

THE JEFFERSON PARISH YEARLY

Review

1963 EDITION



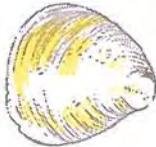


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As Jefferson grows, so grows the Causeway

1962 was the most successful year in the history of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway

Jefferson Parish has made gigantic strides during the past decade. Increases have been recorded in almost every important growth statistic — population, new home construction, commercial enterprises, and spendable income to name a few. Since August of 1956, when it was opened to traffic, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway also has recorded significant growth. It completed its most successful year on October 31, 1962.

Yes, the 1961-62 fiscal year, which ended on October 31, 1962, was the most successful year in the history of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway.

Revenue from tolls increased by more than 6% over the previous fiscal year to reach an all-time annual high of \$1,665,895. Net operating income amounted to \$705,167, another high.

During the year the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission, operator of the 24-mile-long Causeway facility, embarked on a bond retirement program that is expected to be continued on an annual basis. The Commission has retired \$1,581,000 of its revenue bonds, an amount sufficient to cover bond retirement requirements through the year 1966.



Radar installation helps safeguard motorists

Safety Program

The Commission in 1962 completed establishment of a comprehensive safety program that was started in 1961 to provide the motoring public with every possible safeguard. The safety program includes a radar-radio communications system designed to contact and guide marine traffic in the event that boat operators approach too close to the Causeway; daily patrolling of the facility

by State Police; installation of more than 90 warning and regulatory signs on the Causeway and its approaches, and improvements to the electrical system to provide better traffic lights and warning signals at the two bascule bridges.

The Commission recognizes the need for more effective policing of towboat and barge traffic in Lake Pontchartrain and is actively engaged in studying ways and means of providing legislation for better regulatory control of lake traffic.

Commuter Rates

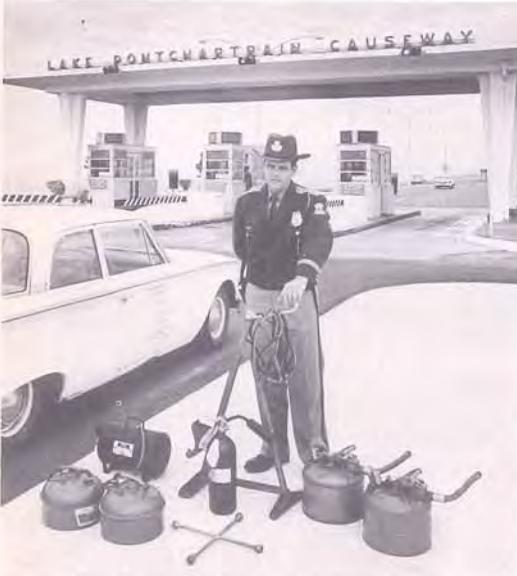
The Commission in 1961 authorized Coverdale & Colpitts, consulting traffic engineers of New York city, to undertake an extensive traffic study for the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway. One of the areas covered in this study concerned feasibility of establishing a commuter



Turnaround is nine miles from South entrance

rate for regular users of the facility. The traffic engineers recommended establishment of a commuter rate that would make possible a savings of 25 per cent for Causeway users. The Commission acted immediately on this recommendation and the special rate for commuters became effective on June 15, 1962. Under the commuter rate system, users can purchase a book of 40 one-way passage tickets good for 30-day periods at a cost of \$30.

The Lake Pontchartrain Causeway has become a principal thruway route serving Jefferson Parish and the metropolitan New Orleans area. It has played an important role in the continued development and growth of Jefferson Parish and its neighboring parish to the north, St. Tammany. Residents of the two parishes and visitors utilize the Causeway as a direct north-south thruway route.



State troopers patrol Causeway daily

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Introduction



The 60 mile long Louisiana Parish of Jefferson is today the most concentrated and fastest growing industrial area in the Deep South. The Saturn Missile Plant now being completed in the area will bring tremendous benefits to Jefferson and, in return, will benefit by the industrial facilities and skilled manpower of the Parish.

Jefferson Parish embraces, with its east and west banks, 27 miles of river frontage on the Mississippi, stands with its toes in the Gulf of Mexico, carries within its boundaries the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway link of our nation's vast inland waterways system, is served by every means of transportation known to modern man

including three mighty bridges—the 24 mile world's longest, across Lake Pontchartrain, and the two Mississippi River Bridges that unite New Orleans with Jefferson's West Bank. Today the population is racing past the 240,000 mark.

With recent expressways, tunnels, overpasses and underpasses to expedite its tremendous traffic; with huge subdivisions, sprawling shopping centers, one of the state's top public school systems and the nationally famous sport fishing waters and surf bathing beach at Grand Isle to serve its skyrocketing population; Jefferson Parish stands out as one of the most progressive areas in the entire South to locate an industrial plant, build a home and raise a family.

Pictured above is a new Louisiana Power and Light Company's office, one of many new buildings now being constructed in booming Jefferson Parish.

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Review

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 Harold L. Molaison.....West Bank Councilman
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 Anthony A. Caramonta.....Second District Councilman
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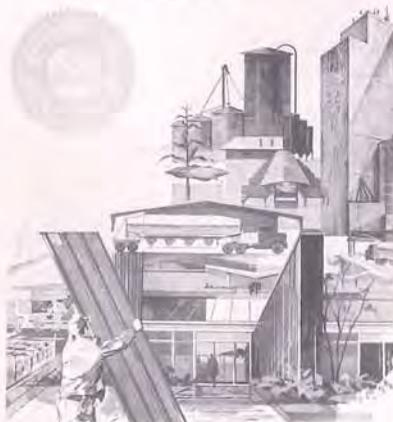
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Our sincere thanks to the writers, photographers, artists, engravers, printers and all those many people both inside and outside the parish who provided information and assistance during the long months of preparation of this Jefferson Parish Yearly Review.

THE JEFFERSON PARISH YEARLY

Review

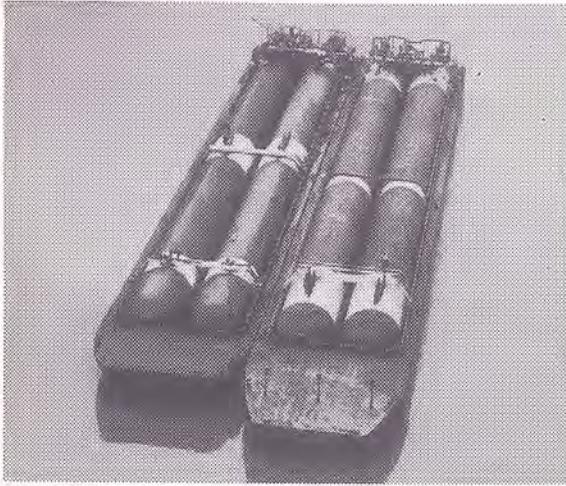


Cover Art, symbolic of Jefferson's Booming Economy and Industry, courtesy of Butler Manufacturing Company.

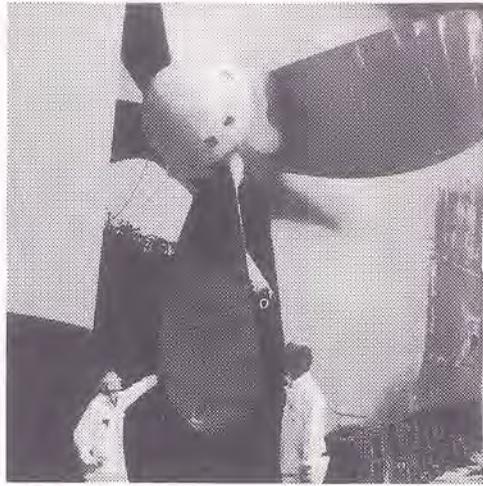
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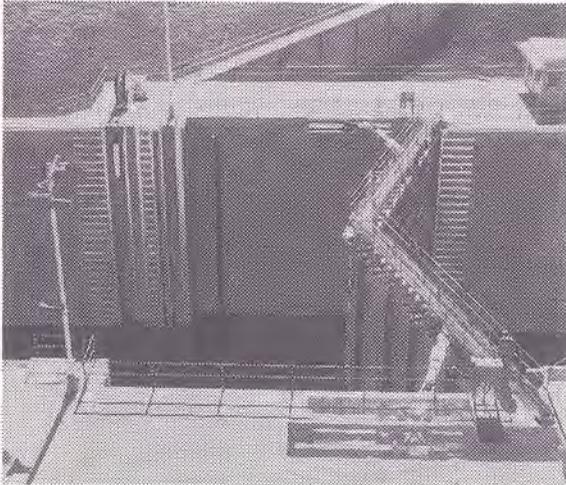
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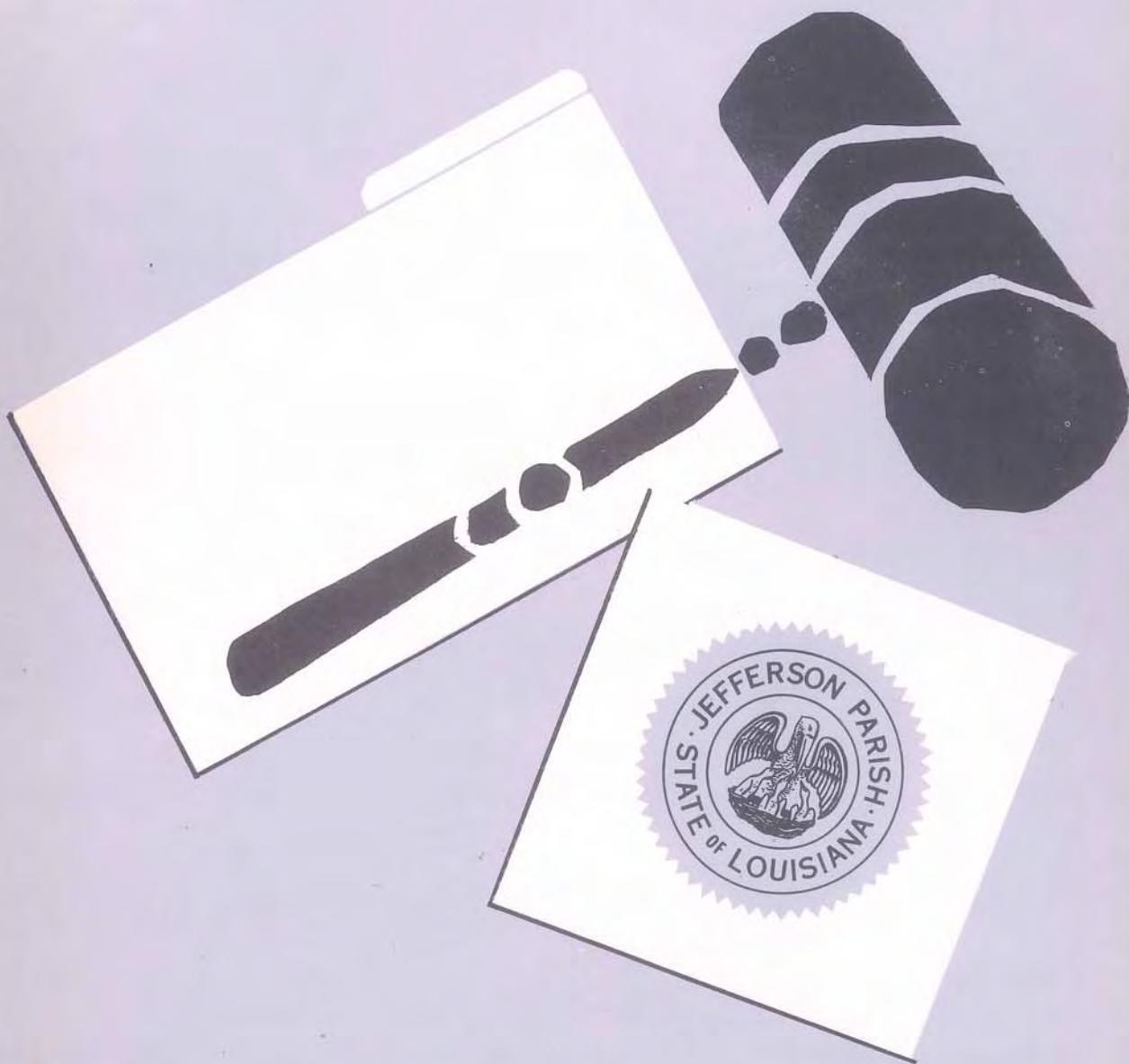
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Report of the Parish



1962-63

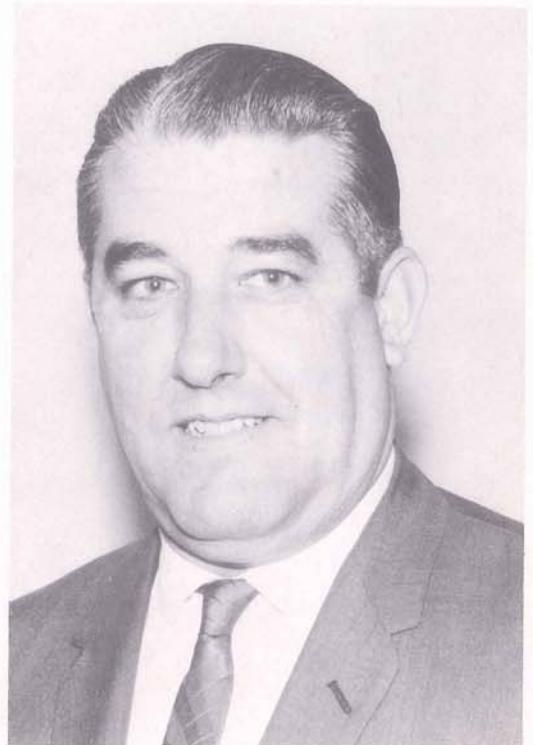


PRESIDENT - COUNCIL





Pictured Left to Right: Hon. M. Dan Hogan, Parish President; Hon. Cullen C. Schouest, Council Chairman; Hon. Donald T. Gillen, Council Vice Chairman; Hon. Harold L. Molaison, Councilman; Hon. Beauregard H. Miller, Jr., Councilman; Hon. Anthony A. Caramonta, Councilman; Hon. George J. Ackel, Councilman, and Hon. Vial J. Blanke, Councilman.



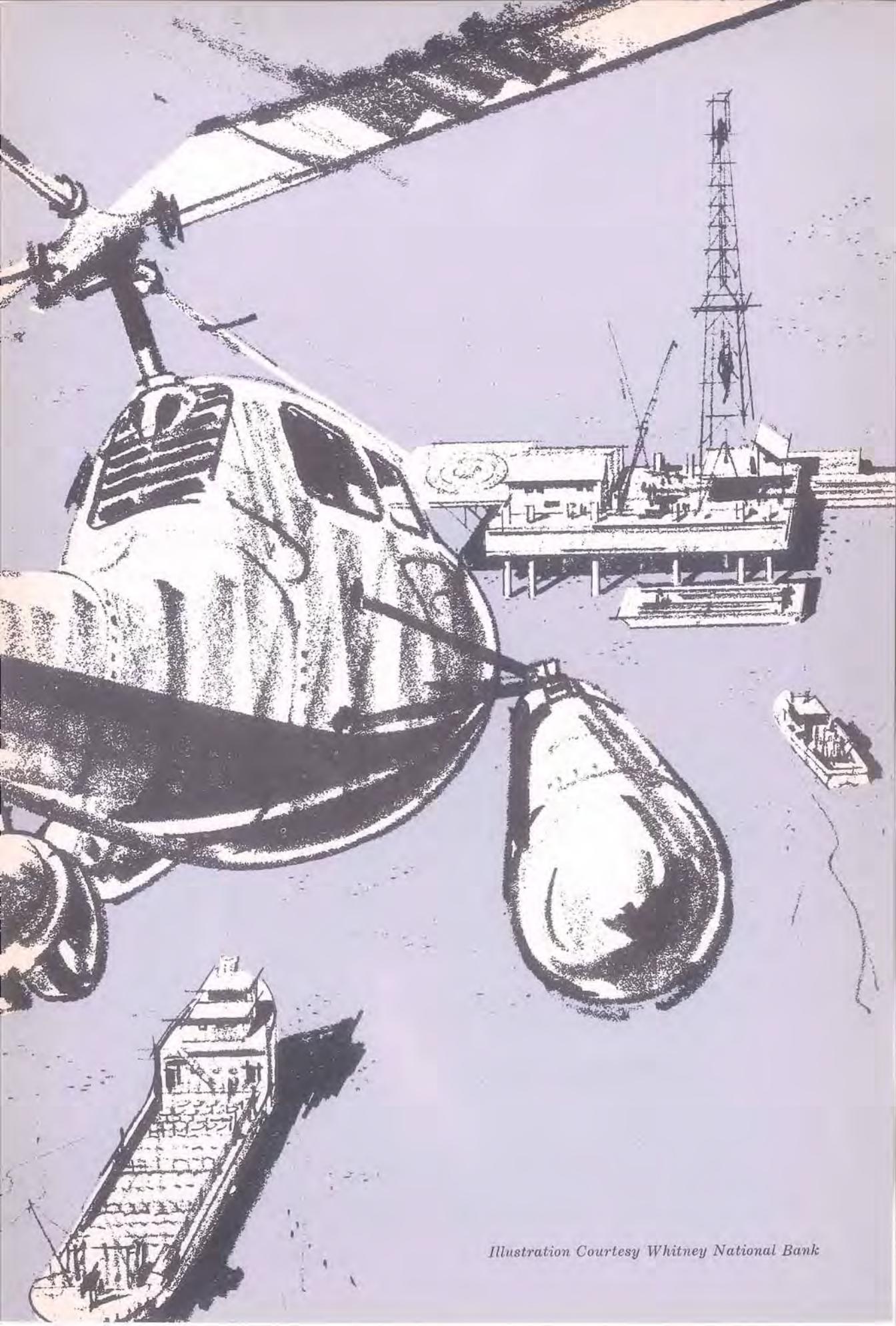


Illustration Courtesy Whitney National Bank

Jefferson Parish

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

Readers of this report hardly would expect to find an area described as a sportsman's paradise to be 99% industrial.

Jefferson Parish is both.

Our parish is a land of sharp contrasts—almost 200 industrial plants provide employment for Jefferson's skilled labor force that mans the complex machinery of modern industry. Yet, ancient skills are not forgotten—the patient trapper still sets his traps with a skill handed down through generations; the shrimp fisherman harvests his delicious crop with nets of the type his grandfathers used.

Contrasts? Yes, Jefferson Parish presents many different faces to the world—the flat-bottomed pirogue leaving a silent wake in a bayou near the former lair of buccaneer Jean Lafitte and the giant jetliner etching contrails against an azure sky as it approaches Moisant Field (New Orleans International Airport), homeward bound from a flight over the Andes.

The contrasts are reflected in the people, too. The precise speech of the scientists who have followed the sun south with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is heard along with the rolling patois of Louisiana's famous Cajuns who came south to avoid persecution in Canada's Acadia.

Jefferson Parish is a land of richness in natural resources. Its water, oil, natural gas and rich soil have caused an unprecedented flow of industry into an area that at the turn of the century was primarily agricultural.

People, however, have proved to be the parish's greatest asset—an asset that has doubled and redoubled within the past two decades. Census figures show Jefferson Parish had 208,769 people in 1960. The federal government's figures showed Jefferson far outdistancing Louisiana's other 63 parishes. A census projection for 1962 reported Jefferson's gaining 9,600 of a total increase of 19,700 for the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan Complex which also includes Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes.

Why these fantastically pyramiding population figures? Jobs and living conditions provide the answer. The two go together.

Modern industry is well aware that a happier worker is a more productive worker. Extensive personnel studies have revealed that the worker of today in addition to monetary rewards seeks for his family and himself opportunities for cultural, recreational and spiritual fulfillment.

Nearby universities and colleges easily within commuting distance, progres-

sive elementary and secondary school systems and an extensive library system supply the cultural needs of Jeffersonians.

Hunting, fishing, a highly organized recreation program tailored to the needs of residents ranging from tots to senior citizens, boating and water skiing on an inland lake as well as in the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River, golf courses, skeet and rifle ranges and numerous launch points for the small craft so popular with the people of this area offer recreational outlets to the residents of "Louisiana's parish of greenery."

The businesslike whirring sound of a high speed lathe in a glass-fronted factory building and the bark of a shotgun from a duck blind are drowned out by the ringing of churchbells Sunday mornings. The bells may sound forth their call to worship from a white frame chapel on a country road, a modern edifice of granite on a main traffic artery or a red brick building that gives an impression of agelessness. No matter the source of the call to God, Jeffersonians answer it readily. Their forms of worship differ but their allegiance to their Maker is unanimous.

Jobs is the second reason for Jefferson Parish's phenomenal growth. Five of the largest plants of their kind are operated here. At present, nearly 200 industries operate from the parish, serving markets throughout the world. Relocations from unsightly, crowded and consequently uneconomical areas are adding to the parish's industrial and business count.

The wheels of activity throughout the world turn smoothly as a result of Jefferson Parish oil production. More than 20 million barrels of oil were produced in the parish in 1962; natural gas production exceeded 37½ billion cubic feet.

Railroads, truck lines and aircraft speed Jefferson's wealth to less fortunate neighbors near and far.

Twenty seven miles of waterfront on both sides of the Mississippi River within parish limits contribute mightily toward making this area the nation's No. 2 port.

Three great bridges aid in speeding Jefferson's output to markets throughout the nation and the world. Two of them span the Mississippi River. The Huey P. Long bridge, entirely within the parish, carries railroad and vehicular traffic; the Mississippi River Bridges carry automotive traffic between Orleans Parish and the West Bank of Jefferson.

The world's largest bridge, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway which arcs some 27 miles northward, carries made-in-Jefferson products to the midwest and north.

The Harvey Canal and Lock, important links of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, are playing an even more important role in Jefferson's water transportation system now that the deepening of the Barataria Bay Waterway to 12 feet will permit larger draft vessels to move along inland waterways from Grand Isle on the Gulf of Mexico to the Mississippi River. Congressman Hale Boggs who represents Louisiana's Second Congressional District is now working toward securing funds for an inland barge canal to join Lake Pontchartrain and Jefferson Parish's City of Kenner.

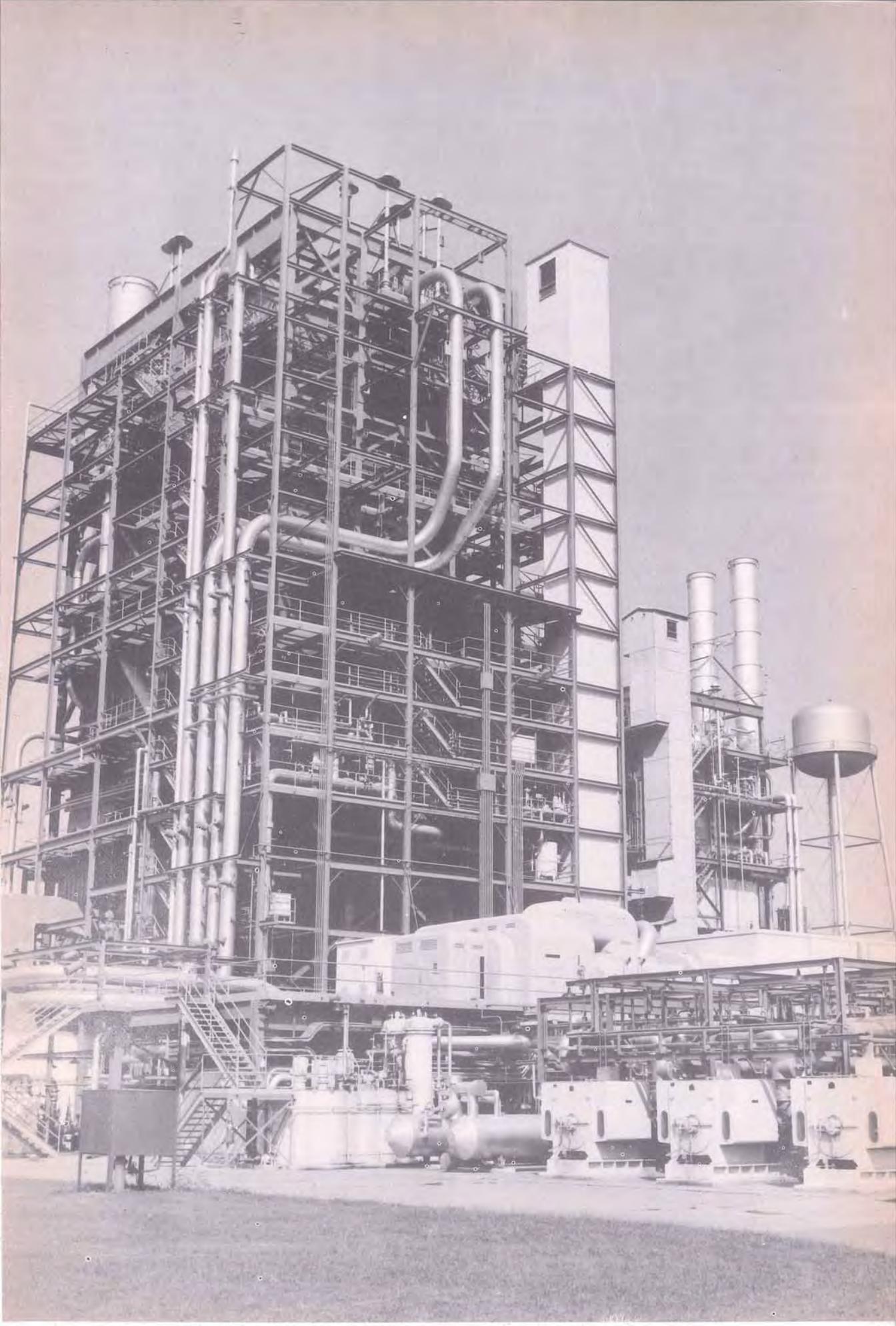
Thanks to the Lake Pontchartrain Levee Protection System, danger from flooding is now a thing of the past. Congressional appropriations for this project, sponsored by Congressman Boggs and Senators Allen J. Ellender and Russell B. Long, at the end of 1961, totaled \$4,784,000. The 87th Congress last year appropriated an additional \$760,000 for the work.

In the eyes of the nation's business and industrial leaders, Jefferson Parish offers outstanding opportunities for fuller development of present facilities and expansion to cover future needs. These opportunities are being seized eagerly.

GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

Keeping pace with expansion has been the parish's government. Now in its fifth year, the president-council form of government, among its other duties and functions, administers the opera-

The huge Nine Mile Point Steam Generating Plant of the Louisiana Power and Light Company in Jefferson Parish producing 319,000 kilowatts in three powerful turba generators. Three giant boilers 14 stories high generate millions of pounds of steam an hour, so hot it makes the pipes cherry red. Steam drums have steel walls five inches thick to hold the steam up to 1550 pounds per square inch. The river water for the boilers is purified in the first fully automatic demineralizer in the U. S.



tions of 42 separate parish districts. To better the service of these districts to the people of Jefferson, the government has launched a five-year capital improvement program envisioning an expenditure of some \$65 million.

During 1963, it is expected that \$27 million will be spent with only \$5,420,000 represented by funds from new bond issues contemplated. The remaining funds will come from previously authorized bond issues, front foot property assessments, federal government grants and operating revenues received.

SEWERAGE FACILITIES TO BE IMPROVED

Additional sewerage facilities needed to serve industry and homes will take the bulk of the bond monies—\$16½ million. Consolidated Sewerage District No. 1, serving the unincorporated areas of the East Bank, will receive \$14½ million; Sewerage District No. 8 on the West Bank \$1½ million and the West Bank's Sewerage District No. 9 will receive \$600,000.

Separate sewerage bond issues were passed late in 1962 by the municipalities of Kenner, Westwego and Harahan (see stories elsewhere in this issue). Gretna, seat of Jefferson Parish's government, possesses a modern, citywide sewerage system.

This launching of construction of a modern sewerage system is the most outstanding parish improvement project for 1963.

CONSTRUCTION FIGURES RISE

For its unincorporated areas, Jefferson Parish issued 5,959 building permits in 1962. Of these, 2,678 were for new homes, representing an increase of approximately 150 over 1961.

Expenditures for construction in 1962 jumped to \$67,838,369 over the 1957 figure of \$37,744,375.

PARISH DEPARTMENTS' OPERATIONS

Department-by-department examination will reveal how the parish government is carrying out its functions and providing necessary services to Jeffersonians.

PARISH INFORMATION CENTER

The office of the parish council clerk

is the smallest numerically. It consists of the council clerk and four clerical employees. It sends out notices of council meetings, keeps a journal of council meetings' proceedings, makes copies of all ordinances, resolutions and motions and notifies all department heads of council decisions.

The office is responsible for the safeguarding of all contracts for construction or provision of materials and services.

It serves as a source of readily available information for the various government departments and the people of Jefferson Parish.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Using the most modern techniques of business procedure, including employment of IBM data processing machines, Jefferson Parish's Finance Department provides all districts and departments with weekly reports on total expenditures to date and balances remaining in allotted budgets.

Preparation of an operating budget to be used as a guide enabled the Finance Department to secure an accurate and detailed estimate of anticipated revenues and expenditures. In 1962, total parish revenues were \$11,745,550 or just 3.77% higher than the anticipated figure; expenditures were \$10,365,168 or 3.79% lower than estimated.

The parish had a surplus of \$1,380,382 in 1962. Like the parish's sinking funds and construction and maintenance funds, this money was put to work to secure revenue for the parish. Treasury bills, United States bonds and bank certificates of deposit were bought to earn \$254,996 in interest for the parish. In part, this welcome "bonus" was made possible by the fact that much of the year's revenue comes within a short period of time while expenditures are spaced throughout the year.

Not as large a surplus is expected this year due to anticipated increased expenditures totaling \$11,464,414 and revenues amounting to \$12,071,325.

The cash figures represent a 10.57% anticipated increase in expenditures as contrasted to only a 2.77% increase in anticipated revenues.

Louisiana Gas Service Company, which supplies natural gas to Jefferson Parish, is constantly expanding and improving its service facilities, as indicated by this pipe laying scene, to keep pace with this fast growing and spreading parish. Dependable, economical natural gas, available in any quantity desired, is used extensively in the homes, commercial establishments and industries of the Parish.



SOUND GOVERNMENT PRACTICES RATE HIGH ON WALL STREET

Integrity in government plus responsible administration made possible a lower interest rate on parish bonds worth \$4,250,000. Careful study of bond market requirements plus intensive analysis of sales appeals by the Finance Department secured for the parish a financial rating of "Baa." The goal of the parish government is to have this or more favorable ratings assigned to all future bond issues exceeding one million dollars, thus saving the parish substantial sums through lower interest payments.

PROPERTY CONTROL — ANOTHER KEY TO SAVINGS

New uses for property that has served another, now obsolete purpose, result in substantial savings for taxpayers. The nuclear age shows a dramatic example of this type of operation in our parish—a parish communications control emergency center has been set up in the strong concrete building at Waggaman that was formerly used for Waterworks District No. 5 work (the latter has been combined with Waterworks District No. 2).

The center, designed for use in case of disaster only, will make possible vitally needed complete radio communications with all parish departments, districts and agencies.

Reduction of maintenance costs on parish vehicular equipment has been brought about through establishment of a central maintenance garage for all East Bank mobile equipment. The garage, located next to the East Bank incinerator, was originally designed for garbage division use only. An expenditure of \$190,000 to enable use by all departments using vehicles has resulted in large savings.

Careful programming of IBM machines has made possible the processing of approximately 25,000 liens for paving, sewerage and water districts. Using the machines has enabled the Finance Department to handle almost a doubled load of detail without increasing its staff.

Eventually, the department expects to send parish property owners their monthly statements for garbage, sewerage and water services on one invoice.

An interesting historical point in connection with the property control division is the announcement that before the year ends the search of property records for the parish dating back to 1846 will be completed. In addition to its legal value, the search will prove a historical gold mine for students of Louisiana's history.

RESEARCH AND BUDGET ANALYSIS

A government expending approximately \$1,000,000 monthly bears a heavy responsibility to get a dollar's value for every dollar spent. This cannot be done without a careful weighing of all factors.

In 1960, the position of research and budget analysis director was created. It provided for an assistant to the council who by virtue of his special training in the complicated fields of public finance and management could investigate problems in and make recommendations concerning the operations of various parish departments as well as their expenditures.

The research and budget director has the duties of examining budgets submitted to the council, analyzing them and making recommendations to the council as to their feasibility.

Investigative powers are vested in the director's office when, acting under council direction, he conducts research and investigations into the workings of administrative and executive departments or parish affairs generally.

Solely responsible to the parish council, the research and budget director provides the parish government with an excellent supervisory view of the complicated field of public finance and administration.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The legal department serves as legal adviser for the council, the parish president and various department heads. It represents the parish in cases before the Courts and administrative boards

The crack Illinois Central Panama Limited, one of the top trains of the nation, leaving the New Orleans Union Passenger Terminal on its way to Chicago. The huge Mays Yard, near Harahan in Jefferson Parish, is the IC's extensive New Orleans Freight Train Terminal, where all of its trains are received, switched and forwarded over its own lines, or through interchange with other railroads to the Southeast and Southwest and to industrial plants, wharves and docks in the area. The IC is only one of five trunkline railroads serving Jefferson Parish.

and prepares, reviews and executes most contracts affecting the parish. It also prepares ordinances and resolutions for consideration by the council prior to adoption.

Expanding its services to the parish government, the legal department recently began preparing all legal proceedings adopted by the council in connection with the street blacktopping program. This includes the preparation of special assessment ordinances and resolutions.

The office is composed of the parish attorney and four part-time legal assistants as well as clerical help.

Among the department's major accomplishments in 1962 was the acquiring of titles to property, including servitudes and, in some cases, instituting

expropriation proceedings, in connection with the Barataria Bay Waterway Project. The parish attorney's office obtained approximately 75 servitudes from property owners and handled the curative work in connection with the project. This work made possible the completion of the new \$2 million waterway—an incentive to commerce and industry today and in the years to come.

Renegotiation of contracts, elimination of overlapping and ambiguity, has resulted in a conservatively estimated savings of \$300,000 to the parish.

Street maintenance costs were reduced and the blacktopping program given an impetus through a provision providing for delayed payments by property owners of 25% of the assessments.



Recently, the legal department won a major victory in a dispute involving a contracting firm, an engineering consulting firm and the Louisiana Highway Department. Acting as counsel for the West Bank Road District of the parish, the legal department ended a five-year dispute by securing approximately \$460,000. Part of this money will be used to light the West Bank Expressway from Westwego to the Orleans Parish line.

SANITATION DEPARTMENT WORK

As previously detailed on these pages, the parish-wide sewerage construction program will bring tremendous benefits to home owners and industries of the parish. It should be emphasized that the program is separately financed from those programs undertaken independently by the municipalities of Kenner, Harahan and Westwego.

The East Bank's \$14½ million sewerage program which was approved in January, 1963, will begin in the summer of 1963; completion is expected in 1965.

Sewerage District No. 8's \$1½ million project on the West Bank will be started before July, 1963, and finished within a year. The West Bank's \$600,000 project in Sewerage District No. 9 is expected to be completed within nine months after its start sometime before July, 1963.

\$14½ MILLION FOR EAST BANK SEWERAGE CONSTRUCTION

The system is designed to serve the entire unincorporated area of Jefferson's East Bank. It will include the installation of new sewer lines on the occupied streets in the area bounded by Metairie Road, Causeway Boulevard, the Jefferson-Orleans Parish line and Lake Pontchartrain; improvements and additions to the present Helois Street Sewage Treatment Plant; installation of new sewers in the Delta area which is bounded by Kenner's east city limits, Airline Highway, David Drive and Veterans Memorial Highway; installation of new sewers in Airline Park North Subdivision, Bissonet Plaza Subdivision; the installation of a main trunk sewer line down Transcontinental Drive

from Canal No. 2 to the West Napoleon Treatment Plant; the installation of new sewer lines and a new treatment plant in the 9th Ward South area which is bounded by Kenner's east city limits, Harahan's west city limits, the Airline Highway and the Mississippi River; additions and improvements to the West Napoleon and Camp Plauche Treatment Plants.

Construction will start on all of the above early in the summer of 1963 with the exception of the 9th Ward South area. Due to financial arrangements, construction in this area will be delayed about a year unless assistance from the federal government is secured.

\$1½ MILLION FOR SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 8

The program will serve an estimated 7,600 West Bank homes and a total acreage of 11,846. Sewerage District No. 8 includes Upper Harvey (west of the Harvey Canal), Marrero and Estelle.

