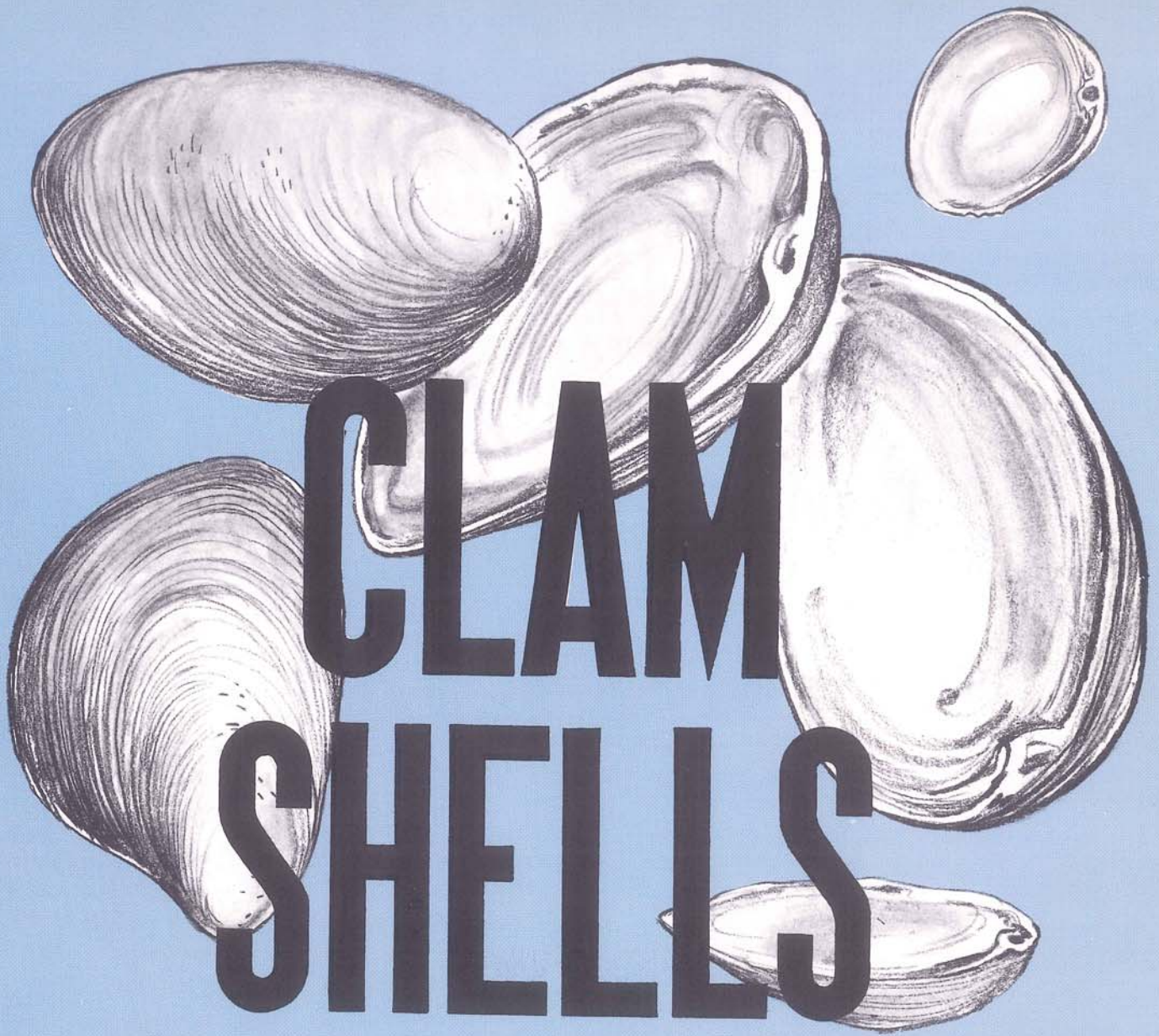


Jefferson Parish





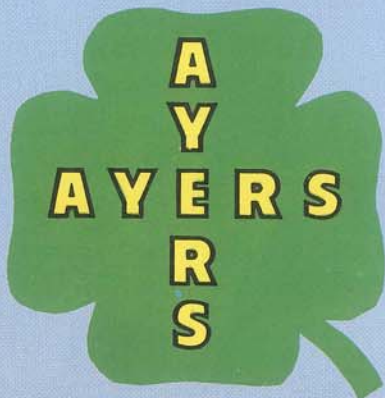
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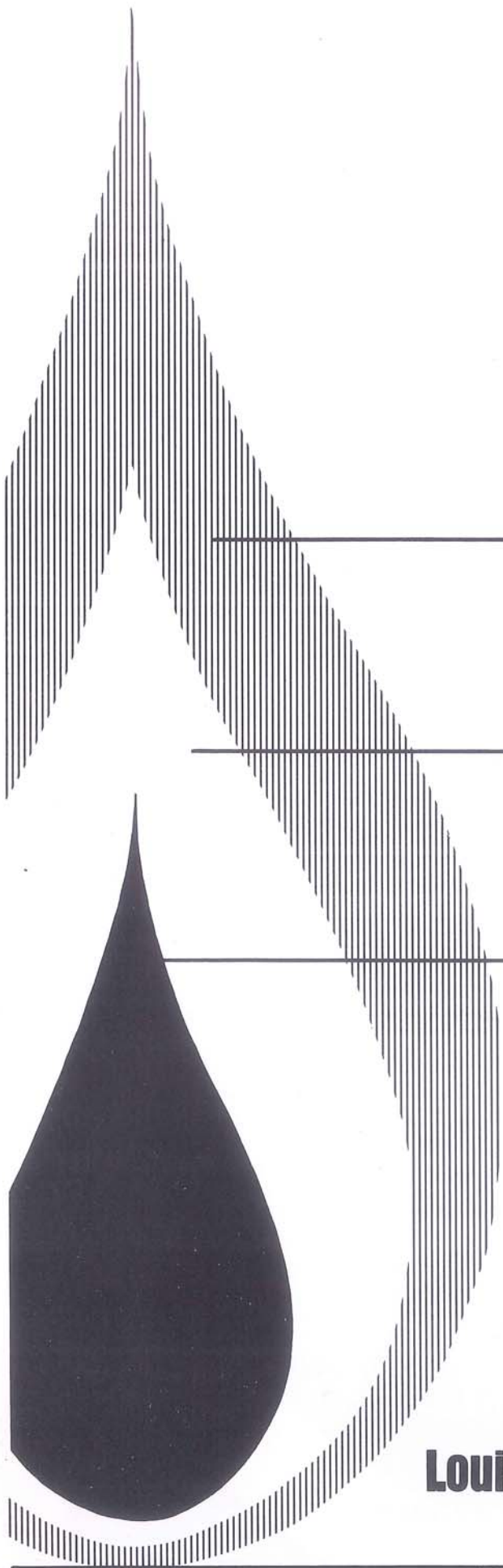
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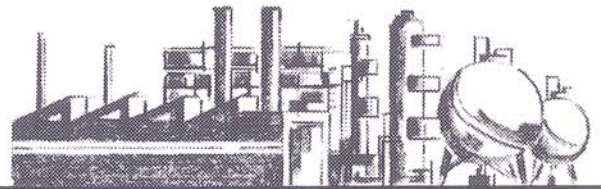
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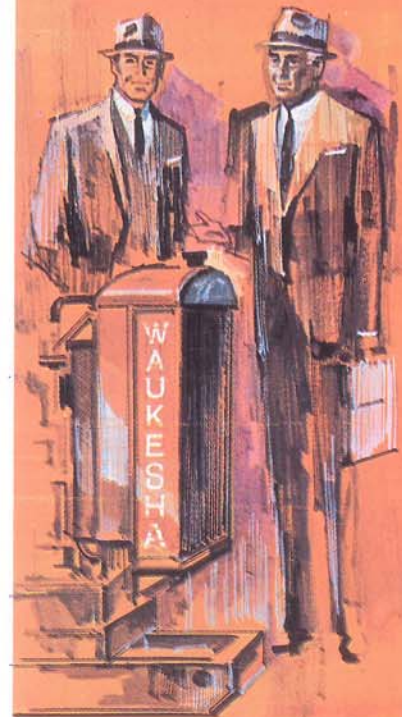


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Welcome to Jefferson —the NOW parish in Louisiana.

Jefferson has doubled its population in only ten years to become the fastest growing, most progressive parish in the state.

Today, our 355,000 people represent one third of the greater New Orleans metropolitan area population.

Residential and industrial growth, since 1964, has exceeded that of any county or parish of comparable size in the south.

Jefferson's appeal to the new homeowner is rivalled by its proven industrial advantages.

Four of the largest manufacturing plants of their kind in the world are part of Jefferson's industrial community. One industry alone employs 9000 people and has a \$60 million annual payroll—largest in the state.

Jefferson is a parish continually on the move. Providing the momentum is the sound master planning and the vigorous, progressive leadership of the president-council team which has brought unparalleled political stability and maturity to the parish.

Jefferson is a community of young people (average age is 26) with the highest family income and educational level in the state.

And as if these attractions are not enough, Jefferson is a genuine sportsmen's paradise. Its marshes, lakes and wooded areas abound with game, fowl and fish.

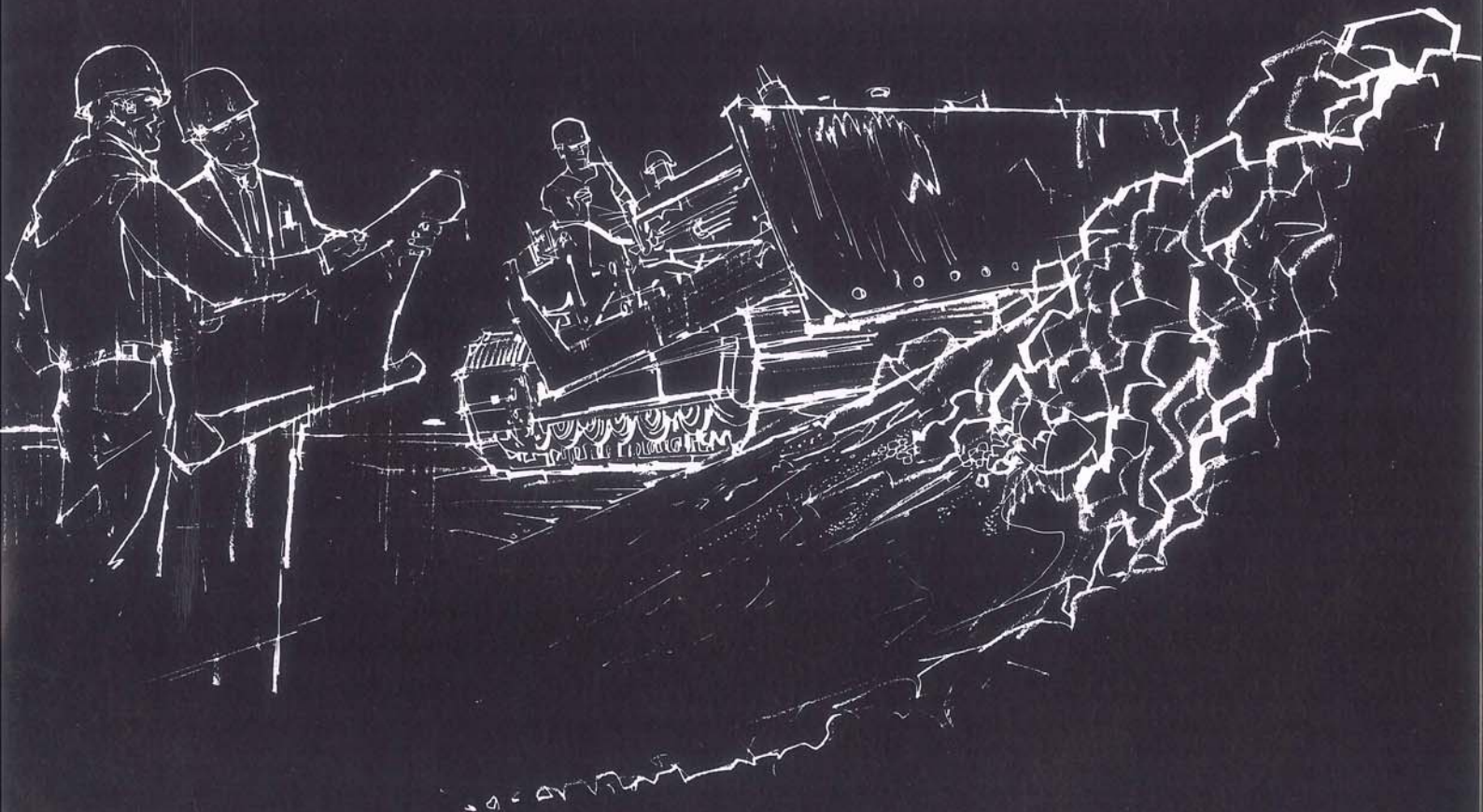
Whether you come to sample our hospitality or take full advantage of it by settling in Jefferson, you're most welcome here.

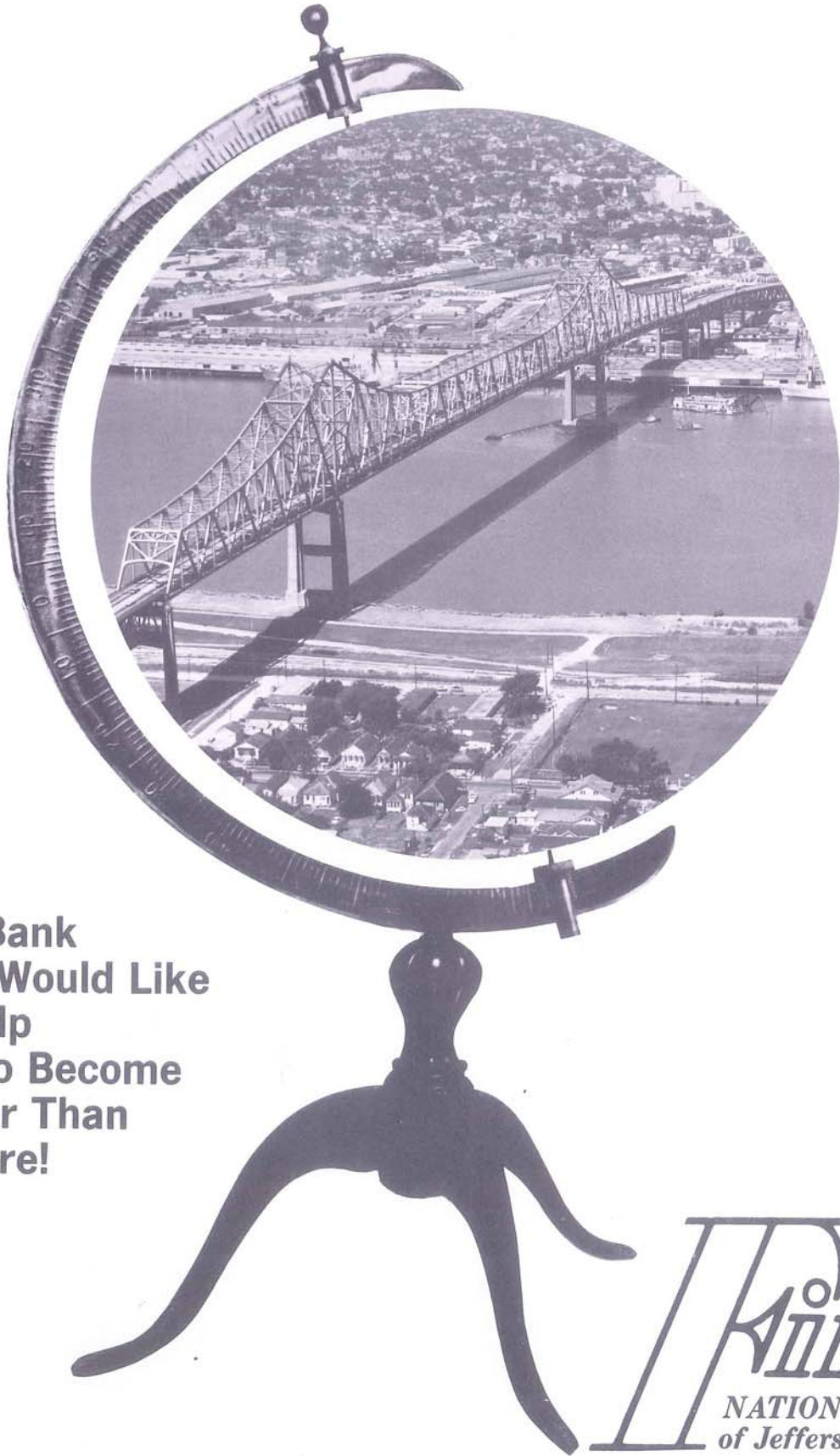
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Cordially,

Thomas F. Donelon

THOMAS F. DONELON
Parish President





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A Brief History

By Richard A. Cousins

Jefferson Parish is located in southeastern Louisiana. It extends from Lake Pontchartrain to the Gulf of Mexico, and touches the parishes of Orleans and Plaquemines on the east, and St. Charles and Lafourche on the west. The Mississippi River divides the parish into two sections, the east bank, between the river and the lake, and the west bank, from the river and the gulf. Jefferson was legally established in 1825, created out of the Parish of Orleans and named for the then living third President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson.

Jefferson's 32,000 acres on the east bank include unincorporated areas plus the towns of Harahan and Kenner. Gretna, Westwego, Grand Isle and vast unincorporated areas are located in West Jefferson which has half the population of East Jefferson but twice the land area.

Two free bridges connect the east and west banks—the \$13 million Huey P. Long bridge, completed in 1935 and the \$100 million Mississippi River Bridge between Gretna and New Orleans which opened in 1958. The \$50 million Lake Pontchartrain Causeway (opened in 1956) is the longest (24 mile) bridge in the world. A second span, paralleling it, will be completed in mid-1969.

The history of Jefferson Parish began nearly three hundred years ago on April 9, 1682. For two months, Robert Cavelier de la Salle had been struggling with the dangerous and uncharted currents of the Mississippi River, intent on traversing the entire course of the mighty river from source to mouth. Indians, famine and sickness had pursued his little band. Now at last, he had come to the end of his voyage, where the river merged into the Gulf, "limitless, voiceless and lonely, without a sign of life". There he erected a cross and buried a leaden plate, claiming, in the name of Louis the Grand, King of France, all the country drained by the Mississippi from the headwaters in Illinois to the Gulf of Mexico. La Salle was killed five years later, by one of his own men, but he left as a heritage the French claims to the colony of Louisiana. Others followed the trails he had blazed. Bienville, Iberville, and St. Denis explored the rivers seeking places for trading posts. Biloxi was settled by Bienville in 1699, Natchitoches by St. Denis in 1714. New Orleans was established by Bienville in 1718, and in 1723 became the capital of Louisiana. France lost Louisiana to Spain in 1763. In 1800, by a secret treaty, Spain gave Louisiana back to France, and 1803 Napoleon sold it to the United States for \$15 million.

Orleans, the first of twelve counties created after the Louisiana Purchase, comprised all that portion of Louisiana lying on both sides of the Mississippi River

Continued on Page 76

Jefferson Parish

1968 YEARLY REVIEW

Published with the approval and cooperation of the President and Council of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana.

Thomas F. Donelon Parish President
Charles J. Eagan, Jr. Council Chairman (at Large)
Jacob H. Sciambra Council Vice-Chairman (East Bank)
Harold L. Molaison West Bank Councilman
Beauregard H. Miller, Jr. First District Councilman
Charles M. Miller Second District Councilman
George J. Ackel Third District Councilman
Anton Pilney Fourth District Councilman

Parish Publications, Inc.
Publishers

Richard A. Cousins
Editor

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Features: Welcome to Jefferson, 5; A Brief History, 7; Parish Officials, 53; Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, 75; Directory of Officials, 84.

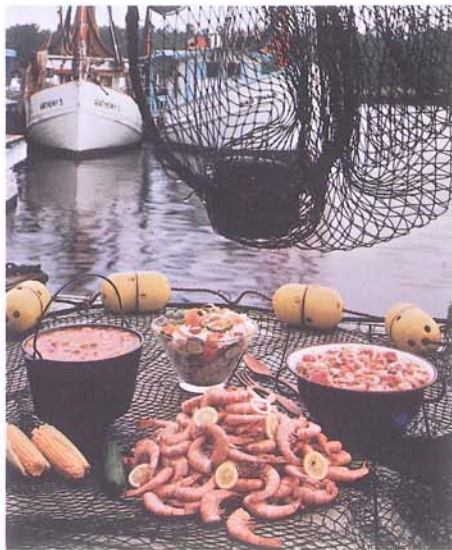
Our sincere thanks to the writers, photographers, artists, engravers, printers and all those many people both inside and outside the parish who provided information and assistance during the long months of preparation of this Yearly Review.

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**GROWING
GROWING
GROWN**



Parish government is big business.

And, like big business, it must have strong, positive leadership if it is to grow and succeed.

An outstanding example of this growth and progress is Jefferson Parish, which has doubled its population in ten years to become the second largest parish in the state. And population is the yardstick of growth. Of course, Jefferson's transformation from a quiet suburban community of 180,000 people to a booming, increasingly urban area of 355,000 is the result of many contributing factors.

However, the parish governing authority, led by its President-Council, has shown the way. Their strong leadership, mature judgment and vigorous implementation of sound master planning for systematic growth have provided the blueprint for progress in Jefferson Parish. Parish leaders have planned this steady growth as a gradual maturing process through which Jefferson is making an ever increasing contribution to the economy of the greater New Orleans area.

Of particular significance has been the many new businesses and industries which Jefferson has attracted to bolster its economy, already built on a stable base.

This is shown in the value of new construction for 1968 which topped \$150 million—a record high.

It is reflected in Jefferson's \$80.8 million in manufacturing gain for 1968—fifth highest among the state's 64 parishes.

Jefferson's Avondale Shipyards with 9,000 employees has the largest private industry payroll (\$60 million) in the state.

It added 2,000 employees and did \$220 million of shipbuilding in 1968 (up from \$173 million in 67).

In the past two years, \$32 million has been spent on expansion at Avondale. Acreage was doubled from 70 to 140 acres and the latest shipbuilding equipment acquired.

Jefferson Parish has been called the heart of America's "Little Ruhr Valley" because it is the most concentrated, fastest developing industrial area in the South. Its 27 miles of riverfront and the vital Harvey Canal have attracted more than 250 diversified manufacturing operations.

West Jefferson alone houses four of the largest manufacturing plants of their kind in the world: • Celotex Corporation, Marrero, insulation board manufacturer using bagasse as a principal raw material. • Hunt-Wesson Foods, Inc., Gretna, cottonseed oil products. • Penick and Ford Ltd., Harvey, packager of cane syrup and molasses. • Southern Shell Fish Co., Harvey, shrimp canner.

The Harvey Canal, which connects the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico, is a vital part of the nation's busy Intracoastal Waterway, 1900 miles of navigable inland waterways.

The Intracoastal is Jefferson's prime East-West inland channel for waterborne traffic. More than 50 million tons of commodities move along the great Intracoastal from West Jefferson at the Mississippi to the Sabine River at the Louisiana-Texas border.

The Barataria Bay Waterway, completed six years ago, is Jefferson's principal North-South artery and a shorter route to the Gulf.

The growth of the parish waterways has developed along with industry and commerce and is a prime factor in Jefferson's diversified transportation system, which brings in raw materials and moves out finished products by rail, road and air.



Within its 426 square miles, Jefferson enjoys an abundance of natural resources such as water, oil, natural gas and rich soil. Helping to attract new industry is availability of land for future plant expansion, high educational and family income level and accessibility.

Jefferson's attraction to industry is complemented by its unlimited hunting, fishing and boating resources which make it truly a Sportsman's Paradise.

Jefferson's relationship of land, water and marshy areas for recreational purposes is superior to any in Louisiana and perhaps in the world. The oldest and biggest fishing contest in the United States is held in historic Grand Isle, near the Gulf of Mexico.

Now international, the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo is a weekend of fishing and fun which attracts hundreds of fishermen each July from virtually every state and many foreign countries.

Grand Isle is a fascinating year 'round vacation resort and is rated one of the top 10 fishing spots in the world.

The island offers the state's only salt-water sandy coastline—eight miles long—plus unparalleled deep sea fishing and many bayous, bays and reefs for small boats for several major oil company offshore drilling operations.

And within seven miles of Grand Isle, in the Gulf, are the world's only two offshore sulphur mines operated by Freeport Sulphur Company, the world's largest sulphur producer.

Several major oil company offshore drilling operations are also headquartered here.

Jefferson's supply of oil, discovered in 1935, is apparently inexhaustible.

Today one of every ten Jeffersonians is employed directly or indirectly by the oil and gas industry or manufacturers they supply with raw material.

Jefferson is one of five parishes whose combined crude oil production represents 70 per cent of the state total.

The first major industry of the parish—commercial fishing—still flourishes and is a boon to the economy.

Fishing was so good in Jefferson, even in primitive times, that Indian tribes found the area a "happy hunting ground." The present-day Metairie Road is a winding reminder of the trail used for centuries by the roaming tribes along the ridge of high ground between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain.

