**Albert Millet**

**(1868-1958)**

His peers called him “Albert”; he was known by his intimates as “Beb”; his hired help addressed him as “Monsieur Albert”; to his children he was “Papa”; and to his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren he is lovingly remembered as “Pere.” He could easily hold his own among the elite of the parish and was respected by all.

Albert Millet, a native and life-long resident of the area, which eventually became “Lions,” was born on November 7, 1868, in the house which was built on the River Road by his grandfather, Sylvain Millet (1798-?) in the early 19th century. His parents were Adelard Millet (1831-1889) and Josephine Bacas Millet (1838-1928). His paternal grandparents were Sylvain Millet, [son of Jean Baptiste Millet (1739-1784) and Phyllis Hautin Millet] and Euphrosine Haydel from French Settlement, Livingston Parish. Adelard died on December 27, 1887. The muddy road was in such poor condition after a cold winter rain that it was necessary to use two strong mules to take the body to the St. Peter Catholic Cemetery in Reserve. People walked on the levee to attend the funeral. Josephine Bacas Millet, Albert’s mother, died at her daughter’s residence in Gramercy on February 1, 1928. She is also buried at St. Peter.

Albert Millet became an apprentice in his father’s shop. At an early age he learned “metiers”: a blacksmith, undertaker, carpenter, wheelwright and also lumbering. For 13 formative years, he was under the tutelage of his uncle, Amadee Papet. He learned both French and English. He had great interest in parish, state and national politics and belonged to the Democratic Party.

He married Honorine Perilloux (1871-1958), daughter of Felix Perilloux and Merthe Froisy (1848-1882) on December 10, 1889, in the old St. Peter Catholic Church in Reserve. Albert brought his bride to live in his widowed mother’s home and continued with the management of the businesses for 14 years. In 1902, he and Didier Perilloux formed a partnership and the Albert Millet family moved into the Felix Perilloux house on the River Road. There was a huge cooper shop for the making of barrels and the riverfront was called “Millet and Perilloux Landing.” Albert continued with lumbering and businesses, and also as undertaker and blacksmith. In 1902 the house burned and the family moved into the Didier Perilloux house while Albert built a new house on the same site of virgin cypress from the swampland. The house still stands on the River Road.

Albert Millet served on the parish school board from the 5th Ward from 1916 to 1932. His siblings were Frank who married Lise Lambert, Pierre married Lise Tregre, Ernest married Josephine Millet; Ernestine married Henri Cambon and Emma married Laurence Montz.

Albert and Honorine had twelve children born over 26 years: Leo (b. 1890), Edward (b. 1892), Bertha (b. 1894), Bernadette (b. 1896), Gilberta (b. 1898), Honorine (b. 1900), Gerard (b. 1901), Daniel (b. 1904, died as infant), Elida (b. 1906), Odette (b. 1908), Sidney (b. 1914) and Lillie Mae (b. 1916). Honorine died August 15, 1958 and Albert Millet died October 26, 1958; both are buried in the family tomb in St. Peter Cemetery in Reserve.

**Extracted from Caillouet, Elida (Millet), *Lions on the River: A Potpourri*. Tucson, AZ: Alphagraphics Printshops of the Future, 1989, pp. 58-60.**