Carl Corley's illustrated

HISTORY OF LOUISIANA

(Featuring a fictional character, "Pe'pa Paree", a Louisiana prototype)

Art and narration by Carl Corley

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carl Vernon Corley was born December 8, 1921 at Florence, Mississippi. He completed high school at Florance High, then entered the U.S. Marine Corps on September 21, 1941 and was discharged October 15, 1945.

Corley saw action on Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima.

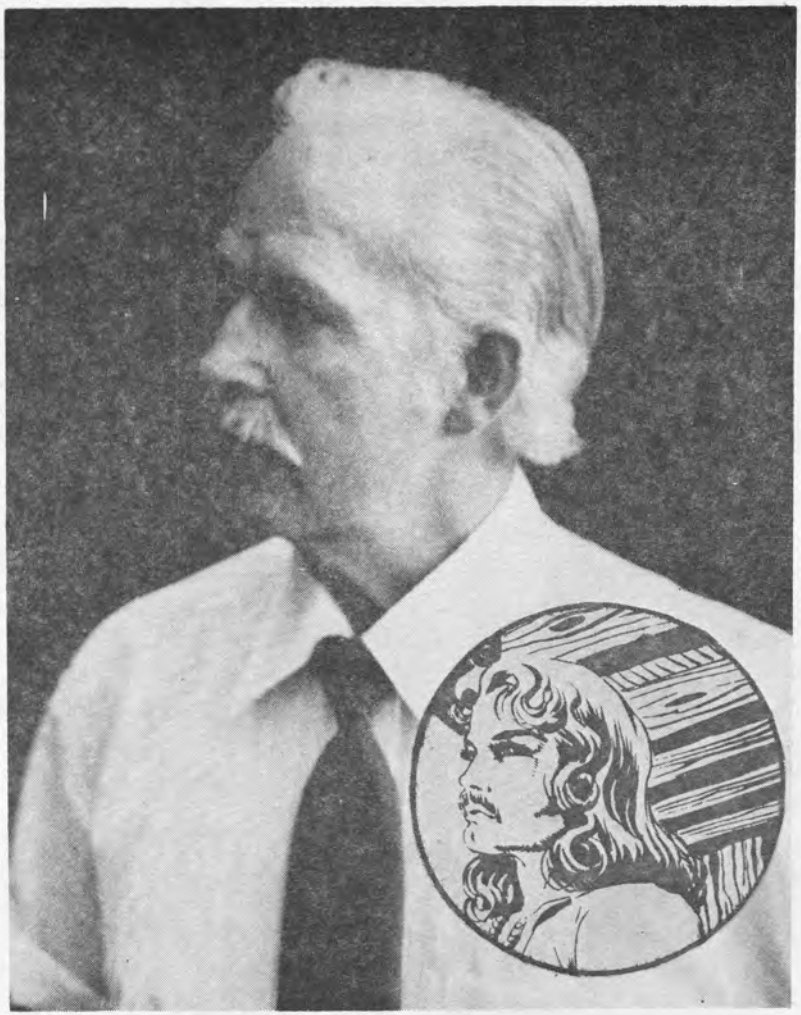
He was employed at Mississippi Highway Department for 15 years as an artist following the war. He began work at the Louisiana Department of Highways November 22, 1961 and retired July 1, 1981. He was employed as an engineering artist, and was supervisor of the Art of Model Unit.

Corley has 32 books on the market, sex themes. He is not proud of these but made an attempt through them to get his foot in the publisher's door. He has to his credit one book on religion. He has published 17 posters by La. State Department of Transportation. He has painted covers for science fiction, portraits and over 900 Louisiana landscapes. His rural theme paintings presently hang in state office buildings. He has written 20 unpublished manuscripts.

Corley has never taken a course in either art or writing.

For the past 12 years Carl has made his permanent home in the little historical town of Zachary. He lives in an Acadian Cottage half-submerged in tropical plants. It was here in this peaceful atmosphere that he created Pepa Paree for The Eunice News, his most beloved work.

The Eunice News, Inc., publishers of his illustrated history of Louisiana looks upon this as a contribution to the state's collection of historical literature, and as a tribute to an artist and writer who has never received the recognition long his due.



CARL VERNON CORLEY

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THE AUTHOR'S NOTE....

THIS IS A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF LOUISIANA, BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST ONE CELLED PROTOZOA AND ENDING WITH THE INITIAL FLIGHT TO THE MOON.

HISTORY IN TEXT FORM ONLY, WITHOUT VISUAL AIDS_SUCH AS GUNS, BANNERS, BUILDINGS, TYPICAL HOMES AND WEARING ATTIRE, FOOD, FURNITURE, UNIFORMS AND MODES OF TRANSPORTATION TO BLEND WITH THE PERIOD BEING STUDIED, CAN BE EXTREMELY BORING, UNLESS THE INSTRUCTOR IS GIFTED WITH A VIVID IMAGINATION.

MINE, UNFORTUNATELY, WAS NOT. ONE OF MY MOST HORRIFYING MEMORIES IS OF ME SEATED IN A HOT CLASSROOM THAT SMELLED OF CHALK DUST AND COAL TAR WHILE TAXING MY YOUNG BRAIN MEMORIZING DATES AND HISTORICAL INCIDENTS THAT NEVER SEEMED TO FIT INTO CHRONICLE ORDER.

IT IS THESE FIXATIONS FROM CHILDHOOD THAT COMPELLED ME TO ILLUSTRATE THIS TEXT_ A LITERARY PICTURE STORYBOOK TO STUDENTS WHO, I DEARLY HOPE, WILL NEVER BECOME DOOMED IN A BORING CLASSROOM_AS I_BUT WILL, INSTEAD, BY READING THIS WILL VIEW HISTORY AS A PARTICIPANT AND NOT ONLY TO PERUSE_ FOLLOWING MILES OF UNIMAGINATIVE SCRIPT.

Matt Vernon in his *"Comment Ca Va"* column in The Eunice News:

As I write this, Carl Corley's Illustrated History of Louisiana is coming off our press, and it will be a most unusual literary production. It will be 344 pages of illustrations and copy, all on bagasse book, a high quality paper that assures permanence. It will have a soft cover, and our plan is to give it a spiral binding.

We have little hope of making this book a commercial success, but we have put a price of $10 a copy in order to salvage something. We are printing only 1,000 copies, marking it a "Collector's Item", or first printing, which we hope will mislead someone into thinking we anticipate additional printings. We do not, but miracles have happened.

The main thing that prompted us to do this job is the interest our youngsters show in comic books and pictures. While we would not say they are allergic to type, there is little today to develop them into readers. And that is the shame of it. So what we are offering is sugar-coated history, in the hope we can induce this and perhaps the next generation to become interested in the history of one of the most unique states in the Union. We hope to develop pride in our state by our younger citizens.

The illustrations bear the distinctive character of Carl's art, and all the more remarkable because of his special talent which is self-taught and did not come from art lessons. He never had any.

We will not have the books ready to put on sale for some time yet, but we will take reservations. It is our hope that we can find a way to get copies into our school libraries throughout the state. It belongs in all Louisiana sections, and certainly in all history sections of our public libraries, as well.

As we say, we do not expect to make any money in this venture, and we have small hope of even clearing expenses. We would have to sell half of the 1,000 books to break even. But at this stage of the game, we feel we owe this much to the state we love, and to the artist who has done so much to enliven our state's history.

It would please us very much if some attention is gained by our State Department of Education, and educators everywhere in Louisiana, in this product.

PART ONE__**CAJUN SON**

PE'PA PAREE IS A LOUISIANA CAJUN. LIKE THE WANDERING BLUE GOOSE, HIS FRENCH ANCESTORS MIGRATED FROM CANADA. THAT WAS 200 YEARS AGO. HE IS BUT A LAD. BY NATURE AND NOT BY DEED, IN HIS SHY HONESTY, HIS WISTFULNESS AND CUNNING, HE IS LIKE AN OFF-SPRING OF THE WOODS—FOXLIKE—GRACEFUL AND COVERT AS A WILD CREATURE. HE HAS NONE OF THE BRASHNESS FLAUNTED SO RECKLESSLY BY BOYS BOTH YOUNGER AND OLDER. HIS MATURITY HAS COME EARLY, RARE TO THOSE COUNTRY REARED. AS THE TRUE LES CADIEN HIS STATUE IS PETIT, BUT STRONG OF BONE AND HARD OF SINEW. HIS FEATURES ARE COPIES OF HIS PERE'S, HIGH CHEEKBONES, WIDE SET BROWS, LUSTY LASHES ABOVE SHINY BLACK EYES AS LIQUID AS A COONS. HIS DARK HAIR, UNRULY AND THICK, COMES FROM HIS MERE. IT PARTS AT THE TOP OF HIS SKULL, FRAMING HIS FACE AS JESUS MAY HAVE WORN HIS. HIS FLESH, ACORN DARK, GLOWS WITH THE TAWNY HUES OF CANE SYRUP PRODUCED ON HIS PERE'S FARM, THAT RICH HEALTHY AMBER, FROM EXPOSURE TO THE GREAT OUT-OF-DOORS, LONG HOURS IN THE FIELDS, BAYOUS AND HUNTING CLIMES. THE LITTLE, NEATLY TRIMMED MUSTACHE THAT PARALLELS HIS TOP LIP IS HIS OWN. IT COMPLETES HIS PORTRAIT AND, AT THE SAME TIME, ADDS A CERTAIN RUGGEDNESS TO HIS BLOSSOMING GOOD LOOKS. IT ALSO SPARES HIM FROM RESEMBLING ONE OF THOSE DEPLORABLE PAGE BOY STEREO-TYPES SEEN IN SUCH BOOKS AS "TANGLEWOOD TALES."

PE'PA LIVES WITH HIS PARENTS IN AN AREA OF LOUISIANA CALLED PRAIRIE FAQUETAIQUE (FA-KI-TI-EKE), AN INDIAN NAME. MUCH LATER IT IS CHANGED TO EUNICE BY A MAN, CURLY DUSON, WHO WANTED TO NAME THE SITE AFTER HIS WIFE. THAT WAS BACK IN 1894, LONG BEFORE PE'PA WAS BORN. BUT HE FEELS SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH HIS TOWN FOR IT WAS FOUNDED WITH THE "GREAT EUNICE AUCTION" ON THE 12th OF SEPTEMBER, THE EXACT DATE OF HIS BIRTH. SO EACH YEAR, WHEN EUNICE CELEBRATES ITS ANNIVERSARY, HE PRETENDS THE CEREMONIAL AFFAIR TO BE HIS OWN PRIVATE BON BOUCHE.



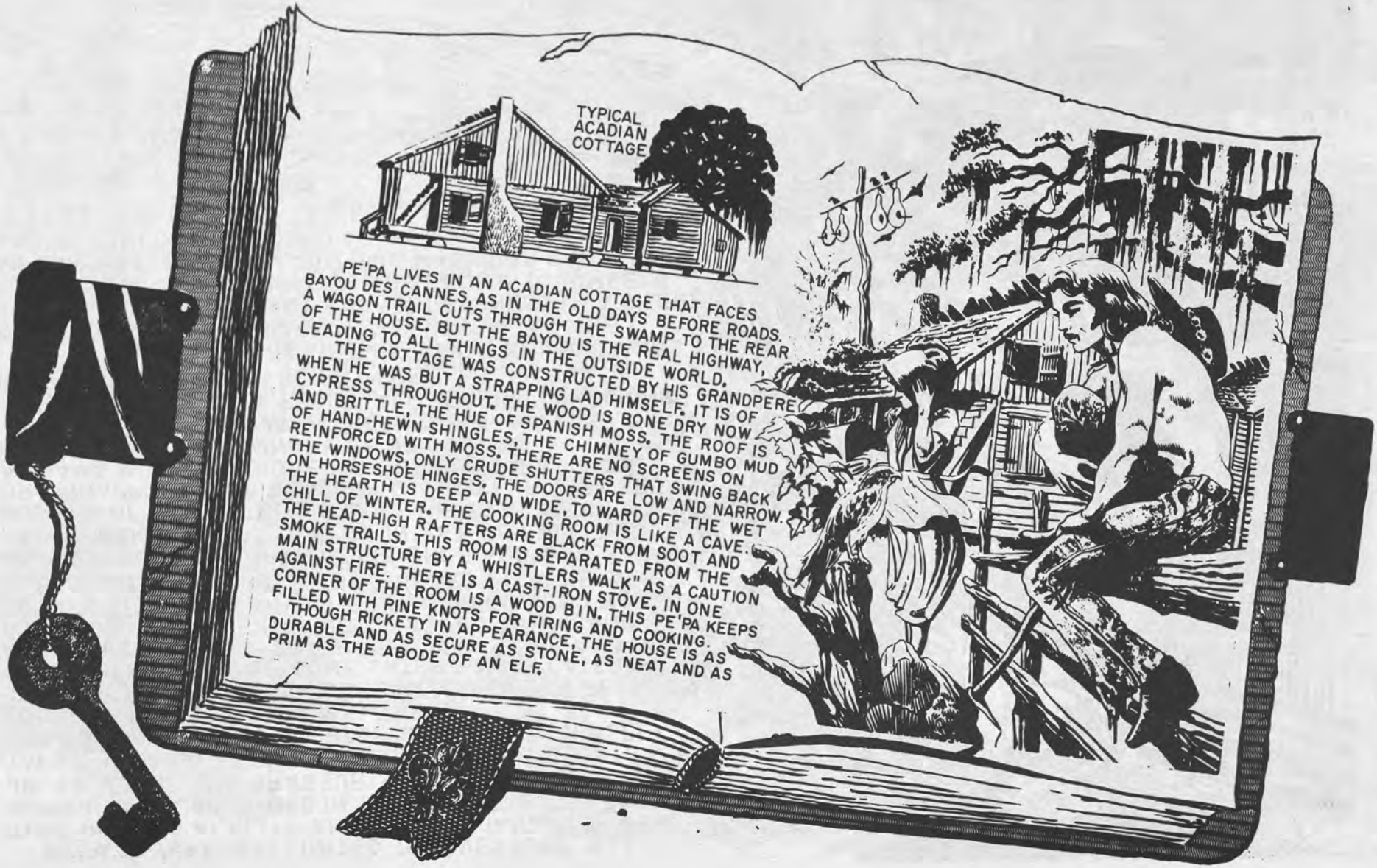
CARL GREGG

IF PE'PA GOES A LITTLE OUT OF HIS WAY TO BE BOISTEROUS ON SUCH OCCASIONS, HE IS MERELY EXPRESSING THE FROLICING GOOD NATURE OF HIS FRENCH ANCESTORS, THE TRUE FOUNDERS OF EUNICE.

HE LOVES HISTORY. FROM THE LOCAL PAPER'S "JUBILEE BOOKLET" HE COLLECTS MUCH ABOUT HIS OWN KIN, THOSE EARLY SETTLERS WHO HAVE TRICKLED INTO THE PRAIRIE FROM NOVA SCOTIA, AND EXILED BY THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE. RATHER THAN DENOUNCE THEIR FAITH, THEY CHOOSE BRAVELY TO PIT THEIR EFFORTS IN A NEW LAND. THEY DO NOT SEEK OUT LOUISIANA AS A HAVEN OF ESCAPE, AWAY FROM LAW AND ORDER. ON THE CONTRARY. THEY MIGRATE TO FIND A PLACE TO WORK AND TO BUILD NEW LIVES FOR THEMSELVES. AT FIRST THE PRAIRIE LOOKS DESOLATE, WITH SAGE GRASS FOUR FEET HIGH – WHICH LATER INSPIRES THE RAISING OF CATTLE. THOUGH DESPONDENT, THEY REALIZE THEY HAVE FOUND AN EDEN UPON WHICH TO BUILD. THE FRENCH WERE THEN, AND STILL ARE, A HEARTY PEOPLE. THEY LOVE LIFE. THE MERE JOY OF LIVING IS THE CHIEF CHARACTERISTIC OF THEIR ACADIAN HERITAGE, WHETHER BAD TIMES OR GOOD.

THEY DISCOVER PLENTY OF WILD GAME, AND RICH LAND FOR FARMING. THEY DO NOT WASTE TIME. THE PRAIRIE SAGE GIVES WAY TO CABINS, STABLES, GARDENS, AND IS PLOWED UNDER TO MAKE ROOM FOR COTTON, SUGARCANE, SOYBEANS, AND RICE.





PE'PA LIVES IN AN ACADIAN COTTAGE THAT FACES BAYOU DES CANNES, AS IN THE OLD DAYS BEFORE ROADS. A WAGON TRAIL CUTS THROUGH THE SWAMP TO THE REAR OF THE HOUSE. BUT THE BAYOU IS THE REAL HIGHWAY, LEADING TO ALL THINGS IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

THE COTTAGE WAS CONSTRUCTED BY HIS GRANDPERE WHEN HE WAS BUT A STRAPPING LAD HIMSELF. IT IS OF CYPRESS THROUGHOUT. THE WOOD IS BONE DRY NOW AND BRITTLE, THE HUE OF SPANISH MOSS. THE ROOF IS OF HAND-HEWN SHINGLES, THE CHIMNEY OF GUMBO MUD REINFORCED WITH MOSS. THERE ARE NO SCREENS ON THE WINDOWS, ONLY CRUDE SHUTTERS THAT SWING BACK ON HORSESHOE HINGES. THE DOORS ARE LOW AND NARROW. THE HEARTH IS DEEP AND WIDE, TO WARD OFF THE WET CHILL OF WINTER. THE COOKING ROOM IS LIKE A CAVE. THE HEAD-HIGH RAFTERS ARE BLACK FROM SOOT AND SMOKE TRAILS. THIS ROOM IS SEPARATED FROM THE MAIN STRUCTURE BY A "WHISTLERS WALK" AS A CAUTION AGAINST FIRE. THERE IS A CAST-IRON STOVE. IN ONE CORNER OF THE ROOM IS A WOOD BIN. THIS PE'PA KEEPS FILLED WITH PINE KNOTS FOR FIRING AND COOKING.

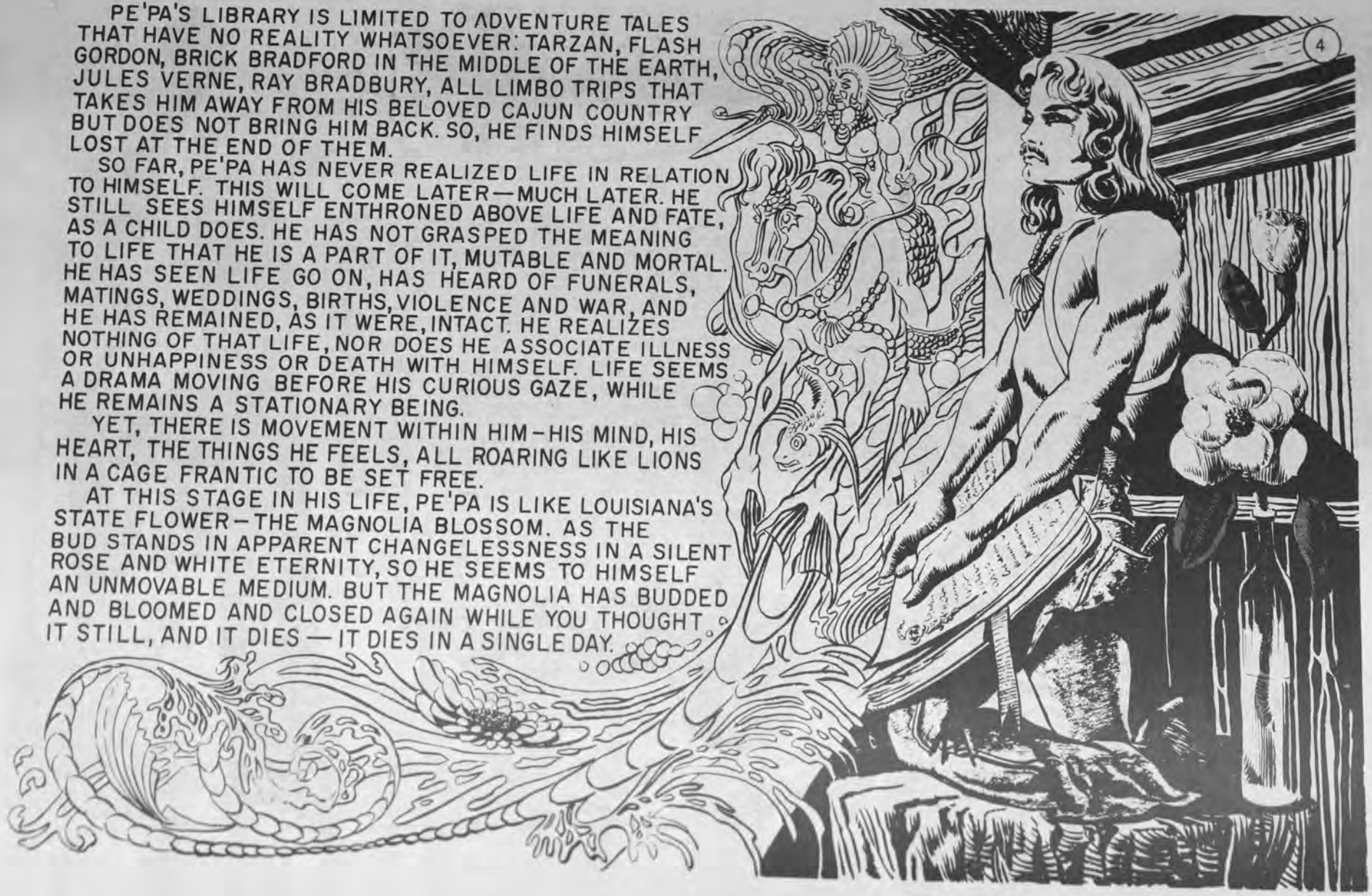
THOUGH RICKETY IN APPEARANCE, THE HOUSE IS AS DURABLE AND AS SECURE AS STONE, AS NEAT AND AS PRIM AS THE ABODE OF AN ELF.

PE'PA'S LIBRARY IS LIMITED TO ADVENTURE TALES THAT HAVE NO REALITY WHATSOEVER: TARZAN, FLASH GORDON, BRICK BRADFORD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE EARTH, JULES VERNE, RAY BRADBURY, ALL LIMBO TRIPS THAT TAKES HIM AWAY FROM HIS BELOVED CAJUN COUNTRY BUT DOES NOT BRING HIM BACK. SO, HE FINDS HIMSELF LOST AT THE END OF THEM.

SO FAR, PE'PA HAS NEVER REALIZED LIFE IN RELATION TO HIMSELF. THIS WILL COME LATER—MUCH LATER. HE STILL SEES HIMSELF ENTHRONED ABOVE LIFE AND FATE, AS A CHILD DOES. HE HAS NOT GRASPED THE MEANING TO LIFE THAT HE IS A PART OF IT, MUTABLE AND MORTAL. HE HAS SEEN LIFE GO ON, HAS HEARD OF FUNERALS, MATINGS, WEDDINGS, BIRTHS, VIOLENCE AND WAR, AND HE HAS REMAINED, AS IT WERE, INTACT. HE REALIZES NOTHING OF THAT LIFE, NOR DOES HE ASSOCIATE ILLNESS OR UNHAPPINESS OR DEATH WITH HIMSELF. LIFE SEEMS A DRAMA MOVING BEFORE HIS CURIOUS GAZE, WHILE HE REMAINS A STATIONARY BEING.

YET, THERE IS MOVEMENT WITHIN HIM—HIS MIND, HIS HEART, THE THINGS HE FEELS, ALL ROARING LIKE LIONS IN A CAGE FRANTIC TO BE SET FREE.

AT THIS STAGE IN HIS LIFE, PE'PA IS LIKE LOUISIANA'S STATE FLOWER—THE MAGNOLIA BLOSSOM. AS THE BUD STANDS IN APPARENT CHANGELESSNESS IN A SILENT ROSE AND WHITE ETERNITY, SO HE SEEMS TO HIMSELF AN UNMOVABLE MEDIUM. BUT THE MAGNOLIA HAS BUDDED AND BLOOMED AND CLOSED AGAIN WHILE YOU THOUGHT IT STILL, AND IT DIES — IT DIES IN A SINGLE DAY.



AS THE WINTER SEASON SETS IN WITH CHILLING RAINS, PE'PA BIDES HIS TIME IN THE SWAMP AND THE IN-TRAILS OF BAYOU DES CANNES FISHING AND HUNTING.

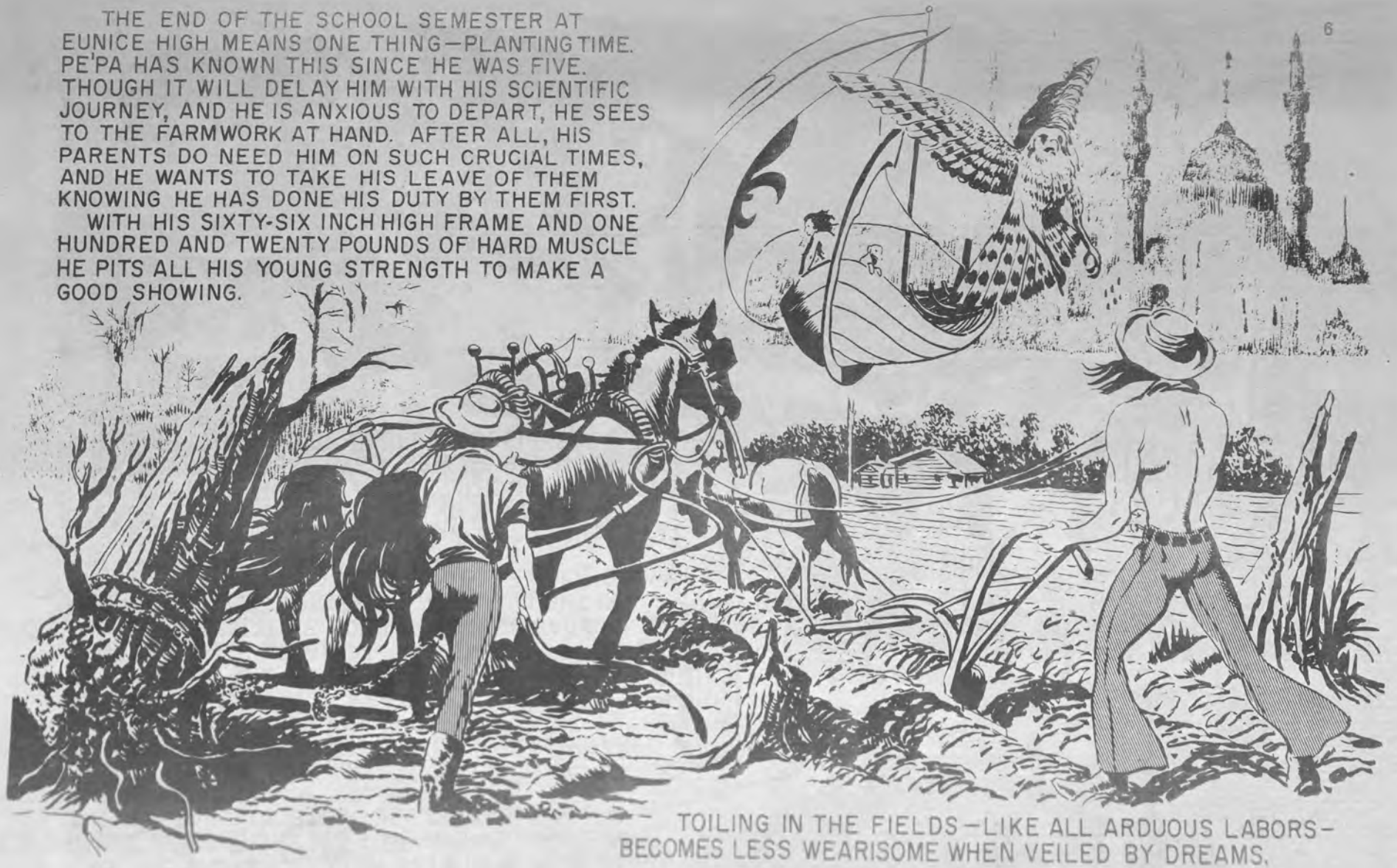
A FREE-MASON TO NATURE AND ITS OFF-SPRING, A DEEP, STARVING PITY FOR ALL THINGS SNARED AND DESTROYED, HE PLAYS PATRON SAINT TO THE MANGLED, STARVING CREATURES WHO ARE ORPHANS OF THE STORM.

NEVER DOES HE GO ABROAD IN QUEST FOR WILD GAME THAT HE DOES NOT BRING BACK IN HIS ARMS SOME FORLORN ANIMAL CAUGHT IN A TRAP, BENEATH A FALLEN TREE, OR HALF-DROWNED IN TREACHEROUS BACK WATERS.

ONE BY ONE THEY FIND THEIR WAY TO HIS LOFTY PERCH, EAGER TO JOIN HIM AND HIS DOG "GABE" AND HIS TAME HAWK "LAFITTE." THOUGH HIS MERE TAKES A SHORT-SIGHTED VIEW OF HIS MENAGERIE, HE FINDS THEM TO BE USEFUL MODELS FOR HIS NUMEROUS CARVINGS.

THE END OF THE SCHOOL SEMESTER AT EUNICE HIGH MEANS ONE THING—PLANTING TIME. PE'PA HAS KNOWN THIS SINCE HE WAS FIVE. THOUGH IT WILL DELAY HIM WITH HIS SCIENTIFIC JOURNEY, AND HE IS ANXIOUS TO DEPART, HE SEES TO THE FARMWORK AT HAND. AFTER ALL, HIS PARENTS DO NEED HIM ON SUCH CRUCIAL TIMES, AND HE WANTS TO TAKE HIS LEAVE OF THEM KNOWING HE HAS DONE HIS DUTY BY THEM FIRST.

WITH HIS SIXTY-SIX INCH HIGH FRAME AND ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY POUNDS OF HARD MUSCLE HE PITS ALL HIS YOUNG STRENGTH TO MAKE A GOOD SHOWING.



TOILING IN THE FIELDS—LIKE ALL ARDUOUS LABORS—
BECOMES LESS WEARISOME WHEN VEILED BY DREAMS.

WITH ALL THE NECESSARY VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR A LARGE GARDEN MOIST AND WARM IN THE RICH DARK EARTH, THE CANE STALKS BURIED IN LONG STRAIGHT ROWS, THE SOYBEANS AND RICE AND CORN PLANTED IN THE SWAMP BOTTOMS, PE'PA MAKES READY FOR HIS LONG AWAITED SCIENTIFIC JOURNEY.

HE PACKS AND REPACKS HIS GEAR A HUNDRED TIMES, NEVER QUITE CERTAIN WHAT TO TAKE OR WHAT TO LEAVE BEHIND. LIKE A MISER, HE COUNTS AND RECOUNTS HIS SAVINGS FROM THE ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL EVERY NIGHT BY THE LIGHT OF THE OLD OIL LAMP, AND QUESTIONS IF HE WILL HAVE ENOUGH. IN HIS EXCITABLE ANXIETY HE HUGS AND SQUEEZES HIS PETS OFTEN. SUDDENLY, HE IS RICH WITH FRIENDS.



AS A PLAUSIBLE EXCUSE TO EMBARK, HE ANNOUNCES TO HIS PARENTS THAT HE PLANS TO SPEND THE SUMMER WITH HIS FIRST COUSIN, TEE SHARLE, WHO LIVES AT PORT BARRE.

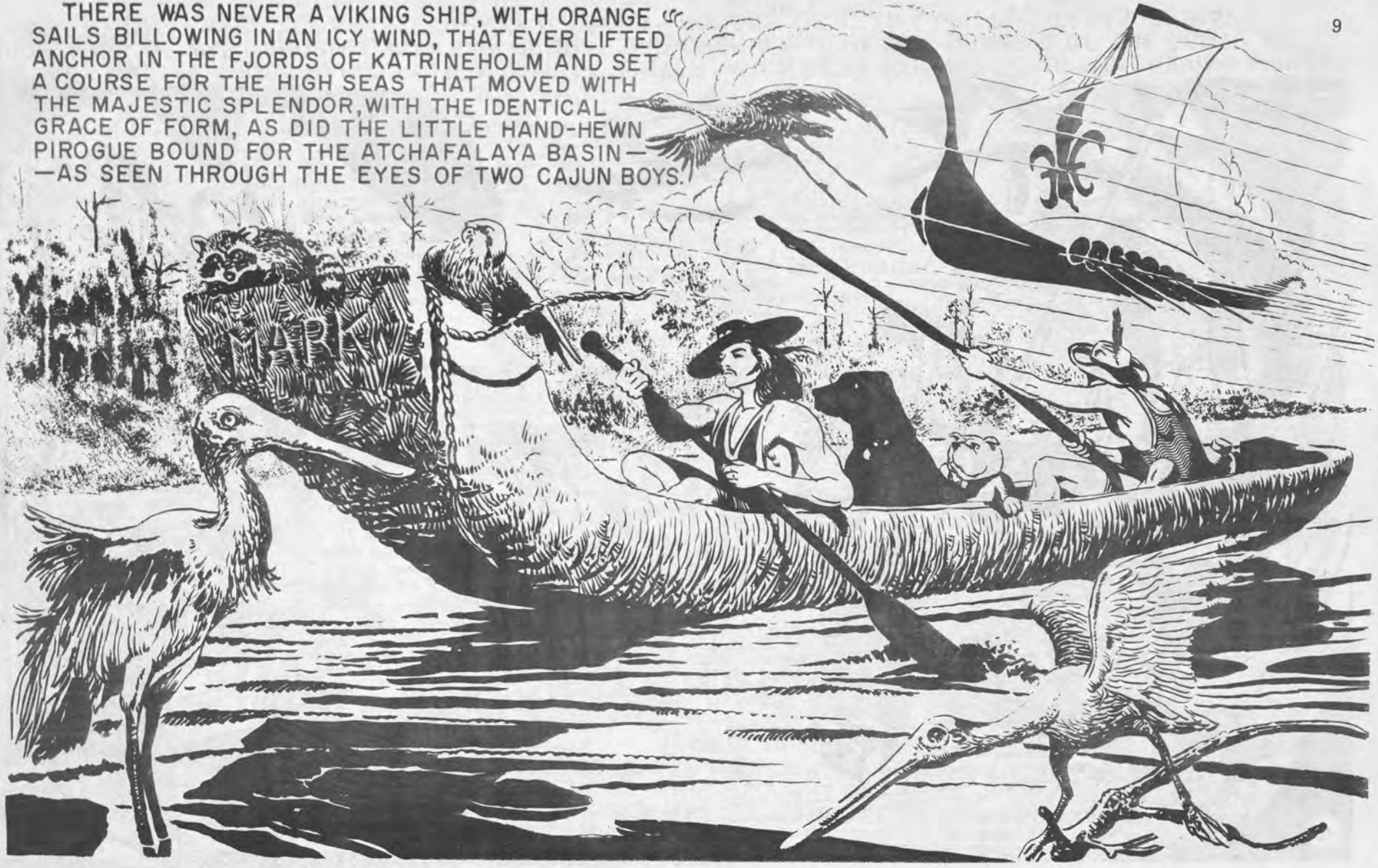
PE'PA IS JUBILANT THAT HIS PARENTS ACCEPTS HIS SUMMER'S LEAVE WITH SUCH LIGHTNESS OF HEART. OTHERWISE, IF THEY ARE SAD, HE CANNOT LEAVE.

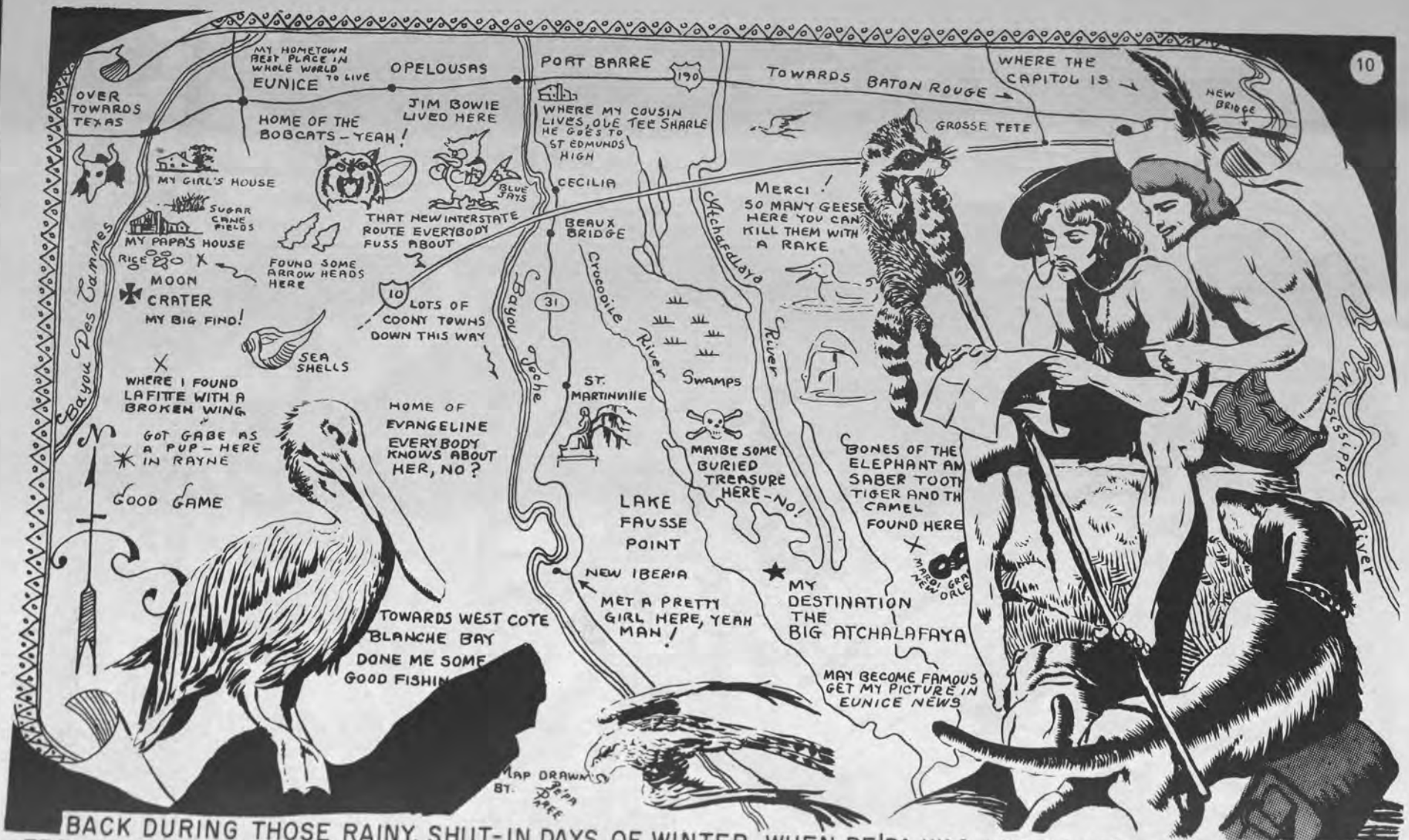
HE DECIDES TO TAKE GABRIEL AND LAFITTE ALONG, ONE FOR PROTECTION, THE OTHER FOR COMPANIONSHIP. HE DOES NOT DARE DEPART UNTIL HE HAS EVERYTHING BLESSED, ESPECIALLY HIS PIROGUE. IN MEMORY OF ST. JOSEPH HE CARRIES A SPRIG OF WISTERIA.



NOR DOES HE DARE LEAVE WITHOUT BIDDING FAREWELL TO A CERTAIN PERSON WAITING ON HER FAMILY WHARF.

THERE WAS NEVER A VIKING SHIP, WITH ORANGE SAILS BILLOWING IN AN ICY WIND, THAT EVER LIFTED ANCHOR IN THE FJORDS OF KATRINEHOLM AND SET A COURSE FOR THE HIGH SEAS THAT MOVED WITH THE MAJESTIC SPLENDOR, WITH THE IDENTICAL GRACE OF FORM, AS DID THE LITTLE HAND-HEWN PIROGUE BOUND FOR THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN— —AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF TWO CAJUN BOYS.





BACK DURING THOSE RAINY, SHUT-IN DAYS OF WINTER, WHEN PE'PA WAS NOT OCCUPIED CARVING ANIMALS FROM WOOD, HE WAS LABORING, WITH FAIR PENMANSHIP, OVER A MAP HE WAS DRAWING OF THE ROUTE HE PLANS TO TRAVERSE. TEE SHARLE THINKS IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF JEAN LAFITTE'S TREASURE MAPS.

ALTHOUGH PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE HAVE THOUGHT TO BRING ALONG THE BASIC INGRIDIENTS FOR THEIR DAILY DIET, THEY HAVE TO SUPPLY THE MAIN COURSE THEMSELVES. THE TECHE IS TEEMING WITH FAT FISH, AND THE SKIES AND SWAMPS ARE FILLED WITH FOWL THAT MELT IN THEIR MOUTH ONCE ROLLED IN CORNMEAL AND BROWNED TO A CRISP OVER AN OPEN CAMPFIRE. IN SMALL SETTLEMENTS LIKE LEONVILLE, ARNAUDVILLE, AND CECILIA, THEY PULL IN LONG ENOUGH TO PICK UP FRENCH BREAD, MILK, AND ASSORTED SWEETS. SOMETIMES A WOMAN OR A TEEN-AGED GIRL, BLESSED IN A HOUSEHOLD WHERE THERE IS TOO MUCH TO EAT, OR NATURALLY HOSPITABLE FRENCH, GIFT THEM WITH A LUNCH BASKET TO TAKE ON THEIR WAY.



FOR THE BOYS, THE VOYAGE MOVES LIKE A DREAM, AS INTOXICATING AS THE HYPNOTIC STATE BROUGHT ON UNDER THE SPELL OF A SCIENCE MOVIE. YET, PE'PA SUSPECTS SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS TRACKING HIM. HE TURNS, BUT SEES NOTHING! HE DOES NOT TELL THIS TO TEE SHARLE.

ONCE THEY HAVE PUT DAUTERIVE LAKE AND LAKE FAUSSE POINTE BEHIND THEM, THEY MAY AS WELL BE ON THE HIGH SEAS. FOR NOW THEY ARE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GREAT ATCHAFALAYA BASIN.

THIS GARGANTUAN WORK OF NATURE IS 1,250 SQUARE MILES OF HALF-SURMERGED LAND MASS AND WATER, 140 MILES IN LENGTH, 20 MILES WIDE, FATHOMLESS IN DEPTH, AND CREATED 25,000 YEARS AGO DURING THE WISCONSIN GLACIAL WITHDRAWAL—A SUPERSTAGE UPON WHICH PE'PA IS TO PLAY HIS MOST DRAMATIC DRAMA.



THE STAGE IS SET. PE'PA GLANCES ROUND, AS IF EXPECTING HIS CUE. BIRDS DART AWAY FROM THE SPOT, LIKE RAYS SCATTERING FROM A LIGHT. THE HORIZON ON ALL SIDES IS A THIN GREEN LINE OF TREES. BEYOND THERE IS NO WORLD, ONLY A WATERY WASTE OF GRAY AND WHITE. THERE ARE NO ROADS OR RAILROADS WITHIN MILES. NO SOUNDS. NOTHING MOVES EXCEPT THE TINY WAVES, FULFILLING THEIR RELENTLESS DESTINY OF NEGATION. SUDDENLY, THE PIROGUE PICKS UP SPEED, AS IF DRAWN BY SOME TERRIFIC INVISIBLE FORCE.

THE PIROGUE MOVES WITH SUCH BREATHTAKING SPEED THOSE ABOARD ALL BUT LOSE THEIR BALANCE. AN UNHEARD OF THING IN CAJUN COUNTRY. FOR IT IS REPUTED THAT ACADIAN YOUNGSTERS GET THEIR WALKING LEGS WHILE TODDLING FROM STEM TO STERN ON A WOBBLING PIROGUE.

PE'PA STUDIES THE CRUCIAL MOMENT WITH AN ALERT, ANIMAL CUNNING, AND CONCLUDES THAT THE STRANGE MAGNETISM THAT HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF HIS DIRECTIONAL COURSE IS ABOUT TO MAKE ITS PRESENCE KNOWN. IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND LIES THE STORED INTUITION THAT ALL THESE WEIRD EVENTS LINK SOMEHOW TO THE "MOON CRATER."

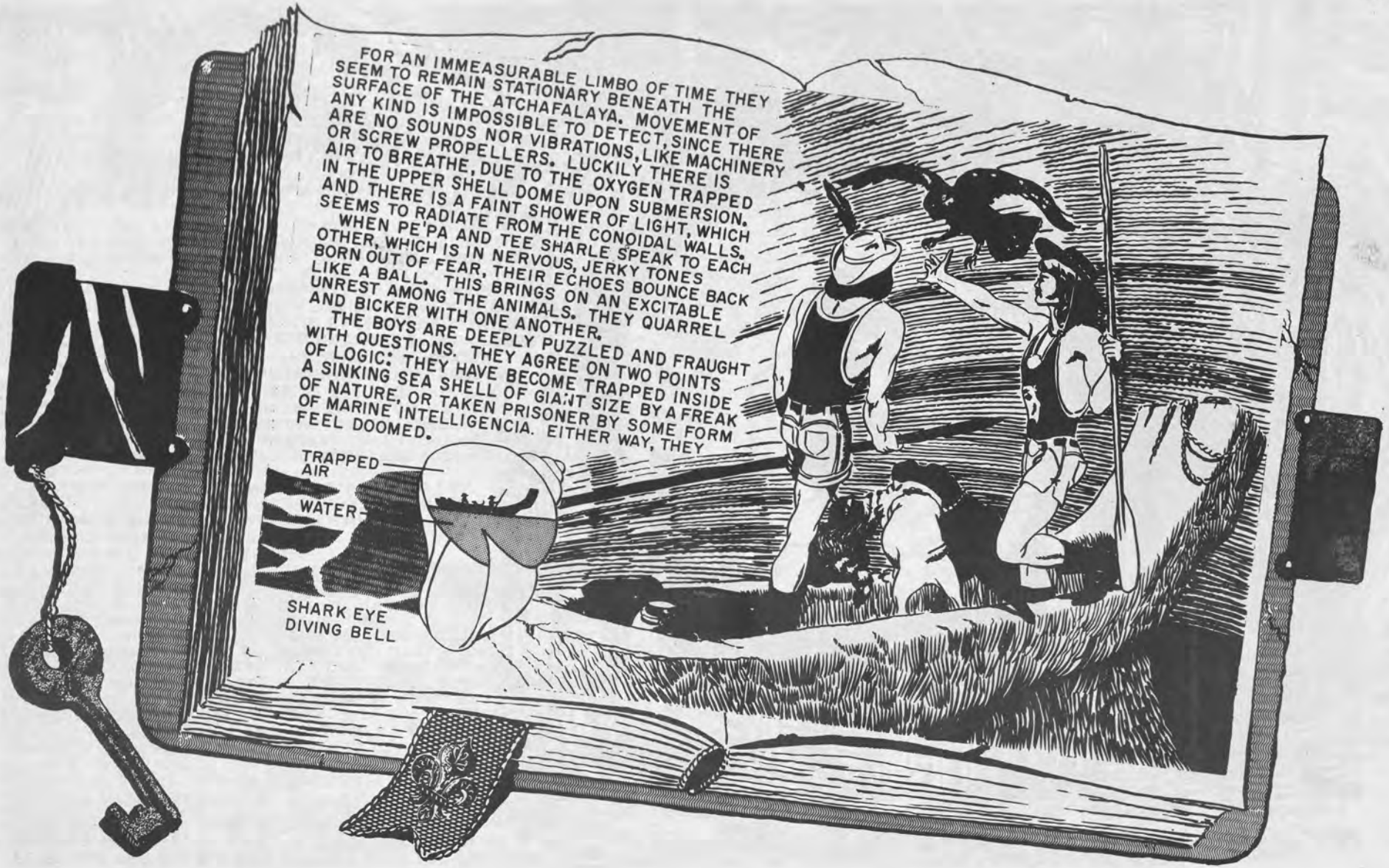


THEN, BEFORE HE CAN UTTER HIS PET EXPRESSION, C'EST BON, A COLOSSAL SEA SHELL, THE SHARK EYE, SURFACES DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THEIR ONCOMING PATH.

THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE TO DO BUT AWAIT THE INEVITABLE.



THE PIROGUE IS DRAWN INTO THE GARGANTUAN SHARK EYE SHELL LIKE A MOTH TO AMBER. PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE ARE SPEECHLESS. THEY ARE FRIGHTENED, NATURALLY, BUT NOT SO MUCH THAT THEY PANIC. THEY KEEP THEIR WITS AND REMAIN AS CALM AS THEY CAN WHILE THEY INSPECT THE INTERIOR. ALTHOUGH THEIR ACADIAN ANCESTORS HAD LEFT NOVA SCOTIA 25,000 STRONG AND ONLY 6,000 HAD SURVIVED, THESE BOYS ARE NOT LACKING IN DARING, EVEN WHEN THE SHELL BEGINS TO SURMERGE.


FOR AN IMMEASURABLE LIMBO OF TIME THEY SEEM TO REMAIN STATIONARY BENEATH THE SURFACE OF THE ATCHAFALAYA. MOVEMENT OF ANY KIND IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETECT, SINCE THERE ARE NO SOUNDS NOR VIBRATIONS, LIKE MACHINERY OR SCREW PROPELLERS. LUCKILY THERE IS AIR TO BREATHE, DUE TO THE OXYGEN TRAPPED IN THE UPPER SHELL DOME UPON SUBMERSION. AND THERE IS A FAINT SHOWER OF LIGHT, WHICH SEEMS TO RADIATE FROM THE CONOIDAL WALLS.
WHEN PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE SPEAK TO EACH OTHER, WHICH IS IN NERVOUS, JERKY TONES BORN OUT OF FEAR, THEIR ECHOES BOUNCE BACK LIKE A BALL. THIS BRINGS ON AN EXCITABLE UNREST AMONG THE ANIMALS. THEY QUARREL AND BICKER WITH ONE ANOTHER.
THE BOYS ARE DEEPLY PUZZLED AND FRAUGHT WITH QUESTIONS. THEY AGREE ON TWO POINTS OF LOGIC: THEY HAVE BECOME TRAPPED INSIDE A SINKING SEA SHELL OF GIANT SIZE BY A FREAK OF NATURE, OR TAKEN PRISONER BY SOME FORM OF MARINE INTELLIGENCIA. EITHER WAY, THEY FEEL DOOMED.
TRAPPED AIR
WATER
SHARK EYE DIVING BELL

PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE ARE GRIPPED WITH TWO EMOTIONS: THE ADULT TERROR OF ABSOLUTE DOOM, AND CHILDLIKE CURIOSITY. THEY ARE TORN WITH AN URGE TO FIND A SAFE WAY OUT OF THIS TERRIFYING UNDERGROUND PRISON, BUT TO EXPLORE IT FULLY. THEY WANT IT TO BE A MAGIC PLACE, NOT FRET WITH DEMONS!

HOW THEY EVER ARRIVED AT SUCH A STRANGE LOCATION IN THE FIRST PLACE HAS THEM ALSO BAFFLED. NOT AT ANY TIME HAVE THEY BEEN FORCED TO LEAVE THE BOAT. THEY HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO REMAIN COMFORTABLY ABOARD THE PIROGUE, WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A RIPPLE. LIKE RIDING AN ELEVATOR IN A SKYSCRAPER, FROM SPIRE TO BASEMENT. BY NOW, THEY MIGHT BE MANY MILES FROM THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN. A SICKENING THOUGHT.

HAS THIS BEEN A NATURAL INCIDENT, LIKE BEING LOST OR DROWNED? THEY QUESTION EACH OTHER. OR, A PLANNED JOURNEY BY SOMETHING OR SOMEONE WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN THEIR BEING HERE?

IT IS ENOUGH TO STAGGER THEIR IMAGINATION. THE ONLY FACT THAT IS BRANDED IN THEIR MINDS IS THAT THEY ARE MAROONED WITHIN THIS LAVA-WALLED VAULT WITH NO VISIBLE MEANS OF ESCAPE.

THERE IS NOTHING LEFT FOR THEM TO DO BUT TO PADDLE THEIR WAY UPSTREAM AND SEARCH FOR AN OPENING, A CRACK PIERCED BY A LANCE OF SUNLIGHT, OR A HOLE IN THE CEILING THROUGH WHICH THEY CAN ASCEND.

THEY ADVANCE, CAUTIOUSLY AND MUTE. THEY EXPECT AT ANY MOMENT TO SEE THE NATURAL CAVE LIGHT TO SWEEP MOMENTARILY, LIKE A BEAM, ACROSS SOME MONSTROUS LIVING THING, STANDING THERE ON A NEARBY LEDGE, OR ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE POOL.

THEY PASS THROUGH A NARROW GORGE THAT SUDDENLY YAWNS UPON A VAST CHAMBER. THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE HAS BECOME A SMALL CIRCLE OF LIGHT, WHILE THE OPPOSITE WALLS HAVE MERGED INTO THE SOLID BLACKNESS. WHETHER THE CRATER IS NARROWING OR GROWING LARGER THEY CANNOT TELL. THE FURTHER WALL BEHIND THEM MIGHT BE HUNDREDS OF FEET OR MILES AWAY. THEY DO NOT KNOW, FOR THE EERIE LIGHT FAILS TO SPAN THE ABYSS.

THEY CAN ONLY FOLLOW THE COURSE OF THE STREAM, WHERE THE LIGHT PLAYS FAINTLY— AND PRAY!



PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE HAVE SENSE ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT IT IS BEST TO GO ON, FOR AHEAD SOMEWHERE MAY LIE LIFE AND ESCAPE, BUT IF THEY REMAIN HERE OR TRY AND TURN BACK THEY WILL ONLY MEET DEATH.

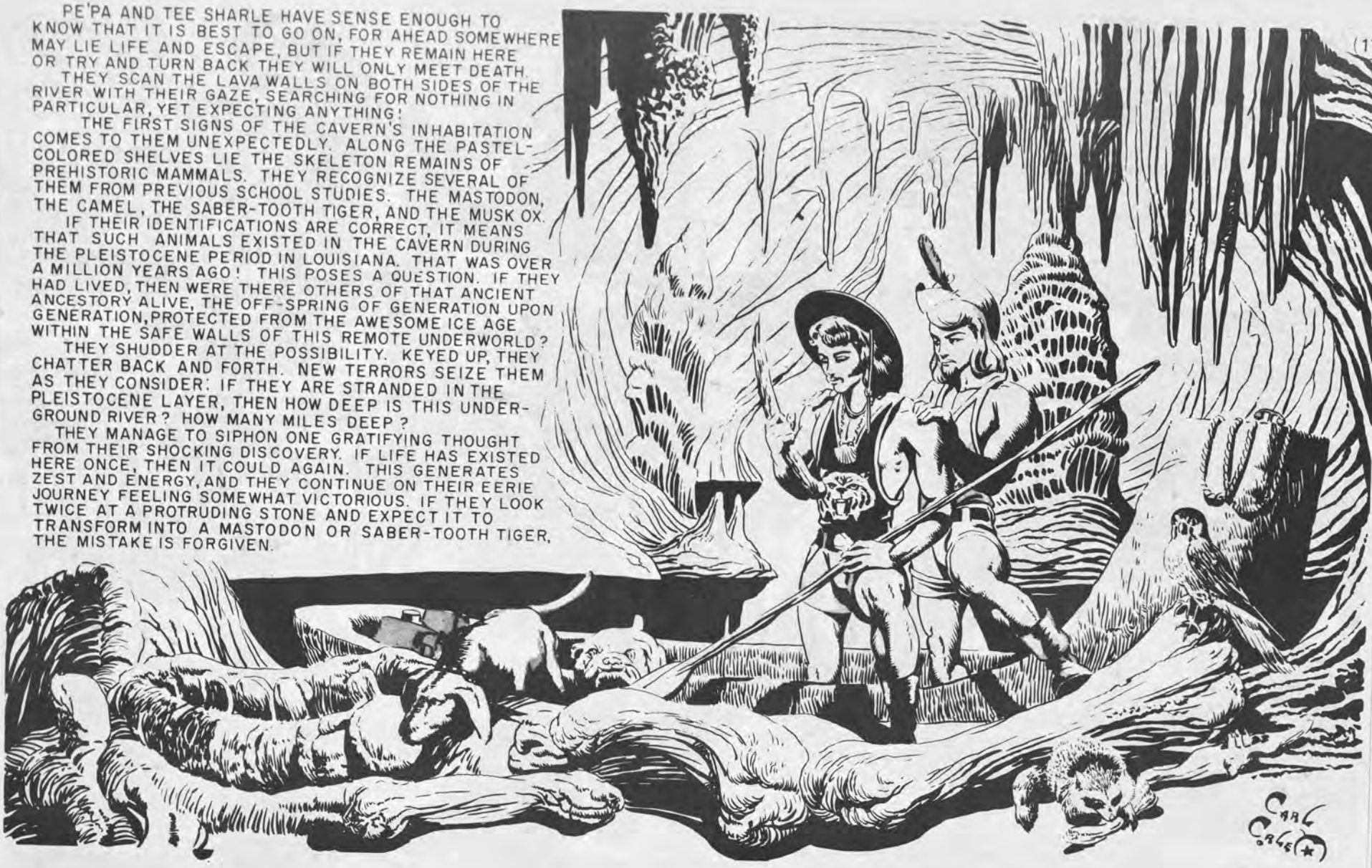
THEY SCAN THE LAVA WALLS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER WITH THEIR GAZE, SEARCHING FOR NOTHING IN PARTICULAR, YET EXPECTING ANYTHING!

THE FIRST SIGNS OF THE CAVERN'S INHABITATION COMES TO THEM UNEXPECTEDLY. ALONG THE PASTEL-COLORED SHELVES LIE THE SKELETON REMAINS OF PREHISTORIC MAMMALS. THEY RECOGNIZE SEVERAL OF THEM FROM PREVIOUS SCHOOL STUDIES. THE MASTODON, THE CAMEL, THE SABER-TOOTH TIGER, AND THE MUSK OX.

IF THEIR IDENTIFICATIONS ARE CORRECT, IT MEANS THAT SUCH ANIMALS EXISTED IN THE CAVERN DURING THE PLEISTOCENE PERIOD IN LOUISIANA. THAT WAS OVER A MILLION YEARS AGO! THIS POSES A QUESTION. IF THEY HAD LIVED, THEN WERE THERE OTHERS OF THAT ANCIENT ANCESTORY ALIVE, THE OFF-SPRING OF GENERATION UPON GENERATION, PROTECTED FROM THE AWESOME ICE AGE WITHIN THE SAFE WALLS OF THIS REMOTE UNDERWORLD?

THEY SHUDDER AT THE POSSIBILITY. KEYED UP, THEY CHATTER BACK AND FORTH. NEW TERRORS SEIZE THEM AS THEY CONSIDER: IF THEY ARE STRANDED IN THE PLEISTOCENE LAYER, THEN HOW DEEP IS THIS UNDER-GROUND RIVER? HOW MANY MILES DEEP?

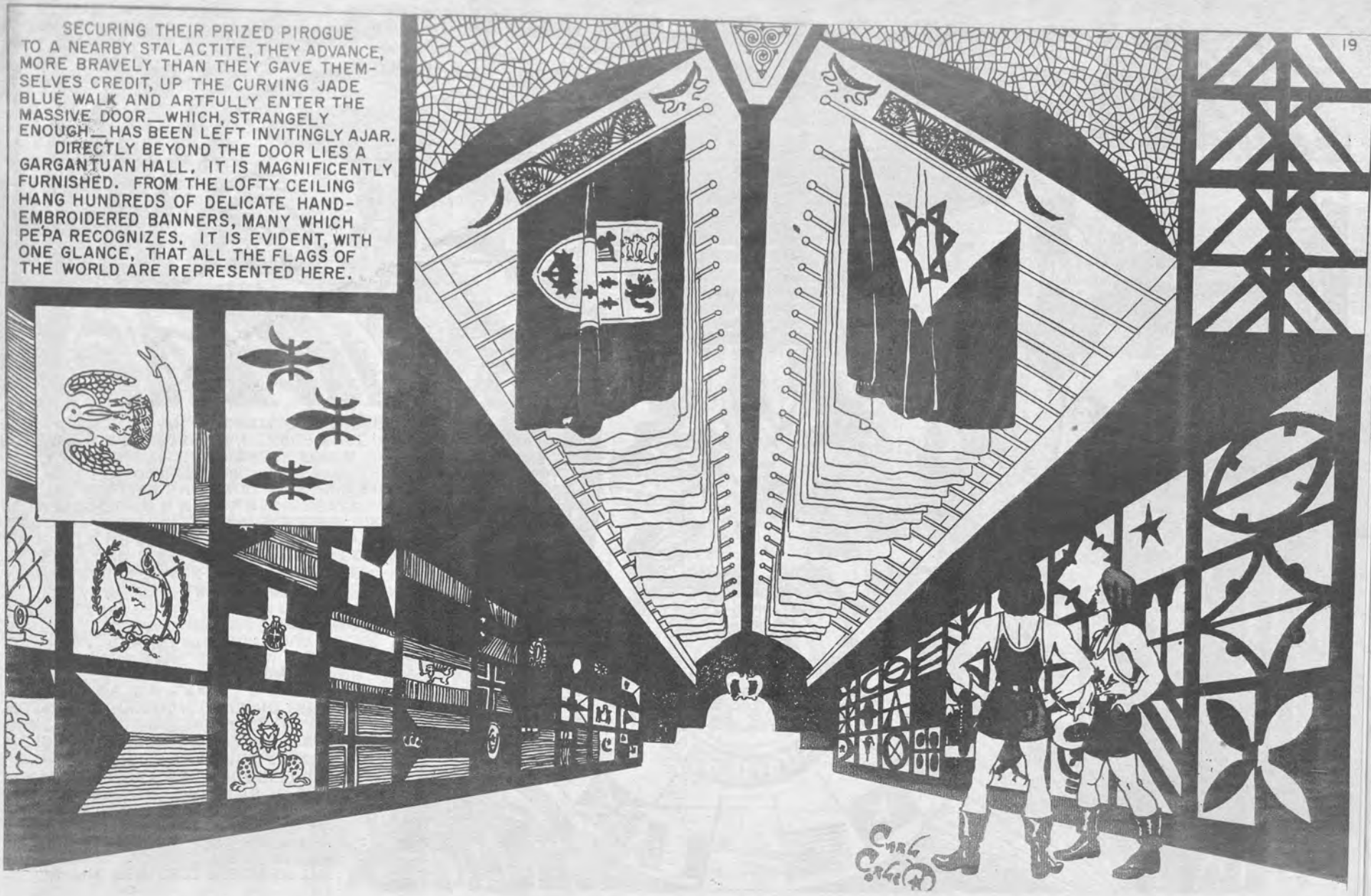
THEY MANAGE TO SIPHON ONE GRATIFYING THOUGHT FROM THEIR SHOCKING DISCOVERY. IF LIFE HAS EXISTED HERE ONCE, THEN IT COULD AGAIN. THIS GENERATES ZEST AND ENERGY, AND THEY CONTINUE ON THEIR EERIE JOURNEY FEELING SOMEWHAT VICTORIOUS. IF THEY LOOK TWICE AT A PROTRUDING STONE AND EXPECT IT TO TRANSFORM INTO A MASTODON OR SABER-TOOTH TIGER, THE MISTAKE IS FORGIVEN.

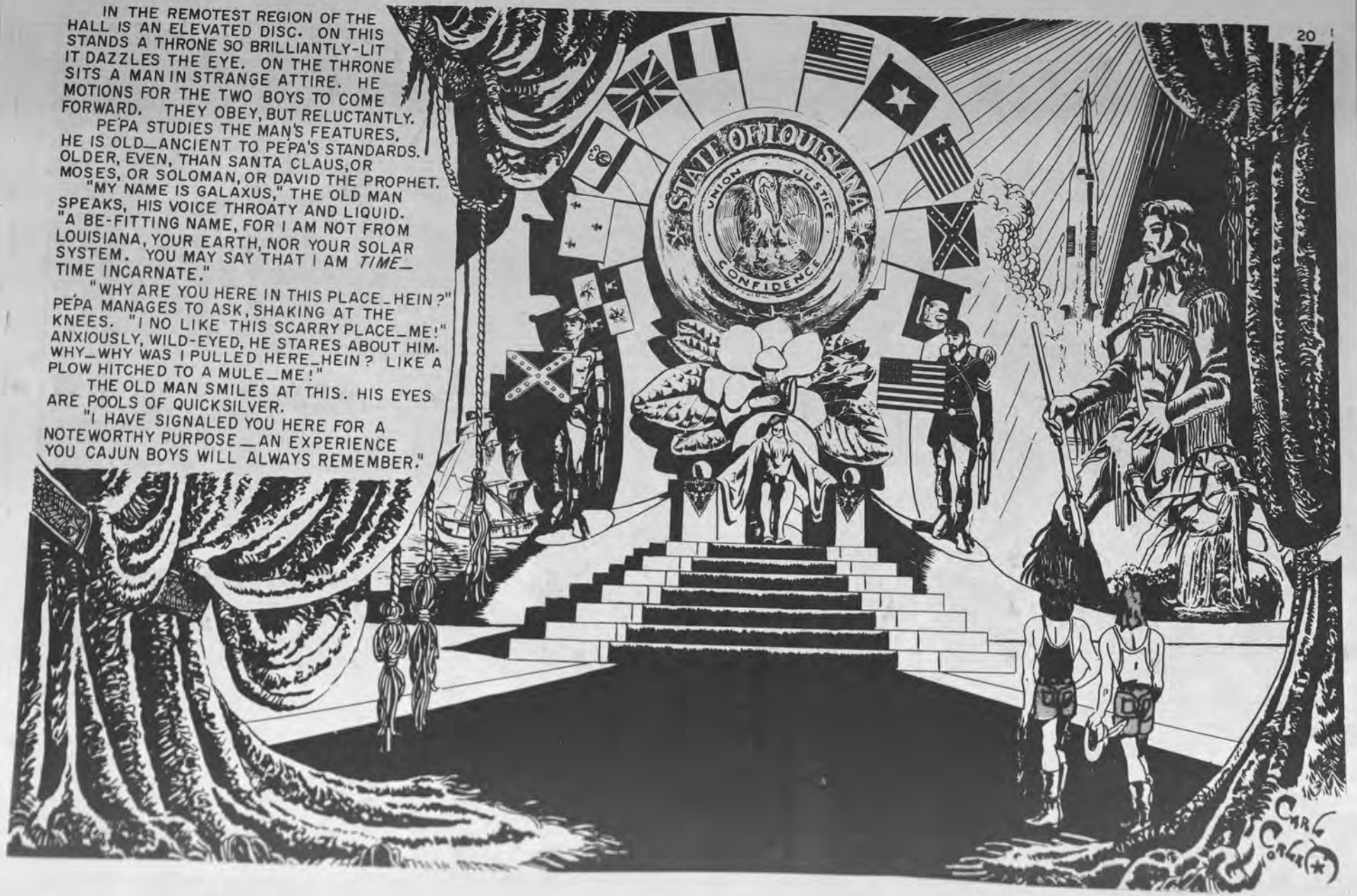



THEN— UNEXPECTEDLY, PE'PA AND TEE SHARLE COME UPON A STRANGE EDIFICE MOORED ON THE FLOWER-BANKED SHELF OF THE BAYOU.
THIS UNDESCRIBABLE SPLENDOR IS A BREATH-TAKING SIGHT TO PE'PA, AS SILVERY TIER ON TIER RISE AGAINST THE DISTANT, MULTI-COLORED WALL OF THE CAVERN. FOR A TENSE, ENTHRALLING MAW OF TIME HE STANDS, PETRIFIED, AS VISIONS OF PRINCE VALIANT, KING ARTHUR, FLASH GORDON, THE WIZARD OF OZ, AND ALICE IN WONDER-LAND DANCE BEFORE HIS EYES— ALL ADVENTURE STORIES HE HAD READ AND LOVED WHILE GROWING UP.
18
CARL

SECURING THEIR PRIZED PIROGUE TO A NEARBY STALACTITE, THEY ADVANCE, MORE BRAVELY THAN THEY GAVE THEMSELVES CREDIT, UP THE CURVING JADE BLUE WALK AND ARTFULLY ENTER THE MASSIVE DOOR—WHICH, STRANGELY ENOUGH—HAS BEEN LEFT INVITINGLY AJAR.

DIRECTLY BEYOND THE DOOR LIES A GARGANTUAN HALL. IT IS MAGNIFICENTLY FURNISHED. FROM THE LOFTY CEILING HANG HUNDREDS OF DELICATE HAND-EMBROIDERED BANNERS, MANY WHICH PEPA RECOGNIZES. IT IS EVIDENT, WITH ONE GLANCE, THAT ALL THE FLAGS OF THE WORLD ARE REPRESENTED HERE.





IN THE REMOTEST REGION OF THE HALL IS AN ELEVATED DISC. ON THIS STANDS A THRONE SO BRILLIANTLY-LIT IT DAZZLES THE EYE. ON THE THRONE SITS A MAN IN STRANGE ATTIRE. HE MOTIONS FOR THE TWO BOYS TO COME FORWARD. THEY OBEY, BUT RELUCTANTLY.

PE'PA STUDIES THE MAN'S FEATURES. HE IS OLD—ANCIENT TO PE'PA'S STANDARDS. OLDER, EVEN, THAN SANTA CLAUS, OR MOSES, OR SOLOMAN, OR DAVID THE PROPHET.

"MY NAME IS GALAXUS," THE OLD MAN SPEAKS, HIS VOICE THROATY AND LIQUID. "A BE-FITTING NAME, FOR I AM NOT FROM LOUISIANA, YOUR EARTH, NOR YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM. YOU MAY SAY THAT I AM *TIME*— TIME INCARNATE."

"WHY ARE YOU HERE IN THIS PLACE-HEIN?" PE'PA MANAGES TO ASK, SHAKING AT THE KNEES. "I NO LIKE THIS SCARRY PLACE—ME!" ANXIOUSLY, WILD-EYED, HE STARES ABOUT HIM. WHY—WHY WAS I PULLED HERE—HEIN? LIKE A PLOW HITCHED TO A MULE—ME!"

THE OLD MAN SMILES AT THIS. HIS EYES ARE POOLS OF QUICKSILVER.

"I HAVE SIGNALED YOU HERE FOR A NOTEWORTHY PURPOSE—AN EXPERIENCE YOU CAJUN BOYS WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER."

"WHAT_WHAT PURPOSE_HEIN?" PEPA IS QUICK TO QUESTION, FEARFUL OF THE OLD MAN'S ANSWER. TEE, SHARLE, MUCH YOUNGER THAN PEPA, IS AS YET TOO AFRAID TO MOVE, AND NUMB TO VOICE HIS FEELINGS.

THE OLD MAN IS SILENT FOR A MOMENT, AS IF SUDDENLY WEARIED. THEN, AS IF PLUGGED INTO AN ELECTRICAL SOCKET__LIKE A NEW CHRISTMAS TOY_ HE SPRINGS TO LIFE.

"YOU ARE HERE FOR ONE PURPOSE_ AND ONE ONLY. I AM GOING TO PASS ONTO YOU THE *TRUE HISTORY* OF YOUR NATIVE STATE LOUISIANA__ FROM STALACTITES TO SATELLITES, EVENTS NO HISTORIAN HAS EVER PUT ON RECORD, MARVELOUS EPISODES YOU HAVE NEVER LEARNED IN SCHOOL, HISTORY THAT I HAVE DISCOVERED IN THE BOWELS OF THIS CAVERN."

HE CATCHES HIS BREATH.

" THE REASON ?__SO YOU CAN RETURN TO THE UPPER WORLD AND SPREAD THE TRUTH ABROAD." HE GRINS. "MY TWO YOUNG CAJUN DICIPLES."

"CEST BON_YES!" PEPA EXCLAIMS.

THE OLD CONTINUES, MORE SOLEMN AND THOUGHTFUL NOW.

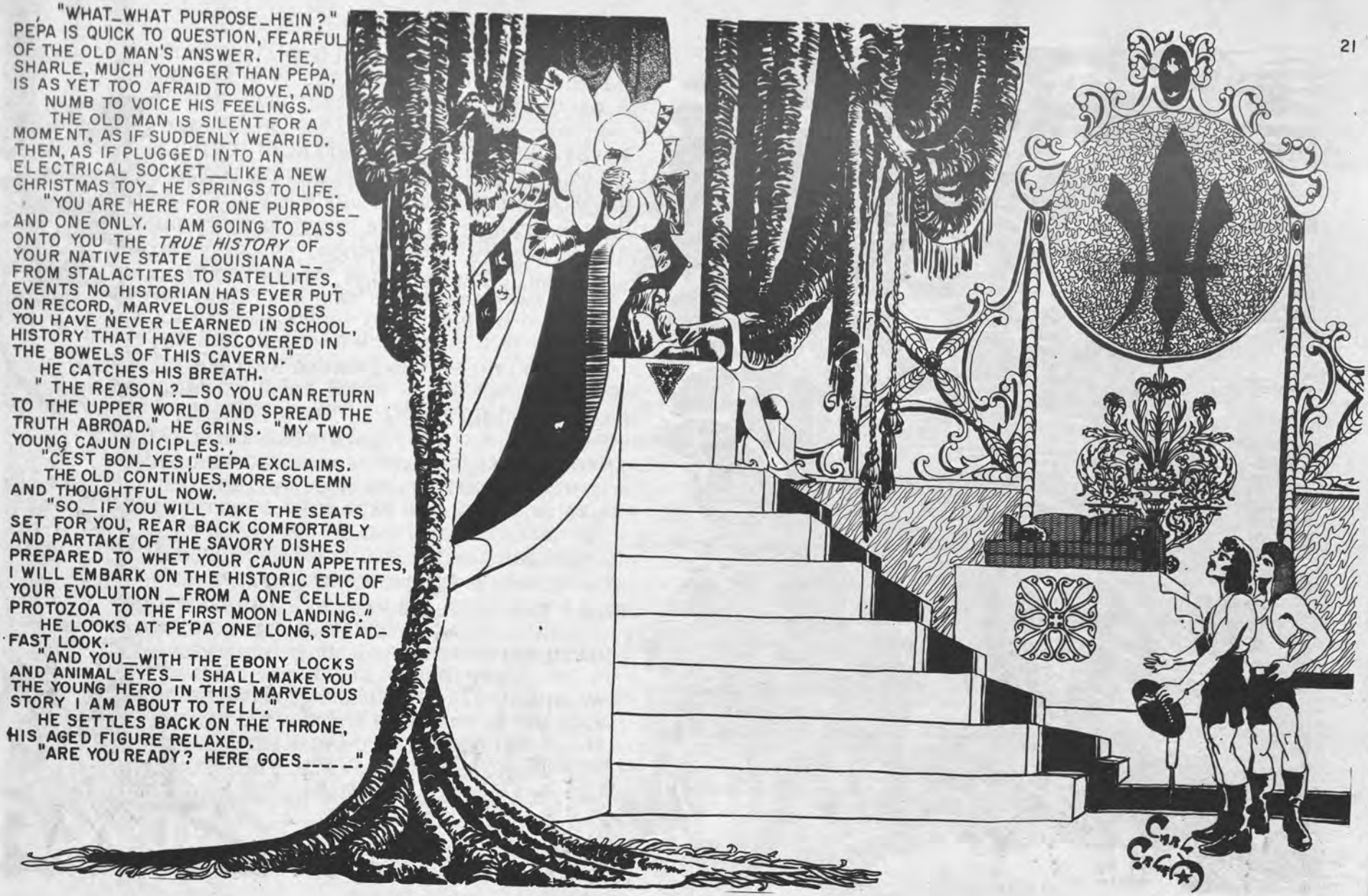
"SO__IF YOU WILL TAKE THE SEATS SET FOR YOU, REAR BACK COMFORTABLY AND PARTAKE OF THE SAVORY DISHES PREPARED TO WHET YOUR CAJUN APPETITES, I WILL EMBARK ON THE HISTORIC EPIC OF YOUR EVOLUTION__FROM A ONE CELLED PROTOZOA TO THE FIRST MOON LANDING."

HE LOOKS AT PEPA ONE LONG, STEADFAST LOOK.

"AND YOU__WITH THE EBONY LOCKS AND ANIMAL EYES_ I SHALL MAKE YOU THE YOUNG HERO IN THIS MARVELOUS STORY I AM ABOUT TO TELL."

HE SETTLES BACK ON THE THRONE, HIS AGED FIGURE RELAXED.

"ARE YOU READY? HERE GOES_____":



THE CRADLE

THE OLD RAPPORTEUR BEGINS HIS HISTOIRE..

"I DEDICATE THIS TO THOSE WHO LOVE LOUISIANA, FOR THIS IS THE STORY OF LOUISIANA. THIS IS THE EVOLUTION OF LOUISIANA, BEGINNING AS FAR BACK AS THE PALEOZOIC ERA - EVEN BEFORE THAT - WHEN LOUISIANA LAY DEEPLY BURIED UNDER TONS OF WATER AND THE GULF REACHED AS FAR NORTH AS THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

EVERY STORY HAS A CENTRAL FIGURE, A STAR, A CHARACTER. THOUGH MAN, AS YET, HAS NOT EMERGED FROM THE SLIME TO CLIMB UPWARDS TO THE CATHEDRALS OF CIVILIZATION TO FIND HIS SOUL, LET US SET A HERO INTO THAT DARK, WATERY ABYSS OF LONG AGO, AND SURMERGE HIM IN NATURES LABORATORY - NATURES FIRST OF MANY LABORATORIES ON EARTH.

HIS NAME SHALL BE PE'PA PAREE, THE FRENCH IDIOM FOR "BRAVE SAVAGE". AND HIS ROLE IN THIS BILLION YEAR DRAMA SHALL BE THAT OF GUIDE AND INTERPTER. HE WILL DWELL AND SURVIVE, NOT ONLY THE CRUEL ELEMENTS, BUT OF BEASTS AND PEOPLES DURING THAT EARLY DAWN OF CREATION. HE WILL SWEEP FORWARD THROUGH TIME, COVERING THOUSANDS OF YEARS, VANISHING WHEN NATURE SEEMS ASLEEP, REAPPEARING WHEN A RACE OR A NEW ERA EMERGES IN THE WILD, SUBLUMINOUS SCHEME OF THINGS - FINALLY, WHEN HE SETS FOOT UPON OUR PRESENT TIME - THE ERA WE KNOW - AT THE END OF THE STORY.

HE APPEARS ON STAGE, AND WE BEHOLD HIM FIRST AS HE SLIDES NAKED FROM A ROCKY, UNDERWATER SHELF, AND INTO THE WET CONFINES."





THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE----





"THE DEEP WE PRESENTLY HAVE LABELLED THE GREAT ATCHAFALAYA BASIN.

HIS STAGE, TOTALLY UNLIKE THE PRESENT DAY STATE OF LOUISIANA IN OUTLINE, HAS EXISTED FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS, BUT SURMERGED IN A SUBSEQUENT PERIOD, REMAINS SEABOTTOM FOR AGES UPON AGES.

WATER IS THE GREAT FACTOR OF LIFE. IT SUPPORTS ITS CREATURES AGAINST THE TUG OF GRAVITY, CONSTANTLY BATHING THEM IN THE PRINCIPAL THING THEY NEED FOR SURVIVAL. THE SEA IS FRIENDLY TOWARDS LIFE - YET FORCES LIFE TO DEPEND ON IT IN PECULIAR WAYS. SUNLIGHT DOES NOT PENETRATE DEEP INTO THE WATER. IN THE DEPTHS THE ONLY LIGHT IS THE SOFT GLOW THAT SOME CREATURES THEMSELVES CREATE. FROM THIS GLOW THE SUBLUMINOUS FIGURE OF **PE'PA PAREE** IS DELINEATED AS HE MEANDERS THROUGH THE WATERY CORRIDORS OF THE BASIN, LIT FAINTLY BY THE LAMPROTOXUS - THE LANTERN FISH, THE SNIPE, THE EEL, AND THE ROOSTER FISH. SWARMING BY THE MILLIONS ARE THE COPEPODS, THE MYSIDS, SEA WORMS, FLYING SNAILS, SEA SPIDERS, AND CIRCULAR FORAMINIFERA - ALL OF THE CAMBRIAN ERA OF 500 MILLION YEARS AGO - ALONG WITH THE MICROSCOPIC ONE-CELLED PROTOZOA. MANY RESEMBLE PLANTS; REDDISH SPONGES, JELLY FISH, ARTHROPODS, AND TWO-SHELLED BRACHIOPODS.

DURING THIS INTERLUDE, THE GREAT LOUISIANA BASIN - PRESENTLY CONSIDERED THE DEEPEST BASIN ON EARTH - WITH ITS COSMIC INTELLIGENCE WORKING, IS PREPARING A NEST FOR THE THINGS TO COME. IT IS LAYING VAST BEDS OF SEDIMENT, LATER TO BECOME RICH IN SALT AND OIL AND COAL. THE TIME WILL COME, ONCE THESE ARE COMPLETED UPON THE BARREN SANDS OF LOUISIANA."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE----



"THIS WILL LAY THE FERTILE SOIL OF LIFE. BUT NOT YET, NOT FOR A MILLION MORE YEARS, FOR THE BASIN IS THE FIRST CRADLE. THE MAGIC OF DANCING ENERGIES ARE FORMING INTO COMPLEX UNIONS OF MICROSCOPIC MOLECULES, AND IN THIS BATH OF WARMTH AND MOISTURE EMERGES THE SINGLE CELL. THIS CELL IS NO MORE ALIVE THAN THE RHYTHMS WHICH UNITE TO PRODUCE IT-MERELY A DANCE OF LIFE. BUT WITH RESPONSES TO ITS ENVIRONMENT, IT CAN MOVE UP OR DOWN, SIDEWAYS, IN ORDER TO SEEK CREVICES FOR ITS PROTECTION. IT IS MARVELOUSLY PLASTIC AND ADAPTIVE. IT CAN SWALLOW AN OBJECT TEN TIMES ITS SIZE AND BE ONLY A FILM OVER ITS DINNER. YET, SO SMALL THAT THOUSANDS CAN SWIM IN A DROP OF WATER. PE'PA PAREE'S YOUNG FORM CAN TAKE ON A TRILLION OF THESE CREATURES-LIKE BARNACLES ON THE HULL OF A SHIP-AND HE WILL NEVER DETECT THEIR PRESENCE.

THESE ONE-CELLED FORMS ARE BUT EXPERIMENTAL PATTERNS OF RESPONSE IN THE STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE AND GROW, AND IN THEIR BLIND GROPINGS, THEIR HIT-AND-MISS IMPULSES, ARE THE LABORATORY OF THE INSTINCTS TO BE, THE THRUST OF AN INVISIBLE HAIR-LIKE APPENDAGE THE FUTURE BLOW OF HOOF OR HAND.

IN THE BASIN SWIMS THE HERO OF OUR STORY, HIS TEMPORARY HOME AND HABITAT. WE WILL NOT SAY HE HAS COME TO BIRTH. WE WILL SAY THAT OUT OF THE GREEN SLIME HE MOVES WITHIN THE RANGE OF OUR OBTUSE PERCEPTIONS, THRIVING ON RAW MOLECULES AND FLOTSAM DURING HIS LONG JOURNEY UP FROM THE BOTTOMLESS DEEP. WE WILL FOLLOW HIM AND WATCH HIM GROW AND CHANGE. POSSIBLY, WE WILL COME TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT HE IS, AND WHAT IN THE FUTURE HE WILL ASPIRE TO BE."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"THEY WILL FURNISH FOOD, AS WILL THE ALGAE AND SEAWEED. NOW, ANIMALS COULD LIVE ON LAND AND NOT BE CONFINED TO WATER AND DARKNESS.

WITH THE SUNSET OF THE SILURIAN ERA A NEW COMMAND BECOMES THE ORDER OF THE TIMES: THE MIGRATION OF SEA ANIMAL TO DRY LAND, THE WATER BREATHER TURNED INTO A BREATHER OF AIR.

MANY OF THE SEA BEASTS WILL DRIFT INTO SHALLOW PLACES OR WILL BE TOSSED UPON BEACHES BY THE TIDES, AND WILL GAZE WITH FEEBLE EYES UPON A STRANGE NEW WORLD. THEY HAVE NO MINDS, NO POWER OF THOUGHT. BUT, AS PART OF THEIR HERITAGE, THERE IS AN URGE TO LEAVE THE OCEAN. THIS SAME URGE WILL LATER CAUSE SALMON TO MOVE UPSTREAM, EVEN RISKING DEATH TO SPAWN, THE URGE OF MIGRATING BIRDS TO WARMER CLIMES.

FROM THE DEEP THESE SLUGGARDS, EVENTUALLY, WILL MOVE TOWARDS A HOME ON LAND, AND THEIR MIGHTY EFFORTS WILL BE ONE OF THE GREATEST CHAPTERS IN HISTORY OF PERSISTENCE AND COURAGE. BY THE THOUSANDS, BY THE MILLIONS, THEY WILL COME TO PERISH, AND THEIR BONES WILL BECOME BURIED DEEP IN THE SANDS WHERE THEY WILL DIE. THEY HAVE GILLS, BUT WILL STRIVE TO BREATHE THE PURE, INTOXICATING AIR OF LOUISIANA. THEY HAVE PADDLES AND FINS, YET THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO WALK. THESE CREATURES WILL THRUST WET HEADS ABOVE WATER AND LOOK AROUND THEM. THEY WILL BE STRICKEN BY A BURNING INRUSH OF OXYGEN, AND THEY WILL WITHDRAW. ON SHALLOW BOTTOMS THEY WILL WADDLE ON PADDLES AND FEEL THE NEED FOR FEET. STRANDED ON SHORES BY RETREATING TIDES THEY WILL DIE THERE. THEY WILL SUFFOCATE FOR WANT OF AIR THEY CANNOT USE. BUT THEY WILL KEEP TRYING. THEY WILL HAVE INFINITE TIME."

THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"FOR THE NEW FORMS TO TAKE THEIR PLACE ALONG THE ISLETS OF THE BASIN. OUR HERO, PE'PA PAREE ABIDES TIME FOR THE MARVELOUS EVENTS TO COME.

NATURE IS NOW TO TURN HER INTERESTS, FOR THE FIRST IN HISTORY, TO CREATURES TO WHICH SHE WILL GIVE SYMPATHY AND CARE—THE CREATURES OF FEAR. FROM THE SPAWNING OF THEIR BEGINNING TILL THE DAY OF THEIR DEATH THEY WILL BE TERRIFIED. IT IS AS IF, HAVING EXPERIMENTED RECKLESSLY WITH INCALCULABLE EXTRAVAGENCE, NATURE WILL PERCEIVE AT LONG LAST THAT NEITHER SECURITY FOR LIFE NOR PERFECTION OF MACHINE-LIKE FORM IS THE GOAL SHE IS TO SEEK. ALL THESE MILLIONS OF YEARS FEAR HAS BEEN A CASUAL THING. THE KILLER-SHARKS AND THE AWESOME LIZARDS HAD BEEN HER FAVORITES, WHICH SHE SPOILED. BUT ONCE OUT OF HAND SHE IS TO DESTROY THEM. AS IF HEARTBROKEN AND IN DIRE NEED OF REMORSE, SHE IS TO TURN TO THOSE YET BORN.

IN REBELLION, DRAGONS OF BOTH LAND AND AIR, AND THOSE OF THE SEA, SHE BITTERLY WILL DESTROY. AS IF TO ACCOUNT FOR HER HEARTLESS FROLIC, SHE PREPARES THE BASIN FOR HER NEXT PROJECT. AGAIN, NEVER TO RELENT, SHE IS TO SOFTEN AND BEAUTIFY THE FORMIDABLE SWAMPS AND INLETS, TO COVER THE HILLY SECTIONS WITH FORESTS AND FROTH THE GREEN GARDENS WITH FLOWERS OF THE WILDS.

THE VALLEYS WILL TEEM WITH BRIGHTLY PATTERNED BUTTERFLIES AND SINGING BIRDS. TO THE MORNINGS AND EVENINGS SHE WILL GIVE LIGHTS AND SHADOWS, THE SUN AND SHOWERS, AND RAINBOWS AS WE KNOW THEM TODAY. BUZZARDS, WOODCOCKS, QUAIL, IBIS, AND THE PELICAN WILL BE REPRESENTED—BUT AS YET IN ANCESTRAL FORM. ALSO, OPOSSUMS, HOG-LIKE MAMMALS, HORNLESS DEER, AND ANCIENT CAMELS WILL WANDER THE MOSS-LADEN SWAMPS."



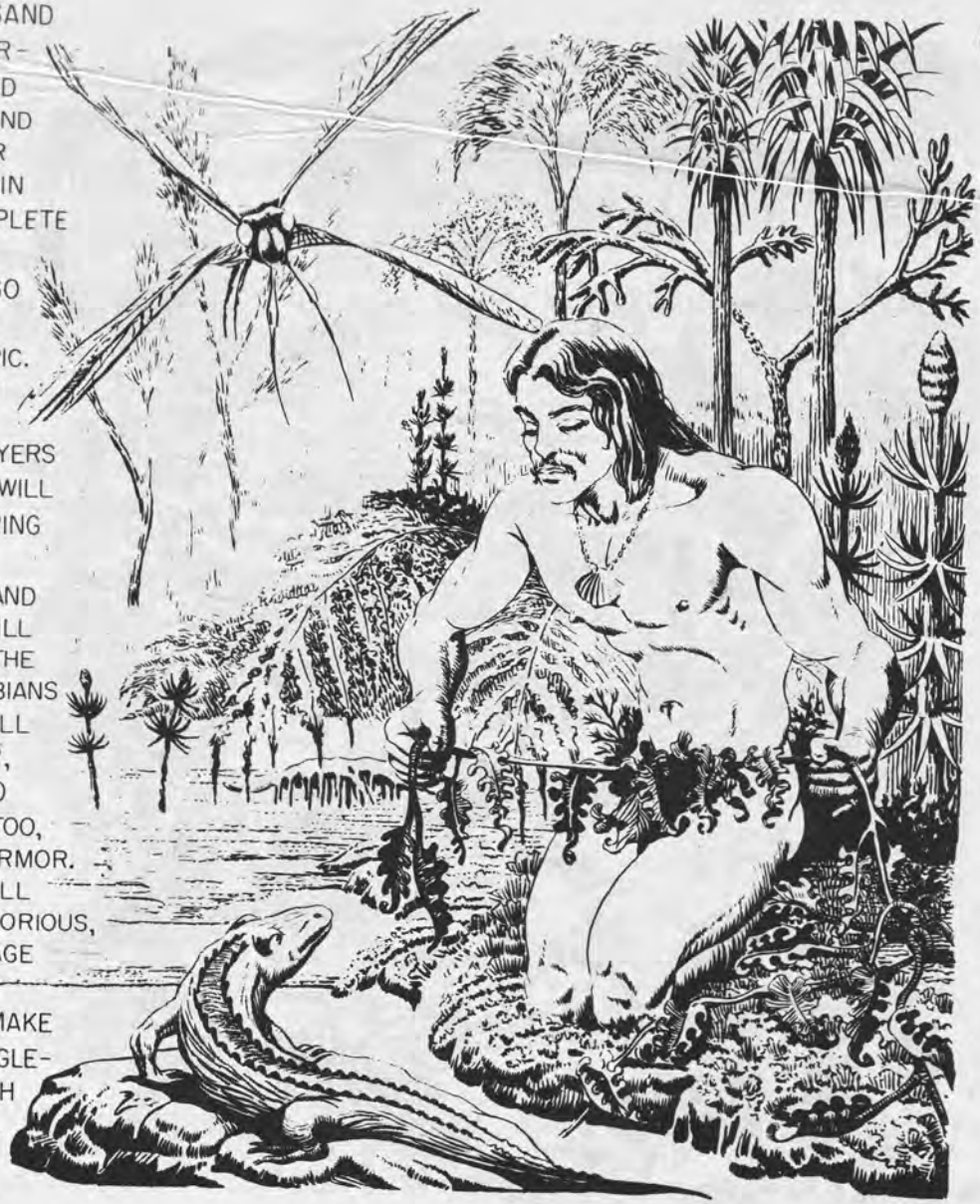
THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"NATURE WILL CARE LITTLE IF IT COSTS A THOUSAND MILLION LIVES IF IT CAN ACHIEVE ONE BARELY PERCEPTIBLE CHANGE IN THE EVOLUTION OF GILLS AND LUNGS. THE VAST LOUISIANA BASIN IS HER WOMB AND NURSERY. THERE WILL BE NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER SHE CAN THROW OUT DURING THIS UPHILL FLIGHT. IN REGARDS TO TIME SHE HAS AN ETERNITY TO COMPLETE HER TASK, IF AN ETERNITY IS NEEDED.

FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS THIS STRUGGLE WILL GO ON, AND THE MISSISSIPPIAN AND PENNSYLVANIAN PERIODS WILL COME INTO FOCUS. THE COAL AGE EPIC. CLIMATE WILL BECOME MILD. LOUISIANA WILL FOAM INTO GREEN. LATER, FERNS, RUSHES, AND STUBBY TREES WILL DIE AND PILE UP IN HUGE ROTTEN LAYERS AND BECOME BEDS OF COAL. REEFS AND ISLANDS WILL BE COMPOSED FROM THE BONES OF THE DEAD. DURING THIS FOREVER CHANGING MAW, THE WAVE WASHED REFUGEES FROM THE BASIN WILL DEVELOP EARS AND A BRAIN, RATHER THAN A MOTE. AT FIRST, THEY WILL RESEMBLE LIZARDS, FROGS, AND SALAMANDERS. THE DRAGONFLY WILL BECOME 29 INCHES LONG. AMPHIBIANS WILL GROW TO LENGTHS OF 10 TO 15 FEET. THEY WILL LIVE IN THE BOGS AND MARSHES, CLOSE TO WATER, AND SOME WILL HABITANT THE SWAMPS, LATER TO TRANSFORM INTO ALLIGATORS AND CROCODILES. TOO, SOME OF THE LARGER BEASTS WILL LOSE THEIR ARMOR. OTHERS WILL KEEP IT WITH THEM ON LAND. ALL WILL BE MONSTERS, BUT MORE INTELLIGENT, MORE VICTORIOUS, AND THEY WILL BECOME THE HERALDS OF THE IMAGE AND THE SOUL OF MAN TO BE.

PLANTS, TOO, IN THIS NEW PERMIAN ERA, WILL MAKE CHANGES TO FIT THIS MIGRATING POPULATION. JUNGLE-LANDS OF FERN-6 THOUSAND SPECIES-WILL FROTH LIKE ROLLED OUT EMERALD CARPETS. MANY WILL WEAR CROWNS OF BEAUTIFUL LEAVES."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"BOUQUET-LIKE FRONDS, OTHERS WITH DAINTY CLIMBERS, WILL CROWD THE UNDERBRUSH. CLUB MOSSES, CREEPING VINES, HORSETAILS, AND CONIFERS - THE PARENTS OF TODAY'S PINE AND FIR - WILL FOAM OVER FROM SHORE TO INLET, FROM ISLAND TO LAND IN A PRIMEVAL PARADISE.

A FEW OF THE AMPHIBIANS WILL RETURN TO THE BASIN, NEVER MATURING ENOUGH TO BECOME LAND DWELLERS. OTHERS WILL REMAIN, GROWING UP LIKE THE TADPOLE. THEY WILL BECOME THE GIANT REPTILES THAT, IN DUE TIME, WILL MULTIPLY THEIR ARMY AND RULE THE EARTH, A LIFE AND BLOOD-DRENCHED STRUGGLE THAT, AUTOMATICALLY, WILL CREATE HIGHER FORMS OF LIFE.

THIS BATTLEFIELD BRINGS ABOUT THE TRIASSIC PERIOD, 30 MILLION YEARS OF FIGHTING AND KILLING, DEVOURING MEAT RATHER THAN SEAWEED AND LEAVES. 25 MORE MILLION YEARS WILL HERALD THE JURASSIC, WHEN THE REPTILES WILL DEVELOP INTO NUMEROUS FAMILIES. TURTLES WILL REACH THEIR PRESENT FORM. SNAKES AND LIZARDS LIKEWISE. SOME WILL DEVELOP WINGS AND FLY—THE LEATHER-WINGED, FEATHERLESS PTEROSAURS, AND LATER THE PTERANODONS, WITH A WINGSPREAD OF 27 FEET. TOOTHY, WINGLESS WATERFOWL WILL SWIM IN THE BASIN, BUT IT WILL BE A MEMBER OF ANOTHER BRANCH—ARCHAEOPTEROX—WHICH WILL PRODUCE THE FIRST TRUE BIRD.

THEN, APPEARING ON THE LOUISIANA STAGE, WILL BE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TERRIBLE LIZARDS, OR DINOSAURS. FOR ALMOST 100 MILLION YEARS THESE BEASTS WILL RULE THE BASIN AND ALL THE EARTH, RANGING THE MOIST, WARMING, FOG INLAID VESTAS OF THE SWAMPS. THE ALLOSAURUS—30 FEET LONG—WILL RULE WITH TERROR. AS IF SARDONICALLY CURIOUS TO LEARN WHAT KIND OF MENAGERIE SHE CAN CREATE."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"OVER A MILLION SPECIES, WILL DOMINATE, ALONG WITH THE MORE MINIATURE LIVING TOYS: SQUIRRELS, RABBITS, HEDGEHOGS, AND BATS.

TREES, AS THEY EXIST TODAY, WILL COME TO FLOWER AND WILL FLOURISH IN THE DARKLY RICH SEDIMENT: WALNUT, OAK, ELM, ASH, HOLLY, MAGNOLIA, FIG, CYPRESS, DOGWOOD, AND YEWS. THE DELLS WILL BECOME FESTOONED WITH LUSH GRASSES ON WHICH GIANT BISON AND WILD HORSES WILL FEED. YET, MANY AGES WILL COME TO PASS BEFORE ALL THESE WONDERS FLOURISH AND PERISH AND FLOURISH AGAIN; THE PALEOCENE PERIOD-EARLIEST OF THE MAMMALS. THE EOCENE-WITH ITS ANTEATERS, SLOTHS, MONKEYS, AND CATS AND DOGS. THE OLIGOCENE-WITH COLLIE-SIZED HORSES, RINOS, HIPPOS, TIGERS, AND WILD CATS. THE MIOCENE-WITH MASTODONS, DEER, AND CAMELS. THE PLIOCENE AND PLEISTOCENE PERIODS—SWARMING WITH SHOVEL-TUSKED MASTODONS, GIANT BEARS, HUGE DOGS, HORNED RODENTS, BEAVERS, FLYING BIRDS, MUSK OX, WOLVES, AND SABER-TOOTHED CATS.

THE MAMMALS HAD COME!

THESE ARE TO BECOME THE MILK-GIVERS. THEY WILL NOT LAY EGGS, BUT WILL HOUSE THE UNBORN IN THEIR BODIES AND GIVE THEM CARE AFTER THEIR BIRTH. LOVE IS TO ENTER LOUISIANA. BUT NOT ALL IS GENTLE. LURKING ARE THE SABER-TOOTHED TIGER, THE BEAR-DOG, THE WOLF—ALL FLESH-EATERS. THE BASIN IS TO BECOME BOTH A KINDERGARTEN AND A SLAUGHTER-HOUSE FOR THE TERRIBLE AND TERRIFIED.

SPEED AND CUNNING ARE TO BE VASTLY NEEDED, AS WELL AS INTELLIGENCE. EVERY LIVING CREATURE IS TO HAVE ITS ENEMIES. IN EVERY LIVING HEART, FEAR IS TO BECOME THE VIGILANT AND VIVID LIGHTHOUSE OF THE MIND. THERE IS TO BE TWO GREAT CLANS ALONG THE BASIN, DIVIDED INTO THE KILLERS AND THE TIMID THAT FLEE."





" COURAGE THEY WILL BRING WITH THEM, A GIFT FROM THEIR SHADOWY KIN WHO STARTED OUT ON THIS PERILOUS JOURNEY IN THE BEGINNING. WITHOUT IT THEY WOULD HAVE REMAINED GAZELLES. FEAR THEY WILL INHERIT, FOR WITHOUT IT THEY WOULD HAVE REMAINED ANIMALS WITH FANGS AND CLAWS. OVER THIS SEMI-TROPICAL LAND, WHERE LARGE ANIMALS THRIVE WITH EASE, AND IN THE SLIMY BAYOUS IF THEY VENTURE THERE, STRANGE BEASTS WILL BE WAITING TO TEAR THEM LIMB FROM LIMB.

THESE DEEPLY SAVAGE PEOPLES WILL NOT BECOME MIGRATORY, AS THEIR RELATED KIN THE SALMON AND THE GOOSE, FOR THIS IS NOT NATURES PLAN FOR THEM. BUT THEY WILL BECOME NOMADIC AND WILL WANDER FROM SWAMP TO ISLET, CONFINED ONLY BY THE NATURAL BOUNDARIES EACH TRIBE CONSIDERS PRIVATE DOMAIN. THIS NOMADISM, A PART OF THEIR HERITAGE, WILL GROW OUT OF CONSTANT AND EVERLASTING FEAR.

IN THE SWAMPS THEY WILL FIND HUGE SERPENTS AND DEADLY INSECTS. UPON DRY GROUND WOLVES AND GIANT DOGS HUNTING IN PACKS. IN STREAMS ALLIGATORS AND POISONEOUS REPTILES. AND EVERYWHERE THAT THE MUCK IS SUBSTANTIAL ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THEIR WEIGHT, THE MAMMOTH, THE SABER-TOOTH, THE CAMEL, AND THE BEAR.

PERHAPS THESE FIRST LOUISIANA SETTLERS, AND WE MAY CALL THEM THE ORIGINAL CITIZENS OF THE STATE, WILL MAKE THEIR HOMES IN THE LOW BRANCHES OF THE TREES. RARELY WILL THEY HAVE TO VENTURE TO THE GROUND, FOR THEY WILL DRINK WATER FROM THE LEAVES AND NIBBLE ON BERRIES OR FRUIT WITHIN EASY REACH. SAFE IN THE HIGH LEAFY TEMPLES, THEY WILL SCOLD TO THEIR HEARTS CONTENT."