The President and Council of Jefferson Parish

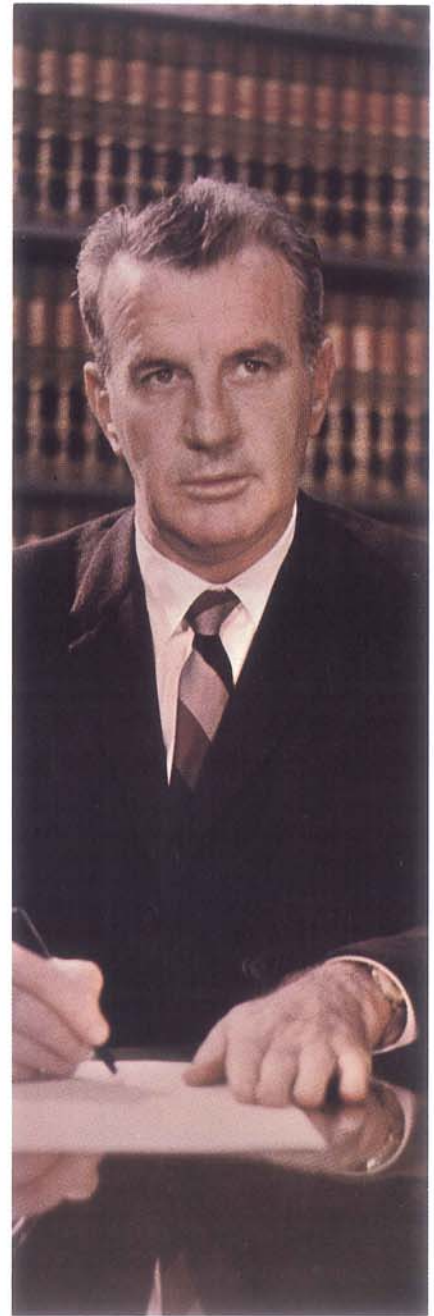


Thomas F. Donelon, Parish President, was elected to two terms as mayor of Harahan and served as Parish Safety Director for two years.

Mr. Donelon graduated from Jesuit High (1938), LSU (1942); and acquired 30 hours credit in English and History at the University of Glasgow, Scotland.

He was an infantry captain in Europe through five campaigns during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Presidential Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster. He was discharged in January, 1946, and moved to Harahan to begin 14 years with Swift and Co.

He is a member of the Lions Club, VFW, Knights of Columbus and Colonial Golf and Country Club.



Charles J. Eagan, Jr., Council Chairman, is an insurance executive and a chartered life underwriter with Eagan Insurance Agency, Inc.

A 1940 Business Administration graduate of Tulane, and a Navy veteran, Mr. Eagan is a member of the YMBC, Jaycees, Audubon and Covington Country Clubs, and was former president of the N.O. Chapter of Chartered Life Underwriters and Louisiana Insurers Conference.

He and his wife have served as chair couple of the Archdiocesan executive board of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

Mr. Eagan has also served as treasurer of Kingsley House.



Jacob H. Sciambra, East Bank Councilman-at-Large, is an attorney and holds degrees in accounting and law from Loyola University.

A former assistant parish attorney, he is currently serving as president of the Jefferson Parish Bar Association, and a member of the Louisiana Bar Association.

A resident of Jefferson since 1950, Mr. Sciambra holds memberships in the Bridge Acre Lions Club, American Legion, Jefferson YMBC, Jefferson Businessmen's Organization, Colonial Golf and Country Club and the Knights of Columbus.



Attorney Harold L. Molaison, West Bank Councilman-at-Large, is now serving his second term.

A 1931 graduate of Gretna High, he earned a B.A. degree from Louisiana State University in 1936 and a law degree from Loyola in 1948.

Mr. Molaison was a captain in the Military Police Corps for four years during World War II and also attended the Army Administration and Provost Marshal Schools.

He holds memberships in the West Bank Lions Club, American Legion, Louisiana State Bar Association and the Jefferson Bar Association, which he served as past president.



Beauregard H. Miller, Jr., First District Councilman, is serving his third term and is the only remaining member of the original President-Council team elected in 1958. Miller won election in 1956 to the commission council which never took office.

A real estate investor with various other business interests, he was educated in Jefferson and attended Louisiana State University before serving in the Navy.

A native of Gretna, Mr. Miller is a member of the American Legion, VFW, Jefferson Sportsman's Club, Lions Club and the Gould Volunteer Fire Company.



Charles M. "Chuck" Miller, Second District Councilman for the West Bank, is a real estate broker with various other business interests including A & M Pest Control. He is a former aide to the District Attorney, and a former Jefferson Parish School Board member.

A World War II veteran and a Warren Easton High School graduate, he attended Tulane University and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute. Member of the board of directors of the Community Welfare Council of Jefferson and the Poseidon Carnival Club, he is 1969 Commodore of the Lafitte Yacht Club. He holds membership in the American Legion, VFW, Amvets, Loyola Order of Moose, Westwego Lions Club, Barataria Blvd. Civic Club, PARD Boosters Club. YMBC of Jefferson.



Third District Councilman for the East Bank, George J. Ackel, is now serving his second term. Ackel is branch manager for Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada covering Louisiana, Southern Mississippi and Southern Alabama.

He is a director of the Metropolitan Bank of Jefferson, former Vice President of the Kenner Rotary Club, past president and an organizer of the Harahan Rotary Club. He is a member of the Jefferson YMBC. East Jefferson Chamber of Commerce, VFW, Colonial Golf and Country Club, Tulane Univ. Development Program, Life Underwriters and Life Managers' associations and the Million Dollar Round Table.



Anton Pilney, Fourth District Councilman for the East Bank is Sales Manager for Orkin Exterminating Co.

He lettered three years in football at Notre Dame University and was head football coach at Tulane. He holds a B.A. degree from Notre Dame and also attended DePaul University.

Mr. Pilney holds memberships in the Jefferson YMBC, VFW Post No. 175, N. O. Traffic Club, Veterans Highway Businessmen's Association, Metairie Country Club and the Advisory Board of Community Welfare Council of Jefferson. He retains an active interest in sports as an amateur golfer.



Recent archeological diggings have indicated a highly advanced Indian culture existed in this area. One of the largest mounds of ancient artifacts had been found at what is today the subdivision along Beverly Gardens Drive in Metairie, between Veterans Blvd. and the Lake. This ground, said to be the highest elevation in the parish, served as a high, dry place for tribal ceremonial meetings and was at the same time close to the bountiful fishing in Lake Pontchartrain.

Today, commercial fishing is headquartered at Barataria Bay, near Grand Terre island on the Gulf, where pirate Jean Lafitte and his colorful band of 5,000 smugglers and privateers plied their trade before Jefferson became a parish.

The first smugglers convention was held at Grand Terre in 1805 shortly after Jean and Pierre Lafitte arrived in New Orleans with a shipload of contraband and 12,600 English pounds.

These "credentials" helped Jean Lafitte become the leader and organizing genius of the pirate band which included Louis (Nez Coupe) Chighizola.

Five years later, Grand Terre held forty warehouses, slave pens, dwellings, a hospital and a fort.

The warehouses bulged with millions of dollars of plunder from Spanish and English merchant ships and slave traders, captured in the Caribbean and the Gulf.

The contraband was transported to eager black market agents in New Orleans by pirogue through the labyrinth of bayous, bays, and lakes between Grand Isle and Jefferson's West Bank of the Mississippi.

Lafitte's transformation from pirate to patriot began in September, 1814 when he rejected a British bribe to guide their army through Barataria for an invasion of New Orleans.

Instead, Lafitte's "hellish bandits" (as the British called them) and their munitions helped Stonewall Jackson's pitifully small army win the Battle of New Orleans.

Today, Lafitte State Park is being planned as a unique and picturesque recreational area and tourist attraction in tribute to the famed pirate-patriot.

Jefferson today is just as interested in trade, shipping and tourism as is the port city of New Orleans.

However its primary concern is to implement its master plans which anticipate growth needs for the next 30 years for water, drainage and



Reddy Kilowatt, joined by LP&L and Jefferson Parish officials, sets off a dynamite charge initiating construction of LP&L's \$51-million expansion project at Ninemile Point steam-electric generating station near Westwego. Pictured from left to right are: Charles M. Miller and Harold L. Molaison, Jefferson Parish Councilmen; Tom F. Donelon, Parish President; Reddy Kilowatt; Nat B. Knight, Louisiana Public Service Commissioner; G. C. Rawls, LP&L Chairman of the Board; and Ernest J. Tassin, Mayor of Westwego.

\$51-Million Milestone At Ninemile Point

Ground has been broken. Work has started. And in 1971, a new 750,000-kilowatt generating unit goes into operation at Ninemile Point, more than tripling the plant's generating capacity.

With construction like this, Jefferson Parish remains assured of an ample, dependable supply of low-cost electricity. This means a lot to all of us who live and work here. It helps attract new industry to our area, too.

LP&L's \$51-million expansion program at Ninemile Point—an important milestone in the history of Jefferson Parish.



flood protection, sewerage and garbage disposal, streets, recreational and health facilities and similar services.

Parish leaders feel that 1968 was a very good year for Jefferson although there was one major disappointment—the defeat of nearly \$100 million in parish bond issue proposals for vitally needed capital improvements. Included among these was \$28 million for the first parish-wide drainage bond issue improvements program.

All are expected to be presented to voters again in smaller groupings. Biggest boon for Jefferson during the year was the approval by the federal government of the Interstate Highway outer loop, known as the “Dixie Freeway”. When this outer loop becomes a reality, it will relieve the badly congested Interstate system through the heart of New Orleans and will open new routes for traffic and spur added development in West Jefferson.

The water department during 1968 completed more than 20 miles of new water mains up to 42 inches in diameter to expand its distribution system, at a cost of over \$4 million, and the east Jefferson waterworks has been expanded to nearly double its previous capacity of 36 million gallons per day, at a cost of more than \$4 million.

Another 14 miles of main lines are soon to be completed at a cost of \$2,307,000 on the East Bank and 56 miles of distribution lines in the 3400-Acre Tract will be completed by June at a cost of \$1,625,000.

Initial phases in the implementation of a master water plan for the West Bank have also gotten under way with completion of a \$522,877 contract to lay large main lines between Peters rd. and Belle Chasse hwy. in Harvey and the area south of Gretna.

Paving of about 50 miles of streets in the 3400-acre tract is about 63 per cent complete and some residential construction has started in the large East Bank area.

The \$12 million asphalt bond issue program for the East and West Banks, under which shell streets are to be hard surfaced, is now about 55 per cent completed, and construction on the two north lanes of Lapalco blvd. from Belle Chasse hwy. to Peters rd. is also about 55 per cent complete. Work has started to extend Gretna blvd. from the Gretna line to Manhattan ave. in Harvey, and on three other major streets, Wall blvd., Holmes blvd. and Carol Sue Ave., all in the vicinity of Terrytown, to provide much needed traffic movement routes.

On the East Bank, completion of West Metairie Ave. as a four-lane roadway from Williams blvd. to Causeway blvd. has increased the traffic handling capability of the road system, and construction of David dr. into a four-lane thoroughfare is about 80 per cent complete. Veterans Memorial Blvd., was overlaid its entire length from the New Orleans line to Kenner during 1968, and turn and storage lanes were added.

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Veterans Memorial Blvd., was overlaid its entire length from the New Orleans line to Kenner during 1968, and turn and storage lanes were added.

Installation of 60 miles of sewer lines on the East Bank, plus construction of 39 lift stations and a sewage treatment plant. The project, to serve the 3400-acre Tract, is now about 96 per cent complete. Sewer lines are also being installed on 11 miscellaneous streets on the East Bank, consisting of 15 miles of new lines.

Plans are under way to install sewer systems in the Bridgedale and the old Shrewsbury subdivisions. A treatment plant and force main sewer system was installed in the Meadowbrook area south of Gretna, and other sewerage improvements have been completed or are planned above Westwego.

Drainage improvements include complete replacement of the old pumping station No. 2 in Metairie with a \$2.3 million facility now under construction; additions to pumping station no. 3 costing \$560,000; and additions to pumping station no. 6 to serve the seventh and eighth wards, now about 50 per cent complete.

On the West Bank six new diesel pumps are being installed at the Bayou Segnette pumping station at Westwego; new pumps to triple the capacity of the Westwego pumping station are being installed; and a temporary, small pumping station is being built near the St. Charles Parish line to slowly lower the water table in Drainage District no. 7. Plans are complete for a new pumping station on Cousins Canal in Harvey.

The year 1968 marked the first "appreciable" progress in recreation for the West Bank, with the beginning of the \$500,000 development of the Terrytown playground, and approval of a bond issue to develop the Rosethorne Park in the Lafitte area, both financed by local area bond issues. The only other recreation programs in the West Bank's unincorporated area are widely scattered, locally supported programs such as the PARD program in Marrero.

Fire protection facilities on the East Bank were expanded with the addition of two new fire stations, one on North Causeway at Melville Dewey st., and one in the Camp Plauche area. A new snorkel fire truck is stationed at the Causeway blvd. station.

Locations for at least five West Bank fire stations are being sought to augment the ten volunteer fire stations which serve West Jefferson's unincorporated areas.

Further progress reports and proof that Jefferson is the fastest growing, most progressive parish in the state can be found on every page of this annual review.

The Clerk of Court



Thirty years ago when Jefferson Parish shared a judge and a district attorney with two other parishes, only a handful of people staffed the Clerk of Court's office.

Now, with ten judges and a district attorney's office with nine assistant attorneys, the volume of services provided by the Clerk of Court has greatly increased.

To Clerk of Court William J. "Bill" Justice, Jr. re-elected this year to his fourth consecutive term, volume is important.

Dating back to 1845, his is the only parochial office which receives no tax revenues, depending entirely on fees received for its services, and these services are many and diverse.

The Clerk (of the District Court) is a court officer, a jury commission member, notary public, recorder of mortgages and conveyances (sales), adoptions, etc. He is custodian of voting machines, instructs poll commissioners, clerks and custodians, supervises absentee voting, election night vote tabulations, etc.

And as if these duties weren't enough, Bill Justice was busy this summer moving his own office and the civil and criminal court section into the first floor of the new two-story courthouse annex.

Six new district courtrooms occupy the second floor while Justice shares space on the first floor with the district attorney and the juvenile court.

Duties of the judicial section include receiving and filing of civil and criminal suits and successions, their assignment for judicial action, recording alimony decisions, adoptions and juvenile

records, drawing of about 2500 grand and petit jurors annually for criminal and civil cases, selecting and assigning minute clerks, providing administrative services for all courts and filing court evidence.

Evidence of civil suits is microfilmed, then filed in locked vaults until the cases are tried. A separate section handles criminal records which include misdemeanor and traffic violations.

Jefferson, which averages six elections a year, keeps both the clerk of court and his election supervisor and voting machine administrator busy.

Absentee voting is held at three locations, starting 20 days before and ending 7 days prior to primaries and general elections.

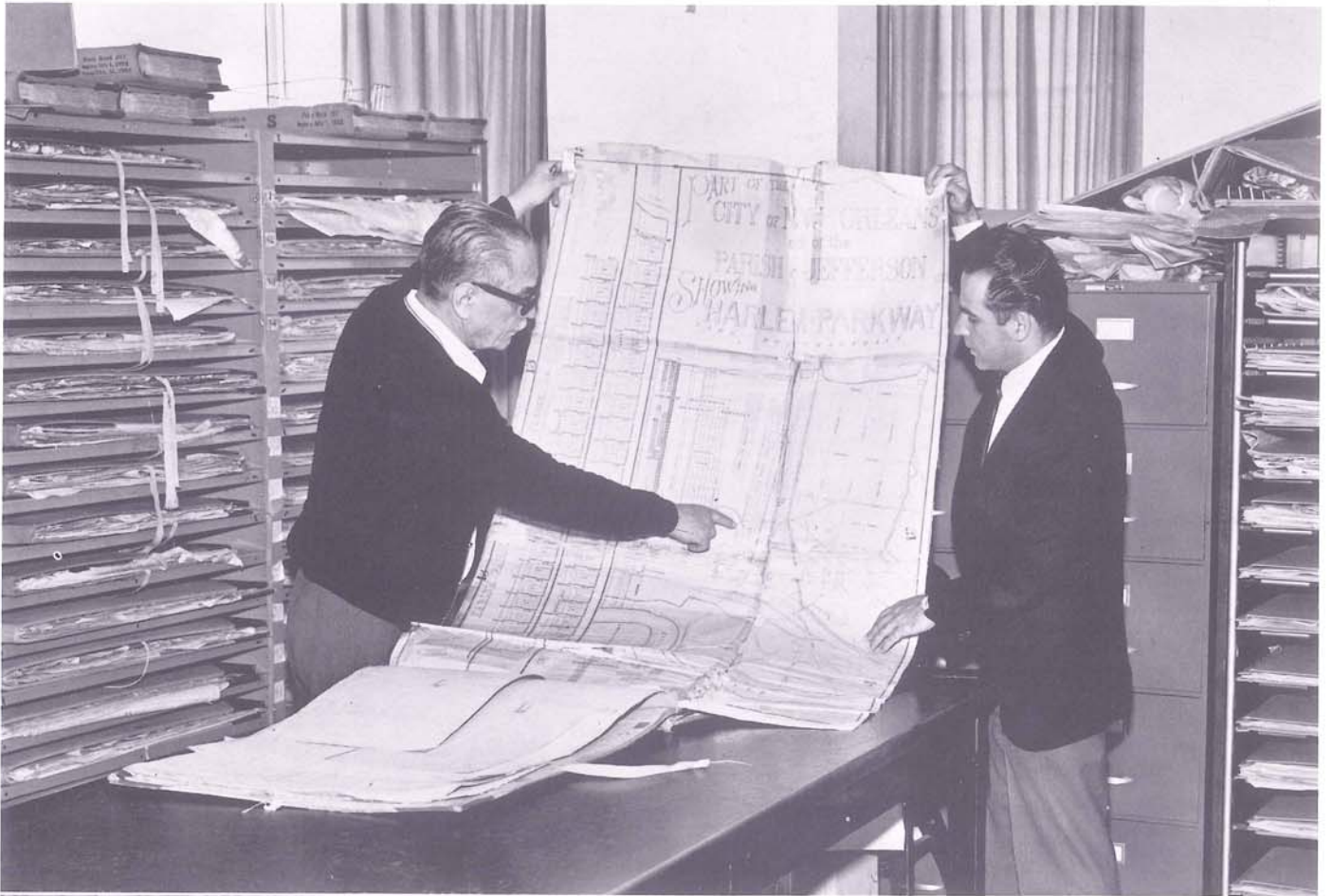
At the same time, day and night instruction classes are held for poll clerks, commissioners and custodians.

Each voting machine (there are 358 of them) stored in East and West Bank warehouses—is checked for accurate ballot information and arrangements are made to truck them to Jefferson's 151 polling places.

Tabulating "votes cast" sheets on election night is an exacting and tedious job especially in bond elections and general elections involving as many as 50 amendments.

Up to 30 clerk of court employees (on the night of a general election), working together, do a highly professional job of compiling the "unofficial" returns, often under pressure from candidates and press, radio and TV.





Promulgation of returns—the final, official results—follows a long day at the warehouse where, three days after the election, tally sheets are checked for accuracy by a task force supervised by the clerk of court's office.

English-speaking male U.S. citizens, over 21, with one year of Jefferson residency are eligible provided they are not exempted for mental or physical reasons nor under indictment or interdiction or previously convicted of a felony (Women are not eligible unless they request jury service in writing). Some professional people and others in certain occupations are exempted by law.

The same qualifications are required for the five members of the Jury commission, one of whom is the clerk of court, who meet to select the juries as many times as required by judges. The other four commissioners are appointed by the judges.

For grand juries, impaneled twice a year, 35 names are drawn by lot from a "General Venire Box" a sealed container with the names of at least 600 eligible persons each on a separate slip of paper. Twelve of the 35 are chosen by lot to serve a minimum of 6 months. Then the names of petit jurors, who serve for one week, are drawn.

Lists of grand and petit jurors (for criminal cases) are published in the official journal of the parish. Grand jurors are paid \$12 per day and petit jurors \$8.

An important and highly functional new addition to the civil records room in the annex is the "Lektriever"—huge "escalator" type filing complex with a capacity of 8000 files.

Another 'First' For Office

Another "first" for Jefferson's clerk of court, the "Lektriever" has electronic finger-tip control allowing an operator to quickly locate files as they come into view



Q

Can you, as a self-employed professional or businessman, set up a tax-deductible pension plan?

A

Yes! And Pan-American Life Insurance is ready to show you how.

HR-10 (the amended Keogh Act) has now made it possible for you to set-up a tax-deductible pension plan.

You can deduct 100% of your contributions to such a plan—in other words you are allowed just about the same tax breaks enjoyed for many years by corporate personnel.

Pan-American Life has a number of plans from which to choose. Select from insured plans, annuity plans, partially-insured plans, or participation in split funding.

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He'll help you plan for a successful retirement.



PAN-AMERICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
NEW ORLEANS, U. S. A. • A MUTUAL COMPANY

main courthouse for locked storage of evidence.

He also maintains a branch on the East Bank which serves as an information center, handles absentee voting and issues marriage licenses.

Jefferson has lost two ad hoc jurists with the death last year of Judge L. Robert Rivarde and the retirement at year end of Judge J. Bernard Cocke.

The remaining 10 judges serve in Divisions A through G, the Juvenile Court and the First and Second Parish Courts.

However, the state legislature has approved another judge to share the First Parish Court's heavy case load on the East Bank.

Since 1964 when it was established, the court has handled 50,000 criminal misdemeanors, 50,000 traffic cases and a heavy civil docket.

Operating costs for the new courtroom came from parish funds.

Earlier, the legislature approved two new district judgeships for the parish but has not yet appropriated operating funds.

Following the 1970 census, fast growing Jefferson is expected to qualify on the basis of population, for still more judgeships.

This is progress, of course.

It also means that the clerk of court's office will have to expand its volume of services to keep in step with progress.

But no matter how large his office grows, Justice knows that his employees whom he calls "the best public servants I have known" will continue to render fast, friendly, efficient service as they have for the past 12 years.

while seated at the controls.

On the third floor of the main courthouse building in Gretna is the mortgage and conveyance section which handles all non-judicial matters.

Various notarial acts which are recorded and filed here date back to 1827. They include sales and purchase agreements, real estate and chattel mortgages, mineral leases, charters, trade names, successions, adoptions, federal and state tax liens, judgments, sheriff's auction and tax sales, utility liens, quit claims, process verbal and subdivision maps.

Mortgage and conveyance certificates are issued to clear titles before a sale or mortgage. Here, too, mortgages and liens are cancelled.

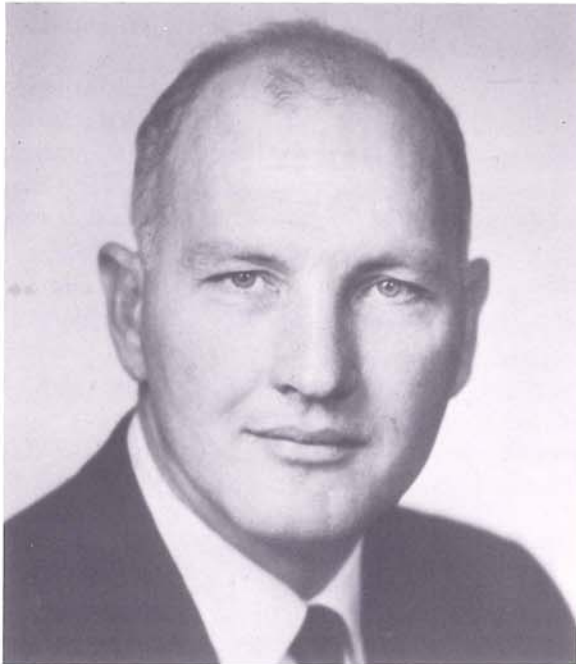
The clerk of court has retained a corner of the fourth floor of the



Jefferson Parish



Sheriff's Department



Sheriff Alwynn J. Cronvich, the first sheriff to be re-elected in Jefferson Parish in sixteen years, began his second term of office on July 1, 1968. A record of proven performance and outstanding achievement in law enforcement won for Sheriff Cronvich nomination and re-election in the first Democratic primary. More than five years ago, Sheriff Cronvich pledged to the people of Jefferson Parish a law enforcement agency which would be second to none in the State of Louisiana, and his energies have been concentrated on fulfilling that pledge. That goal has been achieved.

Because Jefferson Parish has experienced such phenomenal growth during the past several years, it was necessary that the services of the Sheriff's Department be increased in all of its major functions. Conditions throughout the United States have pointed out the need for increased law enforcement activities, and law and order has become an issue of paramount interest to all of our citizens.

To meet these needs, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department has increased its law enforcement capability by 275% since May, 1964 and there are presently approximately 440 law enforcement officers in the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department. Extensive recruitment, thorough training, effective use of modern equipment, increased salaries and benefits for the deputies has enabled

Sheriff Cronvich to wage a vigorous campaign in all areas of criminal activity. Although the qualifications have been increased so that all deputies must have a minimum of a high school education, recruiting has been so successful that there is a waiting list of approximately 200 applications for employment in the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. All recruits are trained in basic law enforcement courses at Louisiana State University and in courses conducted by ranking officers in the department. Through the use of visual aids and lectures, the recruits are taught procedures in conducting investigations of all types of crimes, including burglaries, armed robberies, homicides, accidents, traffic control, patrol duties and human relations.

