LEBOURGEOIS, Louis

St. James Parish, Louisiana

Submitted by Mike Miller

LeBourgeois, Louis, successful business man and well-known attorney, Convent, St. James parish, La., was born in St. James parish, May 8, 1857; son of Louis S. and Elizabeth (Charles) LeBourgeois, the former of whom was born in the same locality as was the son, and the latter in St. Louis, Mo.  Louis S. LeBourgeois was a sugar planter, and so remained throughout life, occupying a prominent place among the leaders of that important industry in Louisiana, but in later life became, also, conspicuously identified with the public and political affairs of his state.  He was a member of the Louisiana state legislature at the time the state seceded from the union, and signed the papers of secession in 1860, just prior to the beginning of the Civil war.  He was a graduate of Mt. St. Mary college, and later also of Georgetown university, Washington, D. C.  The ancestors of the LeBourgeois family in Louisiana came originally from Normandy, France, at a very early date.  Louis LeBourgeois was the second of 7 children born to his parents, as follow:  Joseph C., now in business in New Orleans; Louis, the subject of this sketch; Edward Charles, deceased; Adele, wife of R. W. Chapin, of New York City; George Collier, who died very young; Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Eugene Crockett, of Boston, Mass., and William B., now a prominent attorney of New Orleans.

Louis LeBourgeois is a graduate of Yale college, class of 1878, and was there a classmate of ex-President William Howard Taft.  He had previously attended the University of St. Louis (Mo.) and Norwood (Va.) academy.  He also attended the Hopkins grammar school, New Haven,

Conn., and prior to that attended private schools of the vicinity in which he was born. After the completion of his academic education at Yale college, he returned home and assumed the management of his father's plantation, which he handled with conspicuous business ability.

In 1896 he was elected sheriff and tax collector of St. James parish, and his administration of the affairs of that office was so satisfactory to his constituents that he was successively reelected to succeed himself during 16 years.  During his incumbency of the sheriff's office he prepared himself for the practice of law, and in May, 1912, passed the state examination with due credit to himself and was admitted to the bar, since which time he has been engaged in the practice of law at Convent, St. James parish.

In addition to the office mentioned above, Mr. LeBourgeois has served the people of the locality in which his activities have been cast in various other official capacities.  He has discharged the duties of the office of president of the police jury, vice-president of the Pontchartrain levee board and member of the state democratic central committee.  Mr. LeBourgeois is not married.

Fortier, Alcee, Lit. D. *Louisiana: Comprising Sketches of Parishes, Towns, Events, Institutions, and Persons, Arranged in Cyclopedic Form* Volume 3. Madison, Wis.: Century Historical Association, 1914. pp. 632-633.