It was in 1897
That They Hanged
The Blanc Brothers

"Lafayette has always been a pretty town," said
Henry B. DeBailion, 829 South Bourbon
Street, who used to ride horseback
to a private school from his home when he was a young man.

The worst crime he remembers was the time the Blanc brothers.
Alois and Erstein, were convicted of murder and hanged in 1897.

"The day they hanged those boys in Lafayette, more people
came to town to see a circus," he remembered. "But
no one could really see the hanging,
for the few who got close to the tree.

Speaking of changes that have taken place since then, he men-
tioned that now those who are
sentenced to death are done away with
more mercifully than in those days.

DeBailion lives with his daugh-
ter, Miss Jesse DeBailion, next
to the home of his father.

Charles DeBailion, who served as
a district judge at the time the
Blanc brothers were hanged in Lal-
ayette, told of his own forcing
the boys to death, following their trial by jury here.

DeBailion recalled the claims
that divorce and debts were rare in this whole area.

"Anybody can go to the court
district judge and have a divorce
on every day now," he
continued.

In his opinion, too many are going
into debt now just by
"trying to keep up with the Joneses." He doesn't think that is
good for the future of Lafayette.

3 Lafayette Banks
Show 1958 Progress

Despite the 1958 mid-year recession, the banks of Lafayette and its
branch offices showed a considerable growth and increase in
business last year.

The three banks, the Guaranty Bank and Trust Co., the First
National Bank, and the American Bank and Trust Co., showed a total
of $30,000,000 in deposits at the end of 1958. This is an increase of
$4,000,000 in total deposits from the year ending 1957.

Total assets in 1958 amounted to
$64,000,000. In addition, the three banks paid out $83,000 in payroll
money to their employees.

Christmas Club checks totaling
$220,000 were paid out by the three companies for the Christmas season.

The oldest of the banks, the First
National Bank, had an estimated
$30,000,000 in total assets in 1958. The company showed an increase of
about $1,000,000 in deposits for the year as compared with figures
for 1957.

First National's total deposits for
1958 were about $30,000,000. To
properly service the additional business
the bank had in 1958, an increase of 15 percent in employees
was necessary. The bank had 78 employees by year's end, a total of 87
employees.

A three-quarter of a million dollar expansion program for First National, which began in 1958, saw the construction in 1958
of the bank's Southside Branch located on the Abbeville Highway.
The branch cost an estimated $200,000 to build.

New Shares
The bank, in the spring of 1958, increased its capital by half a
million dollars by selling 15,000 new shares in the company.

The Southside Branch of the bank is doing business far in excess of expectations, according to Walter Schroeder, bank presi-
dent. They were serving a total of about 10,000 people at the branch
alone.

The expansion program also included the building of parking facili-
ties and the Civic Room, which was estimated to be about
100 new accounts last year.

Over $100,000 were paid out by

Schroeder said that 1958 was the
most profitable year in the history of the bank. As an example, he
cited the great increase in demands by commerce, industry, and
individuals, for larger loans. The bank gave about $12,000,000 in loans last year, an increase of $2,000,000 from 1957.

Total payroll paid by the bank in
1958 was an estimated $400,000.

First National was chartered in 1985 under its present name. In
1901, however, the bank was originally chartered as the People's
State Bank.
Colindale — And when they whirled to the schottisches in Lafayette park, the dancers that six years ago were of the Landry band—father and four sons (a) are Albert C., valve trombone; Duplessis, bass; and seated, Eraste, clarinet and alto. E. S. is the only live dancing today thing. Then the Rock was used only for finally chartered as the People's State Bank.

The present building in which the bank is housed was dedicated in May of 1952. The building, on Jefferson and Vermilion, will have, early in 1959, a new feature. This is the planned time and temperature sign.

Judge Conrad Dallilhoun was president when the then People's State Bank opened. Crow Girard was first president of the First National Bank.

Guaranty Bank

The Guaranty Bank and Trust Co., located at Jefferson and Congress Sts., showed an increase of almost $3,000,000 in total assets over 1957. At the end of 1958, the bank had an estimated $23,000,000 in total assets.

Guaranty increased its deposits last year by about $3,000,000, giving them a total of $21,000,000 in deposits in 1958. The increase over 1957 was estimated at 15 per cent.

