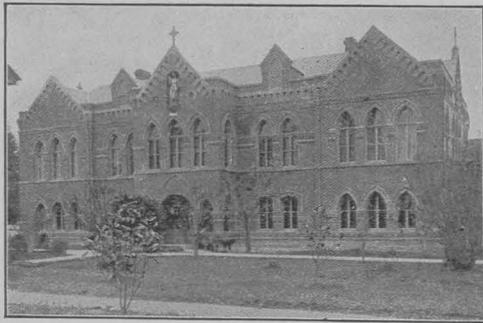
W. P. WEBER



G. M. KING



LEON LOCKE



Academy—View from Garden

This institution, which is conducted by the Sisters Marianites of Holy Cross, was first opened in 1883, when the present city was in its infancy. For several years it was the only school where the children of the pioneers could receive an education, and many of the prominent citizens, both in business and in society, point to it as the place where they were equipped to fill so well the grave duties of life.

Centrally located on Ryan street, the Academy proper, a building erected last year, is well calculated to attract the visitor's eye. Built in the Gothic style, its exterior is at once unique for a school build-



Section of Garden Showing Grotto

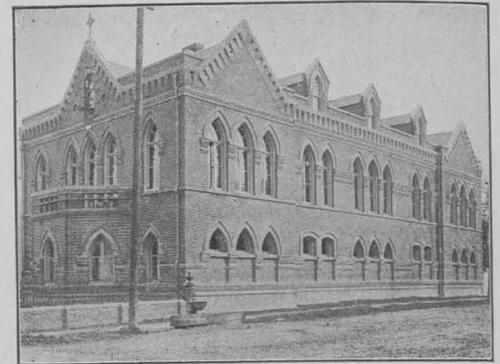
ST. CHARLES ACADEMY



CONVENT

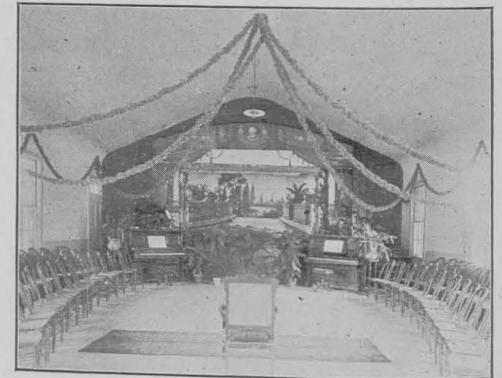
ing and prepossessing, while the interior arrangements for recreation and class rooms have been pronounced perfect. The rooms can be readily adapted to the changeable nature of our climate, so that perfect comfort is insured to the students.

The surroundings are in keeping with the building, the large garden on which it fronts presenting at all seasons a brilliant mass of flowers. The play grounds are large and well shaded, and here may be seen crowds of bright children enjoying their recreation with zest and animation.



Academy—View from Kirby Street

The institution, which is divided into two departments, for the education of boys and girls, each sex being provided with separate grounds, receives boarders and day scholars. The course of study is systematic and thorough, and embraces every branch of a refined and useful education. The discipline is mild but firm. The greatest attention is paid to the health of the pupils, and the moral training and deportment are objects of untiring solicitude. Pupils of all religious denominations are received as boarders on condition that they conform in every respect to the regular religious discipline of the house.



Stage Exhibition Hall

Armand Levy



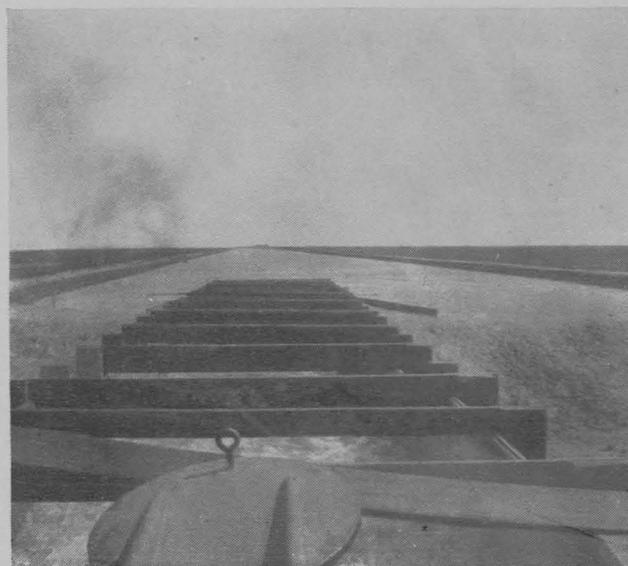
INTERIOR VIEW

On the whole, Lake Charles has one of the most progressive and successful set of merchants and business men to be found in any city of its size in the South. They are not made up of adventurers, but men who have been through all the trials and vicissitudes of a struggling village and have become the component parts of the city she is today. Mr. A. Levy, who conducts a general clothing, gents' furnishing and tailoring establishment at 818 Ryan street, first began business in Lake Charles fourteen years ago, when the demand for tailoring and gents' furnishings in this section was limited. He gradually cultivated the taste of the people for high grade, stylish goods by keeping a well selected stock and competent help in all departments. Mr. Levy has progressed along with the city and in addition to having

one of the largest line of clothing and gents' furnishings in this section of the state, has one of the prettiest and costliest sets of fixtures in the city. The fixtures and shelving throughout are of rosewood, with French plate mirrors at convenient intervals framed in the same material. The fixtures were manufactured especially for Mr. Levy's establishment and possess a richness rarely seen in commercial establishments. The tailoring department is one of the principal features of Mr. Levy's business and he carries one of the largest stocks of imported and domestic woolsens in Southwest Louisiana and employs none but the most competent tailors.

Mr. Levy has been closely identified with the commercial development of Lake Charles, and is one of her most prominent and successful business men.

C. B. Lake & Co.



LOOKING DOWN THE CANAL

The rapidity and completeness with which the resources of any new country are developed depends upon the early pioneers who take the lead in singling them out and furnishing the means for utilizing them. That was the history of the lumber industry in Southwest Louisiana and the same has come to pass with the rice industry and will continue to be so long as new resources are discovered or new lands are opened up. In presenting a sketch of what Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish are at the present time, it is a pleasure to call attention to the factors which have made the parish what it is at the present time, and more particularly those who blazed the way for her steady and uninterrupted progress.

With the exception of a small mill at Rayne, C. B. Lake & Company erected the first rice mill west of New Orleans in 1891, on their present site at West Lake. The

original firm was composed of C. B. Lake and his two sons, Otis K. and Harry. The business was continued under that head until just before that sturdy pioneer and benefactor passed away, when Lee R. Lenfest was taken into the company and it was incorporated. While it was the first mill to be constructed in this section of the country, very little of the former plant remains, as new machinery has been added from year to year and its capacity doubled several times until now it is one of the most complete mills in the rice belt. They were also among the first to irrigate by canals in this section of the state, building a canal from Contraband bayou in the western part of the parish in the early nineties. While it was originally constructed for their own private use, it has been extended from time to time until it is now about eight miles in length and waters considerable land for other people.

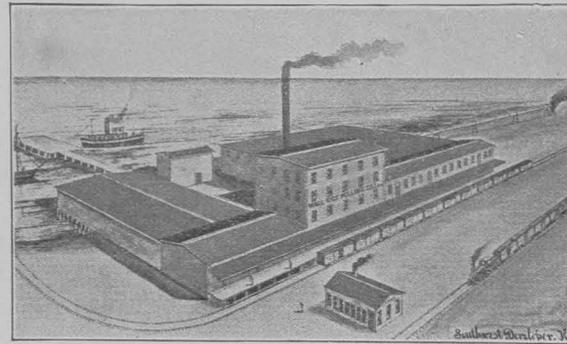
Wall Rice Milling Co. Ltd.

Lake Charles has many reasons to feel proud of the manner in which her citizenship developed the waste lands of Calcasieu parish the moment it was discovered that it was equal to any land in the world for the growing of rice, but not any more so than she is of the citizens who promptly invested their capital in mills for working the product of the plantations up into marketable shape. While recent developments has made it a number one investment, it was not so at that time and contained a large element of speculation that only time could tell.

The Wall Rice Milling Company, Limited, was incorporated in 1898 and their modern mill on the lake front completed in November of that year. The officers are: Wm. B. Wall, president; C. J. Wall, vice-president; and W. C. Wall, secretary and treasurer. The company was capitalized at \$25,000, but up to the present time represents an investment exceeding \$50,000. Their mill is four stories in height, fitted up with modern machinery of a capacity of 1200 barrels of rough rice daily. The mill has been practically remodeled every year since it was built, with new and better machinery, until now it is one of the most complete plants in the rice belt. They have a warehouse capacity of 50,000 bags of rough and 20,000 of clean rice. They do either toll milling or buy the rice outright as the grower may elect. The mill is conveniently located on the lake front which in addition to giving them switching facilities with all the railroads entering the city

Mr. Adolph Meyer, whose handsomely appointed drug store is located at the corner of Ryan and Division streets, first began business in Lake Charles twenty-eight years ago. At that time his place of business was where Eddy Bros. store now stands. At that time all of Ryan street above Division was a wilderness. Fifteen years ago Mr. Meyer moved to his present location, which is now the central part of

the wharfage room makes it very convenient to receive products of the plantations along Calcasieu river from barges. The Messrs. Wall are all largely interested in the Wall-Jordan Grocer Company, and have done a great deal toward making Lake Charles the prosperous, progressive



WALL RICE MILL

city she is today. They have been disposing of the product of their mill all over the North American continent and have been doing their part toward introducing rice into the Northern districts and encouraging its growth and consumption in our own district.

the city. He carries a full line of drugs, druggists' sundries and everything usually found in a first class, well stocked, drug

One of the most important and prominent business houses in Lake Charles and at the same time a leader in their line is the Wall-Jordan Grocer Company, Limited, which, for the past two years has been doing one of the largest wholesale businesses of any house in the city. The firm com-

mands a growing trade with interior points as well as a flattering patronage with the local retail houses. A full and comprehensive stock of everything in the grocery line is carried, and aside from the large staples such as meat, flour, sugar and coffee, the company is prepared to fill orders

store. His store fixtures are fine and very attractive, his prescription department is in charge of a registered pharmacist, and from

Wall-Jordan Grocer Co. Ltd.

for anything from the most tempting delicacy to carload staples. While they have been in business only two years, they have easily taken place with some of the older concerns and have been doing a large and lucrative business from the beginning.

The Wall-Jordan Grocer Company, Limited, is capitalized for \$50,000, with the following officers: W. C. Wall, president; W. B. Wall, Jr., vice-president; and W. R. Jordan, secretary and treasurer. They have an efficient corps of traveling salesmen who cover the entire Southwestern Louisiana territory from Sabine river on the east to Lafayette on the west. They also meet Shreveport in competition for that part of the territory lying to the north of Lake Charles along the Kansas City Southern and Watkins railroads.

The members of the firm are well known business men of Lake Charles, Mr. Wall being extensively interested in the Wall Rice Mills. They are all accomplished business men and the rapid success of the firm in such a comparatively short time, reflects a great deal of credit on their business ability and the manner in which they have handled the trade. Their ware houses are located on Front street which gives them complete switching facilities connecting with all the railroads and also wharfage room for lake and river traffic.

his handsome soda fountain is served only the choicest and coolest drinks.

Mr. Meyer is a native of Liberty, Texas, where he spent his early youth. When a boy in knee pants he witnessed the immortal Dick Dowling carry through a train load of United States marines from Sabine Pass to Houston during the civil war. For twelve years he was president of the police jury of Calcasieu parish and is one of the best known and most prominent citizens.

Adolph Meyer

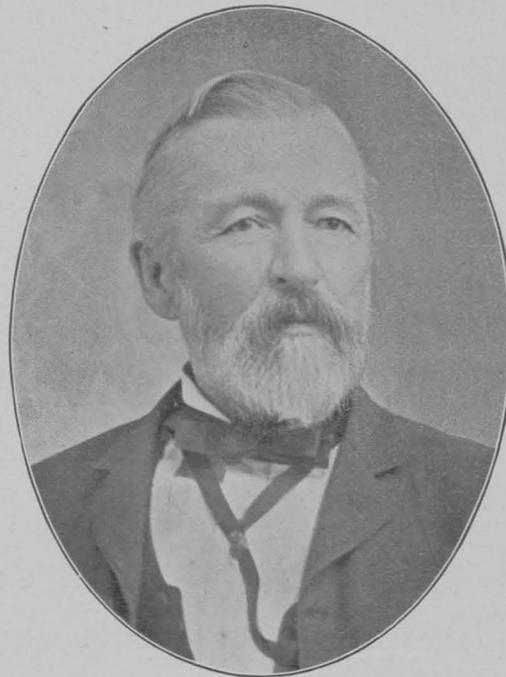


HON. H. C. DREW



It would be difficult to speak of the development of Lake Charles and Southwestern Louisiana without mention of Hon. H. C. Drew and it would also be as difficult to write a sketch of this rich section without linking his name with their early exploitation and final development up to their present greatness. The man who traverses unknown regions and writes his name upon the immortal pages of history is a far less benefactor to mankind than the man who discovers the greatness of natural resources and by years of ceaseless toil gives their wealth to the world. Ancient maps and landmarks are forgotten but the imaginary lines drawn by waving fields, the hum of machinery and ceaseless toil of thousands of happy and prosperous people, whether used for geographical or political purposes, will live forever. They may be shifted from time to time as the fortunes and wishes of the people may dictate but are never lost. It is to such hands that Lake Charles and Southwestern Louisiana owe their greatness and prosperity today.

Hon. H. C. Drew was born in the state of Maine on January 8, 1838, but spent his early youth in Massachusetts. Majority found him in the new state of Texas and from 1859 might be dated his pioneer work in the development of the new South. He first located in Galveston, living in that place and Harris and Colorado counties until 1878, when he located in Lake Charles and has since that time called the city his home. At that time very little was thought of the Calcasieu pine forests and if anyone attempted to develop them they would receive enough discouragement before the fact was hardly known to discourage any man who had not learned to rely solely upon his own judgment. Mr. Drew paid very little attention to what others were saying, but went ahead and invested his limited means in pine lands. He immediately constructed a small mill and began to saw up some of the "worth-



less" stuff. Today the mills in Calcasieu parish alone cut more than one quarter of a billion feet of lumber annually and it is being shipped to every quarter of the globe. Even His Majesty is glad to procure it for constructing his battleships. Since

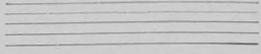
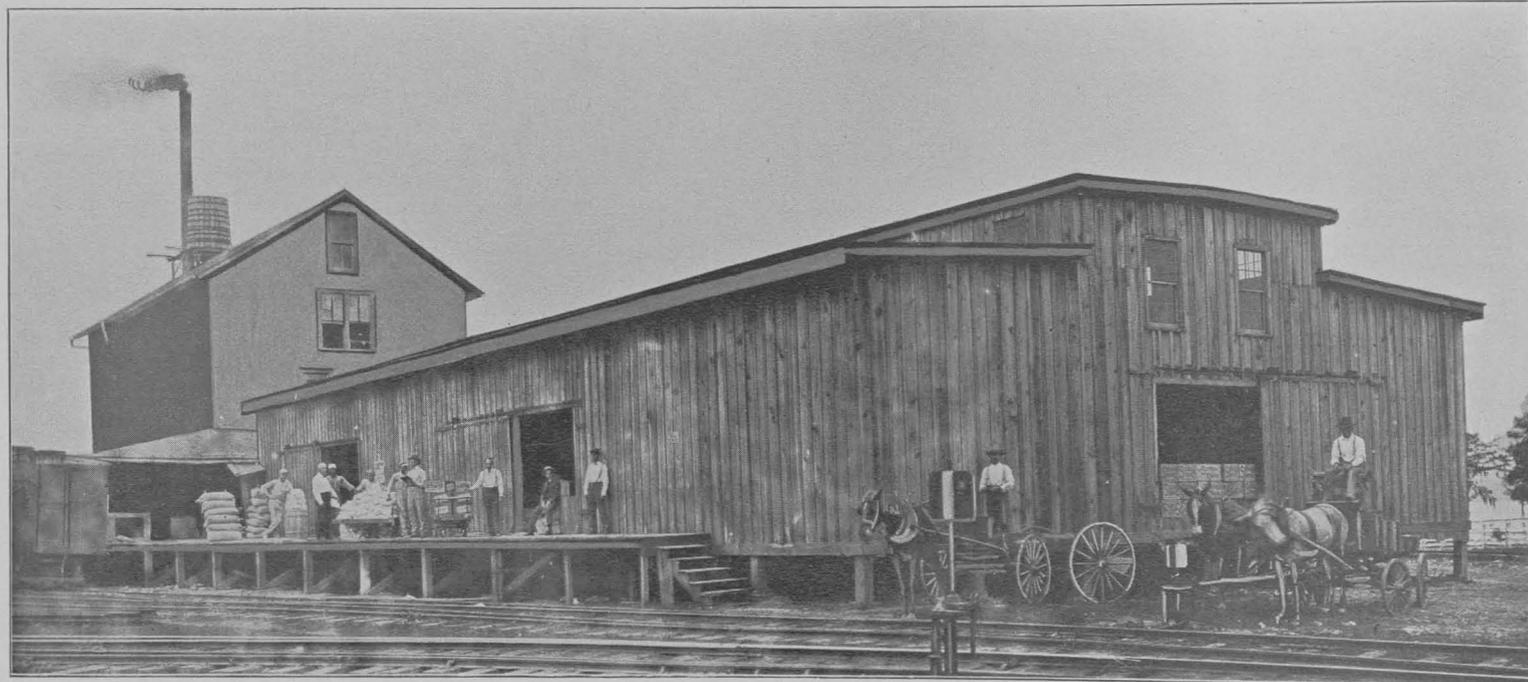
that time the history of the lumber industry in Southwestern Louisiana has become common property, but it is entirely due to these early pioneers that it has any history at all, and that Lake Charles is the greatest lumber city in the South. Mr. Drew

later disposed of his timber interests and devoted his time and means to another industry which was in exactly the same condition he found the lumber industry several years before. Rice was being raised as far west as Jennings but the planters claimed that Calcasieu parish was too rough and would never be a successful field for the cultivation of rice. Mr. Drew quietly went to work and purchased about 14,000 acres of what was termed waste land and constructed a canal as though it had been in cultivation for a number of years. Today there are more than eight thousand acres of this tract in cultivation and it is equal in productiveness to any in the rice belt. Mr. Drew is one of the largest individual rice growers in the United States. He is also active in financial circles and is president and one of the organizers of the Calcasieu National bank, which is the largest and strongest in Southwestern Louisiana and in the state, if age were taken into account.