GALAXUS CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE--

LEAF EATERS

"WHERE DID MAN COME FROM? IT IS NOT KNOWN FOR CERTAIN. WHAT IS KNOWN IS A PROVEN FACT THAT MAN WAS MILLIONS OF YEARS IN THE MAKING. NO DOUBT 25 MILLION YEARS OR MORE, FROM THE MIOCENE EPOCH—THE AGE OF THE GREAT MASTODON, THE BEAR, THE CAMEL, AND THE SABER-TOOTH—TO OUR PRESENT AGE. THERE WILL BE MANY SPECIES OF MAN DURING THAT UPHILL MARCH FROM MANS FIRST HUMAN-LIKE ANCESTOR, THE APE-FACED RAMAPITHECUS TO CRO-MAGNON. MANY WILL BRANCH OFF TO FORM SOMETHING ELSE. OTHERS WILL BECOME EXTINCT. AS THEY DEVELOP PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY THEY EXPAND GEOGRAPHICALLY. THE HAIRY AFRICANUS OF SOUTH AFRICA. THE NEANDERTHAL OF EUROPE. THE CRO-MAGNON OF FRANCE, SPAIN, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THEY ARE BUT SHADOWY REFLECTIONS UPON THE MIRROR OF THE PAST. OUR BRIEF KNOWLEDGE OF THEM IS BUT A COLLECTION OF BONES, FOSSILS, POTTERY, STONE IMPLEMENTS, CAVE PAINTINGS, AND CARVINGS. THEY ARE NOT A PART OF OUR STORY. BUT A COMBINATION OF THEM ARE. THEIR DESCENDANTS, A MIXTURE OF EVERY PRE-HISTORIC FORM, WILL BE THOSE EARLY WANDERERS DRIFTING IN FROM EUROPES TUNDRA DURING THE ICE AGE. THEY WILL BECOME OUR INITIAL PIONEERS OF WHICH LOUISIANA IS RICH IN LORE. THEY WILL MIGRATE NORTH BEYOND THE ALPINE GLACIERS, ALONG THE SCANDINAVIAN AND BRITISH ICE SHEETS."

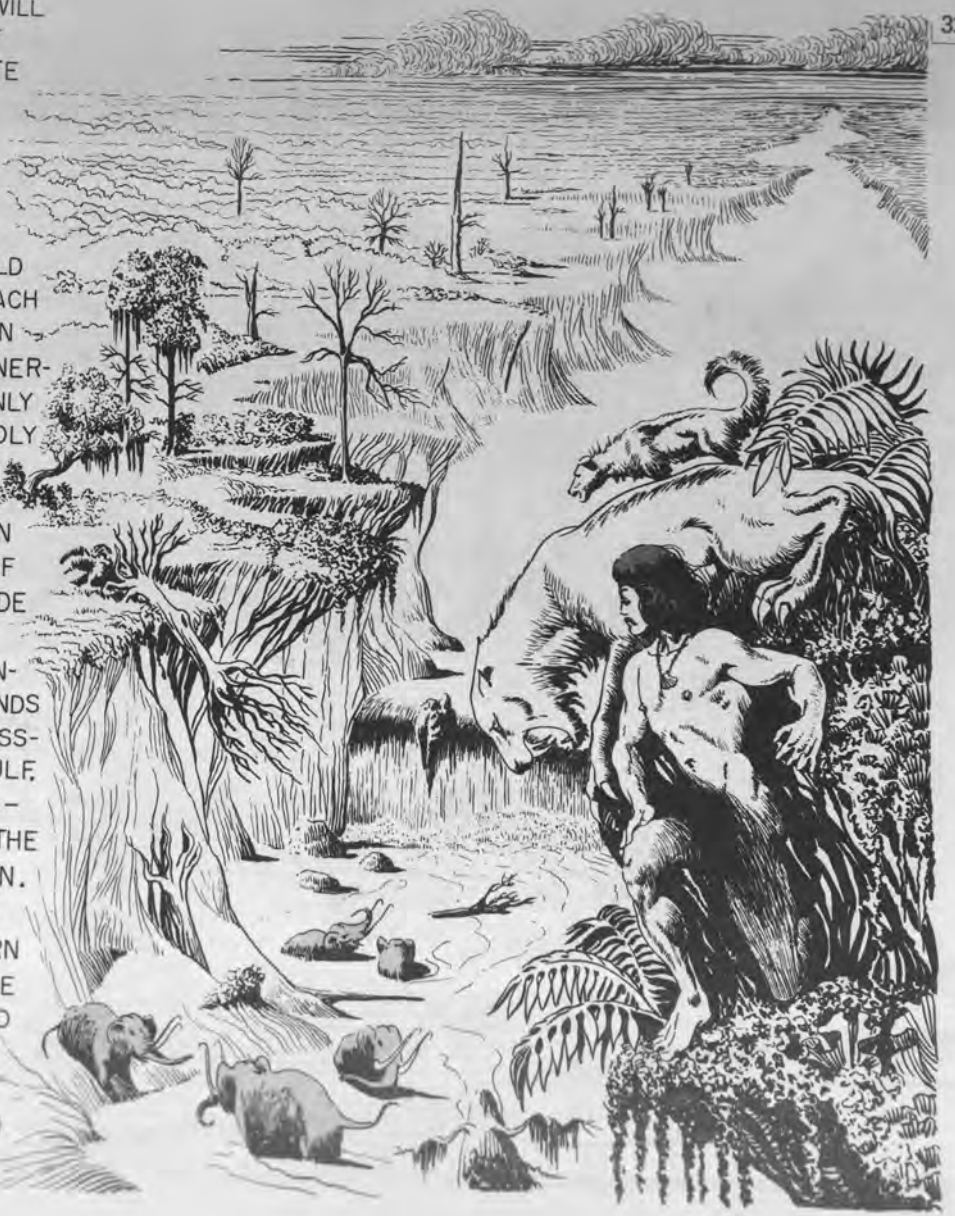




"THEN, SOUTH AGAIN DOWN INTO THE NEW WORLD. THEY WILL ENTER LOUISIANA FROM THE NORTH, FOR HALF OF THE STATE WILL BE UNDER WATER, WITH THE SITE THAT IS NEW ORLEANS YET BENEATH THE TIDES WHEN THE BABYLONIAN CIVILIZATION WAS AT ITS PEAK. THERE WILL BE NO BOATS NOR MEANS OF TRAVEL BY WATER SOUTHWESTWARD THAT COULD BRING THEM IN FROM THE GULF. SHIPS WERE UNKNOWN, AND THERE WERE NO CRAFTSMEN TO BUILD SUCH VESSELS. TOO, THEY HAD NO PLANS TO REACH A FIXED DESTINATION. THEY MERELY, OVER A SPAN OF HUNDREDS OF YEARS, GENERATION AFTER GENERATION, CROSSED THE LAND BRIDGES WITH THE ONLY COMPASS THEY KNEW, THE INSTINCTS OF THE WOOLY MAMMOTH SEEKING NEW GRAZING GROUNDS. SO, THEY WILL COME ON FOOT.

WHAT STORIES THEIR HISTORY WILL RECORD IN THAT LONG TRAIL OF BONES. WHAT KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR PRIMITIVE LIVES FROM THE SIMPLE HANDMADE ARTIFACTS SCATTERED FROM SIBERIA TO THEIR TRAILS FINAL END. THAT ENDING BUT THE BEGINNING FOR HUNDREDS WHO WILL STRAY BEYOND LANDS LOCKED IN ICE, AND DOWN THE COURSE OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO WHERE IT EMPTIES INTO THE GULF.

DURING THIS PERIOD—THE PERIOD OF THAWING—ANOTHER, YET UNKOWN, LANDFAULT WILL FORCE THE RIVER TO FURROW A GIGANTIC ARM TO THE OCEAN. THIS TROUGH WILL BE OVER A HUNDRED MILES IN WIDTH, WITH BLUFFS FORTY FEET HIGH. SOIL, WORN AWAY FROM NORTHERN CLIMES BY THE MELTING ICE WILL CAUSE THE RIVER TO SWELL. THIS PROLONGED GNAWING AWAY OF BANKS AND THE DISCHARGING OF SAND AND MUD WILL STIR LOUISIANA INTO A MIRE. THE MIGRATION OF BOTH HOMO SAPIEN AND ANIMAL WILL FIND IT ALMOST SURMERGED."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE---



"THERE ARE — THE SWANSCOMBE MAN 250,000 YEARS AGO IN ENGLAND, THE NEANDERTHALS IN EUROPE, AND THE CRO-MAGNONS DURING THE LAST ICE AGE.

MAN APPEARS IN AMERICA AT THE CLOSE OF THE PLEISTOCENE PERIOD—A MILLION YEARS AGO. PERHAPS, HE WANDERED INTO LOUISIANA OVER THE LAND BRIDGES, TRAILING THE GIANT, WOOLY MAMMOTHS WITH THE U-SHAPED TUSKS SEEKING NEW GRAZING GROUNDS. PERHAPS, DECENDANTS FROM THE MONGOLIAN RACE BY WAY OF SIBERA. FLINTS, CHISELED STONES, AND POTTERY HAVE BEEN FOUND ON AVERY ISLAND, ALONG WITH THE BONES OF THE MASTODON DATING TO PLEISTOCENE TIMES.

IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE FIRST MAN, WHEREVER HIS SOURCE, FOR HIS OWN SURVIVAL, WILL MAKE HIS ABODE THE TOP-MOST BRANCHES OF THE TREES. FOR AGES HE WILL REMAIN AN ARBOREAL TENANT, RARELY IF EVER VENTURING TO THE GROUND. OR, HE WILL HIDE IN WATERY CAVES AND ISLETS, UNATTAINABLE BY THE TERRIBLE FLESH-EATERS THAT WILL MIGRATE IN HORDES.

HE WILL LEARN TO WALK UPRIGHT, HIS HANDS FREE FOR OTHER USES. HIS SPINE WILL STRAIGHTEN. WHEN HIS FRONT LEGS BECOME ARMS AND FRONT FEET BECOME HANDS HIS MIND WILL BECOME FREE TOWARDS A PATH OF DEVELOPMENT VISIONED IN THE FULL SUNLIGHT OF HIS FUTURE. THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL SET HIM APART FROM HIS ANCESTORS, AND PRODUCE FROM HIM A CREATURE CALLED MAN. AND NEVER AGAIN WILL HIS SUPREMACY BE THREATENED, OR HIS ENEMIES BE MORE THAN HIS SLAVES.

SO THE THAWING OF THE ICE AGE—WHICH WILL ENDURE FOR 300,000 YEARS - MAN WILL BECOME STRANDED IN AMERICA. BY SUBSIDENCE, THE LAND CONNECTIONS WITH EUROPE AND ASIA WILL BREAK. NEVER AGAIN CAN MAN RETURN TO THE CRADLE OF HIS BEGINNING UNTIL HE IS ABLE TO BUILD SHIPS TO TAKE HIM THERE."



"FOR HERE STANDS A PRIMEVAL PARADISE, DEEP WITH HEMLOCK, ROSE, SORREL, AND BLACKBERRY, ALL UNDER A FRAGRANT CEILING OF LOBELIA, LIVE OAK, VERONIA, MAGNOLIA, AND PINE. THE UNDERGROWTH, OFFERING GREEN BOWERS AND DEEP RETREATS, IS FESTOONED WITH A WEALTH OF FLOWERS WHOSE ODORS SATURATE THE AIR: JASMINE, VIOLET, HONEYSUCKLE, AND HYACINTH. THE GREAT LIVE OAKS, BLACKISH-GREEN OF TRUNK, AND LACY OF FOLIAGE, SPREAD ENORMOUS DROOPING BRANCHES TO WHICH CLING BANNERS OF MOSS, AS IF EACH TREE IS UPHOLSTERED IN GRAY VELVET.

IN ALL DIRECTIONS LIES THIS WONDERLAND DRENCHING THE BREATH AND INTOXICATING THE SENSES - A STRANGE, HOLY FOREST WITH GOLDEN ISLES, WITH DARK ARBORS CANOPIED WITH DOGWOOD AND COOL MOSSES AND BLOSSOMING VINES, WITH HIGH CHAMBERS SWEET WITH FRAGRANCE AND DUSK. FROM THE LEAFY FLOOR STAND TALL, APPETIZING CLUSTERS OF SUCCULENT SHOOTS. DURING SEASON, TREES AND SHRUBS DROOP UNDER THEIR RIPE FRUIT. HERE AND THERE ARE SMALL PATCHES OF ICE AND SNOW — GRIM REMINDERS OF THE AWESOME AGE OF ICE.

THIS SEEMS THE HOME THEY HAVE, INSTINCTIVELY, BEEN SEEKING, HAVE SOUGHT FOR AGE UPON AGE. WHAT HARM CAN COME TO THEM HERE IN THIS FLOWER-BANKED HAVEN? WHAT BEAST WOULD DARE SLITHER THROUGH THIS DRAPERY OF MOSS INTO THIS EMERALD PARADISE?

THEY PAUSE FROM THEIR NOMADISM AND BASK FOR SUNLIGHTS AND DARKNESSES THAT MERGE WITH TIME WHICH MERGE INTO SEASONS AND REPEATED SEASONS AGAIN. PEPA REMAINS WITH THEM, A SILENT, SOMETIMES INVISIBLE, GUIDE AND PROTECTOR. EVENTUALLY, THEY WILL BUILD SHELTERS."




"GENERATION UPON GENERATION WILL COME TO PASS. THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF LOUISIANA, THROUGH FREQUENT BREEDING WITH OTHER INFILTRATED TRIBES, WILL BECOME VERY MUCH IN PHYSICAL APPEARANCE LIKE THE MODERN DAY CAUCASOID. THEY WILL HAVE LOST MOST OF THEIR BODY HAIR. THEIR FACIAL FEATURES WILL NO LONGER BE FLAT AND APE-LIKE, RATHER STYLIZED AND CLASSICAL.
IN TIME, THEY WILL LEARN TO BUILD SHELTERS. LATER, DOME-SHAPED HUTS. THEY WILL LEARN TO UTILIZE HEAT FROM LIGHTENING-STRUCK FOREST FIRES, AND BY RUBBING TWO STICKS OF DRY WOOD TOGETHER. THEY WILL MAKE USE OF SHELLS AND GOURDS FOR DIPPING UP WATER AND FOR DRINKING CUPS, AND SHARP TWIGS FOR FORKS AND KNIVES THEY WILL LEARN TO WEAVE SIMPLE BASKETS FROM VINES, AND TO SHAPE POTTERY FROM THE LOUISIANA GUMBO MUD."
THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE
CARL CAGLE

"THEY WILL REMAIN LEAF-EATERS FOR A VERY LONG DURATION OF TIME. THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF BERRIES AND FRUITS AND NUTS. GRADUALLY, AS THEY SHAPE TOOLS AND WEAPONS FROM BONE AND SHELL AND STONE, THEY WILL BECOME SKILLED AT USING THEM. FIRST, IT WAS HURLING STONES AT THEIR ENEMIES, AND USING A SHARP LIMB AS A RAM. THEN, AS THEY PROGRESS WITH TOOL MANUFACTURE, THEY WILL TAKE ON WAR-LIKE ATTITUDES RATHER THAN THE DOCILE DOE-LIKE AIR OF THEIR ANCESTORS.

THEY WILL OBSERVE THAT THE LARGER ANIMALS EAT THE SMALLER ONES, AND THEY WILL ADAPT THE HABIT. THEY WILL DEVOUR RABBITS, SQUIRRELS, RATS AND BIRDS_RAW. THEY WILL ROB BIRD NESTS AND SUCK THE EGGS.

MUCH LATER, BECOMING MORE BRAVE AND RECKLESS AS THEIR GLUTTONOUS APPETITE FOR RAW MEAT INCREASES, THEY WILL STALK THE WOOLY MAMMOTH AND BRING HIM TO BAY IN THE BOGS OF LOUISIANA SWAMPS.




"ONCE THESE WALKING MEAT STOREHOUSES HAVE BEEN SLAUGHTERED BY STONE AND SPEAR, THE HIDE WILL BE RIPPED OFF BY SHARP STONE-CHIPPED KNIVES. A BLOODY STRUGGLE WILL ENSUE, AS THE TRIBE, STILL SAVAGE BY NATURE, WILL FIGHT ONE ANOTHER FOR CHOICE MORSELS. WHEN THEY HAVE SATISFIED THEIR GLUTTONY, BUZZARDS WILL INVADE. WHEN THE BONES HAVE BEEN PICKED CLEAN THE TRIBE WILL CRACK THE BONES WITH ROCKS TO GET AT THE TASTY MORROW."
"THEY WILL LEARN TO TAN THE HIDES BY LAYING THEM IN THE SUN AND FURBISHING THE REVERSE SIDE WITH STONES. FROM THESE THEY WILL MAKE THEIR FIRST CLOTHING. PREVIOUSLY, THEIR ONLY CLOTHING WAS SHELL NECKLACES, ARM AND WRIST BANDS, AND FLOWERS IN THEIR HAIR— FETISHES TO ATTRACT THE OPPOSITE SEX."
CARL COLE

"MANY MANY DECADES WILL ROLL BY, SEEMINGLY UNCHANGING. BUT, THERE WILL BE MANY CHANGES IN THE DOMESTIC LIVES OF THE FIRST CHILDREN OF LOUISIANA.

FOR ONE, THEY WILL LEARN TO COOK THEIR MEAT OVER AN OPEN FIRE, RATHER THAN TO DEVOUR IT RAW. THEY WILL LEARN TO MAKE FISHHOOKS FROM THE TOE BONES OF DEER, AND SANDSTONE AWLS. THEY WILL USE DEER ANTLERS AS FLINT CHIPPING KNIVES, TURKEY BONES TO MAKE HOUSE-HOLD AIDS, AND SHARPENED BONES AS LEATHER PUNCHERS FOR LACINGS. THE MUSSEL SHELL WILL BE USED AS A SPOON, AND GRASS FIBER FOR BASKETS AND MATTING. GRADUALLY, AS THEY GAIN A MORE CIVILIZED STAGE, THEY WILL BURY THEIR DEAD RATHER THAN THROW THE BODIES OF LOVED ONES ON A BONE HEAP OUTSIDE CAMP."

STATUES

DEER ANTLER AS CHOPPING KNIFE

BONE HAIRPINS

FISHHOOKS

STONE AXHEAD

KNIFE

STONE CHOPPER

BONE AWLS

DEER ANTLER SPEARHEAD

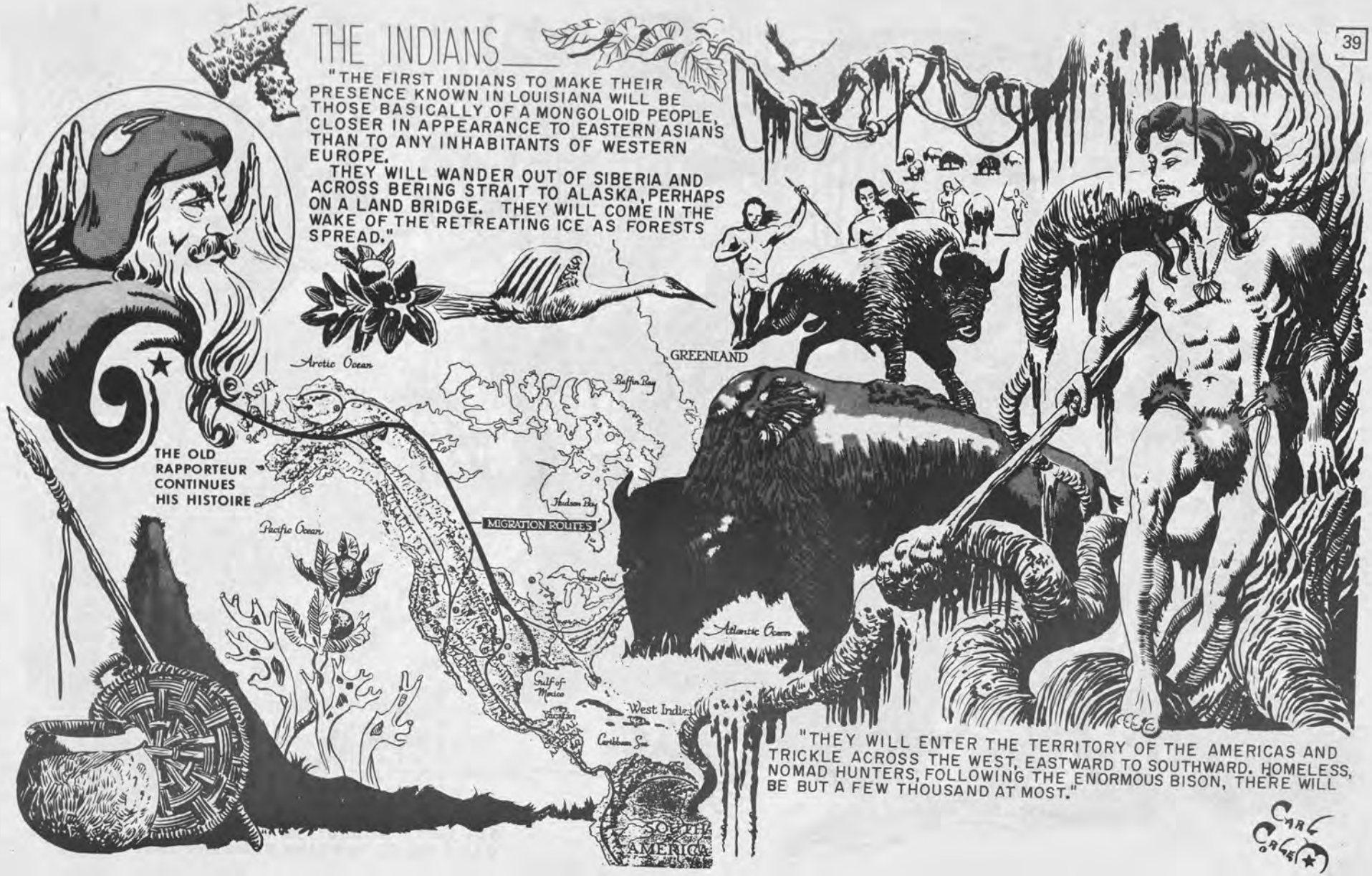
BONE LAMP PACKED WITH BEAR FAT FOR LIGHTING AT NIGHT

"ALL THIS TAKES PLACE 8,000 YEARS AGO IN SOUTHERN AMERICA— 3,000 YEARS BEFORE THE BUILDING OF THE GREAT PYRAMIDS IN EGYPT."

THE INDIANS

"THE FIRST INDIANS TO MAKE THEIR PRESENCE KNOWN IN LOUISIANA WILL BE THOSE BASICALLY OF A MONGOLOID PEOPLE, CLOSER IN APPEARANCE TO EASTERN ASIANS THAN TO ANY INHABITANTS OF WESTERN EUROPE.

THEY WILL WANDER OUT OF SIBERIA AND ACROSS BERING STRAIT TO ALASKA, PERHAPS ON A LAND BRIDGE. THEY WILL COME IN THE WAKE OF THE RETREATING ICE AS FORESTS SPREAD."



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

"THEY WILL ENTER THE TERRITORY OF THE AMERICAS AND TRICKLE ACROSS THE WEST, EASTWARD TO SOUTHWARD. HOMELESS, NOMAD HUNTERS, FOLLOWING THE ENORMOUS BISON, THERE WILL BE BUT A FEW THOUSAND AT MOST."

CARL COLE

"THE OLDEST AMERICAN MATERIAL SO FAR DATED, THAT OF HUMAN ORIGIN, WILL BE FOUND IN A LAKE-BED DEPOSIT. AS A CARBON TEST WILL SHOW IT TO BE MORE THAN 23,800 YEARS OLD.

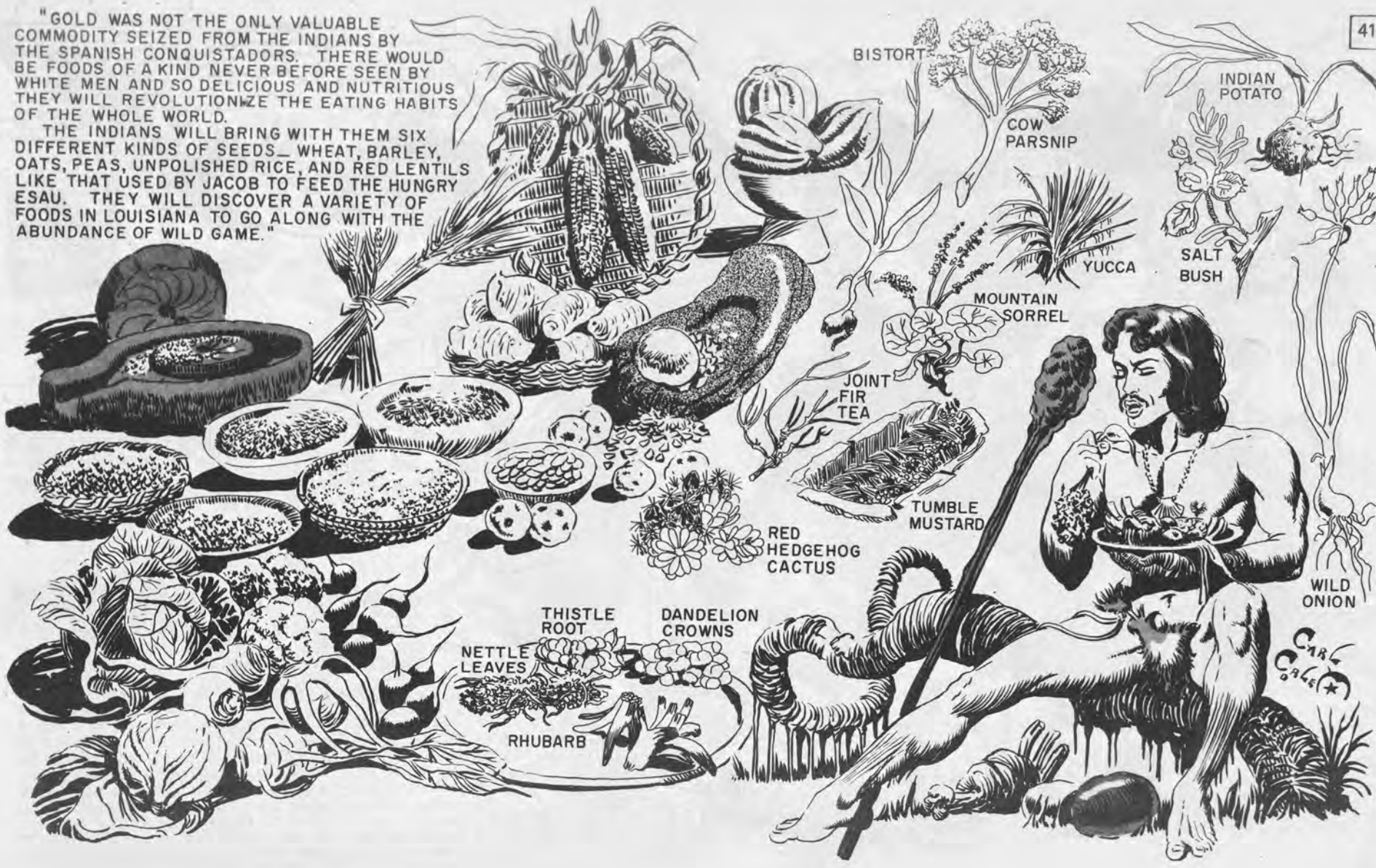
THESE GOALLESS WANDERERS WILL FINALLY SETTLE IN LOUISIANA, A FEW TRIBES AT LEAST, AND WILL BRING WITH THEM WEAPONS AND SKILL TO BATTLE SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL ANIMALS THE WORLD WILL EVER KNOW.

THEY WILL NOT BE ESPECIALLY PRIMITIVE. THEY WILL MAKE DART POINTS AND OTHER IMPLEMENTS WITH SKILL AND INGENUITY. THEY WILL HUNT ICE AGE BISON AND CAMELS, IN ADDITION TO DEER AND RABBIT. THESE GALLANT WARRIORS WILL DEPEND CHIEFLY UPON THE BISON FOR MAINTENANCE AND SUBSTANCE BUT, UNLIKE THEIR ANCESTORS, THEY WILL INCLUDE SEEDS AND GREENS ALONG WITH THEIR PREPONDERANT DIET."



"GOLD WAS NOT THE ONLY VALUABLE COMMODITY SEIZED FROM THE INDIANS BY THE SPANISH CONQUISTADORS. THERE WOULD BE FOODS OF A KIND NEVER BEFORE SEEN BY WHITE MEN AND SO DELICIOUS AND NUTRITIOUS THEY WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE EATING HABITS OF THE WHOLE WORLD.

THE INDIANS WILL BRING WITH THEM SIX DIFFERENT KINDS OF SEEDS— WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS, PEAS, UNPOLISHED RICE, AND RED LENTILS LIKE THAT USED BY JACOB TO FEED THE HUNGRY ESAU. THEY WILL DISCOVER A VARIETY OF FOODS IN LOUISIANA TO GO ALONG WITH THE ABUNDANCE OF WILD GAME."



"THEY WILL DRESS THEMSELVES IN WOLFSKINS, LAY IN WAIT AT WATERHOLES WHERE HERDS WILL COME TO DRINK, AND WILL EVEN HOWL LIKE WOLVES.

THE FIRST INDIANS WILL HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF INTELLIGENCE. IT WILL REQUIRE GREAT COURAGE, ALSO, TO OUTWIT AND TO PIT THEIR FEEBLE BODIES AGAINST THE HUGE BEASTS. BUT THEY WILL BE SUPPLIED BY NATURE FOR ALL THEIR SIMPLE NEEDS— FOOD, CLOTHING, SHELTER, WEAPONS, KITCHEN UTENSILS, AND DECORATIONS. YES— THE INDIAN WILL ALSO WEAR MAKE-UP AND JEWELRY— BEADS FROM LIGNITE, OF BONE, SHELL, AND PENDANTS FASHIONED FROM RED HEMATITE.

THOUGH THEY WILL APPRECIATE BEAUTY, THEY WILL SOMETIMES BE LAZY, CARELESS, TAKE SHORT CUTS, AND LEAVE THEIR JOBS UNFINISHED."



"THE INDIANS WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THE BOLA, A WEAPON SIMILAR TO THOSE USED ON THE ARGENTINE PAMPAS. THESE STONE BALLS, JOINED BY THONGS IN PAIRS OR SETS OF THREE, ARE TO BE HURLED AT BIRDS OR ANIMALS TO ENTANGLE THEIR LEGS AND THROW THEM TO THE GROUND."

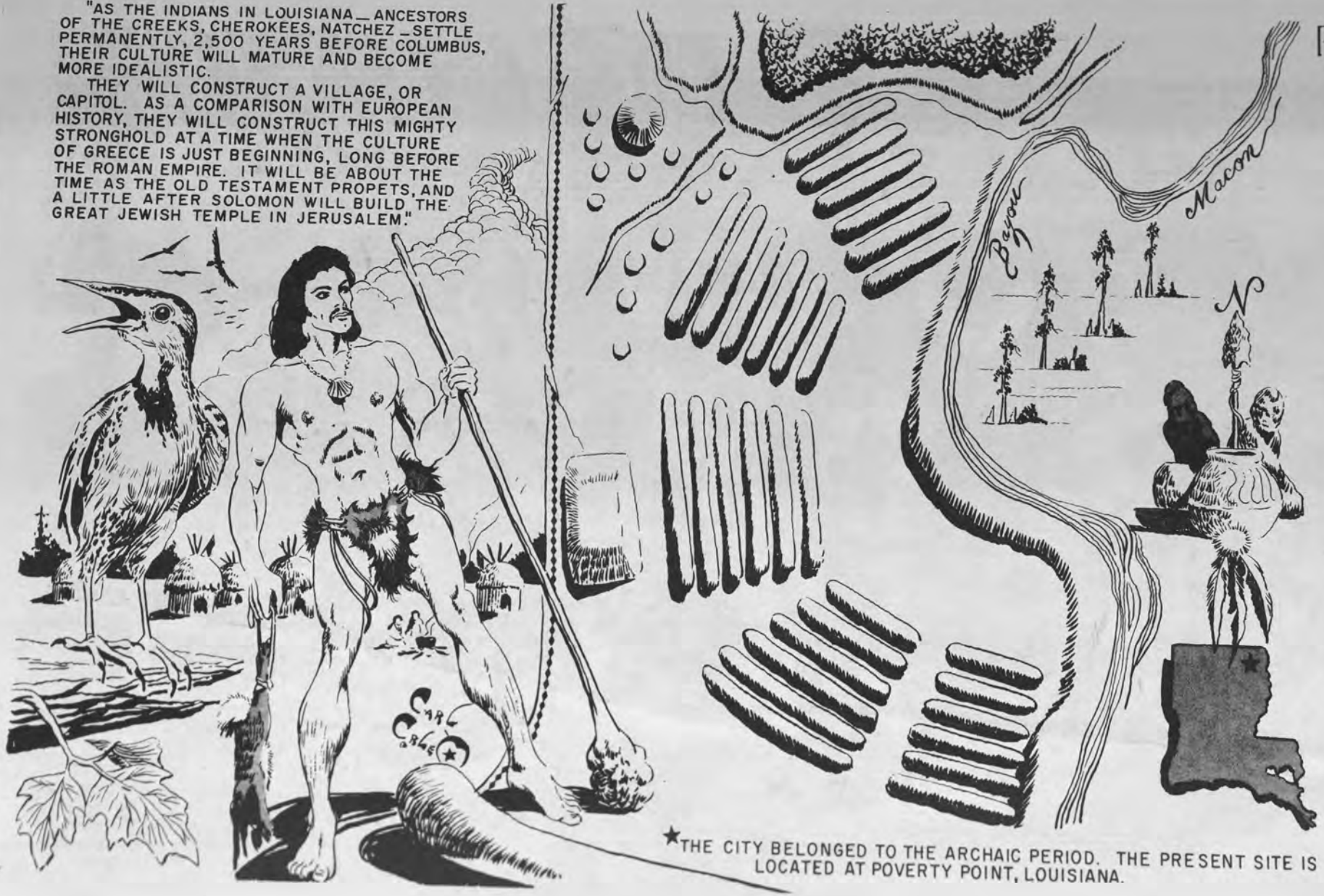
THE ATLATL



"THEY WILL STALK THE SHORT-FACED BEAR, NOW EXTINCT, WITH WEAPONS AMAZING FOR THEIR TIME, STONE-HEADED JAVELINS, FLINT KNIVES AND MISSILE HEADS. THEY WILL ALSO USE THE ATLATL, OR SPEAR THROWER, A STOUT STICK WITH A NOTCH AT ONE END ON WHICH THE BUTT END OF THE SPEAR IS HOOKED. WHEN THE ATLATL IS HURLED IN THIS MANNER IT WILL GO FARTHER AND FASTER THAN WHEN THROWN WITH THE UNAIDED ARM."

"AS THE INDIANS IN LOUISIANA — ANCESTORS OF THE CREEKS, CHEROKEES, NATCHEZ — SETTLE PERMANENTLY, 2,500 YEARS BEFORE COLUMBUS, THEIR CULTURE WILL MATURE AND BECOME MORE IDEALISTIC.

THEY WILL CONSTRUCT A VILLAGE, OR CAPITOL. AS A COMPARISON WITH EUROPEAN HISTORY, THEY WILL CONSTRUCT THIS MIGHTY STRONGHOLD AT A TIME WHEN THE CULTURE OF GREECE IS JUST BEGINNING, LONG BEFORE THE ROMAN EMPIRE. IT WILL BE ABOUT THE TIME AS THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPETS, AND A LITTLE AFTER SOLOMON WILL BUILD THE GREAT JEWISH TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM."



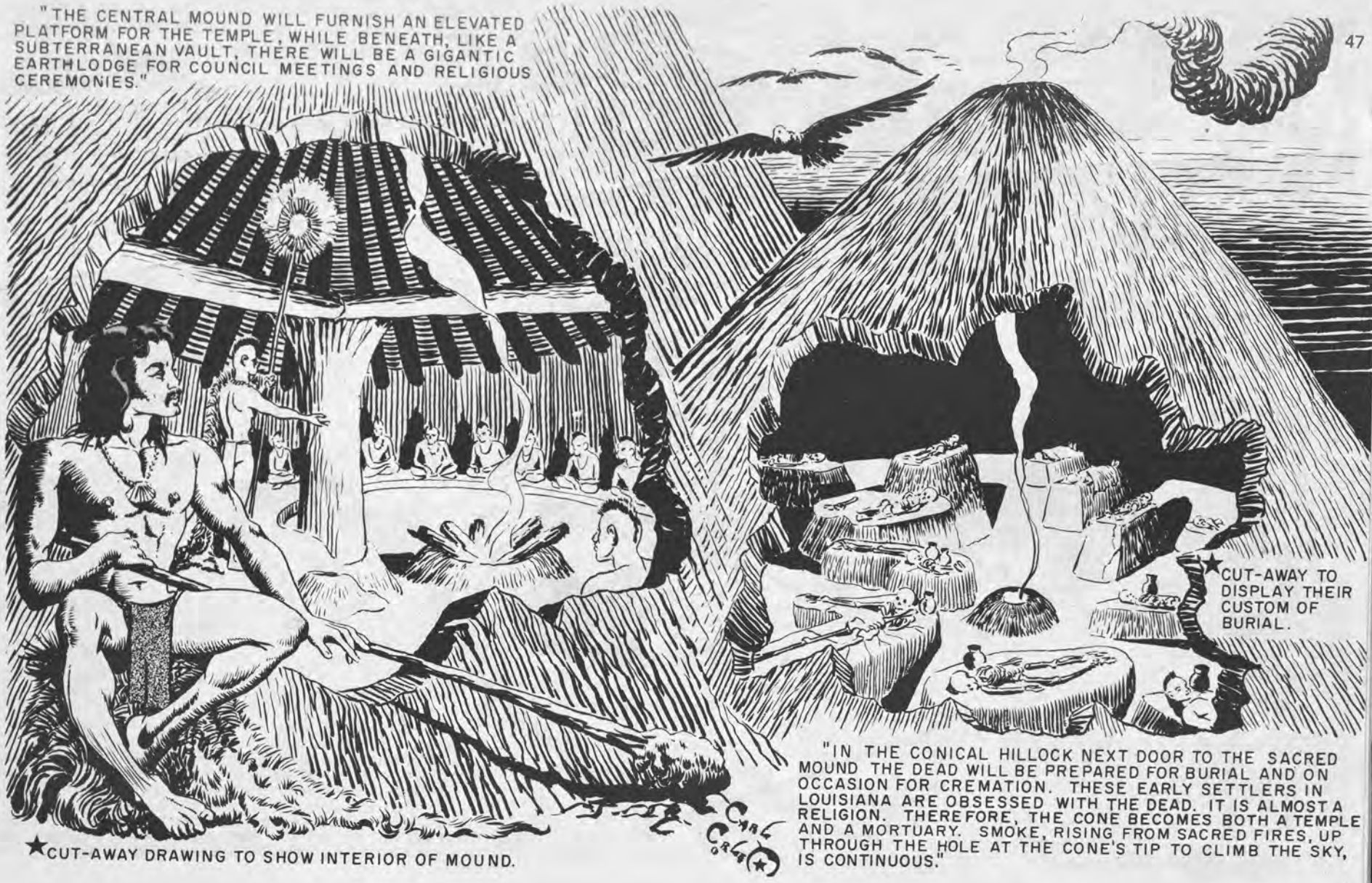
★THE CITY BELONGED TO THE ARCHAIC PERIOD. THE PRESENT SITE IS LOCATED AT POVERTY POINT, LOUISIANA.

"THE CITY WILL COVER AN AREA NEARLY A SQUARE MILE. IT WILL BE LAID OUT IN THE FORM OF AN OCTAGON, OR 8-SIDED FIGURE. THEY WILL DIG UP DIRT AND RAISE TERRACES 100 FEET WIDE. THEY WILL BUILD MOUNDS 600 FEET LONG AND 70 FEET HIGH, JOINED BY PLATFORMS. STAIRWAYS WILL LEAD TO THE TOP OF THE CENTRAL MOUND FOR CEREMONIALS. THEY WILL CONSTRUCT A CONE-SHAPED MOUND FOR THE CREMATION OF THE DEAD.

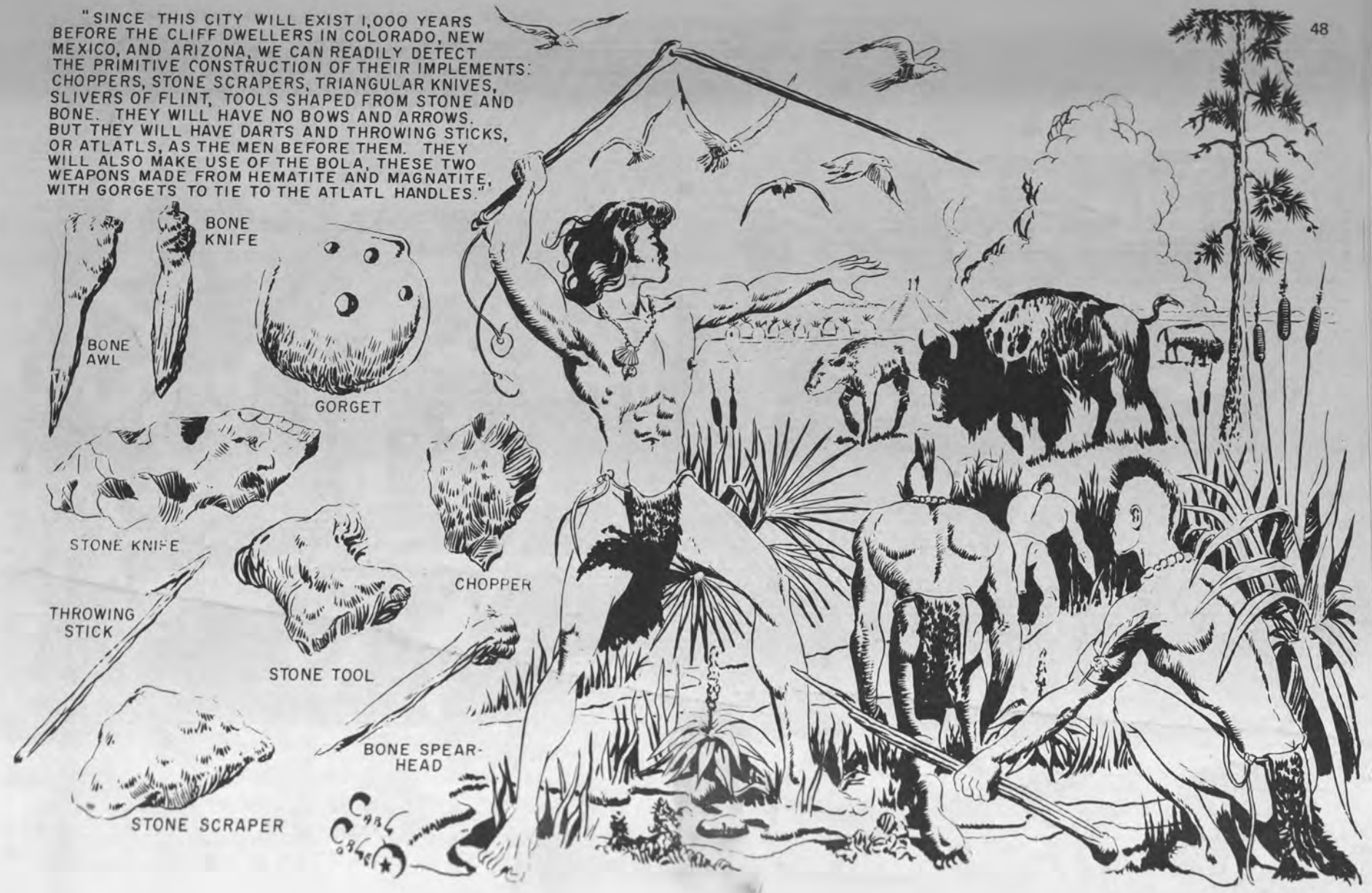
SINCE ALL OF THE DIRT DUG WILL HAVE TO BE DUG WITH STICKS AND CARRIED ON THEIR BACKS IN BASKETS, THIS WILL REQUIRE 50 MILLION BASKETS OF DIRT. ONCE COMPLETED, THE CITY WILL HOUSE 6,000 OR MORE INDIANS."




"THE INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES WILL LIVE IN BOWL-SHAPED HUTS COVERED WITH GRASS, PALMETTO LEAVES AND BARK. LIKE ALL PRIMITIVE PEOPLES, THEIR HOMES WILL BE SIMPLE STRUCTURES ABOUT THE SIZE OF ONE ROOM, AND EASY TO CONSTRUCT. LONG, FLEXIBLE POLES WILL BE THRUST IN THE GROUND IN A CIRCLE, THEN TIED AT THE TOP WITH VINES OR LEATHER THRONGS. CROSS POLES WILL BE USED TO REINFORCE THE STRUCTURE. THEN, THE ENTIRE FRAME WILL BE COVERED, EXCEPT FOR AN OPENING AT THE TOP TO ALLOW SMOKE FROM THE COOKING FIRES TO ESCAPE."
"THESE HUTS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE TERRACES, THEIR ONE DOORWAY FACING THE CEREMONIAL MOUNDS."


"THE CENTRAL MOUND WILL FURNISH AN ELEVATED PLATFORM FOR THE TEMPLE, WHILE BENEATH, LIKE A SUBTERRANEAN VAULT, THERE WILL BE A GIGANTIC EARTHLODGE FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS AND RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES."
★CUT-AWAY TO DISPLAY THEIR CUSTOM OF BURIAL.
"IN THE CONICAL HILLOCK NEXT DOOR TO THE SACRED MOUND THE DEAD WILL BE PREPARED FOR BURIAL AND ON OCCASION FOR CREMATION. THESE EARLY SETTLERS IN LOUISIANA ARE OBSESSED WITH THE DEAD. IT IS ALMOST A RELIGION. THEREFORE, THE CONE BECOMES BOTH A TEMPLE AND A MORTUARY. SMOKE, RISING FROM SACRED FIRES, UP THROUGH THE HOLE AT THE CONE'S TIP TO CLIMB THE SKY, IS CONTINUOUS."
★CUT-AWAY DRAWING TO SHOW INTERIOR OF MOUND.
CARL

"SINCE THIS CITY WILL EXIST 1,000 YEARS BEFORE THE CLIFF DWELLERS IN COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, AND ARIZONA, WE CAN READILY DETECT THE PRIMITIVE CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR IMPLEMENTS: CHOPPERS, STONE SCRAPERS, TRIANGULAR KNIVES, SLIVERS OF FLINT, TOOLS SHAPED FROM STONE AND BONE. THEY WILL HAVE NO BOWS AND ARROWS. BUT THEY WILL HAVE DARTS AND THROWING STICKS, OR ATLATLS, AS THE MEN BEFORE THEM. THEY WILL ALSO MAKE USE OF THE BOLA, THESE TWO WEAPONS MADE FROM HEMATITE AND MAGNATITE, WITH GORGETS TO TIE TO THE ATLATL HANDLES."



"THESE LOUISIANA INDIANS OF AN ADVANCED STONE AGE, THE BEGINNING OF THE AMERICAN NEOLITHIC PERIOD WITH THEIR CULTURE, WERE ONCE BELIEVED TO BE FROM THE HIGH CULTURE CENTERS OF SOUTH AMERICA. ACTUALLY THEY WERE NOT. FOR THEY HAD MASTERED MAGICAL CURES WITH THE AID OF TUBULAR PIPES UTILIZED BY ASIA FOR UNTOLD MILLENIUMS. LIKE THEIR ASIAN COUSINS THEY WILL BE FOREVER NOMADIC EVEN THOUGH FOR SOME MYSTERIOUS REASON THEY WILL COMPLETE THIS FIRST AMERICAN VILLAGE THAT WILL HAVE ABOUT IT THE APPEARANCE OF ETERNAL DURABILITY.

SO, AS TRAVELERS, THEY WILL NOT YET LEARN TO PLANT SEED AND CULTIVATE THEIR OWN FOOD AS THE INDIAN FARMER WHO WILL APPEAR HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER."



"BUT FOOD WILL BE OF GREAT ABUNDANCE IN LOUISIANA, AS NOW, AND THERE WILL BE MUCH TO CHOOSE FROM: FISH, DUCKS, TURKEYS, SQUIRRELS, RABBITS, DEER AND BISON. THERE WILL BE BERRIES AND FRUITS, NUTS AND GRAIN, ALONG WITH ROOTS AND HERBS."

"THIS PARTICULAR CIVILIZATION WILL NEVER MASTER THE ART OF POTTERY MAKING TO BE USED FOR HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS, THE STORING OF DRINKING WATER AND GRAIN, THOUGH MORE DISTANT TRIBES HAD. THEY WILL COOK THEIR FOOD IN PITS LIKE THE SOUTH PACIFIC POLYNESIANS DO TODAY. ONCE THEY HAVE FIRED THE PIT, THEY WILL DIG OUT THE ASHES AND COALS. THE PIT WILL THEN BE LINED WITH THICK GREEN LEAVES. THE MEAT AND HERBS WILL BE INSERTED. THEY WILL COVER THIS WITH A MOUND OF RED HOT CLAY BALLS ALREADY MOULDED AND PREPARED BY THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE FOOD WILL BAKE AS IN A HOT OVEN. TO BOIL WATER OR LIQUID FOODS, THEY WILL STRETCH A SKIN BETWEEN FOUR STICKS AND FILL IT WITH THE LIQUID. INTO THIS THEY WILL LAY IN A HOT STONE. THIS METHOD WILL BE CALLED "STONE BOILING."




"THEIR MANNER OF DRESS WILL BE SIMPLE. THE WOMEN WILL WEAR SKIRTS AND BELTS, THE MEN LOINCLOTHS OF RACCOON, RABBIT, FOX, AND BISON. THE CHILDREN WILL GO NAKED, EXCEPT DURING WINTER."
"THEIR ORNAMENTS WILL BE OF STONE BEADS, RED JASPER, HIGHLY POLISHED. SOME WILL BE CARVED IN THE SHAPE OF BIRDS. MANY WILL BE MADE FROM FOSSIL STEMS - CRINOIDS - AND BAKED CLAY. THEY WILL MAKE CLAY STATUES, FIGURINES, MOSTLY OF ANIMALS. THEY WILL CUT BOWLS FROM SANDSTONE, AND WEAVE BEAUTIFUL BASKETS - ONE STRIP OF WOOD OVER AND THREE UNDER, WHICH WILL RESULT IN AN INTERESTING PATTERN."
"THEY WILL HAVE DOGS AS THEIR ONLY DOMESTIC ANIMAL."
CARL CORLEY


"THOUGH THEY WILL SETTLE, THEY WILL TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY IN ORDER TO INCREASE THEIR HORDE OF SUPPLIES: SANDSTONE FROM THE ALEXANDRIA AREA, RED PAINT FROM THE HILLS, CRYSTAL AND QUARTZ FROM ARKANSAS. FROM MISSOURI, HEMATITE AND MAGNATITE, FLINTS FROM ILLINOIS, COPPER FROM LAKE SUPERIOR. SOAPSTONE FROM THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS, AXES AND ADZES - HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER - FROM THE KENTUCKY AREA."
CARL EAGLE

"TO GET THESE VALUABLE SUPPLIES, THEY WILL TRAVEL OVERLAND ACROSS MISSISSIPPI TO THE TENNESSEE RIVER, THEN UP THE RIVER TO THE MOUNTAINS.

HAVING CUT THEIR STONES, THEY WILL LOAD THEM ON RAFTS AND FLOAT DOWN THE RIVER TO THE OHIO, AND ON DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND INTO LOUISIANA."




"THERE IS NO RECORD OF HOW LONG THE VILLAGE ENDURED – HOW MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS. BUT IT WILL BE COMPLETED, LIVED IN, AND FLOURISHING WITH NEW CULTURES LONG BEFORE THE WONDEROUS CITIES OF THE AZTECS, TOLTECS, AND MAYAS HAVE EVEN EVOLVED.
THEY WILL BE VISITED BY INDIANS FROM OTHER TRIBES, MULTIPLYING THEIR NUMBER. INDIANS WILL ARRIVE FROM MEXICO, BRINGING AGRICULTURE, TOBACCO, PIPE SMOKING, THE BOW AND ARROW, POTTERY, CORN OR MAIZE, AND ERECTING ADDITIONAL MOUNDS TO BURY THEIR DEAD."
"MUCH LATER, THEY WILL BREAK UP, SCATTER TO ARKANSAS, MISSISSIPPI AND ALONG LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN. IT WILL BE A QUESTION AS TO WHY THEY WOULD DESERT THE MOST TREMENDOUS COMMUNAL CITY IN AMERICA FOR THE UNKNOWN. WE CAN ONLY GUESS: REBELLION AGAINST THEIR LEADERS, OVERWORK AND SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME IN BUILDING AND CEREMONIES.
WHATEVER THE REASON, IT WILL MARK THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD IN LOUISIANA."


"THE INDIANS, OR ASIANS, WHO WILL FOLLOW ON THE DESOLATION OF THE MEN OF POVERTY POINT WILL ARRIVE 1200 YEARS LATER. PERHAPS, THEY WILL BECOME FRIENDS WITH THE LAST SURVIVORS OF THESE ADVANCED STONE AGE PEOPLE AND EXCHANGE IDEAS AND CUSTOMS. CLAY PIPES WILL BE UNEARTHED IN THAT VILLAGE SITE. YET, THERE MAY WILL BE A WIDE GAP BETWEEN THE TWO CULTURES. BUT AFTER POVERTY POINT WILL BECOME ABANDONED, IT WILL BE 500 YEARS OR MORE BEFORE ANY OTHER INDIAN VILLAGE CAN BOAST OF BUILDING SUCH TREMENDOUS CEREMONIAL MOUNDS.
LATER, THE TCHEFUNCTE PEOPLE, WHO WILL MIGRATE TO THE GULF REGIONS OF LOUISIANA, WILL MAKE CLAY BALLS, BEADS AND PIPES. THESE PEOPLE WILL NO DOUBT BE THE DESCENDENTS OF THE POVERTY POINT ASIANS. AND, AS EACH NEW GENERATION WILL GROW AND FLOURISH, TO PROGRESS IN THE STILL YET PRIMEVAL TIMES AHEAD, THEY WILL MINGLE AND LEARN FROM THE MORE CIVILIZED INDIANS FROM MEXICO."
CARL CALLE

"BEFORE THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD RINGS DOWN THE CURTAIN, NUMEROUS OTHER GROUPS OF INDIANS, IF NOT ALREADY ARRIVED, WILL MIGRATE TO LOUISIANA. ONE OF THESE WILL BE THE MARKSVILLE INDIANS, WHOSE CULTURE WILL EXTEND 2,000 YEARS INTO THEIR PAST. THESE PEOPLE WILL BE OF THE MONGOLIAN RACE. THEY WILL HAVE LAVA-COLORED SKIN, BLACK, STRAIGHT HAIR, AND HIGH CHEEK BONES. THEY MAY HAVE WAFTED ACROSS THE PACIFIC ON RAFTS. THEIR ANCESTORS WILL BE SCATTERED OVER THE WHOLE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA. MANY LANGUAGES AND CULTURES WILL DEVELOP THROUGH THESE PEOPLE. THEY WILL BRING WITH THEM COPPER, AND INSTRUMENTS MADE OF COPPER FROM LAKE SUPERIOR. THEY WILL CONSTRUCT FIVE MOUNDS ON A 40-ACRE BLUFF OVERLOOKING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. THEIR HOMES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OF WOODEN POLES WITH MUD PLASTERED ROOFS COVERED WITH GRASS. THEY WILL BUILD GRANARIES ABOVE GROUND TO KEEP OUT THE MICE. THEY WILL BURY THEIR DEAD IN MOUNDS, AND FARM THE RICH LANDS, RAISING CORN, PUMPKINS, MELONS AND BEANS. THEY WILL ADOPT THE ANCIENT AND CRUEL HABIT OF FLATTENING THE FOREHEADS OF THEIR INFANTS."



"EVENTUALLY, THE INDIANS WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THREE LINGUISTIC GROUPS - MUSKHOGEAN, TUNICAN, AND CADDOAN. BUT EACH GROUP WILL BECOME SUBDIVIDED INTO LESSER TRIBES."

★ALL THE TRIBES THAT SETTLED IN LOUISIANA DURING THE PREHISTORIC PERIOD HAD THREE THINGS IN COMMON: KNOWLEDGE OF THE TERRAIN, AN INSTINCTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF WILD ANIMALS, AND AN UNCANNY SKILL AT HUNTING. THEY CAPTURED DEER BY EXHAUSTING THEM. THEY TRAPPED BEARS IN HOLLOW LOGS. THEY BAGGED SMALL GAME WITH THE USE OF FIRE, AND FISH WITH POISON. THEY EVEN STALKED THE WILD TURKEY WITH DOGS.



"THE STORY OF THE INDIAN WILL NOT END WITH THE FINALE OF PREHISTORY IN LOUISIANA, THOUGH WE MUST LEAVE THEM MOMENTARILY SO THAT OTHER PEOPLES CAN HAVE THEIR DRAMATIC SAGA IN THE ANNUALS OF HISTORY.

TO ALLOW THEM ONE MORE BRIEF MOMENT, THE INDIANS WILL EVENTUALLY LIVE IN STOCKADED VILLAGES. THEY WILL BUILD GREATER TEMPLES AND BROADEN ON ALL HORIZONS. THOUGH DOCILE AND PEACEFUL IN THE BEGINNING, THEY WILL BECOME FIERCE AND WARLIKE, WILL FORTIFY THEIR STRONGHOLDS AND MAKE WAR, NOT ONLY WITH OTHER TRIBES, BUT WITH THE NEW EXPLORERS VENTURING INTO THE STATE. ON OCCASION, THEY WILL COME TO THE AID OF THE SETTLERS, SIGN TREATIES AND ALLIANCES WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

YET, THEN AS NOW, THE INDIAN WILL COME TO LOSE HIS IDENITY. THEY WILL ALWAYS INHERIT THAT FATAL DESTINATION OF VANISHING INTO NOWHERE OR BECOMMING EXTINCT.

AT THE HEIGHT OF THEIR POPULATION THEY WILL NUMBER, IN LOUISIANA, A TOTAL OF 13,000- OR ONE INDIAN TO EVERY SQUARE MILE. THEIR LOWEST, ONLY 409."





THE AUTHOR'S NOTE.....

SO, WE HAVE REACHED THE END OF PREHISTORY IN LOUISIANA- THAT IS RECORDED HISTORY. ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED BEFORE HAS BEEN GLEANED FROM DISCOVERED ARTI-FACTS, BITS OF EVIDENCE HERE AND THERE, AND MERE SPECULATION.

NOW WE HAVE SEEN A GLINT OF SOME OF IT: THE HAIRY, BARREL-CHESTED MAN DEVELOP INTO A SLEEK, CIVILIZED ADONIS. WE HAVE SEEN NUMEROUS RACES AND CHANGES IN THE HUMAN ANATOMY OVER MILLIONS OF YEARS THROUGH MIXED BREEDING AND THE MIGRATION OF VARIOUS HUMANS FROM OTHER MORE DISTANT CLIMES. WE HAVE OBSERVED MANS SLOW, UPHILL FLIGHT FROM THE DARKNESS AND THE DEEP TO FIND THE CATHEDRAL OF HIS SOUL. IT HAS TAKEN HIM A LONG TIME.

LET US GO BACK AND FIND HIM AGAIN IN THAT TERRIBLE DARKNESS.

THE EARLIEST SIGNS OF MAN WAS THE DISCOVERY OF A TOOL-MAKING MAN WHO HAD LIVED 1,750,000 YEARS AGO IN AFRICA. THERE WAS THE SKELETON OF A YOUNG GIRL FOUND IN MINNESOTA WHO HAD LIVED THERE 20,000 YEARS AGO. IN TULE SPRINGS, NEVADA—CHARCOAL FROM A COOK FIRE SAID TO BE 23,800 YEARS OLD. ICE AGE MAN-10,000.

THEN THE GREATEST PROOF OF ALL. SOMEONE STUMBLED UPON A CAVERN IN ALABAMA AND FOUND TONS OF ARTI-FACTS THAT SUPPLIES OUR LONG-SEARCHED ANSWER. THE HAIRY PREHISTORIC MAN HAD LIT THOSE EERIE WALLS WITH HIS BONE LAMP THOUSANDS OF YEARS BEFORE CHRIST WAS BORN. MAN HAS, INDEED, BEEN WITH US A LONG TIME, EVEN IN OUR OWN WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

IF THE READER WISHES TO FEEL THAT I WEAKEN THE CAUSE OF RELIGION, I ONLY ASK WHAT GREATER MIRACLE GOD CAN CITE THAN BIRTH, PHYSICAL LIFE AND MENTAL INTELLIGENCE.

.....CARL CORLEY



★ BEFORE WE CONTINUE THE HISTORY OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, LET US LOOK IN ON PE'PA PAREE AND TEE SHARLE WHO ARE STILL MAROONED IN THE CAVERN THAT LIES BENEATH THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN.

CARL CORLEY ★



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

THE WHITE MAN

"IT MAY COME AS A SURPRISE TO YOU STUDENTS, AND TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS AS WELL, BUT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DID NOT DISCOVER AMERICA. NEITHER DID THE VIKING EXPLORER, LIEF ERIKSON.

ADVENTURERS FROM FOREIGN LANDS WERE TRUDGING ACROSS THE SHORELINES OF BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA MORE THAN 3,000 YEARS BEFORE COLUMBUS OR ERIKSON WERE BORN.

CHINESE GEOGRAPHERS, IN A REPORT TO EMPEROR YU, STATED THAT THEY HAD VISITED WHAT IS NOW WESTERN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES IN 2,200 B.C. THEY CLAIMED ALSO THAT THEY HAD LANDED AT A PLACE NAMED FUSANG, AND FUSANG IS THE IDEOGRAPH FOR MEXICO.

LIBYAN SEAMEN, WITH A SIX SHIP EXPEDITION, LEFT THE LAND OF EGYPT IN 233 B.C. THEY MOORED ON THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA IN AUGUST OF 231 B.C. WRITING ON AN ANCIENT STONE DISCOVERED IN BOURNE, MASSACHUSETTS WAS IN THE IBERIAN LANGUAGE. IN TRANSLATION, IT STATED THAT A SPANISH KING, HANNO, HAD VISITED THERE. TIME— 400 YEARS BEFORE CHRIST WAS BORN.

AN IRISH NAVIGATOR NAMED ST. BRENDAN SAILED ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN WITH A GROUP OF MONKS IN THE FIFTH CENTURY A.D.— MORE THAN 900 YEARS BEFORE COLUMBUS WAS BORN. THE VOYAGE WAS MADE IN A BOAT 30 FEET IN LENGTH, MADE OF LEATHER AND GREASED WITH OIL. HE LATER DESCRIBED ICELAND, GREENLAND AND THE SAINT LAWRENCE RIVER IN VIVID DETAIL.

THE MOST VALUABLE PIECE OF EVIDENCE IS THE "PIRI RE'IS" MAP DATED 1513 A.D. IT SHOWS THE CORRECT RELATIVE LONGITUDE ACROSS AFRICA AND THE ATLANTIC TO BRAZIL, THE PROFILE OF THE COASTLINE OF SOUTH AMERICA LONG BEFORE HISTORY RECORDS THAT THEY WERE CHARTED."

CARL GARGE

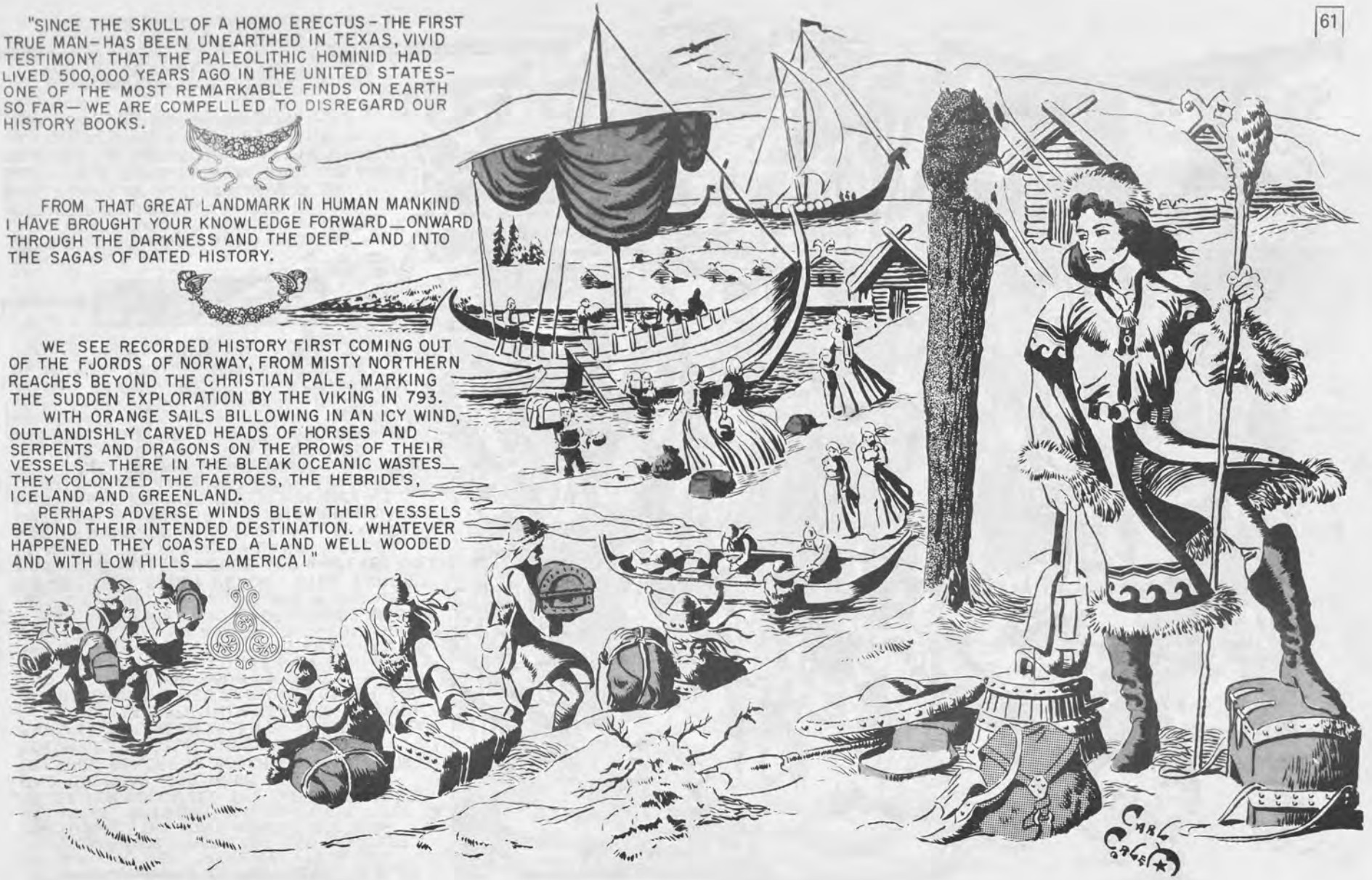
"SINCE THE SKULL OF A HOMO ERECTUS - THE FIRST TRUE MAN - HAS BEEN UNEARTHED IN TEXAS, VIVID TESTIMONY THAT THE PALEOLITHIC HOMINID HAD LIVED 500,000 YEARS AGO IN THE UNITED STATES - ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE FINDS ON EARTH SO FAR — WE ARE COMPELLED TO DISREGARD OUR HISTORY BOOKS.

FROM THAT GREAT LANDMARK IN HUMAN MANKIND I HAVE BROUGHT YOUR KNOWLEDGE FORWARD — ONWARD THROUGH THE DARKNESS AND THE DEEP — AND INTO THE SAGAS OF DATED HISTORY.

WE SEE RECORDED HISTORY FIRST COMING OUT OF THE FJORDS OF NORWAY, FROM MISTY NORTHERN REACHES BEYOND THE CHRISTIAN PALE, MARKING THE SUDDEN EXPLORATION BY THE VIKING IN 793.

WITH ORANGE SAILS BILLOWING IN AN ICY WIND, OUTLANDISHLY CARVED HEADS OF HORSES AND SERPENTS AND DRAGONS ON THE PROWS OF THEIR VESSELS — THERE IN THE BLEAK OCEANIC WASTES — THEY COLONIZED THE FAEROES, THE HEBRIDES, ICELAND AND GREENLAND.

PERHAPS ADVERSE WINDS BLEW THEIR VESSELS BEYOND THEIR INTENDED DESTINATION. WHATEVER HAPPENED THEY COASTED A LAND WELL WOODED AND WITH LOW HILLS — AMERICA!"



"IN VIKING SHIPS 100 FEET LONG, DESIGNED TO CARRY 60 MEN, THESE HEARTY BLOND WARRIORS MADE THEIR LAST AND GREATEST CONQUEST—THIS TIME ACROSS THE WIDE ATLANTIC. BETWEEN 800, WHEN THE FIRST NORSEMEN COLONIZED THE FAEROE ISLANDS, AND THE YEAR 1000, WHEN THEY FINALLY STEPPED ASHORE IN NORTH AMERICA, THEIR COLORFUL VESSELS HAD EXPLORED MORE THAN 3,000 LINEAR MILES OF UNKNOWN OCEAN.

IN THE YEAR 870 THEY REACHED ICELAND. IN 982 ERIC THE RED EXPLORED GREENLAND, AND COLONIZATION SOON FOLLOWED. BJARNI HERJULFSSON SIGHTED THE NEW WORLD IN 986, BUT NO ONE SET FOOT ON AMERICAN SOIL UNTIL THE VOYAGE OF ERIC'S SON, LEIF.

LEIF CAME FIRST TO A FORBIDDING MASS OF MOUNTAINS. HE SAILED SOUTH AND WENT ASHORE ON A SANDY BEACH. STILL FURTHER SOUTH HE BUILT A HOUSE AND WINTERED THERE. HE NAMED THE PLACE VINLAND. LATER, ANOTHER SON OF ERIC, THORVALD, EXPLORED FURTHER, COMING UPON A TRIBE OF INDIANS. THEY WERE FRIGHTENED OF HIM AND HIS CREW. THEN CAME THORFINN KARLSEFNI. HE SAILED TO LEIF'S OLD WINTER QUARTERS. HIS WIFE GAVE BIRTH TO A BOY NAMED SNORRI—THE FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN AMERICA."

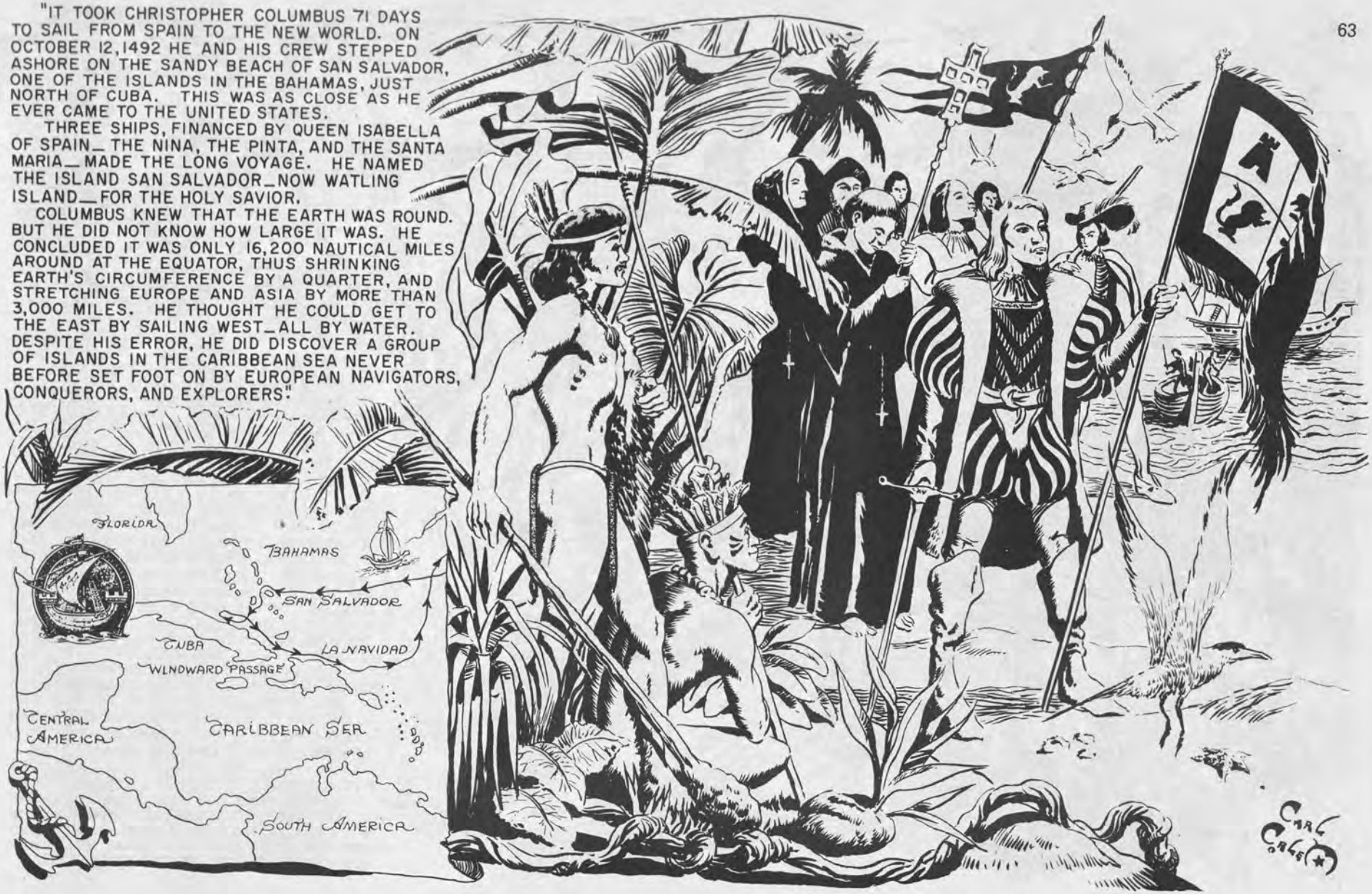


★ A STONE MARKER WITH VIKING WRITING ON IT WAS FOUND ON WEST BANK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEAR PORT HUDSON. OTHER SIMILAR MARKERS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED FURTHER WEST IN TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO, INDICATING THAT THE VIKINGS HAD MOORED THEIR VESSELS ON THE RIVER AND TRAVELED FOR GREAT DISTANCES OVERLAND.

"IT TOOK CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS 71 DAYS TO SAIL FROM SPAIN TO THE NEW WORLD. ON OCTOBER 12, 1492 HE AND HIS CREW STEPPED ASHORE ON THE SANDY BEACH OF SAN SALVADOR, ONE OF THE ISLANDS IN THE BAHAMAS, JUST NORTH OF CUBA. THIS WAS AS CLOSE AS HE EVER CAME TO THE UNITED STATES.

THREE SHIPS, FINANCED BY QUEEN ISABELLA OF SPAIN— THE NINA, THE PINTA, AND THE SANTA MARIA— MADE THE LONG VOYAGE. HE NAMED THE ISLAND SAN SALVADOR— NOW WATLING ISLAND— FOR THE HOLY SAVIOR.

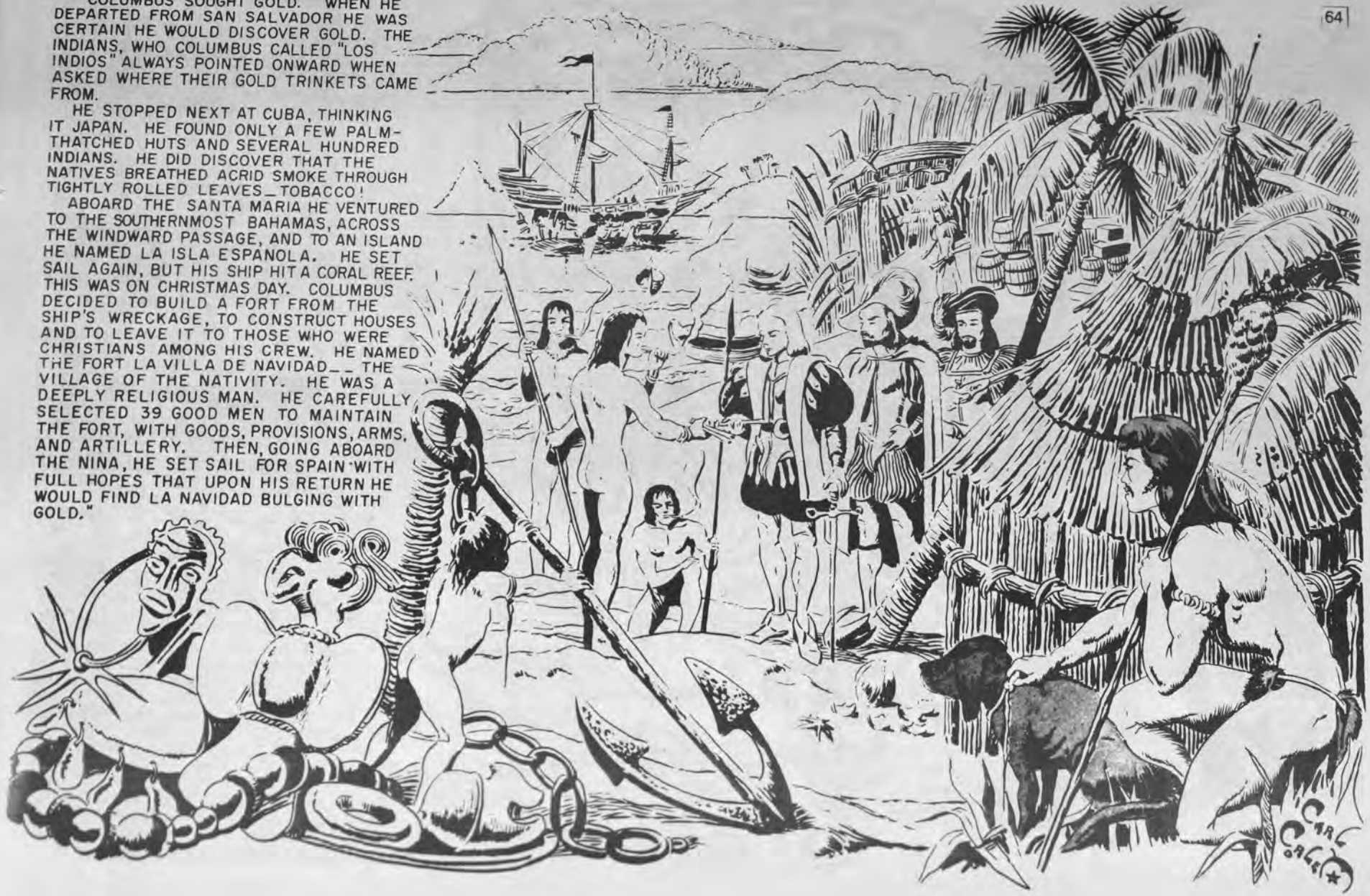
COLUMBUS KNEW THAT THE EARTH WAS ROUND. BUT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW LARGE IT WAS. HE CONCLUDED IT WAS ONLY 16,200 NAUTICAL MILES AROUND AT THE EQUATOR, THUS SHRINKING EARTH'S CIRCUMFERENCE BY A QUARTER, AND STRETCHING EUROPE AND ASIA BY MORE THAN 3,000 MILES. HE THOUGHT HE COULD GET TO THE EAST BY SAILING WEST— ALL BY WATER. DESPITE HIS ERROR, HE DID DISCOVER A GROUP OF ISLANDS IN THE CARIBBEAN SEA NEVER BEFORE SET FOOT ON BY EUROPEAN NAVIGATORS, CONQUERORS, AND EXPLORERS."



"COLUMBUS SOUGHT GOLD. WHEN HE DEPARTED FROM SAN SALVADOR HE WAS CERTAIN HE WOULD DISCOVER GOLD. THE INDIANS, WHO COLUMBUS CALLED "LOS INDIOS" ALWAYS POINTED ONWARD WHEN ASKED WHERE THEIR GOLD TRINKETS CAME FROM.

HE STOPPED NEXT AT CUBA, THINKING IT JAPAN. HE FOUND ONLY A FEW PALM-THATCHED HUTS AND SEVERAL HUNDRED INDIANS. HE DID DISCOVER THAT THE NATIVES BREATHED ACRID SMOKE THROUGH TIGHTLY ROLLED LEAVES—TOBACCO!

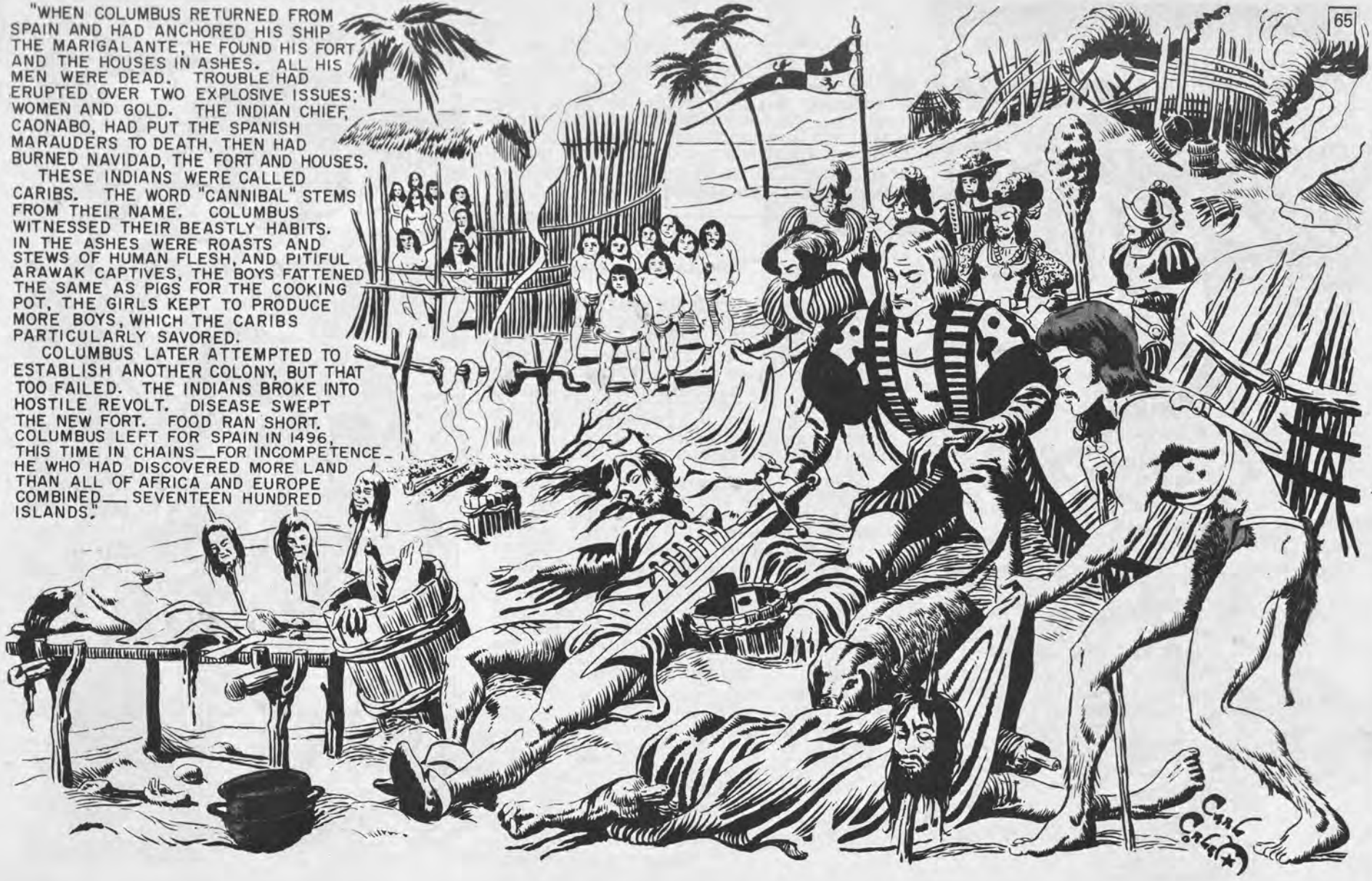
ABOARD THE SANTA MARIA HE VENTURED TO THE SOUTHERNMOST BAHAMAS, ACROSS THE WINDWARD PASSAGE, AND TO AN ISLAND HE NAMED LA ISLA ESPANOLA. HE SET SAIL AGAIN, BUT HIS SHIP HIT A CORAL REEF. THIS WAS ON CHRISTMAS DAY. COLUMBUS DECIDED TO BUILD A FORT FROM THE SHIP'S WRECKAGE, TO CONSTRUCT HOUSES AND TO LEAVE IT TO THOSE WHO WERE CHRISTIANS AMONG HIS CREW. HE NAMED THE FORT LA VILLA DE NAVIDAD— THE VILLAGE OF THE NATIVITY. HE WAS A DEEPLY RELIGIOUS MAN. HE CAREFULLY SELECTED 39 GOOD MEN TO MAINTAIN THE FORT, WITH GOODS, PROVISIONS, ARMS, AND ARTILLERY. THEN, GOING ABOARD THE NINA, HE SET SAIL FOR SPAIN WITH FULL HOPES THAT UPON HIS RETURN HE WOULD FIND LA NAVIDAD BULGING WITH GOLD."

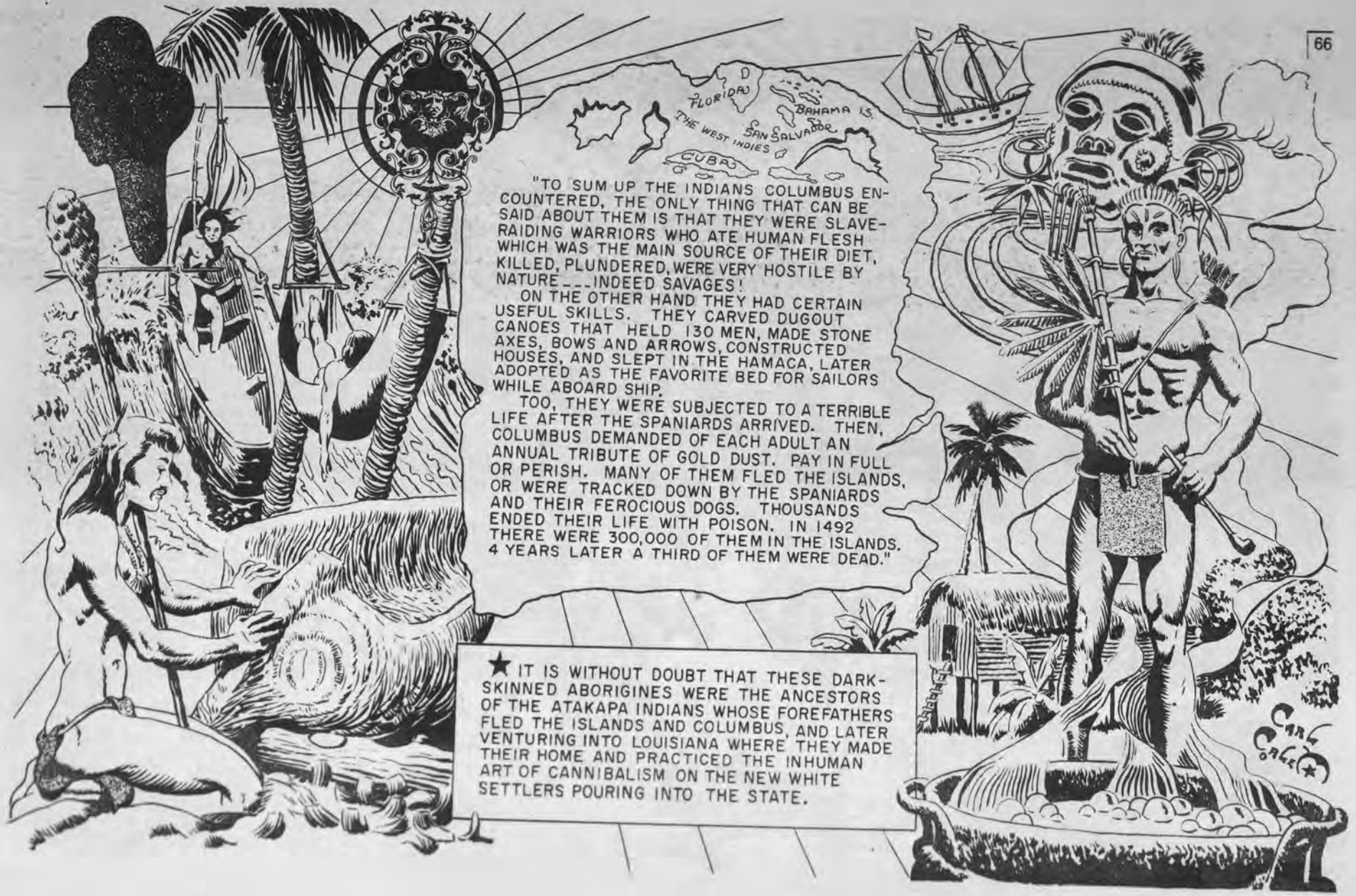


"WHEN COLUMBUS RETURNED FROM SPAIN AND HAD ANCHORED HIS SHIP THE MARIGALANTE, HE FOUND HIS FORT AND THE HOUSES IN ASHES. ALL HIS MEN WERE DEAD. TROUBLE HAD ERUPTED OVER TWO EXPLOSIVE ISSUES: WOMEN AND GOLD. THE INDIAN CHIEF, CAONABO, HAD PUT THE SPANISH MARAUDERS TO DEATH, THEN HAD BURNED NAVIDAD, THE FORT AND HOUSES.

THESE INDIANS WERE CALLED CARIBS. THE WORD "CANNIBAL" STEMS FROM THEIR NAME. COLUMBUS WITNESSED THEIR BEASTLY HABITS. IN THE ASHES WERE ROASTS AND STEWS OF HUMAN FLESH, AND PITIFUL ARAWAK CAPTIVES, THE BOYS FATTENED THE SAME AS PIGS FOR THE COOKING POT, THE GIRLS KEPT TO PRODUCE MORE BOYS, WHICH THE CARIBS PARTICULARLY SAVORED.

COLUMBUS LATER ATTEMPTED TO ESTABLISH ANOTHER COLONY, BUT THAT TOO FAILED. THE INDIANS BROKE INTO HOSTILE REVOLT. DISEASE SWEPT THE NEW FORT. FOOD RAN SHORT. COLUMBUS LEFT FOR SPAIN IN 1496, THIS TIME IN CHAINS—FOR INCOMPETENCE— HE WHO HAD DISCOVERED MORE LAND THAN ALL OF AFRICA AND EUROPE COMBINED— SEVENTEEN HUNDRED ISLANDS."




FLORIDA
BAHAMA IS.
SAN SALVADOR
THE WEST INDIES
CUBA
"TO SUM UP THE INDIANS COLUMBUS ENCOUNTERED, THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT THEM IS THAT THEY WERE SLAVE-RAIDING WARRIORS WHO ATE HUMAN FLESH WHICH WAS THE MAIN SOURCE OF THEIR DIET, KILLED, PLUNDERED, WERE VERY HOSTILE BY NATURE---INDEED SAVAGES!
ON THE OTHER HAND THEY HAD CERTAIN USEFUL SKILLS. THEY CARVED DUGOUT CANOES THAT HELD 130 MEN, MADE STONE AXES, BOWS AND ARROWS, CONSTRUCTED HOUSES, AND SLEPT IN THE HAMACA, LATER ADOPTED AS THE FAVORITE BED FOR SAILORS WHILE ABOARD SHIP.
TOO, THEY WERE SUBJECTED TO A TERRIBLE LIFE AFTER THE SPANIARDS ARRIVED. THEN, COLUMBUS DEMANDED OF EACH ADULT AN ANNUAL TRIBUTE OF GOLD DUST. PAY IN FULL OR PERISH. MANY OF THEM FLED THE ISLANDS, OR WERE TRACKED DOWN BY THE SPANIARDS AND THEIR FEROCIOUS DOGS. THOUSANDS ENDED THEIR LIFE WITH POISON. IN 1492 THERE WERE 300,000 OF THEM IN THE ISLANDS. 4 YEARS LATER A THIRD OF THEM WERE DEAD."
★ IT IS WITHOUT DOUBT THAT THESE DARK-SKINNED ABORIGINES WERE THE ANCESTORS OF THE ATAKAPA INDIANS WHOSE FOREFATHERS FLED THE ISLANDS AND COLUMBUS, AND LATER VENTURING INTO LOUISIANA WHERE THEY MADE THEIR HOME AND PRACTICED THE INHUMAN ART OF CANNIBALISM ON THE NEW WHITE SETTLERS POURING INTO THE STATE.
CARL COLE


"AFTER COLUMBUS, SPANISH CONQUEST SPREAD. 21 YEARS LATER, VASCO NUNEZ DE BALBOA TRAVELED FROM PANAMA OVER-LAND AND DISCOVERED THE PACIFIC OCEAN. JOHN CABOT, AN ENGLISH-MAN, PLANTED THE ENSIGN OF ST. GEORGE'S CROSS ON AMERICAN SOIL. ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN, SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, TOOK POSSESSION OF CALIFORNIA. WHILE CORTEZ AND PIZARRO WERE BRINGING A VIOLENT END TO THE AZTEC AND INCA KINGDOMS IN SOUTH AMERICA, PEDRO MENENDEZ DE AVILES FORMED THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES—ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.
THEN, EXCITED BY REPORTS OF MUCH GOLD AND SILVER, FERNANDO DESOTO, WEALTHY VETERAN OF THE SPANISH CONQUEST OF THE INCAS, ONLY 47 YEARS AFTER COLUMBUS, CROSSED MISSISSIPPI AND ONTO THE FATHER OF WATERS, JUST NORTH OF LOUISIANA."


"FERNANDO DE SOTO HAD WANDERED WITH A GRANDIOSE EXPEDITION FOR OVER 4 YEARS IN QUEST OF ELUSIVE RICHES. NEAR THE CHICKASAW BLUFFS, MISSISSIPPI, IN MAY, 1541 HE REACHED THE EAST BANK OF THE GREAT RIVER. RAFTS WERE BUILT, AND THE EXPEDITION CONTINUED ITS FRUITLESS SEARCH INTO ARKANSAS AND OKLAHOMA. HUNGER, DISEASE, AND INDIAN UPRISINGS HARRIED THE PARTY. A YEAR LATER, ON MAY 21, DESOTO DIED, AND IN THE DARKNESS OF NIGHT— LEST THE INDIANS KNOW— WAS BURIED IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, BELOW THE MOUTH OF THE RED RIVER. HE DIED BELIEVING HE WAS THE FIRST WHITE MAN TO TRAVEL THE MISSISSIPPI. ACTUALLY, THE VIKINGS, RATHER THAN THE SPANIARDS, SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED THIS HONOR."
CARL CRAIG

"THIRTEEN MONTHS AFTER DE SOTO'S DEATH, HIS EXPEDITION, UNDER THE COMMAND OF LUIS DE MOSCOSO, REACHED THE GULF OF MEXICO BY WAY OF THE MISSISSIPPI, THE FIRST GROUP OF WHITE MEN— THEY THOUGHT— TO DESCEND THE RIVER TO ITS MOUTH."

"MEANWHILE FRENCH ADVENTURERS, LIKE THE SPANISH, WERE BUSY LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR A NEW WORLD EMPIRE. THEIR APPROACH TO LOUISIANA WAS FROM THE NORTH—CANADA—AND THE FIRST FRENCH NAMES IN THE LOUISIANA STORY WERE REALLY FRENCH CANADIAN.

IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT AT THIS TIME THE SPANISH WERE CARVING A NEW EMPIRE FOR THEMSELVES ALONG THE GULF OF MEXICO ENCOUNTERING HOSTILE INDIANS, DISEASE, THE ELEMENTS IN THE SWAMPS, AND IN MANY CASES MUTINY AMONG THEMSELVES.

THIS MEANT A THREAT TO FRENCHMEN COMING SOUTH.

LOUIS JOLIET, VOYAGEUR AND PROSPECTOR, WAS SELECTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF NEW FRANCE TO EXPLORE THE COURSE OF THE MISSISSIPPI. HIS COMPANION WAS JACQUES MARQUETTE, A JESUIT MISSIONARY. BY WAY OF THE GREAT LAKES, THEY REACHED THE WATERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI JUNE 17, 1673. DESCENDING AS FAR AS THE ARKANSAS RIVER, SATISFIED THAT THE MISSISSIPPI FLOWED INTO THE GULF OF MEXICO, THEY TURNED BACK. THEY REACHED CANADA BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER."

★ AT THIS POINT IN HISTORY THE PILGRIMS HAD ALREADY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH ROCK AND HAD SET UP THEIR OWN COLONY

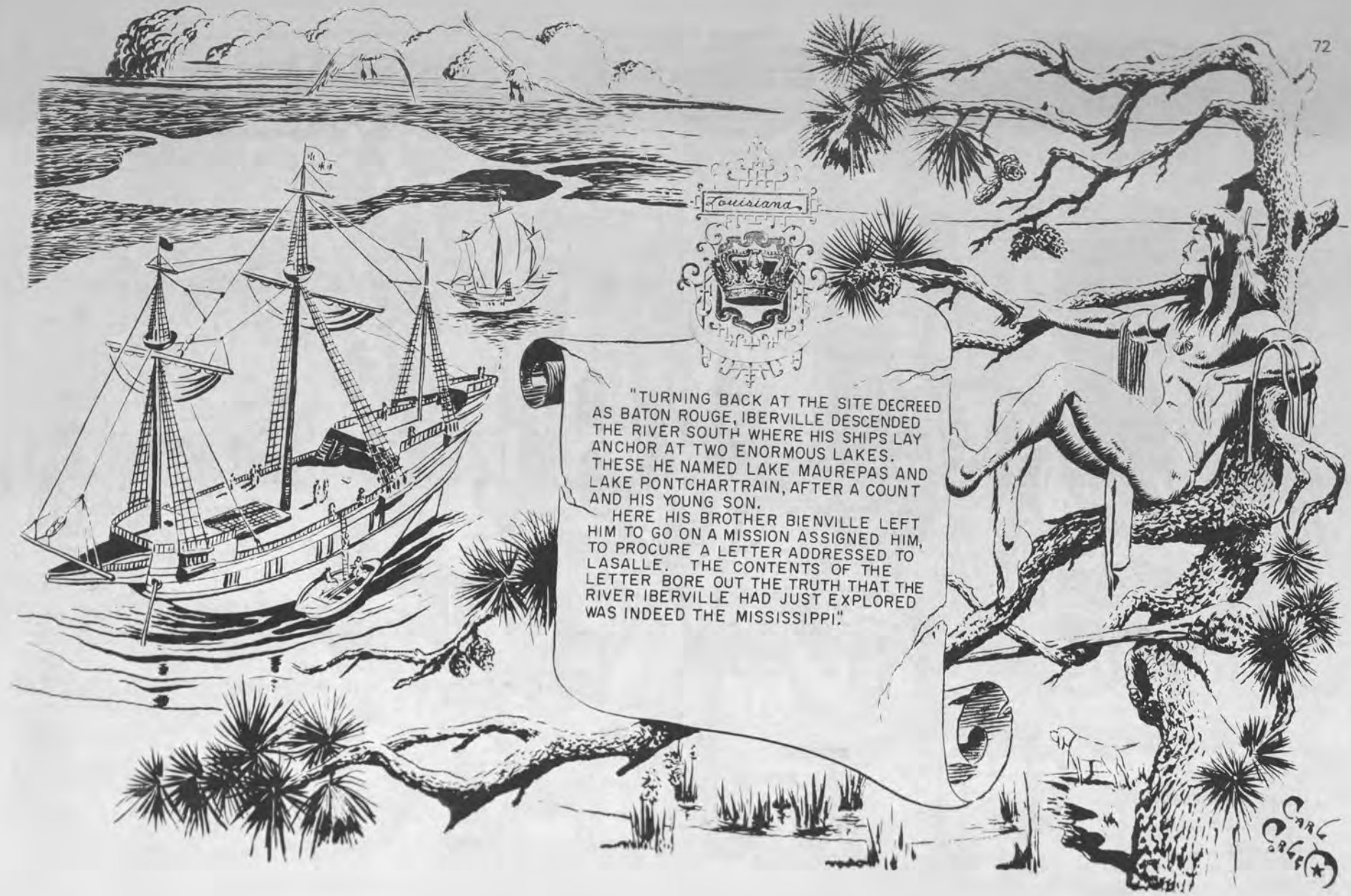
CARL


"THEN CAME ROBERT CAVELIER DE LA SALLE'S EXPEDITION FROM QUEBEC. HE FOUGHT THE POWERFUL IROQUOIS, BUILT A FORT, AND MADE PLANS FOR EXPLORATION OF THE COUNTRY BEYOND IN FUR TRADE AS AN ADDED PRESTIGE OF FRANCE. HE CROSSED THE FROZEN ILLINOIS RIVER BY SLEDGE, AND REACHED THE MISSISSIPPI ON FEBRUARY 6, 1682. HE SET UP CAMP ON THE RED RIVER AND TOOK FORMAL POSSESSION OF THE COUNTRY, NAMING IT LOUISIANA IN HONOR OF LOUIS XIV. THERE WAS AN IMPRESSIVE FLAG RAISING— THE FIRST OFFICAL FLAG TO FLY OVER LOUISIANA— THAT OF FRANCE. HOW MUCH TERRITORY INCLUDED IN THIS CLAIM NO ONE KNEW. BUT IT DID INCLUDE VIRTUALLY ALL THE TERRITORY OF THE PRESENT UNITED STATES —FROM THE APPALACHIANS TO THE ROCKIES AND FROM CANADA TO TEXAS."
CARL ORLES

"PIERRE LE MOYNE SIEUR D'IBERVILLE, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS BROTHER, JEAN BAPTISTE LE MOYNE DE BIENVILLE, RE-DISCOVERED THE MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI ON MARCH 2, 1699, AND EXPLORED IT TO THE MOUTH OF THE RED RIVER. THERE HE FOUND A RED POLE ERECTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MARKING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE HUNTING GROUNDS OF THE HOUMA AND BAYOGOULA INDIAN TRIBES. HE NAMED THE SITE BATON ROUGE, OR, RED STICK."



