Public Forum

The Advertiser will publish all non-libelous letters of reasonable length from readers expressing their views for the Public Forum. Letters must be signed and, in keeping with Louisiana statutes, the name of the writer will be printed whenever the letter mentions another individual or individuals in any way that could be considered derogatory. Otherwise, the name of the writer will be withheld from print upon request. The views expressed may reflect any side of an issue, but are not necessarily the opinions of the Advertiser.

‘Let Us Continue’
Local Bus Service

September 30, 1964
Lafayette, La.

Public Forum
Daily Advertiser
Dear Sir:

I note by your September 29, 1964, issue of the Daily Advertiser that Mr. E. J. Chatelain has asked the City of Lafayette to take over the operations of Lafayette Transit Company. He gives as his reason his inability to operate at a profit and declared that he has been operating at a loss for the past ten (10) years.

When confronted with this declaration, our mayor stated, “Private industry cannot continue to operate a service at a loss.” He expressed the thought that the people of the city should be grateful to Mr. Chatelain for providing service, even though he was operating at a loss. This we all feel deeply.

Mr. Chatelain, being an altruistic individual, thereupon offered his continued service and I quote, “I would be very happy and do hereby offer my services as a consultant and for whatever purposes you may need me completely gratis, and will do everything that I can to assist you in making it possible for the people of this city to continue having bus service.”

Surely, anyone who has successfully operated a business for ten (10) years at a loss, is more than qualified to be a consultant, but such services should not be gratis. I strongly urge that a salary be established to compensate him for his time and that the city bear the losses.

We should have more public spirited citizens and they should be duly recognized.

Sincerely,
Signed- J. Mayo Blanchet