AMUSEMENT IN OLD DAYS WAS GOOD IN BREAUX BRIDGE

By Joyce (Poche) Bernard

Around Breaux Bridge, people used to know how to amuse themselves—dancing was one of the favorite pastimes. Two of the more popular places was upstairs at Kidder's Hall and the old Armory Hall. During the time the Charleston was popular, the brass bands knew how to play many a lively tune! The Firemen's Ball was the setting for long, delightful hours of wholesome entertainment for the whole family.

For the St. Bernard's church bazaar, the main street, in the middle of town was roped in. In gaily decorated booths, divinity fudge and home-made cakes were sold. In other lovely pieces of embroidery and crochet were raffled off, while people sat around on wooden benches, bingo games were conducted for all to hear. Then around noon, delicious French cooking was served. Later, for the drawings, everyone held their breath hoping they'd be the lucky one!

When an occasional street fair came to town, children and adults alike rode the "flying horses" and the tall ferris wheel.

The circus was usually a once-in-a-lifetime event. No matter how much it would cost, whole families would drive to Lafayette to marvel at the tight rope acts, the tallest man in the world, the trapeze acts, and all the wonderful sights under the huge tent. Perhaps the most marvelous sight of all was the parade, when elephants came through town — it was a sight many a child will never forget.