While Mr. Drew's private interests are enormous, he has always found time to give his time and means to any meritorious enterprise that had for its object the development and upbuilding of Southwestern Louisiana. In 1898 he was a member of the constitutional convention and in 1900 the people justly honored him with the office of state senator. In that capacity his master intellect and wise counsel has been given freely for the benefit of the entire state. No better proof of the able and faithful manner in which he served his constituents could be given than the fact that when his term expired he was prevailed upon by his fellow citizens to continue the duties which he had discharged so well in the past. Mr. Drew is an ardent democrat and stands high in the councils of the party. He is a wise and able financier but generous almost to a fault in all matters pertaining to the upbuilding of his home state.



Elstner-Erwin Grocery Co. Ltd.

WAREROOMS OF ELSTNER-ERWIN GROCERY CO. LTD.

The importance of Lake Charles as a center of trade and commerce is abundantly demonstrated by a review of the representative establishments which are here permanently located. An excellent illustration of this is afforded in the Elstner-Erwin Grocery Company, Limited. The business was established nine years ago by Mr. Jo C. Elstner. The officers at the

present time are: Jo C. Elstner, president; M. P. Erwin, vice president, and E. J. Cahill, secretary and treasurer. The house has an exceptionally large wholesale trade extending over the entire Western and Southwestern Louisiana territory. One of their special features is the feed department. Their grain department had reach-

ed such a magnitude that three years ago it necessitated the erection of a mill for making chops, grits, and meal, and is kept running steadily up to its full capacity. The convenient location of the warehouse gives them every facility for the prompt and economical shipment of supplies by both rail and water.

The officers of the Elstner-Erwin Grocery Company are well known business men of Lake Charles and the work they have done in making the city the supply depot for Southwestern Louisiana can not be overestimated in its importance. It is one of the most progressive and prosperous establishments doing business in Lake Charles today.

Lake City Tonsorial Parlors



W. J. RENZ

One of the most palatial places of business in Lake Charles—or the state for that matter—is the Lake City Tonsorial Parlors and Bath House.

The Lake City Tonsorial Parlors are located on Ryan street in the Lake City building and is an establishment that is equaled by few in the South. It contains eight hydraulic chairs, four bath tubs and shower. The beautiful fixtures would do credit to any city in the country and no less authority than August Kern, who has been shipping barber supplies out of St. Louis for a quarter of a century, said that it was one of the finest sets of fixtures ever manufactured in his place and that applies to the entire country, for his territory embraces the world. To begin with the floor is laid with handsome mosaic tile extending back and including the bath rooms. The fixtures are of solid mahogany of beautiful design and give an impression of refined richness rarely seen outside of banking institutions. Both walls are lined with French plate glass mirrors leading back to the bath room entrance, which is arched with scroll work and draped in portieres. The shop is equipped with all modern conveniences, including electric massage, shower baths, etc. It is lighted with both gas and electricity.

Mr. W. J. Renz, the proprietor of the Lake City, has been in the barber business for the past ten years, seven of which were spent in the city of New Orleans. He came to Lake Charles in 1901, and has been very successful here. The fact that he invested



INTERIOR VIEW

\$5,000 in fixtures shows his faith in the future of the city and is willing to bring his department of her commercial life up on an equal footing with any city in the South. Mr. Renz is progressive in his ideas and the

public has shown their appreciation of his efforts by extending a most liberal patronage.

He uses Williams Soap exclusively and considers it one of the best on the market.

A house which is valuably aiding in the forward movement now so prevalent in Lake Charles is that of Richard & Hollier, one of the leading gents' furnishing establishments in the city. The firm has been in business in this city since September 1st, 1903, and during that time has built up one of the largest businesses in this particular line in the parish. Their store room is located at 724 Ryan street and the fixtures and arrangement of the stock are perfect. They carry a complete line of clothing, gents' furnishing goods, shoes,

hats, and everything needed by the well dressed man. They have made a specialty of Alfred Benjamin's clothing, which is recognized over the entire North American continent for the superior workmanship and correct styles. Stephenson and Packard

shoes may be considered along with the same class. They make a specialty of high grade goods, and keep in touch with the latest styles.

Mr. J. V. Richard, the senior member of the firm, was for several years the mana-

ger for Julius Frank and made a complete success of that establishment, which he gave up to enter business on his own account, and has but recently retired from this firm. Mr. S. J. Hollier has been in the same line of business for several years, and there is not a better posted man in Lake Charles on gents' furnishing goods. Mr. Oscar B. Richard, another member of the firm, is one of the most successful young business men in the city, and has contributed largely toward the success of the concern.

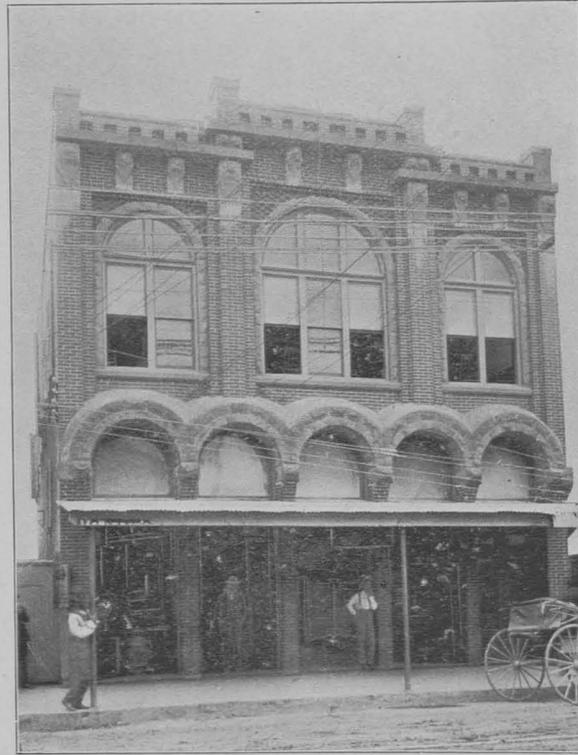
Richard & Hollier



L. S. GAUTHIER

The New Tram Saloon is one of the prettiest bar rooms in the South and is one of the places of interest to be visited by strangers in the city. The New Tram was constructed two years ago and no means were spared by its owners to convert it into a palatial retreat in keeping with the growing progress of Lake Charles, the queen city of Southwestern Louisiana. The proprietors, Messrs. Gauthier & Hebert, have been in the saloon business in Lake Charles for the past eight years and did a profitable business on the west side of Ryan street. Their quarters proved too small and two years ago the New Tram building was constructed especially for the accommodation of their business and they added a wholesale department. In design and execution there is not a prettier bar room in the entire south and few that will equal it anywhere. The building itself is of pressed brick but does not convey an idea of the magnificent furnishings within. The ceiling and walls are laid with steel of artistic design, girded with German freize which is illuminated with more than 100 electric lights. The fixtures are of mahogany which gives the appearance of refined richness rarely seen in even the most magnificently furnished bar rooms. The walls are lined with French plate mirrors leading up two feet above the wainscoting. The

The New Tram Saloon



club rooms are separated from the bar by mahogany screens and are as costly furnished as the bar room. The floor is laid with mosaic tile of special design and extends the entire length of the building. The second floor is devoted to a billiard hall and pool room, and is one of the most lavishly furnished in the state. The New Tram is strictly a gentleman's retreat, where gentlemen meet gentlemen and have their wants supplied with a courtesy and consideration that has been characteristic of the establishment for the past eight years. An electric Peerless Piano furnishes

sweet music while jolly good fellowship pervades the entire establishment.

The New Tram has built up a large wholesale trade throughout the city and surrounding towns and carries one of the most select stocks of high grade wines and liquors in the South. They make leaders of Carstairs rye, Red Top rye, and Old Forester Pure rye, brands which are known the world over for their purity. They also handle Osceola rye, Old Valley rye, Paul Jones, Underoof rye, Raleigh rye, White Owls, Hill & Hill, Cream of Kentucky, Four Roses, Monopole and Hunter rye. These



ERNEST HEBERT

are only a few of the meritorious brands handled by the Tram and the list includes high grade wines, cordials and cigars. They are sole agents for the famous Fred Miller beer which has attained the highest perfection known to the brewers' art. They make a specialty of the jug trade and all goods are shipped out the same day as the order is received with just the same quality and price as if the purchase was made in person.

Mr. L. S. Gauthier, the senior member of the firm, is a native of Avoyelles parish, but has been making his home in Lake Charles for the past eleven years. He is one of our most successful and best known business men and has made it a point to conduct an establishment which is not only a credit to himself but the city as well. Mr. Ernest Hebert was born and raised in this parish and no better compliment could be paid to the man than the success he has made in the place of his birth.

The magnificent bar room is presided over by Mr. C. H. Anderson, day bar tender and Dolino Hebert, night bar tender. They are both accomplished mixologists, and by the courteous and efficient manner in which they handle the trade, have contributed largely toward the popularity of the establishment.

The rapid success of Scott Brothers Furniture Company is without a parallel in the commercial history of Southwestern Louisiana. Mr. J. E. Scott, who founded the business, came to Lake Charles from North Dakota eight years ago and had the magnificent sum of \$10.00 on which to lay the foundation for his business career. He opened up a second hand furniture store on Broad street and put enough energy and determination into the business to make his capital more than a hundred times as great as the real monetary assets amounted to. He continued in this line of business for one and one-half years when he was joined by his brothers, C. E. and E. M. Scott, when the present firm was formed. From that beginning they have built up one of the largest furniture and undertaking establishments in Southwestern Louisiana, occupying at the present time a combined floor space of nearly 20,000 square feet, which is by far the largest in the city. Their main building in Lake Charles is located at 208 Pujos street and is a handsome two story brick structure, 30x100, with elevator service. Opposite this is the second hand and repairing department. The undertaking department occupies a handsome new brick 21x110, at 905 Ryan street, where their undertaking parlors are located. Every inch of this extensive floor space is filled with all classes of furniture from an ordinary stool

Scott Bros. Furniture Co. Ltd.



chair to the finest parlor furniture that can be secured west of New Orleans. They also handle crockery and glassware, pic-

ture frames and are sole agents for Wheeler & Wilson and New Royal sewing machines. Their stock is now nearing the

\$50,000 mark and will no doubt pass that point before the close of the year. They have an extensive branch at Jennings in their own two-story brick building 32x140 under the management of Mr. E. M. Scott.

The undertaking parlors recently opened up by Scott Brothers are the finest to be seen in Southwestern Louisiana and carry one of the most complete lines of coffins and caskets to be seen anywhere in the state. It is under the charge of Mr. J. L. Bowman, graduate of Clark's school of embalming, of Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Bowman takes charge of all funeral directions and is as accomplished in that as in embalming. They also have an undertaking department and graduate embalmer at the Jennings establishment. They are the first and only company which receives their undertaking supplies in car lots. In connection with this it might be well to add that they have organized a Mutual Funeral Association which has met with popular favor and is as successful as it is beneficial. They have a membership of over 600, which carries the benefits to probably 3,000 people. The fees are 10 cents, 15 cents and 20 cents and provide for funeral services ranging from \$50 to \$100. This applies to the entire family of a member and includes embalming without extra cost from the regular price. They have three nice hearses for different ages and usages.

Mrs. S. G. Welland

For the past five years the millinery establishment of Mrs. S. G. Welland has been the leader in Lake Charles and each year sees an increase in stock and patronage in keeping with the progress of the city.

Mrs. Welland began business here five years ago, opening up an exclusive millinery establishment. It is a well known fact that in all lines of business the establishment that takes a special feature is more apt to reach perfection in the art than when they are consolidated, and the same has proven true in the present case. Mrs. Welland handles nothing but the highest grade of millinery and her entire time is devoted to its creation and keeping the

ladies of this section in touch with the latest styles from the North and East. She makes trips regularly to Chicago each season and her store presents one of the finest and most beautiful lines of high grade millinery ever seen in Southwestern Louisiana. The establishment employs a large force of skilled help, who are kept busy trimming for their patrons from every section of the parish and surrounding towns. Mrs. Welland's store is located at 312 Pujos street, where she has on exhibition one of the largest stocks of millinery in this section of the state. She caters to the high class trade only and is liberal patronized by that element.

C. G. Guild & Co.

One of the largest and most extensively patronized bakeries and coffee saloons in Lake Charles is that of C. G. Guild & Co., at 719 Ryan street. This well known place has been established for the past ten years and from its incipiency has always enjoyed a flattering patronage. One year ago it was taken over by the present company, which is composed of C. G. Guild and T. M. Dietz, who have made some extensive improvements and added greatly to its popularity. In addition to the regular bakery business they have added a lunch counter, where coffee, sandwiches and ice cream are served in season. A separate parlor has been arranged for ladies, and they do

one of the largest businesses of that class in the city. Last season they enjoyed an exceptionally large run in their ice cream department and have better arrangements for taking care of their patronage this season than ever before.

Mr. C. G. Guild, the senior member of the firm, was for several years with the Watkins road, and is well known in Lake Charles. Mr. Dietz is also an old railroad man, having first started with the Watkins and then with the Southern Pacific at Houston. Their friends are glad to know that they are making the same success in the business world, and they have a patronage second to none in the city.

P. E. Olmstead



That Lake Charles is destined to become a manufacturing center is fully illustrated by the success those already established have attained. No better illustration of this fact could be given than the carriage and wagon factory of Mr. P. E. Olmstead.

Mr. Olmstead established his carriage works in Lake Charles a little over four years ago and success has crowned his efforts from the beginning. Mr. Olmstead is well experienced in this line of work and when his first vehicle was turned out the citizens of Lake Charles realized that they could secure rigs at home equal to those manufactured anywhere on earth. While he does not claim to surpass the best northern factories in richness, he has successfully demonstrated that they are superior in durability as well as equal in finish, and there are plenty of people right here who can testify to that fact. Mr. Olmstead is an expert workman and gives his personal attention to every vehicle turned out from his shop. Only the best material possible to obtain is used and anyone has perfect liberty to examine the material and construction before there is a possibility of hiding flaws and defects by the use of paint and deceptive finish-



CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOP

ings. This fact alone is worth a great deal to the man who wants a first class rig for the service it will give him. Mr. Olmstead also constructs heavy freight and transfer

wagons of any dimensions. His extensive shops are located at 840 Front street, where he does general repair work promptly as well as the building of new rigs.

In the general blacksmith and repair shop of Mr. James Michael Lake Charles has the distinction of possessing one of the most complete blacksmith shops in the United States. This is a rather broad assertion and does not refer to size, but a visit to his place at 317 Pine street will reveal its truthfulness to any one. Mr. Michael learned his trade in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and has spent a lifetime in this class of work. He later moved to Mississippi, and finally to this city, where he has been established for the past nine years, with the exception of a short time in Texas. He does a general blacksmithing and repair business, horseshoeing, car-

riage and wagon building, and makes a specialty of putting on rubber tires. He has in stock at the present time some of the best and most substantial rigs to be seen anywhere in the city. He has an ideal shop for the execution of all classes of work and it is the most complete the writer of this has ever had the pleasure

James Michael

of inspecting. It is equipped with trip hammers, power drills, threaders, reiners, band saw, planers and everything necessary in a complete blacksmith and wood shop, driven by a sixteen horse power gasoline engine. A paint shop is also run in connection, for finishing the vehicles and doing all kinds of paint work. The air

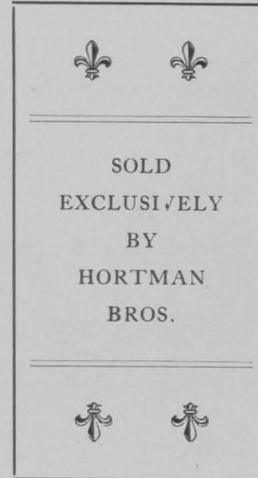
blower for the forge is also utilized for the purpose of giving a good circulation in the shop and a draft is created over the anvil and each work bench. Mr. Michael has his own waterworks system and fire protection, and altogether it is one of the neatest and most complete shops in the entire South. The fact that you may drive up to the shop door, have the tires set on your buggy without getting out of the seat, and be on your way again in thirty minutes only serves to illustrate how the shop is equipped and the way they do business. Mr. Michael is an expert workman, as well as one of the most highly respected citizens in the city.

Hortman Brothers

The firm of Hortman Brothers is the oldest commission house in Lake Charles, and is the only exclusive one in the city. It is composed of Messrs. C. Hortman and J. W. Hortman. It was established as a wholesale brokerage house in 1900, which they soon abandoned for a special line of packing house products.