THE POLE WAS CALLED RED STICK BY THE FRENCH BECAUSE IT WAS USED BY THE INDIANS AS A SUPPORT TO SKIN SLAUGHTERED ANIMALS


Louisiana
"TURNING BACK AT THE SITE DECREED AS BATON ROUGE, IBERVILLE DESCENDED THE RIVER SOUTH WHERE HIS SHIPS LAY ANCHOR AT TWO ENORMOUS LAKES. THESE HE NAMED LAKE MAUREPAS AND LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN, AFTER A COUNT AND HIS YOUNG SON.
HERE HIS BROTHER BIENVILLE LEFT HIM TO GO ON A MISSION ASSIGNED HIM, TO PROCURE A LETTER ADDRESSED TO LASALLE. THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER BORE OUT THE TRUTH THAT THE RIVER IBERVILLE HAD JUST EXPLORED WAS INDEED THE MISSISSIPPI."
CARL CAGLE


"SPANISH EXPLORATION WAS LARGELY A SEARCH BY NOBLE ADVENTURERS FOR QUICK RICHES. WHEN THIS FAILED TO YIELD THE HARVEST OF THEIR EXPECTATIONS, THEY LOST ENTHUSIASM. SO THE HISTORY OF THE 17th CENTURY EXPLORATION IN LOUISIANA CONCERNED THE FRENCH, ALTHOUGH SPANISH AND ENGLISH COLONIES WERE MAINTAINED THE FULL SPREAD OF THE GULF COAST, SLOWING DOWN FRENCH PROGRESS IMMENSELY."
"IBERVILLE RETURNED TO FRANCE. HE CONVINCED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT THAT THE SPANISH CLAIMS WERE NOT VALID, AND SUGGESTED STRONG FORTIFICATIONS AGAINST THE INVADING ENGLISH.
HE RETURNED TO LOUISIANA. CONSTRUCTING A FORT, HE LAID PLANS FOR A GREAT FRENCH EMPIRE IN THE NEW WORLD, ONE TO BE STRENGTHENED BY COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY ALLIANCES WITH THE INDIANS. ONCE THIS PLAN GOT UNDER WAY, HE BUILT A SERIES OF FORTIFIED TRADING POSTS ALONG THE RIVER."
CARL GALE

"IBERVILLE THOUGHT THAT, WITH SUCH A PROSPEROUS PLAN AS TRADING WITH THE INDIANS, HAVING THEM AS ALLIES, AND MINING, HIS NEW FRANCE COULD SUCCESSFULLY DRIVE OUT THE ENGLISH.

THERE WAS PLENTY OF FOOD AVAILABLE IN THE SWAMPS READY FOR THE TAKING, NOT COUNTING WHAT HIS COLONISTS PROCURED BY BARTERING WITH THE INDIANS: BUFFALO, WILD TURKEY, SMALL WOODLAND GAME AND FRESH-WATER FISH. THE INDIANS WERE BOTH GOOD HUNTERS AND FIGHTERS AND IBERVILLE WAS QUICK TO SENSE THIS AND DRAW THEM TO HIS SIDE.

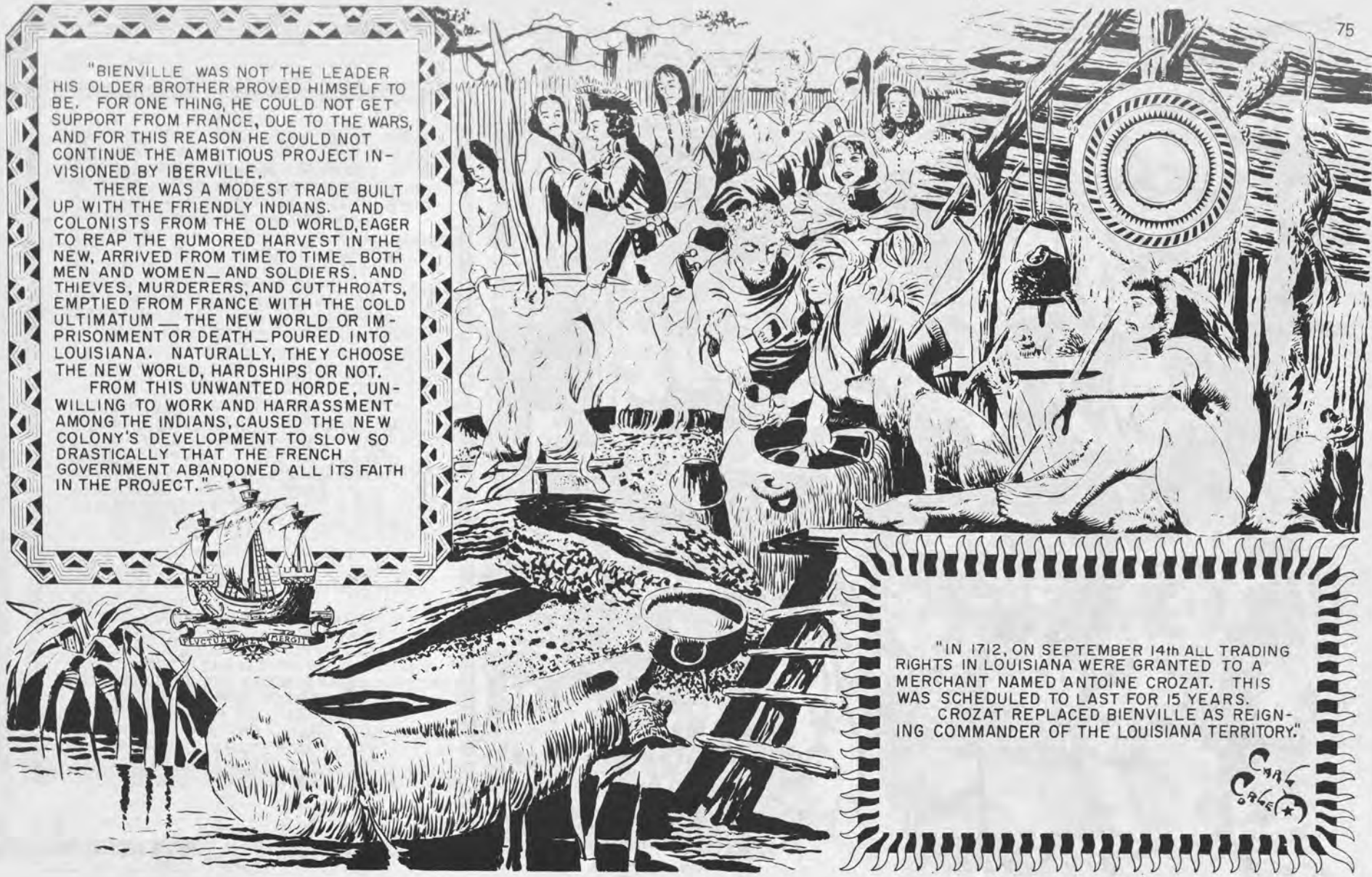
UNFORTUNATELY, FOR HIS WELL THOUGHT OUT PLAN, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AT THAT TIME WAS TOO OCCUPIED FIGHTING THE SPANISH TO RECOGNIZE AND SUPPORT HIS DREAM OF COLONIZATION IN LOUISIANA."



"IBERVILLE, WITH NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE, DECIDED TO JOIN IN THE FIGHTING. HE LEFT HIS LOUISIANA TERRITORY AND HIS DREAM BEHIND AND TOOK OUT HIS REBELLION BY FIGHTING THE ENGLISH INVADERS. HE DIED OF YELLOW FEVER IN HAVANA ON JULY 5, 1706.

HIS BROTHER, BIENVILLE, IMMEDIATELY TOOK COMPLETE CHARGE OF THE FORTS AND TRADING POSTS IN LOUISIANA."

CARL



"BIENVILLE WAS NOT THE LEADER HIS OLDER BROTHER PROVED HIMSELF TO BE. FOR ONE THING, HE COULD NOT GET SUPPORT FROM FRANCE, DUE TO THE WARS, AND FOR THIS REASON HE COULD NOT CONTINUE THE AMBITIOUS PROJECT INVISIONED BY IBERVILLE.

THERE WAS A MODEST TRADE BUILT UP WITH THE FRIENDLY INDIANS. AND COLONISTS FROM THE OLD WORLD, EAGER TO REAP THE RUMORED HARVEST IN THE NEW, ARRIVED FROM TIME TO TIME_BOTH MEN AND WOMEN_AND SOLDIERS. AND THIEVES, MURDERERS, AND CUTTHROATS, EMPTIED FROM FRANCE WITH THE COLD ULTIMATUM__THE NEW WORLD OR IMPRISONMENT OR DEATH_POURED INTO LOUISIANA. NATURALLY, THEY CHOOSE THE NEW WORLD, HARDSHIPS OR NOT.

FROM THIS UNWANTED HORDE, UNWILLING TO WORK AND HARRASSMENT AMONG THE INDIANS, CAUSED THE NEW COLONY'S DEVELOPMENT TO SLOW SO DRASTICALLY THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ABANDONED ALL ITS FAITH IN THE PROJECT."

"IN 1712, ON SEPTEMBER 14th ALL TRADING RIGHTS IN LOUISIANA WERE GRANTED TO A MERCHANT NAMED ANTOINE CROZAT. THIS WAS SCHEDULED TO LAST FOR 15 YEARS.

CROZAT REPLACED BIENVILLE AS REIGNING COMMANDER OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY."

CARL GALE

"CROZAT BOWED OUT THREE YEARS LATER, EVEN IN THE YEAR 1714 WITH THE RETURN OF PEACE, AND A RESHUFFLING OF THE OFFICIALS IN THE COLONY'S ADMINISTRATION.

BIENVILLE WAS APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA. WHEN THIS HAPPENED, COLONISTS BEGAN TO POUR IN FROM FRANCE, SPURRED BY THIS NEW---- --CAMPAGNIE DE LA LOUISIANE OU D'OCCIDENT!

IN THE MEANTIME, ACTIVITY WAS TAKING PLACE ELSEWHERE IN THE TERRITORY. IN 1715 A MAN BY THE NAME OF LOUIS ST. DENIS FOUNDED FORT ST. JEAN BAPTISTE ON THE RED RIVER_NOW NATCHITOCHES_ THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN LOUISIANA.

THEN IN FEBRUARY, 1718, GOVERNOR BIENVILLE SELECTED THE SITE FOR HIS CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS. HE CHOSE AN ENORMOUS BEND IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. HE NAMED IT NEW ORLEANS IN HONOR OF PHILLIPE D'ORLEANS, THE REGENT OF FRANCE.

ONLY A TINY INDIAN VILLAGE OCCUPIED THE SITE_WHERE THE HEART OF THE FRENCH QUARTER IS TODAY, NOW KNOWN AS JACKSON SQUARE."



"THE AREA WAS CLEARED OF TIMBER, CABINS WERE CONSTRUCTED, AND WAS IMMEDIATELY SETTLED WITH AN IMPRESSIVE BAND OF TROOPS, OFFICIALS, AND COLONISTS."

"BIENVILLE WAS AMBITIOUS. HE WANTED TO POPULATE HIS NEW HEADQUARTERS, TO TURN IT INTO AN ENORMOUS TRADING EMPIRE. HIS EFFORTS WENT UNREWARDED. A SCOTSMAN BY THE NAME OF JOHN LAW, APPOINTED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, DID LITTLE, IF ANYTHING, TO EXPAND THE COLONY.

FIRST, HE ESTABLISHED THE COMPANY OF THE INDIES, AS THE SPANISH HAD DONE IN CENTRAL AMERICA. HE PRINTED HANDBILLS, AND DISTRIBUTED THEM IN FRANCE, LEAFLETS THAT PROMISED QUICK WEALTH TO ANYONE WHO WOULD COME TO THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA.

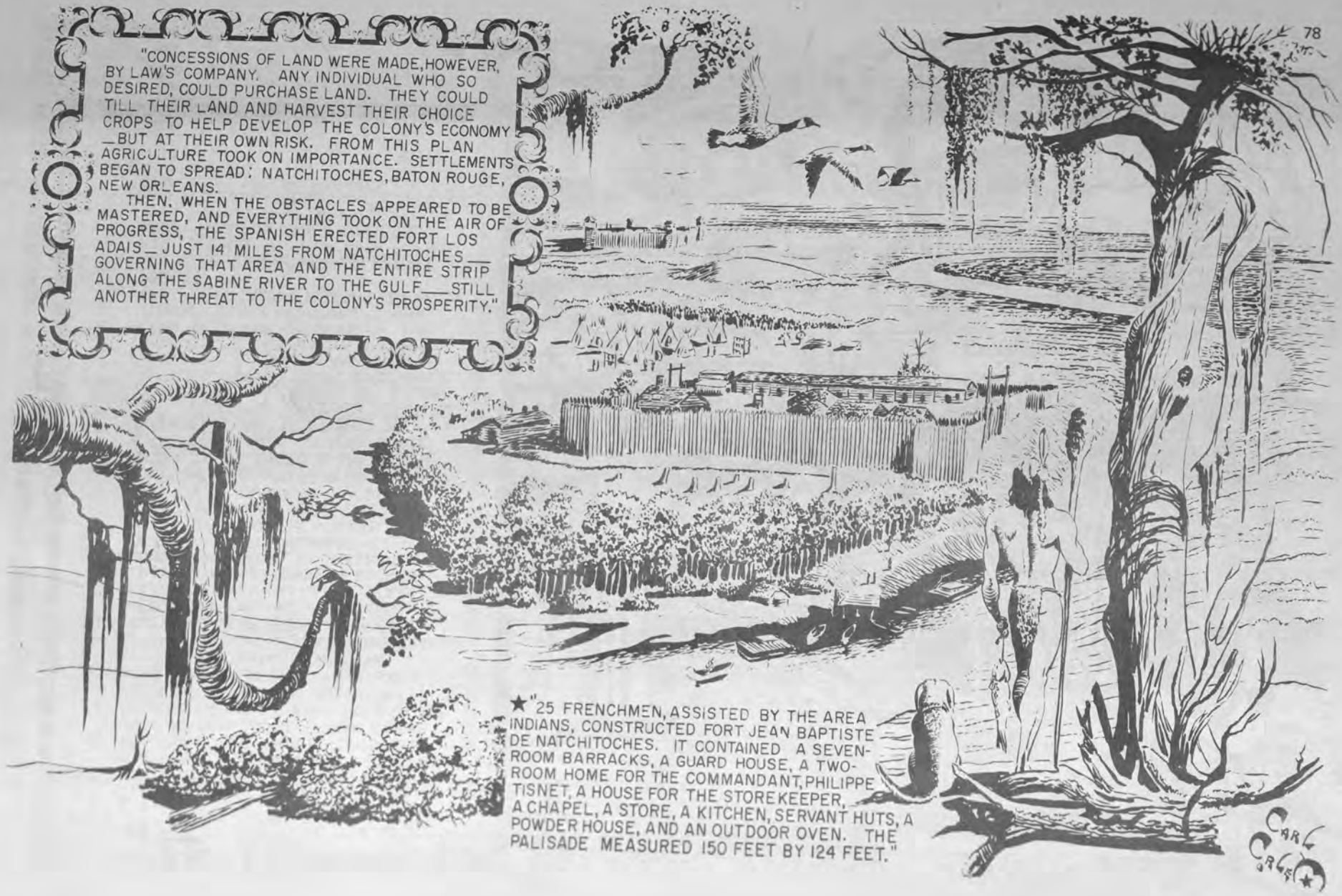
HUNDREDS OF FRENCHMEN SOLD EVERYTHING THEY OWNED AND SET SAIL TO THIS GARDEN OF EDEN. MANY DIED ABOARD SHIP, OR SOON AFTER THEY LANDED IN THE FEVER-WRACKED SWAMPS. THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK. MANY DIED OF SCURVY, DESPITE FRANCE'S SCIENTIFIC EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE THE COLONY TO EAT STEAMING SOUPS MADE FROM SLABS OF DRIED MEAT AND WILD GREENS, AND SAUERKRAUT RATHER THAN GAME AND FRESHWATER FISH WITHOUT LEAFY ADDITIONS DURING THE HOT, STEAMING MONTHS OUT OF SEASON.

THESE SINCERE FRENCH PEOPLE HAD LOST ALL THEIR WEALTH IN THIS VENTURE—UPON A WILD PROMISE—TO A NONEXISTENT PARADISE. THEY HAD LOST, TOO, FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES. AND THERE WAS NO PASSAGE BACK TO FRANCE."



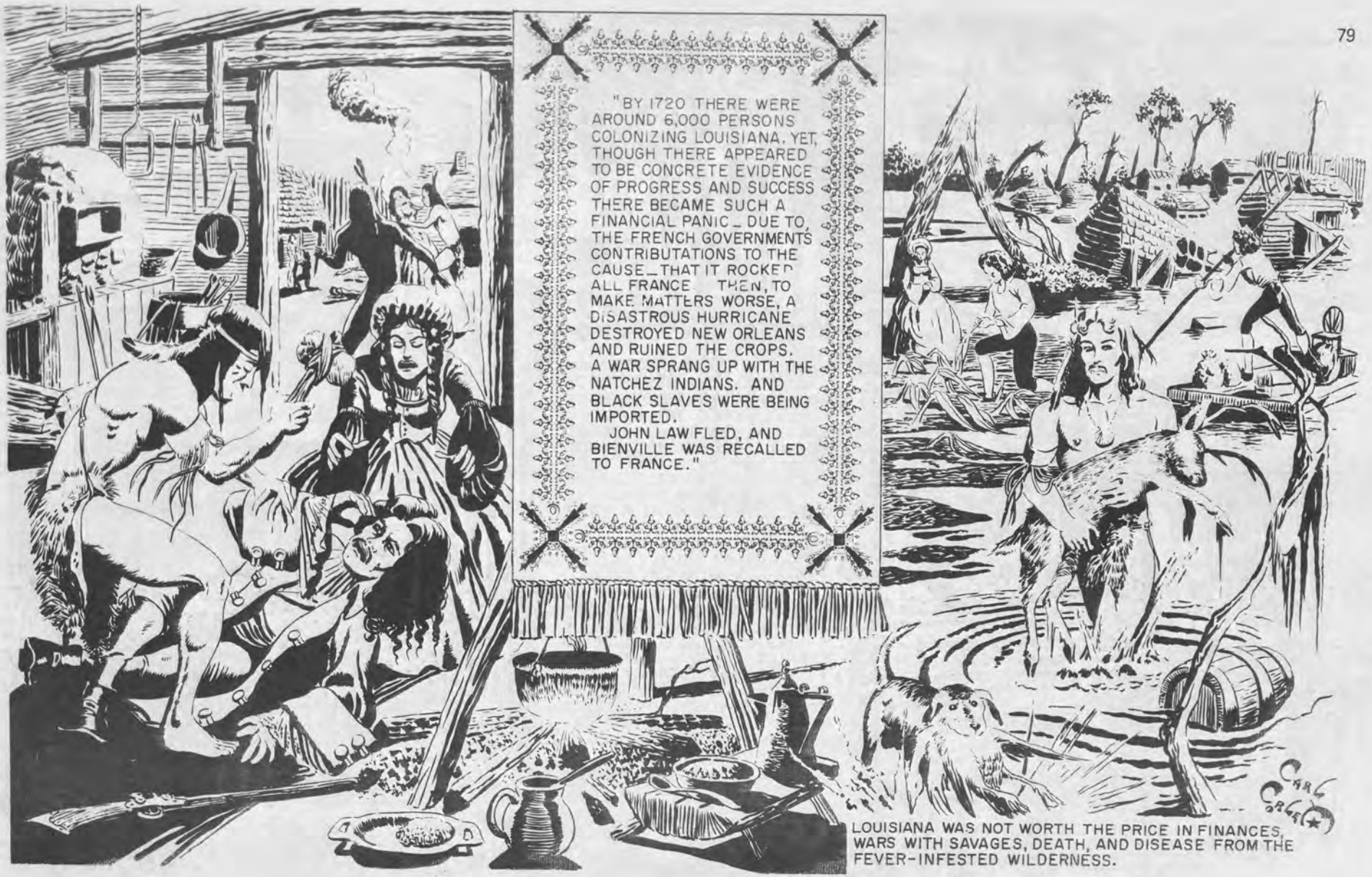
"CONCESSIONS OF LAND WERE MADE, HOWEVER, BY LAW'S COMPANY. ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO SO DESIRED, COULD PURCHASE LAND. THEY COULD TILL THEIR LAND AND HARVEST THEIR CHOICE CROPS TO HELP DEVELOP THE COLONY'S ECONOMY —BUT AT THEIR OWN RISK. FROM THIS PLAN AGRICULTURE TOOK ON IMPORTANCE. SETTLEMENTS BEGAN TO SPREAD: NATCHITOCHES, BATON ROUGE, NEW ORLEANS.

THEN, WHEN THE OBSTACLES APPEARED TO BE MASTERED, AND EVERYTHING TOOK ON THE AIR OF PROGRESS, THE SPANISH ERECTED FORT LOS ADAIS — JUST 14 MILES FROM NATCHITOCHES — GOVERNING THAT AREA AND THE ENTIRE STRIP ALONG THE SABINE RIVER TO THE GULF — STILL ANOTHER THREAT TO THE COLONY'S PROSPERITY."

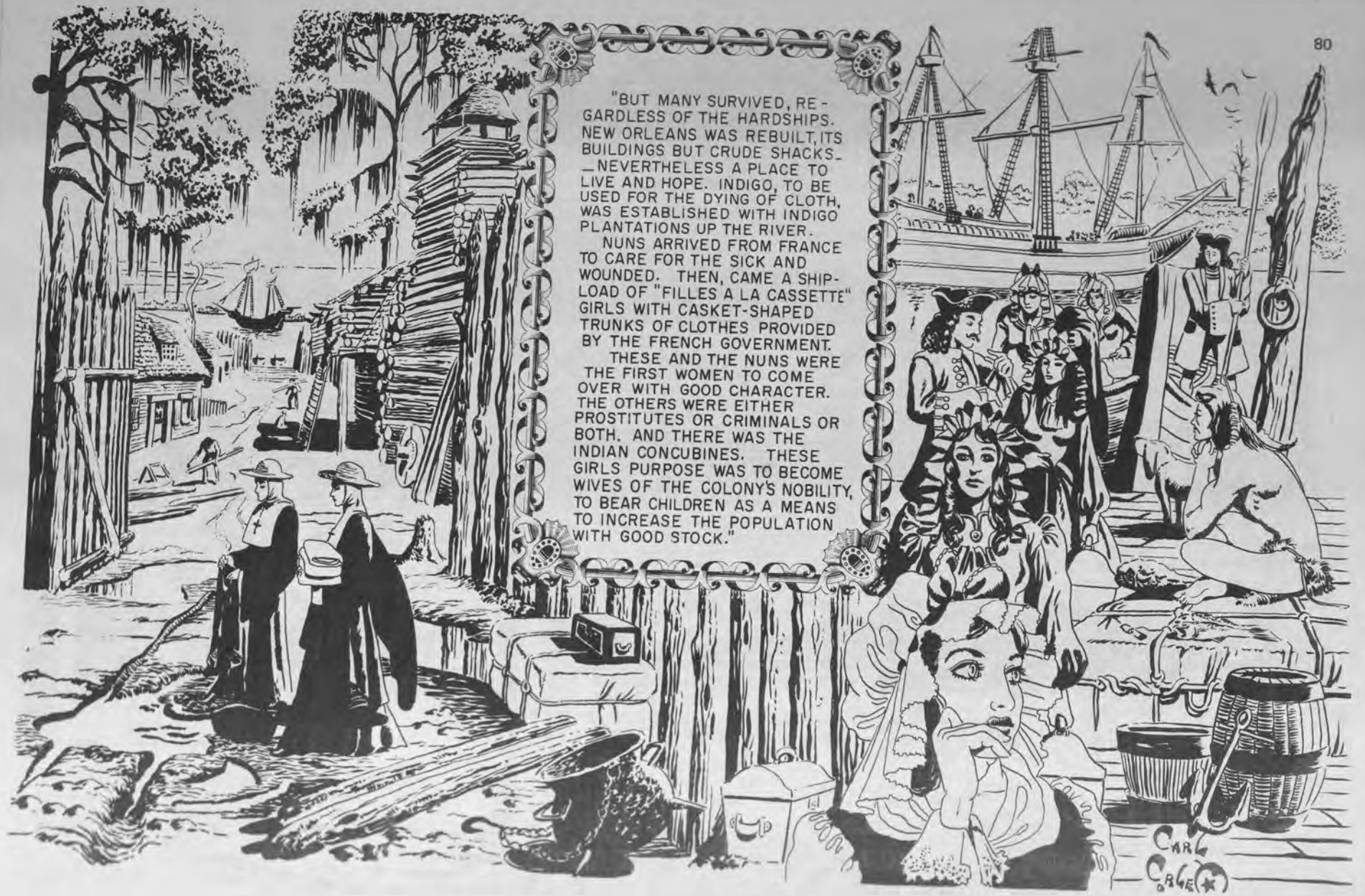


★"25 FRENCHMEN, ASSISTED BY THE AREA INDIANS, CONSTRUCTED FORT JEAN BAPTISTE DE NATCHITOCHES. IT CONTAINED A SEVEN-ROOM BARRACKS, A GUARD HOUSE, A TWO-ROOM HOME FOR THE COMMANDANT, PHILIPPE TISNET, A HOUSE FOR THE STOREKEEPER, A CHAPEL, A STORE, A KITCHEN, SERVANT HUTS, A POWDER HOUSE, AND AN OUTDOOR OVEN. THE PALISADE MEASURED 150 FEET BY 124 FEET."

CARL CRAIG



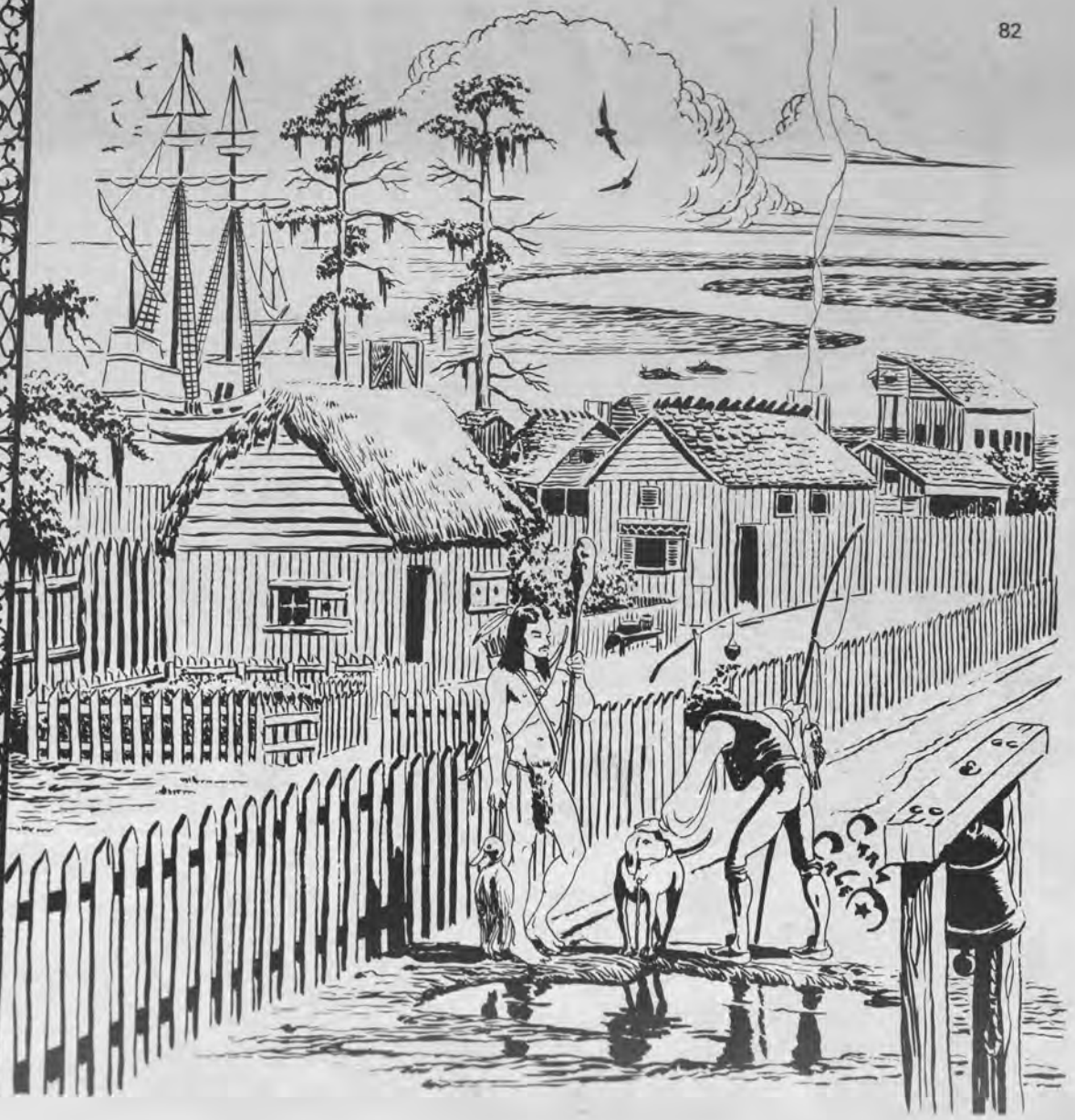
LOUISIANA WAS NOT WORTH THE PRICE IN FINANCES, WARS WITH SAVAGES, DEATH, AND DISEASE FROM THE FEVER-INFESTED WILDERNESS.


"BUT MANY SURVIVED, REGARDLESS OF THE HARDSHIPS. NEW ORLEANS WAS REBUILT, ITS BUILDINGS BUT CRUDE SHACKS__NEVERTHELESS A PLACE TO LIVE AND HOPE. INDIGO, TO BE USED FOR THE DYING OF CLOTH, WAS ESTABLISHED WITH INDIGO PLANTATIONS UP THE RIVER.
NUNS ARRIVED FROM FRANCE TO CARE FOR THE SICK AND WOUNDED. THEN, CAME A SHIPLOAD OF "FILLES A LA CASSETTE" GIRLS WITH CASKET-SHAPED TRUNKS OF CLOTHES PROVIDED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.
THESE AND THE NUNS WERE THE FIRST WOMEN TO COME OVER WITH GOOD CHARACTER. THE OTHERS WERE EITHER PROSTITUTES OR CRIMINALS OR BOTH. AND THERE WAS THE INDIAN CONCUBINES. THESE GIRLS PURPOSE WAS TO BECOME WIVES OF THE COLONY'S NOBILITY, TO BEAR CHILDREN AS A MEANS TO INCREASE THE POPULATION WITH GOOD STOCK."
CARL CAGLE


"THE URSULINE NUNS TOOK UP RESIDENCE IN BIENVILLE'S FORMER HOUSE. THEY OPENED A CONVENT SCHOOL FOR INDIANS, NEGRESSES, AND WHITE GIRLS. AT THIS TIME - 1731 - THERE WERE ABOUT 5000 WHITES AND 2000 NEGROES AND AN UNCOUNTED NUMBER OF INDIANS IN THE NEW ORLEANS COLONY.
THE PREVIOUS PRIMATIVE ATMOSPHERE GAINED A MORE CIVILIZED QUALITY, AND ADVANCED TO THE STAGE OF A RURAL FRENCH EMPIRE, RATHER THAN A STEAMING WILDERNESS."
MARK'S
TAVERNE
CARL CORLE

"THE COLONY MANAGED TO PROGRESS AND IMPROVE ITS APPEARANCE EVEN THOUGH THERE HAD BEEN INDIAN UPRISINGS. THE MASSACRE OF 250 FRENCH MEN AND THE CAPTURE OF MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT FORT ROSALIE (NOW NATCHEZ) BY THE NATCHEZ INDIANS FORCED THE FORTIFICATION OF NEW ORLEANS. DESPITE THIS CONSTANT HARRASSMENT, THE COLONY CONSTRUCTED LARGER, MORE COMPRISING SHOPS AND DWELLINGS, ADDED COMFORTS THAT REMINDED THEM OF THEIR BELOVED FRANCE, ALONG WITH THE IDEA OF IMPRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE—YET NOT FOR A LONG TIME TO COME WOULD NEW ORLEANS ATTAIN THE FLOWING IRON LACEWORK AND STONE CARVING EMBELLISHED SO LAVISHLY BY THE OVERPOWERING SPANIARDS—NEVERTHELESS QUAINT AND CHARACTERISTIC OF THEIR PETITE NATURE.

FENCES AND VEGETABLE GARDENS WERE ADDED, WITH FLOWERS AND SHRUBS TO DISGUISE THE PRIMITIVE SHABBINESS OF THE STRUCTURES, THE HAND-HEWN TIMBERS, THE ROUGH UNFINISHED BOARDS."



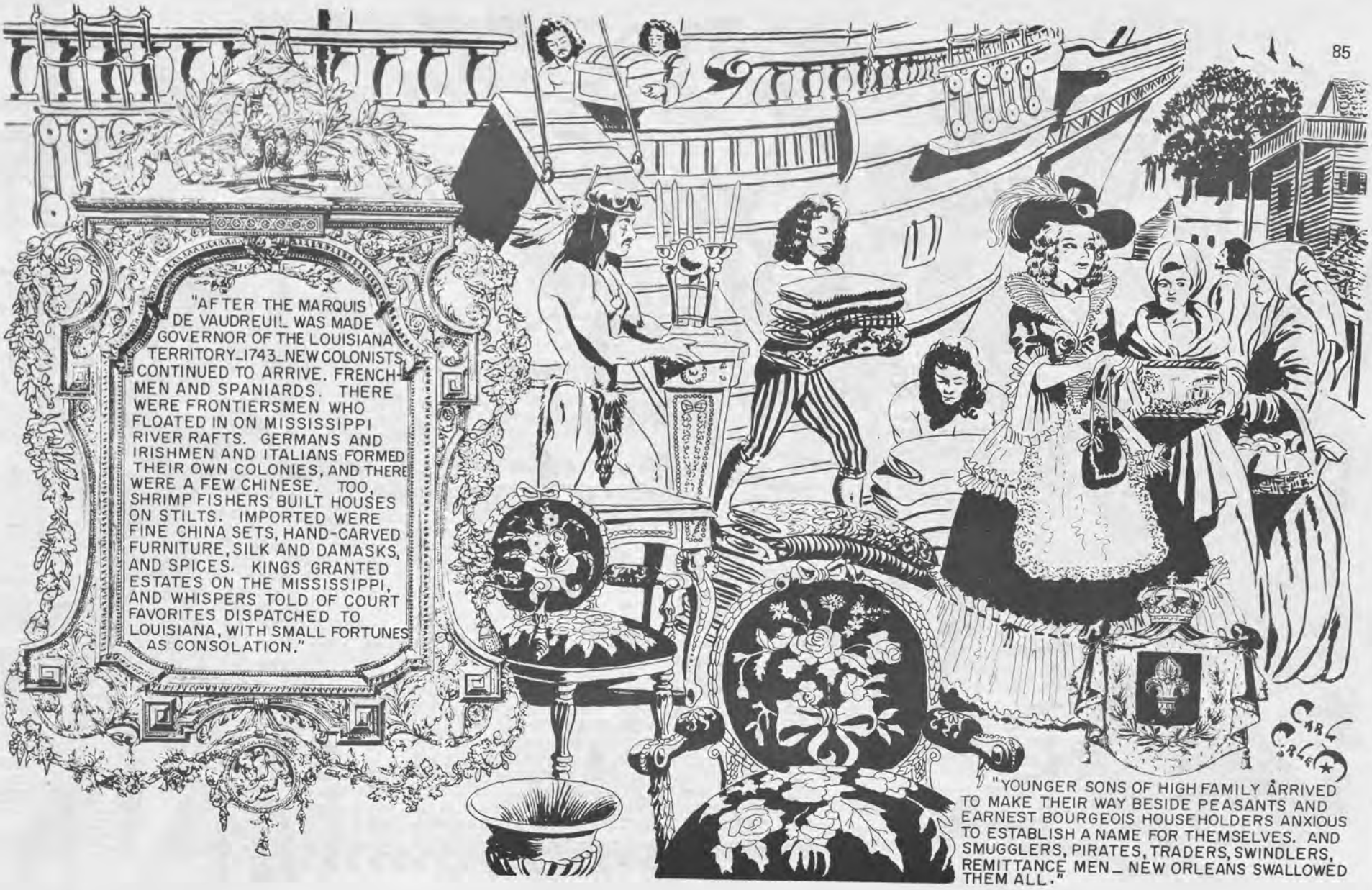

LOUISIANA TERRITORY
Mississippi River
Red River
Sabine River
"INDIAN WARS CONTINUED IN THE TERRITORY OF NEW FRANCE. NATCHEZ WARS BECAME THE FINAL BLOW TO THE FAILING FORTUNES OF THE TRADING COMPANY OF THE INDIES. AFTER THIS, LOUISIANA BECAME AN ABSOLUTE CROWN PROVINCE. IN 1739 BIENVILLE, WITH 1200 WHITE TROOPS AND TWICE THAT NUMBER OF FRIENDLY INDIANS, MADE AN ATTACK ON THE CHICKASAW. THOUGH HE FAILED TO CONQUER THEM IN BATTLE, A PERMANENT PEACE SETTLEMENT WAS MADE IN APRIL OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR. IN MAY, UNFORTUNATELY, BIENVILLE WAS RECALLED TO FRANCE.
FURTHER NORTH, LOUIS ST. DENIS ROUTED THE LAST OF THE NATCHEZ BESIEGING NATCHITOCHES, KILLING MOST OF THEM. THOSE LEFT ALIVE BECAME ALLIES."
CARL CORLE



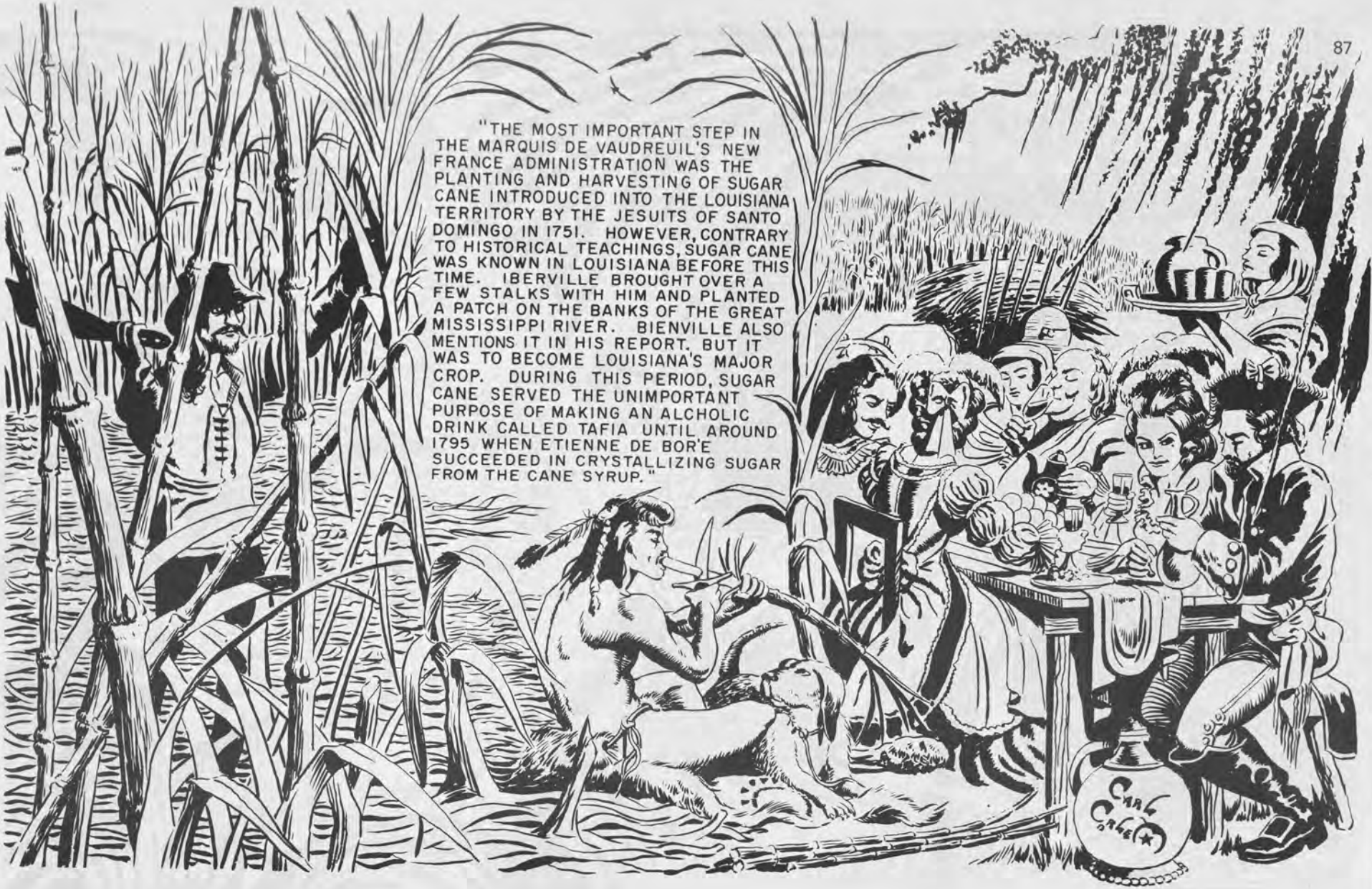
"AFTER BIENVILLE WAS RECALLED TO FRANCE, HE WAS REPLACED IN THE NEW COLONY BY MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL. BIENVILLE NEVER RETURNED TO HIS BELOVED AND BEAUTIFUL LOUISIANA AGAIN.

MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL BROUGHT NEW ELEGANCE TO THE COLONY OF NEW FRANCE. HE LOVED LUXURY, SPLENDOR, MILITARY DISPLAY, AND EVERYTHING THAT LOUIS XIV STOOD FOR IN FRANCE. HE SET UP A MINIATURE COURT, AN IMITATION OF VERSAILLES WITHIN THIS LOUISIANA WILDERNESS.

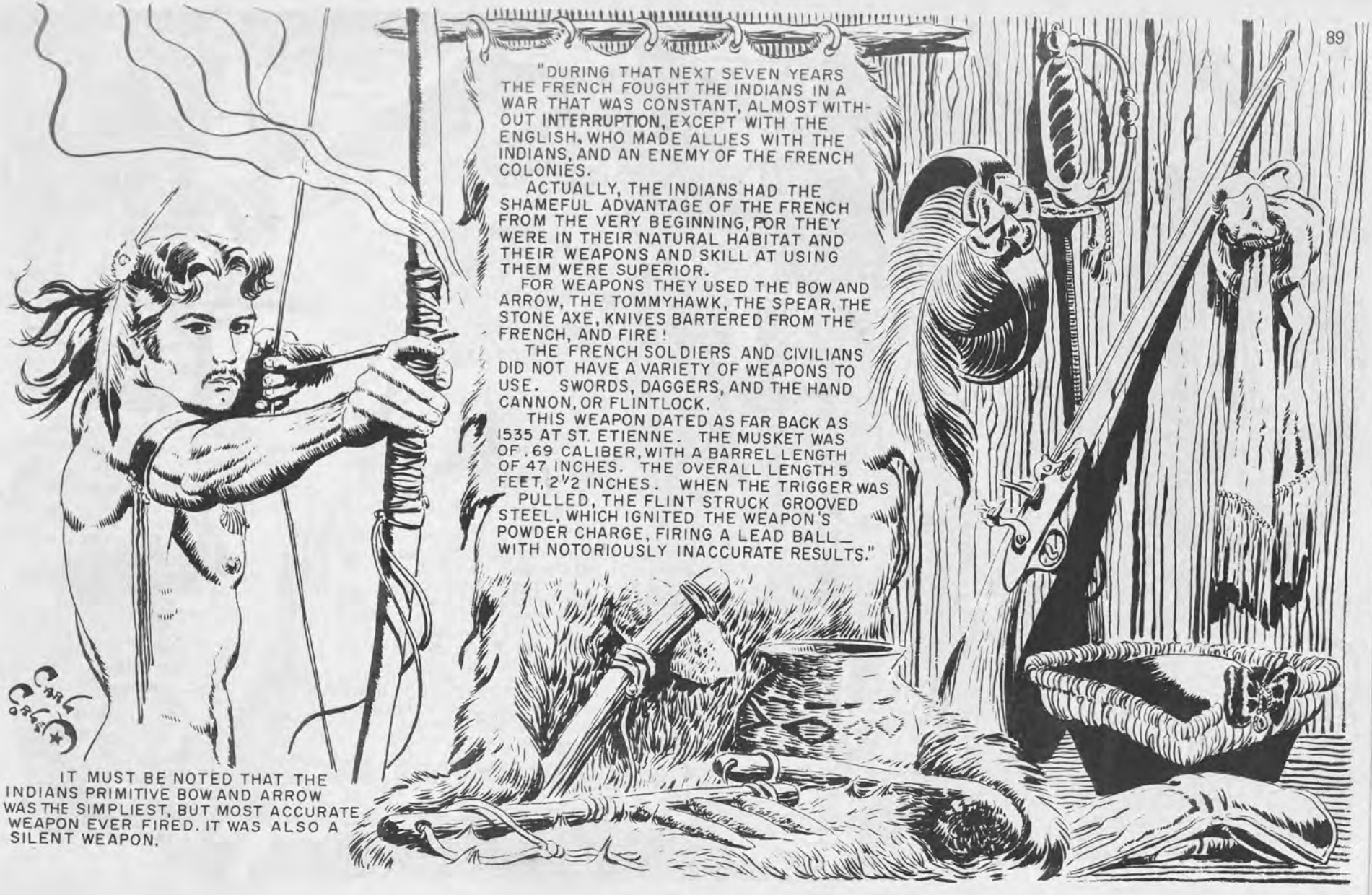
LONG AFTER HE DEPARTED, OLD PEOPLE WERE FOND OF TALKING ABOUT THE MAGNIFICENT BALLS IN THE QUAINT VILLAGE OF NEW ORLEANS, THE POMP, THE AURA OF PLEASURE, THE FORMAL SOCIETY THE MARQUIS HAD IMPORTED FROM HIS NATIVE FRANCE."


"AFTER THE MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL WAS MADE GOVERNOR OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY-1743-NEW COLONISTS CONTINUED TO ARRIVE. FRENCHMEN AND SPANIARDS. THERE WERE FRONTIERSMEN WHO FLOATED IN ON MISSISSIPPI RIVER RAFTS. GERMANS AND IRISHMEN AND ITALIANS FORMED THEIR OWN COLONIES, AND THERE WERE A FEW CHINESE. TOO, SHRIMP FISHERS BUILT HOUSES ON STILTS. IMPORTED WERE FINE CHINA SETS, HAND-CARVED FURNITURE, SILK AND DAMASKS, AND SPICES. KINGS GRANTED ESTATES ON THE MISSISSIPPI, AND WHISPERS TOLD OF COURT FAVORITES DISPATCHED TO LOUISIANA, WITH SMALL FORTUNES AS CONSOLATION."
"YOUNGER SONS OF HIGH FAMILY ARRIVED TO MAKE THEIR WAY BESIDE PEASANTS AND EARNEST BOURGEOIS HOUSEHOLDERS ANXIOUS TO ESTABLISH A NAME FOR THEMSELVES. AND SMUGGLERS, PIRATES, TRADERS, SWINDLERS, REMITTANCE MEN - NEW ORLEANS SWALLOWED THEM ALL."


"GOVERNOR MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL'S FIRST SERIOUS WORK IN THE FRENCH COLONY OF NEW ORLEANS WAS ON LEVEE BUILDING_ A MUCH NEEDED PROJECT_ DUE TO THE LOW BOTTOM LAND AND FREQUENT FLOODS. ON OCTOBER 18,1743 HE ISSUED A PROCLAMATION WHICH FORCED PLANTERS TO BUILD THEIR PRIVATE LEVEES BY THE FIRST OF JANUARY OR THEIR LANDS WOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE PAIN OF CONFISCATION. THIS ENFORCEMENT CAME ABOUT FROM THE RESULTS OF TWO HURRICANES WHICH ALL BUT WIPED OUT THE BILOXI AND MOBILE COLONIES, AND CAUSED NEAR FAMINE CONDITIONS BY FLOOD WATERS BACKING UP AMID HOMES AND FARM-LANDS."


"THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP IN THE MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL'S NEW FRANCE ADMINISTRATION WAS THE PLANTING AND HARVESTING OF SUGAR CANE INTRODUCED INTO THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY BY THE JESUITS OF SANTO DOMINGO IN 1751. HOWEVER, CONTRARY TO HISTORICAL TEACHINGS, SUGAR CANE WAS KNOWN IN LOUISIANA BEFORE THIS TIME. IBERVILLE BROUGHT OVER A FEW STALKS WITH HIM AND PLANTED A PATCH ON THE BANKS OF THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER. BIENVILLE ALSO MENTIONS IT IN HIS REPORT. BUT IT WAS TO BECOME LOUISIANA'S MAJOR CROP. DURING THIS PERIOD, SUGAR CANE SERVED THE UNIMPORTANT PURPOSE OF MAKING AN ALCHOLIC DRINK CALLED TAFIA UNTIL AROUND 1795 WHEN ETIENNE DE BOR'E SUCCEEDED IN CRYSTALLIZING SUGAR FROM THE CANE SYRUP."


"MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL GOVERNED THE NEW FRENCH COLONY OF NEW ORLEANS FROM 1743 TO 1753. NEITHER HE NOR HIS SUCCESSOR, DE KERLEREC, WERE EVER NOTABLE FOR MUCH PROGRESS IN THIS NEW FRONTIER. YET, THEY WENT DOWN IN HISTORY AS GALLANT PIONEERS.
AT AN EARLIER DATE, THE DESIRE FOR LUXURY AND A LIFE OF EASE APPEARED, DESPITE THE STEAMING WILDERNESS FROM WHICH NEW ORLEANS EMERGED, THE DISEASE, THE PRIMITIVE HARDSHIPS. PERHAPS DE VAUDREUIL REMEMBERED ALL TOO WELL THE GRANDEUR OF OLD FRANCE, HIS MAGNILOQUENT ATTITUDE, AN UNPURITANICAL LIKING FOR THINGS OF THE SENSES—OR MANIA—FOR PLAY, THAT HE EITHER NEGLECTED HIS DUTIES OR FAILED TO NOTICE THEM.
BUT THE FRENCH WARS WITH THE INDIANS AND ENGLAND—WHICH LASTED FOR SEVEN TERRIBLE YEARS— PUT A STOP TO THE TRIVOLITY."
CARL CABLE



"DURING THAT NEXT SEVEN YEARS THE FRENCH FOUGHT THE INDIANS IN A WAR THAT WAS CONSTANT, ALMOST WITHOUT INTERRUPTION, EXCEPT WITH THE ENGLISH, WHO MADE ALLIES WITH THE INDIANS, AND AN ENEMY OF THE FRENCH COLONIES.

ACTUALLY, THE INDIANS HAD THE SHAMEFUL ADVANTAGE OF THE FRENCH FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, FOR THEY WERE IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT AND THEIR WEAPONS AND SKILL AT USING THEM WERE SUPERIOR.

FOR WEAPONS THEY USED THE BOW AND ARROW, THE TOMMYHAWK, THE SPEAR, THE STONE AXE, KNIVES BARTERED FROM THE FRENCH, AND FIRE!

THE FRENCH SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS DID NOT HAVE A VARIETY OF WEAPONS TO USE. SWORDS, DAGGERS, AND THE HAND CANNON, OR FLINTLOCK.

THIS WEAPON DATED AS FAR BACK AS 1535 AT ST. ETIENNE. THE MUSKET WAS OF .69 CALIBER, WITH A BARREL LENGTH OF 47 INCHES. THE OVERALL LENGTH 5 FEET, 2½ INCHES. WHEN THE TRIGGER WAS PULLED, THE FLINT STRUCK GROOVED STEEL, WHICH IGNITED THE WEAPON'S POWDER CHARGE, FIRING A LEAD BALL— WITH NOTORIOUSLY INACCURATE RESULTS."

IT MUST BE NOTED THAT THE INDIANS PRIMITIVE BOW AND ARROW WAS THE SIMPLIEST, BUT MOST ACCURATE WEAPON EVER FIRED. IT WAS ALSO A SILENT WEAPON.



WHEN THE INDIAN FIRST SAW MAN ON HORSEBACK HE THOUGHT BOTH ONE AND THE SAME.....



.....AND THEY COULD BISECT THEN GO BACK TOGETHER AT WILL.

"AND WHAT DID THE INDIANS THINK OF THE WHITE INVADERS?

DECIMATED BY THE WHITE MAN'S STIFLING WARFARE AND PESTILENCE, STARVED, CHEATED, EVICTED, DEGRADED, THEN FORGOTTEN— THE LOUISIANA INDIANS HATED THEM.

AT FIRST, THE INDIANS WERE FASCINATED BY THE SPANIARDS AND FRENCHMEN. THEY TOOK A FANCY TO THEIR HORSES, AND LOVED THEIR CLOTHES AND TRINKETS. BUT THE WHITE EXPLORERS, THE HORDE OF MISSIONARIES, AND SOLDIERS SOON SAPPED MUCH OF THEIR STRENGTH THROUGH WARFARE AND DISEASE EPIDEMICS, AND FORCED THEM INTO NEW CULTURAL PATTERNS."

"THEY WERE REDUCED TO BEGGARS AND SLAVES, THEIR SQUAWS FORCED TO BECOMING CONCUBINES, THEIR CHILDREN PUSHED INTO SERVITUDE. MOST TRIBES FACED NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO RAID THE WHITE COLONIES TO INCREASE THEIR CHANCE OF SURVIVAL."





"FEW TOOK THE INDIANS SERIOUSLY ENOUGH TO LEARN THEIR WAYS AND TO RESPECT THE DIFFERENCE AND DIGNITY OF THEIR CULTURE."

CARL CORLS



THE BLACK MAN...

IN RELATING A STORY ON HISTORY IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO RECORD IT IN CHRONICLE ORDER. FOR WHILE A CERTAIN EVENT IS UNFOLDING IN ONE SECTION OF THE SELECTED TERRITORY, SOMETHING ELSE EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS TAKING PLACE IN ANOTHER.

SO—WE MUST BACKTRACK.

WE BEGIN OUR HISTORY OF SLAVES IN THE YEAR 1719—EXACTLY ONE YEAR AFTER BIENVILLE HAD SELECTED THE SITE FOR HIS NEW FRANCE HEADQUARTERS, AND NAMING IT NEW ORLEANS.

DUE TO THE RAPID INCREASE OF AGRICULTURE AT THIS TIME, SLAVES WERE INTRODUCED INTO THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY.

THESE SLAVES WERE BLACK. THEY WERE IMPORTED, IN CHAINS, FROM DARKEST AFRICA, THE REGIONS OF ETHIOPIA AND NIGERIA—LATER TO BE CALLED "THE WHITE MAN'S GRAVE". THESE SAVAGE BLACK MALES AND FEMALES CAME TO THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES DIRECTLY FROM THE FIM DO MUNDO, THE "END OF THE WORLD," AND BECAME, IN TIME, A CENTRAL FACTOR IN THE ANNUALS OF LOUISIANA HISTORY, YET NOT THROUGH THEIR OWN WILL.

TO THE FRENCHMAN—AT FIRST— SLAVERY WAS PROFOUNDLY DIFFERENT FROM, AND IN ITS LASTING EFFECTS ON THE ENSLAVED INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR CHILDREN, INDESCRIBABLY WORSE THAN ANY RECORDED SERVITUDE ANCIENT OR MODERN.

THE FEUDAL CATHOLIC SOCIETY DURING THIS PERIOD HAD A LEGAL AND RELIGIOUS TRADITION, MERCIFULLY, WHICH ACCORDED THE BLACK SLAVE A PLACE AS A HUMAN BEING IN THE COLONIES' HIERARCHY OF SOCIETY— A LUCKLESS, MISERABLE PLACE TO BE, BUT A PLACE WITHAL. IN CONTRAST, THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE TRADITION OF ENGLISH LAW OR PROTESTANT THEOLOGY WHICH COULD ACCOMMODATE TO THE FACT OF HUMAN BONDAGE — THE BLACK SLAVES WERE, THEREFORE— FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, REDUCED TO THE STATUS OF CHATTELS— OFTEN, NO DOUBT, WELL CARED FOR, BUT CHATTELS NEVERTHELESS. AND IT WAS THE ENGLISH WHO FIRST ENSLAVED THEM!



"IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT DURING THIS ERA IN HISTORY— THE EARLY SEVENTEEN HUNDREDS— MOST OF THE WORLD WAS ENSLAVED ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. SLAVERY WAS NOTHING NEW. IT WAS REPEATEDLY MENTIONED, TIMES WITHOUT NUMBER, IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. THE EGYPTIANS DEALT IN SLAVERY. LATER, ENGLAND, POLAND, HOLLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN, AND ITALY EVEN CONSTRUCTED SPECIAL SHIPS EQUIPPED WITH CAGES AND CELLS TO TRANSPORT BLACK SLAVES, GUIDING THEIR BOATS THROUGH THE MEDITERRANEAN, PAST ALEXANDRIA AND DOWN THE RED SEA TO ETHIOPIA. THERE WERE NO CHILD LABOR LAWS THEN. CHILDREN WERE, AT SOME TIME DURING THEIR ADOLESCENCE, FORCED TO WORK LONG HOURS WITHOUT PAY. THERE WERE FEMALES OF ALL RACES SHANGHAIED INTO CONCUBINAGE. THERE WERE WHITE BOND SLAVES, AND YOUNG BOYS BOUGHT AND SOLD IN THE FLESH MARKETS.

SO— SLAVERY WAS NEVER A MORAL ISSUE.

THE MOST THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT SLAVERY, THE BLACKS IN LOUISIANA, IS THAT THE SLAVE MACHINE, UNLIKE OUR PRESENT-DAY INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM, PROVIDED THE SLAVES AT LEAST WITH CONSTANT EMPLOYMENT. BUT, LIKE OUR PRESENT-DAY FASCISM, THE SLAVE OCCUPATION DENIED THE EQUALITY OF THE RACES."

Symbols of Shame

THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

CARL ORGE


THE PEOPLE IN THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES OPPOSED SLAVERY, OF ANY NATURE. THEY WERE, ABOVE ALL OTHER PEOPLES, PROUD, BUT NOT HAUGHTILY SO, OF THEIR OWN ANCESTRY AND THEIR FARM WORK. NO HANDS MUST TILL THEIR LAND BUT THEIR OWN. THEY CAME FROM THE BEST BLOOD OF FRANCE_BOTH THE RICH AND THE POOR_AND THEY RELIED ON ONE ANOTHER AS PERHAPS NO OTHER PEOPLE, AND WITH MORE UNITY AND SOCIAL CONCORD. THEY WERE PLAIN, OLD FASHIONED, RESPECTFUL OF THE IDEAS OF THEIR FATHERS, SLOW TO CHANGE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS, AND THE IDEA OF BONDAGE WAS A THING DEPLORABLE. THEIR LOVE FOR GAIETY, FROLIC, FREEDOM IN ALL EMOTIONS, HAD NO PLACE IN THEIR MINIATURE WORLD FOR THE ENSLAVEMENT OF OTHERS.
"BUT_ THEIR EAGERNESS TO EXPAND IN THE NEW COLONY, TO SUCCEED AS A THRIVING EMPIRE IN THE NEWLY-DISCOVERED HEMISPHERE, TO MOULD THEMSELVES AS AN ESSENTIAL ASSET BEFORE THE WATCHFUL EYES OF OLD FRANCE, SPURRED THEM INTO THE UNUTTERABLE PRACTICE SO COMMON AT THAT TIME THROUGHOUT THE KNOWN WORLD_FOR SLAVERY WAS AN OCCUPATION THAT WAS SWEEPING THE GLOBE LIKE A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE."
CARL CAGE


THE SLAVE TRADER WAS A RUTHLESS BUSINESSMAN, WHETHER A PRODUCT OF HIS OWN COUNTRY GOVERNMENT OR OPERATING PRIVATELY.
HE REGARDED THE SELECTED SLAVE WITH AS LITTLE LESS FEELING AS HE REGARDED CATTLE, CUTTING THE CHOICE, HEALTHY BLACKS FROM THE HERD AND BRINGING THEM TO BAY WITH THE AUTHORITY OF GUN OR WHIP.
AS THE SLAVE TRADE PROGRESSED—AN EMPIRE WITHIN ITSELF—CAMPS AND TRADING POSTS WERE SET UP IN THE AFRICAN EXPORTING AREA. AS SLAVES WERE HERDED ABOARD WAITING VESSELS IN THE HARBORS, ADDITIONAL SLAVES WERE BEING SELECTED AND ROUTED OVERLAND AND COMPOUNDED UNTIL SCHEDULED SHIPS ARRIVED TO TRANSPORT THEM TO SMALL ISLANDS OFF THE AMERICAN COASTLINE. THERE THEY WERE TRAINED FOR FIELD LABOR.
CARL CAGE


THE AFRICAN BLACKS—AS WITH THE PEOPLE OF ALL THE OTHER RACES ON THE EARTH—HAD THEIR QUOTA OF TRAITORS AND TURNCOATS.
ON OCCASION, THOUGH CONTRARY TO GENERAL BELIEF, THE CHIEFTANS MADE BARGAINS WITH THE SLAVE TRADERS, SELLING THEIR OWN WARRIORS IN EXCHANGE FOR A HANDFUL OF USELESS GEMS AND TRINKETS. BROTHER SOLD BROTHER. HUSBAND SOLD WIFE. FATHER SOLD SON AND DAUGHTER.
CARL


TO ADD FURTHER NOTORIOUSNESS TO THE ALREADY NOTORIOUS SLAVE TRADE, THE BLACK AFRICAN WAS QUICK TO BORROW THE EVIL WAY OF THE WHITE INVADER. CERTAIN TRIBES CAPTURED WARRIORS AND YOUNG FEMALE VIRGINS FROM OTHER TRIBES AND SOLD THEM TO THE SLAVE MERCHANTS, USUALLY AT A SHAMEFULLY LOW PRICE. THIS TRIGGERED CONSTANT WARS AND MUCH BLOODSHED BETWEEN OTHERWISE PEACEFUL TRIBES WHO HAD LIVED SIDE BY SIDE IN COMPLETE HARMONY.
CARL CORLEY


ONCE THE UNFORTUNATE BLACKS HAD BEEN HERDED ABOARD THE TRANSPORT VESSELS, THEY WERE JAMMED BELOW DECK IN A STEAMING HOLE AND CAGED OR SHACKLED.
AT INTERVALS, THEY WERE ALLOWED ON THE TOP DECK FOR AIR AND SUNNING. MANY, PARALYZED AT THE SIGHT OF THE CHURNING ATLANTIC WAVES, THE ILL-TREATMENT, THE REALIZATION OF THEIR DEPRIVED HOMELAND, COMMITED SUICIDE BY LEAPING OVERBOARD_AND INTO THE JAWS OF CARNIVOROUS SHARKS.
CARL CARLE

LIFE WAS ALMOST UNBEARABLE FOR THE AFRICAN CAPTIVES ABOARD THOSE SLAVE SHIPS ENROUTE TO THE AMERICAS. FOOD WAS NO BETTER THAN HOG SLOP, AND WAS SERVED IN THE SAME FASHION. THE STINCH WITHIN THE DARK PRISONS_FAR BELOW THE WATER LEVEL ON THE VESSELS_WOULD HAVE REPELLED THE FILTHIEST BEAST ON EARTH. THE EXPLOSION OF HEAT CREATED A NIGHTMARISH HELL. AND THEIR BODY SORES, THE RESULTS OF FREQUENT FLOGGINGS, WERE MOPPED WITH GREASE AND SPRINKLED WITH SULPHUR.

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THERE WAS A MADNESS HERE CAPABLE OF UNHINGING THE MIND, A DEGRADING OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT THAT WOULD BRAND A STIGMA ON THE WHOLE WORLD FOR AGES TO COME.



THESE BRUTISH MEN WHO MASTERED THOSE VESSELS OF INEQUITY, TRANSPORTING AFRICAN CAPTIVES FROM THEIR HOMELAND TO DISTANT CLIMES AS MERCHANDISE TO BE SOLD ON SLAVE MARKETS FOR A HANDSOME PROFIT, WERE WITHOUT DOUBT AN ARMY OF MEN FROM ALL NATIONALITIES WHOSE SADISTIC GREED FOR MONEY AND AUTHORITY DICTATED THEIR LOGIC AND THEIR MORALS.

THEY FOUND AN OUTLET FOR THESE HUMAN WEAKNESSES IN THE HELPLESS AFRICAN SLAVES.

THOUGH IT WAS COMMONLY ASSUMED THAT THESE MEN, FROM CAPTAIN TO DECK HAND, WERE A BREED OF MEN SELECTED FROM PRISONS AND UNDERGROUND CAVERNS OF CRIME TO DO THE DIRTY WORK, THERE WERE OTHERS MUCH MORE DEEPLY INVOLVED— RICH MEN, MEN OF HIGH RANK AND NOBILITY. AND THE CAPTAINS OF THESE NOTORIOUS SHIPS WERE PROBABLY DOING NO MORE THAN CARRYING OUT THE ORDERS OF THEIR HOMELAND GOVERNMENT.




"IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE BLACK SLAVES WERE SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO THE GULF COAST-LINE OF LOUISIANA FROM THEIR HOMELAND OF AFRICA OR NOT. IT IS NOT LIKELY, FOR THEY WERE REGARDED AS WILD BY THE NEW FRANCE COLONY—WILDER STILL THAN THE INDIANS—AND WERE, WITHOUT DOUBT, ROUTED TO THE ISLANDS IN THE BAHAMAS. THERE, THEY WERE TRAINED FOR CIVILIZATION."
CARL CRLE


SO NOW, TURNING BACK OUR HISTORY AGAIN TO THE YEAR 1719, WE FIND THAT THE FRENCH COLONY OF NEW ORLEANS COMES FACE TO FACE WITH THE BLACK AFRICAN FOR THE FIRST TIME. 250 SLAVES ARRIVE BY SHIP.
THOUGH THESE STRANGE, NAKED PEOPLE HAD BEEN IMPORTED TO TILL THE SOIL, PLANT AND HARVEST INDIGO, AND TEND THE STABLES AND HOUSEHOLD CHORES, THE FRENCH COLONY WAS_AT FIRST_ APPALLED. THE MERE SIGHT OF THESE SHINY, BLACK CREATURES FROM HALF A WORLD AWAY TURNED EVERY HEART COLD. THE WOMEN WERE MORTIFIED. CHILDREN WENT INTO CONVULSIONS. EVEN THE MOST HEARTY MEN TURNED PALE.
NEITHER THEY, NOR THE BLACK SLAVES, AT THAT CRUCIAL MOMENT FULLY ANTICIPATED THE SAGA THE AFRICAN WAS TO PLAY IN THE HISTORY OF LOUISIANA.
★ IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT ON THAT SAME YEAR 250 GERMANS ARRIVED TO LABOR AT DIRT CHEAP WAGES ON THE LEVEES AND INDIGO PLANTATIONS.
CARL CRAIG

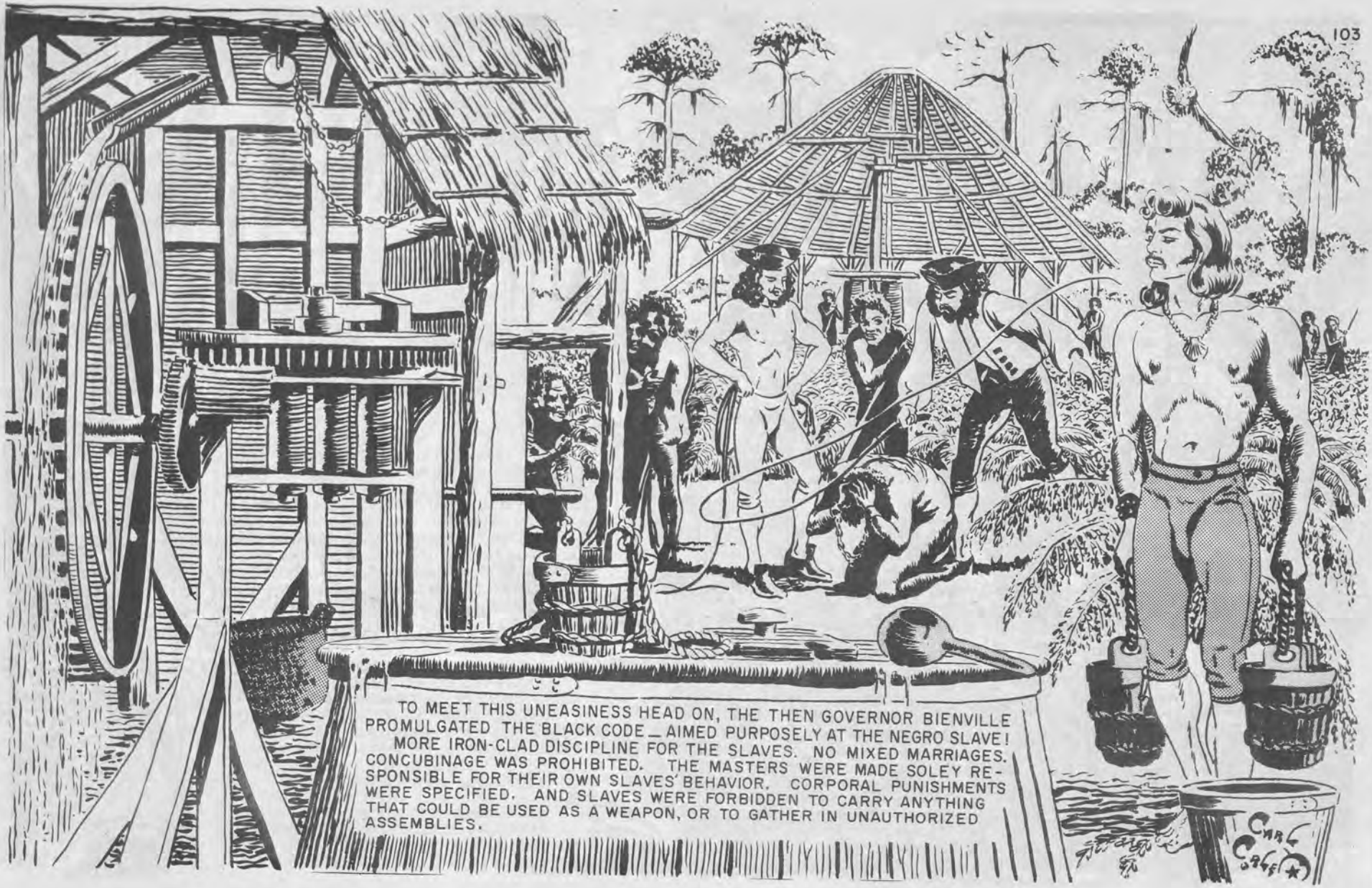
THE FRENCH CITIZENS OF NEW ORLEANS DID NOT RELISH THE IDEA OF SLAVERY, AND LONGED TO OPPOSE THEIR MOTHER COUNTRY'S RULE THAT THEY UTILIZE THEM FOR THE ADVANTAGE OF THE COLONY'S PROGRESS.

THE SLAVES WERE MORE TROUBLE THAN THEY WERE WORTH, AND HAD TO BE CHAINED IN THE FIELDS IF THEY MANAGED TO GET ANY WORK OUT OF THEM AT ALL.

THE ENTIRE COLONY WAS SENTENCED TO A NIGHTMARE OF CONSTANT FEAR THAT THE BLACK SAVAGES MIGHT REVOLT AND WIPE OUT EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD. FOR WITHIN FIVE YEARS AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL INTO LOUISIANA, THEIR NUMBER INCREASED TO THAT OF THE COLONY, AND POSED A FUTURE THREAT OF OVERTAKING THE POPULATION.



★ THE INDIGO SHRUB READY FOR TRANSPLANTING


TO MEET THIS UNEASINESS HEAD ON, THE THEN GOVERNOR BIENVILLE PROMULGATED THE BLACK CODE _ AIMED PURPOSELY AT THE NEGRO SLAVE! MORE IRON-CLAD DISCIPLINE FOR THE SLAVES. NO MIXED MARRIAGES. CONCUBINAGE WAS PROHIBITED. THE MASTERS WERE MADE SOLEY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SLAVES' BEHAVIOR. CORPORAL PUNISHMENTS WERE SPECIFIED. AND SLAVES WERE FORBIDDEN TO CARRY ANYTHING THAT COULD BE USED AS A WEAPON, OR TO GATHER IN UNAUTHORIZED ASSEMBLIES.
CARL CRAIG


"IN ORDER TO LIGHTEN THE HARDSHIPS OF THE SLAVES, THE CATHOLICS IN THEIR FAITH—WHICH WAS MORE TOLERANT—GAVE ORDERS THAT ALL THEIR INSTRUCTIONS BE MADE MANDATORY.
SLAVE LABOR WOULD BE FORBIDDEN ON SUNDAYS AND ALL RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS. SLAVE FAMILIES WERE NOT TO BE SEPARATED AND BROKEN UP THROUGH SALES OR TRADES. MEDICATION AND FOOD AND PROPER CLOTHING AND PROTECTION WERE TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY THE MASTERS UNDER PENALTY OF LAW. SLAVES WERE TO BE ALLOWED AT CATHOLIC MASS, AND THE YOUNG GIRLS ALLOWED TO ENTER CONVENTS AT THEIR WISH.
EVERY EFFORT WAS MADE TO INSTILL IN THE SLAVE CHRISTIAN RELIGION AND TO DISCOURAGE AFRICAN FAITH, THOUGH MOST OF THE SLAVES MET IN SECRET, PERFORMED THEIR LONG ANCESTORAL RITES AND RITUALS, AND KEPT BURNING THE OLD FIRES OF VOODOO.
MANY OF THE SLAVES IN LOUISIANA WERE FROM THE GUINEA COAST OF AFRICA, OTHERS FROM THE FRENCH COLONIES OF MARTINIQUE, GUADELOUPE, AND SANTO DOMINGO— ALL HOTBEDS OF VOODOOISM."
IT IS STILL PRACTICED TODAY IN LOWER LOUISIANA.
CARL CALE



"IN TIME, THE AFRICAN SLAVES IN THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES BECAME DOCILE, OR, NEUTRALIZED. MOST OF THEM EITHER GAVE UP ENTIRELY, USELESS TO ANYONE ELSE OR EVEN THEMSELVES, OR ACCEPTED THEIR NEW WAY OF LIFE AS INEVITABLE. THEY PICKED UP THE HABITS OF THE WHITE MAN, EITHER FROM SOME DISTANT FASCINATION, OR BENDING TO SOMETHING STRONGER THAN THEMSELVES. THE MALES BEGAN TO WEAR BETTER CLOTHES, IN MOCK CHARADES OF THEIR MASTERS, HOMESPUN TROUSERS AND LOOSE COTTON SHIRTS. THE FEMALES PARADED AROUND IN LONG GINGHAM DRESSES AND SANTO DOMINGOIAN BANDANAS. BOTH THE MALES AND FEMALES TOOK ON AN AIR OF PRIDE AND DIGNITY. SOME EVEN SEEMED HAPPY."

CARL



"THE OLD AFRICAN WAYS BEGAN TO FADE INTO THE BACKGROUND. THOUGH ON OCCASION, USUALLY WHEN TOILING IN THE FIELDS BENEATH A SCORCHING SUN, AS IF SOMETHING OF NOSTALGIA HAD RECALLED THEM, THEY NO DOUBT THOUGHT OF THE HOME ACROSS THE BLUE SEA THAT THEY WOULD NEVER SEE AGAIN.

THE OLDER ONES CONTINUED TO REMEMBER FAITHFULLY, WHILE THE VERY YOUNG CAUGHT GLIMPES OF OLD, BROKEN AFRICA THROUGH WORD OF MOUTH HANDED DOWN FROM PARENT TO OFF-SPRING— GENERATION UPON GENERATION."


"DESPITE THE NEW DOMESTIC CHANGE IN THE AFRICAN SLAVE, THERE WERE A BITTER FEW WHO NEVER FORGOT THE INHUMAN BONDAGE OF THEIR PEOPLE, THEIR BROKEN HOMELAND, AND REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE ADYNAMIA OF THE WHITE MAN."
THE LAST SLAVES TO BE IMPORTED FROM AFRICA WAS ON NOVEMBER 28, 1858. THEY SAILED ON THE SLAVE YACHT "WANDERER", A SHIP OWNED BY CHARLES LAMAR OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA. FROM THE FIRST SLAVE SHIP TO THE LAST, OVER A MILLION SLAVES HAD CROSSED, WHAT WAS TO THEM, TERRIBLE WATERS TO AN EVEN MORE TERRIBLE LAND."
"REGARDLESS OF THE STRUGGLE AND CHANGE, THE LOUISIANA SLAVES, GENERATION AFTER GENERATION REMAINED BUT MIRROR IMAGES OF THEIR FOREFATHERS.
IT WAS AS THOUGH SOME GREAT LESSON HAD BEEN SO INSTILLED IN THEM THAT IT WAS ETCHED IN THE INSTINCTS OF THEIR HEIRS, AN ECHO, A HAUNTING THAT WOULD NOT SET THEM FREE."
CARL COLE

Spanish Dominion--



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

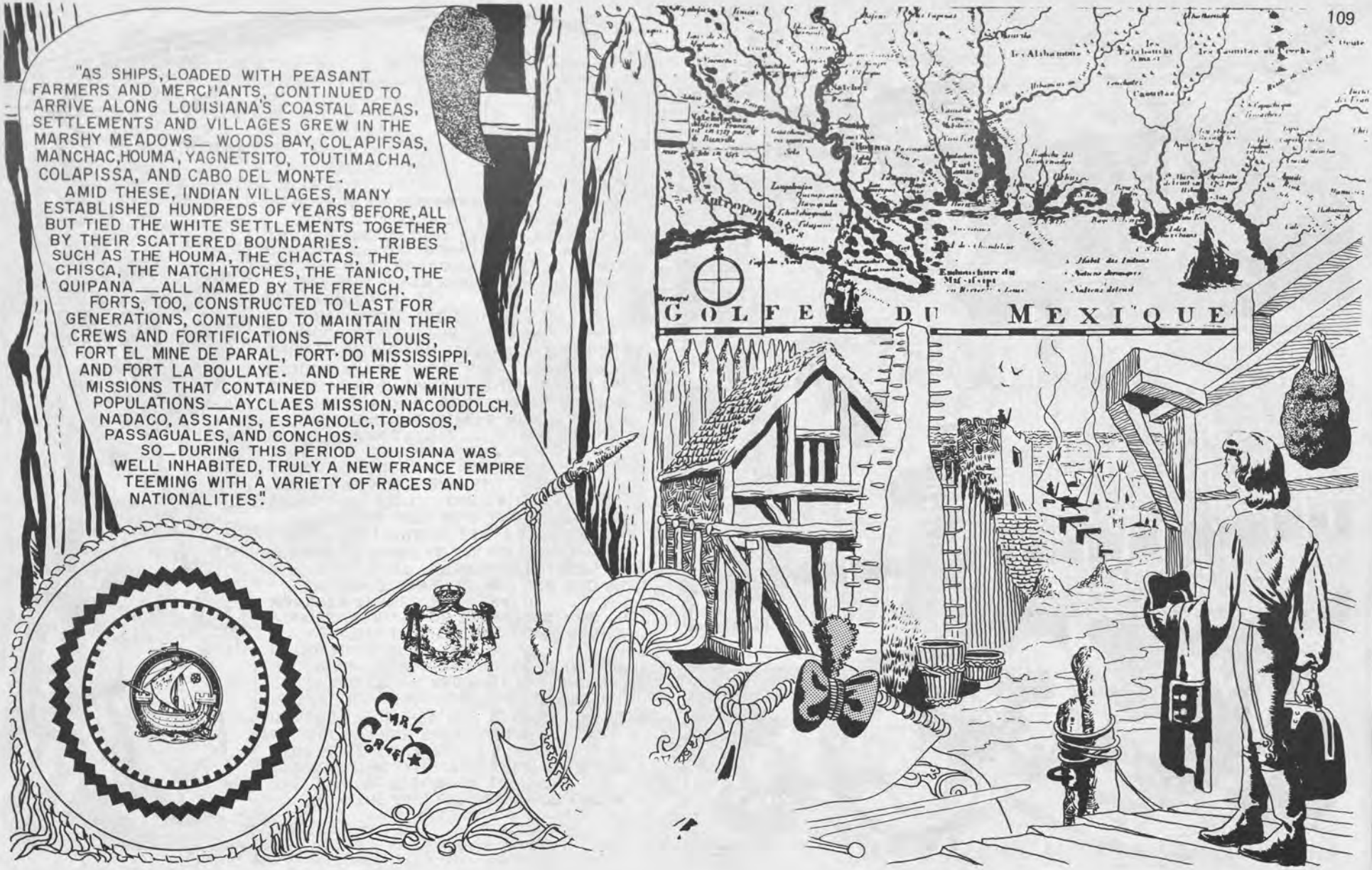
"THE SPANISH PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WONDERFUL SAILORS AND EXPLORERS. SO IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT THEY WOULD GOVERN NEW LANDS BEYOND THEIR OWN KINGDOM, AND RULE FAR AWAY DOMAINS AND CONQUERED EMPIRES.

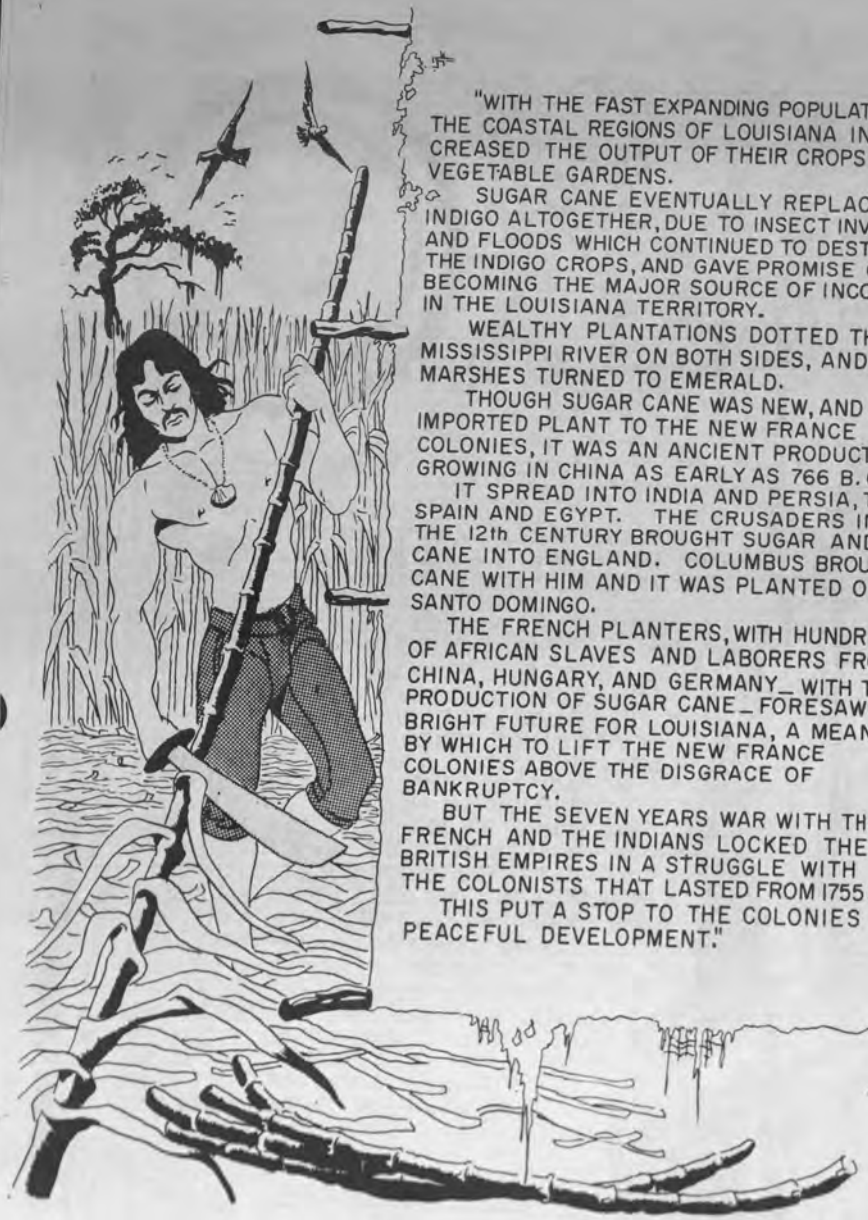
ONCE, THEY HAD EXPLORED THE WILD LOUISIANA TERRITORY FOR GOLD. THIS TIME THEY WOULD SEARCH FOR A DIFFERENT KIND OF TREASURE — LAND!

THE FRENCHMAN, MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL, GOVERNED THE NEW FRANCE COLONY OF NEW ORLEANS FOR TEN YEARS. LITTLE IF ANYTHING HAPPENED OF ANY IMPORTANCE IN LOUISIANA DURING THIS TIME. BUT, THERE WAS PROGRESS, OF A NATURE, DESPITE THE COLONY'S ALL BUT PLACING FRANCE IN A STATE OF BANKRUPTCY.

FRANCE CONTROLLED THE MAJOR PART OF THE TERRITORY WHILE SPAIN GOVERNED A NARROW STRIP ALONG THE SABINE RIVER. SPAIN BUILT FORT LOS ADAIS, AND STARTED A MISSION, AND SMALL SETTLEMENTS BEGAN TO SPRING UP.

AT THIS TIME FRANCE WAS ENGAGED IN A SEVEN YEARS WAR WITH ENGLAND, AND HER ATTENTION WAS DISTRACTED FROM THE COLONIES. HOWEVER, A VAST NUMBER OF SHIPS CONTINUED TO ARRIVE IN LOUISIANA FROM GERMANY, NORWAY, CHINA, AND HUNGARY, AND QUAINT VILLAGES MUSHROOMED ALONG THE COASTAL AREAS. THESE PEOPLE, OF PEASANT ANCESTRY, WERE EAGER TO WORK, AND AT DIRT CHEAP WAGES. THEY WERE HIRED TO LABOR IN THE INDIGO FIELDS AND SUGAR CANE PLANTATIONS. CANE WAS INTRODUCED INTO LOUISIANA ON A LARGE SCALE IN 1751, AND PROMISED A NEWLY FOUND PROSPERITY."


"AS SHIPS, LOADED WITH PEASANT FARMERS AND MERCHANTS, CONTINUED TO ARRIVE ALONG LOUISIANA'S COASTAL AREAS, SETTLEMENTS AND VILLAGES GREW IN THE MARSHY MEADOWS— WOODS BAY, COLAPIFSAS, MANCHAC, HOUMA, YAGNETSITO, TOUTIMACHA, COLAPISSA, AND CABO DEL MONTE.
AMID THESE, INDIAN VILLAGES, MANY ESTABLISHED HUNDREDS OF YEARS BEFORE, ALL BUT TIED THE WHITE SETTLEMENTS TOGETHER BY THEIR SCATTERED BOUNDARIES. TRIBES SUCH AS THE HOUMA, THE CHACTAS, THE CHISCA, THE NATCHITOCHES, THE TANICO, THE QUIPANA—ALL NAMED BY THE FRENCH.
FORTS, TOO, CONSTRUCTED TO LAST FOR GENERATIONS, CONTUNIED TO MAINTAIN THEIR CREWS AND FORTIFICATIONS—FORT LOUIS, FORT EL MINE DE PARAL, FORT DO MISSISSIPPI, AND FORT LA BOULAYE. AND THERE WERE MISSIONS THAT CONTAINED THEIR OWN MINUTE POPULATIONS—AYCLAES MISSION, NACOODOLCH, NADACO, ASSIANIS, ESPAGNOLC, TOBOSOS, PASSAGUALES, AND CONCHOS.
SO—DURING THIS PERIOD LOUISIANA WAS WELL INHABITED, TRULY A NEW FRANCE EMPIRE TEEMING WITH A VARIETY OF RACES AND NATIONALITIES."
GOLFE DU MEXIQUE
CARL CARLES



"WITH THE FAST EXPANDING POPULATION, THE COASTAL REGIONS OF LOUISIANA INCREASED THE OUTPUT OF THEIR CROPS AND VEGETABLE GARDENS.

SUGAR CANE EVENTUALLY REPLACED INDIGO ALTOGETHER, DUE TO INSECT INVASIONS AND FLOODS WHICH CONTINUED TO DESTROY THE INDIGO CROPS, AND GAVE PROMISE OF BECOMING THE MAJOR SOURCE OF INCOME IN THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY.

WEALTHY PLANTATIONS DOTTED THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER ON BOTH SIDES, AND THE MARSHES TURNED TO EMERALD.

THOUGH SUGAR CANE WAS NEW, AND AN IMPORTED PLANT TO THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES, IT WAS AN ANCIENT PRODUCT, GROWING IN CHINA AS EARLY AS 766 B.C.

IT SPREAD INTO INDIA AND PERSIA, TO SPAIN AND EGYPT. THE CRUSADERS IN THE 12th CENTURY BROUGHT SUGAR AND CANE INTO ENGLAND. COLUMBUS BROUGHT CANE WITH HIM AND IT WAS PLANTED ON SANTO DOMINGO.

THE FRENCH PLANTERS, WITH HUNDREDS OF AFRICAN SLAVES AND LABORERS FROM CHINA, HUNGARY, AND GERMANY_ WITH THE PRODUCTION OF SUGAR CANE_ FORESAW A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR LOUISIANA, A MEANS BY WHICH TO LIFT THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES ABOVE THE DISGRACE OF BANKRUPTCY.

BUT THE SEVEN YEARS WAR WITH THE FRENCH AND THE INDIANS LOCKED THE BRITISH EMPIRES IN A STRUGGLE WITH THE COLONISTS THAT LASTED FROM 1755 TO 1763.

THIS PUT A STOP TO THE COLONIES PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT."



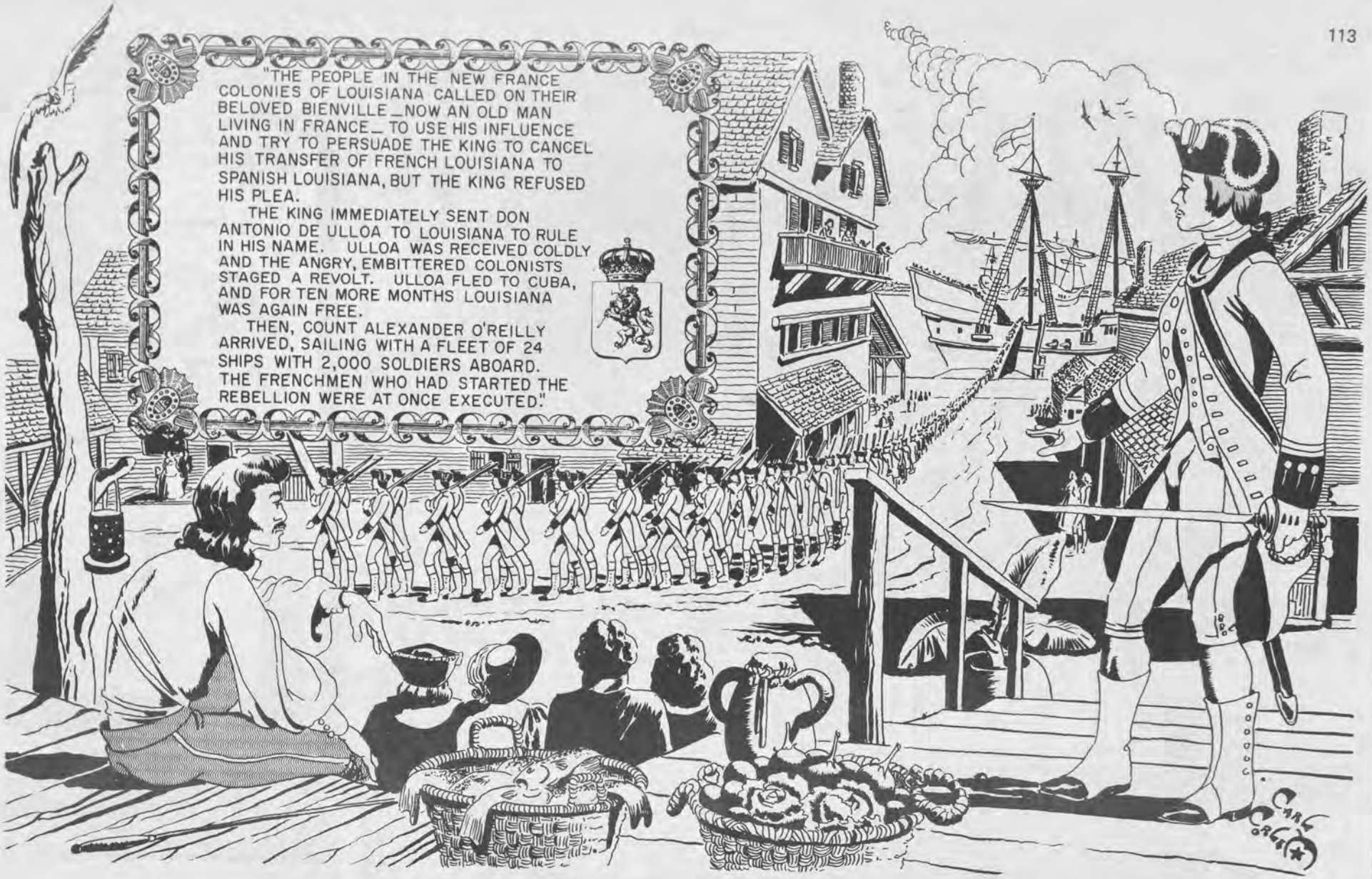

"THE BRITISH WON THE BATTLE WITH THE FRENCH AND THE INDIANS, WHICH RESULTED IN THE TREATY OF PARIS. IN THE TREATY CANADA ACQUIRED A COLONY LYING EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. THE SPANISH COLONY IN FLORIDA WENT TO BRITAIN. SPAIN WAS CEDED THE ISLAND OF NEW ORLEANS AND ALL THE TERRITORY WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI FROM LOUIS XV OF FRANCE AS A GIFT TO HIS BOURBON COUSIN CHARLES III.
HIS COUSIN, THE KING OF SPAIN, DID NOT WANT TO ACCEPT LOUISIANA AS A GIFT FOR HE NEEDED NO PART OF WHAT HE CONSIDERED A WILDERNESS INFESTED WITH SAVAGES AND CRIMINALS. HE DISPLAYED A MARKED RELUCTANCE TO THE WHOLE LOUISIANA BUSINESS, AND IT TOOK A LOT OF PERSUADING ON THE PART OF HIS MINISTERS BEFORE HE AGREED."
CARL CRAIG

"THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA THAT WAS PRESENTED TO KING CHARLES III OF SPAIN AS A GIFT FROM KING LOUIS XV OF FRANCE WAS SEALED BY A SECRET FAMILY PACT ON NOVEMBER 3,1762. FOR ALMOST A YEAR AND A HALF, THE TRANSFER OF LOUISIANA WAS KEPT A SECRET. AT LAST, ON APRIL 21,1764 IT WAS MADE PUBLIC.

LOUIS XV WROTE JEAN JACQUES BLAISE D'ABBADIE, THEN COMMANDANT OF LOUISIANA, ABOUT THE TRANSFER. HE ORDERED HIM TO ACCEPT ANY SPANISH GOVERNOR SELECTED OR ANY OFFICER APPOINTED TO TAKE OVER LOUISIANA WITHOUT HESITATION, UNDER THREAT OF LAW.

THE FRENCH PEOPLE IN THE COLONIES WERE FILLED WITH CONSTERNATION AND DESPAIR. ADDED TO THIS SHOCKING NEWS, THEY LEARNED THAT LOUIS HAD PLOTTED THE GIFT— THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA — TO SPAIN TO BLOCK THE ENGLISH. ENGLAND OWNED THE FLORIDA PARISHES AND THE EAST MISSISSIPPI RIVER COLONIES, SO BATON ROUGE BECAME THE SETTLEMENT OF NEW RICHMOND."




"THE PEOPLE IN THE NEW FRANCE COLONIES OF LOUISIANA CALLED ON THEIR BELOVED BIENVILLE_NOW AN OLD MAN LIVING IN FRANCE_ TO USE HIS INFLUENCE AND TRY TO PERSUADE THE KING TO CANCEL HIS TRANSFER OF FRENCH LOUISIANA TO SPANISH LOUISIANA, BUT THE KING REFUSED HIS PLEA.
THE KING IMMEDIATELY SENT DON ANTONIO DE ULLOA TO LOUISIANA TO RULE IN HIS NAME. ULLOA WAS RECEIVED COLDLY AND THE ANGRY, EMBITTERED COLONISTS STAGED A REVOLT. ULLOA FLED TO CUBA, AND FOR TEN MORE MONTHS LOUISIANA WAS AGAIN FREE.
THEN, COUNT ALEXANDER O'REILLY ARRIVED, SAILING WITH A FLEET OF 24 SHIPS WITH 2,000 SOLDIERS ABOARD. THE FRENCHMEN WHO HAD STARTED THE REBELLION WERE AT ONCE EXECUTED."
CARL CAGE


ONCE THE SPANIARDS INFILTRATED LOUISIANA AND RULED OVER THE TERRITORY, THEY MADE A BOLD ATTEMPT TO INJECT THEIR CULTURE. THE COLONISTS, WHO WERE PREDOMINANTLY FRENCH, WANTED NO PART IN THE NEW REGIME. THEY EVEN REFUSED TO SPEAK SPANISH, AND MANY TRIED IN VAIN TO RETURN TO OLD FRANCE.
HOWEVER, IN TIME, THE FRENCH PUT ASIDE THEIR BITTERNESS AND FURTHER IDEAS OF REVOLT AND APPLIED TACT AND CLEVERNESS. THROUGH MARRIAGE WITH TOP SPANISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THEY ACQUIRED WEALTH AND POWER, AND THE LOUISIANA CREOLE WAS BORN — THE PUREST OF FRENCH AND SPANISH STOCK."
CARL CARLE

"BY 1769 THE POPULATION OF NEW ORLEANS WAS 3,190. DESPITE GOVERNOR O'REILLY'S HISTORICAL REPUTATION AS BEING DESPOTIC, THERE WAS LITTLE TRUTH IN THE BELIEF. HE FINALLY ADMITTED CREOLES TO HIGH OFFICE AND ALLOWED THEM TO LIVE THEIR OWN LIVES—EVEN TO SPEAKING FRENCH. UNDER HIS ESTABLISHMENT, THE COLONY MADE GREAT PROGRESS.

EVEN THOUGH BY NOW MANY BUILDINGS AND CATHEDRALS OF IMPOSING QUALITY, MADE BY THE FRENCH, LINED THE NARROW STREETS, THE SPANISH GREATLY IMPROVED THE OVER-ALL PLAN. GAILY THEATERS AND BALLROOMS WERE CONSTRUCTED. BRICKS, MADE BY SLAVES FROM THE SURROUNDING GUMBO MUD, REPLACED OR FORTIFIED STRUCTURES OF LOGS OR HAND-HEWN TIMBERS. EVEN THE MUDDY STREETS AND WALKWAYS WERE OVERLAID WITH BRICK AND MORTAR, AND OFFICE BUILDINGS AND FORTS BOASTED OF BRICK AND MORTAR RAMPARTS AND FACADES.

SPANISH WROUGHT IRON—AND NOT FRENCH, AS SO MANY HAVE BELIEVED—AS DELICATE AS LACE, BORDERED UPPER GALLERIES, THE EDGES OF ROOFS, FENCES AND GATEWAYS LEADING INTO WALLED-IN GARDENS AND SECLUDED COURTYARDS WHERE ARCHED DOORWAYS AND WINDING STAIRWAYS LED TO DRIPPING FOUNTAINS.

THESE SPANISH STRUCTURES REMAIN IN NEW ORLEANS TO THIS DAY—STILL INTACT."



"IN 1777 DON BERNARDO DE GALVEZ ARRIVED IN NEW ORLEANS TO TAKE THE PLACE OF COUNT ALEXANDER O'REILLY. HE WAS A YOUNG MAN IN HIS TWENTIES WITH ENERGY AND AMBITION TO FIGHT.

HIS FIRST MISSION WAS TO REJUVENATE THE PORT— THE BEAUTIFUL CRESCENT— WHICH HAD SLOWED DOWN IN THE TRADING BUSINESS BECAUSE OF SO MUCH SMUGGLING, AND DUE TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT OCCUPATION'S ULTIMATUM THAT TRADE COULD BE CARRIED ON ONLY WITH OTHER FRENCH VESSELS. SMUGGLING HAD BECOME A RESPECTABLE TRADE, AND THIS HAD BROUGHT ON MUCH TROUBLE WITH THE INDIANS, WHO SWAPPED GOODS WITH THE BRITISH.

GALVEZ AT ONCE PERMITTED TRADE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WITH FRENCH MERCHANTS AND MAINTAINED FRIENDLY SHIPPING LANES WITH THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONISTS."






"WITH THE THREAT OF THE BRITISH EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, THE SITE OF THEIR NEW CAPITOL AT BATON ROUGE CALLED NEW RICHMOND, THE SECOND ACT THAT PROMPTED THE NEWLY APPOINTED GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF LOUISIANA, THE "MARCHA DE GALVEZ," WAS TO ESTABLISH A GREATER MILITARY ARMY.
ULLOA PREVIOUSLY HAD RAKISHLY FORMED A BATTALION OF MEN CALLED THE LOUISIANA INFANTRY. GALVEZ REINFORCED THEM WITH THE REGIMENT OF ESPANA, THE REGIMENT OF EL PRINCIPE, THE REGIMENT OF HAVANA, THE REGIMENT OF MALLORCA, AND RECRUITS FROM MEXICO AND THE CANARY ISLANDS.
BECAUSE THE PROMINENT, ELITE CREOLES DESIRED AN "UPPER CLASS" CORPS, GALVEZ ORGANIZED THE NEW ORLEANS CARABINEERS.
GALVEZ ALSO CREATED THE COMPANY OF FREE MULATTOES NAMED THE NEGRO MILITIA OF LOUISIANA.
IN TOTAL, GALVEZ MANAGED TO ASSEMBLE 1400 MEN, AMONG THEM INDIANS, NEGROES AND MEXICANS FOR THE WARRING TIMES AHEAD."
CARL CORLEY

"WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL, BERNARDO DE GALVEZ, GONE WAS THE ENMITY AND WAR-LIKE HATRED BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND SPANISH LIVING AND WORKING TOGETHER IN THE COLONIES. GALVEZ HAD BROUGHT TWO NATIONS, MISTRUSTFUL OF EACH OTHER, TOGETHER AS ONE, AS EQUALS IN THE NEW TERRITORY THAT WOULD EXIST IN HARMONY TO THIS DAY.