Continuing in-service training programs with required participation of all members of the department are provided within the department. The more experienced members of the department are sent to specialized training schools including Louisiana State University, University of Georgia, Indiana University, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in Washington, the Traffic Institute at Northwestern University, California State College and other recognized training institutions throughout the United States.

Of particular interest is the participation of the members of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Department in the Police Foundation through which members of the department are enrolled at Loyola University working toward a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology. At the present time thirty-eight members of the department are enrolled in this program and last year three ranking officers received these degrees, one of the officers graduating "Cum Laude." The Police Foundation program is supported entirely by citizens' contributions and the Sheriff's Department actively seeks the financial support of the citizens of Jefferson Parish for this program.

During the latter part of 1968 all ranking officers received one week of riot training at Fort Gordon, Georgia under a program conducted by the United States Army and supervised by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. To implement this training the Sheriff and his staff met with the staff of the Louisiana National Guard and formulated plans to coordinate area control in the event of civil disorders. A 60 man Emergency Crowd Control Squad, especially trained and equipped, is maintained.

The law enforcement responsibility of the Sheriff's Department is effectively maintained by two major divisions, the Detective and Patrol Divisions, and specialized units, including Vice, Narcotics, Intelligence, Emergency and Rescue, Communications, Planning and Training, and Bureau of Internal Investigation.

The Detective Division is comprised of General Assignment, the Juvenile Bureau, Bureau of Identification, and Criminal Records, and specialized units of Auto Theft, Burglary, Homicide, Forgery and Pawn Shop Detail. The primary responsibility of the Detective Division is to conduct intensive and specialized investigation into the major crimes committed within the parish. The Juvenile Bureau is responsible for all crimes which a juvenile is involved and in administering those problems involving crimes against juveniles and abandoned children. Major William Warner and Sheriff Cronvich were the first two graduates of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office from the Bureau of Narcotics School in Washington. Warner is commander of the Detective Division.

The Patrol Division, under the command of Major William Gaillot, is charged with the basic responsibility of providing continuous patrol of highways, streets, and subdivisions within the parish. Theirs is primarily a preventive function for intensive patrol provides a deterrent to the prospective criminal who fears apprehension. The Patrol Division is further divided into the West District and East District, comprising a total of 14 areas or beat assignments to the patrol units.

To meet the demands of the everchanging pattern of criminal activities, a special Tactical Unit has been formed to provide a highly mobile force to re-inforce personnel. Included in this unit is the squad of six three-wheel scooters patrolling subdivisions and shopping centers. The Scooter Patrol, pioneered in Louisiana by Sheriff Cronvich and adopted by many other large city law enforcement agencies, provides the officer with greater mobility without sacrificing the close contact with residents in the area of their patrol. The Traffic Unit, another unit under the operations of the Patrol Division, makes all accident investigations, mobile enforcement in areas of high violations and accident incidence, and escorts for funerals and special occasions.

Although the facilities for all of the department's activities are outmoded and inadequate, none are worse than the Parish Prison. Warden Roland Vicknair and his staff are to be commended for the high caliber of the performance of their duties under such difficult conditions. Application has been made for Federal matching funds to build new law enforcement facilities within the parish.



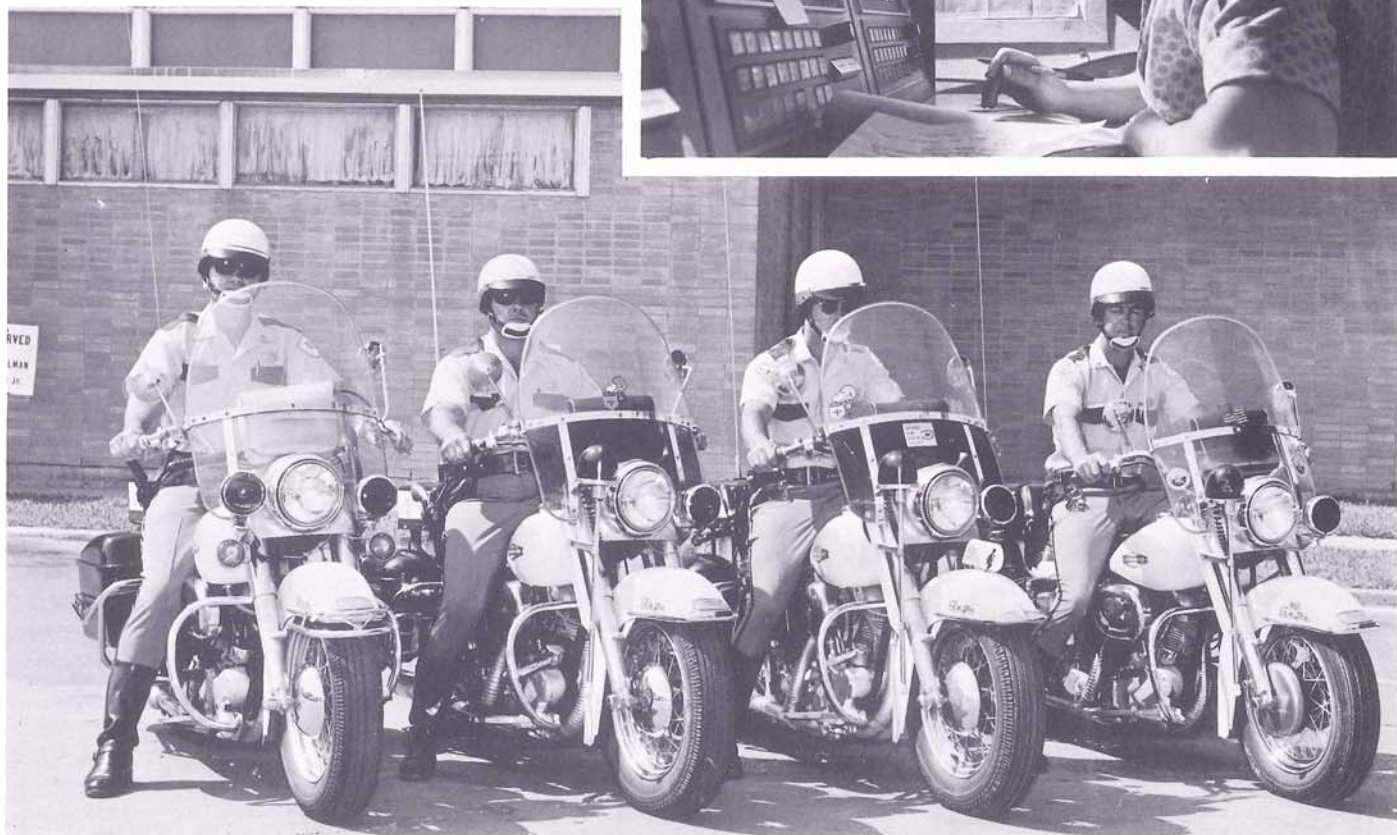
Specially trained 60 men Emergency Crowd Control Squad is equipped with gas masks, plastic face deflectors, foam rubber cushions to cover ears and portion of neck.



Emergency Crowd Control Squad is equipped with AR 15 automatic rifles, Ithaca shotguns, riot guns and special shotguns with spotlights mounted on them.

Radio operators work 8 hours, round the clock shifts, alternate with complaint and radio dispatching desk.

Motorcycle squads primarily operate as specialized unit on east bank where two thirds of population lives.



Land unit of Emergency and Rescue Squad investigated more than 100 bomb threats, some involving bomb disposal. They also investigate fires where arson is suspected.

Water units of the Emergency and Rescue Squad and personnel are shown here at the Bonnabel canal launching ramp.



The Vice Squad, under the command of Captain Walter Lightell, is charged with the responsibility of suppressing gambling, prostitution, and other similar activities within the parish. For his dedication and performance, Captain Lightell received the first annual "Liberty Bell Award" presented by the Jefferson Parish Bar Association on May 1, 1969, "Law Day-United States."

The Narcotics Squad, under the command of Captain Donald Reed, has waged a relentless campaign against tremendous odds to stop the increasing use of narcotics and dangerous drugs among our youth. Members of this squad have conducted programs at all of the high schools and many of the Junior High Schools within the parish and average more than two programs and lectures each week.

The Intelligence Unit, under the command of Captain Fred Roth, Jr., is a relatively new unit but one upon which great emphasis has been placed. The Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office was invited to attend the National Conference of the Law Enforcement Intelligence Units held this spring on the subject "Revolution-1969". One member of the Intelligence Unit, because of his undercover investigation into Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and other Left-Wing organizations, will testify before the Senate Committee on Government Operations, under the Chairmanship of Senator John McClellan.

Water forms a large part of the topography of Jefferson Parish and emergency situations caused by this are many. The Emergency and Rescue Squad, under the command of Lieutenant Dominick Martello, has been staffed with personnel specially trained in Rescue and First Aid, and equipped with water and land rescue units. This squad is also responsible for investigating all fires where arson is suspected, and all emergencies involving bomb disposal and bomb threats. During the past year, more than one hundred (100) bomb threats were received in Jefferson

Parish, the majority of which were in our public schools.

With the increase in the demand for services, the two radio frequencies in operation in 1964 became overcrowded, and four additional frequencies were added to our Central Communications system. One frequency is reserved solely for emergency use. To permit operations for an extended period of time away from the base, a Communications Headquarters unit has been added which will provide communications with all law enforcement and emergency agencies in the Metropolitan area.

As a consequence of the demand for constant training and preparedness, a Planning and Training Unit was established. This unit is responsible for preparing training programs, formulating preparedness plans for all types of emergencies, and future planning. The Firing Range will be under the jurisdiction of this unit. The K-9 Corps, with four K-9 dogs, also forms a part of this unit. Prince, one of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office K-9's, holds the distinction of being the only K-9 in the State of Louisiana to qualify for the "Utility Dog" award—the highest award possible in competition with household pets.

The Bureau of Internal Investigation is responsible for the investigation of all internal affairs of the law enforcement function of the Sheriff's Office and evaluates and investigates all complaints against members of the department.

A unit recently formed and most important in the conduct of the affairs of the Sheriff's Office is the Community and Public Relations Unit. One of the more essential functions of this unit is the administration and direction of the Junior Deputy Program under the full-time direction of two officers specially trained in juvenile work. This program is designed to instill the members' respect for law and the rights of others and to encourage them to consider the law enforcement officer as a friend. This program is open to boys and girls

from the ages of 9 through 16 years. They receive instruction in first-aid, self defense and the use of firearms. During the summer more than 1000 boys and girls attend summer camps and are taken on trips to various parts of the country. Many week-end campouts and field trips are sponsored for the members.

The protection of the greatest asset of this parish, the youth, is not limited to the Junior Deputy Program for more than 100 school crossing guards are employed for the safety of all of our school children. The young boys and girls who assist the adult school crossing guards throughout the year take part in many of the activities of the Junior Deputy Program, and the outstanding school crossing girl or boy of each school is rewarded with a trip to Washington, and the next two received a trip to a summer camp.

Any article about the law enforcement function of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office would be incomplete if we did not pay tribute to the more than 175 members of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Auxiliary, under the command of Colonel Roy Thomassie. These men, well-trained, contribute more than 7,000 hours each month riding with the regular patrol deputies, providing traffic patrol at football games, parades and special events, motorcycle escorts and communications assistance. Their contribution to the building of the Firing Range is immeasurable and to them is owed a sincere debt of gratitude by all of the citizens of Jefferson Parish, as well as by the regular members of the Sheriff's Department.

In addition to the law enforcement function, the Sheriff's Office serves as the tax collection agency for the Parish of Jefferson and in that capacity collects more than \$37 million to be distributed to all of the taxing bodies in the parish, to the State of Louisiana, and to the Levee Districts within the parish. The other civil functions include the function of Executive Officer of all of the courts within the Parish of Jefferson, the Juvenile Court, the seven District Courts, and the two Parish Courts. The service of all legal process in the parish is made through the Sheriff's Office as the Executive Officer of the Courts. To



Under construction on Barataria blvd., near Estelle on the west bank is the sprawling new sheriff's firing range with separate facilities for pistol and rifle target practice.

the administrative staff of the Sheriff's Office falls the responsibility for acting as the financial arm of the department, and provide the logistical support necessary to operate a \$40 million business. To this most difficult position, Sheriff Cronvich devotes his experience as an attorney, accountant, and lecturer in finance. He is the first sheriff in the State of Louisiana to invest idle funds, and during the past year earned \$20,000 for the people of Jefferson Parish by doing so.

The leadership, dedication, and integrity of Sheriff Cronvich has been recognized on a national level, as well as on the state and local level. The National Sheriff's Association appointed Sheriff Cronvich as its first chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee, and he has held that position ever since. At the present time, he is serving his third term as State Director of the National Sheriff's Association and had previously served on the Resolutions Committee at the first annual conference he attended.

On March 27, 1969, Sheriff Cronvich was appointed to membership on the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice, and was named Chairman of the Committee on Organized Crime of that Commission. He also served as Vice-President in charge of operations of the Metropolitan District Law Enforcement Planning and Action Commission.

In the Louisiana Sheriff's Association, Sheriff Cronvich has served as Chairman of the Insurance Committee since 1965, and also served as Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, Committee on Centralized Purchasing, and Committee on Manpower and Equipment Resources.

He is President of the Southeast Louisiana Law Enforcement Association. Sheriff Cronvich has been a practicing attorney since 1948 and is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association (formerly serving as a member of the House of Delegates), the American Bar Association, American Trial Lawyers Association and the Jefferson Parish Bar Association.

From the citizens of Jefferson Parish to Sheriff Cronvich we say "A job Well done!"



Mobile Field Headquarters permits extended operations away from normal HQ and provides communications with all law enforcement and emergency agencies in the metropolitan area.



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Scheduled for early spring completion, the new one-way, south-to-north span of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway—the world's longest bridge!—draws the Florida and Greater New Orleans parishes still closer together for the greater prosperity of all. When complete, the nearly \$60 million roadway will be a model of motoring safety. Truly, second to none in the world.

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The completion of Garden Park Ext. 3 marked the erection of some 530 homes in this Gretna subdivision.



GRETNA

By William J. White, Mayor

Commercial hub of the area,
Gretna is the site of more
and more industrial development.

The largest city south of St. Louis on the West Bank of the Mississippi River, Gretna is home for some 28,000 folks within its 3 and $\frac{1}{4}$ square miles.

As the capital city of Jefferson Parish, Gretna serves as the commercial hub of the area; business naturally funnels into the city. Commercial permits for constructing new facilities totalled \$1,679,439 in 1967. The valuation of residential permits issued was \$858,819. Repairs and additions totalled \$302,916.

Now under construction is Gretna's newest shopping center. Estimated at \$1 million, the Gretna Village Shopping Center will have ten units when completed. It is located at 1900 Lafayette Street. Already under contract for space in the new center are T G & Y, Winn Dixie Supermarkets and Walgreen Drugstores.

Maison Blanche Westside in Stumpf's Westside Shopping Center will soon be the largest store on the West Bank. The company is building a two-story addition to their present facilities, increasing the floor space from 60,000 square feet to 150,000 square feet.

Also at Stumpf's, National Food Store is to occupy larger quarters. The architecture of the new building is in the romantic style of the New Orleans Vieux Carre.

Professional Plaza, an ultra modern office building, was constructed at 1500 Lafayette Street. The 25 unit office building cost approximately \$300,000.

Park Place Subdivision, located on Claire Avenue between 33rd and 35th Streets, is now complete with 46 homes. A large multiple dwelling, Garden Lane Apartments expanded their facilities this year to total 140 residences.

St. Cletus Catholic Church opened the doors to its lovely new building in August 1967. Located at the corner of Claire Avenue and 35th Street, it serves over 750 families.

Gretna has an enviable water supply setup. Our two elevated water tanks with capacities of 500,000 gallons and 275,000 gallons insure constant pressure. Our plant has a capacity of purifying over five million gallons of water per day. In case of greater need, we have a reciprocal valve arrangement with Marrero. The setup allows either system to give or take more water by merely opening a valve.

Almost all of our streets are either surfaced with concrete or asphalt. During 1968, one and three quarters miles were paved with concrete and bids were let on blacktopping for 15 miles. With the exception of some half blocks and dead ends, practically all our thoroughfares will be hard surfaced.

Gretna city officials (seated l. to r.) are Louis LeBoeuf, Jr., Alderman; Beauregard H. Miller, Sr., Marshal; William J. White, Mayor; Eugene Gehring, Mayor Pro-Tem and Anthony J. Marchese, Alderman. Standing (l. to r.) Charles A. Huber, Building Inspector; Alvin Hotard, Chief Engineer; John Ray, Treasurer; John L. Dulcich, Jr., Alderman; Gerard Schexnayder, Alderman; Mrs. Velma Bieber, Director of Budget; Alvin Baham, Attorney; W. L. Bush, Clerk; Lester Harper, Ass't. Building Inspector and Anthony J. Marchese, Alderman.



The street improvements are paid by the property owners who are assessed on a front footage basis. However, the city often shares in the expense from its General Fund, particularly where large subsurface drainage pipes are required.

Gretna also enjoys an excellent Garbage and Trash Collection service. City operated, it makes three pickups a week, plus a special pickup around churches on Saturday to avoid unsightly debris on Sunday. The equipment and labor for these collections are paid for out the General Fund. No special assessment or tax is paid by the homeowners or businesses for these services.

Justly proud of our city's heritage and natural beauty, 125 acres of our land is dedicated as parks. The Board of Aldermen has recently established a beautification commission to preserve and enhance our city. A group of devoted and interested citizens were appointed to its membership. This first project, an anti-litter campaign, is now underway.

Our fire departments are another source of pride to us. Some 340 townsmen have donated their time to serve as volunteer firemen. The largest of the two departments is Gould Volunteer Fire Company with 180 men.

The David Crockett Volunteer Fire

Department with 160 men on call is the oldest continuously operated volunteer fire department in the nation.

Between the two, we have five stations, seventeen full time firemen and the latest in fire fighting equipment. Thanks to all these men, our citizens enjoy exceptionally low fire insurance rates.

In order to install a new fire alarm system, the voters of the City of Gretna recently approved a \$150,000 bond issue, to be defrayed by a one mill tax over a period of ten years. Our citizens also approved an additional five mill tax to assist the volunteer fire companies in purchasing and maintaining fire



Above: The lovely St. Cletus Catholic Church serves over 750 families in and around Park Place Subdivision. The \$150,000 building is on the corner of Claire Avenue and 35th Street.

Population boom reflected in residential development



Located in the Garden Park Subdivision is the new Gretna Library which opened in May 1968. The library houses 21,983 volumes and provides easy access to all books belonging to the Jefferson Parish Library Division and the Louisiana State Library.

fighting equipment and to increase the number of and the pay of fire engine chauffeurs. By cutting back in other areas of taxation, we were fortunately able to maintain the millage for 1968 at the same rate as 1967.

Gretna has one of the lowest crime rates in the nation. Much of the credit goes to Police Chief Beauregard Miller who has served as City Marshal for 43 years. Under him are nineteen full time police officers. Due credit for the low crime rate should also be given to the Gretna Recreational and Instructional Department program, commonly called GRID. The outstanding performance of our GRID workers has surely served as a release valve for energetic youth.

The program is continuously growing. This year there were 82 baseball teams, 6 softball teams, 24 football teams, 12 girls' volleyball teams, 36 basketball teams and a 12 team bowling league.

The City purchased all uniforms and equipment and paid for the maintenance of the playing fields, excepting of course the bowling alley. For the past four years, the City has co-sponsored an annual awards banquet with Leson Chevrolet. It is the highlight of the year as a championship team is named in each category.

Another program popular with our youth is the Gretna Rangers and Rangerettes. Organized in 1961, the two marching groups each have 75 members who range in age from five to sixteen. Also a marching unit, the Gretna Golden Girls is

restricted to girls from 14 to 18 years of age. They have a membership of 35. The three groups are frequently seen in Mardi Gras parades and other activities.

To accommodate Gretna's sizeable recreation system, there are 130 acres of land, which includes two parks, two swimming pools, wading pools and four playgrounds.

The largest park is Mel Ott Park. As the site of the American Legion Home, three baseball diamonds, and our largest pool, it serves as the nucleus of our recreation system. The American Legion plays all its baseball games there and semi-pro baseball games are played there each Sunday afternoon from early spring to late summer.

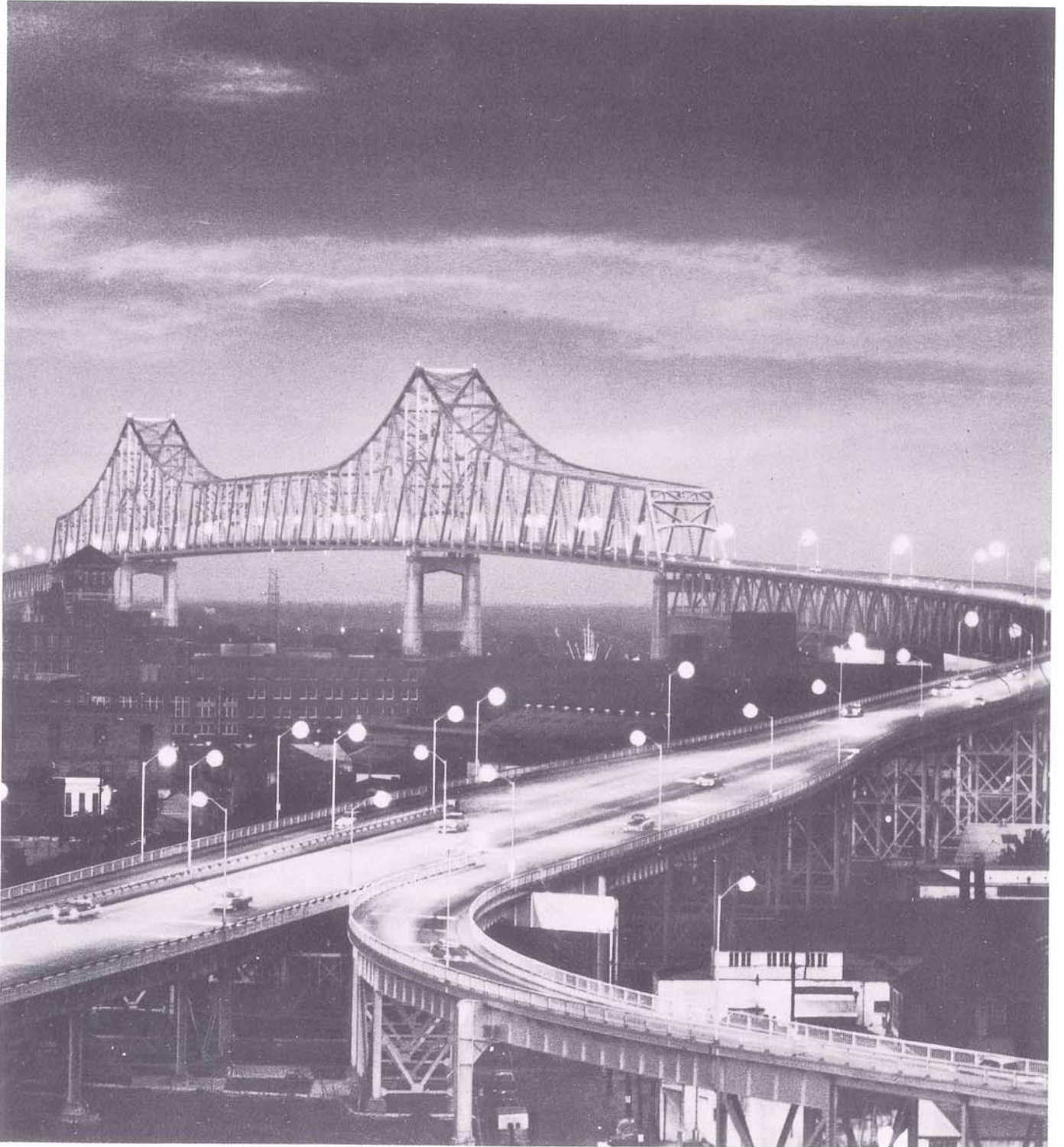
The growth of our city has naturally resulted in increased personnel in the city's employ. By a policy of raising salaries and furnishing other benefits, we feel that the city is efficiently staffed and has competent employees. At the present time, we have a comprehensive pension plan and insurance program which makes city jobs more desirable now than in past years.

Gretna, incorporated on June 3, 1913, is governed by a Mayor and Board of Aldermen. Traditionally, the Board of Aldermen and Mayor operate as a team to solve the City's problems and to furnish our people with the best possible municipal services. The Board of Aldermen consists of the following: Eugene Gehring, Mayor Pro-Tem, Anthony J. Marchese, Louis A. Le Boeuf, Jr., John L. Dulcich, Jr. and Gerard E. Schexnayder.



Professional Plaza, a 25 unit office building, is located at 1500 Lafayette Street.

The growth and development of the City of Gretna have been phenomenal since its incorporation. But, the spirit and community cooperation of its citizens have done more for this progress than its material changes. We are proud of our city.