The firm of Hortman Brothers is one of the oldest brokers in this section of the country, having spent several years in the same line of business in Houston and other points in Texas. They were very successful there, but being attracted by the rapid developments being made in Calcasieu parish, decided to make Lake Charles their headquarters and the amount of business they have been doing for the past five years justifies their judgment at that time. They handle the products of the National Packing Company, butter, cheese and eggs. Their operations are not confined to Lake Charles, however, as they cover the entire territory tributary to the city. They have large storage rooms at 808 Front street which gives them first class switching facilities and also dock room in the rear for river and coastwise shipments.

To conduct a brokerage business successfully requires a great deal of business



ability, and to handle the trade satisfactorily requires still a greater amount of tact and judgment. On account of the perishable nature of the goods usually handled by a firm of this kind they must be turned rapidly and a sufficient amount of custom

maintained to make this possible. This, coupled with the fact that they handle everything in car lots and consequently able to give the lowest possible prices, is largely responsible for the unprecedented success they have had in Lake Charles



One of the most important features of the lumber industry at the present time is the export trade, and it is one of the greatest factors in sustaining the prices of the products of the Louisiana and Texas mills. When the pine forests were first developed a market had to be created, and it was not altogether smooth sailing for the early pioneers. The rapid construction of railroads into the interior points opened up a ready market, but it had its limit and it soon became evident that there would have to be new avenues opened up to carry off the constantly increasing production. Yellow pine from this section was unknown in foreign markets at that time and the

C. B. Wilcox

early exporters had the same work to do as the pioneer mill men. They have succeeded in the same proportion.

Mr. C. B. Wilcox, the subject of this sketch, has been connected with the export business in various capacities for the past seventeen years and has recently opened up business for himself. His long ex-

perience in the business has given him an acquaintance with the trade that has made it possible for him to do a large business from the start. Shipments are made through New Orleans, Port Arthur, Galveston and Sabine Pass to all European markets, and also Mexico and South and Central America. He charts his own ves-

sels, as well as sending parcel lots by regular steamers.

Mr. Wilcox's long experience in this line has given him complete knowledge of the timber resources of this section, and the matter of getting up a cargo of any special grade is an easy matter for him. He has also established close relations with the foreign buyers and is one of the most successful exporters of lumber and timber in the South. He is a gentleman of fine business and executive ability, and has never lost an opportunity to do anything within his power that would promote the lumber interests of Louisiana. He is one of our most successful business men, and takes a pride in the upbuilding of Lake Charles.

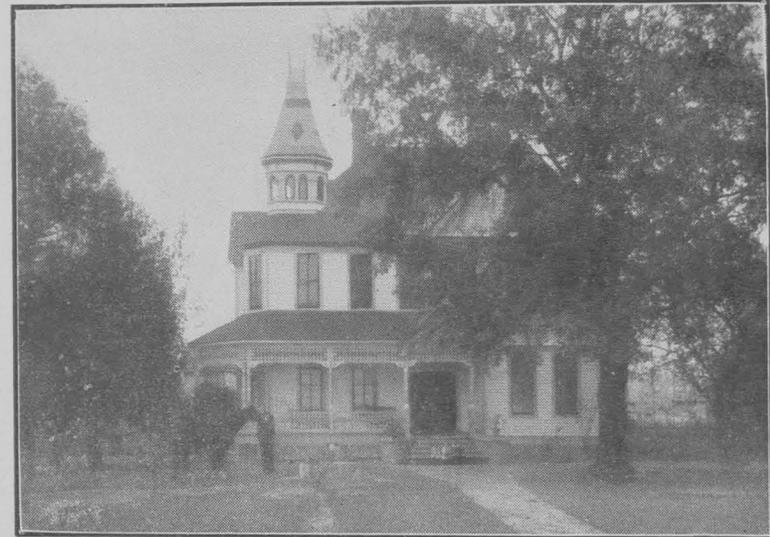
H. C. Gill

It has been the purpose of the American in this Souvenir Edition to give the reader some insight into what Lake Charles is at the present time, the number and class of her industrial enterprises, mercantile establishments, as well as the professions, but it would be incomplete without reference to some of the men who have been directly responsible for the building of the city and its prosperity at the present time. When possible it has been our intention to give the birth place and some of the facts surrounding the lives of these pioneers, but in the present case it is difficult as well as doubtful. Mr. H. C. Gill first saw the light of day in the state of Mississippi, in the year 1844. Before old enough to realize his new surroundings, his parents decided to emigrate to Louisiana and there hangs the tale. While crossing the Mississippi the nurse was over-enthusiastic in providing beefsteak in quantities beyond his ability to swallow and again young Gill passed back into that land from which he had but lately been rescued. By the vigorous use of a round cane not destined for a surgical instrument in this day and

time, he again saw the light of day. This occurred in the state of Louisiana and the citizens are justified in claiming him as a native. The Gill family located in Rapides parish where he received his education. In 1865 at the close of the war, when he had just gained his majority, Mr. Gill located in Lake Charles where he entered the lumber and mercantile business. He was a successful business man and within a few years took place in the front ranks of the leading financiers of the state. In 1892 he was elected to the office of district clerk and held that position for twelve years, with credit to himself and great satisfaction to his constituency. Emerson said: "Every great institution is only the lengthened shadow of a single man," and the observations of that sage could be fittingly applied to the Lake Charles National Bank. Mr. Gill organized the bank in 1902 and has been its president since that time. Today it is one of the most successful financial institutions in the state. Mr. Gill has since closed out his lumber and mercantile interests and devotes his entire time to the bank

and the management of his properties. He has a handsome home on Lake Front and is numbered among the most prominent and successful financiers in the state. He has rendered valuable service in the up-building of Lake Charles and Southwestern Louisiana and is ready at all times to lend

his assistance and influence to all movements which tend toward the betterment of the citizens and the community. Whether citizen, merchant, banker, official or father, he has always followed the highest ideals of manhood, and discharged his duty with unflinching courage.



GILL RESIDENCE

Dr. T. S. Eldredge

Dr. T. S. Eldredge is a graduate of the dental department of the Northwestern University of Chicago, and is one of the most accomplished practitioners in his profession in the South today. He graduated with the class of 1897, and immediately began the practice of his profession in Illinois. He was soon attracted, however, by the growing greatness of the new South and located in Lake Charles three years ago and has been enjoying a lucrative practice since that time.

The advancement has been so great during the past few years in the science of

dental surgery that the young practitioner today is on an equal footing, if not superior to the old school, who did not have the advantage of the new methods and appliances taught in the universities of today. Dr. T. S. Eldredge has elegant rooms in the Frank building, on Pujo street, and has all the latest appliances known to modern dentistry. He has become permanently identified with the future prosperity of the city and she does not possess a more active or earnest worker for her advancement in every way.

J. M. Brown

There are very few trades that require so much ability as tailoring, and none that have to cope with so many rapid changes in the style of their work. While they are probably the most widely patronized of all, each season they are forced to go through the same school of training so far as style is concerned, but that is an easy matter when they have the art of creating styles as well as following them. Such an institution is that of J. M. Brown, who does all classes of high grade tailoring and has in stock some of the latest products of

the loom. He also does cleaning and pressing, and all goods are called for promptly and returned in the least possible time.

Mr. Brown has been in the tailoring business in Lake Charles for the past two years, and is well known among all classes who wear fine and perfect fitting clothes. He has had years of experience in this class of work and numbers among his patrons some of the best dressers in Lake Charles. His shop is located at 717 Ryan street, and he turns out a class of work which cannot be excelled anywhere in the state.

Lake Charles Rice Milling Co.

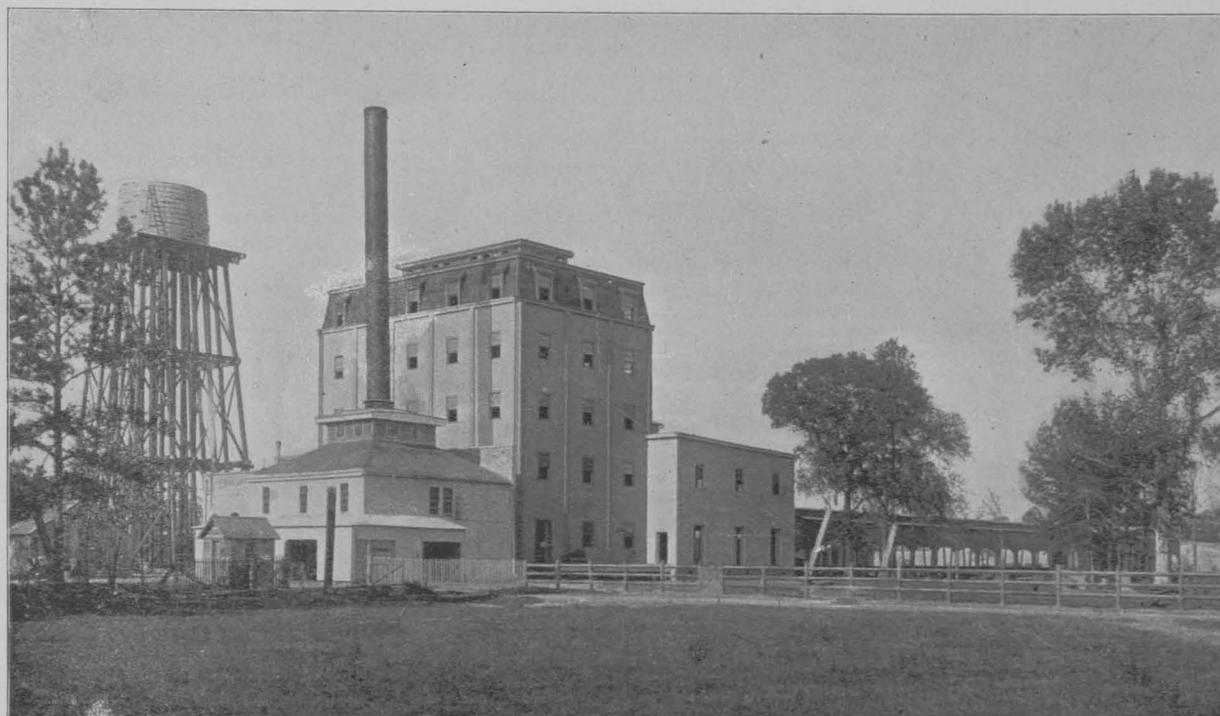
Outside of the workings of nature the Lake Charles Rice Milling Company has done more to encourage and develop the culture of rice in Southwestern Louisiana and Southeast Texas than all other agencies combined. It is true that there are now any number of mills west of New Orleans but the production was here when they were built and conditions were entirely different from what they were in 1892. At that time practically all the rice produced in this section was shipped to New Orleans through commission merchants to be milled and sold. This naturally took the handling of the crop a long distance from where it was produced and the expense entailed was clear out of proportion to the service received, to say nothing of the dissatisfaction and frequent loss to the grower. The majority of the people, however, never thought of anything else but turning the crop over to the commission men, which was so unsatisfactory that but a very feeble effort was made to enlarge the industry. It required a great deal of capital to erect a first class mill and it was not until 1892 that the citizens had an opportunity to remedy this defect. A company headed by several New York capitalists predicted the future growth of the rice industry and selected Lake Charles as the coming center, both geographically and in production. The citizens rendered all the assistance in their power with the result that during the same year there arose upon the banks of the Calcasieu river the largest rice mill in America. While it was one of the pioneer mills its promoters foresaw the present increase in production and it was constructed with a view to take care of all future demands. They secured the best machinery that had been invented at that time, to be discarded piece by piece as new improvements were made until today it is as complete and up-to-date in every department as if only finished yesterday. They have a milling capacity of 3,500 barrels of rough rice every twenty-four hours, which is the largest in America, although New Orleans has claimed an equal amount but they have never proven it by actual tests. The mill building proper is five stor-

ies in height, built on the banks of the Calcasieu river in the northern part of the city. They have a combined warehouse capacity of 100,000 sacks of rice, all protected from fire by their own private water

entire Louisiana and Texas rice belt, running from New Orleans to Brownsville. They have successfully competed with the New Orleans mills in their own territory and draw their supplies from probably a larger area than any other mill in the rice belt. It requires large capital and a thorough knowledge of the rice market, but these two assets have been in the possession of the company from its infancy only to be enlarged as the seasons went by and the industry continued to grow. The Lake Charles Rice Milling Company has one of

go far each way to reach the limits of the rice producing area and, naturally, the savings can be returned to the farmer in the way of better prices.

The officers of the Lake Charles Rice Milling Company are: Christian M. Meyer president; John Henry Dick, vice president, and Bernard Suydam, secretary, all prominent capitalists of New York. The management is entrusted to Mr. R. S. Rodie, one of the brightest and most successful rice men in the United States. Mr. J. A. Foster is manager of the clean rice de-

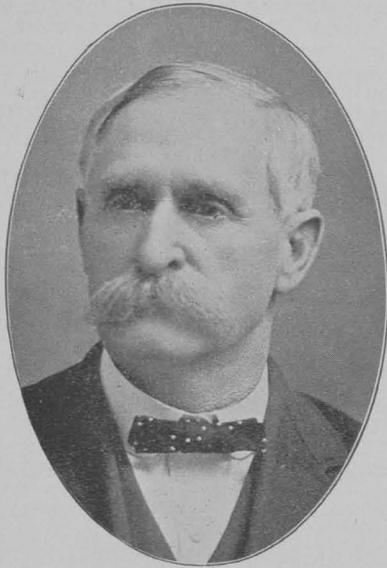


COMPANY'S MILL

works system. The Lake Charles Rice Milling Company were among the first to adopt the policy of buying rice outright from the farmer and relieving him of any further responsibility after it is threshed. This policy has proven to be very popular and is beneficial to the mill and farmer alike. They draw their supplies from the

the most convenient factory locations for all purposes in the state. In addition to rail connections with all the railroads entering the city, they have ample wharfage room to take care of barge shipments from the plantations located along the Calcasieu river and its tributaries. Being in the heart of the rice belt, they do not have to

partment and L. Viterbo buyer of rough rice. Altogether the Lake Charles Rice Milling Company has one of the most competent corps of rice men to look after the affairs of the company possible to secure anywhere and they have contributed largely toward the flattering success of the company.



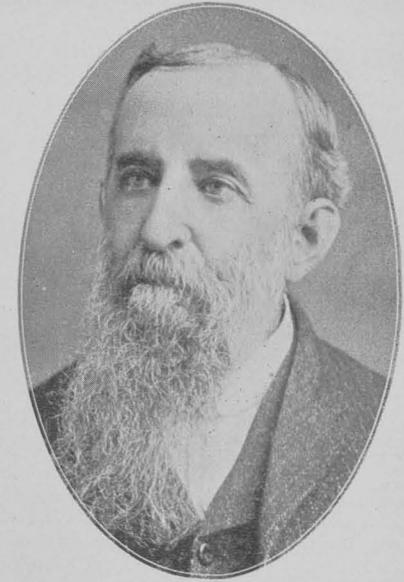
E. HAMAND

While it is the purpose of this edition to cover with pen and camera what Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish are today, it is a pleasure to refer to the men who are

Hamand & Wentz

most directly responsible for the large number of thriving and industrious citizens who have made this section their home, and among all this number there is not two men in the entire parish who have been more conscientious in this work or accomplished more than E. Hamand and A. A. Wentz. For the past four years they have been operating under the firm name of Hamand & Wentz, but they have been working for Southwestern Louisiana and bringing men with means and a determination to develop her resources for double that period. Mr. Hamand was a prosperous farmer in Illinois when he became acquainted with the matchless resources of Southwestern Louisiana and decided to locate here. His first step to qualify himself for heralding the advantages of this section was to purchase a rice plantation which he extensively improved and is today worth several times its original cost. He associated himself with the realty department of the Watkins system and spent a great deal of his time traveling through the north and east, exhibiting the products

of this section and distributing descriptive literature. What was more effective than that, he was there in person to answer every question and the natural exhibit left no doubt of the variety of products or their quality. Mr. Wentz, the junior member of the firm, came to Louisiana seventeen years ago from Iowa, connecting himself with the real estate department of the Watkins road thirteen years ago and continuing with that system until the present partnership was formed. Mr. Wentz has also done some valuable work in settling up the vacant lands of Calcasieu parish with thrifty farmers; in fact, they have brought to this section all classes of people from the professions down to laborers. There are probably not two other men in the parish who have brought as many settlers to this section and their straightforward, honest business-like way of representing the conditions of this section have left no disappointments, and they have all become permanent citizens of Calcasieu parish. They handle all classes of real estate, including oil, rice and timber lands, city property,



A. A. WENTZ

factory sites, both improved and unimproved. They are both large property owners and are numbered among the city's most reliable and progressive business men.