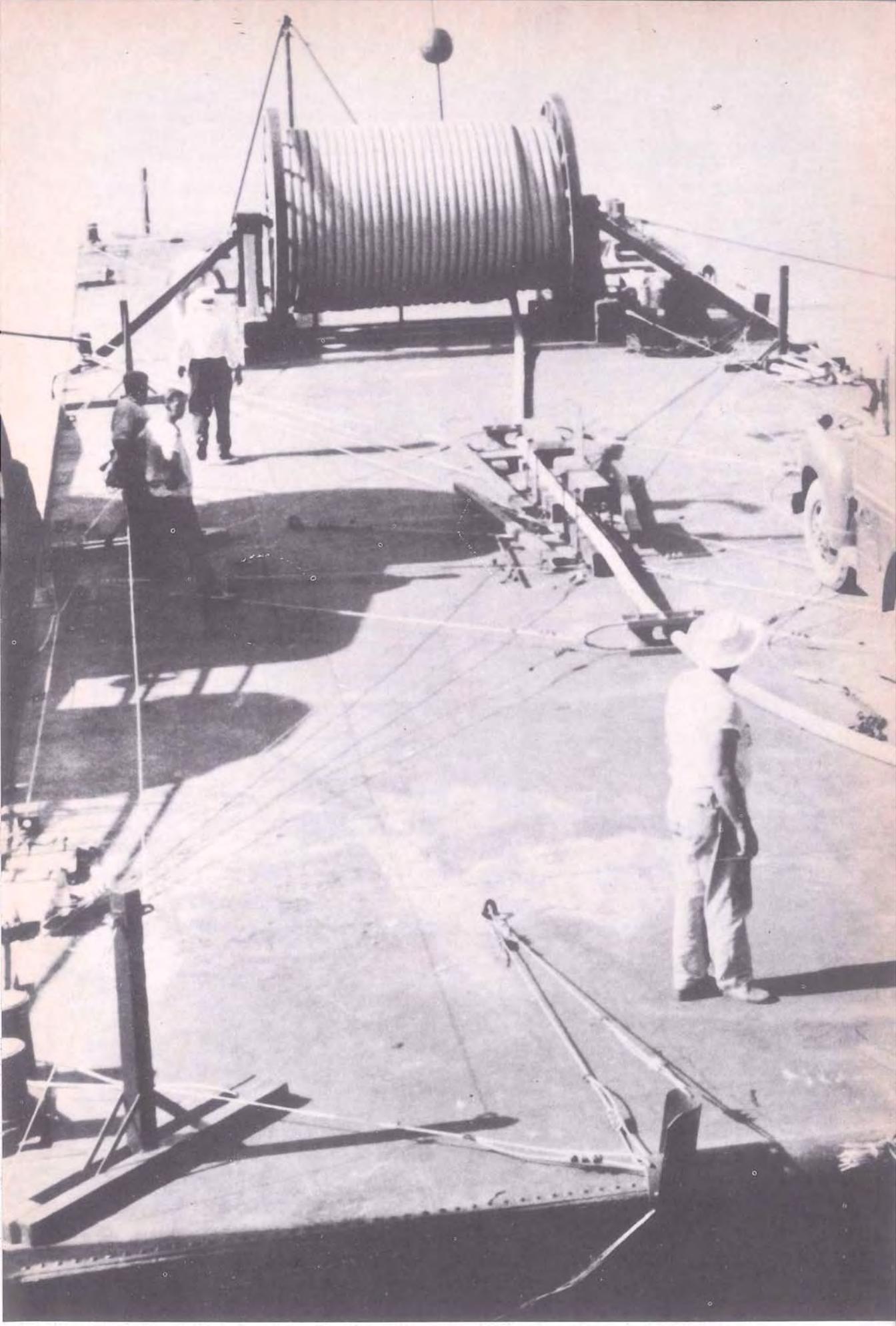
The district will have 79 miles of sewer lines, 18 pumping stations and a \$950,000 treatment plant that will handle 4,800,000 gallons daily. Presently developed areas will have sewer mains designed for future population growth.

The program has been financed by a 1½ million ad valorem bond issue of November, 1962; \$2,554,000 from the Housing and Home Finance Agency; \$600,000 from the U. S. Public Health Service and an approximately \$4.75 per front foot assessment charge to property owners.

\$600,000 FOR SEWERAGE DISTRICT NO. 9

A grant of \$250,000 from the U. S. Public Health Service plus the resulting \$600,000 from a November, 1962 ad valorem bond issue will provide good sewerage facilities for the West Bank area that includes Bridge City, Normandy Park and Pecan Grove. Approximately 1,000 homes will benefit. The \$300,000 sewerage plant will handle 1,200,000 gallons daily. Sewer mains will be installed with provision for population growth and an increased num-

In the never ceasing construction program carried on by Southern Bell Telephone in growing Jefferson Parish, this picture shows just a segment of the submarine cable used to service "hard to get at" areas—a part of the more than 500,000 miles of wire and cable that provide Jefferson with telephone service. Telephones increased from 82,000 to 90,000 in Jefferson in 1962. Just twenty-three years ago, in 1940, Jefferson Parish had only 4,000 telephones serving its people.



ber of homes in the area. An approximately \$1.95 per front foot charge will be charged property owners.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE PARISH

This year saw the completion of all drainage construction provided by the \$3 million East Bank bond issue. The improvements have doubled East Bank pumping capacity and closed major drainage ditches. Although other improvements will be made, East Bank areas are now assured protection from flooding.

Other improvements include the covering of approximately six miles of side street ditches on the East Bank. A share-the-cost program instituted by the Department of Sanitation resulted in this welcome result.

West Bank projects are progressing, financed by a \$2 million drainage bond issue. Work is being done on the main canal and levee and the Bayou Signette Pumping Station. These units should be in operation in September, 1963. They will provide tidewater protection and pumped drainage to approximately 8,000 acres.

WORK BY THE GARBAGE DIVISION

More than 150 million pounds of refuse were collected and disposed of by the Garbage Division of the Department of Sanitation. Possibly due to garbage disposal units, this was 25% less than that processed in 1961. Six new 20-cubic yard enclosed packer trucks were put in service in March, 1963. They replaced six 14-year old semi-packer trucks.

More than 40 million pounds of refuse were collected from West Bank Districts Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 with regular service supplied to these districts since January, 1962. The only West Bank exception is the Lafitte-Crown Point-Barataria area.

On the East Bank, voters approved a \$2 million bond issue for construction of a new incinerator and repair garage. As reported earlier on these pages, the garage will be used as a central maintenance garage for all East Bank mobile equipment used by parish departments.

Construction was started on the new incinerator in June, 1963. It is located just behind the present one on David Drive. Its completion is scheduled for 487 calendar days after the issuance of the work order.

The incinerator will be put into operation upon its acceptance by the parish. When it is in operation, the old one will be renovated and used with the new unit. Either may then be shut down for repairs without loss of incinerator service.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND BRIDGES

Given impetus by the property owner participation plan (75% cash and 25% delayed payments), the Department of Roads and Bridges improved 10 $\frac{1}{3}$ miles of shell streets on the East Bank, using 15,200 tons of asphalt. On the West Bank, 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ miles of shell streets were improved with 5,620 tons of asphalt used.

Twenty three hundred tons of asphalt at a cost of \$16,644 were used to cover the 1.9 mile long north lane of Veterans Memorial Highway from Causeway Boulevard to the Orleans Parish line. Older residential streets were covered with asphalt topping for a distance of 1.8 miles. Hot mix totaling 2,274 tons cost \$14,000 for this improvement.

Avenue B in Marrero and Brown Lane in Harvey were covered with a one-inch topping at a cost of \$5,000. Avondale Garden Road from River Road to Highway 90 and Manhattan Avenue from Fourth Street to the West Bank Expressway service road were given a shell base and three inches of hot asphalt at a cost of \$13,500.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

Seven vehicular bridges and four pedestrian bridges were constructed in 1962.

The Department of Roads and Bridges at a cost of \$130,000 constructed seven vehicular bridges at Canal No. 2 at Clearview Parkway, Bonnabel Canal at Nero Street, Canal No. 2 at Melody Drive, Canal No. 3 at Lake Villa Drive, Canal No. 2 at Ridgeway Drive, culverts at Canal No. 3 and Transconti-

Street and highway improvements in Jefferson Parish—a constant complicated program of connecting the new overpasses and underpasses, the new Veterans Memorial Highway and West Bank Expressway and already existing roads and streets for a faster and safer traffic flow—a combined program financed by parish, state and federal government—a seemingly confused activity of engineers, machines and men that is slowly but surely taking the snarls out of Jefferson's traffic.

mental Drive and culverts at Canal No. 3 and Division.

The four pedestrians' foot bridges were built at Canal No. 5 at Delta Playground, Canal No. 5 at Green Acres, Canal No. 5 at Airline Park and Canal No. 4 at Massachusetts Street. Construction of several other pedestrian bridges is planned.

CULVERTS, SIDEWALKS AND DRAINAGE PROJECTS

Ten miles of concrete were poured by the Department of Roads and Bridges on the East Bank in 1962; three miles were poured on the West Bank. East Bank projects resulted in the installation of 3.2 miles of culverts for subsurface drainage and 4.5 miles of sidewalks. West Bank projects resulted in 1.7 miles of culverts and 1.2 miles of sidewalks. The department aids property owners by setting grades and measuring their asphalt projects.

Improving drainage on the West Bank, the department rearranged drainage along Marrero's Sixth Street from Rabenstitch to Avenue D at a cost of \$19,500.

Repairs to the large drainage ditch on Marrero's Avenue H plus the installation of culverts ranging from 30-inch to 54-inch diameter beginning approximately 200 feet from Fourth Street to

the West Bank Expressway service road cost \$5,700.

In addition to the new projects, the department maintained existing streets using approximately 3,000 tons of asphalt costing \$18,750. Annual maintenance costs for asphalt streets is approximately \$26,000. The department buys \$230,000 worth of shells annually for street maintenance on the East and West Banks.

Veterans Memorial Highway was extended from David Drive to Williams Boulevard, a distance of 1.97 miles. Completion of this work provided double lanes paralleling the neutral ground from Williams Boulevard in Kenner to the Orleans Parish line. The \$400,000 cost of this project was paid by royalties from mineral rights due the parish from the State Royalty Road Fund.

Property has been purchased by the parish to eliminate some dead end streets. Property purchases opened Nero Street from Bonnabel Boulevard into 17th Street and on to Causeway Boulevard; Poplar into Metairie Heights and on to Ninth Street and Causeway Boulevard and Feronia Street into Bonnabel and Causeway Boulevard.

The East Bank River Road was blacktopped from Imperial Woods to Oak Avenue in Harahan. Papworth was blacktopped from the Federal Inter-



state Highway to Veterans Memorial Highway to permit traffic from Orleans Parish to get off the Interstate Highway.

Fifty-seven thousand dollars was spent to overlay Causeway Boulevard from the Airline Highway overpass to the toll plaza at Lake Pontchartrain.

Turn-arounds have been installed on Causeway Boulevard. Plans are being made for turn-off lanes on Veterans Memorial Highway.

1963 MAJOR STREET PROGRAM

In 1962, a \$5 million bond issue for street improvements throughout the parish was approved. On the East Bank this program will include the following streets: Power Boulevard from Federal Interstate Highway 10 to West Esplanade Avenue; West Esplanade Avenue from Power Boulevard to Elmwood Park and from Maned Downs to Transcontinental Drive (property owners will pay for paving West Esplanade Avenue from Elmwood Park to Maned Downs).

Transcontinental Drive will be improved from West Esplanade Avenue to Jefferson Highway; Bonnabel Boulevard to Causeway Boulevard; Roosevelt Boulevard from the Mississippi River to Canal No. 4; Citrus Road from Jefferson Highway to Hickory and Colonial Club Drive from Jefferson Highway to Hickory.

On the West Bank, Whitney Avenue will be blacktopped from West Bank Expressway to Belle Chasse Highway and Stumpf Boulevard from Whitney Avenue to Wright Avenue. Right of way was recently purchased.

In Marrero, 16th Street will be blacktopped from Baratavia Boulevard to Destrehan Avenue.

The Department of Roads and Bridges anticipates making the following street improvements in 1963, all with subsurface drainage: Bonnabel Boulevard from Metairie Road to Live Oak Avenue at a cost of \$870,000; West Esplanade Avenue from Causeway Boulevard to the Orleans Parish line at a cost of \$780,000; Clearview Parkway from Airline to West Napoleon at a cost of \$503,000; Ames Boulevard on the West Bank from north of Acres Road to

Barataria Boulevard at a cost of \$1,350,000; Manhattan Avenue on the West Bank from the West Bank Expressway to 12,000 feet south of the West Bank Expressway at a cost of \$900,000.

The following bridges are planned: Elmwood Park and Canal No. 2, Clearview Parkway and Canal No. 4, replacement of the bridge at Green Acres Road and Canal No. 5, bridges at Perdue Drive and Canal No. 2, David Drive and Canal No. 4, Beverly Garden Drive and Canal No. 4, Helois and Canal No. 3, Lapalco Boulevard over Two Mile Canal on the West Bank, Choctaw and Canal No. 2 and David Drive and Canal No. 5.

WATER SUPPLY

Jefferson Parish's Water Department is in the middle of a giant construction program that will extend into 1964. All improvements will be financed from operating revenues at no additional cost to taxpayers.

The \$5 million program for the East Jefferson Water District No. 1 will provide:

1. Increased capacity at filtration plant from 20 million to 37 million gallons daily. Cost: Approximately \$2½ million.

2. Installation of a 30-inch main from the plant to Harahan and Kenner and then north to the Lake. Cost: \$1 million.

3. Installation of a 12-inch main on West Metairie from Causeway Boulevard to Airline Park Avenue. Cost: \$112,000.

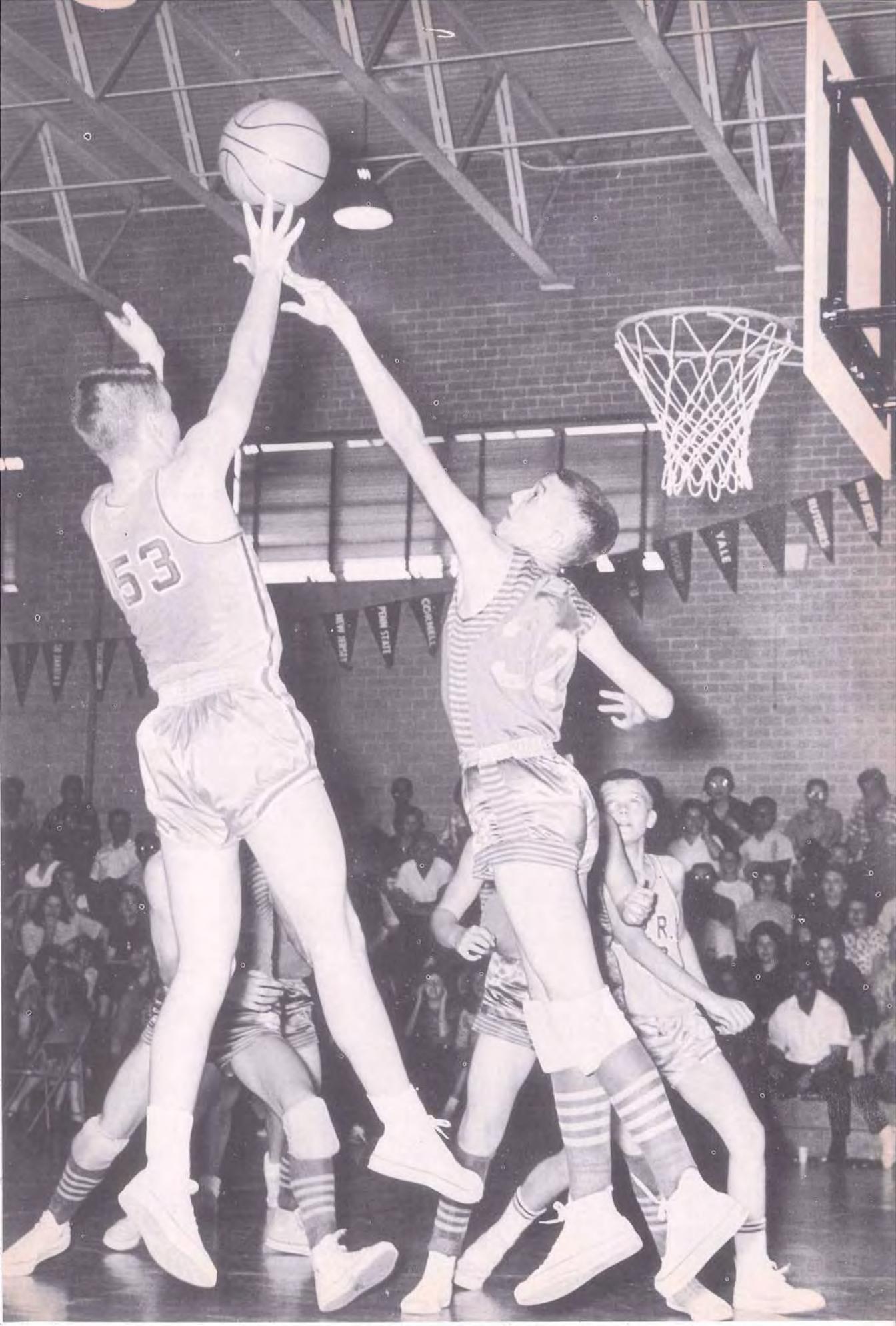
4. Installation of a 12-inch main on the north and south sides of the Federal Interstate Highway from Causeway Boulevard to Williams Boulevard. Cost: Approximately \$250,000.

5. Installation of a 12-inch main on Transcontinental Drive from Airline Highway to Avon Boulevard. Cost: Approximately \$120,000.

6. Installation of a 12-inch main near the lakefront from Metairie Court to Williams Boulevard. Cost: Approximately \$200,000.

7. Installation of a 12-inch main on Cleary Avenue from West Metairie to West Napoleon. Cost: Approximately \$38,000.

Basketball is the one of many recreational activities provided by the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department for all ages parishwide in its Centers, Playgrounds and Public School facilities. Beside Basketball, football, baseball and softball there is track for both boys and girls; Ladies Slimnastics; adult square dancing; tap and ballet; art classes for boys and girls; tumbling for boys and girls; ceramics for adults and teens; volleyball for girls and ladies; roller skating and tennis; the Golden Age Club for oldsters and summer day camps for girls.



8. Construction of an additional 5 million gallon ground storage reservoir upon completion of the filtration plant to be constructed in 1964 at a cost of \$500,000.

9. Installation of a 12-inch main to serve University City from Veterans Memorial Highway to the south boundary of the subdivision and payment of a pro rata cost of the installation of a 12-inch main from the southern property line to 35th Street. Cost: \$50,000.

10. Installation of approximately 44 miles of water mains on a petitioned basis beginning in 1963 and to be completed in 1964. These will be located in large subdivisions such as Pontchartrain Shores and Pontchartrain Gardens and along many streets throughout the parish. These mains will cost approximately \$1½ million. The parish will participate in corner lots and pay the cost of the first 100 feet. Cost of parish participation is estimated at approximately \$250,000.

Services by the six water districts continue to increase. Waterworks District No. 1 serves the entire East Bank, including the cities of Kenner and Harahan; it serves 39,268 accounts of which 2,576 were added in 1962. Water mains footage added in 1962 totaled 81,303. The district sold 4,715,902,300 gallons of water in 1962.

A new 5 million gallon ground storage reservoir was built in 1962 at a cost of \$350,000. The district began construction of a 40 million gallon per day river intake, pumping station and raw water line.

Waterworks District No. 2, serving the West Bank area between Gretna and Westwego and from the Mississippi River to the northern boundary of Waterworks District No. 3, recently completed a 10 million gallon per day filtration plant, a 5 million gallon ground storage reservoir, an administration building, a warehouse and extensions to its distributing systems costing a total of \$2½ million. The increased filtration capacity from four to 10 million gallons daily will encourage location of new industries and residences on the West Bank. This district sells water to Districts 3, 6 and 7 which do not have filtration plants and to parts of Plaquemines Parish north of Algiers Canal.

Waterworks District No. 2 increased its active accounts by 41 to a total of 2,962, sold 1,273,864,000 gallons of water and produced millions of gallons of unmetered water for fire protection, street paving, cleaning of subsurface drains and delivered water to areas during the drought. Revenues for 1962 were \$333,514.88.

Waterworks District No. 3, serving the area south of District No. 2 to the northern boundary of District No. 6 and in the east-west direction from Gretna to Westwego, added 406 active new accounts in 1962 to a total of 3,976. It sold 406,480,000 gallons of water and received revenues totaling \$214,515.35. During the year, it added 24,751 feet of new mains.

Waterworks District No. 5 purchased all of its water from the City of Westwego. It sold 254,875,000 gallons of water in 1962 for revenues totaling \$105,590.75. District No. 5 added 268 accounts, an 18% increase, the greatest increase in any single year since its beginning.

Waterworks District No. 6, comprising the areas of Crown Point, Baratavia, Lafitte and other sections of the Sixth Ward, sells both gas and water. It purchased its water from District No. 2 and sold 59,030,100 gallons in 1962 for revenues totaling \$46,869.87. It purchased its gas from the United Gas Pipe Line Company and in 1962 sold 55,023,500 cubic feet for revenues totaling \$59,707.16. The district added 33 new customers in 1962 and now services 701 active gas accounts and 858 active water accounts.

Waterworks District No. 7 comprises that section of Jefferson south of the Gretna city limits to Plaquemines Parish and in an east-west direction from the Orleans Parish line to the eastern boundary of Waterworks District No. 3. The district purchases all its water from District No. 2. It operates a pumping station, a 1½ million gallon ground reservoir and 35,600 feet of water mains. Approximately 9,463 feet of water mains have been installed by subdividers. The district's revenue from the sale of 97,975,000 gallons of water amounted to \$52,917.40 in 1962.

New water meters are an excellent gauge of the parish's growth. Many

This photograph of a concrete culvert being installed under a road for subsurface drainage is merely to remind Review readers that the huge \$3 million Drainage Construction Program on the East Bank was completed in 1962 and that the \$2 million Construction Program that will give adequate drainage to 8,000 acres on the West Bank is under way and should be completed by the end of 1963.



areas of the parish that were subdivided years ago and sold without water mains are now able to secure water on a front foot cost by petition of property owners. More than \$900,000 worth of water mains have been installed on this basis; approximately \$2½ million worth of additional mains are pending. This means of obtaining water has opened up many areas for development that formerly were lying idle due to lack of water.

DEFENSE AGAINST FIRE

The use of up-to-the-minute fire killing techniques, presentation of 110 lectures on fire prevention and 700 general building inspections by the Fire Department held uninsured building losses in 1962 to \$26,065 with only a \$17,525 loss of uninsured contents.

The Fire Department which operates under the Department of Safety answered 1,096 fire alarms in 1962. Building fires accounted for 220, grass fires for 496 and automobile fires for 106. Emergency calls for other reasons added up to 176. False alarms numbered 67.

December, traditionally the most dangerous fire month, had 132 fire calls.

ROAD LIGHTING

New housing developments and new subdivisions have created a steady demand for extension of underground street lighting systems.

Total cost of underground lighting facilities in 1962 was \$17,386.61. Road Lighting District No. 10, the most densely populated, was charged with \$16,566.18 of this sum.

The traffic signal system at the intersection of David Drive and Veterans Memorial Highway was financed by District No. 10 in cooperation with the Traffic Engineering Division of the Department of Safety. With its completion, signal installations maintained by the parish number six.

SIGNS INSTALLED AND REPLACED

School zone signs, 600 of them, are removed at the end of school in June and replaced in September.

Two hundred of them to be made due to damaged original signs. In the un-

incorporated areas of the parish, school crosswalk lines and the legend "School" were painted at 62 schools.

The Traffic Engineering Division prepared polling place signs for each of Jefferson's 124 precincts.

TAXICAB PERMITS ISSUED

Two hundred and ten taxi driver permits were issued in 1962; 10 were denied, an improvement over 1961 when 20 were denied. One hundred and twenty five certificates were issued by the Department of Safety to taxicab owners.

The semi-annual inspection of taxicabs showed a great improvement in the condition and maintenance of vehicles over the previous year. There were no traffic fatalities involving taxicabs in 1962 in the parish.

Due to the State Public Passenger Motor Vehicle Responsibility Law passed in September, 1962, all taxicabs operating in the parish now must have liability coverage in the amounts of \$25,000, \$50,000 and \$5,000.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT FACILITIES EXPANDED

Thanks to voter support of two bond issues providing almost \$2 million, the Recreation Department will be able to expand its facilities for even better service to Jeffersonians.

Playground District No. 4's bond issue for \$1½ million will bring playgrounds and community centers to Airline Park, Neyrey Park, Lakeshore, Bissonet and Maned Downs areas.

The \$300,000 for Playground District No. 8 will provide a community center building at the Little Farms Playground and at Bunche Village.

Many lighting facilities have been installed for outdoor night programs. The senior boys' and men's baseball diamonds at Jefferson and Metairie Playgrounds are being lighted. Thanks to lighting installations, night football and baseball may be played at Cleary Playground and at the Harlem Avenue Negro Playgrounds. Airline Park now has an official Little Boys' League baseball diamond lighted for night games.

Construction projects include two tennis courts at Metairie Playground and outdoor, multiple use areas at Bis-

An aerial view of the main yard of Avondale Shipyards, Inc. on a deep bend of the Mississippi River on Jefferson's West Bank at Avondale, capable of building and launching ocean going vessels 600 feet in length. Under construction as this picture was taken were four cargo vessels for Lykes Bros., two comparable ships for Gulf and South American Steamship Company, a dredge, and barges including the third of three said to be the largest ocean going barges ever built.



sonet and Airline Park Playgrounds and a gymnasium at Cleary Playground.

Working with the Jefferson Parish School Board, the Recreation Department has provided physical education facilities for students at the new Riverdale Girls High School. The department agreed to the use by the students of the 21-acre Jefferson Playground and its gymnasium, located just across the street from the school.

The school board reciprocated this and past years by allowing the Recreation Department to use the excellent school board recreational facilities on the West Bank for a completely supervised summer program for boys and girls sponsored by the parish council.

PLAYGROUNDS WELL DISTRIBUTED

Eleven playgrounds are located on the East Bank. All are within walking distance of residential areas.

Throughout the year they provide well planned and supervised leisure time activities for all ages.

The Recreation Department operates 11 lighted sports fields—all kept well groomed by the maintenance department. Five community centers are sites for year-round activities such as picnics, meetings, etc. All of these facilities are available to schools, churches, and other organizations upon request.

The Jefferson Parish Recreation Department boasts one of the finest athletic programs in Louisiana and the South. It is diversified to afford equal opportunities for participation to boys, girls and adults of all ages and abilities. The department has sponsored and supervised more than 125 organized leagues and tournaments in football, basketball, baseball, track and tennis.

In the past year, the department had 35 championship teams. Each member of these teams was awarded a beautiful engraved JPRD championship trophy. Various booster clubs have played an important role in sponsoring championship competition.

Other programs include the popular ladies' slimnastic classes, adult square and round dancing, tap and ballet classes for children and art classes for boys and girls.

Tumbling instruction is given to boys and girls; teenagers and adults receive

instruction in ceramic work; youngsters learn roller skating.

Younger girls enjoy a daily day camp conducted during the summer.

Senior citizens respond heartily to the complete program designed for them.

Special events sponsored annually by the Recreation Department include the girls' summer camp, the Kid Bowl and Cookie Bowl featuring outstanding football players, the J.I.T. (Invitational Basketball Tourney), a roller skating extravaganza, a ceramic show, dance revues at various playgrounds, the senior girls' track and field meet, the Golden Age Carnival ball, the Track Meet of Champions, the Little Boys' League and Dixie League district baseball playoffs and the Tri-Parish Girls' Softball Tournament.

LIBRARY DIVISION INCREASES SERVICES

This year the steadily rising increase in the number of housing permits granted in the parish made necessary a revision of the schedules of the library's five bookmobiles. In addition, studies are under way regarding the establishment of more branches. Increased demand on the supply of books has been met by means of a rental service used by the library to augment parts of its stock, mainly the fiction collection.

The library has become a publisher. On its new duplicating machine purchased in 1962 it produces at library headquarters thousands of copies per hour of bibliographies, reading lists, miscellaneous library forms and publications, among them the library's perennially popular annual report that combines the parish history and progress with a record of the library's activities.

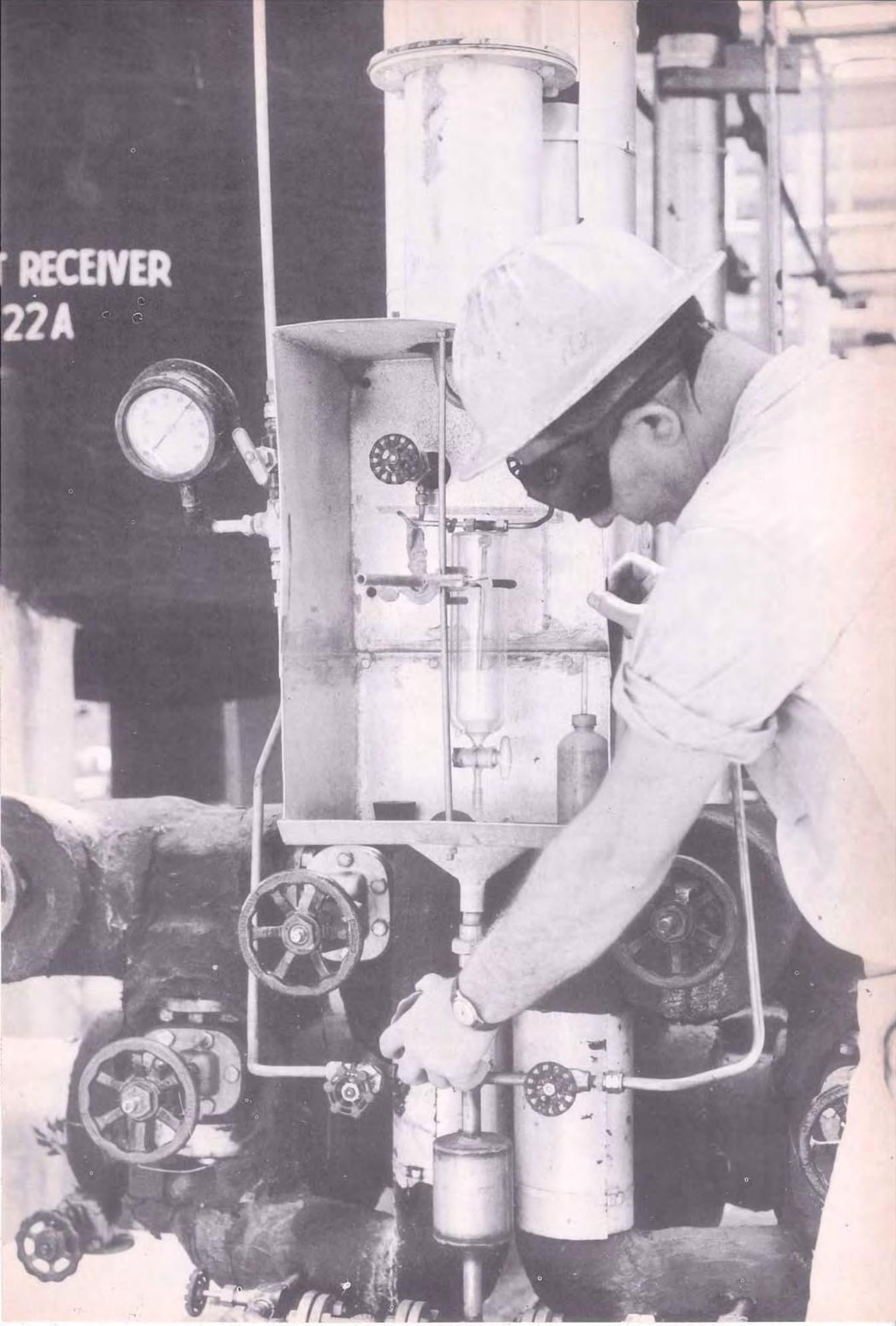
Reinforced reference collections, including supplementation of the library's foreign language collections, are helping students at all levels. Service to businessmen in the way of reference assistance has become an important function of the library's 13 branches and five bookmobiles.

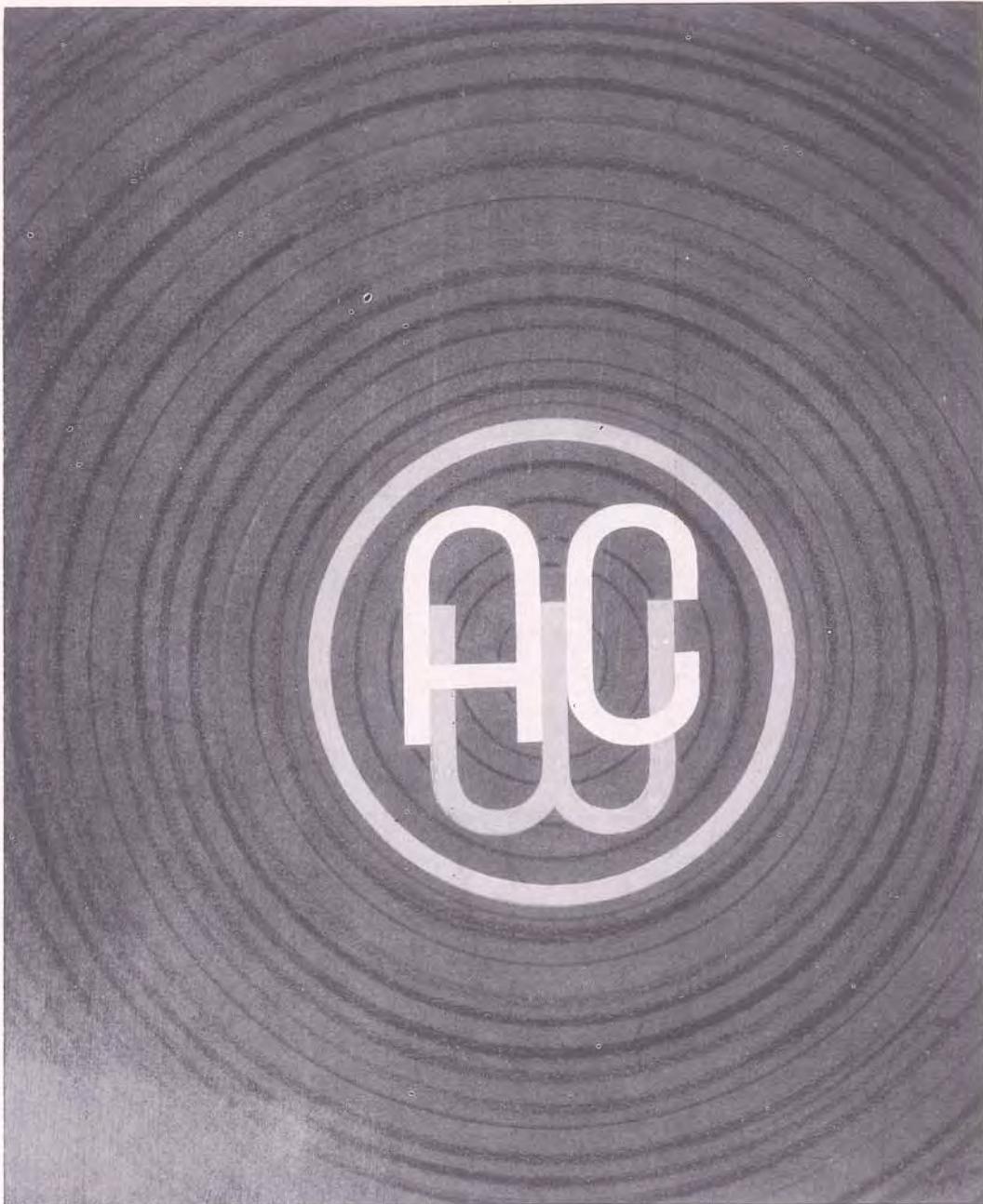
The library has two microfilm readers for use with its collection of micro-filmed matter—one on each side of the river.

Continued on Page 114

Taking a sample of HCN from the product stream for process control at the huge \$100 million American Cyanamid Company's Fortier Plant in Jefferson Parish. American Cyanamid is the nation's sixth largest chemical company producing nearly 6,000 products for industry, the medical profession, the farm and the home. The Fortier Plant in Jefferson alone pays annual wages of over \$5 million to about 625 employees and spends around \$4.3 million yearly for local supplies.