**Gretna's impressive
growth of
industry continues**



The new brick structure at 1101 Franklin houses the administrative offices of South Central Bell's West Bank operations. The \$400,000 building is the central location for all customer contact on the West Bank.

Left: The toll-free Mississippi River Bridge puts downtown New Orleans and Gretna within fifteen minutes of each other. The fast four-lane West Bank Expressway which, on its way to the Huey P. Long Bridge, cuts through the center of Gretna, and its tunnel that has eliminated the long frustrating Harvey Canal traffic bottleneck, are stimulating both business and building throughout Gretna and the entire West Bank.

**Low taxes,
plenty of land—
grand place to
live and work**

Over 200 homes have been completed in the Driftwood subdivision, one of the loveliest residential areas in Kenner.





KENNER

With a population expected to double by 1980, Kenner is aiming toward total area improvement.

by Edward D'Gerolamo, Mayor

Kenner is growing rapidly, both in industry and in population.

Our operating budget has increased to \$1,180,715, up \$112,000 over last year's record-breaking figure. These additional funds resulted completely from the increase of homes and industry, not from additional taxes.

But rapid growth has not deterred from the beauty of our city. Kenner was named "Cleanest City" in this district and received an honorable mention nationally.

We are well prepared to handle the tremendous upsurge in our population. Now 27,000, it is predicted to reach 75,000 by 1980. The Chamber of Commerce of the New Orleans Metropolitan Area and New Orleans Public Service Inc. based these estimates on mass transportation studies and the premise that the city's growth will continue at the rate of the past few years.

We have the land for growth. Out of the 8,321 acres in Kenner, approximately 5,000 are yet to be developed. Of the amount developed, we have 554 acres in residential area, 103 in commercial, 28 in industrial and 39 in public buildings and playgrounds.

We have an outstanding Master Plan for organization. Kenner has been built around this Plan. It defines the boundaries of single and multiple residential areas, industry, schools; it keeps one from slipping into the other. We are constantly updating our Plan to balance the projected layout with reality.

We have low taxes: 29½ mills, in comparison to as much as 90 mills in other areas.

With all this in our favor, we believe we have an excellent chance of fulfilling the predictions *and* with our feet planted firmly on the ground.

We are now developing an industrial area along the Jefferson-St. Charles Parish Line Canal. Transportation is ideal with the canal on one side and I-10 passing overhead.

The access roads to the overpass at Williams Boulevard and I-10 were completed this year, placing Kenner within 15 minutes of downtown New Orleans. Interstate 10 now runs the length of Kenner.

Our engineers are drawing up plans for a civic complex with auditorium and marina. It will be located at the end of Williams Boulevard and Lake Pontchartrain.

The first phase of our beautification program was completed this year. Trees, shrubs and flower beds were planted in all neutral grounds.

Another improvement project, the \$3.1 million sewerage treatment plant and collection system for drainage of District II was completed in 1968. All populated areas within Kenner now have sewerage service.

With the installation of complete sewerage system, attention was concentrated on the maintenance of roads. All roads in District I have either hard surfacing or asphalt surfacing. We are now asphalt surfacing all gravel and shell streets in District II.

Kenner city officials and administrative staff, in council chambers are (seated l. to r.) Lebo Mancuso, Alderman; Mrs. Barbara Taylor, Secretary to the Marshal and City Clerk; Mrs. Hilda Clement, Secretary to the Mayor and Council; Edward J. D'Gerolamo, Mayor; Mrs. Joan Hebert, Tax Collector; Tom Maples, City Clerk; Ray S. Dupepe, Alderman. Standing (l. to r.) Joseph Sabrier, City Engineer; Salvador J. Lentini, Marshal; Dan Martin, Planning Consultant; Donald Murphy, Internal auditor & purchasing agent; Harold E. Kytle, city attorney; Anthony J. "Muss" Bertolino, Alderman; Joseph S. Yenni, Alderman and Michael J. "Mike" Damiano, Alderman. Missing from the photo is Vincent Franzone, director of the regulatory board.



Approximately \$200,000 was collected from a parish drainage election bond to close open ditches. Before moving ahead with this project, we are waiting for additional federal assistance. The total project will require \$600,000.

After studying the possibility of installing our own garbage pick up and disposal system, we decided to renew our contract with a private firm. It is a \$20,000 savings a year over the amount paid to Jefferson Parish in the past and is considerably cheaper than establishing our own system. Seven mills are now allotted for this service. To establish a city-operated pickup and disposal unit would require twelve mills, almost twice the present amount needed.

The East Jefferson Waterworks District completed phase II of a nine-mile water trunkline. A circle water system was installed, eliminating dead-end lines. The installation insures increased water pressure for present homes and adequate water lines for future developers.

Transit bus service in Kenner operates on an hourly basis six days a week. A proposal is under consideration to provide additional buses for the peak hours of 6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. All buses are heated and air conditioned for year round comfort.

A ceramics and art and crafts center, located at 20th Street between Kentucky and Roosevelt, focused on school children this summer. With plenty of time and

not much to do, over 100 school children gathered in the modern, two story building to learn new hobbies.

Some 1500 children headed for our playgrounds this summer. There, under supervision, they tried out for the baseball team, scrimmaged on the basketball courts and played shuffle board.

Out of the summer recreation program provided by the city, 27 baseball teams with 16 boys in each team were formed. Many others took classes in bowling, baton twirling, cheerleading and dancing.

Two new subdivisions have been opened: University City West and Redwood. By the end of 1969, over 400 homes will have been constructed in these areas. The second section of Driftwood was completed and featured in the Parade of Homes in August.

Work on the Jefferson Downs Racetrack, located just west of the Duncan Canal at Lake Pontchartrain, will be completed April '69 and will open in August of that year. The \$6 million investment is expected to produce about \$200,000 in revenue a year, \$50,000 over previous estimates.

The grandstands will seat approximately 7500 racing fans. The facilities are as good or better than those at the New Orleans Fair Grounds.

Business and industry have been responding to our invitation to establish in Kenner. Woolco opened a large store at 2801 Veterans Highway. Another national firm, TG&Y chose Kenner for the loca-

tion of a new store. It is on the corner of Williams and 25th Avenue.

The City Council has included city government in its improvement campaign. The Council retained the auditing firm of Alexander Grant and Assoc. to update all records and install a modern accounting system. Now the mayor and the Council can have all city finances at their fingertips at each monthly meeting.

Alexander Grant and Assoc. is also analyzing all city personnel to place them in positions best suited for them.

In order to compete with industry in obtaining top personnel, the Council passed a five per cent pay raise across the board after bringing up the base rates to equal those of private business.

The Council also set up a job description with minimum pay scale for all city employees and published a three year projection of raises.

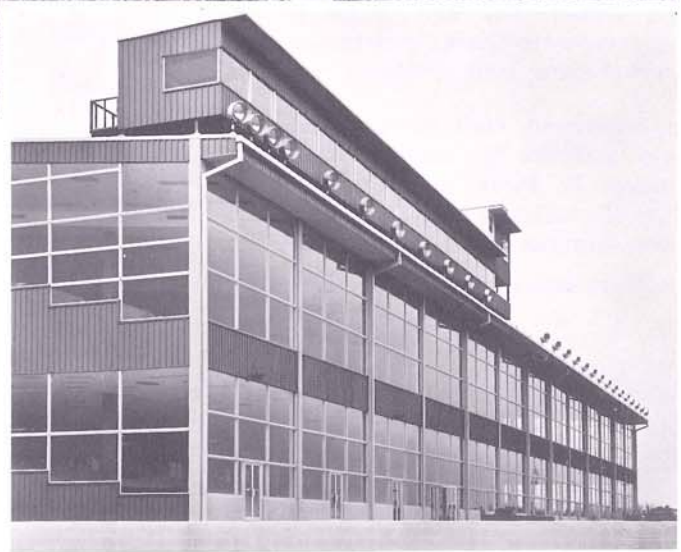
Kenner's elected officials include the mayor, Aldermen Anthony J. Bertolino, Michael J. Damiano, Ray S. Dupepe, Lebo Mancuso, Joseph S. Yenni and Marshal Salvador Lentini. Board appointees are Harold Kytle, city attorney; Forest Sabier Assoc., engineer; Tom Maples, city clerk and secretary-treasurer; Alexander Grant and Assoc., C.P.A.'s, and Mrs. Joan Hebert, tax collector.

The Official Family of Kenner realizes that much remains to be done in Kenner's future and we plan, with the help of our citizens, to do it, and do it well.



The City of Kenner Recreation Department offers to its citizens a variety of Recreational Activities to both children and adults. An approximate 1,000 girls participate in such activities as: Softball, Volley-ball, Track, Cheerleading, Baton twirling, Dancing, Junior Modeling and Ceramic's. Adult Classes in Ceramic's and Physical exercise. Public playground facilities for Basketball and Tennis. All activities are under the trained supervision of Instructors and Coaches. Many of our children have competitively participated in City, Parish and State meets.

Right: The \$6 million Jefferson Downs Racetrack will formally open its gates in August 1969. Renovations have turned the old facilities into a plush gathering spot for racing fans.



One of the newest and largest firms to locate in Kenner is Woolco at 2801 Veterans Highway. The grand opening of the department store was held in October.

HARAHAN

New Recreational Center—Gymnasium, Civil Service,
Hickory Street Improvements, Full Time Mayor
Top List of "Firsts" By City in 1968

By Mayor Freddie A. Wilcox

This was a year of many "firsts" for Harahan:

- Voters approved a \$250,000 bond issue to build the city's first public recreational center and gymnasium at no increase in taxes.
- Widening and resurfacing of Hickory Street—the first major improvements to this state maintained road in many years—will start soon.
- Permanent civil service status was achieved by six of Marshal George R. Picone's deputies—the first city employees to qualify. Four more deputies will qualify in 1969.
- From among the 500 youngsters

who participate in our recreational programs came our first football championship, won by the 85 pound Harahan Owls.

- On July 1, 1968 by unanimous vote of the board of aldermen, I became Harahan's first full time mayor. The action followed a special census which pinpointed our mid-year population at 11,070.
- Harahan's first "Miss Jefferson Parish" is Donna Durr, 18, who won the annual YMBC contest over 18 other girls on June 29, 1968. She was also named Miss Personality.
- VFW Post 3267 donated the first city flag for our council chamber.

● The first school zone flashing beacon lights were installed at St. Rita and Harahan elementary schools at a cost of \$2000, shared by the VFW, Lions and the city.

● The fire department got its first "smoke ejector" plus another self contained "air pack" to improve fir fighting capability.

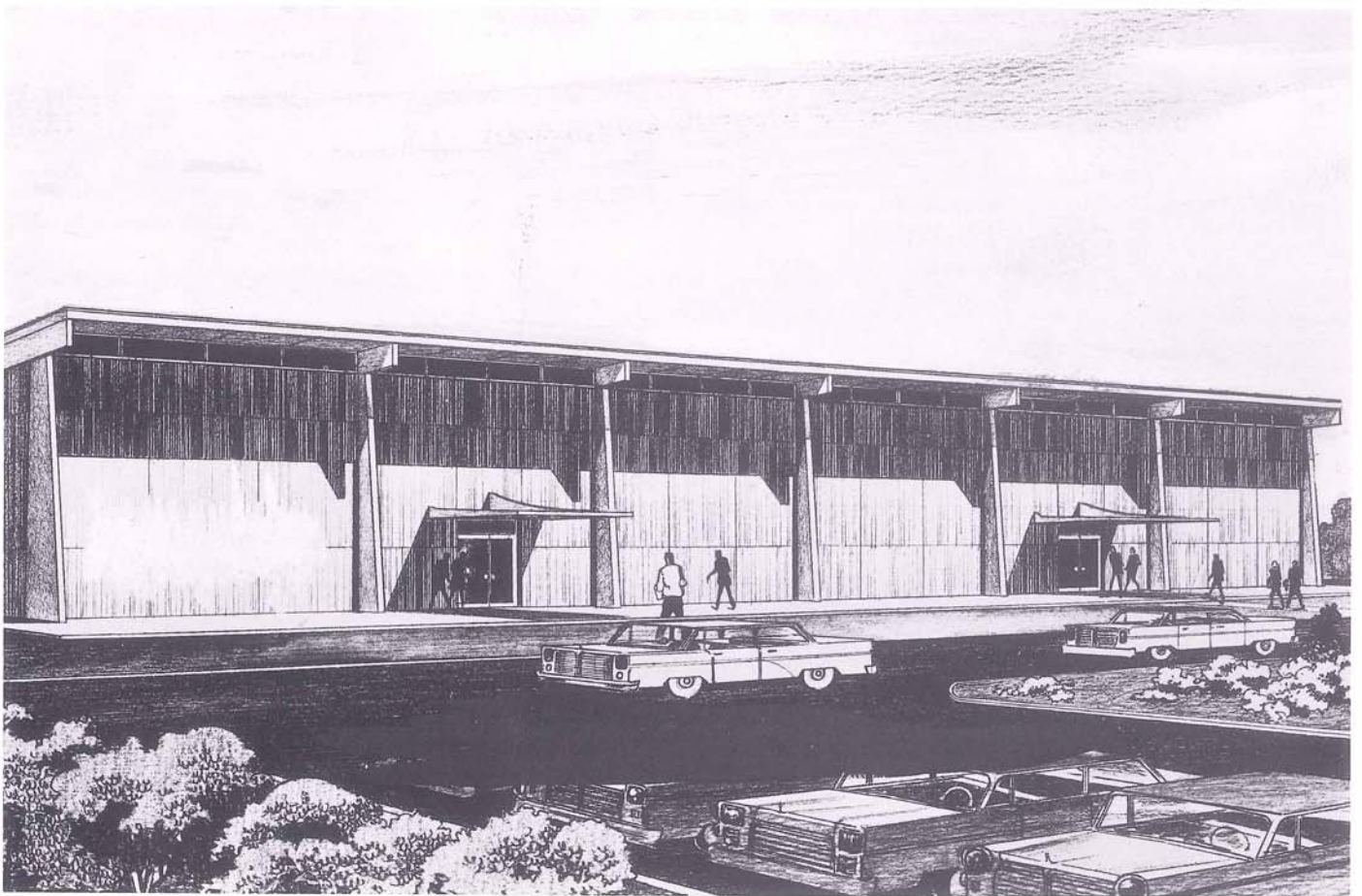
● Harahan's garden clubs helped us win the cleanest city award again and gave us our first lighted Christmas tree to brighten City Hall.

● The first annual City Golf Tournament was held with 125 golfers participating.

Bond Issue Approved

The \$250,000 bond issue approved on August 31, 1968 included \$38,000 to pay off the remaining debt on the City Hall. The city pledged a portion (about 20 per cent) of its future sales tax revenues to finance the bonds which were sold in November.

Construction begins early next year on our Community Recreational Center and Gymnasium on the "horseshoe ring" portion of Soniat Playground. Facilities will include an official basketball court, stage, three large meeting rooms, ceramic



workshop, lockers, showers and restrooms opening to outdoor play areas.

The concrete and steel structure (with reinforced roof) will seat 432 for gymnasium events, up to 1000 for stage presentations. It is expected to be ready by Spring 1970. Covering of roadside ditches on the west side of Hickory Street and resurfacing by the State highway department in preparation for a connection to Earhart Boulevard has been assured following many meetings among city, parish and state officials.

Installation of culverts paid for by property owners and installed by the city and blacktopping of 15 miles of street under a front foot assessment program is 90 per cent complete.

Drainage Improvements

Drainage improvements under the 1967 parish bond issue are scheduled for completion this year.

Gradual replacement of incandescent street light fixtures continued with 74 mercury vapor 175 watt fixtures installed.

In addition to a two way 24 hour central communications system for police and fire vehicles, the marshal's office now operates on its own local frequency and ties in to the parish sheriff's system.

In-service training for deputies and auxiliary police continue with courses in traffic procedure and medical self-help in addition to regularly scheduled classes.

Marshal Picone was named to the 16 member Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice—the only law enforcement officer from Jefferson Parish serving on the committee.

The mayor and aldermen, who are dedicated to maintaining the residential character of Harahan, turned down an application for zoning variance sought by a major chain store and rejected a dump truck proposal on River Road.



Looking over plans for Harahan's proposed new Community Recreational Center are (l. to r., seated) Alderman Fred J. Barocco, Mayor Freddie A. Wilcox and Mayor pro-tem Clinton C. Cressionne. • Standing (l. to r.) are Aldermen Maurice P. Bowler, Al Barousse, Alton L. Bourg and Marshal George R. Picone.



For years, the city of Harahan, through the Boosters Club, has provided an organized program of outdoor athletics for youngsters. Lack of a gymnasium and other necessary outdoor facilities, however, had prevented them from offering a complete, year 'round program of recreational activities.

Recognizing the problem, city officials proposed the solution in a bond issue election in which the construction of a Community Recreational Center and gymnasium (left) was approved.



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Ernest J. Tassin
Mayor

We celebrate 50 years as a city in 1969 but 1968 was probably our most dynamic and progressive year—new industries, homes, businesses, apartment complexes—our successful L.S.U. (Let's Spruce Up) campaign—new equipment, efficient workmen and office staff—cooperation from city, parish and state officials—meeting budget problems and demands for better service—fulfilling the dreams of the past 49 years—my thanks to all who helped make Westwego a safer, happier, cleaner city!

The City of Westwego

"The City That Knows How"



1



2



3



4



Sidney J. Guillot
Marshal

Through continuous training, practical experience and hard work, the Westwego police department has developed into one of the best equipped, most competent in the state. Now under civil service, our neat, courteous officers are trained in criminology, first aid, riot control and target shooting and have earned the respect of our citizens. Our auxiliary police force is a tremendous asset to the department. We acknowledge the wonderful cooperation we have received from parish, state and adjacent city law enforcement agencies.



5



6



7



8

Members of The City Council



Antoine A. Alario
Sanitation

Garbage pickups twice a week and weekly trash collections were made on a strict time schedule with new and larger equipment during 1968 which helped make the L.S.U. campaign a success. And we are still striving to improve our service!



Horace J. Boudreaux
Parks & Playgrounds

With four playgrounds and a year round program of activities, the recreation department has not only fostered championship teams but is helping to develop clean, healthy, alert minds and bodies. Our new grandstand and daily playground maintenance are invaluable aids.



Rudy P. Brown
Sewage, Safety

Improved maintenance and up date life station equipment have helped to solve our sewage problems. The seafood industry and city, parish, state and federal officials are working shoulder to shoulder to eliminate air and stream pollution.



Kennedy L. Croom
Waterworks

Water purification plant expansion plans are underway to meet growth demands. Meanwhile, renovation of water intake system, new protective pilings, replacement of inadequate water lines, good housekeeping practices and 2 way radio communications have increased efficiency.



Andy P. Valence
Streets & Drainage

A systematized street by streets and drainage improvement program is replacing problem drainage areas with free flowing ditches and dusty, shelled roads with hard surfaced (blacktopped) streets through property owners cooperation. Two way radio communications assures prompt, efficient service for this department proving once again that Westwego is "The City That Knows How."



Office Staff



The Fleet



Working Crew

*State Senator A. W. "Kellye" Gravlot, 26th Senatorial District which includes Wards 1-2-3 of Jefferson Parish, died October 24, 1968. His successor, Rep. Samuel B. Nunez, Jr., had not been officially sworn in at year end. *Ad Hoc Judge J. Bernard Cocke retired at year end and was not replaced.

The Westwego Officials, Office Staff, and Working Crew Are Constantly On The Move To Make Your City Better. 1. Our City Attorney 2. Improving Drainage 3. Expanding Water Supply 4. A Top Notch Police Dept. 5. Keeping Our City Clean 6. Keeping Up With Progress 7. Healthy Recreation, 8. Calvin Galiano, A Working Office Manager



**Look up.
And see how much
we've grown.
Together.**

Take the last 10 years, for instance. In '57 there were about 50,000 telephones in Jefferson Parish. Now there are over 140,000. The number of Southern Bell employees, and our payroll have also risen dramatically in the last decade. Isn't it amazing what we've done . . . together?



South Central Bell

Jefferson Parish

***Governed by a President-Council,
and Five Incorporated Cities***



The new courthouse in Gretna, seat of Parish Government

Jefferson Parish was created, by legislative act, on February 11, 1825.

Its present boundaries were established in 1892.

Within its 426 square miles today are six governments—five incorporated municipalities, each with a mayor, marshal and five aldermen and the President-Council which replaced the police jury in 1958 as the governing body for the unincorporated areas.

Kenner, incorporated in 1873, is situated on the East Bank of the Mississippi River twelve miles above New Orleans. It is named for Minor Kenner whose sugar plantation became part of the town site of Kennerville.

Two miles below Kenner is Harahan, incorporated in 1920 by proclamation. The town grew around the yards and shops of the Illinois Central Railroad and gets its name from W. J. Harahan, the railroad's president. It officially became a city in November 1953 when its population reached 5,022. Gretna, the parish seat is located on the West Bank. It was settled in the eighteenth century by German immigrants who called their village Mechanickham.

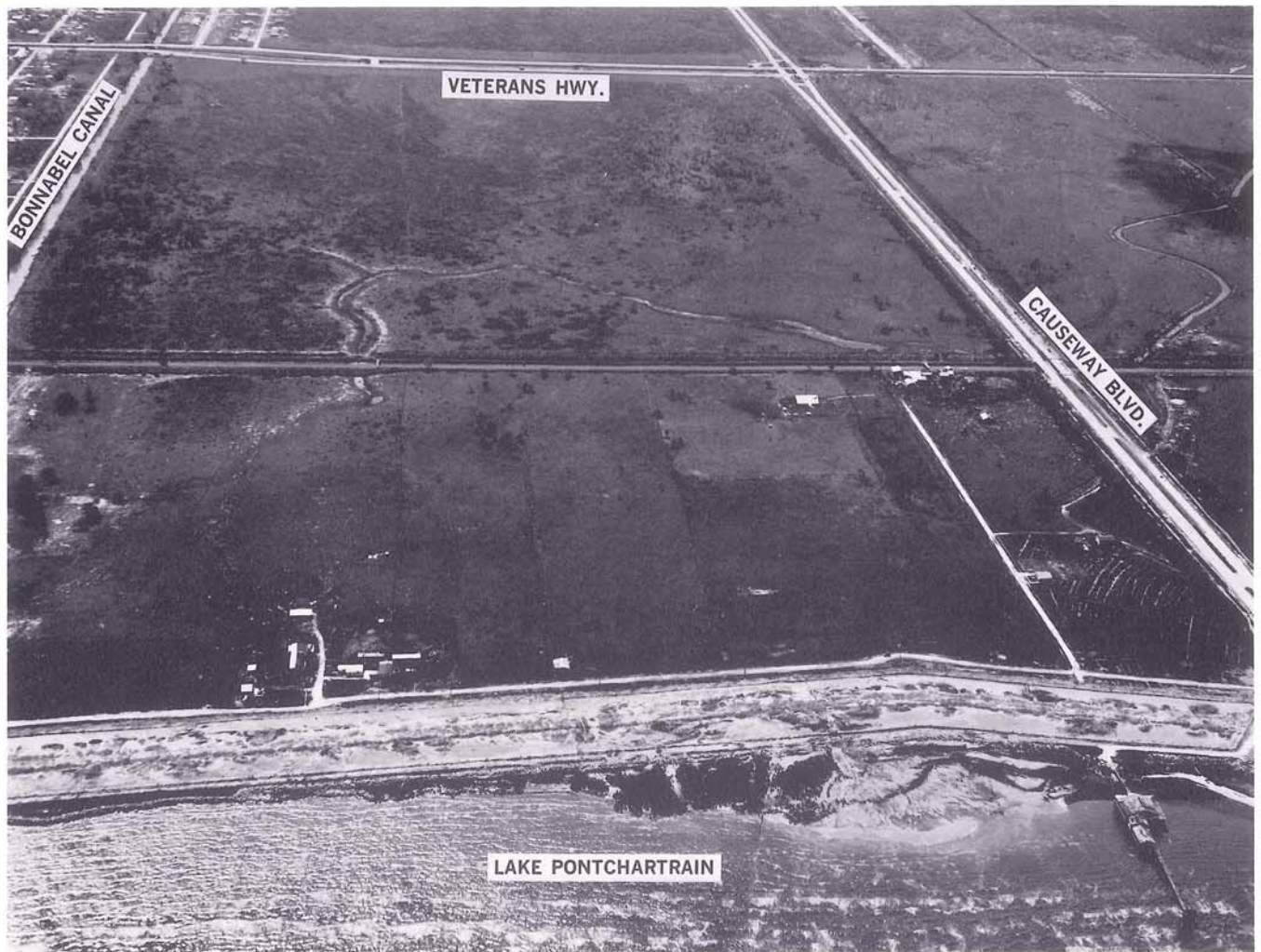
The evolution of the name of the settlement to Gretna is attributed to an old Creole justice of the peace who gained a reputation for performing marriages at any time of the day or night. The frequency with which runaway couples made use of his services gave rise to the expression "they went to Gretna" from the town of Gretna Green, just across the border of Scotland, well known in England for the same reason.