L. S. GAUTHIER RESIDENCE



LAKE CHARLES' FIRE PROTECTION



ERNEST HEBERT RESIDENCE

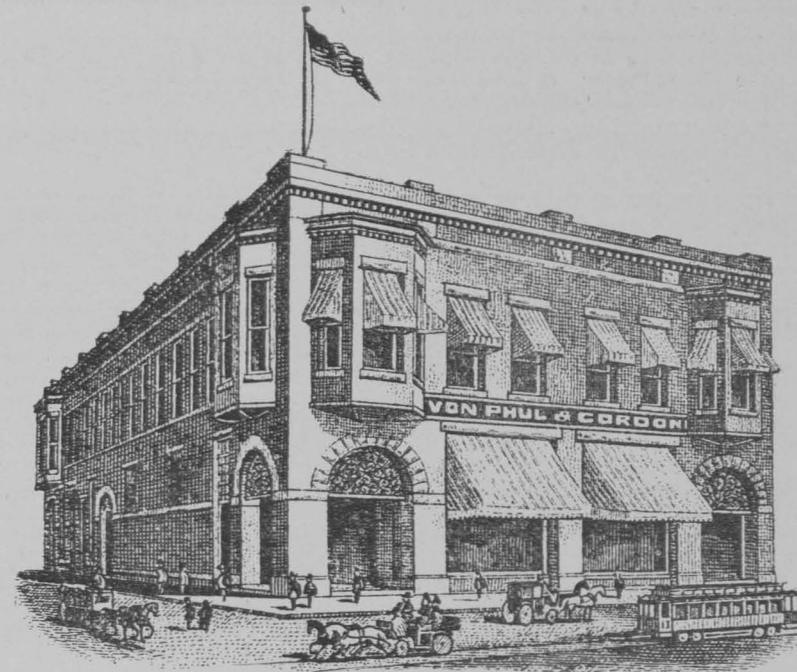
Von Phul & Gordon

While Lake Charles is well supplied with first-class establishments in every line of business that goes to make up a prosperous and progressive city, she also has her leading institutions in every line and the firm of Von Phul & Gordon distinctly take this position in the drug trade.

The members of the firm, F. A. Von Phul and S. W. Gordon, first came to Lake Charles as managers of the Lake Charles Drug Store. They are both experienced druggists and pharmacists, and it was not long before they converted it into the leading drug establishment in Calcasieu parish. Two years later they owned the business and have made it one of the most successful and meritorious business institutions in the city. Three years ago they erected a handsome business block on the corner of Ryan and Pujo streets, the lower floor being occupied by their own business and the second floor fitted up for offices. It is the largest drug establishment in Southwestern Louisiana and they carry a complete line of drugs, chemicals, patent medicines, toilet articles and in fact everything known to the drug trade or used by manu-

facturing pharmacists. They are the manufacturers of the line of remedies known as Dr. Saugrain's Family Medicines, so well and favorably known throughout this section of the state. They have one of the handsomest sets of fixtures to be seen anywhere in the city. Their soda water fountain is as fine as any in the state and is very popular with the public during the summer months. There is not an establishment in the state better equipped for the prompt compounding of prescriptions both in material and the competency of their clerks.

Messrs. Von Phul & Gordon are erecting another handsome two-story building on Pujo street, in the rear of their present structure, which will be one of the finest store and office buildings in the city. The front will be of enamel brick. The same attention will be paid to the interior finishing and when completed will be a credit to the city. Both members of the firm have taken active interest in the development of Lake Charles in every way and are classed among her most valuable and successful business men.



BUILDING CORNER RYAN AND PUJO STREETS

Dr. A. K. Fort

Dr. A. K. Fort is probably one of the best known dentists of Calcasieu parish, and during his four years residence in this city has practiced for parties coming from every section of the parish.

Dr. Fort is a graduate of the Atlanta Dental College, one of the best dental colleges in the United States and is also a graduate of the Northwestern University of Chicago. He had added to that nine years of practical experience in actual practice. Dr. Fort is a native of Alabama and spent several years with the Atlanta college before taking up the practice. There is not

a dentist in the entire state who has had more thorough training than Dr. Fort and he has met with wonderful success in his practice in this city. He has been located in Lake Charles for the past four years and has built up a large practice. He has a handsome suite of rooms in the Von Phul & Gordon building and his office is fitted up with the latest appliances for the practice of dental surgery. Dr. Fort has become permanently identified with the interests of Lake Charles and is regarded as one of her most valuable and highly respected citizens.

P. G. Saloon

Lake Charles is famed for the high plane on which her bar rooms are conducted, and the total absence of those low dives which are always detrimental to a city's growth and prosperity. The bar rooms of Lake Charles are all gentlemanly retreats and the proprietors are among the most prominent and highly respected citizens of the city.

The P. G. Saloon has been established in Lake Charles for the past five years, and enjoys a complimentary patronage from the leading element of the city. They carry a full line of fine wines, liquors and

cigars, making a specialty of Royal Seal, Red Top, Invincible Rye and several other high grade brands which are known the world over for their purity.

Mr. P. A. Gauthier, proprietor, came to Lake Charles from Avouilles parish 5 years ago and has built up a high grade patronage equaled by few bar rooms in the city. He has invested in Lake Charles realty, and takes a leading part in all movements for the advancement and upbuilding of the city. His place is located at 810 Ryan street, and is always conducted in a quiet and orderly manner.

The growing importance of Lake Charles as a wholesale center could not be more forcibly emphasized than in the successful career of the Loyd-Prater Grocery Co. While it is one of the youngest wholesale houses in this section of the state it is also one of the largest and commands a patronage far in excess of some of the older concerns. The Loyd-Prater Grocery Company first came into existence in 1898, when it was incorporated for \$20,000. The men who formed the company are all well known in Lake Charles business circles and they found themselves in possession of a very complimentary patronage from the beginning. They succeeded the old grocery firm of Loyd & Fox and also took over the patronage of that concern. Their business has outgrown the expectations of the original incorporators, and it was found necessary at the last meeting of the stockholders to increase the capital stock from \$20,000 to \$75,000. Fifty-five thousand of this amount was immediately paid in, which will constitute them the largest wholesale grocery establishment in South-

The Loyd-Prater Grocery Co. Ltd.

western Louisiana. They handle everything known to the grocery trade, in car lots and also feed and produce. They have a large force of efficient salesmen who cover the entire Southwestern Louisiana territory from the Sabine river on the west to Lafayette on the east. For a great many years the bulk of this trade has been going to New Orleans and Houston, but by the pluck and energy of such progressive business firms as the Loyd-Prater Grocery Company, it is being turned back to Lake Charles, the logical supply point for this section of the state.

Their salesrooms are located on 220-222-224 West Division street, which is greatly reinforced by a large warehouse, located on the K. C. S. Railway siding, giving them

a combined floor space of over 14,000 square feet.

The officers and directors of the company are: J. N. Prater, president; C. B. Loyd vice president and general manager; C. H. Prater, secretary and treasurer; together with Mo. O. LeBleu, Ambrose LeBleu, J. R. Tabor and A. F. Bolton forming the board of directors.

Mr. J. N. Prater, the president of the company has been engaged in the grocery business for the past twenty years. Mr. C. H. Prater, his son, is secretary of the company and entered upon his duties soon after the completion of his education. He is an accomplished young business man and is rendering valuable assistance to the company. The active management of the

company and one who is largely responsible for its present prosperous condition, falls upon the shoulders of Mr. C. B. Loyd, who has been in the wholesale business in this city for a number of years and who has risen step by step until he has come to be recognized as the most able wholesale grocer in this section of the state. He is a master of every detail of the business and under his direction the corps of salesmen, shipping clerks at their store and warehouse, and employes in different capacities move with the ease and regularity of clock work. It is to such institutions and men that Lake Charles owes her commercial supremacy today.

The company now enjoys one of the most extensive and profitable businesses in the city and their growth from a capital of \$13,000 in 1898 to \$75,000 is without a parallel in the history of commercial Lake Charles. Mr. Loyd assumed the active management of the company at its birth, and with harmonious support from the officers and an able directorate, their advance in the business world has been made step by step and it is as permanent as it has been rapid.

Rigmaiden

J. J. Rigmaiden & Company, whose handsome store room is located at 825 Ryan street, conduct one of the largest steam bakeries in this section of the state, not only in size but in volume of business and the number of people served. Their salesroom is one of the most elegantly fitted up places in the city, and their bakery products and confections are displayed in the most inviting manner possible. Another feature which has proven to be quite popular with the people of Lake Charles is their elegant coffee parlor, which is patronized by the elite of the city and visitors who enjoy a cup of perfect coffee.

The firm of J. J. Rigmaiden & Co. is composed of J. J. Rigmaiden and Paul Greiner, two of the best known and most successful



Bakery

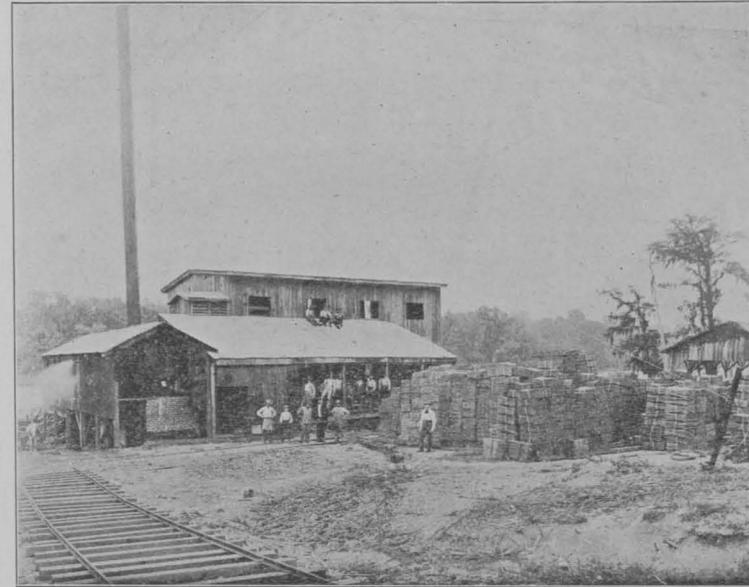
business men in the city. The business was originally established by Mr. Rigmaiden twelve years ago and has grown step by step to its present large proportions. They own one of the handsomest brick buildings in the city, which was constructed with the needs of their business in mind. Two large ovens were constructed in the rear and made practically a part of the building, giving them the most extensive and complete bakery shop in Southwestern Louisiana. Both Mr. Rigmaiden and Mr. Greiner have had years of experience in the bakery business and do a large business with the tributary towns to Lake Charles as well as in the city itself. Their business success has been well merited and they have proven to be valuable contributors to the prosperity of the city.

Rosenthal's Shingle Mill

Mr. Maurice Rosenthal is one of the largest manufacturers of cypress shingles in the entire southern lumber belt and has one of the most complete mills for their perfect manufacture to be found anywhere. The present plant is the outcome of the old J. Poe shingle mill, which was established several years ago. Unfortunately it was destroyed by fire three years ago, but Mr. Poe immediately began its reconstruction on a much larger scale than had been done before, but reconsidered and the property was taken over by Mr. Rosenthal and finished up in its present complete condition. The mill is located at the head of Ryan street, on the banks of the Calcasieu river and is equipped with the latest machinery known to the shingle trade. The saw mills are located on the second deck which permits of the grading, sorting and bunching of the shingles in the least possible space and at a rate which is bewildering to the uninitiated. They manufacture nothing but red cypress shingles of all

sizes and grades, which have been demonstrated to be the finest roofing material on the market today. The mill has a capacity of 100,000 shingles per day which makes it one of the largest in this section of the country. They secure their timber supply from the Calcasieu river swamps and the mill is kept running steadily up to its full capacity. Their product is shipped over the entire southwestern states and their trade is only limited by the capacity of the mill.

Mr. Rosenthal has been practically raised in Lake Charles and received the principal part of his education in this city. Early in life he was placed in his father's store on Railroad avenue and within a few years arose to the management of the business. He has been equally successful in the manufacturing business and there is not a busier place in the city than the Rosenthal shingle mill. Mr. Rosenthal is a progressive business man and has done some valuable work in building up the manufacturing enterprises of Lake Charles.



ROSENTHAL'S SHINGLE MILL



INTERIOR
VIEW
BRADEN'S
STORE

C. M. Braden

THE STOVE AND RANGE MAN

The demand of the stove and metal works trade of Lake Charles and surrounding section are ably catered to by an establishment whose character for enterprise, liberality and strict probity are the equal of those of any other city in the country. The leader in this line is the Stove, Metal Works and Plumbing Store of C. M. Braden a practical machinist of 33 years experience in the metal works department. His store and shops are located at 808 Ryan street, phone 225. Mr. Braden carries a

large stock of stoves, ranges, bath room and plumbing supplies. He is agent for and installs hotel ranges, furnaces and ventilators. Mr. Braden served five years apprenticeship in Illinois, coming to this place from Des Moines, Ia., eighteen years ago. His house is an old established one and with expert knowledge of values in his business and a command of the best markets, it goes without saying that any business entrusted to Mr. Braden will receive prompt attention and be duly appreciated.

Joseph G. Walker



WALKER HOUSE

No matter what line of business might be mentioned, every city has some establishment which has been a beacon light in that particular line and of which they feel a just pride. Such an institution is the Walker House, which has been well and favorably known to the traveling public for twenty years. The Walker House was first established on Ryan street, where the Bolton building stands at the present time, and when it gave way for the business block, was removed to 920 Hodges street, within two blocks of the court house and main business section of the city. It has always maintained a reputation for nice clean beds, excellent meals and Southern hospitality in the highest degree. Mr. Joseph Walker, the proprietor of the Walker House, was

born in Reading, Pa., September, 1827. He was apprenticed a locomotive engineer. In 1854 he brought a Baldwin locomotive to Louisiana for use on the first road in the state, the East Louisiana Road. He was captain of the Sunny South that run a ferry boat across the Mississippi at Baton Rouge, which was destroyed by the federals, when he entered the confederate navy and served through the war. In addition to operating a ferry, he had the contract for carrying the United States mail at that point. Mr. Walker moved to Lake Charles twenty-two years ago and since that time has done everything in his power to foster the development of this section. He has a host of friends in Lake Charles and with the traveling public, and is admired by them all.

Lake City Restaurant and Hotel



INTERIOR VIEW

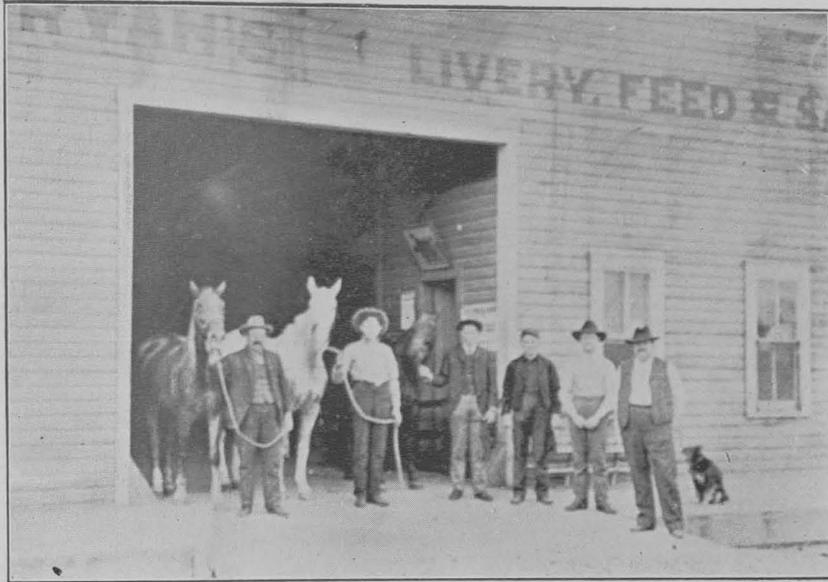
One of the most attractive places in Lake Charles, and probably the most popular with the traveling public in the entire parish, is the Lake City Restaurant and Hotel, 823 Ryan street.

The Lake City Restaurant and Hotel is a new structure, completed during the past year and it fitted up with all modern conveniences. They have sixteen large well ventilated rooms, newly furnished throughout, with or without bath. They have the most inviting restaurant in the city, and the large dining room on the ground floor would do credit to any city. The floors are laid with mosaic tile and the furnishings are the best that money could procure. No

expense has been spared to provide everything that would in any way contribute toward the comfort of their guests. The cuisine is excellent and it is a very popular place for dining parties as well as with the general public.

Mr. Bob Brown, the proprietor, has been a resident of Lake Charles for the past ten years, and is very popular in business circles and highly respected by everyone who has had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He has had charge of the Lake City Restaurant for the past six months, and it is largely due to his personal attention to every department that it has gained so rapidly in public favor and patronage.

Ed. Ryan's Livery Stable

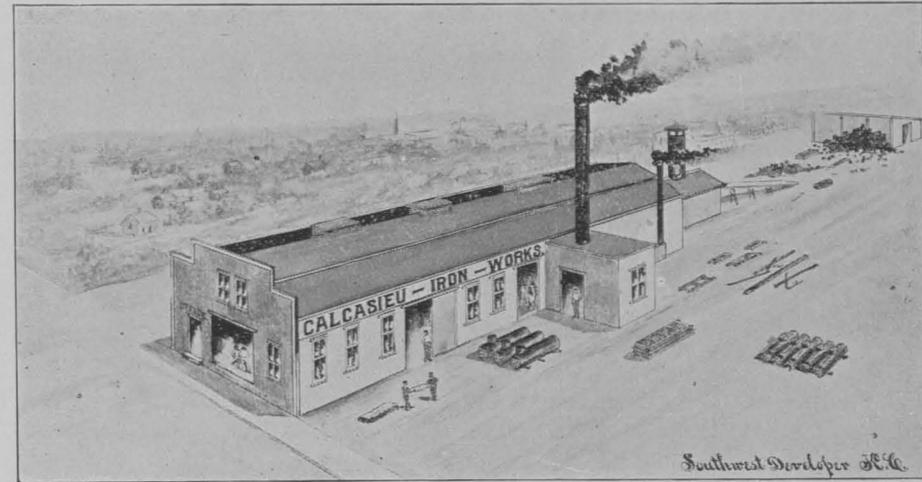


FRONT VIEW OF BARN

Mr. Ed Ryan, whose livery stable and horse market is located on Bilbo street, has been established for ten years and is one of the largest dealers in horseflesh in the state. His livery stable is known far and wide as having within its walls for the patrons some of the finest horses seen on the streets of Lake Charles. Mr. Ryan is an excellent judge of good animals and selects his stock with the same care, scrutiny and watchfulness that the merchant does the goods he places on his shelves for his patrons. He is a great horseman, takes a pride in his animals, and his friends know best where to get fine teams and up-to-date turnouts either for buggy drives, travel across the country or conveyance to and

fro from different parts of the city. Mr. Ryan has phone No. 90 installed at his place of business for the convenience of the public, and all calls are promptly answered, and the service is of that kind that creates a lasting impression upon the patron, and creates new business and friends for Mr. Ryan. He furnishes carriages for all occasions, and has in charge only the most reliable drivers, who know the city like a book, and are able to furnish accurate information as to different locations whenever such information is desired. Courtesy is one of the essentials required by Mr. Ryan in the selection of his employes, consequently every one is treated with the utmost respect and politeness when they patronize Mr. Ryan.