BUT, WITH ENGLAND BREATHING DOWN THEIR NECKS, THEIR COMMON ENEMY WAS NOW GREAT BRITAIN. SHE WAS ALSO THE ENEMY OF ALL THE AMERICAS.

GALVEZ SENT SUPPLIES TO THE AMERICANS OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY WHO WERE FIGHTING THE INVADING ENGLISH. HE SEIZED RICHLY-LADEN SHIPS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. PILLAGING EXPEDITIONS AGAINST BATON ROUGE AND NATCHEZ WERE CONDUCTED, AND ENGLISH PLANTATIONS WERE BURNED.

ON JULY 8, 1779 THE KING OF SPAIN DECLARED TOTAL WAR ON ENGLAND AND HER OFFENSIVE DELIBERATION TO TAKE AMERICA AND THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY. GALVEZ ATTACKED AND TOOK BATON ROUGE. LATER, HE SEIZED PENSACOLA, AND THE SPANISH TOOK COMPLETE CONTROL OF ALL THE ORIGINAL LOUISIANA PROVINCE.

THE POPULATION OF NEW ORLEANS WAS NOW 4,980, AND OF THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF LOUISIANA 32,000. AT THIS TIME THE FORTS AT BATON ROUGE, MANCHAC, AND AT NATCHEZ HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN. AND FREE TRADE WITH ALL THE AMERICAS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WAS AT LAST GRANTED.

WITH GALVEZ, UNDER SPANISH COMMAND, THE FUTURE FOR LOUISIANA LOOKED BRIGHT."



THE ACADIANS



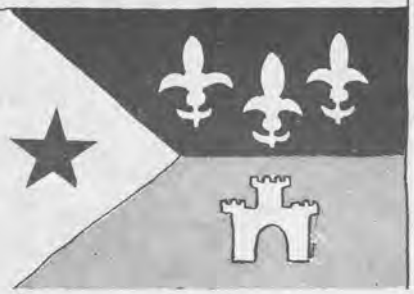
"WHO ARE THE ACADIANS? NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE THE NAME CAME FROM. IT WAS APPLIED TO THE EASTERN COAST OF CANADA NOW KNOWN AS NOVA SCOTIA. IT MAY HAVE BEEN AN INDIAN WORD, OR EVOLVED FROM ACADIA. BUT THE ACADIANS WERE FRENCH PEOPLE WHO SETTLED IN CANADA IN 1605— THE FIRST WHITE PEOPLE TO SETTLE ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.

ACTUALLY, THE FIRST ACADIANS ARRIVED IN LOUISIANA ON APRIL 6, 1764. THEY CONSISTED OF ONLY FOUR FAMILIES, MAKING THEIR WAY SOUTH FROM NEW YORK.

IT WAS RECORDED THAT LEIF ERICSON LANDED AT YARMOUTH, THE SOUTHERN COAST OF NOVA SCOTIA, IN 1001.

JOHN CABOT WENT ASHORE ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND ON JUNE 24, 1497, PLANTING THE ENGLISH FLAG, GIVING BRITAIN CLAIM TO THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT.

BUT, THE FRENCH WERE THERE CATCHING AND CURING FISH IN THE 16th CENTURY— 99 YEARS BEFORE THE PILGRIM FATHERS STEPPED ONTO PLYMOUTH ROCK".





"THE FIRST FRENCHMEN_FROM BRITTANY_TO SETTLE IN NOVA SCOTIA, IN ANNAPOLIS VALLEY, WERE MOSTLY FARMERS. ON THE BAY OF FUNDY THEY BUILT DIKES, RECLAIMING FERTILE LAND FROM THE FUNDY TIDES, AND CREATED WHAT REMAINS THE LOVELIEST AND MOST PRODUCTIVE LAND IN NOVA SCOTIA. FROM THIS RICH SOURCE THEY ATTAINED WEALTH, A SOCIETY FROM THEIR OWN CUNNING, THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM PATIENT PLANNING AND HARD LABOR. THEY WERE A HAPPY AND CONTENTED PEOPLE.

BUT, THEY WERE CONSTANTLY AT ODDS WITH THOSE IN CANADA WHO SPOKE ENGLISH. TOO, THEY WERE OF CATHOLIC FAITH. AND MORE FRENCHMEN CONTINUED FROM TIME TO TIME TO POUR INTO ENGLAND HELD CANADA FROM NORMANDY AND TOURAINE. THEIR NUMBER INCREASED TO 10,000 OR MORE.

ENGLAND OBJECTED TO THE THREATENING INFILTRATION, AND CALLED THEM FRENCH NEUTRALS_PRISONERS OF WAR_SO TO SPEAK. THEY TRIED TO FORCE THE STUBBORN ACADIANS TO TAKE AN OATH OF LOYALTY TO ENGLAND, NOT FRANCE. THE ACADIANS REFUSED TO TAKE THE OATH."



"FINALLY, THE ENGLISH GOVERNOR, LAWRENCE, DECIDED THAT, IF THE FRENCH ACADIANS WOULD NOT SWEAR TO THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE ENGLISH KING THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE DEPORTED.

DURING SEPTEMBER OF 1755, THE MEN WERE HERDED INTO THEIR VILLAGE CHURCHES AND ARRESTED. SOLDIERS BURNED THEIR HOMES, TOOK AWAY THEIR LIVESTOCK, AND DESTROYED THEIR ORCHARDS AND FARM CROPS.

A GREAT NUMBER OF ACADIANS, STRICKEN WITH GRIEF AND DESPAIR, LOADED WHAT THEY COULD SALVAGE ONTO WAGONS AND CARTS AND MADE RECKLESS MANEUVERS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE."




"THE ACADIANS, ARRESTED AND CAPTURED, BROUGHT IN OR DRAGGED IN BY PHYSICAL FORCE FROM SMALL VILLAGES AND OUTING FARMS, WERE LOADED ABOARD SHIPS WAITING IN THE OFFING. NUMEROUS FAMALIES WERE SEPARATED. THE MEN AND BOYS WERE LOADED ON ONE SHIP, THE WOMEN AND GIRLS ON ANOTHER. HUSBANDS AND WIVES NEVER SAW EACH OTHER AGAIN. BROTHERS AND SISTERS WOULD NEVER ENJOY FAMILY TIES, THE BOND OF CLOSE KINSHIP. SWEETHEARTS AND LOVERS WOULD NEVER AGAIN REJOIN ONE ANOTHER AND CONSECRATE THEIR LOVE. THE ONLY KINSHIP THAT REMAINED FOR THEM MOMENTARILY WAS MOTHER AND DAUGHTER, FATHER AND SON. BETWEEN THEM, ALL THE WORLDLY POSSESSIONS THEY OWNED WERE GONE, EITHER BURNED OR SACKED BY THE ENGLISH SOLDIERS.
SO, THEY SET SAIL TO UNKNOWN LANDS, A DESTINATION KEPT SECRET FROM THEM UNTIL THEY WERE PUT ASHORE_A FEW AT A TIME_AND SCATTERED ALONG THE ATLANTIC COASTLINE."
CARL GORLEY

"AN EXAMPLE OF THESE TRAGIC SEPARATIONS ACCENTS A PLACE IN LOUISIANA HISTORY UNDER THE GUISE OF TWO YOUNG ACADIANS AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL IN LOUISIANA."



A YOUNG COUPLE VERY MUCH IN LOVE—EMMALINE LABICHE AND LOUIS ARCENEAUX—WERE PLACED ABOARD DIFFERENT SHIPS. THEY HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING EACH OTHERS DESTINATION OR IF THEY WOULD EVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN. BUT THEY KEPT THEIR LOVE AND RELIGIOUS FAITH.

LOUIS MADE HIS WAY TO POSTE DE ATTAKAPAS, A SECTION OF PRESENT DAY LOUISIANA. EMMALINE ARRIVED THREE YEARS LATER, STILL CARRYING HER WEDDING GOWN FOLDED NEATLY IN AN OLD LEATHER VALISE. THE DAY SHE ARRIVED LOUIS HAD GONE ON A LAST DESPERATE SEARCH TO FIND HER. THEIR PATHS CROSSED, WHEN THEY WERE SO CLOSE TO FINDING EACH OTHER, BUT THEY DID NOT MEET. HE SEARCHED IN VAIN. FINALLY GIVING UP, THINKING HER DEAD, HE MARRIED SOMEONE ELSE. THOUGH HE STILL LOVED EMMALINE AND PINED FOR HER, HE MADE A NEW LIFE FOR HIMSELF.

MEANWHILE, IN THE SHADE OF AN ENORMOUS LIVE OAK TREE THAT STOOD ON THE BANK OF THE TECHE, EMMALINE SPENT HER EVERY WAKING HOUR WATCHING FOR LOUIS TO COME UP THE WINDING BAYOU TO CLAIM HER FOR HIS OWN. HE NEVER CAME. THE YEARS SLIPPED AWAY. YET, SHE KEPT A CONSTANT VIGIL.

WHEN SHE WAS FINALLY TOLD THAT HER BELOVED LOUIS HAD MARRIED SOMEONE ELSE HER MIND REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE TRAGIC NEWS AS FACT. BROKENHEARTED, SHE STILL WAITED. SHE BECAME SICK. LIFE BECAME CONFUSING. THEN, AS TIME WANED, SHE LOST HER "WILL TO LIVE." EMMALINE LABICHE DIED ALONE, HER LIFE WASTED, ALL HER ENERGY BURNED UP IN A LOVE NEVER FULFILLED. ACTUALLY, SHE TRULY DIED THAT INSTANT SHE LOST LOUIS ARCENEAUX. SHE IS BURIED NEAR THE LIVE OAK IN ST. MARTINVILLE.

"7,000 ACADIANS WERE DEPOSITED FROM NOVA SCOTIA IN THE FALL OF 1755 AND THE NEXT TWO YEARS TO FOLLOW.

MANY WERE DROPPED OFF AT COLONIES ALONG AMERICA'S EASTERN SHORELINE-- BOSTON, NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE AND CHARLESTON. LATER, MANY FOUND THEIR FORLORN WAY BACK TO VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CANADA-- DETOURING THEIR BELOVED NOVA SCOTIA. SOME WERE LOST AT SEA. OTHERS DIED FROM MALNUTRITION AND DISEASE.

ON APRIL 4, 1764 TWENTY ACADIANS SET FOOT ON LOUISIANA SOIL. AFTER THIS BREAKTHROUGH, AND WORD WAS SENT BACK TO NORTHERN COLONIES, THEY CONTINUED TO ARRIVE IN LARGER NUMBERS.

THOSE WHO MADE IT SUCCESSFULLY HAD TO COME BY SMALL BOAT, FOR ENGLAND WAS AT WAR WITH FRANCE, AND MOST OF THE SOUTHERN COLONIES WERE UNDER SIEGE. THEY COULD NOT HAVE MADE IT OVERLAND, FOR THE INDIANS WERE ON THE WARPATH DURING THAT TIME, AND TRAVEL BY LAND IN THOSE DAYS WAS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE."




"THE ACADIANS DISCOVERED, DESPAIRINGLY, THAT THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY TO WHICH THEY HAD STRUGGLED SO FRANTICALLY TO REACH, WAS IN NO WAY SIMILAR TO THEIR BELOVED NOVA SCOTIA. THEIR DIFFERENCE, IN PHYSICAL ASPECT, WAS TO THE EXTREME. THE CLIMATE WAS TERRIBLE BY COMPARISON. THE DAYS AND NIGHTS WERE HOT. THE STEAMING VEGETATION WAS RANK WITH MOLD AND MILDEW. THE SWAMPS WERE IMPASSABLE. THE PATHLESS FLATLANDS AND INLETS, SO UNRELATED TO CANADAIN SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS, WERE TREACHEROUSLY RIGGED WITH BOGS, QUAGMIRES, AND DECAYED TREES. AND THE LURKING BEASTS WERE AWESOME, EVEN TO LOOK UPON.
THEY LONGED TO TURN BACK, BUT THEY KEPT THEIR FAITH."
CARL CORLE


"IN 1785 ABOUT 2,000 ACADIANS ARRIVED IN LOUISIANA FROM FRANCE, A VOYAGE BETTER KNOWN AS *THE GREAT MIGRATION.* THEY HAD BEEN SHIPPED TO ENGLAND FROM NOVA SCOTIA, THEN ON TO SAINT MALO.
THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT, STILL IN REIGN OVER ALL THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY, MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE THEM TRANSPORTED. THEY SETTLED ALONG BAYOU TECHE AND ATTAKAPAS COUNTRY.
THE ACADIANS HAD TO ACCEPT HOMESTEADING LAND IN THE WILDERNESS, FOR THE SPANISH DID NOT WANT SQUATTERS ON TERRITORY RECORDED UNDER SPANISH LAND GRANTS.
THE ACADIANS WERE KIND, THRIFTY, INDUSTRIOUS, AND A HARD-WORKING PEOPLE. THEY REFUSED TO LOOK BACK AT THEIR TERRIBLE LOSS AND PITCHED FORWARD INTO BUILDING A NEW FUTURE WHERE THEY COULD LIVE IN PEACE AND PRACTICE THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH."
CARL CORLES


"THE FIRST HOMES THE ACADIANS CONSTRUCTED AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL IN THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY WERE OF ROUGHLY-HEWN CYPRESS LOGS, AND WERE HARDLY MORE THAN PRIMITIVE LEAN-TO ABODES. THE ROOFS WERE COVERED WITH CYPRESS STRIPS REINFORCED WITH THATCH HELD DOWN WITH LOGS AND STONES. THE CRACKS BETWEEN THE LOGS THAT FORMED THE WALLS WERE SEALED WITH A THICK MIXTURE OF MOSS AND MUD.
THE INTERIORS WERE NOT MUCH BETTER THAN THE EXTERIORS. THE FLOORS WERE DIRT-CARPETED WITH STRAW. THE FIREPLACES, EXTREMELY CRUDE, WERE FOR WARMTH IN WINTER AND COOKING YEAR ROUND. THE FURNISHINGS WERE SPARSE, AND HAND MADE."
CARL ERLE

"THE HEARTH BECAME THE CENTRAL AREA AROUND WHICH EVERYTHING ABOUT THE DAILY ACADIAN LIFE REVOLVED. HERE THEY PREPARED AND ATE THEIR MEALS. AROUND AND ABOUT THE FIRE THE WOMEN SPUN WOOL INTO THREAD, MADE CLOTH WITH HOMEMADE LOOMS, MENDED OLD THREADBARE GARMENTS, AND STITCHED NEW ONES OR ALTERED CLOTHES TO BE HANDED DOWN FROM ONE CHILD TO THE NEXT. THE MEN SHARPENED FARM IMPLEMENTS FOR THE COMING SPRING, MADE BASKETS, CARVED WOODEN SHOES, AND MADE AMMUNITION TO BE USED FOR GAME AND TO FIGHT HOSTILE INDIANS.

IT WAS AROUND THE HEARTH THAT BEDS, COVERED WITH STRAW, STOOD IN DARK TIERS TO BE OCCUPIED DURING THE LONG WINTER NIGHTS. BUT, HOWEVER PRIMITIVE, THE ACADIANS DID NOT COMPLAIN.

IT WAS HERE, TOO, WHERE THE ACADIAN CHILDREN GATHERED TO PLAY WITH THEIR PETS AND HANDMADE TOYS, AND TO LEARN WHAT THEY COULD FROM THE FEW BOOKS THAT WERE AVAILABLE TO THEM.

THEY WERE LIKE MOTHS DRAWN TO AMBER, PAYING HOMAGE TO THE HEARTH AS THOUGH IT WERE A RELIGIOUS ALTAR."



"THE ACADIANS DISCOVERED ONE THING ABOUT THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY THAT WAS IN THEIR FAVOR— FOOD. THERE WAS AN ABUNDANCE OF IT IN THE WILD, UNEXPLORED REGIONS ALONG BAYOU TECHE.

OCCASIONALLY, THEY KILLED A BUFFALO, OR A FULL GROWN DEER. WILD TURKEYS COULD BE SHOT AT CLOSE RANGE. THERE WAS AN ASSORTMENT OF SMALLER FOWL, HUNDREDS OF EDIBLE FURRY ANIMALS, AND A VARIETY OF FISH. ALSO, BERRIES AND NUTS AND HERBS WERE FOR THE TAKING— WHEN IN SEASON."




"NO ACADIAN, DURING THOSE CRUCIAL TIMES, WAS EXEMPT FROM HARD WORK_NOT EVEN THE VERY YOUNG NOR THE VERY OLD_ AND THERE WAS NEVER A TASK TOO LARGE NOR SEEMINGLY TOO IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE EARLY ACADIAN REFUSED TO TACKLE. JOBS WERE ENDLESS. JOYS FEW. EVERYTHING HAD TO BE MADE BY HAND. OUTSIDERS, EITHER TOO RELUCTANT OR TOO THOUGHTLESS TO CONCERN THEMSELVES TO LOAN OR DONATE FARMING AND BUILDING TOOLS, TURNED DEAF EARS TO THE ACADIANS' PLIGHT. ON RARE OCCASIONS, HOWEVER, ORIGINAL FRENCH SETTLERS IN THE TECHE AREA, LENT A HELPING HAND.
THE ACADIANS CONTINUED THEIR FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL_UNDAUNTED.
FORGES RANG. NEEDLES CLICKED. AXES ECHOED FROM THE SWAMPS. AND HAMMERS, MALLS, AND CHISELS KEPT UP A MUSICAL, EXHILARTING CADENCE FROM DAWN UNTIL TWILIGHT."

"THE EXILED ACADIANS MADE THEIR FIRST YEAR'S CROP IN THE NEW LOUISIANA TERRITORY ALMOST AS IF THEY SPADED AND SHAPED THE FERTILE EARTH WITH THEIR BARE HANDS—WITHOUT THE AID OF TOOL OR IMPLEMENT.

SOME, THE MORE FORTUNATE, HAD MANAGED TO HOLD ONTO A FEW FARMING TOOLS DURING THEIR LONG, PERILOUS VOYAGE SOUTH FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

WITH PRODUCE FROM THIS FIRST HARVEST, ALONG WITH GAME AND HIDES FROM THE SWAMPS, THEY BARTERED WITH THE NEAR-BY COLONIES FOR STRONGER TOOLS, OXEN FOR PLOWING, SALT, SUGAR, GRAIN AND SEEDS.

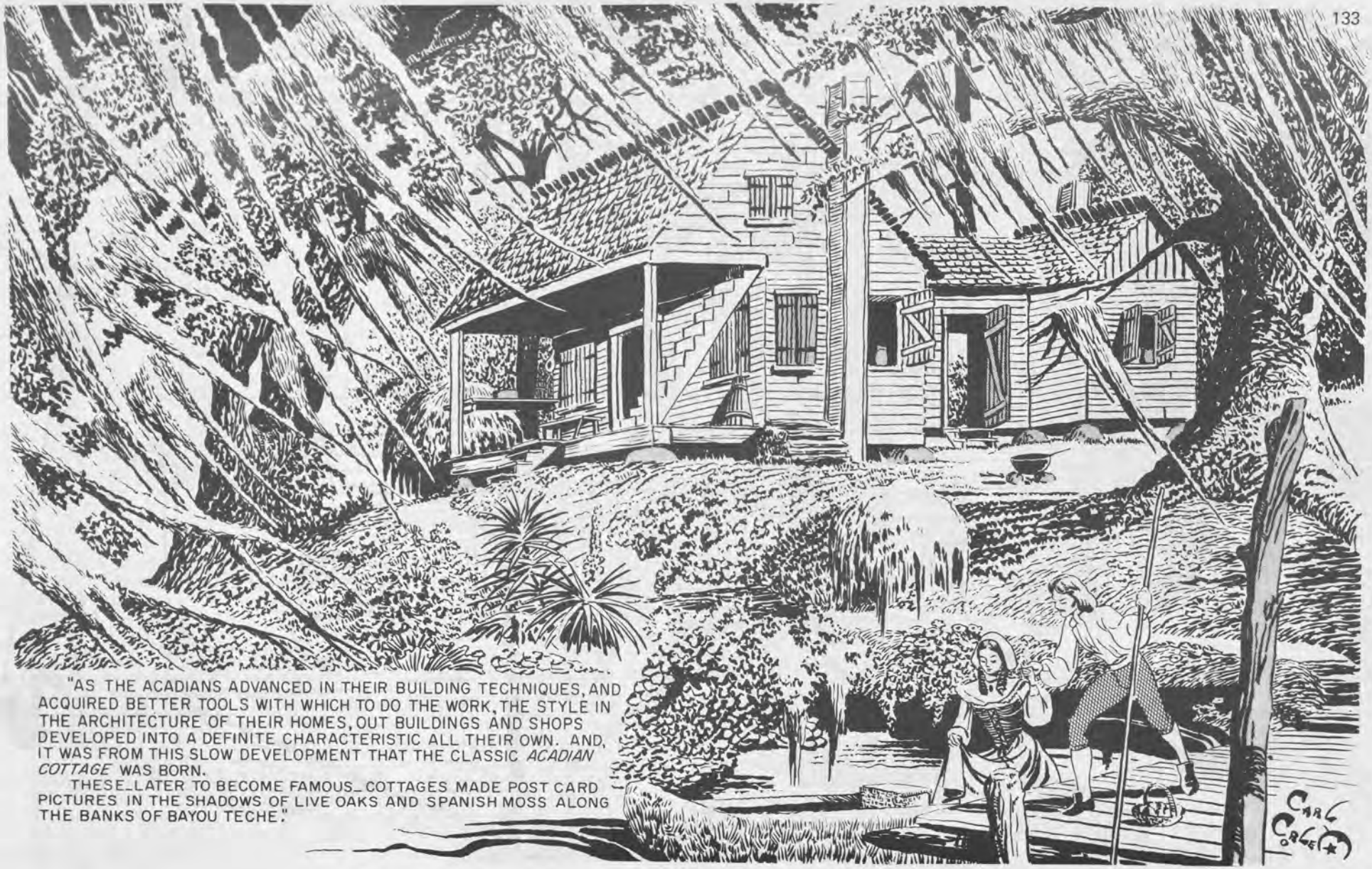
THE FOLLOWING YEARS PROVED PROFITABLE. THEY BROADENED THEIR FIELDS AND GARDENS, CLEARING THE ELEVATED LANDS AND INLETS UNTIL ONE MAN'S FIELDS MERGED WITH ANOTHER'S, WITH ONLY TERRACE ROWS AND BAYOUS INBETWEEN. THEY COULD PRODUCE VEGETABLE GARDENS TWO SEASONS A YEAR—LOUISIANA BEING A MILDER CLIME—SO UNLIKE THE COLD REGIONS OF NOVA SCOTIA. TO INCREASE THEIR PROSPERITY, THEY SET TRAPS AND SPREAD NETS FOR SEINING THE RIVERS AND BAYOUS."



"IN DUE TIME, THE ACADIANS CONSTRUCTED MORE COMFORTABLE, AND MORE PRESENTABLE HOMES. THE FURNISHINGS FOR THESE THEY MADE THEMSELVES, OUT OF WHAT MATERIALS AND WITH WHAT HAND TOOLS THAT WERE AVAILABLE, AND WITH THAT TOUCH OF ACADIAN ARTISTRY REMINISCENT OF THEIR PRIDE AND LOVE OF BEAUTIFUL—BUT SIMPLE—THINGS.

THE INTERIORS TOOK ON A MORE HOMEY ATMOSPHERE, AND RARE HEIRLOOMS SALVAGED FROM ENGLISH HOSTILITIES IN NOVA SCOTIA, OR BROUGHT OVER FROM FRANCE, ADDED A BRIGHT NOTE OF NOSTALGIA."

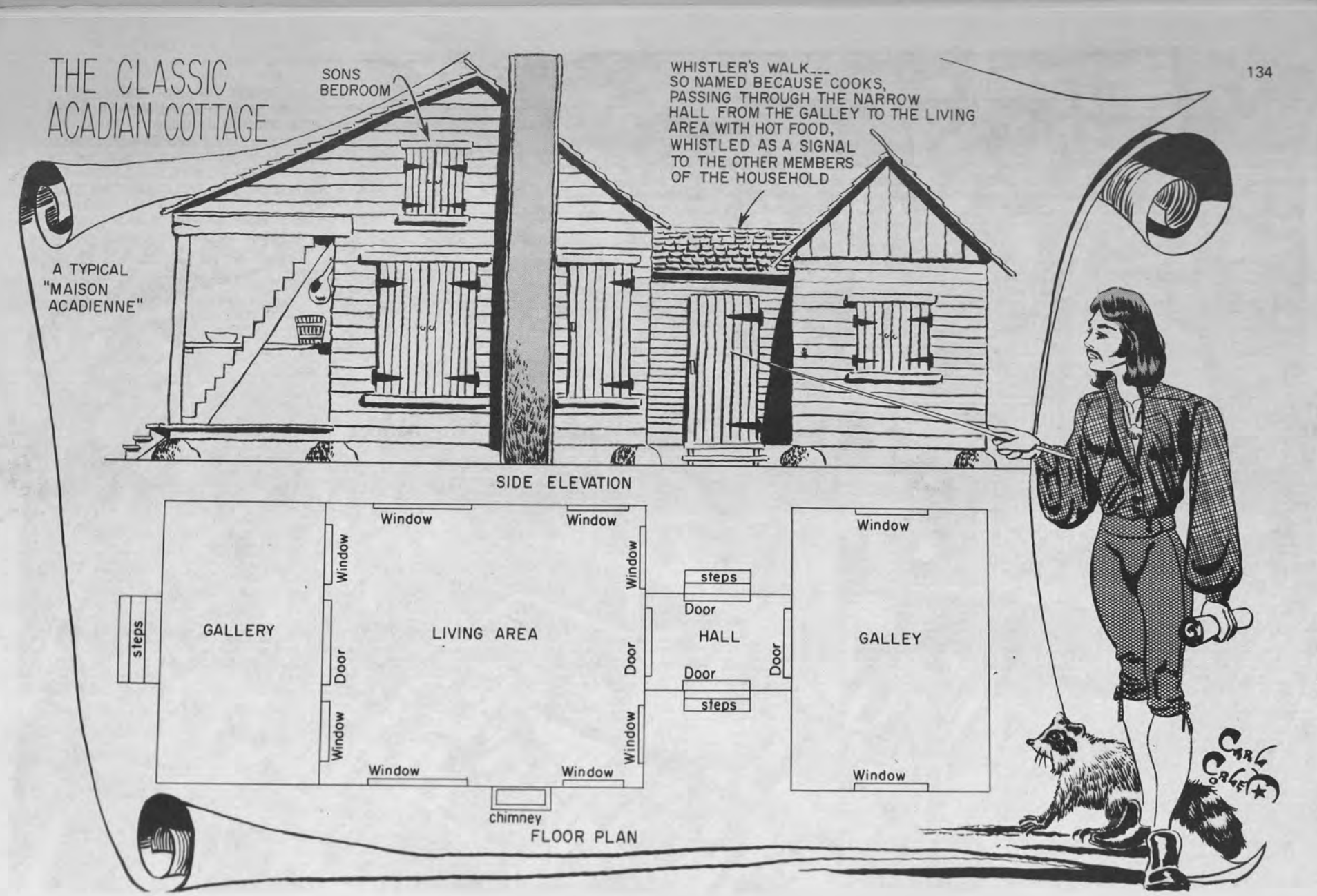




"AS THE ACADIANS ADVANCED IN THEIR BUILDING TECHNIQUES, AND ACQUIRED BETTER TOOLS WITH WHICH TO DO THE WORK, THE STYLE IN THE ARCHITECTURE OF THEIR HOMES, OUT BUILDINGS AND SHOPS DEVELOPED INTO A DEFINITE CHARACTERISTIC ALL THEIR OWN. AND, IT WAS FROM THIS SLOW DEVELOPMENT THAT THE CLASSIC *ACADIAN COTTAGE* WAS BORN.

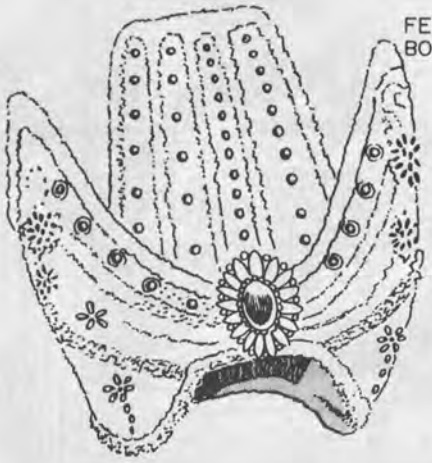
THESE-LATER TO BECOME FAMOUS-COTTAGES MADE POST CARD PICTURES IN THE SHADOWS OF LIVE OAKS AND SPANISH MOSS ALONG THE BANKS OF BAYOU TECHE."

THE CLASSIC ACADIAN COTTAGE



"THE ACADIANS STYLE OF DRESS CHANGED LITTLE, IF AT ALL, THROUGH THE YEARS FOLLOWING THEIR MIGRATION FROM CANADA.

MANY OF THE ACADIANS, DRIFTING OVERLAND FROM FRANCE, CROSSED THE NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM. IT WAS WHILE THEY WERE THERE THAT THEY ADOPTED THE WHITE-WINGED BONNET, THE WAISTCOAT, THE LACE TRIM, AND THE WOODEN SHOE."



FESTIVAL BONNET



HAND PAINTED DANCE SLIPPER

WOODEN DRESS SHOES HAD SILVER BUCKLES AND LEATHER SOLES




"SMALL, CLOSELY PACKED VILLAGES SPRANG UP ALONG BAYOU TECHE. STORES, CHURCHES, WAREHOUSES, OFFICES, ENTERTAINMENT HALLS, SCHOOLS, BOAT LANDINGS AND WHARVES MUSHROOMED AS IF BY MAGIC— ALL PRODUCED BY THE HARD WORKING HANDS OF THE ACADIANS AND THEIR DURABILITY, THEIR STRENGTH, THEIR PATIENCE, AND THEIR DETERMINATION TO GAIN BACK—OVER AND ABOVE—WHAT THEY HAD ONCE SO WHOLLY CHERISHED, THEIR UNUTTERABLE LOSS OF EVERTHING THEY HAD OWNED IN NOVA SCOTIA."
CARL CORLEY


"TAVERNS DOTTED THE VILLAGES AND LINED THE WHARVES. PLANTERS, IN TOWN FOR SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THE ACADIAN READY-MADE COURTS, ENJOYED THEMSELVES HERE AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT. THEY EXCHANGED LOCAL NEWS, MADE BARGAINS, DEBATED POLITICS, DISCUSSED THE WILD INDIANS AND THE HATED SPANIARDS — IF THE INDIANS WOULD EVER BECOME DOCILE AND FRIENDLY, OR IF THE SPANIARDS WOULD EVER ALLOW TOLERANCE OF THEIR NEEDS AND FREEDOM OF THEIR PRIVATE GOVERNOR-SHIP, WHICH THEY SO RELIGIOUSLY CRAVED."


"THE INDIANS, USUALLY THE ATTAKAPAS OR THE OPELOUSAS, DID ATTACK ON OCCASION. HOMES WERE BURNED. GIRLS WERE KIDNAPPED. MEN WERE SLAUGHTERED. THESE TWO TRIBES WERE LESS ADVANCED, CULTURALLY, THAN THE CHITIMACHA AND THE CHAWASHA, AND HAD LONG SINCE GAINED THE GHASTLY REPUTATION OF PRACTICING CANNIBALISM.
HISTORIANS HAVE BELIEVED THIS TO BE BUT A MYTH, WITH NO EVIDENCE UPON WHICH TO BASE FACTS OTHERWISE. BUT THE ATTAKAPA CAME FROM SAN SALVADOR, WHERE COLUMBUS FIRST LANDED, AND THEY PRACTICED IT THERE—WHICH IS PROOF ENOUGH."


"THE INDIANS HAD THE ADVANTAGE OVER THE ACADIANS, WHO WERE NOT FIGHTERS. THEY SOUGHT PEACE, NOT WAR. THEY COULD NOT ESCAPE, FOR THEIR ONLY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION WAS THE OX CART, THE HORSE AND BUGGY, AND THE PIROGUE_A CANOE CARVED FROM A CYPRESS LOG THEY HAD PATTERNED FROM ONE OF THE LESS HOSTILE TRIBES. WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION WERE FRIGHTFULLY SCARCE, AND THE ONLY HELP THEY RECEIVED CAME FROM THE SPANISH, WHO CARED LESS WHICH SIDE SUFFERED DEFEAT_THE INDIANS OR THE ACADIANS.
THE ATTAKAPAS NEVER SETTLED DOWN AS A PEACEFUL TRIBE. THEY REFUSED TO TRADE AND LIVE IN FRIENDLY COMMUNION, CONTINUING THEIR WARLIKE EXISTENCE UNTIL THE VERY END.
EVENTUALLY, THE OPELOUSAS AND THE CHITIMACHA BANDED TOGETHER AND DROVE THEM FROM THE TECHE."
CARL


"THE ACADIANS WERE CAREFUL PEOPLE CONCERNING THEIR OWN PRIVATE HISTORY AND RECORDS. AN OFFICE WAS SET UP FOR SUCH A NOTEWORTHY PURPOSE. HERE WERE RECORDED THEIR MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS, BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND TITLES TO LAND HOLDINGS.
WHEN A TRAVELING PRIEST VISITED THE TECHE COUNTRY, SEVERAL COUPLES WOULD MARRY AT THE SAME TIME, AND THE CHILDREN OF EARLIER MARRIAGES WOULD BE BAPTIZED.
EVERYONE KEPT DIARIES AND RECORDS— PRECIOUS DOCUMENTS TO THEM— AND NO ACADIAN HOUSEHOLD WAS COMPLETE WITHOUT A DOG-EARED ACCOUNT BOOK IN WHICH WAS WRITTEN DOWN IN MINUTE DETAIL EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. THEY WERE CALLED *LICENCI'S ES LETTRES.*
AN EXAMPLE: "MAITRE LEBLANC KILL DEER TODAY. WE EAT GOOD FOR A WEEK." OR, "ME'RE ILL. STAY IN BED ALL DAY." OR, "CA GRIMACE'— IT'S RAINING!"
CARL CAGLE


"THE ACADIAN GIRLS WERE BEAUTIFUL. THEY MARRIED EARLY AND HAD LARGE FAMILIES. ACCORDING TO ACADIAN STANDARDS, A GIRL WAS A COMPLETE FAILURE IF SHE DID NOT MARRY. AND THIS HORRIFYING POSSIBILITY CAUSED HER CONSTANT WORRY. AN OLD MAID WAS SO RARE AS TO BE THE OBJECT OF BOTH SCORN AND PITY. THEY STARTED LOOKING FOR A HUSBAND AT THE EARLY AGE OF FOURTEEN. IF A GIRL WAS UNABLE TO CONJURE A BRIDEGROOM BY THE AGE OF TWENTY SHE BECAME A SOCIAL OUT-CAST, AND HAD TO SIT WITH THE OLD MARRIED MATRONS AT PARTIES AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS."
CARL CORLE



"ALL WAS NOT WORRY, HARD WORK, INDIAN ATTACKS AND SPANISH DOMINANCE FOR THE ACADIANS ALONG THE TECHE. THEY LOVED TO PLAY AS MUCH AS THEY LOVED TO WORK AND EAT. ON SPECIAL OUTINGS—FISH FRIES IN CAST IRON POTS, FETS, GOUTES ON A GRAND SCALE, BOUCHERIES, COURTBOULLIONS— THEY PREPARED SAVORY DISHES OUT IN THE OPEN, AND EVERYONE ATE TOGETHER. USUALLY, FOR EVERYDAY MEALS, ENTIRE FAMILIES GATHERED AROUND THE DINING TABLE, FROM TODDLING INFANTS TO FEEBLE GRANDPARENTS."

CARL CRAIG



GUMBO

1 chicken or leftover carcass
Salt, pepper and cayenne pepper to taste
½ to 1 pound sausage, chopped
2 cups okra
1 bell pepper, chopped
3 pods garlic, chopped
1 large onion, chopped
3 bay leaves
1 teaspoon basil
2 teaspoons thyme
2 tomatoes, fresh or canned
3 tablespoons fat or oil
3 tablespoons flour
1 cup stock
Shrimp, oysters, crabs (optional)

Cook chicken in water with salt, pepper and cayenne pepper until tender. Remove meat from bone in slivers. Save stock. You may also use a leftover turkey, ham or duck carcass in place of chicken. In a large pot, sauté sausage. Remove sausage from pot and sauté okra, bell pepper, garlic, onion, bay leaves, basil and thyme in sausage drippings. Stir frequently to prevent burning or sticking. When tender, add tomatoes that have been puréed or finely chopped. Let this simmer 15 minutes, stirring frequently. Add chicken and stock. Let gumbo mixture simmer. The roux is made in a small pan, preferably cast iron. Heat fat or oil over medium heat until it is just about to smoke. Add flour, stirring constantly. It should take 3 to 5 minutes to turn dark brown. Be careful not to burn. When roux is done, remove from heat and let cool 5 minutes. Slowly add 1 cup of hot stock, stirring so it won't lump. Add this to gumbo. You may also add shrimp, gumbo crabs, crab claws or crabmeat and oysters. Season to taste with salt and cayenne pepper. Simmer 2 to 3 hours. Serve over rice. If okra is not used in gumbo, sprinkle 1 teaspoon of filé in each bowl after gumbo has been served.

CRAWFISH BISQUE

Stuffing for Heads:

40 pounds of crawfish tails
12 onions, quartered
12 bell peppers, quartered
2 stalks celery
12 heads garlic
4 large bunches parsley
16 bunches green onions
Fresh oregano
4 tablespoons basil
Fourteen 15-ounce cans bread crumbs
13 dozen eggs
Two 10-ounce bottles sauce
Salt to taste
Black and red pepper to taste

Prepare onions, bell pepper, celery, garlic, parsley, green onions, oregano and sweet basil for the food grinder. Run through the food grinder alternating with raw crawfish tails. Save all fats and juices during the grinding process; add to the stuffing mixture. Add bread crumbs, eggs (don't bother to beat), sauce, salt and pepper. Mix well with hands to assure proper consistency or "feel." Stuff this mixture into heads. It must not be packed tightly because the eggs and bread must have room for expansion and the gravy must be able to penetrate to assure flavor. Place stuffed heads on a covered baking sheet brown 10 to 15 minutes, until sealed and slightly browned.

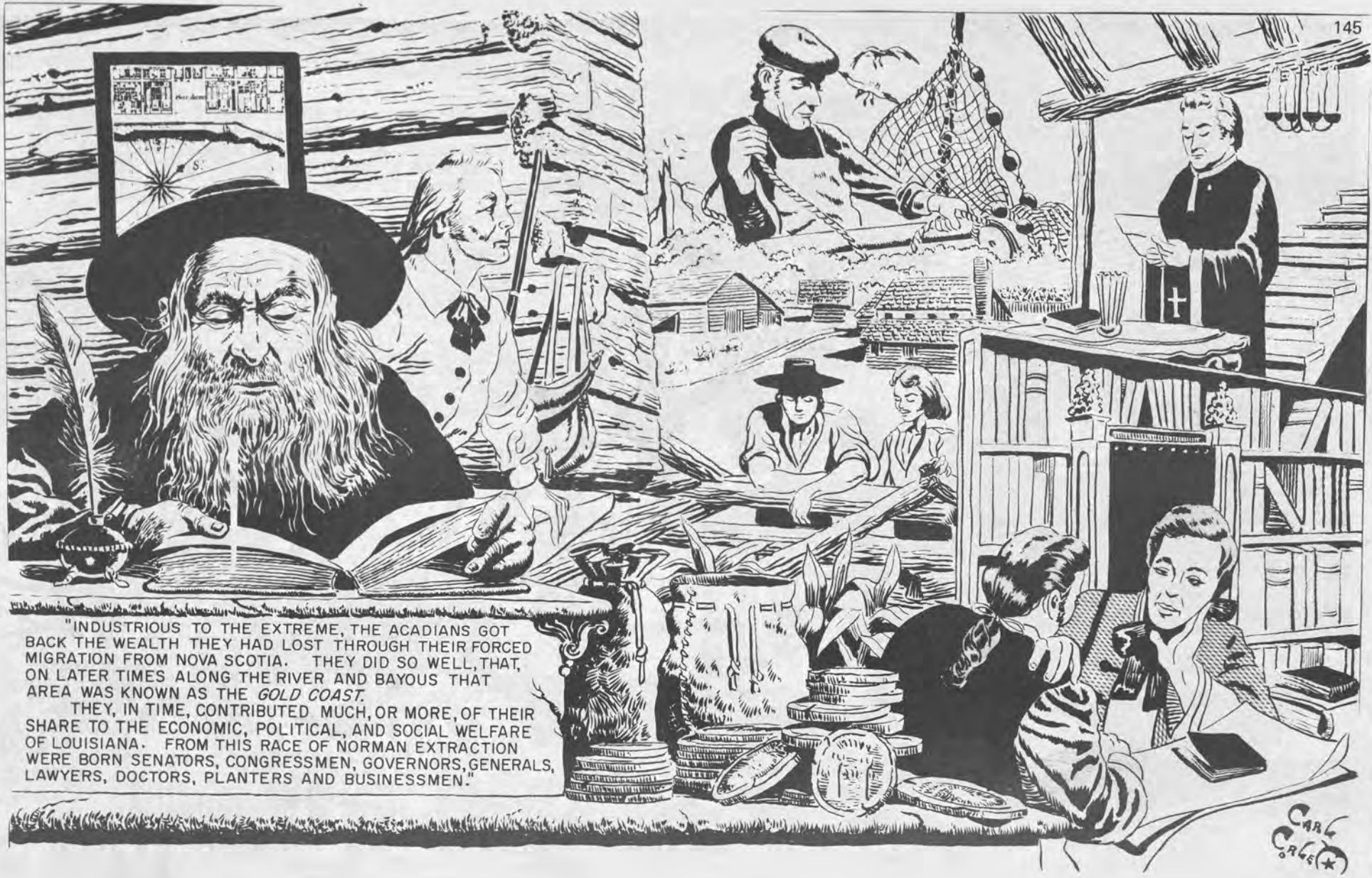
"THE STORY OF THE ACADIANS ALONG THE WINDING TECHE IN THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY WOULD NOT BE COMPLETE WITHOUT MENTIONING THE SAVORY FOOD THEY PREPARED. GRILLADES, CAFE BRULOT, CALAS, CRAWFISH BISQUE, HOT SAUSAGE AND SHRIMP JAMBALAYA, TURTLE SOUP, HUSH PUPPIES, GUMBOS, DIRTY RICE, AND SPOON BREAD, TO NAME BUT A FEW. THEY WERE CONNOISSEURS IN THE DELICACIES OF THE TABLE, AND HAVE KEPT THIS TITLE TO THIS DAY."

CARL ORGE



"IN DUE TIME THE ACADIANS ADVANCED THEIR CULTURE TO THAT OF OLD FRANCE, THE CUSTOMS, THE OUTINGS, THE BALLS, THEIR MATTER OF APPEARANCE AND DRESS. AND THEY PLACED MORE EMPHASIS ON MANNERS AND ELEGANCE, AND LESS ON FIELDWORK AND MENTAL ANGUISH.

MORE ELABORATE SHOPS WERE ESTABLISHED, AS FREE SHIPPING LANES BEGAN TO PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED IMPORTED GOODS. PRINTING PRESSES WERE SET UP FOR PUBLICATIONS. SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES MUSHROOMED. LAW OFFICES AND SHIPPING WAREHOUSES LINKED ONE TO THE OTHER ALONG THE BAYOU TECHE—MILE ON SOMBER MILE."


"INDUSTRIOUS TO THE EXTREME, THE ACADIANS GOT BACK THE WEALTH THEY HAD LOST THROUGH THEIR FORCED MIGRATION FROM NOVA SCOTIA. THEY DID SO WELL, THAT, ON LATER TIMES ALONG THE RIVER AND BAYOUS THAT AREA WAS KNOWN AS THE *GOLD COAST.*
THEY, IN TIME, CONTRIBUTED MUCH, OR MORE, OF THEIR SHARE TO THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND SOCIAL WELFARE OF LOUISIANA. FROM THIS RACE OF NORMAN EXTRACTION WERE BORN SENATORS, CONGRESSMEN, GOVERNORS, GENERALS, LAWYERS, DOCTORS, PLANTERS AND BUSINESSMEN."
CARL CARLE


"THE ACADIANS INSISTED ON LIVING IN THIS NEW WORLD AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE LIKE THEIR LIFE IN FRANCE _ BALLS, OPERAS, FETES, BOUCHERIES, COUPE DE MAIN, FAIS-DO-DO, ABIDING THEIR TIME UNTIL RECALLED TO FRANCE. THE TECHE WAS NOT THEIR PERMANENT JOURNEYS' END__THEY THOUGHT__ THEY WAITED AND WAITED FOR THE CALL THAT NEVER CAME."

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

"ESTEBAN MIRO', A YOUNG SPANISH OFFICER, WAS APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY IN 1785, TAKING GALVEZ'S PLACE. UNDER HIS ABLE LEADERSHIP, THE CREOLE POPULATION RECONCILED TO SPANISH RULE. DURING HIS TENURE, THE LARGEST MIGRATION OF ACADIANS, SOME SIXTEEN HUNDRED, TOOK PLACE WHEN THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT BROUGHT TO NEW ORLEANS FOUR HUNDRED FAMILIES WHO HAD BEEN ABANDONED IN FRANCE.

IT WAS DURING THIS TIME THAT THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF AMERICA TOOK OFFICE. GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON—1789 to 1797.

BUT THE GOLDEN AGE OF SPANISH RULE DID NOT COME TO THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY UNTIL THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW GOVERNOR—BAR'ON FRANCISCO LUIS HECTOR DE CARONDELET.

NEW ORLEANS SAW ITS FIRST THEATRE OPENED, READ ITS FIRST LOCAL NEWSPAPER, HAD ITS STREETS LIGHTED BY LAMPS, AND ENJOYED THE PROTECTION OF A SMALL FORCE OF NIGHT WATCHMEN. AND FORTS WERE CONSTRUCTED AROUND NEW ORLEANS—FORT ST. CHARLES AND FORT BOURGOGNE—IN FEAR OF ATTACKS FROM THE BRITISH OR BY THE AMERICANS UP RIVER. A CANAL, ALSO, WAS DUG BY SLAVE LABOR AT THE REAR OF THE CITY, TO WARD OFF FREQUENT FLOODS."



CARONDELET





ESTEBAN MIRO'

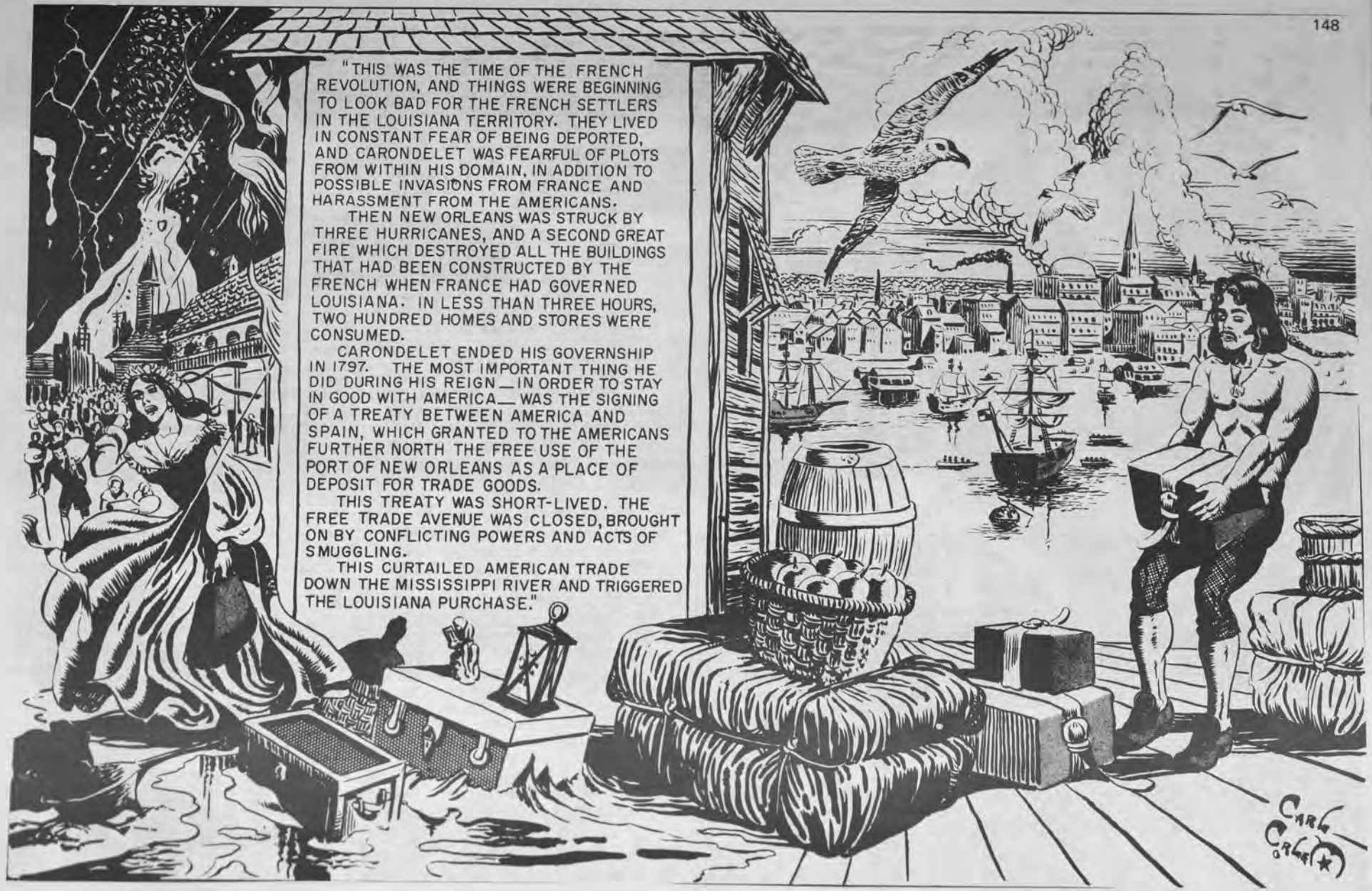






George Washington
1st. PRESIDENT OF U.S.
(1789-1797)

CARL CALE


"THIS WAS THE TIME OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, AND THINGS WERE BEGINNING TO LOOK BAD FOR THE FRENCH SETTLERS IN THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY. THEY LIVED IN CONSTANT FEAR OF BEING DEPORTED, AND CARONDELET WAS FEARFUL OF PLOTS FROM WITHIN HIS DOMAIN, IN ADDITION TO POSSIBLE INVASIONS FROM FRANCE AND HARASSMENT FROM THE AMERICANS.
THEN NEW ORLEANS WAS STRUCK BY THREE HURRICANES, AND A SECOND GREAT FIRE WHICH DESTROYED ALL THE BUILDINGS THAT HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED BY THE FRENCH WHEN FRANCE HAD GOVERNED LOUISIANA. IN LESS THAN THREE HOURS, TWO HUNDRED HOMES AND STORES WERE CONSUMED.
CARONDELET ENDED HIS GOVERNSHIP IN 1797. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING HE DID DURING HIS REIGN — IN ORDER TO STAY IN GOOD WITH AMERICA — WAS THE SIGNING OF A TREATY BETWEEN AMERICA AND SPAIN, WHICH GRANTED TO THE AMERICANS FURTHER NORTH THE FREE USE OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS AS A PLACE OF DEPOSIT FOR TRADE GOODS.
THIS TREATY WAS SHORT-LIVED. THE FREE TRADE AVENUE WAS CLOSED, BROUGHT ON BY CONFLICTING POWERS AND ACTS OF SMUGGLING.
THIS CURTAILED AMERICAN TRADE DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIGGERED THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE."
CARL ORLEE



One of the most interesting figures of the Spanish regime, Don Andrés Almonester y Roxas was born in Spain in 1725, and came to New Orleans shortly after the arrival of General O'Reilly. Appointed royal notary, Almonester quickly became wealthy, largely through real-estate speculations. Marrying for a second time late in life, he became the father of Micaela, who eventually married Joseph Xavier Celestin Delfau de Pontalba. Almonester was ambitious for a "title of Castile," which he sought from the king of Spain. A very charitable man, he built a home for lepers, he built the Cathedral, rebuilt the Charity Hospital, and even loaned money and supervised the construction of the Cabildo (City Hall). Just prior to French in the Peninsular War (1808–1814)..



"AFTER THE REIGN OF CARONDELET, GENERAL MANUEL DE SALCEDO, APPOINTED BY SPAIN, ARRIVED IN LOUISIANA TO TAKE HIS PLACE. THAT WAS IN 1801. HE WAS THE LAST SPANISH GOVERNOR. IT FELL TO HIS LOT TO TRANSFER THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY FROM SPAIN BACK TO FRANCE AGAIN. THE TRANSFER WAS FINALLY MADE ON NOVEMBER 30, 1803— THUS ENDING THIRTY-FOUR YEARS OF SPANISH RULE.

PROGRESS IN THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY LOOKED PROMISING. WITH THE INVENTION OF THE COTTON GIN IN GEORGIA AND ETIENNE DE BORE'S SUCCESSFUL GRANULATION OF SUGAR IN LOUISIANA, THE PLANTERS WERE WILLING TO FORGET INDIGO AND SHIFT TO THE MORE PROFITABLE CROPS OF COTTON AND SUGAR CANE.

TOO, THERE WERE PERMANENT SETTLEMENTS NOW AT NEW ORLEANS, NATCHITOCHES, BATON ROUGE, OPELOUSAS, ST. MARTINVILLE, LAFAYETTE, NEW IBERIA, MONROE, ALEXANDRIA, AND A NUMBER OF ISOLATED TRADING POSTS— CREATING, FOR THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY, A BUSTLING COMMERCIAL BUSINESS CENTER.

THE COLONISTS WERE UNAWARE OF NEW DECISIONS THAT WERE BEING MADE IN CANDLELIT ROOMS IN WASHINGTON AND IN PARIS, DECISIONS WHICH WOULD GREATLY AFFECT THEIR DESTINY AND THAT OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY."



1801- LOUISIANA REVERTED TO FRANCE

The first mayor of New Orleans was Jean Etienne Boré, the New Orleans planter. He was appointed by Laussat during the short interval that he governed after the end of the Spanish regime (November 30 to December 20, 1803). Boré's cane fields were in the vicinity of present-day Audubon Park.



The short term of Governor Manuel Luis Gayoso de Lemos (1797–1799) was marked by the visit of three illustrious visitors: the Duc d'Orleans—the future king of France, Louis Philippe—and his two brothers, the Duc de Montpensier and the Comte de Beaujolais, sons of Philippe-Égalité, cousin of the ill-fated Louis XVI. Gayoso died of a fever at the age of forty-eight and was buried in St. Louis Cathedral, the only Spanish governor to be buried on Louisiana soil. He was succeeded by General Juan Manuel de Salcedo, the last Spanish governor.



"THE THIRD PRESIDENT OF AMERICA, THOMAS JEFFERSON (1801-1809) SUCCESSOR TO THE SECOND PRESIDENT, JOHN ADAMS, WANTED LOUISIANA AS A PART OF THE UNITED STATES. HE WANTED TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, WHICH HE HEARD HAD GONE FROM SPAIN TO FRANCE.

IN PARIS, NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, EMPEROR OF FRANCE, HAD BUT ONE PURPOSE: TO DEFEAT GREAT BRITAIN. HE DID NOT WANT TROUBLE FROM THE BRITISH, WHO THREATENED TO TAKE LOUISIANA, HIS NEWLY ACQUIRED POSSESSION.

SPAIN BEGAN TO DECLINE AS A WORLD POWER, AND THE END OF THE CENTURY SAW THE RAPID RISE OF NAPOLEON IN FRANCE. NAPOLEON, IN HIS OUTRAGEOUS AMBITION TO RULE THE WORLD, FORCED SPAIN, BY THREATS OF WAR, TO RETURN LOUISIANA TO FRANCE. THE TRANSFER WAS MADE EFFECTIVE BY THE TREATY OF SAN ILDEFONSO, AND SIGNED ON OCTOBER 1, 1800. IN THIS TREATY NAPOLEON MADE AN OATH NEVER TO SELL ANY PART OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY. BUT NAPOLEON REALIZED THE POTENTIAL VALUE OF HIS LAND ACROSS THE SEA. HE KNEW HE WOULD BREAK THAT OATH."



Thomas Jefferson
3rd. President of U.S.
(1801-1809)

(1797-1801)
John Adams
2nd. President
of U.S.





Juan Ventura Morales, Spanish intendant under Carondelet at New Orleans, who, on October 16, 1802, closed the port of New Orleans to upriver American traffic by canceling the American "right of deposit" that had existed since 1795. Morales's action led to the realization that increasing American trade down the Mississippi demanded a solution that would eliminate the bottleneck—America must either seize the city or negotiate.

"THE TREATY OF SAN ILDEFONSO WAS RATIFIED ON MARCH 21, 1801, THUS TURNING LOUISIANA ONCE AGAIN INTO FRENCH HANDS. ROBERT LIVINGSTON, THE UNITED STATES MINISTER TO FRANCE, OBTAINED A COPY OF THE TREATY. HE TURNED IT OVER TO PRESIDENT JEFFERSON. ALARMED, JEFFERSON INSTRUCTED LIVINGSTON TO NEGOTIATE FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW ORLEANS.

IN 1796 THE UNITED STATES SIGNED A TREATY WITH SPAIN_ WHO STILL OFFICIALLY MAINTAINED THE PORT OF ORLEANS_ IN WHICH THAT COUNTRY AGREED TO ALLOW THE AMERICAN MERCHANTS FREE NAVIGATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND THE RIGHT TO SHIP GOODS AND TO STORE THEM THERE IN WAREHOUSES FOR SHIPMENT ABROAD.

BUT IN OCTOBER OF 1802, MORALES, THE SPANISH INTENDANT AT NEW ORLEANS, FORBADE THE AMERICANS TO LAND IN ANY PART OF THE SPANISH PROVIDENCE.

IN JANUARY 1803, JEFFERSON NOMINATED ROBERT LIVINGSTON AND JAMES MONROE TO BECOME MINISTERS EXTRAORDINARY AND ENTER INTO A TREATY WITH THE FIRST CONSUL OF FRANCE_NAPOLEON!"





James Monroe (1758–1831)

★ ANTLERS GIFT FROM LEWIS and CLARK EXPEDITION

★ MONTICELLO HOME OF PRESIDENT JEFFERSON





"ACTUALLY, NAPOLEON GREW UNHAPPY WITH THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY AND LONGED TO UNLOAD HIS WHITE ELEPHANT ONTO ANOTHER COUNTRY. THERE WERE SEVERAL REASONS HE THOUGHT THIS ADVISABLE. THE ENGLISH NAVY HAD TWENTY WARSHIPS IN THE AMERICAN GULF, AND WAS THREATENING TO PUT LOUISIANA UNDER SEIGE. HE HAD ALREADY SUFFERED UNTOLD LOSSES IN SAN DOMINGO, ADDED TO A YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC. MOSTLY, INFLAMED BY HIS CONQUERING AMBITIONS, HE WANTED TO CREATE A RIVAL TO GREAT BRITAIN AND GOAD HER INTO WAR. BESIDES, HE NEEDED THE EXTRA CASH."

CARL CARLE



"THE PURCHASE OF LOUISIANA FROM FRANCE WAS SIGNED ON APRIL 30,1803 BY TALLYRAND, JAMES MONROE, AND ROBERT LIVINGSTON. ACTUALLY, IT WAS SIGNED SECRETLY ON MAY 2nd., BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN ANTE-DATED FOR NO KNOWN REASON TO THIS DAY. LIVINGSTON SAID UPON THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY:

"WE HAVE LIVED LONG, BUT THIS IS THE NOBLEST DAY OF OUR LIVES. THE TREATY WE HAVE JUST SIGNED HAS NOT BEEN OBTAINED BY ART OR DICTATED BY FORCE. FROM THIS DATE THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE ITS PLACE AMONG THE POWERS OF THE FIRST RANK."

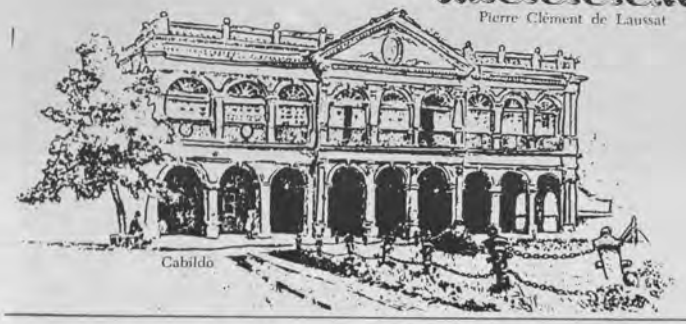
ON NOVEMBER 4,1803 THE UNITED STATES SENATE AUTHORIZED THE CREATION OF STOCK TO THE TUNE OF $ 11,250,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF LOUISIANA. THE NEXT PROBLEM, TO FIND A BUYER FOR THE BONDS. BARING BROTHERS OF LONDON AGREED TO UNDERWRITE 20-YEAR BONDS AT A 6 PERCENT RATE OF INTEREST. SO_ NAPOLEON GOT HIS MONEY TO FIGHT THE BRITISH FROM THE BRITISH_ONE OF THE IRONIES OF HISTORY."



ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON



Pierre Clément de Laussat



Cabildo

"ON NOVEMBER 30, 1803, THE SPANISH OFFICIALS AND THE FRENCH PREFECT, PIERRE CLEMENT DE LAUSSAT, WITH A FEW CIVIL AUTHORITIES, APPEARED AT THE CABILDO IN NEW ORLEANS, AND THE PROVINCE OF LOUISIANA—OFFICIALLY—WAS TURNED OVER TO THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

THEN—ON DECEMBER 20, 1803, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IN THE SAME FRONT ROOM OF THE CABILDO, TOOK OVER FORMAL POSSESSION OF LOUISIANA.

THIS WAS THE GREATEST REAL ESTATE DEAL IN ALL HISTORY—900,000 SQUARE MILES—NEARLY 600 MILLION ACRES—FOR 15 MILLION DOLLARS, OR 4 CENTS AN ACRE."

CARL CORLE

"THERE WAS AN ASSEMBLAGE IN THE PLACE D'/ARMS, NOW KNOWN AS JACKSON SQUARE IN THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS. THE FLAG OF THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE WAS LOWERED IN SILENCE TO A HALF WAY POINT WHERE IT WAS MET BY THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES. AS THE FLAGS CROSSED PATHS THEY BECAME ENTANGLED BY A GULF BREEZE. A MUFFLED GASP CREPT GHOSTLY THROUGH THE CROWD. THEN THE UNITED STATES FLAG SLIPPED PAST THE FRENCH FLAG_LIKE A FISH THROUGH A NET_ AND TO THE TOP OF THE POLE MAST WHERE IT FLUTTERED PROUDLY IN THE WIND. THE CROWD SHOUTED HUZZAS, AND THERE WAS A MILITARY SALUTE."



UNITED STATES FLAG



FRENCH FLAG





"CONTRARY TO COMMON BELIEF, EMPEROR NAPOLEON BONAPARTE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE HISTORIC FLAG RAISING IN NEW ORLEANS. NOR WAS HE IN ON THE SIGNING OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE IN PARIS.

IN FACT, NAPOLEON NEVER SET FOOT ON AMERICAN SOIL."

CARL CORLEY



front back

MEDAL THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. PRESENTED TO THE INDIANS DURING THE EXPEDITION

"THOMAS JEFFERSON, ALERT TO EXPANDING FRONTIERS, ORDERED A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION TO EXPLORE THE VAST, SCARCELY KNOWN REALM OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY, AND TO ESTABLISH ITS EXACT BOUNDARY. CAPTAIN MERIWETHER LEWIS LED THE EXPEDITION, WITH WILLIAM CLARK SHARING THE COMMAND. 45 MEN ASSEMBLED NEAR ST. LOUIS. BY NOVEMBER 7, 1805 THEY GAZED UPON THE PACIFIC OCEAN. THE RETURN JOURNEY ENDED AT ST. LOUIS IN THE AUTUMN OF 1806. THERE, THEY FOUND SPANISH SOLDIERS STILL IN CONTROL, STILL UNAWARE THAT LOUISIANA HAD SWITCHED HANDS. WITH THE ENDING OF THE EXPEDITION, A GREAT EPIC IN HUMAN HISTORY HAD BEEN WRITTEN."

SACAGAWEA
FEMALE
INDIAN
GUIDE

CARL CARLE





SHADED AREA ON UNITED STATES MAP INDICATES LOUISIANA TERRITORY PURCHASED FROM FRANCE IN 1803.

★ NOTE: A PORTION OF PRESENT DAY LOUISIANA WAS NOT A PART OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY DURING THAT TIME





"AT THE TIME OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE, NEW ORLEANS MAINTAINED A POPULATION OF 8,056, WHILE THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA BOASTED A MODEST 49,473.

BY 1811, ON JANUARY 2, JULIAN POYDRAS, THE TERRITORY'S REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS DECLARED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON THAT THE TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA HAD THE RIGHT TO BECOME A STATE.

ON FEBRUARY 20, PRESIDENT MADISON SIGNED THE BILL PROVIDING FOR LOUISIANA'S STATEHOOD. ON APRIL 30, 1812 LOUISIANA WAS FORMALLY ADMITTED TO THE UNION AS THE 18th STATE."



JAMES MADISON
4th PRESIDENT OF U.S.
(1809-1817)



"THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS DECLARED EARLIER THAT THE UNITED STATES FLAG HAVE THIRTEEN STRIPES, ALTERNATING RED AND WHITE, THAT THE UNION BE THIRTEEN STARS, WHITE IN A BLUE FIELD REPRESENTING A NEW CONSTELLATION.

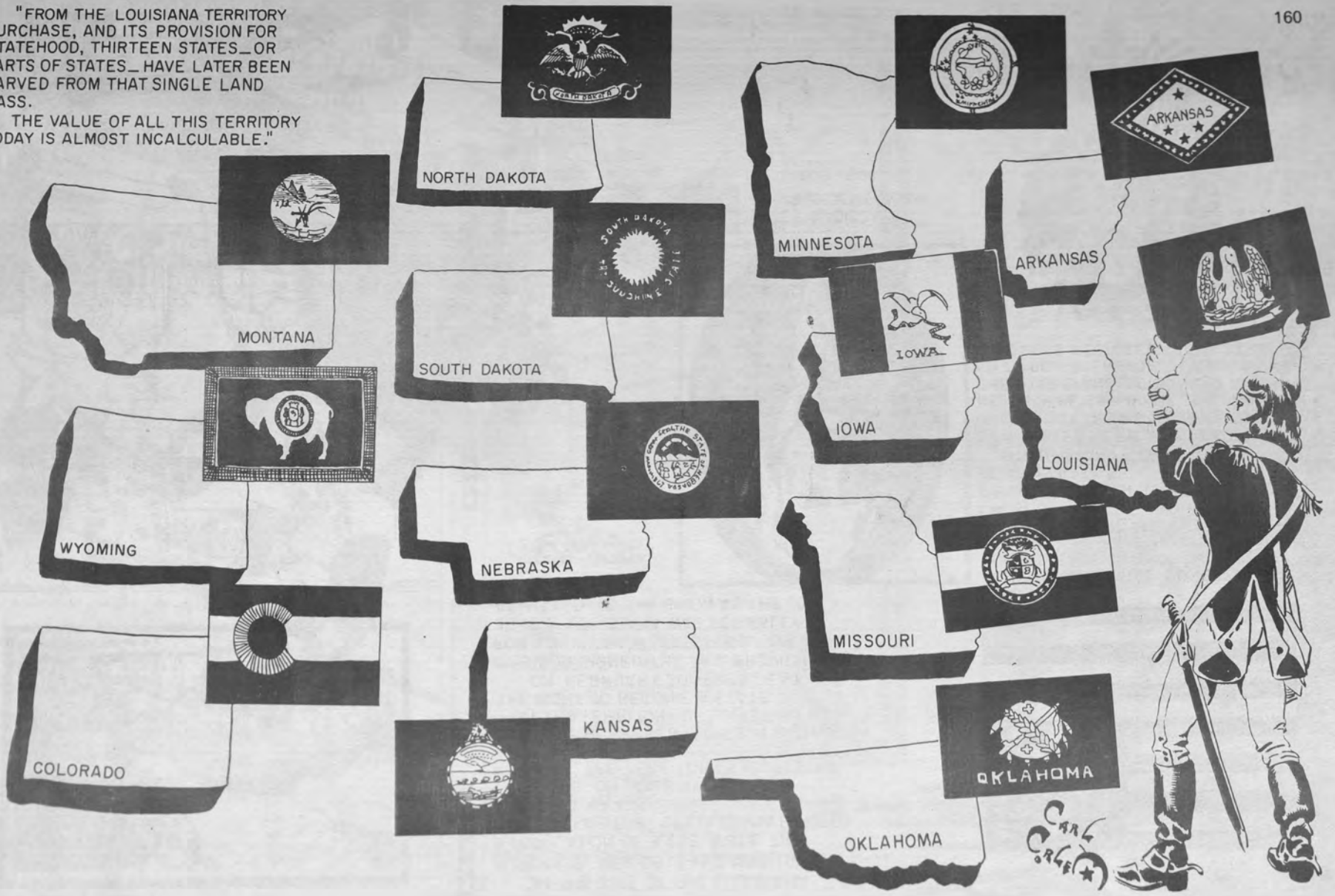
OTHER STARS WERE ADDED AS NEW STATES WERE ADMITTED TO THE UNION. BUT IT WAS EVIDENT THAT A NEW STRIPE COULD NOT BE ADDED AS THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER ATTEMPTED TO DO. THEREFORE, ON JULY 4, 1818, CONGRESS RESTORED THE 13 STRIPES.



CARL CARLS

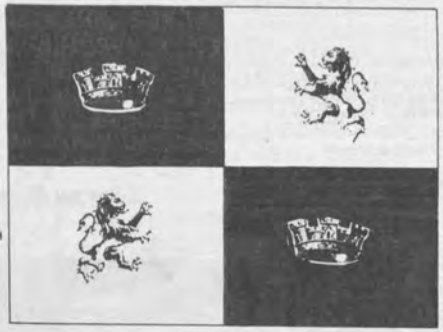
"FROM THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY PURCHASE, AND ITS PROVISION FOR STATEHOOD, THIRTEEN STATES—OR PARTS OF STATES—HAVE LATER BEEN CARVED FROM THAT SINGLE LAND MASS.

THE VALUE OF ALL THIS TERRITORY TODAY IS ALMOST INCALCULABLE."

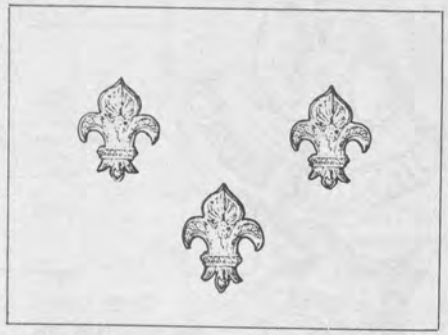


"AT THE TIME OF THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE THE UNITED STATES FLAG BORE FIFTEEN STARS AND FIFTEEN STRIPES. WHEN LOUISIANA BECAME A STATE_1812_ THERE WERE EIGHTEEN STARS AND EIGHTEEN STRIPES.
SO_MANY FLAGS HAVE FLOWN OVER LOUISIANA DURING ITS HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT:"





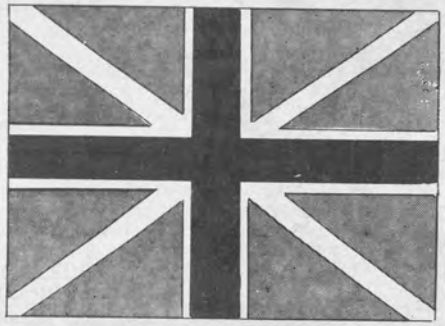
1541-1682
SPANISH FLAG OF LEON AND CASTILE
Although Spanish adventurers reported the discovery of a river presumed to be the Mississippi, Hernando de Soto is considered the first European to enter what is now the State of Louisiana. These Spaniards found villages of Indians whose tribes are still commemorated in the names of rivers, towns and parishes.



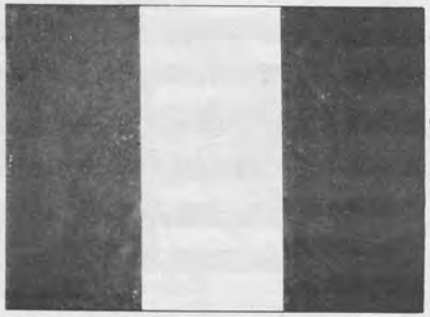
FRENCH FLEUR DE LIS 1682-1762
The territory was claimed for France in 1682 by LaSalle, and explored sixteen years later by Iberville. His brother, Bienville, dissuaded two English ships from exploring the region and so saved it for France.



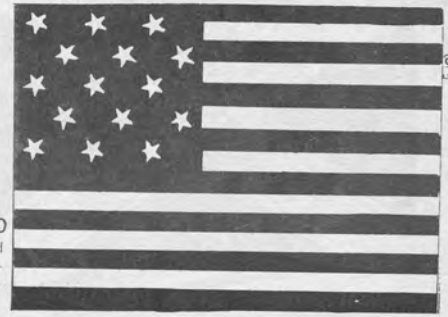
1762-1802
BOURBON SPAIN
Because the colony, isolated by British and Spanish holdings, was unprofitable, Louis XV made a gift of New Orleans and all Louisiana west of the Mississippi to his cousin, the king of Spain, while ceding the eastern settlements to England. The Spanish domination contributed much to the character of the country.



THE UNION JACK 1763-1777
During the American Revolution, Spain permitted her part of Louisiana to aid the colonists against England.



1802-1803
TRICOLOR OF FRANCE
Spain ceded Louisiana to Napoleon in 1803, much to the dismay of the Creole (pure-blooded Europeans born in the New World) population although they were predominantly French.



THE 15 STARS AND STRIPES 1803-1810
Unknown to Louisianians, however, Napoleon soon sold the territory to the United States – more than one million square miles for roughly fifteen million dollars – and within 20 days another flag flew over the state.

1810-1812
LONE STAR OF WEST FLORIDA
Although the United States considered the Louisiana Purchase to include all of French Louisiana, Spain still claimed West Florida and the Sabine River area. In 1810, American settlers in Florida Parish revolted, captured Baton Rouge and proclaimed West Florida a free state.





On April 30, 1812, Louisiana became the eighteenth state.





1812 - 1861

INDEPENDENT FLAG OF LOUISIANA

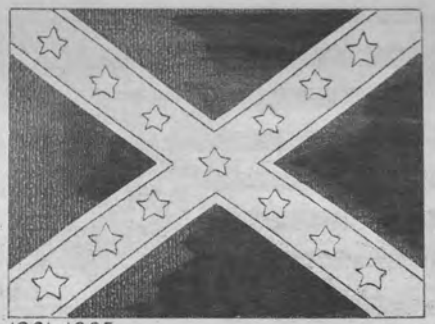
The next 40 years saw the flowering of Louisiana as a great agricultural state and gateway to the Southwest. This was the period when most of the magnificent plantation homes were built. In 1861, following the lead of other Southern states, Louisiana seceded from the Union. For six weeks, before joining the Confederacy, the State existed as an independent republic under its own flag.



In 1763 France ceded to England land east of the Mississippi. For 14 years the English flag flew over Baton Rouge, but the land was not a part of Louisiana at that time.



PRESENT DAY FLAG
designed and made official
1912



1861-1865
CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG

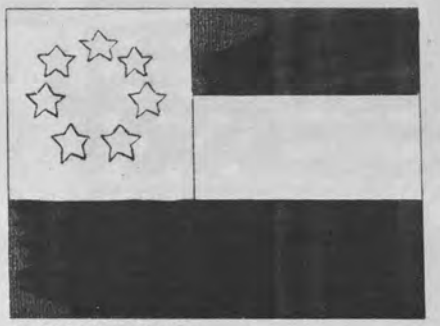
For a year after the War Between the States broke out, Louisiana was undisturbed. In 1862, however, New Orleans was captured and the hated dictatorial occupation by the troops under General Benjamin Butler is called "Beast" Butler by New Orleanians began.



BONNIE BLUE FLAG
from 1861 until the
Confederacy adopted its own flag.



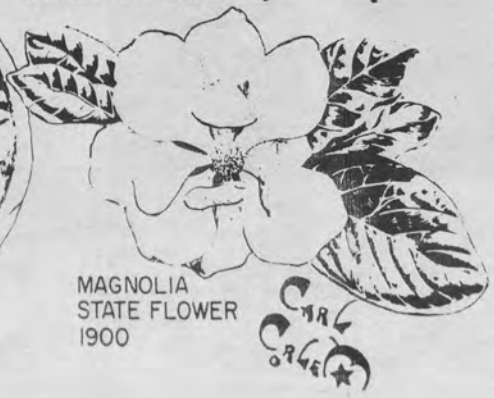
BROWN PELICAN
STATE BIRD
1966



STARS AND BARS
official Confederate flag



STATE SEAL
1902

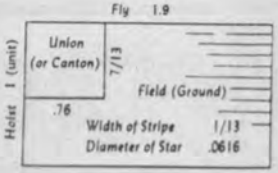


MAGNOLIA
STATE FLOWER
1900

Honoring the Flag

1. The flag is displayed outdoors only from sunrise to sunset, and then only if the weather is not inclement.
2. The union (canton) should be uppermost when the flag is displayed. If the flag is on a wall, the union is placed to the flag's right; if hung on a street, the union is placed to either the north or east.
3. On Memorial Day, the flag is flown at half-mast until noon, then raised to the top of the staff.
4. If on a platform or in a chancel of a church, the flag is displayed to the right of the speaker. If displayed anywhere else, it is to the right of the audience.
5. When carried in a procession with other emblems, the flag should either be in front of or to the right of the marchers and should never be lower than the others.
6. Displayed on a wall with other emblems, the flag should either be uppermost or to its own right. In a group of national flags, each should be flown from a separate staff of equal height.
7. The flag is never draped nor used as a cover except when placed over a casket, at which time the union is placed over the left shoulder of the deceased.

PARTS OF A FLAG



THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

TYPES OF NATIONAL FLAGS

Nation - The symbol of a nation.

Color - The national carried by foot troops and supreme commanders.

Standard - The national carried by mechanized troops. The standard is smaller than the color.

Ensign - The symbol of a nation carried on a warship. Our ensign is the same as the national, but this is not always true with other nations.

Union Jack - A flag flown by government vessels in port. It usually consists of only the union from the ensign.

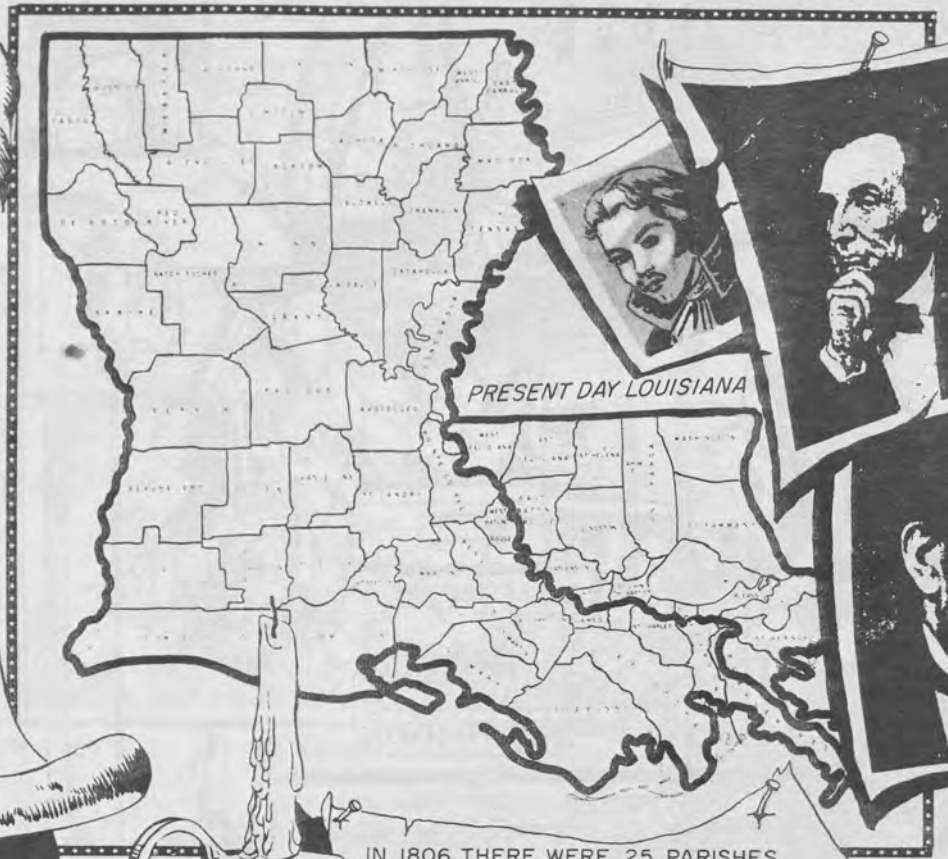
"THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY WAS FINALLY DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS OF WHAT IS NOW APPROXIMATELY THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AS WE KNOW IT TODAY. THIS AREA WAS CALLED THE ORLEANS TERRITORY.

PARISHES WERE FORMED. THEY WERE CALLED PARISHES, RATHER THAN COUNTIES, BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL DIVISIONS FITTED WITH THE ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTIONS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH WHERE DISTRICTS WERE CALLED PARISHES.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AUTHORIZED THE CITIZENS OF THE ORLEANS TERRITORY TO FORM A CONSTITUTION AND ITS OWN STATE GOVERNMENT. ALSO, ADMISSION TO JOIN THE UNION WAS GRANTED.

AS THE PARISHES WERE FORMED, THEY TOLD MUCH OF LOUISIANA HISTORY: MANY OF INDIAN ORIGIN, SOME FOR THE ACADIAN EXILES WHO SETTLED IN LOWER PARISHES, NAMES REMINISCENT OF FRENCH OCCUPATION, AND NAMES OF GREAT MEN WHO HAVE FIGURED IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

THE FINAL SHAPE OF LOUISIANA, WITH ITS 64 PARISHES, CONTAINED AN AREA OF 50,820 SQUARE MILES— 43,411 OF LAND AND 7,409 OF WATER."



IN 1806 THERE WERE 25 PARISHES
IN 1807 NEW ORLEANS TERRITORY WAS DIVIDED INTO 19 PARISHES. FROM THAT 19 37 PARISHES WERE CREATED.
48 WERE ADDED IN LOUISIANA BY 1857
2 MORE BY 1868
9 MORE BY 1907
5 MORE, AND THE LAST, BY 1912

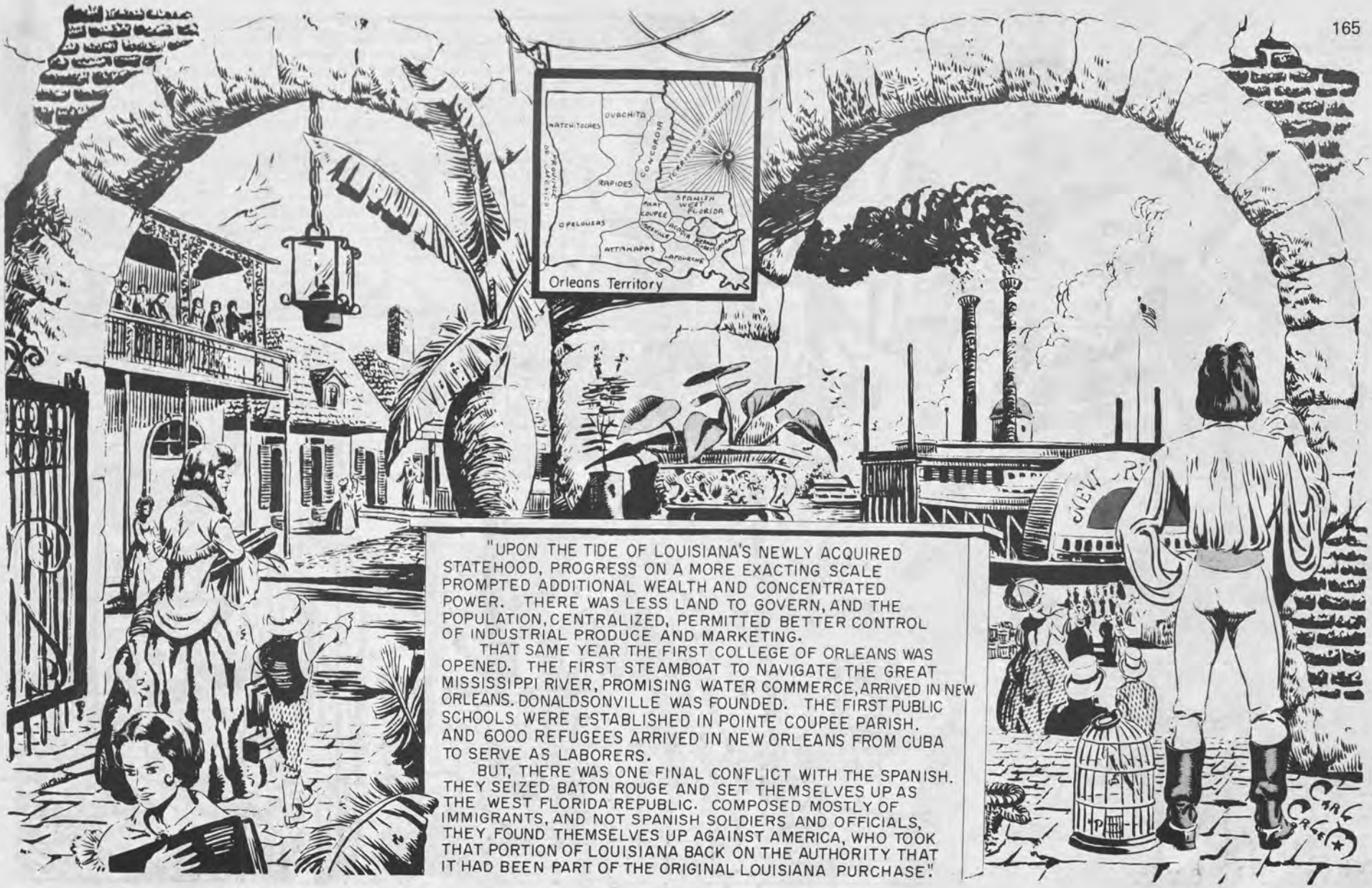
SINCE 1806 THE 25 PARISHES HAVE BEEN DIVIDED INTO 64

CARL CRAIG

"AFTER THE UNITED STATES MOVED INTO THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY DISPUTES PERSISTED WITH SPAIN. SPAIN CLAIMED THE FLORIDA PARISHES. THE FLORIDIANS REBELLED AGAINST THIS ASSUMPTION AND PUT EAST LOUISIANA UNDER SEIGE. THE SPANISH WITHDREW TO PENSACOLA AND DECLARED THE AREA A FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATE. THE UNITED STATES RECLAIMED THAT AREA AS A PART OF AMERICA.

ON THE WEST BOUNDARY LOOMED STILL ANOTHER DISPUTE. THE UNITED STATES HAD SET THE SABINE RIVER AS THE WESTERN BORDER. THE SPANISH INSISTED IT STILL BELONGED TO SPAIN, AND SET UP A DEFENSE. FROM 1806 UNTIL 1819 A FIFTY MILE STRIP ON EACH SIDE OF THE SABINE RIVER REMAINED NEUTRAL GROUND. FINALLY, SPAIN GAVE UP ITS RIGHTS TO THE UNITED STATES".

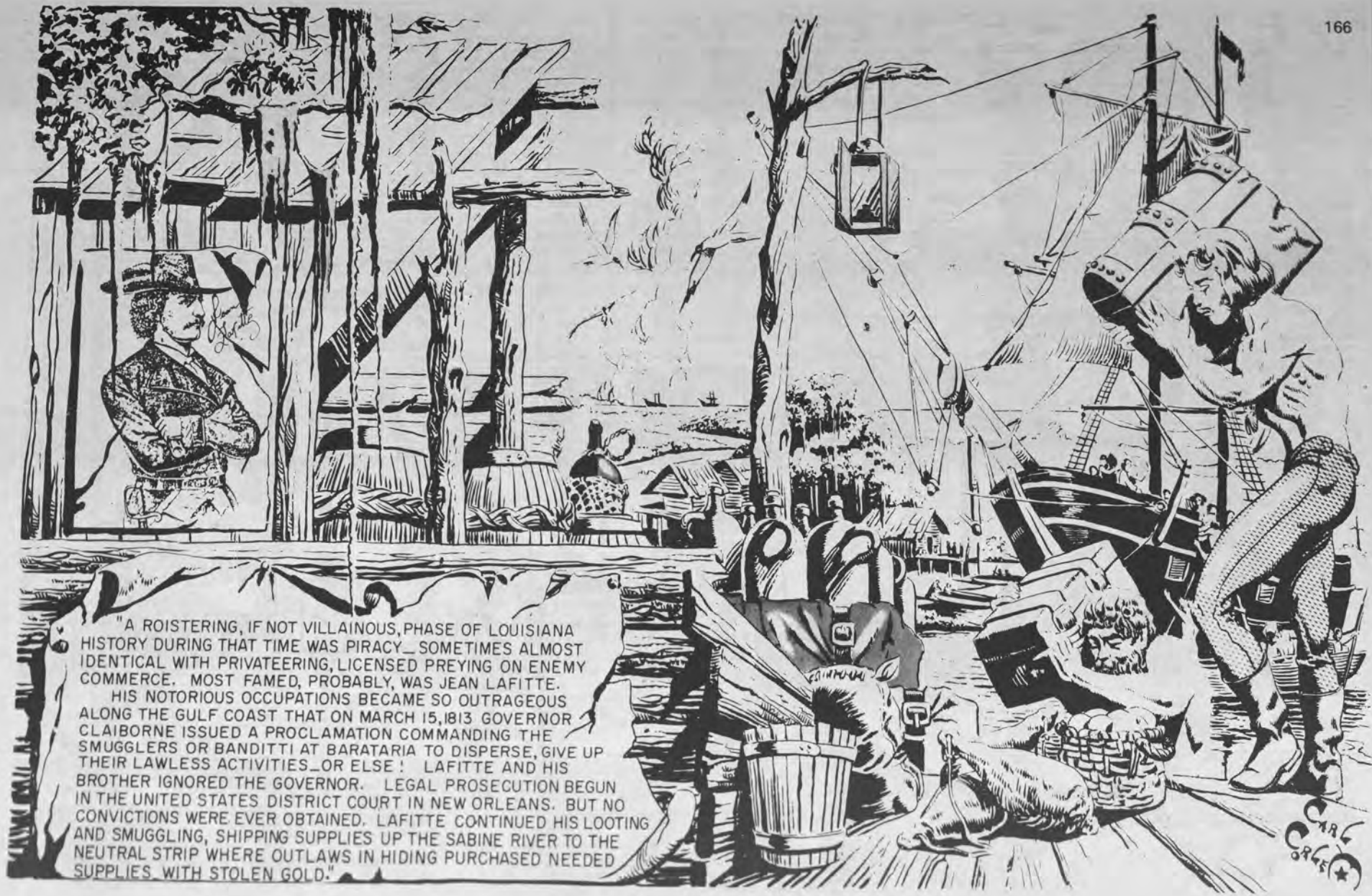




"UPON THE TIDE OF LOUISIANA'S NEWLY ACQUIRED STATEHOOD, PROGRESS ON A MORE EXACTING SCALE PROMPTED ADDITIONAL WEALTH AND CONCENTRATED POWER. THERE WAS LESS LAND TO GOVERN, AND THE POPULATION, CENTRALIZED, PERMITTED BETTER CONTROL OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCE AND MARKETING.

THAT SAME YEAR THE FIRST COLLEGE OF ORLEANS WAS OPENED. THE FIRST STEAMBOAT TO NAVIGATE THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER, PROMISING WATER COMMERCE, ARRIVED IN NEW ORLEANS. DONALDSONVILLE WAS FOUNDED. THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOLS WERE ESTABLISHED IN POINTE COUPEE PARISH. AND 6000 REFUGEES ARRIVED IN NEW ORLEANS FROM CUBA TO SERVE AS LABORERS.

BUT, THERE WAS ONE FINAL CONFLICT WITH THE SPANISH. THEY SEIZED BATON ROUGE AND SET THEMSELVES UP AS THE WEST FLORIDA REPUBLIC. COMPOSED MOSTLY OF IMMIGRANTS, AND NOT SPANISH SOLDIERS AND OFFICIALS, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES UP AGAINST AMERICA, WHO TOOK THAT PORTION OF LOUISIANA BACK ON THE AUTHORITY THAT IT HAD BEEN PART OF THE ORIGINAL LOUISIANA PURCHASE."



"A ROISTERING, IF NOT VILLAINOUS, PHASE OF LOUISIANA HISTORY DURING THAT TIME WAS PIRACY_SOMETIMES ALMOST IDENTICAL WITH PRIVATEERING, LICENSED PREYING ON ENEMY COMMERCE. MOST FAMED, PROBABLY, WAS JEAN LAFITTE.

HIS NOTORIOUS OCCUPATIONS BECAME SO OUTRAGEOUS ALONG THE GULF COAST THAT ON MARCH 15, 1813 GOVERNOR CLAIBORNE ISSUED A PROCLAMATION COMMANDING THE SMUGGLERS OR BANDITTI AT BARATARIA TO DISPERSE, GIVE UP THEIR LAWLESS ACTIVITIES_OR ELSE! LAFITTE AND HIS BROTHER IGNORED THE GOVERNOR. LEGAL PROSECUTION BEGUN IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN NEW ORLEANS. BUT NO CONVICTIONS WERE EVER OBTAINED. LAFITTE CONTINUED HIS LOOTING AND SMUGGLING, SHIPPING SUPPLIES UP THE SABINE RIVER TO THE NEUTRAL STRIP WHERE OUTLAWS IN HIDING PURCHASED NEEDED SUPPLIES WITH STOLEN GOLD."


"LOUISIANA NEVER SEEMED TO REMAIN SAFE FOR LONG FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCE AND INVASION. LAFITTE CONTINUED HIS PIRATE OCCUPATION, SINKING FOREIGN SHIPS IN THE GULF, THREATENING WAR WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT UTILIZED THE HARBORS FOR COMMERCE. SPAIN KEPT UP A CONSTANT HARASSMENT OVER BOUNDARY DISPUTES, AND ENGLAND WANTED CONTROL OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. DESPERATE, SHE LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON NEW ORLEANS.
ANDREW JACKSON, GENERAL IN THE AMERICAN ARMY, HATED GREAT BRITAIN AND ALL ENGLISHMEN, DUE TO A HEAD WOUND INFLICTED BY ONE DURING THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE. HE MADE AN ATTEMPT TO SAVE NEW ORLEANS, BUT HE LACKED THE AMMUNITION TO FORGE AHEAD IN AN ALL-OUT BATTLE."
The British decided not to sail up the river past Fort St. Philip, but approached the city from the rear, through Lake Borgne, a shallow arm of the Gulf of Mexico. On December 14, after a sharp engagement, British barges captured five small American gunboats guarding the water approaches to the city, thus laying the way open for invasion. The British made their way in small boats to the mouth of Bayou Bienvenu, the entrance to an unguarded route to New Orleans on the Mississippi River. During the night of December 22-23, they had advanced to a point just nine miles below New Orleans. Pushing upriver during the day of December 23, they spread over the Villere, Lacoste, and de La Ronde plantations and made camp for the night.
CARL CORLEY

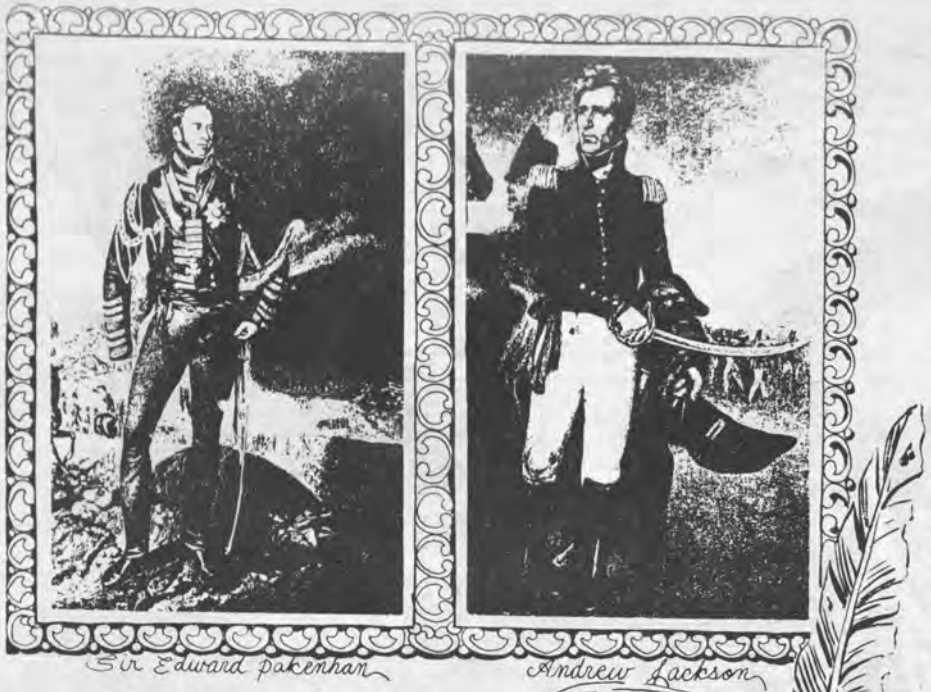


"THE BRITISH FELT CONFIDENT THEY COULD WIN THE WAR WITH AMERICA_IN TIME. TO INSURE THAT CONFIDENCE, THEY SOUGHT THE HELP OF THE PIRATE AND SMUGGLER, JEAN LAFITTE. BRITAIN OFFERED HIM THIRTY THOUSAND IN GOLD AND A NAVAL CAPTAINCY IF HE AND HIS SWASHBUCKLING BUCCANEERS WOULD HELP.

DESPITE THE PRICE ON HIS OWN HEAD, OR OF GUILT HE HARBORED FOR HIS DISLOYALTY TO LOUISIANA, OR AN AWAKENING OF PATRIOTISM_WHATEVER_LAFITTE GOT INTO HIS PIROGUE AND WENT DIRECTLY TO ANDREW JACKSON.

NO ONE KNOWS TO THIS DAY EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT BETWEEN THE TWO MEN. ONE FACT REMAINED. JACKSON NEEDED AMMUNITION, AND LAFITTE HAD GREAT SUPPLIES OF IT HIDDEN ALONG THE COASTLINE AND ON THE ISLANDS."

★ NOTE: THE WINDOW OF THE LANTERN IS MADE OF TRANSPARENT COWS HORN.



"AMBITIOUS FOR MORE LAND, GLOBE-WIDE POWER, BRITAIN LAY IN WAITING AT AMERICA'S DOORSTEP. HER CONSTANT INTERFERENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES COMMERCE ON THE HIGH SEAS ADDED MERCANTILE GRIEVANCES TO FRONTIER PROGRESS. AMERICA HAD HAD ENOUGH. SO, BY A CLOSE VOTE ON JUNE 12,1812, CONGRESS DECLARED WAR AGAINST GREAT BRITAIN, DESPITE THE FACT THAT AMERICA WAS ILL-PREPARED FOR WAR.

THIS WAS EXACTLY WHAT ENGLAND WAS WAITING FOR. BRITISH FORCES IMMEDIATELY CAPTURED THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, AND BURNED THE CAPITOL AND THE WHITE HOUSE.

THEN, ON CHRISTMAS EVE, 1814, TWO RELATED THINGS HAPPENED NEAR NEW ORLEANS. DETACHMENTS OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH ARMIES DREW UP THEIR LINES FOR A GREAT BATTLE. BUT, AT GHENT BELGIUM, BRITISH AND AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS SIGNED A TREATY OF PEACE. HOW COULD ANDREW JACKSON WITH AMERICA, AND SIR EDWARD PAKENHAM WITH THE BRITISH, KNOW THAT A PEACE TREATY HAD ALREADY BEEN SIGNED?"



"NEW YORK PRINTED *EXTRAS* WITH THE GOOD TIDINGS OF THE LONG, TIRESOME BATTLE WITH GREAT BRITAIN. BUT AT THE SAME TIME THE BRITISH ARMY OF 6,000 MEN MADE A LAST FRONTAL ASSAULT ON NEW ORLEANS. ANDREW JACKSON'S VOLLEYS, AT THE READY, WERE INTENSE AND DEADLY. WHEN THE BRITISH REELED BACK FOR THE LAST TIME, MORE THAN 2,000 DEAD LAY ON THE FIELD. GENERAL PAKENHAM WAS KILLED, ALONG WITH 82 OTHER OFFICERS. PAKENHAM'S BODY WAS RETURNED TO ENGLAND IN A CASKET OF RUM. THE OTHERS WERE BURIED THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE AS A ROLL OF DRUMS BROUGHT AN END TO THE FIGHTING.

WHATEVER CREDIT ANDREW JACKSON WAS GIVEN IN THE ANNUALS OF HISTORY FOR HIS PART IN THE WAR OF 1812, IT WAS HIS LIFELONG DISLIKE FOR THE BRITISH THAT ACTUALLY WON HIS VICTORY AT CHALMETTE.

THIS MAGNIFICENT VICTORY ADDED MUCH TO HIS STATUE WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. 14 YEARS LATER HE BECAME THEIR PRESIDENT."





★JEAN LAFITTE DID NOT TAKE PART IN THE ACTUAL FIGHTING, AS HISTORY CLAIMS, NOR DID ANY OF HIS MEN. AMMUNITION, ONLY, WAS SUPPLIED.

CARL CAGLE

"THERE WERE 7 PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON TO ANDREW JACKSON. 1789 UNTIL 1837. EACH CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE SUCCESS OF LOUISIANA'S DEVELOPMENT. GEORGE WASHINGTON BROUGHT ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION_ JOHN ADAMS, THE EXPLORATION OF LANDS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF DANIEL BOONE WHICH BROUGHT TRADE DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER_ THOMAS JEFFERSON, THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE_ JAMES MADISON, DEFEAT OF THE BRITISH ALONG WITH THE *CANAL ERA* BRINGING ABOUT THE MIRACLE OF COMMERCIAL EXPANSION."