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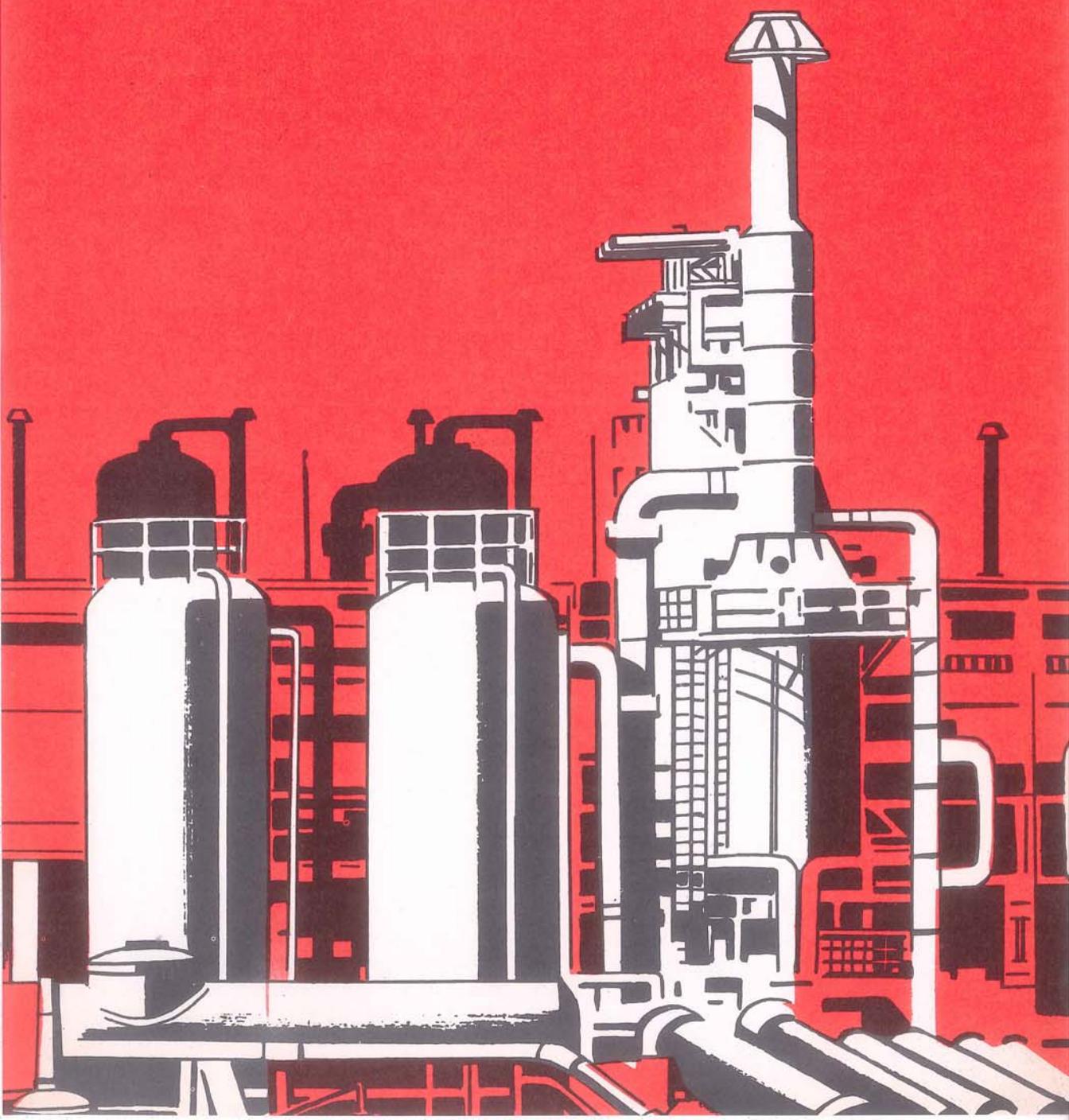
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NEW ORLEANS, U. S. A. • A MUTUAL COMPANY

Jefferson's West Bank Waterways

By Hale Boggs, Member of Congress, Second Louisiana

Congressional District

Ever since the first French fishermen and trappers began plying the bays, bayous and lakes of the West Bank of Jefferson Parish in the 18th century, the people of Jefferson have had a growing stake in the development and improvement of the West Bank's waterways, and the ever increasing commerce on them.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the trade and commerce through the Parish essentially was confined to such fresh-water fish as catfish, garfish, bass, trout, perch, crawfish and other kinds; and salt-water crustaceans and fish such as shrimp, oysters and crab, trout, redbfish, flounder, red snapper, and others; and the plentiful fur-bearing animals like muskrat, mink, raccoon, otter, fox, and opossum and skunk.

More than 200 years later, many more commodities are transported across West Jefferson in barges and towboats, large and small, via the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, the Barataria Bay Waterway, the Harvey Canal. Replacing the fish and furs in larger quantities are various minerals and other products such as crude and distillate petroleum; oil gas; iron and steel pipe; industrial chemicals of all kinds; rolled and finished steel; dry and liquid sulphur; sand, gravel and rock; salt; cement materials.

Probably the two most important discoveries on the West Bank, and south of Grand Isle in the Gulf of Mexico—which discoveries have increased commerce on the Parish's waterways and boosted its economy—were the discovery of oil seven miles southwest of Lafitte in May, 1935, and the finding of a very rich liquid sulphur deposit seven miles out in the Gulf in the late 1950's.

The first oil well at Lafitte was at that time the deepest one of its kind in the world—9,572 feet down; and since that year, the oil industry has mushroomed into the largest and most valuable industry in the Parish.

The sulphur deposit south of Grand Isle is the third largest such deposit in the world, and is being mined by Freeport Sulphur Company's \$30 million offshore mine, which soon will be augmented by a new \$3.5 million Free-

port platform now under construction.

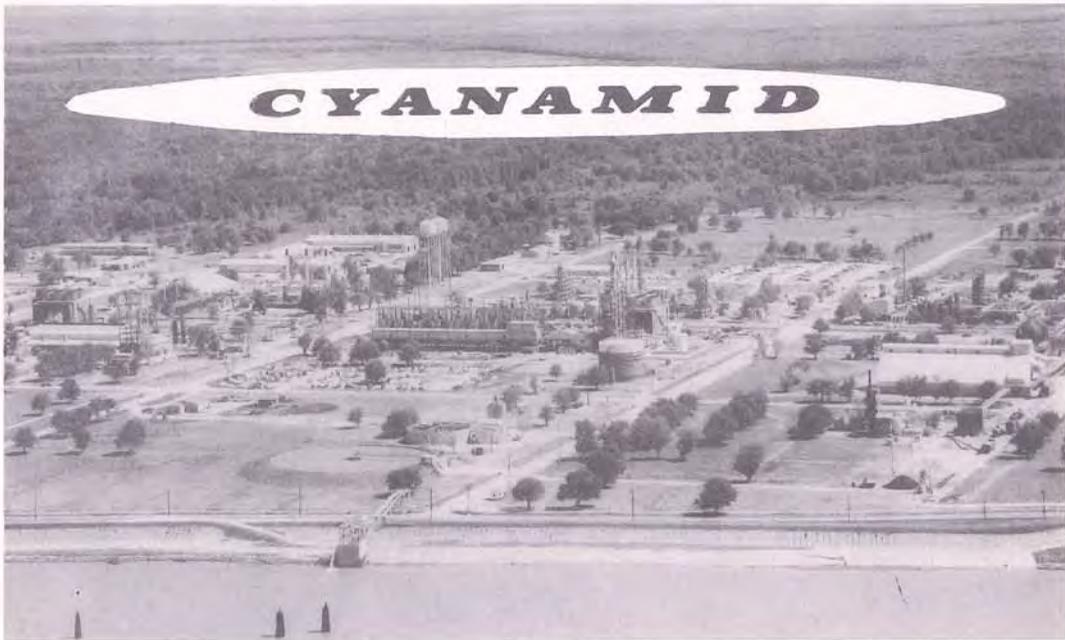
These two minerals and scores of other products have vaulted the West Bank's waterways into the principal means of transportation and commerce through the Parish. Today, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway provides the prime East-West inland channel for waterborne commerce through West Jefferson, and the Barataria Bay Waterway, which is being expanded to a depth of 12 feet and a bottom width of 125 feet, certainly will become the principal North-South artery for commerce across the West Bank.

The great Intracoastal Waterway, which I have eagerly sought to improve and expand by working for increased Congressional appropriations, today stretches 1,115 miles from Apalachee Bay, Florida, to Brownsville, Texas, at the Mexican Border, and is one of our country's most vital arteries of inland commerce. More than 50 million tons of commodities annually move along this waterway; and almost 40 million tons of this total move on the Louisiana leg of the waterway from the West Bank of Jefferson at the Mississippi River to the Sabine River at the Louisiana-Texas Border. The Louisiana leg from West Jefferson to Texas stretches some 266 miles across South Louisiana, and has become the most heavily traveled part of the waterway for inland vessels of all kinds.

The first work on this vast Florida-to-Texas waterway followed an \$18,000.00 appropriation by Congress in 1828 for construction of a Mobile Bay-to-Mississippi Sound Channel. However, it was not until after the turn of this century that the federal government authorized the preliminary planning for the section of the waterway from the Mississippi River to the Rio Grande.

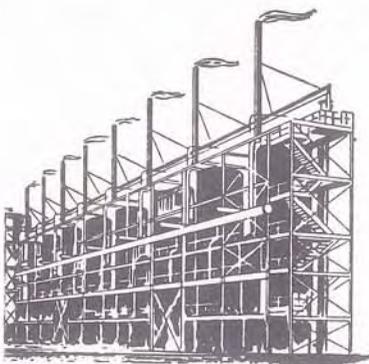
The 20-mile-leg of the Intracoastal Waterway through West Jefferson was included in the section of the artery authorized for construction by the 63rd Congress in the River and Harbor Act of March 2, 1919. This part of the waterway stretches some 115 miles from the River to Bayou Teche; and the first channel to be dredged for this section with your federal funds was five feet

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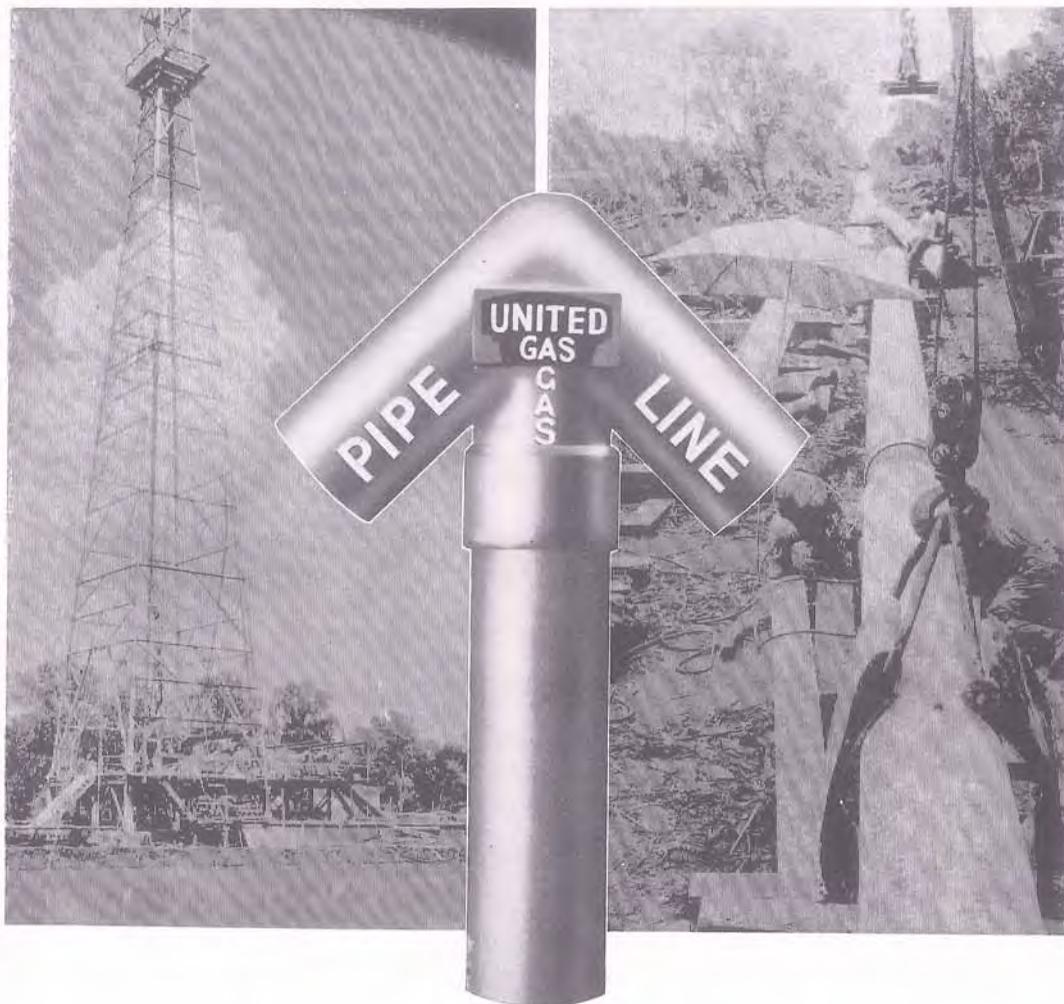
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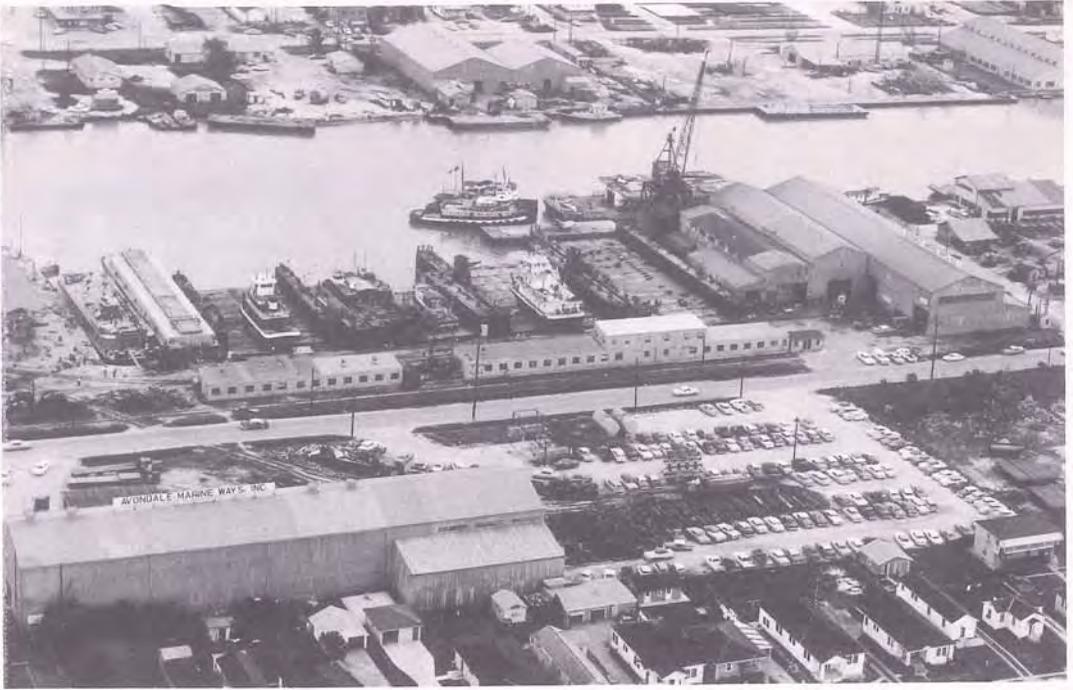


Those familiar T-shaped markers you see near the highways of this area are mileposts of progress. They serve a dual purpose — marking the location of a United Gas pipeline passing under a road and providing a vent for the air space between the pipeline and its steel casing. These little vents, scarcely taller than a man's knee, are among the few visible signs of our business . . . the complex business of delivering dependable supplies of natural gas to the cities and towns of the Gulf South.

So look twice the next time you see one of those little vents. It's a milepost of progress for the whole Gulf South.

**Another
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of UNITED GAS
Progress**

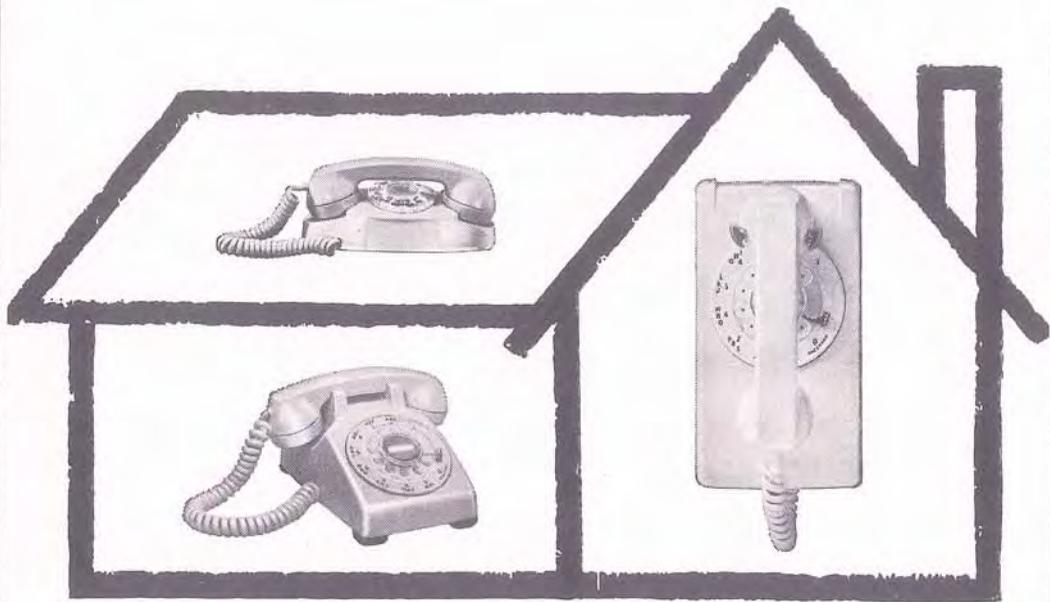
**UNITED
GAS**
SERVING THE
Gulf South



An aerial view of the busy Avondale Shipyards' Repair Yard on the Harvey Canal link of the Intracoastal Waterway. The business of this yard and the over 200 other concerns on the Harvey Canal serving the oil and marine fields will be greatly boosted and benefited by the barge traffic of the new Barataria Bay Waterway.



A portion of the Bayou Signette shrimp fleet at their home port in Westwego. They will be one of the frequent users of the new Barataria Bay Waterway.



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Southern Bell in Louisiana



PRACTICALLY ALL of the crewboats and workboats servicing the oil industry in the Louisiana tidelands are powered by Diesel engines. Deepening and widening of the Barataria Bay Waterway will make it much easier for deeper draft vessels (below) to reach service facilities in Harvey where qualified mechanics, like the man above, can perform necessary adjustments and repairs.



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Forty years ago, Celotex built its first plant and began the manufacture of insulating fibreboard from bagasse.

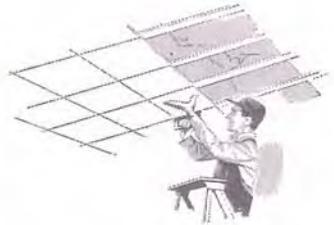
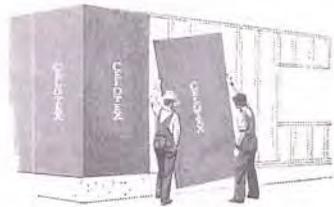
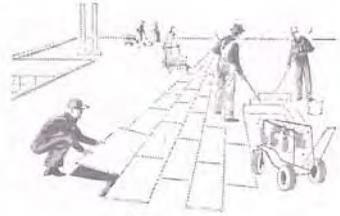
Today, this plant, at Marrero, Louisiana, is the industry's largest: 1750 employees; a vast 150 acre plant; a product line of over 1300 items; 10 miles of rail lines, a fire department; a medical department, ambulance equipped. Annually, 250,000 tons of bagasse from Southern sugar mills are processed into building materials.

At Marrero and 8 other plants, Celotex produces a variety of products needed for the gigantic construction job required to keep pace with America's population growth and economic progress. We are proud to have a part in keeping our nation prosperous and strong.



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It is examples like the following that dramatize the industrial production of Jefferson Parish. Between July and October of 1962 there arrived at the H. C. Price Company—Pipe Coating Division on the Harvey Canal in Jefferson 1435 railroad cars of 40-foot lengths of 36" diameter steel pipe, totaling 14,075 pieces, representing approximately 101 miles of pipe. This 101 miles of pipe was given a somastic coating at the H. C. Price plant and then shipped by barge to the construction location around Opelousas, Louisiana.

deep and 40 feet wide at bottom.

In the years since 1919, through additional appropriations by succeeding Congresses, the West Jefferson part of the waterway was expanded and improved. Then on July 23, 1942, the 77th Congress, the first Congress in which I served, authorized the enlargement of the waterway from its dimensions of 9-by-100 feet, to the present 12-by-125 feet all the way from Apalachee Bay, Florida to Corpus Christi, Texas.

During the years that the Louisiana section of the waterway has had its present dimensions, the total annual tonnage moving on the artery has steadily increased, particularly in the past seven years, except for a decline in the year 1958.

In 1961, a total of 38,956,000 short tons of products was transported over the Louisiana leg of the waterway. Included in this impressive total were 17,033,730 tons of crude petroleum; 2,808,806 tons of industrial chemicals of all kinds; 1,377,562 tons of iron and steel pipe; 633,879 tons of rolled and finished steel; 517,568 tons of dry and liquid sulphur, and 435,713 tons of sand, gravel and rock.

In 1955, some 26,793,000 tons were carried along the Louisiana leg; the next year, the tonnage jumped to 29,688,000, then climbed again to 33,-113,000 tons in 1957, only to drop in

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67 DEEP IN THE SERVICE POSITIONS

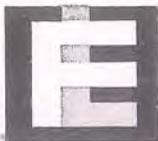


Look to these men for the service you need: Each one has an over-all knowledge of your equipment. Each one is a specialist who focuses tightly on your particular mechanical problem. He identifies it. Isolates it. Goes to work on it. Eliminates it. Your equipment doesn't leave our shop until it responds perfectly—and that's in a very short time.

These men give *service in depth* . . . in 66 more ways than 1 . . . use calculated skill to attack a problem head on . . . come up with the answer 10 times out of 10 . . . because they're *factory-trained*.

Call on these men. They'll get rid of your down-time in no time.

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1958 to 31,200,000 tons. However, 1959 saw a sizeable increase in traffic to 34,161,000 tons, and 1960 brought a tonnage total of 36,264,000. And 1961 produced the record year thus far: 38,956,000 tons. (Figures for 1962 are not yet available).

At its present depth and width, the Louisiana leg of the waterway has become overburdened with commerce in recent years, so that it is now absolutely necessary that the channel through West Jefferson and all along this stretch and into Texas as far as the Houston Channel be expanded. To investigate this proposed expansion, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers recently conducted an extensive survey and study of commerce along the Louisiana and Texas parts of the waterway, and then recommended to the 87th Congress (1961-'62) that federal funds be authorized and appropriated to widen and deepen the channel along most of the Louisiana section, and on much of the Texas section.

In the closing days of the last Congress, I promoted the passage of the Omnibus Rivers and Harbors Flood Control Act of 1962, and the Congress enacted this legislation, which includes an authorization of \$25,540,000.00 for expansion of the Louisiana-Texas legs of the great interstate waterway.

There is no doubt about the need for expanding and improving the waterway in Louisiana. The authorized widening of the channel along the Louisiana section (including the 20-mile stretch in West Jefferson, of course) from 125 to 150 feet, and in one part to 200 feet, and its deepening from 12 feet to 16 feet, will produce greater commerce than ever before on this vital inland artery.

The reasons for expanding the waterway are really two-fold:

First, the area from New Orleans to Brownsville is rapidly becoming more and more industrialized; consequently, mineral production, particularly in oil, gas, sulphur, cement materials, clay, gypsum, and salt is increasing steadily. Furthermore, South Louisiana and South Texas have ten deep water ports between them with connections into the interior; and some 100 chemical plants of various kinds have been established in the waterway's vicinity in our State and in Texas since 1940. These tremendous developments can be seen by the following:

(Continued on Page 86)

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For generations Woodward, Wight & Co., Ltd. has conducted every transaction with every customer on the basis of sound service and honest representation of product.

As Jefferson Parish moves ahead to an even greater position in our community and our state it is our firm hope to continue supplying goods and services which will help accelerate this growth.

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**The Schools
of Jefferson**



The modern and beautiful T. H. Harris Junior High, which opened in September, 1962. The Administration Building in the right foreground contains the Principal's office, the Library, the Counsellor's office and the Cafeteria. In the left foreground is the Classroom Building.

Activities and Accomplishments

By Emile Gennaro, President, Jefferson Parish School Board

Between 1940 and 1960 the population of Jefferson Parish quadrupled from 50,427 to 208,769. What we frequently overlook in our proper pride over the pulsing growth is that Jefferson Parish has assumed the responsibility of providing a full twelve-year free education to the children of every family of our now nearly a quarter of a million people who send them to public school.

Following is a brief resume of how the Jefferson Parish Public School System has shouldered that responsibility, and is providing a full education for each pupil enrolled, plus incentives to outstanding pupils.

* * * * *

Every school day morning automobile and truck drivers carefully observe over 600 School Zone signs in Jefferson Parish, as 43,270 school age boys and girls, both White and Negro (4452 more than last year), take their homework and lunch money and walk to school if they live close enough, or wait for one of the 199 school busses (57 more than last year) that pick them up, transport them safely to the schoolyard and deliver them back at the end of the school day.

These over forty-three thousand children are distributed among 60 different public schools (4 new schools since last year, representing 156 new classrooms). At these 60 schools, strategically located so that every neighborhood and community is served, 1517 teachers (207 more than last year), all receiving salaries higher than the State average in order to secure the best available, are waiting to guide these children along the twelve-year long path of education through Elementary, Junior and Senior High School. A total of 2784 permanently employed people, including substitute teachers, function to keep the Jefferson Parish Public School System operating smoothly, efficiently and productively.

In spite of the tremendous increase in enrollment for the 1962-63 school year (well over the 10% average increase of the last few years), the above statistics show conclusively that the Jefferson Parish Public schools were ready with the additional busses, classrooms and teachers required to provide a desk for every pupil enrolled without crowding—a statement many communities and cities throughout the nation would like to be able to make.



Panoramic view of the new Riverdale Girls Senior High School. Complete high school curriculum, plus Business Education Department, Home Economics Department, Driver Education Class, Physical Education Department, Cafeteria, and large Library and Patio. Its students also participate in the arts and science honor courses, as is provided in the curriculum of all Senior High Schools in Jefferson Parish. Riverdale opened in September, 1962.

of Jefferson's Public Schools

and Lem W. Higgins, Superintendent of Schools

The Jefferson Parish School Board and property owning voters began preparing for an enormously increased public school enrollment way back in 1959 when the Board proposed and the people approved the \$10 million New School Construction Program. All of Jefferson's school buildings now are either new structures or remodeled and expanded existing ones.

Ready for occupancy at the 1962-63 midterm in January, and financed out of sales tax revenue, were the ten mobile elementary classrooms and cafeteria, costing \$165,000, of Greenlawn Terrace School in Kenner. These ten mobile units accommodate a total of 350 pupils.

Also, 20 additional classrooms were added to Kenner Junior High School at a cost of \$375,000, ready in March of 1963. A complete new elementary school has been planned for Terrytown, the booming suburb of Gretna, for which a site has been purchased and an architect appointed.

But the big news was the opening at the beginning of the 1962-63 school year of the new Riverdale Girls High School on Riverdale Drive on Jefferson's East Bank. It has a capacity of 1500 students.

THE FIRST ALL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL IN JEFFERSON

The present enrollment of Riverdale High School is 1400 Senior High School girls drawn from all sections of Jefferson's East Bank. This school is already nearly filled, and additional facilities are being planned to take care of the large increase in the number of senior high school girls anticipated for the next school year.

The Jefferson Parish School Board is already planning another Girls' High School on the East Bank, to be followed by one on the West Bank, as funds become available.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES EXPAND

This is the fourth year the Jefferson Parish Public Schools have offered free evening classes to adults of all ages, both White and Negro, who want to add to or secure the schooling they missed when they were of school age. These adult students are given an examination when they make application, to determine where their instruction should begin, and they are advanced as quickly as their individual abilities permit. One hundred and eighty-nine adults are enrolled in this year's program.



Classes are held in the evenings twice a week for a total of five hours a week. The White adults are taught at East Jefferson and West Jefferson High Schools, and the Negro adults at Lincoln High and Washington Elementary Schools. The instructors are selected from the regular Jefferson Parish Public School teaching staff.

Since this program began in 1959, upwards of 200 students have been awarded equivalency certificates.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM INTENSIFIED AND BALANCED

A total of 51 physical education instructors in the entire public school system, practically one for every school in the Parish, 27 on the East Bank and 24 on the West Bank, supervise a balanced physical education program that involves all students but does not cut into academic time.

The physical education program has been intensified this year at the Junior and Senior High Schools, and new programs introduced at T. H. Harris Junior High School and at Riverdale Girls High School.

Following the completion of the popular athletic stadiums at East Jefferson and West Jefferson High Schools, the Jefferson Parish School Board constructed stadiums at two Negro schools—Lincoln and Ralph J. Bunche High Schools. Both were available the latter part of September 1962.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS PROVIDED FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

For the mentally retarded and physically handicapped children of Jefferson Parish, the School System provides sympathetic and excellently trained teachers, and free transportation in special busses, Lakeside School on the East Bank and Boulevard School on the West Bank, which are specially equipped for these children. A program for deaf and dumb school age children is now being organized.

DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTINUES

It is now four years old—that effective program introduced in 1959 which helps the commercial student to supplement academic studies with actual on the job training in stores and offices in

the metropolitan area. The student not only acquires experience in his particular field, but is paid for it and given proper credit in his courses. It has turned out to be beneficial to both the business concerns and to the students.

DRIVER TRAINING

The driver training program in the senior high schools is a course that combines classroom theory with actual on the road driving instruction, transforming teenagers into skillful, careful and safe drivers.

READING TO LEARN

A new and popular instruction method which reverses the old established "learn to read" process with a faster and more effective "read to learn" program, gives the beginners not only word recognition and speed in reading, but implants a better understanding of the meaning of what is being read.

A well established reading program has been developed for Grades 1, 2 and 3, and a modified program for Grades 4, 5 and 6.

"TO BE OR NOT TO BE--- THAT IS THE QUESTION"

That famous lament which opens Hamlet's Soliloquy is the modern day teenagers' torment. "What shall I do with my life?" "Shall I go to College or get a Job?" "For what am I best fitted?"

For that reason all Jefferson Parish Junior and Senior High Schools are permanently staffed with Guidance Counsellors, and all Junior High school students are given tests to determine their natural aptitudes and capabilities. These tests enable the Counsellors to guide students into the proper study subjects and help them to decide which role in life they are best qualified for success.

The Guidance Counsellors are also able to discover unusually brilliant and qualified students and help them turn their talents into proper channels. This program is probably one of modern education's most valuable public school services.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS

This school year saw the introduction of a new cultural program for Jefferson Parish Public school students. By special arrangement, the New Orleans

The spic and span, ultramodern Home Economics Department (the largest in the state) of the new Riverdale Girls High School.



The spacious well lighted library of the new Riverdale Girls High School. It measures 210 feet by 36 feet and is one of the largest school libraries in the state.



The March 8, 1963 New Orleans Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra concert at the East Jefferson High School Auditorium for East Bank public school students who had purchased tickets. They were picked up at their various schools and conveyed to the concert in special busses.



The Special Garden Work Project now under way at Lakeside Special School, formerly the East End School.



The busy and popular library of the Grand Isle High School. The students sitting at the table are (left to right) Jean Baugh, Mary Ann Sevin, George Ford, Marcia Hayes, Paulette Cherie, Elaine Sevin and Nettie Fay La-Combe. Standing (left to right) are Claude Lafont, Michael Crosby, Lonnie Parra, Elson Griffin, Thomas Marullo and Calvin Encalade.



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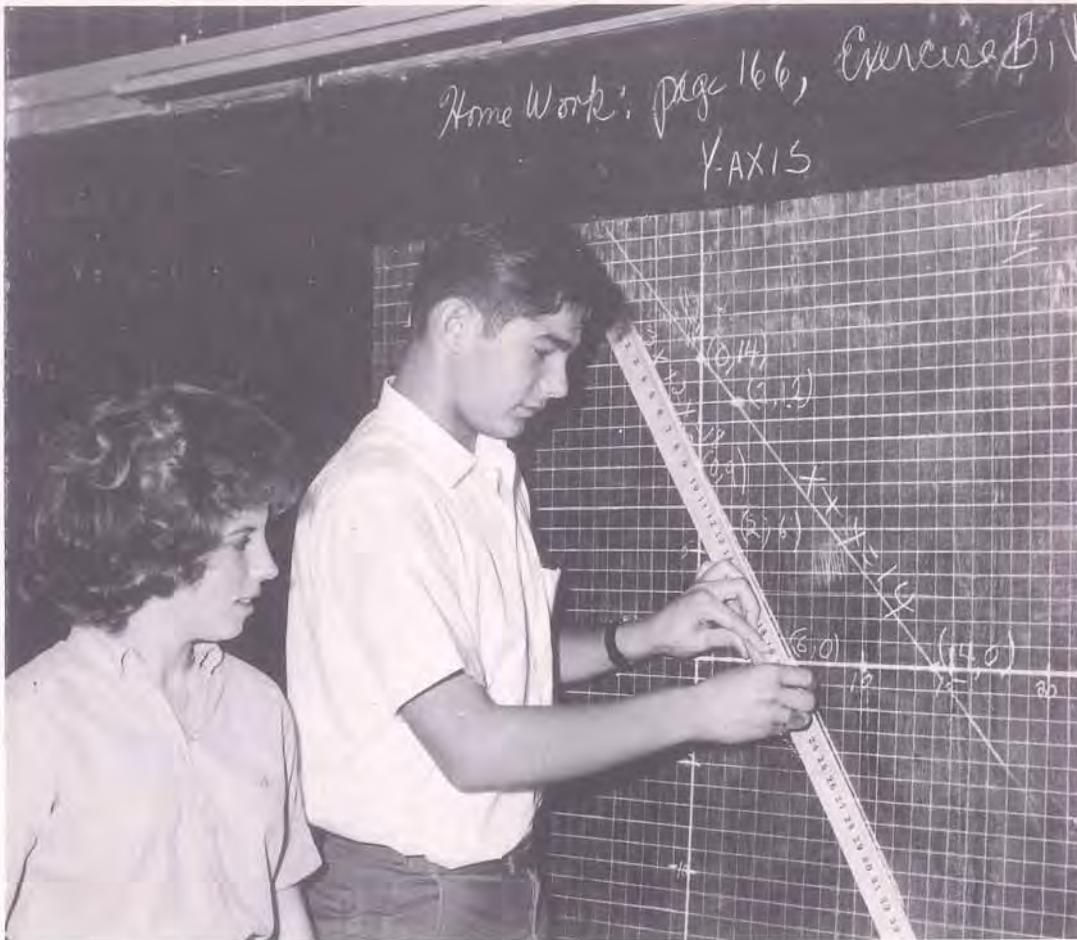
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AMERICAN OIL COMPANY

Harvey, Louisiana





Ninth Graders Joan Berryman and Dec Temple of the T. H. Harris Junior High seemingly are having no trouble with the assigned blackboard problem in Algebra class. As can be seen above the blackboard graph the students of this class are no strangers to home work.

Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra gave a series of three concerts each at the auditoriums of East Jefferson and West Jefferson High Schools. The series of three one-hour concerts cost the students a total of \$3.00, and included both elementary and higher grade students. Students were transported from all over the Parish in Jefferson Parish School busses, and were accompanied by teacher or parent chaperons. This is a cultural activity that will undoubtedly be continued. It was the first introduction of many Jefferson Parish students to the immortal music of Beethoven, Tchaikowsky, Mendelssohn and other great composers.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

We began this report with some impressive comparative figures. It is logical that we end it the same way.

Back in 1940 only 9% of Jefferson Parish citizens 25 years old or over had finished four years of high school. In

1960 that percentage had jumped to 27.2%

Back in 1950 (we have no figures for 1940 on this), 24.4% of Jefferson Parish's 18 and 19-year olds were attending school. Ten years later that percentage had climbed to 36.9%.

At the present time, we are proud to report that 51% of Jefferson Parish White high school graduates, and 43% of its Negro high school graduates go on to college. Special encouragement and aid are given to high school students working toward scholarships.

The urgent need for education in Jefferson Parish is becoming more and more recognized each year. It may be partly due to the challenging times, but it is evident that the modern and advanced facilities and trends of the public school system provide a definite incentive for education.

The Jefferson Parish School Board at the Special Meeting of April 24, 1963

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THE WEST JEFFERSON "BUCS"—1962 AAA STATE DISTRICT NO. 4 PUBLIC SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

District No. 4 (there are five districts in the state) comprises teams of Orleans, Jefferson and St. Bernard Parishes. AAA is the highest rated league in the state.



*Jefferson Public Schools 1962 Safety Patrol Essay winners. Rusty Galle (seated) was first place winner and Russell Todaro (on right) won second place. Both Galle and Todaro were awarded a trip to see the 1962 World Series Games played in Yankee Stadium, New York. Their expenses were paid by Sheriff John G. "Jack" Fitzgerald of Jefferson Parish. Edgar Casanova on the left was third place winner and was an alternate in case either of the other two boys could not make the trip.