Calcasieu Iron Works

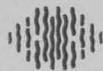


VIEW OF SHOPS

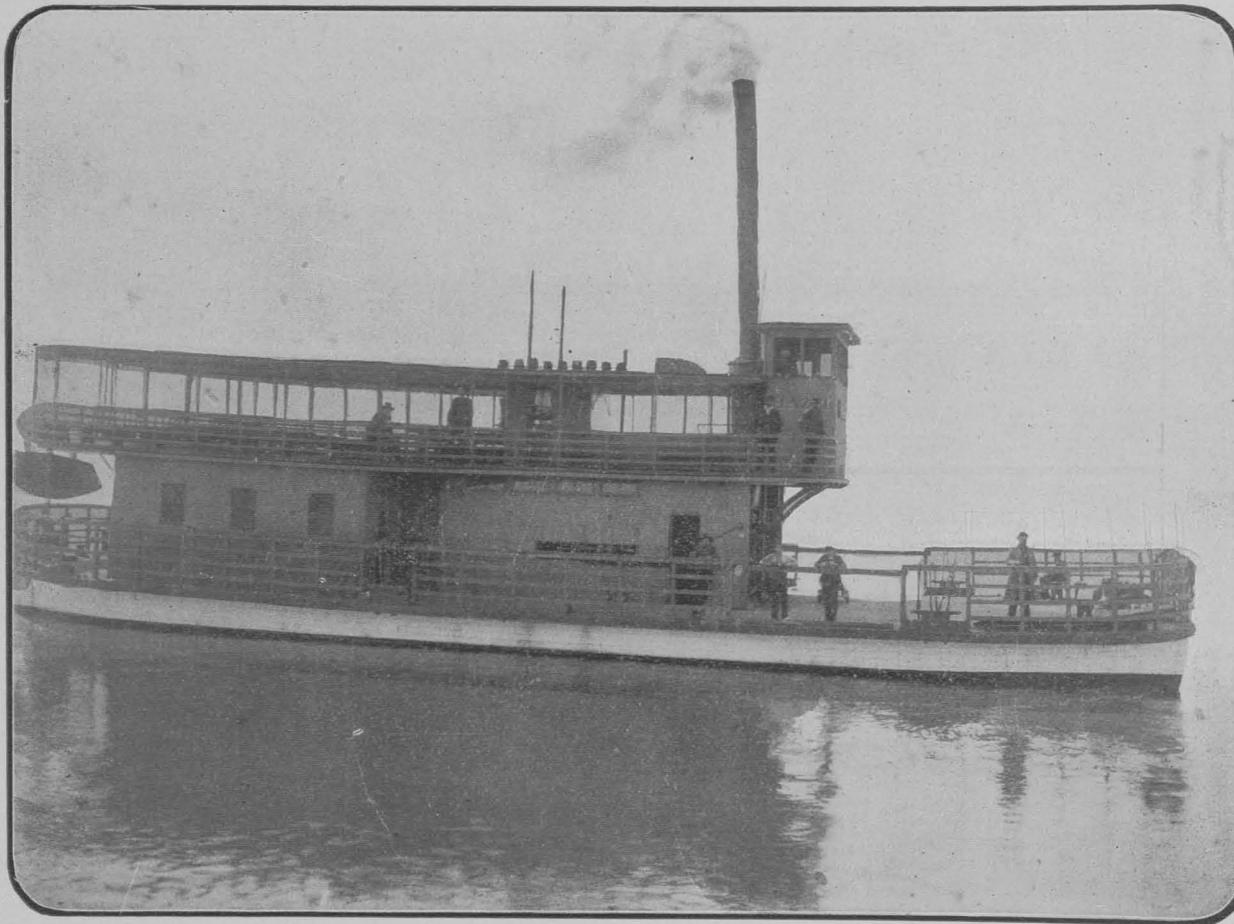
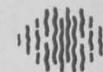
The Calcasieu Iron Works and Mill Supply Company, Limited, is one of the most complete establishments of its kind in this section of the state and has proven one of the largest advertisements the city has ever possessed. The business was established six years ago by Mr. A. McKinnon, and its growth since that time has been rapid and continuous. The demand for their work soon grew beyond the capacity of the original plant, when it was incorporated and some large additions made to the equipment. In this they had the advantage of securing men familiar with every detail of the work which is a very essential feature in making a success of any kind of an enterprise.

They were: A. McKinnon, president and general manager; F. W. Hansen, vice-presi-

dent; Hector Kinnon, secretary and treasurer. They are all well experienced machinists and foundry men and the establishment started off with the same advantages as if it had been the oldest one in this section of the state. They do all kinds of machinery, boiler and sheet iron work, and make a specialty of heavy castings and repairing mill, sugar, rice and irrigation machinery. They do not only repair but manufacture saw mill machinery, boilers, smokestacks, breeching, iron and brass castings of every description. They are also extensive dealers in pumps and all kinds of mill supplies. Their salesrooms and foundry is located on Ryan street, near Lawrence, where estimates can be secured on any class of machinery from marine down.



Capt. A. W. Wehrt



One of the most interesting characters in Lake Charles today and one who has taken an active interest in all her developments from a wilderness is Capt. A. W. Wehrt. Capt. Wehrt is the owner of the

ferry and excursion steamer Hazel, which he takes greater pride in than anything else, although he has been and is interested in a great many other enterprises. The Hazel is the largest boat on the Calcasieu

river and makes hourly trips between Lake Charles and Westlake. She is a double hull craft, 89 feet long, with a 37 foot beam. In addition to the two cabins and lower deck, there is a beautiful and spacious upper

deck, which gives a commanding view of the city, lake, river and surrounding territory. A visitor to Lake Charles can not see all the beauties of the city and her surroundings so advantageously as by a trip on the Hazel. Capt. Wehrt has been making these trips regularly for the past fifteen years and has yet his first accident or loss of life to record.

Capt. Wehrt has lived an eventful life and the years he has spent in plying the ocean and converting a wilderness into a prosperous country would make an interesting book. His father before him was a pilot and it was through him that he inherited his love for the water. When a mere boy he slipped away from home and went to sea as a common sailor. He steadily rose step by step until he became captain of a large merchant vessel. It has now been nearly thirty-eight years ago that he grew tired of the sea and made his home in Calcasieu parish, then little more than a wilderness. He first engaged in the saw mill business at Westlake and later was one of the members of the mercantile firm of Lock & Ryan. He was one of the founders of the Lock & Moore Lumber Company, and became extensively interested in Calcasieu real estate. He was formerly owner of the Bunker Hill rice plantation, which is one of the most desirable in the entire rice belt. The plantation includes a canal four miles long, with three miles of laterals. The enormous pump which discharges 15,000 gallons per minute is capable of watering 2,500 acres. The main canal is 60 feet wide and is capable of being extended to water several hundred more acres at a slight additional cost. Altogether it is one of the most profitable and complete plants in the entire rice belt. Water is taken from the Calcasieu river eight miles north of the city and is free from salt at all seasons of the year. This property was sold some time ago to Perkins & Miller. Captain Wehrt has taken an active interest in the development of all the varied industries and resources of Calcasieu parish and is one of the most valuable and highly respected citizens of Lake Charles.



THE
STEAMER
HAZEL
LAKE
CHARLES'
PLEASURE
BOAT



Lake Charles Steam Laundry



The Lake Charles Steam Laundry, the pioneer of its class, was the first laundry established in the southwestern portion of Louisiana, and was built by Pat Crowley, so widely known throughout this section. Mr. Horace Lyons is the present proprietor and is making a most excellent reputation for the institution over which he so well presides. This laundry possesses well equipped modern machinery for the rapid execution of the work entrusted to its care and the output is of the highest class. The Lake Charles Steam Laundry does a good business over the entire southwestern portion of the state, its shipping interests being carried on on a tremendous scale. In every neighboring city and hamlet the immense laundry baskets of the Lake Charles Steam Laundry are to be seen at its branch

offices, with masses of clean linen for distribution to patrons or soiled linen for return to the laundry to be put in immaculate condition. This laundry is located at 308 Ryan street, which is of convenient access to the public and gives it a splendid radiating point for wagon deliveries, etc. Their wagons are seen hour after hour busily engaged in collecting washing for their patrons and distributing bundles after they have gone through the hands of the skilled employes of the laundry and have come out as white as the driven snow. Phone 35 will place you in connection with the Lake Charles Steam Laundry and by placing orders in this way the public is afforded great convenience and assured of as prompt and diligent attention as if orders were placed in person.



SECOND WARD SCHOOL BUILDING



J. N. YEAGER RESIDENCE

LOUIS P. PAVIA.

The oldest insurance agency in Southwestern Louisiana and one of the most representative ones in the state is that of Mr. Louis P. Pavia. Mr. Pavia came to Lake Charles in 1887 and has had a successful business career. He has been in the



insurance business for the past fourteen years and has built up one of the largest agencies in this section of the state. It is true that there were fire insurance agencies located in Lake Charles when Mr. Pavia began business but they have passed away and he now has the distinction of being the oldest of them all, and is looked upon as the dean of the fraternity. During this time his business has steadily increased, and there are many buildings in Lake Charles today which have not had their policy changed for the past fourteen years, but have relied on renewals from this well known office. Mr. Pavia is one of the most prominent business men in Lake Charles has been an important factor in her rapid development to the city she is today.

Among the companies represented are: Royal of Liverpool; Scottish Union and National; Phoenix of London; Commercial Union of London; Atlas of London; Traders of Chicago; Citizens of Missouri; Hanover of New York; Provident-Washington of

Providence, R. I.; and Fidelity and Casualty Company of New York. Mr. Pavia, whose office is at 704 Ryan street, in the American building, has the most complete office arrangement for handling his business and looking after expirations, etc., that it is possible to devise. By the system he has installed possibility of overlooking a renewal is reduced to a minimum, and not once during his long business career has this occurred.

FRANK A. FILIZOLA.

There is not a business in the life of a city which is more important from a health standpoint than the one which handles the perishable foods that are used on the table daily. If they are in poor condition they are not only unsatisfactory to the taste, but a menace to the health of the community. To keep fruits and produce in a pure, fresh condition requires a great deal of skill, and fully fifty per cent of the men who engage in this class of business result in failure. Mr. Frank A. Filizola, the subject of this sketch, has been engaged in this class of business in Lake Charles for the past eight years, and has earned a patronage in this particular line equal to all of his competitors combined. He carries a complete line of fruits and produce and receives fresh daily eggs, butter, oysters, crabs, shrimp, game in season, dressed poultry, vegetables, etc. He also carries an extensive line of French and Italian delicacies. Mr. Filizola is an accomplished business man and has built up the largest trade in this line of goods in Southwestern Louisiana. He is in close touch with all the main supply points throughout the country and receives daily the best class of goods which the market affords. His establishment is located at 804-806 Ryan street, next door to Lake Charles National Bank, and if you are not already a customer, you should embrace the first opportunity to test Frank's catering ability.

R. A. WELTY.

One of the best known grocery establishments in Lake Charles is that of R. A. Welty, 626 Ryan street. Mr. Welty has been in business in Lake Charles almost continuously for the past nine years and has made a remarkable success. The original firm was run under the name of Fox & Welty, which was subsequently sold out to other parties. Mr. Welty remained out

of business two months, but finding nothing that would equal Lake Charles for a progressive store, he again engaged in business in his own name. He handles a full line of staple and fancy groceries, hay, grain and feed.

Mr. Welty's long experience in the grocery business in this city has made him perfectly familiar with the wants of the people of this section, and there is not an establishment in Southwestern Louisiana which more successfully caters to the wants of the housewife than this well known house. Mr. Welty makes quite a feature of his poultry market and makes it one of his principles of business to carry everything that is wanted on the table. He enjoys a liberal patronage from all sections of the city and makes prompt free deliveries of all goods, whether ordered by phone or in person.

H. H. BASS.

That Lake Charles is forging to the front as a manufacturing center is abundantly demonstrated by the large number of enterprises of different characters which have located here in the past few years. All of which are in a flourishing condition and rendering their quota to the prosperity of the city.

Mr. H. H. Bass established his shirt factory two years ago and has one of the busiest places in the city. Mr. Bass came to the city from Indiana where for nine years he was connected with the Metropolitan Shirt Company, which is one of the largest establishments in the North. He came to Lake Charles well prepared to conduct an up to date establishment and the success he has met with fully demonstrates how well he has carried out that trust. When he first opened up in Lake Charles two years ago he started in with one foot machine. Today he has two electric power and four foot machines, and will probably have to add others before the season is over. Mr. Bass' factory is located on Ryan street, between Broad and Pujo, and he manufactures nothing but high grade shirts, which find a ready sale over the entire Southwest Louisiana territory. He has had several excellent opportunities to move his factory to other localities in the state but has great confidence in the future greatness of Lake Charles and has decided to permanently locate here.

J. OSCAR LANDRY.

To give a complete and exhaustive resume of the business enterprises of Lake Charles the task would not be complete did it not include a write-up of the popular grocery establishment of Mr. J. Oscar Landry, located at 1005 Ryan street, phone



628. Mr. Landry's stock of groceries, seed potatoes, candies, fresh country products, vegetables, etc., covers a tremendous range, and at this place can be obtained anything and everything that is usually carried in such model establishments as that over which this well known gentleman presides. Prompt deliveries are made to all parts of the city, phone orders are given that same careful and scrupulous attention as if placed in person. Satisfaction is always guaranteed by Mr. Landry, and never a word of complaint is heard as to the treatment accorded the public, because he believes that a satisfied patron is one of the best advertisements and his clerks and employes are always cautioned to see that every order is properly filled, and that not a customer leaves his store but what is treated with the utmost courtesy and served with the very best the market affords.



CASHIER'S DESK

INTERIOR VIEW CALCASIEU NATIONAL BANK.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT

M. A. QUILTY & SONS.

The firm of M. A. Quilty & Sons, 422-426 Pujoe street, fills a field in Lake Charles distinctly its own and at the same time one of a great deal of importance to any city or community. They conduct a general livery, sale and boarding stable, but what is most important to the citizens of this section is the fact that the establishment contains two graduate veterinary surgeons, which is a profession almost indispensable where there are so many fine animals as can be seen on the streets of Lake Charles daily. The firm is composed of M. A. Quilty and his three sons, F. H., Drs. M. A., Jr., and Paul. Mr. Quilty first began business in Lake Charles by conducting a sales stable, and furnished a great many planters in

this section with the stock necessary to make and gather their crops. This finally developed into a general stable, which includes some first-class livery rigs, a clean department for boarders, the usual sales business and a veterinary hospital.

Dr. W. A. Quilty is a graduate of the University Veterinary College, of Kansas City, Mo., graduating with the class of 1902. Dr. Paul Quilty has just received his diploma and associated himself with the firm. They are both accomplished surgeons and have provided first-class quarters for stock entrusted to their care. They are all well known citizens of Lake Charles and are in sympathy with all movements for the betterment of the city and this section of the country.

BARNETT BROTHERS.

In none of the arts has there been probably as great an advancement made in the past few years as that of photography, and it might also be said that none of them are so extensively patronized. The successful photographer, like all other classes of business, must be experienced and at the same time have his studio equipped with the latest appliances for making the plates and finishing the photograph. The firm of Barnett Brothers has combined all these essential features and the best recommendation which can be given of their work is that it can be found in nearly every home in Lake Charles. The two brothers, A. L. and E. E. Barnett, have been in the photographic business for the past twenty years,

seventeen years of which has been spent in the city of Lake Charles. They do all classes of work known to the photographers' art, both scenic and portrait. A large part of the beautiful scenic work in this souvenir is the product of their studio and can not be surpassed anywhere in the state. In their seventeen years' residence in this city they have given universal satisfaction and their patronage has increased from year to year until it is now the largest photograph gallery in Southwest Louisiana, not only in size but in volume of business and the superiority of their work. They have both made Lake Charles their permanent home and have rendered every assistance in their power in making Lake Charles the queen city of Southwest Louisiana.

MITCHELL & YOUNG.

Among the prominent attorneys who have made Calcasieu parish one of the leading bars of the state is the firm of Mitchell & Young, who have been practicing under the above styled name since 1902.

Mr. A. R. Mitchell, the senior member of the firm, is a native of Texas, but moved to this parish with his family when a mere child and has been practically raised in the city of Lake Charles. After receiving a common school education he entered Tulane University, graduating from the law department in 1891. He represented the parish in the state legislature in 1896, which he resigned to accept the office of district attorney, which had been tendered him. He proved to be an able and impartial prosecutor and made an enviable record while in that office. When his term expired, however, he refused to allow his name to be used for re-election and resumed his private practice. Mr. Mitchell gets his remarkable legal ability from his father, who up to the time of his death was a prominent member of the bar.