James Monroe
1817-1825
5th



John Quincy Adams
1825-1829
6th



Andrew Jackson
1829-1837
7th

"JAMES MONROE HELPED, WITH VICTORY AT SAN JACINTO, TO PUSH TRADE AND PROSPERITY THROUGH ANNEXED TEXAS TO THE LOUISIANA BORDER. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS OPENED THE OREGON TRAIL. PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES HEARD ABOUT THE GOLD RUSH. THEY BROUGHT TRADE TO NEW ORLEANS ON THEIR WAY WEST. ANDREW JACKSON BROUGHT VICTORY TO LOUISIANA, ENCOURAGING INFILTRATION OF THE WEST. IMMIGRANTS POURED IN FROM EVERY COUNTRY, THE HOMESTEADERS, THE AGRICULTURAL SETTLERS, AND PACK TRAINS, EACH SEEKING IN A WILDERNESS A PLACE WHERE A NEW SOCIETY COULD BE BUILT UNMOLESTED. LOUISIANA BECAME AN OPENED GATEWAY, WITH NEW ORLEANS THE FOURTH LARGEST HARBOUR IN THE WORLD."



CARL CARLE

INTERLUDE – THE AUTHOR'S NOTE---

LOUISIANA HAS COME A LONG WAY IN THE STORY OF IT S HISTORY—FROM ONE-CELLED MOLUCLES ON THE FLOOR OF THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN_TO IT S MATURITY AS A FULL GROWN STATE. THE 1800 ERA PROMISES, BECKONS. AT LONG LAST, IN IT S UPWARD CLIMB, LOUISIANA HAS ACQUIRED ITS PRESENT DIMENSIONS. IT HAS CREATED 64 PARISHES WITHIN THE OFFICIAL BORDERS AS WE KNOW THEM TODAY. ITS CAPITOL HAS MOVED FROM NEW ORLEANS TO BATON ROUGE, WHERE IT HAS REMAINED A PERMANENT BULWARK AGAINST OUTSIDE INVASION TO THIS MOMENT. IT HAS ATTAINED_AND EARNED_ITS RIGHTFUL FREEDOM TO PURSUE THE FUTURE IN PEACE. IT CAN NOW REAR ITS FAMILY_A FAMILY COMPOSED OF MANY NATIONALITIES_AS ONE PROGRESSIVE UNIT, WITHOUT FOREIGN CONFLICT, WITH INTENTIONS TO GROW AND PROSPER AS AN INDEPENDENT ASYLUM FOR THE NEEDS OF ITS OWN. LOUISIANA HAS BECOME A MINIATURE NATION, A NATION FORGED FROM STRUGGLE, FAMINE, DISEASE, WAR AND ASTUTE INFILTRATION. AT LAST_SO IT APPEARS_IT CAN SURVIVE ON ITS OWN MERIT, MATURE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ITS TRAGIC, HISTORICAL PAST. BY NOW, LOUISIANA HAS BLOSSOMED INTO A BEAUTIFUL SWAMP FLOWER, CONTENT TO BASK IN THE WARM SOUTHERN SUN WHILE ITS CHILDREN PLAY PEACEFULLY BENEATH ITS SHADOWY LEAVES.

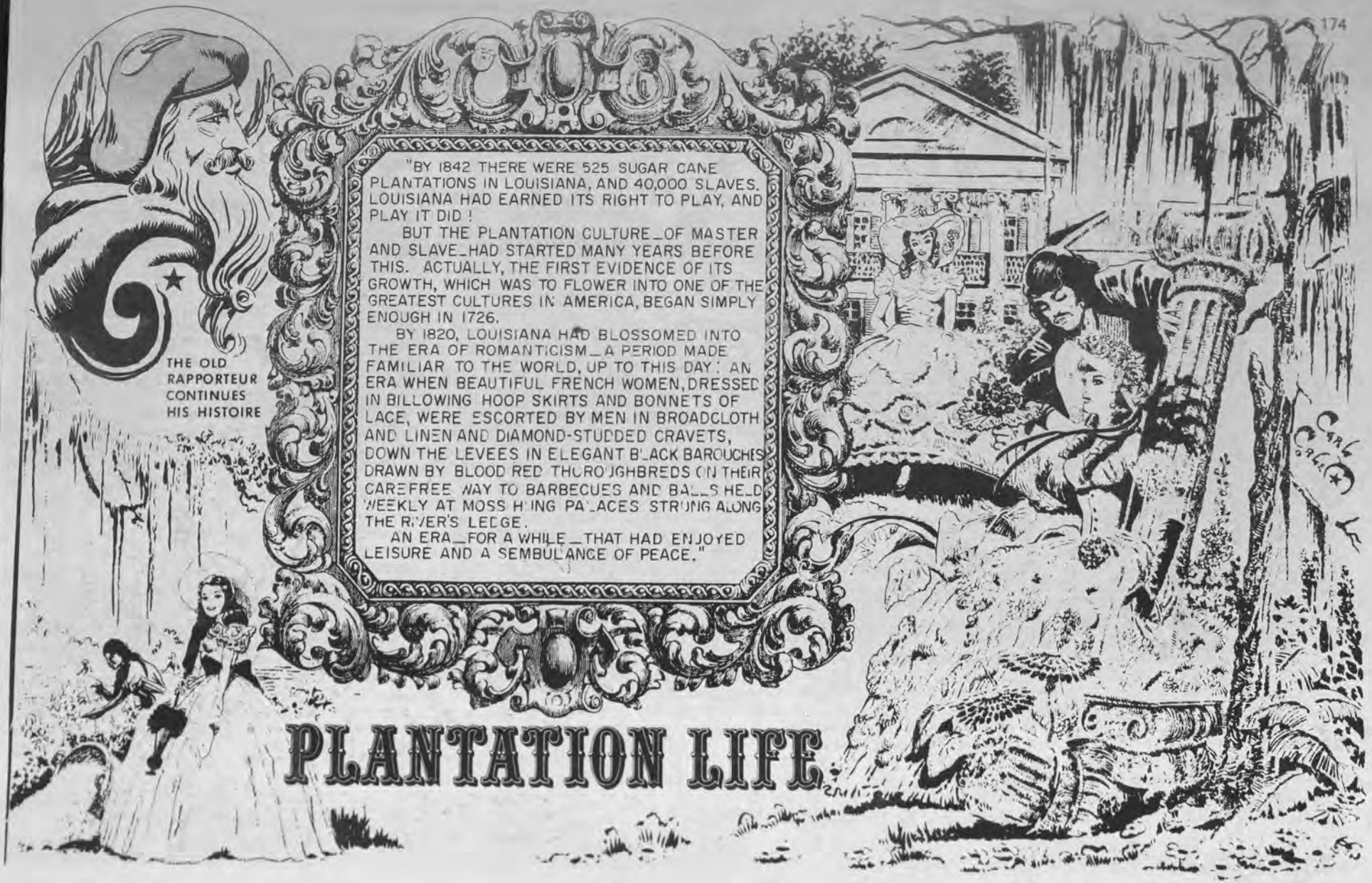
FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS LOUISIANA WILL EXPERIENCE A NUMBER OF GOOD THINGS. OUT OF SHEER GRATITUDE, LOUISIANA WILL GIFT THE FAMILY OF THOMAS JEFFERSON THE SUM OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS BECAUSE HE WILL DIE IN POVERTY AND DEBT—AN ACT OF GRATITUDE TO THE ONE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR LOUISIANA ENTERING THE UNITED STATES. THOUGH MODEST IN AREA, 48,523 SQUARE MILES, LOUISIANA WILL RANK 31st IN SIZE AMONG THE OTHER STATES IN AMERICA, AND ITS PROGRESS WILL BECOME ASTRONOMICAL. GENERAL ZACHARY TAYLOR, FROM BATON ROUGE, WILL ESTABLISH FORT JESUP AS A RAMPART TO THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO STRETCHING BORDERS EAST INTO THE TEXAS TERRITORY. THE SABINE RIVER WILL BECOME THE WEST BOUNDARY, OFFICIALLY. THE FIRST MARDI-GRAS WILL HAVE ITS INITIAL CELEBRATION, WITH FLOATS, DRAWN BY MULE TEAMS DOWN CANAL STREET. THE RED RIVER WILL OPEN FOR NAVIGATION, LINKING TRADERS FROM THE WEST TO THE EAST AND SOUTH TO THE GULF AND THE ATLANTIC. LOUISIANA WILL ESTABLISH ITS FIRST ARMY, THE WASHINGTON ARTILLERY. THE FIRST MEDICAL COLLEGE IN AMERICA WILL OPEN IN NEW ORLEANS.

CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, UTAH, ARIZONA AND COLORADO WILL BECOME A PORTION OF THE UNITED STATES, FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF LOUISIANA, WHICH WILL BANISH MILITARY THREATS FROM THE PACIFIC AND GULF COAST. INDEED NOW AMERICA WILL REACH SAFELY FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA.

DURING THESE PEACEFUL, PROGRESSIVE TIMES AHEAD, LOUISIANA WILL WITNESS MANY CHANGES. THE FIRST STEAM-POWERED SAWMILL WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN NEW ORLEANS, CREATING FOR THE STATE ITS FIRST INDUSTRY. THE FIRST CLUB IN AMERICA WILL BE FORMED IN NEW ORLEANS. THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO WILL BE SET UP, TURNING OUT DAGUERROTYPES FOR THE AMAZED CITIZENS. BY 1842 THE FIRST U.S. STAMPS WILL BE ISSUED, ALONG WITH REGISTERED LETTERS. LOUISIANA WILL BUILD THE FIRST RAILROAD EAST OF THE SABINE RIVER, WILL HAVE THE FIRST BALES OF COTTON, THE FIRST CANDY MACHINES, THE FIRST DEPARTMENT STORE DELIVERIES, THE FIRST VACCINE VIRUS MEDICATION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, AND WILL BE PROUD TO HAVE THE FIRST AMERICAN BISHOP_LEONIDAS POLK_ALSO THE FIRST TELEGRAPH LINES, AND MACHINE-MADE SHOES.

DURING THIS INTERVAL OF PEACE CALIFORNIA WILL HAVE ITS GOLD RUSH, BRINGING IN ENORMOUS TRADE FOR NEW ORLEANS AS ANXIOUS FIRST GRABBERS LAND IN PORT FOR A SHORT EXCURSION OF SHOPPING BEFORE HEADING WEST. ON THEIR RETURN VOYAGE, LADEN WITH GOLD, THEY WILL LINGER IN THE CRESCENT CITY, AND WILL SPEND LAVISHLY— CLOTHES, JEWELRY, LAND, HORSES, CARRIAGES, AND COTTON AND SUGAR CANE PLANTATIONS.

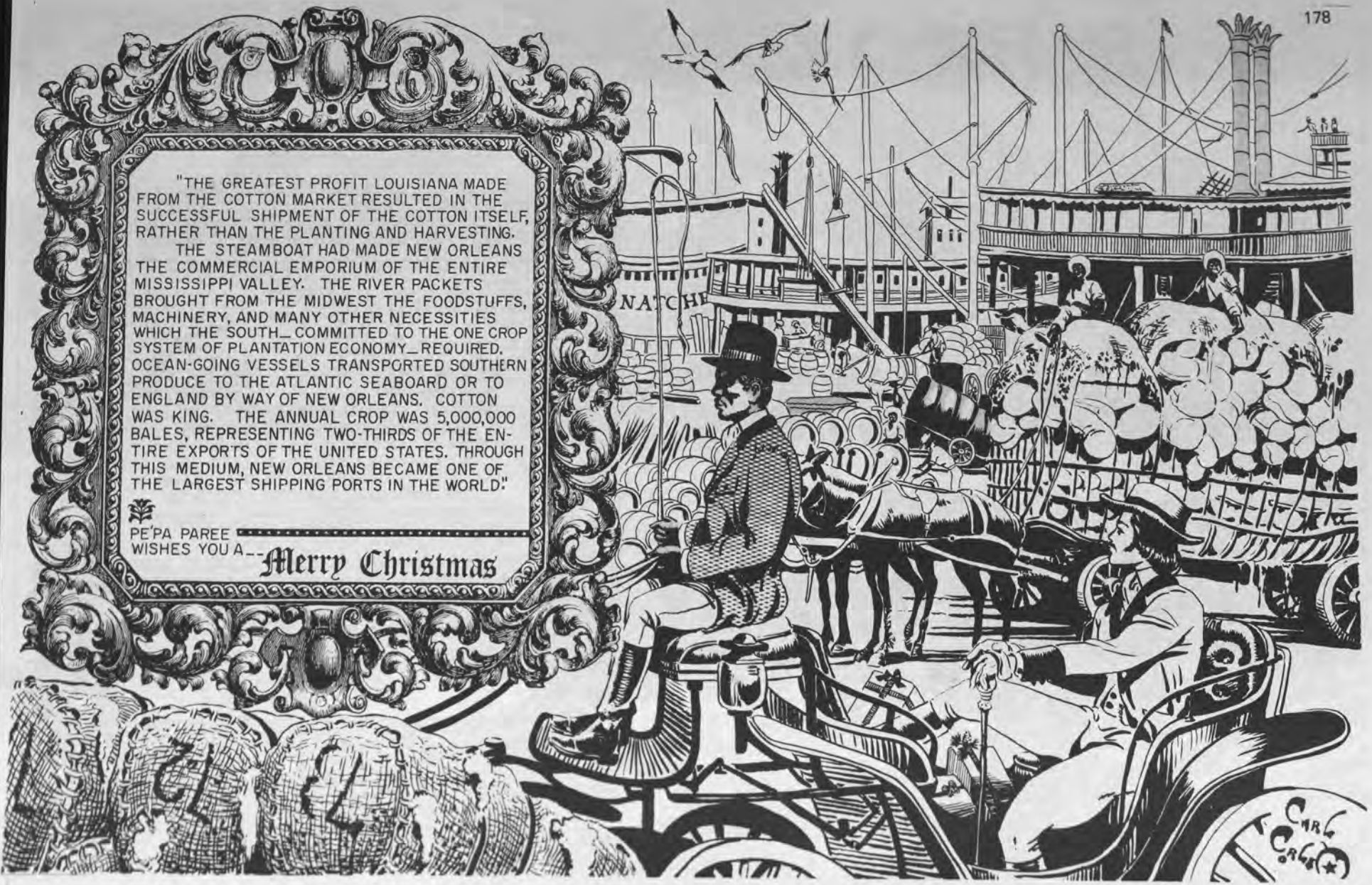



THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE
"BY 1842 THERE WERE 525 SUGAR CANE PLANTATIONS IN LOUISIANA, AND 40,000 SLAVES. LOUISIANA HAD EARNED ITS RIGHT TO PLAY, AND PLAY IT DID !
BUT THE PLANTATION CULTURE_OF MASTER AND SLAVE_HAD STARTED MANY YEARS BEFORE THIS. ACTUALLY, THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF ITS GROWTH, WHICH WAS TO FLOWER INTO ONE OF THE GREATEST CULTURES IN AMERICA, BEGAN SIMPLY ENOUGH IN 1726.
BY 1820, LOUISIANA HAD BLOSSOMED INTO THE ERA OF ROMANTICISM_A PERIOD MADE FAMILIAR TO THE WORLD, UP TO THIS DAY: AN ERA WHEN BEAUTIFUL FRENCH WOMEN, DRESSED IN BILLOWING HOOP SKIRTS AND BONNETS OF LACE, WERE ESCORTED BY MEN IN BROADCLOTH AND LINEN AND DIAMOND-STUDDED CRAVETS, DOWN THE LEVEES IN ELEGANT BLACK BAROUCHES DRAWN BY BLOOD RED THOROUGHBREDS ON THEIR CAREFREE WAY TO BARBECUES AND BALLS HELD WEEKLY AT MOSS HUNG PALACES STRUNG ALONG THE RIVER'S LEDGE.
AN ERA_FOR A WHILE_THAT HAD ENJOYED LEISURE AND A SEMBULANCE OF PEACE."
PLANTATION LIFE
CARL


"PLANTATION LIFE IN LOUISIANA GOT ITS START WITH THE INDIGO PLANT, WHICH WAS PLANTED AND HARVESTED AND PRODUCED INTO DYES. HONEY, WAX AND TOBACCO BECAME VERY SUCCESSFUL. BUT WITH ETIENNE DE BORE'S RENOWNED GRANULATION OF SUGAR IN 1795, LOUISIANA PLANTERS WERE QUICK TO SHIFT TO THE MORE PROFITABLE CROP_SUGAR CANE.
THE TROPICAL PLANT BECAME SO POPULAR AND SUCCESSFUL THAT ONE OF THE ONLY TWO COMPLETE SETS OF STEAM PLOWING MACHINERY WORKING IN THE UNITED STATES WAS SET UP IN LOUISIANA."
CARL CALE


"THE AMERICAN COLONIES GOT THEIR SUGAR AND MOLASSES FROM THE WEST INDIES. UNTIL LOUISIANA WAS PURCHASED, IN 1803, THE ONLY SUGAR MADE IN THE UNITED STATES WAS FROM MAPLE SAP, AND USED MOSTLY FOR HOUSEHOLD USE AND FRONTIER TRADING. BUT IN THE HOT, MOIST CLIMATE OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER, SUGAR CANE THRIVED. SLAVE LABOR SEEMED NECESSARY FOR THE GRUELING WORK OF THE HUMID, BUT FRAGRANT, CANE FIELDS.
IN DUE TIME, LOUISIANA WAS BOASTING THE LARGEST SUGAR REFINERIES IN THE WORLD."
CARL CARLE


"THE INVENTION OF THE COTTON GIN IN GEORGIA IN 1792 INSPIRED NUMEROUS PLANTERS IN LOUISIANA TO SWITCH TO COTTON GROWING. IT WAS THE ALL IMPORTANT CROP IN THE SOUTH, AND COTTON GROWING REQUIRED CONTINUOUS WORK OF A NATURE THAT UNSKILLED LABOR WAS WELL ABLE TO PERFORM, AND SLAVERY WAS THE BASIS OF THE PLANTATION SYSTEM. WHEN THE PLANTERS DID NOT UTILIZE SLAVES, THEN UNSKILLED LABOR—IMMIGRANTS FROM GERMANY, NORWAY AND SWEDEN—WORKED FOR CHEAP WAGES.
PROBABLY, THE ONLY ADVANTAGE THE PLANTERS HAD WITH THEIR EXPERIMENT WITH GROWING COTTON WAS THE SPINNERS AND LOOMS INVENTED IN ENGLAND BY ARKWRIGHT AND HARGREAVES, WHICH INAUGURATED A WIDE EXPANSION OF THE TEXTILE MARKET."
CARL


"THE GREATEST PROFIT LOUISIANA MADE FROM THE COTTON MARKET RESULTED IN THE SUCCESSFUL SHIPMENT OF THE COTTON ITSELF, RATHER THAN THE PLANTING AND HARVESTING.
THE STEAMBOAT HAD MADE NEW ORLEANS THE COMMERCIAL EMPORIUM OF THE ENTIRE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY. THE RIVER PACKETS BROUGHT FROM THE MIDWEST THE FOODSTUFFS, MACHINERY, AND MANY OTHER NECESSITIES WHICH THE SOUTH_COMMITTED TO THE ONE CROP SYSTEM OF PLANTATION ECONOMY_REQUIRED. OCEAN-GOING VESSELS TRANSPORTED SOUTHERN PRODUCE TO THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD OR TO ENGLAND BY WAY OF NEW ORLEANS. COTTON WAS KING. THE ANNUAL CROP WAS 5,000,000 BALES, REPRESENTING TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE EXPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES. THROUGH THIS MEDIUM, NEW ORLEANS BECAME ONE OF THE LARGEST SHIPPING PORTS IN THE WORLD."
PE'PA PAREE
WISHES YOU A--
Merry Christmas
NATCHE
CARL CORLEY


"THE GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OF THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS COULD BE DETERMINED BY THE PLANTATION HOMES THEMSELVES. THEIR HISTORICO-ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOR COULD BE TOLD IN THE MATERIALS USED IN THEIR CONSTRUCTION—LIKE A STATUE FIRST MOULDED FROM CLAY, THEN LATER TRANSFORMED INTO BRONZE OR GOLD.
THERE WERE NO STONE QUARRIES IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, THE SAME AS TODAY. WHAT STONES UTILIZED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANTATION HOMES WERE SHIPPED FROM ABROAD.
THE FIRST HOMES WERE BUILT FROM MATERIAL AT HAND, AND WROUGHT FROM THE LAND IN THE VICINITY OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITE: CYPRESS, OAK, PINE, CEDAR, AND BRICK MADE FROM GUMBO MUD AND SPANISH MOSS.
THE FIRST PLANTATION HOMES WERE THE *RAISED COTTAGE*. THE UPPER LEVEL WAS OF WOOD AND BRICK, WITH THE FRONTAL WALLS COMPOSED OF BEAMS WITH CEMENT COVERED BRICK COLUMNS BELOW."
★AN EXAMPLE: MADAM JOHN'S LEGACY AT NEW ORLEANS
EARL CALEF



"AS THE LOUISIANA PLANTERS PROSPERED IN THEIR OCCUPATIONS WITH COTTON AND SUGAR CANE, SO DID THEIR HOMES. THEY MIRRORED THE PLANTERS' SUCCESS OR FAILURE.

AFTER THE *RAISED COTTAGE*, OR WEST INDIAN ARCHITECTURE, CAME THE LOUISIANA OR, *CREOLE*, CLASSIC STYLE. THIS STYLE PLANTATION HOME WAS DOMINATED AND INFLUENCED BY THE NEW GEORGIAN OR GREEK REVIVAL CHARACTERISTICS ENDEMIC TO LOUISIANA.

AN EXAMPLE OF THIS CREOLE STYLE CAN BE RECOGNIZED READILY BY THEIR GREAT ROUNDED BRICK COLUMNS SURROUNDING THE EMBODIMENT OF THE HOUSE ITSELF. THE COLUMNS WERE TUSCAN IN CHARACTER, AND NOT DORIC, AS THEY WERE OFTEN CALLED. GALLERIES ENCIRCLED WALLS ON TWO ELEVATIONS, AND GAVE TO THE STRUCTURE THE ILLUSION OF BEING HALF-HIDDEN IN A GROVE OF LUMINOUS TREES."

★
AN EXAMPLE: OAK ALLEY AT ST. JAMES



"BY 1820 THE GREEK REVIVAL STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE PLANTATIONS OF LOUISIANA BECAME PREDOMINANT. OFTEN, THEY WERE CURIOUSLY MODIFIED, OR ACCLIMATIZED, TO SUIT THE PLANTERS TASTE.

GREEK REVIVAL IN THE SOUTH WAS OF A MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FLAVOR FROM THE GREEK REVIVAL IN THE NORTH. LOUISIANIANS FINALLY SETTLED ON A DEFINITE STYLE FOR THEIR HOMES, CALLING IN THE TRADITIONAL *CREOLE CLASSIC* WITH MODIFICATIONS FROM TIME TO TIME.

THE PLANTERS EXPERIENCED SOME CHANGES WHEN VICTORIANISM INVADED LOUISIANA. OUT OF THESE CHANGES STRANGE AND FANTASTIC STRUCTURES DOTTED THE BANKS OF THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER. MANY *PSEUDO-GOTHIC* AND A NUMBER OF *STEAMBOAT GOTHIC* STYLES, COPYING THE WELL LOVED PLEASURE BOATS, RESEMBLED RICHLY DECORATED WEDDING CAKES."

★
AN EXAMPLE: SAN FRANCISCO AT GRAMERCY

CARL CARLS ★

"THE EVOLUTION OF LOUISIANA PLANTATION ARCHITECTURE UNFOLDED, FINALLY, AS GREAT WEALTH AND MATERIAL RICHES POURED IN, INTO MASSIVE STRUCTURES WHICH NO LONGER LOOKED LIKE HOMES IN WHICH PEOPLE LIVED. RATHER, THE FLUTED COLUMNED MANSIONS, PAINTED IN PASTEL SHADES OF BLUE, PINK, AND MINT GREEN, WITH THE TRADITIONAL COLUMNS ALWAYS A GLEAMING WHITE, LOOKED MORE LIKE CAPITOL BUILDINGS OR GOVERNMENT EDIFICES OF STATE.

YET, UNLIKE THE ORNATE HOUSES IN NEW ORLEANS, WHERE LACEY WROUGHT IRON WAS USED WITH GARISH ABANDON OR UTTER DISREGARD FOR STYLE, VERY LITTLE, IF ANY IRON FRETWORK WAS USED ON THESE ELABORATE CASTLES HALF-HIDDEN FROM THE PUBLIC EYE WITH SHROUDS OF DOLOROUS MEMBRANES OF SPANISH MOSS."

★ AN EXAMPLE: BELLE GROVE AT BAYOU CANE




"THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE OF THESE LATTER PLANTATIONS IN LOUISIANA PRESENTED A GARGANTIC UNDERTAKING. THE FLOOR PLANS, ALONE, WERE ON AN ENORMOUS SCALE, NOT TO MENTION TURRETS, IRON-RAILED BALCONIES, GALLERIES, PLASTERED BRICK AND CYPRESS WOOD CARVINGS, FOUR SHUTTERS TO EACH HAND-CARVED WINDOW, THE COLUMNS OF PLASTERED BRICK WITH FOOT HIGH CAPITALS SHAPED DELICATELY FROM WOOD THEN GILDED, AND RED BRICK WALLS CAREFULLY PLASTERED OVER TO RESEMBLE STONES. SOME OF THE WALLS WERE TWO FEET THICK. THERE WAS AN ABUNDANCE OF MARBLE AND IRON. THERE WERE DUMB WAITERS WHICH ROSE FROM THE BASEMENT TO THE BUTLERS PANTRY. WATER WAS STORED IN CEDAR CISTERNS OR IN COPPER TANKS ON THE ROOF. GREAT FLIGHTS OF CURLING STAIRS WERE OVERLAID WITH IMPORTED ITALIAN MARBLE. DOOR KNOBS AND KEYHOLE GUARDS WERE OF POLISHED SILVER. AND FIREPLACES AND CEILING FILIGREE WERE EDGED IN GOLD."
CARL GORLE


"THE PLANTATION HOMES OF LOUISIANA AND THEIR ENVIRONS REQUIRED FIVE OR MORE YEARS TO BUILD, DEPENDING UPON THE COMPLICATIONS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PLAN. THEY WERE CONSTRUCTED, WITH THE PLAN IN MIND, TO LAST 500 YEARS. THEY WERE SELF-SUPPORTING EMPIRES. INDEPENDENT OF ANY OUTSIDE CONTRIBUTATIONS, THEY MAINTAINED WITHIN THEIR FENCED IN BORDERS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF A SMALL CITY, MANIFESTING THEIR OWN RULES AND LAWS AND ADAPTATIONS TO THEIR OWN SELF-STYLED CULTURE.
THEY MAINTAINED THEIR OWN CHAPEL OF RELIGIOUS CHOICE, HAD A PRIVATE HOSPITAL FOR THE SLAVES, VETERINARIANS FOR THE LIVESTOCK, A MACHINE SHOP FOR TOOLS, A SMITHY, STABLES, BARNS, A RACE TRACK, SILOS, PENS FOR HOGS AND CHICKENS, MEAT CURING BINS, CELLARS FOR DRIED AND CANNED FOODS, COOLING HOUSES FOR ICE BROUGHT DOWN FROM THE NORTH BY ICE WAGONS, AND QUARTERS FOR THE SLAVES. THEY RAISED THEIR OWN TOBACCO, GRAPES FOR WINE, HERBS FOR MEDICINE, AND RARE PLANTS, SUCH AS COCOANUTS AND VANILLA BEANS. INDEED, THEY WERE MINIATURE KINGDOMS, A REALITY THAT NEVER ESCAPED THE MINDS OF THESE PROUD FRENCH MASTERS."
CARL


"ALONG WITH STABLE CROPS SUCH AS COTTON, SUGAR CANE, CORN, POTATOES, PEANUTS AND A VARIETY OF MELONS, THERE WERE RICH VEGETABLE GARDENS ON THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS WHICH TURNED OUT ADEQUATE HARVESTS TO FEED A LARGE HOUSEHOLD, FREQUENT GUESTS, AND A HUNDRED SLAVES.
IN ADDITION TO THE MORE COMMON FARM PRODUCTS GROWN, THERE WERE ACRES OF FINE ORCHARDS PRODUCING FRUITS, BERRIES, AND NUTS NOT NATIVE TO LOUISIANA SOIL, YET THRIVED ABUNDANTLY. THESE SEEDS AND PLANTS HAD TO BE IMPORTED.
THIS PROCEDURE HAD TAKEN A LONG TIME, ACTUALLY. IN FACT, 500 YEARS BEFORE THE PLANTATION ERA, BEFORE THE FIRST WHITE SETTLERS CAME, ONLY THE GRAPE HAD EVER BEEN SEEN OR HEARD OF IN WHAT IS NOW THE UNITED STATES. THE REST GOT HERE ONLY AFTER TOILSOME JOURNEYS LASTING TENS OF CENTURIES AND STARTING IN THE FARTHEST PARTS OF THE WORLD. PEACHES AND ORANGES CAME FROM CHINA. APPLES, PEARS AND CHERRIES FROM THE BLACK LANDS NEAR THE CASPIAN SEAS. COLUMBUS FOUND GRAPEFRUIT IN THE WEST INDIES."
CARL CORLE


"ADDITIONAL FRUITS AND BERRIES FOUND ON THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS AND, PRODUCING ABUNDANTLY DUE TO THE RICH DELTA SOIL, WERE APRICOTS AND PLUMS FROM CHINA, CHERRY SEEDS FROM ASIA, FIGS FROM THE MEDITERREAN LANDS, OLIVES FROM GREECE, DATE PALMS FROM EGYPT, LEMONS FROM BURMA, BANANAS FROM INDIA, MANGOES FROM THE MALAY ARCHIPELAGA, PAPAYAS AND AVOCADOS FROM AFRICA, STRAWBERRIES FROM CHILE, BLACKBERRIES FROM THE ARCTIC, BLUEBERRIES FROM LANDS OF THE ESKIMO, GOOSEBERRIES FROM ASIA, PERSIMMONS FROM JAPAN, AND CRANBERRIES FROM CANADA.
IT HAD TAKEN THOUSANDS OF YEARS FOR THESE RARE AND PRECIOUS FRUITS AND BERRIES TO FIND THEIR WAY TO LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS' DINING TABLES, PICNIC SPREADS, FESTIVALS, AND COUNTRY OUTINGS."


"THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS, IN TIME, AS THEIR SUGAR CANE EMPIRES BROADENED IN SCOPE AND OPULENCE, BECAME OASIS OF RENOWN THE WORLD OVER, NAMES SUCH AS OAK ALLEY, BELLE GROVE, THE HERMITAGE, UNCLE SAM'S, BELLE HELENE, CASA CORREJOLLES, AND ASHLAND BECAME AS FAMILIAR TO FOREIGN PORTS AS THEY WERE TO THE ARISTOCRACY OF LOUISIANA. KINGS AND QUEENS, MONARCHS, AMBASSADORS, AND DIGNITARIES FROM ABROAD PAID HOMAGE TO THESE SHADOW-HAUNTED PALACES, AS WELL AS FAMOUS POETS, ARTISTS, WRITERS, HISTORIANS AND ACTORS AND ACTRESSES OF THE LEGITIMATE STAGE."

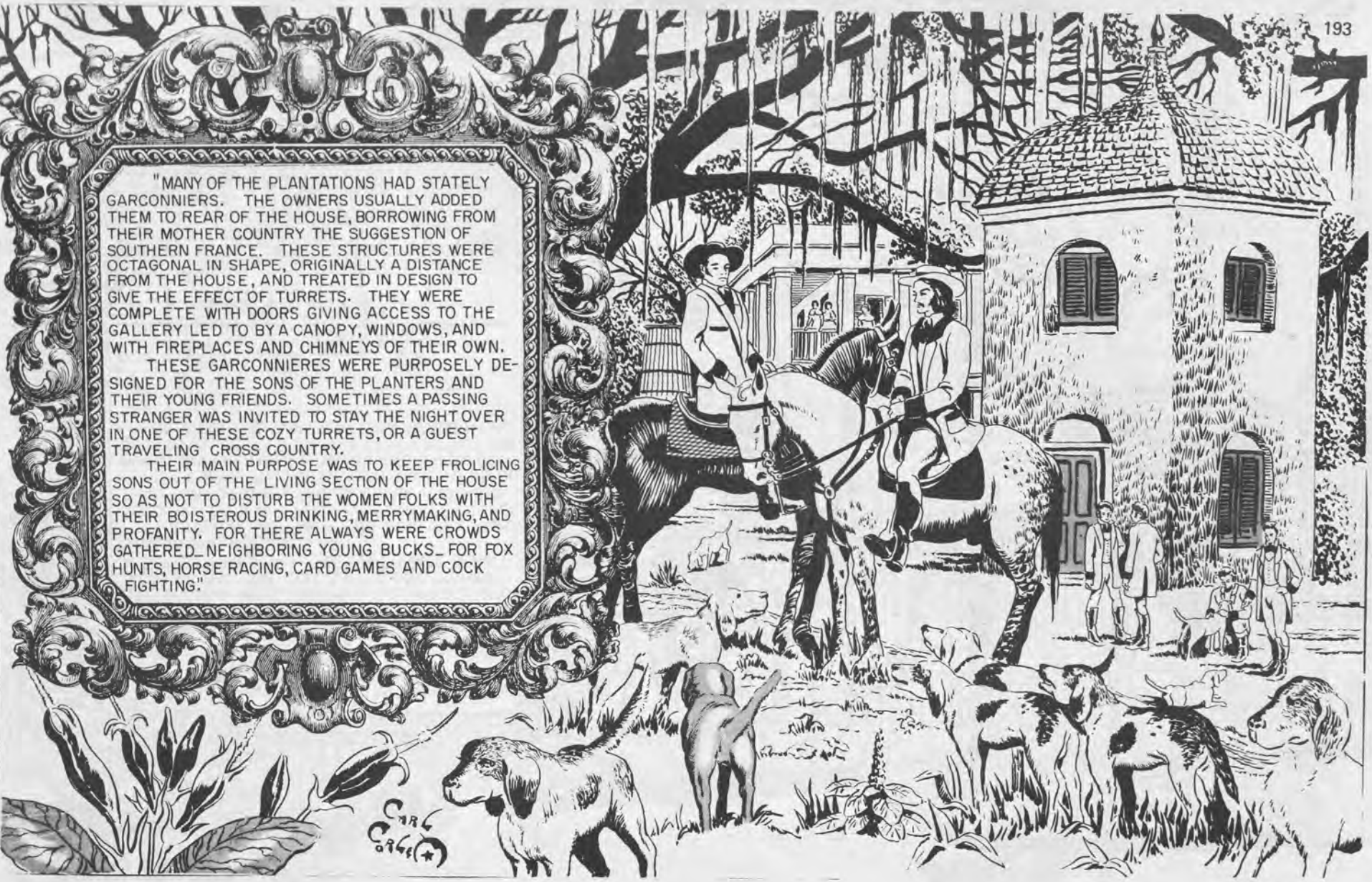

"THE FURNISHINGS WITHIN THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS WERE AS ELABORATE AS THE MANSIONS THAT HOUSED THEM. ALL THE FINEST FURNITURE, PLUS THE MARBLE MANTLES, THE CRYSTAL CHANDELIERS, RUGS, PORTERS' SERVICE, ALWAYS IN SILVER, STATUES, PORTIERES, AND LAMPS, FROSTED GLASS AND BEVELED MIRRORS WERE IMPORTED FROM FRANCE, SPAIN AND ENGLAND. FURNITURE, DELICATELY FINISHED FROM CEDAR, PECAN, WALNUT AND ROSEWOOD, ADORNED LONG HALLS, LIBRARIES, PARLORS, AND DINING ROULETTES. STAIRCASE RAILINGS, OFTEN OF LACEY WROUGHT-IRON, STAINED GLASS PANES FOR DORMER WINDOWS, HAND-CARVED DOORS, HARPSICORDS, GOLD HARPS, TURKISH CARPETS, AND EGGSHELL DINNERWARE FILLED THESE MOSS-ENSHROUDED CASTLES FROM PLACES HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD.
EVEN ITALIAN ARTISTS WERE IMPORTED, AND SPENT MONTHS, EVEN YEARS, PAINTING ORIGINAL DESIGNS ON PANELED DOORS, WALLS, AND CEILINGS. EVEN THE WALLPAPER WAS HAND PAINTED, AS WERE THE FIREPLACE MURALS, AND STAIR WALLS. EACH HOME WAS A WORK OF ART, MIRRORING THE OWNERS' PERSONAL TASTE."
CARL


"MODES OF TRAVEL ON THE LOUISIANA PLANTATIONS VARIED. OX CARTS AND WAGONS FOR THE SLAVES AND HIRED LABORERS, AND THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS, BUGGIES AND FANCY CARRIAGES FOR THE LANDOWNERS FAMILIES, VISITING KIN AND GUESTS—AND THERE WERE THE PLEASURE BOATS ON THE RIVER. FOR MORE ELABORATE OUTINGS, SUCH AS BALLS, BARBECUES, PICNICS, FISHFRIES, FESTIVALS—CHURCH AND FUNERALS— THE BAROUCHE, AN OPEN-TOP TYPE CARRIAGE WAS USED. THIS WAS A CLASSIC BLACK VEHICLE, USUALLY OUTFITTED WITH RED WHEELS, OR ORANGE, AND LACED WITH SHINY SILVER TRIM. THE MOST GALLANT, WELL GROOMED HORSES WERE HARNESSED TO THESE STYLISH CONVEYANCES—THE CADIALLIC OF YESTERYEAR— WITH ALL THE HORSE JEWELRY AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET GLITTERING FROM MANE TO TAIL.
INDEED, THEY WERE A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT AS THEY WEAVED IN AND OUT AMID THE MOSSY SHADOWS, THE BLACK COACHMAN HIGH UP IN FRONT, THE PLANTATION OWNERS' DAUGHTERS AND SONS IN BACK—ON THEIR MERRY WAY TO SOME NEIGHBORING PLANTATION FOR A PICNIC, BALL OR MIDNIGHT CANDLELIT DANCE."
CARL CARLE


"ANOTHER MODE OF TRAVEL WAS THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER. IN FACT, IT WAS THE FIRST— LONG BEFORE THE ROADS WERE BUILT— THE FOREMOST SYMBOL IN THE MYTHOS OF LOUISIANA PLANTATION CULTURE. NO ACCOUNT, HOWEVER MINOR, CAN AVOID ELABORATING ON THE RIVER. THE PLANTATION HOUSES WERE CONSTRUCTED, ALWAYS, FACING THE RIVER. THE RIVER WAS THE ONLY ROAD THAT LED TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. IT ALSO BROUGHT THE WORLD TO THE PLANTATIONS. THE RIVER REPRESENTED WEALTH, FRUITFULNESS. IT WAS THE BROAD, LIQUID PATH OVER WHICH SUGAR CANE, RICE, AND COTTON FOUND WORLD MARKETS. FLATBOATS, WITH HIGH SIDES OFFERING PROTECTION FROM INDIAN ARROWS, FLOATED RARE AND PRECIOUS SUPPLIES TO THE NORTH AND TO THE GULF WHERE GOODS, EVEN CATTLE, WERE LOADED ONTO TRANSPORTS BOUND FOR FRANCE AND ENGLAND. AND THERE WERE THE GREAT RIVER BOATS AND STERNWHEELERS USED FOR BOTH CARGO AND PLEASURE EXCURSIONS, THE SMOKE, FROM THEIR STACKS WREATHED WITH IRON FERNERY, FLOWING BACK OVER GAILY PAINTED PROWS AS THEY FLOATED PAST WHITE PLANTATION HOMES ON THEIR WAY TO RIVERSIDE CITIES OF FUN."
CARL CAGLE


" TO MAINTAIN, SUCCESSFULLY, A LOUISIANA SUGAR CANE PLANTATION WAS, FOR THE PLANTER, AN ENORMOUS UNDERTAKING. MANY HOMES HAD AS MANY AS 50 TO 75 ROOMS. NUMEROUS PLANTERS HAD THEIR OWN PRIVATE RAILROADS ON THEIR LAND, CABINS FOR 100 SLAVES OR MORE, PRIVATE STEAMBOATS AND PLEASURE CRUISERS MOORED AT PRIVATE WHARVES ON THE RIVER, AND FLATBOATS TO FLOAT IN SUPPLIES: CLOTH, FURNISHINGS, JEWELRY, TRINKETS FOR THE KIDS, PRESENTS, CHINAWARE, SILVER, STATUARY, RARE PLANTS AND THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS AND BREEDING MARES FROM NEIGHBORING PLANTATIONS. A MAJORITY HAD THEIR OWN LAW OFFICE AND JAIL.
IT WAS REPEATED OFTEN, AND ALWAYS WITH A CASUAL NOTE, THAT IT REQUIRED $90,000 TO EQUIPT A SUGAR CANE PLANTATION WITH SLAVES AND MACHINERY, NOT ADDING THE PRICE OF THE MANSION ITSELF, NOR THE SLAVE QUARTERS, THE BARNS, STABLES, A HOSPITAL AND CHAPEL.
TO STRETCH THE COST, THERE WERE PLANTERS WHOSE TABLE SERVICE WAS OF GOLD, WHO BOASTED FORMAL GARDENS WITH RARE, EXOTIC PLANTS, FOUNTAINS THAT SPRAYED TINTED WATER, AND MARBLE STATUES FROM GREECE AND ROME."

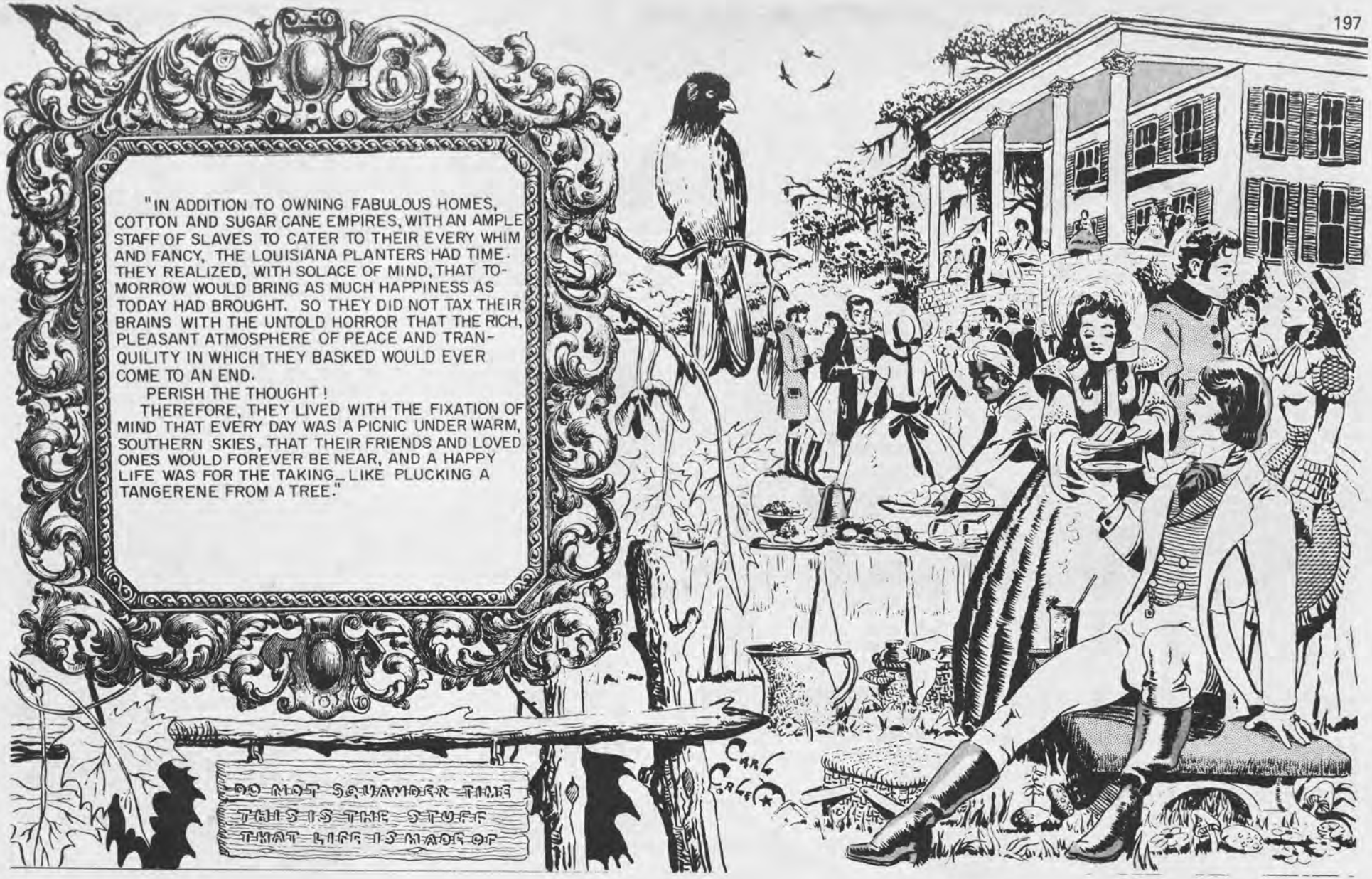

"DWELLING WITHIN THE CONFINES OF SUCH SPLENDOR AS WERE THE GREAT PLANTATIONS OF LOUISIANA, LIFE TOOK ON AN OPULANCE THAT MATCHED THE WEALTH. THE ENVIRONMENT WAS ENGULFED IN A CLOUD OF INTENSE BEAUTY AND GRACE. EVERYTHING WAS LIVED ON A GRAND SCALE.
WITH SLAVES AND HIRED HANDS TO DO ALL THE LABOR, LIFE GALVINIZED ITSELF INTO A LEISURELY ATMOSPHERE OF FESTIVAL OCCUPATION AMONG THE RICH FRENCH AND CREOLE ARISTOCRACY.
NEVER A WEEK WENT BY THAT SOME NEIGHBORING PLANTATION OWNER DID NOT GIVE A PICNIC, BARBECUE, BALL OR SOCIAL GATHERING WITH WRITTEN INVITATIONS TO EVERYONE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. THERE WAS AMPLE ROOM FOR HUNDREDS OF GUESTS, AND THEY SPENT WEEKS, EVEN MONTHS, AT A TIME AT THESE MAGNIFICENT KINGDOMS FROLICING AND MERRYMAKING.
THE NARROW, WINDING ROADS THAT SNAKED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE SHADOWS OF LIVE OAKS ALONG THE LEVEE WERE CONSTANTLY ALIVE WITH PACKED CARRIAGES, WAGONS LOADED WITH SUPPLIES AND HOUSE SLAVES, MEN ON HORSEBACK, AND GIRLS IN BAROUCHES GOING TO AND FRO TO SOME GAILY OUTING."


"MANY OF THE PLANTATIONS HAD STATELY GARCONNIERS. THE OWNERS USUALLY ADDED THEM TO REAR OF THE HOUSE, BORROWING FROM THEIR MOTHER COUNTRY THE SUGGESTION OF SOUTHERN FRANCE. THESE STRUCTURES WERE OCTAGONAL IN SHAPE, ORIGINALLY A DISTANCE FROM THE HOUSE, AND TREATED IN DESIGN TO GIVE THE EFFECT OF TURRETS. THEY WERE COMPLETE WITH DOORS GIVING ACCESS TO THE GALLERY LED TO BY A CANOPY, WINDOWS, AND WITH FIREPLACES AND CHIMNEYS OF THEIR OWN.
THESE GARCONNIERES WERE PURPOSELY DESIGNED FOR THE SONS OF THE PLANTERS AND THEIR YOUNG FRIENDS. SOMETIMES A PASSING STRANGER WAS INVITED TO STAY THE NIGHT OVER IN ONE OF THESE COZY TURRETS, OR A GUEST TRAVELING CROSS COUNTRY.
THEIR MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO KEEP FROLICING SONS OUT OF THE LIVING SECTION OF THE HOUSE SO AS NOT TO DISTURB THE WOMEN FOLKS WITH THEIR BOISTEROUS DRINKING, MERRYMAKING, AND PROFANITY. FOR THERE ALWAYS WERE CROWDS GATHERED_NEIGHBORING YOUNG BUCKS_FOR FOX HUNTS, HORSE RACING, CARD GAMES AND COCK FIGHTING."
CARL GARLE


"THE YOUNG FRENCH GIRLS, OR BELLES, MADE THEIR LIVING QUARTERS ON THE UPPER STORIES OF THE PLANTATION MANSIONS. EACH DAUGHTER, NO MATTER HOW MANY, HAD HER OWN ROOM OR, MORE COMMONLY, A WING OF THE HOUSEHOLD. SHE HAD HER OWN PERSONAL SLAVE GIRL TO DO HER BIDDING_WHO OCCUPIED THE WING 24 HOURS A DAY SO THAT SHE COULD BE CLOSE TO HER MISTRESS' SIDE AT ALL TIMES_A PRIVATE SEAMSTRESS, AND A STABLE BOY.
THE GIRLS HAD THEIR FROLICING GOOD TIMES ALSO, BUT ON A QUIETER, MORE DISCREET SCALE THAN THAT OF THEIR TROUBLESOME BROTHERS.
THEY WERE TAUGHT FROM INFANCY TO BE DEMURE, SHY CREATURES, TO ACT PROPER ON ALL OCCASIONS, NO MATTER HOW STRIDENT THE DEMANDS, AND TO BECOME A GREAT SOUTHERN LADY."
CARL


"NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD_ WITH PERHAPS THE EXCEPTION OF THE GREEKS AND ROMANS_ WAS SUCH A HIGH PREMIUM PLACED ON YOUTH AND BEAUTY THAN IN THE LOUISIANA SOUTHLAND.
GOOD LOOKS AND EVERLASTING YOUTH WERE OBSESSIONS WITH THESE BLOSSOMING FRENCH BEAUTIES WHO SPENT EVERY WAKING HOUR WORKING ON THEIR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE, WITH ALL THEIR UNTIRING EFFORTS AIMED AT ONE GOAL__ TO CATCH A WEALTHY HUSBAND!"
CARL CAGLE


"WHAT THE FRENCH DAUGHTERS OF THE SUGAR CANE PLANTATION OWNERS WERE NOT TAUGHT WAS HOW TO COPE WITH LIFE ONCE THE RICH HUSBANDS WERE CAUGHT!
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE HONEYMOON, USUALLY A TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS OR SARATOGA, AND FRENQUENTLY ABROAD TO PARIS, A YOUNG BRIDE WAS PLACED IN COMPLETE CHARGE OF HER NEW HOUSEHOLD.
SHE HAD TO MANAGE THE ENTIRE, NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MANSION_ PLANNED LONG IN ADVANCE AS A WEDDING GIFT_ INSTRUCT THE HOUSE SERVANTS, SUPERVISE THE ISSUING OF FOOD RATIONS TO THE FIELD SLAVES, OVERSEE THE HOSPITAL AND CHAPEL, PLAN AND PLAY HOSTESS TO OPULENT PARTIES, AND POKER SESSIONS FOR HER HUSBAND.
REGRETFULLY FOR THEM, VERY FEW FRENCH ORIENTED AND STRICTLY CHAPERONED PLANTATIONED GIRLS WERE PREPARED FOR SUCH AN ORDEAL. MOST GIRLS OF THAT LEISURELY, CAREFREE ERA, SAW MARRIAGE ONLY AS FAR AS THE ALTAR."
CARL CARLE


"IN ADDITION TO OWNING FABULOUS HOMES, COTTON AND SUGAR CANE EMPIRES, WITH AN AMPLE STAFF OF SLAVES TO CATER TO THEIR EVERY WHIM AND FANCY, THE LOUISIANA PLANTERS HAD TIME. THEY REALIZED, WITH SOLACE OF MIND, THAT TOMORROW WOULD BRING AS MUCH HAPPINESS AS TODAY HAD BROUGHT. SO THEY DID NOT TAX THEIR BRAINS WITH THE UNTOLD HORROR THAT THE RICH, PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY IN WHICH THEY BASKED WOULD EVER COME TO AN END.
PERISH THE THOUGHT!
THEREFORE, THEY LIVED WITH THE FIXATION OF MIND THAT EVERY DAY WAS A PICNIC UNDER WARM, SOUTHERN SKIES, THAT THEIR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES WOULD FOREVER BE NEAR, AND A HAPPY LIFE WAS FOR THE TAKING_LIKE PLUCKING A TANGERENE FROM A TREE."
DO NOT SQUANDER TIME
THIS IS THE STUFF
THAT LIFE IS MADE OF
CARL CARLE


"IF THE ELDERS OF THE PLANTATIONS OF LOUISIANA IN RESIDENCE REVELLED IN THE ENDLESS PLEASURE OF TIME_WHICH THEY WERE CARELESS IN SQUANDERING_THEIR OFFSPRING FROLICED IN IT MORESO.
WITH NOTHING TO DO EXCEPT PLAY_WAITED ON HAND AND FOOT SINCE INFANCY_THE YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS ALIKE BECAME CAUGHT UP IN THE WHIRLWIND OF MERRYMAKING. THEIR TEEN-AGED MINDS NEVER HARBORED ON ANY SUBJECT MORE SERIOUS THAN WHAT TO WEAR ON AN OUTING, THE PURCHASING OF A PRIZE GUILDING, THE WINNING OF A TURKEY SHOOT, THE MATCHING COLORS OF RIBBON, A BONNET, A PARASOL.
THE PLANTATION GIRLS EDUCATION WAS SCANT. THEY WERE SO PREOCCUPIED TRYING TO SNARE A HUSBAND, TO BECOME QUEEN OF A MOSS-HUNG CASTLE, TO BECOME MISTRESS OF THE GRANDEST PLANTATION IN THE SOUTH, THAT THEY USUALLY DROPPED OUT OF THE FEMALE ACADEMIES AT AN EARLY AGE_OR_AS MATHAMATICS FORCED THEIR DIZZY BRAINS TO CONCENTRATE. IF A LOUISIANA GIRL EVER ACQUIRED AN EDUCATION DURING THE PLANTATION ERA SHE HAD TO ENTER A CONVENT."
CARL CARLE

"THE SO-CALLED SOUTHERN DRAWL ALWAYS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANTE-BELLUM SOUTH IN LOUISIANA WAS UNHEARD OF DURING THE EARLY REIGN OF SUGAR CANE PLANTATION LIFE.

MANY, IF NOT ALL, OF THE PLANTATION OWNERS WERE FROM FRANCE OR SPAIN, IMMIGRANTS NEWLY ARRIVING FROM ABROAD. THEY SPOKE IN THEIR OWN MOTHER LANGUAGE, OR BROKEN ENGLISH, OR WHAT WAS COMMONLY TERMED AT THAT TIME AS THE KING'S ENGLISH.

THE LANGUAGE WAS BRISK, PRECISE, WITH EVERY WORD UNDERLAYING THE SOUND OF THE MOTHER TONGUE.

THERE WAS NO PAAMS FOR PALMS, NO MAA AND PAA FOR MA AND PA, NO HOOSE FOR HOUSE, NO MAH FOR MY, NO YOUAAL FOR YOU ALL, NOR DEM FOR THEM.

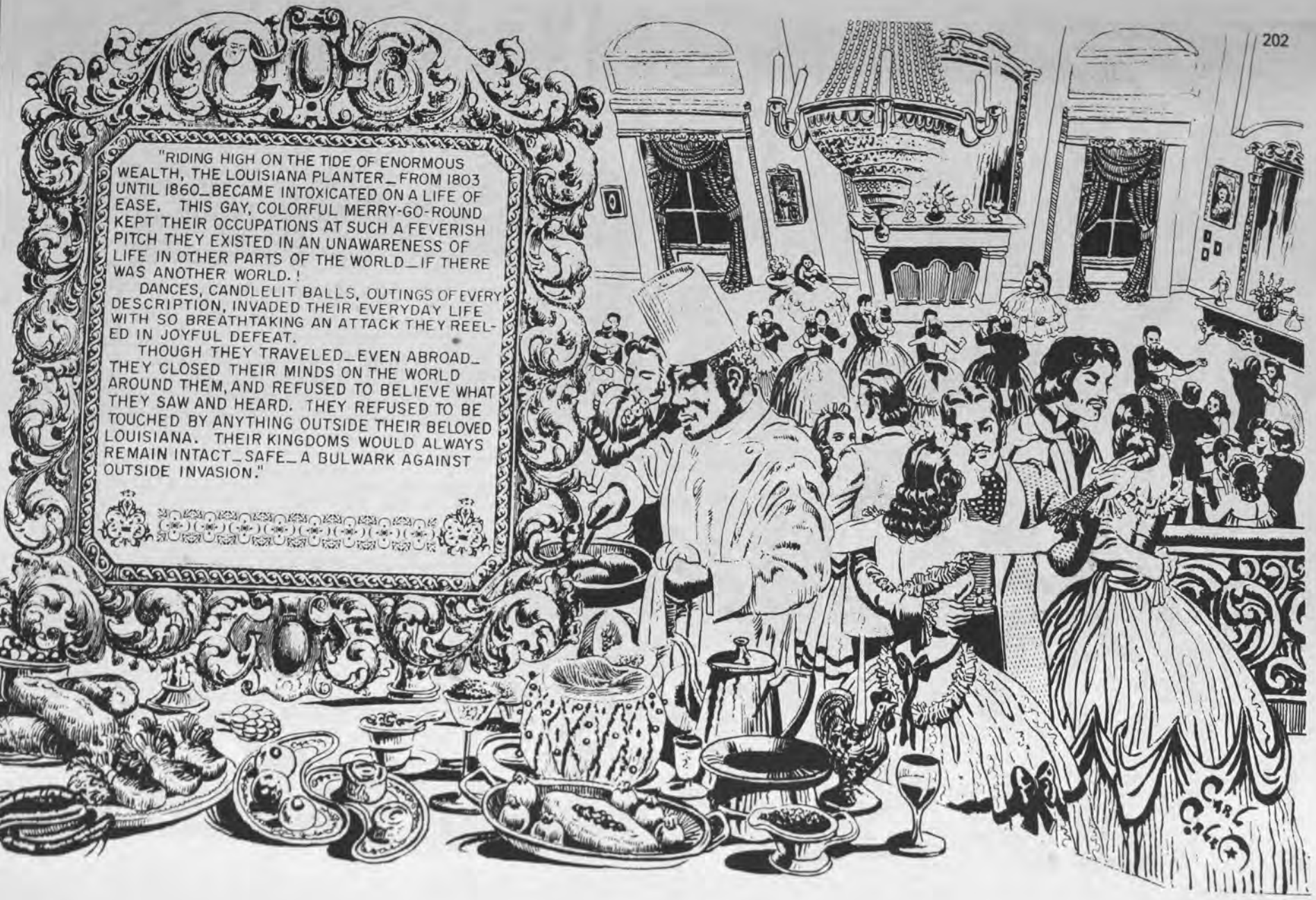
THIS BROGUE, WITH THE DRAWLING, FLAT VOICES STRETCHING OUT THE VOWELS AND CONSONANTS, WOULD ARRIVE MUCH LATER IN THE LOUISIANA SOUTH—WHEN THE INFLUENCE OF THE SLAVE WOULD INFILTRATE THE LANGUAGE.

THE SOUTHERN DRAWL WAS BUT A MYTH, FOUND ONLY IN BOOKS AND MOTION PICTURES."




"THE YOUNG BUCKS WHO ADORNED LOUISIANA'S OPULENT PLANTATIONS WITH THEIR GOOD HEALTH, BEAUTY AND ZEST FOR LIFE, WERE ANOTHER AFFAIR. THE MAJORITY, AS WAS ANTICIPATED – EVEN EXPECTED BY THEIR PARENTS, WERE EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL, UNLESS THAT SCHOOL HAPPENED TO BE A MILITARY ACADEMY, WHERE THEY EXCELLED. QUICK OF TEMPER, RAVING FOR EXCITEMENT, THEY LEARNED TO SHOOT WELL WHEN VERY YOUNG. WHEN THEY WERE NOT HUNTING, FISHING, GAMBLING, DRINKING, HORSERACING OR COCK-FIGHTING, THEY WERE CHASING THE FUN-LOVING SOUTHERN BELLES.
A PLANTATION BUCK HAD HIS OWN HOUSEBOY, STABLE OF STALLIONS, PACK OF HOUNDS, GUNS, SWORDS AND PISTOLS. HE HAD A PRIVATE BAROUCHE FOR ATTENDING CHURCH, FUNERALS AND BALLS, AND ESCORTING A GOOD GIRL ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE TO SHOW OFF HIS VIRILITY. AND HE ALSO HAD A BAD GIRL TO HAVE FUN WITH.
THE ROBUST SONS OF THE PLANTERS WERE COCKS OF THE WALK, AND NO ONE KNEW THIS BETTER THAN THEY!"
CARL CALE


"THIS ARROGANCE AND KNACK FOR FUN-MAKING, UNTAMED AND UNCHECKED IN THE YOUNG MEN OF THE PLANTATIONS, BROUGHT MANY A HEARTBREAK TO THEIR PARENTS AND GIRL-FRIENDS.
PISTOL DUELING BECAME COMMONPLACE A DUEL WAS SOMETIMES FOUGHT OVER NOTHING MORE THAN A WORD CARELESSLY SPOKEN, A WHISPER OF GOSSIP, A RUMOR, OR A MISCONCEPTION. OFTEN ENOUGH, THE GIRL WAS AT FAULT. USUALLY A COQUETTE, WHO THREW HERSELF AT AN UNSUSPECTING BUCK TO TEST HIS LOYALTY AND COURAGE.
IN A NUMBER OF CASES, WHEN DUALS WERE FOUGHT—EITHER WITH SWORDS OR DUELING PISTOLS—BOTH SUITORS WERE WOUNDED OR KILLED SIMULTANEOUSLY. ON RARE OCCASIONS, THEIR PEERS TALKED THEM OUT OF THE DUEL. BUT HONOR AND DIGNITY HAD TO REMAIN INTACT, AT ALL COST, AND THE HEADSTRONG YOUTHS, RAGING WITH THE HOT BLOOD OF THEIR FRENCH ANCESTORS, WERE ANXIOUS TO ELIMINATE THEIR RIVALS. MANY DUELISTS BECAME WORLD FAMOUS, AND NO MAN DARED TO CHALLENGE THEM."
CARL


"RIDING HIGH ON THE TIDE OF ENORMOUS WEALTH, THE LOUISIANA PLANTER_FROM 1803 UNTIL 1860_BECAME INTOXICATED ON A LIFE OF EASE. THIS GAY, COLORFUL MERRY-GO-ROUND KEPT THEIR OCCUPATIONS AT SUCH A FEVERISH PITCH THEY EXISTED IN AN UNAWARENESS OF LIFE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD_IF THERE WAS ANOTHER WORLD.!
DANCES, CANDLELIT BALLS, OUTINGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, INVADED THEIR EVERYDAY LIFE WITH SO BREATHTAKING AN ATTACK THEY REELED IN JOYFUL DEFEAT.
THOUGH THEY TRAVELED_EVEN ABROAD_ THEY CLOSED THEIR MINDS ON THE WORLD AROUND THEM, AND REFUSED TO BELIEVE WHAT THEY SAW AND HEARD. THEY REFUSED TO BE TOUCHED BY ANYTHING OUTSIDE THEIR BELOVED LOUISIANA. THEIR KINGDOMS WOULD ALWAYS REMAIN INTACT_SAFE_A BULWARK AGAINST OUTSIDE INVASION."

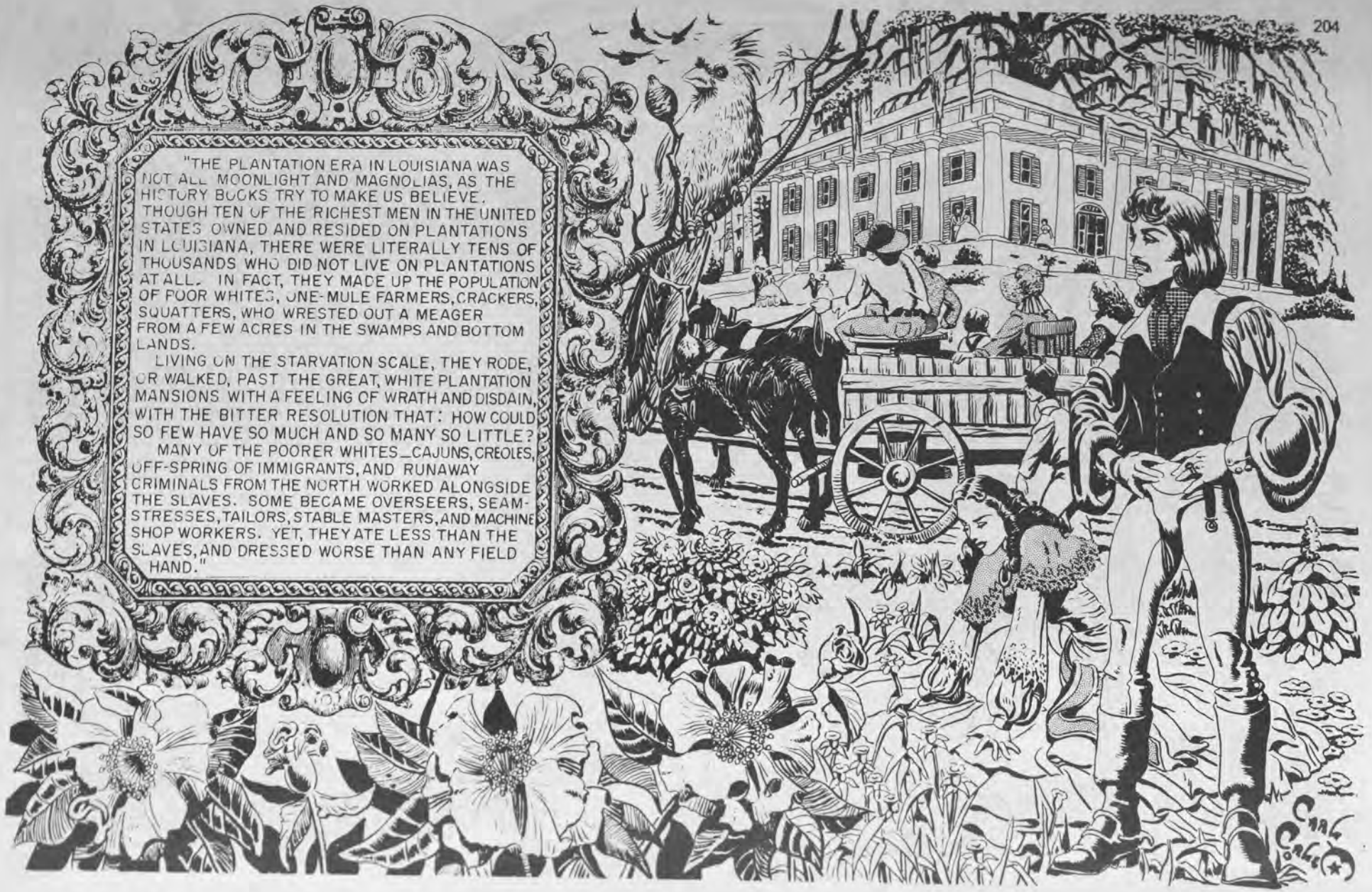
"SINCE THE ENTHRALLING DAYS OF GOVERNOR BIENVILLE'S BLACK CODE, NEGRO SLAVERY HAD BEEN A CENTRAL FACTOR IN LOUISIANA HISTORY. MANY SOUTHERNERS DEPLORED IT. A GREAT NUMBER SOLD THEIR SLAVES WHEN IT BECAME INCREASINGLY UNPROFITABLE, BECAUSE OF THE PROHIBITIVE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN LABOR SUPPLY.

THE NORTHERN STATES HELD THE BELIEF THAT ALL SOUTHERNERS THOUGHT LESS ABOUT THE EVILS OF SLAVERY AND MORE ABOUT THE REASONS FOR MAINTAINING IT—GREAT WEALTH, AN OPENING IN THE STRUGGLE OF COLONY LIFE FOR FROLIC AND PLAY.

LOUISIANA CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY THE RICH PLANTERS, CONSIDERED EMANCIPATION OF THE NEGRO DANGEROUS. AND THOUGH MANY SURROUNDING STATES DRIFTED AWAY FROM NATIONAL UNITY, THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA, FACTUALLY, LONGED THAT THEIR STATE BE HELD TOGETHER WITHIN THE UNION.

THEY HELD OUT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE—UNTIL THE VERY EVE OF A WAR DESTINED TO RIP AWAY THEIR WORLD, TO DESTROY FOREVER THEIR WAY OF LIFE."




"THE PLANTATION ERA IN LOUISIANA WAS NOT ALL MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS, AS THE HISTORY BOOKS TRY TO MAKE US BELIEVE. THOUGH TEN OF THE RICHEST MEN IN THE UNITED STATES OWNED AND RESIDED ON PLANTATIONS IN LOUISIANA, THERE WERE LITERALLY TENS OF THOUSANDS WHO DID NOT LIVE ON PLANTATIONS AT ALL. IN FACT, THEY MADE UP THE POPULATION OF POOR WHITES, ONE-MULE FARMERS, CRACKERS, SQUATTERS, WHO WRESTED OUT A MEAGER FROM A FEW ACRES IN THE SWAMPS AND BOTTOM LANDS.
LIVING ON THE STARVATION SCALE, THEY RODE, OR WALKED, PAST THE GREAT, WHITE PLANTATION MANSIONS WITH A FEELING OF WRATH AND DISDAIN, WITH THE BITTER RESOLUTION THAT: HOW COULD SO FEW HAVE SO MUCH AND SO MANY SO LITTLE?
MANY OF THE POORER WHITES_CAJUNS, CREOLES, OFF-SPRING OF IMMIGRANTS, AND RUNAWAY CRIMINALS FROM THE NORTH WORKED ALONGSIDE THE SLAVES. SOME BECAME OVERSEERS, SEAMSTRESSES, TAILORS, STABLE MASTERS, AND MACHINE SHOP WORKERS. YET, THEY ATE LESS THAN THE SLAVES, AND DRESSED WORSE THAN ANY FIELD HAND."
CRAIG CRAIG


" IN SUMMONING UP THE LOUISIANA PLANTER AND PLANTATION OWNER OF THE GREAT, WHITE MANSIONS, HE MERELY EXISTED, LIVING UP TO THE SCHEDULE OF HIS TIME. HE HARBORED NO GUILT TOWARD THE BONDAGE OF SLAVERY FOR, DURING THAT PERIOD, THE WHOLE WORLD WAS SHACKLED INTO SLAVERY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.
THE PLANTATION EPIC DID, HOWEVER, OUT OF ALL THE STRUGGLE AND TRAGEDY THAT FOLLOWED, CREATE AN OPULENT SOCIETY BASED ON PERFECTION. IT WAS A WAY OF LIFE NEVER BEFORE EQUALLED NOR DUPLICATED SINCE, A LANDMARK IN GRANDIOSE ARCHITECTURE AND DRESS, OF MANNERS AND CUSTOMS THAT HAS GRIPPED THE HEART FOR GENERATIONS TO COME WITH A NOSTALGIA MORE DREAM THAN REALITY.
GRAND, OPULENT—YES. BUT IT WAS NOT MEANT TO LAST, A WAY OF LIFE THAT IS GONE FOREVER—A CIVILIZATION GONE WITH THE WIND."
CARL CARLE

"DURING THE ANTE-BELLM PLANTATION PERIOD IN LOUISIANA EIGHT PRESIDENTS REIGNED—FROM MARTIN VAN BUREN IN 1837 TO JAMES BUCHANAN IN 1857. EACH PRESIDENT CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE PROGRESS OF THE STATE."

★ MARTIN VAN BUREN—CREATED A NEW BANK OF THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THE CRISIS OF THE WORST DEPRESSION IN HISTORY.

★ WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON—DEFEATED THE COMBINED BRITISH AND INDIAN FORCES IN THE BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE., AND HE UNDERSTOOD THE COMMON MANS NEEDS.

★ JOHN TYLER—FOUGHT FOR STATES RIGHTS.



Martin Van Buren
1837-1841



William H. Harrison
1841-1841



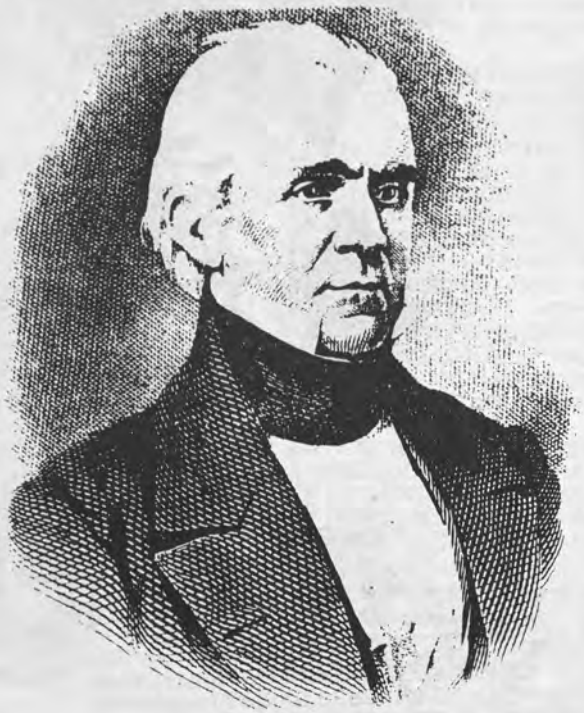
John Tyler
1841-1849

CARL CAGLE

★ JAMES K. POLK— HE STOOD FOR EXPANSION, ADDING A ★ VAST AREA TO THE UNITED STATES.

ZACHARY TAYLOR— A MILITARY MAN, HE FOUGHT AGAINST SLAVERY IN THE NEW SOUTHERN LAND POSSESSIONS.

★ MILLARD FILLMORE— LENT HIS POLITICAL SKILLS TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE COMPROMISE OF 1850— WHICH WAS AN ATTEMPT TO SATISFY BOTH SLAVERY AND ANTI-SLAVERY FORCES.



James K. Polk
1845-1849



Zachary Taylor
1849-1850



Millard Fillmore
1850-1853





★ FRANKLIN PIERCE— WITH THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH ON THE SLAVERY ISSUE, HE FAVORED THE SOUTHLAND ON EVERY POINT.

★ JAMES BUCHANAN— PROMPTED THE DRED SCOTT DECISION, ASSERTING THAT CONGRESS HAD NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO DEPRIVE PERSONS OF THEIR PROPERTY RIGHTS IN SLAVES IN THE TERRITORIES. SOUTHERNERS WERE DELIGHTED.



Franklin Pierce
1853-1857



James Buchanan
1857-1861



Abraham L

Louisiana
CIVIL WAR PERIOD











"THOUGH LOUISIANA COULD NOT_ WOULD NOT_BELIEVE THAT THE NORTHERN STATES WOULD EVER ENGAGE THE SOUTHLAND IN A CIVIL WAR, WAR WAS INEVITABLE.

THE NORTH LOATHED SLAVERY, WHICH WAS SUCH AN ECONOMICAL BOOM TO THE SOUTH. THEY ALSO HATED THE SOUTH'S PROFITING FROM THE MARKETING OF COTTON WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHO OWNED GREAT TEXTILE MILLS. THEY BOTH HATED AND ENVIED THE SOUTH'S LIFESTYLE_THEIR ENORMOUS WEALTH, THEIR UNIQUE CULTURE THAT WAS FOUND NOWHERE ELSE ON THE CONTINENT, AND THEIR LIBERTIES TO FROLIC AND SQUANDER THEIR TIME.

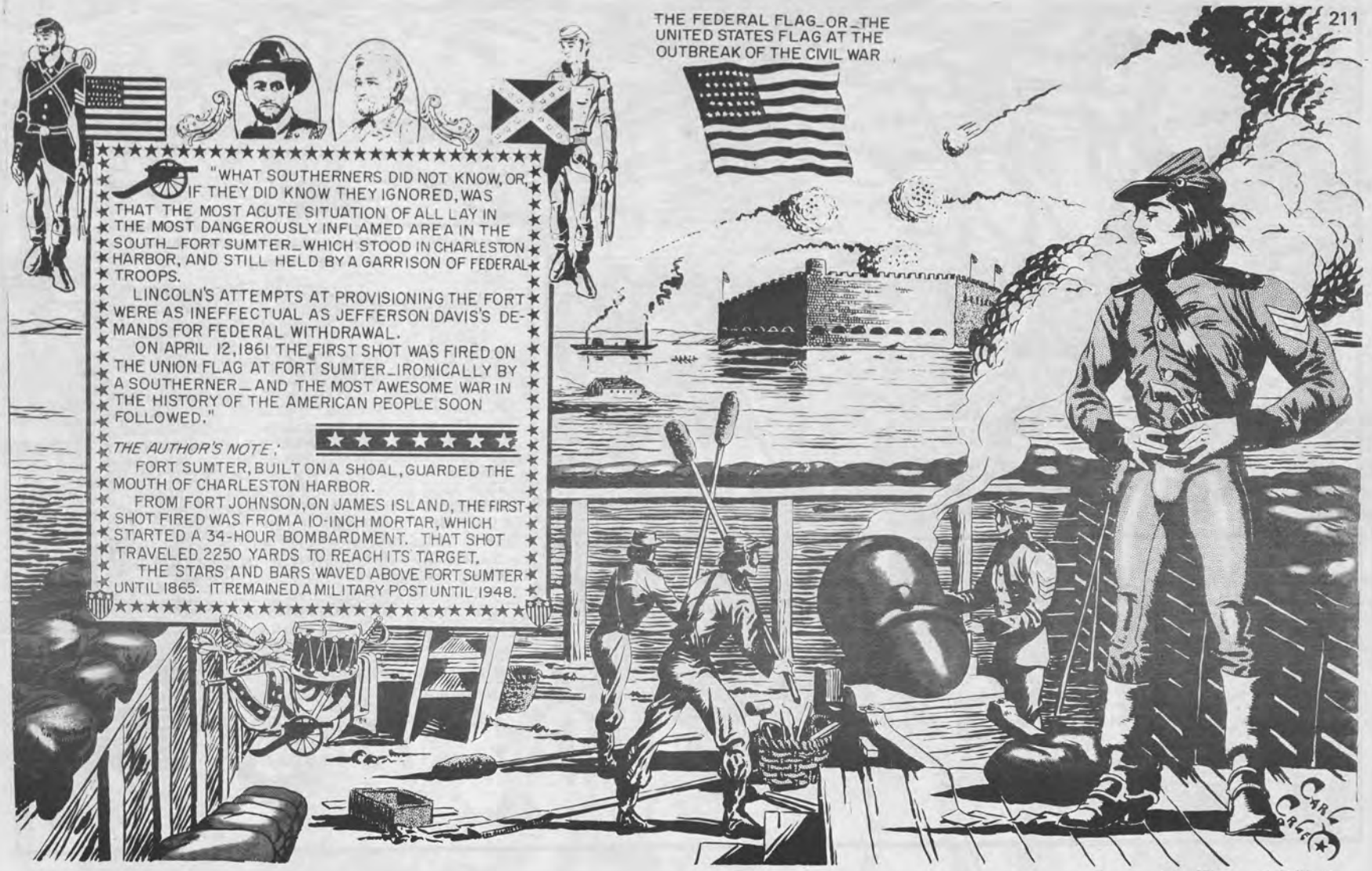
SECESSION REARED ITS UGLY HEAD, AND SECESSION MEANT WAR! WITH THE ELECTION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, A MAN WHO ACTUALLY HAD NO PLANS TO REVOLUTIONIZE THE SOUTHERN SOCIAL ORDER, NOR TO ABOLISH THE SLAVE TRADE, HOTHEADS MADE NO RECKONING OF THESE MATTERS.

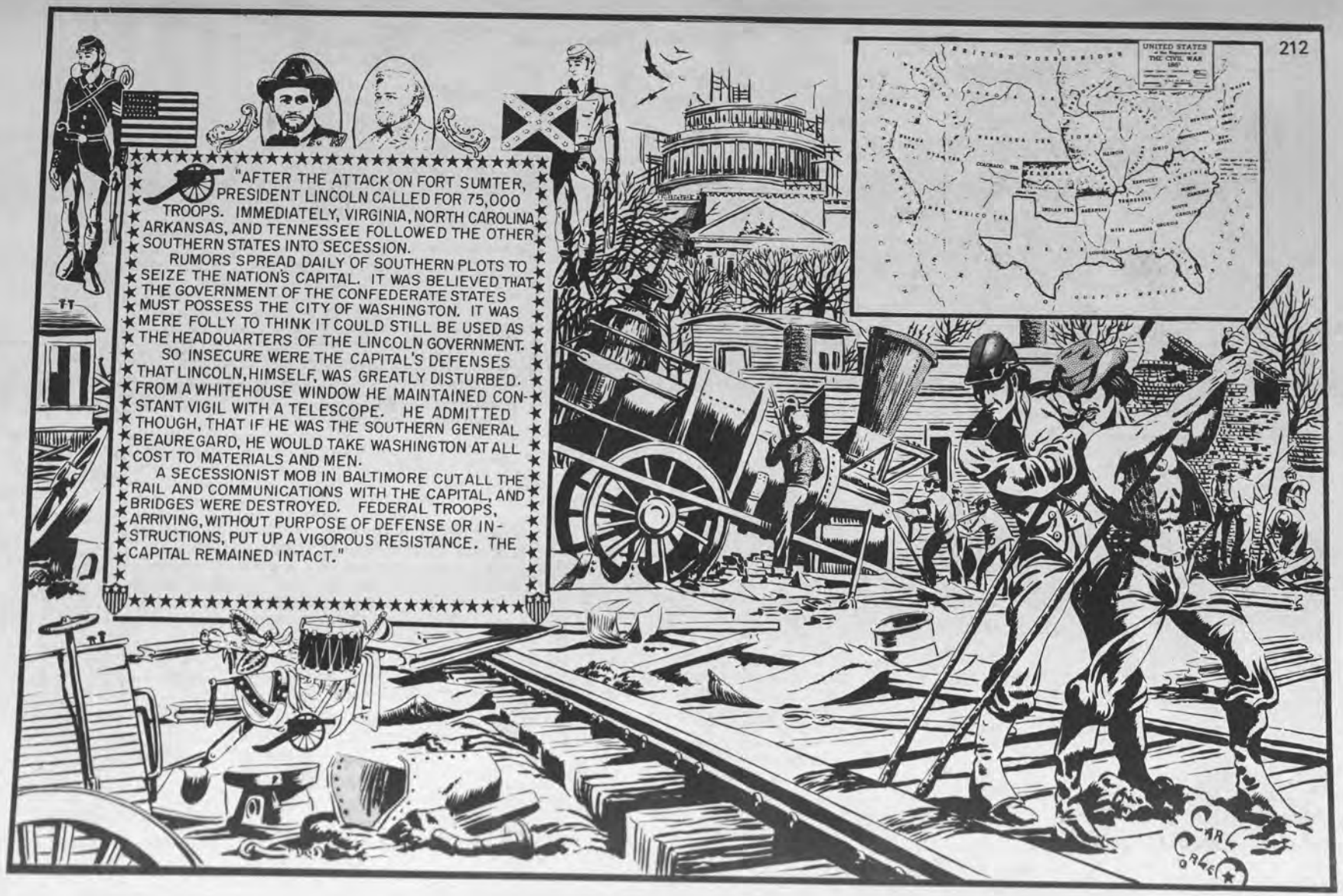
MEN TALKED OF A PEACEFUL SECESSION. BUT PRESIDENT LINCOLN SAID: "WE CANNOT SEPARATE. WE CANNOT REMOVE OUR SECTIONS FROM EACH OTHER, NOR BUILD AN IMPASSABLE WALL BETWEEN THEM."

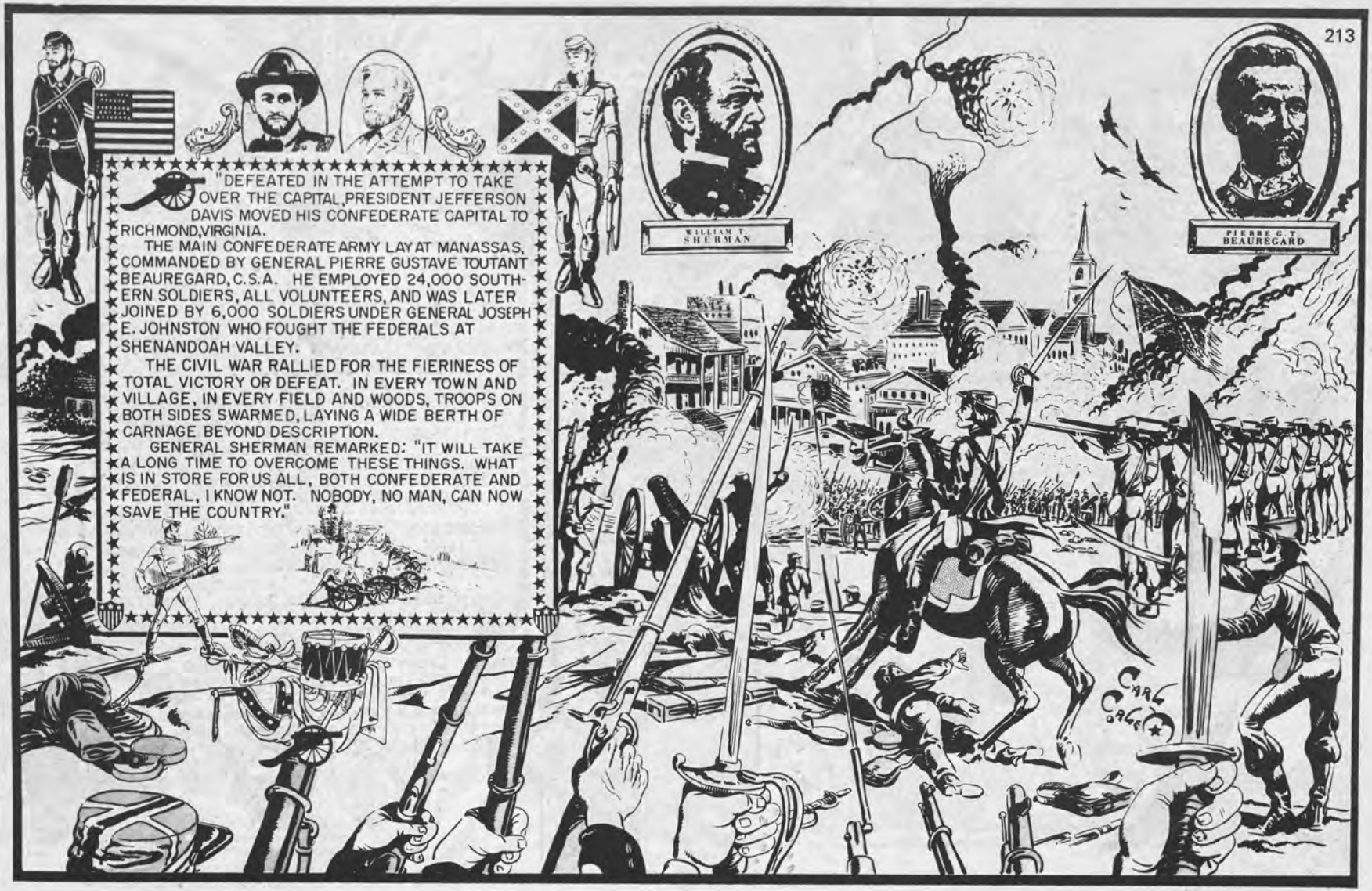
THE OLD RAPPORTEUR CONTINUES HIS HISTOIRE

Carl Cagle

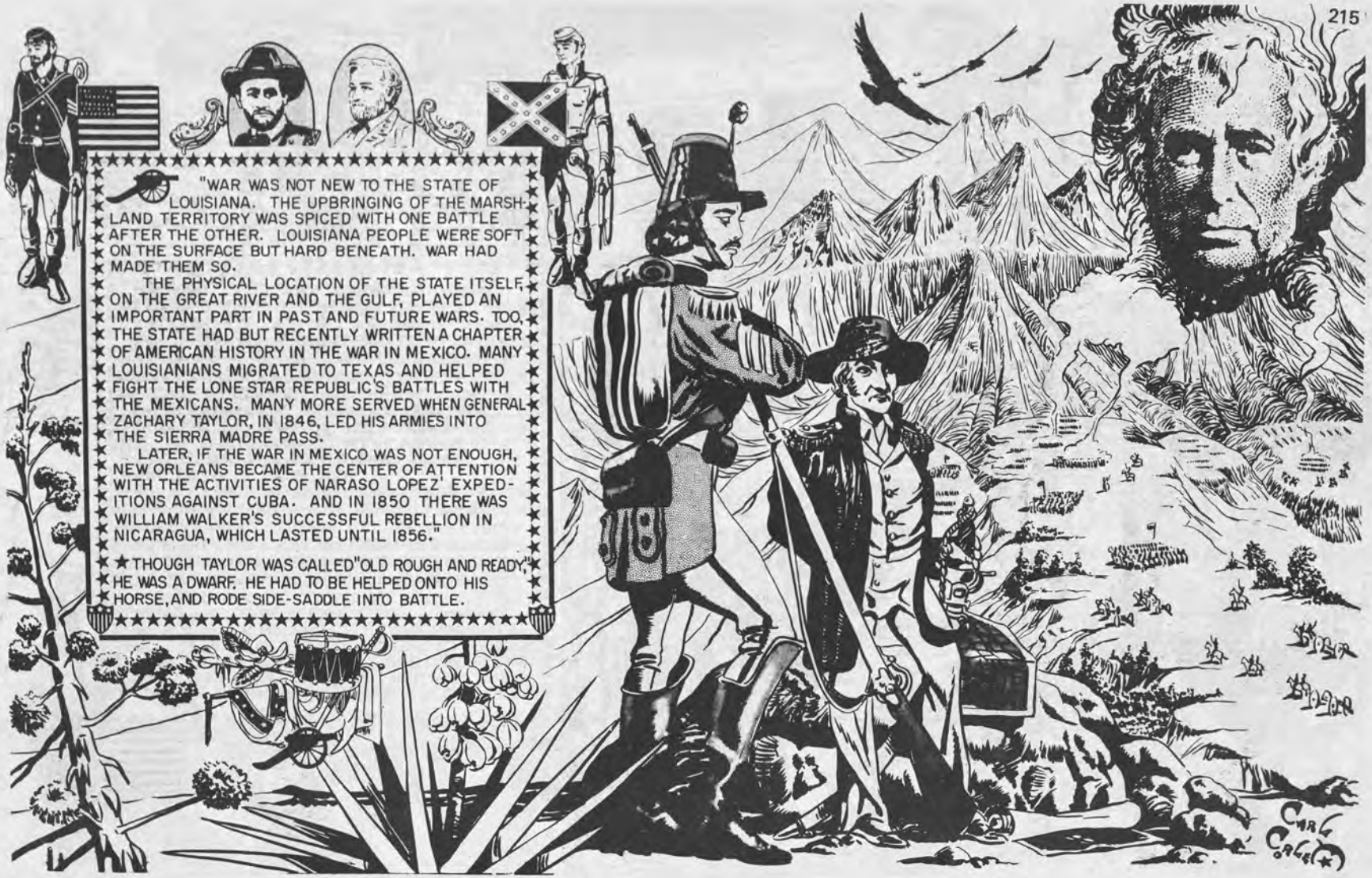

"EVEN THE MOST AMIABLE AGREEMENT OF DIVIDING THE SOUTHERN STATES FROM THE NORTHERN STATES WOULD HAVE RAISED THE GRAVEST PROBLEMS—PROBLEMS OF THE MAILS, DEBTS OF COMMERCE, OF FRONTIERS, AND THE BREAKING OF THE BOUNDARY AND LOYALTY OF A GREAT UNITED NATION.
SECESSION WAS NOT A PRODUCT OF REASON SO MUCH AS IT WAS OF ANGER AND FEAR. FOR YEARS POLITICIANS HAD BEEN MUMBLING FRANTIC PHRASES. DESPOTIC SLAVOCRACY, NIGGER-LOVING ABOLITIONISM, SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY, JOHN BROWN'S RAID, DRED SCOTT DECISION, MANIFEST DESTINY, BLACK REPUBLICAN PARTY.
THE UNION IS DISSOLVED, SCREAMED CHARLESTON. ON DECEMBER 20, 1860 SOUTH CAROLINA WAS THE FIRST STATE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE UNION. THEN CAME MISSISSIPPI, FLORIDA, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, LOUISIANA, AND TEXAS.
BY THE TIME ABRAHAM LINCOLN HAD BEEN INAUGURATED, SECESSIONISTS HAD ALREADY CHOSEN JEFFERSON DAVIS OF MISSISSIPPI AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA."
JEFFERSON DAVIS
CARL CORGS

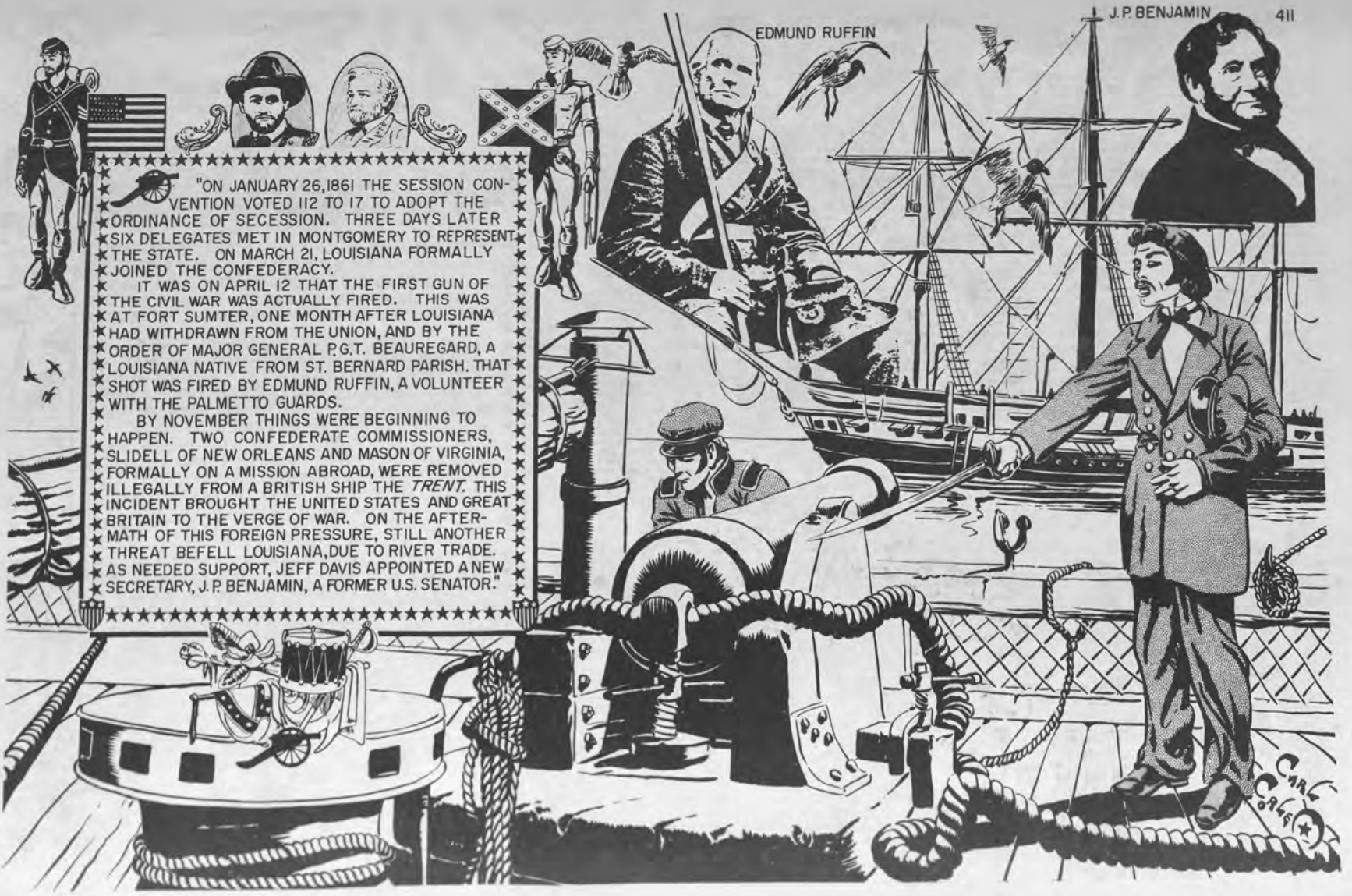

THE FEDERAL FLAG_OR_THE UNITED STATES FLAG AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE CIVIL WAR
"WHAT SOUTHERNERS DID NOT KNOW, OR, IF THEY DID KNOW THEY IGNORED, WAS THAT THE MOST ACUTE SITUATION OF ALL LAY IN THE MOST DANGEROUSLY INFLAMED AREA IN THE SOUTH_FORT SUMTER_WHICH STOOD IN CHARLESTON HARBOR, AND STILL HELD BY A GARRISON OF FEDERAL TROOPS.
LINCOLN'S ATTEMPTS AT PROVISIONING THE FORT WERE AS INEFFECTUAL AS JEFFERSON DAVIS'S DEMANDS FOR FEDERAL WITHDRAWAL.
ON APRIL 12,1861 THE FIRST SHOT WAS FIRED ON THE UNION FLAG AT FORT SUMTER_IRONICALLY BY A SOUTHERNER_AND THE MOST AWESOME WAR IN THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SOON FOLLOWED."
THE AUTHOR'S NOTE:
FORT SUMTER, BUILT ON A SHOAL, GUARDED THE MOUTH OF CHARLESTON HARBOR.
FROM FORT JOHNSON, ON JAMES ISLAND, THE FIRST SHOT FIRED WAS FROM A 10-INCH MORTAR, WHICH STARTED A 34-HOUR BOMBARDMENT. THAT SHOT TRAVELED 2250 YARDS TO REACH ITS TARGET.
THE STARS AND BARS WAVED ABOVE FORT SUMTER UNTIL 1865. IT REMAINED A MILITARY POST UNTIL 1948.
CARL


"AFTER THE ATTACK ON FORT SUMTER, PRESIDENT LINCOLN CALLED FOR 75,000 TROOPS. IMMEDIATELY, VIRGINIA, NORTH CAROLINA ARKANSAS, AND TENNESSEE FOLLOWED THE OTHER SOUTHERN STATES INTO SECESSION.
RUMORS SPREAD DAILY OF SOUTHERN PLOTS TO SEIZE THE NATION'S CAPITAL. IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES MUST POSSESS THE CITY OF WASHINGTON. IT WAS MERE FOLLY TO THINK IT COULD STILL BE USED AS THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE LINCOLN GOVERNMENT.
SO INSECURE WERE THE CAPITAL'S DEFENSES THAT LINCOLN, HIMSELF, WAS GREATLY DISTURBED. FROM A WHITEHOUSE WINDOW HE MAINTAINED CONSTANT VIGIL WITH A TELESCOPE. HE ADMITTED THOUGH, THAT IF HE WAS THE SOUTHERN GENERAL BEAUREGARD, HE WOULD TAKE WASHINGTON AT ALL COST TO MATERIALS AND MEN.
A SECESSIONIST MOB IN BALTIMORE CUT ALL THE RAIL AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE CAPITAL, AND BRIDGES WERE DESTROYED. FEDERAL TROOPS, ARRIVING, WITHOUT PURPOSE OF DEFENSE OR INSTRUCTIONS, PUT UP A VIGOROUS RESISTANCE. THE CAPITAL REMAINED INTACT."
UNITED STATES
THE CIVIL WAR
BRITISH POSSESSIONS
GULF OF MEXICO
CARL CAGLE


"DEFEATED IN THE ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER THE CAPITAL, PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS MOVED HIS CONFEDERATE CAPITAL TO RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.
THE MAIN CONFEDERATE ARMY LAY AT MANASSAS, COMMANDED BY GENERAL PIERRE GUSTAVE TOUTANT BEAUREGARD, C.S.A. HE EMPLOYED 24,000 SOUTHERN SOLDIERS, ALL VOLUNTEERS, AND WAS LATER JOINED BY 6,000 SOLDIERS UNDER GENERAL JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON WHO FOUGHT THE FEDERALS AT SHENANDOAH VALLEY.
THE CIVIL WAR RALLIED FOR THE FIERINESS OF TOTAL VICTORY OR DEFEAT. IN EVERY TOWN AND VILLAGE, IN EVERY FIELD AND WOODS, TROOPS ON BOTH SIDES SWARMED, LAYING A WIDE BERTH OF CARNAGE BEYOND DESCRIPTION.
GENERAL SHERMAN REMARKED: "IT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME TO OVERCOME THESE THINGS. WHAT IS IN STORE FOR US ALL, BOTH CONFEDERATE AND FEDERAL, I KNOW NOT. NOBODY, NO MAN, CAN NOW SAVE THE COUNTRY."
WILLIAM T. SHERMAN
PIERRE G. T. BEAUREGARD
CARL CALE

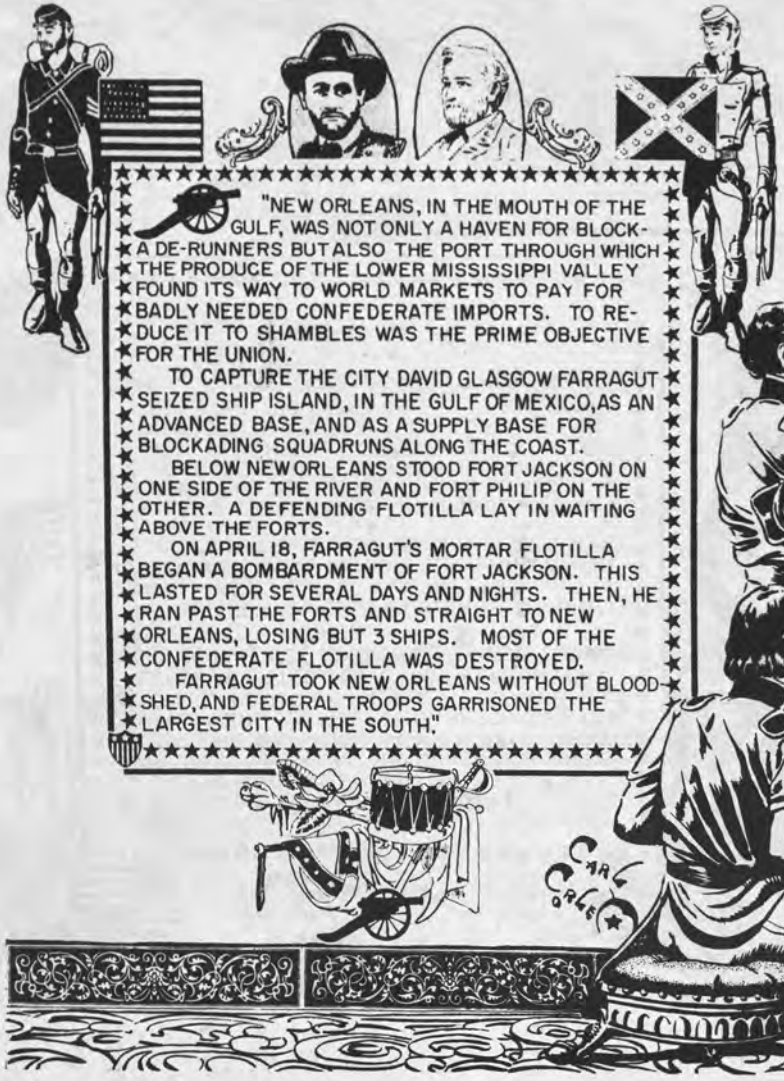

"THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, LIKE ALL THE REMAINING SOUTHERN STATES, HAD LONG BEEN EXPLOITED, DRAINED, AND PLUNDERED OF ITS WEALTH BY BANKERS, MERCHANTS, AND SHIPPERS FROM THE NORTH. THE SOUTHERNERS PAYED TARIFFS ANNUALLY, CONTRIBUTING BILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF TRIBUTE TO MANUFACTURERS IN THE NORTHERN STATES.
THE THREAT TO SLAVERY—THE SOUTH'S GREATEST INSTITUTION—WAS THE ARGUMENT MOST FREQUENTLY USED TO BRING ABOUT SECESSION AND CIVIL WAR.
LOUISIANA WAS DEEPLY DEPENDENT UPON SLAVERY AS AN ECONOMIC INVESTMENT. FOUR BILLION DOLLARS HAD ALREADY BEEN FORFIETED AS A NECESSARY SOURCE OF LABOR.
HONOR, SECURITY, AND SELF-PRESERVATION DEMANDED THAT LOUISIANA DISSOLVE PARTNERSHIP WITH A PEOPLE SO UNREASONABLE AND ESTABLISH A GOVERNMENT OF ITS OWN, IN CORRELATION WITH THE OTHER SOUTHERN STATES.
LOUISIANA WAS QUICK TO RALLY ITS MEN AND TO STRIKE A BLOW FOR THE CAUSE."
CARL CALE


"WAR WAS NOT NEW TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA. THE UPBRINGING OF THE MARSH-LAND TERRITORY WAS SPICED WITH ONE BATTLE AFTER THE OTHER. LOUISIANA PEOPLE WERE SOFT ON THE SURFACE BUT HARD BENEATH. WAR HAD MADE THEM SO.
THE PHYSICAL LOCATION OF THE STATE ITSELF, ON THE GREAT RIVER AND THE GULF, PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN PAST AND FUTURE WARS. TOO, THE STATE HAD BUT RECENTLY WRITTEN A CHAPTER OF AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE WAR IN MEXICO. MANY LOUISIANIANS MIGRATED TO TEXAS AND HELPED FIGHT THE LONE STAR REPUBLIC'S BATTLES WITH THE MEXICANS. MANY MORE SERVED WHEN GENERAL ZACHARY TAYLOR, IN 1846, LED HIS ARMIES INTO THE SIERRA MADRE PASS.
LATER, IF THE WAR IN MEXICO WAS NOT ENOUGH, NEW ORLEANS BECAME THE CENTER OF ATTENTION WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF NARASO LOPEZ' EXPED-ITIONS AGAINST CUBA. AND IN 1850 THERE WAS WILLIAM WALKER'S SUCCESSFUL REBELLION IN NICARAGUA, WHICH LASTED UNTIL 1856."
★THOUGH TAYLOR WAS CALLED "OLD ROUGH AND READY," HE WAS A DWARF. HE HAD TO BE HELPED ONTO HIS HORSE, AND RODE SIDE-SADDLE INTO BATTLE.
CARL CORLEY


EDMUND RUFFIN
J.P. BENJAMIN
"ON JANUARY 26,1861 THE SESSION CONVENTION VOTED 112 TO 17 TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE OF SECESSION. THREE DAYS LATER SIX DELEGATES MET IN MONTGOMERY TO REPRESENT THE STATE. ON MARCH 21, LOUISIANA FORMALLY JOINED THE CONFEDERACY.
IT WAS ON APRIL 12 THAT THE FIRST GUN OF THE CIVIL WAR WAS ACTUALLY FIRED. THIS WAS AT FORT SUMTER, ONE MONTH AFTER LOUISIANA HAD WITHDRAWN FROM THE UNION, AND BY THE ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL P.G.T. BEAUREGARD, A LOUISIANA NATIVE FROM ST. BERNARD PARISH. THAT SHOT WAS FIRED BY EDMUND RUFFIN, A VOLUNTEER WITH THE PALMETTO GUARDS.
BY NOVEMBER THINGS WERE BEGINNING TO HAPPEN. TWO CONFEDERATE COMMISSIONERS, SLIDELL OF NEW ORLEANS AND MASON OF VIRGINIA, FORMALLY ON A MISSION ABROAD, WERE REMOVED ILLEGALLY FROM A BRITISH SHIP THE TRENT. THIS INCIDENT BROUGHT THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN TO THE VERGE OF WAR. ON THE AFTERMATH OF THIS FOREIGN PRESSURE, STILL ANOTHER THREAT BEFELL LOUISIANA, DUE TO RIVER TRADE. AS NEEDED SUPPORT, JEFF DAVIS APPOINTED A NEW SECRETARY, J.P. BENJAMIN, A FORMER U.S. SENATOR."
CARL CORLEY


"MEANWHILE, AS THE CIVIL WAR RAGED IN THE NORTH, THE STATE OF LOUISIANA CENTRALIZED ALL ITS ENERGY ON THE NEWLY ORGANIZED CONFEDERACY AND THE ELECTED SOUTHERN PRESIDENT, JEFF DAVIS.
FROM THE ONSTART OF SECESSION THE STATE RECOILED IN PREPARATION TO STRIKE IN DEFENSE. THE STATE MILITIA WAS CALLED INTO SERVICE. THE ENLISTING OF TROOPS SIFTED EVERY PARISH. WILD PROMISES WERE MADE TO EVERY DESIRABLE MAN WHO WAS MATERIAL FOR MOULDING A FIGHTING SOLDIER- GOOD PAY, PROMOTIONS IN RANK, LIBERAL FURLOUGHS, QUARTERS AND SUBSISTENCE FURNISHED, UNIFORMS READY UPON ENLISTMENT!
ACTION! ACTION! SEEMED TO BE THE STATE'S MOTTO, FOLLOWED BY: GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH!
BY NOVEMBER OF 1861, MORE THAN 25,000 LOUISIANA CITIZENS HAD ALREADY GONE NORTH TO SERVE IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMIES ON VIRGINIA BATTLEFIELDS, AND UNDER SUCH DISTINGUISHED MILITARY LEADERS AS BEAUREGARD, TAYLOR, AND BRAGG."
Lieutenant General Richard Taylor
MY FELLOW-CITIZENS,
TO ARMS!
I have just received a message direct from the highest authority in the Confederacy, to call upon the Militia Organizations to come forth, and upon all other Citizens to organize Companies for the defence of this City against immediate attack of the enemy. They are approaching, and you may have to meet them before Monday morning. I can do no more than give you this warning of their near approach.
REMEMBER NEW ORLEANS!
BRAXTON BRAGG
BEAUREGARD
CARL CORLEY


"LOUISIANA'S COMMAND OF THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER CALLED ON THE STATE TO PLAY A VITAL PART IN CIVIL WAR STRATEGY. THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER LAY AS A DOOR ON THE SOUTH BOUNDARY_A DOOR THROUGH WHICH ALL TRADE MUST PASS, AND LOUISIANA HAD LONG SINCE BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN WORLDWIDE COMMERCE AND A SORE SPOT FOR AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.
LOUISIANA PITTED ALL THE STATE'S MILITARY POWERS ON THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER, AND CONCENTRATED ON KEEPING IT OPEN FOR TRADE. BUT, TO NO AVAIL. A FEDERAL FLEET, DOUBLING EVERY EFFORT TO CUT THE CONFEDERACY FROM ITS SUPPLY LINE, CAME UP THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. THAT WAS IN 1862. THERE WERE 43 VESSELS, UNDER THE COMMAND OF ADMIRAL DAVID FARRAGUT_ODDLY_A FORMER NATIVE OF LOUISIANA. HE WAS 61 IN 1862, AND HAD SERVED IN THE NAVY SINCE HE WAS NINE YEARS OLD. WITH HIS MORTAR FLOTILLA, THERE WERE ENOUGH SHIPS TO TRANSPORT 18,000 TROOPS, A FIGHTING FORCE LOUISIANA WAS WAS ILL-PREPARED TO MEET. THE STATE HAD NO SKILLED LABORERS NOR MEN AVAILABLE TO LAUNCH A NAVY. WHAT ARTISANS THEY DID HAVE WERE FOREIGNERS, WHO REFUSED TO ENLIST THEIR AID FOR THE CAUSE."
RALLY! PEOPLE
LOUISIANA
War!
RECRUITS WANTED!
"Time is Everything."
FORT PHILIP
FORT JACKSON
DAVID FARRAGUT
FARRAGUT'S FLAGSHIP HARTFORD
BAYOU TECHE
Gulf of Mexico
Louisiana
FRANKLIN BATTLE OF IRISH BEND
MORGAN CITY FORT BRASHEAR FEDERAL MILITARY POST
PATTERSON BATTLE OF BISLAND
HOUMA Magnolia Plantation used as a hospital by the Federal troops
GENERAL DIRECTION OF FEDERALS MARCH THROUGH STATE
APRIL 1862 FORT ST. PHILIP ATTACKED BY FEDERAL FLEET, LED BY ADMIRAL DAVID FARRAGUT.
FORT CONSTRUCTED BY SPANISH IN 1786.
FORT JACKSON
8,100 shells were fired at this fort when it fell April 28, 1862. the doom of the Confederacy was sealed.
CONFEDERATE WOODEN WATER CASK
SOUTHERN BATTLESHIP



"NEW ORLEANS, IN THE MOUTH OF THE GULF, WAS NOT ONLY A HAVEN FOR BLOCKADE-RUNNERS BUT ALSO THE PORT THROUGH WHICH THE PRODUCE OF THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY FOUND ITS WAY TO WORLD MARKETS TO PAY FOR BADLY NEEDED CONFEDERATE IMPORTS. TO REDUCE IT TO SHAMBLES WAS THE PRIME OBJECTIVE FOR THE UNION.