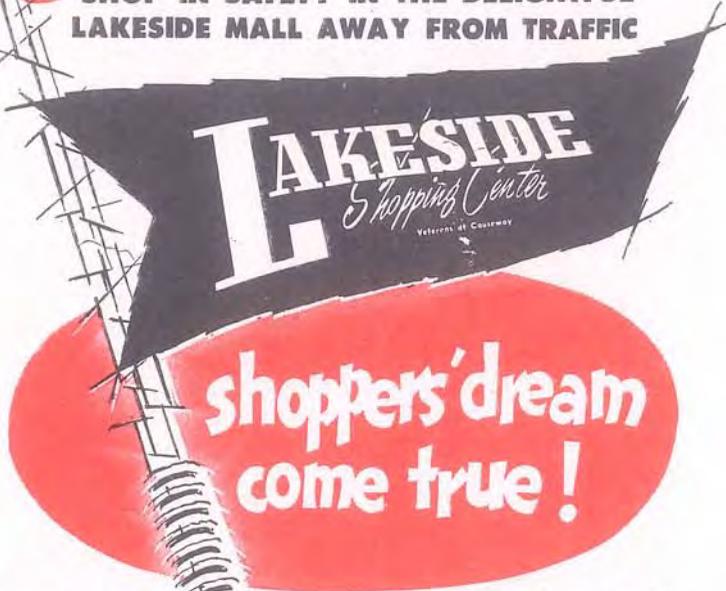
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VETERANS AT CAUSEWAY BLVD.

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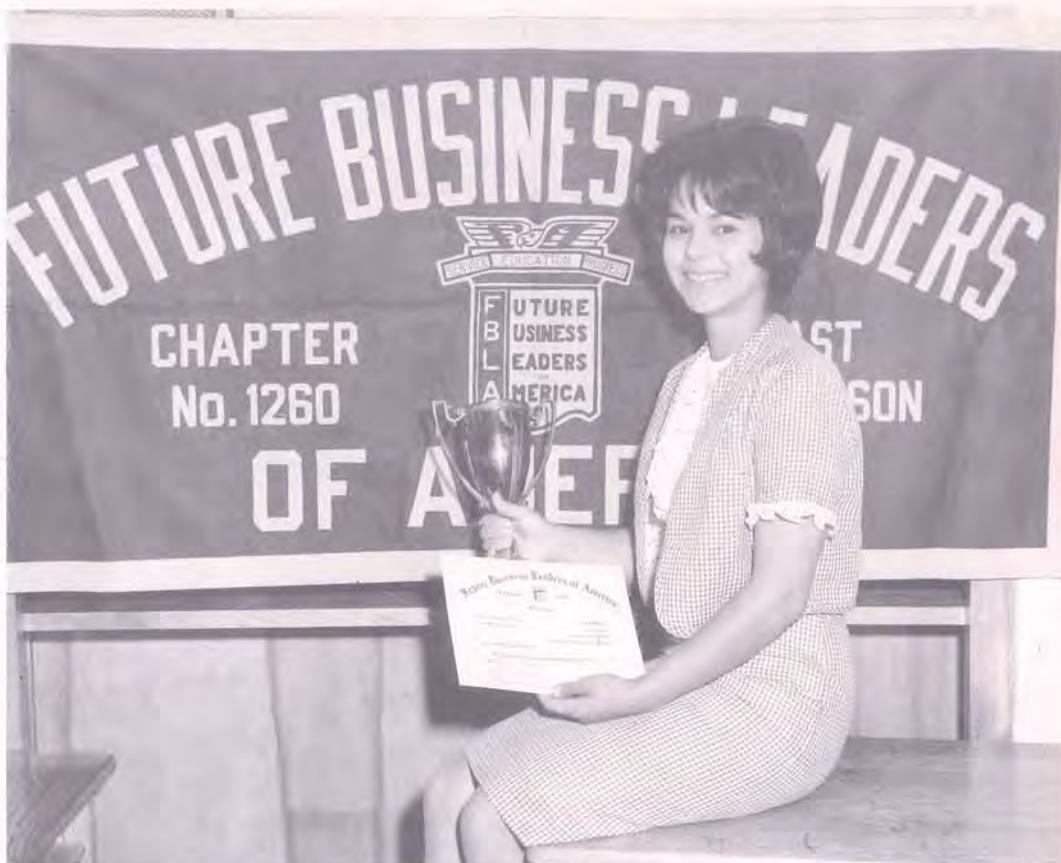
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VETERANS at CAUSEWAY



Claudia Boe, a member of the Future Business Leaders of America at East Jefferson High School, won first prize in the spelling competition at the state FBLA convention, held in Alexandria, Louisiana, in early March. As a result, she entered the national competition in Dallas, Texas, where she placed second.

accepted this fact and approved the following additions, alterations and renovations to meet the anticipated ten percent or better increase in enrollment for the 1963-64 School Session. Three architects were assigned to begin this work immediately.

The major construction will be a total of 54 new classrooms for the White schools and 32 for the Negro schools, broken down as follows: of the White schools on the East Bank T. H. Harris Junior High will receive 8 new classrooms, Bridgedale Elementary 6, Green Park Elementary 10 and Greenlawn Terrace Elementary 10 new classrooms. On the West Bank Waggaman Elementary will receive 4 new classrooms, West Jefferson High 12 and Live Oak Elementary 4.

Of the Negro schools on the East Bank Bunche Village Junior High will

receive 6 new classrooms. On the West Bank Elm Grove Elementary will receive 6 new classrooms, Fourth Ward Elementary 12, Frederick Douglass 4 and McDonogh #27 Elementary 4 new classrooms.

Renovations and alterations will take place in four classrooms of Marrero Junior High, in five classrooms of Westwego Junior High, in two classrooms of Bridge City Elementary, in three classrooms of Bissonet Plaza Elementary and in two classrooms in Bunche Village Junior High. In addition two mobile classrooms will be moved from Bridgedale Elementary School to Hazel Park Elementary.

With these additions and improvements the Jefferson Parish Public Schools confidently face the increased pupil registration pressure of 1963-64.

(Continued on Page 141)

a site worth seeing in **NEW ORLEANS**



Harahan, Louisiana

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ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD

MAIN LINE OF MID-AMERICA

Industrial Gold Mine

Jefferson Parish looms big in the plans of the Illinois Central Railroad. This pioneer New Orleans railroad in recent years has given a great deal of attention to the industrial development of property served by the railroad in the parish. Center of its interest is in the Harahan Industrial District owned by the railroad, which lies on the eastern edge of the parish and on the east bank of the Mississippi River. In fact, thousands of drivers daily crossing over Huey P. Long Bridge, as they glance to their right while crossing the bridge to the west bank, look down upon the broad expanse of industrial property at Harahan.

The area has an interesting history. It is named after James T. Harahan, President of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1906-1911, who was an outstanding operating man in his time. He was such a noted railroad executive that in 1900 the Saturday Evening Post published his views on "The Making of a Railroad Man," and in 1902 the Memphis Commercial-Appeal called him "the greatest railroad genius of the West."

Harahan was keenly interested in the South, where he had lived a good part of his life. He was instrumental in developing the railroad's extensive port facilities in New Orleans. The great

Harahan Yard in Jefferson Parish, at the foot of what is now the Huey P. Long Bridge, was the largest railroad yard in the entire world when it was built in 1899. The great yard was built on what was originally the La Freniere and Elmwood plantations.

As the port of New Orleans developed and as industrial activity quickened throughout the port area, the railroad in the 1920's tended to move more and more of its freight yard operation into the city, particularly to Stuyvesant Dock Yard, lying alongside the railroad's extensive dock properties, and to smaller industrial yards in the city. Then with the coming of World War II, the railroad found need for a larger and more modern freight facility to handle the enormous flow of business to and from New Orleans. A new yard, at right angles to the old Harahan Yard, was designed and built during the great conflict. Mays Yard was named for another outstanding Illinois Central man, Floyd R. Mays, and is known as a saucer yard from the fact that it has a slight depression in the center of its long length. This saucer effect makes for fast and easy switching in the mild climate of Louisiana.

With the end of the war years, Mays Yard was further developed as the main



Engineering and traffic officers of the Illinois Central Railroad prepare to drop the guide wheels of the "hi-railer" in preparation for making an inspection tour of the Harahan Industrial District.



A striking facade graces the National Food Stores building.



The familiar Chevrolet trademark at Harahan.



Firestone is a handsome newcomer to the Harahan Industrial District.

freight yard of the Illinois Central in the New Orleans area. This development freed Harahan Yard for other purposes, primarily to service the industrial plants to be located in the Harahan Industrial District. As a result of this change, gradually the main use of Harahan as a storage yard began to disappear. At the time Harahan Yard was first conceived before the turn of the century, the Illinois Central acquired 5,000 acres in the purchase of the two plantations mentioned above. During the last half of the century, the railroad disposed of various sections of this large acreage but always kept in site the heart of the tract, about 3,000 acres, for long range industrial development. Particularly since World War II, these plants have materialized in the present day Harahan Industrial District by the location of a number of well-known and highly respected national and local firms, as shown on map included in this article. The success of this development could not have been possible had it not been for the cooperative and understanding spirit of Jefferson Parish officials, who are intensively interested in industrial and community development within the parish.

There remains in Harahan Industrial District approximately 1,350 acres of fully improved and unimproved land dedicated to new plant and warehouse locations. A portion of this property is situated adjacent to the Mississippi River. Properties of the Harahan Industrial District are flat and well drained and have been proven to be the most desirable for foundation purposes in the New Orleans area.

This industrial complex is located within the switching district of New Orleans and has direct rail service to the Illinois Central owned Stuyvesant Docks, as well as direct connection with the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad serving the public dock facilities. Also, for vehicular traffic the properties are bisected by the Jefferson Highway, located in near proximity of the Huey P. Long Bridge and situated only a very short distance from the Airline Highway, New Orleans to Baton Rouge. In the improved area, numbering several hundred acres, all utilities, paved streets and necessary lead tracks are readily available and zoned M-1 Industrial.

Another favorable feature is that these properties are located adjacent to Mays Yard, where all Illinois Central

Building With Greater New Orleans

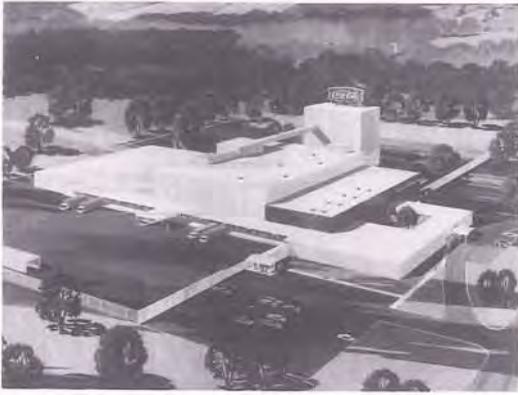
Do You Need Space in a Progressive Shopping Center? We have the available space and will Build to suit your Needs!



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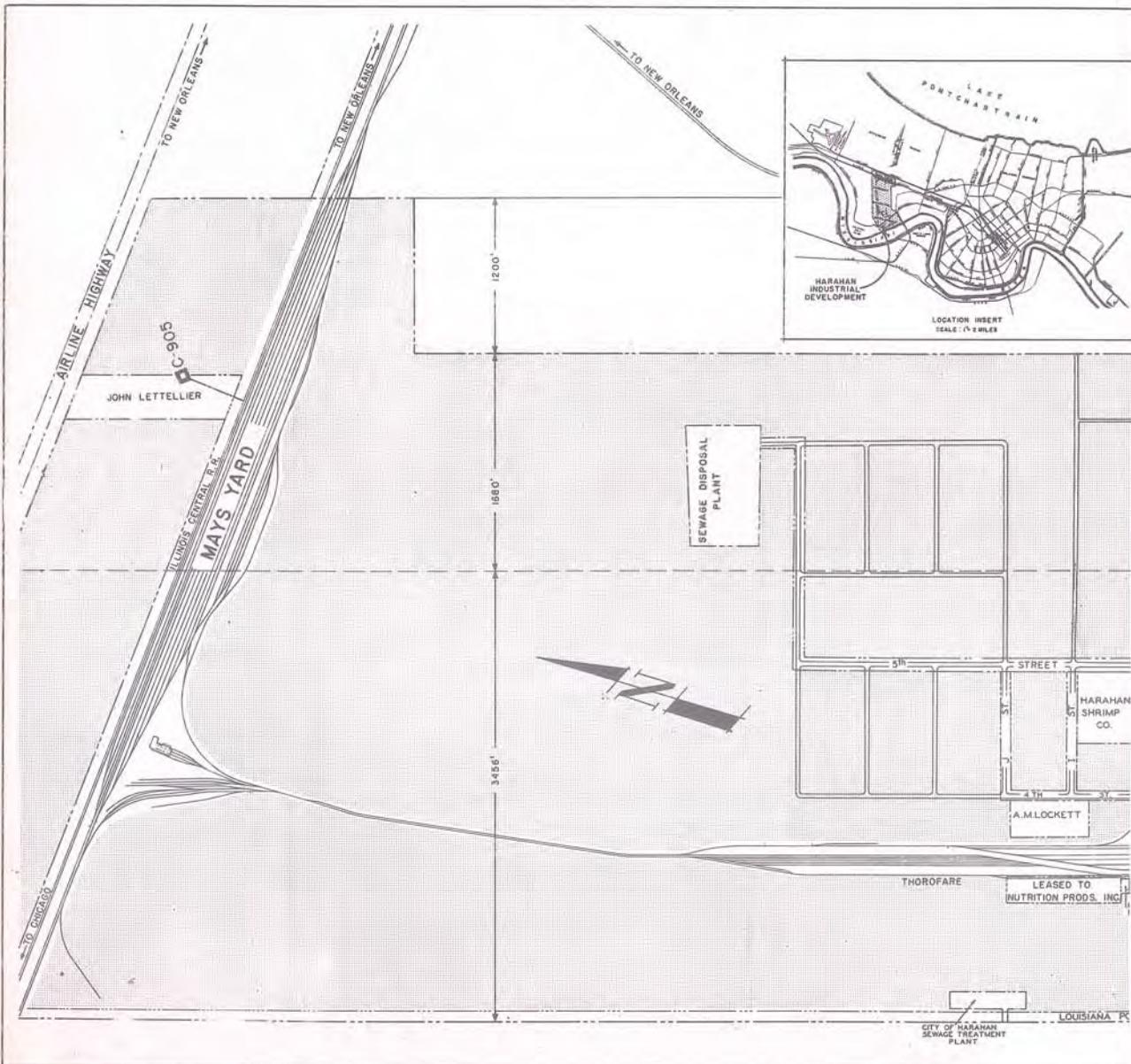
616 Jefferson Highway

Phone VE 3-3111



inbound and outbound freight trains are received or dispatched. The entire area on the east bank of the Mississippi River, Baton Rouge to New Orleans, of which Jefferson Parish is a part, has in the last few years experienced a tremendous and well established growth through the location of chemical, metals and grain handling plants. There is no indication that this industrial complex will do other than continue to grow in the years to come, and the Illinois Central is in an enviable position as the railroad parallels and is close to the

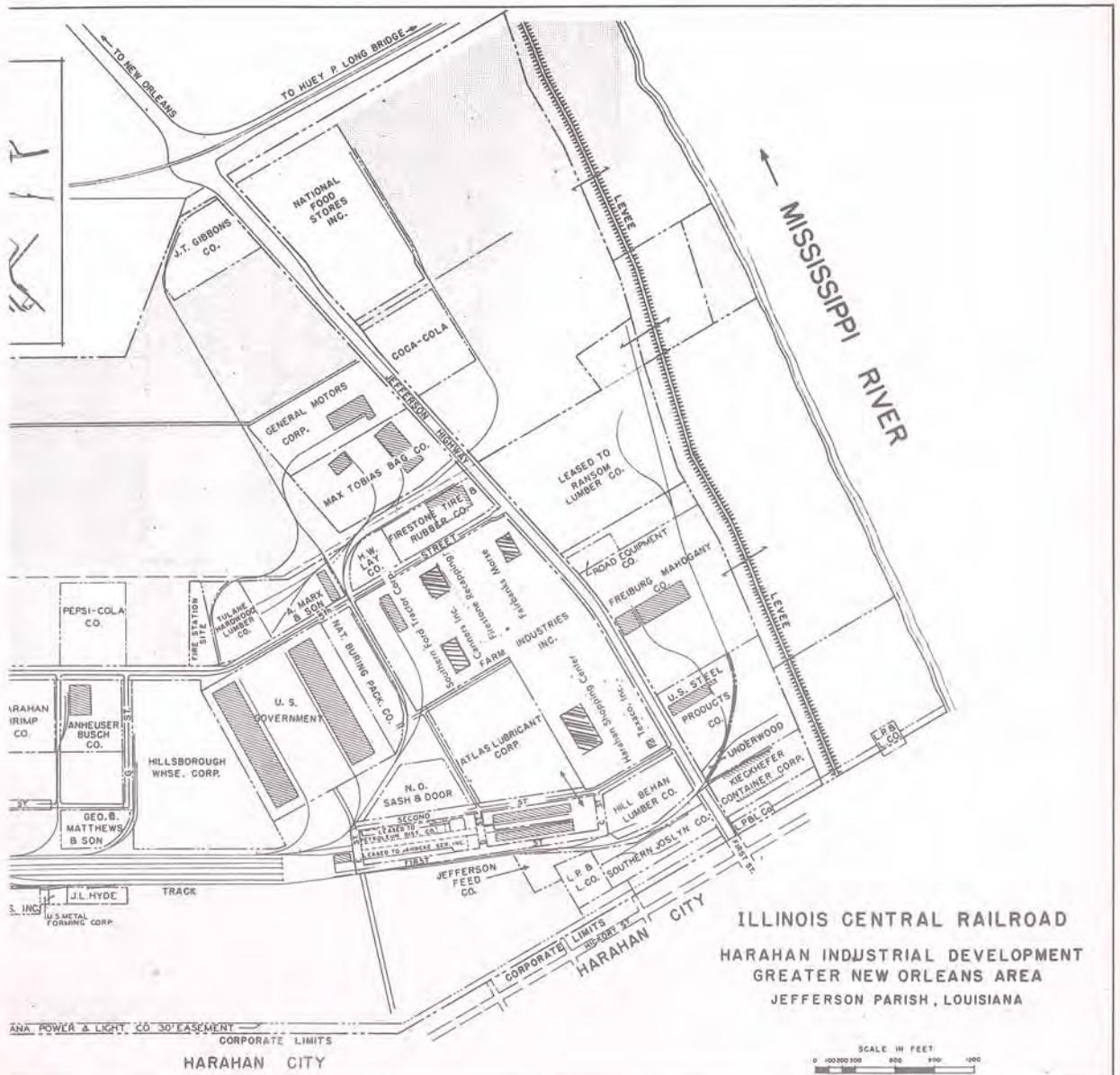
The artist's rendering of the new \$3 million Coca-Cola Syrup Plant on Jefferson Highway near the Huey P. Long Bridge in Jefferson Parish scheduled for completion the summer of 1963. It replaces the plant built on Canal Street, New Orleans, in 1919. The building will be of steel framed concrete and will utilize the curtain wall type of construction.



Mississippi River for the entire district, Baton Rouge to New Orleans. In addition, two major generating stations have been placed in this area along the railroad, one by the Louisiana Power and Light Company in the vicinity of La Place, and the other by Gulf States Utilities Company near St. Gabriel. Other major attractions in the area are existing chemical and petroleum facilities producing raw materials and an abundance of relatively low price natural gas.



This new modern feed mill is solely owned by the firm of Geo. B. Matthews & Sons, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation, and has been in operation since early last Fall. This mill has a daily capacity of 200 tons in an eight hour day and manufactures the well known Miracle Brand Feeds for Animal, Poultry and Swine. All modern machinery and handling devices are used in the operation of this bulk feed mill, therefore, it is possible to manufacture all feed requirements fresh daily, thus giving the ultimate consumer and feed store the benefit of fresh nutritious rations for Dairymen, Poultrymen, Beef Cattle Feeders, as well as Hog producers.





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The High Command in the law-and-order forces of Jefferson Parish make medicine for improving the living and working conditions in this land of increasing opportunity. In the center is Sheriff and Ex-Officio Tax Collector John G. (Jack) Fitzgerald; at his left is his Chief Civil Deputy, Thomas E. Rhodes, Jr.; at his right is his Chief Criminal Deputy, George Gillespie.

The Sheriff's Office

By John G. (Jack) Fitzgerald

Sheriff and Ex Officio Tax Collector of Jefferson Parish

For the first time in the history of Jefferson Parish (county) the people of this political subdivision last year were given seven weeks, after receipt of the tax notices, in which to pay their taxes without penalty.

One of the first things I did when the people invested me with this responsibility, was to collect the taxes during the year in which they fell due, instead of waiting until the next year, after elections were out of the way, a practice which raised political implications and also increased the operating costs of the Parish by the interest charges on the monies it had to borrow to meet current expenses.

I recognized that in a Parish growing as rapidly as Jefferson—from a 50,000 population in 1940 to today's estimated 235,000—and with such expanding economic values (mineral, industrial and foreign trade), the taxation system should be divested of every political implication, real or imagined. As a result of this administrative innovation, the financial position of the Parish is great-

ly improved and the taxpayers are saved the interest charges when delayed collections made it necessary to borrow from the banks. This saving of course inures to the benefit of the taxpayers. Increasing the time between the receipt of the tax notices and the payment of the bill gives the people a larger leeway in putting their financial house in order.

Tax sales for 1961 were held in May of 1962; tax sales for last year were held in the same month this year.

Moving up the tax-sale date has made the people more conscious of their obligations and how much they will save by meeting them within the prescribed time limits. We can see the proof of this in the decrease in the number of properties put on the block. About 700 pieces of real estate went to tax sale in 1961, only 400 in 1962. The total continued to drop this year, being only about 300. One does not have to be a prophet nor the son of a prophet to see how this benefits both people and Parish.



Receiving his junior deputy badge from Joseph S. Maggiore, Executive Assistant to Sheriff Fitzgerald, is a new member of the growing number of junior deputies . . . now totaling over 300. Looking on are four other children that were recruited when the Jefferson Parish Young Mens Business Club held open house activities last fall as the Sheriff opened new West Bank headquarters in the Old Courthouse Annex. In addition to assisting the traffic school deputies the junior deputies participate in many useful activities.

From six men in 1940 the working force of my office has grown to nearly 300. All are needed to meet the increasing responsibilities of this three-fold office—civil and criminal administration, and tax collections.

I am proud of the conveniences and economies developed through my two Chief Deputies, Thomas E. Rhodes, Jr., in civil activities, and George Gillespie, in criminal.

By eliminating needless duplication in homestead-exemption tax notices (about 32,000) this civil division is sav-

ing something like \$12,000 a year, money which the taxpayers, in one form or another, would otherwise have to pay. This saving will increase as the number of properties increases with the rising population.

More realistic administration methods have increased the sales-tax collections, and have increased the yield from liquor and vending-machine licenses as merchants and operators meet their public responsibilities.

During the past year this division of the Sheriff's office issued 694 licenses

More exciting than a bullfight to watch is this tussle between one of the police dogs in Jefferson Parish with a heavily armored man who is simulating a criminal on the lam. That dog means business, and the guy in the armor can rejoice that he is temporarily making like a turtle.





These experts in the east-bank tax-collection office of the Sheriff and Tax Collector serve the people well in the precise accuracy with which they keep track of thousands of properties and the variegated problems connected therewith.

for the operation of mechanical vending machines, and 500 liquor permits in the unincorporated communities of the Parish. (Incorporated municipalities handle their own licenses and collections).

A few figures will reflect the heavy responsibilities of this civil department. In 1962 it processed and served 8270 law suits and 1998 subpoenas connected with them; it processed and executed 2359 seizures; processed and issued 56,826 tax notices; supplied court officers to the Parish's six courts, and processed 3900 fines; it also processed and

sold 4161 occupational business licenses, of which 1786 were for retail dealers.

For the protection of real-estate buyers, the civil division's tax researchers run a check on the three preceding tax rolls (years) so that the notary, about to pass an Act of Sale, will know whether or not the taxes have been paid or whether the property was sold at a tax sale. Last year the division ran such a check on 8028 properties. If the Sheriff's office did not provide this safeguard, the buyers would have to provide their own legal advice, at high cost.

This is a typical scene in the anteroom of the Sheriff's Office in Gretna. These busy clerks clear away mountains of statistical detail in the functioning of an operation dedicated to rapid and precise service.



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Any Car or Truck!

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A deputy sheriff prepares to mug and fingerprint a suspect taken into custody. Fingerprints will be classified and filed for ready availability to other law enforcement agencies.

In its organization against crime the Sheriff's office assures the people of Jefferson Parish a protection to person and property that ranks with the best in this country. Its radio-alarm, and records systems meet the mounting law-enforcement challenge that accompanies population growth; and its hundred or so enforcement officers bring results that compare with the records of the much larger police force in the neighboring community of New Orleans.

Populationwise, New Orleans is only three times the size of Jefferson Parish, yet it needs a police force more than 12 times larger.

Twenty-five years ago this office needed only 10 deputies to keep law and order. They did the patrolling and the detective work and they made the arrests. Now the force includes 50 or so uniformed men for patrolling the 426 square miles that comprise Jefferson Parish, and 30-odd plainclothesmen for undercover work for the detective bureau, including three in the narcotics division and nine in the juvenile division.

This force now makes an average of 125 arrests a day; its 130 or so felony arrests a month compare with the 150 of New Orleans.

In 1949 the Sheriff's office became a part of the radio-alarm system of Louisiana, broadcasting on a frequency wave of 39.5. In 1961 it added a system of its own, operating on a frequency wave of 39.62, to supplement the state-alarm system and to enable us to alert immediately the nearby areas without waiting for our turn at the state system. The alert is also broadcast throughout the state and nation as soon as the Sheriff's radio operator can get upon the 39.5 wave.

More than 2500 complaints a month now clear through our radio room; and a teletype communications system between the Sheriff's office and the New Orleans police department makes the two communities, east and west of the river, one so far as law-enforcement is concerned.

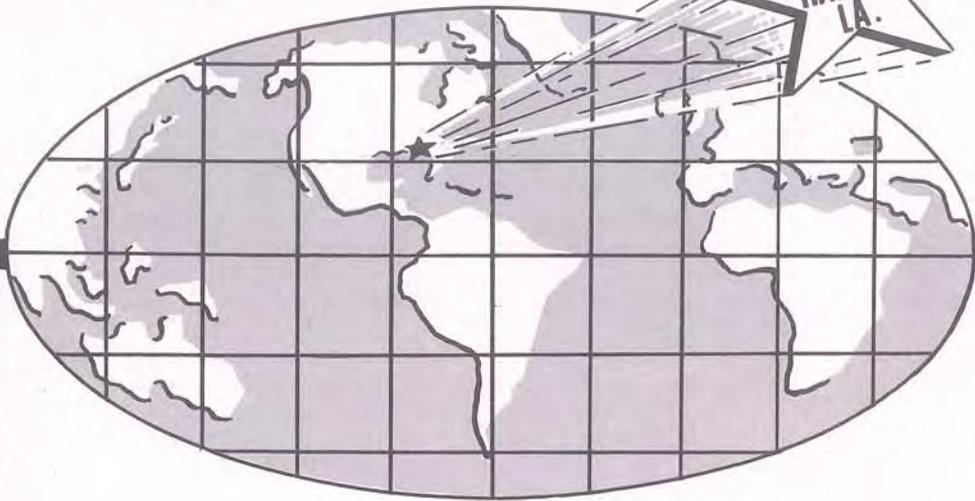
The Sheriff is always in radio communication with his cruising officers, for 48 of his patrol cars and other vehicles under his control carry two-way radio installations. Jefferson's five incorporated communities also connect with the Sheriff's office with two-way systems—four in Gretna, five in Kenner, two in Harahan, five in Westwego and two in grand Isle; also, the coroner's office, with five.

It is a most effective electronics alarm system that Jefferson Parish has developed, and one which makes the career of crime increasingly hazardous. Of the 200-odd burglaries a month in Jef-



With 81 traffic-school-trained deputies, the Sheriff of Jefferson Parish assures safe passage across the teeming thoroughfares for the boys and girls attending the 60 public schools and the various private and parochial schools in his territory. Here is a typical scene on Jefferson Highway when the traffic deputy halts the rushing lines of automobiles so our children can pass.

Diesel Engine Users Know..



Admittedly, the City of Harvey, Louisiana does not loom quite so impressively on any other world map.

But diesel engine users—men who rely on rugged and dependable GM Diesel engines to power everything from trucks to oil rigs—know Harvey, Louisiana well. They know Harvey as home and headquarters of George Engine Company, one of the world's largest diesel engine distributors. And to them, the certain and dependable delivery and service provided by George Engine Company is no less important than the proven performance of the GM Diesels which they sell.

You'll find GM Diesels from George Engine Company at work around the clock everywhere from the Gulf of Mexico to the Persian Gulf, from Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela to the Campeche Banks off the coast of Mexico.

And diesel engine users know, too, that George Engine Company, in Harvey, Louisiana, is on duty around the clock to service their engines, wherever they are.



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604 DESTREHAN AVENUE



HARVEY, LOUISIANA



You may expect mathematics in the higher brackets in connection with the sales-tax collections of a swelling economy like that of Jefferson Parish. This is a workaday view of the East Bank office of the Sheriff and Tax Collector and of the men and women who account for every dollar of sales-tax collections.

Jefferson Parish, the records show that 50 per cent are solved. Of the 10 or so holdups, the records show that 75 per cent are solved. Considering the size of Jefferson Parish, this is a remarkable showing.

Especially effective is the campaign against automobile thefts. The alarm system reports so rapidly that many if not most of the stolen cars are recovered before they get out of the state, and in some instances the cars are returned before the owners knew they had been stolen.

This radio system has put new power behind the campaign against narcotics.

Working closely with the FBI, this office supplies the Washington headquarters with fingerprints and other records of criminals. Already our records department contains the low-down on more than 14,000 crimes and criminals; and we are making about 3000 mug photographs a year, and the finger-print records to go with them. Every day in every way our crime library is increasing its size.

Besides the effective direction under which they act, and besides the modern methods and facilities placed at their disposal, our law-enforcement officers are helped to conspicuous success by their training to meet crime's sharpest challenges. Applicants for the enforcement division are carefully screened to eliminate those who are mentally and temperamentally unfit for the work; those who pass this test are given intensive training in identification and police techniques, some in the New Orleans Police Academy, some in Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge where special courses for juvenile officers are presented by the Louisiana Youth Commission, the University's Extension School and the Juvenile Peace Officers Association. This training period is steadily being expanded.

With the acquisition of new facilities, the training program and the addition of modern equipment, the Sheriff's office of Jefferson Parish is prepared to meet the needs of our ever-expanding parish.



William J. Justice, Jr., Clerk of Court of Jefferson Parish, dictating a report to his secretary, Mrs. Jocelyn Vicknair. He has many responsibilities that keep him on the go, and his morning dictation is the only quiet period of a day crammed with action and decision-making.

The Clerk of Court's Office

By William J. Justice, Jr. Clerk of Court, Jefferson Parish

A working force of 75 men and women is needed to carry the many judicial services of Jefferson Parish to the general public—a hard-working force. Only a token force served this division of parochial government a quarter of a century ago. Jefferson Parish then shared a judge and a district attorney with the two other parishes. Now a fully constituted judicial district by it-

self, Jefferson Parish has four district judges, a juvenile judge and an ad-hoc judge, all with crowded dockets. Its district attorney needs four assistants to meet the demands upon his office. The work in other directions has expanded just as impressively.

The filing of suits, civil and criminal, and the procedural work looking to speedy trials and guaranteeing freedom



The alimony and child-support division of the Clerk of Court in Jefferson Parish performs an important function when marriages go on the rocks. Careful administration is the key to successful operation of this difficult operation. Here you see the deputy clerk and the minute clerk for the Juvenile Court checking on one of their cases.

of presentation and fairness of decision, are only one phase of Jefferson Parish's judicial system.

This office records and preserves the recordings of charters, partnerships, mortgages and sales including sheriff's sales and tax sales; it issues marriage licenses and keeps the records on all alimony decisions—records that go back to 1865, the older ones having been destroyed when the old courthouse, in what was then the incorporated commu-

nity of Carrollton (now a part of New Orleans) burned.

My office also makes up the grand and petit jury panels; directs the placement of voting machines for all elections, and looks after their storage and maintenance the rest of the time.

A summary of the paperwork connected with the activities of the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Parish illustrates on what a broad front this office serves the increasing population of this bur-



A careful record of all instruments or documents filed with the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Parish. Here deputy clerks are checking the instruments book and assigning the folio numbers for quick reference—part of the service which the Parish government performs for the people.

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ON-SHORE



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New Orleans, La.



Real Estate history is compiled, and is still being compiled, in the conveyance record books under the direction of the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Parish. They are so carefully classified and indexed by the deputy clerks that any document can be produced at a minute's notice, more or less.

geoning Parish. In 1962 we processed and put on file 27,499 notarial acts covering cash sales, mortgages, mineral leases, charters, quitclaims, proces-verbales of sheriff's sales and of tax sales, succession judgments, assignments, agreements to buy or sell, adoptions and miscellaneous documents.

During this same year my office handled 6,477 civil suits, 6,952 criminal suits; it issued 23,079 civil services and 23,102 criminal services; it issued 935 marriage licenses and recorded 280 interdictions and 81 adoptions.

A dozen of this department's hard-working clerks are needed to make out the mortgage and conveyance certificates. Not only is everything checked and re-checked for accuracy, the same care is taken in making permanent records of everything, and these records are then indexed and cross-indexed so carefully that any detail can be immediately found.

A large part of the third floor of the Courthouse building in Gretna is needed for filing the mortgage and conveyance records. These records go back to 1825,



The guests are met, the feast is set—A wedding is in the making, and here a deputy clerk of Court, in the East Bank Office Building, is issuing a marriage license, the open-sesame, we may all hope, to a life of happiness and understanding. (Posed by Models).

A Golden Investment Opportunity

Luxurious New Suburban Community Combines City Convenience, Recreation

Luxurious 431-acre residential area now being developed in Mandeville . . . offering magnificent homes and homesites in a natural paradise. Now is the time to invest. Golden Shores is rapidly becoming another Lake Vista.

MILLION DOLLAR RESORT AREA

Every property owner will have membership in private club house, yacht marina, swimming pool and other community resort facilities.

PRICES START AT \$6,000

All city conveniences! Paved streets, sub-surface drainage, city sewerage, underground wiring, utilities. Highly restricted. Minimum lot size 100' by 150'. Free Commuter Bus Service. Minutes to schools, shopping, hospitals, churches, etc. **ALL LOTS ARE FULLY DEVELOPED.**

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GOLDEN  **SHORES**
Developed By **L. P. SMITH**

Directions: Drive out either Causeway Blvd. or Veterans Highway. Cross Lake Pontchartrain Causeway.
Sales Office located just across the Causeway as you enter Mandeville. Watch for signs.





To serve quickly and efficiently its 87,700 voters, Jefferson Parish has 123 voting machines, 38 on the west side, 85 on the east side. These are kept in a warehouse, and carefully maintained, under the direction of the Clerk of Court, so that when on election day they will be able to record the decision of voters.

the year when Jefferson Parish was erected. Some are in French. Jefferson then extended downriver, on the east side of the Mississippi, to Felicity street, that day's upper boundary of New Orleans; so many of these old records are as important to New Orleans as to Jefferson property owners.

On the fourth floor are filed the records devoted to civil matters, including the adoptive records, which latter are

kept under lock and key and can be examined only by court order. Also on the fourth floor are kept the criminal records, including misdemeanors and traffic violations.

In its map room on the third floor, this department has the largest collection of subdivision maps in the United States. These maps date back more than half a century and are most useful in the establishment of property lines.



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All suits, civil and criminal, filed in Jefferson Parish are recorded on microfilm, under the direction of a deputy clerk of the Clerk of Court.

As new developments are put in, new maps are added. All are at the service of the general public.

As a safeguard, my office is now microfilming all records; both the originals and the copies are made available to interested persons.

In two strong vaults the Clerk of Court keeps all court evidence until the cases are brought to trial.

Under direction of the Clerk of Court about 2000 men and women a year are called for jury service—grand and petit juries. Carefully following the legal procedure and its safeguards, he superintends the drawing of names from which the jury panels are filled, watching carefully lest any charge, however ill founded, of fraud or error be made. He fills out the juror notices and delivers them to the sheriff for personal service.



A record of wills is kept by the office of the Clerk of Court in Jefferson Parish. This is a glimpse of the civil-records department there.



Modern file equipment and methods keep track of records under the charge of the Clerk of Court of Jefferson Parish. Here you see deputy clerks recording traffic violations and criminal charges, and checking on criminal cases to be assigned.