Actually named in honor of the German city of Gretna, it was incorporated as a town on August 20, 1913 and in 1916 as a city by the legislature, combining Mechanickham and McDonoghville. Westwego, located on the river above Gretna, was incorporated as a village on January 18, 1919 by proclamation, following a petition by its 150 inhabitants. It was named after the slogan of migrants moving westward in the California gold rush: "West we go."

At the Southern tip of the parish lies Grand Isle, with the waters

Continued on Page 87

Amazing Growth of East Jefferson Area



VIEW OF A POTENTIAL GROWTH AREA in East Jefferson before the Causeway was completed or Lakeside Shopping Center was built. Except for few scattered improvements near lake the section was a wilderness.

Typical of fast-growing residential sections in East Jefferson is the tree-studded plot lakeward from Veterans hwy. and bounded by the Bonnabel Canal and Causeway blvd.

Developer William C. Osborne Jr., introduced the section to new housing in 1957, before there was a Lakeside Shopping Center or a South plaza for the lake causeway nearby. The section now boasts first-class off-site improvements, including underground wiring, and an assortment of oak trees.

In 1957 the area was a stretch of near wilderness, strewn with Indian arrow heads and holding the vestige of Bayou Tchoupitoulas, a water-

way that connected with Lake Pontchartrain at one time.

Today the area is heavily populated, has nearly 900 homes, and is traversed with concrete streets serving houses that are moderately to high-priced. The bayou remains have been filled in, the canals bridged, and the remains of Indian habitation removed or buried forever beneath a community of modern neighborhoods.

The growth potential of the section was swiftly realized as developers moved in with improvements that would be served by a regional shop facility and close major access to downtown New Orleans and the lakefront.

The housing developments in place represent a value of \$27 million (a conservative estimate) exclusive of apartment house developments, some commercials and an inventory of future home sites.

In 1957 the 35-acre area offered typical 55-foot lots valued at \$5,600, generally. In today's market the sites in this plot are valued at \$13,000 or higher. Value climbed steadily as development progressed and new improvements continued to come to the area. Just one and one-quarter miles from the Orleans Parish line, the section today is considered close-in.

The West Esplanade Canal at one time severed the area from



THE SAME AREA, HOW IT LOOKS TODAY, shows hundreds of houses in place, surrounded by major improvements. New sites in Wilborne Acres, planned new bridges are indicated. Bayou Tchoupitoulas remains have disappeared.

east to west but bridges soon opened the northernmost hunk of the section all the way to the lakefront. Today there are five bridges in the section, two crossing Bonnabel canal and three spanning West Esplanade canal.

For a long time archeologists and scavengers were aware of the section's treasure. For it was here, that Indian mounds and middens were discovered. Osborne cleared away mounds of clam shells to build his houses. The shells are believed to have been carried to the section from the lake by Indians, who ate their clams and then disposed of the shells in a mound

which would serve as a retreat from high lake waters.

At one time it was reported that the Indian mounds (hills intentionally constructed) and middens (the accumulations of everyday living) represented a long time span of occupation. An anthropologist in 1959 stated that the mounds may have been as old as Tchefuncta, perhaps initially occupied as early as 400 B.C.

Searchers found fish scales from gars, a human femur bone, fragments of pottery and a human tooth where today's modern houses rest.

The area is high and well drained, excellent for building and close to

the Bonnabel Canal which for years has been a major line of drainage. J. J. Krebbs, consulting engineer active in the section, says the ridge through Bonnabel Place extends into Beverly Gardens dr., making available ground that does not require piling for residential construction. Also the large oak trees indicate good soil conditions and an historic dry area that would support such growth.

The Indians apparently came from the lake up Bayou Tchoupitoulas to their campaign grounds at a point near Nero St. in the area of Melody and Beverly Gardens dr., where the most available high land was at that time.

Drainage

Bond Issue Improvements Nearing Completion

Nowhere in the United States is drainage as serious a problem as it is in Jefferson Parish today.

East Jefferson is a 32,000 acre saucer between the river and the lake. It is six feet below sea level.

West Jefferson, with three times more land are to drain than the east bank, drops below sea level less than a mile from the river. It has numerous bayous, canals and lakes.

Each year as 60 inches of rain soaks Jefferson Parish, the land settles, increasing the number of low areas where water collects.

As long as Jefferson was mostly farmland and marsh, as it was 20 years ago, this was not a serious problem. The water would soak into the farmland and run off into the marsh and the high land on which houses were built remained dry.

The sudden, dramatic transformation of Jefferson from a sleepy suburb to a booming urban community has changed all this.

As miles of streets and sidewalks are paved and thousands of new homes are built, the quantity of rainwater runoff multiplies.

Meanwhile, the threat of flood from hurricanes which inundated the west bank in 1927 and the east bank in 1947 make stronger levees a necessity.

The East Jefferson lake levee is being raised to 14 feet. On the west bank the Lake Cataouatche and the Harvey Canal-Bayou Barataria levees are being improved.

But levees, too, create a drainage problem.

As levees go higher, the more difficult it becomes to pump rainwater out of the low land areas.

To correct all of Jefferson's drainage problems would require more than \$100 million.

Last year voters approved a \$9.7 million bond issue for new pumping stations and major improvements to drainage canals and ditches.



This was the maximum amount of money available at that time—\$6,050,000 for the east bank and \$3,656,000 for wards 4, 5, and 6 on the west bank.

Realizing that more drainage funds were badly needed immediately, parish officials obtained legislative approval to call a \$28 million parish-wide bond issue on October 12, 1968, which was fully covered under homestead exemption.

Following recommendations of a new west bank master plan, the Jefferson-Plaquemines drainage district was to be dissolved and Wards 1, 2 and 3 included in the parish-wide bond issue.

Most of the bond issue funds were earmarked for new pumping stations and to improve existing ones all over the parish.

On the west bank the new diesel powered Planters Bypass Pumping Station was planned to drain 13,000 acres in Wards 1, 2 and 3 at the rate of a million gallons per minute.

Immediate improvements were to be made to the existing Hero Pumping Station to assure greater drainage protection while the new station was under construction.

A new diesel powered Ames Pumping Station capable of pumping a half million gallons per minute, increase in capacity of the Goose

Bayou Pumping Station to 178,000 gallons per minute and conversion of the West Barataria Station to diesel power was also planned.

Three pumps at the Estelle Station were to be replaced with larger units and improvements made at the Cousins Canal Station in Harvey.

With all improvements completed combined capacity of pumping stations on the west bank would be increased to almost five million gallons per minute and east bank stations to 4.2 million gallons per minute.

Various other improvements were envisioned for canals, ditches, bayous and levees.

Unfortunately, Jefferson's first parishwide drainage bond issue failed to muster enough votes for passage. However, the parish council plans to resubmit a new parishwide bond issue next year for essentially the same badly needed improvements.

Meanwhile all east bank improvements authorized by the April 29, 1967 bond issue have been completed except at pumping stations.

Enlargement of pumping station No. 1 has been deferred until construction of a new pumping station No. 2 over the Suburban Canal is completed.

This new station, with capacity increased 2½ times over the old station which it replaces, will be ready late in 1970.

On the west bank the following 1967 bond issue improvements have been completed:

- **Bayou Segnette Pumping Station** (Westwego to Avondale)

Six new diesel pumps were added to guarantee 24-hour operation especially in emergencies like Betsy when pumps were out for four days. This provides more reliable protection for a 6100 acre area from Louisiana Street In Westwego to Avondale.

- **Completion of North Cataouatche Protection Levee**

This levee, an important link in the hurricane tide defenses for West Jefferson, was completed with bond issue funds and \$42,000 from the Lafourche Basin Levee District which built the levee.

Some projects were delayed by right of way problems. Those due

for completion in 1969 are:

● **Westwego Pumping Station**
(city of Westwego)

Capacity of the station is being increased by replacing two obsolete smaller pumps with a larger diesel powered pump to assure 24-hour operation. A portion of the Mayronne (WPA) canal will be filled to strengthen levees where dangerous leaking developed during hurricane Hilda and Betsy. The WPA Canal is being widened and improved from the Keyhole canal to the pumping station.

● **Marrero Area Improvements**
A canal connecting the B & C Canal and Ames Canal along the side of the Lincoln school is too small and is preventing free flow of drainage. Larger culverts will be installed under Ames Blvd., to correct this problem and the connecting canal will be improved.

● **Estelle Area Improvements**
The main natural drainage outlet for the Estelle area is Bayou des Familles, which connects to the parish drainage system through numerous undersized pipes. Because these are not adequate to move large quantities of water quickly out of this rapidly developing high land area, flood waters become trapped and do not drain properly. To correct this, 1500 feet of 48 inch culverts will be installed from the center section of Bayou des Familles to the Estelle Pumping Station along Deutsch Road.

● **Railroad Culverts (City of Westwego)**
Land development in Westwego's central business district has been seriously hampered because of inadequate drainage passages in the railroad embankment between 4th street and the River Road near Avenue D. To correct this, a system of culverts and a ditch to connect to the Keyhole Canal are being constructed.

● **West Bank Expressway Culverts (Westwego)**
Drainage parallel to the West Bank Expressway was not adequate to allow storm water to cross Louisiana Avenue. To correct this, large culverts are being installed on both sides of the Expressway.

● **Railroad Culverts (Bridge City-Avondale)**
Larger drainage passages set at proper levels were needed under the

Missouri-Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads to improve drainage in this area served by the Bayou Segnette pumping station. Large culverts are being installed with bond issue funds and money provided by the railroads through a cost sharing formula.

At year end, extensive design work had been completed for the following:

● **New Harvey Canal Pumping Station** (Old Marrero area)

When the new station is completed at George Cousins canal, the existing station will be demolished. New and larger pumps will be installed to double the station's pumping capacity and assure 24 hour operation. George Cousins and a connecting canal will be widened and

deepened. This will improve drainage in the 3500 acre area served by the station.

● **New Crown Point Pumping Station** (Bayou des Familles-Bayou Barataria)

This is a vital part of the Harvey Canal-Bayou Barataria Levee and extends levee protection 10 miles. Gas pipe lines will be relocated.

● **Bayou Barataria Flood Control Gates**

Flood control gates will be installed under the state highway at Bayou Barataria to regulate the flow of drainage water to the Barataria pumping station. Culverts will be installed under the highway and a new drainage ditch will be dug to connect to the main canals leading to the pumping station.

Dollar Value of Permits Again Nears 100 Million

Year's Total Reflects Increase

Estimated value of building permits issued by the Regulatory Division of the Safety Department for the calendar year 1967 reflects an increase of \$1,172,457 over 1966.

This is the second highest construction year in history. However,

the record set in 1965 (\$136,388,648) is expected to be topped in 1968.

Only the unincorporated areas of the parish plus Harahan are included in these figures. Jefferson's four other municipalities have their own regulatory departments.

Number of Building Permits 1967		Estimated Value
2411	One Family.....	\$45,818,960
138	Two Family.....	3,393,414
129	Three & Four Family.....	4,590,670
27	Five or More Family.....	3,777,880
4	Motels, Tourist Courts & Cabins.....	41,600
6	Amusement & Recreational Bldgs.....	1,408,000
10	Churches & Other Religious Bldgs.....	1,257,500
331	Residential Garages & Carports.....	269,677
20	Service Stations.....	612,000
5	Hospitals & Other Institutional Bldgs.....	1,400,000
5	Office, Bank & Professional Bldgs.....	326,000
6	Public Works & Utility Bldgs.....	4,953,750
18	Schools & Other Educational Bldgs.....	8,158,950
181	Stores & Other Merchantile Bldgs.....	12,412,616
8	Other Non-Residential Bldgs.....	38,650
406	Structure other than Bldgs.....	714,059
2385	Addition & Alterations to Residences.....	3,543,754
171	Addition & Alterations to Other Bldgs.....	1,663,561
6261		<u>\$94,381,041</u>

Recreation

Five Year Budget Adopted

The Recreation Department made great strides in 1968 under its new director, Emile A. Davison, who assumed the position in April.

A complete and detailed parish-wide seven-point study of areas and facilities was compiled in booklet form.

A five year capital improvements budget of \$2,459,676 was submitted to the Parish Council and approved on December 19, 1968.

Terrytown's new recreation center and playground was due for completion in March, 1969 while construction bids for the new Rose

Thorne Park facility for the Lafitte-Crown Point-Barataria were expected to be taken next summer.

Lighting systems for the East Bank with a total of \$150,151 are being supplied through a matching federal grant.

Airline Park, Delta and Girard will have a 325 foot regulation baseball diamond which will double in the winter as a football field, and Bunche Village and Lakeshore Playgrounds will have multi-lighted baseball and football areas.

The 42 page study details, for the

first time, all of the playground facilities (both permanent and temporary) currently included in the parish recreation program of activities.

It lists addresses, ownership of land, types of activities, extent of parish participation, personnel involved, registration figures and comments on past, present and future progress.

A complete listing of programs and activities offered is provided at the end of this annual report.

The five year capital improvements program (1969-1973) anticipates receipt of federal matching funds totalling \$1,224,877 for slightly less than half of the total budget.

The Terrytown Community Recreational Center and Playground is Jefferson's first playground, planned from its inception to include the entire development.



The Southern Rebels Drum and Bugle Corps, formed in 1960, is a non-profit, civic minded group of boys and girls ranging in age 13 to 20, representing the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department and practice Thursday and Tuesday nights for two hours at the Jefferson playground on South Street on the East Bank.

All monies earned by the group is used to purchase horns, uniforms, equipment, etc. Corps Director is C. J. Gai, Business Manager, R. P. Mohr; with a full adult staff (all volunteers) of instructors for horns, drums and drill.

The Southern Rebels are supported by the Booster Organization and the Jefferson Lions Club. The Southern Rebels march in various parades throughout the year. They marched in thirteen (13) Mardi Gras parades this year and received "Best Marching Unit" Trophy from the Krew of Zeus, Pagasus, Jason, Jupiter and Peagus during the past three years.

In 1968 the Southern Rebels performed in competition in the states of Florida, New York, New Jersey and Conn. Their plans for 1969 include a July trip to Illinois and Indiana for competition shows.

The photo was taken while the Southern Rebels were marching in the 1968 Ranch Night Parade for the Jefferson Lions Club.

Funds come from a \$500,000 bond issue and a \$140,429 federal grant.

Indoor facilities include a gymnasium, air conditioned rooms for meetings and cultural attractions, arts and crafts, etc.

Outside development of the 9.4 acre park includes lighting for a regulation baseball diamond convertible to football, a youth size diamond, tennis courts, skating and kiddie areas and an outdoor pavillion resembling a giant carport. Walkways will connect to all play areas.

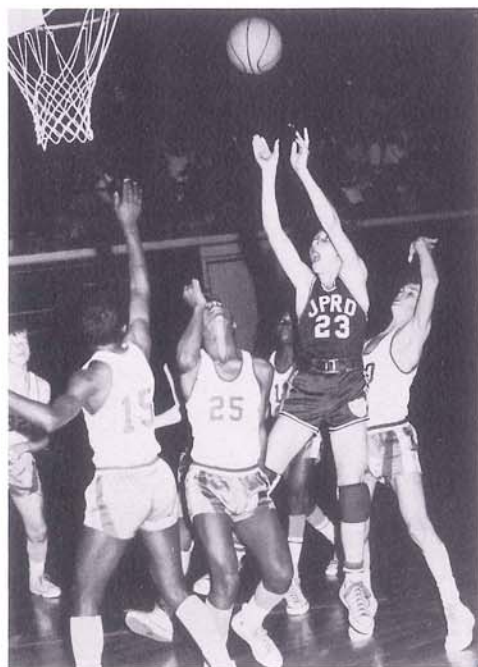
The Rose Thorne Community Recreational Center and Playground is the result of a \$700,000 bond issue approved on October 12, 1968 by property owners in Ward 6. Additional funds are expected to come from a \$200,000 HUD grant.

Facilities will include a gymnasium with an adjoining "recreation room", active sports, small and large multi-use rooms for meetings and cultural attractions, such as arts and crafts, Golden Age, three small offices for community volunteer services and a teen room.

Also planned are baseball and football fields and a day camp area.

Recreational programs offered to Jefferson Parish residents include:

Baseball (boys)—Minor leagues 8, 9 and 10 year olds; Dixie Youth, 10, 11, 12; Dixie Boys 13, 14; Babe Ruth 13, 14, 15; and Dixie Seniors 15, 16 and 17.



Softball (girls) Junior and Senior Leagues, Indoor ball (ladies) at Jefferson, Metairie, Delta, Little Farms and Airline Playgrounds.

Men's softball at Jefferson, Metairie, Delta, Little Farms and Airline Parks.

Volleyball (girls) Junior, Senior and Ladies.

Football Parishwide (boys) 85, 100, 115 pound teams, 11 years and up; Playground leagues 7 years of age and up. Touch football for boys 15 to 18 years of age. Adult Touch football league 19 years and up.

Track and Field (boys and girls) ages 8 to 14.

Tennis (boys and girls) age 9 years and up at Little Farms, Jefferson and Metairie Playgrounds.

Boxing (boys) at Delta Playground (6 years and up) and at Jefferson Playground.

Soccer (boys) at Jefferson Playground.

Ladies Exercise classes are offered at Lakeshore, Girard and Metairie Playgrounds.

Other organized programs include Golden Age clubs at Little Farms, Metairie, Jefferson and Airline Park Playgrounds, field trips, skating, square dancing, and dancing for girls at all 11 centers on the East Bank.

Total attendance for all programs, including outside uses, was 2,117,634.



Library

Leads State In Book Stock Ratio

Branch managers' work schedules were realigned with emphasis on evening hours. For the second year, branch and bookmobile managers worked one day in the reference and

circulation departments at headquarters. Department heads and their assistants reciprocated by working a day each at a branch and on a bookmobile.

The result was a better understanding of each other's opportunities for service.

In a continuing effort to upgrade the quality of the library staff, two employees earned temporary library administrator's certificates from the Louisiana Department of Occupational Standards by successfully completing the required examination.

Twenty three employees attended an eight week seminar on "Human relations in supervisory procedures and techniques" conducted by the Parish Personnel Department.

Nine staff members received service pins—three each for five, ten and fifteen years.

The Library Division, in 1968, recommended the addition of seven branch libraries in a special "Proposed Additional Branch Libraries Study" prepared for the parish council. The new branches are considered necessary to keep pace with rapidly growing Jefferson.

Jefferson Parish, with the youngest of the State's seven largest libraries, once again led the state in book stock per capita (1.43 per person) in 1967. Founded in 1949, the library system last year ranked

third in public library circulation in Louisiana with 892,926 books but spent more (\$156,222) than any other parish for books.

Jefferson is one of only two parish library systems which provide 16 mm films. Its collection includes 559 films and 38 duplicate titles. (This year's summer reading program included film showings at various playgrounds). Housed at the Jefferson Plaza branch and available to all other branches are microfilms of 59 newspapers and magazines.

The Gretna branch library moved to a new and larger building on Willow Drive just off the West Bank Expressway early this year. The off street parking and improved accessibility of the new, well-lighted building has greatly increased use of this important branch.

Meanwhile, the new library headquarters building on Causeway Boulevard continued to attract visitors in the library field

including library science students from Delgado College and Loyola University who are briefed on staff procedures.

Among measures taken to improve handling of requests for reference service, books and periodicals were these:

Recommendations of a Louisiana State Library technical processing consultant enabled the Order Department and the Catalog, Circulation and Acquisitions Departments to accelerate book processing to branches and bookmobiles.

Classes in filing for clerical personnel, bookmobile and branch managers were held following the removal of branch shelf lists from headquarters to the branches as another means of improving service.

Weekly "waiting list" reports were instituted to alert the circulation department to the need for additional titles for "most wanted" books.

Civil Defense

Alert Today—Alive Tomorrow



For the Jefferson Parish Civil Defense Department, "Alert Today—Alive Tomorrow" is more than a slogan to be used during the hurricane season.

Officially, the hurricane season lasts from June 1 through November 15

but providing positive protection for Jefferson's citizens is a year 'round responsibility of civil defense. With 11 salaried personnel and over 350 volunteers, the department is geared to serve the community every day of the year in any emergency or natural disaster.

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Recognizing the importance of the department, larger offices are being refurbished on the eighth floor of the new Gretna Courthouse to house the West Bank Staff.

The civil defense department, which continually acquires equipment to strengthen its capability and increase its mobility, made several important acquisitions this year.

The director and assistant director now have radio-equipped station wagons with flashing beacons and complete first aid equipment. One vehicle is based on the East Bank and the other on the West Bank.

A U. S. Army amphibious "duck" 2½ ton landing vehicle worth \$10,-120 was acquired for \$500 from the Surplus Property Office. A small boat and trailer was obtained for the Marine Search and Recovery Squad.

Two large private health clinics now have two-way civil defense radio communication with West Jefferson General Hospital. This is in addition to 19 units installed by the American Red Cross.

Other surplus property equipment acquired includes two walkie talkies, a 750 KW generator, wide range radio for the East Bank Communications van and an outdoor warning siren for Grand Isle (increasing the parish network of sirens to 16).

The department has budgeted \$20,-000 to acquire a second heavy-duty emergency rescue truck for the West Bank to match the one based on the East Bank.

Early next year, a tri-parish community shelter plan will be printed and distributed to all residents of Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard parishes.

The \$200,000 federal survey, funded by the U. S. Office of Civil Defense was compiled with the assistance of parish civil defense personnel.

It pinpoints on a master map present and future public shelters throughout the parish, best access routes to them by day and night depending on traffic conditions, etc.

In February, a conference for parish elected officials will be held to bring them up to date on Civil Defense procedures.

In the spring, the officials will have an opportunity to put the procedures into effect during an Emer-

gency Operations Simulated Exercise in Gretna.

CD Director, John R. Ridge, and his entire staff attended a Planning and Operations Seminar during June. The 32 hour school held in New Orleans by the LSU Extension Division was also attended by personnel of other parish departments.

Jefferson Parish Civil Defense instructors trained 1565 persons in first aid, medical self help, shelter management operation and other subjects. Trainees came from several adjacent parishes.

The eleventh auxiliary police training course, consisting of ten weekly classes, graduated nine new cadets in November.

The department suffered a severe loss on October 31, 1968 when West Bank Coordinator Michael H. Fabian died. He had served with great distinction since January 31, 1963 when he joined the staff.

In September, a new monthly newsletter, "Team Talk" was inaugurated and plans formulated for increased press, radio and TV coverage.

To implement these plans, the director obtained parish personnel board approval to add a Public Information Officer, a new position which state and federal CD agencies recommended.

An ordinance to establish the new job was scheduled to be voted on by the parish council in December.

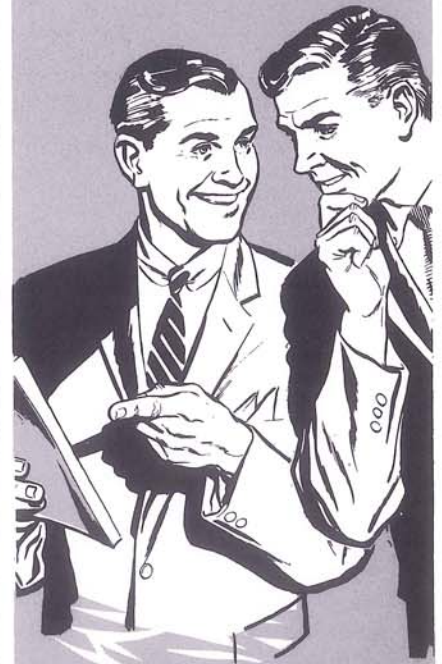
In February, West Bank volunteers helped evacuate residents trapped by local flooding in an area near Highway 90.

On New Year's Eve, the Marine Search and Recovery Team located a light plane in Lake Pontchartrain in an underwater mission coordinated with the rescue and auxiliary police units.

The Jefferson Parish Civil Defense Department serves the unincorporated areas of the parish plus Gretna and Grand Isle, which actively support the CD program. During the year of 1968, the department acquired surplus property valued at \$83,366.94 at a cost of only \$3,788.56.

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Water

Bond Issues Anticipate 30 Year Demand



Implementation of parishwide master planning to increase water plant capacity and storage to 146 million gallons per day and add 115 miles of new, larger transmission lines is well under way.

Revenue bond issues installing \$37.2 million were overwhelmingly approved in 1965 by East Jefferson property owners and in 1967 on the west bank.

With the completion of East Jefferson's second water purification plant in February 1969, capacity will be increased to 70 million gallons per day with additional emergency storage of 18 million gallons.

The Marrero Plant will increase to 50 million gallons per day by late 1970 with storage upped to 8 million gallons.

The new looped trunk line distribution system will add 75 miles of large main lines on the east bank and 40 miles on the west bank. Advantage of the looped system is that flow can be provided to any point from two directions.

The entire system will be monitored electronically to maintain safe water pressure and to quickly locate breaks in lines.

East Jefferson's new auxiliary diesel powered generating station with protected underground wiring was

completed and put into service early this year at the rear of the main plant.

Emergency diesel power is included in Marrero's plant expansion which already has standby power generators.

The combined auxiliary power facilities will keep parish plants operating at full capacity during hurricanes or other emergencies for 15 days at maximum demand, up to 30 days with controlled use.

All of these represent only the first phase of a long range improvement program which anticipates the growth of the parish for the next 30 years.