Mr. S. N. Young was born and raised in Calcasieu parish, and the success he has attained in life has been under the close observation of every inhabitant of the parish. After graduating from the Louisiana State Normal School he taught school for one year and managed a mercantile business up until the time he entered the law department of Tulane. He graduated with the class of 1902, and has met with remarkable success. Mr. Young is a young man highly educated and is regarded as one of the most prominent and talented members of the Calcasieu parish bar.

GORHAM & GORHAM.

One of the most distinguished members of the Louisiana bar is Mr. D. B. Gorham, senior member of the law firm of Gorham & Gorham. Mr. Gorham was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1838. He began the study of law soon after completing his academic course and had hardly finished his studies when the war broke out between the state, and hastily going before the supreme court to secure his license he answered the call to arms. He enlisted as a private in the Fourth Louisiana regiment, under the command of General H. W. Allen. The army was in need of brave men with iron nerve, and Major Gorham did not long remain in the ranks. He was promoted on

Some of the Prominent Members of the Calcasieu Bar

the field of battle for carrying the flag at Hornet's Nest, where the flag was shot full of holes and the blanket he wore for a sash was shot to pieces. For standing with the colors, however, instead of retreating with the army, he was promoted and afterward became major of ordnance on General Allen's staff. Subsequently General Allen was elected governor of Louisiana and offered Major Gorham the same position to remain on his staff. He believed that his duty was at the front, and took command of a troop of cavalry in Colonel F. N. Ogden's battalion, which operated with Scott's cavalry. The part they took in the bloody conflict would fill many pages with daring bravery, but can only be referred to briefly here. He was in the battle with Fred Ogden when the latter performed an amusing feat of bravery which so often tend to turn the mind from the soul-trying work that it accompanies. Ogden had just been presented with a beautiful thoroughbred horse and at the first opportunity proudly plunged him into the thickest of the fight. The horse proved to be a thoroughbred indeed, and before Ogden could gain control of him had charged entirely through the federal line and he found himself alone in the rear. Undaunted, he wheeled about and charged back through the enemy, and the bewildered Yankees were so surprised that they forgot to fire until he was practically through their lines again. In 1870 Major Gorham was appointed district attorney in northern Louisiana, to take up the prosecution which had resulted in the assassination of District Attorney Arthur H. Harris and Judge Crawford. It was an undertaking that few men cared to attempt in those days of feudism, but he fearlessly discharged his duty to the commonwealth and by the vigorous manner in which he impartially held up the laws of the state won their confidence and respect before the term expired. His life was saved on two occasions by one of the same bullies who had planned his assassination. Major Gorham has been practicing law in Lake

Charles for the past twenty years and is one of the most able and highly respected members of the bar.

Associated with Major Gorham is his son, W. A. Gorham, who has just finished his legal training in the Louisiana State University. He studied for several years under his father, and is one of the most able and talented young members of the bar. He has made the best of the unusual advantages offered him, and has by his own work opened up a successful career.

SCHWING & MOORE.

Lake Charles stands in the front rank of Southern cities in the distinction enjoyed by the bar, and in no city in the republic can there be found gentlemen better equipped in the profession, either by learning or ability.

Among the prominent firms of our city is that of Schwing & Moore, composed of Mr. William F. Schwing and Mr. Joseph Moore. Mr. Schwing is one of the old practitioners of the state, having graduated from the Centenary College of Louisiana in 1858, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. With the exception of five years spent in the manufacturing business, he has been following his profession since that time, and there is not a more successful member of the bar today. He has resided in Lake Charles for the past seventeen years and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Joseph Moore first studied law under his present partner and graduated from the law department of Tulane in 1894, when he returned to Lake Charles and formed the present partnership. He served four years as district attorney and made an enviable record as a public official and is recognized as one of the most able and talented members of the bar of this district. He was a fair and impartial prosecutor, but vigorous in upholding the laws of the state entrusted to his care. They have an elegant suite of rooms in the Bolton building.

TAYLOR & TAYLOR.

General T. T. Taylor, the senior member of the law firm of Taylor & Taylor, began the practice of law in 1857, and with the exception of four years he served in the war between the state, has been continuously in the practice of his profession since that time. General Taylor was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and is one of the oldest living members of that world renowned bar. He is a graduate of the Holm Del Classical Institute, of Holm Del, New Jersey, receiving his degree immediately before entering the profession of law. When the civil war broke out General Taylor offered his services to his country as a private, and was elected as second lieutenant. His regiment was placed in the Fifteenth army corps of the federal army, and their brilliant campaign up to the close of the war is too well known to permit of repetition here. In their more than one hundred battles General Taylor was in the brunt of them all, with the exception of one, when he was recovering from a wound. From private to brigadier general conveys more than words of the manner in which he served his country. General Taylor is referee in bankruptcy for this district and is a member of the Louisiana Bar Association. He has been located in Lake Charles for the past twelve years, his practice being confined almost entirely to corporation law.

Associated with him is his son, George S. Taylor, who looks after the real estate, investment and collection end of the business. Mr. Taylor is a young man well versed on Southwestern Louisiana real estate values, and represents some very large corporations in taking care of their properties in this section of the state. He handles local realty as well as looking after the interests of his foreign clients. They have offices in the Von Phul & Gordon building.

JUDGE R. P. WILLIAMS.

The old state of Louisiana has proudly boasted of many learned and distinguished lawyers among her sons. She can point with pride to an honor roll of many eminent jurists that can be surpassed by no other state in the South, and now she can hold high her head and assert that in no way has she degenerated in the possession of legal talent. The bar of Louisiana contains today as talented and eminent corps of legal practitioners as it did fifty years ago, and

not only can it boast of the talent and ability of its members at the present time, but also their uprightness and zeal for the triumph of true justice. In the foremost rank of the prominent jurists of Lake Charles stands Judge R. P. Williams. This distinguished jurist was born in St. Helena parish, Louisiana, and after taking the law course at Tulane began practice in the northern portion of the state. For eight years he was judge of the Twenty-seventh judicial district, where he proved himself an able jurist and possessor of a sound knowledge of the law. Judge Williams moved to Lake Charles in 1895, and began the practice of his profession in this city and has built up a large and lucrative practice. Judge Williams is a genial, polished and highly cultured gentleman, esteemed and respected by a legion of friends throughout the state. By sheer energy, skill and tact he has forged to the front and achieved that success which true merit always wins and which he so richly deserves.

ROBERT R. STONE.

While Lake Charles' fame rests mainly upon the fact that she is the center of the lumber and rice belt, it is no less true that she is noted for the high standard of professional ability and integrity maintained by the legal fraternity who practice at the local bar, many of whom have state wide reputation. One of the city's most successful young attorneys, and one who, although practicing only a comparatively short time, has drawn a representative clientele from among our people and is steadily climbing the ladder of success is Mr. Robert R. Stone.

Mr. Stone is a native of Illinois, locating in Lake Charles in 1892, before he had yet reached the age of manhood. He attended

, Dr. Geo. H. Collins is one of the oldest practicing dentists in this section of the state, and stands high in his profession as well as a citizen. He first began the practice of his profession in Lincoln, Nebraska, thirty years ago, but wishing for a broader field he came South nine years ago, and has made Lake Charles his home since that time. He has been in the practice in this city since that time, and is regarded as one of the most competent and successful dentists in the state today. While his prac-

tice has been heavy, he has found time to lend a helping hand to all movements in the advancement of the city's interest and is one of her most honored citizens.

Some of the Prominent Members of the Calcasieu Bar

the law department of Tulane University in 1897-8, graduating from that famous institution with honors. He immediately began the practice of his profession in this city, and has gained prominence for the masterly manner in which he has handled the cases entrusted to his care. Mr. Stone is an ardent supporter of the Republican party and is prominent in the councils of the white wing of the party throughout the state. During the general election in 1902 he was named as one of the Republican electors, and was also put out by his party for representative in the state legislature. Although Louisiana is overwhelmingly a Democratic state, he made a remarkable campaign and emerged from the conflict with a host of new friends and ardent admirers.

JOSEPH G. FOURNET.

The practice of the legal profession has probably gained more of its present high standing from the hard work and close study necessary to properly fit anyone to gain recognition at the bar than any other one point. The attorney of today must possess a complete and thorough understanding of the law, and have the necessary qualifications outside of book learning to cope with the rapid changes of conditions

and the intricate cases that are presented before the modern court.

Mr. Joseph G. Fournet, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Louisiana, and while still a young man, is recognized as one of the most talented members of the local bar. He is a graduate of both the academic and law department of Tulane University, receiving his diploma from the law department in 1894. He immediately began the practice of law in this city, and the second year after opening up his offices was elected to the office of city attorney, which he filled with credit to himself and the city as well. The city has never had a city attorney who guarded her interests with more zealous care or handled them with more marked ability. Mr. Fournet has a handsome suite of rooms in the Rigmalden building and does a general practice in all of the courts. He is a property owner and a believer in the future of the city.

THOMAS C. PLAUCHE.

Mr. Thomas C. Plauché is one of the leading attorneys of Calcasieu parish, and also one of the most gifted exponents of the legal profession in Lake Charles. Mr. Plauché is a native of Louisiana and received his legal education in that famous institution which is not only the pride of

Louisiana, but the entire South—Tulane. He graduated with the class of 1899 and began the practice of law at Marksville, Louisiana. He met with flattering success at that point, but wishing for a broader field, cast his lot in Lake Charles last February. His ability and sound learning was soon recognized and he is meeting with the same success in this city.

Mr. Plauché has a handsome suite of rooms in the Lake Charles National Bank building, and practices in all the courts of the state, as well as federal. He has made his home permanently in Lake Charles, and is a valuable addition to social and legal circles. A close student, earnest in all his undertakings and with a complete knowledge of the law, his success at the bar is assured.

Arsene P. Pujo

Clement D. Moss

PUJO & MOSS

ATTORNEYS
AT LAW

First Ntl. Bank Bldg.

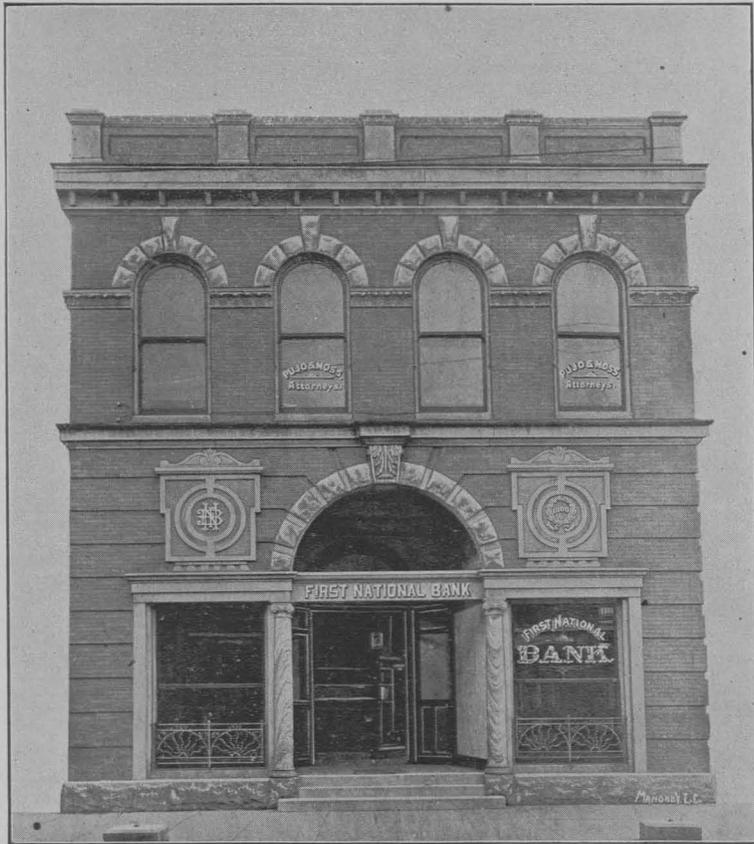
Lake Charles, La.

Drs. Geo. H. and Edgar N. Collins

years, graduated from the Chicago College of Dental Surgery as a member of the largest class ever graduated from any professional school.

Being a young man of pleasing address, ability, and conscientious effort, he has been well and kindly received in Lake Charles and has an independent clientele of his own that demands his entire time. He is prominent in social circles and is regarded as one of Lake Charles' most promising young professional men.

Associated with Dr. G. H. Collins is his son, Dr. Edgar N. Collins, who, after receiving valuable practical training under his father, extending over a period of ten



INTERIOR VIEW FIRST NATIONAL BANK



EPISCOPAL CHURCH SHOWING CHOIR

JOHN W. RHORER.

Mr. John W. Rhorer is one of the popular representatives from this district, and the voters of Calcasieu parish never made a better selection than when they placed him in that responsible position.

Mr. Rhorer was born in what is now known as Grant parish, in the year 1865. After receiving a common school education, he took up the study of civil engineering, and by a rigid training in that never failing school—experience—soon arose to the top of his profession, and is one of the



most able engineers in this section or the state. He has spent the past fifteen years in this parish, first locating at Welsh, where he spent four years in the practice of his profession. After three years at Oberlin he made his home in Lake Charles. Mr. Rhorer was for seven years parish surveyor, which he resigned at the solicitation of his friends to take up his more extended work in the legislature. He has offices at 809 Ryan street, and does general surveying, notary and abstract work. He pays considerable attention to buying and selling real estate, and looking after investments for non-residents. His extensive knowledge of southwestern realty makes him a valuable agent.

Some of the Popular Parish and City Officials

J. W. GARDINER.

The voters of Calcasieu parish never had a greater opportunity for showing their respect and appreciation of a young man whose whole life had been the illustration of what a young man could accomplish with integrity and determination before hardly reaching what is termed man's estate by a mere accumulation of years, than at the last election, when they placed Mr. J. W. Gardiner in the office of district clerk.

Mr. Gardiner was born in the parish of Avoyelles ut the Gardiner family moved to Lake Charles in 1886, when he was a mere child, and he is proudly called a Lake Charles boy. His school days were ended at the age of fourteen, and he entered the services of the Calcasieu National Bank. His ability as a financier and business man soon developed, and his eighteenth birthday found him paying and receiving teller. At the age of twenty-one he held the office of assistant cashier of that institution, which is almost without precedent in banking circles. The Calcasieu National Bank is one of the largest financial institutions in the state outside of New Orleans, and is almost without a rival in any city for the remarkable success they have made. Mr. Gardiner was elected to the office of clerk of the district court of Calcasieu parish March 17 of last year, at the age of twenty-five. Since taking charge of the office, Mr. Gardiner has made some very much needed improvements entirely at his own expense, and now everything is carried on with the neatness and precision which characterized his banking administration. The old system of a few tables scattered over the office for the public to help themselves has given way to a handsome set of banking fixtures and cabinets for the preservation of the records, entirely at his own expense. Everything has been systematized throughout,

which is of inestimable value in attending to the wants of the public promptly.

Whether in the discharge of his duties as a citizen or a servant of the people, Mr. Gardiner's life has been without a blemish, and the parish does not possess a more honored or highly respected citizen. He is prominent in both social and financial circles, and his official career promises to be no less illustrious than his record as a business man and financier up to the time of taking charge of this important office.

WINSTON OVERTON.

What a city is or expects to be depends largely on its city government, for the officials who are entrusted with the task of looking after her interests have far more power in shaping her destinies than the average citizen realizes. A good city administration is one of the greatest advertisements that a community can have, and a bad one is a serious detriment to its progress. Lake Charles has been particularly fortunate in the selection of progressive and able men to take care of her public affairs, and they have contributed largely toward making the city what it is today.

Mr. Winston Overton, our present city attorney, was admitted to the bar at Shreveport, Louisiana, in October, 1892. After graduating from the State University he entered his father's office and began the study of law. He removed to Lake Charles the following year, after being admitted to the bar, and has enjoyed a large and lucrative practice since that time. He was appointed to the responsible position of city attorney in 1899, and has discharged the duties of that office with great credit to himself and the city as well. Mr. Overton has offices in room 8, Commercial building, and practices before all the courts.

JOHN McNEESE.

The most important institution to any community, no matter where located, is their public schools, and their efficiency depends almost entirely on the man put at their head and his subordinates. The future intelligence and prosperity of the state depend almost entirely on their efforts and it is very important that they should be conducted by men with learning and the ability to impart it to others. Lake Charles and Calcasieu parish has been particularly fortunate in this respect, and there is not a more perfect system of public schools in the state than is possessed by this parish. The credit for this state of affairs is due to the men who have charge of the department of education and the support given them in their work by the citizens in general. Professor John McNeese has been superintendent and secretary of the department of education for the past seventeen years, and has had the pleasure of directing the public schools from mere huts for the accommodation of the lower grades to a complete system of graded schools, extending over the entire parish, and an academy of state fame for preparing our boys and girls for the higher universities or to enter the pursuits of life armed with sufficient education and training to hold their own in this age of advancement and competition. When this term is completed Professor McNeese will have served twenty years. He was born in the state of Maryland in 1843, and received his education in that state. He moved to Texas in 1866, moving to Lake Charles in 1873. He has been identified with educational matters almost continuously since that time.



LAKE SCENE



FRANK ROBERTS RESIDENCE



L. KAUFMAN RESIDENCE



W. W. FLANDERS RESIDENCE



MULLER'S BIG STORE

I. C. CARTER.

The greatest evidence we have of the culture and intelligence of any age is the architectural work which has withstood the ravages of time and the same will at some future date mark the progress of the present generation. To be a successful archi-



tect requires a great deal of skill and an amount of inventive genius known to few of the trades and professions. While the learned world is marveling over some great architectural feat of ancient times, there are structures rising before their very eyes that would be equally as bewildering to them and shall in turn be studied by some other generation.