With a voting strength of 87,700, Jefferson Parish in 1962 had 38 voting precincts on the west side of the river and 85 on the east side. To collect the vote it needs 282 voting machines. The Clerk of Court keeps and maintains them when not in use, and places them in the voting booths when an election is held.

The Clerk of Court also assigns minute clerks to the judges; and keeps a record of the signatures of ministers and priests, in Jefferson Parish, who perform marriage ceremonies.

Every operation of his office the Clerk of Court dedicates to swift and sure service of the people. Outward and visible sign of this purpose is the judicial service itself, the foundation of the social and economic structure of the American way of life.

Judicial action is swift and sure and fair, in Jefferson. To file a suit you step from the elevator on the fourth floor of the Gretna courthouse, and a clerk immediately steps forward to serve you. Your case is then processed; allotted to a judge and put in typewritten shape; and the necessary services are provided for. Before two weeks have sped the trial may begin. In no Parish in Louisiana, in no political subdivision anywhere in the United States are civil and criminal cases brought to trial more expeditiously, or submitted to the judge and jury under broader and more absolute safeguards.

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Sunrise Homes offer your family MORE of everything they want and need. Constructed of the finest materials and built by expert craftsmen, these Sunrise Homes offer you truly outstanding values. Dollar for dollar you get MORE of everything in a Sunrise Home . . . more space . . . more livability . . . more planning and design . . . more built-ins!

5 DIFFERENT MODELS PRICED FROM \$23,650



the wedgewood

Features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, family room and garage. 2086 square feet of living area plus 332 square feet of storage and garage space.



the brentwood

Features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, family room and 2 car garage. 1730 square feet of living area and 453 square feet of garage and storage area.



the fernwood

Features 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths, family room, living room, dining room, breakfast area and garage. 2008 square feet of garage and utility room.



the briarwood

Features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, family room and carport. 1500 square feet of living area plus 310 square feet of carport and storage area.

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Construction in Jefferson

The year 1962 has been one of unprecedented growth in Jefferson Parish.

Evidence of this amazing growth in 1962 is shown in the way the East Bank pressed lakeward and toward St. Charles Parish, and how thousands of former empty acres on the West Bank blossomed in all directions with new homes as the new Mississippi River bridge continues to speed its traffic to each side.

Figures released by the Regulatory Inspection Division of the Jefferson Department of Safety reveal that during the year 1962, January to December, all types of construction at an estimated value of \$67,838,369 took place in the unincorporated areas of Jefferson Parish.

This estimate was over and above all construction in the several and separate municipalities.

Figures in the various building categories for 1962 follow:

2591 one family residences at an estimated value of \$43,335,235.

54 two family residences totaling \$970,300.

5 three, four and five family residences valued at \$89,000.

5 or more family residences totaling \$5,576,886.

396 residential garages and carports totaling \$276,947.

2245 additions and alternations to residences totaling \$2,982,981.

1 motels, tourist courts and cabins totaling \$20,000.

11 office, bank and professional buildings totaling \$506,300.

4 public work and utility buildings totaling \$183,000.

19 school and other educational buildings totaling \$1,839,894.

101 store and other merchantile buildings totaling \$9,437,976.

3 amusement and recreational buildings totaling \$60,472.

5 churches and other religious buildings totaling \$480,893.

3 industrial buildings and one institutional building totaling \$231,640.

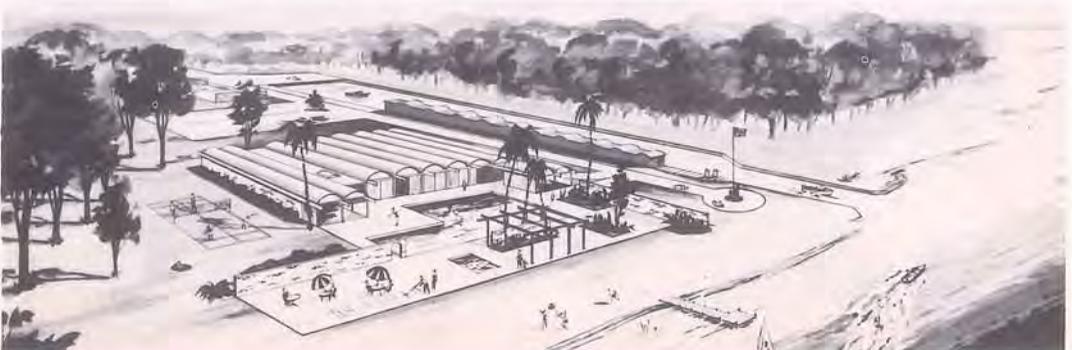
10 service stations and garages, including repairs, totaling \$159,750.

268 other structures, additions and alterations (non-residential) totaling \$266,098.

2 additions and renovations to hospitals totaling \$225,000.

4 other shelters of various types totaling \$49,800.

Here is the new Marina at Golden Shores, a new 431 acres suburban residential community, now being developed just across the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway. Large home-sites in lovely pastoral setting, complete off-site improvements and a million dollar resort area are being offered by developer L. P. Smith and his associates. Eventually, Golden Shores will become a community of 3,500 homes.



Choose the House that Suits You Best in
TERRYTOWN



Families moving to Terrytown are wise buyers who have made careful comparison and decided there's no substitute for true value—or the facilities and home protection found here.

Terrytown is a pleasant, secure and rewarding community. It is the most convenient location anywhere . . . close to everything . . . schools, houses of worship, recreation, shopping. It is only seven minutes from Canal St. You'll be home in less time than it takes to smoke two cigarettes. No stubborn traffic to contend with, so you don't have to trade leisure time with your family for driving time.

There's no waiting for essential services in Terrytown. This master-planned community has sanitary sewerage (no septic tanks), subsurface drainage, parkway lighting, underground wiring, paved streets, curbs, sidewalks and driveways, and all utilities.

Buses pick up children, bring them to and from uncrowded schools. Hourly ex-

press buses whisk you to the Westside Shopping Center or downtown New Orleans in no time at all. You don't need two cars to live here.

Terrytown also boasts its own fire station and community center.

Make no mistake, the advantages of city conveniences and services are definitely important to you, now and in the future.

With construction in Terrytown now centered on more expensive houses, property and land values are constantly rising. Your home will be worth much more in a few years.

Something new is always happening in Terrytown. Additional off-site improvements are underway, construction is nearing completion on a section of beautiful town-house apartments. Ground was just broken for the new Christ The King Catholic school and church. Work is also scheduled on a new public school and public park, and a shopping-medical center is planned for the near future.

7 Master Builders

70 New Models Now Open !

• BAILEY HOMES • BRATTEN HOMES • CLESI HOMES • HORIZON
HOMES • LAFAYETTE PLACE • MITCHELL HOMES • PARKWAY HOMES

Follow these simple directions to Terrytown—West Side approach of the Mississippi River Bridge. Cross bridge,

straight ahead on West Bank Expressway $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, turn left at entrance. Follow builder signs to new homes on display.



This is another lovely home on Jefferson's West Bank featuring a beautifully landscaped and decorated lawn.



This is another beautiful home in Airline Park built by David Goldstein of Royal Homes, Inc. Today Jefferson Parish is noted as the location of the finest subdivisions in the Greater New Orleans Area.



WILLOWDALE is one of East Jefferson's newer communities on the river side of Veterans Memorial Highway. Well conceived, well planned, and well laid out Willowdale will eventually be a community of 900 homes.



WILBORNE ACRES homes are located in one of Jefferson's most beautiful residential developments near the Veterans Memorial Highway on the East Bank.



ROYAL HOMES

IN BEAUTIFUL AIRLINE PARK

presents

a new line of models

DESIGNED WITH THE FUTURE IN MIND



3 & 4 BEDROOM HOMES
WITH 2-2½ BATHS

FHA or Conventional Financing Available
LOW LOW DOWN PAYMENT

ROYAL HOMES

IN AIRLINE PARK

SALES OFFICE

208 AIRLINE PARK BLVD.

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WILBORNE ACRES

HOMES DESIGNED WITH YOU IN MIND



WM. C. OSBORNE & SON, INC.

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(Continued from page 45)

Louisiana's oil fields now are producing some 360 million barrels of crude oil a year; our sulphur mines are yielding more than six million tons annually, and our salt mines more than five million tons a year. The fisheries industry in the coastal waters off Louisiana and Texas are producing a total of approximately 325,000 tons annually.

Secondly, the constant growth in industrial output and the resulting increase in commerce along the waterway has overloaded the artery with more and more large towboats and barges, some of which can barely negotiate the bends and turns. The present limited dimensions of the waterway have resulted in damage to more inland vessels, and thus has caused boat insurance rates to go up.

For these principal reasons, the Congress has authorized \$25,540,000.00 to widen and deepen the Louisiana, and most of the Texas, sections of the waterway as follows:

1. A channel 16 feet deep and 150 feet wide from the West Bank of Jefferson at the River, via the Algiers Canal, and a bypass route at Houma, to the Atchafalaya River;

2. A channel 16 feet deep and 200 feet wide through the reach from the Atchafalaya River to the Sabine River;

3. A channel 16 feet deep and 150 feet wide through the reach from the Sabine to the Houston Ship Channel.

The U. S. Department of Interior has approved this worthy project to improve the Intracoastal Waterway in Jefferson and across South Louisiana, and our State government and that of Texas have favorably endorsed the project. The estimated total cost of this extensive work is \$32,778,000.00, with the proposed federal government share being \$25.54 million and the nonfederal share being \$7.238 million.

Now that your federal funds have been authorized in the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1962, I and other members of the Louisiana Congressional delegation hope to obtain the first appropriations for this important work in the first session in the 88th Congress (1963-'64). The present Congress is not likely to appropriate the full sum for this work, but I am hopeful that some money will be approved in this session so that actual construction on the waterway can begin.

Of growing importance to the indus-

trial development of the West Bank is the Barataria Bay Waterway, which presently is being widened and deepened from its current 5-by-50 feet, to 12-by-125 feet. This vital expansion of the Barataria waterway, which will cost an estimated total of \$2,360,000.00, is scheduled for completion before the end of this year. The federal funds obtained for this project—approximately \$1.8 million of the total—are the result of legislation sponsored by me, and sufficient funds have been appropriated by the Congress to complete the work.

The first work ever done on the West Jefferson artery with federal money followed an authorization in the River and Harbor Act of March 2, 1919 to dredge the waterway to a depth of five feet and a bottom width of 12 feet. This initial work was completed within the next decade, and the waterway remained at that size until 1958 when the 85th Congress authorized this latest expansion in the River and Harbor Act of that year. The larger Barataria Bay Waterway, which links the Intercoastal Waterway some 15 miles west of the Harvey Lock, with the Gulf of Mexico near Grand Isle, will be particularly beneficial to the fishing and petroleum industries on the West Bank and in the Gulf, and will provide more adequate passage for larger inland vessels.

The new Barataria waterway follows the route of the previous project from its upper limits to mile 15.5 in Bayou St. Denis, and then swings into a relocated channel along the western shore of Barataria Bay and through Barataria Pass to the 12-foot contour in the Gulf. Included in the present project is an extension of 4.3 miles from Barataria Pass westward of Bayou Rigaud.

Improvement of the waterway was begun in May, 1960, and the dredging of the new channel in Bayou Rigaud, the bar channel and the two-pronged "Y" entrance at its terminus with the Intracoastal Waterway has been completed.

In May, 1962, a contract was awarded by the Corps of Engineers to the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company of New Orleans for dredging the lower 15 miles of the waterway from Bayou St. Denis to Grand Isle. This work is more than 50 per cent complete.

The balance of the work is being done under a contract awarded to Farrell Construction Company last September for dredging on the upper portion of the waterway, and this part of the

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project is about 50 per cent complete.

In recent years, before the current expansion of the Barataria artery, the waterway has enjoyed ever increasing commerce, especially since 1956. That year saw a decline to approximately 693,000 tons, but in 1957 the tonnage grew to about 834,000 tons in products of all kinds.

Some 996,000 tons of commodities were transported on the waterway in 1958, and the next year, the total passed the one million mark, with 1,554,000 tons. In 1960 the tonnage climbed again to 1,815,000, and in 1961 total commerce on the waterway zoomed to approximately 2,135,000 tons. And this was accomplished before the expansion of the waterway!

There can be no doubt that commerce on this West Jefferson artery will show a substantial increase when the current expansion work is finished by the end of 1963.

In the 23,700 bottoms which moved over the waterway in 1961, crude petroleum was the leading product, with 904,500 tons moved in that year. The second largest commodity was liquid sulphur at 401,500 tons; other important products on the artery in 1961 included various mineral waters, 256,500 tons; distillate fuel oil, 154,000 tons, and iron and steel pipe, 115,000 tons.

The extensive exploration and drilling in the oil and gas fields, both inshore and offshore, on the West Bank, requires extensive transportation demands to move crude petroleum, distillate fuel oil, gas oil, and related products. The expanded Barataria waterway will permit larger tows, loaded to greater depths, to bring their cargoes of pipe, mud, machinery, timber and other materials to the oil and gas fields. The "hub" of oil operations in West Jefferson is, of course, at Harvey. There the oil companies, contractors, equipment supply houses and marine repair companies, which have established big installations on the Intracoastal Waterway, will receive a direct economic boost from the new and improved waterway.

From the viewpoint of the oil and gas companies themselves, the larger Barataria waterway will allow more crude oil to be moved by barges and tows. The direct shipment of oil from producing fields to shipside storage and refineries upriver, will to a great extent, obviate the necessity for the expensive construction of more pipe lines through

the marshes to terminals at the River bank.

The shrimp and oyster processing industries also will realize financial savings as a result of the reduced running time over the expanded waterway, and thus they will be able to increase their commerce along the new artery.

The enlarged Barataria artery will be enhanced by another Corps of Engineers project—a 12-by-125 channel to be constructed from Bayou Lafourche at Leeville (in Lafourche Parish) through the Southwest Louisiana Canal to the vicinity of Grand Isle. The combination of a new Barataria waterway, and an enlarged channel from Bayou Lafourche through Bayou Rigaud in West Jefferson, will enable oil and gas operators to shift their inshore drilling equipment more easily across South Louisiana. In other words, the connection between the Barataria artery, and the Bayou Lafourche - Grand Isle channel, will give the area a North-South, and an East-West waterway, both of which will be able to accommodate a larger volume of oil and gas traffic. Certainly, drilling operations have shown the need for a larger East-West intracoastal channel connecting the existing waterways, which generally are oriented in a North-South direction.

Another West Bank artery, which recently was expanded through your federal funds and Army Engineers skill, is Bayou Segnette; it connects the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway with the Company Canal at Westwego.

Just a few years ago Bayou Segnette became impassable, and through my efforts and those of Jefferson officials to obtain federal funds for relocating and dredging the Bayou, that waterway now has a consistent depth of six feet and a bottom width of 60 feet, and is once again passable for fishing and pleasure boats.

Furthermore, the River and Harbor Act of 1954 authorized this 12.5-mile-long waterway to be dredged to a depth of nine feet at some time in the future when it is found to be economically justifiable by the Corps of Engineers. I am hopeful that the recent growing volume of commerce on Bayou Segnette will enable this work to be done.

Since 1957, when improvements were completed on the Bayou, there has developed very rapidly an expanding volume of commerce. In 1958, only 737 tons passed along Bayou Segnette; the

(Continued on Page 173)



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Here is Dr. Charles B. Odom, Coroner of Jefferson Parish. Mounted, in background, is one of the many sailfish Dr. Odom has caught and also action photographs of some other "sails" the doctor boated.

The Coroner's Office

Dr. Charles B. Odom, Coroner

Dr. Charles B. Odom, the Coroner of Jefferson Parish, graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine in 1932. The following nine years he spent at the Charity Hospital in New Orleans as Resident in Surgery and Chief of the Surgical Service.

In World War II he served 4½ years in the United States Army and was Chief Surgeon of General George S. Patton's Third Army. When the war ended in Europe he was sent to Brooke General Hospital at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, as Chief of Surgery. He returned to Jefferson Parish in 1946, since that time has carried on a busy surgical practice.

Dr. Odom was elected Coroner of Jefferson Parish in 1956 and has worked untiringly to improve the services of this office. It has been a real challenge to keep abreast of the rapid growth of the parish during these years.

The public services rendered by this office in Jefferson Parish are more extensive than any parish in the State of Louisiana. In addition to the usual services of a Coroner's Office an emergency ambulance service that includes four (4) well equipped units stationed at Metairie, Marrero, Lafitte and Grand Isle, answered during the past year 3,805 emergency calls. The 11 drivers who man these units include: Alfred Tassin, Percy Boudreaux, John B. Guillot, Henry Fortunato, Jules Vessier, Victor V. Burregi, Cecil Hotard, Claude Brock, Jr., Natali Chighizola, Jules J. Polkey and C. J. Tines, relief driver; they are well trained in First Aid methods and are ready to move at a moment's notice to the scene of an accident. They have been credited with saving many lives.

Another example of the growth and scope of public service of this office

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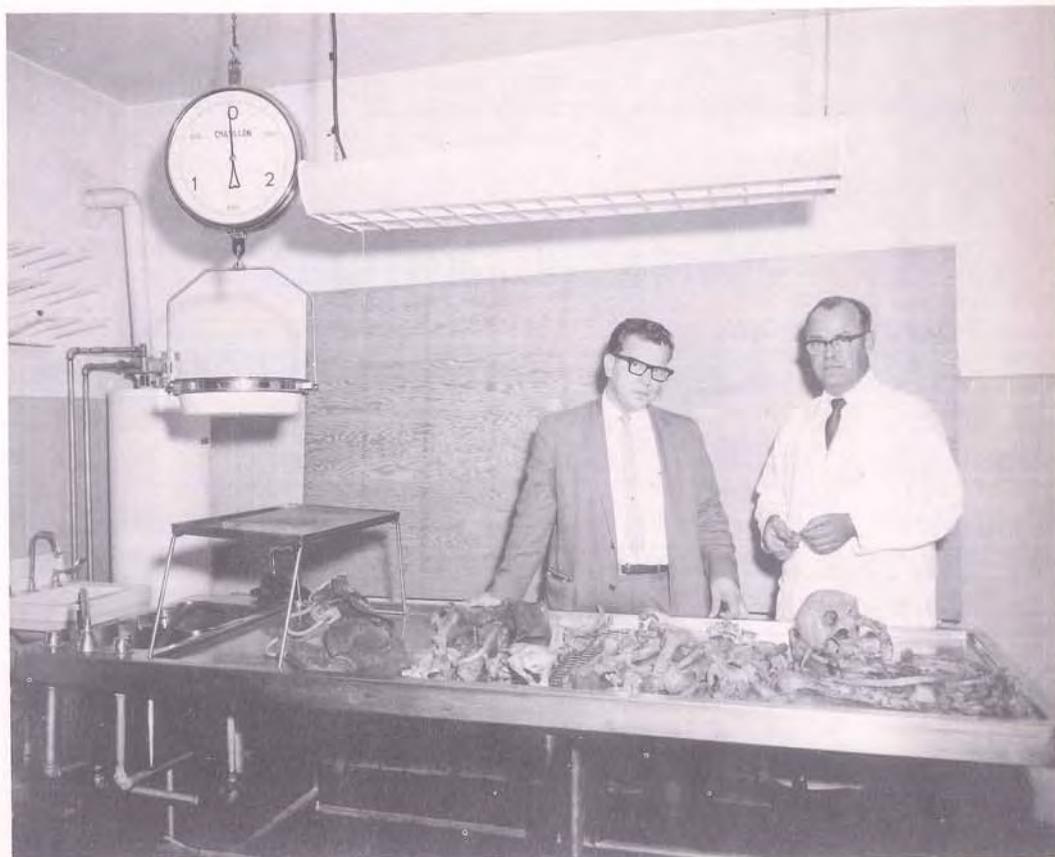


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Jefferson Parish

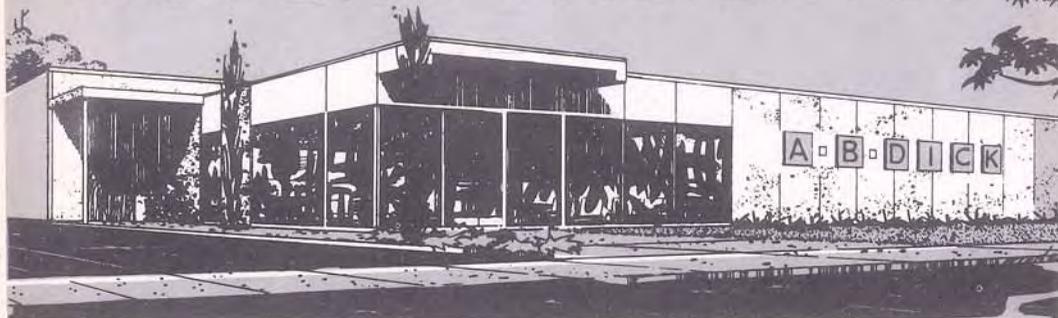


CORONER AND STAFF. Left to right: Leo Bergeron, Assistant Investigator; Billy Gautreau, Chief Investigator and Photographer; Dr. A. M. Parker, Assistant Coroner; Dr. Charles B. Odom, Coroner; Drs. J. J. Massony and A. A. Massony, Assistant Coroners; and William Lawrence, Sr., Clerk.



Chief Investigator Billy Gautreau and Dr. Tom Farris, Pathologist examining remains found in a deserted area south of the West Bank Expressway.

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was the examination for mental illness of 423 patients during the past year. There has been very excellent cooperation between the Judges of the 24th Judicial District Court, the District Attorney's office, Clerk of Court's and Sheriff's offices in expediting the handling of these cases where commitment to a mental hospital was found to be necessary.

A well organized medical staff assists the coroner in his duties, Doctors Angelo and Joseph Massony have worked with Dr. Odom since 1956 and Dr. A. Mark Parker since 1960. Dr. Tom K. Farris, who is the pathologist for the office is also qualified in Forensic medicine. There were 448 deaths classified last year as Coroner's cases and of these 104 autopsies were performed to establish the cause of death.

William Gautreau, Jr., Chief Investigator and Photographer and Leo J. Bergeron have investigated and filed complete reports on 115 deaths due to homicide or accident. Finger printing equipment as well as up-to-date photographic techniques have been helpful in compiling complete and detailed records in the Coroner's Office. There were 13 drownings, 48 deaths due to automobile accidents and 54 fatalities attributed to other causes from June 1962 to June 1963.

For the convenience of the public as well as to improve the efficiency of the office there is available an office open in the Courthouse in Gretna as well as the East Bank Office Building on Metairie Road. William Lawrence, Sr. and Andrew Frolich are serving efficiently in these offices.

In addition to duties and services mentioned above the Coroner's Office has given medical treatment to 526 prisoners in the East and West Bank Prisons of the Parish.

West Bank Ambulance in front of West Jefferson General Hospital at Marrero. Drivers, left to right: Victo Burragi, John Guilliot, and Percy Boudreaux. Absent when photograph was taken was driver Alfred Tassin.



East Bank Ambulance in front of Jefferson Central Fire Station on Jefferson Highway. Drivers, left to right: Cecil Hotard, Henry Fortunato and Jules Vessier. Absent when photograph was taken was driver Claude Brock.



Grand Isle Ambulance in front of Town Hall on Oleaner Avenue (Highway), Driver Natali "Nat" Chighizola. There is also an ambulance stationed at Lafitte.

PEANUTS

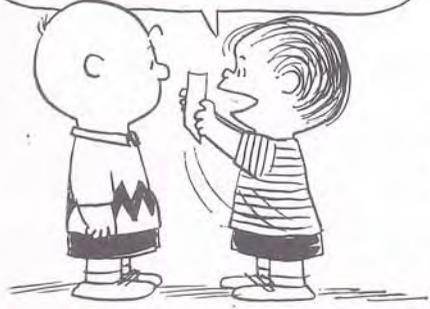
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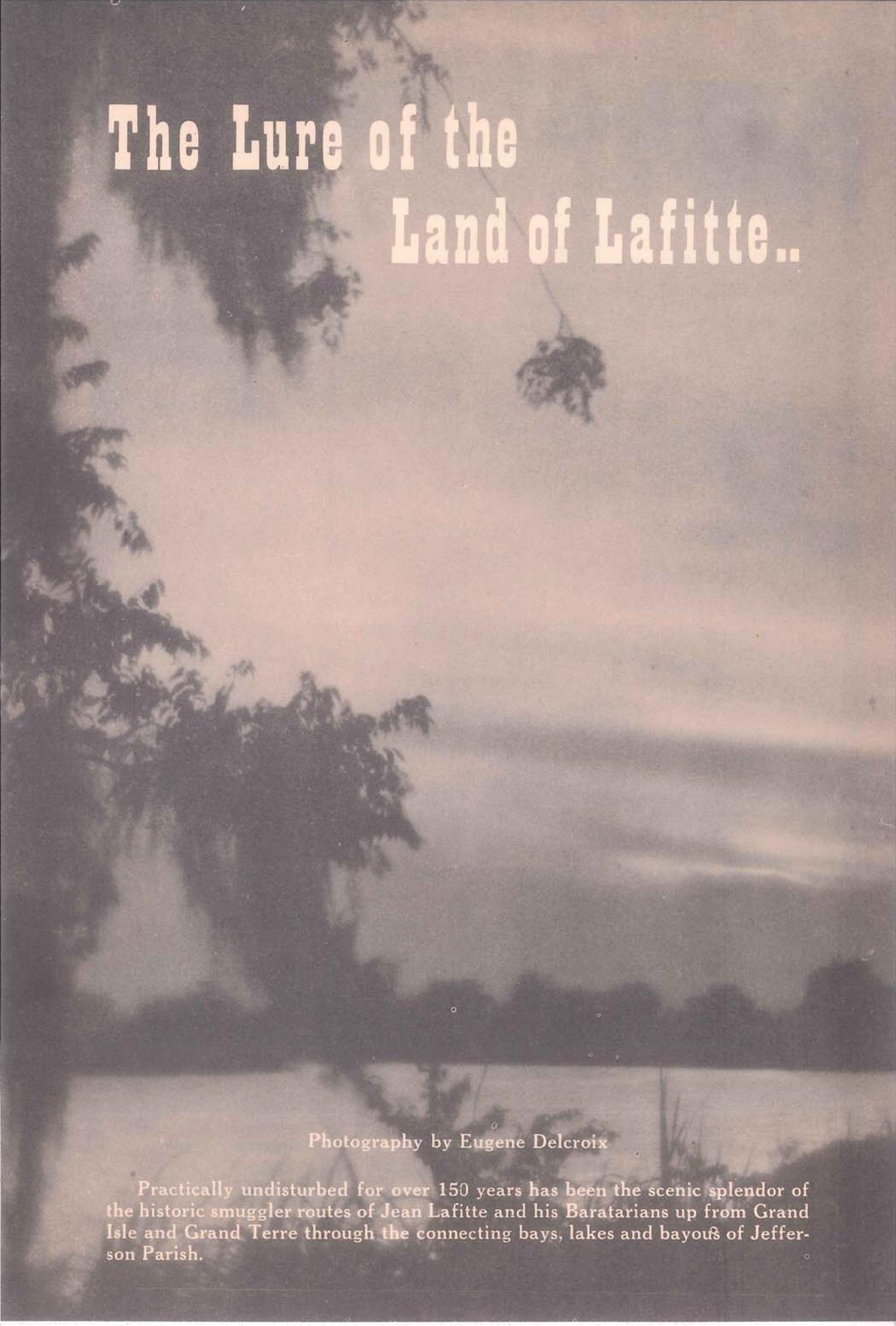
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The background of the page is a sepia-toned photograph. On the left side, there is a large, dark silhouette of a tree with many branches. The right side of the image shows a lighter, hazy landscape that appears to be a body of water or a wide, flat plain, with some distant, indistinct shapes. The overall tone is historical and atmospheric.

The Lure of the Land of Lafitte..

Photography by Eugene Delcroix

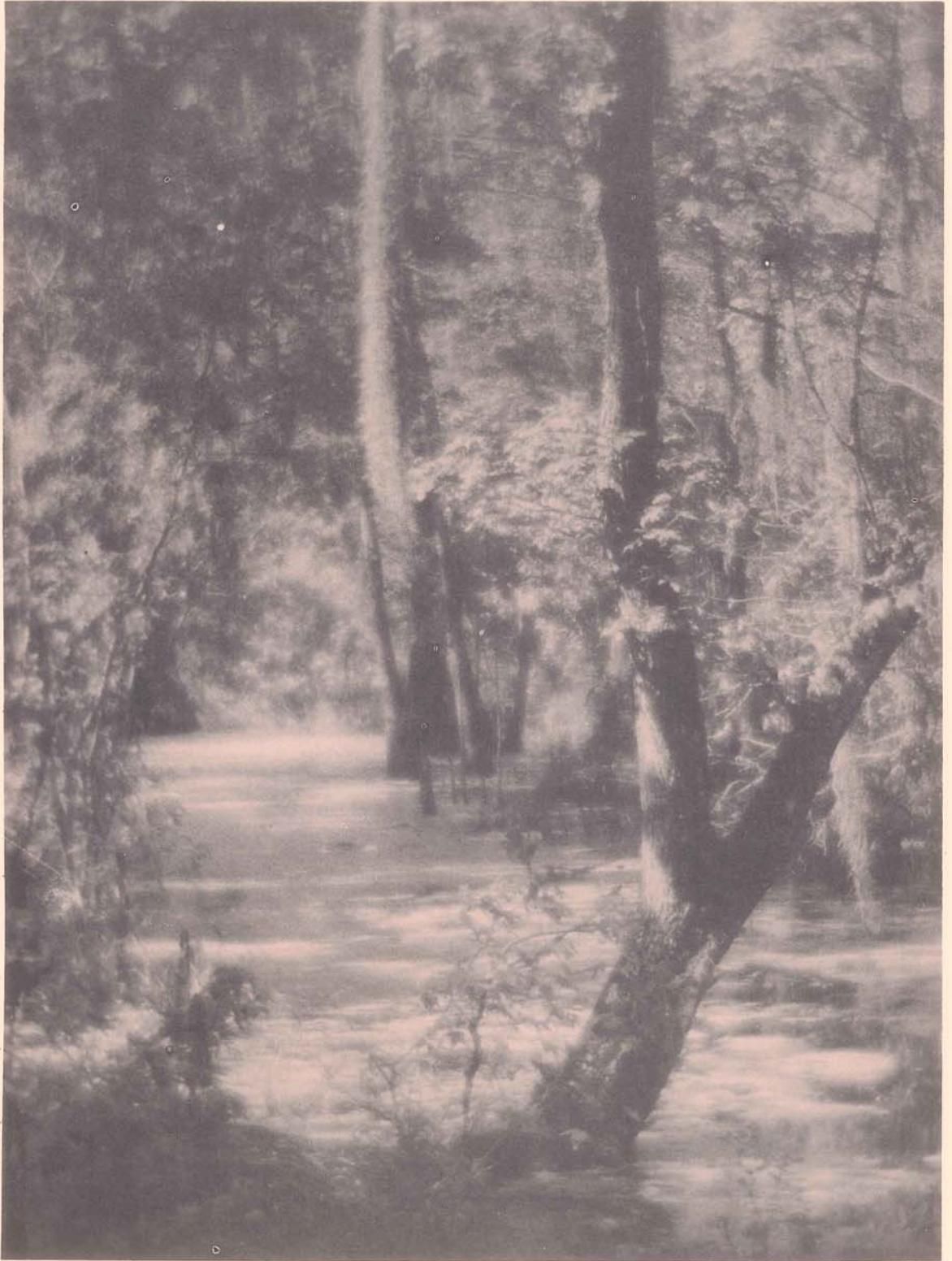
Practically undisturbed for over 150 years has been the scenic splendor of the historic smuggler routes of Jean Lafitte and his Baratarians up from Grand Isle and Grand Terre through the connecting bays, lakes and bayou^s of Jefferson Parish.



THROUGH MANY SUCH SUN DAPPLED HOLES in the canopy of moss heavy branches of cypress and oak, as where this lad is coaxing a wily bass to hit his tempting hook, the Baratarians slipped silently by with their contraband laden pirogues to New Orleans when smuggling was illegal but popular.



ON THIS SAME BEACH at Grand Isle where these modern naiads enjoy surf bathing by moonlight the Baratarian fishermen turned smugglers often celebrated a rich haul of loot from a captured Spanish merchantman by sprawling on the midnight cool sand with a keg of choice Madeira and convivial female companionship.



TO RETURN TO GRAND ISLE from New Orleans the smugglers would cross the river, make a few miles land trip to Bayou Coquille where it flows into Bayou des Familles and from there start the long paddle through the water wilderness. This is a photograph of Bayou Coquille as it is today.



THIS DOUBLE LINE OF OAK TREES along Grand Isle's backbone was planted by Louis Chighizola, Jr., son of Louis "Nez Coupe" Chighizola, Lafitte's famous Lieutenant, to protect the island's houses from hurricanes. This picture is Chighizola Lane and the girl standing is Penny Chighizola, one of "Nez Coupe's" descendants.

THERE ARE
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blend light
and shadow as
Nature casually
does daily
in the
Barataria country,
never repeating
a pattern—
as, for example,
the foliage
filtered sunlight
that partly
conceals, partly
reveals this grass
grown lane
that could be
anywhere in
Jefferson's
lovely Land of
Lafitte.



AGAIN, ON
THIS BIT OF
BAYOU

in the Barataria
country, the
Master Artist
has taken the
simple elements of
smooth limpid
water,
a tree
in bloom, a
wild flowered
bank and the
rays of the
morning sun and
has created a
masterpiece
any painter would
give years
of his life to
duplicate
on one lone
canvas.



THIS IS BAYOU
LITTLE
BARATARIA,
the northern
liquid gateway
through
Jefferson's
lovely land of
Lafitte
that extends for
about fifty miles
southward to
Barataria Bay
and Grand Isle—
the aquatic
setting for motor
boating and
picnicking
and along
which
runs the only
roads into the
Lafitte country.



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Like father, like son—the old saying was never more true than in the case of Wilty pere and Wilty fils. Seated at his desk in the Gretna Courthouse is Vernon J. Wilty, Jr., today's busy Assessor; and looking over his shoulder from the photograph is his late father who for many years was the Assessor. His friends tell the world that Vernon, Jr., is keeping up the swift pace that was set for him.

The Assessor's Office

By Vernon J. Wilty, Jr. Assessor of Jefferson Parish

"The tax assessor," says Act 1903, Title 47, of the 1950 Revised Statutes of Louisiana, "shall enumerate and list and assess property . . . and shall prepare and have ready their lists showing the valuations assessed by them. . . ."

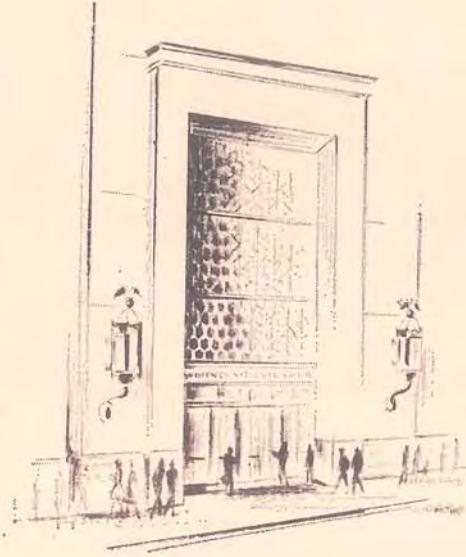
It might be added that the Assessor not only assesses property, but also acts as caretaker of all property in the Parish (county).

In computing real estate assessments, the Assessor takes into consideration (1) the sale price of the property, (2) its location, and (3) the assessed valuations of other properties in that area. To his evaluation he applies the millages levied by the various taxing districts. For instance, the millages of a certain ward and district show these services with which the taxpayer is rightly charged: Parish, School, Garbage Removal, Library Maintenance, Health Unit, Consolidated Road District, Coronor, Courthouse, Parish Building and Jail bonds, Road Lighting District, Water District, Consolidated Drainage District, Hospital Service. The total of the millages (a mill being 1/10th of a cent) multiplied by the assessment is the tax amount due. Thus, the tax on a \$1000 assessed valuation, if the millages total 82½, would be \$82.50.

Here are the steps by which the Assessor evaluates property: Someone makes a purchase, his agent records the act of sale in the Clerk of Court's office, the Assessor makes a record of that act of sale, and at the end of each year (December 31) records all properties that have changed hands under the names of the new owners. He places an evaluation on the property transferred, subject to the approval or modification of the Louisiana Tax Commission. Each property owner has a separate sheet in one or more of the Assessor's books, depending on the number of his properties. The totals from these sheets are transferred to the assessment roll, and copies are sent to the tax collector, the Louisiana Tax Commission, the Clerk of Court and the State Supervisor of Public Funds.

Some people say that progress last enters government methods. Under certain conditions, change may come slow in government and everything else; but in such dynamic times as these the public administrators have a hard time keeping up with the Joneses who are the citizens of their communities, the taxpayers with ever increasing demands of service. True, government can not be called competitive in the sense of private business, but it must keep ahead of its responsibilities or break down entirely.