An estimated $162,000 in Christmas Club checks were paid out by the bank in November of 1958.

To keep up with the bank's growth, it was necessary for the Guaranty bank to lease an additional 1,300 square feet of space to facilitate operations. The space was specifically rented for the bookkeeping, proof and transit operations last year.

The bank also found it necessary to create centralized credit processing in 1958. As part of the credit department, the central information file which contains information on 34,000 of the bank's customers.

Between 15 and 15 new personnel had to be added to the staff of the bank to keep pace with the business of the company in 1953.

The bank's total payroll for 1958 was estimated at about $325,000. This can be one of the bank employs 65 officers and employees.

The bank, in the spring of 1958, increased its capital by half a million dollars by selling 15,000 new shares in the company.

The Southside Branch of the bank is doing business in excess of expectations, according to Walter Schroeder, bank president. They were serving a total of about 10,000 people at the branch alone.

The expansion program also included the building of parking facilities and the Civic Room. It was estimated that the bank had about 700 new accounts last year.

Over $100,000 were paid out by First National in Christmas Club checks in 1958.

Schroeder said that 1958 was the most profitable year in the history of the bank. As an example, he cited the great increase in demands by commerce, industry, and individual people, for larger loans.

The bank gave about $3,000,000 in loans last year, an increase of over $2,000,000 from 1957.

Total payroll paid by the bank in 1958 was estimated $400,000. First National was chartered in 1959 under its present name. In 1951, however, the bank was originally chartered as the People's State Bank.

Road and the other at Four Corners, have a total of 15 officers and employees working for them.

There was a 25 per cent increase in branch use by the bank's customers. In addition, the main office had a corresponding growth in customers.

The main office has had to employ one additional paying and receiving teller aside from increases in personnel of other departments. Five new officers were added to the staff of Guaranty, through promotions, in 1958. All five officers are attending banking schools throughout the country as part of the bank's program.

The Guaranty Bank and Trust Co. was founded Sept. 11, 1937 at this present site. T. L. Evans was the first president of the bank.

There were five employees when the bank first opened its doors for business. Three of the original directors of the board when the bank was first founded are still on the board. They are Xavier Moniot, Mike Donahue, and George Thomas. R. J. Casilie is the current president of the bank.

American Bank

The newest of Lafayette's three banks is the American Bank and Trust Co., located at the corner of Lee and Oak. The bank opened for business Feb. 8, 1958. On that day — its first — it took in a total of over $2,000,000 in deposits.

This fast — growing bank added six new employees to its staff of 14 in 1958. It was also estimated that the bank had about 1,000 new accounts last year.

Parking facilities were also increased by American in 1958. Estimated total assets for the bank totaled approximately $9,000,000 for the year ending Dec. 31, 1958. The bank employs 65 officers and employees. They paid out in payroll checks, mostly during the week the "harvest moon" is the full moon. It is the full moon closest to the autumnal equinox. Sept. 22, 2018.

Still Shooting

LESTER MANOR, Va. — Chief Walter S. Bradley of the Pamunkey Indians is still getting his ducks and geese despite almost complete loss of use of his right arm.

The chief's Chesapeake re-riper tripped over his gun and broke his arm almost severing the Indian's right wrist. It looked like the end of 50 years of hunting for the chief, who used that right hand to pull the trigger of his gun. He didn't think he could learn to shoot from his left shoulder. But with an ingenious device on the forearm he can now pull the trigger with his left hand.

The "old team" — without looking at the identification below, how many of these basketball players of 20 years ago do you recognize? These starwatt youths were Lafayette High School's basketball team in 1922. The photo was taken on the old High School grounds (now it's the Central Grammar School) at the beginning of the 1922 season. The team roster lists several who have become civic, business and professional leaders in Southwest Louisiana. (Left to right, standing) are Curtis A. Boudochar, Nelson Polmanux, Aris Boudochar, Clyde Gilder, Albert Abernathy, an athlete identified only as Johnson, Marvin Beadle and Cecil Conley. In front of the crowd are H. C. LaCour, principal of the high school and A. Wilmot Dalfers, team coach. The picture was found lurking in a seldom-visited corner of the Advertiser files.