

TEA TIME TALK

(BY WILMA J. MARCH)

Last week I left my readers across the border of Texas in Louisiana, named after Louis the fourteenth of France. This State consists of 48,506 square miles and its popular names are "The Creole State" or "The Pelican State". Its inhabitants are called Creoles just as the residents of Michigan are called Wolverines or those of Indiana are called Hoosiers. The motto of the State is "Union, Justice and Confidence" and the State flower is the waxy magnolia. It was admitted into the Union in 1812. The first settlement was made at New Orleans in 1718 by the French. Louisiana rates as the third highest state coastline mileage. Florida leads with only a nine mile margin on California, the mainland of the latter being estimated at 1264. Louisiana has a coastal mileage of 1122 with an additional 591 miles of island coastline. Florida has as much island coastline as she has mainland coastline: 1273 miles.

Naturally with so much Gulf coast Louisiana has a sea level elevation in the southern portions, this reaching no higher than 400 feet in the northwestern section.

In 1803 the United States purchased from France the then city of New Orleans and the territory west of the Mississippi, extending to the eastern spurs of the Rocky mountains and to the British frontier on the north. The price paid for this land was \$15,000,000. The acquisition of this area more than doubled the area of United States as it was at the time of this purchase. When the state was admitted to the Union (1812) the population was 76,556, and it held 15th place in rank of the States as to population. From that time to the present it has fluctuated very little on the whole, holding places from 18th to 22nd.

Still this State has shown an ever increasing growth in population over the last century. New Orleans alone during that period has grown to almost five times its size. No doubt its location has been the paramount reason, it being called the Crescent City, from its position on a curve of the Mississippi.

The borders of Louisiana are watery except for the northern boundary line of Arkansas and a portion of the boundary of southwestern Mississippi. On the west the dividing line of Texas and Louisiana is the Sabine River flowing into Sabine Lake and the Gulf of Mexico. The southern boundary is, of course, the Gulf; the eastern boundary is the famous Mississippi. Little wonder that it is noted for its fishing and pleasure resorts. Then diagonally across the State from the northwestern corner to the very most southeasterly tip reaching into the Gulf, is the winding Red River. No doubt many of you know the song "Red River Valley", which was written of this beautiful rushing stream. Looking at a detailed map of Louisiana one sees that it is more than dotted with lakes of various sizes. Lake Pontchartrain outside of New Orleans is a vast body of water. In fact the whole course of the Red River is fed by a chain of lakes.

The average acreage per farm in Louisiana is 58 acres. The crops grown are mostly rice, corn, cotton, peanuts, cottonseed, hay, Irish and sweet potatoes. Those far in the lead of the ones mentioned are firstly cotton, which constitutes 44 per cent. of all the crops in the state, then corn and rice. Then in the animal industry Louisiana holds a fair place in all lines of this producing the average requirements of cattle, sheep, hogs, horses, mules, goats, poultry and eggs, also honey. Statistics for 1930 show Louisiana's mineral output at 63 millions, and her crude oil at 26 millions. Her output of hardwood, especially yellow pine is noteworthy too, but it is in the production of sugarcane that she leads the entire nation, with a 100% of the cane produced in the United States. New Orleans alone in that year manufactured \$150,000,000 of goods. Shreveport too, made a good showing with 23 millions, this hustling city is surely up and doing, giving one the impression that she holds her place in the world.

With the above data on the rating of the State in the nation, it may be more interesting to learn of Louisi-

ana's attitude in politics, her belief in building for the future and in doing her own thinking.

Now we are ready to talk in terms of government for the State of Louisiana, with its Capitol at Baton Rouge, which is one of the prettiest cities I've ever had the privilege of visiting. It is verily a city of lovely homes. The architecture is southern naturally, and many of the homes have the old adornment of iron grill work which, to my mind, is like rare old lace, grown more lovely with age. I should like to live for a time in one of those old French style homes with the long French doors, the shutters and the balconies adorned with its grillwork, patterned as delicately as the frosted patterns on a frozen window pane. It is a city of contrasts, the old and the new. Even its government and those representing the State have contrasting ideas. They possess the old pioneer spirit and also the modern progressive outlook, building for the future.