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Mechanical equipment brings fast and accurate service to property owners in Jefferson Parish. Here you see recently installed IBM machines punching cards for the assessment rolls. Standing, left to right, as they watch hours of work being reduced to minutes, by the new system, are Vernon J. Wilty, Jr., assessor, and James F. Owens and Roy H. Wilty, deputy assessors. The last two attended the IBM school of instruction before putting in the system. This is one of the more notable improvements introduced this year into the operation of Assessor Wilty's office.

Progress possesses this burgeoning parish of ours. Its business activity is enormous and increasing. Your assessor and members of his staff to keep ahead of this stampede, if you will permit the expression, are doing everything in their power to meet, even anticipate the demands. What are assessors in other parishes doing? What speed-up methods have they adopted? What efficiencies have they worked out that we might adopt? What safeguards have they adopted to promote accuracy and protect fairness?

From them we in Jefferson have learned a great deal, and also we have

studied the methods, suggestions and recommendations made at the Assessors School held every year at Louisiana State University.

Here are the improvements your Assessor has introduced into his operation methods during the past two years:

1. Installation of an IBM system. Jefferson is the second Parish to install such a system, one that will greatly expedite service to the people and by its accuracy give them the assurance which many may have lacked in the past. Our office is now punching a million cards, more or less, and from these the assessment rolls will be printed in the future. When I tell you that there are now more than 100,000 listings of property in Jefferson Parish, and that there are about 20,000 transfers made every year, you will understand how great is our problem and how essential our adoption of the most modern methods to cope with it.

2. Banking by mail has become a commonplace. Why not take out a homestead exemptions by mail? This innovation goes in this year.

I do not have to remind you that anyone who owns and occupies a home in Jefferson is entitled to a \$2000 homestead exemption on the assessment. On a property assessed at \$3000, for instance, the owner, taking out his exemption, would pay on \$1000 assessed valuation. Any person who served in



Here is a candid shot of a deputy assessor on the job in Jefferson Parish. He is compiling information to be put on the tax rolls so that everybody will pay his fair share towards the public services offered the people in Jefferson.

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There is never a dull moment in the Tax Assessor's office. Even in this posed picture in the east-bank division of that operation, the staff still keeps pen in hand and is ready to resume full-tilt as soon as the little birdie gets back into the black box.

World War II or in Korea is eligible for a \$5000 Veterans Exemption for five years; if in both World War II and Korea, for 10 years. If the wife has served in the armed forces during World War II and Korea, she also is eligible for the Veterans Exemption.

The homeowner must sign the exemption application each year. In the past he has done so by appearing in person at the Assessor's office. Under the new system of this office, this November my office will mail out about 47,000 homestead exemption applications, printed on IBM cards, and all the homeowners will have to do is sign and mail the cards to this office. You have heard about the mountain going to Mahomet? Now you know what it means. This innovation will improve the efficiency in our office and it will also save much precious time for the public.

3. Cross-indexing all properties. During the past two years this office has been making a cross index, by legal descriptions, of the properties in Jefferson Parish. About 100,000 cards had to be typed, then assembled in subdivision, lot and square order. Now the records can be found without the delays of past years, and without having to know the names of the owners.

4. New Map Department. Maps are of the utmost importance to the assessing of property. Our map department is not only for office use, it is also intended for the use of the general public. Our maps include not only those secured from government agencies, but those made by our own experts, especially ownership maps to aid our cross-indexing system.

5. Consolidation of assessing and taxing districts. This has impressively

speeded up the assessment calculations. For instance, in 1961, eight tax calculations were made for every assessment in Ward 1, a section of Terrytown; since consolidation, only three calculations had to be made.

6. System of abstracting property. I have put in a system under which transfers of property are being recorded on the assessment rolls. For instance, a certain lot of ground is assessed in the name of John Brown on the 1962 assessment roll (which includes all property ownership as of December 31, 1961). If Brown sells to Jack Green in April, 1962, Green's ownership is recorded on the assessment roll next to Brown's name, and he is shown as the new owner of the property. In November, when notices are sent out, Green can be notified that taxes are due, thereby eliminating the possibility of putting his property up for tax sale.

7. Preparation of new homestead exemptions in advance. Though renewals are to be handled by mail, new homeowners must call at the office to make the first application for exemption. Formerly, the exemptions were processed after the owner arrived; from now on, exemptions will be processed in advance, so that filing should take up only a few minutes.

8. Full-time field personnel. In the past the Assessor allowed a certain period of time each year to check on new improvements. The growth of Jefferson Parish has made it necessary to add full-time field personnel to the office force. The field men will not only check on new construction in the Parish, but will also work closely with the map department whose purpose it is to present a precise picture of the changes taking place.

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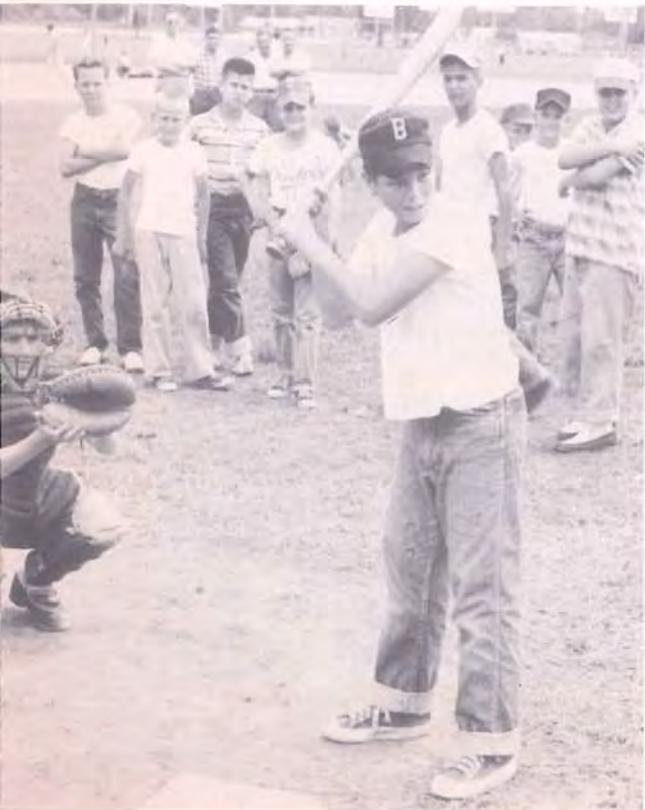
JEFFERSON PARISH RECREATION DEPARTMENT PRESENTS . . .

UPPER LEFT—Scrimmage scenes like this at East Jefferson Playground, under the watchful eyes of the coaches, can be duplicated all during the Fall at all of Jefferson's playground—for football is one of Jefferson Junior's favorite sports.

UPPER RIGHT—Pretty Lynette Jerry, of the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department, proudly displays the Roster of All-Americans of the National Amateur Athletic Association on which she is listed as the country's outstanding high jumper in the girls' division. This 17 year old beauty is a two time National Champion, having captured the national title in 1960 and again in 1962.

LOWER LEFT—A hot baseball game at the West Jefferson High School athletic field. Through the cooperation of the Jefferson Parish School Board all the West Bank school playgrounds are utilized by the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department during the summer school vacation months.

LOWER RIGHT—The Senior Masters of the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department Golden Age Club, whose members enjoy fresh air, sunshine, sports and companionship in the activities for togetherness offered in the morning, afternoon and night.



The Charles Wagner Branch Library now being constructed in the Bissonet Plaza area will honor the memory of the library's administrator who died in September, 1962.

The library put Jefferson Parish in correct historical perspective with the President of the United States. When President Kennedy visited the New Orleans area on May 4, 1962, he was presented at Jefferson's Moisant Airport by Parish President M. Dan Hogan with a copy of LSU Professor Jane Lucas de Grummond's "The Baratarians and the Battle of New Orleans." The book emphasizes the fact that it was Jefferson Parish's Jean Lafitte and his Baratarians who with their artillery so decimated the British army at the historic battle in the War of 1812.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

The parish's Personnel Department is responsible for recruiting and classifying civil service employees for the 14 departments included in the classified service. It is headquartered in the new Gretna courthouse with an application clerk on duty in the East Bank Office Building.

In 1962, 2,780 applicants were tested for 70 classes of work. During the year, 75 competitive examinations, i.e., those open only to parish employees, were given.

Applications for competitive and non-competitive examinations totaled 3,731. Of this number, 3,208 applications were accepted.

The department serviced 1,291 inquiries which were made regarding classes of work for which examinations were not currently being offered. Individuals applying under these circumstances were notified when applications were being accepted for the jobs they sought.

During the year, 2,187 names were placed on the eligibility lists for employment by the parish. Of that number, 486 were appointed to permanent positions.

Thirteen emergency appointments were made during the year and 384 transient appointments for 90 days or less. The latter appointments were tem-

porary or seasonal jobs, most of them requested by the Recreation Department for summer work at recreation centers, playgrounds and branch libraries.

Twelve former employees were reinstated and four transfers of employees between departments were effected.

A total of 1,004 salary increases were approved and processed during 1962; 624 separations from the civil service were reviewed and recorded, these included terminations at the end of temporary appointments.

Turnover of parish personnel averaged 3% monthly with separations and accessions greatest in the noncompetitive group. Of 277 persons granted permanent civil service status in competitive classes since the examination program was inaugurated, 226 are still employed—some of them in higher classes. Only two persons in the competitive category have been dismissed for cause—a tribute to the effectiveness of personnel recruitment and testing based on a merit system.

The parish's Personnel Board met monthly in 1962 to consider policy problems. Additionally, it held a number of special meetings to hear employee appeals from disciplinary actions taken against them. There were 41 appeals in 1962; 19 were formally heard; final decisions were rendered in 18. Decisions given by the Personnel Board upheld the actions of parish department heads in 14 of the 19 cases heard.

The Personnel Department plans to continue and improve its active recruitment and examinations for prospective parish employees, to accelerate its program of employee communications, to issue an informative and instructive manual for classified employees, to study and recommend findings to parish officials as to ways to enhance the services rendered by employees to the public and encourage and recognize the development of true career service.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

The Planning Department received, processed and made recommendations on 248 re-subdivisions. Through subdivi-

Street and highway improvements in Jefferson Parish—a constant complicated program of connecting the new overpasses and underpasses, the new Veterans Memorial Highway and West Bank Expressway and already existing roads and streets for a faster and safer traffic flow—a combined program financed by parish, state and federal government—a seemingly confused activity of engineers, machines and men that is slowly but surely taking the snarls out of Jefferson's traffic.



vision regulations, 4,387 lots were created. Twenty miles of streets were dedicated in addition to two sewerage treatment sites and a site for a library and fire station.

One hundred and sixty two petitions for reclassification of zoning were received and processed along with 28 zoning studies made at the request of the parish council. Twenty eight public hearings were held and recommendations made to the council in connection with each of the zoning studies. A comprehensive text amendment was made to the zoning ordinance.

Members of the Planning Department attended civic and business meetings throughout the year to explain proposed parish projects and programs as well as zoning and planning matters.

The department coordinated petitions by property owners for improvements to undeveloped streets in connection with approximately 50 miles of water mains, sewerage collection lines, sub-surface drainage lines and concrete paved streets to be installed on the East Bank soon.

The Planning Department handles general printing and duplication for all parish offices. Two recent projects were the printing and binding of the revised zoning ordinance and the printing of approximately 100,000 brochures on various sewerage, paving, recreational and garbage disposal bond issues.

CIVIL DEFENSE IN THE PARISH

The importance of a vigorous Civil Defense program for Jefferson Parish was dramatized in 1962 when a survey of all buildings in the parish showed only nine suitable to provide sufficient shelter in case of nuclear attack. The survey emphasized the correctness of the national Civil Defense Office when it determined the best service it could render was to provide as many persons as possible with information which will make them self sufficient in an emergency.

Along this line, the parish civil defense office in 1962 conducted 78 classes. Sixty were on basic civil defense measures, the other 18 were in specialized fields aimed at increasing

the skills of civil defense volunteers.

The civil defense office is developing a Medical Aid Division. Installation of a parish-wide warning system was completed in April, 1962, and is to be expanded. The federal government contributed \$17,600 to this program. In the past year, the civil defense office developed and trained a task force of individuals called the Chemical, Biological and Radiological Division, which established and equipped 42 check points throughout the parish to monitor radiation levels constantly.

Other cadre forces, the Auxiliary Police and Rescue Division answered more than 100 emergency calls in the parish and surrounding areas. In order to help other parish departments to carry out their assigned tasks in case of attack, the civil defense office assisted in the purchase of government surplus special equipment, valued at \$35,262.93 but secured for only \$2,585.63.

The parish civil defense office received \$9,083.14 from the federal government in matching funds to meet its operating expenses.

In 1963, the office plans to increase the pace of its classes to train persons in civil defense measures. It plans to convert more volunteers into cadres to assure increased protection for Jeffersonians. One of the main efforts will be to increase the number of fallout shelters, both large ones for mass protection and small ones for family use.

PUBLIC'S HEALTH GUARDED

The parish's Public Health Unit became the official representative for the parish in public health matters in 1942. The staff consists of a medical director, nurses, sanitarians, part-time clinicians and other specialists. It carries on a wide range of services, free of charge to parish residents.

Among the newer or reemphasized programs are those dealing with milk surveillance, school health and mental health.

The agency is responsible for submitting milk samples to the national milk network radiation surveillance program. In the field of school health, a comprehensive immunization program

The saltwater sport fisherman in the Gulf of Mexico off Grand Isle in Jefferson Parish will reel in not only Sailfish as shown, but any one or more of 30 different varieties listed by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission including His Majesty the Tarpon, Cobia, Dolphin, Spanish and King Mackerel, Bonito, Blue and White Marlin, Pompano, Jewfish, Red Snapper, Sheepshead, Wahoo, Speckled Trout, Redfish, Triple-tail and many, many more, are out there in great numbers for the man or woman who loves to fish big.





Magazines for all ages and all interests are available at Jefferson Parish libraries. Here a father looks over a review of recent history while his children occupy themselves with much more fascinating reading.



Main Application Office for Jefferson Parish Civil Service jobs in Room 818 of the Jefferson Parish Personnel Department in the new Courthouse, Gretna.



A quartette of Jefferson Boy Scout Troop No. 117 build a fire in the approved Scout manner during an outing at Camp Salmon. They are (left to right) John Eric Bethancourt, Skip Weber, Steve Burch and Gary Spitzkeit.

was established in parish schools in 1961. Immunizations were offered to children in the 1st, 4th, 8th and 12th grades with booster shots supplied in 1962. The program has provided adequate protection against the communicable diseases of diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox and polio. An educational program about venereal diseases was presented to high schools in the Spring of 1963.

Recognizing the need for a more definitive program in mental health, the Public Health Unit and the Louisiana State Board of Health agreed to provide the services of a team consisting of a psychiatrist working part-time, a psychologist and a medical social worker to incorporate the mental health program into the existing maternal and child health services.

Among the Public Health Unit's other services are:

Inspection of individual sewerage disposal systems in those parish areas where public sewerage facilities are not yet available. Before approval is given for occupancy of the premises, these are inspected for conformity to the state sanitary code.

Food handling establishments ranging from manufacturers to restaurants are regularly inspected. Two Jefferson Parish Public Health Unit sanitarians take samples of all milk and milk products daily. Total testings made in 1962 included 14,162 routine bacterial analyses, 65,096 chemical analyses, 84 Vitamin D biological assays and 38 miscellaneous analyses.

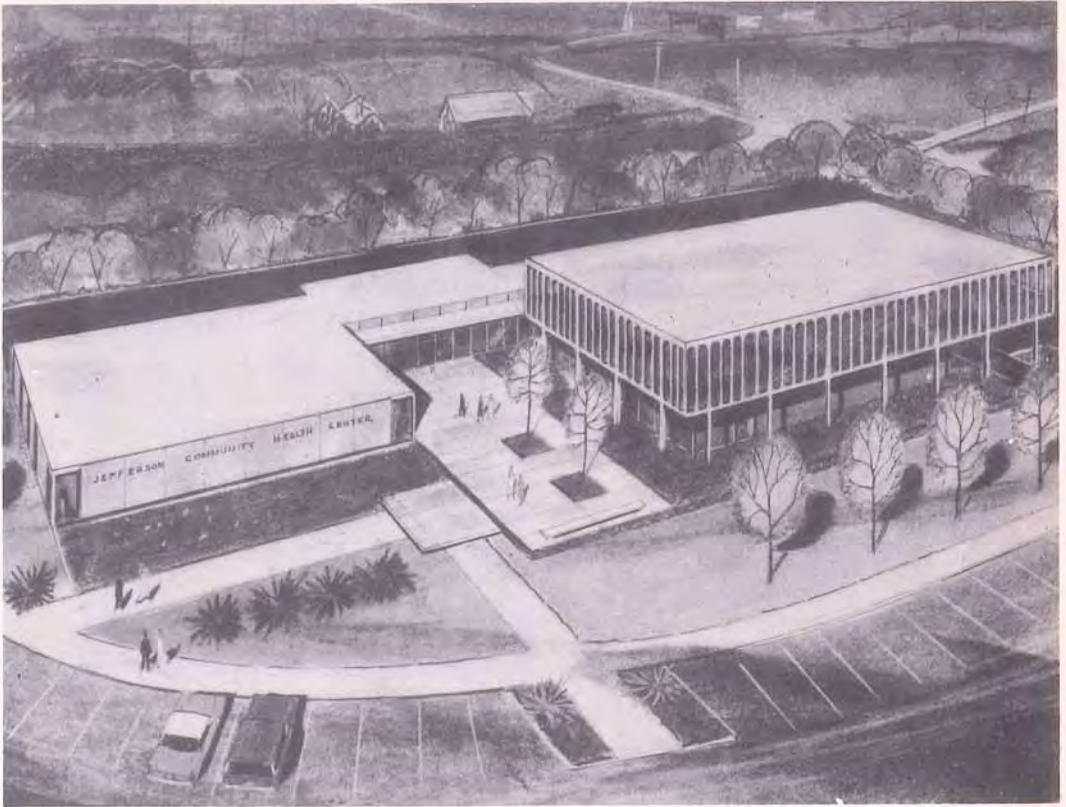
Sanitary conditions as well as safety conditions in all public places are regularly checked. Rats are caught and examined for ectoparasites and disease. Where conditions warrant, measures are carried out to control the rat population.

Rabies control in the parish is unexcelled. Not one case of positive rabies has been reported since 1954. Vaccination of more than 15,000 dogs and pickups of some 7,000 stray animals each year have helped maintain this record.

An outstanding pioneer program in Louisiana was testing the vision of preschool children at nursery schools and special clinics.

The parish's public health nurses made 8,027 home visits in 1961. A diabetic finding program has been in operation since 1959.

Films on many health subjects were shown to or lent to parish organiza-



The architect's drawing of the new \$510,000 East Jefferson Community Health Center, located on the Airline Highway under the Causeway Boulevard Interchange on the site of the old Alamo Plaza Motel. It is scheduled for completion by the end of 1963. It will contain a total of 21,000 square feet of floor space, of which 5,000 will be in the Mental Health Center (left) and 16,000 in the 200 seat Auditorium and Public Health Center (right).



M. Dan Hogan, President of Jefferson Parish, inspects the 20 foot tunnel entrance to the powder magazine of historic Confederate Camp Parapet which the Parish plans to restore and preserve as an historical site. This tunnel entrance is located at the dead end of Arlington Street east of Causeway Boulevard.



Jefferson Parish Councilmen Donald T. Gillen and George J. Ackel check the improvements made at the hazardous intersection of Airline Highway and David Drive - Hickory Street. Two left turn bays and right turn lanes were installed at this intersection.

tions, literature distributed and lectures given. Advice on nutrition is given to individuals and groups.

The dental health program was expanded in 1959 by encouraging parents to bring their pre-school children, ages 3 and 4, to dental education services.

Through the media of surveys, blood tests and investigations of the contacts of venereal disease cases, patients are discovered and placed under treatment. New cases of tuberculosis are discovered through use of surveys, patch tests, X-rays and investigation of contacts.

The chest clinic was started in 1959 to provide diagnosis, evaluation and treatment.

Many other functions in the control of communicable diseases, disorders, accidents and untimely deaths are carried out daily by Jefferson's Public Health Unit personnel.

WEST JEFFERSON GENERAL HOSPITAL

On April 25, 1962, just a month before it celebrated its second full year of operation, the West Jefferson General Hospital located in Marrero was notified it was receiving a full three-year accreditation certificate from the Joint



Something new has been added in the last year to the sprawling sulphur mine operated by Freeport Sulphur Company in the Gulf of Mexico seven miles off Grand Isle. A second production platform and bridge sections (left) now join the first production unit, which brought up the first sulphur from beneath the Gulf in 1960, giving the big offshore mine a unique "Y" shape. The entire mine is now approximately 4,060 feet in length.



Using one of the two Jefferson Parish Library's microfilm readers is a high school student on an assignment. The Library has microfilmed copies of many magazines.

Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. This honor meant that the hospital had received the accreditation on its first inspection by the commission's surveyor.

Six thousand, eight hundred and eighteen patients were admitted to the hospital in 1962. Eleven hundred new Jeffersonians were born during the year at the hospital.

Among hospital statistics compiled in 1962 are: 177,618 meals served, 11,868 X-ray examinations made, 4,526 operations performed and 7,322 patients received in the emergency room.

The West Jefferson General Hospital has an annual operating budget of \$1,600,000. This money is largely retained in the immediate area for approximately 70% of the budget represents salaries.

SUMMARY

Tell all about Jefferson Parish in these few pages? Impossible! Too many things happen too quickly in this wonderful parish of ours to be recorded fully for posterity and today's readers. This is meant to be only a brief passing in review of events in Louisiana's fastest growing parish.



Pictured above at the ribbon cutting ceremony at the formal opening of the one mile section (costing \$2.6 million) of the Kenner - New Orleans Interstate 10. This one mile section extends from Jefferson Parish into New Orleans where it ties into the Greater New Orleans Expressway. Officiating at the ceremony were (from left) Cullen C. Schouest, Jefferson Parish Council Chairman; Harrison Schouest, Jr., Jefferson Parish Acting Safety Director; Ray W. Burgess, Louisiana State Highway Director; M. Dan Hogan, President of Jefferson Parish; George J. Ackel, Jefferson Parish Councilman; Joseph Di Rosa, New Orleans Councilman-at-large; and State Representative Edward F. Le Breton, Jr., of New Orleans.



One of hundreds of modern homes in the Harvey-Marrero-Estelle section of Ward Four that will be serviced by the newly created Sewerage District No. 8. With an efficient sewerage system being installed it is anticipated that hundreds of additional homes will be built in the undeveloped areas on the West Bank.



Gulf Atlantic Warehouse Co.'s Shrewsbury Industrial Center located at Labarre Road and the I. C. Railroad. This is one of Jefferson Parish's largest commercial facilities providing both general merchandise warehousing and distribution and leasing space for both commercial and light industrial tenants. The complex known as the Shrewsbury Industrial Center has a 45 acre tract of industrial land adjacent to it for future development and expansion for industries that wish to locate in growing Jefferson Parish.



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



VICTOR H. SCHIRO
MAYOR

In recent years Jefferson Parish has made many vital contributions to the Greater New Orleans Area. It has prospered and grown in every respect. Today, Jefferson Parish offers many fine residential areas, splendid industrial sites and is part of a thriving economy.

As the Mayor of the City of New Orleans it gives me great pleasure to observe this flourishing condition for it reflects our own growth and development. While it is true that New Orleans and Jefferson Parish exist as separate entities, it is also true that the good fortune and prosperity of one are closely linked with the other. Thus as we grow in an economic sense we also grow together in a close-knit unity of community interests.

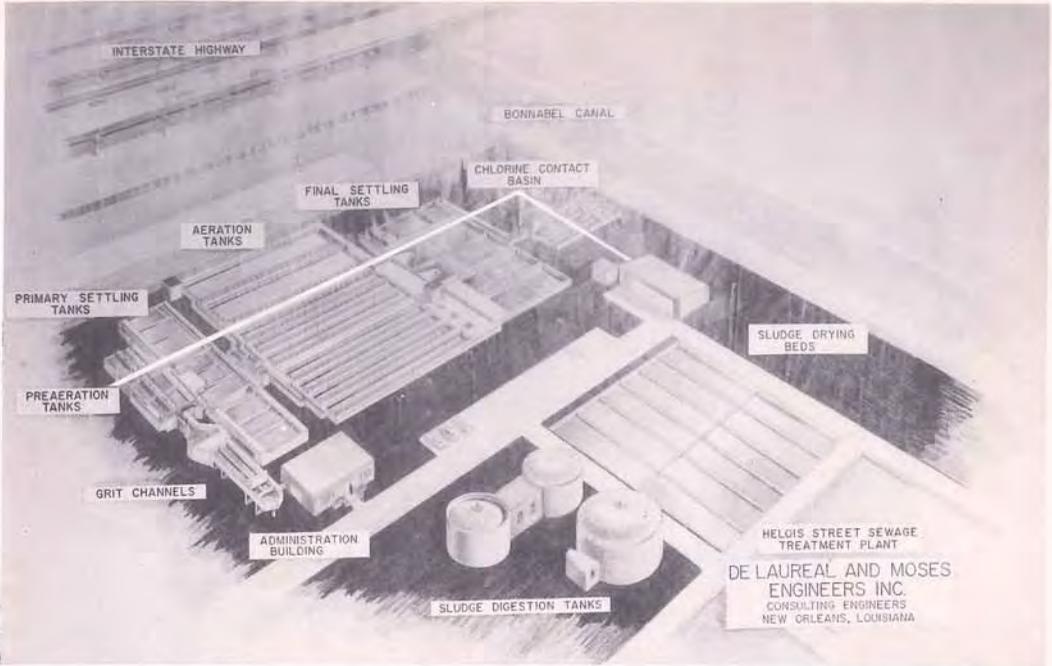
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The Helois Street Sewerage Treatment Plant of East Jefferson, originally designed to serve a connected population of 30,000 people, is now being enlarged to serve an additional 25,000 people. In addition, it is being completely rehabilitated to correct basic deficiencies which have caused it to become a health menace. Everything outside the white line on the attached drawing will be new construction. The plant's operation will continue throughout the building and remodeling period.



The new 5 million gallon ground storage tank (left front) at East Jefferson Waterworks District No. 1 completed in 1962 at a cost of \$345,000.



Jefferson Parish Safety Department officials inspect the equipment and firemen of Central Station, District No. 2 in Metairie.

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NEW ORLEANS, LA.



Jefferson Democrat

Official Journal of the

Parish of Jefferson

Since 1896



Gretna, Louisiana



The Four Famous Annual Aquatic Competitions of Jefferson Parish

Three are held at Grand Isle, rated one of the ten best fishing spots in the world, and one in the beautiful Barataria Country at Lafitte.



The Bayou Rigaud headquarters for the many boats gathered to enjoy the mid summer Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo off Grand Isle.

THE GRAND ISLE TARPON RODEO—First held in 1928 the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo in the Gulf of Mexico has grown to be one of the most popular deep sea sport fishing events in the South.

In the first Rodeo in 1928 there were 248 sport fishermen participating, 170 of which were from New Orleans, 64 from the state of Louisiana and 14 from other states. Today this three day Rodeo has grown until there is an annual participation of more than 1650 enthusiastic anglers. Today fifteen committee chairmen coordinate what has become the largest sport fishing tournament in the United States which, in addition to its hundreds of fishermen, also attracts thousands of excited participants. This Rodeo now has a separate Division for Scuba Divers.

There are 25 types of fish eligible

for first, second and third prizes in each category. The previous practice of awarding boats, outboard motors and merchandise as prizes has been discontinued. The awards are now all handsome gold finished trophies which the winners can proudly display in office or den.

THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP PIROGUE RACES—On a Sunday in May, on Bayou Big Barataria at Lafitte, Louisiana, are held the annual Pirogue Races for both men and women contestants from all over the nation to determine the year's World Champion in each category.

This now 29 year old popular sports event of Jefferson Parish pays annual tribute to the distinctive skill of the bayou dwellers in their frail, tricky, one paddle propelled craft that are slowly but inevitably giving way to the putt-putts.

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SULPHUR SPELLS PROGRESS



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As our standard of living advances, the uses of sulphur multiply and its importance to our daily lives is enhanced. It has been our job over the years to keep pace with this progress — to make the large investments and take the sizeable risks required to develop new sources and new mining techniques.

FREEMPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

It was back on October 13, 1934 that Mrs. E. J. Thilborger, then head of the Barataria Woman's Club, sponsored the first pirogue race which was won by Maturin Billiot, a 39 year old grandfather. He covered the 4- $\frac{3}{4}$ mile course in 51 minutes and 9 seconds to win the First Prize of \$18. His seventh cousin 54 year old Etienne Billiot took the second prize money of \$13.09, and still another member of the family, Andre Billiot, came in third to win \$8.98.

Now under the sponsorship of the Lafitte Yacht Club, the crowds of spectators are bigger, the contestants are tougher and the finishing time is constantly being paddled lower.

In the 1963 races several new features were added—a Queen and her Court reigned over the festivities and there was a new race added for teenagers, in addition to the time honored workboat race, and the Championship Races for men and women.

THE NEW ORLEANS GRAND ISLE SCUBA DIVERS INTERNATIONAL SPEARFISHING TOURNAMENT —

In February of 1959 a group of men gathered to breathe life into what is now the biggest and finest scuba spearfishing Tournament in the world. A lot of people had asked "Why?" in the beginning. The same question must have been asked at the very beginnings of the Indianapolis '500' Auto Race, the Kentucky Derby or any of the other world recognized competitions. The whole group knew that there was a need for a Tournament that would enable divers from all over the world to compete for something worthwhile, thus was born the NOGI AWARDS.

To signify outstanding achievements the Television Industry presents the Emmy; the Motion Picture Industry awards the Oscar; Now Scuba Divers have an award which will hold the equivalent distinction in the diving world, the "Nogi". Because of the International recognition which the Scuba Tournament has received it was thought that something unique in awards should mark the event. After combing the continents ranging from the Far East to the tropical West Indies, we found a man in our own area who is known for his originality, meticulous attention to detail and beauty of design in woodwork. Working with Vero Puccio, officials carefully selected for the "Nogi" thoroughly seasoned Honduran Mahogany of rich coloring and exotic grain

which has been hand carved and rubbed for a lustrous finish. Divers that are fortunate enough to win a Nogi will not only have a trophy from the only truly International Scuba Tournament, but an original piece of art as well.

In keeping with the high standards previously set in the Nogi Tournament, Nogi formed the Sporti Awards, an exclusive award for the sport fishermen who vie for top honors and a special line fishing division, which is now held during the Scuba Tournament. For the lucky winners in the line fishing division a companion trophy for "Nogi" has been originated. His name is "Sporti". The Sporti features a minutely detailed replica of the 10 species of fish in the line fishing division and all plates on the Nogi and Sporti trophies are made of sterling silver. These awards are copyrighted and patented for 28 years and are the sole property of the NOGI WORLD CHAMPION SPEARFISHING TOURNAMENT.

Like the Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo, the New Orleans Grand Isle Scuba Divers International is held at Grand Isle, Louisiana during June each year. With the trial years a definite success, the tournament has been internationally accepted as the scuba event of the year. You might ask, what goes on during an event such as this? Well, it goes like this. Every year officials of the tournament dress in red and white uniforms with the diagonal white stripe across the shirt to represent the divers flag which is now known throughout the fishing, boating and diving world.

On the eve of the tournament, briefing and instructions concerning boats and time schedules are given to the crowd. Groups seem to feel their way—swapping fish stories and equipment know-how and measuring the competitors. Local divers assist out-of-towners with last minute rigging of guns with $\frac{1}{8}$ th inch cable. Cord is useless in and around the oil rigs, as barnacles will cut the line if a fish doesn't wrap around a cross member of the structure and break it.

On the first day of competition the last boat leaves the dock around 6:00 a.m. With so many boats in the Gulf holding divers, you can not help but see one or two as the boats move from rig to rig. Some boats find an ideal setup at one platform and stay there all day, while others touch 10 to 20 rigs searching for the big ones. By mid-afternoon the boats of the scuba fleet



The only diving and fishing tournament in the world that a catch like the above can be made is in the Nogi and Sporti International Fishing and Diving tournament which has been held off Grand Isle for the past five years. Divers, left to right: Lou Cuccia, Fred Wust, Frank Grey, Joey Albeanese and Jay Albeanese. Pictured at inserts on right are the beautiful trophies, The Nogi Award, and The Sporti Award.



Malcolm LeBlanc (left) won his fifth consecutive World's Championship Pirogue Race over the four mile course at Lafitte, Louisiana on Sunday May 19 in his 25 foot craft that is less than an arm's length in width. The Meyers of Lafitte, right, are keeping the Pirogue Races World's Championship for Women right in the family. After winning the title for five consecutive years over the two mile course of the annual Pirogue Races at Bayou Big Barataria, Mrs. August Meyers (left) was nosed out in the 1963 contest on May 19 by her daughter, Zella Mae (right), who is now the 14 year old holder of the Women's World Championship in pirogue racing.

arrive and begin to weigh in their fish. Problems of all kinds, hard luck fish stories, and bruised muscles are soon forgotten by divers, spectators and officials. Now the real part of the contest is under way.

The activities continue throughout the afternoon. More boats, more divers, weighing fish, changes on the fish board, and an ever-increasing crowd of intensely interested spectators make the area a beehive of activity. A New Orleans jazz band is on hand to entertain the crowd each afternoon. Other entertainments are planned for the crowd each afternoon of the tournament.

After 6:00 p.m. the crowd thins out and the divers take over the least pleasant job of the day, the repairing of equipment. An equipment "bank" is set up and the divers rush in trying to find micropress sleeves, detachable heads, rubbers for their guns, and other parts needed for repair work. "Windy", the giant compressor mounted on a truck, fills 8 and 9 bottles at a time, cutting short the normally long wait for tanks to be filled. Finally, after checking the time the boats are to leave in the morning, the divers settle down to a meal and bed.

The second day's fishing usually proves that more and even bigger fish, are still in the Gulf, and also brings forth certain species that have not been speared on the first day. Spectators and competitors alike crowd the weighing station, torn between giving their attention to the fish being weighed, boats tying up, and changes on the placement board. As soon as a boat load of divers touches the wharf, anxious divers crowd around to see if fish are evident that might erase their names from the board. The fish are either well hidden or else brazenly displayed depending on the individuals. When the scales close, the weighmaster, Marion Higgins, and the other Judges,

retire to their cabins and once again preparations are made for another day of diving.

The third morning dawns bright and clear and many boats, with various groups on each boat, head for their destinations. And so, diving for the final day gets under way.

During the final hours every boat is met by a packed wharf of spectators. After the divers wiggle their way through the crowd to have their fish weighed (with a one-eyed glance at the board to see how the fish are holding up from the day before) they join the crowd scanning each boat as it comes in. First, second and third place winners nervously survey every fish brought to the scales. At closing time the weighing station and the surrounding dock and fish display area resemble a typical busy day on the floor of the Stock Exchange with a bit of New Orleans Mardi Gras thrown in for good measure. When the scales come down at 6:00 p.m., a series of rebel yells split the air as jubilant divers find that "THEIR" fish wins a prize.

Cooperation from the people on Grand Isle, the Golden Meadow area, Jefferson Parish Council, and the State was tremendous and of course is a must for staging a contest of this caliber, these people should be commended for their foresightness for perpetuating a world event that leaves hundreds of thousands of outer state tourist dollars in these areas.

THE GRAND ISLE REDFISH RODEO—Sponsored by the Grand Isle Young Men's Business Club each October at Stell's Outboard Marina, this three day Grand Isle Redfish Rodeo is now in its fourth year.

First, second and third place trophies are awarded at the close of each day's fishing. Final grand prizes are awarded at the close of the Rodeo for the five largest and two smallest redfish caught during the three days.

In the 1962 Rodeo the largest redfish caught weighed 34½ pounds and the smallest 10 ounces. Marion Higgins, the weighmaster, weighed in over a ton of fish in one hour. Around 500 fish were caught during the Rodeo in the fishing area between Bell Pass and Four Bayous. Although only in its fourth year the Grand Isle Redfish Rodeo is already annually attracting around 300 fishermen. This year the Rodeo is scheduled for October 11, 12 and 13.

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION IN JEFFERSON

Director Ray W. Burgess of the Louisiana Department of Highways reports that during the past two years (as of March 14, 1963) the Highway Department has constructed over 40 miles of new highway improvements in Jefferson Parish at a cost of \$10,259,190. In addition there are nearly 10 miles now under construction costing \$8,966,809.

