Jack Cali

Jack Cali was born in Sicily, in the town of Calomenia, on May 15, 1887. His family moved out of Sicily and came to America when he was six years old, landing in New Orleans, but going on to Chicago, where they lived for one or two years. The family decided to return to Louisiana, and they came back and settled at Reserve, where they lived for two years. The family then decided to try Laplace; they have remained there since that time.

Mr. Cali has raised a large family: ten children are now living . All of his children went to the public schools, and most of them finished the high school at Reserve. Mr. Cali now owns one of the best truck farms in Laplace, comprising one hundred ten acres, and his well known and respected in the parish.

The fact that he was not a citizen of the United States caused Mr. Cali to begin thinking about this question, and in 1923, he decided to become naturalized, which he did. He is an example of what a man without friends, without knowing anything about a country, can do by constant application to the principles that go to make success in any business: Persevering at all times and being careful, at the same time studying the business and taking advantage of opportunities that come along. He has worked hard all his life, and he has accomplished a great deal; all his friends know him to be reliable and dependable, something well worth the effort required to attain these qualities.

Eyraud, Msgr. Jean M. & Donald J. Millet, A History of St. John the Baptist Parish with Biographical Sketches – St. Peter's Diamond Jubilee, Marrero, LA: Hope Haven Press, 1939, p. 64.

Transcribed by Margie Pearce