In the State legislature there are 39 Senators and 100 representatives each holding office for a term of four years. The Legislature meets biennial, for sixty days or less, each member receiving \$10 per day. The Governor holds office for four years and cannot succeed himself. The Supreme Court has seven judges elected for a term of 14 years at \$10,000 a year.

The State Capitol is located on the bank of the Mississippi river, about seventy miles northwest of New Orleans. The city occupies a picturesque site on the river bluff and receives additional charm from its sub-tropical foliage and trees, its spacious lawns and the grandeur of its buildings. Its imposing new Capitol building, dedicated in 1932, has a 33-storey tower. It is without equal in modern buildings of this type, and is a fitting monument to Louisiana's historic past and an inspiration for her future. The spirit of her progress is exemplified in the work of famous artists, sculptors and architects in making the building such a crowning spot of beauty. Both exterior and interior are the last degree of par-excellence in every manner. This building was built to give everlasting beauty for centuries to come. Beautiful murals and exquisite bronze work are everywhere in evidence, portraying the State's history and its progress through past centuries. The French, Indian, Spanish, the period of Confederacy and the United States are represented in the embellished designs within the halls and various rooms of the building. The fathers of the State, the leading politicians and warriors of the past history of the State are there too in all reality, with armour, steeds, artillery and soldiers in base relief. Even the prosperity of the State with its oil wells and construction activities are depicted; and too, the colored man with sickle in hand as a reaper of sugarcane, stands out as really attractive decorations. The walls of the reception rooms are tinted with murals of Louisiana's plantation life. The Senate Room, the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Supreme Court Room, the Circuit Court Room, and the Senator's lounge are elaborate to the degree of supreme luxury. The Memorial Hall on the first floor, with its exquisite marble, bronze work, its gleaming newness everywhere fairly takes one's breath. In the centre of the floor of this hall is a large inlaid map of Louisiana made of bronze, showing the various parishes. Bordering the map is a descriptive legend of the State's famous sons. The ceiling too, is beautiful beyond words with hand painted designs of the various seals of the countries which ruled it in the past. The light fixtures are magnificent, too intricate and gorgeous to describe.

The architectural design of the building is a work of art. It is what a true artist may call perfection. Nothing, absolutely nothing, has been left undone that could have made it more beautiful and perfect. But it is not overdone, which, of course, would be anything but perfection.

Let us pause for a moment, as if we were about to climb the steps leading to the entrance. We park our car on the broad avenue and ad-

mire the beautiful park beyond which faces the Capitol, which is known as The Jungle Gardens or Capitol Park. As we face the Capitol we hesitate before the first group of steps. These number thirteen in all and represent the thirteen original States. At the end of each name, one on each step, there is a circle composed of thirteen stars. Counting the District of Columbia the 48 States, with the thirteen deducted, there are left 36, which are broken into three groups of twelve steps each. The first step of the first group is Vermont which entered the Union in 1791. From there to the very top step, Arizona, 1912, each step bears the name of a state and the date of its entrance into the Union.

Over the elevator entrance in Memorial Hall is a bronze plaque of the late Huey P. Long presented by the United Confederate Veterans. It was during the administration of this national figure as Governor that the bonds were voted for the construction of the Capitol. He was a Senator when it was completed.

It happened to be the birthday of the late Huey P. Long, August 30, when I visited the Capital. It was Sunday evening and a beautiful one at that with a full moon gleaming down on a rain-drenched earth, making the park with its two hundred wreaths, glisten in its rays. I never saw so many flowers at once in all my life. Military guards stood at ease guiding the throngs of people who came to view the remains of a memorial service which had been held earlier in the day. One of the guards gave me a rose from one of the largest wreaths. In the centre of the park, with its many winding walks and sub-tropical foliage, was flanked dozens of baskets and wreaths of every shape and hue. Beneath the large cement formation, which really looked just like a rectangular step about eight by ten feet, lay in state, the body of the late Senator. It was the first birthday of his which had come since his death last year. As it was Sunday there was to be a partial holiday on Monday, with a big parade and some of the city's commercial houses were to be closed in his honor.