TO CAPTURE THE CITY DAVID GLASGOW FARRAGUT SEIZED SHIP ISLAND, IN THE GULF OF MEXICO, AS AN ADVANCED BASE, AND AS A SUPPLY BASE FOR BLOCKADING SQUADRUNS ALONG THE COAST.

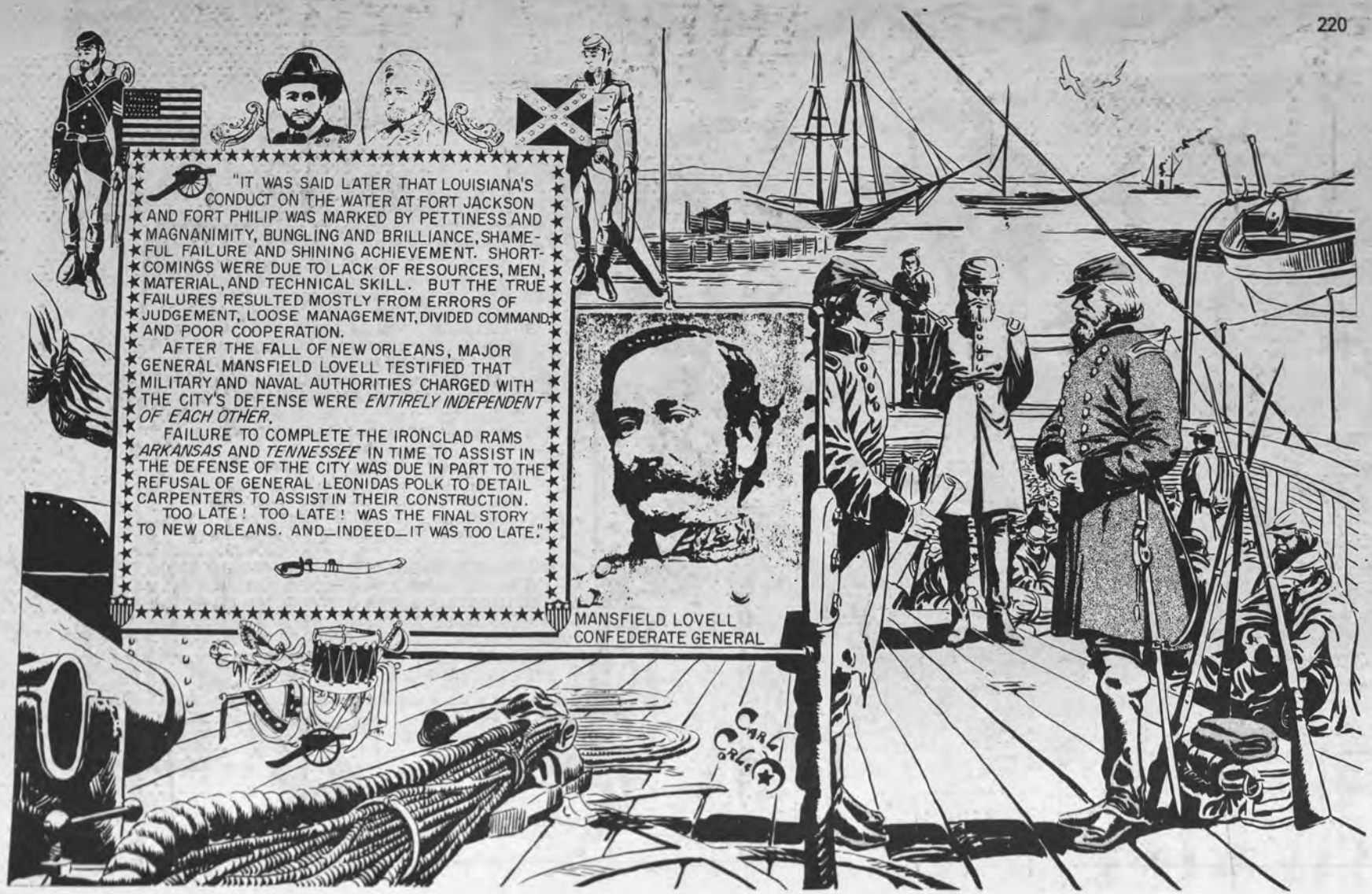
BELOW NEW ORLEANS STOOD FORT JACKSON ON ONE SIDE OF THE RIVER AND FORT PHILIP ON THE OTHER. A DEFENDING FLOTILLA LAY IN WAITING ABOVE THE FORTS.

ON APRIL 18, FARRAGUT'S MORTAR FLOTILLA BEGAN A BOMBARDMENT OF FORT JACKSON. THIS LASTED FOR SEVERAL DAYS AND NIGHTS. THEN, HE RAN PAST THE FORTS AND STRAIGHT TO NEW ORLEANS, LOSING BUT 3 SHIPS. MOST OF THE CONFEDERATE FLOTILLA WAS DESTROYED.

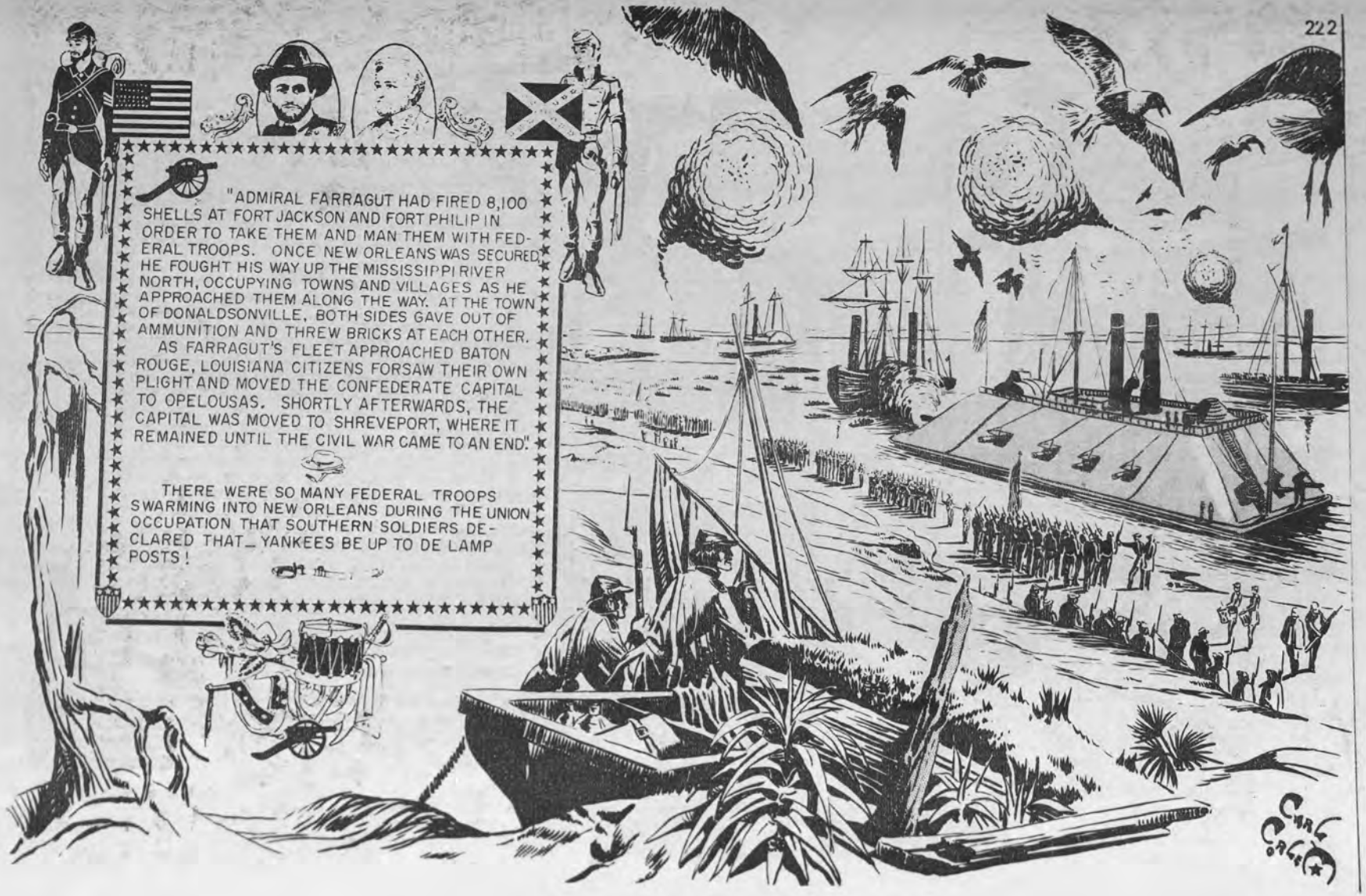
FARRAGUT TOOK NEW ORLEANS WITHOUT BLOODSHED, AND FEDERAL TROOPS GARRISONED THE LARGEST CITY IN THE SOUTH."

CARL CARLE



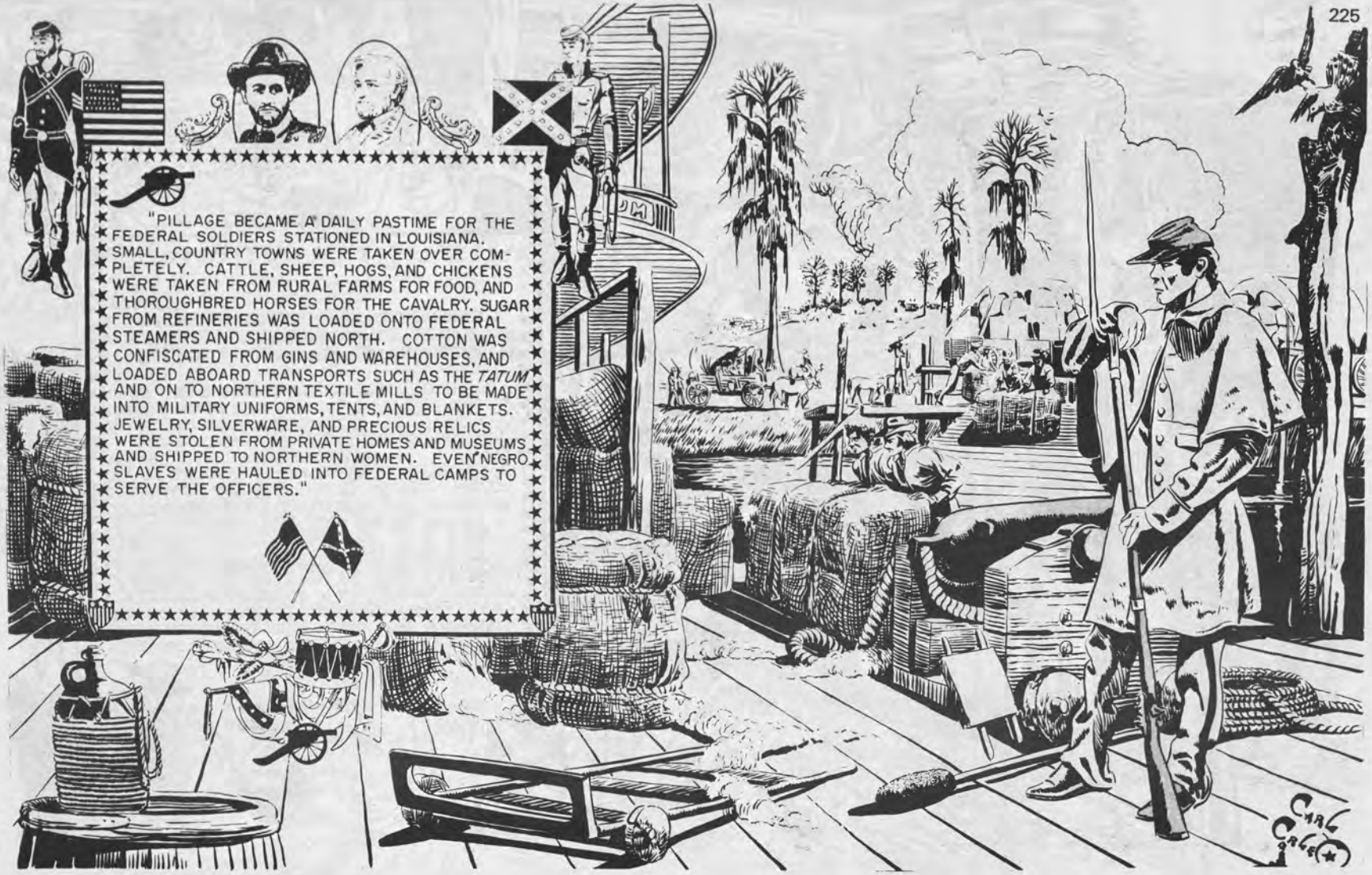

"IT WAS SAID LATER THAT LOUISIANA'S CONDUCT ON THE WATER AT FORT JACKSON AND FORT PHILIP WAS MARKED BY PETTINESS AND MAGNANIMITY, BUNGLING AND BRILLIANCE, SHAMEFUL FAILURE AND SHINING ACHIEVEMENT. SHORTCOMINGS WERE DUE TO LACK OF RESOURCES, MEN, MATERIAL, AND TECHNICAL SKILL. BUT THE TRUE FAILURES RESULTED MOSTLY FROM ERRORS OF JUDGEMENT, LOOSE MANAGEMENT, DIVIDED COMMAND, AND POOR COOPERATION.
AFTER THE FALL OF NEW ORLEANS, MAJOR GENERAL MANSFIELD LOVELL TESTIFIED THAT MILITARY AND NAVAL AUTHORITIES CHARGED WITH THE CITY'S DEFENSE WERE *ENTIRELY INDEPENDENT OF EACH OTHER*.
FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE IRONCLAD RAMS *ARKANSAS* AND *TENNESSEE* IN TIME TO ASSIST IN THE DEFENSE OF THE CITY WAS DUE IN PART TO THE REFUSAL OF GENERAL LEONIDAS POLK TO DETAIL CARPENTERS TO ASSIST IN THEIR CONSTRUCTION.
TOO LATE! TOO LATE! WAS THE FINAL STORY TO NEW ORLEANS. AND—INDEED—IT WAS TOO LATE."
MANSFIELD LOVELL
CONFEDERATE GENERAL
CARL GRLA

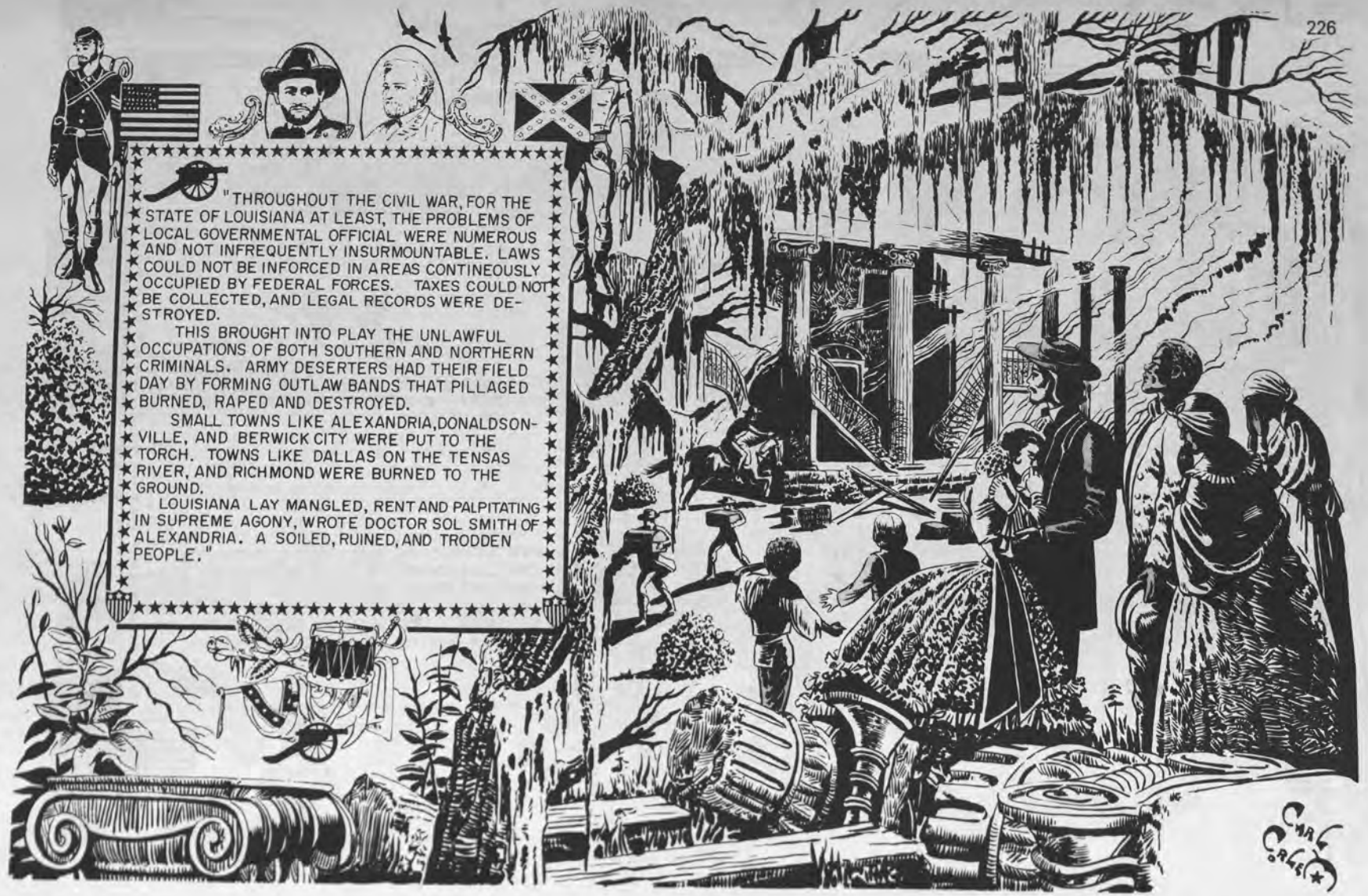

"ONCE ADMIRAL DAVID FARRAGUT HAD SEIZED THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, 15,000 FEDERAL TROOPS, UNDER GENERAL BENJAMIN F. BUTLER, LANDED AND OCCUPIED THE AREA. NEW ORLEANS HAD BEEN GARRISONED BY ONLY 3000 MILITIA, UNDER THE INADEQUACY OF GENERAL MANSFIELD LOVELL, AND THIS FAILURE TO HOLD NEW ORLEANS AND THE GATEWAY TO THE MISSISSIPPI WAS THE FIRST MAJOR BLOW TO THE CONFEDERACY.
ON MAY 1, 1862 GENERAL BUTLER BEGAN HIS ARBITRARY AND UNPOPULAR MILITARY ROLE IN NEW ORLEANS. HE MADE THE CITY THE CAPITAL OF FEDERAL-HELD LOUISIANA. HIS FIRST ORDER WAS TO HAVE SOLDIERS EXECUTE WILLIAM B. MUMFORD FOR TEARING DOWN THE UNITED STATES FLAG THAT HAD BEEN HOISTED ATOP THE CITY HALL. HE FORBID THE USE OF CONFEDERATE MONEY, FREED ALL THE SLAVES IN THE STATE, THEN IMMEDIATELY DRAFTED THEM INTO THE FEDERAL ARMY AND PUT THEM IN THE TRENCHES TO FIGHT THE CONFEDERATE."
CARL CAGLE

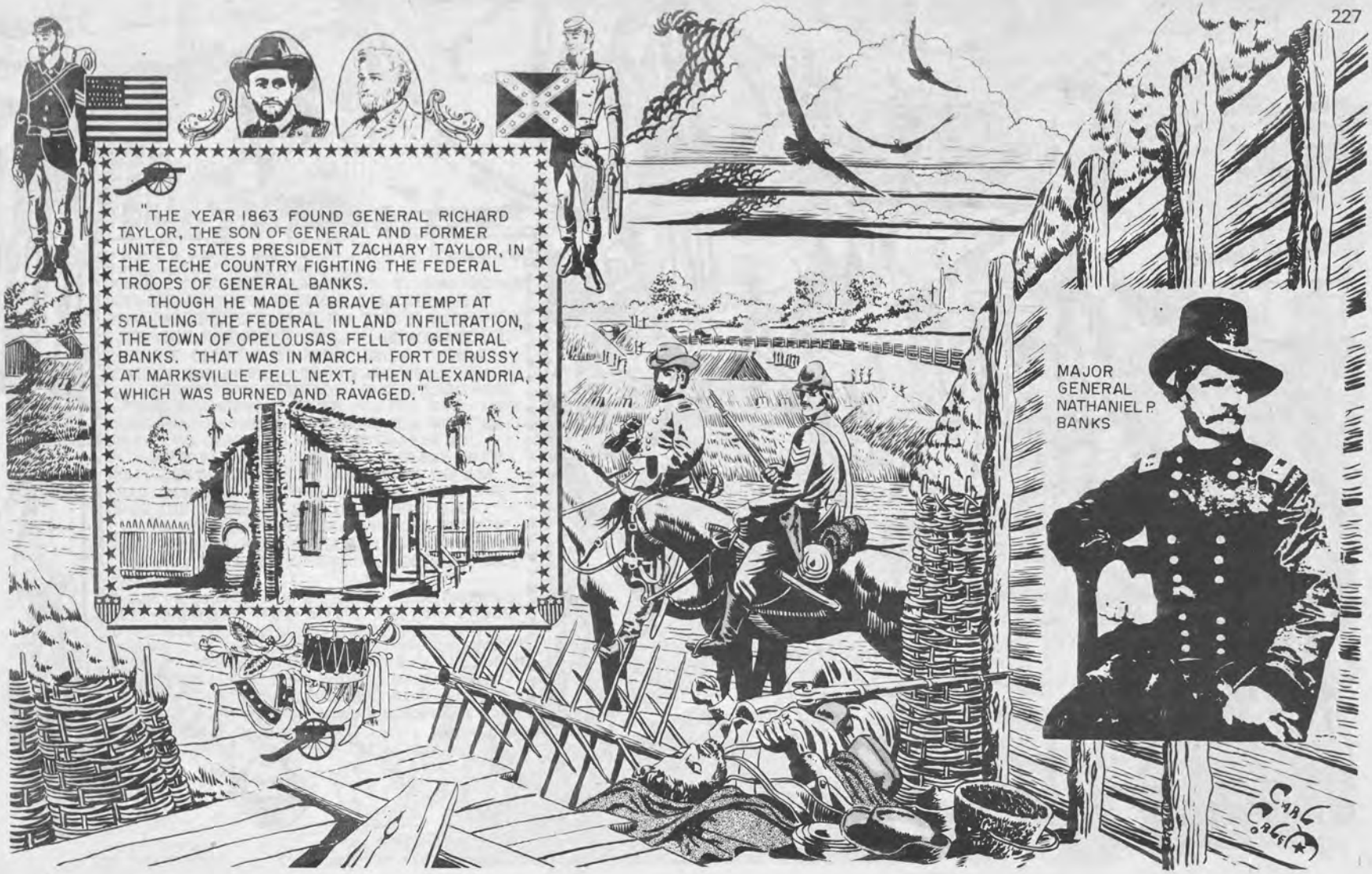

"ADMIRAL FARRAGUT HAD FIRED 8,100 SHELLS AT FORT JACKSON AND FORT PHILIP IN ORDER TO TAKE THEM AND MAN THEM WITH FEDERAL TROOPS. ONCE NEW ORLEANS WAS SECURED HE FOUGHT HIS WAY UP THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER NORTH, OCCUPYING TOWNS AND VILLAGES AS HE APPROACHED THEM ALONG THE WAY. AT THE TOWN OF DONALDSONVILLE, BOTH SIDES GAVE OUT OF AMMUNITION AND THREW BRICKS AT EACH OTHER.
AS FARRAGUT'S FLEET APPROACHED BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA CITIZENS FORSAW THEIR OWN PLIGHT AND MOVED THE CONFEDERATE CAPITAL TO OPELOUSAS. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, THE CAPITAL WAS MOVED TO SHREVEPORT, WHERE IT REMAINED UNTIL THE CIVIL WAR CAME TO AN END."
THERE WERE SO MANY FEDERAL TROOPS SWARMING INTO NEW ORLEANS DURING THE UNION OCCUPATION THAT SOUTHERN SOLDIERS DECLARED THAT_ YANKEES BE UP TO DE LAMP POSTS!
CARL CAGLE

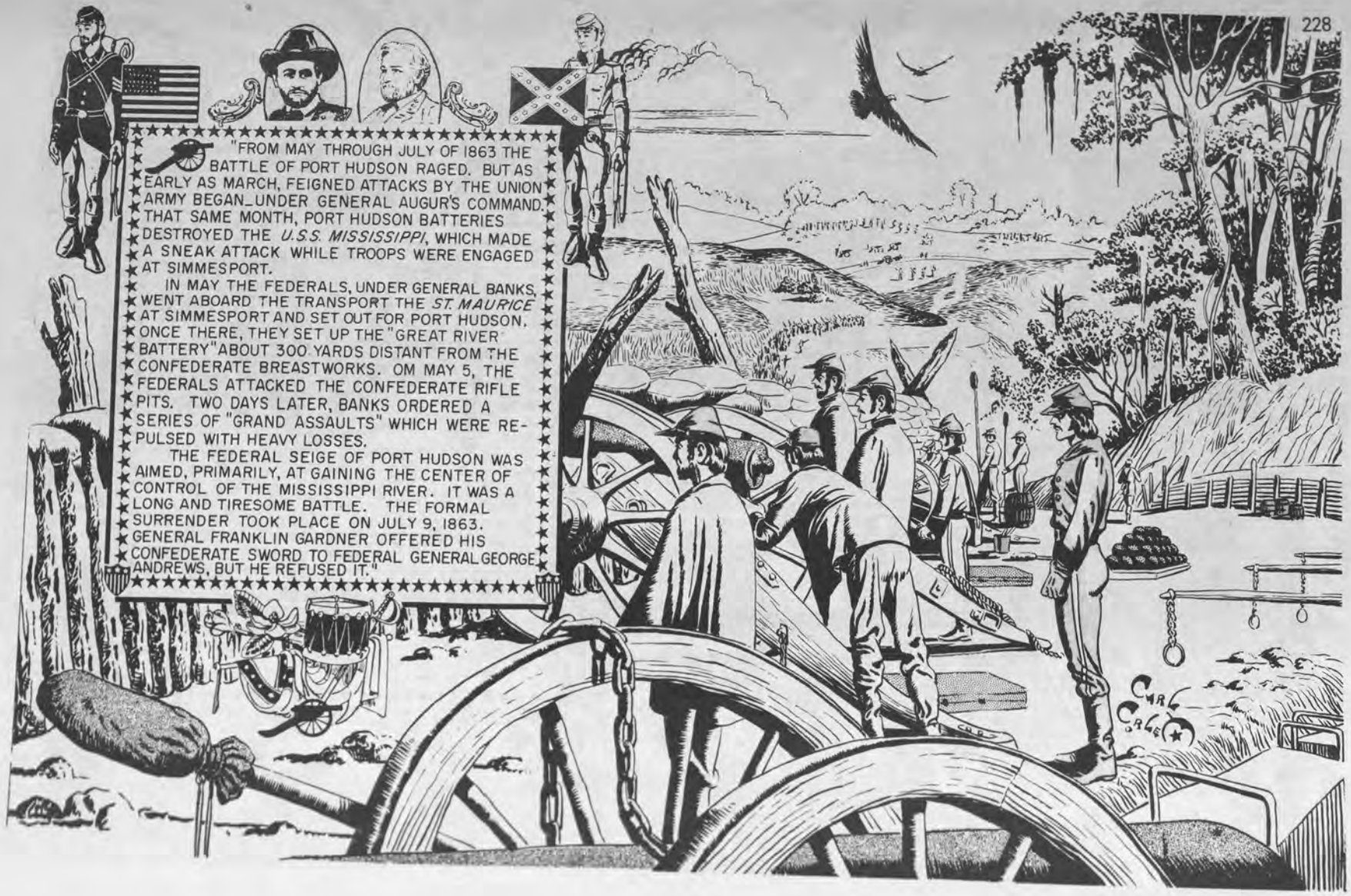

"ON AUGUST 5, 1862, UNDER THE COMMAND OF FEDERAL GENERAL WILLIAMS, BATON ROUGE WAS TAKEN. CONFEDERATE FORCES, UNDER GENERAL BRECKINRIDGE, TRIED TO HOLD THE CAPITAL CITY AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS. BUT THE FEDERALS WERE TOO GREAT A FORCE, IN MASS, AND IN DECEMBER ADDITIONAL TROOPS CAME ASHORE AT BATON ROUGE BY THE HUNDREDS.
A SECOND OCCUPATION OF BATON ROUGE TOOK PLACE IN LATE DECEMBER WHEN THE NEW TROOPS INFILTRATED THE CAPITAL CITY LOOTING AND BURNING. THE ENTIRE TOWN WAS SACKED. EVEN THE CAPITOL WAS BURNED, SET BY CARELESS TROOPS. TOWN CITIZENS WERE HARRASSED AND TORTURED INTO CONFESSING THAT THEY WERE DISLOYAL TO THE UNION. THOSE WHO CONFESSED WERE PLACED IN PRISONS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. A GREAT NUMBER OF MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN WERE HERDED ABOARD FEDERAL SHIPS AND IMPRISONED AT FORT PHILIP AND FORT JACKSON. THERE THEY REMAINED UNTIL THE CLOSE OF THE WAR."
CRAIG CALCOTE

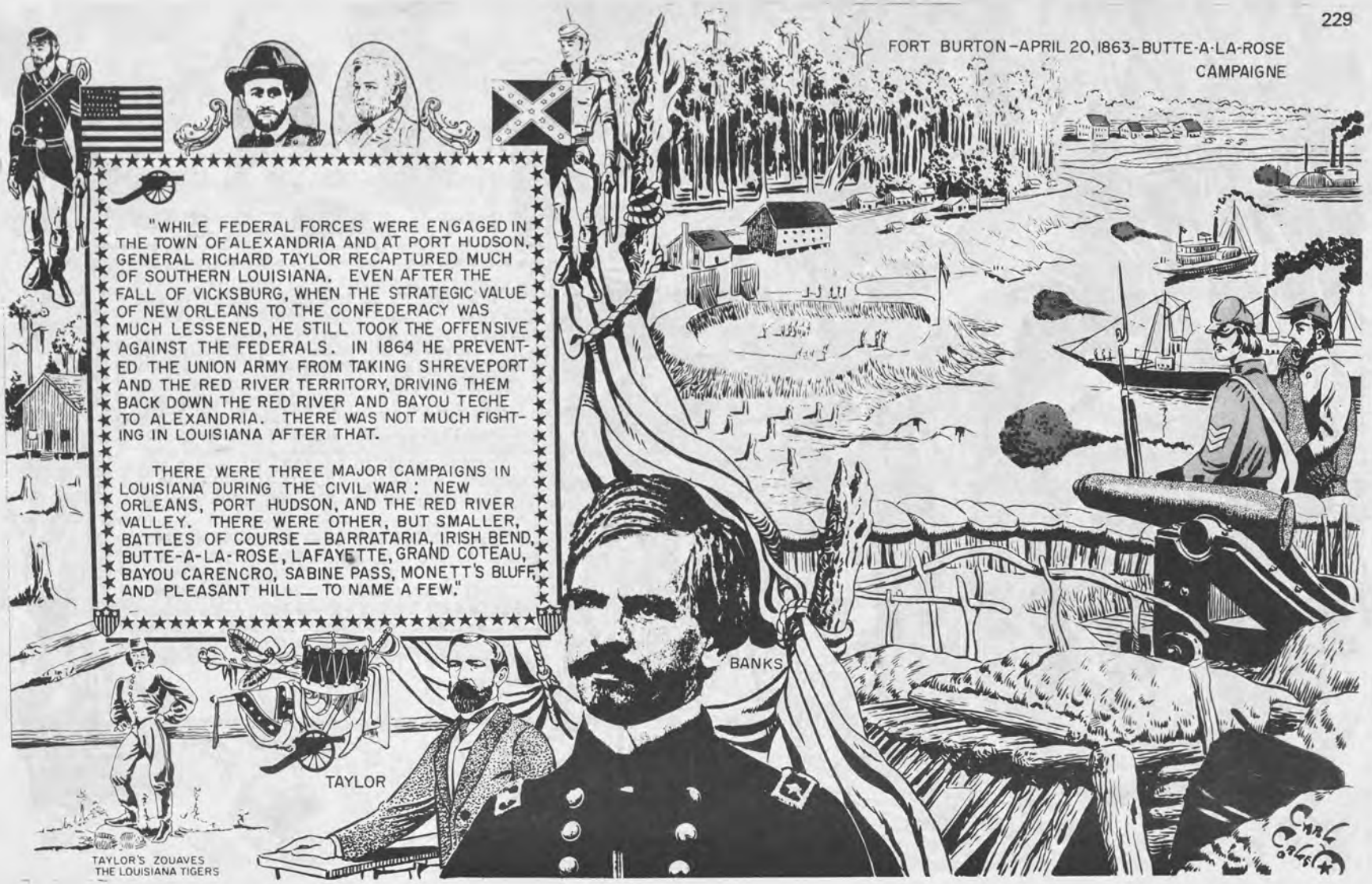

"ALMOST ALL OF THE SOUTHEASTERN PORTION OF LOUISIANA WAS OCCUPIED BY FEDERAL DOMINATION—FROM THE TIME OF THE FALL OF NEW ORLEANS UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR AND THE PERIOD OF RECONSTRUCTION.
GENERAL BUTLER INFLAMED THE LOUISIANA PEOPLE FROM THE ONSTART. WHEN ONE NEW ORLEANS WOMAN DELIBERATELY SPAT IN A UNION OFFICER'S FACE, BUTLER ORDERED THAT ALL RUDE WOMEN WEAR RED BADGES, AS HE HAD ORDERED PREVIOUSLY FOR PROSTITUTES.
OTHER FEDERAL GENERALS FINALLY EASED REGULATIONS, BUT BUTLER HELD OUT UNTIL HE WAS REPLACED BY NATHANIEL P. BANKS, A MAJOR GENERAL WHO WAS FLAWLESS IN HIS MILITARY DRESS.
PRIVATE PROPERTY WAS TAKEN AND GENERAL LOOTING CONTINUED. CITIZENS HAD TO REGISTER THEIR OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO SAVE THEIR PROPERTY FROM YANKEE CONFISCATION."
CARL CARLE


"PILLAGE BECAME A DAILY PASTIME FOR THE FEDERAL SOLDIERS STATIONED IN LOUISIANA. SMALL, COUNTRY TOWNS WERE TAKEN OVER COMPLETELY. CATTLE, SHEEP, HOGS, AND CHICKENS WERE TAKEN FROM RURAL FARMS FOR FOOD, AND THOROUGHBRED HORSES FOR THE CAVALRY. SUGAR FROM REFINERIES WAS LOADED ONTO FEDERAL STEAMERS AND SHIPPED NORTH. COTTON WAS CONFISCATED FROM GINS AND WAREHOUSES, AND LOADED ABOARD TRANSPORTS SUCH AS THE *TATUM* AND ON TO NORTHERN TEXTILE MILLS TO BE MADE INTO MILITARY UNIFORMS, TENTS, AND BLANKETS. JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, AND PRECIOUS RELICS WERE STOLEN FROM PRIVATE HOMES AND MUSEUMS AND SHIPPED TO NORTHERN WOMEN. EVEN NEGRO SLAVES WERE HAULED INTO FEDERAL CAMPS TO SERVE THE OFFICERS."
CARL GALE

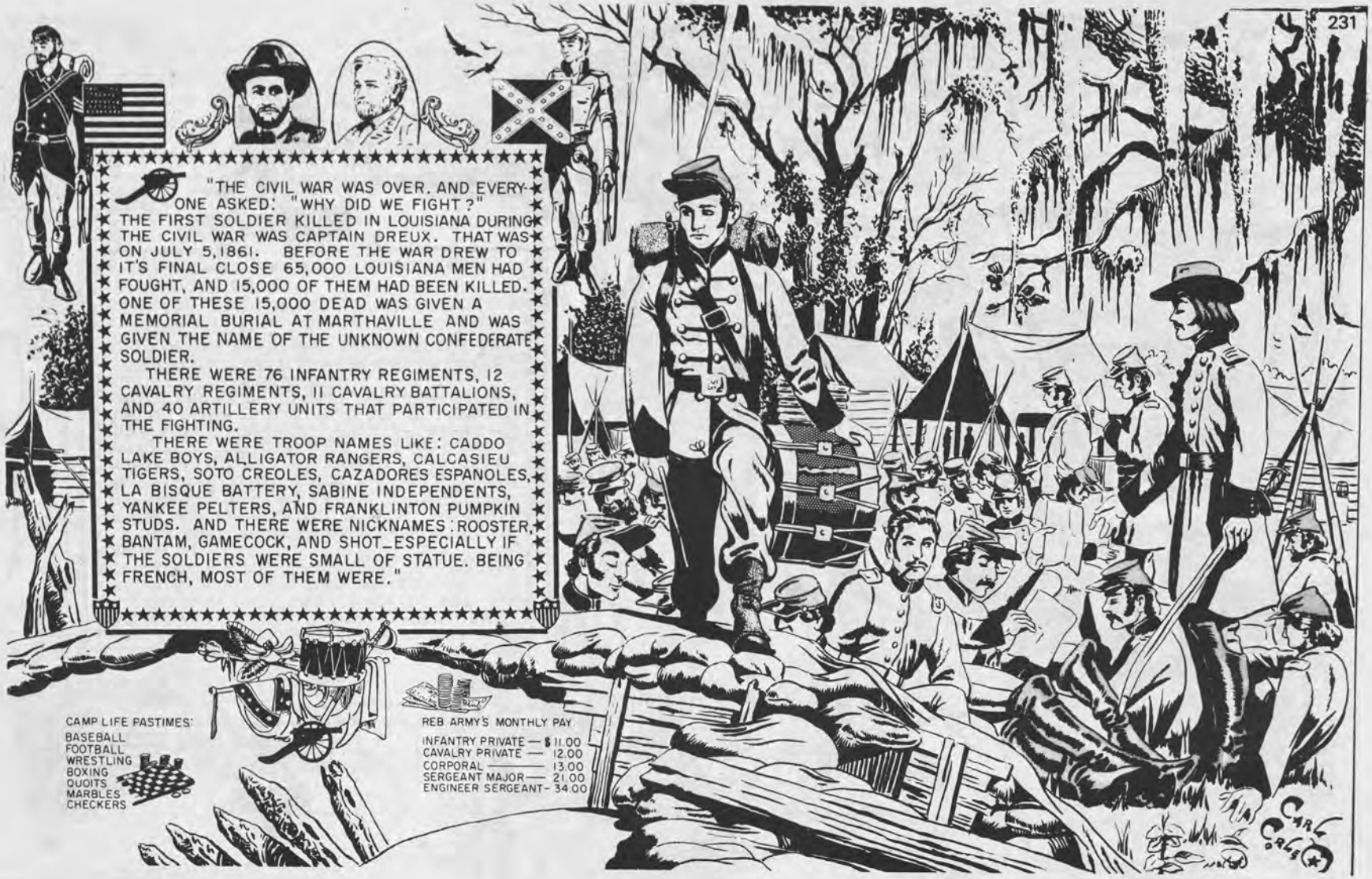

"THROUGHOUT THE CIVIL WAR, FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AT LEAST, THE PROBLEMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIAL WERE NUMEROUS AND NOT INFREQUENTLY INSURMOUNTABLE. LAWS COULD NOT BE INFORCED IN AREAS CONTINEOUSLY OCCUPIED BY FEDERAL FORCES. TAXES COULD NOT BE COLLECTED, AND LEGAL RECORDS WERE DESTROYED.
THIS BROUGHT INTO PLAY THE UNLAWFUL OCCUPATIONS OF BOTH SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN CRIMINALS. ARMY DESERTERS HAD THEIR FIELD DAY BY FORMING OUTLAW BANDS THAT PILLAGED BURNED, RAPED AND DESTROYED.
SMALL TOWNS LIKE ALEXANDRIA, DONALDSONVILLE, AND BERWICK CITY WERE PUT TO THE TORCH. TOWNS LIKE DALLAS ON THE TENSAS RIVER, AND RICHMOND WERE BURNED TO THE GROUND.
LOUISIANA LAY MANGLED, RENT AND PALPITATING IN SUPREME AGONY, WROTE DOCTOR SOL SMITH OF ALEXANDRIA. A SOILED, RUINED, AND TRODDEN PEOPLE."
CHARLES

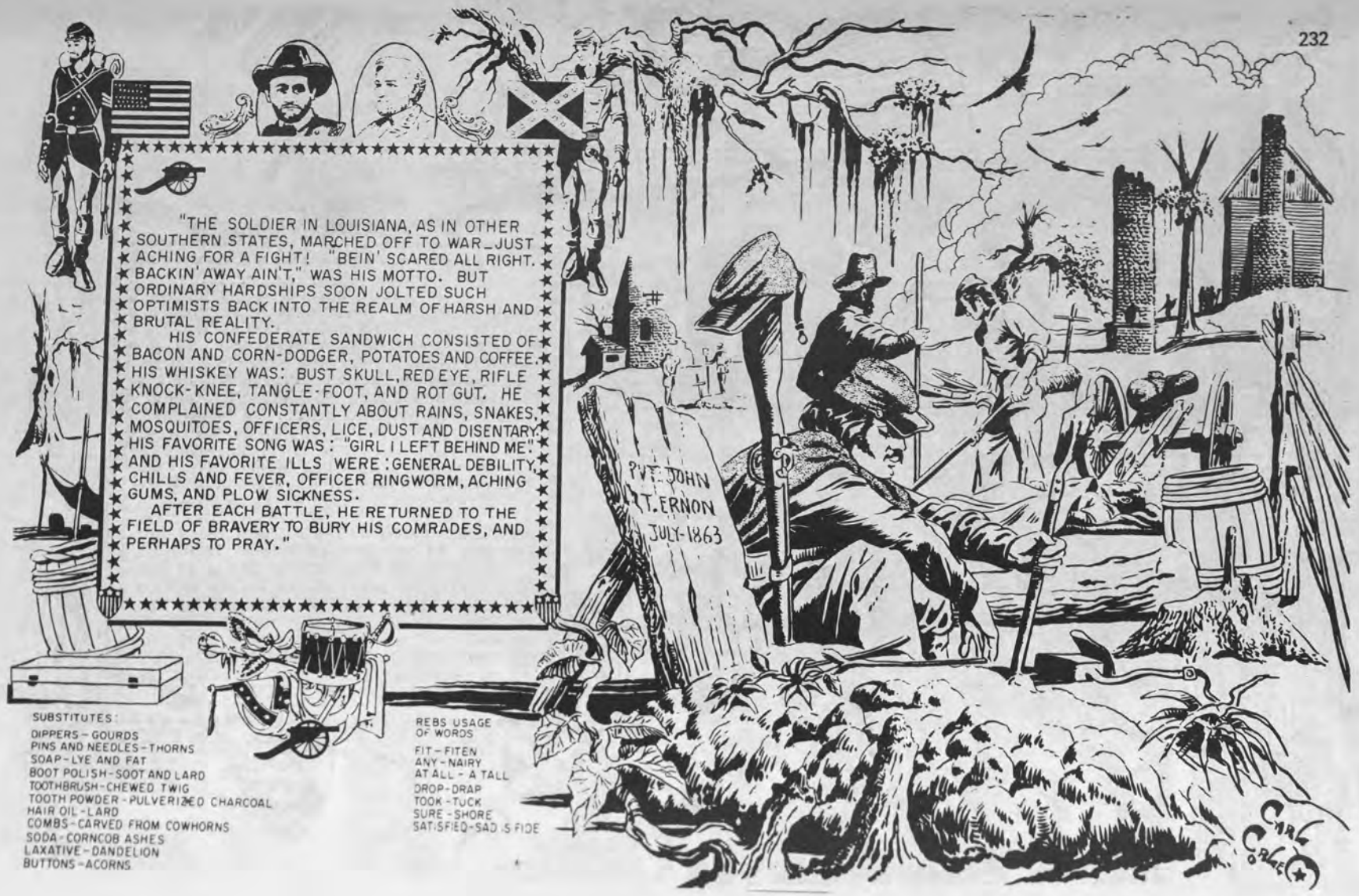

"THE YEAR 1863 FOUND GENERAL RICHARD TAYLOR, THE SON OF GENERAL AND FORMER UNITED STATES PRESIDENT ZACHARY TAYLOR, IN THE TECHE COUNTRY FIGHTING THE FEDERAL TROOPS OF GENERAL BANKS.
THOUGH HE MADE A BRAVE ATTEMPT AT STALLING THE FEDERAL INLAND INFILTRATION, THE TOWN OF OPELOUSAS FELL TO GENERAL BANKS. THAT WAS IN MARCH. FORT DE RUSSY AT MARKSVILLE FELL NEXT, THEN ALEXANDRIA, WHICH WAS BURNED AND RAVAGED."
MAJOR GENERAL NATHANIEL P. BANKS
CARL CARGILL


"FROM MAY THROUGH JULY OF 1863 THE BATTLE OF PORT HUDSON RAGED. BUT AS EARLY AS MARCH, FEIGNED ATTACKS BY THE UNION ARMY BEGAN UNDER GENERAL AUGUR'S COMMAND. THAT SAME MONTH, PORT HUDSON BATTERIES DESTROYED THE U.S.S. MISSISSIPPI, WHICH MADE A SNEAK ATTACK WHILE TROOPS WERE ENGAGED AT SIMMESPORT.
IN MAY THE FEDERALS, UNDER GENERAL BANKS, WENT ABOARD THE TRANSPORT THE ST. MAURICE AT SIMMESPORT AND SET OUT FOR PORT HUDSON. ONCE THERE, THEY SET UP THE "GREAT RIVER BATTERY" ABOUT 300 YARDS DISTANT FROM THE CONFEDERATE BREASTWORKS. OM MAY 5, THE FEDERALS ATTACKED THE CONFEDERATE RIFLE PITS. TWO DAYS LATER, BANKS ORDERED A SERIES OF "GRAND ASSAULTS" WHICH WERE REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES.
THE FEDERAL SEIGE OF PORT HUDSON WAS AIMED, PRIMARILY, AT GAINING THE CENTER OF CONTROL OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. IT WAS A LONG AND TIRESOME BATTLE. THE FORMAL SURRENDER TOOK PLACE ON JULY 9, 1863. GENERAL FRANKLIN GARDNER OFFERED HIS CONFEDERATE SWORD TO FEDERAL GENERAL GEORGE ANDREWS, BUT HE REFUSED IT."
CARL GALE


FORT BURTON – APRIL 20, 1863 – BUTTE-A-LA-ROSE CAMPAIGNE
"WHILE FEDERAL FORCES WERE ENGAGED IN THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA AND AT PORT HUDSON, GENERAL RICHARD TAYLOR RECAPTURED MUCH OF SOUTHERN LOUISIANA. EVEN AFTER THE FALL OF VICKSBURG, WHEN THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF NEW ORLEANS TO THE CONFEDERACY WAS MUCH LESSENED, HE STILL TOOK THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE FEDERALS. IN 1864 HE PREVENTED THE UNION ARMY FROM TAKING SHREVEPORT AND THE RED RIVER TERRITORY, DRIVING THEM BACK DOWN THE RED RIVER AND BAYOU TECHE TO ALEXANDRIA. THERE WAS NOT MUCH FIGHTING IN LOUISIANA AFTER THAT.
THERE WERE THREE MAJOR CAMPAIGNS IN LOUISIANA DURING THE CIVIL WAR: NEW ORLEANS, PORT HUDSON, AND THE RED RIVER VALLEY. THERE WERE OTHER, BUT SMALLER, BATTLES OF COURSE — BARRATARIA, IRISH BEND, BUTTE-A-LA-ROSE, LAFAYETTE, GRAND COTEAU, BAYOU CARENCRO, SABINE PASS, MONETT'S BLUFF, AND PLEASANT HILL — TO NAME A FEW."
BANKS
TAYLOR
TAYLOR'S ZOUAVES
THE LOUISIANA TIGERS
CARL CALLS

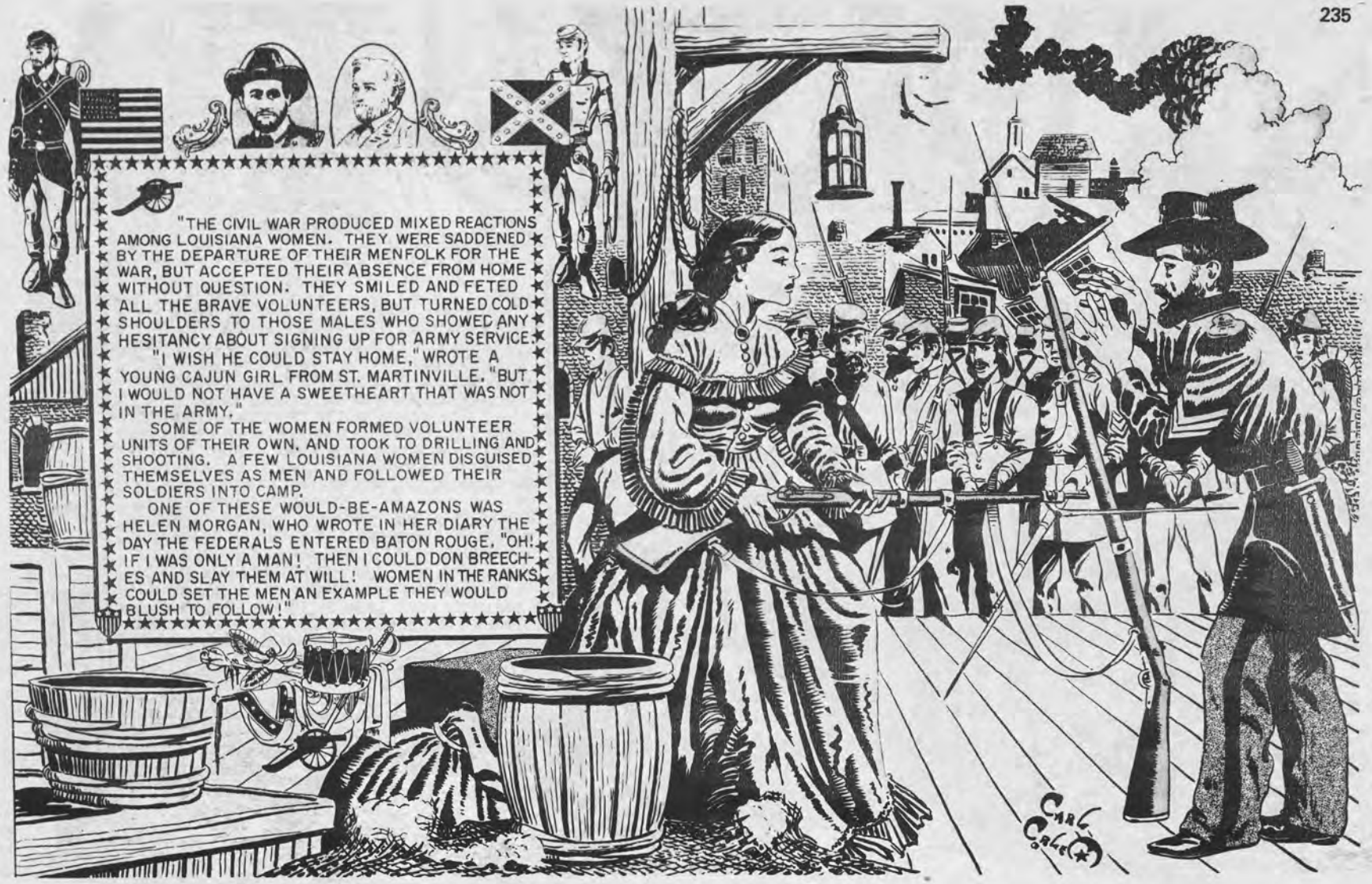

"THOUGH PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN HAD FREED THE SLAVES AS EARLY AS JANUARY OF 1863, PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS OF THE CONFEDERACY AGREED AS LATE AS 1865 TO THE EMANCIPATION OF THE SLAVES_AND AT THAT_ AS A LAST RETORT.
AFTER ALL_THE CIVIL WAR WAS OVER!
IN MAY, GENERAL DICK TAYLOR SURRENDERED THE CONFEDERATE FORCES UNDER HIS COMMAND IN LOUISIANA TO FEDERAL GENERAL CANBY.
ON THE 26th OF THAT MONTH GENERAL KIRBY SMITH SURRENDERED THE LAST CONFEDERATE FORCES IN THE FIELD. THE LAST HOPE FOR LOUISIANA VANISHED.
THE SOLDIERS RETURNED HOME TO A WAR RAVAGED AND DESOLATE STATE, TO HUMILIATION, TO UNSPEAKABLE POVERTY AND DESPAIR."

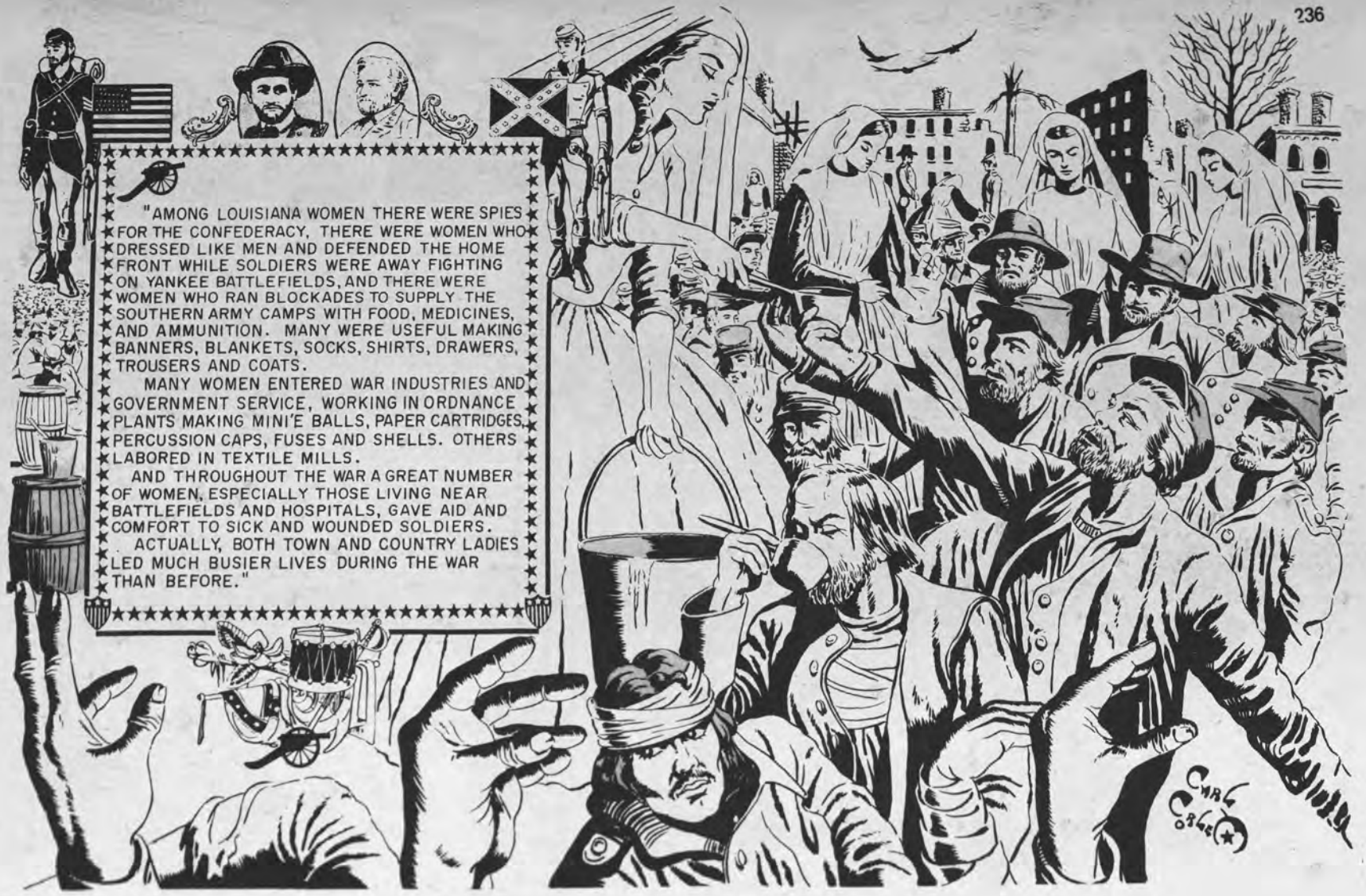

"THE CIVIL WAR WAS OVER. AND EVERY-ONE ASKED: "WHY DID WE FIGHT?" THE FIRST SOLDIER KILLED IN LOUISIANA DURING THE CIVIL WAR WAS CAPTAIN DREUX. THAT WAS ON JULY 5,1861. BEFORE THE WAR DREW TO IT'S FINAL CLOSE 65,000 LOUISIANA MEN HAD FOUGHT, AND 15,000 OF THEM HAD BEEN KILLED. ONE OF THESE 15,000 DEAD WAS GIVEN A MEMORIAL BURIAL AT MARTHAVILLE AND WAS GIVEN THE NAME OF THE UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER.
THERE WERE 76 INFANTRY REGIMENTS, 12 CAVALRY REGIMENTS, 11 CAVALRY BATTALIONS, AND 40 ARTILLERY UNITS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE FIGHTING.
THERE WERE TROOP NAMES LIKE: CADDO LAKE BOYS, ALLIGATOR RANGERS, CALCASIEU TIGERS, SOTO CREOLES, CAZADORES ESPANOLES, LA BISQUE BATTERY, SABINE INDEPENDENTS, YANKEE PELTERS, AND FRANKLINTON PUMPKIN STUDS. AND THERE WERE NICKNAMES: ROOSTER, BANTAM, GAMECOCK, AND SHOT_ESPECIALLY IF THE SOLDIERS WERE SMALL OF STATUE. BEING FRENCH, MOST OF THEM WERE."
CAMP LIFE PASTIMES:
BASEBALL
FOOTBALL
WRESTLING
BOXING
QUOITS
MARBLES
CHECKERS
REB ARMY'S MONTHLY PAY
INFANTRY PRIVATE — $11.00
CAVALRY PRIVATE — 12.00
CORPORAL — 13.00
SERGEANT MAJOR — 21.00
ENGINEER SERGEANT — 34.00
CARL CRAIG


"THE SOLDIER IN LOUISIANA, AS IN OTHER SOUTHERN STATES, MARCHED OFF TO WAR_JUST ACHING FOR A FIGHT! "BEIN' SCARED ALL RIGHT. BACKIN' AWAY AIN'T," WAS HIS MOTTO. BUT ORDINARY HARDSHIPS SOON JOLTED SUCH OPTIMISTS BACK INTO THE REALM OF HARSH AND BRUTAL REALITY.
HIS CONFEDERATE SANDWICH CONSISTED OF BACON AND CORN-DODGER, POTATOES AND COFFEE. HIS WHISKEY WAS: BUST SKULL, RED EYE, RIFLE KNOCK-KNEE, TANGLE-FOOT, AND ROT GUT. HE COMPLAINED CONSTANTLY ABOUT RAINS, SNAKES, MOSQUITOES, OFFICERS, LICE, DUST AND DISENTARY. HIS FAVORITE SONG WAS: "GIRL I LEFT BEHIND ME." AND HIS FAVORITE ILLS WERE: GENERAL DEBILITY, CHILLS AND FEVER, OFFICER RINGWORM, ACHING GUMS, AND PLOW SICKNESS.
AFTER EACH BATTLE, HE RETURNED TO THE FIELD OF BRAVERY TO BURY HIS COMRADES, AND PERHAPS TO PRAY."
PVT. JOHN T. ERNON JULY-1863
SUBSTITUTES:
DIPPERS - GOURDS
PINS AND NEEDLES - THORNS
SOAP - LYE AND FAT
BOOT POLISH - SOOT AND LARD
TOOTHBRUSH - CHEWED TWIG
TOOTH POWDER - PULVERIZED CHARCOAL
HAIR OIL - LARD
COMBS - CARVED FROM COWHORNS
SODA - CORNCOB ASHES
LAXATIVE - DANDELION
BUTTONS - ACORNS
REBS USAGE OF WORDS
FIT - FITEN
ANY - NAIRY
AT ALL - A TALL
DROP - DRAP
TOOK - TUCK
SURE - SHORE
SATISFIED - SADISFIDE
CARL CORLE


"REGULATIONS HAD BEEN ISSUED FOR THE UNIFORM ADOPTED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES FOR THE LOUISIANA SOLDIER AS— CADET GRAY COAT, TWO ROWS OF BUTTONS DOWN THE CHEST, SKY BLUE PANTS WITH THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF THE SERVICE DISTINGUISHED BY THE COLOR OF THE LEG TRIM: BLUE FOR INFANTRY, RED FOR ARTILLERY, AND YELLOW FOR CAVALRY. BUT, AS EARLY AS 1862, LOUISIANA SOLDIERS WERE WEARING UNIFORMS OF ALL COLORS AND VARYING QUALITIES.
ANY CARPENTER IN THE STATE COULD MAKE A LOOM. AND ANY SOUTHERN WOMAN COULD OPERATE IT. THE WOMEN CARDED WOOL AND COTTON TOGETHER INTO YARN. THEY DYED THE YARN WITH WALNUT OR BUTTERNUT BARK. THEN THE YARN WAS WOVEN ON HOME-MADE LOOMS INTO CLOTH. CROSS-SLICED BUTTERNUTS WERE POLISHED FOR BUTTONS.
THESE UNIFORMS, ONCE COMPLETED, WERE VERY UGLY, BUT DURABLE AND WELL CALCULATED TO CONCEAL THE SOLDIER FROM YANKEE TROOPS."
CARL GALLE


"THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIER IN LOUISIANA, THE SAME AS WITH THE MODERN REBEL, WAS A FANATIC IN THE MANIA OF WAR RELICS AND RARE SOUVENIR COLLECTING. ANY OBJECT THE ENEMY LEFT BEHIND ON THE BATTLEFIELD BECAME PRECIOUS TOKENS PERSERVED FOR YEARS TO COME, AND HANDED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.
BELT BUCKLES, CANTEENS, RIFLES, BAYONETS, KNIVES, PIPES, BUTTONS, CHEVRONS, FLAGS, RINGS, WATCHES, AND THE GREATEST CACHE OF ALL — AN ENEMY OFFICERS SABER.
OFTEN, DURING THE ONRUSH OF BATTLE, A SOLDIER WOULD HIDE THESE PRECIOUS OBJECTS HE HAD FOUND IN HASTILY DUG COFFERS, WITH A TRAIL CORD ATTACHED AND LEFT EXPOSED A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE GRAVE. LATER, HE WOULD RETURN TO CLAIM HIS SOUVENIRS.
THESE PRICELESS MEMORABILIA, GUARDED OVER THE YEARS AS HOLY RELICS, HAVE FOUND THEIR WAY TO MUSEUMS WHERE THEY REMAIN TO THIS DAY."
SUCH A CACHE WAS DISCOVERED BY A MORE MODERN REBEL _ERNEST CASTON OF BATON ROUGE_AT PORT HUDSON ON SEPTEMBER 6,1976.
A TREASURE TROVE INTACT.
OFFICERS SWORD BELT BUCKLE
_ AMES-UNION MADE
_ CONFEDERATE OFFICERS SWORD
_ UNION MADE
CONFEDERATE _ THOMAS & GRISWOLD
_ CONFEDERATE 1840 CAVALRY
CONFEDERATE BULLET MOLDS
TWO-PIECE CONFEDERATE BUCKLE
CARL CORLEY


"THE CIVIL WAR PRODUCED MIXED REACTIONS AMONG LOUISIANA WOMEN. THEY WERE SADDENED BY THE DEPARTURE OF THEIR MENFOLK FOR THE WAR, BUT ACCEPTED THEIR ABSENCE FROM HOME WITHOUT QUESTION. THEY SMILED AND FETED ALL THE BRAVE VOLUNTEERS, BUT TURNED COLD SHOULDERS TO THOSE MALES WHO SHOWED ANY HESITANCY ABOUT SIGNING UP FOR ARMY SERVICE.
"I WISH HE COULD STAY HOME," WROTE A YOUNG CAJUN GIRL FROM ST. MARTINVILLE. "BUT I WOULD NOT HAVE A SWEETHEART THAT WAS NOT IN THE ARMY."
SOME OF THE WOMEN FORMED VOLUNTEER UNITS OF THEIR OWN, AND TOOK TO DRILLING AND SHOOTING. A FEW LOUISIANA WOMEN DISGUISED THEMSELVES AS MEN AND FOLLOWED THEIR SOLDIERS INTO CAMP.
ONE OF THESE WOULD-BE-AMAZONS WAS HELEN MORGAN, WHO WROTE IN HER DIARY THE DAY THE FEDERALS ENTERED BATON ROUGE. "OH! IF I WAS ONLY A MAN! THEN I COULD DON BREECHES AND SLAY THEM AT WILL! WOMEN IN THE RANKS COULD SET THE MEN AN EXAMPLE THEY WOULD BLUSH TO FOLLOW!"
CARL CORLEY


"AMONG LOUISIANA WOMEN THERE WERE SPIES FOR THE CONFEDERACY, THERE WERE WOMEN WHO DRESSED LIKE MEN AND DEFENDED THE HOME FRONT WHILE SOLDIERS WERE AWAY FIGHTING ON YANKEE BATTLEFIELDS, AND THERE WERE WOMEN WHO RAN BLOCKADES TO SUPPLY THE SOUTHERN ARMY CAMPS WITH FOOD, MEDICINES, AND AMMUNITION. MANY WERE USEFUL MAKING BANNERS, BLANKETS, SOCKS, SHIRTS, DRAWERS, TROUSERS AND COATS.
MANY WOMEN ENTERED WAR INDUSTRIES AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE, WORKING IN ORDNANCE PLANTS MAKING MINI'E BALLS, PAPER CARTRIDGES, PERCUSSION CAPS, FUSES AND SHELLS. OTHERS LABORED IN TEXTILE MILLS.
AND THROUGHOUT THE WAR A GREAT NUMBER OF WOMEN, ESPECIALLY THOSE LIVING NEAR BATTLEFIELDS AND HOSPITALS, GAVE AID AND COMFORT TO SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS.
ACTUALLY, BOTH TOWN AND COUNTRY LADIES LED MUCH BUSIER LIVES DURING THE WAR THAN BEFORE."
CARL ORLEO

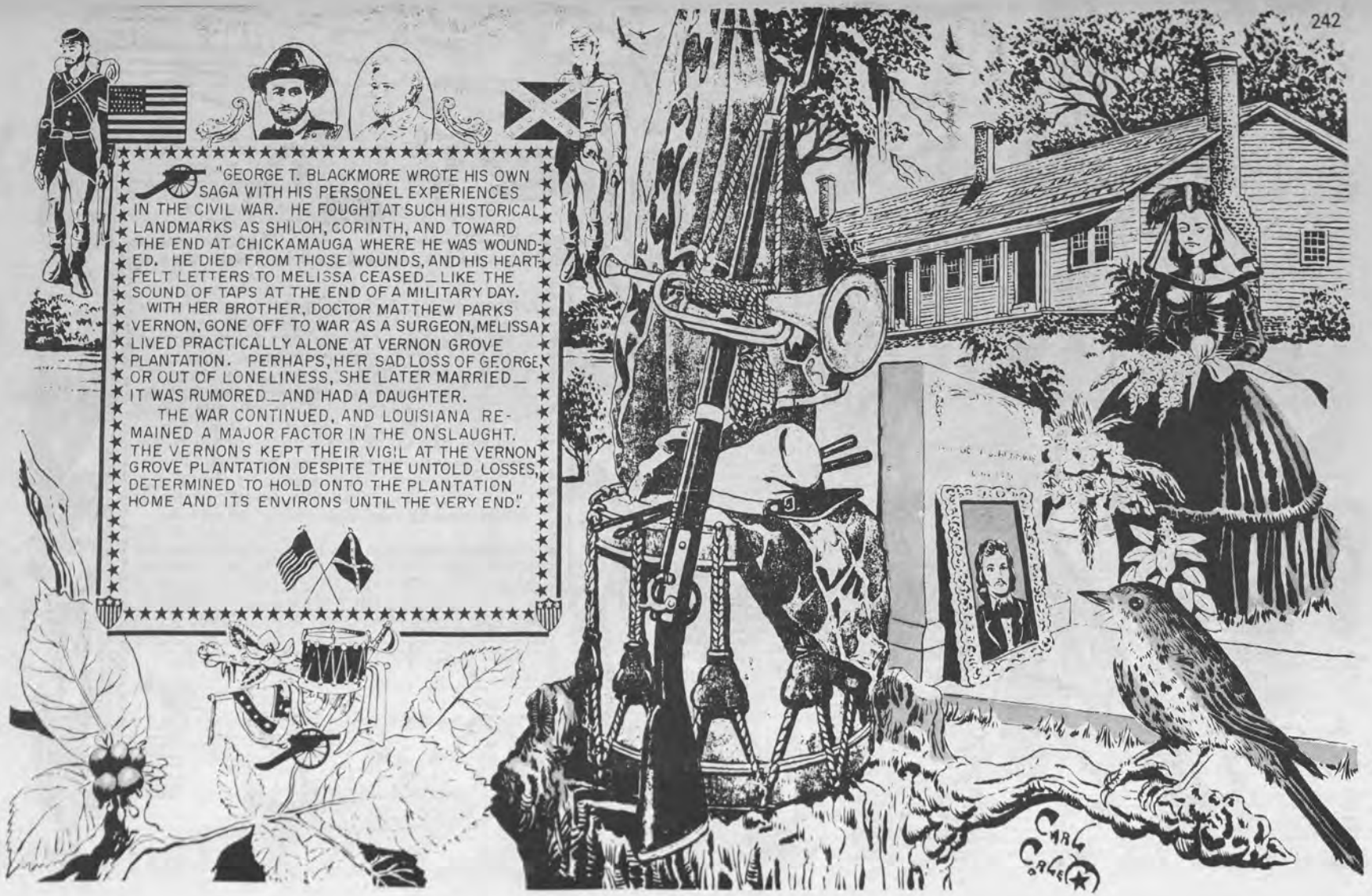

"SINCE LOUISIANA WAS_AND STILL IS_ A HISTORICAL AND ROMANTIC PLACE, THE EPIC OF THE CIVIL WAR WOULD BE INCOMPLETE IF A TYPICAL LOUISIANA FAMILY WAS LEFT OUT OF THE DRAMA.
TO RELATE A SPLENDID EXAMPLE:
"MELISSA VERNON WAS THE DAUGHTER OF MATTHEW VERNON AND NANCY ROBERTSON PARKS, WHO WERE MARRIED AT OPELOUSAS, ST. LANDRY PARISH ON DECEMBER 22, 1817. THEY SETTLED IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF AVOYELLES PARISH, WHERE THEY GRADUALLY ACQUIRED SEVERAL HUNDRED ACRES OF LAND, BEGINNING WITH A GIFT OF LAND FROM MATTHEW'S MOTHER, MARTHA VERNON, WIDOW OF RICHARD VERNON WHO CAME FROM SOUTH CAROLINA TO LOUISIANA IN THE EARLY 1800s.
MELISSA WAS A MUCH SOUGHT AFTER BELLE, BUT SHE HAD EYES ONLY FOR GEORGE T. BLACKMORE, A MAN FROM TENNESSEE. HE HAD SETTLED AT BAYOU BOEUF AND WAS CLERKING IN A STORE AT HOLMESVILLE, NEAR THE VERNON PLANTATION. THE TWO YOUNG PEOPLE FELL IN LOVE. MANY OF HIS LOVE LETTERS TO MELISSA HAVE BEEN PRESERVED."
CARL GALANT


"THE VERNON GROVE PLANTATION WHERE MELISSA HAD LIVED ALL HER YOUNG LIFE WAS NOT A GRANDIOSE MANSION SO TYPICAL OF THE MANSIONS WHEN ONE THINKS OF THE ANTE-BELLUM DAYS IN THE OLD SOUTH. THERE WERE NO MANSIONS CONSTRUCTED ALONG BAYOU BOEUF IN THOSE DAYS.
THE HOUSE WAS BUILT IN 1840 BY MATTHEW VERNON I. IT WAS A ONE STORY STRUCTURE OF HEART CYPRESS, WITH HANDMADE SHINGLES FOR THE ROOF. THERE WAS A LONG GALLERY DOWN THE FRONT WITH SQUARE WOODEN PILLARS. THE GALLERY WAS 90 FEET LONG, WITH THREE DOORS OPENING ON THE FRONT. IT WAS TWO ROOMS DEEP. THE STEPS WERE CENTERED. THERE WERE THREE CHIMNEYS, WELL MADE, ONE AT EACH END AND ONE IN THE MIDDLE. THE KITCHEN WAS APPENDED TO THE REAR, SOME DISTANCE FROM THE MAIN STRUCTURE — TO KEEP OUT COOKING ODORS AND FOR PREVENTION OF FIRE.
THE HOUSE STOOD FACING THE BAYOU, IN A GROVE OF LIVEOAKS."


"THERE WAS HARDLY A YOUNG GIRL, OR BOY FOR THAT MATTER, WHOSE PARENTS DID NOT ENCOURAGE THEM IN THE EDUCATION AND THE APPRECIATION OF THE ARTS. FOR THE GIRLS— MUSIC, VOICE, PAINTING, EMBROIDERY, NEEDLEPOINT, LACE MAKING, WRITING, POETRY, AND ROSE GARDENING—TO NAME A FEW.
OF COURSE, BOYS BROADENED THEIR YOUNG MINDS ON MORE STERNER ARTISTIC HORIZONS.
MELISSA VERNON LOVED MUSIC. AT THE VERNON GROVE PLANTATION STOOD A BABY GRAND PIANO, ONE OF ONLY TWO LIKE IT IN THE UNITED STATES, AND ITS MATE WAS LATER TO FIND ITS NICHE IN A BOSTON MUSEUM. MELISSA ENTERTAINED HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS OFTEN BY RUNNING HER NIMBLE FINGERS ACROSS THE PLAINTIVE KEYS.
AND IT IS CERTAIN SHE BROUGHT JOY TO THE HEART OF GEORGE BLACKMORE AS SHE PLAYED THE PIANO AND, PERHAPS, SANG TO HIM."
CARL CAGLE


"HOT TEMPERS RAN RAMPANT IN THOSE PRE-CIVIL WAR DAYS IN LOUISIANA. FIGHTS AND EVEN DUELS WERE WAGED FREQUENTLY OVER SOME ATTRACTIVE BELLE AND, IN THIS CASE, MELISSA VERNON WAS NO EXCEPTION. THE YOUNG MEN WHO SOUGHT HER HAND WOULD NOT TOLERATE A "FOREIGNER" FROM TENNESSEE. GEORGE T. BLACKMORE WAS NOT LIKED BY THE LOCALS AND, IN ORDER TO OUST HIM FROM THE AREA, THEY PUT OUT UGLY RUMORS ABOUT HIM.
MELISSA VERNON, NATURALLY, HEARD THESE UNFAVORABLE REMARKS AND WAS TORN BETWEEN TWO LOYALTIES— THE STRANGER AND THE LOCAL YOUNG MEN SHE HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP WITH. SHE CHOSE THE LATTER.
OUT OF GRIEF, GEORGE BLACKMORE JOINED THE CONFEDERATE ARMY. HE HOPED HE COULD FORGET MELISSA AND START A NEW LIFE.
MILISSA RETURNED ALL HIS LETTERS AND SAID IT WAS OVER."


"GEORGE T. BLACKMORE FROM TENNESSEE ACCEPTED MILITARY LIFE, AS EVERY SOLDIER WHO HAD SIGNED UP WITH THE CONFEDERATE ARMY HAD TO ACCEPT. PITTING ALL HIS EFFORTS, IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORGET MELISSA, HE MADE A GOOD SOLDIER. HE BECAME A HERO—AS EVERY SOLDIER BECOMES A HERO—WHEN IT IS TO FIGHT BRAVELY OR DIE.
HE KEPT THE LETTERS HE HAD WRITTEN TO MELISSA VERNON, AND WHEN THERE WAS A LULL IN THE FIGHTING, OR WHEN HE WAS NOT ON THE MARCH, HE TOOK THE LETTERS FROM HIS KNAPSACK AND RE-READ THEM AGAIN AND AGAIN.
WHENEVER HE COULD GET PEN AND PAPER, WHICH WAS NOT OFTEN FOR LUXURIES WERE VERY SCARCE, HE CONTINUED TO WRITE HER IMPASSIONED LETTERS—WHICH SHE NEVER GAVE ONE REPLY.
IN FACT, GEORGE WROTE MELISSA VERNON ONE OF THE SADDEST, MOST HEARTBREAKING LETTER'S EVER TO COME OUT OF THE CIVIL WAR ANYWHERE—A LETTER DESTINED FOR A MUSEUM."
CARL COLES


"GEORGE T. BLACKMORE WROTE HIS OWN SAGA WITH HIS PERSONEL EXPERIENCES IN THE CIVIL WAR. HE FOUGHT AT SUCH HISTORICAL LANDMARKS AS SHILOH, CORINTH, AND TOWARD THE END AT CHICKAMAUGA WHERE HE WAS WOUNDED. HE DIED FROM THOSE WOUNDS, AND HIS HEARTFELT LETTERS TO MELISSA CEASED— LIKE THE SOUND OF TAPS AT THE END OF A MILITARY DAY.
WITH HER BROTHER, DOCTOR MATTHEW PARKS VERNON, GONE OFF TO WAR AS A SURGEON, MELISSA LIVED PRACTICALLY ALONE AT VERNON GROVE PLANTATION. PERHAPS, HER SAD LOSS OF GEORGE, OR OUT OF LONELINESS, SHE LATER MARRIED— IT WAS RUMORED— AND HAD A DAUGHTER.
THE WAR CONTINUED, AND LOUISIANA REMAINED A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE ONSLAUGHT. THE VERNONS KEPT THEIR VIGIL AT THE VERNON GROVE PLANTATION DESPITE THE UNTOLD LOSSES, DETERMINED TO HOLD ONTO THE PLANTATION HOME AND ITS ENVIRONS UNTIL THE VERY END."
CARL CAGLE


"THE HOME FRONT IN LOUISIANA SUFFERED, AND WAS AS MUCH IN CONSTANT DANGER AS THE SOLDIERS ON THE BATTLEFIELDS.
WHEN GENERAL BANKS AND HIS ARMY CAME DOWN BAYOU BOEUF, TRAVELING FROM THE TOWN OF OPELOUSAS NORTH, THEY TOOK EVERYTHING THEY COULD USE.
AT ONE BAYOU BOEUF HOME NEARBY THEY TOOK HORSES, CATTLE, HOGS, CHICKENS, MADE FORAGES ON VEGETABLE GARDENS. THEY TOOK FOOD FROM THE DINING TABLE, FROM THE KITCHEN AND STORAGE SAFE. THEY EVEN TOOK FRESH MOLDED BUTTER. BUT THE MOST CHERISHED OBJECTS, SILVER AND OTHER VALUABLES, THANKFULLY, WERE SAFE. THEY WERE HIDDEN BEHIND A SECRET DOOR TO THE ATTIC, WHICH WAS SO CLEVERLY MADE IT COULD NOT BE DETECTED BY THE HUMAN EYE."


"IT HAS BEEN STATED OFTEN THAT WOMEN ARE BRAVER THAN MEN DURING WARTIME. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE WITH SOUTHERN WOMEN DURING THE CIVIL WAR. THEY GUARDED THE HOME FRONT, THE SECURITY OF THEIR CHILDREN, AND A PLACE INTACT TO WHICH THEIR HUSBANDS COULD RETURN WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER.
NOTHING IS AS FIERCE AS A WOMAN SCORNED! THIS TOUCH OF FEARLESS METTLE SEEMED TO HAVE FORGED ITSELF IN THE VERNON WOMEN.
THE WIFE OF MATTHEW VERNON I, SEATED ON THE FRONT GALLERY WITH MATTHEW III IN HER ARMS, WATCHED SILENTLY AS A GROUP OF GENERAL BANK'S OFFICERS GALLOPED UP THE DRIVE. THE BABY'S DOCTOR FATHER WAS OFF TO WAR AND ALL THE OTHER MEN WERE GONE. SHE WAS ALONE.
THE YANKEES PULLED IN REIN AT THE GALLERY'S EDGE. SHE STOOD UP. ONE OF THE OFFICERS, ADDRESSING MRS VERNON, ASKED, "MADAM, DO YOU SURRENDER?"
SHE REPLIED. "SIR, I SHALL NEVER SURRENDER. I WILL GO INTO THE SWAMP AND EAT PALMETTO ROOTS, BUT I SHALL NEVER SURRENDER!"
THE OFFICERS LOOKED GRIM AT FIRST. THEN TIPPING THEIR HATS, THEY GRINNED AT HER AND RODE AWAY."

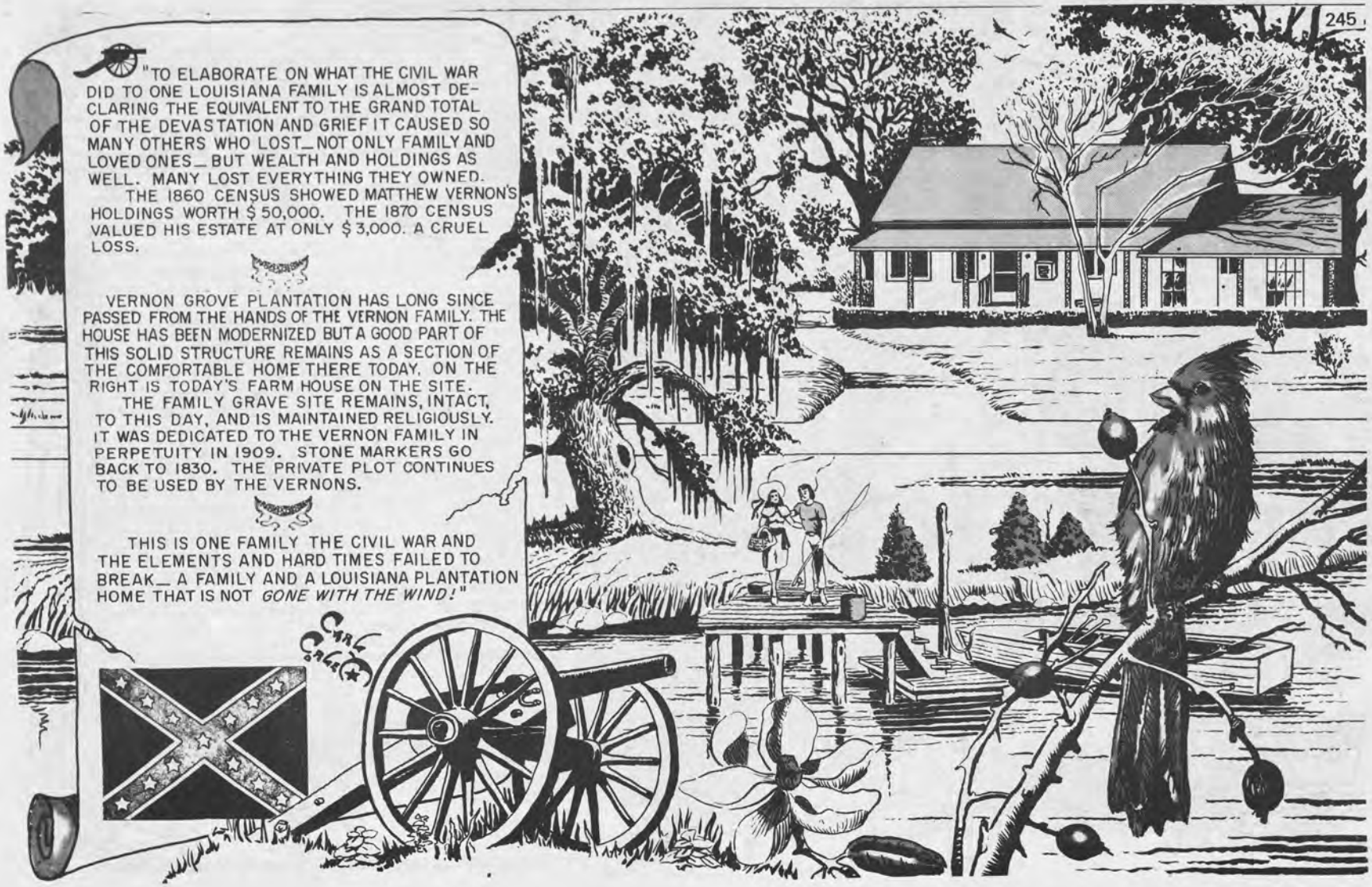
"TO ELABORATE ON WHAT THE CIVIL WAR DID TO ONE LOUISIANA FAMILY IS ALMOST DECLARING THE EQUIVALENT TO THE GRAND TOTAL OF THE DEVASTATION AND GRIEF IT CAUSED SO MANY OTHERS WHO LOST— NOT ONLY FAMILY AND LOVED ONES— BUT WEALTH AND HOLDINGS AS WELL. MANY LOST EVERYTHING THEY OWNED.

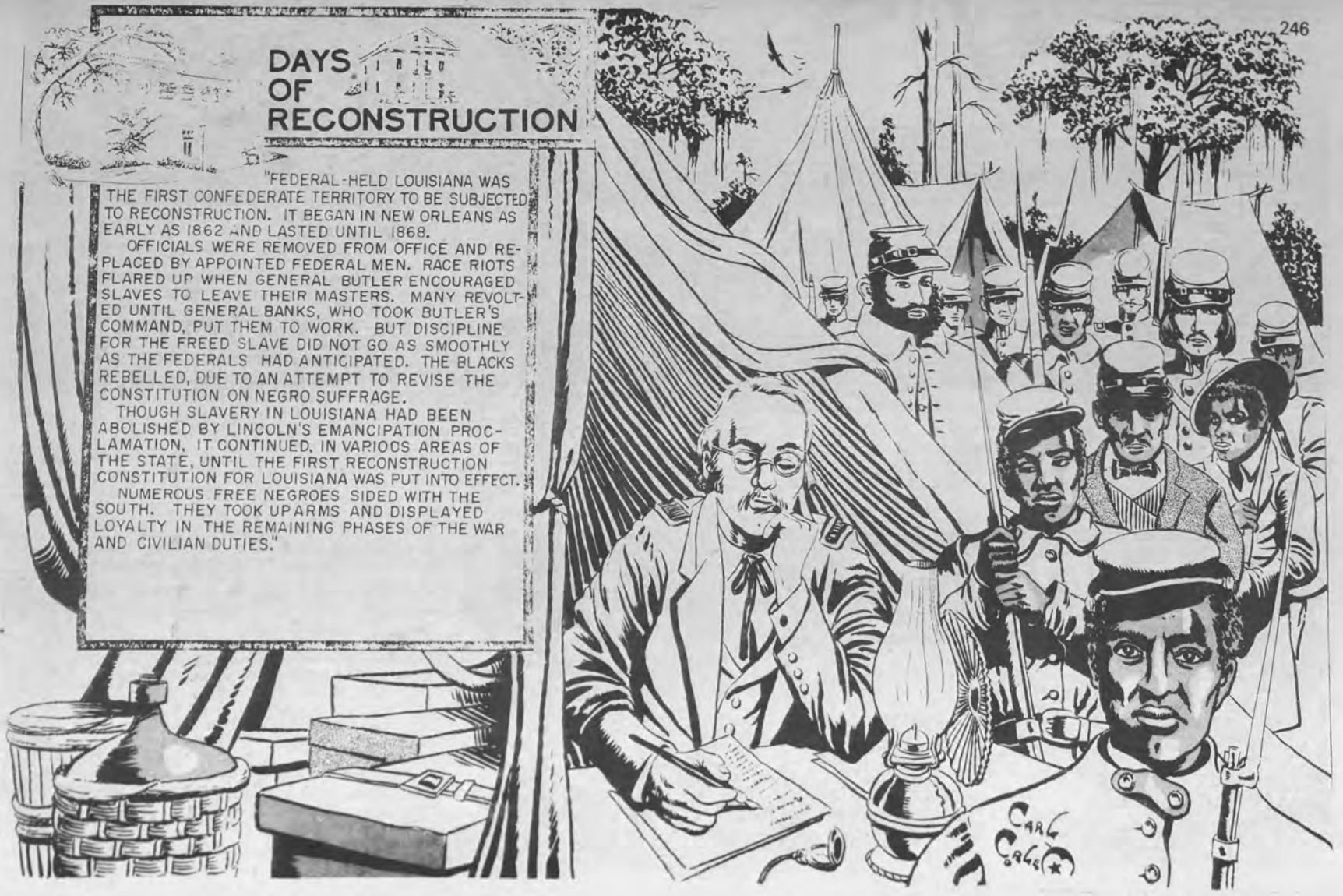
THE 1860 CENSUS SHOWED MATTHEW VERNON'S HOLDINGS WORTH $ 50,000. THE 1870 CENSUS VALUED HIS ESTATE AT ONLY $ 3,000. A CRUEL LOSS.

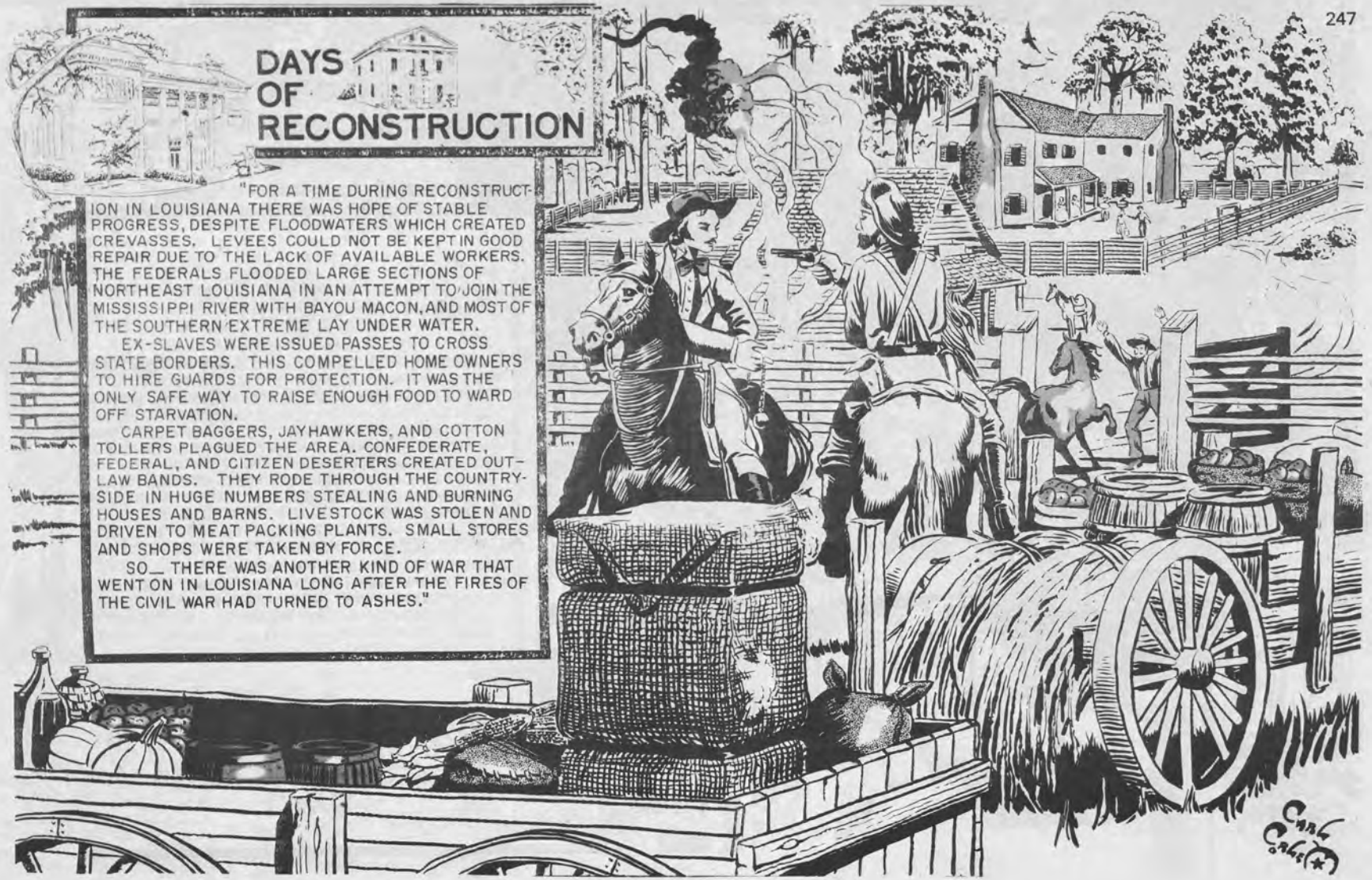
VERNON GROVE PLANTATION HAS LONG SINCE PASSED FROM THE HANDS OF THE VERNON FAMILY. THE HOUSE HAS BEEN MODERNIZED BUT A GOOD PART OF THIS SOLID STRUCTURE REMAINS AS A SECTION OF THE COMFORTABLE HOME THERE TODAY. ON THE RIGHT IS TODAY'S FARM HOUSE ON THE SITE.