Immediate benefits to homeowners, businesses and industries are an abundant water supply, increased pressures and more favorable fire insurance rates.

Three years ago the largest water line was 36". Today huge water pipes up to 66" in diameter are being installed.

Work in East Jefferson was 83 per cent complete at year end with 50 miles of water lines added to the consolidated water system which serves the entire east bank including Kenner and Harahan.

Consolidation of five districts on the west bank was accomplished prior to the bond issue, reducing water rates for consumers in four of the districts.

Consolidation of the water districts fills a requirement of Jefferson's home rule charter adopted 10 years ago.

Service rates and millage were equalized and the five mills for maintenance brought under home-stead exemption for all districts.

New main transmission lines now being installed on the west bank along Lapalco Blvd., will extend from Waggaman to the Orleans parish line at Holmes Blvd. and the expressway service road.

Other lines will extend north and south along Peters Road in Harvey, Ames Blvd. and Barataria Blvd. in Marrero and for shorter distances on River Road and the West Bank Expressway.

Mosquito Control

Parish Fights Worst Years

Without an organized mosquito control program Jefferson Parish suffered through terrible, mosquito "plague" years in 1962 and 1963. Alternating periods of drought or rain and floodtides were responsible.

A similar combination of conditions favored increased mosquito production in 1967—and to even a greater extent in 1968. Without a

larger budget providing for more manpower and additional heavy equipment and chemicals, such increased mosquito production could not have been satisfactorily neutralized.

To successfully control mosquito production in 1967 the department had to spend \$399,445. Limited to a budget of only \$306,000 in 1968

but aided by new insecticides combined with manpower efficiency and purchasing economies, the department was able to provide amazingly good protection during a very bad mosquito production year.

Progress of the Mosquito Control Department since it was established in 1965 has been outstanding.

Breeding sites for the saltmarsh mosquito have been eliminated in East Jefferson and substantial progress has been made in West Jefferson. Extensive marsh areas, which produced hordes of mosquitoes in the past, have been eliminated through a permanent control program of drainage.

However, most of the West Jefferson production sites which remain are accessible only by helicopter. Marshbuggy draglines provide the only possible means of eliminating the mosquito breeding potential of these areas.

Construction activities in the huge 3400-acre tract of East Jefferson aggravated the mosquito problem in 1968. The area could not be properly drained by the Department and was inaccessible to most ground vehicles for fogging and spraying. The helicopter was the only means of dealing with this special problem.

Many favorable phone calls and letters have been received from private citizens, industries, health agencies and physicians.

One typical "thank you" letter came from a veterinarian who said the department had done a "magnificent job."

He pointed out that "before the mosquito eradication program was started we treated a great number of dogs for heartworms, which was transmitted by mosquitoes, and the number was increasing. Now, we are seeing less than ten percent of that number."

The doctor concluded by saying "as a believer in preventive medicine I am eternally grateful for your help."

The mosquito control department continued its efforts to assist the council, parish health officer, municipalities and state health officials in rodent control and air pollution control programs.



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Health Unit

Provides Invaluable Services to Jeffersonians



The third phase of an important community survey was begun by the Jefferson Parish Health Unit last year.

A six-month Environmental Health Survey for the entire parish, in conjunction with the U. S. Public Health Service Communicable Disease Center, revealed that several areas were in great need of health and community services.

A two week Health Index Interview Survey consisted of random sampling in good, fair and poor housing areas to determine the health status and medical history of each family including hereditary factors.

One of the most significant survey findings in these areas disclosed that 52 per cent of children from six months to 4 years of age had not been immunized against polio possibly indicating that a complacent attitude had developed since the last major "K. O. Polio" campaign.

The first neighborhood remedial survey was concentrated in an 80 block area in Harvey. Health status of all residents was checked and housing conditions thoroughly investigated.

Special emphasis was given to potential disease breeding areas which harbor flies, mosquitoes and rats and to improper sewerage disposal which potentially spreads infectious hepatitis and other diseases.

Results of the survey were carefully documented and direct rec-

ommendations for health improvement and disease hazard removal made to each family.

Two community groups were organized in the areas of greatest need and remedial health services were provided.

Each homeowner cleared his property of trash, debris and junk which was hauled away by the parish Roads and Bridges department.

This "grass roots" method of discovering and remedying health deficiencies was so successful in terms of direct benefit to the individuals and the community that similar surveys are planned for Lincoln Manor and other areas.

Health unit rodent control personnel continued their "war on rats" in cooperation with the mosquito control department and the state board of health.

To determine how well the Jefferson unit is doing its job, a detailed comparison was made of three other parish health units of comparable size.

The study which covered the years 1964 through 1967 not only proved that Jefferson provided more health protection services than the other parishes but showed that a greater number of its citizens availed themselves of its services.

One example was the number of TB skin tests made in 1967. Jefferson's total (32,124) was 7,000 more than the other three parishes combined.

Jefferson this year became the first parish with a full time air pollution Sanitarian. High volume air pumps equipped with special filters measure content of the air at the rate of 50 cubic feet per minute. Samples are taken daily on both sides of the river and carefully studied.

Jefferson's 22 sanitarians perform many other duties. They provide radiological surveillance of milk processed for the New Orleans metropolitan area by the four largest dairies. Samples are airmailed weekly to the U. S. Public Health regional laboratory in Montgomery, Ala.

With a budget of \$970,000 and 105 employees, the health unit is directed by Dr. Hilda M. Reynaud. The five man Board of Health, which serves without pay, was appointed this year to its third four year team. Members are Isadore M. Yager, M. D., president and parish health officer; A. Bernard Goldman, M. D., Chairman; Floyd M. Hindelang, M. D., Roland Folse and Joseph S. Lucas, members.

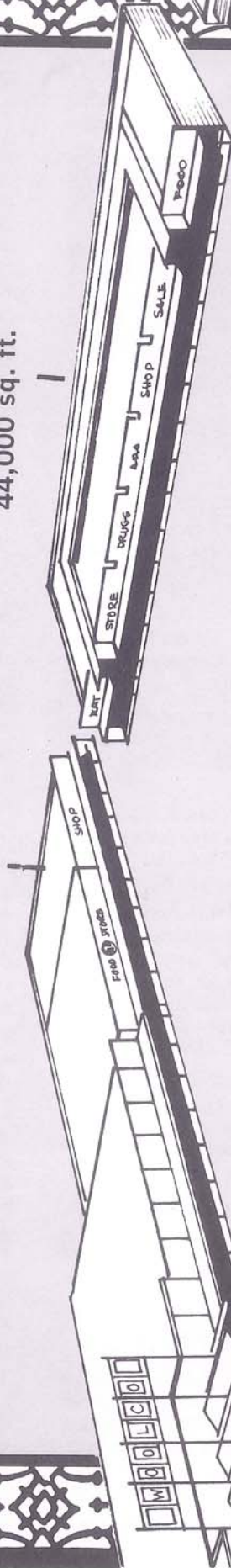
Among the accomplishments of the Jefferson health unit this year are these:

- Improved pay scale for all employees with a new minimum of \$500 per month for professional staff members.
- Completed plans for mobile clinic, with dental unit included to serve outlying areas. The Polio Foundation of the Jefferson Parish Medical Society provides the unit.
- 16,466 small animals (mainly dogs) were vaccinated in annual Rabies Vaccination Day—an increase of 2,477 over 1967. The total is approximately half of the vaccinations given during the year.
- Weekly night inspections of food establishments were made by two man teams on a rotating basis.
- 80 children at special retarded school were given general physical examinations.
- 278 visits were made under 24 hour medicare program.
- Diabetic detection program for 7,000 school children, in cooperation with East Jefferson Jaycees, resulted in one confirmed diabetic, five children referred for further testing.
- Provided field experience for Tulane sociology students, LSU nursing and Dominican College nutrition students plus Jefferson Vocational-Technical LPN trainees.
- Provided medical, social and nutritional services in OEO neighborhood service centers. (Dr. Hilda M. Reynaud is OEO medical director.)

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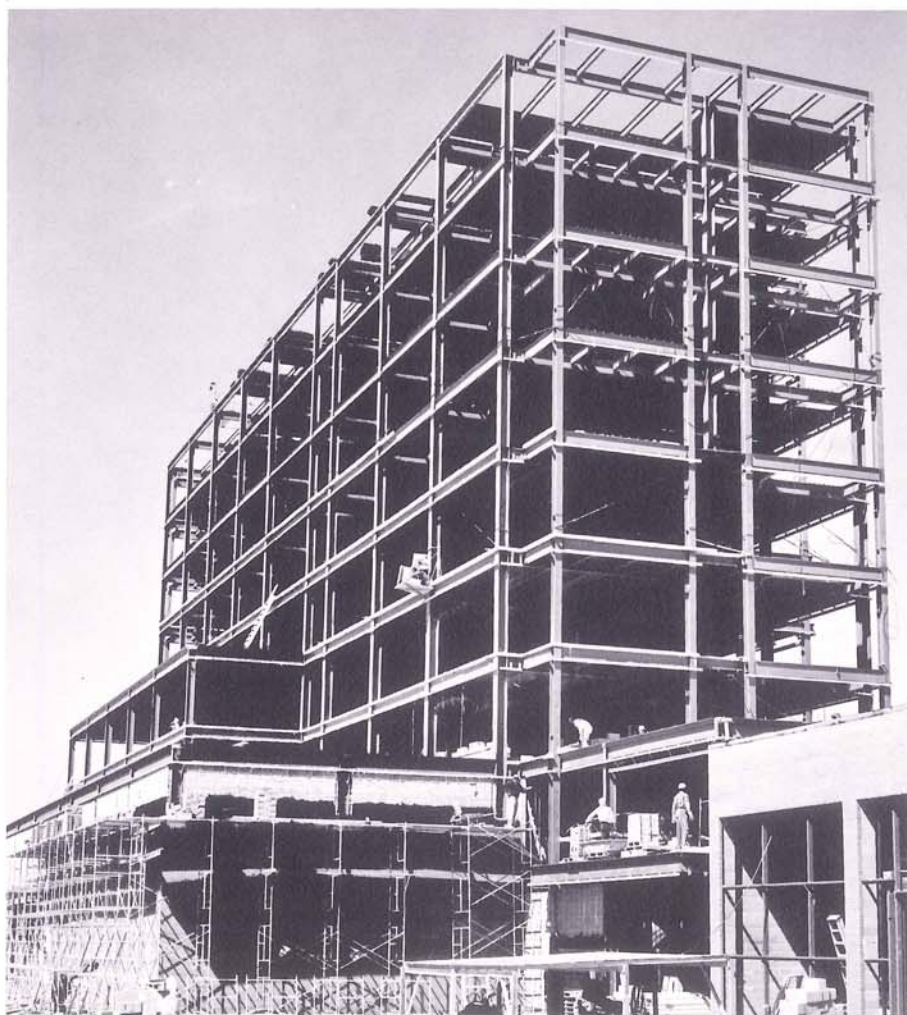
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Medical Facilities

East Jefferson Hospital Construction Begins, Expand West Jefferson Facility



Construction of the first 250 bed phase of the East Jefferson General Hospital began in July this year while bids were received in November to enlarge West Jefferson General Hospital to 310 beds.

Funds for the East Jefferson General Hospital, which will be ready by late summer 1970, come from a \$4 million bond issue and two Federal Hill-Burton grants totalling \$3,284,000.

Capacity of the \$654,000 expansion project at West Jefferson will increase hospital capacity to 310 patients. Completion of the fourth floor of the new wing will add 50 beds. Also planned is an 8 bed intensive coronary unit, more emergency room facilities, a new department of nuclear medicine, a

blood bank and additional X-ray and educational facilities.

A \$5,337,000 contract was signed on June 25, 1968 for first phase construction of the hospital plus special equipment. The first 250 beds will include intensive care (7), coronary (9), maternity (20), with the remainder for acute medical, surgical and pediatric patients. Also planned is an 11 bed recovery room.

All rooms on the nine patient floors will have a view of the lake with complete sun control and no exposed glass. They will be served from an 11 story service tower. An automated central kitchen will be equipped to supply a wide selection of patient meals and refreshments.

The hospital faces Lake Pontchartrain on a 20 acre tract bounded by

Fairfield, Hudson, Ithaca and the Suburban Canal.

It is in the population center of East Jefferson between Veterans Highway and W. Esplanade. It is near Clearview, a major link between the river and the lake with access from the Interstate 10 interchange.

First phase construction embodies built-in planning so that the second 500 bed phase and final 250 beds can be added without impeding operation of the hospital.

Additional construction funds for the ultimate 1000 bed complex are expected to be generated by hospital revenues and matching Hill-Burton funds.

On October 14, 1968 a "time capsule" ceremony was held at the construction site. The capsule, a stainless steel cylinder, contains various contributions from parish, state and federal officials and documents from health and social welfare agencies representing Jefferson.

Singled out for special praise at the ceremony was the nine man East Jefferson Hospital Planning Board who donated their time, talent and energy for more than three years to make the new medical facility a reality.

The businessmen and civic leaders on the board include Harry J. Collins, Chairman; Richard McCarthy, Jr., Vice Chairman; John McCloskey, Secretary; Joseph C. Domino, Treasurer; Joseph F. Bautsch, Jr., Frank Cicero, Nicholas J. Gagliano, Harold P. Tassin, and Joseph S. Yenni.

Master of ceremonies for the time capsule ceremony was Mose Ellis, who was appointed administrator for the East Jefferson Hospital effective December 20, 1967 on recommendation of the board. He has worked closely with the architect and hospital consultant in general planning.

Ellis is also concentrating on the basic organization of the medical staff and in the screening and recruiting of key staff employees.

In addition, he is establishing guidelines for procedural systems for hospital operations and preparing the first year's operating budget and has begun initial work on a hospital auxiliary.



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Typical of parish improvements at major thoroughfare intersections is this view of Clearview Parkway and Veterans Mem. Blvd., with overpass at I-10 in the distance. At right is huge new shopping center nearing completion.

Transportation

Parish Prepares for Interurbia

By the year 2000, almost 90 per cent of this nation's 350 million people will be packed into huge interurban areas.

One of these will include Jefferson Parish whose population is expected to zoom to a million by then.

But the urgent need for improved transportation facilities is already here for Jefferson—primarily a commuter community with a 1967 population over 325,000 and growing at the rate of 15,000 a year.

Parish officials first recognized the problem in 1958 when they formulated a major street plan.

Now, ten years later with twice as many residents, the need for more and better roads is critical.

Veterans Highway and the I-10 now carry 45,000 vehicles a day while 49,000 a day use Causeway Boulevard. At Airline Highway and Labarre Road, the traffic count is a staggering 61,000 daily.

On the West Bank, the daily total

for West Bank Expressway and Terry Parkway, at the entrance to the parish, is 50,000 vehicles.

Besides a major network of local feeder streets, Jefferson's huge land area of 426 square miles requires inner and outer metropolitan beltway loops to take the bulk of high speed "through" traffic out of its subdivisions by serving as major by-pass routes.

The inner loop is already functioning. It is composed of Airline Highway, Pontchartrain Expressway, Greater New Orleans bridge, West Bank Expressway, the Huey P. Long bridge and Jefferson Highway.

The beginning of the Outer Loop is the Federal Interstate Highway on the East Bank completed to Williams Blvd. in Kenner.

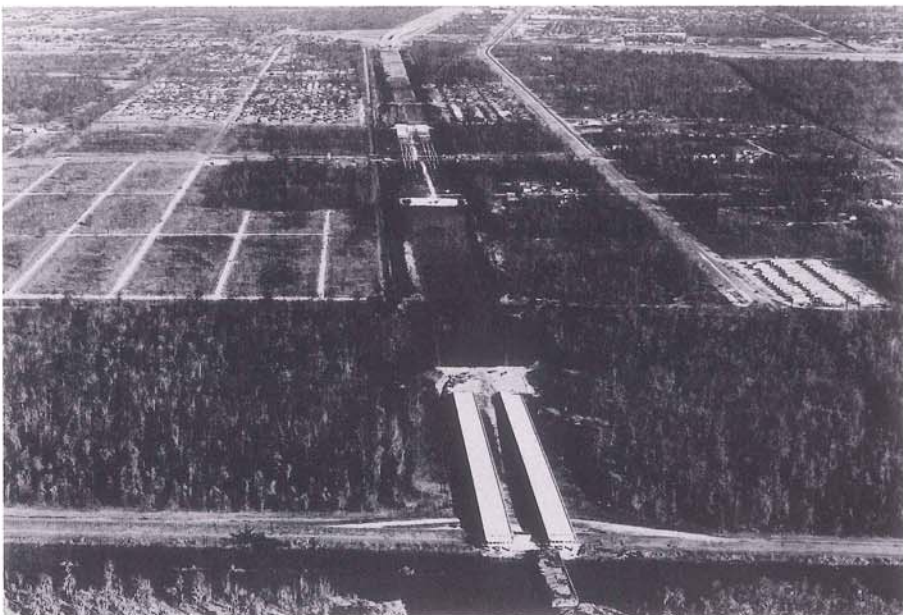
On December 13, 1968, U. S. Rep. Hale Boggs announced federal approval of a \$220 Million Interstate Superhighway "outer loop" for the West Bank which includes two new Mississippi River bridges.

The U. S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Public Roads approval allows expenditure of more than \$200 million with the State contributing ten per cent (10%), or \$20 million.

Originally planned as the "Dixie Freeway" by parish officials in 1964, the divided multi-laned outer beltway runs roughly parallel and south of the existing West Bank Expressway.

The 30 miles represent Louisiana's entire share of the 1500 miles of additional interstate expressway authorized by Congress in 1968.

Construction could possibly begin within two years as funds become available from gasoline taxes and other highway user revenue which accumulate in the interstate system's trust fund. Also the State Highway Department must find the funds and establish a priority for the project on its interstate schedule. The West Bank Superhighway will tie in with Interstate 10 in East New Orleans utilizing the new Tidewater Channel Bridge and crossing the Mississippi River to Algiers over a new bridge in the general vicinity of Chalmette. It will swing through the undeveloped West Jefferson areas about two miles south of the West Bank



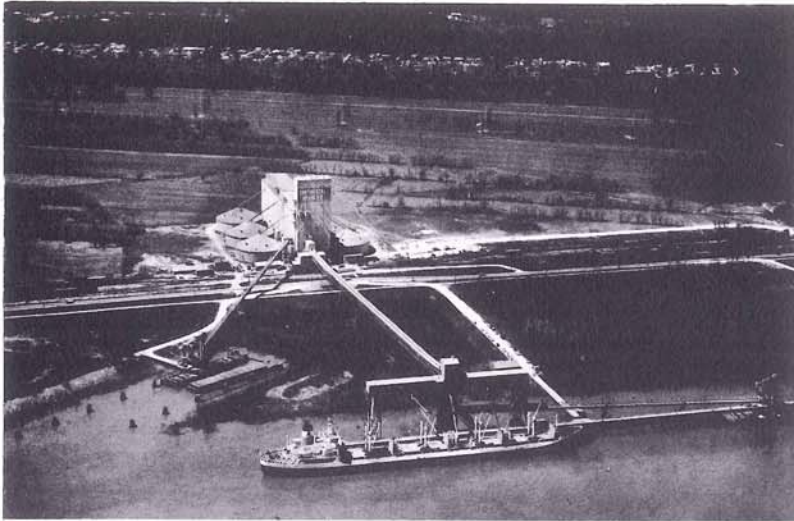
Interstate Highway 10 section at the Jefferson-St. Charles parish line, looking east, is shown in this state highway department photo with Veterans Memorial Blvd., dead end shown at right.

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Expressway and recross the river on a new bridge above Kenner and tie back into I-10 on the East Bank in St. Charles Parish northwest of New Orleans International Airport.

The beltway will open up thousands of acres of land for residential, industrial and recreational development and will greatly improve access to the Michoud Assembly plant, Avondale Shipyards and the 7700 Acre Bonnet Carre Spillway recreation project.

Boggs and parish officials hailed the \$220 Million superhighway and the two bridges as the "beginning of the end" for traffic congestion which has been strangling the growth of the metropolitan area.

They pointed out that the four-parish, million population, area which includes Jefferson is the only one of the South or Southeast without a complete outerloop.

Meanwhile, strengthening of the East Bank inner loop continues.

Twenty per cent of the right of way for Earhart Blvd., has been acquired as the parish awaits state and federal road system funds, approved but not yet appropriated.

Negotiations are continuing to speed acquisition of the bulk of the remaining right of way (60 per cent), which is owned by several railroads.

Actual construction will begin next year on Earhart. The first phase will provide a four lane controlled access highway extending Earhart Blvd. in New Orleans to Hickory. Future plans call for six lanes.

Connections are projected for Deckbar, Causeway, Cleary and Clearview with four major rail crossings.

Another new inner loop 'leg' for the West Bank is Lapalco Blvd., a local road.

Work on the first two lanes between Belle Chasse Hwy. and Peters Road is 70 per cent complete with final paving set for June, 1969.

Ten years from now, officials of St. Bernard, Orleans and Jefferson Parish envision a "Transcity" Expressway, a controlled access major artery with a capacity of 60,000 vehicles a day.

Originating in St. Bernard Parish and traversing the width of Orleans and Jefferson it would flow into Veterans Hwy. with connections to Airline, Earhart and the I-10 in St. Charles parish.

Resurfacing of Veterans Hwy. and widening to six lanes from the Orleans Parish line to David Drive and completion of protected U-turns has significantly improved traffic flow on this major artery.

Bids are expected to be taken in June, 1969 for the \$2.25 million Causeway Blvd., overpass at Veterans Hwy., with work to begin about six weeks later.

Preliminary plans were approved by the parish council in October for the six-lane twin structure. The state highway department, the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads and the Causeway Commission, which is participating in the financing, also okayed the preliminary plans.

Causeway Blvd. connections to the I-10 will be revamped at the south end to assure smooth intermixing of traffic.

Final plans must be reviewed by the state highway department before construction can begin. Completion is scheduled for early 1971.

Service roads will be built alongside Causeway Blvd. for the entire 1900 foot length of the overpass with turning lanes to provide access to Lakeside Shopping Center.

Each side of the twin overpass will have three lanes, one of which will be a protected turning lane.

At the urging of Jefferson Officials, significant improvements were made on the Airline and Jefferson Highways.

The east bound roadway of Airline was widened twelve feet from Transcontinental to Central and protected left turn storage lanes provided at Transcontinental, Clearview and Central. Vehicles move on a green arrow signal for maximum safety.

Nine protected left turn storage lanes were also built in the Jefferson Highway median from the Orleans Parish Line to St. George Avenue.

On the West Bank, the storage lane at West Bank Expressway and Terry Parkway was lengthened during December.

Grand Isle Twin Due This Year



Freeport Sulphur Co. is building its second sulphur mine in the Gulf, to be located seven miles southwest of the first offshore mine in the industry, shown here, near Grand Isle.

The new \$25 million facility, at Caminada Pass, will be erected this year and will make an important contribution to the Free World's output of sulphur, now in short supply.



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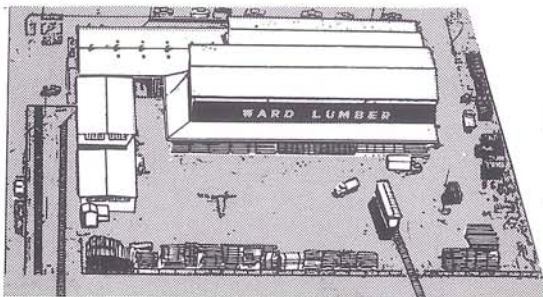
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Next year, the state highway department will interconnect all traffic signals on this expressway to improve vehicular flow.

Also planned is a complete "overlay" for the entire length of Airline Highway.

Completion of W. Metairie Avenue in July gave Jefferson another major four lane concrete street less than half a mile from Airline Hwy. which it roughly parallels. Opening of the Boulevard Street from N. Causeway Blvd., to Williams Blvd., in Kenner and increasing the speed limit to 35 mph has doubled the capacity of this new east-west local road.

Meanwhile, improvements to existing major streets and bridges continued.

Status of East Bank major street improvements as of December 1, 1968 was as follows:

WEST ESPLANADE AVE.

- University City to Duncan Canal. Two lanes with bituminous base on north side opened to traffic in March. Final surfacing completed in September.

- Duncan Canal bridge completed.
- Duncan Canal to Driftwood Drive. Two lanes with shell base on north side opened to traffic in March. Final surfacing completed in July.

- Hudson to Causeway Blvd. (No. Side). 90 per cent of right of way (ROW) acquired. Construction begins when installation of sewer and water lines is completed.

- Causeway Blvd. to Melody (So. Side). Concrete paving completed. Opens in January, 1969.

- Melody Drive to Bonnabel Blvd. (So. Side). 95 per cent ROW acquired.

- Causeway Blvd. to Bonnabel Blvd. (No. Side). Acquired 90 per cent ROW.

VETERANS HIGHWAY

- Kenner to Orleans Parish line—Base repair and bituminous overlay completed in March.

WEST NAPOLEON AVE.

- Kent Ave. to Hudson St. (So. Side)—Engineering design completed and ROW acquisition begun.

- Hudson to Causeway Blvd.—80 per cent ROW acquired.

WEST METAIRIE AVE.

- Williams Blvd. to Kent (No. Side). Completed in March.