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Participating in a \$1,025,000 contract signing ceremony for a new 400-ton incinerator and the building which will house it and other equipment for the Jefferson Parish East Bank are, Cullen C. Schouest, Council Chairman, at right, signing for Jefferson Parish; Jack Wilson, President of Gervais F. Favrot Co., Inc., who signed for the contractor; and in center, David W. Godat, Consulting Engineer in charge of the project. Later Mr. Schouest signed additional contracts for the balance of the \$2,000,000 Bond Issue, for stokers, furnaces, cranes and controls. The present 200-ton incinerator, which will be rehabilitated out of the bond issue money, will be used in conjunction with the new one when it is completed in the latter part of 1964.



Four Girl Scouts of Jefferson Parish Troop 81, Mrs. R. A. Bethancourt, Leader, are shown improvising a wash basin in a backyard camp-out at 621 Dodge Avenue. They are (left to right) Rita Ann DeGruy, Elizabeth Ball, Bonnie Lee Bethancourt and Karen Elliot.

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Pictured here is one of the new homes just completed in the Harahan, Kenner area. This graceful setting is typical of Jefferson, where on large wooded lots, more and more lovely residences are being built.

In 1911 a new financial institution that would soon become a boon to South America came into being. Few who heard the news doubted its eventual success, for they knew the men responsible for its creation had proved their abilities in other fields long before this undertaking. One was an international financier and shipping magnate; one was an expert on life insurance companies; another was a renowned physician and surgeon, and one was a successful corporation lawyer. Each, contributing his unique talents, brought into being, on March 28, 1911, the Pan-American Life Insurance Company.

Of the four founders one is still active in the Company—he is Chairman, Board of Directors, Crawford H. Ellis, who for 50 years, until 1961, served as President. Dr. Edward G. Simmons who served during his lifetime as Executive Vice-President, died on January 14, 1958. Dr. Marion Souchon was Vice-President and Medical Director until his death in April, 1954, and Eugene G. McGivney was Vice-President and General Counsel at the time of his death in 1948. In the short time since its inception Pan-American Life has progressed at a rate unparalleled by any other company in its field. Today hundreds of thousands of policyowners in 28 states and 10 Latin American Countries and many islands of the West Indies are protected by its outstanding insurance coverage.



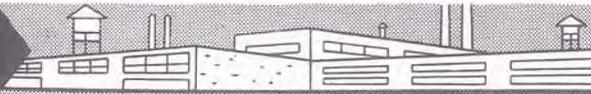
Shown above is one of the Continental Oil Company's Distribution Terminals in Jefferson Parish which supplies oil, gasoline and accessories to the service station outlets.

A typical weighing in at Stell's Outboard Marina during the three day Redfish Rodeo held at Grand Isle each October. This is only one of many fishing rodeos held throughout the year in Jefferson.

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Center, left to right: Hon. C. C. Aycock, Lieutenant Governor, State of Louisiana; Hon. Jack P. F. Gre-million, Attorney General; and Hon. Nat B. Knight, Jr., Louisiana Public Service Commission.

Bottom, left to right: Hon. Allen J. Ellender, United States Senator from Louisiana; Hon. Russell B. Long, United States Senator from Louisiana; and Hon. Hale Boggs, Member of Congress, Second Louisiana Con-gressional District.





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Top, left to right: Hon. John G. (Jack) Fitzgerald, Sheriff; Hon. French M. Jordan, Louisiana State Senator, Tenth Senatorial District; Hon. James E. Beeson, State Representative.

Center, left to right: Hon. John F. Rau, Jr., State Representative; Hon. Jules G. Mollere, State Representative; Hon. John G. Schwegmann, Jr., State Representative.

Bottom, left to right: Hon. Vernon J. Wilty, Jr., Assessor; Hon. William Justice, Jr., Clerk of Court; Hon. Dr. Charles B. Odom, Coroner.





JEFFERSON COURT OFFICIALS

From left to right starting top: Hon. L. Julian Samuel, Judge Fourth Circuit Louisiana Courts of Appeal; Hon. Leo W. McCune, Judge of Juvenile Court; Hon. John C. Boutall, Judge Division C 24th Judicial District Court; Hon. L. Robert Rivarde, Judge Ad Hoc 24th Judicial Court; Hon. Frederick J. R. Heebe, Judge of Division B 24th Judicial District Court; Hon. Robert G. Hughes, Judge Division D 24th Judicial District Court; Hon. Edward G. Stoulig, Judge Division A 24th Judicial District Court; Hon. Frank H. Langridge, District Attorney; Hon. Waverly A. Henning, First Assistant District Attorney.





Hon. Nestor L. Currault, Jr., Second Assistant District Attorney; Hon. Richard A. Thalheim, Third Assistant District Attorney; Hon. Gordon L. Bynum, Fourth Assistant District Attorney.

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EAST JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

Denny Palazzo (far left) with a 10 to 0 record pitched the Warriors to the Championship of District No. 4 in 1961. In 1962 he led the Varsity to the State Semi-Finals with a 4 and 1 record and during the season was voted East Jefferson's most valuable player. As a result of Denny's 5-0 record, one game being a no hitter, the East Jefferson Varsity has reached the 1963 State Semi-Finals after one round of play.

Randy Juge (second from left) has been a member of the East Jefferson Track Squad during his three years in High School. In 1962 he set school records in the high jump (5' 10 1/2") and the discus (143 feet). This year he has bettered both records with a 6'-2 3/4" in the high jump and 146 feet in the discus throw.

Dennis "Denny" Beck (third from left) having transferred to East Jefferson from Louisville, Kentucky, being 6'3" tall played center-forward on the basketball team and was a starter in every game. He scored a total of 420 points in 1963, averaging 19.6 points per game in public district play. He maintained a straight A scholastic average for the entire four years of high school. He was chosen on the New Orleans Metropolitan area's All-Public, All-Prep and on the Louisiana's High School Coaches All-State Team.

Skipper Graham (No. 30) Left Halfback and Co-captain of the football team was voted the most outstanding back on the squad and led the team offensively until late season injuries. Named on All-Public District Football Team by Times-Picayune, by Coaches of District and by WDSU-TV.

Harry Smith (No. 50) Offensive Center and Co-captain of the East Jefferson Football team. A fine team man and deep punt snapper. Named on All-Public District Football Team by Coaches of the District and WDSU-TV.



Pictured are Mobile Units at Barataria Special School used for special students. Adjoining Mobile Units and used for the same purpose but not in picture is the former Barataria Boulevard School.

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Students Hannelore Schroth, Paula Richerand and Susan Irwin in the Foreign Language Laboratory of Riverdale Girls High School listen to tape recordings to develop correct pronunciation. The teacher is Mrs. Lillian Smith.



Members of the Spanish Class at Riverside Girls High School enact a bull fighting tableau.

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In the 8th Grade General Science Class of Fisher School students (left to right) Barbara Creppel, Lydia Berthelot and Ralph Rojas study microscope slides under the direction of Science Teacher Edward Perrin.



The new football field and stadium which was ready for use in September 1962, of the Negro Lincoln High School in Marrero.

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Literature is introduced in the Jefferson Public Schools at the First Grade level. Shown here at Bissonet Plaza School are First Graders enjoying their fascinating book "Story Time." Trying to keep from looking at the camera (from left to right) are Debbie Verges, Gary Skipwith, Elizabeth Dupree and John Lux. The First Grade teacher is Mrs. Marjorie Eberle.



Rick Carlson, Steve Moeller, Janet Schiffman and Karla Gilmore (reading left to right) of the J. C. Ellis School present the puppet show, "The Story of Cinderella" of which the children of the school made all the scenery and puppets.

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Several students of Metairie Grammar School put on an Assembly Period skit commemorating the annexation of Alaska, complete with bearded "sourdoughs" and gold miners.



One of the West Jefferson High School Honor Classes in English, teacher Miss Marlyn Solis. First row (front to back) Gail Arceneaux, Wayne Bonvillain, Margie Fremin, and Ronald Lawson. Second row, Barbara Clearman, Shirley Conlee, Marcia Hartman and Roger Bull. Third row, Brenda Boudreaux, Sandy Karst and Mary Mitchell. Fourth row, Linda Perez, Charlene Richoux and Stephen Yanca.



Poise, social grace and good manners are the by-products of this Class in Square Dancing being enacted by the First Graders of Harvey School.

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JEFFERSON PARISH TIMES

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In this Crafts Class at Boulevard Special School the students are making crab and dip nets. Those being displayed by the boys in the back row demonstrate that the professionals had better look to their laurels.



First Graders at George A. Cox School learning to tell time. Left to right are Jack Kidwell, Barbara Brazeal, Laurie Mitchell and Donald Lathrop. The teacher is Mrs. Ruth Waites.

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Winners in the Essay on Louisiana Contest of Gretna Elementary No. 1 School, sponsored by teacher Miss Therese Eckert, for the whole school. First place winner was Susan Weyer (far left); second place was won by Madeleine Guthrie (center); and third prize went to Karen Burlet (far right).



Kenner Junior High students intently examine the new Science Department equipment during Mr. Simpson's Anatomy Class. Notice the complete exposed cross section of the human torso and rib cage lying in front of it.

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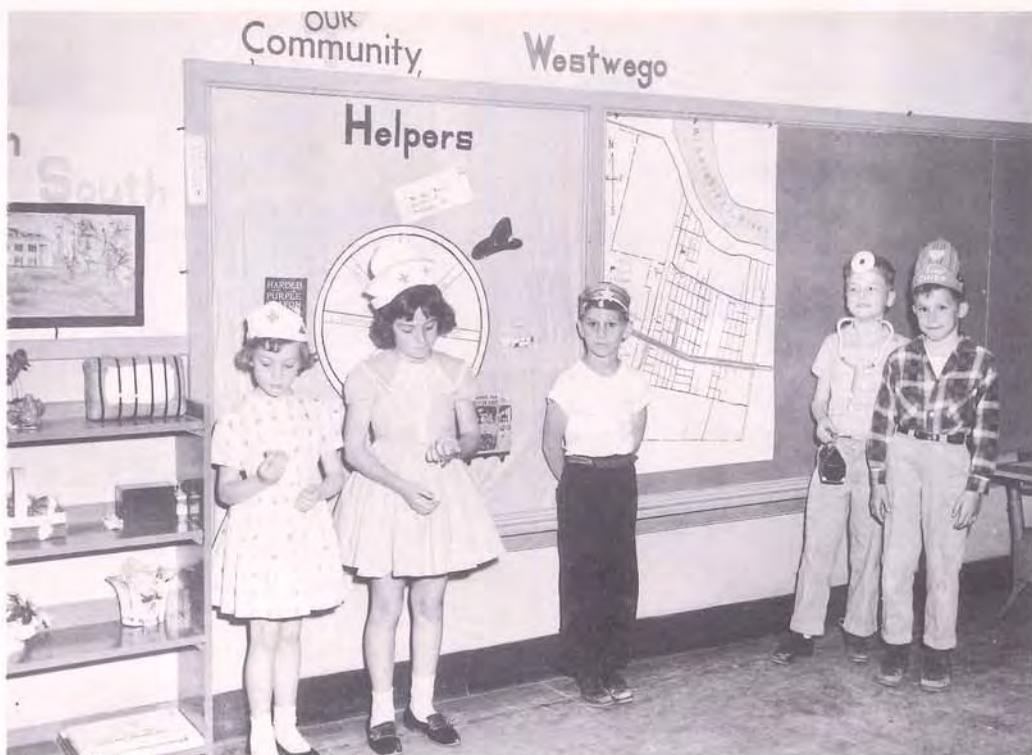
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In the Second Grade Social Studies Class of Westwego Elementary School the students above enact the various roles in their study of Community Helpers. The two nurses are Rebecca Perret and Karen Wright. The policeman in the center is Ronald Bailey. The doctor is Kennedy Croom and the fire chief is Joel Porche.



Students of McDonogh 26th School display their ingenious artwork—Spring scenes made by the straw and ink technique. Proudly presenting their masterpieces are (left to right) Robert Cardinale, Debra Dunavant and Michael Lafont. Still working on hers is Susan Antill (seated).

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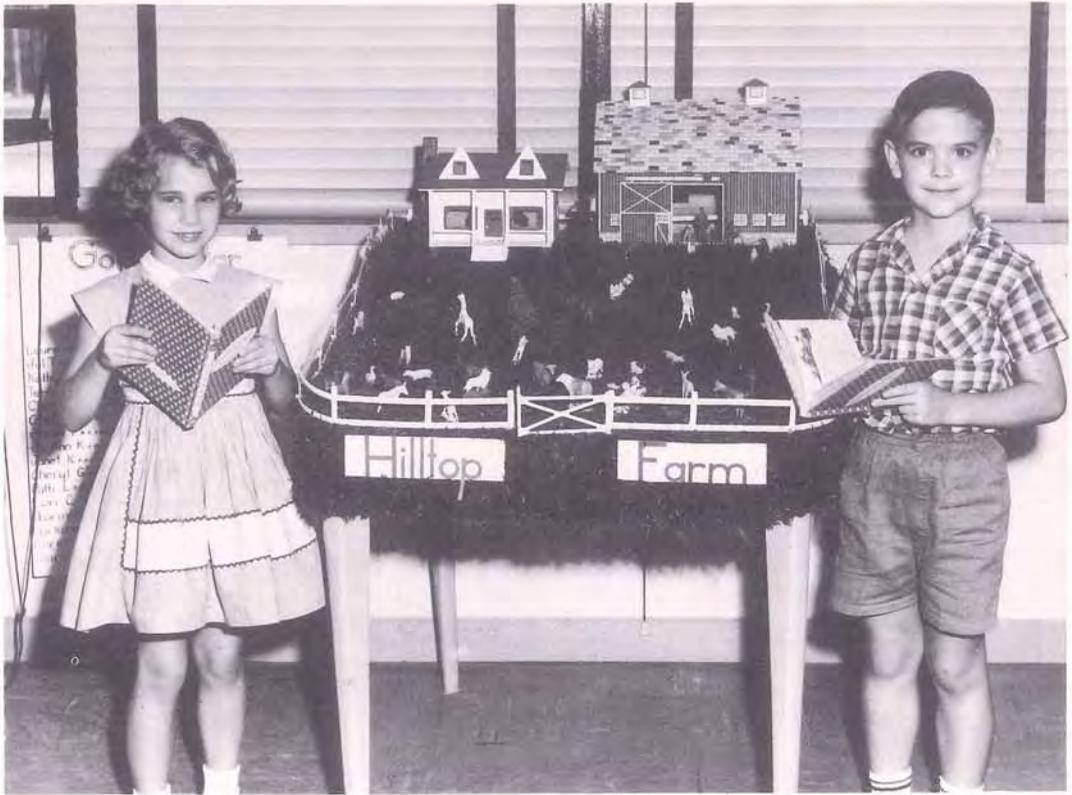
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Second Graders Janet Fink and Stephen Kiern of Bridgedale Elementary School proudly demonstrate the model so artistically constructed to supplement the class reading assignment "The Story of Hilltop Farm." The three dimensional is educationally intentional—it dramatizes the printed words and pictures.



The study of birds in the Science Class at Gretna Park School. Identifying the various species from the models are (left to right) Mark Brockhoeft, Drew Willis, Wanda Parker and Summer Keith.

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JEFFERSON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD—MEMBERS, OFFICERS AND STAFF

Seated, clockwise and starting with men at foot of table: Hon. Henry Parra, Jr., Ward 11, Grand Isle; Hon. Robert G. Murphy, Ward 2, Gretna; Hon. Loney J. Autin, Ward 1, Gretna; Hon. Wilfred J. Berthelot, Jr., Ward 5, Waggaman; Hon. Andrew J. Karst, Ward 4, Marrero; Hon. Jules Nunez, Ward 6, Lafitte; Mrs. Dorothy Herfarth, Secretary to Mr. Higgins; Lem W. Higgins, Superintendent of Schools; Hon. Leck E. Soniat, Jr., Ward 8, Metairie; Hon. Emile Gennaro, President, Ward 8, Metairie; Hon. Vincene Gaise, Vice President, Ward 4, Marrero; Hon. James M. Hornsby, Ward 9, Highland Acres Subdivision; Hon. James H. Stevens, Ward 9, Harahan; Hon. Robert C. Navarre, Ward 3, Lower Harvey; Hon. John L. Sykes, Ward 7, Melvin Subdivision; Hon. George C. Gibson, Ward 10, Bissonnet Plaza Subdivision, Hon. Paul F. Dastugue, Jr., Ward 7, Jefferson Heights; Hon Samuel J. McGrew, Ward 8, Metairie; and Hon. Bert C. LeBlanc, Ward 4, Harvey.

Standing, left to right: Frank Ehret, Visiting Teacher; Peter C. Bertucci, Business Manager; Paul J. Solis, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Charles Talbot, Assistant Comptroller; Edgard Stevens, Comptroller; Lloyd J. Clancy, Visiting Teacher; Carl Lazarone, Lunch Room Supervisor; Paul Hubbell, Supervisor of High Schools; H. Ashley Schexnauldre, Supervisor of Elementary Education; Lloyd Bourgeois, Visiting Teacher; Anthony A. Caramonta, Visiting Teacher; Harry Glover, Jr., Supervisor of Health and Physical Education; Lou Blanda, West Bank Supervisor of Health and Physical Education; and Jos. S. Yenni, East Bank Supervisor of Health and Physical Education. Miss Ruth Pitre, Supervisor of Elementary Education was out of town when photograph was taken.

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JEFFERSON PARISH School Board Officials

Left: Hon. Emile Gennaro, President, Jefferson Parish School Board and member of Executive Committee.

Lower left: Lem W. Higgins, Superintendent of Schools.

Lower middle: Hon. Vincent Giaise, Vice President Jefferson Parish School Board and member of Executive Committee.

Lower right: Hon. Samuel J. McGrew, member of Executive Committee.



Said Benjamin Franklin: "A Bible and a newspaper in every house, a good school in every district—all studied and appreciated as they merit—are the principal support of virtue, morality and liberty."



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Officials' Directory

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OTHER ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF JEFFERSON PARISH

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (Elected): Lycester L. Trauth (Wards 1, 2 and 3) and Raymond E. LeBlanc (Wards 4 and 5), Courthouse, Gretna; Leo E. Kerner, Jr. (Ward 6), Lafitte; Jared A. Wilkes (Wards 7, 8 and 10), East Bank Office Building, Metairie; Joseph R. Becnel, Sr. (Ward 9), Kenner; and Miss T. Mercedes Adam (Ward 11), Grand Isle.

CONSTABLES (Elected): James M. Boyle (Wards 1, 2 and 3) and Simon J. Gauthreaux (Wards 4 and 5), Courthouse, Gretna; Mrs. Charles Pizani, Jr. (Ward 6), Lafitte; Louis A. Rome (Wards 7, 8 and 10), East Bank Office Building, Metairie; Herman G. Dutreix, Sr. (Ward 9), Kenner; and Percy Crosby (Ward 11), Grand Isle.

The Officials listed here are all appointed.
PARISH DEPARTMENT HEADS: Ray L. Condon, Department of Sanitation, 648 Helois St., Metairie; Peter J. Russo, Department of Water, 3600 Jefferson Highway, Shrewsbury; Harrison Schouest, Jr., Acting Director, Department of Safety and Franklin R. Rodriguez, Department of Planning, East Bank Office Building, Metairie. Edward P. La Bruyere, Department of

Finance, Clarence A. La Bauve, Department of Roads and Bridges, Harold E. Kytly, Legal Department, Domenic Albano, Department of Personnel, David G. Terrebonne, Budget Analyst and Research Director and Harry E. Evans, Director of Civil Defense, Courthouse, Gretna. Bert Chalona, Director of Department of Recreation, Office: 1521 Palm St., Metairie.

CLERK OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Frank J. Deemer, Courthouse, Gretna.

CHIEF CIVIL DEPUTY SHERIFF AND CHIEF DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR: Thomas E. Rhodes, Jr., Courthouse, Gretna.

CHIEF DEPUTY ASSESSOR: As of July 1, 1963, when this Directory was prepared the office was vacant. Courthouse, Gretna.

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT: As of July 1, 1963, when this Directory was prepared the office was vacant.

CHIEF INVESTIGATOR CORONOR'S OFFICE: William J. Gautreau, Jr., Courthouse, Gretna.

PARISH HEALTH OFFICER: Dr. Isadore Yeager, 1901 Eighth St., Harvey.

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OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF GRETNA

Seated, from left: Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr., Alderman; Eugene Gehring, Alderman and Mayor Pro-Tem; William J. White, Mayor; G. Ashton Cox, Alderman; and A. J. Marchese, Alderman. Absent when photograph was taken was Armond L. Lehnig, Alderman. Standing, left to right: Andrew H. Thalheim, City Attorney; Alvin E. Hotard, City Engineer; Wilfred L. Bush, City Clerk; John P. Ray, City Treasurer; and Beauregard Miller, City Marshal and Chief of Police Department.

Gretna's Golden Anniversary Year 1913 – 1963

By Mayor William J. White



Fifty years ago on May 19, 1913 that part of Jefferson Parish on the West Bank commonly known as Gretna, and which had been the seat of parish government since 1884, was proclaimed a village by Governor Luther E. Hall of Louisiana.

Actually the new village comprised the communities of Mechanickham and New Mechanickham, old Gretna and new Gretna (now parts of Wards Two and Three). Because Mechanickham possessed a cooperative Justice of the Peace, who would marry eloping couples of Jefferson Parish or New Orleans any hour of the day or night, the several streets of the combined communities had acquired the popular name of Gretna. This was a take-off from Gretna Green, that historic town on the border of Scotland similarly popular prior to 1856 because legal marriage then required nothing more than the declaration of willingness of the two contracting parties in front of two witnesses. Governor Hall's proclamation officially legalized the popular name of Gretna for the new village and parish capital.

John Ehret of Ward Three was appointed Mayor of the new village. Dr.

Louis J. Stumpf and John F. Matthews of Ward Three and Nicholas J. Zimmer of Ward Two were the first Aldermen. The first meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was held on May 24.

On June 3, 1913 the Board of Aldermen voted to incorporate the adjoining community of McDonoghville into the Village of Gretna and, since its addition gave Gretna the necessary population for city status, Governor Hall on August 20 ratified the action of the Board and proclaimed the new combination the City of Gretna. From McDonoghville (now part of Ward One) William Huber and Frank Schurb were appointed members of the expanded Board of Aldermen.

The history of Gretna goes back nearly two centuries before it became officially and legally the City of Gretna in 1913. It was the site of the plantation of Jean Baptiste d'Estrehan, established around 1720 on a land grant from the King of France directly across the river from New Orleans which had been founded on the East Bank of the Mississippi only two years previous. This French aristocrat is remembered for having started around 1721 the historic Destrehan Ditch that eventually became the Harvey Canal Link of the Intracoastal Waterway through Jefferson Parish.

It was first dug by slave labor as merely a drainage ditch from the Mississippi River to the swamp in the rear

of the Destrehan Plantation. But later in 1737, he hired a large number of German immigrants, who had been lured to Louisiana by the blandishments of John Law's Company of the West propaganda, to expand it and extend it as a canal. With wooden shovels, brawn and sweat those sturdy German settlers widened and deepened it to Bayou Little Barataria for bringing furs, seafood, oysters and timber out of the bayou country. For their labor they received plots of land to live on and cultivate for their own use.

The land awarded these Germans became known as Mechanickham. The Old Courthouse and the Memorial Arch of present day Gretna stand on the original site of Mechanickham, which was merely a town common with two streets on each side. Later some land was added to the west and was called New Mechanickham. Later some land was added on the east and called Gretna. Still later more land was added to that and called New Gretna.

It was the purpose of Jean Baptiste d'Estrehan to build around his canal a thriving town which he called Cosmopolite City. It later became simply known as Destrehan and is today the unincorporated community of Harvey.

A hundred years later (around 1836) Nicholas Noel Destrehan, the grandson of Jean Baptiste, enraged because a jury had fined him \$10,000 for ordering his slave whipper to flog a fellow townsman who had merely borrowed a skiff belonging to him without permission, relinquished all responsibility for Mechanickham and turned it over to the Parish of Jefferson.

Just east of Mechanickham, about the same time Destrehan transferred it to the parish, John McDonogh established a plantation which produced vegetables for the New Orleans French Market that netted a daily profit from \$80 to \$100.

John McDonogh, the much maligned New Orleans philanthropist who was accused during his lifetime of being a miser, but who when he died bequeathed his entire fortune for the building of schools in New Orleans, Baltimore and Jefferson Parish, had left a successful business in New Orleans following an unhappy love affair to live a lonely bachelor life on his Jefferson Parish plantation. In his day John McDonogh was undoubtedly the richest man and largest property owner in Louisiana.

Because he permitted his slaves to work out their freedom, the community which grew up around the McDonogh plantation was first called "Freetown." Around the 1880's and 1890's it was frequently called "Gouldsborough" after the railroad magnate Jay Gould. But its most common name was "McDonoghville."

The old site of McDonoghville is marked today by the McDonoghville Cemetery originally set aside by John McDonogh on his land as a graveyard for his slaves, in which he was the first white person to be buried when he died in 1850.

This historic cemetery was turned over to the parish in 1892. A sexton was put in charge to rescue it from weeds and roaming cattle, and the custom of allowing both white and Negro to be buried there, a fence separating the two sections, has been observed ever since. John McDonogh's body was later removed to the family vault at Baltimore, but the cemetery still re-



The present overhead water tank of the Gretna Waterworks, a landmark in the city. It has recently been repaired and repainted at a cost of \$10,940. The water system, sanitation and streets of Gretna are all under the capable supervision of Alderman Eugene Gehring, who is Chairman of all the Departments.



A detachment of the 300 Gretna Rangers who drill and march and are also taught basic military training so later they can apply to Officers' Candidate schools. The officers are Col. Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr., Lt. Col. Wilson A. Russell, Capt. Clifton Larousse, Capt. John Hilton, Capt. Nolan Terrebonne, 1st Lt. Ennio Cardinale and 2nd Lt. Charles Emerson.

mains—Jefferson's Monument to one of its most celebrated citizens.

This, in brief, is the history of Gretna's beginning and the details of its proclamation as a city fifty years ago this August—the city that was the birthplace of the two widely divergent celebrities: Dr. Alfred Mercier in 1816, the noted physician, poet, author and philosopher who in 1876 founded the Athenee Louisinain, the society dedicated to the perpetuation of the French language in Louisiana and Mel Ott,

home run record holder of the National League, who joined the New York Giants when he was 16 and still playing baseball with McDonogh-Jefferson High School. The officials of the City of Gretna, in memory of a great baseball player and an outstanding man, changed the name of their fine park to the Mel Ott Park.

Now let's look at Gretna as it is today—a half century after it officially became a city.

In its lead role as the Oldest, Largest

The Gretna Vikings—the 1962 City of Gretna Football Champions in the 95 lb. division. Front row, left to right: Rene Gandolfo, Marvin Vicknair, Pat LeBoeuf, Kelly Talamo, Stephen Henning, Joseph White, Henry Denicola and Gary Moore. Second row, left to right: Adrian Boudreaux, Michael Mitchell, Arthur Breslin, Thomas Sheppard, Arnold Lachmann, Michael Strohmeier and George Armbruster. Top row, left to right: Richard Guthrie, Coach; Donnie Walden, Joseph Kass, Michael Wille, Mike Gremillion, Michael Orgeron, Henry Twickler, Frank Dollinger, David Blackman and Darryl Rabalais, Assistant Coach.





A detachment of the 100 Gretna Rangerettes. They also drill and march in parades. They are also given basic military training. The officers are Col. Marilyn (Mrs. Louis A., Jr.) LeBoeuf, Maj. Hazel Strickland, Capt. Doris Boudreaux, 1st Lt. Roena Larousse, 2nd Lt. Mabel Terrebonne and 2nd Lt. Ellen Hilton.

and Capital City of Jefferson Parish and West Bank Gateway to the Mississippi River Bridge, Gretna has doubled its population since 1950 (1963 population estimated at 25,000) and is rapidly filling its once empty suburbs with smart new subdivisions and modern homes. Last year (1962) Gretna issued building permits for 102 new houses alone.

This rapid population growth and suburban expansion represents not only proud progress but poses a problem. Gretna has already outgrown its long

faithful and up to now adequate two million gallon per day capacity Water Plant.

The Recreation Department of the City of Gretna is under the supervision of Alderman Louis A. LeBoeuf, Jr. Assisting Mr. LeBoeuf, is his wife Marilyn and other dedicated men and women who supervise well conducted programs throughout the year.

The 1962 City of Gretna Champions of the 110 lb. Bantam Football League. Front row, left to right: Lenny Thibodeaux, Kenny Haydel, Glenn Roland, Dwayne Tullus, Bobby Hasling and Kenny Bush. Second row, left to right: Russell Leblanc, Richard Brown, Keith Night, Larry Melancon, Mike Pscenicka and Pete Soutullo. Top row, left to right: Ronald Guthrie, Coach; Ronny Catney, Mike Bush, Bill Caldwell, Harry Delger, James Branton and Ray Loup, Assistant Coach. Not shown, Karry Simon.





The new wading pool at Gretna's Mel Ott Park, in conjunction with the large swimming pool. This wading pool is equipped with concrete benches and walk space around pool for parents while watching their children. Under the direction of Alderman A. J. Marchese both swimming pools and wading pools were constructed.

Officially aware of the civic necessity of not only providing an ample water supply and fire protection for its present residents (now 5500 water customers, 150 new ones in 1962) but also to supply the new residents and businesses steadily moving in, the Board of Aldermen in April passed a resolution to seek property owner approval of a \$1 million Bond Issue to expand the present Water Plant from 2,000,000 gallons per day to 5,000,000 gallons per day, add a new elevated storage tank of 300,000 gallons capacity and increase the present ground storage capacity by 850,000 gallons, and extend 12 inch mains to the city's outlying sections. Plus a \$250,000 separate Bond Issue to construct a new Administration and Operational Building at the Water Plant site.

When the Bond Issue election was held on May 25, 1963 it was soon obvious that the people of Gretna were solidly behind their civic leaders on this issue of more water for daily use and fire protection. Both Bond Issues were overwhelmingly approved.

GREтна'S RAPIDLY EXPANDING RECREATION PROGRAM

We follow WATER with RECREATION because this city wide year round increasingly popular program with every year more and more participants also posed a growing financial problem that also had to be referred to the people. The following brief resume will give you a good idea of what RECREATION means to Gretna.

Gretna put eight teams in the field in 1962 in the popular Bantam Football League for boys 9 to 13. All were uni-

formed by the city at a cost of \$40 per boy, and since a squad usually carries 30 players the average cost per team was around \$1200. The Vikings (from the McDonoghville area) won the City Championship and were only defeated in the Little Sugar Bowl at Reserve, Louisiana, by a score 13-12.

So popular is Bantam Football in Gretna that an annual banquet for the players in January at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, where the Vikings were presented with their Championship Jackets, over 700 enthusiastic football fans bought tickets to attend.

In the 1963 Football Season Gretna will put 12 teams in the field in the Bantam League, averaging a team for about every 2500 population and will join the Southeastern Conference Bantam League.

In basketball in 1962 sixteen boys' teams ages 8 to 15 and six girls' teams

Track Meet Winners of 1963 in the Gretna Recreation Department Girls' Division. They are, first row, left to right: Marilyn Sazdoff, Connie McDonald and Petrica Peer. Second row, left to right: Darby Singletary, Rebecca Marsalone, Lola Adams, Wendy Kreller and Janet Herbez.





The beautiful interior of the Gretna Methodist Church which in 1962 was presented in the Year Book of the Encyclopædia Britannica because of its outstanding architectural features.

ages 9 to 14 were uniformed. Baseball and softball are both also popular in Gretna. In the 1963 baseball season Gretna put in the field 18 uniformed boys' teams and 9 girls' softball teams in the ages 8 to 13.

TWO NEW SWIMMING AND WADING POOLS

Early this summer two new children's wading pools were opened at Mel Ott Park and Gretna Park, each adjacent to the big swimming pool but each in a separate fenced enclosure 60 by 180 feet.

This summer, with its \$300,000 two new swimming pools—the one at Mel Ott Park accommodating 900 white swimmers and the one at Gretna Park accommodating 300 Negro swimmers—Gretna will stage swimming meets. Special days will be reserved at each pool for the use of handicapped and retarded children.

Typical of the attractive homes that are being built in Gretna's Derbes Park subdivision.



The Grid Rangers and Rangerettes Program for boys and girls 7½ to 17, is rapidly expanding in both activities and numbers. There are now 300 Rangers and 100 Rangerettes, all of whom have furnished their own uniforms and their own tents for campouts.

The Grid (standing for Gretna Recreational Instruction Division) Rangers and Rangerettes were guests of the Gulfport Yacht Club in August 1962, were guests aboard the U.S.S. Destroyer Woodson and were also invited by officialdom to visit the Alvin Callender Airport.

In the expanding city wide recreation program—mostly scheduled and staged at Gretna's four Outdoor Recreation Centers—Gretna has not forgotten its Senior Citizens and is now planning the formation of a Golden Age Club.

Up to now the entire Recreation Program of Gretna has been financed out of the City General Fund. But so rapidly is the city expanding and multiplying and along with it the demand for more recreational facilities and equipment, that the voters in the same Special Election of May 25 on the Water Bond Issues, were asked to approve an additional 3 mill tax on all taxable property in the City of Gretna for a period of ten years to provide funds for the City Recreational Program. The revenue from this tax will be used to purchase playground equipment and awards; to



The new home of David Crockett Central Fire Station in the 1000 block of Lafayette Street. Removed recently from 205 Lafayette.

improve present and two anticipated additional playgrounds; to provide facilities for cultural activities; and to operate and maintain the year round Recreational Program.

As in the case of the Water Bond Issues the property owners of Gretna approved the additional 3 mill tax overwhelmingly.

This is a good place to recall with pride that during the 14 years of my administration as Mayor of Gretna, the resident property owner voters have not turned down any bond issues prepared and presented by the Board of Aldermen for their approval. This merely means that the officials of the city

during my tenure of office have reflected the will and wants of the people of Gretna and have accurately kept their fingers on the pulse of the city's progress and problems thereof.

FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION

Gretna has long been proud of its Five Volunteer Fire Stations that not only serve the city proper but also the new suburban expansion south of the city limits. The most recent development in the fire fighting program was the transfer for greater efficiency of the David Crockett Central Fire Station from 205 Lafayette to the new station in the 1000 block of Lafayette

Shown under construction is the giant Woolco Department Store scheduled for opening in early fall of this year. The site is across the Expressway from the beautiful Stumpf's Westside Shopping Center in Gretna. Presently located in the same area with Woolco is Kirschman's Furniture Store; occupying 25,000 sq. ft. Adjoining these two retail institutions, additional stores totaling 82,000 sq. ft. of floor space are to be built. There is to be customer parking for more than 1,700 cars.





1913—FIFTY YEARS AGO—THE FIRST OFFICIALS OF THE NEW CITY OF GRETNA

Seated, left to right: William Huber, Alderman; John F. Matthews, Alderman; John Ehret, Mayor; Nicholas J. Zimmer Alderman; Frank Schurb, Alderman; and Dr. Louis J. Stumpf, Alderman. Standing, left to right: Fred A. Middleton, City Attorney; Peter Leson, City Marshal; and Jules F. Hotard, Secretary. Left insert: John S. Erlinger, City Treasurer. Right insert: William J. White, City Tax Collector.

where are now housed two trucks and all the necessary equipment.

Gretna's 18 man police force, augmented recently by the addition of a trained police dog to track and corner criminals, still carries the unblemished record of no unsolved murders on the book.

NEW POST OFFICE

The job of enlarging and renovating the Gretna Post Office at a cost of \$250,000 continues. The building, which was erected in 1936, will be made 60 feet longer, will be air conditioned throughout and will be furnished with all new equipment.

WOOLCO COMES TO GRETNA

Indicative of Gretna's growing business importance is the establishment of the Woolco Department Store, the second in the South and the first in this area, at Stumpf Boulevard and the West Bank Expressway. It will have parking space for over 1700 cars and the store itself will have 117,626 square feet. It is scheduled to open in early fall of this year.

GRETNA'S STREET PAVING PROGRAM

As part of the planned Gretna Street Improvement Program the contract was let and construction started in June on the paving and installation of sub surface drainage of ten Gretna streets: Gretna Boulevard from Belle Chasse Highway to Hero Drive; Twelfth Street from Lafayette Avenue to Fried Street; Weyer Street from Third Street to West Bank Expressway; Eighth Street from Richard Street to Gulf Drive; Richard Street from Fifth Street to

Eighth Street; First Street from Huey P. Long Avenue to Derbigny Street; Second Street from Huey P. Long Avenue to Derbigny Street; Friedrichs Street from Whitney Avenue to Stumpf Boulevard; Stephens Street from Whitney Avenue to West Bank Expressway; and Solon Street from Monroe Street to West Bank Expressway. In addition to the above, petitions for the paving of several other streets are now being processed and will be put up for bids before the end of the year.