At the last session of the Legislature a constitutional amendment was proposed declaring the late Senator's birthday a legal holiday. The measure to become effective must be ratified by the electorate in the November election. During the memorial service the local Post stood at attention and saluted as the commander said "In death, as in life, we salute you". Taps were then sounded by two buglers. The City and State at large honored the 43rd birthday of the late Huey P. Long. There was one minute of silence at noon. The service was conducted by the H. P. Long Post of the veterans of For-

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eign Wars made up of ex-service men. "This marks the resting place of a true comrade, a red-blooded fighting man and a noble man who left a work well done." Those words tell the story of how this State honored the Governor and Senator, who was ever loyal to his State.

As many people at a distance, through the press, form opinions of people, I too felt that the late Huey P. Long was a very radical man, one who was too radical to be nationally progressive. I felt too that to be murdered as he was there must be much reason. But my visit to his home State and his home town, and seeing and hearing the manner in which the people spoke of him, I felt that he must have been a great man in many ways. Beyond all question he was loyalty itself to his own State. He was a fighter when it came to getting things for that State. For centuries to come the magnificent bridges he built will be a reminder of that loyalty. Many politicians are not so popular in their home district as elsewhere. Not so with Mr. Long. It was at home that he shone. Perhaps he did like the limelight, but perhaps that was his way of getting what he wanted for his people. I believe I became less subject to criticism of the big man in politics, no matter what his politics are, after visiting the Capitol and the grave of Louisiana's late Senator.

The most magnificent bridge I ever saw is the one spanning the Mississippi near New Orleans. There as we ascended the long driveway leading to the top a train was puffing its way across the top, beneath boats of various natures were tugging along and overhead an airplane droned its course across the sky.

There at one moment was evidence of mankind's achievements in the line of transportation.

So to me my visit to Louisiana was most interesting. That southern State is partly kin to our Acadians of Nova Scotia, though the story of Evangeline, with its heart-breaking rifts in the family circles, are nothing for us to be happy about.

TEMPLE HILL

Anniversary services will be held in the Church here on Sunday, Oct. 11th, at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. The music for the evening service will be furnished by the Massie choir. Rev. D. D. McLaughlan will be the special speaker.

The Y.P.S. will hold a welner roast in the basement of the Church on Tuesday evening, Oct. 13th. A good program is being prepared.

The choir motored to Knox, St. Vincent, Church on Sunday evening and assisted with the anniversary services there.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Erskine and daughter, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Erskine of Riverdale, spent Sunday with Meaford friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Gardner and family of Meaford and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Perrin of Ravenna were weekend visitors with Mr. and Mrs. E. Gardner.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Mills and family attended anniversary services at Harkaway on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Sewell were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. A. Sewell.

Our teacher and pupils attended the school fair at Rocklyn on Monday, carrying off a number of prizes.

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New Government Regulations ON GRADING OF BUTTER

To avoid friction between the Creamery and the Producer over the grade of cream, we are outlining here the New Government regulations, which will no doubt call for closer grading of cream. The new regulations call for the Grade of the Butter to be stamped on the pound prints designating the Grade of the Butter that is in the wrapper. This will, no doubt, have an effect on the sale of Second Grade Butter. This is why we are strongly asking for your co-operation. We will outline a few points for the producers to follow which will, we think, help make the required quality of butter.

1. In feeding your milch cows always feed after milking.
2. Clean flanks and udders and milk with dry, clean hands.
3. Get milk out of the stable as soon as possible after milking.
4. Strain milk thoroughly through a new filter pad and cool cream immediately after separating.
5. For washing your utensils and separator use a brush with hot water instead of cloth.
6. Make sure the separator is washed after each time it is used.
7. Market your cream often, not allowing it to get stale.

FOLLOW THE ABOVE RULES AND WE FEEL SURE THAT YOU WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN PRODUCING GOOD CREAM FOR US TO MAKE GOOD BUTTER.

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