Mr. I. C. Carter, the subject of this sketch, came to Lake Charles from Galveston in 1902, and has furnished the designs for practically all the principal buildings which have been erected in the city since that time. Mr. Carter spent three and one-half years in the University of Illinois and has added to the theoretical training many years of practical experience in some of the principal cities of the country. He has demonstrated his ability in Lake Charles and practically all the principal buildings erected in the past three years are a monument to his genius. Mr. Carter furnished designs for the Lake Charles National Bank, Kaufman block, Kaufman, Reims & Hollins, Louisiana Baptist Orphanage, Jewish Synagogue, Hollins, Rigmaiden Von Phul & Gordon, both old and new, improvements

on the Calcasieu National Bank, Miller building, City Fire Stations, and a score of first class residence buildings including that of W. A. Guillemet. The list includes the principal buildings in the city and they are worthy monuments of his ability. Mr. Carter is an architectural engineer of recognized ability and does general drafting work, blue and black printing, and steel and fire proof construction. He has offices in the Rigmaiden building, and will furnish plans for first-class structures anywhere in the Southwest.



WM. A. GUILLEMET RESIDENCE

HEMENWAY FURNITURE CO.

One of the largest and most successful wholesale and retail concerns in Southwestern Louisiana is the Hemenway Furniture Company, with stores at Alexandria and Lake Charles. The firm began business in this city six years ago, and has made a wonderful success since that time. With their extensive connections they had the advantage of opening up a first-class establishment in the beginning and improvements have been made from year to year until it is one of the largest establishments of its kind in the state. They speedily outgrew their original quarters and for

the past three years have been located at 706 Ryan street which enabled them to display one of the largest and best selected stocks of furniture and house furnishing goods to be seen anywhere in the state. They handle everything known to the furniture trade, including carpets, matting, stoves, etc.

The Hemenway Furniture Company is composed of F. S. Hemenway, president; A. Wettermark, Jr., vice-president; and L. J. Coleman, secretary and manager. For several years Mr. Coleman has been travel-

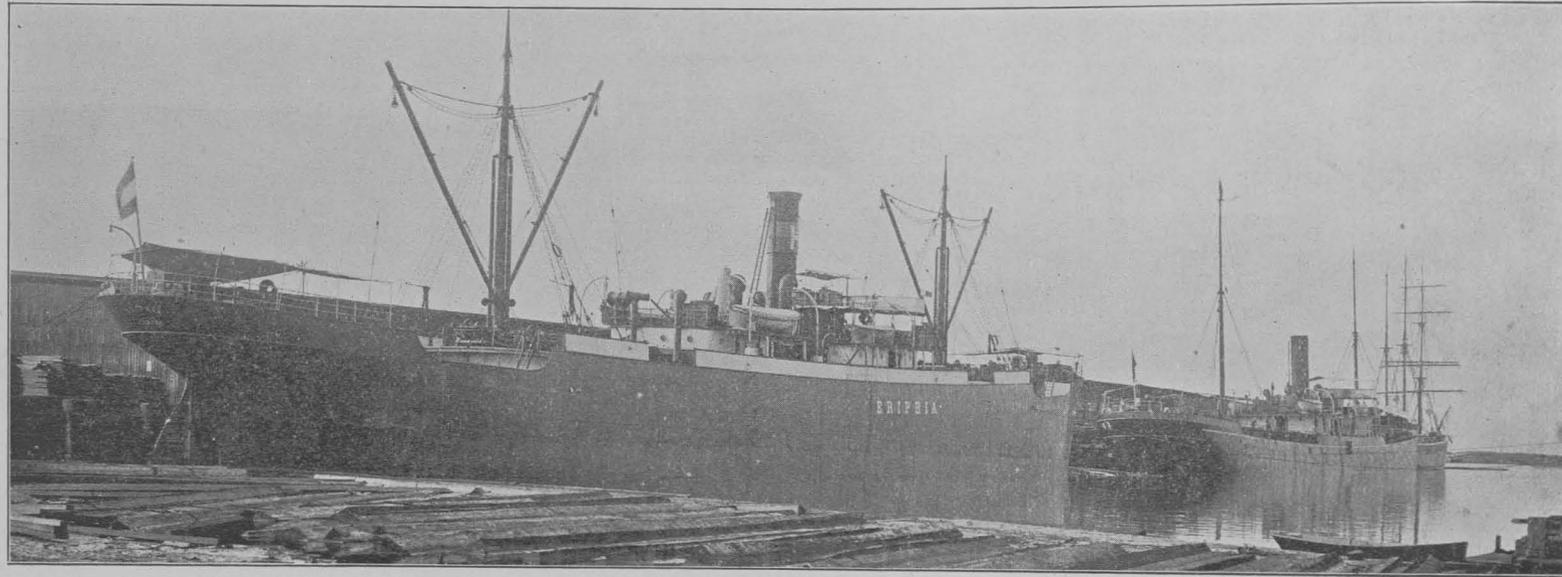
NEW ORLEANS BREWING COMPANY.

Since the drinking of lager beer has become general all over the world, it is safe to say that no brewery is better known, or product so liberally patronized as the New Orleans Brewing Company, which operates three large breweries in New Orleans, and



this happy consummation has been arrived at solely on the merit of the goods produced. Of the merits of the goods it would be simply superfluous to comment on, as they are known all over the South by all citizens who are fond of a glass of pure, sound beer, and in the brewery purity is the essential feature. There is not a more popular bottled beer in the world than Pilsener and their keg beer bears equally as good a reputation. One of the important branches of this mammoth concern is in this city, under the management of Mr. William Dahlbom, who covers Southwestern Louisiana and Southeastern Texas. Their offices are located at the corner of Broad and Front streets and their cold storage at the ice factory, which is the best obtainable, and deliveries are made to any part of the city. Refrigerator cars bring the beer here direct from the brewery and both in kegs and bottles it is always sent out in perfect condition.

Mr. William Dahlbom took charge of the Beaumont branch in 1901 and continued so until December, 1903, when it was consolidated with the Lake Charles office and he made his headquarters in this city. Mr. Dahlbom manages the branch with great efficiency and integrity.



VESSELS LOADING WITH LUMBER FOR EXPORT AT PORT ARTHUR

Steamer Eriphia, 1,295 tons, loading for Rotterdam and Antwerp; Steamer Cymbeline, 2,150 tons, loaded and ready to sail for Marseilles and Genoa; Danish barkentine Sostrene, 307 tons, loading for Dakar, Senegal, Africa, all under charter to F. E. Howard Newcombe, the lumber exporter.

No one but the manufacturers themselves have ever realized what great service the exporters have rendered in making lumber prices what they are today and the successful introduction of the products of Calcasieu forests into the markets of the civilized world. Those who have grown up in the industry remember the time when the taking of several million feet of lumber from the American market annually was a great factor in the making of prices; they can also realize what would happen if the export business was suddenly stopped today. The home market was practically already made and depended upon transportation facilities entirely for its increased development. But not so with the exporting business, for there the market had to be made. They were unfamiliar with the production of the southern forests and first had to be convinced that it possessed merit at least equal to that received from the northern pineries. The supply and facilities for shipping and a thousand and one other things had to be made clear and adjusted where it was unsatisfactory before the

F. E. Howard Newcombe

European dealer would consider a change from his established source of supply. All of these things had to be done by the exporter and entailed a world of work, business sagacity and ability to handle the trade when it was once interested. There is not a man in the southern timber belt who has been more important in this work than Mr. F. E. Howard Newcombe.

Mr. Newcombe is a native of London, England, and came to this country nineteen years ago. He has been engaged in the lumber business practically ever since his arrival in this country in Texas and Louisiana. He came to Lake Charles from Orange, Texas, but still exports lumber from

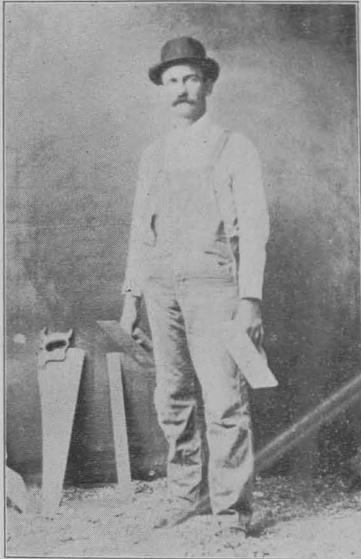
the Texas mills. Lake Charles being more centrally located in the timber belt it gave him greater advantages in handling lumber and timber from the two states. Mr. Newcombe does an exclusive export business making shipments from Sabine Pass, Port Arthur and Galveston in Texas and New Orleans in Louisiana. His exporting business reaches practically every lumber and timber market in the civilized world, especially in Europe. He has so effectually demonstrated the superiority of long leaf yellow pine lumber and timbers, that they are being extensively used in the construction of battleships, decks and coastwise protection by several foreign countries. Since

being engaged in the export business he has made several business trips to Europe disposing of large cargoes to the great benefit of the lumber industry in general and from the manner in which the orders have been repeated, his customers also received some benefits. Mr. Newcombe will probably ship 50,000,000 feet from the Texas and Louisiana district during the present year, which would keep two of the largest mills in the district busy the year round. His shipments last year approached the 40,000,000 feet mark.

Mr. Newcombe has offices over the Calcasieu National Bank and keeps a large force of clerks busy looking after his extensive shipments to different quarters of the globe. While the nature of his business would indicate that he had no further interest in his adopted home other than receiving supplies, just the reverse is true as the city does not contain a more energetic citizen in working for her welfare in every way. Indeed, it would be more fitting to say that he brought the markets of the world to our door rather than that he exports our products.

J. GEO. FREDERICKS.

Within the past few years there has been a great increase in the amount of cement work used in buildings and civic improvements and is rapidly increasing in favor as its superiority is more fully understood. The business frequently suffers by being



attempted by people who do not thoroughly understand the art. For that reason any city which possesses a first class cement contractor is fortunate indeed for sidewalks and foundations laid with cement and tiling are the most sanitary in the world and make that part of the city's improvement permanent which would otherwise be only temporary.

Mr. J. Geo. Fredericks, the subject of this sketch, was born in Mobile, Alabama, and began his apprenticeship early in life under his father who was one of the largest and most successful cement contractors in New Orleans. In 1891 he went on the road for a large St. Louis firm and was their traveling foreman until 1898, when he returned to New Orleans and took charge of his father's business. He remained there until 1903, when he decided to go into business on his own account, and turning the old business over to his brother, came to Lake Charles. When Mr. Fredericks reached this



JEWISH SYNAGOG

city there had been very little cement work done and the business on the whole was in rather a bad way. By superior workmanship he soon placed it in the same popularity as it enjoys in the larger cities and does more of that class of business in Lake Charles than all other firms combined. Mr. Fredericks is now engaged on a contract with the city for four miles of cement sidewalk, and from present indications the work will be continued until all the principal walks in the city are paved. He does all kinds of cement paving, curb, tiling, sewer pipe, and manufactures cement hitch posts. Mr. Fredericks is an expert workman and his work in this city, both for the municipality and for private parties, has been satisfactory in every respect and he enjoys the confidence and respect of the entire citizenship.

NEWHOUSE MARKET

The Newhouse Market is the oldest meat market in the city, the owners being among the oldest and most substantial business men of the state. The Newhouse Brothers are known far and wide as being reputable men in every respect and gentlemen who safeguard their patrons' interests to the utmost particularity. This excellent market is located at 931 Ryan street, with phone 174 for the public's convenience. They make a specialty of home killed meats and by this means open up a magnificent avenue for the cultivating of home industries and encouraging the raising of home grown meats. The Newhouse Market is an old landmark and enjoys the reputation of supplying for the table only the freshest and best beef, pork, and veal products, also sausage, lard, hams, etc. Purity is an essential feature at this market, and cleanliness remains paramount. Their butcher shop is a model of its kind, thoroughly screened and ventilated, the refrigerators, which are of mammoth proportions, being constructed along scientific and hygienic lines and affording absolute protection to the buyer. Owing to the rapid selling of the product handled at the Newhouse Market, everything is kept on the move and nothing is allowed to accumulate and become in the least unfresh. They are buyers and shippers of live stock and buy and sell on commission. The patronage of the public is cordially solicited by the Newhouse Brothers and in return therefor absolute satisfaction is promised in every degree.

M. A. QUILTY, D. V. S., GRADUATE VETERINARIAN.

Dr. M. A. Quilty, whose office and hospital is located at 422-426 Pujoe street, long distance phone 534, successfully performs all modern surgical operations. He is a



veterinary surgeon and dentist, and out of town calls by wire or phone are promptly answered.

DUNN FEED COMPANY.

One of the busiest places in Lake Charles is that of the Dunn Feed Company, at 602 Ryan street. Mr. Dunn is one of the best known business men in Lake Charles, and while he has been in the feed business only since last September, he enjoys a large patronage and has one of the most extensive grain and feed stores in the city.

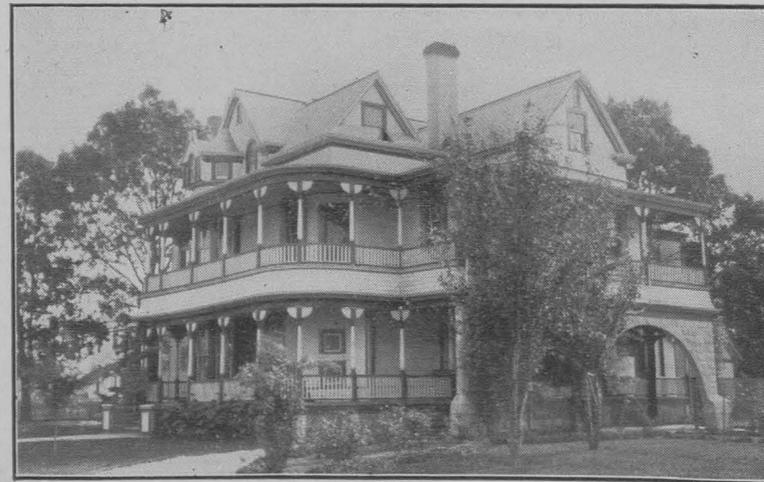
Mr. Dunn came to Lake Charles from Indiana ten years ago and established the Dunn Brick Company. He constructed one of the most modern plants in this section of the state, which he conducted profitably for five years, when he disposed of it to engage in the feed business. He purchased the business of Fox & Welty, and has added extensively to the patronage

already enjoyed by that firm. In disposing of his brick plant, Mr. Dunn retained his building material department, and does an extensive business along that line. He handles a complete line of building material, and in addition to supplying the local trade ships lime, cement and roofing material to all sections of Southwestern Louisiana. In his feed department he handles hay, grain, chops, bran and stock food. By

buying in car lots he is enabled to give the lowest possible prices, and by doing such an extensive business it is possible for him to conduct a very profitable business on a small margin. Phone No. 130 will bring your feed and building material wants in short order. Mr. Dunn is a successful business man, and has been a valuable citizen in both the manufacturing and commercial field.



J. A. BEL RESIDENCE



W. E. RAMSAY RESIDENCE

PAUL B. MAHONEY.

Mr. Paul B. Mahoney is one of the most competent and successful photographers in the state of Louisiana and his studio is one of the most attractive and popular places in Lake Charles. Mr. Mahoney has had years of experience in both interior and



scenic work in nearly every section of the United States and is perfectly familiar with all branches of the photographer's art. He has made a specialty of interior views and has probably done more of that class of work than any one in this section of the country. His experience in views has extended over several states from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, and his pictures are gems of beauty and art.

Mr. Mahoney has been in Lake Charles only a little over a year, but in that length of time has given his studio a popularity which extends over the entire parish. His studio is located in rooms 7, 8 and 9, Rigmaiden building, and contains all the latest appliances for photographic work. He makes a specialty of kodak finishing for amateurs and has been the means of stimulating that pleasant pastime in Lake Charles. His work speaks for itself and some of the finest photographs in this edition are the product of his art.

DAN GOODMAN.

The largest and most prominent dealer in sash, doors, and blinds in Southwest Louisiana today is Mr. Dan Goodman, the subject of this sketch. The business was started nearly a quarter of a century ago by Mr. H. C. Drew, our present repre-



sentative in the state senate, and its history from that time has been one of continued prosperity and a gradual increase in the volume of business handled from year to year. In 1887 its present owner entered the employ of Mr. Drew and from that time was practically manager of the business. In December, 1903, he succeeded to the business and it has been continued along the same lines which have made it such a success in the past. Mr. Goodman is an expert workman himself, and the most difficult jobs are turned out by his own hand. He is a wholesale and retail dealer in sash, doors, blinds, glass, moulding, builders' hardware, etc. His salesrooms are located at 316 Iris street and he carries a complete line of all grades of sash, doors, and blinds in stock. Special orders receive prompt attention and no better work could be secured anywhere in the state. This house has been well known over the entire South and West for a number of years and has lost none of its former prestige under the man-

agement of Mr. Goodman. In addition to supplying the local trade, he ships goods to all parts of the country.

TEXAS TRADING COMPANY.

One of the most successful young business establishments in Lake Charles, and one which occupies an unique field all of its own, is the Texas Trading Company, at 513 Ryan street.