• Kent to Edenborn (No. Side). Completed in July.

SEVERN AVE.

Three projects will start in October, 1969. There are:

- 40th St. to I-10, then to Veterans Hwy., then to W. Esplanade.
- Airline Hwy. to Derbigny. Begins in February when drainage is completed.

CLEARY AVE.

• Airline Hwy. to W. Metairie. 90 per cent ROW acquired. Main drain installation completed. Roadwork begins in April.

• Veterans Hwy. to W. Esplanade. Received bids in October. Work begins in March.

• W. Esplanade Ave. to Lake. Engineering design in progress. 90 per cent ROW acquired. Begins December, 1969.

CLEARVIEW PKWY.

• Airline Hwy. to W. Metairie. Four lanes completed in March.

• W. Metairie to I-10. All ROW acquired. Work begins in February.

DAVID DRIVE

• Airline Hwy. to Veterans Hwy. Two lanes opened to traffic in December. Completion of all four lanes is expected by May, 1969.

On the West Bank, major street improvements shape up like this:

MANHATTAN BLVD.

• Lapalco to Gretna Blvd. Cleared and shelled.

GRETNA BLVD.

• Hero to Manhattan. To be completed in June, 1969.

WESTWOOD DRIVE

• West Bank Expressway to Mayronne. Two lanes completed.

HOLMES BLVD.

• West Bank Expressway to Behrman Hwy. Drainage completed, sewerage and water lines being installed. Roadway completion expected by September, 1969.

CAROL SUE AVE.

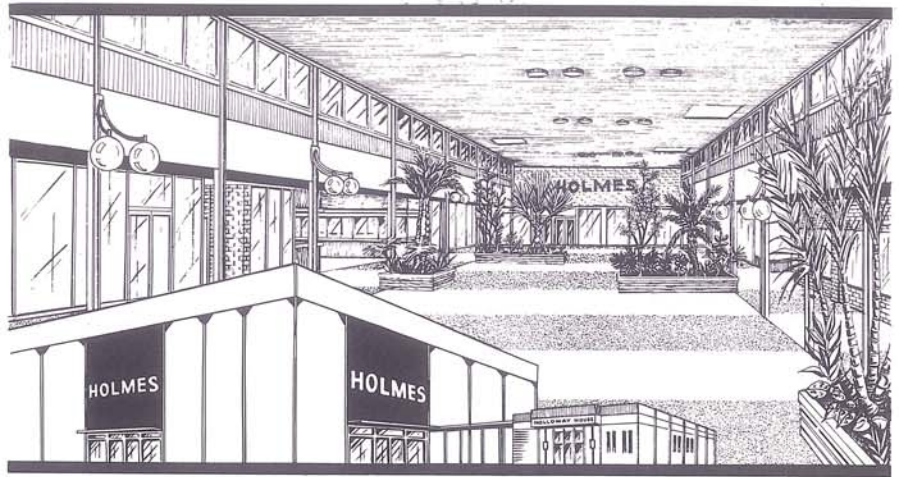
• Farmington to Wright Ave. To be completed in June, 1969.

WALL BOULEVARD

• Lapalco to Belle Chasse Hwy. Four lane roadway to be completed in May.

Project is on Schedule

The \$12 million parishwide bond issue project to blacktop all shelled



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streets accepted for maintenance as of April 29, 1967 and roadside ditches alongside them is right on schedule.

On the East Bank, the first 36.7 miles are under contract with 60 per cent drainage installed and 40 per cent of blacktopping completed. Bids will be taken on an additional 8.4 miles in December.

On the West Bank, the first 35.7 miles are under contract with 68 per cent drainage installed and 35 per cent of blacktopping completed. Bids will be taken in December for another 6.7 miles.

The work is evenly divided between the East and West Banks and involves a total of 400 streets.

The widening of Baratavia Blvd., and Belle Chasse Hwy., are state highway projects. Specific appropriations must be made before right of way acquisition can begin.

Other means of relieving traffic congestion are also being explored. Rapid transit commuter service between New Orleans Union Passenger rail station and the Airport in Jefferson is the goal of a \$36,000 Federal grant for an engineering feasibility study arranged through the U. S. Department of Transportation with the city of New Orleans sharing in the overall cost. Two local engineering firms—Burk and Associates, Inc. and Fromherz Engineers—will participate.

Guidelines were worked out by directors of the Regional Planning Commission, the Railroad Terminal Board and the Kenner City Planning Department. Eighty per cent of the route will be in Jefferson using either the right-of-way or the yards of the I.C.R.R.

Early next year, a private company will demonstrate a railway bus on the tracks.

Improvements in public transit were also underway.

In December, a parish resolution authorized an administrative staff study of the possibility of using parish funds to subsidize Marrero to Lafitte bus service and "other unprofitable routes" throughout the parish.

A month earlier, the Council approved bus service between Oakville and Belle Chasse to Oakwood and Westside Shopping Centers and the Gretna ferry.

THE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN CAUSEWAY

By John R. Lambert, Jr.

Chairman, Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission

With the last slab now in place on both the new south-north span and the partially reconstructed north-south span, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway is second to none in the world.

While it is a proud thing to be able to say that we, who serve as members of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission, administer the affairs of the "World's longest bridge," our first thought always is of motoring safety. The nearly 24 miles of straight, one-way driving will be "second to none" in terms of safety—as it is second to none in terms of length.

The seven cross-overs or safety bays which connect the two spans are safety factors added to the new one-way pattern. Vehicles in emergencies can pull into them out of traffic and, in the event some outside force makes a section of the Causeway impassable, the guard gates of the crossovers can be unlocked to permit detouring—thus practically assuring continuous operation as well.

Nearly \$60 million has been spent to complete the unique parallel facility, as has been noted by such "bibles" of the engineering and construction world as Engineering News-Record. In its April 18 issue last year, the magazine reported that the Causeway "will equal the old bridge in length, surpass it in safety and cost less, despite escalating costs during the 12 years separating their construction." Improved materials and casting techniques, which permit longer spans,



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cast complete with deck, guard-rails and drainage system were some reasons for lower costs. The other is that the original bridge served as a full-scale, on-site model for its twin.

We are very proud of this achievement in favor of the toll-payers and tax-payers, as we are proud of the increased safety of the final, economical structure itself.

As St. Tammany and Jefferson parishes are drawn closer together as a result of the Causeway, and as the metropolitan area and the state as a whole benefit through new business, industry and tourism, we hope that the young generation will look back and say the world's longest bridge was also one of the best ideas in the world.



Members of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission, administrators of the Lake Pontchartrain causeway, are unique—for the 24-mile continuous overwater highway is, in fact, the longest bridge in the world and they are its builders. A five-member body drawn jointly from St. Tammany and Jefferson, the courage and far-sightedness of the commissioners has created a direct, connecting link between the Jefferson-Orleans-St. Bernard-Plaquemines metropolitan area and the Florida Parishes, the doorway to central Mississippi and Alabama.

A Brief History

Continued from Page 7

from the Balize (at the mouth of the river), to the Parish of St. Charles. It was made up of what is now parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines. On March 31, 1807,

the Orleans Territorial Legislature split the twelve countries into nineteen parishes, retaining the term county only for purposes of representation and taxation until 1845. Two of these new parishes, St. Bernard and Plaquemines, were taken from Orleans. All of the remaining territory of Orleans County became Orleans Parish, which comprised the second and third senatorial district. It was the third senatorial district in Orleans Parish which in 1825 became Jefferson Parish.

Many of the present population of the parish are descendants of the French colonists who came to Louisiana during the eighteenth century. The earliest land grants in the section go back to 1719. These grants and subsequent sales of property to settlers formed the basis of the plantations which grew up along the river.

Following the line of the river, these plantations developed first into faubourgs (suburbs), usually taking the name of the former owner, then into a series of incorporated towns, each destined to be absorbed by the growing City of New Orleans. By 1810 so many people desired homes that the large land owners decided to divide their holdings into lots to be sold to new settlers.

On April 1, 1833, the faubourgs Nuns, Lafayette and Livaudais were incorporated as the City of Lafayette, which served as the parish seat until 1852 when it was annexed by New Orleans.

Immedicately beyond the City of Lafayette was the "Borough of Freeport", which was absorbed by the incorporation of the City of Jefferson, along with the faubourgs of Plaisance, Delachaise, St. Joseph, East and West Bouligny. Twenty years later, on March 16, 1870, New Orleans annexed the City of Jefferson.

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Jefferson Democrat

Official Journal of the

Parish of Jefferson

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rollton. Before the Civil War it was regarded as a summer resort by the people of New Orleans. It is the only one of the early towns of Jefferson Parish which, as a part of New Orleans, has retained its former name.

The land on which Carrollton now stands was known as the Macarty sugar plantation. In 1831 the entire tract was sold and converted into lots and squares. The embryo town was named after General William Carroll, who with a large force of Tennessee militia, enroute to the Battle of New Orleans, had encamped in 1814 on the plantation. Incorporated March 10, 1845, it became the City of Carrollton in 1850. The city extended its limits in 1872 to take in all the territory between Lowerline Street and Labarre Road, in Jefferson Parish.

The rapid growth of New Orleans made the annexation of Carrollton almost inevitable. When Carrollton was annexed on March 1874 the upper limits were dropped back to Monticello Street, where they remain today.

When Jefferson was created in 1825, twelve commissioners were appointed and the parish was divided into twelve districts.

In 1858, because of differences which developed within the police jury, separate police jury districts were created on the "right" bank (West Jefferson) and on the "left" bank (East Jefferson), excluding the city of Jefferson and the town of Carrollton.

During Reconstruction the power of the police jury was superseded by the Metropolitan Police, which in 1868 placed the parish in the power of five commissioners. They held undisputed control over the police jury and the finances of the parish for almost ten years. In 1877, following the installation of Francis Nichols as governor, the Metropolitan Police was abolished by the legislature, and the two parish police juries resumed control.

In 1884 the legislature consolidated the juries, right and left bank, into one and divided it into nine police jury wards. Another act of 1884 returned control of villages and unincorporated towns to the parish. The same legislation empowered the governor to appoint an additional juror for each ward with a population of 5,000 inhabitants, and one more for each additional 5,000 or part thereof in excess of 2,500. The additional jurors were to be selected from the registered voters of the ward. Under the authority of acts similar to those of 1880 and 1882 the governor continued to appoint the successors to the police jury until 1896. Control over local affairs was made possible by an act of 1894 which provided that the election of police jurors be resumed in all the parishes, except New Orleans, at the general election of 1896, and at general elections every four years thereafter.

Beginning in 1908, Jefferson and other parishes with a population of less than 50,000 were permitted to elect an additional police juror in wards with more than 5,000 inhabitants, and more for each additional 5,000 or part thereof in excess of 2,500 inhabitants.

By the middle fifties, it became apparent that the police jury form of parish government, must be streamlined, coordinated and concentrated for greater efficiency and economy. The result was the present President-Council form of government.

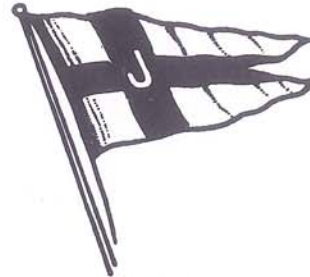
The first parish seat was established at Lafayette in 1825, but was removed to the City of Carrollton in 1852, when Lafayette was annexed to the Parish of Orleans. In 1858 the two separate police juries, the City of Jefferson and town of Carrollton all held their meetings at the Courthouse in Carrollton. (Now the Benjamin Franklin Sr. High School at 719 So. Carrollton Ave.) In 1874, when the City of

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Carrollton was annexed to New Orleans, the parish seat was moved to Harvey, where Harvey's Castle, built in 1844 served as the courthouse. From 1884 to 1907 the courthouse was located in William Tell Fire Hall at Newton & Third Street in Gretna, and from 1907 to 1956 in the building which now serves as the Gretna city hall.

Jefferson Parish has had many boundary changes, the major ones caused by the annexations of Lafayette, Jefferson City and Carrollton by New Orleans. The final change came in 1892 when permanent Orleans-Jefferson boundaries were established.

Jefferson has an area of 426 square miles. Within these boundaries today are six governments—representing five incorporated municipalities headed by a mayor, marshal and board of aldermen, and the President-Council which is the governing body of Jefferson's unincorporated areas. All of the lower part of the parish is coastal marsh, and the entire parish is alluvial, formed by sediment brought down by the Mississippi.

Several of the towns of Jefferson are connected with historical events and colorful legends. Kenner, incorporated in 1873 on the east bank of the Mississippi River twelve miles above New Orleans, is one of the oldest towns in the parish. In the days before the Civil War when sugar culture was important, this section was known as "Cannes Brules" or "Burnt Cane". Two of the largest sugar plantations were owned by the Kenner brothers. When sugar became no longer profitable, the owners divided their plantation into lots, which they sold to settlers. The first settlers were of Irish and German descent, but later many Italian families settled here.

Two miles below Kenner is Harahan, Jefferson's "City of Homes" with a mid-1968 population of 11,000 and one of the nation's highest per capita incomes.

Old Metairie, from a French word meaning 'farm' is immediately west of New Orleans, comprising an area of about six square miles. Metairie Bayou, once a navigable stream alongside the present Metairie Road, by overflowing its banks with each high water period many years past, caused silt to settle on each side of the bayou, thereby building up the so-called "ridge", which is several feet higher than the greater portion of the residential area of New Orleans. Just across Metairie Bayou from the road is Metairie Cemetery, at the junction of Metairie Road and Pontchartrain Boulevard. This was once the old Metairie race track where many famous races were run in the pre-Civil War period.

Gretna, the parish seat, was settled in the eighteenth century by a group of German immigrants who called their village Mechanickham. John Baptiste D' Etrehan (now spelled Destrehan) a large land owner, hired some of these settlers to dig a canal for him from the Mississippi River to Little Bayou Barataria, a distance of five miles. The canal was completed in 1741 and was named in his honor. Passing from father to son, it became the property of Nicholas Noel Destrehan, of Jefferson Parish. When he died in 1848, the canal remained under the control of his daughter, Mrs. Louise Destrehan Harvey. Following the Civil War the name was changed to Harvey's Canal. It remained in the Harvey family until 1924 when it was purchased by the United States as a part of the Intracoastal Waterways System.

At McDonoghville, incorporated as a part of the village of Gretna on June 3, 1913, is the cemetery established by John McDonogh for his slaves. McDonogh, born in Baltimore, came to New Orleans in 1800 and amassed a large fortune from sugar planting, brick manufacturing and real estate. In 1817 he moved across to one of his plantations

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on the west side of the river, where later the town of McDonoghville grew up. Some years after McDonogh's death, in 1850, his remains were moved to Baltimore in deference to a request in his will. Known during his life as a miser and an eccentric,

McDonogh is now remembered for his philanthropic deeds. At his death, he left a million dollars for educational purposes. Thirty-six schools were built in the New Orleans area, all bearing his name. Today his memory is honored by school children who place flowers about his statue in Lafayette square on the first Friday in May and on the empty tomb he once occupied in McDonoghville.

Westwego began in 1882 as a fishing village known as Salaville. Salaville was one of four loading docks on the Mississippi. When longshoremen assembled in the afternoon to be assigned to a location for the next day's work, those assigned to Salaville would pass the word "West we go" and eventually the town became known as Westwego. This town, located on the river above Gretna, was incorporated January 18, 1919 by proclamation of the governor. Its 1940 population (4992) was 8 short of earning the town status as a city but ten years later Westwego received its city charter.

One of the most picturesque sections of Louisiana is Barataria, the name applied to the entire lower part of Jefferson. Going south we find the village of Barataria, Bayou Barataria and Barataria Bay before reaching Grande Terre Island, Jean and Pierre Lafitte's headquarters in the early nineteenth century.

At the southern tip of the parish is the island of Cheniere Caminada, incorporated as part of the township of Grand Isle in June of 1959. Cheniere Caminada probably perpetuates the memory of Francisco Caminada, a New Orleans landowner. On October 1, 1893, a terrific storm struck

the coast of Louisiana, with the center of its violence slamming into Cheniere Caminada. Three hundred houses were blown down and 1200 of 1800 were killed. Some of the survivors took refuge at what is now Westwego. Pablo Sala, a resident of the town donated to each of the survivors who wished to locate there a plot of ground, and also provided a cemetery for them. For a while the settlement was known as Salaville. Later the name was changed to Westwego.

In 1834 a tract of land on Grande Terre, in the lower end of Barataria Bay, was purchased by the state from Etienne de Gruy and ceded to the United States as a fort site. The fort was completed in 1850 and named Fort Livingston. It was not garrisoned after the Civil War, and was partially destroyed in the Cheniere Caminada hurricane of 1893.

At the end of the parish lies Grand Isle, (incorporated as a town in 1959) with the waters of Rigaud Bay on one side, and the rolling surf of the Gulf of Mexico on the other. This island, too, was a stronghold for Jean Lafitte and many of its inhabitants today are descendants of his band. Each year in July, Grand Isle attracts over 2000 contestants to the annual Tarpon Rodeo. The idea for the first rodeo came in 1927 from John C. Donovan, a fishing enthusiast of New Orleans.

Another event of great interest is the annual pirogue race, held at Lafitte each May. Inaugurated in 1936, the race serves to perpetuate the traditions surrounding this Indian mode of travel, and to pay tribute to the skill of the men of the bayous in the building and handling of these little craft. The contest is staged on Bayou Barataria.

Today Jefferson, thesecondlargest parish in Louisiana, is experiencing an amazing residential and industrial growth that, since 1964 has exceeded that of any parish or county, of comparable size, in the south.



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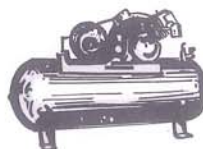
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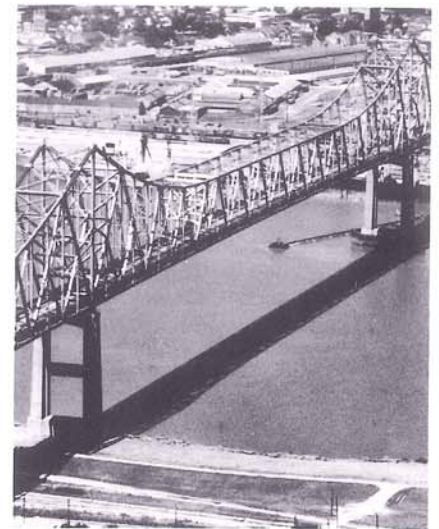
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PARISH PRESIDENT — Thomas F. Donelon; **COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE** (and Council Chairman) Charles J. Eagan, Jr.; **EAST BANK COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE** (and Vice Chairman of Council) Jacob H. Sciambra (Wards 7, 8, 9, 10); **WEST BANK COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE** — Harold L. Molaison (Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11); **FIRST DISTRICT COUNCILMAN**—Beauregard H. Miller, Jr. (Wards 1, 2, 3); **SECOND DISTRICT COUNCILMAN**—Charles M. "Chuck" Miller (Wards 4, 5, 6, 11); **THIRD DISTRICT COUNCILMAN**—George J. Ackel (Wards 7, 9); **FOURTH DISTRICT COUNCILMAN** — Anton "Andy" Pilney (Wards 8, 10).

ASSESSOR (1/1/69-12/31/72) Lawrence A. Chehardy; **CLERK OF COURT**—William M. Justice, Jr.; **CORONER**—Dr. Charles B. Odom; **DISTRICT ATTORNEY** (1/1/67-12/31/72) Frank H. Langridge; **SHERIFF**—Alwynn J. Cronvich.

JUDGES (1/1/69-12/31/72) **24th DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**: Edward G. Stoulig (Div. A); Frank V. Zaccaria (Div. B); John C. Boutall (Div. C); Robert G. Huges (Div. D); Fred S. Bowes (Div. E); Floyd W. Newlin (Div. F); H. Charles Gaudin (Div. G). **JUVENILE COURT**: Leo W. McCune; **FIRST PARISH COURT**: Cyril J. Gracianette; **SECOND PARISH COURT**: John J. Molaison. (Note: An additional judgeship has been approved by the state legislature for the First Parish Court.)

STATE SENATORS (Wards 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) Jules G. Mollere, John G. Schwegmann; (Wards 1, 2,

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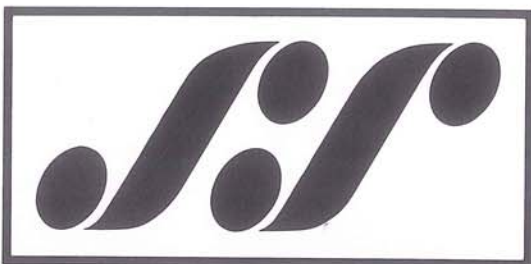
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3) *NOTE: (Sen E. W. "Kelly" Gravolet died 10/24/68 and was succeeded by Rep. Samuel B. Nunez, Jr., who will represent St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes and Wards 1, 2 & 3 in Jefferson as Senator.)

STATE REPRESENTATIVES: George R. Blue, James E. Beeson, Francis E. "Hank" Lauricella, J. Kenneth Leithman, Leon E. Soniat, Thomas J. "Butch" Ward.

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MAYOR, MARSHAL AND ALDERMEN OF MUNICIPALITIES: GRAND ISLE (1968-72) Mayor, Clyde W. Pregeant, Sr.; **Marshal,** Ernest M. Lafont; **Alderman,** Joseph E. Lafont, Jr.; **Alderman,** Ralph J. Adams (W-1); **Alderman,** Donald P. Adam (W-2); **Alderman,** Carl T. Santiny (W-3); **Alderman,** Robert J. Collins, (W-4); Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:30 p.m.: **GRETNA (1965-69) Mayor,** William J. White; **Marshal,** Beaugard H. Miller, Sr.; **Alderman,** Eugene Gehring; **Alderman,** John L. Dulcich (W-1); **Alderman,** Louis A. LeBouef, Jr. (W-2); **Alderman,** Anthony J. Marchese (W-3); **Alderman,** Gerard E. Schexnayder (W-4); 1st & 3rd Mon., 2 p.m. Meetings: **HARAHAN (1966-70) Mayor** Freddie A. Wilcox; **Marshal,** George R. Picone; **Alderman,** Clinton C. Cressionne; **Alderman,** Fred J. Barocco (W-1); **Alderman,** Al Barousse, Sr. (W-2); **Alderman,** Alton L. Bourg, Sr. (W-3); **Alderman,** Maurice P. Bowler (W-4); Meetings, 1st Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **KENNER (1966-70) Mayor,** Edward J. D'Gerolamo; **Marshal,** Salvador J. Lentini; **Alderman,** Ray S. Dupepe; **Alderman,** Anthony J. Bertolino (W-1); **Alderman,** Michael J. Damiano (W-2); **Alderman,** Lebo Mancuso (W-3); **Alderman,** Joseph S. Yenni (W-4); Meetings 2nd Mon., 2 p.m.: **WESTWEGO (1965-69) Mayor,** Ernest J. Tassin; **Marshal,** Sidney J. Guillot; **Alderman,** Antoine Alario; **Alderman,** Horace J. Boudreaux (W-1); **Alderman,** Rudy P. Brown, (W-2); **Alderman,** Kennedy L. Croom (W-3); **Alderman,** Andy P. Valence (W-4); Meetings: 2nd Mon., 7:30 p.m.

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Continued from Page 53

of Rigaud Bay on one side and the rolling surf of the Gulf of Mexico on the other.

On June 19, 1959, it was incorporated as a town taking in both the islands of Grand Isle and Cheniere Caminada.

Jefferson's first governing body consisted of an all powerful Parish Judge and twelve police jurors appointed by him.

In 1830, the Parish Judge was replaced by a Police Jury President elected by and from that body itself. An 1834 act set a minimum of eight and a maximum of twelve members.

By 1958, Jefferson had a seventeen member police jury based on one from every ward plus an additional juror in each ward for every 5000 residents in excess of 2500.

A five member Commission Council, approved by voters in 1952, was prevented from taking office on the eve of inauguration in June 1956 when a state supreme court ruled it was unconstitutional because it was not set up by constitutional amendment.

Authorized by a 1952 legislative act, the council was to have a Commissioner-at-large elected parishwide and four district commissioners. Authority over all parish agencies and boards (except the School Board) was to be transferred to the council whose five commissioners would serve as full time officials elected every four years.

The Commissioner-at-large was also to be President of the Commission Council and head of the department of Public Affairs with authority over personnel, civil service, fire and police protection, play grounds and parks, public buildings, franchises and zoning.

The four district commissioners were scheduled to head the departments of Public Finance, Water and Sewerage, Health and Safety (including regulatory inspection and garbage disposal) and Public Works (roads, bridges, highways and drainage).