THE FAMILY GRAVE SITE REMAINS, INTACT, TO THIS DAY, AND IS MAINTAINED RELIGIOUSLY. IT WAS DEDICATED TO THE VERNON FAMILY IN PERPETUITY IN 1909. STONE MARKERS GO BACK TO 1830. THE PRIVATE PLOT CONTINUES TO BE USED BY THE VERNONS.

THIS IS ONE FAMILY THE CIVIL WAR AND THE ELEMENTS AND HARD TIMES FAILED TO BREAK— A FAMILY AND A LOUISIANA PLANTATION HOME THAT IS NOT *GONE WITH THE WIND!*"




DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION
"FEDERAL-HELD LOUISIANA WAS THE FIRST CONFEDERATE TERRITORY TO BE SUBJECTED TO RECONSTRUCTION. IT BEGAN IN NEW ORLEANS AS EARLY AS 1862 AND LASTED UNTIL 1868.
OFFICIALS WERE REMOVED FROM OFFICE AND REPLACED BY APPOINTED FEDERAL MEN. RACE RIOTS FLARED UP WHEN GENERAL BUTLER ENCOURAGED SLAVES TO LEAVE THEIR MASTERS. MANY REVOLTED UNTIL GENERAL BANKS, WHO TOOK BUTLER'S COMMAND, PUT THEM TO WORK. BUT DISCIPLINE FOR THE FREED SLAVE DID NOT GO AS SMOOTHLY AS THE FEDERALS HAD ANTICIPATED. THE BLACKS REBELLED, DUE TO AN ATTEMPT TO REVISE THE CONSTITUTION ON NEGRO SUFFRAGE.
THOUGH SLAVERY IN LOUISIANA HAD BEEN ABOLISHED BY LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, IT CONTINUED, IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE STATE, UNTIL THE FIRST RECONSTRUCTION CONSTITUTION FOR LOUISIANA WAS PUT INTO EFFECT.
NUMEROUS FREE NEGROES SIDED WITH THE SOUTH. THEY TOOK UP ARMS AND DISPLAYED LOYALTY IN THE REMAINING PHASES OF THE WAR AND CIVILIAN DUTIES."
CARL CARLE


DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION
"FOR A TIME DURING RECONSTRUCTION IN LOUISIANA THERE WAS HOPE OF STABLE PROGRESS, DESPITE FLOODWATERS WHICH CREATED CREVASSES. LEVEES COULD NOT BE KEPT IN GOOD REPAIR DUE TO THE LACK OF AVAILABLE WORKERS. THE FEDERALS FLOODED LARGE SECTIONS OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA IN AN ATTEMPT TO JOIN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WITH BAYOU MACON, AND MOST OF THE SOUTHERN EXTREME LAY UNDER WATER.
EX-SLAVES WERE ISSUED PASSES TO CROSS STATE BORDERS. THIS COMPELLED HOME OWNERS TO HIRE GUARDS FOR PROTECTION. IT WAS THE ONLY SAFE WAY TO RAISE ENOUGH FOOD TO WARD OFF STARVATION.
CARPET BAGGERS, JAYHAWKERS, AND COTTON TOLLERS PLAGUED THE AREA. CONFEDERATE, FEDERAL, AND CITIZEN DESERTERS CREATED OUTLAW BANDS. THEY RODE THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE IN HUGE NUMBERS STEALING AND BURNING HOUSES AND BARNS. LIVESTOCK WAS STOLEN AND DRIVEN TO MEAT PACKING PLANTS. SMALL STORES AND SHOPS WERE TAKEN BY FORCE.
SO— THERE WAS ANOTHER KIND OF WAR THAT WENT ON IN LOUISIANA LONG AFTER THE FIRES OF THE CIVIL WAR HAD TURNED TO ASHES."
Carl Cone


DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION
"DISLOYAL CITIZENS OF LOUISIANA, REGISTERED AS ENEMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, WERE LOADED ON STEAMERS AND TRANSPORTED TO PRISONS AT MADISONVILLE. MANY LOUISIANA CITIZENS, UPON ARRIVAL AT MADISONVILLE, SAW THEIR PLIGHT AND RECONSIDERED. THEY WERE PLACED UNDER A MOCK FLAG OF TRUCE AND WERE LEFT ABANDONED, PENNILESS, AND HOMELESS.
DURING THE FINAL YEARS OF RECONSTRUCTION, REFUGEE CAMPS WERE OPENED BY THE FEDERALS AND CITIZENS WERE SET FREE.
THEY HEADED FOR THE UNKNOWN. THEY HAD BEEN BROKEN FROM FAMILY TIES SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE CIVIL WAR _ HUSBANDS, SONS, SWEETHEARTS, PARENTS, WIVES, DAUGHTERS, SISTERS AND LOYAL FRIENDS DEAD IN SOME WAR TORN STATE.
LOUISIANA BECAME A LAND OF MAIMED MEN, WIDOWS, ORPHANS, AND HASTILY DUG GRAVES."

DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION

"FINALLY, ON JUNE 25, 1868, ON THE BASIS OF THE NEW RADICAL CONSTITUTION, THE STATE OF LOUISIANA WAS RE-ADMITTED TO THE UNION.

LINCOLN HAD SAID EARLIER—

"WE WANT THOSE PEOPLE TO RETURN HOME, TO RETURN TO THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNION AND SUBMIT TO THE LAWS. AGAIN I SAY, GIVE THEM THE MOST LIBERAL AND HONORABLE TERMS."

BUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS DEAD!

ULYSSES S. GRANT FOLLOWED ANDREW JOHNSON AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES INSTEAD OF LINCOLN AS THE FEDERALS HAD HOPED.

IN 1876 PRESIDENT-ELECT RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, IN AN EXCHANGE FOR LOUISIANA'S ELECTORAL VOTES, AGREED TO WITHDRAW FEDERAL TROOPS FROM THE STATE IF HE WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT.

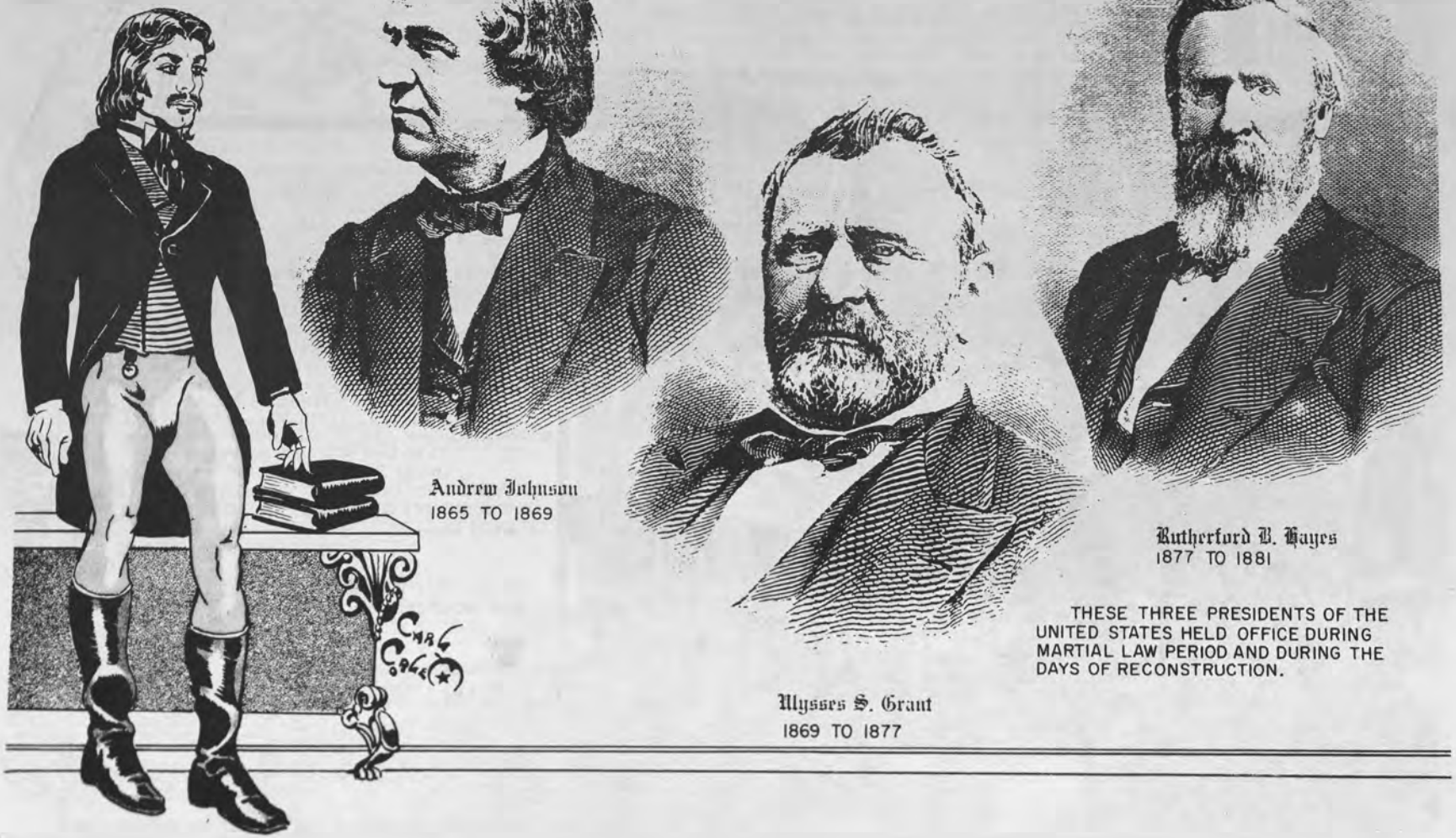
ALL FORMER CONFEDERATES WERE DIS FRANCHISED. INTERRACIAL SCHOOLS WERE PROVIDED FOR. SEGREGATION OF ALL TYPES WAS ABOLISHED.

DEMOCRAT FRANCIS TILLOV NICHOLLS, A FORMER CONFEDERATE GENERAL, WAS ELECTED EXECUTIVE OF THE STATE.

ON APRIL 20, 1877, PRESIDENT HAYES ORDERED THE LAST OF THE FEDERAL TROOPS IN LOUISIANA TO WITHDRAW. RECONSTRUCTION WAS OVER."

FINALLY AT LONG LAST— AFTER FOUR YEARS OF CIVIL WAR AND FOUR YEARS UNDER MARTIAL LAW AND FOUR TERRIBLE YEARS OF RECONSTRUCTION— LOUISIANA PEOPLE WERE FREE TO LIVE THEIR OWN LIVES IN PEACE.

CRAIG CRAIG



Andrew Johnson
1865 TO 1869

Ulysses S. Grant
1869 TO 1877

Rutherford B. Hayes
1877 TO 1881

THESE THREE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES HELD OFFICE DURING MARTIAL LAW PERIOD AND DURING THE DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION.



WAR AND PEACE IN LOUISIANA

"THE CIVIL WAR WAS OVER. THE CRUEL DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION HAD STRUCK A BITTER BLOW TO LOUISIANA WITH THE INVASION OF CARPETBAGGERS AND THE KU-KLUX KLAN INVASION. THE WORST WAS OVER! THE OLD PLANTATION REGIME WAS GONE FOREVER. GRANDOISE MANSIONS STOOD IDLE AMID A SEA OF WEEDS. THE GREAT ESTATES WERE BROKEN UP INTO SMALL FARMLANDS. THE FREED NEGRO SLAVES BECAME TENEMENT FARMERS. RETURNING VETERANS TURNED COURAGEOUSLY TO THE TASKS OF ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION.

★ LITTLE WAS LEFT OF THE DREAM OF A CONFEDERATE AMERICA!

'BUT THE CIVIL WAR ITSELF,' WROTE MARK TWAIN YEARS LATER, 'WAS ALWAYS THE CHIEF TOPIC OF CONVERSATION. THE WAR WAS LIKE B.C. AND A.D. WAS ELSEWHERE. THEY DATED FROM IT. EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED WAS EITHER BEFO' DE WAW—DU'IN DE WAW—OR—AFTAH DE WAW!"

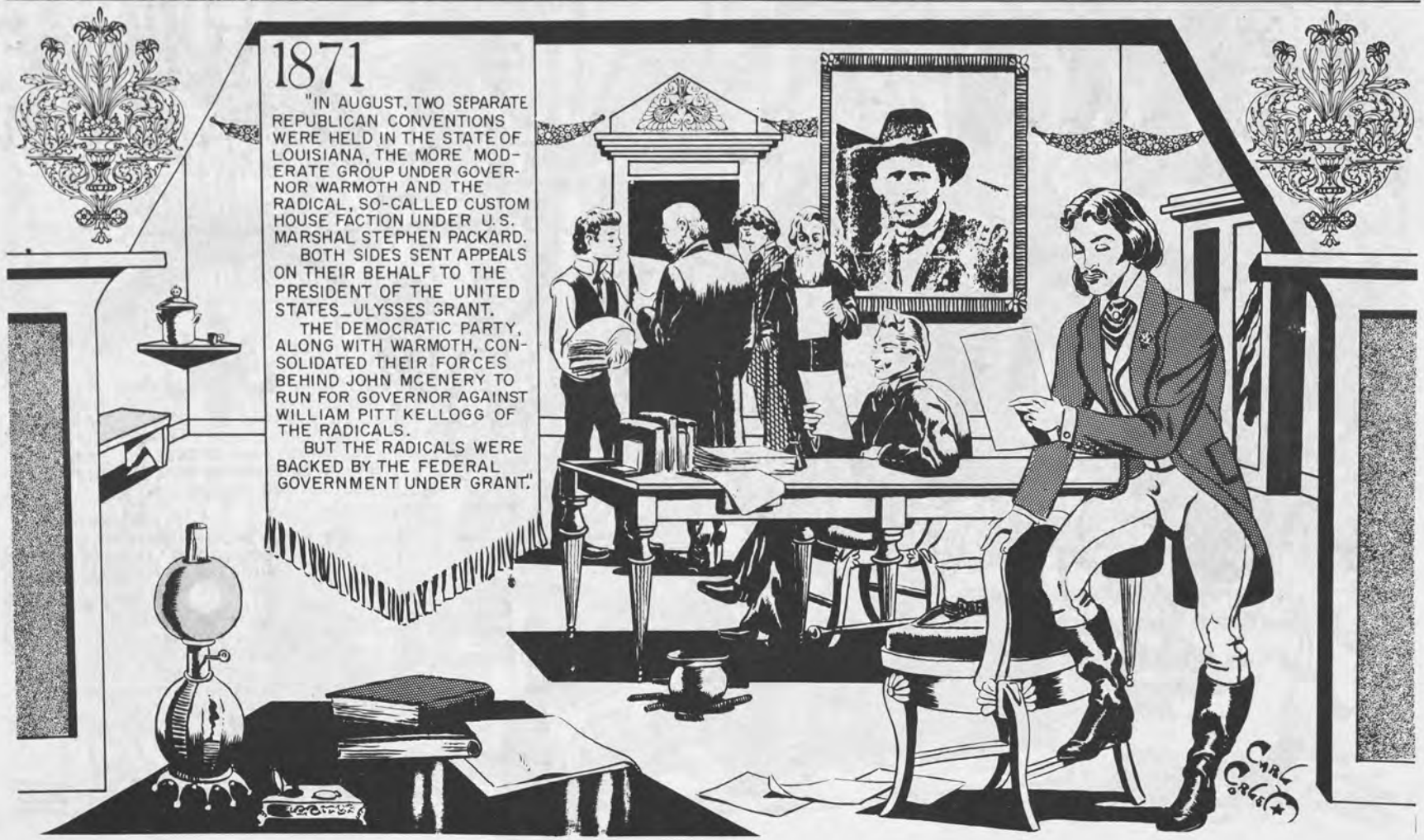
1870

"ZADOK CRAMER'S *NAVIGATOR*, THE CLASSIC HANDBOOK OF THE RIVER PILOTS, ANNOUNCED AS EARLY AS 1811: THERE IS NOW ON HAND A NEW MODE OF NAVIGATING OUR WESTERN WATERS. THIS IS WITH BOATS PROPELLED BY STEAM.

ON JUNE 30 1870, THE *ROBERT E. LEE* AND THE *NATCHEZ* LEFT NEW ORLEANS ON THE MOST FAMOUS STEAMBOAT RACE IN HISTORY. THE *ROBERT E. LEE* ARRIVED IN ST LOUIS IN 3 DAYS, 18 HOURS AND 14 MINUTES, BEATING THE *NATCHEZ* BY 3 HOURS AND 44 MINUTES.

SUCH STEAMBOATS AS THESE TWO SHIPS HELPED TO MAKE NEW ORLEANS THE FOURTH LARGEST PORT IN THE WORLD."




1871
"IN AUGUST, TWO SEPARATE REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS WERE HELD IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, THE MORE MODERATE GROUP UNDER GOVERNOR WARMOTH AND THE RADICAL, SO-CALLED CUSTOM HOUSE FACTION UNDER U.S. MARSHAL STEPHEN PACKARD.
BOTH SIDES SENT APPEALS ON THEIR BEHALF TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES_ULYSSES GRANT.
THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, ALONG WITH WARMOTH, CONSOLIDATED THEIR FORCES BEHIND JOHN MCENERY TO RUN FOR GOVERNOR AGAINST WILLIAM PITT KELLOGG OF THE RADICALS.
BUT THE RADICALS WERE BACKED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNDER GRANT."


1872
"THE ARRIVAL OF REX, KING OF CARNIVAL, BY RIVER BOAT AT THE FOOT OF CANAL STREET HERALDED THE START OF A GRAND PARADE THE DAY BEFORE MARDI GRAS.
ON MARDI GRAS DAY HE JOINED THE PROCESSION THAT PARADED PAST THE CLAY STATUE ON CANAL STREET, A STREET MADE OF COBBLE-STONES. BIBLE STORIES REP-RESENTED THE THEME OF THE PARADE.
ON THAT INITIAL DAY FOR REX, THE RUSSIAN GRAND DUKE ALEXIS WAS PRESENT AT THE FESTIVITIES."
CARL ORLEC


1873
"OPPOSITION TO CARPETBAG TYRANNY BEGAN TO BE EXPRESSED IN VIOLENCE. AT COLFAX, GRANT PARISH, A BLOODY RIOT OCCURRED IN APRIL, WHEN A BAND OF WHITE MEN FROM GRANT AND NEIGHBORING PARISHES SOUGHT TO RECAPTURE THE COURT-HOUSE, FROM WHICH WHITE OFFICIALS HAD BEEN OUSTED DURING A NEGRO UPRISING. THREE WHITES AND ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY BLACKS WERE KILLED, AND MANY MORE WOUNDED DURING THE STRUGGLE.
THE NEGROES WERE FINALLY EJECTED."
"THAT SAME YEAR THE FIRST THROUGHTRAIN SERVICE FROM CHICAGO TO NEW ORLEANS WAS OFFERED BY THE MISSISSIPPI CENTRAL RAILROAD."
CARL GALLE


1874
"THIRTY-ONE PARISHES SUFFERED TERRIBLE DAMAGE FROM A FLOOD. THE RAINS CAME WITH A RUTHLESS TORRENT OF DESTRUCTION. HOMES VANISHED. MANY LIVES WERE LOST. FIRE AND DARKNESS ADDED TO THE MELEE. GENEROUS AID POURED IN FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY."
"A POWERFUL ORGANIZATION_THE WHITE LEAGUE_ COMPOSED OF SOME OF THE MOST CONSERVATIVE AND RESPECTED MEN IN LOUISIANA, HAD BEEN ORGANIZED TO FIGHT FOR HOME RULE AND WHITE CONTROL OF POLITICS. THE WORST VIOLENT CLASH OCCURRED ON SEPTEMBER 14th BETWEEN GOVERNOR KELLOG'S METROPOLITAN POLICE_A VIRTUAL PRIVATE ARMY COMMANDED BY FORMER CONFEDERATE GENERAL LONGSTREET_AND THE WHITE LEAGUE FORCES IN NEW ORLEANS.
THE ACTION TOOK PLACE AT THE FOOT OF CANAL STREET BY THE CUSTOMHOUSE. AFTER A FEW VOLLEYS THE METROPOLITANS FLED."
CARL CARLE



1875

"BACKED BY PRESIDENT GRANT, WILLIAM PITT KELLOGG BECAME GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY, KELLOGG RESORTED TO THE INTIMIDATION OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE BY USING FEDERALS.

A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE WAS SENT TO INVESTIGATE. THEIR CONCLUSION: THEY DID NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF A STATE GOVERNOR USING FEDERAL FORCES TO CONTROL A STATE LEGISLATURE. THIS BROUGHT ABOUT A SO-CALLED WHEELER COMPROMISE, WHICH SEATED KELLOGG'S OPPONENTS, AND JUSTIFIED THE DEMOCRATIC STAND CONCERNING THE ELECTION".



1876

"THE NEW ORLEANS LAWN TENNIS CLUB, ONE OF THE FIRST TENNIS CLUBS IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS FOUNDED THAT YEAR.

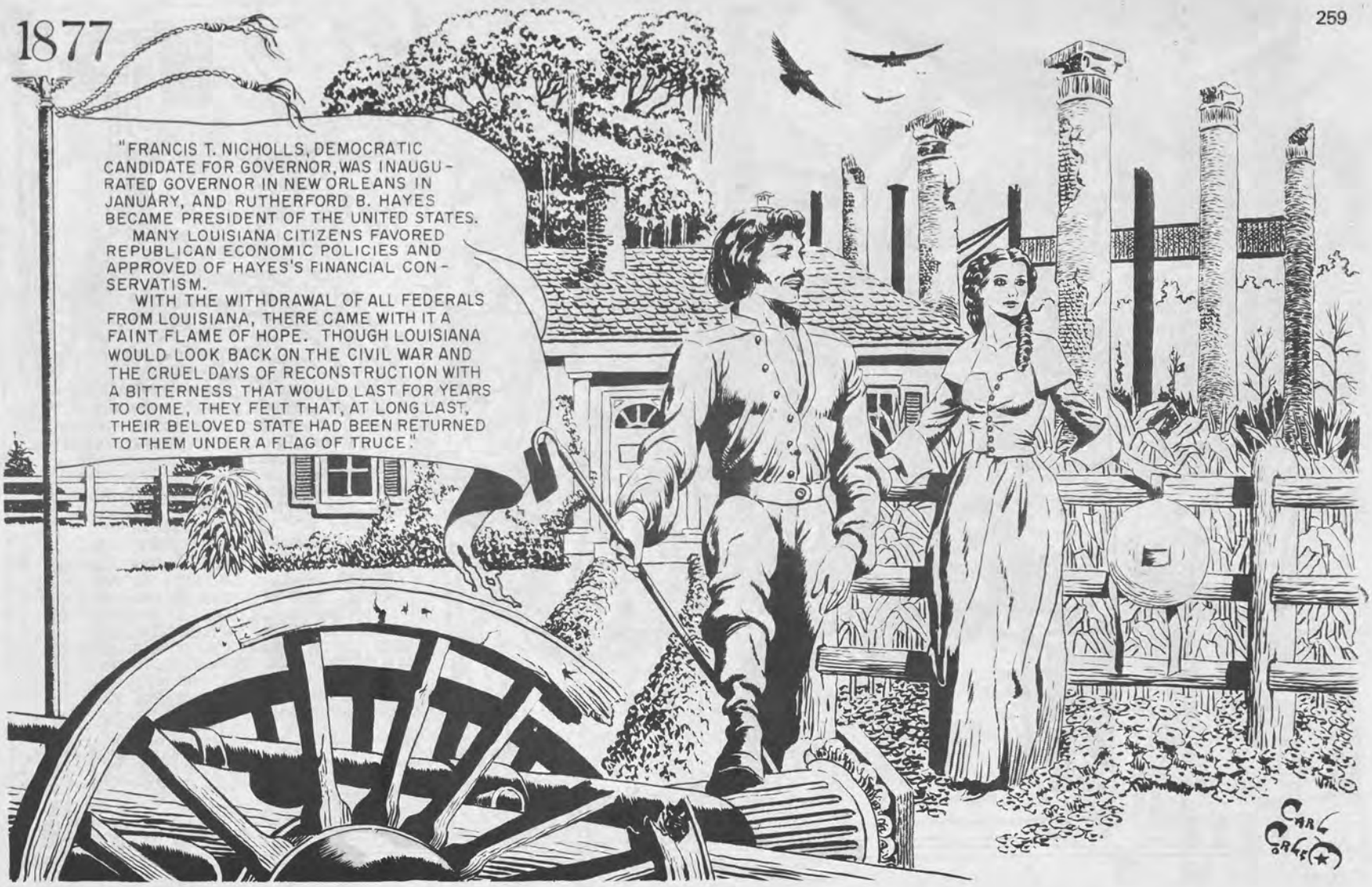
BY THEN, THE WORK-DAY WAS BEING SHORTENED. LOUISIANA PEOPLE TURNED TO SPORTS FOR RE-INVIGORATION. BARN BALL, ONE-OLD-CAT, BOWLING, AND BOATING.

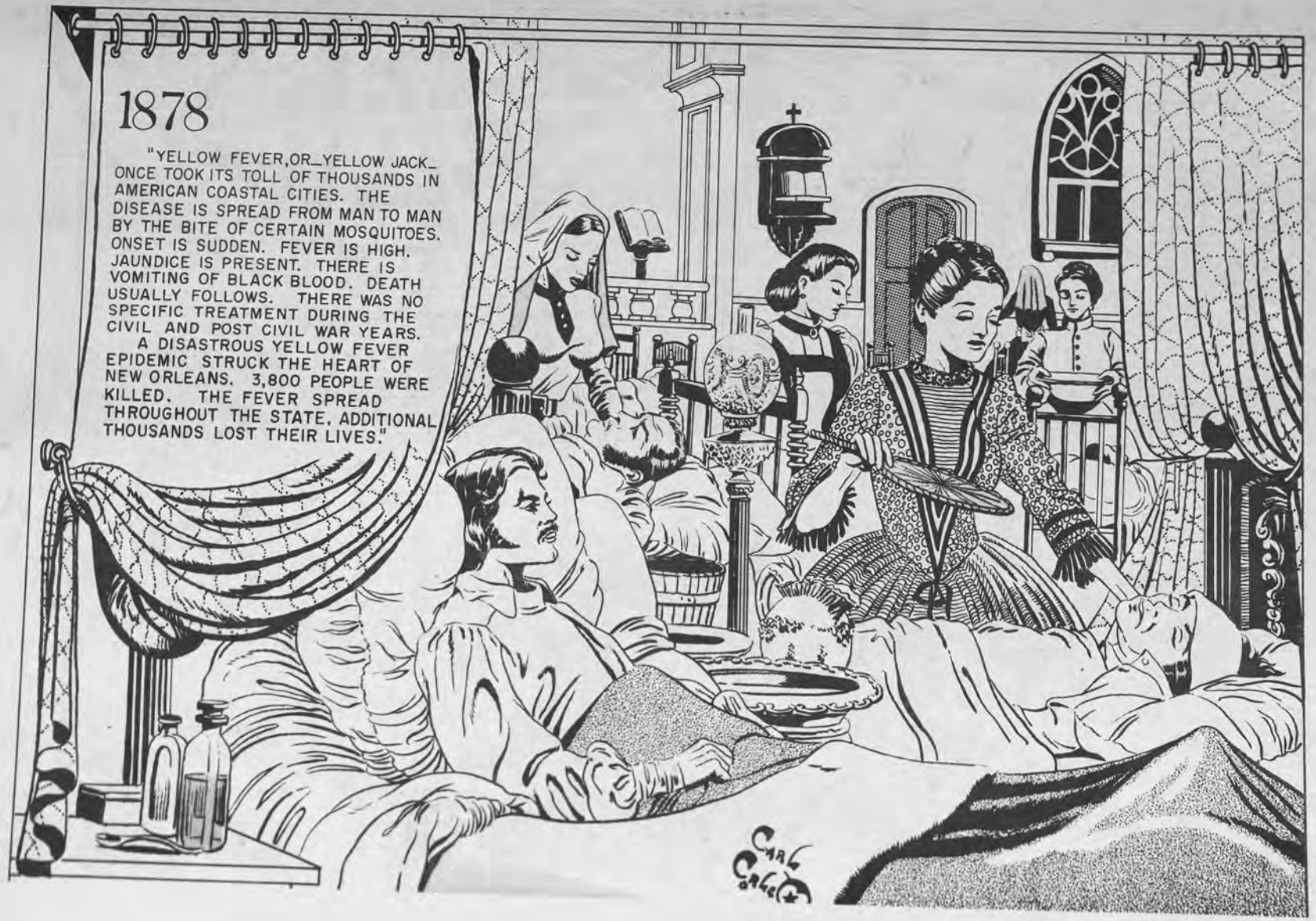
LOUISIANA TOURISTS FOUND A NEW, ATTRACTIVE GAME IN ENGLAND. THEY BROUGHT RACQUETS, NETS AND BALLS IN THEIR RETURN LUGGAGE AND INTRODUCED LAWN TENNIS.

THE LADIES WERE NOT LONG CONTENT TO REMAIN ON THE SIDELINES. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, THEY PREFERRED TO PLAY MIXED DOUBLES."



1877


"FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS, DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR, WAS INAUGURATED GOVERNOR IN NEW ORLEANS IN JANUARY, AND RUTHERFORD B. HAYES BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
MANY LOUISIANA CITIZENS FAVORED REPUBLICAN ECONOMIC POLICIES AND APPROVED OF HAYES'S FINANCIAL CONSERVATISM.
WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FEDERALS FROM LOUISIANA, THERE CAME WITH IT A FAINT FLAME OF HOPE. THOUGH LOUISIANA WOULD LOOK BACK ON THE CIVIL WAR AND THE CRUEL DAYS OF RECONSTRUCTION WITH A BITTERNESS THAT WOULD LAST FOR YEARS TO COME, THEY FELT THAT, AT LONG LAST, THEIR BELOVED STATE HAD BEEN RETURNED TO THEM UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE."
CARL CARLE


1878
"YELLOW FEVER,OR_YELLOW JACK_ ONCE TOOK ITS TOLL OF THOUSANDS IN AMERICAN COASTAL CITIES. THE DISEASE IS SPREAD FROM MAN TO MAN BY THE BITE OF CERTAIN MOSQUITOES. ONSET IS SUDDEN. FEVER IS HIGH. JAUNDICE IS PRESENT. THERE IS VOMITING OF BLACK BLOOD. DEATH USUALLY FOLLOWS. THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC TREATMENT DURING THE CIVIL AND POST CIVIL WAR YEARS.
A DISASTROUS YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC STRUCK THE HEART OF NEW ORLEANS. 3,800 PEOPLE WERE KILLED. THE FEVER SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE STATE. ADDITIONAL THOUSANDS LOST THEIR LIVES."
CARL GALLE

1879

"ON JULY 23, A NEW CONSTITUTION WAS ADOPTED WHICH NEUTRALIZED THE NEGRO VOTE, AND THE CAPITAL OF LOUISIANA WAS MOVED TO BATON ROUGE.

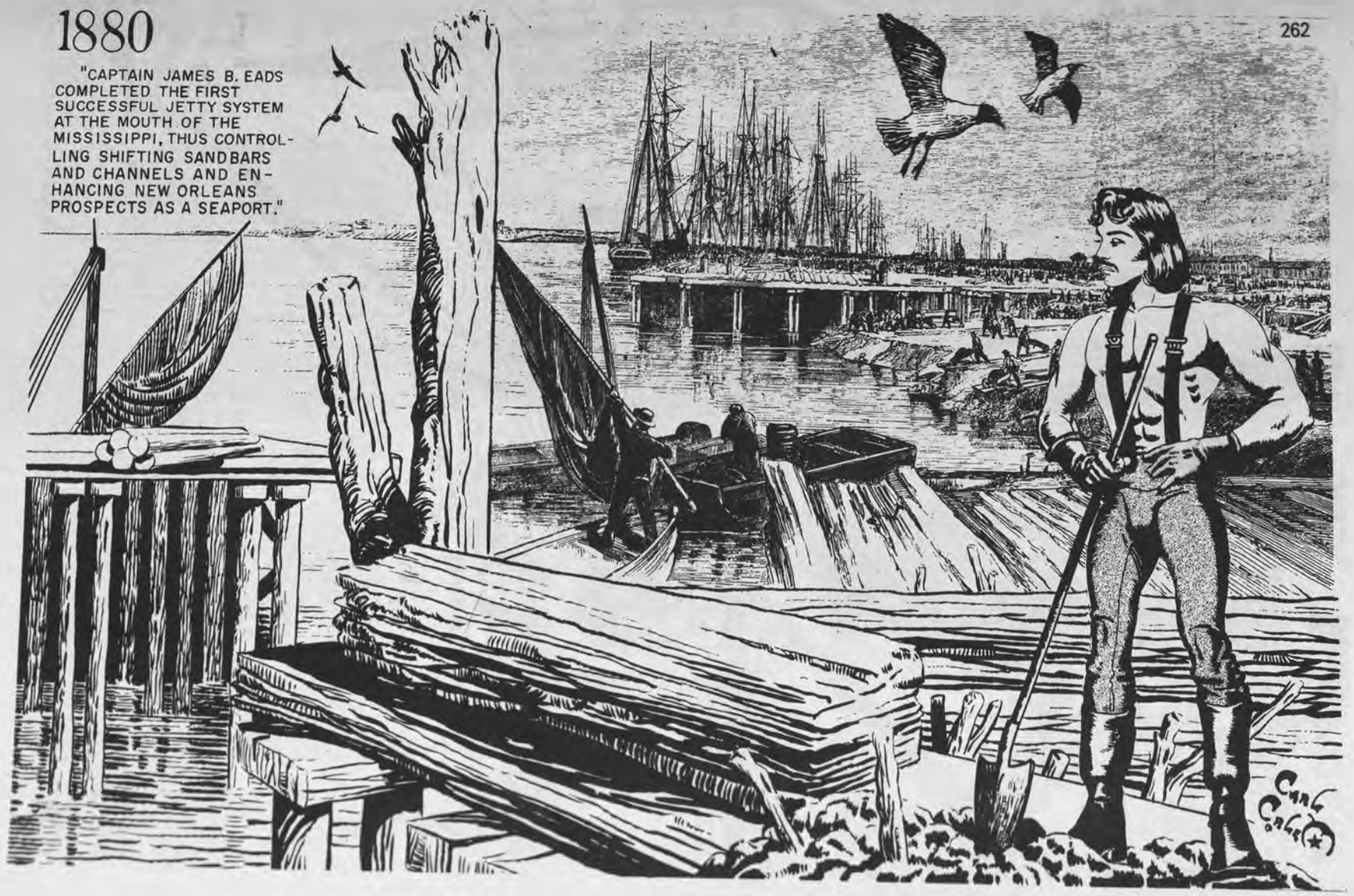
THE CAPITOL BUILDING ITSELF WAS DESIGNED BY JAMES H. DAKIN. REPRESENTING AN UNUSUAL BLEND OF NORMAN, GOTHIC AND MOORISH STYLES, COMPLETE WITH STAINED GLASS, CURVING STAIRWAY AND CRENELATED BATTLEMENTS, IT WAS MUCH ADMIRED OR SEVERELY CRITICIZED AS SOON AS IT WAS COMPLETED IN 1847.

IT WAS CONSTRUCTED ON THE BANKS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, AND MARK TWAIN CALLED IT "THE MONSTROSITY OF THE MISSISSIPPI."



1880

"CAPTAIN JAMES B. EADS COMPLETED THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL JETTY SYSTEM AT THE MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI, THUS CONTROLLING SHIFTING SANDBARS AND CHANNELS AND ENHANCING NEW ORLEANS PROSPECTS AS A SEAPORT."



1881


"THE NEW ORLEANS STATES ITEM WAS FOUNDED."
"THAT SAME YEAR, IMMIGRANTS FROM EVERY COUNTRY OF THE GLOBE HALTED MOMENTARILY IN NEW ORLEANS HARBORS. NORWEGIANS, SWEDES, DANES, SCOTCHMEN, ENGLISHMEN, AND RUSSIANS SWEPT WEST THROUGH LOUISIANA TO THE SUNDOWN PLAINS."
CARL

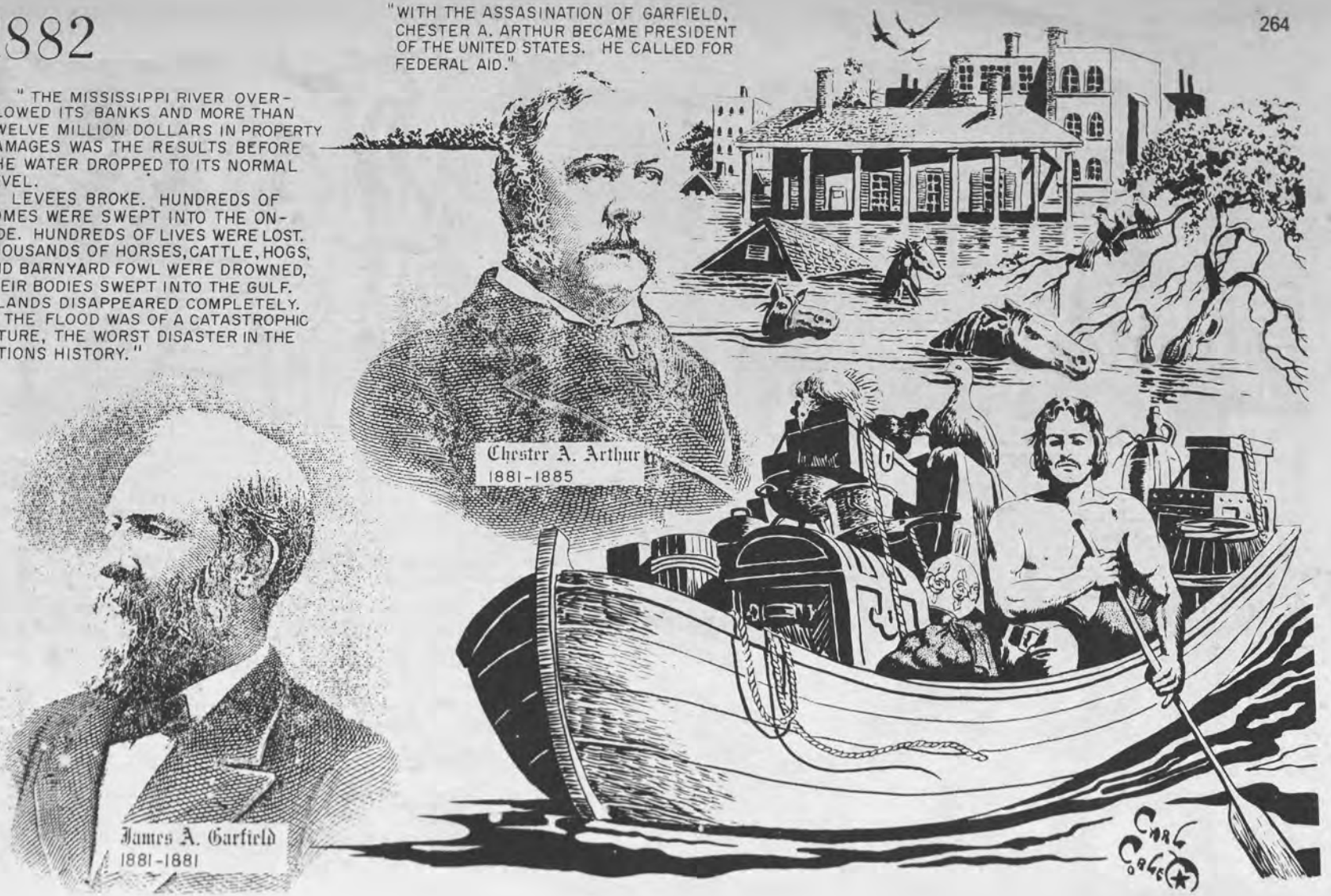
1882

" THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER OVER-FLOWED ITS BANKS AND MORE THAN TWELVE MILLION DOLLARS IN PROPERTY DAMAGES WAS THE RESULTS BEFORE THE WATER DROPPED TO ITS NORMAL LEVEL.

LEVEES BROKE. HUNDREDS OF HOMES WERE SWEPT INTO THE ON-TIDE. HUNDREDS OF LIVES WERE LOST. THOUSANDS OF HORSES, CATTLE, HOGS, AND BARNYARD FOWL WERE DROWNED, THEIR BODIES SWEPT INTO THE GULF. ISLANDS DISAPPEARED COMPLETELY.

THE FLOOD WAS OF A CATASTROPHIC NATURE, THE WORST DISASTER IN THE NATIONS HISTORY."

"WITH THE ASSASINATION OF GARFIELD, CHESTER A. ARTHUR BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HE CALLED FOR FEDERAL AID."



1883

"THE FIRST THROUGH TRAIN SERVICE FROM NEW ORLEANS TO CALIFORNIA BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 5th. LATER, OVER THE LINES OF A SERIES OF COMPANIES, ALL WOULD BECOME UNITED, AND BE CALLED THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC SYSTEM."



1884

"THE LOUISIANA STATE NORMAL COLLEGE WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE TOWN OF NATCHITOCHES.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA BECAME THE TULANE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AS THE RESULT OF EXPANSION MADE POSSIBLE BY A GIFT FROM PAUL TULANE WHICH AGGREGATED MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS.

IN DECEMBER, THE WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL AND COTTON EXPOSITION WAS HELD IN NEW ORLEANS TO CELEBRATE A CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN COTTON PRODUCTION."



ENTRANCE TO "CREATION ON THE PIKE", EXPOSITION AT AUDUBON PARK

CARL CAGLE

1885

"THE WORLD'S INDUSTRIAL AND COTTON CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION LASTED UNTIL MAY, 1885.

VISITORS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD WERE DRAWN TO ITS SPLENDOR, ITS ARCHITECTURAL GRANDEUR, AND EXTRAVAGANT EXHIBITS.

LIKE THE GLORY OF ROME WHILE IT LASTED, WHEN IT WAS OVER IT FELL TO THE JUNK HEAP."



EXPOSITION GROUNDS



THE MAIN BUILDING



UNITED STATES AND STATE EXHIBITS



ART GALLERY



FACTORIES AND MILLS





HORTICULTURE HALL



HORTICULTURE HALL INTERIOR



1886

"GROVER CLEVELAND WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE FIRST DEMOCRAT TO BE ELECTED SINCE THE CIVIL WAR. HE DEDICATED THE IMPRESSIVE STRUCTURE ON BEDLOE'S ISLAND. A GIFT FROM FRANCE, IT WAS THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.

THE SOPHIE NEWCOMB COLLEGE FOR GIRLS WAS FOUNDED IN NEW ORLEANS. THE COLLEGE LATER BECAME PART OF TULANE UNIVERSITY.

MRS. JOSEPHINE LOUISE NEWCOMB DONATED TO THE EDUCATIONAL FUND THE SUM OF $ 100,000 TO BE USED TO HELP IN ESTABLISHING THE MEMORIAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN IN MEMORY OF HER ONLY CHILD, WHO DIED IN 1870.

THIS COLLEGE HAD THE LARGEST ENDOWMENT AMONG ALL WOMEN'S COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES."



1887

"THE HOWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY WAS ESTABLISHED IN ORLEANS PARISH. THIS SPECIAL LIBRARY SERVED ALL THE PUBLIC, THE SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES THROUGH INTERLIBRARY LOANS. THERE WERE 19,589 BOOKS FOR ITS READERS SERVICE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING MCGUFFEY'S FAMOUS ECLECTRIC READERS FOR CHILDREN, INTRODUCING THEM, AT AN EARLY AGE, TO THE TREASURES OF GOOD LITERATURE."



1888

"THIS WAS THE YEAR OF STYLE. DURING THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD, TEXTILE MILLS AND GARMENT FACTORIES TURNED OUT WEARING ATTIRE FOR ECONOMIC PURPOSES ONLY, FOR COMFORT AND DURABILITY, AND LASTING QUALITY, WITH LITTLE REGARD FOR APPEARANCE OR PRESENT STYLE.

NOW, WITH WAR AND POVERTY BEHIND THEM, TEXTILE MILLS AND GARMENT MANUFACTURERS CONCENTRATED ON MODE, STYLE, AND GOOD LOOKS. AND CLOTHES DESIGNERS HAD A FIELD DAY.

FOR THE LADIES OF LOUISIANA — HOOPS WERE OUT AND BUSTLES WERE IN. THICK SCOTTISH PLAIDS, WORSTED BOMBAZINES, AND DESPAIRING BLACKS WERE EXCHANGED ONCE AGAIN FOR THE ROMANTIC ANTE-BELLUM SILKS, SATINS, CRISP CRINOLINES, AND RUSTLING TAFFETAS. TORSOS WERE DEFINED. SLENDER SKIRTS ACCENTED THE FIGURE, WITH THE HINT OF A BUSTLE FASHIONED FROM ENORMOUS BOWS AND SILKEN RIBBONS.

FOR THE LOUISIANA GENTLEMEN— THE SLEEK LOOK. NO LONGER THE CUMBERSOME, BAGGY ATTIRE ENDURED DURING THE WAR YEARS. SILK LINED CAPES. PEG LEG TROUSERS. TIES AND BOWS RATHER THAN CRAVATS. POLISHED WELLINGTON BOOTS AND PATENT LEATHER SLIPPERS. THE WORKING MAN NO LONGER HAD TO HAVE HIS CLOTHES TAILORED TO BE WELL DRESSED, AS DID HIS RICH PEERS DURING THE CIVIL WAR. HE COULD BUY THEM OFF THE RACK.

IT WAS A YEAR OF BEAUTIFUL AND ELEGANTLY DRESSED PEOPLE, THE PREDAWN OF A NEW ERA. GAIETY AND FUN."



1889

"JEFFERSON DAVIS DIED ON DECEMBER 6th AT JUDGE CHARLES FENNER'S HOME IN NEW ORLEANS.

HE WAS THE FIRST AND ONLY PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES DURING THE CIVIL WAR. A MISSISSIPPIAN AND WEST POINT GRADUATE WHO HAD SERVED HIS COUNTRY DISTINCTIVELY IN THE MEXICAN WAR, HE WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT AND MOVED THE CAPITAL TO RICHMOND. HE SPENT HIS BOYHOOD AT THE PLANTATION ROSEMONT NEAR WOODVILLE, AND LATER AT BEAUVOIR IN BILOXI, HIS LAST HOME— NOW A SHRINE AND MUSEUM. HE WROTE THE RISE AND FALL OF THE CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT."



1890

"THE LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY WAS ESTABLISHED AT ANGOLA. IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST ORGANIZED PRISONS IN THE SOUTH. INMATES WERE LOANED OUT TO NEIGHBORING FARMS TO WORK IN THE FIELDS.

LOUISIANA LEGALIZED PRIZE FIGHTING, ONE OF THE FIRST STATES TO DO SO, AND SOON NEW ORLEANS BECAME A CENTER FOR THE SPORT IN THIS COUNTRY."



1891

"BENJAMIN HARRISON WAS THE 23rd PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS ONLY FIVE FEET SIX INCHES TALL, AND WAS REFERRED TO AS "LITTLE BEN." HE OPENED UP THE OKLAHOMA TERRITORY FOR SETTLEMENT. 50,000 PIONEERS, MANY OF THEM FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, RACED TO CLAIM HOME SITES.

ON MARCH 14th, A MOB LYNCHED 11 MEN WHO ALLEGEDLY HAD MURDERED NEW ORLEANS CHIEF OF POLICE DAVID C. HENNESSY ON OCTOBER 15th THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THIS TOOK PLACE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF NEW ORLEANS, A RED LIGHT DISTRICT CALLED STORYVILLE. THE MEN WERE SUSPECTED OF BEING MEMBERS OF THE ITALIAN MAFIA."





1892

"JAMES J. CORBETT KNOCKED OUT JOHN LAWRENCE SULLIVAN IN 21 ROUNDS IN NEW ORLEANS FOR THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT.

IN 1878 SULLIVAN BEGAN HIS OWN CAREER AS A BOXER AND WON THE WORLD'S HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP UNDER LONDON PRIZE RING RULES— BARE KNUCKLES!

IN NEW ORLEANS HE FOUGHT UNDER THE MARQUIS OF QUEENSBERRY RULES. CORBETT BECAME THE FIRST QUEENSBERRY CHAMPION."



JOHN L. SULLIVAN

1893

"ON FEBRUARY 20th GENERAL PIERRE GUSTAVE TOUTANT BEAUREGARD, C.S.A. DIED IN NEW ORLEANS. A NATIVE OF LOUISIANA, HE WAS VICTORIOUS AT FORT SUMTER AND AT MANASSAS. HE WAS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE GREATEST GENERALS IN THE CIVIL WAR, AND WAS CALLED THE FRENCH MARSHALL OF THE EMPIRE.

GROVER CLEVELAND WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—TWICE PRESIDENT— FOR HE SERVED TWO TERMS, ONE BEFORE BENJAMIN HARRISON AND ONE AFTER. HE APPOINTED JAMES EUSTIS OF LOUISIANA AS MINISTER OF FRANCE. HE MARRIED 21 YEAR OLD FRANCES FOLSOM, BECOMING THE ONLY CHIEF EXECUTIVE WHOSE WEDDING WAS HELD IN THE WHITE HOUSE. HE TRIED TO END WASTE AND CORRUPTION IN THE SOUTH. HE GRANTED PENSIONS TO ALL CIVIL WAR VETERANS. HE INVESTIGATED THE RAILROADS FEDERAL LAND GRANTS, FORCING THE RETURN OF 81,000,000 ACRES. DESPITE ALL THIS, HE WAS CALLED — A LAME DUCK!

ON OCTOBER 1st, A HURRICANE DEVASTATED THE AREA ALONG THE GULF COAST. 2500 PEOPLE WERE KILLED. A FAMOUS RESORT ON LAST ISLAND WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. THE ONLY SURVIVOR ON THE ISLAND WAS A COW. THE ISLAND WAS SPLIT IN TWAIN. TODAY THERE ARE TWO ISLANDS."



1894


"THE LEPROSARIUM WAS ESTABLISHED AT CARVILLE. ORIGINALLY PLACED IN CHARGE OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY, THIS INSTITUTION WAS LATER TAKEN OVER BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING WAS FORMERLY A PLANTATION HOME NAMED *INDIAN CAMP*. IT IS THE ONLY LEPROSY HOSPITAL IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.
THE LOUISIANA INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE AND COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED AT RUSTON. IT LATER BECAME THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE."
CARL CAGE

1895

"BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR, LOTTERIES WERE IN FULL SWING IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

GENERALLY, A LOTTERY WAS A SCHEME OR ARRANGEMENT FOR RAISING MONEY, AS FOR SOME PUBLIC, CHARITABLE, OR PRIVATE PURPOSE, BY THE SALE OF A LARGE NUMBER OF TICKETS, CERTAIN AMONG WHICH, AS DETERMINED BY CHANCE AFTER THE SALE, ENTITLE THE HOLDER TO PRIZES.

THIS METHOD FOR RAISING MONEY FIRED THE PUBLICS INTEREST. IT DREW HUGE FOLLOWERS, WHO ALTERED THE SCHEME TO SUIT THEIR OWN PURPOSE. TOO, IT WAS AN EXCUSE FOR AN OUTING, AND TOOK ON THE EXCITING AIR OF GAMBLING. HOWEVER, IN THE CASE OF THE LOUISIANA LOTTERIES— AND ALSO ELSEWHERE— THIS WAS PROHIBITED BY BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS. THIS METHOD OF RAISING MONEY WAS REMOVED FROM THIS COUNTRY TO HONDURAS. IT FINALLY EXPIRED IN 1909."



1896

"THE CITIZENS REFORM LEAGUE, WHICH WAS ACTIVE THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, ORGANIZED TO COMBAT THE CORRUPTION OF BRIBERY DURING VOTING AND ELECTION TIME.

THEY WERE VICTORIOUS DURING THE ELECTION IN APRIL. AND THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SENDING SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEW ORLEANS TO PRISON WHO WERE FOUND GUILTY OF BRIBERY.

THE FIRST RURAL FREE DELIVERY, THE SECOND IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS INAUGURATED ON NOVEMBER 1st AT THIBODAUX.

HOWEVER, AT ALL THE STATE POST OFFICES— STAMPS WERE PURCHASED AS EARLY AS 1842, REGISTERED LETTERS IN 1855, MONEY ORDERS IN 1864, AND POST CARDS IN 1873."



1897

"WILLIAM McKINLEY BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE LAST IN A LONG SUCCESSION OF CIVIL WAR VETERANS TO HOLD OFFICE. HE WAS THE FIRST OF THE 20th CENTURY PRESIDENTS.

WHEN THE U.S. BATTLESHIP *MAINE* EXPLODED AND SANK IN THE HARBOR OF HAVANA, CUBA AMERICANS PRESSURED McKINLEY TO PUNISH SPAIN FOR THE DISASTER. THOUGH THE TRAGEDY REMAINED A MYSTERY—AND HAS TO THIS DAY—CONGRESS DID DECLARE WAR ON SPAIN.

YOUNG MEN FROM ALL OVER AMERICA, INCLUDING THE CREAM OF THE CROP IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, MARCHED OFF TO SAVE CUBA FROM STARVATION AND DISEASE BROUGHT ABOUT BY SPANISH FORCES AND CUBAN REVOLUTIONARIES.

LATER— LOUISIANA SOLDIERS FOUGHT AT MANILA BAY AND IN THE BATTLE OF SAN JUAN HILL."





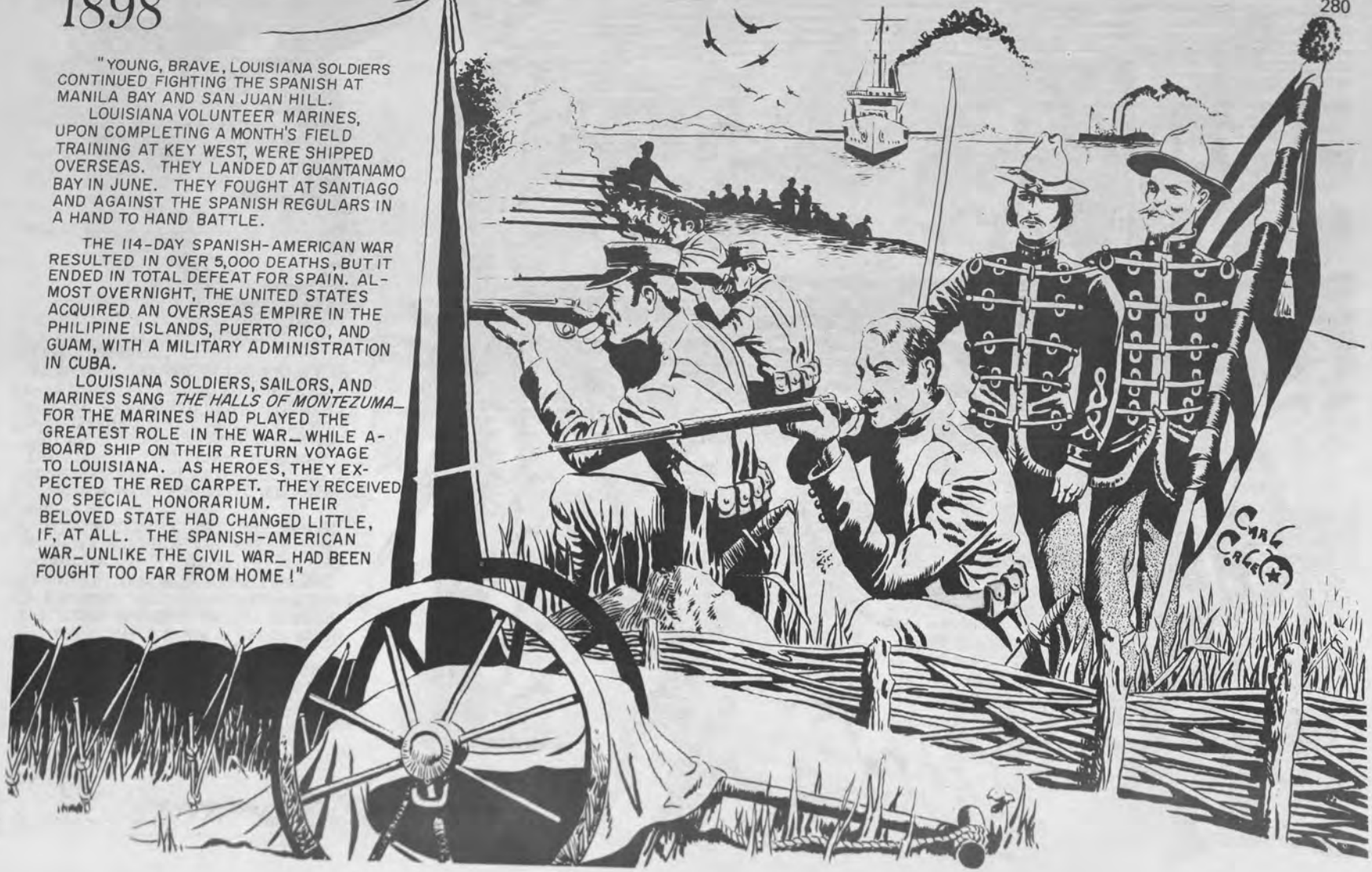
1898

"YOUNG, BRAVE, LOUISIANA SOLDIERS CONTINUED FIGHTING THE SPANISH AT MANILA BAY AND SAN JUAN HILL.

LOUISIANA VOLUNTEER MARINES, UPON COMPLETING A MONTH'S FIELD TRAINING AT KEY WEST, WERE SHIPPED OVERSEAS. THEY LANDED AT GUANTANAMO BAY IN JUNE. THEY FOUGHT AT SANTIAGO AND AGAINST THE SPANISH REGULARS IN A HAND TO HAND BATTLE.

THE 114-DAY SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR RESULTED IN OVER 5,000 DEATHS, BUT IT ENDED IN TOTAL DEFEAT FOR SPAIN. ALMOST OVERNIGHT, THE UNITED STATES ACQUIRED AN OVERSEAS EMPIRE IN THE PHILIPINE ISLANDS, PUERTO RICO, AND GUAM, WITH A MILITARY ADMINISTRATION IN CUBA.

LOUISIANA SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES SANG *THE HALLS OF MONTEZUMA*— FOR THE MARINES HAD PLAYED THE GREATEST ROLE IN THE WAR— WHILE ABOARD SHIP ON THEIR RETURN VOYAGE TO LOUISIANA. AS HEROES, THEY EXPECTED THE RED CARPET. THEY RECEIVED NO SPECIAL HONORARIUM. THEIR BELOVED STATE HAD CHANGED LITTLE, IF, AT ALL. THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR— UNLIKE THE CIVIL WAR— HAD BEEN FOUGHT TOO FAR FROM HOME!"



1899

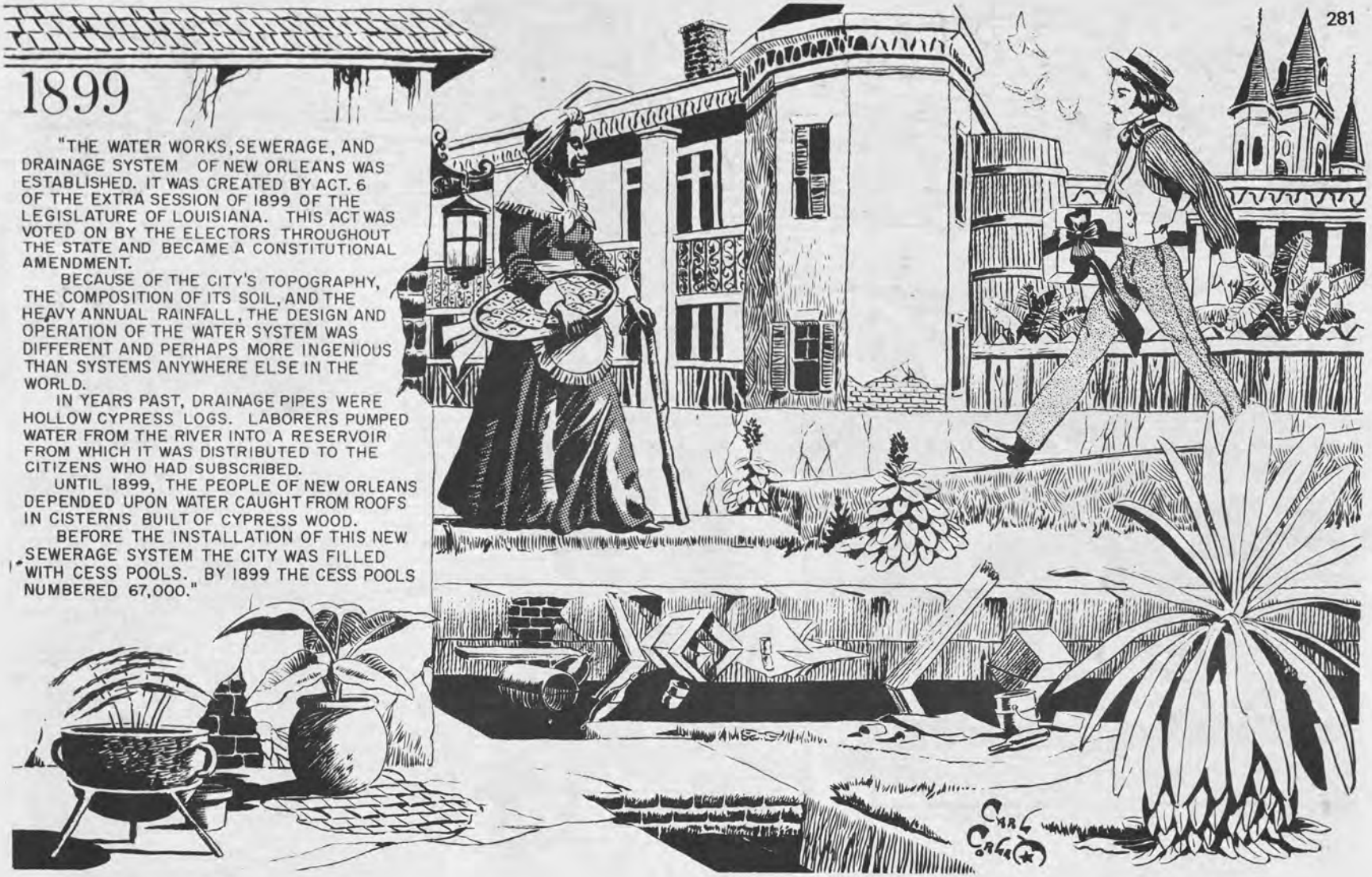
"THE WATER WORKS, SEWERAGE, AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM OF NEW ORLEANS WAS ESTABLISHED. IT WAS CREATED BY ACT. 6 OF THE EXTRA SESSION OF 1899 OF THE LEGISLATURE OF LOUISIANA. THIS ACT WAS VOTED ON BY THE ELECTORS THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND BECAME A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

BECAUSE OF THE CITY'S TOPOGRAPHY, THE COMPOSITION OF ITS SOIL, AND THE HEAVY ANNUAL RAINFALL, THE DESIGN AND OPERATION OF THE WATER SYSTEM WAS DIFFERENT AND PERHAPS MORE INGENIOUS THAN SYSTEMS ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD.

IN YEARS PAST, DRAINAGE PIPES WERE HOLLOW CYPRESS LOGS. LABORERS PUMPED WATER FROM THE RIVER INTO A RESERVOIR FROM WHICH IT WAS DISTRIBUTED TO THE CITIZENS WHO HAD SUBSCRIBED.

UNTIL 1899, THE PEOPLE OF NEW ORLEANS DEPENDED UPON WATER CAUGHT FROM ROOFS IN CISTERNS BUILT OF CYPRESS WOOD.

BEFORE THE INSTALLATION OF THIS NEW SEWERAGE SYSTEM THE CITY WAS FILLED WITH CESS POOLS. BY 1899 THE CESS POOLS NUMBERED 67,000."



1900

"THE TURN OF THE CENTURY BROUGHT ABOUT A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA. CLOTHES FASHIONS ALMOST MADE A COMPLETE REVOLUTION—ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN. THEIR OUTFITS WERE MADE MORE COMFORTABLE, WITH LESS MATERIAL, AND SPORTS HAD A SALUTARY EFFECT IN SIMPLIFYING WOMEN'S COSTUMES. THEY NOW BOWLED, SHOT POOL, WENT BOATING, ROLLER SKATED, PLAYED GOLF, AND TENNIS.

BY 1900 THERE WERE A MILLION BICYCLES IN AMERICA. THE AUTOMOBILE HAD BEEN INVENTED. FASHIONABLE CLIPPER SHIPS TOOK TO THE WATER, AND AIRPLANES TOOK TO THE SKIES.

TO ADD TO DAILY COMFORTS, THERE WAS NOW ELECTRICITY, THE TELEPHONE, AND THE PHONOGRAPH."



1901

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES- THE TWENTY-SIXTH. HE WAS THE NATION'S YOUNGEST CHIEF EXECUTIVE. HE WAS A MANY-SIDED MAN— WAR HERO, GAME HUNTER, WRITER, AND A REFORM POLITICIAN.

ON SEPTEMBER 21st, OIL WAS DISCOVERED NEAR JENNINGS, AN AUSPICIOUS DATE IN LOUISIANA HISTORY. A ONE-TIME ALASKA GOLD PROSPECTOR NAMED W. SCOTT HEYWOOD BROUGHT IN THE STATE'S FIRST OIL WELL. IT WAS IN A RICE FIELD. IT WAS A WILDCATTER'S DREAM, WITH AN INITIAL FLOW OF 7,000 BARRELS A DAY, AND IT WAS LOCATED BUT A SHORT DISTANCE FROM SALT WATER PORT FACILITIES WHICH MEANT ECONOMICAL ACCESS TO MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

THAT SAME YEAR, THE SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA INSTITUTE WAS ESTABLISHED AT LAFAYETTE."



Theodore Roosevelt
1901-1909




1902
"THE CENTRAL LOUISIANA STATE HOSPITAL FOR MENTAL DISEASES WAS FOUNDED NEAR PINEVILLE.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LOUISIANA HISTORY THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS ROSE ABOVE THE DISGRACE AND DEGRADATION PATIENTS HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO DURING THE PAST."
CARL CARLE

1903

"THE ISIDORE NEWMAN MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED IN NEW ORLEANS.

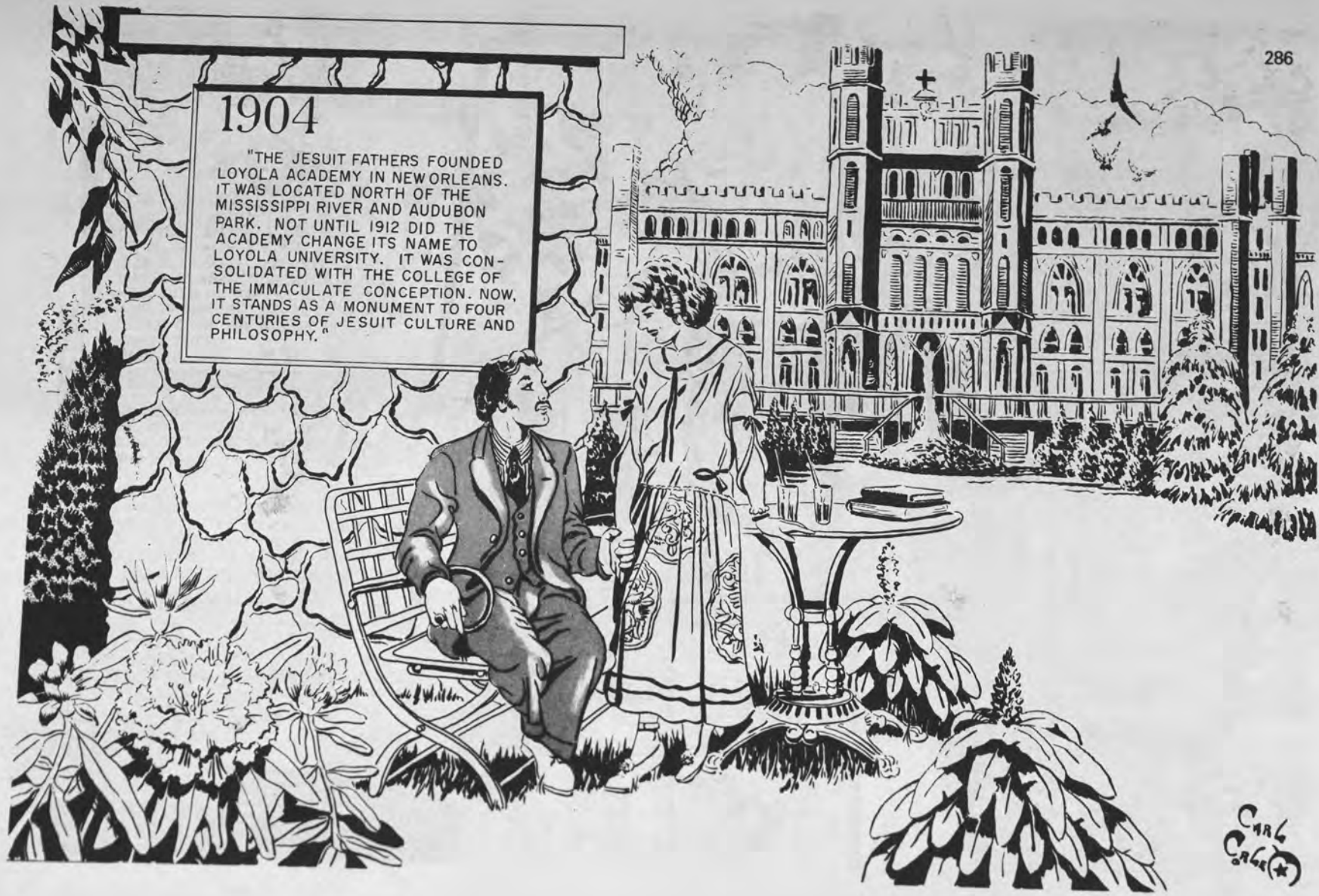
THIS WAS A BIG YEAR FOR KIDS_AND FOR THEIR PARENTS AS WELL. INTERTAINMENT GALORE!

FIRST TO LOUISIANA CAME THE PENNY ARCADE, USUALLY WITH THE CIRCUS OR A TRAVELING TENT SHOW. TO SEE THESE SCRAPS OF FILMS, YOU DROPPED A PENNY INTO A SLOT, LOOKED INTO AN APERTURE LIKE THAT OF A STEREOSCOPE, AND GROUND A CRANK. A LIGHT FLASHED ON, AND FOR A MINUTE YOU WATCHED A SMALL BOY SQUIRT THE GARDEN HOSE ON A WELL-DRESSED GENTLEMAN, OR A BELLY DANCER WIGGLE HER TORSO.

NEXT_THE KINETOSCOPE. THIS WAS LIKE THE MAGIC LANTERN THAT THREW A LARGER-THAN-LIFE-SIZE PICTURE ON A WHITE SHEET.

THEN CAME THE MOVING PICTURE_OR NICKELODEON. BY 1903 THERE WERE THEATURES IN MOST OF LOUISIANA'S LARGER TOWNS. ADVENTURES LIKE *AN IMPOSSIBLE VOYAGE* AND *A TRIP TO THE MOON* WERE SHOWN ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN. PRICE_5 CENTS!"

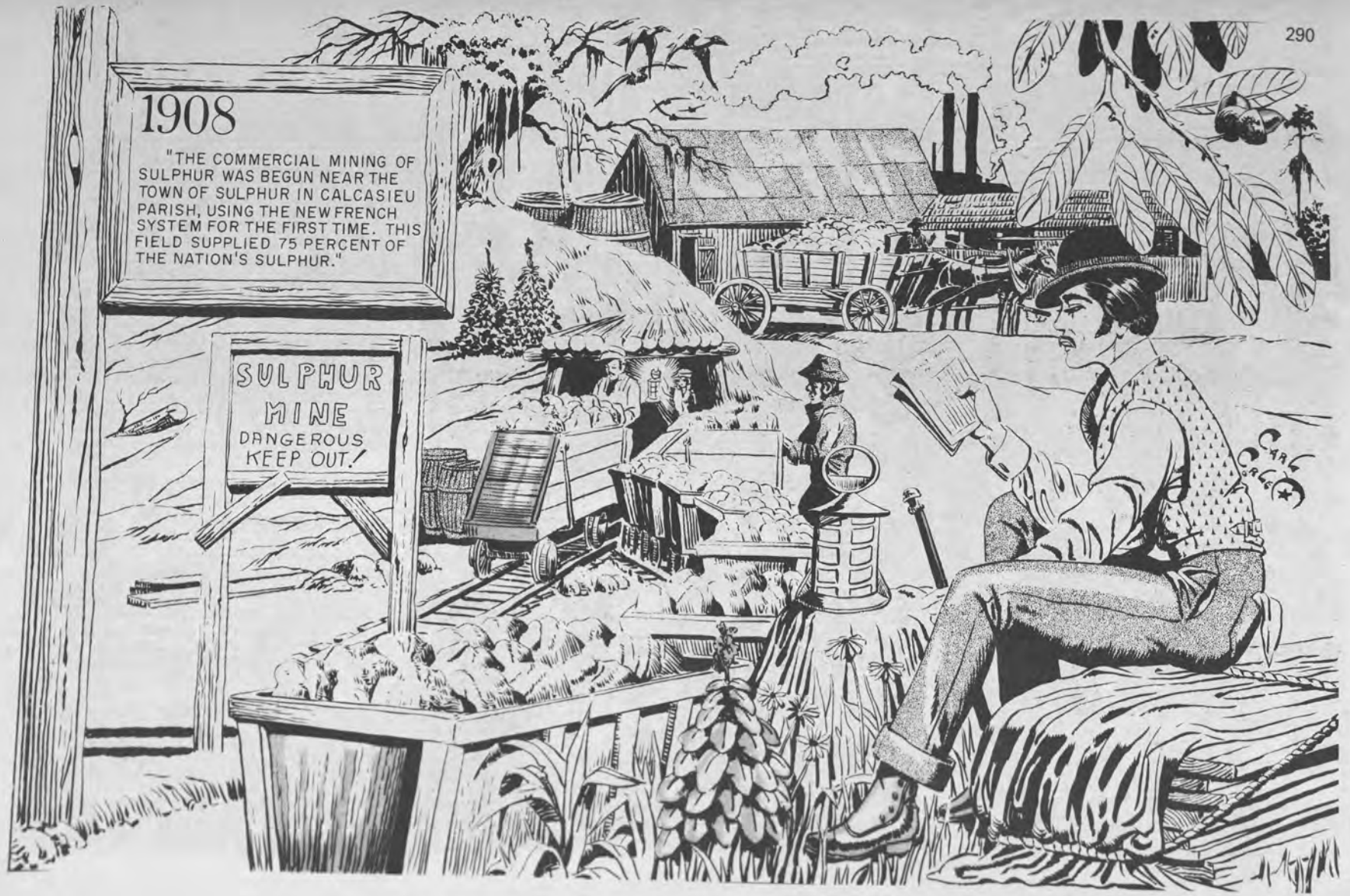



1904
"THE JESUIT FATHERS FOUNDED LOYOLA ACADEMY IN NEW ORLEANS. IT WAS LOCATED NORTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND AUDUBON PARK. NOT UNTIL 1912 DID THE ACADEMY CHANGE ITS NAME TO LOYOLA UNIVERSITY. IT WAS CONSOLIDATED WITH THE COLLEGE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. NOW, IT STANDS AS A MONUMENT TO FOUR CENTURIES OF JESUIT CULTURE AND PHILOSOPHY."
CARL CARLE


1905
" A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WAS HELD THROUGHOUT THE STATE, IN COMMEMORATION OF LOUISIANA'S BECOMING A PART OF THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS HELD ON A NATIONAL LEVEL. VISITORS THROUGHOUT AMERICA PAID HOMAGE. EVEN TOURISTS FROM ABROAD, AND ESPECIALLY FRANCE—WHO ONCE OWNED ALL OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY—JOINED THE HONORARY SPECTACLE."
IT WILL BE 1966 BEFORE THE BROWN PELICAN BECOMES THE STATE BIRD
LOUISIANA BECAME A STATE ON APRIL 30, 1812
STATE OF LOUISIANA
UNION JUSTICE CONFIDENCE
STATE SEAL 1902
MAGNOLIA STATE FLOWER 1900
UNION • JUSTICE • CONFIDENCE
WELCOME
CARL CARLES


1906
"LOUISIANA COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED AT PINEVILLE.
★OIL DISCOVERIES AT CADDO LAKE BROUGHT PROSPERITY TO THE CITY OF SHREVEPORT. THE EXISTENCE OF A VARIETY OF UNDERGROUND HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES HAD LONG SINCE BEEN KNOWN IN THAT AREA BY THE OBSERVANCE OF CRUDE, NATURAL GAS, PITCH, ASPHALT, AND RELATED EVIDENCE.
THE WORLD KNEW THAT PETROLEUM WAS WORTH FAR MORE THAN SUSPECTED, AND THIS EXPANDED BODY OF KNOWLEDGE CAME AT A MOST OPPORTUNE TIME FOR LOUISIANA."
CARL


1907
"BY THIS YEAR, THE MOTION PICTURE THEATRES IN LOUISIANA HAD BLOSSOMED INTO AN ENTIRELY NEW MEDIUM OF ENTERTAINMENT— A NEW FORM OF ART WHICH BECKONED TO ALL AGES. PEOPLE FLOCKED TO GAZE IN AWE ON THESE GHOSTLY IMAGES UPON A SILVER SCREEN AS IF THEY WERE DIVINE ALTARS OF WORSHIP. AND INDEED THEY WERE WORSHIPPED, THE PALE ACTORS BECOMING ANGELS AND IDOLS.
OPERA HOUSES WERE CONVERTED INTO MOVIE THEATRES. AND THE ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOR OF THE NEW THEATRES BEING CONSTRUCTED WERE GRANDOISE PALACES WITHIN THEMSELVES, AS MUCH LIKE MAGICAL FANTASIES AS THE FLEETING PICTURES THEY SHELTERED.
AS LOUISIANA TOWN AND COUNTRY FOLK SAT, SPELLBOUND, AND WATCHED THESE LIT-UP PICTURES THAT MOVED, THEY ASKED: "IF WE HAVE ALL THIS TODAY, WHAT IS IN STORE FOR US TOMORROW?"


1908
"THE COMMERCIAL MINING OF SULPHUR WAS BEGUN NEAR THE TOWN OF SULPHUR IN CALCASIEU PARISH, USING THE NEW FRASCH SYSTEM FOR THE FIRST TIME. THIS FIELD SUPPLIED 75 PERCENT OF THE NATION'S SULPHUR."
SULPHUR MINE DANGEROUS KEEP OUT!
CARL CALC

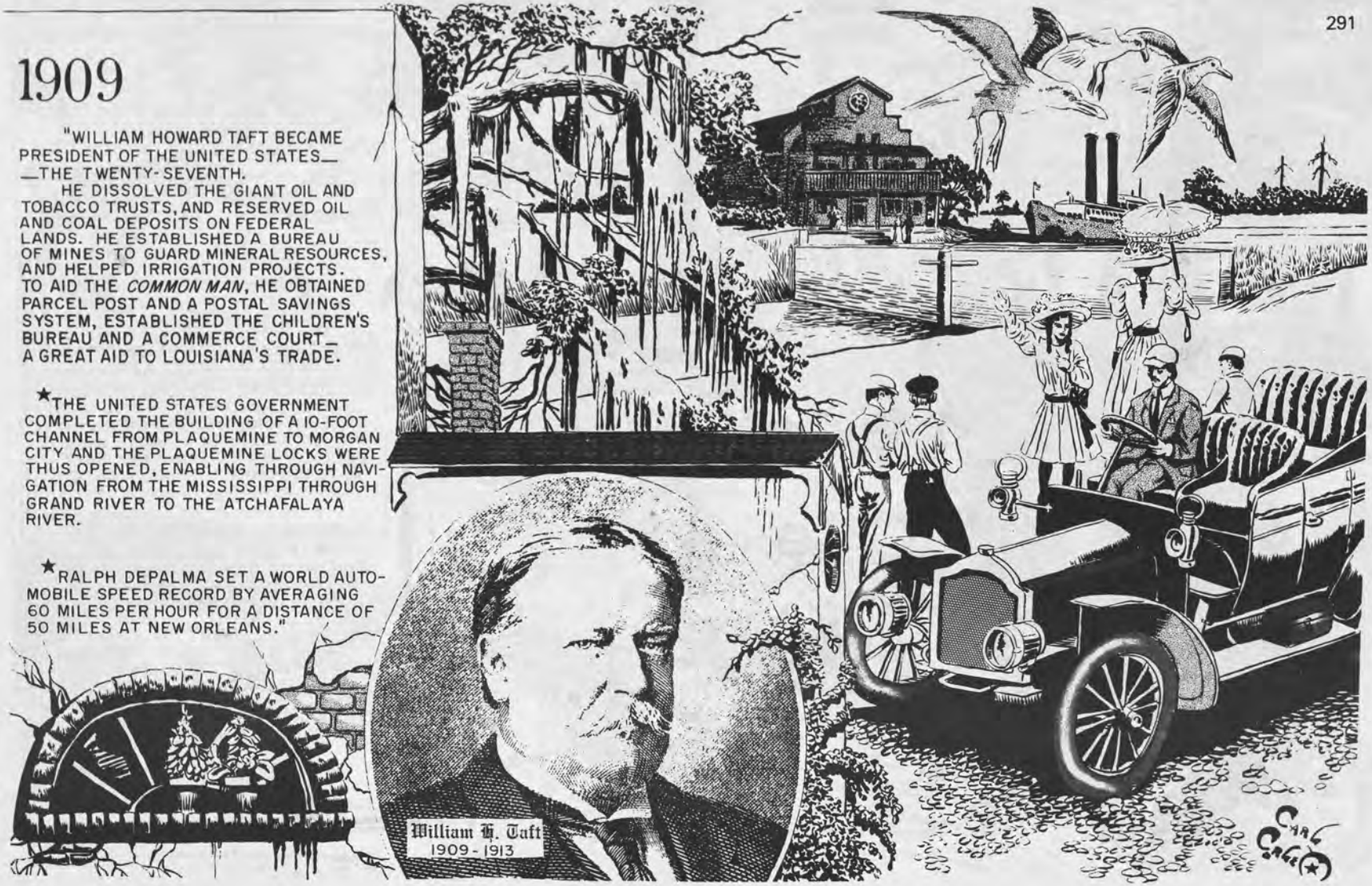
1909

"WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES— —THE TWENTY-SEVENTH.

HE DISSOLVED THE GIANT OIL AND TOBACCO TRUSTS, AND RESERVED OIL AND COAL DEPOSITS ON FEDERAL LANDS. HE ESTABLISHED A BUREAU OF MINES TO GUARD MINERAL RESOURCES, AND HELPED IRRIGATION PROJECTS. TO AID THE *COMMON MAN*, HE OBTAINED PARCEL POST AND A POSTAL SAVINGS SYSTEM, ESTABLISHED THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU AND A COMMERCE COURT— A GREAT AID TO LOUISIANA'S TRADE.

★THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT COMPLETED THE BUILDING OF A 10-FOOT CHANNEL FROM PLAQUEMINE TO MORGAN CITY AND THE PLAQUEMINE LOCKS WERE THUS OPENED, ENABLING THROUGH NAVIGATION FROM THE MISSISSIPPI THROUGH GRAND RIVER TO THE ATCHAFALAYA RIVER.

★RALPH DEPALMA SET A WORLD AUTOMOBILE SPEED RECORD BY AVERAGING 60 MILES PER HOUR FOR A DISTANCE OF 50 MILES AT NEW ORLEANS."



1910

"ON DECEMBER 12th, PRESIDENT TAFT APPOINTED EDWARD DOUGLAS WHITE OF LAFOURCHE PARISH CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT. HE SERVED FOR 11 YEARS.

★ON DECEMBER 24th, AT AN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION TOURNAMENT HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, A RECORD FOR THE MILE WAS MADE AT 57 SECONDS AND A RECORD HEIGHT OF 7,125 FEET.

★IN A SERIES OF AUTOMOBILE–AIRPLANE RACES, A PACKARD CAR CONSISTENTLY DEFEATED THE AIRPLANE PILOTED BY JOHN MOISANT.

★ISAAC DELGADO BEQUEATHED PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS TO MAINTAIN THE DELGADO TRADES SCHOOL."




1911
"THE EXCITING GAME OF POLO, LIKE SO MANY OTHER IMPORTED GAMES, EVENTUALLY FOUND ITS WAY TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.
DURING THE 1900 PERIOD, POLO BECAME A VERY POPULAR SPORT, AND THE STARS THEN WERE AS FAMOUS AS FOOTBALL PLAYERS OF TODAY.
THE ENGLISH WORD *POLO* IS DERIVED FROM THE TIBETAN *PULU* MEANING WILLOW, THE TREE THAT HAS ALWAYS FURNISHED THE WOOD FOR THE MALLETS AND BALLS USED IN THE GAME.
THE SPORT ORIGINATED IN CHINA. POLO FIRST CAME TO AMERICA IN 1875. RETURNING ENGLISH CAVALRY OFFICERS BROUGHT THE GAME FROM INDIA AND PLAYED IT FIRST AT HURLINGHAM. JAMES GORDON BENNETT PROMOTED THE SPORT IN THE UNITED STATES, USING COW PONIES FROM TEXAS. BY 1911 POLO WAS THE MOST POPULAR SPORT IN AMERICA AND EUROPE."
CARL

1912

"GEORGE MESTACH MADE THE SECOND SUCCESSFUL OFFICIAL AIR MAIL TRIP IN THE UNITED STATES, FLYING FROM NEW ORLEANS TO BATON ROUGE IN ONE HOUR AND 32 SECONDS. THAT WAS ON APRIL 10th.

★ELSEWHERE_WESTWARD ON HER MAIDEN VOYAGE CAME THE PROUD WHITE STAR LUXURY LINER, THE *TITANIC*, THE LARGEST SHIP THEN BUILT_AND SUPPOSEDLY UNSINKABLE. OFF NEWFOUNDLAND, AT ABOUT MIDNIGHT OF APRIL 14, 1912, THE VESSEL STRUCK AN ICEBURG: 1,517 LIVES WERE LOST."



1913

"BY THE END OF THE YEAR LOUISIANA HAD REACHED ITS PEAK IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, THE STATE'S LARGEST INDUSTRY. RICE REPLACED COTTON. BEEF REPLACED RICE IN DOLLAR VALUE. OTHER PROMINENT CONTRIBUTORS TO THE ECONOMY INCLUDED SOYBEANS, SUGAR CANE, DAIRY PRODUCTS, POULTRY, EGGS, SWEET POTATOES, PECANS, STRAWBERRIES, AND HOGS.

ANOTHER FARM PRODUCT_ AND A UNIQUE ONE_WAS TOBACCO. IN ALL THE WORLD, ONLY IN LOUISIANA COULD FARMERS GROW PERIQUE TOBACCO. AND IN ALL OF LOUISIANA, THIS STRONG, BLACK LEAF COULD ONLY BE RAISED ON A 500-ACRE, WEDGE-SHAPED PIECE OF LAND ON THE EAST BANK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN ST. JAMES PARISH. IT CAME FROM THE CHOCTAW INDIANS. THE YIELD PER ACRE VARIED FROM 750 TO 1000 POUNDS.

DURING 1913 A REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION MADE BETTER PROVISIONS FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION, LIBERALIZED SUFFRAGE, PROVIDED FOR A MORE EFFICIENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM, AND REORGANIZED THE JUDICIARY.

★WOODROW WILSON BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES_ THE 28th. HE WAS A LEADER AND CRUSADER FOR WORLD PEACE. HE WAS RAISED IN THE TRADITIONS OF THE SOUTH_A VIRGINIAN_ AND WAS PROUD THE CONFEDERATES HAD FOUGHT, BUT GLAD THE UNION HAD SURVIVED."




1914
"SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, FOUNDED FOR NEGROES IN NEW ORLEANS IN 1880, WAS MOVED TO SCOTLANDVILLE AND BECAME SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE.
★THE PANAMA CANAL, DUG THROUGH THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA AND THE LAKES OF NICARAGUA, WAS COMPLETED DURING THIS YEAR, AND AT A COST OF $ 350,000,000 TO THE UNITED STATES.
A LATER COMMENT:
THE CANAL IS THE GREATEST LIBERTY MAN HAS EVER TAKEN WITH NATURE!"
TIMES
CARL GALE


1915
"THE NAME JAZZ WAS GIVEN TO THAT FAMOUS MUSIC OF NEW ORLEANS.
XAVIER COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED AT A PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR NEGROES BY THE SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. IT LATER BECAME THE ONLY CATHOLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING FOR NEGROES IN THE UNITED STATES.
★THE NATIONS OF EUROPE BECAME DIVIDED. A POLITICAL ASSASSINATION IN A LITTLE BALKAN COUNTRY TURNED THE CONTINENT INTO A BATTLEGROUND. THE UNITED STATES TRIED TO STAY OUT OF THE CONFLICT IN AN EFFORT FOR WORLD PEACE. BUT GERMANY'S POLICY OF UNRESTRICTED SUBMARINE WARFARE LEFT AMERICA SMALL CHOICE. ON MAY 7th, THE BRITISH LINER THE LUSITANIA, WAS TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING. 1,200 LIVES WERE LOST, INCLUDING 124 AMERICANS.
WORLD WAR I WAS THEN A FOREGONE CONCLUSION."
SINKING OF THE "LUSITANIA"
CARL GALE

1916

"THE DISCOVERY OF A NATURAL GAS FIELD IN MONROE CAUSED THE TOWN TO FLOURISH. THIS UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY CONFIRMED, AND VASTLY EXCEEDED, THE HIGH HOPES AND GREAT EXPECTATIONS EXPRESSED BY THE EARLY EXPLORERS AND COLONIZERS TWO CENTURIES EARLIER.

★AS THE THUNDERS OF WAR ECHOED FROM EUROPE, PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON ADVOCATED A PROGRAM OF PREPAREDNESS. CONGRESS AUTHORIZED A GREAT INCREASE IN THE REGULAR ARMY. CONSCRIPTION WAS NECESSARY.
PRESIDENT WILSON SAID: 'THERE IS A UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION TO SERVE.'

HUNDREDS OF YOUNG LOUISIANA MEN JOINED THE CAUSE AND, AFTER A BRIEF TRAINING COURSE, THEY WERE SHIPPED TO BASES OVERSEAS."



1917

"THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO PRESERVE PEACE AND HONOR WERE FOREDOOMED. ON APRIL 2nd, PRESIDENT WILSON ADDRESSED CONGRESS. FOUR DAYS LATER CONGRESS VOTED A DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST GERMANY_ *A WAR TO END ALL WARS!*

LOUISIANA POSSESSED MANY EXCEPTIONAL NATURAL ADVANTAGES FOR SITES FOR CAMPS ADAPTABLE FOR MOBILIZATION AND TRAINING.

MOST INTEREST WITHIN THE STATE CENTERED UPON GERSTNER, AN AVIATION FIELD AND ENCAMPMENT NEAR LAKE CHARLES. THIS MILITARY BASE WAS ESTABLISHED IN NOVEMBER, AND COST THE GOVERNMENT TWO MILLION DOLLARS. THERE WERE 450 OFFICERS, 425 CADETS, 2050 ENLISTED MEN, 12 BARRACKS, AND 24 HANGERS.

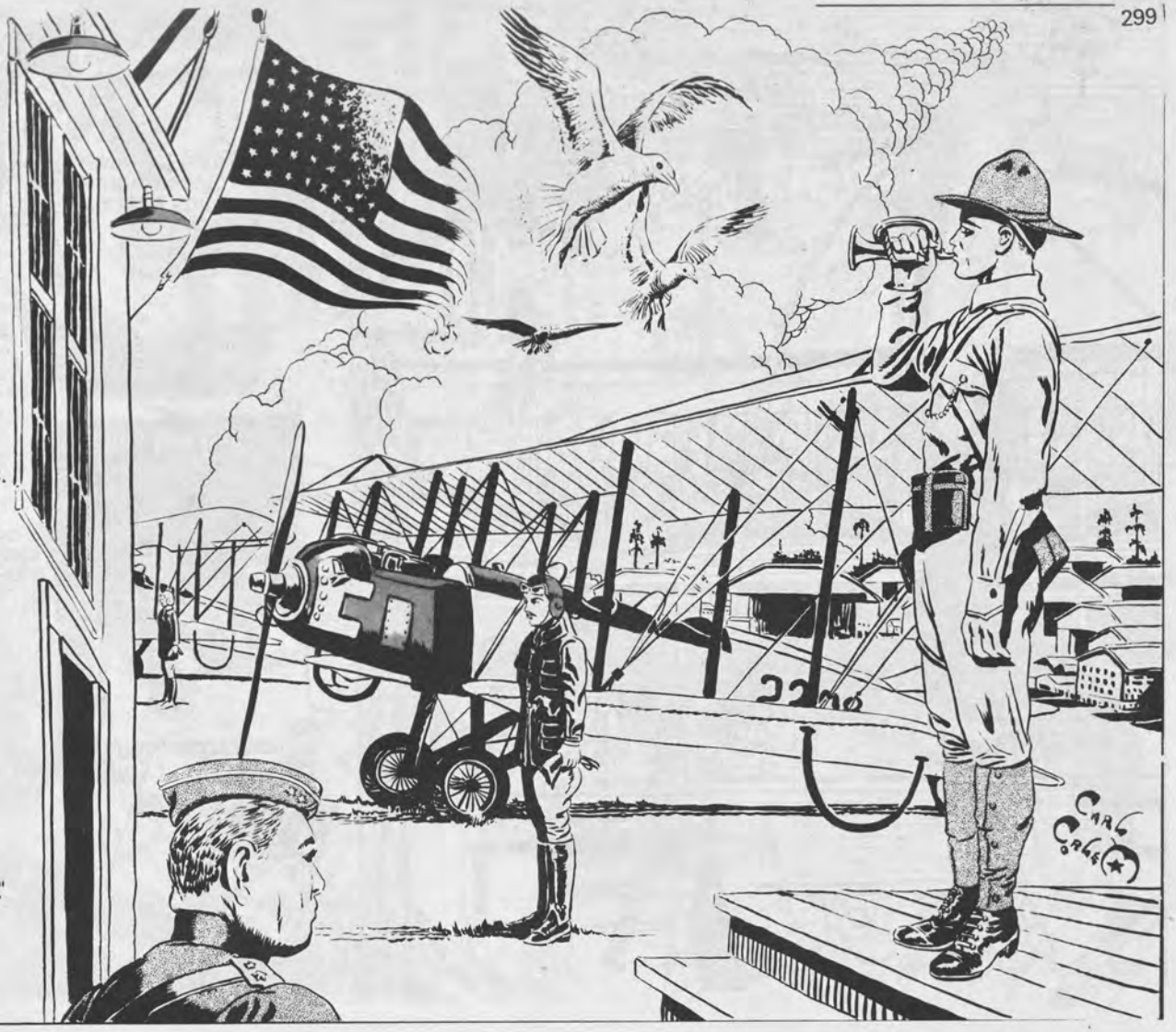
ONE OF THE LARGEST CANTONMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES WAS CAMP BEAUREGARD, NEAR ALEXANDRIA, WITH A TOTAL OF 22,243 MEN.

★OTHER TRAINING CAMPS:

NICHOLLS TRAINING BASE
JACKSON BARRACKS
FORT PHILIP
CAMP MARTIN

AND STUDENT TRAINING CORPS AT

TULANE UNIVERSITY
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY
STATE UNIVERSITY
ST. CHARLES COLLEGE
SOUTH WESTERN INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE."



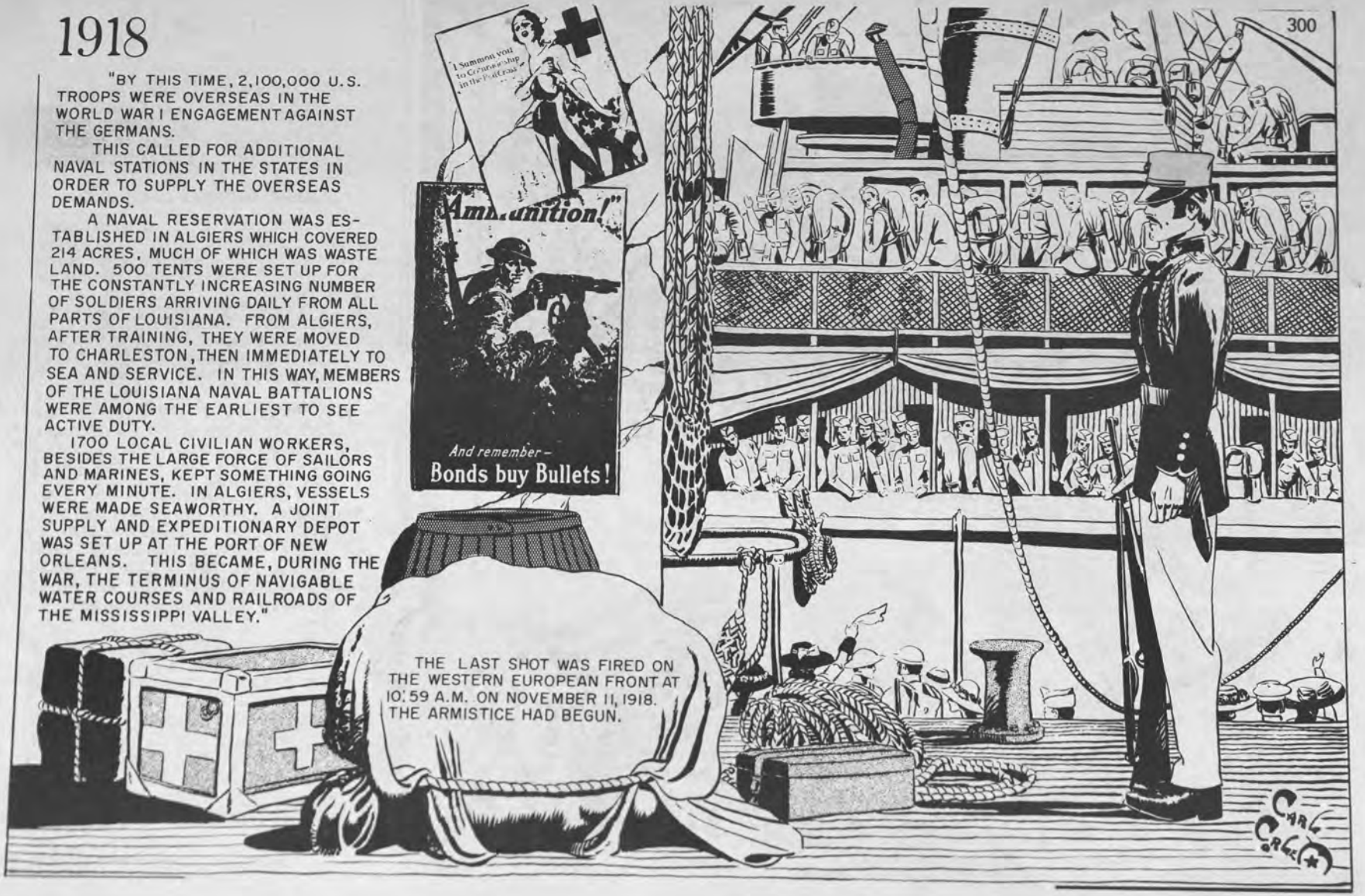
1918

"BY THIS TIME, 2,100,000 U.S. TROOPS WERE OVERSEAS IN THE WORLD WAR I ENGAGEMENT AGAINST THE GERMANS.

THIS CALLED FOR ADDITIONAL NAVAL STATIONS IN THE STATES IN ORDER TO SUPPLY THE OVERSEAS DEMANDS.

A NAVAL RESERVATION WAS ESTABLISHED IN ALGIERS WHICH COVERED 214 ACRES, MUCH OF WHICH WAS WASTE LAND. 500 TENTS WERE SET UP FOR THE CONSTANTLY INCREASING NUMBER OF SOLDIERS ARRIVING DAILY FROM ALL PARTS OF LOUISIANA. FROM ALGIERS, AFTER TRAINING, THEY WERE MOVED TO CHARLESTON, THEN IMMEDIATELY TO SEA AND SERVICE. IN THIS WAY, MEMBERS OF THE LOUISIANA NAVAL BATTALIONS WERE AMONG THE EARLIEST TO SEE ACTIVE DUTY.

1700 LOCAL CIVILIAN WORKERS, BESIDES THE LARGE FORCE OF SAILORS AND MARINES, KEPT SOMETHING GOING EVERY MINUTE. IN ALGIERS, VESSELS WERE MADE SEAWORTHY. A JOINT SUPPLY AND EXPEDITIONARY DEPOT WAS SET UP AT THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS. THIS BECAME, DURING THE WAR, THE TERMINUS OF NAVIGABLE WATER COURSES AND RAILROADS OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY."



1919

"THIS WAS IT! THE GREAT WORLD WAR I WAS OVER.