THE RECAPITULATION IS IMPRESSIVE

On this, its Fiftieth Birthday Year, the City of Gretna can point with pride to its complete city wide modern sewerage system (a project and a problem the major portion of the unincorporated areas of the Parish of Jefferson and three of its municipalities are now attacking); to an efficient police force and fire fighting facilities; to a city wide garbage and trash collection program at no cost to the householders; to a modern city wide street lighting system made possible by a 5 mill tax approved by the voters back in 1958; to a well launched street paving program with sub surface drainage; to new subdivisions and modern homes mushrooming in its suburbs; to a popular city wide recreational program which will now be expanded and accelerated by the new approved 3 mill tax; and the Bond Issues to finance enlarging of its Water Department facilities to keep pace with Gretna's skyrocketing population growth. 1963 is a year for Gretna to celebrate much more than just a birthday.

(Continued from Page 89)

next year, 1,916 tons moved on it, and in 1960, the total tonnage climbed to 5,194. This was followed by the astounding increase to 29,000 tons of commerce in 1961!

Another waterway which West Jefferson may someday realize is a West Bank Seaway for ocean-going vessels to sail directly from the River to the Gulf. The need for a direct, short-cut and deep-draft channel from the River to the Gulf, shortening by many miles the distance from the Port of New Orleans to the Gulf, has been with us for a long time. Of course, construction of such a Tidewater Channel through St. Bernard Parish is halfway to reality, and this great waterway will be of tremendous benefit to the New Orleans metropolitan area in providing a direct route, some 40 miles shorter, to the Gulf than does the Mississippi River.

The West Bank was one of the areas under study some years ago as a possible route for a Tidewater Channel to the Gulf, but the St. Bernard route was chosen for the first deep-water channel.

This does not mean, however, that a second River-to-Gulf outlet through West Jefferson will not be built in the future. In fact, a spokesman for the Corps of Engineers in Washington has told me that this possibility is still under study. I am hopeful that such an ocean vessel outlet through the Parish, to be built jointly with your federal and local funds, will become a reality in the not-too-distant future. Most assuredly, such a Seaway would bring more business and industry to the West Bank, and greater economic growth and prosperity for all of Jefferson would follow.

These various waterways in West Jefferson are contributing immeasurably to the development and prosperity of business and industry in the Parish and throughout South Louisiana; they also form a part of the great inland waterway system of our country; which is so vital to the strength of the United States.

The people of Jefferson can well be proud of their part in advancing the growth and progress of the Parish. The West Bank remains the "New Frontier" of the Parish—that part of Jefferson which will continue to grow and prosper in the years to come and will become as densely populated as the East Bank. In the decade, 1950-'60, Jefferson's population rose by 101 per cent, or by approximately 105,000 people; and today's population is more than 235,000,

and the future holds for a continuing increase.

This population "explosion" in the Parish has produced, and will continue to produce, challenging problems, but the events of the past ten years show indubitably that the citizens of Jefferson, and their business and government leaders, are able to meet these challenges and to find progressive and constructive solutions for them.

In the words of a noted American, the late Governor Al Smith of New York:

"Let's look at the record."

In the decade, 1949-'59, the average annual income of Jefferson citizens increased by 106.7 per cent to \$5,709.00; this was one of the higher percentage increases for Louisiana parishes during that ten years, and was the second highest annual income of all the parishes in Louisiana. I am confident that in the past four years that income figure has continued to rise.

The reactivation of the Michoud plant at New Orleans by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is creating a growing number of jobs for work on the Saturn rocket which will provide the means for the Apollo spacecraft to carry an American to the Moon within this decade. At peak operations, a total of some 12,000 people are expected to be employed at the Michoud plant and the Mississippi Testing Facility in nearby Hancock County, Mississippi, and the surrounding Louisiana parishes and Mississippi counties.

Many citizens living in Jefferson now have jobs at Michoud, and this tremendous industry has helped to reduce unemployment in Jefferson Parish and in the New Orleans area generally. Furthermore, the great shipbuilding contracts awarded to Avondale Shipyards in the past two years have opened up more jobs there, and also in various related businesses which have secured sub-contract work in connection with the shipbuilding.

These are but two of the larger industries which have expanded their operations and in so doing, have helped to boost employment opportunities in the Parish. There are more: Freeport Sulphur Company, American Cyanamid, Coca-Cola Company, Gulf Bottlers Inc.—all of these companies either have expanded their existing plants and operations, or built new ones, during the past year. Furthermore, the construction industry in Jefferson has had a very good year, with new subdivisions,

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homes, apartment houses, office buildings, banks, other company buildings, and country clubs and other recreational facilities, all going up at a rapid pace. In fact, of the three parishes in the New Orleans labor market area (i.e., Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard), Jefferson led in the number of house dwelling units completed or under construction by the end of 1962—3,420, or 55.5 per cent of the total units in the metropolitan area.

Two of the largest apartment buildings now under construction in the area are on the West Bank: Orleans West, to cost an estimated total of \$25 million, and Victory Drive Plaza, to cost about the same sum. These are only a few of the many structures of all kinds built, or placed under construction, during the past year.

Another important development for the entire Parish last year and this year has been the obtaining of more than \$6 million (thus far) from the Accelerated Public Works program. Most of this money is being used to build much-needed sewage treatment plants and other sewerage facilities for communities on both the East and the West Banks. Parish President Dan Hogan; Council Chairman Cullen Schouest, and the other Councilmen; Mayors Donelon of Harahan, Keller of Westwego, D'Gerolamo of Kenner, and the Aldermen in their communities, and many others provided the driving force to encourage the people of Jefferson to approve several bond issues so that federal funds from the Accelerated Public Works program would be forthcoming.

East Bank Consolidated District No. 1; West Bank Sewerage Districts No. 8 and 9; the cities of Kenner and Harahan; and the Parish's Sub-Sewer District No. 1 on the West Bank, have been the first districts and cities to be awarded public works funds from the initial \$400 million appropriated by the 87th Congress last Fall. I was pleased to work for the enactment of this appropriation in the closing days of the last Congress, and to have such splendid cooperation from all the officials of Jefferson Parish.

Now that both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved an additional \$450 million for this vital program, and President Kennedy signed the legislation into law, I am confident that other districts and communities in Jefferson will be able to obtain funds for construction of badly-

needed sewerage facilities and other projects.

Of the benefits which the Parish has derived, and will receive, from this program, they are many, but by far the most important factor has been the foresight of the people of Jefferson in approving the necessary bond issues, so as to provide local contributions for these projects. There is no doubt that the Accelerated Public Works program will prove beneficial to the Parish, both in terms of more jobs, and of improved public facilities for the health and general welfare of the people of Jefferson.

All of this is leading up to my pointing out that the New Orleans labor market area—Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes—has realized a splendid drop in unemployment this past Spring. In the months of February, March and April, 1963, the tri-parish area maintained an unemployment rate below 6 per cent—i.e., 5.8 per cent. For the first time in more than two years, the U. S. Department of Labor reclassified the area as one of "moderate" unemployment, as opposed to its previous classification of "substantial" unemployment.

Basically, this rise in employment has been attributed to expanding employment at the Michoud plant (as noted above), and the resulting sub-contract work provided for related businesses and industries in the area; the increase in shipbuilding; in the production of fabricated metals, and in the use of transportation - utilities services.

It was in March, 1961 that Jefferson and the other parishes were first classified as an area of "substantial" unemployment, and just three months later in June, 1961, the area reached a high of 8 per cent unemployment. But since that time, by the joint efforts of the government and business leaders of the Parish, and of the two neighboring parishes, the outlook now for the metropolitan area is splendid indeed.

I have been advised that the forecast for Jefferson is good through this quarter of the year—that is, through June, and that the outlook probably will remain strong for the rest of 1963. The fine improvement in employment opportunities, and the constant growth and development of business and industry in Jefferson is solid evidence that the Parish has emerged fully from the last recession, and is embarking on a steady climb towards its greatest prosperity in the years ahead.



OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF GRAND ISLE

Left to right: Frank Bradberry, Marshal-Tax Collector; Joseph H. Shepard, Water and Gas Commissioner; Virginia T. Adam, Town Clerk; Joseph A. Augustin, Alderman 3rd Ward; Frederick D. Gatz, Alderman-at-large and Mayor Pro-tem; Edward A. Camardelle, Alderman 4th Ward; Clyde W. Pregeant, Alderman 1st Ward; and Louis T. Acosta, Alderman 2nd Ward. Insert: Nathan Greenberg, Attorney.

Grand Isle — Its Business Is Your Pleasure

By Michael A. Harris, Mayor



Just about two automobile hours from downtown New Orleans is one of the world's top ten deep sea sport fishing spots, the state's only saltwater recreationland and the most recently incorporated municipality of Jefferson Parish—the town of Grand Isle.

Before Louisiana became a state and Jefferson became a parish Grand Isle, just off the mainland in the Gulf of Mexico, was inhabited solely by Baratarian fishermen who, after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, became the faith-

ful followers of Jean Lafitte, the Pirate. With him they laughed at the law for ten long years, bringing their loot from captured merchantmen up through the intricate maze of bays, bayous and lakes of the present Barataria Country of Jefferson Parish. But in the Battle of New Orleans on January 8, 1815 those pirates turned patriots and joined General Jackson in defending the flag of the government they had so long defied. Pardoned by a grateful government for their previous unlawful acts, most of them returned to Grand Isle and their original livelihood of fishing for oysters and shrimp. Many of their descendants still live on the island and still follow the same vocation.

For the next hundred years and more Grand Isle remained an almost unknown primitive paradise accessible only by boat. It was not until a road and wooden bridge were built to the island in the early Thirties that vacationers in greater numbers discovered the beautiful eight mile long beach of golden sand with its surf without undertow for safe swimming, and sport fishermen found the infinite variety of fish to be caught in protected Barataria Bay at its back and the Gulf of Mexico in front.

Today it is nationally known for its famous annual July three day Grand Isle Tarpon Rodeo, started in 1928 and which now attracts as high as 2,000 competing sport fishermen, plus hundreds of spectators. It is already well known for its more recent Fall Redfish Rodeo (scheduled for October in 1963) in which 286 fishermen participated in 1962 with the largest redfish caught weighing 34½ pounds.

A sizeable fleet of deep sea charter fishing boats, headquartered in Bayou Rigaud back of the island, are always ready to take the constant flow of fishing parties out to the more than a hundred drilling platforms in the Gulf around which over twenty varieties of fish like to gather. For the outboard motor fishing enthusiasts fishermen visitors can rent skiffs and speedboats or haul their own rigs. There is even landing facilities for fishermen coming in private planes.

Grand Isle is ideal for surf fishing and swimming and has been selected unanimously as the best possible salt-water theatre for the annual SCUBA Divers Rodeo. For the young and the young in heart, water skiing is at its best in Bayou Rigaud and surrounding bays and inlets.

Today as you cross the new concrete and steel bridge from the mainland (the old wooden bridge has been left standing for use by pedestrian fishermen) you will quickly notice that this popular vacationland has become an enterprising and progressive town with a Mayor and Board of Aldermen, a capable and courteous police force, a well equipped volunteer fire department, and a competent Planning Commission that is systematically programming the town's future.

Although Grand Isle has been incorporated as a town for only four years it is already served by natural gas and potable water, the result of a \$1,298,000 Bond Issue almost immediately ap-



Showing construction of the Grand Isle water distribution system.



Installing the natural gas distribution system on one of Grand Isle lanes.



PLANNING COMMISSION OF TOWN OF GRAND ISLE

Left to right: Layman Savoie, member; James T. Murff, Chairman; Forneast A. Milliet, member. Not shown E. A. Adams, member; Roger Camardelle, member; and A. J. Graffagnino, Attorney. Insert, Janice E. Polan, Secretary;

proved after the town's incorporation. Its natural gas is purchased from the Tennessee Gas Transmission Company and is brought to the island through an 18" main from the offshore producing areas and consisting of 120,000 linear feet of pipe that serves Grand Isle and Cheniere Caminada on the mainland which is part of the incorporated Town of Grand Isle. Its water for drinking and fire protection (replacing the picturesque and historic cypress cisterns of the island) comes from Waterworks District No. 1 of Lafourche Parish and serves both Cheniere Caminada and Grand Isle through about 120,000 linear feet of pipe. There are three above ground storage tanks—two of 250,000 gallons each at Leeville and Grand Isle and a 500,000 gallon tank at Cheniere Caminada.

This little town is going places in a hurry. As a result of the natural gas and water now available all over the island, new homes and new tourist accommodations are being built, and new oil companies and allied industries are establishing bases for offshore operations.

In February, by Mayorial Proclamation, we instituted PLANT - A - PINE

WEEK, a program to further beautify the island's famous oleander lined lanes disappearing into groves of moss covered patriarch oaks. A thousand seedlings were distributed by the Scouts for individual property owner planting, while the Scouts themselves planted pines along the main beach highway to beautify and protect it.

The students of the Grand Isle School are digging into the island's romantic and exciting history to procure street names that will perpetuate the memory of famous island events and individuals. The extension of street lights continues without interruption and returning visitors to Grand Isle are quick to notice its better illumination at night. We are making preparations for black topping the streets and lanes, which we believe we can do without any additional cost to residents and property owners.

With its new town status Grand Isle has organized a Youth Summer Recreation Program which will not only include the island children but also the children of visitors and vacationers. Its Krewe of Jean Lafitte Carnival Club puts on quite an elaborate annual Mardi Gras parade and pageant for its citizens and visitors, and a ball for the Krewe

members and their guests. An annual Fall Men's Invitational Basketball Tournament has been inaugurated, the proceeds to go to the Grand Isle School. And the Grand Isle Women's Club has opened ceramic classes for both residents and visitors.

As we started in the headline "Our business is your pleasure." Every Grand Isle native is a willing volunteer guide.

For several generations these hospitable people of French and Spanish ancestry have been answering the never ending flow of visitor's questions and they have been pointing out the island's spots of special interest. Such as the wind bent trees along the beach, so shaped by the incessant breeze from the Gulf; the historic double row of giant oaks that runs lengthwise through the heart of the island, planted by the son of one of Lafitte's famous island lieutenants, Louis "Nez Coupe" Chighizola—planted to protect the island homes against hurricane; and the meandering lanes that usually deadend at the oak shaded home of an islander, who may invite the stranger to partake of a cup of the island's hot black Creole coffee, the "fishermen's liquor."

These volunteer guides may suggest that the first time visitors get up at dawn and watch the fishing fleet move out through Barataria Pass into the Gulf; or stroll along the beach and watch the dawn "come up like thunder"; or visit the same beach in the moonlight when the moon hangs so low and friendly you can almost reach up and touch it.

Three things usually make habitues of first time visitors—the pleasure of eating fish freshly caught in the Gulf artistically prepared and served at any of Grand Isle's eating establishments—the exquisite sensation of being lulled to sleep by the Gulf's soft breeze and perpetual soothing surf—and the thrill of catching a big fish or acquiring a beautiful tan on the beach and developing a huge and healthy Grand Isle appetite. You'll need no sleeping pills, tranquilizers or nerve pills on Grand Isle. We feel sure that if you make one trip to Grand Isle you will be caught by the irresistible charm, most tropical and semi-tropical islands do seem to have, that is the capacity to captivate visitors and draw them back again and again.

So if you've already bought your tickets to Tahiti, cancel them and come visit with us; we're a heck of a lot closer!



One day's catch by one fishing party during the 1962 Redfish Rodeo. This catch as weighed in was 1236 pounds.



Three Grand Isle lovelies (Glenda Chance, Elaine Sevin and Suzanne Howard) against the background of a lovely Grand Isle lane.



This is that safe surf for swimming at Grand Isle that we've been talking about and which Veronica Anderson, Peggy Gardner, Glenda Chance and Elaine Sevin (sitting) are about to enjoy.



Yes, you'll find attractive lanes like this on Grand Isle but you cannot rely on always getting a quartette of Grand Isle beauties to pose for you. Introducing Suzanne Howard, Glenda Chance, Elaine Sevin and Peggy Gardner standing.



Suzanne "Suzie" Howard poses with a bit of scenic beauty that makes Grand Isle a subtropical paradise.



And this is that incomparable grandeur of Grand Isle where the moonlight paints the surf with silver.



OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF KENNER

Seated left to right: Ray S. Dupepe, Alderman; Anthony J. Bertolino, Alderman; Salvador Lentini, Marshal; Edward D'Gerolamo, Mayor; Lebo Mancuso, Mayor Pro-tem and Alderman; Thomas LeBlanc, Alderman; and Michael Damiano, Alderman. Standing left to right: Mrs. Heneritta Edwards, Clerk; Mrs. Joan Hebert, Clerk; Mrs. Dora Mae Aucoin, Assistant Secretary; Fred Hornberger, City Engineer; Philomene Paasch, Secretary-Treasurer; Oneal Legendre, City Attorney; Mrs. Hilda Clement, Secretary to Mayor and Council; Mrs. Lena Mae Marino, Tax Collector; and Joy Dutriex, Clerk.

Keep Your Eyes on Kenner

By Mayor Edward J. D'Gerolamo



With the first full time mayor in the history — with its new administration of officials and aldermen forming a close knit team dedicated to progress — and with a \$513,715 operating budget, higher by \$66,873 than 1962 and made possible by increased revenues — the City of Kenner plunged into 1963 with an impressive program of public improvements.

The new year was only 12 days old when the property owner voters of Kenner went to the polls and approved by an overwhelming 6 to 1 vote a \$2,300,000 Sewerage Bond Issue for District No. 1, which comprises Kenner's populated area from the Mississippi River on the south to the new Interstate Highway on the north and from city limits to city limits on the east and west. This preponderant vote of civic confidence and cooperation was all the more remarkable because a similar bond issue had been defeated just the year before.

The total cost of the new sewerage system, with all collecting lines and disposal plant scheduled for completion in 1965, will be \$4,300,000. The balance between the Bond Issue and the total

will be covered by Federal grants and the property owner front foot installation charge.

This modern sewerage system is the first major step toward Kenner's population goal of 60,000 by 1980. Although Kenner's present population of 20,000 has increased 10,000 since 1955 (incidentally Kenner had a population of only 2,375 people in 1940) and although 118 new homes were built in Kenner in 1962, the complete dependence on septic tanks has seriously retarded its potential new homes. FHA and VA loans are contingent on sewerage facilities.

It has plenty of land still available (5877 acres of its total 8321 acres are still unoccupied) for smart new subdivisions, modern individual homes and shopping centers. Its strategic location on the area's three main highways—Airline, Veterans and Jefferson—and its easy accessibility to the rest of expanding Jefferson Parish and crowded New Orleans make it a logical spot for workers to build or buy their own homes, enjoy a yard and quietly raise a family away from the din of traffic. Also, the new Federal Highway will link Kenner with Michoud's vast space age facility which makes Kenner an attractive town for space age employees to live.

Indicative of Kenner's potential for new home owners is its huge strictly

zoned horseshoe shaped University City around the site owned by Loyola University of the South—on the eastern portion of which the Dover Construction Company of Cleveland, Ohio, is now building 1,000 new houses.

Another major progressive move of Kenner was initiated in December of 1962 when the Urban Renewal Administration granted the city \$9704 as two thirds of the cost of preparing a plan for the proper land use of Kenner, traffic circulation and other civic developments. The remainder of the \$14,400 total cost will be split between the city of Kenner and the State Department of Public Works. This study will be under the supervision of Franklin Rodriguez, Director of the Jefferson Parish Planning Department and the Kenner Planning and Zoning Commission.

RECREATION

Recreation has high priority in Kenner's public improvement program. The new administration immediately upon taking office put into operation a year round full time Recreation Department with qualified paid supervisors at four white playgrounds and four Negro playgrounds. At this writing there are enrolled in Kenner's Recreation Program 356 white boys, 248 white girls, 260 Negro boys and 115 Negro girls, plus 60 adults.

For the boys, both white and Negro, the program includes baseball, football, basketball, track, badminton, horse-shoes, volleyball and dancing. For the girls are cheer leading, sewing, dancing, table tennis, basketball, singing, skating and ceramics. For the adults there is an educational program, ceramics and dancing.

Last football season the city provided 233 boys with football uniforms and outfitted 136 cheer leaders at no cost to the children themselves or their parents. The same procedure was repeated for basketball and baseball.

Plans are now underway to build a Civic Center back of the City Hall for municipal and public affairs without any increase in taxation.

The Recreation Program is largely financed through the brake inspection tag annual sale. It will be remembered that Kenner along with New Orleans were the first cities in Louisiana to put this brake inspection plan into operation. During 1962 Kenner sold over 4,000 brake tags.

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

Kenner has launched a \$1 million Street Improvement Program that will give it 12 miles of hard-surfaced roadways. Every gravel and shell street in Kenner and many state and parish maintained streets will be included. It will be financed without a tax increase.

The city budget for street repairs has been doubled from \$30,000 to \$60,000. Other funds will come from the state and the parish. All expenditures have been approved and contracts prepared.

Streets to be hard surfaced are 21st Street from Williams Boulevard to Maryland; Roosevelt Boulevard from Airline Highway to Canal No. 4; Fillmore from Jefferson Highway to Airline; Metairie from Williams to Kenner city limit and Williams from Airline to Interstate 10. In addition two lanes will be added to Williams to Veterans Memorial Highway.

As part of an East Bank Bond Issue the Jefferson Parish Department of Roads and Bridges will transform Kenner's Roosevelt Avenue from Jefferson Highway to Veterans Memorial Highway into a four lane boulevard with sub surface drainage and curbs. Also 21st Street from the east city limits to Williams Boulevard and West Metairie Avenue from Williams Boulevard to the east city limits. Scheduled for start of construction is June of 1963. These street improvements will cost \$536,000.

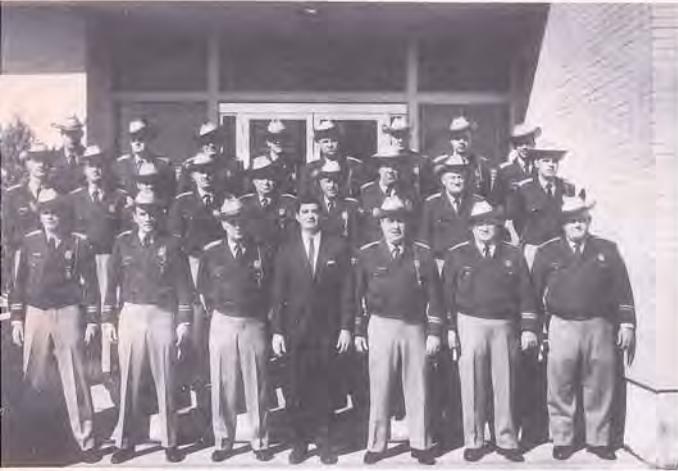
The last link in the long awaited four lane Veterans Memorial Highway—the 2¼ mile two lane stretch from Bissonet Plaza to Williams Boulevard in Kenner—was completed late in January 1963. These above street and highway improvements were obtained at no additional cost to the residents of Kenner, other than their recently voted bond issues.

TRASH PICKUP INITIATED

For the first time in its history the City of Kenner has installed a weekly free trash pickup service for its residents. The garbage collection is handled by the Parish of Jefferson under contract with the city.

FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION

The City of Kenner has this year purchased four new automobiles for the Police Department, has added six new policemen and has provided new uniforms for its 26 man Police Force—including those on duty in the city and



Left: KENNER'S EFFICIENT POLICE FORCE in their new uniforms. Marshal Salvador Lentini, not in uniform, is in center of first row. Right: CITY OF KENNER FIRE DEPARTMENT. Left to right: William R. Mancuso, Fire Chief; Thomas Tinnerella, Assistant Fire Chief; Rocco Mumphrey, Robert Frame, Ralph Rodick, Leroy Benton, Ralph Michel, Dominic Mumphrey, Lee Sturgeon and Pete Civello, Firemen.



at Kenner's Moisant Field, the International Airport that is the air gateway through Kenner to New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and much of the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The City Fire Department has been provided with new fire fighting equipment plus an emergency unit to be used as an ambulance for Kenner. Three new firemen have been added and new uniforms provided for the Department. Also, Kenner has been re-rated by the Fire Rating Bureau and given a Class 7 rating instead of its previous Class 9, which means lower insurance rates for Kenner's home and business owners.

STREET LIGHTING AND CITY BEAUTIFICATION

The City of Kenner is now working on the project, which will require two years to complete, of placing modern mercury vapor lights on all streets of the city, removing all the old type light fixtures.

A Beautification Committee has been appointed by the Mayor to initiate and handle a program of beautifying all roadsides, neutral grounds and playgrounds. A crepe myrtle tree planting program was begun in the Spring of 1963, the crepe myrtle being Kenner's official flower.

Handsome new "Welcome" signs will be installed at all highway entrances into Kenner. They are to be made of brick, with attractive electric lighting and surrounded by shrubs planted by the Committee.

DRAINAGE PROGRAM

A City of Kenner work crew in cooperation with a similar Parish of Jefferson work crew have deepened and cleaned all the main ditches and canals and are now busy cleaning the side street ditches throughout the city.

FUTURE PLANS

Among the projects planned for the immediate or near future in Kenner is a city owned and city operated shuttle bus service, to make convenient connections with the privately operated bus service between New Orleans and Kenner.

As the operation of the new sewerage disposal plant will partially eliminate the pollution of Lake Pontchartrain water, Kenner looks forward to a lake-front Marina, making Kenner still more attractive as a residential city. Also, to encourage Kenner's industrial growth the dredging of an existing canal from Lake Pontchartrain into the industrial zoned area of Kenner is being studied, a project which would create a genuine Port of Kenner.

These are not all—merely the most important features of Kenner's far reaching Improvement Program. The surprising fact about it, with all that is going on, is that Kenner expects to end the year with a \$50,000 surplus to add to its present idle funds invested in government bonds which during the first six months of the new administration returned \$4,000 in interest.

Keep your eyes on Kenner—it's solvent and it's booming!



OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF HARAHAN

From left to right: Clinton Cressionne, Alderman; E. Landry Murphy, Alderman; Roy Geoghegan Alderman and Mayor Pro-tem; Thomas F. Donelon, Mayor; Lillian Bourg, Clerk; Charles A. O'Neill, Alderman; J. Hugh Martin, Attorney. Absent was Lloyd B. Marshall, Alderman and John Coutrado, City Marshal.

Huge Headway in Harahan

By Mayor T. F. Donelon

1963 finds Harahan well on its way toward completion of its impressive Four Point Major Improvement Program blueprinted about five years ago in this fast growing little East Bank city that can now count off about 10,500 people.

Third on the Program Agenda but first in importance was the recently property owner approved \$2 million Bond Issue for a COMPLETE CITY WIDE SEWERAGE SYSTEM, the construction contracts of which were let February 25, 1963. This Bond Issue will be paid off by a \$3.90 front foot property charge, a \$2.50 per month service charge and a 6 mill ad valorem tax. Work will be well under way by the end of 1963. It is Harahan's plan to aggressively take up the program of street paving as soon as the sewerage system is installed.

Item one on the Major Improvement Program is a fait accompli—the four laning of Jefferson Highway with a 15 foot neutral ground through the city all the way to the Huey P. Long Bridge, the project that officially lifted Harahan out of the mud and started a spontaneous face lifting of the business houses and stores facing this new city status boulevard. With this improvement can be included the extension of River Road—both projects completed.

In connection with the city's new smooth main street through the heart

of the business district the six Garden Clubs of Harahan recently raised \$1000 to purchase and plant floral decorations in the 15 foot neutral ground. In this campaign they were assisted by 40 Cadets of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and so enthusiastic was the response of the citizens of Harahan that the drive was successfully completed in two weeks.

The second item on the Program—also completed—was the new \$155,000 Municipal Building, comprising City Hall, Mayor's Office, Central Fire Station and spacious U. S. Post Office formally dedicated December 1961. Three down and one to go.

The fourth of the major improvements was Drainage, involving a program now well under way of closed culverts on the major canals and open ditches of Harahan, carried on street by street with property owners purchasing the pipe and city and parish supplying the equipment and labor. On this program 8,000 feet of open ditches were closed in 1962.

Proud of its new Central Fire Station and its new site on Colonial Drive for a second station to protect the northwest section of Harahan and conscious of its mounting responsibilities the Harahan Volunteer Fire Company instituted in 1962 a new successful plan for raising funds to purchase additional equipment. A bill for a flat \$4 annually was sent

to each property owner. Payment was voluntary, not compulsory. But with only one mailing and no follow up a total of \$4,000 was contributed. This is a much better system than the previous "Quarter" cards passed around the city which citizens were apt to overlook or forget.

Under the supervision of City Marshal John Coutrado, who is now serving his ninth consecutive term of office, the Harahan Police Force has been increased to nine patrolmen, two patrol cars and the Marshal himself who is on duty 24 hours with his office, jail and radio room in the former Harahan Post Office Building remodeled for the purpose.

Harahan's Recreation Program expansion in 1963 is headline news. To the already existing playgrounds of Soniat, Royland and Zeringue Harahan early this year leased a fourth site from the Louisiana Transit Company for \$1 a year. This 2 acre tract is large enough to accommodate a football and baseball field, a picnic area and children's playground equipment. The city plans to

spend about \$2000 improving this new site. The 1963 Recreation Budget of \$7500, twice what it was in 1961, is under the direction of Alderman Lloyd B. Marshall, Volunteer Recreation Director, with Coach C. L. Wink and six seasonal assistants.

Stimulated by the coming new city wide sewerage system, the 1962 record of over 200 homes being built in Harahan will be dramatically increased this year, more and more substantiating Harahan's title as "The City of Homes." And Harahan entered 1963 with the beautiful new \$350,000 St. Rita's Church on Jefferson Highway and Imperial Woods Drive—further strengthening Harahan's quiet boast that it has twice as many churches as bars.

With its strategic "City of Homes" location next to but not in one of the fastest growing diversified industrial sections in Jefferson Parish (see article on Harahan's Industrial District also in this issue) and its active primary program of public improvements Harahan has entered 1963 with all indications of breaking a record for new business and new residences.

St. Rita Church at 194 Ravan Avenue, Harahan, the Rev. Roy J. Champagne, Pastor. This new year-round air conditioned church will seat 1,000 people, cost \$350,000 and was dedicated this Spring. The dominant feature of the church is the two soaring 70 foot concrete towers.





OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF WESTWEGO

Reading left to right seated are Sidney Guilliot, City Marshal; Charles Muller, Alderman and Mayor Pro-tem; Roy C. Keller, Mayor; Nestor L. Currault, Jr., City Attorney; and Calvin A. Galiano, Secretary-Tax Collector. Standing are Henry Gauthreaux, Alderman; Antoine Alario, Alderman; Ernest J. Tassin, Alderman; and Hendrix Bourgeois, Sr., Alderman.

The Start of a New Era in Westwego

By Roy C. Keller, Mayor

Westwego enthusiastically entered 1963 with a November 6, 1962 three to one property owner approval of a \$900,000 Bond Issue which, together with anticipated Federal funds of \$1,277,760, will make possible the start on construction of a city wide, complete modern sewerage system. This sewerage victory was an especially important one, as the property owners of Westwego had twice previously, in 1957 and 1960, defeated similar sewerage bond issues.

Westwego also began the year subdividing for commercial and residential use, and for the expansion of its four seafood packing plants, the land acquired and created by the 1962 completed fill-in of historic Company Canal between the Mississippi River and the West Bank Expressway.

In February 1963 Westwego dedicated and opened for rental to Westwego residents the 100 units of its \$1,570,000 Federal Low Income Housing Project within the city limits completed in 1962. The Federal government is now considering sites for Westwego's authorized \$100,000 Post Office to be in operation by the latter part of 1963.

All these dramatic incidents in the first few months of the year indicate that before 1963 is over it will be one of the most important twelve months in Westwego history.

In spite of the lack of sewerage facilities 32 new homes were built in Westwego in 1962 and the requests for building permits dramatically increased the moment the news of the coming com-

plete city wide sewerage system was made public—as Westwego is strategically placed as a logical home town for the increasing wage earners of the West Bank's booming industries.

Westwego's previous vulnerability to heavy rain flooding has been eliminated by the 1962 completion of the 18 foot levees of the Westwego segment of the \$2 million West Bank Drainage Bond Issue approved in 1959. It is hoped by the end of the year the 200,000 gallon per minute Drainage Pumping Station at Bayous Whiskey and Signette will be in operation.

As new subdivisions are opened and new homes built Westwego steadily maintains its record of having 95% of its streets either paved or blacktopped. Its city wide campaign of new street lights was completed in 1962. The Westwego Lions Club has placed attractive new street signs on both sides of the West Bank Expressway and other sections of the city. The Westwego Fire Department will construct in 1963 a new substation on Louisiana Street to give better fire protection for that section of the city.

This enterprising city has recently expanded Westwego Park, with seasonal football and baseball programs for the growing boys and increased playground equipment for the smaller children.

In view of all these developments Westwego considers 1963 its launching pad into a new era of expanded industrial, commercial and residential growth.

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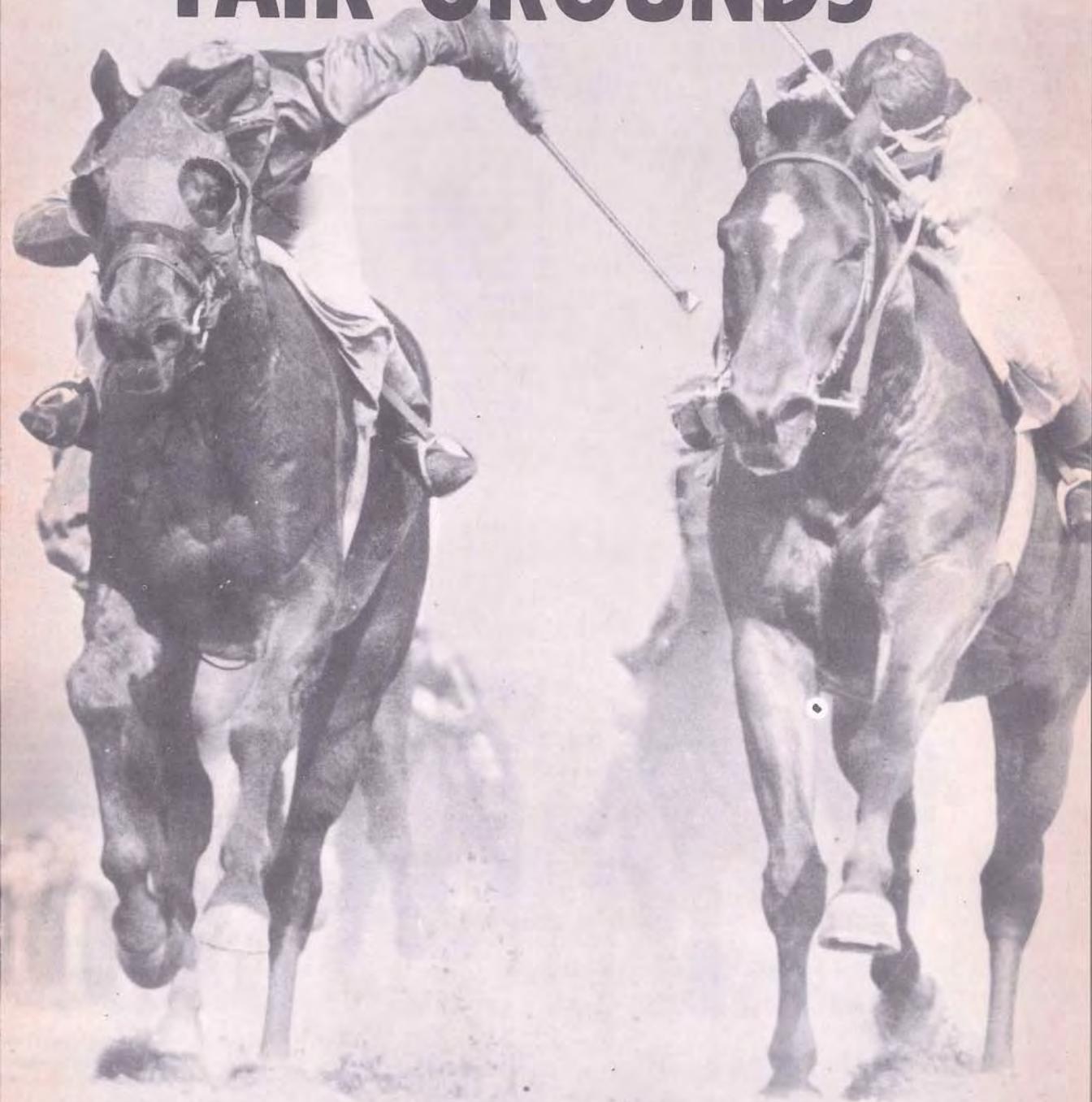
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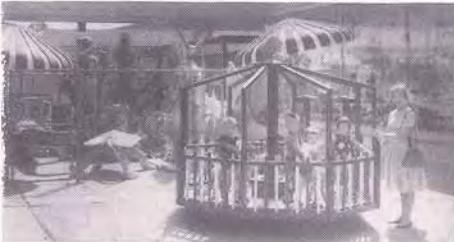


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