The present Parish President-seven man council form of government was recommended by a fifteen member citizens' Charter Commission in

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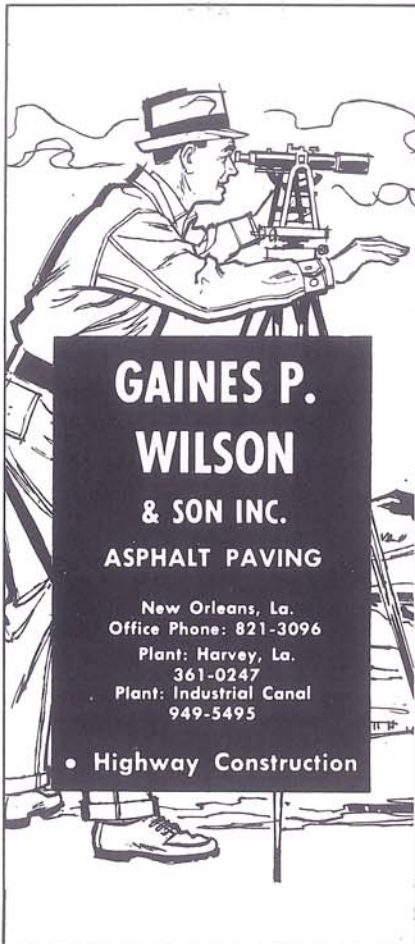
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1957 and approved by voters in a special election. Its members took office March 10, 1958 following primary elections on December 17, 1957 and January 7, 1958.

The charter authorized formation of four departments—Finance, Legal, Planning and Personnel. Five more—Water, Safety, Roads and Bridges, Recreation and Sanitation—were created by council ordinance on August 21, 1958.

The Safety department combined the division of regulatory inspections, road lighting and fire protection districts and the traffic engineering division. Recreation included the library division and Sanitation combined drainage, sewerage and garbage disposal.

Other parish government agencies include Civil Defense, Council Clerk, Garbage Collection and Disposal, Health Unit, Jeffcap (Community Action Program), Mosquito Control, Research and Budget Analysis and the Safety department's Taxicab and Fire Prevention divisions.

Accomplishments of these departments not covered in separate feature stories, are detailed here.

Fire Division

Jefferson's extensive parishwide survey of fire protection needs has been completed.

Its purpose is to plan the location of immediate and future fire stations properly equipped to give complete protection for the unincorporated areas of the parish.

Among the recommendations made to the Parish Council in the Master Fire Protection Plan, formulated with the cooperation and assistance of volunteer firemen's associations, are:

- Create a new Jefferson Parish Fire Department with East and West Bank Chiefs under a Parish Fire Superintendent.
- Establish temporary central fire reporting facility for each side of river to be replaced later by permanent fire alarm systems.
- Create single east bank consolidated fire district, one large west bank consolidated district and two

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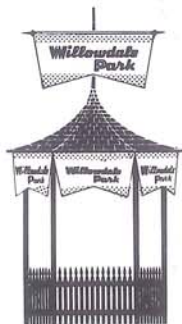


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smaller ones (Lafitte-Barataria and area west of Bridge City to St. Charles parish line and obtain state certification for all districts.

- Implement new fire station construction program to complement nine parish operated stations and 18 volunteer company stations, including renovations to existing parish stations on east bank.

- Expand present fire prevention bureau to increase personnel and effectiveness.

- Provide funds on contract basis with volunteer fire companies for services of salaried chauffeurs on 24 hour call.

- Continue monthly financial assistance to volunteer companies plus fire hose allowance and share in sales tax revenues and insurance dividends.

All of these are factors which influence fire insurance ratings for property owners. Communities are graded according to American Insurance Association standards based on the following percentages:

Water Supply (34) Fire Department (30) Fire Alarm (11) Fire Prevention (7) Building Department (4) and Structural Conditions (14).

The parishwide survey recommends new stations be located to give maximum protection for the coverage area and quick response to fire alarms or other emergency calls.

Growing in importance in the fire division is the fire prevention bureau. It is responsible for enforcing laws, ordinances and regulations covering fire prevention and arson investigations.

These include:

- Cause, origin and circumstance of fires.

- Installation and maintenance of automatic private fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment.

- Fire escapes and other means of exit in case of fire.

- Storage and use of explosives and flammables.

As more and larger buildings are constructed in Jefferson, the bureau maintains constant liaison with architects and contractors to assure that built-in protection factors are pre-planned.

The bureau is pushing a 15-point

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Purpose of JeffCAP, Jefferson's expanded anti-poverty community action program, is to mobilize community resources to help individuals and groups affected by poverty to deal effectively with their problems and overcome them.

To accomplish this, four neighborhood service centers have been established in the "target areas" of poverty with a director and a staff of eight specialists at each center.

In-service programs include health services, family planning, social welfare, legal aid, family counselling, job development and training, homemaker services, vocational rehabilitation etc.

In addition to these established programs, volunteer services known as "Operation REACH (Recreation, Education, Activities, Cultural Enrichment, Health) have been developed.

Target area centers serve the Shrewsbury and Kenner-Metairie areas on the east bank and Marrero-Harvey, Westwego-Bridge City on the west bank.

Eleven of JeffCAP's reorganized 27 member Board of Directors are elected from among the poor served by the neighborhood centers. Seven are from charitable and civic organizations and 4 are elected officials. The other 5 include the Director of Welfare and representatives from the parish health office, housing authority, school board and county agent's office.

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Elected officials are the Parish President, east and west bank councilmen-at-large and one of the mayors from Jefferson's five municipalities.

The 1968-69 fiscal year budget of \$914,246 includes an \$18,000 grant for a six month emergency food and medical program ending December 31, 1968.

It is designed to assist 550 needy families suffering from hunger and malnutrition referred by health agencies and physicians.

Among the many volunteer programs are sewing instruction, training as certified maids and governesses, Red Cross home nursing and first aid, typing, auto repair, cooking, career planning, arts and crafts and training for seasonal occupations such as gift wrapping.

For high school graduates, a leadership training course is offered with 3 college credit hours.

Four Jefferson high school seniors completed their Upward Bound pre-college program in residence at Loyola University.

A total of 435 students worked either 10 hours a week during the school year or a 28 hour week during the summer under the Neighborhood Youth Corp program.

Personnel



During the first ten months of 1968, the Personnel Department processed 2824 applications for jobs in the classified service. Peak month was May when 583 applications were received. Of the total number, 1649 persons were tested, either by means of written examination

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or other review and investigation of their qualifications for parish employment.

Subsequently, 539 appointments to permanent positions were made from eligible lists, including 124 promotions of current employees.

In addition, 767 were temporary jobs, filled primarily by students on vacation, most of which were for seasonal recreational activities.

Several parish departments also participated in the Cooperative Education Program by providing part-time employment for high school seniors during the 1967-68 school years through competitive civil service processes.

There were 355 terminations from regular parish civil service positions in this ten month period. Compared with the number of entrance appointments and an average payroll of 1600 this reflects a turnover of about 24 per cent, including unskilled manual labor. Salary increases totaled 1167, most of which were annual increments granted employees who achieved satisfactory performance ratings.

Employees received further benefits in the form of an improved basic and major medical hospitalization insurance policy, provided them by the parish at no extra cost. It has been estimated that so-called "fringe" advantages such as leave, tenure awards, insurance, etc., add more than 20 per cent to the average employee's basic pay. These provisions help to make public employee career service attractive to the type of applicant who can, in return, give better service to the community.

The Personnel Board, meeting at least once a month, reviewed and resolved 11 appeals resulting from dismissal or other disciplinary action, thus assuring an impartial hearing to all parties concerned.

Other activities of the Personnel Department concerned the improvement of safety standards, and the allocation of positions to proper classes.

Technicians made numerous field visits and job studies. Included among these were reviews of the duties and responsibilities of personnel in pumping, sewerage lift and treatment plants, engineering field parties, and various jobs in the

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water department, sign shop, recreation centers as well as office and administrative positions.

A total of 169 supervisors from 14 departments were awarded certificates on completion of eight weekly classes on "Human Relations in Supervisory Procedures and Techniques" conducted by Personnel Director Domenic Albano.

Informal "before and after" tests indicated that the in-service seminar was highly successful. Post-testing results showed that attitudes and opinions of supervisors toward labor management came 33 per cent closer to those preferred by leading authorities in the field.

Planning



Planning has a new director, Hugh N. Ford, formerly Principal Planner and No. 2 man in the department who succeeded to the post when Richard C. Mouledous resigned on July 1, 1968.

Replacing Ford in the new position of Principal Parish Planner is Donald Terranova, a veteran of 12 years experience in city, state and private planning agencies. During the first ten months of this year, 101 zoning changes were considered and 40 approved by the parish council and 15 denied with 16 pending and 13 deferred. Two were partially approved, 3 withdrawn and 12 expired due to time limit.

Reports and studies conducted by the Planning Department included:

- Preparation of the 1969 Capital Budget and Program.

- Feasibility of revising subdivision regulations.

- Conducted coding operations on a block front basis and studied census tract boundaries in anticipation of 1970 Federal Census in Jefferson.

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- Revised major street plan to include Federal Interstate 10 "outer loop" Highway on the West Bank (Dixie Freeway).

- Prepared workable program for recertification by HUD.

- Feasibility of increasing filing fees for zoning reclassification requests.

- Supplied planning services for proposed public buildings complex to be included in public improvements bond issue.

- Participated in a study involving Community Social Services study and public attitude toward them in Jefferson Parish.

Goal of the latter study, in cooperation with the Community Services Council of Jefferson and the Regional Planning Commission is expected to document the need to locate in the community essential services such as employment and social security offices and a university.

The planning department's participation will be to inventory major public agencies which serve Jefferson residents but are headquartered outside of the parish.

The three phase study covers services in health, education welfare and recreation and is supported by a two-thirds grant of \$33,332 from HUD with the remaining third contribution by the three participating agencies.

Results of the study, which includes personal interviews to determine current use and need for new services, will be evaluated by the Franklin Institute Research Laboratories, Philadelphia, Pa.

Meanwhile, the department continues its liaison with neighboring parishes and Jefferson's interested civic organizations for comprehensive area planning.

Jefferson's comprehensive zoning ordinance and land use map, adopted two years ago, continues to stabilize property values through strong administration and enforcement of parish zoning laws.

It has been called the single most important action of the parish council in its ten years of existence and a blue print for orderly growth and development.

Developers of new subdivisions are now required to provide land for churches, schools and playgrounds

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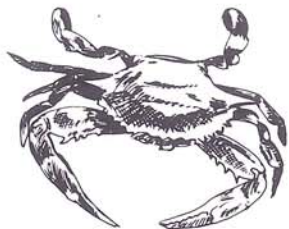
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to assure a well-balanced community.

A total of 203 subdivisions were approved during the first ten months of 1968 and 1752 lots subdivided.

Weekly meetings of department directors are held in the office of the planning director with representatives of the parish school board attending.

Council Clerk



Over 29 years of dedicated service to the parish have earned for Council Clerk Frank Deemer the unofficial title of "Mr. Jefferson".

Recognized as one of the most knowledgeable men in municipal government, he was police jury secretary before becoming the first clerk of the parish council in 1958. He was reappointed in 1960, 1964 and in 1968.

At Thursday afternoon council meetings on the West Bank, he is the "recording secretary", keeping detailed minutes of council action for later publication as required by law.

Duties include tabulating bids, processing ordinances, acts, resolutions and motions. Election results are usually promulgated at council meetings under his supervision.

Between meetings, Deemer's office serves as a clearing house for official parish business.

Department director's requests are forwarded to the council for action after recommendations by the parish president. Wording of ordinances and resolutions to be introduced is checked with the parish attorney.

All matters to be considered at the next scheduled council meeting are then itemized into an agenda and copies made for use at the meeting.

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Parish Attorney



Larger and more functional offices are being prepared for the Legal Department headed by Parish Attorney Louis G. DeSonier, Jr., primarily to house the department's newly created Property Sales and Acquisition Division.

Purpose of the unit is to survey all parish owned property and evaluate present and future needs according to a master plan. Unnecessary property will be disposed of according to established procedures.

Land acquisition requirements, as determined by the parish council, will be coordinated by the division.

Detailed results of the exhaustive survey will be fed into the parish central computer system. This will ultimately give the parish of Jefferson maximum speed, accuracy and economy in determining land requirements.

The division will be staffed initially by an attorney-notary, two property coordinators, five abstractors and secretarial personnel.

Daily control will be vested in the parish attorney assisted by a five man steering committee which meets monthly. This committee will include the parish attorney, finance director and the directors of the roads and bridges, water and sanitation departments where the greatest need for land acquisition exists.

Considerable time, effort and research is currently being devoted to assisting the parish council in re-apportionment.

Information is being gathered and studied from many comparable municipal governments throughout the nation to provide knowledgeable legal counsel to the parish council which holds monthly re-apportionment meetings.

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Last year, clear and concise guidelines were prepared to assure uniform bidding by contractors and as a pre-requirement for engineering and architectural contracts.

Bid procedure has been improved and costly delays averted by requiring the parish attorney's approval of the wording of all bid proposals before they are released.

His office also approves the wording of contracts, agreements, abstracts, leases and real estate purchases and clears resolutions and ordinances before they are submitted to the council.

Contracts must also be approved by the director of the department involved and the finance director.

The Parish Attorney is official counsel in civil matters to the Parish President and Council and legal advisor to department directors. His staff includes eight assistant attorneys, five title researchers, a part-time research assistant, two secretaries and one steno-clerk.

He confers daily with his assistants and maintains liaison between the municipal governments and the parish. Monthly staff meetings are held to receive and review progress reports.

The parish law library is kept current with updated volumes added as soon as they become available, particularly those dealing with federal legislation.

Traffic Engineering



The Traffic Engineering Division of the Roads and Bridges Department installs and maintains necessary vehicular and pedestrian traffic control devices such as traffic signals, stop signs, school zone signs and beacons, speed signs, one-way and no parking signs and crosswalks.

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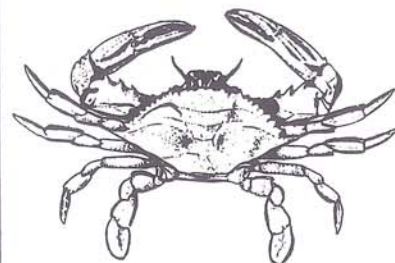
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The Division also recommends changes or new ordinances needed to promote or enforce traffic safety and reviews conceptual and geometric design of all new major streets and modifications to existing major streets.

The Division is in the process of upgrading traffic signals belonging to the Parish Of Jefferson. The uniform manual on Traffic Control Devices, revised since many of the existing traffic signals were installed, requires the installation of additional signal units.

The intersection of Veterans Highway and Bonabel Boulevard was selected for the first signal modifications. Since extensive additional work was necessary to bring this intersection up to uniform standards, it was decided to make a complete new installation using monolever arms to support the overhead signals in lieu of span wire cables.

Pedestal signals were also installed. Underground wiring will prevent electrical failure from damaged signal cable due to wind storms. Additional intersections are presently on the drawing board for modifications.

Jefferson's antiquated school zone ordinance was updated and 26 flashing school zone beacons installed at 13 schools on Veterans Hwy., Metairie Road, Jefferson Hwy., Bridge City Ave., and Barataria Blvd. Plans are to install similar beacons in school zone areas on major streets with normal speed limits over 30 miles per hour.

The new school zone ordinance was recommended after a three year traffic study of school zones in Jefferson and 13 other major metropolitan areas. Approved by the the metropolitan New Orleans Safety Council, Parish Attorney, the Sheriff and many civic organizations, it was adopted by the Parish Council on August 8, 1968.

It replaces the 15 mph school zone limit which was in effect for all roadways with a 25 mph limit on major streets and highways and a 20 mph limit on residential streets.

The 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. school speed limit was discontinued in all school zones since the study showed less than one per cent of the



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students attending elementary school left the school yard at lunch time.

The new speed limit is in effect at 13 schools only when the beacons are flashing. Each of these school zones was thoroughly studied and the beacons set to flash only when needed.

Average school zone time at these schools is 35 minutes in the morning and 25 minutes in the afternoon. Previously, it was an hour and fifteen minutes in the morning and one hour and thirty minutes in the afternoon. Now, school zones are in effect for a total of only 60 minutes a day instead of four hours and fifteen minutes a day under the previous ordinance.

At those schools where flashing beacons have not been installed, the school zone hours are from 7:45 to 9: a.m. and from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The Division plans to install 30 more beacons in 1969 and 22 in 1970.

Late in November, the traffic engineering division completed a study of the speed zone ordinance in Jefferson Parish. Recommendations for changes and a proposed new ordinance were submitted by the Director of the Roads and Bridges Department to the Parish Attorney's Office for a legal opinion.

Housing Improvement



This is a newly created division of the Safety Department which will administer Jefferson's "Minimum Housing Standards Code" adopted early in 1967.

The new division, a prerequisite for federal housing funds was scheduled to move into its own east bank office at 3020 Derbigny Street on November 15, 1968.

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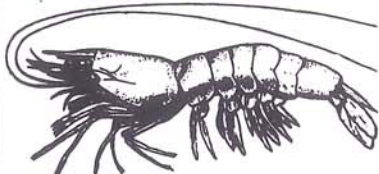
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Need for the division was established by extensive surveys which revealed that 12,000 substandard dwellings exist in Jefferson's unincorporated areas.

Purpose of the new code is to "protect and promote decent, safe and sanitary residential buildings and dwelling units for the health, safety and welfare of the general public and the owners or occupants of the dwellings."

Dwellings judged unfit for human habitation will be vacated and closed by order of the Housing administrator.

He is also empowered to require a property owner to make necessary repairs to bring a dwelling unit up to minimum standards.

Decisions of the administrator can be appealed to the Board of Standards and Appeals whose judgment is final.

A committee of fifteen persons appointed by the parish president will serve as the Citizens Advisory Committee for the parish's "workable program" required by the federal government.

The committee will select three of its members to serve on the Executive Committee to help in planning programs and establishing policy.

Road Lighting



Goal of the Safety Department's Road Lighting Division is to replace all residential incandescent fixtures with 175 watt mercury vapor color corrected lighting during the next four years.

A gradual street by street replacement schedule is currently being implemented in the unincorporated areas at no increase in cost to the parish.

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Approximately 2000 incandescent fixtures were replaced in 1967 with even more planned for 1968.

Most major streets will have 400-watt mercury vapor "throughfare" lighting. During 1968 these will be installed on Veterans Highway from E. William David to the Orleans Parish line and in 1969 from W. William David to Bonabel Blvd.

On the west bank, the lights are being installed on Lapalco Blvd.

The parishwide lighting survey for all present and future streets is 90 per cent complete.

Since 1965, residential developers have been required to furnish and install 175 watt mercury vapor lights with underground wiring.

The Federal Interstate Highway 10 is currently being surveyed to pinpoint locations for mercury vapor light standards.

Federal regulations require a minimum of 50 of the new type "break-away" standards per mile with 400 watt fixtures at interchanges and 250 to 700 watt lights between.

Research, Budget Analysis



The Department of Research and Budget Analysis was established by the Jefferson Parish Council in 1960 for the purpose of providing an

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independent method of obtaining information regarding any matters of interest to the Council.

It was never intended that its duties be limited to specifics, as such, but rather, the department would operate within any area of local government at the request and direction of the Parish Council.

In addition to the many projects and reports prepared at the Council's request, statistical data of a general nature is compiled and updated on a routine basis and is readily available to the members of the Parish Council.

Information regarding functional problems of local government can be obtained through the Department of Research & Budget Analysis. Numerous other important activities are routinely performed such as; budget analysis, Council budget preparation, precinct boundary changes, etc.

Future plans include addition of two employees and much needed added office space in the New Courthouse Building in Gretna.

Garbage Collection



Unlike many large urban areas throughout the nation where garbage collection has become a major municipal problem, Jefferson continues its smooth, efficient, year 'round service.

Since November, 1966 a private hauler—Jefferson Disposal Company—has provided garbage pickup and disposal in East Jefferson's unincorporated areas under a contract which includes operation of the parish incinerator on David Drive.

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The company also offers a commercial and industrial waste disposal service.

On the west bank, the parish garbage department provides efficient pickup and disposal service for about 20,000 homes in the unincorporated areas.

Taxicab Division



This division of the Safety Department issues "CPNC" permits for taxicabs and sightseeing buses which must meet strict mechanical and safety standards before being licensed.

Vehicles are thoroughly inspected, with particular attention to brakes, wheels, front and rear end, mufflers and floor boards.

Applicants must have a chauffeur's license, renewable annually, which is obtained only after fingerprinting and clearance through the Sheriff's office and the F.B.I.

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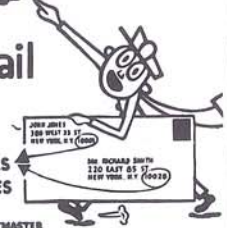
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The Cat 922B was purchased for the Dept. of Roads

and Bridges. In addition to its regular duties, Jefferson Parish has this machine clearing away junk cars. In the last year, over 3,000 junk cars have been disposed of in this manner at a great saving to the parish over the conventional wrecker method. When a junk car must be removed, the 922B simply crushes the top, picks it up, and loads it into a waiting dump truck.

Cat built equipment is dependable. Dale Dufrene, the parish operator says, "During the first year of operation, the machine was only down once for something other than a routine oil or filter change and that was when a sharp piece of metal on a junk car cut a brake line."

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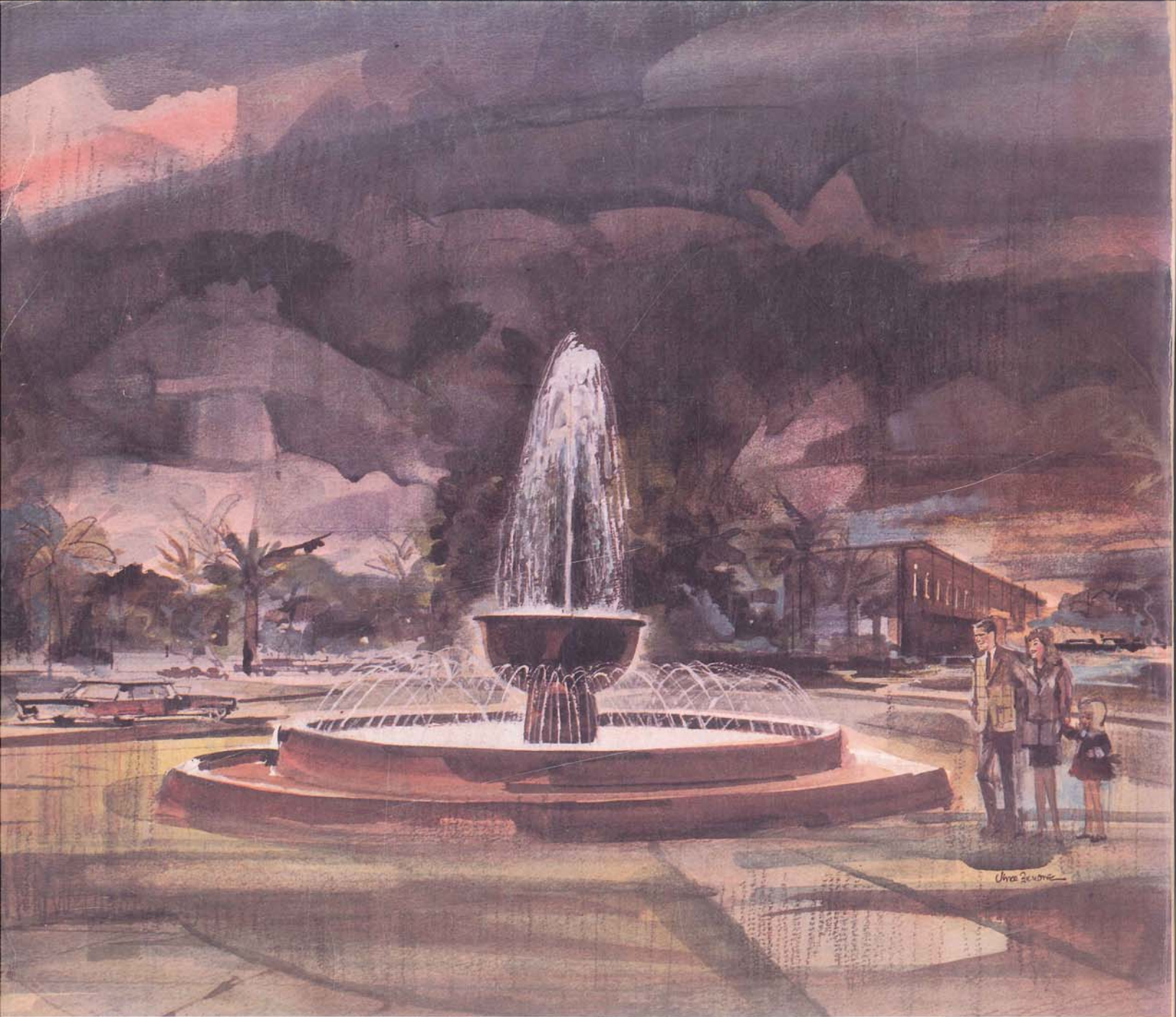
Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____



Fountain Designed and Constructed Under the Direction of Geo. A. Hero, Jr., M.E.

This Fountain Was Erected to Honor The Armed Forces of The United States

Gift of Senator Alvin T. Stumpf

The majestic fountain, standing across from Stumpf's West-Side Shopping Center, was conceived by Senator Alvin T. Stumpf for an effect of peace, the desired end of all wars. The central jet shoots into the air before splashing back to be released from its entrapping basin through tiny cascading streams. The basin rests on a cylindrical stand, and is encircled by a low wall of red brick. Lights inside and on the perimeter of the fountain cast rainbow colors on the water falling from the bowl.