Mr. L. M. Ward, the proprietor, came to Lake Charles the first of the present year and opened up for business January 21. He has made a rapid success of the busi-

ness and exchanging everything, from common articles of furniture to fire proof safes. In other words, Mr. Ward buys everything, and sells everything he buys. The exchange department has also become a very popular feature, giving their customers an opportunity to dispose of something that does not meet their wants and in return receive the article which meets their wishes. Mr. Ward also carries an interesting line of antiques and has in stock some valuable articles which can be purchased for less than their imitations are offered for at the present day. In addition to the salesrooms at 513 Ryan street, they



A three year old Rose Bush grown by A. L. Barnett, Lake Charles, La.
Taken April 10, 1905

ness, and it is now one of the busiest places in Lake Charles. They handle everything in the line of furniture, stoves, dishes, household goods, queensware, table ware, matting, etc. While they have an extensive line of new goods, the main feature of the business, and the one which has made it so popular in Lake Charles, is buying,

have two warehouses filled with almost every class of goods imaginable.

Mr. Ward has great faith in the future of Lake Charles and has entered her business circles with the determination to realize a greater Lake Charles and increase its scope as the metropolis of Southwestern Louisiana.

C. T. PERKINS.

Mr. C. T. Perkins, the popular proprietor of one of the leading transfer and dray lines of this section of the state, has his offices at 315 Broad street and phone 504, for the facilitating of his business. He does a general line of hauling and transferring,



calling for and delivering baggage to any part of the city and transferring baggage from train to train. Promptness can always be relied upon at the hands of Mr. Perkins. His equipment is of the highest, his teams being always kept in prime shape and his wagons are all high grade vehicles. Mr. Perkins is among the most excellent citizens of Lake Charles and has aided in more ways than one in materially enhancing its prestige as one of the commercial centers of Southwestern Louisiana. Whenever there is a move on foot that will tend to place this city to the fore front and put it on an equality with her sister cities, there is no one more ready than Mr. Perkins to take an active part in pushing things to a successful termination. He has always done his share toward helping the community in every laudable effort and the entire citizenship deeply appreciating this fact and never leave a stone unturned to favor Mr. Perkins with their business, being assured thereby of the most satisfactory service.

Did you imagine we would let this auspicious occasion go by without saying anything about ourselves?

The American originally was one of J. B. Watkins' many beneficences to Southwestern Louisiana. It was started for the purpose of informing the people of other states what Louisiana has to offer the homeseeker and settler.

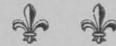
As a weekly publication The American has been in existence for almost a quarter of a century. It has printed enough matter telling people why they ought to make Louisiana their home, to make a strip around the earth wide enough to walk on. It has been the means of bringing more people into the country perhaps than any other agency.

After The Weekly American had brought hundreds of people into Calcasieu parish and had shown how everything from boot trees to electric plants would flourish in its genial soil, so many people accumulated in Lake Charles that they began to demand a live, progressive daily newspaper, so that the manifold advantages of Lake Charles as a place of residence and a business point could be made manifest more often.

That is why, eight years ago this month, the Daily American came into existence.

About eighteen months thereafter, the whole concern passed into the hands of the present proprietors—the Lake Charles Printing Company.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST
THE AMERICAN



The Daily and Weekly American



Our Address is Lake Charles, La.
Our Home is at 704 Ryan Street.

We feel too modest to say anything much about ourselves.

This is one specimen of the way we have been at work for the community. It's our habit to do this sort of thing every two or three years.

But this isn't the only way—nor, indeed, the most effective way.

We keep hammering away every working day in the year, striving to show people the advantages of living in, and doing business in Lake Charles, and in Calcasieu parish. That, as we conceive it, is our mission.

As an aid toward fulfilling it, we have installed the best all-around printing plant in the state outside of New Orleans; we have accumulated 1,800 subscribers to our daily paper and 2,000 to our weekly paper, to help spread the glad tidings; we have both newspapers in the hands of a corps of experienced newspaper men.

We make a specialty of news that will interest or inure to the benefit of Southwest Louisiana.

We solicit the subscriptions of all persons who desire such information or who desire to help spread it among the people of this and other states.

**In Less than Four Years I Have Sold \$101,735.00 Worth of City Property
AND CAN SELL YOURS**

Loans, on Gilt Edge Security, Negotiated for Non-Residents.

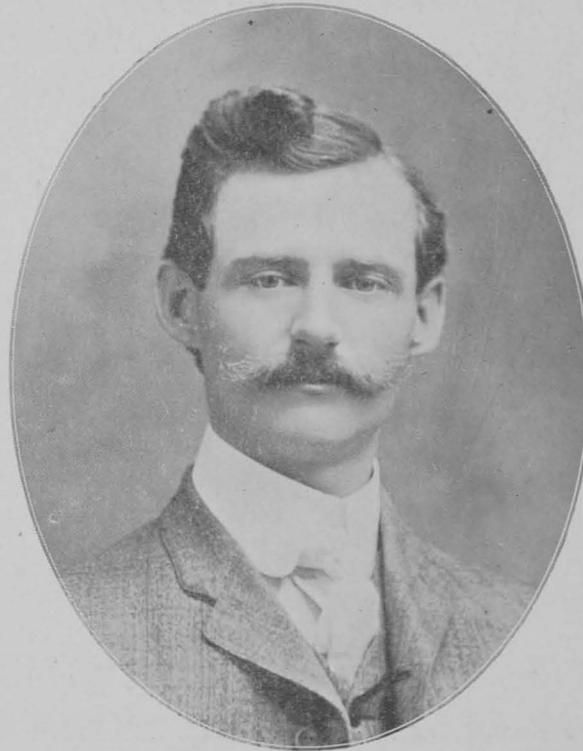


Come to Southwest Louisiana, the land of sunshine and flowers, the developing country, the country of great possibilities and golden opportunities where fortune and happiness await you.

Millions have been made by investors in Southwest Louisiana realty. The opportunities are presented to you today for handsome returns on small capital.

Properties listed in all parts of the United States and Mexico.

Property managed and looked after for non-residents. Insurance and taxes paid and rents collected.



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Large or Small Tracts of
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Improved and unimproved at money making figures.

If you have property for sale, list it with me and it will be sold.

If you want to buy, tell me your wants and they shall be filled at the least possible cost.

If you think you want a change, let me work while you think. I can sell your old and provide the new property at any time.

**Complete Information Regarding
Lands and Valuations for
the Asking.**

R. L. COLEMAN

Land Dealer and Agent

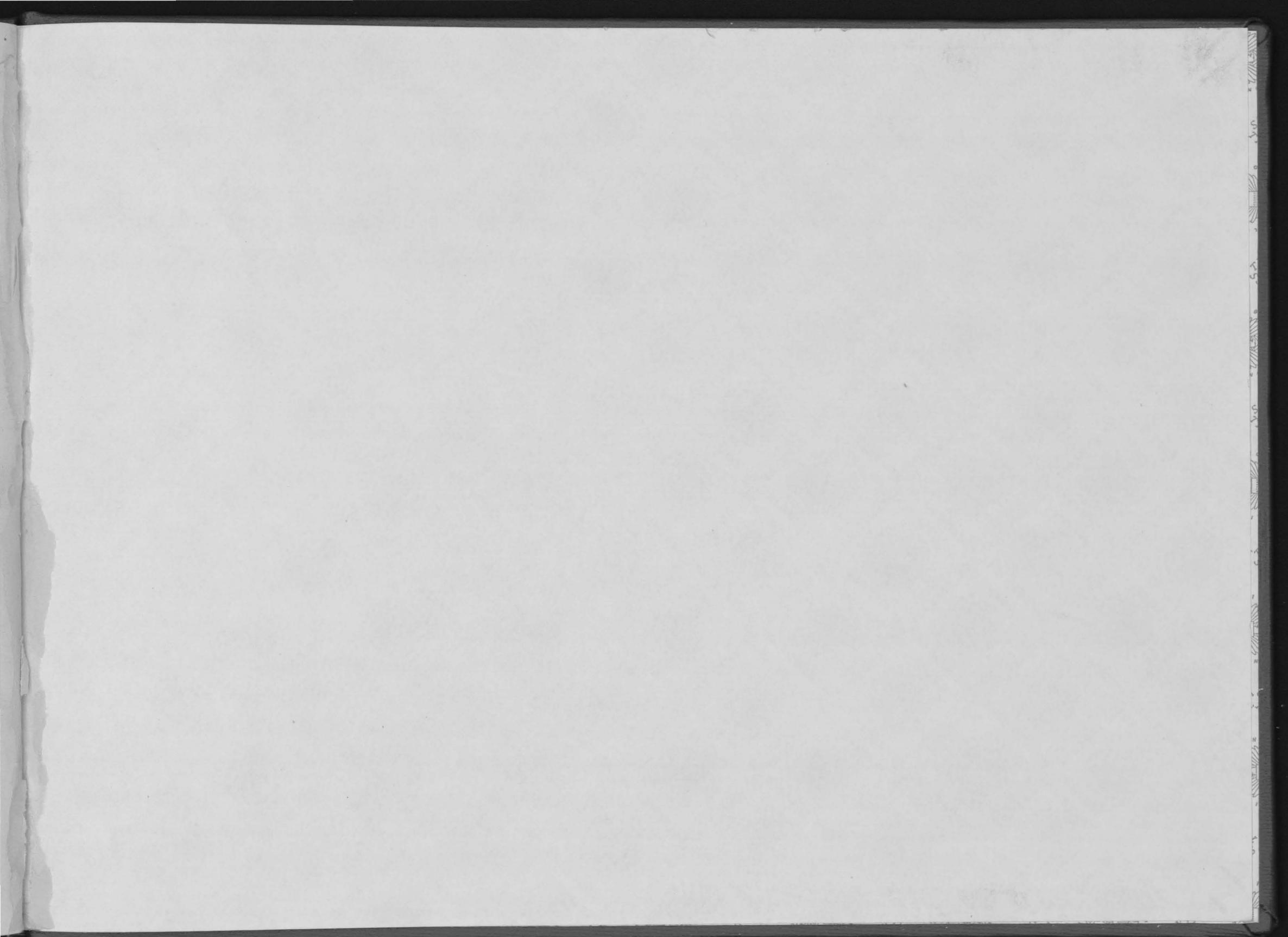
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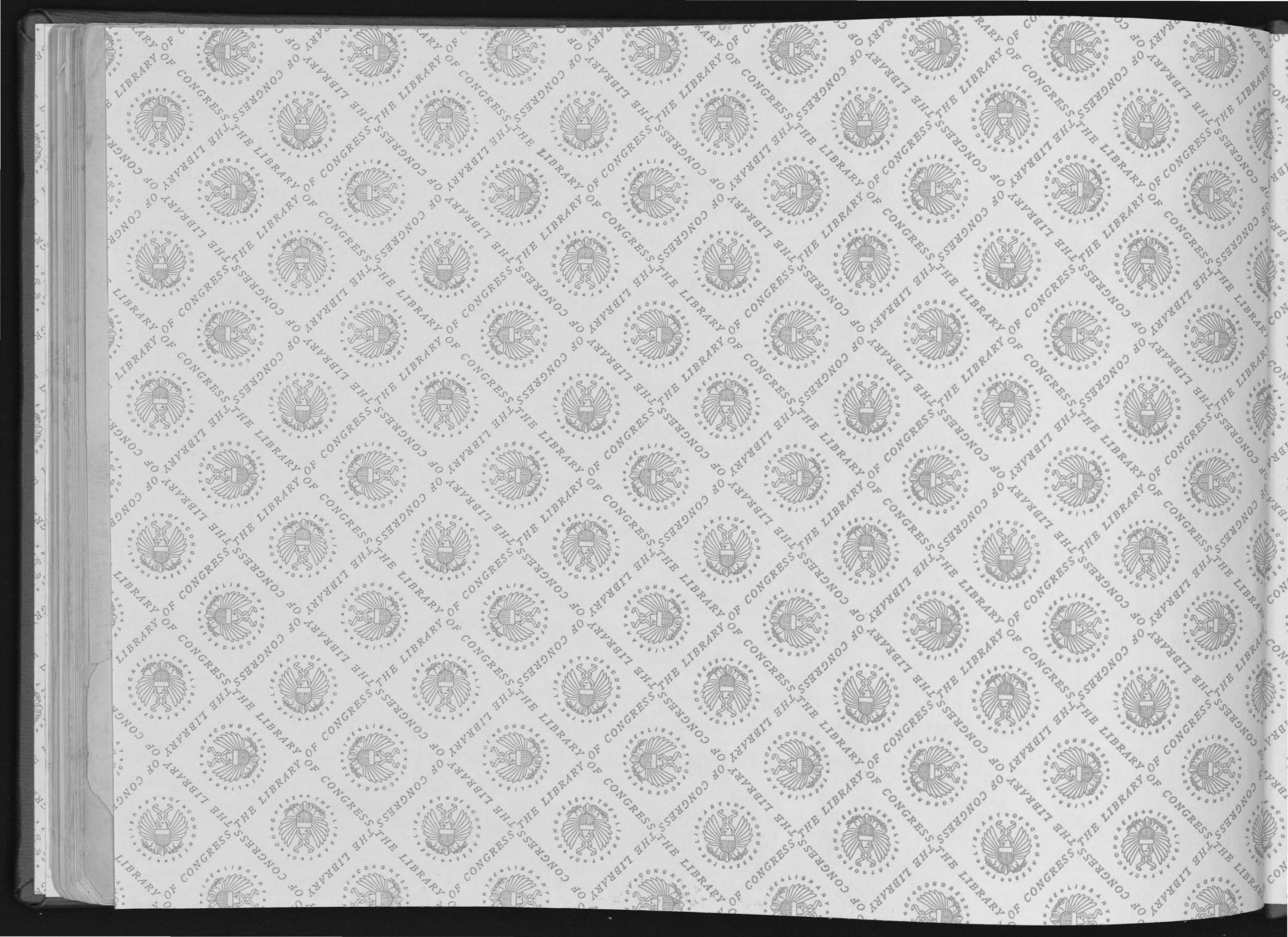
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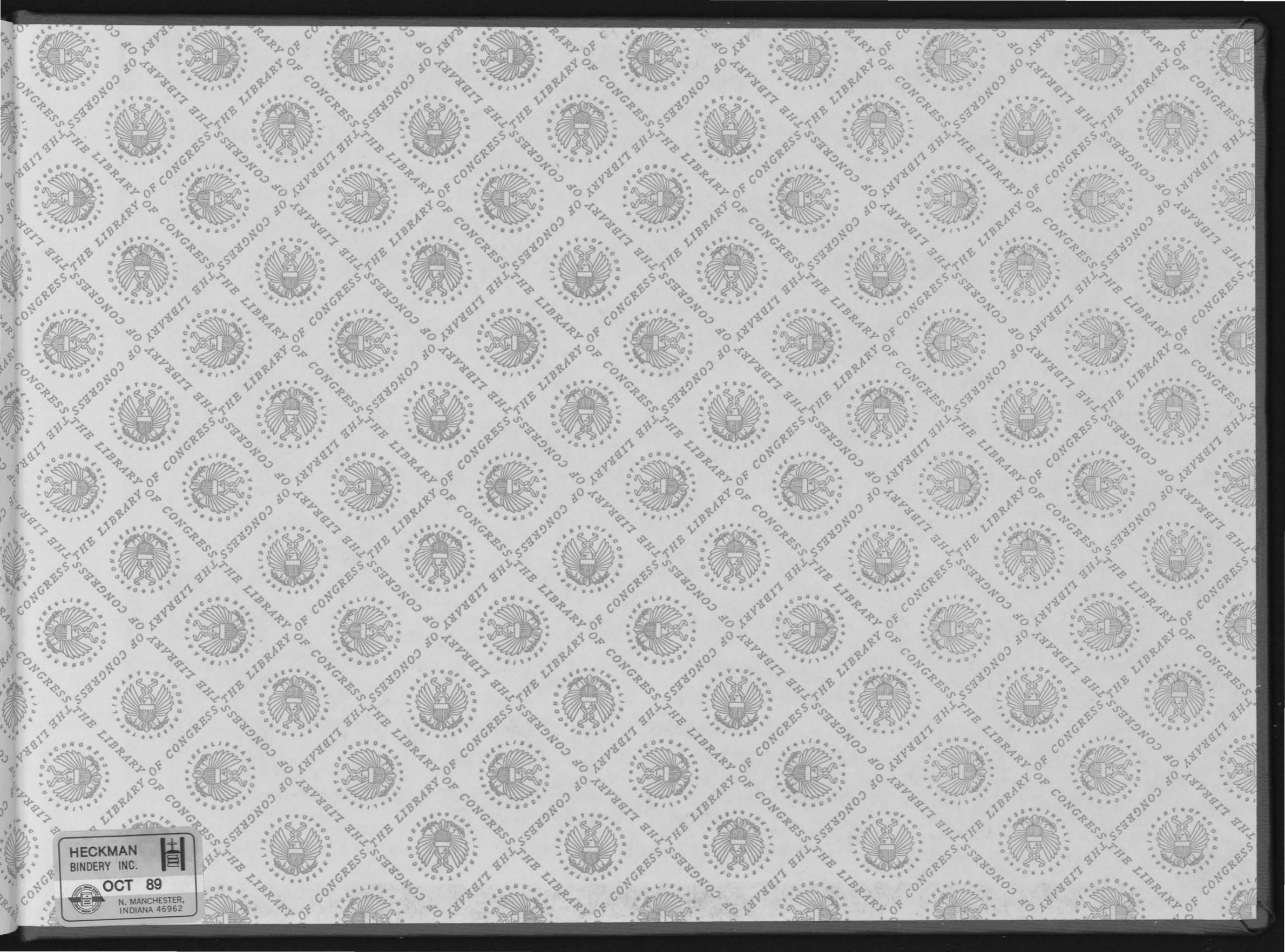
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