LOUISIANA'S DOUGHBOYS CAME MARCHING HOME. THERE WERE PARADES EVERYWHERE. BRASS BANDS AND WILD, CHEERING THRONGS HAD TO BE HELD BACK BY HORSE COPS. THERE WERE MILES OF TICKER TAPE, AND RED CROSS LADIES WITH COFFEE AND HOT BUNS. AND THERE WERE NAMELESS GIRLS— LATER TO BE CALLED FLAPPERS—WHO HUGGED JOHNNY AND GAVE HIM A HOME-COMING KISS. OLD GLORY WAVED IN EVERY WINDOW. AND ANOTHER NEW DECORATION, THE GOLD STAR, FOR THE DOUGHBOY WHO DID NOT COME MARCHING HOME, BUT LAY IN FLANDERS FIELD."



1920

"FOR ALL THE HURRAHS AND ALL THE HOSANNAS, THE LOUISIANA DOUGHBOY FOUND SOMETHING LESS THAN WONDERFUL ABOUT THE AMERICA OF 1920. LOUISIANA WAS NOT THE SAME PLACE HE HAD LEFT IN '17. HE FOUND AGONY IN PEACE AS IN WAR. IN A WORD, JOHNNY HAD A SHOCK COMING WHEN HE FLECKED OFF THE CONFETTI AND PACKED AWAY HIS HERO'S KHAKI.

HE FOUND NO LONGER THE SHORT DAY AND HIGH PAY. PROSPERITY WAS GONE. UNEMPLOYMENT BECAME A TRAGEDY. AT THE NEW ORLEANS LOADING DOCKS, VESSELS STOOD IDLE, FOR THERE WAS NOTHING ON THE SHELVES TO SHIP. STRIKES, LIKE MUSHROOMS, SPRUNG UP OVERNIGHT. POVERTY AND DEPRESSION REARED THEIR UGLY HEADS.

WOMEN, INCLUDING THOSE LOUISIANA BELLES, HAD PLAYED THEIR FULL PART AS BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY RE-INFORCEMENTS DURING THE WAR EFFORT. THOUSANDS SAW SERVICE ABROAD: ARMY NURSES, AMBULANCE DRIVERS, CANTEEN WORKERS, AND ENTERTAINERS. THE "FRAILTY" AND DOMESTIC SPHERE OF THE SEX WERE DISCREDITED. THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY AMMENDMENT WAS PASSED BY CONGRESS IN 1919. IT WAS RATIFIED BY THE STATES IN TIME FOR WOMEN TO VOTE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1920.

★ D. W. PIPES, JR. AND ELLIOTT JONES OF HOUMA BROUGHT IN A FEW STALKS OF POJ CANE THAT LATER CHANCED TO SAVE THE SUGAR CANE INDUSTRY IN LOUISIANA."



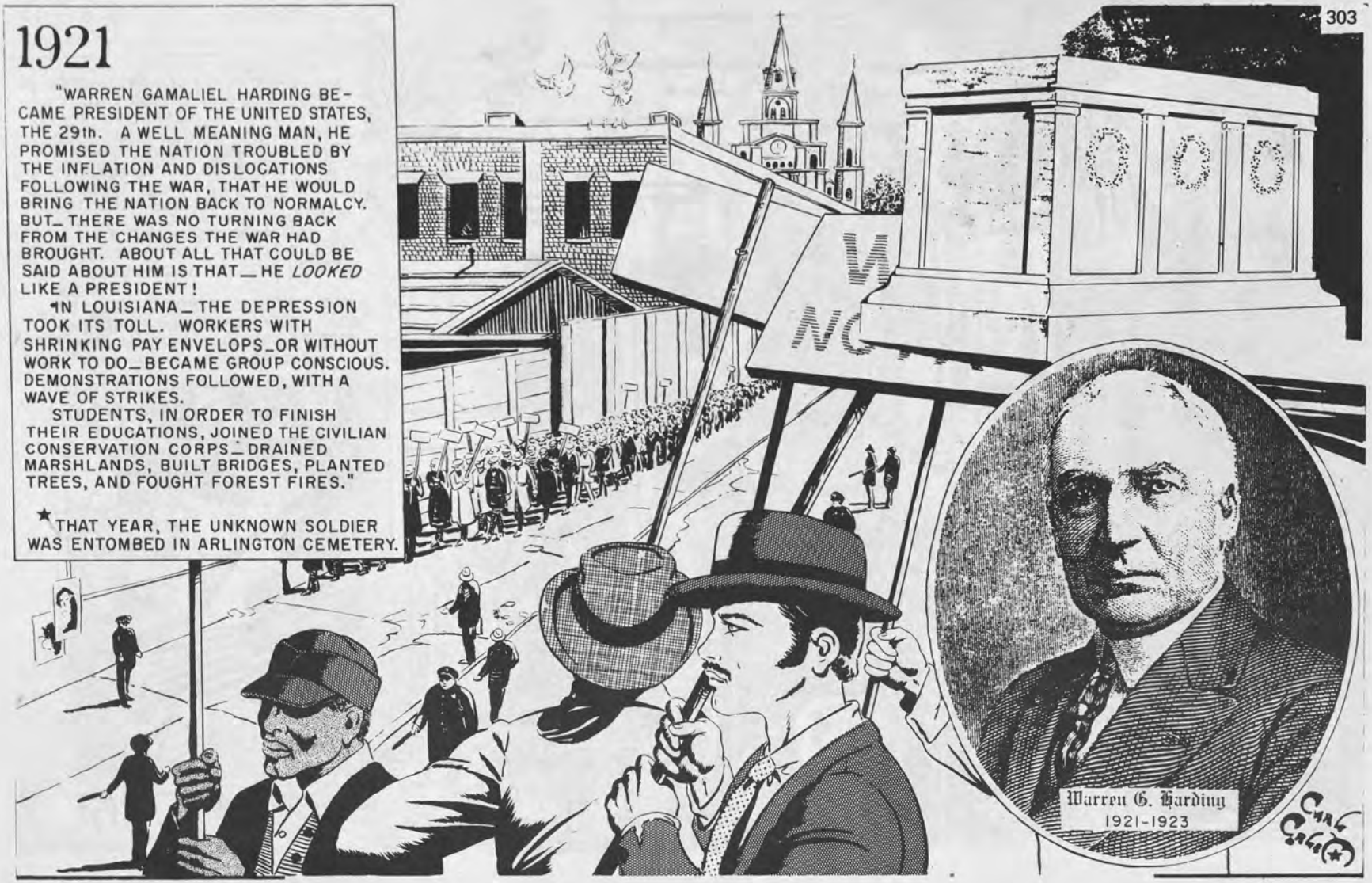
1921

"WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE 29th. A WELL MEANING MAN, HE PROMISED THE NATION TROUBLED BY THE INFLATION AND DISLOCATIONS FOLLOWING THE WAR, THAT HE WOULD BRING THE NATION BACK TO NORMALCY. BUT_THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK FROM THE CHANGES THE WAR HAD BROUGHT. ABOUT ALL THAT COULD BE SAID ABOUT HIM IS THAT_HE *LOOKED* LIKE A PRESIDENT!

¶IN LOUISIANA_THE DEPRESSION TOOK ITS TOLL. WORKERS WITH SHRINKING PAY ENVELOPS_OR WITHOUT WORK TO DO_BECAME GROUP CONSCIOUS. DEMONSTRATIONS FOLLOWED, WITH A WAVE OF STRIKES.

STUDENTS, IN ORDER TO FINISH THEIR EDUCATIONS, JOINED THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS_DRAINED MARSHLANDS, BUILT BRIDGES, PLANTED TREES, AND FOUGHT FOREST FIRES."

★THAT YEAR, THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER WAS ENTOMBED IN ARLINGTON CEMETERY.



1922



"MOVIES WERE SWEEPING AMERICA— LIKE A TINSEL BALLOON THAT BURST IN MID-AIR AND SCATTERED CONFETTI OVER EVERY STATE.

SOME OF THAT GLITTER FELL ON LOUISIANA—HOLLYWOOD KEPT AN EYE ON LOUISIANA! WITH ITS VARIETY OF CLIME AND UNIQUE FOLKLORE, THE STATE WAS A NATURAL STAGE FOR THE SILVER SCREEN. THE FIRST MOVIE MADE IN LOUISIANA WAS *TARZAN OF THE APES*. THE SECOND: *THE ROMANCE OF EVANGELINE*.

SINCE 1922, 67 MOVIES HAVE BEEN FILMED IN LOUISIANA."

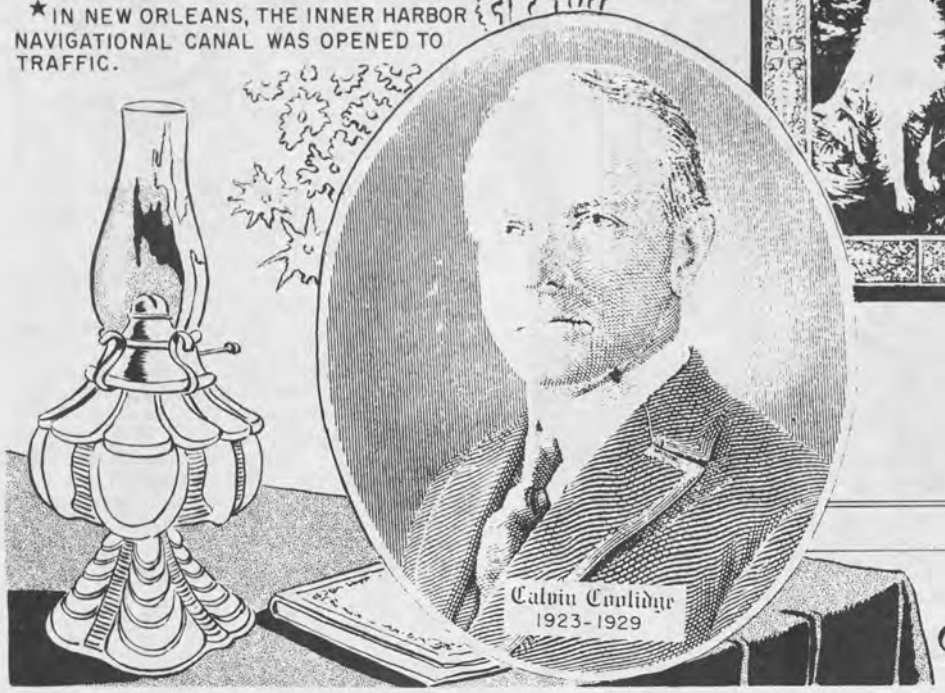
1923

"CALVIN COOLIDGE BECAME THE 30th PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. THAT WAS IN AUGUST, DIRECTLY AFTER THE DEATH OF HARDING. BY THE LIGHT OF A KEROSENE LAMP, HIS FATHER, A NOTARY PUBLIC, ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE. HE OCCUPIED THE WHITE HOUSE IN AN ERA OF EX-TRAVAGANCE AND WASTE. HIS MOTTO: WHEN THINGS ARE GOING ALONG ALL RIGHT, IT IS A GOOD PLAN TO LET THEM ALONE. THE NATION CALLED HIM *CAL*."

★IN NEW ORLEANS, THE INNER HARBOR NAVIGATIONAL CANAL WAS OPENED TO TRAFFIC.



GRACE GOODHUE COOLIDGE, CHARMING AND RADIANT, WAS THE MOST POPULAR OF THE FIRST LADIES





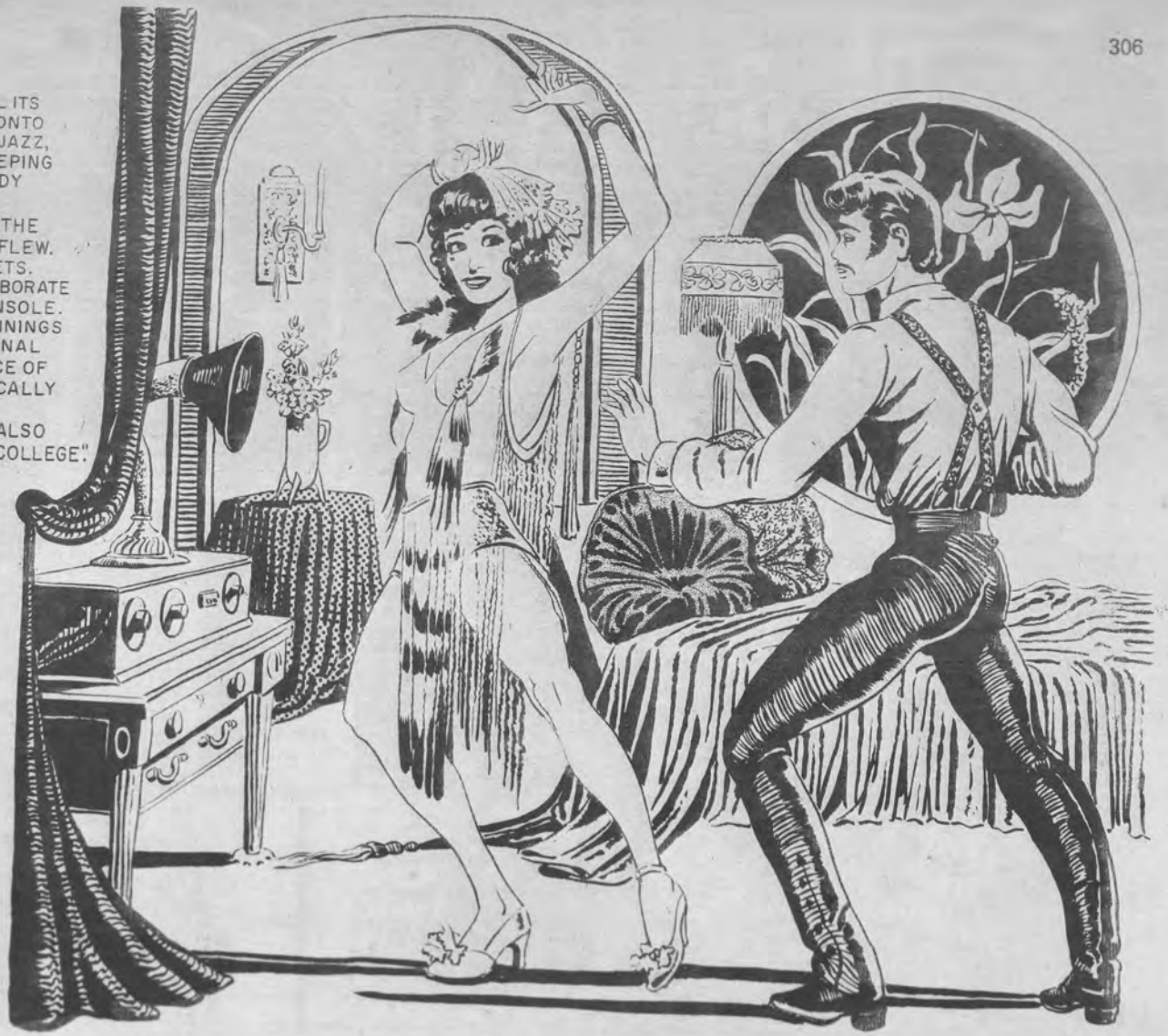
1924

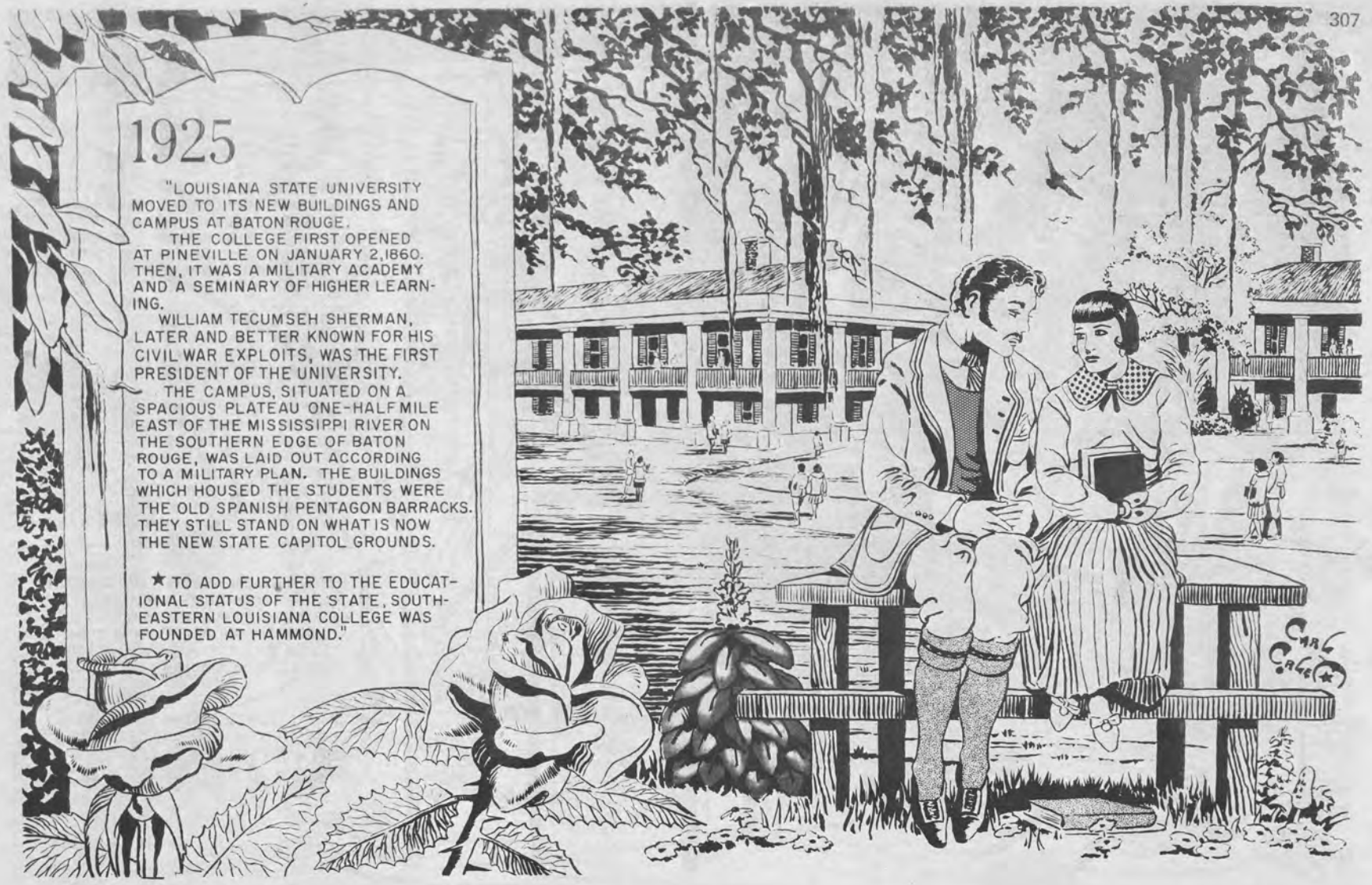
"IN LOUISIANA—AS ELSEWHERE—ITS PLAY ORIENTED CITIZENS LATCHED ONTO THE EXCITEMENT OF BANDSTANDS, JAZZ, AND A NEW PASTIME THAT WAS SWEEPING THE COUNTRY—DANCING. EVERYBODY WAS DANCING!

FOR HOME MUSIC TO DANCE BY—THE RADIO. BY 1924 IT DIDN'T GROW: IT FLEW. PEOPLE LINED UP FOR RECEIVING SETS. THEN THERE WERE LATER MORE ELABORATE MODELS, AND BY THIS YEAR, THE CONSOLE. THE BOOMING VOICE OF WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, AND THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION, PLUS THE SHRILL VOICE OF RUDY VALLEE POURED INTO PRACTICALLY EVERY HOME IN LOUISIANA.

FOR THE COLLEGE KIDS, IT WAS ALSO THE AGE OF THE FLAPPER AND JOE COLLEGE."






1925
"LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY MOVED TO ITS NEW BUILDINGS AND CAMPUS AT BATON ROUGE.
THE COLLEGE FIRST OPENED AT PINEVILLE ON JANUARY 2,1860. THEN, IT WAS A MILITARY ACADEMY AND A SEMINARY OF HIGHER LEARNING.
WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN, LATER AND BETTER KNOWN FOR HIS CIVIL WAR EXPLOITS, WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY.
THE CAMPUS, SITUATED ON A SPACIOUS PLATEAU ONE-HALF MILE EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER ON THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF BATON ROUGE, WAS LAID OUT ACCORDING TO A MILITARY PLAN. THE BUILDINGS WHICH HOUSED THE STUDENTS WERE THE OLD SPANISH PENTAGON BARRACKS. THEY STILL STAND ON WHAT IS NOW THE NEW STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS.
★ TO ADD FURTHER TO THE EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE STATE, SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA COLLEGE WAS FOUNDED AT HAMMOND."
CARL CAGE

1926

"THE COMPLETION OF A SERIES OF WATERWAYS FROM THE GULF MADE LAKE CHARLES ONE OF LOUISIANA'S THREE DEEP WATER PORTS.

★ELSEWHERE: ON AUGUST 23, RUDOLPH VALENTINO, THE MOST FAMOUS MOVIE STAR IN AMERICA DIED. HOLLYWOOD WAS TREATED TO THE GAUDIEST DISPLAY OF SOPPING-WET MASS EMOTION IN ITS HISTORY."



1927

"DURING APRIL AND MAY, THE STATE SUFFERED THE GREATEST FLOOD IN ITS HISTORY. A RECORD RAINFALL IN THE WINTER AND SPRING CAUSED THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO OVERFLOW ITS BANKS, BREAK THROUGH ITS LEVEES AND FLOOD A LARGE PART OF THE STATE. MORE THAN 1,300,000 ACRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND WAS FLOODED, AND 300,000 PEOPLE MADE HOMELESS.

★EVERY STATE IN THE NATION, AND LOUISIANA WAS NO EXCEPTION, CHEERED WHEN AN IMPATIENT KID NAMED CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, JR. FLEW HIS *SPIRIT OF SAINT LOUIS* FROM LONG ISLAND TO LE BOURGET FRANCE IN THIRTY-THREE HOURS AND TWENTY-NINE MINUTES— A DISTANCE OF 3610 MILES. IT WAS CALLED THE GREATEST FEAT OF A SOLITARY MAN IN THE RECORDS OF THE HUMAN RACE."



1928

"A MAN BY THE NAME OF HUEY P. LONG WAS INAUGURATED AS GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA.

HE WAS A RABBLE ROUSER WITH MUCH POTENTIAL. CITIZENS CALLED HIM THE KINGFISH, AN UNDISPUTED MASTER IN ANY GROUP—A WHEELER DEALER, LIKE THE KINGFISH IN THE FAMOUS AMOS AND ANDY RADIO SHOW.

ON MAY 9th, AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT FLOOD, CONGRESS PASSED THE IMPORTANT MISSISSIPPI VALLEY FLOOD CONTROL ACT, APPROPRIATING $ 325,000,000 FOR FLOOD CONTROL.

FOR THE LOUISIANA STUDENT— THE STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEXT-BOOKS, WINNING AN APPLAUSE FROM PARENTS FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO BUY THEM."



1929

"HUEY P. LONG WAS NOT QUITE THIRTY-FIVE WHEN HE BECAME THE GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA. THAT WAS A YEAR AGO. HIS DWARF-LIKE IMAGE, UNEXPECTEDLY, ON THE TRANQUIL SOUTHERN STATE WAS LIKE FIRE AND BRIMSTONE IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

HUEY WAS FRENCH, ENGLISH, IRISH, SCOTCH, GERMAN, AND AS MANY OTHER NATIONALITIES HE COULD THROW IN_SO HE CLAIMED_ TO HIS VOTERS. A NATIVE OF WINNFIELD, IN WINN PARISH, HE WAS AMONG THE LITERARY ELITE. YET, HE WAS CALLED A HILLBILLY AND A HICK.

HE HAD BEEN IN OFFICE AS GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA ONLY A YEAR WHEN, ON MAY 16th, FIFTEEN STATE SENATORS SIGNED A ROUND ROBIN TO BLOCK AN ATTEMPT BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE HIM IMPEACHED FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL."



1930

"GOVERNOR HUEY P. LONG OF LOUISIANA BECAME UNITED STATES SENATOR. BEFORE HE WAS ELECTED, HE MADE THE REMARK:

"EVEN MY ENEMIES KNOW THAT ALL I HAVE TO DO TO GET THE JOB IS HAVE MY NAME PUT ON THE TICKET."

HUEY P. LONG, ACTUALLY, LIVED IN THE PLACID AGE OF THE 19th CENTURY, NOT IN THIS PROGRESSIVE MODERN PERIOD, AND HE BECAME THE MOST INEFFECTIVE MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

YET, HE KEPT REPEATING:

"WHEN I GET TO WASHINGTON, YOU'LL KNOW THE NAME OF YOUR SENATOR."

AND INDEED— THE CITIZENS OF LOUISIANA DID KNOW IT!

THE EXTENSIVE U.S. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FACILITIES WERE OPENED NEAR PINEVILLE."

★HERBERT HOOVER WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS THE 31st OFFICIAL TO SIT IN OFFICE, AND WOULD SERVE ONE TERM. HE HAD TO COPE WITH A SEVERE WORLD-WIDE DEPRESSION. HOOVER WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT BORN WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.



1931

"SINCE 1925, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY WAS REFERRED TO AS THE *NEW CAMPUS*, TO DISTINGUISH IT FROM THE OLD DOWNTOWN CAMPUS IN BATON ROUGE. BUT THE SCHOOL HAD NOT TRAVELED BUT AT A SLOW PACE, DUE TO THE LACK OF STATE FUNDS.

GOVERNOR HUEY LONG CHANGED ALL THAT!

HE REALIZED THAT THE SCHOOL WAS NOT AS FREE FROM POLITICS AS IT SHOULD BE. TOO_ HE SAW THE UNIVERSITY AS AN INSTRUMENT THAT HIS ENEMIES WISHED TO CONTROL. SO, HIS AMBITIONS FOR LSU BECAME BOUNDLESS.

STUDENTS SAW THE GOVERNOR ON THE CAMPUS ALMOST EVERY DAY. BY 1931, HE WAS *INTO* EVERYTHING THAT WENT ON. HE REORGANIZED THE BAND, COMPOSED MUSIC FOR IT, HELPED DESIGN THE UNIFORMS, AND PUT HIS STAMP OF APPROVAL ON THE SCHOOL'S COLORS OF PURPLE AND GOLD.

HE BECAME A FAN OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM, AND HIS DEEP INTEREST INFLUNCED THE ATHLETIC FORTUNES OF LSU. HE CALLED THE TEAM *HIS TEAM* AND THE PLAYERS *HIS BOYS*. IN TURN, HE MADE MONEY AVAILABLE TO INCREASE THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET.

PROUD, HE REMINDED HIS BOYS:
"I DON'T FOOL AROUND WITH LOSERS."



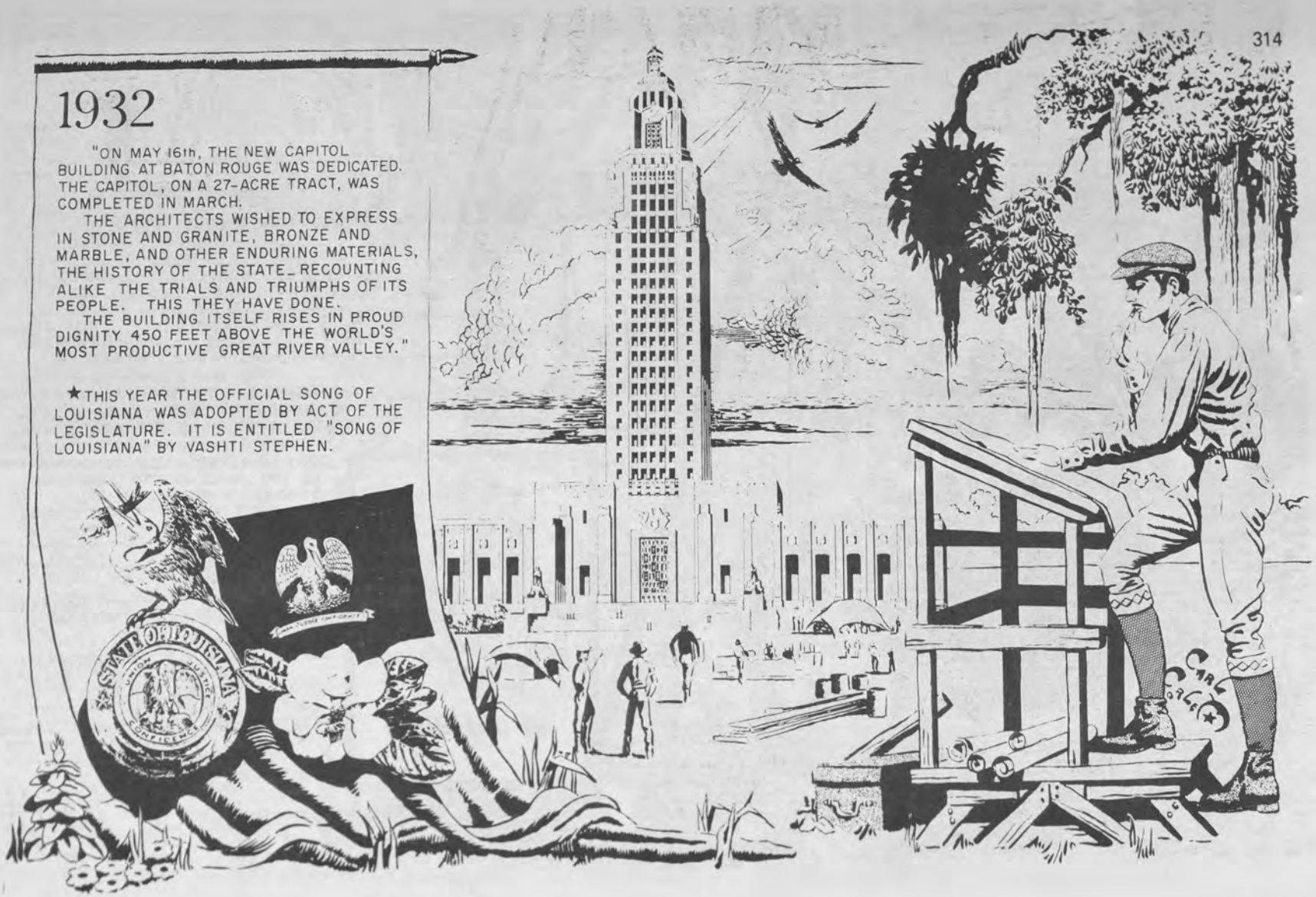
1932

"ON MAY 16th, THE NEW CAPITOL BUILDING AT BATON ROUGE WAS DEDICATED. THE CAPITOL, ON A 27-ACRE TRACT, WAS COMPLETED IN MARCH.

THE ARCHITECTS WISHED TO EXPRESS IN STONE AND GRANITE, BRONZE AND MARBLE, AND OTHER ENDURING MATERIALS, THE HISTORY OF THE STATE_RECOUNTING ALIKE THE TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS OF ITS PEOPLE. THIS THEY HAVE DONE.

THE BUILDING ITSELF RISES IN PROUD DIGNITY 450 FEET ABOVE THE WORLD'S MOST PRODUCTIVE GREAT RIVER VALLEY."

★THIS YEAR THE OFFICIAL SONG OF LOUISIANA WAS ADOPTED BY ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE. IT IS ENTITLED "SONG OF LOUISIANA" BY VASHTI STEPHEN.



1933

"THE $2,000,000 HARVEY LOCKS, LINKING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND THE INTRACOASTAL CANAL, WERE COMPLETED AFTER FOUR YEARS OF CONSTRUCTION.

THE LOCKS ARE LOCATED NORTHWEST OF HARVEY_A SECTION OF NEW ORLEANS-IN JEFFERSON PARISH.

THE CANAL IS CONNECTED TO THE RIVER BY LOCKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERMITTING THE PASSAGE OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS.

★PRESIDENT HOOVER CONTINUED TO BATTLE HUNGER MARCHES AND LABOR STRIKES, DUE TO THE DEPRESSION THAT WAS INVADING THE NATION. IMPROVISED HO-BO VILLAGES SQUATTED NEAR CITY DUMPS. PEOPLE COMMITTED SUICIDE. WAR VETERANS_TO KEEP FROM STARVING_URGED CASH PAYMENTS OF THEIR SERVICE CERTIFICATES, BUT WERE TURNED BACK BY SMOKE BOMBS. MEN FOUGHT FOR SLEEPING SPACE UNDER BRIDGEHEADS.

THE CRY WAS: WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE AMERICAN DREAM?"

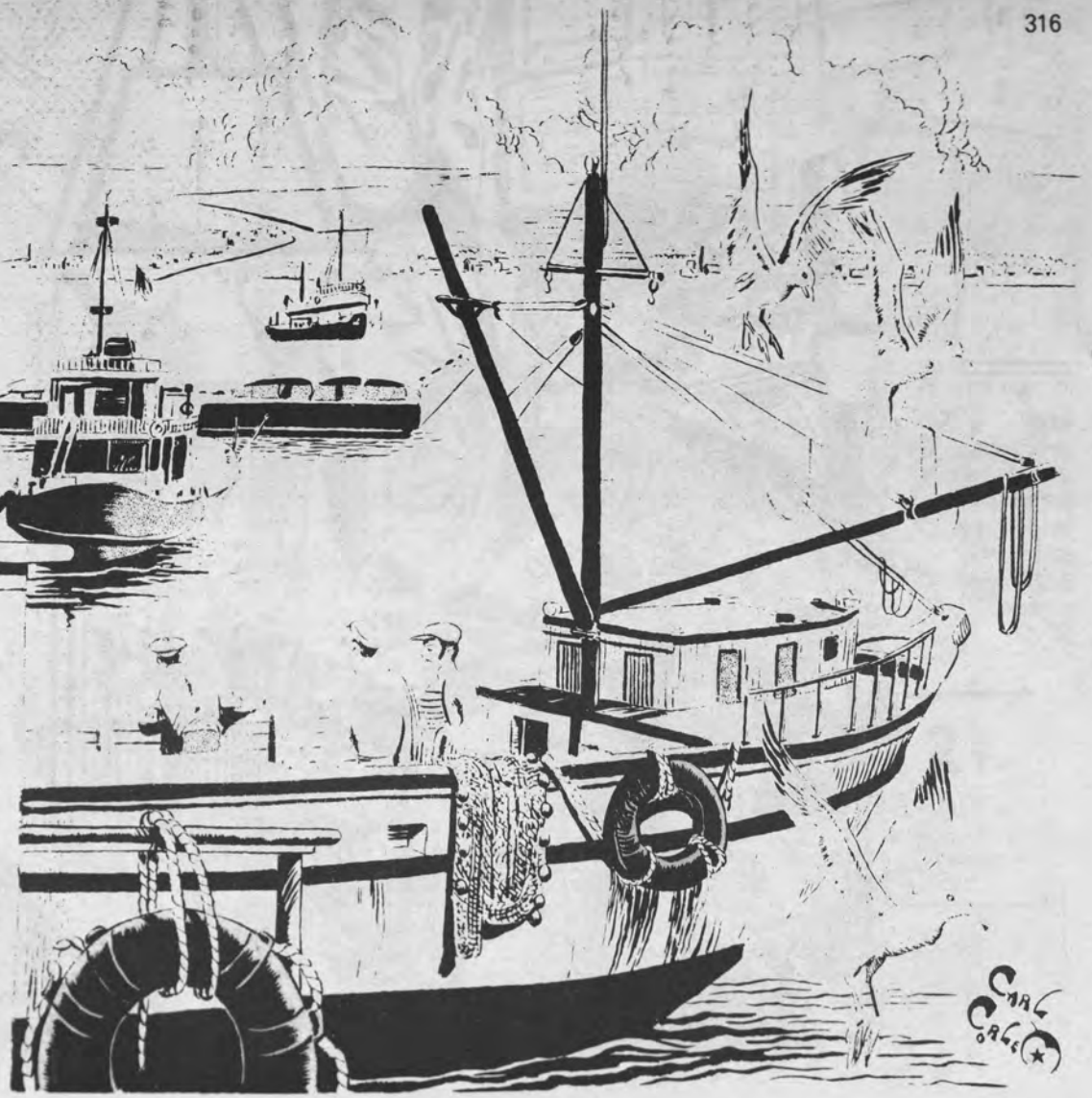


1934

"IN AUGUST, A BARGE TOW CARRYING 1,400 TONS OF STEEL, MADE THE FIRST TRIP ON THAT PORTION OF THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY FROM NEW ORLEANS TO HOUSTON, TEXAS.

★FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THE 32nd. ROOSEVELT, DURING ELECTION, CARRIED THE COUNTRY ON A LANDSLIDE. TO MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT OF THE DECADE WAS HIS INAUGURATION IN MARCH OF 1933. AN ERA OF FAR-REACHING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES FOLLOWED HIS ELECTION. IT WAS TIME FOR A CHANGE, AND CHANGE CAME WITH STAGGERING SPEED."





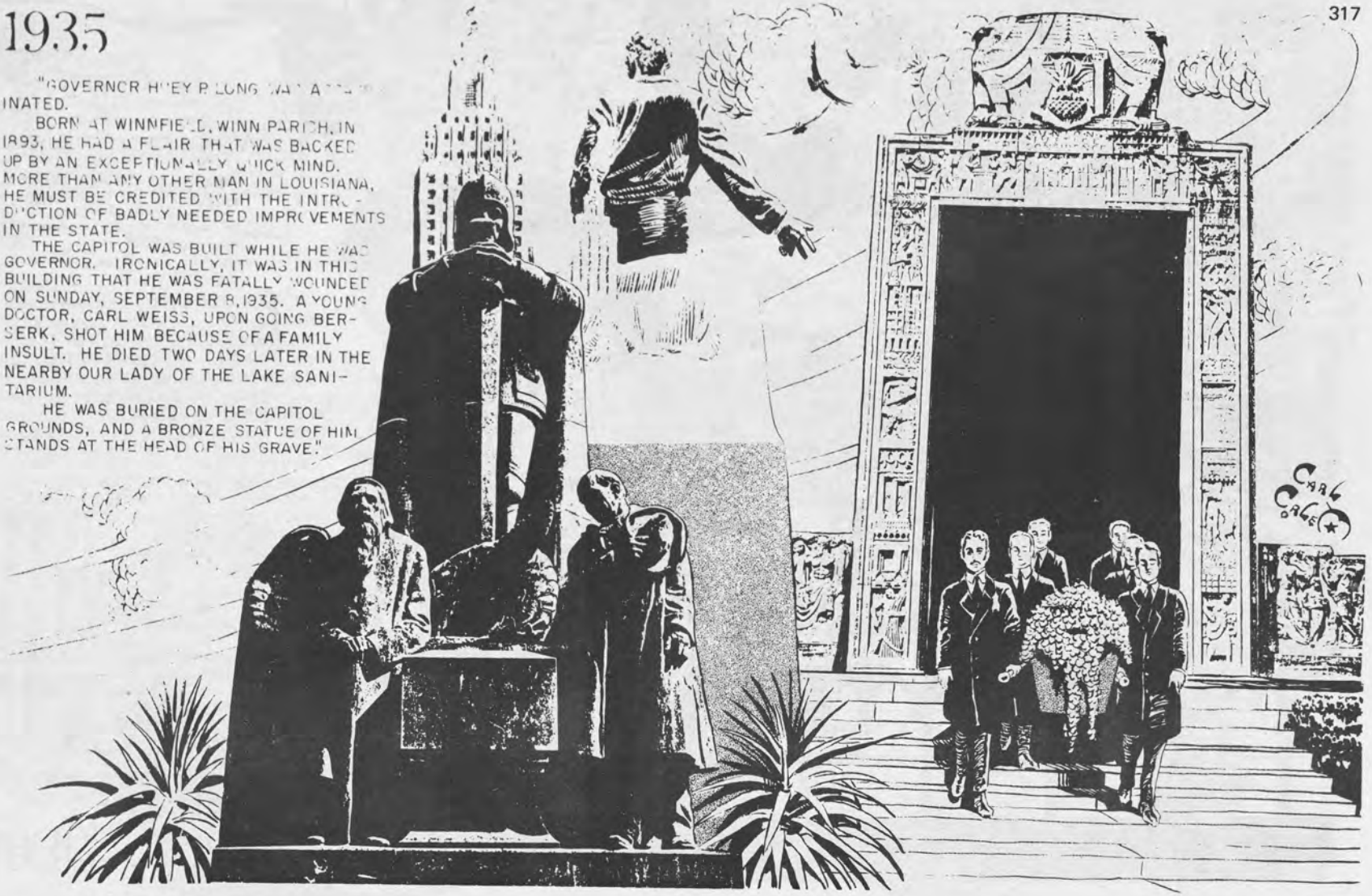
1935

"GOVERNOR HUEY P. LONG WAS ASSASSINATED.

BORN AT WINNFIELD, WINN PARISH, IN 1893, HE HAD A FLAIR THAT WAS BACKED UP BY AN EXCEPTIONALLY QUICK MIND. MORE THAN ANY OTHER MAN IN LOUISIANA, HE MUST BE CREDITED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF BADLY NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STATE.

THE CAPITOL WAS BUILT WHILE HE WAS GOVERNOR. IRONICALLY, IT WAS IN THIS BUILDING THAT HE WAS FATALLY WOUNDED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1935. A YOUNG DOCTOR, CARL WEISS, UPON GOING BERSERK, SHOT HIM BECAUSE OF A FAMILY INSULT. HE DIED TWO DAYS LATER IN THE NEARBY OUR LADY OF THE LAKE SANITARIUM.

HE WAS BURIED ON THE CAPITOL GROUNDS, AND A BRONZE STATUE OF HIM STANDS AT THE HEAD OF HIS GRAVE."



1936

"IN JUNE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE WAS ESTABLISHED.

★PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT PROCLAIMED IT A NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT NO ONE STARVED; AND LOUISIANA CHILDREN WERE NOT FORGOTTEN.

SURPLUS FARM PRODUCE WAS DISTRIBUTED TO PROVIDE HEALTHIER DIETS FOR MILLIONS OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.

SCHOOL LUNCHES WERE PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT. STATE CHILDREN WHO WENT TO SCHOOL BREAKFASTLESS, EAGERLY AWAITED THE NOON HOUR. LOUISIANA, WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF OTHER STATES, MANAGED TO FURNISH MILK AT A PENNY—OR NOTHING—A BOTTLE.

UNDER ROOSEVELT, APPLE ANNIE VANISHED. THE SOUP KITCHENS CLOSED. THE BREADLINES CLEARED OUT. JOBLESS MEN WENT TO WORK. FARMERS NO LONGE FEARED OF LOSING HOME MORTGAGES. AND BANK LOANS WERE KEPT UNDER CONTROL BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM— A SOURCE BEHIND THE BANKS TO PREVENT SHUT-DOWNS CAUSED BY VAST LOANS AND RUNS ON DEPOSITS."



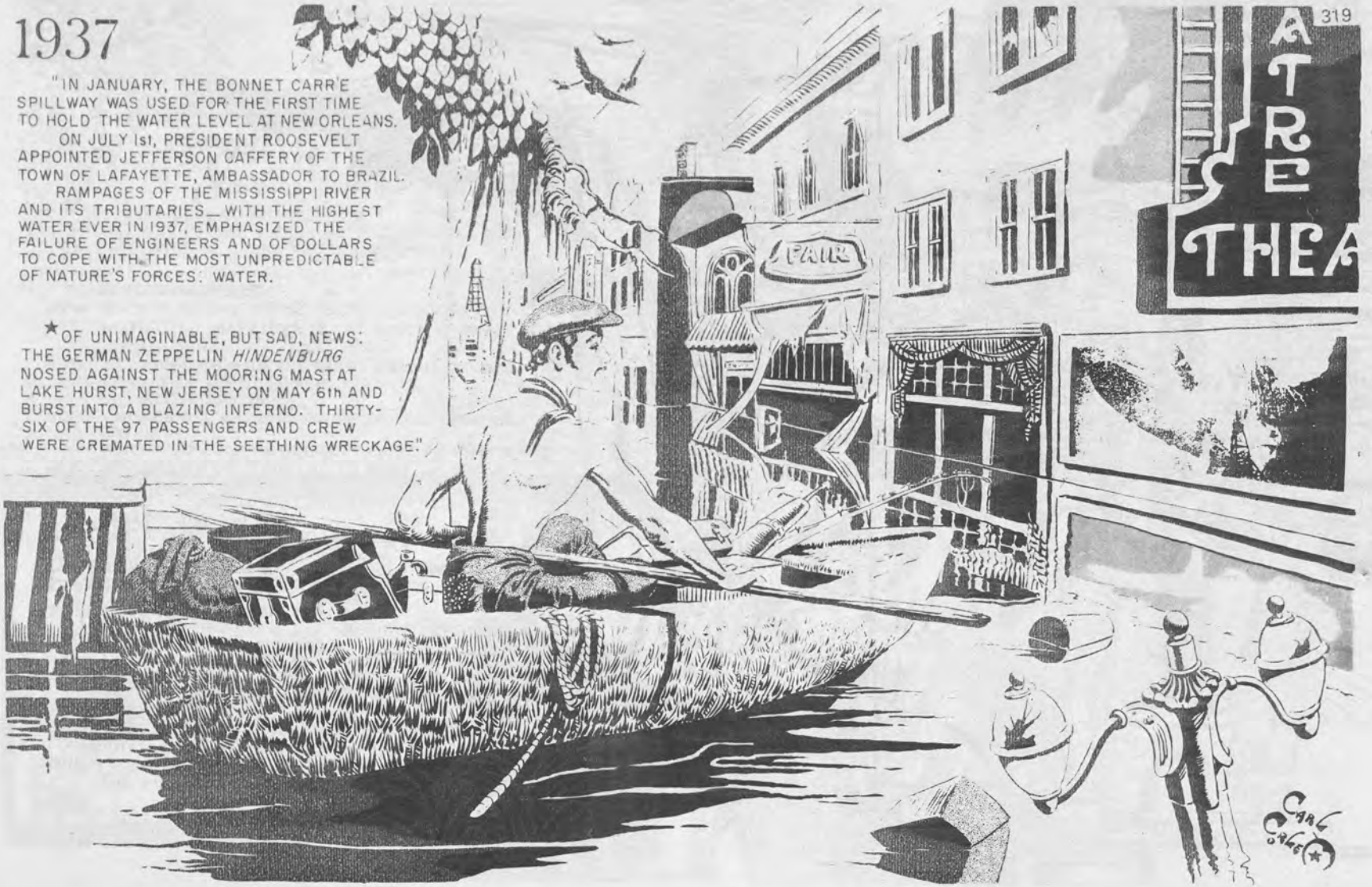
1937

"IN JANUARY, THE BONNET CARRE SPILLWAY WAS USED FOR THE FIRST TIME TO HOLD THE WATER LEVEL AT NEW ORLEANS.

ON JULY 1st, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT APPOINTED JEFFERSON CAFFERY OF THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE, AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL.

RAMPAGES OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES — WITH THE HIGHEST WATER EVER IN 1937, EMPHASIZED THE FAILURE OF ENGINEERS AND OF DOLLARS TO COPE WITH THE MOST UNPREDICTABLE OF NATURE'S FORCES: WATER.

★OF UNIMAGINABLE, BUT SAD, NEWS: THE GERMAN ZEPPELIN *HINDENBURG* NOSED AGAINST THE MOORING MAST AT LAKE HURST, NEW JERSEY ON MAY 6th AND BURST INTO A BLAZING INFERNO. THIRTY-SIX OF THE 97 PASSENGERS AND CREW WERE CREMATED IN THE SEETHING WRECKAGE."



1938

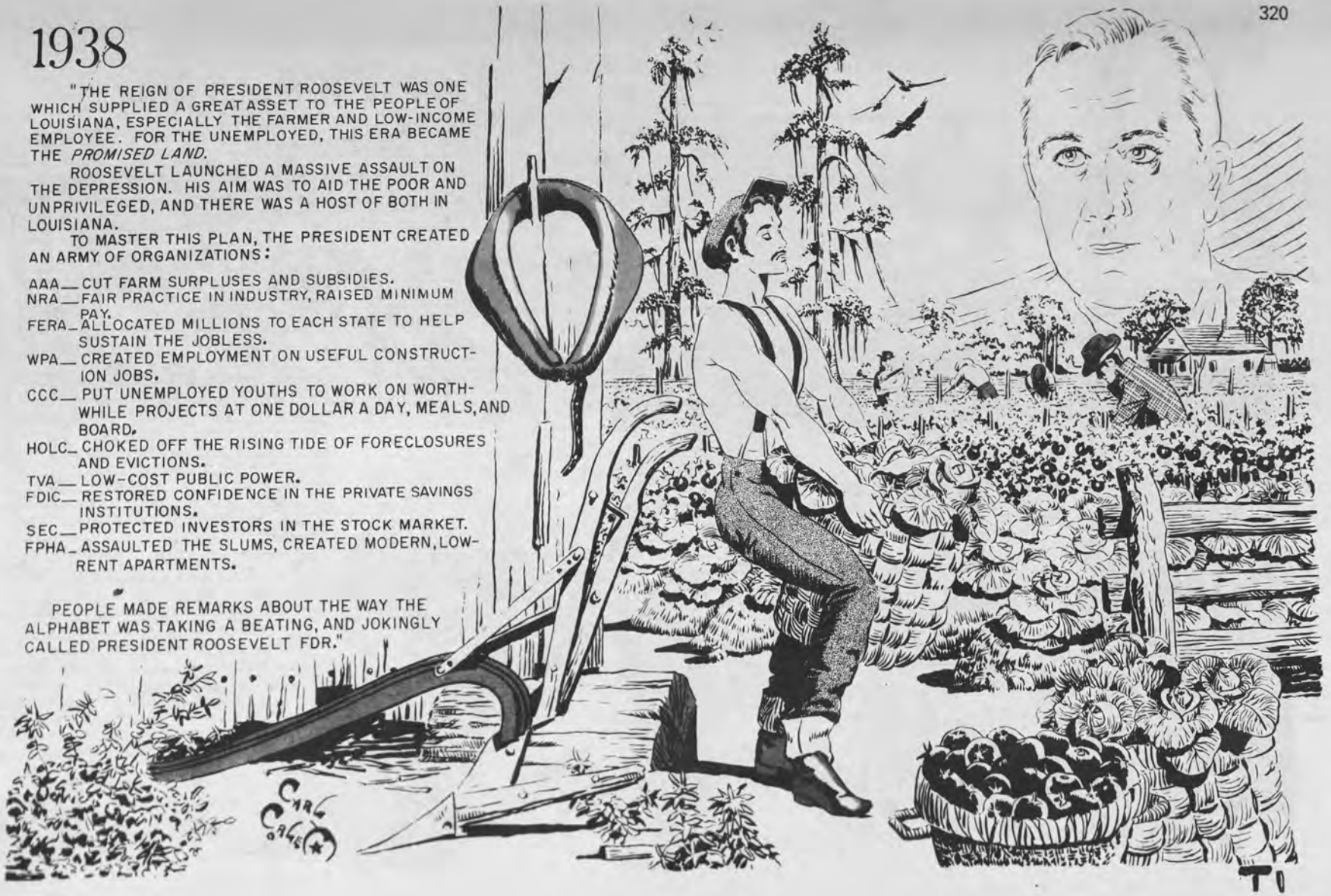
"THE REIGN OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT WAS ONE WHICH SUPPLIED A GREAT ASSET TO THE PEOPLE OF LOUISIANA, ESPECIALLY THE FARMER AND LOW-INCOME EMPLOYEE. FOR THE UNEMPLOYED, THIS ERA BECAME THE *PROMISED LAND.*

ROOSEVELT LAUNCHED A MASSIVE ASSAULT ON THE DEPRESSION. HIS AIM WAS TO AID THE POOR AND UNPRIVILEGED, AND THERE WAS A HOST OF BOTH IN LOUISIANA.

TO MASTER THIS PLAN, THE PRESIDENT CREATED AN ARMY OF ORGANIZATIONS:

AAA— CUT FARM SURPLUSES AND SUBSIDIES.
NRA— FAIR PRACTICE IN INDUSTRY, RAISED MINIMUM PAY.
FERA— ALLOCATED MILLIONS TO EACH STATE TO HELP SUSTAIN THE JOBLESS.
WPA— CREATED EMPLOYMENT ON USEFUL CONSTRUCTION JOBS.
CCC— PUT UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS TO WORK ON WORTHWHILE PROJECTS AT ONE DOLLAR A DAY, MEALS, AND BOARD.
HOLC— CHOKED OFF THE RISING TIDE OF FORECLOSURES AND EVICTIONS.
TVA— LOW-COST PUBLIC POWER.
FDIC— RESTORED CONFIDENCE IN THE PRIVATE SAVINGS INSTITUTIONS.
SEC— PROTECTED INVESTORS IN THE STOCK MARKET.
FPHA— ASSAULTED THE SLUMS, CREATED MODERN, LOW-RENT APARTMENTS.

PEOPLE MADE REMARKS ABOUT THE WAY THE ALPHABET WAS TAKING A BEATING, AND JOKINGLY CALLED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FDR."



1939

"THE NEW CHARITY HOSPITAL IN NEW ORLEANS OPENED ITS DOORS TO PATIENTS.

ALTHOUGH AMERICA WAS IN THE BALMY GLOW OF PEACETIME, SPAIN HAD JUST FOUGHT A BLOODY CIVIL WAR. JAPANESE FORCES WERE SWEEPING THROUGH CHINA. THE ITALIAN ARMY WAS IN NORTH AFRICA. GERMANY, UNDER ADOLPH HITLER, WAS TAKING FRANCE. AND THE GERMAN LUFTWAFFE WAS BOMBING GREAT BRITAIN.

★MARGARET MITCHELL'S EPIC NOVEL OF THE OLD SOUTH_GONE WITH THE WIND_WAS MADE INTO A MOVIE. IT OPENED IN ATLANTA DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. THE COLOR FILM_ONE OF THE FIRST_GROSSED MILLIONS."



1940

"IN THE SUMMER OF 1940 AMERICA WAS STILL BASKING IN PEACE, THOUGH ALMOST EVERY COUNTRY ON THE GLOBE WAS ENGAGED IN SOME KIND OF WARFARE.

THE EUROPEAN WAR SEEMED CURIOUSLY UNREAL TO LOUISIANA CITIZENS WHO WERE READING ABOUT IT DAILY AND HEARING ABOUT IT IN RADIO BROADCASTS.

THE UNITED STATES, OFFICIALLY NEUTRAL, SENT ARMS TO ENGLAND. EVERYONE COLLECTED CLOTHING, BLANKETS, AND FOOD TO PACK OFF AS BUNDLES FOR BRITAIN.

LOUISIANA FEARED HER FLOWERING YOUTHS WOULD BE THE NEXT TO GO. CONGRESS WAS ALREADY DEBATING THE FIRST PEACETIME DRAFT."



1941

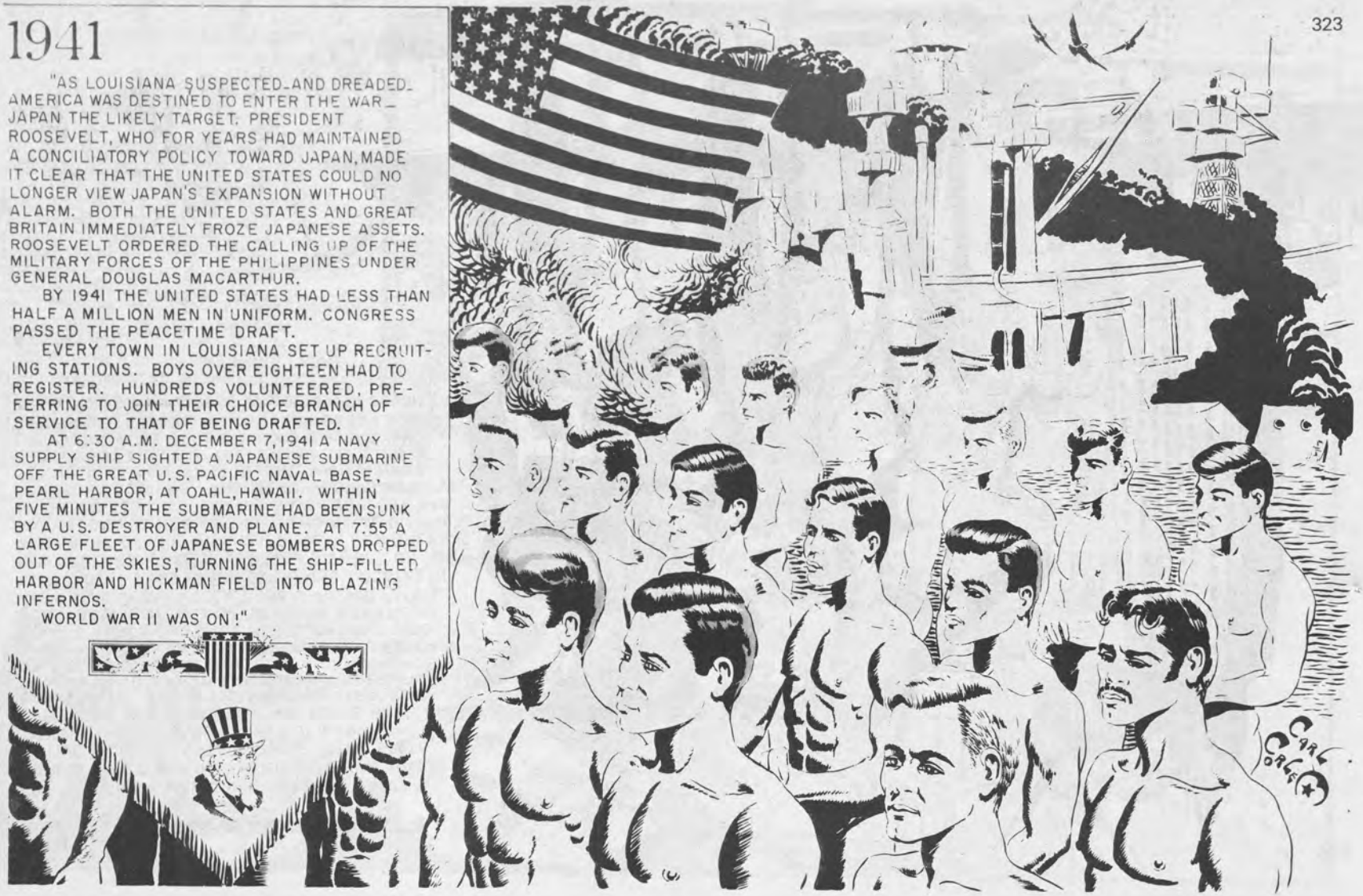
"AS LOUISIANA SUSPECTED-AND DREADED-AMERICA WAS DESTINED TO ENTER THE WAR— JAPAN THE LIKELY TARGET. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, WHO FOR YEARS HAD MAINTAINED A CONCILIATORY POLICY TOWARD JAPAN, MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES COULD NO LONGER VIEW JAPAN'S EXPANSION WITHOUT ALARM. BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN IMMEDIATELY FROZE JAPANESE ASSETS. ROOSEVELT ORDERED THE CALLING UP OF THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES UNDER GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR.

BY 1941 THE UNITED STATES HAD LESS THAN HALF A MILLION MEN IN UNIFORM. CONGRESS PASSED THE PEACETIME DRAFT.

EVERY TOWN IN LOUISIANA SET UP RECRUITING STATIONS. BOYS OVER EIGHTEEN HAD TO REGISTER. HUNDREDS VOLUNTEERED, PREFERRING TO JOIN THEIR CHOICE BRANCH OF SERVICE TO THAT OF BEING DRAFTED.

AT 6:30 A.M. DECEMBER 7, 1941 A NAVY SUPPLY SHIP SIGHTED A JAPANESE SUBMARINE OFF THE GREAT U.S. PACIFIC NAVAL BASE, PEARL HARBOR, AT OAHL, HAWAII. WITHIN FIVE MINUTES THE SUBMARINE HAD BEEN SUNK BY A U.S. DESTROYER AND PLANE. AT 7:55 A LARGE FLEET OF JAPANESE BOMBERS DROPPED OUT OF THE SKIES, TURNING THE SHIP-FILLED HARBOR AND HICKMAN FIELD INTO BLAZING INFERNOS.

WORLD WAR II WAS ON!"



1942

"LOUISIANA WAS QUICK TO DO ITS PART DURING WORLD WAR II. THERE WERE FIVE MAJOR ACTIVE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE STATE, CONSISTING OF 177,582 ACRES OF LAND.

THERE WAS BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE AT BARKSDALE. THE MISSION OF THIS STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND WAS TO CONDUCT AIR OPERATIONS ON A GLOBAL BASIS. THE ENGLAND AIR FORCE BASE IN ALEXANDRIA WAS PREPARED TO MAINTAIN A RAPID REACTION FORCE READY TO MOVE INTO COUNTERINSURGENCY OR WARFARE SITUATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. THE CIVIL AIR PATROL, WITH CADETS AGED 13 AND OVER, WAS LOCATED IN NEW ORLEANS. THE EIGHT NAVAL DISTRICT, ON THE WEST BANK OF THE MISSISSIPPI NEAR NEW ORLEANS, WAS SECOND IN SIZE AMONG THE 10 NAVAL DISTRICTS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE NAVAL SUPPORT WAS FORMED IN ALGIERS. THE MARINE CORPS RESERVE, SET UP IN NEW ORLEANS IN 1927, MAINTAINED A PERMANENT PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY LIFE OF LOUISIANA, PLUS HEROIC DUTY OVERSEAS. AND CAMP POLK, ESTABLISHED IN 1941, BEGAN COMBAT TRAINING FOR HUNDREDS OF LOUISIANA SOLDIERS."



1943

"IN THE DRY DOCKS AND SHIPYARDS OF NEW ORLEANS, OCEAN GOING VESSELS WERE CONSTRUCTED BY CIVILIAN DEFENSE WORKERS TO BE USED IN THE WAR. ALSO, HUNDREDS OF SMALL LANDING CRAFTS WERE BUILT TO BE USED IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AND EUROPEAN INVASIONS. MATERIALS AND WEAPONS WERE IN SUCH GREAT DEMAND THAT THE UNITED STATES, IN ORDER TO WIN OUT IN THE WAR, HAD TO SHIP EVERYTHING NEEDED FOR MECHANIZED WARFARE, AND THAT TO OVER A HUNDRED BATTLE AREAS.
AND LOUISIANA FURNISHED ITS FAIR SHARE OF THAT MATERIAL, SHIPPING IT OUT OF NEW ORLEANS.

TO FURTHER AID IN THE HOME FRONT, LOUISIANA CREATED A CIVILIAN DEFENSE ORGANIZATION. VOLUNTEER FIREMEN AND AIR RAID WARDENS WERE TAUGHT HOW TO EXTINGUISH INCENDIARY BOMBS AND TO RENDER FIRST AID. THROUGH THE RED CROSS, LOUISIANA WOMEN GATHERED AND MENDED CLOTHES, MADE BANDAGES, PACKED MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND WRAPPED PACKAGES FOR USE ABROAD."



1944 ★★★★★★★★★

"BY THE END OF THE YEAR, LOUISIANA CITIZENS WERE READING AND HEARING OVER THEIR RADIOS ABOUT SO MANY BATTLEFIELDS IN WORLD-WIDE LOCATIONS THAT THE NAMES BECAME HOUSEHOLD WORDS— MOROCCO, TUNIS, BIZERTE, BURMA ROAD, NORMANDY, CHERBOURG, ST. LO, MIDWAY, GUADALCANAL, GUAM, IWO JIMA.

WHAT WAS WORSE, KNOWING ABOUT SUCH OMINOUS PLACES, THEY KNEW ALSO THAT THEIR SONS WERE FIGHTING AND DYING ON THESE REMOTE HORIZONS.

WHILE LOUISIANA HEROES FOUGHT, THERE WAS ANOTHER KIND OF BATTLE GOING ON ON THE HOME FRONT. WORKERS CONSTRUCTED DEFENSE HOUSING PROJECTS. WOMEN COLLECTED ALUMINUM, POTS, PANS, HAIR CURLERS, ETC. FOR AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION. FARMERS GREW CROPS TO HELP PROVIDE FOOD FOR SOLDIERS IN LOCAL TRAINING AND FIGHTING ABROAD. CHILDREN, TOO, DID THEIR PART. THEY BOUGHT DEFENSE STAMPS."



1945

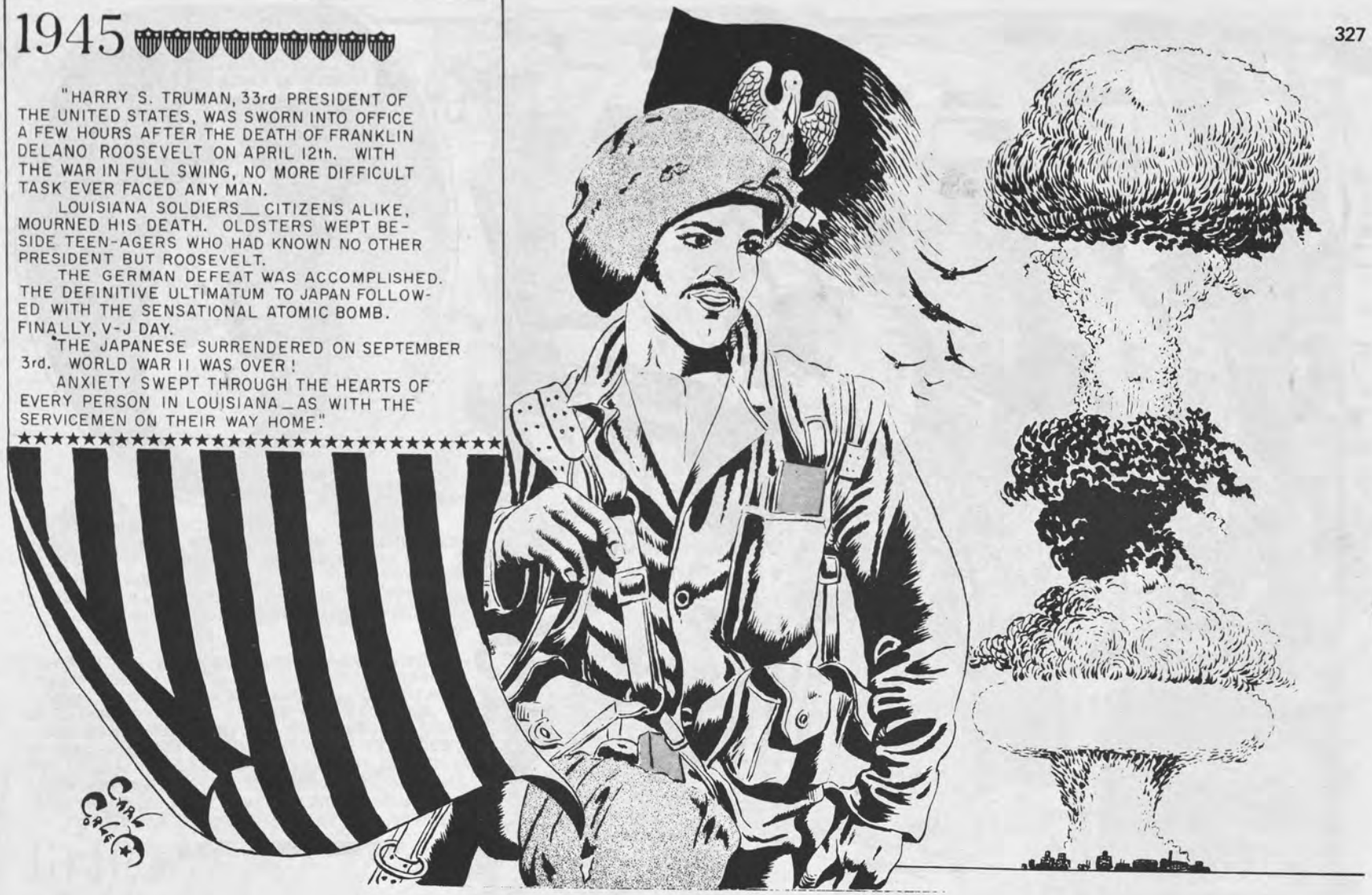
"HARRY S. TRUMAN, 33rd PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, WAS SWORN INTO OFFICE A FEW HOURS AFTER THE DEATH OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT ON APRIL 12th. WITH THE WAR IN FULL SWING, NO MORE DIFFICULT TASK EVER FACED ANY MAN.

LOUISIANA SOLDIERS__CITIZENS ALIKE, MOURNED HIS DEATH. OLDSTERS WEPT BESIDE TEEN-AGERS WHO HAD KNOWN NO OTHER PRESIDENT BUT ROOSEVELT.

THE GERMAN DEFEAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED. THE DEFINITIVE ULTIMATUM TO JAPAN FOLLOWED WITH THE SENSATIONAL ATOMIC BOMB. FINALLY, V-J DAY.

THE JAPANESE SURRENDERED ON SEPTEMBER 3rd. WORLD WAR II WAS OVER!

ANXIETY SWEPT THROUGH THE HEARTS OF EVERY PERSON IN LOUISIANA_AS WITH THE SERVICEMEN ON THEIR WAY HOME."



1946

"LOUISIANA'S SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES CAME MARCHING HOME. JAPAN'S SURRENDER TOUCHED OFF UNPARALLELED CELEBRATION. EVERYONE WAS HAPPY, AND CERTAINLY HAD EVERY REASON TO BE HAPPY. FLAGS WAVED. FIREWORKS EXPLODED. THERE WERE PARTIES, BALLS, AND PARADES. MANY FILED INTO CHURCHES, PRAYED, THANKFUL FOR VICTORY, IN MEMORIAM FOR THE SERVICEMEN WHO LAY IN FOREIGN SOIL. THE CRY ON EVERYONES LIPS WAS_ *WE SHALL NOT FORGET PEARL HARBOR!*

★PRESIDENT TRUMAN BECAME A PRIME MOVER IN HIS EFFORT TO ESTABLISH WORLD PEACE AND EXTEND DEMOCRATIC METHODS. HIS STATUE, HIS FITNESS AS A NEGOTIATOR, BECAME APPARENT. AFTER THE ATOMIC BOMB DECISION, AMERICA KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT FROM TRUMAN."

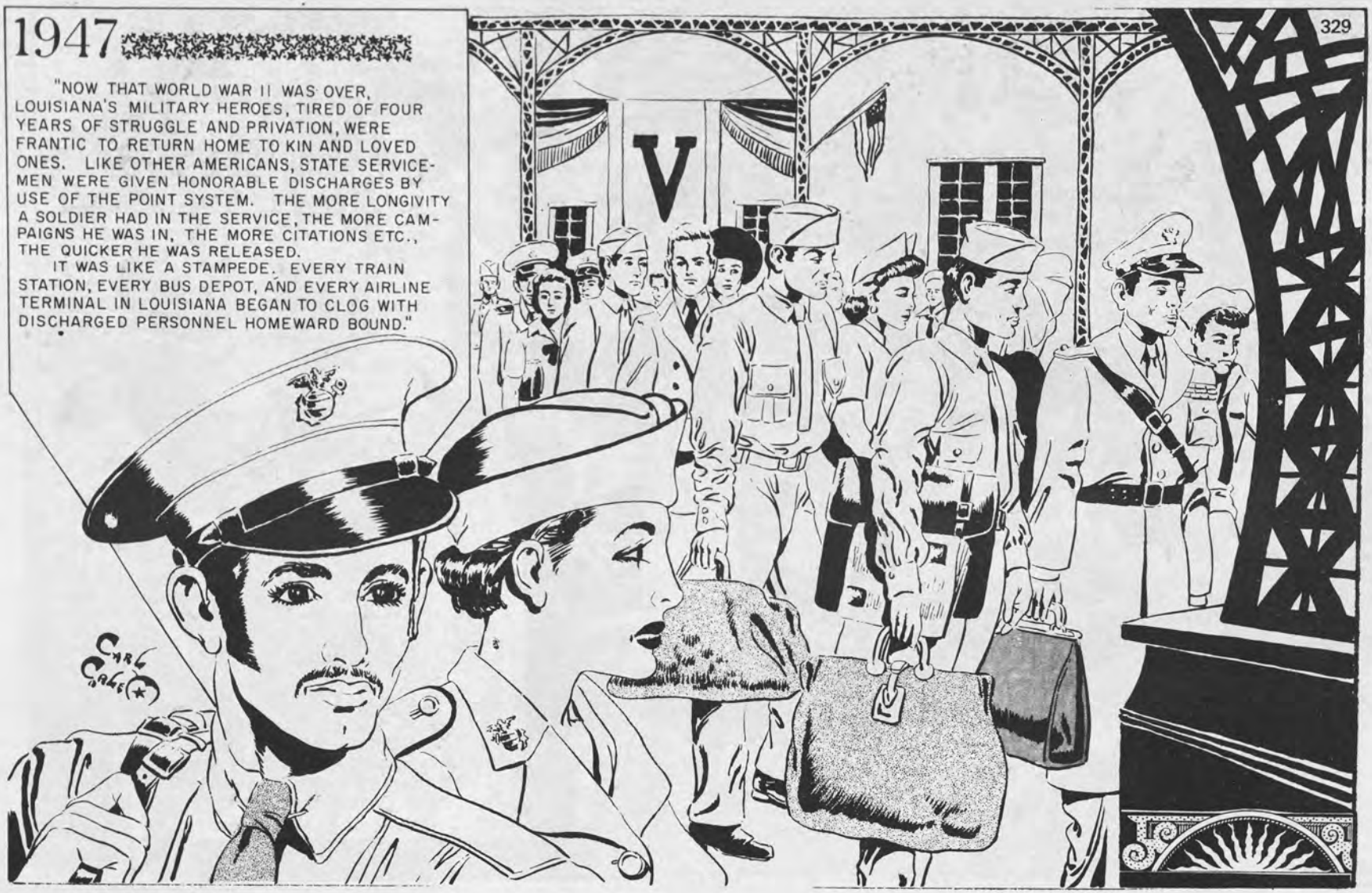




1947

"NOW THAT WORLD WAR II WAS OVER, LOUISIANA'S MILITARY HEROES, TIRED OF FOUR YEARS OF STRUGGLE AND PRIVATION, WERE FRANTIC TO RETURN HOME TO KIN AND LOVED ONES. LIKE OTHER AMERICANS, STATE SERVICEMEN WERE GIVEN HONORABLE DISCHARGES BY USE OF THE POINT SYSTEM. THE MORE LONGIVITY A SOLDIER HAD IN THE SERVICE, THE MORE CAMPAIGNS HE WAS IN, THE MORE CITATIONS ETC., THE QUICKER HE WAS RELEASED.

IT WAS LIKE A STAMPEDE. EVERY TRAIN STATION, EVERY BUS DEPOT, AND EVERY AIRLINE TERMINAL IN LOUISIANA BEGAN TO CLOG WITH DISCHARGED PERSONNEL HOMEWARD BOUND."



1948

"ON JULY 1st, THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART OPENED AT NEW ORLEANS. IT BECAME A MUST FOR TOURISTS. —— ★THE WORLD'S LARGEST REVOLVING LOUNGE WAS CONSTRUCTED ON TOP OF THE TOWER.

★THE ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION ADMINISTRATION WAS CREATED IN CONGRESS DURING THIS YEAR. ITS PURPOSE WAS TO STABILIZE THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF THE WORLD, AND TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM. ITS AIMS WERE VITAL TO THE UNITED STATES."

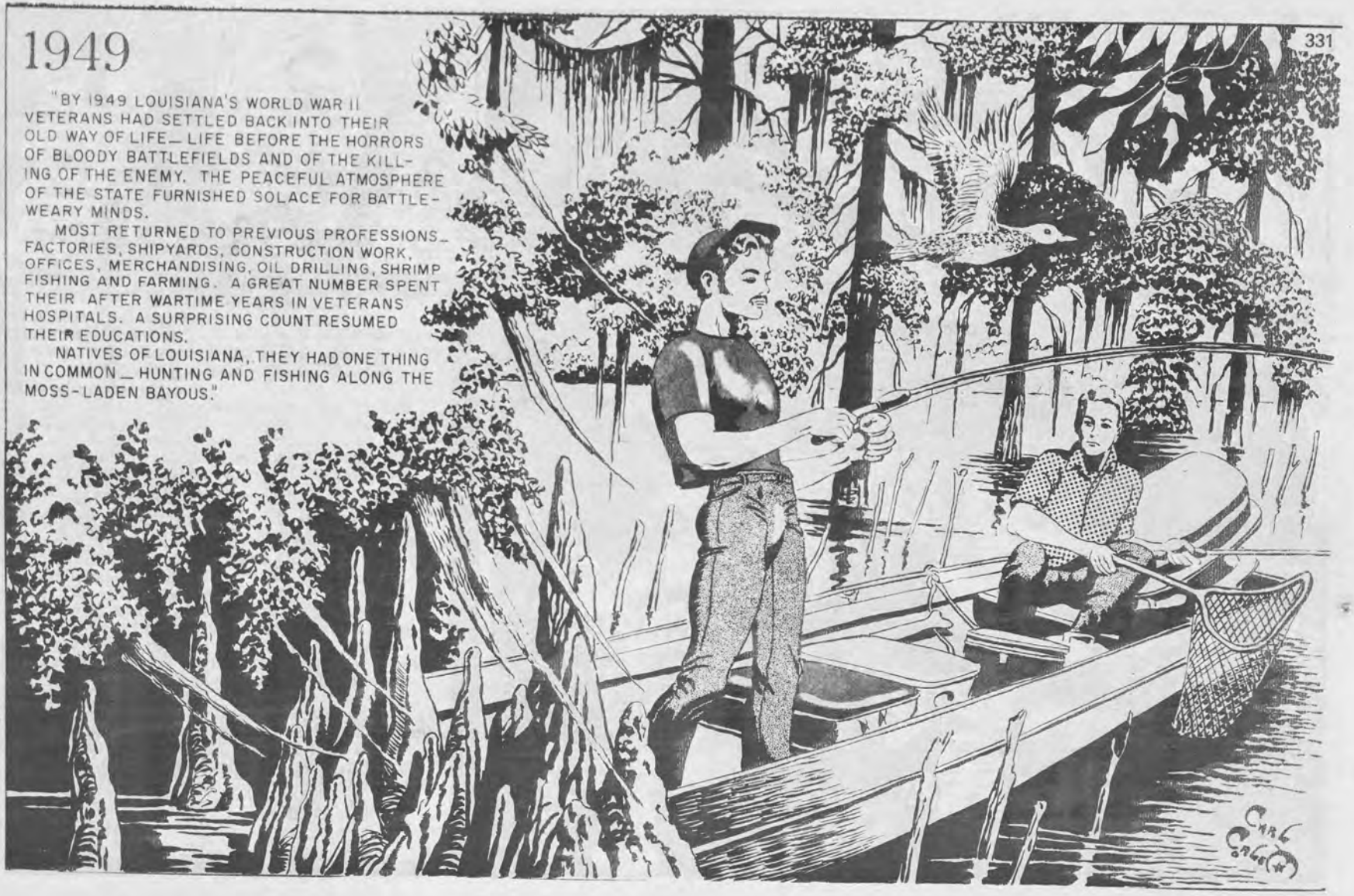


1949

"BY 1949 LOUISIANA'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS HAD SETTLED BACK INTO THEIR OLD WAY OF LIFE— LIFE BEFORE THE HORRORS OF BLOODY BATTLEFIELDS AND OF THE KILLING OF THE ENEMY. THE PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE OF THE STATE FURNISHED SOLACE FOR BATTLE-WEARY MINDS.

MOST RETURNED TO PREVIOUS PROFESSIONS— FACTORIES, SHIPYARDS, CONSTRUCTION WORK, OFFICES, MERCHANDISING, OIL DRILLING, SHRIMP FISHING AND FARMING. A GREAT NUMBER SPENT THEIR AFTER WARTIME YEARS IN VETERANS HOSPITALS. A SURPRISING COUNT RESUMED THEIR EDUCATIONS.

NATIVES OF LOUISIANA, THEY HAD ONE THING IN COMMON — HUNTING AND FISHING ALONG THE MOSS-LADEN BAYOUS."



1950

"THE PEACE AND TRANQUILITY LOUISIANA VETERANS SO READILY ENJOYED AFTER THE WAR WAS SHORT LIVED. NO SOONER HAD THEY ESTABLISHED THEIR OWN PERSONEL LIVES THAT THEY WERE CALLED ONCE AGAIN TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY.

SELDOM HAVE SOLDIERS MADE GREATER SACRIFICES FOR THEIR HOMELAND THEN THE RESERVISTS OF JULY, 1950. NONE OF THESE CIVILIANS SUSPECTED THAT THEY WOULD BE CALLED TO COMBAT DUTY ONLY FIVE YEARS AFTER THE END OF WORLD WAR II. MOST OF THEM WERE VETRANS OF THAT WAR WHO HAD MARRIED, BOUGHT PROPERTY AND HOMES, AND HAD STARTED A FAMILY. IN MANY INSTANCES A BUSINESS SUFFERED.

★IN A SURPRISE ATTACK LAUNCHED ON JUNE 25, 1950, NORTH KOREAN ARMED FORCES INVADED SOUTH KOREA IN AN EFFORT TO UNIFY KOREA BY FORCE. THE UNITED STATES WENT IMMEDIATELY TO SOUTH KOREA'S AID. IT WAS WAR AGAIN!

LOUISIANA'S TEARFUL MOTHERS, WIVES, AND SWEETHEARTS GATHERED AT THE RAILWAY TERMINAL AND BUS STATION FOR THE LEAVE TAKING."



1951

"DURING AUGUST A LARGE SULPHUR DEPOSIT WAS DISCOVERED NEAR GARDEN ISLAND BAY AT THE MOUTH OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN ST BERNARD PARISH. THIS MINE, ONCE DEVELOPED, AND ALONG WITH MINES AT GRAND ISLE, GRANDE ECAILLE, AND LAKE PELTO BECAME THE WORLD'S LARGEST PRODUCERS OF SULPHUR."



1952

" IN OCTOBER THE SAMUEL H. KRESS FOUNDATION DONATED A VALUABLE RENNAISANCE ART COLLECTION TO THE DELGADO MUSEUM AT NEW ORLEANS."

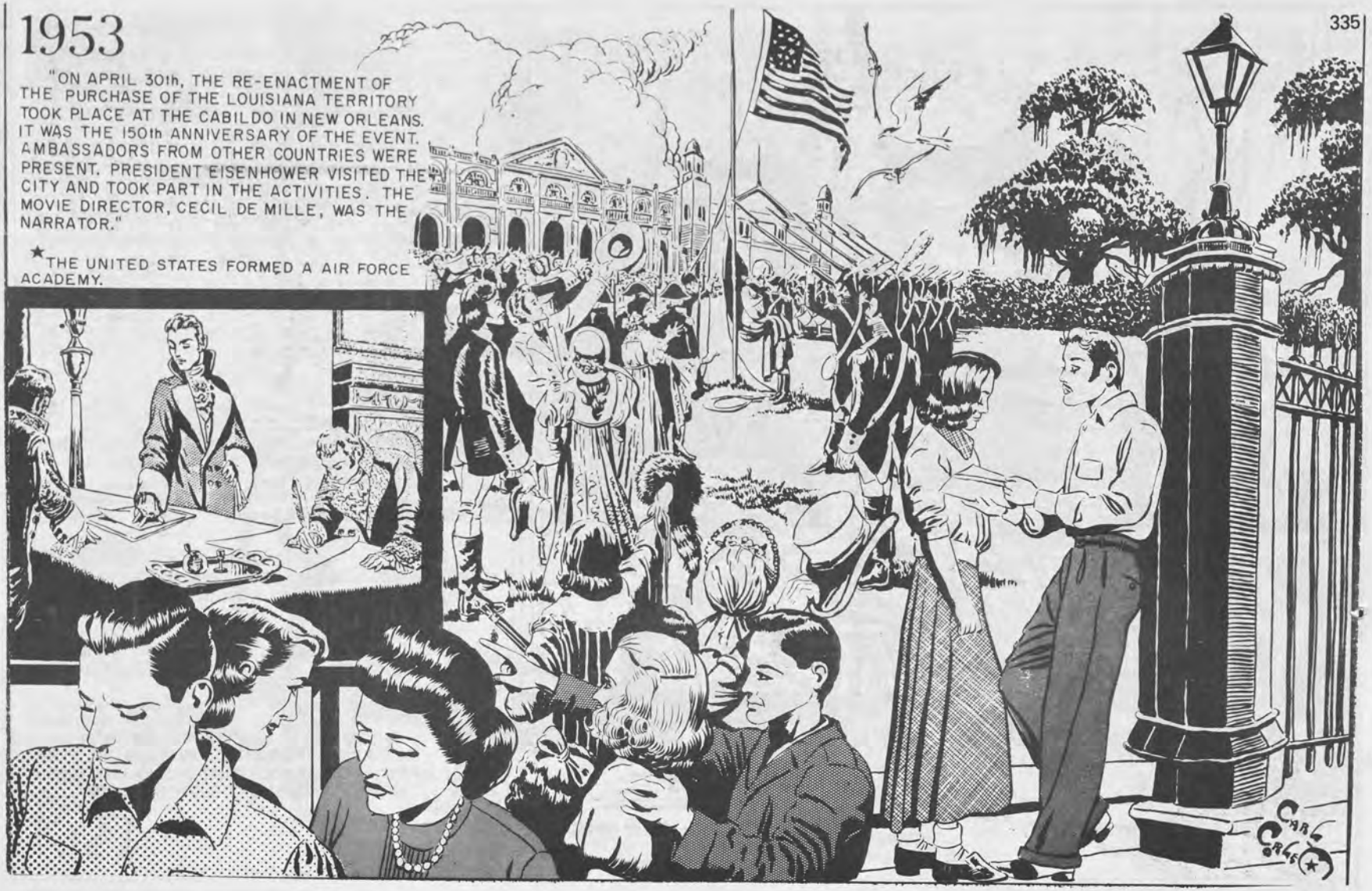
★THE UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION TESTED ITS FIRST HYDROGEN BOMB. ENIWETOK, THE TEST ISLAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED.



1953

"ON APRIL 30th, THE RE-ENACTMENT OF THE PURCHASE OF THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY TOOK PLACE AT THE CABILDO IN NEW ORLEANS. IT WAS THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE EVENT. AMBASSADORS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WERE PRESENT. PRESIDENT EISENHOWER VISITED THE CITY AND TOOK PART IN THE ACTIVITIES. THE MOVIE DIRECTOR, CECIL DE MILLE, WAS THE NARRATOR."

★THE UNITED STATES FORMED A AIR FORCE ACADEMY.



1954

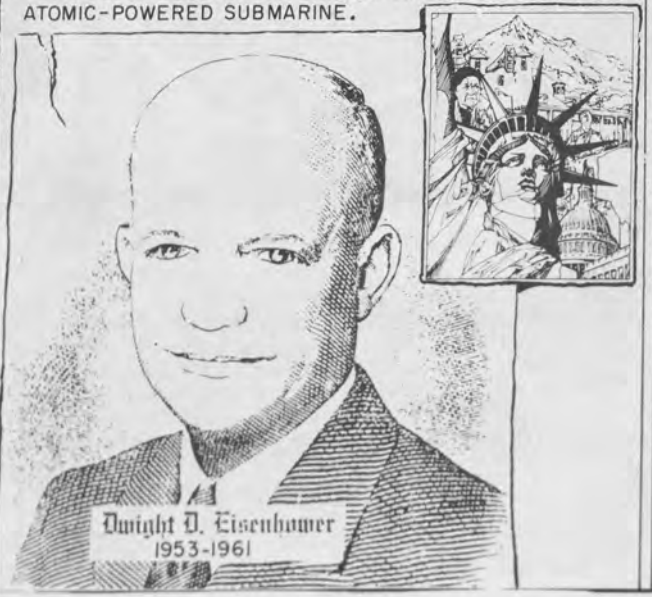
"CONTRACTS WERE LET FOR THE BORINGS AT THE SITE OF THE GREATER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE BETWEEN NEW ORLEANS AND ALGIERS.

THE 50-MILLION-DOLLAR PLANT OF THE AMERICAN CYANIMID COMPANY AT THE OLD FORTIER PLANTATION IN JEFFERSON PARISH WAS DEDICATED.

THE KOREAN CONFLICT ENDED IN A COMPLETE STALEMATE. IT WAS THE MOST UNPOPULAR WAR EVER WAGED BY THE UNITED STATES SINCE THE WAR OF 1812. BUT IT WAS NOT FOUGHT IN VAIN. THE CHALLENGE OF COMMUNISM HAD BEEN MET. LOUISIANA SERVICEMEN CAME MARCHING HOME AGAIN. CEREMONIES AND PARADES FOLLOWED BRIEFLY."

★DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER WAS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES_THE 33rd.

★THE UNITED STATES LAUNCHED THE WORLD'S FIRST ATOMIC-POWERED SUBMARINE.





1955

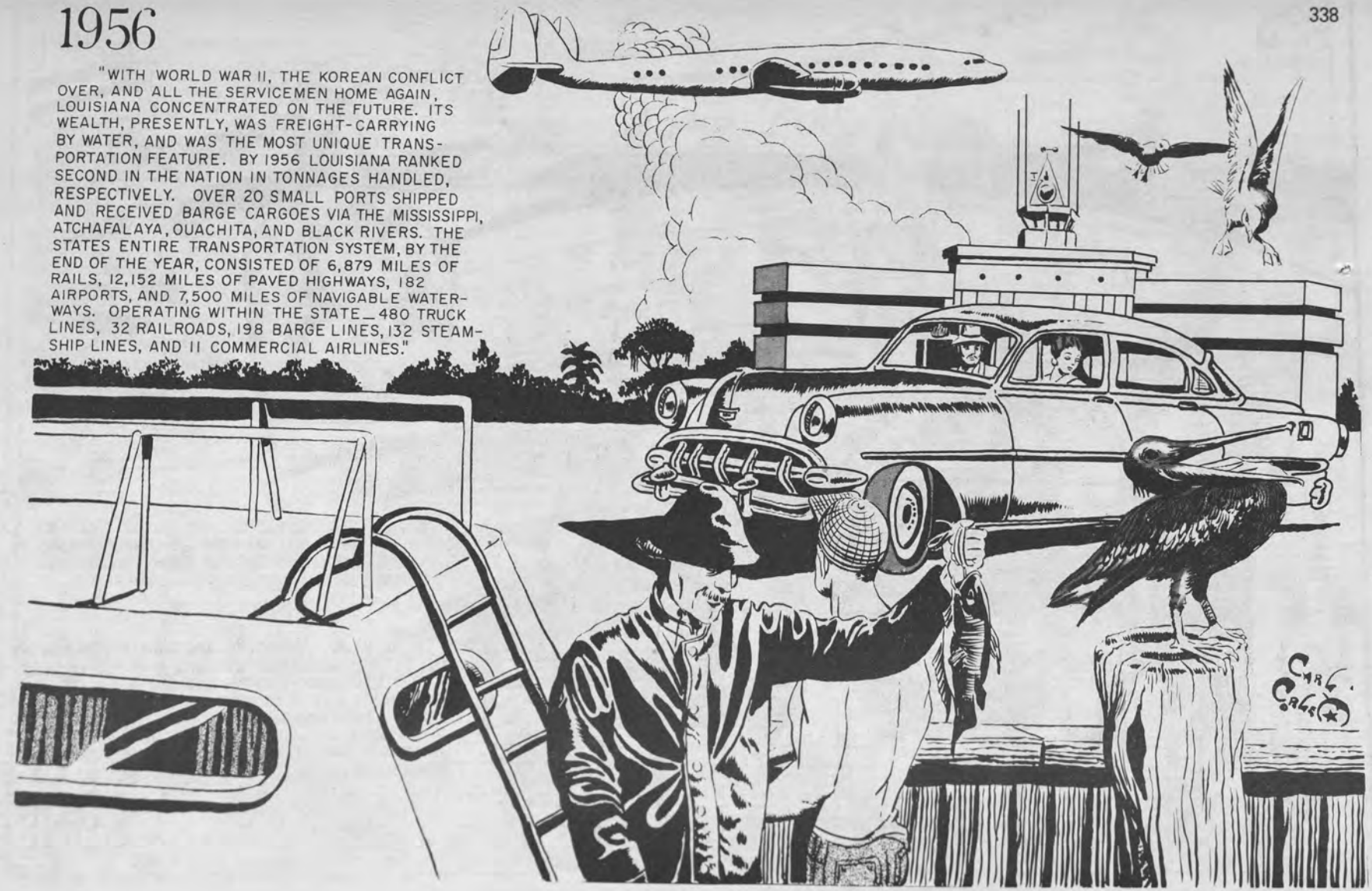
"LOUISIANA'S EX-SERVICEMEN, FRESH FROM THE WAR IN KOREA, LOST LITTLE TIME ADJUSTING ONCE AGAIN TO CIVILIAN LIFE. THE STATE HAD ALWAYS BEEN A SPORTSMANS PARADISE. THE KOREAN HEROES, ANXIOUS TO CLEAR THEIR MINDS OF BATTLEFIELDS AND FALLEN COMRADES, DRUG OUT THEIR BATEAUS AND PIROGUES, DOLLED THEM UP, AND TOOK TO THE BAYOUS."

★A ONE-WAY TRANSOCEANIC TELEPHONE SERVICE WAS MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE LAYING OF THE FIRST PAIR OF UNDERWATER CABLES FROM ENGLAND TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.



1956

"WITH WORLD WAR II, THE KOREAN CONFLICT OVER, AND ALL THE SERVICEMEN HOME AGAIN, LOUISIANA CONCENTRATED ON THE FUTURE. ITS WEALTH, PRESENTLY, WAS FREIGHT-CARRYING BY WATER, AND WAS THE MOST UNIQUE TRANSPORTATION FEATURE. BY 1956 LOUISIANA RANKED SECOND IN THE NATION IN TONNAGES HANDLED, RESPECTIVELY. OVER 20 SMALL PORTS SHIPPED AND RECEIVED BARGE CARGOES VIA THE MISSISSIPPI, ATCHAFALAYA, OUACHITA, AND BLACK RIVERS. THE STATES ENTIRE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, BY THE END OF THE YEAR, CONSISTED OF 6,879 MILES OF RAILS, 12,152 MILES OF PAVED HIGHWAYS, 182 AIRPORTS, AND 7,500 MILES OF NAVIGABLE WATERWAYS. OPERATING WITHIN THE STATE—480 TRUCK LINES, 32 RAILROADS, 198 BARGE LINES, 132 STEAMSHIP LINES, AND 11 COMMERCIAL AIRLINES."



1957

"ON AUGUST 24th, THE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN CAUSEWAY WAS FORMALLY OPENED FOR TRAFFIC. IT IS THE LONGEST BRIDGE IN THE WORLD.

AUDREY, ONE OF THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE STORMS THAT EVER RAGED OVER LOUISIANA, CAME IN FROM THE GULF, KILLING 371 PERSONS AND INJURING 3,880 PEOPLE IN CAMERON AND VERMILLION PARISHES. IT TOTALLY DESTROYED 1,300 HOMES, AND CAUSED DAMAGE TO EXCEED $45,000,000."

★RUSSIA LAUNCHED SPUTNIK, ITS FIRST SPACE SATELLITE.



1958

"DURING MAY, SEGREGATION IN STREETCARS AND BUSES OF NEW ORLEANS ENDED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER OF THE FEDERAL COURT.

ON SEPTEMBER 5th, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY IN NEW ORLEANS OPENED ITS DOORS FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF 1500 FRESHMEN STUDENTS."

★TO PROTECT ITSELF AGAINST ENEMY ATTACKS, THE UNITED STATES EMPLOYED A VARIETY OF BALLISTIC MISSILS OPERATIVE ON LAND, AT SEA, AND IN THE AIR.



1959

"BY 1959 LOUISIANA'S EX-SERVICEMEN, FREE AT LAST FROM THE PRESSURES OF WORLD WAR II AND THE KOREAN CONFLICT, HAD SETTLED THEIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS TO THE POINT THAT VACATIONS COULD BE PLANNED AND EXECUTED WITH FAMILIES, FRIENDS, AND LOVED ONES."

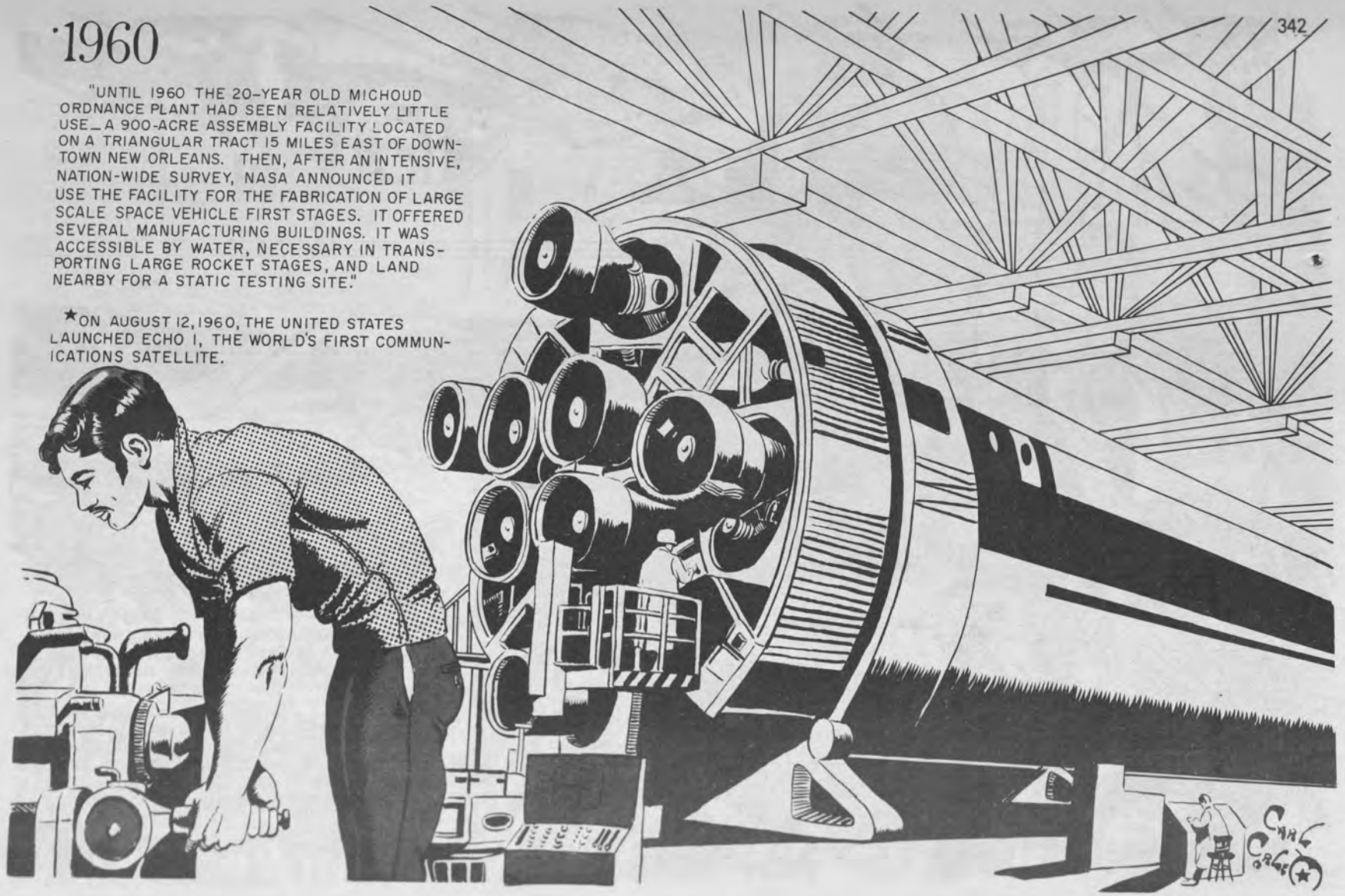
★ TELEVISION WAS FIRST PROPOSED BY THE GERMAN PAUL NIPKOW IN 1884. BY THE END OF 1959 NEARLY 57 MILLION TELEVISION SETS WERE IN USE.



1960

"UNTIL 1960 THE 20-YEAR OLD MICHOUD ORDNANCE PLANT HAD SEEN RELATIVELY LITTLE USE— A 900-ACRE ASSEMBLY FACILITY LOCATED ON A TRIANGULAR TRACT 15 MILES EAST OF DOWNTOWN NEW ORLEANS. THEN, AFTER AN INTENSIVE, NATION-WIDE SURVEY, NASA ANNOUNCED IT USE THE FACILITY FOR THE FABRICATION OF LARGE SCALE SPACE VEHICLE FIRST STAGES. IT OFFERED SEVERAL MANUFACTURING BUILDINGS. IT WAS ACCESSIBLE BY WATER, NECESSARY IN TRANSPORTING LARGE ROCKET STAGES, AND LAND NEARBY FOR A STATIC TESTING SITE."

★ON AUGUST 12, 1960, THE UNITED STATES LAUNCHED ECHO I, THE WORLD'S FIRST COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE.



1961

"THE MICHOUD ASSEMBLY FACILITY, LOCATED IN ORLEANS PARISH, HELPED IN MANUFACTURING VITAL PARTS FOR THE FIRST STAGE SATURN ROCKET I. THE ROCKET WEIGHED 20,000 POUNDS. IT MEASURED 80 FEET IN HEIGHT AND 21 FEET IN DIAMETER. ITS EIGHT ENGINES DEVELOPED A TOTAL THRUST EQUIVALENT TO 33 MILLION HORSEPOWER. DURING FLIGHT, THE BOOSTER ENGINES BURNED FOR TWO AND A HALF MINUTES, CONSUMING MORE THAN 100,000 GALLONS OF PROPELLANTS. TEN OF THESE RELIABLE SATURN ROCKETS WERE LAUNCHED BETWEEN OCTOBER, 1961, AND JULY, 1965.

MAN WAS GOING TO THE MOON. LATER, MAN WOULD GO TO THE PLANETS IN THIS SOLAR SYSTEM_THEN ON TO THE STARS!

WHAT BETTER TIME TO END THIS SERIES_THE YEAR OF MANS CONQUEST OF OUTER-SPACE.

HISTORY NEVER ENDS. THE PRESENT YEAR_1961_IS BUT A KNIFE SLICE BETWEEN TWO ETERNITIES. SO_AS THE HISTORY OF LOUISIANA DRAWS TO A CLOSE, WHO KNOWS, THE DAY MAY COME WHEN LOUISIANA SPACE TRAVELERS_AS PAST FELLOW STATE HEROES_WILL EMBARK ON THE LAST FRONTIER."



